



ecoagriculturepartners



Landscapes for
People, Food and Nature

LEARNING LANDSCAPES

Men and women from across East Africa work together to overcome challenges in integrated landscape management.

About this Book

From 2012-2015, EcoAgriculture Partners, as part of the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative, supported the development of three national learning landscape networks to improve knowledge sharing, co-learning, and the provincial, national, and regional influence of integrated landscape initiatives pioneering collaborative landscape management. This brief book highlights the achievements of those integrated landscape initiatives, in their own words. It also describes the activities undertaken by EcoAgriculture Partners, and partner organizations within the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative, to improve outcomes, strengthen networks, and most importantly, build capacity within these integrated landscape initiatives.

Who is EcoAgriculture Partners

EcoAgriculture Partners is a leading catalyst of the global movement to solve environmental, social and economic problems holistically. We have a decade of experience improving lives and environmental outcomes at landscape scale. We work with a wide range of partners and collaborators – from farmers and community organizations to international businesses, policy makers, and donors – providing direct support, education, training, research, and policy analysis to help these groups implement and support effective integrated landscape management practices and policies.

What is the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative

The Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative is an international collaborative initiative of knowledge sharing, dialogue and action to support integrated landscape management in order to achieve three simultaneous goals: improved food production, ecosystem conservation, and sustainable livelihoods. Founded in 2012 by 9 co-organizers, the Initiative now has over 70 partner organizations. EcoAgriculture Partners is a co-organizer and serves as secretariat for the Initiative.

Disclaimer

The landscape descriptions in this book were provided by the integrated landscape initiative leaders from each site, and have not been independently verified by EcoAgriculture Partners or others.

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Learning Landscapes

The Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative is a global collaboration of over 70 partners committed to advancing dialogue, learning and action for integrated landscape management (ILM). ILM involves long-term collaboration among different groups of land managers and stakeholders to achieve their multiple objectives and expectations within the landscape for local livelihoods, health and well-being.

Between 2012 and 2015, partners of the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative were involved in the establishment of national networks of learning landscapes in Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia, as well as a regional network encompassing all three countries' networks and landscapes. The purpose of the networks is to facilitate knowledge exchange, support institutional capacity development, and promote policy dialogue.

What is a Landscape Learning Network?

A landscape learning network is a group of landscape initiatives interested in connecting with other initiatives to learn about new practices for improving integrated landscape management, understand how leaders in other contexts put landscape management principles into action, and connect with potential partners or donors to expand their work related to ILM. Some of the learning landscapes have more than a decade of experience bringing together stakeholders for coordinated action at the landscape level, while others are just beginning the process of forming a landscape platform to address the specific challenges in their landscape. Each landscape platform functions in a unique way and has distinct objectives for participating in the national- and regional-level networks. Together the individual initiatives and their networks demonstrate a diversity of strategies for sharing knowledge, engaging in multi-stakeholder dialogue, and implementing integrated landscape management practices.

The East Africa learning network has served as fertile ground for gaining practical experience in implementing integrated landscape management, testing new tools and approaches to ILM, strengthening emerging landscape learning platforms, and sharing knowledge. After three years supporting these landscapes, the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative partners and landscape actors are gleaning lessons about various models of network formation and implementation, leadership, coordination, and sustainability. Sharing lessons broadly will be important if the landscape learning model is to be successfully refined and replicated. The different approaches to forming and implementing the national-level networks in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Tanzania are described below, and some emerging lessons are offered.

The Kenyan Experience

In Kenya, EcoAgriculture Partners and the World Agroforestry Centre's (ICRAF) Sustainable Rural Institutions (SRI) project, under the coordination of the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative, began a policy dialogue process with five landscape initiatives in 2013 to improve the policy and institutional framework for ILM in Kenya based on policymaker and civil society engagement. The five landscape initiatives, located in Lari Sub-county, the Lake Naivasha Basin, Laikipia County, Embu County and Bungoma County, were selected based on the type of agro-ecological zones, livelihood characteristics and the type of institutional arrangements or stakeholder platforms present to ensure a diverse set of integrated landscape initiatives operating in a variety of policy and institutional conditions. These sites included a range of stages of multi-stakeholder coordination: some sites had formal multi-stakeholder platforms, while in others, the stakeholders were only coordinating informally previously and were all brought together for the first time during these discussions.

As part of this process, scoping studies were conducted at each of the sites to highlight key innovations and challenges and to develop policy recommendations. A national-level policy dialogue was convened in June 2014 where civil society landscape representatives, county-level policymakers, and national-level policymakers met to discuss and share their experiences. During this meeting, landscape leaders in each of the five sites highlighted the need for sharing information, knowledge and experiences, as well as working together to advocate for policy change and mobilize resources. Following the workshop, three of the landscapes (Lari, Naivasha, Laikipia) received funding to complete follow-up activities, which included providing small grants to community-based organizations working within the landscapes. Kijabe Environment Volunteers (KENVO) provided technical assistance and support to these three landscapes. In May 2015, landscape leaders and government representatives met again to share experiences and information, and it was at this meeting that they decided to form a more formal landscape network. They are currently in the process of developing a steering committee with rotating leadership and hope to establish more formal governance structures for the network in the near future.

The Ethiopian Experience

In Ethiopia, the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative collaborated with the Water and Land Resource Centre (WLRC) to lay the foundation for an Ethiopian Landscape Learning Network. WLRC gathered a group of organizations active in Integrated Landscape Management (and/or Integrated Watershed Management) in Ethiopia into a core working group to support this network. This Ethiopian Core Working Group included national government ministries, donor

agencies, international NGOs, and Ethiopian NGOs/CBOs. The Core Working Group selected seven landscapes to initially form the country-level learning network.

WLRC worked with EcoAgriculture Partners to conduct extensive scoping in each landscape, utilizing several informational tools to understand the best practices, innovations, and challenges each landscape faces in achieving its collective vision. WLRC also analyzed the policy environment for ILM, reviewing key policy documents and interviewing policymakers.

Representatives from these seven landscapes then joined regional- and national-level policymakers and other actors at the Ethiopian Learning Landscapes and Actors Dialogue, held in May 2015 in Addis Ababa. Each landscape presented the findings of the scoping work, focusing on their successes as well as their on-going challenges. Participants discussed how to use other landscapes' experiences to improve their own practices. They also discussed challenges in integrating different sector-specific policies and possible next steps for overcoming obstacles to integration. The nascent network is now planning its way forward as a cross-landscape learning network. Collaborative fundraising is a top priority of the Core Working Group to support the Ethiopian Learning Landscapes Network and related cross-landscape learning activities.

