

GACSA ANNUAL REPORT

2022



PREPARED BY
GACSA Facilitation Unit

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
GOVERNANCE	7
FINANCIAL SUMMARY.....	8
GACSA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE.....	9
GACSA OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION.....	10
GACSA Outreach	10
Thematic Focus 1 - Sustainable Agriculture: addressing climate change in a multi-dimensional food system	10
Thematic Focus 2 - Innovation and New Technologies for Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA)	12
Thematic Focus 3 - Resiliency and Climate Change Adaptation	13
Broadening Partnerships.....	14
GACSA Communication.....	16
NEW ACTIVITIES FOR 2023 AND BEYOND.....	17
GACSA APP	17
GACSA E-learning	18
GACSA Shark Tank Approach	18
GACSA Website	19
GACSA Funding Platform	19
CONCLUSION.....	20
ANNEXES	22
ANNEX 1	22

GACSA Facilitation Unit
Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA)
Hosted by:
Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy
<https://www.fao.org/gacsa/en/>
GACSA-Facilitation-Unit@fao.org

ABBREVIATIONS

ACSAA – Africa Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance

ACSAF – Africa Climate Smart Agriculture Framework

AG – Action Group

AIM4C – Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate

ASEAN-CNR – ASEAN Climate Resilience Network

AWG – Agriculture Working Group

CFS – Committee on World Food Security

COP27 – 27th Conference of the Parties

COP28 – 28th Conference of the Parties

CSA – Climate Smart Agriculture

CSAYN – Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network

CSI – Digitalization and Informatics Division

CSOs – Civil Society Organizations

ECOSOC – United Nations Economic and Social Council

FAO – Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations

FU – Facilitation Unit

GACSA – Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture

IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Developments

OCC – Office of Communications

PLACA – La Plataforma de Acción Climática en Agricultura de Latinoamérica y el Caribe

RA – Regional Alliance

RBAs – Rome Based Agencies

SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals

UN – United Nations

WFF – World Food Forum

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2022 marked the beginning of the Strategic Plan 2022-2032 which identifies the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA), as the multi-stake holder platform - with an extensive membership base, ranging from governmental organizations to NGOs, farmers organizations, private sector organizations, universities and academia - that will drive forward the evolution of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA). The objective of the document is to provide an update on progresses made by GACSA and the Facilitation Unit (FU) in line with the newly adopted Strategic Plan, and report key achievements and challenges for 2022

Governance

the Strategic Committee (SC) and the Annual Forum for the year 2022 will take place in February 2023. During the SC, a tentative date and agenda for the Annual Forum will be discussed and approved by the SC members. Both GACSA flagship events will be led by the co-chairs Ms Imelda Bacudo and Mr Hans Hoogeveen.

Membership update

Throughout the first semester of 2022, GACSA carried out a membership update process. The main aim was to ensure that GACSA has members contributing towards CSA practices, sharing knowledge, visibility and creating collaborations. Moreover, the objective was to seek information on members' peculiarities and, ongoing activities and projects. GACSA has now 186 members divided into 6 (six) constituencies: governments, international and regional organizations, research bodies, civil society organizations, farmers' and producers' organizations and businesses.



GACSA Outreach

During 2022, the FU has worked intensively to transform CSA thinking into action by identifying and co-convening events, capacity building opportunities and projects related to CSA and most relevant to its GACSA members. The activities reflect the three thematic areas outlined in the Strategic Plan 2022-2023: (a) sustainable agriculture, addressing climate change in a multi-dimensional food system; (b) innovation and new technologies for climate-smart agriculture; and (c) resiliency and climate change adaptation. In addition, the Alliance has broadened its membership base with two new Regional Alliances, with further expansions planned for 2023, as well as increased its participation and communication with and among the Action Groups.



GACSA Communication

GACSA FU has been improving its communication strategy and is active on several GACSA Social Media platforms. The numbers of followers have been steadily increasing monthly throughout the year. Furthermore, GACSA's activities and engagements have been promoted within FAO networks and amongst GACSA's members. In addition, the FU highlighted different partner initiatives on GACSA platforms and contributed to knowledge sharing and to facilitating cross learning of ideas and lessons.

GACSA New Activities for 2023 and beyond

GACSA FU is currently working on 4 new activity proposals that are being developed to revamp GACSA in cooperation with GACSA Members, FAO technical division and Action Group co-leaders. The activities include the transformation of the GACSA website into a new and user friendly one, the development of an e-learning course to enhance farmers' knowledge on CSA, the creation of a funding platform for farmers and the launch of a Shark-Tank initiative for CSA related innovations.

INTRODUCTION

As per the successfully convened GACSA Annual Forum in November 2021, and the newly approved Strategic Plan 2022-2032, the Global Alliance for CSA is strategically placed to drive forward CSA thinking to action, as a multi-stake holder platform with an extensive membership base, ranging from governmental organizations to NGOs, farmers organizations, private sector organizations, universities and academia, among others.

Following the adoption of the Strategic Plan 2022-2032, GACSA's goal has been to increasingly focus its activities on the SDGs, NDCs and other relevant frameworks to leverage CSA as a tool towards achieving national and local policy strategies. The Alliance adjusted its strategy to concentrate its activities on accelerating multi-stakeholder actions, recognizing the central role of farmers, and mobilizing resources to offer solutions at local and country level.

In line with these changes, the GACSA FU has, in 2022, assembled a growing platform of members as the backbone of the next generation of actors to shape sustainable agriculture and sustainable food systems. For example, the Alliance has expanded significantly with the inauguration of two CSA Regional Groups, which offer important opportunities to share experiences and translate global development to implementation. In addition, the FU ensured that at the core of all events organised and/or co-hosted by the Alliance were the GACSA's objectives to support the achievement of the SDGs, especially SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 12.3 (reduce food loss and waste), SDG 13 (climate action) and SDG 12.2 (sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources). In doing so, GACSA has contributed to addressing the multiple challenges for sustainable agriculture caused by climate change including higher average temperatures, greater differences in water availability and distribution, and increasingly fluctuating and severe weather events.

