
   This report reviews existing scientific knowledge regarding the links between biodiversity and the sustainable provision of ecosystem services, and considers the implications of these links for development policy.


   This paper introduces a special feature on biodiversity conservation and poverty traps. We define and explain the core concepts and then identify four distinct classes of mechanisms that define important interlinkages between biodiversity and poverty. The multiplicity of candidate mechanisms underscores a major challenge in designing policy appropriate across settings. This framework is then used to introduce the ensuing set of papers, which empirically explore these various mechanisms linking poverty traps and biodiversity conservation.


   Development is achieved through growing and managing the ‘portfolio of assets’ available to a household or a nation. Soils, water, plants and animals often make up the biggest chunk of poor people’s assets. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) has taken stock of these environmental assets worldwide. It reveals that fully sixty percent are being degraded – with poor people disproportionately suffering the consequences such as shortage of clean water, floods and droughts. Yet the MA also identified instances of effective asset management – proven ‘Response Options’ that deserve scaling up. This briefing note identifies the major developmental implications of the MA, and calls for action in four areas.


   The authors make a compelling case for the need for integrating, or ‘mainstreaming’, biodiversity into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies as enshrined in the CBD objectives and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.


   About 50 countries have prepared interim and full Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). In this context, this paper examines Millennium Development Goal (MDG)7: Ensuring Environmental Sustainability, its targets and indicators.
6. **CBD secretariat (2009a)** Notes on progress in mainstreaming biodiversity in development cooperation and key considerations for moving forward. 
UNEP/CBD/EM-BD&DC/1/1/INF/1.

This background paper is prepared on an informal basis in the context of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (SCBD) Expert Meeting on Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Development Cooperation. The key objective is to reflect on progress, challenges and lessons learned. It also means to shape appropriate responses for biodiversity mainstreaming in development cooperation at the policy and operational levels. A key result would be a set of common key considerations for biodiversity mainstreaming aimed at development cooperation agencies and partners. Targeted at development practitioners, the paper highlights some principles for moving forward in mainstreaming biodiversity within their work, whether at a strategic level.

http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EMMBDC-01

This report summarizes main outcomes of the expert meeting on mainstreaming biodiversity in development cooperation that took place in Montreal, in the offices of the CBD.


This book aims to highlight the importance of sustainable development at national or local levels. Whilst the focus is on integrated strategies for sustainable development, the approaches and methods covered are equally relevant to poverty reduction, environmental and sectoral strategies, programme development and review. The necessary mechanisms and processes need to be coordinated to enable continuous learning and improvement.


Accessible online: part 1; part 2

In Part 1, the guide analyses environmental mainstreaming and provides a perspective on the challenges related to it. In Part 2, it discusses the broad range of mainstreaming approaches and tools that are best suited to particular challenges and decision-making tasks provide guidance on when particular approaches might best be used, and profile key approaches/tools.


Accessible online: [www.rural21.com/269.html](http://www.rural21.com/269.html)

The CBD objective on access and benefit-sharing (ABS) is intended to place developing countries in a better position to profit from their genetic resources, and provide incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of their biodiversity. Even before the
establishment of the international ABS regime, Namibia has adopted an innovative approach which ensures producer benefits.


The objective of this handbook is to enhance the capacity of non specialist staff to identify the key links between the environment and the main areas of development cooperation so as to enable an early consideration of environmental sustainability concerns in country programming and in the preparation of planned operations. This should lead to the identification of appropriate measures to be taken at formulation and implementation.


In August 2009, the European Commission released its policy paper “GDP and beyond: Measuring progress in a changing world” which is available in 22 languages. The paper fulfils the commitment made by the European Commission at the Beyond GDP conference to mould the ideas presented at the conference into a roadmap for action.


This book was developed to assist policy makers dealing with rural poverty, food insecurity and education challenges confronting rural people. It seeks to address the correlation between education, training, empowerment and food security, mainly through a number of examples from all over the world.


This book originally published by IUCN as Poverty and Conservation: Landscapes, People and Power, makes an important conceptual contribution to the understanding of the linkages between poverty and conservation, and more specifically between conservation and poverty reduction. One important contribution is the emphasis that simple generalizations about linkages are rarely accurate. For example statements such as ‘poverty causes environmental degradation’, or ‘poverty reduction is essential to conservation’ are true only in certain contexts, and causal relationships can be changed by institutional changes and other interventions.


