



BioTrade and Voluntary Sustainability Standards as Complementary Tools for Sustainable Trade

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Part I. BioTrade



What is BioTrade?

Request from Member States to work on the issue of biodiversity and trade



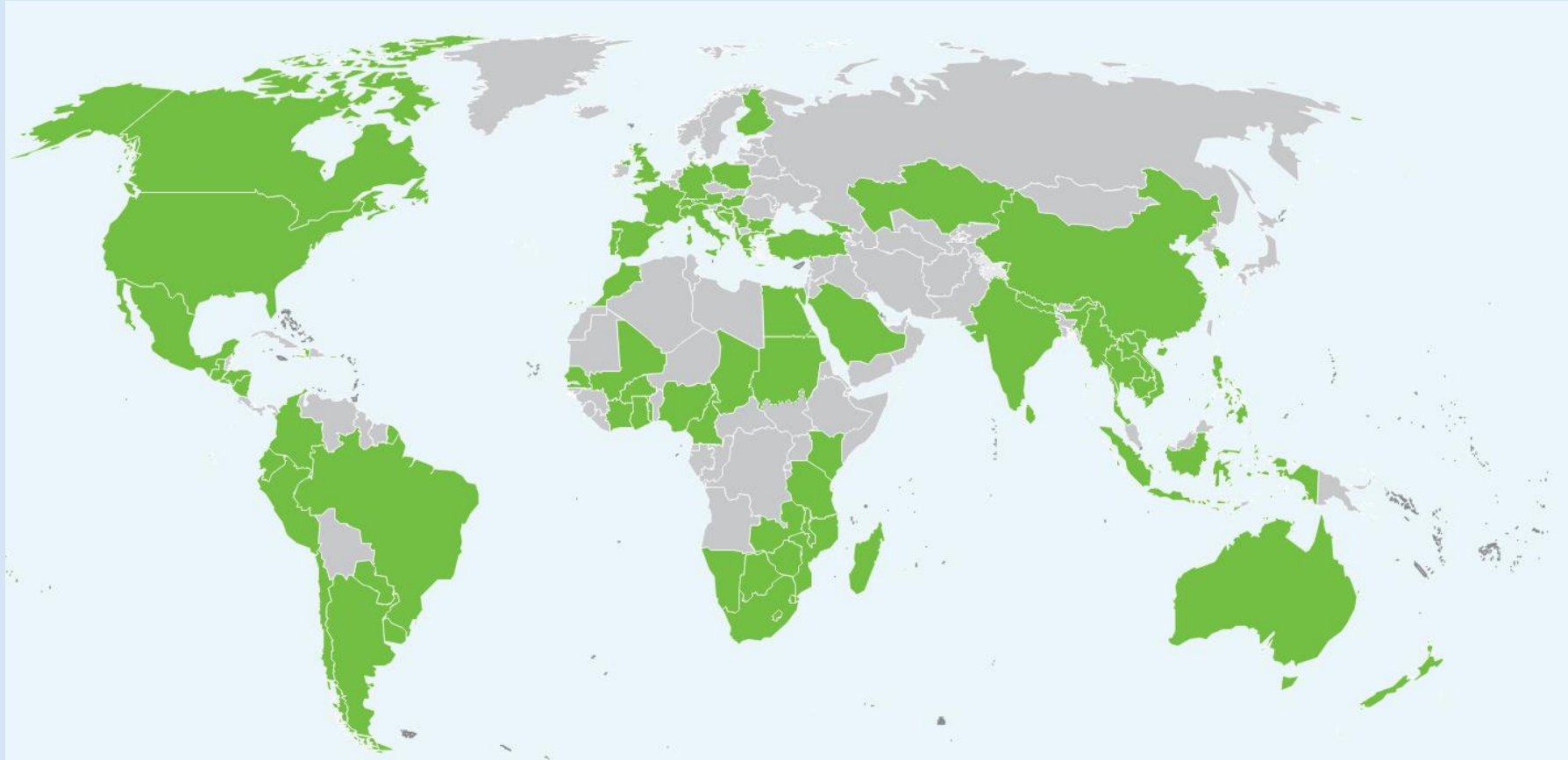
BioTrade coined in 1996
BioTrade is the commercialization of goods and services derived from biodiversity that that adhere to a set of sustainability guidelines

BioTrade Principles and Criteria





BioTrade all over the world



What is BioTrade?



