Climate Smart Agriculture Issues in Botswana

Botswana’s agricultural system sector comprises of crops and livestock production.

During the design of the CSA programme stakeholder consultations recommended that

- Agricultural Policy that is being reviewed incorporate issues of CSA
- Subsidies/Incentives be aligned to CSA (govern)

Botswana Institute of Technology Research and Innovation (BITRI) developed a CSA manual for the Ministry of Agricultural development and food security.

The Botswana CSA manual encompasses a bundle of production techniques and inputs that could help local farmers adapt.

The CSA manual recommends

- the establishment of a fund that would support nurturing and dissemination of smallholder farmers’ innovations.
- That the Agriculture ministry consider undertaking a country wide soil fertility investigation and come up with soil fertility status maps/atlas and fertilizer type recommendations, to compliment climate smart agriculture interventions across the country.

FAO CSA Project

Title: Integrating Indigenous Practices and Climate-Smart Agriculture into crop and livestock production systems in Botswana

Objectives

A. To take stock knowledge practices and existing CSA technologies, practices and approaches, based on the different farming systems and agro-ecological zones of Botswana.
B. To conduct awareness raising workshops for policy and decision makers (at national and district levels), CSOs, private sector, and development, partners on adoption of indigenous practices and CSA best practices.

C. To develop indigenous and CSA best practices guidelines.

D. To enhance sub-regional learning and sharing experiences.

Update: the funding has been approved and implementation will commence soon as funds are transferred.

We are developing a Green Climate Fund concept (building resilience in the Agricultural Sector) which has incorporated CSA.