



Mainstreaming Biodiversity into National Development Plans: MDG Support

**Biodiversity Global Programme,
Environment & Energy Group
Bureau for Development Policy
United Nations Development Programme**



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Introduction to Mainstreaming Biodiversity and MDG Support

- The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- The Economic Case for Investment in Sound Environmental Management for the MDGs
- Linking the 2010 Biodiversity Target and the MDGs
- Tools and Methodologies for Mainstreaming Biodiversity: MDG Support (MDGS) Initiative: a new window of opportunity for mainstreaming biodiversity

The Millennium Development Goals

1. Adopted by 189 nations during the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000
2. Eight bold goals to respond to the world's most pressing development challenges
3. To be achieved by 2015
4. Agreed at 2005 World Summit that all countries will develop MDG-based National Development Strategies
5. MDG framework now defines the global development agenda

How important are environmental assets to reaching the MDGs?

Poor households rely heavily on environmental assets

- Forest products → 20% of household income, on average
- Environmental factors → 20% of health problems in poor countries

Environmental capital is a critical asset for developing economies

- 26% of national wealth in non-oil exporting poor countries
- Income growth illusory if based on 'mining' environmental assets

Rejecting idea that sound environmental mgmt is optional

- Environmental degradation affects human health
- Much environmental degradation is irreversible
- Policies are available to secure development that maintains environmental assets while raising average incomes



Are environmental investments economically attractive?

Coral reef conservation -- benefit-cost ratios of 1.3:1 to 5:1

Wetland conservation – conversion of mangroves to shrimp aquaculture generally yields *negative* economic returns

Water and sanitation – benefit-cost ratios from 4:1 to 14:1

Soil and water conservation – generally pays although returns are very site-specific, with benefit-cost ratios up to 2:1

Air pollution control – benefit-cost ratios from <1 up to 15:1

Source: PEP economic study undertaken by David Pearce, Sept. 2005



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Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)

The MA explicitly links biodiversity and ecosystem services with human well-being, poverty reduction and the MDGs.

	<u><i>Degraded</i></u>	<u><i>Mixed</i></u>	<u><i>Enhanced</i></u>
<i>Provisioning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capture fisheries Wild foods Wood fuel Genetic resources Biochemicals Fresh water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timber Fiber 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crops Livestock Aquaculture
<i>Regulating</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality regulation Regional and local climate regulation Erosion regulation Water purification Pest regulation Pollination Natural hazard regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water regulation (e.g., flood protection) Disease regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon sequestration
<i>Cultural</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spiritual and religious values Aesthetic values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation & ecotourism 	



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The Biodiversity 2010 Target

“Significantly reduce by 2010 the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth”



Why Link 2010 Target and MDGs?

Biodiversity exists within a social, economic and political context – can't achieve 2010 target outside this context

MDG campaign addresses sectors posing greatest threats to biodiversity: agriculture, forests, fisheries, energy, transport, trade. So the MDG campaign can reduce or increase burden on biodiversity

Long-term success of MDG campaign depends on sustaining biodiversity and ecosystems that provide key services to society

MDG campaign determining how international development assistance is allocated - vital to allocate resources for biodiversity

Linkage of issues will expand constituency for 2010 Target



In other words, the success of the 2010 Target and the MDGs depend upon each other

The 2010 Target cannot be achieved without the engagement of a wide range of players, including the ‘MDG community’

