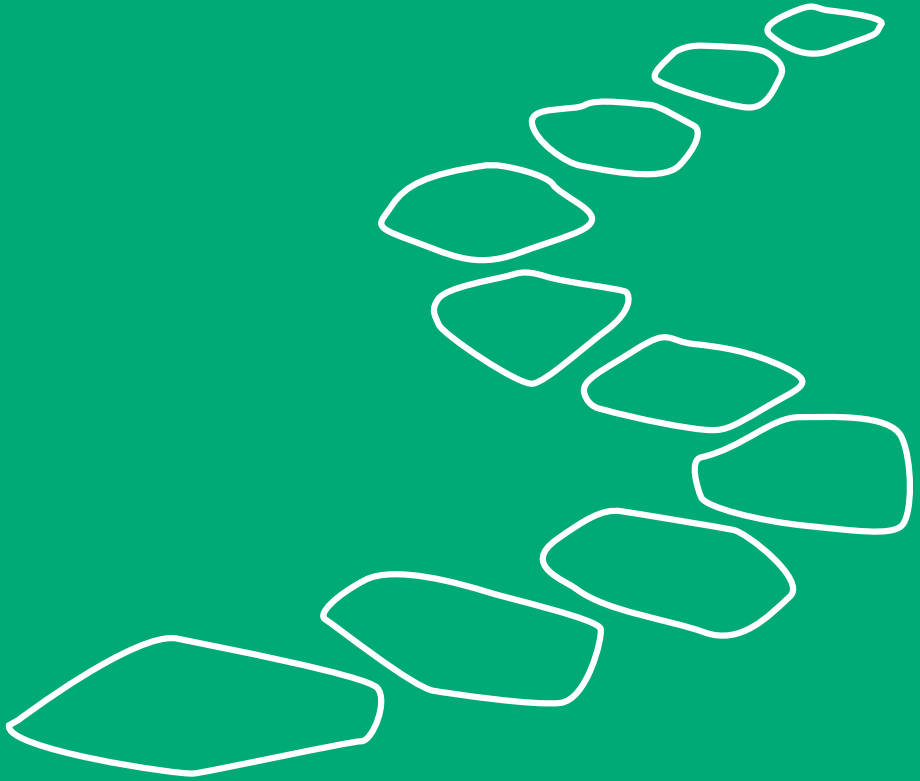


Ten steps to biodiversity mainstreaming

Tips for NBSAPs 2.0 and beyond



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How do you go about getting biodiversity needs integrated into the development process? This guide presents ten key steps to biodiversity mainstreaming derived from the experience and good practice of participants of the first NBSAPs 2.0 Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Development project workshop held in Maun, Botswana in November 2012. The steps were agreed and endorsed by the African Leadership Group on Biodiversity and Development Mainstreaming established by the project as an open voluntary body.

They are an annex to the Maun Statement on Biodiversity and Development Mainstreaming, which can be found at: www.iied.org/nbsaps

How do I use this guide?

The biodiversity mainstreaming process is divided into ten steps, with each step using a variety of tools. The information is not meant to be exhaustive, as each situation will vary according to country or region and over time. However, it should serve as a useful starting point and enable you to follow a simplified process while consulting other sources for detail.

For more information on the project: www.iied.org/nbsaps

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Definition of biodiversity mainstreaming

For the purposes of this guide, biodiversity mainstreaming is: “The integration of biodiversity concerns into defined sectors and development goals, through a variety of approaches and mechanisms, so as to achieve sustainable biodiversity and development outcomes”. This is a definition agreed at a meeting of the African Leadership Group in Maun. It emphasises dual biodiversity-development outcomes.

1. Problem assessment by stakeholders

Start the mainstreaming process with a diagnosis of the current state of mainstreaming in your country or organisation, identifying and defining the specific biodiversity-development problems that need to be addressed. You can use the mainstreaming diagnostic tool already published by the project (IIED and UNEP-WCMC 2012)¹ to do this.

Problems could include:

- Unsustainable Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) harvesting
- Local hostility to protected areas
- Degradation of traditional subsistence crop varieties.

Each problem needs to be discussed with a wide range of stakeholders to understand its fundamental drivers and what action is required.

Find and download the mainstreaming diagnostic tool: www.iied.org/nbsaps

2. Identify elements of biodiversity to be mainstreamed

This depends on the problems identified which might concern particular species, populations, habitats, ecosystems and ecosystem services, and/or genetic diversity. Any of these might be damaged by current development, and/or present potentials which are being ignored by development policy and activities.

