

In Mali, farmers are increasing their maize yields by up to 400% when they grow their crops under nitrogen-fixing trees



Agroforestry: working trees that keep on giving



➔ Impact

Working with smallholder farmers in Africa, Asia and Latin America for over 30 years, we have:

- ➔ Broadened the range and diversity of trees that can be integrated into farming systems, especially as many produce higher income per unit of area than annual crops, require less labour and are more resilient to drought. Examples include Allanblackia, used for high value oil in food products, wild fruit species such as bush mango and safou, and medicinals such as Warburgia.
- ➔ Maximized the productivity of agroforestry systems through improved tree germplasm, integrated soil fertility and the enhanced supply of high-quality tree fodder seedlings. Fodder shrubs have been widely adopted in East Africa. Such shrubs contributed an additional net income from milk of between US\$20 and 30 million in Kenya alone over a 15-year period.
- ➔ Improved management of natural resources in agricultural landscapes that experience the greatest environmental stress. For example, stabilizing forest margins in Southeast Asia by converting slash-and-burn systems. In Niger, over 4.9 million ha of dryland have been reclaimed for agriculture by encouraging farmers to manage the natural regeneration of the trees in the region

➔ Contacts

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Transforming lives
and landscapes
with trees



WORLD
AGROFORESTRY
CENTRE

www.worldagroforestry.org



⇒ | The importance of trees

- ⇒ As global forests shrink, trees outside forests and on farms become more important. Over one billion hectares of agricultural land, almost half of the world's farmland, have more than 10% of their area covered by trees; 160 million hectares have more than 50% tree cover.
- ⇒ Agroforestry means growing working trees and shrubs on farms and in rural areas, combined with crops and livestock, to create profitable, productive, healthy and sustainable landscapes.
- ⇒ Planting useful trees makes existing land more fertile and productive, increases incomes, draws ground water to the surface, restores degraded zones, produces fruit and other products and provides animal feed.
- ⇒ Over 3 billion people worldwide use fuelwood and other solids for cooking, boiling water, light and heat. Planting the right trees provides easy access to fuel and reduces the pressure on forests.

⇒ | Who we are

- ⇒ The World Agroforestry Centre is an international agricultural research organization working in countries throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America. Our vision is that smallholder farmers in the developing world increase their use of trees to improve their food security, nutrition, income and health. The trees will also provide shelter and energy, and benefit the landscape and the environment.
- ⇒ Our headquarters are in Nairobi, Kenya and we run our research in six ecoregions: in East and Southern Africa, West and Central Africa, South East, South and Southeast Asia, China and Latin America.
- ⇒ All of these regions offer opportunities for trees and agroforestry to contribute to solving the interconnected problems of poverty, hunger and environmental degradation.
- ⇒ We receive our funding from over 50 different governments, private foundations, international organizations and regional development banks.



⇒ | What we do

- ⇒ We organize our work around six research areas. Our work on agroforestry systems explores how they can function better to be more productive. This will make them more attractive as investments and they will be more ecologically sustainable in the long term. Work on tree products looks at creating markets for agroforestry products, and that on tree diversity identifies the best type of material to produce the best trees.
- ⇒ We are also concerned with understanding land degradation, how it can be prevented and reversed. Research on environmental services focusses on their benefits to tree-based landscapes including water management, soil stabilization, carbon storage and biodiversity. Our climate change work studies how trees can reduce the vulnerability of smallholders and developing countries to the effects of climate change.



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The World Agroforestry Centre is a member of the CGIAR Consortium, a group of 15 international agricultural research centres, which works to reduce rural poverty, increase food security, improve nutrition and health, and sustainably manage natural resources.



The right tree in the right place for the right reason