The Tanzanian Experience

In Tanzania, two learning landscapes have been actively involved in the regional learning landscape network since 2013. Maasai Steppe landscape, in northeastern Tanzania, has focused on integrating sustainable livestock integration with wildlife management, especially in areas used by pastoralists. This landscape is supported by the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF). Mbeya landscape, in southwestern Tanzania, is part of the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), a large swath of land that the government has targeted for agricultural investment. Mbeya's is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the country and is home to the headwaters of Rufiji River, one of Tanzania's most important rivers. The Mbeya landscape is supported by the Agricultural Research Institute (ARI-Uyole). These two landscapes have partnered to conduct a knowledge exchange on sustainable livestock production, and they each have individually partnered with some of the Kenyan learning landscapes to host exchange visits on a variety of other issues, such as honey production and a marketing strategy called landscape labeling.

Starting in 2015, the goal for the Tanzanian learning landscapes is to expand the national network to include other landscapes in the SAGCOT area, and to pursue opportunities for integrating ILM into the SAGCOT agricultural investment strategy.

Emerging Lessons for Landscape Learning Networks

1. *Establishing networks*

- The process of developing a network can take many forms, with varying degrees of formality; but, in general, landscape actors—including landscape leaders and government representatives and policymakers—need to see the value of sharing information and experiences for the process to be sustained.
- Nationally- and locally-based partners are ideally suited to establish learning networks because they can establish legitimacy within cultural-specific contexts. Those partners should engage a wide range of ILM-relevant institutions in a national network, including government ministries, donor organizations, international NGOs, national NGOs, community-based organizations (CBOs), and private sector. International organizations can provide valuable experience, connections to resources, and financial support, without actually leading efforts in coordination and defining strategic direction.

2. *Supporting networks*

- It is important that an organization (or several organizations) play the coordination role—liaising between landscapes, sharing information between partners, organizing logistics, etc.—for the network. This role can be played by many different types of organizations, but it does require some funding to be sustainable.
- Funding mechanisms for sustaining collaboration and interaction need to be diversified. Potential exists for tapping already-existing resources within the countries, in addition to securing outside donor funding.

3. *Network activities and knowledge sharing:*

- Networks can be composed of landscapes initiatives in various stages of development (from more experienced/developed to less experienced/developed). However, certain knowledge sharing activities are better between landscapes of similar levels of experience.
- On-the-ground activities within individual landscapes are important to provide both incentive to participating landscapes as well as the opportunity to apply learning and scaling of successful ILM strategies.
- National networks are not the only appropriate strategy for partnerships among landscape initiatives. International collaboration, through regional learning events and exchange visits, can also be powerful learning opportunities for landscape initiatives.



Landscape Profile

SIZE **303,250 ha**

POP. **1,375,063**

CLIMATE ***Tropical Wet & Dry***

PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

***Beans, Coffee, Cotton,
Livestock, Maize, Potato,
Sugarcane, Tobacco***

Bungoma County Kenya

Bungoma County is located along the foothills of Mt. Elgon in western Kenya. The dominant agricultural system is subsistence agriculture with maize, sunflower, sugarcane, coffee, tobacco, potatoes, beans, and cotton being the main crops. Livestock production is also practiced. Bungoma is home to many stakeholders groups that have been collaborating within the landscape around issues of land fragmentation, water scarcity, pollution, poverty, deforestation, and soil fertility.

Bungoma is also one of the sites for the World Agroforestry Centre's Strengthening Rural Institutions (SRI) Project, which builds the capacity of smallholder farmer groups through a participatory process.

Major Successes

COUNTY LANDSCAPE POLICY DIALOGUE

The SRI Project collaborated with EcoAgriculture Partners in 2014 to facilitate a county policy dialogue process in Bungoma. This county landscape policy dialogue forum revealed some critical landscape issues that need policy initiatives by the county government. These issues included land fragmentation, pollution, and environmental degradation especially through poor agricultural practices. The report has been shared by major stakeholders and is likely to trigger county policy initiatives.

AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Several stakeholders are working in Bungoma to improve agricultural production and value addition. These include Nalep/ASDSP-stakeholder collaboration, IFAD–Smallholder Dairy Commercialization Programme (SDCP), Strengthening Rural Institutions (SRI), and Smallholder Horticulture Marketing Programme (SHoMaP). There are also training activities in the area: Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), livestock disease control, clean milk production, promotion of technology on improved fodder chopper, trench-hay baling, green house production, and organic farming methods. Landscape stakeholders also participated in field demonstrations on livestock nutrition, pasture and fodder production, livestock management, and commodity value addition (Milk, Bananas and Tomatoes).

Working Together

PARTICIPATORY PLANNING PROCESSES

Activities implemented in Bungoma were chosen based on participatory planning processes. These processes include:

1. Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRAs)
2. Broad Based Survey (BBS)
3. PAPOLD (Participatory Analysis of Poverty And Livelihood Dynamics)
4. SWOT-analysis.

The World Agroforestry Centre's SRI project involved the groups and site level stakeholders in developing site action plans.

I am a social scientist at the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF). My area of work has focused on rural institutions analysis and capacity development among smallholder farming systems in East Africa. I have been involved in capacity needs assessments and developments for sustainable land management practices among farmer organizations. Bungoma is one of the sites where ICRAF and partners have conducted capacity development interventions with farmer groups involved in livelihood improvement initiatives and also conducted policy dialogues at the landscape level for integrated natural resources management with EcoAgriculture partners.

Voice From The Field

Douglas Bwire
Research Fellow,
World Agroforestry
Centre (ICRAF)





Landscape Profile

SIZE **255,590 ha**

POP. **516,212**

CLIMATE **Tropical Wet & Dry**
PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

**Coffee, Cotton,
Livestock, Tea**

Embu County Kenya

Embu County is located in the humid highland slopes of Mt. Kenya. The main agricultural activities include growing cash crops such as tea, coffee, cotton, and macadamia nuts, as well as livestock rearing and food production for subsistence purposes. Embu is home to many groups of stakeholders that have been collaborating within the landscape on issues of poverty, land fragmentation, market development, environmental degradation, water use, climate change, and human-wildlife conflict. These groups include Water Users Associations (WRUAs) and Community Forest Associations (CFAs), among others.

