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Agroecology and  
Safe Food System  
Transitions

# Showcasing & reflecting on progress

**Achievements of the CGIAR Initiative on Agroecology and  
Transition to the CGIAR Science Program on Multifunctional Landscapes**

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# Outline

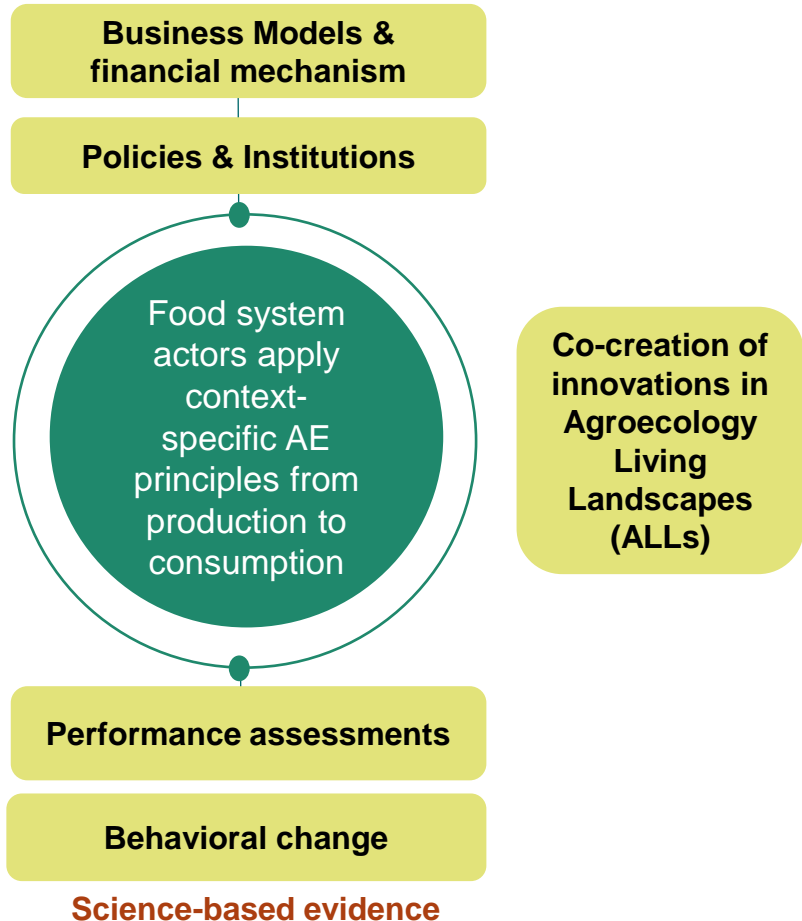
1. The CGIAR Initiative on Agroecology – and ties to Agroecology TPP domains
2. Key highlights, successes and emerging questions
3. Continuation of agroecology work under CGIAR Science Program on MFL
4. Plans for the CGIAR Science Program on MFL in SE Asia
5. Continued engagement with the Agroecology TPP

## The CGIAR Initiative on Agroecology – and ties to Agroecology TPP domains

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## Adaptive scaling strategies



## The Initiative (2022-2024)

### Objective

Support agroecological food system transitions through the application of contextually relevant agroecological principles by farmers and communities supported by other FSAs.

### 8 Countries, 11 AE Living Landscapes

1. Burkina Faso
2. India
3. Kenya
4. Lao PDR
5. Peru
6. Senegal
7. Tunisia
8. Zimbabwe

"Agroecological living landscapes (ALLs) are territories or landscapes for *multi-stakeholder engagement* in which agroecological *innovations* can be identified, *co-designed*, tested, and adopted by its members."



## Adaptive scaling strategies

**Business Models &  
financial mechanism**

Achieving better nutrition through  
connecting consumers and producers

**Policies & Institutions**

Fixing policies and institutions to  
enable adoption decisions

Food system  
actors apply  
context-specific  
AE principles  
from production  
to consumption

**Co-creation of  
innovations in  
Agroecology  
Living  
Landscapes  
(ALLs)**

**Performance assessments**

Inclusive cross-scale metrics for  
agricultural systems

**Behavioral change**

Evidencing socio economic viability  
and understanding adoption decisions

**Science-based evidence**

## Initiative Domains

Pest, disease and weed control

Soil health, including land restoration  
and avoiding degradation

Sustainable and inclusive  
management of water resources and  
risks

Evidencing relationships between  
diversity and resilience



# Lessons after 3 years of collaborative research in Living Landscapes

- The in-depth **engagement** and **co-design** phase took time and then accelerated the generation of first results (general agreement that "doing research differently" works).
- We can act at the production, socioeconomic and political level depending on the **context** in each country.
- We have effectively mapped relevant **food system actors** and engaged in productive collaborations.
- More actions are needed to **evaluate and scale** current innovations across ALLs and countries as well as globally.
- We will deploy additional capacity for **cross-country analysis and publication of results**. Resources and efforts will be prioritized to ensure that science-based evidence is available for socialization and discussion in ALLs, countries, and international fora.
- We will improve our approaches to **capacity sharing, engagement and learning**

