

UGANDA'S VIEWS AND INFORMATION
THEMATIC RESOURCE MOBILIZATION WORKING GROUP
BERLIN, GERMANY 14TH - 16TH JANUARY 2020.

A. Please provide your evaluation of the structure, content and effectiveness of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization adopted by decision IX/11, 1 indicating as much as possible the gaps in meeting the targets.

Parties under the CBD have made tremendous efforts in implementing the AT20 through having resource allocated for biodiversity conservation. Countries that implemented the BIOFIN have an upper niche to provide progress made on the amount of resources provided for biodiversity conservation, identifying their finance needs and solutions to address these country needs.

The structure, content of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization (SRM) is okay, however there is now need for alignment of resources generated, to how resources are being mobilized, in order to effectively access utilization, evaluate areas for potential upscale and identify areas for possible support and focus depending on a country's needs and priorities.

B. Please provide a summary of your experiences in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 20 and implementing the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, and their adequacy, and your views on the need for appropriate further action.

Uganda has been able to identify its biodiversity financing gaps through reviewing existing policies and institutional framework and to understand the key drivers of biodiversity loss and their connectivity to financial flows. Goal 1 and 4 was addressed by the implementation of the BIOFIN were funding needs, gaps and priorities were identified in the National Biodiversity Finance Plan 2019. The financing solutions were identified using the review process of the key sectors- (energy, tourism, forestry, water and environment), that utilize biodiversity and may impact positively or negatively on biodiversity.

Goal 5 has been achieved with numerous efforts undertaken from holding consultative meeting with stakeholders from Government, academia, private sector, IPLCs, women groups, youth and school going children. Milestones such as having the NBSAP mainstreamed into budget circular call paper in the Financial Year 2016/17; accelerated the planning, budgeting, implementation and reporting of the achievements made by sectors. This was seen during the Voluntary Peer Review (VPR) of Uganda's NBSAPII in October 2019. The full report is due to be presented by the VPR team.

Capacity of the human resources at national level was built during the implementation of the BIOFIN. The review led to better understanding of the government structural planning processes and identification of key areas for interventions by the project as well as the key areas that need focus and attention in terms of financing.

Uganda supported the enhancement efforts of Goal 8 through implementing the BIOFIN and engaging in regional and global meetings to share experience, and best practices that can support the implementation of the CBD objectives. These engagements contributed to decisions in the COP13 where the efforts of BIOFIN were pronounced in the Decisions across the implementation of the biodiversity strategic action plan 2011-2020.

(C) Please provide any relevant information that would support the estimation of the resources from all sources needed for different scenarios of the implementation of the post-2020 framework;

Relevant information is from the key BIOFIN countries that reviewed their biodiversity expenditures and have valuable information on the estimates. The CBD should utilize the Voluntary Peer Review (VPR) process the access the implementation of the NBSAPs and the national reports submitted by the national focal points to identify scenarios.

The CBD should also call regional bloc conferences/meeting/workshops for Parties to share their information and identify areas where synergies can be made and how the financing solution can be made programme of works.

(D) Please provide your views on the possible structure and content of a draft resource mobilization component of the post-2020 biodiversity framework, as a follow-up to the current Strategy for Resource Mobilization;

The structure of the resource mobilization component should adopt some of the BIOFIN approaches used to access biodiversity finance at global and national level. The state of global biodiversity finance is clear since funding is leveraged from unified organizations such as GEF, EU, and governments such as Japan, China, Germany, and Norway among others.

(E) Please provide your views and any relevant information concerning options and approaches for mobilizing and providing additional resources from all sources;

Efforts to mobilize resources should be more focused at national level through using policy reforms that will provide areas for additional funding to biodiversity. Such areas include using economic instruments like Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), implementation of biodiversity offset, and Polluter Pay Principles (PPP) among others. Uganda's current national development priority is infrastructural development, for economic transformation to middle income. This calls for industries that generate solid waste and effluent to manage these sustainably but also provide finances to clean up the environment. Observations made in the way Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is implemented by private sector, shows that CSR is based on the private sector's priority areas which are more less pre-determined, and clean of environment needs to be made mandatory when accessing funds/financing loan acquired from large banks or financing institutions such as KfW, European Investment Bank (EIB) and OPEC fund for International Development (OFID) among others.