Embu is also one of the sites for the World Agroforestry Centre's Strengthening Rural Institutions (SRI) Project, which builds the capacity of smallholder farmer groups through a participatory process.

Photo courtesy of CIMMYT

Major Successes

STRENGTHENING RURAL INSTITUTIONS (SRI)

The Strengthening Rural Institutions (SRI) Project, supported by the World Agroforestry Centre, undertook various capacity development activities in the sites. These included leadership training, strategic business planning, horticulture and value addition training, goat rearing training, tree nursery establishment and management, animal feed preservation and training, and market analysis.

The SRI Project then collaborated with EcoAgriculture Partners to facilitate a policy dialogue process in Embu, at both sub-county and county levels. The sub-county level meeting involved a consultation with the stakeholders from the sub-county who represented a variety of stakeholder groups including farmers, government officials, private sector, focal development areas and community based organizations. The county level consultative meeting was held with officials from the county level of government. Officials deliberated on the prioritized issues identified by the sub-county representatives. During the policy dialogue process, it was found that there was no platform in Embu to assist in implementation and discussion of policies that could affect Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) issues. Therefore stakeholders decided to form a platform in Embu (AMUKA) whose main aim is to be the focal point in ILM issues and also to manage sustainable livelihood initiatives for its members. The steering committee, which consists of government representatives (both county and national), NGO representatives, farmers and local level leaders, has also been converted a platform for stakeholders where ILM issues and policies affecting farmers are discussed.



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Working Together

A NUMBER OF COALITIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS IN EMBU

For example, Kamiu Kavanga group is a coalition of individual members in Kamiu village as well as community groups within the area. The coalition has a clearly defined mandate. Other coalitions are also present, such as the Water Users associations (WRUA), which is mandated to manage and conserve river basins and develop, monitor and evaluate water implementation plan, and Community Forest Association (CFA), which is responsible for conservation of the forests through community forest management plans. CFA and WRUA membership comprise of user groups, individual farmer and tea factories around the area.

Laikipia County Kenya

The Laikipia Landscape covers the whole of Laikipia County, which is located on the Equator in central Kenya. It covers an area of 9,462 km², including a plateau bordered by the Great Rift Valley to the West, the Aberdares Mountain Range to the South and Mt. Kenya to the South-East, with the Ewaso Nyiro River and its tributaries flowing from South to North through the Landscape. The altitude varies between 1500 meters above sea level in the Ewaso Nyiro Basin in the North to 2611 meters above sea level around Marmanet Forest. The landscape is endowed with several natural resources, including pasture land, forests, wildlife, and water resources. Wildlife has become a major source of conflict between the farming and pastoralist communities; however, tourism plays a key role as a source of income within the County. Eighty-five percent of the population engages in agriculture (both crop and livestock production) which is the most important source of household income.



Landscape Profile

SIZE **946,200 ha**
POP. **399,227**

CLIMATE **Tropical Wet & Dry**
PRODUCTION SYSTEMS
Livestock, Wheat

Major Successes

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

New linkages, contacts and networks have been established, which help to strengthen partnerships and collaboration both within and outside of the landscape. Groups have identified strengths among themselves and are working together as partners, which reduces duplication of effort, the cost and time of implementing projects, and both individual and institutional conflicts. For example, it was agreed that it is not necessary for all of the groups dealing with honey to individually purchase honey processing equipment.



Working Together

STAKEHOLDERS WORK TOGETHER THROUGH A VARIETY OF PLATFORMS:

1. Laikipia County Natural Resource Network (LAICONAR)
2. Laikipia Wildlife Forum, Laikipia County Development Authority

They also work together through participation in many programs and planning exercises, like the Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP) and the Laikipia County Integrated Development Plan.

I am the Chairperson of the Laikipia County Natural Resource Network (LAICONAR). My involvement, in the management and transformation of conflicts associated with the environment and natural resources as well as advocacy for sustainable management and governance of natural resources, spans over a decade. Otherwise, I am a naturalist guide and a farmer who is involved directly in issues related to conflict management in water, wildlife and the future of indigenous cultures in the Laikipia landscape. Currently, I am actively promoting and advocating for pro-landscape practices, legislation and innovations.

Voice From The Field

David Wanjohi
Chairperson, Laikipia
County Natural
Resource Network



Lari-Kijabe Kenya

Lari Landscape is one of the focal areas for the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature (LPFN) Initiative in Kenya. Located between 0°50' and 1°40' S and 36°35' and 36°43' E in Kiambu County, the Lari Landscape is part of the larger Kikuyu Escarpment landscape that lies on the eastern slopes of the Aberdare Mountains of Central Kenya. Environmental and natural resources in the landscape such as forests, land, wildlife and water, contribute significantly to the quality of life.

The landscape is known for its horticultural potential and is one of the main suppliers of agricultural products to Nairobi. Forest covers about 37,000 ha, the highest percentage of which is natural indigenous forest. A small section of the forest consists of exotic tree plantations for timber production. It hosts a variety of important global species and is particularly rich in bird life. The forest is an important community asset which has been a main source of forest products including water, fuel wood, herbal medicine, fodder for livestock, building materials as well as leisure space. The forest is an important catchment area that supply water to the Kenyan capital, Nairobi.



Landscape Profile

SIZE **44,200 ha**

POP. **123,895**

CLIMATE **Tropical Wet & Dry**

PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

**Horticulture,
Livestock, Tea**

Major Successes

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Lari landscape is one of the pioneer landscapes in Kenya where the landscape management approach has been practiced. This approach has strengthened the partnership and collaboration between KENVO and various stakeholders, including various government agents within the landscape. Many of the stakeholders have come on board and this has helped in information sharing as well as knowledge transfer mainly from the technical officers from the government agents to the farmers. This has further enhanced service provision to the farmers due to linkages created among farmers and government officer during meetings, workshops and field days. Such meetings also create a platform for the government officers to disseminate information including government plans and projects targeting farmers. For example, through the Ministry of Agriculture, the Lari Agricultural Stakeholders Forum was established in 2010. This forum brings various stakeholders involved in the agricultural sector including the private sector together. The Forum mainly organised Field days for farmers within the landscape thus enabling farmers to access important information.

