



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Convention
on Biological
Diversity

Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity

UNESCO-SCBD Joint Programme





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Loss of Diversity

Global loss of diversity makes the world more vulnerable to change posing a threat to global stability





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Dual Approaches – Diverging Agendas

- ❖ Different **instruments** (policies, tools, and legal frameworks)
- ❖ Different **responsible authorities**
- ❖ Different **sectors** with different **interests** within the same location
- ❖ Different **administrative** competencies and authorities
- ❖ Different **international institutions and instruments** deal with biological and cultural diversity separately

Diversity needs a holistic approach recognizing the links between biological and cultural diversity.



Links between Biological & Cultural Diversity

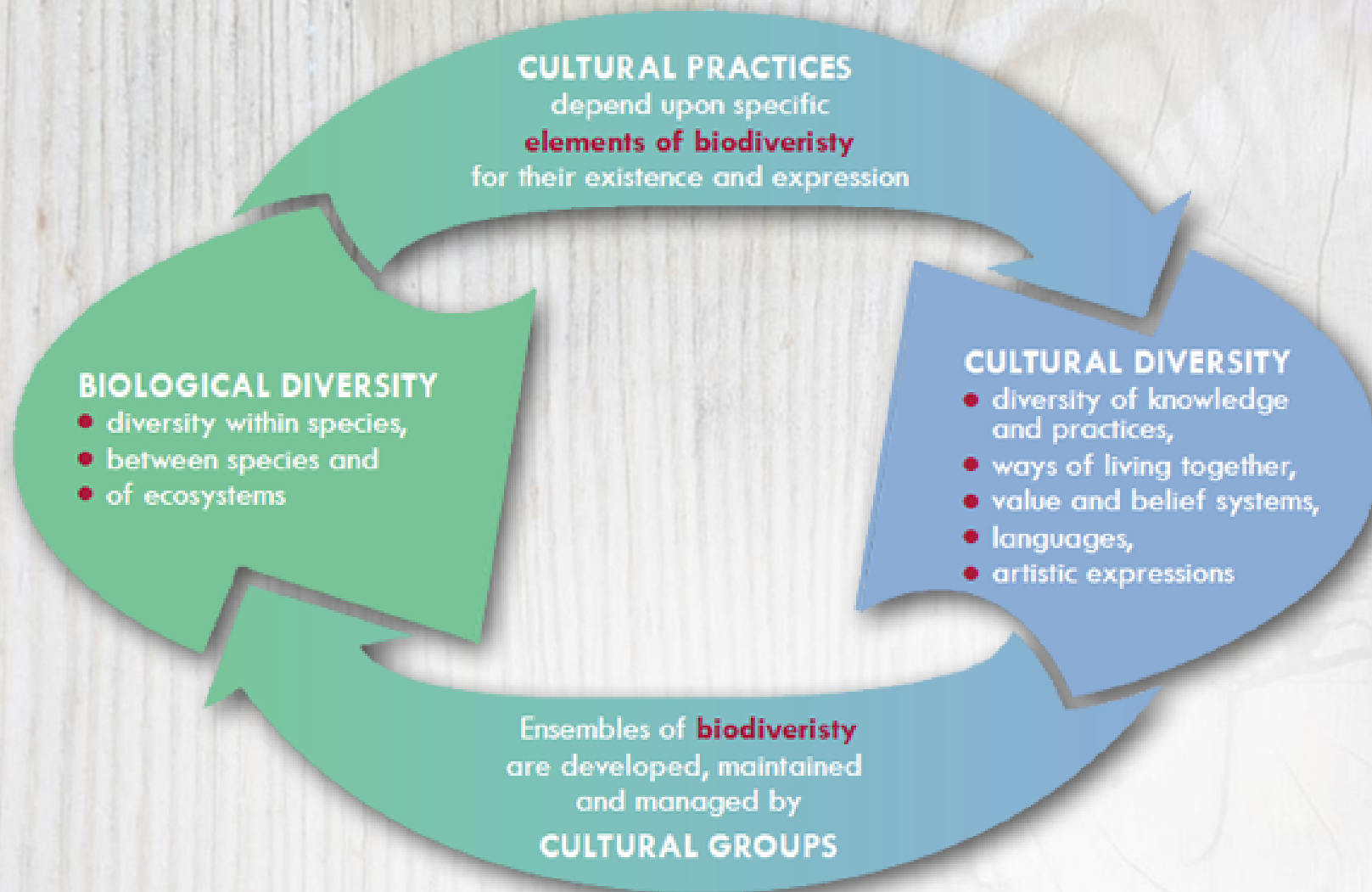
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Inextricable Linkages

