



This project is funded  
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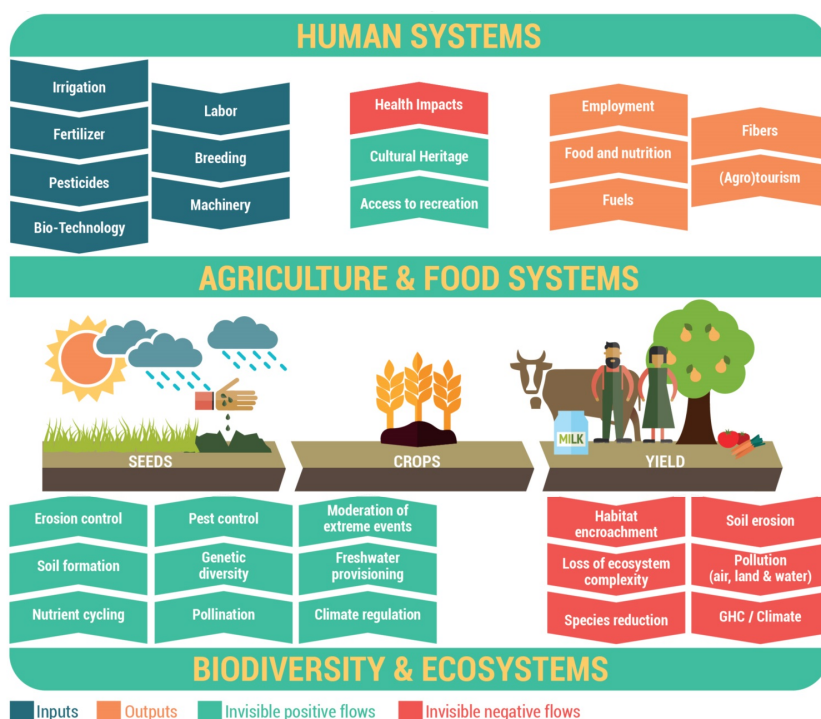


## Introduction Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Agriculture and Food (TEEBAgriFood) Initiative

TEEB refers to the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity and the TEEBAgriFood programme was developed in response to the need for a transformative change in food systems in order to meet the Sustainable Development Goals agreed at global level.

TEEBAgriFood is an initiative of the UN Environment Programme that seeks to achieve positive human livelihood outcomes and biodiversity improvements through the application of an [Evaluation Framework](#). Applying this framework helps to illuminate the sizeable but often hidden contributions of biodiversity and ecosystem services to our social and economic well-being. In this way, it is possible to place the economics of agriculture in a systems context, and bring into focus all the ways in which the agrifood system is dependent on and impacts upon nature (see figure below). This analysis can be mainstreamed into public and private decision-making processes, and enable key actors to recognise the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services as a cornerstone of agriculture and food systems.

Malaysia joins six other countries (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, and Thailand) in piloting the 'TEEB for Agriculture & Food' (TEEBAgriFood) approach to 'Measuring what Matters' in agriculture and food systems. This programme is funded by the Partnership Instrument of the European Union.



More concretely, Malaysia would apply the TEEBAgriFood approach to:

1. move beyond standard agriculture indicators (e.g. yield per hectare) to include more holistic, long term elements of agricultural economics and development;
2. identify intervention options that improve livelihoods and biodiversity outcomes;
3. identify, develop and catalyse the application of a mix of policies and tools (incentive programmes, certification and performance standards, etc.) that capture the multiple values of ecosystem services across the entire agri-food value chain; and
4. establish the enabling conditions for agri-business to build a sustainable economy and place biodiversity as a cornerstone of agriculture and food systems.

**What are the main steps to be taken within the TEEB project?**

1. The inception workshop will bring stakeholders together to identify agricultural land use decisions that would benefit from valuation of ecosystem services and biodiversity.
2. A TEEBAgriFood Evaluation study will be conducted, preferably, by an institute based in Malaysia, with technical and capacity-building support from the TEEB office.
3. The national research institution/team would model impacts of land use, assess subsequent changes in ecosystem services provisioning, and value them so they can be part of the economic calculus of policy makers.
4. A core part of the analysis would be to assess distributional impacts of land use decisions, the income-poor in particular, and provide policy recommendations. The recommendations will consider the whole value chain, and interactions across the value chain.
5. The Capitals Coalition will conduct parallel activities bringing together private sector champions, in particular agri-businesses that are receptive to the TEEB Evaluation Approach.
6. Road map for policy adjustments that lead to a shift to sustainable food production systems and improved livelihoods outcomes
7. Mainstreaming of project results and information campaigns at national and community level

Link to further information

TEEB Initiatives: <http://teebweb.org/>

TEEBAgriFood programmes: <http://teebweb.org/our-work/agrifood/understanding-teebagrifood/about/>

Link to TEEB Agrifood Synthesis document (UNEP, 2018) [Measuring what Matters in Agriculture and Food Systems: Synthesis for Policy Makers \(pdf\)](#)