

AGRILINKS



Bees, Bats, and Butterflies: The Importance of Pollinators for Global Food Security and Nutrition

Speakers: *Kate Gallagher, USAID Center for Environment, Energy, & Infrastructure*
Smitha Krishnan, Alliance of Bioversity International CIAT
Taylor Ricketts, Gund Institute for Environment, University of Vermont
Claire Kremen, Department of Zoology at University of British Columbia

Moderator: *Zachary Baquet, USAID Bureau for Resilience and Food Security*

Date: December 3rd, 2020

Kate Gallagher, AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow, USAID Center for Environment, Energy, & Infrastructure



Dr. Kate Gallagher is a AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). A pollination ecologist by training, Kate's graduate and post-graduate research addressed questions about the mechanisms governing how global climate change affects plant-pollinator interactions and the extent to which changes in the levels of pollination influence the ecology and evolution of plant populations. At USAID, Kate is applying her scientific and technical skills to support the implementation of USAID's Environmental and Natural Resource Management (ENRM) Framework, with the goal of building capacity and fostering networks of innovation and information exchanges to better integrate environment and natural resource management across development sectors.



Claire Kremen, President's Excellence Chair in Biodiversity, Professor at Institute for Resources, Environment, and Sustainability, Department of Zoology at University of British Columbia

Claire Kremen is President's Excellence Chair In Biodiversity with a joint appointment in IRES and Zoology at University of British Columbia. She is an ecologist and applied conservation biologist working on how to reconcile agricultural land use with biodiversity conservation. Before coming to UBC, she held faculty appointments first at Princeton University and then at University of California, Berkeley, where she was also founding Faculty Director for the Center for Diversified Farming Systems and the Berkeley Food Institute. Prior to those appointments, she worked for over a decade for the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Xerces Society, designing protected area networks and conducting biodiversity research in Madagascar, a biodiversity hotspot. Her work both then and now strives to develop practical conservation solutions while adding fundamentally to biodiversity science. She is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Conservation International, Field Chief Editor for Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems, and, since 2014, has been noted as a highly-cited researcher.

Smitha Krishnan, Scientist, Agrobiodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Alliance of Biodiversity International and CIAT



Smitha joined the Alliance of Bioversity International CIAT in Bangalore, India, in 2019 as an expert in Agrobiodiversity and Ecosystem services. Smitha's research interests broadly include ecosystem services, pollination biology, plant-animal interactions, restoration, soil-plant relationships and sustainable livelihoods. Since joining, Smitha conducted a review on current knowledge and gaps with regard to management practices that support pollination services within forests and surrounding landscapes with the Forest Genetic Resources and Restoration Team, for FAO Forestry. Currently, she is developing proposals focused on crop pollination services and restoration of agricultural landscapes. Meanwhile she is co-ordinating a study on Mapping Ecosystem Services for Human Well-being in India and will be leading the study pertaining to pollination services. She is also involved with the Asia Coffee Cacao Nexus of the Alliance.

Taylor Ricketts, Scientist, Gund Professor and Director of the Gund Institute for Environment, University of Vermont



Taylor Ricketts is Gund Professor and Director of the Gund Institute for Environment at the University of Vermont. Taylor's research centers on the overarching question: How do we meet the needs of people and nature in an increasingly crowded, changing world? His recent work has focused on the economic and health benefits provided to people by forests, wetlands, reefs, and other natural areas. He is co-founder of the Natural Capital Project, a partnership among universities and NGOs to map and value these natural benefits. Taylor has also served as an author and editor for two UN-sponsored efforts to assess global ecosystems and their contributions to human wellbeing. These and other collaborations are part of a continuing effort to link rigorous research with practical conservation and policy efforts worldwide. Before arriving at UVM in 2011, Taylor led World Wildlife Fund's Conservation Science Program for nine years. He was elected as a Fellow of the Ecological Society of America in 2020, and Thompson-Reuters has named him one of the world's most cited and influential scientists.

Restoring Pollinators and Crop Pollination Services in Agricultural Landscapes

AGRILINKS WEBINAR

Claire Kremen

Professor and President's Excellence Chair in
Biodiversity

Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability
University of British Columbia



European Honey Bee



Key managed
pollinator for
crop production



European Honey Bee



Key managed
pollinator for
crop production



MEET THE POLLINATORS

From near-microscopic thrips to the lemurs of Madagascar, pollinators come in all shapes, colors, and sizes. In addition to their contribution to plant reproduction, pollinators worldwide play a crucial role in ecological food webs, the human food supply, and the global economy. Here's a quick look at some common groups of pollinators and the plants they visit:

BEETLES



Beetles were probably some of the first animal pollinators. They feed on pollen and flower parts. Flowers that rely on beetle pollination are white to green, produce lots of pollen, and have large bowl-like petals.

FLIES



Adult flies typically visit flowers to drink nectar. Many types of flowers attract flies, but those that specialize in fly pollination are often brown to dark purple, rotten-smelling, and shaped like a shallow funnel or trap.

BUTTERFLIES



Larvae eat plant vegetation. Adults have strawlike mouthparts to drink nectar. Flowers attractive to butterflies are bright red or purple, make lots of nectar, and have long tubular petals with large landing areas.

WASPS



Wasps are related to bees, but the larvae are typically carnivorous and fed insects by their mothers. Adult wasps often still visit flowers for nectar.

BIRDS



Hummingbirds rely on flower nectar. Other birds consume nectar and fruit. Flowers attractive to birds are red, orange, or white. Hummingbird pollinated flowers have long tubes to match their long tongue and beak.

BATS



More than 300 species of fruit are bat pollinated, including bananas, mangos and guava. Bat-pollinated flowers open only at night, are white or light green, emit a strong scent, and produce both pollen and nectar.

BEES



Bees are the most common pollinators. They are likely responsible for the diversity of flowering plants found today, while bees in turn would not have evolved without flowering plants. They completely rely on flowers for food during all life stages. Flowers attractive to bees are usually white, blue, or yellow, sometimes with ultraviolet patterns humans cannot see. Females have structures for carrying pollen, and often have an electrostatic charge that attracts pollen to their bodies. There are more than 20,000 species of bee worldwide—more than the number of bird and mammal species combined!

Wild pollinators, especially bees

~ 20,000 bee species globally!

~ 13% visit crops

MEET THE POLLINATORS

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KEY RECENT FINDING

- ~50% of the crop pollination service value comes from wild (unmanaged) pollinators, not the honey bee

Kleijn et al. 2016; Garibaldi et al. 2013; Rader et al. 2015

Examples: Why native bees are needed too



SUBSTITUTE
“insurance”

Kremen et al. 2000



ENHANCE

*Greenleaf and Kremen 2006b,
Brittain et al. 2013*



REPLACE

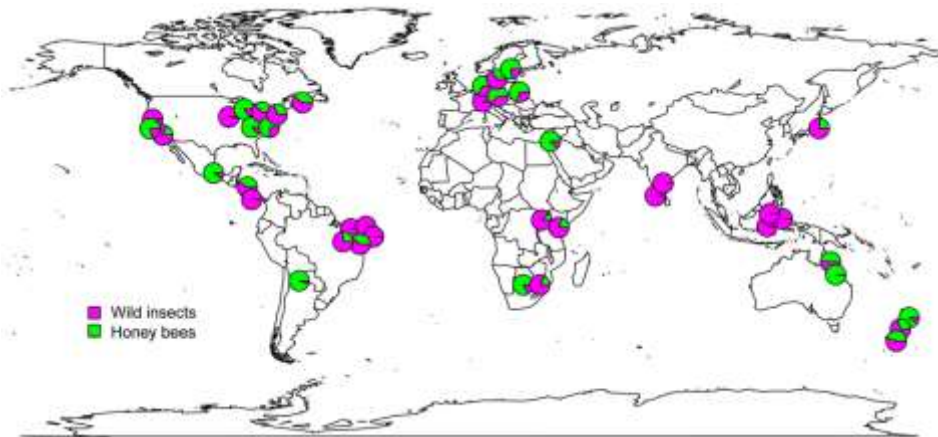
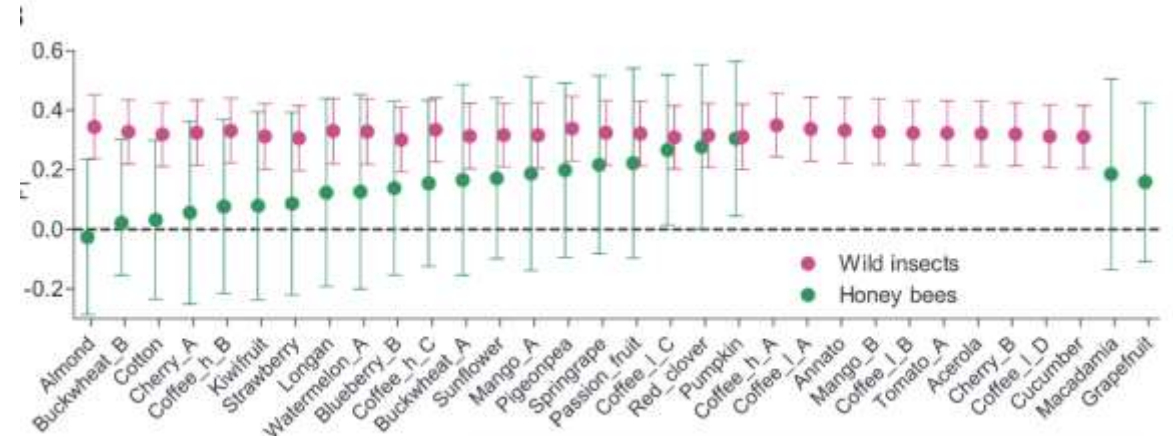
*Greenleaf and Kremen
2006a*



COMPLEMENT

Sciligo, M’Gonigle and Kremen, in prep.

Wild Pollinators Enhance Fruit Set of Crops Regardless of Honey Bee Abundance *Garibaldi et al. 2013*



41 crop systems around the world



Generalizable, global finding



MBA-03906513 - (c) - Volker Miosga

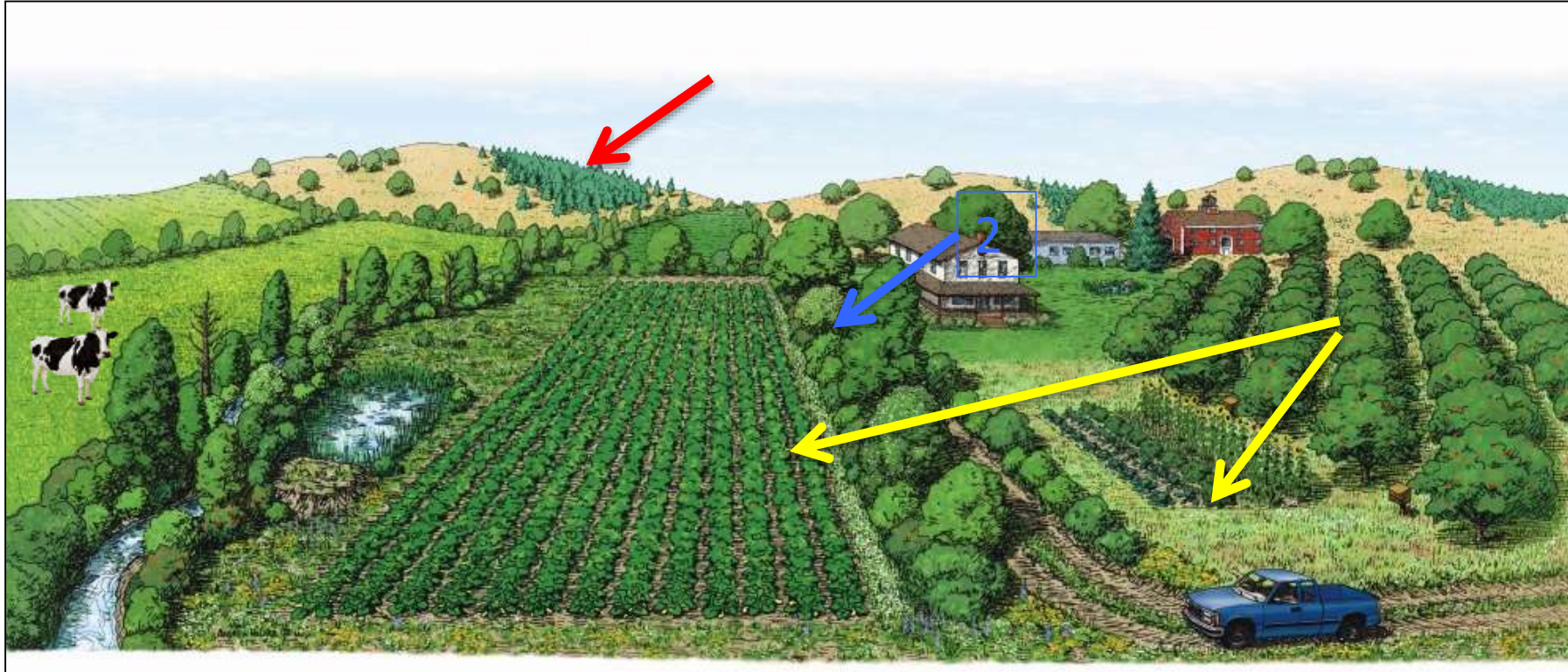
I'm hungry!



Trends towards simplification and chemicalintensification around the world.

