

GACSA Annual Forum 2019

15-16 June 2019, Bonn (Germany)

Executive Summary

The third Annual Forum of the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture – in short "GACSA" – took place on 15 and 16 June 2019 in Bonn Germany.

Representatives of many different stakeholder groups, including national and sub-national governments, civil society, farmers' organizations, private sector, academia, and international development organizations, attended the event (Annex 4).

Participants shared their experiences on promoting and implementing climate-smart agriculture – with examples ranging from local initiatives with schoolchildren, to agricultural policies and incentive schemes at the state-level, to regional networks.

Main challenges for the successful – and factors of success – identified in the presentations and discussions are:

- Establishing effective mechanisms to reach the farmers;
- Building the business case to show farmers the economic benefits of climate-smart agriculture and link it to the great investment potential of agriculture;
- Quantifying the benefits of climate-smart agriculture for climate and environment which are essential to both:
 - a) Building public awareness and promoting responsible consumption patterns, and
 - b) Attracting and justifying investment in climate-smart agriculture.

Participants got together in working groups on knowledge, investment & enabling environment to develop concrete action plans to address the afore-mentioned challenges. An important aspect of the GACSA work over the next years will be the facilitation of matchmaking between different stakeholders in climate-smart agriculture.

The conference welcomed Mr. Simon Leiva as the new Coordinator of the GACSA Facilitation Unit.

The conference plenary confirmed Mr. Hans Hoogeveen, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Rome-based United Nations Agencies, as the new Co-Chair of GACSA. Mr Hoogeveen is the successor of Ms. Mi Nguyen, Permanent Representative of Canada to the Rome-based UN agencies.

CSA challenges and opportunities – Experiences and lessons learned across GACSA membership

WELCOME ADDRESS

Moderator:
Ms. Lindiwe
Majele Sibanda,
GACSA Co-Chair

Ms. Mi Nguyen, parting GACSA Co-Chair (Farewell letter)

Keynote speakers:
Mr. A.G.
Kawamura,
Farmer; Co-Chair,
Solutions from the
Land; and former
Secretary,
California
Department of
Food and
Agriculture

Ms. Josefa Sacko, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union (Video message) GACSA Co-Chair **Lindiwe Majele Sibanda** opened the 3rd GACSA Annual Forum, welcoming all participants. She thanked the members of the GACSA Action Groups "the heartbeat of GACSA" for their work since the last Annual Forum. She further thanked the program committee for organizing the 3rd Annual Forum.

Ms. Sibanda introduced Mr. **Simon Leiva** as the new Coordinator of the GACSA Facilitation Unit, and announced the end of Ms. Mi Nguyen's term as GACSA Co-Chair, excusing her absence and thanking her for the energy and dedication she had put into GACSA over the past three years.

A farewell letter from Ms. **Mi Nguyen** was read aloud to the plenary, in which the parting Co-Chair recommended Mr. Hans Hoogeveen, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Romebased United Nations Agencies, as her successor. In the absence of any objection to this recommendation, Mr. Hoogeveen was confirmed as the new GACSA Co-Chair by the plenary.

Mr. Hans Hoogeveen thanked the plenary for its trust and accepted the role as GACSA Co-Chair. He reiterated the crucial role CSA can play in addressing the nexus of climate change and food security. He urged to break down siloes between stakeholder groups, as no single actor could deliver the solution on their own, and emphasized the opportunities of setting up a matchmaking facility within GACSA for bringing CSA action to the ground.

Mr. **A.G. Kawamura** emphasized the need for a unifying vision for the endeavour of agriculture. Only such a vision could ensure the necessary convergence of existing good efforts resulting in sustainable development across its spectrum. Mr. Kawamura identified linkages between agriculture and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and illustrated how the latter build upon each other and provide opportunities to get commitment to agriculture from different areas of sustainable development. He said, "Successful agriculture sustains humanity" and called on the audience to keep up a unifying vision to make this possible.

Ms. **Josefa Sacko** highlighted the importance of agriculture for Africa's economy and feeding its growing population. She underlined Africa's high vulnerability to climate change, particularly in the agriculture sector, in contrast to its low contribution to historic greenhouse gas emissions. She reaffirmed the commitment of the African Union (AU) to CSA as a way to achieve resilient agriculture, food security and, where possible, reducing emissions, in line with the Malabo Declaration and as a contribution to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Agenda

2063: The Africa We Want. Ms. Sacko called on developed countries to fulfil their commitments to support member countries of the AU in their endeavour with finance, capacity building and technology transfer.

