

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

**Initiative on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication
and Development [2015-2018]**

- Concept Document -

DISCUSSION DRAFT

15 October 2015

Initiative on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development [2015-2018]

Relevant Articles of the Convention and decisions by the Conference of the Parties

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): articles 6, and 10.
- Decision X/6: Integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development.
- Decision X/2: Strategic Plan for Biodiversity.
- Decision XI/22: Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development.
- Decision XII/4: Integrating biodiversity into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals.
- Decision XII/5: Biodiversity for poverty eradication and sustainable development and its Annex, Chennai Guidance for the integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication.

Background

Poverty eradication is one of the top priorities for the United Nations: *“We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development”*.¹ At the same time, there is a wide recognition at the highest political level that biodiversity and ecosystem services are essential to sustainable development and poverty eradication; they are the foundation of Earth’s life support and contribute directly to human well-being in many ways.

Article 6 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) calls the 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”*.

In the mid-2000s, decision-makers at the highest political level started to recognize the importance of drawing the biodiversity-poverty linkages and how it could help in realizing the Millennium Development Goals (Paris 2006², Trondheim 2007³), the Convention on Biological Diversity objectives and other related initiatives. Various international conferences ensued and these increased discussions around the biodiversity-poverty nexus eventually led to the launching of the CBD initiative on

¹ United Nations – General Assembly, *Draft outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda*, A/69/L.85, 12 August 2015.

² In September 2006, participants of the Paris conference on Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation (BEDC) adopted the “Message from Paris” which identified a set of challenges for common action.

³ The Trondheim/UN Conference on Ecosystems and People – Biodiversity for Development (January 2007) focused on the relationship between biodiversity, ecosystem services and people — and in particular on trying to understand the synergies and tradeoffs between conservation and development.

Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development in 2008 during the ninth meeting of the Conference of Parties held in Bonn in May 2008. The stated objectives of this initiative were to: 1) promote the integration of biodiversity priorities into sectoral policies and cross-sectoral strategies; 2) facilitate the exchange of information, experiences and best practices; and 3) strengthen the linkages with CBD programmes of work and raise awareness of the Parties on the crucial role of biodiversity-poverty linkages towards development.

Two years later, COP 10 (Nagoya, 2010) adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Target 2 states that *“By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems”*. COP 10 also adopted decision X/6 on the *Integration of Biodiversity into Poverty Eradication and Development*, and established an Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development. The Expert Group first met in December 2011 in Dehradun (India). The principal mandate of the Expert Group was to further elucidate the linkages between biodiversity and poverty eradication and development, provide advice and guidance on approaches to effectively address those linkages. COP 11 in October 2012 (Hyderabad, India) took note of the “Dehradun Recommendations” and decided that the work of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development should continue.

The new mandate of the Expert Group was, *inter alia*, to prepare a report for the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation at its fifth meeting, including i) a thematically restructured and streamlined draft of the Dehradun Recommendations, and ii) guidance for implementation, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting. A second meeting of the Expert Group took place in Chennai (India) in December 2013, which discussed, among other matters, elements of possible guidance, which was later refined and provided to the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Review of Implementation (WGRI5), which further modified the guidance and a draft decision for consideration by COP12, in Pyeongchang (Republic of Korea) in September 2014. After additional discussion, COP12 adopted decision XII/5 which included the Chennai Guidance as an annex. Paragraph 17 of that decision requests the Executive Secretary of the CBD *“to continue the work requested by the Conference of the Parties in decisions X/6 and XI/22, for the effective integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication and development (...)”*, and *“to assist Parties in disseminating and utilizing the Chennai Guidance (...)”*.

Biodiversity-development mainstreaming

Though there is no single agreed-upon definition, the concept of “mainstreaming” biodiversity in the context of the CBD is about ensuring that biodiversity, and the services it provides, is appropriately and adequately factored into the policies and practices that impact it, so that the goals of the Convention are achieved.

One definition for *biodiversity-development* mainstreaming is *“the integration of biodiversity concerns into defined sectors and development goals, through a variety of approaches and mechanisms, so as to*

achieve sustainable biodiversity and development outcomes”⁴. The reciprocal mainstreaming of biodiversity and development highlights the importance of integration in both directions; consideration of biodiversity priorities in development planning and policies, and consideration of development priorities in biodiversity planning and policies. The strategic role of mainstreaming biodiversity is enshrined in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and in the subsequent decisions of the CBD, and has also been the focus of other organizations. However, progress towards integrating biodiversity into policy-making is still inadequate and mainstreaming remains weak in both national development frameworks and implementation on the ground.

There are still few examples of mainstreaming biodiversity into national planning, budgetary processes, economic decisions and poverty policies and programmes. Despite the growing awareness of the benefits of integrating biodiversity into policy-making at the highest political level, the reality is that mainstreaming biodiversity remains weak in Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSs), in National Development Planning (NDP) frameworks as well as in development cooperation policies⁵. At the CBD’s COP-12, it was decided that at least 75% of Parties should have included biodiversity in their national priorities and development plans by 2015 and have made appropriate financial provision⁶. A CBD report indicates that by 2014, 85% of the Parties to the Convention had to some extent considered biodiversity in their national priorities or development plans⁷; however, further analysis shows that the integration seems to lack the proper institutionalisation or planned process. For instance, only a dozen countries explicitly integrate biodiversity into their national budgetary processes (Burundi, Chile, Comoros, Ecuador, France, Kyrgyz Republic, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, Norway, Tunisia, Vietnam)⁸.

The fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO4, 2014) also concludes that while significant progress has been made towards meeting some components of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, in most cases, this progress will not be sufficient to meet the 2020 targets, and additional action is required to keep the Strategic Plan on track⁹. Similarly, the OECD Environmental Outlook to 2050

⁴ IIED, *Biodiversity and Development Mainstreaming – A State of knowledge review*, 2014, p. 17. IIED has developed a strong specialization over the last decade on the biodiversity-poverty nexus. However, biodiversity mainstreaming is not a new concept and other definitions are proposed, among others:

- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2009). *Notes on progress in mainstreaming biodiversity in development cooperation and key considerations for moving forward*. Expert meeting on mainstreaming biodiversity in development cooperation, Montreal, Canada, 13-15 May 2009. (UNEP/CBD/EM-BD&DC/1/1/INF/1).

- Drutschinin, A., Casado-Asensio, J., Corfee-Morlot, J. and Roe, D. (2015). *Biodiversity and Development Co-operation*. OECD Development Co-operation Working Papers. No. 21. OECD Publishing. ;

- Huntley, B.J. and Redford, K.H. (2014). *Mainstreaming biodiversity in Practice: a STAP advisory document*. Global Environment Facility. Washington, DC.

⁵ Drutschinin, A., Casado-Asensio, J., Corfee-Morlot, J. and Roe, D. (2015). *Biodiversity and Development Co-operation*. OECD Development Co-operation Working Papers. No. 21. OECD Publishing, p. 19.

⁶ CBD (2014). *Decision XII/3, Resource mobilization, 1(b)*. Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 12th Meeting, Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, 6-17 October 2014. (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/XII/3). p. 2.

