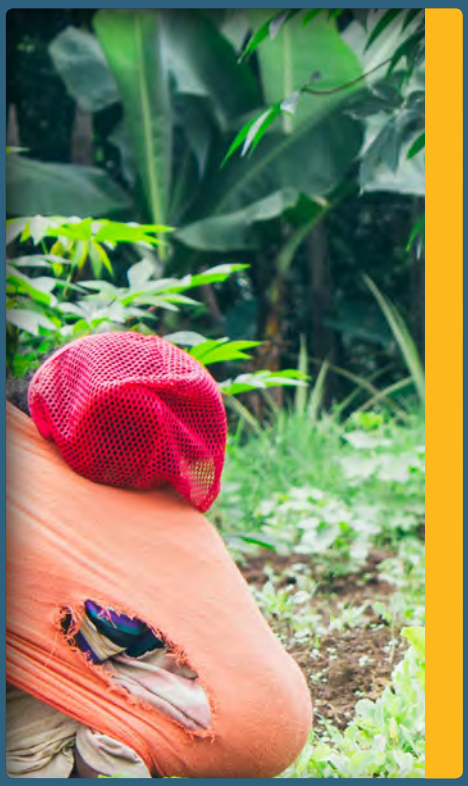
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

IFAD
Investing in rural people



Resilient FOOD SYSTEMS

III GEF-IAP-FS Workshop

12-15 March 2019, Bolgatanga, Ghana

Summary of learning exchanges and final report of workshop

World Agroforestry · Bioversity International · UN environment · UNDP · The World Bank · FAO · UNIDO · AGRA Growing Africa's Agriculture · Conservation International

Contents

Acronyms and abbreviations

AfDB	African Development Bank
AFrII	Africa Innovations Institute
AGRA	Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
AGRF	Africa Green Revolution Forum
AU	African Union
AUDA	African Union Development Agency
AWPB	Annual Work Plans and Budgets
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CBA	Community Based Adaptation
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CC	Consultative Committee
CFA	Communauté financière d'Afrique (West African CFA franc)
CI	Conservation International
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CREMA	Community Resource Management Areas
CSA	Climate-Smart Agriculture
CSARL	Climate-Smart Agriculture for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods
DATAR	Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience
DLGs	District Local Governments
EAC	East African Community
EAT	Engage-Act-Track
ECG	Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division
EO	Earth Observation
EO4SD	Earth Observation for Sustainable Development
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERASP	Enhancing the Resilience of Agro-Ecological Systems
ESA	East and Southern Africa Division
ESWADE	Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise
EX-ACT	Ex-Ante Carbon-balance Tool
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation (of the UN)
FFS	Farmer Field School
FNGN	National Federation of Naam Groupings
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GEBs	Global Environmental Benefits
GEF	Governmental Environmental Facility
GEF-IAP-FS	Global Environment Facility Integrated Approach Pilot on sustainability and resilience for food security in sub-Saharan Africa
GEO6	Sixth Replenishment of the GEF
GGP	GEF Gender Partnership
GTA	Gender Transformative Approach
IAP	Integrated Approach Pilot
IAP FS	Integrated Approach Pilot on sustainability and resilience for food security
ICRAF	World Agroforestry
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILM	Integrated Landscape Management
INRM	Integrated Natural Resource Management

IWP	International Waters Programme
LADA	Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands
LGA	Local Government Area
LDFS	Land Degradation Surveillance Framework
M&A	Monitoring and Assessment
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MEMD	Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MoLG	Ministry of Local Government
MoLHUD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
MTIC	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organisation
NDP	National Development Plans
NDVI	Normalized Difference Vegetation Index
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NEPAD	New Partnership for Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIM	National Implementation Modality
NRM	Natural Resource Management
OBPE	Office Burundais de la Protection de l'Environnement
OM	Outcome Mapping
OPIM	Operational Partner Implementation Modality
ORMS	Operational Results Management System
PAR	Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research
PARFA	Agricultural Value Chains Support Project
PASADEM	Project to Support Food Security in the Region of Maradi
PCU	Program Coordination Unit
PEC	Primary Environmental Care
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PIR	Project Initiation Request
PMU	Project Management Unit
PRIDE	Programme for Rural Irrigation Development
ProDAF	Programme de Développement de l'Agriculture Familiale (Family Farming Development Programme)
REC	Regional Economic Communities
RS	Remote Sensing
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SE-CNSA	Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council
SEMUS	Solidarity and Mutual Aid in the Sahel
SHARP	Self-evaluation and Holistic Assessment of Climate Resilience of Pastoralists
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SLWMP	Sustainable Land and Water Management Project
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SPI	Science-Policy Interface
SRFVC	Sustainable and Resilient and Value Chains
STAP	Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
ToC	Theory of Change
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNESWA	University of Eswatini
UTNWF	Upper Tana Nairobi Water Fund
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Associations
WOCAT	World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies

Summary of key activities

South-South exchange and learning between country projects

- Presentations were delivered by representatives of four selected countries – Ghana, Niger, Uganda, Burundi.
- Country teams also shared insights and exchanged experiences with each other through an open space facilitated plenary exercise based on their own demand, identified prior to the meeting, in terms of key challenges and topics they wanted to discuss with and gain feedback from colleagues across the IAP.
- A full day field trip was organized through the GEF-IAP-FS Ghana Sustainable Land and Water Management Project (SLWMP) to four key field sites. Participants had the opportunity to learn in detail about this project while interacting with farmers, such as women engaged in empowerment activities as part of the project's approach to gender mainstreaming, extension agents and local government officials.

Facilitated training targeted at GEF-IAP-FS country projects

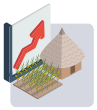
- Earth Observation for Sustainable Agricultural Development
- Co-Designing Decision Dashboards: Responding to project user needs and requirements for data, evidence and interpretation in monitoring and implementation Applying Earth Observation
- Outcome mapping
- Earth Observation for Monitoring of Indicators of Ecosystem Services, Socioeconomic Benefits and Resilience of Food Security

Update to GEF-IAP-FS country projects and interactions with partners from the cross-cutting regional hub project through:

- Presentation by IFAD on the progress of implementation of the programme
- Presentations made by each of the components to update country programmes on key services and offerings

Present and gain interactive feedback on the programme's communication activities

- Participants were given an update on the internal and external communication structures of the programme, including the website structure and design, the internal and external newsletter as well as content pillars for the social media for the programme.



Review and consolidate approaches to monitoring within the programme

- Track component, the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on monitoring and assessment:
  - » An overview of monitoring and evaluation approaches was given. This included a detailed overview of IFAD reporting requirements for country projects as well as the collation of indicators for the hub project by the Program Coordination Unit (PCU).
  - » A presentation of the intranet for the program was made, where the PCU will enter and make accessible key indicators collected as part of M&E processes, including tracking of global environmental benefits.
- Special attention was given to gender monitoring and mainstreaming, with a dedicated session including presentation and group exercise with the country teams. This included a relevant case study from gender integration from Ghana.
- Advisory support was offered on resilience indicators, including gender and biodiversity. CI, for instance, provided countries with baseline datasets through the Resilience Atlas and Trends.Earth.

Additional meetings

- Held the first annual Consultative Committee (CC) meeting with representatives nominated by partnering countries and institutions
  - » The CC provides strategic and policy guidance for the Programme, advising participants as and when required with regard to implementation and other issues that might affect the achievement of Programme's objectives.
- Annual Regional Hub planning meeting

Workshop opening and objectives

Opening remarks were provided by Edith Abruquah, Director of Operations, Forestry Commission, Ghana; Fareeha Iqbal, Senior Climate Change Specialist, GEF; Amath Pathe Sene, Lead Regional Climate and Environment Specialist, ECG, IFAD; and Asferachew Abate, Senior Environmental Specialist, World Bank.

The meeting's guest of honour, **Hon. Paulina Patience Abayage, Regional Minister of the Upper East Region**, welcomed workshop participants to Bolgatanga. She highlighted the relevance of the GEF-IAP-FS initiative, and in particular the SLWM Project, in a region that faces several social and environmental challenges, such as dry spells and deforestation. Emphasis was given on how the government is working to reduce local vulnerability to floods and droughts, as well as food insecurity, by promoting agroforestry and other sustainable land and water management practices to tackle land degradation.

Objectives

- Promote a **collective vision of the Programme outcomes**, clarify roles, responsibilities and timelines.
- **Stocktake progress on implementation** and identify challenges, especially in terms of capacity needs
- Facilitate **practical peer learning** between country teams, including through field trips hosted by the Ghana project team (Sustainable Land and Water Management Project).
- Discuss options to **improve the Programme's external visibility**, **internal communications**, **knowledge management** and **reporting**.
- **Consolidate a framework** to collect data and assess the **Programme's contribution to transformative change** through a **Regional Monitoring Framework** and **Outcome Mapping methodology**.
- **Provide training opportunities** on **monitoring** and **assessment solutions**, including Earth-observation technologies and a **results-framework online system**.
- Hold the first annual **Consultative Committee** (CC) meeting with representatives nominated by partnering countries and institutions.

Programme context

***Jonky Tenou**, IFAD, reminded participants of key elements of the Programme, including the background context and rationale, its main structure, common components (Engage-Act-Track) across all projects, as well as coordination and governance arrangements in place. Progress achieved towards several milestones was highlighted, including in terms of institutional frameworks for policy dialogue and partnerships, monitoring and assessment, and global environmental benefits. Challenges were also discussed, especially those faced by all Hub partners to operationalize the PCU.*

IFAD Task Manager for the Programme
Jonky Tenou
y.tenou@ifad.org

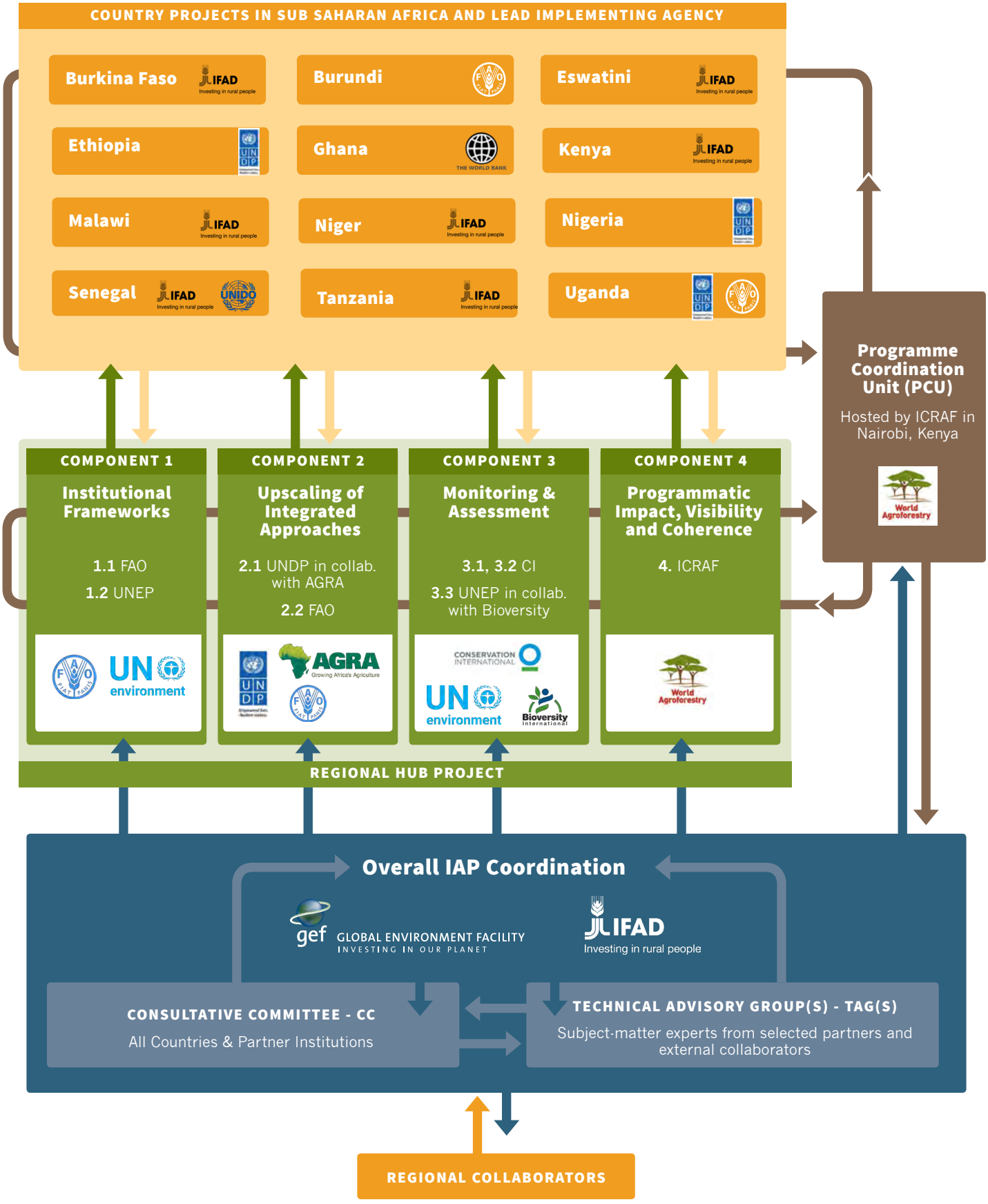
Led by IFAD, the Food Security IAP is one of the three GEF flagship Integrated Approach Programmes (IAPs). It aims to enhance long-term sustainability and resilience for food security in sub-Saharan Africa.

Innovation and relevance:

- integrated approach
- multi-sectors and multi-agencies
- addresses several SDG

Source of funding: USD 116 million GEF and approximately USD 800 million leveraged from partners, governments and beneficiaries.

Programme organisation



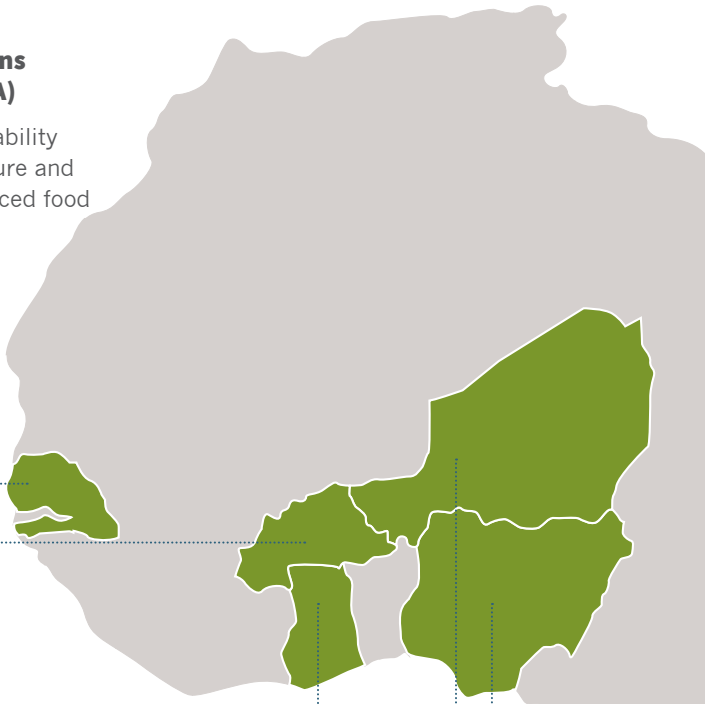
Country projects

SENEGAL

Agricultural Value Chains Support Project (PARFA)

GOAL: Increasing sustainability and resilience of agriculture and value chains for an enhanced food security in Senegal

CONTACT: Abiboulaye BA (abibou@gmail.com)



BURKINA FASO

Participatory Natural Resource Management and Rural Development Project (Neer-Tamba Project)

GOAL: Promote sustainable ecosystem services management to ensure food security and increase smallholders farmer's resilience.

