



TerrAfrica Annual Report 2008



**ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE LAND
MANAGEMENT IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**

ENHANCED ADVOCACY, LEADERSHIP AND INVESTMENTS

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The TerrAfrica partnership platform was launched in November 2005 to scale up support to sustainable land management approaches and investments in Sub-Saharan Africa. Through it, African countries, development partners, civil society and the research community work together to upscale sustainable land management. This agenda directly supports implementation of the objectives of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and NEPAD's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and Action Plan for the Environment.

This report is a product of the TerrAfrica Secretariat. Although it was reviewed by the TerrAfrica Executive Committee before publication, the findings and conclusions expressed in this volume may not necessarily reflect all the views of all the TerrAfrica partners.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AfDB	African Development Bank
AgDPL	Agricultural Development Policy Loan
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme
CAS	Country Assistance Strategy
CBA	Cost Benefit Analysis
CEA	Country Environmental Analysis
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
CRIC	Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
CST	Country Support Tool
CSIF	Country SLM Investment Framework
EAP	NEPAD's Environment Action Plan for the Environment Initiative
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EC	European Commission
ENRM	Environment and Natural Resource Management Group
FABS	Food and Agriculture Budget Support
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FASDEP	Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy
FMAWR	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (Nigeria)
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GDC	German Development Cooperation
GM	Global Mechanism
GTZ	Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (German Technical Cooperation)
Ha	Hectare
IDA	International Development Association
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAD	Inter Governmental Authority on Development



Abbreviations and Acronyms

IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KENVO	Kijabe Environmental Volunteers
KM	Knowledge Management
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAP	UNCCD National Action Programme
NAPA	UNFCCC National Adaptation Programme of Action
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NREGP	Natural Resource and Environmental Governance Program
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
RIOD	International NGO Network on Desertification and Drought
PASDEP	Ethiopia's Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty
PER	Public Expenditure Review
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SIP	Strategic Investment Program for Sustainable Land Management in Sub-Saharan Africa
SDPRP	Ethiopia's Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Program
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
TAEC	TerrAfrica Executive Committee
TLF	TerrAfrica Leveraging Fund
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Program

Acknowledgements to TerrAfrica Executive Committee Members

THROUGH VARIOUS TYPES of involvement, TerrAfrica Executive Committee members have played a pivotal role in positioning the partnership to deliver on the three activity lines of the TerrAfrica business plan. Results include facilitating better coordination of coalition building activities at the country level, establishing and improving policy development frameworks and mobilizing investment that advances sustainable land management in Sub-Saharan countries.

With the commitment, sustained support and guidance of partners, important goals were achieved in 2008 under the joint TerrAfrica work program. These are highlighted in this annual report.

The TerrAfrica Secretariat would like to thank Executive Committee members and other partners – in particular the Global Environment Facility, the Netherlands, GTZ and France – for their commitment and for the strong partnership spirit that have underpinned activities under TerrAfrica in 2008.



Members of the TerrAfrica Executive Committee

- African Development Bank
- Chad
- CONGAD
- European Commission
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- Ghana
- Global Mechanism of the UNCCD
- IFAD
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- Norway
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- World Bank

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Foreword

THREE YEARS AFTER its October 2005 launch at the UNCCD Conference of Parties and the Partnership Forum for NEPAD's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), TerrAfrica continues to serve and support a strong coalition that is facilitating an increase in more efficient and effective investment in sustainable land management (SLM) throughout Sub-Saharan Africa. The past three years have set the stage for focusing on country level efforts in 2008, creating momentum for delivering enduring results.

At present, the state of the partnership is healthy and active. Our business plan – based on coalition building, knowledge management and investment and resource mobilization – continues to enhance the enabling conditions for SLM upscaling. Building on past achievements, the programme continues to generate substantive methodological approaches and joint knowledge products that inform land use and land management related decisions, mainstreaming and funding at the country level. Analytical work supported or advocated by the platform is increasingly underpinning investment programming, especially the need to invest at scale. In addition, nine participating countries have developed or are implementing Country Strategic Investment Frameworks.

On the ground, TerrAfrica's portfolio of SLM operations at country level has expanded. The Strategic Investment Program forms an important part of the portfolio: Its implementation is well underway with financial support from the Global Environment Facility, Sub-Saharan governments, AfDB, FAO, IFAD, UNDP, UNEP, World Bank and collaborating partners. Almost 40 operations financed through the SIP were approved at the concept stage, while ongoing country dialogue and analytical work will expand the investment portfolio in 2010 and beyond.

In Africa, SLM is critical to mitigate and adapt to climate change and climate variability. TerrAfrica has started to play an important role in bringing the climate and land nexus to the forefront of the international, regional and country-level development agenda. There is now strong momentum in the partnership to upscale SLM in Africa, with more emphasis on improving climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The TerrAfrica approach has informed the development of CAADP, in particular the Pillar 1 framework on sustainable land and water management. TerrAfrica will remain at the centre of CAADP implementation as NEPAD looks into the future of African agriculture and as country engagements continue to ramp up and country investment platforms solidify across sectors.

TerrAfrica is seen as a model for donor harmonization and for reinforcing Africa-driven development. The partnership is uniquely positioned to promote a new business model to contribute to address the massive land degradation challenge in Sub-Saharan Africa and can build on the

progress that has been achieved. At this stage, the partnership has the momentum needed to sustain external support and demonstrate results with lasting impact.

