

# Erika Styger

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

- 32 years experience in tropical agronomy, crop and soil science, agroforestry, natural resources management, land degradation, participatory approaches in research and development. Focus on the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) since 2007. More than 11 years direct fieldwork with rural communities in humid, semi-arid, arid and highland ecozones of Africa.
- Designed, implemented and evaluated research and development programs at local, national and international levels in Africa, Asia and Latin America.
- Strong analytical skills to understand complex farming system problems, and develop practical solutions
- Broad experience working in multi-cultural environments; excellent leadership, social and communication skills; and ability to build efficient working relationships with varied stakeholders and collaborators.
- Prior to joining Cornell University, worked with World Bank, FAO, UNDP, CGIAR Centres ICRAF (World Agroforestry Centre) and IITA (International Institute of Tropical Agriculture); Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, US consulting firms (Chemonics Inc., Development Alternatives Inc., Abt Associates Inc.), the MDG Center West and Central Africa (EARTH Institute, Columbia University), and with international NGOs Africare, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and SRI Global Inc.
- PhD from Cornell University in Crop and Soil Sciences and MSc from Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ), Zurich in Agronomy (*Diplomierter Ingenieur-Agronom*)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### CORNELL UNIVERSITY - Professor of Practice

#### Director, Climate-Resilient Farming Systems

Jan 2017 – present; Department of Global Development, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, New York, USA; <https://www.climateresilientfarmingsystems.org/>

**Designed and lead the program.** Responsible for program development, management, finances, fundraising, administration, planning, and reporting.

**Mission:** Improve tropical smallholder farming systems for greater productivity and resilience to climate change through ecological approaches.

#### Operational strategy

- Integrate agro-ecological and climate-smart approaches according to farmer needs, constraints and opportunities, including System of Rice Intensification (SRI), System of Crop Intensification (SCI), Sustainable Land and Water Management (SLWM), Agrobiodiversity Management and Agroforestry.
- Combine scientific knowledge with local knowledge, using participatory research approaches with farming communities to create innovative solutions that benefit and empower farmers.

#### Projects

Current projects

- **Diversity and in-situ conservation of rice by the Saamaka people of Suriname** (2018-2022), Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability, Cornell University. (PI)
- **Regenerative rice farming with Black farming communities in Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, and South Carolina** (since 2020), Jubilee Justice, LA. (Technical lead)

- **Improving fonio (*Digitaria exilis*) productivity with SRI principles, Douentza, Mopti, Mali** (2018-2022), collaboration with 3-A Sahel Mali, SRI Global Inc, Yolélé Foods Inc. and private party. On-farm experimentation of line-seeding and organic matter fertilization of the fonio crop. (PI)
- Approved: [RICOWAS Project: Scaling-up climate-resilient rice production in 13 countries of West Africa](#) (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo). Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS), Tunisia and Adaptation Fund (Technical lead, February 2023-2027).

#### Previous projects

- **Evaluation of nursery methods on plant development and grain yield of rice in the Hudson Valley, New York**, SARE Farmer Grant (2019-2020), Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE), USA. (Technical lead)
- **Improving and scaling up SRI in West Africa** (<http://sriwestafrica.org>) (2014-2018) (Technical lead)
- **Improved use and conservation of Africa rice (*Oryza glaberrima*) by West African smallholder farmers** (2016-2017) (PI)
- **Use of 3D printing technology to improve smallholder rice production equipment** (2016-2018) (Atkinson Center Academic Venture Fund Grant) (Co-PI)

#### Teaching at Cornell University

- Co-taught: [Perspectives on International Agriculture and Rural Development](#), DSCOC1100/IARD1100 Fall class 2019, with Dr S. Giroux and Dr R. Nelson; 48 students, 3 credit class. [Syllabus](#)
- Guest lectures: yearly repeated
  - Shifting cultivation and slash-and-burn agriculture and options for sustainable intensification; CSS IA 4030: Traditional Agriculture in Developing Countries
  - Landscape management and tropical agroforestry: an introduction, Lecture in PLSCS 4140/5140: Global Cropping Systems
  - System of Rice Intensification (SRI) – Scaling-up climate resilient rice production, Lecture in AEM 6600: Natural Resources and Economic Development

#### Teaching at SUNY Cortland

- Guest lecture: Diversity and In-situ Management of Rice by the Saamaka People of Suriname; SCI 304 Plants and People.

#### In the News:

- 36 News Articles published about my work between 4/2018 and 08/2022: <https://www.climateresilientfarmingsystems.org/in-the-news>

### **CORNELL UNIVERSITY - Director, SRI International Network and Resources Center (SRI-Rice)**

August 2010-December 2016; International Programs (IP-CALS), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, New York, USA; <http://sririce.org>

**Set up and led SRI-Rice;** Responsible for program development, management, finances, fundraising, administration, planning, and reporting

**Mission:** To advance and share knowledge about the System of Rice Intensification, to improve the technical implementation of the SRI methodology, and to support networking among interested organizations agencies, and individuals around the globe.