INNOVATIVE CSA SUCCESSES AND LESSONS LEARNED BY TYPES OF GACSA MEMBERS

Moderator:
Mr. Ernie Shea,
Chair, GACSA
Member
Engagement
Team; President,
Solutions from the
Land

Presentations by:
Mr. Tony
Siantonas,
Director, Climate
Smart Agriculture
and Sustainable
Landscapes,
World Business
Council for
Sustainable
Development
(Video message)

Ms. Rosa Mosquera Losada, Professor, University of Santiago de Compostela

Interventions from the floor:
Mr. Saúl López,
President,
Sociedad
Venezolana de
Ingenieros
Agrónomos y
Afines

Ms. Nomuhle Nyoni, Zimbabwe Mr. **Ernie Shea** pointed out that GACSA was the sum of its members' collective efforts. Therefore, GACSA's focus should be on membership first. He noted that GACSA consisted of 232 members from all continents and stakeholder groups, but needed to grow farmer membership, as farmers were the most important group to reach. Mr. Shea invited several GACSA members to speak about their experiences on CSA and encouraged all members to keep sharing experiences and collecting lessons Learned.

Mr. Tony Siantonas explained the role of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) as a non-for-profit organization that helps its member companies precompetitive to achieve the SDGs. In the field of CSA, the ambition of WBCSD members by 2030 is to 1) make 50% more nutritious, safe food available, 2) strengthen resilience of landscapes and farmers, 3) reduce commercial agriculture GHG emissions by 50%. He presented the four priority action areas related to i) building smallholder farmers' resilience, ii) CSA investment, iii) CSA monitoring, and iv) implementation of sustainable land use and zero-deforestation agriculture commitments, giving examples of activities in WBCSD's focus regions -North America, Brazil, Ghana & West Africa, India, ASEAN region – as well as regional and global impact initiatives. Mr. Siantonas suggested that GACSA be a definitive source and repository for CSA policy and advocacy to coordinate consistent views and messaging across the landscape of CSA actors, including WBCSD. He further proposed a strong role for GACSA in building regional CSA initiatives for impact on the ground and in the discussion on transformation in food systems related to dietary shifts and sustainable consumption. He noted that WBCSD's role in these processes could be to coordinate among private sector stakeholders and bringing them to the table.

Ms. Rosa Mosquera Losada described agroforestry as a CSA tool to 'ecointensificate' – it uses a higher share of incoming sunlight than pure crop or tree stands and accumulates high amounts of soil carbon near trees. She noted that despite its advantages, agroforestry was adopted on only 1% of Europe's agricultural area. She presented the Agroforestry Innovation Networks (AFINET) project, which is an integral part of the European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI) and aims to promote the adoption of agroforestry within the European Union through nine regional and one interregional innovation networks and an end-user-friendly database that makes scientific and practical knowledge easily accessible to farmers. The main barriers to adoption identified were the lack of technical knowledge, lack of related contents in education (including for consumers) and lack of policy advocacy for agroforestry.

Commercial Farmers' Union

Mr. Bernard Stormyr, Head of Sustainability Management, Yara International Mr. **Saúl López** described the effects of the current crisis in Venezuela on the country's agriculture sector and farmers and emphasized the need for rural development initiatives that support the establishment of farmers' associations, the use of information services to use scarce resources more productively use and environmental compensation programs, linked to climate-smart agriculture. He announced the development of a CSA project by his organization in Venezuela's Aragua region, which aimed to assess climate change impacts, provide training to agricultural producers and enhance disaster risk preparedness.

Ms. **Nomuhle Nyomi** reported on efforts in Zimbabwe to promote solar irrigation in order to address the wide-spread electricity shortages in rural areas as well as to use the potential of the country's good agricultural soils.

Mr. **Bernard Stormyr** provided an example of the private sector working with coffee producers in Colombia – in collaboration with an NGO – to help them use higher quality, but fewer fertilizers, while achieving stable yields, improving product quality and livelihoods and reducing environmental impact.

CSA SUCCESSES AND LESSONS LEARNED THROUGH REGIONAL INITIATIVES

Moderator:

Mr. Simon Leiva, Coordinator, GACSA Facilitation Unit

Presenters:

Mr. Fred Yoder, Farmer; Member, North America Climate-Smart Agriculture Alliance (NACSAA)

Ms. Imelda Bacudo.

