# OUTLINE Workshop 1 "Sustaining and upscaling achievements of SLM initiatives: Data – Knowledge - Action."

| Monday May 22nd 14:00 – 18:00 | | | | Tuesday May 23rd 09:00 – 13:00 | | | | |
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| **14:00 – 14:30**<br><br>**Plenary session** | **Introduction**<br><br>Inputs:<br>• IASS: Storyline, Themes, Objectives | | | **09:00– 11:30**<br><br>**Working groups** | **WG I**<br>"Sharing experiences and reviewing achievements of SLM initiatives" | **WG II**<br>"SLM in agricultural extension" | | **WG III (DATA)**<br>"Institutionalization of Open Data" |
| **14:30 – 16:00**<br><br>**Plenary session** | **"Learning from achievements and challenges"**<br><br>• Combined Panel and fishbowl discussion[1] with short input presentations | | | | | | | |
| **16:00 – 16:15** | Coffee break | | | **11:30 – 11:45** | Coffee break | | | |
| **16:15 – 18:00**<br><br>**Working groups** | **WG I**<br>"Sharing experiences and reviewing achievements of SLM initiatives" | **WG II**<br>"SLM in agricultural extension" | **WG III (DATA)**<br>"Institutionalization of Open Data" | **11:45 – 13:00**<br><br>**Plenary session** | **Closing of Workshop 1:**<br><br>→ Recap of WG activities and results<br>→ Outcomes and outlook<br>→ Reflections on methods and messaging to High Level Political Forum (HLPF)<br>→ Reporting to LAB | | | |

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[1] Fishbowl is a simple but dynamic alternative to a panel discussion, combining a large-scale format with the advantages of discussion in small groups; this gets a lively atmosphere and spontaneity into conventional event set-ups. A small group of selected participants sits on the panel and gives very short input presentations. One chair is left empty. Anyone from the audience can join the panel, claim the empty chair and ask questions to the participants.

## 1. Introduction to the Concept of the Workshop

***From generating, sharing and making knowledge accessible***

Knowledge is at the core of upscaling SLM technologies and a key component in the process of adapting these technologies "fit for purpose", in order to make them more long-lasting and adapted to ecological and socio-economic needs.

Long-term experience and knowledge about SLM technologies and adoption hindrances are abundant. Moreover, data which could be used during the planning phases of projects to identify specific needs are largely available, though not always readily accessible.

The purpose of this workshop is threefold. After a short introductory plenary session, we will break into three working groups each dedicated to one of the following themes:

1) Sharing knowledge and experiences, reflecting on achievements and challenges for bringing SLM to scale; examining how to establish learning processes that ensure achievements are sustained
2) Placing extension services as a key link to farmers at the heart of processes that transform knowledge into action
3) Identifying gaps and challenges concerning the access to, the use of and the sharing of data ; reflecting on strategies to make this data available and accessible to all

**Working Group 1***:* To achieve more successful upscaling of SLM, experiences and knowledge must be used systematically.. Many challenges and (structural) deficits, which hamper widespread and long-lasting implementation of SLM, are widely known. Similarly, strategies and approaches for overcoming such challenges rarely systematically implemented. Hence, processes are needed to enable systematic reflection of and learning from past experiences. Furthermore, reflections on how to design processes to better position SLM within policy and political debates are needed. Working Group I will focus on the conditions required for the upscaling and mainstreaming of SLM in different fields of policy and for the successful long-term implementation of SLM initiatives.

**Working Group 2***:* Extension and advisory services are at the heart of putting available knowledge into practice, and are capable of taking local knowledge and experiences into consideration when advising farmers on making decisions for crops, SLM techniques etc. However, it remains a challenge to reach out to specific households (resource poor, food insecure) and household segments (youth, women). Adequate targeting of beneficiaries and providing "fit for purpose" advice are crucial to upscaling SLM and contributing to food security. Nonetheless, SLM rarely plays a prominent role within agricultural extension

services. Therefore, this working group will foster reflections on mechanisms and actions needed, in order to mainstream SLM in the activities of agricultural extension services.

**Working Group 3:** In order to improve the quality of agricultural extension services and to support decision-making concerning SLM implementation at the farm level, access to and availability of data (pedological, agro-ecological, socioeconomic) should be improved and ensured. In many cases, data are not available to agricultural service providers and/or are unavailable to the public. The underlying reasons for the unavailability of data can be manifold, ranging from unclear intellectual property rights to budgetary constraints which prevent making data usable and disseminating them. This working group will concentrate on the methods and mechanisms needed to render data available and accessible to all stakeholders, including local populations.

### *Linking the workshops to the GSW objectives: SDGs and this year´s thematic review at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF)*

As part of the GSW 2017, this workshop seeks to contribute to reflections on a Global Thematic Review for Soils and Land, and how to best address SLM through policies and implementation, for it to contribute to sustainable development and the achievement of the SDGs. The common sharing of lessons learned and mutual learning from experiences – which are at the heart of this workshop – are also crucial elements to advance the SDGs, as UN Under-Secretary-General Wu Hongbo stressed at last year´s HLPF. Yet, despite a wealth of knowledge and experiences in this field, fora and formats for sharing them and for including different types of knowledge could still be improved.

In this context, the workshop aims to contribute to the overall objectives of the GSW. On the one hand, the workshop will provide an opportunity for the sharing of lessons learned and mutual learning from past SLM initiatives. On the other hand, the workshop aims to contribute to the development of strategies and formats to ensure that knowledge exchange can become institutionalized, in particular in order to contribute to the HLPF process.

The workshop themes outlined above tie in with the SDG agenda at multiple stages:

- The specific topic of open data access ties in with the SDG 17 (17.6), but would also be a crucial element to achieving SDG 2, particularly 2A.
- The important role of extension is underlined in SDG 2; but an efficient and functional extension service is also key to achieving SDG 15, and would contribute to poverty eradication (SDG 1), health (SDG3) and other goals, like gender equality (SDG 5).