

## WORKSHOP REPORT

# From Baku to Belem:

Key insights and next steps  
for climate and agriculture



MARCH 2025



**AICCRA**  
Accelerating the Impact of CGIAR  
Climate Research for Africa







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**About AICCRA** | Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research in Africa (AICCRA) is a project that helps deliver a climate-smart African future driven by science and innovation in agriculture. It is led by the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT and supported by a grant from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank. Explore AICCRA’s work at [aiccra.cgiar.org](http://aiccra.cgiar.org)

**About EAFF** | The Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF) is a regional farmer organisation whose mission is to represent, lobby and advocate for the interests of Eastern Africa farmers and to build their capacities. EAFF envisions a prosperous and cohesive farming community in Eastern Africa. EAFF envisions a prosperous and cohesive farming community in Eastern Africa. Explore EAFF’s work at [www.eaffu.org](http://www.eaffu.org)



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ACS</b>	Africa Climate Summit	<b>NCQG</b>	New Collective Quantified Goal
<b>AF</b>	Adaptation Finance	<b>NDA</b>	Nationally Designated Authority
<b>AGN</b>	African Group of Negotiators	<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contribution
<b>AGNES</b>	African Group of Negotiators Expert Support	<b>NBSAP</b>	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
<b>AICCRA</b>	Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa	<b>PACJA</b>	Pan African Climate Justice Alliance
<b>AU</b>	African Union	<b>PES</b>	Payment for Ecosystem Services
<b>CAADP</b>	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme	<b>SBI</b>	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
<b>CBAM</b>	Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism	<b>SBSTA</b>	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
<b>CGIAR</b>	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research	<b>SCCF</b>	Standing Committee on Finance
<b>CMA</b>	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement	<b>SCF</b>	National Confederation of Eritrean Workers
<b>EAFF</b>	Eastern Africa Farmers Federation	<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>EU</b>	European Union	<b>SSJWA</b>	Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	<b>UAE</b>	United Arab Emirates
<b>GBF</b>	Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework	<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund	<b>UNCBD</b>	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product	<b>UNCCD</b>	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility	<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>GGA</b>	Global Goal on Adaptation	<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>GlaSS</b>	Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh Work Programme	<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>IPLC</b>	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities	<b>UNFSS</b>	United Nations Food Systems Summit
<b>KJWA</b>	INGABO farmer's Organisation	<b>US</b>	United States
<b>LDC</b>	Least Developed Country	<b>USD</b>	United States Dollar
<b>LDCF</b>	Least Developed Countries Fund	<b>WSS</b>	World Summit for Social Development
<b>MDB</b>	Multilateral Development Bank		

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Held at the end of 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) delivered significant developments that shaped climate action moving forward. In response, on 5 March 2025, the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF) and Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA) co-hosted a workshop to unpack the key outcomes of COP29 and the implications for African farmers, agriculture, climate ambition, and finance. In addition, the EAFF reviewed the key farmer-related outcomes from the other two Rio Conventions, namely the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)

COP16, held in Cali, Colombia, in October 2024, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) COP16, which took place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in December 2024. This workshop brought together diverse stakeholders to discuss the opportunities and challenges for farmers arising from the three events, helping EAFF and its member organisations shape their strategic engagement, policy interventions and set their negotiation priorities for the year ahead in the lead-up to the second African Climate Summit in September 2025 and to COP30 in November 2025.

SETTING THE SCENE

Welcome and opening remarks



**Stephen Muchiri,**  
CEO of EAFF,  
welcomed all farmer  
organisations and  
participants to the  
meeting.



**Dr Laura Cramer**  
Team Lead for AICCRA Theme  
1 Climate-Smart Agriculture  
Policies and Priorities, welcomed  
all colleagues and appreciated the  
AICCRA-EAFF partnership.



**Romy Chevallier,**  
Policy and  
Engagement Specialist  
at AICCRA, moderated  
this workshop and  
facilitated the question  
and answer session.

## A farmer's perspective on the outcomes of COP29



**Elizabeth Nsimadala,**  
President of the EAFF

Opened the workshop by reflecting on the outcomes of COP29 from a farmer's perspective, focusing on issues related to the national climate policy development context, losses and damages, the global stocktake, climate finance and other issues. She also looked at key developments within the African policy context and well as globally.

Elizabeth spoke about **key regional African developments**, namely the Extraordinary Summit of the African Union on the post-Malabo Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), held in Kampala, Uganda in early January 2025. The Summit marked a significant milestone in Africa's agricultural development agenda, leading to the adoption of the 10-year **CAADP Strategy and Action Plan (2026-2035)**, along with the **Kampala CAADP Declaration on Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa**, both of which support the AU's overarching development aspirations expressed in its Agenda 2063. The new CAADP Strategy aims to transform Africa's agrifood systems and enhance resilience. Its primary objective is to increase Africa's agrifood output by 45% by 2035, positioning the continent on a path to food security within the next decade. Additionally, the Kampala CAADP Declaration, sets forth a roadmap for sustainable and resilient agrifood systems.

Elizabeth also spoke about the major shifts happening in a **geopolitical context**. Most notable is the United States (US) withdrawal

from the Paris Agreement which is a direct threat to global climate efforts, leaving vulnerable nations without critical financial and technical support. The US has also halted the funding of the UNFCCC. The withdrawal of US leadership diminishes the critical financial and technical support required to adapt to climate challenges, leaving vulnerable nations to bear an unjust burden.

These African and global developments are important in that they require farmers to reconsider their role in a new context, considering how to best position themselves as farmers' organisations to adapt to these changes.

In terms of the global climate landscape, the deadline for submitting updated **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** to the UNFCCC Secretariat was the 10th of February 2025. Only 16 countries met this deadline, with country submissions being a combination of second and third NDCs. Zimbabwe, Botswana and Lesotho were the only African countries to meet the deadline. It is anticipated that the United Nations (UN) will extend the deadline to September 2025.

With NDCs expected to be resubmitted every five years, ambition is key. These climate plans must be both scalable and realistic but more importantly represent the highest possible ambition. This means that countries must ensure that the new targets and proposed policies and measures in their NDCs are more robust.

NDCs are also required to be clearer and more detailed with respect to targets for mitigation up to 2035, the idea being that these targets can be compared and assessed against other country targets, to enable future scenario planning. International negotiations and climate finance commitments are key to unlocking an ambitious NDC. Farmers must be vocal and continue to engage at the national level and call for stronger NDCs.

For African countries, **adaptation** is not just a supplementary component—it is essential for surviving climate change - which disproportionately affects developing countries. Countries have stated their level of adaptation will be based on the amount of climate finance that the developed world provides. As farmers' organisations we need to see how we can position ourselves to adapt to the changing climate environment, adopt adaptation practices but also gain access to finance for climate adaptation.

**Loss and Damage** must be a key consideration for African NDCs, especially for Least Developed Countries in Africa. Loss and Damage has been largely absent from first iterations of NDCs. However, including it could elevate its prominence in climate negotiations, particularly for African countries facing severe climate impacts. It will highlight impacts at the local level, how countries are planning to respond, and their related needs. African countries should continue this momentum and ensure that Loss and Damage needs become a standard component of NDCs. This could inform and guide demands for international Loss and Damage finance and improve accountability from developed nations. As farmers' organisations we need to understand the Loss and Damage landscape, the latest developments in the Loss and Damage Fund, and how to access it.

Updated NDCs are meant to respond to the recommendations of the **Global Stocktake (GST)**. The GST for the first time encouraged all countries to come forward with ambitious economy-wide mitigation targets in their updated NDCs. However, the Stocktake lacks concrete next steps, leaving developing nations with too much ambiguity. While ambitious commitments are expected from all countries, the GST failed to deliver mechanisms to ensure that developed nations provide the necessary technology, finance, and capacity building to support developing countries in meeting these more ambitious targets. The weak new climate finance target agreed to at COP29 last year only exacerbated this challenge.

This **finance gap** underscores the need for African NDCs to clearly articulate their financial, capacity and technological needs, to justify demands for greater levels of climate finance during the negotiations. On adaptation, the GST highlighted significant gaps in funding, planning, and implementation. It called for finance to be scaled significantly, for enhanced early warning systems, and stronger resilience-building efforts, particularly for vulnerable communities. Without clear targets and guidance on how many of these goals are to be achieved, however, African countries may deprioritise ambition in their NDCs in favour of more immediate national concerns, such as poverty alleviation, job creation, energy access, and economic growth. Many nations face limited fiscal space, high debt burdens, and competing development priorities, making it difficult to allocate resources toward long-term climate goals. Additionally, the lack of sufficient climate finance, technology transfer, and investment in adaptation is likely to further discourage ambitious commitments, as governments prioritise short-term stability and resilience over deeper emission cuts.



While climate finance, technical expertise, and political constraints remain major barriers, African nations must still craft NDCs in this round that:

- **Quantify the financial support required** for adaptation and mitigation measures. Ambition is contingent on funding, and without it being forthcoming, countries may scale back on plans because they are conditional on finance.
- **Prioritise and give specifics on Loss and Damage**, especially direct access mechanisms
- **Focus on realistic, implementable strategies** and avoid overly aspirational targets without a clear roadmap for execution.

Farmers can use NDCs to highlight their specific challenges and advocate for the financial and technical support they need. In doing so, they can turn this round of NDCs into a powerful tool for both domestic climate action and a tool upon which to call for international support and accountability.

COP29 presented several challenges and opportunities for farmers:



#### Climate finance for agriculture:

- There is a need for an **increase in adaptation funding for smallholder farmers**, especially in developing countries.
- Expansion of the **Loss and Damage Fund**, with clearer mechanisms to compensate farmers affected by extreme weather events.

- More funding is needed for **climate-smart agriculture** initiatives.
- Direct access mechanisms for farmers and local non-state implementers



#### Food security and resilient agriculture:

- Commitment to scaling up **drought-resistant crops** and early warning systems for climate threats.
- Recognition of **agroecology and regenerative farming** as key solutions to climate change.
- **Strengthened global food security policies** to address climate risks.



#### Opportunities related to carbon markets and incentives for sustainable farming:

- New mechanisms allowing farmers to **sell carbon credits** for practices like soil carbon sequestration, agroforestry, and methane reduction as valid ways for farmers to generate carbon credits.
- Promotion of **low emission farming techniques**, including agroforestry.
- Incentives for **reduced deforestation in agriculture supply chains**.
- **Clearer rules for carbon credit transparency** – COP29 finalised stricter guidelines on how carbon credits are measured, verified, and reported to avoid **double counting** (where two countries or entities claim the same emissions reduction).

- **Standardised rules for voluntary carbon markets** - Efforts were made to improve the credibility of voluntary carbon markets, ensuring that offsets used by companies or countries meet high environmental integrity standards. Some disagreements remain over **whether developing countries could tax carbon credit revenues** to fund local climate adaptation.
- Governments pledged to **help smallholder farmers participate in carbon markets**, ensuring they benefit from climate finance and do not get left behind.



