



# Farmer Business School Climate (FBS<sup>Climate</sup>)

## ABF – Business Support Facility for Resilient Agricultural Value Chains

### General context

Agriculture in the Global South is disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change. At the same time, the agricultural sector is crucial for climate action. Agriculture remains the backbone of African, Caribbean and Pacific economies. In Africa only, it accounts for a third of the Gross Domestic Product and employs two-thirds of the labour force, with the poorest countries being most heavily reliant on this sector and at the same time most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Micro, small, and medium agribusiness enterprises (MSME) operate in national, regional, and international value chains. They provide income, jobs and feed the growing population of African cities. However, entrepreneurship, despite its importance to empower farmers for business and equitable participation in sustainable economic growth, remains a marginalized field. In addition, MSME lack capacities on climate-resilient practices and value chains to adapt to the impacts of climate change, contribute to mitigation and access climate finance.



Countries with FBS<sup>Climate</sup> curricula

<b>Project name</b>	Agri-Business Facility for Africa Co-implementing the Joint Action "Business Support Facility for Resilient Agricultural Value Chains"
<b>Partner Countries</b>	All 79 OACPS member states (under EU Cofi)
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<b>Implementing Partners</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

## The approach

The Farmer Business School (FBS) approach has been developed by GIZ in 2010 with partners and the support of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and World Cocoa Foundation. FBS<sup>Climate</sup> is an extended FBS version to specifically address climate change related aspects.

## What is FBS<sup>Climate</sup> about?

FBS<sup>Climate</sup> training strengthens the business skills of agricultural smallholders for more income from diversified production as well as their capacities on climate-resilient practices in an integrated manner. During five subsequent morning sessions, male and female producers discover that agriculture is business and how to improve it, while taking into account the effects of climate change:

- Planning and economics
- Background on climate and climate change
- Climate-smart agribusiness for adaptation and mitigation
- Healthy nutrition and farm management
- Investment decisions and strategies based on cost and benefit analysis to diversify and increase incomes
- Production and market risk management
- Financial management, savings, and credit; climate finance
- Benefits from good quality produce, and from membership in producer organizations

FBS<sup>Climate</sup> is a federating approach. Different public and/or private stakeholders pool resources to implement FBS<sup>Climate</sup>.

By doing so, they reduce risks of business and open access to a wider range of services and new business opportunities. In practice, FBS<sup>Climate</sup> complements agricultural extension and financial services.

## Achievements

While climate-smart practices have been part of ABF's strategy and FBS trainings for a long time, FBS<sup>Climate</sup> is specifically meeting the increasing demand for an integrated approach to make agribusiness more climate-resilient. FBS<sup>Climate</sup> has been introduced in several countries. Since 2020, 5 development programmes with their partners have climatized their FBS curricula.

## Support to go for FBS<sup>Climate</sup> in large scale

ABF supports interested rural development institutions, companies, or development programs to adapt FBS<sup>Climate</sup> to all kinds of production systems. Parties interested to introduce FBS<sup>Climate</sup> can build on proven impacts, cost-effective standard tools, a specially developed Climate Tool (see box), and an Africa-wide network of practitioners and Master Trainers.

*'This training was unique in the way how trainers engaged the farmers. I really gained knowledge that will improve my livelihood. The fact that mangos can reduce carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and provide fruits to us farmers and the market was great interest for us.'* Fransisku Sapalo - farmer in Tyeye, Namibia.



### ABF Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Tool (CCAMT):

The CCAMT is an Excel-based tool providing an overview of possible adaptation or mitigation strategies for crops and livestock produced in different ecozones. The complex topics of climate, climate change, risks, adaptation, and mitigation are simplified so that producers with basic education can easily understand and act. It allows for the adaptation of training material for MSMEs in an efficient way to address climate change related risk at production or farm level in different African regions and countries. The CCAMT was designed by ABF for partner organizations that implement Farmer Business School, Aquaculture Business School, and Processor Business School training curricula. The tool can be integrated into FBS<sup>Climate</sup> trainings, but also be used independently.

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