Working Together

STAKEHOLDERS COME FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS

Stakeholders include representatives of civil society, the private sector, and government agencies. All these stakeholders meet, though not in a regularly organised meetings but in various events like the Field days, workshops and meetings organised by KENVO or Ministry of Agriculture. Field days are normally organised on a quarterly basis with a maximum of 4 held per year. The Ministry of Agriculture through the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has been recognising and awarding Certificates to both farmers and organizations who are contributing greatly to environmental conservation and food security in the landscape. This is normally done during the World Food Day marked on 16th October every year. For the last four years this event has been organised jointly by Ministry of Agriculture, KENVO and the Stakeholders Forum, where majority of the other stakeholders participate.

I am a graduate from the University of Nairobi where I graduated with a Bachelors of Arts in Anthropology in 2000 and am currently a master's student at the Mount Kenya University pursuing a Master's Degree in Development Studies. I have also undertaken a postgraduate course in project management at the Kenya Institute of Management in addition to other short courses like Ecoagriculture leadership course, Participatory Forest Management, resource mobilization and grant management among others. I have over ten years working experience in the landscape. I have always been passionate in environmental issues and community development and KENVO offered me the space and opportunity to practice. Seeing people benefit from the available natural resources while contributing to conservation gives me the strength to work in the landscape. Though we are yet to achieve the target, we are in the right direction.

Voice From The Field

**Leah Waruguru
Mwangi**
Project Manager, Kijabe
Environment Volunteers





Landscape Profile

SIZE **320,000 ha**

POP. **1,000,000**

CLIMATE ***Tropical Wet & Dry***

PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

***Dairy, Fish, Floriculture,
Livestock***

Naivasha Kenya

The Naivasha Landscape consists mainly of the Lake Naivasha watershed or catchment basin that is approximately 3,200 Km² with diverse landform characteristics and development programmes. Critical land forms include Lake Naivasha at the floor of the rift valley and the natural forests to the upper attitudes. The Lake Naivasha and environs is important for its high biological diversity, recreational value, as a freshwater resource and generally as a source of livelihood. The presence of the lake has made the area a focal point of great national economic value supporting a highly vibrant intensive irrigation-based agriculture for cut flowers, livestock and dairy farming, geothermal power production, fishery and tourism industry. A ten-fold increase in human population in the last thirty years has led to severe environmental degradation, landscape alteration and unsustainable natural resources utilization. Urban development, commercial and small scale farmers have resulted in unsustainable water abstraction.



Major Successes

LEADERSHIP FOR MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLANNING

Imarisha Naivasha has achieved a great deal to solidify legitimate multi-stakeholder governance of natural resources in the Naivasha basin, including: legal mandate and Technical Capacity - within the institutions and the collaborating partners; capacity to mobilize resources and lead in negotiation and consensus building; access to information, knowledge and information sharing – as the leader and for the stakeholders for decision making; public relations and inter-public relation, ability to communicate and ability to appreciate stakeholder's contributions and opinions in consensus-building towards decision making; sound knowledge of technical issues especially relating to the sectoral stakeholders – critical in opinion shaping; and the ability for horizontal and lateral communication to reach high government maker and technocrats, development partners and the stakeholders even in the private sectors.

INCENTIVES FOR MULTI-STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION SHARING

Imarisha Naivasha has been able to offer significant incentives for participation by most stakeholders in the watershed, including: coordination and leadership of the multi-stakeholder forum; collaborative networks, and communication and feedback as well as logistical support – providing venue and secretariat services. The legal mandate of Imarisha gives it an edge and entices the stakeholders to collaborate and participate in the multi-stakeholder forum. The visibility of Imarisha enhances that of the other stakeholders and encourages and them to work with Imarisha. Meanwhile short- and long-term tangible personal and communal benefits accrued from the engagement (eg. Water projects, tree planting soil conservation, improved agricultural programs) and reduction of publicity risks.

PROCESSES FOR STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

Imarisha Naivasha has helped set up clear processes for stakeholder collaboration.

Working Together

IMARISHA NAIVASHA

Imarisha Naivasha is a government-appointed public-private partnership (PPP) tasked with the coordination and development of a plan to restore the degraded watershed and establish a sustainable development programme with the participation of all stakeholders. The Imarisha Naivasha Board is composed of representatives of key Government ministries, Commercial Flower Growers, Water Resource Users, Forest Resource Users, Beach Management Units, Pastoralists, and Civil Society organizations that operate within the basin.

I was born and brought up in rural Kenya where the local community largely depended on the landscape to provide for livelihood needs. Most natural resources by then were in abundance unlike the strains experienced today. My training and experiences have helped me to understand landscapes dynamics and encouraged me to champion an integrated approach within the Lake Naivasha basin to guarantee sustainable social-economic development and environment.

Voice From The Field

Kamau Mbogo

Ag. Chief Executive
Officer, Imarisha
Naivasha





Landscape Profile

SIZE **900 ha**
POP. **1,659**

CLIMATE **Humid Subtropical**
PRODUCTION SYSTEMS
Banana, Fruit, Khat, Live-stock, Maize, Millet, Teff



Aba Gerima Watershed Ethiopia

The Aba Gerima Learning Watershed is located in Amhara National Regional State, West Gojam Zone Administration in the Bahir Dar Zuria woreda. It is part of the Lake Tana sub-basin. Aba Gerima has a mixed crop-livestock farming system (maize, finger millet, Teff, mango, banana, avocado, Khat, and cattle). Land uses include crop land (66%), grazing (17%), plantation forest and riverine edible wild trees (3-4%), homesteads (9%) and degraded lands.

Aba Gerima is a part of the Water and Land Resource Centre's Learning Watershed network.

Major Successes

LEARNING WATERSHED APPROACH

The Aba Gerima landscape is operating under a Learning Watershed method, where comprehensive technical, institutional and knowledge management interventions are integrated through a multi-stakeholder approach. After understanding the needs of the community and priority constraints of the landscape, the following landscape activities mainly related to natural resource management, production and livelihood are accomplished.

INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION

In the areas of natural resource management, residents have successfully rehabilitated degraded areas and improved crop lands using physical and biological soil conservation measures through the practice of Integrated Watershed Management. Having seen the need to take action to restore the watershed, the previous measures have been implemented by free mobilized labor that was contributed by the community themselves.

AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES AND INTENSIFICATION

The introduction and promotion of improved agricultural technologies of crop, livestock and farm mechanization helped to intensify agricultural production and improve the productivity of the farming system. Particularly, the promotion of both pre-harvest and post-harvest farm technologies have impacted production efficiency and the livelihoods of youth groups. Combinations of different technologies for homestead development are used to enhance intensification and improve income of households. Additionally, livelihood innovations targeting the youth and women such as apiculture production, nursery development, sheep and poultry rearing, energy saving stoves, are working well while also providing services to the community including livestock health services, and threshing machine operation are among landscape activities.

Working Together

The watershed committee supports the planning and management of the overall watershed development which is governed by community agreed bylaws. The linkage between research and extension at grass root level has been enhanced through the establishment of Farmer-Research-Extension Group that helps to evaluate and select the best agricultural technologies and facilitate their dissemination. Other institutions like the Saving and Credit Association have also been established to encourage farmers to implement technologies made possible by loans. Local authorities, development sectors, researchers and farmers collaborate in the joint planning, implementation and monitoring of the landscape activities.

Practices, experiences and impacts are regularly monitored, documented, and shared to the stakeholders through annual planning forums and joint landscape visits. A variety of tools such as photo monitoring, spatial planning tools, landscape mapping, exit strategies, sustainability guidelines and WOCAT are employed.

I am a soil and water conservation specialist working as a Knowledge Management Division Head for the Water and Land Resource Centre (WLRC). I have been involved in soil conservation, watershed management, hydrology, water management, and irrigation research for over 15 years. Currently, I am researching watershed management, documenting the best SLM and landscape practices and innovations, scenario planning, and performing hydrology and erosion analysis.

Voice From The Field

Dr. Gizaw Desta

Director, Knowledge
Management Division, Water
and Land Resource Centre



Bale - West Arsi Eco-Region Ethiopia

The Bale-West Arsi Eco-region is mainly located in Oromia National Regional State, Bale and West Arsi Zonal Administrations. The eco-region is further extended to Southern and Somalia Regional States. This landscape is significant for socio-economic development, biodiversity conservation, water resources, carbon sinks and for several other benefits contributing to local, regional, and global scales. The landscape hosts the largest afro-alpine plateau, and is home to rich biodiversity. This biodiversity includes some of the rarest (endemic) animal and plant species on earth, such as the Ethiopian Wolf (*Canis simensis*) and Mountain Nyala (*Tragellapus buxtoni*). This landscape also hosts the biggest relic natural forest cover of the country. Its mountain and forest ecosystems are the source of more than 40 streams flowing to the adjacent lowlands and downstream areas. It also has hydroelectric dams and fertile land conducive for mechanized farming. Crop cultivation and livestock rearing are the two dominant economic activities in the rural areas.



Major Successes

PARTICIPATORY FOREST MANAGEMENT

Participatory Forest Management (PFM) is an encouraging practice of Forest User Associations (FUAs) in the eco-region. They are promoting the use of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP); However, there is a need to further develop the capacities of cooperatives in terms of financial, technical, and leadership skills.

Working Together

LEAD ACTORS IN THE LANDSCAPE

1. Bale Mountains National Park, managed by Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Agency
2. Bale Eco-Region Sustainable Management Programme (BERSMP) that jointly run by FARM-Africa, SOS Sahel Ethiopia and Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE) with the support of many Civil Societies (Frankfurt Zoological society, Population, Health and Environment Consortium, etc), and international/ bilateral funding institutions.
3. Participatory Forest Management activities that are run by Forest Users' Cooperatives under close support of Zonal and Woreda Offices of Agriculture, Land Administration and NGOs/CSO (Farm Africa/SOS Sahel, Frankfurt Zoological Society, Norwegian Embassy, GIZ (former GTZ).
4. Meda Welabo University and Sinana Agricultural Research Center

These actors are beginning to work together more to strengthen their collaboration. In particular, they are improving the capacities of the Agricultural and Rural Development Partners Liaison Advisory Council (ARDPLAC) platform to establish & lead an actors' platform at the landscape level.



Bohele Watershed Ethiopia

The Bohele Integrated Watershed is located in Tigray National Regional State and found in the Eastern Tigray Zone Administration. The landscape is composed of state forests upstream and agricultural lands downstream. The watershed is characterized by crop-livestock farming system, with major crops including wheat, barley, beans, and apples and key livestock species including cattle, sheep, and goats. Bohele is a part of the MERET project.



Major Successes

INTEGRATING ACTIVITIES

A good understanding of the concept of the Watershed planning team's integrated activities, the community's growing ownership and empowerment, and the leadership capacity of the Watershed Planning Team and Women to protect and manage the landscape while influencing neighboring Kebeles are some of the successes.

This creates a sense of ownership in the community and causes it to prioritize the protection of the environment. Control of free grazing and practicing stall feeding through development of fodder production enhances the integration of livestock in landscape management. Through the arrangement of user groups, communal resources and benefits are shared throughout the community. The rehabilitation of upstream areas results in the reduction of flooding and siltation, improving stream flows and the harvesting of water. Placing a strong environmental impact assessment (EIA), an environmental safety measuring frameworks (ESMF) and a joint M&E at the watershed scale are innovative practices in the landscape. In all of the activities, the youth are targeted to generate income for their livelihood. Rural infrastructure development is also a component of the landscape to improve health, water, education and transport services. All interventions are checked against their environmental impact by developing and monitoring the environmental indicators and their mitigation measures.

Working Together

COMMUNITY-AGREED BYLAWS BACKED BY ELDERS AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS

The landscape approach started with community awareness discussions and establishing watershed planning team that is responsible to lead the planning process and management of the landscape at community level. Community-agreed bylaws are institutionalized to control unsustainable actions and share benefits. The participation of elders and religious leaders are key to increasing community participation and enhance social values. Sectoral collaboration is fostered by establishing a Steering Committee composed of key government sectors and is responsible overseeing the overall landscape activities. A Technical Committee constituted of different sectors is also established to provide technical support to the Community Planning Team and harmonize sectoral objectives, integrate sectoral planning, and implementations. This collaboration mechanism helps to enhance bottom up planning.

My name is Birhane Etay Reda, and I am from Freweini, Tigray, Ethiopia. I have worked in Atsbi Wonberta, Tigray, Ethiopia for 4 and half years and before that worked 4 years in Endabaguna, Tigray, Ethiopia. Now I am working at Atsbi Wonberta, Tigray, Ethiopia as a coordinator of the Natural Resource Development Utilization And Protection Department and also as the Woreda Technical Team leader of Bohele Landscape/Watershed.

