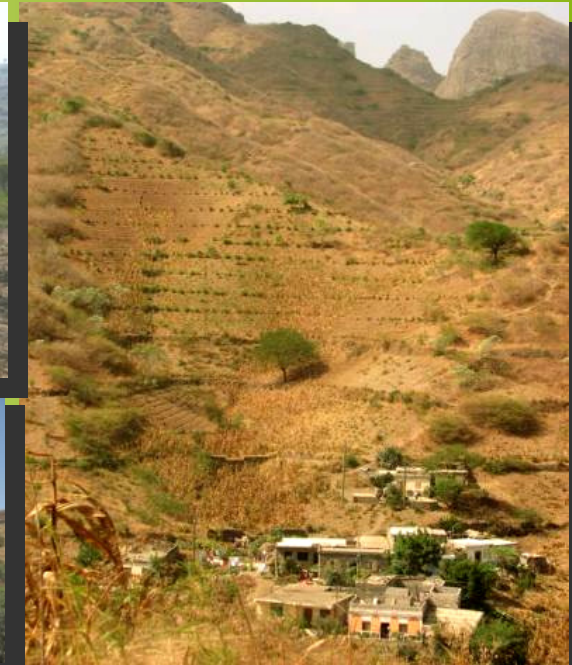
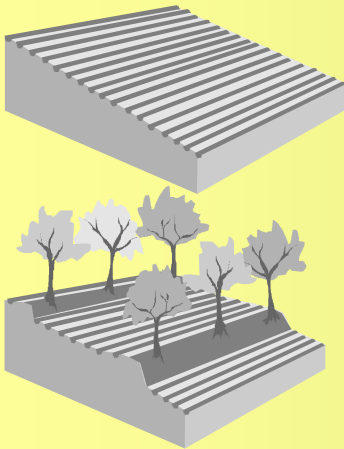


The DESIRE Decision Support System

on strategies for sustainable land management
at local and regional scales



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DESIRE project partners



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WOCAT



The DESIRE Decision Support System

on strategies for SLM at local and regional scales

1. What does it do?
2. How does it work?
3. How can it be used for decision support?



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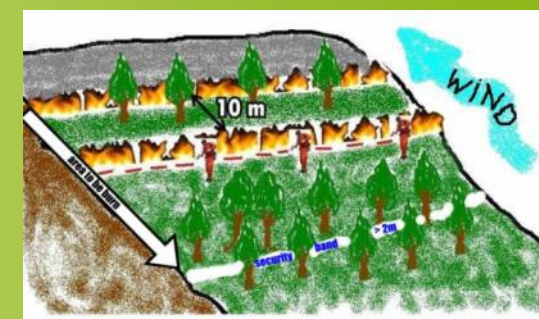
1. What does it do?

Develop and test promising prevention and remediation strategies

against desertification and land degradation

in 16 hotspot areas around the world

in a unique collaboration between local stakeholders, scientists and NGOs



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Core outputs

- Tested **strategies for SLM** for a range of dryland contexts, documented and shared between stakeholders
- '2 route' **methodology for decision support** on the remediation of desertification and sustainable land management



The year-after-year terraced land of the 2004 1000 (Yang Tai Yang, Shaanxi Province, China)

Year-after-year terraced land

Year-after-year terraced land is a kind of SLM method to expand the platform of trees annually to reduce runoff and soil erosion till the land of orchard on the slope becomes terrace.

Conservation measure: structural measure

Cost - benefits	Short-term	Long-term
Investment:	eighty 2000R	2000R
Maintenance:	2000R	2000R