We encourage all stakeholders and partners to continue advancing SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa and reinforcing African leadership on the agenda. Working together and with continued action on the ground, we can continue to improve the scale, efficiency and effectiveness of SLM interventions and mitigate land degradation risk in Sub-Saharan Africa. In this way, we can collectively advance agricultural productivity, environmental performance, climate resilience and economic growth on the continent.

Richard Mkandawire (NEPAD) and Christophe Crepin (World Bank),
Co-Chairs, TerrAfrica Executive Committee



Background and Summary

Background to TerrAfrica

LAND DEGRADATION IS recognized by Sub-Saharan countries as a serious and urgent problem that threatens livelihoods, food security, employment and economic growth. As such, it undermines the potential effectiveness of most national development agendas. Decades of lagging investment have resulted in an underperformance of productive cropland, rangeland and forests – all vulnerable to increased risk from over exploitation, unsustainable cultivation, inefficient natural resource use and natural disasters.

Climate change has further contributed to land degradation by exposing unprotected soil to extreme conditions, straining the capacity of existing land management practices and inducing more rapid conversion of forest or rangeland to unsustainable agricultural uses. At the same time, land degradation is partly responsible for recent food price crises as it increases the vulnerability of agricultural production and rural people to extreme weather events and climate change whilst depleting the fertility and buffering capacities of the land and livelihood assets.

A substantial shift is needed to scale up sustainable land management (SLM) practices that will mitigate the land degradation and climate risks facing the region. Upscaling requires sustained, multi-sector investment programmes rooted in the principles of African country leadership, partnership and mutual accountability. SLM can make a lasting difference to people by enhancing or advancing agricultural productivity; safeguarding ecosystem services such as water filtering, soil formation, energy provision and climate stabilization; improving access by the rural poor to natural assets and livelihoods; and reducing the vulnerability of people and productive lands to floods and drought.

To be effective on a large scale, SLM needs to be implemented across entire ecosystems and landscapes and across political and geographical boundaries. This requires a collective approach and vision that ensures effective use of funds, continuous and methodical sharing of best practices and analytics, strong monitoring and evaluation and harmonized policies and programmes. The TerrAfrica partnership platform enables this approach by aligning support and providing assistance for country alliances that can effectively advocate for and manage a complementary portfolio of analytics and investment. This improves synergies and reduces duplication.

Summary of the TerrAfrica response

SINCE INCEPTION, THE TerrAfrica partnership's mission has been to address land degradation by scaling up harmonized support for effective and efficient country-driven SLM investments and practices in Sub-Saharan countries. The approach has emphasized alleviating barriers and bottlenecks to investment at the country level, by facilitating improvements in availability of knowledge and financing, good governance and institutional capacities, and multi-sector policy and investment dialogue.

After three years of progress, TerrAfrica partners have achieved significant results and financed investments, largely at the country level. Partners have increased the number of projects that aim to scale-up SLM and developed and finalized a suite of knowledge products to address future challenges. Sub-Saharan countries have themselves laid strong foundations for national investment frameworks and national coalition building. Analytical and advisory services – often carried out collaboratively among countries and international partners – reinforce advocacy for SLM at the country level and solidify African ownership of the SLM agenda and how it contributes to each country's specific development priorities.

The achievements in 2008 marked a turning point in TerrAfrica's implementation, as priorities shifted heavily toward country level activities. Stronger support was given to countries to more independently tackle land degradation. This shift was made possible because the consolidation of the partnership at regional level allowed for more productive country level engagements than was possible earlier. There was also an increase in country level investment, thanks to the endorsement of the Strategic Investment Program (SIP) by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) in 2007. Under this investment umbrella, countries and regional organizations developed 40 discrete projects with the support of TerrAfrica's international partners. Multi-sector national committees for investment and policy were established or strengthened in many countries and analytical work was carried out to underpin policy and practice.

As a second portfolio of investment materializes, work programmes in coming years will likely follow the same trend towards solidifying African ownership, **placing the future of SLM on the continent in African hands.**



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Upscaling Country Level Investment in SLM

RESULTS

40 discrete investment operations in preparation or implementation under SIP. 31 are country level and 9 multi-country or regional operations.

IN 2008, SLM INVESTMENTS were scaled up through an increasing number of SLM related operations at country level, supported by a stronger coalition of partners and better alignment with national policies and planning.

To improve the scale, effectiveness, efficiency and mainstreaming of SLM investment at the country level, activities under the TerrAfrica work program focus on expanding the public sphere around policy and practice related to land use and management. This requires facilitating close cooperation among sector ministries and government departments and involving a broad array of stakeholders. This work also supports national governments in better reflecting SLM principles in national policies and planning. The ultimate aim is to improve investment design, implementation and increase international and domestic financial flows toward SLM.

In this way, SLM becomes an important part of a country's national development agenda, maximizes development partners' use of existing structures and policies and avoids duplication of efforts across numerous related themes and priorities.

The enduring impact this work will be ensured by TerrAfrica's continued emphasis on stimulating country ownership and commitment to SLM and strengthening the hand of Sub-Saharan countries

in defining, implementing and monitoring national development priorities.

Countries receiving Strategic Investment Program (SIP) support:

Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia

SLM investments were scaled-up through one of TerrAfrica's major activities, the SIP, which is supported by the GEF.

In June 2007, the GEF Council approved the innovative SIP1 for SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa. The

¹ The SIP is one of the major investment programs of the TerrAfrica multi-partner platform. It directly supports the objectives of CAADP and the Environmental Action Plan (EAP), as well as the UNCCD National Action Plans and the UNFCCC National Adaptation Programme Programs of Action.

