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NIFAAS

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ZONAL POLICY DISCOURSE REPORT ON CSA-TIMPs
ZONE: SOUTH WEST ZONE, NIGERIA

1.0 Background

The impact of the changing global climate is felt directly on the agricultural systems, especially smallholder farmers in developing countries, which leaves agricultural production and farmers' livelihood highly exposed to changes and fluctuations in climatic conditions. The major climatic elements of interest in relation to agriculture are rainfall (and its intensity), temperature and relative humidity which deserves urgent and systematic attention because of its effects on national food security.

Therefore, there is a need for a more sustainable approach to agriculture, which will simultaneously stop/reverse the current trend of environmental degradation and help farmers adapt to climate change. This led to the development and promotion of climate smart agriculture (CSA) as an approach capable of achieving the desired objectives by the Food and Agriculture Organization. CSA practices are defined as those that sustainably increase agricultural productivity and incomes, build resilience and capacity of agricultural and food systems to adapt to climate change and reduce/remove greenhouse gases while enhancing national food security.

NIFAAS is the umbrella organisation of Agricultural Advisory Service (AAS) providers, actors and stakeholders in the country. The overall goal of NIFAAS is to develop and promote a coordinated, inclusive and demand-driven agricultural advisory support and service network in Nigeria. Currently, NIFAAS with the support of her continental body, African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS) under the ongoing Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme Ex-pillar 4 (CAADPXP4) is working on Strengthening Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPs), knowledge and uptake to influence policy and practice through Enhanced Partnership among Key Stakeholders in Nigeria. To that effect, a coordinated National Policy Discourse was organised in the different geopolitical zones of Nigeria. Hence, the South-West geopolitical zone brought all the key stakeholders in CSA together to discuss the state of CSA-TIMPs in their respective states. The main objective of the discourse is to identify actionable roadmap towards increasing the uptake and integration of CSA into policy and practice in the country.

The South-West policy discourse held at the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta (FUNAAB), on Thursday, 11th February, 2021. The discourse centred around the issue of Climate Smart Agriculture: Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (CSA-TIMPs). The key objectives of the South-West policy discourse are:

1. Examination of the CSA-TIMPs general concept, meaning and the current state in South-West Nigeria.
2. Highlight the key issues, prospects and challenges imposed by climate change on agricultural production.
3. Identification of actionable roadmap towards integrating CSA-TIMPs into policy briefing by South-West government for improved agricultural productivity and income.
4. Conducting pre- evaluation and post-evaluation surveys on the participants.

2.0 Attendance at the South-West Policy Discourse

The Discourse was attended by the The Speaker, Ogun State House of Assembly, Right Honourable Olakunle Oluomo (represented by the Chairman, House Committee on Information and Culture, Honourable Yusuf Adejojo), The Ogun State Commissioner for Agriculture, Dr Samson Odedina (represented by Mr James Oyesola, Director Tree Crop and Rural Development Services), the Ogun State Commissioner for Education, Professor Abayomi Arigbabu and the Ogun State Commissioner for Forestry, Mr Tunji Akinosi (represented by Dr. I. G. Adeleye). The Chief host of the discourse was the Vice Chancellor, FUNAAB, Prof. Felix Salako (represented by Prof. Jonathan J. Atungwu, the Director of the Institute of Food Security, Environmental Resources and Agricultural Research [IFSERAR]). The host of the discourse was the Dean, Colleges of Agricultural Management and Rural Development, FUNAAB, Prof. Olugbenga Fakoya. Other Deans in attendance were Dean, Colleges of Animal Science and Livestock Production, Prof. Olusiji S. Sowande; Plant Science and Crop Production, Prof. Mufutau O. Atayese. The Keynote Speaker was the National President of the United Nations Environment Ecosystem-based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly, Nigeria, Mr. James Oyesola.

