

# Balkan Nature Talks Conference

## Session 4: Tools and mechanisms for biodiversity conservation

### Ecosystem services valuation, challenges and opportunities

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# I Background and Context

# 2050 Goals

## Section G. Global goals for 2050

12. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework has four long-term goals for 2050 related to the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

### GOAL A

The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored, substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050;

Human induced extinction of known threatened species is halted, and, by 2050, the extinction rate and risk of all species are reduced tenfold and the abundance of native wild species is increased to healthy and resilient levels;

The genetic diversity within populations of wild and domesticated species, is maintained, safeguarding their adaptive potential.

### GOAL B

Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued, maintained and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050.



The Economics of Ecosystems & Biodiversity

**Mission:** To incorporate the value of nature in public and private sector decision making, at all levels.

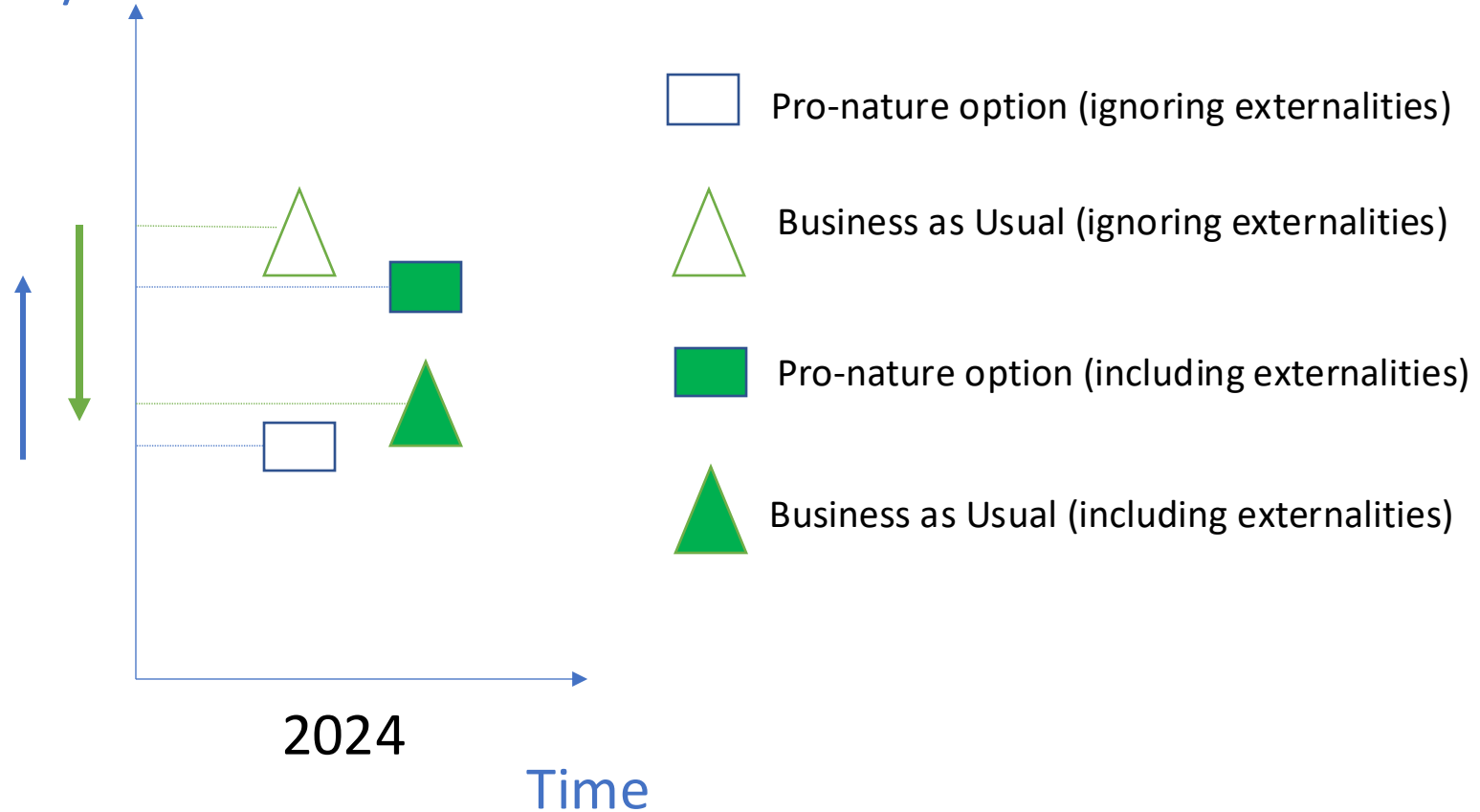
Following a scientific approach to valuation, decision makers can recognize and account for the benefits provided by ecosystems and biodiversity, demonstrate those values in economic terms, and capture those values with the decisions they make.



# Background and Context



## Financial/Economic flows



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# II Transforming food systems

# Why select the Agriculture sector?

## 7.1.2 THE GLOBAL 20 REGION-SECTORS

Ranking of the 20 region-sectors with the greatest total impact across the 6 EKPIs when measured in monetary terms.

| RANK | SECTOR  | REGION             | NATURAL CAPITAL COST, US\$ BN | REVENUE, US\$ BN | IMPACT RATIO |
|------|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1    | COAL POWER GENERATION   | EASTERN ASIA       | 452.8                         | 443.1            | 1.0          |
| 2    | CATTLE RANCHING AND FARMING   | SOUTH AMERICA      | 353.8                         | 16.6             | 18.8         |
| 3    | COAL POWER GENERATION   | NORTHERN AMERICA   | 316.8                         | 246.7            | 1.3          |
| 4    | WHEAT FARMING   | SOUTHERN ASIA      | 266.6                         | 31.8             | 8.4          |
| 5    | RICE FARMING  | SOUTHERN ASIA      | 235.6                         | 65.8             | 3.6          |
| 6    | IRON AND STEEL MILLS  | EASTERN ASIA       | 225.6                         | 604.7            | 0.4          |
| 7    | CATTLE RANCHING AND FARMING   | SOUTHERN ASIA      | 163.0                         | 174.0            | 0.8          |
| 8    | CEMENT MANUFACTURING  | EASTERN ASIA       | 147.0                         | 5.8              | 23.0         |
| 9    | WATER SUPPLY  | SOUTHERN ASIA      | 111.7                         | 14.1             | 7.9          |
| 10   | WHEAT FARMING   | NORTHERN AFRICA    | 100.1                         | 7.4              | 13.6         |
| 11   | RICE FARMING  | EASTERN ASIA       | 99.3                          | 91.2             | 1.1          |
| 12   | WATER SUPPLY  | WESTERN ASIA       | 86.7                          | 18.4             | 4.7          |
| 13   | FISHING   | GLOBAL             | 86.1                          | 136.0            | 0.6          |
| 14   | RICE FARMING  | NORTHERN AFRICA    | 84.2                          | 1.2              | 69.6         |
| 15   | CORN FARMING  | NORTHERN AFRICA    | 80.4                          | 1.7              | 47.8         |
| 16   | RICE FARMING  | SOUTH-EASTERN ASIA | 79.7                          | 41.0             | 1.9          |
| 17   | WATER SUPPLY  | NORTHERN AFRICA    | 76.4                          | 3.4              | 22.2         |
| 18   | SUGARCANE   | SOUTHERN ASIA      | 75.6                          | 6.0              | 12.5         |
| 19   | PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS EXTRACTION<br>(excludes water and land use) | EASTERN EUROPE     | 72.6                          | 371.6            | 0.2          |
| 20   | NATURAL GAS POWER GENERATION  | NORTHERN AMERICA   | 69.4                          | 122.7            | 1.0          |

