

From Ghana to Tanzania

The 3rd Global Climate Policy Conference; Implementing the Paris agreement focusing on new research solutions for developing countries was a huge success with the former President of Tanzania H.E Jakaya Kikwete opening remarks setting the stage for the two day heartwarming sessions.

The conference created an innovative participatory program that enables proactive contributions from both the panel and participants. It was a conference that gave room to 85% of the participants to contribute and reacts to climate change adaptation which requires a sustained effort over time to transform economies and development pathways so that emissions reduction and adaptation to, impacts of climate change become a central part of any development planning process in Africa.

I can summarised that the whole discussion during the conference centred on the need for knowledge economy towards promoting and working towards climate change adaptation, education is the broad term that was frequently used (research, technology transfer, expertise even Finance etc.)

The conference identified lack of financial resources, lack of information on technologies, as well as lack of incentives for the private sector to invest in climate-change mitigation technologies as main barriers to technology development and transfer.

The conference further re-emphasised Africa leaders on Climate change to further explore global solution "If each country looks only at itself, we won't get anywhere. We need to explore a global solution for the continent.

Proposed Way Forward

There is a critical need for the business sector, in consultation with governmental and non-profit/philanthropic sectors, to respond strategically by capitalizing on entrepreneurial, innovation, financial, and mobile technology trends to design, develop, and **scale clean energy and climate smart agricultural enterprise development** (or what I refer to collectively as "climate resilient entrepreneurship and innovation") in emerging market economies.

By the nature of Africa's economy, agric is the mainstay, undertaken by small holder farmers. There is need to focus therefore on increasing agricultural productivity and enhancing resilience to climate change through **sustainable agricultural land management**.

1. There is a pressing need to invest in database and tools to inform policy and practice in the spheres of agricultural risk-management and adaptation.
2. We will need to move ahead of knowledge, and review on the basis of emerging research and best practices from other nations like India , Zimbabwe etc.

3. There is a need to integrate and apply the best and most promising approach, tools and technologies.

I will therefore submit that the involvement of farmers, policy-makers, the private sector and civil society is vital. Successful climate change adaptation will entail changes in individual behaviour, technology, institutions, agricultural systems and socio-economic systems. These changes cannot be achieved without improving interactions between scientists and decision-makers.

That is why the industry-academia linkage is very important.

Possible Collaboration in Ghana

- The need to take a holistic approach to tackling climate change and ensuring food security by devising the appropriate policies and providing the right incentives for farmers.
- Establish pilot projects which provide proof of the virtues of climate smart agriculture, including: the development of national plans for agricultural adaptation and testing new approaches for disseminating information to farmers about relevant adaptation technologies and practices.

Many thanks to Climate Strategies for the great opportunity.

Matthew Kwabena Adeyanju
Ghana