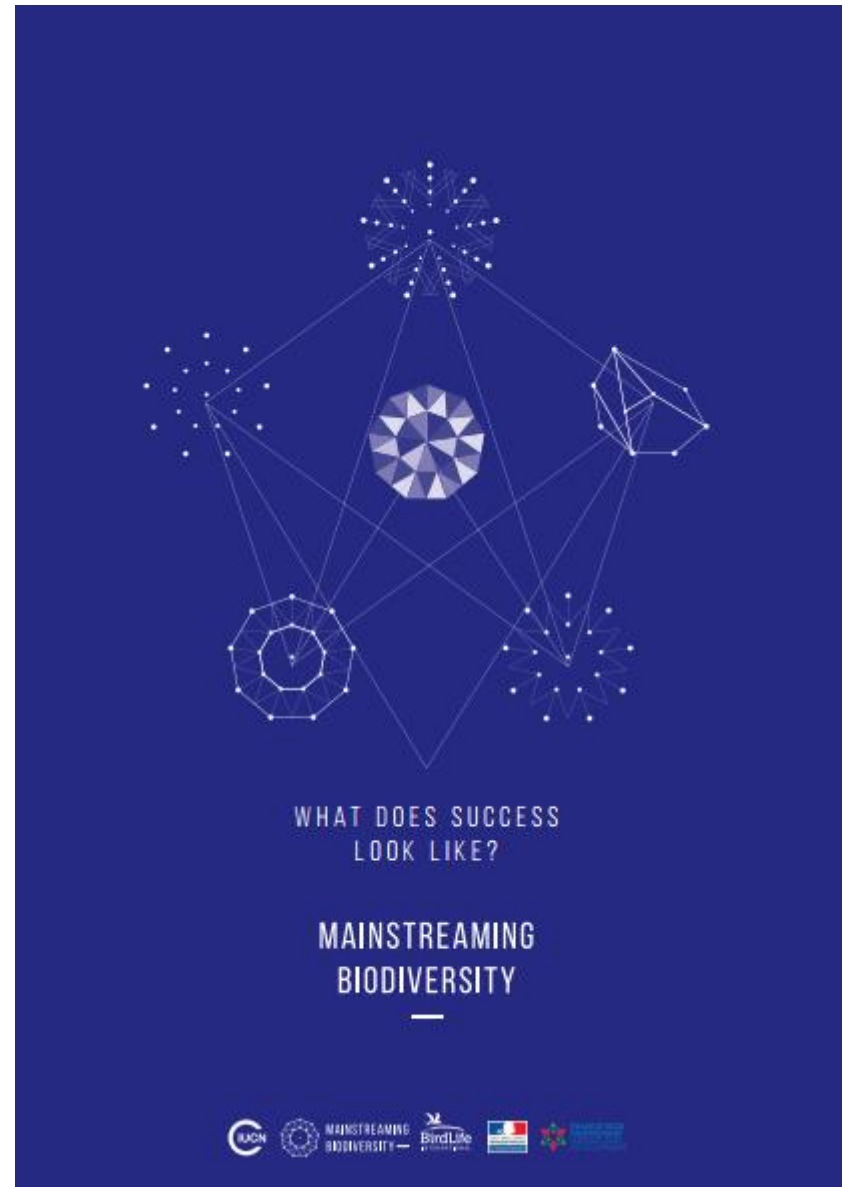# MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY & POLITICAL WILL

Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Development and the SDGs: sharing and developing workable solutions
Cancun, Mexico
11 December 2016

Carolina Hazin, BirdLife International
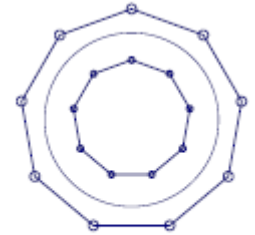Sonia Peña Moreno, IUCN

Political will & Biodiversity mainstream

- Mainstreaming implies changes in development models, strategies and paradigms
- '**Political will**' identified as one of the key enabling factors for successful biodiversity mainstreaming
- Whilst it has been explored in other fields, practical steps to nurture political will have not been sufficiently examined in relation to biodiversity mainstreaming

Understanding "Political Will"

- Political will is an ill-defined term that has been used flexibly. It has been broadly applied to illustrate the 'distant power', which in turn means that it cannot be clearly understood or addressed.