# The UN Food Systems Summit

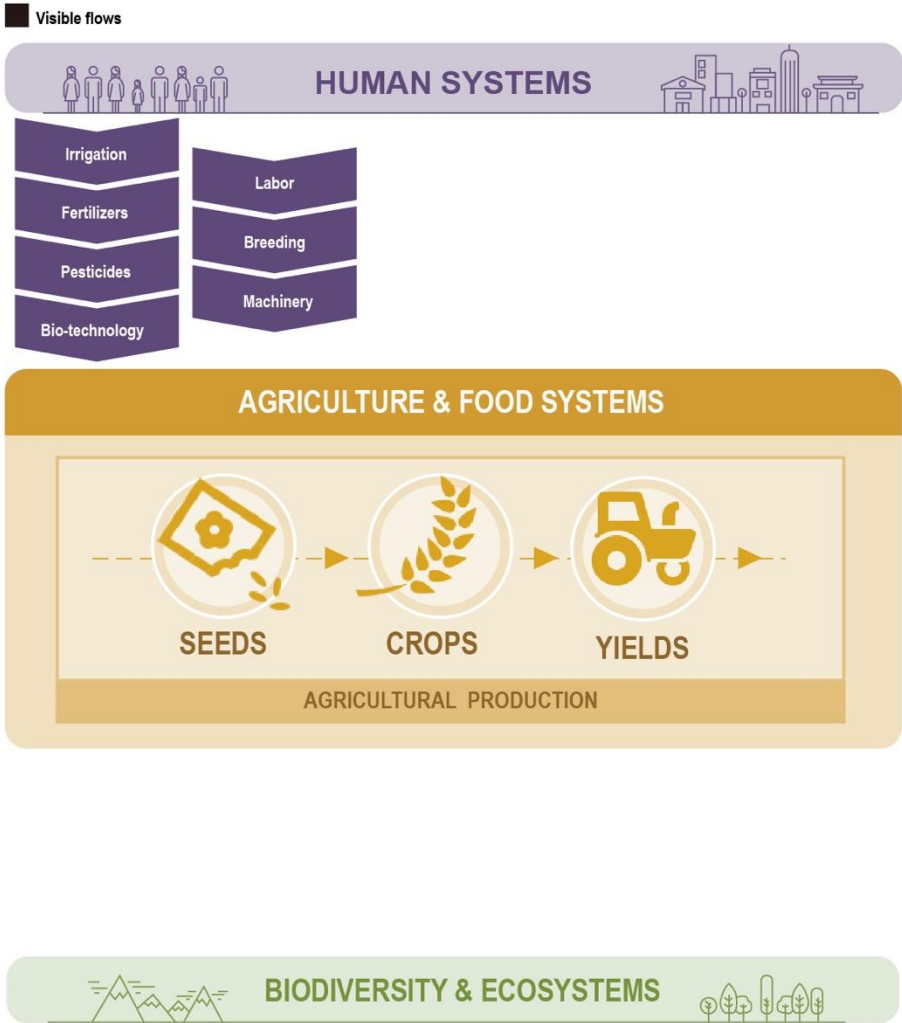
“**Food systems hold the power** to realize our shared vision for a better world.”

*READ, the Secretary-General's Chair Summary and Statement of Action on the UN Food Systems Summit*