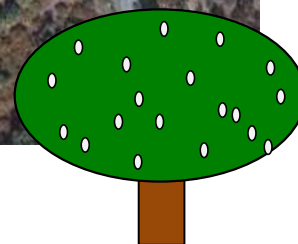
Ramankutty et al. 2018

Biologically-Diversified Farming System

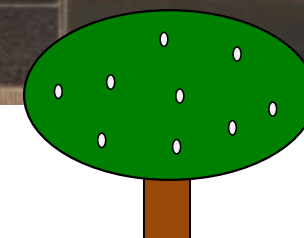


Natural habitat patches





Klein et al. 2012



Generalizable (89 studies around the world)

Landscape complexity -> diverse pollinators -> improved pollination > increased yield

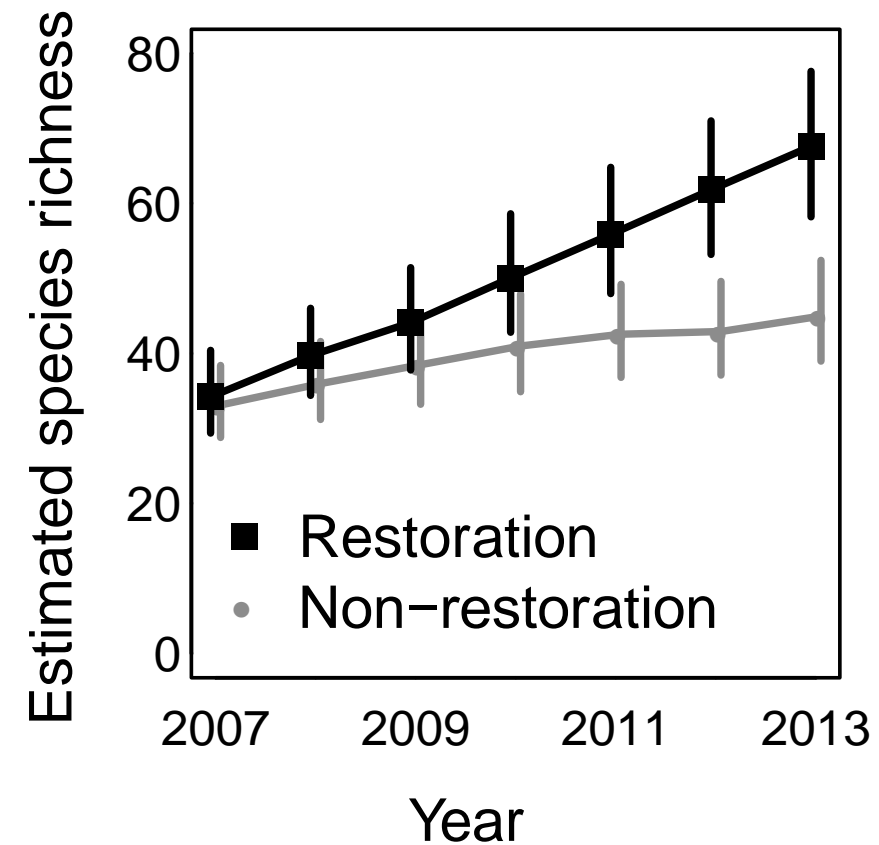
Dainese et al. 2019



Argument for habitat conservation
But..doesn't help individual farmers

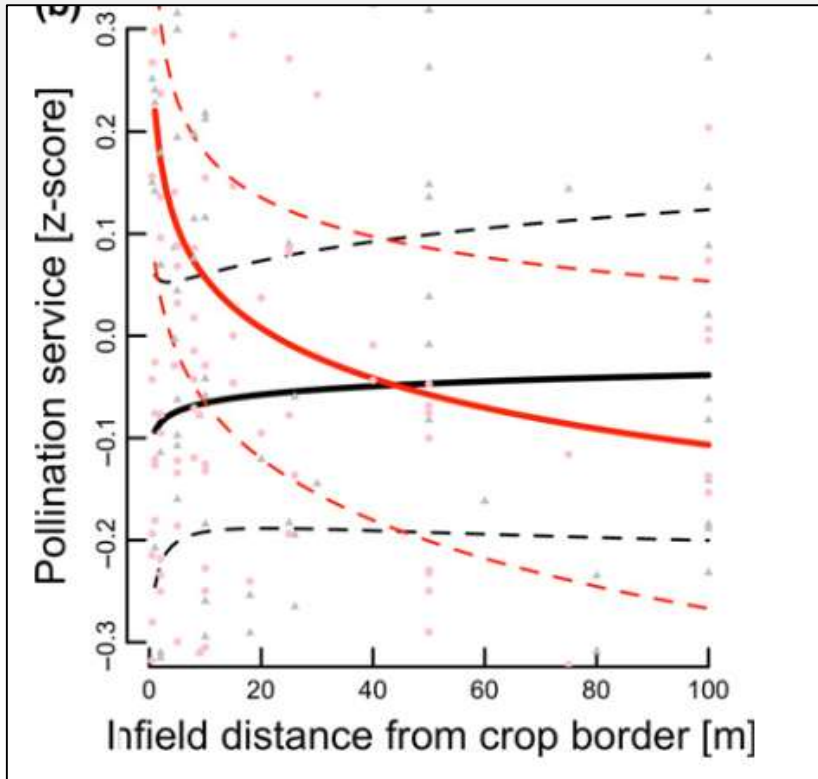
Hedgerows and flower strips



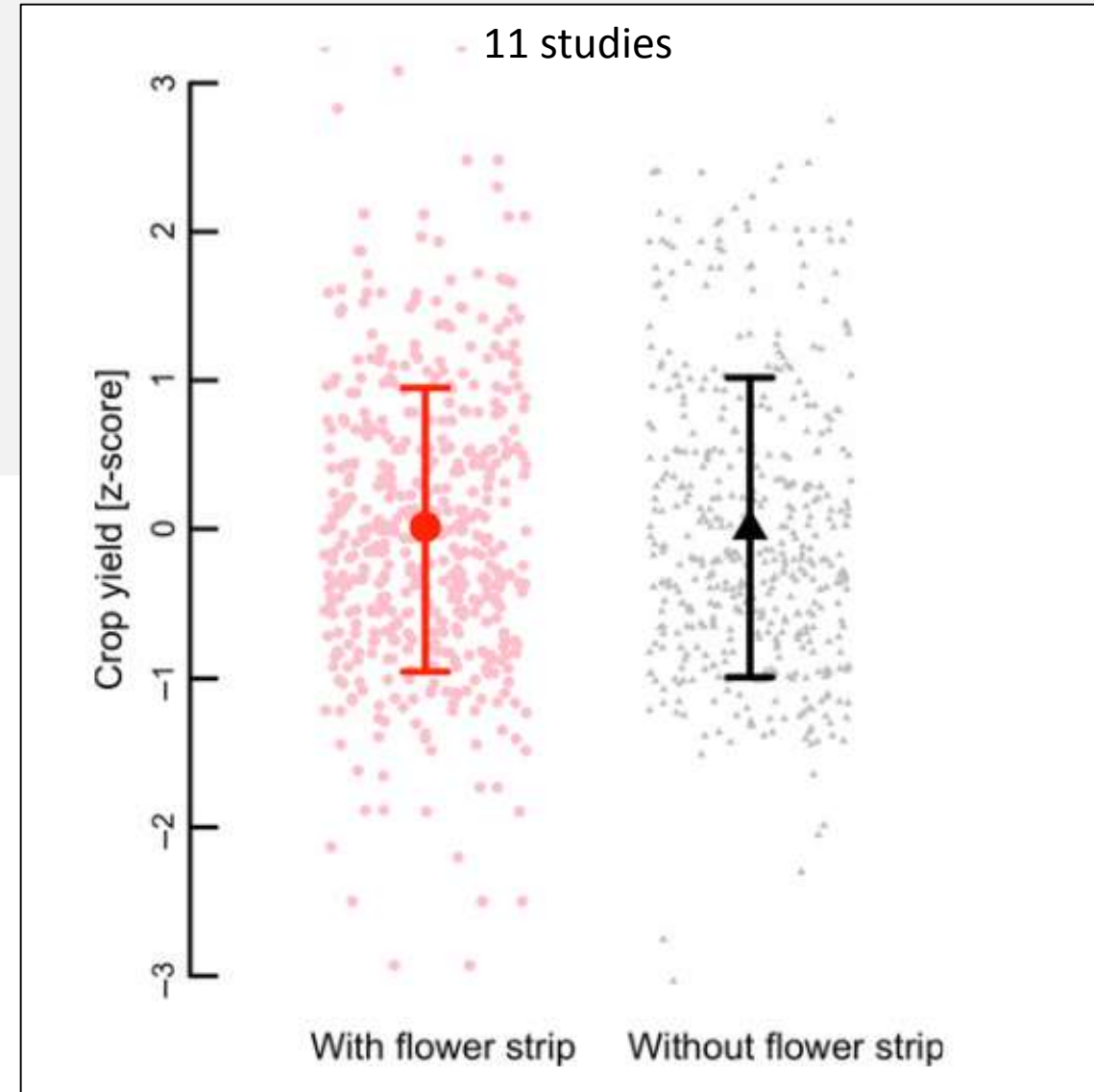


Generalizable: Flower strips and hedgerows support crop pollinators and other pollinating species (Kremen et al. 2019; Nicholson et al. 2020)

Variable: improvements in pollination services don't always increase yields



Albrecht et al. 2020

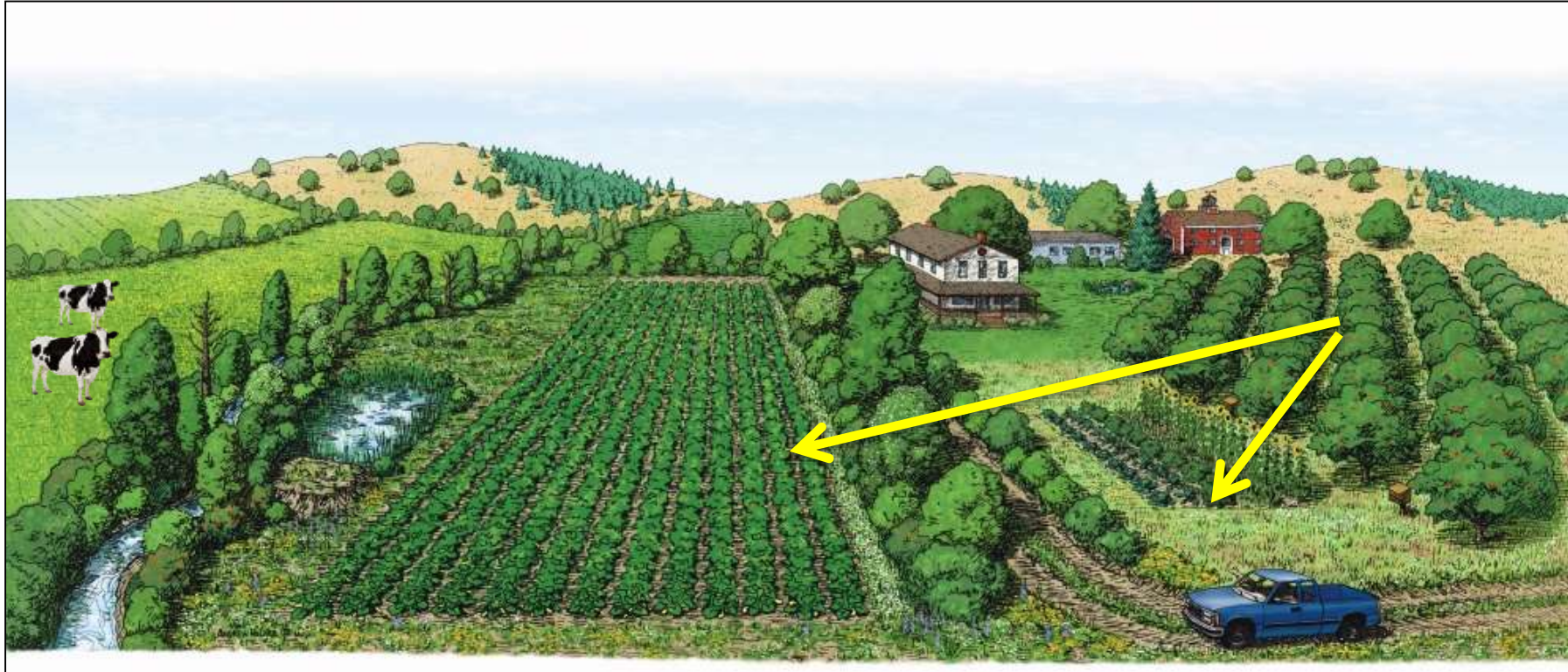




Border plantings alone not enough



Crop diversity

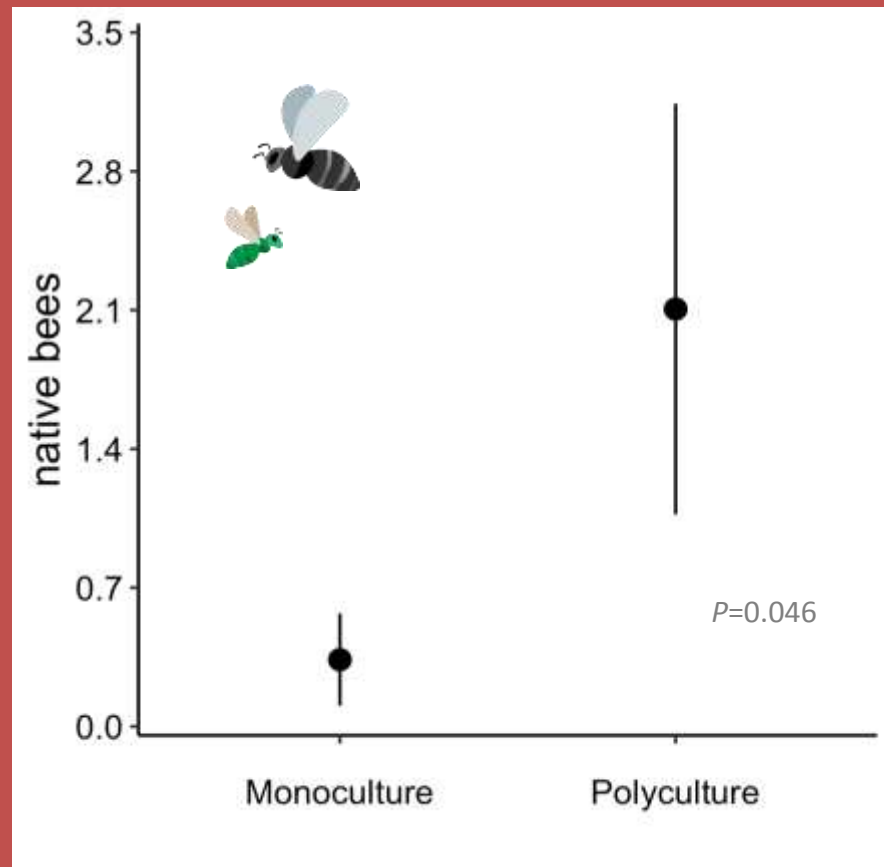


Comparing monoculture and polyculture plantings

Only a few studies exist.



