

# 3 ACCA

THIRD AFRICA CONGRESS ON  
CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE  
5-8 June 2023 | Rabat, Morocco



## Building Networks and Partnerships for Effective Knowledge Sharing and Promotion of Conservation Agriculture – The Case of CA Hub-Kenya

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Theme:

Building a Resilient Future in Africa  
through Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable  
Mechanization



# CA and more sustainable and productive farming systems

- Agriculture is critical sector for Kenya's economic and social development
- Over 70% of Kenyans depend on agriculture directly and indirectly
- Agriculture is on the decline!
  - Land degradation, soil fertility decline, climate change- all impacting food productivity
- The need for sustainable production
- CA has great promise for improving productivity and building resilience
  
- In Kenya, CA adoption remains low
- Approximately 33,100 hectares are under CA
  - 63% is under large scale commercial farming by a few farmers- 400-1600 ha
  - Smallholder cultivate an average of 0.5 ha

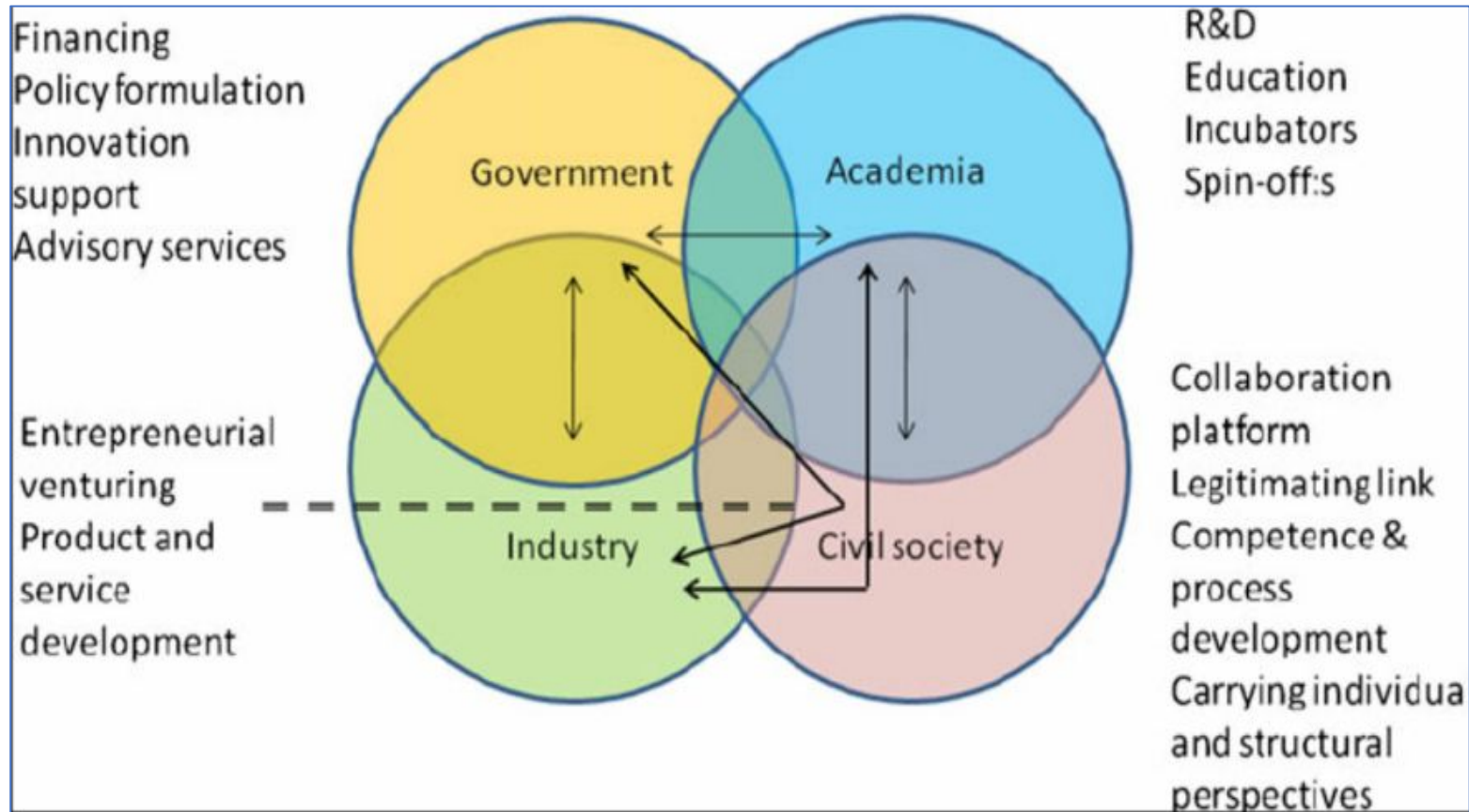
# CA initiatives in Kenya

CA Projects/Initiatives	Year	Funding/Implementing Partner	County
Technical Cooperation Projects (TCP)	Mid 1990s	FAO/National Governments	Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda
Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development (CA for SARD)	2004 to 2010.	Government of the Federal Republic of Germany/FAO/ACT	Kenya and Tanzania
Regional Land Management Unit, (RELMA) project	1998-2004	ICRAF	Kenya and Tanzania
Conservation Agriculture with Trees (CAWT) pilot project	2010 - 2012	SIDA/WAC-ICRAF, ACT	Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia
ABACO project	2010-2014	European Union/ACT	6 countries- Kenya and Tanzania
Farm Mechanization and Conservation Agriculture for Sustainable Intensification (FACASI)	2013-2019	ACIAR/ACT	Eastern and Southern Africa
AGRA Soil Health Projects	2012	AGRA/ACTN	Kenya and Tanzania
Canadian Foodgrains Bank project	2012	CFGB	Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania

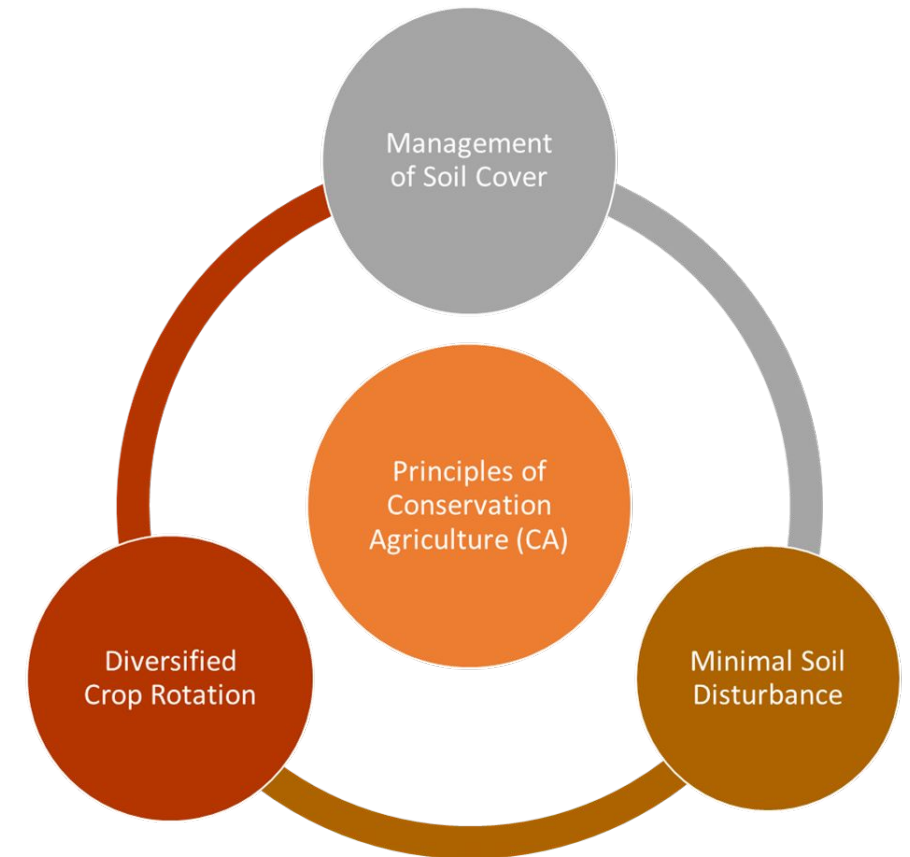
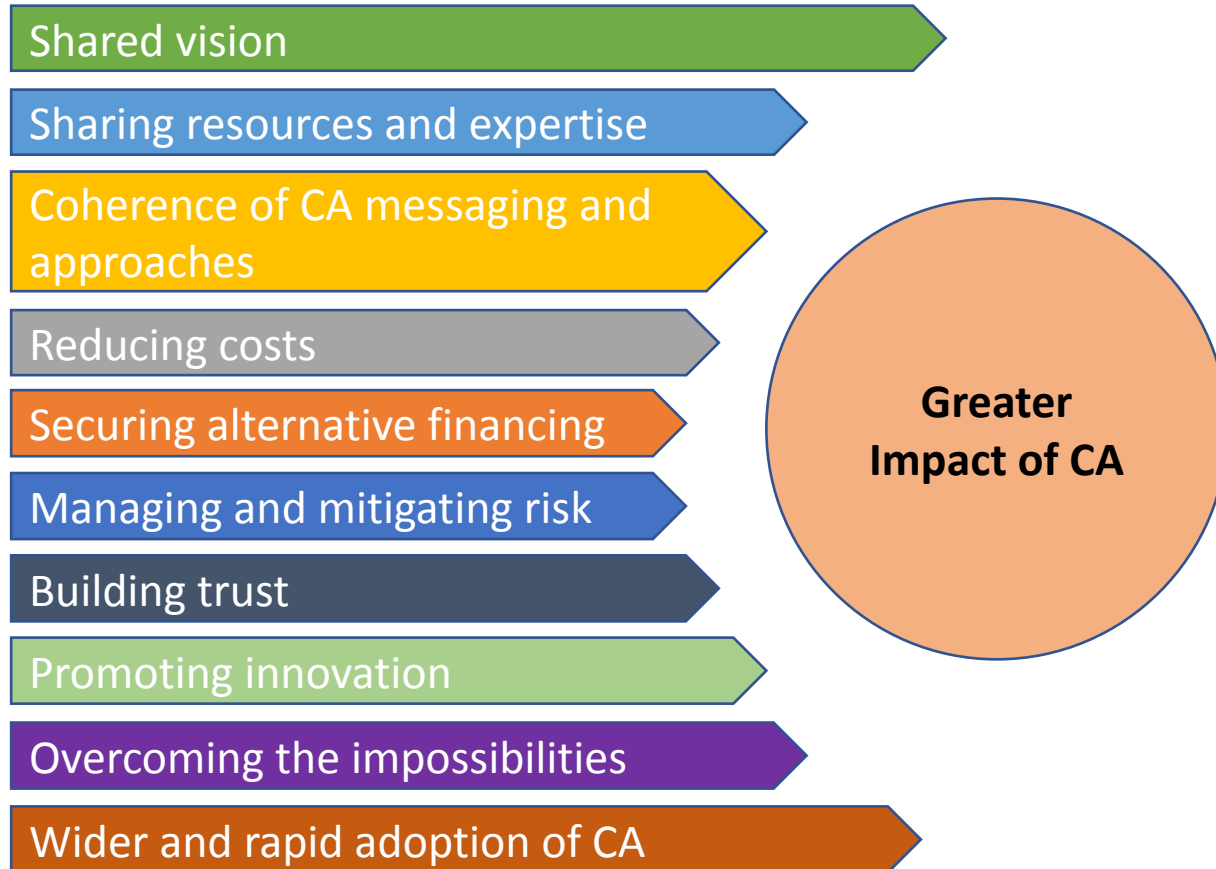
# CA scaling environment

