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Cooperation with international organizations and bodies established under other conventions

Progress Report on the Implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators

Note by the Secretariat

1. The Executive Secretary circulates herewith, for the information of participants in the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a progress report on the implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.
2. The report provides information on activities conducted by FAO to facilitate the implementation of the Plan of Action 2018–2030 for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in its decision 14/6. It provides an update on the main activities undertaken since the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and is organized according to the elements of the Plan of Action.
3. The report is circulated in the form and language in which it was received by the Secretariat.

* CBD/COP/16/1.

Progress Report on the Implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators (International Pollinators Initiative) was formally established in 2000 as one of the cross-cutting initiatives within the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to promote the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of pollinator diversity in agriculture and related ecosystems, including by monitoring pollinator decline, addressing the lack of taxonomic information on pollinators and assessing the economic value of pollination.¹ The main goal of the International Pollinators Initiative is to promote coordinated action worldwide to conserve managed and wild pollinators, and to encourage the development and implementation of sustainable agricultural practices for the conservation of ecosystem services provided by pollinators.

2. In 2002, the 6th Conference of Parties to the CBD established a plan of action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators.² Following the publication of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Assessment on Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production, at its fourteenth meeting, the COP adopted its second Plan of Action 2018–2030 for the second International Pollinators Initiative and invited the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to facilitate its implementation, as with the first International Pollinators Initiative.³

3. As in the case of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity,⁴ FAO facilitates the implementation of the International Pollinators Initiative by providing guidance and technical advice to countries and supporting decision-making processes. Owing to the cross-cutting nature of pollinators and pollination, the work of several different units in FAO contributes to the implementation of the International Pollinators Initiative.

4. This information document provides a progress report on the work carried out by FAO to facilitate the implementation of the International Pollinators Initiative's Plan of Action 2018–2030 under CBD Decision 14/6. It provides an update on the main activities undertaken since the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD⁵ (COP15) and is organized according to the elements of the Plan of Action.

II. ENABLING POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

5. As reported to COP15, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission) considered as part of its Work Plan for the Sustainable Use and Conservation of Micro-organism and Invertebrate Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, at its 18th Regular Session (2021), a draft study on the *Sustainable use and conservation of invertebrate pollinators*.⁶ It noted the need for follow-up actions in response to the findings and recommendations of the study and invited countries, and requested FAO, to ensure that the findings are taken into consideration in their work relevant to pollinators and in the implementation of the International Pollinators Initiative. The Commission welcomed the draft study and expressed its appreciation for the work of the expert authors who had contributed to its preparation. It stressed the importance of all bees, and of other invertebrate pollinators, for food security, and therefore requested that the mention of “honey bees” in the title of the final study be deleted. It requested

¹ COP5 Decision V/5

² COP 6 Decision VI/5

³ Decision CBD/COP/DEC/14/6

⁴ See CGRFA-18/21/11.3/Inf.2

⁵ CBD/COP/15/INF/24

⁶ CGRFA-18/21/11.1/Inf.1

FAO to finalize the study, publish it as a background study paper and disseminate it.⁷ The study was subsequently published as Background Study Paper No. 72.⁸

6. The Commission further requested FAO to consider the need for, and modalities of, a global pollinator platform to address pollinators and pollination services at global level, and to report on this matter to the Commission at its next session. It noted that such a platform should facilitate and coordinate international, regional and national action, promote capacity-building, support reference studies at regional and national levels, collect and share information on the conservation and sustainable use of pollinator genetic resources and agree on activities at global scale in line with and in support of existing activities and initiatives, in particular the International Pollinators Initiative and any further work on pollinators that the IPBES may undertake.⁹

7. At its 19th Regular Session held in July 2023, the Commission considered the need for and possible modalities of a global pollinator platform. The Commission considered, in the light of the information provided, the needs and priorities to which a global pollinator platform could respond and recommended that the FAO Council request FAO to further explore the possible modalities of a global pollinator platform that could respond to the priorities and needs identified.¹⁰

