



Technologies applied under the Approach: Multi-storey, Intercropping (Soil Conservation and Management Division Staff)

Soil Conservation Guided Farm System (Philippines)

SCGFS, Guided Farm, Guided Farm Project

DESCRIPTION

Soil Conservation Guided Farming System (SCGFS) is a land use management approach that integrates technologies: terracing, agro-pastoral technology, multi-storey cropping, and contouring within the socio-economic and bio-physical limitations of upland areas for optimum development of soil and water resource in a sustainable manner.

Generally, SCGFS aims to promote sustainable land use management that provides agricultural livelihood while protecting and maintaining environmental sustainability in the upland areas of the country. Its specific objectives: (1) Establish community-based and farmer-managed techno demo farms cum learning centers on soil and water conservation in marginal uplands and watersheds of Small Scale Irrigation Projects (SSIPs); (2) Promote and disseminate effective soil and water conservation approaches and technologies for broader adoption; and (3) Develop a strong linkage and partnership among local stakeholders and cooperators to protect our upland resources and watersheds.

Participatory Approach amongst stakeholders as spearheaded by the Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) through the Soil Conservation and Management Division (SCMD)

Stages of implementation: (1) Coordination with the Local Government Units (LGU) and consultation with farmers; (2) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) preparation; (3) Reconnaissance survey (a. Site selection/ identification b. Dialogue with farmer cooperators); (4) Field Survey/Ground Truthing (Topographic survey, Land Resources survey); (5) Maps Preparation(Topographic Map, Soil Map, Land Use Map, Slope Map and Erosion Map); (6) Preparation of preliminary Farm Development Plan; (7) Presentation of Farm Development Plan to the LGUs and Farmer Cooperators (Discussion, Revision/modification); (8). Preparation of Project Study Report (Final Farm Development Plan); (9) Institutional Development/ Capacity Building; (10) Implementation Stage / Farm Development; (11)Conduct of season long farmer field school; and (12) Monitoring and Evaluation including Operation and Maintenance.

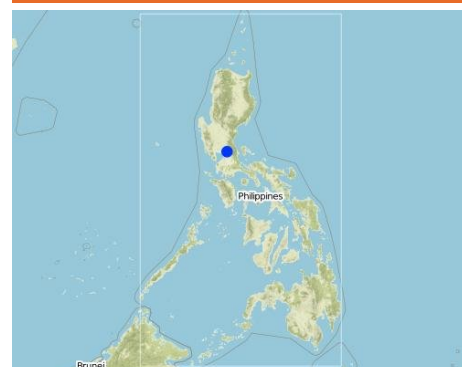
Role of stakeholders: A. Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM):

1. Provide the over-all direction in the preparation of plans and programs for the implementation of soil and water conservation through the SCGFS;
2. Provide technical support and assistance in the promotion and implementation of soil and water conservation and in the conduct of capacity building activities (i.e. in terms of training modules and resource persons);

B. Partner agencies/institutions (e.g. LGUs and other concerned agencies):

1. Prepare and endorse request to the BSWM for the establishment of SCGFS as demo farm of soil and water conservation technologies;
2. Provide technical support and assistance to the co-operators in the conduct of field survey and investigation, preparation of soil conservation farm plan, establishment of the SCGFS, and undertaking the necessary training activities;

LOCATION



Location: Bulacan, Philippines

Geo-reference of selected sites

- 121.10526, 14.81255

Initiation date: 2002

Year of termination: n.a.

Type of Approach

- ☐ traditional/ indigenous
- ☐ recent local initiative/ innovative
- ☒ project/ programme based

3. In coordination with BSWM, assist the co-operators in availing necessary farm inputs and facilities for the establishment of the SCGFS; and
4. Undertake monitoring and assessment of operation and maintenance of established SCGFS to immediately address on-farm problems.

C. The Farmer Cooperators (i.e. interest groups/individuals):

1. Signify their interest to establish soil and water conservation demo farm through formal request to the BSWM;
2. Be willing to provide their own resources in the establishment of the demo farm;
3. Provide support and assistance to BSWM in the conduct of field survey and investigation;
4. Act as extension agents in the local community to disseminate soil and water conservation technologies with the demo farm as the community learning center.



Farm Planning (Soil Conservation and Management Division Staff)

APPROACH AIMS AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Main aims / objectives of the approach

SCGFS aims to promote sustainable land use management that provides agricultural livelihood while protecting and maintaining environmental sustainability in the upland areas of the country. Its specific objectives: (1) Establish community-based and farmer - managed techno demo farms cum learning centers on soil and water conservation in marginal uplands and watersheds of SSIPs; (2) Promote and disseminate effective soil and water conservation approaches and technologies for broader adoption; and (3) Develop a strong linkage and partnership among local stakeholders and cooperators to protect our upland resources and watersheds.

