

Scaling Up Climate Services for Farmers in Africa and South Asia

Saly, Senegal, 10-12 December 2012

GUIDELINES FOR THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

The thematic working groups are meant to guide participants to:

- Recognize, a few of the key issues that can either constrain or enable climate services to benefit farmers, in their contexts;
- Identify scalable “good practices” that can effectively address those issues; and
- Identify one or two priority actions that workshop participants could collectively pursue as follow-up to the workshop.

To provide a context for focused discussion, 16 case studies, divided among the working groups, will provide concrete examples of how particular initiatives have grappled with these issues. With one exception, plenary presentations in Session 2 will identify the issues that working groups will discuss in Session 5. Each working group Chair will enlist a rapporteur to present in plenary (Session 6) a summary of the issue, practices that show promise for addressing the issue, and the one or two highest priorities for action.

This is part of a workshop "roadmap" that is designed to move the community toward a set of concrete, high-impact actions across sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. On Tuesday afternoon, participants will break into regional working groups that each will examine these issues, and propose 1 or 2 priority actions, in a particular geographic context. On Wednesday, focus will turn to cross-regional actions. We will then use a marketplace approach to allow participants to prioritize, refine, and commit to a small (5 or 6) priority areas for follow-up. We are aiming for concrete actions – for a few big ideas that rally sub-sets of the participants into concrete follow-up that will strengthen the impact of climate services on farmers in one or more of these regions. For example:

- Funded implementation projects.
- South-south exchange that strengthens capacity in gap areas
- Communities of practice that agree to ongoing interaction to address some area where there is a gap.

Each working group will report back to the plenary with:

- A concise statement of the issue or challenge associated with their Theme;
- A few “good practices” that show promise for overcoming the challenge, that are actionable and scalable;
- Challenges to implementing these good practices;
- One or two proposed, concrete, priority follow-up actions that will address the problem that your theme addresses.

In the 3 days of the workshop we have no doubt that many interesting conversations will take place and many good ideas will be discussed. We also know that many good ideas will not rise to surface unless we find ways to draw them out. And, we know that moving from good ideas to concrete actions will require experienced leadership, deliberation, and advocacy. Your role as a working group chair or case study presenter is vital to achieving this goal.

Featured case studies by Working Group:

WG 1: How to produce climate information and advisory services that are more salient for smallholder farmers?

1. Wote (Kenya): Communicating downscaled probabilistic seasonal forecast information to farmer groups- Communication and Downscaling methods. Case presenter: Dr. KPC Rao
2. Kaffrine (Senegal): Communicating downscaled probabilistic seasonal forecast information to farmer groups- Communication and Downscaling Best practices. Case presenter: Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye
3. GFCS Frameworks for Climate Services at the National Level: Bringing Forecasters and users together around the priority needs of community end-users- Lessons from pilot West Africa experiences. Case presenter: Kaliba Konare / Filipe Lucio (TBC)
4. Strengthening the Capacity of ICPAC in Climate Prediction and Information Dissemination for Improved Agricultural Production and Food Security to Enhance Adaptation to Climate Variability and Change. Case Presenters: Jasper Mwesigwa (ICPAC)

WG2: Reaching the "last mile" – at scale: What are the most promising pathways for reaching millions of farmers?

5. Grameen Uganda SMS-based farmer advisory delivery. Case Presenters: Gilbert Agaba (Grameen Uganda AppLab) / Deus Bamanya (Uganda NHMS)
6. Farm Radio International: Building the Capacity of rural radios to package and communicate climate information to farmers. Case Presenters: Sheila Huggins-Rao (Farm Radio International)
7. Dissemination of Weather and Climate Information in Local Languages. Case Presenters: Patrick Luganda (Farmers Media Link, Uganda)

WG 3: How to give farmers an effective voice into the design, delivery and evaluation of climate services?

8. Climate Forecasting for Agricultural Resources (CFAR) project- Burkina Faso: lessons learnt and challenges to replicability? Case Presenters: Carla Roncoli (Emory U.) / Judy Sanfo (Burkina NHMS)
9. Developing approaches to support smallholder decision making and planning through the use of: historical climate information; forecasts; and participatory planning methods. Case Presenter: Peter Dorward (Reading University)
10. Indigenous Knowledge Bank. Case Presenters: Aby Drame (ENDA-TM)
11. Integrating Indigenous Knowledge with Seasonal Climate Forecasts in Lushoto (Tanzania). Case Presenters: Prof. Mahoo (Sokoine University) / Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA)

WG 4: Equitable rural climate services: How to reach women, other socially- and economically-disadvantaged groups?

12. Demonstrating the Value of Climate Services in Senegal and Kenya: Results of ANACIM – Red Cross collaboration to communicate short-range weather advisories to three rural

communities provision in Kaffrine (Senegal): Identification of Gender-specific needs in climate service. Case Presenters: Mara Laye (Senegal Red Cross)/ Soxna Diouf (model farmer, Dioly village, Kaffrine)

13. Rockefeller Regional Project on Agro-met advisory to farmers- Ethiopia results. Case Presenters: Atos Derecha and Hailemariam (Ethiopia Met Service Agromet department).

WG 5: Is Information Enough? How to connect climate services with other interventions to enable management of climate-related risk at the farm level?

14. Identifying farmer's information needs to manage production risk in the Indo Gangetic Plains of India. Case Presenters: Surabhi Mittal (CIMMYT)
15. Results of the MetAgri project: WMO Roving seminars. Case Presenters: Jose Camachos (WMO)
16. Results of the Climate Learning for African Agriculture (CLAA)- CDKN project. Case Presenter: John Morton (NRI)