

aquatic resources - and improvement in monitoring and evaluation. The development of the necessary indicators and analytical methods for assisting policy-making is also essential.

A number of important research activities should be strengthened or developed, for example:

Scientific research should be encouraged to have more inputs into the natural resource management and policy agenda, particularly with regard to integrating equity and sustainability concerns into agricultural development.

An anticipatory research programme should be established to assess the impacts on different farming systems of changes in climatic and environmental factors (e.g. temperature, water availability, CO₂, etc.) and their relationship with social and economic parameters.

Intensive analyses should be conducted of the economic incentives for controlling land degradation and erosion, especially the impact of agricultural input pricing.

There should be commitment to a world-wide convention on biological diversity, particularly concerned with conservation of biologically diverse regions such as Amazonia and with exploring appropriate financial assistance and compensation mechanisms.