Development of National Agroforestry Policy in Nepal
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- NDE submitted technology assistance request - May, 2016
- Agreement to implement RP signed- April, 2017
World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF) ([www.worldagroforestry.org](http://www.worldagroforestry.org))

One of the 15 CGIAR centers ([www.cgiar.org](http://www.cgiar.org))

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What is agroforestry?

**Basic Definition** - Agroforestry is “agriculture with trees”.

**Comprehensive Definition** - Agroforestry is the practice and science of the interface and interactions between agriculture and forestry, involving farmers, livestock, trees and forests at multiple scales.
Why agroforestry?

- **Resilience**, or recovering after a disturbance (e.g. extreme weather events, or market failure) is well performed by agroforestry because of diversified temporal and spatial management options
- Sustainability attributes of agroforestry are strong assets for climate change adaptation
- Carbon sequestration by trees contributes to climate change mitigation
Benefits of Agroforestry

- Food, nutrition, and energy (fuel) security
- Fodder & products of medicinal values
- Safety net against crop failure
- Sustainable timber supply
- Soil enrichment with nutrients, nitrogen, organic carbon
- Increased water infiltration
- Reduced soil erosion
- Carbon sequestration
Why agroforestry policy?

• AF is scattered in various departments/ Ministries – Many actors, no one responsible
• Activities scattered convergence absent
• Traditional knowledge is at work scientific approach missing
• Focus on timber and pulp production high, potential for food and nutrition security ignored
• Environmental services seldom estimated as benefits towards CC
• Potential for CC mitigation and adaptation is ignored
• Agroforestry saving India $ 24 billion/ year through timber production
• Several restrictions and requirement of permits for cutting and transport of trees grown on non-forest land discouraged farmers to adopt agroforestry
• Issues of land and tree tenure
• 21 countries included agroforestry in their INDC
• Nepal recognized both the need and benefits of having Agroforestry policy,
India Agroforestry Policy-2014: A success story

To fast track agroforestry adoption and expansion, and to remove the strict rules against felling and transporting trees, India approved and implemented its national Agroforestry Policy in 2014,

For 2016-2020, India committed $410 million to implement the agroforestry policy,

India's Finance Commission allocated additional $9.0 billion for states with high tree cover,
• Policy supported agroforestry to be included for funding through Corporate Social Responsibility mechanism (3.5 billion annual investment)

• A dedicated national agroforestry research institute established,

• Success of India prompted Nepal and Bangladesh to develop agroforestry policies to remove legal restrictions on trees prohibiting large scale adoption of agroforestry,
Regional Consultation on “Agroforestry: The Way Forward”
NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi, India, October 8-10, 2015.

New Delhi Action Plan

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam

Regional Context:

1. The Nodal Ministry/Agency/Focal Point for dealing matters relating to agroforestry needs to be clearly defined at the national and sub-national levels.

2. Development of country-specific national policies on agroforestry and enabling mechanisms for their implementation need to be given high priority. Indian experience, ICRAF’s expertise, APAARI’s facilitating role, and assistance from international agencies could be useful to further this initiative.
Additional support to CTCN investment & regional scaling up

- APN
- MoAD, Nepal budget
- Bangladesh ?
- SAARC
SAARC\textsuperscript{1} Regional Program on Agroforestry

\textsuperscript{1}South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka)

SAARC works through a Secretariat located at Kathmandu, Nepal & is headed by Secretary General, and deals with agriculture and forest related issues through its Agriculture & Forestry Center located at Bangladesh
• A meeting was organized at Nepal which was co-sponsored by SAARC and ICRAF, and was supported by the Government of Nepal and the SAARC Secretariat.

• Seven out of eight member states attended the meeting, and it was agreed to initiate a “SAARC Regional Program on Agroforestry.”
SAARC Resolution on Agroforestry, 2016

An Inception Meeting to develop a SAARC Regional Coordinated Programme on Agroforestry (SARCOPA) was jointly organized by the SAARC Agriculture Centre (SAC), Ministry of Agricultural Development (MoAD), Nepal; the Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bio-resources (ANSAB), Nepal; and the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), at Hotel Himalaya, Kathmandu, from June 1 to 3, 2016. The meeting was inaugurated by Mr Uttam K. Bhattarai, Secretary, MoAD, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka nominated agroforestry specialist to represent the country in the meeting. The representative from Pakistan, however, could not make it. SAARC Agriculture Centre was represented by the Senior Programme Specialist (SRS) at SAC. Among others, scientists and senior policy makers from the Ministries of Agricultural Development, Forests and Soil Conservation, and Livestock Development: Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC), ICMOD; and ANSAB were in attendance. In addition, agroforestry experts from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), and the Central Agroforestry Research Institute (CAFRI), India; and the Senior Advisor and the Regional Director of ICRAF for South Asia, attended the meeting. The meeting was jointly funded by SAC and ICRAF.

Representatives from the SAARC countries agreed to take forward the recommendations made at the following previous events:

SAARC Regional Expert Consultation Meeting on Agroforestry held in 2015 at CAFRI, Jhansi, India; and SAARC Regional Training on Smart Practices for Climate Resilient Agriculture held in 2015 at New Delhi, India.

The meeting then deliberated on fostering collaboration and partnership among SAARC Member States through developing a SAARC Regional Coordinated Programme on Agroforestry (SARCOPA) with facilitation and technical support from ICRAF and SAC. The programme will employ a two-phase timeframe, with a first six years phase to establish the mechanism and delivery systems for agroforestry benefits to reach the target communities, and a second six years phase to up- and out scale the benefits to a much wider community of beneficiaries. The first phase will focus on the following four pillars encompassing country-specific involvement and activities:

1. Creating awareness and developing guidelines, codes of conduct, and/or policy, and databases of available information on agroforestry and agroforesters.
2. Building capacity both at institutional and individual levels targeting various players and stakeholders.
3. Identifying and re-designing (where necessary) of location-specific agroforestry systems.
4. Demonstration/dissemination of the identified successful agroforestry systems.

ICRAF, in close collaboration with SAC, SAARC countries, ANSAB, and other partners will lead the process of developing SARCOPA, and will provide overall coordination to mobilize resources and finalize and implement the programme.

Participants agreed for this document to be known as “SAARC Resolution on Agroforestry, 2016” released by Mr. Uday C. Thakur, Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Nepal on 3 June 2016 at Kathmandu, Nepal.

“SAARC Resolution on Agroforestry, 2016” elaborates line of action.
Strategic impacts

- Reduced emissions from energy generation and access
- Forests and land use
- Reduced emissions from buildings, cities, industries, and appliances
- Transport

Increased resilience of:
- Health, food and water security
- Livelihoods of people and communities
- Ecosystems and ecosystem services
- Infrastructure and environment
Thank You

It costs 38 Trillion dollars to create Oxygen for 6 months for all Human beings on earth "Trees Do It For Free"