



## DESIRE WB-3 Stakeholder Workshop 2 report

WP3.3 Stakeholder Workshop 2 report - held in Eskisehir, Turkey 11-12 June 2008.

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## **Workshop Report - English summary**

### **Stakeholder workshop 2**

**Selection and decision on technologies / approaches to be implemented**

Results and conclusions from the stakeholder workshop

Name of the study site: ***Eskişehir***

Date of workshop: ***June 11-12, 2008***

Author(s): ***İnci Tolay, Faruk Ocakoğlu, Sanem Açıkalın,***

## I General information

### A) Workshop

Workshop venue: *ESOGÜ Department of Geological Engineering, Classroom 120*

Workshop moderator(s): *İnci Tolay, Faruk Ocakoğlu*

#### List of workshop participants:

Mr. / Ms.	First name, name	Stakeholder category and institution (e.g. land user, researcher, NGO, GO)	Local or external participant? (L / E)
Mr.	Ali ŞENTÜRK	Land user	L
Mr.	Niyazi ULUÇAY	Land user	L
Mr.	Burhan GÖMEŞ	Land user	L
Mr.	Ali CENGİZ	Land user	L
Mr.	Azmi CAZ	Land user	L
Mr.	Halil BAŞTÜRK	Land user	L
Mr.	Bahaddin YENİPİNAR	Land user	L
Mr.	Süleyman FİLİZ	Land user	L
Mr.	Yusuf KOYUN	Land user	L
Mr.	İbrahim ÇELİK	Land user	L
Mr.	Halil GÜNGÖR	NGO local director	E
Ms.	Mukadder GÜVENÇ	GO researcher	E
Mr.	Serdar TOPRAK	GO researcher	E
Ms.	Hatice ÇETİN	GO researcher	E
Mr.	Mesut ÖLÇEK	GO researcher	E
Mr.	Atilla OCAK	GO academics, also DESIRE Project staff	E
Mr.	Celalettin AYGÜN	GO researcher	E

#### Comments:

We invited experts from 6 institutions (5 GO and 1 NGO) that is thought directly relevant with the desertification phenomenon in the Eskişehir hotspot. All of the institutions followed the invitation mostly with the same experts who attended the 1st meeting. Few of these experts abandoned the meeting due to personal obligations towards the end of the meeting. All the farmers (except one whose mother was hospitalized) attended the meeting regularly.

## B) Background

Eskişehir hotspot covers a drainage basin about 80 km<sup>2</sup> of a dam called Keskin dam 20 km NW of Eskişehir metropol in NW Anatolia. Hotspot hosts ca 3000 people living in 5 villages and 1 quarter. Farmers in two villages settled on flat alluvial plain mostly practice irrigated cropping while more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the hotspot relies on dry farming. Northern part of the hotspot has steep slopes and generally is allocated for pasture lands. Our own field observations and experiences of farmers show that soil erosion by water and urbanization stress constitute the major land degradation types in the hotspot. Focus group discussions revealed that larger scale socio-economic drivers (increasing mean farmer ages, changing views, increasing input costs etc.), legislative situation (a part of the hotspot villages have recently been included in the Eskişehir municipality), lack of agricultural education from state organizations are major difficulties in the conservation of soil and water resources.

## II Results and conclusions from single steps

### Step 1 ↗ Objective(s) you worked on:

Two objectives were distinguished by stakeholders of the Eskişehir hotspot.

- 1- Protection of dry-farming areas from water erosion
- 2- Rehabilitation of pasturelands

### Step 2 ↗ Selected options and necessary adaptations:

Before initiation of the selection procedure, we delivered pre-selected related WOCAT SWC measures (translated into Turkish) and explained each in detail by means of projector. Stakeholders did not include any locally applied or potential SWC measure identified by them in the first workshop, since they are applied quite locally such as in their garden.

Related to first objective, stakeholders selected the options below from the WOCAT QT database.

- water harvesting
- fanya juu terraces
- farm pond
- contour trench
- planting pits and stone
- stone bund of *Tigray*
- no-till technology
- contour planting

Options chosen from the database for pastureland rehabilitation are as follows.