8. In addition, the Commission recommended that FAO continue to develop tools and technical and guidance documents, including standardized monitoring protocols for pollinators, and environmental risk assessments for biological control agents, as appropriate.¹¹ The Commission also invited countries to implement the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators, establish or strengthen national monitoring programmes for invertebrate pollinators, promote research on drivers of change in pollinator populations and the impacts of managed bees on wild plants and wild invertebrate pollinators, and insert data on managed honey bees into the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS).¹²

9. The FAO Council, at its 174th Session endorsed the Commission's conclusions and recommendations.¹³

10. Possible modalities of a global pollinator platform will be considered by the Commission's newly established Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Microorganism and Invertebrate Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture at its first session (25–27 September 2024)¹⁴ and, subsequently, by the Commission at its 20th Regular Session (24–28 March 2025). The need for and possible modalities of a global pollinator platform was also discussed at a side event held by the Commission, the CBD and Apimondia on the occasion of the 26th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (15 May 2024).

11. The 16 FAO regional and sub-regional offices assist Parties in implementing the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions – this is achieved through the respective Secretariats and FAO regional and sub-regional offices cooperating to provide technical assistance and capacity-building activities within countries.

12. The Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade is jointly served by the United Nations Environment Programme and FAO. FAO provides technical assistance in response to specific requests from Parties, encourages them to undertake concerted actions towards pesticide risk reduction, including through

⁷ CGRFA-18/21/Report. Paragraph 80.

⁸ Aizen, M.A., Basu, P., Bienefeld, K., Biesmeijer, J.C., Garibaldi, L.A., Gemmill-Herren, B., Imperatriz-Fonseca, V.L., Klein, A.-L., Potts, S.G., Seymour C.L. & Vanbergen, A.J. 2023. *Sustainable use and conservation of invertebrate pollinators*. Background Study Paper, No. 72. Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc6499en>

⁹ CGRFA-18/21/Report, paragraph 83.

¹⁰ CGRFA-19/23/Report, paragraph 86.

¹¹ CGRFA-19/23/Report, paragraph 87.

¹² CGRFA-19/23/Report, paragraph 88.

¹³ CL 174/REP, paragraph 33.

¹⁴ CGRFA/WG-MIGR-1/24/7

the use of safer alternatives to pesticides and chemicals listed or considered for listing under the Rotterdam Convention, and facilitates information exchange among Parties.

13. The Rotterdam Convention also promotes sustainable approaches to the management of pests and diseases, such as integrated pest management, conservation agriculture, organic agriculture, agroecology and the use of biopesticides and biological pest control. Between mid-2021 and mid-2024, more than 118 Parties to the Rotterdam Convention received technical assistance from FAO in the format of workshops, projects and webinars. More than 350 notifications of final regulatory actions banning or restricting the use of hazardous chemicals and pesticides at national level were received from Parties. At the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Rotterdam Convention (COP11), which took place in May 2023, the pesticide terbufos was listed into Annex III, making it subject to a structured information exchange (prior informed consent procedure), through which Parties can take informed decisions on future imports of this pesticide and facilitate its environmentally sound use if absolutely necessary. Terbufos is an insecticide with high acute toxicity that shows a high risk to non-target organisms.

14. The same meeting also discussed the pesticides acetochlor, carbosulfan, fenthion formulations, iprodione and paraquat formulations, and though not yet listed, draft Decision Guidance Documents (DGD) have been elaborated and are available on the Rotterdam Convention website. These DGD contain a wealth of information about those pesticides, including effects on pollinators as appropriate, and can be consulted to facilitate national risk evaluations.

15. The FAO pest and pesticide management team continues to develop guidelines and best practices with respect to the use of chemicals in agriculture, and the promotion of biodiverse and ecosystem-based farming systems. In December 2022, FAO and the United Nations Environment Programme published a “Report on the Environmental and Health Impacts of Pesticides and Fertilizers and Ways to Minimize Them”, which also addresses the impacts on bees and other pollinators and possible reduction of crop pollination.

