



# Updates & News Alert

## Also in this issue

- 2 Conservation Agriculture projects and programs in Zambia: promoting conservation and/or climate smart agriculture
- 3 Zambia adoption status, experience and emerging issues on Conservation Agriculture
- 4 Streamlining Conservation Agriculture into Private and Public Sector Systems: Policy Dimension
- 5 Conservation Agriculture Policy Programme for Eastern Africa Launched
- 7 Upcoming Events

## Introducing the July 2016 CA Alert



© CA4FS

insights and policy dimensions towards adoption of new technologies. Stephen Kabwe shares out his presentation on *Innovations in Smallholder Farming Systems in Zambia*; Mwambazi identifies and explains why CA is the *Farming for the Future*; and Johan Habig through his article on the *Sensitive Side of Our Soils* gives great insights on soils, the life beneath and the effects of CA. Besides, ACT appreciates all those institutions and individuals not mentioned above whose projects and articles are captured in this alert. Their efforts to promote CA in Zambia are greatly acknowledged.

Driven by economies of scale and the almost immediate costs savings in the transition from conventional tillage to CA, large scale commercial farmers follow an easier and faster adoption path compared to smallholders. The later are derailed by farm management challenges, access to inputs and information and vitally missing linkages to services, inherent and part and parcel of the conventional smallholder farming in Africa. ACT is informed and aware, that the smallholder farmers in Africa are rising above the odds in the adaptation and reaping the productivity-resilience-mitigation benefits from adoption of CA.

It is in this context that ACT and COMESA are currently carrying out a neutral CA impact study and the findings will be shared in the August 2016 news alert. ACT wishes to inform the readers that the September and November issues will focus on Zimbabwe and Kenya respectively. Thus, we encourage you to share your CA views and articles in time for the planned CA news alerts in those countries. We also encourage bookings for proposed focus country articles for 2017.

Please submit articles, links or views to: [kim@act-africa.org](mailto:kim@act-africa.org)

Mrs. Purity Mbogo a CA4FS lead farmer at her farm posing with a Jab planter which she used to plant her farm in Karungu village in Laikipia East, Kenya

Documented impact and the feedback from practicing CA farmers across Africa confirms that CA is set to become a cornerstone in transforming the way farming is done in Africa and major contributor to achieving CAADP's goal 6% annual growth in the agricultural sector which employs 80% of Africa's rural population. CA improves agricultural resilience to climate change, as well as increasing profitability and sustainability; with capabilities of converting marginal semi-arids (of up to 400 mm rainfall) into grain baskets without the need for costly irrigation investments.

Considering the semi-arids as the next frontier for food security in Africa, scientifically proven farmer preferred and doorstep accessible CA-based technologies are poised and have an edge of being adopted by millions of smallholder farmers in Africa, in line with the Malabo Declarations' Vision 25 x 25.

Most economies in sub-Saharan Africa, are agricultural-based and about two-thirds of Africans depend directly on agriculture for their livelihoods,

thus placing the need to revitalise the sector at a higher notch. Thanks, that Development partners, international NGOs, private sector and national governments as well as farmers are now increasingly taking ACTIONS in the adaptation, promotion and adoption of CA technologies.

In an attempt to exhaustively illustrate what is going on in various African countries regarding Conservation Agriculture, ACT (The CA Network for Africa) has started featuring country-focused articles in its Monthly News Alerts. The articles capture and discuss the status and extent of adaptation and adoption of CA in a particular country for each month's alert. This July monthly alert focusses on what is going on in CA in Zambia.

In this regard, ACT recognises and appreciates the many contributors to this Zambia dedicated alert. They include: Mloza-Banda, a member of ICAAP-Africa who shares an article on *Streamlining Conservation Agriculture into Private and Public Sector Systems*, providing

## Conservation Agriculture projects and programs in Zambia: promoting conservation and/or climate smart agriculture



### UK gives Zambia £25m to support conservation farming

Speaking at the launch of the Climate Smart Agriculture Zambia in Chibombo, Ms Emma Donnelly, Head of DFID Zambia said, “Two thirds of the labour force in Zambia is engaged in agriculture, 78% of whom are women farmers. With Zambia’s great untapped agriculture potential, increasing the productivity and incomes of farmers is an effective way to support inclusive growth and reduce poverty. And by increasing farmers’ ability to withstand droughts in the face of increased temperatures, reduced rainfall and more extreme weather, DFID will help farmers to maintain their standard of living even during dry spells.”