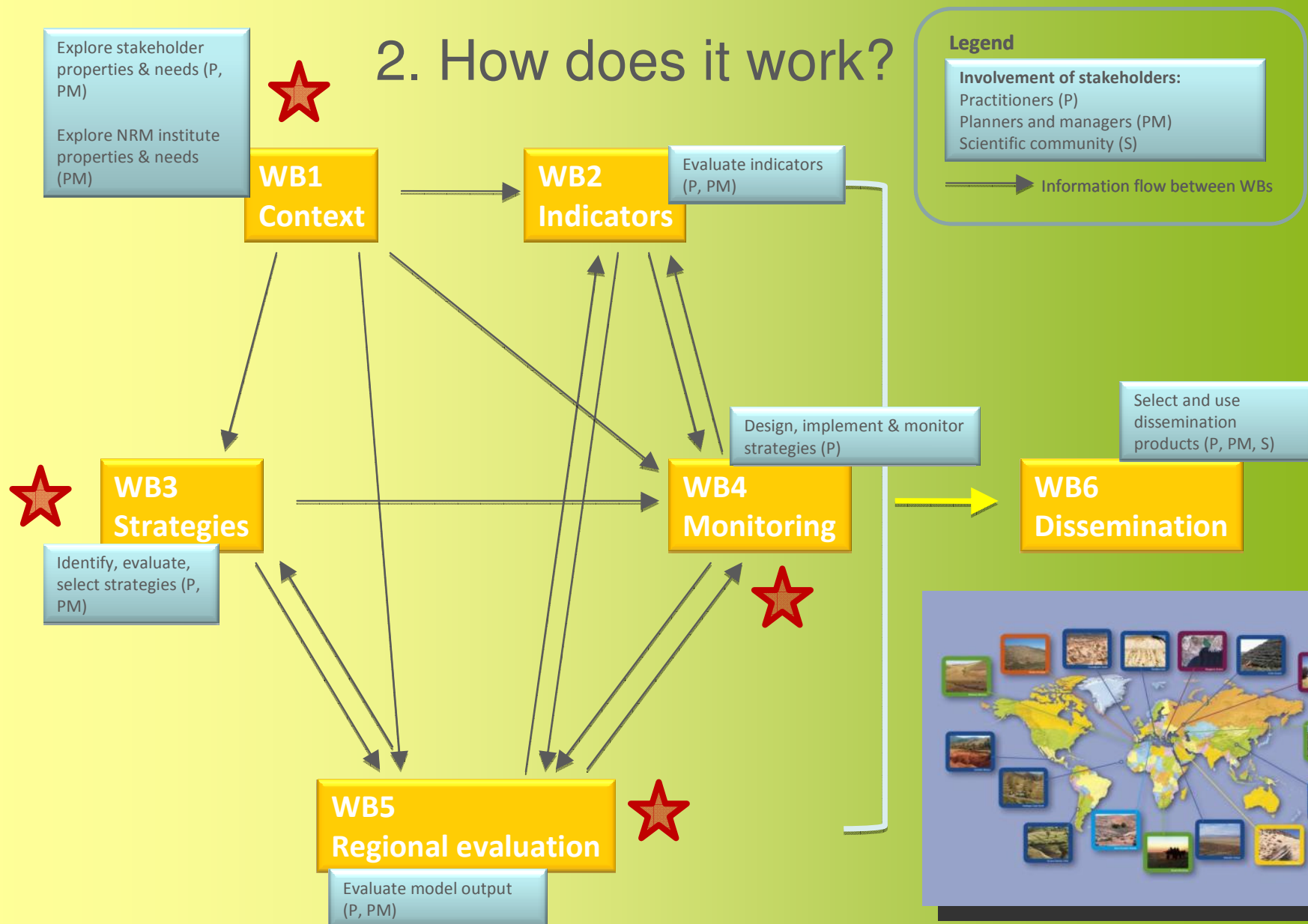
SLM Technology: Year-after-year terraced land CHINA WOCAT



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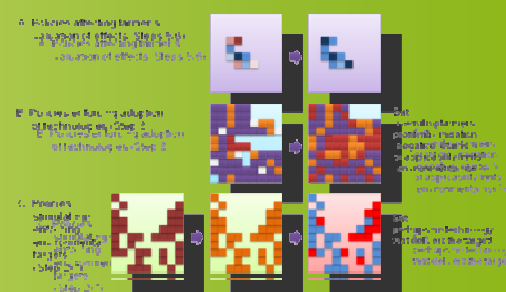
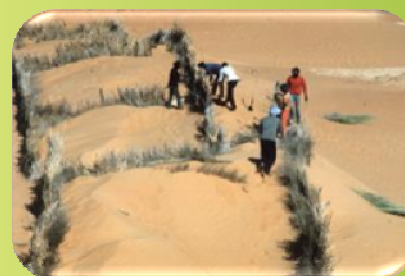
2. How does it work?