CONTACT: Koudrègma Zongo (zongokoud@yahoo.fr)

GHANA

Sustainable Land and Water Management Project (SLWMP)

GOAL: To scale-up integrated landscape management practices in selected target communities to maintain ecosystem services.

CONTACT: Isaac Charles Acquah (icacquah@hotmail.com); Kingsley Amoako (kingkwaw@yahoo.com)

NIGER

Family Farming Development Programme (ProDAF)

GOAL: Ensure sustainable food security and strengthen smallholder farming resilience

CONTACT: Soumaila Abdoullaye (abdoullaye.soumaila@prodaf.net); ; Marou Bodo (bodo.marou@prodaf.net); Harouna Traoré (traore.harouna@prodaf.net)

NIGERIA

Integrated Landscape Management to Enhance Food Security and Ecosystem Resilience in Nigeria

GOAL: Enhancing long-term environmental sustainability and resilience of food production systems in order to ensure improved national food security

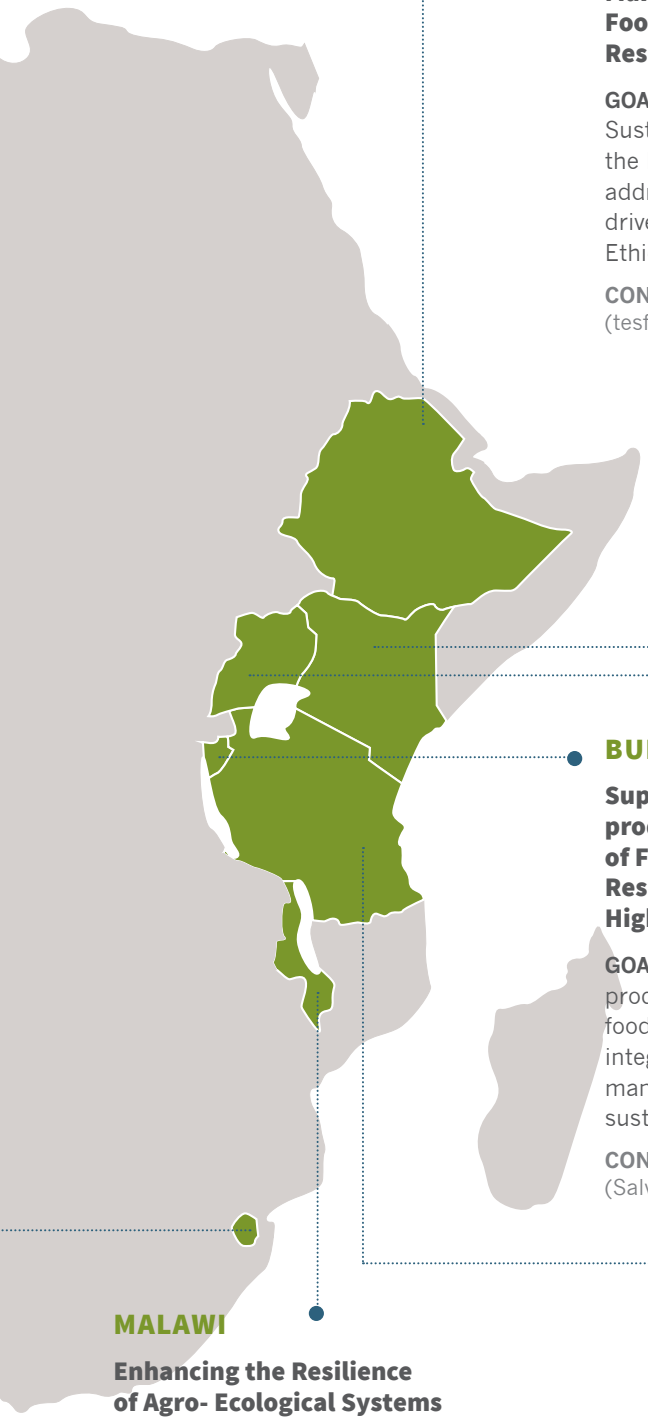
CONTACT: Abdullahi Garba Abubakar (agad1965@yahoo.com)

ESWATINI

Climate-Smart Agriculture for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods (CSARL)

GOAL: Replicate and up-scale the SLM approach on the ground, to increase or maintain ecosystems service flows for sustained crop, livestock and forest production, and conserve biodiversity. The project would also endeavour to build climate resilience households.

CONTACT: Lynn Kota (lynnk@swade.co.sz)



ETHIOPIA

Integrated Landscape Management to Enhance Food Security and Ecosystem Resilience

GOAL: To Enhance Long-Term Sustainability and Resilience of the Food Production Systems by addressing the environmental drivers of Food Insecurity in Ethiopia

CONTACT: Tesfaye Haile Dargie (tesfaye.haile@undp.org)

KENYA

Upper Tana Nairobi Water Fund (UTNWF)

GOAL: A well conserved Upper Tana River basin with improved water quality and quantity for downstream users (public and private); maintaining regular flows of water throughout the year; enhancing ecosystem services, specifically food security, freshwater and terrestrial biodiversity, and improving human well-being and quality of life for upstream local communities

CONTACT: Fred Kihara (fkihara@tnc.org); Anthony Kariuki (anthony.kariuki@tnc.org)

UGANDA

Fostering Sustainability and Resilience for Food Security in Karamoja sub-region

GOAL: To improve food security by addressing the environmental drivers of food insecurity and their root causes in Karamoja sub-region.

CONTACT: Kennedy Igbokwe (Kennedy.Igbokwe@fao.org); Onesimus Muhwezi (muhwezi@undp.org)

BURUNDI

Support for sustainable food production and enhancement of Food security and Climate Resilience in Burundi's Highlands

GOAL: To Improve diversified production systems for sustainable food security and nutrition through integrated sustainable landscape management and establishment of sustainable food value chains.

CONTACT: Salvator Ndabirorere (Salvator.ndabirorere@fao.org)

TANZANIA

Reversing Land Degradation trends and increasing Food Security in degraded ecosystems of Semi- arid areas of central Tanzania (LDFS)

GOAL: Reversing land degradation trends and increase food security in central Tanzania through supporting sustainable land and water management and ecosystem-based adaptation.

CONTACT: Joseph Kihaule (joseph.kihaule@vpo.go.tz)

MALAWI

Enhancing the Resilience of Agro- Ecological Systems (ERASP)

GOAL: Enhancing the provision of ecosystem services to improve productivity and resilience of agricultural systems

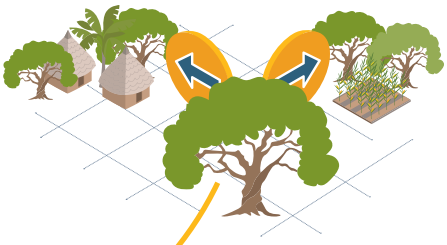
CONTACT: Munday Makoko (aisinternational@gmail.com)

Programme Theory of Change

Engage
Engage and share

Bring together the right stakeholders in the appropriate forums, and analyse and facilitate dialogue to promoting collective action and coherent policies; disseminate scientific knowledge to inform policy dialogue; strengthen institutional frameworks; and bridge the gap between agricultural and environmental agendas.

Act
Implement at scale



Scale up proven sustainable practices that harmonise agricultural and environmental outcomes, to transform landscapes in Africa and identify and demonstrate balance between food demands and vital ecosystem services.

Track
Monitor, learn, respond

Monitor impacts on ecosystem services and food security resilience, to assess progress and enable informed decision-making. This includes high-quality data, analytical methods, information-sharing protocols with local communities, and risk-management approaches for evaluating the trade-offs and synergies among policies for food production, nutritional security, poverty alleviation and ecosystem services.

Why we need to build resilience in the African food system

- By 2050: **1.3 billion more mouths to feed** in Africa, more than doubling population!
- Yet Africa has 60% of the remaining **uncultivated arable soils**
- But **risk of unsustainable extensification**; soil fertility mining of already weathered soils
- Currently imports $20B/yr in cereals
- **Increasing agriculture productivity is a growing interest** for all countries in Africa
- **Challenges in combining agricultural growth and environmental sustainability:** we need to bring key stakeholders together

Progress towards programme level outcomes

Co-ordination mechanisms

- **IAP-FS officially launched** on 05 July 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia together with the regional cross-cutting Hub project
- **12 IAP-FS country projects** launched at different dates and implementation started
- **IFAD's Task Manager** of the programme recruited and based in Addis Ababa
- **Regional cross-cutting project coordination unit** (PCU) established and hosted by ICRAF in Nairobi
- **Programme's Technical Advisory Group** (TAG) constituted and met five times
- Grant and sub-grant agreements signed with the regional partners and first advance disbursed
- **Programme's consultative committee** (CC) set-up and its members designated by the countries and regional partners (1st meeting at this workshop)

Reporting and learning

- **Two regional overall workshops** organized to stock-take progress, promote peer learning and training on various tools and methodologies
- **South-South learning and knowledge exchange** between various stakeholders promoted, raising interest of other African countries to join the Programme
- **Cross-learning organized between IAP-FS and IAP-Commodities** through regular meetings and areas of collaboration defined (Participation at GGP's steering committee)
- **First programme level progress report submitted to GEF Secretariat** (template to be validated) as well as PIRs of the Hub and some country projects (Kenya, Ghana, Niger, Burkina Faso, Eswatini)

Institutional frameworks for policy dialogue and partnerships

- **Engagement/partnership catalysed and facilitated** with key (potential) partners, such as African Union Commission, African Development Bank (AfDB) and World Bank
- **Three high level side events organized at :**
  - » African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) in September 2018 in Rwanda and shown case on public-private-partnership experienced by Kenya's UTNWF
  - » African Landscape Forum in August 2018 in Nairobi, where IFAD played a major role as head of Eastern Africa hub for sustainable land management framework
  - » Biodiversity CoP14 in November 2018 on Integrated Approaches to Biodiversity in Production Landscapes (IFAD, UNEP, Bioversity International, GEF, PAR)
- **IAP-FS situated within the African and global agendas** (Agenda 2063, 2014 Malabo Declaration, CAADP, SDGs and MEA during the 2 programme's workshops
- **IAP-FS integrated in UN/AU Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) Work plan 2019-2020** aligned to AU priorities to facilitate policy dialogue and partnerships on integrated approach
- **Dialogue with GEF Operational Focal Points from 16 non IAP-FS countries** (Angola, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe)
- **Science-Policy Interface (SPI)** initiated by UNEP and FAO as well as the **outcome mapping** framework by ICRAF to strengthen policy dialogue/ engagement
- **Programme's communication system initiated to increase visibility:** website and social media strategy being developed as well as factsheets, newsletters, templates, blogs etc

Challenges

- **Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) understaffed** for over a year due to the delay in the recruitment of regional partners' personnel;
- **Delay in developing the programme level communication plan**, in particular the website;
- **Delay in setting up the programme level M&E system** impacted the evidence-based reporting, policy dialogue and partnerships
- Lag in the start–up of the Hub-project and country projects **delayed support from the regional partners to countries**, especially in defining/refining baselines and indicators, and providing support for capacities building;
- Slow disbursement rates against targets for most projects

Country exchanges and south–south learning

Country presentations

Peer learning was facilitated through presentations from four selected country projects (in continuity to the annual rotation process initiated in 2018). The respective country projects were introduced by their representatives:

- **Isaac Acquah Jnr., Kingsley Amoako, Charles Amankwah** *and* **Edith Abruquah** *(Ghana);*
- **Salvator Ndabirorere** *(Burundi);*
- **Assadeck Mohamed** *(Niger);*
- *and* **Stephen Muwaya** *(Uganda)*

The presenters explained each country project's basic structure, target areas and beneficiaries, partnership arrangements and other relevant design features, such as how the **Engage-Act-Track** *components are translated into practice.*

Challenges, opportunities and lessons learned so far were highlighted, in addition to their approaches on gender mainstreaming and monitoring. Expected achievements for the year ahead were also noted.

Niger

PROJECT:

Family Farming Development Programme (ProDAF)

CONTEXT

- Degradation of natural resources
- Climate change
- Strong demographic growth
- Poverty
- Drought
- Loss of productive capital

Project activities

- **Watershed management:** 10,491 ha (ie 50% of the global target) of degraded land recovered upstream from the watersheds, including 3,267 ha under GEF-IAP-FS financing and 75,065 ha of assisted natural land regeneration (RNA), ie 39% of the global target (193,425) of which 20,670 ha under GEF-IAP-FS financing
- **Realization of water mobilization works:** 3 built and 28 studied out of 150 planned in all categories;
- **Levels of disbursements:** AWPB Disbursement Rates are 71% in 2017 and 92% in 2018
- **Effects and impact of actions financed by the Project:**
  - » Increase in household income (70,000 CFA per year) through the sale of products and by-products.
  - » Strengthening of biodiversity with the introduction and/or appearance of new varieties or herbaceous, tree and animal species
  - » Increase in agricultural production
  - » Halving the lean season (4 to 2 months depending on location) by using remuneration received to pay for food, small ruminants and to develop income-generating activities
  - » The amount of carbon sequestered currently estimated at -6.3 tCO_2eq per hectare per year for biomass, and -5.3 tCO_2eq per hectare per year for soil (GEF / PASADEM completion study report).

Project objectives

The GEF-IAP-FS Project aims to combat the main drivers of environmental degradation through the promotion of a holistic and integrated approach to improve the productivity of agricultural systems where food insecurity is directly related to the degradation of the environment.

The GEF-IAP-FS funding that is part of ProDAF will directly contribute to achieving the quantitative objectives of i) land reclamation of over 8,900 ha against a 20,000 ha objective of the ProDAF and a national goal of 200,000 ha of watersheds to be treated under the i3N national investment plan (Nigeriens feed Nigeriens); and ii) on the mobilization of water by the realization of 16 Water Mobilization Works including 12 thresholds and 4 ponds, compared to a objective of the ProDAF of 150 works and a national objective of 700 works. A total of 22,410 households or 156,870 people will benefit from GEF-IAP-FS interventions.

At the national level, the GEF-IAP-FS financing aims to:

- **Improve water infiltration into the water table** by reducing water erosion and silting at the level of production basins in order to ensure the sustainability of ecosystems as well as better resilience of production systems, with a direct impact on improvement of food security;
- **Strengthen the conservation of biodiversity**, both through the development of pools corresponding to Ramsar sites and the development of passage corridors, where the elimination of the invasive species *Sida cordifolia* will allow a return to original ecosystems more diversified;
- It is also helping to **strengthen soil carbon storage** (1.4 tonnes of carbon equivalent / ha / year or 350,000 tonnes of carbon equivalent per year).