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approval – the largest ever in GEF history – earmarked a \$150 million grant to support 28 countries in advancing nearly 40 operations that promote the uptake of climate resilient SLM practices, such as watershed management, land use planning, conservation tillage, intercropping, agro-forestry, small water infrastructure, woodlots and erosion control.

By late 2008, almost all of the nearly 40 individual operations were approved at the concept stage and had begun preparation. Several have already entered the implementation phase, with many more commencing in 2009.

In line with CAADP, the SIP invests mostly in discrete country-led operations that expand the area of land under SLM practices, while also strengthening the enabling environment that is needed to allow for such expansion. Specific activities are defined by the countries themselves and include: (i) strengthening extension services and farmer/producer organizations; (ii)



Photograph: NEPAD-CAADP

improving incentives and providing mechanisms (such as revolving credit funds and community grants) for adoption of SLM technologies (such as conservation tillage, woodlots, and agro-forestry) and approaches (such as watershed planning and grazing reserves); (iii) sensitization and improving knowledge management among research, extension, land users and national policy and investment decision makers, (iv) developing approaches to reduce climate risk in land use and management activities; and (v) institutional development focused on improving multi-sector investment planning at national and sub-national levels and M&E development and implementation, so governments and partners can better know what works, where and why. This is critical for a sustained and consistent up scaling of investment.

Stronger coalitions at national level attracted new donors and increased flows of co-financing in various sectors, hence strengthening the cross-sectoral approach needed to address land degradation issues.

The government of **Ethiopia** held a donor conference in September 2008. Conference objectives



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Photograph: Ecoagriculture Partners



were (i) to present to key stakeholders the draft Ethiopia SLM Investment Framework, discuss key issues, agree and endorse the framework; and (ii) to inform donors about the new SLM Investment Framework and secure their interest and commitment to technically and financially support its implementation.

Workshop participants included SLM stakeholders (various ministries, universities,

research institutions, NGOs, civil society), development partners (GTZ, WFP, USAID, WB, USAID, FAO), embassies, African countries (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda) and regional African institutions (COMESA, NEPAD).

Later in 2008, several new development partners, including the German Development Bank, Finland, Norway and UNHABITAT, expressed their interest in providing new technical and financial resources to improve the design and support the implementation of the Ethiopia SLM Investment Framework² and the work of Ethiopia's SLM Secretariat. The World Bank also expressed its interest in increasing the International Development Association (IDA) allocation for SLM in the next Country Assistance Strategy (CAS), provided that the SLM project was successfully delivered.

Efforts were made to better include SLM issues in national policies and strategies and integrate SLM projects into national programmes. This generated additional flows of national investments for SLM.

As a result of policy dialogue, advocacy and technical support provided by TerrAfrica partners, **Ghana's** new policy frameworks and strategies incorporate SLM objectives. SLM is being mainstreamed into new operations designed to support national strategies and work completed under these are set up to trigger additional budget support to implement SLM national priorities.³

² TerrAfrica partners promote Country SLM Investment Frameworks (CSIF) at the country level. CSIFs provide the framework for multi-sector investment programmes. They help country stakeholders articulate an operational vision for scaling-up SLM and include critical evidence that underpins priority investment needs and identifies specific operations across sectors.

³ Self-generated or donor financing (WB Ag DPO or DFID/CIDA Food and Agriculture Budget Support (FABS)).

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For example, the new Ghanaian “*Food and Agricultural Sector Development Policy's Agricultural SLM Strategy and Action Plan*” provides the framework for implementing land management and environmental conservation activities within the sector. This plan was financially and technically supported, developed, published and disseminated by TerrAfrica partners.

Two new IDA operations – the Productive Safety Net Project and the Water Resource Management and Agricultural Competitiveness Project – are successfully mainstreaming SLM. These projects, which are designed to support the national Northern Development Strategy, are key vehicles for Ghana to improve land and water resource management, increase agricultural productivity and modernize agriculture, promote economies of scale and improve watershed protection and management using SLM technologies.

In **Nigeria**, with technical assistance under the TerrAfrica work program, the National SLM Committee was successful in advocating for inclusion of land management and tenure as a priority in the medium term strategy of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (FMAWR). At the same time, the committee spent 2008 advocating for a ministers’ level forum to steer its activities and raise the political visibility of land management in terms of national priorities on food security, agricultural productivity, climate risk, etc. The Committee has – through extensive nationwide dialogue – forged agreement of principles for a national partnership on land management. The Committee includes a number of line ministries plus the finance and national planning ministries and is openly engaging at the state level to solidify a national investment platform that enjoys widespread support and credibility.

On the donor side, the Nigerian Government opened a dialogue in 2008 with World Bank, DfID, USAID and AfDB to formulate a new joint assistance strategy: the Country Partnership Strategy II (CPS-II). The CPS-II will be finalized in 2009 and is anticipated to: (i) include land degradation and climate change as an intertwined risk to land productivity; and (ii) indicate new investment, analytics and technical assistance, building on the prior program of support from the WB and DfID. This program includes the \$457 million *Fadama III* rural development operation, which has a strong SLM dimension benefitting from integrated IDA and government financing and supplemental support from the SIP.

