



Biodiversity for Food

From 2020-2021 | Total budget € 25,000 (INREF)*

Cultivating resilience for planetary health

The unprecedented rate of current human-induced environmental change poses a novel challenge to all social-ecological systems on earth. Understanding the main hurdles to planetary health is paramount to designing sustainable solutions that balance the needs of human and natural systems. Recent interdisciplinary work on the concept of Planetary Health emphasizes the interconnectedness of natural systems and human health outcomes, such as food security. This project makes a novel contribution to this emerging field through an analysis of the interlinkages between food production, biodiversity, and society in Brazil. Sustainable and environmentally-friendly farming tools and techniques are being developed at an unprecedented rate, and local communities often use traditional technology that is in line with current agroecological models, although compromising its production and distribution. Biodiversity is crucial for food production, either directly (e.g. honey, crops variety) or indirectly (e.g. pollination, plague control). This project establishes a unique collaboration among experts to develop strategies that permit continuous societal adaptation to the needs of healthy biological systems. The outcomes of this project will make an important contribution to emerging global scholarship on planetary health and ongoing efforts to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

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