

Thematic Report on Transfer of Technology and Technology Cooperation

Please provide the following details on the origin of this report.

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Summary information on the process by which this report has been prepared.

At the initial stage, a format was provided to prepare a “Thematic Report on the Mountain Ecosystems” in Liberia. The format contains specific question related to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems. A thematic team was set up to conduct a study with all stakeholders on related mountain Programmes in the country. These stakeholders were visited. Their information systems were researched and interview conducted. The information obtained was compiled and a follow-up discussion conducted with the relevant stakeholders to confirm the data gathered.

The stakeholders involved in this process include the Ministry of Agriculture, the Forestry Development Authority, the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Liberia Mining Company, local environmental NGOs including the Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (SCNL), Farmers Associated to Conserve the Environment (FACE), Environ-Link. and Liberia Indigenous Forum for the Environment (LIFE), international NGOs including Conservation International (CI) and Fauna and Flora International (FFI).

Materials utilized include:

- ❑ The ten-year Forestry Sector Development Programme and Projects of Liberia, 1997;
- ❑ First Year National Socio-Economic For Post- War Liberia November 26, 1997),
- ❑ FDA Annual Reports (1973 1988, 1998, and 1999);
- ❑ Report on the Tri-national Meeting on Mount Nimba held in Man, Ivory Coast, 2001;
- ❑ Report on the Tri-National Planning Meeting on Mount Nimba held in N’Zerekore, Guinea, January 2002; and

Important Birds in Africa.

Transfer of Technology and Technology Cooperation

Inventory and assessment

1. Has your country developed an inventory of existing technologies or category of technologies, including from indigenous and local communities, for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components, in all the thematic areas and cross-cutting issues addressed by the Convention?	
a) no	X (further comments below)
b) an inventory under development	
c) an inventory of some technologies available (please provide some details)	
d) yes, a comprehensive inventory available (please provide details)	
2. Has your country assessed the potential impacts of relevant technologies on biological diversity and their requirements for successful application?	
a) no	X
b) yes, please give some examples	
3. Has your country carried out an assessment of the needs for relevant technologies?	
a) no (please specify the reasons)	X (further comments below)
b) yes, and please specify the needs met and the needs not met for existing technologies and for new technologies	

Implementation of some relevant articles of the Convention, relevant decisions adopted at the previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties and recommendations of SBSTTA

4. In implementing the thematic programmes of work adopted by previous meetings of COP, has your country achieved the outcomes identified in these programmes of work through technology transfer and technology cooperation? (Decisions II/10, III/11, IV/6, IV/7 and V/4)	
a) no	X (further comments below)
b) yes, but only a few activities in some programmes	
c) yes, and a wide range of activities in many programmes of work	
d) if yes, please specify these activities and programmes of work	
5. Has your country undertaken technology cooperation with other Contracting Parties that lack the expertise and resources to assess the risks and minimize the negative impacts of introducing alien species? (Decision V/8)	
a) no	X
b) yes – please give details below (including types of technology transferred, actors involved, terms for transfer and means of access to technology)	

6. Has your country taken any steps or measures to facilitate transfer of technology to and technology cooperation with other Parties to develop and/or strengthen their capacity to implement the policy, program and practice for sustainable use of biological diversity? (Decision V/24)	
a) no	X
b) yes, please specify detailed measures and steps	
7. Could you provide examples or illustrations of benefit-sharing contractual agreements which have included technology cooperation and technology transfer as benefits to be shared? (Article 15)	
a) no	
b) yes	X (further comments below)
8. Has your Government taken measures, as appropriate, to ensure, as set out in the Article 16(3) that Contracting Parties providing genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which makes use of those genetic resources? (Article 16)	
a) no	X
b) yes, please provide some details	
9. Have the taxonomic institutions in your country taken any initiatives in developing national priorities, both individually and regionally, in new technology? (Decision IV/1)	
a) no	X
b) yes, in early stages of development	
c) yes, in advanced stages of development	
d) yes, some initiatives in place and some priorities identified	
e) yes, comprehensive priorities identified	
10. Has your country been involved in technology development and/or transfer for the maintenance and utilization of ex situ collections? (Decision V/26)	
a) no	
b) yes – please give details below (including types of technology transferred, actors involved, terms for transfer and means of access to technology)	X (further comments below)
11. Has the clearing-house mechanism in your country been further developed in order to assist in obtaining access to information concerning access to and transfer of technologies? (Decision V/14)	
a) no	X
b) yes, please provide some examples	

Role of public and private sectors in technology transfer and technology

12. Do you know of any examples of technology partnerships between public R&D institutions from developing countries and private-sector firms from industrialized countries? If so, to what extent have these partnerships involved	
a) the training of developing country scientists in the application of new technologies for the conservation and utilization of genetic resources	X (further comments below)
b) information exchange on new scientific exchange and technological advances	
c) providing various technology components to developing country partner institutions	
d) engaging in joint R&D?	