Supporting better informed SLM investments at the country level

RESULTS

*Ethiopia – advanced CSIF
Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria Uganda – CSIF under preparation for draft delivery in 2009
Burkina, Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi Senegal, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia – CSIF dialogue underway
15 country multi-sector platforms convened, solidified, or in dialogue
Ethiopia and Ghana – analytical work (CBA) delivered
Uganda and Senegal – analytical work (PER) delivered
Mali and Nigeria – analytical work (CBA and PER) ongoing*

Focus on the Country Support Tool

The Country Support Tool offers pragmatic guidance for countries seeking to build a multi-sector coalition and a credible investment framework for SLM. The investment framework promoted under TerrAfrica helps country stakeholders articulate an operational vision for scaling up SLM. It includes critical evidence that underpins priority investment needs and identifies specific operations across sectors. It also proposes activities on how a country could carry out diagnostics, convene actors, develop a shared knowledge and M&E platform, and bring together other products, tools, and financing from TerrAfrica partners and other international sources, and from within the country itself. This tool is based on experiences in a number of countries around the world and in Africa.

IN 2008, SLM INVESTMENTS expanded as a result of TerrAfrica coalition building at the country level and analytical research conducted to inform the investment efforts.

TerrAfrica partners supported country investment programming by facilitating improved investment dialogue across sectors and partners, anchored in countries' preparation of Strategic Investment Frameworks. Once these frameworks are finalized, there should be a steady and consistent increase in investment scale, quality and alignment as well as greater inclusion in policy and investment dialogue.⁴ Already, investments in the TerrAfrica portfolio are increasingly better informed, aligned, monitored and supported.

Strengthening of alignment and coalition building among sectors and partners was led by national platforms, in the context

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Much of this work appears in CAADP materials across the pillars.

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of the development of national investment frameworks and in line with the Paris Declaration.

On August 27, 2008, in **Mauritania**, the legal status of the National SLM Committee⁵ was approved by the Ministry of Environment. The committee began work on the national dialogue needed to establish a shared SLM agenda for Mauritania and a vision among national stakeholders and advocates across sectors and the national investment strategies. Several analytical studies were conducted, including the review of SLM public expenditures and ecosystems assessment. These studies are supporting the development of the CSIF, which is expected to be finalized in 2009.

Nigeria established a National SLM Committee to kick start and then formalize the process of building a long-term national programme and partnership for land management, including an SLM investment framework.⁶ In 2008, this committee engaged sub-national level stakeholders throughout the country and began work on a communication programme to sensitize actors and strengthen the emerging alliance in the country. The committee is involved with the World Bank, IFPRI and ICRISAT in carrying out quantitative work on land degradation, climate vulnerability and sustainable land management. The work to improve analytics and firm up alliances will directly underpin the delivery of the investment framework in 2010. The initial phase, which began in 2008, focuses on Cross River State. Later phases will cover the remaining states.

By providing analytical underpinnings for countries to build their investment frameworks, TerrAfrica activities aim to support the development of better informed SLM investment in Africa in the medium-term.

In **Senegal**, the Country Environmental Analysis (CEA) was delivered, with support provided



Photograph: Ecoagriculture Partners

⁵ The secretariat of the committee is managed by the Ministry of Environment. The committee comprises high level staff from ministers involved in rural development, water management, planning, industry, agriculture, trade, etc. as well as representatives from the national NGOs network. The development partners and financial partners – IFAD, WB, the GM, GTZ and UICN – can attend as observers.

⁶ The Committee is composed of champions from the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (current committee chair), Ministry of Finance, National Planning Commission, Ministry of Environment, Housing and Urban Development and NEPAD Nigeria. Key individuals on the Committee are intimately involved in CAADP, the UNCCD NAP and national strategy and policy development.



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under TerrAfrica for the development of the chapter on terrestrial ecosystems. It included a substantial analysis of land management issues in the country. The CEA set the stage for enhanced policy dialogue on natural resource management between the World Bank and the Senegalese Government on integrating environmental issues into the PRSP-II and the Accelerated Growth Strategy (AGS). The CEA resulted in the government's decision to engage in a more programmatic and multi-sectoral approach for sustainable land management. As such it is now preparing a Country Strategic Investment Framework for SLM and an agricultural land management operation with financing from IDA and the SIP. In addition, while this Annual Report was being prepared, work started on promoting better integration of environmental priorities into national and sectoral policies, providing guidance and support to capacity development activities and focusing on a strategic approach that takes into account the synergies between the environment and development.

As a result of a 2008 Public Expenditure Review (PER) of rural expenses and several studies analyzing the state of land resource management conducted with support under TerrAfrica, the Government of **Niger** established a national coordination committee to develop an SLM investment framework.

In addition to supporting the elaboration of the CSIF, the PER estimated the volume of public expenditures in the rural sector and assessed the quality and impact of public expenditures. The report provided recommendations related to the institutional framework, management of information and system in place to manage public spending. It also provided recommendations for water management and soil conservation.

In **Uganda**, several TerrAfrica partners provided technical and financial resources for analytical work, which included financial diagnostics, a stocktaking of SLM experience and a public expenditure review of land management. This work identified gaps and opportunities for SLM investment and provided inputs to improve the policy and institutional environment, such as by informing the country's Sector Investment Plans and new National Development Program. The body of analytical work also formed the basis for the government's on-going effort to articulate the Uganda Strategic Investment Framework. The inter-ministerial committee that was set up to guide investment planning and policy development on land use and management is active in setting the priorities of the Investment Framework.

TerrAfrica coalition building activities and analytical studies directly informed Country Investment Frameworks that supported the scaling up of SLM in Africa. This work is based on the methodology proposed in the Country Support Tool.

