



“The TEEB Initiative for Mexico”

Presentation at the SEEA Workshop
13 June 2017





The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)

- **Ecosystem services:** the direct or indirect contribution of ecosystems to human welfare.
- **The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) is a global initiative** focused on drawing attention to the economic benefits of biodiversity including the growing cost of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.
- **Approach that can help decision-makers recognize, demonstrate and capture the values of ecosystem services and biodiversity and the need of their conservation** in order to ensure their provision (water, tourism, fisheries, pollination, etc.)
- **Ex-ante policy analysis** addressing multidisciplinary and intersectoral challenges such as poverty and quality of life.



Background of the TEEB

- The TEEB study was launched by Germany and the European Commission in response to a proposal by the G8+5 Environment Ministers in Potsdam in 2007, to **develop a global study on the economics of biodiversity loss.**
- **The study and its reports have gained much recognition by environmental experts and beyond such as in the economics community** due to its objective focus of analysing the economic benefits and externalities associated with biodiversity.
- **Over the years, TEEB's popularity has developed into a TEEB "brand" and new TEEB studies have been published** either focussing on specific countries such as TEEB Netherlands, TEEB Germany and even TEEB Georgia, or focussing on sectors such as TEEB Oceans & Coasts, TEEB for Water and Wetlands or TEEB for Agriculture & Food.



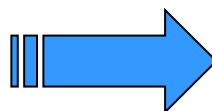
TEEB Reports



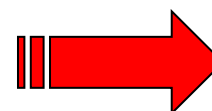
TEEB Ecological and Economic Foundations



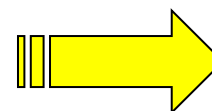
Natural Capital Accounting and Water Quality: Commitments, Benefits, Needs and Progress



Guidance Manual for Country Studies



TEEB in Local and Regional Policy and Management



TEEB in Business and Enterprise

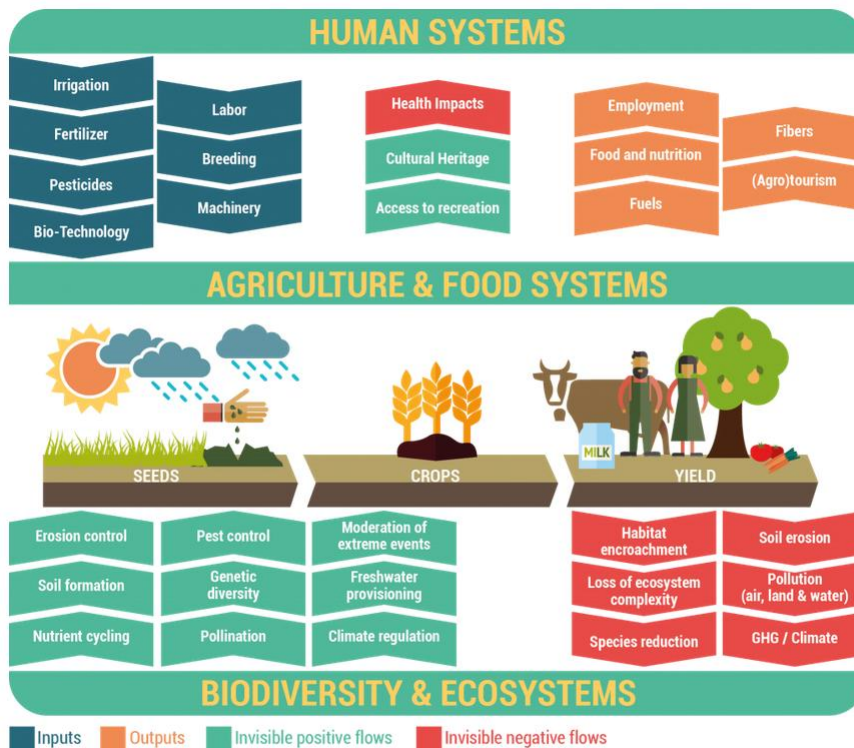


TEEB Manual for Cities: Ecosystem Services in Urban Management



TEEB Reports

New TEEB Report: TEEB Agriculture and Food



**TEEB Manual for Cities:
Ecosystem Services in Urban
Management**



The TEEB for Mexico Initiative

launched in November 2014

- Creation of an **interinstitutional working group** (SEMARNAT, SAGARPA, INECC, INEGI, CONAGUA, CONAFOR, CONABIO, CONANP, Int'l organisations, etc.)
- **Collaboration** with various TEEB initiatives in Mexico and abroad
- **Identify and quantify trade-offs** between policies
- **Strengthen policy coherence** and inter-institutionalism
- **Collaboration with Green Economy Study and SEEA-EEA Initiative and different stakeholders**
- **Make nature's value visible** to policy makers and the private sector

