

REDD-plus Biodiversity Safeguards

Decisions and activities of the CBD

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Outline



- I. REDD-plus and biodiversity benefits
- II. Relevant CBD COP guidance on safeguards
- III. CBD Process to develop advice on biodiversity safeguards, and preliminary results

Programme of Work on Forest Biodiversity



Conservation, Sustainable Use, Benefit-sharing

- increase sustainable management of forests
- implement ecosystem approach
- designate a comprehensive system of forest protected areas
- restore degraded forests
- fight against forest fires
- invasive alien species

Institutional, Socio-economic Enabling Environment

- provide incentives for the use of sustainable practices (e.g., certification)
- develop good practices in forest law enforcement and governance (FLEG)
- ensure equitable ABS with indigenous and local communities
- clarify land tenure and resource rights

Knowledge, Assessment, Monitoring

- advance assessment methods
- research forest ecosystem functioning
- develop a global forest classification system
- improve the infrastructure for data and information management

CBD PROGRAMME OF WORK ON FOREST BIODIVERSITY

GOAL 1.1

Apply the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests.

OBJECTIVE

1. Develop practical methods, guidelines, indicators and strategies to apply the ecosystem approach to forests.

GOAL 1.2

Reduce the threats and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biological diversity.

OBJECTIVES

1. Prevent the introduction of invasive alien species that threaten ecosystems, and mitigate their negative impacts on forest biological diversity.
2. Mitigate the impact of pollution such as acidification and eutrophication on forest biodiversity.
3. Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on forest biodiversity.
4. Prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of forest fires and fire suppression.
5. Mitigate effects of the loss of natural disturbances necessary to maintain biodiversity in regions where these no longer occur.
6. Prevent and mitigate losses due to fragmentation and conversion to other land uses.

GOAL 1.3

Protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity.

OBJECTIVES

1. Restore forest biological diversity in degraded secondary forests and in forests established on former farmlands and other landscapes, including in plantations.
2. Promote forest management practices that further the conservation of endemic and threatened species.
3. Ensure adequate and effective protected forest area networks.

GOAL 1.4

Promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity.

OBJECTIVES

1. Promote sustainable use of forest resources to enhance the conservation of forest biological diversity.
2. Prevent losses caused by unsustainable harvesting of timber and non-timber forest resources.
3. Enable indigenous and local communities to develop and implement adaptive community-management systems to conserve and sustainably use forest biological diversity.
4. Develop effective and equitable information systems and strategies, and promote implementation of those strategies.

GOAL 1.5

Access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources.

OBJECTIVE

1. Promote the fair and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the utilization of forest genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.

GOAL 2.1

Enhance the institutional enabling environment.

OBJECTIVES

1. Improve the understanding of the various causes of forest biological diversity losses.
2. Purities, Governments and organizations to integrate biological diversity conservation and sustainable use into forest and other sector policies and programmes.
3. Purities and Governments to develop good governance practices, review and revise and implement forest and forest-related laws, tenure and planning systems, to provide a sound basis for conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity.
4. Promote forest law enforcement and address related trade.

GOAL 2.2

Address socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity.

OBJECTIVE

1. Mitigate the economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity.

GOAL 2.3

Increase public education, participation, and awareness.

OBJECTIVE

1. Increase public support and understanding of the value of forest biological diversity and its goods and services at all levels.

GOAL 3.1

Characterize and analyse forest ecosystems and develop a general classification of forests at various scales, in order to improve the assessment of status and trends of forest biological diversity.

OBJECTIVES

1. Review and adopt a harmonized global to regional forest classification system, based on harmonized and accepted forest definitions, and addressing key forest biological diversity elements.
2. Develop national forest classification systems and maps.
3. Develop, where appropriate, specific forest ecosystems surveys in priority areas for conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity.

GOAL 3.2

Improve knowledge on and methods for the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity.

OBJECTIVE

1. Advance the development and implementation of international, regional and national criteria and indicators, based on key regional, subregional and national measures.