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Add-ins from DESIRE into the LADA-WOCAT approach



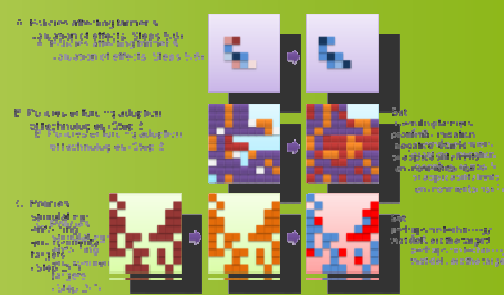
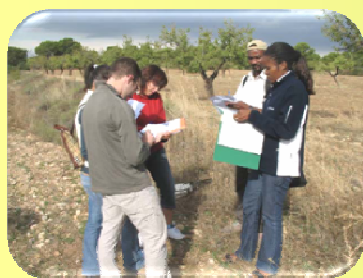
- ★ Applying and testing the LADA-WOCAT QM approach for land degradation assessment at 'site' scale
- ★ Embedding the WOCAT framework of technologies and approaches in a 3-step methodology to identify, document and prioritize SLM strategies with stakeholders
- ★ Implement and trial strategies, and feedback results into the 3-step method, including the WOCAT database of T & A
- ★ Upscale biophysical and socio-economic effects to regions



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Add-ins from DESIRE into the LADA-WOCAT approach



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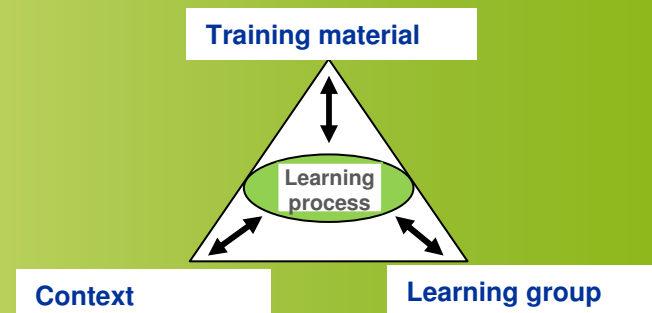
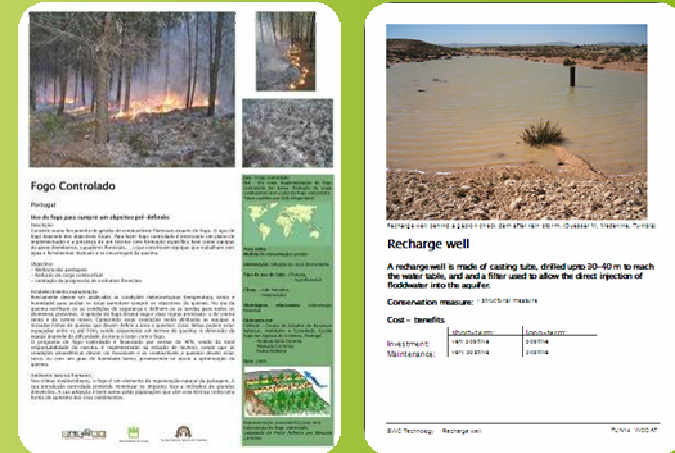


Embedding the WOCAT framework in a 3-step method...

...leading through whole procedure
from initiation to final decision

Based on:

- the WOCAT database of best practices
- tools to assess and select SLM strategies
- a methodology to apply these tools within a participatory process



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Concept of framework

Part I - Identification

- Stakeholder workshop 1
- Mutual learning
- Identification of current and potential solutions
- 3 days

Preparations:
Description of natural and human environment
First list of actual technologies and approaches (incl. photos)

Local water and biomass cycles:

- disturbances
- causes and impacts (natural and human)
- solutions

Indicators of degradation and conservation

Stakeholders influence and motivation

Assessment of **locally applied solutions** and ideas for potential strategies

Prioritize local and potential solutions for further assessment

Part II - Assessment

- Documentation and evaluation of 3-5 local and potential solutions
- using WOCAT questionnaires
- 2-3 months

Documentation and evaluation with questionnaires

- Technology T1 and Approach A1
- Technology T2 and Approach A2
- Technology T3 and Approach A3
- Technology T4 and Approach A4
- Technology T5 and Approach A5

For each T and A:

- Description, specifications and costs
- natural and human environment
- analysis (pros and cons, impact, acceptance, etc)

Review and quality assurance

Part III – Selection and decision

- Stakeholder workshop 2
- Selection and decision support for local implementation
- 2 days

Preparations:
Preliminary search for options in WOCAT database
Technology posters and cards

Selection from WOCAT database with local/potential, DESIRE and worldwide solutions

Comparison and **appraisal of options** for local application, with weighted criteria in decision support tool

Negotiation and decision for test implementation with **commitment** of stakeholders

Embedding into overall land management strategy



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How it works (Part I): experience from the DESIRE project

Strengths (of methodology)

- Initiating stakeholder collaboration
- Flexibility
- Awareness of local solutions

Weaknesses

- Not enough attention to socio-economic constraints
- Separation internal-external stakeholders
- Too quick – too ,dirty‘?