African countries are increasingly devising programmatic approaches to address land degradation

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and climate risks and have requested support to build multi-sector SLM investment programs. The TerrAfrica *Country Support Tool*, refined and tested in 2008, is a practical resource guide for partners and stakeholders to pursue alignment and joint action. It provides guidance and ideas for countries to build the public sphere around one shared policy and investment dialogue, prioritize investment activities, mobilize financing, assess policies and institutions, diagnose risks and opportunities and ultimately build a strong investment platform anchored in a Strategic Investment Framework for SLM.

After a period of testing in 2008-2009, TerrAfrica partners in 2010 will produce a Country Support Tool that will refine and expand upon the content, including new knowledge products as they become available and harnessing current country experiences in building SLM programs.

Ethiopia is a country seriously affected by land degradation. With technical and financial support from TerrAfrica partners, the Government of Ethiopia formed a national multi-stakeholder platform that has set key priorities for SLM, finalized a Strategic Investment Framework valued at \$1.3 billion in current funding and \$5.3 billion additional over 15 years, and is using this framework to facilitate coordination and harmonization of SLM support.⁷ The TerrAfrica partnership and financing from the SIP, GTZ, Norway, IFAD, UNDP, WFP and others supported the implementation of the national platform by mobilizing various financial and non-financial resources, disseminating targeted knowledge, toolkits, best practices and by promoting development of M&E.



Photograph: NEPAD-CAADP

To jumpstart the process, a donors' conference and technical meeting was convened to guide the prioritization, planning and implementation of SLM investments designed to address the interlinked problems of poverty, vulnerability and land degradation.

The investment framework pursues principles of ecological, socio-cultural, economic livelihood and institutional sustainability. The resulting program will improve the livelihoods and economic well-

⁷ This work started with the formal establishment of the National SLM Platform during a launching workshop and press conference held in February 2008. Regional SLM platforms were also established in six regions (Amhara, Oromiya, SNNPR, Gambela, Benishangul and Tigray).

being of the country's farmers, herders and forest users by scaling up SLM practices and rebuilding Ethiopia's natural capital.

In 2008, a final draft of the Ethiopia Strategic Investment Framework (ESIF) was circulated to partners. It awaits dissemination in 2009 and will be used as a framework to implement new SLM investments.

The TerrAfrica Country Support Tool suggests that early discussions at the country level are critical to lay the groundwork for the development of a credible investment framework. This requires taking stock of current SLM interventions, identifying the main SLM actors, financiers, research gaps and initial priority actions. The Government of **Niger**, with the support of TerrAfrica and other development partners, took this approach to prepare and circulate a preliminary Strategic Investment Framework. The document included a technical diagnostic of bottlenecks and opportunities, a diagnostic of main ecosystems as well as financial, political and institutional diagnostics. This exercise resulted in the identification of the following priorities: (i) protection of productive systems; (ii) protection of ecosystems and biodiversity; (iii) climate change adaptation and mitigation; and (iv) overall improvement of quality of life. Additional analytical studies will inform the comprehensive Strategic Investment Framework, to be published in late 2009.

The M&E tools developed in 2008 will increasingly serve to jointly monitor progress being made to upscale SLM as well as to inform current, planned and future investment.

The **M&E framework** was endorsed at the Executive Committee meeting in November 2008. It comprises a small set of indicators for tracking implementation of the TerrAfrica work program. These indicators allow partners to report on 10 agreed intermediate results, the three activity line objectives and the partnership's overall goal. The **M&E system** continues to be developed based on this framework. The M&E system will be finalized in 2010 as part of the SLM country service network. It will allow better activity monitoring and alignment among partners as well as stronger knowledge dissemination of what works, where and why. This in turn will facilitate the design and implementation of upscaling strategies in Sub-Saharan countries.

In 2008, the overall structure of the **SLM country service network** was designed by NEPAD with support from the World Bank and UNEP. The country service network focuses on M&E, advocacy, knowledge management and capacity building and will be tuned to countries' investment and policy dialogues. The fully developed and operational country service network will greatly support adaptive management and monitoring of regional and country activities. It will also inform the development of a second investment portfolio with improved analytical underpinnings, an emerging community of practice across Africa, and stronger linkages between regional and country levels in

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particular on cross-country mutual learning on policy and practice. Robust M&E is critical to the design and implementation of the country service network.

One key M&E product delivered in 2008 is the **Landscape Measures Resource Center (LMRC)**, which provides tools to manage the convergence and protection of food security, biodiversity and rural livelihoods. Developed by Ecoagriculture Partners with the support of TerrAfrica and others, the LMRC has a global scope. It is rooted in the premise that measurement enhances management. Learning to measure how landscapes perform in delivering food, biodiversity and livelihood outcomes is anticipated to endow land management systems with the capacity to sustain these multiple functions, while reducing or reversing the degradation of natural resources.

The LMRC links elements of the landscape assessment process to a variety of tools and resources that enable the practice of landscape measurement. Case studies illustrate the LMRC in action:

- In Uganda, the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Livelihoods and Landscapes Initiative engaged Mount Elgon area residents in developing future scenarios for their landscape and created outcome indicators. When the project commenced in 2007, the team took photographs from key vantage points showing both the state of the landscape and the local way of life. The team encouraged local stakeholders to draw their understanding of the current landscape and their ideal vision for the future. After consolidating the drawings using computer programs, the team laminated a final version to use for display and to monitor progress.
- In Kenya, the Kijabe Environmental Volunteers (KENVO) developed an ecoagriculture approach to landscape assessment. They produced a video that portrays the situation in the Kijabe landscape and organized a photo gallery to illustrate forest restoration and assess landscape performance. In 2008, the LMRC reported results from a workshop aimed to measure landscape and institutional performance, concluding that local initiatives will best achieve long-term solutions.