Technical Advisor, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Mr. Kudakwashe Manyanga,

Principal Researcher, Ministry of Environment, Water and Mr. **Fred Yoder**, a farmer from Ohio, United States, called on GACSA to focus more on support to actors at the landscape, local and especially farm level, as farmers – whether or not they believed climate change was manmade – felt the impacts of it and recognized that they need to take action. He shared a personal experience of switching to flood-resistant varieties, which allowed him to save part of his crop that would have been completely lost to excessive rainfall otherwise. He emphasized the need quantify and demonstrate the economic benefits of CSA to farmers, as profitability was a crucial aspect of sustainability for them and the strongest incentive to change to new practices and technologies.

Ms. Imelda Bacudo presented an overview of the mission and work of the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN), including ASEAN guidelines for responsible investment in food, agriculture and forestry; for promotion of CSA; and for the development of crop insurance schemes. She highlighted the practical approach of ASEAN-CNR to implementation of these guidelines, including regional knowledge and experience exchange and capacity building within the network members and for farmers in the region. Ms. Bacudo explained the involvement of ASEAN-CRN in negotiations under the UNFCCC, including the newly established ASEAN Negotiation Group for Agriculture (ANGA). She requested GACSA members to share knowledge and experiences on three specific topics: i) crop insurance, ii) public-private partnerships, and iii) use of seaweed as cattle fodder.

Mr. **Kudakwashe Manyanga** presented the 'Grow a tree Foundation', based in Zimbabwe. The foundation produces seedlings of fruit producing trees from collected unutilized seeds, provides them to schoolchildren and encourages them to plant and monitor the growth of these trees. This would enable the children to increase their awareness for nature, harvest their own fruit and

Climate; Founder, Grow A Tree Foundation contribute to a greener landscape. Mr. Manyanga said the foundation was also trying to encourage all citizen of Zimbabwe to plant at least one tree and encouraged the audience to take such simple actions that can make a big difference if we scale them up in our communities.

HOW CLIMATE EXTREMES AND OTHER SHOCKS CHALLENGE CSA

Moderator:
Mr. Marcel van
Nijnatten, Policy
Coordinator,
Ministry of
Agriculture, Nature
and Food Quality,
Netherlands

Presenters:
Mr. Jonas
Jägermeyr,
Postdoc
Researcher,
University of
Chicago,
NASA/GISS and
AgMIP

Mr. Kunzai
Ndidzano, Climate
Change
Compliance
Officer, Ministry of
Lands, Agriculture,
Water Climate &
Rural
Resettlement,
Zimbabwe

Mr. Jonas Jägermeyr illustrated the increase of climate shocks and its impact on food systems. In context of combining the Sendai Framework, Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda to reduce negative impacts of disasters on sustainable development, he described the role of the Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP) at the nexus between the climate change and disaster risk reduction communities. He presented different examples of AgMIP's work on modelling the impacts of past shocks on crop yields and applying these models to develop climate change scenarios, assess possible impacts on the global food system, identify resilience building measures and linking these findings end-user needs - for example through the Regional Integrated Assessments to support integrative and iterative development of agricultural resilience and adaptation strategies at local and regional level. A recent breakthrough in the modelling was the integration of information on crop cultivars, he said. Mr. Jagermeyr acknowledged that the information produced by AgMIP was not yet readily available to farmers, but the idea of doing this through a smartphone application existed. It was suggested to take inspiration from the tools developed by Cornell Climate Smart Farming program targeted at farmers in the Northeast of the United States or smartphone applications used in Ireland to collect data from farmers to policy makers and feed evaluation results back to farmers.

Mr. Kundzai Ndidzano spoke about the challenges faced by Zimbabwe's agriculture sector, its vulnerability to climate change and shocks in particular, and how the National Climate Policy (2017) intends to address these. He highlighted several agriculture-related priority interventions, including mainstreaming of climate change in disaster risk management, promotion of sustainable forest management and alternative livelihoods, participation in the African Union's Risk Capacity Initiative, and the promotion of the CSA. With regard to the latter, he mentioned the publication of a CSA Manual to strengthen Zimbabwe's agricultural education curriculum and the drafting of a national CSA upscaling framework. A key effort of the government was also to increase the use of climate data to improve technical advice to farmers and enable early warning mechanisms, which were yet to be developed, Mr. Ndidzano said. In the subsequent discussion, the importance of coordinating climate change strategies with Ministries of Finance and National Planning Commissions was highlighted as a way to ensure awareness and adequate budget allocation for climate change response measures.