At the international level, ProDAF in general and GEF-IAP-FS contribute to the achievement of SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2030 through:

- Objective 12 concerning the **establishment of sustainable production methods** including the rational management of natural resources;
- Objective 13 on **combating climate change**, including strengthening resilience and coping capacities in the face of climate hazards and natural disasters;
- Objective 15 concerning the **preservation and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems**, including the fight against desertification and the preservation of freshwater ecosystems.

Lessons learned

Lesson 1: The major challenges to the success of the land restoration process are i) the respect of building standards, ii) land security (land status) and the functionality of management structures (User Associations of Water and Management Committees) of recovered sites.

Lesson 2: The involvement of scientific institutions in impact monitoring allows for: (i) quality and "scientifically recognized" monitoring/evaluation of ecological impacts and (ii) effective communication of ecological benefits.

Lesson 3:

- Promoting synergy of stakeholders
- Scaling up best practices
- Creating conditions to achieve impact threshold on land restoration
- Enhancing biodiversity and adaptation to climate change

Ghana

PROJECT:

Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWMP)

A ten–year project (2010-2020) that is supporting the **Sustainable Development Initiative for Ghana's Northern Savanna** to realize the vision of a diversified and resilient economic zone in the north with significant regional environmental benefits.

PROJECT AREA:

- Working within watersheds i.e. Kulpawn, Sisilli, Red and White Volta
- 12 districts in the three regions of Northern Ghana
  - » Northern Region (Mamprugu Moaduri, West Mamprusi, West Gonja and Sawla Tuna-Kalba (IAP))
  - » Upper East Region (Talensi, Bawku West, Builsa South and Kassena Nankana West)
  - » Upper West Region (Wa East, Daffiama-Bussie Issa, Sissala East and Sissala West)
- Western Wildlife Corridor
- Gbele Resource Reserve
- 8 gazetted forest reserves (Mawbia, Kulkpawn Tributaries, Ambalara, Chiana hills, Sissili North, Sissili Central, Pudo hills and Bepona)

Project objectives

i. To demonstrate improved sustainable land and water management practices aimed at reducing land degradation and enhancing maintenance of biodiversity in selected micro-watersheds

ii. To strengthen spatial planning for identification of linked watershed investments in the Northern Savanna region of Ghana

Project activities

- **Introducing innovative technologies in soil and water conservation** from the menu of options on farmer fields for increased agricultural productivity, food security and resilience
- **Piloting of PES (payment for ecosystem services)** using tree growing on community or private lands
- **Developing CREMA mechanism** – an innovative natural resource management and landscape level planning initiatives that give communities the right to manage and benefit economically from their natural resources.
- **Supporting Sustainable Forest Management Activities** within forest reserves and off reserve areas
- **Improving the ecological integrity of the Western Wildlife/Biological Corridor**
- **Infrastructure development** i.e water systems, staff accommodation, boundary cleaning and access tracks to improve protected area management

Key project components under IAP

- **Component 2: Land and Water Management**

  Implementing agencies: Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency, Forest Services Division, and Wildlife Division

- **Component 3: Project Management, Coordination and Monitoring**

  Implementing agencies: Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation

This project in a Tweet...

Multi-stakeholder approach – project effectiveness
Demand driven – ensures sense of ownership

10:07 PM - 31 Apr 2019

217 Retweets **4,845** Likes

Project approach on gender mainstreaming

- **Landscape approach** through community watershed management planning
- Supporting communities mostly women groups to **enhance their traditional livelihood activities** such picking and processing of shea nuts, bee keeping, training and capacity building
- **Over 45% of direct beneficiaries** of project activities are women
- Enhancing **financial independence of women** through Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) to support project sustainability

Resilient food security: opportunities, lessons learned

- **Effective collaboration among implementing institutions** allows different sectors to work together to achieve a common goal
- **Farmer to farmers extensions delivery** contributes to agricultural productivity and food security
- Introduction of **integrated SLWM technologies in subsistence farming** on dry lands may lead to agricultural transformation for ecological benefits and food security
- The concept of "**demand driven**" informs communities' sense of ownership and support for project activities
- The **re-appearance** of hitherto unseen plant and animal species in CREMA communities
- **Tangible SLWM technology outcomes** creates "spill over effect" within and among adjourning communities.
- **Provision of input and output incentives** enhances adoption of SLWM technologies

Anticipated achievements for 2019

- Implement 36 community watershed management plans
- Implement SLWM technologies on 5000 ha of land
- Support 10,000 farmers to adopt SLWM practices
- Support the Implementation of 6 CREMA management plans to consolidate the gains on CREMA communities
- Establish SLWM demonstration plots in 44 project communities
- Establish 70 ha of Green fire breaks within two Forest Reserves
- Provision of output based incentives through the pilot PES scheme

Challenges and how they are addressed

Higher demand from project communities than project can support: seek additional financing for project extension; promote innovative community financing schemes such as VSLA

Apparent unseen project impact due largely to the widespread of project activities on the ground covering over 12 districts

Annual bush burning: creation and maintenance of fire belts to safeguard project investments; training community fire volunteers and provision of fire fighting equipment; community sensitisation on fire prevention and management

Flash floods and long dry spells during rainy season: promoting soil erosion control and in-field water harvesting technologies,

Inadequate government extension service providers: training of lead farmers to provide farmer-to-farmer extension services

Sense of project fatigue/ project support buying: sustained sensitisation/ tangible project delivery

History of resentment in CREMA establishment: show NGO face/ Involve eminent or well-known leaders in community

Burundi

PROJECT:

Support for Sustainable Food Production and Enhancement of Food Security and Climate Resilience in Burundi's Highlands

Project established: April 2017

Project start-up workshop: September 2017

Full implementation of the PCU: April 2018

Direct beneficiaries: 30,000 households

PROJECT AREA:

- 9 micro-watersheds, 9 municipalities in 3 provinces
- 30 700 ha

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE CEP APPRACH

CEP/FFS: A space for dialogue that brings together 20–30 farmer members to learn, research and analyze the evolution of a given crop/animal from sowing to harvest. It forms a platform for exchange between communities on all aspects related to their landscape (biophysical and socio-economic), with a learning cycle of 8 months and with members meeting at least once a week. At the end of the curriculum, certificates are handed out to the members of the CEP, some of whom will become Facilitators of the CEP.

Project objectives

IAP Burundi project aims to increase sustainability and the resilience of production systems and sectors in Burundi through:

i. The increase in area on GDT / GIRN

ii. Enhancing improved and resilient production systems

iii. Promotion of sustainable food value chains

iv. Taking into account the gender and nutrition dimension in solving food security problems

Key project components under IAP

- **Engage: Strengthening the Institutional Framework and Support Mechanisms**
  - » Animations of provincial multi-sectoral platforms
  - » Institutionalization of the CEP approach in Burundi
  - » Organizational capacity building of 30 CEP facilitators
  - » 43 Farmer Field Schools (1418 households) operational

- **Act: Improving livelihoods and food security through integrated watershed and co-operative management mobilized around sustainable value chains**
  - » Restoration of degraded landscapes (1,900,000 forest seedlings produced and planted), 50 km contour lines in place
  - » Stabilization of river banks with bamboo (50 000 bamboo plants produced and planted over 60 km)

- **Track: Monitoring and evaluation of global environmental benefits and socio-economic impacts**
  - » A monitoring and evaluation plan developed
  - » Baseline assessment of Degradation and Sustainable Land Management underway with LADA/WOCAT
  - » Training planning: EX-ACT and Collect Earth

This project in a Tweet...

A green Burundi, which feeds happy rural communities. This is the ambition of the IAP-BURUNDI project (Support for Sustainable Food Production and Enhancement of Food Security and Climate Resilience in Burundi's Highlands): a Transformational Project with a Holistic Approach to Integrated Food Restoration. Landscapes with improved community livelihoods, adaptation to climate change and innovative tools for monitoring and evaluation of its socio-economic and ecological impacts.

10:07 PM - 31 Apr 2019

217 Retweets 4,845 Likes

Project approach on gender mainstreaming

The consideration of gender is a theme integrated in the curricula of the CEP and in the agro-ecological analysis necessary for the preparation. 64% of women in the rural population.

A strategy has been put in place to integrate women into decision-making bodies within the PECs: if the president of the CEP is a man, his vice - president is a woman and vice–versa. In the management committee of the CEP, 60% are women and 40% men.

Resilient food security: opportunities and lessons learned

- Availability and motivation of **state support services** in capacity building and support to beneficiary communities of the project
- 3 Provincial Offices of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock
- 17 national executives involved in diagnostic work -LADA-WOCAT
- 73 national executives involved in the supervision of the CEP
- **Government support for the restoration of degraded landscapes**: raising awareness of communities with the support of the OBPE (Office Burundais de la Protection de l'Environnement)
- **Behavioral change of the communities grouped within the CEP**: long-term vision of self-help instead of being wait-and-see: acquisition of agricultural inputs
- Taking into account the CEP approach in the **National Extension System**

Anticipated achievements for 2019

- Technical and organizational capacities of provincial and municipal platforms strengthened
- 130 CEP / Farmer Field School operational by the end of 2019
- 43 CEPs structured as Cooperatives and mobilized around sustainable and gender-sensitive value chains
- CEP approach institutionalized in the national extension system
- A reference situation of the state of land degradation and sustainable land management established through the comune of the outlis: SHARP, LADA-WOCAT, Ex-ACT and Collect Earth, DATAR, Gender and Nutrition
- 30% of degraded landscapes in the project area are restored
- Enhanced agrobiodiversity through the use of the DATAR tool
- A communication plan and visibility of the project developed and applied

Challenges and how they are addressed

Climate change and the diseases that result (BXW, legionary caterpillar, cassava streak, PPR, etc.)

- Promote short-cycle and high-yield crops in small areas with high nutrient and market value (market gardening); including with access to greenhouses
- Integrated biological control training
- SME development on integrated biocontrol advice

Administrative procedures for the acquisition of goods and services that are often long with risks to the achievement of expected results in a timely manner

- Anticipate orders
- Simplify procedures
- Awareness of decision makers

Atomicity of household lands that jeopardize the chances of developing agro-silvo-zootechnical practices resilient to food security

- Encourage communities to work together and gather their lands

Uganda

PROJECT:

Fostering Sustainability and Resilience for Food Security in Karamoja Sub-region

The overall goal of the project is to improve food security by **addressing environmental drivers of food insecurity and their root causes** in Karamoja Sub-region. The project shall contribute to enhancing long-term environmental sustainability and resilience of food production systems in the Karamoja Sub-region.

PROJECT DETAILS:

- Launched 18 May 2018
- **Implementing Partner:** Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF)
- **Management Arrangements:** National Implementation Modality (NIM) for UNDP and Operational Partner Implementation Modality (OPIM) for FAO
- **Responsible Parties:** MWE, MoLHUD, MoLG, MoFPED, DLGs, NEMA, MTIC, MEMD, AFrII/ Vital Signs Uganda, Private Sector, Civil Society, OPM, NFA, NARO, Office of Karamoja Affairs, Universities

Key project components under IAP

- **Engage: Supportive policies and incentives in place at district level to support smallholder agriculture, food value-chains and INRM**

  Activity: Creating/strengthening multi-stakeholder platforms at the local (district) level with CBOs, NGOs and private sector and government, working through extension services and focused on value chain development, SLM and INRM

- **Act: Increased land area under integrated natural resources management (INRM) and SLM practices for a more productive Karamoja landscape**

  Activity: Building technical capacity of local government staff and training of community members in INRM / SLM techniques through watershed approach

- **Track: Framework in place for multi-scale assessment, monitoring and integration of resilience in production landscapes and monitoring of global environmental benefits (GEBs)**

  Activity: Training on and application of appropriate tools and practices for monitoring resilience at multiple scales

This project in a tweet

Land degradation, climate change and loss of bio-diversity are root causes must be tackled to stamp out chronic food insecurity. The project promotes practices, technologies and approaches that spur agricultural and natural resource productivity and value chain integration in a sustainable manner to build a resilient and a food secure society in Karamoja.

10:07 PM - 31 Apr 2019

217 Retweets **4,845** Likes

Project approach on gender mainstreaming

Key gender related issues that shall be addressed include:

- **Promote equal participation** of men and women in training activities
- Empowerment of women through **support to women led CBOs** to address land degradation using the Small grants approach
- Develop the capacity of District local governments, National Government and NGOs partners on **gender mainstreaming approaches** in promoting food security and resilience
- **Develop a Gender Plan**, with key indicators to monitor the progress towards Gender transformation
- **Promote redistribution of the unpaid care burden**, women's participation in decision making and access and control over productive resources among households through the Gender Action Learning System tools in the FFS groups and communities
- **Promote inclusive**, credit and savings schemes through the **VSLAs**
- **Extend knowledge and skills building** for men and women, extension services and leadership capacity through the farmer field schools
- **Reduce women's labour burden** through labour savings technologies, infrastructures and services – e.g. water for production, woodlots, tillage, among others
- **Increase women's economic competitiveness** and confidence building and economic empowerment through market linkages

Anticipated achievements for 2019

- Baseline information for project area, including socioeconomic, biophysical elements
- District technical staff / extension staff and community members trained on SLM and INRM approaches
- Land Use Plans and legal instruments for integrating INRM and diversified production systems in 5 district local governments developed
- Stakeholder and Value Chain platforms assessed and trained
- Demonstration of practices and technologies for SLM and CSA in place

Challenges and how they are addressed

Late start of implementation linked to:

- Delayed signing of instruments for engagement between MAAIF and Partners; especially the OPA
- Slow back and forth planning process and funds transfer to responsible partners
- Limited awareness of systems for engagement with Regional Partners to support the project

How it is being addressed:

- Fast-track signing of OPA
- Hold joint planning and review of progress on monthly basis
- Increased interphase with Regional Coordination Unit for guidance

South-South knowledge exchange – learning in the field

The field trips were led by the **GEF-IAP-FS Ghana project – the Sustainable Land and Water Management Project (SLWMP)**. Four parallel teams visited different sites in the Upper East and Northern Regions of the country: West Mamprusi and Mamprugu Moagduri Districts in the Northern Region, Kassena Nankana West, Talensi, Builsa South, Bawku West Districts in the Upper East Region.

Participants had the opportunity to interact with farmers, community chiefs and local government officials (Department of Agriculture) to learn how local communities are benefitting from project activities.

Post-trip feedback indicates that participants were highly impressed and valued the South-South opportunity to exchange experiences on:

- payment for ecosystem services (PES);
- women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming (e.g. within the shea tree value chain);
- SLWMP's village savings/loans programme;
- the relevance of community engagement to achieve impact;
- several specific practices/techniques being spearheaded by the project, such as bee keeping and the selection of particular tree species according to different contexts.

