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AICCRA Country Scaling Vision: Ghana

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Conceptual framework that informs the scaling vision

Ghana conceptual framework to achieve country's scaling vision was constructed around mutually reinforcing key elements interacting with one another to produce the desired outcomes: priority setting, innovation (CSA/CIS), beneficiaries, enabling environment, drivers and service providers (Fig. 1). Monitoring evaluation and the associated learning is identified as an integral part of the process. Critical decisions need to be made in terms of scaling mechanisms to embrace, advocacy and science-policy dialogues, strategic partners to engage, CSA/CIS potential to drive the outcomes, their costs and accessible financial structures and products.

Impact pathways to achieve that vision and how outcomes are scaled

Farmers occupy the central position of AICCRA Ghana scaling framework (Fig. 2). All interventions are meant to drive systemic changes meeting farmers demand and needs through efficient partnerships anchored on functional government technology dissemination mechanisms, e.g. Research-Extension Linkage Committees (RELCs) and Functional Innovation Platforms. The climate-smart agriculture technologies (CSA) promoted are based on the outcome of a prioritization process.

The prioritization process was organized on AICCRA Ghana value chains (maize, cowpea, yam, potato, and vegetables [tomato]) for the 6 target administrative regions. Ghana scaling mechanism leverages and harnesses resources available from existing initiatives (e.g. One CGIAR's Regional Integrative Initiatives, World Bank Programmes) for greater reach and impact.

Strategic partners engaged:

Public Institutions

- Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Research-Extension Linkage Committees, RELCs)
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- CORAF's Regional Center of Excellence on Roots and Tubers
- Universities/Research Institutions

Private Institutions

- Agro-dealers
- Private seed companies
- Meta Foundations
- Farmers and farmer-based organizations/ National Umbrella Farmer organizations
- Media organizations
- Agri Digital Service Providers (eg. Esoko, Degas, Farmerline).



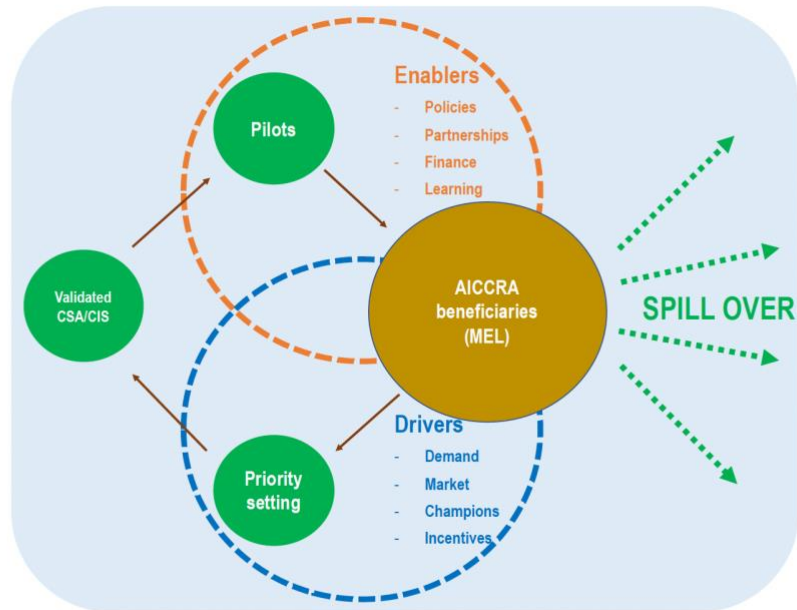


Figure 1. Conceptual framework of AICCRA Ghana scaling vision

How the different activities at the country level are contributing to this vision

Climate information services dissemination through ESOKO platform. ESOKO profiles farmers in the different intervention regions prior to the dissemination of climate information services (CIS). The climate information disseminated includes onset and cessation of rainfall, and rainfall amounts. Specific CIS are disseminated using SMS, voice messages, and call services.

Pilot demonstration plots establishment in collaboration with RELCs. Pilot demonstrations are organized around specific CSA/CIS identified during the prioritization process. The pilots are established in collaboration with AICCRA Ghana partners, farmer-based organizations, Research-Extension Linkage Committees (RELCs) and end users.

Farmer field days on demonstration plot. During the field days, the specific CIS and CSA technologies that are established as pilots are showcased. These include Improved maize and cowpea seeds that are tolerant to the major

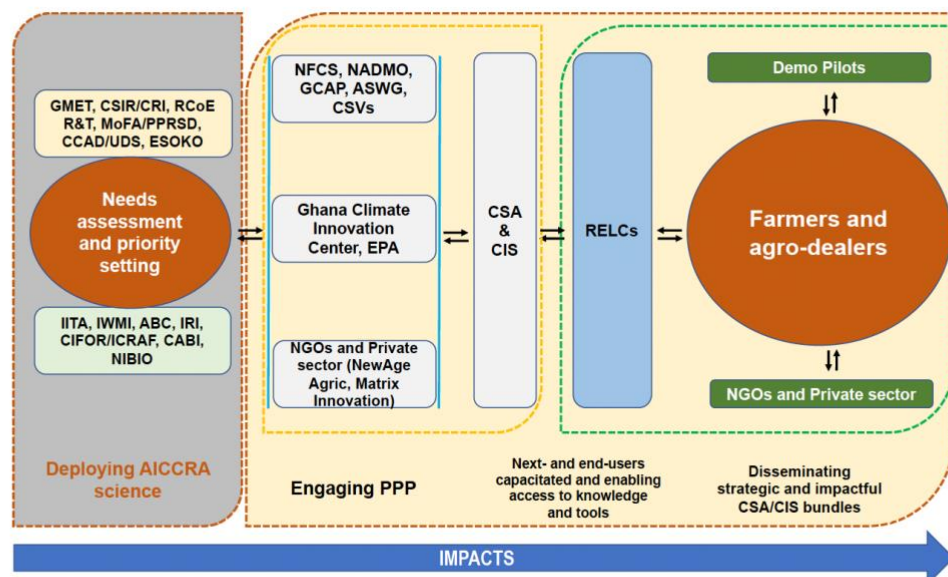


Figure 2. AICCRA Ghana impact pathway

stresses (drought, striga, pests and diseases). Improved soil fertility and water management interventions and biopesticides application for sustainable crop production are also promoted.

Awareness raising around CSA/CIS bundles piloted on demonstration plots. Awareness of CIS innovations are made through multiple approaches including the use of community radios and farmer field schools. Awareness are created around the CSA technologies that are being piloted at the AICCRA intervention communities.

Strategic stakeholder capacity strengthening on using and implementing AICCRA CSA/CIS bundles: training of next users. Capacitation of strategic stakeholders including governmental agencies and CORAF's Regional Center of Excellence is crucial for sustainability.

Media training on understanding AICCRA CSA/CIS bundles. The media is a key partner in AICCRA and are therefore trained to better understand CIS and CSA innovations. The media are engaged to raise awareness and enhance knowledge, understanding and reporting capacity on CIS and CSA technologies. Gender and Social Inclusion issues are also broadcasted for effective scaling of CIS/CSA innovations.

Linkages with World Bank and other large initiatives

Stakeholder engagement and initiatives for cross-fertilization are organized through series of capacitation and consultation events. AICCRA supports government-led project development and contemplates mainstreaming AICCRA science and products into the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) curricula development. AICCRA Ghana is leveraging experience acquired to provide technical support for the major World Bank AICCRA project in the sub-region referred as the Food System Resilience Program (FSRP).

About the Authors

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