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The United Nations

- Established in 1945 by 51 countries (2007: 192 countries)
- Aim: to preserve peace through international cooperation and collective security
- 6 main organs, numerous agencies, programmes and bodies



The United Nations System

Principal Organs

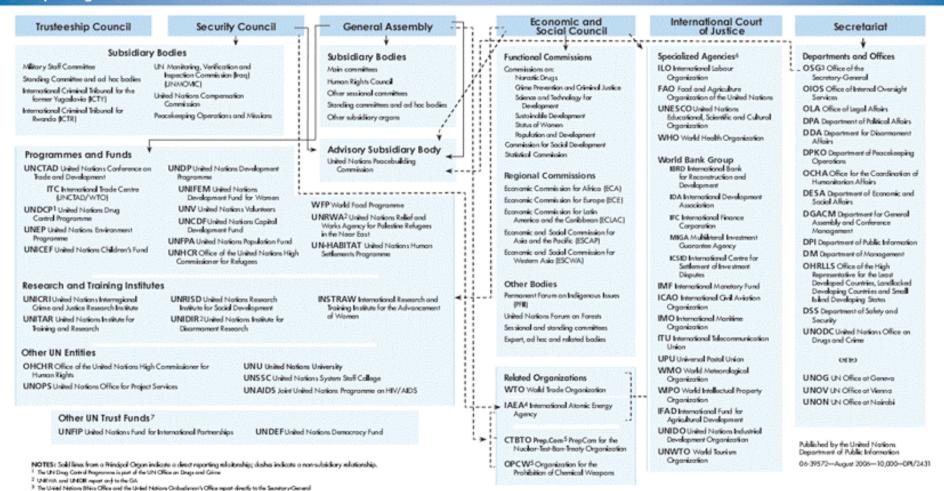
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http://www.un.org/aboutun/chart.html



The United Nations

Specialised agencies (15)

- UNESCO: education, science, culture
- FAO: agriculture, food security
- World Bank: funding
- WIPO: intellectual property

Programmes and funds (10)

- UNDP: development
- UNEP: environment





World Bank (1944)

- Its mission is to « provide loans, policy advice, technical assistance and knowledge sharing services to low and middle income countries to reduce poverty »
- World Bank Group = 5 institutions
 - The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
 - The International Development Association (IDA)
 - The International Finance Corporation (IFC)
 - The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIDA)
 - The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes
- Since 1988, financing of biodiversity projects
- www.worldbank.org



United Nations Development Programme (1965)

- UN's « worldwide development network »
- Overarching goal: « cutting poverty in half by 2015 »
- Activities: funding, best practices, capacity building, policy advice, technical advice
- Biodiversity for development programme
- Offices in 166+ countries
- http://www.undp.org/biodiversity





Millennium Development Goals and biodiversity













- Sustainable agriculture & fisheries (MDG 1,7)
- Maintaining fertile soils (MDG 1,7)
- Healthy freshwater ecosystems and adequate water resources (MDG 4, 5, 6, 7)
- Intact forest and freshwater ecosystems (MDG 3, 7)

UNDP's biodiversity for development programme

Priority areas

- Access and benefit sharing
- Traditional knowledge
- Conservation and sustainable use
- Ecoagriculture
- Protected areas
- Links with MDGs

Partners and initiatives

- Conservation Finance Alliance
- CGIAR
- Ecoagriculture Partners
- Equator Initiative
- Global Biodiversity Forum
- Megadiverse Group
- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
- Poverty and Environment Initiative
- UN Millennium Project

Biodiversity for Development CD-ROM online version



http://www.undp.org/biodiversity/biodiversitycd/index.htm



United Nations Environmental Programme (1972)

- Aim: « To provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment »
- Activities: environmental assessments, environmental policy, institutional capacity building, technology transfer, partnerships civil society - private sector
- International office Nairobi, 7 divisions
- 6 regional offices, 7 'liaison offices' (e.g. EU, Arab League), 7 out-posted offices, 6 collaborating centres and 7 Conventions secretariats
- http://www.unep.org/biodiversity





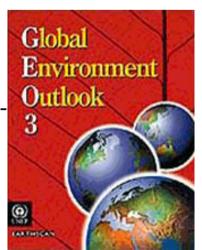
Some UNEP activities in biodiversity

Projects

- GRASP Great Apes Survival Project (with UNESCO)
- Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities (GPA)
- Wings Over Wetlands (WOW) UNEP-GEF African-Eurasian Flyways Project
- UNEP-GEF Project on Development of National Biosafety Frameworks
- Global Environment Outlook GEO-3 available, GEO-4 in prep.

Convention secretariats, networks and infrastructures

- Secretariats (CBD, CITES, CMS, Ozone, Basel, POPs)
- World Conservation Monitoring Centre
- The International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN)
- The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (GRID-
- Technical Cooperation Unit
- Scientific advisory groups





World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)

Tasks

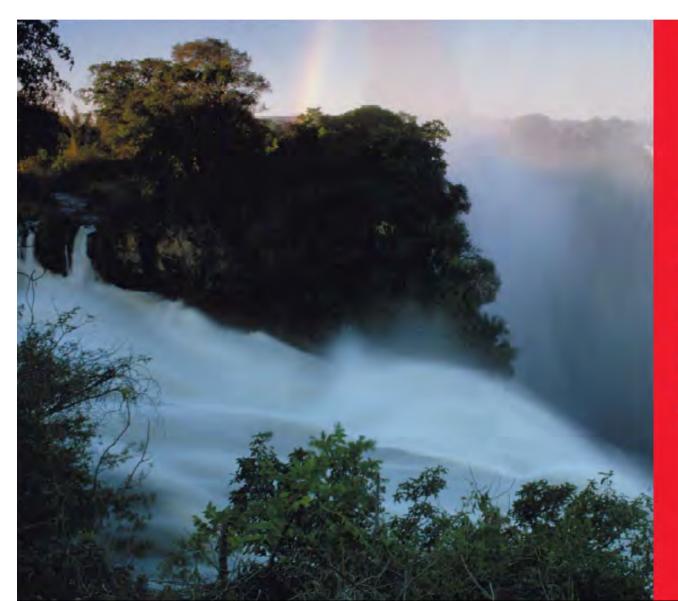
- Assessment and analysis of global biodiversity
- Support for policy and agreements
- Public awareness, education, capacity-building and cooperation
- Access to wide-ranging information and analytical services
- Networks and collaborations to promote conservation and information exchange

History

- 1979: IUCN establishes centre to monitor endangered species
- 1988: WCMC founded by IUCN, WWF and UNEP
- 2000: WCMC becomes integral part of UNEP
- http://www.unep-wcmc.org/



Global Environmental Facility



GEF...
Dynamic
Partnerships.
Real
Solutions.





Global Environmental Facility

- 1991 : established as a pilot programme from UNDP, UNEP, WB
- 2007: 177 Parties now participating
- Focal areas
 - biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, ozone layer depletion, persistent organic pollutants
- Financial mechanism for implementing conventions
 - biodiversity, climate change, POPs and desertification
- Single largest source of funding for the environment
 - 2006-2010: \$980 million for biodiversity = 33% of GEF budget
- 3 implementing agencies: UNDP, UNEP, WB
- 7 executing agencies: FAO, UNIDO, AfDB, ADB, EBRD, IBD, IFAD





Global Environmental Facility

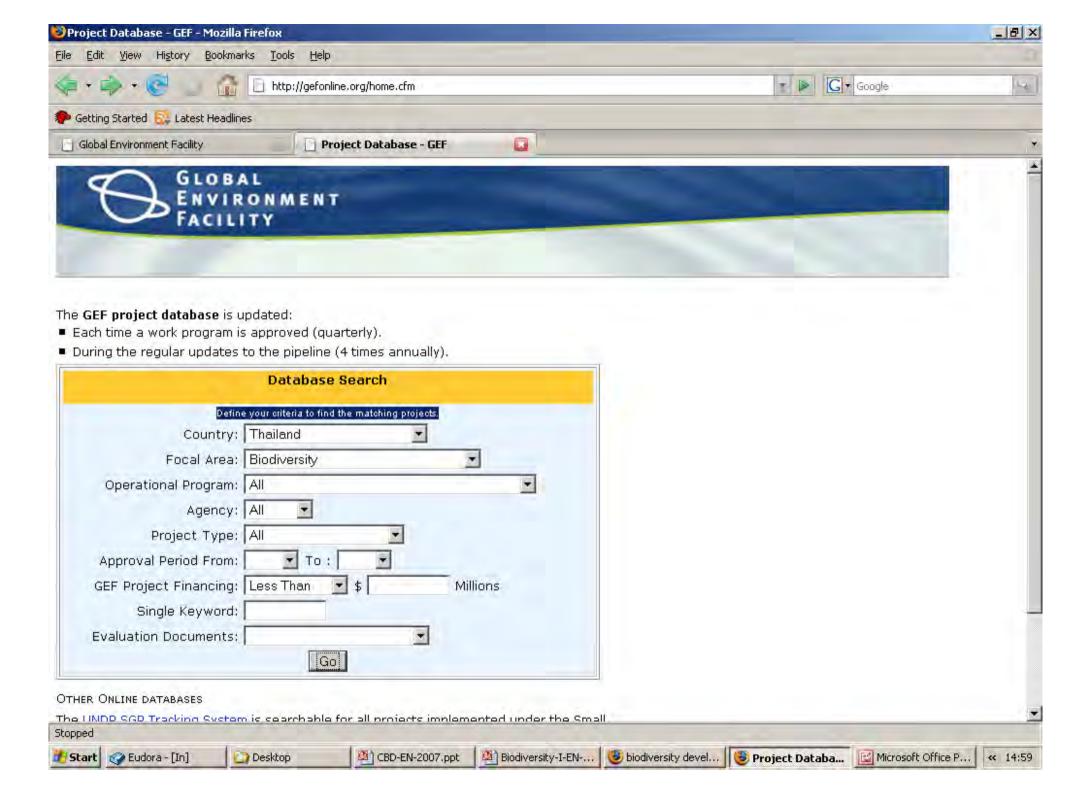
- Types of projects
 - Full-sized projects (over 1 million \$)
 - Medium-sized projects (max 1 million \$)
 - Enabling activities: capacity building, NBSAPs (variable)
 - Small grants programme (max 150,000 \$)
- Operational programmes under focal area 'Biodiversity'
 - OP 1: Arid and semi-arid ecosystems
 - OP 2: Coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems
 - OP 3: Forest ecosystems
 - OP 4: Mountain ecosystems
 - OP 13: Agrobiodiversity