16. Furthermore, a module on risk assessment for bees was integrated in the FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit,¹⁵ which allows for local risk¹⁶ and hazard assessment for honey bees,¹⁷ including a hazard assessment-based table with a simple flow chart scheme. The FAO Pesticide Registration Toolkit is a decision-support system for pesticide registrars responsible for reviewing and registering pesticide products. It is intended to serve as a desktop electronic handbook for day-to-day use in registration of agriculture and public health pesticides, providing technical advice on procedures that apply to all pesticides undergoing registration and information sources on individual pesticides. So far, 80 countries and 710 registration staff have been trained on the Pesticide Registration Toolkit.

17. FAO’s work on pesticides in support of the International Pollinators Initiative has also continued through larger projects such as phase three of the programme Capacity building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP MEAs 3).¹⁸ A key finding from the Global seminar on strengthening regulations to protect pollinators from pesticides, held as part of this programme in February 2022,¹⁹ was that legislation is one among several tools that can be used to influence pest management and pesticide use, safeguard beekeeping activities, and protect pollinator diversity.²⁰ In many countries, however, legal mechanisms to protect pollinators from the adverse impact of pesticides are still inadequate, and when legislation is available, it is often limited to pesticides and/or on beekeeping; environmental or biodiversity legislation tends to be applied less frequently for this purpose. To address this gap, FAO is currently working on a guidance document for legislators and regulators seeking to protect pollinators from pesticides. It will provide guidance on options to consider for their pesticide legislation, their beekeeping legislation, and also their broader environmental and biodiversity

¹⁵ <http://www.fao.org/pesticide-registration-toolkit/en/>

¹⁶ <http://www.fao.org/pesticide-registration-toolkit/registration-tools/assessment-methods/method-detail/en/c/1187116/>

¹⁷ <http://www.fao.org/pesticide-registration-toolkit/registration-tools/assessment-methods/method-detail/en/c/1187115/>

¹⁸ <http://www.fao.org/in-action/building-capacity-environmental-agreements/en/>

¹⁹ <https://www.fao.org/in-action/building-capacity-environmental-agreements/global/pollinator-seminar>

²⁰ FAO. 2022. *Protecting pollinators from pesticides – Urgent need for action*. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0170en>

legislation and animal production and animal health legislation. The guidance document is expected to be available in early 2025.

III. FIELD-LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION

18. FAO, the World Organization for Animal Health, Apimondia (the International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations) and Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e della Toscana "M. Aleandri" organized the Third International Symposium on Biosecurity in Beekeeping, which took place in May 2024.²¹ FAO had previously collaborated with IZSLT, Apimondia and the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), with whom FAO has developed various guidelines and manuals related to beekeeping.^{22,23,24}

19. Several projects at global, regional and country levels are currently active. The Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) Phase II (Climate Resilient Landscapes and Improved Livelihoods) works at the local, national, regional and global scales, with on-the-ground operations in ten core countries – Bolivia, Ecuador, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Nepal, Tanzania, Togo, Viet Nam and Zambia – and other network countries – primarily Liberia and the Gambia. It directly impacts Forest-and-farm Producer Organizations (FFPOs) by providing funding, information and advice and by enabling diverse exchanges among these organizations and between them and policymakers. In most countries, the FFF supports FFPOs with activities related to sustainable beekeeping and pollinator-friendly agriculture practices. For instance, in Bolivia, the Association of Beekeepers of the Department of Santa Cruz established an average conservation area of 200 ha of forest for every 25 established apiaries and proposed a "Certification of beekeeping and forest use" for approximately 200 community and family apiaries, strengthening forest conservation in 10 000 ha. In Ecuador, Tsatsayaku, a FFPO that collaborates with Amazonian farms has diversified the farms of its members with native bees and vanilla. Their actions are opening the potential to generate new value chains, with prospects of selling in international markets. Tsatsayaku farmers are producing honey, increasing food security, providing key ecosystem services through pollination, and offering alternative livelihoods in the form of agrotourism. All of these activities are conducted by women, which is improving their economic autonomy and decision-making power within their households.

