

International Conference – CIRAD 2016

AGRI-CHAINS & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:
LINKING LOCAL AND GLOBAL DYNAMICS

**A hybrid perspective of political economy and socioecology
to study multidimensionality of agri-chains
and complexity of sustainable development:
connecting scales and dynamics throughout selected case-studies in Colombia**



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Le Corum, Montpellier (France) – December 14th (2016)



1). What are we doing?

Teaching “Socio-Ecology of Rural Landscapes”, “Ecological Economics” and “Systems of Biodiversity Use”

Researching on *páramos* (high-mountain ecosystems) and wetlands

Discussing on fair trade, value-chain, responsible tourism and beyond

Consultancy on productive systems,
environmental governance,
and local and regional
sustainable development

- Observatory of Ethnic and Peasant Territories (OTEC)
- Fundación MarViva
- Research Institute in Biological Resources Alexander von Humboldt



1). What are we doing?

Combining political economy of the environment
and socio-ecology of productive landscapes.

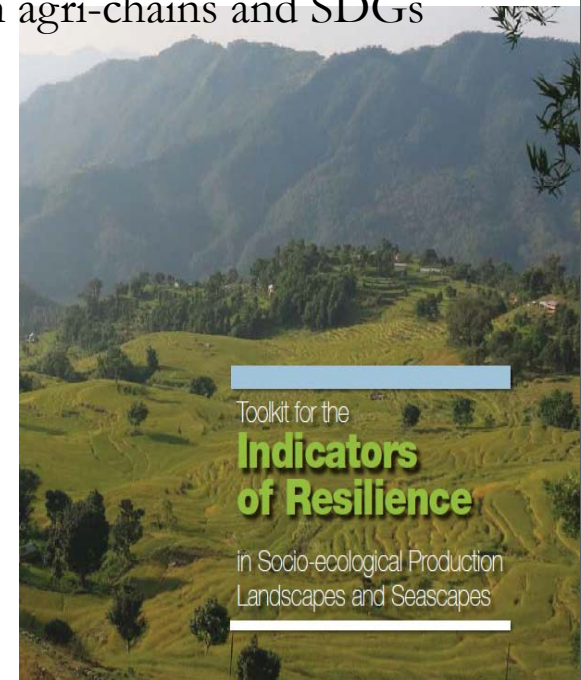
Linking family farming and rural development with socio-ecological research and
traditional/conventional knowledge: and now with agri-chains and SDGs

Revisiting Resilience research Toolkit (UNU-IAS 2014).

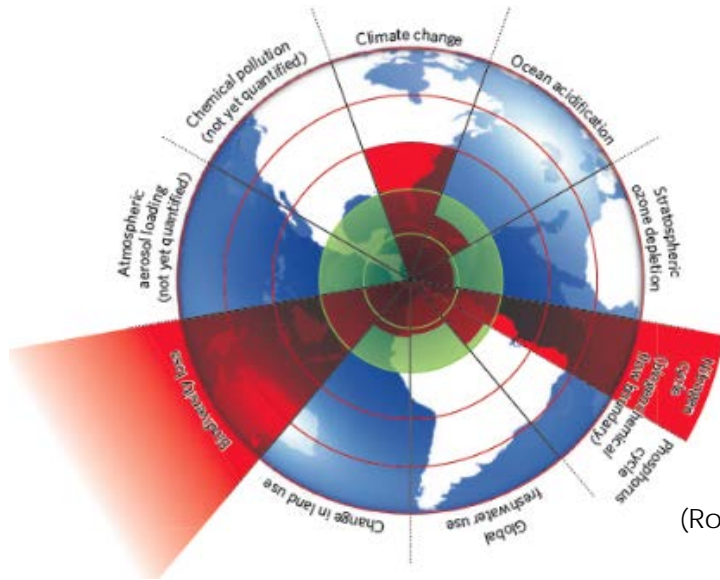
Revisiting Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (Scoones).

Mapping and evaluating ecosystem services.

Researching on socio-environmental conflicts,
environmental governance and justice.



2). Why are we thinking like this?



(Rockström & Steffen et al., 2009, 2015)



(Pope Francis 2015)

Anthropocene & Capitalism

Political economy: long (political) history & framing social groups/classes/winners/losers

Regional analysis: going beyond local but also below global/national policies

Critically evaluating institutional discourses and practices (at different scales)

Socio-Ecology: studying trajectories and transformations, embracing crisis and conflicts, accepting contradictions, complexity, boundaries and thresholds

Combining Ecosystem services (ESS) and socioecological systems (SES)

2). Why are we thinking like this?

How agri-chains can be better strengthen and governed to contribute to SDGs?

(SDSN-Col)

