



# **Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA)**

## **Quarterly Progress Report**

**For the Month of July-September 2022**

**By**

**Dr. Joyce Mulila-Mitti - Project Officer Zambia**

## Abbreviations

CCARDESA	Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development in Southern Africa
CGIAR	Consultant Group on International Agricultural Research
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
DACO	District Agricultural Coordinator
FAO	The Food and Agricultural Organization of The UN
ICPAC	IGAD Climate Change Application Center
PACO	Provincial Agricultural Coordinator
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SAO	Senior Agriculture Officer
SIFAZ	Sustainable Production Intensification of Smallholder Farmers in Zambia

## Project Description

- Name of Lead Applicant\_of the grant contract: Dr. Simon Mwale
- Name and title of the contact person: Programme and Grants Manager/Executive Director
- Name of beneficiary(ies) and affiliated entity(ies) in the Action: Ministry of Agriculture  
Ministry of Energy, Community Members, Commodity value chain actors,  
Title of the Action: Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA)
- Start date and end date of the reporting period: 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022
- Target country(ies) or region(s): Zambia
- Final beneficiaries &/or target groups (if different) (including numbers of women and men)

## **Background.**

The progress report covers the period July to September 2022 following the recruitment of the Project officer for AICCRA in Zambia at the beginning of the quarter under review. The period represents project inception phase with substantial time devoted to getting acquainted with the project documents, meeting implementing partners, start-up activities at the CSA model village site and development of the consolidated project workplan for the period July to December 2022.

## **Review of project documents and meeting with partners**

This process was started following the introductory meetings by the CCARDESA Grant's and Programs Manager who provided key project documents and the workplan during the first such meeting. The introductory meetings also involved the key project partners. The first meeting the Programme and Grants Manager introduced the Daily Mail journalist who has provided visibility and reporting services for the AICCRA and other CCARDESA projects in the past. In the second meeting the PACO for Eastern Province where the CSA model village has been set up was introduced to the Project Officer. The project officer then set out to obtain relevant detailed project activities from the partners for the development of the consolidated workplan. The Daily Mail journalist has so far submitted a detailed workplan of the services to be provided till end of this year. The district team in Eastern province responsible for supporting the implementation of the field activities at the model village are yet to provide the detailed activities for the workplan. In the meantime, the available information was used to develop a summary workplan as part of the inception report for the AICCRA project that was submitted in August.

## **Field visit to Chipata**

The first field visit to the CSA model village was made at the end of August. The trip provided an opportunity to meet the district team responsible for the implementation of project activities at field level. The officers met were the deputy District Agricultural Coordinator (DACO), the Acting Senior Agricultural Officer (SAO) and the District Engineer. The Provincial Engineer was also present in the meeting. Later in the field, other officers at the block and camp level were also met as well as the headman and some of the subjects. A full report on the field visit has been submitted to the Programme and Grants Officer. The following were the recommendations and follow up actions agreed upon from the field visit:

1. Quotations for the irrigation equipment and installation were to be obtained and provided to CCARDESA to facilitate procurement.
2. The project workplan for all field related activities up to the end of the year to be elaborated and submitted to CCARDESA as soon as possible for input into the consolidated project workplan.
3. Activity planning specifically for setting up the demonstration plots to be submitted to CCARDESA for consideration.
4. It was agreed that the next field visit by the Project Officer be made in early November when it is expected that the irrigation system and the demonstration plots would have been set up.

5. The Acting Senior Agricultural Officer will serve as the focal point person for the project and will be the contact person for the CCARDESA project officer.

At the time of reporting the district team was still pursuing points 1 to 3, due to substantial changes that had to be made to field plans following consultations related to budget allocations.

### **Planning for the CSA writeshop workshop**

The project officer spent substantial time during the month of September to contribute to the planning of the writeshop workshop for the development of the CSA handbook for best bet technologies as well as CSA training manual to address Climate Change in the SADC region. This activity is a major output supporting objectives of the AICCRA project as well as the GC.... project that have components of compiling best bet CSA technologies needed for upscaling to many other farmers among the priority project deliverables. To support this activity, the Project Officer represented CCARDESA in a SIFAZ review and planning meeting whose focus was on identifying the promising technologies among the several Sustainable Intensification of Production research demonstrations that have so far been set up in the project areas in Zambia. A number of these technologies have been recommended for widespread promotion in the country and for documenting for upscale efforts throughout the country and beyond Zambia. The meeting outputs will serve as inputs to the CSA writeshop.

### **Consolidated Work Plan**

Annex 1 shows the consolidated workplan for the project objectives/ activities with corresponding budgets for the to be implemented on the AICCRA project till December 2022.