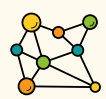
#### Debate over 'non-market approaches':

- **Alternative mechanisms** outside traditional carbon trading, such as direct public funding for emissions reduction in agriculture instead of relying on market-driven carbon offsets.



#### Stronger accountability for corporate offsetting:

- COP29 reinforced **guidelines to prevent 'greenwashing'** in corporate carbon offset programmes, ensuring that companies investing in carbon markets actually reduce overall emissions rather than just offset them.



#### Methane reduction strategies/targets from livestock and rice farming and investment in feed additives and manure management technologies to cut emissions.



#### Advancements in agricultural technology and a greater focus on artificial intelligence and digital tools to improve resource efficiency.



More **funding for crop insurance programmes** to help farmers cope with climate risks.

While COP29 made some progress, there were unresolved issues such as the taxation of carbon credits and strict enforcement of Article 6 of the UNFCCC, which were pushed to COP30.

Elizabeth reiterated that national farmer organisations (NFOs) need to stay engaged in climate negotiations and policy processes to ensure that agriculture is a part of the discussions. NFOs can demonstrate how they are capable of engaging in climate finance projects.



## EXPERT REFLECTIONS



**Romy Chevallier** opened the expert reflections by highlighting the significance of COP30.

COP30 in Brazil is pivotal for several reasons:

- **2025 marks the tenth year since the adoption of the Paris Agreement** (in Paris in 2015). This provides a good timeframe for reviewing progress made and to address issues related to accountability.
- It is important to understand the status quo and the adjustments needed in policy and ambition. The new NDCs need to be ambitious enough to meet the targets of the Global Stocktake.
- COP30 will emphasise the rights of **Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities** (IPLCs) and their critical role in combating climate change. This presents an opportunity for those who are dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, those who are at the frontline of climate change, such as farmers.
- From an engagement and planning perspective it is important to identify other **priority policy windows** to engage, outside of the formal COPS. For example, among others, the UNCCD, the CBD, the Africa Climate Summit (ACS), the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS), and G20. EAFF has produced a policy calendar to help guide NFOs in this regard.



## COP29 outcomes and challenges for agriculture, adaptation and climate finance



**Bernard Kimoro**, Climate Change Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Kenya.

## The status of agriculture in the climate negotiations

### Recognition of agriculture within the UNFCCC

Article 2 of the UNFCCC clearly recognises agriculture as a key sector in the stabilisation of greenhouse gases. It highlights that any activities should be done within a timeframe that allows ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change and that food production should not be threatened to allow for sustainable economic development. Within the objective of the UNFCCC, agriculture (food production) is the only sector that is explicitly identified.

#### Article 2 of the UNFCCC

“The ultimate objective of this Convention and any related legal instruments that the Conference of the Parties may adopt is to achieve, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a time-frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that **food production** is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.”

Further, **Article 4.1** c) and e) make specific mention of agriculture, and within d) it falls under both ‘terrestrial’ and ‘marine’ ecosystems. Article 4.1 c) and d) focus more on emissions reduction, whereas 4 e) emphasises adaptation.

#### Article 4 of the UNFCCC states

“All Parties, taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and their specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances, shall:

(c) Promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol in all relevant sectors, including the energy, transport, industry, **agriculture**, forestry and waste management sectors;

(d) Promote sustainable management, and promote and cooperate in the conservation and enhancement, as appropriate, of sinks and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, including biomass, forests and oceans as well as other **terrestrial**, coastal and **marine** ecosystems;

(e) Cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change; develop and elaborate appropriate and integrated plans for coastal zone management, water resources and **agriculture**, and for the protection and rehabilitation of areas, particularly in Africa, affected by drought and desertification, as well as floods.”

It is important to recall the inclusion of agriculture in the UNFCCC when we are negotiating. It is included at the Convention level not just in the instruments.



### Why agriculture is important to the UNFCCC

In 2011, the UN projected that the world’s population would rise to around 9 billion people by 2050. However, in reality this population is likely to be reached by 2040, with the population further expanding to 9.6 billion by 2050. This growth in population will require a considerable increase in food production, which needs to be safeguarded. This presents a paradox: food production needs to be increased within the constraints of climate change, without enhancing climate change through additional emissions.

It is important to recognise that for developing countries in particular food production, ecosystem integrity and economic growth are intimately linked. African economies rely on agriculture with an average impact on gross domestic product (GDP) ranging from 15% to 50%. The key challenge is whether these three elements - food production, ecosystems and economic growth – can be balanced within the objective of the UNFCCC.

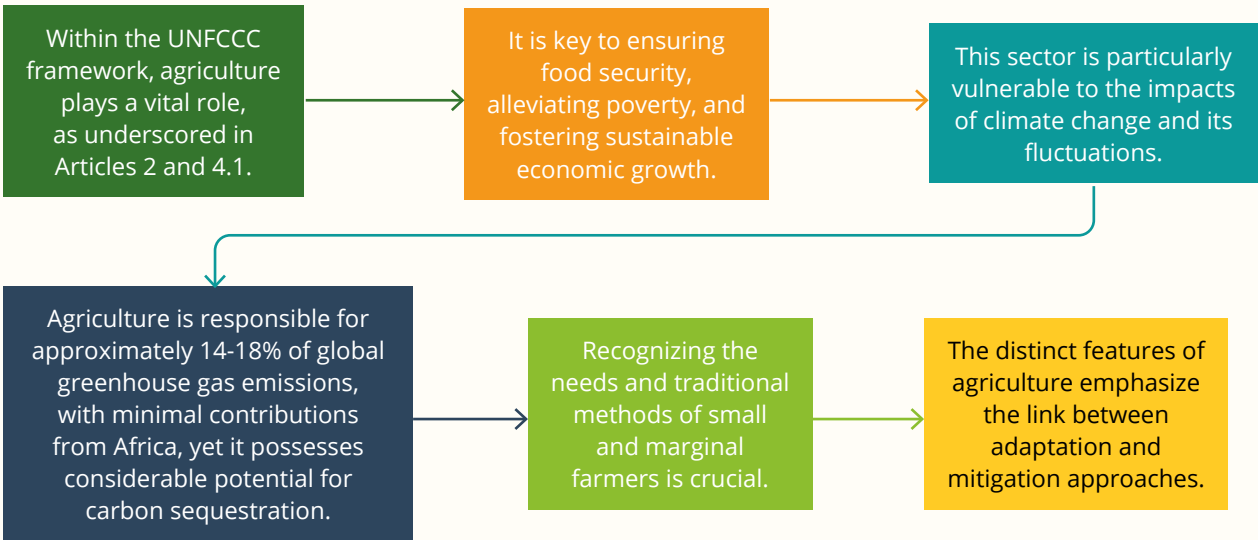
### Trends in agricultural production – past and present

The global agricultural sector has lagged in performance over the last fifty years. As a result, between 1998 and 2008, the world’s population facing chronic hunger rose by 20% to 800 million people. In Africa, agricultural production is declining, from 1967 to 2007 it fell by approximately 30%, while it doubled in South Asia and tripled in East Asia. The reduced agricultural production in Africa has been attributed to:

- **Limited financial commitment from African governments.** Africa allocates <4% of its budget, while Asia dedicates >14%.
- **Reliance on rain-fed agriculture.** Only 6.5% of farmland in Africa is irrigated, compared to 40% in Asia.
- **Minimal fertilizer application per hectare.** Africa uses 10 kg, which is ten times below the global average of 110 kg and twenty times less than Europe.
- **Annual post-harvest grain losses.** These losses amount to USD 4 billion, accounting for 15% of total output.
- Additional challenges include **biodiversity loss**; the **degradation of natural resources** such as land, soils, and soil nutrients; and **limited access to credit**.

### Consensus by Parties

There are six key areas of consensus in terms of the UNFCCC:




While there is a lot of consensus, one of the biggest challenges with the agricultural sector is that it is very complex. It involves multiple biological ecosystems, and it is a sector that needs to both adapt to and mitigate climate change. Focus could be placed on solely adaptation OR adaptation and mitigation OR adaptation and mitigation synergies and trade-offs. The latter is complex. Article 4. of the UNFCCC highlights the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) – these are context specific at a multilateral level. Another imperative for negotiating is the potential trade implications. For example, the European Union (EU) has passed a regulation (2023/956) called the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) where if a certain agricultural product from outside the EU is produced in a way that increases emissions it will be subject to a higher tax rate or even not permitted for importation into the EU. This example demonstrates the divergence in Europe’s focus on mitigation and Africa’s on adaptation.


### How did negotiations for the agricultural stream begin?

Agriculture is fundamental to all aspects of the UNFCCC’s workstreams. Originally agricultural negotiations started with the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action, this formed part of the mitigation agenda. Although the agricultural sector was recognised as very important it took a long time to reach the negotiation table. It was first requested for negotiation through the Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs). It was only during COP17 in 2011 in Durban, South Africa that the decision 2/CP.17 instructed the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to tackle agricultural matters. Therefore, **the negotiation about agriculture was started by Africa in Africa**. Eighteen years after the formation of the UNFCCC, at SBSTA 36 (May 2012), conversations surrounding agriculture


were initiated. Following this, during the period 2012-2015, the SBSTA consented to hold five thematic workshops on the subject:




Current state of scientific knowledge on how to enhance the adaptation of agriculture to climate change impacts (SBSTA 39)




Development of early warning systems and contingency plans in relation to extreme weather events and its effects (SBSTA 42)



Assessment of risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems to different climate change scenarios at regional, national and local levels (SBSTA 42)



Identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale (SBSTA 44)



Identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience (SBSTA 44)

These workshops were important for convening conversations around **agricultural adaptation**. Thereafter, in 2017 a decision (Decision 4/CP.23) was reached in Bonn Germany where the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) (2018-2022) was established. This provided the first roadmap for agricultural discussions in the negotiations. The SBSTA and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) were requested to jointly address issues related to agriculture, including through workshops and expert meetings. Subsequently, six workshop topics were proposed for discussion with New Zealand proposing an additional two in 2020. A report on progress and outcomes of work of the KJWA was to be developed and presented at COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland – but this did not take place.

Post-KJWA roadmap

Between COP26 and COP27 a discussion was held to ensure agriculture remained at the UNFCCC negotiation table. It was recognised that an implementing body was needed to discuss agricultural issues beyond the KJWA. In 2022, at COP27, the Decision 3/CP. 27 requested the SBSTA and the SBI to establish the four-year Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture and Food Security (SSJWA). This would include implementation of the outcomes of the KJWA and previous activities addressing issues related to agriculture, as well as future topics. The Decision also established the **Sharm el-Sheikh online portal** under the joint work for sharing information on projects, initiatives and policies for increasing opportunities for implementation of climate action to address issues related to agriculture and food security. Parties and observers were invited to give their input on the elements of the joint work including views on topics for the workshops as well as the operationalisation of the portal, for consideration by the SB58 sessions (June 2023).

