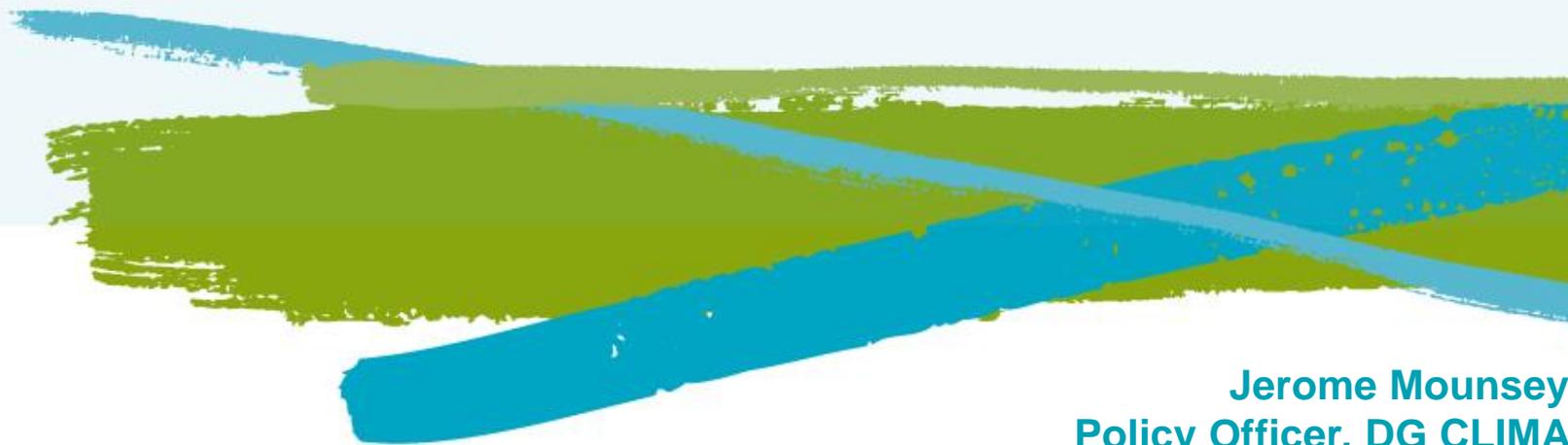




# The role of Agriculture in the UNFCCC climate change negotiations



**Jerome Mounsey**  
Policy Officer, DG CLIMA  
Unit A2: Climate finance and deforestation



## Article 2 of the UNFCCC Convention

*"The ultimate objective of this Convention and any related legal instruments that the Conference of the Parties may adopt is to achieve, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a time-frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, **to ensure that food production is not threatened** and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner."*



## Durban 2011 COP decision on Agriculture

75. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to consider issues related to agriculture at its thirty-sixth session, with the aim of exchanging views and the Conference of the Parties adopting a decision on this matter at its eighteenth session;

76. *Invites* Parties and admitted observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 5 March 2012, their views on the issues referred to in paragraph 75 above;

77. *Requests* the secretariat to compile the submissions referred to in paragraph 76 above by Parties into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its thirty-sixth session;



## Agriculture SBSTA conclusions June 2013

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) recalling Article 9 of the Convention, on the basis of the principles and provisions of the Convention, continued, in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 75, its exchange of views on issues relating to agriculture.
2. The SBSTA invited Parties and admitted observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 2 September 2013, their views on the current state of scientific knowledge on how to enhance the adaptation of agriculture to climate change impacts while promoting rural development, sustainable development and productivity of agricultural systems and food security in all countries, particularly in developing countries. This should take into account the diversity of the agricultural systems and the differences in scale as well as possible adaptation co-benefits.
3. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to compile the submissions referred in paragraph 2 above into a miscellaneous document for consideration at SBSTA 39 (November 2013).
4. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to organize an in-session workshop at SBSTA 39 on the issues mentioned in paragraph 2 above. It further requested the secretariat to prepare a report on the workshop for consideration at SBSTA 40 (June 2014).
5. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat as referred to in paragraph 4 above.
6. It requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

## Agriculture SBSTA conclusions June 2014

The SBSTA, recalling Article 9 of the Convention, on the basis of the objective, principles and provisions of the Convention, in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 75, continued discussions and concluded that it would undertake scientific and technical work, taking into account the conclusions of SBSTA 38, in the following areas:

- (a) Development of early warning systems and contingency plans in relation to extreme weather events and its effects such as desertification, drought, floods, landslides, storm surge, soil erosion, and saline water intrusion;
- (b) Assessment of risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems to different climate change scenarios at regional, national and local levels, including but not limited to pests and diseases;
- (c) Identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits and sharing experiences in research and development and on the ground activities, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects;
- (d) Identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience, considering the differences in agroecological zones and farming systems, such as different grassland and cropland practices and systems.



## Other Ag linkages in the UNFCCC process

- Nairobi Work Program (Adaptation)
- NAMAs
- NAP (National adaptation plans)
- Technology
- Capacity building
- Loss and damage
- LULUCF (Grassland and cropland)
- &
- The ADP (as part of the Land Use Sector)



## Links to EU Submissions on Agriculture under the UNFCCC

7

### March 2012

[http://unfccc.int/files/methods/redd/submissions/application/pdf/20120305\\_eu\\_agriculture.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/methods/redd/submissions/application/pdf/20120305_eu_agriculture.pdf)

### September 2013

[http://unfccc.int/files/methods/redd/submissions/application/pdf/20130903\\_subm\\_eu\\_agriculture\\_sbsta39\\_rev.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/methods/redd/submissions/application/pdf/20130903_subm_eu_agriculture_sbsta39_rev.pdf)

➤ *Further submissions expected in 2015 & 2016*



# Thank you for your attention!



## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

Information about EU's climate policy:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/clima/mission/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/clima/mission/index_en.htm)