

# AICCRA Zambia Beneficiary Report

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Inga Jacobs-Mata, Keagan Kakwasha, Netsayi Mudege, Victor Siamundaala, and Hauke Dahl

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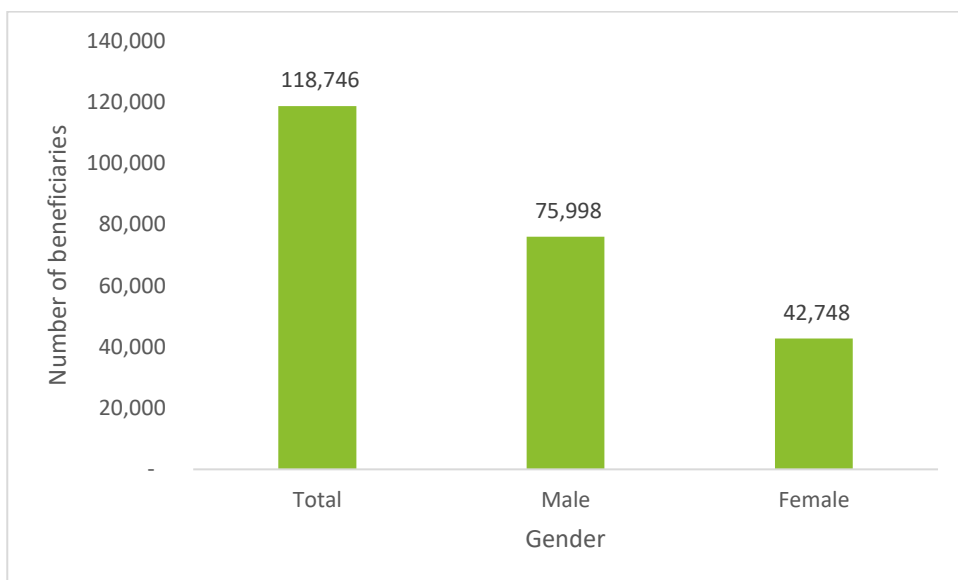


**AICCRA**  
Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR  
Climate Research for Africa



# Executive summary

AICCRA Zambia partnered with agribusiness-based small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to increase access to climate information services for over 300,000 farmers negatively impacted by the effects of climate change. This partnership has resulted in 118,746 (36% women) smallholder farmers accessing and adopting climate-smart agriculture technologies in the following agriculture value chains: off-grid solar irrigation; integrated aquaculture agriculture system; climate-smart seed varieties; and integrated mixed chicken/goats–legume systems.



*“We have established a strong network of farmer organizations including farm talks, radio shows, WhatsApp groups to widen the distribution of climate smart innovations such as organic farming to enhance resilience to climate shocks. Thousands of farmers have adopted these innovations because they have realized the benefits that come with it in the face of food security and climate change; in every corner of Eastern Province of Zambia, farmers are now planting millions of glilicidia sepium trees -a plant that improves soil fertility and repels pests. The farmers themselves have established WhatsApp groups through the senior lead farmers where climate information such as weather forecast is shared and made available to every farmers on a daily basis”. COMACO Conservation Field Manager explains key outcomes resulting from AICCRA project activities.*

The partnership has also widened the business of SMEs who integrated CSA innovations targeting smallholders in their business models. For example, one of the SMEs specializing in climate-smart aquaculture technologies reported a 21% increase in the number of clients accessing aquaculture technologies, mainly feed, seed and knowledge on better management practices. The smallholder fish farmers were having challenges with fingerlings, but following the multistakeholder engagements, 1,527,083 fingerlings were sold in the previous fish farming season.

*"I am specialized in marketing and distribution of aquaculture products. I recently integrated the dissemination of climate smart information services to smallholder farmers following the technical and financial support I received from AICCRA project. I have since seen several clients coming to my shop to access feed, seed and information on how to manage their farms in the face of climate change. I provide this information for free to my customers. This has helped my business to increase by 21%, since customers trust me to provide them with additional knowledge other than just selling them inputs" (Mr Mubanga Seketeni, ADSAK Enterprises Director).*

In the past two years, the AICCRA Zambia project has worked with SMEs to improve access to climate information services (CIS) and effectively promote the uptake of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) innovations, and also to strengthen women's access to CSA CIS technologies. The project undertook various GESI trainings, and this resulted into increased number of women beneficiaries to 36%. Successfully promoting these innovations has involved the creation of multistakeholder partnerships among private and public sector players in Zambia. AICCRA Zambia developed a strategic partnership with ACDI/VOCA under the USAID Zambia Enterprise Development and Growth Enhanced (EDGE) Activity (<https://www.acdivoca.org/about/at-a-glance/>). Through this partnership, the parties involved committed to working closely with SMEs in agribusiness to enable them to grow and thrive with increased penetration into local, regional, and international markets where opportunities exist. Further, both parties agreed to support SMEs in agribusiness with access to finance to enable them to grow and thrive (<https://youtu.be/Ogzr7pAmNgs>). The SMEs presented business models that offer climate-smart agriculture (CSA) innovations and are listed below.

- i. Sustainable financing for off-grid solar irrigation (<https://hdl.handle.net/10568/117962>)
- ii. Integrated aquaculture agriculture system (<https://hdl.handle.net/10568/117963>)
- iii. Addressing drought through climate-smart seed varieties (<https://hdl.handle.net/10568/117961>)
- iv. (iv) Diversified integrated mixed chicken/goats – legume systems (<https://hdl.handle.net/10568/117960>).
- v. GESI (<https://hdl.handle.net/10568/117928>)

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**About AICCRA**

Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for 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.

Discover more at [aiccra.cgiar.org](http://aiccra.cgiar.org)