

# SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS: HOW BETTER NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT LEADS TO BETTER FOOD SECURITY

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## CHAT TRANSCRIPT

**JANUARY 29, 2020**

## PRESENTERS

*Emily Weeks, USAID Bureau for Food Security*

*Sara Scherr, EcoAgriculture Partners*

*Pete Pearson, World Wildlife Fund*

*Faisal Hossain, University of Washington*

## MODERATOR

*Julie MacCartee, USAID Bureau for Food Security*

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Greetings! This webinar will begin at 9:30. Thank you for your patience.

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Please let us know where where you are joining from today.

Makha Diakhate: hello. from senegal, africa

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Greetings Makha

Sieti Immanuel : Hello from India

Mounia Barakat: Hello i am connecting from Rome, Italy

Malambo Choobe: hello fr Zambia

Evelyn Ifeyinwa Ezeagu: Hello everyone, from Nigeria.

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Sieti and Mounia. Glad you could join us!

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Welcome Evelyn!

Maria Cartagena: Greetings from sunny Guayaquil, Ecuador

Lysette Lacambra: Hello from Thailand!

Khaing Wint Ko: Hi everyone! Greetings from Myanmar :)

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Maria, Lysette and Khaing Wint, Hello!

Sieti Immanuel : Hope the audio of the webminar will be shared with all participants!

Myat Nandar Aung: Hi Hi frm Myanmar..... Have a good one!

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Sieti, we are still setting up, but the audio portion of the webinar will begin shortly

Sieti Immanuel : ok thank you!

Ghanshyam Bhattarai: hello Everyone, Greetings from Nepal. Excited for this webinar.

Makha Diakhate: my first one. so excited

Sieti Immanuel : Sieti from India, Working on Building resilience project through Natural Resource Management

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Greetings Ghanshyam!

Yaakov Cohen: Hello from Israel

Nadia Chalabi: Hello from El Salvador

Udemba Klinsmann: Klinsmann from Nigeria

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Yaakov, so glad you could join us!

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Welcom Nadia and Udemba

Jeny Raviz: hi! greetings from the Phillipines

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Jeny! Thanks for joining us today

Yaakov Cohen: Are we all muted? I cant seem to find a mute myself function on this platform

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Yaakov, all participants are muted

Didier Muyiramye : Hello from Wageningen, The Netherlands

Jane Amumpaire: Hi, greetings from Uganda!

Christopher Bowden: Hi from Manchester, UK!

Benjamin Wiseman: Ben in Cap-Haitien, Haiti.

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Christopher and Benjamin!

Reginald Toussaint: Hi, Reginald Toussaint from Haiti

Carolyn La Jeunesse : Hello from Seattle, USA.

Ellen Gruiters: Hi from The Netherlands! Will the presentation of the webinar be shared with the participants afterwards?

Vanessa Pizer: Greetings from New York

Camila Garcia: Greetings from Washington DC!

Laura Doughty: Hello from Oxford, UK

indra klein: Hi, from DC

indra klein: Will we have access to slides to download?

Kevin Billing: Hi to everyone from a warm Bangkok

Pierre Silvie: Pierre, from Montpelleir (France)

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): So great to see people joining from all over the globe!

Newton Ochanda: Hello every one.

Lia Kelinsky-Jones: Hello from Virginia, USA!

Olga Munoz: Hello everyone from Gainesville, Florida!

Emily Hirata: Hello from Maryland, USA!

Lauriane Yehouenou: Florida USA

Michelle Ivy: Hello from Charleston SC

Emily Hirata: The audio sounds great

Ann Koontz: yes

Margaret Anderson: I can hear you well.

indra klein: loud & clear

Mounia Barakat: yes the audio is great

Emily: yes

Pascale Bonzom: Hello from Panama city, Panama

Kevin Billing: Yes

Carl Wahl: Coming through clearly

Henrik Sturve: Can hear you loud and clear.

Mikayla Prince: Greetings from Knoxville, TN!

