

Stocktaking Landscape Initiatives work by FAO and Partners

There is increasing demand from international and global processes (i.e. RIO+20), from member countries and partners for more coherent and integrated landscape management/territorial development and ecosystem services assessment approaches at all levels.

There are a huge number of initiatives ongoing on landscape/territorial approaches but all under different names and processes so it is difficult for FAO to analyse and draw lessons for more effective future work. We would also like to inform the Landscape, People, Food and Nature Initiative (LPFN) on what FAO is doing, so that we can provide better policy advice and technical support to the range of actors and develop closer synergy with partners.

The FAO Natural Resources Management and Environment Department (NR) has started a process:

- to identify, raise awareness, and share experiences and lessons learned on landscape/territorial approaches by FAO with partners;
- to identify opportunities for improved synergies among the diverse interventions and approaches on landscape/territorial and integrated ecosystem planning/management/development (i.e. to reduce duplication of efforts and to gain greater impact in contributing to the three pillars of sustainable development); and
- to develop a strategy and collaborative processes for strengthening support to countries and partners in this regard.

As part of this process a pilot survey was undertaken in February 2013, which aimed to stocktake the landscape/territorial interventions, projects and initiatives which are planned, being implemented or have been finalized and documented by the FAO and its partner organizations.

A summary of the results from the pilot survey is attached for your reference below.

The pilot survey was well responded to, however, further information is needed on the diverse landscape/territorial initiatives to obtain a more complete representation of the suite of work undertaken and, thereby, to effectively inform and facilitate this harmonization and outreach process.

We welcome an active response from relevant FAO technical/officers, project staff and your direct partners to strengthen this important information gathering and review process.

To open the survey please click here: https://www.research.net/s/landscape_approaches

This should take no more than 10 minutes. Please complete this yourself if you are very familiar with relevant interventions or send it to project managers, focal points, or technical personnel to request their contribution by: **July 24, 2013**

If you wish to make available outputs of relevant initiatives these will be made available through an FAO Land portal citing and linking clearly to the process and authors. We are also inviting you to be an active partner in the process.

If you would like more information please contact landscape-approaches@fao.org.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Summary: Survey of work by FAO and Partners on Landscape Approaches (February 2013)

The initial online *Survey of Work by FAO and Partners on Landscape Approaches* was undertaken in February 2013 and aimed to gather information on FAO landscape/territorial interventions, projects and initiatives with FAO Members and partner organizations, that are planned, being implemented or have been finalized and documented.

The results indicated that the majority of landscape initiatives reported on are using an ecosystem approach (44%), followed closely by watershed management (37%), and then climate-smart agriculture approaches (32%).

Of the range of services delivered in relation to the landscape/territorial approach, 92% provided advisory services (i.e. rural extension, technical assistance etc.) while 52% provided training (i.e. on natural resources management, organizational management, tenure, conflict resolution, etc). Concept/desk-based studies are also a major component (47%) of the support provided by the various FAO organizational units to landscape initiatives. We are now ranking these questions to obtain more targeted information.

Most of the initiatives are delivered at a national scale (72%). Although many respondents noted that a multi-scale approach is an integral aspect of all landscape initiatives and so they could not really define one particular scale as the main focus. A large intervention area was therefore often recorded, with over 30% being implemented at a scale greater than 10,000km² (large river basin or AEZ), and only 18% of initiatives implemented at a medium scale 26-100km² (i.e. medium size watershed, lake basin or territory) or smaller catchments /community level. This question has been redesigned to better capture the situation.

FAO landscape initiatives occur all over the world, and some globally. However the majority reported are in Africa (64%) followed closely by Asia (55%) and South America (55%).

A range of outputs are produced through the FAO landscape/territorial initiatives including training materials (59%), conservation and management practices (53%), diagnostic and assessment tools (46%), and maps/geographical information systems (GIS) (31%). Again, many initiatives produce more than one type of output.

The main sectors/topics that are expected to be improved as a result of the interventions are targeted towards FAO's strategic objectives, notably natural resources/ environmental management (83%), production (63%), income, employment and secure livelihoods (44%), as well as food security (42%) and environmental protection (42%). These initiatives also incorporate human dimensions of sustainability, with a strong focus on effective multi-stakeholder participation (83%), equity in access to resources (52%) and gender (48%) as some of the key focus areas.