Voice From The Field

Birhane Etay
Reda





Ergi Watershed Ethiopia

The Ergi Integrated Watershed is located in the Awash basin at the boundary of the rift valley and upstream of Cheffa wetland in Amhara Regional State, Oromia Administration Zone at Dawa Cheffa woreda. The landscape consists of degraded shrub hills and agricultural lands in the upstream and wetlands in the downstream. The farming is dominantly sorghum-based crop-livestock farming system. Major crops include sorghum, teff, chickpea and livestock including cattle, goat and sheep.

Major Successes

NRM AND AGRICULTURE INTERVENTIONS

The landscape activities are focused on natural resources management and agricultural production in addition to income generating activities for youths. Some of the natural resource management activities include rehabilitation of degraded hills by controlling animal and human interference, constructing integrated biological and physical conservation of both soil and water on gullies and cultivated lands, and the constructing of ex-situ water harvesting ponds. Agriculture related interventions have been carried out with the introduction and promotion of improved crop and fodder varieties and fruit production, poultry production, and rearing and fattening of animals. To ensure the environmental safety of the integrated activities, environmental impact assessment is carried out prior to implementation.

Working Together

WATERSHED PLANNING COMMITTEE

Community participation and collaboration of different sectors are facilitated at grass root level through the Watershed Planning Committee, a platform composed of representatives from elders, youths, women, and public institutions at Kebele administration unit. This platform is in charge of integrated watershed planning and management. It is governed by the community agreed bylaws. In addition to the platform at community level, different sectors are collaborating for the integrated landscape management through a Technical Committee and a Steering Committee at district level. These platforms help to support planning and implementation and supervise the overall sectoral plans and their integrity.

Previously I was a development agent worker's at kebele level but now I am a natural recourse team leader at district level. My educational background is first degree in soil and water recourse management. I participate in micro watershed management especially in planning, organizing the watershed committee, providing training for both district and kebele experts, and also farmers in both practical and theoretical ways. I have around 12 years of work experience. I have two reasons to work in the landscape: the first one is to improve the micro climate of the landscape; and the second one is to improve the productivity of the land and to reduce the negative environmental impact of the landscape.

Voice From The Field

Fasika Hailu
Beshah



Humbo Carbon Landscape Ethiopia

The Humbo Carbon Landscape is found in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and People Regional State, Wolayita Administration Zone at Humbo Woreda. It lies on a continuous mountain chain shared by seven Kebele Administration units. The landscape is fully covered with forest and the people living in the foot slopes of the mountain chains depend on livestock and rainfed crop production, using mainly maize.

The landscape is home to the Humbo Carbon Project, started in 1996 through the Farmer Managed Natural Resource Regeneration (FMNR) approach with the support of World Vision International. Seven Forest Protection and Development Cooperatives were organized in 2006 and currently form a Union responsible for the rehabilitation and management of the forest landscape.



Landscape Profile

SIZE **2,728 ha**

POP. **<2000**

CLIMATE ***Tropical Wet & Dry***
PRODUCTION SYSTEMS
Livestock, Maize

Major Successes

FARMER-MANAGED NATURAL RESOURCE REGENERATION (FMNR)

The central focus of Humbo Carbon landscape operating through FMNR is to rehabilitate degraded forest areas and increase regeneration, reduce carbon emissions and increase carbon sequestration by closing degraded forest area. Therefore, the focus is to generate benefit from the sale of the carbon offset credit. While closing the degraded forest areas was the main activity, different strategies and interventions were also planned as alternative livelihood strategies. Among these interventions, SWC and the afforestation of abandoned degraded hills, zero grazing, planting of multipurpose trees and shrubs, nursery development for both trees and fruits, establishing woodlots and distributing energy saving stoves were implemented. While conserving the environment, there were efforts to integrate livelihood improvement options through livestock production, seed and fruit production and social services. Since the project area is a forest landscape, interventions related to agriculture is minimum. Thus, the level of understanding of ILM is mainly focused on conservation of the forest biodiversity and sequester carbon.

Working Together

TRIPLE-WIN FROM CARBON COLLABORATION

The landscape approach in Humbo is focused on farmer-led forest protection and development/carbon interventions. The approach provides a triple point benefit from the carbon project: carbon sequestration, land management, and livelihood improvement.

There are successes related to the transformation of the landscape from barren to green mountain which resulted in the regeneration of indigenous vegetation, re-establishing habitat for wild animals, reduction of soil erosion and improving infiltration on foot slope areas, adaptation of multipurpose trees and shrubs, and the dramatic increase in annual carbon sequestration from above ground woody biomass from 6.1 t CO₂/ha/yr to 30.9 t CO₂ /ha/yr. An additional benefit generated from closed forest landscape is the huge amount of grass biomass harvest for animal feed, sale, and house construction. These achievements help cooperatives provide income from the carbon trade (Birr 6,050,557.9 transferred to the cooperatives), which is used by the members for establishing a saving and credit association and other infrastructures such as flour mill, grain store, retail shop for basic industrial items, developing potable water sources, etc. Cooperative members also benefited from sale of grass, tree seed, honey, and fuel wood (braches). The landscape is used as experience sharing and learning ground for schools and visitors from different areas.

I graduated with a BSc in Natural Resource Management from Wolaita Sodo University. I have over four years of experience on the coordination of natural resource development and management and also the coordination of all activity in the Humbo Carbon Project which was the first carbon project in Africa. Integrated landscape Management is important to me because it brings together human needs in a way that's sustainable for the future generation while giving additional income and improving the livelihood of the people who use it. It integrates upstream and downstream needs with in one landscape. This landscape is a unique project in both Ethiopia and Africa which has widespread benefits.

Voice From The Field

**Meseret Bekele
Toma**
Humbo Carbon Project



Lake Tana Ethiopia

The Lake Tana Sub-Basin is located in the Amhara National Regional State and across four Zonal Administrations. The landscape drains 4 major rivers: Gilgel Abay, Reb, Gumara, and Megech. The lake is buffered by a large flood plain (wetland) in almost all directions. Lake Tana is a source of the great River Abbay (Blue Nile) and more than 40 streams, linking to the hydro politics of the Nile Basin. The lake is home to more than 20 famous monasteries of the 14th Century and a total of 37 islands, as well as more than 200 bird species.

