

WLE Partnership Strategy

Extension phase (2014 – 2016)

1. Introduction

WLE's theory of change recognizes the critical role partners play in achieving its vision of sustainable and equitable agricultural intensification. Partnership approaches are used at all stages of the impact pathway from generating evidence, engaging multiple sectors to contribute to and influence decision-making and in shifting mindsets in how people view agricultural development and the environment.

WLE recognizes that effective partnering is time and resource intensive. When done well, however, partnerships contribute to achieving goals more rapidly with fewer resources. This partnering strategy is essential to guide WLE to make robust choices on its time and resource investments in collaboration to work effectively and efficiently in order to create shared value.

This partnership strategy provides a framework for how WLE will develop and implement a partner driven program that will help it achieve its expected outcomes. A partnership strategy cannot limit itself to two years so while the period of implementation is for two years, the thinking behind it is longer-term. The WLE's diversity both within its core partner base as well as its hundreds of partners at the global, regional and national levels offers significant opportunities if we have in place a robust objectives, strategy, and process to maximize the value offered of effective partnering.

The specific objectives of the strategy are to:

- Better define the types of partnerships WLE needs and how these contribute to its expected outcomes and impact.
- Describe the principles and approaches for improving and developing partnerships; and
- Define how WLE itself will change to implement a more dynamic partnership strategy.

2. Principles

These principles are derived based on an analysis of partners that was carried out in 2012, lessons from different engagements within WLE as well as how WLE's views partnerships for the coming years. WLE currently (February 2015) has more than 400 partners.

1. Trust and mutual respect

WLE acknowledges that strategic partnerships required for outcomes are often not contractual but instead are long-term collaborative efforts based on mutual synergies, convergence of agendas, and complementary value to achieve a common objective. Thus, WLE will foster long-term relations that can be beneficial by Core partners or CGIAR long after WLE ends.

2. <u>WLE will focus its partnerships efforts on particular regions and specific impact pathways.</u>

Through its focal region programs, WLE is committed to developing and building on long-term relations with international, regional and national organizations to have targeted impact at scale. The Focal Region Program itself has more than 150 new partners contracted partners into WLE. To do this, WLE is developing its focal region program through an open call process. In addition WLE will build upon its current regional relations (see section 5.1), as WLE's ability to influence policy will depend not only on the soundness of our recommendations, but also on who is suggesting them.

WLE also understands the need to ensure local ownership and buy-in. For instance, with data and information and modeling we need to ensure information is embedded in national systems.

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Often local systems are more legitimate in the eyes of national and regional policy makers. They often find it hard to justify decisions if they do not come from the national system. Findings need to be owned by local researchers as these individuals have greater influence than international researchers in most cases.

Likewise, WLE analyzes the mandates of different organizations and how to best work with them rather than create its own structures. In India, IWMI has created a policy platform with the IWMI-Tata Program (ITP) that has been influential. In Laos, an emerging partnership with the first Lao think tank will help link our research directly to policy dialogues

3. <u>WLE will be explicit in allocation and accountability to partners</u>:

WLE has built fund allocations for partners into its new initiatives: in the innovation fund and focal regions at least 30–40% of the funds will go to local partners. WLE is encouraging CGIAR Center partners to leverage Window 1 and Window 2 funding to participate in the these calls and to also backstop regional partners in leading ground-breaking research. This includes:

- Highlight how partnerships fit with RBM (e.g. results and targets are set and reviewed jointly with clients)
- Develop a partner assessment tool to analyze a potential partner's strengths and weaknesses and to ensure that partners are able to fulfill commitments in terms of staff, knowledge, and allocations to activities, etc.
- Find ways to get regular feedback from partners and clients to learn how to improve partnerships.

4. <u>WLE will better define roles of partners in implementing the partnership strategy</u>:

The value-added of WLE as a coalition of 10 CGIAR centers, FAO and hundreds of international, regional and local partners is clear. It brings to bear an incredible amount of research expertize and knowledge in relation to water, land and ecosystems. WLE builds upon build upon long-standing relations that Core partners have established and focus its efforts on complementary partnership arrangements. But is cognizant that partnerships are also fluid and will adjust the type of partnership as well as the partners as needed as the program evolves, using a dynamic comparative advantage perspective.