- ✓ Languages
- ✓ Material culture
- ✓ Knowledge systems
- ✓ Modes of subsistence
- ✓ Economic relations
- ✓ Political relations
- ✓ Belief systems
- ✓ Values



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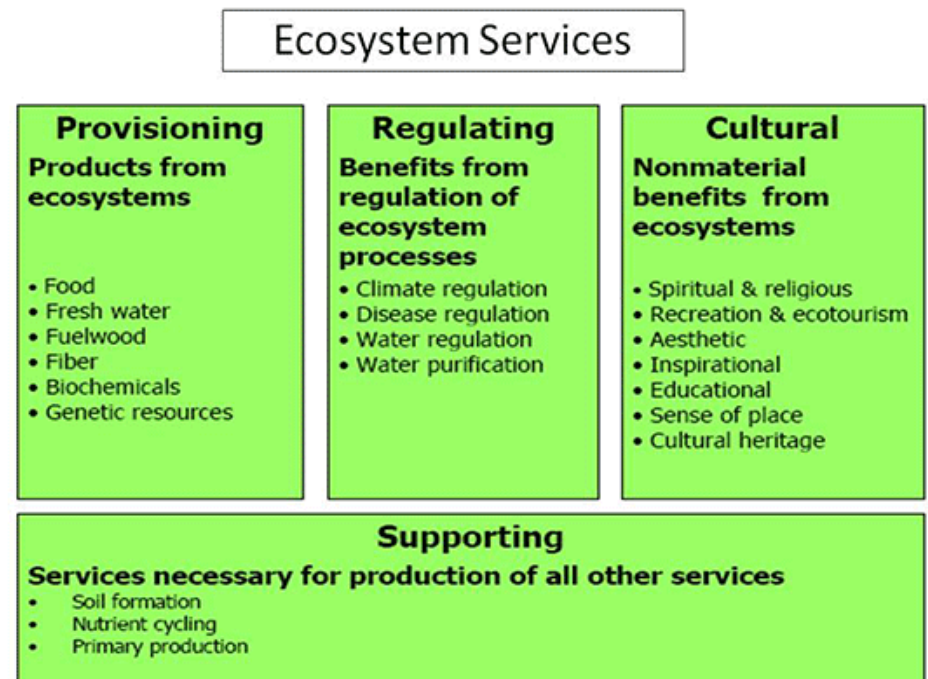


Cultural Values and Services of Biodiversity

Cultural services the nonmaterial benefits people obtain from ecosystems through spiritual enrichment, cognitive development, reflection, recreation, and aesthetic experiences

Values

- spiritual and religious
- recreational
- aesthetic
- inspirational
- educational
- scientific
- sense of place, identity
- heritage





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Advancing the Joint Agenda

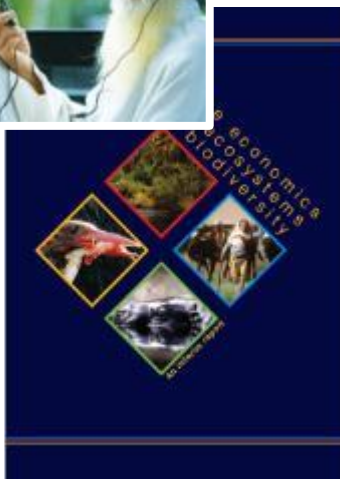
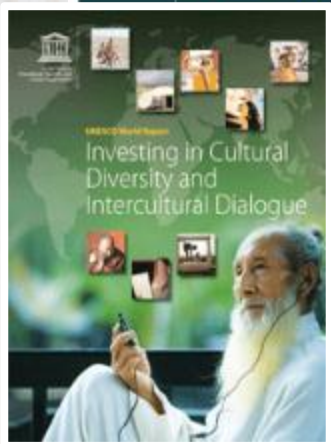
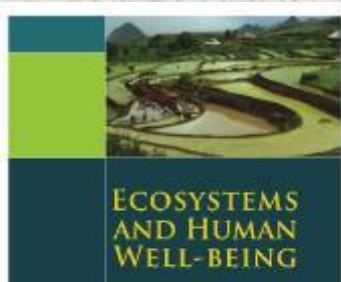
Biodiversity provides **cultural services** that are essential for well being.

