

# Climate Finance for Sustainable Agriculture

## *The Lab Webinar Series*

1. **Blockchain Climate Risk Crop Insurance**  
Tuesday, April 13th
2. **TerraFund and Smallholder Forestry Vehicle**  
Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 14:00-15:00 CEST - 12:00-13:00 GMT
3. **The West African Initiative for Climate Smart Agriculture; Government Tools and Agricultural Lab Instruments & Methodology for impact assessment of Lab instruments**  
Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 14:00-15:00 CEST - 12:00-13:00 GMT  
[TBC]

The Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance (the Lab) is an investor-led initiative that identifies, develops, and launches promising solutions to drive public and private investment to action on climate change in emerging economies.

Since its inception in 2014, the Lab has become a leader in accelerating investment where it is needed most, having launched 49 finance instruments that have already mobilized USD 2.4 billion for concrete projects. This includes **15 innovative instruments for channeling investments into sustainable agriculture, forestry and land use at scale**, particularly for smallholder farmers who are the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

One of the core members and funding partners of the Lab is The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Understanding how innovative climate finance solutions are a significant catalyst to increasing public and private finance to promote sustainable and resilient agriculture practices with smallholder farmers globally, IFAD joined the effort to help build the Lab's expertise in sustainable agriculture.

Through the second phase of its Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP), IFAD has funded the Lab's Sustainable Agriculture for Smallholders in Sub-Saharan Africa work stream since 2018. IFAD's contribution goes well beyond funding. IFAD advisors are actively involved in screening submissions to the Lab, identifying the most promising ideas, and providing technical guidance to turn those ideas into action.

2020 was the second hottest year on record. Alongside the COVID-19 pandemic disrupting food value chains, extreme climate events could lead to a broader threat to nutritional security worldwide, but with the worst impact affecting the poorest and most vulnerable.

Restarting the economy in a green mode would tackle the two most pressing issues of our time—the coronavirus pandemic and climate change—simultaneously. But, in the haste for

countries to find ways to save their economies, there is a risk that they disregard climate measures which were already severely underfunded in some sectors such as agriculture.

**Thus, more than ever, there is an urgent need to accelerate financial solutions that can drive resources towards sustainable agricultural supply chains throughout its stages, from production to distribution.**

## Meeting Format

In this series of webinars developed for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Lab presents some of its innovative financial instruments to catalyze greater investment into the sustainable agriculture sector, including key elements identified through the Lab development and updates on current status. **Each one-hour session has an introductory segment followed by an open Q&A segment.**

The first webinar covers the 2019 Lab instrument **Blockchain Climate Risk Crop Insurance**, from led by ACRE Africa, Etheric and Sprout Insure. The instrument is a standardized, digital index crop insurance platform for smallholder farmers that addresses the impacts of climate change on crop production by making insurance more transparent, efficient, and scalable.

The second session brings together lessons from 2020's **TerraFund**, from the World Resources Institute, and 2018's **Smallholder Forestry Vehicle (SPV)**, from Komaza. Both instruments allow investments in regenerative practices by smallholder farmers.

The third webinar presents the 2019 Lab Instrument **West African Initiative for Climate Smart Agriculture**, an Economic Community of West African States' instrument to provide smallholders with financial and technical support to incentivize the adoption of climate-smart agriculture. This session also presents early findings of the Climate Policy Initiative's brief **Government Tools and Agricultural Lab Instruments** showing how complementary approaches and designs (i.e. connections with government tools) to financial instruments can further offer opportunities for them to overcome barriers. It will also provide initial information on the planned development of a methodology for impact assessment of Lab instruments focused on agriculture, forestry and land use.

## Draft Agenda\*\* All TIMES IN GMT

### #1 Blockchain Climate Risk Crop Insurance

Tuesday, April 13th, 9:00-10:00 GMT

#### 9:00-9:05 | Welcome Remarks

- **Liza Leclerc**, Environment & Climate Change Coordinator, ECG – IFAD

#### 9:05-9:10 | Lab introduction & impact

The Lab Secretariat will introduce the Lab process and present impact figures the instruments have achieved in six years of the program.

- **Daniela Chiriac**, Senior Analyst, Climate Policy Initiative

### 9:10-9:20 | **Blockchain Climate Risk Crop Insurance**

The instrument is a digital platform wherein crop insurance policies are plugged into smart contracts on a blockchain and indexed to local weather, facilitating fair, transparent and timely payouts since policies are automatically triggered during an extreme weather event.