Conditions enabling the implementation of the Technology/ ies applied under the Approach

- **Availability/ access to financial resources and services:** Support from BSWM, Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) & LGUs; Income Generating Technologies
- **Institutional setting:** Organized farmers association
- **Knowledge about SLM, access to technical support:** Capacity building, Farmers Field School
- **Workload, availability of manpower:** Provide additional labor

Conditions hindering the implementation of the Technology/ ies applied under the Approach

PARTICIPATION AND ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED

Stakeholders involved in the Approach and their roles

What stakeholders / implementing bodies were involved in the Approach?	Specify stakeholders	Describe roles of stakeholders
local land users/ local communities		
SLM specialists/ agricultural advisers		
local government	Local Government Unit	

Lead agency

Land user groups

Involvement of local land users/ local communities in the different phases of the Approach

	none	passive	external support	interactive	self-mobilization
initiation/ motivation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
monitoring/ evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BSWM initiates the establishment of the project. Field surveys i.e site validation, topographic surveys etc. are conducted by BSWM technical staffs.

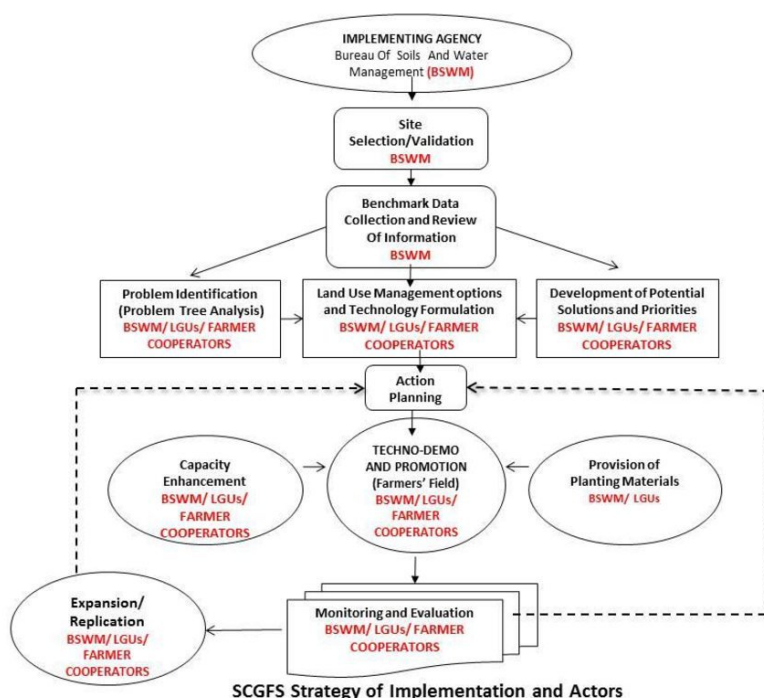
Planning involves both BSWM and LGUs, technology/ies to be established is/are dependent on the biophysical limitation of the area and the needs of farmer cooperators.

Implementation of the project requires participatory involvement amongst stakeholders.

BSWM, LGUs and farmer cooperators are responsible in the monitoring and evaluation of the established technologies, these will ensure continued adaptation of the technology.

Flow chart

SCGFS Stages of Implementation and Actors



Decision-making on the selection of SLM Technology

Decisions were taken by

- ☐ land users alone (self-initiative)
- ☐ mainly land users, supported by SLM specialists
- ☐ all relevant actors, as part of a participatory approach
- ☒ mainly SLM specialists, following consultation with land users
- ☐ SLM specialists alone
- ☐ politicians/ leaders

Decisions were made based on

- ☐ evaluation of well-documented SLM knowledge (evidence-based decision-making)
- ☐ research findings
- ☐ personal experience and opinions (undocumented)

TECHNICAL SUPPORT, CAPACITY BUILDING, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

The following activities or services have been part of the approach

- ☒ Capacity building/ training
- ☒ Advisory service
- ☒ Institution strengthening (organizational development)
- ☒ Monitoring and evaluation
- ☐ Research

Capacity building/ training

Training was provided to the following stakeholders

- ☒ land users
- ☒ field staff/ advisers

Form of training

- ☐ on-the-job
- ☒ farmer-to-farmer
- ☒ demonstration areas
- ☐ public meetings
- ☐ courses
- ☒ organization, capacity building

Subjects covered

Soil and Water Conservation Measures, Land Degradation, Soil Erosion Issues.

Advisory service

Advisory service was provided

- ☐ on land users' fields
☐ at permanent centres

BSWM is the implementing agency. Advises are coming from the experts/ specialists of BSWM.

