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Stepping Up Action on Building Climate Resilient Agriculture and Food Systems in Africa

18th March 2019

Outcomes from the Day: Messages and Actions for UNSG's Climate Action Summit

Facilitated by the African Union Commission (AUC), the Global Resilience Partnership (GRP) and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

A. Summary

The purpose of this ACW affiliated event "**Stepping Up Action on Building Climate Resilient Agriculture and Food Systems in Africa**" was to identify the opportunities for increased ambition and African voice for climate action on agriculture and food systems that can be advanced at the UNSG's 2019 Climate Action Summit and COP25. The event had three specific objectives:

- Present the latest science and thinking on resilience and adaptation and identify knowledge gaps;
- Showcase resilience-building actions being taken by African grassroots communities and smallholder farmers and how to boost support at farm and ecosystem levels
- Explore initiatives, policies, technologies, and financial innovations taken by governments, businesses, insurers and investors to build climate resilience in the agriculture and food at scale in Africa.

Under six sessions (below) the event showcased the actions state and non-state actors are already taking across Africa to build the resilience of agriculture and food systems, and the opportunities for action to take these to scale.

1. **The role of climate risk analyses for evidence-based NDC and NAP implementation** – from planning to action for resilient farmers' livelihoods.
2. **Nature Based Solutions I** – Africa's agriculture and food systems powered by nature.
3. **Colliding climate and conflict risks**: building resilience from an integrated approach in fragile and most vulnerable places.
4. **Scaling up private sector investment that builds resilience in agriculture.**
5. **Nature Based Solutions II – Large Scale Restoration and Agroforestry for building resilience**: lessons from Africa.
6. **Early Warning – Early Action and Forecast Based Financing**: Experiences and Challenges from Africa

The event was facilitated by the African Union Commission (AUC), the Global Resilience Partnership (GRP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) under the Climate Resilience Network (CRN) on behalf of the Marrakech Partnership on Global Climate Action. For further details of the please contact info@a2rinitiative.org or info@globalresiliencepartnership.org.

The event was hosted by the Ghana Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and supported by African Development Bank (AfDB), Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Guidance for Resilience in the Anthropocene: Investments for Development (GRAID) at the Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), The Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the World Bank (WB), World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), and World Farmers' Organisation (WFO). The UK's Department for International Development is sponsored the day.

B. Headline Messages for UNSG's Climate Action Summit

The actions specific to each of the six sessions are detailed in Section D. Below are the top level messages and actions from across sessions that the participants saw as priorities to be advanced at the UN SG Summit to deliver climate resilient food and agriculture systems in Africa; to reduce the risks of food and nutrition insecurity; to avoid food loss and waste; and to help reduce net emissions from the food and agriculture sector. Further details speaking to ambitions and actions to be fed into UN SG Climate Summit can be found in Section E.

Main messages on ambition:

1. Taking action on building resilient food and agriculture systems is a consistently highlighted priority for African countries from top African leadership to individual farmers representing the diverse African landscapes. Over 400 people were present at the Stepping Up Action event. From representatives of African Development Bank to African Union Commission to CSOs and local grassroots organizations all the way down to farmers from Eastern and Western Africa - all agreed for the need to accelerate existing actions and to urgently scale up initiatives to address the needs of the most vulnerable communities and those especially impacted by climate variability, weather extremes, and other systemic stresses.
2. Farmers need to be at the centre of the transformative changes to achieve resilient food (rural and urban) and agriculture systems. Farming communities (including fishers, forest dwellers, pastoralists) and agro-entrepreneurs should be empowered as active and self-reliant agents to restore and sustainably manage their land. Explicitly directing support from governments and development partners to strengthen their institutional, technical and financial capacities is needed to complement their existing, traditional knowledge and to enable them build resilience of their farms, organisations and enterprises. Ultimately transforming agriculture into an attractive business will make this already vital engine of the African economy provide diversified opportunities and employment for African youth (especially in rural areas) and deliver multiple wins across many more Sustainable Development Goals.

