Study #4466

**Contributing Projects:**
- P1553 - ESA Case Studies across countries (including Uganda, India, Ethiopia, Southern Africa, Rwanda, Burundi, DRC)

**Part I: Public communications**

**Type:** OICR: Outcome Impact Case Report  
**Status:** Completed  
**Year:** 2021

**Title:** WeForest uses, and enables staff to apply, a WLE/ICRAF impact evaluation tool for holistic planning in the restoration of forest landscapes considering synergies, tradeoffs and uncertainties in Ethiopia

**Short outcome/impact statement:**
After WLE/ICRAF trained the monitoring and evaluation expert of WeForest in the use of a stochastic impact evaluation tool it had developed to predict outcomes of livelihood and landscape restoration, WeForest changed its approach to project design. The organization now undertakes ex-ante analyses that consider risks and uncertainties for all its Ethiopian restoration projects, and, together with WLE/ICRAF, has further developed a technical guide on the use of the tool in restoration projects generally.

**Outcome story for communications use:**
<Not Defined>

**Links to any communications materials relating to this outcome:**
- https://tinyurl.com/ybx3xwdr
- https://tinyurl.com/yd7raac7

**Part II: CGIAR system level reporting**

**Link to Common Results Reporting Indicator of Policies:** No

**Stage of maturity of change reported:** Stage 1

**Links to the Strategic Results Framework:**

**Sub-IDOs:**
- Increased capacity for innovations in partner research organizations
- Increased capacity of partner organizations, as evidenced by rate of investments in agricultural research

**Is this OICR linked to some SRF 2022/2030 target?:** Too early to say

**Description of activity / study:** <Not Defined>

**Geographic scope:**
- National
Country(ies):
● Ethiopia

Comments: <Not Defined>

Key Contributors:
Contributing CRPs/Platforms:
● WLE - Water, Land and Ecosystems

Contributing Flagships:
● F1: Restoring Degraded Landscapes (RDL)
● F5: Enhancing Sustainability Across Agricultural Systems (ESA)

Contributing Regional programs: <Not Defined>

Contributing external partners:
● WeForest
● University of Bonn

CGIAR innovation(s) or findings that have resulted in this outcome or impact:
A stochastic impact evaluation (SIE) tool was developed at ICRAF and further developed by the University of Bonn to support decision makers in making prioritizing decisions under conditions of risk and uncertainty (1). The tool consists of innovative approaches to stakeholder consultation, and probabilistic modeling coded in the R programming language (2). Expert elicitation techniques are used to identify and parameterize relevant model variables.

Innovations:
● 2596 - Stochastic impact evaluation tool (SIE) to plan reforestation projects in Ethiopia
**Elaboration of Outcome/Impact Statement:**

Adaptive management in forest and landscape restoration in sub-Saharan Africa is often constrained by data scarcity. Furthermore, risks and uncertainties inherent in complex interactions at the landscape level constrain decisions on resource allocation. To support decision makers in making both prioritizing and planning decisions, WLE/ICRAF developed a stochastic impact evaluation tool to predict the outcomes of efforts to restore livelihoods and landscapes (1). Using a case study of forest landscape restoration in Ethiopia, we illustrated how the tool can be applied by development practitioners to identify knowledge gaps and highlight key risks so as to encourage realistic goal setting and planning (2,3). Through a collaborative working group formed by ICRAF, WeForest and the University of Bonn, a journal article highlighting the business model for forest and landscape restoration was published in a high-impact journal (3). The study quantified the expected impact of WeForest on 180 hectares of the Desa?a State Forest and on the livelihoods of 26,000 community members living around the forest including women, youth and the landless.

We also provided calibration training to stakeholders on the application of the SIE tool to WeForest, and to 15 other multi-disciplinary experts including 11 experts from development and state agencies and two researchers from Mekelle University (3,4,9). The goal of the training was to improve the capacity of the actors to make accurate estimates within a stated confidence interval.

Following these activities, WeForest decided to adopt and use SIE in its future project planning and performance assessment for landscape restoration (5,6). To that end, ICRAF and WeForest further developed a technical guide (5) on the use of the SIE tool in restoration projects (2,7). ICRAF, WeForest and the University of Bonn are also co-developing a training module on the use of SIE for restoration planning and performance measurement (8).
Reporting 2021 Evidences

References cited:

•[3] Letter from WeForest to ICRAF dated November 30, 2021. (https://tinyurl.com/ydad5zyz)
•[4] Email on training provided dated September 2019. (https://tinyurl.com/yczhl6me)
•[7] Email exchange on WeForest–ICRAF agreement dated November 1, 2021 (includes reference to WLE). (https://tinyurl.com/yae7hmau)
•[8] Letter from WeForest to ICRAF dated October 13, 2021. (https://tinyurl.com/ycoakmmw)

Quantification: <Not Defined>

Gender, Youth, Capacity Development and Climate Change:

Gender relevance: 0 - Not Targeted
Youth relevance: 0 - Not Targeted
CapDev relevance: 2 - Principal

Main achievements with specific CapDev relevance: About 30 staff were trained in the use of SIE tool (4).

Climate Change relevance: 0 - Not Targeted

Other cross-cutting dimensions: <Not Defined>

Other cross-cutting dimensions description: <Not Defined>

Outcome Impact Case Report link: Study #4466

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