



INITIATIVE ON
Diversification in East
and Southern Africa



Title: CGIAR Agribusiness Acceleration Approaches for CSA Innovation, Resilience, Gender and Social Inclusion

Date: 6th June 2023

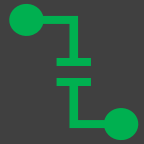
Venue: Durban, South Africa

Presenters: Mercy Zulu-Hume (ABC)
Ena Derenoncourt (ABC)

Challenges in African Food Systems



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Fragmentation of the value chain from farm to fork

- Limited coordination and integration
- Limited market access for smallholder farmers
- Inadequate infrastructure and logistics



Post-harvest losses

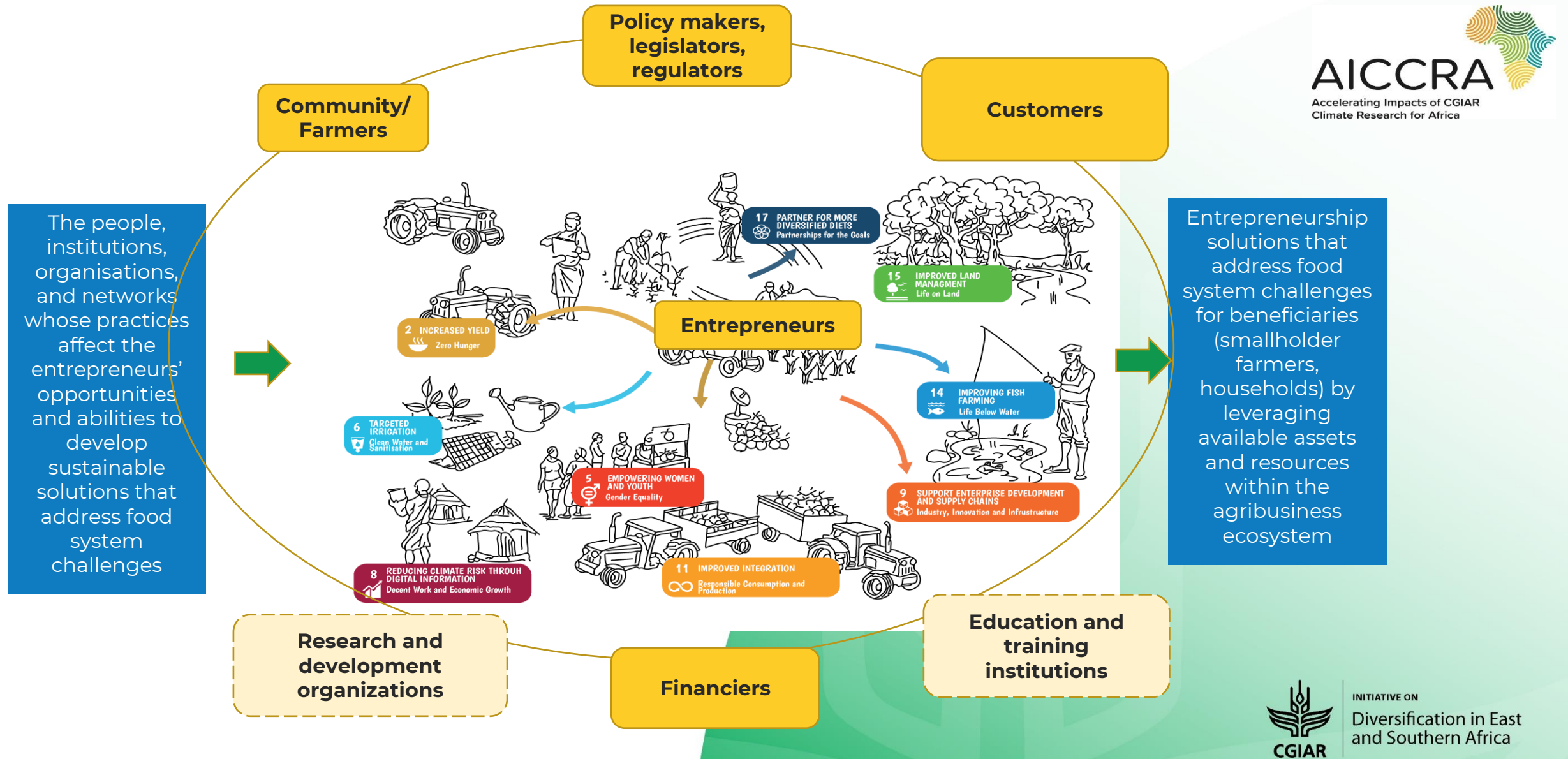
- Insufficient storage facilities
- Poor post-harvest handling practices
- Limited access to technologies and techniques



