## CIAT terracial de Agriculture Tropical prioritizing climate-smart agriculture practices and programs

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### CHALLENGE

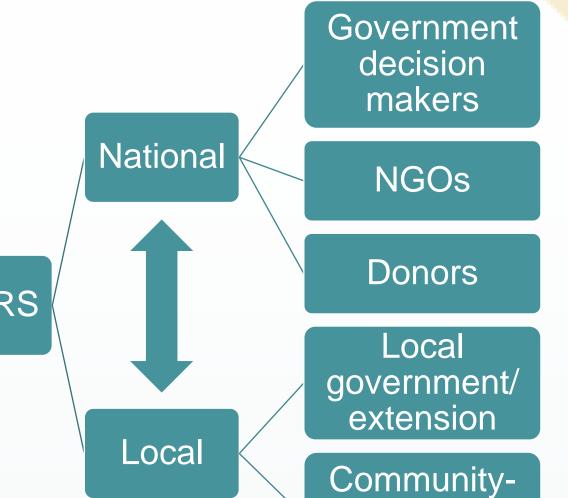
Decision-support frameworks are needed to identify best-bet CSA practices and programs for specific contexts and channel investment to achieve CSA objectives and stakeholder desired outcomes at scale.

#### RESPONSE

The CIAT-CCAFS CSA Prioritization Framework (CSA-PF) provides a stakeholder driven process to target context appropriate investments in CSA practices and programs by:

- prioritizing with stakeholders existing and promising CSA practices/programs linked with specific regions and production systems;
- assessing tradeoffs between practices using indicators of CSA (productivity, adaptation, and mitigation);





**CCAFS** 

- quantifying costs and benefits;
- identifying possible barriers to adoption.

