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www.biobio-indicator.wur.nl/UK/

BIOBIO – INDICATORS FOR BIODIVERSITY IN ORGANIC AND LOW-INPUT FARMING SYSTEMS

EU FP7 Project 227161 01.03.2009 – 31.08.2012

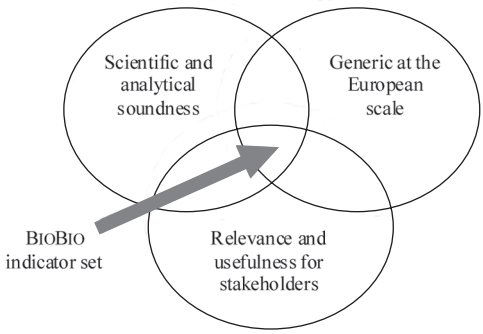
1. Project summary

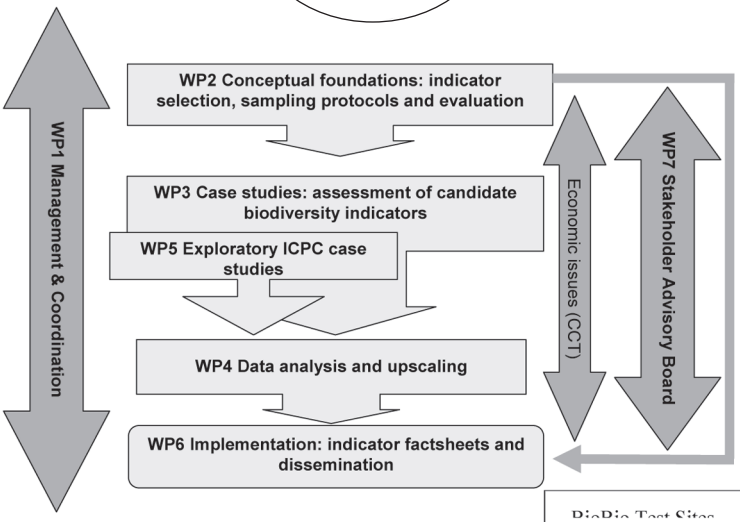
Organic and low-input farming systems have been shown to benefit farmland biodiversity although a generic indicator system to assess these benefits at the European level is lacking. The BIOBIO project will therefore pursue the following objectives: 1. Conceptualization of criteria for a scientifically-based selection of biodiversity indicators for organic/low-input farming systems; 2. Assessment and validation of a set of candidate biodiversity indicators in representative case studies across Europe (and in ICPC countries); 3. Preparation of guidelines for the implementation of biodiversity indicators for organic/low-input farming systems for Europe and beyond. Existing indirect farm management indicators as well as direct indicators for genetic, species and habitat diversity will be assessed for their scientific soundness, practicality, geographic scope and usefulness for stakeholders. Candidate indicators will be tested in a standardised design in twelve case studies across Europe and later in three ICPC countries. Case study regions will include pannonian, alpine, boreal, Atlantic and Mediterranean grassland systems (both organic and/or low-input), rain fed organic farms under temperate and Mediterranean conditions, mixed organic farming, organic special crops and low-input tree/agroforestry systems. Plot, farm and regional scales (where applicable) will be addressed. The investigation will include new agricultural practices, e.g. soil conservation, crop rotation management, seed and crop mixtures and economic issues relating to the costs of indicator measurement and to benefits of biodiversity as perceived by different groups of the population. Stakeholders (farming communities, conservation NGOs, administrators) will be integrated at critical stages of the indicator selection process. A handbook with factsheets will be produced for validated indicators and a sampling design for biodiversity monitoring in organic and low-input farming systems across Europe.

Partnership

Federal Department of Economic Affairs FDEA Research Station ART (Project coordinator)	FDEA-ART	CH
Szent Istvan Egyetem	SIU	HU
Aberystwyth University	ABER	UK
Norsk Institutt for Skog og Landscap	NFLI	NO
Universitaet fuer Bodenkultur Wien	BOKU	AT
ALTERRA B.V.	ALTERRA	NL
Technische Universitaet Muenchen	TUM	DE
Universidad de Extemadura	UEX	ES
Universita degli Studi di Padova	UP	IT
SOLAGRO	SOLAGRO	FR
Institute of Plant Genetic Resources	IPGR	BG
Alma Mater Studiorum – Universita di Bologna	UNIBO	IT
Institut Nationale de la Recherche Agronomique	INRA	FR
Bila Tserkva National Agrarian University	BTNAU	Ukraine
Institut National de Recherche en Génie Rural, Eaux et Forêts	INRGREF	Tunisia
Faculty of Agriculture, Makarere University	MAKARERE	Uganda

www.BIOBIO-indicators.com





2009 Conceptual phase
2010 Case studies Europe
2011 Data analysis / Case studies ICPC
2012 Data analysis and communication of results