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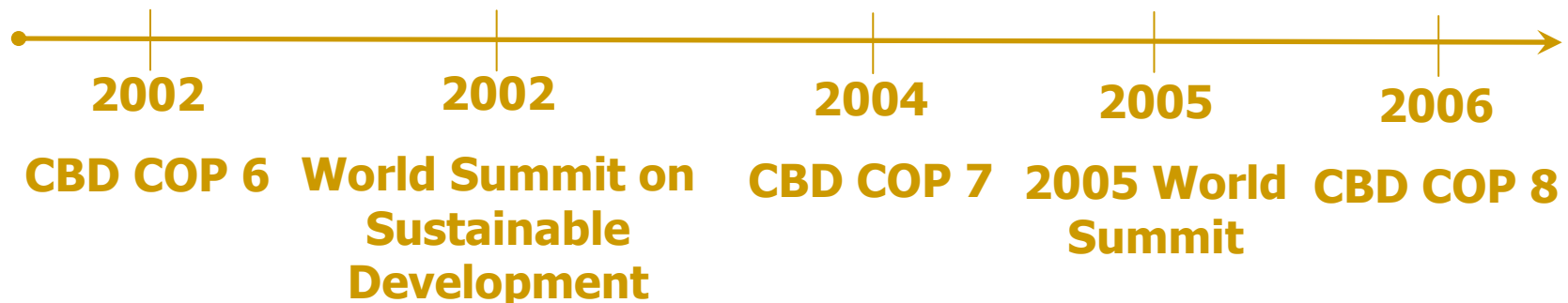
Conversely, the success of the MDG campaign depends on progress towards the 2010 Target

Fortunately ...recent events have conspired to bring these two frameworks together ...



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History of links between 2010 Target and the MDGs



- 2010 Target adopted at CBD COP 6 in 2002
- 2010 Target endorsed at WSSD
- CBD COP 7 called for the 2010 Target to be considered an 'interim target' for MDG 7, that common indicators be identified for 2010 and MDG 7 targets, and that CBD will track and support MDG campaign
- 2010 Target reinforced at 2005 World Summit
- Delegates at CBD COP 8 urged UN SG to adopt 2010 Target within MDGs
- UN SG agreed to integration of 2010 Target into MDGs in Dec 2006!



The 2010 Target now provides a strong rationale for taking biodiversity seriously in national planning

Since the 2010 Target is being adopted within MDG 7, this provides a rationale on why biodiversity should be firmly embedded in MDG-based national development plans

Similarly, countries now have a rationale to include biodiversity in their National MDG Reports

The NBSAPs provide a critically important starting point to identify biodiversity priorities to incorporate into both these kinds of national plans.

What do we mean by Environmental Mainstreaming?

Integrating the contribution of environment (including biodiversity) to poverty reduction and growth into national and sectoral development processes

And by building national capacity to do this.

Environmental mainstreaming is a means, not an end in itself, resulting in a sustained country-led effort to ‘operationalize’ – from planning to implementation

What are the results of successful Environmental Mainstreaming?

Policies identified and implemented that result in better pro-poor environmental management.

Biodiversity and ecosystem services taken into account in national plans, budget processes, sector strategies and local level implementation.

Institutional processes established within government and stakeholder communities to ensure that parties responsible for poverty reduction and growth policies focus on environmental sustainability too.

Role of environmental agencies and CSOs strengthened.

Indicators of Successful Environmental Mainstreaming

1. Inclusion of poverty-environment linkages in national development and poverty reduction strategies.
2. Strengthened capacity within finance/planning ministries as well as environmental agencies to integrate environment into budget decision-making, sector strategies and implementation programmes.
3. Inclusion of poverty-environment linkages in sector planning and implementation strategies.
4. Strengthened capacity in key sector ministries to include environmental sustainability into their strategies.
5. Widened involvement of stakeholders in making the case for the importance of environment to growth and poverty reduction.
6. Improved domestic resource mobilization for poverty-environment investments.
7. Increased donor contributions to country-level environmentally sustainable investment.
8. Improved livelihoods and access to environmental and natural resources for the poor.





Tools and Methodologies for Mainstreaming: The MDG Support Initiative



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What is the MDG Support Initiative?

A UN initiative that assists countries in preparing rigorous national strategies that are *ambitious enough* to achieve the MDGs.

