



SACAU

SOUTHERN AFRICAN CONFEDERATION OF AGRICULTURAL UNIONS



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Climate Change Negotiations and Agriculture

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Objective

Set the scene for discussions on agriculture and UNFCCC

- Why is climate change an issue for farmers?
- Institutional framework for climate change negotiations
- History of the negotiations, and agriculture
- What is being negotiated now in relation to agriculture



Why is climate change an issue for farmers

- Agriculture the most climate sensitive sector, it is unique
- Significant impacts on farming, even in the short term – highly vulnerable
- Agriculture expected by the global community to reduce its impacts – one of the culprits!
- Significant funding could flow to the sector for adaptation & mitigation – plays a major role

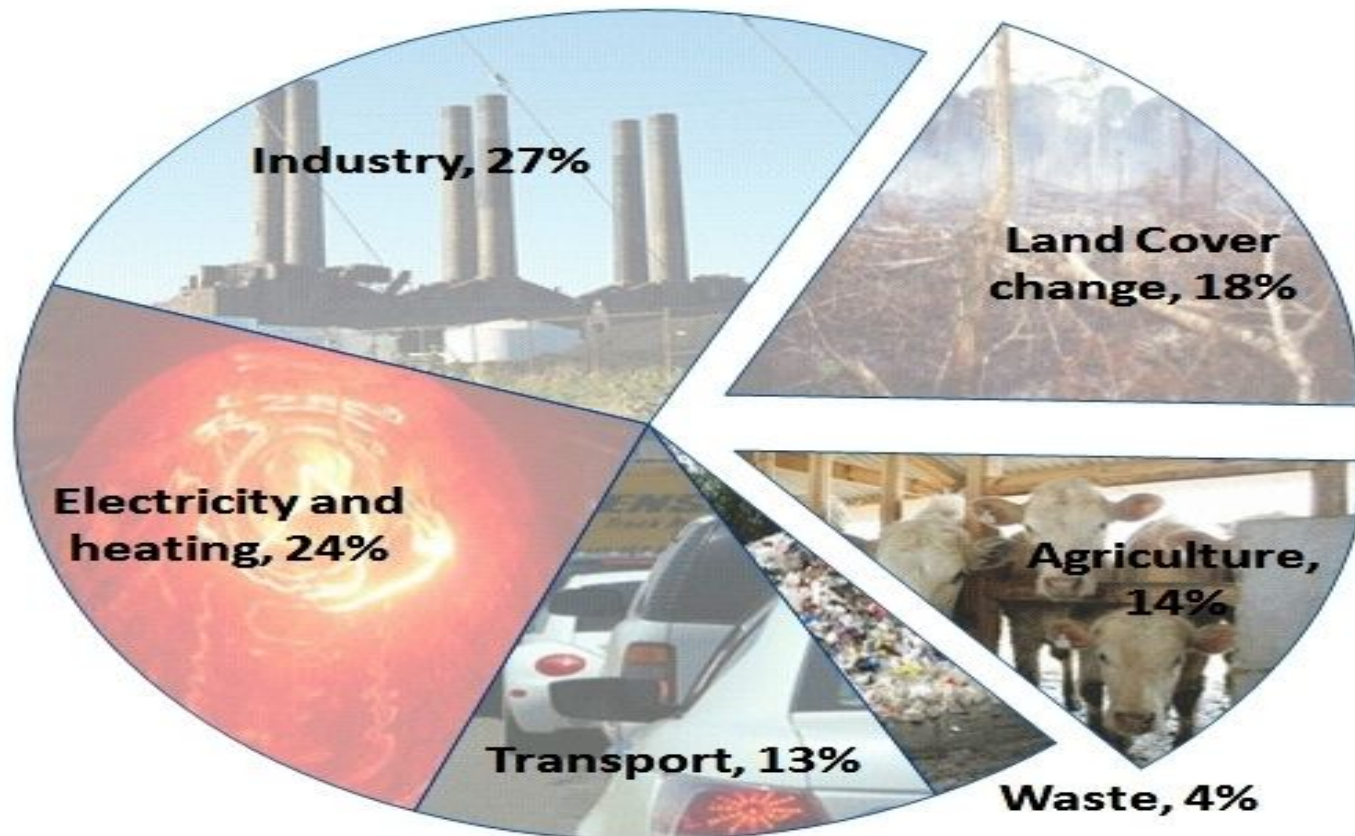


Predicted impacts on farming and rural livelihoods

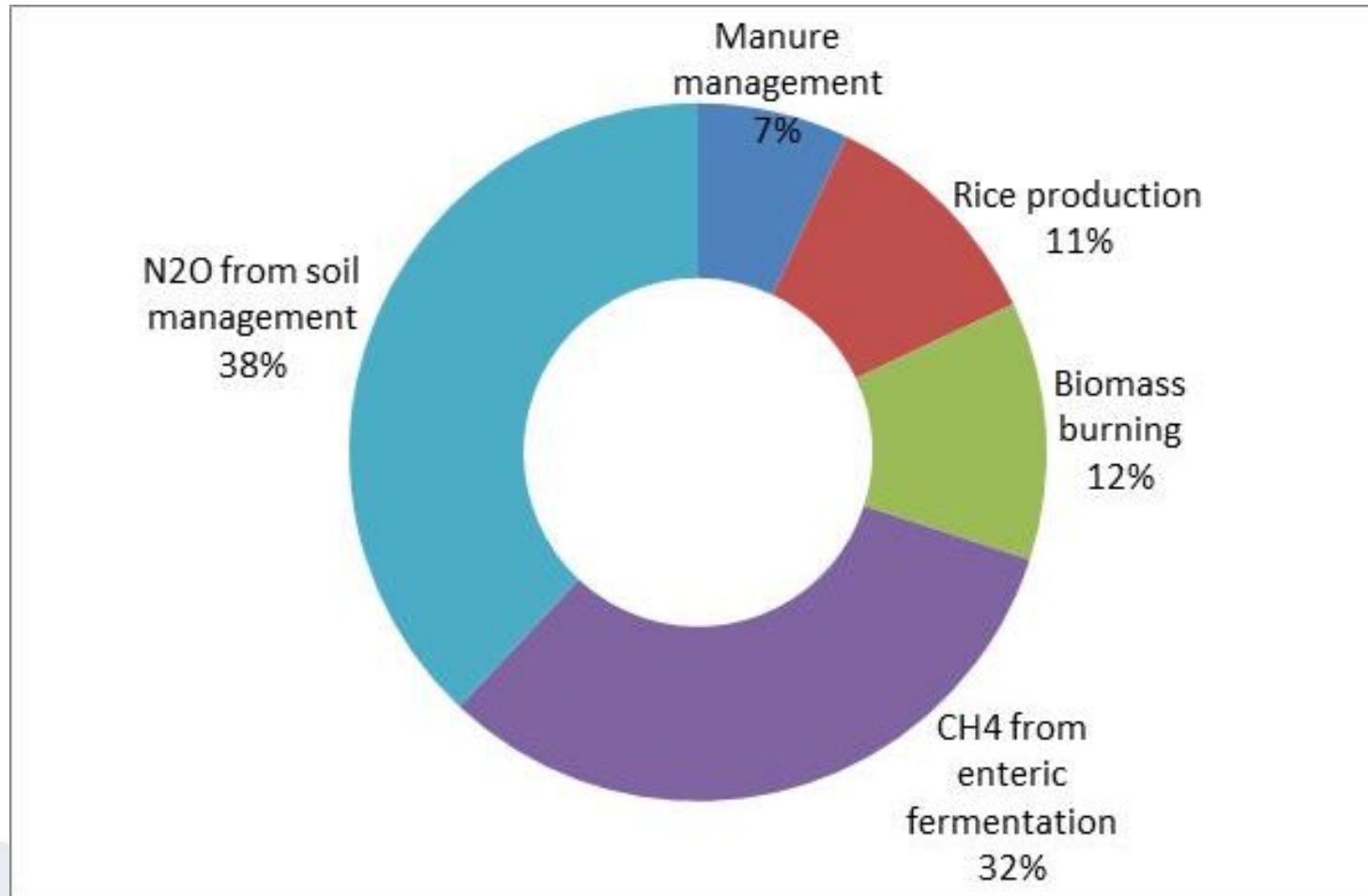
- CC has the potential to transform patterns and productivity of crops, livestock and fisheries
- Almost all parts of Africa registering a decline in growing season length
- reduced crop yields,
- loss in livestock productivity,
- increased pests & diseases,
- changes in the availability of irrigation water