KEYNOTE REFLECTIONS: STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

Moderator:
Mr. Hans
Hoogeveen,
designated
GACSA Co-Chair,
Ambassador,
Permanent
Representative of
the Netherlands to
the Rome-based
UN Agencies

Keynote speakers:
Ms. Karen Ross,
Secretary of the
California
Department of
Food and
Agriculture

Mr. Zitouni Ould-Dada, Deputy Director of the Climate and Environment Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of UN (FAO)

Ms. Karen Ross reported about California's CSA program, which, triggered by the severe drought during 2012-2016 and initially focussing on increasing irrigation efficiency, had expanded into an incentive scheme for GHG emission reductions covering irrigation, bio-digesters, manure management, soil health/carbon sequestration, management of wetlands. She highlighted the resilience outcomes of many of the included practices and noted that the scheme was linked to the federal state's carbon trading systems, generating billions of dollars that were reinvested in the transition to a low-carbon economy. A crucial factor of success in establishing the incentive scheme was the collaboration with the US Department of Agriculture its established mechanisms to reach farmers and necessary tools, in particular a GHG calculator. Ms. Ross further pointed at the potential of private sector initiatives to bring about transformational change in agriculture, citing the example of Indigo's Terraton Initiative aiming to incentivize farmers to sequester a total of a trillion tons of carbon dioxide in agricultural soils at a price of initially USD 15 per metric ton. She concluded by highlighting four crucial elements for transformational change: 1) Knowing the right practices, 2) Putting incentives in place, 3) Providing technical assistance to farmers, and 4) Sending the right policy signals.

Mr. Zitouni Ould-Dada reaffirmed the urgent need to take action on climate change and linking this action to other interlinked issues such as peace, youth employment and biodiversity. He identified three opportunities for GACSA to position itself in this context and make a difference: 1) Becoming the global voice of CSA; 2) Support the scaling-up of CSA, building on the good examples happening in many places; 3) Creating linkages to bring about convergence of existing CSA initiatives towards achieving global goals. Mr. Ould-Dada pointed at the wealth of FAO's tools and experiences that GACSA could benefit from and underlined FAO's willingness to join forces in further refining the direction of GACSA, developing knowledge and implementing projects.

Key messages from the subsequent discussion were:

- The voice of GACSA has to be carried by all its members to ensure it reaches farmers on the ground around the globe.
- Partnerships on CSA are often born from academic collaboration on common issues.
- CSA needs to use a flexible approach to respond to the huge variability in needs and suitability, which can include the promotion of agroforestry to jointly address food and (bio) energy needs where suitable.

PANEL DISCUSSION: GACSA'S SUPPORT OF UN AND IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

Moderator:
Ms. Allison M.
Chatrchyan,
Director, Cornell
Institute for

Mr. **Herwig Ranner** presented the European Union's ideas for a successful outcome of the negotiations under the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) of the UNFCCC. These included putting farmers and local communities in the center, proposing farmer-friendly practices and technologies, addressing synergies and trade-offs between adaptation and

Climate Smart Solutions

Presenters:
Mr. Herwig
Ranner, Climate
Policy Officer,
DirectorateGeneral
Agriculture and
Rural
Development (DG
AGRI), European
Union; EU
Agriculture
Negotiator at
UNFCCC

Ms. Hien T. Ngo, Head, Technical Support Unit for the Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Ms. Federica Matteoli, Natural Resources Officer, Climate and Environment Division, FAO mitigation, supporting related research and knowledge exchange and providing concrete recommendations for the implementation of the Parties' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). He emphasized the importance of summarizing KJWA outcomes in an actionable format and pointed to the need for partners to implement these recommendations on the ground, where he saw opportunity for GACSA play a role.

Ms. **Hien Ngo** provided an overview of the Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services published in May 2019 by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). She pointed out the deteriorating trends in regulating and non-material contributions of nature to people many of which are essential for agriculture. She highlighted the importance of nature-based solutions for agriculture to jointly meet food security, climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives and safeguard the ecosystem services and biodiversity that sustain agriculture. Ms. Ngo underlined the policy-mandated character of the report and its good chances to have traction in policy, referring to concrete examples of countries requesting specific data to inform policies.

Ms. Federica Matteoli highlighted the importance of addressing climate change in fulfilling FAO's mission, which is reflected in FAO's Climate Change Strategy. She gave an overview FAO's engagement in the UNFCCC with a focus on its recent work under the KJWA, including the preparation of submissions on the KJWA focus areas and analysis reports of all submissions under the related calls. Ms. Matteoli further stressed the importance of measuring the progress on climate action in agriculture and provided an insight on FAO's current work on monitoring and evaluation for CSA as well as linking CSA to the SDGs.

