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**Title:**

Animals in Territories for Agroecology: Contribution of differentiation approaches to sustainable and resilient food systems: Case study of the application of the Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation to the Maasai Pastoralist Heritage System in Kenya

**Abstract:**

The Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE) is a participatory tool developed by FAO to assess the multidimensional performance of agroecology for a transition towards sustainable agrifood systems. TAPE evaluates the multidimensional performance of agroecological systems across different dimensions of sustainability including environment, food security, economic, social and governance aspects. It uses a stepwise approach to collect data at household/farm level and provides information at community scale. The steps include: i) Step 0 - description of the system and context, ii) Step 1 - characterization of agroecological transition (CAET), iii) Step 2 - core performance criteria, and iv) Step 3 - joint analysis of Step 1 and 2 and participatory interpretation.

In 2023, the standard version of TAPE was adapted for application to pastoralist systems. The adapted TAPE pastoralist version was piloted in Kenya in November and December 2023 as part of the Animals in Territories for Agroecology project. The Maasai Integrated Development Initiative (MIDI) and FAO collaborated to implement TAPE at the Maasai pastoralist heritage system site, a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS), comparing Maasai households within the site to those outside it. The Step 1 results showed that the level of agroecological transition of the pastoralist heritage system is low and a large number of the households cannot be considered agroecological. The average CAET score is 36 percent with 4 out of the 10 elements being more than 40 percent but none of the elements are more than 50 percent. The households inside GIAHS generally have lower scores across most CAET elements compared to those outside GIAHS. Households within GIAHS show higher scores in the human and social values, recycling, and synergies elements of agroecology. The multi-dimension aspects of agroecology, Step 2, show variability in the different aspects and agroecological transition of the households. The TAPE evaluation highlights the importance of tailored interventions to enhance agroecological practices focusing on governance, and resilience, particularly within the heritage system, to support sustainable development and their transition to agroecology.

## Bibliographic references

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