¹ IIED and UNEP-WCMC (2012) Biodiversity mainstreaming: integrating biodiversity, development and poverty reduction. A rapid diagnostic tool. IIED, London.

3. Identify sectors and development goals into which biodiversity concerns are to be mainstreamed

This also depends on the problem identified. It may require targeting a particular production sector such as agriculture, forestry or mining; a particular development challenge such as food security or climate change adaptation; or a broader economic development or poverty reduction strategy. It might entail working with government agencies, civil society and private sector organisations.

Table 1: Entry points for mainstreaming at different levels (adapted from PEI 2009)²

Level	Planning/policy target
National	
National government	Poverty reduction strategy, national development plan, national vision
Development assistance agencies	UN Development Assistance Framework; Bilateral Country Assistance Strategies
Sectoral	
Sectoral ministries	Sector investment plans, sector strategies, policies and budgets
Private sector companies	Company-wide environmental and social reporting, certification schemes; management plans
Investment agencies	Investment standards and safeguards
Sub-national	
Local government	District development plans; decentralised sector policies
Private sector companies	Site/programme level corporate social responsibility reporting, certification schemes; site management plans

² UNDP-UNEP PEI (2009) Mainstreaming poverty-environment linkages into development planning: A handbook for practitioners. UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative: www.unpei.org

4. Identify desired biodiversity and development outcomes

What linked improvements in both biodiversity and development have most potential? These mainstreaming outcomes range from revised policies, plans, budgets or other decisions to behavioural, institutional, capacity and biodiversity management and actions in the field.

Specific examples include harmonised land use planning to meet biodiversity and developmental needs, increased tourism investment and elimination of particular behaviours threatening biodiversity.

Table 2: Upstream and downstream outcomes of biodiversity mainstreaming

UPSTREAM	Governance outcomes	e.g. improved consideration of stakeholder's and rightholders' concerns (particularly those who are directly dependent on biodiversity)
	Policy and political outcomes	e.g. high-level sector, fiscal, development and social policies, constitutions and statements of national vision, include biodiversity considerations, and vice versa
	Plan outcomes	e.g. inclusion of biodiversity-poverty linkages in development and poverty reduction strategies and in biodiversity strategies
	Budget and accounting outcomes	e.g. evidence of public-private sector resource mobilisation, inclusion of development-biodiversity linkages in national public and sector budgets; inclusion of ecosystem services in national accounting systems
DOWNSTREAM	Institutional and capacity outcomes	e.g. strengthened capacity within biodiversity-related institutions to understand development and economic processes and interact in a constructive manner; valuation of the economic importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the economic outcomes undertaken and used in decision making
	Investment and economic outcomes	e.g. improved domestic resource mobilisation for poverty-biodiversity investments or recognition of potential trade-offs in sector investments such as mining
	Behavioural outcomes	e.g. key patterns and processes of production, consumption and waste treatment in sectors and localities are informed by biodiversity and poverty considerations
	Pro-poor biodiversity management outcomes	e.g. pro-poor management of ecosystem services, such as medicinal, cosmetic or edible plants; healthcare, wild foods, soil fertility; traditional breeds and crop varieties; water purification; cultural or religious benefits from biodiversity realised
	Ultimate (biodiversity and developmental) impacts of these outcomes	e.g. improved productivity and sustainability of use of biodiversity assets on which the poor depend; protection and management of targeted species populations

Source: IIED and UNEP-WCMC (2012)

5. Shape a communication strategy

Effective communication is essential for bringing about the changes in policy, norms and behaviour that are required for biodiversity mainstreaming. There must be strong communication throughout the mainstreaming stages; it is vital during problem articulation, stakeholder engagement and business case development.

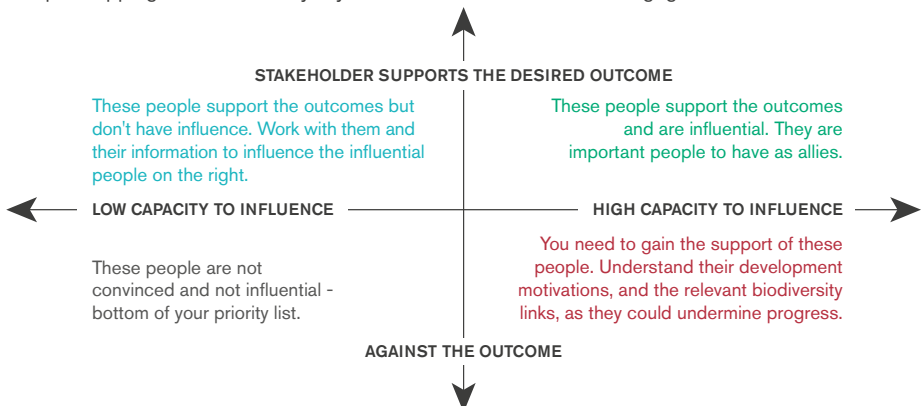
You must identify who needs to change, what behaviours need to change, and what decisions, methods and instruments best bring about these changes.

