Convention on Biological Diversity

2010 International Year of Biodiversity

Forests and Biodiversity - Conservation and Sustainable Use of our Forest Treasures

23rd Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission session

Timphu, Bhutan

www.cbd.int/2010

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CBD Secretariat

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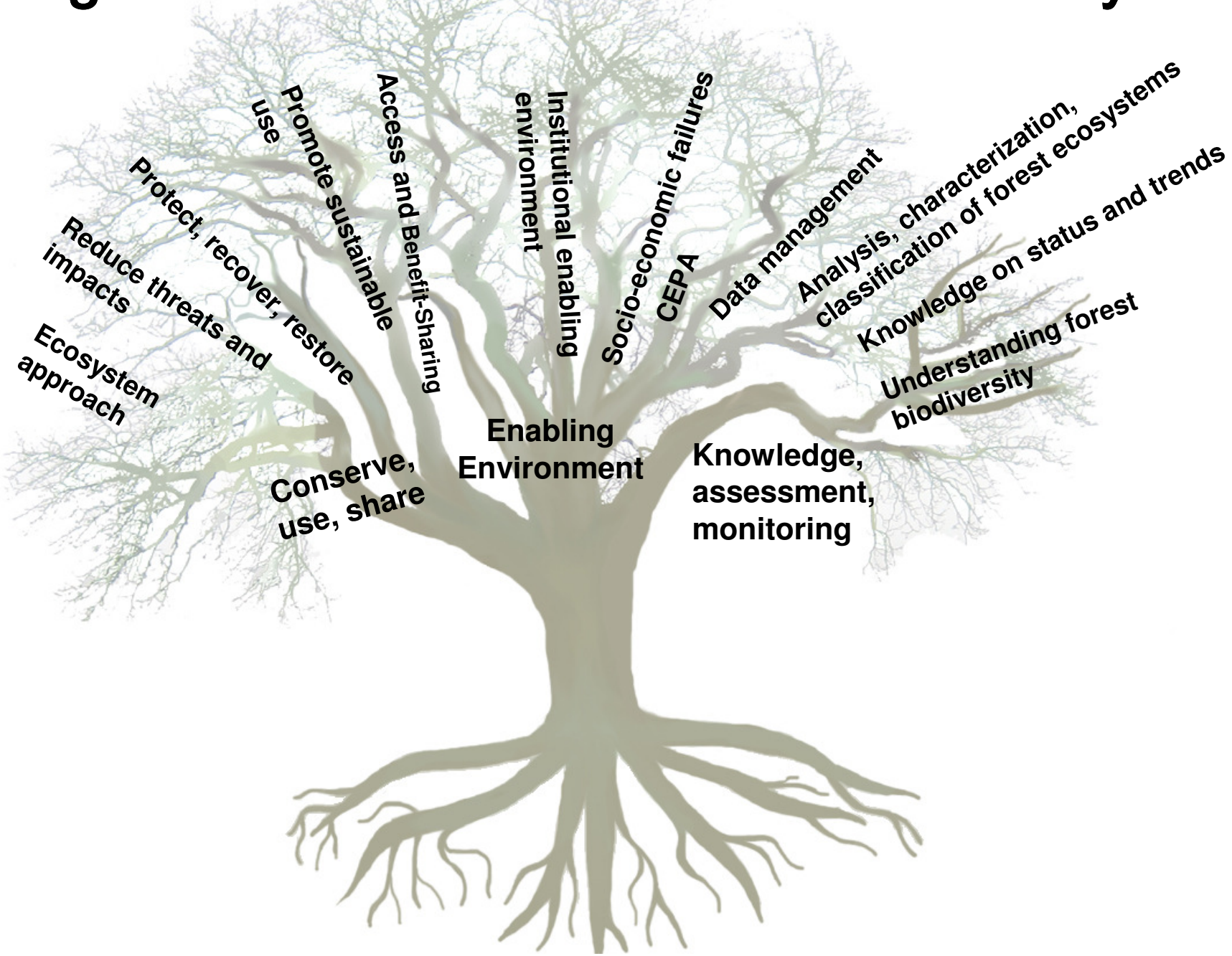
Outline

- **Forest Programme of Work**
- **Post-2010 Strategic Plan**
- **Forest biodiversity, resilience and climate change**
- **Key activities in 2010**

Programme of Work on Forest Biodiversity



Programme of Work on Forest Biodiversity

1. Conservation, Sustainable Use, Benefit-sharing

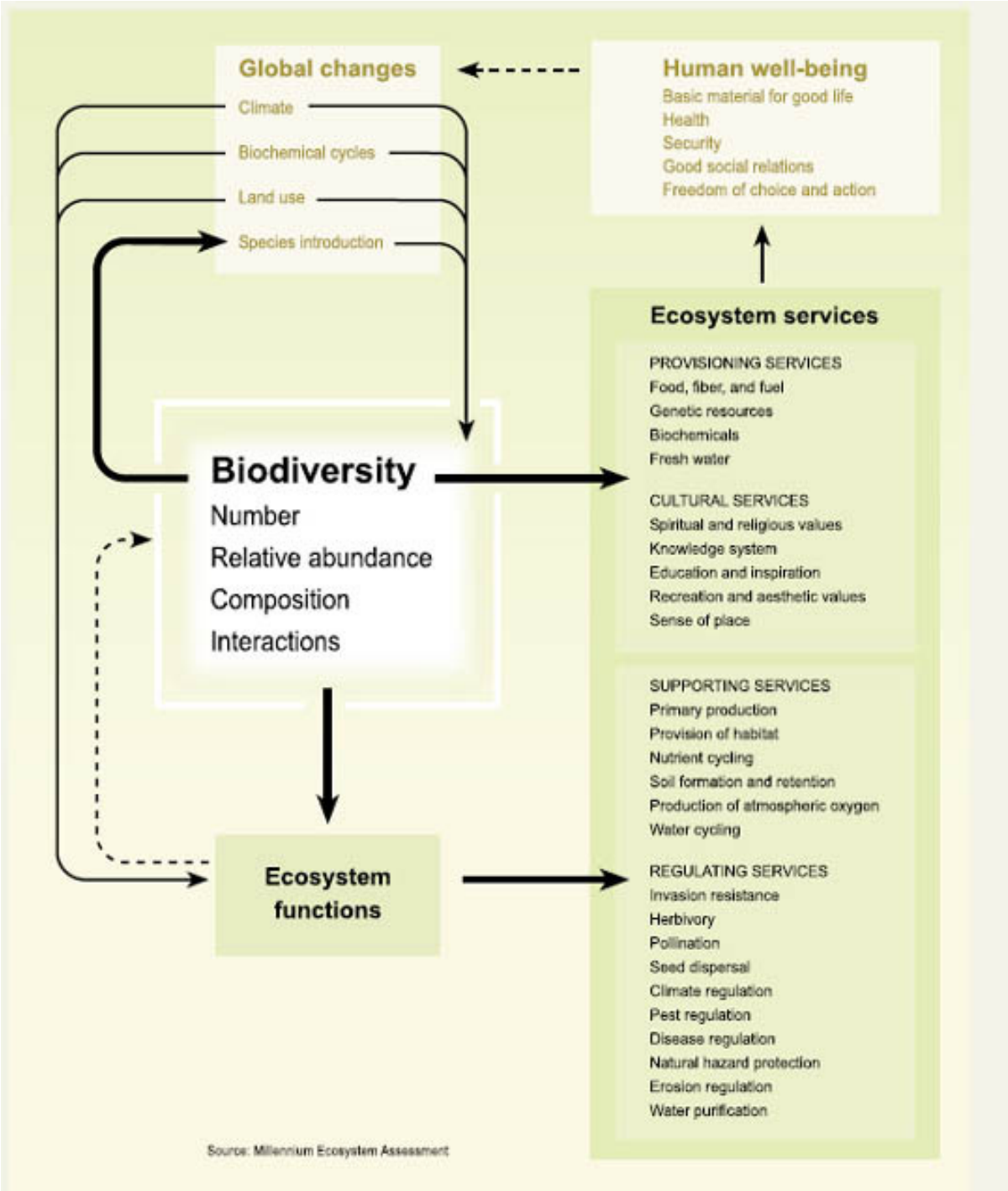
- increase sustainable management of forests
- implement ecosystem approach
- designate PAs
- restore degraded forests
- fight against forest fires
- invasive alien species

2. Institutional, Socio-economic Enabling Environment

- provide incentives for the use of sustainable practices (e.g., certification)
- develop good practices in forest law enforcement and governance (FLEG)
- ensure equitable ABS with indigenous and local communities
- clarify land tenure and resource rights

3. Knowledge, Assessment, Monitoring

- advance assessment methods
- research forest ecosystem functioning
- develop a global forest classification system
- improve the infrastructure for data and information management



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The Balance Sheet

Enhanced	Degraded	Mixed
Crops	Capture fisheries	Timber
Livestock	Wild foods	Fiber
Aquaculture	Wood fuel	Water regulation
Carbon sequestration	Genetic resources	Disease regulation
	Biochemicals	Recreation & ecotourism
	Fresh Water	
	Air quality regulation	
	Regional & local climate regulation	
	Erosion regulation	
	Water purification	
	Pest regulation	
	Pollination	
	Natural Hazard regulation	
	Spiritual & religious	
	Aesthetic values	

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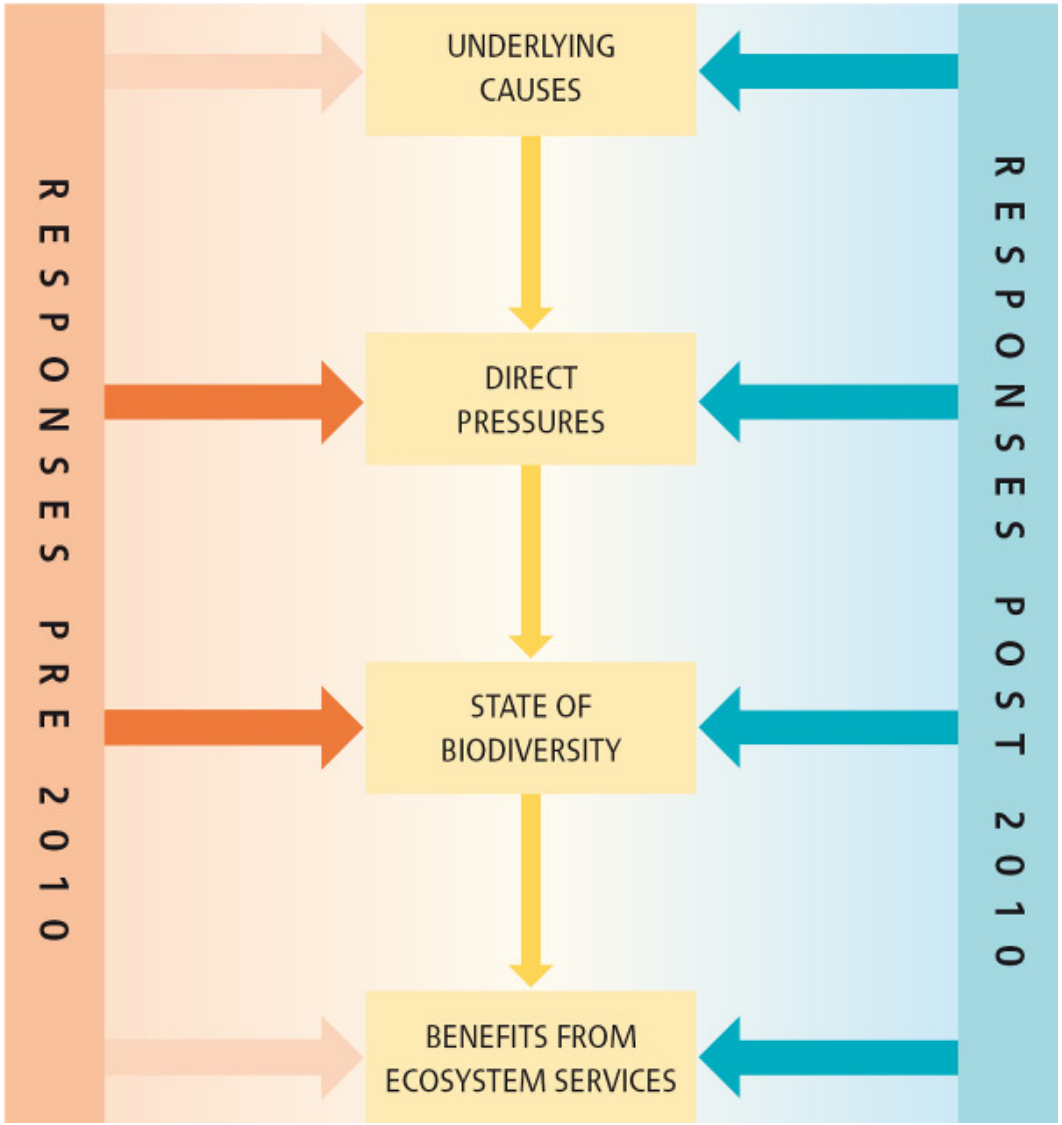
Towards a Strategy

Broadening action on biodiversity



GBO-3: Towards a Strategy

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Key needs to be reflected in the Strategic Plan:

- Greater efficiency in use of land, energy and fresh water to meet growing demand
- Use of market incentives and avoidance of perverse subsidies
- Strategic planning
- Restoration of ecosystems
- Equitable sharing of benefits from use of and access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge
- Support and facilitate local action
- Communication, education and awareness-raising

CBD Strategic Plan for the Post-2010 period

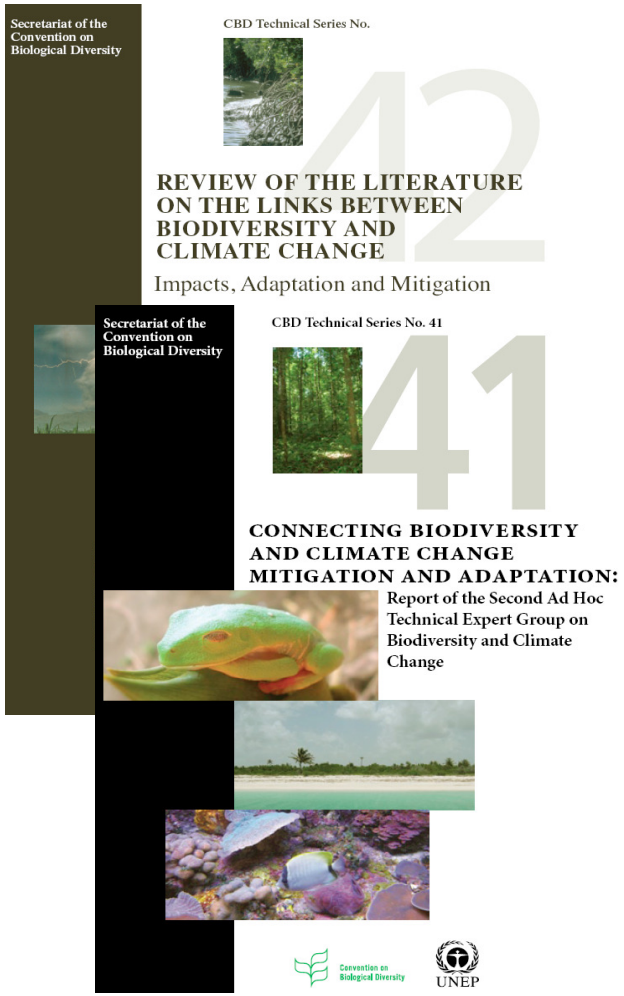
- CBD WGRI met 24-28 May, 2010 and agreed the Plan, subject to outcomes of Access and Benefit Sharing negotiations and discussion on financial resources to implement the Plan
- Plan has 20 targets, including:
  - **Target 5:** By 2020, the rate of loss and degradation, and fragmentation, of natural habitats, [including forests], is [at least halved][brought close to zero].
  - **Target 7:** By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.
  - **Target 11**: By 2020, at least [15%][20%] of terrestrial, inland- water and [X%] of coastal and marine areas, …, are conserved through comprehensive, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of effectively managed protected areas and other means, and integrated into the wider land- and seascape.
  - **Target 15:** By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

Linkages between Biodiversity and Climate Change

- A second AHTEG on Biodiversity and Climate Change convened in 2008 (decision IX/16) by the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.

  – It met twice since COP9 and produced two documents (***Connecting Biodiversity and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation***. AHTEG report; and ***Review of the Literature on the Links between Biodiversity and Climate Change: Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation***.

  – Mandate included: Identifying options to ensure that possible actions for REDD do not run counter to the objectives of the CBD but rather support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

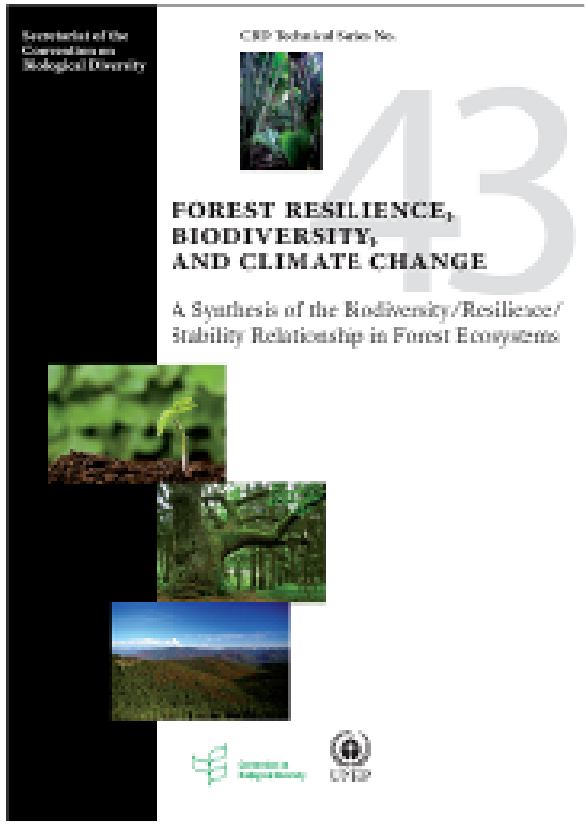


Forest Resilience, Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Synthesis of 400+ peer-reviewed articles: Forest resilience and stability depend on biodiversity, at multiple scales

- Implications e.g. for REDD permanence: biodiversity essential for stability/carbon permanence

- Biodiversity is enabling condition for SFM, including REDD-plus



Forest Resilience and Biodiversity: Key Findings

- The available scientific evidence strongly supports the conclusion that the capacity of forests to resist change, or recover following disturbance, is **dependent on biodiversity at multiple scales**.

- Maintaining and restoring biodiversity in forests promotes their resilience to human-induced pressures and is therefore an essential **'insurance policy' and safeguard** against expected climate change impacts. Biodiversity should be considered at all scales (stand, landscape, ecosystem, bioregional) and in terms of all elements (genes, species, communities).

Forest Resilience and Biodiversity: Key Findings

- **Primary forests are generally more resilient** (and stable, resistant, and adaptive) than modified natural forests or plantations.

- REDD activities should take biodiversity conservation into consideration, as this will help **maintain forest ecosystem resilience** and the long-term stability of the carbon pool.

- Increasing the biodiversity in **planted and semi-natural forests** will have a positive effect on their resilience capacity and often on their productivity (including carbon storage).

Forest Resilience and Biodiversity: Key Findings

- Plantations and modified natural forests will face greater **disturbances and risks for large-scale losses** due to climate change. The risks can partly be mitigated by:

o Maintain genetic diversity in forests.

o Maintain stand and landscape structural complexity, using natural forests and processes as models.

o Maintain connectivity across forest landscapes by reducing fragmentation, recovering lost habitats (forest types), expanding protected area networks, and establishing ecological corridors.

o Maintain functional diversity and eliminate the conversion of diverse natural forests to monotypic or reduced-species plantations.

Forest Resilience and Biodiversity: Key Findings

- Risks for plantations can **partly be mitigated** by (contd.):

- Reduce non-natural competition by controlling invasive species and reduce reliance on non-native tree crop species for plantation, afforestation, or reforestation projects.

- Manage plantation and semi-natural forests in an ecologically sustainable way that recognizes and plans for predicted future climates.

- Maintain biodiversity at all scales (stand, landscape, bioregional) and of all elements (genes, species, communities) by, for example, protecting tree populations which are isolated, disjunct, or at margins of their distributions, source habitats, and refuge networks.

- Ensure that there are national and regional networks of scientifically designed, comprehensive, adequate, and representative protected areas. Build these networks into national and regional planning for large-scale landscape connectivity.

REDD & Biodiversity

CBD COP 9 welcomes REDD in decisions IX/5, 6, 16, 18, but request biodiversity and ILC benefits

Decision IX/5 invites Parties, other Governments, and relevant international and other organizations to:

- *ensure that possible actions for REDD do not run counter to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the implementation of the forest programme of work*
- *but instead support the implementation of the PoW*
- *and provide benefits for forest biodiversity and indigenous and local communities*

REDD

Activities to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD-plus)

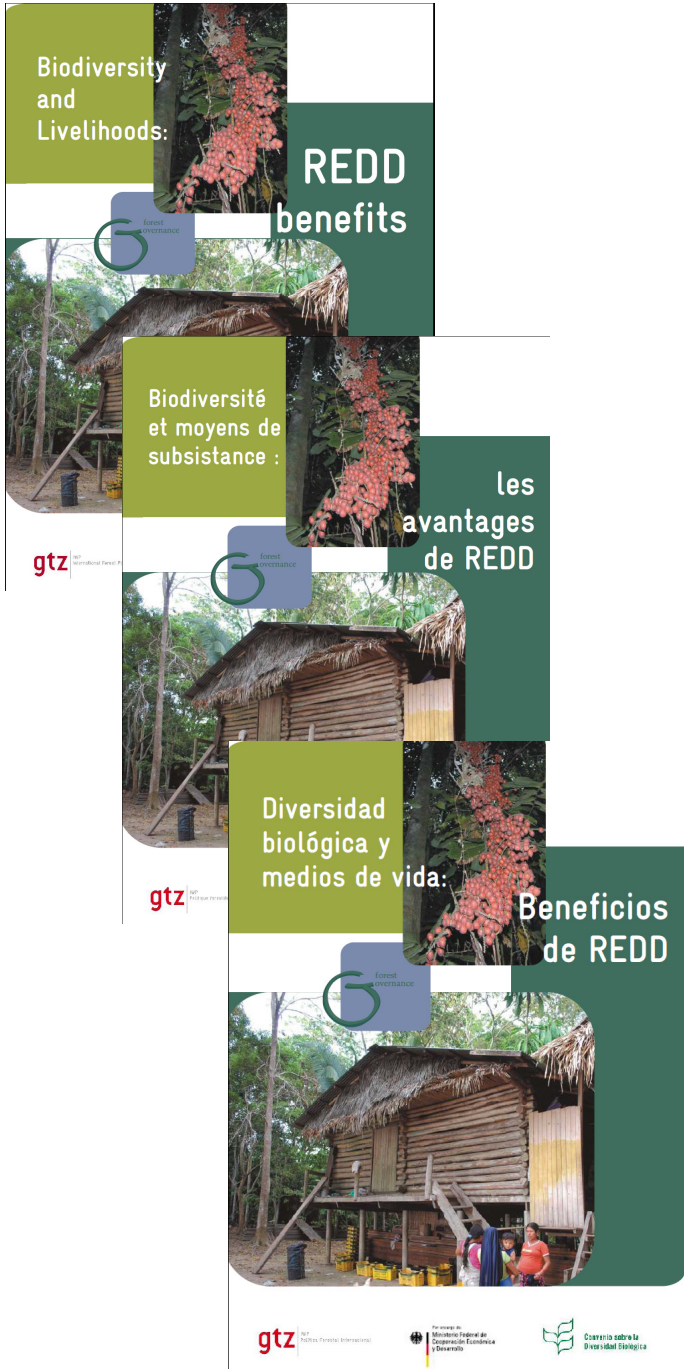
- potential to deliver significant co-benefits for forest biodiversity if mechanisms are designed appropriately.

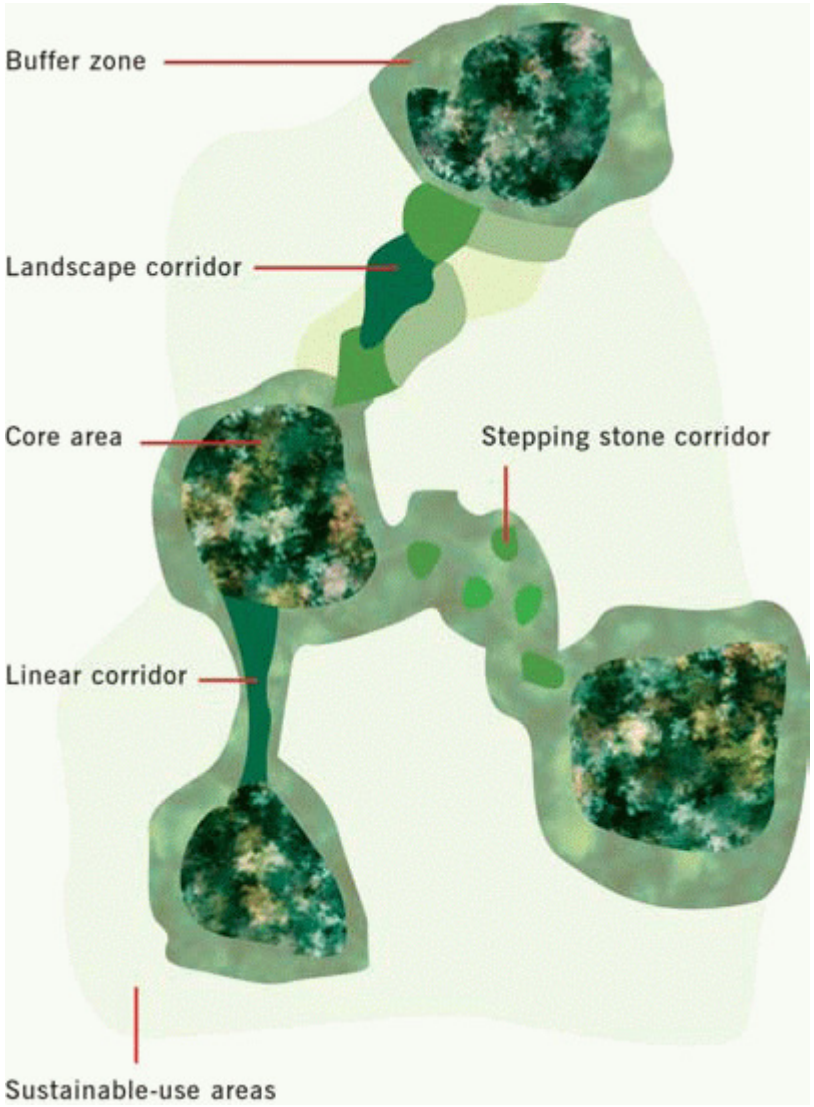
- This means:
  - recognizing the contribution of diverse forests, in particular primary forests, to long-term carbon sequestration/storage;
  - respecting the rights of indigenous and local communities;
  - addressing important forest governance issues such as illegal logging and land tenure.

Biodiversity and Livelihoods: REDD benefits

- summarises key benefits of forests for:
  - climate change mitigation
  - climate change adaptation

- design aspects to maximise potential to deliver significant benefits for forest biodiversity and for indigenous and local communities





Ecological corridors

Ecosystem based mitigation

- **A portfolio of land use management activities can contribute to the objectives of the UNFCCC, UNCCD, UNFF and CBD, including:**
  - protection of natural forest and peatland carbon stocks,
  - sustainable management of forests,
  - use of native assemblages of forest species in reforestation activities,
  - sustainable wetland management and restoration of degraded wetlands; and
  - sustainable agricultural practices

SBSTTA-14 recommendations on Forest Biodiversity

Collaboration with the CPF

- Further capacity-building forest biodiversity and climate change linkages
- Further collaboration with the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration
- Improve streamlining forest-related reporting, including with reference to definitions of forest and forest types
- Specific collaboration (through MoUs) with UNFF and ITTO

With reference to REDD:

- *Option 1:*
- [Contribute to the discussions on and the possible development of biodiversity safeguards and mechanisms to monitor impacts on biodiversity, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, as appropriate, and support the development of guidance on how to create synergies between the implementation of national forest-related actions and programmes;]
- *Option 2:*
- [With effective consultation with Parties, and based on their views, explore opportunities to provide advice, as requested, to the discussions on this issue, in order to avoid any possible negative impacts on biodiversity by such activities, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, as appropriate;]

Joint Work Programme between UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD

- The development of joint activities between the Rio Conventions should take place in an open and transparent manner.
- SBSTTA suggested two options for joint activities/work programme between the Rio Conventions; these will be forwarded to the CBD COP 10.
- The CBD Executive Secretary was tasked with immediately exploring, with both the UNFCCC and UNCCD secretariats and Parties, options for joint activities, including examining the feasibility of a possible joint work programme to report to CBD COP10.

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CBD COP 10

- 18 - 29 October 2010
- Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan
- Expected Number of Participants: +5000
- Major outcomes:
  - Adoption of Post-2010 Strategic Plan
  - International Regime on Access and Benefit-sharing
- http://www.cbd.int/cop10/
- Ministerial Meeting on Forests and Climate Change, tentatively 26 October, in conjunction with COP 10 HLS
- International Year of Biodiversity: www.cbd.int/2010

Thank you!

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