

An aerial photograph of a tropical landscape. The image shows terraced agricultural fields, a central pond, and numerous palm trees. The terrain appears to be hilly or mountainous, with the fields following the contours of the land. The colors are vibrant greens and browns, indicating a lush, cultivated environment.

Integrated landscape approaches in the tropics: A brief stock-take

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Key themes associated with integrated landscape approaches

- ***Stakeholder identification***
 - Ensure relevance, legitimacy, and comprehensiveness of participation, build trust
- ***Establish common concerns***
 - Collective action will be expedited if concerns and solutions are perceived to be shared by multiple stakeholders
- ***Multi-stakeholder forum in place***
 - Provide space for negotiation of land-use trade-offs and synergies, encourage transdisciplinarity and co-learning, be attentive to power dynamics
- ***Monitoring and evaluation systems***
 - Measure progress towards relevant socio-economic, environmental and governance objectives
- ***Iterative and adaptive management***
 - Exchange knowledge, consider progress, identify leverage points and adapt future planning accordingly

Environmental governance and the need to bridge science-practice-policy gaps

- Political engagement
- Power dynamics
- Land tenure, property and access rights
- Knowledge systems



Engaging the private sector

- Financial incentive
 - close funding gaps
 - achieve SDGs
- Sustainability incentive
 - respond to consumer pressure
 - secure supply chain
 - green growth
- Does ambition match reality?
 - need govt regulation
 - env watchdogs
 - innovative research

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Evidence of implementation and first assessments of effectiveness

- Recent review processes show widespread application of landscape approach
 - multiple factors influence success
 - political and societal support
 - long-term stakeholder engagement
 - capacity development
 - notion of success needs to be questioned
- Very few case studies, especially over long-term
 - difficulties related to classifying
 - monitoring
 - and reporting

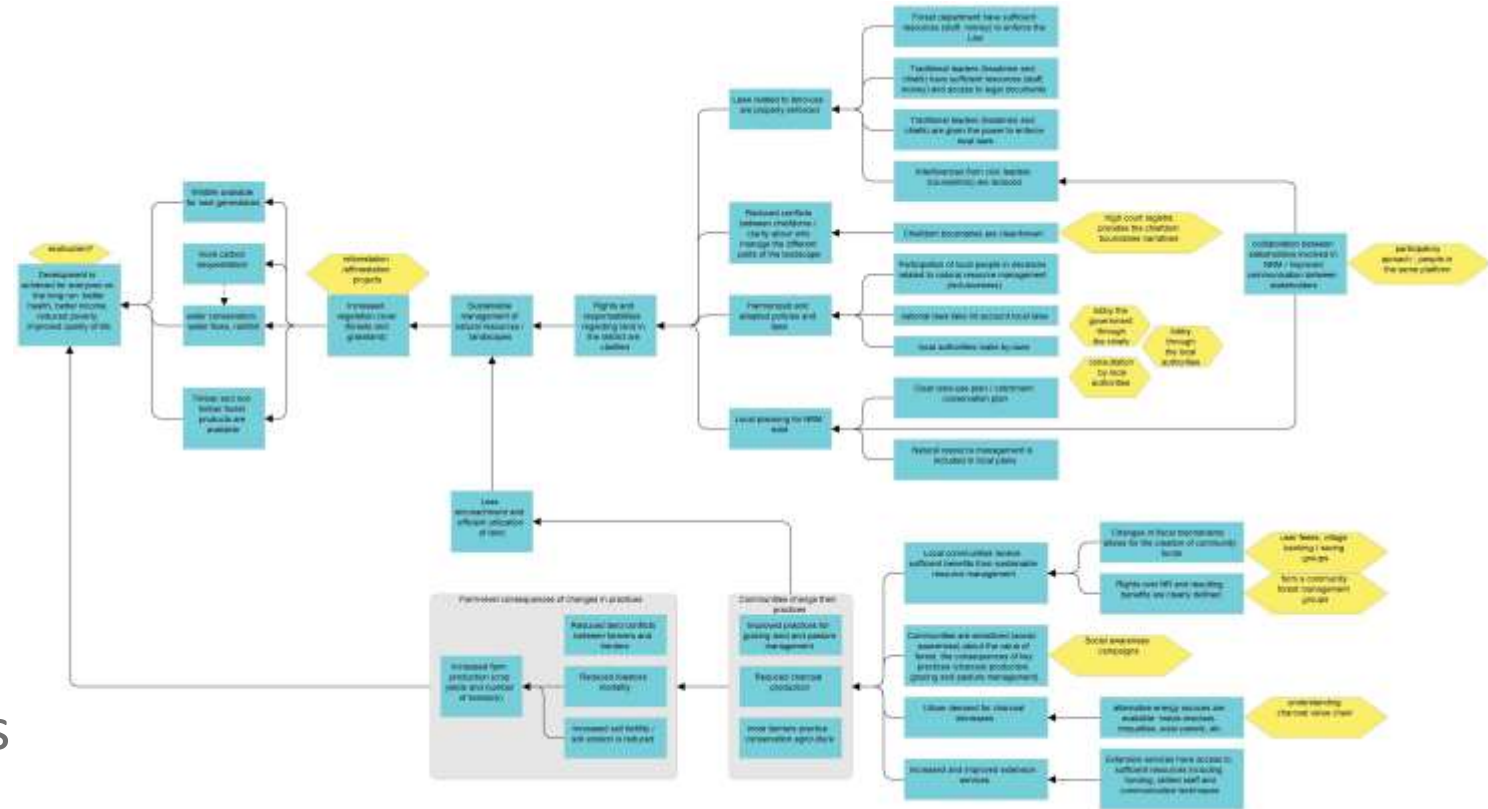
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Methodological developments in monitoring and evaluation

- A couple of potential frameworks (but no recognized gold standard)
- Standard impact assessment methods not applicable
- Theory-based evaluation has promise but largely untested
- Advances in RS and increased publicly available data sources



Take home messages

- Integrated landscape approaches conceptually appealing
- Gaining increased support/prominence
- Implementation efforts increasing but often geographically and sectorially fragmented and evidence base still weak
- Transdisciplinary research agenda required
- Should consider power asymmetries, heterogeneity of actors and landscape functions
- Appropriately applied—hold potential to elevate our understanding of the contextualized conditions under which sustainable development can be pursued



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This project is working with CIFOR, the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) and other partners to conduct innovative research related to landscapes, including forestry and other productive processes; as well as the essential work of engaging multiple stakeholders

Thank you

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