

Session title: Roundtable 2: Food Security and Climate Smart Agriculture, and Land Restoration, Adaptation and Building Resilience and Ecosystem Based Approaches

- **When:** 2nd August, 14:00 - 15.30 (local time, Ethiopia)
- **Where:** hybrid virtual and in-person (at United Nations Conference Centre, UNECA complex, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia - room to be confirmed on site).
- **Virtual speaker and respondent dial-in:** you will be sent a zoom link and be made a panellist, this applies to the respondents listed.
- **Respondent lead role:** you are requested to make some remarks, observations on the presentation you have heard e.g. *how could the presented initiative be scaled, or linked to other similar ones to maximise impact, what could be added to urgently increase climate resilient outcomes. And after your comments, you are also asked to make a **short <5 min** intervention which describes your organisation's work to deliver scaleable initiatives on climate resilient, sustainable agriculture in Africa both in 2022 and 2023.*
- **Session format:** presentations of three projects/propositions with q and a after each presentation, key respondents have been identified
- **Session contact points (for questions on the session):** Fiona Napier fnapier@climatechampions.team and Sagarika Chatterjee sagarikachatterjee@climatechampions.team
- UNECA will have a rapporteur for each session

- **Full event agenda:** [here](#)
- **Event page:** <https://tinyurl.com/2md5yvf>
- Useful information for in-person speakers:
<https://www.uneca.org/united-nations-conference-centre-addis-ababa-uncc-aa/information-participants>

- **Please register** for the event and you are welcome to listen to other sessions:
 - In-person: <https://www.uneca.org/content/self-sponsored-participant-registration>
 - Virtual: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZlvd-qppzwtH9DlgD4X812pFfsQuZ5pt6SOof>
- **Pre-reading:** we will provide you with information on *some* of the projects that will be presented at the session in advance and request you familiarise yourself with this.
- **Speaker briefing call:** there is a short speaker briefing call which may not work for all time zones. Please contact your session contact points if you have questions.

Purpose of the regional forums:

- Your session is part of a three-day Africa regional forum, which is part of a regional forum series we are running in the lead up to COP27.
- The forums aim to bring together policymakers and the private sector, particularly private finance, and broader stakeholders to work together more closely on scaling-up capital to emerging markets and developing economies.
- The forums have a particular focus on projects rooted in regional priorities and a compendium of projects will be available at COP27.
- The target audience for the forums and your session include public and private financial institutions, asset owners, asset managers, banks, insurers, development banks, governments and policymakers, private enterprises and innovators seeking funding. The audience includes financial institutions in the Race to Zero and the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero.

Your session objectives:

- This session aims to inspire the target audience to accelerate financing of suitable projects in Africa, with a focus on **Food Security and Climate Smart Agriculture, and Land Restoration, Adaptation and Building Resilience and Ecosystem Based Approaches**
- It will enhance the discourse on the need for financing for these key priorities through sharing examples of potential projects for the continent's urban areas.
- It will also unpack key challenges that new initiatives/projects and financiers face and how these can be overcome.

Session speakers:

Project presentations:

- AFR 100 - Evergreening Alliance - Jonathan Muriuki (may be in Addis in person TBD)
Climate Asset Management - Amy Merrill (online confirmed) - *this illustrates the AUC project on AFR 100*
- Chris Mitchell Boston Consulting Group Africa Food Systems Transformation Initiative AFSTI (online confirmed)
- introduction to the 2 agri irrigation projects put forward by the AUC (one pager briefings will be provided)

Response leads:

- Atsuko Toda, Director of Agriculture Finance and Rural Infrastructure Development, AfDB (confirmed)
- Gabriel Boc, Green Climate Fund (confirmed)
- Joe Robertson GFFN (confirmed)
- Simon Winter, Syngenta Foundation (confirmed)
- Betty Kibaara, Rockefeller Foundation (confirmed)

- Madeleine Ronquest Group Head Environmental, Social & Climate Risk at FirstRand Group (confirmed)

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Content for the session:

Africa's long standing development challenges, compounded by the food crisis of 2022 that was unleashed by shocks to global supply chains, underscores the urgent need to drive progress and innovation in pivoting Africa's food and agriculture system towards climate resilient, sustainable practices, that provide much needed food to Africans today, without undermining their possibility of prospering in a future that meets the goals of the Paris Agreement to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

How African countries protect, manage and restore their natural systems will have a determining role in adapting to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.

Combined with ensuring protection of Africa's vast biomes, lands that have been degraded can be restored, providing opportunities for improving environmental resilience and improving livelihoods and food security for African smallholders. AFR 100, which enjoys the commitment of 32 governments in Africa to restore 100mHa of degraded land by 2030, provides an excellent basis on which to build a pivot to sustainable agriculture and food systems. The first session provides an example of an investable restoration project using carbon finance, led by smallholder farmers and local communities, that is being rolled out in 15 countries in Africa.

Because land degradation in Africa is so often driven by agricultural and livestock expansion, assisting farmers to transition towards a more sustainable food system is of the essence. African agriculture is so far inefficient, with yields 65% below the global average, and with climate impacts projected to reduce them by 5-10%. There are some innovative pilots across the continent exploring, for example, the possibilities of rewarding farmers that change their farming practices with carbon finance through mobile and fintech. However, more can be done to scale them and to strengthen the economic underpinnings that connect input suppliers, producers, food processors, retailers and consumers in the value chains. These value chains are instrumental to creating sustainable, climate resilient agriculture practices supporting a thriving and nutritious food system in the continent.

