

# AFRICA



# ADAPTATION NEWSLETTER

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## AFRICA HISTORIC MOMENT: THE BIRTH OF A PAN AFRICAN FOOD SECURITY ASSEMBLY

EBAFOSA is the first inclusive pan African policy framework and implementation platform, a solutions space that brings together key stakeholders and actors along the entire EBA driven agriculture value chain. These are stakeholders in governments and the public sector, the private sector, academia and research, NGOs, CSOs, international organizations and individual publics at country and continental level. EBAFOSA provides a platform where these stakeholders can forge mutually benefitting partnerships at upscaling EBA driven agriculture and its value chains into policy and implementations via country driven processes to ensure food security & climate adaptation. EBAFOSA catalyzes building of synergies



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## EBAFOSA PHASE TWO ROLE OUT STRATEGY

### BUILDING SYNERGIES WITH ON-GOING INITIATIVES

The activities will be undertaken at the strategic policy level where focus will be to connect key non-policy actors along the value chain to policy makers and also facilitate inter-policy maker's interactions; as well as at the operational level, where focus will be to actualize connections among non-policy actors .

At the **strategic level**: connections will focus on policy makers. The aim will be to target policy makers in the ministries of agriculture, finance, environment and industrialization who are key to upscaling EBA and its value chains and link them with the other stakeholders on 3 levels .

- » Link policy makers to policy makers: to ensure policy implementation, there is need to break silos between policy makers in these ministries.
- » Link policy makers to on-going

onfarm EBA initiatives and value addition enterprises.

- » Link these policy makers with academia and research and to international bodies to enable further enrichment of policies / policy making e.g. through adoption of latest research findings to inform policies and adoption of most effective, optimal approaches to policy making

At operational level: connections should focus on linking the non-policy actors to each other in order to facilitate peer learning, access to markets, access to technologies, linking products to accreditation services so they can access more lucrative local and export markets etc.

This practically means linking registered

farmers to registered value added service providers be they in technology such as innovative EBA techniques e.g. zai, innovative storage technologies, innovative preservation technologies; efficient irrigation technologies, innovative mobile based supply / demand market access technologies, linking registered farmers to registered processing markets.

On a practical level, successful policy integration into development planning and achieving implementation requires an inclusive process that will foster partnerships and exchanges among key actors in a solutions space. e.g. fruit processing industries, animal feeds industries, flour processing industry, brewing industry, flower packaging industries etc., linking both on farmer producers and other value added products to accreditation services; linking registered farmers to registered extension / training service providers on EBA technologies and other value chain technologies, linking registered farmers to registered markets for fresh produce be they individual end users i.e. individual members of EBFOSA, corporates / institutional consumers i.e. institutions and businesses registered in EBAFOSA, resellers e.g. supermarkets, kiosks, shops and other retailers as well as wholesalers etc. all under the EBAFOSA platform.

#### Example proposed practical activities to actualize connections .

##### At operational level

- + Organize networking events and invite all the stakeholders at branch for networking.
- + To out scale EBA/ ensure increased areas under EBA.

##### At strategic level

- + Registered policy makers to develop a joint strategy, an implementation action plan to break inter-ministerial silos for policy uptake .
- + Identify anchor actors along the entire value chain....