(F) Please provide your views and any relevant information on possible ways to strengthen the engagement of a wider range of financial and private institutions, at all levels and from all sources, to support the implementation of the post-2020 framework;

There is need to strengthen goal 2 and 3, at national capacity for resource utilization and mobilize domestic financial resources for the Convention's three objectives and to promote replication and scaling-up of successful financial mechanisms and instruments.

Financing institutions like KfW should emphasize to companies they support to use the polluter pays principles to ensure that the high level of pollution by the manufacturing companies contribute to financing biodiversity conservation. This will show clear contribution of private sector contribution rather than providing this contribution through the corporate social responsibility which may not be visibly captured.

(G) Please provide your views and any relevant information on possible ways to further mainstream biodiversity into national economic budgets and development plans, including key productive sectors;

Mainstreaming is a continuous effort and Uganda has made effort to have biodiversity mainstreamed in the National Development Plan (NDPII) and the new incoming NDPIII. This has resulted into strengthening institutional collaboration and partnership. There have been reviews and updates of many of the key policies, plan, strategies, and Acts. These include the National Environment Act, 2019 and the Wildlife Act, 2019 among others which have led to high penalties for any environment crime and additional areas of IPLCs to earn community livelihood from like the spot hunting, promotion of mini-zoos, ranching, pet ownership and general extractions with MOUs signed with communities.

Parties are requested to utilize compliance assessment tools to approve and verify mainstreaming of biodiversity into government plans and budgets. Currently, Uganda's National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) have developed guidelines for mainstreaming environment and natural resource into the sector plans, budget and programs. These guidelines will be supported with compliance tools to ensure sectors mainstream and integrate ENR. Certificates of compliance will be issued to institutions that comply. Long term benefits will be to have additional financing towards ENR management but also ensure loss and degradation of biodiversity is halted and there is equitable access and sustainable utilization of resources.

The other tool that is needed is the Natural Capital Accounting system (NCA) where Uganda is developing a number of accounts, these are water, fisheries, land/soil, biodiversity and tourism. These other tools can strengthen mainstreaming in sectors through the use of spatial data ecosystem and biodiversity valuation and ecosystem assessment. Capacity building in these areas is therefore very important. Value addition to

biodiversity based products is other important area that can enhance mainstreaming biodiversity not only at national level but also at sub national and local levels.

(H) Please provide your views and any relevant information on possible ways to improve the readiness and capacity of Parties to access and utilize financial resources in support of the implementation of the post-2020 framework.

The implementation and post 2020 framework can only be possible if the Parties know how far the implementation or the status of the current strategic plan 2011-2020 stands.

Assessing utilization of resources can be acquired from the national reports submitted to the CBD. Additional information can be acquired from some of the BIOFIN countries who provided tremendous efforts into reviewing their biodiversity expenditures to detail. The information from the BIOFIN should be up scaled to all Parties.

Uganda's readiness and capacity to support the implementation of the post-2020 framework lies on the finance needs assessed, but also the financing solutions identified. Domestic resources from government are being identified during planning and budgeting as well as international support and collaboration.

Finally, to improve readiness, it is critical to engage and include the private sector as key players in resource mobilization through Public Private Partnerships (PPP), Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR) and joint advocacy with Civil Social Organisations (CSOs) both within the BIOFIN solutions and other innovative financing solutions. This will in the long term, support the evolving technologies and research approaches, transfer and adoption for biodiversity conservation especially in areas of value addition of biodiversity or nature based enterprises/businesses.

COMPLIED AND SUBMITTED BY

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