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## Key highlights, successes and emerging questions

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CIMMYT  
Poultry production  
in Zimbabwe

## Key highlights I

- Stakeholder mapping & engagement
- 11 Living Landscapes established and contexts assessed
- 11 context-specific ALL transition pathways through Vision-2-Action process
- 30 AE farming practices tested and evaluated
- Knowledge exchange and co-learning through international network of ALLs
- Holistic performance assessment framework HOLPA created and tested

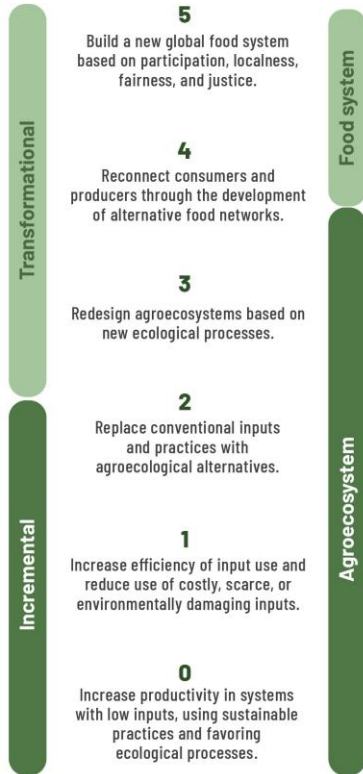


PELUM  
Agroecology  
strategy, Kenya

## Key highlights II

- Market systems understood, value chains analyzed, business models / investment cases / CBA co-developed.
- Policy formulation influenced
- Multistakeholder platforms and institutions strengthened
- Research on political economy
- Behavioral change framework developed and used.

# Example Outcomes 2: Lao PDR – Attapeu Province

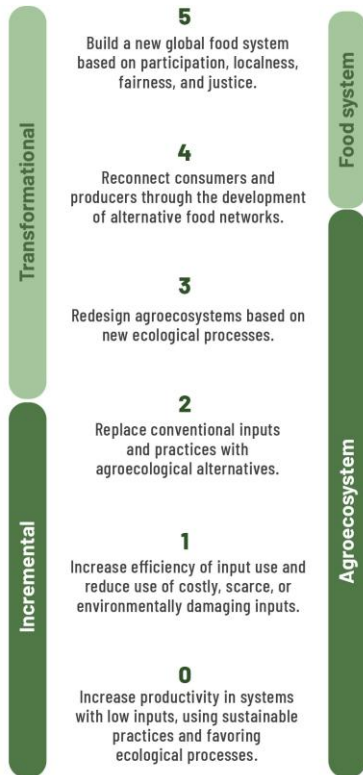


In Nong Lom Wetlands, a 2024-2029 management plan co-developed with local fishers, farmers and NGOs to sustain fishing and farming.



Farmers using solar-powered groundwater irrigation can now access groundwater reliably for domestic use and climate-resilient farming.  
Farmers boosting productivity, resilience and incomes through rice field fisheries.  
More diverse paddy rice crops enhanced sustainability

# Example Outcomes 3: Kenya – Kiambu, Makueni counties



Policy recommendations on market linkages, advisory services and youth engagement. Contribution to the formulation and launch of Kenya's National Agroecology Strategy.



Under the leadership of the ALL host centers DNRC and CSHEP and with local partners, farmers adoption of agroecological practices: Improved land use planning, vermicomposting, biopesticides, soil-water conservation and local organic inputs, leading to improved soil health, increased productivity and income.

