

# NBSAPs: the crucial role of local authorities in implementation



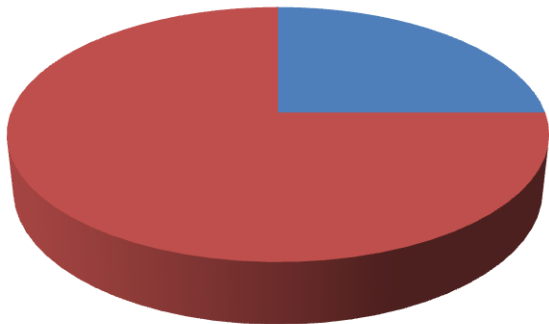
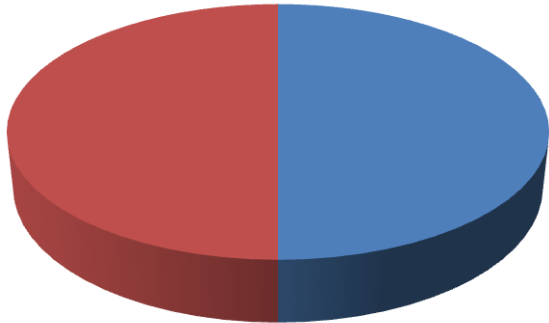
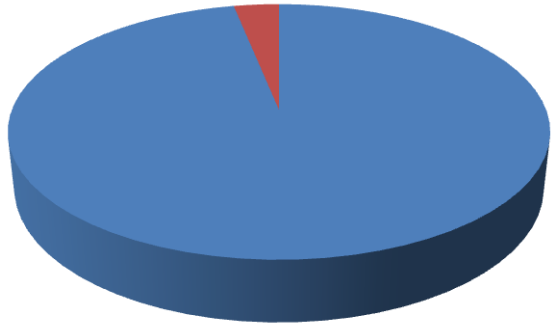
# Why local governments & biodiversity?



- **Sphere of government closest to the people & closest to the ground**
- **International and national policy → local action**
- **Mandates for planning & service delivery → biodiversity impact**
- **Some are larger in extent than some nations**

# Why Cities & Biodiversity?

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- **Cities – a special case**

- **<3% land area**
- **>50% population**
- **75% resources**

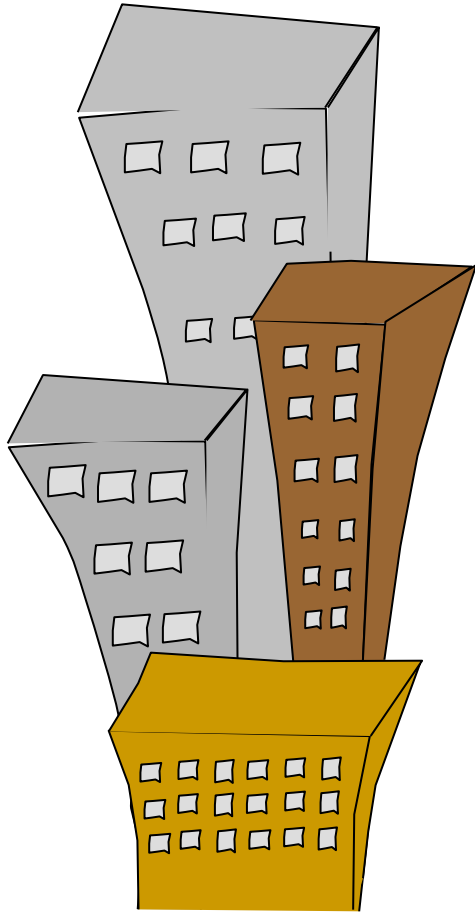
# Why Cities & Biodiversity?