- CA projects are of short-term interventions, running on average from 1½ to 3 years duration
- The focus has been on assessment of performance of different CA technologies- **proof of concept**
- Inconsistencies in assessed performance due to differences of technologies, methodologies, and definitions of CA systems
- Project mode of CA promotion initiatives
- Promoting CA in components - not the full principles in combination
- Limited capacity of stakeholders promoting CA
- Multiple and uncoordinated stakeholders around CA
  - Often the organizations operate in isolation with minimal sharing of knowledge and expertise
- Intermittent and limited funding to CA
- Weak policy support to CA
- **The fragmented environment calls for a more coordinated approach to CA scaling in Kenya**

# The quadruple helix public private partnership (PPPP) model for scaling CA



# Benefits of a coordinated approach



# Challenges and risks of networks

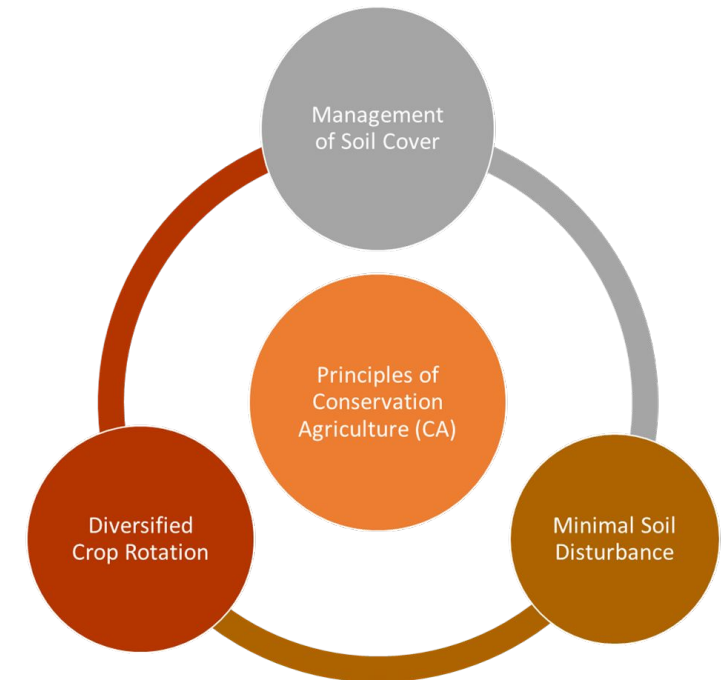
- Coordinating diverse partners and interests
- Protecting the distinct mandates, missions and reputations
- Exchanging proprietary knowledge assets
- Attribution of benefits

