

Evidences

Study #3300

Contributing Projects:

- P328 - Methods, metrics and tools for assessing and analyzing diet-food system linkages

Part I: Public communications

Type: OICR: Outcome Impact Case Report

Status: New

Year: 2019

Title: Public and private sector partners increasingly incorporate agrobiodiversity within a food systems perspective in their work

Short outcome/impact statement:

At least 3 private sector (HowGood;FLAG Food Lab Accellerator at Google;WBCSD) and 3 public sector partners (Italy, Peru, India) are incorporating agrobiodiversity and the agrobiodiversity index tool in their work streams and toolbox to support decision-making. The ABD Index is a set of measures to incorporate multiple dimensions of agrobiodiversity into decision-making. Its framework includes three pillars of impact: agrobiodiversity for healthy diets, agrobiodiversity for sustainable production, agrobiodiversity for future options; and three levels of measurement: commitment, actions and status.

Outcome story for communications use:

The Agrobiodiversity Index (ABDI) provides insights into risks and opportunities to increase sustainable use and conservation of agrobiodiversity for sustainable food systems [1, 2]. ABDI has a flexible structure that provides different results to track commitments of countries, companies, and projects. The designs for each user are different but they use the same data. The four action indicators support: risk and resilience assessment, intervention planning, global policy alignment, and ranking and benchmarking.

Different public and private partners have worked on different ABDI applications to support their commitments and actions. These include:

- Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) invested in adapt the ABDI to use in China.
- The Peru Ministry of Agriculture has been collecting varietal data at community level.
- The Indian Council for Agricultural Research has been focusing on downscaling the index to subnational level.
- The World Business Council for Sustainable Development One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B) initiative in incorporating agrobiodiversity components in key performance indicators of the 18 member companies.
- HowGood is integrating into their sustainability tool.
- The Food Lab Accelerator at Google (FLAG) invited the ABDI team provide agrobiodiversity data to traceability and transparency in supply chains.

Further enhancements to ABDI, such as an innovative blockchain-based supply chain tool for agrobiodiversity will be developed in 2020.

Update: The HowGood website features the ABDI index and Bioversity International's logo: <https://howgood.com/about/>; the FLAG agrobiodiversity website and tool will be launched later in 2020; With the Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT have a new official MoU with WBSCD that mentions the ABDI as part of the collaboration.

Links to any communications materials relating to this outcome:

- <https://www.agrobiodiversityindex.org/index.php/resources/>
- <https://www.agrobiodiversityindex.org/>

Part II: CGIAR system level reporting

Link to Common Results Reporting Indicator of Policies : No

Stage of maturity of change reported: Stage 1

Links to the Strategic Results Framework:

Sub-IDOs:

- Enhanced institutional capacity of partner research organizations
- Increased access to diverse nutrient-rich foods
- Enrichment of plant and animal biodiversity for multiple goods and services

Is this OICR linked to some SRF 2022/2030 target?: Too early to say

Description of activity / study: <Not Defined>

Geographic scope:

- Global

Comments: <Not Defined>

Key Contributors:

Contributing CRPs/Platforms:

- A4NH - Agriculture for Nutrition and Health

Contributing Flagships:

- F1: Food Systems for Healthier Diets

Contributing Regional programs: <Not Defined>

Contributing external partners:

- IAO - Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione e lo Sviluppo/Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development
- EC - European Commission

CGIAR innovation(s) or findings that have resulted in this outcome or impact:

Agrobiodiversity Index, tool to measure agrobiodiversity and identify concrete actions to achieve diverse and sustainable food systems

Innovations:

- 354 - Agrobiodiversity Index, tool to measure agrobiodiversity and identify concrete actions to achieve diverse and sustainable food systems (<https://tinyurl.com/2lq9gjor>)

Elaboration of Outcome/Impact Statement:

The Agrobiodiversity Index (ABDI) is an innovative framework that helps to measure the status of agrobiodiversity in diets and markets, agricultural production, and genetic resource management. It can assess to what extent commitments and actions of different food systems actors are contributing to its sustainable use and conservation. The ABDI has 22 indicators, comprising three commitment indicators, four action indicators and 15 status indicators, which are aligned with nine of the Sustainable Development Goals. Designed by Bioversity International, now the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, the tool provides insights on policy and business levers, as well as risks and opportunities, to increase sustainable use and conservation of agrobiodiversity for sustainable food systems [1, 2, 3, 4].

