

East COP27 envoy urges support for smart agriculture

DARLINGTON MWENDABAI
Lusaka

AS SHE travels to COP27 climate summit slated for next week at Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt to represent 55 cooperatives from Eastern Province, Chitetezo Farmer Federation executive committee chair Esther Zulu is urging global leaders to support climate-smart agriculture.

Ms Zulu will attend COP27 as part of an entourage from a new project called Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA).

She is expected to speak at a number of events, including official side events hosted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

This is contained in a statement issued by AICCRA global communications and knowledge manager Rhys Bucknall-Williams yesterday.

Ms Zulu said climate change is real and threatens Zambia's agriculture and livelihoods.

"All the leaders meeting in Egypt should encourage farmers in various countries to promote climate-smart



agriculture, especially restoring the trees that have been destroyed," Ms Zulu said.

The federation that Ms Zulu leads focuses on improving the cost-efficiency of its community-based supply chain of legumes, in collaboration with Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO).

"AICCRA works with us here in Zambia as partners by scaling actionable climate information services. AICCRA also promotes technologies that enhance gender and social inclusiveness," she said.

To address the climate challenge here in Zambia, AICCRA improves access

to solar irrigation, drought-tolerant seed varieties, aquaculture and helps diversify chicken, goat and legume systems.

AICCRA also strengthens local capacity by training intermediaries in communicating climate information services.

In its latest annual report, AICCRA estimates that it has reached over a million farmers since inception in 2021.

AICCRA is supported by a US\$60 million grant from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank.

The project is part of CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food-secure future dedicated to transforming food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis supported by the World Bank.

The AICCRA team in Zambia works to improve water, food and energy security through access to knowledge, technologies, and decision-making tools.

These efforts are aimed at strengthening climate resilience in Zambia's agriculture and food systems, often in the face of a hotter and drier climate.

appreciate the importance of managing money well. This way, we will help raise a nation of savers and ultimately help our country to prosper. Worrying about money should be a story of our past. This is because Money challenges and

the individual. The idea of World Thrift Day was not born out of nothing. There have been some examples of days that were committed to the idea of saving money in order to gain a higher standard of life and to secure the economy like in the case of

regarding how we going forward if we

The Big Deal - W Savings Day