Other dignitaries that graced the occasion were Prof. Stella Odebode, University of Ibadan, Mr Oladipo Razaq Akinlade, *RAS*, the Executive Director, Agricultural Services (represented Dr Odumosu, the General Manager, Ogun-Oshun River Basin Development Authority); the Programme Managers of the South-West Agricultural Development Programmes – Ogun (Ms Taiwo Ayansanwo, represented by the Zonal Manager-Ilaro, Mr Olurotimi Olufade) Ondo (Dr. Babasola Adeniyan) and Ekiti State (represented by the Zonal Director of Zone III, Mr Sunday Oni) including farmers representing the agricultural advisory spectrum of southwest Nigeria.

The Discourse also featured a Panel Discussion which was moderated by Prof. Kola Adebayo of the Livelihoods Support and Development Centre (SLIDEN AFRICA), Mr. Godwin Atser (Coordinator, BASICS II Project, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture-IITA), Dr. John A. Oyedepo (Deputy Director, IFSERAR, FUNAAB) Dr. Hakeem Makinde (Department of Water Resources and Agrometeorology, FUNAAB); Dr. Yemisi Adebisi-Adelani (National Institute of Horticultural Research – NIHORT, Ibadan) and Dr. Kehinde Thomas (Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, University of Ibadan).

3.0 Programme Description (Brief Description of Highlights of the Programme)

The programme started with arrival and registration of attendees followed by welcoming of guests. Brief Introduction of NIFAAS and Purpose of the Policy Discourse was led by Professor Stella O. Odebode (Coordinator, Gender Work Group, NIFAAS). This was followed by a Welcome

Speech delivered by the Host, Prof. E. O. Fakoya (Dean, College of Agricultural Management and Rural Development), the Chief Host and Vice Chancellor, FUNAAB (Prof. Felix Kolawole Salako) and the President, NIFAAS represented by Mr. M. A. Adesina (Southwest Coordinator, National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Services).

Pre-evaluation survey was done immediately after the welcome speech, which was followed by a group photograph and the tea break. The central theme of the discourse on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPs) was presented by Dr. Adefunke F. O. Ayinde (The Chaiperson, LOC), after which the state of CSA TIMPs knowledge and uptake in the zone: Challenges and prospects with practical examples was Presented by Mr. James Oyesola. Questions and answers were entertained after these programmes.

4.0 The State of CSA TIMPs Knowledge and Uptake in the Zone

The Discourse found out that CSA knowledge and uptake is very low in South-West Nigeria among most of the participants, even those in the media, the ADPs and the River Basin Development Authorities. The participants expressed happiness to the initiators of the workshops and were surprised at the level of their ignorance about the CSA-TIMPs concept, meaning and current state in the South-West. They further reiterated the fact that they will be willing to participate in future programmes of this nature while some also showed enthusiasm for membership of NIFAAS. Of interest too is the fact that participants were quite hopeful of uptake of key roadmap for implementation at the policy and farm level.

4.1 Challenges Militating Uptake of CSA-TIMPs in the Zone

The challenges to the uptake of CSA-TIMPs as opined by participants are listed below:

i. Inadequate/moribund extension service delivery. Most of the extension programmes are underfunded and witnessing gloomy period (especially OYSADEP, which has been assimilated into the State's Ministry of Agriculture, thus imposing serious bureaucratic bottlenecks on its programmes).
ii. Low level of awareness/sensitisation about CSA TIMPS among farmers. The Agricultural development Programmes do not currently have CSA as a major key deliverables for the extension officers.
iii. Non-presence of capital-intensive climate change mitigation facilities (such as irrigation facilities).

iv. The general non-consideration of women and youth in policy development.

4.2 Policy or Practice in the Zone that have Integrated CSA Issues

The following identified policy and practice bordering on integrated CSA issues in the zone were identified as:

a. The development of early warning systems by IFSERAR, FUNAAB for farmers
b. The establishment and maintenance of climate smart villages by IFSERAR, FUNAAB

5.0 Actionable Roadmaps to Increasing CSA Uptake and Its Integrating into Policy and Practice

Panel discussion on actionable roadmap towards increased uptake and integration of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPs) into policy in the zone was moderated by Prof. Kola A. Adebayo, the Chief Executive Officer of SLIDEN Africa. The identified actionable roadmaps were:

1. Each State in southwest Nigeria should form Climate Vanguards consisting mostly of in-school pupils and children to promote public awareness of CSA-TIMPs and lay the foundation for future inclusiveness in the day-to-day psyche of the populace.
2. Efforts should be improved to further energize existing early warning systems on climate variabilities including the support for a smart agricultural advisory services to disseminate the messages from early warning systems beyond the ICT savvy famers.
3. The concept Climate-Smart Villages already piloted at FUNAAB be given wider coverage to serve major demonstration centres for CSA-TIMPs and promote the ideal villages ready to respond to climate variability issues.
4. School curricula at all levels need to be revised Federal and States Ministries of Education to give a greater bite to students' knowledge of climate science and its related fields. In this respect, the return of school farms in public and private schools, the introduction of tree planting and management (as a general studies unit course) in tertiary institutions, issues of conversion of common wastes to wealth and general emphasis of concerns for, and care for the environment is advocated to be part of these new curricula.
5. Each state government should increase investment in the extension system and the capacity of extension workers to improve on service delivery on CSA training of farmers.
6. Of importance too, each state government should incorporate digital tools into the extension system to improve the adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture Technologies.

7. Furthermore, the State ADPs should also enforce continuous training of farmers (by the Extension officers) on the application of CSA technologies towards improving farmers capacity and production efficiency.
8. Federal government of Nigeria should invest in irrigation support facilities for small scale farmers to cushion the erratic rainfall militating against high yield of crops and consequent increased revenue.
9. State and Federal Government Ministries of Agriculture should communicate CSA technologies to farmers through the various local language(s) to enhance its uptake by farmers.
10. All key Climate Smart Agriculture agencies should ensure adequate inclusion of women farmers and policy makers/researchers in issues affecting Climate Smart Agricultural practices at the conception, development , implementation and evaluation stages.

6.0 Result of Pre-evaluation Survey

Table 1 presents the result of the pre-workshop evaluation. The majority (75.0%) of the respondents that participated in the pre-evaluation survey of the policy discourse were males. More than half (54.0%) of the respondents were above the age of 50 years while respondents under 40 years of age and between the age of 41-50 constituted 22.0% apiece. Less than half (44.0%) of the respondents were researchers, while about 10.0% were civil servants, extension agent and private agent while only very few (4%) were farmers.

Majority (67.0%) of the respondents claimed awareness of the CSA, however, less than a quarter (23.0%) were highly knowledgeable about CSA, while almost half (48.0%) have an average knowledge on CSA. Also, about 17.0% and 13.0% of the participants had low and very low knowledge on CSA respectively. This implies that majority of the respondents had average knowledge of CSA, suggesting the possibility of easy uptake of actionable roadmap evolved by NIFAAS.

The majority (87.5%) of the participants of the training were not aware of any CSA policy that is operational in the zone, while most (63.0%) of the respondents were aware of CSA-TIMPS especially soil management practices (70.0%), crop management practices (67.0%), use of improved crop varieties (73.0%), water conservation strategies (73.0%), pest and disease

management strategies (60.0%) as well as weed management strategies (63.0%). Only about 23.0% of the respondents have previously attended a training on CSA. These findings suggests that NIFAAS actionable roadmap would go a long way towards revolutionising improved agricultural productivity in the South-West.

6.1 Report of Post Evaluation

Table 2 presents the result of post-evaluation survey. All (100.0%) the respondents that participated in the post evaluation survey of the policy discourse acknowledged the training as being helpful in improving their knowledge on CSA, while more than half (51.7%) rated the training as being highly satisfactory. All (100.0%) the respondents highlighted the need to include CSA in Nigeria policy as CSA is presently not well captured in Nigerian policies as noted by the majority (62.1%). This suggests that fighting the scourge of climate change necessitates Nigeria facing the fight frontally and develop implementable policies towards militating the negative effect of climate change in the country. Also, all (100.0%) the respondents believed that they have one role or the other to play in the integration of CSA-TIMPs into policy in the zone, however, only a few (31%) do not foresee challenges in effectively playing the role.

