OPAL Global meeting - Project message

How to use this whiteboard

Please discuss with your group:
- what do we have to say about palm oil adaptive landscapes after this 6 years project?
- what is the overall message of the project?

Go one step further from the message we identified in Douala last year.
- How do we build on that message?
- Use input from last two days.

Douala, 12th March 2019 Overall message identified

"Oil palm is produced and consumed in different countries and different ways. This diversity is not perceived by the public, leading to strong and polarised opinions for and against it. There are ways to sustainably produce and consume palm oil, which requires all stakeholders to consider the impact of their decisions beyond their own backyard, but also to talk to each other using participatory tools to develop better strategies".

INPUTS FOR DISCUSSION

Group 1

Consolidated outcomes from three countries (Venn diagram)
https://bit.ly/3hd7I5z

Barriers and opportunities in each country
https://bit.ly/32e2YYU

Inspiring stories and impressions from activities
https://bit.ly/3bDchVC

need for governance at all levels

deforestation and sustainability are presented as y/n questions: need to ask more nuanced questions

oil palm issues are complex: Science translated through simple language can promote better understanding

competition across landscapes and supply chain is difficult to manage: OPAL has opened pathways for communication and interaction

Specific regional priorities

strengthen communication across actors

Palm landscapes go beyond the areas with palm cultivation - all actors present in have important roles in sustainability - (games help to identify trade - offs)

it is possible to engage with and influence key stakeholders, including at policy negotiation processes

Value of linking science to policies through the use of games

games helped communicate an understanding of the complexities

game approach can build good relationships leading to better inetractions with ministers

Learning aspect through Masters and PhD topics

project has gone beyond the traditional academic outputs to deliver other forms of impact

Defining sustainability remains a challenge

availability of data remains a limiting issue: need to address data transparancy

How to reconcile sustainability with the legacy of deforestation

Expansion of OP continues, but the sector is changing in a positive direction: Science has an important role.

Sustainability IS feasible in the PO supply chain.

The PO sector is starting to change. We need to build on this. and we need to recognise it is not just a B and W issue.

tools for decision makers (private and public) to better engage and attract input from many stakeholders

innovative tools essential for delivering strong messages across the sector

This is a title...

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Palm oil allows to transform agricultural landscapes into more productive and socio-ecologically delivering systems.

Land conversion towards palm oil plantations needs to happen in wet and non-seasonal climate to ensure enough production and avoiding depletion of water ressources.

Sustainable OP landscape needs to build on intensification of existing systems, instead of expending into new system.

There are excellent opportunities to expand oil palm inside the agricultural frontiers such as pastures, sparing biodiverse wilderness bareas

Palm oil must be discussed WITH other vegetable oils, not against.

To secure buy-in into certification schemes, smallholders needs: cooperatives, seed selection, land legality, good agricultural practices, and environmental standards.

Smallholders should become a more prominent actor in order to improve rural livelihood.

Is certification a necessity to ensure sustainability in P.O. production/supply chain ? Or is another "model" possible?

Farmers need to organize themselves on cooperatives to gain bargaining power and basic knowledge on how to grow PO.

Combining monocrop OP with multicropping can strenghten the resilience of the farming system ("further research")

Silent expansion is an indirect consequence of lack of good cultural practices.

Crop management is a key factor of OP sustainability

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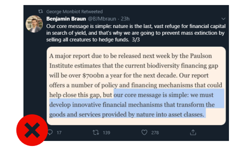
Sustainability in the palm oil sector is a process and possible when all the right conditions are in place. Sustainability has a cost and someone needs to pay for it.

Sustainability of OP landscapes includes the commitment and action of all actors involved directly in the maintenance or transformation of the landscape. Cooperation must be facilitated for improve landscape governance.

Changing behavior of the stakeholders of the oil palm supply chain towards more sustainable production is possible and requires policies drafted on the basis of trasnaprent and open for discussion models of the supply chain, its stakeholdersd and the impacts of their decision on the economy, society and enironnment. These models help create understanding and trust, enabling stakheolders to identify by themselves the solutions that will foster sustainability, as an alternative to top down policies that have demonstrated their limits

REquires comitment from stakeholders across scales

The palm oil sector needs an intergrated management system taking into consideration social, environmental and ecological stakes with an inclusion of all key stakeholders.



Our core message is simple : We have developped..

Sustainability is a process

It is possible

cooperation is fostered and individual behavious changes

When we use transparent models

That take into account society econoy and the environment

These models serve to negociate integrated management and policies and landscape governance

Fostering sustainability thourgh bottom up solutions

Palm oil is unavoidable to consume though it is still in controversy about the sustainability. At the same time clean energy is our expected future energy. Oil palm provides promising clean energy of non-fossil fuel. Therefore the issue of oil-palm-based bioenergy

Bioenergy and Bio-economy dealing with oil palm could become a challenging issue to study.

Sustainability is a process. It is possible to foster it in oil palm landscapes. It requires commitment from stakholders across scales. This commitment has been built, cooperartion fostered and individual behaviour changed in the landscapes where we worked, through the use of transparent models integrating the best availble knowledge, and taking into account social, economical and environmental factors of the system. These models serve to create trust, build common understanding, negociate integrated management regulations and policies, cement landscape governance. The use of such models for dialogue and decision making foster sustainability allowing stakeholders to identify solutions from the bottom up.

OP is seen both as a providential and a decried tropical crop and this antagonism comes from a lack of objective information and description of facts which creates a profond misunderstanding ditch between producers and consumers

Palm oil needs to contribute to the feeding of everyone and taking into consideration sustainable management.

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There is a new way of producing palm oil. Stakeholders are moving towards zero deforestation, landscape functionality, better governance and more sustainable practices

What is valuable to the grower is changing and there is a new generation of palm oil that is a more balanced product and that cares about the 3Ps (People, Planet, Profit)

OPAL has contributed to the change in value system in the sector through the engagement (e.g. ComMod, advocacy work) and the production of knowledge and tools to inform decision making. This was done in an inclusive way, where stakeholders had the chance to co-produce this knowledge and lead these changes.

OPAL has supported the improvement of governance and policies in the landscapes where we worked, by engaging with governments, private sector and communities

To further progress and advance the sustainability of the sector we need to communicate with consumers, incentivize the sector (specially in the face of COVID, CC, etc), and keep working together in the engagement and co-production of knowledge

OPAL needs to communciate and disseminate our results, not just in the academic circles but also in the OP sector, consumers, governments and comunities

Consumers are key stakeholders who can be informed from our outcomes and findings