Africa, including East Africa and Kenya, made submissions as required. The need was reiterated for a body that could coordinate implementation. After the submissions were made negotiations took place. The June 2023 sessions would agree on how the coordination would be undertaken and the workshop topics that would discuss elements of implementation and how the online portal should be developed i.e. what elements should be included. However, at the SB58 in June 2023 and the COP27 in Dubai, consensus could not be reached. Parties agreed to a procedural conclusion and to continue with the work during SB60 sessions in Bonn in June 2024.

Finally, in June 2024, consensus was reached. A draft conclusion text with an agreed roadmap was developed and forwarded to the SBSTA and SBI Chairs for adoption at the closing session of SB60. The roadmap provides clear timelines for topics, the synthesis report, and the online portal. The mandate for the development of the online portal was given to the Secretariat.

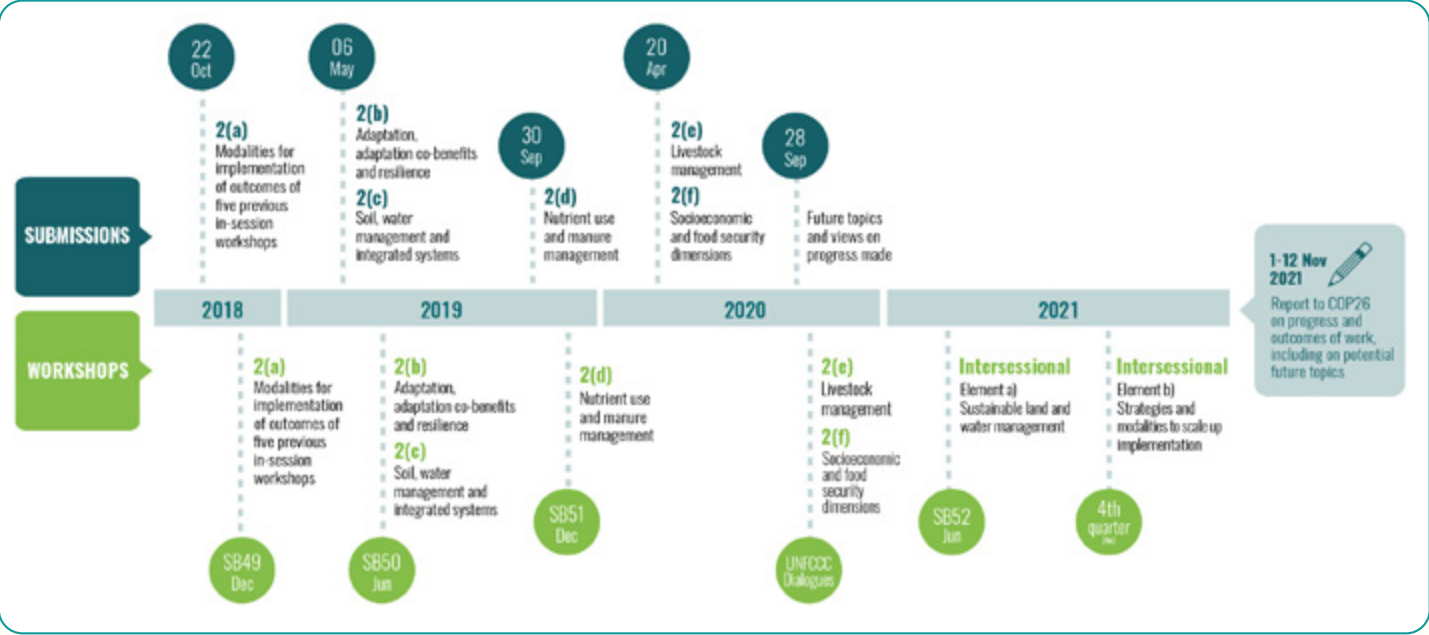


Figure 1: Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) topics and workshops 2018-2021.

What happened at COP29 in November 2024?

- The Secretariat made a presentation on the online portal.
- Parties considered the online portal and gave their views.
- The Secretariat was given the mandate to further develop the online portal.
- Parties were informed to make submissions in response to the Standing Committee on Finance’s (SCF’s) Call in preparation for a Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations’ (FAO’s) forum in Rome in September 2025.

In summary, the stream did not achieve much at COP29 other than progress on the online portal and discussions around the SCF Call. The latter is important for agriculture so that areas of importance can be identified so that resources are channelled for implementation in the agricultural sector.



### Next steps

Parties have made/are making submissions.

At the next SB62 sessions in Bonn in June 2025:

- Presentation by Parties on the workshop topics.
- Consideration of a synthesis report.
- Further consideration of the online portal.

This will result in a draft conclusion text for submission at COP30.

### Emerging issues

There is a need to link agriculture and food security to other streams, particularly finance. At COP29, Africa and other developing countries submitted a request for USD 1.3 trillion for climate action but only USD 300 billion is being allocated per year up to 2035. It is essential for Africa to consider the following questions and to have a common position on the following:

- How do we take advantage of this funding to trigger implementation? How do we link with the finance stream?
- Gender dimensions in context specific production systems – how do we address gender inequality?
- Another stream we are linked to is the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) – we need good indicators for the agricultural sector to track progress in relation to the support provided.
- How can these links be synergised and support implementation?
- Article 6 – how do we ensure agriculture is also benefitting?
- How do we balance mitigation and adaptation in agriculture?



### Question and answer



#### Where are the opportunities we can tap into and how do we access them?

Through the development of the online portal, we realised the need for it to function as a matchmaking platform - where proposals and concept notes can be uploaded and accessed by development partners and potential funders for support. African Group of Negotiators Expert Support (AGNES) has emphasised the importance of building a strong pipeline of projects by developing well-structured concept notes and proposals, particularly in key areas that require urgent adaptation.

Understanding funding sources such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and other financial mechanisms is crucial, as proposals need to be investment ready. One of Africa's biggest challenges has been the development of high-quality concept notes and proposals that meet the stringent requirements of these funding bodies. While opportunities exist, many funding sources have complex criteria that we must fully grasp.

To bridge this gap, we need to strengthen **capacity in proposal development. The matchmaking function of the online portal will be a key tool in connecting well-prepared projects with the right funding opportunities.**



#### Should Africa focus on climate adaptation or on climate mitigation?

Africa contributes only 4% of global emissions across all sectors, with agricultural emissions accounting for just about 1%. Given this, the primary focus for the continent should be on adaptation rather than mitigation. However, there remains a significant imbalance in funding, with mitigation receiving a larger share, mainly because it is easier to measure and track. A key challenge is the lack of agreed-upon tools for tracking adaptation. Unlike mitigation, which often involves quantifiable reductions in emissions, adaptation is about transforming systems—particularly social systems—which are much harder to measure. More funding must be directed toward adaptation efforts, while also exploring ways to track and demonstrate their impact. Ideally, we should prioritise adaptation while supporting projects that deliver both **adaptation and mitigation co-benefits.**



#### Where is Kenya at in terms of developing its third NDC?

Kenya has finalised its updated NDC but has yet to submit it. As part of this process, an investment plan is required, and we are currently working on the costing and finalising its details. Kenya welcomes the submission extension until September, as it allows for a greater focus on the quality of the NDC rather than simply meeting the deadline, which is a positive development.



## Question and answer cont.



### **AGNES recently hosted a pre-SB session. Did EAFF participate and were there farmers there?**

The sessions brought together representatives from many African countries. While this was a technical meeting rather than one convened by the Parties, a key concern raised was the absence of critical groups. Despite extensive preparation, there was a noticeable lack of farmer representation. It is essential that farmers understand the submissions being made, as these discussions directly impact them. Moving forward, we must ensure that critical constituencies, such as farmers, are actively involved at these early stages of the process.

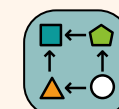


### **We've been informed that agriculture is not considered part of the focal ministries. What does this mean in practice? As a federation, EAFF is trying to apply for funding from sources like the GCF, but we consistently struggle to obtain a letter of no objection from the government - particularly from the Ministry of Finance - whether for readiness funding or other applications. How does this positioning of the Ministry affect agriculture's access to funding, and how can we navigate this challenge to secure the necessary support?**

The Nationally Designated Authority (NDA) for the GCF in most countries is typically the Treasury or Ministry of Finance. However, this does not limit the types of projects that can be developed. What truly matters is whether farmers are included in the project design process. Even though the Ministry of Agriculture may not be the NDA or the entity issuing letters of no objection, it can still play a crucial role in influencing project design and implementation. For example, in Kenya, the Ministry of Agriculture has successfully developed projects targeting GCF funding. A recent example is the Greater Natural Resource Management Programme, which is now ready for implementation. Additionally, the FAO is preparing to launch a project in the Great Lakes region that also supports agriculture. Although the NDA authority lies with the Treasury, the Interministerial Technical Committee within the Treasury includes two representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture. This allows Kenya to influence the selection and development of projects at that level. If a project does not align with adaptation priorities, we can push for its redesign.



## Question and answer cont.



### **Adaptation projects remain a significant challenge. In Kenya, there are National Farmers Federations. How involved are they in shaping the NDCs? It is critical for us to have confidence that there is a clear flow from global commitments to local implementation.**

Regarding NDCs, climate strategies, and national climate plans, Kenya has ensured farmer participation. The development of Kenya's NDC, for instance, was a highly participatory process. Farmer groups were actively engaged, primarily through the multi-stakeholder platform. While NDCs are developed at the country level, we should explore ways to involve regional bodies like the EAFF to strengthen farmer representation across the region.



### **Regarding the EU's unilateral trade measures, most notably CBAM, the EAFF conducted a study on the new regulations and found conflicts in terms of readiness and preparedness for this policy, which comes into effect at the end of the year. How prepared are we for this transition, and what will be the impact? Additionally, with the Green Deal, various sectors - such as transport - are affected. Given these discussions, how should we proceed?**

CBAM will have a direct impact on key agricultural value chains, including beef and coffee. The regulation prevents products originating from deforested areas from accessing certain markets, particularly in the EU. To navigate this, we must ensure our agricultural sector is prepared. The Ministry of Trade and Industry has been actively involved in discussions on how these trade agreements affect the sector. However, compliance with EU requirements will be a major challenge. To support farmers in adapting to these new regulations, we need resources and strategic planning. One critical gap we have identified is the lack of linkage between trade policies and climate financing. If we can bridge this gap, we can better equip farmers to meet international market standards while ensuring sustainability.



# Negotiations on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA): State of play and opportunities to engage



**Dr Lucy Njuguna**  
Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT

The Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) was established under the Paris Agreement in 2015, but progress has been slow. It was only at COP28 that specific targets were set to track adaptation progress. These 11 targets include:

- Seven thematic targets aligned with key sectors; and
- Four additional targets for countries, covering:
  - Impact, vulnerability, and risk assessments;
  - Early warning systems;
  - Adaptation planning and implementation based on identified risks; and
  - Systems for monitoring, evaluation, and learning.

