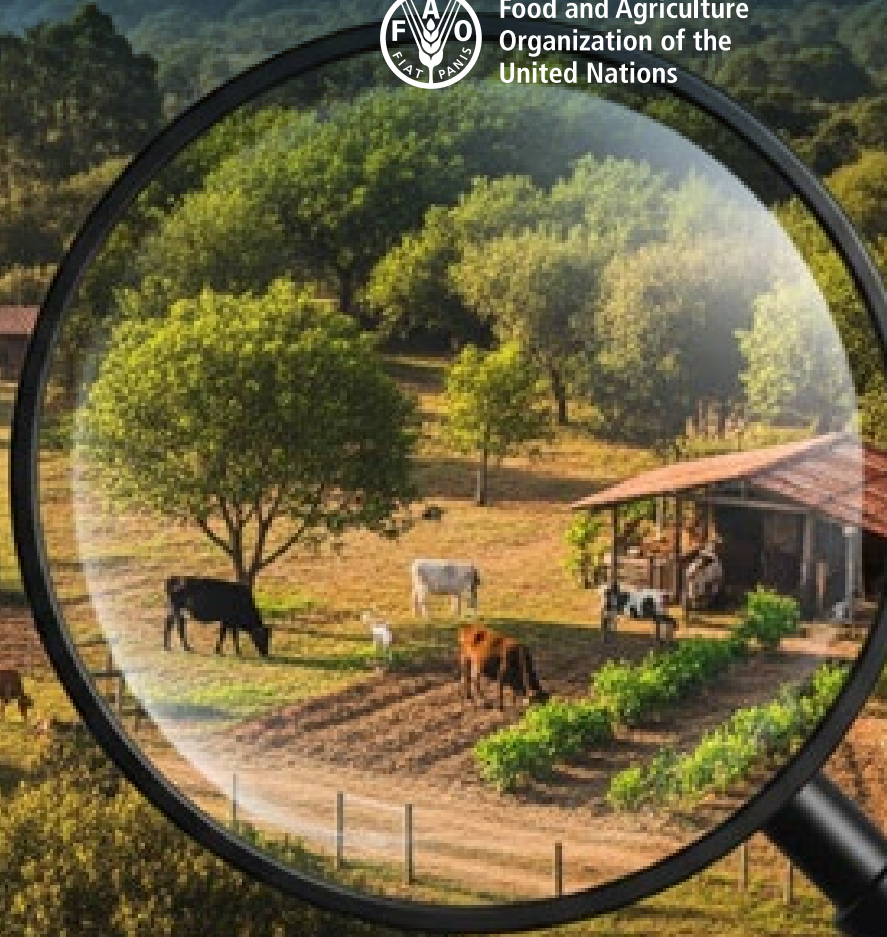




Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



TAPE+

Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation Underpinning Agroecological Practices and Policy with Cutting-Edge Metrics



OBJECTIVES

The project aims to enhance the potential of agroecology as a comprehensive solution to diverse food systems challenges. The project focuses on substantiating the benefits of agroecology through metrics and data analysis, supporting field-level agroecological transitions, and advocating for evidence-based policymaking. This is being achieved through the further development and deployment of the Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE).

TAPE+ will equip project implementers and policymakers with an advanced project, policy, and Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) instrument. This tool will supply critical data on the multidimensional impacts of agroecology from local to global levels, thus facilitating the adoption of agroecological approaches. By improving the abilities of stakeholders, farmers, and project implementers to understand and accurately implement agroecological practices, the project will facilitate targeted interventions and changes in behaviour.

The project will contribute to improving the livelihood of farmers by supporting policies and project interventions that address the interconnected social, economic, and environmental dimensions of agriculture, thereby enhancing overall community well-being and ecosystem health.



LOGIC OF INTERVENTION

Problem Identification: Current food systems are unsustainable due to practices that degrade natural resources, reduce biodiversity, and exacerbate climate change. There is a need for a holistic approach like agroecology to address these issues.

Intervention Logic: The TAPE+ project aims at contributing to solving these problems by providing advanced tools and data to support agroecological transitions. The intervention logic is as follows:

Activities: Develop and deploy TAPE+ with digital features, conduct national and project-level assessments, and provide training and capacity-building resources.

Outputs: These activities will produce a refined TAPE framework, a user-friendly digital platform, comprehensive assessments, enhanced stakeholder capacity and a strengthened global community of practice.

Outcome: The outputs will result in improved abilities of farmers, policymakers and project implementers to understand and accurately implement agroecological practices and policies.

Impact: The ultimate impact will be enhanced sustainable agrifood systems and farmers livelihood, contributing to relevant Sustainable Development Goal targets and FAO Programme Priority Areas (PPAs).



STATE OF PLAY OF THE PROJECT

TAPE framework and methodology 2025 is being refined:

Updated questionnaires, assessment criteria, and indicators tailored to diverse agroecological contexts and objectives are being developed. There is also enhanced integration with external tools and indices for comprehensive analysis.

The TAPE+ digital platform is being enhanced: It is going to be a fully operational, user-friendly digital platform and web app, with questionnaire digitisation and automated insights generation.

Guidelines are being developed: Comprehensive training materials and guidelines are in development in multiple languages to support a wide range of users.

Community of practice: Work is underway on building and strengthening a community of practice of agroecology practitioners who actively contribute to the refinement and relevance of the TAPE+ methodology and tools.

Nationwide assessments, policy workshops, and roadmaps are being developed: TAPE+ National is currently being piloted in three countries in Africa (Burundi, Cabo Verde and Kenya), aligning with national agroecology strategies and programmes.

M&E support and project-level impact assessment: Support is being provided to implement TAPE+ in project log frames, including sampling and categorisation of farms, collaborating with the survey company, and supporting data analysis.



MAIN INTERVENTIONS/COMPONENTS

There are two main components of the project.

Component 1. Enhanced Food Systems Assessment Tools: Development of TAPE+. The goal of Component 1 is to refine the tool by enhancing its framework and data management capabilities, as well as broadening its scope through the inclusion of additional indicators and integration with other tools at the national level. This includes development of a streamlined TAPE+ module for national use, enhanced spatial analysis with Geographic Information Systems (GIS), development of a dynamic TAPE+ Digital Platform, and equipping users with the knowledge and skills for effective use of the tool through TAPE trainings and setting up a Community of Practice.

Component 2. Country implementation: Deployment of TAPE+ and technical support for policy coherence. The goal of Component 2 is to launch pilot national assessments of the TAPE+ tool in three African countries. This includes comprehensive data collection and analysis to establish a baseline for national assessments, and multi-stakeholder evaluation of the findings which will identify key policy actions and tools to facilitate agroecological transition. Support will also be provided to DeSIRA+ projects to integrate TAPE+ in their M&E systems.

BASIC INFORMATION

Contracting entity: FAO.

Implementing partners: FAO, Statistics for Sustainable Development (Stats4SD), the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC), the Centre for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), the Swiss research centre Agroscope, government departments, NGOs, farmer organisations and agroecology platforms.

Countries: TAPE+ is being used in projects globally, and TAPE+ National is being piloted in Burundi, Cabo Verde and Kenya.

Start: 1 November 2024.

Duration: 2 years.

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