⁷ CBD, Summary of the global monitoring report on the implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization, UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/INF/4, 10 June 2014, p.5.

⁸ Drutschinin, A., Casado-Asensio, J., Corfee-Morlot, J. and Roe, D. (2015). *Biodiversity and Development Co-operation*. OECD Development Co-operation Working Papers. No. 21. OECD Publishing, p. 19.

⁹ CBD (2014). *Global Biodiversity Outlook 4*. Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Montréal, p. 10.

projects continued biodiversity loss to 2050 under a business as usual scenario¹⁰. Regarding more specifically the Aichi Target 2, GBO4 concludes that *“while important progress has been made towards achieving all components of Target 2, significant additional actions are required to meet the target by the 2020 deadline”*¹¹.

The reasons for limited biodiversity mainstreaming into national planning, budgetary processes, economic decisions and poverty policies and programmes may be attributed to the following factors:

- Lack of understanding of the importance of biodiversity, and low recognition of the biodiversity-poverty and biodiversity-economy linkages, including:
 - o Limited evidence and weak communication about the benefits of mainstreaming for the poor and national development.
 - o The lack of economic analysis and valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and insufficient use of policy instruments and national accounting systems to incorporate such values.
- Governance structures among government ministries and agencies that do not promote integration of biodiversity into other policy arenas.
- Lack of effective policies, legislation and interventions devoted to biodiversity mainstreaming.
- Perverse incentives included in existing legislation and policies.
- Large geographic spread and transboundary nature of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

As noted above, one of the key challenges is in measuring the positive impact that biodiversity can have on poverty eradication and development. Because decisions to conserve or sustainably use biodiversity have not been systematically monitored or evaluated in terms of their impacts on poverty reduction, even in the case where projects have created jobs and income streams for communities, this means that the true impact beyond biodiversity and sustainability largely remains poorly documented. While a number of projects provide examples of how conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can yield poverty-reduction results, a more systematic focus on those results is necessary, and efforts are needed to fully understand and realize the synergies.

Due to the weak biodiversity mainstreaming into national policy frameworks and the lack of recognition of the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services, they are not being factored at top decision-making level or into the investment or budgetary decisions of either public or private actors. Biodiversity and ecosystem services are often invisible for markets and policy-makers, yet they are essential for economic growth, employment, income generation particularly that of the poor, the long term productivity of sectors, and development. However, developing countries will probably not prioritize biodiversity until they can identify its concrete contribution to economic and social development, such as poverty alleviation, agricultural production and food security, job creation and economic development, and natural hazard protection.

¹⁰ OECD (2012). *OECD Environmental Outlook to 2050*. OECD Publishing, p. 22.

¹¹ CBD (2014). *Global Biodiversity Outlook 4*. Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Montréal, p. 37.

In fact, prevailing incentives that are narrowly focused on short-term economic growth often encourage natural resource management in a way that degrades ecosystem services and in turn compromises the health and resilience of ecosystems. Limited attention has been given by decision makers in considering the role of healthy ecosystems in providing sustainable livelihoods.

Traditionally, economic and development-oriented departments have more authority in the decision-making process than environmental departments, including in the allocation of national budgets. Thus, to be successful, biodiversity management actions need to be mainstreamed into ministries such as planning and finance.

The integration of biodiversity into major policy frameworks and the integration of development concerns into biodiversity policies, primarily through National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), is central to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the associated Aichi Biodiversity Targets. It is also essential to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), building upon the achievements and the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), as many aspects of national development depend on biodiversity and ecosystem services and/or impact them. In particular, target 15.9 urges Member States to, *“By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts”*.

The present project supports the implementation of decisions of the Parties to the CBD, and is also relevant to other major policy documents and processes such as the Rio + 20 outcomes, and the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It builds on the previous work undertaken by the CBD Secretariat on “Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development”, which began in 2008.

Overall objective

The overall objective of the present project is, in the continuity of the previous phases of work of the SCBD Initiative on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development as outlined above, to support countries to mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem services in national poverty reduction and development strategies, policies and plans. Because National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPS) are the entry point for Parties to elaborate their actions to achieve the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, they play a central role in ensuring that development policies are a key aspect of their strategies. It should be noted that there has been work undertaken by the CBD Secretariat and other key partners to advance this aspect of the “reciprocal” approach. Thus, the focus for this initiative will be on poverty eradication and **development** strategies, plans, policies, and budgets.

The initiative will work at three levels: the global, regional and national. Pursuant to the decisions 25 and 23 adopted at the ninth and tenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties, respectively, the initiative will also promote South-South cooperation on biodiversity for development.

The initiative will be designed in partnership with other CBD Secretariat units and partners to maximize synergies and co-benefits with other programme objectives, including work on development and

implementation of the NBSAPs, as well as work on technical and scientific cooperation. It will be closely related to national priorities and processes, e.g. as defined by countries' NBSAPs and development plans.

Summary of elements of initiative: next steps

To respond to the above challenges, the planned activities will be as follows:

1. A **desk top assessment** of biodiversity mainstreaming into national poverty eradication and development policies
2. Undertaking of **country case studies** and development of methodology for measuring results of the practical impacts on poverty of national policy targeted at biodiversity mainstreaming into development frameworks.
3. The drafting of a **SCBD strategy** for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into national poverty eradication and development planning.
4. **Engagement in relevant UN policy process** on SDGs implementation with linkages to national-level development policies, e.g., revising guidance of the UN Development Assistance Framework.
5. The design of **guidance materials** for effective mainstreaming of biodiversity in poverty eradication and development processes.
6. The organization of an **international workshop** (possibly on the margins of COP13), and/or regional workshops to seek inputs to the strategy and training materials.
7. The organization of **regional meetings and workshops** and **initiation of regional programmes**, with South-South Cooperation.
8. **Testing the guidance materials** through peer reviews and South-South cooperation.
9. Developing a **means to measure the effectiveness of the SCBD strategy**; refining and disseminating a revised SCBD mainstreaming strategy and guidance materials.

The draft project elements will be discussed in several forums, including a Round Table, as well as at a side-event at SBSTTA-19.

Planned activities

Key principles guiding the elements of the initiative

The work of the initiative is guided by the following general principles:

1. A number of overviews of biodiversity mainstreaming policies have been carried out over the recent years¹². Therefore, **the focus of the work will be on areas that have not been addressed, or marginally**, in order to avoid duplication, and enhance complementarity.
2. **Focus on concrete actions needed to operationalize the integration of biodiversity into poverty and development processes.** While there is general agreement and political commitment (e.g., through the SDGs and the Strategic Plan) to better integrate biodiversity into relevant plans and policies, work needs to focus on much more practical actions and steps to bring a change to business as usual.
3. **The use of innovative approaches, including economic instruments** will be examined as a promising and efficient channel to mainstreaming biodiversity into national poverty eradication policy as well as the enabling conditions to make these work, to internalize multiple values of biodiversity within national development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes.
4. Securing long-term transformative impacts should be an objective of any action put in place for mainstreaming biodiversity into poverty eradication policy. The project will analyse sustainability in terms of political commitments, institutional arrangements, budgetary processes, sector policies, communication and awareness-raising efforts, data collection, research... to examine the conditions to be met to guarantee the long term viability of policies and actions put in place, and of their impacts.
5. **The need to address biodiversity mainstreaming at the transboundary and regional levels.** Due to the large geographical spread and transboundary nature of biodiversity issues, there is a need to seek collaboration among countries, with a view to encourage the development of regional programmes.
6. **Evaluate the impacts of biodiversity mainstreaming into poverty eradication and development policy frameworks on poverty.** Many initiatives aimed at the country level are not well measured. It is important to ensure a feed-back loop and to adjust approaches accordingly.

