Integrating Biodiversity Objectives in Future Cropland Expansion and Intensification in Tanzania





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Introduction

- Global biodiversity framework: Agricultural areas should be managed through sustainable use of biodiversity (1)
- Trade-offs in land uses: Biomass needs of people versus ecosystems and biodiversity protection (2, 3)
- Land scarcity: Areas suitable for agricultural production also valuable for biodiversity conservation (4, 5)
- Tanzania:
 - Hosts 6 of 25 global biodiversity hotspots (6)
 - ~ 8 million households engaged in agriculture, mostly rainfed and small-scale (7)
 - High potential for agricultural intensification and high ongoing agricultural expansion (8)





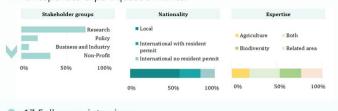
Lessons Learned

Policy measures could be implemented to:

- Enhance agricultural management, perceived to pose challenges but also opportunities for most participants
- Maintain biodiversity when intensifying agricultural crop production, as this could generate synergetic benefits

Methods

72 responses expert questionnaires:



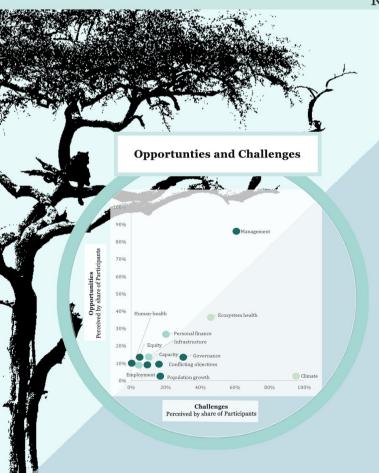
- 17 Follow-up interviews
- Inductive coding and descriptive statistics

Research Questions

Tanzania

What are the major challenges and opportunities to align biodiversity conservation and increased crop production in Tanzania? To what extent can current cropland be expanded, or current cropland use be intensified if biodiversity objectives are considered compared to disregarded?

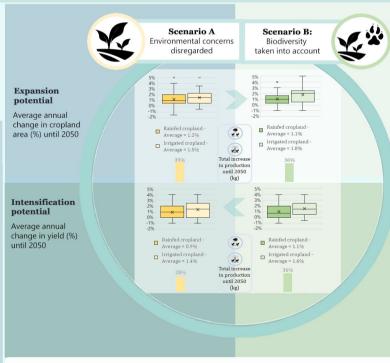
Results



"If you think more about how you **manage** your land...Biodiversity does not need

per se to decrease...I believe that sustainable farming practices could do a lot more to improve biodiversity...

Interview quote, Agricultural Expert, Tanzania, August 2022



"If environmental concerns are disregarded, it [the yield] will increase, but not so much. Why not so much? It [the yield increase] will be short-lived, two, three vears and then it will crash."

Interview quote, Biodiversity Expert, Tanzania, August 2022

Way forward

- Co-redesign scenarios with stakeholder workshops/interviews
- Simulate impacts on the Tanzanian economy in IFPRI's standard CGE model (9)