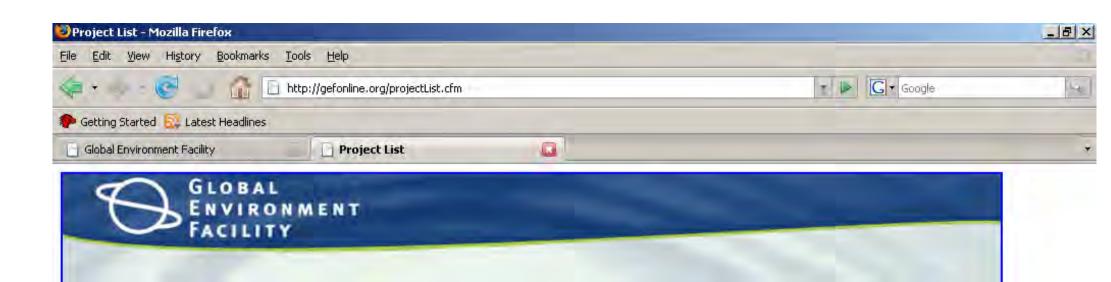


GEF quick links

- General website: http://www.gefweb.org
- Projects database: http://gefonline.org/home.cfm
- How do I? http://www.gefweb.org/interior.aspx?id=96
- Small grants programme: http://sgp.undp.org/







Country 'Thailand' Focal Area 'Biodiversity'

Regional and Global Projects - 2 Projects

Country	Project Name	Region	Focal Area	Agency	Project Type	GEF Grant (US\$M)	Project Stage	Details & Documents
Regional	Mekong River Basin Wetland Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Program	Asia	Biodiversity	UNDP	Full Size Project	4.535	CEO Endorsed	
Global	Biodiversity Data Management Capacitation in Developing Countries and Networking Biodiversity Information	CEX	Biodiversity	UNEP	Enabling Activity	4.000	Project Closure	=
Subtotals for the Result						8.535	2 Projects	

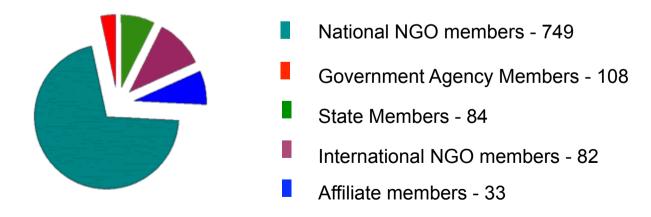
Other key international organisations





World Conservation Union – IUCN (1948)

- International association seated at Gland (Switzerland)
- Governmental and non governmental members
- Over 1,000 employees and 500 projects
- http://www.iucn.org







IUCN Commissions

WCPA
WORLD COMMISSION
ON PROTECTED AREAS

- Species Survival Commission (about 7000 members)
 - 120 specialist groups & task forces
 - Red Lists; species action plans, policy guidelines, technical advice, onground conservation
- World Commission on Protected Areas (1300 members)
 - Planning assistance, capacity building of managers, increase investment in protected areas
- Commission on Environmental Law (800 members)
 - With Environmental Law Centre
 - Legal and policy concepts and instruments, capacity building in environmental law and policy
 - ECOLEX information service: http://www.ecolex.org
- Commission on Education and Communication (600 members)
- Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (500 members)
- Commission on Ecosystem Management (400 members)