Tasks to be undertaken

Task 1: An assessment of the current situation with respect to biodiversity mainstreaming into national poverty eradication and development policy frameworks

¹² See for instance:

- CBD (2013). *Mainstreaming biodiversity into national sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, policies, plans and programs, Training Package (Version 2.1)*, Module 3 ;
- CBD. *NBSAP Capacity Building Modules*, <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/default.shtml> ;
- IEED/UNEP-WCMC/CBD/UNDP (2012). *Biodiversity and development mainstreaming*. ;
- GEF (2014). *Mainstreaming biodiversity in Practice* ;
- Drutschinin, A., Casado-Asensio, J., Corfee-Morlot, J. and Roe, D. (2015). Biodiversity and Development Co-operation. OECD Development Co-operation Working Papers. No. 21. OECD Publishing ;
- IUCN (2015). *Embedding Biodiversity Considerations into Policies, Strategies and Practices* in a series of on field projects and compiling lesson learnt factsheets of good practices and successful projects on mainstreaming biodiversity to sectoral practices.

The assessment will include:

- A **desk top review of the literature** of the work undertaken by the Secretariat on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development, and other related work undertaken by the Secretariat, and other entities.
- A review of CBD's NBSAP and National Report analyses and **mapping of countries in relation to biodiversity mainstreaming into poverty eradication and development policy**: to what extent development and poverty reduction are explicitly integrated into NBSAPs, and vice versa to what extent biodiversity is integrated into poverty eradication and development policy at the national level, what are the main instruments of this integration, what are the inter-institutional mechanisms put in place, what are the measurable outputs and outcomes of this integration, how are results measured, etc.
- Building on the review of NBSAPs and National Reports, a **survey of the status of and perspectives regarding biodiversity and development mainstreaming**. This would be carried out through a questionnaire sent to CBD National Focal Points (NFPs) which would help to identify success stories and less successful experiences. The survey would provide a broad picture of "where we are" in terms of biodiversity mainstreaming in development policies. It would help to better understand the status of such efforts amongst Parties, and to identify entry points and enabling factors which facilitate biodiversity mainstreaming.
- **Liaising with other international organizations** involved in biodiversity and development mainstreaming (UNDP, UNEP, PEI, OECD, WB, GEF, FAO, BERD, IUCN, WWF, CI, IIED, and others).
- Undertake a comprehensive literature review of **available policy tools and practices** for biodiversity mainstreaming and establish a typology, building on existing work in this area.
- Evaluation of the extent to which donors have aid policies that integrate biodiversity and appropriate safeguards.

Ongoing Programmes and Initiatives						
Characteristics	CBD initiative on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development	NBSAP Forum	OECD Programme of Work on Biodiversity and Development ¹³	IUCN	IIED/WCMC	GEF-6 Programmin g Directions, Programme 10 ¹⁴
Scope	An integrated and comprehensive approach including assessment, policy engagement, strategy, training, and dissemination	Focus on NBSAPs with regards to development mainstreaming, targets and indicators, and resource mobilization	Global policy stocktaking and assessment of mainstreaming and managing for results	On the field	Mainstreamin g of development in the NBSAPs	Linking biodiversity valuation and economic analysis with development and finance planning
Geographic Focus	Operating at three levels (global, regional and national) and 8 regions/subregions; a global programme with regional and national applications	Operating at national level worldwide	Global, broad perspective, drawing on country case studies and examples	Practical approach carried out in a few number of countries across regions	Focus on Sub-Saharan Africa	National and regional
Policy Entry Points	National development policy frameworks	NBSAPs	National development plans, policy frameworks as well as development cooperation	Project level	NBSAPs	National budgetary and financial policy framework
Approach	Assessment, Country case studies; Strategy development; Training material; Regional training workshops/ testing the strategy	Sharing of best practices, guidance and resources on online platforms and forums; review by practitioners and experts	Dissemination of best practices	Disseminatio n of best practices	Guidance based on lessons learned	Innovative finance mechanisms

¹³ An OECD workshop on Biodiversity and Development was held in February 2015 to kick-start this programme of work. Two working papers have been published following an initial scoping and review phase of the programme: 1) Drutschinin, A., Casado-Asensio, J., Corfee-Morlot, J. and Roe, D. (2015). *Biodiversity and Development Co-operation*. OECD Development Co-operation Working Papers, No. 21. OECD Publishing and, 2) Drutschinin, A., and Ockenden, S. (2015). *Financing for Development in Support of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*, OECD Development Co-operation Working Papers, No. 23. OECD Publishing.

¹⁴ The technical paper *Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Practice: A STAP advisory document* presents the products of GEF's workshops on biodiversity mainstreaming held in 2004 and 2013 in South Africa. The principal objective of these workshops was to bring together senior project implementers and researchers to assess lessons learned following a decade of investments in biodiversity mainstreaming projects.

Task 2: Country case studies and development of methodology for measuring results

Focusing on results is a crucial element of any policy. In the case of biodiversity mainstreaming into national development policy, this means ensuring that investments and efforts have a lasting impact on reducing poverty, achieving sustainable development and enhancing the status of biodiversity.

The objective of the country case studies will be to assess how mainstreaming works on the ground, and to identify effective practices as well as hurdles. The case studies will include a desk-top review of experiences from other relevant initiatives (e.g., WCMD/IIED work in Africa, TEEB, PEI), as well as in-country missions. The in-country work will be carried out in 10 countries, selected according to a geographically balanced approach, working in collaboration with the UN Country Team offices. The focus will be placed on:

- **Gathering evidence and the measurement of results** of mainstreaming policies and interventions in terms of, on one hand, biodiversity improvement and, on the other hand, sustainable development achievement and impacts on poverty. The limited monitoring of the socio-economic impacts of mainstreaming policies and interventions suggest that mainstreaming as a win-win solution is more of an assumption than an empirically proven fact. Thus, the objective will be to review, analyze and quantify as much as possible, in the selected countries, the evidence of outputs and outcomes of biodiversity mainstreaming policy (i.e. biodiversity mainstreaming into national policy frameworks and programmes), as well as outputs and outcomes of biodiversity projects and programmes in terms of their real contribution to poverty eradication and sustainable development. Evidence would cover: value of the goods and services provided by biodiversity, long term revenue that can potentially be generated, the number of jobs generated, possible savings to government and society of averted loss of biodiversity, and how different stakeholders use and benefit from biodiversity... However, measuring progress in this area is difficult because of the complexity of the processes involved and the time required to demonstrate changes in social and ecological systems, which extends well beyond the life span of most interventions. Lack of sufficient data also makes it difficult to make a convincing case for biodiversity.
- **A methodology** will be designed for the purpose of evaluating the results of the policies put in place. This methodology will combine two sets of information: 1) on the conventional criteria for international policy assessment (Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Sustainability), and 2) on the types of expected environmental and socio-economic outputs and outcomes. For instance possible indicators, inspired by the draft report on poverty-biodiversity indicators prepared for discussion at COP 11¹⁵, may include:
 - Environmental indicators: proportion of species threatened by extinction, ecosystem restoration, area of land under sustainable management, percentage of protected terrestrial and marine areas,...

