

# GACSA in a Nutshell

## INTRODUCTION

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The [Global Alliance for Climate-Smart \(GACSA\)](#) was launched by the UN Secretary-General in New York during the Climate Summit on 24 September, 2014. As the sole global multi-stakeholder apolitical platform for Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), with more than 400 member entities, GACSA uses an integrated knowledge-intensive approach to catalyze collaborative action to accelerate the scaling up of CSA through its members' initiatives, engagements, and programs.

The Alliance takes into account international processes, related to agriculture, food security and nutrition and climate change, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the UN Committee on World Food Security and Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and will make full use of synergies between them.

## VISION

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GACSA's vision is '*Working together to ensure that the world's agriculture can sustainably feed and nourish humanity and secure livelihoods in the face of a changing climate.*'

Context-specific priorities and solutions need to be aligned with national and regional policies and priorities, including the diversity in type and scale of agricultural activity, as well as evaluating the potential synergies and trade-offs and net benefits.

The Alliance is uniquely positioned to facilitate transformational partnerships, and its value addition lies in the following core action-oriented functions:

- **Convening** – bringing people and institutions together to generate or scale up action at global, regional, and national levels.
- **Connecting** – breaking down silos, building synergies, bridging the knowledge-uptake gap, fostering integrated approaches, and brokering partnerships to ensure that actions are taken.
- **Communicating** – fostering co-learning, co-creation of knowledge and knowledge-sharing to facilitate the development of bankable sound projects.

## ASPIRATIONAL OUTCOMES

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The Alliance recognizes the urgent need to act at scale and to contribute towards three aspirational outcomes:

- I. **Sustainable** and equitable increases in agricultural productivity and incomes;
- II. Greater **resilience** of food systems and farming livelihoods;
- III. **Reduction and/or removal of greenhouse gas emissions** associated with agriculture (including the relationship between agriculture and ecosystems), where possible.

## APPROACH

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The Alliance recognizes the importance of ensuring activities embrace sustainable development in all its three dimensions: social, environmental, economical successful way.

- I. **Clearinghouse mechanism:** Broker, catalyze and help create transformational partnerships to encourage actions that reflect an integrated approach to the three pillars of CSA, as well as synergies between them. The Alliance facilitates partnerships that inspire the development and dissemination of innovative, evidence-based options

for CSA in different settings. GACSA promotes voluntary sharing of information and experience, technologies, knowledge, and practices, pursuing actions to transform agriculture and empower farmers, particularly women and youth, and by involving a broad range of stakeholders.

- II. **Thematic Action Groups:** GACSA Members work collaboratively through three Action Groups (AGs) of experts, namely; Knowledge, Investment, and Enabling Environment, members seek to bring concrete solutions to fruition, and accelerate coordinated efforts within and across regions on scaling up CSA initiatives. The Alliance enables governments and other stakeholders to make these transformations in ways that bridge traditional sectoral, organizational, and public-private boundaries. These initiatives include matchmaking and project development towards tangible effects on the ground.
- III. **GACSA Matchmaking Facility:** The Alliance promotes multi-sectoral platforms and matchmaking facility to support investments towards CSA. GACSA plays this strategic role as a 'broker', linking good ideas and implementers interested in investing CSA scale-up. The broker role facilitates bankable projects through a match-making investment facility that brings key players to collectively design and implement win-win CSA programs.
- IV. **Participatory Approaches:** The Alliance encourages efforts undertaken across sectors and among stakeholders that promote participatory approaches and consultation mechanisms, providing a voice for farmers, including women farmers, and recognizing the crucial role of farmers' organizations, to yield maximum community - and country-level benefits. The Alliance brings stakeholders together to discuss and promote smart climate agriculture and food systems policies in an integrated manner across different agro-ecological conditions aligned with local, national, and regional priorities.

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## MEMBERSHIP & STRUCTURE

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GACSA is composed of the following elements:

1. Annual Forum of the Members of the Global Alliance;
2. The Strategic Committee (SC) led by two Co-Chairs;
3. Action Groups: Knowledge; Investment, and Enabling Environment;
4. The Bureau; and
5. The Facilitation Unit (FU) hosted by FAO.

GACSA is a voluntary coalition, built on a participatory approach, and open to governments, international and regional organizations, institutions, civil society, farmers' organizations and businesses.

Participation in the Alliance provide Members with access to information, experiences, expertise, contacts and support, and give all members access to services, bearing in mind women, smallholder and family farmers, and youth.

Membership in the Alliance does not create any binding obligations and each member individually determines the nature of its participation. To join the Alliance, visit our official website [here](#) .

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**GACSA welcomes you to join the Alliance Action Groups and the Regional CSA Alliances, harness the opportunities and linkages to contribute to building a sustainable food system.**