

Making climate-smart agriculture work for the poor

COP17 Side Event on Thursday, 1 December, 13:15-14:45, Room Apies River

There is tremendous mitigation potential in NRM but smallholder farmers will only engage in biocarbon projects if the focus is on their livelihoods. Institutional constraints, high investment costs with uncertain rates of return and questions on farmers' long-term commitments reduce the private sector's willingness to invest in terrestrial biocarbon projects while the returns from carbon are small for the farmers. Finding the right incentives and public-private partnership arrangements will be critical in mobilizing climate change funds for the rural poor despite the potential triple-win for development, mitigation and adaptation, and more sustainable land management.

Hosted by the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) with participation of DANONE, FAO, the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Kenyan Government and SCC-Vi Agroforestry, we will discuss possible ways to overcome the multiple institutional, financial, management and development related challenges for ensuring climate- and development smart agriculture through biocarbon projects in Africa.

Speakers

1. Henry Neufeldt, Head of Climate Change Research, World Agroforestry Centre
2. Marja-Liisa Tapio-Bistrom, Programme Coordinator for Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture Programme, FAO
3. Esther Magambo, Coordinator Climate Change Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Kenya
4. Anne Tarvainen, Counsellor Natural Resources and Energy, Embassy of Finland
5. Bernard Giraud, President of Livelihoods Venture, DANONE
6. Amos Waseka, Project Manager, SCC Vi Agroforestry

Moderator:

Constance Neely, World Agroforestry Centre and FAO

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Short biographies of the speakers

Henry Neufeldt leads the climate change research program of the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), working on climate impacts, adaptation, mitigation, food security and sustainable development in the context of agroforestry systems. Before joining ICRAF he was with the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change directing the EU's flagship project on adaptation and mitigation, ADAM. He has published extensively on sustainable land use, agricultural greenhouse gas emissions and mitigation and adaptation policies.

Marja-Liisa Tapio-Bistrom holds a PhD in agricultural economics and leads the Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture Team in the Climate, Energy and Tenure division of the FAO and coordinates the FAO programme on Mitigation of Climate Change in Agriculture (MICCA). She has a long career working with food security, sustainable farming systems, development and climate change focus in the Ministry of Agriculture, the University of Helsinki and Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, among others.

Esther Magambo holds a BSc in Agriculture and Master degrees in Environmental Studies and Project Planning and Management, and is currently the Coordinator of the Climate Change Unit in the Kenyan Ministry of Agriculture. She is a lead assessor in environmental impact assessments and negotiates on agricultural issues at the UNFCCC. She has over 20 years of experience in various fields of agriculture, such as extension, environmental management and climate change.

Anne Tarvainen is the Counsellor of Natural Resources and Energy at the Embassy of Finland in Pretoria. She is responsible for coordinating Finnish funded projects in Southern and East Africa. At the moment her portfolio includes projects on renewable energy and waste management. She has many years of experience from Tanzania where she worked in the NGO sector, UNDP and the Finnish Embassy in Dar es Salaam. In Tanzania she was involved in several initiatives on agriculture.

Bernard Giraud is the Co-Founder of the Livelihoods Fund and President of Livelihoods Venture. Until recently he was Vice-President Sustainability and Shared Value Creation of DANONE, a world leader in the food industry and sponsor of the Livelihoods Fund. With DANONE, he created several funds that mix economic and social value creation: danone.communities, a 80m€ social business fund, and danone.ecosysteme, a 100m€ fund mainly focused on sustainable farming. Before joining DANONE he held various positions as CEO and Board Member in various public and private institutions.

Amos Wafula Wekesa is Environmental and Climate Change Advisor for the Eastern Africa Programme of SCC-Vi Agroforestry. He holds an MSc in Environmental Studies and has worked for 10 years on agroforestry, sustainable agriculture and land management and climate change adaptation and mitigation in smallholder agriculture of the Lake Victoria basin. He is currently coordinating the implementation of the WB BioCarbon Fund Kenya Agriculture Carbon Finance Project in Western Kenya.