(It asks the question: *What will it take to achieve the MDGs? Rather than: How close can we get to the MDGs under the current constraints and given current available resources?*)

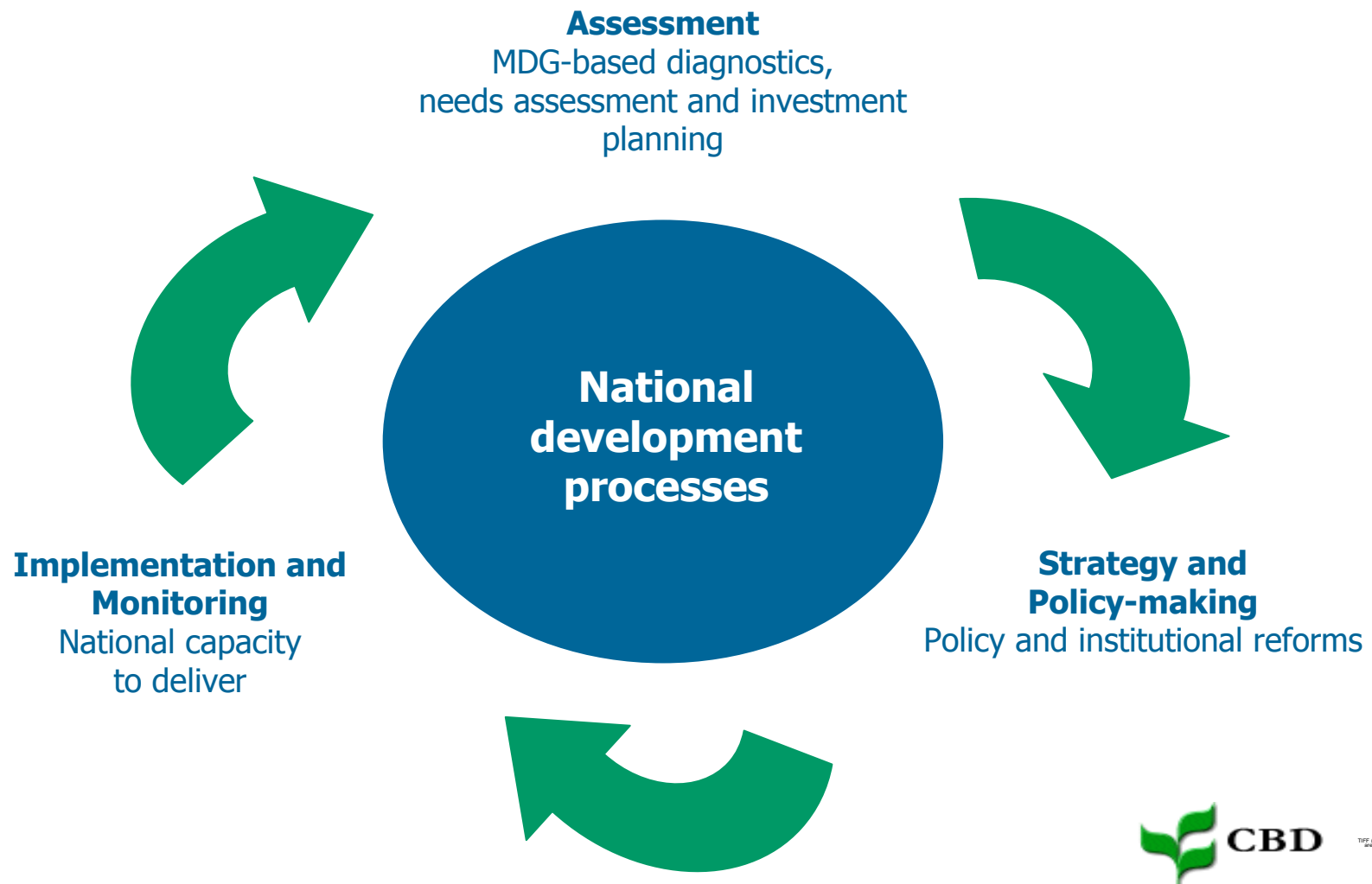
Made up of global and regional MDGS teams which work with UN Country Teams in every region to assist governments with:

- (i) MDG-based Needs Assessment and Planning
- (ii) Widening Policy Options and Choices, and
- (iii) Strengthening National Capacity to Deliver

