



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



GLOBAL RESTORATION
INFORMATION HUB

5-day training workshop on:

BUILDING RESILIENT AGRICULTURE SYSTEMS:

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION FOR AFRICA'S AGRICULTURAL FUTURE

21-25 April 2025

Saint Louis, Senegal



AfricaRice



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



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BUILDING RESILIENT AGRICULTURE SYSTEMS: SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION FOR AFRICA'S AGRICULTURAL FUTURE



Land is a critical resource, yet its degradation remains a pressing global issue, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), which comprises 16% of the world's land area, supports 15% of the global population (projected to rise to 35% by 2100) and contributes 20% of ecosystem services (Nkonya et al., 2016; Ezeh et al., 2020). The region's reliance on smallholder farms, which produce up to 90% of its food, is threatened by unsustainable practices, deforestation and erosion, affecting nearly 70% of its lands and causing 22% of the global annual cost of land degradation (Hlophe-Ginindza et al., 2021; Zingore et al., 2015). Additionally, 40% of SSA's lands suffer from low nutrient levels, further restricting agricultural productivity (Tully et al., 2015) and intensifying food insecurity, with an estimated 86 million people expected to migrate internally by 2050 due to climate and land challenges (World Bank Group, 2021).

Sustainable landscape management, which integrates responsible land use, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration, offers a path to address these issues by minimizing trade-offs, protecting soil and water resources and supporting both upstream and downstream communities (World Resources Institute, 2020; Dossou-Yovo et al., 2022). This workshop will bring together stakeholders to explore strategies and solutions for sustainable agricultural practices, fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and capacity building to promote climate-resilient landscapes, enhanced productivity, and long-term sustainability in SSA.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the training workshop is to equip participants with the knowledge and skills required to design and implement resilient landscapes

using sustainable landscape management and restoration practices. The workshop will emphasize the importance of incorporating ecological, social and economic factors to ensure long-term agricultural sustainability, climate resilience and environmental restoration in the African context.

RELEVANCE OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

The training workshop aims to build knowledge, skills and capacity for sustainable landscape restoration in SSA by equipping participants with advanced tools and practices, fostering collaboration and linking restoration efforts to inclusive policies and climate adaptation strategies. It emphasizes real-world solutions to improve water management, soil health, biodiversity and sustainable food systems while empowering stakeholders to drive transformative change.

The training workshop is organized in five comprehensive modules designed to provide participants with a balanced mix of theoretical knowledge, practical skills and real-world exposure. The modules are structured as follows:

Classroom-based modules at AfricaRice Regional Center, Saint Louis in Senegal

- Module 1: Foundations of resilient landscapes and sustainable land management
- Module 2: Tools and techniques for landscape restoration
- Module 3: From climate-smart approaches to climate smart landscape management
- Module 4: Gender, policy and institutional support for resilient landscapes

Field-based module in the Senegal River Valley

- Module 5: Field visits and stakeholder interactions

Nkonya, E., Johnson, T., Kwon, H. Y., & Kato, E. (2016). Economics of Land Degradation in Sub-Saharan Africa. In: Nkonya, E., Mirzabaev, A., von Braun, J. (eds) Economics of Land Degradation and Improvement – A Global Assessment for Sustainable Development, Springer International Publishing, pp. 215–259. doi:10.1007/978-3-319-19168-3_9

Ezeh, A., Kissling, F., & Singer, P. (2020). Why sub-Saharan Africa might exceed its projected population size by 2100. *Lancet*, 396(10258), 1131–1133. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(20)31522-1.

Hlophe-Ginindza, N. S., & Mpanzeli, N. S. (2021). The Role of Small-Scale Farmers in Ensuring Food Security in Africa. In: Food Security in Africa: IntechOpen. doi:10.5772/intechopen.91694 pp. 1-14

Zingore, S., Mutegi, J. K., Agesa, B. L., Tamene, L., & Kihara, J. (2015). Soil Degradation in sub-Saharan Africa and Crop Production Options for Soil Rehabilitation. *Better Crops with Plant Food*, 99(1), 24–26. <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/68702>

Tully, K., Sullivan, C., Weil, R., & Sanchez, P. (2015). The State of Soil Degradation in Sub-Saharan Africa: Baselines, Trajectories, and Solutions. *Sustainability*, 7(6), 6523–6552. doi:10.3390/su7066523.

World Bank Group. (2021). Climate Change Could Force 216 million People to Migrate Within Their Own Countries by 2050 (2022/12/CCG).

Dossou-Yovo, E.R., Devkota, K.P., Akpoti, K., Danvi, A., Duku, C., & Zwart, S.J. (2022). Thirty years of water management research for rice in sub-Saharan Africa: achievement and perspectives. *Field Crop. Res.* 283, 108548 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fcr.2022.108548>.

The structure ensures an immersive and holistic learning experience. It blends theoretical instruction with practical field application and stakeholder engagement, which will equip participants with actionable knowledge and strategies for resilient landscape management.

TARGET AUDIENCE

This training workshop is designed for scientists and team leaders from national agricultural research institutes, local universities, extension systems, the private sector and non-governmental organizations. The participants are expected to be professionals with a background in agriculture, land management or related fields, who are working on or have a vested interest in land restoration and sustainable agriculture.

ABOUT THE HOST AGENCIES

AfricaRice: Established in 1971, AfricaRice is a CGIAR research center enhancing productivity and profitability of rice-based agri-food systems in Africa to improve food security and farmer livelihoods. It collaborates with national research systems, NGOs and academic institutions, who are funded by diverse stakeholders.

G20 Global Land Initiative: Launched during the Saudi Presidency, the G20 Global Land Initiative's ambition is to reduce global degraded land by 50% by 2040. G20 GLI promotes land restoration by showcasing success stories, engaging the private sector, empowering civil society and sharing knowledge.

COURSE LEADS



Dr. Elliott Dossou-Yovo is an agronomist and water management scientist in AfricaRice. He is 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:

21-25 April 2025



Course Fee: The course will be free of cost for the selected candidates.

Application deadline: 15 March 2025



Register here:

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