

**ADAPTATION
NON-BLENDED**

PROJECT NAME	Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA) ¹
COUNTRY/REGION	Senegal, Ghana, Mali, Ethiopia, Kenya and Zambia
SECTOR	Agriculture
PROJECT/INVESTMENT AMOUNT	\$60 million
DEVELOPMENT PARTNER(S)/STAKEHOLDERS	CGIAR (Alliance Bioversity International - CIAT, AfricaRice, CIP, CIMMYT, ICARDA, IFPRI, IITA, ILRI, IRRI, IWMI, WorldFish, CIFOR, ICRISAT), CILSS, ASARECA, CCARDESA, CORAF, IGAD, RUFORUM, Climate Servie Centre, Columbia Climate School International Research Institute for Climate and Society
BENEFICIARY MINISTRY/ INSTITUTION	National meteorological services, National Agricultural Research and Extension Systems (NARES)
INVESTOR(S) AND FUNDERS	World Bank
GUIDEBOOK TAXONOMY FINANCIAL SYSTEM ACTOR	Bilateral, multilateral & Development Finance Institutions
PROJECT OVERALL GOAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen climate resilience of agriculture and food systems. • To deliver a climate-smart African future driven by science and innovation in agriculture.
PROJECT OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened capacity of targets partners and stakeholders, and enhance access to climate information services and validated climate-smart agriculture technologies in IDA-eligible countries in Africa; • Partners, stakeholders and beneficiaries in the project area are increasingly accessing enhanced climate information services and/or validated climate-smart agriculture technologies. • Enhanced climate information services and/or validated climate-smart agriculture technologies originating in one SSA country are increasingly being made accessible in other SSA countries
ALIGNMENT WITH COUNTRY IDENTIFIED CLIMATE STRATEGIES, NDCs, ETC. (IF APPLICABLE)	The six focus countries have made strong political commitments to adapting their agricultural systems to thrive in the face of climate change, and they have backed their political commitments with financial commitments. All six countries have mainstreamed CCAFS and CGIAR science into their national agricultural plans and programs. National organizations in all six countries are active members of regional networks and institutions critical for harmonized regional planning and implementation.
CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECT TO THE UN SDGs	SDG 1: No Poverty SDG 2: Zero Hunger SDG 13: Climate Action SDG 15: Life on Land
SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACT	Adoption of CSA technologies has been shown to be profitable at different scales. At household level, a systematic review of the scientific literature showed that many CSA technologies can reduce production risks by up to 48 percent compared with business-as-usual approaches, as well as increasing the economic benefits to farmers by up to 40 percent. The farm-level profitability of adopting CSA practices can vary, however, depending on local context and factors such as the distance to markets and local income

¹ This case was provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as a contribution to the Sharm El-Sheikh Guidebook for Just Financing