While the TerrAfrica M&E framework focuses on national level and regional level indicators to track progress in building country investment platforms, the LMRC places greater emphasis on sub-national landscape level indicators most suitable for discrete investment operations targeting field activities. In this way, the LMRC brings depth to the TerrAfrica M&E system. In 2009, TerrAfrica partners, working together in the M&E and knowledge management Special Advisory Groups, will work to integrate the LMRC and other promising M&E tools into a TerrAfrica M&E resource guide and into learning events organized as part of the country service network.

Improving knowledge for SLM

RESULTS

Regional SLM Knowledge Base operational – tools, documents, and practical information

Regional knowledge products and support tools developed and disseminated – Country Support Tool and the Policy and Financing Guidelines

Replicable tools developed in Kenya and Uganda to reach communities and build capacity

M&E framework endorsed at the Executive Committee meeting in Istanbul

Country Service Network under preparation with NEPAD leadership

IN 2008, THE TERRAFRICA work program focused efforts on knowledge sharing to strengthen the common vision of the challenges ahead and identify innovative solutions.

In addition to supporting SLM investments on the ground, targeted knowledge can inform policymaking and advance SLM mainstreaming at the regional and country levels. TerrAfrica partners identify, generate, and disseminate cross-sectoral

knowledge to reinforce country programming, strengthen alignment behind national government priorities and document results and achievements.

Knowledge activities under the TerrAfrica partnership facilitate a common understanding of what SLM means, a common vision of the challenges ahead and a way of advancing the SLM agenda in a more efficient way at regional and national levels through innovative solutions. TerrAfrica knowledge products provide practical guidance for developing discrete investment operations in the field.

Lesson sharing among countries has contributed to the development of improved investment frameworks.

2008 was the first year when governments and partners could collaborate on the development of Country SLM Investment Frameworks (CSIF) by sharing their experiences and best practice. In 2009, as countries finalize and implement their investment frameworks (and in many cases devise closely related sector and national strategies) cross-country learning events will escalate via the **TerrAfrica SLM country service network** (see chapter 2).

Ethiopia hosted the **first lesson sharing workshop on building country investment platforms**. The workshop was organized by Ethiopia and TerrAfrica on the heels of Ethiopia's September 2008 donor conference that launched the Ethiopia Strategic Investment Framework for SLM. This learning event generated momentum amongst participating countries and served as an

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initial first step to building a continent-wide network of advocates.

Eight additional countries participated in the workshop: Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Uganda. The general objective allowed the participants to share experiences from each country's evolving SLM programme, especially on the challenges faced in building an investment oriented coalition and in devising a credible CSIF. In particular, the countries used the exercise to:

- share and learn from each country's experiences and lessons from CSIF preparation and SLM implementation;
- highlight key challenges, opportunities, strategic policies and institutional considerations in the CSIF process; and
- highlight lessons learned from the Ethiopia CSIF.

Workshop participants confirmed that the TerrAfrica guidelines and CST are useful tools and that the CSIFs should be periodically reviewed and updated to align with changing national contexts in terms of environment/climate, financing, institutions, etc. Additional recommendations urged development partners to participate in joint missions – especially at the beginning of the process – to strengthen alignment.

A working group was established in 2008 on **CSIF quality assurance and lesson-sharing**. This group exchanged experiences and lessons on the various CSIFs under development. Participants included: (i) the main agencies supporting the governments in CSIF preparation (IFAD, UNDP and the World Bank); (ii) FAO, which leads the development of the Country Support Tool; and (iii) NORAD and NEPAD, which are involved in the dialogue and financing surrounding a number of CSIFs.

Over the past two years many of TerrAfrica's international partners have been providing support to motivated participating countries to prepare CSIFs and inform the land use and management activities in PRSPs and sector strategies. It was suggested that an internal review at this early stage could assess:

- What had been the experience so far?
- What worked well or not, and why?
- What could be improved? and
- How the partnership could best support the process moving forward?

The objective of the exercise is for partners to jointly assess the draft CSIFs with country teams, analyzing both substance and process. This will help draw out lessons learnt – positive and negative – and identify good practices that can be used to strengthen country investment platforms and the CSIF document itself.



Photograph: NEPAD-CAADP

It is expected that the results of the assessment will be collected and consolidated into a report summarizing the findings of this exercise. The findings will be used to inform the continuing CSIF processes and be used as an input to the Country Support Tool version 2.0. They will also be shared through the regional learning workshops planned for 2009.

In 2008 – as both climate change and food security deeply affected African farmers and rose to the international agenda – TerrAfrica partners focused on exchanging knowledge to strengthen common understanding and identify additional activities for advancing SLM.

Land degradation is both a source of and impact from climate change and variability. Climate change magnifies the economic, social and environmental consequences of unsustainable land use and management. The best available science suggests that Sub-Saharan African countries will be the hardest hit. The poor will suffer the greatest repercussions, yet neither the countries nor individual stakeholders are particularly well prepared to adequately respond to this challenge. Sub-Saharan Africa is especially vulnerable because of high temperatures, unpredictable rainfall and high environmental stress.

Considering the critical linkages between climate, food security and land management, TerrAfrica partners worked together to further explore these linkages in order to better inform policy and practice across diverse stakeholders, including the UNCCD constituency.

