



# **DEVCO** **Environment and Climate Week 2020**

**17-21 February 2020**  
**Brussels, Belgium**

**EU interventions to support  
Agroforestry practices in Rwanda**

# Agricultural sector and Agroforestry in Rwanda

- Rwanda, a small country, high human density > 415 inhabitant/km<sup>2</sup>, 12 million (2018), >70% in Rural areas, 39% Poverty (2015)
- Importance of Agriculture Sector: 31% GDP, with economical success: x2 in value from 2000 to 2017.
- According to sustainable Agricultural practices, one of the more developed in Rwanda is through agroforestry systems (link or not with terracing)
- Energy: 80% of National Energy consumption is biomass (cooking) with 79% House-Holders using inefficient cooking technologies in 2017 (Mininfra)
- Existing policies: Rwanda Agroforestry National Strategy(2018), Agroforestry technical guidelines (2018), National Forestry strategy Policy (2018), Strategic Plan for Agricultural Transformation (PSTA4-2018)
- Governemental objectives and targets: Cover 30% of the total country, yearly 45.000 ha planted and maintain in Agroforestry (2,5% agricultural lands), 3 fruit trees/family.

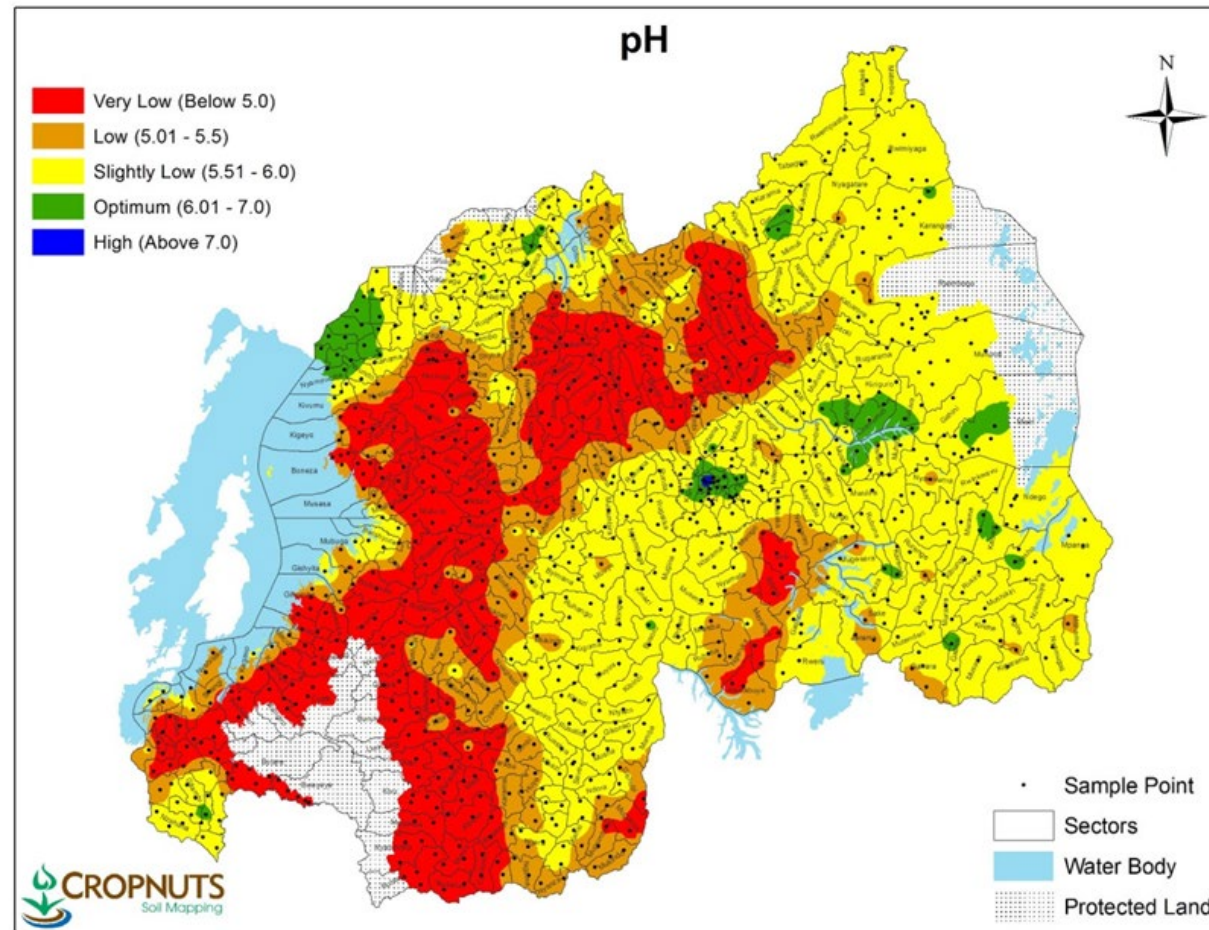
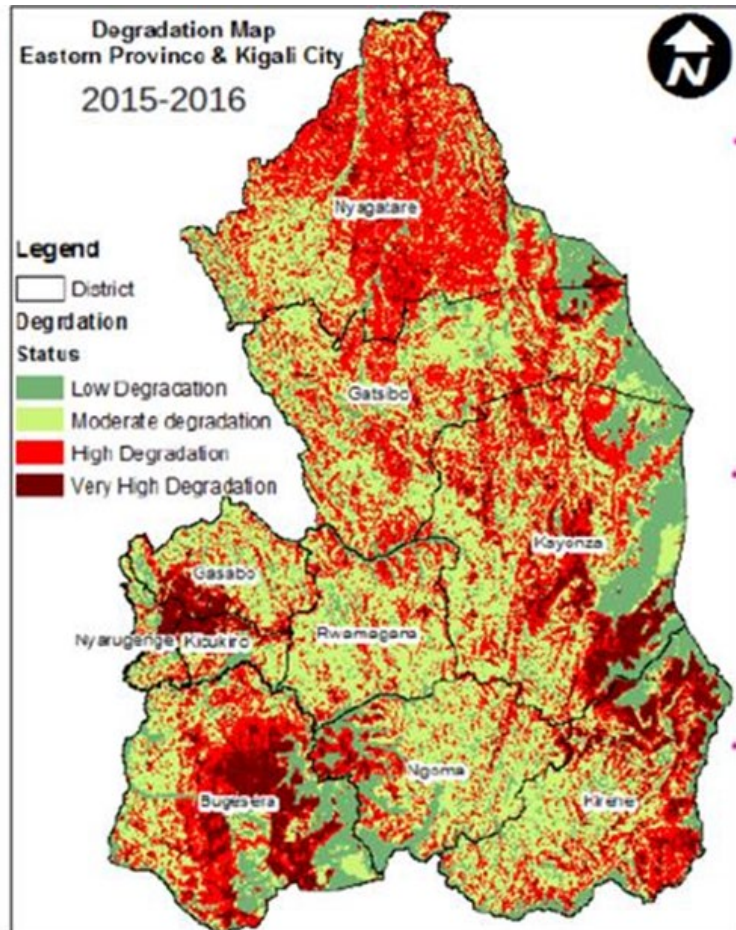


# Challenges for Agroforestry systems in Rwanda

Even under defined strategies and a known political framework, Rwanda is facing many challenges:

- How to increase investments in agricultural sustainable practices? When finances are available how to improve their efficiency ? Are these agroforestry systems profitable?
- Rwanda's style of governance is usually described as a centrally-driven approach (RWFA, FONERWA,...), where local authorities (Districts) are responsible for implementing centrally-designed policies with limited effective local participation in their design (IE 2017, SCG 2019)
- How to improve planification? Where to plant? How? Who? What? Indigenous species? Fruit trees? Value chains organisation?
- How to improve implementation? Projects? Reserve forces? Free distribution /private sector-economical activities? Farmers ownership? Mortality Rate?

# Physical challenges





# EU Interventions – Modality: BUDGET SUPPORT

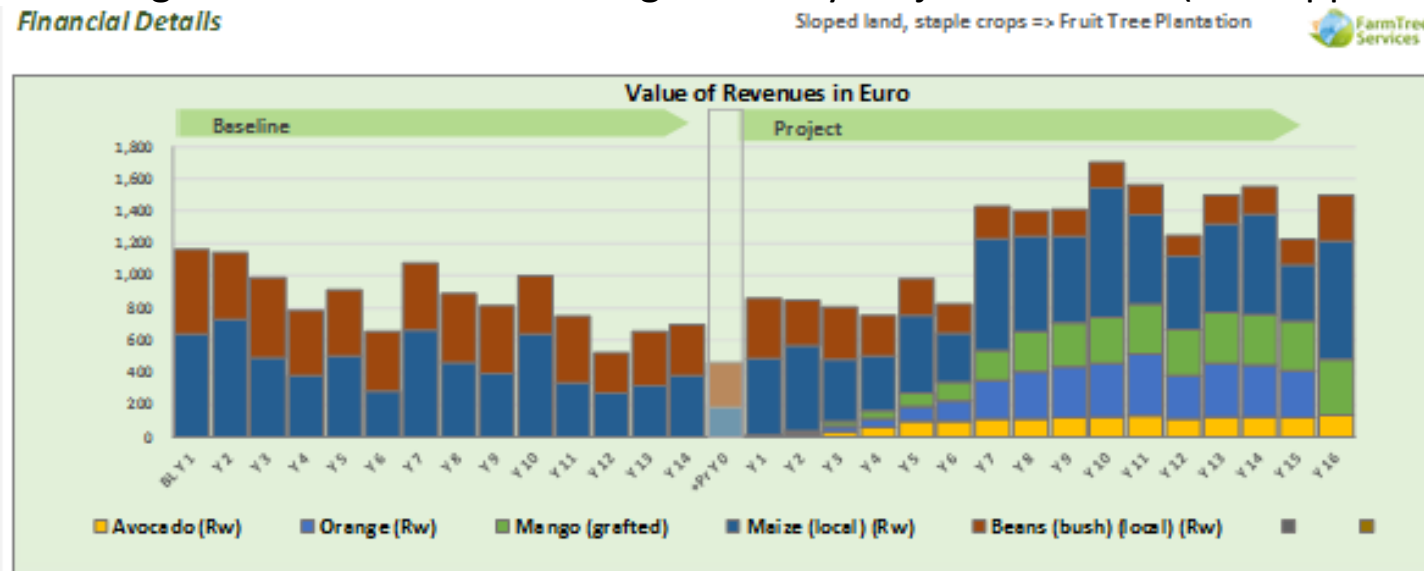
Budget support: 12 M€ over 4 years- Variable tranches,so in fact 9M€

- Quantitatif indicator and targets: from a baseline of 57 745 Ha in 2013/2014, the result from the survey shows a total area of 177,000 ha with agroforestry system (planting density >150 trees/ha) in 2017/2018;
- Qualitative target: A methodology for agroforestry plantation has been edited by the government, these guidelines called “Agroforestry Technical Guide” were elaborated in May 2018;
- Qualitative targets:
  - through complementary measures, measurements (gps, mapping) and so reporting has improved (3M€ lost because of low reporting);
  - in Rwanda agroforestry systems are often associated with terracing, systematic pH measurement before terracing and lime supply to obtain more than 70% of terraces with pH>5,2
- After various policy dialogues and national General Auditor reports, implementation was slightly modified from "Reserve forces" to "youth associations"

# EU Interventions – Modality: Technical Assistance- Service contract

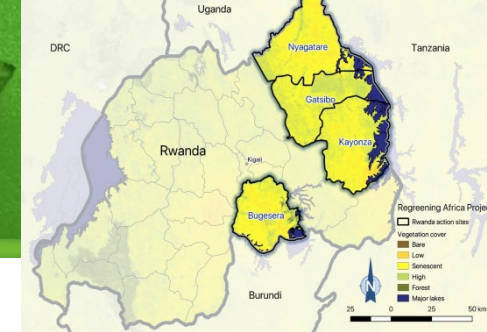
Technical Assistance- Framework Contract: 200k€- 18 Months-Non permanent

- Support to Public Investment Agroforestry Promotion:
  - Elaborate specific projects from technical ministries (envt+Minagri) to be presented to Finance Ministry
  - FarmTree®Tool-generated Baseline and +Agroforestry Project scenarios (+ICT apps on farmer's needs):



- Capacity building in Agroforestry financial and economic planning (MINECOFIN, Technical Ministries, District planners, agronomists and foresters)

# EU Interventions – Modality: Panafrican Programme



"Reversing Land Degradation in Africa through Scaling-up EverGreen Agriculture"- 8 countries- Rwanda >2M€

- 2 Components:
  - Economics of Land Degradation-GIZ/ELD- Costs-Benefit analysis: training for researchers and decision makers, ok + National case studies, on-going
  - Scaling up Evergreen Agriculture- ICRAF & World Vision: targets: 70,000Households and 100,000Hectares, Integration with other national programs to scale up the use of trees within existing farming systems; Community nurseries; extension via Farmer Field Schools (FFS), planting through community works and strengthening agroforestry value chains.
  - One main challenge is to make the nurseries sustainable via commercial approach/private sector.



# EU Interventions – Modality: Research

Research: DESIRA Program: Joint proposal IUCN-ENABEL – Univ Rwanda/Gent & Leuven - 4 M€ - 5 years

- Expected results on Agroforestry systems and Energy :
  - agroforestry systems and components from an ecological services perspective;
  - high nutrition value chains from agroforestry landscapes in rural and urban areas;
  - Elaboration of efficient, durable, affordable and user-friendly improved cooking stoves and their supply chains is strengthened;
  - socio-economic barriers to restoration and adoption of agroforestry practices are identified and tackled



# Farmers Participation via NGOs' projects

- the European Union is aligning with the ambitions of the government to improve dialogue and participation of farmers in the sector (sustainable Agriculture-Agroforestry).
- Many projects within NGOs (4) have been recently supporting farmers to engage more efficiently and effectively with their different partners in order to commonly find solutions for the development of the agriculture sector and advocate for their socio-economic interests:
  - set-up of citizens or farmer groups,
  - social accountability tools,
  - organise exchanges with sector and/or district officials to inform policy making at decentralised level,
  - feedback mechanisms on both side: from beneficiaries to local authorities on the quality of the services provided and from local authorities to beneficiaries on the final planning and budgeting with choices made compared to proposals made.
- The objectives of these projects are often broad and are generally related to food security, more sustainable agriculture, and improved services and governance through participation.

# EU Interventions to support sustainable agriculture (Agroforestry systems)

- EU Delegation in Rwanda's succeeded to coordinate and find synergies between internal and external interventions;
- When some gaps where existing, FWC were used (focus intervention) + coordinate/share knowledge between on-going projects+close follow up/monitoring (field visits, steering committee, etc...);
- From Budget Support experience, qualitative and process indicators/targets were more efficient, progress can be obtained via Policy Dialogue;
- ICT/apps can help for needs identification and monitoring (mortality rates, re-planting)
- Research aspects/projects are always underestimated (and difficult to fund in Delegation) but they remain the basis for local evidence base, a better diagnostic and innovation!





Thank you!