- *Caragana Korshinskii* planting
- gully control
- hillside terracing
- stone bund of *Tigray*
- stone-faced trench

From both objectives, stakeholders decided to vote options as is, and apply the necessary adaptations and mixing of options after their ranking.

**Step 3 ↗ Criteria for evaluation:**

Stakeholder decided the following criteria

a) For protection of dry-farming areas

<b>Economic / production</b>	<b>Ecological</b>	<b>Socio-cultural</b>	<b>Offsite</b>
- product diversification	- soil organic matter increase	- food security	- reduced downstream siltation
- fodder/animal production increase	- water quantity increase	- conservation/erosion knowledge	
- crop yield increase	- invasive alien species reduction	- suitability for small/large scale land users	
- reduced risk of production failure	- soil loss reduction	- community institutional strengthening	
- low expenses of inputs			

b) For pastureland rehabilitation

Add qualifier such as 'increase' or 'decrease' to the criteria (where necessary / possible)

<b>Economic / production</b>	<b>Ecological</b>	<b>Socio-cultural</b>	<b>Offsite</b>
- product diversification	- plant diversity increase	- food security increase	- downstream siltation reduced
- fodder/animal production increase	- soil loss reduced	- conservation/erosion knowledge increase	- downstream flooding reduced
- Animal production increase	- animal diversity increase	- socio-cultural conflict mitigation	- damage on neighbors' fields reduced
- Animal quality increase	- surface runoff reduced	- health of people increase	
- expenses of inputs reduced			

#### **Step 4 ↗ Scoring of options made by different groups:**

Stakeholders decided 5-fold scoring, 1 being the worst and 5 being the best. Four groups (2 of farmers, 2 of experts) separately voted each option according to pre-defined criteria. Analysis of scoring table indicates that farmers groups vote very close to each other while the experts groups significantly diverge from each other and from the farmers groups. This is probably due to partial unfamiliarity of experts (all are of agriculture engineers to SWC issues and to the agricultural practices) as well since they do slightly different jobs irrelevant to SWC for various GOs.

