



# Empowering youth & forging partnerships

Inaugural Newsletter of the Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN)  
August 2017 - Volume 1, Issue 1

## Mali youth plant trees for the future

Founded in 2007 by nine-year-old Felix Finkbeiner, the Plant-for-the-Planet Children's Initiative aims to plant one million trees in every country. CSAYN Mali carried out its first actions towards this goal by planting trees and conducting workshops on environmental education with three schools in Bamako. CSAYN Mali, in partnership with Plant-for-the-Planet, aims to engage schools on environmental education to carry out innovative actions and initiatives for participation of youth to achieving the objectives of sustainable development by 2030.

To date, children in more than 100 countries around the world support Plant-for-the-Planet. In fact, more than 12,000 children have been empowered to become ambassadors since 2011.



*Youth in Mali embracing environmental stewardship through tree planting.*

## About CSAYN

The Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN) consists of volunteers based in 20 sub-Saharan African countries, Canada, Myanmar, Pakistan, USA, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia and India who promote and strengthen climate smart agriculture and sustainable development issues among youth.

## SDG Lectures in Nigeria & Zimbabwe

CSAYN Nigeria and Zimbabwe have involved schools and universities in the advocacy of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Thanks to the valuable engagement and contribution of volunteers, hundreds of people have been trained on the SDGs and Climate Smart Agriculture. CSAYN Zimbabwe has partnered with the Zimbabwe United Nations Association, which is currently training people every Friday on the SDGs. CSAYN Nigeria has partnered with Nigeria Youths Against Climate Change (NYACC) and African Education Initiative (AEI) in conducting the SDGs training sessions.



### Inside this issue:

Rwanda's Bio coop Meeting	2
Togo's Ambassadors	2
Empowering South African girls through recycling	2
Agricultural Training in Ghana	2
Congratulations CSAYN Canada	3
CSAYN joins African Carbon Forum 2017	3
Harnessing Climate Smart Agriculture in Myanmar	3

## Rwanda's Biocoop Meeting

Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN) Rwanda participated in a meeting together with Biocoop Rwanda, environmental journalists and local members in southern province of Rwanda to discuss sustainable development for local communities. CSAYN Rwanda was invited to share and exchange information and skills about biodiversity conservation, ecotourism promotion to increase the percentage of forestry, agro forestry, and fruit trees in their region. Like CSAYN, Biocoop Rwanda is an organization that has the same objectives of preserving biodiversity and forestry. This can be accomplished through providing and creating good change in the community from a young age by integrating poverty reduction food security, agriculture, climate change awareness, community health and by biodiversity conservation and protection in Rwanda.

## Togo's Ambassadors

On 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017, CSAYN Togo brought together 150 young ambassadors in the Vogan social affairs room to promote the objectives of sustainable development in local languages, including Ewe. The Global Goals are the biggest attempt in the history of the human kind to make the world a better place. We all have a role to play in making these SDGs a reality. By promoting and discussing the SDGs in local languages, CSAYN Togo aims to reach a wider audience who can implement the SDGs locally in their various communities.

## Empowering South African girls through recycling



CSAYN South Africa has been successful in gathering funding for recycling activities, which will support girls under the age of 15 years. These girls will be making 50 wrist bands and a SDG banner out of recycled cardboard, plastic bottles and wool. This is for economic empowerment of girls while teaching them about the importance of recycling and reusing for profit. These wrist bands and the SDG banner will be displayed by CSAYN South Africa at the local library in Marian Hill, Nagina, in the city of Pinetown.

## Agricultural training in Ghana

From 15 – 17 May 2017, CSAYN Ghana partnered with CARD Ghana on an agricultural training in the Northern Region (Kwatape, Lambardo and Meme). This training equipped youths on different methods of climate smart agriculture as well as giving them an insight on the numerous Sustainable Development Goals. The number of youth engaged were approximately 135, of which 72 were females and 63 males.



*School children at a demonstration farm in Ghana*

## Congratulations CSAYN Canada

CSAYN Canada was officially launched on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017. There were a lot of discussions around how to promote the organization and get people to participate were explored. These include starting a Climate Smart Victory Garden at a local community church, whose members passed a motion to accept and supported a one acre parcel of land to grow vegetables and engage youth in the nearby high schools. To add on, a SDGs Training session was organized during the International Humanitarian Technology Conference held in the city of Toronto in July 2017.

