



Wahmon

FINAL WORKSHOP

27–28 JUNE 2025

Instituto Superior de Agronomia (ISA),
University of Lisbon

SCIENCE WITH, NOT FOR: Co-Constructing Knowledge and Innovations with Mangrove Swamp Rice Farmers and Fisherfolks

Registration link / Link de inscrição:
<https://forms.gle/xVCgs8MPF7J7x3fu5>





PART I

Science With, not For: Co-Constructing Knowledge and Innovations with Mangrove Swamp Rice Farmers and Fisherfolks

PART II


Engaging Civil Society and the Diaspora in Dialogue with Researchers

Workshop Objectives

- Present and discuss the main scientific findings of the MALMON project.
- Highlight innovations co-produced by farmers, fishers, and researchers.
- Reflect on lessons from participatory and transdisciplinary research.
- Strengthening links between science, farming communities, civil society, and policy-makers.


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The Malmon project, rooted in long-term ethnographic fieldwork, employed a transdisciplinary, participatory approach to co-create knowledge and innovations in mangrove swamp rice farming. It brought together young and senior farmers, students, and researchers to collaboratively identify challenges, needs and solutions. It provided technological tools and connectivity to farmers, collaborated with state institutions and NGOs, and leveraged informal funding and volunteer support to meet community needs. Rather than transferring knowledge and technologies, it aimed to empower farmers, elevate agricultural status, and strengthen farmers' innovation capacity in a changing environment.

Malmon's final workshop brings together researchers, civil society, and diaspora members around the theme "Science With, not For." The event presents insights from participatory research in Guinea-Bissau's mangrove swamp rice fields, focusing on agroecology, climate adaptation, food security, and local innovation systems. It highlights co-creating knowledge among farmers, fishers, and scientists, and explores the transformative potential of farmer-led research for sustainable, inclusive development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Through debates, student voices, and participatory media presentations, the workshop promotes dialogue, reflection, and stronger connections between science and society.



Marina Padrão Temudo
(PI of the Project)

Friday, 27 June, 2025

Lisbon

09:00 - 17:30 | Scientific Presentations & Debate

09:00 - 10:10 | Opening Session

- Welcome – Prof. António Guerreiro de Brito (ISA Presidente)
- Keynote – Prof. Paul Struik (WUR): *People, Technology and Science: Lessons learned and un-learned from co-production of innovations in Sub-Saharan Africa*
- Introduction – Dr. Marina Temudo (ISA): *Engaged Scholarship: Malmon's challenges in doing transdisciplinary R4D*

PART I

SCIENCE WITH, NOT FOR: CO-CONSTRUCTING
KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATIONS WITH MANGROVE SWAMP
RICE FARMERS AND FISHERFOLKS

10:10 - 12:30 | Cluster 1 – Knowledge, Learning & Local Innovation Systems

10:10 - 10:30 | Merlin Leunda – *Bridging knowledge and people to empower mangrove swamp rice smallholder farmers in strengthening an endogenous AKIS in Guinea-Bissau*

10:30 - 10:50 | Pieter-Jan Keleman – *Net gains or enmeshed losses? descaling mangrove fishing transformations among the Balanta across coastal Guinea-Bissau*

