Ukama Ustawi (UU): Diversification for resilient agrifood systems in East and Southern Africa (ESA)

Donor Drop-In Call (March 2023)

Initiative Design Team Leads:
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Purpose: Diversify and sustainably intensify maize-mixed systems for climate resilience and nutrition in ESA

ESAs a climate hotspot

Highest burden on the most vulnerable

Lack of diverse diets, access, interest, equity, ownership, collaborative governance

Maize-based systems still reign supreme, but are increasingly vulnerable, degraded, poorly managed.

Need: sustainably manage land, water and energy, diversify, de-risk, empower and engage

Deploying and rapidly scaling in a coordinated and inclusive way

Innovations and impact

Assess Apply Scale

Top 5 Climate Hazards
1. Growing season reductions ($16 B)
2. High Temperatures ($14 B)
3. Flood ($9.5 B)
4. Drought ($7.0 B)
5. Climate variability ($3.5 B)

Implementation through partnership with regional platforms (e.g. PABRA, CCARDESA, ASARECA, FANRPAN, 2SCALE, Mercy Corps AgriFin) ensure coverage across all 12 countries

Modelled climate change impacts
33.5% less climatically suitable cropland
-15% wheat yield reduction
-15% maize yield reduction

50,000 farmers (40% women; 40% youth) using climate-smart intensification and diversification practices with improved water and land management.

1 million farmers and other value chain actors (40% women, 40% youth) accessing bundled digital agro-advisory and risk management services.

At least 30 start-ups and SMEs—40% run by women and 40% by youths—will have scaled climate-smart solutions

US$100 million of investments enabled by 2 strategies/policies supporting collaborative governance and management of multifunctional landscapes.
The UU Approach in a Nutshell

- Tailored socio-ecological technical (SET) innovations and portfolio of climate-smart practices (mechanization, solar irrigation, livestock integration, CA, nutrition) – WP1
  1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 13

- Digitally enabled agro-advisory services combined with agroclimatic forecasts – WP2
  2, 5, 8, 11, 12

- Cross-cutting platforms for innovation co-creation and scaling of socio-ecological technical (SET) innovations

- Agribusiness capacity strengthened to UU innovations and services – WP3
  10, 11, 12

- Enhanced national and regional capacity and science-informed policies and investments for resilient AFS – WP4
  5, 6, 11

- Innovations that reach beneficiaries at scale – WP6
  14

Ongoing collaboration


Systemic and systematic approach of gender, youth and social inclusion to ensure equitable implementation and outcomes (GESI) (WP5) 7, 8

MEL data and the learning studies to account for the contribution (MELIA)  
Adapted from Govaerts and Martinez, 2022
Status:
Highlights of progress in 2022

Climate and gender targets

- **Gender Target**
  - Principal: 6
  - Significant: 29
  - Not Targeted: 24

- **Climate Target**
  - Principal: 12
  - Significant: 29
  - Not Targeted: 18

59 Results
Progress on results in 2022

OECD marker | Score
---|---
OECD DAC Climate Adaptation Marker | 2
OECD DAC Climate Mitigation | 1
OECD DAC Gender Equity | 1B

- Produced **59** results, of which **25** are innovations.
- **17** Innovation teams collaborating with **12** other initiatives.
Building the foundation to deliver at scale through the UU Community of Spirit

- Inclusive: Leverages the diversity of all stakeholders
- Informative and transparent
- Relational, interactive and collaborative
- Intentional and focused on a shared vision
- Motivational
- Learning oriented and fun
- Redefines the role of science
- Creates opportunities for growth of the youth

Redefines the role of science
Creates opportunities for growth of the youth
Building the foundation to deliver at scale

• **Hubs set up** to support policy action, SMEs capacity building, and innovation scaling
  • Policy dialogues held in [Kenya](#) & [Zambia](#)
  • Food Systems Accelerator launches cohort of 10 African SMEs with 20 additional companies in the pipeline
  • [Scaling Hub event](#) co-hosted with GIZ
  • Learning Alliance with CCARDESA, ASARECA, FARA, AKADEMIYA2063
Accelerated delivery in the first year

- **Improved extension/delivery systems** scaling strategy for sustained uptake of SI, mechanization, nutrition, and irrigation practices with NARS, Ministries of Agriculture, NGOs/CBOs, and private sector in 4 countries.

