

Climate Smart Agriculture Towards a concerted definition of national priorities in Mali

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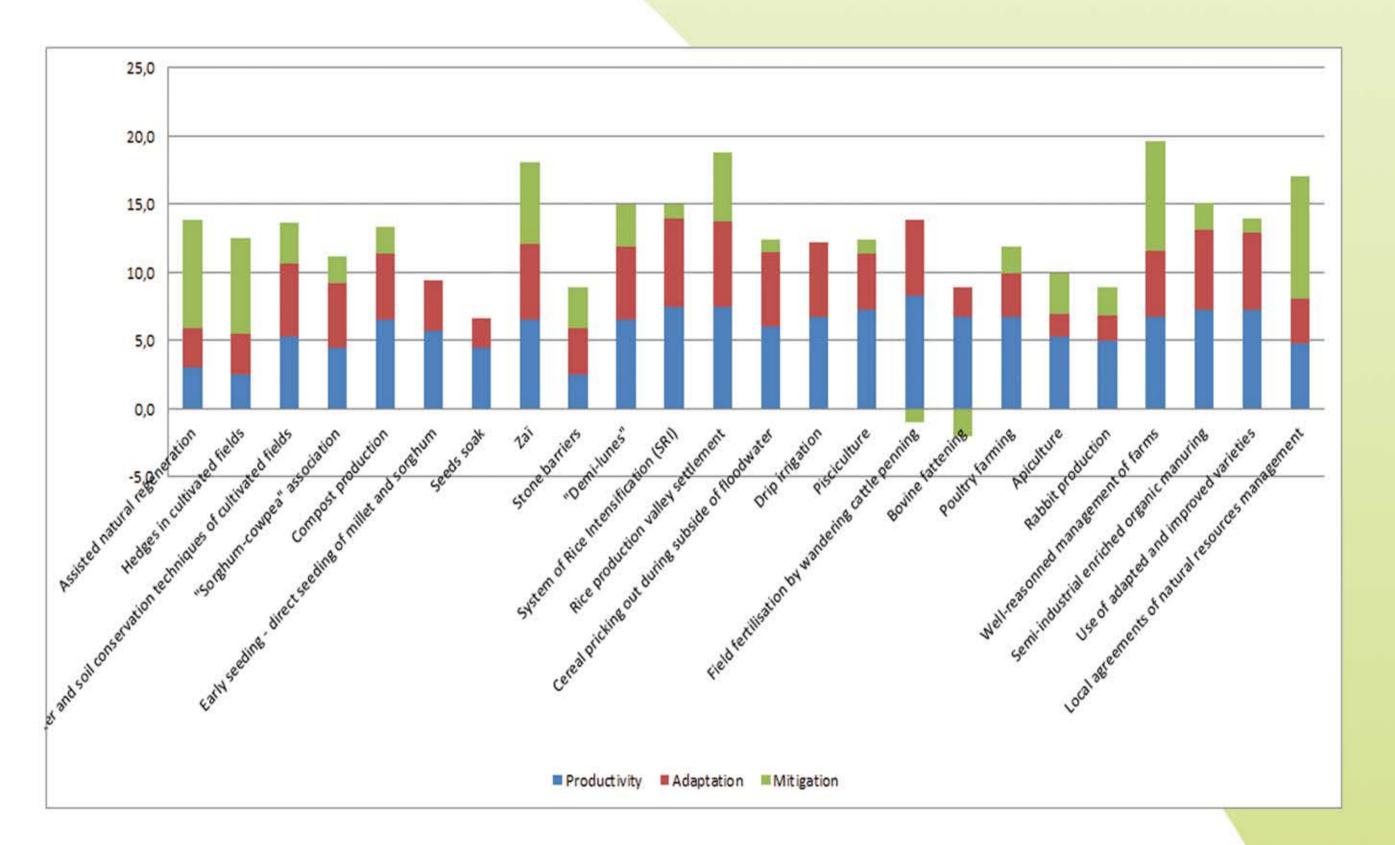
Country context - Mali

- One of the poorest country with 65% of farmers living in poor conditions.
- Agriculture contributes to more than 40% of GDP and represents the main activity for 80% of the population.
- The cereal yield average is about 1500 kg/ha while the sorghum and millet yield is less than 1000kg/ha.
- Main climate changes risks include drought, flooding, howling wind and cricket infestation.