Agriculture's contribution to CC

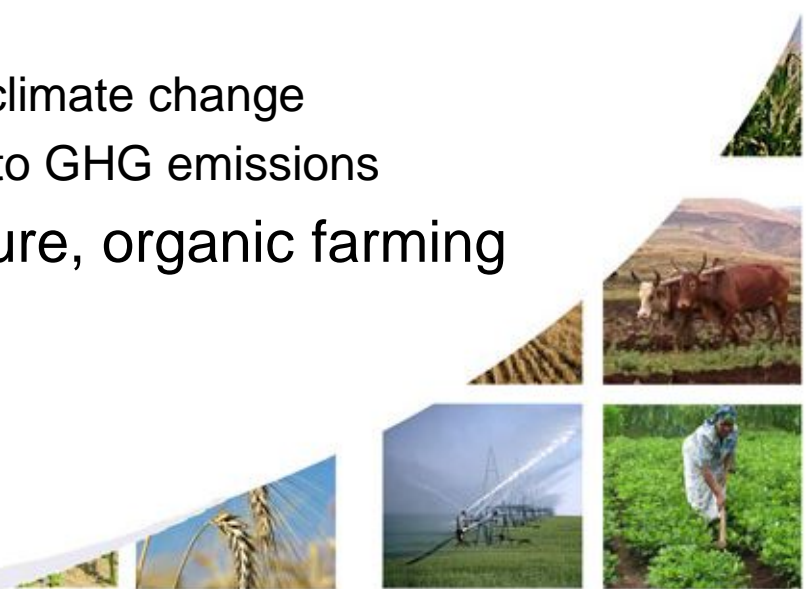


GHG emissions from Agriculture



Potential role of Agriculture

- Wide recognition that with support, agriculture could play a key role in adaptation & mitigation
- Climate smart agriculture
 - increase productivity in an environmentally & socially sustainable way
 - Strengthen farmers' resilience to climate change
 - Reduce agriculture's contribution to GHG emissions
- Examples – conservation agriculture, organic farming agroforestry



Climate change negotiations

- Being held under the UNFCCC
 - International treaty, agreed at Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, in June 1992
- Aim to stabilize greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the atmosphere
- Updated with the The Kyoto Protocol (1997-2012) - set mandatory emission limits
- 194 signatories/parties meet annually (conference of parties, COP)
- Also observers – UN agencies, NGOs, CSOs, Media



CC negotiations & Agriculture

- Complex negotiations, slow progress
- Especially on how mitigation targets will be set for different countries

Main Events	General outcomes
Kyoto Protocol (1997)	“promotion of sustainable forms of agriculture”
COP 9 (2003)	Adaptation Fund established, potentially to support adaptation in agriculture
COP 15 (2009)	Specific text on agriculture advanced, but overall COP agreement failed, so no text was adopted
COP 16 (2010)	Text on agriculture dropped in the closing hours because of its linkage to bunker fuels and because of the controversy around trade



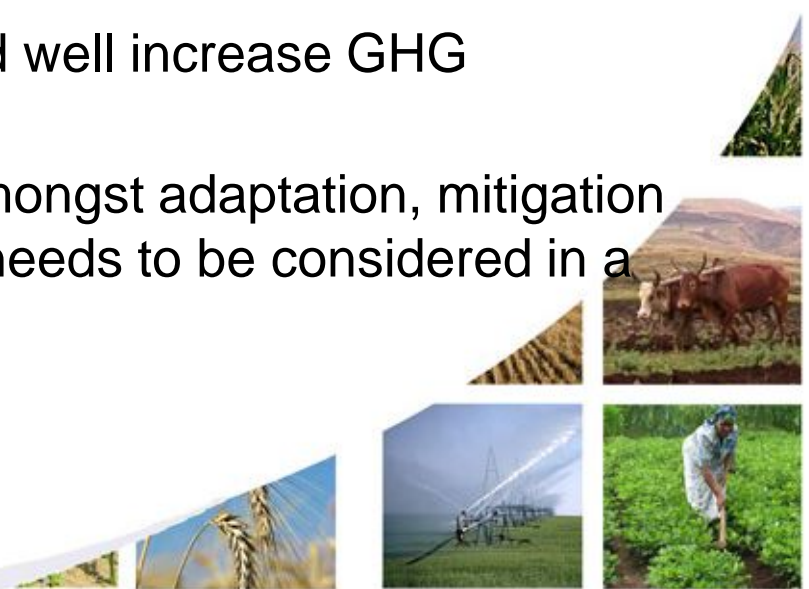
What is being negotiated in relation to Agriculture

