

Transforming Rural Livelihoods in Africa: How can land and water management contribute to enhanced food security and address climate change adaptation and mitigation?

Second Announcement: Call for Titles, Abstracts and Full Papers

A conference of public and private sector organizations and projects accelerating delivery of needed land and water management technologies to African small scale farmers

Nakuru, Kenya 20-25 October 2013

Conference Purpose

The Soil Science Society of East Africa (SSSEA) in collaboration with African Soil Science Society (ASSS) invite participation at a conference intended to critically analyze Land and Water Management (LWM) technologies, innovative products and services; and strategies benefiting small-scale agriculture in Africa. This will be the 6th ASSS Conference following the previous 5th Conference held on 22-28 November 2009 in Yaoundé, Cameroon, and the 27th SSSEA following the 26th meeting held at Jinja Uganda on 21-25 November 2011. The SSSEA and the ASSS have this time decided to pool resources and have a joint Africa-wide conference.

A particular focus of this joint conference deals with the contribution of LWM in the Agricultural Production Value Chains, addressing threats and opportunities associated with climate change, and scaling up of proven technologies for transformational impact on the livelihoods of African small-scale farmers.

In addition, land use planning and policy will be addressed during this conference. In line with the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP's) goal of eliminating hunger and reducing poverty through agriculture, the conference touches on the pillars relating to sustainable land management; market access; increasing food supply and reducing hunger. This will be achieved through presentations on research findings, technology dissemination and adoption. Outputs from the conference will also contribute towards informing the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN).

The conference will feature invited keynote speakers in plenary sessions, followed by sessions of related thematic oral and poster presentations. The output will be electronic/bound proceedings that will include oral presentations and posters. In addition, a summary of exhibited products and services will be synthesized as short papers.

Theme

Transforming Rural Livelihoods in Africa: How can land and water management contribute to enhanced food security and address climate change adaptation and mitigation?

Sub-Themes

- Enhancing applications of adaptation and mitigation to climate variability and change
- Enhancing the status of human nutrition and food security in Africa through Integrated Soil Fertility Management (ISFM), and small scale irrigation
- Exploring options for sustainable intensification and diversification of crop soil livestock systems
- Land use planning for sustainable food security and climate change adaptation in Africa
- Commercialization aspects in land and water management: Markets and private sector engagement
- Scaling, socio-economic and policy options in land and water management
- Capacity building in land and water management within the Agricultural Product Value Chains (APVC) approach
- Adaptation to climate change: Lessons learned and challenges ahead

Policy Forum:

The conference will integrate a policy forum linking scientists and policy makers with the specific objectives of:

- Brief review of existing policies with respect to soil management in the ASARECA member countries and AU/NEPAD/CAADP initiatives.
- Review with decision makers and/or their advisors impediments (at policy, institutional, market level) for scaling up technologies.
- Required actions to improve the situation.

It is expected that representatives from African Union and regional and national research and policy bodies will attend.

Venue

Nakuru is home to Lake Nakuru, one of the Rift Valley soda lakes, which forms part of the Lake Nakuru National Park. The area surrounding the town is known for its vast agricultural potential with numerous small farms and vast agricultural enterprises. The town has the second largest surviving volcanic crater in the world, Menengai Crater, a dormant volcano, where small fumaroles and steam vents can regularly be observed within the forested caldera from above.

Conference Language: English or French

Call for Papers

Those wishing to present papers should submit first drafts by 31st May 2013 which will be subjected to pre-screening and peer review. Final copies of accepted papers should be submitted by 26th July 2013. All papers should be typed and double spaced and should include:

- Title and name(s), institutional affiliation(s) and complete mailing address (es) including e-mail of the author(s) with an indication of which author is responsible for correspondence.
- Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Recommendations, Acknowledgement and References.

Publication of Abstracts and Papers

Two high-quality books of abstracts and proceedings will be published in volumes tentatively titled "Abstracts and Proceedings of the joint 27th SSSEA Conference and 6th ASSS". Kindly note that abstracts for oral or paper presentations will only be accepted for presentation after authors submit their revised articles on time.

Manuscript Requirements

Manuscripts must be written in British English, typed on A4 size paper and not longer than 3,000 words double spaced pages typed in Times New Roman font size 12. Pages should be numbered consecutively. Numbers 1-10 should be spelt out in text while 11 to infinity should be written out in numeral form. Where the numbers are at the beginning of a sentence they should be spelt out. Hard copies of all manuscripts should be submitted in duplicate and soft (CD) copies in MS Word for Windows 2003.

Cover, Title and Author

The cover page should include the title of the paper, the names and complete mailing addresses of the authors with an indication of which author is responsible for correspondence. Include telephone, e-mail and fax numbers for ease of communication. The name of the author to present the paper should be underlined. The title of the paper should represent the content of the article and briefly identify the subject, indicate the purpose of the study and give important, high impact words early.

Scientific and Common Names

Scientific names must be given for each organism, followed by the authority, the first time the name is used. Names of the species and genera must be italicized. For other taxa, the first letter is capitalized but the names are not italicized. After the first mention, the generic name may be abbreviated provided it does not appear at the beginning of a sentence. The use of pesticide names should follow standard convention and the correct chemical name given the first time the pesticide is mentioned. Measurements should be in S.I. units. Equations should be done using Microsoft Equation Editor 3.1 or lower.

Illustrations

No provisions shall be made for altering illustrations after submission. The illustrations should be drawn on the same size as the page and be clearly labeled. Figure captions must be placed below it while all tables must have table headings. The tables should be done using the Microsoft Word table function. Both figures and tables must be placed where they are first referred in text.

References

References in text should be by author and year e.g. authors with more than one publication per year should have a letter following their names after the second publication. If more than two authors are listed, the names of the first author should be given followed by "et al."

Literature Cited

Names of journals should be spelled out in their entirety followed by the Volume Number (and Issue Number where available). Page numbers should be inclusive and follow a colon after the Volume Number. For books, give the title, the city of publication and the name of the publisher. Do not include number of pages unless you are referring to a section of the book. Three examples for a journal, book and Internet are given below.

Mureithi J.G., Gachene C.K.K. and Ojiem J. (2003). The role of green manure legumes in smallholder farming systems in Kenya: The legume Research Network Project. *Tropical and Subtropical Agroecosystems*. 1, 57-70.

Campbell C.N. and Madden L.V. (1990). *Introduction to plant disease epidemiology*. John Wiley and Sons, New York 532 pp.

Koning R.E. (2004). Seeds and seed germination. *Plant Physiology Information Website*: http://koning.ecsu.ctstateu.edu/plants_human/seedgerm.html.

Posters

There will be several poster sessions during the conference. Authors who prefer to make presentations in the poster sessions should specify this on submission of their papers. However, they should present their posters as papers for the initial submission. All posters should fit into a poster board measuring 33.11 46.81 inches (A0). A good poster should:

- Be simple, informative, visually appealing and attractive
- Be easy to read and understand with relevant legend
- Contain text and illustrative matter harmoniously combined to produce an effective presentation
- Tell the complete story.

Excursion

The conference will have an excursion at a fee of USD (\$) 20 (scientists/industrialist) and USD (\$) 10 for students. Details about this excursion will be communicated later.

Keynote Speakers

A list of speakers who will have tentatively confirmed to give keynote addresses at the conference will be circulated in May 2013.

Deadlines

The deadline for papers submissions is 31 May 2013. Titles, Abstracts and Full papers indicating area of focus should be submitted to Dr. Cyrus Githunguri, Organizing Committee, SSSEA/ASSS, Email: soilseakenya@gmail.com.

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