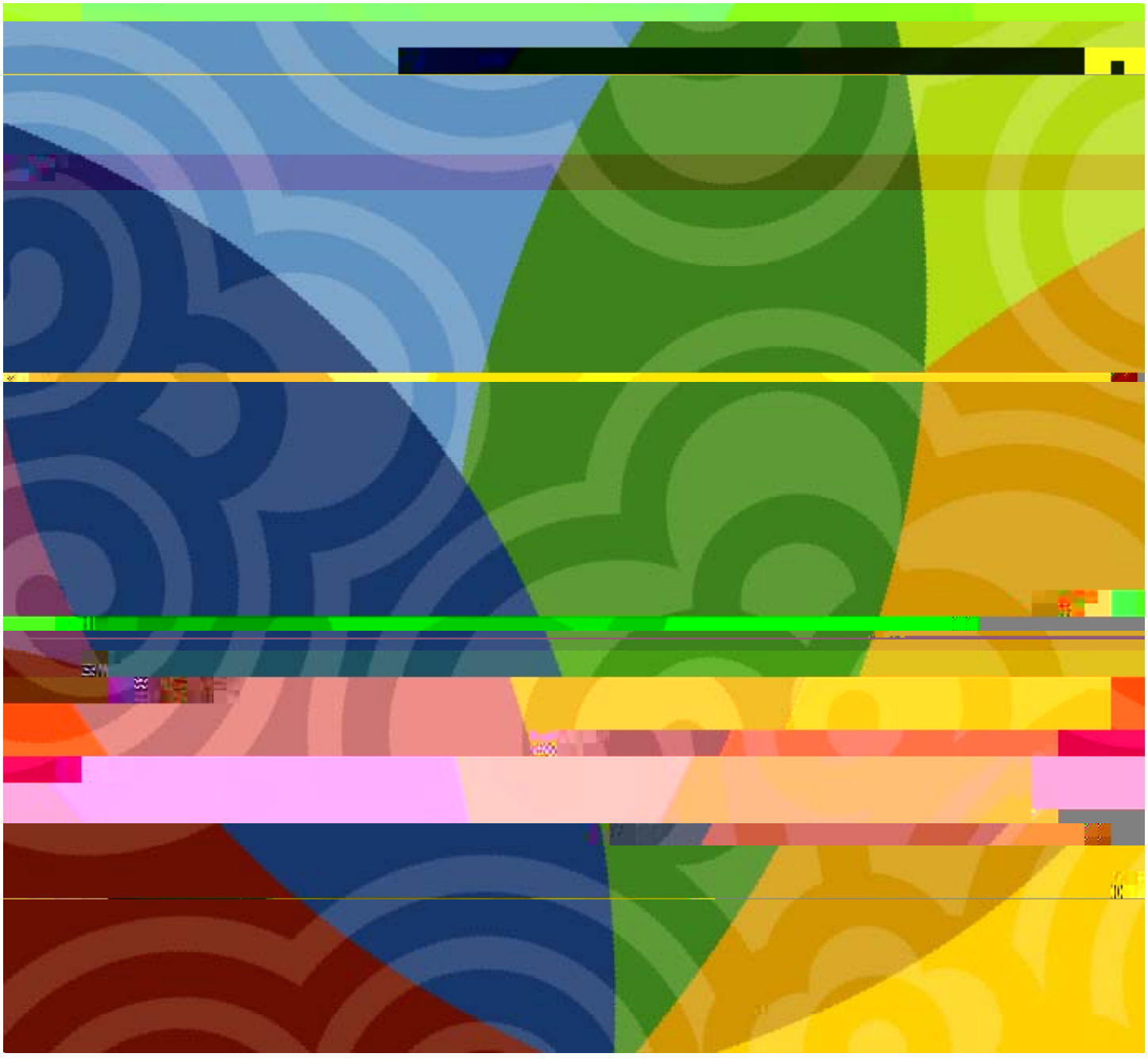
The draft IUCN Programme 2013-2016

Nature+

Draft for consultation, May 2011



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Introduction

A just world that values and conserves nature. This is IUCN's Vision. Nature is our life support system. The diversity of life and nature must be conserved for development to be sustainable. A just world requires fundamental change in all dimensions of life and society, including politics and economics. IUCN's niche is to advance nature-based solutions both to halt the destruction of biodiversity and to sustain development for all and especially for the poorest people and communities who depend on nature for their livelihoods. A just world must guarantee equitable rights of access to biodiversity and the benefits of nature, across generations, economic and social classes, gender, as well as geopolitical lines.

