Biodiversity and human health

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Advancing co-benefits between health and biodiversity and moving towards collaborative best practices

1. Human microbiome and exposure to microbial diversity in the environment
2. Biodiversity, health, food security and nutrition
3. Zoonotic and vector-borne diseases and One Health
4. Promoting ecosystem and human health in urban landscapes
5. Biocultural diversity and mental health
Biodiversity and human health in Slovakia

2 main areas and topics, which links also topics of biodiversity and human health:

1. **Nagoya protocol** and its implementation (new Act), incl. cooperation with Ministry of Health, on issues, which are connecting biodiversity and human health (controls of medicine, health tools, new food, new nutrition products, research of using genetic resources and traditional knowledge, etc.)

2. **Invasive alien species** (new Act under the preparation) and relations between biodiversity and human health (allergens coming from the IAS, their impacts on human health, pollen monitoring, vector-borne diseases), in the future we expect better cooperation with the Ministry of Health, if we will add new invasive alien species into our national list. After approval of the new legislation, there is also an urgent need for inter-sectoral cooperation to control and reduce their spread with the intention of health and wellbeing of humans.
National strategy and action plan for biodiversity till 2020

National strategy on biodiversity till 2020

Action plan for biodiversity till 2020
- includes 167 activities, but nothing directly linked to biodiversity and human health
- some activities and tasks are indirectly linked to biodiversity and human health (Nagoya protocol implementation, work on invasive alien species, urban biodiversity, green infrastructure, etc.

Open tasks:
- creation of Clearing-House mechanism
- improve synergies between biodiversity related conventions
- better synergies between biodiversity and climate change (working now on updating the climate change adaptation strategy, incl. also activities related to biodiversity and ecosystem services)
- working on the implementation of the SDGs (SDG 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages)
- prepare the new and updated strategy and action plan after 2020
  - including better synergy between biodiversity and human health, cooperation between CBD and WHO focal points (cooperation also on the updating of the National Environmental and Health Action Plan, currently NEHAP IV.)
  - working on biodiversity, health, food security and nutrition, improve the cooperation between CBD and FAO focal points
  - cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on better targeted ODA support (together with the CITES convention)
- interlinkages between CBD and IPBES, better involvement of experts on the national level (national platform for IPBES) and working group for biodiversity
Thank you for new suggestions and ideas