Special Issue

Climate Adaptation Ways for Smallholder Farmers

Message from the Guest Editors

Agriculture plays a key role in a nation's economy, especially in developing countries. Farming is highly vulnerable to climate change as extreme heat; floods; droughts; hail windstorms; weed species and distribution changes; pest and disease pressures; potentially depleted soils; and water stress have a negative impact on welfare and food security. Farmers, in order to alleviate income losses, need to stand ready to adjust their farming practices to overcome climate change by identifying the changes in climatic variables. The significant parameters affecting adaptation include: the size of the household, income, education, accessibility to climate information, location of the land, crop variety, access to formal loans, and distance to input markets. The practices associated with sustainable agriculture which aim to increase the resilience of the agricultural systems are diversifying crop rotations, mulching, integrating livestock with crop production systems, improving soil quality, minimizing off-farm flows of nutrients and pesticides, and implementing more efficient irrigation practices.

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