TRAINING REPORT FOR THE CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE REPORTING TOOL WORKSHOPS

ICAT Initiative for Climate Action Transparency

Initiative for Climate Action Transparency - ICAT

Training Report

Deliverable #3.2

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DISCLAIMER

PREPARED UNDER

The ICAT project is managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

Table of contents

To update Table of Contents, right click on the table and select 'update table of contents'

Introduction

The Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development through the National CSA Multi-stakeholder Platform implemented the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) project aimed at strengthening the capacity to implement, monitor, and report climate change adaptation actions for the agriculture sector in Kenya at both national and county levels in a transparent manner.

In collaboration with several stakeholders, the project in phase 1 facilitated development of the National Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, a CSA reporting tool and establishment of County CSA Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (CSA-MSPs). Through this platforms we were able to sensitize them on Climate Change global, regional and national Policy frameworks, Climate Smart Agriculture Approach, and on transparency reporting requirements in the agriculture sector.

ICAT Project phase 2 aimed to further support capacity building on climate adaptation reporting at national and sub-national levels. It is based on this that we scheduled 2-day workshops for the Murang'a, Makueni, Nyamira, Taita Taveta and Baringo Counties to disseminate the Kenya Climate Smart agriculture Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks and test the online CSA reporting tool for feedback and improvement of the tool.

Main Objective

To equip county stakeholders with necessary knowledge and skills to undertake reporting of climate actions in the agriculture sector in an effective and transparent manner using the CSA reporting tool.

Specific Objectives

1. To enhance understanding of the transparency reporting requirements for the agriculture sector

2. To disseminate the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture monitoring and evaluation Framework as a tool to support effective climate adaptation reporting in the agriculture sector.

3. To practically interact with the CSA Reporting Tool

Training Approach

The training approach consisted of three modules, designed to build capacity on climate adaptation reporting. The first module covered transparency reporting under the UNFCCC, focusing on UNFCCC reporting frameworks, elements of transparency reporting, and the inter-relationships of reporting levels at sub-national, national, regional, and global levels. The second module focused on the Kenya CSA M&E framework, providing an overview of national climate change policy and legal frameworks and a deep dive into the CSA M&E framework matrix outcomes, outputs, and indicators. The third module centered on the CSA reporting tool, highlighting the need for the tool, its features and components, scalability and sustainability, and a practical session on its use.

Overall, the training approach aimed to equip stakeholders with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively use the CSA reporting tool to report on climate adaptation actions in a transparent manner.

Training Activities

The training sessions had integrated questions for plenary discussions and group activities. They included probing for additional capacity gaps and interacting with the Kenya CSA M&E Framework to review the listed outcomes, outputs and indicators.

Participants General Feedback on the presentations

- The presentations were easy to understand and follow.

- Facilitators were knowledgeable on the subjects being trained on

- Presentations had a lot of technical jargons for stakeholders with limited knowledge on climate change policy frameworks and CSA

- Sharing of presentations for further reading

- Some participants requested for more in depth training on certain topics e.g. Certified Climate Smart

Agriculture Approach training

- New members who did not attend previous sensitization workshops expressed the need for an introduction to the purpose of the Climate Smart Agriculture Stakeholder Platform.

Feedback on the CSA Reporting Tool

The third module, which was the practical module, received the most feedback.

Stakeholder Feedback Points on the CSA Reporting Tool	Feedback Category
- Data Reviewers should be at all levels – Sub county, County and National - How should we deal with organizing, funding and participating as part of the reporting – who reports (donor/government/etc.) - Participants raised concerns regarding the capacity of someone from one subsector to review a report from another subsector, hence the need to split the form into the existing subsectors. - Rejection: Notify the reporter internally about the questions with issues - Rejection: Notify the reporter internally about the questions with issues - Follow Up: If a reporter with issues does not log in within a week, send them an email - Action Confirmation: Request users to confirm that they want to submit a form - Tailor Form: Tailor form by sub-sector &/or administrative level - If a reviewer does not send a response, a reminder email can be sent a week after to avoid spamming - Challenge: This reporting tool could create issues on data sharing, management, access and most importantly attribution.	Reporting structure
- Address the cumulative problem that may arise when an activity is repeated for the same officers/target groups (issue of double reporting) - Quarterly reporting period to be aligned to Government of Kenya Financial Years and the inactive/published forms ones to be greyed out once done - Is it possible for forms to be done per county and to be evaluated by county directors and Chief Officers? The departments are able to capture and share the value chains as per their county	Reporting process
- Recommend to introduce communication within the tool so that in case a report is rejected by a reviewer, a reason can be provided, which would be valuable. - Consider developing an offline version of the tool - Only Chrome browser is working well. Need to check and enhance compatibility issues with other browser (Edge, safari, Firefox, etc.) - Log in to the tool: - instead of having to check your email to confirm your account, we can use a text message	Tool functionality
- Introduction of county-specific value chains that had been omitted, particularly in the crops subsector, where there were missing value chains specific to Makueni. - Landing page problems – some content was missing on Resources and Partnerships and the About content was incomplete/missing - There were problems with confirming the account after receiving the link to - activate it (though this was noted to be as a result of weak internet connection)	Tool content