WRAP UP & RECOMMENDATIONS

Moderator:
Mr. Marcel van
Nijnatten, Policy
Coordinator,
Ministry of
Agriculture, Nature
and Food Quality,
Netherlands

Mr. **Marcel van Nijnatten** highlighted the unique ability of GACSA to bring people from very different stakeholder groups together. He called for both technical and conceptual innovation as develop inclusive ways of working together and taking CSA to action. Mr. van Nijnatten encouraged participants to build on the good examples, experiences and practices and think how GACSA can bring these solutions to those who need them. This would be the focus of discussions on Day 2 of the GACSA Annual Forum 2019 and the essence of GACSA's envisioned matchmaking function.

Turning the GACSA Strategic Plan 2018-2022 into action

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: SETTING IDEAS FOR EACH GACSA ACTION GROUP

Moderator:
Ms. Lindiwe
Majele Sibanda,
GACSA Co-Chair

Keynotes
speakers:
Mr. David
Navarro, Strategic
Director, Skills,
Systems and
Synergies for
Sustainable
Development
(4SD); Professor
of Global Health,
Imperial College
London
(Video message)

Mr. Hans
Hoogeveen,
designated
GACSA Co-Chair,
Ambassador,
Permanent
Representative of
the Netherlands to
the Rome-based
UN Agencies

Mr. Bruce
Campbell,
Program Director,
CGIAR Research
Program for
Climate Change,
Agriculture and
Food Security

Mr. Slaven Tadić, Research fellow, The second day of the GACSA Annual Forum started with a video message from Mr. **David Nabarro**. Mr. Nabarro gave a recap of the history of agriculture in the global discourse on climate change, the development of the CSA concept and how GACSA came into life. He emphasized the increasing recognition that nature-based solutions (NBS) will play a crucial part in meeting global mitigation goals and encouraged GACSA members to submit concrete propositions on NBS for presentation at the UN Climate Summit in September 2019. He specified that such propositions provided an opportunity to show the value of CSA in addressing to global climate change challenge and should detail their concrete impact and realistic means for implementation.

Mr. Hans Hoogeveen said that big investments in the agriculture sector were to be expected over the coming years and provided a huge opportunity to take CSA action to the ground, if the business case for CSA could be made. This link between investors and actors on the ground should be made through a matchmaking facility. A related effort by GACSA could benefit from experience of Rabobank, Rockefeller and IFAD on creating a food loss investment facility. Mr. Hoogeveen proposed to start with five to ten good business cases that could be scaled up if successful and convince CEOs of companies to invest in CSA rather than donate.

Mr. **Bruce Campbell** underlined the urgency of action, if we were to achieve the SDGs by 2030 considering the levels of multidimensional poverty in many countries, particularly in Africa, and that in many regions only eleven cropping seasons remained to perform the needed transformation in agriculture. He called on the GACSA Knowledge Action Group (KAG) to expand its vision of CSA knowledge beyond technology – noting that there were already over 8000 scientific publications on CSA – into i) empowering farmer/consumer organizations ii) innovative finance, iii) reshaping of value chains, iv) digitally enabled climate-informed services, and v) fostering enabling environments for CSA. Furthermore, Mr. Campbell recommended to better align the GACSA and the global CSA Science Conferences; to organize at least two webinars a year on the important topics in the CSA discourse; and to be more demand-driven. Key messages from the subsequent discussion were:

- Africa has great potential for sustainable irrigation, in particular using solar irrigation technology connected to national electricity grids – as being tested in India.
- There are opportunities to increase the currently low coverage of weather stations in Africa and improve climate services, as prices for weather stations are coming; opportunities lie also in using remote sensing data.

Italian Institute of Biometeorology

 Research for agricultural development needs to strike the right balance between precision farming/high-tech solutions and smallholder farming systems as well as work in an integrated way, e.g. across CGIAR centres.

Mr. Slaven Tadić presented an example of creating an enabling environment for CSA innovation in the Italian region of Emilia-Romagna. The enabling environment, he said, was based on setting up 'operational groups' between policy makers and researchers focused on specific geographic areas and (mostly traditional) products. The operational groups had helped to build a community of producers, researchers, policy makers, other value chain actors and consumers; enhance coherence between agriculture and climate policies; and drive the co-creation of innovation for CSA. Mr. Tadić highlighted the value of the operational groups to create locally adapted solutions rather than providing blanket recommendations through traditional extension materials. He also mentioned the plans to establish an online Climate Smart Search Engine to make these innovations more readily available and, in particular, to connect to interested youth.

