



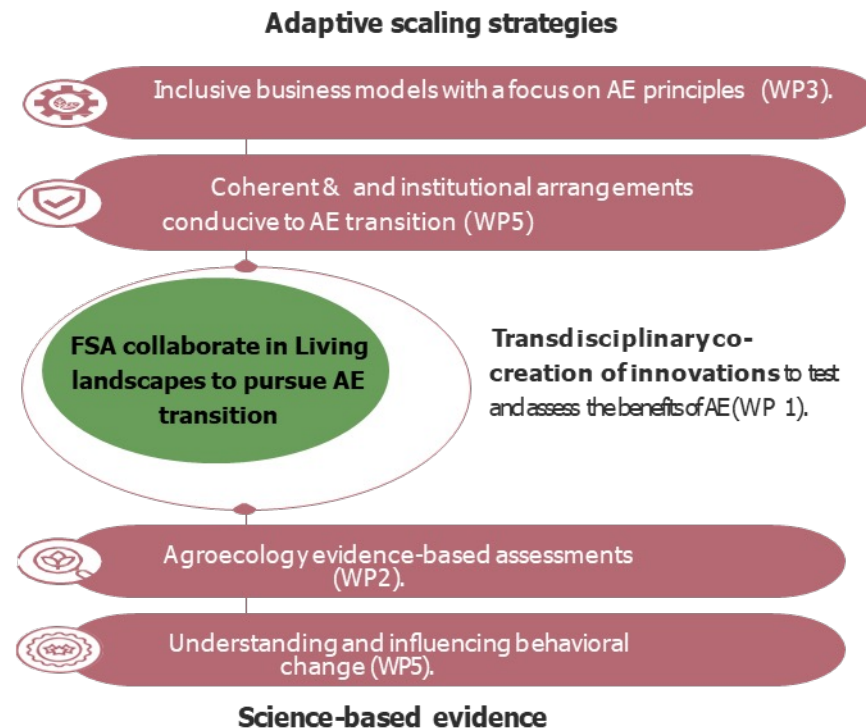
The Agroecology TPP **DIALOGUES**

Experiences of the Agroecology Initiative with Doing research Differently



The Agroecology Initiative in a nutshell

- Objective
 - *Develop and scale agroecological innovations with small-scale farmers and other agricultural and food system actors across different socio-ecological contexts*
- **8 highly diverse contexts:**
 - Tunisia
 - Burkina, Senegal, Kenya, Zimbabwe
 - India (Madya Pradesh, Andra Pradesh), Laos
 - Peru
- CGIAR Centers, CIRAD, national and local partners
- 2022-2024



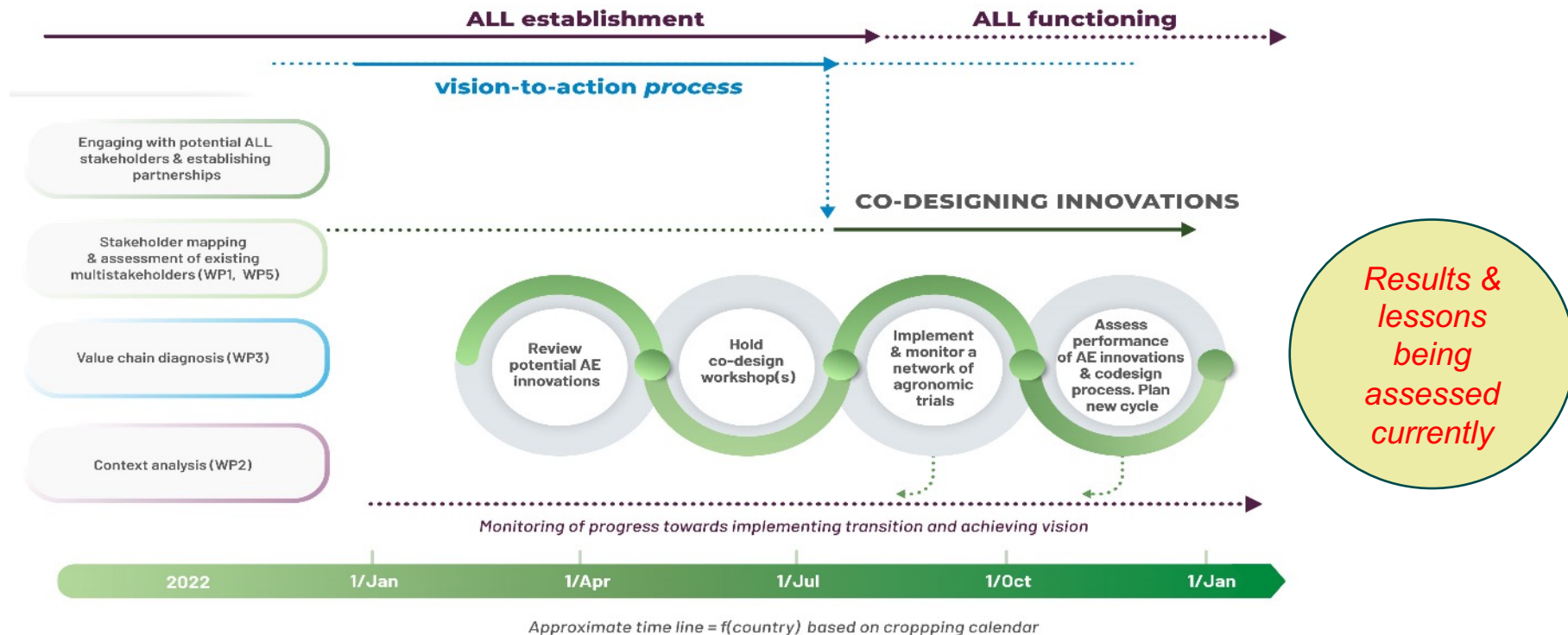


How we try to do research differently in the AEI

- **Partnerships:** the **Agroecological Living Landscapes (ALLs)**
 - Following engagement principles
 - highly diverse and context-specific
 - (local governance)
- **Collective / shared vision about a desirable future,** identifying transition pathways, behavior changes and agreeing on work plans (“vision-to-action”)
- **Codesigning (technical) innovations & practices**
 - identifying existing / local innovation (==> Lisa Fuchs)
 - agreeing on priority issues & technologies
 - co-designing protocols
 - MEL
- **Assessing performance of agroecology with a generic, holistic yet locally adapted framework (HOLPA)**