This report subsequently summarises and presents these first steps made by the Alliance and specifically the FU towards delivering on the goals outlined in the Strategic Plan 2022-2032, during the past year. The report will respectively address updates concerning the Alliance's Governance, Finances and Membership base. Followed by a summary of GACSA's work regarding outreach and communication, highlighting the Alliance's most successful and influential events, including its work at the World Food Forum (WFF) and during the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). Finally, the report will introduce five new activity proposals the FU has been working on, with the aim of providing a solid foundation for the Alliance to catalyse the transformation of CSA thinking into action in the years to come.

GOVERNANCE

As per the last GACSA Annual Forum held in November 2021, several governance matters were raised and discussed to improve the overall functioning of the Alliance. Amongst others, the new composition of the GACSA Strategic Committee was discussed, and it was agreed that its activity needs to be modified in order to become a more efficient and effective governing body. In addition, the GACSA FU agreed on organizing more activities and projects, in order to increase support of its members, improve and enhance CSA practices around the world.



Throughout the year, GACSA FU has experienced organizational and personnel challenges which affected the overall workflow and the organization of activities. One of the main consequences has been the limited coordination with Regional Alliances and Action Groups. Notwithstanding the actions envisaged in the Annual Forum, the engagement from members has not significantly increased and has not become more effective. Strategic Committee members have not been particularly active in activities organized by the GACSA FU. Being fully aware that these changes need time to be implemented, the FU is coordinating and developing more activities with members and regional alliances to make sure these changes are successfully executed, but a strong commitment from all the members of the Alliance is desired.

In addition, because of the above-mentioned matters, the Strategic Committee and the Annual Forum for the year 2022 have been postponed until 2023. The SC will take place virtually on the 1st of February 2023 via Zoom platform. During the SC, a tentative date and agenda for the Annual Forum will be discussed and approved by the SC members. Both GACSA flagship events will be led by the co-chairs Ms Imelda Bacudo and Mr Hans Hoogeveen. The GACSA FU is committed in organizing new events and projects - which are developed in chapter “GACSA New Activities for 2023 and beyond” of this report- in order to increase the engagement of the members and the successful attainment of the Strategic Plan 2022-2032 objectives.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Contributions

GACSA was financed by a Multi-Donors Trust Fund (MUL/586), through financial contributions made by:

- The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of The Netherlands
- The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine of Ireland
- The Federal Office for Agriculture of Switzerland

The Alliance received donor's contribution in 2022 only by The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine of Ireland, of total USD 67,568.

Expenditures

In 2022, the total expenditures of GACSA FU, were USD 274,348 including salaries for the General Staff Services, Consultants, General Operating Costs and Support Costs. The remaining available budget for 2023 is USD 343,150. The detailed breakdown of expenditures is, as per below:

<i>Budget Lines</i>	<i>Expenses in USD</i>
<i>General Staff</i>	<i>23,722</i>
<i>Consultants</i>	<i>224,786</i>
<i>Technical Support Services</i>	<i>10,446</i>
<i>General Operating Expenses</i>	<i>1,349</i>
<i>Support Costs (7%)</i>	<i>14,045</i>
<i>Total Expenditures in 2022</i>	<i>274,348</i>
<i>Available Budget for 2023</i>	<i>343,150</i>

Available funds and forecast until December 2023

The available budget for GACSA FU is USD 343,150 as of 31 December 2023.

The forecast until December 2023 for total expenditures is approximately USD 331,591. The main expenditures will be charged against Salaries for GACSA FU team members, General Operating Expenses (Annual Forum 2023), Technical Support Services (i.e. programme support), and Support Costs for being hosted by FAO.

GACSA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

GACSA is a multi-stakeholder platform with different members and comprises 6 constituencies namely governments, international and regional organizations, research bodies, civil society organizations, farmers' and producers' organizations and business. Members are divided into Regional Alliances according to their location and into action groups according to members' interests. Because of the conformation and the functioning of the Alliance, keeping the membership list up to date is crucial for the successful and smooth development of activities.



The membership update process commenced in January 2022, with preparations taking place since December 2021. Consequently, the GACSA membership update process went on throughout the first semester of 2022. The main aim was to ensure that GACSA has members contributing towards CSA practices, sharing knowledge, visibility, creating collaborations and are from various constituencies. The Facilitation Unit contacted the Members to have updates on their membership status

and consequently divided them according to the constituency they refer to. The membership update has been done through an online google form with the objective of seeking information on members' peculiarities and, ongoing activities and projects. The goal was to increase their visibility among each other and to external parties by sharing information regarding themselves. Moreover, the FU aimed at calling into action the members the answers received to the google form and according to other singular updates received during the year.

GACSA now currently has 186 members (detailed list is available in Annex 1):

- ✓ 15 governments
- ✓ 4 international and regional organizations
- ✓ 48 research bodies
- ✓ 58 civil society organizations
- ✓ 24 farmers' and/or producers' organizations
- ✓ 37 businesses.

GACSA OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION

GACSA Outreach

During 2022, the GACSA FU has worked intensively to transform CSA thinking into action. It has mobilized its multi-stake holder platform with members, ranging from governments, international and regional organizations, research bodies, civil society, farmers' organizations and businesses, to initiate the implementation of GACSA's 2022-2032 Strategic Plan. Additionally, the GACSA FU has, throughout the year, identified and co-convened events, capacity building opportunities and projects related to CSA and most relevant to its GACSA members. Central to these activities have been the guiding principles adopted in the 2022-2032 Strategic Plan, placing farmers at the core of GACSA's work. Moreover, a specific focus has been awarded to the crosscutting themes of women, youth and finance.

