United Nations Development Programme

Mainstreaming Biodiversity : Key Building Blocks

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Mainstreaming biodiversity in development cooperation expert meeting

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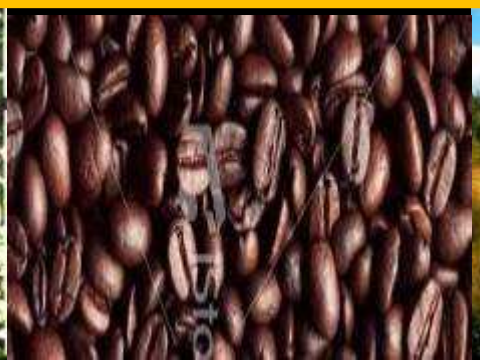


Outline of the Presentation

1. Context and Perspective
2. Concept of mainstreaming biodiversity
3. Building Block 1: Mainstreaming at Landscape Level

   Frameworks and approaches
4. Building Block 2: Mainstreaming in Economic Sectors and Markets

   Frameworks and approaches
5. Key Lessons, challenges and avenues for Mainstreaming






Context and Perspective

We depend on natural ecosystems to provide goods, such as food and medicine and services such as pollination, carbon sequestration, nitrogen fixation and hydrological system regulation.

The livelihood strategies and food security of the poor often depend directly on functioning ecosystems for goods and services.

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment concluded that 60% (15 out of 24) of the ecosystem services that support life are being undermined as a result of human activities. The report found that two services, namely fisheries and freshwater provision, are degraded beyond levels that can sustain current demands.

- The MDG framework offers the opportunity to focus on results in the pursuit of better environmental management
- **Progress in achieving environmental sustainability critically depends on effective mainstreaming of environment across development sectors**

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Why is Biodiversity in Trouble?

Barriers	Issue
Population expansion and growth with no change in consumption patterns	Traditional management practices may no longer be viable when population densities increase beyond minimum thresholds; Increased consumption pressures on wild resources lead to over-harvesting
Weak Governance	Unequal application of rules and limited accountability for decision making; High degree of centralization in decision making; Trade-offs between resource use are not factored into decision making.
Policy Failure	Subsidies can provide impetus for inappropriate land uses; Policy distortions favor some sectors and resources over others (i.e. livestock vs wildlife).
Absence of Property Rights to land and wild resources	Skewed distribution of land ownership; Lack of defined property and usufruct rights on communal lands.
Market Failure	Failure to internalize the value of ecosystem services in resource pricing; The costs of resource stewardship to landholders are not compensated (i.e. benefits to individuals that do not underwrite the costs of management)

What is Mainstreaming Biodiversity?

Perspective from the 2004 GEF- STAP Cape Town meeting:

> *Internalising the goals of biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of biological resources into economic sectors and development models, policies and programmes (and therefore into all human behaviour)*

Examples:

- Governments incorporate biodiversity considerations into development planning
- Agricultural extension services promote the cultivation of traditional crop varieties to enhance food security
- A premium is paid for certified “rain forest friendly” coffee
- Downstream users pay upstream producers to maintain biodiversity in order to maintain water quality
- Biodiversity values are incorporated into corporate practices

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What is Mainstreaming Biodiversity?

Why Mainstream?

1. Eliminating threats to biodiversity at source i.e.. the behavior of individuals, institutions and society
2. Experts suggest that even by increasing the area of the earth's surface protected from around 12% to over 20% still only about 50% of the world's biodiversity will be maintained

Two Converging Strategies for Mainstreaming Biodiversity

Mainstreaming into "Landscapes": Policies, legal frameworks, institutions and planning processes governing land and resource use

Mainstreaming into economic sectors and markets: Integrating biodiversity management into product supply chains

Coffee-producing Regions of Colombia

Policy and Institutional Frameworks

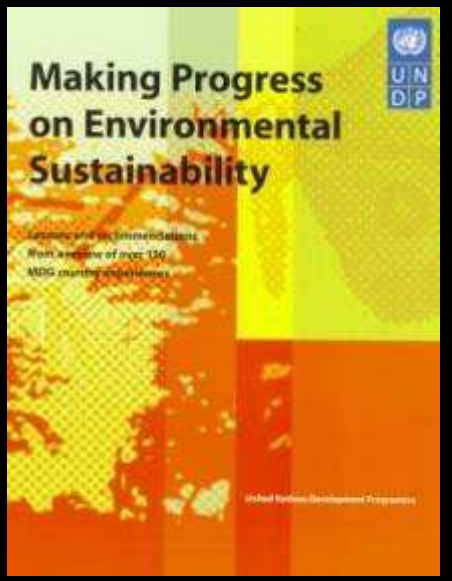
At various levels: global, national, provincial and municipal, local.