The IUCN has produced a guide on effective communication called *Mainstreaming biological diversity: the role of communication, education and public awareness*. Go to: www.iucn.org

6. Identify and engage stakeholders who might support or undermine progress towards desired outcomes

This involves initial discussions about associated institutional, governance and capacity changes required to achieve desired outcomes, in order to identify who should be engaged. Stakeholder analysis and power mapping and a simple matrix can guide initial thoughts on who might be for and against the desired outcome and who might have the ability to influence the outcome. Engage the stakeholders with the most influence, whether for or against the desired outcome.

Simple mapping matrix to identify key stakeholders who need to be engaged



7. Identify enabling factors for mainstreaming

Existing enabling factors that need to be worked with might include:

- Political will and leadership
- Media and public perception and awareness of values
- Inter-sectoral coordination
- Lobbying by interest groups
- Transparent, accountable and inclusive governance
- Stakeholder participation, and
- Availability of funding.

Absent factors should inform what you choose to do at step 8.

The NBSAPs 2.0 team in Namibia engaged with parliamentarians to solicit support at the highest level for raising the profile of their work with ministries working on national development plans. The minister of foreign affairs was their 'biodiversity champion' – helping to fast track development and approval of the revised NBSAP.

Biodiversity champions are working well in Uganda too, with champions in government and civil society raising awareness about the importance of conserving biodiversity.

8. Identify approaches to achieve dual biodiversity and development outcomes

Various approaches may be needed. Some of these are tools to make a business case (valuation and strategic environmental assessments, for example). Others are tools to enable the necessary policy and legal reforms.

Certain approaches can help to bring about the required reforms, such as education, partnerships, spatial planning and land use planning and economic incentives. The latter may include payment for ecosystem services schemes and revenue-sharing mechanisms.

9. Develop a business case that persuades the stakeholders who need convincing

A business case needs to be as specific as possible and to give evidence of direct benefits from strategies – revenue, jobs and products – that combine biodiversity and development. A good business case is key to influencing powerful but difficult-to-convince stakeholders.

Useful tools to make the case depend on the audience that needs to be convinced. For example, valuation can be used to generate evidence for economists; strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment can be used for policymakers and planners.

Use the *NBSAPs 2.0 Developing a business case for biodiversity* tool for a general guide to the steps to follow. You can download it from:

www.iied.org/nbsaps

Then build on the enabling opportunities identified above such as political will, availability of adequate funds and cross-departmental dialogue processes.

The Botswana NBSAPs 2.0 team made the business case for biodiversity in a 'Dragons' Den' style presentation at the Maun workshop in November 2012.

The team's representative presented the reasons why government ministries should consider biodiversity in their development policies, stating the costs and benefits and giving examples to support the case.

You can watch the presentation at: www.iied.org/nbsaps

10. Develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for biodiversity mainstreaming

A proper M&E system needs to be in place to guide the mainstreaming process and assess its success. M&E should focus on the approach, enabling factors and outcomes. The lessons learnt through the M&E process can help fuel a process of continuous improvement and provide valuable experience to share with others.

It is good practice to get your plans for mainstreaming peer reviewed by people who are doing the same thing in another government ministry or in another country. They will be able to share what has worked well or not so well for them. Check the NBSAPs web pages at www.iied.org/nbsaps for a tool for setting up a peer review framework.

WHAT IS THE NBSAPs 2.0 INITIATIVE?

NBSAPs 2.0 Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Development is a three-year project to build resilient and effective national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs). These aim to influence development decisions and improve outcomes for biodiversity and poverty.

The project works with four African countries – Botswana, Namibia, Seychelles and Uganda – and is encouraging leadership in biodiversity mainstreaming. It highlights the experience of these four focal countries to influence a whole new generation of NBSAPs.

The project is implemented by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, UNEP, UNDP and the Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI).

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www.iied.org/nbsaps

IIED promotes sustainable development, linking local priorities to global challenges. We support some of the world's most vulnerable people to strengthen their voice in decision making.

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