



Concept Note

Making Climate-Smart Agriculture Real in Africa with Conservation Agriculture: *Supporting the Malabo Declaration and Agenda 2063*

The Second Africa Congress on Conservation Agriculture (2ACCA)

9th -12th October 2018, Johannesburg, South Africa



Norad



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Background and Congress Rationale

1. Following the active engagements and deliberations at various global fora and across different levels in the last two to four years, finally the world has agreements on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and on the Conference of Parties (COP) 21 Paris Climate Agreement – successor to the Kyoto Protocol on climate change, and on United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.
2. At a continental scale, Africa has also set in place key development agreements with the Agenda 2063 endorsed at the 2013 African Union (AU) Heads of State and Government Summit as the overall development vision and policy framework and 50-year plan for Africa’s economic growth and inclusive development. Agenda 2063 is being operationalised through a ten-year implementation plan with firm and measurable targets.
3. Specifically, relevant to the implementation of the Agenda 2063, is the 2014 Lusaka Declaration of the 1st Africa Congress on Conservation Agriculture (1ACCA) which targets 25 million farm households to benefit from climate-smart agriculture (CSA) based on Conservation Agriculture (CA) by 2025¹. Further, the 2014 AU Summit endorsed the Malabo Declaration on agriculture transformation as an integral part of the Agenda 2063. The Declaration makes a specific CA related commitment through the decision item on “Vision 25x25” (i.e. 25 million farm households practicing climate-smart agriculture by 2025).
4. As we move forward, the focus and attention of AU Member states has shifted towards IMPLEMENTATION, RESULTS and IMPACT. This is especially significant and urgent for Africa in line with the continent’s ambitions to push back poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition.
5. Through Agenda 2063, Africa sets in place a three-pronged strategic pathway – addressing simultaneously and drawing synergies and complementarities across:
 - a) economic growth ambitions (as measured by gross domestic product (GDP));
 - b) ensuring prosperity for all its populations – i.e. poverty alleviation, food security as well as access to health services, adequate education and other livelihood necessities;
 - c) sustainable use of natural resources and strengthening environmental resilience.
6. With still a huge agricultural thrust, the importance of CSA cannot be overemphasized in the pursuit of development impact and transformations based on the continental context and trends². In reality, most African farmers (small, medium and large scale) attempting to intensify production sustainably use CA as the primary entry point in identifying and adapting locally compatible farming practices, input combinations, and timing of various farming operations in embracing farming systems and practices that are climate-smart.
7. Field level experiences, supported increasingly by scientific evidence, continue to demonstrate that CA is enabling widespread empowerment of farming and rural communities in Africa as well as countries globally to sustainably increase agricultural productivity while enhancing agricultural value in mitigating climate change. Recent global and continental agreements and trends provides a common and enhanced

¹ <https://goo.gl/HEu4Be> 1ACCA Lusaka Declaration.

² The changing global context, and in our times the modern information revolution; globalization; changes in technology, production, trade, knowledge and labour markets; the opportunities presented by global demographic trends, urbanization and the growing global middle and working classes in the South; the move towards multi-polarity with strong elements of uni-polarism remaining, global security and the impact of climate change. Humanity today has the capacities, technology and knowhow to ensure a decent standard of living and human security for all inhabitants of our earth

collective “energy” that can motivate and support increased front-line action on scaling-up the adoption and spread of CA as a core component of climate-smart agriculture in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

8. The African Conservation Agriculture Network (ACAN)³ – in collaboration with several partner institutions, stakeholders and interest groups continue to facilitate knowledge support to expand and accelerate the up-take and integration of CSA practices – i.e. climate-smart ways to farm and contribute to resilient food and agriculture systems. The Africa Congress on Conservation Agriculture is an open and inclusive pan-African networking-sharing-and-learning platform catalysing and accelerating the up-take and spread of CA across the continent of Africa.
9. The First Africa Congress on Conservation Agriculture (1ACCA) held in Lusaka, Zambia in March 2014, focused on the theme *Conservation Agriculture: Building Entrepreneurship and Resilient Farming Systems*. The proceedings of the 1ACCA were published as a book by CABI under the title: *Conservation Agriculture for Africa: Building Resilient Farming Systems in a Changing Climate*. The 1ACCA reaffirmed that restoration of soil health and intensification of agriculture through CA should become the cornerstone in transforming the way farming is done in Africa, representing a major contribution to achieving NEPAD-CAADP’s goal of 6% growth of the agriculture sector.

