

# Cultivate Diversity!

## A handbook on transdisciplinary approaches to agrobiodiversity research

Edited by Anja Christinck and Martina Padmanabhan



### Aims and Objectives:

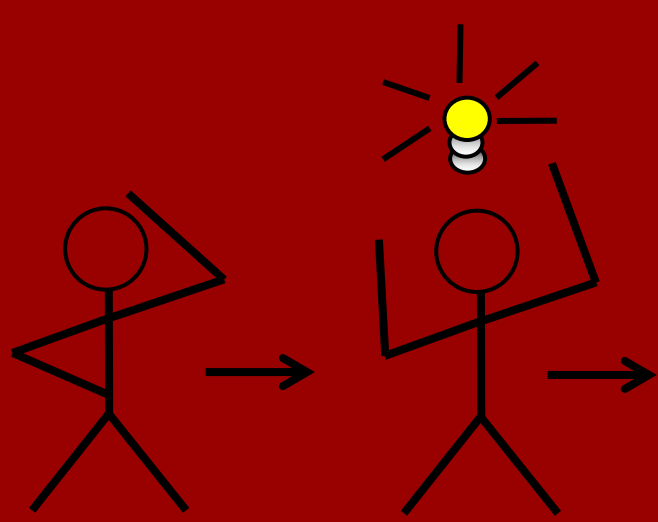


- Creating knowledge on sustainable & gender-equitable management & use of agrobiodiversity
- Sharing experiences and knowledge of other researchers from various disciplines & schools of thought

*“Our book aims at a community of readers from all disciplines, who are involved in research for sustainable development, particularly around the topic of agrobiodiversity conservation, management and use.” (Christinck & Padmanabhan, 2013)*

### Contents: Transdisciplinarity & the creation of transformation knowledge

- Theoretical backgrounds
- Methods
- Practical approaches

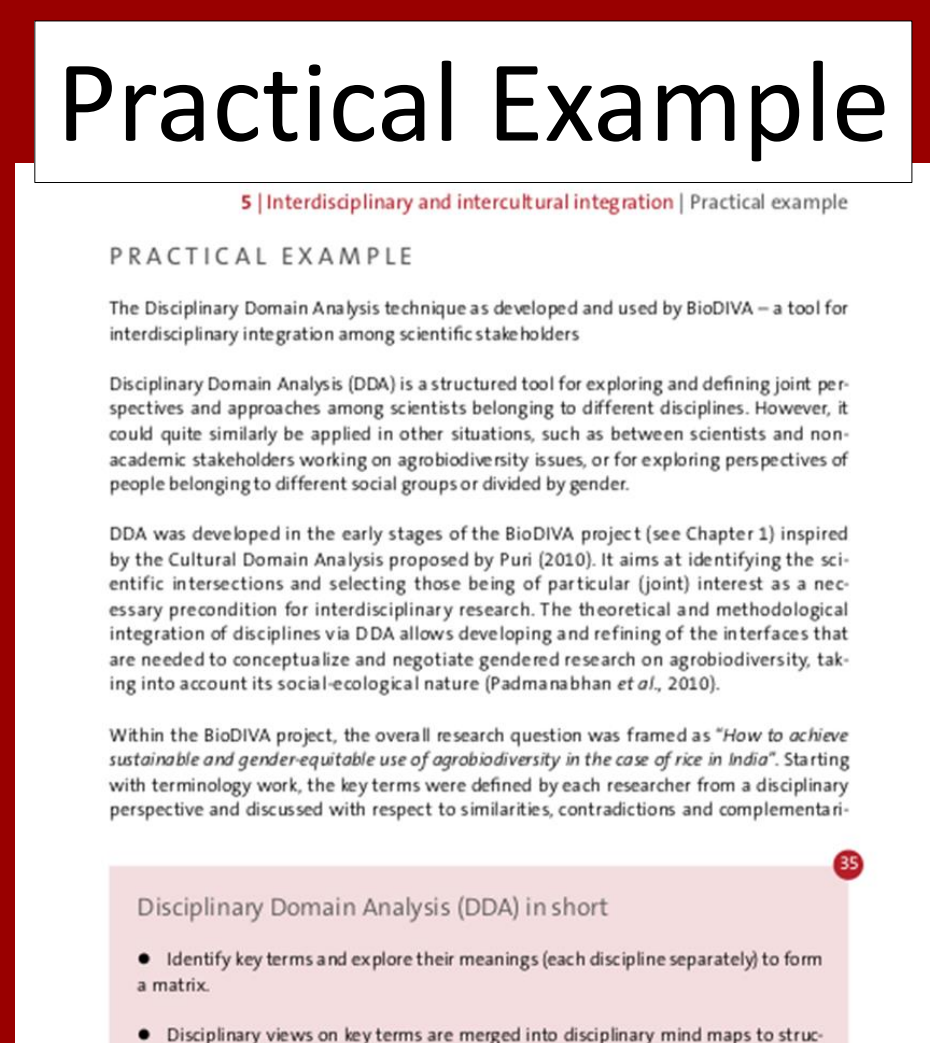
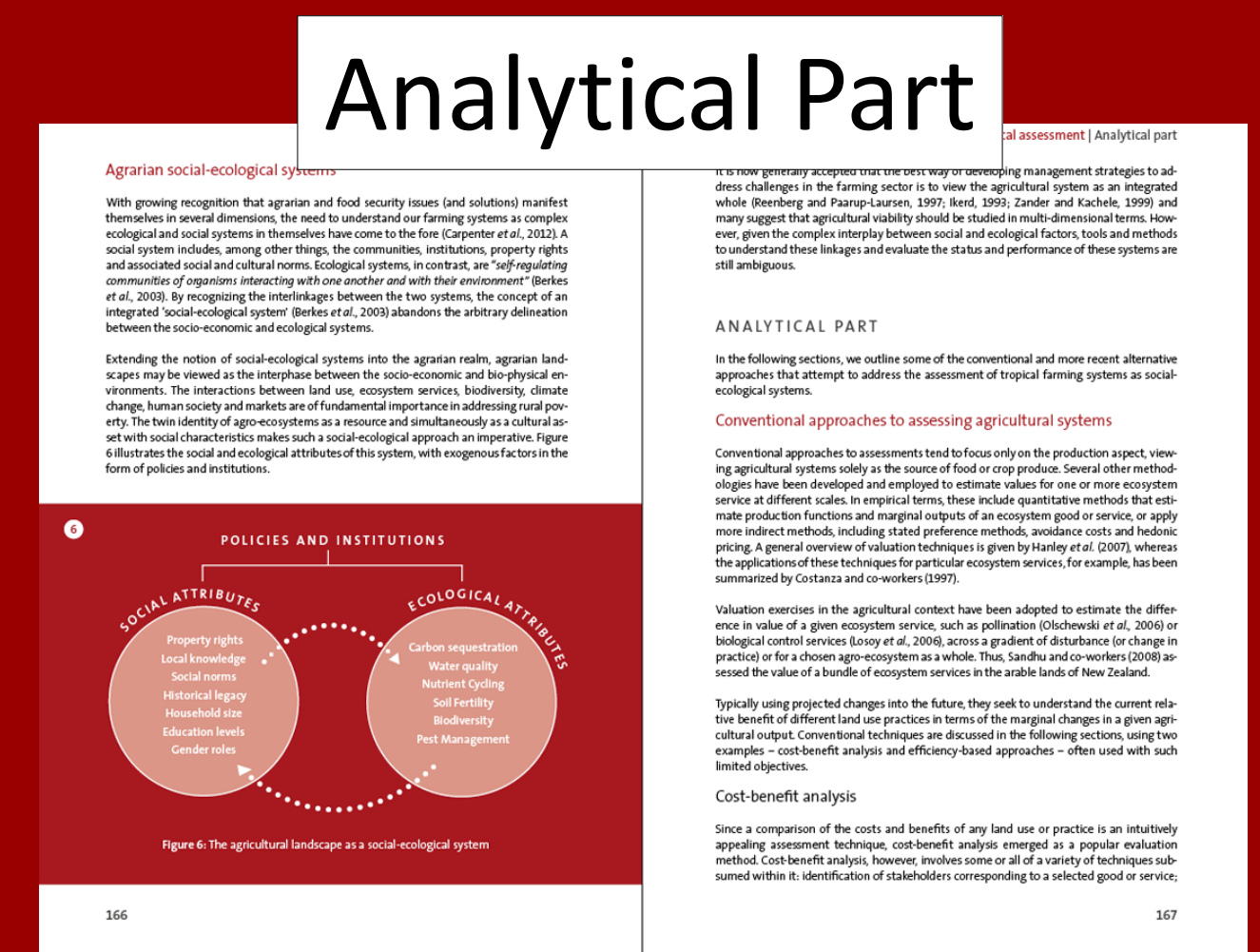
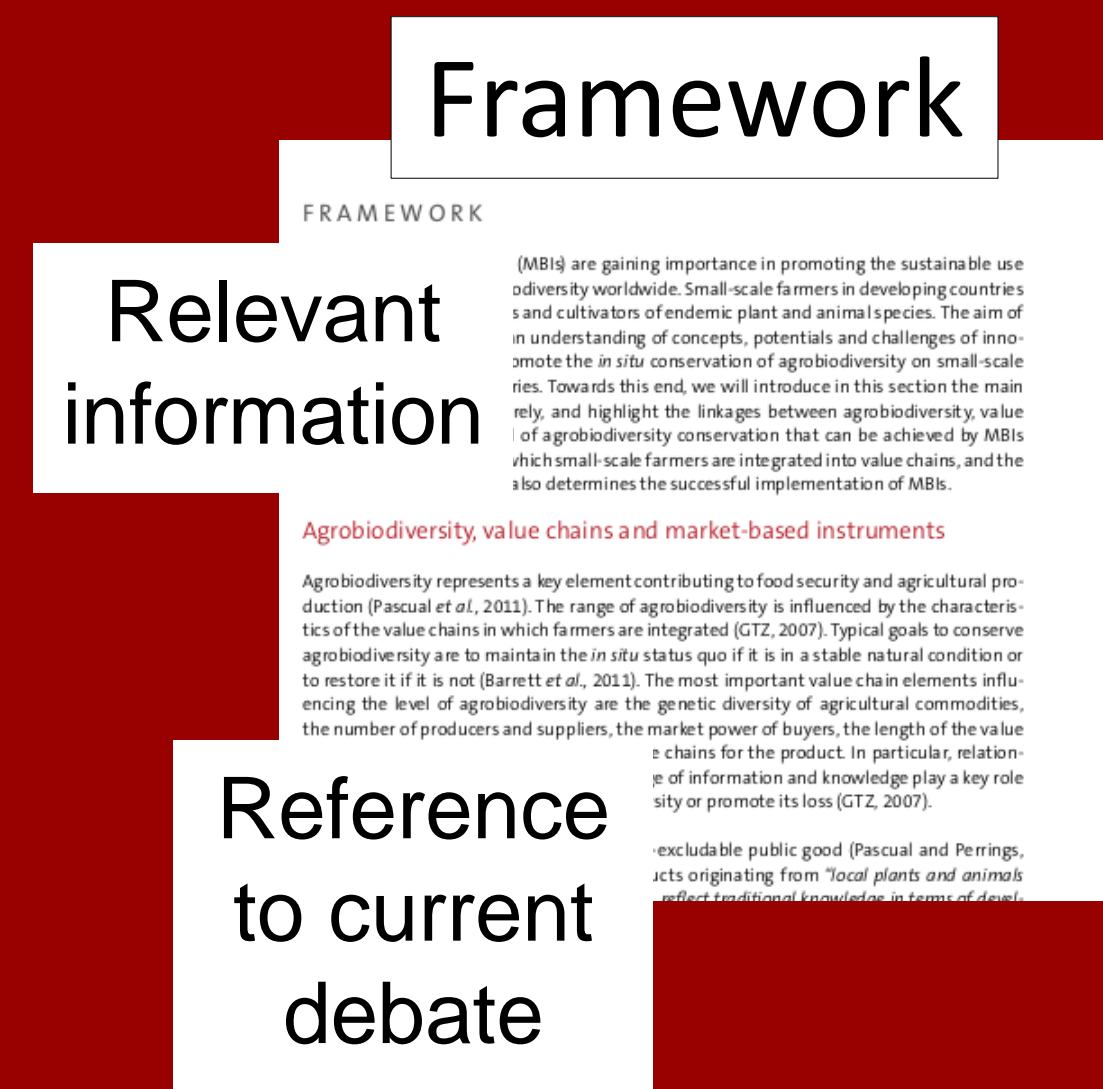
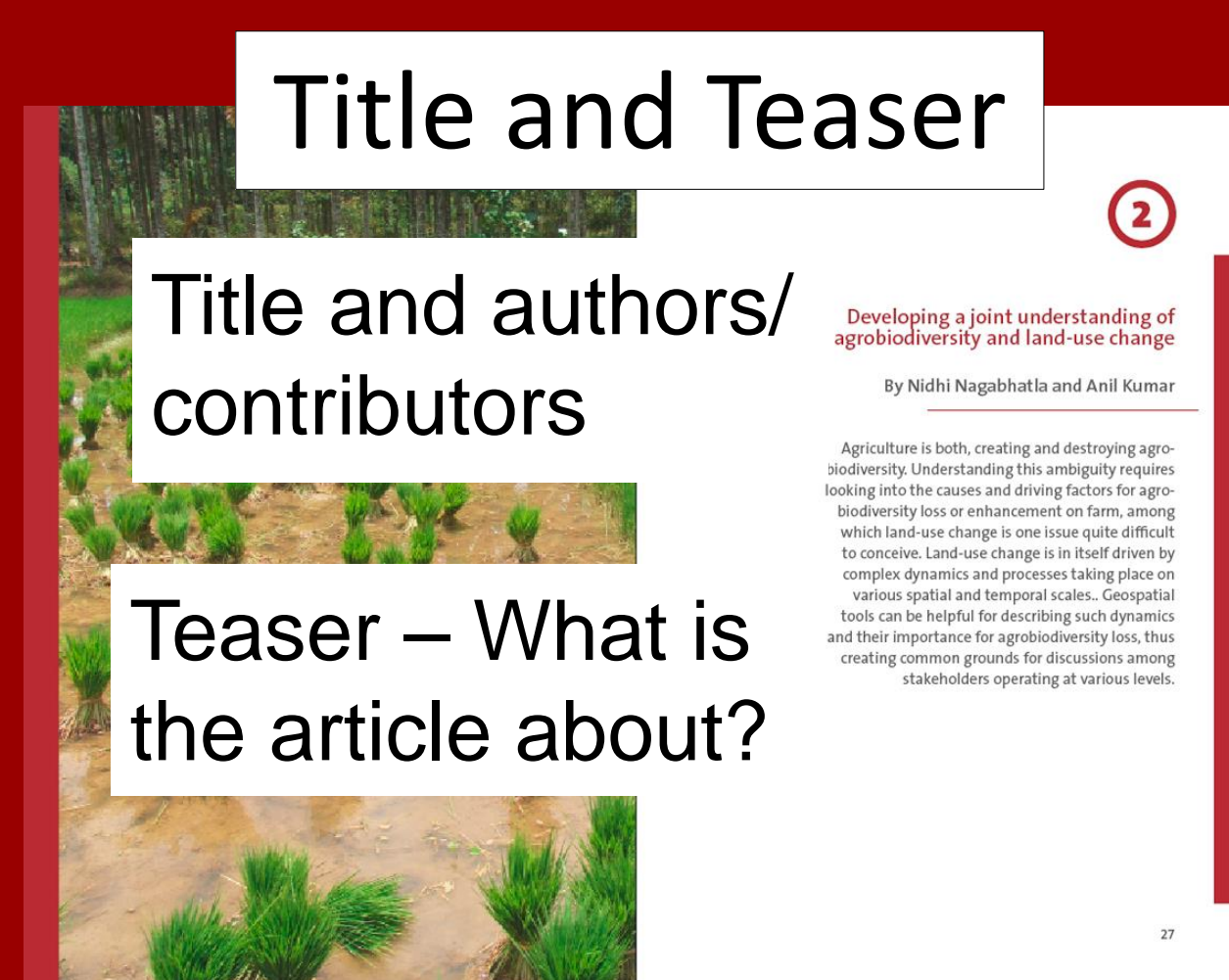


Inspire change:

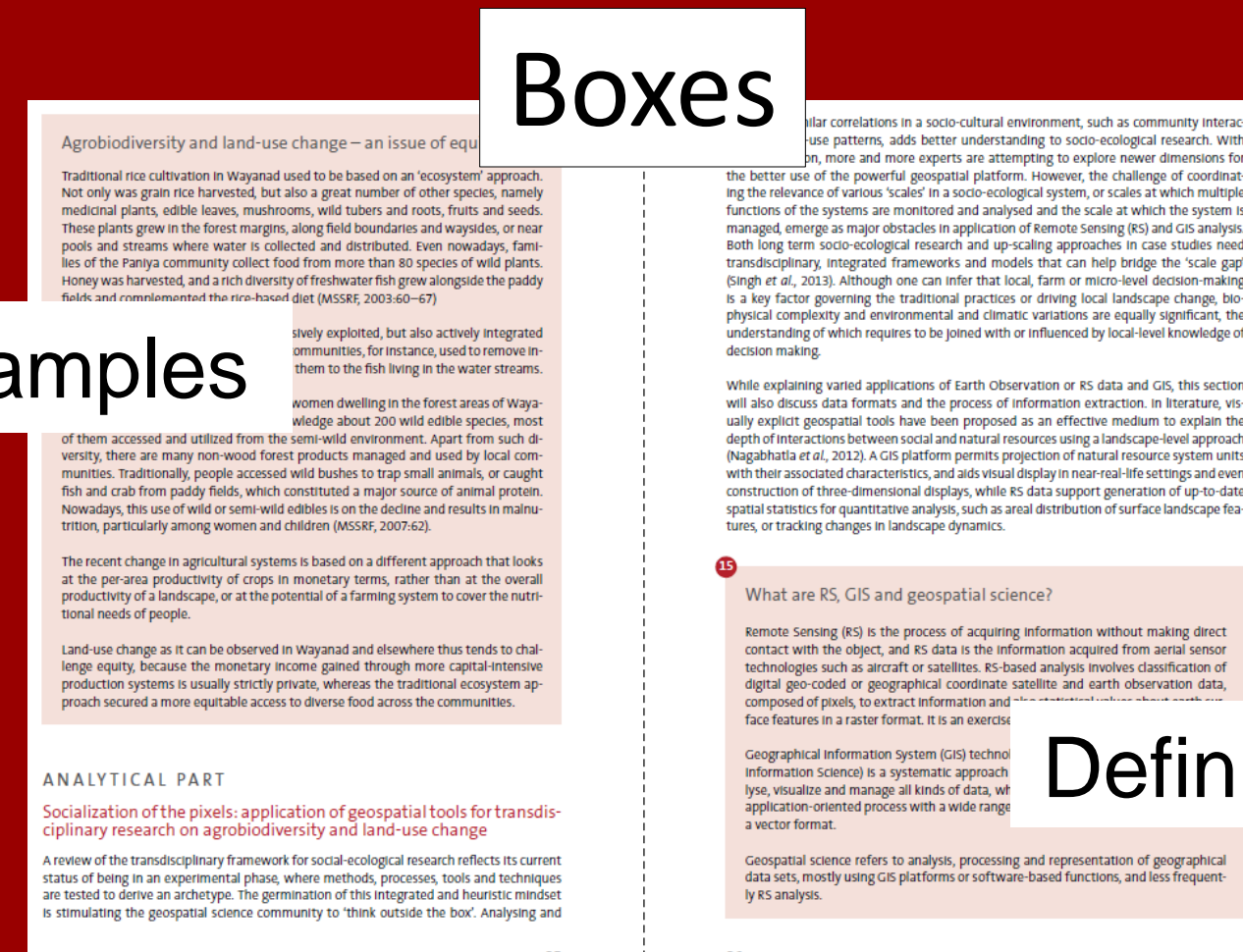
- in research approaches
- institutions
- in the field

### Structure of Chapters:

- Title & Teaser
- Framework
- Analytical Part
- Practical Example
- Summary of Key Points
- Related Links
- Boxes

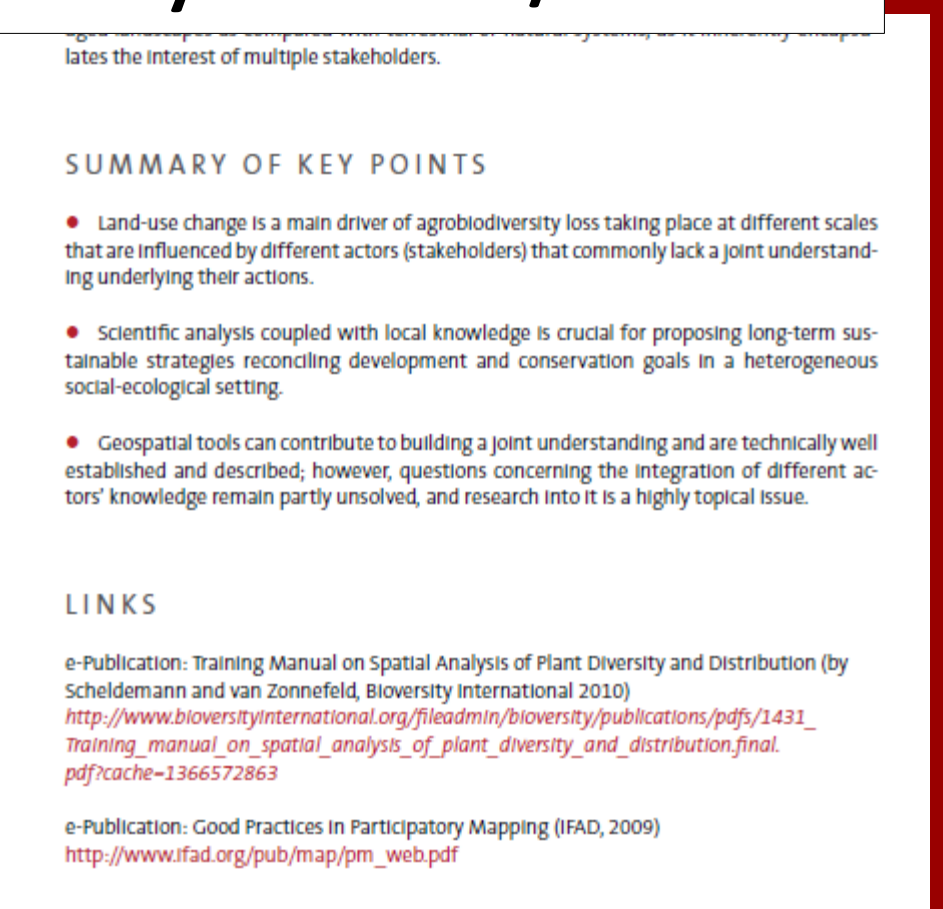


### Examples



### Definitions

### Key Points/ Links



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## A handbook on transdisciplinary approaches to agrobiodiversity research

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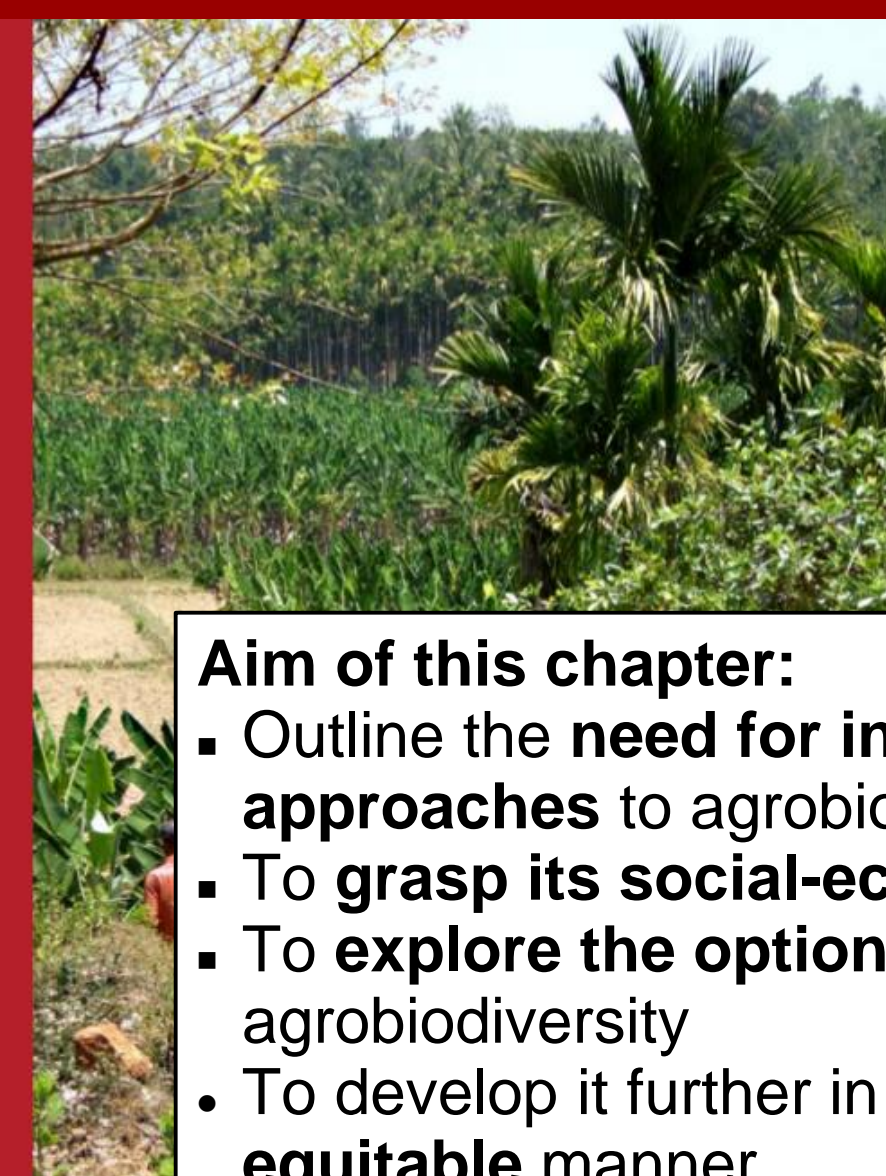


### Contents of Book Chapters:

#### Preface – Prof. M.S.Swaminathan



*"I hope this publication will help to promote a 'biohappiness movement', which will ensure for posterity the conservation of not only biodiversity, but also cultural, culinary and curative diversity, as well as the ecological foundations on which such variety is both preserved and multiplied."*



#### Why inter- and transdisciplinary research for agrobiodiversity?

By Martina Padmanabhan, Anja Christinck and Hannah Arpke

Agrobiodiversity is simultaneously a natural resource and a cultural asset. Its evolution has been

##### Aim of this chapter:

- Outline the **need for inter- and transdisciplinary approaches** to agrobiodiversity research
- To **grasp its social-ecological dimension**
- To **explore the options** to stop the rapid loss of agrobiodiversity
- To develop it further in a more **sustainable and equitable** manner



#### Developing a joint understanding of agrobiodiversity and land-use change

By Nidhi Nagabhatla and Anil Kumar

Agriculture is both creating and destroying agrobiodiversity. Understanding this ambiguity requires looking into the causes and driving factors for agrobiodiversity loss.

##### Aim of this chapter:

- To point out that: **Land-use change is a main driver of agrobiodiversity loss**
- It takes place at **different scales** that are influenced by **different stakeholders**, that commonly lack a joint understanding underlying their actions
- **Scientific analysis coupled with local knowledge** is crucial for proposing long-term sustainability strategies



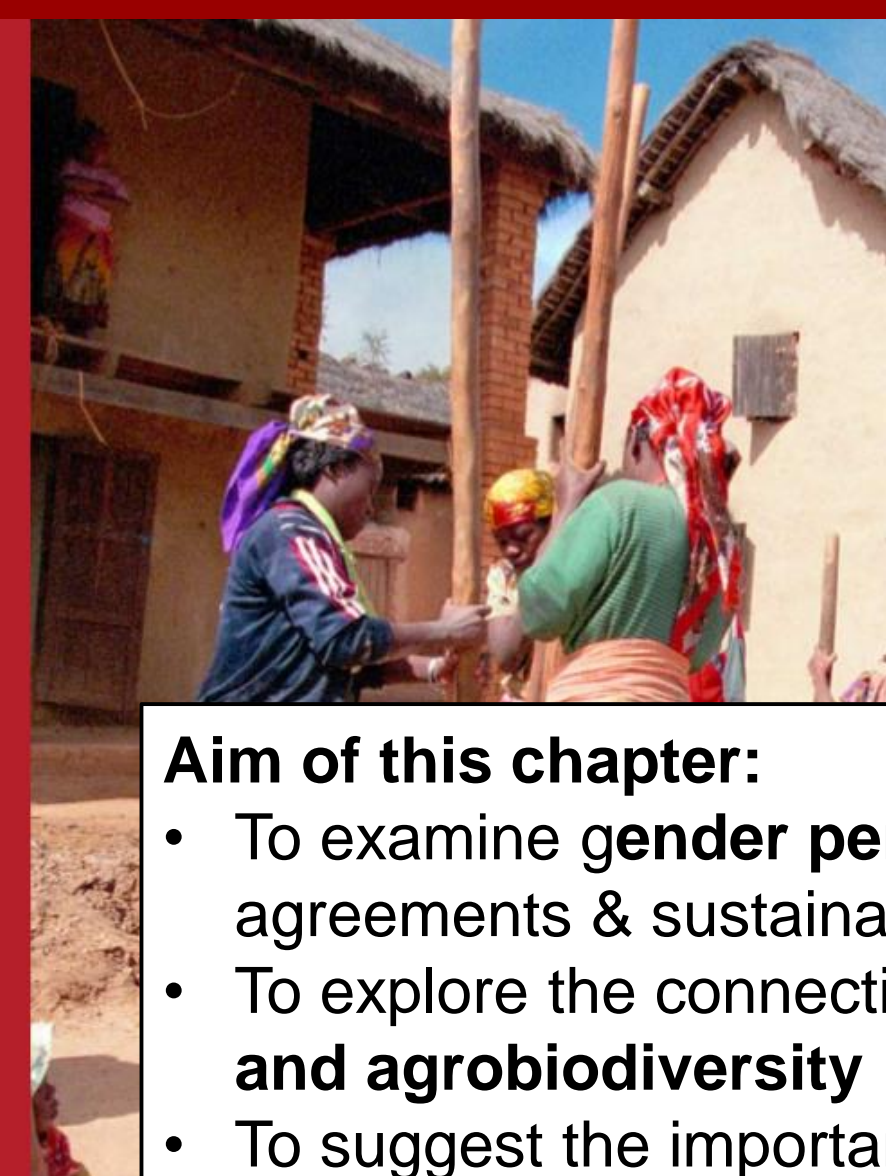
#### Agricultural biodiversity conservation and food security for small-scale farmers

By Pashupati Chaudhary and Bhanu Sthapit

Cultivated crops and their varieties are globally the most widely and extensively used pool of biodiversity. Poor exploitation of agricultural potential means small-scale farmers face chronic food insecurity, which is further compounded by frequent

##### Aim of this chapter:

- To discuss some **pro-poor strategies** that are:
- **socially** acceptable
  - **economically** profitable
  - **environmentally** friendly
  - address small-scale **farmers' needs**



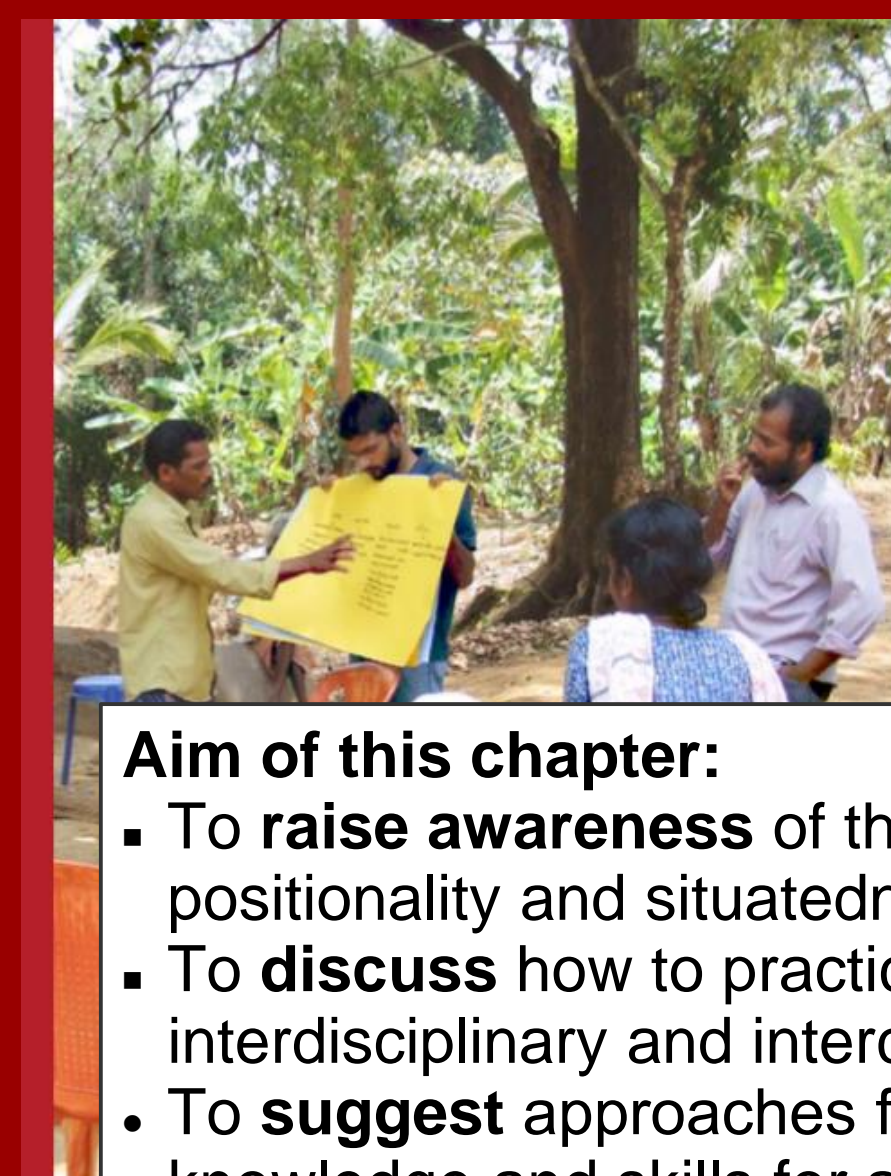
#### Agrobiodiversity and equity: Addressing gender in transdisciplinary research

By Janet H. Momsen, Isabelle Künze and Emily Oakley

In spite of women's role in creating and maintaining agricultural biodiversity having been acknowledged in a number of international policy documents, an implementation gap continues to exist once we come closer to the ground.

##### Aim of this chapter:

- To examine **gender perspectives** in policy agreements & sustainable development strategies
- To explore the connection between **gender equity and agrobiodiversity**
- To suggest the importance to include **gender and equity issues in transdisciplinary research**



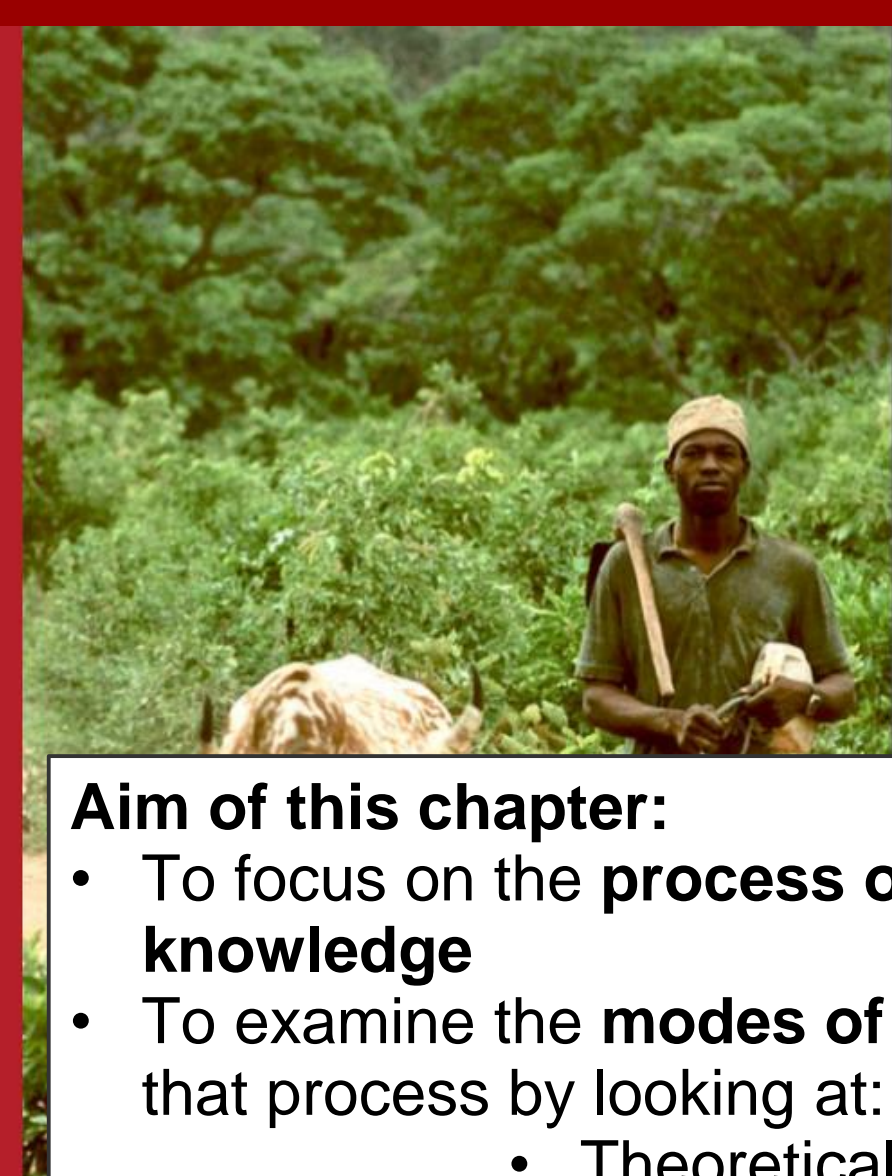
#### Adding value to research through partnerships: interdisciplinary and intercultural diversity in agrobiodiversity research

By Silvia Werner, Martina Padmanabhan and Anja Christinck

Social and cultural diversity is highly topical, in commercial and research organizations

##### Aim of this chapter:

- To **raise awareness** of the social and cultural relativity, positionality and situatedness of all knowledge
- To **discuss** how to practically deal with it, while building interdisciplinary and intercultural research teams
- To **suggest** approaches for integrating diverse peoples' knowledge and skills for a fruitful collaboration



#### From assessing knowledge to joint learning

By Brigitte Kaufmann, Hannah Arpke and Anja Christinck

Changing a situation instead of just describing it requires a deeper look at the intimate relationship between knowing and acting: what enables stakeholders to act more efficiently in the varied and uncertain conditions that are typical for most 'real-life' situations concerning agrobiodiversity issues. We highlight the

##### Aim of this chapter:

- To focus on the **process of generating transformation knowledge**
- To examine the **modes of integrating stakeholders** in that process by looking at:
  - Theoretical concepts
  - 'Real-life' settings



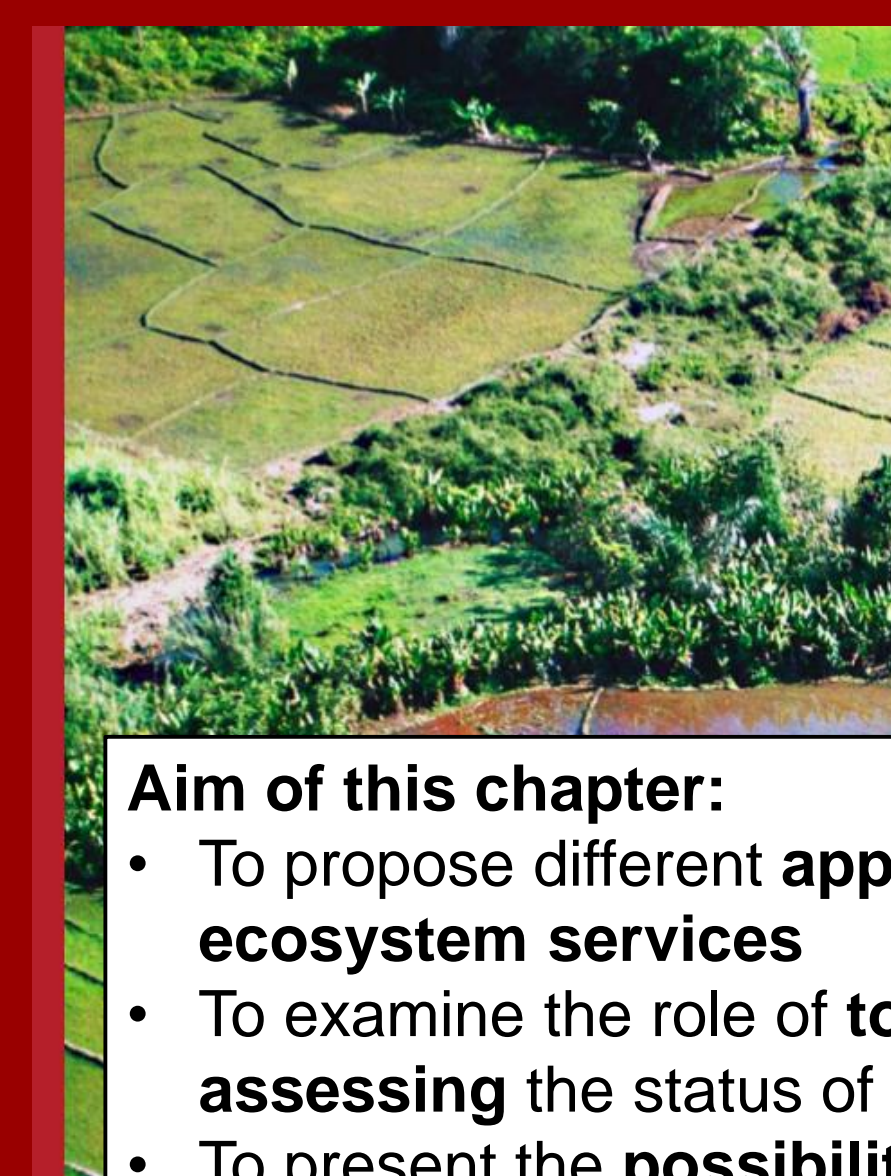
#### Legal and ethical aspects of sharing knowledge