The following section will highlight some of GACSA's outreach activities that have been organized and/or hosted by either the Action Groups, Regional Alliances, Co-Chairs or the FU in 2022. The activities have been categorized along the three thematic areas, as outlined in the Strategic Plan 2022-2023: (a) sustainable agriculture, addressing climate change in a multi-dimensional food system; (b) innovation and new technologies for climate-smart agriculture; and (c) resiliency and climate change adaptation.

Thematic Focus 1 - Sustainable Agriculture: addressing climate change in a multi-dimensional food system

The importance of working towards sustainable agriculture is to ensure that our food systems will continue to deliver 'food security and nutrition for all in such a way that the economic, social and environmental bases to generate food security and nutrition for future generations is not compromised'.¹ The GACSA FU has actively participated in multiple virtual and in-person meetings together with GACSA Members and other potential partners, focusing on possible collaborations in promoting CSA on global, regional and country level, in order to raise awareness about and promote sustainable agriculture approaches. These events included, among others:

G20 Indonesia – 30 and 31 March 2022

The first Agriculture Deputies Meeting by the G20 Agriculture Working Group (AWG) that was held virtually on the 30th and 31st of March 2022 under the theme "Balancing Production and Trade to Fulfil Food for All". G20 AWG 2022 focused on intensifying shared commitment on three priority issues: (1) Building a resilient and sustainable food systems and agriculture; (2) Promoting an open, predictable and transparent agricultural trade to ensure food availability and affordability for all; and (3) Promoting innovative agri-preneurial through digital agriculture to improve livelihood of farmers in rural areas.

¹ [Food Systems | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(fao.org\)](https://www.fao.org/)

The meeting invited delegates to commit to ensuring adequate food supplies for all, by ensuring a balance between guaranteed supplies sourced from agriculture and a resilient and sustainable food system and supplies sourced from trade in food and agricultural commodities across national borders. In this regard, both GACSA Co-Chairs, Ms Imelda Bacudo and Mr Hans Hoogeveen, were invited to the virtually held meeting on 30th of March 2022, as speakers to present GACSA to the G20 as a global platform to convene their CSA initiatives. During the virtually meeting a presentation was given, focusing on: (i) main achievements of the Alliance; (ii) introducing Action Groups and Regional Alliances; (iii) presenting a new Strategic Plan for 2022-2032; and (iv) work in the ASEAN region through ASEAN-Climate Resilience Network (CRN). GACSA Co-Chairs encourage the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture to become a GACSA Member. The Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture showed high interest and support in becoming an active GACSA member. Indonesia Ministry of Agriculture's membership application will be submitted to GACSA in the upcoming months.

The Biennial Africa Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) conference - 14 September 2022

The conference hosted the continental dialogue on the Africa Climate Smart Framework (ACSAF); ACSAF developed to respond to and plan the implementation of the AU-developed Africa Climate Change Strategy. The ACSAF dialogue provided the opportunity to prepare adequately for the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) in Egypt. GACSA Co-Chair, Mr Hans Hoogeveen provided the opening remarks and was one of the keynote speakers.

World Food Forum – October 2022

Building on previous year's success, the 2022 flagship event comprised the Global Youth Forum for Food and Agriculture, the Science and Innovation Forum and the Hand-in-Hand Investment Forum. These three interlinked fora advanced bold and actionable solutions to catalyze the transformation of our agrifood systems in light of the current challenges and crises, highlighting the importance of collaboration between the current and next generation and their combined ingenuity in science, technology and innovation – and investments in key areas of food and agriculture. GACSA has co-convened the below side events during the WFF in October 2022:

- “Towards a Better Health, Nutrition and Sustainable Livelihoods: Empowering Young People to Live Better and Lighter” (in person side event) – 18 October 2022

The main aim was to raise awareness and critical thinking to connect how daily living decisions affect the world, biodiversity and people around us, as well as, highlighting the role of Youth and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in shaping a sustainable diet with a great opportunity for Youth and CSOs, in order to exchange and come up with innovative solutions towards creating a better food future. GACSA Co-Chair, Mr Hans Hoogeveen was part of the discussion panel and provided closing remarks.

- “Empowering Young Women Farmers focused on Climate Smart Agriculture” (virtual side event) – 20 October 2022

Three women farmers from developing countries, shared their stories and provided live case studies, including challenges they are currently facing as women farmers and shared their solutions, and how they apply climate smart agriculture within their farming practices. The aim was to empower young women farmers and showcase that nothing is impossible, there is always a solution and especially within the agricultural challenges, one of the solutions is climate smart agriculture. The side event was moderated by GACSA Co-Chair, Ms Imelda Bacudo including closing remarks. ([recording](#))

Thematic Focus 2 - Innovation and New Technologies for Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA)

CSA practices can enhance existing approaches and deliver new ways to sustainably increase agricultural productivity, improve livelihoods, conserve nature and biodiversity, adapt and build resilience to climate change, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in food systems. Therefore, innovative climate-smart technologies, practices, policies and funding mechanisms are urgently required to improve food security and drive economic growth. The GACSA FU has worked diligently to create an enabling environment for CSA invocation, facilitating the development of new technologies. Some examples of how this has been done in the past year are:

Kitchen Connection – 21 April 2022

GACSA FU has held discussions regarding support for the launch of Kitchen Connection Cookbook. Kitchen Connection Founder and CEO, Ms Earlene Cruz, represented GACSA during United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) event, which was organized together with WFF, where GACSA is an active member and is represented in the Marketing & Outreach group by the FU team. GACSA Facilitation Unit attended the ECOSOC event and provided support in drafting speaking points, outreach and communication.

Global Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN)

On 18 August 2022, GACSA supported CSAYN in co-convening a flagship event focusing on Children and Youth in Agriculture program. With the Youth Circle event the main aim was to put youth in front of COP27 preparations, opening the dialogue about the COP26 outcomes, food system developments and recommendations for upcoming global summit fostering intergenerational and intercultural knowledge exchange.

