

Watershed Management in FAO Forestry Department

An overview



EUROPE INBO 2007



Background

- 1970s: focus on forest cover in mountain watersheds



Background

- 1980s: integrated watershed management

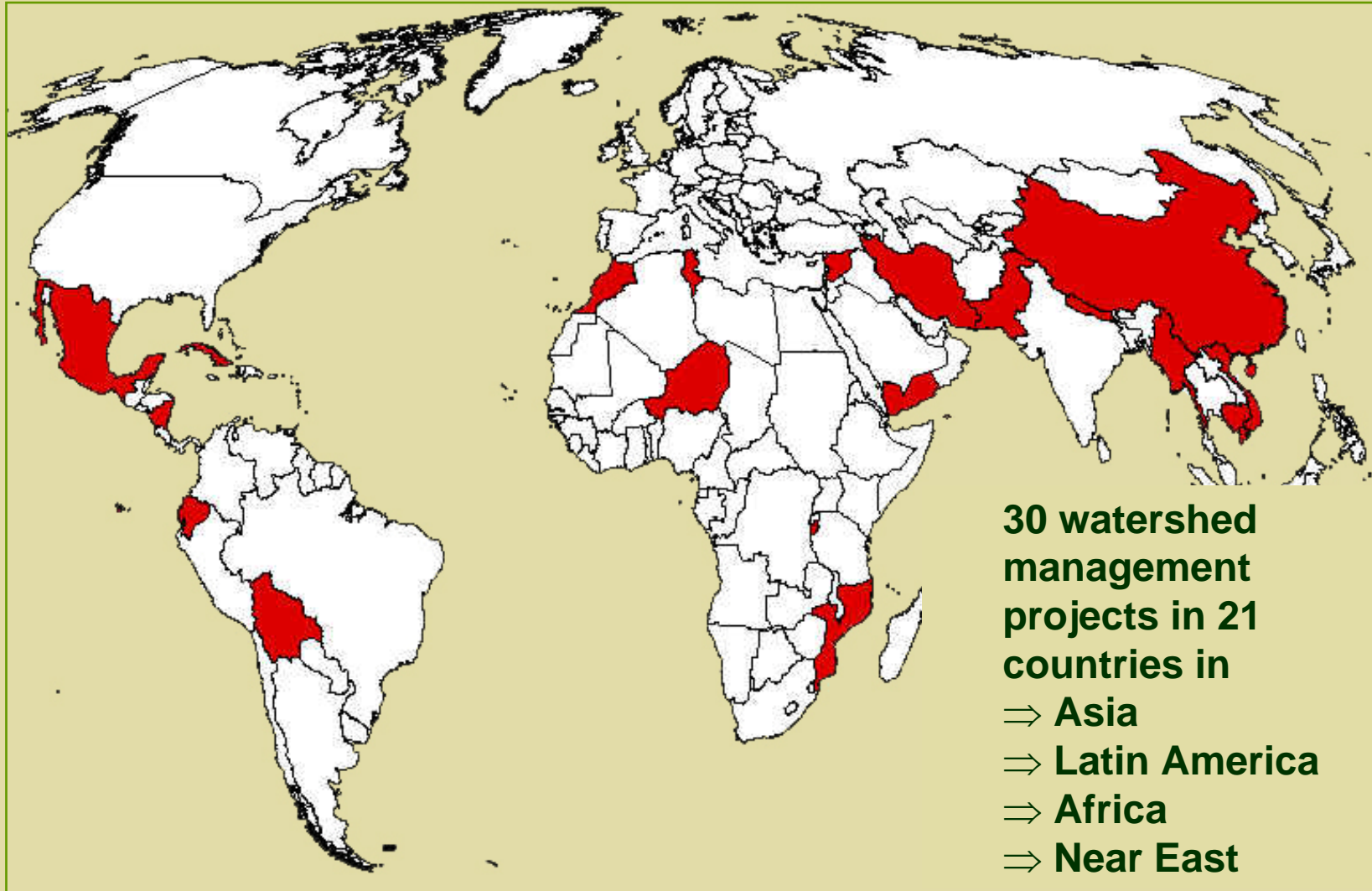


Background

- 1990s: participatory and integrated watershed management



Field experience 1990 – 2006



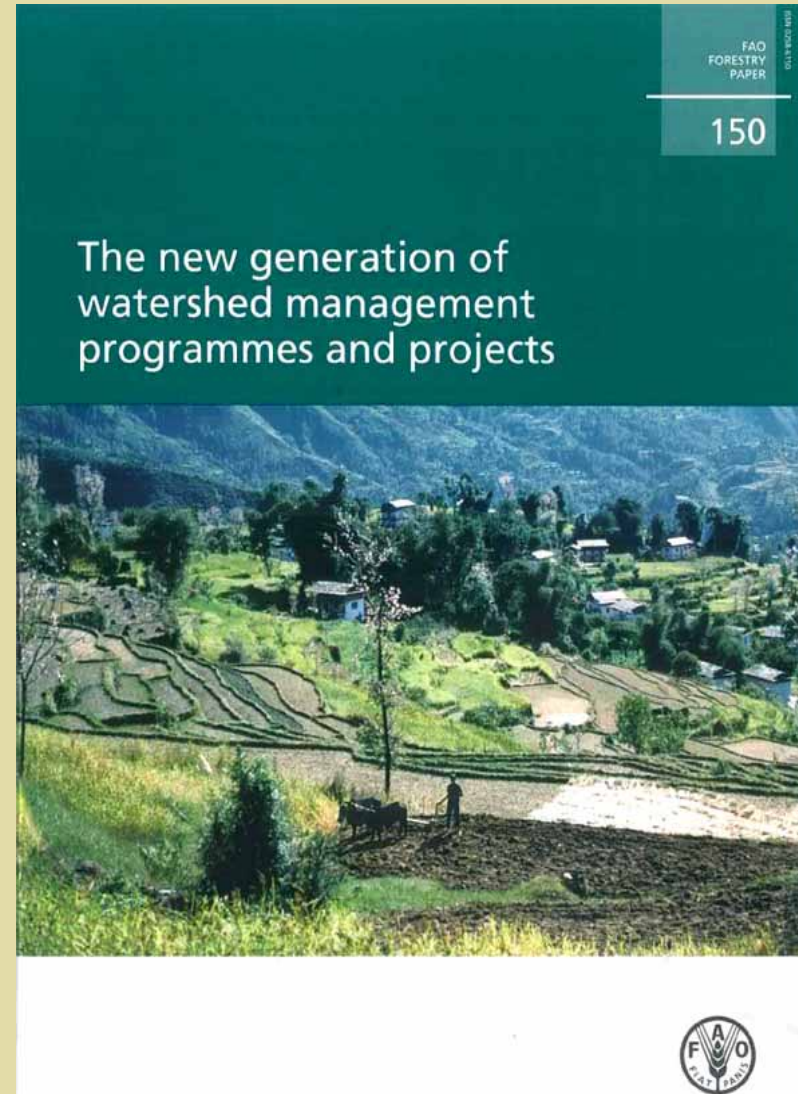
Normative work since 1990

- Follow up of Agenda 21, Chapter 13
- Mountain process and International Year of Mountains (2002)
- Launch of Mountain Partnership at WSSD (2002)
- International Year of Freshwater (2003)
- Global watershed management review (2002-2003)



Watershed management review

- State of the art and trends of watershed management in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America
- Partnership with ICIMOD, ICRAF, EOMF and REDLACH
- Four regional workshops and one global conference
- 200 participants belonging to 80 institutions
- Publication of proceedings, case studies and synthesis document →



Twofold concept of watershed

As natural
ecosystems...



.....and as human
landscapes



Twofold goal

Conserving ecological
balance



.....and managing
environmental threats



A broadened paradigm: means

Hydraulic works...



.....and sustainable land use



Upstream/downstream linkages

Upstream water management....



...to provide water services downstream



Participation

Involving upland people....



.....and downstream water users



Matters of scale

Working on small
watersheds...



..keeping in mind that
they are part of a river
basin



Current agenda

- Field validation of watershed management review findings – pilot sites
- Development of methodological guides and tools
- Policy advocacy and assistance
- Global watershed management facility



Areas of collaboration with INBO

- Strengthening of the European Forestry Commission Working Party on Mountain Watersheds
- Testing of the “new generation approach” in the development of integrated/collaborative river basin plans (as per WFD)
- Workshop on climate change impacts on watersheds and adaptive/collaborative management response