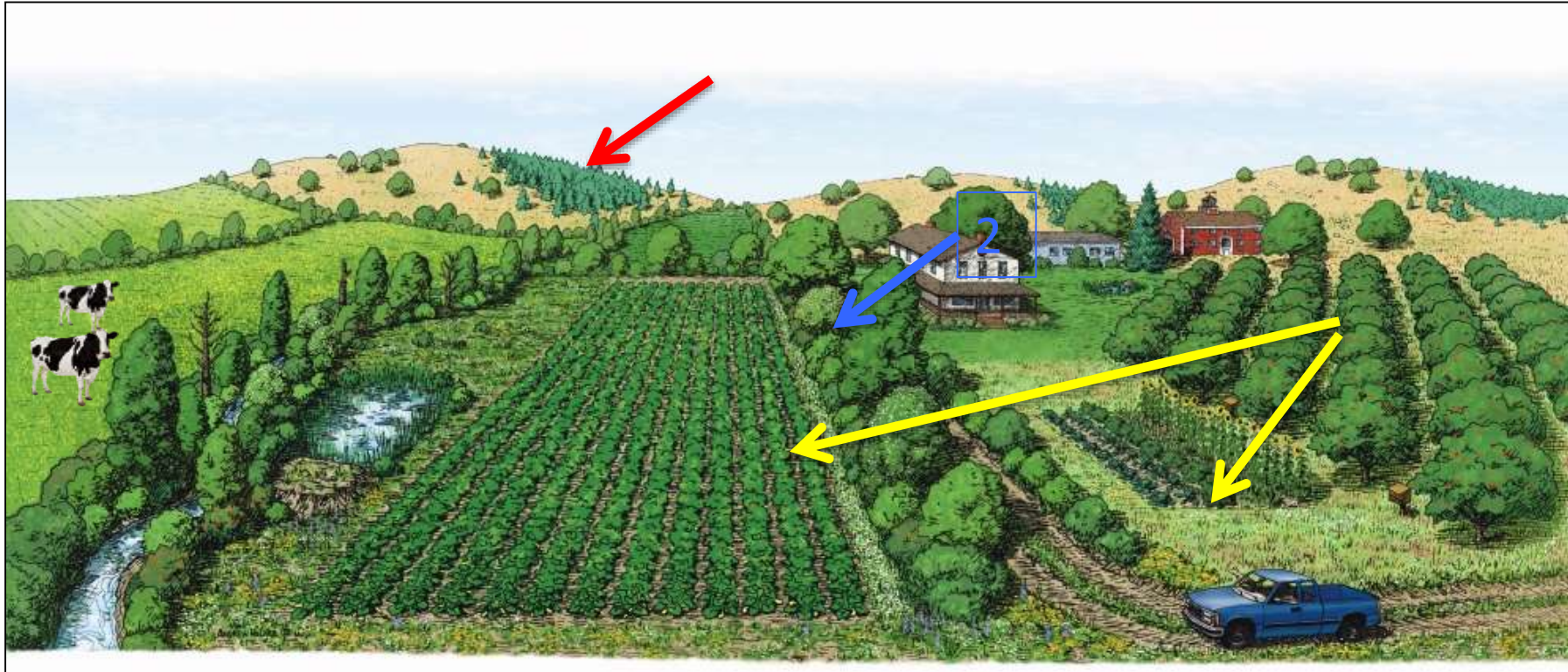
More species and individuals on polyculture farms



Guzman et al. 2019

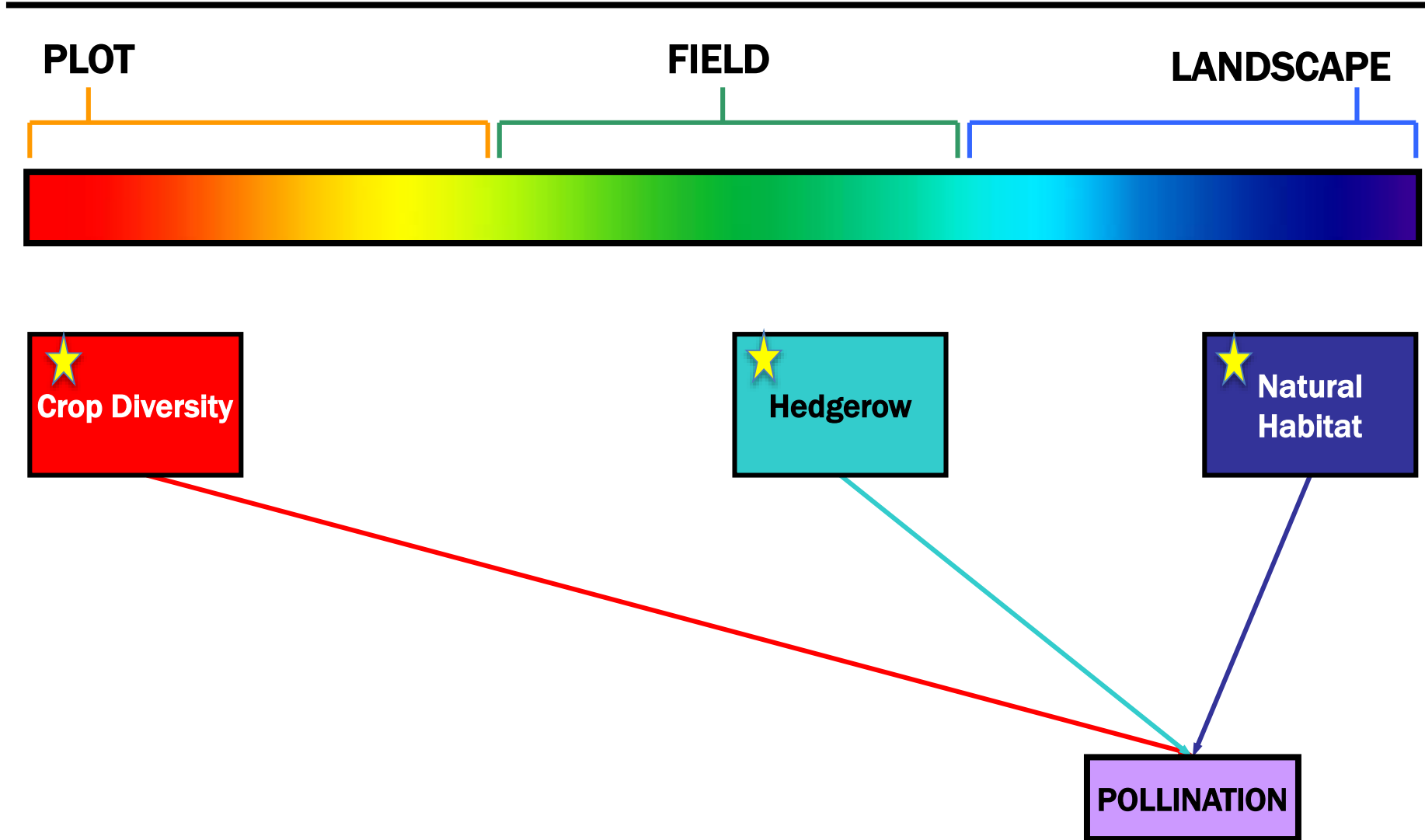


Biologically-Diversified Farming System

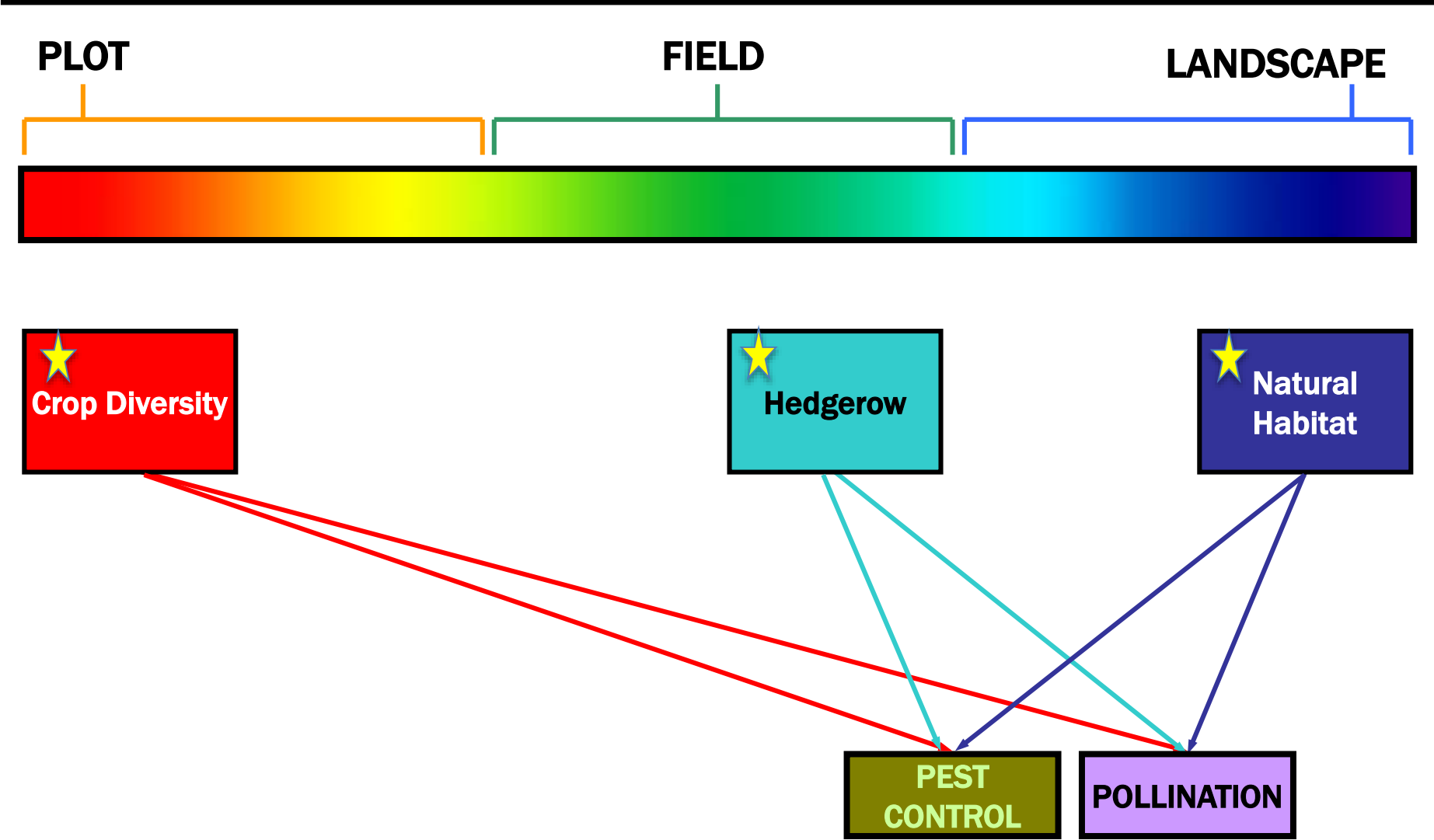


Evidence exists that these effects build on each other (*Kennedy et al 2013*) or interact positively (*Scheper et al. 2015*)

Biologically-Diversified Farming Systems



Co-Benefit: Pest Control



Take Home Points for USAID

- Providing a **diversity of pollinating insects** is important for crop production, food security and livelihoods and provides an '**insurance policy**' relative to relying on managed honey bees alone.
- Small and large farmers can benefit greatly from enhanced pollination by using **diversification techniques** that **promote pollinators** *and* **reduce need for pesticides**.
- These methods include diversifying crops through polyculture and rotation; planting flower borders; maintaining patches of natural habitat.
- These methods have many **co-benefits**: soil fertility; pest/disease control; flood and erosion control; water quality; carbon storage; biodiversity.
- Let the pollinators show us the way to a **sustainable agriculture** by supporting diversified farming practices!





Thanks!

