



Desertification Control Options with Multi-stakeholders workshops in Ansai County, China

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Abstract: Desertification is worldwide land problem resulting mainly from adverse human impact. Soil erosion by water is a typical desertification in the Loess Plateau in China. The close cooperation with multi-stakeholder platforms is an efficient approach in strategy selection because it could increase the knowledge base and development of alternative concepts, methodologies and actions for the protection and restoration of degraded land. The multi-stakeholders workshops developed by WOCAT-DESIRE, different from bottom-up and top-down approaches, were used in the selection process of strategy option in Ansai County, China. The multi-stakeholders workshops not only increased the awareness on local desertification problems and the knowledge exchange of stakeholders of local farmers, officials, experts, NGOs and researchers, but make the solutions of complex problems possible with a multi-criteria (economic, ecological and socio-cultural criteria) evaluation and weighting relevant criteria. The relationships between different stakeholders and criteria and width of ranges of scoring of each option were discussed carefully for the policy making.