Key elements and actions for UN SG Climate Summit

1. Halting land degradation and land conversion to agriculture is an immediate, urgent, and actionable item to meet priorities of African stakeholders. Given its capacity to build resilience of the sector to climate change, safeguard biodiversity, maintain soil health and carbon, diversify income streams, and produce the 49% more food the world needs by 2050, large scale restoration has been underscored as a priority from a wide range of participants, from individual farm-level voices to national governments, NGOs, African regional organisations and the African Union Commission. The key is to redirect investment into equitable, gender-sensitive, resilient and sustainable intensification of agriculture and make use of existing nature based solutions. Investing into this portfolio of known and successful agro-ecological and climate smart practices will deliver nutritious and diverse food systems, safeguard biodiversity and improve livelihoods in the face of growing climate variability, weather extremes, and ecosystem tipping points.
2. Making sure money reaches where and when it matters. In addition to mobilising climate finance to food and agriculture sector at large, finance flows need to target action at local levels. This includes building the capacity of smallholder farmers (and agribusinesses) to access existing financial mechanisms (grants and loans for investments) as well as developing new innovative finance systems to reach farmers through inclusive business models and provide start-up funding to test innovative solutions.
    - Where: LDCs. Commitment of national governments, international financial institutions, national development banks, multilateral funds (including GEF and GCF), bilateral donors and private sector should strive for the majority of their finances (ideally >75%) reaching smallholder farmers (including fishers, forest dwellers and pastoralists) as well as small and

medium-sized agroforestry, and agribusinesses in the least developed countries (LDCs) that promote sustainable and resilient food and agriculture systems.

- When: Now. Early warning mechanisms are not enough if not accompanied by efficient early action to protect livelihoods, avoid triggering negative coping strategies, reduce humanitarian costs and protect development gains. Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) and Forecast based Finance (FbF) provide a tool to move from a reactive to a **proactive and anticipatory approach for managing disasters** and crises. Strengthening market-based early actions and the involvement of the private sector are key in scaling up EWEA-FbF to build resilience against future shocks and avoid detrimental consequences on human well-being and development.
- How: Setting up resilience investment platform(s) at national and international levels to **put investors with investable food and agriculture projects** working with smallholder farmers and agribusiness. Specific emphasis should be put on **farmer-friendly and equitable, non-traditional financial solutions** co-designed by multiple stakeholders that prioritise profitable, sustainability and resilient outcomes within a **long-term vision** framework.

3. **Changing the rules of the game to embed resilience into food and agriculture value chains.** This means working to develop food standards (including on **nutrition** and **food safety**), to encompass standards on resilience across the whole value chain. Subsequent and vital step is then to work on the commitment of national, regional and international agriculture and food companies to use these standards to **build resilient food and agriculture supply chains** especially with least developed countries.

Climate resilience building for the agriculture and food systems requires a transition and immediate shift in paradigm and action that is **context-specific** and aimed at preventing, anticipating, coping, adapting and transforming to the effects of climate variability and extremes for livelihoods, food and nutrition security. Each one of the above-mentioned actions need to go hand in hand with **social transformation** for equal opportunities, inclusion, **empowerment** of women, youth and people living with disabilities.

C. Background

With about 60% of Africa's population residing in rural areas and depending directly or indirectly on agriculture and renewable natural resources (including forest products and services) for their livelihoods, income, employment, food, feed, energy and wellbeing, Africa's food and agriculture sector is already mostly impacted by climate change. Overall, it is estimated that the agriculture sector (including crop, livestock, fisheries, aquaculture and forestry) absorbs more than 26% of the total damage and loss from climate extreme events (and this raises to more than 80% for drought).

Additionally, the IPCC 1.5 degree report added strong evidence for urgent climate adaptation and resilience action at scale, and especially for the land and ecosystem transition. The forthcoming IPCC report on Climate Change and Land is expected to provide further evidence on the scale of the challenge. The agriculture and land use sectors are priorities in more than 85% of African countries' NDCs. The "Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture" adopted by parties at COP23 formally recognized the role of agriculture in tackling climate change, eradicating hunger and reducing poverty. The adoption of the roadmap and related technical workshops is helping countries to revise and better integrate climate action in agriculture sectors in their NDCs. Agriculture must transform from being part of the climate change problem to becoming part of its solution.

The event built on existing initiatives in Africa on agriculture and food sectors, and on outcomes of the Global Climate Action (GCA) events at COP23 and COP24 on the land use sector and on climate resilience, and the transformative actions on land use from the Global Climate Action Summit. It brought together stakeholders from both agriculture and climate communities to highlight the importance of climate resilience across these sectors and the urgency to step-up and scale-up actions now. Food connects all Sustainable Development Goals and urgent actions for climate resilient agriculture and food systems in Africa require investments at scale for deep transformations of current unsustainable agricultural and food production systems.