Changes in the provision of **ecosystem services** are driven by **cultural factors**.

Cultural diversity can help to reshape strategies for achieving **biodiversity sustainability**.

Resource efficient economy reflects and integrates the **values of nature**

Growing recognition of **biocultural diversity**





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Joint Programme UNESCO – SCBD 2010 - 2020

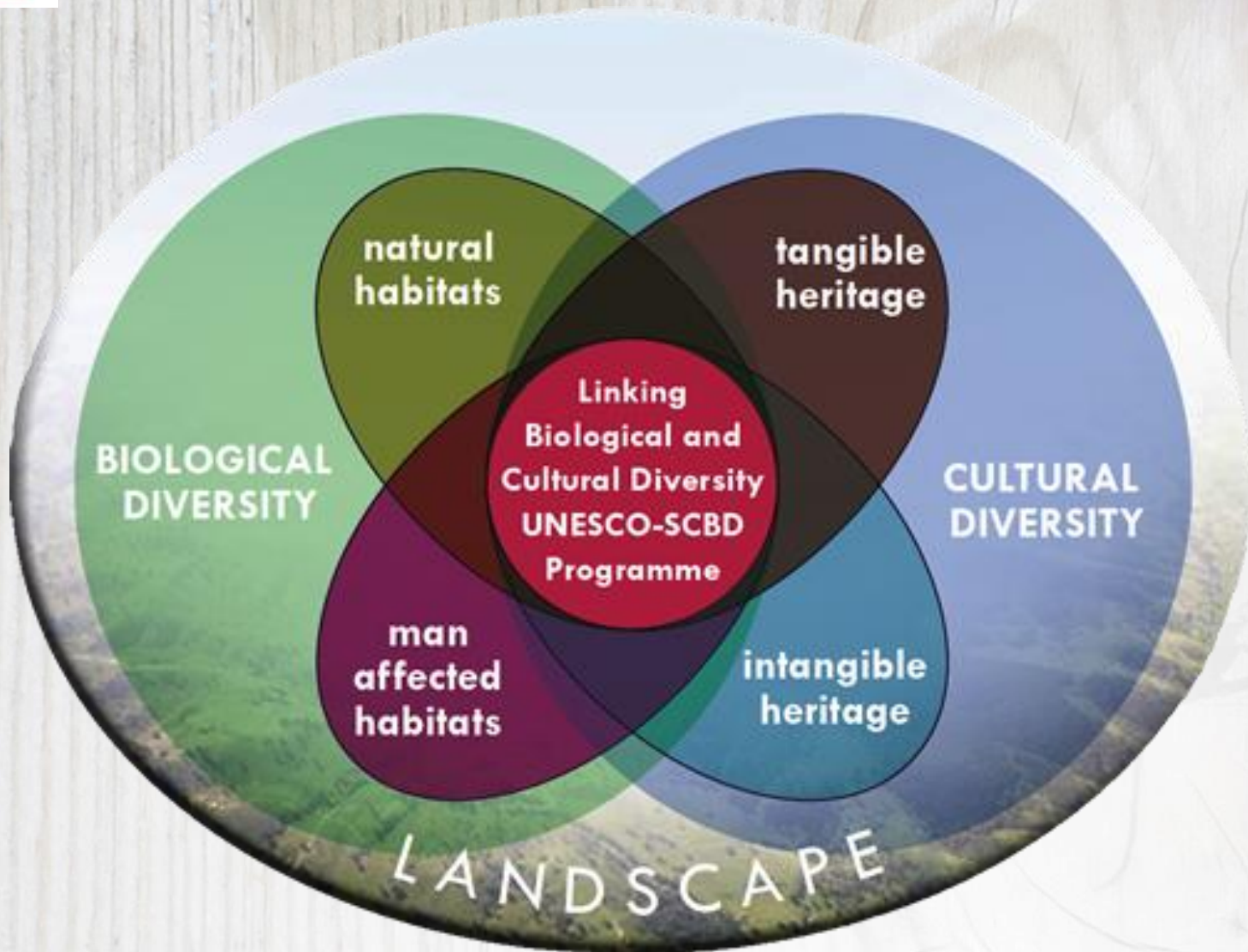
Mission

Advance knowledge and strengthen the linkages between biological and cultural diversity initiatives, and enhance synergies between interlinked provisions of conventions and programmes dealing with biological and cultural diversity at relevant scales.



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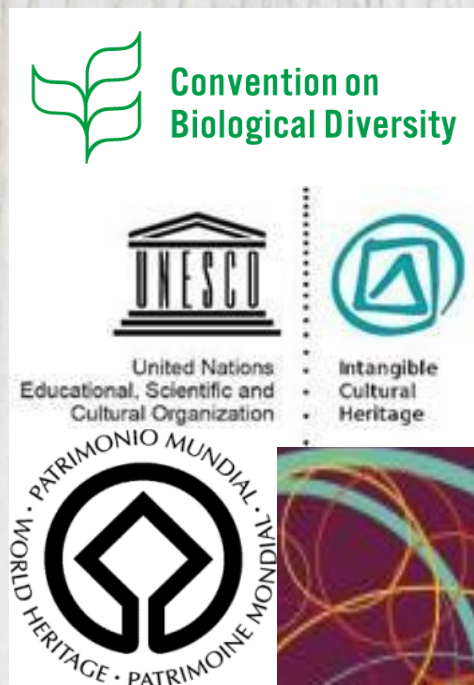


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Challenges on the International Level



► Reinforcing and building bridges btw:

- The Convention on Biological Diversity &
- 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage,
- 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions,
- 1972 World Heritage Convention
- The MAB and LINKS Programmes

► Integrating the links between biological and cultural diversity in policies.

► Developing common frameworks through combination of scientific and traditional knowledge and practices.



Linking Biological and Cultural Diversity

UNESCO-SCBD Programme

A global knowledge platform linking local, regional, national and international practices and experiences



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Areas of high [cultural diversity](#) are often areas of high [biological diversity](#). The convergence between biological and cultural diversity extends far beyond the “hotspot” areas. Ensembles of biodiversity are developed, maintained and managed by cultural groups. Diversity of cultural practices depends upon specific elements of biodiversity for their existence and expression.