¹⁵ CBD (2012). *Development of Poverty-Biodiversity Indicators and their Eventual Application*. Note by the Executive Secretary. Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Eleventh Meeting, Hyderabad, India 8-19 October 2012. (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF/40).

- Economic: revenue generation and impact on revenue of poor population, job creation, new activities in green economy, percentage contribution of agriculture, forestry and fishing in GDP,...
- Social: women's access to land tenure/property rights, preservation and use of indigenous and local knowledge and practices, public awareness of biodiversity-related issues...

The draft methodology will build on the ongoing development of CBD voluntary peer review processes¹⁶ and other relevant methodologies to enhance the exchange of best practices and lessons learned and to strengthen both regional and South-South collaboration. It will be discussed and finalized during the International Workshop of Task 3 of this programme.

- Assessing **the use of innovative economic and other approaches** that contribute to achieving biodiversity conservation and sustainable use¹⁷. A number of programmes are currently underway, providing analysis and helping developing countries to value biodiversity and ecosystems services, and to promote the use of economic instruments and information (SEEA-EEA, WAVES, Values, OECD, TEEB, Biofin,...). However, further progress is needed in understanding, incorporating, measuring and accounting for the value of biodiversity in economies and businesses¹⁸. One aim of the country case studies will be to identify the hindrances to the development of economic and other tools. The information on the value of natural resources and ecosystems can be used to build evidence and inform decision-makers about the contribution of natural capital to the country's economy. Tools include efforts to enhance finance mechanisms for biodiversity such as: Payment for environmental services (PES), biodiversity trust funds including debt-for-nature swaps and revolving funds, fiscal reform, biodiversity offsets, user fees, mitigating harmful subsidies.
- Identifying **innovative mainstreaming processes and instruments** that link national development policies and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- The **sustainability** of the processes put in place and the mechanisms which allow long term impacts of policy¹⁹. Sustainability measures whether the benefits of an activity are likely to continue after initial funding has ceased and include environmental and financial sustainability.

¹⁶ CBD (2014). *Proposal for Voluntary Peer-Review of the Preparation and Implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans. Note by the Executive Secretary*. Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Twelfth Meeting, Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, 6–17 October 2014. (UNEP/CBD/COP/12/25/Add.3).

¹⁷ The OECD divides policy instruments, available for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, into three categories: command-and control (or regulatory approaches), economic instruments, and information and other voluntary instruments;

OECD (2013). *Scaling-up Finance Mechanisms for Biodiversity*. OECD Publishing.

¹⁸ As pointed by GEF: “a mismatch remains between valuation and development policy and financing. Valuation is not leading to the development of policy reforms needed to mitigate the drivers of biodiversity loss and encourage sustainable development through the better management of biodiversity and natural capital, nor is it triggering changes in the use and scale of public and private finance flows on the scale necessary to address the threat. Policy and finance reforms must accompany valuation so that the finance and development decisions that impact natural ecosystems and biodiversity include incentives and price signals that results in more effective and sustainable biodiversity management” (Global Environment Facility (2014). *GEF-6 Programming directions*, p. 34).

¹⁹ Impacts are the positive and negative changes and effects produced by an intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended, along local, social, economic, environmental and other dimensions.

Among the questions to be addressed on the country cases studies will be:

- To what extent National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) increasingly reflect broader development and poverty alleviation objectives?
- To what extent economic and finance institutions (Ministries of Finances, Budget, Planning, Central Bank...) are actively involved in the work of biodiversity mainstreaming into national poverty eradication frameworks?
- Are there example of win-win strategies or programmes where both poverty and biodiversity improvement could be met in practice?
- Are there specific issues regarding trade-offs between poverty and sustainable use of biodiversity?
- How to better distinguishing between primarily biodiversity-targeted operations and those where biodiversity is mainstreamed?
- ...

The results of the case studies will be capitalized into a synthesis report.

The mission will also be a good opportunity to disseminate and encourage the visited countries to use the Chennai Guidance. In that perspective a leaflet on the Chennai Guidance will be produced and distributed.

Task 3: A SCBD Strategy for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into national development planning

Building on the results and what we learnt from of steps 1 (Desk top assessment), 2 (County case studies) and 3 (International workshop), step 4 of the programme will be aiming at the design of an intervention strategy for the SCBD for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into national development planning and poverty eradication policy, and mainstreaming development concerns into biodiversity policy.

The strategy will be designed as follows:

- Operationalise the Chennai Guidance. The guidance includes extensive actions to be taken by Parties and others. This will be the starting point for the strategy, informed by the results of Tasks 1 – 3.
- The strategy will focus on **effective tools and approaches** to biodiversity mainstreaming, including economic and other tools.
- Regulatory and institutional arrangements. The strategy will also include a focus on effective regulatory and institutional arrangements that support integration of biodiversity into development processes.
- It will provide **support tools for decision making**, and provide assistance for policy formulation and implementation.
- Evaluation and monitoring schemes.

- The strategy will elaborate information systems and ecosystem evaluation methodologies **to monitor and assess results** of mainstreaming interventions.
- The **good practices** identified in the course of the initiative will be utilized to better understand long term results of biodiversity investments and to learn from good practices.
- **Partnerships and institutional arrangements.** The strategy will seek to develop partnerships with key entities engaged in other relevant initiatives. It will also seek to create a regional network for South –South cooperation.
- **Communication** and outreach with messages tailored to the audience.
- It will include a means to measure the effectiveness of its approach, with a feed-back loop to allow for future modification and refinement.

Task 4: Engagement in UN policy processes

The objective of this task is to engage through appropriate UN processes so that biodiversity is factored into UN policies, such as therevised guidance for the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), country-level tools of UNDP, etc, to ensure consistency of integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and development planning policies and activities at the national level.

Task 5: The design and preparation of guidance materials

Guidance materials will be prepared. They will aim at packaging the relevant lessons and findings drawn from the case studies and assessment regarding the best practices and entry points for biodiversity mainstreaming into the national development and poverty eradication frameworks under the form of practical, easy-to use tools. Guidance materials will provide a typology of actions that can be undertaken for successful mainstreaming.

The guidance tool kit will be disseminated to parties of the Convention and major partners who work on these issues for further dissemination and use. On-line access to the handbook and the training kit will provide a world-wide dissemination of these materials.