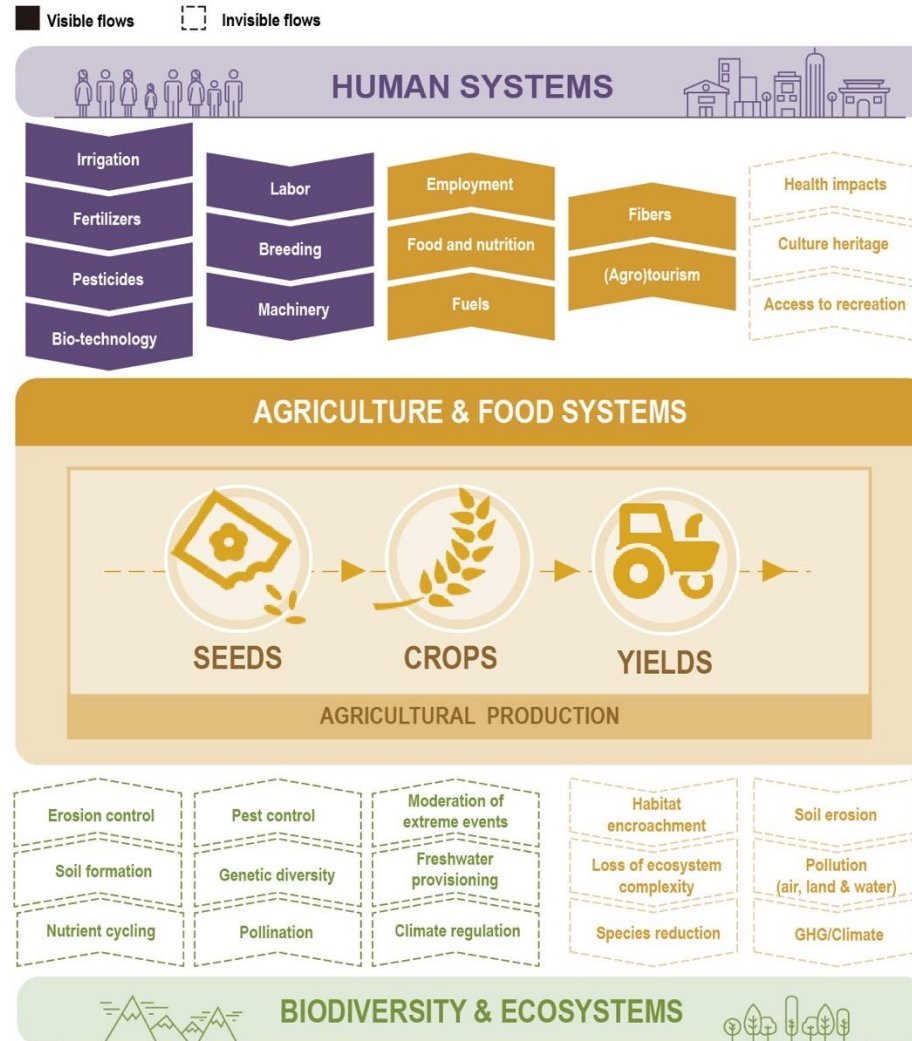




# The visible and invisible flows of agricultural production

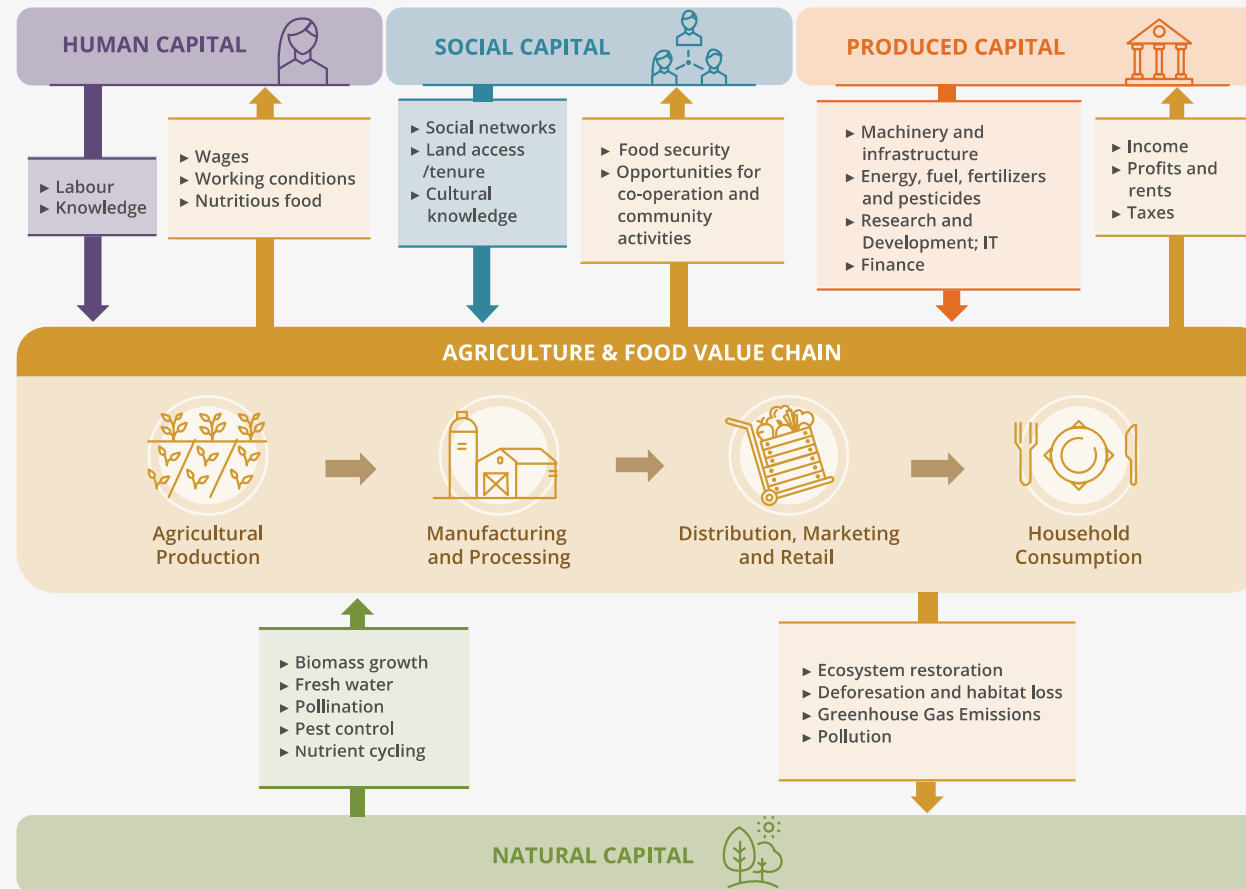


# The visible and invisible flows of agricultural production



# The visible and invisible flows of agricultural production

**Figure 2.1** Capital stocks and value flows in eco-agri-food systems (Source: Hussain and Vause 2018)





Policy Brief

**THE HARMONIZATION OF TRUE  
VALUE ACCOUNTING APPROACHES  
TO MAKE THE ECONOMIC CASE  
FOR NATURE-POSITIVE FOOD  
SYSTEMS**

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*Task Force 4*  
Food Security and Sustainable  
Agriculture

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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

2023

# THE STATE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

REVEALING THE TRUE COST  
OF FOOD TO TRANSFORM  
AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS

Search

## THE STATE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE 2023

CHAPTER 3

### MOVING TOWARDS TARGETED TRUE COST ASSESSMENTS FOR INFORMED DECISIONS

#### BOX 11 TEEBAgriFood evaluation of rice production in northeastern Thailand

The TEEBAgriFood Evaluation Framework was used to identify and measure the diverse costs and benefits of expanding organic rice production in Thailand. The aim was to pinpoint options for promoting the long-term sustainability of production and management of rice landscapes. The analysis was concluded in June 2022 and considered hidden costs across all four capitals: natural (greenhouse gas [GHG] emissions and biodiversity), human (effects of air pollution and pesticides on health, happiness and well-being), social (cooperation, trust and pro-social or voluntary behaviour) and produced (revenues and expenditures of conventional versus organic rice).