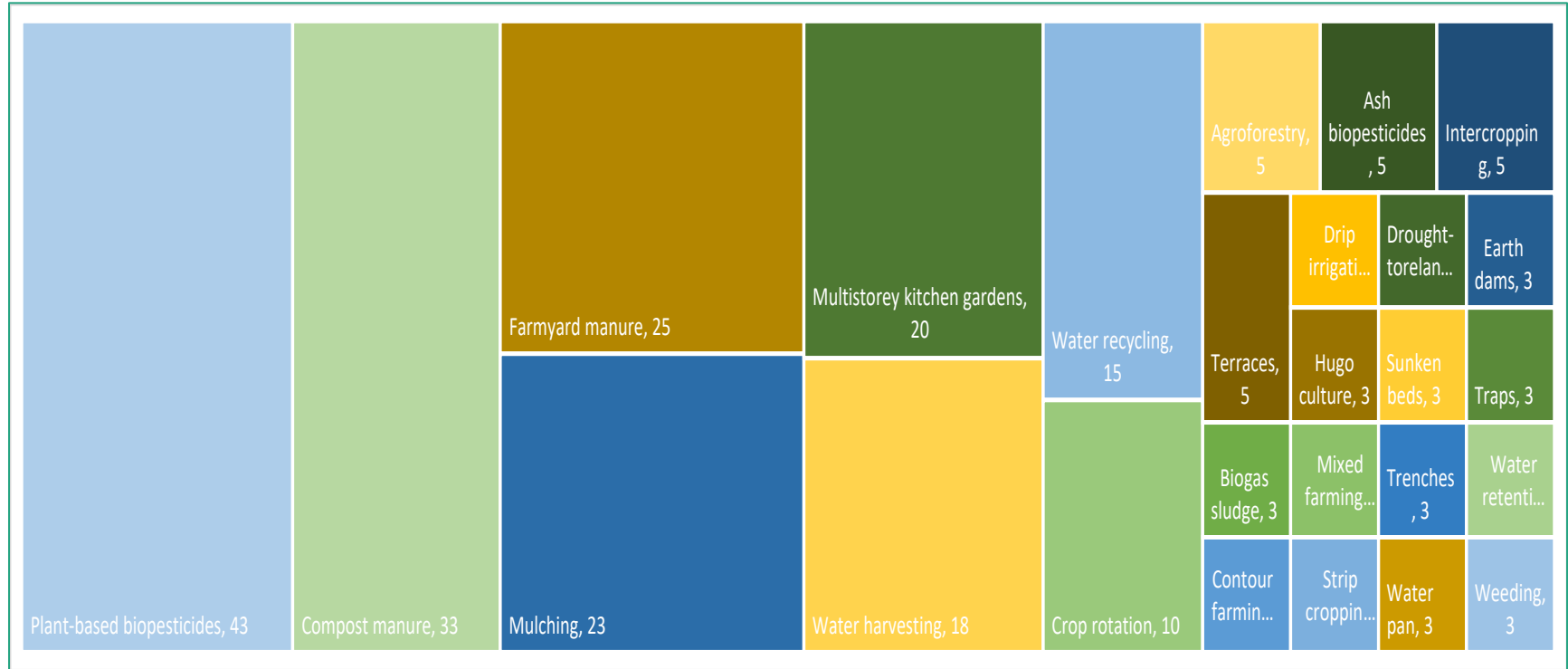


A highly participatory process





An inventory of existing innovative practices identified in the two Kenya ALLs. (Fuchs et al. 2023)



Diversity of codesign experiments in 7 countries

Country →	Zimbabwe	India	Peru	Laos
Approx. number of AE technologies being tested				
Number of on-farm experiments installed in 2023				
Types of on-farm experiments 2023 (1)				
Importance of training of farmers and others as part of the codesign process				

- Specific “technologies” being tested in codesign mode**
- Push-pull (PP)
 - Conservation agriculture (CA) (dead & live mulch)
 - Intercropping
 - **Bioinputs:** pesticides, compost and animal manure, biofertilizers, biochar (types; doses, frequency of application)
 - Hay making, feed formulation, mechanization
 - Water terraces (farm ponds)
 - Forage mixtures
 - Covered manure pits
 - Valorization of olive by-products
 - whole farm advisory tool for choosing animal feeding strategies
 - Solar pumping of groundwater
 - Rice-fish systems
 - Organic red rice growing (Wetlands management)





Overall reflections

- AE, contributing to AET, requires deploying and inventing **systemic approaches, methods and tools** that favor **dialogue and codesign at various scales**
- **Context specificity & adaptation** key to success
- **Process-based vs. output-based research**
- **Willingness** to do research differently is key
- Contributing to the **emergence / consolidation of a new culture** for researchers & their organizations
- Individual & collective **learning, sharing, education & capacity building**
- **Continuous negotiations & adaptation:** goals & objectives, objects, pace, sharing of funding, credits, values and attitudes, etc. **Who? Power dynamics?**
- Developing and effectively using **an adapted MEL approach & process** to periodically assess (*critically*) & adjust the way to work together and achieve change
- Shared ownership of knowledge, results, success





<https://www.cgiar.org/initiative/agroecology/?section=about>

Comments:

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Visit our website bit.ly/AgEc_TPP