

Terms of Reference Action Groups in Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture

The AG TORs defines the structure and regulations of the Action Groups of the Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture. This is an addendum to the Framework document signed by members. The Framework document specifies that the work of the Alliance will focus on three initial action areas: knowledge, investment and enabling environment.

General

An Action Group (AG) of the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) is a group with a specific and defined purposes. It can consist of members of the Alliance and other interested stakeholders. There are a number of processes to facilitate the creation of the alliance. Action groups have been created to support the identification of the objectives, key priority areas of work and early action of the alliance. They will also be encouraged to engage in regional and thematic programmes. The structure of the Alliance will be sufficiently flexible to enable participants to organize additional working groups, actions and programmes objectives. An AG shall support the implementation of the Programme of work (PoW) of the Alliance. Its tasks will be defined by the thematic priorities adopted by the Strategic Committee (SC).

Composition

An AG consists of an unspecified number of members and interested stakeholders. To join an AG send a request to ACSA-Facilitation-Unit@fao.org.

Governance

Each AG will have at least two facilitators appointed by the SC. To secure good communication and quality control each AG has a specific contact person in the FU. AGs will report regularly to the SC and take actions in priorities areas as requested by the SC. Each AG develops individual work plans under the guidance of the SC.

For permitting the activities of the three AGs during the 2015, the AG activities for 2015 will be defined in the GACSA programme of work.

FU will formulate and through the Co-Chairs submit to the SC a short “scoping document” summarizing progress and proposed way forward for each AG.

Functions

- Support the work of GACSA members in their efforts to contribute to the agreed vision and goals.
- Act as the focal point to the Alliance on their respective thematic areas.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

An AG develops its own Work plan that shall be submitted to the SC for approval minimum once a year, either by e-mail, in conference calls and/or meetings of the SC. All submissions shall be channelled through respective contact person in the FU.

An AG reports to the SC through annual progress reports, which contain:

- a) Workplan and budget for the next year;
- b) Description of the implemented activities, results achieved and budget; and
- c) Identification of problems and constraints encountered and recommendations for corrective measures.
- d) Way forward

The AG will report also to the Annual Forum during the annual meeting.

Fundraising

All members will contribute in kind or funds on their respective thematic areas of interest to the AGs activities.

Intellectual Property

All matters related to intellectual property and the treatment thereof arising from cooperative activities of AG are addressed on a case-by-case basis within the specific context in which they appear, bearing in mind the purpose of GACSA.

Use of logos and names

The logo and the name of GACSA can be used by AGs for activities related to GACSA projects approved by the SC. The logo and names of members of GACSA will be included.

Terms of Reference of the Knowledge Action Group of the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture

The KAG TORs defines the structure and regulations of the Knowledge Action Group of the Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture.

General

The Knowledge Action Group (KAG) in the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) is a group with a specific and defined purpose. It can consist of members of the Alliance and other interested stakeholders. The KAG shall support the implementation of the Programme of work (PoW) of the Alliance. Its tasks will be defined by the thematic priorities adopted by the Strategic Committee (SC).

Composition

The KAG consists of an unspecified number of members and interested stakeholders. To join the KAG send a request to ACSA-Facilitation-Unit@fao.org or climate-knowledge@fao.org.

A scientific body will support the KAG activities on discussions and debates to increase and improve research and learning on critical issues. The scientific body will be composed by researchers and scientists that requested to be part of.

Governance

The KAG will have at least two facilitators appointed by the SC. To secure good communication and quality control the KAG has a specific contact person in the FU. The KAG will report regularly to the SC and take actions in priorities areas as requested by the SC. The KAG develops individual work plans under the guidance of the SC.

For permitting the activities of the KAG during the 2015, the KAG activities for 2015 will be defined in the GACSA programme of work.

FU will formulate and through the Co-Chairs submit to the SC a short “scoping document” summarizing progress and proposed way forward for the KAG.

KAG mission statement

The KAG supports the work of Alliance members in their efforts to contribute to agreed vision and goals of the Alliance and act as the scientific advisory bodies of the Alliance and act as the focal point to the Alliance on its respective thematic areas.

