Integrating Biosafety into NBSAPs and Relevant Sectoral Policies, Plans and Programmes

Erie Tamale

Programme Officer, CBD Secretariat

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Background

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety has its roots in the 1992 Earth Summit outcomes (Agenda 21, Chapter 16) and the CBD (Art. 19.3 and 19.4)
- CPB is the first Protocol under the CBD
- CPB is a tool for implementing the CBD, esp. Art. 8(g) and 19(4) relating to LMOs and to some extent Art. 8(h) on alien invasive species

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Background

- Art. 8(g) requires Parties to establish or maintain means to regulate, manage or control the risks associated with the use and release of LMOs likely to have adverse impacts that could affect biodiversity

Background

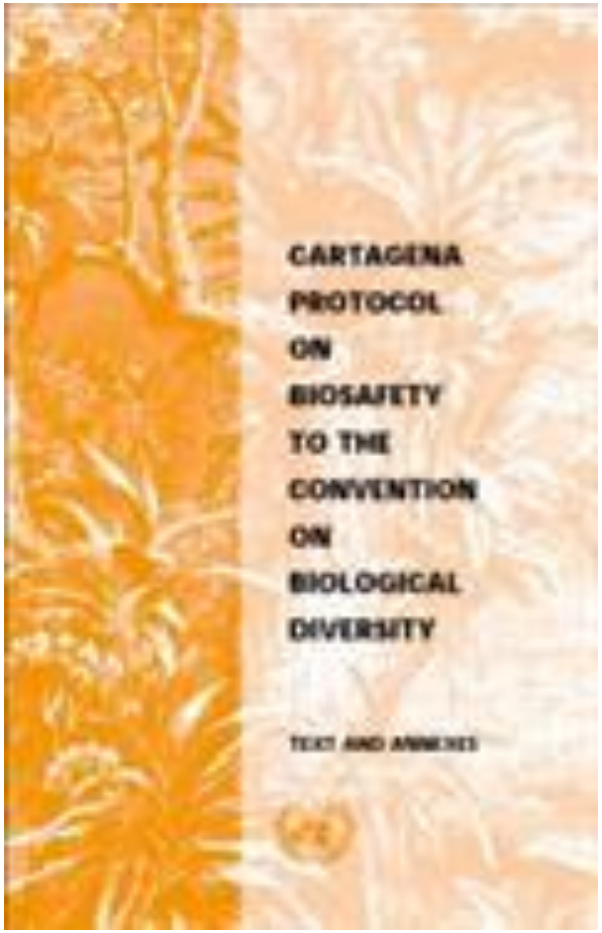
- Article 19.4 of the CBD requires Parties to provide available information about the use & safety regulations required in handling LMOs and information on potential adverse impacts of LMOs, to Parties into which LMOs are to be introduced

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Background

Pursuant to Art. 19.3, Parties to the CBD negotiated the CPB with the objective to contribute to ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health



Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Rationale for integration of biosafety into NBSAPs

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- CPB is an integral component of the CBD
- Both the CPB & CBD aim at ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
- Art. 8(g) focuses on ensuring the safety of LMOs within the country
- CPB focuses on the transboundary movement aspect of the effort of ensuring the safety of LMOs

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Rationale for integration of biosafety into NBSAPs

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Implementation of the Protocol ultimately contributes to realization of the CBD objectives
- National measures for implementing the CPB and CBD obligations should be complementary/mutually supportive

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

RATIONALE FOR INTEGRATION OF BIOSAFETY INTO NBSAPs

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- National measures for implementing the CPB could also be useful for fulfilling CBD obligations, e.g.
  - Principles, procedures and guidelines developed under the CPB for risk assessment and risk management may be useful in implementation of Art. 8(h) on alien invasive spp
  - Information sharing through BCH essential in facilitating implementation of Article 8(g), 19.4 and 8(h) of the CBD

RATIONALE FOR INTEGRATION OF BIOSAFETY INTO NBSAPs

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- National measures for implementing the CPB & CBD:
  - Capacity-building and awareness raising activities under the CPB and CBD could be mutually supportive
  - Research activities and facilities could be shared
- Need for synergetic implementation at all levels

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Rationale for integration of biosafety into NBSAPs

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- COP-MOP decision BS-V/16 invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to:

  (a) Review and align, as appropriate, their national action plans and programmes relevant to the implementation of the Protocol, including their NBSAPs, with the Strategic Plan for the CPB 2011-2020 and;

