LANDCARE - Claveria Landcare Association (CLCA) (Philippines)

DESCRIPTION

Associations that help diffuse, at low cost, soil and water conservation technologies among upland farmers to generate income while conserving natural resources. In parts of the Philippines, farmers who are interested in learning and sharing knowledge about sustainable land management and new SWC measures organise themselves into the so-called ‘Landcare’ associations. These self-help groups are a vehicle for knowledge exchange, training and dissemination of SWC technologies. A main objective is the empowerment of farmers’ groups in their efforts to improve their livelihoods as well as the environment. Landcare has three components and aims at strengthening collaboration between those: (1) grassroot farmers’ organisations (Landcare organisations); (2) technical facilitators, for example the World Agroforestry Centre (formerly the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry: ICRAF) and government and academic agencies and (3) Local Government Units (LGUs). The Landcare associations are structured as municipal groups, village groups (barangay level or affiliate peoples’ organisations), and village sub-groups (sitio or purok level). This ensures effective dissemination of technologies from the municipal level down to the smallest village. To give the associations a legal status, they are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Landcare associations conduct regular monthly meetings to promote exchange of information, ideas, and experience, thus promoting spread of SWC technologies. Extension service is carried out through the Local Government Units, which allocate 20% of their development funds for Landcare related activities such as meetings, training and visits, and nursery establishment. Farmers organised in Landcare groups have better access to technical and financial support for SWC activities from LGUs and other technical facilitators.

LGUs also enact local laws to encourage adoption of SWC technologies, such as giving tax incentives, and Landcare members are given priority access to programmes and financial assistance. Landcare acts as a guarantor against loans. The facilitating agencies provide technical assistance, and also help create an environment of dynamism among Landcare groups. A link is created between Landcare associations and these service providers. Landcare enhances sharing of labour, builds camaraderie, and encourages group decisions on matters relating to SWC. The approach is spreading rapidly: from the original one association with 25 members in 1996, this increased to 45 groups with over 4,000 members by 1999.

LOCATION

Location: Misamis Oriental, Philippines

Geo-reference of selected sites
- 124.66268, 8.47065

Initiation date: 1996

Year of termination: n.a.

Type of Approach
- Tradicional/Indígena
- Iniciativa/inovação local recente
- Baseado em projeto/programa
**APPROACH AIMS AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT**

Main aims / objectives of the approach
- organise farmers with common concerns, problems, needs and aspirations into self help groups.
- establish farmers' groups as conduits for financial and other support for SWC technologies.
- empower farmers' groups in their efforts to improve their livelihoods as well as the environment.
- strengthen working linkages between farmers and the LGU, NGOs and technical facilitators.
- promote sharing of new technologies, information, ideas and experiences about sustainable agriculture and natural resources management among Landcare groups and members.
- facilitate collective efforts in activities - which cannot be carried out at household level (eg communal nurseries).
- assist in the marketing of agroforestry-derived products of the members, and to develop links to studies on agroforestry based farming

Conditions enabling the implementation of the Technology/ies applied under the Approach
- **Normas e valores sociais/culturais/religiosos**: Members of Landcare are recommended to lending institutions for production loans.
- **Quadro jurídico (posse de terra, direitos de uso da terra e da água)**: Speed up the land reclassification and land registration program of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).
- **Conhecimento sobre gestão sustentável da terra, acesso a suporte técnico**: farmers training and cross visits to nearby farmers.

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

**PARTICIPATION AND ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Que partes interessadas/órgãos de implementação estavam envolvidos na abordagem?</th>
<th>Especifique as partes interessadas</th>
<th>Descreva o papel das partes interessadas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Usuários de terra/comunidades locais</td>
<td>land user driven (bottom-up). Spontaneous adoption with technical assistance from donors</td>
<td>Working land users were mainly men (Men do the main job in the field. Women do home-related agricultural activities e.g. corn shelling. Men do the heavier works (plowing, harrowing). Women in light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Especialistas em gestão sustentável da terra/consultor agrícola</td>
<td>ICRAF facilitated the organisation of farmers. Specialists established the linkage between Landcare and LGUs/NGOs.</td>
<td>technical assistance from donors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governo local</td>
<td>Local government units (LGU’s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governo nacional (planejadores, responsáveis pelas decisões)</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Involvement of local land users/ local communities in the different phases of the Approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Example Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iniciação/motivação</td>
<td>public meetings, rapid/participatory rural appraisal, workshops/seminars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planejamento</td>
<td>public meetings, rapid/participatory rural appraisal, workshops/seminars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementação</td>
<td>organisation of major and minor activities: coordination of casual labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoramento/avaliação</td>
<td>measurements/observations, public meetings, interviews/questionnaires</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Flow chart**
The diagram demonstrates the collaboration, complementarity, interdependence and synergism between the actors.