WORKING GROUPS: BREAKOUT PLANNING SESSION TO IMPLEMENT THE GACSA STRATEGIC PLAN AND SET UP THE GACSA INVESTMENT FACILITY

Moderator: Mr. Hans Hoogeveen, designated GACSA Co-Chair, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Rome-based UN Agencies

Knowledge Action Group (KAG):

Facilitator/Rapporteur: **Ms. Allison M. Chatrchyan**, Director, Cornell Institute for Climate-Smart Solutions

The KAG session focussed on three issues in order to derive actions for its future work: i) critical gaps, ii) main obstacles, iii) main target audience. The discussion identified a need for data/metrics to demonstrate the economic benefit of CSA adoption for farmers; quantitative data to demonstrate environmental benefits of CSA practices to consumers; and better integration of CSA in education and training curricula, in particular to reach the intermediaries of knowledge between science and farmers, i.e. extension workers and private consultants. The proposed actions are detailed in Annex 1.

Investment Action Group (IAG):

Facilitator/Rapporteur: Mr. Simon Leiva, Coordinator, GACSA Facilitation Unit The IAG focussed on the challenge of making the business case for CSA and came up with the idea of develop a universally applicable and short template to support farmers in formulating solid proposals to access investments/credit for their transition to CSA. A detailed action plan is presented in Annex 2.

Enabling Environment Action Group (EEAG):

Facilitator: **Ms. Federica Matteoli**, Natural Resources Officer, Climate and Environment Division, FAO

Rapporteur: **Ms. Rosa Mosquera Losada**, Professor, University of Santiago de Compostela

The EEAG identified a need for more specific objectives in order to support the aims of the GACSA Strategic Plan 2018-2022 in an effective and targeted way. Therefore, it proposed to develop an EEAG strategy, based on a mapping and survey of priority needs among GACSA members and collaborating partners. The strategy should be finalized and adopted in a workshop by January 2020. A detailed concept note is presented in Annex 3.

CONFERENCE CLOSING REMARKS

Moderators:
Mr. Hans
Hoogeveen,
designated
GACSA Co-Chair,
Ambassador,
Permanent
Representative of
the Netherlands to
the Rome-based
UN Agencies

Ms. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda, GACSA Co-Chair

Speaker:
Mr. Theo de
Jager, President,
World Farmers'
Organization
(WFO)

Mr. **Theo de Jager** called on GACSA to put farmers in the center of its efforts - as farmers were the ones who would eventually implement CSA and needed to gain ownership of the proposed solutions. He defined CSA as a team effort that had to involve and support all farmers – small and large scale, rich and poor, high- and low-tech - and in particular the youth which was eager to progress, to use data and digital innovations, to measure its impact and to use this information for marketing purposes. Mr. de Jager further underlined the importance of preserving the natural resource base of agriculture and putting science-based policies in place to support sustainable agricultural practices. He presented the 'CliMakers' initiative of WFO, which aimed at identifying a farmer-driven agenda for climate change adaptation and mitigation based on a global survey implemented through regional farmer organizations. He encouraged GACSA members to support this initiative which results - differentiated by world regions - should be presented at the UNFCCC Conference of Parties in 2020. Mr. de Jager closed by inviting everyone to dream with him of the day when 'climate-smart' produced food would dominate the value chains of the world.

Ms. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda concluded that this was "the moment for GACSA to reboot and step up." She expressed GACSA's commitment to work towards the 2030 Agenda and to support CSA in becoming a brand. She emphasized the importance of matchmaking and co-creating in taking CSA to action. She summarized the three big results/follow-up actions of the conference:

- Value proposition to be developed for each Action Group by the first week of August. The propositions should be coherent, well packaged and tangible as to allow for concrete results.
- 2) Engage in the following <u>platforms</u> to promote CSA, meet potential partners and advance matchmaking:
 - a. African Green Revolution Forum (3-6 September 2019, Accra, Ghana): matchmaking and CSA/GACSA messaging;
 - UN Climate Action Summit (23 September 2019, New York, USA): CSA/GACSA messaging to heads of states, ministers of finance and agriculture;
 - Global CSA Science Conference (10-12 October 2019, Bali, Indonesia): matchmaking, with particular focus on involving countries from the region in the GACSA matchmaking facility;
 - d. UNFCCC COP25 (2-13 December 2019, Santiago de Chile, Chile): broad participation of GACSA members to promote GACSA matchmaking facility.

3) The members of GACSA are the main <u>messengers of GACSA</u> and are encouraged to carry GACSA messages into their respective countries and crowd-source ownership for this idea.

Ms. Sibanda closed the GACSA Annual Forum 2019 by thanking all organizers, supporters and participants.