These targets provide a framework for measuring progress in achieving the GGA.

Since COP28, the focus has shifted to identifying indicators to assess progress toward these targets. A major outcome of the conference was the establishment of the United Arab Emirates (UAE)–Belém Work Programme on GGA Indicators, which outlines how this work will be operationalised. A key aspect of this programme is the involvement of 78 selected experts from around the world who are responsible for refining the indicators. Additionally, there is a mandated hybrid workshop scheduled for June 2025, along with several other workshops hosted by different organisations to foster dialogue on indicator development.

## Key developments from COP29

One of the most important outcomes of COP29 was the inclusion of new elements in indicator development, particularly for developing countries and the African Group. These include:

- **Indicators on means of implementation** - moving beyond just finance-related metrics to include governance, technology transfer, and other enabling factors.
- **Indicators that recognise global adaptation trends** while considering context-specific needs.
- **A balance between input and output indicators** to ensure comprehensive tracking.

Another major decision was that the final indicator set should be limited to **no more than 100 indicators**. This is crucial, given that the initial mapping of existing indicators -based on stakeholder engagement - produced a database of approximately 10,000 indicators. This database now serves as a key reference point, helping to identify gaps and develop new indicators.

A major challenge ahead is narrowing down 10,000 indicators to a practical set of 100. A structured and consistent approach needs to be defined to refine the indicators. Establishing a clear and standardised process will be critical to ensuring that the selected indicators effectively measure adaptation progress at both national and global levels.

There are several key opportunities for EAFF to engage in the ongoing discussions on adaptation indicators. Last year, two workshops were held, and two more are scheduled for this year - one mandated alongside SB62 and another between SB62 and COP29. Additionally, a workshop from the 20th to the 22nd of March 2025, will bring together both experts and negotiators to define and refine indicators, as well as the methodologies used. Beyond these mandated sessions, several discussions have already taken place. For instance, in February 2025, a group of organisations hosted a workshop in Bonn, Germany, providing a platform to advance work on indicators. Similarly, the AGNES Pre-SB Workshop allowed various stakeholders to contribute their perspectives on indicator development.

A key outcome of COP29 was the recognition of **traditional knowledge, Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, and local knowledge systems as essential components of adaptation efforts**. However, there is still no clear guidance on how to integrate these perspectives into the indicator framework. **This presents an important role for EAFF, as it can help bring in insights**

**from local communities and ensure their experiences are properly documented and reflected in the process.**

Other important matters related to the GGA that came out of COP29 included:

- The GGA has been affirmed as a standing agenda item, ensuring that discussions will continue beyond the development of the indicators. Even as we move toward COP31, the GGA will remain a key focus.
- A broader question has emerged around **transformational adaptation**. COP28 emphasised both transformational and incremental adaptation, and the SB Secretariat was invited to define what transformational adaptation means. In response, the SB developed a report to help clarify this concept. To showcase transformational adaptation in the context of African agriculture, several key studies were presented, illustrating both the opportunities and potential pitfalls of focusing solely on transformational adaptation.
- The Baku Adaptation Roadmap aims to advance progress on the GGA and support the implementation of Paragraph 38 of 2/ CMA.5. It provides a mechanism for ongoing discussions and serves as a platform for knowledge sharing. **Parties are invited to submit their views on the modalities for the Roadmap by the 31st of March 2025, offering an opportunity to influence the development of the roadmap and ensure that priorities are reflected.**
- A high-level dialogue on adaptation will be convened at each COP session, as part of the Baku Adaptation Roadmap. The Presidency will report back to COP on the outcomes of these dialogues, although there is currently no invitation for submissions on this matter.

How we got to COP29

The Paris Agreement established the GGA. Article 7.1 focuses on climate change adaptation

“... strengthen resilience, enhance adaptive capacity, and reduce vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal ...”

It was originally presented by the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) in the run up to the Paris negotiations in relation to the issue of adaptation costs.

At COP26 a decision was made to establish and launch the two-year Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme (GlaSS) with eight objectives:

- Enable the **full and sustained implementation of the Paris Agreement**, towards achieving the GGA, with a view to enhancing adaptation action and support.
- Enhance understanding of the GGA, including of the **methodologies, indicators, data and metrics, needs and support needed for assessing progress** towards it.
- **Contribute to reviewing the overall progress** made in achieving the GGA as part of the Global Stocktake.
- **Enhance national planning and implementation** of adaptation actions through the process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and through NDCs and adaptation communications.

- **Enable Parties to better communicate** their adaptation priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions, including through adaptation communications and NDCs.
- Facilitate the establishment of **robust, nationally appropriate systems for monitoring and evaluating adaptation actions**.
- **Strengthen implementation** of adaptation actions in vulnerable developing countries.
- Enhance **understanding of how communication and reporting instruments** established under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, related to adaptation, can complement each other to avoid duplication of efforts.

At COP27 the structural framework for the GGA was established, incorporating:

- **Dimensions (iterative adaptation cycle):** impact, vulnerability and risk assessment; planning; implementation; and monitoring, evaluation and learning; recognising that support in terms of finance, capacity-building and technology transfer is a consideration in each stage of the cycle.
- **Themes:** water; food and agriculture; cities, settlements and key infrastructure; health; poverty and livelihoods; terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems; and oceans and coastal ecosystems; tangible cultural heritage; mountain regions; and biodiversity.

- **Cross-cutting considerations:** e.g. gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approaches, human rights approaches, intergenerational equity and social justice.

At COP28 the GlaSS was concluded and the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience was started. Seven thematic targets corresponding to critical sectors were set including: water, food and agriculture, health, ecosystems and biodiversity, infrastructure and human settlements, livelihoods and cultural heritage.

Four dimensional targets corresponding to the adaptation cycle were agreed including: impact, vulnerability and risk assessment; planning; implementation; and monitoring, evaluation and learning. Additionally, the UAE-Belém work programme on indicators was established for developing indicators and quantifiable elements for the targets. Parties and observers were invited to submit views on the UAE-Belém work programme including modalities of the work programme such as organisation of work, timelines, inputs, outputs and the involvement of stakeholders.

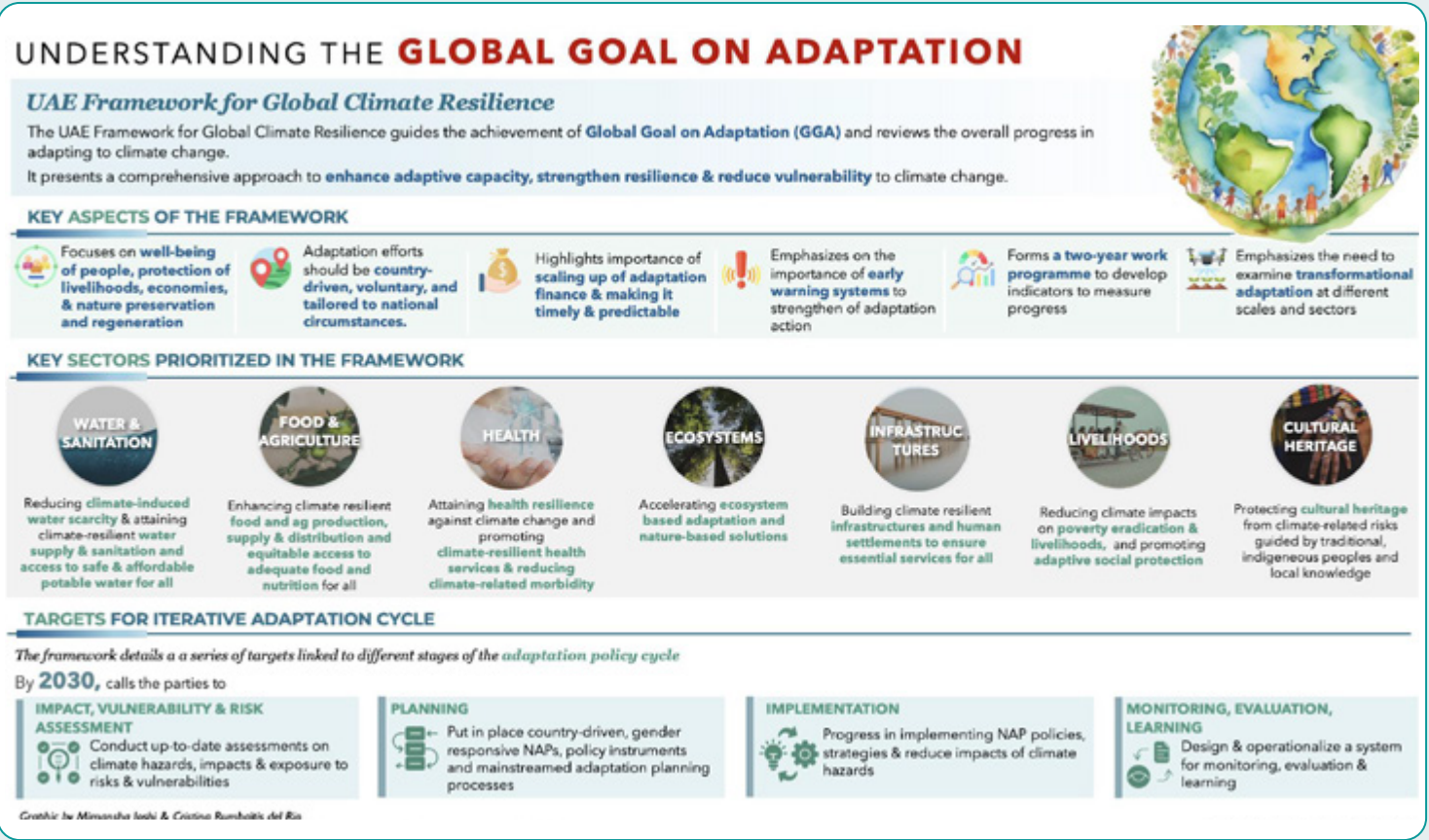


Figure 2: The UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience has seven thematic and four dimensional targets.



Submissions, synthesis and first mandated workshop

The UAE-Belém work programme development has followed a consultative process with multiple engagements and workshops. The EAFF collaborated with the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the Alliance, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), and International Water Management Institute (IWMI) to submit input on how to operationalise the UAE-Belém work programme. Some of the recommendations that were made informed the final decision on the programme including the need to build on existing indicators and frameworks and having an active involvement of experts and local stakeholders. The next engagement in June 2025 is the mandated SB62 involving a hybrid workshop to reflect on the final list of indicators.

