SEACRIFOG Project 1st Stakeholder Consultation Workshop

31st May 2017, International Livestock Research Institute,
Old Naivasha Road, Room 720, Nairobi, Kenya

Wrap up document

Data and information

- Potentially there are a lot of data, but:
- Low availability and/or accessibility.
- Data are often spread, no real network connecting those data, so no sustainability of the observation systems
- Visibility: often information is not visible, like illegal activities (charcoal)
- Need for data repositories and data management skills.
- Data Format: Information are need in a format that can be understood and used.

Baselines

- Need to develop baselines: for GHG emissions, mitigation, adaptation.
- Needs for indicators.

Spatial Resolution

- High resolution vs low resolution: example: farmers need local scale data but most of the info they receive is at higher scales.

Time resolution

- Need for short term data: from almost real time (early warning) to seasonal forecast and few years, for food security and adaptation.
- Less need for historical data or long term future predictions.

Central role of individuals – farmers

- Farmers responsive research - In response to farming needs. This link to the resolution issues
- Indigenous knowledge (traditional forecaster): need to bridge with scientific knowledge. Traditional knowledge can be used for innovative solution!
- Farmers are a source of data and info but the information products, services, etc. have to go back to them.

Capacities

- Not full exploitation of the (human) capacity potential

Infrastructures:

- Many efforts in place, but mostly fragmented, no coordination, not connected institutions, with low sharing of information and low accessibility of data.
- 3 clusters of institutions: parastatal agencies, ministries (agriculture, environment), regional technical structure
- Citizens science could emerge as a new kind of low cost monitoring infrastructure

(Some emerging issues)

Remote sensing

Increasing need and use of RS data and GIS applications

Urbanization

- From farming to urban areas
- New needs for new data and new science

Adaption vs Mitigation

- Adaptation is a priority for Africa, while mitigation not.
- This is an apparent conflict, sometimes due to problems of common understanding (communication issue), because mitigation can be seen also as an opportunity: mitigation practices are often also adaptation practices; sustainable productions (soil health, nutrient and carbon conservation, etc.); market opportunity for new technologies.

Market

- Market can influence farmer decisions.
- Market mechanisms: for export of food products, you may need to certify low carbon emissions.

Communication issues

- Participatory approach
- Language
- Problem of over-research!

Need for prioritizations of all these issues and for a basket of options (not only one solution or one strategy). Among the possible options, normally the EU model is not applicable as it is in Africa, but can be adapted.

Africa is not the cause of the climate change problem, but it is heavily affected, and can help solving the problem.