- Profound *effect* on ecosystems...
- ...Profound *reliance* on ecosystems for resilience



# Why Cities & Biodiversity?

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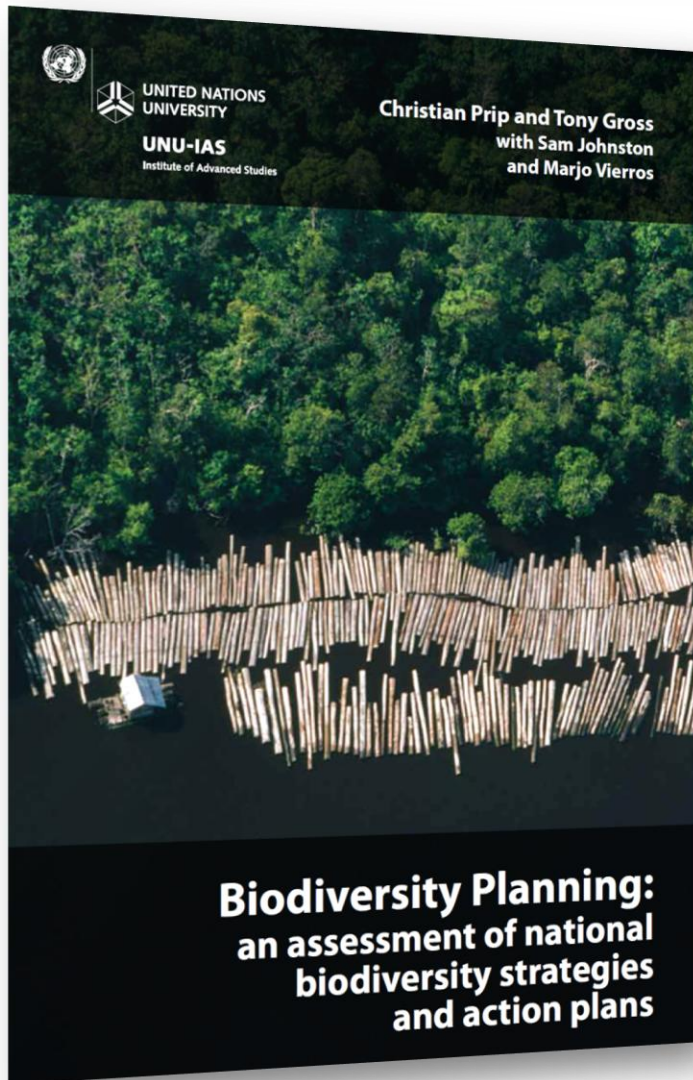
- **Urbanization → severe habitat alteration**
- **Cities need ecosystem services more than anywhere**
- **Larger populations than some nations**
- **Opportunity for CEPA:**
  - **Most people**
  - **Most power**
  - **Greatest need for CEPA**
  - **Unlocked potential**

# Global momentum

- Biodiversity as an ICLEI workstream
- TEEB D2
- Decision IX/28
- Decision X/22; *Plan of Action*
- Global Partnership
- City Summit; Aichi/Nagoya Declaration

