

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to share with you the latest news and blogs from the Sentinel project website. To find out more, visit [www.sentinel-gcrf.org](http://www.sentinel-gcrf.org) or click on the links below.

**Sentinel collaboration with the Science for Nature and People Partnership (SNAPP)**

The [SNAPP Working Group on Food Production and Forest Conservation in sub-Saharan Africa](#) has been collaborating with Sentinel researchers over the last two years. Recent publications include this [briefing](#), which identifies four key challenges in policy and practice needed to bring about better management of trade-offs. For more detail on concepts relating to trade-off management and an overview of methodologies for analysing trade-offs read our working paper [Agriculture, nature conservation, or both?](#)

Interventions to improve trade-off management are necessary, but often insufficient to bring about the desired change unless a set of 'enabling conditions' are present. Read [Creating enabling conditions for managing trade-offs between food production and forest conservation in Africa](#) for lessons from research in Ethiopia and Zambia.

You can find out more about specific experiences in Ethiopia, Ghana and Zambia in three new Sentinel country briefings that will be published early in January.



**Blog**

**[Engage and exchange: researchers and farmers collaborate in Zambia workshop](#)**

Alexandre Chausson

A visit to Nansongwa village in south-west Zambia provided an otherwise rare opportunity for UK researchers to engage with farming communities. As part of a Sentinel partner workshop in Livingstone, the visit allowed researcher Alexandre Chausson to learn about some of the challenges and opportunities of Conservation Agriculture directly from the farmers.



Blog

## [Sentinel partners take stock and plan, with two years to go](#)

Barbara Adolph

With just two years to go Sentinel partners from Ethiopia, Ghana, Zambia and the UK met in Livingstone, Zambia to review progress, share experiences and learning, and plan activities for the remaining two years of the project. This blog post highlights the core focus of the meeting, and reflections from researcher Barbara Adolph.



Blog

## [Socioeconomic impacts of agricultural expansion: what we have learnt so far](#)

Nugun Patrick Jellason & Liz Robinson

This blog post reports on preliminary observations, from a socioeconomic impact perspective, of the reconnaissance surveys conducted in Zambia, Ghana and Ethiopia and discusses the scale of agricultural land expansion in each of the three countries.



Blog

## [Large-scale, freely available data for Ghana, Ethiopia, and Zambia](#)

Abbie Chapman

Large data sources such as [EarthStat](#), [FAOStat](#) and [BirdLife](#) are vital in understanding how agricultural development has been affecting the environment in Ghana, Ethiopia, and Zambia. But which datasets can you get for free? And what are the limitations of each set? Researcher Abbie Chapman outlines the research conducted into large-scale, freely available data, and highlights which sources have been used the most as part of the Sentinel project.



Blog

## [Sentinel's communicators sharpen skills in learning exchange](#)

Valeria Kalinso

IIED's Communications Learning Week in late June hosted by the institute's communications team was timely and highly opportune for the Sentinel project. Over four days, the workshop's participants shared ideas and swapped knowledge on how to develop and sharpen project communications that will be highly beneficial to Sentinel and the success of the project.

**Sentinel** is an interdisciplinary research project seeking to address the challenge of achieving 'zero hunger' in sub-Saharan Africa, while at the same time reducing inequalities and conserving ecosystems.



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