Institution strengthening

Institutions have been strengthened / established

- ☐ no
☒ yes, a little
☐ yes, moderately
☐ yes, greatly

at the following level

- ☒ local
☐ regional
☐ national

Describe institution, roles and responsibilities, members, etc.

Needy family heads

Type of support

- ☐ financial
☐ capacity building/ training
☐ equipment

Further details

Monitoring and evaluation

FINANCING AND EXTERNAL MATERIAL SUPPORT

Annual budget in USD for the SLM component

- ☐ < 2,000
☒ 2,000-10,000
☐ 10,000-100,000
☐ 100,000-1,000,000
☐ > 1,000,000

Precise annual budget: n.a.

Government (technical assistance i.e field surveys, provision of planting materials) 20%, local government (technical assistance, planting materials) 60%, local land users (labor, care and maintenance) 20%

The following services or incentives have been provided to land users

- ☐ Financial/ material support provided to land users
☒ Subsidies for specific inputs
☐ Credit
☐ Other incentives or instruments

equipment: machinery

partly financed
fully financed
☒

agricultural: seeds

☒

Greenhouse, Access Roads

☒

Labour by land users was

- ☒ voluntary
☐ food-for-work
☐ paid in cash
☐ rewarded with other material support

IMPACT ANALYSIS AND CONCLUDING STATEMENTS

Impacts of the Approach

Did the Approach help land users to implement and maintain SLM Technologies?

SCGFS involves the development of farming systems that adopts appropriate land uses, proper combination of crop and animal commodities, and the right mix of soil and water conservation practices. Thus, these measures ensures development in land use, livestock production and conservation measures.

No
Yes, little
Yes, moderately
Yes, greatly
☒

Did the Approach empower socially and economically disadvantaged groups?

The approach aids in income generation for needy family heads.

☒

Did the Approach lead to improved food security/ improved nutrition?

Crop diversification helps needy farmers increase their income. Farmers who have undergone SLM training have more exposure to sustainable land use management that would help them improve and widen their knowledge in their farming activities.

☒

Did other land users / projects adopt the Approach?

Adjacent farms/ barangays and other sloping areas of the Philippines

☒

Main motivation of land users to implement SLM

- ☒ increased production
☐ increased profit(ability), improved cost-benefit-ratio
☐ reduced land degradation

Sustainability of Approach activities

Can the land users sustain what has been implemented through the Approach (without external support)?

- ☐ reduced risk of disasters
- ☐ reduced workload
- ☐ payments/ subsidies
- ☐ rules and regulations (fines)/ enforcement
- ☐ prestige, social pressure/ social cohesion
- ☐ affiliation to movement/ project/ group/ networks
- ☒ environmental consciousness
- ☐ customs and beliefs, morals
- ☐ enhanced SLM knowledge and skills
- ☐ aesthetic improvement
- ☐ conflict mitigation
- ☒ well-being and livelihoods improvement

- ☐ no
- ☒ yes
- ☐ uncertain

Technologies are already established and proven to be socially acceptable and economically viable. Farmer cooperators are equipped with technical knowledge they obtained from seminars and training provided by the approach. With these, it ensures sustainability of the project with farmer's own initiative.

CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT

Strengths: land user's view

- New opportunities for other projects from government
- Learning center for other barangays
- Organization of farmers into cooperatives/associations

Strengths: compiler's or other key resource person's view

- Participatory/Interactive method
- Serves as a learning center for other barangay or farmers
- Easy to adapt
- Multi-sectoral involvement
- Transfer of technologies to farmer beneficiaries

Weaknesses/ disadvantages/ risks: land user's view how to overcome

- No major concern in the weaknesses / disadvantages of the approach.

Weaknesses/ disadvantages/ risks: compiler's or other key resource person's view how to overcome

- Low budget for the establishment of techno-demo Establish linkages with Local and International funding institutions; development of research proposals for possible funding.
- Lack of research component particularly in economic and ecological analysis/assessment Conduct on-site research studies; engage State/Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in research activity.

REFERENCES

Compiler

Philippine Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies

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Date of documentation: Maart 20, 2017

Last update: April 12, 2017

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Full description in the WOCAT database

https://qcat.wocat.net/af/wocat/approaches/view/approaches_1973/

Linked SLM data

Technologies: Improved pasture under citrus https://qcat.wocat.net/af/wocat/technologies/view/technologies_1321/
Technologies: Papaya production using plastic mulch and drip irrigation system
https://qcat.wocat.net/af/wocat/technologies/view/technologies_4414/

Documentation was facilitated by

Institution

- Department of Agriculture-Region VIII (DA-8) - Philippines

Project

- Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling out Sustainable Land Management (GEF-FAO / DS-SLM)

Key references

- San Jose del Monte Soil Conservation Guided Farm Project: A success Story, Madrid Agribusiness Digest, 2012, pp 36: 1.28 USD

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