  (b) Allocate adequate human and financial resources necessary to expedite the implementation of the Strategic Plan

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Rationale for integration of biosafety into NBSAPs

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Barriers impeding full implementation of CBD include:
  - Limited integration of biosafety considerations into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes, including NBSAPs, national development plans and development cooperation policies (Second assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol: UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/17)

Biosafety and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Japan Biodiversity Fund

Biosafety issues relevant to various Aichi Targets:

- Awareness increased
- Integration into development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes
- Sustainable production and consumption
- Sustainable agriculture
- Prevention and control of invasive alien species
- Maintaining genetic diversity
- Ecosystem restoration and conservation for climate change mitigation and desertification control

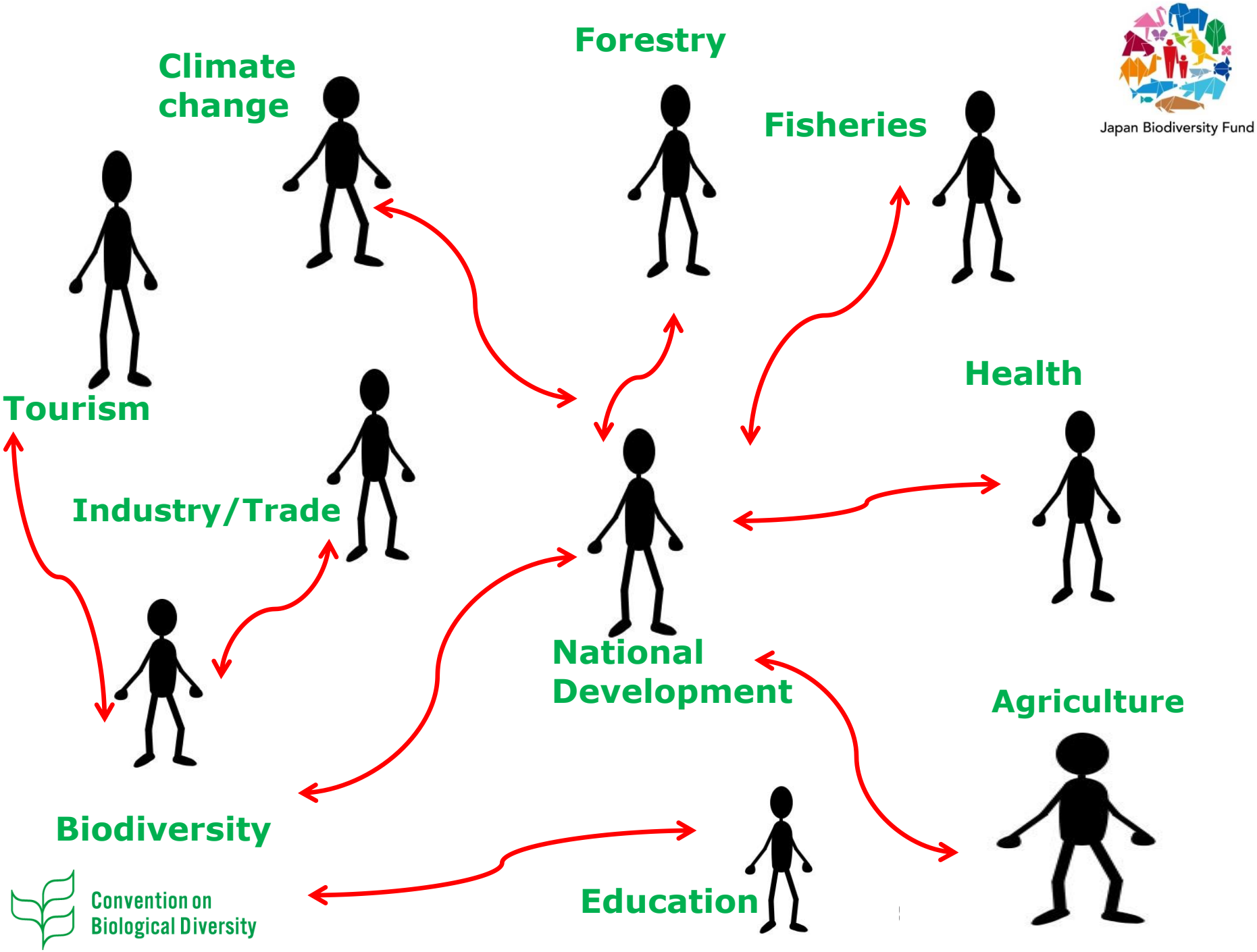
Integration of biosafety into other sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programs