Role of Core Partners

For the most part, WLE Core Partners (i.e. CG centers) lead partnerships in the four main thematic flagships (i.e. Sustainably increasing land and water productivity (LWP), Regenerating degraded agricultural ecosystems (RDE), Recovering and reusing resources in urbanized ecosystems (RRR), Managing resource variability and competing use (MRV)). They will oversee and build these partnerships. Projects have already been established with national, regional and international organizations to carry out this work. WLE will add value to these existing partnerships by assisting flagships to identify new partnerships which can advance WLE's ecosystem based and gender approaches.

In addition, partners benefit by being associated with a wider program that seeks to bring ecosystem services to the forefront of the global development agenda. Partners can leverage this wider initiative to their advantage. For instance, CIAT is teaming up with WLE to lead initiatives at COP-20 and the Global Landscape Forum. For CIAT it brings its own network and agenda while it can tap into WLE's extensive network and global agenda on land degradation.

Role of WLE

WLE will take a leading role in the following areas. WLE core team will be tasked with better defining and achieving its global level impact pathway. To do this, WLE has and will establish global partnerships particularly around ecosystems services and gender that can support work in the thematic and regional flagships. WLE will also lead partnership efforts for the focal region and innovation fund. It will establish partnerships and MOUs at the national and regional level

within its priority focal regions. These will build upon existing partnerships but also look to new partnerships to ensure research outputs are leading to outcomes.

In regards to gender, WLE is a core member of the CGIAR Gender Working Group that shares experiences and leverages work of the CRPs. Likewise it will engage in global discussions around gender. In addition, the Gender team will support focal regions to embed gender inclusive strategies and partnerships.

5. WLE will work with and through 'enablers':

WLE leverages partnerships at each stage of an impact pathway and scale (e.g., local, regional and international). For example, WLE works with organizations such as WHO and FAO to ensure that the guidelines it develops can be used directly by them. WLE is also developing partnerships with TNC and Wetlands International on ecosystems-based approaches.

This can also take the form of individuals. WLE is working and supporting local champions in order to ensure its research is used. This could be through local ambassadors or ensuring that national researchers and offices build upon their long-term relations with the wider community rather just focus on specific projects.

6. WLE will build core partners ability to partner for impact

A strong emphasis on the impact pathway to achieve development impact not only implies a different view of 'partnership' but also our ability to work in partnership. This means that implementing the partnership strategy requires an assessment of the potential for WLE to play a against where partners can play a role. Partnering with non-traditional groups to improve impact and diffusion of our work is also necessary (i.e. private sector, social movements, social entrepreneurs, etc.). WLE will build its own capacity to partner with different organizations. This means finding new avenues for identifying partners (often we only know who we know); honing our skills in working with partners (listening, improving ability to use impact pathway analysis) as well as building a culture of 'partnership' across the program.

3. Types of partnerships needed to achieve impact

WLE has redefined its partner categories to correlate with the roles that different partners serve in the impact pathway. WLE recognizes that each partner has its own interests and goals. Finding areas of common interest and where WLE and partners can benefit each other is essential. In this sense, WLE also sees many of its clients or 'users of research' as partners. Increasingly end users are involved in defining research agendas and part of the research teams from the outset. This ensures ownership of results as well as ensuring that the research is better targeted to meet their needs.

Below is a definition of each partner type and a diagram depicting these roles.

- <u>WLE Core partners</u>: 11 CGIAR centers and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) under the leadership of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and guidance of an independent Steering Committee. The core partners are responsible for program design, management, implementation and monitoring, evaluation and learning from program performance
- <u>Research partners</u>: WLE has strong research-based partnerships throughout its flagships. This includes international research organizations that are global leaders on ecosystem service mapping, assessment and valuation such as Stockholm Resilience Center, Stanford University, CIRAD, Kings College and The Natural Capital Project. It also includes the hundreds of national and regional level research organizations that WLE works with to implement research on the ground.
- 3. <u>Enabling and leverage partners</u>: Enabling partners provide entry points to decision makers that WLE cannot foster on its own. For instance, WLE works intensively with regional and

national agencies to ensure they own and use research results. For instance, WLE works with Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), the Volta Basin Authority (VBA), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and SAGCOT to ensure that recommendations are tailored to their needs.

4. <u>Investment partners</u>. Investment partners can include both public and private entities which invest in large scale activities WLE works directly with users of research, such as donors, development organizations and government ministries and the private sector. Increasingly, WLE is not just requesting funding from traditional foundations and bil-lateral donors but working with them to improve their investments around ecosystems and sustainable intensification. Likewise, WLE is entering into partnerships with government agencies to provide advice on investments and large scale plans. In many African countries, WLE is working with a number of government agencies on different agricultural water management solutions.