During the Istanbul UNCCD CRIC in November 2008, a **side event** was held by the TerrAfrica Secretariat on the linkages between land management, the food crisis and climate change titled “*Why is Sustainable Land Management Important to Overcome the Food Crisis and Address Climate Change.*” The main objectives of this event were (i) use the current food crisis and the long term challenge of climate change as examples to highlight the role of SLM in reducing vulnerabilities of rural livelihoods and (ii) to provide suggestions to improve implementation of the desertification convention.

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About 50 CRIC participants attended the side event, chaired by the UNCCD Secretariat and involving IFPRI, the World Bank and NEPAD as speakers with GTZ as a commentator.⁸ The political and technical leaders who attended the event raised important issues and questions, which generated awareness among COP participants about the linkages between land, climate and food security.



Photograph: NEPAD-CAADP

In late 2008, a **Strategic Advisory Group on Land and Climate** comprised of TerrAfrica members was set up to facilitate information exchange and outreach. This SAG is oriented towards discussion around policy and investment. The objective of this working group is to identify how TerrAfrica partners – by working together – can better support countries to (i) strengthen the resilience of rural livelihoods to climate related hazards; (ii) reduce land based greenhouse gas emissions through appropriate SLM investment; and (iii) identify how the region can better benefit from the growing carbon market via SLM. Most of the work done by this group in 2008 focused on coalition building to develop knowledge products that would raise awareness on the land climate nexus.

The partnership's set of 2008 **knowledge activities** will be used as inputs into the regional policy dialogue in preparation for the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). For example, The Land and Climate SAG supported the development of an issue paper by the World Bank and IFPRI entitled *"The Role of Sustainable Land Management for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in Sub-Saharan Africa."* This paper will be finalized in early 2009, and – through AU and NEPAD leadership – will provide technical substance for Sub-Saharan dialogues during the agriculture and environment ministers' meetings and the Heads of State Summit in the context of the preparation of the UNFCCC COP in

⁸ An information note titled, "Sustainable Land Management in the Face of Climate Change" and three PowerPoint presentations supporting the side event are available on the TerrAfrica website at www.terrafrica.org



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Copenhagen in December 2009

A second key knowledge product targets extension and research communities and is set for 2009 finalization. It assesses best-bet SLM practices that farmers are using and that can be scaled up to adapt to climate change and variability, while reducing land-based greenhouse gas emissions. FAO, in coordination with the World Bank, is supervising this product. The Global Mechanism and FAO are also jointly preparing resource guides on financing for SLM in the region, also for 2009 finalization.

In-depth case studies, which are also slated for use at the UNFCCC COP in Copenhagen, are currently being carried out by the World Bank in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Nigeria, Niger, Kenya and Uganda with the aim to gain further insights into how climatic variation and other factors influence the vulnerability of rural populations and how the adoption of SLM practices can help adaptation to climate change and variability.

TerrAfrica partners during 2008 developed or finalized knowledge tools to widely disseminate SLM knowledge and test innovative solutions promoting SLM at the country level.

At a regional level – as well as in most Sub-Saharan African countries – SLM related knowledge and data is fragmented across different organizations and locations, making it very difficult to access information in a timely or cost-effective manner. Policymakers, national governments and other stakeholders aiming to scale-up SLM needed a “one-stop-shopping” tool or online archive to house products and documents that can inform multi-sectoral investment programming and project development at the regional and national levels.

To respond to this need, information on sustainable land management was collected, packaged and customized to create the **SLM Knowledge Base**.⁹ Under the leadership of FAO, this interactive website facilitates the exchange and accumulation of key knowledge needed to rollout SLM throughout Africa.¹⁰ The Knowledge Base, which facilitates the alignment around a common body of SLM knowledge, includes information on technical implementation on the ground as well as information on the range of incentives and institutional environments that drive land users to adopt better land and water management practices.

The Knowledge Base is replete with interactive tools and a community function that serves as

9 The Knowledge Base is a dynamic, free resource available to anyone with an internet connection. It can be utilized at various levels of implementation from community planning and investment design to policymaking and financing. The tool is meant to provide a shared space for people committed to roll out SLM in Africa to share knowledge, resources, ideas and experiences. For more information, visit knowledgebase.terrafrica.org

10 Ecoagriculture Partners contributed to planning the Knowledge Base and produced a comprehensive set of materials for TerrAfrica partners, including briefs of all project tools, reports, policy analyses and videos.

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a clearinghouse for key information resources that can support countries in securing the integrity and productivity of their rural landscapes and watersheds via improved land use, whether crop, pasture or forest. This information comes from a variety of sources in different formats including text, multimedia, maps, statistics and websites. The Knowledge Base was presented to the Executive Committee members during the 2008 Executive Committee meeting in Istanbul.

Additional **niche tools, guidelines and activities** were developed by Ecoagriculture Partners to support knowledge sharing for SLM. A leadership course was held in Jinja, Uganda, with participants from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Madagascar. At the course, community knowledge-sharing plans were developed for Kijabe landscape in Kenya and Kapchorwa in Uganda. Also, learning events were organized at Kijabe landscape to support knowledge sharing for SLM by farmer organizations in Kenya and in Kayunga District in Uganda with the Kayunga District Farmers Association.

Ecoagriculture Partners also developed a market opportunity assessment toolkit for landscapes and field-tested various components. Diverse market opportunities were identified in Kisoro, Uganda, with a more focused assessment of bamboo, and in Kijabe, Uganda, with a more focused assessment of vegetables. Several trainings on market assessment have been held for ecoagriculture leaders in East Africa.