The 1ACCA released the Lusaka Declaration in line with the AU’s Agenda 2063 which agreed on ten resolutions centred on: (i) policy, political commitment and leadership; (ii) private sector engagement; and (iii) training, extension, research and innovation, and knowledge support. Governments, development partners, private sector, farmers, education and training institutions, research institutions, regional economic communities and non-governmental organizations are among the stakeholders called upon to support and facilitate the implementation of the resolutions in order to enhance the adoption and scaling-up of CA across Africa.

10. To foster the sharing, learning and building of public, private and civil sector support for CA-based CSA development, ACAN is collaborating with the Government of South Africa, African Union Commission, the NEPAD Agency, Regional Economic Communities, International NGOs, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), European Union (EU), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN and various bilateral and multilateral partners to organise and host the 2ACCA in **Johannesburg, South Africa, from 9th to 12th October 2018.**

Congress purpose and objectives

11. The purpose of the 2ACCA initiative is to facilitate diverse and open sharing of experiences and information on CA thereby fostering learning and widespread awareness and interest in the uptake and spread of CA. This includes CA’s role in: enhancing sustainable agricultural productivity, strengthening environmental and social resilience, and fostering efforts to provide for food and nutrition security as well as jobs and economic opportunities, especially for rural communities, including youth and women. The 2ACCA initiative provides “neutral space” for networking, collaboration and partnership to support the scaling-up of CA systems as the sustainable basis for CSA development across Africa.
12. The 2ACCA initiative brings together expert knowledge, information, and insights from practitioners from across different sectors and interests groups at all levels of agriculture development from the public, private and civil sectors. This diversity enables the desired multi-disciplinary and cross-sector “treatment” of CA for climate-smart agriculture – a

³ Formerly the Africa Conservation Tillage Network (ACT)

feature essential for the success of CA scaling-up as an integral part of the growing food and agriculture systems in Africa.

13. The 2ACCA is organized to achieve the following specific objectives, in the context of the Malabo Declaration, the Agenda 2063, the SDGs, the Paris COP 21 and Marrakech COP 22 Agreements, and UNCCD strategic framework:
 - i. Facilitate **interactions and sharing** among various interest groups to enhance an integrated and holistic knowledge base on promoting demand-driven and locally compatible CA systems and practices.
 - ii. Examine and showcase lessons on **policy, institutional support and technological interventions** as well as **information support** in participatory initiatives to accelerate and expand **sustainable uptake** of CA systems and practices.
 - iii. **Mainstreaming of CA into continental, regional and national frameworks** towards realization of Africa's commitments to Agenda 2063, SDGs, COP21 Paris Agreement, COP 22 Marrakech Agreement including the 4 per Mille and Triple A initiatives, and Land degradation neutrality (LDN) targets.
 - iv. Showcase advances in science and technology in **supporting innovations in CA systems and practices** adapted within local agro-ecosystems and their socio-cultural and political economy circumstances.
 - v. Assess recent successes and consider pathways for **comprehensive capacity, skills development and institutional building** of all stakeholders in the food and agriculture supply and value chains across Africa.
14. Linking to Agenda 2063, the SDGs and COP21 and 22 Agreements, the 2ACCA places a special focus on highlighting experiences and lessons related to unblocking the necessary "frontline actions" to scale-up sustainable adoption and spread of CA systems and practices. This includes efforts at household, community, sectoral, national and global levels, aimed at transforming current food and agricultural systems into those that are climate-smart and sustainable ecologically, economically and socially.
15. While taking note of both large-scale and smallholder commercial farming supply and value chains, as well as the partly subsistence smallholder farming systems, the Congress will put special focus on youth and women, in terms of farming, on-farm and off-farm rural and urban employment, economic integration, enterprise opportunities, improved livelihoods, and quality of life. In light of this, 2ACCA will aim to address a comprehensive and integrated scope to the issues of climate-smart farming systems and the scaling-up of commercially viable CA systems and practices across supply and value chains. This would ensure that farming practices are based on economically viable commodities, linked to effective input and output markets, and advances in entrepreneurship and business enterprise.