Table 1: Result of the pre-evaluation Survey

Response		Frequency	Percentages
Sex	Male	36	75
	Female	12	25
Age	below 40	11	22
	41-50	11	22
	above 50	26	54
Occupation	Farming	2	4.2
	Civil Servant	5	10.4
	Researcher	21	43.8
	Extension Agency (ADP)	5	10.4
	Private Agency	5	10.4
	Others	10	20.8
CSA Awareness	Yes	32	66.7
	No	16	33.3
Knowledge Level on CSA	Very low	6	12.5
	Low	8	16.7
	Average	23	47.9
	High	11	22.9
Aware any CSA policy is operational in the zone	Yes	5	10.4
	No	43	87.5
Awareness of CSA-TIMPS	Yes	30	62.5
	No	18	37.5
CSA-TIMPs aware of	Soil management practices	21	70.0
	Crop management practices	20	66.7

	Use of improved crop varieties	22	73.3
	Water conservation strategies	22	73.3
	Pest and disease management strategies	18	60.0
	Weed management strategies	19	63.3
Attended any training on CSA before?	Yes	11	22.9
	No	37	77.1

Note: CSA-Climate Smart Agriculture; CSA-TIMPs- Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPs)
Pre-Evaluation (N=40)

All (100.0%) the respondents demonstrated the willingness to participate in future training on CSA. This implies that respondents were willing to take ownership of the CSA-TIMPs initiative for improved sustainability.

The majority of the respondents are aware of CSA (67%). However, less than a quarter (23%) are highly knowledgeable about CSA, almost half (48%) have an average knowledge on CSA, while about 17% and 13%, respectively, have low and very low knowledge on CSA. The majority of the participants of the training are not aware of any CSA policy that is operational in the zone (87.5%). Most of the respondents (63%) are aware of CSA-TIMPS and the various CSA-TIMPs they are aware of include; soil management practices (70%), crop management practices (67%), use of improved crop varieties (73%), water conservation strategies (73%), pest and disease management strategies (60%) as well as weed management strategies (63%). Only about 23% of the respondents have previously attended a training on CSA.

Table 2: Result of the post evaluation Survey

Questions	Response	Frequency	Percentage
Is training helpful in improving knowledge on CSA	Yes	29	100
Satisfaction of the training	Satisfied	14	48.3
	Highly satisfied	15	51.7
Is CSA well captured in Nigerian policies?	Yes	11	37.9
	No	18	62.1
Is there a need for the inclusion of CSA in Nigerian Policy?	Yes	29	100
Think of any role to play in integrating CSA-TIMPs into policy in the zone?	Yes	29	100
Envisage any challenge in playing this role	Yes	20	69.0
	No	9	31.0
Willing to participate in future training on CSA	Yes	29	100

Note: CSA-Climate Smart Agriculture; CSA-TIMPs- Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (TIMPs)
Post Evaluation (N=29)

7.0 Conclusion

The South-West Zonal Policy Discourse organised by Nigerian Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (NIFAAS) at the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta was indeed a success. The discussants, resource persons and participants agreed that for the South-West region to achieve sustainably increase in agricultural productivity, food security and improve farmers' livelihood, CSA-TIMPs must be embraced by all actors and stakeholders along the agricultural value in the region. Knowledge of CSA-TIMPs, would also minimise agricultural yield loss arising for weather changes and adoption of low yielding crop varieties.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Attendance list (Attached as separate scanned document)

APPENDIX 2: Group photograph of participants (Attached as separate scanned photo)

APPENDIX 3: Signed invoice for all expenditures (Attached as separate scanned document)

APPENDIX 4: COMMUNIQUE

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE: TECHNOLOGIES, INNOVATIONS AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (CSA-TIMP) SOUTHWEST ZONE POLICY DISCOURSE ORGANIZED BY THE NIGERIAN FORUM FOR AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SERVICES (NIFAAS) AT THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE ABEOKUTA ON THURSDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 2021

