

# **Sustainable Land Management (SLM)**

- Means managing land without damaging ecological processes or reducing biological diversity, including:
- **biodiversity:** the variety of species, populations, habitats and ecosystems;
  - ecological integrity: the general health and resilience of natural life-support systems, including their ability to assimilate wastes and withstand stresses such as climate change and ozone depletion; and
  - natural capital: the stock of productive soil, fresh water, forests, clean air, ocean, and other renewable resources that underpin the survival, health and prosperity of human communities. Australian Governme

http://www.environment.gov.au/land/manage

# SLM Survey, Kagera Tamp - Uganda

- Carried out between June and August 2011;
  Considered 6 districts: Kabale, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Isingiro, Rakai and Kiruhura;
  Captured current state of land resources and land use;
- Described conservation effort, defined technology and approach; and
- Analyzed impact of conservation intervention

# **SLM QT**

- Detailed enough to capture conservation technology vividly
  Too detailed for a short, baseline survey
  Better suited for longitudinal, comparative assessment
  Generally, a comprehensive tool for the SLM
  - expert but quite unfriendly to most land managers

# **SLM QA**

- Detailed enough to capture conservation approach vividly
  Brief enough for short baseline survey to be conducted quickly
- Could be used in longitudinal survey without much modification
- Easily understood by all stakeholders

#### **SLM Assessment**

Because surveys revealed a wide variation in agroecological potential, population density, presence of programs and organizations, farmer education, household capital, and level of land degradation and conservation effort:

• SLM assessment must primarily consider what technologies and approaches are "appropriate "or relevant, to the land managers as well as to the national/international development policies

• Assessment ought to be interactive, designed to accept well informed input from both the SLM expert and the least sophisticated land manager

# Success of QT and QA as SLM assessment tools in Uganda

- 33 technologies were documented in 6 districts
- 9 approaches were used to realize the technologies
- The Ugandan SLM specialists who participated in the survey agree that the WOCAT tools could be modified and used as a basis for the development of a regional database on conservation technologies and approaches

#### **Preliminary Results**

- The most common problem leading to land resource degradation in the 6 Ugandan Kagera tamp districts was soil erosion
- The most common technology was tree planting, used both as a preventive and a mitigation intervention
- The most common approach was observation, with land managers learning from one another and initiating technologies

# **Tree Planting Technologies**

#### Isingiro District, Uganda

The farmer has planted a forest stand of Eucalyptus trees on the upper slopes to prevent surface runoff. Diversion channels guide water into his intercropped banana plantation. Note the multiplicity of technologies.



## **Tree Planting Technologies**

#### Kabale District, Uganda

A maturing forest of pines protects a crop of cowpeas. The mulching protects the soil from excessive moisture loss, rain drop impact and erosion.



## **Tree Planting Technologies**

Ntungamo District, Uganda

A young Eucalyptus grove on a gentle slope. Note again mulching and intercropping (a drying maize plant near the foreground).

# Way Forward

- The SLM partnership should be broad at the bottom
- This implies that all levels of land managers should be encouraged to participate meaningfully in the documentation of SLM technologies and approaches
- This should be achieved if simple documentation tools (see sample) are designed