Climate change

- Shifting rainfall patterns
- Extreme weather events

Agribusiness: An Effective Partner to Scale Impact



The Role of Science in Supporting Agribusiness Scale Climate-Smart Agriculture

Agribusiness lack the necessary scientific knowledge, expertise, and resources to implement climate-smart agriculture practices effectively

Scientific knowledge and expertise to implement climate-smart agriculture practices effectively

Data collection and analysis

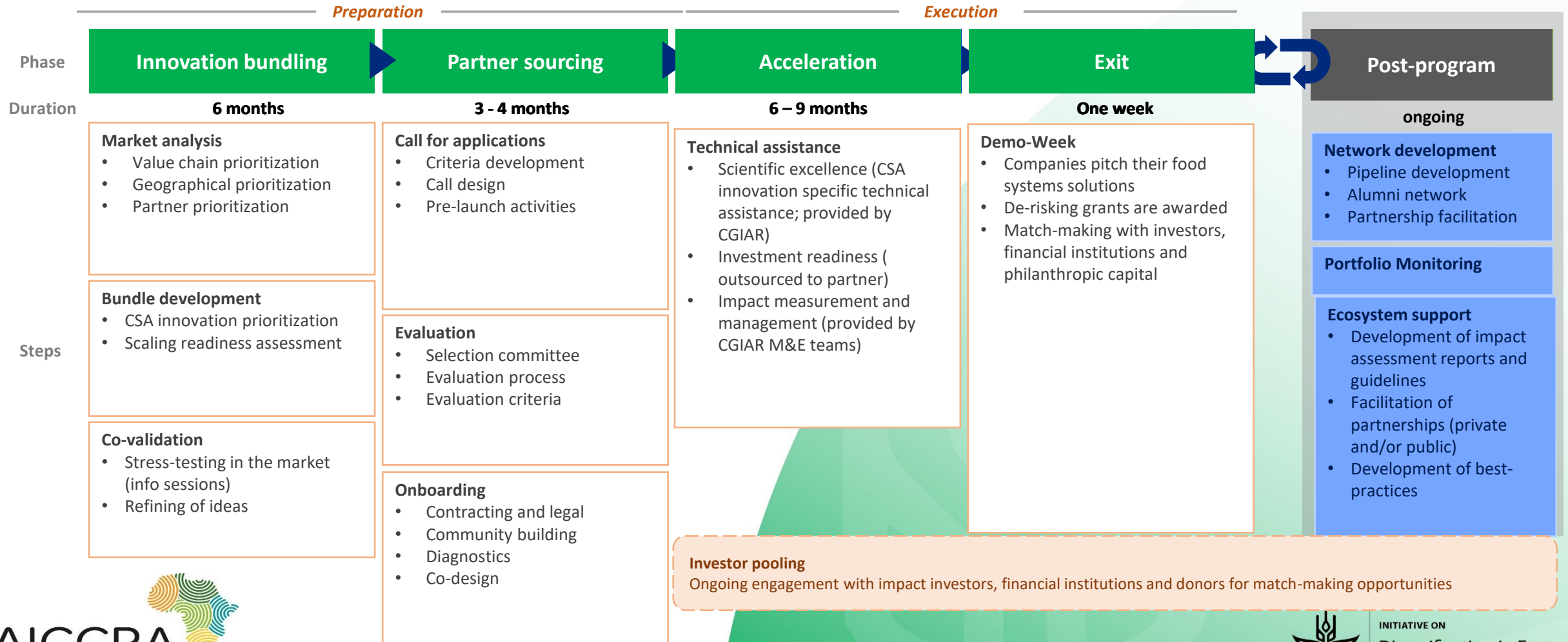


Science provides essential expertise and knowledge for agribusinesses to effectively scale climate-smart agriculture practices.

Evidence-based research and innovations help agribusinesses reduce risks and enhance resilience.

Data collection and analysis allow agribusinesses to assess the impacts of their interventions.