- On the activated account under the name, it was recommended that we indicate user right in brackets next to the name (e.g. reviewer/reporter) – this is an addition - There was incorrect mapping of technology/practices options to value chains. 2.2 Type of Irrigation should include types of efficient irrigation practices in use 2.3 Green technology – It might be difficult for some reporters to understand the terminology Green Technology. Suggestions include: using layman's language or giving examples in brackets (simplify) - Freshwater fish is not opening - Under livestock: to include a list of actors i.e. state the actors trading in the CSA - Ha to acres (most farmers are smallholder farmers and are able to relate to acres than ha) - Others in the list did not have a text box to type in others. It also means that we are not able to report further for the categories categorized as "others." - Number of best practices under outcome 4: - to include the type of products - Vaccination – to show the type of diseases - Emergency response – The participants enquired – what are the measures of the emergency response - Under livestock – add value chain Hides and skin - Add components to soil conservations - The tool seems heavy on crop components, we need to add veterinary and livestock and gender - Chat Box in the form for queries while one is filling in the form - Specify the irrigation schemes under irrigation - Definition of improved varieties. In these choices, are b-d not improved varieties? - It's not possible to have a zero tillage, but minimum tillage, therefore remove zero tillage. - Change of **resistant** to **tolerant** in these choices e.g. Drought resistant crops and Disease resistant crops - Definition of some of these words in e.g. Kraaling? Parcage? Biocha? - Hematic bags in the following choices are not applicable for mangoes. - Adding IPM as part of technologies related to avocado. Additionally include apiculture as part of technologies for avocado and mango since most of the farmers are using bees for fertilization. - Adding more list vegetables - Constraint **Number of technologies developed for the Kales Value Chain** such that they cannot select more than the number specified in **Specify the types of technologies developed for the Kales Value Chain** - Removal of metal silos. - For post-harvest technologies to include breeding, seedbanks,	
For enhanced security it was recommended that we Add an extra level of password entry before entering the data to avoid intentional and/or malicious intentions by other people	Data Security

• Password: an option to view it to confirm that you have inserted the correct password

Lessons Learnt

These trainings have provided valuable insights into the strengths and limitations of the tool, and have highlighted areas for improvement in order to enhance its functionality and usability. This section outlines the key lessons learned from these trainings, including suggestions for improving the tool and training materials, as well as recommendations for future trainings and engagement with stakeholders.

- With its adaptable design, the CSA Reporting Tool can easily support the inclusion of additional reporting forms.

- Making the CSA Reporting Tool accessible offline would improve its reach, particularly in areas where internet connectivity is limited.

- Build on the data dictionary so that it can have a wider variety of choices across sub sector value chains.

- It is important to allocate more time for training on the tool, as the current two-day session does not provide sufficient opportunity for stakeholders to become proficient in its use.

- There is need for additional costs to support continuous training and regular update or improvement of the tool where necessary and applicable.

- The tool has been perceived as overly long by many stakeholders, highlighting the need to consider opportunities for shortening it

- It is important to consider implementing a trial phase in order to test the tool's effectiveness with all the reporters who have been trained and new users prior to its official launch.

- To fully integrate the tool into the data collection process, it is recommended that trainings be provided for officials at all levels, including sub-county and ward levels where initial data will be collected.