GOAL 3.3

Improve understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning.

OBJECTIVE

1. Conduct key research programmes on the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning.

GOAL 3.4

Improve the infrastructure for data and information management for accurate assessment and monitoring of global forest biological diversity.

OBJECTIVE

1. Enhance and improve the technical capacity at the national level to monitor forest biological diversity and develop associated databases as required on a global scale.



Convention on
Biological Diversity

For more information, see the CBD website: www.cbd.int

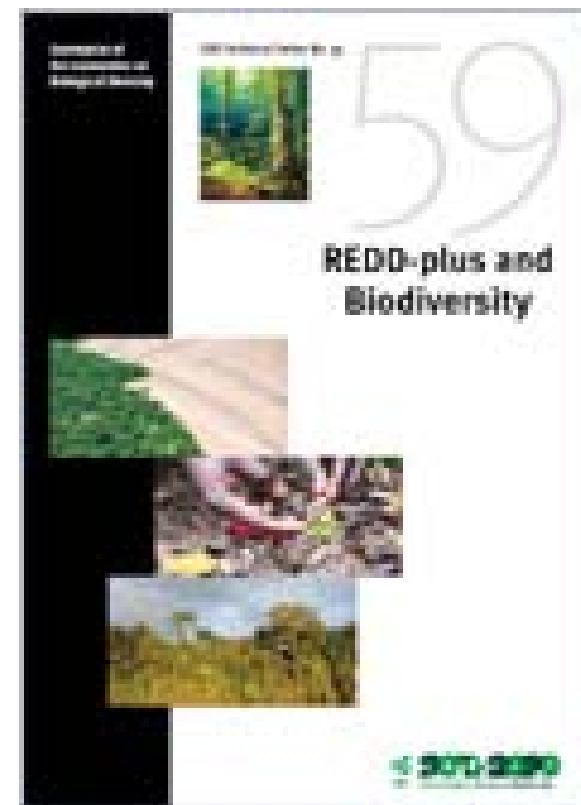
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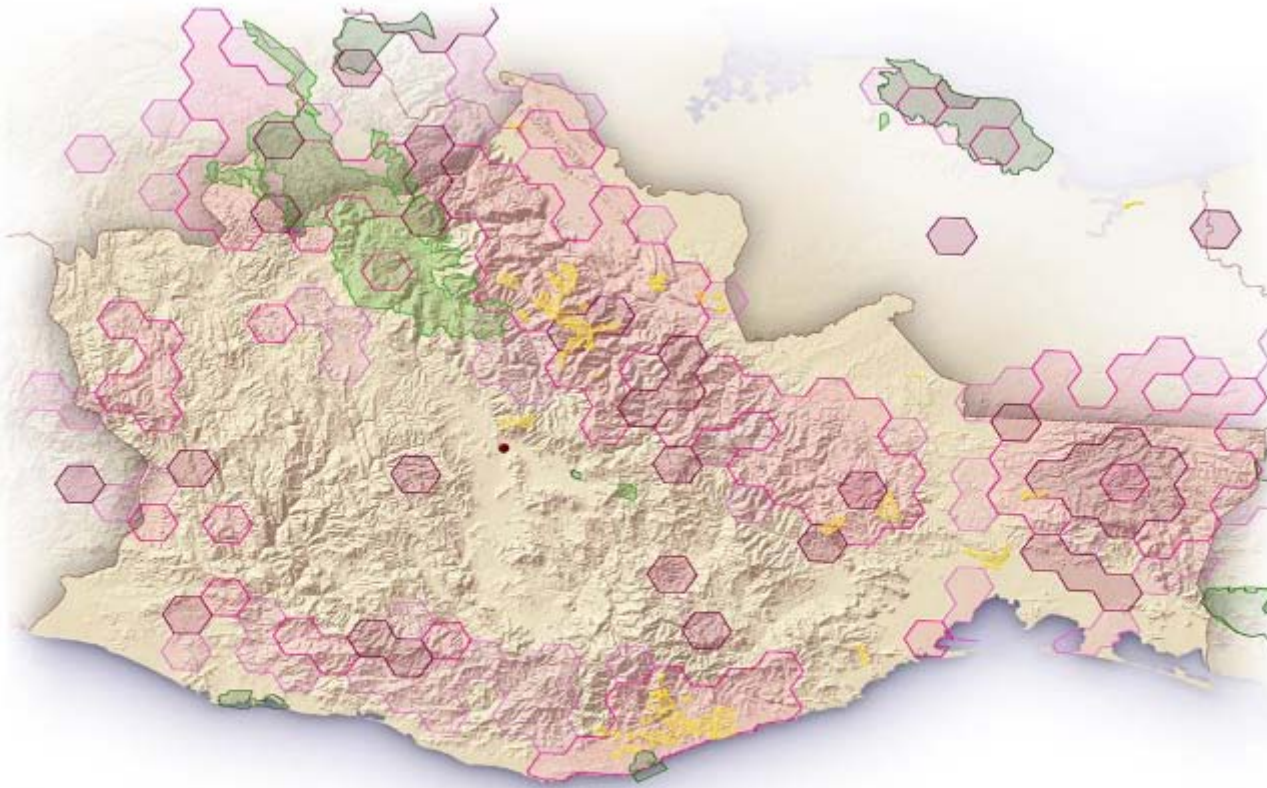
I. REDD-plus and Biodiversity



