Transformational Agroecology across Food, Land and Water Systems OneCG Initiative



Marcela Quintero (m.quintero@cgiar.org) Matthew McCartney (m.mccartney@cgiar.org)





CHALLENGES



- Widespread recognition that food, land and water systems (FLWS) need to transform urgently
- Climate change, land degradation, loss of biodiversity, depletion of water resources, and pollution undermine food security and resilience
- In many places current agricultural practices have undermined our FLWS:
 - 40% of arable land degraded;
 - 64% of agricultural land contaminated by agrochemicals
 - Widespread forest and biodiversity loss
- A focus on increasing yield and calories has not eliminated world hunger and malnutrition nor reduced poverty in many rural areas.

AE-I GOAL & OBJECTIVES



Develop and scale agroecological innovations for small-scale farmers and other agricultural and food-system actors across different socio-ecological contexts

- To achieve this, the AE Initiative will
 - Support scale-out and continuous innovation for agroecological transitions in geographically-targeted food systems
 - 2. Co-develop a **knowledge-base** that supports implementation of context appropriate agroecological innovations
 - Co-develop business models and financing modalities, linking bundled agroecological innovations to markets and investment
 - 4. Promote recommendations to effect the **cross-sectoral policy** integration required to mainstream agroecological principles
 - Create understanding of mechanisms to drive behavioral change of farmers and consumers needed to implement agroecological transformation

REGIONAL/COUNTRY FOCUS



- 1. India (South Asia)
- 2. Lao PDR (Southeast Asia)
- 3. Tunisia (North Africa)
- 4. Burkina Faso (West Africa)
- 5. Kenya (East Africa)
- 6. Zimbabwe (Southern Africa)
- 7. Peru (Latin America)

Agroecological Transition



WORK PACKAGES



- 1. Develop an international network of Agroecology Living Labs (ALLs)
- 2. Evidence based assessments that enable comparison of benefits and tradeoffs between 'business-as-usual' and agroecological alternatives across ALLs
- 3. Develop inclusive business models and financing strategies in the ALLs
- 4. Strengthen the policy enabling environment
- 5. Develop understanding and influence behavior change

Outcome:

Contextually relevant agroecology principles are applied by farmers and communities across a wide-range of contexts and supported by other food system actors

Living Labs

User-centered multi-actor environments for codevelopment, participatory and evidence-based asssement, and co-adaptation of inclusive agroecological options in agro-landscapes (Work Package 1)



OUTCOMES (2022-2024)



- Small-scale farmers collaborate with researchers, and other partners in ALLs - co-developing, testing, and scaling context-relevant agroecological innovations.
- Researchers, farmers, communities, policymakers and investors use knowledge gained from science-based assessments to implement agroecological innovations that are economically viable, environmentally sound and socially inclusive.
- Investors, trading partners, NGOs, and farmer organizations participate in at least one strategic business partnership established in each ALL
- National and regional policymakers and representatives of sectoral organizations co-develop/promote recommendations to effect policies to mainstream agroecological principles
- Scientists, funders and civil society reorient their strategies and action plans informed by knowledge gained from scientific studies and ALLs, to contribute to agroecological transformation

IMPACTS (by 2030)



- Agroecological innovations that enhance food security/ nutrition and improve health, implemented at scale.
- Mechanisms created for generating revenues and jobs that will help to sustain livelihoods supported by agroecological principles.
- Adaptive scaling strategies (e.g. business models and policy instruments) and dialogue platforms within ALLs will increase the agency of women, youth and marginalized social groups.
- Agroecological practices implemented that enhance household resilience and improve adaptive capacity.
- Biodiversity actively managed and ecosystem services protected.