The flagship event consisted of three main parts:

- Reflection on the past achievements of the international negotiations;
- Sharing good practices implemented in different countries which contribute to global climate action efforts; and
- Mapping the road towards COP27, major focus points for the discussion and hopes for upcoming conference in terms of adopted agreement.

In addition, FU supported the virtual launching of the GCSAYN Virtual Academy in December 2022. The virtual Academy aim to educate and train young students starting from primary school up to University about CSA best practices through specific courses, flexible trainings that can enhance potential collaborations and opportunities especially to those at colleges, universities. In addition, it is an educational and training program (online or web based) environment intended to supplement youth's skills and educational experiences. The Virtual Academy launch was moderated by Mr Divine Ntiokam, founder and Executive Director of CSAYN together with other 2 moderators. Opening remarks were provided by Ms Laurette Dube, Founding Chair and Scientific Director of the McGill Centre for Convergence of Health Economics and Mr Quamrul Chowdhury, Lead Climate Negotiator of Lead

Developed Countries (LDCs). The total number of registrations exceeded more than 150, mainly from the youth group, private sector and farmer organizations.

Committee on World Food Security (CFS) – October 2022

CFS is using a multi-stakeholder, inclusive approach, and develops and endorses policy recommendations and guidance on a wide range of food security and nutrition topics. These are developed starting from scientific and evidence-based reports produced by the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) and/or through work supported technically by FAO, The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), World Food Programme (WFP) and representatives of the CFS Advisory Group. In October 2022, GACSA FU together with its members, has co-convened two virtual side events during CFS50:

- “The Role of Farmers in Concurrently Delivering Agroecosystems Services and Food & Nutrition Security” - 10 October 2022

Farmers from Chile, Costa Rica, Ireland, the Philippines, and the United States shared how they deliver food and nutrition security while enhancing the environment during CFS 50. The virtual side event was organized by the GACSA, the Global Farmer Network, Solutions from the Land, and ASEAN Climate Resilience Network and GACSA Co-Chair, Mr Hans Hoogeveen provided the closing remarks. ([recording](#))

- “Promoting Responsible and Climate Smart Investment in Agriculture in Southeast Asia through Multi-stakeholder Approaches”– 12 October 2022

The main aim was to improve awareness and understanding of innovative approaches to promote responsible and climate smart investment in agriculture and food systems in ASEAN and of the methodologies, tools and metrics developed to support these approaches. It served as a platform to exchange experiences on the roles of different stakeholders in ASEAN in promoting responsible and climate smart investment and the importance of multi-stakeholder approaches for coordinating these roles. GACSA Co-Chair, Ms Imelda Bacudo provided the closing remarks. ([recording](#))

Thematic Focus 3 - Resiliency and Climate Change Adaptation

The final thematic focus as outlined in the GACSA 2022-2030 Strategic Plan is ‘resiliency and climate change adaption’. Especially, smallholder farmers and their farming livelihoods are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Therefore, it is crucial that we devote our attention to support them in adapting their businesses to mitigate these effects of global warming. GACSA is uniquely placed to promote multi-stakeholder dialogues that lead to actions that combine the strengths of all stakeholders to improve farmers’ climate resiliency. With GACSA’s broad and diverse membership it can stimulate large-scale projects that integrate climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Examples of such initiatives that GACSA developed and facilitated this year were:

Knowledge Sharing Action Group – 30 March 2022

GACSA Knowledge Sharing Action Group, co-leads by Ms Allison Morrill Chatrchyan from Cornell University and Mr Ernest Shea from Solutions from the Land, organized a dynamic webinar focused on

financial measures improving rural livelihoods through the 4R Solution project. The project's aim showed how adopting more sustainable farming practices can increase resilience, incomes, and food security, and reduce poverty for 80,000 smallholder farmers, particularly women.

A new discussion paper was presented on "Can 4R Practices Limit Nitrous Oxide Emissions from Increasing Fertilizer Use in Sub-Saharan Africa?". The 4R Solution project is a Global Affairs Canada|Affaires mondiales Canada funded project being implemented in Ethiopia, Ghana and Senegal in partnership with Fertilizer Canada, CDF Canada and African Plant Nutrition Institute.

ASEAN Climate Resilience Network – 19 April 2022

GACSA Co-Chair, Ms Imelda Bacudo spoke during 7th Annual Meeting organized by the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (CRN) with support from GIZ-The Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Value Chains in ASEAN (ASEAN AgriTrade) project, the UN FAO Regional Asia Pacific Office, in close cooperation with the host the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation Myanmar, and the ASEAN Secretariat, and by the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand.

Hired Consult and Youth Consortium “Bee Day” – 19 May 2022

GACSA FU co-convened a youth focused virtual dialogue, focused on: “Bee Farming and Food Security in Africa, towards a resilient food system and sustainable livelihood”, highlighting the importance of youth engagement in climate smart agriculture and education (“From words to actions”). GACSA FU supported youth focused dialogues and creating social media campaigns to ensure youth is engaged and providing a possibility for youth to share their CSA practices, clear outcomes from virtual dialogues will be discussed, and a series of webinars will be co-convened in 2023, with tangible outputs in the form of a discussion paper will be written University of Nairobi and Hired Consult. All collaborations will focus on linkage with UN related events and GACSA. ([recording](#))

Mana Pacific (The Moana Pledge) – 04 July 2022

Mana Pacific is an active GACSA Member and GACSA FU attended and supported a virtual event where a new initiative was presented by Mana Pacific the focal points on “Solar Impulse certified Moana Pledge, an energy independence and resiliency project accelerator for Pacific Islands, with 6 Pillars: A Pledge, Process, and Platform for People, Planet, and Prosperity”. As an output a Case Study was published and uploaded on [GACSA website](#).

