From Generation to Use: Catalyzing Climate-Smart Agriculture through Capacity Development in Africa

Webinar Event

Thursday, February 22, 2024, 9:00 - 10:30 AM EST (Washington DC Time)

WebEx (information is enclosed below)

Click here to convert to your local Time

Opening Remarks/Chair: **Katie Kennedy Freeman**, *World Bank Agriculture and Food Global Practice*

Speaker 1: **Tufa Dinku**, *International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), Columbia Climate School, USA*

Speaker 2: **Masilin Gudoshava**, *IGAD Climate Prediction & Applications Centre (ICPAC), Kenya*

Speaker 3: **Bernard Minoungou –** *Regional Centre for Training and Application in Agrometeorology and Operational Hydrology (AGRHYMET)*

Speaker 4: **Amanda Grossi**, *International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), Columbia Climate School, USA*

Speaker 5: **Abdrahmane Wane,** *International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Senegal*

Closing Remarks: **Katie Kennedy Freeman**, *World Bank Agriculture and Food Global Practice*

RSVP and Add to the Calendar

Click for Webinar Registration

(For The WBG Staff)

(For External Participants)

(Scan for Webinar Registration)

Join via Webex

Please click here to **Join via WebEx**

Webinar number: 2316 397 1412

Webinar password: 87iYZDZnQR9 (87499396 from phones and video systems)

Join by phone: 1-650-479-3207 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

Access code: 231 639 71412

About the webinar

East Africa is experiencing some of the worst drought conditions in decades. Meanwhile, on the other side of the continent, Nigeria, Cameroon, and other West African countries have been dealing with devastating floods that have displaced more than a million people.

The demand for accurate and actionable forecasting to protect life and property has never been more urgent. However, even when researchers and meteorological agencies strive to produce information that users need, significant barriers still remain that inhibit that useful information from actually being usable. The way theoretically useful information is transformed into sector- and decision-relevant knowledge (translated) and communicated to users (transferred) and the degree to which the user has the capacity to actually understand and act on the information (use) all affect whether and the degree to which the information enables climate adaptation. To address these challenges, the Accelerating the Impact of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA) project is enhancing access to climate information services and validated climate-smart agriculture technologies in Africa, to help these countries strengthen the resilience of their agricultural sectors to the threat posed by climate change.

In this webinar, AICCRA project partners led by the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) share actionable guidance, based on practical experiences, on how to move from the generation of climate information that forms the backbone of climate-smart agriculture to enabling its use in decision-making at all levels. In doing so, East Africa's regional climate center, the IGAD Climate Prediction & Applications Centre (ICPAC) and West Africa's regional climate center, the Regional Centre for Training and Application in Agrometeorology and Operational Hydrology (AGRHYMET), will outline how critical capacity building on the "NextGen" forecasting system— which is based on more than 25 years of research at the IRI— has enabled more than 30 African countries to quickly produce high-resolution, location-specific forecasts. They will also share experiences on how a new data-management and

visualization tool called the Automatic Weather Station Data Tool (ADT) is helping national meteorological services and regional climate centers across Africa to harness real-time weather data for decision-making in agriculture. Beyond this, the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) of Senegal will share how capacity development on understanding such forecasts, amongst other vital climate services, is being embedded and systematized through first-of-its kind curriculum development for agricultural extension systems and university students across Africa. Results from the recent pilot of the Climate Risk Management in Agricultural Extension curriculum in Senegal will be underscored, alongside themes of sustainability, locally led adaptation, and transdisciplinary collaboration.

Biographies

Katie Kennedy Freeman works in the World Bank's Agriculture and Food Global Practice as a Senior Agriculture Economist focused on the areas of climate smart agriculture, digital agriculture and the intersection of agriculture and energy. Currently, she works on these areas specifically in Latin America. Before coming to the World Bank in 2012, she worked at the Earth Institute at Columbia University implementing research programs on ICT in agriculture and energy for agriculture.
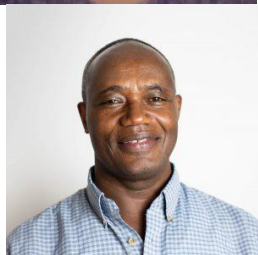
Tufa Dinku is a Senior Research Scientist at the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) of the Columbia Climate School. Within the AICCRA project, he is the IRI's Team Lead for Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Ghana, and Mali and also the lead for the IRI's Enhancing National Climate Services (ENACTS) initiative which has improved the availability, access, and use of climate data and information in more than 20 countries.

Masilin Gudoshava is a climate modeling expert at the IGAD Climate Prediction & Applications Centre (ICPAC), East Africa's regional climate center. In this role, she advances scientific knowledge on the sub-seasonal to seasonal drivers of climate over the East Africa region and integrates research outputs into improved climate services.
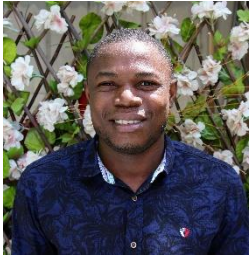
Bernard Minoungou is a hydrologist with expertise in hydrological modeling at the AGRHYMET Regional Center. His activities include the development of decision-support approaches, tools, and products on water resources, climate, and food security. He also conducts capacity building activities for national meteorological and hydrological services in 17 CILSS-ECOWAS countries. Within the AICCRA project, he contributes to the adaptation of ENACTS tools and their appropriation by national staff in order to improve climate services.

Amanda Grossi is a Senior Staff Associate at the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) of the Columbia Climate School. Within the AICCRA project, manages the IRI's activities at the country-level in Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Ghana, Mali, and Senegal. In this role, she provides critical support to the development and delivery of capacity development initiatives and digital innovations, including those associated with the IRI's Enhancing National Climate Services (ENACTS) approach.

Abdrahmane Wane is the Country Cluster Lead for AICCRA in Senegal under the Sustainable Livestock System Program at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). He provides leadership and guidance, ensuring the delivery of outputs and outcomes for AICCRA's activities in Senegal, including partnership strengthening and the generation and dissemination of knowledge from research and innovations. Abdrahmane has more than 20 years of experience working on livestock research and innovation introduction. He is joint Regional Representative for West Africa and Value Chain and Climate expert.

The *What's Cooking* Digital Agriculture Learning Series is archived and available on the World Bank Open Learning Campus.

For more information on the digital agriculture program at the World Bank, and join our community, please visit:
https://www.worldbank.org/digitalagriculture

We look forward to your participation!