

TEEBAgriFood Colombia: COVID19 in Agriculture, Food and the Natural Environment: Contain, Cope, Restart and Build Back Better

TEEBAgriFood Colombia is developing a green COVID response workstream. In advance of first interim analysis, we provide some further background information on green recovery and general information on project implementation regarding the current Corona crisis.

Part 1: Green Recovery

<p>1. Which sectors are best suited for targeted green recovery measures in Colombia?</p>	<p>In Colombia the most suitable sectors for green recovery are the forest and the agricultural sectors particularly in the Amazon region, considering the great potential of the region due to its high biodiversity but also due the impacts caused by deforestation and unsustainable agricultural practices. The region has also been particularly impacted by Covid-19. Something of critical importance for the green recovery of these sectors in the Amazon is that there are already policies in place to support their sustainable development. The policy on green growth which one of its pillars is the generation of new economic opportunities based in the natural capital. Moreover, the National Development Plan 2018-2022, includes the development of bioeconomy with an emphasis in the Amazon.</p>
<p>2. How is TEEBAgriFood Colombia related to green recovery?</p>	<p>The project analyses agri-food related sectors and value chains. This provides a strong baseline to analyse short and mid-term impacts of the Covid19 crisis, looking not only at economic but also social, political and ecological variables.</p>
<p>3. How is TEEBAgriFood Colombia being adapted to support green recovery?</p>	<p>We are looking into adding a post-Covid recovery element to our project, but due to budget limitations we can not take up the scale required.</p> <p>Current adaption of project scope would focus on analyzing the impacts of covid emergency on the environment in Colombia and will propose areas of action for immediate response and for recovery in the short and mid terms. The identification of the potential of green productive activities to be included in the social and economic recovery plans of the Government, is amongst the expected results of the project. A regional perspective is also considered in the analysis, in terms of identifying the regions and also the productive chains that should be prioritized and included in the recovery plans.</p> <p>This scope adaption/addition supports the development of bioeconomy with an emphasis in the Colombian Amazon, aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) that includes the development of bioeconomy in municipalities with high opportunities for the use of</p>

	<p>biodiversity in this region. This could include modeling potential future COVID response scenarios and their social, economic and environmental implications linked to bioeconomic development pathways and scenarios for the Amazon region. As such, bioeconomy and its development into concrete activities and productive chains can be considered part of the green recovery of the Amazon region and the country.</p> <p>Discussions with national implementing partners for this COVID response component are ongoing.</p>
<p>4. Is TEEBAgriFood Colombia particularly relevant to <u>employment</u>?</p>	<p>The identification of the potential for the creation of green businesses and green jobs and the generation or strengthening of sustainable productive chains are also areas the project is developing as part of the support provided by the UN System to the Government. Restoration of degraded areas and waste management are examples of areas that will create new jobs that in general will require similar skills workers already have or would need little building of capacities. The project is also including the analysis of the enabling conditions for the activation of green business and activities.</p>

Part 2: General Project implementation

Currently, workshops and outreach activities in the Putumayo region have been postponed. The project team is currently not able to visit the pilot regions. This would have a critical impact on project delivery, and therefore recommended to delay project deliverables.

TEEBAgriFood Colombia is developing a green COVID response workstream, which may have positive impact on policy uptake of project deliverables.