WLE recognizes the critical role of the **private sector** in unlocking private capital and accelerating market-driven ecosystems-based solutions to poverty. These partnerships include the RRR flagship engagement with entrepreneurs, public-private partnerships, business schools, investment banks and the private sector as next-step users of research outputs. WLE also works with traditional large-scale companies such as Unilive and Nestle to incorporate sustainability into its operations. Finally WLE is working in multi-stakeholder platforms such as Tana Water Fund which bring together local NGOs, private sector and government agnencies to improve benefit sharing arrangements.

4) <u>Partners for capacity strengthening</u>: Achieving WLE's IDOs requires significant capacity strengthening of partners, enabling them to utilize the program's research in order to improve development decisions. In this work, WLE applies the CGIAR Capacity Development Framework.

5. Approaches

WLE will employ the following approaches to implement the strategy.

5.1 Establishing roles at different levels

As the diagram below highlights, WLE works at scale and thus will use different tactics and approaches to partnership and engagement at the global level as compared to the regional and national levels.

National and regional

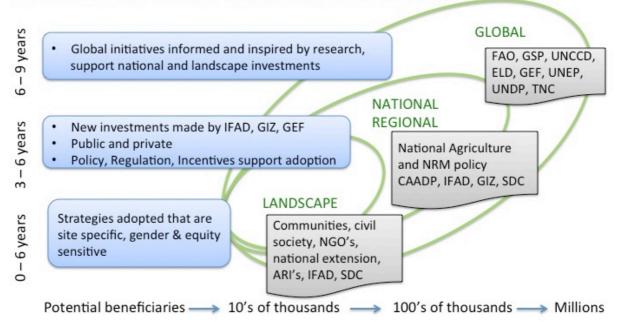
Partnerships at the national and regional level will be led by the WLE focal regional leaders who will be assigned to help foster and engage partners. In addition, in each region, local managers and communication and uptake staff will be hired in order to better engage and work with regional organization. Gender will feature prominently as gender focal points will be assigned to ensure gender is mainstreamed and new partnerships established.

Global

Flagship leaders and the WLE operations team will be responsible for identifying global partners which are vital for WLE's global impact pathway, outreach and capacity building partners.

There are increasing efforts to partner with various UNU institutions, such as the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC), and the United Nations University Institute for Integrated Management of Material Fluxes and of Resources (UN-FLORES), as well as with UNEP, WHO and of course FAO to reach out to national sector ministries relevant for WLE. In addition, identifying private sector networks which we can help us improve private sector relations such as the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.





5.2 Role of Monitoring and Evaluation

WLE will monitor and evaluate its partnership strategy, particularly at the regional level on a regular basis. One of WLE's planned 2015 CGIAR Research Program-Commissioned External Evaluation (CCEE) will assess the degree to which the program's research is aligned with and relevant to partners' priorities.

5.3 The Role of Communication and Knowledge Management

Communication and knowledge management will remain a central strategy in engaging our current partners and fostering new relations for impact. Communication and knowledge management will support partnership engagement in the following ways:

- Knowledge Management: investing in shared platforms and processes to maximize access to and ownership of scientific knowledge by WLE partners.
- Internal knowledge sharing: ensuring partners are up-to-date on current program developments. WLE will also improve its management of partner relations by establishing better collection of data on partners working in various projects
- **Networked approach**: decentralized approach to communication to create a network amongst partners across centers and regions.
- **Knowledge into use**: ensuring WLE research is in formats that clients can use and widely accessible so that information support outcomes.
- **Supporting capacity building** of communication and knowledge management at the national and regional level to facilitate uptake.

5.4 Engagement of partners in WLE governance and management

In relation to partner roles in WLE governance, as noted in the January 2014 draft report on "CGIAR Research Programs Governance and Management" WLE has a very effective "independent, balanced governance body" with "high external participation". WLE's Steering Committee terms of service end in mid-2015, at which point IWMI's Board of Governors will determine if any adjustments are required to represent external views in WLE.

At the regional level WLE will establish Advisory Committees or link into existing regional bodies to get advice and feedback and ensure its research is meeting the regional and national demands. In addition, the Greater Mekong Focal Region will test out an innovative approach to including regional and national organizations to be part of the governance of the program.

