

Project Title

AGROBIO-MONITOR: Integrated Framework for Multi-Level Biodiversity Monitoring in Ukrainian Agricultural Landscapes

Project Data

Duration	Funding	Project location/ Region
12 months (March 2026 – February 2027)	3 630 € (total project budget)	Ivano-Frankivsk region, Ukraine, with relevance nationwide

Project Partners

Who are the project partners?

- Vasyl Stefanyk Carpathian National University (Department of Biology and Ecology)

What does each partner specifically contribute to the project?

- Hosts the project and provides institutional and academic supervision, laboratory and field-research infrastructure, and specialist consultation – including on molecular and DNA-based methodologies – thereby underpinning the scientific rigour of the project's outputs.

About the Project

What is the problem – and what do you want to change about it? What are you doing specifically to achieve this goal?	Biodiversity across Ukraine's agricultural landscapes is under growing pressure from intensive farming, habitat loss, and the ecological consequences of the ongoing war. At present, no nationally coordinated monitoring framework exists to systematically document these changes across agricultural landscapes: existing initiatives remain fragmented, are concentrated primarily on protected areas, and fall under disparate and poorly coordinated institutional mandates. AGROBIO-MONITOR addresses this gap by developing an integrated, three-level biodiversity monitoring framework tailored to Ukraine's agricultural landscapes. The project develops and pilots this framework through satellite-based habitat assessment, standardised field surveys, citizen-science observations, and DNA-based identification of selected insect and soil taxa.
What is special or new about your approach?	The innovation lies not in any single method, but in connecting spatial, species-level and molecular evidence within one interoperable monitoring workflow. The framework has been deliberately designed to align with European Union biodiversity policy instruments, including the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and the Nature Restoration Regulation, and to ensure interoperability with European data infrastructures such as Copernicus and GBIF, thereby supporting Ukraine's alignment with EU environmental governance ahead of accession. A further distinguishing feature is the project's participatory dimension: a practical scorecard enables farmers and volunteers to record habitat features and selected indicator species, extending data collection beyond the scientific community alone.
The figure: What does the project actually do?	The project develops, tests and connects tools at three monitoring levels. At the landscape level, a Conservation Potential Index (CPI) has been developed, employing satellite imagery to assess the ecological value of shelterbelts, field margins, solitary trees, and small wetlands; this index is currently being piloted on a sample of shelterbelt sites. At the species level, a field survey protocol and an accompanying

	citizen-science scorecard have been designed and tested with farmers and volunteers. At the molecular level, expert consultations have established the methodological basis for applying DNA-based techniques to identify insect taxa and selected soil organisms. In parallel, a comparative legal analysis has identified ten priority actions for improving the alignment of Ukrainian biodiversity legislation with the EU framework.
What remains? What concrete results are achieved, and who can use them in the future?	By the conclusion of the project, a tested and EU-compatible methodology, together with a practical technical workflow, will be available to support systematic farmland biodiversity monitoring in Ukraine. A complementary legal roadmap will consolidate these priority actions into practical recommendations for improving alignment between Ukrainian and EU biodiversity governance. The resulting framework will provide researchers, land managers and policymakers with an evidence-based foundation for further validation, institutional uptake and eventual scaling toward a national agro-biodiversity monitoring system. Its interoperability will also facilitate future cooperation with European research initiatives and infrastructures.

See the project images

on the following pages



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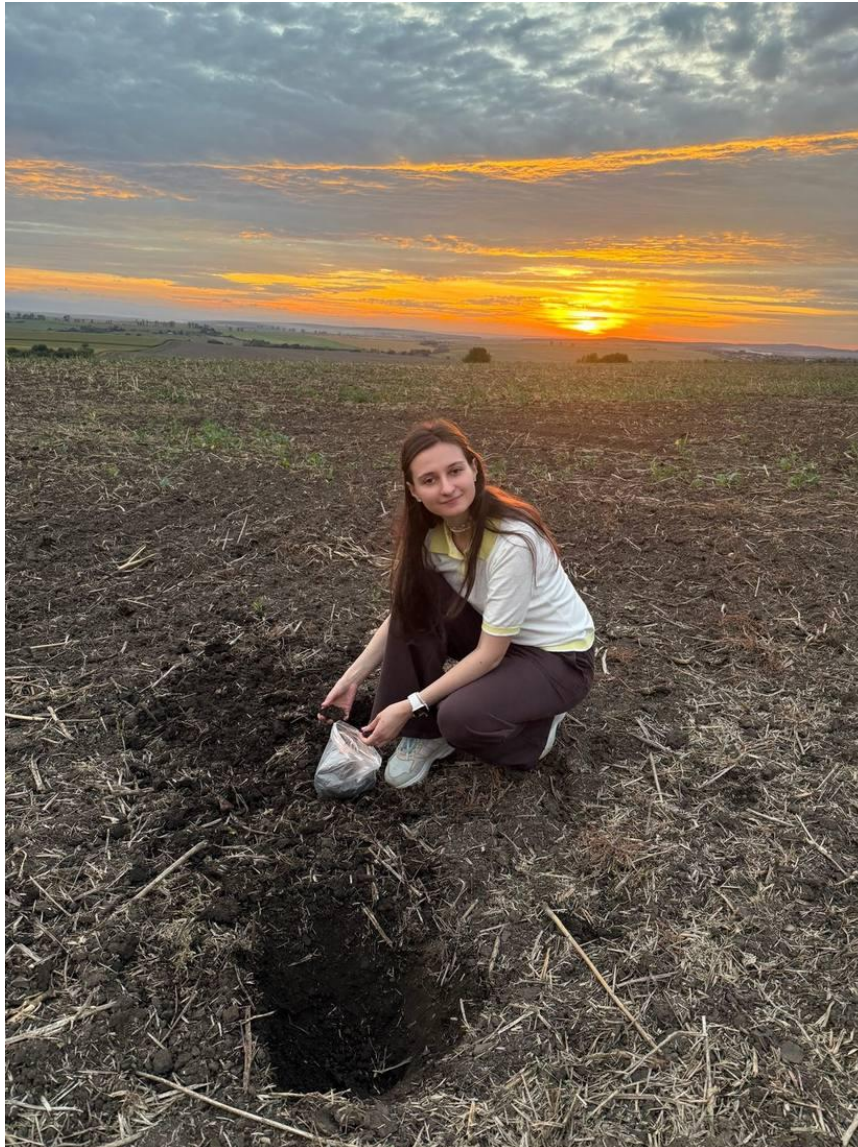
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