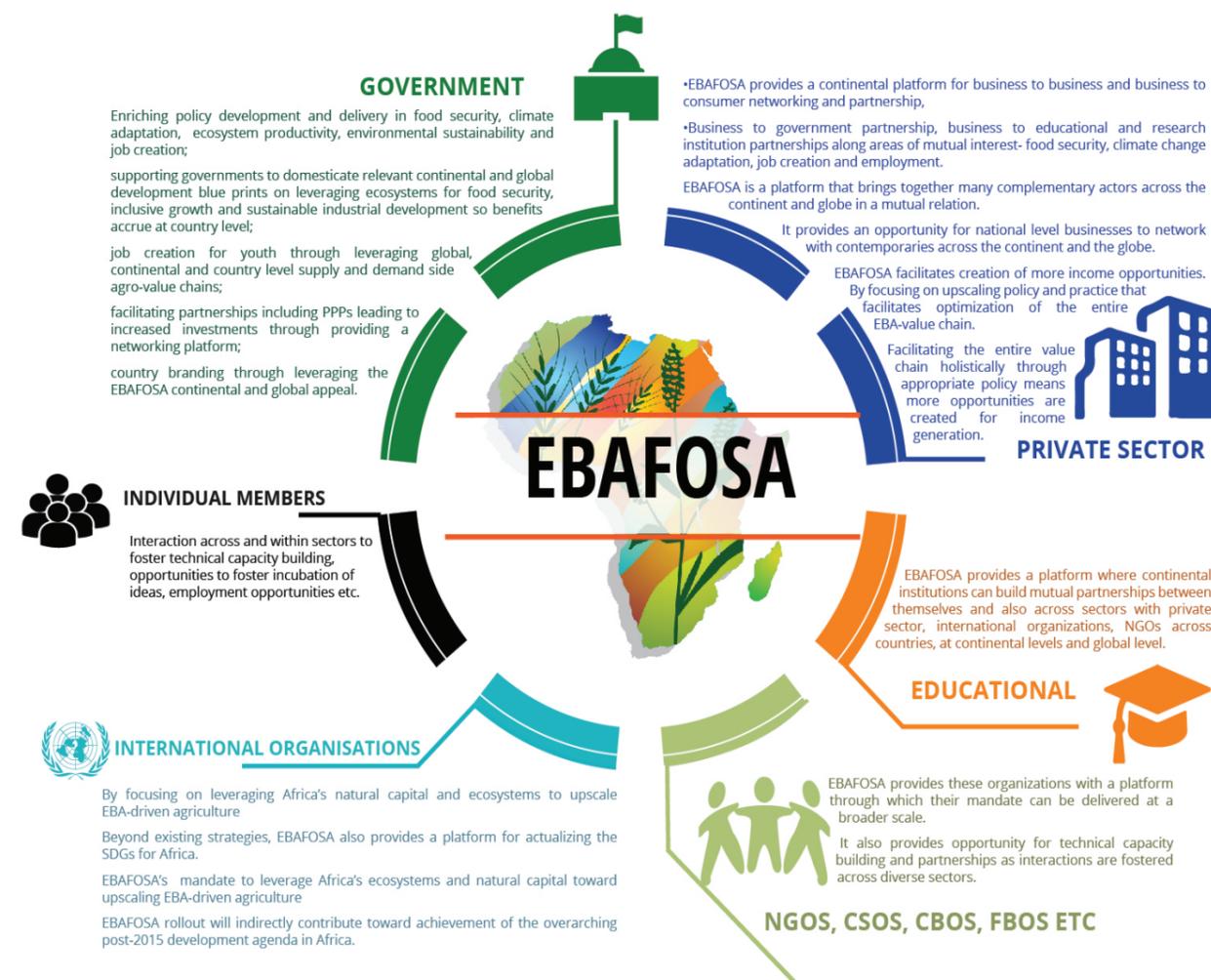
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## EBAFOSA



**African Union**  
a United and Strong Africa

## EBAFOSA BENEFITS



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## ROLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR IN UPSCALING EBA DRIVEN FARMING

A sustainable and viable strategy to upscaling EBA driven agriculture has to include commercialization. In ensuring commercialization occurs, the private sector needs to play a leading role and this was acknowledged by delegates at the Conference. (EBAFOSA)

It was noted that the private sector is broad and comprises a number of actors, including large corporations, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), individual entrepreneurs and even philanthropists, and all these groups need to be targeted to take up EBA.

Among recommendations given included:

1. Incentives that seek to enhance overall business environment in a country, such as good infrastructure, effective legal & regulatory environment and favorable market economy policies.
2. Researchers to demystify EBA-driven agriculture and define it from a business and commercial perspective.
3. Make EBA information accessible and user friendly.
4. Educationalize EBA to ensure tomorrow's entrepreneurs understand its income potential.
5. Facilitate and promote more transparent Public Private Partnership (PPPs) models.

[Read More.](#)



## “DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY”

### EBA for Food Security Assembly and its Execution

The lack of a continental EBA policy making and harmonizing organ and a practical implementation platform taking advantage of all country actors' relative strengths and that bestows responsibility directly upon all stakeholders in public / policy making, private / commercialization, NGOs, CSOs including citizens in the development, resilience building and food security solutions space, has hamstrung the upscaling of EBA across the continent despite its known benefits as well as stifled implementation of many a rosy continental development strategies.



#### OPERATIONAL MECHANISM OF EBAFOSA

The EBA for food security Assembly shall foster a structured process that decentralizes the integrated implementation of EBA and agri-business value chains to country and community levels in an inclusive participatory way, and coordinated across the continent to ensure peer learning, synergy building, and complementarity in solutions development to shared challenges.

Through this assembly, ownership of the process of up scaling EBA policy and implementation is decentralized beyond conference rooms and bureaucratic red tape directly to the country and community levels, where a participatory approach bringing together all stakeholders private sector, public sector, NGOs, CBOs, academics, research think tanks, ordinary citizens etc. in a solutions space is fostered.

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSEMBLY

- » To promote environmentally friendly approaches to food production.
- » To promote value addition for all EBA products by efficient technologies.
- » To develop a regional monitoring instrument and evaluation instruments on EBA

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## USING ECOSYSTEM BASED AGRICULTURE (EbA) TO RESTORE AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTS

**THE PROBLEM:** As following is in its death throes because 80% of family farms on less than 2 ha, with result that soil organic matter is decreasing, and with it, yields. In lowland, drought-prone areas (population 150 million), yields are dropping by 5 to 10% per year. A food security crisis is on the way.