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Alliance



Lifting the buzz out of provisioning pollination services- A review on role of forest management practices on pollination services

Smitha Krishnan⁽¹⁾

Co-authors: Gabriela Wiederkehr Guerra⁽²⁾ Damien Bertrand⁽³⁾, Sheila Wertz⁽³⁾ and Christopher Kettle⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾Bioversity International, Bangalore, India, ⁽²⁾Bioversity International, Rome, Italy, ⁽³⁾FAO, Rome, Italy

03 December 2020



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@BiovIntCIAT_esp

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Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) are CGIAR Research Centers.
CGIAR is a global research partnership for a food-secure future.

Approach

Identify the links between forest, landscape management and pollination services

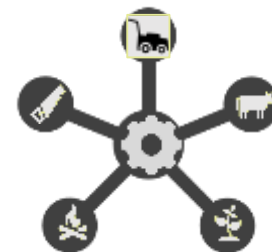


The report- Pollination services of forests: <https://doi.org/10.4060/ca9433en>



Synthesis- Main drivers affecting pollinator abundance and diversity:

Forest management practices



Habitat modification



Climate change



Synthesis- Main drivers affecting pollinators

1. Forest management practices

- 🪚 Logging
- 🌳 Dead wood retention
- 🔥 Fire
- 🐮 Grazing and mowing
- 🌱 Restoration



.....Synthesis- Main drivers affecting pollinators

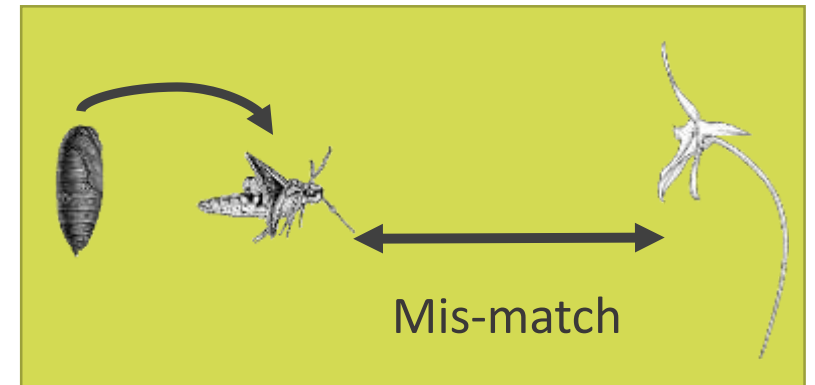
2. Habitat modification

🏠 Forest fragmentation

🏡 Change in land use



3. Climate change - alters the time, quality and duration of phenological events



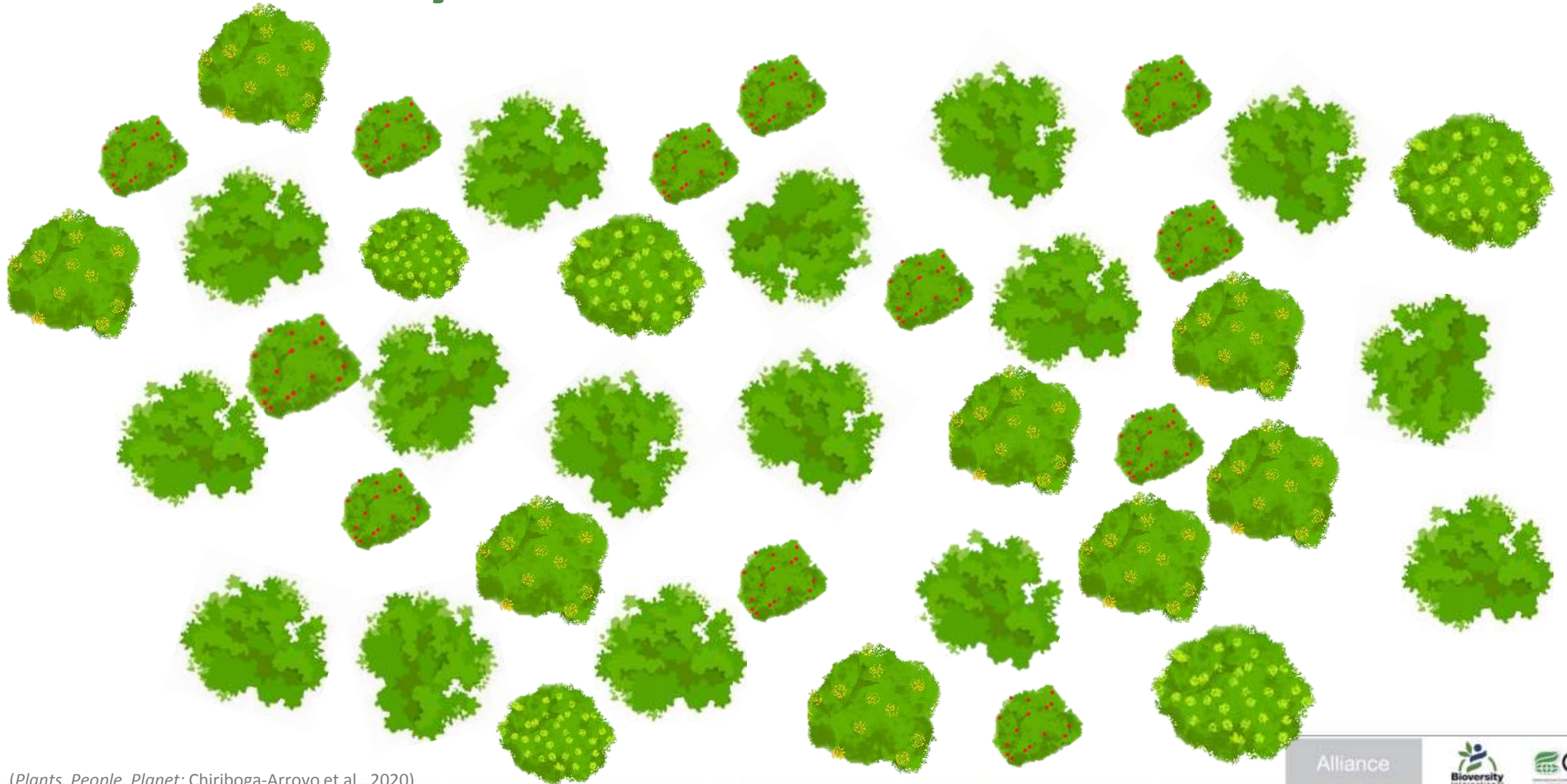
Habitat modification: Case study - Brazil nut trees



Case study: Cross-pollination of Brazil nut trees - Risky buzziness



Case study 1: Brazil nut trees in Forests

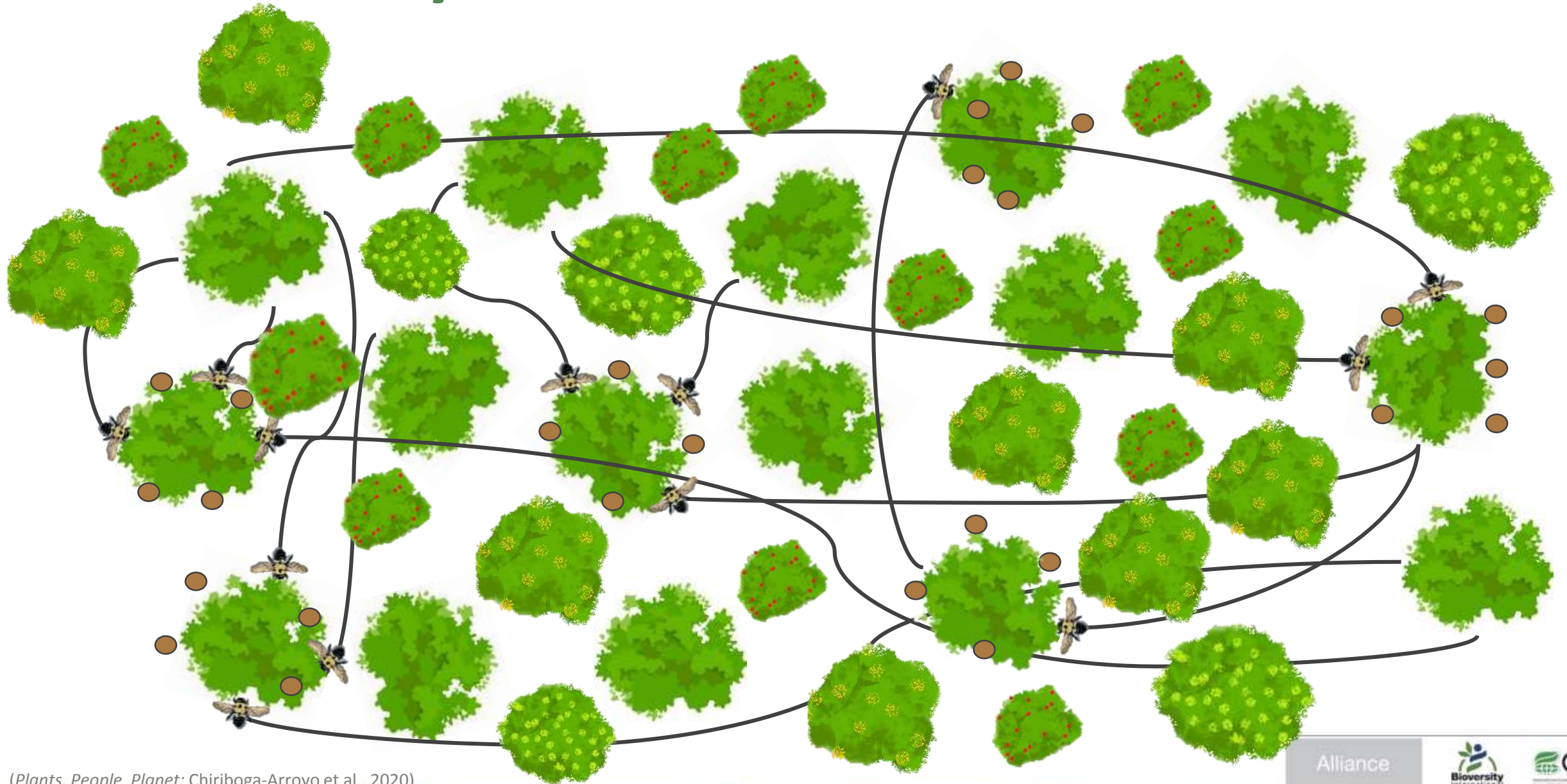


(Plants, People, Planet: Chiriboga-Arroyo et al., 2020)

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Case study 1: Brazil nut trees in Forests



(Plants, People, Planet: Chiriboga-Arroyo et al., 2020)

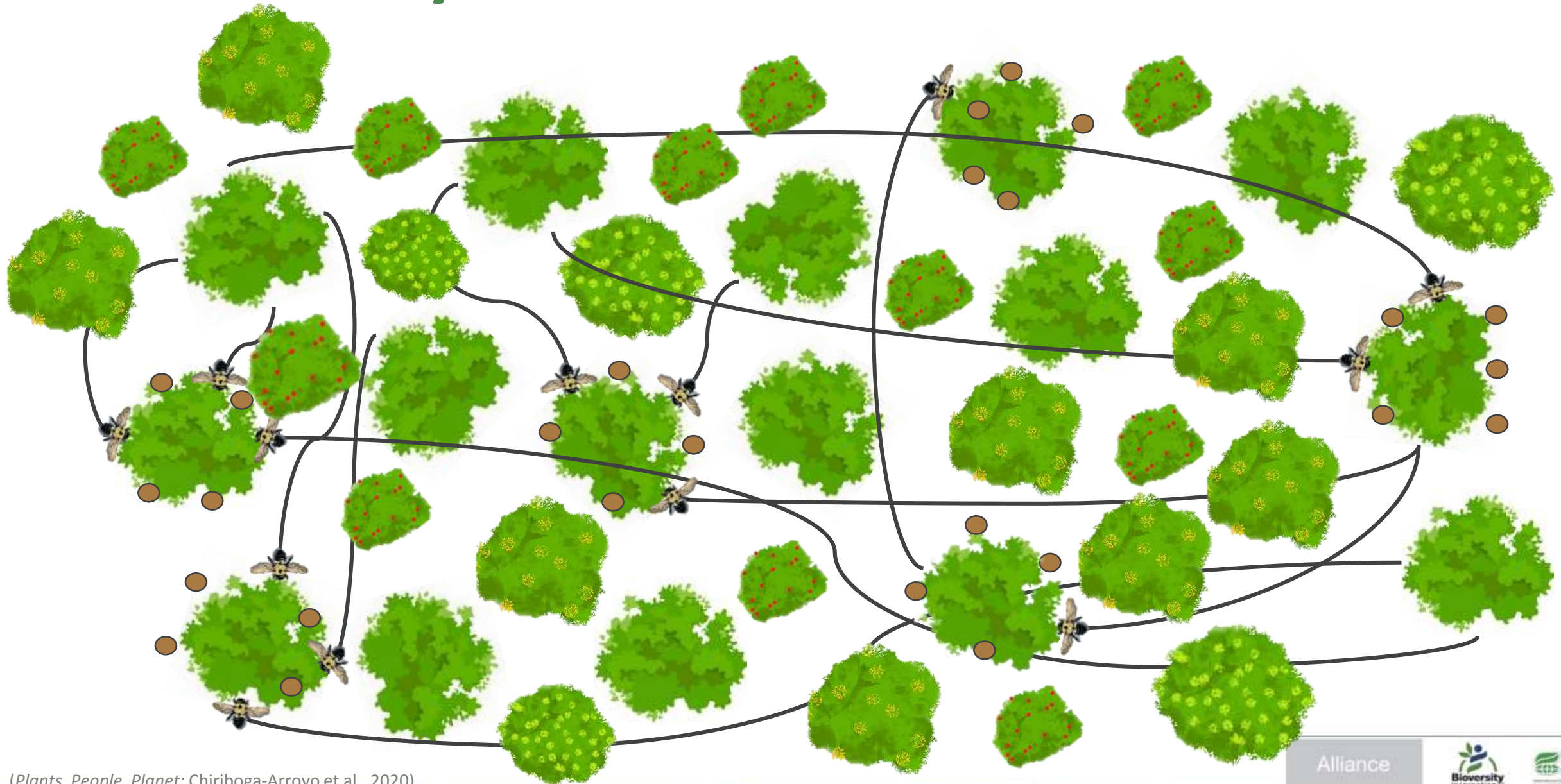
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Case study1 : Cross-pollination of Brazil nut trees