Chapter 4 – Strengthening advocacy

IN 2008, TERRAFRICA PARTNERS increased advocacy on SLM and strengthened African ownership of the SLM agenda.

TerrAfrica helps mobilize both domestic and external funding while encouraging demand-driven programmatic approaches anchored in countries' own planning processes and involving multiple country actors and international partners. While significant progress has been made in enhancing African ownership, regional integration and aid harmonization, a key objective for partners is to ensure that the partnership remains truly African-led. In 2008, great strides were made in transferring TerrAfrica Secretariat functions from the World Bank to NEPAD.

Strengthened capacity at regional and sub-regional levels allowed NEPAD and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to develop policy frameworks for SLM and better support activities at the country level.

The **Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP)** Pillar 1 framework focuses on expanding the area under sustainable land and water management and reliable water control systems. The Pillar 1 framework document also includes aspects of land policy and administration. Through the leadership of NEPAD and the Pillar 1 lead institutions, a framework document was produced in 2008. This document builds upon earlier TerrAfrica products such as the *TerrAfrica Country Support Tool* and working products such as the *SLM Vision Paper*. These products were enjoined by additional products from outside the immediate TerrAfrica work program, such as *Investment in Agricultural Water for Poverty Reduction and Economic Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa*. This achievement reflects good potential for taking integrated approaches to investment in irrigation, watershed management, water harvesting and soil conservation under Pillar 1. The Pillar 1 framework document is due for final validation in 2009.

Advocacy at regional and international levels was strengthened by NEPAD and other TerrAfrica partners. At the country level it was done by national TerrAfrica counterparts.

In 2008, outreach was done at the regional level during **the UNCCD CRIC7** through a series of side events, including: *TerrAfrica, State of the Partnership and Update on Progress*. It involved NEPAD and FAO as well as the Governments of Ethiopia and Niger as speakers. In addition to the presentations, two information notes were provided to the participants (“TerrAfrica: Priorities for 2008” and “SLM Knowledge Base”) as well as the 2007 TerrAfrica Annual Report. The main objectives of these side events were to: (i) present and discuss the implementation of the TerrAfrica joint work programme and to provide information to promote scaling-up of SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa; and (ii) to better promote the value addition of the TerrAfrica platform and raise awareness

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on SLM issues amongst participants.

In 2008, additional efforts were made to **strengthen involvement of African civil society organizations in advocacy on SLM**. TLF support was provided through UNDP. A CSO Special Advisory Group (SAG) was created to support a series of activities, including a visioning process, refinement of the coordination mechanisms of

the African CSO network, and elaboration of a new work plan to strengthen civil society participation in the country strategic investment frameworks for SLM that are planned or underway.

The agenda was launched at CRIC7 under the auspices of the CSO SAG. The event was attended by civil society groups from Africa and Europe as well as TerrAfrica partners. The key message from the participants was that national programmes to upscale SLM have not reached local communities due in part to the limited participation of civil society organizations. Advocacy for and through CSOs is needed and quite beneficial. Work on this front will be supported in 2009 by the activities mentioned above.

Although the partnership made significant strides in advocacy at regional and international levels, there still remains a lot of work to ensure that the partnership becomes a household name when it comes to SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa. To that end, a communication team was set up to strengthen key messages and facilitate a common understanding and broader awareness of TerrAfrica by all of its stakeholders.



Photograph: Louis Grégoire, NEPAD

Chapter 5 – The Way Forward

THE TERRAFRICA PARTNERSHIP made significant strides in 2008 in its three activity lines. As the partnership matures in 2009, the work program will become more focused on:

- building coalitions at regional level in support of SLM scale-up;
- expanding the SLM knowledge base;
- advancing M&E and the country service network;
- developing specific knowledge products (such as on land and climate) that contribute to diverse country level investment programming; and
- expanding the investment portfolio with a new generation of operations.

The building of an operational platform with an Executive Committee of 15 different stakeholders proved to be useful. TerrAfrica is seen by the UNCCD, NEPAD and others as an example of best practice for jointly addressing the objectives of the Convention, as well as the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Looking ahead, work under Activity Line 1 on coalition building will have a stronger focus on consolidating and mainstreaming joint programming, providing support to communication and advocacy and strengthening the capacity of NEPAD and the RECs. NEPAD will eventually assume all responsibility for the management of the Secretariat as the World Bank hands over leadership in the transition phase.

Under Activity Line 2, work is expected to expand and consolidate the SLM knowledge base and increase the quality of joint reporting and monitoring on progress and results. It will also tackle the operationalization of the country service network. The Country Support Tool will continue to support the development of national investment programmes and a version 2.0 will be prepared for 2010 delivery. Other publications highlighting the land and climate nexus will contribute to inform African decision-makers.

Work under Activity Line 3 on investments is expected to focus on delivering fully on the first generation of projects and advisory services in priority countries. This work will lead to the development of a second generation of products to programmatically strengthen and expand the scope of SLM activities and increase the number of countries receiving support.

During 2008, the partnership generated considerable political support for scaling up SLM investments in service of multiple country priorities, touching on a range of themes and sectors. In 2009, it is envisaged that the work programme will build greater political momentum in favor of SLM and enhance the effectiveness of investments and participation at the country and regional levels.

Building upon advances made by the partnership in promoting SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa, TerrAfrica's work program is poised to enhance the collective response to challenges such as the food and climate crises. With the support of all the partners, much can be achieved.

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TerrAfrica is a partnership that aims to address land degradation in Sub-Saharan Africa by scaling up harmonized support for effective and efficient country-driven sustainable land management (SLM) practices.