## Continuation of agroecology work under CGIAR Science Program on MFL

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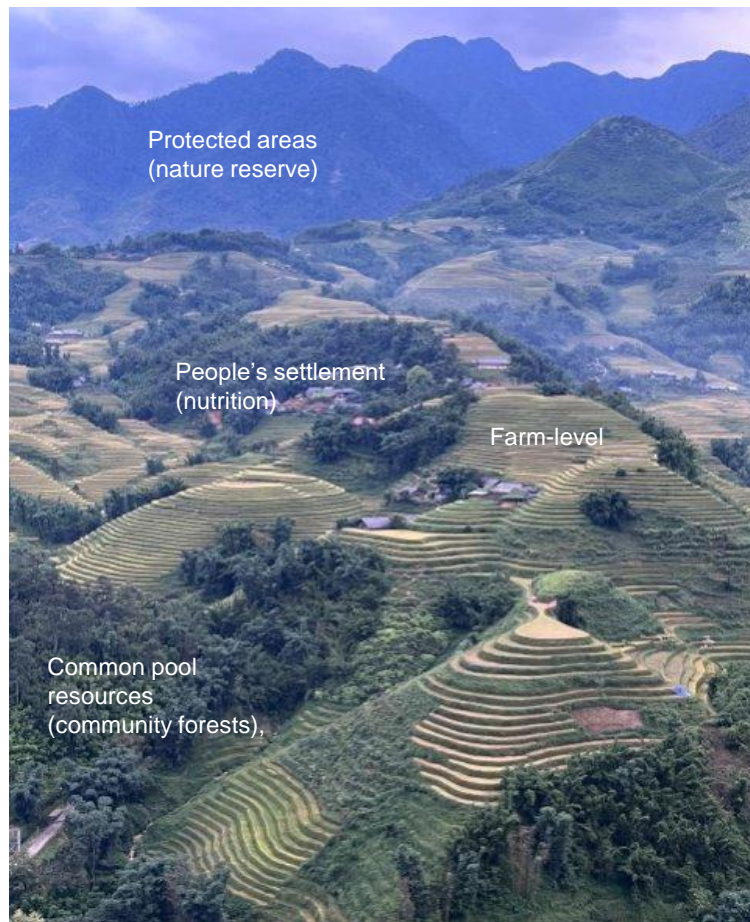


# What are Multifunctional Landscapes?

## Exercise!

Spilt in 4 groups

- Farm-level
  - Common pool resources (community forests)
  - Protected areas (nature reserve)
  - People's settlement (nutrition)
- In 3 minutes: What is one important thing that you need to *optimize your role in this landscape?*



# What are Multifunctional Landscapes?

- Spatially diverse areas/ecosystems
- Multiple, interdependent goals
  - Integrate multiple land uses and ecosystem functions
  - optimize social, economic, and environmental benefits across scales.
  - balance agricultural production, biodiversity conservation, and human well-being
- Based on appropriate land use and management planning
  - promote synergies
  - manage tradeoffs
  - balance interests
  - reduce conflicts

# Our Vision

The Multifunctional Landscapes Program envisions vibrant, diverse and healthy landscapes that are managed holistically to support sustainable and diverse eco-agrifood systems, resilient livelihoods and healthy diets while remaining within planetary boundaries. In this vision, landscapes are co-created and managed by diverse stakeholders, who co-design technological, socioecological, and institutional innovations, engaged in policy processes, underpinned by inclusive governance and effective planning.





# What continues

- Work in specific geographies – "Living Landscapes"
- Partnerships
- Co-creation of context-specific solutions based on a vision-to-action process with stakeholders
- Areas of work on markets, policies, production systems, performance assessments, behavioral change
- Work in initiative countries

# What is new

- Broader landscape approach / across scales
- Focus on restoration and conservation of biodiversity, land and aquatic systems
- Solutions not limited conceptually to agroecology (regenerative agriculture, nature-based approaches)
- Area of work on landscape planning and governance; engagement and learning; gender, fairness and social inclusion
- New countries: Tanzania, Colombia, Corridor Lao PDR-Cambodia
- 13 principles of agroecology as a tool 1) to guide the scaling of practices and 2) for monitoring / evaluation / learning of the integrality of our approaches and collaborative research

# From Agroecology Work Packages to MFL Areas of Work



Co-creation of  
innovations in  
Agroecology  
Living  
Landscapes  
(ALLs)

AoW1. ***Solutions and Innovations:***  
agroecology, nature-positive, regenerative,  
and nutrition-sensitive

