



## Trade in biodiversity-based products: UNCTAD's Trade and Biodiversity (TraBio) statistical tool

### Background

Biodiversity is at the center of many economic activities and directly supports the livelihoods of [nearly half the world's population](#), with many of the world's most vulnerable being directly dependent on it. Biodiversity-based resources are also traded globally with approximately [half of the world's GDP](#) being dependent on nature to some extent.

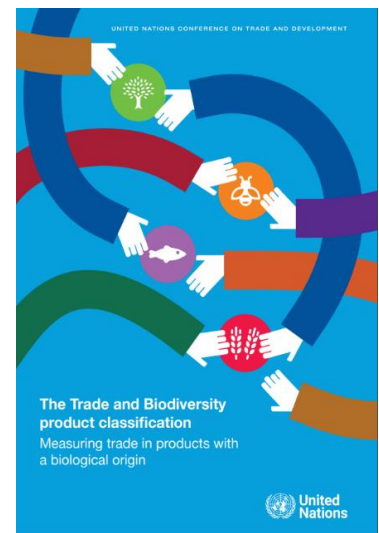
However, trade data —particularly related to biodiversity-based products and services— is scattered and not easily accessible to all stakeholders. This affects decision-making not only at government level but also for businesses and civil society.

### What is UNCTAD's Trade and Biodiversity (TraBio) statistical tool?

To fill this gap, [UNCTAD's BioTrade Initiative](#) and the [Statistics Service](#) developed the Trade and Biodiversity (TraBio) statistical tool with the support of the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO under the [Global BioTrade Programme](#): *Linking trade, biodiversity and sustainable development*.

The [Trade and Biodiversity \(TraBio\) database](#) contains information on global trade flows of biodiversity-based products. It provides access to consistent and complete data on imports and exports of biodiversity-based products and other relevant indicators. It thus aims to contribute to establish a harmonized and internationally accepted statistical framework for biodiversity-related trade.

*UNCTAD's Trade and Biodiversity "TraBio" statistical tool facilitates a common understanding and comparable analyses of the dynamics underpinning biodiversity-related trade*



In September 2022, TraBio was launched including:

- **Product classification of biodiversity-based products** covering over 1,800 biodiversity-based products;
- **Database** on trade flows in these products and related indicators updated annually from 2010; and
- **Visualization tool** with interactive maps and charts.



