

Agroforestry The Future of Global Land Use Outcomes of 2nd World Congress of Agroforestry

Nairobi, 24-28 August 2009

Dennis Garrity

Agroforestry Symposium United Nations University 16 December 2009



World Agroforestry Centre TRANSFORMING LIVES AND LANDSCAPES

www.worldagroforestry.org

What is Agroforestry?

- Agroforestry is a dynamic, ecologicallybased, natural resource management system.
- By integrating trees on farms and in the agricultural landscape, it helps diversify and sustain production for increased economic, environmental and social benefits.

Trees on the small farm *provide food & nutrition, wood, fodder, medicines, income, and land regeneration benefits*







Tree Cover on Agricultural Land - Global



'The proportion of trees on farms and in forests varies considerably among countries, but **two trends** seem almost universal in the tropics:

-- the number of trees in forests is <u>declining</u>, and

-- the number on farms is *increasing*'

FAO. 2005. State of the World's Forests

Congress Subthemes

- 1. Agroforestry for Food Security
- 2. Conservation and Rehabilitation of Natural Resources
- 3. Agroforestry Policy Challenges

1. Agroforestry and Food Security

Evergreen Agriculture

Food crop farming using agroecological principles

Tree crop farming with species diversity for higher and more stable incomes

Achieving food security and climate change adaptation through agroforestry-based conservation agriculture







World Bank World Development Indicators

Conservation Agriculture with Faidherbia albida



60 years of research shows on each hectare, mature trees supply the equivalent of <u>300kg</u> of complete fertiliser and 250kg of lime. This can sustain a maize yield of 4 tons/ha.



Maize farming in an agroforest of Faidherbia albida, Tanzania



Faidherbia trees are intercropped with maize on 1/2 million farms in Malawi

2. Conservation and Rehabilitation of Natural Resources

- Agroforestry for climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Water and watershed services
- Biodiversity conservation

Agroforestry for a Multi Functional Agriculture



The Future Potential of Agroforestry

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Deforestation

Soil erosion

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Low productivity

Siltation

Agroforestry Policy Challenges

The Global Agroforestry Policy Initiative





Interlinked Objectives

(1) Food security through increased productivity (focus on smallholder systems)

(2) Agriculture adaptation framework (adaptation to climate change)

(3) Soil and above ground carbon (bio-carbon) for climate mitigation / land care

Reducing Emissions from All Land Uses

Current focus (2005 – present) Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD)

The Future

Reducing Emissions from All Land Uses --Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use (AFoLI^N

Agroforestry now seen as at the 'heart' of the three environmental conventions

Climate change Carbon sequestration and on-farm adaptation Biological diversity Species and habitat conservation Lanoscape connectivity

Agroforestry

Combatting desertification Landscape restoration Reversing land degradation

Figure 9: Agroforestry at the 'heart' of the three environmental conventions