## Management or mitigation strategies

- Open and transparent stakeholder engagements
- Defined shared partner roles and responsibilities
- Effective communication
- Equitable resource, benefit sharing modalities

# CA Hub-Kenya

- Established in 2021
- Hosted by the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACTN)
- Founding Organizations:
  - Canadian Food Grain Bank (CFGB) - MCC, CBM, World Relief Canada, World Renew, ADRA
  - 3 local implementing partner members: National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK), Utooni Development Organization (UDO) and Sahelian Solutions (SASOL).
- The CA Hub-Kenya connects organizations and builds capacity of its members to promote sustainable food security through conservation agriculture
- Goal is **scale CA to at least 1 million farmers in Kenya by 2030**
- CA Hub Kenya Pillars/Intervention Areas:
  - Delivering CA at scale
  - Research and capacity strengthening
  - Partnerships, Advocacy and policy
  - Resource mobilization
  - Communication and visibility





# Achievements

- Growth in membership and diversity from **5 to over 60**
  - *NGOs, NARS, International research organizations, academia (universities and middle level colleges), UN organizations and programs, development partners, government departments, private sector, among others*
- Organized the inaugural **Kenya Conservation Agriculture Conference, 2018**
  - FAO, European Union (EU) and Council of Governors (CoG) and partners
- CA Hub Kenya partners **scaling CA activities in 8 counties**, targeting 47 counties
- Mobilized resources and partnerships for implementing diverse project activities in Kenya
- Facilitated trainings, exchange visits around CA
- Runs a **CA Hub Kenya WhatsApp** for partner engagement

# CA Hub Kenya Consortium



Alliance



# 1. CA mechanization solutions

## CA mechanization and equipment service provision models



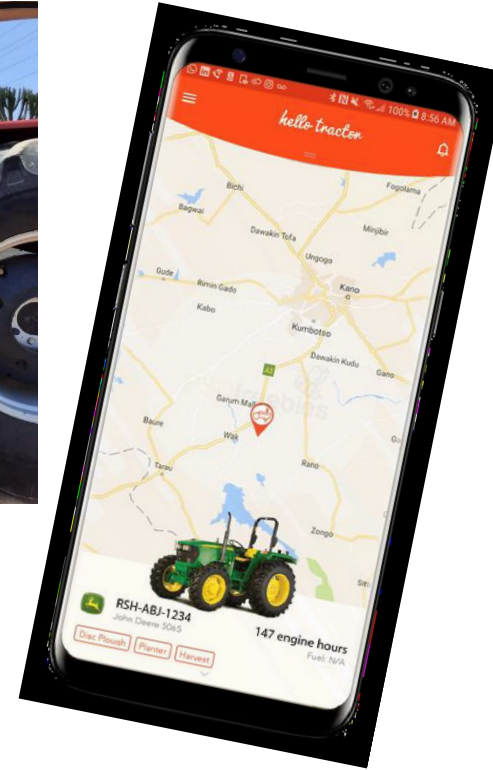
Tractor and equipment sales



CA service provision models



Chisel



Tractor hailing services e.g. Hallo Tractor



CA equipment for smallholders

# 2. Promoting CA onfarm and field visits



Farmer awareness and learning



CA demonstrations



Field visits

# 3. Monitoring and Measurements CA performance and benefits of CA

Conventional Tillage



Conservation Tillage



Soil moisture assessment

Water infiltration



Soil structure and penetration



Crop performance

# 4. Policy engagement



**CA Hub at the Kenya CSA Strategic Plan Launch**



# Call for collaboration

- CA Hub-Kenya positioned to contribute and augment the Kenya Government Agriculture Transformation Program as well as the County Government effort to enhance food security.
- Invites for partnerships and support (local and external) to scale the CA agenda in Kenya for increased food and security, incomes and climate resilience

**Thank you!**

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