

# **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

# KEY MESSAGES

- West Africa has considerable natural resources (land, soils and Water) that could be harnessed for agriculture productivity towards climate change adaptation.
- Agriculture production and management of natural resources in an environment of CC will become complex. Working together across sectors should be a key component of our collaborative endeavour.
- Doubling food production considering land and water degradation and increasing population is a clear challenge. Projected risks will increasingly threaten small scale farmers.
- We urgently need to collectively put Climate information services on the AGENDA as a potent way to support farmers effort to adapt to CC.
- Agriculture has not harnessed the full potential of funding that is available for CC adaptation compared to other sectors. Political will and ownership are key for success.
- We need to prioritize and coordinate efforts towards climate change adaptation.

# PRIORITIES

- i. Investment in efficient land and water activities to increase agriculture production, productivity and strengthen resilience to CC.
- ii. Up-scaling and dissemination of demonstrated adaptation case studies.
- iii. Strengthen communication and networking capacities for CC adaptation among organizations, institutions and networks in the countries and region.
- iv. Focus on mainstreaming climate change adaptation in local level initiative.
- v. Enhancing climate information services to support farmers decision making towards adapting to CC.
- vi. Appropriate financing mechanism and additional investment essential for climate change adaptation.

# Regional level Activities

- Promote effective coordination and collaboration among policy makers, researches and donors on CC.
- Develop seasonal climate information systems (data collection and early warning), tools and dissemination modalities through regional information hubs.
- Facilitate investment and finance for climate change projects and programs.

# National/ local Level Activities

- Capacity building on human resources to downscale and utilize climate change information at farm levels.
- Implement activities and projects on land and water management.
- Develop capacities of small scale farmers to face risks due to climate change.
- Develop water infrastructure and improve agricultural techniques.
- Collect local knowledge, best practices, technologies and innovation for climate change adaptation.