Daan Mulder: Hello from the Netherlands!

Pascale Bonzom: Can hear you very well too!

Rosanna Kingston: Hi from Asheville, NC

Jeny Raviz: audio is clear

Steven Brunn: Joining from Minneapolis

Anthony Mba: You are loud and clear

Matiwos Bekele: Audio is clear

Andrew Bisson 2: Good morning all, I'm a livestock adviser at USAID

Polly Galita: Hello from Mozambique

Meredith Jackson-deGraffenried: hello from Zambia

Anthony Mba: From Nigeria - you are loud and clear

Diane Russell 2: Hi friends from Brookland, Washington DC!

Bonaventure Fandohan: Bonaventure from Chicago

Michelle Gilman: Hello (Buenos Dias) from Leon, Nicaragua

Badege Bishaw: Badege Bishaw, Hello from Oregon

Ogbonnaya Ukeh Oteh: Hello from Nigeria

Nana Yaa Amoah: Bonjour, greetings from Senegal!

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): Bonjour! Glad to have you all on the webinar

Clinton Bakasa: Hello everyone. Clinton from South africa

Tomisin Adefare: Greetings from Nigeria.

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Clinton!

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Welcome Tomisin

Cornelia Flora: Cornelia Flora -- Hello from Iowa, USA

Mark Dripchak: Nothing new!

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Cornelia and Mark!

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): We welcome your questions at any time. We'll be collecting them and asking them after each presentation, as well as at the end of the webinar.

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): Or feel free to share links and resources that are relevant to the topics today

Mark Dripchak: excelent ideas, Sar&!

Vitalis Ogemah : Greetings from kenya

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Greetings Vitalis

Stephan Lutz: Greetings from Kenya

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Hi Stephan

indra klein: With @ 1/3 of world's soils degraded due to erosion, thoughts on cost-effective measures being taken to address such?

Javier Chaparro: Greetings from Canada

Gracia Lanza: greetings from Costa Rica

Markendy Desormeau: Greetings from Dominican Republic

Julio Camacho: Greeting from Miami, FL

Courtney Woelfl: Hello from Ohio, US!

indra klein: To what degree are women (@ local, regional & national level) included in process, particularly with regard to management & policy?

Dele Raheem : Greetings from Finland. Interesting perspective on integrated landscape management from Sara. It links very well with the need for holistic food system approach..

Christopher Bowden: Does anyone monitor and check that these commitments are being upheld?

indra klein: With regard to evaluating process and evolution of programs, what tools are being used, how often and with whom?

Lia Kelinsky-Jones: How does USAID's new focus on self-reliance and in particular, the prominence of the private sector interplay with the locally-driven initiatives? What if the private sector disagrees with local priorities?

Jonathan Isbill: Greetings from Indiana, US.

Sara Carlson: How does the integrated landscape framework deal with the very real tradeoffs that exist when accommodating different sector goals? For example, some species cannot tolerate disturbance (e.g. specialist species with narrow habitat requirements) and it may not be feasible for communities to adopt environmentally-friendly behaviors in the short term.

Kevin Billing: It is tough enough to involve the homogeneous target group in a community. Landscape initiatives must involve everyone - rich landowners, commercial suppliers and the poorest farmers. Complicated.

Daan Mulder: Exactly Dele Raheem! Anyone working on such an holistic food system approach?

Selorm Akaba: Greetings from UCC, Ghana

Emily Hirata: What are the disadvantages and challenges to the integrated landscape management approach?

LUIS De los Santos: Greetings from the Dominican Republic

Christopher Bowden: Thanks Sara, great answer!

Ngulwe Alfani: Ngulwe Alfani, Greeting from Minnesota, US

indra klein: Would you elaborate on gaining trust with regard to collaborative efforts, particularly with regard to cultural and gender beliefs?

