Welcome to
CLIMATE-SMART Agriculture 2015
Le Corum, Montpellier, France
16-18 March 2015
Third Global Science Conference

Organized by

In partnership with

Plenary

Feedback from Parallel sessions

12:00 Feedback from Parallel sessions L1 : Regional Dimensions
Peter Minang (ICRAF) & Jean-Luc Chotte (IRD)

12:15 Questions

12:30-14:00 Lunch

AUDITORIUM PASTEUR
Feedback from Parallel sessions L1

« Regional dimensions »

Peter Minang & Jean-Luc Chotte

Chair

L1.1: Africa  James Kinyangi
L1.2: Australasia  Frédéric Gay
L1.3: Latin America  Mirjam Pulleman
L1.4: Europe  Jean-François Soussana
L1.5: North America  Cynthia Rosenzweig
Feedback from Parallel sessions « Regional dimensions »

Keywords

Occurrence
Keywords

Co-occurrence

CSA “pillars”
Keywords

Co-occurrence

CSA “pillars”

Provisioning services
Keywords

Co-occurrence

CSA “pillars”

Provisioning services

Drivers
Keywords

Co-occurrence

CSA “pillars”

Provisioning services

Drivers

Human dimensions
Keywords

Co-occurrence

CSA “pillars”

Provisioning services

Drivers

Human dimensions

Participatory - Model
Keywords

Co-occurrence

- CSA “pillars”
- Provisioning services
- Drivers
- Human dimensions
- Participatory - Model
Feedback from L1 « Regional dimensions: Major trends in Oral presentations

Africa

• How to scale up success experimental CSA practices to landscape levels/national levels
• Africa’s agriculture is rain-fed practices in a heterogenous environment

Australasia:

• Opportunities and bottleneck (institutionnal, political and financial framework, farmers organization) for the implementation of CSA concept in SA and SEA: but the lack of farmer association or civil society

Latin America

• CSA policies and implementation, especially on adaptation to climate change/risks.
• Only one out of 6 focused on mitigation (blue C storage) and food/income security of local communities in mangrove areas.

Europe

• Large but still rather scattered research effort on agriculture and climate change.

North America

• Integration across systems
• Multidisciplinary teams
• Nutrient and water use efficiency
• Interactions with stakeholders
Feedback from L1 « Regional dimensions: Key scientific issues

Africa
• CSA systems that can deliver on food security and nutrition, increase income and sequester carbons on smallholder farms rain-fed dependent
• How to scale up success experimental CSA practices to landscape levels/national levels

Australasia:
• rising temperature
• climate variability (shift in seasons, occurrence of extreme events)

Latin America
• Policy environment around adaptation: There is a lack of long-term vision/strategy/ and integration of policies and institutions

Europe
• development of agroecology could provide further options that need to be assessed.

North America
• Genetics x environment x management (G x E x M)
• Soil health
• Nitrogen cycle interactions
• Hydrological cycle interactions
Feedback from L1 « Regional dimensions : Key societal issues

Africa
• Diverse and heterogeneous traditional agricultural systems that are resource inefficient.
• High levels of poverty amongst population that is rural based and rain-fed agricultural dependent

Australasia :
• link CSA initiatives at the cropping or farming system level with the value chain

Latin America
• Small farmers perceive climate change and are adapting to it, but it is not clear if they adopt the right strategies (e.g. apply more fertilizers or pesticides).
• Smallholder/family farming systems are very relevant in terms of contribution to livelihoods and food production in LAC
• Public farmer advisory services have been lost in many countries or are disconnected from farmer needs. Private sector has taken over. This makes it difficult to align farm advisory with government policy.

Europe
• ...

North America
• Climate skepticism in US among farmers and extension agents
• Difficulty in changing farmer behavior to more sustainable fertilizer application practices
Feedback from L1 « Regional dimensions: Knowledge gaps and research needs

Africa
• Research on Gender intersectionality and how this affects adaptation to climate change
• The complexity of EbA in mitigating climate shocks and poverty traps

Australasia:
• the need to look for synergies between adaptation practices

Latin America
• Increase understanding of agricultural systems in terms of vulnerability and resilience
• Adaptation strategies and policies should be gender sensitive and include local knowledge
• Successful adaptations to be systematized

Europe
• Integrated scenarios of agricultural transformation to tackle climate change

North America
• Adding role of management practices in Genetics x Environment x Management
• Basic studies on combined biotic and mineral fertilizer application
• Mitigation and adaptation practices for large-scale commercial livestock
Feedback from L1 « Regional dimensions: any missing topic

Africa
- The role of government to support effective policies, investing in infrastructure, markets, insurance, micro-finance
- Importance of climate information services and agro-advisory services for farmers

Australasia:
- No communications at all from China, Japan, Australia or Indonesia

Latin America
- Clear identification of interfering challenges: e.g. climate change and outmigration, climate change and soil degradation to be sure the right policies are put in place and policies are well-aligned
- What kind of government policies will be put in place to stimulate adaptation?

Europe
- Agroforestry, biogas

North America
- Uncertainty, climate risk insurance
- Role of proactive policies in contrast to reactive policies
- Need for benchmarking climate-smart agriculture/sustainability indicators by farm (C, N,...).
- Carbon storage at landscape scale
Feedback from L1 « Regional dimensions: Take home messages

• it is important to understand the cultural context when conducting climate-smart agriculture research and extension.

• Need for agro-ecosystem transformation at large scale. e.g., significant changes in nitrogen management to achieve sustainability

• Capacity building for scientists/researchers to undertake gender intersectionality approach, transdisciplinary research teams to understand communities and develop appropriate CSA practices with community

• Some of the CSA practices might not be appropriate for building resilience for the poor and moving them out of the poverty trap. This calls for appropriate targeting, investment and policy interventions

• Investments in research are clearly needed, but also extension.

• Need for interactions with stakeholders, also beyond agriculture stakeholders as the changes concern everybody.