

Advancing the dialogue on the integration of agriculture and biodiversity

International symposium Agriculture, Biodiversity and Food Security: From Commitments to Actions

Co-organized by Université Laval,
the Ministry of International Relations
and La Francophonie of Quebec,
the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
in Quebec City, Canada, from 30 April to 2 May 2024.







Objectives of the symposium

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The agriculture and food sectors have a fundamental role to play in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM GBF), adopted at the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and intended to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. The symposium sought to highlight agriculture as a source of solutions to biodiversity-related challenges, and to promote and facilitate the collective commitment of all actors in the agricultural sectors. The intention was, in particular, to:

- ▶ share experiences in the protection and sustainable management of biodiversity in agriculture;
- ▶ identify constraints and opportunities related to the further integration of biodiversity into agrifood systems, while also considering the challenges of climate change and land degradation;
- ▶ engage in dialogue with stakeholders involved the integration of biodiversity and agriculture; and
- ▶ contribute to the implementation of the KM GBF and its 23 targets.

Results and key figures

Participation

- ▶ 67 speakers addressed the symposium, including farmers, members of agricultural producers' associations and organizations of young professionals for agricultural development, representatives of Indigenous Peoples and governments, technicians, scientists, elected officials and many others;
- ▶ more than 250 people from 39 countries participated;
- ▶ more than 30 percent of the participants were from the agriculture sector.



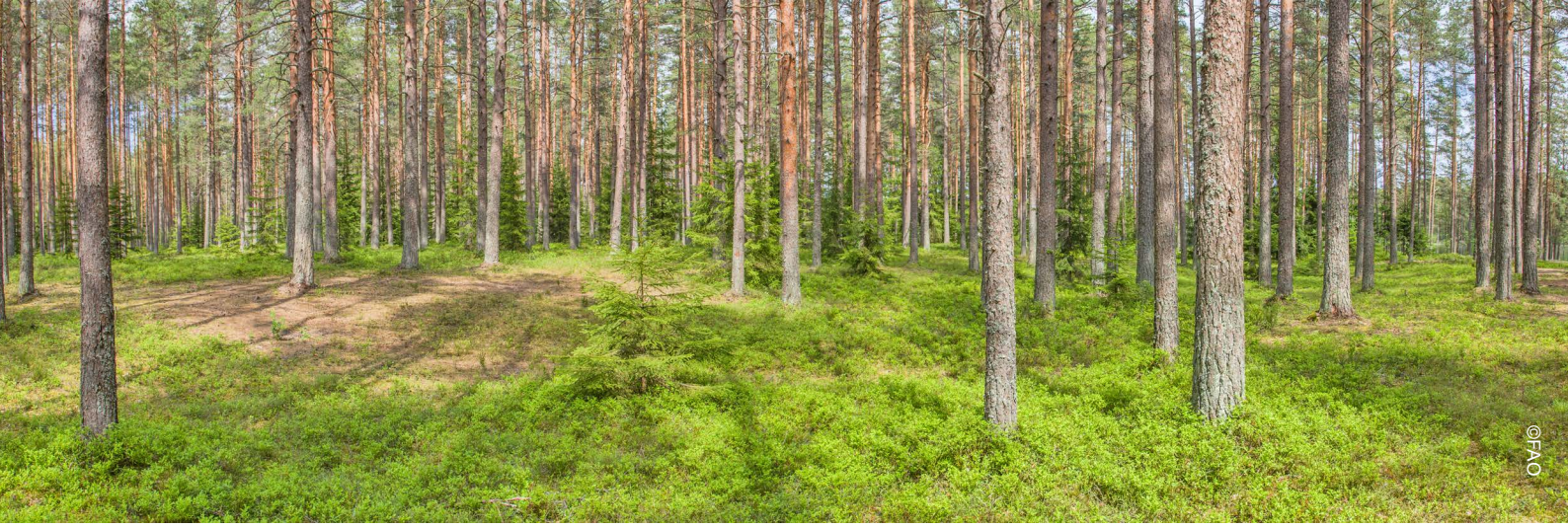
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The symposium

- ▶ highlighted the central role played by agriculture and farmers in the implementation of the KM GBF;
- ▶ drew attention to issues, challenges and solutions related to the implementation of the KM GBF in the agricultural sectors;
- ▶ affirmed the willingness of actors in the agricultural sectors to be more systematically involved in the implementation of the KM GBF's agriculture-related targets;
- ▶ promoted the sharing of experiences on the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into agricultural practices;
- ▶ promoted the transformation of agrifood systems to make them more sustainable and resilient, and increase their contributions to climate change adaptation efforts;
- ▶ identified the challenges faced by farmers, and noted the need to recognize their roles and enable them to make a living from agriculture; and
- ▶ facilitated networking among actors involved in the interactions between agriculture and biodiversity.

Key products of the symposium included

- ▶ a technical roadmap for the implementation of the KM GBF by the agricultural sectors; and
- ▶ a web interface for sharing knowledge and experiences.



Technical roadmap

One of the products of the symposium is a technical roadmap intended to facilitate the implementation of the KM GBF, and more specifically the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in agricultural ecosystems.

The technical roadmap sets out clear and concise priority actions related to:

- ▶ efforts to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity, and integrate it into agricultural sectors;
- ▶ constraints, opportunities and challenges; and
- ▶ national policies and instruments addressing the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture.

The 51 priority actions draw on the contributions made by participants during the symposium and on information obtained during a public stakeholder consultation held before the symposium (see box – Contributions).

The technical roadmap is aimed at farmers, cooperatives, the private sector, local communities, women and youth. It recognizes that farmers, in particular, play a crucial part in biodiversity conservation and food security, and that their concerns and interests must be at the heart of agricultural policies if they are to promote sustainable livelihoods while preserving biodiversity.

Contributions

The technical roadmap was developed on the basis of the many experiences shared before and during the symposium. The 128 contributions collected during the [Call for Experiences, Good Practices and Scalable Solutions for Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Agriculture](#) on FAO's Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition ([FSN Forum](#)) covered 67 countries and all the regions of the world. The symposium was addressed by 67 speakers, who discussed and shared their experiences during round tables and working sessions on the key agriculture-related targets of the KM GBF.





Web interface for sharing knowledge and experience

Another product of the symposium, the web interface *Agriculture, Biodiversity and Food Security: From Commitments to Actions*, is dedicated to the technical roadmap and to solutions, experiences and concrete examples illustrating priority actions for the implementation of the agriculture-related KM GBF targets.

Learn more

- ▶ Technical roadmap
- ▶ Web interface *Agriculture, Biodiversity and Food Security: From Commitments to Actions*
- ▶ International symposium *Agriculture, Biodiversity and Food Security: From Commitments to Actions*
- ▶ Call for Experiences, Good Practices and Scalable Solutions for Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Agriculture on the FAO FSN Forum

What they say ...

- ▶ News from the **World Farmers' Organization (WFO)**, whose members participated in the symposium: https://www.wfo-oma.org/wfo_news/world-farmers-committed-to-shaping...
- ▶ **Agro Québec's** podcast "La Scène Agro": **Farmers and biodiversity – inseparable** (*in French only*) looks back at the symposium and the crucial importance of farmers in the preservation of biodiversity: <https://agroquebec.com/agriculteurs-et-biodiversite-indissociables/>
- ▶ News from the **Research Chair in Law on Food Diversity and Food Security at Université Laval** (*in French only*): <https://www.chaire-diversite-alimentaire.ulaval.ca/actualites/agriculture-biodiversite-et-securite-alimentaire-vers-une-mise-en-oeuvre-concrete-du-cadre-mondial-de-kunming-montreal>



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