Case study 1: Brazil nut trees in Forests

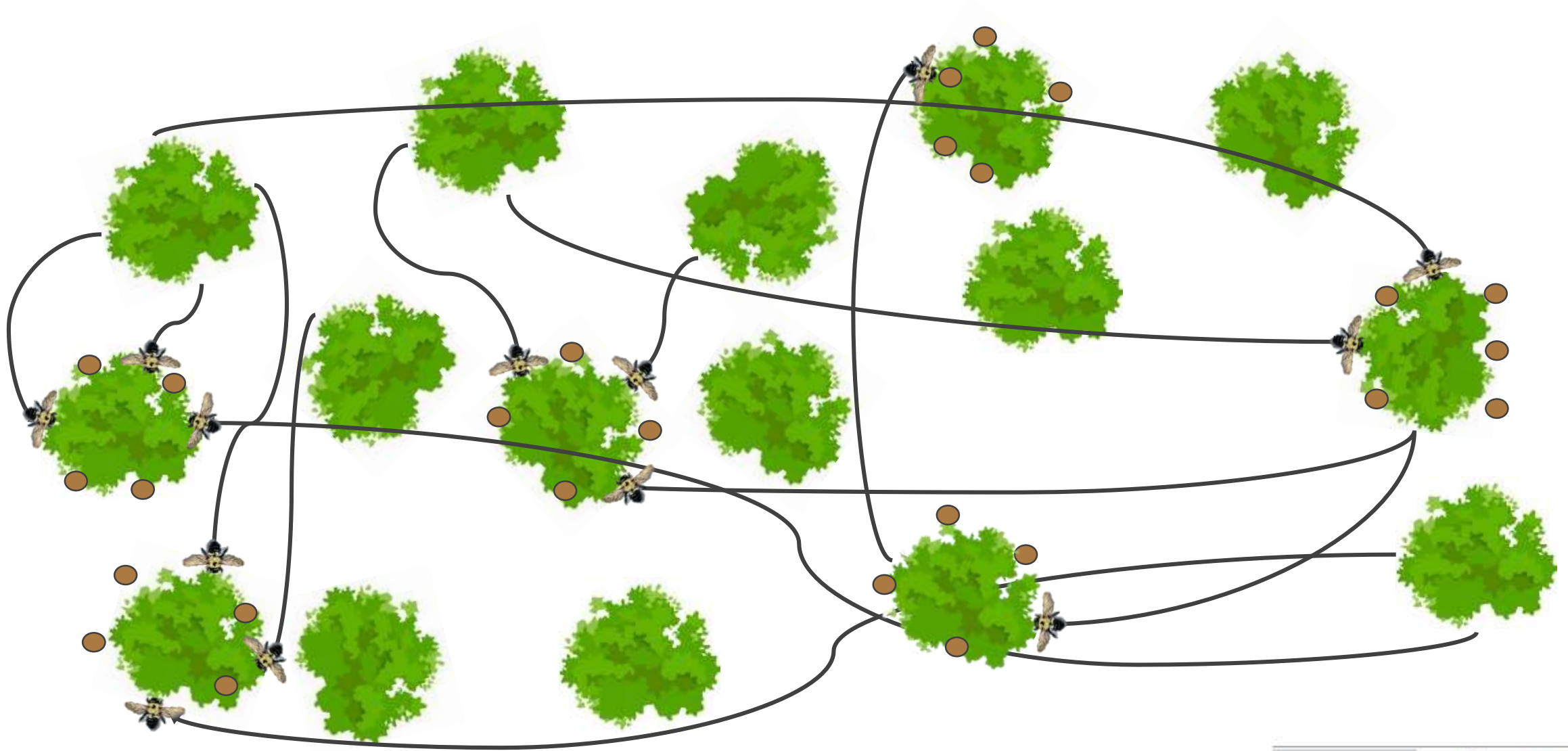


(Plants, People, Planet: Chiriboga-Arroyo et al., 2020)

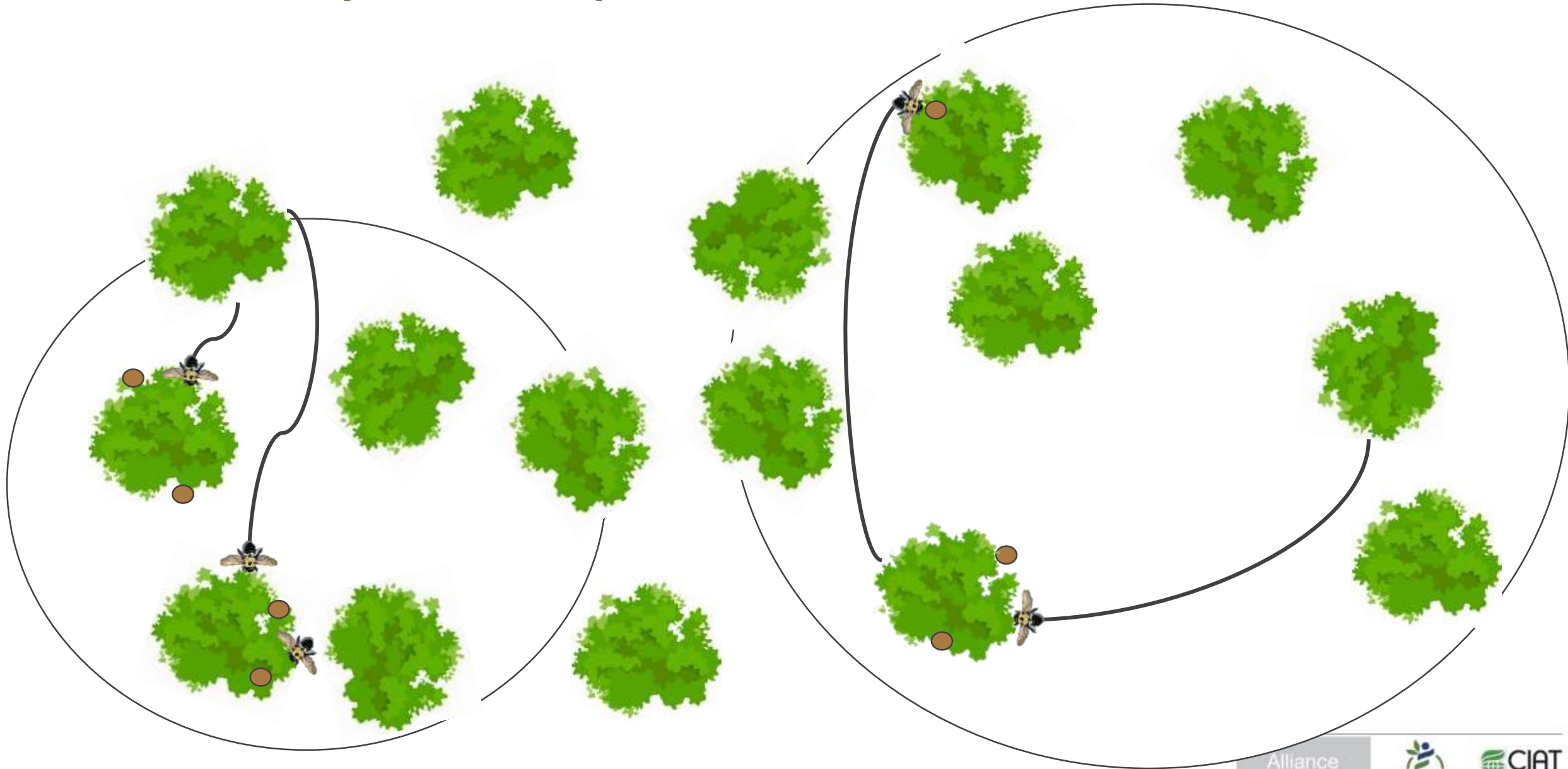
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Case study 1: Cross-pollination of Brazil nut trees



Case study 1: Cross-pollination of Brazil nut trees



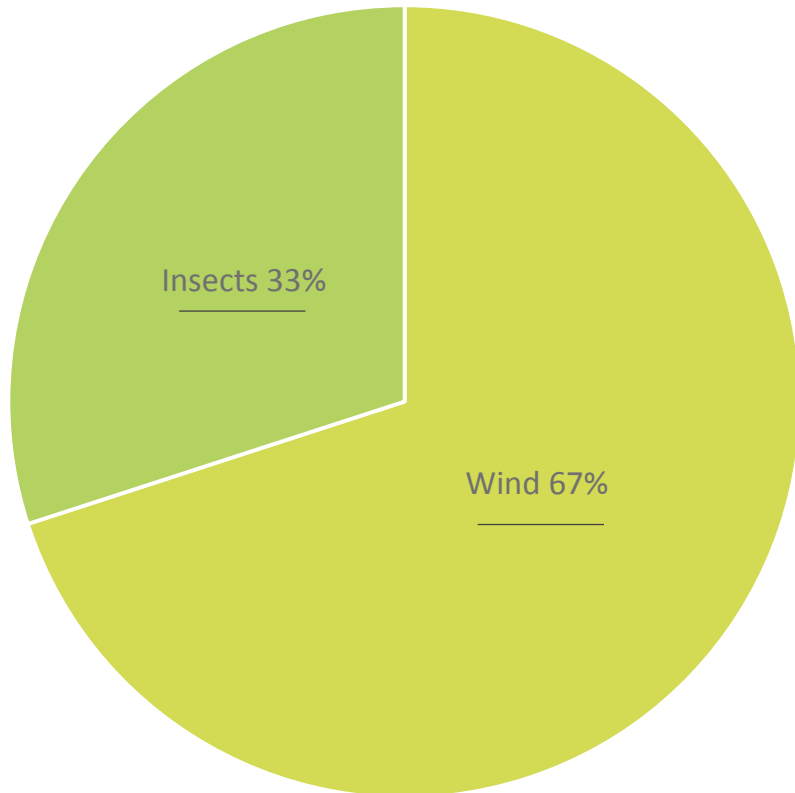
(Plants, People, Planet: Chiriboga-Arroyo et al., 2020)

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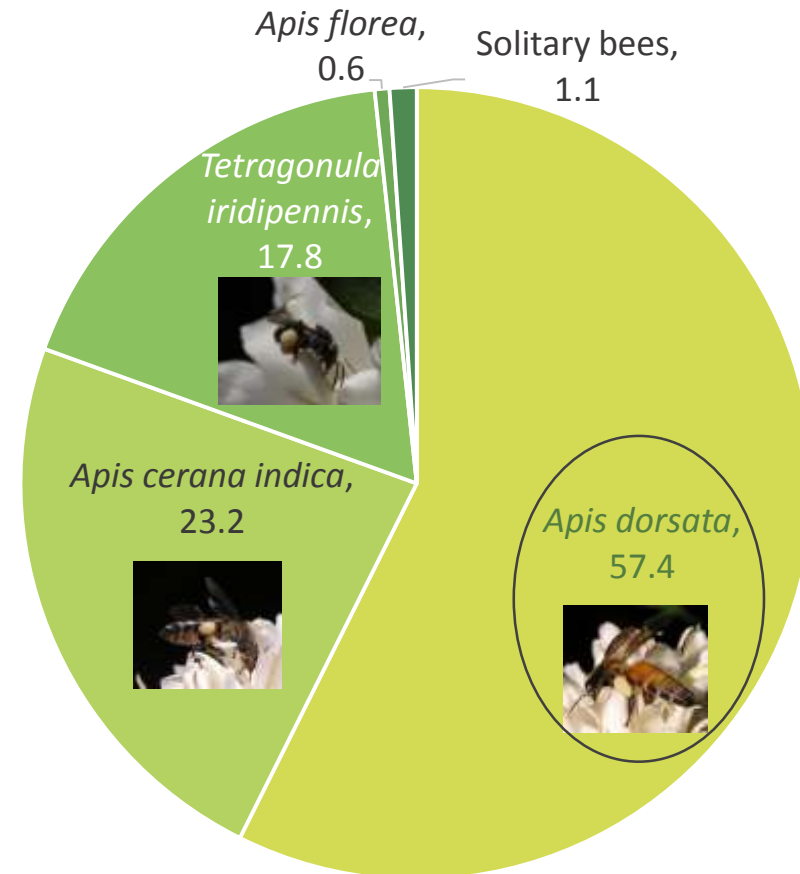