A [paradigm shift](#) is needed to restore the integrity of diversity. A number of [international legal instruments](#) that deal with biodiversity and cultural diversity separately already exists. A more holistic approach is needed to jointly reverse the current trends of erosion of biodiversity and weakening of cultural diversity. That is why the [Joint UNESCO- SCBD Programme on Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity](#) has been established.

Interlinked
Diversity

Challenges &
Opportunities

The Way
Forward

Stories of the Month



[Cultural
Landscape](#)

Paris, France



[Traditional
knowledge in
Europe](#)

Florence, Italy

Tools for policymakers

[Policy Briefs](#)

[Indicators Toolkit](#)

[Management Guidelines](#)

[Facts and Figures](#)



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- ✓ Identification of **priority areas and key messages on the regional level** (Europe, Asia, Pacific, Latin America, Africa)
- ✓ **Compilation of regional case studies and scientific evidence**
- ✓ Production of **policy briefs, tools for policy makers** and promotional material
- Elaboration of **pilot projects** on national and **local levels**

Supporting Regional Initiatives:

**The First European Conference of the Links between Biological and cultural diversity
Florence, April, 2014.**

**The First Asian Conference on Bio-cultural Diversity,
Ishikawa Prefecture, Japan, October, 2016. Declaration to
COP 13 with annexed actions.**

Proposals

**Oceania Regional Conference on Bio-cultural
Diversity, 2017.**

**First Conference of North America on the Links
between Biological and Cultural Diversity, 2017.**



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***Looking forward to working with
you!***

Thank you for your attention