Methodology for Business Acceleration



CGIAR in numbers



Key Differentiation Factor

**Partner BDS, ESOs
with local expertise**

Business Development + Investment Readiness



Technical
Assistance by
CGIAR experts
and partners

Climate change
awareness and
impacts

Adaptation and
mitigation options

M&E of CSA
impact

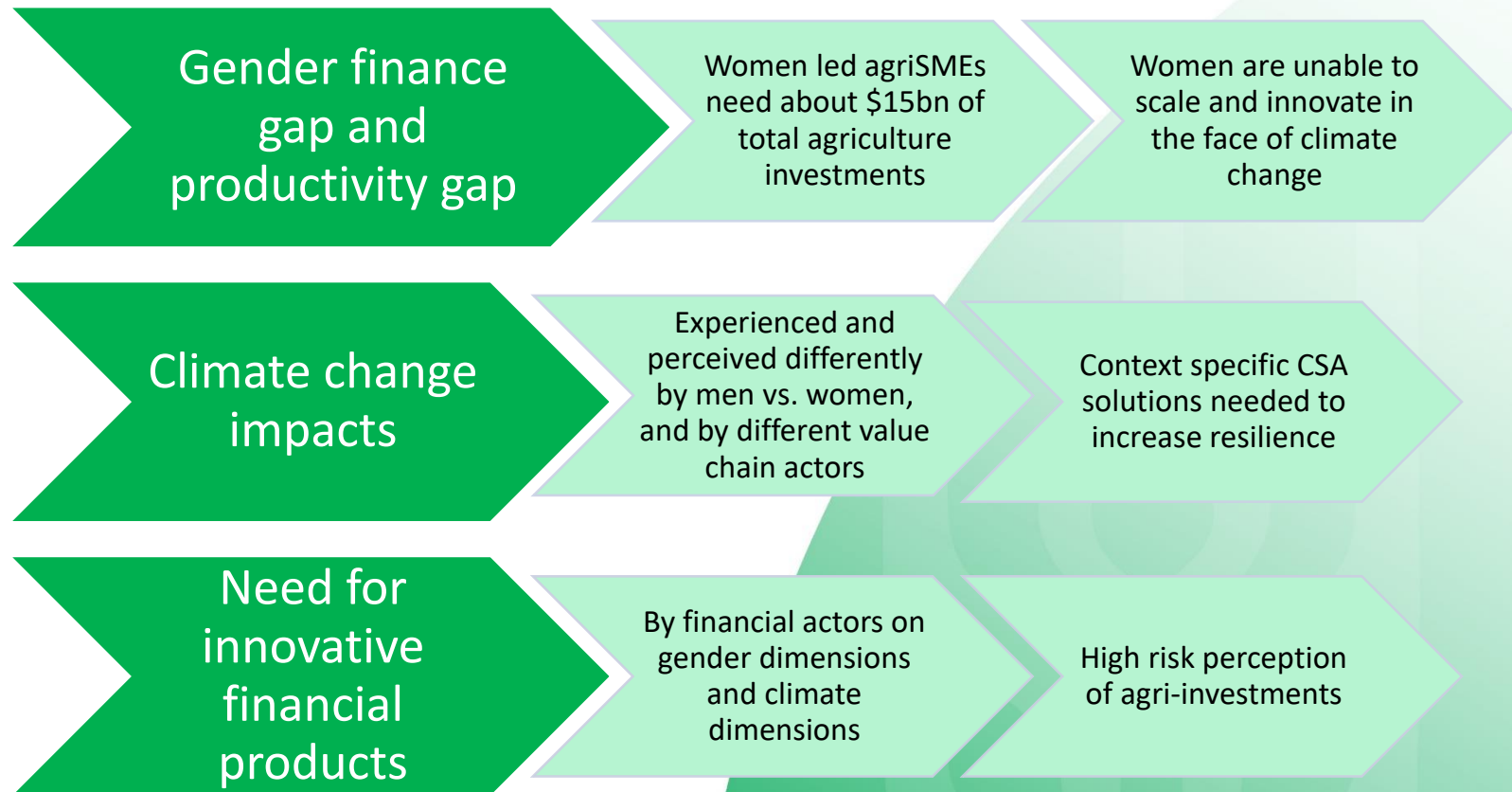
Integration of
gender and social
inclusion

Prioritization of
CSA practices vs.
hazards

Operational de-
risking for
sustainability

Matchmaking
with financial
partners

Overview of Gender Smart Accelerator





Launch
Aug 26,
2022



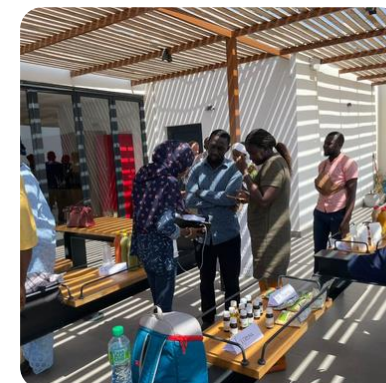
CSA/CIS
Bootcamp
Oct 25-26,
2022



SME visits and
diagnostics
Sept 2022



Finalists
products expo
at networking
lunch
Oct 26, 2022



Case Study: AICCRA Gender Smart Accelerator Challenge (GSAC)

