SADC Adaptation to Climate Change in Rural Areas in Southern Africa (ACCRA) Programme

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Situation analysis SADC region

- SADC region is extremely **vulnerable** to the effects of climate change
- Agriculture sector most affected, whereby **70%** of the region’s population depend on agriculture for food, income and employment
- **Extreme weather events** like floods and droughts are increasing as well as average temperatures
- Already low yields are decreasing, heavily impacting on **regional food security**
Situation analysis – SADC region II

- Regional drought disaster declared in July 2016
  - Cereal deficit of 9.3 mio tons
  - 643,000 cattle perished
  - Food insecure population increased by 31% to 40 mio people
- 2017-2018 season
  - Erratic/poorly distributed rainfall throughout large parts of SADC – dry spell/above-normal temperatures after crop establishment, followed by late above-normal rainfall
  - Significant reduction of agricultural production expected, with negative consequences on food security for many households expected
Implementing partner: CCARDESA

- Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa
- SADC subsidiary organisation established in 2011 by the 15 SADC Member States
- Mandate to coordinate agricultural research and development
- Focus on farmer empowerment and market access, agric. research and technology generation, and farmer demand-driven advisory services
- Strong mandate for regional agricultural knowledge brokerage
- CCARDESA has been mandated to build and operate a regional information, communication and knowledge management (ICKM) system
SADC programme „Adaptation to Climate Change in Rural Areas in Southern Africa“ - ACCRA

ACCRA objective: CCARDESA has increased the capacities of the SADC member states to integrate climate change aspects into agricultural programmes and investments

The ACCRA programme focuses on:

1) Regional knowledge dissemination on climate change adaptation in agriculture and climate smart agriculture

2) Climate proofing of priority agricultural value chains
(A) Regional knowledge dissemination on climate smart agriculture

Key activities

• Strengthening the CCARDESA ICKM system and the CCARDESA ICKM community of practice

• Disseminating knowledge products on climate relevant topics in agriculture

• Developing user friendly knowledge products on:
  
  • Climate smart best practices and technologies, climate information for agriculture, climate financing arrangements for adaptation

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(A) Continued

- **Developing capacity** of CCARDESA and SADC member states for:
  - Design and implementation of **training** measures, workshops and exchange visits (e.g. CCAA/CSA, Accessing Finance, Proposal Writing)
  - **Climate proofing** of policies, strategies, programmes and investments
  - Information and modes of **access to finance**, i.e. international climate funds, development banks and private sector
CCARDESA - SAAIKS – Southern African Agricultural Information and Knowledge System  

SAAIKS.NET

Why another platform?

• SADC hungers for quality information (*who is doing what, where, etc.*)
• Information gathering dust on shelves and not shared

SAAIKS

• Online platform hosted by CCARDESA for all 15 SADC states – trilingual
• Driven by a team of focal people in SADC-MS and knowledge volunteers
• One stop shop for regional agric. knowledge products – over 600 products shared to date
• Harnesses willingness to share and learn – open access, all SADC member states can up- and download information
• Interoperability with existing platforms – what we don’t have we link to
(B) Climate Proofing Agricultural Value Chains

Key activities

- **Capacity development** of SADC member state institutions (government, private sector, civil society and research) to:
  - Identify **climate risks** and **vulnerabilities** for agricultural products and risk mitigation potentials
  - Identify and **prioritise climate smart best practices** and technologies for adaptation
  - Carry out **piloting** and **feasibility studies** to document evidence for benefits and impacts of climate smart investments
  - Develop **investment proposals** for up-scaling of climate smart agriculture practices and technologies

- **Support CCARDESA** in:
  - strengthening strategic partnerships for designing and implementing climate-smart programmes and investments
  - intensifying contacts with potential financiers
(B) Achievements to date

1. Selection of priority agricultural value chains: maize, sorghum, rice, livestock

2. Project development and implementation
   • Climate proofing of the maize value chain in Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe
     • Partners: ZARI Zambia (Lead); CIMMYT (execution); MoA – MACHINGA ADD Malawi; Agritex Zimbabwe; Total Land Care Malawi
   • Climate proofing of the sorghum value chain in Lesotho and Botswana
     • Partners: MoA DAR Lesotho (Lead); MoA DAR Botswana; Rural Self Help Development Association (RSDA) Lesotho, National University of Lesotho
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