

Photo of farmer in Pakistan, courtesy of IWMI / F. Shams



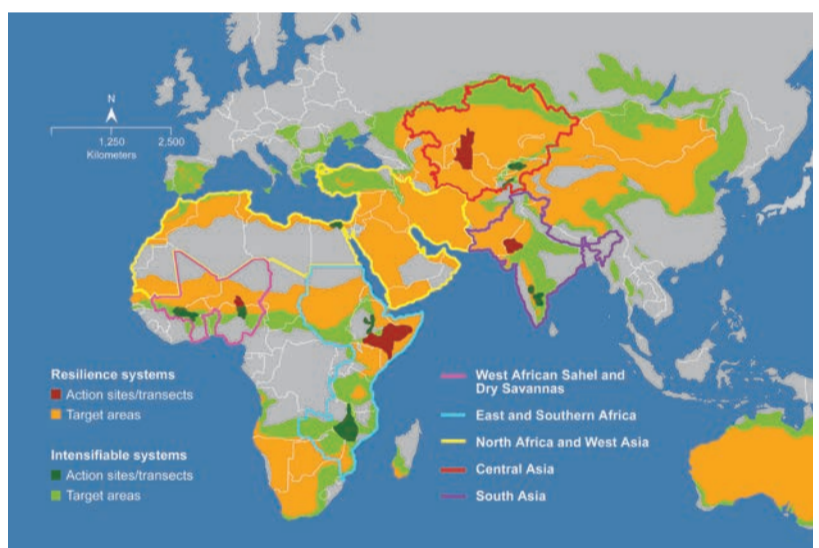
## RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Dryland Systems

Food security and better livelihoods for rural dryland communities

### How we work

We work with rural dryland communities to:

- Reduce risk and vulnerability and promote sustainable adaptive capacity in agricultural livelihood systems of scarce natural resources
- Intensify sustainable production in agricultural livelihood systems of richer natural resources and biodiversity.



Our 'systems thinking' approach looks at agricultural livelihood systems in a 'holistic' way to address key development constraints at bio-physical and socio-economic levels.

The table below outlines the challenges in each agricultural livelihood system.

Challenges	RESILIENT		INTENSIFIABLE		RESILIENT / INTENSIFIABLE
	Pastoral	Agropastoral	Tree-based	Rainfed	Irrigated
Climate change	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	●
Land degradation	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●
Water allocation & management	●	● ●	● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●
Institutions & governance	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●	● ●	● ●
Market access	● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●
Gender inequity	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●	●	● ● ●
Production intensification	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	●
Production diversification	●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●
Youth employment	●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●
Knowledge sharing & dissemination	● ● ●	● ●	● ●	● ●	●
Systems approaches	●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●	● ●
Land tenure & access	● ● ●	● ●	● ●	● ●	● ●

*On a scale of 1-3, 3 circles represent the highest level of the challenge faced within each agricultural livelihood system.*

[drylandsystems.cgiar.org](http://drylandsystems.cgiar.org)