Challenges

- Demanding moderation
- Application in top-down contexts

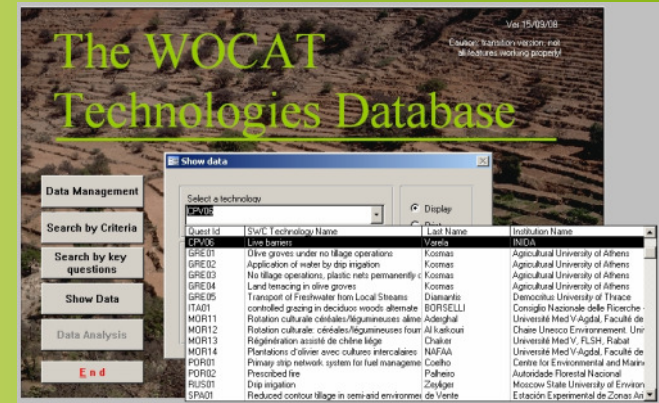


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Experiences from the DESIRE project: part II

- Documented: 42 technologies and 20 approaches
- Reviewed by panel of WOCAT coordination team and other researchers
- Taken into part III in the 16 study sites (2nd stakeholder workshops)
- 14 strategies monitored in the study sites



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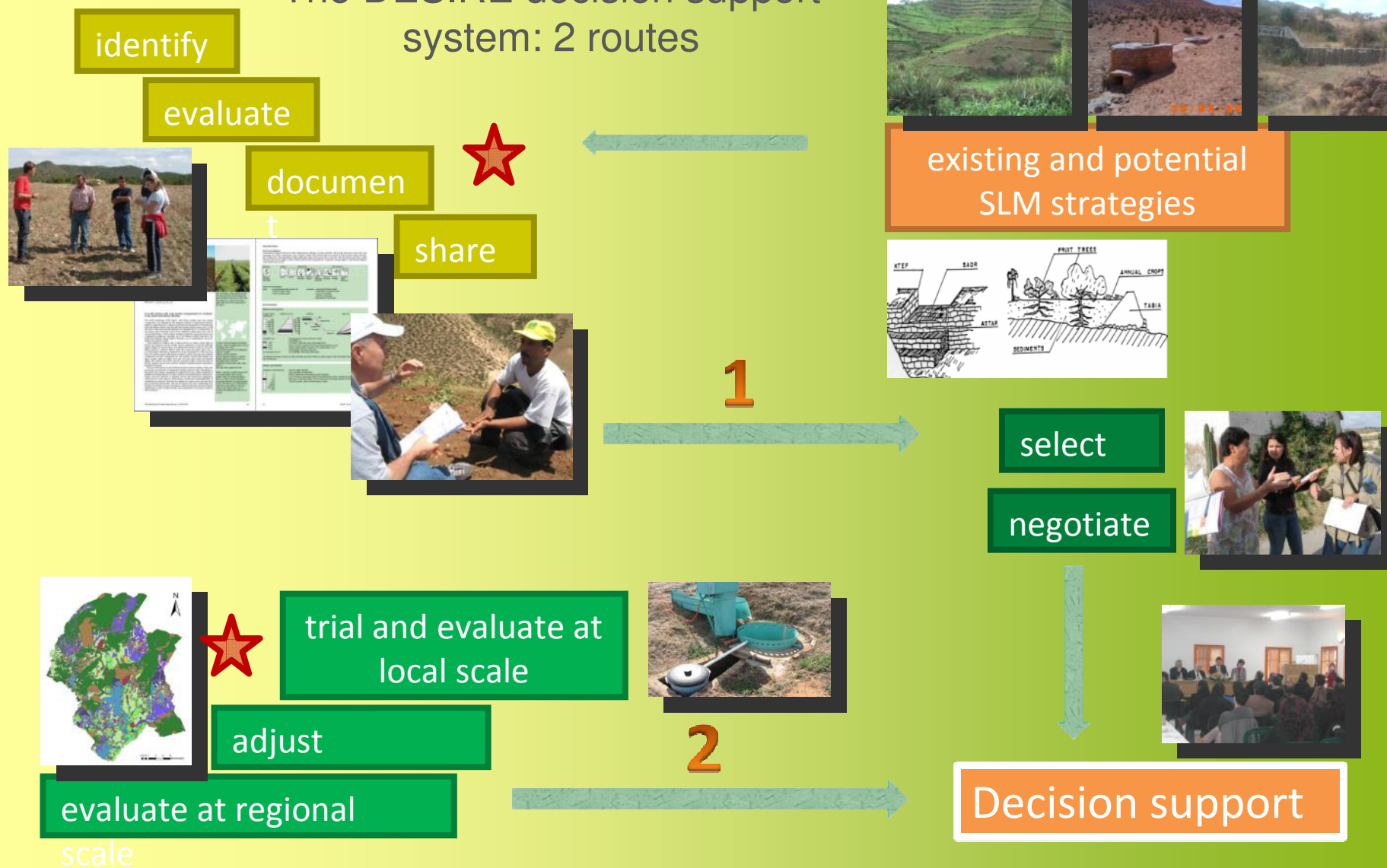
3. How can the DESIRE system be used for decision support on strategies for sustainable land management?



