

Global Food Security and Sustainability Conference

September 05-07, 2016 Beijing, China

Optimizing Africa's food security for jobs under the changing climate

Richard Munang

United Nations Office, Kenya

The Africa rising cliché has generated a lot of views as well as hope for the millions. This has not only been in the papers but even in debates across the world, the Africa rising mantra has been at the center of this new narrative. At a time, when the continent is ravaged by poverty, ecological degradation, youth bulge with unemployment figures almost hitting 25%, under nutrition and food insecurity, it's good to put the rising cliché in perspective of this visible new narrative. With the changing climate, Can this cliché be substantiated as a sustainable rise or not? What needs to be looked into critically? Also coming at a time when the Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFOSA) as the first inclusive pan-African policy framework and implementation platform, a solutions space that brings together key stakeholders and actors along the entire EBA driven agriculture value chain, from government & the public sector, the private sector, academia & research, NGOs, CSOs, international organizations and individual publics at country and continental level to forge partnerships aimed at upscaling EBA driven agriculture and its value chains into policy & implementation through a country driven process to ensure food security, climate adaptation, enhanced productivity of ecosystems and link to supply and demand side value chains to create numerous income and job opportunities, especially for the youth who form 60% of the unemployed in Africa. EBAFOSA provides the platform, a solutions space where partnerships between these critical stakeholders can be forged to ensure policy uptake and implementation of solutions. Focusing on a keynote on: Optimizing Africa's food security for jobs under the changing climate is a needed urgent imperative.

Richard.Munang@unep.org

Contribution of forest foods to women's nutrient intake and household food security in the biodiversity-rich Cameroonian forests

Robert Fungo^{1,2}, John Muyonga¹, Margaret Kabahenda¹, Archileo Kaaya¹, Clement A Okia³, Judy Loo² and Laura Snook²

¹Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

²Bioversity International, Italy

³World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Kampala, Uganda

The study was conducted to determine the contribution of forest foods to the dietary intake and household food security of women. A cross sectional study was conducted among 279 households. The food frequency questionnaire (FFQ) was used to collect food consumption data which was used to determine the household dietary diversity score (HDDS), food variety score (FVS) and forest food consumption score (FFCS). Household food insecurity access scale (HFIAS) was determined and spearman's correlation was used to establish relation between consumption of forest foods and HFIAS. The dietary intake was estimated from two 24 hour recalls. Forest food intake and nutrients supplied were estimated and compared to RDAs. The identified 47 forest foods were consumed by 98% of respondents in one week and 17% in 24 hours. Although, forest plant foods contributed 1% of total daily energy, they contributed considerably to vitamin A, sodium, iron and zinc intakes of women. Despite a high bio-diverse pool of foods, most households (83%) suffered from high food insecurity based on the HFIAS findings. There was a significant and negative correlation between HFIAS score and the FFCS ($R^2 = -0.169$, $P = 0.0006$) showing that forest foods play a role in ensuring food security among the forest dependent communities. Forest foods are widely consumed by forest dependent communities. Given their rich nutrient content, they have potential to contribute to food and nutrition security.

rfungom@yahoo.com