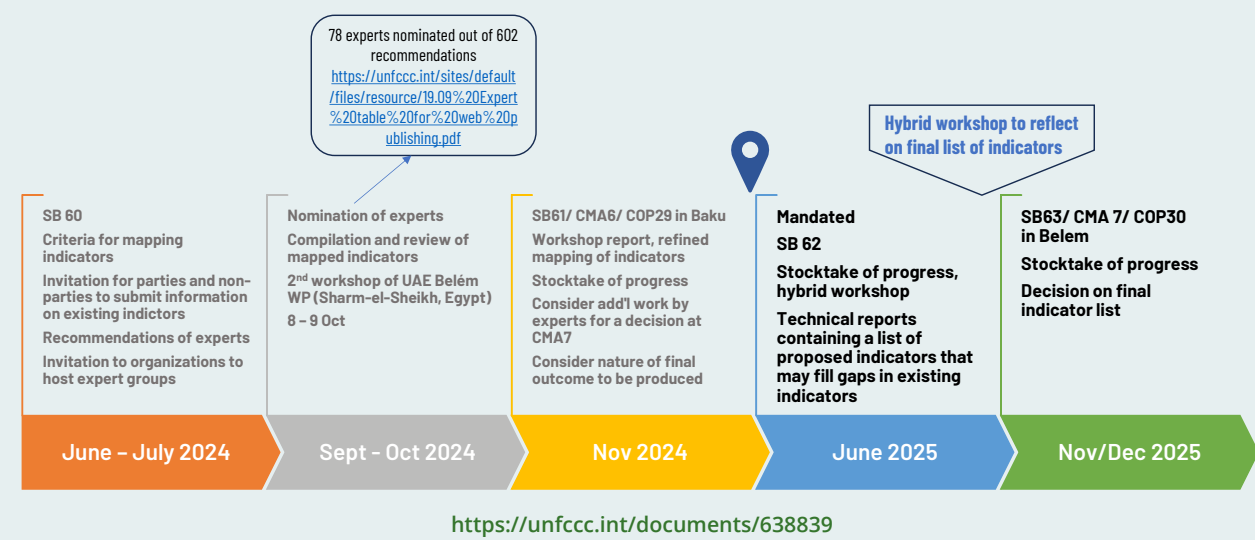


Figure 3: Key engagements and activities in developing the UAE-Belém work programme and roadmap to COP30.

How can the EAFF engage going forward?

The EAFF can work to identify priority issues for adaptation in Africa and potential indicators. It can also provide input through the GGA experts and negotiators via the upcoming EAFF GGA workshop (to take place in May 2025, the date is TBC). In terms of the Baku Adaptation Roadmap, the EAFF can provide input to Party submissions which are due by the 31st of March 2025. It will be important to identify the key focal points for the GGA. A key question to consider is what should the role of farmers' groups be in the Baku Adaptation Roadmap and the high-level dialogue?



Question and answer



**Reducing the indicators to 100 – The EAFF is struggling to engage our membership in this process. Would it be possible to have a separate engagement for our members to review the indicators, so that with your guidance, we can propose relevant indicators to the Secretariat? We are running out of time, but it is important to get our members involved. Additionally, regarding submissions to the Parties, is this an opportunity for farmers to provide input? Which Party should we engage with, and how can we get involved?**

The main entry point would be to identify the key focal points for the GGA in each country. Typically, there is a designated person responsible for tracking GGA negotiations within each country. Additionally, the AGN Coordinator and the Least Developed Country (LDC) Group Coordinator are key points of contact. These are the primary entry points for sharing input. The timeline is short, and at the recent AGNES workshop, we drafted a few points, but we still need to finalise the submission. We can share this information with the EAFF to help guide your involvement.



**For the planned meeting on the GGA, would it be possible for the EAFF to co-organise it and actively engage? How will you ensure that the cross-cutting indicators are well measured and reported on?**

As part of the indicator development process, COP29's decision encourages us to collaborate as expert groups to capture both thematic and cross-cutting indicators. The aim is to have a collective approach to assessing progress, avoiding siloed indicators. Some indicators will be specific to certain themes, while others will be cross-cutting, and we need to be deliberate in capturing both types.



**In relation to the EAFF and the GGA, how can we engage in the indicator development work?**

The goal is to help the EAFF understand how to engage in the indicator development process for the GGA. AICCRA is planning to host a workshop specifically for EAFF members to provide more details about the current work. There is a large database of existing indicators, and we need to narrow them down while also developing new ones. This workshop will help unpack the process and involve experts from other sectors, not just food and agriculture. This way, we can identify indicators that reflect the EAFF's priorities. The timeline is tight, as expert reports with recommendations must be submitted by May 2025. These reports will be considered during SB62, so it would be ideal to hold a session before the submission deadline.

# The New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance and key priorities ahead of COP30



**Obed Koringo**  
Climate Policy Advisor, CARE

COP29 was significant as it was dubbed as a climate finance COP. The New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) was adopted at COP29. There were mixed reactions on the outcomes – especially from the Global South.

## Challenges with the current financial flows

Adaptation is grossly underfunded with most finance allocated to mitigation. Commitments have been unfulfilled i.e. developed countries failed to achieve the USD 100 billion goal that was agreed in Copenhagen. The USD 100 billion was not based on scientific evidence but rather actual necessity. There is a lot of over and missed reporting on adaptation finance and a lack of a definition on climate finance. Further, adaptation finance is difficult to access and the debt challenge in becoming insurmountable as most climate finance is provided in the form of loans.

### What is the NCQG and why does it matter?

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) oversees the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Prior to 2025, the CMA was mandated to set an NCQG of climate finance from a base of USD 100 billion per year, taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries. It should be noted that the original target of USD 100 billion was not based on scientific evidence nor a needs assessment, it was more a political announcement.

The NCQG aims to address the persistent gaps in climate finance by setting a new financial target for supporting developing countries in their climate actions. The NCQG is to be based on scientific data and on the existing and evolving needs and priorities of developing countries in the context of climate change.

The NCQG process started at COP21 and Parties started engaging on the NCQG at COP26. The three-year development process has involved regular consultations with

Parties and non-Parties, regular calls for submissions, a high-level Ministerial dialogue and stocktakes and guidance from the CMA. Some key elements of the process have included:

- Quantitative and qualitative elements;
- Sources of finance;
- Structure;
- Timeframes and revision;
- Transparency and accountability; and
- Contributor base.

## Africa’s priorities on the NCQG for COP29

- The NCQG should uphold principles of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.
- The NCQG should be needs and evidence based. Africa needs USD 3 trillion to implement its NDCs until 2030. The NCQG must confirm the goal shall support adaptation, loss and damage, mitigation and just transition needs.
- The finance figure must be in trillions, Africa requests a target of USD 1.3 trillion per year until 2030 from developed countries.
- Debt-distress limits Africa’s growth and capacity to finance development. African countries must allocate up to 65% of their

GDP to service debt. The new goal must not be delivered in market rate loans that deepen Africa’s debt crisis. Loans cannot be counted as climate finance.

- Cost of capital in African countries needs to be addressed. Africa accesses finance for energy at a cost 5-8 times higher than in developed regions. The NCQG should address the high cost of capital and include strong calls to reform the financial architecture to deliver fair and affordable finance for climate action.
- Must confirm that strong accountability in delivery of the goal shall be upheld and its implementation shall be timely, inclusive and simplified.
- The post-2025 climate finance goal should be ambitious and must be provided and mobilised by developed countries.
- Thematic subgoals for mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage, based on assessed needs, with targets for the provision of public finance for each.
- The NCQG must have a concrete, yearly target over a five-year period, in line with the NDC cycle.
- Agree on a clear definition of climate finance.
- Qualitative elements – grant-based finance, concessional finance, accessibility, predictability, additionality, flexibility and responsiveness and financial instruments.



NCQG outcomes at COP29

The negotiations at COP29 were perceived as being difficult for Africa and developing countries. The figure of at least USD 1.3 trillion per year was provided just before the COP which gave little time to prepare. Key outcomes of COP29 included:

- NCQG to support the implementation of NDCs, NAPs, Adaptation Communications (ADCOMs) including those submitted as adaptation components of NDCs.
- All actors to work together to enable scaling-up of financing from all public and private sources to meet a target of at least USD 1.3 trillion per year by 2035.
- What does this mean? It shifts the finance burden from developed countries to include developing countries.
- Recognises the ‘voluntary intention’ of countries to count all climate finance flowing through Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) toward achievement of the goal.
- The inclusion of MDBs in climate finance was a new development as well as the inclusion of developing countries to contribute on a voluntary basis. Developed countries requested that ‘emerging economies’ also contribute.
- In terms of the financial mechanism there was a focus on increasing public resources through the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the Adaptation Finance (AF), the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF).
- At least triple annual outflows from these Funds from 2022 levels by 2030 with a view to significantly scaling up the share of finance delivered through them.
- Urges Parties that provide bilateral climate finance to apply access enhancements.
- Invites international financial institutions, including MDBs, to continue to align their operational models, channels and instruments to be fit for purpose.
- Calls on multilateral climate funds, including the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the AF, LDCF, and SCCF, to strengthen their efforts to enhance access and promote effectiveness.
- Access enhancement was an important aspect for developing countries. This development specified that a special assessment of access to climate finance be carried out at CMA12 (2030).
- Periodic stocktake of the implementation and review of the decision in 2030.