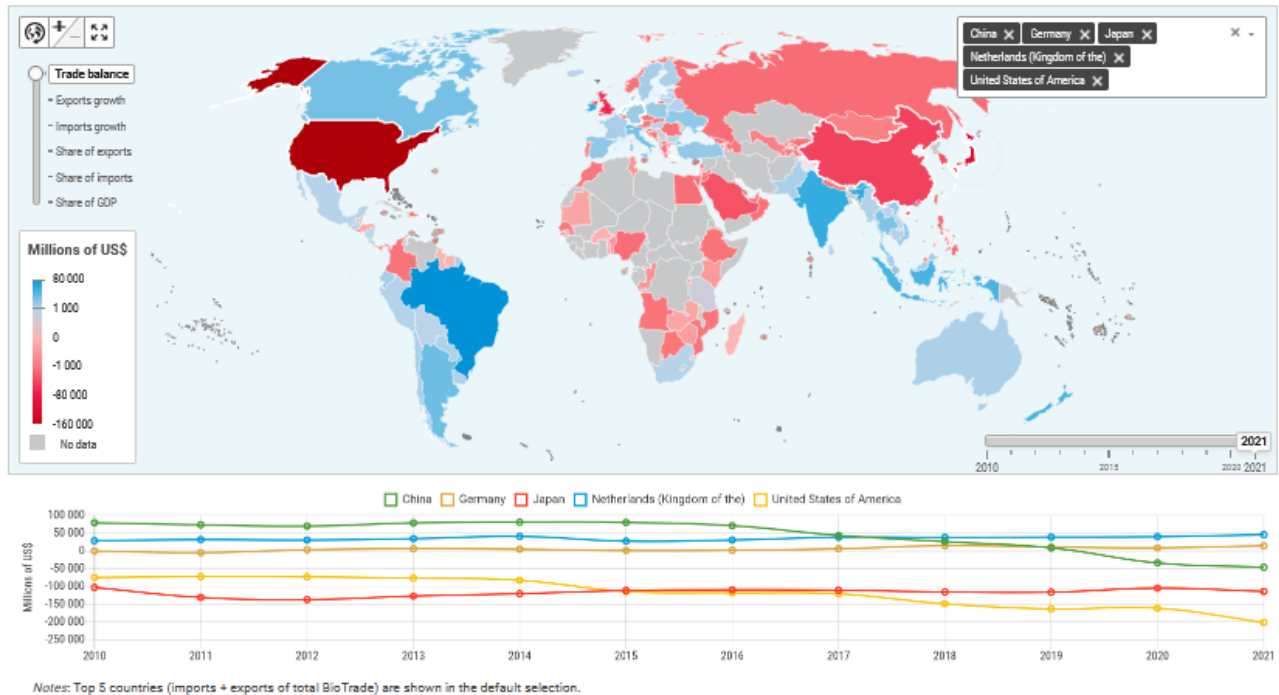


## How is TraBio contributing to the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework?

The information provided by the tool is relevant to reporting and tracking progress on biodiversity-relevant goals and targets, such as the Sustainable Development Goals and [targets](#) established under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

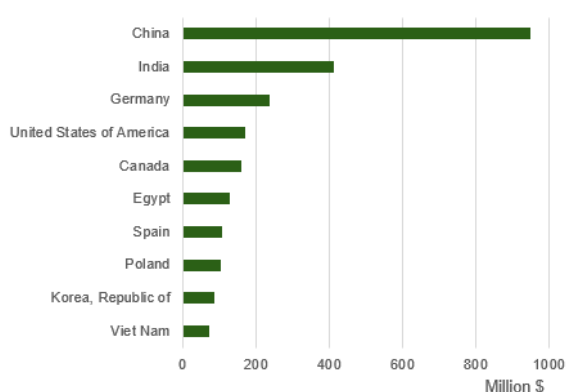
### World map – Trends in biodiversity-based indicators

This map allows to visualise several trade indicators by selecting the desired indicator from the dial on the left: trade balance, growth in exports and imports of biotrade, biotrade as a share of total trade, and biotrade as a share of GDP. The map will show each country with a different shade based on the scale on the left for the selected year. A time series will be shown below the map for the selected indicator and countries over the past 10 years.

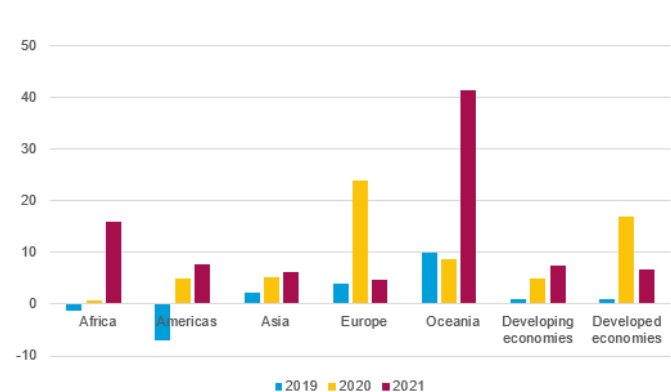


For instance, it provides data for the complementary indicator on *Trends in the legal trade of medicinal plants* under the Framework's [Goal B](#) as below:

### Top 10 exporters of medicinal plants in 2021



### Growth rate exports of medicinal plants 2019-2021



Source: TraBio/UNCTADstat, <https://unctadstat.unctad.org/EN/Biotrade.html>

TraBio is freely available online for users worldwide to access, use and download from UNCTAD's statistics portal UNCTADstat: <https://unctadstat.unctad.org/>

## What's next: UNCTAD'S ongoing work on Trade and Biodiversity Statistics

In 2023-2024, UNCTAD aims to enhance collaboration with organizations and experts working on data and statistics in related areas. A working group of experts will be convened to develop common approaches and ensure synergies. Second, to expand the coverage, scope and use of TraBio liaising with other relevant online platforms.