FAIR trade vs. FREE trade: SDGs

Multi-dimensionality of agri-chains

Complexity of sustainable development

Multi-actor oriented approach

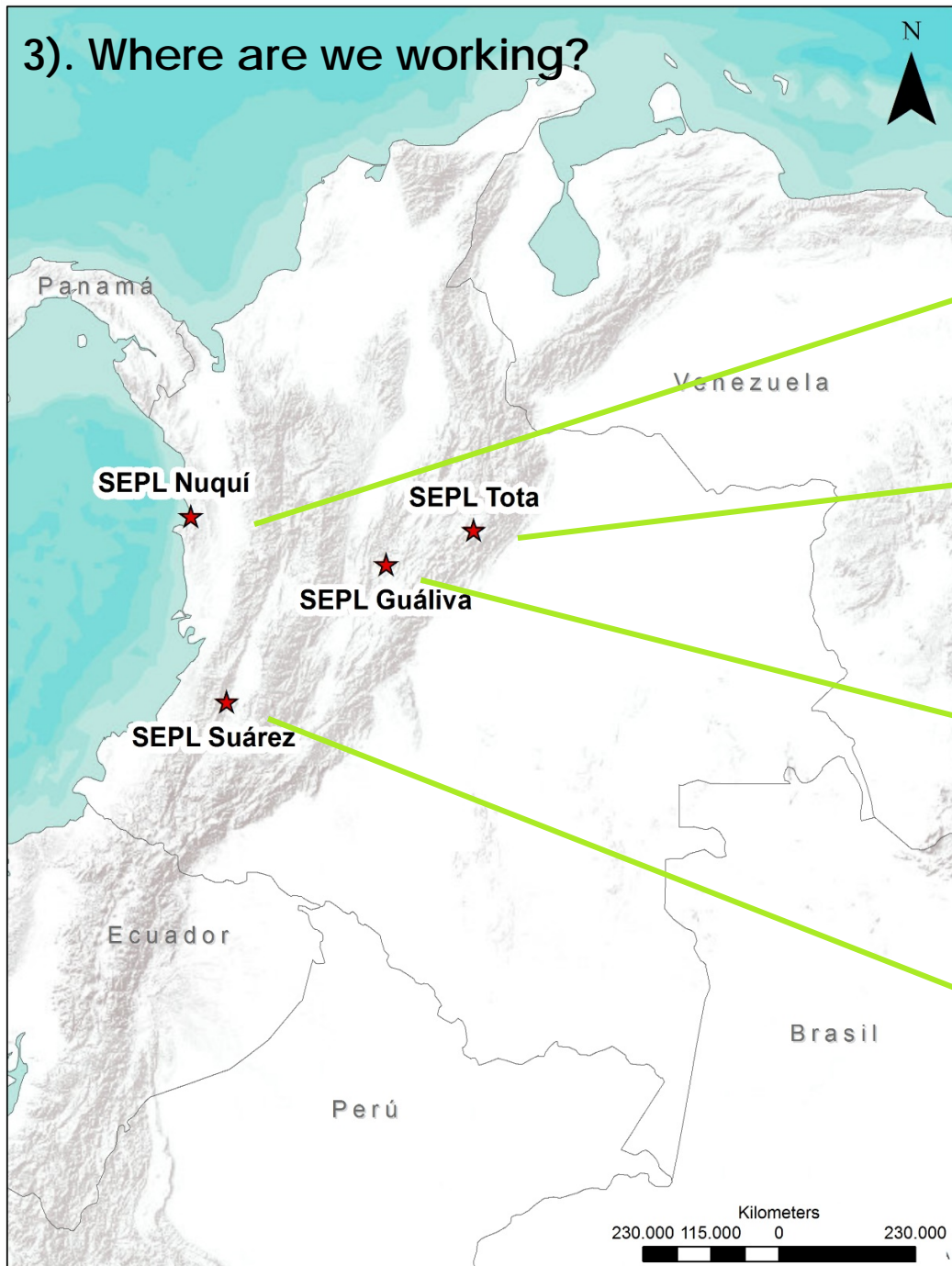
Multi-scales (time & space)

Multi-criteria



Fair Trade:
39 out of 169 targets

3). Where are we working?



4). What are we observing, listening and learning?

	(1) Suárez	(2) Nuquí	(3) Tota
Local activities (goods & services)	COFFEE GOLD COCA	FISH/SHRIMP TOURISM SPICES	GREEN ONION TROUT TOURISM
Relation with other scales	Regional (-) National (-)	Regional (+) National (+)	Regional (-) National (+)
Landscapes assessment	Deteriorated & WATER scarcity	Conserved & Sustainability Used	Intervened & WATER/ENERGY vulnerability
Socio-environmental conflicts	HIGH: WATER/ENERGY injustice & political VIOLENCE	LOW: community dynamics & external support	MEDIUM: WATER access & extraction (coal+oil) threats

5). How are we integrating these cases?

NETWORKS

From Political Economy of the Environment for MORE COMPLEXITY

Connecting scales of value-added and distributed
to characterize and understand social-environmental conflicts

From Sustainable Livelihoods Framework for MULTIDIMENSIONALITY

Broadening understanding of wealth/poverty, opportunities,
inequalities and trade-off: VALUES (added AND subtracted)
Bringing POWER asymmetries to LOCAL discussions: opening up scales

From Socio-Ecology of Productive Landscapes for MULTIDIMENSIONALITY

Addressing RESILIENCE, VULNERABILITY and ADAPTATION all together

From Ecosystem Services Approach for MORE COMPLEXITY

Linking and mapping livelihoods, ecosystems, communities and territories

6). What are the lessons learned (so far) and the challenges ahead?

- More than CHAINS we need **STREAMS** (flows/webs?)
- Multidimensionality leads us to plurality of **VALUES**
- **FAIR TRADE** will benefit enormously from SDGs implementation
- **RESILIENCE & VULNERABILITY** can be distinguished but not separated, and depend simultaneously on various factors of SEPL: production systems, biophysical conditions, and cooperative/competitive schemes
- **PLOT** sizes (agriculture) or extraction areas of **TERRITORIES** (fish) directly determine local inhabitants involvement in production organization, which at the same time, allows people to organize to struggle and empower
- **RESILIENCE is NOT ALWAYS BENEFICIAL** for local actors:
changing SEPL trajectories can turn extremely difficult
- Sustainable development is multi-faceted & complex: **more REALISTIC !**



¡ Muchas gracias !

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