Annex 1: Knowledge Action Group - Action Plan

The objective of the GACSA Knowledge Action Group (KAG) is to increase and promote knowledge, research, and development into technologies, practices, and policy approaches for CSA. The KAG convened at the GACSA Annual Forum 2019 to identify concrete actions in support of this objective and aligned with the GACSA Strategic Plan 2018-2022.

Based on a discussion of the critical gaps, obstacles and target audience, the KAG identified the following actions:

Gap/obstacle	Target audience	Action	Due date	Responsible
Lack of data to demonstrate economic benefits of CSA adoption Lack of data to demonstrate/quantify environmental benefits of CSA practices	Consumer & policy makers	 Collective literature review and survey on relevant metrics through GACSA members Create a knowledge platform (in collaboration with WFO's Climakers and other ongoing initiatives) 	15 November 2019	KAG Co- Conveners with FU, and KAG members
Limited awareness/understanding of CSA	Extension workers/ consultants; Farmers; Youth; General public	 Promote the further adoption of the CSA curriculum developed by Cornell University Review and promote youth curriculum developed by Cornell University Develop a massive open online course (MOOC) on CSA 	15 November 2019	KAG Co- Conveners with FU, and KAG members
	Policy makers	Develop one big yearly issue, opinion piece or provocative article (e.g. Commentary Piece in Nature Climate Change)	15 November 2019	KAG Co- Conveners with FU, and KAG members

Further actions to enhance the group functioning were identified:

Action	Due date	Responsible
Update list of KAG members and create a list serve and	15 Nov.	GACSA FU,
a Facebook group (or Linked-In or similar)	2019	KAG Co-Conveners
Issue call and identify a second KAG Co-Convener	15 Nov.	GACSA FU,
	2019	KAG Co-Conveners
Hold personal KAG meetings back-to-back with other	15 Nov.	KAG Co-Conveners
meetings whenever possible and allow for participation of	2019	KAG members
other KAG members through video call (e.g. Zoom)		
Produce and maintain an interactive KAG work plan (e.g.	15 Nov.	KAG Co-Conveners
google doc, slack group)	2019	

Annex 2: Investment Action Group – Action Plan

The objective of the GACSA Investment Action Group (IAG) is to increase and promote knowledge, research, and development into technologies, practices, and policy approaches for CSA. The IAG convened at the GACSA Annual Forum 2019 to identify concrete actions in support of this objective and aligned with the GACSA Strategic Plan 2018-2022.

Based on a discussion of the critical gap, obstacles and target audience, the KAG identified the following action:

Gap/obstacle	Target audience	Action	Due date	Responsible
Lack of a CSA business case template for farmers to apply for loans	Farmers	A final Business Case template is completed	30 August 2019	IAG members

Further actions to enhance the group functioning were identified:

Action	Due date	Responsible
Approach US company and FAO for a business case	21 June	GACSA FU,
template that can be used for Farmers to apply for		AG KAWAMURA
loans		(Karen Ross)
Circulate this template for feedback to the IAG	28 June	IAG GACSA FU
First draft of a template is created	28 July	IAG GACSA FU
Circulate the first draft for feedback to investors	5 August	WBCSD
Consolidate business feedback	19 August	IAG and GACSA FU
Final Business Case template complete	30 August	IAG and GACSA FU

Annex 3: Enabling Environment Action Group – Action Plan

The objective of the GACSA Enabling Environment Action Group (EEAG) is to identify the technical, policy and investment conditions needed to scale up Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) approaches, and to promote the harmonization of community-based national agriculture, climate change and food system policies. The EEAG convened at the GACSA Annual Forum 2019 to identify concrete actions in support of this objective and aligned with the GACSA Strategic Plan 2018-2022.

Considering the broad scope of the objectives, the EEAG decided to develop a strategy with specific actions though a bottom-up approach, based on the key policy bottlenecks and needs identified by GACSA members and collaborating partners. The following steps were identified to develop the strategy:

Action	Due date	Responsible
Develop a concept note	30 June 2019	Rosa Mosquera- Losada
Mapping of related platforms (identifying members and activities) such as: nature based solutions, food + land use coalition, science based target network (NGO), CSA Regional Alliances	July 2019	Federica Matteoli
Mapping of GACSA members' and partners' needs/key policy bottlenecks, through		
 Online survey Evaluation of members'/partners' recommendations in various platforms (e.g. at side events). Platforms include: African Green Revolution Forum (3-6 September 2019, Accra, Ghana); UN Climate Action Summit (23 September 2019, New York, USA); Global CSA Science Conference (10-12 October 2019, Bali, Indonesia); UNFCCC COP25 (2-13 December 2019, Santiago de Chile, Chile). 	July 2019	Rosa, Allison, Federica Conveners EEAG
- Webinars	TBD	TBD
Workshop to evaluate feedback, develop and approve strategy	At COP25 or in January 2020	EEAG Co- Conveners
Finalization of EEAG strategy	January 2020	EEAG conveners