West Mamprusi District

Takorayili Community

- Spring protection/riparian vegetation establishment and erosion control & bridge protection
- Tree growing

- Total area of riparian vegetation
- Importance of Spring protection/riparian vegetation establishment
- Total number of project beneficiaries
- Benefits of trees

Sagadugu Community

- Payment for Environmental Services (PES)
- Tree growing
- Crop rotation
- Earth bunding

- Rationale behind the PES concept; How PES farmers are selected; Incentives under PES
- Benefits of tree growing
- Benefits of Crop rotation
- Benefits of Earth bunding

Key: *SLWM Activity* *Discussions*

Kassena Nankana West District

Wombio Community

- 5.0 acres cassia and lucenea woodlot establishment
- Intercropping
- Soil erosion control
- Enrichment planting and natural regeneration

- What crop type was intercropped with tree species
- Benefits of woodlot
- How benefits will be shared
- Challenges involved
- Source of water for watering trees
- Bushfire prevention and control

Nakong Community

- 3.75 acres cassia and lucenea woodlot establishment
- Intercropping
- Soil erosion control
- Enrichment planting and natural regeneration

- How benefits will be shared
- Challenges involved
- Source of water
- Incentives derived from project
- Bushfire prevention and control

Mamprugu Moagduri District

Yeziesi community

- Bee keeping
- Shea processing

- Number of beehives received from project
- Maximum quantity of honey that can be harvested from a beehive
- How honey is harvested from bee hives
- Rate of adoption

Key: *SLWM Activity* *Discussions*

Talensi District

Yameriga Community

- Stone lining (see pictures above)
- Compost preparation and utilization
- Enrichment planting, afforestation and natural regeneration to restore vegetation on the Tongo hills
- Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA)

- Benefits of stone lining and composting
- Which SLM activity is difficult to carry out
- Is stone lining done communally or individually
- Rate of adoption of SLM interventions
- Why was eucalyptus species used for enrichment planting to restore vegetation on the Tongo hills?
- What benefits have been derived from the VSLA concept
- Sustainability of project interventions
- Why are women patronising VSLAs more than men?
- Bushfire prevention and control

Gbedembilisi Community

- Shea processing
- VSLA

- Processes involved in processing shea butter from shea nut
- Benefits of Shea butter
- Benefits of VSLA to women
- Impact of shea processing on poverty levels

Key: *SLWM Activity* *Discussions*

Bawku West District

Tarikom Community

- Cereal legume intercrop with earth bunding
- Compost preparation and utilization on maize cereal with bunding (*right*)
- Tree growing intercrop with soya bean
- VSLA

- Importance of earth bunds
- Sustainability of project interventions
- Durability and cost effectiveness of compost pits
- High rate of adoption of SLM interventions

Gbantongo-Agoadaboot Community

- 30 ha rangeland establishment (*left*)
- Cereal legume intercrop with earth bunding
- Compost preparation and utilization on maize cereal with bunding
- Tree growing intercrop with soya bean
- VSLA

- Benefits being derived from rangeland established to livestock and maintenance of natural vegetation
- Uses of VSLA share-out by women for petty trading and animal rearing

Kansoogo Community

- Cereal- legume intercrop with earth bunding
- Compost preparation and utilization on Cereal- legume with bunding
- Tree growing intercrop with soya bean
- PES tree growing intercrop with legumes
- Sweet potato production (root and tuber)
- Riparian vegetation along stream.
- VSLA

- Reconsider species introduced in drylands such as eucalyptus which is known to be water loving
- Few numbers of beneficiaries involved in the project
- The project coordinating unit explained the main objective of project is to introduce SLM technologies to communities for adoption

Key lessons learned from field trips

Workshop participants evaluated the key learning from the field trips, which is presented here.

Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES)

- Promotion of wood lots through PES approach
- PES can be made more sustainable
- PES but with payments not coming from project budget
- Need to consider specific tree species in tree planting CPES

Knowledge management and community involvement

- The need for greater sharing of experience, particularly in the regions
- Input supply systems and extension services innovations ; community involvement
- Actively engaging communities at all levels of the project conception/design, implementation and monitoring and assessment
- Community involvement in attainable land and water management
- Sustaining projects by community members

Gender mainstreaming

- Women's empowerment
- The autonomy of women through the activity is transformed honey·karite
- The participation of women in implementation of sustainable land management technologies to improve their livelihood and income

Village Savings and Loan Associations

- The use of cooperatives for financial savings was an important aspect for ensuring sustainability of the project

Natural Resource Management , agroforestry and beekeeping

- Grassland establishment
- Improved pasture quality for animals
- Protecting the planted trees with wire mesh to avoid damage by animals
- The need to factor boreholes into future proposals
- The technique of making compost
- Bottle watering for agroforestry
- Bee keeping processing, packaging
- Planting trees with economic value/benefits
- The dual purpose machine used to process shea nut and fried mango

Impact

- Consolidate investments (avoid spread over more villages) to ensure more impact; Link interventions to value chain development/promotion
- Making it easier for stakeholders to demonstrate impact
- Need to employ/adopt complementary interventions
- Possibilty of spreading the technology beyond project communities as far as possible

Cross learning and knowledge sharing between countries

During dedicated cross-learning and knowledge sharing facilitated sessions, **countries identified knowledge requests and opportunities for sharing expertise**. The below represents keys topical areas identified, and the countries and hub partners that have responded with key expertise and methods to deliver learning, training and knowledge sharing.

TOPIC	SUB TOPICS	PROPOSED KNOWLEDGE LEAD AND MODE OF LEARNING EXCHANGE
Monitoring	M&E using GIS based tools	**Conservation International**
	Data management best practices	
	Training on tools	**Hub**
	Linking project baseline information to mapping using GIS – periodic update of information	Community of practice
	DATAR and Resilience ATLAS	• Working meeting NIGER team and CI on Atlas and DATAR • Online
Knowledge management, media, comms	• How to do a knowledge management plan • Communication skills • Media network (training) • Media training for state PMU office • Selection of media assistants at LGA and community level and link with media house to disseminate information	Component 4 • Create social media pages to disseminate information where other countries can share information • Quarterly newsletter
Influencing policies	• Influencing policies in taking into account climate and environmental issues • How to conduct advocacy with policy makers to ensure policies revised for food security / suitability;	Capacity development request
Networks Platforms and synergies	Mechanisms for creating synergies among all projects	
Multi-stakeholder platforms	How to facilitate and maximise the effectiveness of multi-sectoral platforms (at all levels – community, local national)? • Do they work • How best should they be organised • How to fund them • Champions	
Project exit strategies	Planning for the end of the project (handover to national / local agencies)	Ghana example – embedding project functions
Disbursement bottlenecks	Liasing with countries on disbursement	**IFAD**

Value chains	• Sustainable value chain approach • Community organisation – transforming, processing, marketing • Develop value chains for agro-natural products • Purposeful training targeted towards specific relevant to the project • Expert facilitation on specific value chains • Cross learning visits	**UNDP**
	Value chains development through climate-smart approaches	
Sustainable Ag and Resilience	Sharing practice on resilience	Learning caravans, learning bulletins, capacity, exchange platforms
	Community contributions of voluntary work on ILM to share	Ethiopia to share
Pastoral systems	Options to integrate ILM to pastoral systems to learn and share	**Ethiopia** • Forestry Commission • EPA • NGOs, Min. of Food and Agriculture • Local Communities
	• Ensuring sustainability of tree growing in drylands • Establishment of woodlots in the northern sector of Ghana	**Ghana** • Study tours • Networks • Learning
	• Establishment of community seed banks • Assessment of agro-biodiversity (crops and animals)	**ToT, Bioversity**
Payment for ecosystem services	Sustainable PES systems in Africa	**World Bank / GEF Agency** • Study tours • Networks • Learning • Email list serve • UTNWF to learn from **FAO/GHANA**
Extension	Challenges to set up FFS (e.g. institutionalising FFSs)	• WhatsApp • Face to Face
	Mobile SMS platforms for extension / awareness	• UTNWF to share • Email group / skype
Private sector engagement	• Mobilisation of private sector engagement in staple food crops	Sharing of successful cases where small holder groups are benefitting
	• Incorporating private sector into the project • Private sector engagement on sustainability / sustainable value chains • Link through extension services and input supply system for sustainability and how to scale	
	Private sector engagement into ILM	• Community of practice • Exchange visits
Gender	• Gender responsive implementation • Capture lessons learning • Introducing Gender as a learning topic in projects / engage researchers	**ICRAF and GEF**
	How to collect and analyse sex disaggregated	**ICRAF** • Guidance Note
Resilience	How to measure resilience	Facilitated webinar

Training or advice country projects requested on policy, institutions and science links

The workshop included targeted sessions for country exchange to understand knowledge requests, key opportunities for sharing and topics for knowledge exchange.

ETHIOPIA

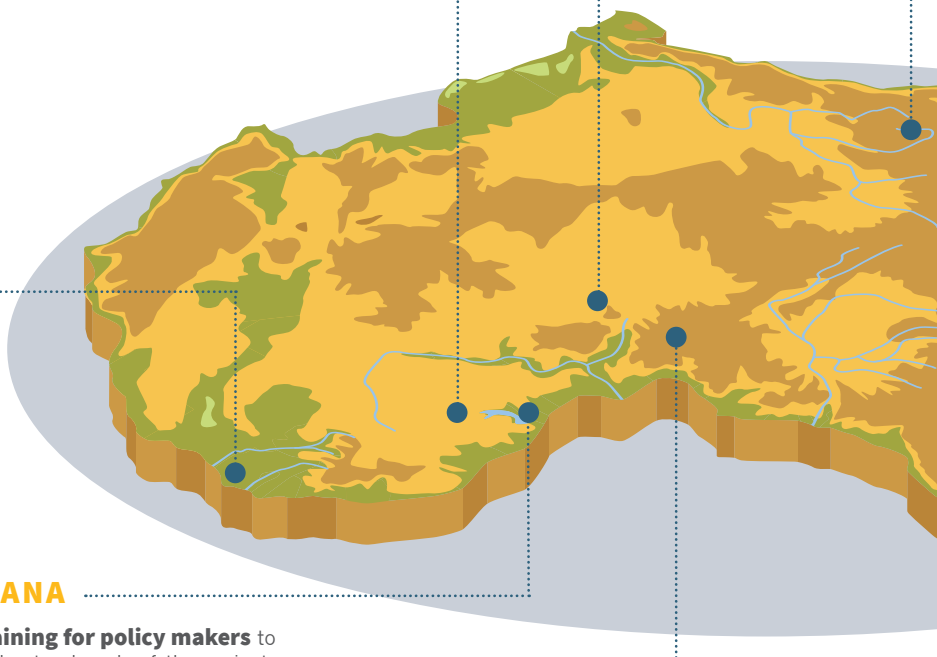
- Policy incentives for private sector to engage in **NRM**
- Policy incentives to ensure private sector involvement in introducing and applying technologies for **climate change mitigation**
- **Private sector engagement** into ILM

NIGER

- Training on methods of **data analysis** to orientate policies
- **Social engineering** – actors in field to adapt with local partners (civil engineering?)
- **Community engagement strategies** to fast-track land treatment/soil water conservation

BURKINA FASO

- Difficulties putting into place the lessons learned (**scaling-up**)
- Effective mechanisms that have been implemented to **influence policies** in agriculture and food security



SENEGAL

- Awareness to take account of environmental issues by **territorial collectives**

GHANA

- **Training for policy makers** to understand goals of the project
- Train project M&E and technical staff to use **knowledge management tool**
- Sustainable **PES systems** in Africa

NIGERIA

- **High level advocacy** for policy makers

BURUNDI

- Adaptation to **climate change**
- Policies on integrated landscape restoration / **spatial planning**
- Poor access to land
- Advocacy around **land access**
- Natural and water **resources management**
- **Advocacy** for multi-sectoral approaches

UGANDA

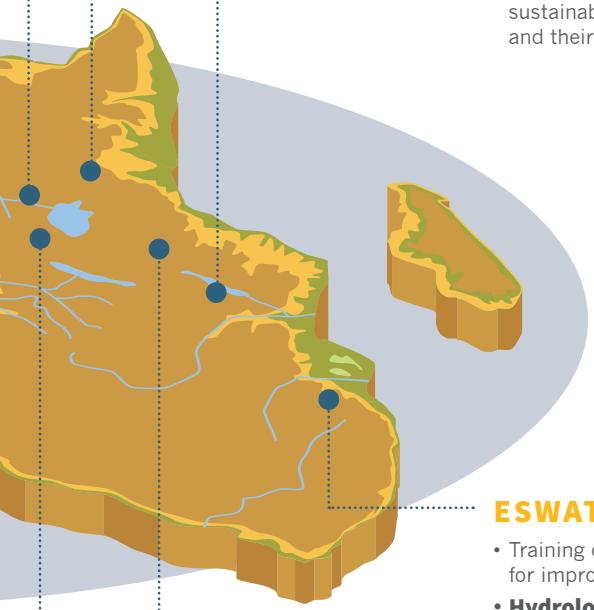
- Identify information needs/ synergies in existing platforms and opportunities to **strengthen** the most strategic platform
- Pro-poor community **grants**
- **Neighbour learning**

KENYA

- How to simplify science for **policy makers**

MALAWI

- **Capacitate universities** for sustainability of policy, institutions and their linkages with science



ESWATINI

- Training on **up-scaling incentives** for improved range management
- **Hydrological mapping** and development of irrigation plans
- **Strategies** to target the poorest / most vulnerable
- Training / advice – **advocacy of the new Land Bill**
- **EX-ACT** training
- Training of trainers on **PES**

TANZANIA

- Advice on how to build **institutional arrangements** at local level
- Challenges to set up FFS (e.g. institutionalising FFSs)

Key topic areas

for knowledge exchange and learning highlighted by country projects

- Setting-up firebreaks
- Rangeland management / pastoral systems
- Woodlots
- Government gazette forest reserves
- Hydrological management
- Agrobiodiversity
- Establishment of seedbeds
- Extension
- Farmer to farmer learning
- Land tenure
- Inclusion of indigenous people (e.g. Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC))
- Indigenous knowledge and how to interact and project engagement
- Site selection and communities left out
- Gender mainstreaming
- Integrating nutrition
- Value chains development for small holders
- Land restoration approaches
- Reaching the poor and most vulnerable

Modes and methods for knowledge exchange

- Facilitated webinar on how to measure resilience
- SLM and M&E WhatsApp groups
- Learning note – 1 page country experience
- Documenting and sharing best practices
- Community of practice – gender, email distribution list, in person, webinar, rotating topic lead
- Site visits, field trips, study tours and experience-sharing visits
- Email based groups
- Exchange of learning materials
- Exchange of experts
- Learning routes
- On-line and network platforms
- Country group review meetings/workshops for experience sharing
- Rewarding mechanisms, financial incentives

Opportunities

for knowledge exchange, learning and enhancing the programme visibility

Participants engaged in a ***facilitated exercise to gather participatory input on knowledge and learning opportunities****. Their inputs have been used to create a timeline from March 2019 to March 2020, of internal and external events (including field level days, quarterly project meetings, international environmental days, conferences, media days, training events, etc.) and ideas for knowledge products, to use these events for enhanced learning of programme activities and implementation.*

2019

MARCH

18-22 March Africa Climate Week, Accra

21 March World Forest Day

22 March World Water Day

APRIL

Addis: Community based adaptation (CBA) Conference

Morocco: Earth observation capacity training (with team from Burkina Faso) organized by EO4SD

Uganda: training of stakeholders -SLM, INRM, Land Use Planning, etc.