BioTrade Principles and Criteria (P&C)

There are also 25 criteria that go along with the Principles

BioTrade Principles



Principle 1: Conservation of Biodiversity



Principle 2: Sustainable Use of Biodiversity



Principle 3: Fair and Equitable Sharing



Principle 4: Socio- Economic Sustainability



Principle 5: Legal Compliance



Principle 6: Respect for the rights of actors



Principle 7: Clarity on right to use and access to natural resources



Scan here to see the entire Principles and Criteria





What makes BioTrade P&C Unique

1. Puts importance not only to mitigate biodiversity loss but how to become more biodiversity resilient
2. Applicable across different areas contexts, and sectors.
3. Aligns with global policy developments and international agreements
4. Based on experiences on the ground

Part II.

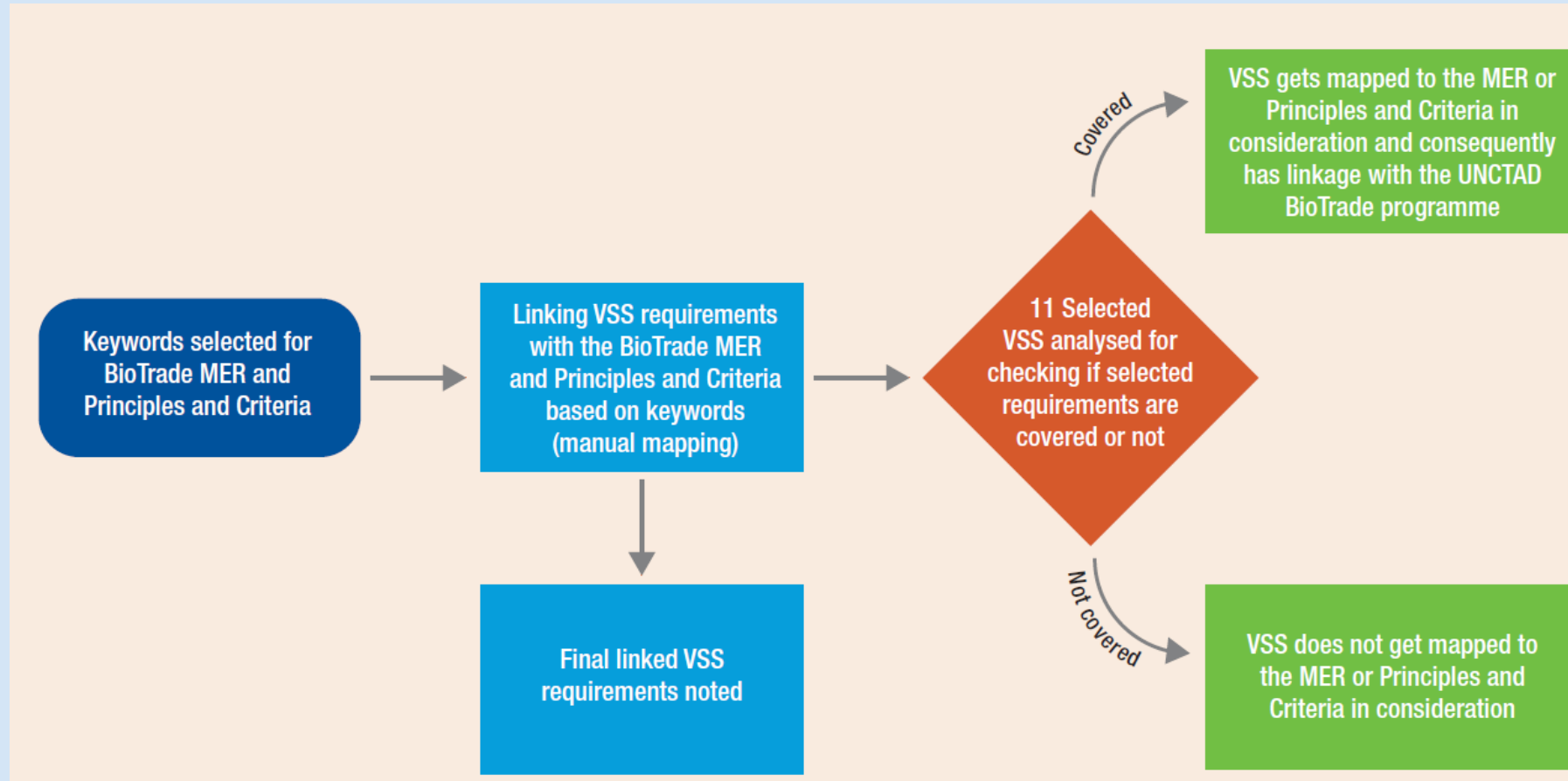
What is the connection between VSS and BioTrade?