New Project to support COP13 outcomes : “Mainstreaming of Biodiversity into Agriculture in Mexico”

- **Implementing agencies:** GIZ, UN Environment, FAO
- **Funding:** The International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) supports the project with € 5,000,000.
- **Partners:** Implementation with leadership of SAGARPA (Mexican Agricultural Ministry) in partnership with SEMARNAT (Environmental Ministry), CONABIO, Private Sector, Think Tanks, Academia
- **Time frame:** Dec 2016 – Nov 2020 (coincides with end of Strategic Plan for Biodiversity)
- **Objectives:**
 1. Mainstream socio-economic, ecological and cultural value of biodiversity and ecosystem services into decision-making and planning instruments of key actors public and private actors.
 2. Provide economic arguments for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services through sustainability-oriented policy-making and help strengthen the negotiating capacity of environmental actors for intersectoral negotiation processes.

The importance of integrating biodiversity into agriculture

- Agriculture and human well-being depend directly on the provision of environmental services and biodiversity.
- The agricultural sector provides employment to 1 in 3 of economically active people in the world (around 1.3 billion people).
- 52% of the land under agricultural use is in conditions of moderate or severe degradation.
- Agriculture is responsible for 70% of the expected loss of biodiversity.
- Agriculture makes positive contributions to nature - if managed in a sustainable way (e.g. insect promotion in heterogeneous landscapes and crop resilience to the impacts of climate change).



Biodiversity and Agriculture in Mexico

- Cost for depletion and degradation of natural resources are estimated to be almost 6% of GDP (INEGI 2015).
 - ✂ The last 20 years, Mexico lost 35% of its forests and jungles (INEGI, 2014).
50% of this loss stems from the agricultural sector (INEGI, 2011).
- In 2013, 126 of the 653 aquifers (20%) presented conditions of overexploitation (INEGI).
 - 🌱 The agricultural sector is the largest water user in the country with almost 80% (compared to 70% the average global at 70% - FAO-).
 - ✂
- 2,606 species in Mexico are in danger of extinction (SEMARNAT, 2013).
- 45% of Mexico's land is severely or very severely degraded, majority due to agriculture. (INECC, FAO-TERRESTAT 2003).
- 6.5 million people (13.1% of the economically active population) work in the primary sector (INEGI, 2015; World Bank).
 - 🌱 The contribution of the agricultural sector to Mexico's GDP has declined substantially during the last two decades, representing 3.4% of GDP in 2015, showing one of the lowest productivity rates in Latin America (INEGI).

- Contributing to integrating biodiversity consideration into agriculture
- Supporting biodiversity in Mexico
- Strengthening international agreements



Aichi Biodiversity Targets



Target 2

By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.



Target 3

By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.



Target 7

By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.



Components of the Project “Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Agriculture in Mexico”

1. **Provide recommendations for action and knowledge management on integrating biodiversity into agriculture**
 - TEEB AgriFood for Mexico Study: Provide specific recommendations for integrating ecosystem services and values of biodiversity into planning and policy instruments in Agri.
2. **Promote policy dialogues**
 - Develop guidance on cross-sectoral integration of biodiversity
3. **Build capacities**
 - To enable that relevant planning and policy instruments take into account ecosystem services
4. **Provide incentive mechanisms for the protection of ecosystem services**
 - Integrate ecosystem services in selected agricultural value chains via pilot projects
5. **Foster communication of project outcomes and of the importance of ecosystem services**
 - Implement communication tools for project results and to communicate the importance of ecosystem services



1st milestone: Integrating biodiversity into agriculture through TEEB AgriFood Study

- Project and TEEB to provide specific recommendations for integrating ecosystem services and values of biodiversity into planning and policy instruments of the agriculture and close sectors.
- Project will undertake in-depth analysis of ecosystem services and values of biodiversity in the primary sector in Mexico, as well as of relationships and factors that lead to the loss of biodiversity in agriculture.
- TEEB study for Agriculture and Food in Mexico will develop recommendations for integrating biodiversity into strategies, policies and programs, specifically targeting private sector and subsidies.





Thank you

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Representative Mexico,

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