

Ecoagriculture Partners: Partnerships to integrate agriculture, nature conservation and rural development



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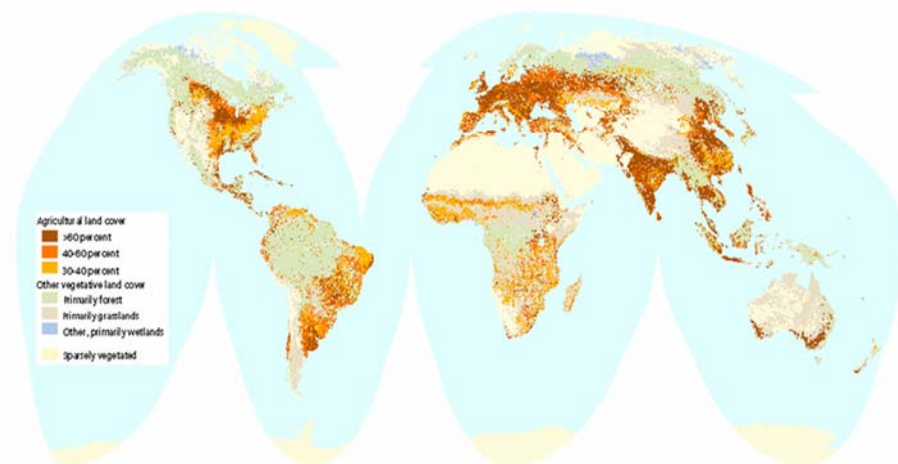
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Importance of Agricultural Landscapes for Biodiversity and Ecosystems



PAGE Agricultural Extent



Pressures on Agricultural Landscapes



- Increased population
- Increased product demand from rising incomes & urbanization
- Increased demand for ecosystem services
- Increased investment (private, govts, donors)
- Biofuels boom
- Climate change



What is Ecoagriculture?



Agricultural landscapes managed to enhance rural livelihoods and sustainable agricultural production (of crops, livestock, fish and forest), while conserving or restoring ecosystem services and biodiversity.



Ecoagriculture Strategies



Enhancing natural areas

- *Create conservation reserves that benefit local farming communities*
- *Develop habitat networks in non-farmed areas*
- *Reduce land conversion by increasing farm productivity*

Enhancing production areas

- *Minimize agricultural pollution*
- *Modify management of soil, water, and vegetation resources*
- *Modify farming systems to mimic natural ecosystems*

History of Ecoagriculture Partners



- 2001: Common Ground, Common Future (report from Future Harvest & IUCN)
- 2002: Ecoagriculture Partners initiated at Stakeholder Conference of World Summit on Sustainable Development
- 2003: Organizational meeting at IUCN; book
- 2004: International Conference in Nairobi to set agenda (World Agroforestry, Forest Trends)
- * 2005: EP registered as non-profit (501c3)

Vision and Mission of Ecoagriculture Partners



Vision:

Farmers around the world produce enough food while protecting the biological diversity of plant and animal life

Mission:

To mobilize scaling up of successful ecoagriculture approaches, by catalyzing strategic connections, dialogue and joint action among key actors, at local, national and international levels

EP Programs



- Understanding ecoagriculture
- Linking and learning among innovators
- Promoting policies and markets that support ecoagriculture



Synthesis of Research and Field Experience in Ecoagriculture



- *Ecoagriculture* (Island Press)
- *Farming with Nature* (Island Press)
- “Greatest Hits” bibliography
- Input to IAASTD
- Scientific Symposia (AAAS, China Eco-Summit, ESA, DIVERSITAS, CATIE, etc.)
- Discussion Papers (technologies, landscape measures, biofuels)

Landscape Measures Resource Centre



- Indicators and methods for multi-stakeholder groups to analyze, plan and monitor ecoagriculture landscapes
- On-line, interactive resource for practitioners (testing in East Africa, Mesoamerica)
- Contributors: EP, Cornell Univ., 18 partners



Support for Ecoagriculture Leaders



- Leadership Courses with UC-Berkeley & regional partners (E.Africa, Mesoamerica)
- Ecoagriculture Working Groups (Kenya, Uganda, Central America)

Community Knowledge Service for Biodiversity and Livelihoods



- Secretariat with UNDP Equator Initiative
- CBO Leaders in Asia, East Africa, Mesoamerica



Incorporate Ecoagriculture Frame & Strategies Into Policy Initiatives



- FAO State of Food & Ag (PES for ecoagriculture landscapes)
- Environmental Performance Index (agriculture and environment indicators)
- Convention on Biological Diversity (ecosystem approach applied to agriculture)
- Biodiversity and Agricultural Commodities Project of IFC/GEF (landscape M&E)
- Donor strategies



Lessons Learned about Partnerships for Ecoagriculture

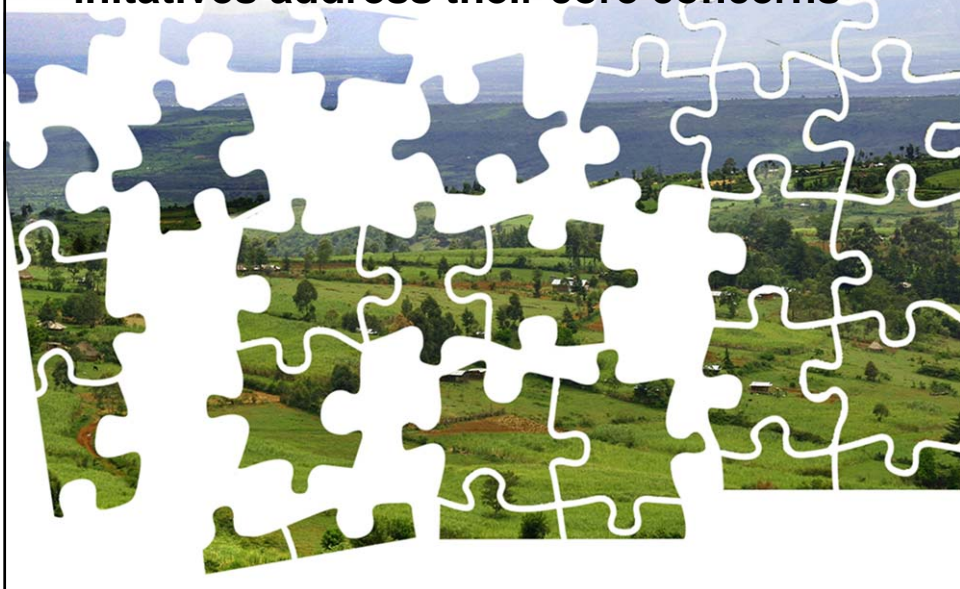
1) Language-- a barrier or a bridge



2) Multi-stakeholder groups must begin dialogue about 'interests' not 'positions'



3) Institutions will only engage if initiatives address their core concerns



4) Institutions will only engage if they see the benefits of synergy



5) Landscape coalitions require new forms of collaborative governance



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Thank you!

