Mainstreaming and Synergies

Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Synergies

The issues of mainstreaming and synergies are of central importance to achieving the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Biodiversity mainstreaming will be made easier by leveraging synergies across conventions through improved cooperation, exchange of experiences and sharing resources.

UN Environment has embarked on a series of activities promoting mainstreaming and synergies at global, regional and national levels through the provision of guidance to Parties to the Conventions, capacity building and institutional strengthening.

Recognizing the importance of these issues, Member States to the United Nations adopted a series of resolutions on these issues during the Second United Nations Environment Assembly held in May 2016. UN Environment will continue to work with all relevant stakeholders to realize the objectives of mainstreaming and synergies.

Objectives of UN Environment Interventions

- Provide opportunities to stakeholders at various levels to enhance effective realization of objectives within the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- Support countries to maximize efficiency of actions to promote conservation, sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits of such uses.

Supporting Activities

In support of the objectives, UN Environment is focusing on providing options for countries to achieving synergies among the key biodiversity conventions and for mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors, including:

- An “Options Paper” to enhance and promote cooperation and coordination among the biodiversity conventions (available in all 6 UN languages).
- A comprehensive tool kit focusing on legal preparedness.
- A set of 20 country case studies on options for actions related to achieving mainstreaming and synergies.
- A Source Book of experiences on synergies across the biodiversity conventions.
- A publication on convention-specific guidance to countries on how to integrate objectives, principles and targets within the new generation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.
- Country specific national support on achieving synergies and mainstreaming in eight countries across three regions.

Future Plans

- Strengthen national institutions, programmes, plans and capacities for enhancing coordinated governance of ecosystems and biodiversity.
- Support institutional processes at national, regional and global levels to enhance cooperation and synergies as well as achieve mainstreaming.
- Realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related SDGs using approaches of mainstreaming biodiversity and promoting synergistic national action among biodiversity conventions.


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