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Food Security and climate change in Africa: Challenges and opportunities

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The abstract should be headed by a **title**, **name(s)** **and complete address (es) of the author(s).** Please underline the name of the author who will present the paper.

**Abstract (approximately 250-300 words limit)**

The world is grappling with a triple crisis—climate disruption, biodiversity loss, and food insecurity. Africa, home to over 1.4 billion people and where agriculture sustains 70-80% of livelihoods, is acutely affected by these challenges. With 20% of the population experiencing undernourishment and the population projected to double by 2050, Africa must urgently address its fragile food systems. Climate change compounds these issues, as 90–95% of food production depends on rainfed agriculture, making it vulnerable to droughts and erratic rainfall.

This presentation examines adaptive strategies to mitigate climate impacts and promote sustainable food security. It emphasizes building technical capacities, adopting innovative equipment, and digitalizing agricultural practices. Women, who constitute 50% of the agricultural workforce, are central to the solution, especially within strengthened cooperatives, as they enhance inclusivity and resilience in food systems.

Drawing from firsthand experiences, the presentation highlights how revitalized agricultural value chains and collaborative approaches can support Africa's growing population while combating climate change. The interventions have had a measurable impact on the resilience of agricultural systems to climate change. Key outcomes include increase revenue, improved crop yields despite unpredictable weather patterns, better resource management, and enhanced resilience to droughts and floods. Women cooperatives have been empowered, becoming key players in strengthening local food systems and mitigating the social and economic impacts of climate change. Through digital platforms, farmers gained better access to market information and climate-related advice, optimizing production and ensuring stable incomes. Public-private collaborations have been instrumental in scaling these solutions, enabling broader implementation and ensuring their sustainability.

By adopting a holistic, value chain collaborative approach—integrating innovative technologies, capacity building, access to finance and public-private partnerships—Africa can build resilient and sustainable food systems. The practical experiences shared here demonstrate that addressing the impacts of climate change in agriculture is not only necessary for food security but also an opportunity to create long-lasting, equitable solutions for communities across the continent.

**Keywords**

Please provide 5-10 Keywords separated by semicolons (“;”).

**Recent Publications:** Minimum 3 publications to be included (Not mandatory)

**Biography** **(150 words limit)**

Dorsaf is an agricultural engineer with over seven years of professional experience in agricultural entrepreneurship, value chain analysis, and capacity building. Her expertise is complemented by her academic qualifications, including a master’s degree in Business Management. She started her career at the National Agronomic Institute of Tunisia where she worked on the development of the date value chain in Tunisia. Dorsaf is also an agricultural entrepreneur, she has managed her own company specialized in the processing of agricultural products for more than five years. She holds professional certificates that further strengthen her expertise. She has obtained a professional certificate on sustainable food value chains for nutrition from the FAO, demonstrating her commitment to promoting sustainable and nutritious food systems. Today, Dorsaf is a senior consultant at Deloitte Tunisia, specializing in the development and analysis of agricultural value chains for better employability and more entrepreneurial opportunities. She brings extensive experience in project development and implementation across African countries, mainly Tunisia, Mauritania, and Senegal.

**Presenting Author Details and Photo**

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