In particular, In the framework document of the Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture signed in September 2014, the members agreed that the Knowledge Action Group functions are: Increasing and promoting knowledge, research and development into technologies, practices, and policy approaches for climate-smart agriculture; practices and technology sharing and cooperation; improving communication and information sharing among participants; and outreach, extension, and technical assistance. Objectives pertaining to knowledge may include:

- Identifying and filling knowledge gaps that hinder decision making/policy setting, adoption and implementation of climate-smart agriculture;
- Developing or identifying metrics that can be useful for measuring progress in climate-smart agriculture;
- Stimulating research and investment in climate-smart agriculture and food systems, drawing on indigenous knowledge systems and expertise where feasible;
- Brokering relationships between partners and programmes for increased and improved research and learning on the critical role of gender in climate-smart agriculture;
- Linking research to implementation to improve approaches;
- Connecting research findings to the experiences of practitioners and to farmers' empirical and traditional knowledge in a transparent and open way, to share knowledge;
- Developing knowledge platforms in order to exchange data and information;
- Scaling up both south-south and north-south knowledge sharing and support;
- Strengthening extension and support tools for climate-smart agriculture, reflecting the perspectives knowledge and experience of producers;
- Strengthening institutional capacity development for knowledge, practice and technology sharing relating to climate-smart agriculture; and
- Assessment of risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems to different climate change scenarios at regional, national and local levels.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

The KAG develops its own Work plan that shall be submitted to the SC for approval minimum once a year, either by e-mail, in conference calls and/or meetings of the SC. All submissions shall be channelled through respective contact person in the FU.

The KAG reports to the SC through annual progress reports, which contain:

- a) Workplan and budget for the next year;
- b) Description of the implemented activities, results achieved and budget; and
- c) Identification of problems and constraints encountered and recommendations for corrective measures.
- d) Way forward

The KAG will report also to the Annual Forum during the annual meeting.

Fundraising

All members will contribute in kind or funds on their respective thematic areas of interest to the KAG activities.

Intellectual Property

All matters related to intellectual property and the treatment thereof arising from cooperative activities of KAG are addressed on a case-by-case basis within the specific context in which they appear, bearing in mind the purpose of GACSA.

Use of logos and names

The logo and the name of GACSA can be used by KAG for activities related to GACSA projects approved by the SC. The logo and names of members of GACSA will be included.

Terms of Reference of the Enabling Environment Action Group of the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture

The EEAG TORs defines the structure and regulations of the Enabling Environment Action Group of the Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture.

General

The Enabling Environment Action Group (EEAG) in the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) is a group with a specific and defined purpose. It can consist of members of the Alliance and other interested observers. The EEAG shall help formulate and support the implementation of the Programme of work (PoW) of the Alliance that promotes the inclusiveness of stakeholders and supportive environments at various levels. It will develop its PoW in coordination with both the Knowledge Action Group and the Investment Action Group and submit its PoW to the Strategic Committee (SC).

Composition

The EEAG consists of an unspecified number of members and interested stakeholders. To join the EEAG send a request to ACSA-Facilitation-Unit@fao.org.

Governance

The EEAG will have at least two co-conveners. The EEAG contact information shall be provided to the Facilitation Unit (FU). The EEAG will report regularly to the SC on the activities carried out and results achieved.

The EEAG 2015 PoW will be included in the GACSA programme of work.

EEAG mission statement

The EEAG supports the work of Alliance members in their efforts to contribute to agreed vision and goals of GACSA and acts as the focal point to the GACSA on its respective thematic areas.

In particular, in the framework document of the GACSA signed in September 2014, the members agreed that the Enabling Environment Action Group functions are: Integrating climate-smart agriculture into policy, strategies and planning at regional, national, and local levels and across landscapes. Objectives pertaining to enabling environments may include:

- Strengthening and enhancing public policy frameworks, for example through linking sustainable agriculture intensification with climate adaptation, resilience and disaster risk reduction efforts, and aiming to reduce emissions (including through reduced intensity of emissions) where possible – resulting from agriculture and land use change;
- Identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible cobenefits;

- Identification of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience;
- Incorporating climate-smart agriculture practices into agriculture extension and outreach services;
- Mainstreaming climate-smart agriculture practices into local, community-driven programs, national investment and food security plans and policies for development assistance, including national adaptation plans of Action (NAP's);
- Establishing policies that encourage responsible practices and investment along the value chain.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

The EEAG develops its PoW for the inception year to be shared with all members for inputs and submitted to the SC for approval and for subsequent years at a pre decided time

The EEAG reports to the SC through annual progress reports, which contain:

- a) PoW and budget for the inception year and all subsequent years ;
- b) Description of the implemented activities, results achieved; and
- c) Identification of problems and constraints encountered and recommendations for corrective measures.