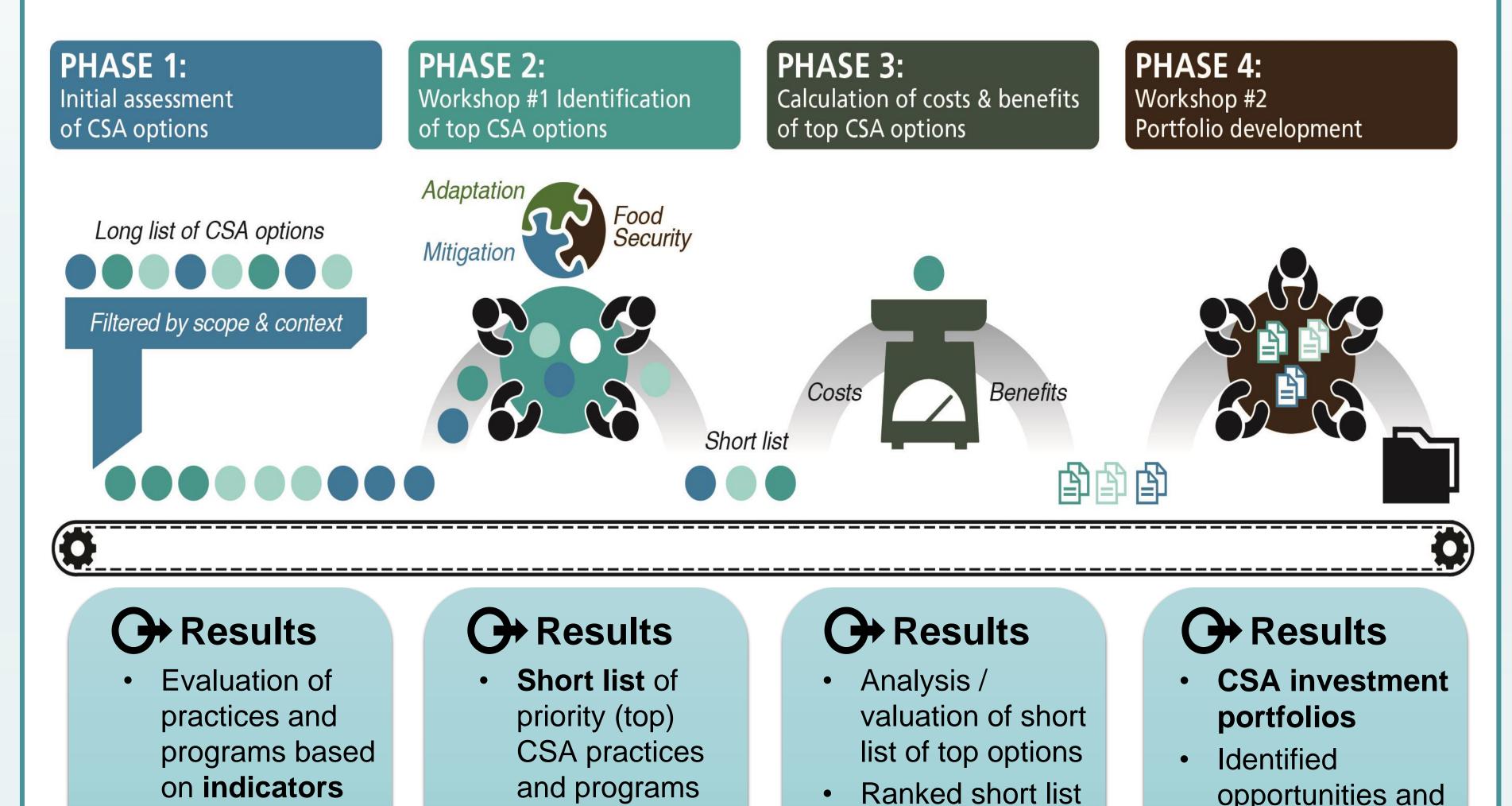
adoption of CSA



# Implementing CSA-PF

The framework has been designed as a four phase process that can be modified for use at any level of decision-making. A long list of CSA practices, applicable to the scope of the assessment, is established in the first phase and is narrowed through each subsequent phase until investment portfolios are identified. Stakeholders have the ability to:

- select the metrics for evaluating CSA
- weight the metrics and goals of CSA
- evaluate costs and benefits of options
- balance outcomes of portfolios given user preferences
- assess **barriers** to adoption
- identify pathways to implementation



The CSA-PF is currently being piloted in Guatemala, Mali, and Colombia demonstrating the applicability of the framework across regions and levels.

• •	and programs
g	(5-10) based on
J	stakeholder
	selection

 Ranked short list of practices based on economic

analysis

- opportunities and constraints
- Implementation strategy

effects of social,

## Guatemala USE

USER: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Food

The ministry is targeting the 'dry corridor' region of the country due to a severe drought in 2014. Given this disaster a policy was implemented to incentivize adoption of various adaptation practices. The CSA-PF is being used to assess and validate the previously incentivized practices, and prioritized practices will be promoted by government extension.



Ranked **lon** 

list of CSA

practices

### Mali

### **USER: Climate change national platform**

Three key zones in the country were identified,

differentiated by climate change impacts and productions system, with the northern dry region being prioritized. The portfolios will be used by the platform to create technical information for use by farmers and for inclusion in crossministerial CSA programs to incentivize adoption across the landscape.



## **Lessons Learned**

- Decision-support processes should integrate the best scientific evidence possible, but move forward in the face of data limitations. Using qualitative assessments with experts was viewed as appropriate.
- Visualization of tradeoffs needs to be rigorous yet simple for stakeholders.
- Engaging in the process itself shifts knowledge, awareness, and integration of actors related to CSA.
- Regardless of the level of key user, integration must occur across levels to understand:

local preferences, data, and applicability

#### **Colombia USER: Local organization Foundation Rio Las Piedras**

This local community group in the Department of Cauca has already been implementing and assessing CSA practices being conducted by local farmers. A full cost-benefit analysis has not been done though, and the outcomes of this from the CSA-PF will assist the community in a) identifying how to improve practices and b) focus on scaling up high outcome practices.

<image>

We thank our partners and contributors in Guatemala (Mario Fuentes<sup>1</sup>, Mario Mejia<sup>2</sup>, and Edwin Rojas<sup>2</sup>), Mali (Bouguna Sogoba<sup>3</sup> and Robert Zougmore<sup>4</sup>), and Colombia (Liliana Recaman<sup>5</sup>) whose engagement has been crucial for the implementation of the CSA-PF and for the development of many lessons learned. We also acknowledge the financial and technical support of CCAFS to design and pilot the process. Photos: Neil Palmer (CIAT)

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National

- Stakeholder criteria for prioritization, not just the three CSA goals, should always be explicitly identified and built into the assessment of practices and programs starting in phase 1.
- CSA investment portfolios must be context specific, with reference to specific areas, production systems, and threats. Addressing uncertainty and decisions over various timescales should be further developed.

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