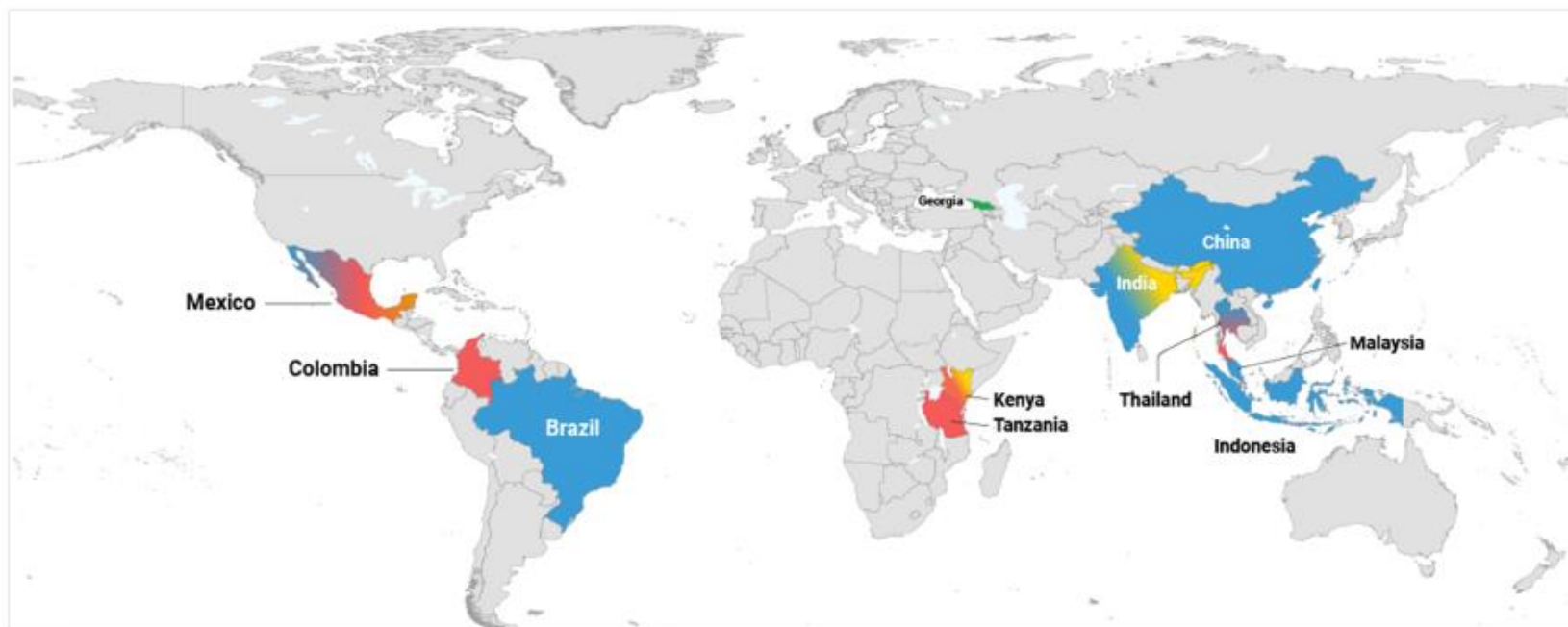
Taking into account government policies and targets, as well as the views of local stakeholders – including local agricultural officers, farmers and banks – the analysis proposed four scenarios to demonstrate the potential synergies and trade-offs of different rice practices in Thailand over 2019–2035. One was the baseline business-as-usual (BAU) scenario (S1), while the other three scenarios (S2, S3 and S4) assumed the progressive adoption of organic rice production and other sustainable practices. Each scenario was measured over three time frames: short (2025), medium (2030) and long (2035).



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## III TEEBAgriFood studies

# TEEBAgriFood Country Map



The designations employed and the presentation of material including on any map in this work do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

## LEGEND

### IKEA FOUNDATION ●

India: Organic Farming and Agroforestry  
Kenya: Water towers, carbon sequestration and farming

### EU-PI ●

Brazil: 1) Low carbon agriculture 2) Urban and periurban agriculture  
China: "Green is Gold", and Soya production  
India: Organic farming and agroforestry  
Indonesia: Coffee and Cacao Agroforestry Systems  
Malaysia: Good Agricultural Practices in Vegetable Farming  
Mexico: Agroforestry coffee  
Thailand: Sustainable Rice Platform

### IKI ●

Colombia: Land Use Change  
Kenya: Livelihoods based on reforestation and carbon farming  
Mexico: Conventional & Traditional Maize  
Tanzania: Land Use Change; Water Quality & Food Security  
Thailand: Organic Rice Production

### GEF ●

Georgia: Sustainable Land Management Practices

### GIZ ●

Mexico: Conventional & Traditional Maize

# Organics Study



## INTEGRATING THE VALUE OF ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY IN RICE SYSTEMS IN THAILAND



คณะเศรษฐศาสตร์ มหาวิทยาลัยขอนแก่น  
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The Economics of Ecosystems & Biodiversity



INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE



Funded by  
the European Union



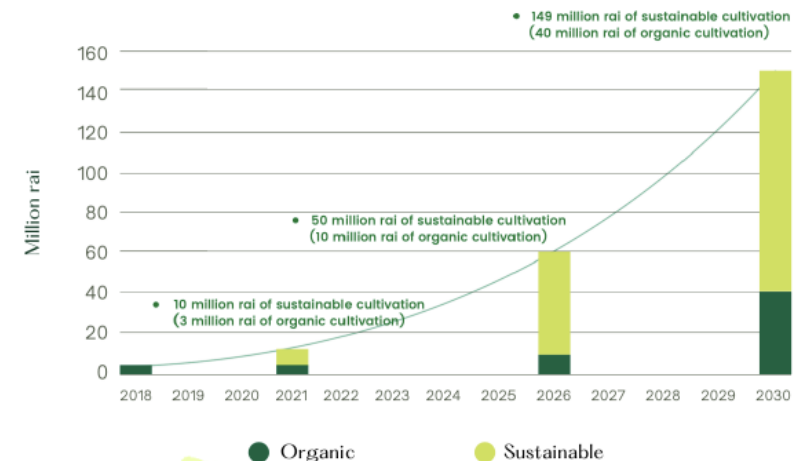
# Scenario development

- Scenarios were developed to understand potential future impacts of government policies, including the **One Million Rai Organic Rice** promotion policy,
- **Parliamentary targets for achieving sustainable agriculture by 2030**, and the aims of the **Bio, Circular, and Green Economy model** in Thailand.

- The One Million Rai Organic Rice Farming pilot project.



The extraordinary committee to consider studying the guidelines for controlling the use of chemicals



**Scenario 1 : Organic rice expansion in BAU scenario. (One million rai)**

Year/ Organic area (Rai).



2019/ 0.58 million rai.



2035/ 1 million rai.

**Scenario 2 : Accelerated organic rice promotion. (One million rai every 5 years)**

Year/ Organic area (Rai).



2019/ 0.58 million rai.



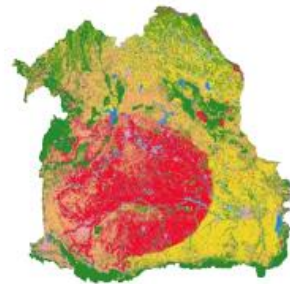
2035/ 4 million rai.

**Scenario 3 : Enhanced organic rice promotion. (One million rai every year)**

Year/ Organic area (Rai).



2019/ 0.58 million rai.



