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Traveller

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Date

5 – 6 March 2018

Destination

Rome, Italy

Purpose

2nd Meeting of the Thematic Working Group on Agriculture, Food Security and Land Use of the NDC Partnership at FAO

Mailing list

Co-chairs, website, GIZ G500

Persons met/participants

Alexander Jones, FAO CBC Director, Martial Bernoux and Dorothee Merkl, FAO – CBC coordination NDC Partnership TWG, Rima Al Azar and Marwan Ladki, FAO GACSA secretariat, Andreas Christian Taeuber, BMEL, Ana Elisa Bucher, World Bank VClimate Analytics and Advisory Services (GCCRA);

Content

Upon invitation of the CBC Group of FAO (Climate and Environment), the *2nd Meeting of the Thematic Working Group on Agriculture, Food Security and Land Use of the NDC Partnership* was held at FAO. Main topic of discussion were the ways to achieve Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) through agriculture. It was a peer learning and knowledge-sharing event resulting in a draft work programme 2018/2019 for the group. The group is not yet acknowledged as a formal working group to the NDC Partnership.

The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), as offered by all country Parties of FCCC to seal the Paris Agreement in 2015, are very ambitious when it comes to agriculture. Adaptation of the agricultural sector to climate variability is certainly the priority of many developing countries, but mitigation of climate relevant emissions by land-use means is a much more complicated undertaking. Agriculture is one of the main contributors to climate change. A CCAFS analysis shows that the sector contribute with up to 10%-12%. However, a FAO summary shows that most developing countries see a great potential in mitigating climate effects by sustainable land-use of agriculture and forestry.

Meeting goals and objectives

The 2nd meeting of the Thematic Working Group on Agriculture, Food Security and Land-use of the NDC Partnership was convened by FAO in cooperation with the Partnership's support unit, hosted by the World Resources Institute (WRI). The meeting was financed by the BMZ support project Enhancing country capacity for NDC implementation in the agricultural sectors. It was a practical, hands-on meeting to identify joint interests, and possible closer cooperation possibilities between Partnership countries – developing or not – and implementing partners like the World Bank, IFAD and others. This led to the basic features of a work programme for 2018/2019. The was used extensively to exchange knowledge on the steps already taken or to be taken to achieve the NDCs at country level and to learn about supporting tools like the NDC Knowledge Portal (NCD-P) provided by the NDC Partnership.

Problems to be addressed

Despite many support tools and measures, some basic problems need to be addressed urgently to advance the ARD agenda in the NDC achievement process:

- *Line ministries like agriculture and forestry are not engaging in intergovernmental processes of FCCC, which are steered mostly by Environment and Foreign Affairs ministries; sectors are often not systematically heard – good examples of interministerial coordination and private sector engagement, however, are on the rise;*
- *NDC achievement is mostly not aligned with or mainstreamed into national sectoral planning, which should engage in the case of agriculture all relevant government institutions, private sector and the farming community to be an active part of the solution in line with national NDC goals;*
- *Climate resilience measures and mitigation actions are additional externalities, which need to be factored into the future design of international support programmes and national governmental investment plans like the ones of CAADP in Africa. The same holds true for donor /IFI programmes – World Bank and IFAD are working on convincing economic arguments, which justify increased costs for climate resilient programmes analysing the economic advantages of climate action;*

In order to develop a work plan for 2018/2019, the meeting refined the themes and agreed on the following elements:

- Policy and institutional coordination at all levels
- Metrics/indicators for adaptation and mitigation
- Ensuring connections with farmers and other stakeholders

The financing of the NDC implementation process requires concerted efforts of all institutions involved to meet the financing demands of countries, some of which put the entire financing for NDC achievements through agriculture onto international shoulders. Alexander Jones, FAO Director of the Climate and Environment Division, informed briefly about FAO's first successful project proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) accepted by the recently held 19th GCF Board meeting. The project: Poverty, Reforestation, Energy and Climate Change (PROEZA) for Paraguay is planned for a value of USD 90 mio in total with about USD 25 mio provided by the GCF. This constitutes an exception to GCF rules, which normally demands for every dollar of GCF finance a matching financial contribution of 9 USD. It will take tremendous efforts to meet these expectations.

Agreements and next steps

The Platform should continue to engage in the thematic group and help to make sure that:

- agriculture is increasingly acknowledged in the context of climate finance (GCF, WB and regional development banks, bilateral donor agencies etc.) as one of the major drivers for adaptation and mitigation of climate change in developing countries – quality of project proposals to be increased and funding secured – close cooperation with FAO, IFAD and the World Bank;
- the Thematic Working Group to be acknowledged as a formal working group by the NDC Partnership;



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- GIZ to mobilise its competence and engage through sectoral climate finance projects and sectoral AG-climate projects in the mobilisation of climate finance for agriculture and rural development

Links, annexes

- [CCAFS ANALYSIS](#)
- [FAO SUMMARIES](#)
- [NDC KNOWLEDGE PORTAL \(NCD-P\)](#)
- [IFAD ANALYSIS ON ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES OF CLIMATE ACTION](#)
- [19TH GCF BOARD MEETING](#)
- [POVERTY, REFORESTATION, ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE \(PROEZA\) FOR PARAGUAY](#)