The Nigerian Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (NIFAAS) organized a Policy Discourse on at the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta on Thursday, 11th February, 2021 on the issue of Climate Smart Agriculture: Technologies, Innovations and Management Practices (CSA-TIMP). The Discourse was attended by the Ogun State Commissioner of Education, Prof. Abayomi Arigbabu; the Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Felix Salako, represented by Prof. Jonathan Atungwu, Director of the Institute of Food Security, Environmental Resouces and Agricultural Research (IFSERAR); the Deans of FUNAAB's Colleges of Agricultural Management and Rural Development, Prof. Olugbenga Fakoya; Animal Science and Livestock Production, Prof. Olusiji Sowande, Crop Science and Crop Production, Prof. Mufutau Atayese as well as the National President of the United Nations Environment Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly, Nigeria, Mr. James Oyesola.

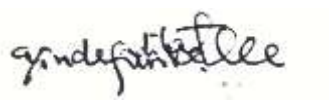
Other dignitaries at the occasion include: Prof. Stella Odebode, University of Ibadan, the General Manager of Ogun-Osun River Basin Development Authority; the Programme Managers of the Ogun, Ondo and Ekiti States Agricultural Development Programmes (ADPs); the Zonal Manager of the National Agricultural Research and Extension Liaison Services (NAERLS), Moor Plantation, Ibadan and several others including farmers representing the agricultural advisory spectrum of southwest Nigeria. The Discourse also featured a Panel Discussion consisting of: Mr. Godwin Atser of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA); Dr. Oyedepo of FUNAAB's IFSERAR; Dr. Hakeem Makinde of the FUNAAB's Department of Water Resources and Agrometeorology; Dr. Yemisi Adebisi-Adelani of the National Institute of Horticultural Research (NIHORT), Ibadan and Dr. Kehinde Thomas of the Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, University of Ibadan. The Panel Discussion was moderated by Prof. Kola Adebayo of the Livelihoods Support and Development Centre (SLIDEN AFRICA). The Discourse deliberated extensively on

the meaning, technologies, innovations and management practices included in climate-smart agriculture, explored the uptake of these TIMPs by famers and extension officers in southwest Nigeria and examined the policy implications of the uptake of these CSA-TIMPs in southwest Nigeria.

The Discourse resolved as follows:

1. That each State in southwest Nigeria should form Climate Vanguards consisting mostly of in-school pupils and children to promote public awareness of CSA-TIMPs and lay the foundation for future inclusiveness in the day-to-day psyche of the populace
2. That efforts should be improved to further energize existing early warning systems on climate variabilities including the support for a smart agricultural advisory services to disseminate the messages from early warning systems beyond the ICT savvy famers
3. That the concept Climate-Smart Villages already piloted at FUNAAB be given wider coverage to serve major demonstration centres for CSA-TIMPs and promote the ideal villages ready to respond to climate variability issues
4. That there is a need to increase investment in agricultural research and extension by various levels of government in Nigeria. The emphasis on recruitment and regular training of filed level extension staff as well as subject-matter specialists was noted in addition to the provision of ICT tools and supporting infrastructures (including e-extension) that will make the research and extension officers more productive.
5. That inter-ministerial cooperation is essential to cope with issues emanating from climate change. As such, the era of government ministries working in isolation or even in conflict need to end and give way to a new era of mutual respect and joint use of resources to tackle common problems affecting our humanity
6. That school curricula at all levels need to be revised to give a greater bite to students' knowledge of climate science and its related fields. In this respect, the return of school farms in public and private schools, the introduction of tree planting and management as a general studies unit course in tertiary institutions, issues of conversion of common wastes to wealth and general emphasis of concerns for, and care for the environment is advocated

Finally, the Discourse appreciated the host of the Programme and Zonal Coordinator, NIGAAS CSA-TIMPs Policy Discourse, Dr. Adefunke Ayinde; the Country Focal Person of NIFAAS, Prof. E. B. Tologbonse and the hosting institution of the Discourse, Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta for the excellent organization and perfect timing of the Discourse.



Dr. Adefunke Ayinde
Zonal Coordinator, NIFAAS

APPENDIX 4: INFOGRAPHICS