



AFRICA'S CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN (2022-2032)



THEMATIC AREA: Transforming food systems



Context

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change projections for Africa suggest that warming scenarios risk having devastating effects on crop and livestock production with serious adverse effects on food security and the livelihoods of rural communities. By the middle of this century, major cereal crops grown across Africa will be adversely impacted as they are at the edge of physical thresholds at which yields decline, albeit with regional variability and differences between crops.

Climate change is negatively impacting livestock feed and forage and water availability, increasing heat stress, and changing the distribution of pests and diseases leading to reduced animal productivity and ultimately food insecurity and reduced purchasing power. Africa is projected to be one of the worst affected regions in terms of food security. By 2050, 54% of the projected increase in undernourishment globally will be in Africa.



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Priority action areas

- **Promote the equitable sharing of climate risk and reward** amongst all food system actors, especially small-scale, rural farmers.
- **Enhance resilience of food systems against climate effects**, while emphasising nutrition outcomes and integrated planning.
- **Emphasise production toward agro-ecological transition**, to reduce greenhouse gas intensity (including methane and other gases), and dependencies on external inputs.
- **Strengthen food system governance interventions** across Africa's regions.
- **Strengthen finance, investment and resource allocation interventions.**



Regional policy frameworks

Africa's commitment to transform its food systems is articulated in Agenda 2063 and associated policy frameworks. The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and the African Union's Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods provide a coherent framework for tackling challenges within Africa's food systems. The frameworks provide the continent's targets for food and agriculture by 2025, using 2013 as the baseline. New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) and the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission (AUC-ARBE) have established a framework for the CAADP agenda for adaptation to climate change.



Regional flagship initiatives

The continent-wide exchange platform Africa Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance promotes the exchange of knowledge on climate change and agriculture. The Initiative for the Adaptation of African Agriculture to Climate Change (2016) aims to contribute to food security in Africa, to improve the living conditions of vulnerable farmers and to increase employment in rural areas. The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative is a transboundary African-led initiative to reverse land degradation and desertification, boost food security and support local communities to adapt to climate change. By 2030, it aims to restore 100 million hectares of degraded land, sequester 250 million tonnes of carbon and create 10 million jobs. The African Resilient Landscapes Initiative (ARLI) mobilises African countries and partners to leverage sectorial interventions and collectively ensure the integrity, resilience, restoration and sustainable management of landscapes across regions.