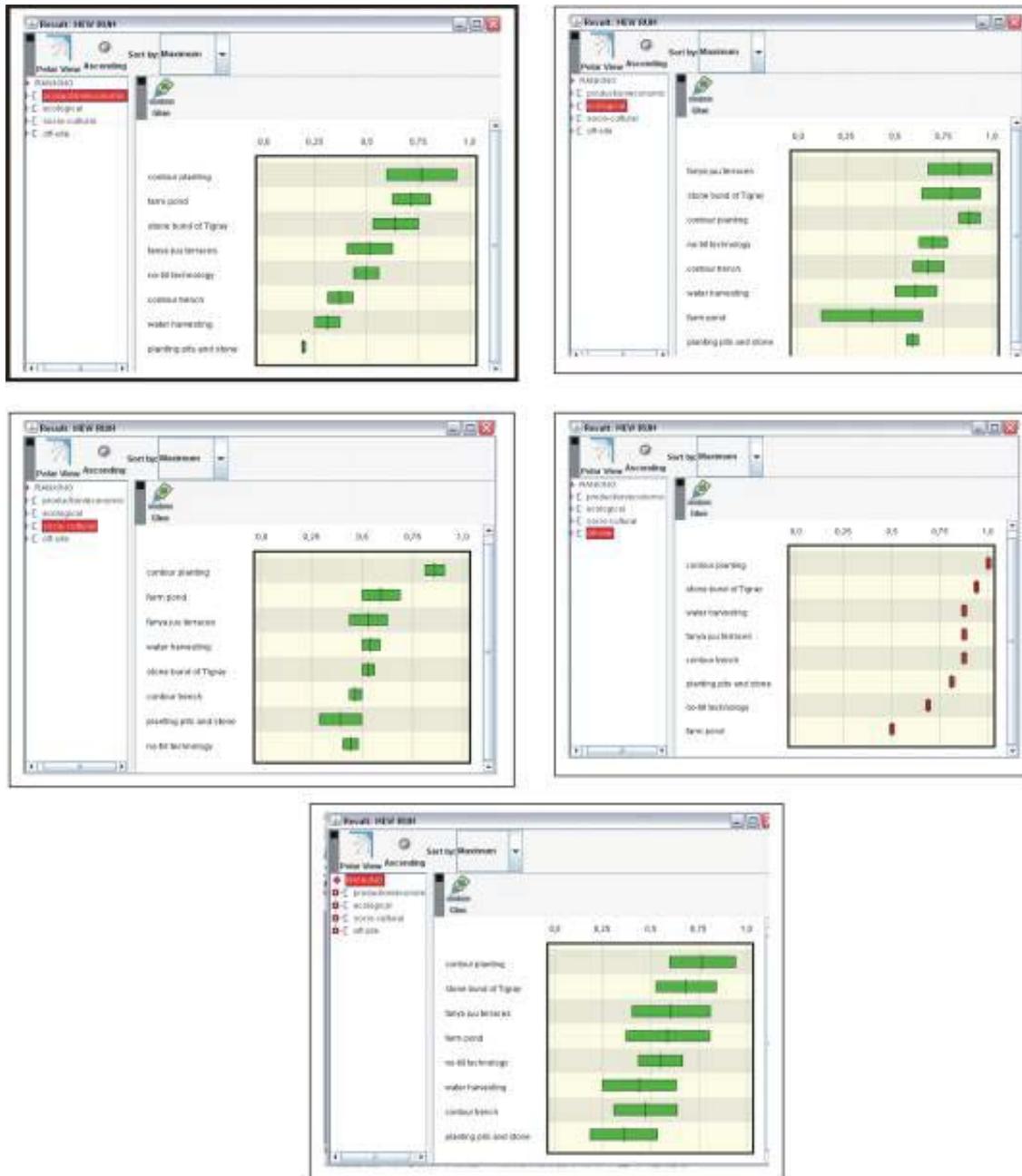
#### **Step 5 ↗ Ranking criteria**

Criteria were ranked by group discussion of stakeholders with the guidance of moderator. “facilitator” software was always open and the voting results were projected to screen as for the stakeholders can see the results of ranking process. In general, no ardent discussion was made in ranking process. Criteria that directly relates to their net income were ranked higher. Criteria that belong to socio-cultural and off-site categories were less respected by farmers.



## Step 6 ↗ Analysis and interpretation:

a) For prevention of water erosion in dry-farming areas



Highest votes (3/4) were given to contour planting technology which are followed by stone bund of Tigray, soil bund and farm ponds. Fanya juu terraces were considered the best option by certain stakeholder groups from the ecological point of view. Among other no-till technology was not paid attention as anticipated.

c) For pastureland rehabilitation



The technologies analysed here are not the same as in the list of step 2, why? After determining probable measures in step 2, stakeholders discussed on the great similarities between three structural measures, namely hillside terracing, stone-faced trench and stone bund of Tigray. For this reason they omitted the first two measures in the voting procedure. Moreover they used gabion instead of more subtle measure gully control. Stakeholders definitely decided a vegetative measure, *Caragana korschinskii* planting, particularly regarding its benefits as fodder material from the view point of all criteria categories. Stone bund of Tigray generally found credible from all criteria categories viewpoints while Gabions were felt unsuitable for the expectations of stakeholders.

## Step 7 ↗ Prioritisation of options:

For protection of dry-farming areas from water erosion, contour planting, stone bund of Tigray and Fanya juu terraces were voted the most, mostly due to their production/economic virtues. Group discussions yielded that these technologies can be merged together with grass and bush planting (particularly *Caragana korshinskii*) at the base of the stone (or soil) terraces. As with the pastureland rehabilitation, contour-parallel *Caragana korshinskii* planting (or another shrub species of similar peculiarities) were the most appreciated. Contour-parallel stone bunds were equally found useful. Stakeholders concluded that the combination of these two technologies might produce better benefit.

The context in which the selected stone bund or Fanya juu terraces will be implemented is :

- **On which land use type will the Technology be applied?** Land use type(s): *cropland*
- **If land use will change due to the implementation of the Technology, indicate land use type before and after:** *No change will involve...*

Original land use (before implementation): .....