Ghana: sub-project verification; annual review on planning week

Tanzania: FFS training: April-May

UTWF: Exhibition awareness forum with decision makers

Burundi: training on Collect Earth, DATAR and Ex-ACT

Ghana: Field verification: subproject database

Foire International de l'Agriculture et des Ressources Animales

CFS-HLPE on Climate and Environment

Launch of the GEF online course on gender & environment in English, French and Spanish

MAY

Briefing Note on Resilient Food Systems

PPP summit on interstate food commodity value chain

22 May International Day of Biological Diversity

Ghana: PCU meeting; experience sharing session; planning session. Joint quality monitoring visit for Regreening project

Nairobi: Global Soil Week

JUNE

5 June World Environment Day

17 June World Day to Combat Desertification; UNCCD World Day

Ethiopia: present our showcases

EU reflective learning on regreening scaling: Niger; Ghana; Rwanda; Senegal; Kenya; Ethiopia; Mali

Burundi: FFS open days;

Stockholm: EAT Forum

Ghana: Desertification Forum

Eswatini: Presentation of GIS-based story lines on land rehabilitation

Ethiopia: poster; audio-visual; products – to be broadcasted at TV or radio

JULY

Enhanced cross learning on the theme of natural resources management and climate change

Exchange visit to India on extension

Sharing a video about natural regeneration in local and sub-regional platforms and websites

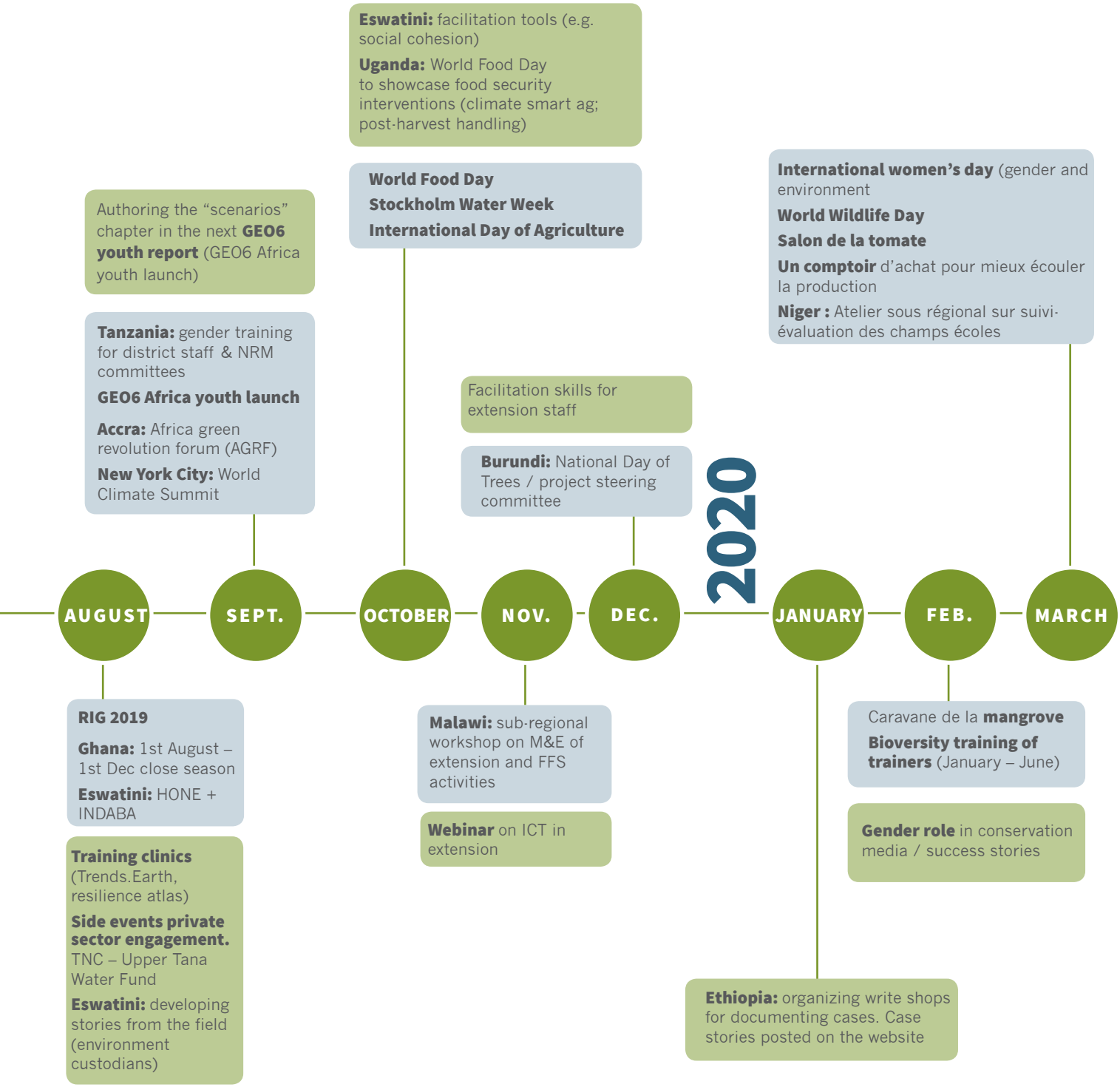
Training webinar on Trends: Earth land degradation

Uganda: biannual steering committee; share challenges lessons learnt; reports on outputs, activities. Agricultural show

Niger: Earth observation capacity training organized by EO4SD

Key:

- *Events*
- *Ideas for knowledge or learning products*


AUGUST
SEPT.
OCTOBER
NOV.
DEC.
2020
JANUARY
FEB.
MARCH
RIG 2019
Ghana: 1st August – 1st Dec close season
Eswatini: HONE + INDABA
Training clinics (Trends.Earth, resilience atlas)
Side events private sector engagement. TNC – Upper Tana Water Fund
Eswatini: developing stories from the field (environment custodians)
Authoring the "scenarios" chapter in the next GEO6 youth report (GEO6 Africa youth launch)
Tanzania: gender training for district staff & NRM committees
GEO6 Africa youth launch
Accra: Africa green revolution forum (AGRF)
New York City: World Climate Summit
Eswatini: facilitation tools (e.g. social cohesion)
Uganda: World Food Day to showcase food security interventions (climate smart ag; post-harvest handling)
World Food Day
Stockholm Water Week
International Day of Agriculture
Facilitation skills for extension staff
Burundi: National Day of Trees / project steering committee
Malawi: sub-regional workshop on M&E of extension and FFS activities
Webinar on ICT in extension
Ethiopia: organizing write shops for documenting cases. Case stories posted on the website
International women's day (gender and environment
World Wildlife Day
Salon de la tomate
Un comptoir d'achat pour mieux écouler la production
Niger : Atelier sous régional sur suivi-évaluation des champs écoles
Caravane de la mangrove
Bioversity training of trainers (January – June)
Gender role in conservation media / success stories

Encouraging cross-country learning

Reflections on how to encourage cross-country learning and collaboration to accelerate impact in the continent.

Clement Adjorlolo, AUDA-NEPAD, talked about the establishment of the African Union Development Agency (former NEPAD) and how it is fulfilling its mandate to coordinate and execute priority regional and continental projects; as well as to strengthen capacity and serve as the continent's technical interface with all Africa's development stakeholders and development partners. TerrAfrica was cited as an example of a successful regional initiative several stakeholders to better coordinate efforts to up-scale the financing and mainstreaming of effective and efficient country driven Sustainable Land and Water Management.

Fareeha Iqbal, GEF Secretariat, highlighted the importance of knowledge management and South-South learning, components that are common across most GEF projects. Three examples were mentioned of initiatives addressing similar challenges as the IAP-FS, from which participants could learn valuable lessons: the other two IAPs (Good Growth Partnership and Global Platform for Sustainable Cities); the International Waters Programme (IWP); and the GEF Gender Partnership (GGP), which also offers an open online course on gender and environment.

Romina Cavatassi, IFAD, summed up some of the key take-aways for the day, noting the clear progress being achieved by country projects, the latest developments for operationalization of the Programme Coordination Unit (PCU), as well as advances being made on consolidation of monitoring tools and frameworks. She emphasized the need for Hub partners to ensure coherence and consistency when offering support to country projects, avoiding overlaps where possible, as well as tailored services as per country-level needs and demand.

Facilitated training targeted at GEF-IAP-FS country projects

Earth Observation for sustainable agricultural development

(eLEAF, DHI GRASS, Ethiopia)

(Top left) **Tesfaye Haile** *from UNDP Ethiopia presenting the concept of the EO-based environmental monitoring system currently under implementation in Ethiopia during the EO4SD Infosession. (Top right) EO4SD infosession participants working on small assignments after the presentation.*

The EO4SD team supported by UNDP Ethiopia provided an information session on "Earth Observation for sustainable agricultural development" that informed and built awareness among IAP-FS workshop participants of the utility, benefits, and potential constraints of using Earth Observation information services in IAP FS operations.

Based on practical examples from Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Niger and Uganda, the focus of this session was on harnessing Earth Observation (EO) information services as demonstrated under the ESA Earth Observation for Sustainable Development (EO4SD) initiative.

The presentations were organized according to the project cycles: design, operation and impact. After each presentation, the country teams were asked a number of questions related to current use and future needs of EO data. Presentations where given by the EO4SD partners eLEAF and DHI GRAS and by the IAP Ethiopia representative Tesfaye Haile from UNDP.

Tesfaye Haile gave an overview on how Earth Observation aided him in his project work and presented the EO-based monitoring system currently under implementation in Ethiopia. Roughly 30 representatives from various country teams and organizations participated in this infosession.

The feedback of the roundtable questions showed that various countries already assigned a budget for EO in the design phase, mostly for the institutionalization of the Land Degradation Surveillance Framework (LDSF), but also for other biophysical assessments, such as land cover mapping, erosion risk or vegetation cover monitoring. Almost all of the teams see the value of EO for future projects in terms of M&E for mid-term and end-term evaluations if the method is quicker and cheaper than traditional approaches.

During the workshop, various portals were presented to access information. The feedback received from the participants of the infosession emphasizes that data should be provided via one platform or linking of different platforms should be enhanced in order to facilitate data access. The question on which EO products should be made available to all teams via the Hub project revealed the following data: land cover/land use maps including crop types, status of vegetation cover and forest resources, biomass productivity, degree of land degradation, soil fertility, water availability, biodiversity cover and rainfall/seasonal trends.

Feedback from roundtable questions:

Did your project assign a budget for the use of Earth Observation during the design phase?

- Eswatini: yes, for the institutionalisation of the land degradation surveillance framework
- Kenya: yes, allocated to ICRAF for LDSF (5 sites)
- Ghana, Senegal: yes
- Tanzania: for LDSF
- Niger, Burkina: no

If so, for what type of services?

- Kenya: baseline landcover, soil carbon, erosion risk
- Ghana: for vegetation index mapping
- Tanzania: biophysical assessments
- Senegal: yes, salinization mapping, water bodies

If not, what value do you see for future projects?

- Kenya: mid-term/end-term evaluations
- Tanzania : if quicker and cheaper
- Niger: for land degradation mapping and irrigation
- Burkina: baseline & M&E on vegetation cover
- Senegal: food security

What Earth Observation data are you using for operations?

- Tanzania: not yet
- Kenya: land cover/landscape restauration
- Eswatini: land suitability data, land degradation hot spots, monitoring rehabilitation of degraded lands
- Senegal: data for degraded lands, data on mangroves, biomass

What Earth Observation data should be made available to all via the HUB?

- Burundi: land vegetation cover, SLM good practices, degree of land degradation
- Tanzania: land cover, soil fertility, water availability, biodiversity cover
- Kenya: land cover, rainfall/seasonal trends, crops/ biomass productivity trends
- Burundi: land degradation cover and degree, SLM good practices in-country designed dashboards
- Ghana: land use, land cover, NDVI, High resolution imagery, biomass productivity, water balance
- Senegal: landcover, biomass, wood resources
- Burkina: Land cover map for intervention area, Maps on the condition of the vegetation cover in the water basin, information on agricultural seasons, land cover maps, biomass.

How should access be arranged?

- Tanzania: upload to hub website
- Kenya: portal access rights
- Senegal: link different platforms
- Burkina: via one platform

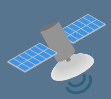
Earth Observation for monitoring of indicators of ecosystem services, socioeconomic benefits, and resilience of food security

(Conservation International)

Conservation International's training clinic covered the linkages between the country projects' indicators of ecosystem services, socioeconomic benefits, and resilience of food security and the indicators used for monitoring at a regional level. Participants learnt about the indicators that require data collection within country projects and those that can be derived from freely available remote sensing products and socio-economic datasets. Many of the remote sensing datasets can be accessed through the regional online project atlas: https://foodsecurityiap.resilienceatlas.org/map. CI and EO4SD shared two Best Practice for Remote Sensing (RS) guidance documents to guide decision maker and technical experts in the use of remote session in their work and CI shared the Indicators Framework for monitoring the Regional Resilience of Food Security.

Ways of acquiring data to assess indicators

Social surveys and qualitative data collection: Draws on individual and household surveys, interviews, and focus groups



Earth observation: Uses sensors on satellites or other platforms to gather information on characteristics of earth surface (land cover, productivity, etc.)

Modeling: Draws on mix of datasets, and uses statistical or computer models to assess biophysical or socioeconomic information

Components of monitoring framework and their data sources

Ecosystem services: The benefits humans derive from functioning ecosystems (such as hydrological and climate regulation, nutrient and carbon cycling, pest and disease control)

Socioeconomic benefits: Benefits of project activities to households and communities, disaggregated by gender

Resilience of food security: Ability of food system to maintain food access, availability, and utilization in the face of chronic and acute stresses and shocks

Participants also had an opportunity to learn how the remote sensing products are created and validated with an interactive session using the latest draft land cover maps and aerial imagery that Conservation International has created for the project sites. Participants were trained on the steps involved in accuracy assessments and validation of the land cover maps. The maps are now available at https://foodsecurityiap.resilienceatlas.org/map.

After the presentations, participants went into a break out session according to countries to view their country project area land cover map and the aerial image. In this session, they were able to review the maps for their countries and compare the aerial image to the land cover maps. The participants gave initial feedback on areas on the map that did not reflect the reality on the ground. For example:

- Niger team observed that their cropland covers approximately 12.5% and not 17.0%. They also provided feedback on the land cover categories that have been adopted by the country.
- Malawi noted that the project sites had been reduced from 3 to 2, removing the central project site near Lilongwe/Nkhata Bay.
- Eswatini noted some important labels that should be included for reference on the maps for instance the names of dams.