- **PABRA incorporated into UU**, linking with partners and building work across 12 ESA countries

- **Munda Makeover launched in Zambia** on ZNBC National TV in partnership with AICCRA

- **Shamba Showdown farm simulation game** developed by Usiku Games with partner support
Key outcomes to be reported in 2023
Key Outcomes Targeted for 2023

• Farmers taking up CA and other diversification practices through community outreach (e.g., Field learning demos, fairs), seed systems in 4 countries (WP1)

• PABRA network improving nutrition from bean consumption through on-farm demonstrations, school feeding programs and training on processing and utilization of nutrient dense foods (WP1)

• Munda Makeover delivering advisories to over 1 Million people and associated iMunda mobile platform launched linked to national TV show in Zambia (WP2)

• Smallholder farmer finance product for Agora Microfinance Zambia improved using UU science (WP2)
Key Outcomes Targeted for 2023

- **Stakeholders have improved capacity** resulting from the UU Learning Alliance activities including partnership session at African Agricultural Science Week (WP 4)
- **GESI framework co-implemented with Solidaridad** mainstreaming GESI in UU and beginning to influence public, private and civil society institutional actors and processes (WP5)
- **Improved integration of global science initiative innovations** into the UU portfolio through innovation profiling and scaling readiness approach (WP6)
- **CGIAR Scaling Dialogue at AASW8** in June 2024 (WP6)
Ukama Ustawi: Together we grow and develop.
Scaling Hub

A Week of Science & Practice of Scaling Agri-food System Innovation

Key Focus:
- Landscape
- Business Support System in East & Southern Africa
- Non-profit Innovation
- Geographic Distribution
- Main Themes:
  - Info gathering & sharing
  - Centre of Excelence

Challenges:
- Linkages
- Policy
- Capacity & Sustainability

Recommendations:
- Capacitate AESOs
- Facilitate access to knowledge tools
- Introduce standards to encourage sustainability

Strategic Vision & Scope:
- Inclusive of all global science initiatives

Co-ordination is Key

What Can We Do?
- Have discussions with partners, government...
- Start by addressing issues within ourselves before venturing out.

Rhetorical Questions:
- What innovations do you have ready for scaling?
- What kind of partners need to be engaged?
- At what stage of the process?

Co-ordination
- Need for clarity
- How can we leverage our partnerships?

Partnerships:
- Profiling our innovations
- Approach to scaling our innovations
- Gender
- Scaling accelerators
- Scaling systems
- Partnerships

Recap by Jane Kamau

Key Reflections From the Week:
- Formula 1 is...
  - Synergy
  - Trust
  - Precision
  - Confidence
  - Execution... but is it a fake reality in scaling?

Worth Thinking About:
- Cross-cutting issues present
- Structures that need to be present
- Should it be a virtual or physical entity?
Ambition: Delivering Innovations at Scale

- **Scaling on-farm CSA practices in more ESA countries** (mechanization, irrigation, Conservation Ag, nutrition, livestock integration) and virtual field tours.

- **Integrated nutrition survey**

- **Building on PABRA Network** to include other legumes and crops researched and delivered through network

- **Leveraging the learning alliance:** building out trainings on key topics with AKADEMIYA2063 and partners

- **State of Region Report**
Ambition: Leveraging Digital Technologies

- **Delivering Climate Services through research networks** (e.g., PABRA, ASARECA, CCARDESA, ESA Africa Climate Information Service Platform)
- **Climate-Smart Agriculture Sandbox** for developing bundles of services with Mercy Corps AgriFin and partners
- **Developing iShamba (iMunda) digital platform** linked to national TV show
- **Munda Makeover Roadshow** to link national TV show to community action
- **Shamba Showdown game** promoted alongside Don’t Lose the Plot TV Show
Ambition: Agribusiness and Investment Ecosystem

- **Behavior and business research:** using gamification to improve business models of targeted agribusiness partners
- **Expand Food Systems Accelerator** to more countries and themes -- growing the SME pipeline
- **Unlocking finance for SMEs** – e.g., impact investment and funds
- **Co-designing research to support large development agencies and projects**
- **Strengthen partnership with AfDB and FARA** to operationalize the principles of Abidjan 1 & II