



Programme

Up- and Out-scaling Sustainable Land Management and Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality

WOCAT Symposium and Field Day

Ethiopia, 13 to 14 May 2019

Meeting Invitation and Thematic Scope

The Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia, CIAT, WLRC and WOCAT jointly invite participants to the WOCAT Symposium and the field day. The aim of the event is to bring together a wide range of WOCAT members and stakeholders to share and discuss their experiences and findings on how WOCAT has been used in the past and how it could be used in the future for up- and out-scaling Sustainable Land Management and for achieving Land Degradation Neutrality and other Sustainable Development Goals. From the perspective of WOCAT, this meeting will be also very crucial to pave the way forward beyond the end of the current WOCAT phase in 2019. With WOCAT being externally evaluated in the first half of this year, the meeting will provide a major foundation for this evaluation.

The WOCAT Symposium has its thematic focus on ‘Up- and Out-scaling Sustainable Land Management and Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality’. Sustainable Land Management (SLM) provides the foundation for ensuring food security, climate change adaptation and mitigation, preventing and reducing natural disasters, and maintaining and protecting biodiversity. SLM therefore is essential for preventing and reducing land degradation, and for restoring degraded land. As such, SLM can be considered a key element for achieving the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development - particularly for SDG 15 on sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and SDG target 15.3 on Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) (ICCD/COP(12)/20/Add.1:decision 3/COP.12, UNCCD COP12) - as well as in the LDN initiative by the UNCCD.

The LDN initiative is intended for countries to halt the ongoing loss of healthy land caused by degradation which affects more than 3.2 billion people (IPBES 2018). LDN creates a target for managing land degradation, through a dual-pronged approach of measures to avoid or reduce degradation of land, combined with measures to reverse past degradation. Many countries have set LDN targets which they will need to achieve by 2030. Countries all over the world must take action for halting and reversing land degradation in order to protect and sustain ecosystem services and biodiversity and to ensure human well-being, contributing to achieving the SDGs.

WOCAT (the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies www.wocat.net) as a global network of SLM specialists contributes to SLM and LDN by sharing and evaluating knowledge and promoting the use of standardized methods and tools to document and evaluate SLM in view of evidence-based decision-making. The Global SLM Database of WOCAT (<https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/>) is recognized by the UNCCD as the primary recommended database for best practices on SLM.

Programme Structure:

Part 1: WOCAT Symposium – Monday 13 May 2019 (1 day)

Main goal:

To learn about innovative and proven approaches and initiatives towards up- and out-scaling SLM and achieving LDN and define ways for integrating existing methods and tools and expertise from countries and partners, to use synergies and achieve results more effectively. The Symposium is open to all interested institutions and experts.

Main topics:

1 Dealing with drivers. How to address hindering factors and take advantage of opportunities for upscaling SLM and achieving LDN?

- Present and discuss the factors and drivers that determine whether SLM can be up- and out-scaled and LDN achieved and reflect on how they can be identified, analysed and addressed in order to turn them into opportunities. Consider a wide spectrum of enabling and hindering conditions and scaling instruments such as socio-economic aspects, policy context, economy and value chains, knowledge management, and other aspects that are relevant in this regard.

2 Innovative pathways. How to integrate innovative SLM and LDN pathways into successful up- and out-scaling initiatives?

- Present and discuss concrete examples of tested pathways and approaches, including methods and tools, their implementation and impacts, and their ability to foster scaling of SLM and achievement of LDN. Discuss and identify ways on how they can be harmonized to achieve the best possible results more effectively.

3 Community of practice. How can WOCAT, partner organizations and other institutions work better together to support the up- and outscaling of SLM and achieving LDN?

- WOCAT, partner organizations and other institutions will present ongoing and planned initiatives in support of scaling SLM and achieving LDN, and discuss and identify possible synergies and strategic partnerships for achieving better results more effectively.

In addition to the thematic contributions, there will be a launch of the new product of the 'Sustainable rangeland management in Sub-Saharan Africa - Guidelines to good practice'.

Part 2: Field day – Tuesday 14 May 2019 (1 day)

A field day to showcase successful SLM implementation and achievements and impacts of applying WOCAT tools and methods in Ethiopia will be organized by the Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia, CIAT and WLRC.

Venue

The WOCAT Symposium and the 19th WOCAT Network Meeting (WNM) will be held at

Nexus Hotel
Gerji Mebrathaile Street
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia
Tel: +251-116-670-067
Fax: +251 11 667 0081
Website: <https://nexusaddis.com/>

Date

Monday 13 May - Tuesday 14 May 2019

Language of event

The language of the event will be English. Spanish-English translation will be provided.

Organiser / Host

The WOCAT Symposium and the field day will be hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia and jointly organized by the Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia, CIAT, WLRC and the WOCAT Secretariat.

We look much forward to your participation. Your participation and input in this meeting is important for shaping the future of WOCAT and its support to upscale SLM and achieve LDN!

