



Knowledge Management & Malabo Reporting Training Workshop Okahandja (Midgard Lodge), Namibia CCARDESA KM Systems 22nd to 24th May 2023

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Presentation Outline

- Background of CCARDESA
- CCARDESA Knowledge Hubs
- Lessons learned

Thematic Areas

- i) Agricultural productivity and food and nutrition security;
- ii) Resilience to emerging agricultural risks: environmental, climate change and transboundary diseases and pests;
- iii) Commercialisation of the agricultural sector and market access;
- iv) Women, youth and social inclusion;
- v) Knowledge and information management, communication and policy support; and
- vi) Capacity strengthening of CCARDESA and AR4D institutions.

CCARDESA Knowledge Hubs

CCARDESA Website

The Southern Africa Agriculture Information & Knowledge Information System

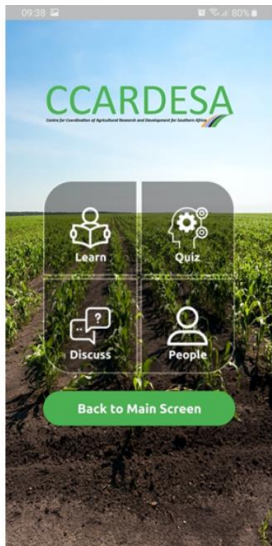
The CCARDESA CSA Mobile Learning Application

CCARDESA/SADC Futures Foresight e-Learning Platform

Communication & Features



www.ccardesa.org



E-Learning



SADC Futures Training Series

Like many regions in Africa, the SADC (Southern African Development Community) region remains fundamentally dependent on a resilient agricultural system and natural resource base which is increasingly threatened by climate change. The SADC Futures project is a response to the dynamic and uncertain circumstances of the SADC region. The project has created tailored foresight training to equip users in the practical application of a range of foresight tools and methods for innovative strategic planning and policy formulation for climate resilience. The suite of free, easy-to-access and engaging training materials includes an e-learning course and a toolkit, as well as a set of reports and recordings informed by a webinar series that saw about 150 participants over the summer of 2020. Image Source: <http://www.freepik.com>

[Get Started Now](#)

CCARDESA

Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa



About CCARDESA

The Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA) was founded by SADC member states to harmonise the implementation of agricultural research and development (R&D)...

[Read More...](#)

Themes



- Integrate web-presence
- Disseminate and broker knowledge
- Help users achieve goals
- Communicate with stakeholders
- Multi-lingual
- Mobile friendly



CCARDESA Website Overview

ARDESA



Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa

Southern Africa Agriculture Information & Knowledge System(SAAIKS)

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the SAAIKS Knowledge Hub website. The browser's address bar shows the URL www.ccardesa.org/saaiks-knowledge-hub. The website header includes the CCARDESA logo and the SAAIKS Knowledge Hub title. Below the header, there is a navigation menu with links for Discussions, Training, Knowledge Products, Partner Collections, Partners, and Contact Us. The main content area features a search bar with two tabs: "Search Knowledge Hub" and "Search Partner Sites". Below the search bar is a text input field with the placeholder text "What would you like to know?". Underneath the search bar, there are filter options for Theme, Category, Partner, Content Type, and Audience, each with a dropdown arrow. A "Search" button is located below the filters. A descriptive paragraph states: "The SAAIKS Knowledge Hub is intended to facilitate and promote sharing of agricultural research and extension information across Southern Africa." Below this, there are three main sections: "Knowledge Products" with a "View All" link and a list of items including "The Climate-Smart Agriculture Papers", "Climate Finance and Proposal Writing Training - Climate Change Basics", and "Report - Climate Finance and Proposal Writing"; "Dgroups Discussion Groups" with a list of items including "A Webinar on Methodological Approaches in the Agricultural and Food-system...", "2019 CCARDESA Material Suggestions", and "Holiday Message from CCARDESA!"; and a central image showing a group of people in a meeting or training session.

Objectives of the CCARDESA SAAIKS

Facilitating agricultural information and knowledge sharing among the SADC Member States and beyond;

The strengthening of a regional agricultural database and resource for information; and

Sharing best practices for agricultural research and development across the SADC Region.

Content on the SAAIKS

The SAAIKS, Website and Mobile app have manuals and SOPs that guide their implementation

The SAAIKS was initially part of the CCARDESA website but was only separated in 2018

It currently exists separately and houses over 950 knowledge products

Its platform for those interested in sharing relevant regional knowledge products while connecting researchers, extension professionals, communications officers, researchers and policymakers.