Improving access to finance for women led SMEs in Senegal for adoption of CSA practices contributing to food systems transformation

Specific objectives:

- Developing a **pipeline** of gender-responsive CSA business models that can be matched with **private** capital
- **Piloting de-risking mechanisms** to increase access to finance to **women-led agri-SMEs**
- **Highlight investment opportunities** for local and regional financial actors for follow on scaling capital needed



Partners



GSAC: Insights and Lessons Learned



- **250** applicants, **50** shortlisted, **20** accelerated, **80% women**, **45% under 35**
- **6500** farmers reached
- **8** participants **matched with investors**
- Independent accelerator programs requesting to **include CGIAR CSA/CIS module in curriculum**



- The impacts of climate change are **experienced and perceived differently** by producers vs. value chain actors
- Important **women-led informal sector** unable to scale because of status
- **Awareness and capacity building** needed for **financial actors** on CSA practices and CSA impact monitoring
- Need for **gender-responsive financial products** to address women agri-entrepreneurs **needs and constraints**

Partners

Case Study: CGIAR Food Systems Accelerator Program



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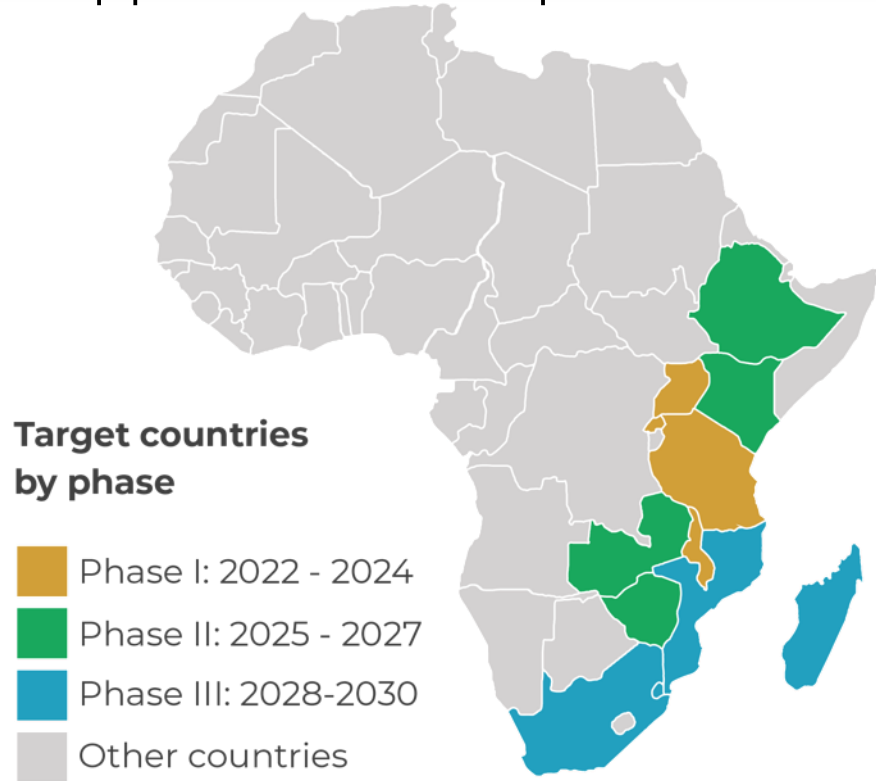
**Cooks in
20 Minutes**

Product, Packaged and Distributed by:
Eastern Agricultural Development Company (EADC) Ltd.



Education in East
African

Diversification in East and Southern Africa: A regional initiative to support the development of sustainable food systems



In addition, partnership with regional platforms (e.g., PABRA, CCARDESA, ASARECA) ensure coverage across all 12 countries

Initiative outcomes by 2024



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 through at **least USD 5M in debt, equity and grants**.



US\$100 million of investments enabled by **2 strategies/policies** supporting collaborative governance and management of multifunctional landscapes.

Climate-smart agriculture innovations: We have identified four priority innovation theme across four target countries for the first cohort:



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The CFSA focuses on 3 core areas:



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Knowledge transfer

Connecting agribusiness with climate-smart agriculture technical advisors to facilitate the transfer of scientific knowledge, best practices and technological advancements in food and agriculture production.