Responds to UN Reform process - UNDP & UNEP partnership and by working through 'One UN' pilot countries

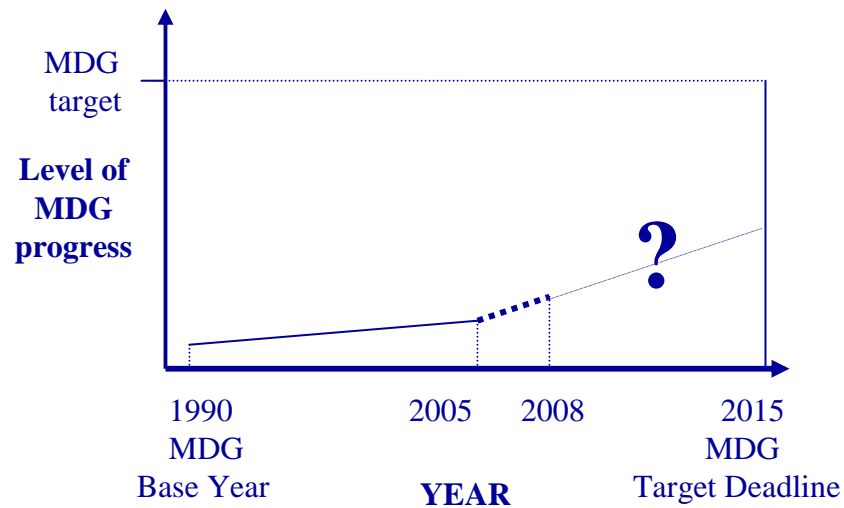


National Development Planning and Implementation Cycle

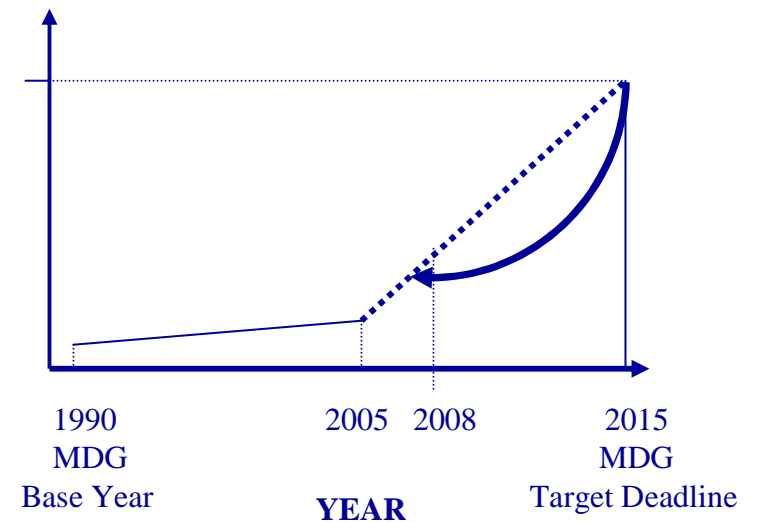


So what does it mean to be an 'MDG-based national development strategy'?

Typical strategy today



MDG-based development strategy



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What issues does an MDG Needs Assessment address?

Who and where are the poor?

- Identifying the population in need
- Disaggregating the analysis

What needs to be done?