- **Valerio Micale**, Manager, Climate Policy Initiative

### 9:20-9:50 | **Q&A**

- **Valerio Micale**, Manager, Climate Policy Initiative

### 9:50-10:00 | **Summary and Closing Remarks**

- **Liza Leclerc**, Environment & Climate Change Coordinator, ECG – IFAD

## #2 **TerraFund and Smallholder Forestry Vehicle**

Thursday, August 26th, 14:00-15:00 CEST - 12:00-13:00 GMT

Registration link:

<https://climatepolicyinitiative.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpduuuqzwrGtSznq1g2mffg4BU2c1qORKD>

### 9:00-9:05 | **Welcome Remarks**

- **Sebastien Subsol**, Senior Technical Specialist - Climate Change – IFAD

### 9:05-9:15 | **TerraFund**

TerraFund offers discounted interest rates to incentivize SMEs to boost their social and environmental impact by working closely with smallholders. TerraFund benefits from a unique partnership with World Resources Institute's Land Accelerator, an entrepreneurship program that provides tailored capacity-building to restoration enterprises.

- **Sean Dewitt**, Director, Global Restoration Initiative, World Resources Institute (TBC)
- **Venkat Iyer**, Manager, Global Restoration Initiative, World Resources Institute (TBC)

### 9:15-9:25 | **Smallholder Forestry Vehicle**

SFV packages tree production partnership contracts with thousands of smallholder farmers and sells them to investors, providing farmers and forestry companies with access to low-cost, long-term finance while enabling institutional investors to access sustainable forestry investments.

- **Tomo Kumahira**, VP Corporate Finance & Strategy, Komaza (TBC)

### 9:25-9:55 | **Q&A**

- **Sean Dewitt**, Director, Global Restoration Initiative, World Resources Institute

- **Venkat Iyer**, Manager, Global Restoration Initiative, World Resources Institute (TBC)
- **Tomo Kumahira**, VP Corporate Finance & Strategy, Komaza
- **Daniela Chiriac**, Senior Analyst, Climate Policy Initiative

#### 9:55-10:00 | Summary and Closing Remarks

- **Sebastien Subsol**, Senior Technical Specialist - Climate Change – IFAD

### #3 The West African Initiative for Climate Smart Agriculture & Government Tools and Agricultural Lab Instruments

Wednesday, September 29th, 9:00-10:00 GMT

Registration Link: [https://climatepolicyinitiative.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkc-qprzwiEtxfSRWK4\\_EGncYHU-tMfIRd](https://climatepolicyinitiative.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkc-qprzwiEtxfSRWK4_EGncYHU-tMfIRd)

#### 9:00-9:05 | Welcome Remarks

- **Sebastien Subsol**, Senior Technical Specialist - Climate Change – IFAD

#### 9:05-9:15 | The West African Initiative for Climate Smart Agriculture

Lab entrepreneur from the ECOWAS Commission presents the mechanism, which consists of a dedicated blended finance fund providing financial and technical support to smallholder farmer organizations and agribusinesses to adopt climate-smart agriculture practices in West Africa.

- **Alain Sy Traore**, Director of Agriculture and Rural Development at ECOWAS Commission (TBC)

#### 9:15-9:25 | Government Tools and Agricultural Lab Instruments

Climate Policy Initiative's analytical brief looks at how agricultural-related financial instruments can take advantage of public support and government tools in overcoming barriers to financing agriculture. Some Lab instruments exemplify this but also offer lessons for other instruments wishing to link to government tools in similar ways.

- **Daniela Chiriac**, Senior Analyst, Climate Policy Initiative
- **Rosaly Byrd**, Program Coordinator, Climate Policy Initiative

#### 9:25-9:55 | Q&A

- **Alain Sy Traore**, Director of Agriculture and Rural Development at ECOWAS Commission
- **Daniela Chiriac**, Senior Analyst, Climate Policy Initiative
- **Rosaly Byrd**, Program Coordinator, Climate Policy Initiative

#### 9:55-10:00 | Summary and Closing Remarks

- **Sebastien Subsol**, Senior Technical Specialist - Climate Change – IFAD