THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP IS LEADING THE WAY FOR CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURAL ADAPTATION ACROSS AFRICA



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT



Visit the Website



AFRICA HAS HUGE AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL

About 65% of the uncultivated, arable land left to feed the world is in Africa. The size of Africa's food and agriculture market will be worth \$1 trillion by 2030.

However, rising global temperatures and increasingly erratic weather extremes like flooding and drought threaten the continent's potential to become a breadbasket to the world. Many of the worlds most climate-vulnerable countries are in Africa; in fact, 60% of the world's top 10 at-risk countries for drought are in Africa. We cant talk about climate adaptation without talking about agriculture. Opportunities exist for win-win solutions that increase productivity and resilience while reducing or limiting carbon emissions. What Africa does with its agriculture in the face of climate change will determine the future of food for all of us.

Since the African Development Bank launched its Feed Africa Strategy in 2015, more than 74 million people are benefitting from access to improved agricultural technologies. Our flagship program, Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation, or **'TAAT' by its acronym, has** provided 11 million farmers across 29 African countries with proven climate adapted agricultural technologies, including heat tolerant wheat, drought tolerant maize and low carbon emission protein production of aquaculture.

HOW TAAT IS CHANGING AFRICA'S AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE WITH CLIMATE SMART TECHNOLOGIES

TAAT is harnessing proven technologies to raise agricultural productivity in Africa that mitigate risks of climate change while promoting food diversification and processing in 18 agricultural value chains. The program deploys technologies at scale along nine commodity value chains:



TAAT's goal is to increase food output by 100 million tons enough to feed an additional 200 million persons, more than 80% of hungry people African needs to feed to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 2 - Zero Hunger - and lift 40 million people farmers out of poverty by 2030.

The African Development Bank – though partnerships with governments, public and privatesector research organizations, private-sector seed companies and experts who understand and adapt globally-proven agricultural technologies to Africa-specific environments – deploys drought-resistant maize, heat-resistant wheat and seed treatments against pests like fall armyworm, which has been devastating crops across the continent.



As a result of TAAT:

In Sudan, farmers planted five heat-tolerant wheat varieties across 294,000 hectares of land - doubling of wheat production to 1.1 million tons in the last four years.



Some 5.2 million households were provided with droughttolerant maize varieties on 841,000 hectares of land, when drought and the invasive pest fall armyworm hit Africa's southern region in 2018/ 2019.



In Ghana, 15,000 hectares of under-utilized savannah and partially degraded land was transformed into no-till maize and soy production fields, the harvests sold to boost feedstock for the poultry feed industry.

These are just a few examples of how climate-smart technologies are transforming Africa's agricultural landscape. TAAT also provides solutions for soil fertility management, water management, capacity development, policy support, and attracting African youth in agribusiness.



SCALING UP CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY REQUIRES MORE INVESTMENT

Several groups support the TAAT platform. They include the African Development Bank, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research among other partners.

TAAT's impact is astonishing: African food production has increased by more than 12 million metric tons. TAAT has reduced food imports worth \$814 million. We are well on our way to reaching our target of reaching 40 million farmers with modern and climateresilient technologies.

Through the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program, the African Development Bank and the Global Centre for Adaptation plan to provide digital climate advisory services to more than 40 million farmers.

Yet, to feed the 246 million people in Africa who still go to bed hungry every night, we must scale up these efforts To fully unlock Africa's agricultural potential to feed Africa, we must prioritize these climateadapted technologies through financing.

The African Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development recently held a High-level Dialogue, where more than a dozen African heads of state and other world leaders agreed to create the Financing Facility for Food and Nutrition in Africa. To help accelerate climate adaptation for Africa's farmers, the target for the Facility is \$1 billion.

This Facility aims to bring modern, climate-smart "agritech" to help millions more African farmers adapt to climate change, double major crop yields, produce enough food to feed an additional 200 million people, and reduce incidence of hunger and malnutrition in Africa by 10-20%.

To reach these goals, the Facility needs international support to scale up financing for climate-adapted agricultural technologies for the benefit of all Africans. A NEW AGRICULTURE FINANCING FACILITY CAN HELP MEET THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN AFRICA



Leaders of the African Development Bank and IFAD present the High-level Dialogue communiqué calling for a new financing facility to accelerate climate adaptation to African agriculture.

"The Financing Facility aims to bring modern "agritech" to millions more African farmers, double major crop yields, produce enough food to feed an additional 200 million people, and reduce incidence of hunger and malnutrition in Africa by 10-20%."

