

Key Socioeconomic Barriers and Challenges that Limit Agricultural Transformation & Recommendations for the UNFCCC Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

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Socioeconomic and Food Security Dimensions of Climate Change in the Agricultural Sector

Socioeconomic Barriers & Challenges

- **Knowledge:**

- Farmers lack information on how climate change will affect their region and cropping/animal/landscape systems. More specific information is needed including tailored adaptation and mitigation strategies, and how to implement Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices effectively.
- Farmers are most prepared to sustainably intensify production, less prepared to adapt to climate change, and least prepared to mitigate. However, there is most interest in intensification and adaptation, less so in mitigation.
- While information exists globally on CSA practices, it is not reaching farmers. Stronger mechanisms (Extension, Peer Networks) are needed to deliver and increase access to information.
- Extension, advisors, and farmers need accurate weather and climate information (monthly to seasonal forecasts).

- **Enabling Environment/Policies:**

- Broad global CSA goals are not being translated into national policies or local programs; national policies are not implemented at local levels. Agriculture is often excluded from forestry, ecosystem, landscape, or water projects.
- There is lack of sufficient focus to address issues of gender inequality, youth, land tenure, and small family farms.

- **Financing**

- Lack of funding/incentives is the most significant barrier to farmers adopting mitigation and adaptation practices, at all levels.

Recommendations

- Countries/NGOs:
 - Meet with family farmers/women farmers/youth/marginalized groups to listen needs and develop initiatives to address them
 - Fund *Applied Research*: social science and agricultural/natural science: Develop MOAs developed and developing country agriculture universities
 - Train *Extension or Peer Networks* on CSA and provide *Adequate Funding* for their work with farmers
 - Draft & implement national legislation & national CSA plans and local projects, e.g.: covering practices such as soil health or agroforestry (prioritize those with mitigation and adaptation co-benefits)
- Constituted Bodies/Funding Agencies:
 - Build country capacity: Support development of national CSA plans & policies & fund Extension programs
 - Earmark funding and support public/private investments for developing countries for specific CSA and food security projects
 - Provide small grants to NGOs for innovative transformation – peer to peer networks
 - Fund development of regional climate and agriculture decision support tools
- UNFCCC/KJWA:
 - Assess linkages between small family farming, ecosystem services, forests, and landscapes
 - Strongly encourage Parties to develop *Nationally Specific CSA plans and policies* to implement the agriculture mitigation/adaptation goals in their NDCs
 - Identify and strengthen mechanisms to provide *greater support and investment* for developing countries to *implement* their CSA plans and projects that fulfill their NDC, including mechanisms for agriculture in payments for ecosystem service



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