13. Has your country taken any measures or developed any programmes to encourage the private sector or the public-private partnership to develop and transfer technologies for the benefit of governments and institutions of developing countries, including South-South cooperation?	
a) no	X
b) yes, please give details	
14. Have any type of incentives been established in your country to encourage the participation of the private sector in conservation and sustainable use activities as sources of new technologies and potential financiers of conservation programmes?	
a) no	X (further comments below)
b) yes, please give details	

Impact of intellectual property rights on technology transfer and technology cooperation

15. Are the technologies your country has accessed or wishes to access in the public domain or covered by intellectual property rights?	
a) public domain	No.
b) intellectual property rights	
c) both	
16. Have intellectual property rights been a limiting factor in acquiring technologies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) no	X
b) yes, please provide an example and specify the following: the type of technology sought (hard or soft technology); the area to which it is to be applied (e.g. forest, marine, inland waters, agriculture, etc.)	

Capacity-building for technology transfer and technology cooperation

17. Have adequate institutional structures been established and/or is adequate human capacity available to access relevant technologies, in your country?	
a) no	X (further comments below)
b) yes	
18. What, if any, have been the limiting factors in implementing relevant technologies?	
a) institutional capacity	X (further comments below)
b) human capacity	X (further comments below)
c) others - please specify	
19. Does your country consider that access to information and training or lack thereof has been a limiting factor in access to and transfer of technology?	
a) no	
b) yes, please provide some examples	X (further comments below)
20. Has your country been able to identify relevant technologies in specific areas for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in your country?	
a) no	
b) yes, please give details	X (further comments below)
21. Has your country developed national policy and established international and national institutions to promote technology cooperation, including through the development and strengthening of technical, human and institutional capabilities?	
a) no (please specify the reasons)	
b) yes, please give some details or examples	X (further comments below)
22. Has your country established joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention?	
a) no	X
b) yes, please give some details or examples	

Measures for facilitating access to and transfer of technology

23. Has your country established the mechanisms and/or measures to encourage and facilitate the transfer of technology to and technology cooperation with other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	X
b) yes, please provide some details	
24. Has your country established channels for access to the technologies developed and applied for attaining the objectives of the Convention?	
a) no	
b) yes, please provide detailed information	X (further comments below)

Success stories of and constraints to technology transfer and technology cooperation

25. Has your country identified any success stories and opportunities of and constraints to transfer of technology and technology cooperation?	
a) no	X (further comments below)
b) yes, please provide detailed information	

Further comments

Re 1. a) No.

Though there are existing indigenous technologies that are not inventoried and developed, they are contained within traditional beliefs and practices.

Re 3. a) No.

No, because the importance of conducting an inventory has not been comprehended and visualized. There is a need for creating awareness.

Re 4. a) No. Being undertaken.

Re 7. b) Yes.

The ratification of several biodiversity related conventions, such as the CBD by the Government of Liberia and their attended Programmes of work has triggered benefit-sharing and is to promote technology cooperation and technology transfer.

Re 10. b) Yes. The University of Liberia, through its College of Agriculture and Forestry, has been involved with some Universities in The Netherlands to collect plant specimens, which are stored in a herbarium in The Netherlands. Some professors from The Netherlands have visited Liberia to lecture Liberian students herbarium technology. Funding for this initiative was provided by Fauna and Flora International, through the Liberia Forest Re-Assessment Project.

Re 12. a) No. However, the training of developing country scientists in the application of new technologies for the conservation and utilization of genetic resources is of paramount necessity for Liberia.

Re 14. a) No. However, There is an awareness program to encourage private sector to participate in such activities.

Re 17. a) No. There is need for the establishment of institutional structure and to develop adequate human capacity to access relevant technologies for the country.

Re 18. a) & b)

Inadequate institutional and human capacity has been the limiting factors. Also infrastructure development is a limiting factor.

Re 19. b) Yes. Liberia considers that trained manpower is required to gather information. The inadequacy of trained manpower caused influx of expatriate workers and scientists in the country. The lack of technology downtrends the development of the country.

Re 20. b) Yes. GIS service is being introduced in Liberia by Conservation International in collaboration with Fauna and Flora International and the Government of Liberia. In July 2002, three Liberians received training in GIS in Washington. The use of GIS is very necessary for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the country.

Re 21. b) Yes. Through the National Environmental Commission of Liberia, the Government of Liberia has developed a national policy on the environment. The promotion of technology cooperation is built in the instrument.

Re 24. b)

The National Environmental Commission of Liberia has been in constant touch with many institutions in other countries to assist Liberia in transfer of technology, and this is even part of the National Environmental Policy of Liberia. The institution is now collaborating with the University of Liberia to include environmental programme in its curriculum.

Re 25. a)

No. However, little work has commenced through tri-national meetings to conserve the Mt. Nimba massif shared by Guinea, Ivory Coast and Liberia.