Task 6: The organization of an International workshop

The objective of the International workshop will be to discuss with practitioners and experts the results of the previous phases of the work and more specifically of the SCBD Strategy and the Guidance materials.

The programme includes the organization of a 1 – 2 day international workshop, attended by 30 people, to present and discuss the results of the assessment and country case studies (Tasks 1 &2). It will be convened just prior to SBI-1.

The international workshop will bring together international institutions, developed and developing countries, experts and stakeholders to share experience and to reach a common agreement on future steps to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity mainstreaming policy.

The discussions, outputs and recommendations of the international workshop will be compiled in a report and used in the subsequent phases of the programme.

Task 7: Regional workshops and initiating regional programmes

Building on the results of the previous phases of the project, the regional workshops aim to (1) strengthen the capacity of beneficiary countries to mainstream biodiversity into their national policy frameworks and (2) help them to initiate a regional programme of action in this area, taking into consideration the national and regional circumstances and political, institutional and civil society engagement. They will be using the handbook and the training tool kit. Their design will follow the subsequent principles:

- The workshops will facilitate peer-to-peer exchanges and leverage effects.
- They will be open to officials from governments and key national stakeholders directly or indirectly involved in the management of biodiversity and ecosystem services (national development plans, NBSAPs, sectoral plans...). Priority will be given to the institutions in charge of finances, budget, planning and line ministries (agriculture and food, health, land use, gender...), in addition to NBSAP focal points.
- Representatives of 6 to 8 countries are expected to attend, totaling 30 to 35 individuals per workshop. Participants will be trained on the most recent tools and will draw up guidance for the implementation of mainstreaming strategy in their countries.
- Priority will be given to individuals who really have a stake in biodiversity outcomes. The training workshops will prioritize individuals who, once trained, will be in position to train other individuals within their organization or other entities with a view to ensure that the knowledge is passed on to a larger audience (training of trainers). Trained participants will in turn be able to train national officials and stakeholders (local authorities, CSOs, indigenous communities, vulnerable and marginalized groups) with the support of the initiative, with a total expected number of individuals trained to be between 300-400 per country; thus, generating a significant multiplier effect.
- 8 regional training sessions will be convened: Africa (3), Asia-Pacific (3), Latin America (1), Eastern Europe and CIS (1).
- The training sessions will deliver up to date information on recent development and will help participants to refine their national road map or approach to biodiversity mainstreaming, by providing capacity and advisory services.
- The regional training workshops will be used as a basis to develop regional programs to enhance biodiversity mainstreaming by:
 - 1) Identifying the key issues and priorities for each region in terms of reciprocal mainstreaming.
 - 2) Identifying a regional leader/champion and interested countries to participate in the initiative.
 - 3) Drafting a strategic paper outlining the main components of the regional programme.
 - 4) Assessing partnership and funding needs.

Among the key challenge will be to identify the most inclined countries to participate in a regional programme (e.g. recent contacts with Morocco showed that this country is willing to take a leadership in

the North and West Africa region on biodiversity mainstreaming) and to build on South-South cooperation.

The discussions, outputs and recommendations of the international workshop will be compiled in a report and used in the subsequent phases of the programme.

One or two workshops would be convened before COP13, preferably in partnership and conjunction with other events.

Task 8: Testing the Guidance material for biodiversity mainstreaming into national development planning through peer reviews and South-South cooperation

This phase of the initiative will focus on peer cooperation and assistance in terms of expertise, ideas and knowledge sharing before testing the implementation of the mainstreaming framework.

This phase of the initiative will include:

- Identification of volunteers countries to take part in the initiative (5-10 countries)
- Development of a road-map for enhanced mainstreaming policy in the pilot countries, improved coordination and greater synergies at national level between biodiversity agencies and other policy making bodies.
- Testing the mainstreaming strategy at the country level. This would provide the opportunity to develop and test new approaches and tools for biodiversity mainstreaming, to make the case for biodiversity and to demonstrate the effectiveness of new approaches, with the clear aim of replicating experiences that are cost-effective and yield results.

The design and implementation of the national programmes will benefit from the inputs of peers from other developing countries, who will share their expertise, and provide advice and know-how. This will be carried out in the form of innovative South-South peer review.

The objective is that the countries engaged in the “testing” phase could then lead the regional coordination and initiate a regional programme.

Task 9: Refine and disseminate the Guidance material and SCBD strategy for biodiversity mainstreaming into national poverty eradication and development planning

The outputs of the regional workshops and the peer reviews will be used to finalize the Guidance material and the SCBD strategy for biodiversity mainstreaming into national poverty eradication and development planning. This will help to identify the right target audience and tailor the message to that audience, and provide support to the **economic valuation** of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as the use of **innovative approaches**.

The Guidance material and mainstreaming strategy will help to better integrate biodiversity into strategic documents and projects outlining the contribution of potential policy/projects to biodiversity and vice versa. It will contribute by ensuring that efforts to integrate biodiversity are **evidence based** using scientific findings, biophysical and socio-economic data collection and economic assessments.

It would also help feeding the ongoing process on the post-2015 development agenda and associated SDGs, in particular to investigate novel indicators for unassessed targets (e.g. indicators for “benefits” from ecosystems and measure of ecosystem services).

Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystems into national planning and policies will help decision-makers assess interconnections and identify how best to steer investments to maximize positive biodiversity and sustainable development outcomes.

Conference of the Parties

The proposed initiative seeks to support biodiversity and ecosystem services mainstreaming into national poverty eradication and sustainable development policies and mainstreaming development into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and biodiversity policy. The CBD Conference of the Parties (COP) will play a key role in enhancing collaboration and disseminating lessons learned with all the Parties to the convention regarding the proposed initiative. Similarly the upcoming Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) meetings will be considered for furthering discussion and disseminating information regarding the proposed initiative.

Biodiversity mainstreaming is one of the key issues on the agenda for COP 13 held in December 2016 in Cancun, Mexico. This will provide an opportunity to introduce a new decision regarding the reciprocal mainstreaming of biodiversity and the SCBD strategy for biodiversity mainstreaming into national development planning. Also, the initiative will seek to build cooperation and continuation between the COP meetings and the international workshop of international institutions, developed and developing countries, experts and stakeholders.

Management of the project

The Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity will manage and execute the project in collaboration with partners willing to join the project. The modalities of the management and execution of the project will have to be defined with the partners.

Partnerships

The initiative will seek to build partnerships and enhance collaboration between the Parties to the CBD and relevant UN agencies and initiatives (UNDP, UNDG, UNEP, FAO, UNDESA, WHO, UNDP-UNEP PEI),

International finance institutions (World Bank, AfDB, ADB, GEF²⁰) other IGOs (IUCN), NGOs (CI, WWF), Universities, national ministries, regional institutions and the business community. A Roundtable of donors will be organized in Brussels on 28 October 2015 to examine the state-of-the play and current challenges in relation to the biodiversity-poverty nexus, to discuss and build support for a the present draft project, and to enhance collaboration and partnership between participants and other related initiatives. On the latter, one idea would be to establish a coordination mechanisms or a platform of exchanges with all programmes and initiatives related to biodiversity mainstreaming into development policy.