4th IUCN World Conservation Congress

- Barcelona, 5-14 October 2008
- The Forum:
 - Grand public gathering
 - Debates, workshops, dialogues, artistic events, training courses, exhibitions
 - Meeting of IUCN commissions
- The Members' Assembly:
 - Governing body of the IUCN
 - Policy developments
 - IUCN work programme for the next four years
 - Election of president and council
- Resolutions and recommendations

Birdlife International - http://www.birdlife.org/



BioNET International - http://www.bionet-intl.org/



CAB International - http://www.cabi.org/



Conservation International (CI) - http://www.conservation.org/



CGIAR - Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research - http://www.cgiar.org/



Greenpeace International - http://www.greenpeace.org/



Wildlife Conservation Society - http://www.wcs.org/



World Resources Institute (WRI) - http://www.wri.org/



WWF - http://www.panda.org



Multilateral Environmental Agreements



Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)

- International treaties designed to promote the protection of the environment
- Basis?
 - Transboundary nature of environmental problems
 - To be addressed through international cooperation
- Approximately 200; extremely varied
 - 'Soft-law': non-legally binding principles which parties will respect when considering activities
 - 'Hard-law': legally-binding actions to be taken to work toward an environmental objective





Earth Summit (Rio, 1992)

- UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)
- Biggest environmental summit ever held
- 30.000+ participants ,100+ Heads of State
- Main agreements signed
 - Convention on Biological Diversity (binding)
 - Convention on Climate Change (binding)
 - Rio Declaration (non binding)
 - Agenda 21 (non binding)
 - Forest Principles (non binding)
- Led to the establishment of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development a few months later





The Rio Conventions

- Signed during the 1992 Earth Summit, in Rio
- UNFCCC: the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - http://unfccc.int/
- (UN)CBD: the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity - http://www.biodiv.org/
- Discussed during Summit but signed in 1994: (UN)CCD: the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification - http://www.unccd.int/





The Climate Change Convention

- Overall framework for efforts to stabilise greenhouse gas emissions and to tackle climate change
- General objectives and principles; establish national inventories and formulate programmes
- Spells out commitments for different groups of countries according to their circumstances and needs (41 industrialised, 145 others)
- Kyoto Protocol (1997): pact agreed by governments to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by industrialised countries by 5.2% of 1990 levels during 2008-2012.





The Desertification Convention

- Legally-binding framework to address the problem of desertification
- Tackle the impacts of desertification, but also to mitigate the effects of droughts
- Based on the principles of participation, partnership and decentralisation (mostly a bottom-up approach)
- Implemented through national action programmes (NAPs)
- Partnership arrangements between donors and affected states



The five biodiversity-related Conventions

Ramsar Convention

Biodiversity
Related
Conventions
CBD

World Heritage Convention

Convention on Migratory Species

Convention on Biological Diversity

CITES



The Ramsar Convention (1971)

The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat





The Ramsar Convention (1971)

- Who? UNESCO depositary; IUCN hosts secretariat
- What? Conservation and wise use of wetlands
- How? Through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation
- Main tool? List of wetlands of global importance





The Ramsar Convention (1971)

- 155 contracting parties
- 1,675 wetland sites
- 150.2 million hectares
- Largest: Okavango Delta system, Botswana
- http://www.ramsar.org



The World Heritage Convention (1972)









The World Heritage Convention (1972)

- Who? Adopted by UNESCO General Assembly;
 UNESCO provides secretariat (Paris)
- What? Conserve the world's cultural / natural heritage
- How? By drawing up a list of sites whose outstanding values should be preserved for all humanity and to ensure their protection through a closer co-operation among nations
- Main tool? List of « World Heritage Sites »





The World Heritage Convention (1972)

- 184 member States Parties
- 851 listed sites (660 cultural, 166 natural, 25 mixed)
 - Cambodia: Angkor (c)
 - USA: Yellowstone National Park (n)
 - Australia: Kakadu National Park (m)
- Some trans-boundary sites
 - Zambia / Zimbabwe: Mosi-oa-Tunya Victoria Falls (n)
- List of World Heritage in Danger (35 sites)
 - DR Congo: 5 national parks (n)
- http://whc.unesco.org/



Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (1973)

CITES / Washington Convention





CITES (1973)

- Who? Drafted following a 1963 meeting of IUCN members. Secretariat administered by UNEP (Geneva)
- What? Ensure that international trade in species and specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival
- How? Species submitted to trade controls (licensing)
- Main tool? List of species, in 3 appendixes





CITES (1973)

- Appendix I (species threatened with extinction). Trade forbidden,
 unless only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. gorillas, elephants)
- Appendix II (species not necessarily threatened with extinction).

 Trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival (e.g. wolves, toucans, giant clams)
- Appendix III (species protected in at least one country). This country has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade (e.g. Egretta garzetta, Ghana)





CITES (1973)

- 172 Parties
- ~ 5,000 animals and 28,000 plants listed
- http://www.cites.org



AEWA

EUROBATS

ACCOBAMS



Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the Siberian Crane

SIBERIAN CRANE MoU

Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the Slender-billed Curlew

Slender-billed Curlew MoU

MARINE TURTLES-AFRICA



MARINE TURTLES-IOSEA



Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Middle-European Population of the Great Bustard

Great Bustard MoU

Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation and Restoration of the Rukhar Deer

BUKHARA DEER MoU

The Convention on Migratory Species (1979)

Bonn Convention / CMS

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals





The Convention on Migratory Species (1979)

- Who? UNEP (Secretariat in Bonn)
- What? Conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species
- How? Conservation of species and their habitats
 - by providing strict protection for migratory species threatened with extinction in part or throughout their range (appendix I)
 - by concluding multilateral agreements for species under unfavourable conservation status (appendix II)
 - by undertaking co-operative research activities
- <u>Main tools?</u> List of species (appendixes) and special species programmes





The Convention on Migratory Species (1979)

- Appendix I 107 endangered species (or sub, ppn)
 - E.g..: Siberian crane, white-tailed eagle, hawksbill turtle,
 Mediterranean monk seal and Dama gazelle
- Appendix II sp. conserved through agreements
 - Populations of European Bats, Cetaceans of the Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area, Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas, Seals in the Wadden Sea, African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, Albatrosses and Petrels
- MoUs: Siberian Crane, Slender-billed Curlew, Marine Turtles of the Atlantic Coast of Africa, Marine Turtles of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia, Middle-European Population of the Great Bustard, the Bukhara Deer, the Aquatic Warbler
- 104 parties; http://www.cms.int (Sept. 2007)

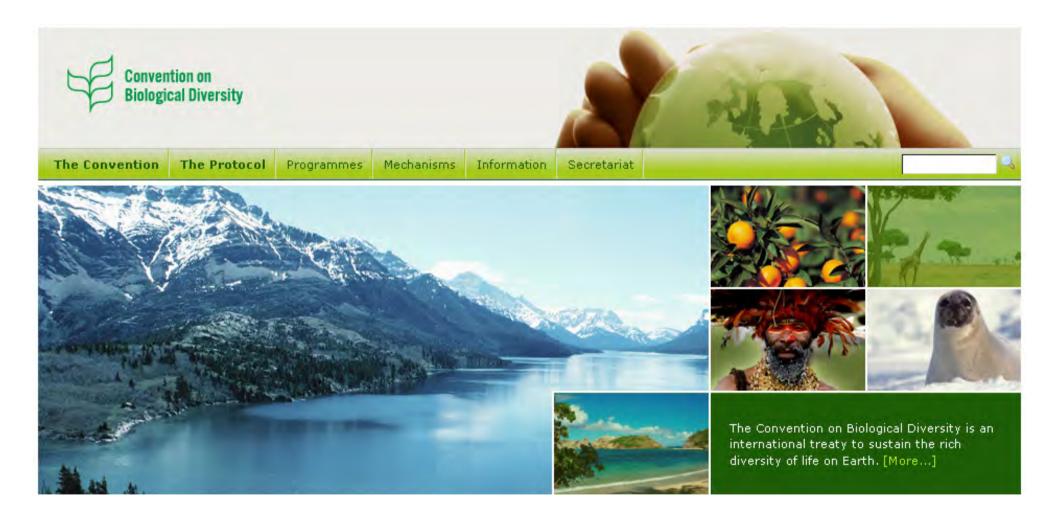


The Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)