Broadening Partnerships

Finally, in order to properly contextualize the work of the GACSA FU throughout the year, it is important to consider one of the guiding principles of the 2022-2030 Strategic Plan, namely broadening partnerships between sectors. To effectively scale up and raise awareness about CSA on a global level it is important to connect with new actors within the agricultural sector, but also beyond, such as governance, banking, insurance, health and digital connectivity. GACSA aims to diversify its membership towards these stakeholders, and GACSA members are encouraged to engage with other relevant sectors in order to

create linkages to scale up CSA throughout food systems. The events mentioned are an example of the work the GACSA FU has been doing throughout the year to increase and diversify its membership base.

GACSA Facilitation Unit and FAO Technical Divisions – February 2022

Team members of GACSA FU have organized meetings (in-person and virtual) with FAO Technical Divisions focal points, in order to increase and improve partnerships and collaborations with secretariats hosted by FAO. An email has been sent to ensure all focal points, websites and areas of work are amongst GACSA's database and any future activities will involve specific technical teams (if applicable).

Inaugural virtual meeting for Central Africa – 12 May 2022

Africa Climate-Smart Agriculture Alliance (ACSAA), is an affiliate of the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA), is a pan-African multi-stakeholder platform to facilitate peer exchange and learning, build a common understanding of contributions to CSA, aligning and harmonizing various climate change and agriculture programs undertaken across Africa at multiple scales. The Africa CSA Alliance also provides the necessary coordination platform to progress towards achieving the African Union 25x25 Vision on CSA. Both GACSA Co-Chairs provided opening and/or closing remarks. ([recording](#))

Inaugural meeting for GACSA Regional Alliance for North Africa - 01 June 2022

A virtual inaugural meeting for a new GACSA Regional Alliance for North Africa. GACSA Co-Chair Ms Imelda Bacudo provided opening remarks, panel consisted of high-level experts from the agri-sector in that region. ([recording](#))

GACSA and AIM4Climate partnerships

GACSA became an official Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM4C) Knowledge Partner, and the main vision is to amplify CSA globally, as well as accelerate its multi-stakeholder actions, create new tools and mobilize resources to lead positive change within CSA.

In addition, the GACSA FU has attended as Aim for Climate Partner to discuss the COP27 and the road to COP28. Aim for Climate introduced different sponsorships/partnerships and other opportunities for organizations to get involved and collaborate at COP28. The main purpose for GACSA Facilitation Unit to participate was joining the preparatory session over the organization and the logistic part of the Aim for Climate Summit on May 2023 since GACSA will potentially co-host various CSA related sessions during the Summit. The AIM for Climate Summit will be held on 08-10 May 2023 in Washington, D.C., in order to bring together partners to increase and accelerate investment in and support agriculture and food systems innovation for climate action. Supported by the Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR), the Summit will spotlight opportunities for climate solutions and amplify climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation in the lead-up to COP28 in the United Arab Emirates. This premier global event, exclusively for AIM for Climate partners, will provide a game-changing platform to raise ambition, build collaborations, and share knowledge on climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation.

La Plataforma de Acción Climática en Agricultura de Latinoamérica y el Caribe (PLACA)

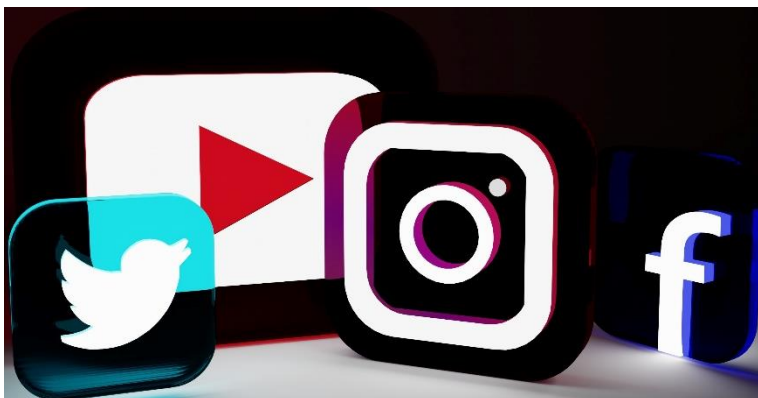
GACSA held discussions PLACA to host a virtual event to promote best practices in the Latin America Region on Adaptation and Mitigation. This is planned for 2023.

GACSA Communication

GACSA FU has been improving its communication strategy and is active on several GACSA Social Media platforms. The numbers of followers have been steadily increasing on a monthly basis throughout the year. Furthermore, GACSA's activities and engagements have been promoted within FAO networks and amongst GACSA's members. Especially, the GACSA Knowledge Sharing Platform (LinkedIn) is being actively used by GACSA members to promote their CSA related activities, webinars, publications and call to actions.

Additionally, the GACSA Facilitation Unit is working on creating a new, more modern and user-friendly GACSA's with the aim of introducing this in the first quarter of 2023.

LinkedIn – GACSA's LinkedIn profile has reached more than 5.5k followers, which is more than 850 followers since last year. GACSA FU ensures at least one post per week. Monthly views are on average 30k. One of the highest viewed posts included the post promoting the work of Salt Doctors (GACSA Members) on "Improving crop yield under saline conditions and putting the solutions into the hands of farmers.", had more than 12k views.



Twitter – GACSA's twitter has around 1.7k followers, which is 220 new followers since last year. In addition, the GACSA Twitter account has been mentioned several times by FAO related accounts, CFS and many more. Currently the GACSA FU is, together with the FAO Office of Communications (OCC), looking into new ways of improving Twitter analytics as the previous platform is no longer functioning.

Facebook – GACSA's Facebook profile has been mentioned on a regular basis and has gained around 150 new followers throughout the year, amounting to a total of 261 followers. GACSA posts are being re-shared by individual profiles, as well as GACSA Members Facebook pages.