	<p>inequalities. But a consistent finding is that few farm-level activities produce large benefits when practiced in isolation. There is extensive evidence that combinations of practices out-perform single practices across a variety of regions, agro-ecologies and socio-economic conditions. At national level, substantial benefits have been demonstrated as well. Adopting CSA on 25 percent of the area planted to maize and wheat in Ethiopia would increase annual gross domestic product (GDP) by 0.18 percent (US\$49.8 million) and reduce the national poverty rate by 0.15 percentage points. Moreover, CSA would be more effective than doubling fertilizer use on the same area.</p>
<p>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (ON CLIMATE MITIGATION AND/OR ADAPTATION)</p>	<p>The three agro-ecological zones on which AICCRA will focus are projected to experience significant temperature increases over the long term. In addition to rising average temperatures, a major source of uncertainty for the region's farmers and pastoralists will be increased variability in rainfall, which will amplify risk throughout the growing season. Regional-level meteorological and agricultural research organizations in Africa and national-level institutions are aware of the urgent need for relevant short-term forecasts and climate information advisories, in the absence of which productivity in the agriculture sector will be adversely affected, with severe consequences for the millions of people in Africa who depend on agriculture as an important livelihood source.</p> <p>With better access to technology and advisory services—linked to information about effective response measures—farmers can better anticipate climate-related events to take preventative action that helps their communities safeguard livelihoods and the environment. As a secondary benefit the project is expected to generate reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.</p>
<p>ENABLING ENVIRONMENT (SUPPORTING POLICIES)</p>	<p>AICCRA will help bridge the gap between CGIAR-spearheaded scientific innovation and technology and the extension services, with the goal of promoting faster, more widespread adoption of better targeted CSA practices. Over the longer term, when combined with an enabling policy environment and supporting investments, this will contribute to the emergence of more productive and more resilient farming systems in Sub-Saharan Africa.</p> <p>By Project closing, policy makers and program administrators in the targeted countries will have access to climate-informed knowledge and tools needed to inform policy decisions and program design</p>
<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (IF PROVIDED)</p>	<p>By building systemic capacity at continental, regional, and national level to anticipate the impacts of climate change on agriculture and livestock systems, identify CSA technologies developed by CGIAR and partners to mitigate those impacts, and provide advisory services to potential beneficiaries of those CSA technologies, AICCRA will help bridge the gap between CGIAR-spearheaded scientific innovation and technology and the extension services, with the goal of promoting faster, more widespread adoption of better targeted CSA practices.</p>
<p>FINANCING MODEL/APPROACH (EX: BLENDED FINANCE)</p>	<p>Concessional finance</p>
<p>RATIONALE FOR FINANCING MODEL/APPROACH</p>	<p>The grant aligns to the ambitions of The Africa Food Security Leadership Dialogue (AFSLD), an initiative led by the African Union Commission (AUC) to address Africa's worsening food security crisis under climate change. AFSLD recently called for joint action against hunger in the face of climate change, at a time when the Covid-19 pandemic has further increased the vulnerability of millions of households. AICCRA is the World Bank's answer to that call.</p>
<p>FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT(S) (LOANS (COMMERCIAL/ CONCESSIONAL), EQUITY, GUARANTEE)</p>	<p>Grant</p>
<p>DIAGRAM OF THE FINANCING STRUCTURE</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Executive Summary

Strengthening the productivity and resilience of African agriculture depends on the ability of governments and their partners to bring science and innovation to the forefront of the development agenda. A large body of evidence shows that investments in agricultural research are very effective at reducing poverty and hunger, making them critical to climate-smart agriculture agendas. This project supports further work by the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), a global research partnership and leader in agricultural adaptation research, in strengthening the agriculture research architecture in Africa by strengthening the modes of engagement between CGIAR and regional and national African programs.

AICCRA works to make climate information services and climate-smart agriculture more accessible to millions of smallholder farmers across Africa. With better access to technology and advisory services—linked to information about effective response measures—farmers can better anticipate climate-related events to take preventative action that helps their communities safeguard livelihoods and the environment. The project is led by the Alliance of Bioversity International and Centre for International Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and supported by a grant from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank.

AICCRA has teams in six countries: Senegal, Ghana, Mali, Ethiopia, Kenya and Zambia. They collaborate on the four AICCRA themes:

- **Knowledge:** This AICCRA team produces new knowledge and tools that help African farmers prepare for and manage the impacts of climate variability and change, through better information and advice that offer clear choices and options to become more resilient under a changing climate..
- **Partnerships:** This AICCRA team works to build and deepen the partnerships between a whole range of organisations and stakeholders so that African farmers—as well as those who work in Africa’s agriculture and food sectors—can better predict and adapt to the impact of climate change.
- **Innovation:** This AICCRA team takes promising innovations in ‘climate information services’ (CIS) and ‘climate-smart agriculture’ (CSA) and pilots them to validate whether they can be deployed and bundled effectively on the scale needed to meet the climate and food security challenges faced in Africa.
- **Gender and social inclusion:** This AICCRA team works to identify and customize packages of CSA technologies and practices that are ‘gender-smart’ and help to promote greater inclusion of women and other marginalised social groups.

While these teams focus on accelerating impact in AICCRA focus countries, AICCRA also has a number of regional initiatives that complement national activities to deliver benefits for a broader range of stakeholders across East, West and Southern Africa.

Analysis

WHAT MADE THIS PROJECT SUCCESSFUL?	The project not yet complete: it began implementation in 2021 and will close in 2024.
TO WHAT EXTENT IS THIS MODEL SCALABLE?	This project focuses on improving the enabling environment for research, acting as a foundational step for other scalable initiatives to build on.
WHAT ARE THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS TO MAKE IT REPLICABLE IN OTHER COUNTRIES/REGIONS?	As CGIAR is a global alliance with similar modes of operation in other countries, it is possible to replicate this model in other contexts if the constraints faced by the research environment are similar.
CONSTRAINTS/DRAWBACKS OF FINANCING MODEL	There are limited opportunities to mobilize private finance with this model.
LESSONS LEARNT	N/A