



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

**Regional Workshop for Eastern Africa on Updating National
Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)**

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**East African Community (EAC) role in
implementing the CBD with particular regard to
the Revision of the NBSAPs in the Region**

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INTRODUCTION

Establishment, Objectives and Mission of EAC

- REC /IGO of R. of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda
- EAC Treaty of 1999 and enforced in 2000
- Strengthen economic, social, cultural, political, technological, defense & security, legal & judicial affairs for sustainable development and jointly address sustainable development issues
- Widen and deepen integration to improve the quality of life of the people of EA through increased competitiveness, value added production, trade and investment



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CURRENT STATUS

- **Regional integration process marked by the following**
 - Encouraging progress of the EA Custom Union which became fully fledged in January, 2010
 - The enlargement of the Community with the admission of Rwanda and Burundi,
 - The successful negotiations and conclusion of the Protocol on the Establishment of EA Common Market in Nov, 2009; ratification by all Parties in 2010.
 - The Launching of consultations in the Partner States on the proposed establishment of the East African Monetary Union, and



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The underpinning process towards the **EA Federation** that collectively underscored the serious determination of the EA Leadership and citizens to construct a powerful and sustainable East African economic and political bloc



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Role of EAC in the Implementation of the CBD

ROLE OF EAC SECRETARIAT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF PS PROGRAMMES

- In terms of the implementation of programmes and projects, the RECs form the regional level for planning, coordination, and monitoring of the integration process.
- To this end the EAC operate through its organs and institutions to coordinate and facilitate the development and implementation of programmes.
- The EAC (Secretariat and other organs) also have the primary responsibility for seeking the full participation of all regional stakeholders in the planning, development and implementation stages of their respective projects.



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EAC ROLE IN THE CBD IMPLEMENTATION

- Art 6 of the CBD *requires each Party to develop an NBSAP (or equivalent instrument), and to integrate conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral activities.*
- The NBSAP is intended to be a roadmap for each country to achieve the goals of the Convention, taking into account its national situation.
- NBSAP have been an opportunity to mainstream biodiversity and the 3 objectives of the CBD across all sectors of governments through relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.
- Local-level activities by indigenous and local communities to support NBSAPs and the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention are also encouraged by the CBD
- While Parties are to develop and adopt their NBSPAs or equivalent instruments , regional organizations are urged to consider the development of regional biodiversity strategies and regional targets as a means of complementing and supporting national actions



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PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- The EAC has not developed its regional biodiversity strategy and targets as a means of complementing and supporting Partner States actions
- biodiversity issues are addressed within the Framework of policies, programmes, projects plans and activities .
- In that regards, EAC has achieved the following :



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Policy

- The Treaty Establishing the East African Community
- Protocol on ENRM
- Protocol on Sustainable Development of the LVB
- Regional EIA Guidelines for shared ecosystems
- EAC Common Market Protocol
- EAC Development Strategies (1st to 4th)
- EAC Climate Change Policy / Strategy and Master Plan
- The EAC Social Development Policy Framework
- etc



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The EAC Treaty (Chap 19)

For purposes of Article 114 of this Treaty, the Partner

- States agree to take concerted measures to foster co-operation in the joint and efficient management and the sustainable
- utilisation of natural resources within the Community for the mutual benefit of the Partner States. In particular, the Partner States shall cooperation in development, harmonization and adoption of common natural resources management



s and countries



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Policy :Protocol on Environment and Natural resources Management

- **29 areas of cooperation:**

- Article 9 Management of Transboundary Resources
- Article 10 Management of Biological Diversity
- Article 11 Management of Forest and Tree Resources
- Article 12 Management of Wildlife Resources
- Article 14 Sustainable Management and Wise Use of Wetland Resources
- Article 15 Management of Coastal and Marine Resources
- Article 16 Management of Fisheries Resources
- Article 17 Management of Genetic Resources
- Article 20 Management of Mountain Ecosystems
- Article 21 Soil and Land Use Management
- Article 22 Management of Rangelands
- Article 27 Biosafety and Biotechnology