We used socioeconomic models that included economic inequality to predict biodiversity loss, measured as the proportion of threatened plant and vertebrate species, across 50 countries. Our main goal was to evaluate whether economic inequality, measured as the Gini index of income distribution, improved the explanatory power of our statistical models. We compared four models that included the following: only population density, economic
footprint (i.e., the size of the economy relative to the country area), economic footprint and income inequality (Gini index), and an index of environmental governance. We also tested the environmental Kuznets curve hypothesis, but it was not supported by the data. Statistical comparisons of the models revealed that the model including both economic footprint and inequality was the best predictor of threatened species. It significantly outperformed population density alone and the environmental governance model according to the Akaike information criterion. Inequality was a significant predictor of biodiversity loss and significantly improved the fit of our models. These results confirm that socioeconomic inequality is an important factor to consider when predicting rates of anthropogenic biodiversity loss.

   Accessible online:
   http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/beech/iapa/2007/00000025/00000004/art00001
   Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) are a central instrument in international development cooperation and of key importance in guiding donors’ policies towards southern recipients. Sustainability assessments can contribute to significant improvements between first and second generation PRSPs provided the assessments are supported by a strong institutional framework and a dedicated political commitment towards sustainability.

   Available online at :
   http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/beech/iapa/2009/00000027/00000001/art00002?token=004d17220b291f0437a63736a6f576b674c3e66674453495b6f644a467c79675d7c4e72477079
   Despite their alleged comprehensiveness and the many linkages between poverty and environment, most poverty reduction strategy papers have until now insufficiently acknowledged the importance of environmental sustainability. To tackle this shortcoming, participative processes were initiated to ‘green’ PRSPs (meaning the integration of environmental sustainability as a cross-cutting issue). This supposes a process approach to decision-making and implies opening up the policy process to a wide range of societal actors. This approach is conceptualized as a sustainability assessment. A descriptive analysis of the Benin PRSP-greening initiative is presented, based on interviews and on literature research. Subsequently, issues of importance in appreciating the wider impact of PRSP-greening are suggested. Besides the quality improvements of the PRSP, greening contributes to a gradual change in the way decision-making is perceived and contributes to social learning. Furthermore, it is a promising approach that contributes to the institutionalization of environmental sustainability in Africa.

   Accessible online: http://www.wri.org/publication/restoring-natures-capital
   This publication sets forth the issue of supporting nature, which calls for an increase in the availability of information on ecosystem services, and a redressing of the balance in favor of local rights to resources. It also calls for managing decisions across levels - local, regional, national, and international - and increasing the use of accountability mechanisms and economic incentives.

Accessible Online: http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/sp_brochure_eng.pdf

IUCN – The World Conservation Union launches an ambitious Conservation for Poverty Reduction Initiative to secure and improve rural livelihoods through the improved management of ecosystems across the developing world. The Initiative puts into practice the growing experience with and understanding of the ways in which better management of ecosystems can increase livelihood security, improve human health, and reduce poverty. It develops knowledge, empowers communities, and promotes policy changes to provide rural communities with the natural resource base on which to build a healthy future.


Available online at: www.tyndall.ac.uk/sites/default/files/wp102.pdf

This paper assesses the screening activities to date, focusing on both the results and the methods applied. Based on this assessment it identifies opportunities for development agencies to expand their current focus on the links between climate and development. The paper provides some initial guidance as to how portfolio screening can be carried out in a way that would allow agencies to assess systematically the relevance of climate change to their ongoing and planned development projects.


Both mitigation and adaptation to climate change require actions to be taken in many sectors of society, but so far this is hardly happening. This paper suggests possibilities for widening climate change policy by strengthening inter-linkages between climate policies and various relevant policy areas to mainstream climate change concerns. It argues that, if these inter-linkages can be strengthened and policy coherence is improved, the effectiveness of climate policy can be enhanced while also supporting these other policy areas. The contention in this paper is that improved policy coherence and mainstreaming requires climate policies to go beyond the UNFCCC framework to realize its full potential and to better deal with possible trade-offs. The potential benefits in the policy domains of poverty reduction, rural development and agriculture, disaster management, energy security, air quality and trade, and finance are examined, and the institutional and organizations linkages highlighted. Finally, opportunities for mainstreaming are identified to make better use of possible synergies between climate and related policy areas.


The focus is on the main national development priorities, such as poverty reduction, disaster reduction, rural development, energy supply and transportation. Barriers and promising approaches are identified, based on the experience gained in several countries. The potential is explored for enhancing the global impact of such integrated approaches through replication of national experiences, supported by international organizations. Opportunities for large-scale initiatives are considered at national or regional level. The role of international agreements in fostering integrated development and climate policies is analysed, showing opportunities for achieving large co-benefits for addressing climate change by making use of existing policy frameworks for development and going beyond the UNFCCC framework.

