



EU H2020
PROJECT
GA 862848

Linking East and West African
farming systems experience into
a BELT of sustainable intensification



EWA-BELT PROJECT

Final Conference

Towards an Agroecological transition through Sustainable intensification in Sub-Saharan Africa: Lessons learned and Research Evidence

15-16-17 July 2025 – Addis Abeba

DAY 1

09.00- 09.30	Registration of participants	
09.30-09.45	Welcome and greetings	Giovanna Seddaiu (UNISS) Safegrad representative
Traditional and innovative agricultural practices for sustainable intensification		
Session I A The role of Neglected and Underutilized Species to enhance food security and food diversity		Moderator Francois Tapsoba (SAB member)
10.00-10.15	Key note speaker : Lessons learned on agrobiodiversity and Neglected and Underutilized species in Sub Saharan Africa	Carlo Fadda (tbc) Director of Agrobiodiversity for Food and Agriculture- Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT)
10.15-10.30 10.30-10.40	Promoting Sustainable Agriculture Through Neglected and Underutilized Species: A Multi-Case Study in Sub-Saharan Africa Success story from Ghana case study.	Claire Billot CIRAD or Adeline Barnauld IRD CSIR SARI- Joseph Adjebeng Danqua
10.40-11.10	Questions and answers	
11.10-11.30	Coffee break	
Session IB : Sustainable Soil Management Practices		
11.30-11.45	Key note speaker : Lessons learned and challenges on integrated soil management	Getachew Agegnehu. Research Coordinator on Soil Research

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		Management- ICRISAT (tbc)
11.45-12.05	Sustainable soil management practices (land recovery practices ; crop rotation, intercropping and crop residue management)	Mamadou Traorè- UNB EWA BELT
12.05-12.25	Agri-livestock integration experience (including organic fertilizer experiences from all Partners)	Mohamed Joseph Sesay UNIMAK EWA BELT
12.25 12.40	Water management practices : evidence from Burkina Faso and Ghana	James Kombiok (KDC) and Meron Tefera (UNISS) EWA BELT
12.40-13.10	Questions and Answers	
13.00-14.10	Lunch	
	Assessment of agricultural practices: S.I. indicators and value chain studies	
14.10-14.30	<i>EWA BELT videos on agricultural practices discussed during the morning session</i>	
14.30-14.50	Pathway to economic sustainability of S.I. agricultural practices	CRAN Ewa Belt Project
14.50-15-10	Assessment of S.I. practices in EWA BELT: S.I. Indicators on main agricultural practices (including WEAI on NUS) and policy recommendations	UNISS
	External Speaker: SUSTINAFRICA experience on indicator based framework	Giles Young (tbc)
15.10-15.45	Questions and Answers	

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DAY 2

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND ICTs FOR CROP PROTECTION

Session II A

Crop protection and food safety: Valorising traditional knowledge and innovation

**Moderator Youssef
Brahimi (SAB member)**

09.30- 09.45	<i>Greetings and opening</i>	
15 min 09.45 -10.00	Keynote speaker on ethnobotanical knowledge for crop protection in Africa.	Adeyemi O. Aremu, North-West University Mmabatho, South Africa (tbc)
20 min 10.00-10.20	<i>Retrieving Traditional Knowledge for Plant Protection in East and West Africa – the role of biopesticides</i>	ACRA (or TARI) EWA BELT
15 min 10.20- 10.35	<i>Reducing Aflatoxin contamination in food crops: (Aflasafe, crop management practices)</i>	KALRO Ewa Belt
10 min 10.35-10.45	<i>Post harvest conservation- storage methods (different storage methods from Ghana, plastic bags)</i>	UoN in collaboration with CRAN EWA BELT
30 min 10.45-11.15	Questions and answers	
11.15-11.45	Coffee break	
11.45-13.00	Session II B AI and ICTs for crop protection and food safety	
35 min 11.45-12.15	<i>PlantHead Platform + practical test (25 min)</i> <i>QPCR (10 min)</i>	<i>Quirico Migheli and Giovanni Zanoni (UNISS, OCCAM)</i> <i>Marco Cereda (ST Microelectronics)</i>
15 min	<i>Key note speaker: the experience of Plantnet</i>	<i>Representative from Plantnet -CIRAD</i>

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12.15-12.30		
30 min 12.30- 13.00	<i>Questions and answers session II b</i>	
13.00-14.00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
	Assessment of crop protection practices: S.I. indicators and value chain studies	
14.10-14.30	<i>EWA BELT videos on crop protection practices discussed during the morning session</i>	
14.30-14.50	Pathway to economic sustainability of S.I. of crop protection practices	CRAN Ewa Belt Project
14.50-15.10	Assessment of S.I. practices in EWA BELT: S.I. Indicators on main crop protection practices and policy recommendations	Giovanna Seddaiu
15.10-15.45	Questions and answers	
15.45- 16.00	Conclusion of the works and acknowledgment	UNISS

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***Towards the Transition and Adoption of S.I. in African farming systems
(in collaboration with SAFEGRAD)
July 17, 2025***



Objective of DAY 3:

Reflect with the involvement of policy makers, development and research actors on the scalability of S.I. practices in Africa and on the way forward.

The session is divided into 2 moments. The initial part is dedicated to keynote speakers to reflect on the role of S.I and agroecology, how EU and AU have embraced this concept in their policy interventions, what has been achieved so far, challenges and the way forward.

The second part will be a round table with panellists that will reply to pre accorded questions (2-3 questions).

Some of the questions can be:

What are the main ingredients to ensure the scalability of successful inclusive sustainable intensification practices and their adoption in the long term (for example once a project or a specific action ends) for small holder farming systems?

What are the emergent themes within joint EU/Africa interventions? What topics, technologies and methods are of relevance today and into the future?

<i>Towards the Transition and Adoption of S.I. in African farming systems</i>		
09.00-09.10	Welcome and openings of the session	
09.15-09.30	S.I. in African Farming Systems. The case of EWA BELT Project	Giovanna Seddaiu UNISS
09.30-09.45	Delegate AU -SAFEGRAD	Mr. Moses Vilakati (Eswatini) Commissioner Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (DARBE)- AU (tbc)
09.45-10.00	Delegate EU on Agricultural Development/or policy officer	Tbc
10.00-10.15	Representative of IFAD	Tbc
10.15-10.30	Representative of UN-FAO	Abebe Haile-Gabriel the FAO Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Africa (tbc)
10.30-11.00	Coffee Break	
11.00-12.15	Panellist session (tbc)	
	EWA BELT representative	
	Dr. Lamourdia Thiombiano (expert on soil management)	
	ASARECA representative	
	DG Forestry Department -Algeria (tbc)	
12.15-12.45	Questions and answers from the public	
12.45-13.10.	Conclusions and policy recommendations	UNISS

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