African Development Bank President Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina

"There is no doubt that Africa must adopt a coordinated approach to address the food security and hunger challenge."

H.E. Mrs. Sahle-Wok Zewde President of Ethiopia

"We need to strengthen partnerships to tap into successful innovations to produce more food at affordable prices with less environment impact."

H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame President Republic of Rwanda "For Africa to be able to feed Africa, and even contribute to feeding the world... we need to put in place a financing facility for food security and nutrition... this will be a mechanism that could be housed and managed by the African Development Bank."

H.E. Mr. Macky Sall, President Republic of Senegal

"There is a critical] need to address climate change issues, and other environmental factors for inclusive growth and sustainable development... Let us continue to invest in agriculture, including leveraging on technology and innovation for the transformation of Africa's food systems."

H.E. Emmerson Mnangagwa, President of Zimbabwe

"There is a need for farmers to adopt innovative ways of farming to enhance productivity. Through the TAATAfrica program... technologies have been developed and adopted in Zambia."

H.E. Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu President Republic of Zambia



TAAT HELPS ETHIOPIAN WOMEN'S AGRICULTURAL CO-OP HARVEST MORE WHEAT IN HOT CLIMATES

Ethiopian farmer Chaltu Kebede may not be bothered to know about the technology behind the heat-tolerant wheat growing on her farm plot in Ethiopia's arid lowlands. But Kebede does know that after she planted African Development Bank-funded specialized seed varieties designed to thrive in the area's daytime heat, she has been harvesting – and selling – more units of grain than ever before.

> Ethiopian farmer Chaltu Kebede harvests TAAT higher-yielding wheat where ordinary wheat seed struggled to survive due to high-temperatures.

"It was very hard making a living as a farmer with nine children. But this year, I am very excited about the wheat crop," Bekele said.

Kebede belongs to a farming cooperative using higheryielding, heat-tolerant seed as part of a government initiative to boost Ethiopia's wheat production and help farmers adapt to climate change. Ordinary wheat, which needs moderate temperatures between 20 to 26 degrees Celsius to produce high yields, doesn't grow well in Ethiopia's lowland areas - where field temperatures can rise in excess of 30 degrees Celsius.

Up to now, the project has worked with more than 28,000 smallholder farmers like Kebede cultivating 20,000 hectares of irrigated wheat.

"It is a great success for me. Wheat production is life changing," Kebede said.

Cultivating Ethiopia's previously underused lowlands is also creating jobs and generating steady, decent incomes to residents in rural areas.



TAAT TRANSFORMING SLIVERS OF SAVANNAH INTO NO-TILL AGRICULTURAL LAND IN GHANA

Ghanaian Farmer Chief Tahiru Ibrahim.

Tahiru Ibrahim says he made his fortune off shea nut trees on his savannah land in Ghana's northern region. So Ibrahim was a bit skeptical when he heard about the African Development Bank's Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation in the Savannahs initiative. The program aims to convert slivers of savannah into more commercially viable, no-till agricultural land for farming soybean, maize and rice.

Ibrahim agreed to participate in a \$27.55 million pilot program that provides technical support and financing for higheryielding, pest-resistant seed, as well as to take on climatesmart farming practices such as no-till planters and adjustable nozzle sprayers. By increasing productivity, less land will have to be converted from forest to agriculture.

Today, Ibrahim sits in a plastic chair on his farm, surrounded by 200 acres of sturdy green stalks of maize, shooting toward the sky. "My maize is so beautiful," the white-bearded elder chief says with a warm grin. "I am becoming a rich African farmer."



CLIMATE-ADAPTIVE FARMING HELPS KENYAN IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE

Kenyan Doreen Atemo says TAAT agritech helped her build a house.

From farmers to seed company sellers, to flour millers, communities along Kenya's western corridor are proving the Bank's TAAT program is making a difference.

"They taught me good agricultural practices, including how to select good seeds suitable for my farm," said TAAT program participant Doreen Atemo.

TAAT is providing farmers like Atemo with maize varieties that are resistant to heat, drought, pests and disease. The African Development Bank program helped more than 776,000 Kenyan famers have adapt to climate change by delivering climate-smart certified maize seed, raising average yields by 30% and improving quality of life.

"I used to wonder if I would ever earn enough be independent, to own my own home. But when I joined the TAAT project, I was able to build this house behind me from proceeds from selling maize," Atemo said.