Investment readiness

Equipping agribusiness with the necessary skills and expertise to attract investment and secure funding for scaling their climate-smart agriculture innovations.

Ecosystem Strengthening

Bringing together agribusiness, research and development and financial institutions to strengthen a network of expertise, resources, and opportunities for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and collective action.

Key milestones



4 countries;

Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda & Zambia*
(pilot; expanding to an additional 4 countries in 2023)



849 applications;

288 high quality applications submitted

10 selected companies



60%

women-led



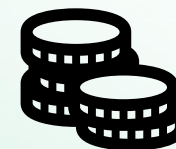
30%

youth-led



Over

39,000 smallholder farmers reached



8

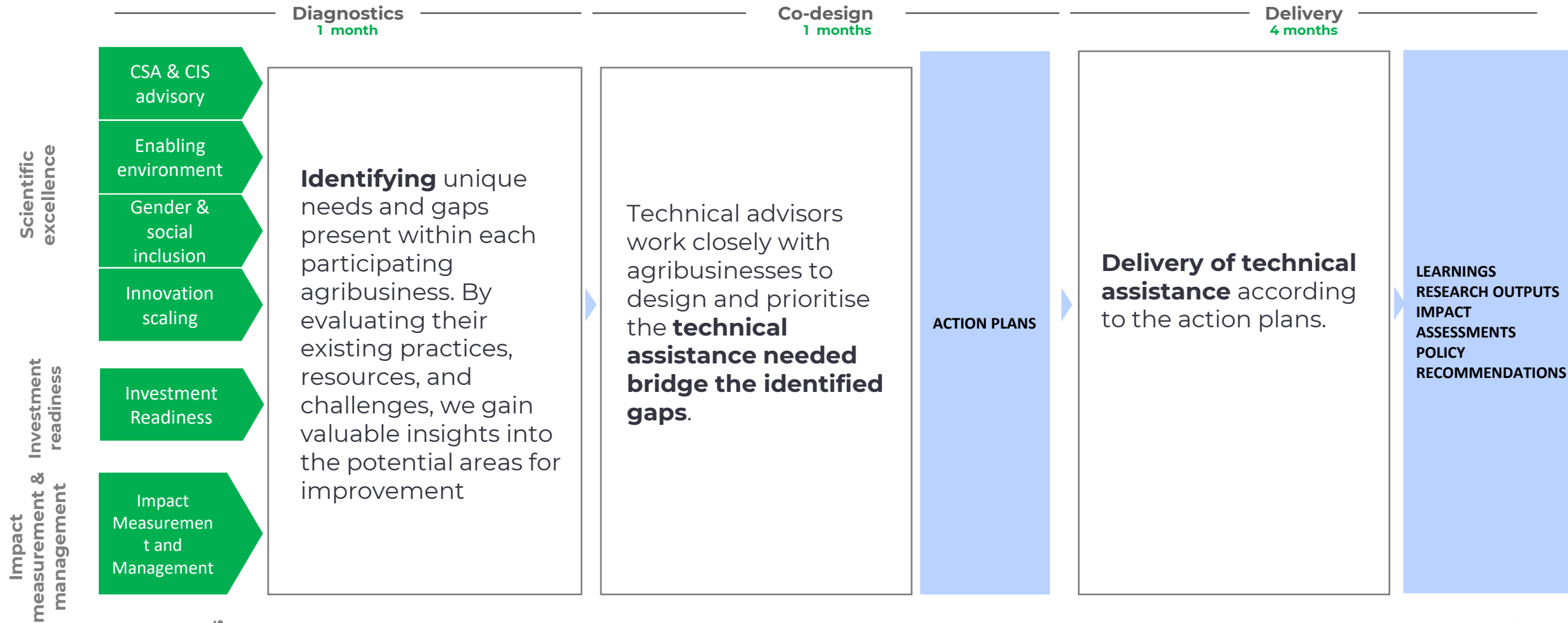
private sector investors and financial institutions engaged* (on-going)



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Technical Assistance Methodology





Example of technical assistance delivery



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Gaps	Strategies	Outputs
 HR processes that strengthen gender balance	Co-design HR policies that promote gender equity	Gender company strategy plan
 Data management	Connect to specialised experts who can advise on data strategy policies	List of experts Documented introductions
 Identifying indicators for sustainability reporting and operationalising metrics	Co-design impact pathways, indicators & data collection and analysis protocols	Impact pathway framework Indicators
 Consistent and reliable extension services to de-risk credit	Climate risk assessment & credit provider scoping exercise	Risk matrix analysis (a process for ensuring extension service compliance & measurement)

Q&A



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