Valuing and conserving nature is a political and social mandate which requires the best knowledge and professionalism in interventions. Hence policy relevance and the highest professionalism in knowledge, tools and standards development and their application are the ambitions of IUCN's Programme delivery. IUCN's work goes back 60+ years. The Union has advocated sustainable development ever since its creation, and more formally so since it was defined in the *World Conservation Strategy*[1] in 1980.

Since the Rio 'Earth Summit' in 1992, a comprehensive international regime of environmental law has been developed to address major environmental problems of climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and desertification, among others.

The development of the IUCN Programme 2013–16 builds on the work achieved in the 2009–12 period and leverages other international processes: the agreement on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity adopted by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); the establishment of the UN Decade for Biodiversity; ongoing negotiations under the United Nations Framework Conventi

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The IUCN Results Chain

IUCN uses the principles of results-based management to determine what will be delivered as part of the IUCN Programme and how performance will be managed by managing for results. The IUCN results chain (Figure 3) represents IUCN's understanding of how results are delivered from inputs straight through to impact. Planning at IUCN always starts with the intended result – the intended change in policy, behaviour or governance that IUCN can influence as a means to achieving the impacts of biodiversity conservation and human well-being ('action on the ground') – before defining the means in terms of outputs and activities. The means by which IUCN achieves results generally includes generation and use of knowledge and tools, convening and building capacity of constituents and partners, using IUCN's reach to move between global, regional and local levels, and setting standards and best practice.

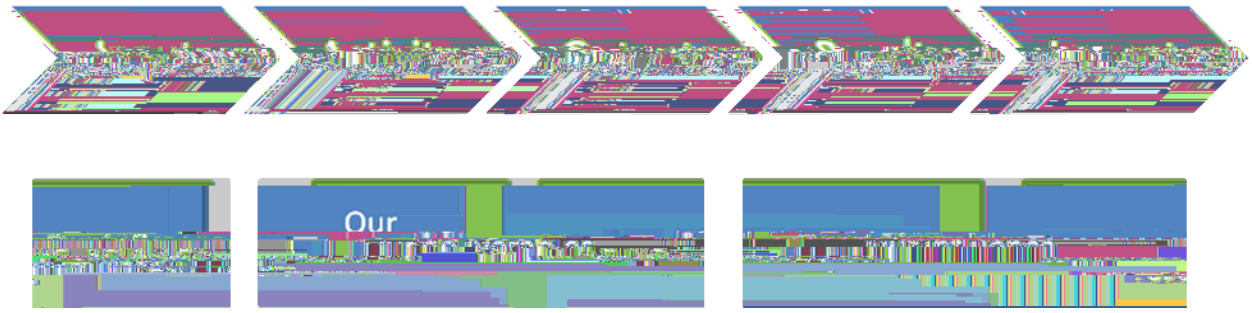

Figure 3: The IUCN Results Chain

Assumptions underpinning the Programme

The successful implementation of the IUCN Programme hinges on several factors, starting with the commitment of all constituent parts – the Members, the Commissions and the Secretariat – of IUCN to act as one. Resources, focus and political will are also key to delivering the intended influence of the IUCN Programme.

Successful influence will also depend on IUCN's ability to raise awareness, communicate strategically and learn from the multitude of actions underway, while building the capacity of institutions 1>TjhuTT1 1 Tf 4 0 TD

Overview of Global Results

The table below provides a summary of the global results per Programme Area and is the framework towards which each IUCN constituent will plan over the 2013–16 period.

Table 1: IUCN Programme 2013–16 Global Results

Programme Area	Global Results: Summary	Global Results: Detailed
1. Core Programme Area: Valuing and conserving biodiversity	1.1: Tools and knowledge for biodiversity conservation 1.2: Policies in support of biodiversity conservation	1.1: IUCN standards, tools and knowledge for valuing, conserving and sustainably using biodiversity are accessible, widely adopted and result in action for effective and efficient management of biodiversity. 1.2: Policies and governance systems reflect the full values of biodiversity to enable action at all levels towards the achievement of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
2. Core Programme Area: Sharing nature's benefits fairly and		

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its implications for IUCN

In response to the urgent need to address the issue of biodiversity loss, the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 (Strategic Plan) was adopted at

human activities, is sustainable, legal and traceable, and causes no significant, long-term harm to natural habitats. Alien invasive species threaten ecosystems, habitats and species. They have a particularly detrimental effect in island ecosystems, where they can be the leading cause of biodiversity loss. In addition, invasive alien species can pose a threat to food security, human health and economic development. The spread of alien invasive species can be addressed through improved border controls and quarantine, as well as through early warning mechanisms, rapid response measures and management plans.