Objectives

- Identify and prioritize the more efficient CSA options.
- Mobilise stakeholders
- Define a portfolio of actions and investments for food security

Classification of CSA long list



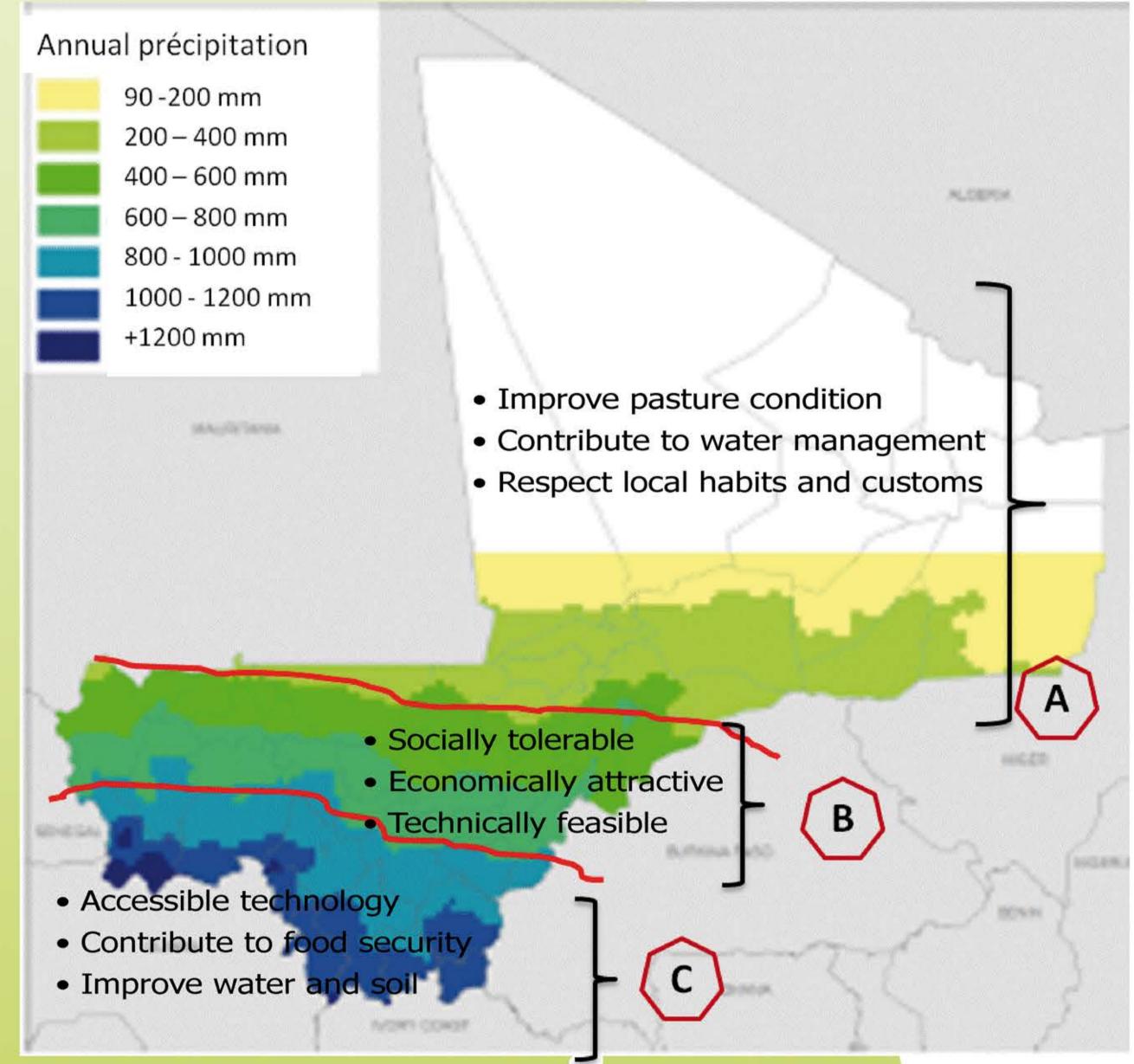
Top ten CSA options

- 1. Water and soil conservation techniques
- 2. Crops associations
- 3-4. Small agricultural flood barrier and pastoral settlement
- 5. Assisted natural regeneration
- 6-7. Hedges, stone barriers, zaï
- 8. Sand dune stabilization
- 9. Improved varieties and seeds
- 10. Agro-ecological information

