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NUTMON

Name : Monitoring nutrient flows and economic performance in tropical farming systems

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Copies of NUTMON - Toolbox can be requested through this site for a fee of € 250 per copy. The toolbox is available for free for universities, national research institutes and NGOs in developing countries.

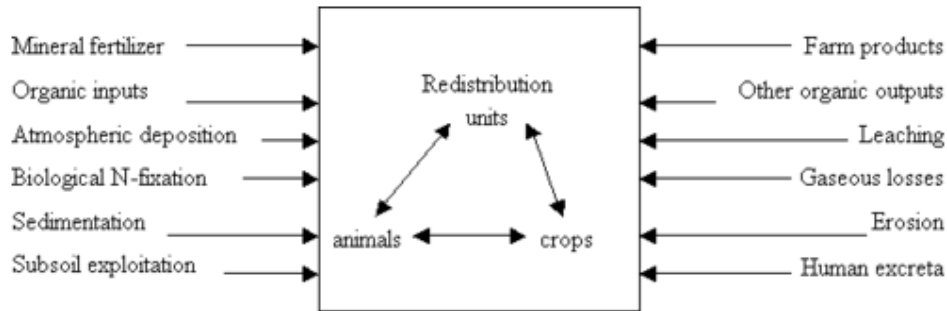
The toolbox was developed model at the Wageningen University and Research Center during the nineties in close collaboration with institutions in Kenya, Uganda and Burkina Faso.

NUTMON is an integrated, **multidisciplinary** methodology, which targets different actors in the process of managing natural resources in general and plant nutrients in particular.

The NUTMON-Toolbox consists of a questionnaire, a manual and several software modules that are specifically designed to facilitate monitoring and analysis of nutrient flows and economic performance at farm level.

The software permits to carry out a quantitative analysis, which generates important indicators such as nutrient flows, **nutrient balances**, cash flows, gross margins and farm income.

NUTMON considers the following nutrient flows:



NUTMON requires a substantial amount of data :

1. **Soil** : C, N, P and K contents, bulk density, slope, mineralisation rate, rootable depth, enrichment factor and erodibility
2. **Weather**: monthly rainfall, rainfall erosivity (USLE R-factor)
3. **Crop** : crop type, area, yield (grain, straw), destination of products, crop calendar
4. **Animals**: type, growth and composition, production, livestock confinement per month
5. **Redistribution units**: size and quality of latrines, compost pits, manure heaps etc.
6. **Management** : internal and external inputs per field, animal and redistribution units

In addition, information is required about nutrient contents of all products, prices, feed requirement, production of human and animal excreta, production of household waste, losses through burning etc., for which NUTMON provides default values.