This study indicates that mainstreaming EGS into poverty reduction efforts requires the involvement from many sectors. It also indicates that the current Biodiversity policies have a limited influence in core-decision-making processes for poverty reduction and development. That is where a very substantial part of capacity building efforts need to be aimed at to become effective. This requires going beyond the domain of traditional biodiversity policies. The mainstreaming study provides many more useful insights for analysis of these mechanisms, initiatives and processes that are currently shortlisted.


25. How do biodiversity and poverty relate? An explorative study (Tekelenburg et al., 2009)


Decision makers are faced with certain challenges when they explore ways of simultaneously achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the CBD 2010 targets for biodiversity conservation. Decreasing poverty usually coincides with decreasing biodiversity, creating a ‘win-lose’ situation. Overexploitation can lead to a collapse of the system and an increase in poverty with even more loss of biodiversity, and become a 'lose-lose' situation. Reducing poverty while conserving biodiversity - a 'win-win' - can be achieved on a local scale. However, such a positive impact is hard to realize when all trade-off effects elsewhere and in the future are considered. These are the main conclusions of the explorative study: 'How do biodiversity and poverty relate? An explorative study', by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL)

26. B. ten Brink; S. van der Esch; T. Kram; M. van Oorschot; R. Alkemade; R. Ahrens; M. Bakkenes; J. Bakkes; M. van den Berg; V. Christensen; J. Janse; M. Jeuken; P. Lucas; T. Manders; H. van Meijl; E. Stehfest; A. Tabeau; D. van Vuuren; H. Wilting (2010) Rethinking Global Biodiversity Strategies: exploring structural changes in production and consumption to reduce biodiversity Loss. PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency


This study was made on request of Mr. Steiner of UNEP in 2010 to find new approaches how to reduce or halt global biodiversity loss, as a contribution to COP10 and the TEEB project. This analysis, titled Rethinking Global Biodiversity Strategies shows the importance of coherent set of sectoral policies for the conservation of biodiversity and EGS, with major co-benefits on food availability, water quality and climate change.
The study builds on previous work undertaken in a drier savanna woodland environment in Mozambique. A secondary aim was to test the methodologies developed in Mozambique within this wetter forest environment, and to further refine and improve them. This work was undertaken within the context of CIFOR’s broad objective of providing policy-relevant information that can enable more informed, productive, sustainable and equitable decisions about the management and use of tropical forests.

This paper provides a compilation of policy, institutional and governance recommendations from eighteen leading international experts, to respond to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment finding that over the last 50 years humans have degraded ecosystems services at a faster rate and on a larger scale than at any time in human history and to define a global action agenda.

Accessible online: http://www.oecd.org/document/20/0,3746,en_2649_37465_39676628_1_1_1_37465,00.html
The OECD Environmental Outlook demonstrates that meeting the environmental challenges is both economically rational and technologically feasible. Seen from a long-term perspective, the costs of early action are far less than the costs of delaying; the earlier we act, the easier and less expensive the task will be. Policy-makers, businesses and consumers all need to play their part to implement the ambitious policy reforms which will deliver the most cost-effective environmental improvements. In that way, options are left open for future generations to make their own choices about how to enhance their well-being.

Accessible online: www.oecd.org/dataoecd/30/24/43550694.pdf
This is the fourth report on monitoring OECD’s work on development. It reports on two issues: collaboration for development and progress made in promoting policy coherence for development. This report manifests that OECD’s multi-disciplinary perspectives and peer learning approaches make the Organisation uniquely placed to expand its engagement with new actors and collectively address key global development challenges.

Accessible online: www.oecd.org/dataoecd/4/21/37353858.pdf
Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is one of the main tools available to achieve integration of the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes. This guidance explains the benefits of using SEA in development co-operation and sets out key steps for its application based on recent experiences. Twelve different entry
points are identified for the practical application of SEA in development co-operation. For each entry point, the text provides a guidance note: a checklist of questions and hands-on case studies. Evaluation and capacity development for SEA processes are also addressed.


Accessible online: www.oecd.org/dataoecd/61/43/42440224.pdf

This publication focuses on the economic dimensions of natural resource management. It is intended to encourage decision makers from development co-operation agencies and ministries of finance and planning in partner countries to recognise the contribution of natural resources to pro-poor growth and the importance of policies which nurture their sustainable management.