Instagram – youth focused social media platform has attracted many youth groups and GACSA's visibility is increasing. Currently GACSA Instagram profile has 179 followers and GACSA Members are actively adding GACSA related posts and using related hashtags.

YouTube – In total 9 new recordings were uploaded this year. Among these recordings were the Knowledge Sharing Action Group webinar (30 March 2022); the inaugural meeting for the Regional Alliance for Central Africa and (in French) the Bee Farming and Food Security in Africa, towards a resilient

food system and sustainable livelihood. Especially, the recording of the Global CSAYN Flagship event, which was co-hosted by GACSA, gained significant attraction, receiving more than 170 views. As of December 2022, GACSA YouTube channel has 234 subscribers.

Newsletter – GACSA newsletter is being sent to all GACSA members on a bi-monthly basis. These GACSA monthly Highlights showcase the work of GACSA Members, Regional Alliances and Action Groups. All newsletters are available on the GACSA Website. The December issue will be circulated in the first/second week of January 2023.

NEW ACTIVITIES FOR 2023 AND BEYOND

GACSA Facilitation Unit is currently working on 4 (four) new activity proposals that are being developed in order to revamp GACSA. Together with GACSA Co-Chairs weekly meetings are being held, as well as separate discussions and meeting with GACSA FU team members, GACSA Members, FAO technical division and Action Group co-leaders. The new activity proposals are as per below and are currently in a draft version:

1. GACSA APP and GACSA E-learning Course
2. GACSA Shark Tank
3. GACSA Website
4. GACSA Funding Platform

GACSA APP

The GACSA Facilitation Unit is working on developing a peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, capacity building and networking platform for (young) farmers in the form of an application for mobile phones. The idea behind this application is that it will provide a 'participatory technology development approach' to address the hesitancy among smallholder farmers to adopt CSA approaches because of their usual top-down implementation, omitting the incorporation local customs in their design. Through this app (young) farmers, who are interested in CSA, will be able to connect and interact with likeminded farmers from their region as well as with potential investors and local policymakers and academics, to foster peer-to-peer learning and an intergenerational knowledge exchange. Furthermore, they will be able to receive tailored



information, relevant to their specific businesses, through the knowledge portal section in the application, addressing networking and capacity development needs. In doing so, the app will be in line with IFAD's recommendations for successful interventions to support smallholder commodity farmers, offering a multidimensional and customized approach, focussing on connecting and partnering farmers with each other and public and private sector institutions and sponsors.

GACSA E-learning

GACSA members have identified, through a survey done through membership update during the first quarter of 2022, a lack of development opportunities for knowledge sharing of CSA 'good practices. Therefore, the GACSA Facilitation Unit is working on developing a "*Climate Smart Agriculture e-learning course*" aimed at training young future leaders with a solid background in CSA, as one possibility to address these capacity development needs. The course will be divided into specific modules, addressing CSA topics from an interdisciplinary perspective. The aim is to include in every module a set of online pre-recorded lectures, GACSA case studies and a final examination. Additionally, the GACSA FU would like to complement these online trainings with lectures from guest speakers from the GACSA's member base and beyond, to introduce an intergenerational exchange between young students and practitioners within the same classroom. Upon successful completion of the course, the idea is to present participants with a GACSA (and other involved partners supported) certificate.

GACSA Shark Tank Approach

GACSA Facilitation Unit have identified a lack of funding opportunities young farmers often have no access to potential investors. To incentivize the development of these risk financing tools, GACSA is launching the following four challenges (sustainable and equitable increases in agricultural productivity and incomes, greater resilience of food systems and farming livelihoods, reduction and/or removal of greenhouse gas emission associated with agriculture, where possible and female led CSA innovative approaches) with the aim to demonstrate alternative ways of collecting or monitoring critical datasets and indices that can be used to ultimately assess in a granular, scalable and dynamic way the various dimensions of impact induced by agricultural stressors. GACSA Shark-Tank Approach for CSA will in fact create dialogues and accelerate innovations in agriculture between potential investors and participants. GACSA Shark Tank will be held online to promote collaboration and participation from across the world and intersectional industries, however the first pilot of the Shark Tank Approach would focus on the Africa region given specific sensitivities of multiple engines of growth, agriculture and infrastructure in the region which makes ramping up climate smart development at scale across the continent an imperative. After the competition, the winner, will have the opportunity to showcase the proposal during the next World Food Forum 2023 at the FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy, and will be also invited to the GACSA Annual Forum 2024 in person, to debate over the latest improvements of the proposal and will be awarded as the new Farm Hero of the year.

GACSA Website

GACSA Facilitation Unit together with the Office of Communications and the Digitalization and Informatics Division (FAO IT Division) unit will ensure a smooth transformation from the old GACSA website to a new, modern and modern and user friendly one. The previously described features will be introduced, together with a simpler layout. The website will be in English and will be maintained by GACSA Communications Specialist. The website content will be co-created by GACSA members, FAO Technical divisions, Action Group co-leaders and the Regional Alliances leaders. The new version of the GACSA website will be more user friendly, contain HD photos, and clear sections guiding the user. The main aim is to provide information regarding GACSA, Regional Alliances, Action Groups and GACSA Members, as well as CSA practices in general. This will be done in the form of a news and a CSA capacity building section that will focus on developments within innovation & technology, financing tools, and CSA e-learning opportunities. Additionally, the platform will provide the opportunity to hold discussions between farmers and young farmers, to share CSA practices. The aim is to ensure fast information and knowledge sharing amongst members and external users, providing one platform in which all CSA related information is accumulated as well as a place where the latest developments regarding new CSA innovations and technology are shared. The target audience of the new GACSA website is GACSA Members from the six different constituencies (governments, civil society, business, non-governmental organizations, farmers' organizations and research bodies), external audience, RBAs, students, farmers, youth interested in CSA and sustainable agriculture, and anyone who is willing to learn more about GACSA and especially CSA.