The event showcased the successful actions state and non-state actors are already taking across Africa to build the resilience of agriculture and food systems on which people, communities and businesses depend upon to thrive in a world of increasing climate risks. It gave particular attention to nature based solutions and large-scale restoration, meriting to be scaled-up and linked to integrated sustainable management of water, land, forests, trees and pastoral resources at landscape and territorial level. It also discussed climate risk-informed integrated policies, planning and implementation processes in the agriculture sector; good practices and technologies at farm level to reduce climate vulnerabilities; early warning and early actions in the face of climate disaster; and the crucial role of increased and accessible climate sensitive finance (including microcredits, bonds, insurance and social protection) to farmers and value chain actors by multiple and blended public-private actors.

D. Messages and Actions from the Day

Dialogue 1. The role of climate risk analyses for evidence-based NDC and NAP implementation – from planning to action for resilient farmers' livelihoods

- Adaptation policies and investments for resilient rural livelihoods need to be **risk-informed and economically sound.**
- **Climate risk analyses** will help make the link from NDC and NAP planning to implementation.
- Adaptation **needs and realities of farmers** should be considered within climate risk analyses and adaptation policy design, for effectively reaching the most vulnerable.
- An **enabling environment** is needed for farmers to be involved in the **risk reduction strategies** and **to have access to risk insurances**.
- An enabling environment is needed for farmers to be involved in the **risk reduction strategies** and to have access to risk insurances.
- A strong **science-policy link** will enable better targeted adaptation investment and improve adaptation outcomes in the agriculture sector.
- **Cost-benefit analyses** of adaptation investment options will help incentivize, target and accelerate public and private investments for a climate resilient transformation.

Dialogue 2. Nature-based Solutions I: Africa's agriculture and food systems powered by nature

- Nature-based solutions (NbS) for climate resilient agriculture and food systems are not a panacea, rather they are dependent on a **contextual understanding of risks and vulnerabilities** and in so doing promote the use of **risk-driven development actions** that aim to reduce rather than exacerbate vulnerabilities.
- Through an NbS approach, better coordination of existing incentives from local initiatives, existing and new private-public partnerships, and integration between sectors and stakeholders through strengthened enabling environments and policy frameworks **can mobilize finance to support the integrative packages** needed to maximize farmer, forester, herder and fisherfolk adoption and scaling up of improved practices at farm and landscape levels.
- **Ownership is essential** to promoting the uptake of NbS for resilient agriculture and food systems. Smallholder producers need to be active participants in finding solutions and all efforts should be made to **integrate local and traditional knowledge with scientific knowledge** so that they both complement each other.
- Continued sensitization and awareness raising is necessary in order to ensure that smallholder producers have all the necessary information and tools to make risk-informed decisions and investments. Particular attention should be given to engaging and **supporting youth and women in nature-based agri-business and entrepreneurship**.

Dialogue 3. Colliding climate and conflict risks in fragile and vulnerable contexts

- **Conflict is on the rise and threatens sustainable solutions** to agricultural and food production: need to proactively address diverse drivers of different conflicts, and leverage common grounds across conflicting groups.
- Resilience and innovation come from bringing together diverse perspectives from diverse actors, to **break current paradigms** and enable novel problem and solution-space framings.
- Initiatives and actions that address the challenges of climate change and that build resilient and sustainable food and agricultural systems **already exist.** They aim to build community wide cooperation and capacity and provide equal opportunities for women and men. Better and **wider**

distribution of climate and weather related information can improve the effectiveness and impact of actions that are already being implemented on the ground.

- Funding barriers that need attention include: insufficient funding, too restrictive conditions for funding lack of information about the available funding opportunities and lack of guidance how to reach them, and lobbied investments towards unsustainable types of agriculture.
- Solutions include creating enabling environments supported by the governments, financing innovations based on indigenous knowledge, and measures to diminish corruption.
- No single policy instruments or solutions can ensure the transformative change that is required to build climate resilience for food and water security at all scales and geographical contexts. Thus, a multi-level approach that respects specific context and needs is required.
- Decentralized governance, better policies and means to implement them benefit not only local but also national development of food production systems.

