



CHALLENGES AND  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
AGRICULTURAL  
INTENSIFICATION  
OF THE HUMID  
HIGHLAND SYSTEMS  
OF SUB-SAHARAN  
A F R I C A

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
KIGALI | RWANDA | OCT. 24 - 27, 2011

SECOND FLYER  
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Consortium for Improving Agriculture-based Livelihoods in Central Africa (CIALCA) has the pleasure to announce an international conference on 'Challenges and Opportunities for Agricultural Intensification of the Humid Highland Systems of sub-Saharan Africa' to be convened in Kigali, Rwanda, 24-27 October 2011.

## CONFERENCE AIMS

1. To take stock of the state of the art of agricultural intensification in the highlands of sub-Saharan Africa.
2. To chart the way forward for agricultural research for development in the humid highlands, specifically in the Humid tropics Consortium Research Programme and the CIALCA Consortium, through keynote presentations, oral and poster presentations, and strategic panel discussions.

## JUSTIFICATION

The humid highlands in sub-Saharan Africa are characterized by high population densities and require intensification. Unfortunately, many communities lack easy access to the means to achieve this. Specific constraints to intensification include: (i) high poverty and generally poor food security, (ii) lack of agricultural inputs due to long distances to ports, (iii) high erosion risks due to steep slopes, (iv) lack of organic resources for supplementing fertilizer, (v) lack of a systems approach to agricultural intensification, and (vi) insufficient capacity of stakeholder networks to disseminate knowledge-intensive technologies and approaches.

## THE CIALCA CONSORTIUM

The Consortium for Improving Agriculture-based Livelihoods in Central Africa (CIALCA), lead by IITA, Bioversity, and TSBF-CIAT, has set up a research for development platform in various mandate areas in Central Africa, aiming to identify improved production, market, and nutrition options and to facilitate the access for development partners to these options. This platform is supported by capacity building, multi-stakeholder dialogue, and monitoring and evaluation efforts.

In the context of the CGIAR reform process, and more particularly of the Consortium Research Programme (CRP) on the Humid Tropics, the CIALCA platform has been selected as one of the initial Action Areas.

## THEMATIC AREAS

**System components:** Farming systems consist of different units including crop and livestock ventures; overall farm productivity, ecosystem service provision, and ultimately farmer well-being depends on the performance of each of these components. Most components have specific constraints that prevent them reaching their potential productivity and addressing these through site and farmer-specific interventions is crucial towards improving rural livelihoods. This also applies to the provision of key ecosystem services.

**System integration:** Components of farming systems interact with each other and with common property resources, especially in environments where production resources are in short supply. Trade-offs between investments in specific system components are common and more so for farming households that are less resource-endowed. Overall farming system analysis models are important tools for analysing trade-offs and exploring profitable scenarios towards farming system intensification. Integrated soil fertility management, integrated pest management, and crop-livestock integration are approaches to make full use of positive interactions between system components through integration at the farm and community level.

**Drivers and determinants for adoption:** Adoption of strategies for increased farm level productivity often requires specific enabling conditions. Such drivers and determinants may operate at different scales and affect specific system components. A clear understanding of those drivers is important to determine adaptive strategies that can contribute to intensification of important farming systems and prioritize development-oriented investment and policy needs.

**Knowledge-intensive approaches:** System approaches and interventions are often knowledge-intensive and therefore specific dissemination approaches are needed. This is especially relevant for areas with relatively low levels of literacy and formal education. Identification of fast-track, simple interventions that can be disseminated within the lifetime of most projects are needed within the context of more knowledge-intensive approaches. Tensions exist between knowledge-intensive approaches and the need to reach many households.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstracts for oral or paper presentations will be accepted until **31 May, 2011**. A registration and abstract submission form is available for download from the CIALCA website, or by clicking [here](#).

Papers for oral presentation must be written in English. However, papers accepted to the conference may be presented orally in either English or French. Posters may be written in English or in French. Abstracts for both papers and posters may be submitted in English or in French.

The submitted abstracts will go through a review process and authors will be notified if their abstract has been accepted for poster or oral presentation. Guidelines for authors will be communicated after papers and posters have been accepted for presentation.

A special issue of a peer-reviewed journal and a high-quality book of proceedings will be important outputs of the conference.

Kindly note that abstracts for oral paper presentations will only be accepted for presentation after payment of registration fees.

## PROVISIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p><b>OPENING SESSION</b></p> <p>Opening statement - CIALCA, MinAgric, ISAR.</p> <p>Opening statement - CEPGL, A.Adesima, J. Kalders</p> <p>Opening keynote - (J. Keating)</p> <p>Opening Keynote - (H. Herren)</p>	<p><b>THEME 3</b></p> <p>Keynote presentation - (J. Rwelamira)</p> <p>CIALCA presentation - (E. Ouma)</p> <p>CATALIST presentation - (H. Breman)</p> <p>Oral papers (4)</p> <p>Theme 3 final discussion - facilitated by M. Maertens</p>	<p><b>FIELD TRIPS (full day)</b></p>	<p>Summary of points presented - (A. Dorward)</p> <p>Panel discussion with keynote speakers: Lessons learned and ways forward. Discussion facilitated by A. Dorward</p> <p>Wrap-up (A. Dorward)</p>
<p><b>THEME 1</b></p> <p>Keynote presentation - (M. van Noordwijk)</p> <p>CIALCA presentation - (P. Pypers) + 1 other</p> <p>Oral papers (4)</p> <p>Theme 1 final discussion - facilitated by R. Merckx</p>	<p><b>THEME 4</b></p> <p>Keynote presentation - (J. Lynam)</p> <p>CIALCA presentation - (B. van Schagen) + 1 other</p> <p>Oral papers (4)</p> <p>Theme 4 final discussion - facilitated by A. Ansoms</p>		<p><b>WORKING GROUPS (parallel session)</b></p> <p>The future of CIALCA - facilitated by R. Jones</p> <p>The prospectives for CRP 1.2 - facilitated by IITA DG</p> <p>Feedback presentations from working groups</p>
<p><b>THEME 2</b></p> <p>Keynote presentation - (P. Tittonell)</p> <p>CIALCA presentation - (P. van Asten) + 1 other</p> <p>Oral papers (4)</p> <p>Theme 2 final discussion - facilitated by K. Giller</p>	<p><b>POSTER SESSION</b></p> <p>Poster introduction by young scientists</p> <p>Poster presentations by outstanding authors: 6 presentations</p>		<p>Best presentation and poster awards</p> <p>Official conference closure</p>
<p>WELCOME RECEPTION</p>		<p>CONFERENCE DINNER</p>	

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

The following keynote speakers have been confirmed for the conference:

Dr. J. Keating	<i>Sustainable Agriculture, Food Security and the the Agricultural Intensification Challenge</i>
Dr. H. Herren	<i>Paradigm Change for African Agriculture: why and how to make the transition</i>
Dr. M. van Noordwijk	<i>Ecological Intensification Options based on Understanding the way Below- and Above-ground Organic Inputs Influence Productivity and Supply of Ecosystem Services</i>
Dr. P. Pypers	<i>An Overview of CIALCA's Research on Components of banana- and Legume-based Systems for Increased Crop Production and economic returns</i>
Dr. P Tittonell	<i>Integrated Assessment of Tradeoffs around Soil Fertility Management by Smallholders in the African Highlands - Methods and Applications</i>
Dr. P. van Asten	<i>CIALCA's Efforts on Integrating Farming System Components and Exploring Related Trade-offs</i>
Dr. J. Rwelamira	<i>From Subsistence to Sustainable Agriculture: Key Driving forces for Smallholder Farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa</i>
Dr. E. Ouma	<i>Farm Intensification and Drivers of Technology Adoption in Agriculture-based Systems of Central Africa</i>
Dr. H. Breman	<i>The Agro-ecological Solution!? Food Security and Poverty Reduction in sub-Saharan Africa, with an Emphasis on the East African Highlands</i>
Dr. J. Lynam	<i>Knowledge and Technology Transfer within an Evolving R4D Framework in East Africa</i>
B. van Schagen	<i>Walking the Impact Pathway: The CIALCA Experience in Mobilising Agricultural Knowledge for the African Great Lakes Region</i>

## FIELD TRIP

Optional field trips will be organised for Wednesday 26 October. Participants may select one of four field trip options (more details are available on the conference registration form).



## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

Please download the registration/abstract submission form by clicking [here](#)

The conference registration fee is US \$450. A late registration fee of USD 550 is applicable to payments made after 31 July, 2011. Participation in the conference dinner costs an additional US \$50. Attending an optional field trip is US \$100.

Payment for self-supported participants must be received by 31 August. Payment can be made either by bank transfer, or by secure credit card transaction. More information can be found on the registration form or on the CIALCA website.

Self-supported participants should indicate their preferred conference accommodation on the registration form.

Please note that the conference organizers will not be able to assist with travel bookings for self-supported participants.

All paid participants will be forwarded important information regarding the procurement of a visa for Rwanda. Please take note that a 21-day waiting period for visas is in effect for Belgian participants.

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

**An Ansoms** | UCL, Belgium  
**Andre Bationo** | AGRA, Ghana  
**Bernard Vanlauwe** | TSBF-CIAT, Kenya  
**Claver Ngaboyisonga** | ISAR, Rwanda  
**Foma Mazibo** | IRAZ, Burundi  
**Guy Blomme** | Bioversity, Uganda  
**Jean Mbikayi** | INERA, DR Congo  
**Johan Six** | UC-Davis, USA  
**Ken Giller** | WU, Netherlands  
**Marie Mirerekano** | ISABU, Burundi  
**Masamba Walungululu** | UCB, DR Congo  
**Miet Maertens** | KUL, Belgium  
**Nteranya Sanginga** | TSBF-CIAT, Kenya  
**Pascal Boeckx** | UGent, Belgium  
**Paula Bramel** | Nigeria  
**Philippe Baret** | UCL, Belgium  
**Piet van Asten** | IITA, Uganda  
**Roel Merckx** | KUL, Belgium  
**Rony Swennen** | KUL, Belgium  
**Stephan Weise** | Bioversity, Rome



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Venue: The conference will be held in Kigali, Rwanda. Kigali offers a safe environment and is easy to reach by plane. All participants travelling by air will be welcomed at the airport and transported to their hotel. The conference venue is the Kigali Serena. More information about Rwanda and Kigali can be found on the CIALCA website.

Language: The conference will be held in English and French, with simultaneous translation available at all times.

## CONTACT

For further information on the conference, please see [www.cialca.org](http://www.cialca.org) or email [cialca-conference@cgiar.org](mailto:cialca-conference@cgiar.org)

### Positive approaches:

The conference will help CIALCA focus her future efforts where they are best placed to support positive change.