FTA Science workshop

Set-ups for observing, and understanding and learning from changes in land use, their multiple drivers, and multidimensional consequences.

Bonn, 18 Dec 2017

Overarching research questions

Landscapes are highly dynamic :

- Huge, complex, rapid changes over time : how to observe and document those changes?

- What causes the changes? Drivers and dynamics

- What are the consequences, in the environmental, economic and social dimensions?

- How can stakeholders be involved in observation and understanding the changes?

- ➢ Central to much of the research we do.

Challenges to data and information collection

- **Very costly in time and resources** (ex: SDG monitoring).

- **Not easy to fund** in itself in the R4D context. "Observing for observing" or even for understanding is not appealing to donors.

- In many research institutions, **data is rich but fragmented** : by project, spatially, thematically, disciplinarily/methods used, issues looked at (economic, social, environmental), and over time..

- How to **link quantitative and qualitative type** of information?

- Big data is an ex-post concept, not ex-ante. It may help but does not precludes from having an organized approach to data.

- What data **is effective** to trigger change?

Aren't we in FTA sitting on a gold mine?

- Partners have a history if operations, often in the same geographies…

- Data collected for one purpose could serve later on for another purpose/research question/project?

- IPGs could be generated from existing data?

- **Can we build a framework that favors integration?**

➢ How do we manage **integration between datasets**, and **integration of different dimensions within a dataset**? Specific roles of the spatial and time dimensions.

➢ Being aware of the important **practical constraints** : different supports, different methods, competing analytical frameworks, ownership issues etc..

➢What methods to favor the creation of **extrapolation domains**, and generation of **international public goods**?

Objective of this workshop

- Share views and expectations around these questions: QoR, FTA.

- Take stock of the demands, needs and objectives

➢ Discussing current experiences, when it comes to defining shared frameworks for collecting, organizing and valorizing data across teams and cross partners?
  - ➢ Stock-taking of place-based research in FTA (non sentinel landscapes)
  - ➢ Other experiences
  - ➢ Stock-taking of sentinel landscapes

- Consequences for FTA, in particular for structuring its place-based research, and the landscapes observation and learning framework, especially sentinel landscapes.

- Which partnerships to be envisaged?

- What are our expectations versus the **big data initiatives** and platforms? What IT systems?

- Build on the workshop discussion to initiate works on a joint review and perspectives paper on the issue.

- Useful in the perspective of the discussion of SL results with the ISC discussion in June 2018 and in the perspective of the forthcoming review of SL landscapes by the IEA.

Presentations and discussions

9h15 Session 1. **The demand, the needs, the objectives.**

11h00 Session 2. **Current frameworks and challenges towards integration of project-based, place-based research in FTA**.

12h00 Session 3. **Looking beyond FTA**

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14h00 Session 4. **FTA's set-ups at a turning point**: Sentinel landscapes and learning landscapes

16h00 Session 5. Way **forward and action plan**

Substitute this picture with one that's relevant to your presentation

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The CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA) aims to enhance the management and use of forests, agroforestry and tree genetic resources across the landscape from forests to farms. CIFOR leads FTA in partnership with Bioversity International, CATIE, CIRAD, INBAR, Tropenbos International and the World Agroforestry Centre.

With support from: CGIAR Fund