Habitat modification - Case study –Coffee landscapes

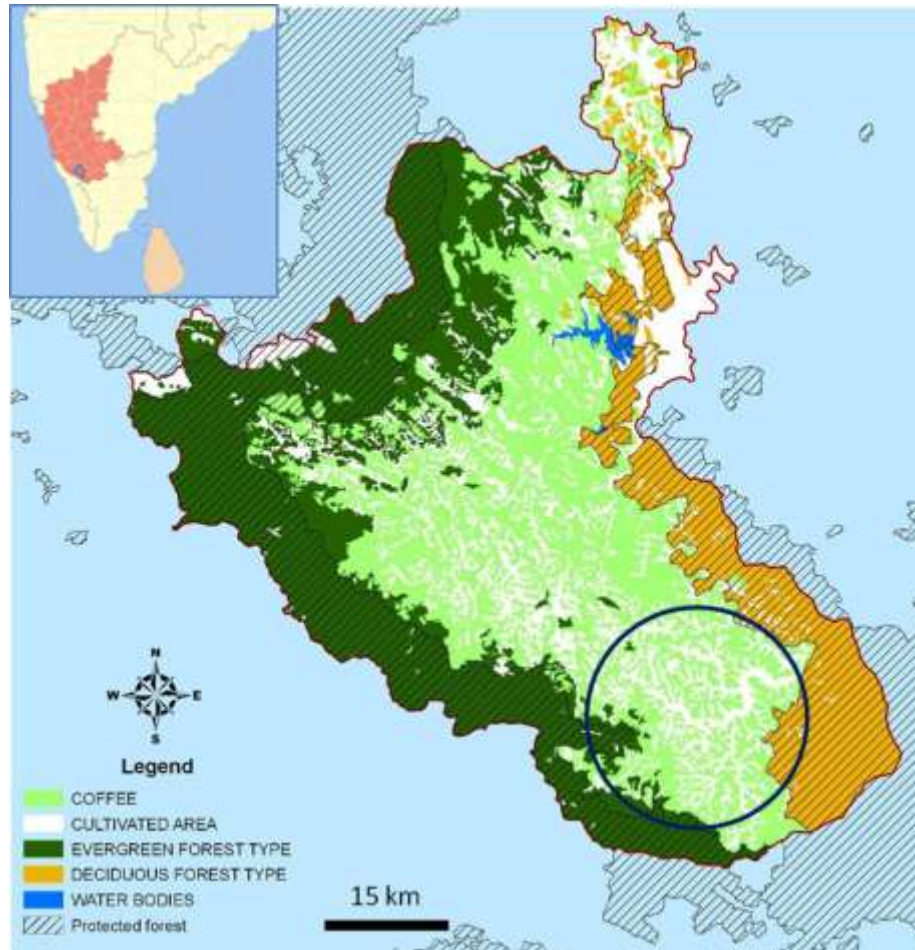
Contribution to coffee fruit-set



Pollinators of coffee



Study Area



Source: French Institute of Pondicherry

Kodagu area: 4106 km²

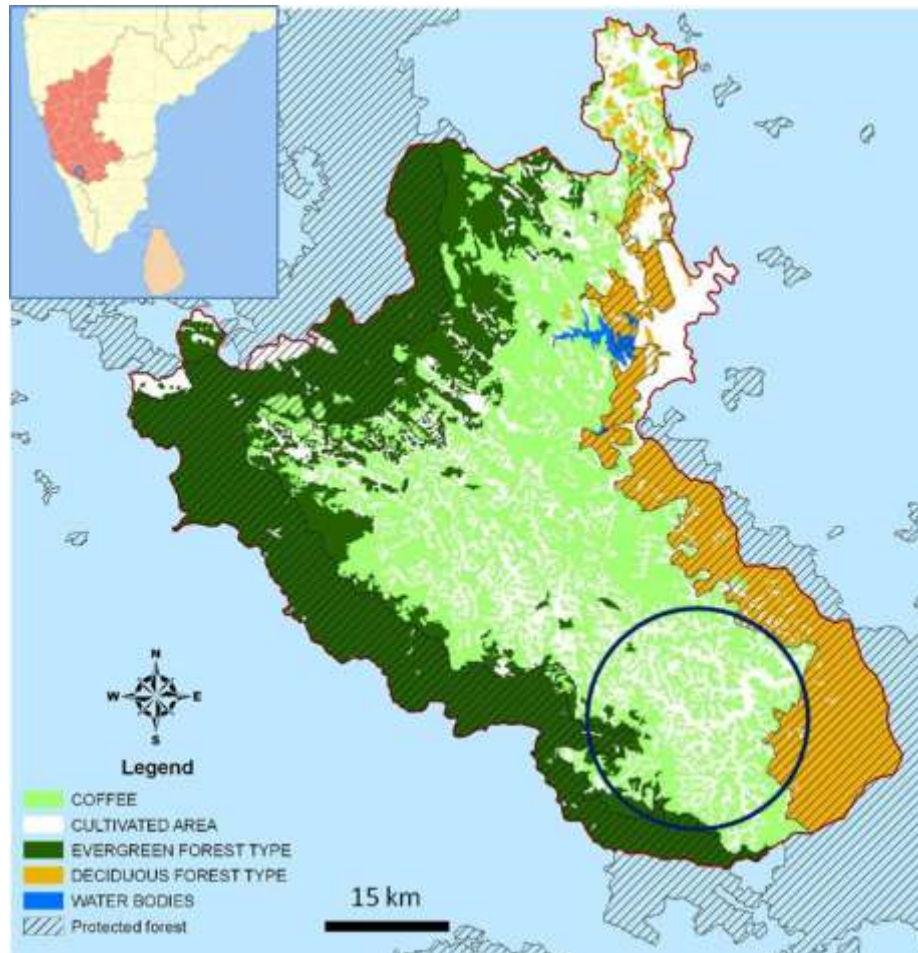
Land use types

Forest	46%
Coffee	32.5%
Paddy, Water bodies, human settlements	21.5%

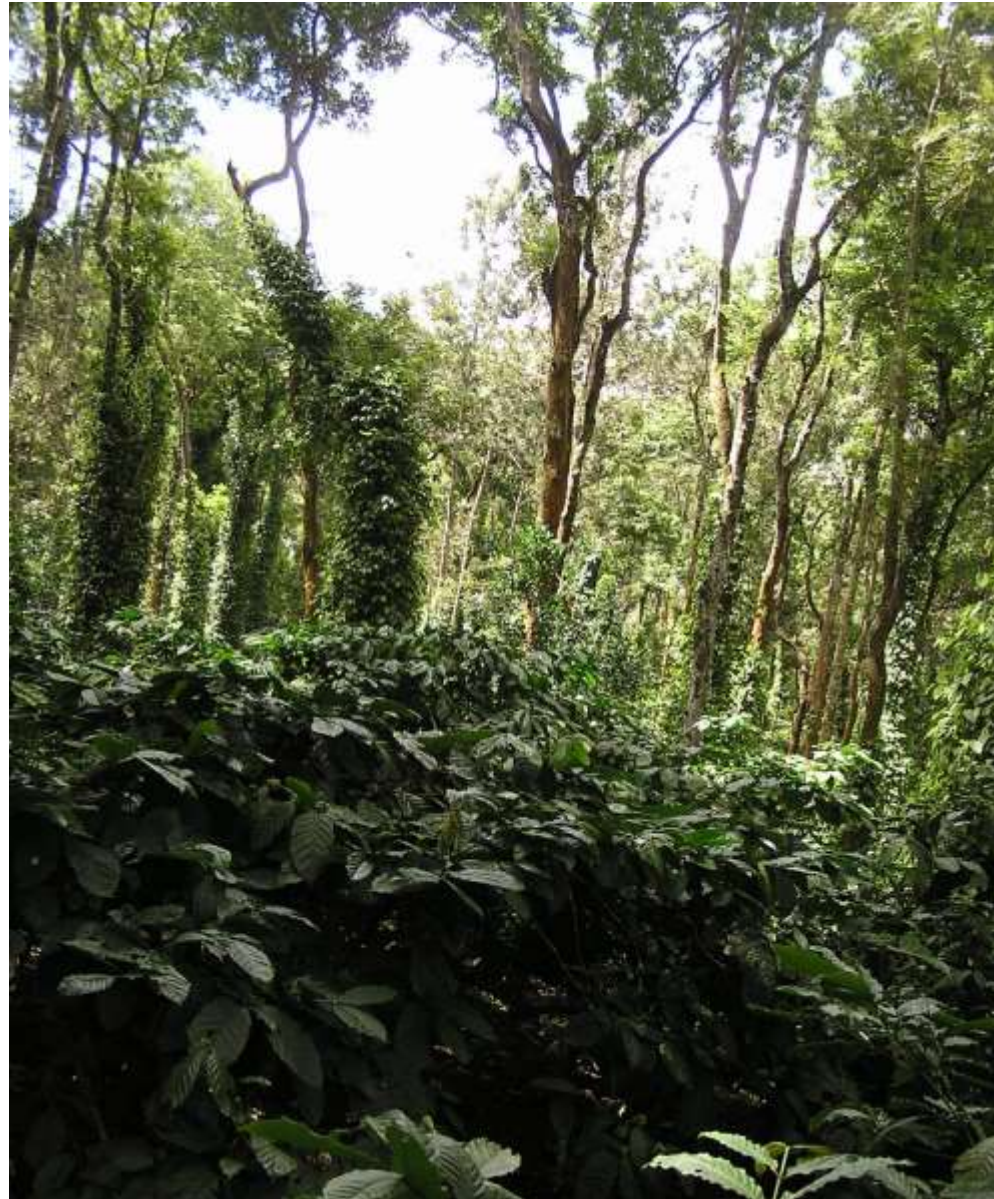
Over 1200 remnant forests dispersed in coffee-paddy matrix

1 forest remnant/ 3 km²

Study Area



Source: French Institute of Pondicherry

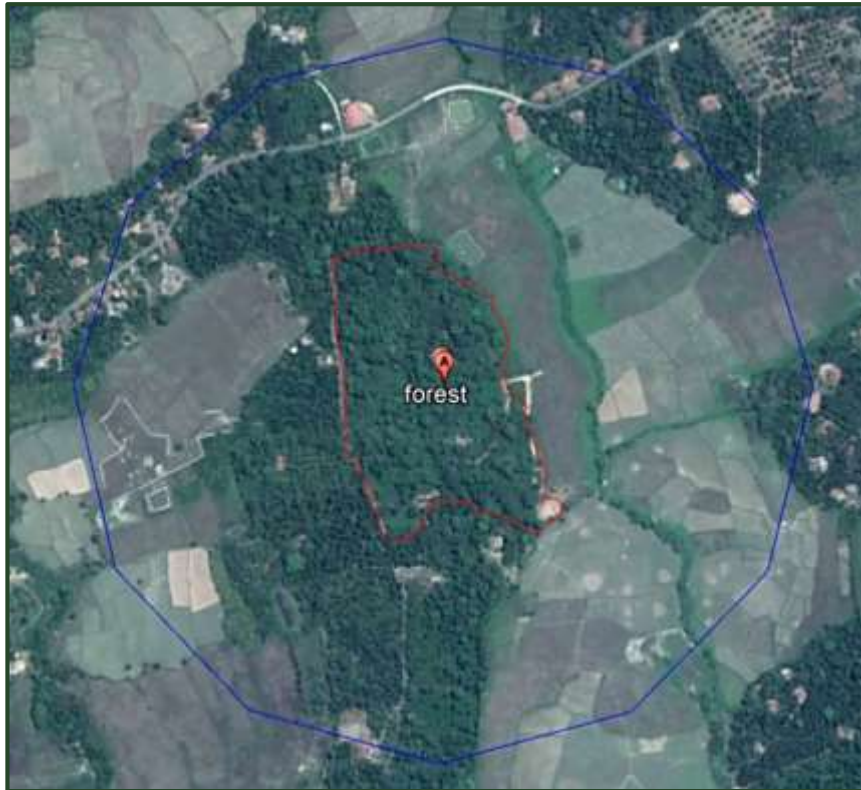




Apis dorsata
prefer to nest in
forest fragments
on large trees
with a huge
crown!