The EEAG will report on its progress at each GACSA Annual Forum

GACSA members may, at their discretion, contribute resources to the EEAG.

Intellectual Property

All matters related to intellectual property and the treatment thereof arising from cooperative activities of EEAG are addressed on a case-by-case basis within the specific context in which they appear, bearing in mind the purpose of GACSA.

Use of logos and names

The logo and the name of GACSA can be used by EEAG for activities related to GACSA projects approved by the SC. The logo and names of members of GACSA will be included.

Terms of Reference of the Investment Action Group of the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture

The IAG TORs defines the structure and regulations of the Enabling Environment Action Group of the Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture.

General

The Investment Action Group (IAG) in the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) is a group with a specific and defined purpose. It can consist of members of the Alliance and other interested stakeholders. The IAG shall support the implementation of the Programme of work (PoW) of the Alliance. Its tasks will be defined by the thematic priorities adopted by the Strategic Committee (SC).

Composition

The IAG consists of an unspecified number of members and interested stakeholders. To join the IAG send a request to ACSA-Facilitation-Unit@fao.org.

Governance

The IAG will have at least two facilitators appointed by the SC. To secure good communication and quality control the IAG has a specific contact person in the FU. The IAG will report regularly to the SC and take actions in priorities areas as requested by the SC. The IAG develops individual work plans under the guidance of the SC.

For permitting the activities of the IAG during the 2015, the IAG activities for 2015 will be defined in the GACSA programme of work.

FU will formulate and through the Co-Chairs submit to the SC a short “scoping document” summarizing progress and proposed way forward for the IAG.

IAG mission statement

The IAG supports the work of Alliance members in their efforts to contribute to agreed vision and goals of the Alliance and act as the scientific advisory bodies of the Alliance and act as the focal point to the Alliance on its respective thematic areas.

In particular, in the framework document of the Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture signed in September 2014, the members agreed that the Investment Action Group functions are: Improving the effectiveness of public and private investments that support the three pillars of climate-smart agriculture. Objectives pertaining to investment may include:

- Encouraging existing public and private investments to review their compatibility with climate smart agriculture;
- Facilitating the identification of existing and new sources of financing for climate-smart agriculture, through leveraging new public and private investment from domestic and external (multilateral and bilateral) sources;
- Developing methodologies and metrics to guide investment strategies;

- Improving climate-resilience of rural and agriculture infrastructure while reducing greenhouse gases where possible;
- Engaging government departments, institutions, farmer organizations, the private sector and agri-businesses (large and small) and others in multi-stakeholder partnerships for climate-smart investments in agriculture and food systems, including supply chains;
- Increasing farmers' access to weather forecasting and risk management tools, such as insurance;
- Creating incentives for farmers, to adopt climate-smart practices, providing the best social, economic and environmental results; and
- Development of early warning systems and contingency plans in relation to extreme weather events.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

The IAG develops its own Work plan that shall be submitted to the SC for approval minimum once a year, either by e-mail, in conference calls and/or meetings of the SC. All submissions shall be channelled through respective contact person in the FU.

The IAG reports to the SC through annual progress reports, which contain:

- a) Workplan and budget for the next year;
- b) Description of the implemented activities, results achieved and budget; and
- c) Identification of problems and constraints encountered and recommendations for corrective measures.
- d) Way forward

The IAG will report also to the Annual Forum during the annual meeting.

Fundraising

All members will contribute in kind or funds on their respective thematic areas of interest to the IAG activities.

Intellectual Property

All matters related to intellectual property and the treatment thereof arising from cooperative activities of IAG are addressed on a case-by-case basis within the specific context in which they appear, bearing in mind the purpose of GACSA.

Use of logos and names

The logo and the name of GACSA can be used by IAG for activities related to GACSA projects approved by the SC. The logo and names of members of GACSA will be included.