5. Operational Guidelines

WLE will test out a set of operational guideline that would apply to a few strategic flagship partners necessary to achieve WLE goals and objectives. This will help WLE to better understand the results accomplished from partnerships and the value added of partners.

The guidelines will include:

- Defined rules/processes and systematic approach to the life cycle of partnerships, e.g. assessing potential partners (e.g. cost, analysis of core competencies and accountabilities); risk assessment; and designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating partnerships.
- Criteria that WLE will use to monitor partner roles, value add, and delivery in the impact pathway and to assess the quality and performance of partnerships. Example criteria might include the role of partners to add expertise/skill/values in core business functions (research, communications, uptake, networking, policy liaison); new business gained; mutual learning, etc.
- Creation of tools and guidance for the development and management of partnerships, including risk management
- Capturing and disseminating partnership experiences across the program

Annex 1: Outcome framework and action plan

To operationalize this strategy, WLE will commit to the following achievements from 2014 to 2016.

By the end of 2015, WLE will have established a baseline of its partnership base and the quality of its partnerships and assessed existing and potential partners and networks, assessed partners' research needs and capacities to utilize research, and developed a systematic partnership approach in each of the four focal regions. Activities include:

- Develop a complete partner data set and partner relation management system.
- Revise KM communication plan based on partnership strategy to improve collaboration and learning between partners
- Develop a set of operational guidelines to be used at the flagship level.
- Develop partnership plans for each Flagship and Core Themes and established MOUs and partnerships with key national and regional organizations.
- Develop Capacity Building plan that takes into account partnerships
- Formed at least 5 new partnerships at the global level which can be used by Flagships
- Participated as WLE in at least 5 global events, 5 regional and 20 national events.

By the end of 2016, WLE will be seen as a credible and respected voice to bring ecosystem services to the forefront of the global development agenda.

- Participated as WLE in at least 5 global events
- WLE will have established core partnerships on ecosystem services and gender and equity that can be utilized by different Core partners or the follow up phase to WLE
- Carried out an assessment on client and partner satisfaction which can be built upon
- Participated as WLE in at least 5 global events, 10 regional and 30 national events.

Annex 2: Key partnerships by flagships Indicative list of partnerships for different flagships and core themes

Focal Regions				
Area	Major partners			
Nile/East Africa region	 Regional Organizations: Nile Basin Initiative, The Nile Basin Discourse (NBD), Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA) 			
	 Private-Public partnership: Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania International Organizations: TNC, IUCN, Global Water Initiative (GWI), 			
	 FANRPAN Investors: GIZ, IFAD, UNEP and UNDP 			
	 Development actors (CARE International) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). 			
<u>Volta</u>	 Regional Organizations – Volta Basin Authority, West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL), Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) CGIAR Research Programs – CCAFS and FTA 			
<u>Greater Mekong</u> :	 Regional organizations: Mekong River Commission, Mekong Program on Water, Environment and Resilience (M-POWER), SUMERNET Donors and investors: DFAT, IFAD, SDC, Sida NGOs: Oxfam, PADECT, PACT Private Sector: Sinohydropower, Thuenhin Boun Power Company 			
<u>Ganges Basin</u>	 Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) IWMI-Tata Water Policy Research Program (ITP) National Ganga River Basin Authority CGIAR Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems (AAS) and GRISP Foundation for Ecological Security, India, Government ministries in Bangladesh and Nepal. 			

Area	Major partners		
Flagship 2: LWP	 Investors: AfDB, ADB, World Bank, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USAID, Sida, INGOs: CARE International, iDE, PRADAN National and regional level: national and regional policy and decision makers, universities and the private sector primarily in India and Sub- Saharan Africa – such as IWMI Tata 		
Flagship 3: RDE	 Investors: GIZ, IFAD, USAID, United Nations Development Programme UNDP, United Nations Environment Programme Global partnerships: Global Soil Partnership (GSP) of FAO, Global Soil Forum (GSF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Economics of Land Degradation (ELD), the new international World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT), and conservation nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) (The Nature Conservancy [TNC], International Union for Conservation of Nature [IUCN] and Ecoagriculture Partners National and Regional: National and regional government agencies, Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania, Water Funds such as Tana Basin 		
Flagship 4: RRR	 Investors: BMGF, SDC, DGIS, USAID, WSP/WB and regional banks 		

