Climate Risk Analysis for adaptation planning in Cameroon

How will climate change affect the agricultural sector?

Temperatures will rise between 1.1°C and 1.5°C until 2050, with the highest increases in the north. Precipitation will increase with local differences.

This will have various impacts on agricultural production, such as on cocoa farming. The land suitable to grow cocoa will reduce by almost half.

In addition to climate change, deforestation is ongoing in Cameroon, which is mainly driven by the conversion of forest into land for agriculture.

This has negative impacts on biodiversity, forest degradation and the ability of forests to absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere.

There are multiple ways to adapt to climate change, for example:

- Agroforestry systems combine the cultivation of trees and crops on the same piece of land. In this way, they can help to stabilize or increase cocoa yields.

- Other co-benefits include water saving, soil fertility improvement, a cooling effect on local temperatures and climate mitigation through carbon storage. Agroforestry can thus buffer some of the negative effects of deforestation.

- Trees like safou and mango are climatically suitable for long-term adaptation planning in much of southern Cameroon and can be grown along with cocoa. Selling the fruits or other tree products generates additional income.

- Other co-benefits include water saving, soil fertility improvement, a cooling effect on local temperatures and climate mitigation through carbon storage. Agroforestry can thus buffer some of the negative effects of deforestation.

- Trees like safou and mango are climatically suitable for long-term adaptation planning in much of southern Cameroon and can be grown along with cocoa. Selling the fruits or other tree products generates additional income.

Other co-benefits include water saving, soil fertility improvement, a cooling effect on local temperatures and climate mitigation through carbon storage. Agroforestry can thus buffer some of the negative effects of deforestation.

Climate impacts are not gender-neutral and different groups vary in terms of their adaptive capacity. More men than women adopt agroforestry, which can be linked to women’s limited access to land and finance, but also a lack of decision-making power.