

AFRICAN LEADERSHIP GROUP IN BIODIVERSITY AND DEVELOPMENT MAINSTREAMING

Objectives

- To help countries to integrate development priorities into their revised National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans;
- To use the revised plans to influence key national and/or sectoral development policy processes through the African Learning and Leadership Group on Biodiversity Mainstreaming which offered a platform for Finance, Planning, Development, Environment and sectoral officials in Africa;
- To convene and work together in an explicitly reciprocal manner.

Contribution towards the Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6: Identify opportunities for investments in biodiversity and ecosystem restoration and access to stimulate economic activities and address poverty;
- SDG 2.4: Promote holistic planning approaches in the agriculture sector level to ensure sustainable food production;
- SDG 3.11: Sustainable use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge contributing to use of traditional medicine and discovery of new medical treatment for overall human well-being and health care needs
- SDG 8.3 and 8.5: Promote new opportunities of productive employment, job creation, entrepreneurship and partnerships contributing to economic and social growth for all, including indigenous peoples;
- SDG 12.1 and SDG 12.8: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns of sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, tourism through knowledge management and policy coherence;
- SDG 13.1 and 13.3: Increase the resilience of ecosystems, communities and the economy to the impacts of climate change through improved human and institutional capacity;
- SDG 15.5: Incorporate the benefits of biodiversity protection to enhance stocks of biodiversity and promote additional financial resource and incentives for sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystems.

Contribution towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

- Target 1: Raising public awareness of biodiversity and its benefits increase the value of biodiversity, its conservation and sustainable use;
- Target 2: Biodiversity valuation and integration into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies;
- Target 3: Expand the implementation of integrated biodiversity and development policies
- Target 7: Promote sustainable management of genetic resources, sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry to meet the need of present and future generations;
- Target 11, 12 and 13: Maintain and safeguard genetic diversity and its effective and equitable management;
- Target 14: Restore and safeguard ecosystem services for human wellbeing including women and indigenous and local communities;
- Target 15: Promote investments to restore ecosystems to increase socio-economic benefits, carbon storage and ecosystem resilience;
- Target 17: Support countries to revise and update their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans.
- Target 19: The science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.

Project results

- Actively improved in-country links between officials in development, planning, finance and biodiversity, authorities in eight African countries who are now coordinating and helping to make a business/economic cases for biodiversity.
- Supported participating countries to produce National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans that address national development priorities and issues.
- Enhanced integration of biodiversity priorities in several national, sub-national and sector development plans.
- Integrated biodiversity in national Sustainable Development Goals planning processes.
- Peer-review of mainstreaming plans and activities between countries.
- Rapid evolution into mature, knowledgeable and influential community of practice embracing biodiversity, development and finance; sectors such as energy and agriculture; and officials, academics and civil society.
- Promoted and showcased at the meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity practical pathways to ensure biodiversity and development are integrated.
- Multiple requests to scale up approach including from the participating countries, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership countries and at the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment seventh special session held in Nairobi in September 2018.



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- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- UN Environment