



MULTISTRATA 2013...

Third International Symposium on Multi-Strata Agroforestry Systems with Perennial Crops Trading off crop intensification and ecosystem services

• 16 – 20 September 2013 — Turrialba, Costa Rica •

First announcement.....

Cocoa, coffee and other agricultural products from tropical perennial crops are grown by more than 32 million smallholders' families in multistrata agroforestry systems around the world. These systems provide livelihoods for these farmers and their families, but also for the economy of the main producing countries in Africa (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana...), Latin America (Brazil, Colombia...) and Asia (Viet Nam, Indonesia...).

After the 17th International Cocoa research Conference organized by the COPAL in Yaoundé (Cameroon) in October 2012 and the 24th International Conference on Coffee Science held in San José (Costa Rica) in November 2012, the management intensification of coffee and cocoa based agroforestry systems to guarantee a sustainable cocoa supply is promoted. Historically, it has been shown that management intensification to achieve higher crop yields always comes along with reduction in shade levels, in tree densities, in canopy cover and in farm biodiversity, which are important sources of livelihood for farmers' communities. There is clearly a need to propose alternatives to avoid this trend of management simplification upon intensification. Is it possible to simultaneously achieve high crop yield, retain high level of biodiversity and maintain valuable provision of environmental services in these systems?

The International Research Centre in Agronomy for Development (CIRAD), the Agriculture Research and Higher Education Centre (CATIE), and the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), jointly committed to organize the Third International Symposium on Multi-Strata Agroforestry Systems with Perennial Crops, to be held in the headquarters of CATIE, Turrialba, Costa Rica from 16th to 20th of September 2013. Partners in this event are the Central America and Cameroon Partnership Platforms (PCPs), INAFORESTA, and several IUFRO member organizations in the region.

The symposium will be organized in five sessions

- Session 1.** Livelihoods, productivity and financial analysis, risk assessment analysis, diversification and eco-certification schemes.
- Session 2.** How can genetics and pests and diseases control contribute to the intensification of agroforestry systems?
- Session 3.** Biodiversity conservation, environmental services, adaptation and resilience to climate change.
- Session 4.** Public policies, governance, landscape and value chain approaches.
- Session 5.** New tools, models and approaches for agroforestry – Which alternatives to long term trials for quick transfer of knowledge to farmers?



- Official language of the Congress will be English. Short abstracts for oral and poster presentations should be submitted on our website <http://www.symposium-multistrata2013.org> before March 31st of 2013
 - Please contact us preferentially at: contact@symposium-multistrata2013.org
- Olivier Deheuvels, agroforestry researcher at CIRAD and seconded staff at CATIE (olivier.deheuvels@cirad.fr or deheuvel@catie.ac.cr)
 - Eduardo Somarriba, Head of the Sustainable Agriculture and Agroforestry Program (PAAS) at CATIE (esomarri@catie.ac.cr)

