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**Title: Supporting transitions to sustainable agrifood systems with the Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE)**

**Abstract:**

**The Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE)**

In 2019, FAO and partners launched the Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE), a multicriteria digital tool to produce global and harmonized evidence on the multidimensional performance of agroecology and support the agroecology transition.

TAPE can be used to assess all types of production systems and agricultural sub-sectors and is adaptable to local contexts and languages. TAPE provides 1) a characterization of the level of agroecological transition of local farms and 2) an assessment of their performance across the economic, environmental, and social dimensions of sustainability.

The 10 Elements of Agroecology are used to characterize production systems by assessing their level of transition to agroecology (STEP 1). The core criteria of performance (STEP 2) linked with the SDGs quantify the impact of agroecology by informing various dimensions of sustainability, namely: land tenure, productivity, income, added value, exposure to pesticides, dietary diversity, women's empowerment, youth employment, biodiversity, and soil health.

TAPE is currently being used for data collection in the field at project level in 58 countries and more than 12 000 households including 6 000 in Sub-Saharan Africa. The first consolidated results from a dataset in Sub-Saharan Africa with more than 1,455 farm household observations across 8 countries collected from 2021 to 2022 shows first promising tendencies: Farms with higher average scores over the 10 elements of agroecology show higher results on economy (Value added by capita and net revenue per capita), resilience, youth employment, dietary diversity, agrobiodiversity, management of pesticide and soil health.

TAPE has been officially validated by partners in May 2023 and is ready to be developed in a more strategic way to support partners, FAO member countries and provide robust evidence on the potential of agroecology to contribute to sustainable food systems.

A new phase of the development of TAPE (TAPE +) is supported by the European Commission in the context of Desira + program to improve the frameworks and metrics, make the tool more accessible and provide more autonomy to users, including on data management (TAPE + to be available early 2025). The Desira + programme will also support a new methodology to assess the level of agroecological transition at national level with a pilot test in 4 countries.

**Bibliographic references**

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