# Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA)

**Inception**

**Report**

**By**
**Dr. Joyce Mulila-Mitti - Project Officer Zambia**

## 1. Project Description

- Name of Lead Applicant of the grant contract:  Dr. Simon Mwale

- Name and title of the contact person: Grants Programmes Manager/Executive Director

- Name of beneficiary(ies) and affiliated entity(ies) in the Action: Ministry of Agriculture Ministry of Energy, Community Members, Commodity value chain actors,

  Title of the Action: Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA)

- Start date and end date of the reporting period: 1st July to 31st July 2022

- Target country(ies) or region(s):  Zambia

- Final beneficiaries &/or target groups (if different) (including numbers of women and men)

## 2. Introduction

The project Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA) is a World Bank funded project which has been developed for implementation by CCAFS, CCARDESA, SADC, RUFORUM, ASARECA, ICPAC and other collaborators.  The project is one of the initiatives that meets CCARDESA's priority thematic area of the Strategic Plan and the Operational plan for addressing the impacts of Climate Change.  The project provides for opportunities to upscale gains of the science and expertise of the CGIAR and partners to catalyse positive change towards climate-smart agriculture (CSA).

Working with partners that include ILRI on the project, CCARDESA will lead the process of conducting studies in focus countries to synthesize the available CSA technologies and disseminate reports to stakeholders. The outputs of the studies will be part of the inputs towards capacity development, learning and spill over to other countries.  CCARDESA will also participate and contribute to other activities of the project, including training the partners and key stakeholders in the region on the use of CSA with a focus on knowledge products, approaches and the available tools.  There will be a strong orientation of training for the purpose of enhancing adoption and use of CSA technologies.

The development objective of the AICCRA is to increase access for agriculture research and extension service providers in Africa to knowledge, technologies and decision-making tools relevant to enhancing the resilience of agriculture and food systems in the face of climate change.  In this regard, the main components of the project are:

1. Build capacity in three focus countries of public and private sector users to support implementation of CSA technology packages.
2. Identify and leverage continental and regional CIS and CSA scaling opportunities.
3. Strengthen digital climate advisory services in Eastern and Southern Africa.
4. Development of ag-data hubs and decision support systems.
5. Develop existing or strengthen new National Frameworks for Climate Services (NFCS).

6. Enhance the capacity of public institutions and private firms to provide climate service delivery models.

CCARDESA will lead in the implementation of components 1 and 2. Which will form key activity basis in the project life while at the same time collaborating with other partners to contribute significantly to components 3 to 6.

Project Officer recruitment

CCARDESA has recruited a project officer to provide technical leadership for the implementation of the AICCRA project and to ensure that all the outputs are achieved within the timeframe of the assignment (July 2022 to December 2023). The project officer will work closely with the Programmes and Grants Manager at CCARDESA Secretariat to carry out the tasks that have been outlined in the TORs for the assignment contract. The tasks are listed below:

1. Develop an appropriate work plan based on the project document and indicate the sequence of delivery of the outputs;
2. Implement the activities that are directly under CCARDESA's mandate as well as related activities to which CCARDESA is expected to contribute;
3. Provide overall leadership in the implementation and coordination of the project activities;
4. Prepare periodic technical reports on the implementation of the project activities;
5. Prepare periodic progress reports of the project;
6. Prepare the final project implementation report leading to closure of the project;
7. Liaise with other AICCRA project implementation partners as well as projects of CCARDESA to achieve the objectives of the project through synergies; and
8. Perform any other duties assigned to you by the Programmes and Grants Manager.

3. **Introductory Meeting**

Following the signing of the contract by the project officer with CCARDESA, an introductory meeting was arranged by the Programmes and Grants Manager. The meeting covered the following agenda items:

- Introduction to the journalist with Zambia Daily Mail: the journalist has provided services to document project activities through capturing stories and pictures of AICCRA activities in Zambia. So far, the emphasis of the services provided has been on the CSA model village in Eastern Province of Zambia. The work done has been highly commendable and appreciated by the project partners. The journalist is expected to provide a work plan of future services to be envisioned on the project. CCARDESA is to purchase a project camera to facilitate the provision of services.

- Description of the project activities to date: an update on project components and status of implementation since the beginning of the year was provided.

- An appraisal of the work plan for entire 2022 was made to emphasise on expected deliverables. A summarised version of the work plan from July to December 2022 has been produced in the table below. A consolidated work plan with budget will be

produced during the month of September following the field visit to Chipata where the key field component of establishing a CSA model village is located.

- Identification of priority tasks for the month of July

### 4. <u>**Immediate actions following the introductory meeting**</u>

The following actions constitute tasks implemented during the month of July and are captured in the July progress report.

- Review of project documents provided
- Producing the inception report
- Seeking clarity on admissible costs for administrative support to the project
- Arrangement of meetings with key partners and stakeholders

### 5. <u>**Summarised Project Work Plan for July to December 2022**</u>

# Project Summary Work Plan

| Objectives /Activities /Description | July | August | September | October | November | December |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1.1 [1.1.2] Develop approaches and tool for scaling of CSA** | | | | | | |
| 1.1.1 Develop regional approaches and tools to support effective adoption, implementation and scaling of identified CSA technologies value chains | | Done | | | | |
| 1.1.2.Convene virtual validation and awareness meeting | | Done | | | | |
| 1.1.3 update review of approaches | | | Yet | Yet | | |
| **2.1 [3.1] Identify and promote best bet and promoting climate smart agriculture CCSA technologies** | | | | | | |
| 2.1.1 Participate in review and planning meeting for CSA technology in Zambia | | | Yet | | | |
| 2.1.2 Update and compile the full range of best bet CSA technologies for potential outscaling in southern Africa | | | Yet | Yet | Yet | Yet |
| **3.1 [3.3] Establish CSA model village** | | | | | | |
| 3.1.1 Identify appropriate site for establishment of CSA model village | | Done | | | | |
| 3.1.2 Purchase and install irrigation system | | | Yet | Yet | Yet | Yet |
| 3.1.3 Design garden plots for vegitable production | | | Yet | Yet | Yet | Yet |
| 3.1.4 Set up CSA demostration plots | | | Yet | Yet | Yet | Yet |
| **3.2 [3.4] Monitoring and Visibilty** | | | | | | |
| 3.2.1 Monitor CSA activities and model site and provide support | | | Yet | Yet | Yet | Yet |
| 3.2.2 Provide publicity and visibility for the project | | | Yet | Yet | Yet | Yet |
| 3.2.3 To keep the project momentum afloat in preparation for takeoff by documenting its progression from stage to stage | | | | | Yet | Yet |
| 3.2.4 To document prospects of the project from the locals, what crops they intend to plant, why and the prospect value or expected income | | | | | Yet | Yet |
| **3.3 [3.5] Outscaling of CSA technology and project coordination** | | | | | | |
| 3.3.1 Promote CSA technologies through appropriate channels | | | | | Yet | Yet |
| 3.3.2 Support learning visits among countries | | | | | Yet | Yet |
| 3.3.3 Support learning visits between countries | | | | | Yet | Yet |
| 3.3.4 Project coordination and partnership building | | | | | Yet | Yet |

**NOTE** About colors

Activities Done

Activities Yet to be Done