Biniam Iyob: Indra: here are some info regarding soils that might be of interest: <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/news/stories/2019/03/sustainable-Intensification-Innovation-Lab-at-K-State-establishes-SOILS-Consortium-with-global-partners.html> and <https://africa-rising.net/category/soils/>

Jonathan Isbill: I find initiatives like local Ag development, internal network sharing and education to mobilize restorative practices and sustainable programs fall in line with many many groups, such as Slow Food, FAO, and others. Incorporating local leaders can be long sustaining with trust as you mentioned. How can like-minded organizations and support groups maintain long-term funding and relationships without lots of "hard data" to prove this collaborative planning and potential initial loss for long-term benefit?

Sara Carlson: Thanks for the answer!

indra klein: @Biniam Iyob, thank you

Mounia Barakat: I would like to know if the limitations of integrated natural resource management approach is higher at the governance level or at the farmer/individual level?

Stephan Lutz: Hola Javier :-)

Selorm Akaba: Thank you Sarah for great presentation.

Javier Chaparro: Hola Stephan!

Diane Russell 2: Important to discuss asymmetrical power relations in landscape management approaches, also how to work in situations of low trust in government and weak civil society.

Mark Dripchak: awesome presentation;Sarah. I want to work with you.

Sara Scherr: Great questions everyone!

Pascale Bonzom: I think SDG 1 should also be on that slide. It is linked to all the others.

Christopher Bowden: How did the WWF choose the 5 or so crops to address farm-based waste?

Sara Scherr: Mounia, I would say that it is precisely the interaction between these two levels--landscape governance and farmer/household/community levels --are critical. We need to construct i flexible institutional mechanisms to enable regular and systematic communication between these levels.

Sara Scherr: There is a lot of creative innovation underway; we still have a lot of work to do.

Sameh Al-Muqdadi: strongly agree with Diane, about focusing on asymmetrical power relations since it is a crucial key factor in this context, plus the supply chain management

Emily Hirata: How has the nutrition community been involved in the dialogue with freezing the footprint of food? For instance, if plant-based diets are less harmful to the planet and may slow those footprints, how is the nutrition industry involved with these efforts?

Mounia Barakat: True, strengthening innovation systems with a focus maybe on incentives would support. Many thanks for your answer!

Sara Scherr: A lot of the new tools being developed to support integrated landscape management are focused on structuring useful conversations among stakeholders about difficult topics, and taking concrete steps to address asymmetric power relationships.

Guolong Liang: Is there a specific example that you can share with us about how to reversely design farming systems especially in US, with the goal to reduce food loss?

Matiwos Bekele: e

indra klein: @Sara Scherr, would you elaborate on partnerships, esp when a=securing buy-in from locals?

Sameh Al-Muqdadi: Thanks Pete, great one !

indra klein: What % of food loss (post harvesting) is due to economics, namely affordability?

José Sánchez-Narvaez: Buenos días desde Lima Perú UNALM, espero continuar recibiendo información al respecto del webinar, gracias

Edison Calderón: Thank you very much Pete, I would like to know how to operate your strategy to avoid wasting food in the restaurants of US?

Christopher Bowden: Really interesting answer, thanks Pete! Any particular reason why no cereals were chosen?

Sameh Al-Muqdadi: any percentages of saving food by the hospitalities?

Christopher Bowden: Awesome thanks again

Evelyn Ifeyinwa Ezeagu: Thanks for the presentation Pete.

Sara Scherr: Indra, I think many people try to start doing action planning for ILM without doing the hard \*and sometimes time-consuming) work of achieving a critical level of 'shared understanding' . There are tools that facilitators can use to help lower-power actors and different cultural groups to share their perspectives on the landscape. But of course that requires a commitment by the conveners to an inclusive strategy.

Jennifer Nielsen: I would love more specific examples of the ways you are designing waste out of the system in Kaza

Jonathan Casey: Have WWF also looked at losses linked to pests & diseases, and the impacts on biodiversity from use of pesticides & fungicides?

indra klein: Food hospitality: thoughts on conversations with industry on better managing procurement & rethinking use of food?