GACSA Funding Platform

Aligned with the new Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) Strategic Plan 2022-2032 and the guiding principle of ensuring the central role of farmers in food systems, GACSA intends to enhance and increase investment opportunities for farmers that practice CSA. This is important in order to expand the widespread use of CSA approaches at a global level and consequently tackling climate change and

food securities issues. GACSA Fund Your Farm platform seeks to create an impact in increasing investment opportunities for farmers concerning CSA practices and allowing farmers to have direct access to funding opportunities. The platform will focus on these objectives with the following actions. Firstly, the platform will link farmers to investors through the development of an online dual-approach platform. It will allow farmers to propose their business ideas to investors and the latter will have the possibility to contact farmers directly and vice versa. Secondly, on the platform there will be a section to enhance the knowledge of farmers on project writing and proposal, enabling their access to possible funding opportunities. This will be done through the development of online tools and guidelines. Lastly, the GACSA FU will host high-level side event along the GACSA Annual Forum to attract potential investors and increasing funding for small-scale farmers and farmers' organizations on CSA.

CONCLUSION

Following the adoption of the Strategic Plan 2022-2032, GACSA's goal has been to increasingly focus its activities on relevant frameworks to leverage CSA as a tool towards achieving national and local policy strategies. To do so, the Alliance has, during the past year, adjusted its strategy to concentrate its actions on accelerating multi-stakeholder actions, recognizing the central role of farmers, and mobilizing resources to offer solutions at local and country level.

Notwithstanding, the challenges experienced by the FU GACSA has achieved some important objectives. During 2022, the FU has worked intensively to transform Climate Smart Agriculture thinking into action by identifying and co-convening events, capacity building opportunities and projects related to CSA and most relevant to its GACSA members. Moreover, the overall communication strategy has seen important improvements, allowing the Alliance to be active on several Social Media platforms and thus reaching out to a wide number of people.

During 2022 the GACSA FU has organized and hosted a wide range of virtual and in-person events within all the thematic themes, as outlined in the 2022-2030 Strategic Plan. In addition, the Alliance has broadened its membership base with two new Regional Alliances, with further expansions planned for 2023, as well as increased its participation and communication with and among the Action Groups.

Whereas there have been a significant number of events within the thematic themes of addressing climate change in a multi-dimensional food system and increasing the resilience of our food systems, GACSA's outreach within the areas of innovation and new technologies for CSA has been lacking behind. Therefore, it is important to, in the upcoming year, focus on increasing the facilitation of developments of new technologies for CSA, through raising awareness and promoting funding opportunities for such projects.

Moreover, although the expansion of its partnership base has been significant, the diversity of the partners and the sectors they represent is somewhat limited. In 2023, the GACSA FU will thus aim to

diversify its partners, interacting and collaborating with more diverse audiences to broaden the Alliance's reach across sectors. In particular, the focus will be on establishing contacts within both the

GACSA FU is currently working on 4 (four) new activity proposals that are being developed to revamp



GACSA in cooperation with GACSA Members, FAO technical division and Action Group co-leaders. The activities include the transformation of the GACSA website into a new and user friendly one, the development of an e-learning course to enhance farmers' knowledge on CSA, the creation of a funding platform for farmers and the launch of a Shark-Tank initiative for CSA related innovations.

Moreover, in 2023, the GACSA Facilitation Unit will aim to diversify its partners, interacting and collaborating

with more diverse audiences to broaden the Alliance's reach across sectors. In particular, the focus will be on establishing contacts within both the private and public sectors, reaching out to businesses and governments, to promote the importance of implementing CSA approaches and collaborate on creating a more enabling environment for farmers and farmer's organizations.

The global challenges and opportunities, including those related to the SDGs, in the agriculture and climate change spheres are enormous. GACSA can play a significant role in a transformation if it plays a stronger role in catalyzing change through facilitation. Helping GACSA's members reach their objectives is the primary goal of GACSA's FU. It may convene action groups, support members as GACSA champions and work closely with regional alliances while implementing a global matchmaking platform, if it is sufficiently funded.

END OF DOCUMENT

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1

	GOVERNMENT
1	Chile
2	Costa Rica Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
3	Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality
4	Global Affairs Canada
5	Ireland Department of Agriculture, Food the Marine
6	Japan Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
7	Malawi Department of Land Resources Conservation
8	Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia
9	Namibia Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform
10	OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF NIGER REPUBLIC
11	Sierra Leone Ministry of the Environment
12	Spain Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación
13	Switzerland Federal Office for Agriculture
14	USDA
15	Zimbabwe Climate Change Management Department
	INTERGOVERNMENTAL
16	CABI
17	Commonwealth Secretariat
18	FACCE-JPI
19	Secretaria Ejecutiva del Consejo Agropecuario Centroamericano (SECAC)
	CIVIL SOCIETY
20	4-H Nepal
21	Advocates for Biodiversity Conservation
22	African Coalition on Green Growth
23	Agency for Accelerated Regional Development (AFARD)
24	Agripreneurship Alliance
25	Alchemy Foundation for Sustainable Development

26	Alliance for Empowering Rural Communities
27	Association des Jeunes Engagés pour l'Action Humanitaire
28	Association pour la protection de l'environnement et le développement durable de Bizerte APEDDUB APEDDUB
29	BRAC
30	Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Studies
31	Centre for Minority Rights Development (CEMIRIDE)
32	Climate Change Network Nigeria
33	Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN) Global
34	Climate Smart Agriculture Multistakeholder Platform
35	Clim-Eat
36	Concepts for Community Programmes
37	Consumer Grassroots Association
38	Cool Farm Alliance
39	Emmaus International
40	Environmental Defense Fund
41	Environmental Management Trust
42	Femme et Enfant
43	Fondazione Edmund Mach
44	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)
45	Global Open Data initiative for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN)
46	Green Circle Organization (GCO)
47	Green Impact Trust
48	HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT CENTER (HREIC)
49	ICENECDEV-International Centre for Environmental Education and Community Development
50	Inclusive Climate Change Adaptation for a Sustainable Africa (ICCASA)
51	Initiative for Agriculture and Rural Development in Mali
52	Institute for Sustainable Energy and Environmental Solutions (ISEES)
53	International Association of World Peace Advocate
54	International Biochar Initiative
55	Kikandwa Rural Communities Development Organization