20. In Zambia, the Mboole Rural Development Initiative, is engaged in citrus production. The organization envisions converting degraded areas into citrus agroforest plantations, implementing improved management practices, and incorporating beekeeping and vegetable intercropping. Their goal is to produce vegetables and honey in the short term, with a long-term project to produce citrus for local consumption and trade. Also, the Zambia National Forest Commodities Association has established a beekeeping policy discussion platform to push forward support for local honey producers. In Tanzania, at the local level, the Community Forest Conservation Network of Tanzania successfully advocated for policy challenges related to beekeeping and forest business enterprises with the Kilosa District Executive Director and District Commissioner and on request of the Ministry of Environment and Union Affairs, the organizations MVIWAMA and MVIWAARUSHA through the national farmer platform SHIWAKUTA also contributed to the review of the Environmental Management Act of 2004. On the experience of Tanzania, a video about Restoring land and livelihoods with beekeeping in Tanzania²⁵ was produced.

21. Further activities are taking place in the Africa region. As part of the *GEF Dryland Sustainable Landscapes Impact Programme* (DSL-IP), the Tanzanian Forest Services Agency aims to restore 34 885 hectares of Miombo woodland, focusing on FFPOs' sustainable and profitable beekeeping value chains. In Rwanda, the project *Capacity Building to Increase the Quality and Quantity of Bee Products in Rwanda* (TCP/RWA/3802) concluded in May 2024, and among others, built capacity of 9 100 beekeepers

²¹ <https://www.apimondia.org/biosecurity.html>

²² FAO. 2020. *Good beekeeping practices: Practical manual on how to identify and control the main diseases of the honeybee (Apis mellifera)*. Rome. <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca9182en>

²³ FAO, Apimondia, IZSLT. 2021. *Visual manual on good beekeeping practices for small-scale beekeepers in Africa*. TECA – Technologies and practices for small agricultural producers, 2. Rome. <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4576en>

²⁴ FAO and IZSLT. 2021. *Responsible use of antimicrobials in beekeeping*. FAO Animal Production and Health Guidelines No.

26. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb6918en>

²⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79Pk0tcGavM>

(30 percent women and youth). The project *Restoring Honey Value Chain in Conflict Affected Communities in Kilbati Zone of Afar Region, Ethiopia* (TCP/ETH/4001) is dedicated to sustainable beekeeping to improve livelihoods.

22. In Latin America and the Caribbean, FAO supported the preparation phase of the *regional action for enhanced protection of pollinating insects and pollination services in Latin America and the Caribbean* (Poli-LAC) (CGP-RLA 226 GIZ) in 2021–2023. The project was submitted to the International Climate Initiative of the German Ministry of the Environment. Although the project is not being implemented by FAO, the overarching objectives will still support the conservation of pollinators through 1) the development of a knowledge management platform, 2) support public policies and instruments and 3) implementation of pollinator-friendly practices across agricultural landscapes. As a follow up, the project *Knowledge management on conservancy and sustainable management of pollinators in Latin America* (TCP/RLA/3912/C2) is implemented in Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru (2023-2025). It supports the reduction of knowledge gaps on pollinator protection practices in target countries within the region and support knowledge exchange through a regional cross-sectoral working platform and through capacity building. To build capacity, there have been two online training courses on stingless beekeeping in Latin America and basic bee taxonomy: *Stingless bees: an introduction to meliponiculture*²⁶ and *Bees of Latin America: an introduction to their taxonomic identification*²⁷. In addition, the project will be undertaking a stingless bee training course specifically for women in local communities in Brazil (early 2025).

23. In the Europe and Central Asia region, the project *Integrating Pollinators into Sustainable Forest Management Plans in Azerbaijan* (TCP/AZE/3802/C1) concluded in 2023 and strengthened national capacity and knowledge to include pollinator biodiversity into sustainable forest management plans. A new project has been approved in 2024, *Sustainable beekeeping and exchange of cooperation between Türkiye and Ukraine* (GCP/SEC/026/TUR).