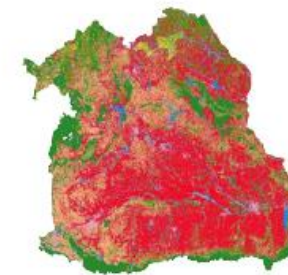
2035/ 15 million rai.

**Scenario 4 : Transformational change towards sustainability. (Thai parliamentary)**

Year/ Organic area (Rai).



2019/ 0.58 million rai.



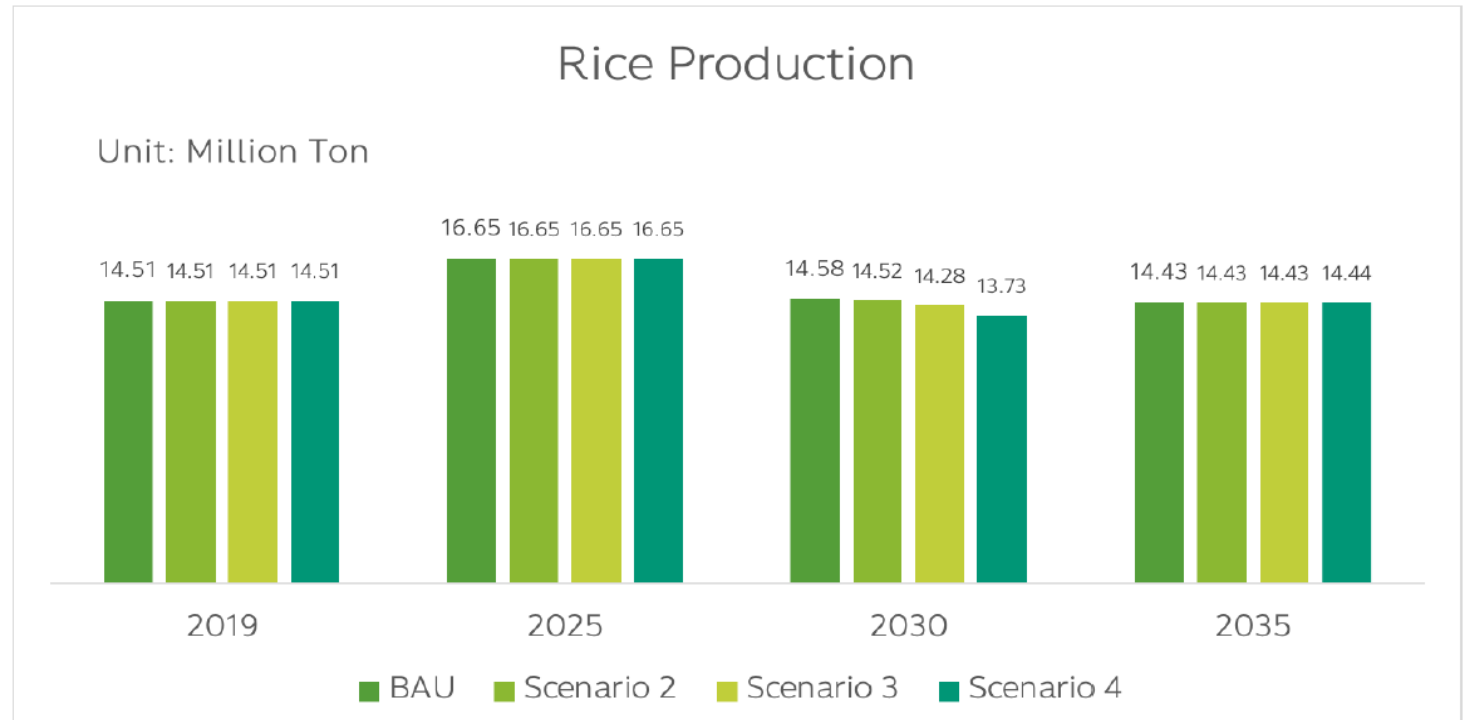
2035/ 32 million rai.



# 1. Negligible impact on rice production yield can be offset by higher prices.

- Relatively minor losses, both in terms of volume output and dollar value.

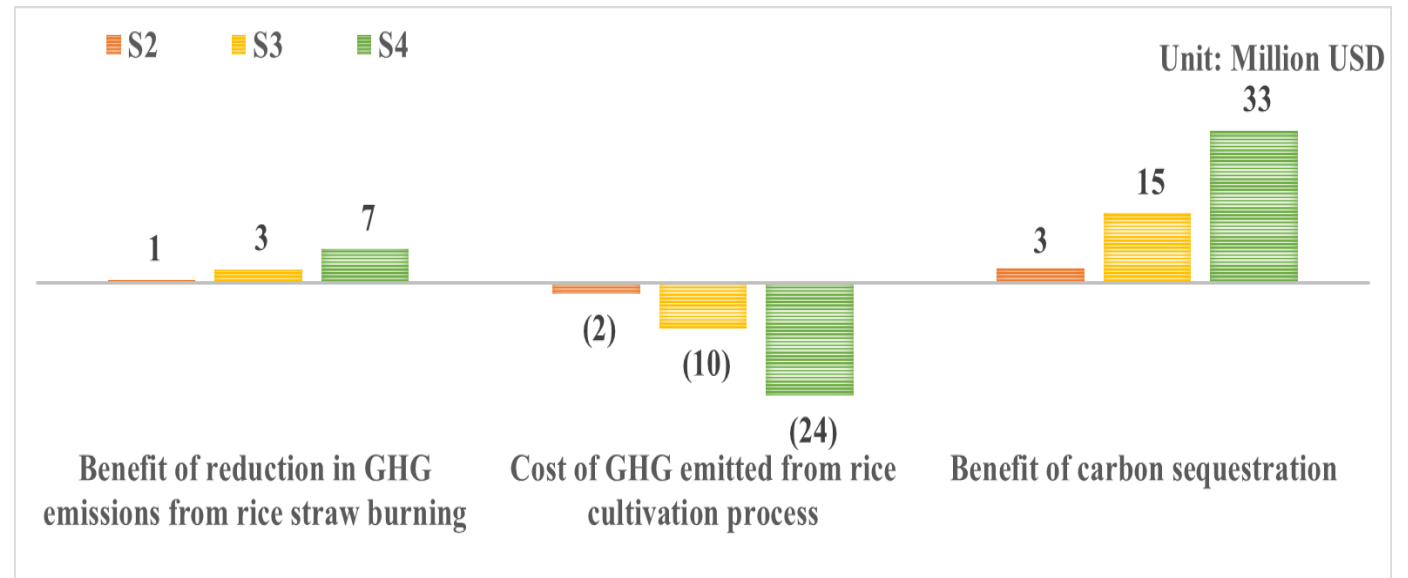
Annual rice production in each scenario from the rice fields in Northeast of Thailand