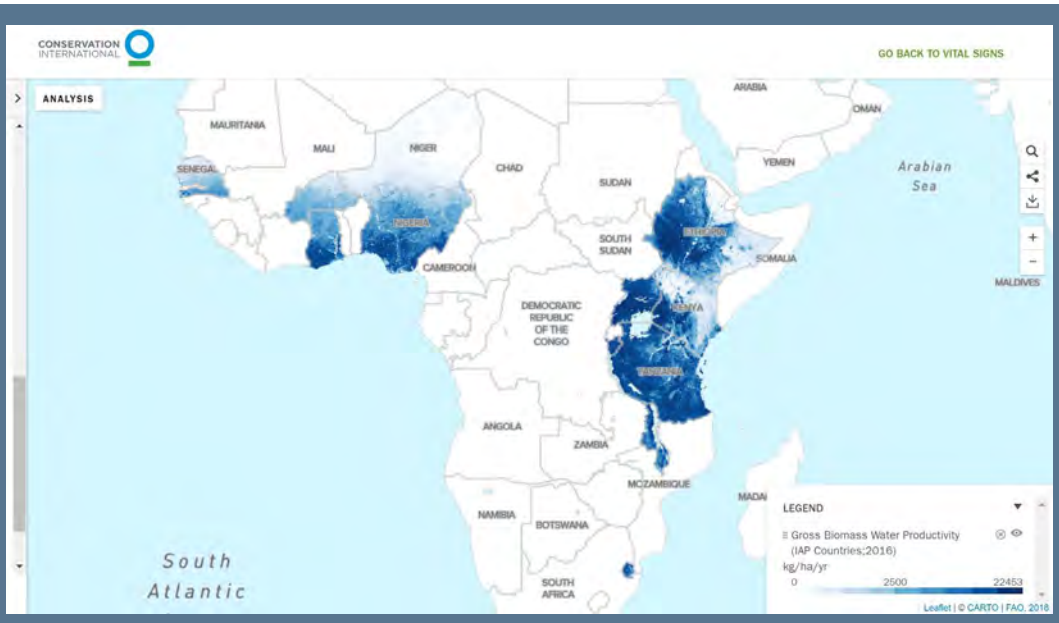
This information will be critical in helping CI revise the maps and carry out accuracy assessment.

Example ecosystem service indicators

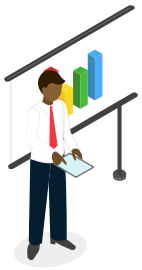
Service Type	Service	Indicator	Source
Provisioning (products obtained from ecosystems)	Fodder production	Productivity of grassland areas	Earth obs.
	Crop production	Productivity of agricultural land	Earth obs.
Regulating (benefits from regulation of ecosystem processes)	Climate regulation	Change in soil carbon	Modeling
	Climate regulation	Aboveground biomass	Earth obs.
Cultural (non-material benefits from ecosystems)	Tourism	Visitor numbers	Logs, proxies
	Aesthetic value	Area of natural land cover types	Earth obs.

Example indicators of socioeconomic benefits

Indicator	Scale	Source
Income*	Individual (household if not available)	Social surveys
Land area under integrated management	Household	Social surveys
Membership in co-ops, farmers organizations, and advisory networks*	Individual	Social surveys
Employment (status, occupation, type)*	Individual	Social surveys
Richness of traditional crop varieties and animal breeds	Household	DATAR



Example indicators of contextual factors



Co-designing decision dashboards: responding to project user needs and requirements for data, evidence and interpretation

(ICRAF, SHARED*)

Training objectives

- Introduce the co-design framework and decision dashboards
- Present the co-design process underway in Malawi and Eswatini to build tailored project level dashboards
- Discuss user needs and capacity for data access and interpretation

Why use a dashboard

- An important tool for communicating data availability and data requirements, and forming a clear and accessible way to display and enable key stakeholders to interact with information and data
- Increase ownership of data and resource mobilization towards key priority areas
- Central location to systemize, store, access and share available data online – dashboard can be used to upload project data for tracking and monitoring purposes
- View data on multiple topics at the same time to support decision-making, enhancing capacity to interpret, discuss and use data, while supporting an evidence based culture for planning and decisions

ICRAF approach to building decision support dashboards

Scientists and tool development team

Multi-disciplinary team of scientists, including land health, soil, gender and economists contribute to analysis. Lead data scientists code and build the tools, data integration and visualisation

SHARED User Experience and behavioural science specialists

Run a structured engagement approach to understand context, user requirements and on-going user testing to feedback design requirements

Target users

Wide scoping of potential users and engagement of core stakeholders to outline use and design requirements

SHARED the decision hub

* Stakeholder Approach to Risk-informed and Evidence-based Decision-making

Examples from work underway with Eswatini and Malawi projects

Climate Smart Agriculture for Resilient Livelihoods

Stakeholder engagement is a key element of the dashboard, and is achieved through a facilitation method called SHARED, developed by ICRAF. SHARED ensures that evidence can be critically evaluated and interpreted to inform decision-making.

The first stage in the co-design process includes understanding the current context for decision-making and defining the information needs.

The dashboard allows in-country stakeholders to define their information needs – e.g. for agriculture; those could include soil information, meteorological data etc.

Currently, a Land Degradation Surveillance Framework (LDSF) is being developed to provide scientific evidence on soil health among other parameters. A Land and Water Inventory is also being carried out to provide scientific evidence on suitable sites for earth-dams with adequate land for downstream development, also providing information on soil types.

At the Chiefdom level, the dashboard provides information on degraded areas and degradation

prone areas for appropriate targeting of project interventions. The dashboard also provides biophysical information and periodic changes from surveys, which in turn provides information on land use changes for farmers. Sources of this information are also indicated in the dashboard.

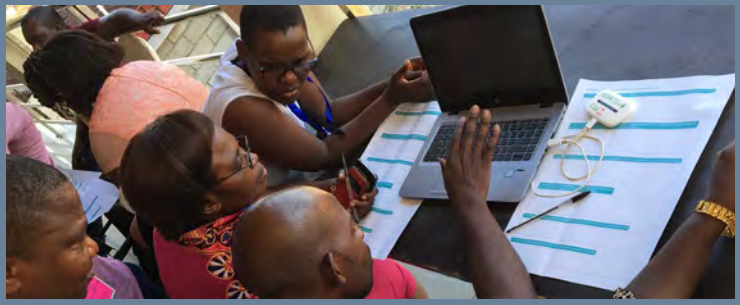
For sustainability, the LDSF and the dashboard will be hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture. Evidence from the dashboard, even while it is still under design, has resulted in the formulation of research questions for university students – one from Bhutan and three from UNESWA.

The Programme for Rural Irrigation Development (PRIDE)

PRIDE is working with ICRAF to co-design a decision dashboard for the project to store, visualize and use information and data.

"The co-design team in the project is led by the M&E unit, to bring together how we want data to be organized and reviewed and to easily track progress. [...] We need to have data accessible to make decisions on project progress and implementation."

This work also contributes to the GEF-IAP-FS ERASP project, which builds primarily on PRIDE as its main co-financing baseline investment.



Outcome mapping

(ICRAF and Bangor University)

Outcome Mapping (OM) is a methodology developed by International Development Research Centre (IDRC). It focusses on one specific type of result: **outcomes as behavioural change.** OM is used to capture observable changes in the behaviours, actions and relationships of specified boundary partners. These outcomes can be logically linked to a programme's activities, although they are not necessarily directly caused by them. It therefore assumes contribution and not attribution. Boundary partners are those individuals or organisations with whom the GEF-IAP-FS programme either interacts directly with or with whom the project seeks to influence.

Outcome mapping consists of three iterative phases: 1) Intentional design, 2) Outcome and Performance Monitoring, and 3) Evaluation Planning, which are further broken down into a series of steps.

Short outline of workshop activity

The primary goal for this workshop was to introduce the major concepts associated with the Outcome Mapping methodology to the project teams and then use this as a basis to assess where every project (including the Hub) was in relation to the Intentional design phase of the outcome mapping methodology.

The **Intentional design phase** essentially breaks down into four major questions (see figure below). Outcome Mapping should interact strongly with a project's Theory of Change (ToC). Our assumption was that the questions relating to Why and How should be clear both in the project documentation and specifically in the Theory of Change (ToC) associated with the projects. Prior to the workshop, participants were sent a version of the proposed framework and asked to bring revised theories of change for the workshop. They were also asked to provide a list of boundary partners. We suggested allocation of project stakeholders to one of four Boundary Partner groups (Table 1). Within each of these broad groups, we suggested that it would be useful to highlight specific Boundary Partners (Village Chiefs, Female farmers, etc) that have been targeted for intervention.

WHY?	WHO?	WHAT?	HOW?
Vision Statement Theory of Change	Boundary Partners	Outcome challenges Progress Markers	Strategy Maps Organisational practice
Both the country projects and the Hub have their own Theory of Change. These provide the Vision and the Mission.	We need to know who the key stakeholders are, whose behaviour we are seeking to influence/ change	What components of behaviour change are we interested in?	What is our capacity/buy in/planning for capturing behaviour change? Is Outcome Mappnig an apropriate tool for us to use?

Major questions covered in the intentional design phase of Outcome Mapping for the III GEF-IAP-FS workshop.

Regional and national policy and decision makers	This group contains central national level policy and decision makers and regional policy makers linked to regional fora, such as AU and RECs.
Local Governance organisations	This group contains local policy actors, e.g. decision making at province/state or district level or Village Chiefs.
Smallholder farmers	Local private decision makers such as farmers and local entrepreneurs.
Non-Government Organisations and Universities (where applicable)	This group contains Potential 'influencers' who can accelerate uptake of lessons learned.

During the workshop, participants were involved in three sessions (Session 1 - Boundary Partners; Session 2 - Progress Markers, Session 3: Assessment) where they provided information. Each of the country projects worked on their own documents only and there were three hub partner groups who also participated in the exercise (working at the Hub scale). Participants were asked to record their information on proforma documents provided electronically before the session. Due to time restrictions the participants were asked to focus on two boundary partners only so they could learn how the first phase of the methodology works.

Conclusion, final thoughts, and way forward

We are still waiting for submission of some of the forms, to see at which stage each of the country partners and hub partners are currently on. The fact that the methodology was not implemented at the immediate beginning of the project does not seem to have serious consequences as some of the country projects have only just started, so implementing Outcome Mapping at this stage could still be very useful both for country partners as well as hub partners.

Example of results from from the country working groups

BOUNDARY PARTNERS

Senegal:

- Local Authorities
- Behavioral change - important for the ownership of project activities
- Interaction with this Boundary Partner to date?
  - » Information and awareness workshops on project activities at the start of the project
  - » Participation in monitoring missions

Nigeria

- Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; because they are the lead government agency in food security in the country
- Smallholder farmers: owners of 0-2ha (youths and women); because they engaged in poor agricultural practices that temper with environment and produce inadequate food for the country. So changing their behavior will help attain food security and environmental sustainability.

Burkina Faso

- SE-CNSA: Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council. Behaviour change - SE-CNSA to influence policies on environmental considerations in food security. SE-CNSA which is a governmental structure for coordinating food security interventions.
- Local NGOs SEMUS (Solidarity and Mutual Aid in the Sahel) and the FNGN (National Federation of Naam Groupings) for the conduct of social engineering in the scaling up of approved technologies. Behaviour change - SEMUS and FNGN; change is all the more important because they are grassroots organizations in direct contact with communities and have to transmit viable and reliable information for behavioral change.

PROGRESS MARKERS

Senegal

- Change in behaviour we expect to see as a result of the project; a. Strong involvement of the municipal council; b. Advocacy for resource mobilization
- What we would like to see: Promotion of citizenship in environmental matters
- What we would love to see: Advocacy for resource mobilization

CAPTURING BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

To what extent is behaviour change being systematically monitored in your projects?

Senegal

- Beneficiary participation in data collection and monitoring missions
- Identification and dissemination of success stories
- Results sharing workshops with stakeholders

Regional Hub updates

Participants had an opportunity to learn more about the available services and outputs being delivered by **Regional Hub partners**.

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REGIONAL HUB COMPONENTS

Create and strengthen integrated institutional frameworks and mechanisms for scaling up proven multi-benefit approaches

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

- Sharing of best practices on policy for integrated natural resource management and sustainable landscape management
- Develop guidelines on how to integrate the identified best practices on SLM/INRM into existing regulatory frameworks of the country projects
- Supply sustainable and innovative financial mechanisms and market opportunities
- Identify projects' needs with regards to scientific knowledge and tools
- A scientific knowledge support interface to share latest scientific knowledge (Programme Science Policy Interface)
- A set of scientifically sound policy-support tools

Regional Hub structure

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Scaling up integrated approaches and practices

- Demonstrate how to address key issues related to sustainability and resilience of food value chains of regional significance
- Toolkit on integrating sustainability and resilience in value chain development and scaling up models
- Regional training of selected national actors on integrating sustainability and resilience in value chain development and scaling up models
- Capacity development and technical support to countries for strengthening of agricultural advisory service and private sector engagement
- Linking country projects to established networks of seed companies and private agro-dealers as well as enhanced post-harvest and financial tools
- Technical advice and tools on Monitoring and Evaluation of rural advisory services
- Organization of study tours and exchange visits for peer to peer learning (to be cost shared with interested country projects and others)

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Monitoring and assessment of global environmental benefits and agro- ecosystem resilience

- Framework for multi-scale monitoring and assessment of ecosystem services and socio-economic benefits
- Regional web platform through the Vital Signs portal with methods and datasets for monitoring GEBs
- Published online metadata standards to document all national projects
- Online maps and resilience atlases
- Reports on comparison of protocols, methods and best practices
- Quantitative baselines for ecosystem services and gender disaggregated measures of food security
- DATAR capacity development, technical advice, and tools
- Data visualization for each country in place and updated annually
- Regional training on agrobiodiversity assessment and use
- Development of a regional south-south network of diversity assessment expertise
- Workshops

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Coordination, reporting and general management functions across IAP projects for programmatic impact, visibility and coherence

- Host the Programme Coordination Unit (PCU)
- Facilitation of learning exchanges, encouraging a culture of peer-to-peer learning between project teams and beyond
- Knowledge sharing material (best practices, lessons learnt, progress etc).
- Annual Programme workshops
- Ad-hoc technical support
- Programme website and communication materials
- Representation on behalf of the programme at various fora
- Identify resource mobilization opportunities
- At programme-level, monitor indicators for Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) and monitor and aggregate socio-economic benefits

Component 1 update

Science Policy Interface (FAO, UNEP)

Science & Policy Interface in brief

BENEFICIARIES:

- Policy makers: AU, NEPAD, Regional Ecomomic Communities, Min. of Environment, Agriculture, Rural Development
- Scientific Community
- IAP teams

Role of Science Policy Interface

- **Multi stakeholder knowledge exchange mechanism** between IAP 12 countries
- **Link to scientific and policy platforms** that support innovation for sustainability and resilience of agricultural ecosystems at country and regional levels
- **Support IAP projects:** trainings on specific topics on a needs-basis, funded by country projects
- **Guidance and tools** on integrating best practices into regulatory frameworks and national institutions

Specific topics

i. National policies and strategies for Integrated Natural Resource Management and Sustainable Land Management and their linkages to food security

ii. Mechanisms for mainstreaming INRM/SLM that include agrobiodiversity and ecosystem services for food security

iii. Sustainable and innovative financial mechanisms and market opportunities for scaling-up

Role of SPI as anticipated in country projects

Topics not covered in any project documents that the SPI could link to:

- Climate change mitigation
- Disaster risk reduction
- Environmentally friendly income-generating activities
- Gender / Equity
- Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration
- Non-Timber forest products
- Renewable energy pilot micro-projects
- Lobbying
- Policy issues

Key policy areas for Hub support

- Policy support and policy instruments needed
- Legislation on specific topics
- Training on “how to do”, for example:
  - » land use management
  - » land management policy
  - » participatory negotiated territorial development

Information portal - UN Environment

- A tool for harnessing SP knowledge support
- Critically analyze the existing scientific knowledge support interface that provides options to promote and underpin innovations for sustainability and resilience of ecosystems for food security at national level.
- A draft analysis of some of the available knowledge platforms has been consolidated by the UN Environment
- A workshop was held in February to validate the platforms and the tool for national relevance and the potential to feed into the national planning processes, particularly the National Development Plans (NDP) and the UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF), as well as reporting on the SDG implementation.