24. In the Near East and North Africa region, several ongoing projects have activities dedicated to sustainable beekeeping or pollinator protection: *Strengthening MoEWA's Capacity to implement its Sustainable Rural Agricultural Development Programme in Saudi Arabia* (UTF/SAU/051/SAU), *Revitalising Oasis Agro-ecosystems through a Sustainable, Integrated and Landscape Approach in the Drâa-Tafilalet region* (GCP/MOR/046/GFF), *Strengthening SME's capacities for sustainable and economic apiculture in the Sultanate of Oman* (UTF/OMA/027/OMA), *Préservation et développement de l'apiculture dans les pays du Maghreb* (TCP/SNE/3902) and *Strengthening the capacity of beekeepers women and youth, on business management and post-harvest marketing* (TCP/IRQ/3902/C1) in Iraq.

25. Lastly, as part of the One Country One Priority Product²⁸ initiative launched by FAO in September 2021 to promote inclusive, profitable, and environmentally friendly agri-food systems through sustainable development of Special Agricultural Products, Vietnam, Benin, Rwanda and Chile have focused their effort on supporting beekeepers and honey producers. Several activities and training have taken place at country level (such as in Rwanda and Vietnam) and a webinar was organized on 27 May 2024 to share knowledge, experiences and lessons learned in the sustainable production, processing, and marketing of honey in Vietnam, Benin, Rwanda, and Chile.²⁹

IV. CIVIL SOCIETY, STAKEHOLDERS/RIGHTS AND KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS AND PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

26. The UN General Assembly unanimously proclaimed 20 May as World Bee Day in 2017. Every year since, FAO has co-organized, with various partners, the celebration of World Bee Day.

27. Under the theme “Bee engaged in pollinator-friendly agricultural production”, World Bee Day 2023 called for global action to support pollinator-friendly agricultural production and highlighted the importance of protecting bees and other pollinators, particularly through evidence-based agricultural

²⁶ <https://www.fao.org/in-action/capacitacion-politicas-publicas/cursos/ver/en/c/278078>

²⁷ <https://www.fao.org/in-action/capacitacion-politicas-publicas/cursos/ver/en/c/1697861/>

²⁸ <https://www.fao.org/one-country-one-priority-product/en>

²⁹ <https://www.fao.org/one-country-one-priority-product/news-and-events/events/events-detail/ocop-webinar-honey/>

production practices. The celebration of World Bee Day 2023 mobilized a global campaign including an engaging hybrid event calling for global cooperation and solidarity to focus attention on the importance of pollinator-friendly agricultural practices for sustainable, resilient and productive agrifood systems. The event had a global audience, with both live webcasts and webinars in the six UN languages, bringing together over 2 200 participants online and in-person. The event was held in conjunction with the World Tea Day, which stressed the importance of protecting and celebrating tea.

28. During the 2nd Session of the UN Global Indigenous Youth Forum, which took place in concomitance with the 2023 World Food Forum, Science and Innovation Forum and Hand in Hand Investment, FAO organized a *No-Honey bar*, where every day a laboratory on beekeeping was conducted. It offered a space to display traditional beehives and sensitize about bees and the importance of beekeeping. It gave to the Indigenous Youth from the seven socio-cultural regions an opportunity to know more about the wild honey-products of other socio-cultural regions and share about their knowledges, know-hows and challenges. In addition, non-Indigenous Peoples participating to the 2023 World Food Day Ceremony, the 51st Session of the Committee on World Food Security and the World Food Forum could discover and taste all these honey products that are currently forbidden on international food markets, and whose species represent an enormous contribution from Indigenous Peoples in the maintenance of genetic biodiversity, due to the fundamental role of pollinators in sustaining ecosystems and natural resources. The *No-Honey bar* highlighted the qualities of those products in terms of nutrition, biodiversity, sustainability of the ways they are prepared and harvested, cultural practices and even health care.

29. FAO will organize a High-Level Expert Seminar on the vital role of bees for Indigenous Peoples beyond *Apis mellifera*, to highlight the role of pollinators for biodiversity conservation. It is expected to take place in the beginning of 2025.