## 2. Lower greenhouse gas emissions

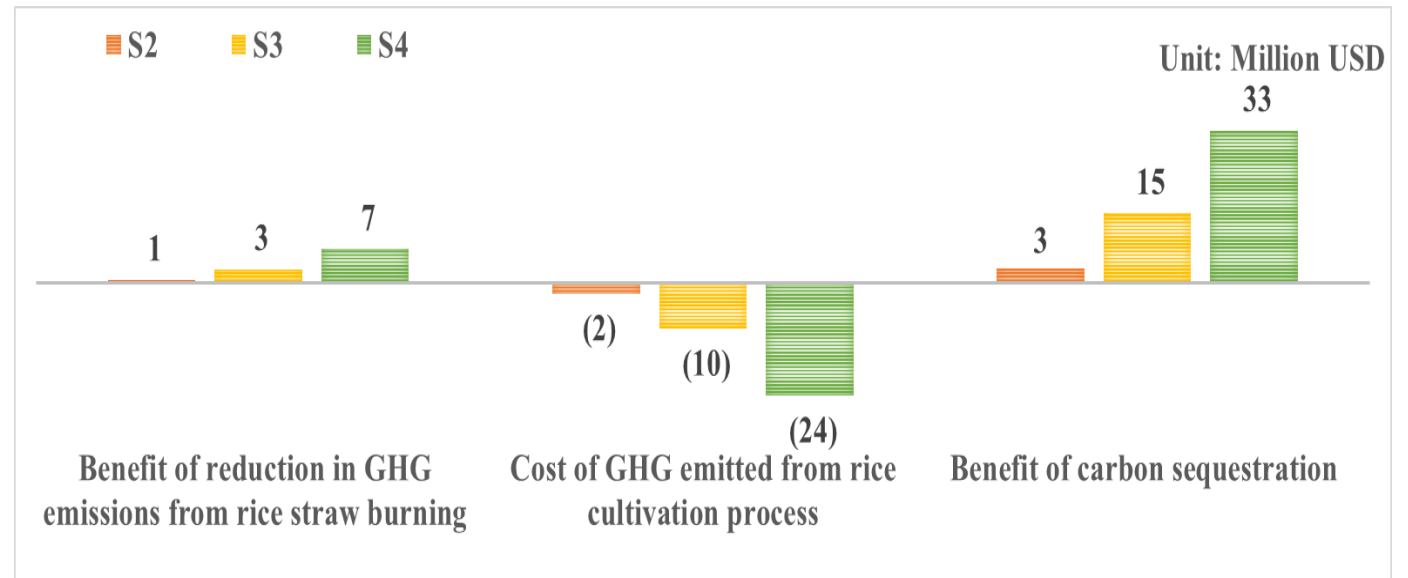
1. The expansion of organic rice area is projected to reduce overall GHG emissions from rice fields, **due to prohibition of stubble burning and higher soil carbon accumulation.**

- We estimate this as TEEBAgriFood is a full life cycle approach
- A failure to do so means we would miss opportunities and threats



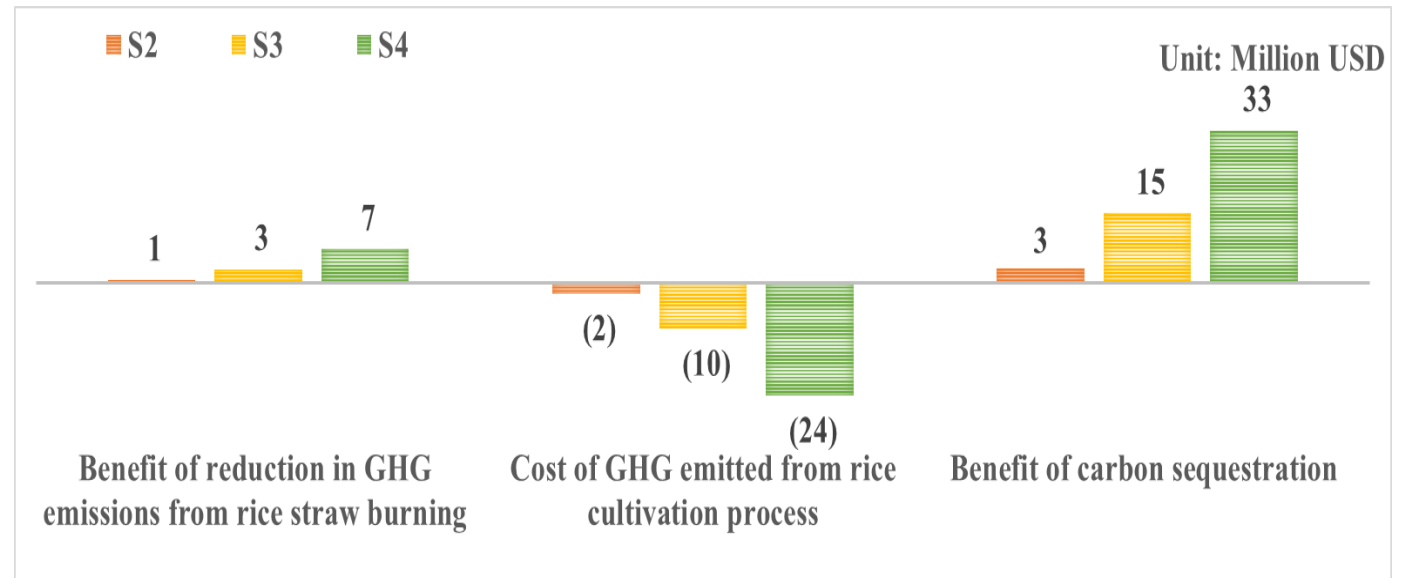
## 2. Lower greenhouse gas emissions

1. The expansion of organic rice area is projected to reduce overall GHG emissions from rice fields, due to prohibition of stubble burning and higher soil carbon accumulation.
2. Higher GHG emissions in cultivation process for organic rice production are roughly offset by the elimination of stubble burning and related GHG emissions.
  - There will be trade-offs. We present the science and economic evidence