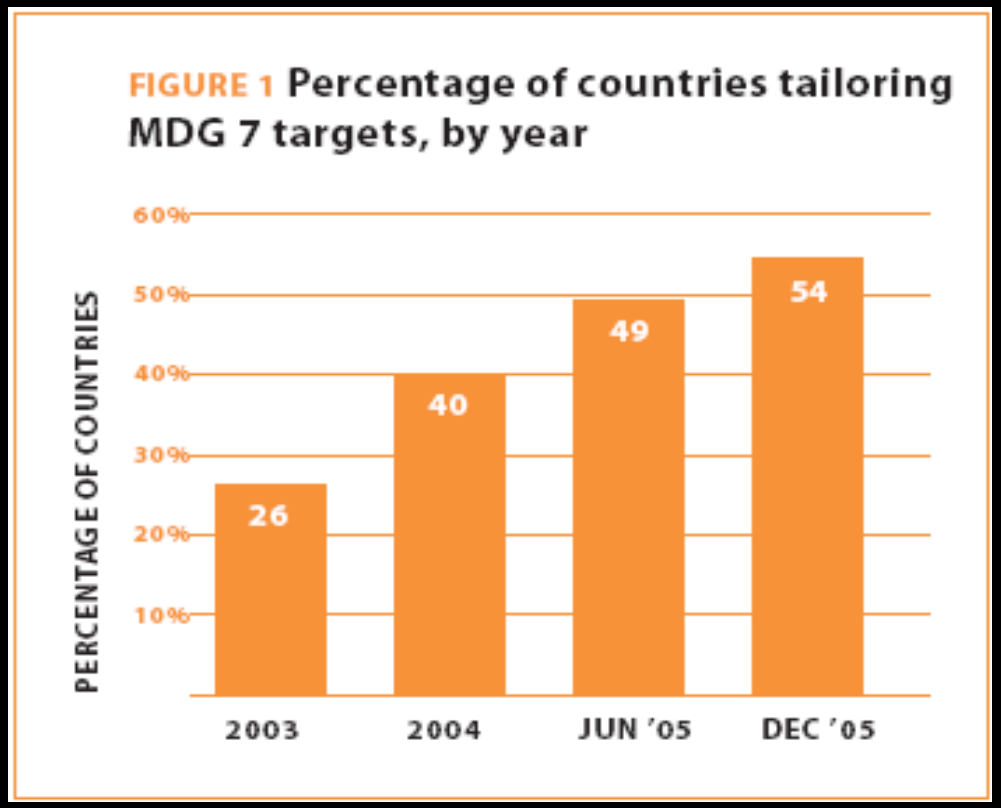
Biodiversity objectives are incorporated into:
Spatial planning
Policies, laws, institutional structures and mandates

By

- Strengthening institutional capacity , policies, and enforcement mechanisms
- Environmental governance reforms and accountability frameworks
- Increasing public awareness, participation and training
- Environmental cost recovery practices: internalization into fiscal policies, etc.
- Strengthening SEA and impact assessment more broadly

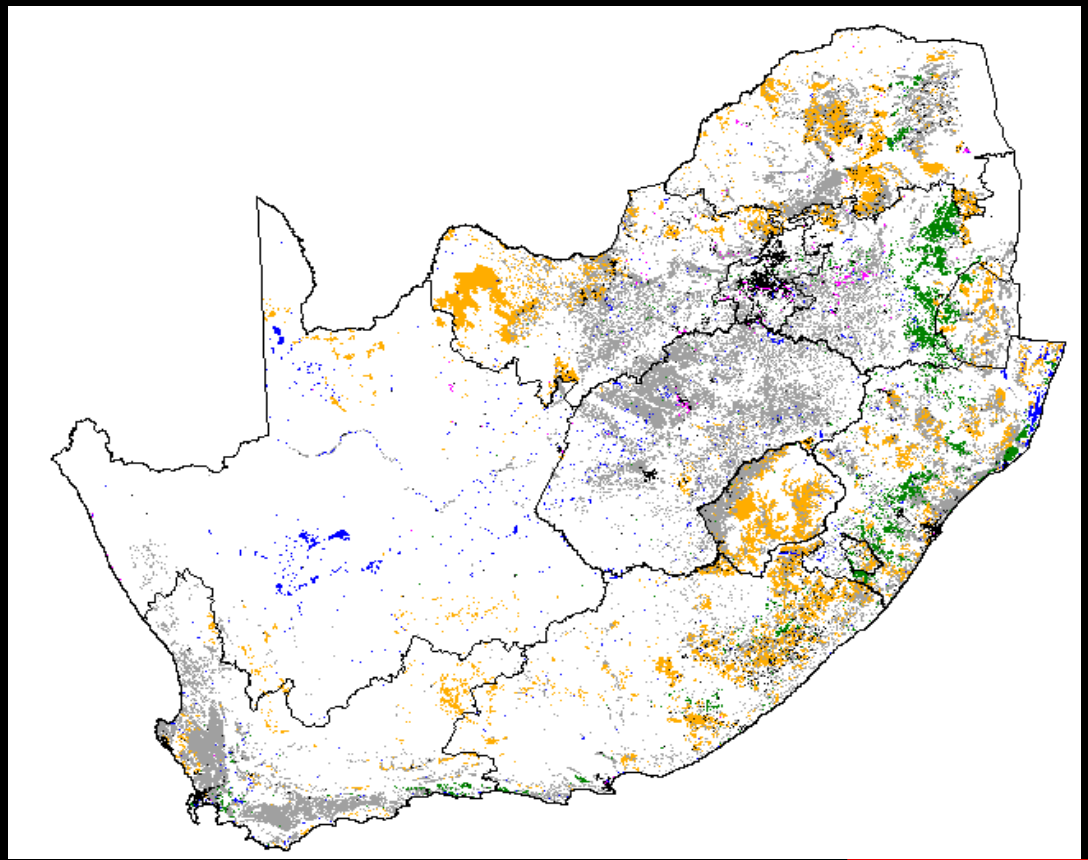
Encouraging starting point from the review of 150 MDG experiences