Partnerships will have to be established and tailored at the three levels of the initiative: global, regional and national. The role of these partnerships will be especially important in developing the regional programmes, drawing from the knowledge and expertise of relevant stakeholders already working in the region.

Preliminary budget

- Task 1: Assessment = 25,000 - 50,000US\$.
- Task 2: Country case studies = 100,000 – 200,000 US\$ (5,000 x 2 experts x 10-20 countries).
- Task 3: SCBD Strategy = 40,000 - 80.000 US\$.
- Tasks 4: Engagement in UN Processes = 50,000 – 100,000 US\$.
- Task 5: Guidance materials = 50,000 -100,000 US\$.
- Task 6: International workshop = 100,000 – 200,000 US\$.
- Task 7: Regional meetings/ workshops (x8) = 500.000 – 1,000 000 US\$.
- Task 8: Testing and peer review = 400,000 – 800,000 US\$ (8 regional/superregional programs).
- Task 9: Finalizing the SCBD Strategy and Guidance material: 25,000 – 50,000 US\$.
- Partnering and coordination = 50,000 - 100,000 US\$.

Total = 1,340,000 - 2,680,000 US\$

Deliverables/Outputs

- An up-to-date and comprehensive survey on biodiversity and development mainstreaming activities.
- An assessment of current practices and policies on biodiversity and development mainstreaming based on a survey and mapping of biodiversity and development mainstreaming in countries.
- A synthesis report on national case studies (10).

²⁰ It is to be noted that Programme 10 of the GEF 6 is dedicated to integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services into development and finance planning, and national interventions that link biodiversity valuation and economic analysis with development policy and finance.

- The proceedings of an international workshop.
- A SBCD Strategy for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into national poverty eradication and development planning.
- Guidance materials will be made available on tools and practices to mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem services concerns into development planning.
- Number of national individuals participating (280-300) in regional workshops/meetings.
- A report on peer reviews on biodiversity mainstreaming.
- An information sharing platform on biodiversity mainstreaming, possibly using the CBD Clearing House Mechanism or any relevant existing platform.

Expected outcomes

- The initiative will help to enhance understanding of the relationship between biodiversity and development and the current situation regarding biodiversity mainstreaming, obstacles and barriers, entry points, new tools and approaches, new challenges and opportunities, and perspectives.
- Regional programmes will be initiated to deliver support and to tackle transboundary issues.
- The initiative aims at strengthening the national human, organizational and institutional capabilities in participating countries to mainstream biodiversity into poverty eradication and sustainable development policies.
- Enhance the political and institutional framework for sustainable development in participating countries.
- Enable more informed decision-making and development planning.
- Assist Parties in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 2.
- Indicators of performance.
- Building the basis of a worldwide network of practitioners on biodiversity mainstreaming in development, supporting mutual exchange of best practices and learning, encouraging interactive dialogue.
- Dissemination of outputs of the initiative: reports, handbook, and guidance material on biodiversity for development, including e-learning modules.
- Fostering regional integration.

Assumptions and/or risks

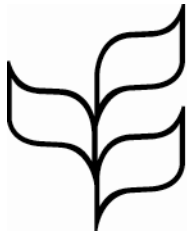
- Co-funding will require some time to secure.
- There are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, and these need to be addressed appropriately.
- The project should not be a one off activity (piecemeal approach) that does not fit into a strategic approach, with little coordination, little planned follow-up, no mechanisms to measure results on the ground. This aspect will be an integral part of the initiative and capacity development should be mainstreamed into broader regional and national development plans and policies.
- Identify the right target audience for the regional workshop and tailor the messages to that audience and provide the evidence that might support the case.

- The action will need to be focused on key stakeholders who will impact biodiversity integration the most, benefit from the activities and apply them on the ground. In addition, the risk of high turnover of officials and stakeholders who will be trained will have to be taken into account when selecting candidates. The criteria for the identification and selection of beneficiaries of capacity development will be set clear.
- Identifying effective and and systematic post-programme follow-up and evaluation of results .

Annex 1: Decision XII/4. Integrating biodiversity into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals



CBD



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

Distr.

GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/XII/4

17 October 2014

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Twelfth meeting
Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, 6-17 October 2014
Agenda item 16

***DECISION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY***

XII/4. Integrating biodiversity into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Stresses* the need for the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and sustainable development goals to support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and to tackle the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss and *encourages* Parties and all relevant stakeholders, and indigenous and local communities, to fully engage in the discussions on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals and to integrate and mainstream the objectives of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and associated vision for 2050, in an appropriate way, in the overarching chapeau, and into all relevant sustainable development goals, targets and indicators, as well as the means of implementation, highlighting the crucial importance of biodiversity and ecosystems services and functions for sustainable development and to ensure that the post-2015 United Nations development agenda is a transformative agenda for the future of people and the planet;

2. *Welcomes* the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem aspects into the sustainable development goals developed by the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To continue the work requested by the Conference of the Parties in decisions X/6 and XI/22, in the context of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets – taking into account the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,²¹ the final reports of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing to the United Nations General Assembly – and the negotiations towards a post-2015 United Nations development agenda, and to provide a report on this work for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting and by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

(b) To continue the collaboration, with key partners, to actively contribute to the discussions on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals, to follow the relevant outcomes and to inform Parties of any major developments related to biodiversity, including potential positive and negative impacts of the proposed goals and targets on biodiversity and ecosystems;

(c) To support Parties by continuing to engage in the ongoing processes to ensure the appropriate integration of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and sustainable development goals and related targets and indicators, and also by continuing to assist Parties in their efforts to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services into poverty eradication and development.

²¹ General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.



CBD



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Distr.

GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/XII/5

17 October 2014

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**DECISION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

XII/5. Biodiversity for poverty eradication and sustainable development

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision X/6 and decision XI/22,

Also recalling the eight Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000 at the Millennium Summit,²² the objectives and provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity,

Further recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,²³ in which, inter alia, Heads of State and Government reaffirmed the intrinsic value of biodiversity as well as its critical role in maintaining ecosystem services, recognized the severity of global biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation and emphasized that these

²² See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

²³ General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

undermine global development, and also affirmed that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

Welcoming the processes on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals and the outcome document of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in July 2014,

Noting that the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services defined “nature’s benefits to people” to refer to “all the benefits that humanity obtains from nature. Ecosystem goods and services considered separately or in bundles, are included in this category. Within other knowledge systems, nature’s gifts and similar concepts refer to the benefits of nature from which people derive a good quality of life. Aspects of nature that can be negative to people, such as pests, pathogens or predators, are also included in this broad category. All nature’s benefits have anthropocentric value, including instrumental values – the direct and indirect contributions of ecosystem services to a good quality of life, which can be conceived in terms of preference satisfaction, and relational values, which contribute to desirable relationships, such as those among people and between people and nature, as in the notion of ‘living in harmony with nature’”,²⁴