## Accomplishments:

### Made knowledge about SRI widely available

- Worlds' most comprehensive collection of SRI knowledge, available at <http://sririce.org>
- Personal outreach: traveled to 29 countries in 46 visits: provided technical assistance and trainings, undertook field visits; co-organized, co-facilitated and presented in meetings and conferences
  - Asia:* Cambodia, China, India, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam
  - W Africa:* Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
  - E and S Africa:* Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia
  - Latin America:* Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico
  - Other:* Australia, France, England, Germany, Switzerland
- More than 50 presentations at international and national meetings and conferences (see selection below)
- Co-organized and co-facilitated 15 international meetings and conferences (see below)
- Teaching at Cornell University: 17 guest lectures to seven different classes, co-led class IARD 7830: *Farmer-Centered Research and Extension* in 2013

### Generated and advanced knowledge and scientific understanding on SRI methodology

- Established SRI Research Database: open-source access to all scientific publications on SRI since 1993 (> 1700 entries, 4/2020):  
[https://www.zotero.org/groups/344232/system\\_of\\_rice\\_intensification\\_sri\\_research\\_network](https://www.zotero.org/groups/344232/system_of_rice_intensification_sri_research_network)
- Wrote 13 analytical and academic articles on SRI
- Research: *Reducing Inorganic Arsenic Levels in Rice by Appropriate Water Management*, Co-Principal Investigator with Prof L Derry, B Ahner and J Duxbury; funded by Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, Cornell University, 2014/2015
- Research: *Farmer implementation of SRI in West Africa* (SRI West Africa scaling up project); Principal Investigator; funded by World Bank (2014-2016), [Book](#)

### Improved technical implementation of SRI in farmers' fields and research trials

- Developed training approach and materials for SRI: Wrote Technical Training Manual, developed data collection methodology and guidelines for conducting farmer trials, data visualization and mapping.
- Led 13 trainings for more than 500 people from 16 countries (13 countries in W Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Haiti): 2-4 day practical and theoretical training of trainers, each of whom in turn trained more farmers and technicians, e.g. in W Africa > 30,000 farmers and 1032 technicians trained (2014-2016)

### Created and promoted two large-scale regional SRI initiatives

Formed alliances with donors and regional organizations to organize initiatives to meet needs for SRI interventions across an entire region (rather than limited to individual countries), as follows:

#### i) West Africa Initiative

- **Improving Scaling-up SRI in West Africa (SRI WAAPP)**, 2014-2016 (<http://sriwestafrica.org>).  
**Principal Investigator** for Cornell University and **strategic and technical partner** to project financed by World Bank under the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP), managed by the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD).  
Initiated this project in 2012 and built coalition of project implementers and donors. Cornell was subcontractor to project regional coordination unit managed by the National Center of Specialization in Rice (CNS-Riz), at the Government of Mali *Institut d'Économie Rurale* (IER).  
Project objective was to increase rice productivity and competitiveness throughout the 13-country Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS): Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.  
[Key results](#) as of June 2016:

- 50,048 farmers (33% women) using SRI on 13,944 hectares at 1088 sites
- > 30,000 farmers and 1032 technicians trained
- Number of local Institutions working with SRI increased from 49 (2014) to 215 (2016)
- Yield increases with SRI compared to conventional rice production by 56% averaging 6.6 t/ha for irrigated rice and by 85% averaging 4.71 t/ha for rainfed lowland rice.
- Added value of increased rice production: 10 million USD/rice season.
- **Peace Corps (PC) West Africa Food Security Initiative:** initiated and led two regional trainings for PC volunteers, counterparts and staff from Benin, The Gambia, Guinea, Senegal and Togo in 2012 and 2013; contributed to PC training material development on SRI.

## ii) Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative

- **Co-organized second Latin America and Caribbean SRI workshop** with Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and the National Federation of Rice Growers of Colombia (FEDEARROZ), in Ibaguè, Tolima, Colombia in 2017: [Summary report](#)
- **Co-organized first Latin America and Caribbean SRI workshop** with Better U Foundation and EARTH University: 27 SRI practitioners from 10 countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Mexico, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, and the USA; at EARTH University Limon, Costa Rica, November 2011. [Conference Website](#)
- **Advised Inter-American Institute for Cooperation (IICA)** in Spanish training material development, Dominican Republic (DR) field program, and project development for DR and Colombia.
- **Advised projects and trained staff and farmers in Haiti**
  - **2010** for various non-profit organizations in three regions (undertook first introduction of SRI to Haiti),
  - **2013** for iF Foundation in northern region, and
  - **2016** for USAID-funded project *Change Lavi Plante* in St Marc/Artibonite.
- **Co-organized first national SRI workshop in Haiti** with Better U Foundation and USAID-funded WINNER project in March 2011.

## INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT - Sustainable Land Management, Food Security, System of Rice Intensification.

March 2007- April 2010

**Bamako, Mali**

SRI Specialist: Technical lead for introduction of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in four regions of Mali: Gao, Timbuktu, Mopti and Sikasso. USAID-funded project IICEM (*Initiative Intégrée de la Croissance Economique au Mali*); **Abt Associates Inc.** Bethesda, MD, USA. 2009/2010 agricultural season; [Report](#).

SRI Specialist: Technical lead for *Scaling-up SRI in Goundam and Dire, Timbuktu, Mali*; Technical lead of first trials on System of Wheat Intensification, [Report](#) ; **Africare**, Washington, DC. 2009/2010 agricultural season; [Report](#).

Land Management Specialist: Technical member for project document development for Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded part of World Bank USD 160 million *Fostering Agricultural Productivity Project (PAPAM)*, **The World Bank**, Bamako, Mali. Nov 2009-April 2010.

SRI Specialist: Technical lead for *Community-based assessment of SRI in 12 villages with 60 Farmers in 12 Villages in Goundam and Dire, Timbuktu, Mali*; First farmer test of System of Wheat Intensification (SWI); **Africare**, Washington, DC. 2008/2009 agricultural season. Final Report in [English](#) and [French](#).

Natural Resource Management Specialist for the elaboration of a preliminary *Country Strategic Investment Framework in Sustainable Land Management for Mali*, **FAO**, Rome. May/June 2008.

Sole evaluator of Final Project Evaluation of *Douentza Circle in Crisis*: an emergency relief project to improve short and long-term food security of households affected by locust invasion and drought of 2004 in northern Mali. Main project activities: Seed Fairs, Farmers Field Schools, Savings and Internal Lending Communities, funded by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; **Catholic Relief Services**, Baltimore, MD, USA. March/April 2008. [Report](#)

Land Management Specialist for the finalization of the Project Document *Madagascar Irrigation Improvement and Watershed Management*, GEF OP15 and SIP, **The World Bank**, Antananarivo, Madagascar. January-May 2008.

Constraints Analysis for the *Timbuktu Food Security Initiatives*: Multi Year Activity Proposal (MYAP) submitted to USAID/FFP; **Africare**, Washington, DC. December 2007.

Technical Advisor for SRI (System of Rice Intensification) Farmer Trials: **Africare**, Goundam, Timbuktu, Mali: agricultural season 2007/2008.

Concept Note Development: *Achieving Millennium Development Goal 1 through Agriculture in 166 Food Insecure Communes of Mali*; **Millennium Development Goal Alliance**, Bamako, Mali. October/Nov 2007.

Forestry and Agroforestry Analysis for MCC/MCA Alatona Irrigation Project, Mali: Conservation and management of existing wood resources; identification of wood product needs and design of agroforestry systems associated with a large-scale rice growing irrigation scheme; **Development Alternatives, Inc.** Washington, DC. May-June, 2007.

Presentation of Study *Options pour une Elaboration d'un Programme de Gestion Durables des Terres au Mali* at Sustainable Land Management Workshop, April 19, 2007 in Bamako, Mali organized by **TerrAfrica**, and the **World Bank**; **TCIW-FAO**, Rome. April, 2007.

Co-designing, writing and co-editing: *Sustainable Land Management Sourcebook: Agriculture and Rural Development* Department; **The World Bank**, Washington DC. Nov 2006 – June 2007.

## **THE WORLD BANK - Technical Consultant**

February 2004 – February 2007, at Agriculture and Rural Development Department (ARD), Africa Region (AFTS1), and the East Asia Rural Development and Natural Resources Sector Department (EASRD);  
**Washington, DC**

### **a. Operations**

**Land Management Specialist** in the World Bank project preparation team: technical responsibility for establishing the project concept, design of project preparation studies and submission of full project proposal of the GEF (Global Environment Facility) financed component that is fully integrated into the IDA project.

- 1) *Zambezi Valley Market-led Smallholder Development Project, Mozambique*; GEF Operational Program of Sustainable Land Management (OP15) and Strategic Priority of Adaptation to Climate Change (SPA); *WB Project ID: P093165; GEFSEC Project ID: P098040; IDA US\$20 million, GEF US\$ 6.2 million.*
- 2) *Irrigation Improvement and Watershed Management Project, Madagascar*; GEF Operational Program of Sustainable Land Management (OP15); *WB Project ID: P-074086; GEFSEC Project ID: 88887, IDA US\$ 30.0 million, GEF US\$ 6.0 million.*

**Natural Resources Management Specialist** for BioCarbon Fund with Environment Department, Carbon Finance (ENVCF)

Technical specialist for Madagascar BioCarbon Fund Project under Preparation: *Andasibe-Mantadia Biodiversity Corridor Restoration and Conservation Carbon Project*; Advised on conceptual carbon improvement opportunities, carbon baseline methodology and participatory approaches for project implementation.

## **b. Analytical Work**

**Agricultural Specialist** at the *Agriculture and Rural Development Department (ARD)*

Co-author and co-editor of [Sustainable Land Management Sourcebook](#). 2008, Agriculture and Rural Development, The World Bank, Washington DC. 178 p.

Co-author of [Sustainable Land Management, Challenges, Opportunities and Trade-Offs](#), 2006, Agriculture and Rural Development, The World Bank, 87 p.

Presentation and Issue Note: Participatory and socially sustainable land use and management at the Distance Learning Course: *Sustainable Land Use and Land Management in South and East Asia*; November 16-19, 2004; organized by the World Bank Institute (WBI) and the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ). Connected to Distance Learning Centers in Bangkok (Thailand), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Dili (Timor Leste), and Hanoi (Vietnam). Issue notes in English, Vietnamese and Indonesian.

**Watershed Management Specialist** with Rural Development and Natural Resources Sector Department, East Asia (EASRD)

Keynote speaker:

Watershed Management Operations: Approaches and Emerging Lessons at the *World Bank Water Days*, March 6, 2006, Washington, DC.

The Bank's Experience with Watershed Management at the Workshop and Learning Module: Watershed Management: Lessons from Experience and Innovations in Design and Practice; February 24-25, 2005 at the World Bank, Washington, DC.

Co-author: [Watershed Management Approaches, Policies and Operations: Lessons for Scaling Up, 2008](#), Water Sector Board Discussion Paper No 11. The World Bank; Washington DC.

## **CHEMONICS INC. LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT INTERVENTIONS (LDI) – Technical Advisor**

1999-2001 during Ph.D. research: Technical Advisor to LDI Program and CIIFAD (Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development).

### **Moramanga, Madagascar**

Advised LDI leaders, program managers, field technicians and farmers regarding land degradation issues to reduce deforestation of primary forests through agricultural intensification, initiated knowledge sharing through field visits, meetings and presentations.

Organized farmers for active field research participation from experimental design and management to evaluation of the research activities.

## **SWISS AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION – Ethnobotany Study Leader**

1995-1996, at the National Tree Seed Center (Silo National des Graines Forestières, SNGF)

### **Antananarivo, Madagascar**

Technical responsibility and team leader for an ethno-botanical study on indigenous fruit trees in Madagascar: Identified, characterized and prioritized indigenous fruit trees used by the local population.

Established research methodology framework and an operational strategy for indigenous tree domestication

Collaborated with three regional Conservation and Development Projects (i) CARE, Masoala, (ii) VITA/APAM, Andasibe, (iii) PPNR (National Park Project), Ranomafana, and with the national institutions ANGAP and FOFIFA.

### **SWISS AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION – Director SAF-CO**

1994-1995, at agriculture development project SAF-CO (*Sauvegarde et Aménagement des Forêts de la Côte Ouest*), **Morondava, Madagascar**

Co-led with national counterpart a staff of 21 people: 3 agricultural experts (MS-level), 4 office staff, 4 field technicians and 10 farmer extension agents. Responsible for project finances, administration, planning, and reporting.

Responsible for the design, implementation and evaluation of agricultural and agroforestry research with goal to reduce deforestation pressure on the dryland forests of Western Madagascar: Introduced and tested new food and cash crop varieties with farmers; developed soil conservation techniques and new crop associations, introduced cover crops and agroforestry species and techniques, developed on-farm seed multiplication systems.

Initiated and coordinated a collaborative network between farmers' associations, the governmental agricultural research institution (FOFIFA), NGOs, the regional FAO project, the local extension service, and local churches, based on farmers' needs and ideas.

### **WORLD AGROFORESTRY CENTRE (ICRAF) – Associate Scientist**

1990-1993 at Agroforestry Research Project ICRAF/ISAR (*Institut des Sciences Agronomiques du Rwanda*), **Butare, Rwanda**

Core-team member of the ICRAF/ISAR project, composed of two international experts and national agroforestry program leader. The project was integrated into the national agricultural research institution ISAR.

Researched in agroforestry technology development: Diagnosed constraints and potentials for sustainable farming system production, designed and implemented new agroforestry technologies for the highlands of Rwanda. On-station and on-farm research on agroforestry species screening, hedgerow technologies for livestock-fodder production, soil fertility improvement, and erosion control.

Engaged in capacity and institution building and strengthening: Provided technical support to the extended agroforestry team of ISAR scientists. Collaborated in multi-disciplinary research activities across programs. Assured on-going training of field technicians. Hosted and supervised university students at BS and MS levels.

Advised NGOs on planning, realization and evaluation of their agroforestry activities, and assisted in national coordination of agroforestry research and extension activities.



Participated in annual research evaluation and planning workshops for the national agricultural research at ISAR, for the Agroforestry Research Network for Eastern and Central Africa (AFRENA-ECA) and for the worldwide research activities of ICRAF.

**1989** Collaborated with free-lance journalist **Al Imfeld, Zurich, Switzerland**; published articles in Swiss and German newspapers and magazines on African development issues

## ADDITIONAL SHORT-TERM ENGAGEMENTS

**April 2020 until now:** External Evaluation Panel Member in the field of agronomy, **World Coffee Research** (<https://worldcoffeeresearch.org>), **Portland, Oregon**.

**February-July 2020:** Study on technical guidelines for food and fodder bank management in Niger, **FAO, Rome and the World Bank, Washington DC**. (in French language)

**September 2018-September 2019:** Impact study lead: Adoption and Adaptation of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the Northern Corridor of Haiti; AVANSE Project, Cap-Haitian, Haiti, **DAI Global LLC, USAID, Haiti**.

**July 2019- September 2019:** Le Système de Riziculture Intensive (SRI), Manuel Technique SRI pour Haïti; AVANSE Project, Cap-Haïtien, **DAI Global LLC, USAID, Haïti**.

**July 2016:** SRI Development Planning and Implementation in the St. Marc Commune, Haiti. Chanje Lavi Plante Project, Feed The Future, **Chemonics International/USAID; Port-au-Prince, Haiti**.

**July 2014:** Rice production diagnostic for Chinsali (Chinsali District, Northern Province) and Mfuwe (Mwambe District, Eastern Province), Zambia. **COMACO, Lusaka, Zambia** and David. R. Atkinson Center for Sustainable Development; Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 51 p.  
<http://sri.cals.cornell.edu/countries/zambia/ZambiaStygerRiceDiagnostic2014.pdf>

**June 2010:** Introducing the System of Rice Intensification to Haiti, Training programs with farmers in three regions of Haiti, **Better U Foundation, Los Angeles, USA**

**April 2006:** Diagnostic and Design GEF Project Proposal Control of Sand Dune Invasion of the Oasis Microbasins in the Departments of Gouré and Mainé-Soroa (PLECO), Niger, GEF OP15 (Sustainable Land Management Operational Program); **UNDP- GEF, Niamey, Niger**.

**July 2006:** Mid-term project evaluation of Agriculture Intensification Module for Madagascar Eco-Regional Initiatives to Promote Alternatives to Slash and Burn (**ERI Program**), **Fianarantsoa and Toamasina, Madagascar** for **DAI (Development Alternatives, Inc) and IRM (Innovative Resources Management), Washington, DC**.

**November 2000:** Edited Annual Research Report 1999/2000 of LDI (Landscape Development Intervention Program) and CIIFAD (Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development) in Madagascar for **Chemonics International, Washington DC**.

**January 1998:** Technical back stopping of the rainforest tree nursery in Masoala, Madagascar to be sourced for the [Masoala Rainforest Hall of the Zurich Zoo, Zurich](#), Switzerland (January 1998)



## Teaching and Lectures from 1997 to 2003 Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

- Teaching assistantships:
  - Tropical Cropping Systems, Cornell Fall Semester Course CSS 314 in 2002
  - Sustainable Agriculture, Cornell Fall Semester Course CSS 190 in 1997 and 1998
  - Plant/Microbe Interactions, Cornell Fall Semester Course CSS 666 in 2001
- Co-lead a working group in the Cornell Fall Semester Course: Problem Solving in the Tropics, INTAG/NTRES 694 in 2001
- Gave 9 lectures in various classes and five public seminars between 1997 to 2003, at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

## 1987 Agricultural Training Center, Mvuma, Zimbabwe

Practical teaching of improved small-scale farming techniques to young farmers. Staff member of Agricultural Training Center (ATC), Mvuma, Zimbabwe, June-October, 1987.

## EDUCATION

### 2004 Ph.D. in Crop and Soil Sciences from Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA

Dissertation: *Fire-less alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture (tavy) in the rainforest region of Madagascar*. 326 p.

- Conducted historical land degradation analysis, identified farmer's land use strategies.
- Identified indigenous knowledge on upland soils and fallows, leading to the creation of a fallow classification framework
- Biophysical characterization of fallows (carbon and nutrient stocks, soils, fallow growth)
- Field tested alternative agricultural techniques to slash-and-burn including slash-and-mulch with/without the application of locally available guano-phosphate for food and cash crops.

### 1989 Master of Science in Agronomy, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ), Zurich, Switzerland

Master Thesis: *Population dynamics of two stem borer species *Sesamia calamistis* Hmps. and *Eldana saccharina* Walker in sole and mixed infestations on maize and their influence on maize yield*. 87 p.

Institute of Crop Science, Field of Entomology, ETH, Zurich, Switzerland and Biological Control Program, IITA, Cotonou, Benin.

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Knowledge Matter Fellowship, 2017/2018 awarded by Provost's Office of Faculty Development and Diversity, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
- Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security, March 16, 2015; awarded to SRI-Rice by Olam International
- Atkinson Center Faculty Fellow, since 2014
- Spot Award from *Africa Region, the World Bank* on March 30, 2006  
"For outstanding innovation in project design, a best practice results framework, and expedited project processing on the Mozambique Market-Let Smallholder Development Project"; First World Bank Africa project that included GEF Adaptation to Climate Change Window (SPA), and first World Bank project that combines GEF Land Degradation Focal Area with Adaptation to Climate Change.
- Graduate Student Award of the Northeast Branch of the American Society of Agronomy and Soil Science Society of America, July 2003: one student is selected each year to receive this award. Report
- Richard Bradfield Research Award in 2001, Cornell University  
This award supports research intended to enhance the well-being of small farmers and their families in third world countries

## BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

1996-2003 Roger Haus Foundation, Uster, Switzerland

Foundation mission: Provide relief for the poorest of the poor in Switzerland and in the developing world who have no access to other support systems; Yearly distribution of US\$120,000 with a range from US\$ 5000 to US\$ 20,000 per award.

2001 MacDonald/Musgrave Awards Committee, Cornell University, Ithaca

## MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

American Society of Agronomy  
Crop Science Society of America  
Soil Science Society of America

## JOURNAL PEER REVIEWER

Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment, Elsevier  
Agricultural Systems, Elsevier

## LANGUAGES

German: native  
French, English: fluent reading, writing, speaking  
Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Malagasy: beginner level

## COUNTRIES visited, worked, and **lived** in (57)

Asia: Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam

W and C Africa: **Benin**, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo

E and S Africa: Burundi, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Latin America: Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Mexico, Suriname

Others: Armenia, Australia, Canada, Europe (A, Be, **CH**, D, Dan, Sp, F, Fin, GB, Hu, It, Lux, NL, No, Pol, Por, Sw), **USA**

## PUBLICATIONS

### Academic Articles

Gu W, Styger E and DH Warner, 2020.

**Assessment of Additive Manufacturing for Increasing Sustainability and Productivity of Smallholder Agriculture. *3D Printing and Additive Manufacturing*. 7:6, 1-11.**

Adhikari et al. 2018.

**System of Crop Intensification for more productive, resource-conserving, climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture: Experience with diverse crops in varying agroecologies.** *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability*; Volume 16 (1): 1-28.

Abraham B, Araya H, Berthe T, Edwards S, Gujia B, Khadka RB, Koma YS, Sen D, Sharif A, Styger E, Uphoff N, Verma A, 2014.

**The system of crop intensification: reports from the field on improving agricultural production, food security and resilience to climate change for multiple crops.** *Agriculture and Food Security* 3:4, 1-12.

Styger E, Ag Attaher M, Guindo H, Ibrahim H, Diaty M, Abba I, Traore M, 2011.

**Application of system of rice intensification practices in the arid environment of the Timbuktu region of Mali.** *Paddy and Water Environment* 9:137-144.

Styger E, Aboubacrine G, Ag Attaher M, Uphoff N, 2011.

**The system of rice intensification as a sustainable agricultural innovation: introducing, adapting and scaling up a system a rice intensification practices in the Timbuktu region of Mali.** *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability* 9(1): 67-75.

Styger E, Fernandes ECM, Rakotondramasy HM and Rajaobelirinira E, 2009.

**Degrading uplands in the rainforest region of Madagascar: Fallow biomass, nutrient stocks, and soil nutrient availability.** *Agroforestry Systems*, 77:107-122.

Styger E, Rakotondramasy HM, Pfeffer MJ, Fernandes ECM and Bates DM, 2007.

**Influence of slash-and-burn farming practices on fallow succession and land degradation in the rainforest region of Madagascar.** *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* 119: 257-269.

Styger E, Raktoarimanana JEM, Rabevohitra R and Fernandes ECM, 1999.

**Indigenous fruit trees of Madagascar: potential components of agroforestry systems to improve human nutrition and restore biological diversity.** *Agroforestry Systems* 46 (3): 289-310.

Niang A, Styger E, Gahamanyi A, Hoekstra D and Coe R, 1998.

**Fodder- quality improvement through contour planting of legume-shrub/grass mixtures in croplands of Rwanda highlands.** *Agroforestry Systems* 39 (3): 263-274.

Niang A, Ugiziwe J, Styger E and Gahamanyi A, 1996.

**Forage potential of eight woody species: intake and growth rates of local young goats in the highland region of Rwanda.** *Agroforestry Systems* 34 (2): 171-178.

Niang A, Styger E, Gahamanyi A and Ugeziwe J, 1995.

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**SRI Video from Sierra Leone, 2015**, Co-produced video with Flooded Cellar: Mendesora Unites – SRI in Sierra Leone (13:11 min); Gerald Aruna and SRI in Sierra Leone: (3:51 min)

**SRI Video from Nepal, 2014**, Co-produced with Flooded Cellar Video production: [Long version \(12:28 min\)](#), [short version: \(4:53 min\)](#)

**SRI training videos for East Africa, 2013**; 1) SRI introduction: the spread of SRI in East Africa, 2) SRI Training 1: Seed Germination and Nursery Preparation, 3) SRI Training 2: Field Preparation and Transplanting, 4) SRI Training 3: Weeding and Water Management; co-produced with IFAD and Flooded Cellar Video production: (in French, English, Kinyarwanda, and Kirundi) <http://sri.ciifad.cornell.edu/news/features/2013/featured0213.html>

**Feeding West Africa with Climate-Smart Rice Farming**: 6 min video produced for Cornell booth at the UN Climate Change Conference for the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the Conference of Parties (COP23), in Bonn, Germany, 6-17 November 2017

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Styger E, 1989. **Population dynamics of two stemborer species *Sesamia calamistis* Hmps und *Eldana saccharina* Walker in sole and mixed infestations on maize and their influence on maize yield**. Institute of Crop

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## PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS (Selection)

### Oral presentations

**Genomic diversity of Saamaka rice varieties in Suriname**, Oral presentation by J. Landis for the paper: Jacob B. Landis, Rosemary Glos, Margaret Royall, Yuna Seo, Sandra Harrington, Iriel E. Edwards, Chelsea D. Specht, Susan McCouch, and Erika Styger; International Plant and Animal Genome Conference, PAG, San Diego, January 13, 2020.

**Diversity and In-Situ Management of Rice by the Saamaka People of Suriname**; Oral presentation at the Carolina Gold Rice Foundation Fall Meeting, Middleton Place, Charleston, South Carolina, November 9, 2019

**Making Research and Extension work for Rice Farmers in West Africa**; Oral presentation IP-CALS Seminar Series, Cornell University, October 30, 2019

**Arriver à l'Autosuffisance en Riz avec une Riziculture Intelligente face au Climat** ; Oral Presentation at the Senegal Pavilion, UN Climate Change Conference, for the 24<sup>rd</sup> session of the Conference of Parties (COP23), in Katowice, **Poland**, December 12, 2018

**Feeding West Africa with Climate-Smart Rice Farming**; Oral Presentation at the Nigeria Pavilion, UN Climate Change Conference, for the 24<sup>rd</sup> session of the Conference of Parties (COP23), in Katowice, **Poland**, December 12, 2018

**Closing the Rice Production Gap in West Africa by Scaling-up the System of Rice Intensification (SR)**, Oral presentation, International Rice Congress, Singapore, October 17, 2018.

**Changing the way rice is grown in West Africa: from 1 to 50,000 farmers**, Pecha Kucha Presentation at Knowledge Matters Fellowship Event, **Cornell University**, Ithaca, December 4, 2017

**Climate-Smart Rice Production: how to increase yields, adapt to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions**, Press conference at the **UN Climate Change Conference** for the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the Conference of Parties (COP23), in Bonn, **Germany**, November 16, 2017

**Lessons learned with SRI data collection**, Oral presentation at the Second Regional SRI Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, Ibagué, **Colombia**, 12 October 2017.

**Harnessing 3D Printing to Increase the Sustainability and Productivity of Smallholder Agriculture**, by Wenjia Gu, Erika Styger, Derek Warner, Oral presentation at the Second Regional SRI Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, Ibagué, **Colombia**, 10 October 2017.

**Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) and System of Rice Intensification (SRI) Techniques for Sustainable Irrigated Rice Production**; Water in Agriculture Innovation Series. **The World Bank**, Washington DC., June 8, 2017

**Scaling up Climate Smart Rice Production in West Africa**; Presentation at Issues in African Development Seminars, institute of African Development, **Cornell University**, February 11, 2016.

**System of Rice Intensifications: Opportunities for Latin America**; Video presentation to the Minister of Agriculture Luis Felipe Arauz Cavallini, **Costa Rica**, including key staff from INTA and CONARROZ, March 12, 2015.

**Scaling up SRI in Southeast Asia: How do we get there?** Keynote presentation; Southeast Asia Regional Conference on SRI 2015, Alor Setar, **Malaysia**, 25-28 May 2015.

**Improving and Scaling Up SRI in West Africa: Insights from a regional, 13-country project. Regional review and planning workshop for the project:** Sustaining and Enhancing the Momentum for Innovation and Learning around the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the Lower Mekong River Basin (SRI-LMB); Siem Reap, **Cambodia**, June 2-3, 2015.

**System of Rice Intensification (SRI): Opportunities for Liberia;** Presentation to the Agriculture Coordination Committee Meeting at the Ministry of Agriculture, Gardnerville, Monrovia, **Liberia**, February 27, 2014

**System of Rice Intensification Research: A Review (1993-2013).** International Rice Congress (IRC), Bangkok, **Thailand**, October 31, 2014.

**System of Rice Intensification in China: Research Dynamics and Innovative Adaptations.** International Rice Congress (IRC), Bangkok, **Thailand**, October 31, 2014.

**Mechanization for climate-smart rice production and SRI.** Three public presentations during the Rice Special Exhibition **Agritechnica**, Hannover, **Germany**, November 2013.

**SRI: How a crop management approach lets farmers preserve and improve productivity of indigenous rice varieties in Asia and Africa.** Keynote to annual meeting of Carolina Gold Rice Foundation, Charleston, **South Carolina**, April 18, 2013.

Introduction to SRI; Lectures at the **Nanjing Agriculture University** and **Nanjing University of Finance and Economics**, Nanjing, **China**, September 2013,

**Adapting SRI principles to rainfed rice – lessons from Mali and Tanzania.** South-South Knowledge Sharing Video conference; connections with Kenya, Malawi, India, Indonesia, Cornell University and the World Bank in Washington. The World Bank Institute, Washington DC, November 15, 2012.

**SRI in Africa – 4 years of experiences from Mali.** International Symposium on System Intensification towards Food and Environmental Security, organized by Crop and Weed Science Society (CWSS) and West Bengal State Agricultural University (BCKV); Presentation: Kalyani, **India**, February 25, 2011.

**System of Wheat Intensification in Mali, West Africa.** National Colloquium on System of Crop Intensification, organized by Bihar Department of Rural Development, Patna, Bihar, **India**, March 2, 2011.

**SRI – a Global Overview.** Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) Symposium, organized by IICA, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, June 14, 2011.

**The System of Rice Intensification.** Second Annual Northeast USA Rice Conference, organized by Growing Rice in NE USA project, Westminister, Vermont, August 6, 2011.

**SRI: Producing more rice with less inputs – 3 years of experience from Mali;** Plenary presentation. 1<sup>ST</sup> West Africa Networking Forum organized by ECHO, Ouagadougou, **Burkina Faso**; Sept 19-25, 2010;

**SRI – 3 years of experience from Mali and Introducing SRI to Haiti;** SRI-Day in Hanoi, organized by Ministry of Agriculture, Vietnam and Oxfam; Presentation, Hanoi, **Vietnam**, November 8, 2010

**System of Rice Intensification (SRI) versus farmer practice – a comparative evaluation in the Timbuktu region of Mali;** Africa Rice Congress 2010; in Bamako, **Mali**, 22-26 March, 2010.

**Watershed Management Operations: Approaches and Emerging Lessons.** World Bank Water Days, **Washington DC.** March 6, 2006

**The World Bank Experience in Watershed Management.** International Workshop: Watershed Management: Lessons from Experience and Innovations in Design and Practice; **Washington DC.** February 24-25, 2005.

**Participatory and Socially Sustainable Land Use and Management.** Issue Note and Presentation at the Distance Learning Course: Sustainable Land Management in South and East Asia: organized by the World Bank Institute (WBI) and The German Technical Cooperation (GTZ). Connected to Distance Learning Centers in Bangkok (Thailand), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Dili (Timor Leste), and Hanoi (Vietnam), November 16-19, 2004.

### Poster presentations (Selection)

**New Insights Into Saamakan Rice Diversity in Suriname:** Poster presentation by R. Glos, for poster by RAE Glos, JB Landis, M Royall, S Harrington, S McCouch, CD Specht, and E Styger. Botany Conference, Tucson, Arizona. July 29, 2019.

Styger E, 2017. **Vision General: Sistema de Intensificacion del Cultivo del Arroz (SRI):** Poster presentation at the Second Regional SRI Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, in Ibague, Colombia, 10-12 October, 2017.

Styger E, 2017. **A New Conceptual Framework for the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) for Research and Practice.** 2<sup>nd</sup> Agriculture and Climate Change Conference, Sitges, Spain, 26-28 March, 2017.

Jenkins D, Traore G, Styger E and Bagayoko M, 2014. **Improving and Scaling up the System of Rice Intensification in West Africa,** Institut d'Economie Rurale, Bamako, Mali and SRI-Rice, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York (IRC14-0675); 4<sup>th</sup> International Rice Congress, October 27-Nov 1, 2014, Bangkok, Thailand.

Fisher L and Styger E 2014. **Development of small-scale equipment for the System of Rice Intensification (SRI).** SRI-Rice, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York (IRC14-P391); 4<sup>th</sup> International Rice Congress, October 27-Nov 1, 2014, Bangkok, Thailand.

Bagayoko M, Traore G, Styger E and Jenkins D, 2014. **System of Rice Intensification (SRI): an opportunity to improve the productivity and resilience of African Rice production.** General Assembly and Science Week of CORAF/WECARD, Senegal, June, 2014; Institut d'Economie Rurale, Bamako, Mali and SRI-Rice, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

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Styger E, and Fernandes ECM, 2000. **The Dynamics of Fallow Vegetation and Land Productivity in Eastern Madagascar.** At: ASA 2000 Fallow Management in the Tropics Symposium. Organized by the Management of

Organic Inputs in Soils of the Tropics (MOIST) at the Cornell International Institute for Food, Agriculture and Development (CIIFAD), November, 8<sup>th</sup>, 2000 Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

Fisher L, Styger E and Fernandes ECM, 2000. **The Cornell Tropical Fallow Management Initiative**. In: Fallow Management in Tropical Africa, International Seminar in Dakar, April 13-16, 1999, Dakar, Proceedings. IRD, Senegal.

## CO-ORGANIZATION AND CO-FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IN ASIA, AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA

2020

- Regional Remote Consultation Workshop, RICOWAS-Project, Scaling-up climate-resilient rice production in West Africa. Convened representatives from 13 West African countries; with the Sahara and Sahel Observatory, Tunis, Tunisia, April 14, 2020. **Online video-conference**.

2017

- Second Latin American SRI Conference: 10-12 October, **Ibagué, Tolima, Colombia**

2016

- SRI WAAPP Methodology workshop for Impact Study: 14-18 March 2016; **Dakar, Senegal**
- SRI WAAPP Final project results workshop: 30 May – 3 June 2016; **Bamako, Mali**

2015

- SRI WAAPP Reporting and Planning Workshop: with project partners from 13 countries, 16-19 February 2015; **Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire**
- First Southeast Asia Conference on SRI: co-organized with Malaysian Agroecology Society for Sustainable Resource Intensification (SRI-Mas) ([www.sri-mas.org](http://www.sri-mas.org)); > 100 participants from Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Nigeria and USA. 25-28 May 2015; **Alor Setar, Malaysia**
- SRI WAAPP Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop: 30 May-5 June 2015; **Cotonou, Benin**
- SRI WAAPP Annual Review and Planning Meeting: 4-9 Dec 2015; **Dakar, Senegal**

2014

- SRI WAAPP Programming and Methodology Workshop and launch of the *Improving and Scaling up the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in West Africa project*, Songhai Center, 17-19 February 2014, **Porto Novo, Benin**
- SRI WAAPP Training of Trainers and Technical Exchange Workshop: more than 50 participants from 12 West African countries, 4-11 August 2014; **Kpalime, Togo**
- Building Alliances Around SRI and Agro-Ecology Workshop: co-organized with Oxfam; 50 participants from 16 countries, 27-28 October 2014; **Bangkok, Thailand**
- SRI Information Booth at the 4th International Rice Congress (IRC): Bangkok International Trade and Exhibition Center (BITEC), co-organized with SRI Global Inc and Oxfam. SRI-Rice developed overall messaging, handouts, booth design and backdrops, and staffed the booth. 27-30 October 2014; **Bangkok Thailand**
- Small-Scale Rice Production Equipment Workshop: co-organized with Asian Institute of Technology Conference Center (AITCC), 60 participants from 12 countries, 1-3 November 2014; **Bangkok, Thailand**

2013

- Second West Africa Workshop: Preparation of SRI WAAPP project, Validation of project proposal by stakeholders from 13 countries, July 2013; **Saly, Senegal**

2012

- First West Africa Workshop on SRI: Conceptual design and planning of SRI WAAPP project with stakeholders from 13 countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, The Gambia, Guinea Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo; co-organized with the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF/WECARD), the National Center of Specialization for Rice (NCOS-Mali), and Oxfam America, July 2012; **Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso**

2011

- First National SRI Conference in Haiti: 120 participants including rice growers, extension personnel, private sector, government researchers, NGOs and bilateral and multi-lateral donor organizations; Jim Carrey's Better U Foundation, Los Angeles, California, USA and the USAID-funded WINNER project, March 2011; **Montruis, Haiti**
- First International Workshop on the SRI for Latin America and the Caribbean: EARTH University. 27 SRI practitioners from 10 countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Mexico, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, and the USA; Co-organized with Jim Carrey's Better U Foundation, California, USA and EARTH University, November 2011; **Limon, Costa Rica**, Conference website <http://sri.ciifad.cornell.edu/conferences/LatinAmWorkshop11/index.html>

2010

- First National SRI Conference in Mali: 80 participants (farmers, government, NGO, donors) sharing experiences from Gao, Timbuktu, Mopti, Segou and Sikasso region. Co-organized by Africare, IICEM (*Initiative Intégrée de la Croissance Economique au Mali*), Syngenta Foundation and *Institute d'Economie Rurale* (IER), February 2010, **Bamako, Mali**