54% of countries have **country-specific environmental targets**, increasingly woven into core national development plans and budget processes.

Approaches: Using Spatial Information in Planning Decisions



South Africa has developed an elaborate national spatial biodiversity framework, referencing areas of high biodiversity, areas under threat. Bioregional plans will be developed in sensitive areas to inform land use allocation

Approaches: Strategic Environmental Assessment

Range of analytical and participatory approaches to integrate environmental considerations into policy, plans and programmes and evaluate the inter linkages with economic and social considerations.

- ✓ not a single, fixed and prescriptive approach
- ✓ largely principle-based
- ✓ continuous, iterative and adaptive
- ✓ applied throughout the entire decision-making process
- ✓ focused on strengthening institution and governance
- ✓ adapted and tailor made

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Mainstreaming in Economic Sectors

Fynbos Natural Landscape
Highly Threatened

Ecosystem management

Sustainable Harvest of Wild Flowers
Up to 126 species selectively collected
IRR (10 years) 25%

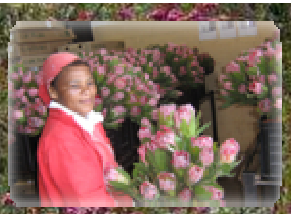
Income Generation/ Employment

International Market
1 "fair-trade bouquet from Africa" = $20 at Marks & Spencer's

