Don’t call it “Dirt”.
Soil Health & Climate Change in Mainstream Media

The New York Times
A climate change solution beneath our feet
There’s too much carbon in the atmosphere and not enough in the ground where it’s useful. Healthy soil can help flip the picture.

Cover Crops, a Farming Revolution With Deep Roots in the Past
By STEPHANIE STRONG  FEB. 8, 2016

E NERGY & ENVIRONMENT  SPECIAL REPORT: FOOD FOR TOMORROW
A Boon for Soil, and for the Environment
By BETH GARDINER  MAY 17, 2016

The Wall Street Journal
How Agriculture Can Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

GreenBiz
How soil sparked a new sustainable ag movement

the guardian
East African farmers rewarded for letting grass grow under their feet
Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda are taking part in a scheme to revive trees, with manifold benefits for farmers and their environment
Mitigation: Soil Sequestration of C
Adaptation: soil regeneration
(integration of production)
SNNPR, Ethiopia
SNNPR, Ethiopia
Our Agriculture Program, CSA, and Soil Health
- Building Climate Change Resilience
Local Knowledge: co-creation

A farmer in Ethiopia reported through the Agri-Pro program how he improved his production and, eventually, his income. He joined the program in his village, received training on best agronomic practices and cooperatives, and became a member of a cooperative. From the training, he learned how to plant maize, harvest beans, and potatoes, among others. He was able to pay back his loan and pay his children’s school fees. He increased his production, and he became an example for other farmers. The program helped him to build a better future for his family.
Local Leadership: training of trainers
Soil Erosion Control: strip farming, contour farming, etc.
Crop Diversification: millet, sorghum, and beans
Agroforestry: Grevillea Robusta
Agroforestry: Grevillea Robusta
Intercropping: Maize/Beans

Figure 1: Nuru Ethiopia’s Maize and Haricot Bean intercropping methods
Intercropping: Maize/Beans
What’s Next for Nuru Farmers?

• Silvopasture & Row Crops
  – Animal Husbandry & Manure Management
    • Kenya: Dairy
    • Ethiopia: Goat & Sheep
  – Improved Fodder Production
    • Kenya: Napier grass & Grevillea
    • Ethiopia: Napier/Rhodes & Pigeon Pea

• In short, greater integration of animal, tree, and row crop production systems
International Ag & Rural Development Takeaways

1. Climate-smart agriculture begins under our feet with the soil

2. More Local knowledge & local leadership

3. Increased integration of the systems of production and impact measurement

4. And...Don’t Call It Dirt ;)