Day 1

Session 1

TEEBAgriFood Colombia

Informing land-use planning through the adoption of a landscape approach versus a commodity-focused approach

---

- Policy focal point: Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible (MADS), Chair of the Steering Committee; el Comité Directivo intersectorial
- TEEBAgriFood Implementation partner: Instituto Humboldt
- Donor: International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action
- Introductory video TEEBAgriFood Colombia: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GOiLn9fplc&t=2s

---

UNEP is supporting Colombia to institutionalize the measurement and valuation of ecosystem services and biodiversity in agricultural landscapes under a TEEBAgriFood project. In collaboration with the Humboldt Institute (the scientific arm of the National Environmental System), cross-sectoral actors have been brought together to prioritize and evaluate different future policy pathways that promote a shift towards nature-positive land management, both at the national level as well as at subnational level in the Putumayo department – a biodiversity hotspot with relevance in terms of indigenous land.

What approach has been taken?

- Agriculture and food system decision making is often based on farm level data, delivering an incomplete and biased picture of impacts.
- Therefore, a model has been developed to incorporate landscape dynamics such as the socio-economic and environmental knowledge and data from different sectors. This allowed the integration of the high heterogeneity of the landscape in policy recommendations.
- To provide the evidence for policy change, the Humboldt Institute created a typology of 9 landscape types and 3 broad attributes: (i) their vulnerability, (ii) implementation of existing tools for territorial planning, and (iii) the effectiveness to date of economic instruments in changing land use to be consistent with socio-ecological constraints.
- A systems dynamics model has been co-developed with stakeholders to inform:
  - Changes in the provisioning and valuation of ecosystem services: food, water supply, carbon regulation service, erosion control, water regulation, pollination, habitat services, cultural services (nature tourism).
  - Human well-being: valued in food security and access to water.
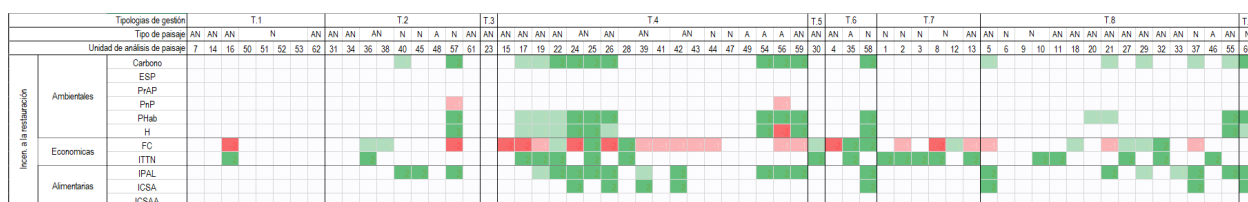
What policies are being assessed?

- Good agricultural practices.
- Better technology at stages of the agricultural value chain.

- Better construction and road infrastructure.
- Incentives for product transformation.
- Incentives for restoration.
- Conservation incentives.
- Strengthening of the indigenous chagra.
- Grouped effect of policy scenarios.

Initial results

- There is a strong case being developed for some of these policy options, but equally some trade-offs are being flagged. See for instance a summary for the restoration option below (source*: Humboldt modelling outputs – not published as yet)*

Questions to be discussed

1. What are the benefits of the adoption of a landscape approach versus a commodity-focused approach?
2. How to find a good balance in terms of highly detailed and parameterized scenarios (in terms of landscape interactions among drivers, sectors, policies and land-cover impacts) and transparency for policy-makers on the specific drivers causing the changes in natural, social and human capital?