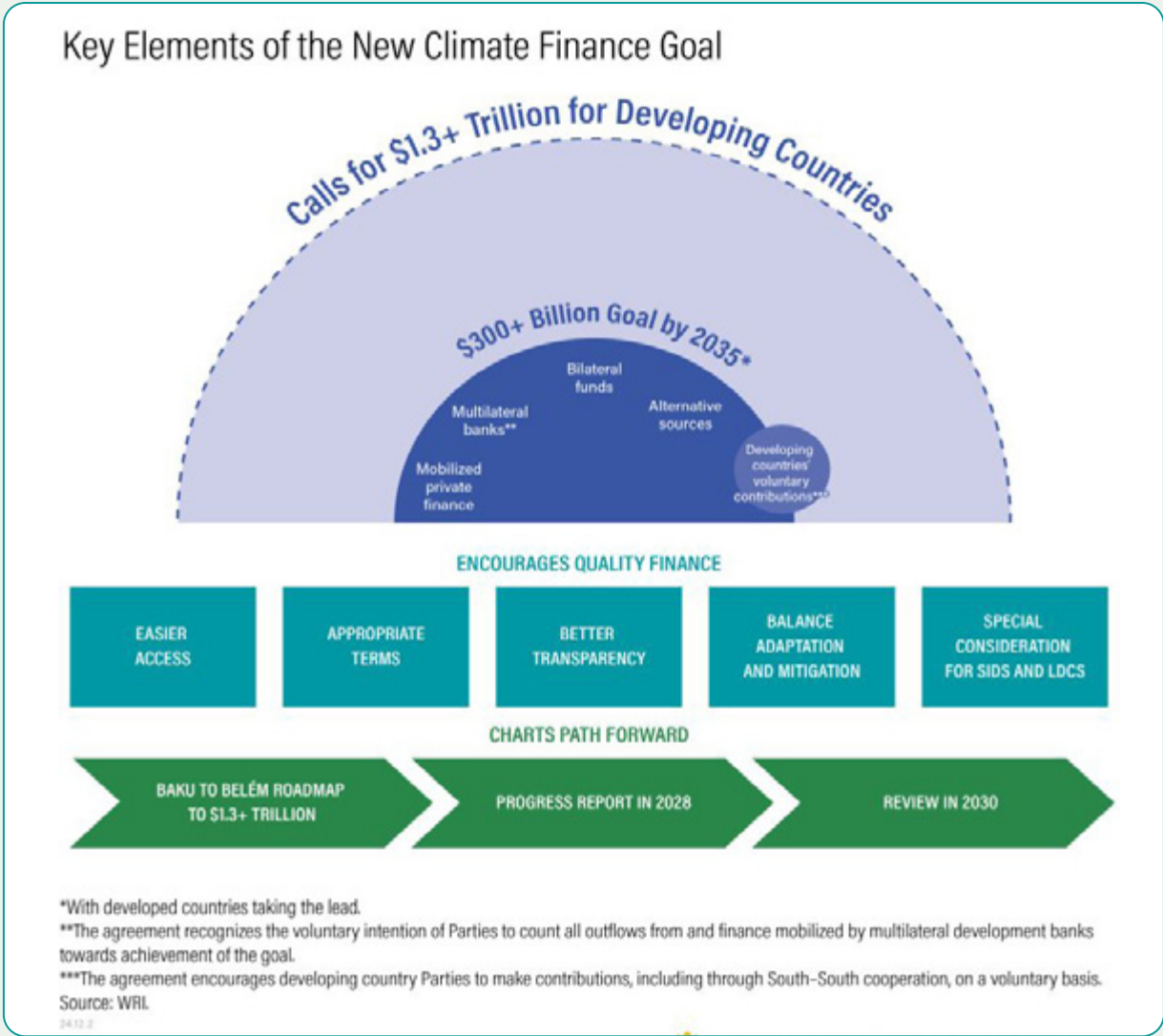


Figure 4: Summary of the key elements of the NCQG (World Resources Institute).

Table 1: Summary of the key priorities for Africa for the NCQG and was achieved or missed.

Key priorities for Africa	What was achieved/missed
USD 1.3 trillion provision and mobilisation target	USD 300 billion mobilisation goal
Goal for public finance and grant-equivalent basis (provision core)	Provided and mobilised finance in one sum, grant equivalent not mentioned (no provision core) – focus on mobilisation from ‘all sources’
Subgoals for mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage	No sub-goals. Loss and damage not mentioned
Additionality of climate finance	Additionality not mentioned
Clear definition of climate finance/exclusion list	No definition of climate finance/exclusion list
Respecting the Paris Agreement with regards to contributors	Broadening the contributor base – asking for developing countries to contribute on a voluntary basis
Burden sharing agreement	No burden sharing agreement

How can we guarantee that climate finance reaches those who need it most?

The issue of access must be simplified to ensure more effective support for the agricultural sector. Efforts should focus on fully costing the sector's needs, with grants prioritised for this livelihood-driven area. There must be greater transparency in the allocation, utilisation, and monitoring of climate finance at the local level. Additionally, access for local communities should be enhanced, with increased support directed to vulnerable countries that are at the forefront of the climate crisis and are also facing poverty and conflict.

Way forward for 2025

The Baku-Belém Roadmap for mobilising the USD 1.3 trillion was launched under the guidance of the Presidencies of CMA6 and CMA7, in consultation with Parties. The goal is:

“Scaling up climate finance to support low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development pathways and implement NDCs and NAPs, including through grants, concessional and non-debt-creating instruments, and measures to create fiscal space.”

The COP29 and COP30 Presidencies will need to engage both Party and non-Party stakeholders to discuss how the USD 1.3 trillion target will be achieved. They will also need to produce a report summarising the progress and outcomes, to be finalised by CMA7 in November 2025. Virtual consultations will be held with groups of Parties to gather their views and expectations regarding the Baku-Belém Roadmap.

How can EAFF engage in the Baku-Belém Roadmap?

A call for submissions has already been made. Parties, constituted bodies, operating entities of the financial mechanism, climate finance institutions, observers and observer organisations and other stakeholders have been invited to submit their views to the following questions via email ([climatefinance@unfccc.int](mailto:climatefinance@unfccc.int)) by the 21st of March 2025:

- What are your overall expectations for the ‘Baku to Belém Roadmap to USD 1.3 trillion’?
- Which topics and thematic issues should be explored to inform the roadmap, within the scope of the mandate?

- What country experiences, best practices and lessons learnt can be shared related to barriers and enabling environments; innovative sources of finance; grants, concessional and non-debt crating instruments; and measures to create fiscal space?
- Which multilateral initiatives do you see as most relevant to take into account in the roadmap and why?

The EAFF can use this opportunity to reiterate the issues that were missed surrounding the definition of climate finance, loss and damage, additionality, grant-based finance, MDBs, etc. We need to call for more transparency e.g. how much of the USD 1.3 trillion will flow in the form of grants to avoid further indebting developing countries?



Question and answer



What is the percentage of pledgers versus the amount of funds realised and what does this translate into in terms of the financing gap?

The mobilisation for the NCQG has not yet started, as it is a post-2025 climate finance goal. While developed countries previously struggled to meet the annual USD 100 billion target, they surpassed it in 2022, reaching USD 115.9 billion. However, a significant portion of this funding was allocated to mitigation rather than adaptation. Of the USD 115.9 billion, only USD 32.4 billion went to adaptation, USD 69.9 billion was allocated to mitigation, and USD 13.6 billion was directed to cross-cutting areas. Additionally, in 2022, a large share of the finance came in the form of loans, amounting to USD 63.6 billion. The current adaptation finance gap stands at around USD 370 billion per year. Even with the pledge to double adaptation finance made at COP26, this would only bring the total to USD 40 billion, highlighting the significant gap in financing for adaptation. While the NCQG aims to address this, the total pledged amount falls short of covering the adaptation gap. This is why it is critical for Parties to reach an agreement on how to mobilise the USD 1.3 trillion goal and understand the sources of this finance.



Does the broader financing goal you mentioned include loss and damage, or is it addressed through a different channel?

The financial needs for loss and damage are estimated to be around USD 400 billion per year, yet the pledges received so far are only about USD 700 million. This is concerning, as the NCQG does not specifically address long-term financing for loss and damage. Developed countries have been reluctant to discuss this, arguing that under the Paris Agreement, loss and damage is voluntary. They have maintained that the NCQG should focus primarily on adaptation and mitigation. There is a loss and damage fund, but it remains underfunded. This issue needs to be addressed, particularly in the context of long-term finance, and should be incorporated into the Baku-Belém Roadmap.



# POLICY ALIGNMENT AND ENHANCED PARTICIPATION

## Key achievements for farmers at UNCBD COP16 and UNCCD COP16



**Cargele Masso**  
Director of the CGIAR Platform on Biodiversity

### Opportunities from UNCBD COP16

- There was a strong focus on taking biodiversity plans to action.
- Means for implementation – ensuring adequate financial resources and human capital to make things happen.
- Access and benefit sharing and digital sequence information (DSI) – this was covered in the UN Biodiversity Conference held from the 25th to the 27th of February 2025 in Rome.
- Gender mainstreaming.
- IPLC and knowledge – understanding the critical role that local communities (including farmers) and Indigenous people can play.
- Biodiversity and health – including nutrition.
- Climate and nature – how to make sure that they work for each other.
- Ensuring monitoring frameworks are in place for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to ensure that our actions are impactful.

### Key decisions from COP16

The **Cali Fund** focuses on conservation, sustainable use, and benefit-sharing of genetic resources. The key challenge is ensuring that those who are conserving biodiversity are adequately compensated. Half of the Cali Fund is designated to support IPLCs, women, and youth, while also assisting countries in implementing their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

At the COP in Rome, it was decided how the Cali Fund will be administered. The Secretariat will oversee the fund in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). This presents an important opportunity to explore

how the private sector can contribute to nature while also benefiting those who act as stewards of biodiversity conservation, including farmers. There is significant potential for farmers to access the Cali Fund.

Additionally, a permanent body for IPLCs was established under the CBD, aimed at ensuring that their traditional knowledge of conservation

(including that of farmer) is acknowledged. This body will foster an environment that encourages active participation by IPLCs in global conservation efforts. It also aims to document what is being conserved and bring it to the attention of stakeholders, ensuring that IPLCs can gain access to the Cali Fund and the GBF Fund, which is managed by the GEF.

### Capacity building needs

It is critical to understand the capacity building needs of the different stakeholders, including IPLCs and farmers, in low- and middle-income countries, to ensure the design of an effective capacity building framework. Capacity building goes beyond training; it also involves capacity sharing. Clearing-house mechanisms play a vital role in ensuring that these capacity needs are identified, enabling effective matchmaking with potential service providers. This approach helps to ensure that the right support is available to address the specific needs of each group.

### Key takeaways from Cali for farmers

- **Sustainable practices** – How can we ensure that the agricultural sector adopts sustainable and responsible practices for biodiversity conservation? We need to reflect on the genetic biodiversity found on our farms and in forests decades ago, understand the changes that have occurred, and explore ways to reverse the trends to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem integrity moving forward.
- **Recognition of traditional knowledge** – It is essential to value and integrate traditional knowledge, ensuring that those who are working to conserve biodiversity, such as farmers and local communities, benefit. This can be achieved through mechanisms like the Cali and GBF funds.
- **Improved access to financial and technical resources** – Despite numerous commitments, how do we ensure that countries, especially those involved in nature-related projects, can access the necessary financial and technical resources? It is crucial to ensure adequate investment is directed toward these initiatives.

- **Equitable benefit sharing** – Who owns, uses, and conserves biodiversity, and how can those who contribute to its conservation also benefit from it? There needs to be a fair and transparent system that ensures equitable distribution of benefits.
- **Increased monitoring and reporting** – We need a robust system to monitor and report on interventions that are making a positive impact. This is essential for building strong cases to secure funding across various streams. For organisations like the EAFF, it is critical to document and report on the valuable work farmers are doing, ensuring they can access the benefits and support they deserve.

### Opportunities from UNCCD COP16 in Saudi Arabia

- The focus was mainly on restoration of degraded lands.
- Drought preparedness, response and resilience.
- Climate and biodiversity solutions – noting the critical role biodiversity can play in climate resilience.
- Resilience to sand and dust storms – especially in the dessert environment.
- Nature-positive food production.
- Women’s land rights and youth engagement and decent land-based jobs.

### Key areas for farming communities to consider

- **Land degradation neutrality (LDN)** – Improving our land resources and natural capital. How can we reverse land degradation to safeguard the livelihoods of future generations? The key question is how we can leave the land in a better condition than we found it, ensuring it remains productive and resilient for years to come.
- **Drought resilience** – How can we better prepare for drought and erratic rainfall patterns? What steps are necessary to equip farmers with the right information, such as early warning systems, to improve planning and decision-making? This will likely require institutional support to ensure effective implementation.
- **Access to genetic resources** – How can we maintain and enhance the quality of genetic resources to bolster resilience against climate change and environmental shocks?

