

Innovations in smallholder farming systems

Workshop, June 29, 10:00 – 11:00

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I. Background

- (1) In many countries in South-East Asia as well as in Africa smallholders are the predominant farming system producing the major share of crops and agricultural goods. Even though one has to carefully look at the different regions and farming systems, the majority of countries in Africa and in parts of Asia are still producing well below their potential – providing the opportunity to increase yields in these regions and increase food security.
- (2) While not all technologies are appropriate for all geographies and all farmers, appropriate technology coupled with agronomic knowledge and best practice can help smallholder farmers to increase productivity and profitability. However, smallholder farming systems often fail to include new technologies and innovative practices.

II. Goals

- (1) Show the potential of innovations on yields and profits (exemplary case studies)
- (2) Understand main obstacles and constraints for local farmer in implementing new practices and technologies

III. Key questions to address

- (1) Introduction: farming systems and practices in place (typical farm)
- (2) What is the potential impact of the new technology on yields (trials?) and/or on profits?
- (3) What are the limitations/constraints that prevent the broad implementation?