

IFC and Agribusiness in a Changing Environment

IFC event on GAFSP and climate smart agriculture

The Hague – 28 October 2016

Summary

You are kindly invited to a one-day event in The Hague in the framework of the World Bank Group-Netherlands strategic partnership 'Food for All'. The event will convene private sector, knowledge institutions and NGOs engaged in agribusiness in developing countries.

IFC, the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, invests heavily in agribusiness in developing countries and emerging markets, and therefore has a great interest in exchanging experiences on investment opportunities, climate smart technologies and challenges in value chain operations. Both private sector and IFC can bring current and upcoming activities in relevant countries to the table and explore opportunities for cooperation.

Headlines

- Where:** RVO, Prinses Beatrixlaan 2, The Hague (The Netherlands);
- When:** Friday 28 October 2016, between 9.30 and 17.00 (see below);
- Registration:** please register before 24 October, and specify your interest in the specific workshops, with:
- Workshop 1 and/or 5: sheila.kwint@rvo.nl
 - Workshop 3 and/or 4: commerijn.plomp@rvo.nl
 - Workshop 2 and/or 6: maxime.eiselin@iucn.nl

Objective of the event

IFC is looking for ideas, technologies and investment opportunities in agribusiness for agro-food companies in the Netherlands and other countries (priority on emerging markets countries). The impact and aptitude of both state of the art technologies and smart low tech solutions to solve climate related agricultural challenges in developing countries will be a focus topic of discussion.

A second topic will be GAFSP as a source of funding. GAFSP is blended financing of concessional and commercial funding, directed for IDA (poorest) countries with smallholder impact. GAFSP project themes include small farmer inclusion, productivity improvement, climate smart agriculture, gender and nutrition. If necessary, GAFSP can provide funds for agricultural investments that are smaller than the usual IFC investments (see "GAFSP" section below for details).

Tentative agenda

IFC and Agribusiness in a Changing Climate			
Time	Session	Topic	
09:30	Plenary Opening		
09:40	Key note	Food production and challenges	
09:55	Presentation	IFC and climate smart agriculture	
10:15	Presentation	Dutch business and climate smart agriculture in developing countries	
10:30	Presentation	Introduction to GAFSP	
10:45	Coffee break		
	Workshops / Break-out sessions		
11:00-12:00	1. Climate smart irrigation and soil management in Africa – low tech (IFC: Richard Colback)	2. Investments countering deforestation / REDD+ (IFC: Ahmad Slaibi)	3. Including climate change into agro investment decisions in emerging/developing markets (IFC: Nina Zegger)
12:00	Networking Lunch		
13:00	Presentation	The role of agribusiness in SDG2: the GAFSP Private Sector Window 2.0	
13:30	Case study/ies	A real life example of a GAFSP project with a Dutch sponsor i) Investment and ii) Advisory Services, presented by a Dutch company involved in the project	
14:15	Tea Break		
	Workshops / Break-out sessions		
14:35	4. Strengthening value chains and cooperatives (IFC: Alan Johnson)	5. Climate smart irrigation and soil management in Africa – high tech (IFC: Richard Colback)	6. The financial structuring of climate smart projects in developing countries (IFC: Nina Zegger)
15:45	Bilaterals and networking (10-15 min. each, with drinks, also for others) and market place of suppliers (optional)		
	IFC 1	Company 1	
	IFC 2	Company 2	
	Etc.	Etc.	
16.30-16.40	Wrap-up		
	Reception		

Background on the topics of the day

Climate smart agriculture

Climate change affects companies in the agro-food and beverage sectors all around the world. They face increasing risks: from reduced productivity, new laws and policies, to reputational risks or volatile market prices.

Effectively managing risks and opportunities of climate change is vital to secure long-term viability of companies and value chains. Integrating climate smart agricultural¹ techniques and projects in business operations can help firms to become more climate-resilient and in the meantime reduce pressure on forests and other ecosystems and the services they provide. Especially in developing countries, climate change implies challenges to food security and sustainable food production and trade. IFC, being a strong promotor of private sector investment and improving the business climate in developing countries, is heavily engaged in programs that promote food security and sustainable food production and trade.

GAFSP

IFC, a member of the *World Bank Group*, manages the private sector window of the global agriculture & food security program (GAFSP), to improve incomes and food and nutrition security in low-income countries by increasing the boosting agriculture productivity. GAFSP has a private and a public sector window for accessing finance. The Netherlands committed to contribute USD 142.9 million to GAFSP's private sector window (as of August 31, 2015), making the Netherlands the largest donor to the private sector window.

The program supports private investments in low income countries leading to an increase in commercial potential of medium and small sized enterprises and farmers. Projects and techniques that relate to climate smart agriculture fit perfectly well within this program.

GAFSP will now enter a second phase, "GAFSP 2.0" (2016-2020), in which climate smartness, ecological sustainability and nutrition will play a greater role, and advisory activities will come more to the forefront. Topics for discussion today are: How can GAFSP help create local partnerships that lead to both commercial returns for the investor and achievement of the sustainable development goals? How can this be best structured and which experiences of Dutch companies, knowledge institutions and NGOs can GAFSP benefit from? How can Dutch companies, knowledge institutions and consultancy firms better access the opportunities of GAFSP?

[Further information on GAFSP](#)

¹ Climate smart agriculture: agriculture that sustainably increases productivity, resilience (adaptation), reduces/removes GHGs (mitigation), and enhances achievement of national food security and development goals (FAO, 2010). Think of smart seeds, irrigation, energy from biomass, soil fertility etc.