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The DESIRE decision support system: 2 routes

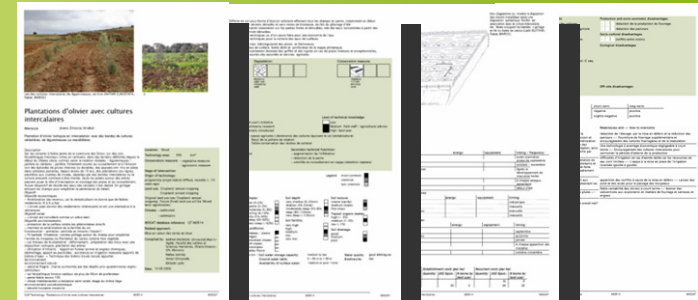


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Conclusions: the route from local assessment to decision support in the DESIRE system

1. **Structured process of selecting and deciding upon strategies with stakeholders** is crucial for acceptance. There is evidence of the possibility to engage stakeholders in the DESIRE project.
2. **Documentation work** is demanding but enriching and gives many new insights into applied strategies, automatically including local knowledge



Conclusions: the route from local assessment to decision support in the DESIRE system

3. **Standardized documentation** allows exchange throughout DESIRE sites and worldwide. Flexibility allows for use in specific local/regional contexts.
4. Local **field trialing** in 16 study sites provides scientific basis of supposed impacts
5. **Upscaling** to regional scales provides means to expand decision support to larger areas and to simulate policy effects



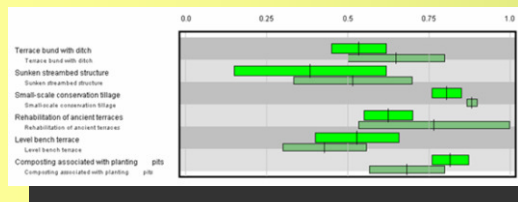
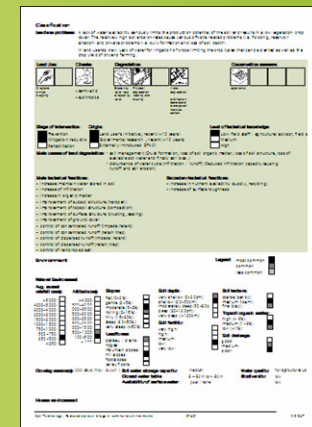
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Recommendations for routes to decision support in SLM

- **Work with stakeholders**, including land users, (sub)national authorities and researchers
- **Document and evaluate** strategies; ensure review
- **Enable joint selection and decision making** on strategies and document this process

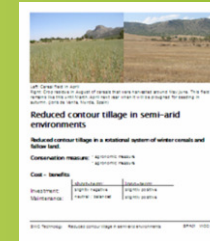


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Recommendations for routes to decision support in SLM

- Share knowledge and experiences at the local, national and global level using **harmonised tools** like LADA, WOCAT and the DESIRE HIsystem
- **Involve 'field-based' NGOs** to guide the process to decision support based on local assessment
- **Involve 'international NGOs'** to disseminate key messages and methods to the international policy arena and to support the implementation of the UNCCD



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For more information, visit:

www.desire-his.eu

www.desire-project.eu



Thank you for your attention!



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