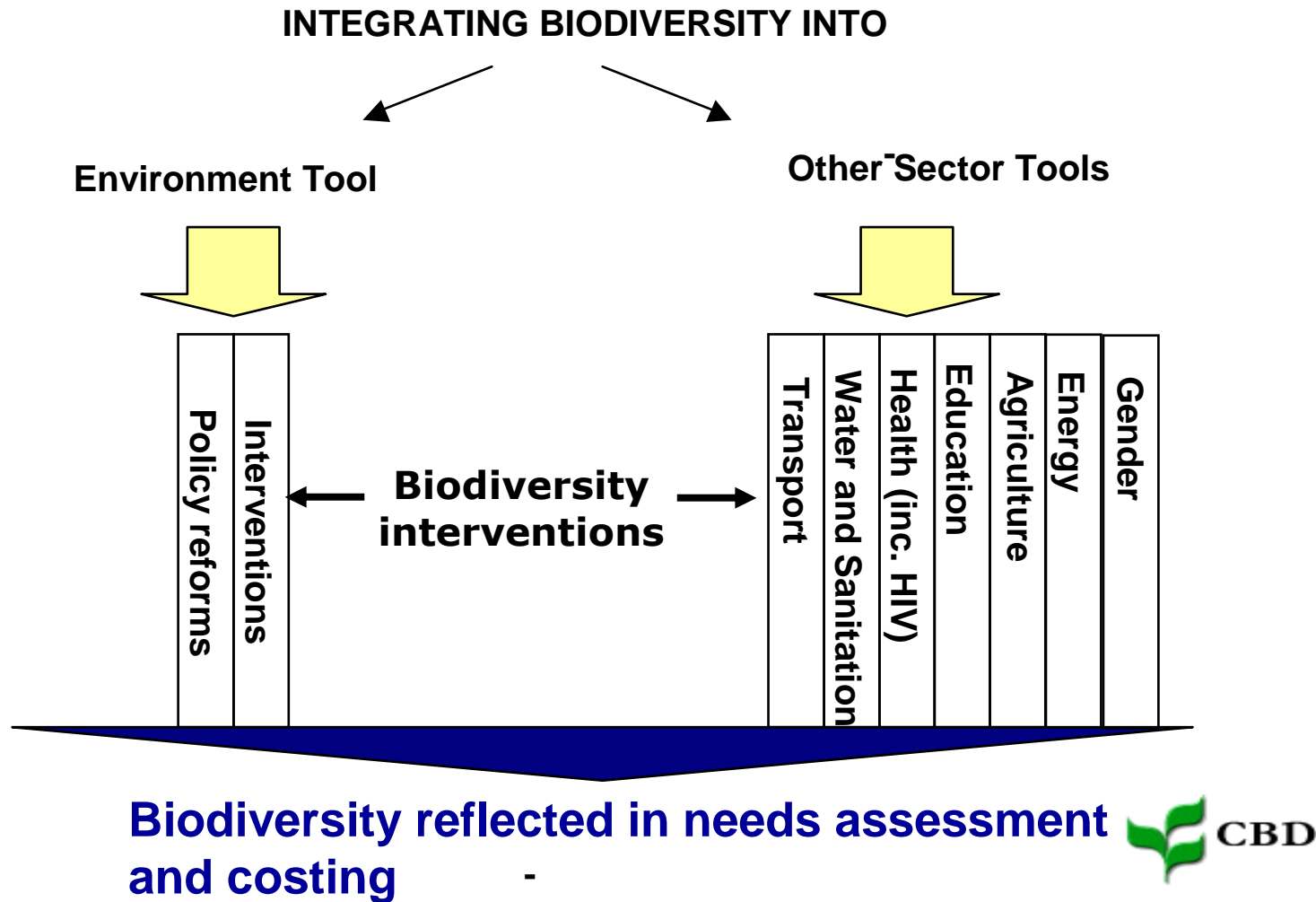
- Focus on **public investments** (capital and operating costs)
- Needs Assessment from now until 2015
- Interventions: goods, services, infrastructure

How much will it cost?

- Local unit costs x population in need
- Human resources required to meet each MDG
- Infrastructure needs

How to support the national policy dialogue and negotiations with donors and other development partners?

How does MDG Support help integrate biodiversity into national plans?



What is the value of MDG Needs Assessment and Costing for Biodiversity?

Integrates biodiversity into mainstream planning process

Improves prioritisation of biodiversity in planning

Focuses on pro-poor biodiversity investments

Identifies where financial resources are the key issue

Helps costed biodiversity interventions be linked to budget



MDG Support

For further **information** please visit ...

<http://www.undp.org/poverty/mdgsupport.htm>

For **assistance** contact your local UN country office



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