## CSAYN joins African Carbon Forum 2017



*CSAYN Togo members with Dr. Martin Frick, Director of Climate Change and Environment Division, Food and Agriculture Organization*

The Government of Benin together with the Nairobi Framework Partnership hosted the 9<sup>th</sup> African Carbon Forum (ACF) on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017. It was held in Cotonou, Benin, with the aim of promoting climate action in Africa. The Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network (CSAYN) Global Coordination Unit (GCU) was duly represented by Mr. Ayivi, the CSAYN country coordinator for Togo, and two official members namely KodjoMessah-Adjignon and EdemKokouGasso. Collectively, they engaged in a wide-ranging exchange of views related to climate actions and energy in the region. CSAYN Togo's participation and engagement was further enhanced through their setting up of a booth with a poster panel as well as sharing

CSAYN brochures highlighting the CSAYN platform and its overall objectives. The translation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals into the Togo national language (Ewé) was highly appreciated by the different stakeholders who were present at the forum.

## Harnessing Climate Smart Agriculture in Myanmar

Myanmar has committed to applying CSA to contribute to regional food security and environmental protection during the 24<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit held on May 10, 2014. The Myanmar CSA strategy encompasses the development of technical, policy and investment conditions to achieve a sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition through climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture. Myanmar's CSA strategy aims to be socially, culturally and politically appropriate, environment-friendly and economically feasible to promote and attain sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition, agricultural development and climate change adaptation and mitigation. Myanmar's CSA strategy also aims to provide context and analysis for addressing agriculture in international climate negotiations.



# Upcoming Events & CSAYN Presence

Africa Green Revolution, 4-8 September 2017, Abidjan

71<sup>st</sup> UN General Assembly, 18-24 September 2017, UN HQ

Discussion on Integrating Women and Youth in CSA, Sept 10 – Oct 15, On line

AFAAS Extension Week, October 30 – November 3rd 2017, South Africa

The Agribusiness Conference & Expo 2017, 8-10 November, Dakar, Senegal

UNFCCC Climate Change Conference (COP23), 6-17 November 2017, Germany

Fourth CSA Conference, 28-30 November 2017, South Africa

Climate Alliance for CSA Annual Forum, 11-14 December 2017, Italy

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Or visit

[www.csayn.org](http://www.csayn.org)

## A warm welcome to our new partners

The **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** believes that young people living in rural areas have the potential, as the farmers and producers of tomorrow; to help feed the world's growing population. But young people are increasingly abandoning agriculture and rural areas in search of better livelihoods in cities or abroad. More than ever, there is a pressing need to create opportunities for young people to contribute to their communities and to earn a decent living in the agricultural and non-farm sectors. IFAD's programme of work reflects the needs and views of young rural people and aims to address the challenges that they face and create incentives to make rural life an attractive and viable livelihood option.



Investing in rural people

**Connect4Climate** is a global partnership program launched by the World Bank Group and the Italian Ministry of Environment, joined by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development that takes on climate change by promoting solutions and empowering people to act. The Connect4Climate community connects more than 460 partners around the world. It interacts with a global audience of more than a million individuals who participate on Connect4Climate's social media channels.



**Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA)** is an alliance of partners created to stimulate accelerated scaling up of Climate-Smart Agriculture and thereby facilitating concrete food security and agriculture initiatives by tapping the wealth and diversity of resources, knowledge, information and expertise from its members. GACSA is pleased to count CSAYN as a dynamic member highlighting youth issues across the alliance.



The **Global African Agribusiness Accelerator Platform (GAAAP)** is a flagship capacity development program of Africa Business Group and seeks to aid young agripreneurs to expand their businesses through mentorship, learning journey facilitation, distance learning, and the facilitation of workshops. GAAAP is pleased to partner with CSAYN to ensure that resilience at both the production and value addition stages of the agricultural value chain are addressed toward the development of a continent-wide community of "climate smart" agripreneurs.



Thank you to our existing partners for all the support received over the years!



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development



Thank you for supporting the Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network and we hope you enjoyed our inaugural newsletter. This newsletter was compiled by Elizabeth Gulugulu, many thanks to Khairon Abbas (communications advisor) for her ongoing guidance, editing, reviewing and designing this newsletter.