Africa – Asia Conclave on loss and damage due to climate change

Enabling famers to deal with extreme weather events: a civil society perspective

Eastland Hetel; 25-26 Aug, 2016
Nairobi, Kenya

Isaac Kabongo, Coordinator CAN-Africa & Executive Director ECO.

ed@ecouganda.org
The Small Holder Farmer
What works well for small holder farmers?

- Access to accurate and reliable information (be it climate/insurance related etc)
- Respecting indigenous early warning mechanism by integrating it with scientific ones
- Utilising existing social structures to deliver outcomes instead of creating new ones
- Offering a variety of innovative and genuine insurance products
How can climate justice be ensured to affected farmers?

- Climate justice entails the moral responsibility to take care of our planet for the well-being of current and future generations.

- Climate justice also recognises the principle that those who contribute most to global warming should bear the burden of responsibility for measures to reduce carbon emissions, and for the financial means to counteract the adverse effects of climate change (adaptation).
How can climate justice be ensured to affected farmers?

• “A true ecological approach must hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.”
  - Pope Francis

• By providing them with unconditional universal & effective agriculture insurance
Can a global agricultural insurance mechanism help farmers in dealing with extreme weather events?

• Yes, if the principle of thinking Global but acting local is applied.

• If it’s designed in such a way that it recognises the unique circumstances of the different farmers within Countries and ecosystems.

• If it supplements existing adaptation measures but not to replace them.
Opportunities, challenges and risks involved in global agriculture insurance mechanism?

Opportunities

• The Paris Climate Agreement (2015)
• The current piloted projects and the lessons learnt
• The existing institutional & regulatory frameworks in many Countries such as Climate Change Units (its equivalent), the climate change policies, laws and regulations etc
Challenges & Risks

• Profits driving investments in the agricultural insurance sector
• Failure to apply the “principle of additionality” i.e agricultural insurance should supplement existing adaptation efforts but not to replace them
• The voice and aspirations of farmers are not taken care of during the design of the global agriculture insurance mechanism
Conclusion