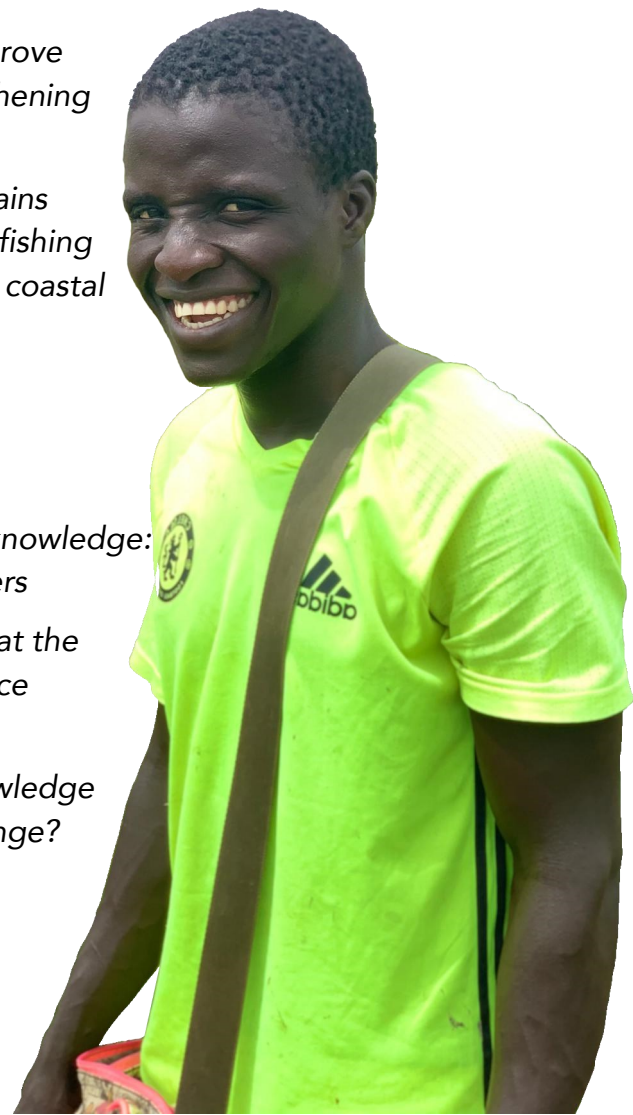
10:50 - 11:05 | COFFEE BREAK

11:05 - 11:25 | Joseph Sandoval – *Muddy knowledge: Learning with mangrove swamp rice farmers*

11:25 - 11:45 | Viriato Cossa – *Trying to beat the water: Understanding mangrove swamp rice production in Guinea-Bissau*

11:45 - 12:30 | DEBATE 1: *Can farmer knowledge and local innovation drive sustainable change?*
Chair Prof. Paul Richards (WUR)

12:30 - 14:00 | LUNCH BREAK



Friday, 27 June, 2025
Lisbon

09:00 - 17:30 | Scientific Presentations & Debate

14:00 - 16:50 | Cluster 2 – Agroecology, Soil Systems & Food Security

14:10 - 14:20 | **Gabriel Garbanzo** – *Soil hydric–saline balance in mangrove swamp rice production in Guinea-Bissau*

14:20 - 14:40 | **Matilda Merkohasanaj** – *Navigating soil fertility and toxicity challenges in Guinea-Bissau’s mangrove swamp rice*

14:40 - 15:00 | **Sofia Conde** – *Who is hiding among the grains of rice? Pests and diseases of mangrove rice in Guinea-Bissau, from storage to the field*

15:00 - 15:20 | **Dr. Boshra Varastegani** – *Nutritional safety and organoleptic characterization of rice in Guinea-Bissau: the impact of varieties, processing, and local preferences for food security*

15:20 - 15:50 | **DEBATE 2: Agroecological transitions and food security in MSR systems.** Chair Prof. Luís Goulão (ISA)

15:50 - 16:05 | **COFFEE BREAK**

16:05 - 16:45 | Cluster 3 – Climate Stressors, Vulnerability & Tools for Adaptation

16:05 - 16:25 | **Orlando Mendes** – *Variability and trends in the rainy season in West Africa, with a special focus on Guinea-Bissau*

16:25 - 16:45 | **Emanuel Céspedes** – *An approach based on Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and optical images for monitoring rice growth in mangrove swamp rice sites in Guinea-Bissau*

16:45 - 17:30 | Scientific Synthesis and Debate

Where do skills reside? A commentary on the Malmon project’s transdisciplinary insights into MSR farming and the surrounding AKIS
(Dr. Dominic Glover, IDS)



Saturday, 28 June, 2025

Lisbon

09:00 - 12:00 | Final Scientific Session

09:00 - 10:30 | Cluster 3 – Climate Stressors, Vulnerability & Adaptation Tools

09:00 - 09:20 | **Magaly Reid** – *Gendered and socio-ecological dynamics of mangrove ecosystem services in Guinea-Bissau's coastal communities*

09:20 - 09:40 | **Dr. Ibrahima Diba & Dr. Jules Basse** – *Future changes in extreme precipitation over Guinea-Bissau under the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSPs)*

09:40 - 10:00 | **Dr. Arame Dieye** – *Flood Early Warning System (EWS) for spring tides and storm surges to improve sustainability in rice production in Guinea-Bissau*