Plan for scaling the CSA Reporting Tool

- Scaling up the training on the CSA reporting tool, we will need to budget for training costs. This is in order to train additional counties and reach our scaling targets. Based on our experience with the initial trainings in the five counties, we estimate that each two-day training for 20 participants will cost approximately 500,000 Kenyan shillings. This includes the cost of three facilitators, operation and travel costs, training materials and associated costs, conference package.

- To fully operationalize the tool and for stakeholders to effectively report using it, we are working to

  - Identify a permanent hosting facility for the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development that is affordable and reliable to ensure sustainability of the developed tool.

- Identify potential partners and stakeholders who are interested in supporting the implementation of the CSA reporting tool in their respective counties. This is currently being done through the National CSA Multi Stakeholder Thematic Working Group on Coordination and Reporting processes.

  - o Explore partnership opportunities with national projects aimed at promoting climate action transparency and leverage their resources and networks to support the training and scaling up of the CSA reporting tool in counties. This could include collaborating on joint trainings or sharing of resources and expertise.

- Develop a standardized training guide that can be easily replicated in other counties.

  - o This should include a detailed training curriculum, materials, and assessment tools.
  - o To be reviewed as we continue receiving feedback from the training workshops

- Train a group of more expert trainers who can then train others including those in the established County MSPs on the CSA reporting tool. These expert trainers will be drawn from the National CSA MSP particularly the Thematic Working Group on Coordination and Reporting Processes

- The experts and administrators will be responsible for:
    - Conducting Training of Trainers (TOT) workshops to potential users of the tool.
    - Providing the trainers with ongoing technical support to ensure the success of the training and the effective implementation of the CSA reporting tool.
    - Conducting regular monitoring and evaluation of the training program to ensure that it is meeting its goals and objectives, and to identify areas for improvement.
    - This will include feedback from participants and trainers, as well as an assessment of the impact of the training on the use of the CSA reporting tool.
- Use the results of the monitoring and evaluation to refine the training guides and make necessary adjustments to ensure its effectiveness in different counties.
- The tool will also be tested by the by getting feedback from the validators and users of the information from the tool at both county and national level for continual updating.

Annexes

Workshop Agenda

County stakeholder workshop on CSA Reporting Tool February 20-21|23-24, 2023

Day 1: February 23, 2023

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE
8:30-9.00am	Participants arrival and registration	**MSP Team**
9:00-10:00am	Welcome and introduction	All
	Opening Remarks	County Representatives MSP Team
10:00-10.30am	Workshop objectives & expected outputs	**MSP Team**
10:30-11.00am	**TEA BREAK/GROUP PHOTO**	
11:00-1:00pm	Transparency reporting under the UNFCCC UNFCCC reporting frameworks Elements of transparency reporting Linking transparency reporting to climate action The inter-relationships of reporting levels Sub national (ward, sub county, county), National, Regional and Global	**MSP Team**
	Interactive Q&A	**All**
1:00-2:00pm	**LUNCH**	
2:00-4:15pm	Kenya CSA M&E framework Climate change policy and legal frameworks Overview of the CSA M&E Framework (the framework matrix outcomes-outputs-indicators)	**MSP Team**
	Activity: Outcomes-Outputs-Indicators	**All**
	Interactive Q&A	**All**
4:15pm-4:30pm	Wrap up	
4:30pm	**TEA BREAK & DEPARTURE**	

Day 2: February 24, 2023

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE
8:30-9.00am	Participants arrival and registration	MSP Team
9:00-10:30am	CSA Reporting tool • Need for the CSA Reporting tool • CSA Reporting Tool features, components, content • Scalability and sustainability	MSP Team
	Interactive Q&A	All

10:30-11.00am	**TEA BREAK**	
11:00-1:00pm	Demonstration of the CSA Reporting Tool	MSP Team
	Interactive Q&A	
	Practical session on the use of CSA reporting tool: Project	All
1:00-2:00pm	**LUNCH**	
2:00-4:00pm	Plenary Discussion • What is working well? • Are there any issues/challenges? • Which gaps need to be addressed?	**All**
4:00-4:30pm	Next steps, wrap up and workshop closure	**MSP Team**
4:30pm	**TEA BREAK & DEPARTURE**	

County Workshop Photos

Baringo County Stakeholders

Nyamira County Stakeholders

Murang'a county stakeholders

Makueni County Stakeholders

Taita Taveta County Stakeholders