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Institutions

Steps already taken in this regard include

- The launching in 2007 of the full operation of the LVBC which rolls out the development of the Lake including safety of navigation , environmental protection and conservation and overall sustainable development of the Lake and its basin.
- Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation, which coordinates measures for sustainable utilisation of the fisheries resources of the Lake
- E A DB play a more substantive and sustainable role as a regional development finance institution
- The Interuniversity Council of East Africa(IUCEA) *for the strategic development and management of higher education in EA*
- the establishment of new Commissions: EA Science and Technology Commission, the EA Health Research Commission,.....
- The establishment Forum for Ministers responsible for Social Development, which includes ministers for ENR
- Establishment of a Community-Day (one a month) for public participation in local community mass clean-up activities in order to promote public health and sanitation, safe water supply and food safety, environmental conservation, nutrition and human wellness



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plans, Projects , programmes, and activities

Steps already taken in this regard include:

- Agriculture and Food Security (including adoption of an EAC Action Plan and a draft EAC Protocol on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures);
- Tourism and Wildlife Management (including the implementation of the EAC Tourism and Wildlife Marketing Plan and Strategy and the Hotels Classification Exercise)
- Implementation of
 - LVEMP II
 - MERECP
 - LWATSAN
 - TBWB Mara River Basin



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plans, Projects , programmes, and activities

- Harmonisation of Biosafety Policies/Framework /guidelines
- Harmonization of policies and legislation on wildlife conservation and management,
- EAC CC Policy developed in response to the Summit's directive
- Establishment of an EAC Climate Change Fund
- EAC CC Fund Operational Modalities developed
- Hold an EAC Heads of State Retreat on Food Security and Climate Change , a HS Declaration on Food Security and Climate Change
- EAC Strategy and Master Plan to operationalise the Policy ,and
- Creation of Regional Wildlife Conservation information Management System (RWCIMS)
 - To ensure sound wildlife management decisions based on accurate and adequate information



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future plans

4th EAC Development Strategy(2011-2015)

Include the following Development objectives in the productive and Social Sectors:

- Diversify tourism products to maximize benefit and equity from Tourism and Sustainable Utilization of Wildlife resources
- Sustainable resource use, management, conservation of environment, natural resources and adaptation to climate change
- Development of a protocol on regional approach toward regional and international treaties/agreements on wildlife.
- Organize a forum for heads of wildlife research institutes to formulate ways of collaborating and information sharing ,and
- Mapping of all wildlife cross border corridors and habitats
 - To ensure viable wildlife populations in their constituent habitats , through collaborative measures to maintain cross border corridors and habitats.



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Role of EAC in the implementation of the outcome of COP 10

Role of EAC

- The process of revising the NBSAPs will require involvement of All stakeholders
- To this end the EAC Secretariat has the primary responsibility for seeking the full participation of all regional stakeholders in the planning, development and implementation stages of their respective projects.
- EAC operate through its organs and institutions to coordinate and facilitate the development and implementation of programmes.
 - EALA (Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources) for public awareness and involvement of decision makers
 - other organs and institutions involved in the management of Biodiversity include the LVBC, the LVFO IUCEA, Health Commission, will in also have a major role to play in providing human resources to the process

