

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES AND COOPERATIVES

STRENGTHENING EDUCATION, EXTENSION AND TRAINING TO ACCELERATE CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND LOW CARBON DEVELOPMENT IN THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR

CONTEXT: The dynamic nature of climate and its impacts on agriculture is rendering most of the existing adaptation and coping strategies unsupportive in many regions. Recent studies on economic sectors (including agriculture) across institutions and 24 counties have established the following: a widened gap between skills possessed by youth and those required by the job market; inadequate technical skills and knowledge on climate change and climate-smart technologies by the extension service providers; climate change has not been adequately integrated into Kenya's formal agricultural education, extension and training systems such as the Kenya School of Agriculture (KSA), Agricultural Technology Development Centres (ATDCs), Agricultural Training Centres (ATCs) and Agriculture Technical Vocational Education and Training (ATVET); the existing policies and strategies for capacity building for the agriculture sector have limited provisions for promoting climate resilient and low carbon development solutions. These calls for integration of climate change into the formal education, extension and training systems; equipping the training institutions to facilitate adoption of climate-smart innovations; capacity building of the extension service providers to enhance utilization and adaptation of the appropriate support agricultural technologies, innovations and climate-smart farming practices.

PRIORITY POLICY ACTIONS

1. **ENHANCE** implementation of the Capacity Building Strategy for Agriculture Sector of 2017 and update curricula for tertiary-level institutions.
2. **PROMOTE** the development of skills-upgrading training, experiential learning and short courses on climate resilient and low carbon agriculture development.
3. **STRENGTHEN** linkages and coordination between research, universities, extension and other value chain actors to support planning, decision making and implementation.



INTERVENTIONS: The solutions lie in reviewing curricula for agriculture extension training for tertiary-level institutions, to reflect on climate-resilient, low carbon solutions and ICT related applications. This should also be extended to incorporate climate resilience considerations in skill-upgrading training, experiential learning and short course meant for farmers, technicians, extension officers, policy makers and trainers of

trainers. Further, strengthening linkages between research, universities, extension, producers and other value chain actors is of critical importance to facilitate in diffusion of innovations. Retooling of the existing policies and strategies for extension services and capacity development for the agriculture sector to promote climate resilient and low carbon farming solutions.

OPPORTUNITIES: The existing policy instruments provide enabling environment for capacity development. These include the National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS 2010) and the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP 2018) emphasize the role of climate change education. More specifically, the Ministry's Capacity Building Strategy for the Agricultural Sector of 2017 in its Objective 5, proposes strategies that could potentially attract youth participation in agriculture including facilitation of ICT applications in agricultural value chains. In addition, the

National Strategy for Agricultural Education is currently being developed with the support of GIZ's for Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET). Several public and private training centres and institutions have started pilot training on the developed curricula. However, climate change has not been adequately captured in the curricula and this provides an opportunity to integrate climate considerations. This is buttressed by Article 6 and Article 12 of the United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Paris Agreement, respectively on education, training and public awareness. Also, climate change education is included in SDG 12 on "sustainable consumption and production" (Indicator 12:8:1).

POLICY ACTIONS:

1. Enhance implementation of the Capacity Building Strategy for Agriculture Sector of 2017, as well as and reviewing of curricula for tertiary-level institutions to reflect climate-resilient and low carbon solutions.
2. Promote the development of skills-upgrading training, experiential learning and short courses on climate resilient and low carbon agriculture development.
3. Strengthen linkages and coordination between research, universities, extension and other value chain actors to facilitate knowledge sharing, learning and innovation for climate-smart solutions.