Scan here to read the
publication



Methodology



Selected VSS



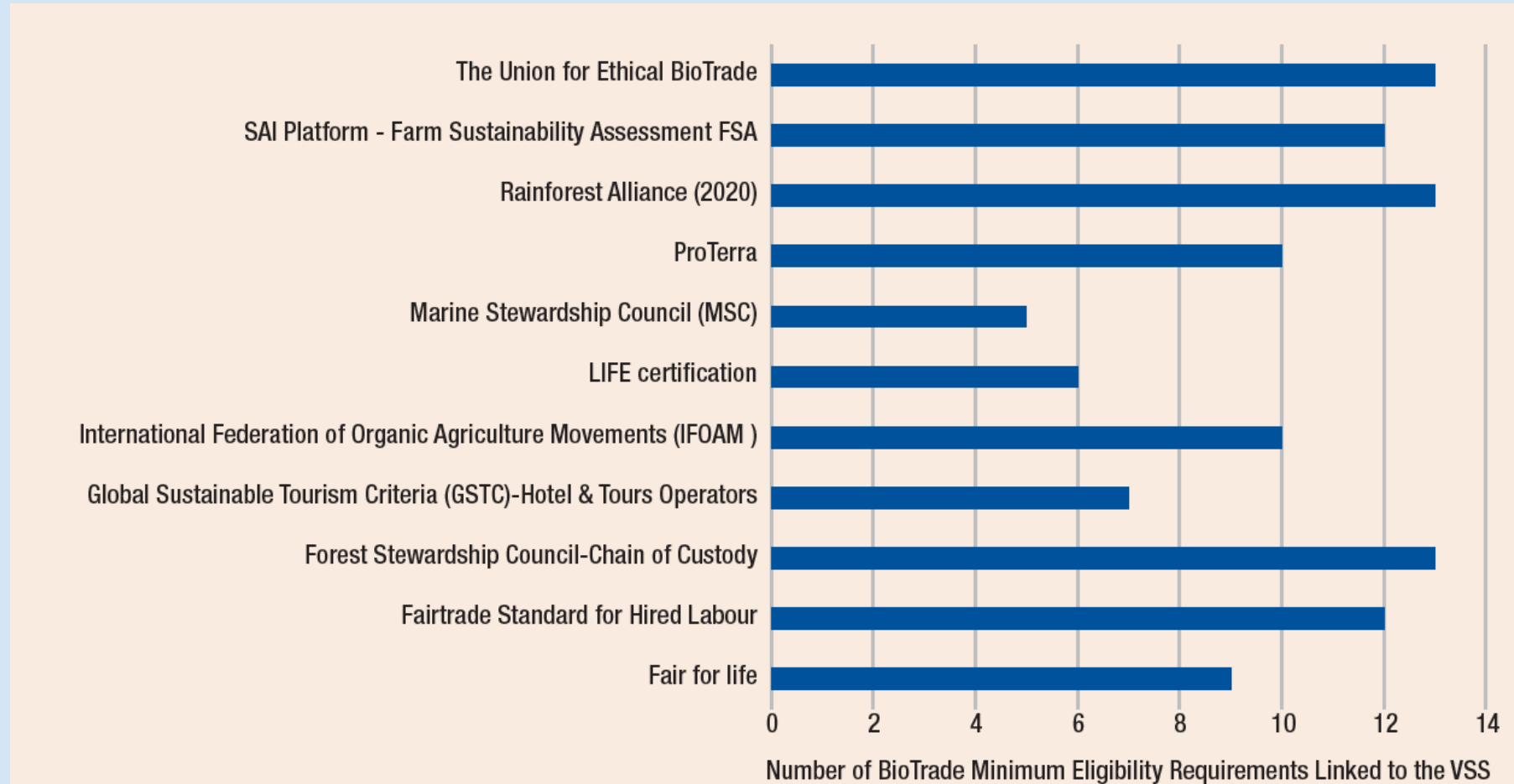