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Need for careful and appropriate consideration of the biosafety aspects in implementation of various sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes
  - The demand for sustainable production of food, fuel and fibre to meet the current and future human needs;
  - The growing use of LMOs in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and other biodiversity-related sectors
  - Call for use of LMO trees for climate change and biofuels
  - Role of LMOs in food security and poverty alleviation programmes

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity


Forestry
Climate change
Fisheries
Japan Biodiversity Fund
Health
Tourism
Industry/Trade
National Development
Agriculture
Biodiversity
Education
Convention on Biological Diversity

Cross-sectoral policies	Sectoral policies	Area based planning	Other BD & Envt. Related Plans
• Sust. Dev • National Dev. • Finance • Poverty • Land use • Trade • Intl Cooperation	• Agriculture • Fisheries • Forests • Tourism • Energy • Mining • Transport • Infrastruct. • Health • Labour • Education • …	• Coastal develop-ment • Urban areas • Sub-national • Protected Areas • Other specific territories	• Climate change (NAPAs) • Desertifi-cation (NAPs) • Redd+ • Green Economy • MEA actions

Biosafety → Sustainable Development

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Possible entry points for mainstreaming

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Biodiversity-related sectoral policies and plans (e.g. NBSAPs)
- National spatial and/or land use plans
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation plans
- National economic and development plans, National Sustainable Development Strategies (5 or 10-year plans)
- Poverty Reduction Strategies, plans to meet the Millennium Development Goals
- Trade policies
- International cooperation policies
- National education and social plans
- Decentralized plans

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

How to Mainstream Biosafety

Japan Biodiversity Fund

One of the biggest challenges

•Set mainstreaming goals and objectives - goals, objectives, and targets expected to be achieved through mainstreaming

•Identify, understand and prioritize target "entry points": priority sector(s) and policies, plans, programs to be targeted for mainstreaming (agriculture, forestry, fisheries, health, etc.)

•Identify tools to use

•Design a mainstreaming strategy (steps, timing)

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Prioritizing sectors to target for mainstreaming

Japan Biodiversity Fund

Points to consider in choosing among entry points:

•Where linkages between biosafety and sustainable development can easily be demonstrated and communicated.

•Where a lack of mainstreaming may have the greatest potential negative impacts

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Prioritizing sectors to target for mainstreaming

Japan Biodiversity Fund

Points to consider in choosing among entry points:

•Where there is a potential “champion” to help in making a case for biosafety, e.g. a new minister, influential MP.

•Where timing creates an opportunity for mainstreaming

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Situations Where Timing Creates Opportunities

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Sector law, strategy, guideline being revised/ established (e.g. ongoing revision of NBSAPs).
- Area of importance for biodiversity is being zoned, or its use designation is being established or changed.

- Sectoral, sub-national and national budget requests and budgets are being prepared.

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Situations Where Timing Creates Opportunities

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Change of government and/or policy.
- After a crisis/ natural hazard/ conflict as part of recovery.
- When in discussions with donors (e.g. during a Country Environment Analysis etc.)
- When a country's development plan is being reviewed / planned.

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Mainstreaming Approaches and Tools

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
  - SEA identifies and evaluates the possible consequences of policies, plans or programs, before they are implemented
- Legal and policy instruments

- Economic and financial tools, Incentives, taxes

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Mainstreaming Approaches and Tools

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Standards, codes of conduct, certification schemes

  Production sectors are increasingly using voluntary tools for achieving environmentally and socially sustainable practices

- Ecosystem approach:

  Could help policymakers identify how their decisions depend on, and impact biodiversity, and to understand, analyze and maximize both biodiversity and human-wellbeing benefits in their decisions

- Good practices and guidelines
- Spatial planning

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Putting Biosafety Mainstreaming into Practice

Japan Biodiversity Fund

Identify:

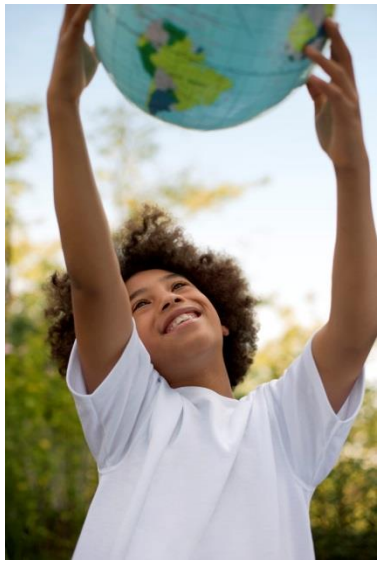
•Legislation or policy that will be targeted to integrate biosafety considerations into sectoral activities (e.g. Inclusion of biosafety into agricultural policies)

•Institutional arrangements that will facilitate the mainstreaming effort, (e.g. Inter-ministerial committee)

Putting Biosafety Mainstreaming into Practice

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Identify tools that will be used to integrate biosafety into sectoral plans, policies and programs
- Communication and public awareness activities that will be targeted to different stakeholders in order to gain support for mainstreaming.



