Challenges of farming systems design in the drylands of Africa and Asia

Cases of the “Transformational agroecology across food, land, and water systems”

By
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Transformational agroecology across food, land, and water systems

5 WORKPACKAGES

WP1: transdisciplinary co-creation of innovations in Agroecological Living Labs

WP2: Evidence-based agroecology assessments

WP3: Inclusive business models and financing strategies

WP4: strengthening the policy- and institutional-enabling environment

WP 5: Understanding and influencing agency and behavior change

Objectives of the Initiative

- Create an understanding of mechanisms to drive behavioral change of farmers and consumers needed to implement agroecological transformation.
- Co-develop business models and financing modalities, linking bundled agroecological innovations to markets and investment.
- Support scale-out and continuous innovation for agroecological transitions in geographically-targeted food systems.
- Co-develop a knowledge-base that supports implementation of context appropriate agroecological innovations.
- Develop and scale agroecological innovations for small-scale farmers and other agricultural and food-system actors across different socio-ecological contexts.
- Promote recommendations to affect the cross-sectoral policy integration required to mainstream agroecological principles.

Primary Action Area: System transformation

Geographic scope: South Asia, Africa, Latin America

Total Budget: 6.8 millions / year

Adaptive scaling strategies

Science based evidences

Co-creation of innovations

7 countries
### Outcomes

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

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<tr>
<th>Co-creation of innovations</th>
<th>Science-based evidence</th>
<th>Adaptive scaling strategies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WP1: Transdisciplinary co-creation of innovations in ALLs</td>
<td>WP2: Evidence-based agroecology assessments</td>
<td>WP3: Inclusive business models and financing strategies</td>
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<td>• FSA collaborate with researchers in an International network of ALLs, that promote integration of research and innovation processes to facilitate co-design and testing context-specific agroecological innovations and broader learning of the biophysical and socio-economic conditions required for agroecological transitions</td>
<td>• FSA use knowledge gained from science-based assessments, implemented in all the ALLs, to implement agroecological innovations that are economically viable, environmentally sound and socially inclusive</td>
<td>• FSA participate in at least one strategic business partnership established in each ALL that leads to the co-development or adaptation of business models linking agroecological innovations to markets</td>
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<td>• FSA re-orient or adjust their strategies and action plans based on knowledge gained from scientific studies about the mechanisms underpinning behavior change and the capacity of farmers, business partners and consumers to implement agroecological transformation</td>
<td>• FSA co-design or adapt financial mechanisms that support agroecological innovations</td>
<td>• National and regional policymakers and representatives of sectoral organizations co-develop and promote recommendations to effectuate horizontal (across sectors) and vertical (across scales) policy integration required to mainstream agroecological principles</td>
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| WP4: Strengthening the policy- and institutional-enabling environment |
| • National and regional policymakers and representatives of sectoral organizations co-develop, strengthen, or adjust current local institutions and governance mechanisms to better support agroecological transitions in each ALL. |
## Targets

<table>
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<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
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| The Number of FSA engaged in the co-creation of agroecological innovations | • 250 national and international researchers  
• 7,000 farmers  
• 70 policymakers  
• 35 private-sector companies |
| The Number of policies/ strategies/ laws/ regulations/ budgets/ investments/ curricula (and similar) at different scales that were modified in design or implementation, with evidence that the change was informed by CGIAR research. | • 7 Business models  
• 7 Financial Mechanisms  
• 4 country policy integrations  
• 4 country institutional arrangements  
• 7 country behavioral strategies |

• 7 peer reviewed publications