- Overview over main linkages, and potential for synergies
- Information for CBD National Focal Points to contribute to the debate
- Available at www.cbd.int/forest



Tools for SFM/REDD-plus biodiversity benefits



Federal PAs
State PAs
Private PAs

Extreme priority
High priority
Medium priority

Protected area/biodiversity priorities in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico, as part of the national “Spaces and Species” assessment under the CBD programme of work on protected areas. The assessment can help to identify REDD areas of high biodiversity which are under threat, as well as priority areas for restoration.

Similar national ecological gap analyses have been carried out under the auspices of the CBD in over 40 developing countries.

Biodiversity and Livelihoods: REDD benefits



- Summarises key benefits of REDD for biodiversity and livelihoods, as well as mitigation/adaptation synergies
- Design aspects to deliver significant benefits for forest biodiversity and for indigenous and local communities
- Available at www.cbd.int/forest

Biodiversity and Livelihoods



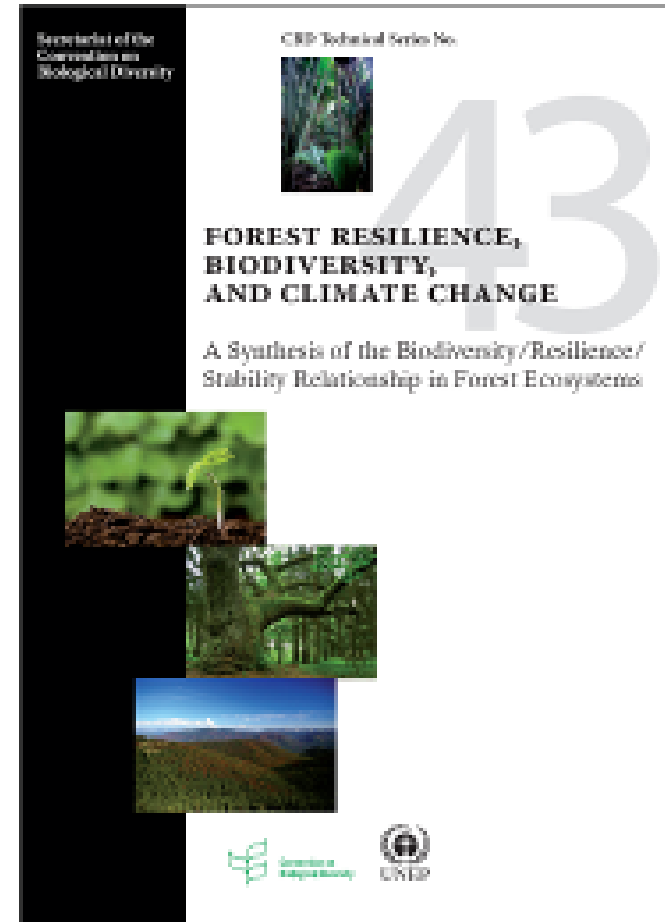
REDD-plus Benefits



Links between biodiversity and forest carbon



- Synthesis of 400+ peer-reviewed articles: Forest resilience and stability depend on biodiversity, at multiple scales (*Thompson et al., 2009; Diaz et al., 2009*)
- Biodiversity essential for stability/carbon permanence
- **Biodiversity is an enabling condition for SFM and REDD-plus**



II. CBD COP Decisions relating to REDD-plus



Decision IX/5 invites Parties, other Governments, and relevant international and other organizations to ensure that possible actions for REDD:

- do not run counter to the objectives of the CBD and implementation of the forest programme of work
- support implementation of the programme of work, and
- provide benefits for forest biodiversity and indigenous and local communities

CBD COP Decisions relating to REDD-plus



In Decision X/33, para 9 (g) and (h), COP requests the ES to:

(g)**provide advice**, for approval by COP 11, including **on the application of relevant safeguards for biodiversity**, without pre-empting any future decisions taken under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, based on effective consultation with Parties and their views, and with the participation of indigenous and local communities, so that actions are consistent with the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and avoid negative impacts on and enhance benefits for biodiversity

CBD COP Decisions relating to REDD-plus



(h) With effective consultation with Parties and based on their views and in collaboration with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, **identify possible indicators to assess the contribution of REDD-plus to achieving the objectives of the CBD, and assess potential mechanisms to monitor impacts on biodiversity** from these and other ecosystem-based approaches for climate change mitigation measures, without pre-empting any future decisions taken under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and to report on progress to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

CBD COP Decisions relating to REDD-plus



‘Aichi Targets’ of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020:

- at least **halve deforestation**, and where feasible bring it close to zero (Target 5)
- manage **all areas under forestry sustainably** (Target 7)
- **conserve at least 17 per cent** of terrestrial and inland water areas (Target 11)
- **restore at least 15 per cent** of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification (Target 15)

CBD COP Decisions relating to REDD-plus

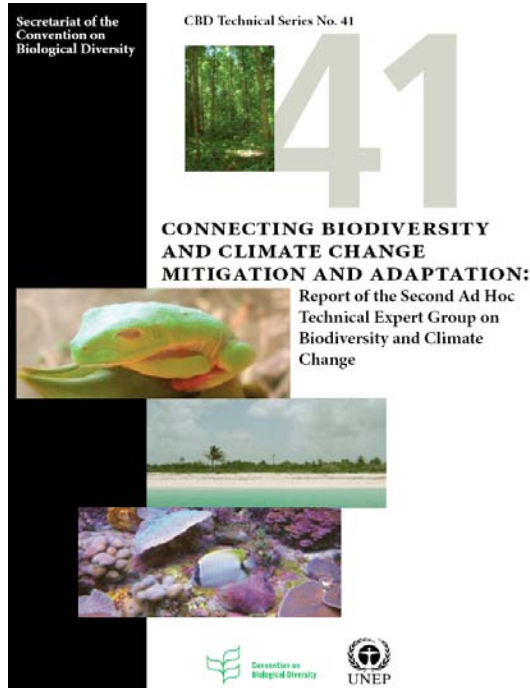


E.g. Afforestation, reforestation and forest restoration:

- (i) Converting only land of low biodiversity value or ecosystems largely composed of non-native species, and preferably degraded ones;
- (ii) Prioritizing, whenever feasible, local and acclimated native tree species when selecting species for planting;
- (iii) Avoiding invasive alien species;
- (iv) Preventing net reduction of carbon stocks in all organic carbon pools;
- (v) Strategically locating afforestation activities within the landscape to enhance connectivity and increase the provision of ecosystem services within forest areas.

