



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL
LAND INITIATIVE

5-day training workshop on:

Land Restoration in Lowlands-based Systems in Africa

19-23 August, 2024 | M'bé, Côte d'Ivoire

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AfricaRice



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030



Last day to apply
8 July 2024
Applicants will be selected
on a rolling basis

LAND RESTORATION IN LOWLANDS-BASED SYSTEMS IN AFRICA



Lowland ecosystems, covering about 3.6% of sub-Saharan Africa (approximately 85 million ha), have traditionally not been used for agriculture except for irrigated areas which have water management infrastructures. Challenges such as difficult management and water-borne diseases like bilharzia and malaria have limited their use (Verhoeven et al., 2010).

However, due to global factors like population growth and climate change, lowlands are increasingly being utilized for agriculture.

Besides agriculture, lowlands support crucial ecosystem functions such as flood control, water storage, nutrient retention, and micro-climate stabilization. They also serve recreational and tourism purposes and provide resources for crafts and construction, contributing to biodiversity and local cultural heritage (Rodenburg et al., 2014).

With the escalating conversion of lowlands into production sites leading to rapid ecological degradation, there is an urgent need for guidelines on lowlands restoration. This involves understanding the risks, benefits, and developing skills to plan and implement effective restoration strategies, ensuring sustainable management and scaling up of restoration efforts. This workshop will offer a set of master classes on technical sessions, case studies, field trips and group discussions around this topic

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The primary objectives of this training workshop are to equip participants with the skills to identify and plan the most effective lowlands restoration strategies for agricultural development, recognize ecosystem services provided by lowland landscapes, and design and implement restoration measures that integrate physical, biological, and socioeconomic factors. Additionally, the workshop will focus on monitoring and evaluating impacts based on sustainability performance indicators.

THE WORKSHOP IS DESIGNED FOR:

The training programme is tailored for scientists and team leaders from National Agricultural Research Institutes, local universities, Extension Systems, private sector, and non-governmental organizations.

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For more information, please
contact: abose@unccd.int



ABOUT AFRICARICE

AfricaRice, established in 1971 as the West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA) and renamed in 2009, is a pan-African Center of Excellence for rice research and development, headquartered in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. As one of 15 CGIAR global agricultural research centers, it focuses on enhancing the productivity and profitability of rice-based agri-food systems in Africa, contributing to food and nutrition security and improving the livelihoods of farmers and other rice value-chain actors.

The Center operates across 28 African member countries including Nigeria, Egypt, and Kenya, employing about 230 staff members, with research stations in Madagascar, Nigeria, and Senegal, and project sites in Liberia and Uganda. AfricaRice's work is pivotal in boosting Africa's rice sector through innovations in seeds, cropping practices, processing technologies, and providing policy advice and capacity building.

It collaborates extensively with national agricultural research systems (NARS), academic institutions, NGOs, and farmer organizations, funded by governments, foundations, international financial institutions, and the CGIAR Trust Fund. More information on AfricaRice can be found at <https://www.africarice.org/>

ABOUT G20 GLOBAL LAND INITIATIVE

The ambition of the G20 Global Initiative on Reducing Land Degradation and Enhancing Conservation of Terrestrial Habitats (G20 Global Land Initiative) launched during the Saudi Arabian Presidency is to achieve a 50 per cent reduction in degraded land by 2040. To inspire all stakeholders to collectively deliver on land conservation and

restoration outcomes: we showcase success stories; engage the private sector; empower civil society and the public; and share knowledge to build capacity among G20 members as well as interested non-member countries and other stakeholders. More information on the initiative can be seen at www.g20land.org/

COURSE LEADS



Dr. Elliott Dossou-Yovo is an agronomist and water management scientist, with a Ph.D. in Climate Change and Agriculture.



Dr. Mohamed Abd Salam EL Vilaly is a Programme Officer with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Secretariat in Bonn, leading Information Management for the G20 Global Land Initiative.

Language of Instruction:

English/French

Course Duration: 5 days

Dates: August 19-23, 2024

Course Fee: The course will be free of cost for the selected candidates. Travel support will be available to participants on a need basis.

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