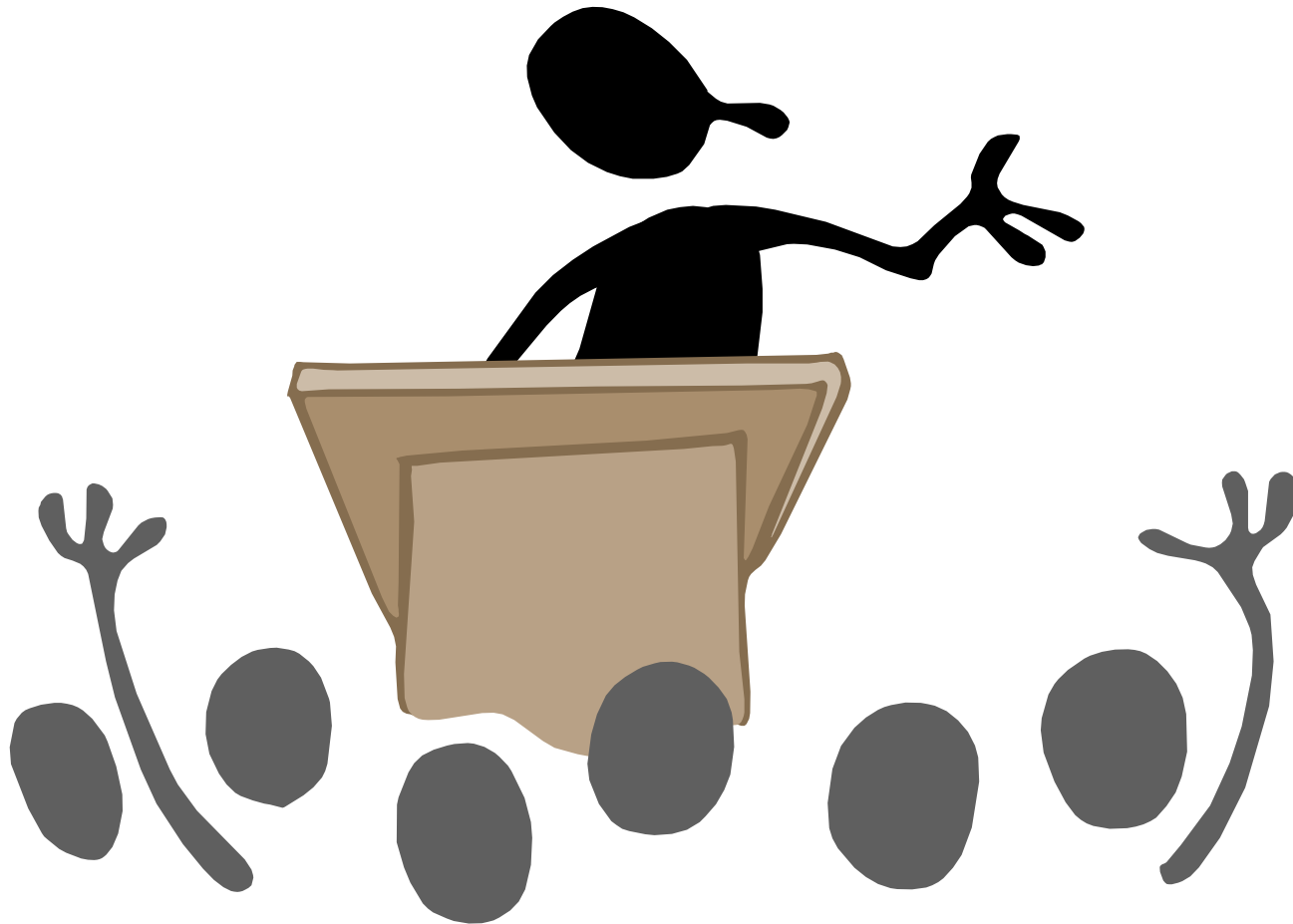
With regards to the revision of the NBSPAs,

- the Secretariat is committed
- to Constitute a taskforce of Partner States Experts to:
- Identify modalities for the development of a Regional Biodiversity strategy, taking into consideration the need for gender mainstreaming in the strategy;
- Develop regional targets;
- Harmonize scientific data collection and monitoring methodologies on status and trends of biodiversity; and
- Propose measures to develop regional expertise in valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and
- to establish a regional *Clearing House Mechanism*

With regard to the ratification of the Nagoya protocol

- , the EAC Secretariat
- encourages Partner States to ratify the Protocol and
- and to develop and/or update their National ABS legislation and policies and put in place mechanisms for their effective enforcement.
- EAC Secretariat will commission a study on the Nagoya protocol to identify areas of interest for the region so as to advice Partner States as they formulate or revise their legislation and prepare to ratify the protocol.

Thank You! Asante! Merci



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