

15. STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL & ENTREPRENEURIAL CAPACITIES IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES & UNIVERSITIES TO DEPLOY RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR RURAL AREAS & AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

ACTION AREA	FOOD SYSTEMS RESILIENCE
SOLUTION CLUSTER	INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS
THEMATIC AREA	WATER-ENERGY-FOOD NEXUS
SUBMITTED BY	RUFORUM: REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES FORUM FOR CAPACITY BUILDING IN AFRICA

WHAT IS THE RISK, SHOCK, STRESS THAT THE SOLUTION IS TRYING TO ADDRESS?

Climate change and unsustainable utilisation of natural resources

HOW DOES THE SOLUTION IMPROVE OR ENHANCE RESILIENCE OF FOOD SYSTEMS?

Develop sustainable utilisation of natural resources and renewable energy practices and adoption

IS THE SOLUTION RELEVANT TO BUILDING FOOD SYSTEMS RESILIENCE?

Anticipate shocks/risks/stress and/or reduce vulnerability, Manage risks, Prevent (reduce exposure), Absorb, respond/cope

IN WHAT REALMS OF INTERVENTION IS THE SOLUTION DESIGNED TO ACT ON RESILIENCE?

Household, Community

WHO ARE THE MAIN ACTORS THAT WOULD PUT THIS ACTION INTO PLACE?

Policymakers (government), Farmers, Scientists, Indigenous groups

WHAT IS THE POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR THIS IDEA? DOES THE IDEA HAVE ANY MEMBER STATES OR POLITICAL INTERESTS? ARE THERE ANY STAKEHOLDERS WORKING ON IT?

The solution enhances the continent's ability to harness technology for economic development as promoted by the Science Agenda for Africa (AUC), Light Up and Power Africa (AfDB, high 5); Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) CGIAR- World Bank Supported Program. Countries experiencing severe droughts, floods and other climate change related stresses and shocks require context specific, cost effective, efficient and appropriate technologies.

IS THE SOLUTION APPLICABLE AT GLOBAL LEVEL, OR SPECIFIC CONTEXTS & PARTICULAR COUNTRIES?

Applicable at the global level, but with special focus on sub-Saharan Africa

WHAT ARE THE KEY ACTIONS REQUIRED TO ADDRESS THIS SOLUTION?

1. Develop critical human capital to run the renewable energy sector,
2. strengthen research for development capacity to generate local energy capacity for powering critical sectors of the economy through strategic partnerships.
- 3- transitioning and adopting production systems in agriculture and health to utilise renewable energy for economic development

ARE THERE ANY FINANCIAL SOURCES/FUNDS THAT IS SUPPORTING THIS IDEA?

Several initiatives are ongoing to support renewable energy, African Centres of Excellence (ACE) have been established, research by faculty and national programs

HOW DOES THIS SOLUTION CONTRIBUTE TO (A) EMPOWER WOMEN AND COMBAT GENDER INEQUALITIES, AND (B) THE FULFILMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ESPECIALLY THE RIGHT TO FOOD AND THE RIGHT TO WATER, (C) MAKE USE OF INNOVATIONS (TECHNOLOGIES, INSTITUTIONS, PROCESSES)?

Women in Africa constitute 50% of the population and 70% of engagement in agriculture in rural households. Renewable energy generation, enables them to appreciate the potential of sustainable natural resource utilisation and participate in the transformation of agri-food systems. The solution will use local human capital to link to policy makers for food systems transformation and facilitate the transformation of both the education and agriculture value chains in ways that are relevant. The future of Africa's ability not only to feed itself, but to feed the world, with its natural resources and youthful population, depends on human capacity, building resilience, researching locally appropriate solutions, generating data and ensuring that these results are shared with those affected and with policy-makers. This would apply to renewable energy and sustainable natural resource utilisation.