Polly Galita: The primary data that is being collected is it being shared with other organisations so we are all able to learn from the data?

Carl Wahl: What are the specific food waste mitigations for the so-called KaZa area?

Matiwos Bekele: How are we talking about food loss and waste management in areas that have no access to infrastructures like roads, enough energy, and market access?

Rabia Tanweer: Pete, are there 'silos' of knowledge and work that you have identified in reducing FLW in farms, particularly in developing countries?

Ogbonnaya Ukeh Oteh: How is the program influencing food waste behavior among the locals especially in Africa

Sara Scherr: I echo Pete's plea to include food waste in the planning of all landscape initiatives.

Guolong Liang: Thank you so much!

Anthony Mba: Could better storage not help alleviate some of this problem

Sara Scherr: In general, we still have a ways to go in linking the food system and nutrition community with the landscape initiatives.

indra klein: Would you ask the presenter to speak up a bit?

Khaing Wint Ko: yes, Sara.

indra klein: much better, thank you

Christopher Bowden: How reliable are crop evapotranspiration rates estimated by satellites? Would the resolution be good enough for smallholder farmers?

indra klein: Is notification service free to farmers? If so, is this sustainable over time?

Polly Galita: Hi Faisal are tthe farmers paying for the service that you are providing and it is sent via an SMS?

Sara Scherr: Faisal, are there ways that other water user groups (agro-processing companies, municipal water utilities, environmentalists could help farmers scale up these irrigation innovations?

Makha Diakhate: do you have ideas about helping the farmers to transforme their products?

indra klein: What % of farmers have invested in crop insurance? Any barriers?

Polly Galita: We are supporting 2500 smallholder farmers currently in Botswana where we are doing a pilot teaching regenerative farming via our Agents

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): Polly - that's great, please share a link to more info if you have it!

Christopher Bowden: Where did PANI get their yield data from to compare with the goverment's previous values?

Daan Mulder: How do you make this project sustainable? What is your exit strategy?

Jelili Adebiji: could you please to demographics that felt that the program was not beneficial to them and their underlying reasons?

Polly Galita: We are also selling their products to Spa via our digital platform [www.tiomangrow.com](http://www.tiomangrow.com)

Jelili Adebiji: could you please discuss demographics that felt that the program was not beneficial to them and their underlying reasons?

Guolong Liang: Apart from Satelite-estimated ET, what other tools are or do you think should be implemented in the estimation system?

Michelle Gilman 2: Would these tools and lessons learned be applicable to central american ag landscape?

Edison Calderón: thank you very much professor, I would like to know how we can implement a pilot of the project in Ecuador?

Christopher Bowden: Great stuff, thanks Faisal!

Sameh Al-Muqdad: wonderful , Thanks Faisal . PANI is public domain?

Jelili Adebisi: are illiterate farmers able to leverage this tool for their farming operations?

Pierre Silvie: Faisal, are you working also on the relationship between water and pests or diseases management; for example locusts at this moment(Eastern Africa)

Guolong Liang: Thank you!

indra klein: To what degree has intergenerational perspectives benefitted or hindered program (traditional ways -- older farmer/family member, "modern/innovative ways -- younger)

Lysette Lacambra: Do you take into account the different farmer practices other than water management like fertilizer use, insect pests and diseases management that may affect the yield?

Michelle Gilman 2: Thank you Julie and Faisal

Polly Galita: Where are you located Lysette or which country are you looking for this information?

Ghanshyam Bhattarai: is this project can run in Nepal as well? Have you ever researched on it in nepal?

Evelyn Ifeyinwa Ezeagu: Thanks for the presentation Faisal.

Daan Mulder: Very interesting that you were able to involve the government, thanks for your answer!