The UK Government through the Department for International Development (DFID), will work with the Conservation Farming Unit (CFU) to support rural Zambian farming families to improve livelihoods through building their resilience to climate change. The programme which has been named ‘Climate Smart Agriculture Zambia (CSAZ)’ will run for five years – 2016 to 2020. DFID will provide £25 million for this programme which is expected to benefit more than 600,000 small and medium scale farmers.

The main activities the programme will undertake are: Training farmers in climate smart agriculture techniques,

enabling them to understand the steps involved in applying the technology and the benefits they would get; and Facilitating commercial relationships between farmers and private sector providers of agricultural services and inputs such as use of machinery and herbicides – both of which are critical for the adoption and sustainability of climate smart agriculture practices.

For more information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/uk-gives-zambia-25m-to-support-conservation-farming>

### Conservation Agriculture Scaling Up (CASU) project (2013-2017)

CASU project was launched in 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014 with an objective to contribute to reduced hunger, improved food security, nutrition and income while promoting sustainable use of natural resources in Zambia. The project is implemented by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) with financial support from the European Union (EU). The CASU project objective is in line with the Zambian government’s plans and policies on agricultural development i.e. the National Agricultural Policy (NAP), National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) and the revised Sixth National Development Plan (SNDP), among others. The project intended

to contribute to government efforts aimed at increasing crop production and productivity for small and medium scale farmers in Zambia.

This is a four year project (2013 – 2017) funded by the EU through the Tenth European Development Fund (EDF) at a total cost of €11m and is jointly implemented by FAO and MAL in 31 districts across 9 provinces in Zambia. The project targeted to benefit a total of 21,000 Lead Farmers and an additional 315,000 Follower Farmers of which at least 40% should be women.

The project is a successor to the pilot project, The Farmer Input Support Response Initiative (FISRI) project, which was being implemented by FAO and MAL in partnership with

the Conservation Farming Unit of the Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU). The primary focus of the project was to build capacity in Conservation Agriculture (CA) for MAL and to train 3,920 lead farmers or Own Farm Facilitators and local agro-dealers to manage inputs through the input voucher support system. The key message to farmers under this project was simple and straight forward: “Adapt CA because you will harvest something even under severe conditions.”

More about the project in 2015 (*Conservation Agriculture Scaling-up through ICTs taking root*): <http://www.times.co.zm/?p=49970>



# Zambia adoption status, experience and emerging issues on Conservation Agriculture

## Adoption status of CA in Zambia

Country	Area (ha)	Year
Zambia	100,000	2015
Kenya	1,000,000	2015
Malawi	1,000,000	2015
Mozambique	1,000,000	2015
Rwanda	1,000,000	2015
Tanzania	1,000,000	2015
Uganda	1,000,000	2015
Zimbabwe	1,000,000	2015

FAO is monitoring the global adoption of Conservation Agriculture. The data presented on the status is a result of ongoing collaboration between FAO's Conservation Agriculture and AQUASTAT programmes. They

presents the latest values available for all countries that report Conservation Agriculture practices. The script automatically displays new data as updates become available and can be considered the most up-to-date repository for global implementation of CA. The reported areas comply with the CA [definition](#).

For more information: To check Zambia and other African countries' adoption status, the link here provides the updates: <http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/data/query/results.html>

## Policy and political contribution to advancement of CA: Mundia Sinkatana and the political will on CA in Zambia

Former Zambian Agriculture Minister Mundia Sinkatana made a Key note Presentation on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2005 at the ACT and partners' organised "Third World Congress on Conservation Agriculture" held in Nairobi Kenya. His presentation was titled "Evolving of government policy on CA in Zambia and its role in enhancing CA adoption" (refer to page 128 of the [IIWCCA proceedings book](#)). Not only, did he harbour the desire to use policy instruments to get CA adopted in Zambia, but he made all efforts to learn about CA. The intellectually and practically honest Lawyer and Diplomat attended all-week sessions of the IIWCCA including field tour missions

to see smallholder farmers practice and benefit from CA in Kenya. He went further to become a champion for the adoption of CA by "*Practicing the CA Knowledge he gained into Action*". We are seeing the results of his dedication and well-meaning intentions years later – with Zambia leading the pack of having the largest number of smallholder CA adopters in the continent today..... At ACT, we convey our tribute to this hero.

