

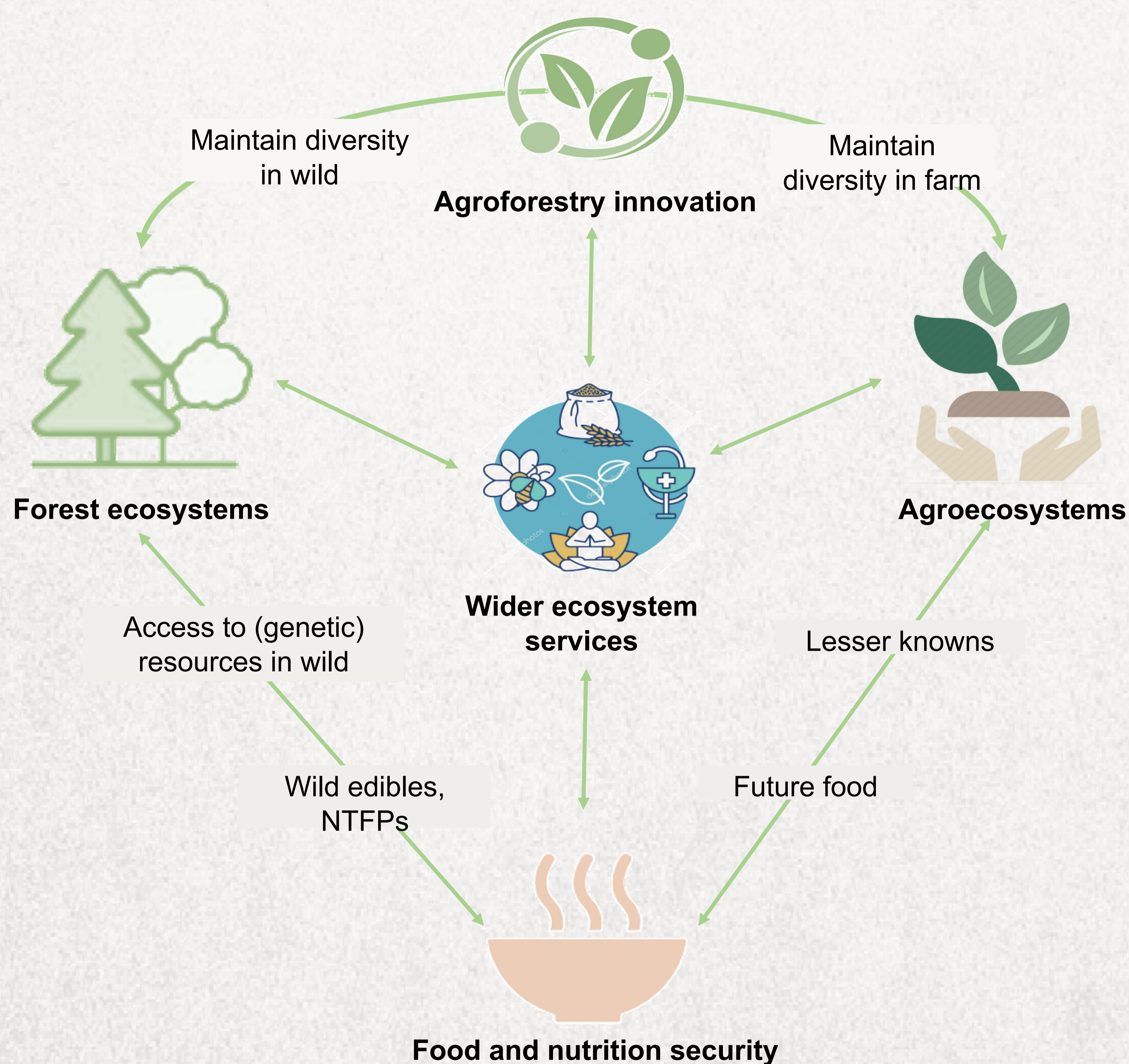
Forests and Farms: The inseparable duo when it comes to ensuring food security in the mountain landscapes

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Land use policy issues have often hindered natural interactions between forests and agroecosystems. Here we explain a pathway that makes these ecosystems more **regenerative and diverse**



Global frameworks such as 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, Paris Climate Action, and 2050 Vision of Convention on Biological Diversity advocate for a **transformative change** to reinstate the health of the planet.

Transformative change with regard to meeting human need for growth and development starts with us realizing that **forest ecosystems and agroecosystems are inseparable duo**, with intricate biophysical, ecological, socio-cultural, and economic connect between them.

Traditionally managed land uses rely on this principle of connectivity, especially those relating to food and nutrition provisions, and soil and water health management .

The prevailing farm policies however support increased production, access and availability of a few staples, and commercial food commodities; and forest policies more on plantation and protection, rather than **balance of diversity and sustainable use**.

A **sustainable production system** based on agroforestry innovation can trigger maintenance of natural biodiversity in forest and agrobiodiversity in farm enabling wider ecosystem services to reinforce appropriate utilization of crop wild relatives in wild, wild edibles, NTFPs, lesser knowns, forgotten foods, and future food, and longer term sustainability of the food system