Annex 4: List of Participants

	Name	Entity / Organization
1	A.C. Kowerswar	Farmer, NACSAA Co-Founder, and Former California
	A.G. Kawamura	Secretary of Agriculture
2	Ackson Joseph Mwanza	Ministry of Agriculture - Zambia
3	Ahmad Farid bin Mohammed	
4	Allison Chatrchyan	Cornell University
5	Avril Rothwell	DAFM, Ireland
6	Balish Gopolang	Department of meterological (Botswana)
7	Batjargal Zamba	Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia
8	Benard Mugisha	Haramaya University
9	Bernhard Stormyr	Yara
10	Bob Natifu	Ministry of water and environment
11	Bruce Campbell	Program Director, Program Management Unit (CGIAR/CCAFS)
12	Caitlin Corner-Dolloff	USDA/FAS
13	Chris Armitage	Global EverGreening Alliance
14	Danielle Eiseman	Cornell Institute for Climate Smart Solutions
15	Deepitika	Ministry of Economy
16	DJIBRIL BAH-TRAORE	La Brique
17	Douglas Machacha	Minstry of Agriculture Botsawana
18	Edith Kateme- Kasajja	National Planning Authority
19	Elizabeth A. Okwuosa	Kenya agriculture and livestock Organization (KALRO)
20	Ernie Shea	Solutions from the Land
21	Fatou Ndeye Gaye	
22	Federica Matteoli	FAO
23	Fred Yoder	NACSAA
24	Gesine Hänsel	GIZ
25	Grace G. Mafhoko	
26	Herwig Ranner	Climate policy officer at DG AGRI; EU Agriculture negotiator at UNFCCC
27	Hien T. Ngo	Head of the Technical Support Unit for the Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
28	Imelda Bacudo	Not registered online
29	Jason Chan	Singapore Food Agency
30	Johannes Hoogeveen	Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UN Organisations in Rome
31	Jonas Jägermeyr	Postdoc at University of Chicago and NASA/GISS and AgMIP
32	Joseph Sylla	MINISTERE ENVIRONNEMENT EAUX ET FORETS
33	Julian Schnetzer	FAO
34	Karen Ross	Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture
35	Kefasi Jermiah Kamoyo	Not registered online
36	Kjetil Tysdal	Norway
37	Kudakwashe Manyanga	Grow a Tree Foundation

38	Kudzai Ndidzano	Zimbwawe Minstry of Agriculture
39	Lawrence	Government of Zimbabwe/ Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement
40	Lerato Bame Tsalaemang MATSAUNYANE	Not registered online
41	Lindiwe Majele Sibanda	GACSA Co-chair
42	Lufingo Witson Mwamakamba	Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)
43	Manuel Urrutia	Global Donor Platform for Rural Development
44	Marcel van Nijnatten	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality
45	MARIA Rosa Mosquera Losada	University of Santiago de Compostela
46	Margaret Yoovatana	
47	Martial Bernoux	FAO
48	Mei Ching Law	Malaysian Palm Oil Board
49	Melanie Pisano	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
50	Mohamed Doumbouya	
51	Nala Muller	
52	Nargiza Zhusupova	Kyrgyz Association of Forest and Land Users
53	Nazar Azly Bin Zaberi	Ministry of Primary Industries Malaysia
54	Ndayishimiye Renilde	Agriculture Sciences Research Institute of Burundi(ISABU)
56	Nomuhle Nyoni	zimbabwe commercial farmers' union
57	Olivia Gvermandi	
58	Richard Muyungi	Tanzania
59	Saul Lopez	Sociedad Venezolana de Ingenieros Agronomos y afines
60	Simon Leiva	FAO
61	Siyang Borang	STATE HORTICULTURE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
62	Slaven Tadić	CNR-IBIMET
63	Stefanie Baumann	
64	Stephan Muwaya	Uganda Ministry of Agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries
65	Stephanie Heiland	GIZ
66	Tekini Nakidakida	Ministry of Agriculture, Fiji
67	Theo De Jager	Not registered online
68	Tory Bridges	Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy
69	Varun Vats	Syngenta
70	Veronica Ndetu	Kenya Ministry of Agriculture
71	Wiebke Foerch	GIZ
72	Zitoni Pulane Manale	Department of transport South Africa
73	Zitouni Ould-Dada	Deputy Director of the Climate and Environment Division (FAO)