The SAAIKS houses over 850 knowledge products which include publications and curated content

Knowledge products include Best bet, Policy briefs, Decision making tools, Pamphlets, Lessons Learned, Best Practices, Case Studies, Fact sheets, Journal publications

It allows people to search the library using key terms such as themes, partner, type of content(CCARDESA KP, Partner or curated content), Category type (Brochure, policy brief etc), and also through Audience type.

DGroups Discussion

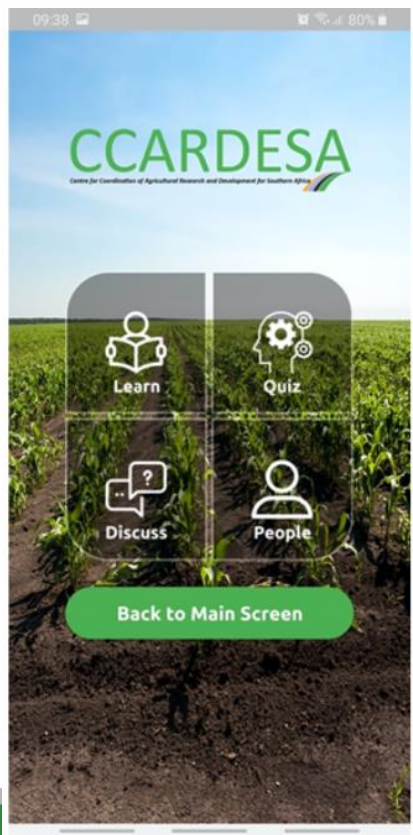
- Discussion Groups key aspect of ICKM to date
- Integrated into website using RSS
- Discussion happens in email



A screenshot of the CCARDESA SAAIKS Knowledge Hub website. The page has a green header with the text "Knowledge Hub" and navigation links for "Discussions", "Knowledge Products", "Partner Collections", "Partners", and "Contact Us". Below the header is a search bar with the text "Search Knowledge Hub" and "Search Partner Sites". A filter section allows users to filter by "Name", "Category", "Partner", "Content Type", and "Audience". The main content area features a large image of a cornfield with a sign that reads "Yield: 7.0 T/HA". To the right of the image is a section titled "Dgroups Discussion Groups" with a list of discussion topics and dates: "07 SEP Assessors/ Examiners needed at BUAN", "01 AUG Webinar | SAVE THE DATE | The potential for EbA to build agricultural level...", "23 JUL Looking for a Meteorologist", "06 JUL CCARDESA changing perceptions of youth towards agriculture as a career", and "06 SACAU VACANCIES". The footer includes the CCARDESA logo and the text "Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa".

CCARDESA Learning Mobile Application

Available on Google Play Store



- <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ccardesa.ccardesa>

Apple App Store



<https://apps.apple.com/bw/app/ccardesa-mobile-learning-app/id1496134876>

Objectives of the Mobile App

- Provide off-line access to knowledge products and technical briefs
- Learning about climate change and agriculture
- Connect stakeholders
- Expand reach to extension officers





INCEPTION & WORKSHOP

In order to develop an app that responds to scope of work and user needs, CCARDESA and GIZ-ACCRA conceived an app development workshop.

1

February 2019

App Workshop

- Lessons Learned
- Possible functionality
- Development frameworks

June to August 2019

2

SPECIFICATION

Requirements established in workshop are elaborated into a specification document, and reviewed by CCARDESA and GIZ-ACCRA

DEVELOPMENT

During this phase the web developer will utilise the Flutter framework to implement the design, information architecture and logic established and approved in the specification document



3

August to September 2019

App Development

- Mock-ups
- Workflow logic
- App development (Flutter)
- Content integration
- Internal testing



September to October 2019

4

TESTING

Following internal testing, the beta version of the app will be tested with user groups, including a testing workshop, and testing by an independent partner organisation.



LAUNCH

Launch of version 1.0 of the app on the Google Play and Apple App Store

5

October 2019

App Launch

- Publish on Google Play
- Publish on Apple App Store
- News release

Mobile App Testing



Mobile Testing



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Concept Behind the App

- Mobile app(lication)
- Android/iOS
- App download & installation
- Content managed from website
- Simple interface
- Faceted search to access KPs/TBs
- Quiz – modules, so new quizzes can be added
- Directory (updated when online)
- Discussion forum (updated when online)