Read and extract more about Mundia Sinkatana at <https://www.zambia.co.zm/articles/sikatana.html> and/or [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mundia\\_Sikatana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mundia_Sikatana)

## Innovations in Smallholder Farming Systems in Zambia



*Can the adoption of new innovations in agriculture be an answer?* Get a PowerPoint presentation by [Stephen Kabwe](#) during the Cash Crop

Conference held in Bangkok, Thailand. June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as he tries to address and expound on how innovations can provide a promising opportunity to smallholder farmers in Zambia. Full presentation and details available at: [http://www.iapri.org.zm/images/Presentations/Innovations\\_Zambia.pdf](http://www.iapri.org.zm/images/Presentations/Innovations_Zambia.pdf)

## Farming for the Future

According to Mwambazi, Land availability, favourable weather conditions and access to vast water resources makes the agriculture sector in Zambia a key driver for accelerated economic growth as the sector is the main source of income and employment for the majority of Zambians.

Conservation agriculture has been promoted intensively in Zambia for over two decades now but has the country seen any change in the practices that farmers use? The answer could be yes and no.... Zambia is increasingly known as a success story for conservation farming. There are over 300,000 farmers practicing conservation farming in Zambia.

A big number of farmers in the country still practice conventional agriculture, which has led to a number of challenges that the agriculture sector is facing now such as soil degradation due to wind and water among others. Many of today's pressing problems for farmers are related to poor management of land and water resources. Poor land management practices play a major role in depleting the soil such as land clearance in terms of clear cutting and deforestation which has led to the reduction of rainfall in the country making our water bodies depleting. Soil is a living medium and the intervention of farming can either sustain or destroy its ability to produce healthy plants.

Estimates of soil depletion and land degradation in Africa range from alarming to catastrophic and are difficult to verify. Some suggest that 70% of agricultural land suited for raising livestock and crops is already severely degraded. Whatever the facts, any astute observer travelling across the continent cannot but notice the injurious treatment of the soil on a massive scale.

For more information: <http://tinyurl.com/mal-zambia>

## Streamlining Conservation Agriculture into Private and Public Sector Systems: Policy Dimension

According to Mloza Banda, [ICAAP-Africa](#) Member, various studies in Sub-Saharan Africa have examined relevance and effectiveness of national agricultural policies with respect to implementation of Conservation Agriculture (CA). This synopsis observes that public and private investments will reach full potential

if integrating production system change in agriculture sector policies is performed concomitantly with strategies determining the socio-ecological environment for farmers at national landscape scales. Efforts should recognize increased interest from governments, private sector, interest groups and the public in

strategic information for decision-making, results and performance, new and/or repositioned involvement of women and the youth in CA-revitalized agrarian agenda

For more information: [Streamlining Conservation Agriculture into Private and Public Sector Systems](#)

## The Sensitive Side of Our Soils

Traditionally, soil has always been seen/treated as a “dead” medium with the sole purpose of keeping our planted maize, wheat, leguminous crops, and vegetables upright. What very few people realize, is that soils also filter out pollutants from water, as the water filters down to underground water-tables. Soils can even store up to 9’000 tons

of water in a 0.4 hectare piece of land. Our precious soils have been subjected to annual planting of the same crop on the same piece of land, continuously ploughed, and crop residue either removed by cattle, or burned after harvesting. These practices have left valuable topsoil bare and unprotected – vulnerable to being blown away by

windstorms and carried away during rainstorms.

Healthy soils are composed of countless living creatures. Unfortunately, we are only familiar with the pests and diseases destroying their crops. What we fail to realize, is that a healthy soil contains both good and bad organisms – all co-existing in a very fine balance.

With an increasing demand to grow more food on soils that have been mismanaged for millennia, it is clear that the responsibility lies with us to look after our soils. Johan Habi from the Plant Protection Research Institute of the Agricultural Research Council, South Africa explains (in this part one of two) the opportunities presented by Conservation Agriculture.

As we know, CA is an environmentally friendly approach aiming to restore the natural balance in soil which will ultimately increase and sustain high crop yields. So, what was meant by “to restore the natural balance in soil”? As mentioned earlier, good (beneficial) and bad (pathogenic) soil (micro-) organisms co-exist and collaborate in a very fine balance in the soil ecosystem. In a healthy and well-balanced soil, the beneficial microorganisms maintain the amount of pathogens below a dangerous/infectious level. As soon as this fine balance is disrupted through agricultural practices such as soil tillage, monocropping, and the excessive use of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides, the beneficial microorganisms are usually suppressed, while the pathogens then dominate the soils, resulting in high levels of plant diseases.