- To get a Work Program on Agriculture
- Means the UNFCCC now recognises agriculture as an important issue
- SBSTA tasked to set up a process over 2-3years - details of how agriculture should be treated
 - E.g. should agriculture be exempt from mitigation targets, the measurement of GHG emissions from agriculture
- Details worked by the SBSTA - recommendations back to the main negotiating forum for final agreement
- Arguments against having an agriculture work program
 - sector-specific approaches not needed at global level
- Only Forestry has a work program – REDD+



Arguments for an Agriculture work program

- Mitigation & adaptation both important in agriculture
 - For both to be met, they have to be tackled together to counter trade offs and maximise synergies
- Agriculture crucial for food security - mitigation actions should not compromise food security or poverty alleviation agenda
 - Agricultural development could well increase GHG emissions
 - To ensure complementarity amongst adaptation, mitigation and food security, agriculture needs to be considered in a single forum.



Other Avenues of negotiations

Adaptation

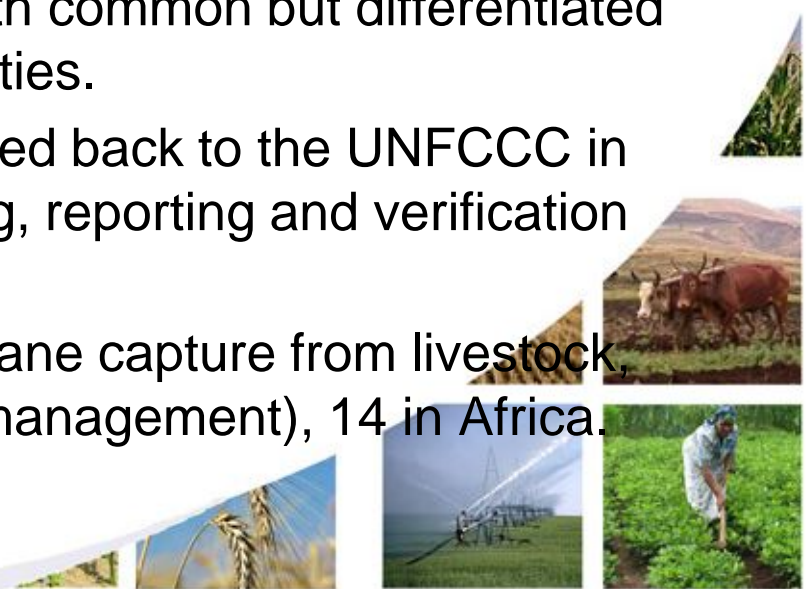
- National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)
 - **Least - Developed Countries** (LDCs) identify priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change
 - NAPA submitted to the UNFCCC - the LDC Party becomes eligible to apply for funding for implementation
 - Very few projects accepted for funding, limited funds
- Kyoto Protocol (KP), the **Adaptation Fund** established to finance adaptation projects in LDCs
 - Only started operating in 2009, As of 31 January 2011, about US\$ 224 million made available to the Fund and twelve projects currently being funded, including 2 in Africa, mostly agriculture



Other Avenues of negotiations – cont'd

Mitigation

- Developing countries also agree to meet certain mitigation targets
- The mechanisms to achieve these spelt out in “Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action Plans” (NAMAs).
- NAMAs represent voluntary GHG emission reduction goals by developing countries
 - to be realised through technology transfer and financial support from developed countries.
- Based on equity and in accordance with common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.
- Results of the mitigation actions reported back to the UNFCCC in “National Communications” (monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV))
- 20 countries, include agriculture (methane capture from livestock, grassland restoration, better fertilizer management), 14 in Africa.