Functionality

Learn

Access to knowledge resources

Quiz

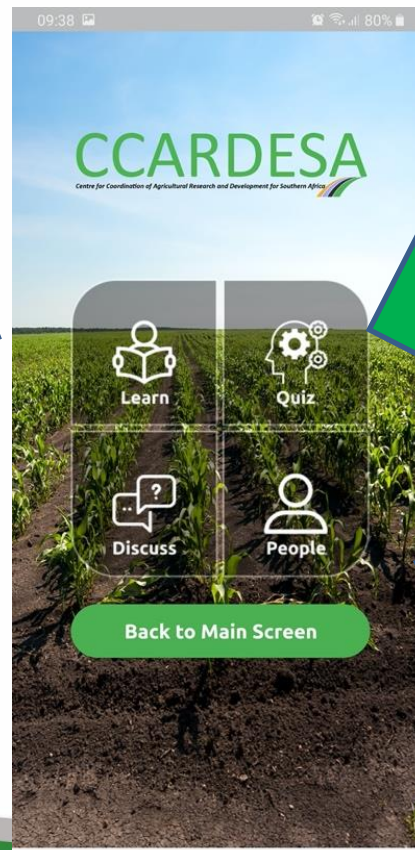
Thematic quiz access
Add new quizzes

Discuss

Access to an online discussion forum

People

Directory of stakeholders, with contact information on 'share-alike' basis



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Mobile App Current Users

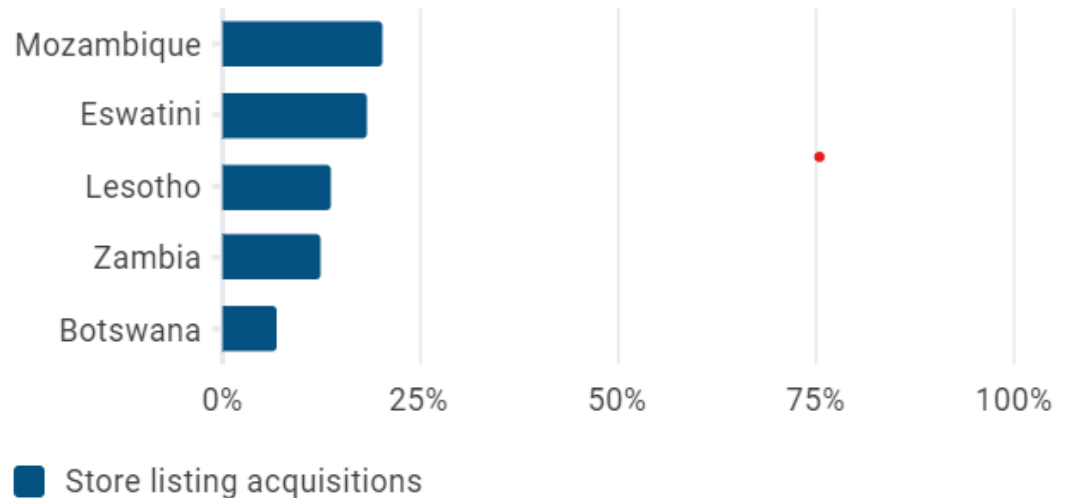
The CCARDESA mobile App has increased its users from 212 last year to 720 in 2023.

The performance of Mozambique is attributed to the field trip of sensitising extension staff about the mobile app.

The four other countries received Mobile App training.

Top countries/regions ?

Mozambique, Eswatini, Lesotho, Zambia, Botswana



Next steps

Currently has 870 users

Uptake usage in all Member states (Extension staff)

Include more quizzes

Expand directory through registrations

Seek feedback

Updates in Version 2.0

CCARDESA E-Learning Initiative

E-Learning



Applying Foresight for Climate-Resilient Agricultural Development Course.