Accessible online at: http://www.povertyenvironment.net/node/953

This report examines investments in and policies for improving environmental quality and natural resources management, and documents the critical role played by these investments and policies in creating opportunities for people to lift themselves out of poverty. Its intended audience is decision-makers who require hard economic evidence to evaluate the proposition that investment in sound, equitable environmental management is an effective—indeed, an essential—strategy for reducing poverty.


The aim of this article is to examine progress so far, as well as current challenges and opportunities for EPI in bilateral official development assistance (ODA). A short review of progress shows that effectiveness has so far been limited. Although there has been intense donor activity in relation to stating commitment to the EPI principle and developing a wide range of processes, institutions, and tools, a large part of ODA still is likely to have directly harmful impacts on the environment.


Accessible online: www.ias.unu.edu/redirect_UNU.aspx?ddlID=1406&catID=97

This report summarizes the findings of a comprehensive assessment of the preparation, content, adequacy and effectiveness of existing national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and recommendations on what steps should be taken to ensure that NBSAPs fulfill their role as the primary mechanism for the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

This guide assembles that evidence for use by a decision maker. It details the processes that they can use, beginning with a conceptual framework that links development and ecosystem services and ending with guidance for choosing policies to sustain ecosystem services.


The degradation of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity are a common cause of poverty and social conflict. Protecting biodiversity and reducing poverty would therefore seem to be strongly linked. Yet despite this, conservation and development have often found themselves in conflict, with climate change adding further complexity to the debate, while also increasing the urgency of finding ways forward.


Available online: http://povertyandconservation.info/docs/20110419-PCLG_Briefing_April_2011.pdf

Provides a brief summary of the CoP10 decisions that have implications for development assistance agencies.


Available online at: http://povertyandconservation.info/docs/20100901_ZSL_Symposium_Report.pdf

IIED, UNEP-WCMC and the African Wildlife Foundation organized a symposium in April 2010 to the current state of knowledge and the evidence base for claims and counter-claims on biodiversity and poverty reduction, in order to better understand what is assumption rather than fact. Drawing on a wide range of disciplines across academia as well as from conservation and development agencies, the symposium included case study presentations, a series of “state of knowledge” reviews, panel discussions and posters.


Available online at: http://pubs.iied.org/14612IIED.html

This paper is intended to stimulate discussion about the linkages between biodiversity, conservation and poverty reduction. What do we know, what do we not know, and what do we need to know? These ten questions provide a quick—hence simplistic—insight into a complicated and convoluted issue.

This report summarises the main findings of two "state of knowledge" reviews that were commissioned to explore the evidence base for two common assumptions about the link between biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction: 1) that the poor depend on biodiversity; and 2) that biodiversity conservation can be a mechanism for poverty reduction.


This paper shows how we need further integration of the poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation agendas in a context of increasing global challenges, such as population growth, climate change, and overconsumption of ecosystem services.


Accessible online: http://www.unpei.org/PDF/preliminaryassessments/Links-Ecosystem-Services-and-Poverty-Alleviation.pdf

This report presents the findings of a situation analysis, covering the arid and semi-arid lands of southern Africa, presenting evidence of the links between ecosystem services and human well-being, and especially the opportunities for poverty alleviation through the provision and management of ecosystem services. It was conducted between late September 2007 and January 2008.


This report describes a consultancy carried out by UNEP-WCMC to determine the linkages between the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) thematic Programmes of Work (PoWs) and poverty reduction.


Accessible Online: http://www.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/14564IIED.pdf

This report is an output of IIED’s collaborative research project “Policy That Works for Biodiversity and Poverty Reduction” and is based on a literature review and three country case studies (see text box). It examines biodiversity governance at local, national and international level – notably: policy and institutional support for community based conservation; mainstreaming biodiversity in development sectors and biodiversity planning (NBSAPs); and the CBD process. It also reviews existing good governance principles for biodiversity - the CBD’s Ecosystem Approach, the Durban principles for protected areas, and lessons from the MA and natural resource management.
Accessible online: www.unep.org/communityprotocols/PDF/communityprotocols.pdf

This short paper seeks to promote understanding of the nature and purpose of Community Biocultural Protocols. It emphasises that such protocols should not just be developed for access and benefit-sharing relating to traditional knowledge, as envisaged in the Nagoya Protocol, but can be used by communities for furthering their rights and needs more broadly. It stresses the need for a community led process and cautions against standardised models for the development of biocultural protocols.

http://pubs.iied.org/pubs/pdfs/14591IIED.pdf

It summarizes action-research project that has focused on developing alternative tools to protect traditional knowledge which are rooted in local customary laws rather than based on existing Intellectual Property standards.


