Evaluating Climate Services for Smallholder Farmers – Lessons from Africa and South Asia

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Developing a methodology to evaluate climate services for farmers

A workshop held in May aimed to create a monitoring and evaluation methodology related to climate-information services for small-scale farmers. This blog showcases some of the meeting highlights and presents the finalized Workshop report.

More information on the Kaffrine Expert workshop here: http://ccafs.cgiar.org/fr/blog/developing-methodology-evaluate-climate-services-farmers
Developing an M&E Framework to Evaluate Climate Services for Farmers

**Goal:** Develop M&E protocol to measure the added-value of climate services for farmer communities in Africa and South Asia, with guidance on:
- Baseline collection
- Monitoring, re-assessment
- End project final impact assessment

- Locally-Relevant
- Gender responsive

**3 Objectives of Assessment:**
1. **To inform design** of new climate services and projects;
2. **To** identify current gaps, and **improve project effective and service delivery** for farmers;
3. **To** assess impact of provided services on farmers, and **demonstrate project impact** with a dollar value (towards outcome reporting).
M&E Framework to Evaluate Climate Services for Farmers

**Step 1: Pre-Assessment Questionnaire**
Understand local context in which farmers use any information to overcome climate-related constraints in agriculture. Develop explicit impact pathway for CIS use by farmers, one locally appropriate & gender responsive.

**Step 2: Development of Evaluation Tool**
Develop Baseline, Monitoring and Evaluation Questionnaire to measure impact of CIS in community, as per explicit impact pathway.

**Step 3: Pre-Testing**
Pre-Test tool/questionnaire in field to define parameters of data collection.

**Step 4: Baseline Data Collection**
Year 0

**Step 5: Monitoring**
Year 1-onwards
Monitoring of progress against the baseline
User feedback, Improvement of Service Delivery

**Step 6: Evaluation**
Final year assessment of project impact

Figure 1: M&E framework for assessing impact of climate services in all CCAFS Climate Service projects, 2014-2016
### M&E Framework to Evaluate Climate Services for Farmers (cont’d)

**Development Phase**
- Development of tool in context

**Implementation Phase**
- Step 1: Pre-Assessment
  - Understand local context in which farmers use information to overcome climate-related constraints in agriculture
- Step 3: Field Testing
  - Test questionnaire in field to define parameters of data collection (N, timing, respondent availability, etc.)

**Monitoring & Evaluation Phase**
- Step 5: Monitoring
  - Year 1 onwards, at regular intervals to be determined by project PI
  - Monitoring of progress against the baseline
  - Collection of user feedback, Improvement in service delivery based on received community feedback
- Step 6: Evaluation
  - Year 0
  - Conduct of baseline data collection questionnaire
  - Year 1 onwards
  - Assessment of project impact

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**Evaluating Impact of Climate Services for Farmers**
- M&E framework for assessing impact of climate services in all CCAFS Climate Information Service (CIS) projects 2014-2016
TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT OF A LOCALLY-RELEVANT & GENDER-RESPONSIVE M&E PROTOCOL
TO ASSESS IMPACT OF CLIMATE SERVICES FOR FARMERS:
THE PRE-ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Dear project PI or user of the Pre-Assessment Survey,

1) INTRODUCTION:

The pre-assessment survey is part of a larger global effort for developing a contextual and gender-responsive evaluation framework to assess the added value of climate information and advisory services for smallholder farming communities across the developing world. A CGIAR CCAFS-USAID funded expert workshop on “Developing a methodology to evaluate Climate Services for Farmers in Africa and South Asia”, held in Kaffrine, Senegal on May 18-25, 2013, provided the initial thinking that led to this evaluation framework¹.

At the above expert workshop, it was concluded that there are generally three goals to conducting an