

OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION ON CUSTOMARY SUSTAINABLE USE

Summit Muuch'tambal on Indigenous Experience

Traditional Knowledge and Biological and Cultural Diversity

December 9-11, 2016

Cancun, Mexico





OVERVIEW OF GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION ON CUSTOMARY SUSTAINABLE USE

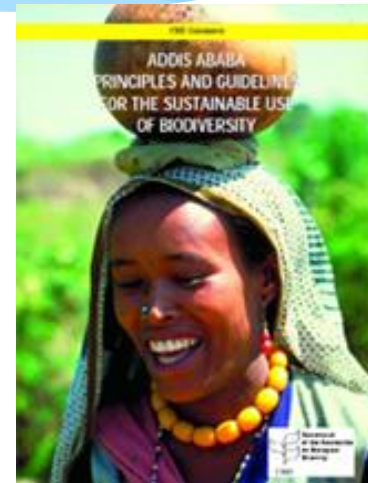
- CBD Articles 10(c) and 8(j)
- What is customary sustainable use?
- Plan of Action: brief history, objectives, general principles

Customary sustainable use is an element of two cross-cutting issues of the CBD

Article 10. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity

Each Contracting Party shall, as far as possible and as appropriate:

(c) Protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements;



Traditional Knowledge, Innovations, Practices

2) Article 8: In-Situ Conservation

(j) Subject to its national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices

AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGET 18

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020)

- Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities and their customary use of biological resources are respected

Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices are fully integrated and reflected in implementation of the Convention ...

... with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities

What is customary use?

“use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices”

For food sustenance

- * rotational farming/ agricultural practices
- * foraging, hunting
- * and fishing
- * wood, honey, nuts,
- * forest fruits, palms and other non-timber forest products



continued

And also for e.g.

- * home-building
- * tools
- * boats
- * fishing nets
- * traditional medicines
- * hammock- making
- * pottery, weaving, beading
- * musical instruments
- * clothing



Sustainable because ...?

- * 'compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements'.



- Indigenous territories are governed and regulated through customary institutions, and cultural and spiritual values
- Collective ownership and management



(Unwritten) customary rules and laws make sure that over-use is prevented and that there will be enough resources left for future generations.

- * *Do not waste or overuse (take only what you need and can carry)*
- * *Make sure a resource can recover: no shooting of young or pregnant game, no cutting of young trees, etc.*
- * *No, or very rare use, of natural poisons in fishing*
- * *Avoid taboo, sacred or otherwise special areas or species*



Unwritten laws: oral transmission and transmission in practice

Control mechanisms

- * Inter-relationship and inter-dependence with nature
- * Internal control (elders, traditional institutions)
- * Spiritual beliefs (spiritual sanctions when balance between humans and nature is upset by incorrect use)



- * Spiritual beliefs and values guide the care of territories and resources
- * Beliefs imply deep respect for nature and interconnection with past and present generations



Customs and rituals when interacting with natural resources



‘seeking permission and good fortune’

Paying respect or praying before entering the forest or using resources (planting, hunting, cutting trees, etc.)

being respectful and avoiding upsetting the spirit beings

Example: menstruating women don’t work in the field or do not use the river; people cannot leave dirty things behind in the forest or water





Customary Sustainable Use (CSU), is not frozen in time and is adaptive to indigenous peoples' right to self-determined development

It is continuously evolving similarly to Traditional Knowledge, innovations and practices

Background to the global plan of action on CSU





IPLCs contribution to the CSU process since 2004:

- **10(c) case studies** and community maps
- **Side events, presentations and sharing of materials**
- **Active engagement in CBD meetings** on the topic, including 10c expert meeting June 2011
 - ✓ sharing community experiences
 - ✓ identifying threats & challenges faced concerning CSU, and
 - ✓ providing recommendations



Parties to the Convention have increasingly acknowledged the value and importance of customary sustainable use

- * 2008: COP9 (in Decision IX/13), *requested* the Executive Secretary to provide advice on how Article 10(c) could be further advanced and implemented as a priority.
- * 2010: COP10 (Decision X/43) decided to include a new major component on 10(c) in the revised Programme of Work on Article 8(j).
- * COP11, decision XI/14) - ‘implementation of CSU is crucial in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the SP 2011-2020’

Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use

OBJECTIVE

To promote, within the framework of the Convention, a just implementation of Article 10(c) at local, national, regional and international levels and to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all stages and levels of its implementation.

- I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**
- II. CONSIDERATIONS OF SPECIAL RELEVANCE**
- III. RATIONALE FOR THE THREE PRIORITY TASKS**
- IV. DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION ON CUSTOMARY SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (THREE PRIORITY TASKS WITH TIMEFRAME AND INDICATORS)**
- V. GUIDANCE ON POSSIBLE ACTIONS**

COP11 (Dec XI/14) Selected 3 priority tasks from the list of indicative tasks (other tasks considered after the review of the first phase)

1. incorporation of CSU in NBSAPs

(rationale: Incorporating CSU in NBSAPS is an important and strategic way to integrate Article 10(c) and its implementation as a cross-cutting issue in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets)

2. support for and collaboration with community-based initiatives that focus on customary sustainable use and enhanced implementation of 10(c)

3. to identify and operationalize best practices on customary sustainable use and protected areas (related to FPIC in relation to PA establishment, governance and management of protected areas; application of TK in PAs, use of protocols).

TASK (a)

To incorporate customary sustainable use practices or policy, as appropriate, with the **full and effective participation** of indigenous and local communities, **into national biodiversity strategies and action plans**, as a strategic way to maintain biocultural values and achieve human well-being, and to report on this in **national reports**

TASK (b)

To promote and strengthen community-based initiatives that support and contribute to the implementation of Article 10(c) and enhance customary sustainable use; and to collaborate with indigenous and local communities in joint activities to achieve enhanced implementation of Article 10(c)

TASK c)

To identify **best practices** (e.g. case studies, mechanisms, legislation and other appropriate initiatives) to:

- (i) Promote, in accordance with national legislation and applicable international obligations, the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, and also **their prior and informed consent to or approval of, and involvement in, the establishment, expansion, governance and management of protected areas**, including marine protected areas, that may affect indigenous and local communities;

(proposed action: develop guidelines on prior and informed consent and/or approval)



ii) Encourage the application of traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use in protected areas, including marine protected areas, as appropriate;

iii) Promote the use of community protocols in assisting indigenous and local communities to affirm and promote customary sustainable use in protected areas, including marine protected areas, in accordance with traditional cultural practices