Next steps

- Get feedback from each country project on support needs (on policy, institutions and science linkages) and on SPI platform - in Bolgatanga
- Identify 2-3 critical activities for 2019

Results of interactive exercise

Some frequently expressed needs from country projects for Hub support, which come under the scope of the SPI, can be identified, namely:

Scientific / Technical

- Accessing sound scientific / technical knowledge (inter alia SLM, CSA)
- Advocacy to enable project teams to influence policy processes (to incorporate environment, climate, food security) – national / local
- Scaling up / sharing lessons learned – example of Niger highlighted as good, which other projects should learn form
- Payments for ecosystem services
- EX-ACT
- Hydrological mapping (for irrigation)
- Inclusion of indigenous knowledge

Policy etc.

- Managing effective multi stakeholder processes (at national, local and community levels) in NRM, BD, SLM, FS
- Direct training of policy makers (e.g. in evidence-based decision making)
- Policy incentives to enhance private sector involvement in INRM and climate change mitigation
- How to target the poorest / most vulnerable?
- Issues of land tenure
- Landscape level planning (all scales – micro-catchment, community upwards to national, river basin)
- Farmer to farmer learning
- Project exit strategies

Component 2 update

Component 2.1.

Scaling up of integrated approaches and practices (UNDP, AGRA)

Achieved to date

- Agreements – UNDP, IFAD & AGRA (signed)
- Recruitment of PCU Hub based staff member – (Sustainable and Resilient and value chains expert hired) and AGRA's Resilience Expert
- Knowledge product - GEF-UNDP Paper on Opportunities for Making Food Value Chains Environmentally Sustainable & Resilient
- A training programme concept note which integrates sustainability and resilience aspects into regional staple food crop value chains has been drafted (Work in progress)

Experience

The UNDP/AGRA team has relevant experience with:

- Private sector-driven inclusive VC approach, integration of environmentally sustainable and resilient agricultural programming
- Agro-dealer development, seed & fertiliser policy support, farmer commodity aggregation
- Multistakeholder platforms and catalytic grants

Upcoming activities

Support to GEF IAP Countries, Regional Economic Communities and other partners

Development of Technical Assistance Service Offer on SRFVCs

- Support will be based on countries' demand and additional country budget. This TA will include:
  - » Field support missions
  - » Assessments, value chain/stakeholder mapping & entry points
  - » Programme designs and project desk reviews
  - » Market development and business model reviews
- Opportunities related to synergies on project crosscutting issues including partnerships within the UN system and beyond
- Consultations with 12 countries to identify specific training needs. Gathered relevant data include:
  - » GEF-UNDP Paper on Opportunities on Making Six Food Value Chain Environmentally Sustainable & Resilient
  - » UNDP's Supplier Development Programme (SDP) Paper
  - » Country Training needs assessment exercise

Country training on sustainable and resilient food systems - key questions

In preparation for the incoming training on sustainable and resilient food systems, country teams were encouraged to brainstorm on:

- The priority food systems (staple food crops) and 3-4 major challenges hampering productivity
- Value chains that have the greatest potential for 'greening' and/or 'commercialization'
- The value chain key actors/stakeholders (both private and public) that have or are likely to have significant influence
- RECs and other champions at regional and continental level that can influence key decisions for investment and action. These are to be targeted for training as ToTs or trainees or enablers.
- Skills that may be deficient and requiring special training/capacity building for value chains players
- Successful food value chain-focused training received at country level
- Opportunities that exist for capacity building in developing sustainable and resilient food systems
- Broad and specific training topics needs at country project level

Component 2.2.

Wide-scale uptake of INRM through rural advisory services for sustainability and resilience in production landscapes & agroecosystems (FAO)

Main activities in 2018

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Global workshop on Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) of FFS in Thailand (17-21 September)
- Global review of FFS impact (2005-18) with Wageningen University
- Sharing seminar in FAO Rome webstreamed (14 December)

Training workshops

- Sub-regional training and lessons learning workshop on climate-sensitive agro-pastoral field schools (Burkina, 3-6 December)
- Participants from Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, DR Congo, Burundi, Ethiopia and Uganda; incl. GEF and IAP project coordinators from all countries, trainers and national institutions
- Key sharing sessions by 2 IAP teams : FFS as part of a landscape approach in Burundi and Agro-Pastoral Field Schools in Uganda

Farmer Field School Knowledge Hub

- A global FFS platform was setup in 2018 in partnership with 16 institutions aiming to facilitate knowledge exchange and innovation among FS and participatory extension practitioners
- A global FFS website launched with: key information on FFS, news and events, library, and expert database
- A global FFS discussion group setup with 1160 members from 117 countries, including all IAP countries
- Two webinars: Livestock FFS and MEL

Key planned activities in 2019

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Publication of MEL and impact assessment toolbox for practitioner (including framework and guidance to setup MEL systems for FFS/RAS programmes, and tools and templates used by different countries and programmes)
- Sub-regional MEL workshops based on toolbox in Malawi and Niger (tbd)
- Review of role of ICT in MEL of FFS activities, including participatory MEL

Documenting innovations

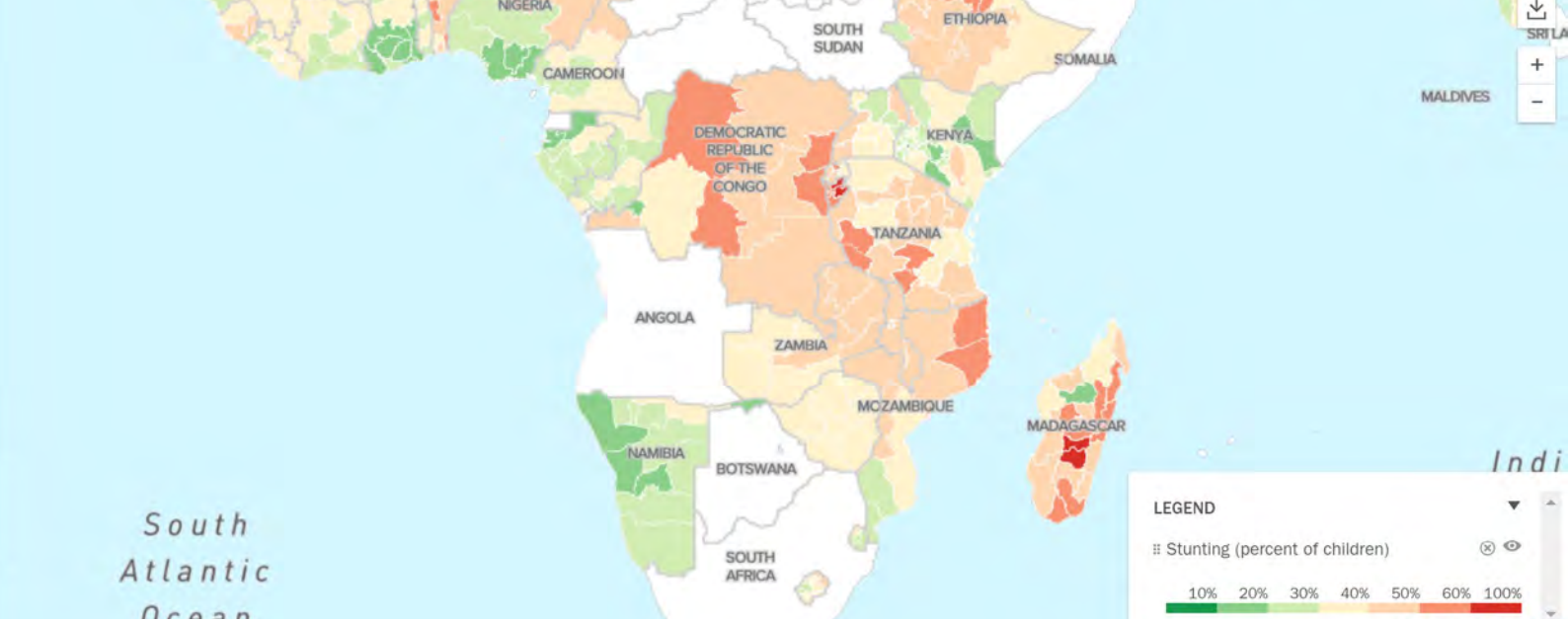
- FFS e-M&E is a Mobile-based data collection and management system for effective monitoring and evaluation of farmer field schools. Working since April 2017 under Building Disaster Resilience in Pakistan (BDRP) programme; now in GEF Senegal
- Guidance to advisory services and 'knowledge intermediaries' to support value chains for sustainable products

Exchange of experiences

- Exchange of experience with India (July 2019 TBC) involving practitioners and decision-makers in IAP country projects
- Study tour to Kenya to visiti Pwani University – integration of FFS in university curricula (Q4 2019)

Sub-regional advisory service networks

- Stock taking on innovations in Participatory technology development and farmer-led extension in partnership with St Ulrich meeting in Germany (August 2019)
- Setup of Anglophone West African FFS network (setup, facilitation of discussions) https://dgroups.org/fao/fieldschools/anglophonewestafricaffsnetwork/
- At least the following IAP country projects have activities on Rural advisory services and extension: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ghana, Malawi Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania



Component 3 update

Monitoring & Assessment (CI, UN Environment & Bioversity International)

Conservation International provided updates on the results delivered since the last Programme workshop and presented 2018 land use land cover maps for 11 countries. The maps will serve as the baseline for assessment of land cover trends (in normalized difference vegetation index - NDVI), one of the Global Environmental Benefits tracked by the Programme. They will also support individual countries' spatial planning, disaster management, biomass estimation, mapping land degradation, erosion, crop production estimation, changes in forest cover, carbon sequestration.

The IAP-FS Resilience Atlas (https://foodsecurityiap.resilienceatlas.org) was also presented to stakeholders. The Atlas provides satellite-based data on various indicators from the available and most recent datasets for all project sites and countries. This allows users to derive insights from large surveys and climate datasets by visualizing the factors that affect resilience to stressors and shocks like climate change. These factors include contextual factors such as: climate, land cover, land productivity, and infrastructure; stressors and shocks including levels of land degradation, disease, conflict, forest loss and rainfall and temperature patterns; and assets and capacities and their uses.

The presentation also covered best practices guidelines for using remote sensing for food security, developed in collaboration with the European Space Agency (ESA). The guidelines provide information about indicators that can be accessed from datasets from remote sensing, the benefits of this information for monitoring projects, considerations for selecting data products and verification and validation methods for remote sensing data.

Participants' feedback after the presentation indicated that more training was needed in use of tools and methods for data collection such as DATAR, Resilience Atlas and trends.earth. This was the case for representatives from Niger, Nigeria, Ghana and Malawi. Some participants expressed the need to incorporate existing data into their current project monitoring systems.

Output 3.3.

Supporting the deliberate use of crop and animal biodiversity in farmers' fields to improve productivity and ecosystem resilience

Capacity in place to apply appropriate tools and practices for monitoring resilience at multiple scales (crop and livestock agrobiodiversity)

- **Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience (DATAR)** capacity development, technical advice, linkage to other tools
  - » DATAR to be ready by end of 2019
- **National capacity developed to identify and use agrobiodiversity in fields and rangelands** to improve agricultural production and resilience
- **Development of a regional south-south network on assessment practice**
  - » Training to build capacity and knowledge to lead work on assessing and integrating crop and livestock agrobiodiversity into agricultural production
  - » Ensuring farmers have access to diverse quality planting materials at the right time, in sufficient quantity
  - » Demonstrate Improved performance and use – crop genetic diversity in soil and water management, in drought and saline conditions, pests and diseases management, climate change adaptation etc
  - » Training of National Partners in the first half of 2020

Category	Indicator (crops and livestock)
Biodiversity in Agroecological Systems	Area coverage (hectares) of traditional crop varieties and number of animal breeds per hectare
	Richness (number) of traditional crop varieties and animal breeds
	Evenness (relative areas/population sizes) of crop varieties and animal breeds
	Effective population size (animals only)
	Trends in population size of breeds and of crop varieties

Images, from top to bottom:

Agrobiodiversity Indicators; Farmer's characterization of varieties at village level (FGD); South-south leadership team (Photo: R. Nankya)

Component 4 update

Gender Transformative Approaches and Resilient Landscapes (ICRAF, GEF Secretariat)

The session objectives were to:

i. Reinforce a common understanding of the framework to address gender in the GEF-IAP-FS

ii. Share experiences linking gender and the environment across IAP countries and projects

The session began with an overview of the new GEF gender policy and approach to gender equality and women's empowerment. The new policy focuses on the synergies between efforts to combat environmental degradation and those to address gender inequality and aims at catalyzing projects that have the potential to materialize greater environmental impact through gender-responsive approaches and results. The presentation also referred to how gender is mainstreamed across the GEF project cycle, emphasizing the need to have specific indicators and measurements to report on the project gender responsiveness, particularly in three areas:

- Access to and control of natural resources
- Environmental decision-making and leadership
- Access to socioeconomic benefits and services

The second part of the session was meant to introduce the concept of gender transformative approaches (GTAs) and why these are required to address some of the gender issues around landscape restoration and resilience. After a brief discussion of the issues and the characteristics of GTAs, the presentation introduced an example of how these kinds of approaches can be integrated into larger restoration projects, based on an experience in northern Ghana.

The key messages for country teams were:

- **Efforts aimed at land restoration and increased resilience in Sahelian countries need to meaningfully address gender norm**s that: i) restrict women's participation in decision making and benefit enjoyment; and ii) undervalue women's role in the landscape and in household livelihood systems.
- **Tackling harmful gender stereotypes and gender gaps cannot be considered as accessory to technical interventions** but as a critical requirement to achieve sustainable outcomes.
- **There are innovative approaches that can be integrated in ongoing restoration initiatives with some minimum requirements**, such as having adequate capacities in the team for gender analysis, participatory methods and to support community discussions around sensitive issues.

The final part of the session was a short-guided discussion in tables around three questions. Due to time constraints, participants were asked to discuss at their tables and reply to one question of their choosing using cards. Some of the insights were then shared in plenary and the cards with responses collected. See below the responses collected:

From your experience do efforts to address gender equality contribute to environmental outcomes?

- Yes and no. Yes, when it comes to labour saving and environmental technologies. Also, more training of disadvantaged groups can result in positive environmental outcomes. No because the national policies around gender are not being implemented and do not work together with policies on environmental degradation
- Yes, VSLA empowering women to equally take care of family – Partaking in SLM practices to improve conservation of land resources can empower women (an example from Ghana is that men are giving land for women to manage)
- No, when it comes to gender policy these are not implemented or enforced
- There is marginal contribution due to limited role of women in decision making. There is a need for transformation of norms and institutions

What activities are needed to address gender in implementation, monitoring and reporting – what is needed to capture lessons learned and communication?

Burkina:

- Build capacity on monitoring and evaluation tools
- Build capacity on cost/benefit analysis of income-generating activities
- Exchange visits and open days
- Contribution of beneficiaries to development (gardening, AGR microprojects)
- Including women in income generation activities
- Collecting sex-disaggregated data, and designing gender sensitive indicators
- Capturing lessons learned

What data/information have you collected/tracked on gender - has this helped you learn and reflect on programming and interventions?