Congress theme and sub-themes

16. The aim of 2ACCA is to bring together expert knowledge, information, and insights from practitioners from across different sectors and interests groups at all levels of agriculture development in the public, private and civil sectors. This diversity of knowledge and stakeholders is essential:
 - a) to enable the desired multi-disciplinary and cross-sectoral development of CA as a core production component of climate-smart agriculture; and
 - b) for the sustained mobilization of policy, institutional and community support to accelerate the widespread adoption and management of CA as a core element of the expanding climate-smart food and agriculture systems in Africa.

This is in line with the Malabo Declaration, AU's Agenda 2063 and the SDGs.

Hence, the Congress is being organised under the following theme and sub-themes (refer to Annex 1 for details):

Theme: Making Climate-Smart Agriculture Real in Africa with Conservation Agriculture: Supporting the Malabo Declaration and Agenda 2063

Sub-themes (in the context of Agenda 2063, SDGs, COP 21, COP 22 and COP 23):

- i. Sub-theme 1: Mainstreaming of CA paradigm within institutions, sectors and governments' systems in Africa**
{e.g. CA-based supportive policies, frameworks and conventions creating an enabling environment; mobilizing institutional support from the public, private and civil sectors; CA extension and promotion; regional, national and international commitments; longer-term systemic capacity building for CA management; CA farmer organizations and empowerment; and data management development}
- ii. Sub-theme 2: Research and technology development for scaling up of CA systems, practices and innovations in different rainfed and irrigated farming systems in Africa**
{e.g. CA-based research and technology for development; agroecology; organic farming; productivity and ecosystem services, crop and cropping system management; soil health; crop health; pest, nutrient and water management; farm power and mechanization; technology and innovation systems; horticultural systems, crop-tree-livestock systems; agro-pastoral systems; agroforestry, orchard and plantation systems, precision farming; and impact pathways}
- iii. Sub-theme 3: Enhancing CA related education and training-learning capacity at systems and structural, organizational and individual levels to accelerate and expand the uptake of CA systems and practices**
{e.g. CA-based education, training and participatory extension; field based facilities; curriculum development; online education and learning; public and private sector capacity development for providing CA services including mechanization, farm operations and other services; quality assurance capacity development; and women and youths in agriculture and agribusiness}
- iv. Sub-theme 4: Investing across institutions and sectors, including in mechanization and commercialization, for widespread adoption of CA systems in Africa**
{e.g. CA-based sustainable agricultural mechanization; commercialization; youths and women; financial and capital investments; business development; public-private-producer-partnerships; development of CA services in supply and value chains; livelihood and socio-economic development; incentives and payments for ecosystem services; and insurance, branding and certification}
- v. Sub-theme 5: CA knowledge system management and information sharing capacity development for impact**
{e.g. CA-based partnerships and networking; e-information sharing platforms; impact monitoring and mapping; data management development; quality assurance; and enabling information and communication technology}

Expected outputs and outcomes

17. 2ACCA will contribute to catalysing increased action on the uptake and scaling-up of the CA-based climate-smart agriculture systems and practices, in general, and CA systems in particular across Africa. In this way, the outputs of the 2ACCA are expected to be more than just proceedings, but knowledge and information, policy and institutional advice and guidance, and participatory farmer and community engagement to meet defined goals.
18. The congress outcomes include more knowledgeable and informed stakeholder constituencies and institutions to meet Agenda 2063, SDGs, and COP 21, COP 22 and 23 agreements.

Specifically, the Congress will, for many, bring out new knowledge and information on CA systems and practices - Information/data/experiences and lessons - highlighting issues and circumstances that enhance or hinder effective CA dissemination and uptake in different agro-ecological zones across Africa.

19. For many Congress participants, the networking – formal and informal – will help consolidate or open up new partnerships and alliances including exposing opportunities for possible joint action and collaboration. The Congress will enlighten, invigorate, motivate participants to explore new ways of configuring and disseminating CA information to create new partnerships and discover new models of collaboration to illicit and promote transformational change. It will also bring together information that would help in future formal and informal contacts and liaison/partnership in promoting the adoption and spread of CA and all the service sectors for the development of sustainable food and agriculture systems.
20. The Congress will put a spotlight on empirical and scientific CA results and impact in the efforts on agricultural transformation and its consequent impact on livelihoods and the environment. CA has demonstrated success in stabilising and enhancing agricultural productivity and profit; it has enhanced ecosystem services even in extreme weather conditions through its ability to sequester carbon, reduce GHG emissions and mitigating climate change. The outcomes of the Congress are focussed on how to bring the adoption and spread of CA to scale with a critical mass of agricultural land under CA systems to at least 25 million households practicing CA by 2025.
21. In terms of general public awareness and advocacy, the Congress will bring CA information to the public including those who may not be directly connected to CA and climate-smart agriculture, but their interest and actions in their own fields is important to advancing CA uptake and spread.