Recognizing the need for increased capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into poverty eradication and development processes at all levels and for all sectors and actors, being aware of the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation from the Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness,²⁵

Taking note of the work under the Reviewed Strategic Framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the period 2010-19²⁶ and its strategic objectives, endorsed by the FAO Conference in 2013, in particular as regards food security and nutrition,

Taking into account that many currently poor communities have traditionally been very effective conservers of nature and its biodiversity, such as through various forms of indigenous and community conserved areas and territories, and have been users of biodiversity and ecosystem services,

Also taking into account relevant initiatives, such as the Satoyama Initiative, consistent with decisions X/32 and XI/25, Living Well in Harmony and Balance with Mother Earth,²⁷ and initiatives from indigenous and community conserved areas and territories as well as The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB),

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development for completing the work requested in decisions X/6 and XI/22; and *receives with appreciation* the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations and the Guidance developed by the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development, from which the Ad Hoc Open-ended

²⁴ Report of the Second Session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, held in Antalya, Turkey, 9-14 December 2013 (IPBES/2/17, p. 44).

²⁵ See www.aideffectiveness.org/busanhlf4/images/stories/hlf4/OUTCOME_DOCUMENT-FINAL_EN.pdf.

²⁶ See www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/027/mg015e.pdf.

²⁷ <http://ucordillera.edu.bo/descarga/livingwell.pdf>.

Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fifth meeting has extracted and revised elements, as annexed to this decision;

2. *Welcomes* the Chennai Guidance for the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication, annexed to this decision;

3. *Encourages* Parties to integrate biodiversity and nature's benefits to people, including ecosystem services and functions, into poverty eradication and development strategies, initiatives and processes at all levels, and vice versa, to integrate poverty eradication and development concerns and priorities into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other appropriate plans, policies and programmes for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to monitor, evaluate and report on these integration efforts, through appropriate indicators and tools, and include this information, inter alia, in their national report;

4. *Also encourages* Parties to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem benefits, including services and functions, into national budgeting processes in order to capture the value of biodiversity in national development planning across all sectors for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as well as the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

5. *Further encourages* Parties to enhance the contribution of biodiversity to sustainable development and poverty reduction through the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components;

6. *Encourages* Parties to develop approaches to build resilience of ecosystem functions and services to climate-change risks and to natural hazards, and other anthropogenic pressures, as well as for adaptation to environmental stress, for consideration in strategies and national development/sectoral plans, among others;

7. *Invites* Parties to raise awareness on best practices of sustainable use, including agro-ecological approaches with positive impacts on the conservation of biodiversity in order to address pressures on biodiversity;

8. *Encourages* Parties to promote actions compatible with biodiversity conservation to strengthen food security and nutrition as mechanisms for poverty eradication in rural areas;

9. *Also encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations, multilateral and regional development banks and the private sector and communities to recognize and take into account the diverse and holistic intrinsic values of biodiversity, including its spiritual and cultural values, and to use appropriate and effective non-market-based, market-based and rights-based approaches, taking into account national circumstances, visions and approaches, such as Living Well in Harmony and Balance with Mother Earth, and the construction of a resource-efficient society, in the efforts mentioned above;

10. *Also encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to ensure that, in their efforts to integrate biodiversity into poverty eradication and development strategies, initiatives and processes, they identify and promote policies, activities, projects

and mechanisms on biodiversity and development that empower indigenous and local communities, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, who depend directly on biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions for their livelihoods, recognizing the role of collective action in the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components;

11. *Further encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to support indigenous and community conserved areas and territories, community-based management, customary sustainable use and community governance of biodiversity, and ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in decision-making processes, taking into account international instruments and law related to human rights in accordance with national legislation;

12. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, and indigenous and local communities to identify best practices and lessons learned on how to integrate biodiversity, poverty eradication, and sustainable development, and to share this information using the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and, as appropriate, other relevant means;

13. *Encourages* Parties to consider traditional knowledge related to biodiversity conservation in their national policies and initiatives;

14. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations, relevant stakeholders and indigenous and local communities to take steps to identify and overcome barriers to the implementation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties, such as lack of cross-sector coordination, resources and political prioritization, in order to effectively integrate biodiversity, poverty eradication and development, and to share lessons learned and the approaches or methods used to overcome barriers using the clearing-house mechanism;

15. *Calls upon* Parties and others, as appropriate, to develop or strengthen the enabling environment and the capacity of Parties, communities, organizations and individuals, to effectively integrate the interlinkages between biodiversity and poverty eradication and sustainable development, and relevant cross-cutting issues by providing the necessary technical, scientific support and financial resources;

16. *Encourages* Parties to apply the Chennai Guidance for the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication, annexed to this decision, as appropriate, in accordance with national laws, circumstances and priorities, to their related plans, policies and actions, and in the implementation of related programmes;

17. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funding and human resources:

(a) To continue the work requested by the Conference of the Parties in decisions X/6 and XI/22, for the effective integration of biodiversity for poverty eradication and development, taking into account also the related decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting;

(b) To assist Parties in disseminating and utilizing the Chennai Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication contained in the annex to the present decision,

and provide support in particular on cross-cutting issues, including those associated with integration of the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity in actions identified under section 3 (B) of the Chennai Guidance, and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting.

Annex

CHENNAI GUIDANCE FOR THE INTEGRATION OF BIODIVERSITY AND POVERTY ERADICATION

1. Biodiversity is crucial to eradication of poverty, due to the basic goods and ecosystem functions and services that it provides. It is integral to key development sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, pastoralism, and tourism, among others, on which around 1.5 billion people heavily depend for their livelihoods. The impacts of environmental degradation in general and biodiversity loss in particular are most severe among people living already in poverty since they lack other livelihood options.
2. Although the relationship between biodiversity and poverty is complex, multidimensional (environmental, social, political, cultural, and economic) and multi-scale, and involves multiple actors, the integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication and development can be achieved by identifying and using opportunities and entry points specific to each context, reflecting on the different root causes and drivers of biodiversity loss that exacerbate poverty and taking measures to overcome them. This is highly dependent on the different visions and approaches of countries to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication as recognized in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development outcome document, “The future we want” (para. 56). These visions and approaches may include: green economy as a tool available for achieving sustainable development, contributing to eradicating poverty as well as sustained growth; and Living Well in Harmony and Balance with Mother Earth, enhancing social inclusion, improving human welfare and creating opportunities for employment and decent work for all, while maintaining the healthy functioning of the Earth’s ecosystems.
3. Integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication needs to take into consideration the differences in national circumstances, goals and priorities, as well as cross-cutting issues related to gender, indigenous and local communities, smallholders, and inequalities, and to promote an understanding that maintaining biodiversity is not a problem to be solved but rather an opportunity to help achieve broader social and economic goals in addition to a healthy environment and society. This is important for adaptation and resilience to continuously changing environmental and socioeconomic conditions. The implementation of the integration of biodiversity considerations into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies at the regional and national levels and in the budget process at the national level, as well as the incorporation of the sustainable development dimensions and the issue of poverty eradication into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and subnational strategies and action plans, are also important.
4. The following voluntary Guidance is proposed to facilitate the integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication for development and thereby to overcome some of the main root causes and drivers of biodiversity loss that hinder poverty eradication and to address key issues to enhance relevant policies and facilitate poverty eradication. This guidance takes into account countries’ own visions, approaches and national priorities as well as cross-cutting issues related to gender, indigenous and local communities, and inequalities, and special circumstances of countries, in particular developing countries, as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, “The future we want”. It is of the utmost importance to take into consideration that there is not a single approach valid for all countries and that this guidance, if applied, needs to be adapted to national circumstances and priorities.