To represent the demand from countries, companies, and projects, the ABDI has three designs which share the same architecture but allow varied input data and different final products. In addition, four specific ABDI applications were designed to support different food system actors in making informed decisions in food and agriculture: Risk and resilience assessment, Intervention planning, Global policy alignment, Ranking and benchmarking.

In 2019, the ABDI team from Alliance of Bioversity-CIAT engaged key public and private partners to increase the integration of agrobiodiversity within food systems work across the globe and to improve the ABDI itself [5]. For example, the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) invested in two fellows to learn and adapt the use of the ABDI to their context. The Peru Ministry of Agriculture has been collecting varietal data at community level, filling in a key data gap of the ABDI. The Indian Council for Agricultural Research has been focusing on downscaling the index to subnational level.

With the private sector, the ABDI team is supporting the World Business Council for Sustainable Development One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B) initiative in incorporating agrobiodiversity components in key performance indicators of the 18 member companies of their coalition. With HowGood, the team is integrating the ABDI into HowGood's sustainability tool. The Food Lab Accelerator at Google (FLAG) invited the ABDI team to join an accelerator focused on agrobiodiversity. The ABDI team is working with them to link this with traceability and transparency in supply chains. This led to a new phase of the accelerator named FACT: Food, Agrobiodiversity, Clarity and Transparency, that will pioneer an innovative blockchain-based supply chain tool for agrobiodiversity.

References cited:

- [1] A new website on the Agrobiodiversity Index has been launched:
<https://www.agrobiodiversityindex.org/>
- [2] with all specific resources: <https://www.agrobiodiversityindex.org/index.php/resources/>
- [3] Negra, Christine, Roseline Remans, Simon Attwood, Sarah Jones, Fred Werneck, and Allison Smith. "Sustainable agri-food investments require multi-sector co-development of decision tools." *Ecological Indicators* 110 (2020): 105851.
- [4] Juventia, Stella D., Sarah K. Jones, Marie-Angélique Laporte, Roseline Remans, Chiara Villani, and Natalia Estrada-Carmona. "Text mining national commitments towards agrobiodiversity conservation and use." *Sustainability* 12, no. 2 (2020): 715.
- [5] EU Business @ Biodiversity Platform. (2019). Assessment of Biodiversity Measurement Approaches for Business and Financial Institutions.
https://ec.europa.eu/environment/biodiversity/business/assets/pdf/European_B@B_platform_report_biodiversity_assessment_2019_FINAL_5Dec2019.pdf

Quantification: <Not Defined>

Gender, Youth, Capacity Development and Climate Change:

Gender relevance: 1 - Significant

Main achievements with specific **Gender** relevance: The topic of agrobiodiversity and its management is a gendered discussion, since women are often the stewards of agrobiodiversity and may suffer disproportionately from agrobiodiversity loss. No specific gender dimensions yet, but Agrobiodiversity is intrinsically a subject that engages women and vulnerable population groups such as indigenous groups, more as compared to conventional agriculture, because it is particularly women and indigenous groups, that manage, use and conserve agrobiodiversity.

Youth relevance: 0 - Not Targeted

CapDev relevance: 1 - Significant

Main achievements with specific **CapDev** relevance: ABDI has built capacity to consider and integrate agrobiodiversity in public and private sector decision-making processes. Key components that have contributed to this capacity building include:

- Building and communicating the scientific foundations of agrobiodiversity for sustainable food systems
- Agrobiodiversity index development with input and engagement from food systems actors
- Developing applications on demand of food system actors and developing case studies together on those
- Integrating agrobiodiversity index framework or components into existing decision-support tools

Core at this capacity building is the process of co-learning with public and private sector partners.

Climate Change relevance: 1 - Significant

Describe main achievements with specific **Climate Change** relevance: Climate is incorporated as one of the risk areas assessed related to low or reducing agrobiodiversity. This supports decision makers to consider and explore agrobiodiversity-based solutions for climate adaptation.

Other cross-cutting dimensions: NA

Other cross-cutting dimensions description: <Not Defined>

Outcome Impact Case Report link: [Study #3300](#)

Contact person:

Roseline Remans

Senior Scientist

The Alliance of Bioversity and CIAT

r.remans@cgiar.org