	•	Private Sector Partnerships: World Business Council on Sustainable	
		Development, Business schools, private enterprises	
		International Partners: WSP, SANDEC/EAWAG, WHO, FAO, UNEP,	
		UNU-INWEH, UNW-AIS, UNU-FLORES	
		National and Regional Partners: municipal public sector, national	
		authorities, city authorities, RUAF, TEEB, NatCap, UN-Habitat, FAO's	
		'Food for the cities' Program	
Flagship 5: MRV		Global partners: Stockholm Resilience Center (SRC), UN-Water, FAO,	
U		UNEP, IUCN, WWF, CI, Future Earth the International Association of	
		Hydrological Sciences (IAHS), International Fertilizer Development	
	Center (IFDC), Global Water System Project (GWSP), Inte		
		Energy Agency (IEA), FAO Disaster Risk Reduction for Food and	
		Nutrition Security Program	
	-	Global Processes: United Nations International Strategy for Disaster	
		Reduction (UNISDR), IPBES and Ramsar	
	•	National and regional agencies: basin commissions such as Mekong	
		River Commission, Volta Basin Authority, Nile Basin Initiative.	
	Flagship 5: MRV	Flagship 5: MRV	

Annex 3: Partnerships with other Consortium Research Programs

Activity		Pala of CPP
Forest, Trees and Agriculture	Role of WLE	Role of CRP
Joint funding to support assessment of research that contributes to poverty alleviation, nutrition, health and NRM (with CCAFS, Dryland Systems).	Providing funds to support team undertaking this study.	Providing funds to support team.
Joint gender post-doc on natural resource property regimes (along with PIM).	Co-supervisor.	Providing input and knowledge on water as one of the resources.
	Collaborative work on assessing integrated landscape initiatives in Latin America and Asia. Workshop Co-organizer; focus on landscape matrices and landuses other than forest within integrated landscape planning.	Collaborative work or assessing integrated landscape initiatives in Africa Co-organizer; focus on the role of forests and tree elements within integrated landscape planning.
and Horn of Africa for Enhancing Food and Water Security for Rural Economic Development.	Probabilistic modelling of resilience and training of stakeholders in Applied Information Economics.	Quantifying resilience and outcomes of interventions.
Support to sentinel landscapes initiative and various sustainable land management (SLM) projects.	Design of soil health monitoring scheme and soil analytical services for CGIAR sentinel landscapes and SLM projects in Africa.	Establishment of long-term monitoring and learning sites across the tropics implementation of sustainable land management projects in Africa.
CCAFS	Role of WLE	Role of CRP
	Joint funding of the topic. WLE addresses the land-water- ES nexus associated with variability management. Facilitation and lessons.	Joint funding of the topic CCAFS addresses the adaption angle of the topic.
and knowledge management in the KMC4CRPs annual event (with Livestock and Fish).		
Improved Seed Distribution Networks for the Volta combining WLE's Applied Information Economics and landscape strengths with CCAFS skills on climate analogs.	Use of the WLE DAI flagship as the methodological foundation, and WLE's landscape approach to consider networked seed systems.	Forecast models, analog climate model, and interest in role of biodiversity in adaptation strategies.
Common action site on land restoration and climate smart village in Tanzania. "Panamericana" a joint initiative to	Landscape context and restoration, economic tools.	Climate smart villages.
contextualize family farming with WLE, CCAFS, Wheat and Livestock and Fish in Central America		
Development of methods for targeting climate smart agriculture (CSA) interventions under uncertainty and for projecting likely	Methods for modelling uncertainty in performance of CSA interventions and their impacts; paper on targeting conservation agriculture.	Improved information on CSA intervention options made available to stakeholders.