- "Political will can be thought of as support from political leaders that results in policy change" (Post *et al,* 2008) .

- Adopting a definition, however, is not enough to explore the practical ways to foster it for influencing biodiversity outcomes.

Lori Post *et al., 2008.Using Public Will to Secure Political Will.*

Influencing decisions: a question of leadership
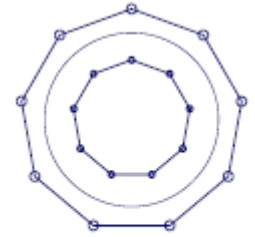
- Whose will constitutes political will?
- Is it an action of one person or a group of people?
- Where does political will originate?
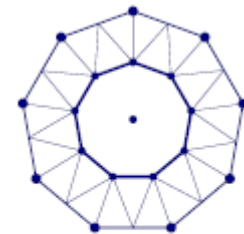- What is the motivation behind political will?

What's the recipe?

✓ Triggering change

✓ Tools & incentives

✓ Evidence benefits

MAINSTREAMING
BIODIVERSITY

1. Triggering change

- Influencing a policy, plan or budget of a sector implies changing particular behaviors, attitudes or positions

  – Change the discourse! ("Humanize" biodiversity conservation)
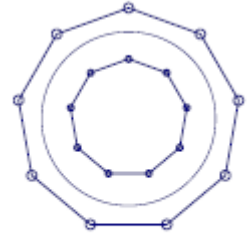
2.Creating tools & incentives

- Improved capacity – empower people
- Better knowledge/ data
- Increased awareness

3.Evidence the benefits
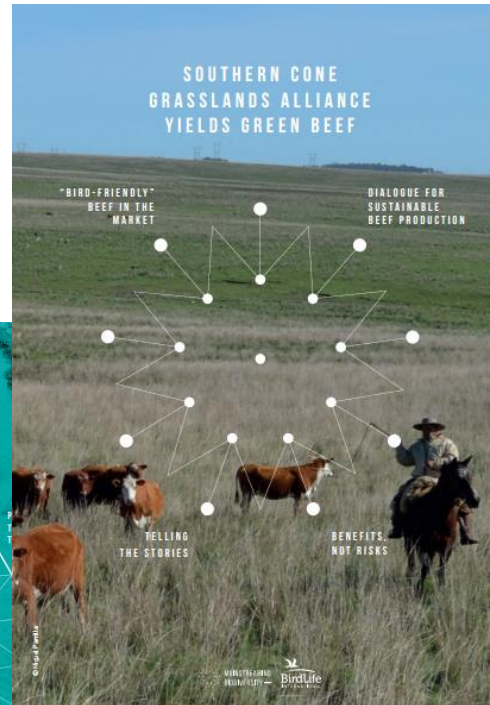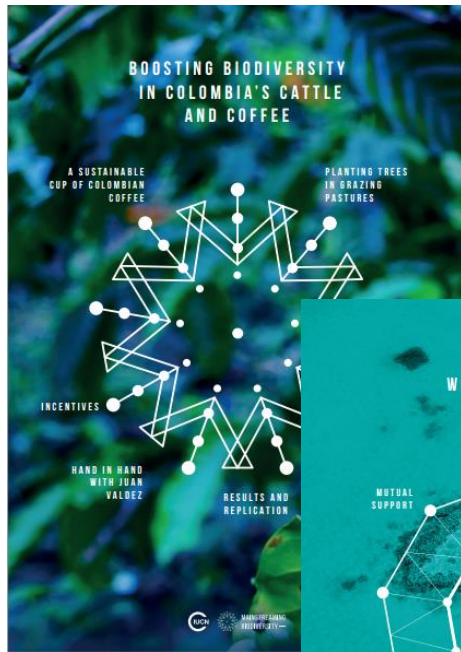
Demonstrate long term impacts associated with improved status of biodiversity and human well-being

There must be winners!

Evidencing Success

What's your story?

MAINSTREAMING
BIODIVERSITY

We want to hear from you!

Thanks!

http://www.iucn.org/mainstreaming_bd   http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/info/CBDsupport