**TECHNIQUES:** The only long-term solution to this problem is that of growing legumes that feed people, fertilize the soil, increase soil organic matter, control weeds and protect the soil by covering it. Usually these are intercropped with existing basic grains. The objective of the project (PROMUS) is to introduce at least one widely applicable, successful, spontaneously spreading legume system in each of 15 nations, so when the crisis hits, people across Africa will have a known solution to promote. Smallholder farmers, who are motivated by the possibility of increasing their yields and reducing weeding work.

They become convinced of these benefits by doing small-scale experiments with the technology.

#### RESULTS:

Presently, over 4,000 smallholder farmers in 11 nations are experimenting with 9 selected legumes. Significant increases in food production (at least 50% above previous yields) have been achieved by 450 farmers, just 2 years after the program was initiated in most nations.

#### REPLICATION AND UP-SCALING POTENTIAL

The potential is that these legumes could spread to cover the entire lowland areas of these nations and Resilience to drought is achieved. In effect, we are creating the same conditions that forests create to maintain the ecological health of the environment.

[Read more](#)



## CHANGING THE EQUATION : THE NEED FOR CONVERGENCE BETWEEN AGRICULTURE AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

This project was aimed at addressing the following issues : Climatic shocks e.g. drought, Land degradation from overgrazing, erosion, Human wildlife conflict e.g. crop raiding, killing of wildlife, Tribal conflict, Inaccessible markets, Loss of biodiversity but above all the Project main goals was to address Climate change, Land degradation, Loss of biodiversity, Food security and Economic risks.

The project's objective was to serve as a role model and rehabilitate degraded land, address tribal conflicts and provide linkages to high value markets.

**EbA Techniques Deployed :** Biodiversity conservation using an integrated land reclamation system. A game Reserve was also expanded to create a Conservancy.

#### How the Approach addressed & Enhanced Ecosystem Productivity

- » Mitigation against overgrazing
- » Less human wildlife conflict
- » Mitigation against overgrazing
- » Less human - wildlife conflict
- » Minimum to zero-tillage agriculture
- » Wildlife re-population on previously abandoned areas due to improved rangelands.
- » Increased landscape connectivity for wildlife dispersal
- » Income Diversification

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## ECOSYSTEMS APPROACHES FOR WETLANDS MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD SUSTAINABILITY

In the last two decades, periodic droughts in Zambia and Malawi have rapidly increased, causing alarming seasonal food and fresh water shortages resulting in increased health and economic vulnerability during the dry seasons.

For many people in Zambia and Malawi the only way to survive these periods is by using the Dambos for agriculture providing enough for local consumption and surplus for the market. The film shows how Wetlands International in the Mpika wetlands in Zambia and the Simlemba wetlands in Malawi supports the people in the dambos.

Water supply and management is one of the key challenges facing most African smallholders. It's a challenge made all the more testing by the impact of climate variability. But it's a challenge that can yield a healthy dividend, as has been witnessed with wetland management efforts in Malawi and Zambia that have resulted in crop yields increasing by between 30-60%, as a direct result of work that local village committees have carried out in collaboration with some NGO's.

### DAMBOS

What happens when you do have water in the form of dambos? 'Dambo' is a local word used for defining seasonally waterlogged, predominantly grass-covered, depressions bordering headwater drainage lines in central, southern and eastern Africa. These wetlands provide

a range of ecosystem services. They're attractive because the availability of water can ensure several harvests in a year.

However with growing pressure on land and without careful management, the dambos can easily degrade and eventually become dry lands. In Malawi and Zambia, NGO's such as Self Help Africa has worked closely with farming communities living near to, and benefitting from seasonal wetlands. The results over recent years have been truly impressive. Yields have risen between 30 to 60%, depending on the crop. Increased income and savings have grown to up to US\$200 a year. Children have become less prone to illnesses, due to improved nutrition. More children were sent to school.

[..Watch Video for more](#)

## MAPPING ECOSYSTEM BASED ADAPTATION INITIATIVES FOR OPEN POLLINATED VARIETIES (SOPVS)



The Zambezi-Luangwa river basin has some of the most fragile ecosystems with very little holding capacity. The area is important for wildlife and agriculture. The landscape is extremely variable from one place to another.