Dialogue 4. Scaling up private sector investment that builds on resilience in agriculture

- Change R4D and partnership to meet client-targeted needs. Technology was observed to be crucial in building resilience of African agriculture. However, the call was for a changed R4D system, towards co-generation and inclusivity in the research process.
- Targeted solutions for different agro-ecologies and farmer types, including social safety nets for those who are unable to benefit enough from private sector approaches. It was noted that context-specificity was extreme in agriculture, with technologies and market development having to be highly tailored to specific agro-ecologies and farmer types. It was recognised that some farmers would remain as "hanging in" and for them private sector approaches would fail to deliver resilience.
- Need for strong farmer organizations. African agriculture is smallholder driven with limited clout, voice and financial muscle, particularly for women and youth. There is therefore the need for strong farmer organizations that link to private sector and value chain actors and influence policy at all levels. Strong farmer organisations can reduce transaction costs of private sector actors linking to smallholders and improve market information for farmers. Innovative finance systems need to be developed to reach farmers through inclusive business models.

Dialogue 5. Nature-based Solutions II: Large Scale Restoration and Agroforestry for building resilience- lessons from Africa

- Large scale restoration and agro-ecological practices in cropping systems are crucial to building a climate smart agriculture, given its capacity to build resilience of the sector to climate change and produce the 49 per cent of more food the world needs by 2050, and meeting the Sustainable Development Goal of zero hunger as well as other interlinked SDGs.
- A multitude and combined diverse strategies of large-scale restoration solutions are already in practice in Africa, across the value chain from seed, land to end product and need to be scaled-up based on the context. These include assisted or farmer natural regeneration in forests and agroforestry landscapes, planting using the seeds and seedlings of local and adapted species from the rich forest and grassland biodiversity in Africa, key to building resilient agriculture and nutritious food systems.
- Protecting biodiversity entails protecting plant and particular agro-biodiversity and seed systems, starting with farmers' rights and appropriate measures on seed patents all the way through adequate support systems to allow direct access to quality seeds in sufficient quantities to respond to restoration needs and agro-ecological practices.
- Restoring ecosystem functions cannot be decoupled from commitment to building regenerative enterprise by integrating waste management systems that link with biogas, compost, fermented bio-fertilisers and even E-waste for renewable energy systems.

- These practices are successful because they always put **communities and people at the centre** of the action and address the root causes behind degradation, combine the local knowledge with the science and adapted technology, and diversify livelihoods. **Investing at scale** in these practices is a win-win solution for tackling climate change in terms of mitigation, adaptation and resilience.
- Achieving the Sustainable Goals requires that **agriculture, forestry and food security and nutrition are no longer treated in isolation and competition**. When cropping is integrated into sustainably managed landscapes, including a mosaic of forests and tree-based landscapes, and grasslands they can increase agricultural productivity, help provide food security for hundreds of millions of people and increase carbon sinks.

Dialogue 6. Early Warning – Early Action and Forecast-based Financing

- **Acting early before a disaster has actually happened or reached its peak is critical**: it can save lives and protect livelihoods from the immediate shocks as well as protecting longer-term development gains by increasing the resilience of local communities over time. Acting early also avoids detrimental consequences on human well-being and opportunities for development. The session highlighted how small investments in early actions can have an important and long lasting impact on people and agribusiness and food systems.
- By ensuring agricultural livelihoods and key productive assets are safeguarded against shocks, we contribute to help small stakeholders **avoid resorting to negative coping strategies** and recover more rapidly, therefore contributing in building resilience against future shocks.
- To increase resilience and sustainability in agricultural livelihoods, food security and the ecosystem services around them, EWEA/FBF can have great potential for scale-up and impact if adequate investments and coordination amongst partners are ensured.
- Agri-food systems, which are **shock-responsive** thanks to EWEA-FbF support, can better cope with new disasters. Moreover, they can reap the **benefits and economic opportunities** that are sometimes created by shocks thanks to risk-informed investments.
- Institutionalization of EWEA and FbF should be fostered at national and regional levels based on **existing institutional frameworks and policies**.
- **Strengthening market-based early actions and the involvement of the private sector** are key factors for the scale-up of EWEA-FbF.

E. Contribution to UNSG's Climate Action Summit

What were the main messages around ambition for the Summit?