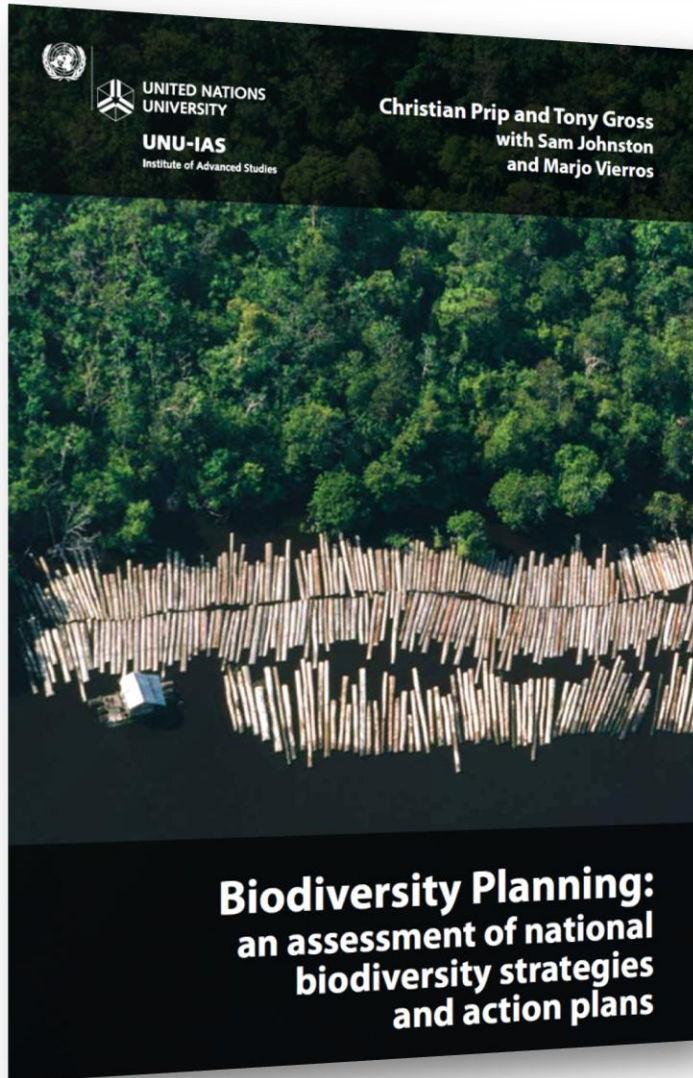


# Why “LBSAPs”?



- “Coordination structures (for mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors) may exist, but often with ...limited ownership at the sub-national level”
- “Most NBSAPs place a strong emphasis on planning at the national level, and only a minority explicitly acknowledge the benefits of sub-national BSAPs.”
- “...communication of the NBSAP to sub-national authorities and the empowerment of these to act has often been unsuccessful due to weak local institutional capacity”
- BUT: “Second generation NBSAPs have typically been prepared through a broader, longer and more structured preparatory process, often including provincial and local levels.”

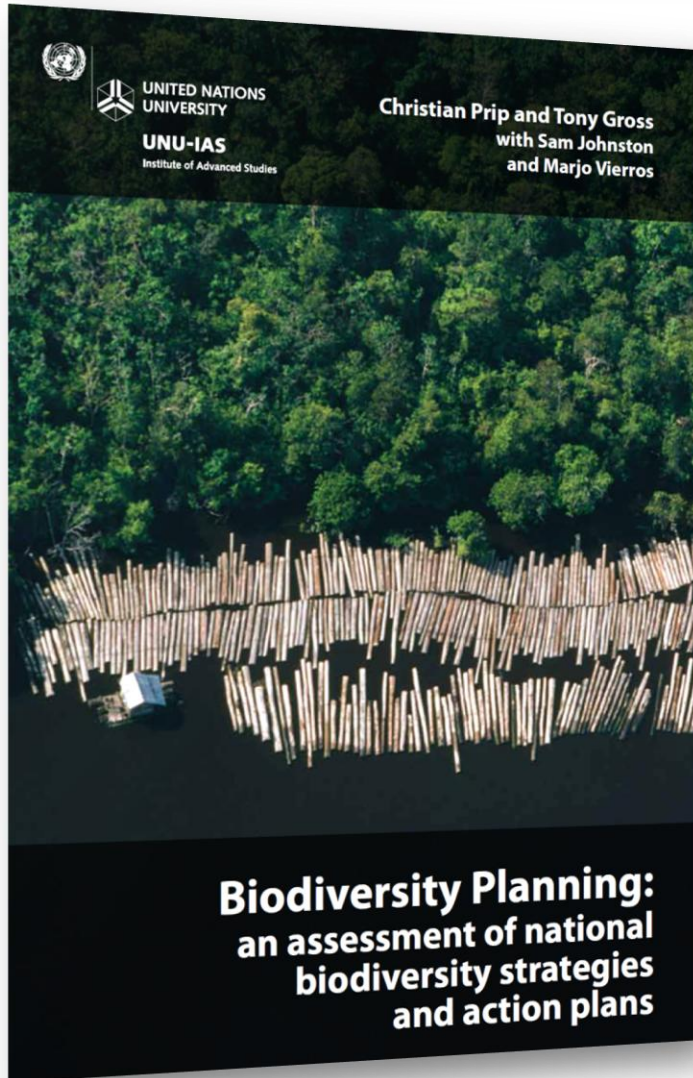
# Why “LBSAPs”?



- **6.** “...Most NBSAPs have been prepared through stakeholder involvement, but ...sub-national authorities have not been engaged”  
  
“(there is a) need in many cases to identify and involve sub-national stakeholders in the national process”
- **11.** Decisions and actions that affect biodiversity are often taken at the local level, and the overall NBSAP will only be implemented if corresponding strategies and action plans are also developed and implemented at the relevant sub-national level(s). Decentralisation of biodiversity planning to sub-national levels has been largely neglected in existing NBSAPs and this is one of the main causes of poor NBSAP implementation.”