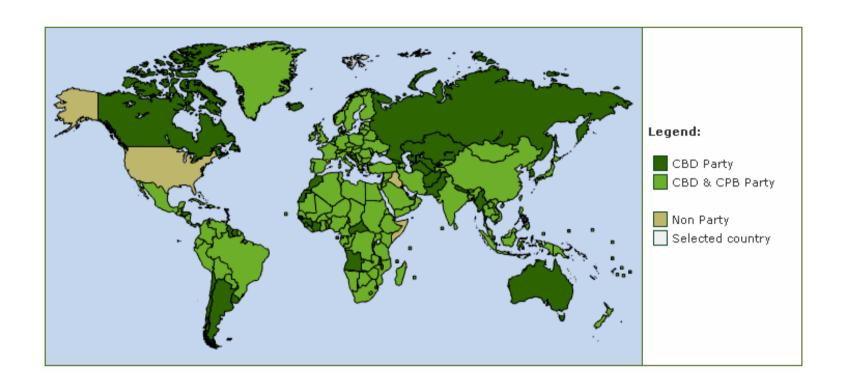


http://www.cbd.int

The Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)



http://www.cbd.int



Convention on Biological Diversity: 190 Parties

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: 142 Parties





The Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)

- Who? UNEP (Secretariat in Montreal)
- What? Three objectives
 - Conservation of biodiversity
 - Sustainable use of its components
 - Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from commercial and other utilization of genetic resources
- How? Not a regulatory approach
 - Overall goals and policies
 - Specific action to be developed by countries
 - No lists, no annexes, no protected sites
- Main tools? Programmes of work and guidelines





CBD Historical context and background

- Follows on Bruntland Commission (1987) and IUCN Environmental Law Centre work in the 1980's
- Text adopted in Nairobi on 22 May 1992
- Signed in Rio in June 1992, by 156 States and EC
- First time recognition that biodiversity is
 - a 'common concern of humankind'
 - an 'integral part of development process'
- First to address all levels of biodiversity





The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

- Supplementary agreement under CBD
- Adopted in 2000, entry into force in 2003
- Protect biodiversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms (LMOs)
- Main characteristics:
 - advance informed agreement (AIA) procedure
 - precautionary approach
 - Biosafety Clearing-House





Some important CBD articles

- Preamble. Preamble
- Article 1. Objectives
- Article 2. Use of Terms
- Article 5. Cooperation
- Article 6. General Measures for Conservation and Sustainable Use
- Article 7. Identification and Monitoring
- Article 8. In-situ Conservation
- Article 9. Ex-situ Conservation
- Article 10. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity

- Article 11. Incentive Measures
- Article 12. Research and Training
- Article 13. Public Awareness
- Article 14. Impact Assessment
- Article 15. Access to Genetic Resources
- Article 16. Transfer of technology
- Article 17. Exchange of Information
- Article 18. Technical and Scientific Cooperation
- Article 19. Handling of Biotechnology and Distribution of its Benefits





Programmes and cross-cutting issues

- Agricultural Biodiversity
- Dry and Sub-humid Lands
- Forest Biodiversity
- Inland Waters Biodiversity
- Island Biodiversity
- Marine and Coastal Biodiversity
- Mountain Biodiversity

7 thematic programmes 17 cross-cutting issues

- 2010 target
- Access and benefit sharing
- Alien Species
- Article 8(j): Traditional Knowledge
- Biological Diversity and Tourism
- Climate Change and Biological Diversity
- Economics, Trade and Incentive Measures
- Ecosystem Approach
- Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
- Global Taxonomy Initiative
- Impact Assessment, Liability and Redress
- Monitoring and Indicators
- Protected Areas
- Public Education and Awareness
- Sustainable Use of Biodiversity
- Technology Transfer and Cooperation



Strategic Plan and 2010 target

- Strategic Plan adopted 2002
- 2010 target: achieve a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010
- Radically new approach: 7 focal areas, adoption of goals, sub-targets and indicators
- But: few quantitative targets (except for plants)
- http://www.biodiv.org/2010-target/goals-targets.asp
- IUCN's Countdown 2010 initiative http://www.countdown2010.net/



Focal area	Indicator for immediate testing	Possible indicators for development
Status & trends	 Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species Coverage of protected areas 	 Change in status of threatened species Trends in genetic diversity (of domesticated animals, cultivated plants and fish species)
Sustainable use		 Area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management Proportion of products derived from sustainable sources
Threats to biodiversity	•Nitrogen deposition	•Numbers and cost of alien invasions
Ecosystem integrity, goods and services	Marine trophic indexWater quality in aquatic ecosystems	 Freshwater; other ecosystems Connectivity/fragmentation of ecosystems Incidence of human-induced ecosystem failure Health and well-being of people living in biodiversity-based-resource dependent communities Biodiversity used in food and medicine
Status of traditional knowledge, practices	 Status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages 	(Further indicators to be identified by WG-8j)
Status of access and benefit-sharing		(Indicator to be identified by WG-ABS)
Status of resource transfers	 Official development assistance provided in support of the Convention (OECD-DAC-Statistics Committee) 	(Indicator for technology transfer)



