



## **Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index honors DADTCO as a ground-breaking climate adaptation project**

Two innovative projects that address climate change in developing countries – DADTCO’s Mobile Cassava Starch Plant and the AECOM/IBM Scorecard that helps cities worldwide develop resiliency to disaster – have won the coveted 2015 Corporate Adaptation Prize awarded by the [University of Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index](#).

The annual honor underscores the growing movement by multinational and local corporations to develop resourceful contributions to climate adaptation in countries that rank in the bottom 50 of the ND-GAIN’s 180-country index. The index summarizes a country’s vulnerability to global climate challenges in combination with its readiness to improve resilience.

This year the winners are:

- [DADTCO](#), a cassava processing company developed a mobile cassava starch plant for processing fresh cassava close to smallholder farmers instead of transporting the highly perishable roots over long distances to a central factory. Cassava is seen as the most resilient crop in its adaptation to climate change. DADTCO’s decentralized way of processing reduces transport significantly and returns the retrieved water and peels right back to its origins in the fields for irrigation and fertilizer. The technology unlocks the opportunity for cassava, a major food crop in Africa, to replace expensive imported cereals and boost the national economy.
- Engineering leader AECOM and technology giant IBM, for developing a [Disaster Resilience Scorecard](#) to help communities understand, communicate and put into effect actions to reduce disaster risk and accelerate recovery from disasters. The scorecard supports the United Nation’s efforts to manage and reduce disasters by bringing together expertise and resources from the public and private sectors.

The winners will be honored at an [event](#) in connection with Climate Week NYC and the United Nations Sustainability Summit on Sept. 23.

“We are very grateful and honored to receive this award as a medium sized social enterprise. This award recognizes that the local solutions for climate change are an important contribution to millions of the most vulnerable people,” noted DADTCO CEO Marius van Huijstee. Our company is a processor of the ‘Rambo’ of the food crops; cassava. Cassava is, especially in Africa, ideal for resilience for food security of small holder farmers. We give them a guaranteed market for their crop from which we will produce starch products that are used in the national food and beverage industry.”

### About ND-GAIN

The Notre Dame Global Adaption Index’ mission is to enhance the world’s understanding of the importance of adaptation and inform private and public investments in vulnerable communities. It is part of the Climate Change Adaptation Program of the University of

Notre Dame’s Environmental Change Initiative (ND-ECI), a Strategic Research Initiative focused on “science serving society,” and draw resources from across the campus.