Other Avenues of negotiations – cont'd

REDD+

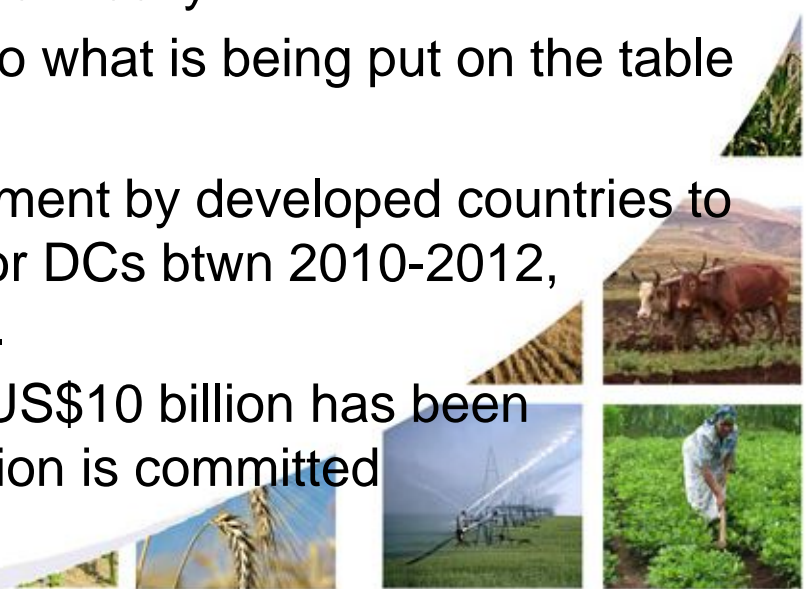
- mechanism to reward countries that reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
- Progress in Cancún COP 16, but many of the details need still to be hammered out
- In the June 2011 SBSTA the new work program on REDD+ was initiated
- One of its mandates - to examine “agriculture as a driver of deforestation”
- For REDD+ carbon emission mitigation targets to be reached, the primary driver of forest clearing globally—agriculture must be fundamentally addressed
- Out of 26 country REDD+ readiness proposals prepared so far, 20 have been analysed, long way to go in fully incorporating agriculture into REDD+.- 9 in Africa : DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Uganda.



Other Avenues of negotiations – cont'd

Financing

- crucial part of the negotiations relates to financing adaptation & mitigation actions in developing countries
- developing countries are dissatisfied with the progress
- funding pledges and actual payments believed to be well below what is necessary and fair
- Recent estimates annual costs of adapting to climate change in the agricultural sector at over US\$ 7 billion annually through 2050.
- The UNFCCC estimates US\$14 billion annually.
- This is a drop in the ocean compared to what is being put on the table to solve Greece financial crisis!
- Cancún Agreements include a commitment by developed countries to provide US\$30 billion in new finance for DCs btwn 2010-2012, balanced btwn adaptation & mitigation.
- Some US\$26 billion pledged but only US\$10 billion has been deposited. By 2020, some US\$100 billion is committed



Other Avenues of negotiations – cont'd

Technology Transfer

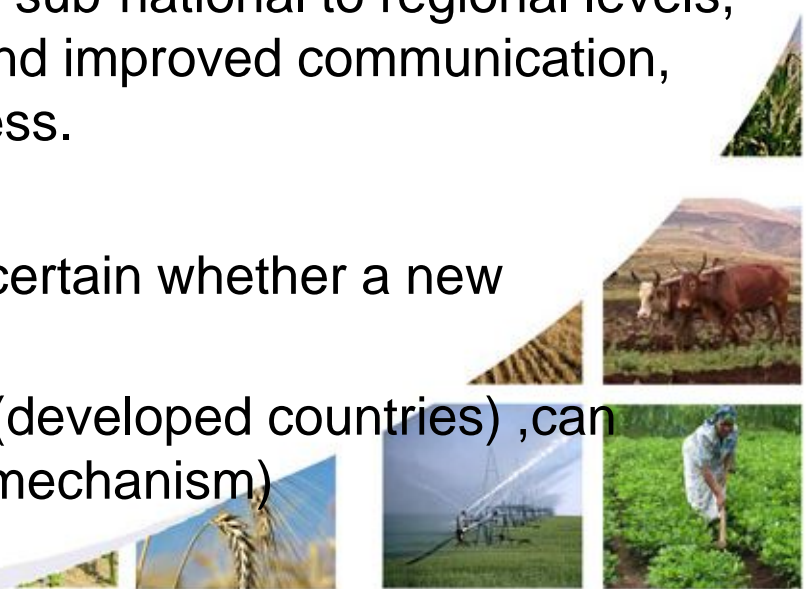
- Technology transfer Mechanism was established at COP16 in Cancún.
- Expected to facilitate enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support action on mitigation and adaptation
- Degree to which the agricultural sector can benefit is unclear

Capacity building

- In the Cancún the importance of capacity building was confirmed
- Includes strengthening capacities from sub-national to regional levels, enhancing stakeholder participation, and improved communication, education, training and public awareness.

Kyoto Protocol

- KP commitment period ends 2012, uncertain whether a new commitment period will be agreed.
- KP only applies to Annex 1 countries (developed countries), can benefit LDCs (e.g. clean development mechanism)





Thank You

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