By Andrea Höing, Anja Christinck and Martina Padmanabhan

Generating knowledge in transdisciplinary agrobiodiversity research often relies on the willingness and collaboration of local people

##### Aim of this chapter:

- To examine the **importance of legal and ethical provisions** relating to knowledge sharing in research collaborations
- To raise awareness of '**Farmers' Rights**' and '**Free Prior Informed Consent**'
- To inspire research teams to **reflect on ethical issues** in projects involving a variety of stakeholders



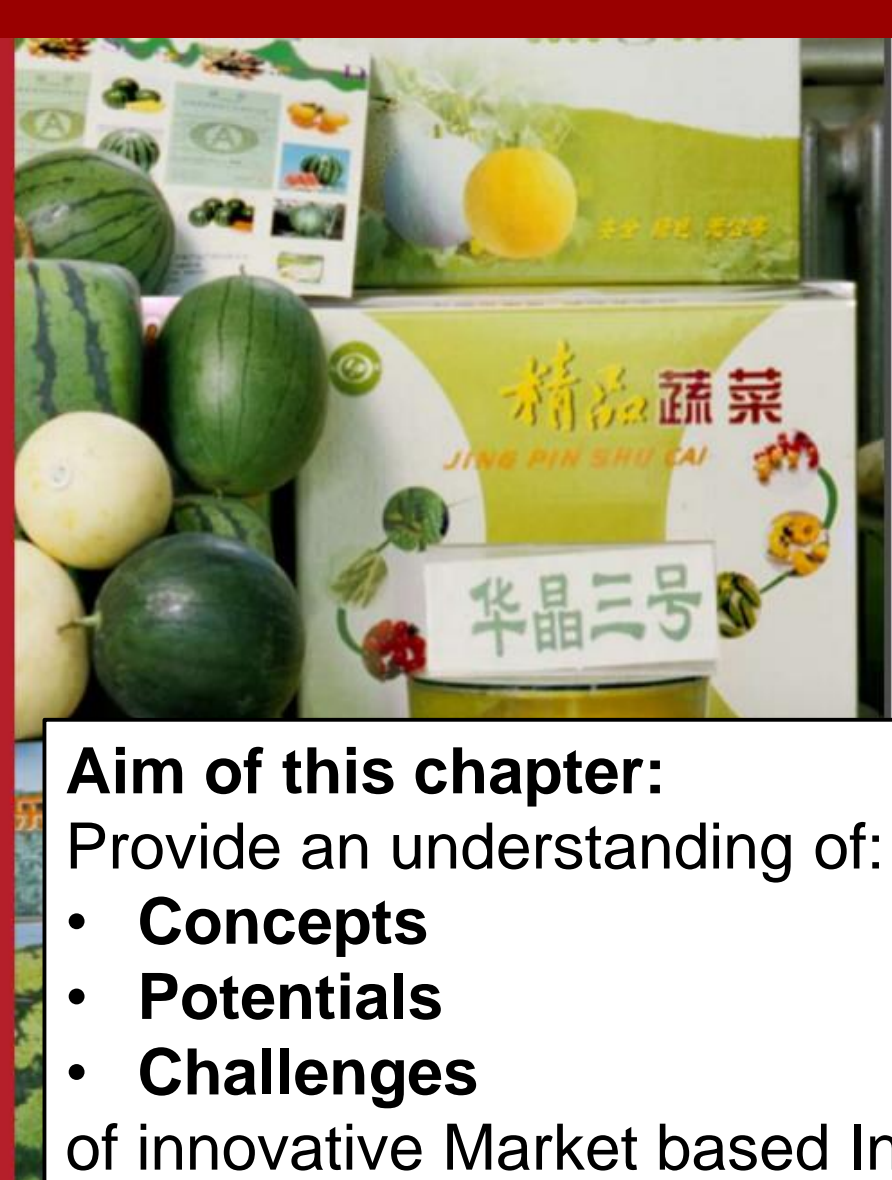
#### Tropical farms as social-ecological systems: Tools for assessment

By Seema Purushothaman, Rosa Abraham and Sheetal Patil

Farms and farming systems provide services to ecosystems and human society that go beyond the production of marketable goods. We propose several approaches for assessing these services and the possibilities to integrate different stakeholder perspectives therein. Be-

##### Aim of this chapter:

- To propose different **approaches for assessing ecosystem services**
- To examine the role of **tools and techniques** in assessing the status of an agro-ecosystem
- To present the **possibilities to integrate different stakeholder perspectives** in assessments



