



# FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative



## SUSTAINABLE INTENSIFICATION INNOVATION LAB (SIIL)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Recently, we've made changes and updates to our website. We want this to be a place to find relevant information about the SIIL, and the work we are doing around the world. Be sure to check it out below!

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

### LOOKING BACK

As we reflect on the previous five years, we are able to celebrate many accomplishments around the globe, and the positive impact of sustainable intensification for smallholder farmers! Check out

our 5-year report to learn more about the specific projects and accomplishments made during that time in each of our focus countries!



Five-Year Report

## LOOKING FORWARD

Over the next five years (2019 to 2024), the SILL will continue to provide support to the implementation and coordination of research, capacity building activities, communication and support for sustainable intensification practices. The SILL will focus on redesigning and finalizing innovations with an emphasis on ensuring they can be used across a large geographical area and are sustainable over time. The SILL is working hard to address the global challenges our world is facing by using the unique pathway of sustainable intensification.



KEEP UP WITH WHAT WE'RE DOING ALL THE TIME. GIVE US A FOLLOW!



## CELEBRATING HIGHLIGHTS

### "Now we can breathe." The Impact of a Mechanical Maize Planter on Smallholder Women Farmers in Burkina Faso

The development of the ASMC planter has shown that it is essential to evaluate mechanized innovations both in technical terms and within social, cultural, and economic contexts. Specifically, it is crucial to consider agricultural mechanization and technologies through a gender lens to ensure that they reach, benefit, and, when possible – empower female smallholder farmers.



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## Committed to Learning ... and Growing

Soa Phourn has not only overcome obstacles to achieve her educational goals, but she's also defied the odds. In Cambodia, only 12 percent of the female population in 2017 was enrolled in tertiary education (UNESCO, 2019). Soa Phourn is in an even more select group in that she's now completing graduate studies. Despite the small proportion of women pursuing higher education and the taboos against it, Soa Phourn has never lost her determination.

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## Opening Doors, Changing Futures

Fatou Tine's time with SIIL also opened doors to other opportunities. Most recently, Tine connected with Peace Corps Senegal and secured a position working with them as an agriculture program and training specialist. "I am excited to use my skills professionally and am very grateful for the opportunities that SIIL has provided for me through their support," Tine said.

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"Let us together pledge that we all will: work for the welfare of our farmers who provide us food; take care of our planet for present and future generations; conserve our natural resources; and be global citizens."

-Vara Prasad, University Distinguished Professor and Director of the SIIL



## Peace Corps Partnership

In 2017, Peace Corps Senegal entered into a partnership with SIIL and the Senegalese National Institute for Agricultural Research (ISRA). Each organization brings its own unique strength: PC Senegal has a substantial network of volunteers working as agricultural extension agents in rural and urban communities; ISRA has the regional technical expertise and provides the latest local solutions and technologies appropriate for Senegal; and SIIL brings the capacity building expertise and the resources of a world class research university.

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## Tomato Grafting for Improved Rainy Season Nutrition and Income

Grafting tomato scions onto selected rootstocks of eggplant can minimize problems caused by flooding and soil-borne diseases. Sometimes the use of grafted tomato plants can be the difference between harvesting a good crop and harvesting no crop at all. The research team first evaluated and determined the best rootstock selections that offered the highest degree of resistance to flooding, fusarium wilt, bacterial wilt, and root knot nematode — the most serious tomato pests present during the rainy season

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## Wild Gardens

Wild food plants (WFP), such as traditional and indigenous perennial vegetables, are critical components of the food system for many rural Cambodians. A rich diversity of highly nutritious, medicinal and/or economically useful species often function collectively within these homestead and village 'Wild Gardens'.

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## NEWS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS



### SIIL highlighted by OIP

The SIIL was highlighted in the Office of International Programs (OIP) digital magazine at Kansas State University. Follow the link below to read about how the SIIL is leading the path on sustainable intensification for a hunger free world!

OIP Global

### Jan Middendorf named Innovation Lab Council Chair for Feed the Future Innovation Labs

Jan Middendorf, associate director of the Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab, has been elected to



serve as the council chair of the Feed the Future Innovation Labs. Follow the link below to read the full announcement!

Announcement

## THANK YOU TO OUR EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

SILL is excited to highlight and introduce our current and past members of the external advisory board. Read about them below!

### **Professor Jules Pretty – Chair**

Jules Pretty is a Professor of Environment and Society at the University of Essex. He is a Fellow of the Society of Biology and the Royal Society of Arts, former Deputy-Chair of the government's Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment, and has served on advisory committees for a number of government departments and research councils.

### **John Dixon**

John Dixon is Adjunct Professor focused on farming systems at the University of Queensland, Visiting Fellow on sustainable development policy at the Australian National University and Guest Professor on farming systems at Gansu Agricultural University. Dixon has 40 years developing country experience with agricultural research and sustainable development with FAO and the CGIAR in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.

### **Cornelia Flora**

Cornelia Flora is an Emeritus Distinguished Professor in the Department of Sociology at Iowa State University. Her research interests include international and domestic development, community, and the sociology of science and technology, particularly as related to agriculture and participatory change.

### **Peter Thorne**

Peter Thorne coordinates the Africa RISING project in the Ethiopian Highlands. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Nottingham in animal nutrition, with a part of his research conducted at the University of the Philippines in Los Banos.

### **Jemimah Njuki (2014-2019)**

Jemimah Njuki has 15 years of experience overseeing gender-responsive and women-targeted research and development projects that link women smallholder farmers to markets, integrate gender in cooperatives, apply participatory gender-responsive research, and more. As senior program officer at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), she manages the Cultivate Africa's Future program.

### **Deborah Bossio (2014-2019)**

Deborah Bossio is the Lead Soil Scientist for The Nature Conservancy, where she is an integral member of the Global Lands team and an active member of the Science Cabinet, a collaborative group of Conservancy Lead Scientists contributing topical expertise to cross-cutting science issues for the organization.



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