

For more information, please contact:

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Michelle Gauthier, Forestry Officer
michelle.gauthier@fao.org
Rome, Italy
www.fao.org/forestry

Centre International de Recherche pour le Développement (CIRAD)
International Cooperation Centre of Agricultural Research for Development
Emmanuel Torquebiau, CIRAD correspondant in South Africa
emmanuel.torquebiau@cirad.fr
Pretoria, South Africa
www.cirad.fr

World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF)
Franck Place, Impact Assessment Advisor
f.place@cgiar.org
Nairobi, Kenya
www.worldagroforestrycentre.org

Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE)
Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center
Guillermo Detlefsen
gdetlf@catie.ac.cr
Cartago, Turrialba, Costa Rica
www.catie.ac.cr



Upgrading the profile of agroforestry on the policy agenda

Development of Guidelines for National Policy and Decision-Making



Putting agroforestry high on the policy agenda

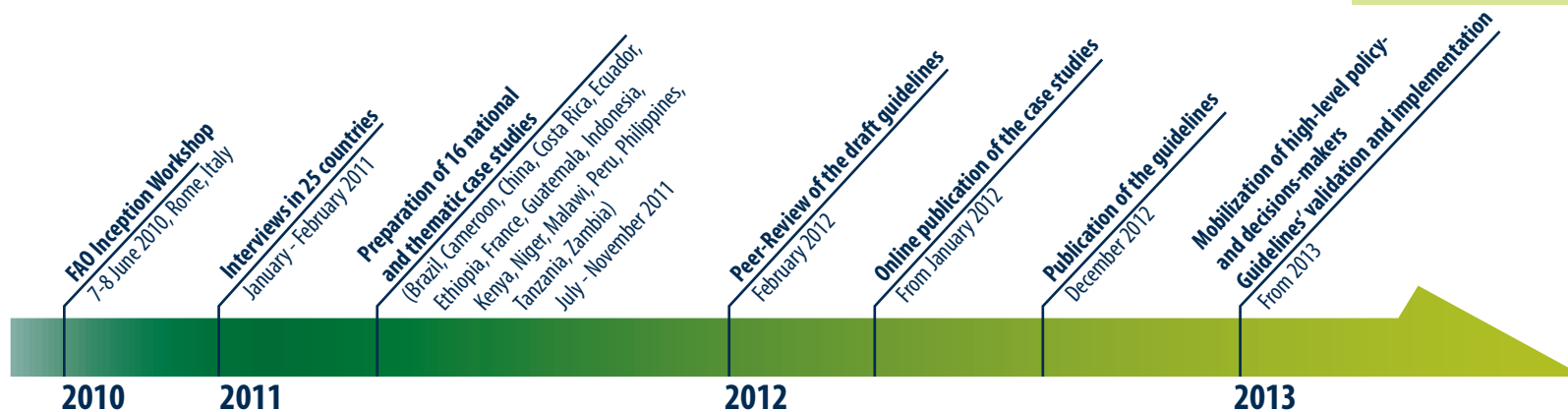
Preserving and enhancing food security requires agricultural production systems to increase productivity and to reduce output variability in the face of climate change and other agro-ecological and socio-economic risks. More productive and resilient agriculture requires transformations in the management of natural resources (e.g. trees, land, water, soil nutrients and genetic resources) and higher efficiency in the use of these resources. The key role of agroforestry for climate-smart agriculture, sustainable ecosystem and landscape management is generally recognized but has been widely neglected at policy and strategic decision-making levels. Then, it continues to be disadvantaged by adverse policy incentives, legal constraints and the lack of coordination among stakeholders.

FAO Forestry Department, in collaboration with the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) and the International Cooperation Centre of Agricultural Research for Development (CIRAD) are developing guidelines to put agroforestry high on the policy agenda and to guide decision-makers at the national level. Using a participatory process, guidelines and 16 case studies in all regions of the world have been developed through a series of workshops and interviews.

Agroforestry policy guidelines for decision makers, a collaborative process

A provisional version of the guidelines will be submitted to peer review in February 2012. The peer review process will also offer the opportunity to explore the means for validation, adoption and implementation of the guidelines at international and national level. The guidelines are expected to be published in December 2012.

This is an invitation to participate to the peer review process and further implementation of the Guidelines.



Contents of the guidelines

- Why develop agroforestry and what for?
- Barriers to agroforestry development
- Why policies are needed to promote and regulate agroforestry?
- Drivers of agroforestry development
- Lessons learnt from success stories
- 10 tracks for policy action

Preliminary findings for action

1. Raise awareness about the benefits of agroforestry systems to both individual farmers and the global society.
2. Appraise and reform unfavourable regulations and legal restrictions.
3. Clarify land use policy goals and rules.
4. Elaborate new agricultural policies taking into account the role of trees in rural development.
5. Organize inter-sectoral co-ordination for better policy coherence and synergies.
6. Create a clear context for payments for environmental services.
7. Strengthen farmers' access to markets for tree products.
8. Enhance stakeholders' information.
9. Build up policy based on local people needs.
10. Be engaged in a good governance of land use and forests.