Habitat modification- Coffee landscapes

Matrix predominantly paddy

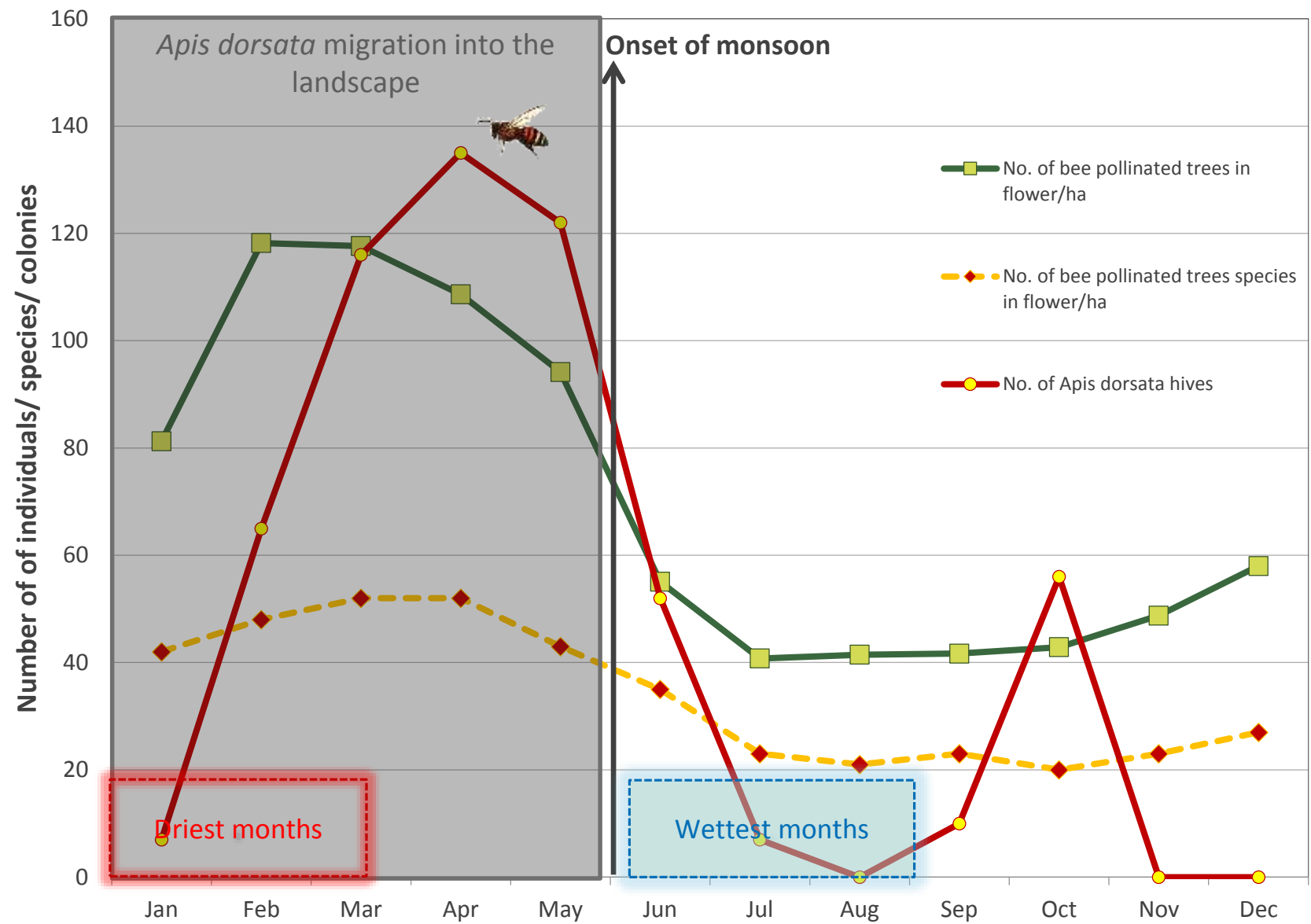


Matrix predominantly coffee

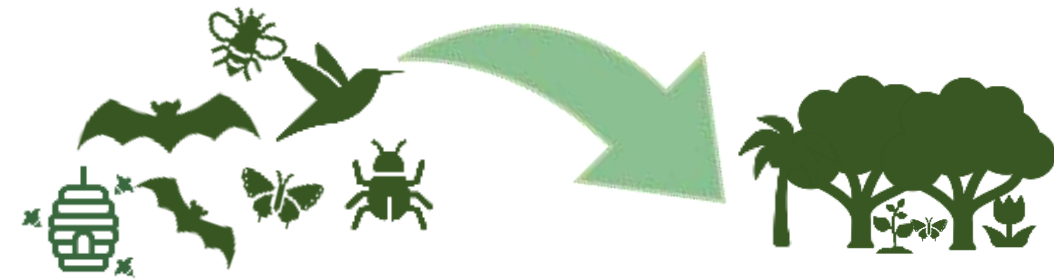


Forest size and the quality of matrix habitat mattered!

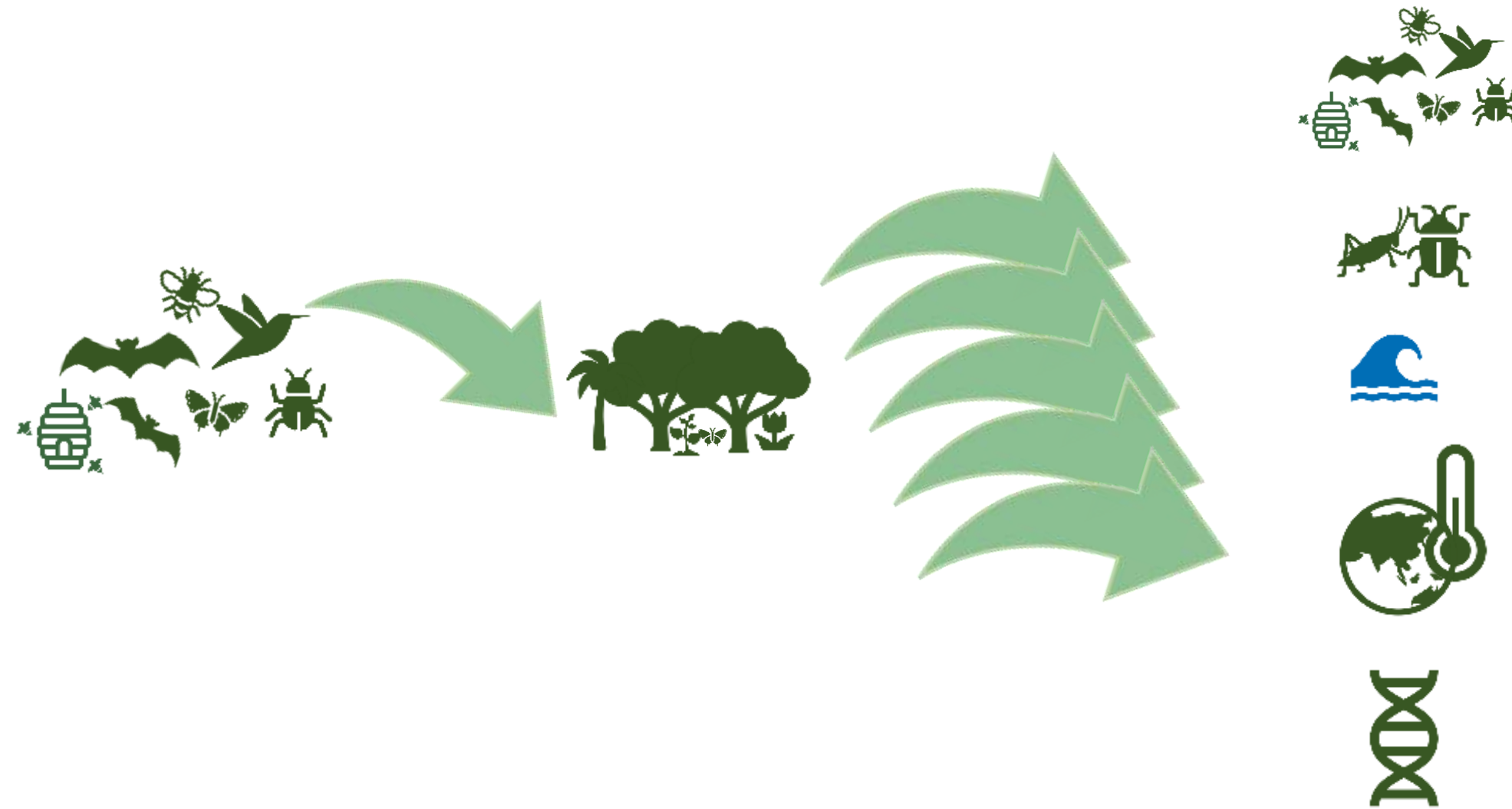
Bee trees flowering calendar



Why does this matter



Why does this matter



Why does this matter



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Thanks to Gaby and Fidel for
sharing slides

Thank you!

Smitha Krishnan

**Funded by the FAO and Forests, Trees
and Agroforests program of CGIAR**



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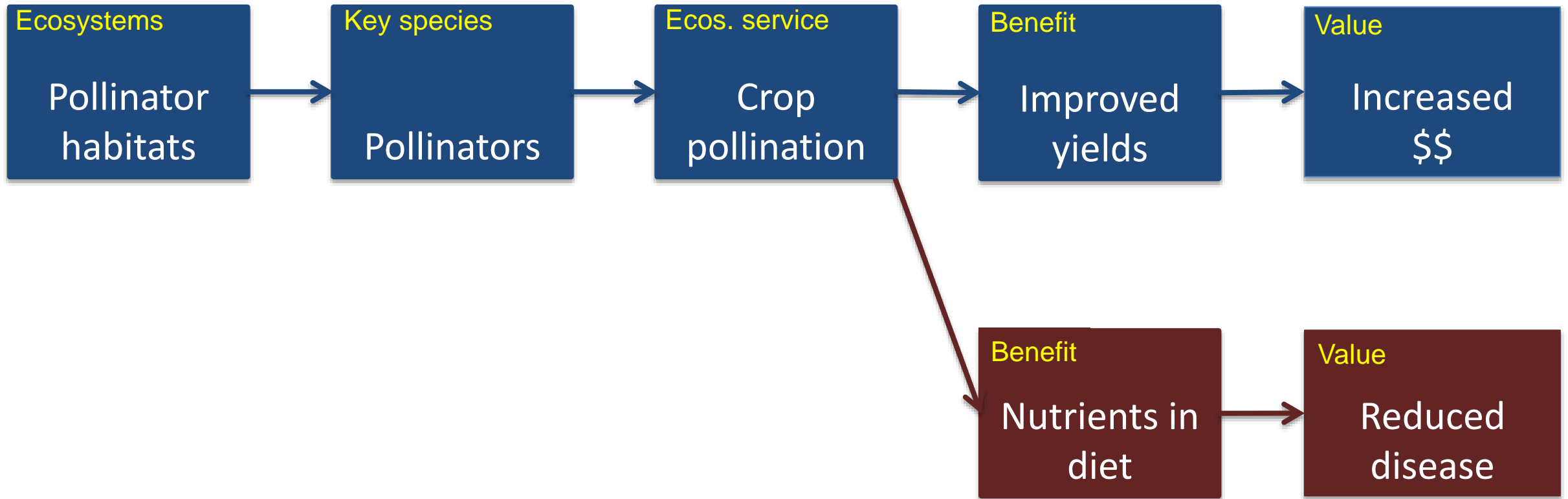
Pollinators and global nutrition

Taylor Ricketts
Gund Institute & Rubenstein School
University of Vermont

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taylor.ricketts@uvm.edu



Bees provide more than economic values



Pollinated crops supply micronutrients



Pollinators important

Pollinators not important

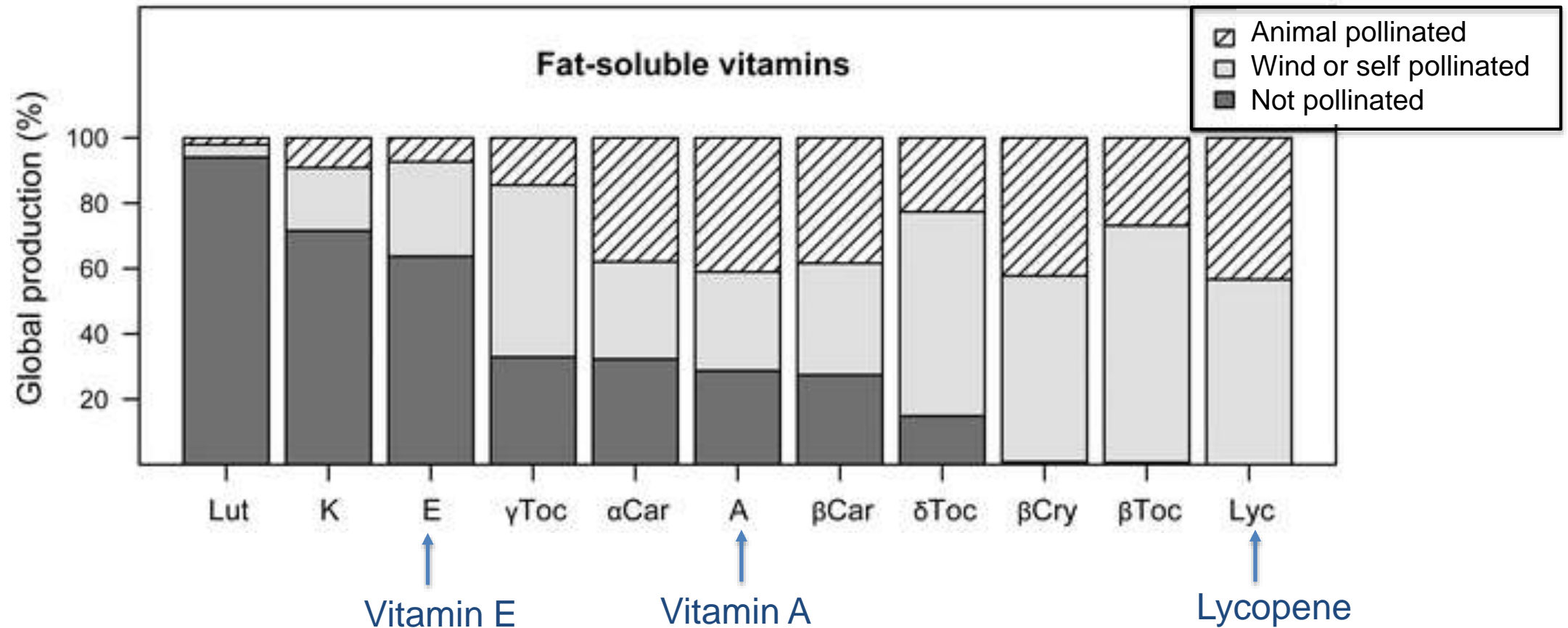
(Klein et al. 2007. *Proc Royal Soc B*)
(Eilers et al. 2011. *PLOS ONE*)

“The hidden hunger”

- Micronutrient deficiencies
 - Affects 1 in 4 people globally
- Effects:
 - Anemia, scurvy, other diseases
 - Blindness, lower IQ, lost productivity
 - Worsens other diseases
- Huge contributor to global burden of disease



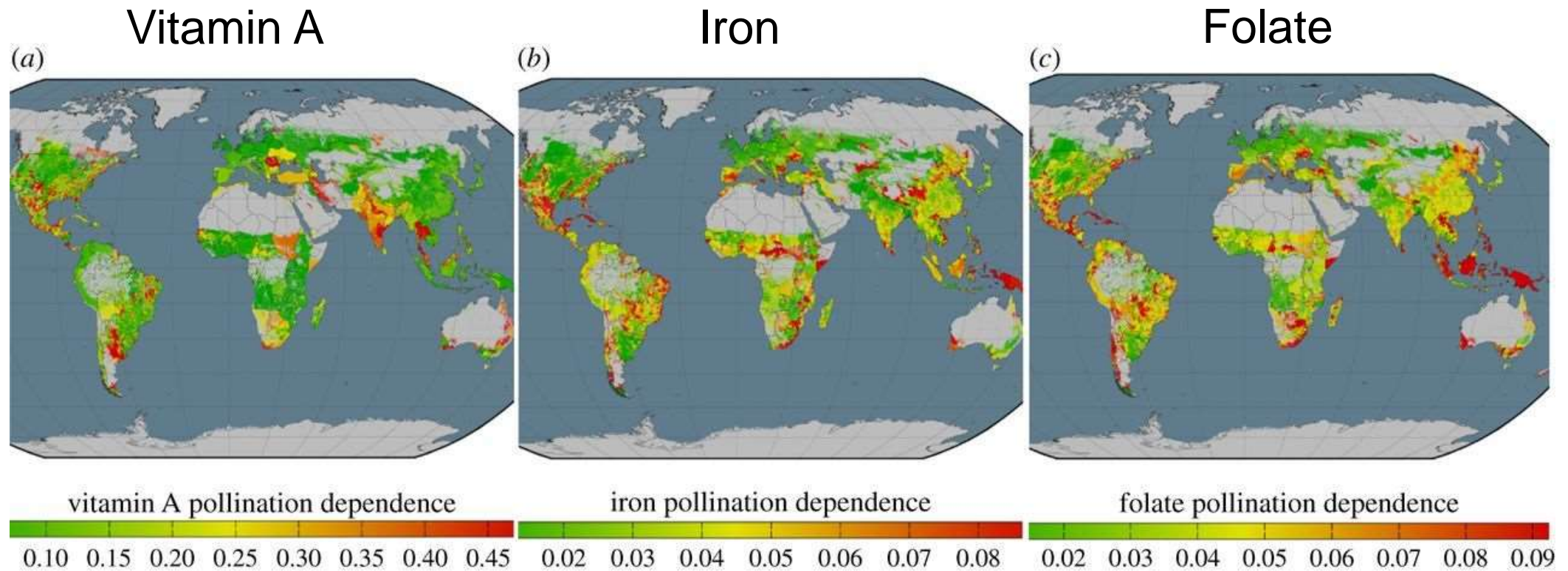
Global dependence on pollinators



(Eilers, et al. 2011. *PLOS ONE*)



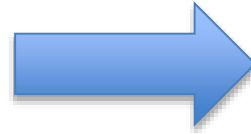
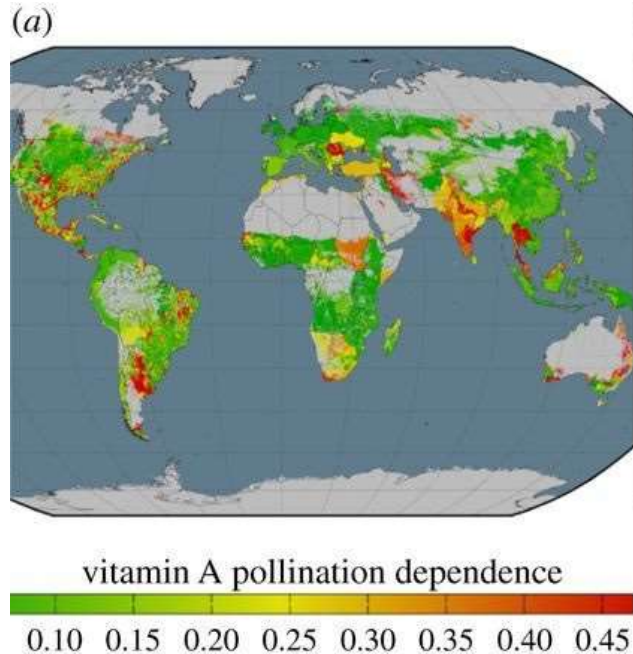
Mapping pollination-dependence



(Chaplin-Kramer, et al. 2014. *PRSLB*)



Potential dependence vs. actual intake



Aggregate nutrient production
Potential scale of issue

What are people actually getting?
From what foods?
Is it enough?



Examining actual diets

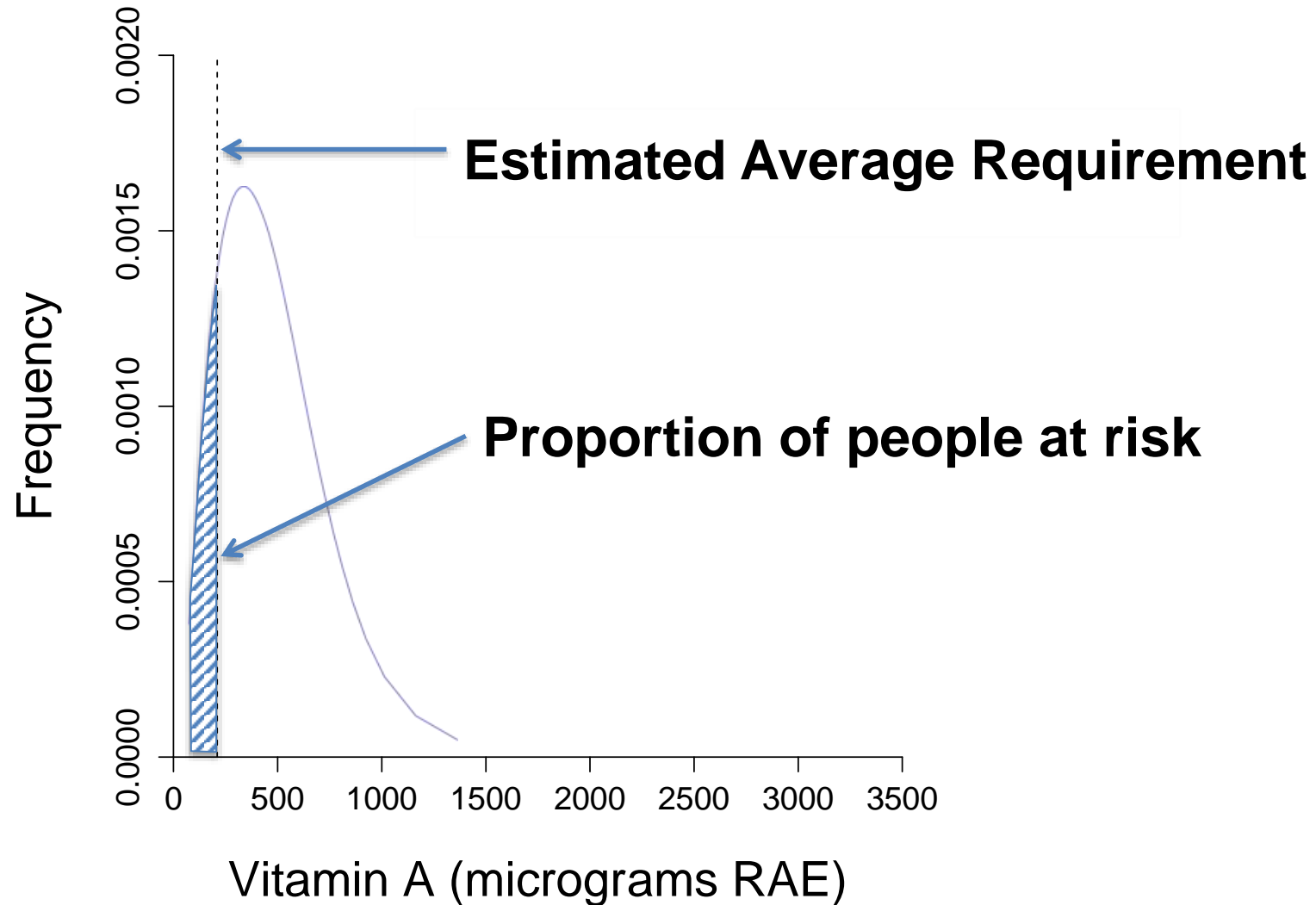
- Diet recall surveys
- 10 sites in 4 countries
 - Bangladesh
 - Mozambique
 - Uganda
 - Zambia
- 5 nutrients
 - Vitamin A
 - Calcium
 - Folate
 - Iron
 - Zinc



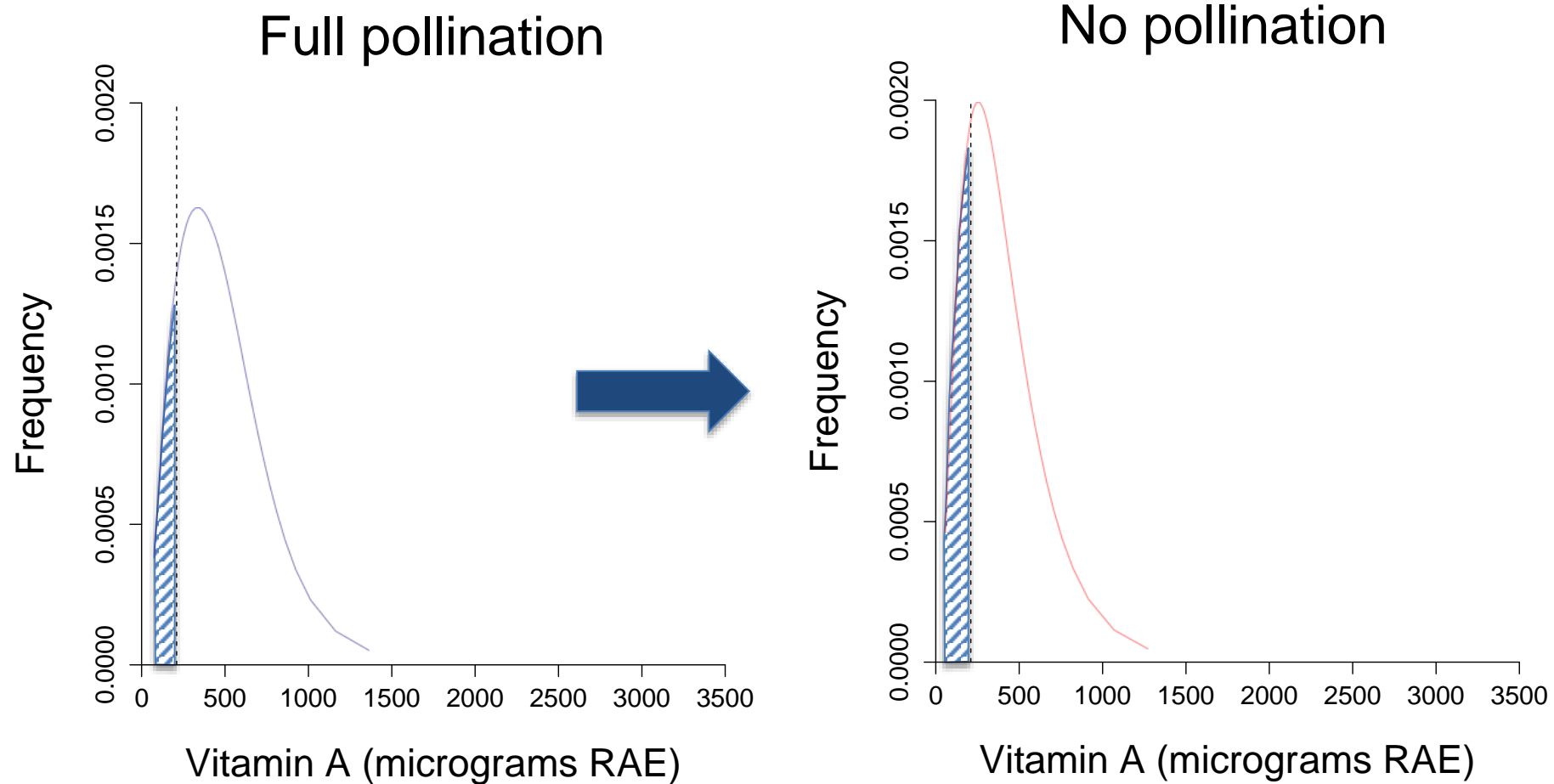
Indiv.	Food	Weight (g)	Vitamin A (RAE)
1	Mango	10.1	3.5
1	Tomato	5.3	2.1
1	Rice	60	0
2	Rice	42	0
2	Bean	9.6	3.05
2	Onion	1.5	0



Risk of nutritional disease



Remove pollinators – how does risk change?



Four countries, two nutrients

Percent of population newly at risk without pollinators

Nutrient	Bangladesh	Mozam- bique	Uganda	Zambia
Vitamin A	2%	56%	15%	5%
Folate	1%	23%	4%	0%



What does this mean?

- Pollinator loss can have big health impacts
 - Vitamin A alone: 800k deaths, doubles other risks
- Not all populations are equally at risk
 - Depends on diet, not just production
- More vulnerable populations:
 - Nutrient sources depend on pollinators
 - Many people close to threshold
 - Less able to substitute



Big picture



- Pollinators are important to nutrition
- Not everywhere all the time
- We can figure out where
- Biodiversity underpins food security and health



Thanks

NSF-NCEAS

NSF-SESYNC

USDA-SCRI

Moore Foundation

Rockefeller Foundation

Knobloch Foundation

Gund Institute

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Thank you!

Q&A...