This report reviewed experiences of seven countries (i.e. Burkina Faso, Ghana, Namibia, Pakistan, Tanzania, India and South Africa) with mainstreaming biodiversity in development policy and planning.

Accessible online: http://www.rivm.nl/bibliotheek/rapporten/555050004.pdf

The study delves deeper into the quantitative relationships between biodiversity and poverty under different conditions.


This document offers the outcome of an inter-agency workshop held by UNDP on capacity building, examining the varying perceptions of capacity development and capacity building within the UN system.

Accessible online www.undp.org/fssd/docs/mdg7english.pdf

This UNDP report summarises the findings from a review of 158 countries Millennium Development Goals Reports (MDGRs). Its aim is to determine how well countries are doing in monitoring and reporting on Millennium Development Goal 7 (MDG 7), the goal that seeks to ensure environmental sustainability.
   Accessible online: http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=15910
   This document provides broad generic steps for mainstreaming environment and drylands issues into national development frameworks, as well lessons drawn from various countries on environment and drylands mainstreaming. It demonstrates that by prioritizing Millennium Development Goal 7 (MDG 7), aimed at ensuring environmental sustainability, countries would also be able to deliver on other MDGs and vice versa, and that failure to address drylands development challenges will hold back countries’ progress on all MDGs.

   Capacity development and environmental sustainability are both central to UNDP’s mandate and programming. The purpose of this Practitioner’s Guide is to provide practical guidance to UNDP staff, partner countries and other development partners on the nature of environmental capacity and how to support capacity development for environmental sustainability (CDES).

   The Guidance Note on Mainstreaming Environment into National Development Planning is part of the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Facility’s knowledge management programme that supports the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative (PEI). The guidance is designed for PEI country-level environmental mainstreaming programmes and for the effective integration of environment into the MDG Support Initiative.

   Available online: http://www.thegef.org/gef/oe_them_NCSA
   The evaluation provides the GEF Council and others in the GEF with lessons, experiences, and recommendations coming from the implementation of NCSAs as inputs to the development of a new GEF strategy on capacity development. The evaluation had three areas of focus: relevance, efficiency, and results (and their sustainability). Each of these areas was developed through a series of key questions and sub-questions. The framework for the evaluation was based on the theory and key principles behind the development of NCSAs, their objectives and expected results.

   This handbook - developed under the guidance of the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Facility - is designed to serve as a guide for champions and practitioners engaged in the task of mainstreaming poverty-environment linkages into national development planning. The handbook draws on a substantial body of experience at the country level and the many lessons learned by the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme in working with governments — especially ministries of planning,
finance and environment — to support efforts to integrate the complex interrelationships between poverty reduction and improved environmental management into national planning and decision-making.


Integrated assessment of trade-related policies uses a range of impact assessment tools to evaluate the environmental, social and economic impacts of trade liberalization and trade-related policies at national level, providing policy and decision makers with information necessary for informed decision-making.


   Accessible online: [www.unemg.org/Portals/27/Documents/IMG/Biodiversity/BIODIVERSITY_Agenda_Corrections_finales_.pdf](http://www.unemg.org/Portals/27/Documents/IMG/Biodiversity/BIODIVERSITY_Agenda_Corrections_finales_.pdf)

   This report explores what the interaction between society and the life-support systems means to the different policy sectors in the UN system. Within it, UN agencies pledge to collaborate on biodiversity mainstreaming.


   Factsheet on biodiversity-focused aid, i.e., the total commitments from activities scored as principally or significantly targeting the objectives of the CBD.

60. UNEP-WCMC (2010). Report from the workshop on Ecosystem Service Indicators “Developing and mainstreaming ecosystem service indicators for human wellbeing: Gaps, opportunities and next steps”

   This report documents key findings from a workshop on ecosystem service indicators, aiming to develop and mainstreaming ecosystem service indicators for human well-being.


   Accessible online: [http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/reports/index.htm](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/reports/index.htm)

   This report recommends the way forward. It outlines a way to attain this bold ambition. It describes how to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.


   The thesis of World Resources 2005 is that income from ecosystems — what we call environmental income — can act as a fundamental stepping stone in the economic empowerment of the rural poor. This requires that the poor manage ecosystems so that they support stable productivity over time. Productive ecosystems are the basis of a sustainable income stream from nature. This report presents examples to adopt and replicate, demonstrating how nations can support a bottom-up approach to rural growth that begins naturally with the assets that the poor already possess.