Future (final) land use (after implementation)(if relevant): .....

### • Land users who will apply the Technology

*tick one option per line*

Individual/household  groups / community  cooperative  employee (company, government)

Small scale land users  medium scale land users  large scale land users

Leaders / privileged  common / average land users  disadvantaged land users

Mainly women  mainly men  mixed

The context in which the selected *Caragana korschinskii* planting will be implemented is :

- **On which land use type will the Technology be applied?** Land use type(s): *pastureland*
- **If land use will change due to the implementation of the Technology, indicate land use type before and after:** *No change will involve...*

Original land use (before implementation): .....

Future (final) land use (after implementation)(if relevant): .....

### • Land users who will apply the Technology

*tick one option per line*

Individual/household  groups / community  cooperative  employee (company, government)

Small scale land users  medium scale land users  large scale land users

Leaders / privileged  common / average land users  disadvantaged land users

Mainly women  mainly men  mixed

## **Step 8 ↗ Embedding into overall strategy**

Discussions showed that leadership in the implementation of technologies is of ultimate importance. Particularly farmers do not believe in significant contribution from GOs. For the protection of dry-farming areas, farmers accept to allocate their croplands for long term implementation and monitoring activities of the DESIRE project. They also accept to use their own agricultural equipments in the case of fuel supply. Since none of the GOs' participants have been authorized in the financial affairs before the meeting (this is the expected case, because state organizations made their financial plans long ago the beginning of fiscal year, and they do not spend any cent except this. In the last years, a new western mode, called strategic planning, settle down in state management. This requires financial planning 2-3 years period before the realization of consumption). For these reasons, GO participants only expressed feasibility of the technology, but they could not shoulder any responsibility. External stakeholders assumed that Provincial Special Organization (İl Özel İdaresi) that is officially bounded to local government leaders have relatively free consuming opportunities as well as a rich machine park. That organization was thought to contribute in terracing activities.

Discussion further revealed that amelioration of pasturelands requires permissions from certain GOs. Anatolian Agricultural Research Institute is probably one of these institutions which have also significant experience in natural vegetation cover of the region. One expert (also second level manager) of this state company expresses warm feelings for cooperation but normally insists on a protocol and financial share which is a quite fragile subject. Farmers willingly accept to use their tractors and other equipments, even their labor force, if the fuel of machines is paid. We did not continue contact particularly with Anatolian Agricultural Research Institute since the final decision on which measure will be applied also depends on many factors such as participation of farmers, as well as legislative context.

## **III Evaluation of the workshop**

Participants, particularly farmers are very pleased with the interactive methodology of the meeting. They also enjoyed having votes of equal value to that of experts. Some of the options from WOCAT database were not fully understood / perceived due to totally different socio-cultural context. Since most of the criteria, particularly of socio-cultural category are quite subtle, they have had difficulties in understanding them. Although these bottlenecks, they willingly accepted 8 hour rush in a day during the meeting. As with the external stakeholders, they mostly belittled the methodology. Experienced SWC experts particularly insisted on totally authentic solutions with the belief that options from WOCAT database are collected mostly from very underdeveloped countries.

By the Moderator: 2<sup>nd</sup> stakeholder meeting followed probably the best methodology that can produce social benefit. Definition of best option was made possible by fine-tuned criteria some of which are faintly connected with the options.

## **IV Other information**

### **Difficulties encountered:**

Evaluation of two desertification problems as described in “Guidelines for WB3” and instructed in Bari is very very hard. It requires very high performance and time from both the project group (moderator and others) and stakeholders. Farmers resisted hard conditions (long days with heavy discussions) of meeting, but experts were hardly confined in the meeting room towards the end of each day. Extension of meeting into 3 days was on the other hand impossible due to heavy agricultural duties nowadays.

### **Changes made concerning the procedure suggested in the workshop guidelines:**

### **How was the interest and participation of the different stakeholder groups in the workshop?**

Farmers' interest was considerably higher compared to GO experts. This is because farmers, at least some of them, will directly profit from the implementation within DESIRE of conservation measures. Good relation between the farmers and project staff is supposedly another reason.

### **Recommendations:**

### **Comments:**