

Session Brief

Session: CGIAR Agribusiness Acceleration Approaches for Climate Smart Agriculture Innovation, Resilience, Gender and Social Inclusion

Date: [6 June, 2023]

Format: Physical

Venue: [Cape Town A]

Synopsis

Despite the potential of the agriculture sector in Africa to meet global food demands, performance across key areas has remained low. Smallholder farmers and food systems continue to be inhibited by fragmentation, poor efficiency of value chains, and limited resilience against climate shocks. The ones that suffer the most from these inefficiencies and threats are smallholder farmers. The potential impact of targeting these market gaps is immense. Agribusinesses and agriculture technology companies across Africa are at the forefront of transforming the sector, offering new innovations that increase yields and productivity sustainably, de-risk and improve value chain linkages, increase farmer incomes, and strengthen land, food, and water systems. To support the growth of private sector solutions that strengthen food systems, significant investments and support are needed. With over 9,000 scientists, researchers, and technicians globally, the [CGIAR](#) is in a strong position to support agribusinesses in their efforts to sustainably produce food efficiently, and mitigate the risks associated with climate change for the smallholder farmer, including developing gender responsive approaches to drive inclusive value chains.

Through the activities under Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA) project and Ukama Ustawi: Initiative on Diversification in East and Southern Africa (UU), CGIAR has been actively promoting approaches that support the integration of agribusinesses with science and innovation to drive food systems transformation, fostering impact on mitigation, adaptation, productivity, and resilience.

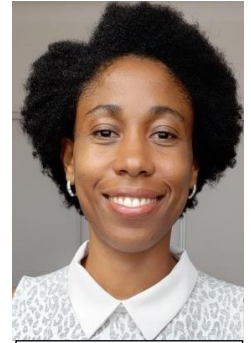
The AICCRA and UU teams are hosting a joint event to create awareness on approaches to support agribusinesses in addressing climate change through different gender-responsive approaches and to share some case studies from our portfolio. The session will address the following:

- The pivotal role of science and research in business acceleration programs to scale up climate-smart agriculture practices.

Speakers



Mercy Zulu-Hume
Sustainable Finance Specialist, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT



Ena Derenoncourt
Gender Smart Investment Specialist, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT



Dr. Stephanie Jaquet
Scientist and Project Leader Climate Action, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT



Pedro Chilambe
Climate Finance Specialist, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT

- The integration of climate and gender assessments in the pipeline origination process to prioritize potential investments.
- The use of climate-smart agriculture technical assistance to enhance investment readiness and bankability.
- The need for business skills development, training, and market linkages to facilitate access to finance for women, youth-owned enterprises, and other stakeholders.
- The promotion of context-specific, gender-responsive climate-smart agriculture practices, alongside the necessary capacity building required for their adoption.
- The provision of incentives to investees upon achieving gender targets, including increased participation of women and youth in the value chain, climate-smart agriculture (CSA) trainings, and the upskilling of women and youth extensionists.

Join us in this enlightening session as we explore the intersection of climate change, gender responsiveness, and agribusiness, fostering sustainable and inclusive agricultural transformations.

Program

Time	Content	Presenter
	Introduction	Moderator
30 min	CGIAR Agribusiness Acceleration Approach	Mercy Zulu Hume Ena Derenoncourt
5 min	Q&A	Moderator
15 min	CFSA Technical Assistance Case Study	Pedro Chilambe
5 min	Q&A	Moderator
15 min	Pipeline Origination of Gender-Smart and Climate-Smart Business models	Ena Derenoncourt
5 min	Q&A	Moderator
15 min	Video Testimonies of Participants	Stephanie Jaquet
30 min	Panel discussion	Moderator

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