

Concept Note

Technical Meeting on Integrating Climate-Smart Agriculture and Disaster Risk Reduction

Location: FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand

Date: 30 November 2016

Background

Natural disasters, including climate induced events such as drought and flood and non-climate related events such as earthquake, pose a significant threat to agricultural production systems and, by extension, food security – particularly in developing countries where levels of resilience and adaptive capacity are weak. Climate induced disasters already account for the vast majority of natural disasters worldwide. This situation is expected to worsen with the anticipated onset of impacts related to anthropogenic climate change.

In 2015 the international community made considerable progress in establishing a shared program of action to encourage sustainable development, tackle climate change and reduce the risk of natural disasters. In March 2015 representatives from 187 countries adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. In September 2015 193 heads of government approved 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to be achieved by 2030 including specific goals on achieving zero hunger at the global level (SDG2) and accelerated action to combat the drivers and impacts of climate change (SDG13). Finally, in December 2015 the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) concluded negotiations on a landmark agreement (the Paris Agreement) to limit global average temperatures to below 2°C and to pursue further efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C.

Action by countries in support of the Sendai Framework and the Paris Agreement to tackle the drivers and impacts of climate change and mitigate disaster risk will be essential for achieving zero hunger under SDG2, while also strengthening the overall resilience of national economies and communities.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) are two core approaches to address these challenges. DRR is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disasters. CSA, which aims for more productive and resilient agricultural systems that emit fewer emissions, has emerged as an important organizing principle for driving development in the agriculture sector that is consistent with global and national goals for sustainable development – particularly those related to ending hunger and tackling climate change.

While there is clear links between CSA's concern for resilient agriculture systems and DRR, there has been few efforts to-date to articulate the systematic links between the two. The recent consolidation of global support for the sustainable development goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction presents a useful opportunity to start working toward a more integrated approach to CSA and DRR in the agriculture sector.

FAO, in partnership with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, will convene a Technical Meeting on Integrating Climate-Smart Agriculture and Disaster Risk Reduction to discuss how CSA and DRR could be integrated to facilitate the mainstreaming of measures to address the impacts and drivers of climate change and natural disasters in national agricultural strategies

and plans. The meeting will bring together FAO experts on CSA and DRR from around the world and regional experts on DRR from ADPC and other relevant agencies.

Meeting participants

Around 20-25 invited experts including members of FAO's Technical Network on Climate Change representing all five FAO regions and technical experts from ADPC and Bangkok-based technical organizations.

Objectives

The objectives of the consultation are to:

- Discuss and debate how CSA and DRR could be integrated to facilitate the mainstreaming of measures to address the impacts and drivers of climate change and natural disasters in national agricultural strategies and plans;
- Agree on normative products or services that could be developed to assist member countries mainstream integrated CSA and DRR measures into agricultural strategies and plans.

Outputs

- Technical recommendations for member countries and other stakeholders on how to integrate CSA and DRR to achieve national and global development goals; and
- A short consultation report produced for dissemination to member countries and other stakeholders including preliminary ideas for products or services that could be developed to assist member countries mainstream integrated CSA and DRR measures into agricultural strategies and plans.

Tentative program

Time	Session	Lead
WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER		
SESSION 1: CONTEXT FOR CSA & DRR		
09:00-09:10	Meeting Overview	Facilitators: Hang Thi Pham, FAO Alex Barret, ADPC
09:10-09:40	Setting the Scene <i>The Global Framework for action to tackle the drivers and impacts of climate change and mitigate disaster risk with a focus on agriculture and food security</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the Sendai Framework • Overview of the Paris Agreement <u>Format</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short presentations of 10 minutes followed by questions and answers. 	Hang Thi Pham, FAO Beau Damen, FAO
09:40-10:30	CSA & DRR – Conceptual overview and linkages <i>Discussion on the core conceptual elements of CSA and DRR and examples of specific applications in the agriculture and land-use sectors</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes of ADPC/OXFAM Pan Asian Regional Policy Forum on Mainstreaming DRR and integration of CCA and Food Security • DRR module of the FAO CSA Sourcebook 	Alex Barret, ADPC Astrid Agostini & Stephan Baas, FAO

	<p><u>Format</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A panel of three experts will provide 10 minutes of introduction to the topic followed by a moderated plenary discussion. 	
10:30-10:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
10:45-12:00	<p>CSA & DRR in Practice <i>Discussion of examples of linking CSA and DRR in practice from Asia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>CSA and DRR in practice: An ADPC perspective</i> <i>Overview of the Framework for resilient development in the Pacific: an integrated approach to address climate change and DRM –</i> <i>Regional assessment of ecosystem-based DRR and biodiversity in Asia</i> <p><u>Format</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A panel of three experts will provide 10 minutes of introduction to the topic followed by moderated plenary discussion. 	<p>Atiq Ahmed, ADPC</p> <p>Dominique Blariaux, FAO</p> <p>Anshuman Saikia, IUCN</p>
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
	SESSION 2: MOVING TOWARD INTEGRATION IN PRACTICE	
13:00-14:00	<p>CSA & DRR – Learning from specific case studies <i>A series of country or region specific case studies from Asia and around the world are discussed in detail to identify entry points or approaches that facilitate integrated CSA & DRR initiatives at field and policy levels</i></p> <p><u>Format</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants break up into small groups each with a case study leader. The case study leader describes the case in detail. The small group discusses the case and the entry points or approaches that did or could have facilitated integrated CSA & DRR approaches. Each small group prepares a presentation summarizing their case discussion. 	<p>Facilitator, Designated case study leaders from:</p> <p>Eastern Europe (FAO) Africa (FAO) Sri Lanka (ADPC) Vietnam (TBA) Thailand (TBA)</p>
14:00-14:30	<p>Integrating CSA & DRR – Recommendations <i>Small groups from the previous session present their discussions including recommendations to better integrate CSA & DRR in practice</i></p> <p><u>Format</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presenter (s) from each small group followed by questions and discussion. 	All participants

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grouping of suggested actions at field/project and policy levels for systematic integration of CSA and DRR. 	
14:30-15:00	<p>CSA & DRR - Way forward <i>Participants discuss technical recommendations for member countries and other stakeholders on how to integrate CSA and DRR to achieve national and global development goals</i></p> <p><u>Format</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated discussion to identify possible recommendations. Agreement on concrete steps the group could pursue to disseminate meeting outcomes. 	Facilitators, All participants
15:00-15:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
15:30-16:30	Special Session on follow-up for FAO TNCC	FAO Staff
	END	