



Call for Proposals to Present Explained

The *Cracking the Nut*® Advisory Committee invites interested persons to submit proposals to present at *Cracking the Nut: Preparing for Accelerated Climate Change*.

The Context

The 2024 conference will focus on creative ways to leverage public funds to attract private sector investment to support climate smart and regenerative agriculture, offer solutions and facilitate finance. Without investing in agriculture, the world will continue to experience food shortages, price hikes and food insecurity. And without addressing climate change, agricultural investments will become increasingly risky, making it hard to attract private investment. This learning event will discuss some of the creative ways that we can support agriculture and food security, in a way that simultaneously mitigates the negative impacts of climate change and helps farmers and food chains to apply technologies and approaches that adapt to climate change in developing countries.

Connexus Corporation is working with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Nigeria, DAI, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), ACDI/VOCA, and Plethora Design to organize a two-day conference, which will highlight the fact that less than 5% of green finance is spent on climate adaptation, given its strong focus on mitigating greenhouse gases. Collectively, we will explore ways to make the business case for using climate finance to support adaptation within the agriculture and food industries. By addressing this important topic, this event will convene leading experts in climate change, as well as sustainable agriculture, agribusiness, and investment, including representatives from the private sector, governments, donors, and development practitioners. The conference has engaged an Advisory Committee, including agents of change in environment and natural resources, rural and agricultural development, and business and investment, who will help to identify interesting speakers and participate in a competitive selection of break-out session presentations.

Cracking the Nut® 2024 will provide a demand-driven, collaborative learning space where participants share experiences on innovative approaches to reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs) by investing in agriculture and food systems, while supporting adaptations to more climate smart approaches and technologies. This event will bring together approximately 300 of the world's relevant stakeholders to discuss "tough nuts" associated with accelerating volatility resulting from climate change or "Climate 2.0", including the themes below:

- 1. Mitigating GHG emissions associated with agriculture and food production:** How can agro-forestry be used to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions? What are creative approaches to mitigating methane emissions in the dairy sector? What is the business case for investing in these approaches?
- 2. Supporting climate smart adaptations in agriculture:** To what extent can smallholder farmers be expected to invest in climate smart and/or regenerative agriculture? How can farmers be convinced to change their behaviors and practices? What incentives are needed to support the transition from traditional to adaptive agriculture?
- 3. Integrating climate mitigation and adaptation along the food chain:** What business models are most effective in simultaneously supporting climate mitigation

and adaptation? What are creative forms of partnership and collaboration to support climate mitigation and adaptation in food and agricultural supply chains?

Part 1: Instructions and Guidance to Presenters

A. General Instructions

1. All proposals should be completed using the Call for Proposals (CFP) form provided and in adherence to the instructions outlined in this CFP. Alternative or noncompliant proposals will not be considered.
2. All proposal submissions should be emailed to crackingthenut@connexus.email by **Friday, June 21, 2024** with "CTN24: Proposal to Present" in the subject line.
3. All proposals must align with at least one of the conference themes. Presenters may submit more than one proposal to present, but only one presentation per theme will be considered.
4. All proposed presenters must have agreed to participate at the time of submission. Participation from female presenters is encouraged.
5. Proposals must be written in English.

B. Evaluation and Award

1. To ensure full and fair consideration, proposals will be evaluated and selected by the Conference Advisory Committee.
2. Selection decisions will be made and all who submitted proposals will be notified of decisions by no later than July 15, 2024.
3. Any proposal received in response to this CFP will be reviewed strictly as submitted.
4. If selected, you will receive instructions regarding the submission of your presentation materials.
5. Selected presentations will be given complimentary conference admission for up to two (2) presenters.

C. Guidance on Presentation Format and Design

1. All sessions are 90 minutes in length and should include at least 30 to 45 minutes for audience participation through Q&A, break-out groups, or other activities.
2. The conference is designed to be an interactive learning event. We encourage the use of creative and collaborative techniques and formats that engage the audience and promote a participatory learning environment.
3. The conference objective is to share and disseminate best practices (including lessons learned and remaining challenges), which are backed by examples, related to one or more of the conference's themes. We encourage proposals to include lessons learned not only through success stories, but challenges and difficulties faced as well.
4. While designing the session's presentation, please keep the following question in mind: *"What do you want your peers to get out of the session? How does your session contribute to preparing for accelerated climate change?"*

For additional information regarding conference proposals, please contact us at crackingthenut@connexus.email.

Call for Proposals Form

1. Title of proposed session:

2. Presenter Information:

	Name	Title	Organization	Email	Phone Number
1					
2					
3					
4					

PLEASE NOTE: All proposed presenters must have agreed to participate at the time of submission. Participation from female presenters is encouraged.

3. Name of Collaborating Organization (if applicable):

4. Indicate which of the following conference themes your presentation will fall under (Select One):

1. Mitigating GHG emissions associated with agriculture and food production
2. Supporting climate smart adaptations in agriculture
3. Integrating climate mitigation and adaptation along the food chain

If your session will have a specific regional focus, please note the region and countries below:

A. SESSION DESCRIPTION

1. **Executive Summary:** (Maximum 250 words)

Provide a short description of your session, its primary learning objectives, and desired outcomes.

2. **Detailed Session Description and Presentation Method:** (Maximum word limit: 350)

Please include information about the session and include an explanation of the format, methodologies and tools used to engage the participants.

- 3. Lessons Learned:** (Maximum word limit: 250)
Share examples about the specific features or approaches that worked particularly well, lessons learned and remaining challenges.

- 4. Results and Impact** (Maximum word limit: 250)
Please share evidence-based results and the impact created (ideally in terms of reducing GHG emissions, mitigating or adapting to climate changes, etc.).

- 5. Biography and Organizational Description** (Maximum word limit: 200)
Please provide information about the presenter(s) and the organization for use in the conference program and other promotional materials.