Decision X/33 para. 8 (p)

Linkages between Biodiversity and Climate Change



AHTEG Report 2009*:

REDD-plus:

- potential to deliver significant co-benefits for forest biodiversity if mechanisms are designed appropriately.
- This means:
 - recognizing the contribution of diverse forests, in particular primary forests, to long-term carbon sequestration/storage;
 - Respecting rights of indigenous and local communities;
 - addressing important forest governance issues such as illegal logging and land tenure.

Further discussion about CBD and REDD perspectives: “Recent CBD scientific findings on biodiversity and climate change - Information Note 1 for UNFCCC COP15” (<http://www.cbd.int/climate/copenhagen>)

* *Connecting Biodiversity and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation*. CBD Technical Series No. 41. www.cbt.int/ts

There is no “one-size fits all” model



III. Consultation process



Developing advice for approval of CBD COP 11:

- Global expert workshop in September 2010 on REDD-plus and Biodiversity
- Notification in March 2011 for submission of views on biodiversity safeguards
- Three regional expert workshops (Asia-Pacific, Latin America/Caribbean, Africa) in 2011 with CBD and UNFCCC national experts

Funded by Norway, United Kingdom, Japan, Germany,
UN-REDD Programme

Other key events



- SBSTTA 15 and 16 (7-11 November 2011; April/May 2012)
- Side events at UNFCCC COP 17 and Learning Event on Safeguards at Forest Day, 4 December 2011
- COP 11 (October 2012)
- **Ongoing:** provide information to UNFCCC Secretariat and Parties, through JLG, UNFCCC Secretariat, SBSTA and COP; and through REDD-plus & Biodiversity Newsletter

REDD-plus safeguards



- **Existing/emerging guidance for minimizing biodiversity risks, and enhancing benefits** includes UN-REDD Social and Environmental Principles, World Bank safeguard policies, REDD-plus Social and Environmental Standards, FCPF Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment framework, Forest Investment Programme (FIP) Operational Guidelines, forest certification criteria and indicators (e.g. FSC), and draft national policies/guidelines...
- **CBD Workshops analyze three main approaches in detail: World Bank; UN-REDD; REDD-plus SES**

REDD-plus safeguards



Biodiversity risks, and risks to ILCs, include:

- The conversion of natural forests
- Displacement of deforestation and forest degradation
- Increased pressure on non-forest ecosystems with high biodiversity value
- Afforestation in areas of high biodiversity value
- The loss of traditional territories and restriction of land and natural resource rights
- Lack of tangible livelihood benefits
- Exclusion from designing and implementation of policies and measures

(CBD Global Expert Workshop on REDD-plus, 09/2010)

REDD-plus safeguards



Current approaches found to be adequate in principle to apply 1/CP.16 safeguards, but gaps include:

- Operationalization of certain parts of 1/CP.16
- Definition and spatially explicit identification of natural forests/forest areas of high biodiversity value
- Safeguards/guidelines for afforestation and reforestation
- Long-term impacts of REDD-plus on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use of indigenous and local communities (Articles 8(j) and 10(c) of CBD)

REDD-plus safeguards



- Focus on enhancing benefits rather than just avoiding risks
- Strong safeguards key for the success of REDD-plus
- Significant differences between approaches (e.g. at planning or operational level; with or w/t criteria and indicators)
- Capacity building needs at several levels

REDD-plus safeguards



- Need for international organization and processes to offer clear and synergistic guidance and adequate support to Parties
- More analysis required to identify indicators and assessment mechanisms for biodiversity impacts of REDD-plus
- REDD-plus is a learning process

‘The greatest risks for biodiversity at this stage are if REDD-plus is not well-designed, and if a REDD-plus mechanism is not sufficiently funded.’

thank you!
merci!
¡gracias!



www.cbd.int/2010

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