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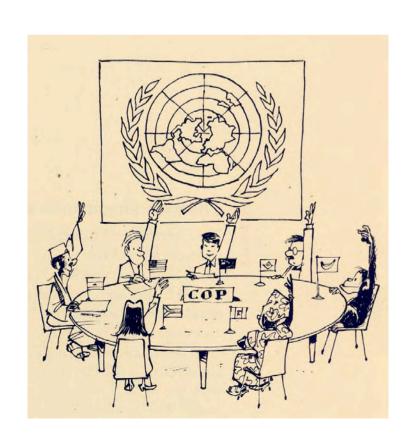
CBD Operational Structure

► Others Liaison groups, task forces Financial mechanism ► GEF Secretariat CHM, ◀ **BCH** Conference of the Parties Organisations **Parties** Meetings & bodies ► UN ► Focal Points ► SBSTTA ► Other conventions Regional meetings ► IGOs Working groups **CBD Focal Poin**



Conference of the Parties

- Governing body of the Convention
- Advances implementation through <u>decisions</u>
- 8 ordinary meetings, 1 extraordinary meeting
- > COP 8 Brazil (2006), 34 decisions
- > COP 7 Malaysia (2004); 36 decisions
- COP 6 Netherlands (2002); 32 decisions
- > COP 5 Kenya (2000); 29 decisions
- ExCOP 1 Colombia & Canada (1999-2000)3 decisions
- ➤ COP 4 Slovakia (1998); 19 decisions
- COP 3 Argentina (1996); 27 decisions
- COP 2 Indonesia (1995); 23 decisions
- > COP 1 Bahamas (1994); 13 decisions





Scientific advisory body (SBSTTA)

- Provide scientific and technical assessments
- Identify innovative and efficient technologies
- Provide advice on scientific programmes and international cooperation in research and development
- Respond to scientific questions by the COP
- Reports regularly to COP
- 11 meetings to date; 108 recommendations to COP
- Usually 1-2 SBSTTAs before a COP