Christopher Bowden: Ghanshyam I think he said that they're deploying it in Nepal next

Lysette Lacambra: Hi Polly we are currently working in Tanzania, Uganda, Nigeria, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, India and Bangladesh. I'm interested to learn more about PANI

Lysette Lacambra: We are working with smallscale vegetable farmers

Faisal Hossain: Bhattarai - for Nepal, ICIMOD is our point of contact. A staff is coming for training at UW

Faisal Hossain: For those of you interested in PANI- you can check this extended talk on you tube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9OPq66LbFLs>

Faisal Hossain: For PANI publications, some are posted here <http://www.saswe.net> (click on publications or news link)

Agnes Tumusiime: Hi all. Agnes Tumusiime, a development evaluation consultant joining in from Kampala Uganda.

Sara Scherr: Faisal,, my question about getting support from others was based on recognition that the conflict between agriculture and non-agricultural water uses is quite intense in some places. Perhaps these other groups could help to finance extension programs? or encourage farmer suppliers in their supply chains to use these monitors? or to reward farmers with financial or non-financial benefits for achieving milestones in reducing water use. Your ideas on that would be most welcome.

Diane Russell 2: Thanks for the good responses on power and trust issues Sara. One of the most difficult elements is dealing with power relations that are external to the landscape but impact on it, also structural inequalities around ownership and access. These require wider coalitions for change (outside a landscape).

Selorm Akaba: Thank you all for the insightful contributions.

Jelili Adebiyi: how do we bring different stakeholders into the system level conversation that is intended to reduce food wastes? and what would you consider the entry point to get the conversation started?

Rabia Tanweer: Sara, could you link the tool you mentioned? I think it was called Landscale?

Jean CHARLES: Thank you for these updates.

Sara Scherr: Diane, yes where there are strong externally-based 'bad actors' , they can undermine locally-driven landscape partnerships, and outside allies will be needed to put pressure on them. In other cases there is a good business case for those actors to change their mode of operation. Knowing when to engage and when to exclude key actors from the partnerships is an important challenge.

indra klein: Thank you to AgriLinks and presenters for very informative and thought provoking presentations -- time well spent.

indra klein: Thanks to attendees for sharing

Adam Ahmed - AgriLinks: Thank you Indra!

Christopher Bowden: Thanks for the great presentations and Q&A's, my first AgriLinks webinar and it was very interesting and useful!

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): Glad to have you as a first-timer and hope you'll return!

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): Thanks for the questions

Diane Russell 2: Pete, does the issue of food waste tell us that we should consider food distribution in food security programming, not just increased production?

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): Diane, indeed, Feed the Future is focusing on market systems programming to go beyond production.

Carl Wahl: @Diane Russell I second that emotion. SW Zambia is in year 2 of failed rains, and even in "good" years chronically underproduces; however, they get very little in the way of govt. subsidized farm inputs, nearly zero extension, and sadly, very minimal food relief.

José Sánchez-Narvaez: Diane: la seguridad alimentaria pasa por incremento de la productividad, mejor distribución y conservación de los alimentos y la eliminación de las causas de la pérdida de alimentos durante la producción, distribución y consumo de ellos.

Julie MacCartee (USAID/BFS): We are about to wrap up. Thank you so much for attending today! The Agrilinks team appreciates your engagement.

Diane Russell 2: True Julie but markets will deliver food where there is purchasing power.

Andrew Bisson 2: Noted Sara - with Emily and others we are striving towards this - food and landscape approach integration is a vision!

Iain Morrell: Thankstoeveryone

Diane Russell 2: Thank you all!

Evelyn Ifeyinwa Ezeagu: Thank s everyone!

Kevin Billing: Thanks good webinar

Emily: Thank you everyone!!

Adam Ahmed - Agrilinks: Thank you so much everyone for joining us today!

Julio Camacho: thanks

Jacob Bills: Thank you for doing this!

Matiwos Bekele: Thanks all

Khaing Wint Ko: Thanks everyone :) Have a nice day! I hope I can join the next webinars!

Isaac Kwasi Asante: Thank you

Sara Scherr: Here is link to LandScale - <https://verra.org/project/landscale/>

Sara Scherr: I will share info on other landscape tools with the organizers to send to you later.