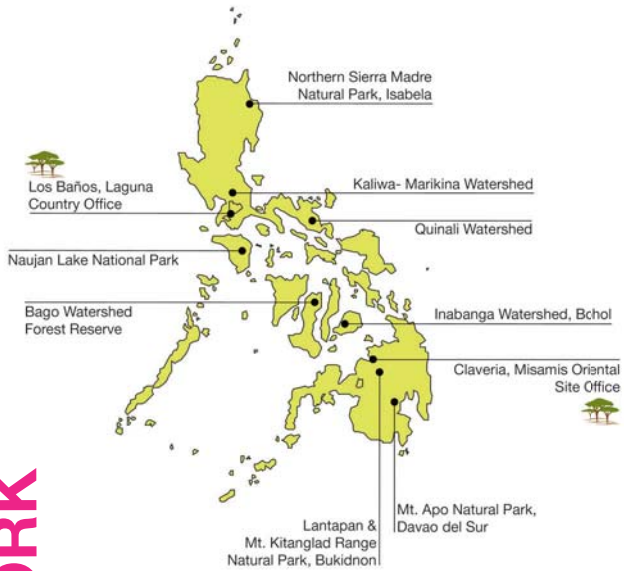


WHERE WE WORK



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The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) is a CGIAR Consortium Research Centre. ICRAF's headquarters are in Nairobi, Kenya, with five Regional offices located in Cameroon, India, Indonesia, Kenya and Peru.

Our vision is a rural transformation in the developing world as smallholder households strategically increase their use of trees in agricultural landscapes to improve their food security, nutrition, income, health, shelter, social cohesion, energy resources and environmental sustainability.

The Centre's mission is to generate science-based knowledge about the diverse roles that trees can play in agricultural landscapes, and to use its research to advance the implementation of policies and practices that benefit the poor and the environment.

The World Agroforestry Centre's role

Agroforestry is uniquely suited to address the need to grow more food and biomass for fuel while sustainably managing agricultural landscapes. It can serve as a means of curbing greenhouse gas emissions by slowing forest conversion to farmland and sequestering more carbon in trees on farms.

With over three decades of work with smallholder farmers, and strategic alliances with advanced laboratories, national research institutions, universities and non-governmental organisations, the World Agroforestry Centre is uniquely positioned to address global challenges.



Introduction to Agroforestry



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
Forests, Trees and
Agroforestry



blog.worldagroforestry.org
www.worldagroforestry.org/regions/southeast_asia/philippines



Trees play a crucial role in almost all terrestrial ecosystems and provide a range of products and services.

Benefits of Agroforestry

Enriches the asset base of poor households with farm-grown trees

Enhances soil fertility and livestock productivity on farms

Links poor households to markets for high-value fruits, oils, cash crops, and medicines

Balances improved productivity with sustainable management of natural resources

Examples of Agroforestry Practices

Simple forms of shifting cultivation

Complex hedgerow intercropping systems

Systems with tree stands of varying density

Systems where trees provide a service role or key commercial products

The interaction between trees and crops/ animals used to gain multiple products or benefits is a concept common to all of these diverse systems.

These are three attributes that all agroforestry systems should have:

1 Productivity

Agroforestry aims to maintain or increase production of commodities as well as land productivity. Some of the ways it does this include: increased output of tree products, improved yields of associated crops, reduction of cropping system inputs, and increased labour efficiency.

2 Sustainability

Through the beneficial effects of trees and shrubs on soils, agroforestry can achieve and indefinitely maintain conservation and fertility goals.

3 Adoptability

Agroforestry is a new word for an old set of practices.

Farmers have practised agroforestry for years. This means improved or new agroforestry technologies being introduced into new areas should also conform to local farming practices.

What is Agroforestry?

'Agroforestry' is a now widely accepted term for an approach to land use involving a **deliberate** mix of woody perennials (trees, shrubs, palms, bamboos) with crops and/ or animals in some kind of arrangement or sequence.

An agroforestry system usually has:

Two or more species of plants (and/or animals), one a woody perennial,

Two or more outputs,

A cycle of more than one year.

Even the simplest agroforestry system is more complex than a monocropping system.



We are working with farmers to integrate trees on their farms and across the agricultural landscape, strengthening livelihoods, and sustaining environments for the future.