10:00 - 10:45 | **DEBATE 3: Which tools can support anticipation, inclusion and decision-making? Chair Prof. Tiago Ramos (IST)**

10:30 - 10:45 | **COFFEE BREAK**

10:45 - 12:00 | Final Reflections & Highlights

- Special presentation by **Dr. Bela Teeken (CGIAR)**: *What farmer-led research priorities support resilient, inclusive and adaptive development pathways for farming systems in Sub-Saharan Africa?*
- Closing remarks, scientific synthesis, and policy recommendations

12:00 - 14:00 | **LUNCH BREAK**



Saturday, 28 June, 2025

Lisbon

14:00 - 18:00 | Outreach Activities / Atividades de extensão

PART II

**ENGAGING CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE DIASPORA
IN DIALOGUE WITH RESEARCHERS**

*Envolvendo a Sociedade Civil e a Diáspora em
Diálogo com os Investigadores*

14:00 - 18:00 | Dialogue with Civil Society and Diaspora
Diálogo com a Sociedade Civil e a Diáspora

14:00 - 14:30 |

Students' Voices: Learning Through Science & Action

[Vozes dos Alunos: Aprender através da Ciência e da Ação]

*Presentations and testimonies from Guinea-Bissau undergraduate students
researching with the MALMON Project*

*[Apresentações e testemunhos de estudantes de licenciatura da Guiné-Bissau
que investigam com o Projeto MALMON]*

14:30 - 17:00 |

Participatory Films & Communication for Change

[Filmes Participativos e Comunicação para a Mudança]

> *Screening of participatory films*

[Exibição de filmes participativos]

> *Debate on visual tools, farmers' voices, and*

*Dissemination [Debate sobre ferramentas visuais,
vozes dos agricultores e divulgação]*

Chair / Moderadores

Dr. Marie-Yvonne Curtis (U.Conakry),

Prof. Albert Roca (U.Lleida)

17:00 - 18:00 |

Roundtable [Mesa Redonda]

Society, Science & Sovereignty: Dialogue

between researchers, civil society, and diaspora

*[Sociedade, Ciência e Soberania: Diálogo entre
investigadores, sociedade civil, e a diáspora]*

Chair / Moderadores

Prof. Raul Mendes Fernandes (UAC-Bissau),

Sumaila Djaló (Ph.D. Student, U.Coimbra)

18:00 | **Snacks & Drinks**

Petiscos e bebidas

Visit to Tapada da Ajuda

Passeio na Tapada da Ajuda





Women harvesting rice – N'Tchugal, Oio © M.Merkohasanaj, 2022



Woman sowing rice in the *bolanha* – Cafine, Tombali © M.Merkohasanaj, 2022



Students recording notes from an essay – Caiquenem, Tombali © S.Conde, 2022



Women presenting their mangrove fishing – Cafale, Tomabli © P.J.Keleman, 2022



Students taking measurements of rice plants – Caiquenem, Tombali © M.Merkohasanaj, 2022



Students taking measurements of rice plants – Malafu, Oio © M.Merkohasanaj, 2022



Excavation to observe a soil profile (Adriano Barbosa) – Malafu, Oio © M.Merkohasanaj, 2023



Rice field (*bolanha*) – N'Tchugal, Oio © M.Merkohasanaj, 2022



Expert farmers repairing a dike – Elalab, Cacheu © J.Sandoval, 2024



Expert farmers repairing a dike – Quibil, Tombali © J.Sandoval, 2024



Fisherman preparing his net to cast into the river – Elalab, Cacheu © S.Conde, 2020



Old woman building a bowl-silo (*fuúle/vuúle*), layer by layer as it dries – Cafine, Tombali © S.Conde, 2022



Workshop Malmon – Universidade Amilcar Cabral, Bissau, 2022



Workshop Malmon – Universidade Amilcar Cabral, Bissau, 2023



Farmers (Canha N'Ferele and Psóle Na Saué) recording notes from an essay – Malafu, Olo © M.Merkohasanaj, 2022



Meeting with the Farmers – Cafine, Tombali © M.Merkohasanaj, 2021



Mangrove Swamp Rice Fields – Cafine, Tombali, Guinea-Bissau © S.Conde, 2022



Meeting with the Farmers – Malafu, Oio © E.J.Rivera 2023

