



# COMBATING EROSION, MOBILIZING FARMERS

**17 May 2019, 12:30-13:30 | King Faisal room/D263**

*Organized by Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands*

Land degradation poses a major threat to global food security, and urgent wide-scale action in combating the underlying causes of soil erosion is critical. The key-question to this challenge is: how do we mobilize these millions of smallholder farmers on erosion-prone lands to become good stewards? This side-event discusses the potential of an inclusive bottom-up approach in Burundi that intrinsically motivates these smallholder farmers to invest in resilient households and in soil health. This Integrated Farm Planning approach (or PIP approach) aims to build a solid foundation of resilience-based stewardship in rural villages, based on the key principles of “empowerment – integration – collaboration”. In this side-event participants will deepen their insight into the power of such a participatory approach to achieve wide-scale impact in combating land degradation in Burundi, as such gaining inspiration for better strategies and policies for sustainable land management with local land users. The discussion will be associated with the objectives of the FAO GSP Global Soil Doctors programme, which also aims at improving soil health by means of mobilizing farmers to invest in Sustainable Soil Management practices. Lessons learned from the PIP approach will help improve the Soil Doctors programme before its official launch later this year.



Joint FAO/IAEA Programme  
Major Techniques in Food and Agriculture



# AGENDA

## **Welcome and Opening (12:30-12:35)**

Opening by **Aad Kessler**, Researcher in Wageningen University & Research (WUR), Netherlands

## **Mobilizing Burundian farmers to combat soil erosion: experiences with the PIP approach (12:30:12:50)**

Presentation by **Aad Kessler**

## **Questions, reflections and remarks from the audience (12:50-13:00)**

## **Using local knowledge and the potential of FAOs Soil Doctor approach (13:00-13:20)**

Presentation by **Aad Kessler** (WUR) and **Zineb Bazza**, GSP Secretariat

## **Debate on scaling-up local knowledge to achieve wide-scale impact in erosion control (13:20-13:30)**

Moderation : **Aad Kessler** and **Zineb Bazza**

## **End of session (13:30-13:35)**