AoW2. **Landscape Planning and Governance**

AoW3. **Markets and Business Models**

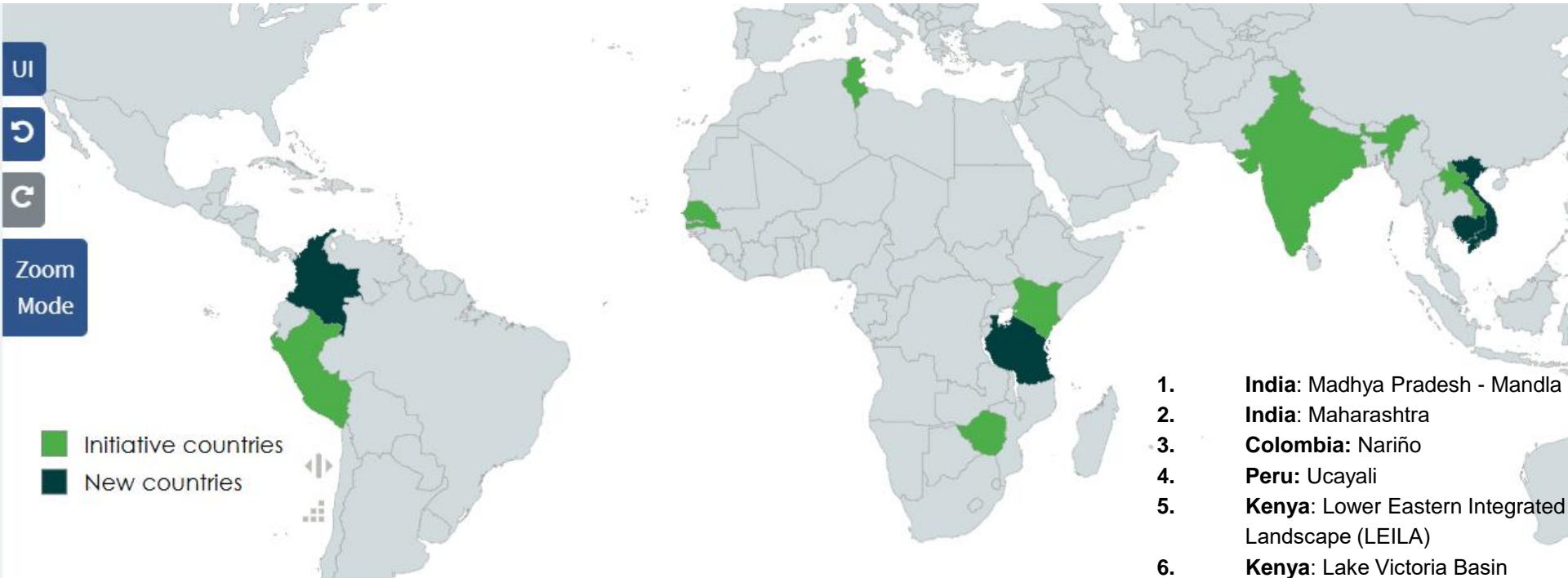
AoW4. **Institutions and Policies**

AoW5. **Gender Equality, Social Inclusion and  
Fairness**

AoW6. **Performance Assessment and  
Evidence Generation**

AoW7. **Global Engagement and Learning**

# Where we will work



■ Initiative countries  
■ New countries

1. **India:** Madhya Pradesh - Mandla
2. **India:** Maharashtra
3. **Colombia:** Nariño
4. **Peru:** Ucayali
5. **Kenya:** Lower Eastern Integrated Landscape (LEILA)
6. **Kenya:** Lake Victoria Basin
7. **Senegal:** Fatick
8. **Tunisia:** Transect El Kef
9. **Tanzania:** Kiteto
10. **Zimbabwe:** Mbire
11. **Vietnam-Laos corridor**

Institution type	Results
Research organizations and universities (all types)	142
NGOs (all types)	94
NARS	79
Financial Institution (national + international)	26
Government (national + subnational)	24
Organization, other than financial or research (regional + international)	23
Private company (other than financial)	14
Other	7
Foundations	4

## A solid partnership base

- 67 partners were involved in research
- 79 results were produced with NARS
- Close collaboration is taking place with 52 partners
- Partnerships include 8 CGIAR Centers, CIRAD and CIFOR-ICRAF
- Adding to this, partnerships from 2 other initiatives and the former platform on environmental health and biodiversity

## Plans for the CGIAR Science Program on MFL in SE Asia

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# To date

## Contributing CGIAR Centres



## Partners



## Collaborators



- Solutions and innovations: Crop diversification, solar groundwater, Agroecological Homestead Farming (AHM), Krishi-kund (Micro-site improvement) for Agroecological Transition of Degraded Lands
- Circular bioeconomy in Vietnam
- Policies: Water management planning in Lao PDR
- GEYSI: Upskilling tribal youth in India, Madhya Pradesh

# Under the Program

- Landscapes in Lao-Cambodia-Vietnam corridor to be identified
- India: A site in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh, plus a
- Strengthen implementation capacity on the ground
- Consolidate collaboration of IWMI, ICRISAT, WorldFish

## Continued engagement with the Agroecology TPP

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## TPP roles in the Program

1. MFL Program advisory committee to be formed and include at least one member of the TPP
2. TPP to include the Program formally as an integrated project
3. Collaboration in engagement process with stakeholders, 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of 2025.
4. TPP member part of Area of Work 7 on Engagement and Learning
5. TPP leading role in learning: international learning network of MFL sites
6. Inclusion of the 13 principles of Agroecology in the Program MELIA.



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