For more information: [The Sensitive Side of Our Soils](#)





# Conservation Agriculture Policy Programme for Eastern Africa Launched



A four-day Conservation Agriculture (CA) Policy Advocacy workshop was held in the African Conservation Tillage Network Nairobi head office, from July 26-29, 2016. The main objective of the workshop was 1) to learn general principles of effective advocacy to improve CA policy, 2) to explore specific context for CA policy advocacy in the current Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB) funded CA implementing countries, Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania, 3) to build effective working relationship between implementing partners and ACT CA Policy advisor; and 4) to develop a realistic work plan that will layout a foundation for the CA Policy advocacy work in the implementing countries. In this workshop, eleven participants (six women) professionals in policy and CA from Canada, Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia participated. Experienced was also drawn from other NGOs who have experience on advocacy work in the region including OXFAM, World Vision and the Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC).

The CFGB policy team from Canada, composed of Paul Hagerman (Director of Public Policy) and Ben Ofori (Policy Advisor), shared their experiences on advocating for food security at the international level. The ACT Executive Director, Eng. Saidi Mkomwa also shared ACT's experience on CA programme implementation and impact in Africa. OXFAM America, World Vision International and OAIC shared their experiences on the unique role and implementation challenges of advocacy work particularly in agriculture and climate change. CFGB CA technical

specialists from Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia gave brief presentations on the context of advocacy work in each country. The workshop delivered on creating good working relationships between ACT, CFGB implementing partners and technical specialists. The newly recruited Strategy and Policy Advisor for ACT (Ms Meaza Melkamu) got a good opportunity to interact, network and understand the context of each country and opportunities for CA Policy advocacy.

Dr Joseph Mureithi, the Deputy Director General, at Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) and one of the ACT Board

Members graced the event with a remarkable speech which highlighted areas that need to be addressed at policy level to ease uptake of CA by farmers in Africa. In his speech, Dr Mureithi pointed out the key bottlenecks of CA adoption are limited awareness on the benefit of CA by policy and decision makers, tillage based farm extension education and system, lack of input-output market for cover crops, lack of access to CA mechanization technologies and absence of well-researched crop-livestock integrating practices and technologies that support CA adoption.

Dr Mureithi emphasised that breaking through these barriers needs policy and advocacy interventions which will accelerate adoption of CA in Africa and have millions of farmers and the environment benefit from the CA benefit we all know. He stressed the need for policy-based drives to mainstream CA in the agriculture education and extension systems. Such will create awareness of policy makers on the benefit of CA and getting their buy-in which would leverage government investments for sustainable development of smallholder farming through CA. He further encouraged involvement of private sector in CA technology promotion. He concluded this speech that ACT is committed to continue its partnership with CFGB towards ensuring food security and hunger eradication in Africa.



*Dr Joseph Mureithi, the Deputy Director General KALRO addressing the participants*

## ACT New Staff: Strategy and Policy Advisor - Meaza Melkamu



In June 2016, ACT recruited a new member of staff, Meaza Melkamu as ACT Strategy and Policy Advisor. Her specific roles in the new platform include: research on public policies hindering massive adoption of CA; propose policy changes; develop policy briefs; influence/persuade decision-makers to take action to make CA adopted; networking; and coalitions of organizations. Meaza brings to the ACT fraternity experiences from working with farmers and a number of International organisations including Food for the Hungry and World Vision Ethiopia.

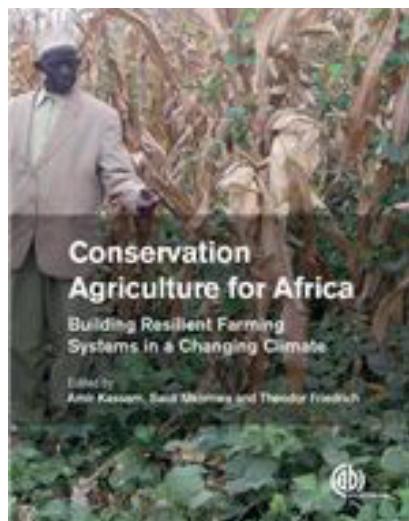
The Policy functions within the ACT Network are being implemented in partnership with and financially supported by the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (<http://foodgrainsbank.ca/>) through the Eastern Africa CA for building resilience, a climate smart agriculture approach project.

Meaza holds a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree in Plant Science and a Masters of Science (M.Sc.) degree in Horticulture from Alemaya University. She also holds a Masters of Art (MA) Degree in Sustainable International Development from Brandeis University, Massachusetts, USA. She has a profound professional experience in sustainable agriculture and natural resource management and a significant work experience in designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluation of food security and economic growth, nutrition, women empowerment, watershed management and WASH in different regions of Ethiopia for the last eight years.