- Women are more dedicated and committed in doing sensitive tasks related to the environment (like our project – cash for work project in Niger)
- Gender segregated data based on activities could be used to assess the progress of participation and wellbeing of women and based on that better tailored activities could be designed to benefit women more

Useful gender resources

Guidance to Advance Gender Equality in GEF Projects and Programmes

https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/GEF%20Guidance%20on%20Gender.pdf

Open Online Course on Gender and Environment

https://www.uncclearn.org/open-online-course-gender-and-environment

Gender and Inclusion Toolbox: Participatory Research in Climate Change and Agriculture

https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/45955/CCAFS_Gender_Toolbox.pdf?sequence=7

Gender matters in Forest Landscape Restoration: A framework for design and evaluation

http://foreststreesagroforestry.org/gender-matters-in-forest-landscaperestoration-a-framework-for-design-andevaluation/

In Equal Measure: A User Guide to Gender Analysis in Agroforestry

http://www.worldagroforestry.org/sites/default/files/In%20equal%20measure_reduced.pdf

Programme communication activities

Internal communication

Internal newsletter

Newsletter to be produced using Mailchimp, a mail application that allows for 12,000 emails to be sent each year for free. Newsletter "manager" will collect scheduled contributions from each country, and enter text into existing, user-friendly templates on Mailchimp, to create professional newsletters.

Editable progress reports

Taking content from existing progress reports and putting it into a professional document, to share internally amongst other country projects, in order to fast track resource and knowledge sharing across the programme, in an engaging and more meaningful way.

Country level communication and engagement

Learning notes and case studies

Suggestions for learning case studies from countries:

Country program	Learning note	KM Theme
Ghana	Engaging policy makers on interventions – profile of organising and executing a visit by the Ministry of Environment of Env visited the SLWMP project site to understand what is happening on the ground	Engage
	Establishing alternative and value add livelihood activities Bee keeping Producing shea butter	Act
	Payments for ecosystem services – how to set up incentive schemes	Track
Kenya	Engaging the private sector	Engage
	Linking with partners on the ground to scale up	Act
	Setting up and using a SMS platform – case study of platform with 27000 farmers – used for polling data and disseminating information	Track
	Embedding data collection within local government structures	Engage and Track
Nigeria	Training media on farming activities – case study from Sorgai centre engaging 140 farmers at Sorgai Centre	Engage
Eswatini	Establishing a information management system and robust database	Track
	Building capacity with community based facilitators	Act
Ethiopia	Engagement with gender directorate of the Ministry	Engage
	Setting up the project monitoring system	Track
Burundi	Farmer field school approach Watershed approaches	Act
	Engagement with policy makers effectivity through national steering committee	Engage
Uganda	Hosting Food Day 2018 with Ministry of Agriculture	Engage
Senegal	Women's training on processing local produce – hygiene standards, techniques, standards	Engage
Niger	Partnering with university's to generate research and knowledge on land management and best practices	Engage and Act
Burkina Faso	Scaling up indigenous knowledge	Act
Tanzania	N/A as just getting operational	
Malawi	Establishing a dashboard for project monitoring	Track

External communication

External newsletter

External newsletter uses same content as internal newsletter, but with a more general introduction and external links suitable for those outside of the programme, and is automatically emailed to anyone who signs up via the IAP FS website.

Directs readers to the IAP FS website for further information and provides regular feedback on the programme for funders and any other invested stakeholders.

Social media

Social media content pillars:

i. **What we do: Enhancing food security and resilience**
   - Stories of change with real people
   - Long-format articles of impact
   - Animated micro-videos of improved farming practices
   - Content focus: ground-level impact of programme on individuals and communities

ii. **How we work: Engage, act, track in action**
   - Made in Africa. Success stories of empowerment
   - Taking the theory into the field
   - Content focus: inspirational and engaging content for the general public and the country teams, showcasing our approach and methods across Africa using real examples

iii. **News and events: A programme of people**
   - Event highlights and commitments
   - Meet the teams and their stories
   - Content focus: show our audience the teams in action, in collaboration, working to continually optimise activities

Website

The programme website will serve as a central online location for external visibility, as well as a detailed resources section and country pages for more detailed information on individual projects and key materials and contacts.

Presentation of website site map

Feedback from participant exercises on website structure and content for News and Resources Tab:

Key themes

- Alternative Livelihoods/Natural Resource Based
- Livestock
- Crops
- Land Use Planning
- Payment for Ecosystem Services
- Resilient/Sustainable Value Chains
- Sustainable Technologies and Innovations
- Policy frameworks
- Sustainable Land Management
- Sustainable water conservation
- Gender

Organisation structure

- By country
- By regional hub
- Country profiles
- Partners

Information sharing resources

- Success Stories
- M&E
- Publications
- Upcoming Events
- Stakeholder engagement
- Tools available to countries
- Policy briefs
- Data sets
- Maps
- Innovation/Best Practices
- Lessons Learned
- Reports
- Blogs
- Presentation of the countries
- Events
- Newsletter
- Scientific publications

Requested resources/links to have on the website:

- www.foodsecurityiap.resilienceatlas.org
- vitalsigns.org
- www.epa.gov.gh/epa/projects/slwmp
- EO4SD ESA INT
- EO4SD Knowledge Portal
- DATAR www.doi.mw
- www.pride.mw
- Regional Hub partners and component leads
- African Union (AU)
- UNCCD Land Degradation Neutrality “Knowledge Hub” site
- Regional Economic organisations like ECOWAS, COMESA, EAC, SADC, CILLS, IGAD
- Link to other platforms that have similar goals
- UNDP Ethiopia Website
- Ethiopia Environment, Forestry and Climate Change
- www.cse.sn
- server.cills.int/fr
- www.nca-niger.org

Review and consolidation of programme monitoring and reporting approaches

Monitoring and reporting

- **M&A framework developed** at the regional level and under validation by the Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
- **Programme M&E system** is being developed by ICRAF as web-based collaborative platform
- **12 country projects screened** through resilience angle and gaps identified (based on GEF STAP guidance note)
- **Country projects' coordination mechanisms set up** including monitoring and evaluation systems

Monitoring at a programme level

Rodrigo Ciannella, PCU Coordination (ICRAF), explained the process being followed by the PCU for consolidation of a monitoring system at Programme level, which will include contributions from:

i. **each country,** by means of **existing project-level indicators and targets**;

ii. **the Hub**, through the measurement of i**ndicators at regional level**, including those already defined by Component 3 partners under guidance of the Programme's Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on Monitoring and Assessment and in consultation with all Programme stakeholders (at the II GEF-IAP-FS Workshop); and

iii. **the Programme** outcome mapping being conducted, which shall contribute to the identification of **key progress markers at both country and regional levels**.

Some of the next steps to be pursued by the PCU include:

- liaising with country projects and hub partners to better understand identified gaps (e.g. contrasts between results frameworks at design and those reported against on PIRs) and finalize their own sets of indicators and targets;
- consolidation of Programme level indicators, including aggregation where possible from countries, regional-level data and new inputs from outcome mapping.

Reporting outputs

The **main reporting outputs from the IAP Hub agencies** staff to the PCU Coordinator will be:

- M&E/M&A indicators (annual)
- Lessons learned, best practices
- Financial report (biannual)
- AWPBs (annual)
- Progress reports (annual)
- Brief progress reports (twice a year)

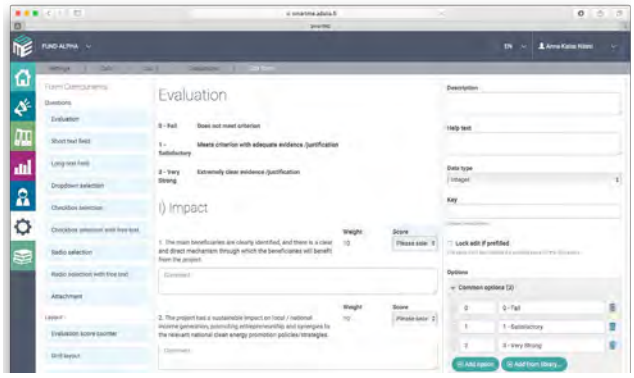
The **country projects Coordinators** will be reporting to the PCU Coordinator:

- PIRs (annual)
- Progress report (annual)
- Brief progress reports (twice a year)
- M&E/M&A indicators (annual)
- Lessons learned, best practices
- GEBs

Intranet

Once final, all this data will feed the new online platform (intranet) being developed in parallel to this process – and in conjunction with the new Programme website. This tool will be based on the SmartME software, a monitoring and evaluation tool for development cooperation projects, built on the principles of Results-Based Management.

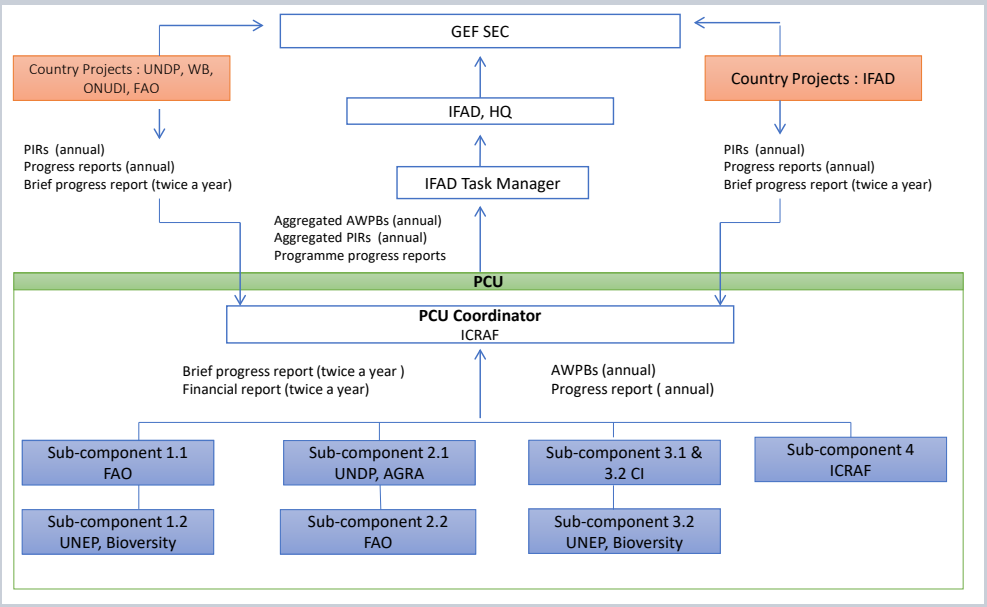
The intranet will pose no major alterations to the reporting process, particularly at country level, although IFAD and the PCU will continue to look for ways to improve efficiencies where possible on the Programme's monitoring and reporting system. The intranet is being designed to facilitate this process,



in addition to improving visualization and tracking of results; access to information (serving as a one-stop shop for all IAP stakeholders), and ensuring greater transparency for all stakeholders.

IAP Reporting System

Amath Pathe Sene, *IFAD, reminded the audience of all phases and steps that must be pursued by IFAD-led country projects in terms of reporting, monitoring and impact assessment, including key features of the Fund's institutional Operational Results Management System (ORMS), options to ensure continuous supervision and IFAD's results reporting line.*



Jonky Tenou, *IFAD, recalled the overall GEF-IAP-FS reporting structure, including the different types of annual and biannual reports due both by Hub partners and GEF implementation agencies, as well as their deadlines.*

TYPE OF REPORT	DEADLINE
IFAD'S HUB GRANTEES	
Brief progress report (twice per year)	15 July, 15 January
Financial report (biannual)	Within 45 days of the end of the progress reporting period
Consolidated progress report (annual)	No later than 31 May
Grant completing report	No later than 6 months
Regional cross-cutting PIR (annual)	15 July
GEF IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES	
IFAD Country Project's PIR (annual)	15 July
Non-IFAD Country Project's PIR (annual)	15 July
Aggregated PIRs (annual)	30 July
Programme progress report (annual)	30 July

Summary of Regional Hub and Consultative Committee Meeting

At the end of the workshop, key representatives from all projects and partners met and agreed to implement specific actions that are envisaged to improve coordination efforts and programme coherence.

Regional Hub Planning Meeting

The meeting was attended by representatives of the following institutional partners and collaborators: FAO, UN Environment, UNDP, Conservation International (CI), ICRAF (Facilitator), AGRA, Bioversity International, and the Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), in addition to IFAD (Lead Agency) and GEF Secretariat (GEF SEC).

The discussion addressed the following:

- How to improve internal communication and coordination to ensure greater coherence when reaching out to countries;
- Identification of a common approach in supporting IAP countries (e.g. joint thematic workshops and planning); and
- Common strategy for KM and communication on IAP (contribution of IAP partners to newsletters and KM products, side events, etc.).

Suggested actions included:

- **Hub catalogue** – development of an online catalogue of the tools and specific services that are on offer by the Hub, to be shared with all IAP countries
- **Quarterly country-PCU check-in meetings** - A schedule of quarterly virtual meetings between PCU members (potentially including other Hub focal points if/where needed) and sub-groups of country project leaders, which is planned to begin in June 2019
- **Monthly Hub check-in meetings** - the Hub partners agreed to initiate a schedule of monthly check-in meetings
- **Review of the Hub annual workplan** - to promote further cross-project integration through the identification of potential overlaps as well as synergies between activities being planned by different (sub-)components

Consultative Committee Meeting: Day IV, March 15th

The meeting was attended by the Consultative Committee members (or designated alternate representatives) of the GEF-IAP-FS countries – Burkina Faso, Burundi, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda; as well as the GEF Secretariat, IFAD (Lead Agency) and all Regional Hub partners – ICRAF (facilitator), FAO, UN Environment, UNDP, Conservation International (CI), AGRA and Bioversity International.

The following topics were discussed:

- Reviewing and validation of the Consultative Committee (CC) terms of reference (ToR);
- The IAP-FS organigram, including the Programme's governance bodies and the CC role;
- Brainstorming on contributions of the CC members to policy dialogue and partnerships at country level;
- Priorities and next steps for the year ahead.

The key points and suggested actions emerging from this meeting were as follows:

i. **The initial draft ToR** compiled by IFAD and ICRAF was reviewed by the Committee

ii. **Programme structure and governance.** CC members were reminded of the Programme's main features, such as its theory of change, key components and organizational chart, including coordination and governance roles.

iii. **Policy dialogue and partnerships.** Country representatives provided brief updates on how their projects are promoting policy dialogue and partnerships at country level. Efforts and achievements were highlighted in terms of improved policy alignment/harmonization and operationalization; collaboration between different ministries and local partners through multi-stakeholder networks; government support for additional resource mobilization and upscaling; private sector engagement; focus on gender-related targets; development of monitoring plans and knowledge sharing platforms; support to decentralization and sub-regional planning; and improved irrigation schemes, inter alia.

iv. **Enact quarterly country-PCU check-in meetings.** Each quarter will comprise three meetings with four countries, allowing for the Francophone countries to join a same call with interpretation support. This will form another regular communication channel between countries and the Hub.

Annexes

Workshop evaluation

What participants have learnt

Most valuable aspects

Connections participants made

Workshop participants

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Investing in rural people


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Agroforestry


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International


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environment


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