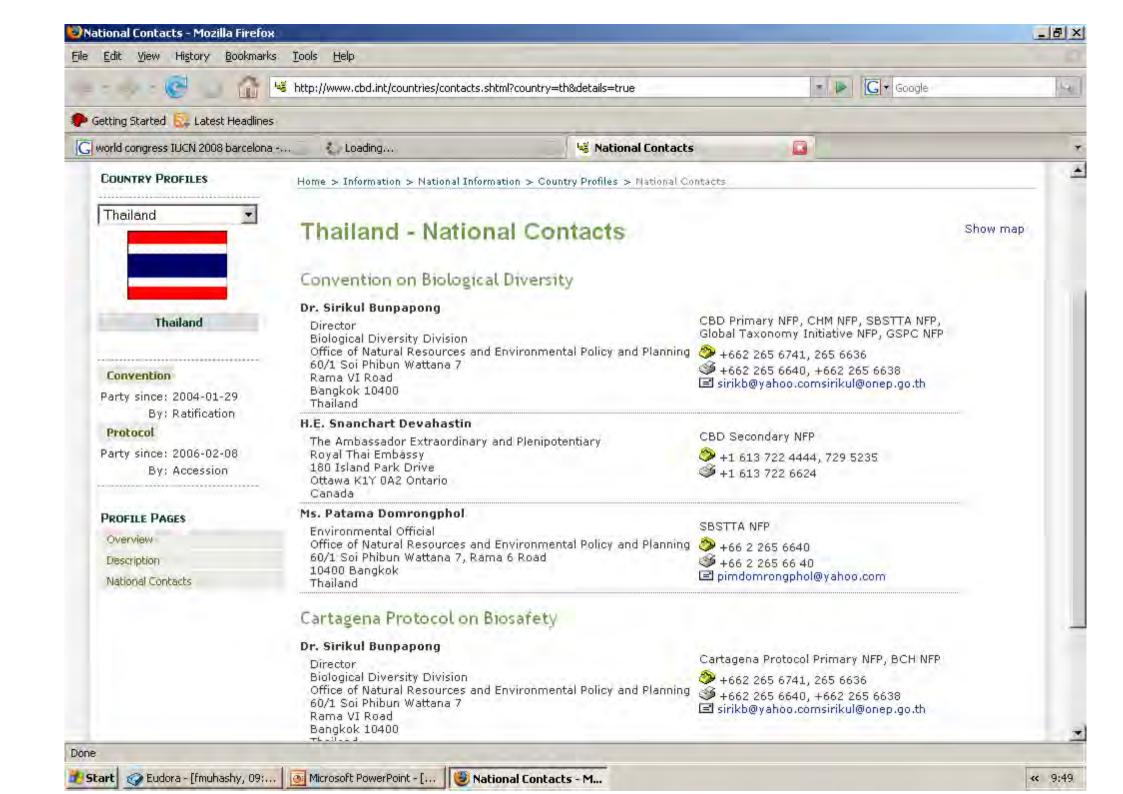


National Focal Points

- Action at national level
- In charge of information flow to and from Convention
- Responsible for nomination of experts
- Types of NFPs:
 - Convention on Biological Diversity
 - SBSTTA
 - Clearing-House Mechanism
 - · Access and Benefit-sharing
 - Cartagena Protocol
 - Biosafety Clearing-House
 - Global Taxonomy Initiative
 - Global Plant Conservation Strategy
 - Communication, education and public awareness









Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM)

- Information-sharing mechanism
- To « ensure that all governments have access to the information and technologies they need for their work on biodiversity »
- Mainly via Internet, but not exclusively
- Structurally decentralised network of Parties and partners
- http://www.cbd.int/chm/

The Clearing-House mission

- Promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, within and between countries
- Develop a global mechanism for exchanging and integrating information on biodiversity
- Develop the necessary human and technological network



How does the CBD decision process work in practice?





Conference of Parties

Expert group, liaison group, task force, etc.

Regional meeting, working group

SBSTTA

Conference of Parties

Countries, CBD Secretariat, international organisations

Conference of Parties

Decision to address an issue

Reports by delegates (*)

Reports by experts

Recommendation

Decision to take action

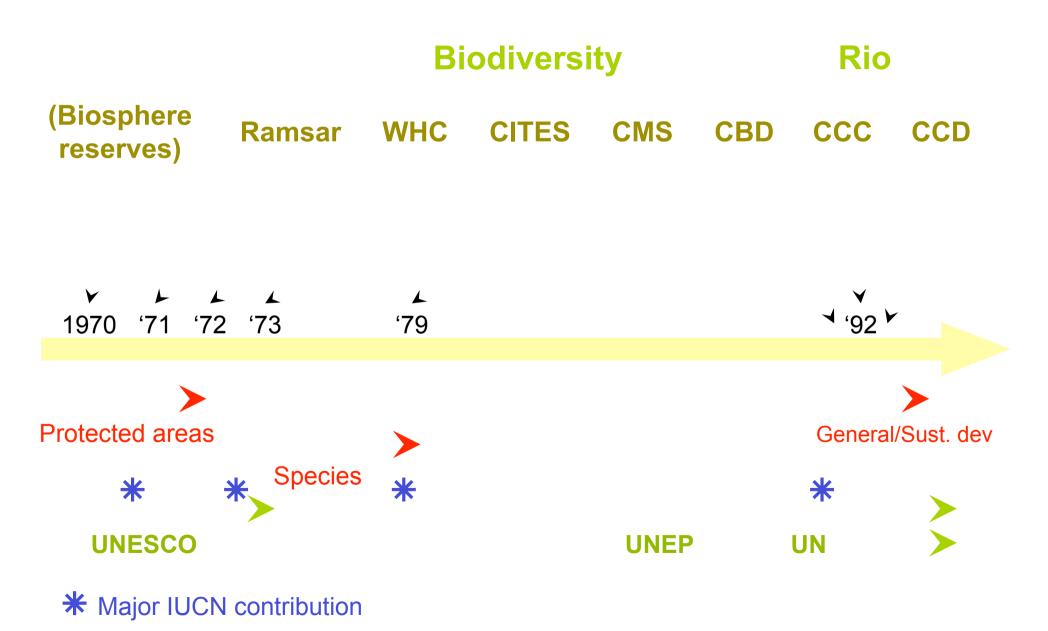
Practical implementation

* Dissemination via the CHM

Review of implementation

* Intervention of scientists

Global conventions - summary



Other international agreements...

- UNCLOS United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea http://www.un.org/Depts/los/index.htm
- Ballast Water Convention International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships Ballast Water & Sediments (IMO Convention)
 http://globallast.imo.org/index.asp?page=mepc.htm&menu=true
- IPPC International Plant Protection Convention (FAO convention), http://www.fao.org/Legal/treaties/004s-e.htm
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (FAO treaty)
 http://www.fao.org/ag/cgrfa/itpgr.htm



How to find my way through all this?

- New web application TEMATEA!
- Synthesis of policies treated across several agreements
- Current topics:
 - Biodiversity and climate change
 - Inland waters
 - Invasive alien species
 - Protected areas
 - Sustainable use
- http://www.tematea.org/







Thank you for your attention

Students making the symbol of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Curitiba, Brazil, 24 March 2006

