

Item 13

Recommendations on how relevant biodiversity aspects should be considered within poverty reduction strategies and national development planning.

1. In paragraph 4(e) of decision XI/22 on biodiversity for poverty eradication and development, the Conference of the Parties requested the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development to “*make recommendations on how relevant biodiversity aspects, including conservation and the sustainable use of its components, provision of ecosystem services, and utilization of genetic resources should be considered within poverty reduction strategies and national development planning*”
2. Ecosystems provide much more than the resources needed for material welfare and livelihoods. Their loss is a huge barrier to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals related to disease, hunger, and poverty reduction.
3. Poverty reduction strategies and national development planning should take into consideration the potential contributions of biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions. This includes the role of biodiversity in risk management and adaptation.
4. The importance of domestic policies in order to enhance the benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions for poverty reduction and sustainable development need to be highlighted and accounted for during the design and implementation of poverty reduction strategies and national development planning and in capacity building initiatives;
5. Genetic resources play a key role in developing new varieties of crops, drugs, and technologies. These resources are vital to many sectors of society, including the agricultural, pharmaceutical, chemical, tourism, fisheries and industrial sectors. Effective management of these natural resources is critical to alleviating poverty, ensuring food security and for fostering industrial innovation.

The Expert Group may wish to consider the following ideas for possible inclusion in new recommendations and/or guidance for implementation

6. Request or encourage Parties, international agencies and organizations to continue gathering useful information on biodiversity and its contributions through the ecosystem services and functions, as well as the multiple and holistic aspects that it underpins to support strategies for poverty reduction and national development planning;
7. Encourage the identification of livelihood resources most important for adaptation to changing conditions and build resilience by thinking in terms of present and future potential climate change, land degradation, and water shortage risks for consideration in strategies and national development plans, among other;
8. Encourage decision makers and planners to design activities and projects that help foster conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems services and functions to ensure that they continue to deliver real pro-poor benefits as well as benefits to all during the current and future generations;
9. Considering that the Nagoya Protocol can, once it enters into force and if effectively implemented, help to unlock economic potential of biodiversity and meaningfully contribute to sustainable development and poverty eradication, ensure that poverty eradication considerations are taken into account when countries revise or develop new administrative, legislative and policy measures on ABS to meet the obligation set out in the Nagoya Protocol;
10. In accordance with Article 31 (assessment and review) of the Nagoya Protocol, ensure that indicators, tools and follow up mechanisms are put in place at the national level to assess how the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol contributes to poverty eradication and the attainment of broader sustainable development goals.