## Conservation Agriculture for Africa: Building Resilient Farming Systems in a Changing Climate

CABI has announced the following book: **Conservation Agriculture for Africa: Building Resilient Farming Systems in a Changing Climate** edited by Amir Kassam, Saidi Mkomwa and Theodor Friedrich, with a Foreword by Howard Buffett.

The book:



- Focuses on research and development initiatives in Africa aimed at building resilient farming systems based on Conservation Agriculture principles and practices.
- Summarizes the status of Conservation Agriculture in Africa today and prospects for its future development in Africa as a basis for sustainable agriculture intensification.
- Describes case studies involving the performance of Conservation Agriculture in Africa.

This book is expected to be launched in **November 2016**.

More details are available on: <http://www.cabi.org/bookshop/book/9781780645681> or <http://act-africa.org/news.php?com=68&com2=6&item=359#.V5r3DaLcfIA>

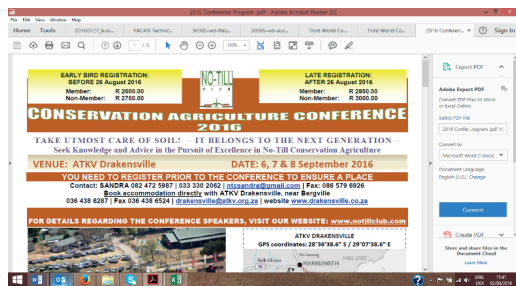
## Organizations/ Institutions promoting CA in Zambia and useful information links on CA

- (1) Conservation Farming Unit: <http://conservationagriculture.org/>
- (2) Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock: <http://www.agriculture.gov.zm/index.php> or <http://tinyurl.com/ca-mal-zambia>
- (3) The Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI): <http://www.iapri.org.zm>
- (4) Foundations of Farming Zambia: <http://foundationszambia.org/pfumvudza/>
- (5) Conservation Agriculture - How has Zambia Scaled it up? - Watch a video on [https://youtu.be/qRh6FCvx91g?list=UUoeN-5nAIVN\\_qd\\_rp0I\\_jJWA](https://youtu.be/qRh6FCvx91g?list=UUoeN-5nAIVN_qd_rp0I_jJWA) (This film produced by the World Bank Institute). The video illustrate that the success or failure of efforts to extend 'CA' will depend entirely on the quality of the training services provided to farmers and the extent to which the practices address their needs and aspirations. Ultimately it is their judgement not that of scientists, agronomists or promoters that counts.
- (6) Conservation Agriculture Regional Programme video <https://vimeo.com/beitak/carp-2011-2015> - Testimonials and Review. It reflects what 'CA' adopters under the CFU's regional program had to say about the benefits of the practices. They are worth listening to even if what they put into practice does not comply with the rigid expectations of those who have never bent over a hoe, followed a pair of oxen or worried about how to produce enough to feed their families.
- (7) Conservation Farming and Conservation Agriculture Handbook for Hoe farmers in Agro - Ecological Regions I & IIa - Flat Culture 2007 Edition: <http://goo.gl/XTvVH3>



# Upcoming Events

## No-TILL Conservation Agriculture conference 2016



*Message: Take Utmost Care of Soil – It Belongs to the Next Generation – Seek Knowledge and Advice in the Pursuit of Excellence in No-Till Conservation Agriculture*

The No-Till Club 2016 Conference will take place on the 6-8 September 2016. Conference programme has been carefully prepared so as

to allow every delegate to return home having gained a new perspective on what No - Till Conservation Agriculture is all about! No-Till Club 2016 Conference is a conference COMPILED by farmers for farmers, PRACTICAL in nature, TECHNOLOGY that is up to date and MOTIVATION for your future sustainability

For registrations and more details about the conference, visit <http://www.notillclub.com/index.php/conference>

## African Green Revolution Forum 2016: Seize the Moment



**“Seize the Moment: Africa Rising through Agricultural Transformation”**  
5 – 9 September 2016, Nairobi, Kenya.  
Registration deadline is 10<sup>th</sup> of August  
Register [now](#)