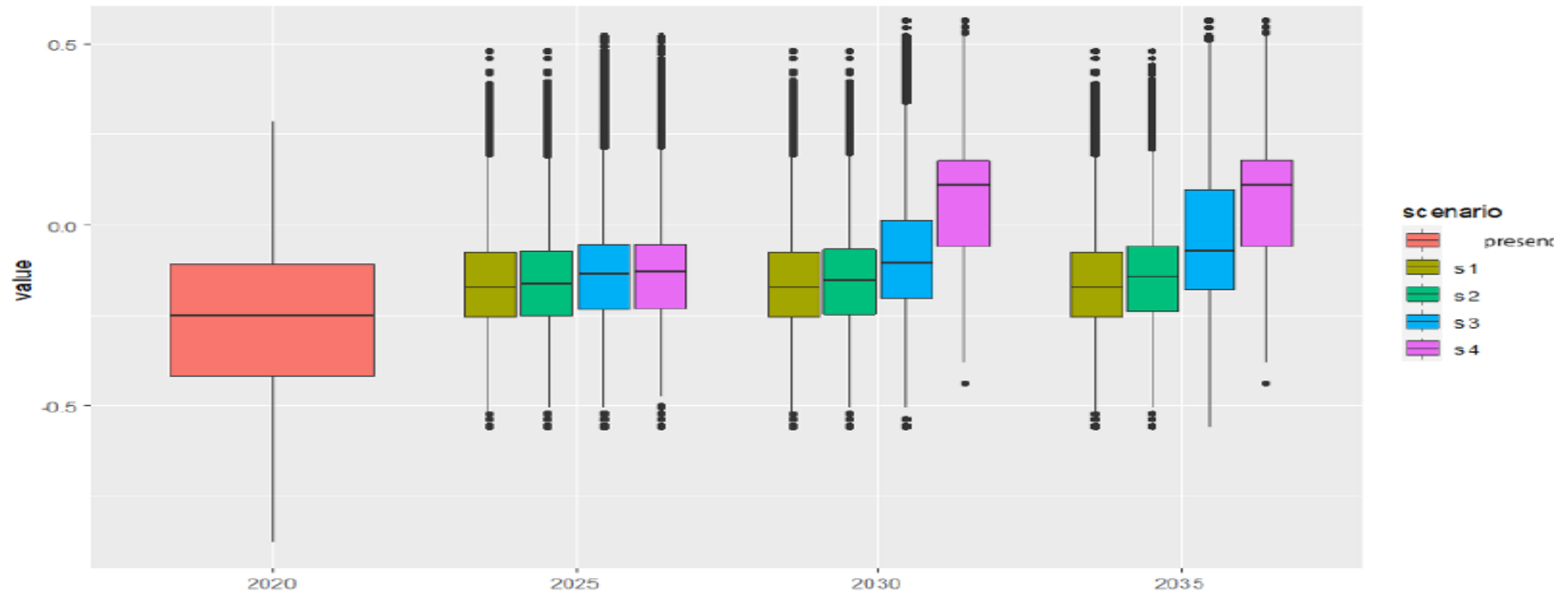
## 2. Lower greenhouse gas emissions

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2. Higher GHG emissions in cultivation process for organic rice production are roughly offset by the elimination of stubble burning and related GHG emissions.
3. In addition, soil organic carbon accumulation is higher under organic methods, **resulting in lower net emissions from organic rice overall.**

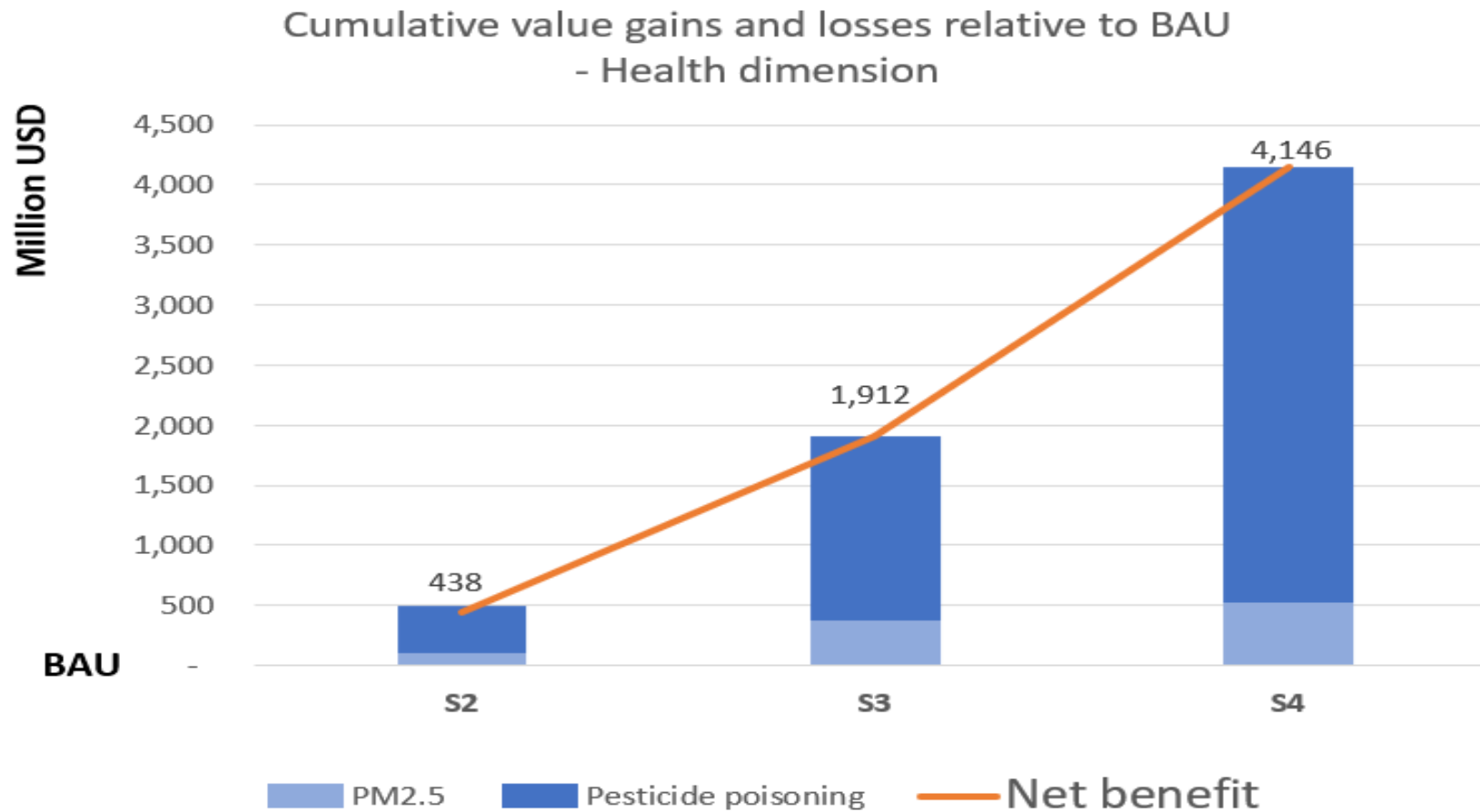


### 3. Enhanced biodiversity

Normalized biodiversity index of the whole landscape  
by prediction on each year and scenario

