



# Making climate- smart Agriculture (CSA) Work for the Poor

## Our perspective of Climate- Smart Agriculture (CSA)

By Esther Magambo  
Coordinator/ Climate Change Unit  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Kenya



# Introduction- Characteristics of Kenyan Agric Sector

- ◆ Agriculture is a fundamental pillar for sustainable development in Kenya
- ◆ Farming supports about 80% of Kenya's population – over 40 million
- ◆ Only 20% of Kenya's landmass is medium to high potential
- ◆ Only 2% is irrigated with 98% of agricultural lands depending on rainfall for water supply



# Legal and policy provisions

- ◆ Vision 2030 is the country's blueprint for development
- ◆ Agricultural Sector Development Strategy 2010 - 2020 (ASDS) was adopted in July 2010 and endorsed by 10 Agriculture Sector ministries and takes into account NCCRS
- ◆ Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)
- ◆ National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS) for all sectors
- ◆ Concept for quick start projects in agric to roll out NCCRS



# The Climate Change Unit (CCU) at MOA

## Overall Objective

- ◆ The overall objective of the Climate Change Unit is to mainstream Climate Change adaptation and mitigation in all agricultural programmes, projects and activities.



# Climate Smart Agriculture

- ◆ This entails production systems that combine three aspects of increased productivity/food security, climate resilience and carbon sequestration.
- ◆ This essentially means farmers are getting better returns from increased yields on a sustained basis and further they contribute to mitigating climate change through the carbon sequestered within the production area
- ◆ Adapting to CC leads to Increased productivity, resilience and mitigation (which we refer to as CSA)

## CSA cont'd

- ◆ The farmer does not need to make any conscious effort to sequester carbon but rather it is a by product of the sustainable land management practices that the farmer employs to realise high yield on a sustained basis in the face of CC
- ◆ Therefore there is nothing new we are introducing with the concept of CSA
- ◆ Rather CSA brings out some hidden value in these sustainable agricultural production systems; that is the carbon







## **Planned collaboration with partners:-**

### **1. World Bank Support for Readiness Mechanisms for Climate-Smart Agriculture**

- ◆ The World Bank will support Kenya to design and implement a readiness process aimed at facilitating the widespread implementation of climate-smart agricultural programs
- ◆ This will be based on experiences of the pilot project implemented by SCC Vi-agro forestry in Western Kenya
- ◆ This is one of the first projects worldwide where smallholder farmers will have access to carbon revenues.



## 2. US Support in Low Emission Development Strategy

- ◆ Support in enhancing capacity for low emission development in agriculture
- ◆ Discussions have taken place at both policy and technical level
- ◆ Priorities for support have been identified in line with NCCRS





# Ongoing Activities

- ◆ A project on Reducing Vulnerabilities to CC through risk management strategies by GTZ. Main thrust is supporting Weather Index Insurance(WII) and interventions to build resilience
- ◆ Promoting practices which enhance mitigation such as Conservation Agriculture. A project developed for scaling up
- ◆ Promoting Agroforestry- Farm Forestry Rules, 2009 that require 10% tree cover



## Ongoing activities cont'd

- ◆ Encouraging practices with less of external inputs where appropriate
- ◆ Promotion of drought tolerant crops, including orphan crops
- ◆ Soil and water conservation for intensification
- ◆ Water harvesting for crop production



# Challenges

- ◆ Conflicts in provisions of various pieces of legislation
- ◆ Cost of farm inputs and accessible credit facility
- ◆ Availability of planting materials for crops / trees
- ◆ Combination of crop/ livestock enterprises in CA
- ◆ Measurements of soil carbon- in CA and others



## Conclusion

- ◆ since the poor are predominantly engaged in agriculture climate resilient agricultural investments are important
- ◆ In addressing food security there is need to promote sustainable land management practices including mitigation actions producing triple wins
- ◆ Finally, in embracing CSA our order of priorities is Increased productivity, resilience/ adaptation and mitigation as a core benefit



The End

Thank you for your attention