

Lebanon National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

Lebanon enjoys a very rich biodiversity due to its largely mountainous landscape and extreme variability in climatic conditions, over 9119 species of plants and animals were identified and a higher number remains to be identified. Lebanon's NBSAP (1998) was updated with an addendum (September 2005) to take into account the CBD thematic areas and cross cutting issues and the 2010 goals. The NBSAP is divided into 4 thematic areas: forest and range, fresh water (inland waters), marine ecosystem, and agrobiodiversity. Measures to implement NBSAP include expansion of protected areas, biodiversity studies and updates, elaboration of national laws and policies, capacity building and raising public awareness, creation of partnerships with local stakeholders, NGOs and international agencies and implementation of operational projects for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

What did we achieve?

Protected areas:

In Lebanon seven sites were declared as nature reserves by law and an additional one by a decision of the Minister of Environment. Also, many river mouths, mountaintops and valleys are under the protection of the Ministry of Environment by decisions from the Minister.

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Access and Benefit sharing:

Draft law on access and benefit sharing was prepared in 2005 .The law regulates the access to Lebanese genetic and biological resources both in situ and ex situ and the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their use.

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Agrobiodiversity

A project aiming at promoting the conservation and sustainable use of important wild relatives and landraces by introducing and testing in situ and on farm mechanisms and techniques was implemented from 1999 to 2004

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Awareness and exchange of information:

Biodiversity was included in five years framework strategy for environmental guidance and awareness. In addition Ministry of Environment has developed and operated national biodiversity and national biosafety clearing house mechanisms .

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Sustainable use:

A new Hunting Law (No.580) was issued in Lebanon in 2004 to regulate hunting practices and to integrate sustainable hunting in Lebanon.The law stipulates that decisions are to be issued for defining hunting season and its location, endangered and rare species that must be protected

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Lebanese Ministry of Environment initiated National Reforestation Plan (NRP) aiming at restoration of the country's green cover loss

In 2002 (Phase I) total of 305 hectares fairly distributed over 23 sites were planted with local forest species
In 2004 (Phase II) 278 hectares(28 sites) were planted

5 7 8



NBSAP covers areas as: stability of ecosystems, forests and ranges management, sustainable management and wise use of fresh water resources, conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal natural resources, in-situ conservation and protection of agrobiodiversity



2010 Biodiversity Target