1. Resilience against multiple threats is a key prerequisite of sustainable development, in particular, when it comes to the challenge of being able to feed over 2 billion Africans by 2050. Carbon neural and climate resilient systems are needed across sectors and especially for the agriculture and food systems to prevent food crisis and sustain food security and nutrition for all, leaving no one behind and delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
2. 2019 is a year of opportunity. African Development Bank announced USD 20 billion funding package for 2020-2026, of which 40% will go to climate-related activities. All stakeholders welcomed the ambition to increase financing into climate resilient projects, noting the need to further increase the scale, ambition and complementarity across other financial institutions and the importance of those funds reaching local-level farming communities and dedicated to building resilient agriculture and food systems.
3. Successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be defined by how well countries can integrate climate, humanitarian and development policies and practices. Efforts, through better coordination and multi-stakeholder participation, blending climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction across agriculture sectors are needed to bridge humanitarian and development approaches and to achieve greater climate resilience of agriculture and food systems in Africa.
4. Profound, systemic changes in environmental and climate patterns are happening in Africa and in many other part of the world. Climate actions by multiple actors must be shared and amplified to address the transformative changes in agribusiness and food systems and societies, from production to consumption, including a need for much stronger focus on improving nutrition, and reducing food loss and food waste.
5. Policies for sustainable actions exist: the immediate need is to focus on their implementation, creation of enabling environments by tackling corruption, and harmonization across sectoral lines to avoid incremental, piece-meal approaches implemented in silos.
6. Nature-based transformation will require shaping and supporting the investment decisions of smallholder farmers, foresters and fishers to adopt risk-driven and informed, integrated farming and land-use planning systems.
7. Commit and invest at scale in building resilient agriculture and food systems based on already available knowledge, existing local and indigenous initiatives, innovative solutions, existing and new public-private partnerships, and recently announced action agendas.
8. Effectively communicate and disseminate research findings across all levels: make sure data results and lessons learned are appropriately packaged and readily available for a variety of audience and needs, from farming communities to policy-makers.
9. Make the link between science, policy and farmers: bring all stakeholders together to design risk-informed adaptation action.
10. Develop integrative incentive packages that maximize the adoption of improved farming practices at farm and landscape levels and those that look to longer-term investment horizons. At the same time ensure that business models are inclusive, climate risk sensitive and are backed by productive social safety nets and strategies to exit some farmers from agriculture.

What were the key elements and actions to feeding into the Summit?

1. 48 African Member States have ratified the Paris Agreement and are committed to taking it forward. At this juncture, important for developed countries to deliver the pledge of the 100 billion US Dollars by 2020.
2. Prioritise agriculture and people dependent on agriculture are whom both victims of climate disasters but also key actors and contributors in building resilience. This transformation needs to

happen at farm level with emphasis on building and nurturing the potential for **smallholder producer stewardship of nature-based solutions**. Agriculture offers cost-effective, sustainable solutions to reduce disaster risks and enhance climate resilient and sustainable development with food and nutrition security for all.

3. **Invest in healthy ecosystems which are at the core** of regional, national, sub-national and local agriculture and food systems, securing food for present and future generations. Food security in a changing climate must consider reducing pressure on biodiversity and reverse them through ecosystem and landscape restoration, as the base for resilient agricultural livelihoods, urban expansion (with urban populations expected to comprise 70 percent of global populations by 2050) and the larger territorial approach of a city-region food system.
4. Ensure that **local voices are not only heard, but also integrated**, and responded to in the languages of the people and the small-holders that implement the climate resilient food production and agricultural solutions.
5. Unite national and local **youth land restoration initiatives across sectors and the African continent** to enhance knowledge-sharing and facilitate local partnerships. Youth are poised to contribute through social entrepreneurship, community awareness and policy advocacy, as outlined in the draft Nairobi Action Plan for youth engagement in forest and landscape.
6. **Urban areas have an important role in building sustainable and resilient food systems**. A city-region approach to food systems is crucial integrate vulnerable populations in economic development through food production, processing and retail by encouraging **urban and peri-urban agriculture, short supply chains and new food market**s. It aligns environmental management strategies on food, water and energy and builds diverse food systems that are more resilient to climate change and disaster risk.
7. **Support appropriate mechanisms for good governance taking into account climate risk and ensure land ownership** and property rights systems to food and agriculture production and land restoration.
8. Scaling up **of Early Warning - Early Action** requires coordination, partnerships and institutionalization in regional and national organizations and flexible funding modalities. This scale-up can create also **new opportunities in the agriculture and food sect**or thanks to risk-informed investment
9. **Increase sharing of information and knowledge dissemination, using novel technological solutions** (e.g. disseminating information related to climate prediction and monitoring) as well as **knowledge-bridging platforms** and brokering initiatives. Climate information service technologies need to be scaled out and awareness of their existence needs to be ramped up to create demand. Conscious focus should be placed on overcoming language barriers and mismatches between the language used by different societal groups.
10. Create **platforms for conflicting parties** to discuss and address drivers of different types of conflict and climate related vulnerabilities and leverage joint interests