A decision was made regarding rangelands and pastoralists, with 2026 designated as the **International Year on Rangelands and Pastoralists**. This presents a valuable opportunity to prepare for sustainable management, restoration, and conservation efforts. Over 50% of rangelands are degraded, which underscores the need for urgent action. Information shared at this forum highlighted the significant role of pastoralists in combating climate change, while also emphasising the importance of recognising their land rights. This issue needs careful attention, with increased engagement from pastoralists and local communities to ensure their voices are heard and their rights protected. It is essential to integrate local knowledge alongside modern techniques in regenerative agriculture and agroecological approaches to build more resilient systems.

Another area of focus is the **International Drought Resilience Observatory**, which seeks to track weather conditions and provide farmers with accurate, timely information on drought risks, allowing them to make more

informed decisions. Additionally, there is a need for capacity sharing to catalogue and make innovations for drought resilience accessible and relevant to farmers. The EAFF could play a key role in developing and disseminating this.

Another action area was the financial commitment for land restoration. There is a need for an estimated USD 12 billion to support land restoration efforts. Understanding regional vulnerabilities is critical, as policymakers need evidence-based data to demonstrate the level of vulnerability and attract investment. By uniting efforts, we can accomplish more. The **Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership** offers significant benefits, and we must seize the opportunity to participate.

Finally, discussions at the **Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Summit** also focused on the vision for adapted crops and soils. Investing in soil health and diversifying crops is key to enhancing resilience in agricultural systems. How can we prioritise these investments to build more robust, climate-resilient farming systems?

### How to amplify IPLC’s voices (including farmers)

- Establishing caucuses for IPLCs to ensure their voices are heard and their needs addressed.
- Developing systems to monitor and report on drought events and land degradation, ensuring this critical information is brought to the attention of decision-makers in a timely manner.
- Ensuring that traditional knowledge is thoroughly documented and leveraged to build a strong case for integrating sustainable traditional farming techniques with modern agricultural practices.



## Key takeaways for farmers

- **Establish a system for sustainable land management and soil health enhancement.**  
The EAFF and CGIAR have already made significant strides in this area, and it is crucial to integrate and build on our collective knowledge to further advance these efforts.
- **Land tenure security** – Ensure land tenure security by improving information sharing and educating IPLCs about their land rights. What advocacy initiatives are needed to engage policymakers and translate commitments into actionable solutions?
- **Nature-based solutions** – Promote nature-based solutions by finding ways to minimise negative impacts on nature while supporting the environment's resilience.
- **Payment for ecosystem services (PES)** – Explore mechanisms for accessing PES, especially regarding carbon sequestration and traditional farming practices, and identify opportunities for farmers to benefit from these payments.

As we prepare for COP30 in Brazil, how can the CGIAR, AICCRA and EAFF collaborate to present a compelling case for East African farmers and ensure their needs are effectively addressed?

“

**This is the year for building on all the collaborations and efforts to date, we need to see massive global collaboration put into action. It is a year that is important for our constituency as a farmers' organisation to prepare adequately and push in an aggressive manner.”**

Elizabeth Nsimadala,  
President of the EAFF.



## Question and answer



**Farmers are facing challenges because we have not been able to attend a CBD meeting and have only attended one UNCCD COP. I have heard about CBD credits, which seem similar to carbon credits, could you explain that? Also, how do we build capacity within our membership to understand the deliberations at both COPs? At Riyadh, our farmer constituency was limited (no more than 20 people), while civil society had a strong presence. How can we create space for farmers to have discussions at these COPs? Additionally, how can we access resources to adapt to the current changing environment, particularly for droughts? What partnerships should we form to ensure we can participate in the discussions and access the resources from both COPs? There were clear decisions made at COP29, including the roadmap—how can we leverage that moving forward?**

To actively participate in these fora, the EAFF, AICCRA, CGIAR and other partners need to collaborate more closely. We already have a Community of Practice that includes CGIAR and other strategic stakeholders, such as the EAFF, to engage in the UNCCD, CBD, and UNFCCC processes. We can work together to prepare for and advocate for the resources necessary to do the work. Timely access to accurate information is critical, and while the UNCCD and CBD Secretariats sometimes offer funding for participation, I am unsure about the UNFCCC. Developing joint proposals will be crucial in advancing the agenda.

Regarding capacity building for membership, we could plan together for COP30 and mobilise our capacities in preparation for the UNFCCC and the Rio Conventions. This would be an excellent opportunity for collaboration.

Countries can submit proposals for the GBF Fund, and there is concern that some countries are missing opportunities to develop strong indicators for biodiversity, sustainable use, and benefit-sharing. We can work together with national focal points under the CBD to develop robust proposals and access the GBF. Understanding the vital role biodiversity plays in climate adaptation and mitigation is key, if we do this well, we can also develop strong proposals for accessing the GCF. Collaboration will be key in mobilising the necessary funds.





### Question and answer cont.



**PES is critical for agroecology and covering the transition costs - who will bear the true cost of food? How can we help farmers access the Cali Fund? How will it be managed, and what is the access structure? Will it be through accredited agencies or direct access?**

PES schemes, especially carbon credits, are already proving effective. In countries like Zimbabwe and Kenya, landscape actors are working with farmers to map carbon sequestration efforts and access credits. Even when there is no direct financial benefit, farmers are seeing increased resilience to climate shocks. The question is how we can design policies that support farmers in advocating for PES and creating stronger mechanisms for accessing PES?



**Can you clarify when the Cali Fund will be operational, whether it will be administered by UNDP, and how accessible it will be for farmers?**

The Cali Fund is still in its early stages, and its operational timeline and exact access mechanisms are still being defined. It will be administered by the CBD in partnership with UNEP and UNDP. As of now, there isn't a clear process in place for how farmers will access the fund, but we expect more details as the fund matures.



**We have engaged a lot with the UNFCCC COPs, but less so with the CBD and UNCCD. How can we position ourselves to participate more effectively in those spaces?**

The key to better participation in the CBD and UNCCD is to connect with the national focal points and stay informed about ongoing opportunities. The EAFF can strengthen its relationships with other stakeholders like CGIAR and engage with these conventions through joint proposal development. This will help position you as a key player in those discussions.



**How can farmers advocate for the inclusion of genetic materials in global climate discussions, particularly within the COP framework, as a mitigation strategy?**

There is increasing investment in transforming food systems, including efforts to broaden the genetic diversity of crops and livestock. Many traditional crops have important health benefits that are often overlooked. The key is to bring this knowledge to decision-makers at different fora, including the CBD, and raise the profile of nutritional, traditional crops. CGIAR has developed the Agrobiodiversity Index, which tracks production and consumption of biodiversity. This kind of language can help engage CBD COPs and make a stronger case for the role of genetic materials in climate change mitigation.

### COP29 through a civil society lens: Looking ahead to COP30



**Philip Kilonzo**  
Head of Policy, Advocacy and Communication,  
Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)

COP29 was recognised as a climate finance COP. Africa was clear in its stance that the adaptation agenda should be at the centre of discussions. Africa emphasised the need for a clear NCQG for adaptation and addressing the losses and damages countries are experiencing due to climate change. As previously mentioned, Africa advocated for a USD 1.3 trillion commitment, but in the end, only USD 300 billion per year was pledged in Baku. A major concern was that there was no clear indication of how much of this amount would be allocated specifically for adaptation and loss and damage.

When reviewing the pledges for loss and damage in Baku, it was evident that they were minimal, with the fund receiving only USD 700

million. Another worrying trend was the shift in responsibility from developed countries to the private sector and carbon markets for funding. Developed countries were not held accountable for their progress in meeting financial commitments.

Looking at the outcome, the USD 300 billion commitment is largely comprised of loans, which increases the debt burden on African countries. Furthermore, in Azerbaijan, opening remarks highlighted the value of oil, contradicting the earlier discussions in Dubai about moving away from fossil fuels.

### Key context issues

- The growing vulnerability of the continent and the urgent need for adaptation is amplified in all Adaptation Gap Reports 2023, 2024 and Global Stock take process asserting the growing need to address multiple crisis facing Africa, including poverty, climate vulnerability, colonial policy legacies and the growing debt crisis to secure sustainable development.
- The climate goals and the Paris Agreement, the global progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and human rights is in peril and the global financial system is exacerbating inequalities.





- The UNFCCC reports that countries are not on track to meet their NDC targets.
- More urgent need for reforms to the international financial, trade, debt and tax architectures to proactively support the realisation of climate justice and the SDGs. There is a need for reforming multilateral mechanisms and financing in a manner that promotes the achievement of multiple and interconnected issues of global poverty, hunger, climate crisis, debt and sustainable development.
- Complex global geopolitics continue to impact climate action with the number of right-wing movements securing political power in many developed countries, this threatens to multilateralism and contributes to a shrinking civil space.

- The US withdrawal from the Paris Agreement is reducing the GCF by USD 4 billion, the biggest multilateral fund that supports climate action. Further, Trump's 'drill baby drill' mantra will pump an extra 4 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (GtCO<sub>2</sub>e) into the atmosphere by 2030 which could contribute to global climate damages worth more than USD 900 billion. This emissions amount is equivalent to the total emissions of Europe and Japan over four years!
- Climate debt seems to be quickly forgotten, with conservative figures indicating that the Global North owes the Global South USD100 trillion in unpaid climate debts to compensate for harm caused and to help communities adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- The Rio Conventions catalyse action on the triple planetary crisis – loss of biodiversity, land degradation and climate change, through action towards low-carbon, climate-resilient, just and inclusive development trajectories.
- The **Pact of the Future** presents an opportunity to nurture an international system that is better prepared to manage the challenges we face now and, in the future, however, the wavering commitment on multilateralism demonstrated by developed countries does not inspire much hope.
- The prospects of the expanded G20 including the African Union Commission and African countries are not promising.
- The culture of extraction, coupled with weakened governance shaped by colonial policies and laws, persists on a continent struggling to secure its strategic needs for these minerals.
- Climate finance is not flowing at an adequate speed or scale, it is not reaching the frontline; further Africa is facing further climate finance debt.

## Purpose of the Influence Strategy for 2025

The Influence Strategy was developed to guide PACJA members and partners in the implementation of climate action strategies for 2025. It is aimed at harmonising advocacy actions with the alliance and its partners to better influence climate policies at various governmental and international levels.

