

Project Title: Restoration of degraded land for food security and poverty reduction in East Africa and the Sahel: taking successes in land restoration to scale

Project Goal and Impact Pathway

Project goal is to reduce food insecurity and improve livelihoods of poor people living in African drylands by restoring degraded land and returning it to effective and sustainable tree, crop and livestock production, thereby increasing land profitability as well as landscape and livelihood resilience.

Research 'in' development model embraced in this project integrates the impact pathway (Figure 1) through a 'co-learning' engagement cycle with development partners, influencing the way they interact with smallholder farmers and thereby accelerating impact.

Our theory of change recognises variation in context from the outset, characterises this and embeds trials of options across an appropriate range of context to determine what ingredients work where and for whom.

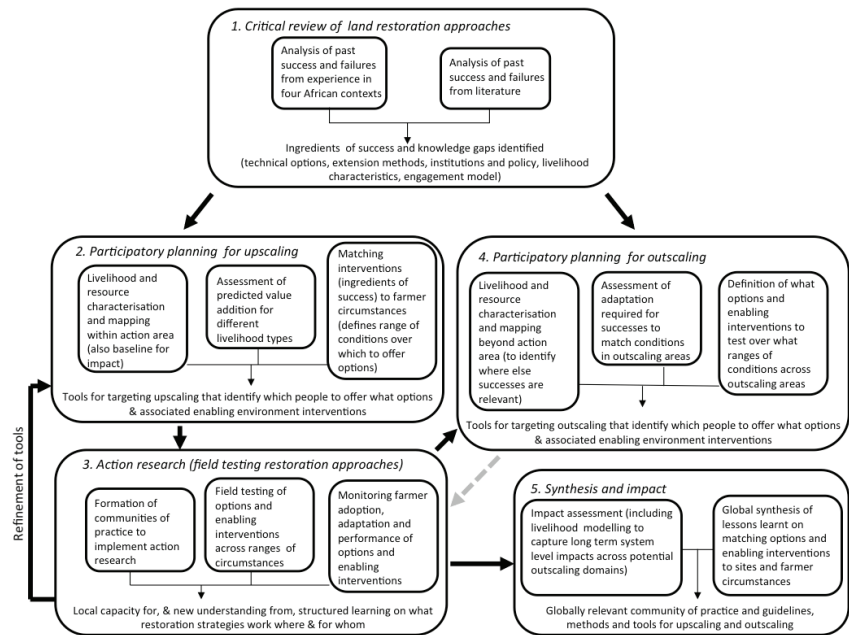


Figure 1: Iterative Impact Pathway.

Specific Project Outputs

- 1) Ingredients of success and gaps in knowledge of land restoration techniques and approaches in the drylands.
- 2) Tools for targeting up-scaling land restoration activities, for use by organisations, to help them to select appropriate land restoration options and match options to sites and farmer circumstances.
- 3) Enhanced understanding about what land restoration approaches work, by how much, where and for whom.
- 4) Tools for targeting out-scaling land restoration activities and options.
- 5) Nested communities of practice with tools, methods and guidelines for taking land restoration to scale. These active networks include land restoration practitioners at international, regional, national and local scales.

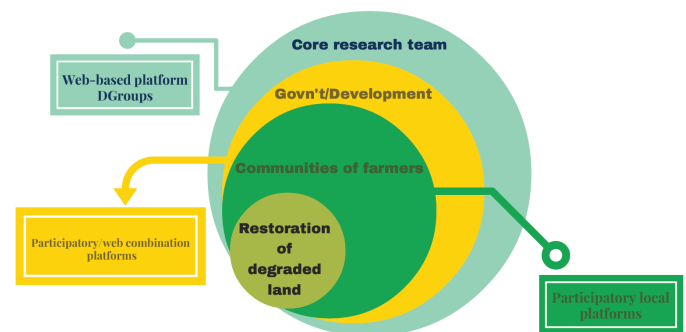


Figure 2: Nested Communities of Practice.

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Project Action Areas and Partners

The project action countries include: Niger, Mali, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Kenya (Figure 3). The ultimate target group is small-scale farmers and agro-pastoralists in Africa's drylands who are vulnerable to environmental and economic shocks as a result of land degradation and desertification.

The project collaborates with IFAD Country Programmes, such as:

- Kenya Cereal Enhancement Programme (KCEP) targeting small-holders in seven ASAL (arid and semi-arid land) counties in Kenya
- Community-based Integrated Natural Resources Management Project (CBINReMP) - Gonder region of Ethiopia
- Fostering Agricultural Productivity/Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture (PAPAM/ASAP) in Mali
- Programme de Développement de l'agriculture familiale (ProDAF) dans les regions de Maradi, Tahoua et Zinder in Niger

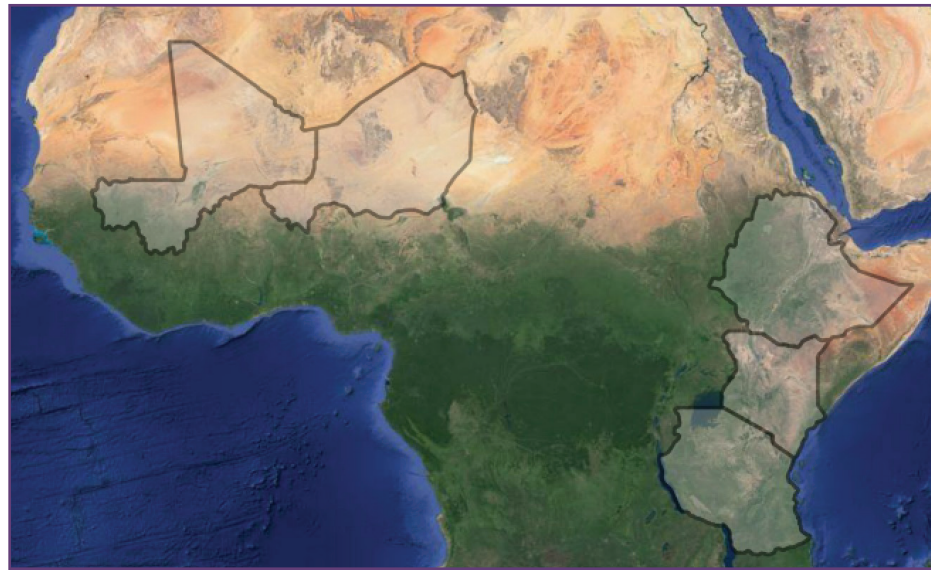


Figure 3: The five project action countries.

The project also collaborates with Development Partners and Programmes, including the Drylands Development Programme (drydev.org) which operates in Niger, Mali, Kenya, Ethiopia and Burkina Faso. The project will provide complimentary tools, trainings and monitoring of land restoration options through the implementation of planned comparisons across the action countries.

The project works through an iterative capacity strengthening or 'co-learning' cycle with national and development partners, constructing a durable platform that embeds research within development practice and equips national systems to address land degradation at scale. The project is designed to operate through bringing key partners from the public and private sectors, across research, extension, market, and governance institutions to work together in an iterative co-learning cycle, where options are tested against context and lessons learnt fed back into the cycle.



Visit our project website here:

<http://www.worldagroforestry.org/project/restoration-degraded-land-food-security-and-poverty-reduction-east-africa-and-sahel-taking>

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