Opportunities for enhancing NDC ambition in Africa

1. Scaling up climate risk insurance for the agriculture and food related sectors, as well as shock-responsive social protection and humanitarian funding for early action.
2. Incentivising private sector finance for adaptation and resilience along the whole food and agriculture value chain.
3. Building strong partnerships across levels and sectors for data sharing and dissemination.
4. Mobilising risk informed finance that looks to longer-term investment horizons for sustainability.
5. Developing transboundary and landscape frameworks that promote intergovernmental implementation of nature-based solutions across the continent.
6. NDCs do not embrace the private sector approaches sufficiently in agriculture, as climate and development finance will not be sufficient and will not necessarily lead to resilient and sustainable changes. For sustainability of actions, markets are needed that build the climate resilience of farmer's livelihoods and incomes for food security in Africa and elsewhere in the world.

7. Ensuring that climate resilient financing goes to more agro-ecological solutions (less industrial), that incorporate the many dimensions of agriculture and food-production systems (from soils, seeds, water through to communities and their opportunities).
8. A multitude of restoration solutions are already in practice in Africa from land to end product. These include assisted or farmer natural regeneration in forests and agroforestry landscapes, planting using local and adapted species from the rich forest and grassland biodiversity in Africa, key to building resilient agriculture and food systems. These practices are successful because they always put communities and people at the centre of the action and address the root causes behind degradation, combine the local knowledge with the science and technology, and diversify livelihoods. Investing at scale in these restoration practices is a win-win solution for tackling climate change in terms of mitigation, adaptation and resilience.

Opportunities to take forward these ambitions and actions under existing platforms, initiatives, and frameworks:

1. The UN decade on ecosystem restoration (2021-2030) adopted at the UN assembly in March 2019
2. The Great Green Wall of the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative led by the African Union and involving over 20 countries from North Africa, Sahel and the Horn of Africa. The Great Green Wall now is also launched in the SADC Region (Southern Africa).
3. Africa Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) coordinated by NEPAD with commitments from 27 countries to restore more than 100 million hectares by 2030.
4. Transboundary and landscape frameworks that promote intergovernmental implementation of nature-based solutions across the continent (including those for example supported by ECOWAS (Fouta Djallon Programme) and other Regional communities (Pastoral systems programme by IGAD), and the Great Green Wall as mentioned above.
5. Climate Commission for the Sahel Region, the Climate Commission for the Congo Basin and the Climate Commission for the SIDS are opportunities and platforms for transboundary and joint scaled-up efforts to achieve transformational changes in agriculture and food systems.
6. The Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods. The Declaration sets the Africa 2025 Vision for Agriculture which is implemented within the Framework of CAADP as a vehicle to achieve the First Ten Year Implementation Plan of Africa Agenda 2063: "The Africa we want."
7. Other continent initiatives at the African Union Commission include: Monitoring of Environment for Security in Africa (MESA), Programme for Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa; Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA); and the Pan-African University that addresses issues of climate change and water, to mention but a few.

F. Technical Examination Processes

Policy was seen as crucial to set the framework for larger public and private sector investment in resilient and sustainable agriculture and food systems that reaches a broad section of the smallholder community. Policies relate to:

- Improving rural connectivity and risk informed infrastructure (e.g. to stimulate digital agriculture, improve markets) together with nature based solution;
- Enhancing basic administrative function so that the ease of doing resilient and sustainable business is improved (courts working, tenure clear, business registration easy);
- Rethinking agriculture subsidy systems to be transformative into empowering smallholders and generating adaptation and resilience across the sectors;
- Policies to enhance farmer empowerment and capacity together with gender equity and transformation along the food value chain.

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For further details of the event please contact info@a2rinitiative.org or info@globalresiliencepartnership.org.