



Agricultural
development
in Southern Africa

management. They can discover the multiple benefits of agro-forestry, cultivating fruit trees and vegetables and protect and improve the soils of their fields by applying conservation agriculture. They can also benefit from crop-livestock integration, raising small ruminants or poultry on their farm which produce additional income and manure to enhance soil fertility. A range of knowledge products on CSA have been developed and disseminated.

The idea of climate smart agriculture is to manage resources more efficiently, to produce more with less and thus increase resilience. Not all of it is new. The intriguing approach combines modern research and information

– such as climate data, with traditional agricultural methods, and local knowledge with international best cases. Climate smart agriculture brings together practices and technologies that provide promising solutions for effective adaptation to climate change.

GIZ, provides services worldwide in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. GIZ is implementing a portfolio of activities in partnership with the SADC Secretariat and its member states.

Contact Details

CCARDESA SECRETARIAT

The Executive Director

Private Bag 00357

Station Exit Road, Plot 4701, Red Brick Building,
Gaborone, Botswana

ed@ccardesa.org www.facebook.com/ccardesa

Twitter: @ccardesa

Phone: +267 391 4997

Please visit our homepage & Knowledge hub: www.ccardesa.org

CCARDESA Mobile App: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ccardesa.ccardesa>

GIZ DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT GMBH

ACCRA Programme Manager

Hanna Sabass,

hanna.sabass@giz.de

Phone +267 391 4997

Mobil +267 72422329

Programme Office at CCARDESA Secretariat

Station Exit Road, Plot 4701, Red Brick Building,

Ground Floor Gaborone, Botswana

www.giz.de

CCARDESA
Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa



ACCRA

SADC Adaptation to Climate Change
in Rural Areas in Southern Africa

BE CLIMATE SMART, BE PRODUCTIVE!



implemented by:

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit GIZ GmbH



CCARDESA

The Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA) is a sub-regional organization that was established by SADC member states to coordinate agricultural research and development (AR&D) among its 16 member states. Since its establishment, CCARDESA has been building its capacity to deliver on its mandate of empowering smallholder farmers to improve production efficiency and generate higher incomes. The main objectives of CCARDESA are;

- Agricultural Research & Development among 16 SADC member states, is coordinated, and thereby the transfer of existing and development of new knowledge and communication products facilitated.
- Collaboration among stakeholders of the national agricultural research and extension systems (NARES) is facilitated.
- Public-private partnerships in regional agricultural R&D are promoted;
- Agricultural technology generation, dissemination and adoption in the region improved through collective efforts, training and capacity building.

ACCRA Programme

The German Government through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have signed an agreement on the implementation of the SADC Adaptation to Climate Change in Rural Areas in Southern Africa (ACCRA) Programme which aims to increase the capacities of CCARDESA and SADC Member States to integrate climate change into agricultural programmes and investments. ACCRA is implemented by GIZ and CCARDESA, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ).

Since its start in 2016, ACCRA has achieved the following within its three areas of operation:

REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION ON CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

This thematic area aims at supporting information dissemination of climate-smart agriculture among SADC member states through CCARDESAs information, communication and knowledge management (ICKM). Today, the system includes a website and knowledge hub, Facebook page, D-Groups, quarterly newsletters and a mobile application on climate-smart agriculture. Through the interactive and social media tools information exchange is facilitated while the website and knowledge hub provide information on events and news, and access to curated and CCARDESA/ACCRA-developed knowledge products on sustainable and climate-smart agriculture (such as studies, briefs, fact sheets, training materials and leaflets). A network of official (ICKM) focal points in SADC Members States and other regional and international stakeholders provide inputs on a regular basis. User numbers on the website are steadily increasing (from 207 in 2016 to 4,688 in 2019), and the system is becoming the go-to place for experts seeking information and exchange on agriculture in SADC.



Maize will be most affected by climate change and might not even be a viable crop in some regions.

In total, ACCRA facilitated capacity building events and outreach for 2,036 (1,251 males and 785 females) on climate change, climate-smart agriculture, accessing climate finance, proposal writing and post-harvest loss assessments.

CLIMATE PROOFING OF AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAINS

This component supports SADC member states in increasing their capacities to identify and disseminate climate-smart practices in agricultural value chains. Based on SADC member state requests to CCARDESA, ACCRA selected a range of typical agricultural production systems, including maize-legumes, sorghum and rangeland restoration through herding cattle in SADC member states. Climate risks were analyzed and best practices in climate-smart agriculture piloted and prioritized with Ministries of Agriculture and strategic implementation partners based in the SADC region. Through knowledge products, these best practices are ultimately being disseminated to farmers through the national agricultural extension services and the CCARDESA ICKM system.

The aim is to describe inclusive technologies and best practices which stabilize the value chain under the expected effects of climate change, reduce climate risks and document evidence.



ACCESSING CLIMATE FINANCE

Based on the climate proofing projects feasibility studies for out-scaling climate-smart practices in SADC member states have been completed for different value chains (maize-legumes, sorghum and cattle/rangelands) and concept notes for investment developed. These are now being promoted at different levels, including through Ministries of Agriculture within Member States, regionally through CCARDESA. A range of partnerships with regional and international organizations have been formed and regional investment proposals developed and promoted wherever an opportunity presents itself. An investment proposal pipeline on CSA has been set up.

Together with the Botswana National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), hosted by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, ACCRA is implementing a GCF Readiness Project aiming at strengthening the (NDA), building a coordination mechanism and developing a GCF Country Programme.

CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE REGION

The SADC region is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The SADC Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan states that about 70 per cent of the region's population depends on agriculture for food, income and employment. Therefore, the Regional Agricultural Policy also focusses on climate change adaptation in agriculture. Increasing rainfall variability, increased occurrence and severity of extreme events such as droughts, floods and cyclones, prolonged mid-season dry spells and increasing mean annual temperatures have direct impacts on crop and livestock production.

CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE (CSA)

Aims to

- sustainably increase agricultural productivity and income,
- build adaptive capacity to climate change,
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions where possible.

As average and extreme temperatures increase and extreme weather events such as droughts and floods become more frequent, the productivity of many staple crops declines. Farmers can address this challenge through farm management practices. Based on climate and weather data, they can make informed decisions. They can choose stress-resistant crop varieties, grow in multi-crop systems, diversify their production and improve their water