## Changes we seek in 2025

In 2025, PACJA will focus on achieving the following outcomes:

- **Enhanced accountability for climate action** - Strengthening accountability at all levels, with a priority on country-level action. Ensuring that resources accessed by countries are utilised effectively to drive transformative actions, particularly for pastoralists, farmers, and other land users. This will prioritise capturing the adaptation needs of farmers and supporting just transitions for communities.
- **Accountable and just decisions at COP30** - Securing the GGA and its means of implementation. Agricultural livelihoods, which are critical components of the GGA subgoals, will be prioritised and pursued to ensure just outcomes.
- **Reform of the international finance architecture** - Advocating for a reformed international finance system that supports the delivery of climate action and sustainable development.
- **Optimising Africa's gains in just transition discourse** - Leveraging Africa's transitional minerals to secure benefits, while actively influencing negotiations on just transition issues to ensure fair and equitable outcomes for the continent.

## Key pillars of our Influence Strategy in 2025

- Communities, sub-national and national level, provide leadership on accountability for climate action, including but not limited to climate finance, centring adaptation agenda in climate response and strategic litigation on rights violations.
- Entrenching South-South and South-North collaborations for transformative and accountable governance of climate action.
- Socialising communities in the Global North to join cause for climate justice and hold their governments to account.
- Political conversations between leadership of developing and developed countries Parties.

### Approaches and strategies to achieve the desired change

- Shift to a people-driven, community-owned, gender sensitive, bottom-up model with bold advocacy for climate action.
- Country-anchored policy influence, oversight and accountability for climate action through enhanced capacity.
- Engaging AGN and negotiators of developed country parties in constructive dialogue to influence decisions at UNFCCC - scaling adaptation finance and securing the GGA.
- Establishing a collective framework to articulate the continent's priorities at the global level leveraging the ACS, ClimDEV Initiative, AGN and African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN).
- Joint and co-convenorship of spaces with like-minded entities in non-state, governmental and intergovernmental within Africa and beyond, to advance convergencies and narrow points of divergence.
- Leadership of critical streams of our influence – where do we need to channel influence?
- Leverage on the Pact of the Future processes and the Impact Coalitions to accelerate implementation of the SDGs.
- Synergistic campaigning for 2025 will centre on Economic Justice, with a rallying call to address the challenges faced by farmers.
- Inner strategy in key convenings such as the World Social Summit (WSS) and the Financing for Development (F4D) Conference.
- Leverage on solidarity movements to amplify our influence at Global and Regional Levels.
- Africa Climate Summit hosts non-state actors platforms where farmers can engage.
- Solidarity movement building.
- South-South collaboration platforms, including under leadership of Azerbaijan.
- North-South collaborations – how can farmers in the Global North talk to farmers in the Global South?
- Thematic, cross cutting anti-debt, anti-poverty, food security movements and economic justice movements.
- Evidence is critical.

### A sharper focus on the negotiations

- **Adaptation:** This year we will focus on securing the GGA and means of implementation and connecting to the Climate Security agenda.
- **Climate finance:** How can we ensure the commitment to USD1.3 trillion and improve finance flow and accountability?
- **Loss and damage:** Finance needs to be scaled and flow to the frontline to fix our livelihood systems e.g. food, health, water systems.
- **Mitigation, just transition and energy access:** Put pressure on developed countries to reduce their emissions. Finance must flow for inclusive energy access, critical minerals and sustainable development.
- **Health and climate:** Nexus between climate change and public health outcomes, particularly for vulnerable populations.

### Economic Justice Campaign

Campaigning actions leveraging on **Economic Justice and the Year of Jubilee** mobilisation (reforming global financial architecture and reparations). The economic justice campaign is sector wide and is inclusive, it aims to drive the reforms we are looking for. Is the global financial architecture limiting agriculture to take millions out of poverty and what can we do? What are the limitations of the financing arrangement and how can we deliver climate actions at the frontline? Is the amount of debt we have reducing our abilities to transform our livelihoods? What do farmers want to see at the fore of the Economic Justice campaign?

### Headline processes for Influence in 2025

(these are also included in the EAFF's policy calendar)

- **Multi-stakeholder consultations and the Africa Climate Talks are to be consolidated in April 2025 (Kampala, Uganda)** – The theme for the multi-stakeholder consultation will focus on adaptation financing. This event is organised by key partners, including the AU, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and PACJA. It is crucial that the farmer constituency is well-represented in these discussions.
- **Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development in April 2025 (Kampala)** - The forum will focus on the Water Goal which is critical to the farmer constituency in its contribution to achieving agricultural aspirations in the context of climate change.



- **SB62 in June 2025 (Bonn)** – This is a critical platform for preparing our negotiation text to influence key decisions for COP30.
- **Africa Climate Summit in September 2025 (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)** – This summit will bring together key stakeholders to discuss Africa's climate agenda.
- **Climate Change and Development in Africa Conference (CCDA XIII) in September 2025 (Addis Ababa)** – This event will focus on positioning and developing strategy for COP30.
- **Global Sustainable Development Congress in June 2025 (Istanbul, Turkey)** – A key global event for discussions on sustainable development practices.
- **4th Conference on Financing Development** in June-July 2025 (Seville, Spain) – The conference will address reforming the financial architecture and discussions on a just transition.
- **World Summit for Social Development (WSS) Preparatory meeting** for civil society organisations and non-state actors in August 2025 (Canada) - This meeting will lay the groundwork for discussions at the WSS.
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> WSS** in November 2025 (Doha, Qatar) – The summit will focus on advancing just and socially inclusive development.
- **UNFCCC COP30** in November 2025 (Belém, Brazil) - The main international climate negotiation event for 2025.
- **G20 Summit** in November 2025 (South Africa) - A significant opportunity for addressing global climate and economic issues within the context of the G20.



## Question and answer



**How do we engage as farmer organisations – we have better understanding now but we are not well known in the space. How can PACJA assist us? For example, at the Africa Climate Summit - please include us. The EAFF has committed to climate action, and we have built the necessary capacity. Now, we want to showcase what we are doing in terms of adaptation, backed by evidence. How can we get invited to these key events? These events often require accreditation, and last year I could not attend Bonn because accreditation came too late. When it finally arrived, I only had two weeks to secure a visa and book travel. These late invitations often result in missed opportunities. Can PACJA help us get access to such events? You often mention the importance of evidence. With AICCRA, we compiled a compendium of farmer-led adaptation cases - how can we partner with you to showcase these so farmers can access climate finance?**

PACJA would like to work closely with the EAFF to coordinate and identify opportunities for engagement using our calendar of events. This will allow us to provide sufficient lead time for preparation and ensure that the farmer constituency is well represented at key events. We can work together to prepare evidence in advance.

Two upcoming events that require urgent attention are the annual Africa Regional Dialogue on Loss and Damage in Malawi from the 26th to the 28th of March 2025 and the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development from 9-11 April in Kampala, where we will launch the Economic Justice Campaign. These forums will focus on data and addressing barriers to accessing global finance for African food producers.

Additionally, the comprehensive Influence Strategy for 2025 is in place, and we can share indicative dates for major engagements throughout the year. For instance, in May 2025, we will host a major convening with the Pan African Parliament on climate policy and equity, this will be an excellent opportunity to include the issues faced by farmers.

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR EAFF TOWARDS COP29

Active policy engagement is crucial throughout 2025 due to the current geopolitical context. It is essential to maintain momentum on farmer inclusion and social equity, as well as to clearly define the role of EAFF in advancing it. The EAFF must focus on continuing to build strategic partnerships and remain attentive to key policy and engagement opportunities within the processes. Key action areas include:

## Forge new partnerships and maintain existing ones

- Partner with CGIAR, PACJA, Alliance Bioversity and CIAT, AGNES, UNFCCC bodies, regional farmer organisations, among others, to strengthen representation in climate negotiations as well as events on biodiversity and land degradation.
- Identify and work with the AGN Coordinator and the LDC Group Coordinator to ensure agricultural concerns are included in adaptation indicators and financial mechanisms.
- Collaborate with partner organisations to increase EAFF's participation and footprint in key climate change forums and events.
- Continue to work with AICCRA to organise a dedicated EAFF workshop on adaptation indicator development.
- Work with the ILRI and the CGIAR to leverage the International Drought Resilience Observatory to provide real-time climate risk information to farmers.
- Join the Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership to share evidence, engage in dialogue and access funding for land restoration efforts.
- Work with key technical partners such as AICCRA, the Alliance, and CGIAR to catalogue sustainable agricultural practices and technologies and make innovations for drought resilience accessible and relevant to farmers.

## Submit strategic inputs to influence policy processes

- Increase farmer involvement in NDC development and advocate for stronger integration of farmers' needs in the third round of NDC updates. This will require consultation with NFOs and the national focal points in their particular countries.
- Provide input on adaptation indicators for agriculture through engagement with the GGA expert workshops. This will also be enhanced through the organisation of a specific one for EAFF NFOs in collaboration with AICCRA's key experts.
- Contribute to the Baku Adaptation Roadmap by participating in the Party submissions due by the 31st of March 2025, to highlight adaptation priorities for agriculture.
- Engage in the loss and damage dialogue. Advocate for transparent and direct access financing mechanisms to support smallholder farmers facing climate risks.

## Improve access to climate finance

- Identify and engage with the relevant focal points (typically the national Treasury) in respective countries to enhance access and less onerous application processes for climate finance (e.g. from GCF, GEF) for farmers.
- Strengthen proposal writing capacity and train EAFF members to develop bankable project proposals that meet the requirements of the GCF, GEF, and other donors.

- Identify and work with national focal points under the UNCBD to develop robust proposals and access the GBF Fund.
- Monitor progress in the development of the Cali Fund to determine how farmers can access further biodiversity conservation financing.
- Advocate for grant-based climate finance and push for more transparency in the allocation of the proposed USD 1.3 trillion climate finance goal to ensure a fair share is issued for adaptation.

## Enhance awareness and access to climate change events

- Work with PACJA and other networks to secure timely accreditation for EAFF representatives to access major climate summits.
- Increase farmer representation at COPs, pre-SB Sessions and the Africa Climate Summit. Ensure direct participation of farmers in climate discussions by supporting travel and engagement logistics.
- Partner with technical organisations and alliances to identify key platforms and opportunities to disseminate EAFF messages and research (like the farmer-led adaptation case studies), including side events at COP/ ACS.
- Develop and disseminate a policy and engagement calendar. Use the calendar to prioritise and prepare for events in 2025.

## Strengthen climate action through data sharing and policy advocacy

- Create a robust system to track and report on farmers' adaptation interventions to share evidence with decision-makers and secure more climate finance.
- Advocate for agriculture in carbon markets. Explore ways to integrate agriculture into carbon trading mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.
- Promote sustainable land management and soil health. Collaborate with CGIAR to scale up land restoration projects, report on the evidence generated, and secure funding (such as PES).
- Support policy reforms on Economic Justice. Engage in global financial reform discussions to address debt constraints limiting agricultural transformation.
- Enhance the voices of IPLCs. EAFF can share insights from IPLCs and ensure their experiences are properly documented and reflected in global dialogues and policy processes.
- Recall the inclusion of agriculture in the UNFCCC when negotiating. It is included at the convention level not just in the instruments.
- Support policies that link trade regulations with climate financing mechanisms to help farmers adapt to new global standards (e.g. CEBA).





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