



*Combating Climate Change.
Improving Livelihoods*

Open Agroclimatic Science Conference

**Theme: Crops and livestock adaptation
options under climate extremes.**

TERMS OF REFERENCE



PARTNERS



01 RATIONAL

With regional warming, over West Africa, outpacing the global average, it is expected that climate hazards will keep on growing to include pluviometric extremes and heatwaves, and significantly impact populations. According to recent findings, in the nearest future, the Sudanian and Sahelian zones of West Africa may likely experience an increase of its average rainfall with a spatial dipole over the long-term future. The Central-Eastern portions of the subregion (e.g., Northern Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Northern Togo) will be wetter and the Central-Western subregions (e.g., Senegal, Mali) will be drier compared to the current baselines. While temperature will continue increasing, heat stress will prevail, and rain events may become more intense but less frequent with longer dry spells. These extreme, and mixed wet-dry-hot patterns of the regional climate are exacerbating agropastoral conflicts, diseases and are leading to other compound events (i.e., critical combinations of multiple climate drivers and/or hazards) of catastrophic risks for crop and livestock production systems.

The operationalization of adaptation actions is the most critical pathway to explore and exploit the transformative opportunities of climate extremes and compound events. Crop adaptation options include crop diversification and use of stress-tolerant varieties, changes in cropping calendars, intercropping, organic and mineral manure, the use of soil water conservation techniques (e.g., stone bunds, half-moon, Zai, etc.), rainwater harvesting, improved irrigation techniques, and agroforestry among others. Livestock adaptation strategies have been more concerned with adjustments of breeding systems that include changes in practices such as diversification, intensification, and agro-pastoralism.

Many of these climate-smart practices have been experimented at the forefront of the activities of the UPSCALERS project (“Upscaling Site-Specific Climate-smart Agriculture and Land use practices to Enhance Regional Production Systems in West-Africa”) between 2018 and 2021 in rural areas of the Volta-Niger River basins of West Africa. The results have demonstrated the potential sustainability of these adaptation options under different climate realization. The open Agroclimatic Science Conference (OASC) of the UPSCALERS project provides a unique forum for researchers, practitioners, policy makers, climate services and technology providers, and other important stakeholders to discuss the latest advances in adaptation options in Africa. In this first edition of the 2022 OASC, the conference will focus on “Crops and livestock adaptation options under climate extremes”.

02 CALL FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

The Open Agroclimatic Science Conference (OASC) call is opened for submission of conference papers. The authors of papers will be invited to make short talks and/or poster presentations on the following topics of the OASC.

Conference Theme: Crops and livestock adaptation options under climate extremes

Topics of Sessions:

- Agroclimatic extremes and compound events
- Grazing, transhumance, agropastoral conflicts
- crops, livestock, GHG emissions, and land productivity
- Climate extremes and Phytosanitary systems
- Governance, Policy and Agrotechnology transfer

03 IMPORTANT DATES

CALL OPEN

10 November 2021

CONFERENCE PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

18 March 2022

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

15 January 2022

CONFERENCE DATES:

20-22 April 2022,

Hybrid format (Physical and online)

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE / REJECTION:

31 January 2022

VENUE OF EVENT:

Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

- Application abstracts (not more than 500 words, Arial 12 font size, simple line spacing) can be submitted on/or before 15 January 2022, to dindane.a@wascal.org; belemsobgo.m@wascal.org (cc: salack.s@wascal.org), in English and French
- All submissions will be peer-reviewed by the scientific committee.
- Authors of accepted abstract(s) will be invited to give a talk or make a poster presentation at the conference.
- Authors of accepted abstract(s) will be invited to submit Conference paper(s).
- The Conference papers will be formated based on specific instructions for authors available after notification of abstract acceptance.
- Travel, accomodation and subsistence expenses will be granted to authors of accepted abstract(s) traveling from a West African country.

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ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

WASCAL, INERA, ILRI, INSAH/CILSS, KIT/IMK-IFU, FNG, DRA/Ioba,

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SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

WASCAL, INERA, ILRI, INSAH/CILSS, AGHRYMET/CILSS, KIT, INRES, AUC/EUC



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT www.wascal.org

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