impacts of such interventions.		Polo of CPP
AAS Collaboration on delta ecosystems	Role of WLE WLE provided basin-wide perspective	Role of CRPAASapproachand
of Bangladesh and Myanmar, along with GRiSP.	and applying livelihoods, land and water management analysis, tools, and practices to address productivity	engagement methodologies used to diagnose and design an integrated program
	and water-related conflict in rice and fish systems.	bringing together the collective outcomes of the CRP's with national partners and alignment to IDO's.
Flood pulse ecosystem services of the Tonle Sap (Cambodia).	IWMI and Bioversity bring landscape skill sets to AAS hubs and will be conducting regional ecosystem service assessments of the Tonle Sap region focusing on hydrological services provided by annual flood pulses and impacts of reduced variation on livelihoods.	Participatory and community based methodologies are adopted by WLE researchers community visioning is used as the foundation for the ecosystem service assessment. WLE integrates participatory methodologies to map and validate ecosystem services of the system.
CRP Integration in the Volta Basin (Ghana)	Implemented and executed the scoping study with participation by AAS. Included a strong focus on the integration of ecosystem services and resilience into community development	Scoping study methodology developed by AAS for Tonle Sap used by WLE in its scoping. AAS West Africa staf contributed to planning and execution of the study.
CRP Integration in the Volta Basin (Ghana)	WLE provided results of wider basin scoping.	Basin wide approach of WLE scoping used to set the context of AAS scoping (with L&F) in lower Volta Basin.
Joint preparation of the TEEB for Food and Agriculture Rice report with FAO.	Ecosystem service based approaches to evaluate the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity in rice based landscapes.	Location based case studies and systems based approach to consider ES values from a farmer perspective (Tonle Sap as case study)
GRISP	Role of WLE	Role of CRP
Collaboration in delta ecosystems of Bangladesh and Myanmar, with AAS.	Using WLE ESS based approach and water management approaches.	Rice and fish technologies and systems perspective.
Joint preparation of the TEEB for Food and Agriculture Rice report with FAO.	ES based approaches to evaluate the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity in rice based landscapes.	Detailed knowledge on rice production systems.
WHEAT		
Future collaboration on conservation agriculture and implications at landscape level (South Asia/SSA).		
PIM	Role of WLE	Role of CRP
Complementary work on global groundwater modeling and groundwater foresight (MVR).	Enhancement and testing of the groundwater module; evaluating global groundwater depletion scenarios.	Application of the modul within IMPACT mode framework to asses implications of groundwate scenarios on food security.
Joint work on gender and water technologies (GPI) in Eastern and Southern Africa.	Strength of gendered irrigation analyses in southern Africa, and irrigation analyses in Eastern Africa.	Institutional and econometri analyses for Eastern Africa.
Complementary work on collective action mechanisms for the commons (GPI).	Highlighting the role of gender in common pool resources.	Research on Common poor resources.

Joint work on irrigation reform in the Indus (LWP).	WLE provides detailed irrigation system insights and analyses.	PIM adds ABM modeling techniques for socioeconomic analyses.
Joint collaboration and funding the "Making Ecosystems Count in the SDG's" focusing on the development of natural resource based metrics for the CGIAR and partners through scenario analysis of real world investment decisions (e.g. Fomi Dam multi-functionality) (IES and ESR).	WLE provides administrative support and technical skills in biophysical/ecosystem services scenario analysis and mapping.	PIM provides strong policy experience and guidance on the development of indicators that are relevant to national level policy makers and the CGIAR.
AN4H		
WLE contribution and spatial tool and ecosystem service assessment in Nutrition Sensitive Landscapes work (ESR).	Developing maps of agroecologies and their potential to meet nutritional needs, interactions with ecosystem service provision. Field work commenced in AAS Barotse site; WLE IF proposal to expand into Volta Region.	Nutrition data on the species produced, consumed, and purchased by communities. Backstopping of nutrition data and science.
Drylands	Role of WLE	Role of CRP
Collaborative work on the Book analyzing developmental challenges in Zambezi Basin (RDE).		
Potential gender post-doc on gender and irrigation (GPI).	Co-supervisor.	Working on water and irrigation.
Dryland Systems and HumidTropics: shared action sites under AfricaRISING program, Tanzania and Ethiopia, for yield gap and ex-ante crop potential assessments and nutrient dynamics from farm to landscape.	Nutrient cycling in landscapes, spatial targeting of interventions using soil property maps, ex-ante impact projection with crop yield modeling.	Innovation platforms, intervention trials and impact monitoring.
Joint initiative on Economics of Land Degradation planned.	ELD hub partnerships and joint initiatives.	Partnerships and joint initiatives.
Livestock and Fish (L&F)		
Use of water in aquaculture in the Nile Delta (Egypt).	Facilitating field work.	Provide expertise and lead study implementation.
Humidtropics	Role of WLE	Role of CRP
Complementary field work on 2D and 3D gender disaggregated mapping of land/water use and management practices of farmers in Ethiopian highlands.	Funding and responsibility for 3D mapping.	Funding and responsibility for 2D mapping.
Ecological intensification of agrosilvopastoral and agroforesty systems in Central America.	Impact of intensification on landscape scale ES.	Innovation platforms, intervention plot trials.
PARADE Participatory Agricultural Research: Approaches, Design and Evaluation.	Participation in development and application of participatory methods.	Lead and sponsoring workshops and joint activities.