**Decision-making on the selection of SLM Technology**

**Decisions were taken by**
- Somente usuários da terra (iniciativa própria)
- Principalmente usuários da terra, apoiados por especialistas em gestão sustentável da terra
- todos os atores relevantes, como parte de uma abordagem participativa
- Principalmente usuários da terra, após consulta com usuários da terra
- Somente especialistas em gestão sustentável da terra
- Políticos/líderes

**Decisions were made based on**
- Avaliação de conhecimento bem documentado de gestão sustentável da terra (tomada de decisão baseada em evidências)
- Resultados de pesquisa
- Experiência pessoal e opiniões (não documentado)

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT, CAPACITY BUILDING, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT**

**The following activities or services have been part of the approach**
- Reforço das capacidades/formação
- Serviço de consultoria
- Fortalecimento da instituição (desenvolvimento organizacional)
- Monitoramento e avaliação
- Pesquisa

**Capacity building/ training**

**Training was provided to the following stakeholders**
- Usuários de terra
- Equipe de campo/consultores

**Form of training**
- Em exercício
- Agricultor para agricultor
- Áreas de demonstração
- Reuniões públicas
- Cursos

**Subjects covered**
- nas áreas dos usuários da terra
- Em centros permanentes

**Advisory service**

**Advisory service was provided**
- nas áreas dos usuários da terra
**Institution strengthening**

Institutions have been strengthened / established
- Sim, significativamente

Describe institution, roles and responsibilities, members, etc.

Type of support
- Financeiro
- Reforço das capacidades/formação

Further details

**Monitoring and evaluation**

Research
Research treated the following topics
- Sociologia
- Economia/Marketing
- Ecologia
- Tecnologia

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.

The following services or incentives have been provided to land users
- Apoio financeiro/material concedido aos usuários da terra
- Subsídios para inputs específicos
- Crédito
- Outros incentivos ou instrumentos

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IMPACT ANALYSIS AND CONCLUDING STATEMENTS

Impacts of the Approach

A abordagem auxiliou os usuários da terra a implementar e manter as tecnologias de gestão sustentável da terra?
- Não
- Sim, pouco
- Sim, moderadamente
- Sim, significativamente

The approach has greatly helped land users in the implementation of soil and water management technologies. Farmers now adopt 'natural vegetative strips' (NVS). Large farms (> 3 ha) have generally evolved into commercial production of tree crops (coffee) and trees (timber).

A abordagem melhorou as questões de posse de terra/direitos do usuário que inibiam a implementação das tecnologias de gestão sustentável da terra?
- Não
- Sim, pouco
- Sim, moderadamente
- Sim, significativamente

Land tenure is still an important factor in adoption of SWC technology. Providing simple technology in establishment and maintenance enhance adoption. Landcare groups exist where tenants are members. They adopt SWC technology.

Did other land users / projects adopt the Approach?
- Não
- Sim, pouco
- Sim, moderadamente
- Sim, significativamente

Many other NGOs, local government units (LGUs) and line agencies have adopted - and further adapted - the Landcare approach in their respective areas. The approach has been proven effective and it is now being looked upon as a model for the implementation of SWC and other related activities, particularly in Mindanao.

Main motivation of land users to implement SLM
- Produção aumentada
- Lucro (lucratabilidade) aumentado, melhora da relação custo-

Sustainability of Approach activities
Can the land users sustain what hat been implemented through the Approach (without external support)?
- Não
- Sim, pouco
- Sim, moderadamente
- Sim, significativamente
CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT

Strengths: land user's view
- Makes farmers workers easier
- Promotes social integration and addresses other social issues which are beyond individual household capacity to solve (burials, weddings, etc)

Strengths: compiler's or other key resource person's view
- Promotes rapid adoption of SWC technologies. Provides easy and fast access/implementation of SWC technologies
- Encourages farmers to gain access to services and financial support from LGU, technical facilitators and service providers
- Provides a vehicle for participatory research and technical interventions and ensures that newly-developed technologies are appropriate
- Makes extension activities cost effective
- Ensures sustainability of actions

Weaknesses/ disadvantages/ risks: land user's view → how to overcome
- Individual problems not easily addressed, as few members are frank and open
- Participation entails time to be away from farm work
- Over-emphasis of political patronage by some LGUs alienates people of different orientation/background
- Over reliance on ICRAF on technical innovation
- Some farmers join Landcare expecting handouts or grants
- Over reliance on ICRAF on technical innovation
- Project objectives and strategies should be explicitly explained to farmers
- Encourage everybody to share their problems and concerns

Weaknesses/ disadvantages/ risks: compiler's or other key resource person's view → how to overcome
- Over-emphasis of political patronage by some LGUs alienates people of different orientation/background
- Encourage a more transparent government at LGU particularly at barangay level

REFERENCES

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Last update: 14 de Março de 2017

Linked SLM data

Documentation was facilitated by
Institution
- n.a.
- Project
  - Book project: where the land is greener - Case Studies and Analysis of Soil and Water Conservation Initiatives Worldwide (where the land is greener)
  - Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling out Sustainable Land Management (GEF-FAO / DS-SLM)

Key references
- Campbell, Andrew. 1994. Landcare: Communities shaping the land and the future. Allen and Unwin, St. Leonard, New South Wales, Australia: ICRAF-Philippines, College of Forestry, UPLB, College, Laguna, Philippines
- Garrity, Dennis and Agustin Mercado, Jr. The Landcare Approach: a Two-Based Method to Rapidly Disseminate Agroforestry Practices in Upland Watersheds: ICRAF-Philippines, College of Forestry, UPLB, College, Laguna, Philippines

Landcare has become an integral part of civil organisation. Landcare is a triangulation of grassroot organizations (farmers), local government units (LGU’s), and technical facilitators. The financial resource required for this approach are imbedded in the regular budget of municipal or barangay. The LGU’s (politicians consider Landcare groups as political machinery and voting blocks. If they