5. This guidance is intended for use by Parties and organizations engaged in the issues of biodiversity and poverty eradication and development, as appropriate, in accordance with national laws, circumstances and priorities, and to be taken into account in their related plans, policies and actions, and in the implementation of related programmes;

1. *Integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development*

(a) Identify linkages between biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development, as well as drivers of biodiversity loss and poverty, inter alia, by using specific voluntary tools such as mapping of social and environmental vulnerability, regional poverty-environment profiling, and distributional studies assessing country- and region-specific links between biodiversity and poverty, ensuring that the selected tools are gender sensitive and consider the diversity of views from indigenous and local communities, women, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable;

(b) Promote the integration of poverty eradication and development concerns and priorities into national biodiversity strategies and action plans, local and regional biodiversity strategic action plans, and other appropriate plans, policies and programmes for the achievement of the objectives of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, taking into account different visions and approaches of countries to achieve sustainable development;

(c) Promote the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services concerns into national development strategies and sectoral development plans, fiscal and, as appropriate, national accounting systems, and their implementation and reporting. The use of national economic tools may be effective for mainstreaming poverty-environment into national planning and budgets;

(d) Use, as appropriate, the biodiversity indicators adopted by the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the indicators used in the Millennium Development Goals, the Rio Markers, and indicators addressing both biodiversity and poverty for sustainable development, adapted, as appropriate, to national circumstances and priorities;

(e) Integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions in implementing the agreements reached in the United Nations General Assembly on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals;

2. *Minimizing adverse impacts, and facilitating participation*

(a) Prepare and implement effective biodiversity management plans for minimizing and/or mitigating any potential adverse impacts on the biological resources and the well-being of society, in the context of poverty eradication and development, including through:

- (i) Identifying resource persons and organizations at the national (for example the national focal point of the Convention or development cooperation agency) and subnational levels (for example indigenous and local communities) to provide technical assistance or advice on developing such plans for each sector where biodiversity is integrated into poverty eradication and development, and promote the implementation of these plans;
- (ii) Designing and implementing tools/mechanisms to avoid negative impacts on customary use and access to biological resources enjoyed by communities, in accordance with national legislation;

- (iii) Improving farming systems in order to secure food and nutritional security while conserving biodiversity;
- (iv) Including indigenous and local communities, and smallholder experts in all processes, as appropriate;
- (b) Encourage the understanding and implementing of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations²⁸ to promote secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests as a means of eradicating hunger and poverty, supporting sustainable development and enhancing the environment;
- (c) Promote wide stakeholder consultations that are gender sensitive, including, as appropriate, through the principle of prior-informed consent or approval and involvement and accounting for the input from this process during the development of sectoral integration plans in order to identify potential adverse impacts, develop appropriate measures to minimize/mitigate them, implement the plans, and monitor and evaluate them;
- (d) Promote, as appropriate, the implementation of safeguard measures, such as mitigation hierarchy, to avoid adverse impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem integrity, and to improve long-term livelihood and well-being of indigenous and local communities, and smallholders, with special attention to women, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable people in particular, according to national circumstances and priorities by:
 - (i) Taking measures to promote land management transparency and access to natural resources for the poor and landless, paying special attention to women, indigenous and local communities and marginalized groups;
 - (ii) Taking measures, as appropriate, in all sectors and from local to national level, to promote more sustainable patterns of resource use that conserve biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services for the poor and vulnerable communities in particular, in line with the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, “The future we want”;
 - (iii) Strengthening community-based management and the role of collective action in the management of natural resources and traditional indigenous knowledge systems and local communities and smallholders’ traditional knowledge systems;
 - (iv) Instituting mechanisms of redress, at the national and local level including restoration and compensation for damages caused to biodiversity and the poor, with the liabilities to be borne by the responsible party, in accordance with national laws, circumstances and priorities.

3. *Capacity-building, enabling environment and funding support*

A. *Enhancing capacity-building*

- (a) Support the development of curricula that are gender sensitive and intercultural, on the importance, linkages and interaction of biodiversity, ecosystems and poverty eradication for sustainable

²⁸ www.fao.org/docrep/016/i2801e/i2801e.pdf.

development, in particular sustainable production and consumption patterns, for primary, secondary, and tertiary education, taking into account traditional knowledge;

(b) Support joint training of practitioners among relevant ministries and other bodies (e.g., on use of indicators and monitoring systems among others);

(c) Encourage coordination of activities and creation of synergies among the providers of capacity-building by:

- (i) Ensuring capacity-building programmes that include both scientific and traditional knowledge and involve participatory processes, community-based management, and the use of the ecosystem approach, and the management of systems of life, and take into consideration the needs of relevant stakeholders, and particularly indigenous and local communities, women, the youth, vulnerable and marginalized;
- (ii) Giving special attention to gender and social equity, access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including non-market-based approaches, sustainable management of ecosystem services, appropriate incentive mechanisms in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity, scaling-up of best practices, and to the empowerment of indigenous and local communities;
- (iii) Encouraging and facilitating North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation and the exchange of experiences;
- (iv) Enabling local decision makers to assess the effective outcomes of investments and development projects as regards poverty eradication and biodiversity protection.

B. Strengthening the enabling environment

(a) Take into consideration national, regional and international successful experiences and best practices, such as the landscape approach, ecosystem-based adaptation, stewardship, the mitigation hierarchy, environment safeguards and transparent land management for integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication at the local, national and regional levels, in order to enhance holistic views, understanding and values of biodiversity, through cross-sector coordination, and strengthening oversight bodies;

(b) Consistent with Article 10(c) on customary use, take into account, inter alia, the work on customary use of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples²⁹ in dealing with issues of natural resource governance, the need to appropriately recognize indigenous and community conserved territories and areas and their traditional knowledge and conservation practices as the basis for local biodiversity conservation plans without interfering in their customary governance systems (helping to meet Aichi Biodiversity Target 11), and to set local biodiversity conservation plans as the basis for programmes aimed at poverty eradication for sustainable livelihoods in order to enhance the basis for the achievement of sustainable development goals.

C. Providing adequate funding

(a) Mainstream the link between biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development into development cooperation programmes and technical assistance;

²⁹ General Assembly resolution 61/295.

(b) Provide technical and financial support to capacity development activities that combine biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development, and for the scaling up of biodiversity financing mechanisms.