Congress methodology and approach

22. The Congress Organising Committee is determined to realise a Congress that:
 - Is attractive and worthwhile not just to those stakeholders already engaged in supporting the different aspect of CA development in Africa, but also other (both new and existing) stakeholders and interest groups/organisations important for CA's future development in Africa.
 - Is interactive, optimizing active sharing, dialogue and discussions through formal and informal exercises including thematic working groups, open space interactions (e.g. videos, theatre, demonstrations and poster sessions).
 - Has significant and active mix of representation from farmers and farmer organisations, policy/decision makers, civil society and private sector, research and training institutions from across all the regions and sectors in the continent.
 - Ensures all Congress sessions and activities are arranged and facilitated in a manner that allow optimal sharing of experiences across sectors, disciplines and countries.
23. The following elements will characterise the Congress process:
 - i. Plenary High Level Ministerial Panel discussions and Thematic Sessions (including Agenda 2063, SDGs and COP 21, COP 22 and 23 follow up)
 - ii. Special Farmers' Session – see Table 1
 - iii. Special session on Reporting Progress on 1ACCA – see Table 1
 - iv. Case Studies and special working groups (thematic parallel sessions)
 - v. Self-organised meetings around key CA-related issues (side-events)
 - vi. Exhibition Booths and Poster Sessions – see table 1
 - vii. Equipment and machinery displays
 - viii. Field Visits
 - ix. Awards and Gala dinner

Within the broad thematic context and focus of the Congress, a number of special studies or analytical assignments will be commissioned as inputs to the Congress on various relevant issues and sub-themes. The studies and analytical pieces will essentially serve to bring into the Congress dialogue scientific and evidence-based articulation of the issues and trends, thereby allowed appropriately informed dialogue and consultations. As per the overall scope of the Congress, the studies and analytical pieces will specially focus on aspects related to unblocking constraints or accelerating the adoption and spread of CA as a core component of CSA, including how to scale up successful cases. The studies and analytical pieces commissioned by the organisers will be additional to papers and posters that will be contributed by intending participants. Submitting unsolicited papers and posters will be encouraged and open to all as long as they are within the context and scope of the Congress thematic orientation.

Table 1: Outline of specially organised aspects of the Congress		
<p>Farmers' Forum:</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow farmer to farmer interaction • Bring out focused farmers' perspectives on CA issues to the rest of the Congress <p>Participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practicing farmers from community and national level • Focus on smallholder (commercial/semi-commercial) farmers • PAFO and Regional Farmer Organizations <p>Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half day discussion session <p>Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmer-to-farmer links for possible future interaction • Farmers' statement outlining key priority issues and concerns on CA development to feed into other stakeholder groups' development agenda 	<p>Reporting Progress on IACCA Session</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor progress to achievements of targets and requisite corrective action measures <p>Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two hours plenary session, <p>Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 10 IACCA Lusaka Declaration points progress reports presentation and discussions <p>Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievements to IACCA declaration targets captured • Implementation strategy to realization of IACCA targets refined, mandates re-evaluated 	<p>Exhibition Booths and Poster Sessions</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing room for different organizations, especially smaller NGOs, farmer associations, private companies, publishers, etc. to present themselves and their work related to CA <p>Method:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizations can apply for a booth, where they can present materials, photos, and posters <p>Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The best booths obtain a prize, public handing over of prizes for different criteria. • Best posters awarded prizes, public handing over of prizes for different criteria

Participants

24. The Congress is open to all interested stakeholders. With the intention to ensure that the Congress is valuable and practical in the face of Africa's development aspirations and priorities, a special invitation will be extended to farmers (men, women and youth) and farmer organisations as well as other support institutions in CA related enterprises, e.g. CA machinery and equipment suppliers. Also, specially invited will be business enterprises in the agriculture and CA supply and value chains, and students and youth.

25. In this regard, the Congress expects to bring together a cross section of key stakeholders including agricultural students and youth, specialists, environmentalists, economists, farmers and farmer organisations, donors, private sector, civil society, training institutions, government and non-governmental organisations involved in agriculture and rural development from all regions in the continent and beyond.