## Advanced Course - Asia: Conservation Agriculture: Gateway for Sustainable Intensification of Smallholders

**Advanced Course- Asia**

**Conservation Agriculture:**  
Gateway for Sustainable Intensification of Smallholder Systems

**7<sup>th</sup> Batch**  
Commencing from  
**November 07, 2016**

**Dates**  
Nov 07-21, 2016

**Venue**  
CIMMYT-BISA  
Ludhiana, India

**CIMMYT** **BISA** **CGIAR** **CCAFS** **ICRISAT** **IFPRI** **IRRI** **MAHDI** **WFP** **WFP** **WFP**

Conservation Agriculture (CA) practices are increasingly accepted across the globe and are considered as harbingers for sustainable intensification of smallholder production systems. Its positive impact on natural resources, and adaptation to and mitigation of climate change effects are widely acknowledged. In Asia, CA is a relatively new introduction and hence capacity development is vital for adaptation and scaling-up CA-based technologies to achieve impact on smallholder farmers.

This course on CA shall offer unique capacity development opportunity to the scientific community associated with natural resource management research for development. It was initiated during 2010 and is seventh in a series being organized by CIMMYT and BISA under the aegis of CGIAR Research Programmes on WHEAT, CCAFS, and in close collaboration Indian NARS. The course links the advances and multidisciplinary approach for sustainable intensification of maize and wheat based system, restoration of natural resource degradation and climate resilient production systems with expertise across Asia, Africa and Americas. The course has become a regular flagship activity wherein selected young men and women CA researchers from NARS as well as international organizations and NGOs can be benefit. It is offered at [CIMMYT-BISA Ludhiana, Punjab, India, beginning November 7th 2016](http://www.cimmyt.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Seventh-Advanced-Course-on-CA-in-Asia-Announcement-2016-1.pdf).

For more information <http://www.cimmyt.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Seventh-Advanced-Course-on-CA-in-Asia-Announcement-2016-1.pdf>

## The 22nd Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP22): Marrakech COP22/CMP12 UN Climate Change Conference 2016



The 22nd Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP22) will be held in **Marrakech, November 7 to 18, 2016**.

COP22 will take over the reins from COP21 during which important progress was made. It will focus on action items in order to achieve the priorities of The Paris Agreement, especially related to adaptation, transparency, technology transfer, mitigation, capacity building and loss and damages.

For Salaheddine Mezouar, President of COP22, this conference is an “opportunity to make the voices of the most vulnerable countries to climate change heard, in particular African countries and island states. It is urgent to act on these issues linked to stability and security,” he declared. COP22 will be one of action.

Get more Information: <http://www.cop22.ma/>



### 25th National No-Tillage Conference 2017 Dates Announced

More than 100 cutting-edge, money-making sessions over 4 days, delivering insightful learning and unlimited networking with the best of the no-till community.



**Early Bird registration** is open for the 25th annual conference to be held January 10-13, 2017, at the **Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark**. It's just \$284 to **register**, which is a savings of \$85.00 off the onsite rate of \$369. Additional farm or family members can also be registered for just \$259. This rate will expire August 31, 2016!

### 2nd Agriculture and Climate Change Conference: Climate ready resource use-efficient crops to sustain food and nutritional security



Maintaining crop production to feed a growing population during a period of climate change is the greatest challenge we face as a species. The increased crop yields during the last century and especially the Green Revolution, were brought about through breeding for increased harvest index and disease resistance, as well as by using more irrigation water and agrochemicals. Improved cultivars were adopted readily during this period of relative climate stability. While genetic gains continue, albeit at reduced rates, productivity is in decline in many regions. Given the multiple challenges of climate change, reduced water supplies, and

declining soil fertility in many regions, new approaches to produce climate resilient crops are desperately needed. The **2nd Agriculture and Climate Change Conference: Climate ready resource use-efficient crops to sustain food and nutritional security** will focus on the likely impact of climate change on crop production and explore approaches to maintain and increase crop productivity into the future.

This Conference will be held on **26 – 28 March 2017 at the Meliá Sitges, Sitges (near Barcelona), Spain**

For more information and important dates, link: <http://www.agricultureandclimatechange.com/>



Background: ACT field officer training farmers at Wiyumbwa in Uganda central

For more information, please contact: **Executive Secretary | African Conservation Tillage Network**  
KARLO - Kabete, Waiyaki Way | P.O. Box 10375-00100, Nairobi, Kenya | Tel: +254 20 8076064; +254 774 895 077  
Email: [info@act-africa.org](mailto:info@act-africa.org) | Web: [www.act-africa.org](http://www.act-africa.org)



**Norad**

ACT acknowledges the partnership and financial support provided by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) towards Promotion of Conservation Agriculture in Africa