Direct sale to retailers

Value Added
Factory Composes Bouquets
1 box with 5 bouquets = $10

Domestic Market in SA
1 "Cape Flowers" bouquet = $10



Frameworks

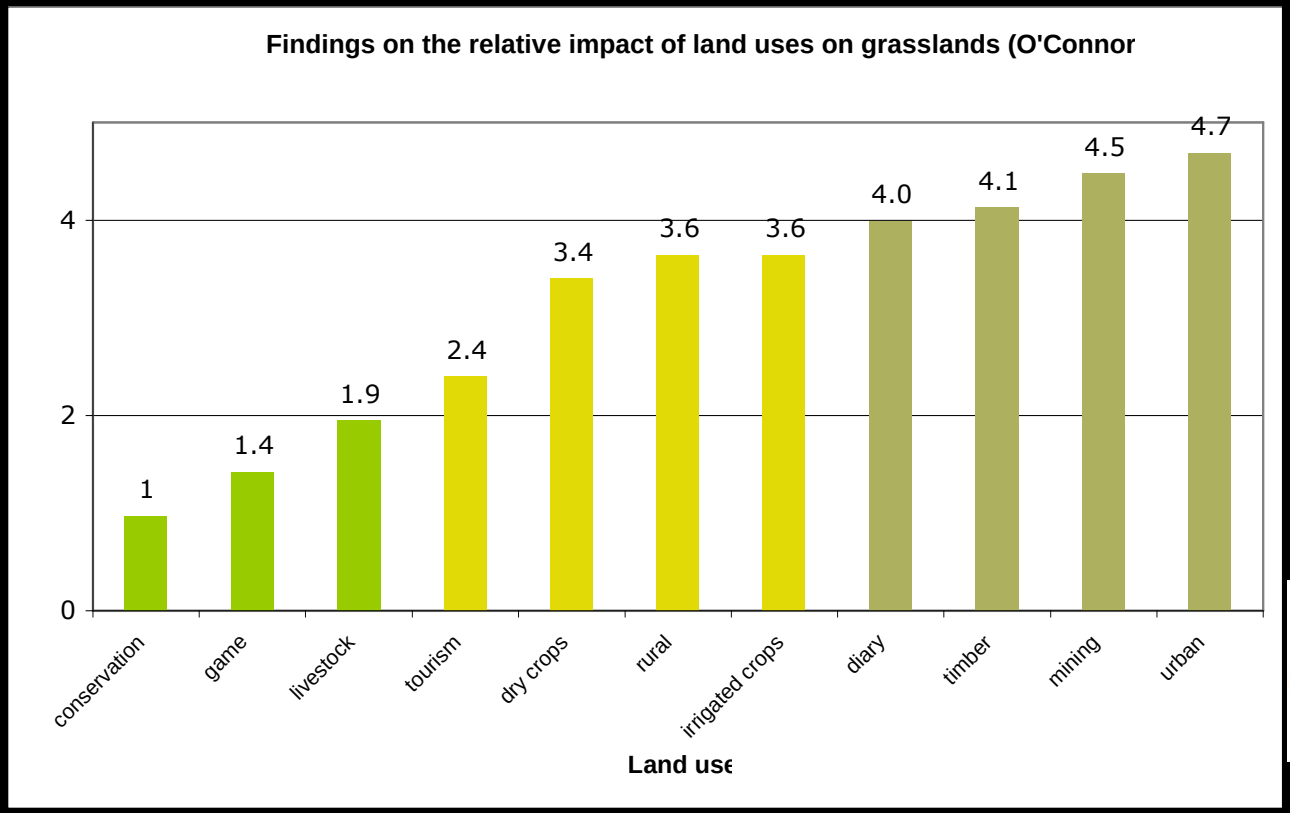
Biodiversity concerns are incorporated into:

- sectoral policy and planning
- institutional structures, policies, and mandates
- standards and regulations

Transforming markets to value biodiversity:

- biodiversity based business – tourism, medicinal plants, pharmaceuticals
- payments for ecosystem services (water, waste disposal, erosion control, carbon)
- certification systems for biodiversity friendly products

Approaches



Comparative Impact Analysis and Trigger Price Assessment

Frameworks

Underlying Assumptions

Conservation compatible production practices are competitive vs destructive uses

Enterprise units can accommodate the marginal costs of ‘ improved’ production methods in the costs of doing business (i.e. win-win solutions exist)

Appropriate incentives are in place to catalyze and sustain action by sector agents

Drivers of Change

External drivers to enterprises

- Policy framework, regulatory drivers,

Internal Drivers to enterprises

Success of mainstreaming dependent on the following drivers

- Corporate risk
- Access to markets
- Recognition
- Financial
- Penalties
- Social responsibility

Approaches

1. Regulation
Government ordinance
Permits
Capacity of inspectorate
Vulnerability index

2. Production
Define impacts
Long-term monitoring and adaptive management
Producer Training

3. Distribution
Sourcing from multiple producers

4. Market
Certification
Audits
Code of practice
Farm management plans
Social and labour standards
Branding
Product Placement

Lessons And Challenges

Enabling environment for BD mainstreaming?

- Existence of supportive policies
- Strong political will and good governance
- Effective enforcement of rules
- Institutional capacities to discharge statutory responsibilities concerning planning and enforcement
- Joint management approaches Vs command and control approaches

Lessons

Private Sector and BD Mainstreaming?

A supportive and stable investment climate is needed to cultivate private sector confidence in the economy

Biodiversity gains should exceed losses without compromising sectoral activities

Success of mainstreaming dependent on cost benefit calculations

- Corporate risk
- Access to markets
- Recognition
- Financial
- Penalties

Lessons

Tradeoffs

Clarity and convergence of purpose is needed amongst all partner institutions in order to appreciate the relevance of biodiversity conservation

A nexus between conservation and development objectives needs to be found, and demands that a balance be secured between economic fundamentals and conservation needs. Tradeoffs are necessary

Systems for resolving conflicts between and within institutions and communities need to be instituted

Lessons

Review of MDG Experiences

- Countries make most progress on environmental sustainability with a clear evidence-based and widely shared vision of how they want to manage their environmental resources in the long term
- Countries do best when they tailor environmental sustainability targets and responses to national conditions
- Systems for monitoring environmental resources and ecosystem good and services need to be enhanced with quantitative and statistical capacities
- Environmental sustainability is best tackled through cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary approach with support across agencies