Minimum Eligibility Requirements

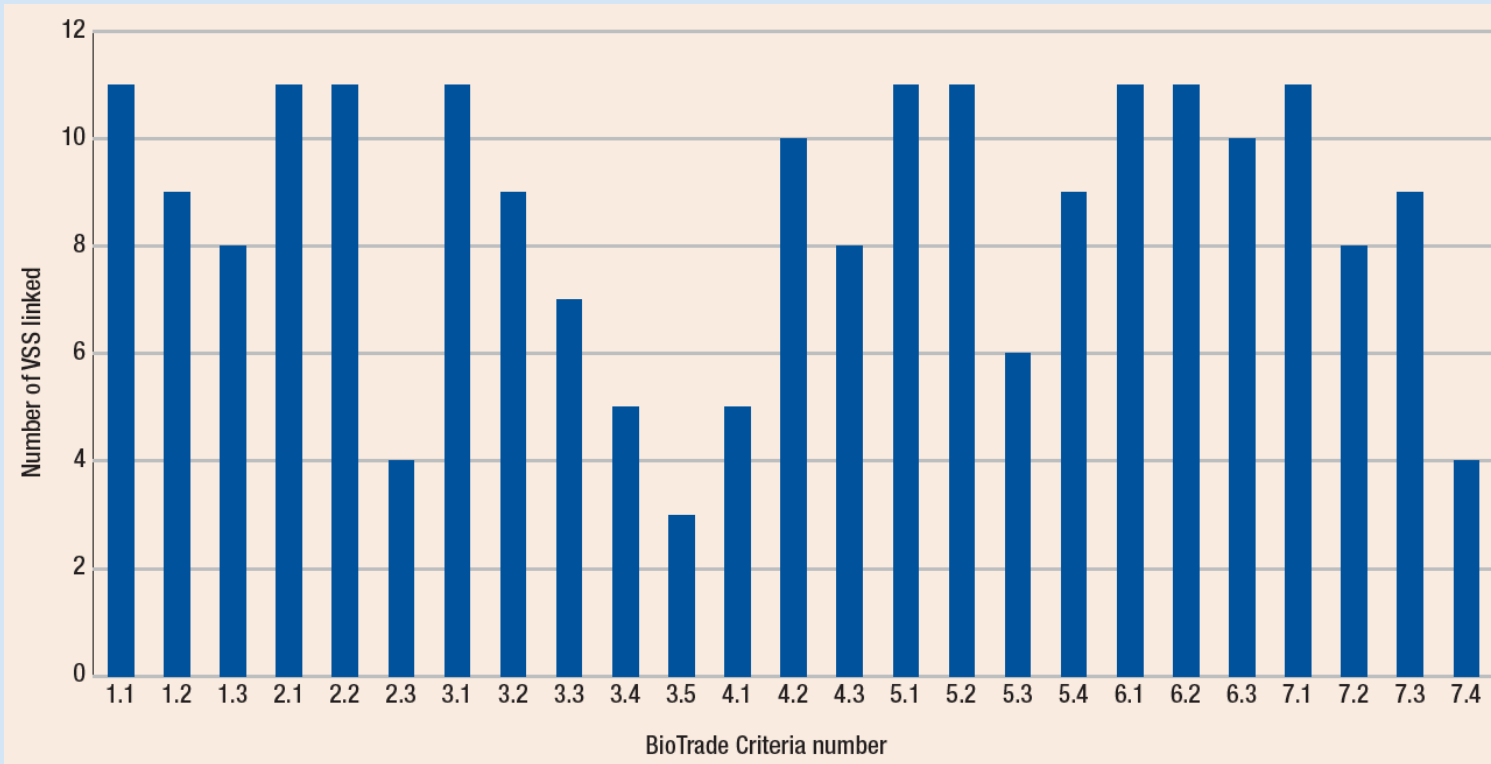
Partial list, for full list please see publication