CSA Prioritization Process

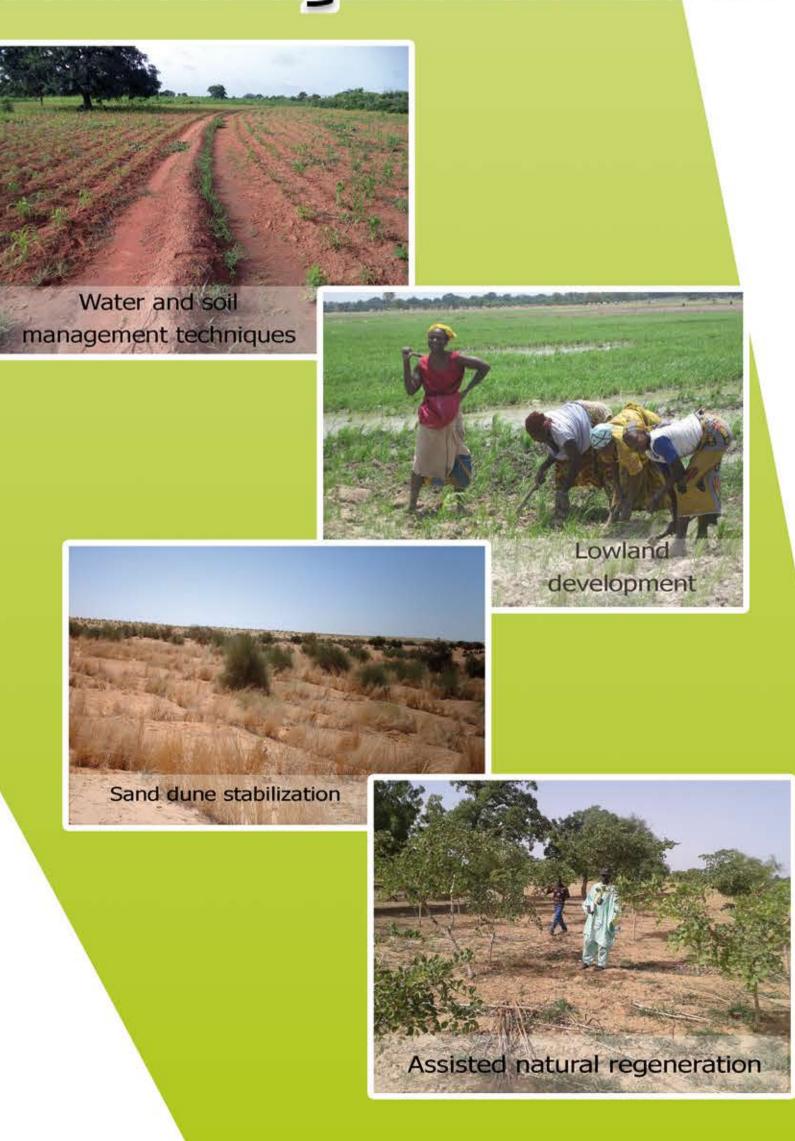
- 1.1 Stakeholders and «clients» identification
- 1.2 Areas and vulnerabilities identification
- 1.3 CSA options listing and first selection
- 2.1 Listing of different criteria per area
- 2.2 Prioritization of CSA options per area
- 2.3 Required conditions and innovations for implementing prioritized options
- 3.1 Cost-benefit analysis
- 3.2 Stakeholders and investments commitment
- 3.3 Terms and conditions of implementation and commitment

Prioritization criteria per area



Conclusion

Lessons learned include: (i) a strong commitment of stakholders to the process (governments and technical services, international partners, civil society, etc.) but we noted that communities and local councillor have to increase their rallying; (ii) selected CSA options are not necessarily new techniques and are equivalent to practices used by farmers in the different agro-climatic areas but the purpose is to combine 2 or 3 practices and to define conditions to put them to larger scale; (iii) the national assessment is still a great challenge to engage decision-makers in broadly invest in CSA and one of the next step (the cost-benefit analysis) is a good argument for that.



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