30. In 2024, under the theme “Bee engaged with youth”, World Bee Day aimed to raise awareness among youth and other stakeholders about the pivotal role of bees and pollinators in agriculture and the preservation of ecological balance and biodiversity in nature. Moreover, the theme highlighted the importance of youth involvement, recognizing them as the future beekeepers and sentinels of the environment. The theme of World Bee Day 2024 focused on attracting the attention of younger generations and sharing fascinating facts about bees, beekeeping and pollination ecosystem services. The observance of World Bee Day 2024 was done through a global outreach campaign and an in-person event held at the Castelporziano Italian Presidential Estate (Tenuta del Presidente), with high-profile guests, beekeeping experts, students and practitioners from various regions. Within the Tenuta del Presidente, a natural protected area located 25 km south of Rome, there is an educational centre dedicated to the study of bees and their intricate lives. To enhance existing knowledge, FAO aimed to work jointly with the staff of the Tenuta to develop informative panels to be installed in the path that brings students to the educational centre. These panels elucidate the important role of sustainable beekeeping practices for healthy bees, healthy bee-products and a healthy environment and underline the vital role of bees and other pollinators in maintaining biodiversity, providing precious ecosystem services, ensuring the survival of many plants, forest regeneration, sustainability and adaptation to climate change while improving the quantity and quality of agricultural production systems.

31. On World Bee Day 2024, the FAO Director-General QU Dongyu formally signed a new memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Apimondia. Apimondia is an organization which exists to promote scientific, technical, ecological, social and economic apicultural development in all countries and the cooperation of beekeepers’ associations, scientific bodies and individuals involved in apiculture worldwide.³⁰ The MOU formalizes the renewed cooperation between the two organizations and addresses issues such as the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture, antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial use, broadening pollinator biodiversity, improvement of pesticide regulation and utilization, promotion of sustainable beekeeping practices including bee health and the monitoring of managed bee genetic resources.

³⁰ <https://www.apimondia.org/>

32. On the 22 and 23 May 2024, as a complementary initiative to World Bee Day 2024, and to revitalize global action on bees and other pollinators, FAO and Slovenia jointly organized an International Forum for Action on Sustainable Beekeeping and Pollination in Ljubljana. It brought together representatives from international organizations, governments, academia, civil society and industry. The forum provided an opportunity for in-depth dialogue and reflection, sharing experiences, defining the needs and coordinating future action. It included a Policy panel on Bees for People, Planet and Peace, a technical session on Beekeeping for Food Security and Poverty Reduction – Lessons Learnt and four breakout sessions addressing Partnerships and Funding, Youth and Gender, Technologies and Innovations, and Ecosystem services. A follow up international forum is expected to be organized in 2025 in Africa.

33. Recognizing the importance of pollinators, FAO launched in June 2024 its newly redesigned platform dedicated to the Global Action on Pollination Services for Sustainable Agriculture.³¹ This knowledge hub aims to empower professionals and enthusiasts with extensive resources, updated news, assessments and much more. The updated pollination glossary explains scientific terms and processes related to pollination, making it an invaluable tool for educators, researchers, beekeepers, policy makers and any pollinators' enthusiasts.

V. MONITORING, RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT

34. In close collaboration with National Coordinators for the management of animal genetic resources (NCs-AnGR), a specific task force of the European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources and Apimondia, FAO developed and agreed upon data fields for monitoring the diversity of managed honey bees of relevance for food and agriculture. A module to enter bee data was made available to all NCs-AnGR under the password protected section of DAD-IS. Further, tools have been developed to visualize these data in various ways. As of June 2024, data had been reported by 38 countries on 91 honey bee species or subspecies. Among these 38 countries, 21 provided estimates on the number of colonies for 46 species and subspecies, thus providing the basis for monitoring of their genetic diversity. Regional aspects of diversity of managed bees were considered in the work undertaken, by broadening the scope of DAD-IS data entry to allow for the provision of information on stingless bees.

35. Agrobiodiversity and pollinators feature prominently in the FAO Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE) framework.³² Since COP15, the tool has been used in 28 additional countries, for a total of 58 countries, and the number of farm/households assessed increased from 5 000 to 12 000. TAPE was developed by FAO and partners to provide a framework of indicators and a database for assessing the performance of agroecological systems. The presence of pollinators and other beneficial animals within the agroecosystems is part of one of ten key criteria used to assess the performance of agroecology.

³¹ <https://www.fao.org/pollination/en/>

³² <https://www.fao.org/agroecology/tools-tape/en/>