

Harnessing the potential of trees on farms for meeting national and global biodiversity targets

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Protected areas alone are inadequate for preventing biodiversity loss in much of the world.

'Sustainable management' of the entire landscape, including agriculturally productive areas is needed.

Aichi Target 7: 'area of agricultural ecosystems under sustainable management' reflects the well-established cause-effect relationship between the presence of resources-conserving, sustainable, management practices and improvements in biodiversity status.



Project goal

Increasing the number of trees on farms helps conserve and restore biodiversity and improves agricultural productivity. We work with communities, governments and NGOs to promote this approach in Honduras, Indonesia, Peru, Rwanda and Uganda.



Activities

1. Increase our knowledge of the links between trees, agriculture and biodiversity
2. Provide tools for practitioners, operational road maps and investment scenarios for five countries
3. Prepare a biodiversity assessment tool to measure the contribution of trees on farms to biodiversity and sustainability
4. Assess a range of funding and investment options for increasing investment in trees in agriculture
5. Help create road maps and business plans for local partners
6. Through this, we will help countries achieve Aichi Target 7: 'By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity'



Implementing organization

Global: International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF/ World Agroforestry).
Uganda: ICRAF



Partner institutions

National Environment Management Authority; Ministry of Water and Environment.
Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza, Costa Rica; Center for International Forestry Research, Indonesia; Georg August Universität, Göttingen, Germany; International Union for Conservation of Nature, Switzerland; Leibniz Universität, Hannover, Germany.



National

- National Environment Management Authority
- Ministry of Water and Environment, Forest Sector Support Department
- Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries
- National Forestry Authority
- National Forestry Resources Research Institute
- Uganda Forestry Working Group
- Environment and Natural Resources Sector Working Group: Environmental Alert
- Uganda National Farmers Federation
- Makerere University
- Vi Agroforestry
- International Union for Conservation of Nature

Sub-National

- Ministry of Water and Environment, Forest Sector Support Department (Eastern Regional Office)
- District forestry services
- Mt Elgon Stakeholders Forum
- District governments (both production and natural resources' departments)
- District farmers' associations

Predominant land-use systems in the Mt Elgon landscape

- Coffee-banana system
- Annual cropping systems
- Woodlot system (timber/fuelwood/poles), predominantly eucalyptus
- Riparian agriculture: needs restoration work

Any action on the four land-use systems must aim to reach our overarching goal, which is to maintain or increase the biodiversity values of the systems.



UGANDA: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Targets for Trees on Farms

| | Study site | Land-use system | Targets for trees on farms |
|--------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Uganda | Mt Elgon Landscape | Coffee and banana system | Maintain or integrate at least 30% of indigenous tree species on farmlands in the coffee and banana system |
| | | Annual cropping system | Increase tree cover at landscape level without interfering with farm operations |
| | | Woodlots for poles/fuel/timber | Guided and systematic tree integration in various forms |
| | | Riparian/riverbank stabilization | Alternative species to eucalyptus promoted leading to a diversified woodlot system |
| | | | Trees used to restore riparian reserves within the existing legal country context |

OPTIONS MANUAL - April 2020 – October 2020



- Must address best agronomic practices for Uganda, focusing more on selected preferred attributes and only listing examples of appropriate species (compare with IITA Shade Tree Tool)
- Work with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Water and Environment to identify a consultant and terms of reference

| Land-use system | Measure of success | Stakeholders | Action to take | Timeline |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------|
| Coffee-Banana System | Indigenous trees maintained or integrated | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries • Ministry of Water and Environment • District local governments • District farmers' associations • ECOTRUST • Mt Elgon Tree Growing Enterprise | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange a high-level meeting for the parliamentary committees on natural resources and agriculture. • Engage Members of Parliament and other policy makers on how the Ministry of Water and Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries are working singly and in collaboration to champion the project's agenda | March – April 2020 |
| | | Private-sector players | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise private-sector players involved in the coffee value chain to come together under the Mt Elgon Stakeholders Forum to discuss sustainable coffee production in the Mt Elgon landscape and encourage them to focus on certification and speciality coffee production for the European Union market. Focus areas should be climate resilience, livelihoods and biodiversity • Conduct a literature review and analyse the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture Shade Tree Tool (http://www.shadetreadvice.org/) • Prepare a joint proposal with IUCN on sustainable coffee production in Mt Elgon | March – April 2020 |
| Annual Cropping Systems | Increased tree cover at landscape level without interfering with farm operations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries, Ministry of Water and Environment • District governments • District farmers' associations • Civil-society organisations (ECOTRUST, Mt Elgon Tree Growing Enterprise) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a practical and easily readable trees on farms' options manual for Uganda focusing on various land-use systems • Develop policy briefs and papers on the options manual • Develop a Review Paper on trees on farms in line with the Government definition ('farm forestry') and other terminologies ('restoration', 'agroforestry') | April 2020 – October 2020 |
| Woodlots for Poles/Fuel/Timber | Systematic tree integration in various forms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environment Management Authority • Uganda Biodiversity Trust Fund • Sawlog Production Grant Scheme • National Forestry Authority • District Forest Services • Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a trade-off analysis of the economic, social and environmental benefits of monocultural eucalyptus, other species and mixed-species' woodlots in landscapes • Identify growth rates of other species through literature reviews and expert consultations (use of Sawlog Production Grant Scheme and tree growers) • Conduct a review of Sawlog Production Grant Scheme guidelines with the view of integrating other species in the nurseries and plantations' portfolio • Discuss with the European Union a potential project on how to integrate smallholders into formal timber and pole value chains | November 2019 through 2020 |
| Riparian/Riverbank stabilisation | Alternative species to eucalyptus promoted, leading to a diversified woodlot system | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environment Management Authority • Uganda Biodiversity Trust Fund • Sawlog Production Grant Scheme • National Forestry Authority • District Forest Services • Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a trade-off analysis to understand the economic impact on users of enforcing the riverbank law • Understand challenges and opportunities to changing land uses to agroforestry systems that meet the needs of the people • Analyse the incentives required to make the switch and mechanisms for managing short, medium- and long-term losses | July – December 2020 |
| | Fully restored riparian reserves with laws fully implemented | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Water and Environment • National Environment Management Authority • Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a trade-off analysis to understand the economic impact on users of enforcing the riverbank law • Understand challenges and opportunities to changing land uses to agroforestry systems that meet the needs of the people • Analyse the incentives required to make the switch and mechanisms for managing short, medium- and long-term losses | July – December 2020 |



Duration: 12/2017 – 11/2021



Website: <https://treesonfarmsforbiodiversity.com>



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