



## Executive Summary

Over the course of 3.5 days, nearly 100 experts from around the world were convened in Brussels to agree on some of the fundamental first steps towards a 'TEEB for Agriculture & Food' (TEEBAgFood) study. Participants included experts from a wide range of backgrounds, including the traditional TEEB community of environmental economists and ecologists, but also reaching out to new interest groups representing inter alia health, nutrition, food security, agronomy and animal welfare, as well as those involved in outreach and advocacy.

The workshop discussions led to the following outcomes and key messages:

**1. Participants identified the role of TEEBAgFood as a science-based assessment of the 'eco-agri-food complex' and their inputs provided the foundation for carrying out the next technical phases of work.** They also emphasized the importance of building a **community of practice for change** and, as such, viewed this study not as an end in itself, but as a means to influence **change in the discourse on food systems**.

**2. Progress was made on the overarching valuation framework for TEEBAgFood**, which will serve as a tool for guiding next steps in research. The framework, akin to a 'lens' through which the eco-agri-food complex can be valued, should be comprehensive so as to encompass the entire value chain, including processing and consumption. The framework must also be sufficiently flexible, as the boundaries of each study will be defined by context-specific policy issues. Several potential uses of the framework were discussed, including policy evaluation, typology comparison and business analysis, with valuation as a tool to make externalities visible.

**3. An annotated report structure ("wireframe") for the TEEBAgFood Interim Report was designed** through collaborative discussion. The Interim Report will frame key issues with examples from political, business, civil society, and citizens' perspectives. The report will ask strategic questions to spark interest in answers and key messages, which will then be provided in the final reports.

**4. The following issues and research areas were identified as crucial gaps in research, and targeted for inclusion in the next phase of work:**

- **Including the entire value chain:** TEEBAgFood analysis should include not only the production component of agricultural systems (i.e. within farm gates), but distribution and consumption components as well.
- **Making positive externalities visible:** There is a need to avoid focusing on negative externalities so as to paint a more complete picture of the eco-agri-food complex and help foster buy-in from a broader range of stakeholders, particularly the agricultural community.
- **Health and nutrition:** TEEBAgFood work should more directly address the inter-linkages between food systems, health and nutrition.





# TEEB for Agriculture & Food

Expert Workshop, BRU 8-11.Sep.15

- Demonstrate how **smallholder farmers** can be a major part of the solution for the eco-agri-food complex if given the right incentives, i.e. if the economic system stops rewarding the production of negative externalities. However the TEEBAgFood study needs to look at catalysing change across the **full range of farming systems**, from large scale to small scale, from intensive to extensive, and from subsistence to commercial. One reason for doing so is the inter-linkages between farming systems.
- **Telling compelling stories:** The expansion of TEEBAgFood research will focus on identifying and conceptualizing compelling stories that resonate with audiences. A range of positive and negative stories that highlight *real* values, prices and costs of food would guide decision makers across society to make the right choices.
- Given a more finalized framework, suggestions for future work in TEEBAgFood were provided at three levels: i) **extension of existing feeder studies** (e.g. refining policy scope; including additional positive and negative externalities; wider value chain analysis; the addition of more farming systems across different geographies, ecological and socio-economic contexts; business analysis), ii) **additional sectors** (e.g. soy bean) and iii) **cross-sectoral research** (e.g. landscape restoration; health and nutrition; agro-ecology; mixed systems; climate change adaptation and mitigation). This can both include compiling secondary research as well as cutting-edge primary research.

**5. Dissemination and outreach for TEEBAgFood will require smart and targeted messaging.** In particular, it is important to develop a creative storyline that changes the discourse and makes solutions towards sustainability more accessible, with the Sustainable Development Goals as a possible policy 'hook'. The *Global Landscape Forum* was announced as the launch and discussion platform for the Interim Report, taking place at COP21 in Paris in December 2015. This is one of many proposed dissemination opportunities.