Putting Biosafety Mainstreaming into Practice

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Research that will be carried out to fill gaps in country-specific knowledge regarding biosafety and sustainable development and human wellbeing
- Capacity building needed to integrate biosafety into sectoral strategies, plans, policies and programs

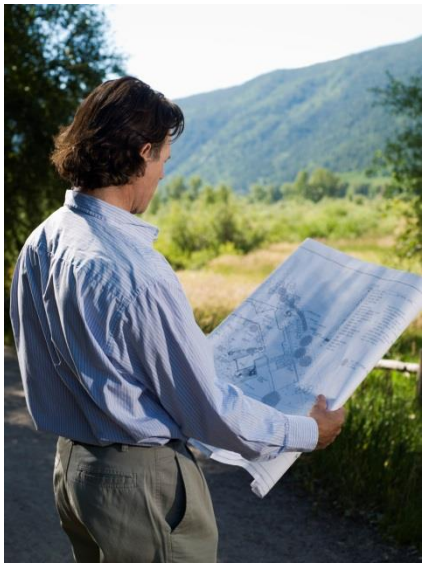
Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Putting Biosafety Mainstreaming into Practice

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Activities to deepen the understanding of the biosafety issues by relevant actors
- Developing the capacity of sectoral officials to meaningfully and effectively integrate biosafety issues in their planning and decision-making processes



Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Putting Biosafety Mainstreaming into Practice

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Development of indicators that will be used to assess progress made in the mainstreaming effort, e.g.:
  - No. of sectoral ministries represented on national biosafety committees;
  - No. of NBSAP activities including biosafety
  - No. of sectoral strategic plans that integrate biosafety concerns, actions taken by actors other than the environment ministry/authority to implement the Cartagena Protocol and its Supplementary Protocol)

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Conclusion - Way Foward

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Need to take concrete steps to strengthen coherence between CBD and the CPB at national, regional & international levels
- NBSAPs should systematically integrate biosafety issues - identify and pursue appropriate entry points for integration

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Conclusion - Way Foward

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- NBFs should be an integral component of NBSAPs
- Maximize use of existing tools and guidelines (e.g. BCH & CHM, risk assessment guidelines)
- Foster regional and international cooperation (including through regional organizations & networks)

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Way Foward

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Share information on experiences and lessons learned in integrating biosafety into NBSAPs and other sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes (through the CHM and BCH)

Way Foward

Japan Biodiversity Fund

- Both the CPB and CBD have moved to an enhanced phase implementation guided by the respective Strategic Plans which have the same timeframe (2011-2020) – joint monitoring and evaluation
- Foster synergetic implementation at the national level using the NBSAPs as the primary national instrument
- Decision BS-VII/9: Improving the efficiency of structures and processes under the Convention and its protocols

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

In the next session

- Share our practical experiences and lessons learned (+, –, ?) in development of NBFs and the integration of biosafety issues in NBSAPs and other national processes, including challenges encountered
- Clarify uncertainties
- Expand common understanding on how to integrate biosafety into NBSAPs and relevant sectors (agriculture, forestry, fisheries, health, trade, science and technology, etc.)

Convention on Biological Diversity

In the next session

- Identify potential entry points for integrating biosafety into NBSAPs and other policies, plans and programs
- Think about concrete next steps (e.g. awareness-raising for other sectors)
- Discuss capacity-building needs for integration
- Explore how we can collaborate in advancing biosafety integration

Japan Biodiversity Fund

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Japan Biodiversity Fund

For Further Information Contact:

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

413 Saint Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, QC, H2Y 1N9, Canada
Tel: +1 514 288 2220
Fax: + 1 514 288 6588
Email: secretariat@cbd.int
Protocol: http://bch.cbd.int/protocol
BCH: http://bch.cbd.int/

Convention on Biological Diversity

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity