Lessons Learned on Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Development

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NBSAPs 2.0 project

- Supporting the development of revised NBSAPs in order that they become “effective vehicles for mainstreaming” [CBD]
  - Make an effective “business case” for biodiversity
  - Recognising linkages with other sectors
  - Fostering a sense of ownership by other line ministries by recognising their priorities and involving them in the revision process
- Working directly with four African countries – Botswana, Namibia, Seychelles, Uganda – but sharing tools, learning and other outputs with many others
- Implemented by IIED and UNEP-WCMC in partnership with CBD, UNEP, UNDP, UNDP-UNEP PEI
No single definition of mainstreaming

Article 6b of CBD: integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into plans, programmes, policies

GEF workshop 2004: internalising biodiversity goals in economic sectors and development models, policies and programmes


UNDP (2012): integration of biodiversity and ecosystem management into development planning and production sector activities

Field trip: Anything that involves working beyond the conservation sector with protected areas often the outcome

NBSAPs 2.0 project: “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”.
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<th>Governance outcomes</th>
<th>e.g. improved consideration of stakeholder’s and right HOLDERS’ concerns (particularly those who are directly dependent on biodiversity)</th>
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<td>Policy and political outcomes</td>
<td>e.g. High-level sector, fiscal, development and social policies, constitutions and statements of national vision, include biodiversity considerations, and vice versa</td>
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<td>Plan outcomes</td>
<td>e.g. Inclusion of biodiversity-poverty linkages in development and poverty reduction strategies and in biodiversity strategies</td>
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<td>Budget and accounting outcomes</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>Institutional and capacity outcomes</td>
<td>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 utilised in decision-making</td>
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<td>Investment and economic outcomes</td>
<td>e.g. improved domestic resource mobilization for poverty-biodiversity investments or recognition of potential trade-offs in sector investments such as mining</td>
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<td>Behavioural outcomes</td>
<td>e.g. key patterns and processes of production, consumption and waste treatment in sectors and localities are informed by biodiversity and poverty considerations</td>
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<td>Pro-poor biodiversity management outcomes</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>Ultimate (biodiversity and developmental) impacts of these outcomes</td>
<td>e.g. improved productivity and sustainability of use of biodiversity assets on which the poor depend; protection and management of targeted species populations</td>
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Source: IIED and UNEP-WCMC (2012)
Lots of valuable experience in other sectors

- Gender: WiD from 1970s; 1995 formally adopted at UN Conference on Women;
- Environment: Mainly in response to MDG7 – integrating principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes
- Drylands: promoted since 2001 – largely by UNDP through its Integrated Drylands Development Programme
- Rio Conventions: OECD DAC (2002) recognises inherently cross-sectoral nature of national strategies and the importance of them being consistent with national development priorities
- Climate change: NAPAs specifically intended to mainstream climate change adaptation into development policy
Key Challenges

1. Prevailing development paradigm – where biodiversity is an externality
2. Lack of clear understanding of what biodiversity means in each country’s context – wildlife, agricultural biodiversity, fisheries - and what aspects of biodiversity contribute to what objectives of development
3. Insufficient evidence on contribution of biodiversity to development
4. Lack of successful models and blueprints
5. Need for - but difficulty of – working across different Ministries that don’t usually deal with biodiversity
6. Limited capacity to move from policies and plans to implementation
7. Competition with other policy priorities for limited resources
Key Lessons

1. Tailor the argument to the audience – economists like numbers….
2. Leadership is critical: Mainstreaming “champions” are needed to push the process, and keep momentum going.
3. Build on existing processes/planning/budgeting cycles rather than creating something new or additional.
4. Mainstreaming is iterative and requires adaptive management.
5. Mainstreaming takes time – and money.
6. Trade offs are inevitable.
What Development Ministries Want – lessons from Uganda

- Hard evidence and empirical data
- Valuation studies
- Clear and measurable indicators of success
- Acknowledgement of trade-offs
- Links to sector investment plans
- Scenarios for different options
- Clarity on how different development sectors affect biodiversity
Mainstreaming tactics

- Understand the political economy
- Identify all opportunities for mainstreaming into development frameworks
- Identify entry points, ‘low hanging fruits’ and win-win situations
- Understand why ‘the people we want to influence’ do not understand what ‘we’ understand (communication).
- Network, network, network
Principles for mainstreaming into development?

NBSAPs 2.0: MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY & DEVELOPMENT

Entebbe Statement on Biodiversity in Development Planning

AUGUST 2013

INTRODUCTION

From 8-12 July 2013 in Entebbe, Uganda, the African Leadership Group (ALG) on Biodiversity and Development Mainstreaming met with other professionals and practitioners from the biodiversity, environment and development sectors of seven African countries and four international institutions, for the second international workshop of the NBSAPs 2.0 Project. The workshop addressed challenges and best practices for mainstreaming biodiversity and conservation into development processes, and for mobilising resources for the implementation of revised National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

The ALG recalled

That the Maun Statement on Biodiversity and Development Mainstreaming
Articulate clearly the full range of biodiversity assets that contribute to development

Clarify the different functions of biodiversity and relevance to development

Focus on key policy processes that influence decision makers

Be explicit about trade-offs

Be clear about threats to biodiversity from development as well potential contribution to development
Conclusion:
The participants concluded that biodiversity mainstreaming should be informed as much by development needs, potentials and conditions as by those of biodiversity, and should actively seek to achieve joint biodiversity and national development outcomes.