

Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Development and the SDGs: sharing and developing workable solutions

Date and Time: Sunday, 11th December 2016, 09:00 – 17:30

Venue: Building B, the Universal Centre, Cancun, Mexico

Organizers: UNEP-WCMC, IIED and SCBD

Background

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) calls for Parties to “integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies” (Article 6 (b)). The need to mainstream biodiversity across all sectors of the national economy, society and policy-making framework is essential to national development and to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, mainstreaming biodiversity in national and sub-national development policies, strategies, programmes and projects, remains a major challenge. Many countries have been working towards mainstreaming biodiversity and NBSAPs into development planning processes, and several institutions have strong experience of support provision in this area.

Scope and Objectives

On the 11th of December 2016, UNEP-WCMC, IIED and SCBD will host a one day event focussing on biodiversity mainstreaming into national and sectoral development plans and processes, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The event will include a focus on national-level efforts to ensure that biodiversity is effectively integrated in such plans and processes, effective approaches to link SDG and NBSAP implementation, and efforts at the international level to support these approaches.

The event is intended to facilitate a sharing of experiences amongst a wide range of participants – from government, NGOs and private sector – and to start to build a community of practice. It will explore what works in different sectors and different contexts, what are the solutions to identified barriers, and where collaboration amongst international and national organisations would help. The event will feature:

- A stock-take of existing biodiversity mainstreaming initiatives.
- Case studies of how governments are linking NBSAPs and biodiversity considerations with sectoral priorities and development planning and SDGs implementation processes.
- Examples of successful and less successful approaches, solutions to identified barriers, and how better collaboration amongst international and national organisations can help to increase the impacts of mainstreaming.

The outcomes of and recommendations from the discussion should increase our understanding of successful approaches that Governments have used to mainstream biodiversity into national development planning and SDGs implementation processes. It will also identify solutions to identified barriers, and how improved collaboration amongst international and national organisations would support increased impacts of biodiversity mainstreaming.

Proposals for short presentations are invited for the following sessions:

Session 1: How can biodiversity contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, including priorities such as poverty eradication, food security, water security, sustainable cities, energy, infrastructure, and sustainable consumption and production?

Session 2: Case studies of integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and development plans and processes, and opportunities to scale-up these efforts through implementation of the SDGs. What are good case studies of what works? What are the challenges and barriers? Where is the potential to scale up?

Session 3: Case studies of mainstreaming of biodiversity in sectoral development plans (e.g. agriculture, forests, tourism, and fisheries and aquaculture). What are good case studies of what works? What are the challenges and barriers? Where is the potential to scale up?

Session 4: Examples of how biodiversity mainstreaming can be enhanced – for example through engagement with IPLCs, with the business sector, local government and other stakeholders. What are good case studies of what works? What are the challenges and barriers? Can we learn from other mainstreaming experiences including gender? Where is the potential to scale up?

Interested participants are invited to send ideas for presentations to UNEP WCMC, IIED and SCBD by 21 November 2016

Please note that only those registered as CBD COP13 participants will be able to attend this event.

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