International Conference on Research on Food Security, Natural Resource Management and Rural Development



Tropentag

2022

Can agroecological farming feed the world?

Farmers' and Academia's view

Book of abstracts

Wednesday - Friday, Sept. 14-16, 2022 Czech University of Life Sciences Prague

hybrid conference Prague, Czech Republic





www.tropentag.de

Organised by:





Tropentag 2022

International Research on Food Security, Natural Resource Management and Rural Development

Can agroecological farming feed the world? Farmers' and academia's views

Book of abstracts

Editor: Eric Tielkes

Reviewers/scientific committee: Jan Banout, Gennady Bracho-Mujica, Francisco Ceacero, Pierre Ellssel, Falko Feldmann, Christoph Gornot, Jiri Hejkrlik, Ellen Hoffmann, Jakub Houška, Brigitte Kaufmann, Radim Kotrba, Bohdan Lojka, Tersia Needham, Hynek Roubik, Ralf Schlauderer, Marianna Siegmund-Schultze, Vladimir Verner, Florian Wichern

Editorial assistance: Keerthana Sri K S

Impressum

Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek

Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detailierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über

http://dnb.ddb.de abrufbar.

Tropentag 2022: Can agroecological farming feed the world? Farmers' and academia's views Tielkes, E. (ed.) - Witzenhausen, DITSL

© CUVILLIER VERLAG Göttingen Nonnenstieg 8, 37075 Göttingen Telefon: 0551-54724-0 Telefax: 0551-54724-21 http://www.cuvillier.de

Alle Rechte vorbehalten. Ohne ausdrückliche Genehmigung des Verlages ist es nicht gestattet, das Buch oder Teile daraus auf fotomechanischem Weg (Fotokopie, Mikrokopie) zu vervielfältigen.

The authors of the articles are solely responsible for the content of their contribution.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means without prior permission of the copyright owners.

ISBN: 978-3-7369-7671-9 **eISBN**: 978-3-7369-6671-0

Online-Version: https://www.tropentag.de/

Scaling agroecological packages for soil and water conservation in mixed crop livestock systems in Tunisia

Udo Rudiger¹, Aymen Frija¹, Veronique Alary², Zied Idoudi¹, Oussama Jebali¹, Mourad Rekik¹, Hatem Cheikh³, Anis Zaim⁴

¹International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), RASP, Tunisia

²ICARDA / CIRAD, Tunisia

³National Inst. of Agricultural Research of Tunisia (INRAT), Tunisia ⁴Office de l'Elevage et des Pâturages (OEP), Tunisia

Soil degradation is a complex process driven by many unfavourable technical, socioeconomic, and institutional factors. Inversing the soil degradation dynamics requires an integrated approach where a set of soil-friendly, social and organisational actions within the agroecological approach are needed for system transformation. Within the GIZ ProSol project in Tunisia, ICARDA's SWC@Scale project is now piloting integrated interventions in a degraded area of Siliana governorate, Northwest Tunisia, to further enhance the sustainable adoption of a set of agroecological soil and water conservation practices in mixed crop-livestock systems. ICARDA and its National Research and Development partners are implementing a full agroecological sociotechnical package with farm and landscape interventions with forage-based crop rotations, improved grazing practices, mechanical and green consolidation of degraded land, cultivation of Sulla and Cactus opuntia in marginal lands, small-scale mechanisation, capacity development, awareness raising on soil regeneration and support of community organisations. The interventions in the selected community aim to generate system transformation dynamics and re-locate the local marginal systems on a sustainable intensification pathway. The SWC@Scale project further aims to learn from this open living lab experience and track social changes and adoption behaviour of farmers in response to the agroecological socio-technical package's implementation of the "integrated system transformation" actions. Lessons learned are shared with the PROSOL programme leadership in Tunisia for scaling. For that, the project has developed an adapted version of the scaling scan tool which explores the scope for large dissemination of agroecological practices implemented in the study area. The tool led to identify the opportunities and constraints related to the scaling of the technological packages. Notably, the crucial ingredients revealed by the tool are the level of knowledge of farmers and extension agents, the actors' collaborations (platforms), the governmental support (subsidies), and involvement and ownership by the public and private sector. The use of the scaling scan tools allowed us to elaborate a scaling roadmap showing the major activities needed to go at scale with the socio-technical packages, that can be shared with the national partners including the policy makers.

Keywords: Agroecology, scaling, soil and water conservation, system transformation, Tunisia

Contact Address: Udo Rudiger, International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Ariana, Tunisa, e-mail: u.rudiger@cgiar.org