The risk of soil erosion is very real here especially in Chirundu and Siavonga districts. The soils are sodic, easily dissolve and are prone to soil erosion by both wind and water. It's common to see lots of Gullies here

making agriculture production a challenge besides farmers like to keep goats and cattle so its important to keep this ecosystem intact.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- » Shift SOPVs to value added cash crops
- » Mitigate: drought, soil erosion, soil fertility and floods
- » Market linkages Cottage seed industry.
- » Markets linkages and Training.
- » Technology dissemination

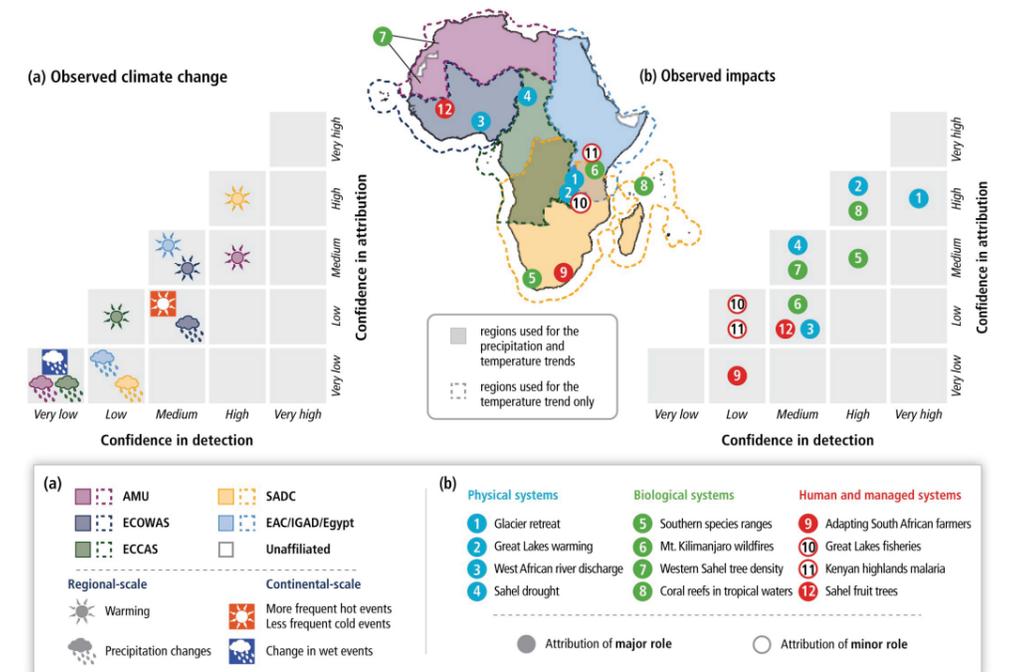
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# EVENTS

MONTH	DATE	LOCATION	EVENT
DECEMBER	04	PARIS, FRANCE	Oceans day at UNFCCC COP 21
	05	WORLDWIDE EVENT BY FAO	World soil day.
	05	PARIS, FRANCE	Global landscapes Forum
	15	NAIROBI, KENYA	Tenth WTO ministerial Conference
JANUARY	16	ABU DHABI, UAE	Sixth session of the IRENA Assembly
	19	VIRGINIA, USA	The Food-Energy-Water Nexus conference
FEBRUARY	01	WASHINGTON DC, USA	Urbanization & Poverty Reduction conference
	21	ADDIS ABABA ETHIOPIA	Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation
	23	KAMPALA, UGANDA	Developing ICT tools to empower small holder farmer
	21	BERLIN, GERMANY	The Consumer Goods Forum – Global Food Safety Conference

# CLIMATE WARNINGS

Africa's consequence of a warming planet are dire. Statements from AR5-Africa include: Evidence of warming over land regions across Africa, consistent with anthropogenic climate change, has increased (high confidence). African ecosystems are already being affected by climate change, and future impacts are expected to be substantial (high confidence). Climate change will amplify existing stress on water availability in Africa (high confidence).



**PUBLICATIONS**

- Food wastage footprints impacts on natural resources
- Climate change adaptation in fisheries and aquaculture
- Information brief agriculture/land at the lima climate talks
- Agriculture, forestry and other land use emissions by sources and removals by sinks
- Climate change adaptation in uganda: conflict-sensitivity in forest conservation and management laws and policies
- Africa's coasts: natural resource management and conflict sensitive adaptation
- Climate change impacts on african crop production
- Climate change impacts on food security in sub-saharan africa

**RECENT RESEARCH**

- Conflict-sensitive adaptation to climate change in Africa
- Linkages between climate variability, vulnerability and armed conflict in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Climate Change and Vulnerability of African cities—Research briefs
- Review of research and policies for climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector in West Africa
- Water resource management and climate change in South Africa: Visions, driving factors and sustainable development indicators
- Addressing climate Change challenges in Africa : A Practical Guide towards Sustainable Development
- Adaptation to social, environmental and climate change impacts on vectorborne diseases
- Climate Change in Africa, What is at Stake? Excerpts from IPCC reports, the Convention, & BAP BAP Compiled by AMCEN Secretariat



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