Lake Tana Sub Basin hosts many kinds of ecosystems including varieties of aquatic, wetland, dry evergreen montane forest and evergreen scrub, montane grassland, sub Afroalpine, and Afroalpine nature. The diversity of ecosystems together with factors such as rainfall pattern and altitudinal range make the landscape very important in congregating rich biodiversity (wildlife and domesticated), some endemic and some threatened.

The landscape is a development corridor for the national economy, as it has great potentials for irrigation, hydroelectric power, water supply, paddy rice, high value crops and livestock production, transportation, (eco-) tourism attractions and others. More than 40 major actors are involved in the landscape, including actors from Government, Projects, NGOs, CSOs, Community Associations, Investors, Enterprises, Universities, Research Institutes, and Donors.



Major Successes

BIOSPHERE RESERVE RECOGNITION

Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU) in collaboration with the regional Bureau of Culture, Tourism, and Parks Development developed a holistic study document of the Lake Tana Biosphere Reserve that enabled the submission of a registration application to UNESCO for recognition, produced valuable knowledge about the need for protecting, managing, and developing resources of the sub-basin, and produced a management plan for the aforementioned biosphere reserve.

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES

Over 15 organizations are involved in the watershed management and are engaged in management of protected areas and participatory forest management including REDD+ initiatives. Successes of these management initiatives in the landscape are related to the ongoing upstream watershed community participatory development, irrigation development, hydropower development, increasing practices of eco-tourism, and increased production of rice and its contribution to food security and household income.

Working Together

TANA SUB-BASIN DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Together with stakeholders, Tana Sub-basin Organization (TaSBO) is developing a sub-basin development plan. TaSBO is also strengthening and establishing hydrological monitoring stations. A 1:20000 scale draft Sub-basin land use plan was developed by Amhara Design and Supervision Works Enterprise (ADSWE).

Landscape actors are now promoting the benefit of more integrated and collaborative planning, implementation, and monitoring of activities to achieve integrated landscape management. Different sectors, project based Steering platforms, NGOs, CSOs, and stakeholders have recommended to institutionalize an integrative actors' platform with authoritative power.

I believe that Lake Tana landscape is a very sensitive landscape which every one should be concerned about, and integrating all stakeholders around the landscape is very crucial. I currently work in the Amhara National Regional State office of the President, having spent the last two decades in various positions of regional government leadership. Passionate about my landscape, I studied land management, obtaining a Master of Science in land administration from the International Institute For Geo-Information Science And Earth Observation (ITC) in the Netherlands in 2010.

Voice From The Field

Assefa Belay
Amhara National
Regional State Office of
The President



Wichi Wetland Ethiopia

The Wichi Wetland is located in Oromia National Regional State Zone, Ilu Aba Bora Administration Zone in Metu Woreda. The landscape crosses five Kebeles (Ale Buya, Burusa, Tulube, Boto, and Adele Bise). It is characterized with mixed crop-livestock and silvi-culture farming. Maize, coffee, livestock and honey are major livelihood sources. The center of focus of integrated watershed/landscape management in the Wichi landscape is protecting the wetland ecosystem from overgrazing, depletion of water, and loss of biodiversity.



Landscape Profile

SIZE **8,149 ha**

POP. **13,086**

CLIMATE **Tropical Wet & Dry**
PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

**Maize, Coffee,
Livestock, Honey**

Major Successes

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND INCENTIVE MECHANISMS

The main reason behind the success of Wichi watershed and wetland management was the intensive capacity development and incentive mechanisms through the awareness creation, training, and amount of input provided to the community, leaders and experts. One example to show the understanding of ILM is that, previously wetlands were considered as wastelands and there were programs to drain and convert these lands into cultivated land. Today, wetlands are considered as an important resource in the area by farmers, experts and administrators.

VETIVER GRASS

Another success was the Introduction of Vetiver grass (a multi purpose grass) for soil and water conservation. Vetiver hedgerow planting is a way to rehabilitate and control soil erosion. Between 2005 and 2007, 820 kilometers of Fanya juu, 70.80 kms of soil bund, 4.65 kilometers of waterway, and 25.5 kilometers of cut-off drain were constructed within Wichi Micro Watershed over 1018 hectares. To further address problems, EWNRA established two nursery sites in the micro watershed and raised more than 2,000,000 Vetiver tillers which have been distributed and planted. Vetiver is also a strategy for diversifying income sources, as producers sell the grass and clumps. Stakeholders are now exploring additional market linkages for Vetiver.

Working Together

INTEGRATION OF DIFFERENT SECTORS, ACTORS AND ISSUES, FROM THE START

To achieve wetland ecosystem restoration, first the understanding of integration of different ecosystem services (upstream and downstream) and collaboration of actors was necessary. When the Wichi Integrated Wetland-Watershed Management Project was initiated by the Ethiopian Wetland and Natural Resources Association (EWNRA) in 2005, it started with the understanding of integration of different sectors, actors and issues. It aimed to address environment, livelihood, health and energy objectives. It began with stakeholders' dialogue to bring all the concerned to understand the problem and initiate a solution. Participatory planning, setting monitoring rules, embarking actions of soil conservation (upland terracing, Vetiver planting, establishing woodlots, protecting wetland etc.), and livelihood improvement activities (potable water, energy saving stoves, saving & credit, family planning and sanitation) were set initially.

Participatory and sectoral collaborations were initiated by establishing a legitimate watershed committee at the Kebele level and formulating community agreed bylaws to protect wetlands from grazing and over-utilization. In addition, each watershed committee of individual Kebeles monitored conservation activities across Kebeles through periodic meeting and reporting. Woreda administration and experts also take part during monitoring activities. The Saving and Credit associations and also the water supply and sanitation and hygiene (WASH) committee are some of the other strong institutions that enhance participation and collaboration of actors.

I am a rural development professional working as a head of the Woreda Irrigation Development Authority in the Metu Woreda of Ilu Aba Bora Zone. I have worked as a development agent, development agent supervisor, and agricultural extension service process owner in a governmental organization and also served as a natural resources specialist in the Ethio-Wetlands and Natural Resources Association for about five years where I was involved on the implementation of Wichi wetland watershed project. I pursued a MSc in rural development and my research was on a grass called vetiver, used for mitigating lots of problems in natural resource degradation and climate change. I have over one decade of experience on different aspects of rural development.

