CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE
OVERVIEW
(LOCAL)

Shane Hardowar
University of Mauritius
MAURITIUS
**Some Examples of Changes (National):**

- **2007:** Heavy swell of sea causing *killer waves* in Republic of Mauritius
- **2009:** *Drought* in Mauritius affecting crop and livestock sector
  - 40% drop in sugar production
  - MSIRI introduced Tomato Calora variety
- **29 March 2013:** *Torrential rainfall* (2 hours) in Port Louis- 11 deaths
- **2015:** Negative growth of 4% for the first semester (agricultural, sylviculture, fisheries) vs Sugarcane (positive growth of 1%)
**INTRODUCTION - CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE**

- **FAO (2010):** CSA sustainably increases productivity, resilience (**adaptation**), reduces or removes Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) (**mitigation**) and enhances the achievement of national food security and development goals (**development**)

- **CSA: TRIPLE WIN**

  The three pillars that are intertwined in Climate-Smart Agriculture (FAO, 2013)
INTRODUCTION - CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE

- CSA promotes best practices such as: crop rotation, mulching, integrated crop-livestock management, conservation agriculture, improved grazing and improved water management, intercropping, improved seeds and fertilizer management practices
Climate Smart Agriculture

- **CSA**: Indispensable tool for food security in Mauritius

- **Smart** measures: improved use of manure and 40% reduction in use of inorganic fertiliser

Past Project/Research on CSA

- **Resilience** of food security systems in Africa in the face of a changing climate, along with the challenges involved in estimating sustainable solutions for **climate-smart crop protection** (Facknath, 2009b, 2011; Facknath and Wright, 2010).

- ‘The impact of climate change on agriculture in the Republic of Mauritius’ (Jönsson & Madeleine, 2011) Case study: Tomato

- Overview of impact of CC on non-sugar sector in Mauritius and strategies for adaptation (Atawoo, 2011)-FAREI
Past Project/Research on CC/CSA

- National Dialogue to increase awareness about climate change and its impact on Mauritian agriculture and to propose and discuss stakeholders’ coping and adaptation strategies (June 2010) (FANRPAN-Mauritius Node)

- Prognosis made by MSIRI via the usage of the Agricultural Production Systems Simulator (APSIM) Biophysical model

- CC adaptation measures for Mauritian agriculture: Stakeholders’ perspective (Brizmohun, Hardowar 2011).
PAST PROJECT/RESEARCH

- In 2013, a project entitled ‘A Situational Analysis of Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation for Agriculture in Mauritius’ (Brizmohun et al, 2013)

- Comprehensive Scoping Study of Climate Smart Agriculture Policies (FANRPAN 2014)
ADAPTIVE AND CSA MEASURES PRACTISED BY MAURITIAN FARMERS:

- Conservation Agriculture: Soil conservation, soil and nutrient management.
- Water harvesting.
- Crop diversification.
- Intercropping and Mixed Cropping.
- Improved seeds.
- Improved feeds.
Adaptive and CSA measures practised by farmers:

- Irrigation system.
- New Technologies.
- Shifting Planting Seasons.
- Biological control of pests.
- Use of traditional knowledge.
EXAMPLES OF CSA PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Fallowing at La Ferme, Bambous
EXAMPLES OF CSA PRODUCTION SYSTEMS: MIXED CROPPING, MULCHING

ADAPTATION STRATEGY
EXAMPLES OF CSA PRODUCTION SYSTEMS: CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE - SOIL AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

Use of leguminous crop (beans) at Beaux Songes

MITIGATION STRATEGY
EXAMPLES OF CSA PRODUCTION SYSTEMS: WATER HARVESTING (EASTERN REGION)
EXAMPLES OF CSA PRODUCTION SYSTEMS:
ADOPTING NEW VARIETIES OF ONIONS
EXAMPLES OF CSA PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Drip Irrigation
Other CSA production systems

- Changing time of crop harvests
- Improved seeds (use early maturing and drought tolerant vars by FAREI)
- Use of indigenous knowledge (neem extract against pests/ the use of wine, pineapple juice and brown sugar for controlling fruit flies in creepers)
- Use of vermicomposting to improve soil organic matter