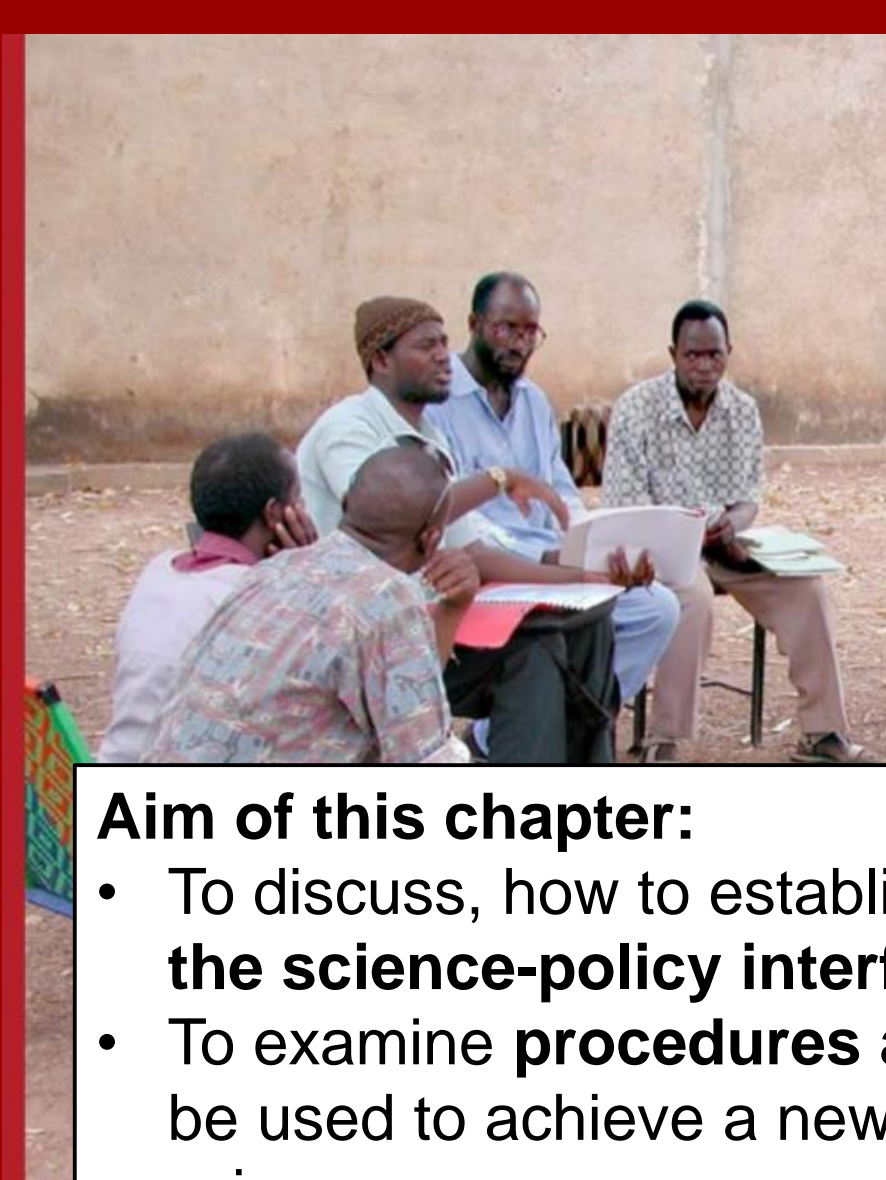
#### Conserving agrobiodiversity on small-scale farms in developing countries through innovative market-based instruments

By Till Stellmacher, Anja Faße, Jaqueline Garcia-Yi and Ulrike Grote

Conserving agrobiodiversity on-farm is increasingly regarded as calling for new forms of cooperation among stakeholders operating along value chains.

##### Aim of this chapter:

- Provide an understanding of:
- **Concepts**
  - **Potentials**
  - **Challenges**
- of innovative Market based Instruments (MBIs) that aim to promote the in situ conservation of agrobiodiversity



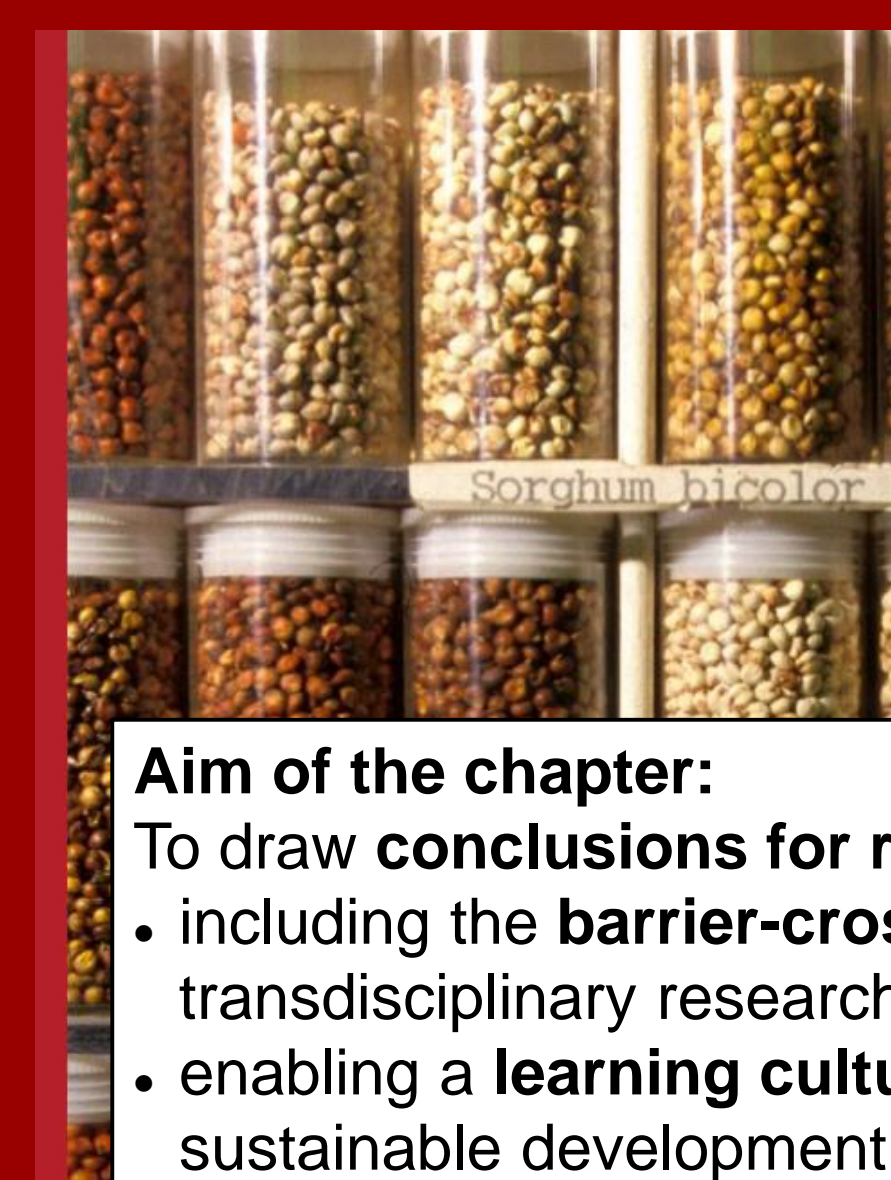
#### Policy dialogue beyond recommendations

By Martina Padmanabhan

Transdisciplinary agrobiodiversity research aims at providing transformation knowledge to enable stakeholders to progress more efficiently towards sustainable and gender equitable management and use of agrobiodiversity. In order to lead a policy dialogue beyond mere recommendations, transdisciplinary research needs to engage

##### Aim of this chapter:

- To discuss, how to establish a **meaningful dialogue at the science-policy interface**
- To examine **procedures and methodologies** that can be used to achieve a new culture of transformation science



#### Outlook: From science policy to research

By Martina Padmanabhan, Jörg Lohmann and Dieter Nill

Research aiming at sustainable development solutions is most often funded by public money and thus should serve the greater common good. The funding institutions have the liberty to create incentives and structures

##### Aim of the chapter:

- To draw **conclusions for research policy** by:
- including the **barrier-crossing character** of transdisciplinary research
  - enabling a **learning culture in research** aiming at sustainable development
- To sketch entry points for potential institutional change

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