

Session *Transforming livelihoods: Incremental transitions*

16/09/2020

Stream Transforming livelihoods through agro-ecological approaches with trees

# Incremental agro-ecological transitions with trees

## Summary of week 1

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# Content

1. Recall key messages from Session 1...daily Digest
2. Need for Level III research
3. Depth and Coverage in (forestry/agroforestry) extension models
4. Digital extension
5. A reflection on agroforestry principles



# Key messages

1. **Principles are powerful**....to guide what we do, how and why...and to evaluate our progress....
2. **Principles change**...with changes in values and with our understanding about how trees and forests impact livelihoods, landscapes and planetary boundaries.
3. **From silver bullet solutions to finding what options work where and for whom** (embracing variability).
4. **Planned comparisons, option x context** on-farm participatory research and extension....increasing adoption by empowering farmers
5. **Farmer-to-farmer extension** can facilitate uptake of **market-based** agroforestry options...
6. **Agroforestry principles**....a work in progress

Guava (*Psidium guajava*) fruits are eagerly eaten by cattle. Seeds are dispersed and invade the pasture. Management regulates the balance between advantages and disadvantages of having guava trees in the pasture land.



## Research Levels...

- Need for more Level III, transdisciplinary, complex system research.....
  - need to go beyond  $p < 0.05$
- But, won't be able to get rid of  $p < 0.05$  in Level I research...
  - sorry Michael
- Plenty of room to further integrate FTA-Themes to cope with complexity in transdisciplinary approaches....
- Need a portfolio vision and strategic planning of our research despite vagaries in funding support?



## Extension models

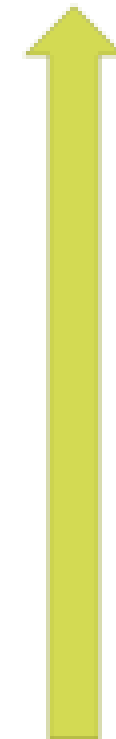
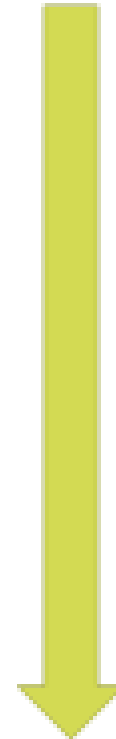
1. Farm visits by extension staff
2. Planned comparisons
3. Farmer Field Schools (FFS)
4. Farmer to farmer extension
5. Field days
6. ....
7. Radio broadcast

Depth

Coverage

High

Low



Low

High

Extension Digital Technologies can have both high depth and coverage

# Digital extensión....high Depth and Coverage



## Strategy

- Teach/help (ACTORS) to think in a systematic and informed way about (SUBJECT) so they can design and implement the right **OPTION** for each **CONTEXT** without external guidance and support

## Details

- Actors
  - **Short term**
    - farm support projects and programs
    - farmer field school curricula
  - **Medium term**
    - university curricula (agronomy, forestry, biology,...)
    - **Youth as family promotor**
- Informed & systematic
  - Principles, methodologies, procols
  - knowledge, information, tools
- Subject
  - Transdisciplinary networks, their agenda and needs

## Agroforestry principles

- **Trees on Farms as crops**
- Farmers urgently need to improve their silvicultural knowledge and management skills
- Move away from common attitude....nature provide trees...no need to worry about it!



Thank  
you

Goats eat and disperse the seeds of Argan (*Argania spinosa*) a wild fruit tree species of the Sapotaceae family.

Herders collect the Argan seeds from the dung and sell them for the production of argan oil.....cosmetic industry

There is money in trees....and in the dung!!!