Yours truly,

The meeting organisers

Ministry of Agriculture, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Ethiopia

Water and Land Resource Centre (WLRC), Ethiopia

WOCAT Secretariat, Centre for Development and Environment, University of Berne,
Switzerland

PROGRAMME

Sunday 12 May 2019 - Arrival and Dinner

Any time Arrival and check-in at your hotel

18:30 – 19:30 *Dinner at Hotel Nexus*

Monday 13 May 2019 - WOCAT Symposium:

Up- and Out-scaling Sustainable Land Management and Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality

Venue: Hotel Nexus

07:30 – 08:30 *Breakfast at your hotel*

08:00 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:10 **Welcome and opening by organisers**
Hanspeter Liniger, WOCAT Director, Switzerland and Habtamu Hailu,
Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopia

09:10 – 09:25 **Opening address by host**
H.E Dr. Kaba Urgessa, State Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopia

09:25 – 09:40 **Introduction to the WOCAT Symposium**
Hanspeter Liniger, WOCAT Director, Switzerland

09:40 – 10:00 **Group photo and coffee break**

Topic 1: Dealing with drivers: how to address hindering factors and take advantage of opportunities for upscaling SLM and achieving LDN

Chair: Sanjeev Bhuchar, ICIMOD WOCAT focal point, Nepal

Rapporteur: Renate Fleiner, WOCAT Coordinator, Switzerland

10:00 – 10:05 Introduction to the topic by chair

10:05 – 10:15 An assessment of land degradation drivers and provable SLM solutions for Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) areas of Bangladesh, by Md. Fazlay Arafat, FAO, Bangladesh

10:15 – 10:25 Scaling SLM in Uganda's degradation hotspots: Addressing drivers, knowledge management gaps and opportunities, by Joy Tukahirwa, Uganda Landcare Network, Uganda

10:25 – 10:55 Panel Discussion with speakers on topic 1, with Q&A

10:55 - 11:00 Wrap-up and conclusion on key points by chair

Topic 2: Innovative pathways: how to integrate innovative SLM and LDN pathways into successful up- and out-scaling initiatives?

Chair: Godert van Lynden, ISRIC WOCAT focal point, The Netherlands

Rapporteur: Renate Fleiner, WOCAT Coordinator, Switzerland

- 11:00 – 11:05 Introduction to the topic by chair
- 11:05 – 11:15 Combining Earth Observation and Expert Knowledge to support indicator reporting on land productivity dynamics in the 2030 development agenda, by César Luis Garcia, CONICET, Argentina
- 11:15 – 11:25 Importance of monitoring the impacts of technologies on soils as a tool for SLM scaling up, by Carolina Olivera, FAO, Colombia
- 11:25 – 11:35 Learning Watersheds towards a SLM pathway, by Gizaw Desta Gessesse, WLRC, Ethiopia
- 11:35 – 11:45 Scaling out of SLM in drought-prone and salt affected landscapes: tested pathways and approaches of the GEF/FAO/WOCAT DS-SLM project in Uzbekistan, by Gulchekhra Khasankhanova, Design and Research Institute UZGIP, Uzbekistan
- 11:45 – 11:55 Model Training Course in Moscow Lomonosov State University on SLM for LDN decision-making, by Olga Andreeva, Institute of Geography of Russian Academy of Sciences, Russian Federation
- 11:55 – 12:25 Panel Discussion with speakers on topic 2, with Q&A
- 12:25 – 12:30 Wrap-up and conclusion on key points by chair

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00 – 15:15 Poster Session (in groups)

Chair: Gizaw Desta Gessesse, WLRC, Ethiopia

Rapporteurs: tbd

- Working with extension workers to scaling up SLM in Lao PDR, by Bounthanom Bouahom, National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute, Laos
 - Investigating wetland sustainability using integrated modeling techniques: a case of Fogera floodplain wetlands, by Shumeta Amaled Assefa, Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopia
 - SLMP – A solution to land degradation in Oromia and Ethiopia, by Mohammed Haji Alula, Oromia Bureau of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Ethiopia
 - Adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture and SLM Technologies for Integrated Landscape Management in Ethiopia, by Melaku Tadesse Gebresellasiye, German Development Cooperation, Ethiopia
 - Experiences from the implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative, Elvis Paul Nfor Tangem, Africa Union Commission, Ethiopia
 - Best practices to avoid drought in Barind region of Bangladesh, by Jalal Uddin Md. Shoab, Project Coordinator, Establishing National
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land Use and Land Degradation profile toward Mainstreaming SLM practices in Sector policies project, Bangladesh

- Local proven and innovative techniques for sustainable land management and combating land degradation in the South of Tunisia, by Mongi Ben Zaid, Arid Region Institute, Tunisia

Topic 3: Community of practice: how can WOCAT, partner organizations and other institutions work better together to support the up- and outscaling of SLM and achieving LDN

Chair: Carolina Olivera, FAO, Colombia

Rapporteur: Renate Fleiner, WOCAT Coordinator, Switzerland

15:15 – 15:20	Introduction to the topic by chair
15:20 – 15:30	Evaluation of National Scale Restoration Efforts in Ethiopia, by Lulseged Tamene, CIAT, Ethiopia
15:30 – 15:40	Collaborative actions at different levels to scale up SLM and contribute to achieve LDN: a case in Cambodia, by Sophea Tim, Royal University of Agriculture, Cambodia
15:40 – 15:50	Upscaling resilient mountain solutions in the Hindu Kush Himalaya, by Sanjeev Bhuchar, ICIMOD, Nepal
15:50 – 16:20	<u>Panel Discussion</u> with speakers on topic 3, with Q&A
16:20 - 16:25	Wrap-up and conclusion on key points by chair
16:25 – 16:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:45 – 17:15	Synthesis and closing Gete Zeleke, Water and Land Resource Centre (WLRC), Ethiopia, Lulseged Tamene, CIAT, Ethiopia, and Hanspeter Liniger, WOCAT Director, Switzerland
19:00-	<i>Welcome Dinner</i>

Tuesday 14 May 2019 – Field Day (1 day)

Participants will be taken to the field about one hours drive from Addis Ababa to experience successful SLM implementation and achievements and impacts of applying WOCAT tools and methods in Ethiopia. The field day will be organized by the Ministry of Agriculture of Ethiopia, CIAT and WLRC.