Annex 1: Theme and sub-themes

Theme:	
<p>Making Climate-Smart Agriculture Real in Africa with Conservation Agriculture: <i>Supporting the Malabo Declaration and Agenda 2063 (and in pursuit of SDGs and COP 21, COP 22 and COP 23)</i></p>	<p>The theme aims to bring focus on implementation and achieving results in the form of widespread and sustainable adoption and uptake of CA across Africa. It is in the results that accrue from practicing CA that the 2ACCA aims to demonstrate the value of CA in building agriculture that is climate-smart and transformed – i.e. additional to enhanced and sustainable productivity, also be directly impacting on improved agro-ecosystems and social resilience as well as through enhanced carbon sequestration and decrease in methane and nitrous oxide emissions fosters reduced GHG emissions, thereby playing a role in mitigating climate change</p> <p>CA’s potential impact on increasing-stabilising productivity and improving ecosystem services is important in catalysing enhanced performance of agriculture – even in rural smallholder systems, thereby expanding opportunities for smallholder farmers to connect to input and output markets (i.e. to handle the increased surplus as well as to access inputs). In this way, CA will be marking an impact on multiple fronts on the Agenda 2063 and SDGs goals and targets</p>
Sub-themes:	
<p>i. Mainstreaming of CA paradigm within institutions, sectors and governments’ systems in Africa</p> <p><i>{e.g. CA-based supportive policies, frameworks and conventions creating an enabling environment; mobilizing institutional support from the public, private and civil sectors; CA extension and promotion; regional, national and international commitments; longer-term systemic capacity building for CA management; CA farmer organizations and empowerment; quality assurance; and data management development}.</i></p>	<p>Linking to Agenda 2063, the SDGs, COP21 Paris Agreement (4 per 1000), the Adaptation of African Agriculture "AAA" initiative of COP 22, and the COP 23 agreement to work on a series of issues linking climate change and agriculture, including how to improve soil carbon and soil fertility, the 2ACCA takes a special focus on highlighting experiences and lessons related to unblocking the necessary “frontline actions” to scale-up sustainable adoption and spread of CA systems and practices.</p> <p>The relationship between CA and climate-smart agriculture needs to be demystified and thus clarifying the roles and contributions of CA to Continental and Global Agenda, Conventions and treaties. Climate action programme’s design and implementation, indicators to monitor the results of global climate change mitigation/adaptation efforts, and targeting women and youth are subject areas where experience will be shared.</p> <p>CA is widely identified as one key way to realise a climate-smart agriculture. However, this requires that over time relevant private and public sector institutions are enabled to aligned themselves to provide support to farmers and service providers so that CA is adopted as widely and as rapidly as possible. The sub-theme will focus on bringing out lessons learned to inform and argue for further technical and policy initiatives to support the adoption and scaling up of CA across Africa.</p> <p>Multi-sectorial approaches, involving public, private and civil sectors, and active involvement of decentralised structure is one obvious success factor for widespread and sustainable adoption & management of CA systems.</p>

