

Africa RISING in the Ethiopian Highlands

Evidence to enhance resources management planning and decision making

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Objective: Develop modelling and participatory approaches to facilitate assessing the impacts of integrated watershed management interventions at different scales.

Results

Field visits and participatory evaluation

- Researchers, communities and extension officers assessed the status of interventions and discussed on successes, challenges and gaps as well as adjustments needed (Fig. 1).
- The learning exercise helped raise awareness and confidence of communities.

Modelling and ex-ante analyses

- Developed 'tool' to identify priority areas of intervention and simulate their impacts (Fig. 2a).
- Model estimation showed average soil loss at Basoana to be 15 t ha⁻¹ yr⁻¹.
- Simulation analysis shows that targeting 'hotspot' can reduce net soil loss by 83% (Fig. 2b).
- Identified places in the landscape that can be "responsive" to multiple ecosystem services: erosion control and dry season baseflow (Fig. 3)
- In the scenario, soil loss can be reduced by 35% and baseflow enhanced by 30% with SWC practices.

Capacity building and partnership

- Created capacity of over 150 people through trainings, exchange visits and cross-learning events.
- Attached 2 PhD and 4 Msc students to assess impacts of technologies.
- Established links with MoA (SLM), Agricultural Research Canters, Universities, Woreda level Administration, GIZ, ICIPE-YESH project, and NGOs for scaling.

Future plan

- Continue capacity development at different levels.
- Out-scale proven site- and context-specific technologies in a participatory manner.
- Develop tools for impact assessment and trade-off analysis.

Conclusion

Defining clear indicators and monitoring impacts of interventions at landscape scale using appropriate tools is essential to generate evidences for planning and scaling. Involving communities in evaluating modelling results raises awareness and can facilitate adoption.

Core partners



