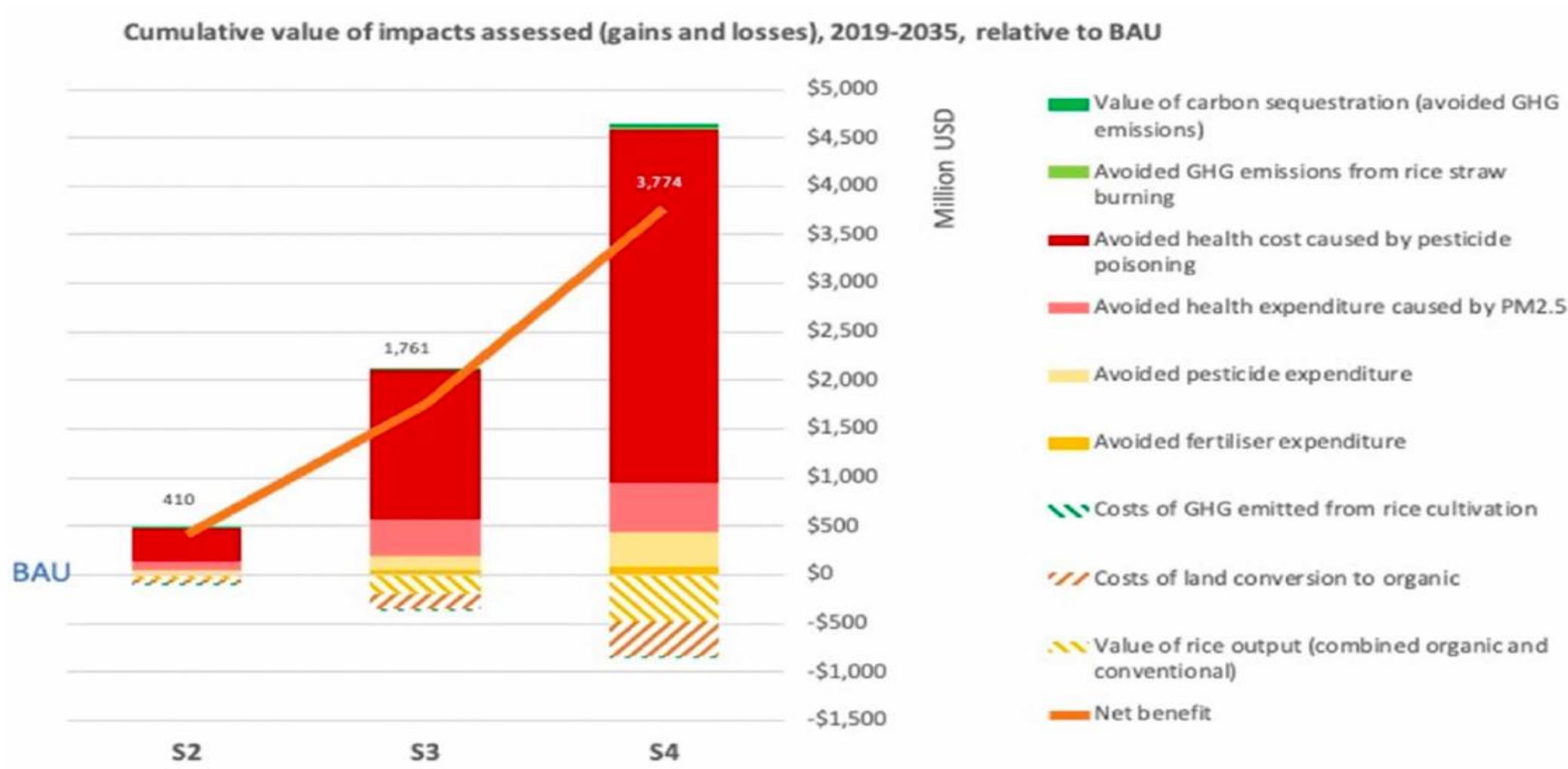


## 4. Health Impacts





# Overall net benefit from a shift to organic



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# IV TEEB impact

# I Fostering discussion across thematic & geographical jurisdictions

**Presidential Decree [no. 11700/2023](#)**: the National UPA Programme refers to TEEB's UPA Guide as the basis for state, district and municipalities to jointly plan and implement actions.

**Resource allocation:** 3,2 million USD committed.

**Presidential Decree [no. 11822/2023](#)**: the "National Food Security and Nutritional Strategy for Cities" adopted the UPA Guide for implementing actions on healthy and sustainable food productions in cities.

**Replication:** TEEB's capacity building on UPA Guide implementation will be replicated by government in 12 metropolitan regions in the next 3 years, reaching over 96 cities.

**Legislative process:** UNEP convened parliamentarians to support Project Bill no. 182/2017 approved in Congress plenary.



## II Communicating scenarios and results

### Beyond food: the contribution of urban agriculture to well-being in the metropolis of São Paulo

Understand how the expansion of the metropolis over forested and agricultural areas impacts the well-being of its residents and how agriculture can contribute to improving living conditions in the region.



<https://alemdosalimentos.escolhas.org/>

**Agroecological transition in unproductive pastures in the São Paulo metropolitan region could generate the following benefits:**

**Food Security** – approximately 700 hectares of agroecological gardens would be sufficient to end food deserts in the periphery.

**Cooling capacity** - agroforestry systems could lower temperatures by 0.2 degrees Celsius in some cities.

**Flood mitigation** – the increase in organic matter in the soil provides better water infiltration, equivalent to three flood control pools, each costing US\$ 30M

**Erosion regulation** – soil conservation practices, such as mulching the soil with straw and level cultivation, would prevent 8.5 tons/hectare/year of soil loss, improving water quality for domestic use.

## III Bigger picture – contributing to impact

Impact: agroforestry included in the Five-Year Midterm Development Plan for Indonesia for the first time, with noted contribution of the TEEBAgriFood study





# IV Upscaling/mainstreaming and project sustainability

UNSDCF

- UNEP to train civil servants at the premier Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA)
- TEEBAgriFood Initiative included in Outcome Group on Climate and Environment under UNSDCF 2023-2026 for India

ICAR

- Research Advisory Committee of IIFSR recommended application of TEEBAgriFood framework to assess the impacts of organic farming and agroforestry in other agroecological zones of India via the All-India Network on Organic Farming (AINOF)

Education

- TEEB included in the syllabus of undergraduate program on Natural Farming by Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR)
- Expected to be included in 51 State Agriculture Universities from 2024 onwards

# Thank you



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