SADC Futures Training Series

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Targeted Users and Usage

Extension staff in MOA, Researchers, Academia, Farmers,

Policy makers in MS

Dgroups users over 4K

Facebook users over 2k

SAAIKS/Website users 10k

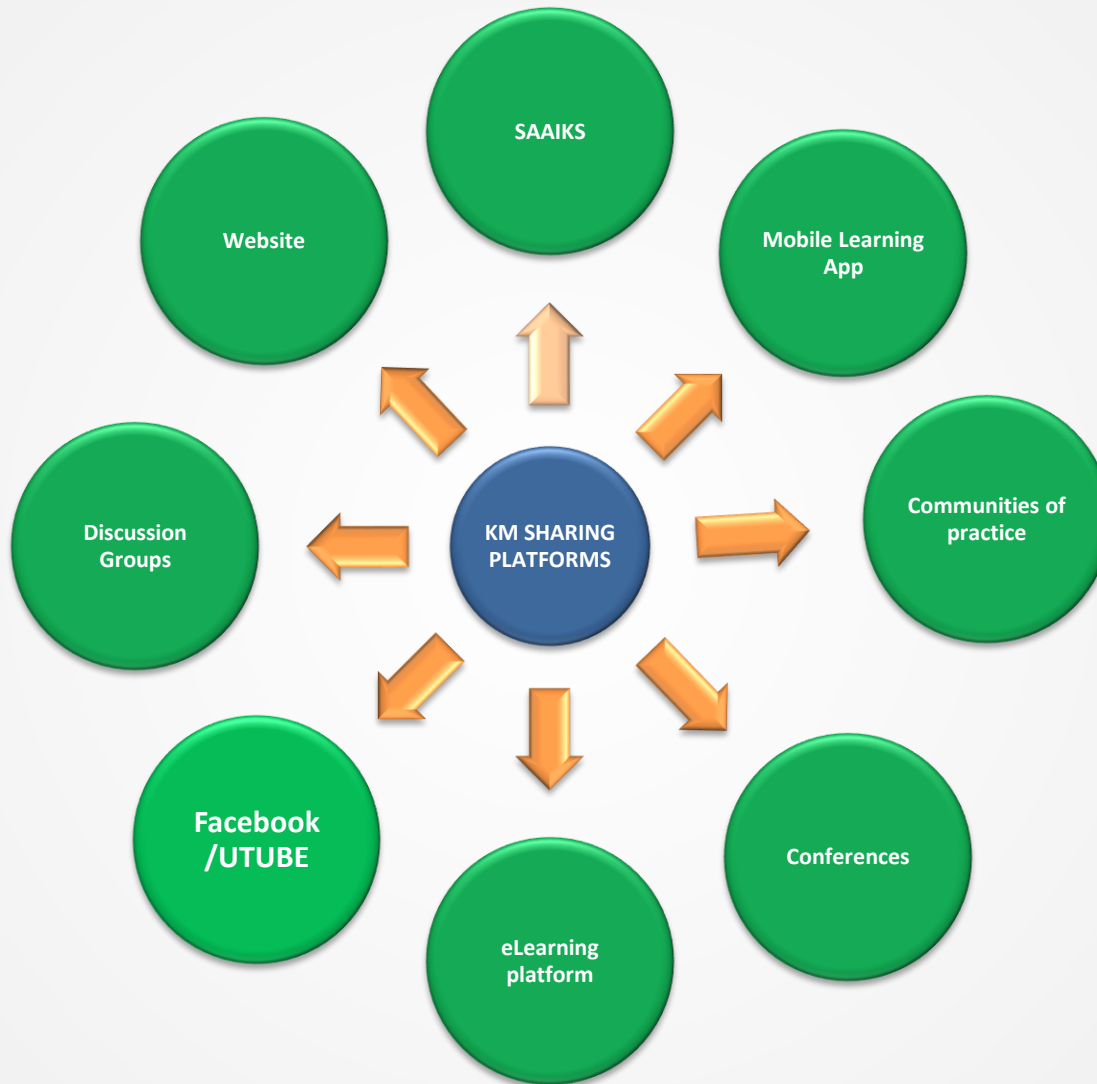
Newsletter recipients over 1.5 K

Mobile App users- 412 in three countries where it has been promoted

Over 850 knowledge products have been loaded from the SAAIKS

12 out of 16 MS rated the CCARDESA system between 3.5 to 5 in the past quarter

Over 350 people have been trained and certified in Foresight for Climate Resilience since November last year.



Lessons Learned

There is a dearth of Agricultural Research and Development Information

Knowledge products can be developed from Indigenous knowledge from the group as opposed to top down

For interoperability agenda to be successful, there is need for buy-in from all organizations and systems must use similar systems

Interoperability with other organizations boosts traffic to the knowledge hub so far. CCARDESA has linked to CCAFS, FARA & COMESA

Translating Knowledge products into user friendly formats to reach wider audiences works

Not all users have access to technology to use the CCARDESA ICKM system & Mobile App

The knowledge hubs should seek user input before development to avoid becoming white elephants.

Engagement with Media and Country ICKM focal point persons help to populate the Knowledge hub with Knowledge products

People are interested in Foresight as evidenced by the number of trainees so far.



Navigating the Website

CCARDESA SAAIKS Knowledge Hub

Facebook DGroups Select Language

Home About Themes Programmes Partners News&Events Opportunities Contact

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Themes

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING

AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAINS AND MARKET ACCESS

LINKING RESEARCH WITH FARMERS

GENDER AND YOUTH

CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE

Acknowledgements