	<p>National government need to take their rightful roles to developing supportive policies, frameworks and conventions while creating an enabling environment for CA extension and promotion. Furthermore, longer-term systemic capacity development for CA management, CA farmer organizations and empowerment, quality assurance and data management development are core infrastructure that need to be in place.</p> <p>What are the experiences from efforts to unblock institutional factors hindering CA uptake; How can local decentralised institutions – public, civil society as well as domestic private sector be harnessed in mutual efforts to scale-up CA; Can faith and traditional institutions and structures, such as religions and chiefdoms, have any role in accelerating widespread and sustainable adoption of CA? What is the role and effectiveness of multi-sectorial alliances? What incentives do CA systems offer to all these constituencies and interest groups to attract their “energy” in scaling-up CA systems?</p> <p>The sub-theme will also set the context and integrate 2ACCA into the greater continental and global goals and agenda.</p>
<p>ii. Research and technology development for scaling up of CA systems, practices and innovations in different rainfed and irrigated farming systems in Africa.</p> <p><i>{e.g. CA-based research and technology for development; agroecology; organic farming; productivity and ecosystem services, crop and cropping system management; soil health; crop health; pest, nutrient & water management; farm power and mechanization; technology and innovation systems; horticultural systems, crop-tree-livestock systems; agro-pastoral systems; agroforestry, orchard and plantation systems, precision farming; and impact pathways}.</i></p>	<p>CA is more than a mere technology or practice. It is a whole new alternate agriculture. Thus, this sub-theme is about how the science, technology and practice are applied in achieving environmental resilience in the farming ecosystem while at the same time providing for optimal productivity and harness ecosystem services. This understanding implies that adaptability to local circumstances is an integral part of what CA adoption is, and what ultimately gives CA its value, wide appeal and relevance to attract mutually beneficial institutional support from the public, private and civil sectors. .</p> <p>This sub-theme exposes initiatives – including related challenges and opportunities -- accelerating and expanding advances and innovations to adapt CA systems and practices within defined local agro-ecosystems and communities.</p> <p>Much of Africa’s scientific research continues to be focussed on Conventional tillage-based agriculture with a business as usual mind set. Increasingly, research effort needs to shift to generating scientific knowledge and innovations that relate to CA farming systems. This would include participatory research with farmers for the development of CA system science and management, and facilitating the engagement of public, private and civil sector support for science-based technological innovations.</p>
<p>iii. Enhancing CA related education and training-learning capacity at systems and structural, organizational and individual levels to accelerate</p>	<p>CA education and training-learning capacity in general and especially among “last-mile” support institutions in the public and private sectors will be critical in leapfrogging and sustaining the spread of CA systems and practices. This sub-theme will expose experiences (insights and lessons) from frontline institutions offering</p>

<p>and expand the uptake of CA systems and practices</p> <p><i>{e.g. CA-based education, training and extension; field based facilities; curriculum development; online education and learning; public and private sector capacity development for providing mechanization, farm operations and other CA services; quality assurance capacity development; and women and youths in agriculture and agribusiness}</i></p>	<p>CA education and training (the supply side), as well as the experiences and insights from stakeholders receiving the education and training (the demand side) and how the two are interacting in serving a robust development strategy and set of approaches to bring about education and training-learning initiatives relevant and appropriate to sustained CA adoption and wide-spread uptake</p> <p>The sub-theme will help bring to the surface opportunities and challenges in grass root community level on training-learning initiatives, including related policy and institutional implications</p>
<p>iv. Investing across institutions and sectors, including in mechanization and commercialization, for widespread adoption of CA systems in Africa</p> <p><i>{e.g. CA-based sustainable agricultural mechanization; commercialization; youths and women; financial and capital investments; business development; public-private-producer-partnerships; development of CA services in supply and value chains; livelihood and socio-economic development; incentives and payments for ecosystem services; and insurance, branding and certification}.</i></p>	<p>Whiles bulky part of financing CA uptake should come in the small recurrent expenditures on inputs and farming services, accelerating widespread adoption and management will require massive capital investments directly in agricultural technologies and indirectly in rural and farm services and facilities including rural roads and infrastructure.</p> <p>The need for farm specific set of agricultural implements for scaling up from hand-tool level to mechanized CA is addressed through sustainable agricultural mechanization (SAM), a broad concept that promotes mechanization technologies and services along the entire value chain. Therefore, CA and SAM are inter-linked and should be promoted together.</p> <p>Ultimately, for farming to be climate-smart, it will need to be viable too. The sub-theme examines and highlights cases of large public, private, or public-private investments that is catalysing CA adoption and uptake. The sub-theme also looks at facilities and services including policies and institutional support making affordable investment financing accessible to small and medium size farming enterprises.</p>
<p>v. CA knowledge system management and information sharing capacity development for impact</p> <p><i>{e.g. CA-based partnerships and networking; e-information sharing platforms; impact monitoring and mapping; data management development; quality assurance; and enabling information and communication technology}.</i></p>	<p>Networking – formal and informal – is vital to consolidate or open up new partnerships and alliances including exposing opportunities for possible joint action and collaboration. The 2ACCA will set the stage to enlighten, invigorate, and motivate participants to explore new ways of generating, configuring and disseminating CA scientific and technical information to create new partnerships and discover new models of collaboration to illicit and promote transformational changes. Avenues for bringing together, collating and distilling scientific evidence, knowledge and information to trigger future formal and informal contacts and partnerships in promoting the adoption and spread of CA and all the service sectors for the development of sustainable food and agriculture systems will be explored.</p>

Second Africa Congress on Conservation Agriculture (2ACCA) Secretariat

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