Terrestrial BioTrade activities	Marine/Blue BioTrade activities
Doesn't use/develop GMO	Doesn't use/develop GMO
Doesn't introduce or cause invasive species	Doesn't introduce or cause invasive species
Does not use banned agrochemicals	Does not support IUU fishing
Ensure respect for human rights and avoids illegal business transactions	Ensure respect for human rights and avoids illegal business transactions
Doesn't include extraction of minerals, metals, oil, or gas for energy	Doesn't include extraction of minerals, metals, oil, or gas for energy








Linkage of selected VSS with the BioTrade MER



Linkage of selected VSS against each BioTrade Criteria

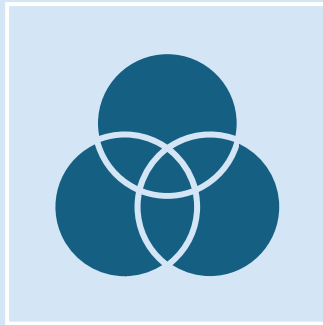


BioTrade Principles

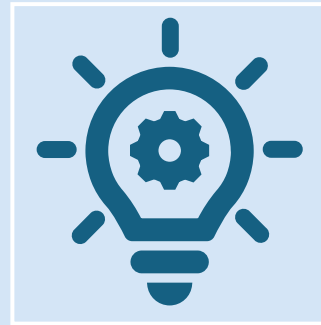
-  Principle 1: Conservation of Biodiversity
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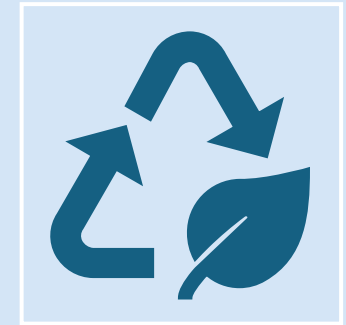
Looking ahead



Strengthen Biodiversity Criteria in VSS:
VSS to incorporate more specific and measurable biodiversity conservation criteria



Facilitate Knowledge Sharing:
Practitioners of VSS and BioTrade will exchange knowledge to adopt best practices and continuously improve both frameworks.



Collaborate on Key Areas: VSS and BioTrade P&C could work closely together in specific areas such traceability and legal compliance

Thank you!



Challenges, Opportunities, Future Work



Challenges

- The need for more robust evidence on the actual impacts of VSS on biodiversity conservation → Measuring their real-world effects remains complex.
- Varying depth of biodiversity criteria across different VSS.



Opportunities

- Potential for VSS to incorporate more specific and measurable biodiversity conservation criteria.
- More room for increased collaboration between VSS organizations and BioTrade initiative to create more comprehensive approaches to sustainable trade.



Future work

- Conduct a broader study analyzing a larger set of VSS for more comprehensive results.
- Strengthen findings with on-the-ground research on VSS impacts and their potential to reinforce BioTrade P&C implementation.