Agri-SME's in particular have an outsized role to play in the above because they are responsible for sourcing and processing 60-80% of the food Africans consume. A key enabler to this is the availability of capital; the funding gap for the sector in Africa is estimated at \$40-200 billion annually. Furthermore, 55-75% of demand for capital is presently unmet due to a lack of accessible and affordable funding. The Africa Food Systems Transformation Initiative (AFSTI) is scoping the Agri-SME's leading the transition in Africa, and in the second session it will present its findings on the key levers to change the food systems in select locations in Africa, hinging on increasing and de-risking capital, and delving on policy engagement, financial liquidity, and the sharing of innovation and know-how that need to be prioritized for advancing food systems in Africa that are climate-smart, resilient, nutritious and nature-positive. Finally there will be a showcase of 2 water/irrigation investment projects in the continent.

Session objectives:

The objective of the sessions will be to encourage an exchange and introduction between investors, financiers and proposers, including for non-commercial projects. The session will lay out both propositions and tangible investment proposals from a range of actors, which should encourage further engagement on what is needed to transform the food and agriculture sector in Africa, through:

- Showcasing an ambitious AFR 100 investment model involving carbon finance and led by smallholder farmers using restorative agriculture practices, which is expanding to 15 countries and aims to achieve \$1 bn raise at COP 27.
- Present a finance proposition to pivot African food systems to a more sustainable footing by focusing on an often overlooked sector - Africa's middle sized agribusinesses (>\$5m turnover) .
- Profile two AUC selected investable projects on water and agriculture

Run of program

Time	Speaker	Objective/key points
<u>2.00-2.05pm</u> 5 mins	Keynote address; Nigel Topping HLC confirmed in person	The 2030 agriculture breakthrough agenda - why we must all drive climate resilient, sustainable agriculture and food systems.
<u>2.05-2.10 pm</u> 5 mins	FAO Subregional Coordinator for Eastern Africa (SFE) and FAO Representative to the African Union (AU) - David Phiri confirmed in person david.phiri@fao.org .	Brief opening and welcome remarks on the state of agriculture in Africa and the AU FAO relationship and mandate on agriculture in Africa.
Hands over to Roopal Kanabar, HLC Nature Finance Lead who moderates the session onward Speaking notes: Restorative agriculture practices are the fundamental basis for growing Africa's diverse agribusinesses to source and process more value on the continent, so that Africa's food offering can be globally competitive. We will start off by hearing from a scaleable restoration initiative using carbon finance and led by smallholder farmers.		
<u>2.10-2.25pm</u> AFR 100 land restoration 15 mins	Evergreening Alliance and Climate Asset Management confirmed (will send one rep in person to Addis, Amy Merrill, Climate Asset Management confirmed online)	Delivering restoration of land in 15 countries towards the AFR 100 target, using carbon finance to restore 100mHa of degraded land by 2030 - building a \$1 billion pipeline by COP 27 Africa.
<u>2.25- 2.40 pm</u> responses,	Respondents respond to AFR 100 proposition	Respondents listed under next session; they signal in this session whether they would like to come in and make remarks, questions, and

q and a 15 mins		Speak to own delivery. Presenters respond to questions.
Moderator: Link to next session: AFR 100 forms the basis for climate-resilient agriculture, what more needs to be done to put Africa's food systems on a strong and secure footing?		
2.45 - 3 pm Levers to create sustainable food systems in Africa 15 mins	Chris Mitchell, Partner, Boston Consulting Group (online) - confirmed online	Presentation on insights from Africa Food Systems Transformation Initiative (AFSTI) - the key levers needed to change the food system based on consultation with large African agribusiness SMEs - and how this could work in a major commodity supply chain.
3 - 3.15 pm Q&A and responses	Respondents	Respondents listed below signal whether they would like to come in and make remarks, questions; and speak to own plans for 2022 and 2023. Presenters respond to questions.
<p><u>Responders:</u> Atsuko Toda, AfDB Director of agriculture programme confirmed Gabriel Boc, Green Climate Fund confirmed Joe Robertson, Good Food Finance Network Confirmed Simon Winter, Syngenta Foundation confirmed. Madeleine Rondquist, Group Head Environmental, Social & Climate Risk at FirstRand Group - confirmed Betty Kibara, Rockefeller Foundation - confirmed</p> <p>Moderator: Linking comment: Great ideas here which should be of interest to donors, investors and banks, so that we get away from recurring food crises and reliance on imported staples on the continent. The Accelerated Food Systems Transformation Initiative focus on Africa's larger agribusinesses and what they see as opportunities and challenges to develop climate resilient food businesses in the marketplace. The perspectives of these businesses are often not considered in climate, food and development discussions to date.</p> <p>And now we move from sustainable food systems to the key issue that underpins both our food and well being - water. At COP 27 there is a day dedicated to water, and tomorrow you will be hearing about the Africa Cities Water Adaptation Fund. For now we are with food and ag. Note that the majority of projects submitted by governments under food and ag concern water and many are irrigation. In Thursday morning's winning business session you will hear from Sunculture about the potential to scale solar irrigation.</p>		
3.15 - 3.20 pm	This session provides a very brief overview of 2 selected projects provided by the AUC on water irrigation - details and contacts for these projects will be circulated in a one pager project document.	

<u>3.20- 3.30</u> pm 10 mins	Response lead: Atsuko Toda AfDB agriculture director responds and makes general remarks on AfDB role and the need to drive investment in agriculture on the continent, and closes the meeting
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