**Voice From
The Field**
**Getahun
Legesse**

Metu Woreda Irrigation
Development Authority



Maasai Steppe Tanzania

The Maasai Steppe landscape stretches over 8 districts in Arusha and Manyara regions. A large part of the landscape is semi arid, with inhabitants growing predominantly maize and beans. Agriculture and livestock form the main sources of livelihood. The Maasai Steppe is a semi-arid grassland with predominantly acacia woodlands in the low-lying areas and Miombo woodlands in the hills rising in the southwest towards Kondo District. Two national parks – Tarangire and Lake Manyara – provide core habitat for elephant, lion, wildebeest, zebra, giraffe, buffalo, oryx, and a host of other species and are a major tourist attraction. Maasai pastoralists graze livestock throughout the landscape, though subsistence rain-fed farming is an increasingly common practice. Water is key for wildlife and people alike, and the Tarangire River which flows from the hills in Kondo to Tarangire National Park provides water for communities along the way and for wildlife during the dry seasons. Maasai Steppe is part of AWF's African Heartlands network.



Landscape Profile

SIZE **2,224,410 ha**

POP. **611,446**

CLIMATE **Savanna**

PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Beans, Livestock, Maize



Major Successes

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

AWF has engaged in landscape scale conservation in the Maasai Steppe for nearly two decades. Our work started with building a strategic vision for the landscape and supporting the National Parks to become robust conservation areas with world class tourism opportunities. With the core areas conserved, we then focused on building linkages in community lands through the establishment of six Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) which are designed to provide communities with tangible benefits in exchange for maintaining wildlife habitat in village lands.

TOURISM SUPPORT AND BENEFIT-SHARING

Support provided to the National parks of Tarangire and Lake Manyara in terms of infrastructure and capacity development opened up new attractions which have made these two parks major destinations, with an increase of over 100% both in numbers of visitors and revenue. Wildlife management areas have been established, though their benefits are yet to be adequately felt at the household level.

Working Together

TARANGIRE MANYARA NATRON KILIMANJARO ECOSYSTEM WORKING GROUP

The people in the landscape work together through day-to-day cooperation in the establishment and management of conservation areas including the WMAs, forests, and parks. Village game and forest scouts collaborate with District officials, villages, the Wildlife Division, the Tanzanian National Parks Association (TANAPA), and research organizations such as the School for Field Studies to carry out biological assessments, protect crops from raiding wildlife, and counter poaching operations. Tour operators contribute revenues to conservation, assist in anti-poaching operations, and source products and services from communities in the landscape.

Representatives from stakeholder groups come together on a bi-annual basis in the Tarangire Manyara Natron Kilimanjaro Ecosystem Working Group to share experiences, learn from one another, and develop strategies for overcoming challenges they face. These meetings have been raising issues which have in some cases influenced a change in decision making. For example, when the over-hunting of Gerenuk became a problem, resolutions of this meeting were sent to the Director of wildlife and hunting quotas were established.

I am a Tanzanian aged 32, and holder of an Advanced Diploma in Wildlife Management from the College of African Wildlife Management in Mweka, Tanzania. My working experience has largely been with Community Based Organizations (Manyara Ranch Pastoral Association and Randilen Wildlife Management Area) for the past five years, mainly dealing with formulation and supervision of revolving loans fund (micro credit) initiatives for pastoral communities, sensitizing local communities on livestock breeds improvement, conservation education and anti-poaching operations. My professional training in natural resource management, rural development and community empowerment motivates me to confidently work within the Maasai Steppe landscape.

Voice From The Field

Meshurie Melebuki

Manyara Ranch Livestock and Pastoralist Association (MRALIPA)

Mbeya Tanzania

The Mbeya region is located on the western reaches of the Southern Highlands of Tanzania. This agricultural landscape is very important for the livelihoods of the local communities. It supports livestock and crop production as well as the conservation of natural resources. This region is among the most important in the country for agriculture, particularly for its rice, which is recognized for its superior quality throughout Tanzania. The upper catchments of the landscapes are water towers that benefit users downstream. High population growth and expansion of agriculture have contributed to environmental degradation, water scarcity, and social conflicts. Climate change has added more challenges, especially due to rainfall variability, with resultant food insecurity. Innovative ways of intensifying the production crops and management of livestock that also takes into consideration biodiversity conservation will lead to sustainable management of landscape.



Landscape Profile

SIZE **6,242,000 ha**
POP. **2.7 million**
CLIMATE **Tropical Wet & Dry**
PRODUCTION SYSTEMS
Honey, Livestock, Rice

Major Successes

MBEYA INNOVATION PLATFORM

An innovation platform has been established to address the challenges in the Mbeya landscape: Steps used in the innovation platform included:

1. Identification of stakeholders
2. Landscape awareness creation
3. Identification the IALM innovation and prioritization
4. Development of operational mechanisms
5. Learning and capacity strengthening in readiness for implementing the innovation
6. Implementation the IALM innovation

BUILDING ENTHUSIASM WITH MAPS

A workshop held in Mbeya in March 2013, led by EcoAgriculture Partners, the Environmental Resource Management Center for Sustainable Development (ERMCS D) and the Cornell Ecoagriculture Working Group aimed to tackle integrated planning to address the landscape's challenges. With support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the team brought together local leaders from diverse sectors in Mbeya to begin discussing the types of technical and institutional innovations that could help to green agricultural development in this part of Tanzania's southern highlands, using spatial planning to deepen understanding of the "why there?" dimension of landscape management.

In all, the groups identified 50 innovations to 'green' agriculture within several overlapping themes; crop and livestock production, biodiversity conservation, markets and marketing approaches, institutional and policy mechanisms, and knowledge, planning and learning systems. To take the next steps in planning the innovations, participants selected priority innovations – ones that had an appropriate technology, and were economically viable, socially acceptable, and environmentally sustainable.

Working Together

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN INNOVATION PLATFORM

The innovation platform is essential for facilitating coordination and common understanding of integrated landscape management. Community participation is also critical to foster implementation of the agreed actions.

The Mbeya landscape includes the following categories of stakeholders:

1. Civil society organizations
2. Public & private sectors
3. Local farm communities and umbrella farmer organizations
4. International organizations (e.g. EcoAgriculture Partners, AWF)





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