56	Kitchen Connection
57	KOTHOWAIN (Vulnerable Peoples Development Organization)
58	LAYA Resource Centre
59	Michael Adedotun Oke Foundation
60	National Agro Foundation
61	NCCSD
62	ONE MORE SALARY
63	PUM Netherlands Senior Experts
64	Rainforest Alliance
65	Rural Aid Pakistan
66	SASAKAWA AFRICA ASSOCIATION
67	SNV Netherlands Development Organization
68	Sociedad Venezolana de Ingenieros Agrónomos y afines
69	Society for Human and Organizational Development in Harmony (SHODH)
70	Southern Africa Climate Change Coalition
71	Sustainable Agriculture for Food Security and Economic Development
72	UGANDA AGRIBUSINESS ALLIANCE
73	Women's Earth Alliance
74	Youth Association for Development
75	Zambia Community Based Natural Resources Management Forum
76	Zimbabwe Climate Change Coalition
77	Zimbabwe Women's Bureau
	BUSINESS
78	Aequator Groen & Ruimte
79	Agripoa Company Limited
80	BeMORE Global Consulting
81	Agvolution GmbH
82	Degas Ltd.
83	Farm form a Box
84	Farmkonnnect Institute for Data and Agribusiness Studies (FIDAS Africa)

85	Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc.
86	Futureseeds Zambia Limited
87	GeoPard Agriculture
88	HIRED Consult
89	Husk Power Systems
90	International Agri-Food Network
91	International Fertilizer Association
92	Island Growers Caribbean and Berrycove Limited
93	Land Water Food Consult
94	Lentera Africa
95	Liaqat corp ltd
96	Mana Pacific
97	NextGen Tek Consulting
98	Our Sci LLC
99	Rijk Zwaan Vegetable Breeding Company
100	Sahara Forest Project
101	SeedWorks International Pvt Ltd
102	Signature Agri Investments
103	SkillEd
104	Sogrape Vinhos SA
105	The Convergence
106	The Salt Doctors
107	TIMAC AGRO ITALIA S.P.A.
108	TOP Greenhouses
109	URBINATI Srl
110	Wakulima Agri-Food Company Ltd
111	WBCSD
112	Widhoc Smart Solutions. SL
113	Yara International ASA
114	Zr3i
	FARMERS ORGANIZATIONS
115	Accion Fraterna Ecology Centre
116	Agricultura Regeneratio

117	Asociación venezolana de agricultura familiar (AVAF)
118	Central Africa Trading company
119	Cermac Consortium
120	Danish Agriculture and Food Council
121	EarthCorp Foundation
122	Farm Africa
123	FARMERS' OUTGROWER FOUNDATION LTD
124	Fundación ingenio
125	GORILLA HIGHLANDS COFFEE
126	Kikandwa Environmental Association (KEA)
127	Makerere university/ Mubanique Co ltd
128	Nigerian Women Agro Allied Farmers Association
129	North America Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance
130	PDS Organic Spices
131	Royal Ambience Agriculture Enterprise
132	Rural Women Network (formerly Rural Women Initiative)
133	Saeio Global (SGL)
134	Solutions from the Land
135	Southern Africa Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance (SACSAA)
136	Tanzania Agricultural Modernization Association (TAMA)
137	Women's Union for Rural and Community Development
138	World Farmers' Organization - WFO
	RESEARCH BODIES
139	Academiya2063
140	AgMIP
141	Agricultural Economics Research Institute, Agricultural Research Center
142	AgroLink Center
143	American University of Beirut
144	ASARECA
145	Associazione Agricoltura è Vita
146	CIFOR-ICRAF
147	Columbia Global Centers Nairobi

148	Cornell University
149	CREA
150	Department of Agronomy, University of Agriculture Faisalabad
151	Department of Botany, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India
152	DRYREs
153	Edinburgh Climate Change Institute, University of Edinburgh
154	Federal College of Agricultural Produce Technology, Hoto, Kano Nigeria
155	Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
156	Global Biotechnology Transfer Foundation
157	Heat and Drought Wheat Improvement Consortium (HeDWIC)
158	Institute of Development Studies (National University of Science and Technology)
159	Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR-Rwanda)
160	International Centre for Climate, Food Security & Sustainability (ICFS)
161	International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)
162	The Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB), PAKISTAN
163	Kairak Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Papua New Guinea University of Natural Resources & Environment (formerly Kairak Vudal Resource Training Centre)
164	Laboratory of Applied Genetic in Agriculture, Ecology and Public Health
165	Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (/ FACCE MANSUR project)
166	Luiss University
167	National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)
168	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)
169	RESEARCH CENTRE IN NATURAL SCIENCES
170	Resource and Environmental Policy Research Centre, Environment for Development Nigeria, University of Nigeria Nsukka, Nigeria
171	RTI International
172	STARGATE
173	Sri Sri Institute for Agricultural Sciences and Technology Trust
174	Teaching & Training Unit at the Division of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine, CIHLMU Center for International Health, LMU University hospital Munich
175	Tropical Agricultural Research & Higher Education Center (CATIE)

176	UBT
177	UK-China Sustainable Agriculture Innovation Network (SAIN)
178	University of Ibadan
179	University of Mauritius
180	University of Zambia
181	USC
182	Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences
183	VART-LaB
184	Wageningen University & Research
185	Wharf42
186	World Resources Institute