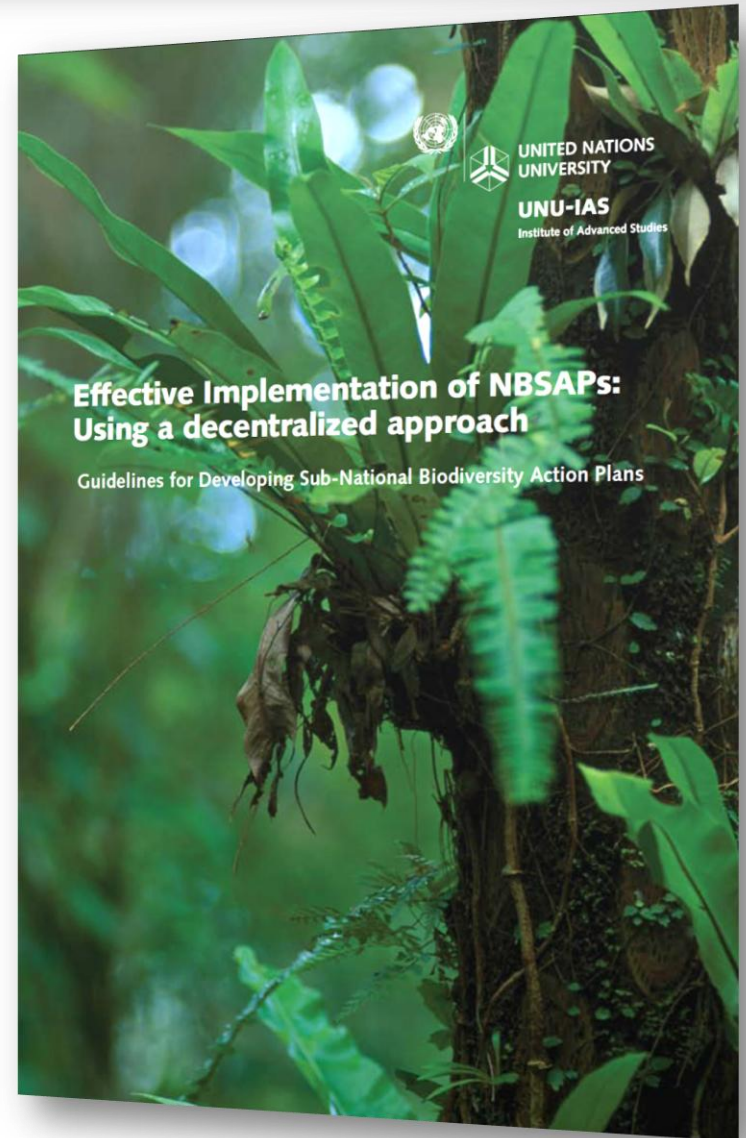
# Why “LBSAPs”?



- **18.** “...because the links between the national and local levels have often been missing in NBSAP preparation and implementation, the benefits of community management of biodiversity have not been demonstrated. As a consequence, inappropriate policies determined at the national level are often ineffective or ignored at the local level. A wider use of sub-national BSAPs would help address this issue.”
- **20.** “...in biodiversity planning... locally-determined and implemented activities are often more cost-effective and lead to better outcomes than nationally-determined and managed projects.”
- **22.** “There needs to be increased support for capacity development and this should be targeted to strengthening national implementation capacities especially with regard to mainstreaming biodiversity into broader plans and policies and to sub-national implementation”.

# Why “LBSAPs”?

- Specific → “Action Plan” becomes more tangible
- Local people & institutions have special knowledge on local development opportunities
- A way of achieving national objectives & thus fulfilling CBD obligations
- Stand-alone plans or integrated into broader plans
- → integrate *biodiversity-specific* NBSAP goals into *broader* local planning



# Challenges

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- **Unfunded mandate**
- **Funding numbers of local authorities\***
- **Integrating various & varying local needs within broad priorities of NBSAPs**
- **Coordination between spheres of govt**
- **Alignment of NBSAPs and LBSAPs**
- **Cross-sectoral mainstreaming**

# Recommendations to Parties

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- **Develop corresponding strategies**
- **Involve local authorities in NBSAP compilation**
- **Inform LBSAP compilation**
- ***Sustained* awareness-raising & capacity development at the local level**
- **Work with the willing**
- **Work with partners**
- **Encourage public participation**
- **Focus funding on *aligned* objectives**