PRESENTATION “Climate Change Adaptation- Challenges and opportunities for the small scale farmers” TO THE CHIESA 4TH ANNUAL PROJECT MEETING, MOSHI TANZANIA

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Outline of the Presentation

• Background about UNFFE
• Introduction
• Impacts of climate change to the small scale farmers
• What are we doing about CC?
• Challenges
• Opportunities
• Priority areas for Action
Background of UNFFE

• Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNFFE) is the largest Non-Governmental Farmer Organisation in Uganda. It was founded in January 1992 as Uganda national Farmers Association (UNFA) and turned into a Federation in 2002.

• UNFFE is non-profit, non-religious and non-political. It is for all Ugandan farmers.

• Legal Status; A limited company by Guarantee. Registered with the NGO Board of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

• Membership: UNFFE has membership of 98 Farmers Organisations with 78 being district based and the structures go up to village level
UNFFE Vision, Mission, Goal and Motto

• **Vision:** Empowered farmers for sustainable development

• **Mission:** To organize, advocate for favorable policies and transform farmers into prosperous communities.

• **Overall goal:** To contribute to improved farmers’ livelihoods and general agricultural development in Uganda.

• **Mottos:** “Farming is Honourable and Dignifying”
Introduction

• Global population to increase by 33% to 9 billion people by 2050;
• An estimated 70% more food required
• Africa’s to increase by 115%; by 21% in Asia
• Worldwide hunger reduced by 132 million in last 20 years; but it increased by 64 million in Africa!
• Threatening climate change challenges
• Agriculture continues to employ the majority of the rural poor especially in Africa.

The above shows that there is an ever increasing importance to adapt to climate change if the farmers are to continuously produce optimally.
Some of the climate change impacts to the farmers

- Prolonged droughts
- Increased incidences of floods, land slides and mudslides
- Increased incidences of pests, diseases and invasive weeds
- Heat waves
- Short and unreliable rainfall patterns

*These are made worse by the poor farming practices by the majority of small scale farmers.*
Impacts Cont....
What are we doing on CC Adaptation

UNFFE’s work mainly centers around several programmes targeting mainly training of farmers, especially the rural farmers who interact with the environment on a daily basis, with the aim of improving their capacity to adapt to climate change. Trainings are mainly around the following technologies;
What we are doing Cont....

• Promoting Sustainable energy; e.g. Use of Charqual briquettes
On farm soil and water management; e.g. through construction of contours
Proper use of fertilizer; e.g.
Composting
• Setting up of demonstration farms exhibiting CSA technologies
• Trainings in Water harvesting and small scale irrigation.
• Dissemination of information to our members
• Working with insurance companies to develop insurance products that can be accessed by small scale farmers.
Challenges

• Low incomes by the majority of the small scale farmers
• Weak extension systems
• Weak farmers organisations
• Limited access to agricultural financing
• Inaccurate weather information- leading to farmers loosing trust in weather information.
• Poor implementation of policies on CC adaptation.
Challenges Cont...

• Gap between researchers and farmers; leading to slow uptake of the developed technologies.
• Small land holdings by the majority of smallscale farmers.
• Relatively high costs for some of theadaptation technologies like irrigation
Opportunities

• Farmers willingness to change, because of the severe impacts of climate change.
• Increased funding opportunities towards climate change adaptation.
• Increased political will to combat climate change in both the north and the south
• Existence of farmers organisations that can be used to mobilize farmers for CC adaptation programmes.
• Availability of climate smart technologies, developed by National Agriculture Research Institutions.
Priority areas for Action

• **Build capacity of farmer organisations;** to deliver climate smart services to the farmers at the farm level- use the existing structures.

• **Strengthen key support institutions;** such as meteorological departments, Climate Change Units, agricultural technical departments among others to effectively provide services to farmers

• **Promote the use of resistant crop varieties and livestock breeds;** by training farmers to identify and use appropriate resilient crop varieties and livestock breeds.
Cont....

• **Improve access to credit for farmers;** this enable them invest in the new technologies
• **Institute Policies that make it easy and more profitable to invest in climate smart technologies at the farm level** (**by the farmers**).
• **Continuous awareness campaigns at the grassroots levels**
Thank you very much for your attention

Farming is Honourable and dignifying