Justification for prioritization as a Core Programme Area

An initial analysis over the last 50 years of IUCN policies, guidelines, standards, action plans, resolutions and recommendations has identified a strong mandate for the Programme results under Core Programme Area 1. There is a wealth of Resolutions from the last four IUCN World Conservation Congresses (1996–2008) relevant to Core Programme Area 1, covering the issues of values and valuing biodiversity; threatened species; protected areas including World Heritage Sites, connectivity and landscape/seascapes; and sustainable use. For instance, in addition to 190 Resolutions and 108 Recommendations regarding species, species related policy guidance relevant to the work of the IUCN Core Programme Area includes five Policy Statements; seven Species-related Guidelines; 11 Standards; and 69 Action Plans.

Some of those Resolutions are recalled here for illustration purposes, especially in relation to the new element ("valuing") which has been adde Plans. Tc <001' eḿen pw covering 'lasvaluesthe recomm 0

international adaptation and mitigation response to climate change; enhanced recognition of the role played by ecosystems, the ecological services they provide and the contributions they make to development and land-use policies; and a Union-wide ('One Programme') approach to connectivity conservation areas in recognition of the interdisciplinary nature of the responses needed and the benefits of the IUCN Secretariat, Commissions, Members and partners working together. Furthermore Resolution 3.050 *Integrating protected area systems into the wider landscape* calls for IUCN to assist in mainstreaming protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity into national and international development planning and policy, particularly poverty-reduction strategies and implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

Sustainably using the components of biological diversity is one of the CBD's three main objectives. Governments are required to find ways to ensure that the use of biological resources avoids or minimizes adverse impacts on biological diversity; to regulate or manage biological resources to ensure their conservation and sustainable use; and to ensure compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of its components. IUCN Resolution 4.013 *Sustainable use and accountability* calls for IUCN to provide advice to interested IUCN Members concerning legislation affecting importation and/or sale of products from wild species, and reflect, as appropriate, the provisions of international law, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and the sustainable use principles and guidelines adopted by the CBD. Other resolutions (e.g. Resolution 3.074) call for the sustainable use of wild living resources to be reflected in all IUCN policies and programmes.

The totality of these resolutions provide a strong policy mandate for the urgent action needed by IUCN to address biodiversity loss – at the ecosystem level, species level, and in terms of genetic diversity. During the latter part of the last decade it was suggested in some quarters that the species level was less relevant to a modern approach to biodiversity conservation, with some sectors suggesting that the relevant agenda should only focus on ecosystem services. However, during the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10) in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010, the need to take significant action for all three of the components of biodiversity was not only reaffirmed but a 'wake up' call was made to radically step up conservation action to assure a future for life on this planet. It was made clear that urgent action is needed to ensure the resilience of people and nature, and to avoid catastrophic tipping points, noting that recovering from such dramatic changes in biodiversity is difficult and costly, if not impossible in many instances.

Against this backdrop, Parties to the CBD (of which 85 are IUCN State members) adopted a new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 with the purpose of galvanizing action for biodiversity conservation by all countries and all stakeholders. In recognition of the urgent need for action the United Nations General Assembly has also declared 2011–2020 as the United Nations Decade for Biodiversity.

IUCN also reiterates the need for a 'step change' in ambition, urgency, investment and action to conserve biodiversity. The IUCN Programme 2013–16 directly supports the implementation of the Strategic Plan by specifically articulating and monitoring IUCN's contribution to it.

There is also a need to further develop indicators to measure progress towards the achievement of the Aichi targets. A number of indicators were developed within the framework of the CBD to measure progress towards the achievement of the 2010 target. This indicator framework has been developed utilizing, in the main, long standing data sets, developed over many years, such as the IUCN Red List and the World Database on Protected Areas. IUCN has pointed out that indicators for the 2011–2020 targets should draw and build on existing indicator work. Many require further development, most need more data to be collected. There is therefore a clear need to continue to

investin

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Global results

Core Programme Area 1 has two global results: the first on tools and knowledge for biodiversity conservation; the second on policy change in support of biodiversity conservation.

Global result 1.1: IUCN standards, tools and knowledge for valuing, conserving and sustainably using biodiversity are accessible, widely adopted and result in action for effective and efficient management of biodiversity.

For many years IUCN has developed 'flagship knowledge products' including The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ and the World Database on Protected Areas (in partnership with UNEP WCMC). A key challenge for the next four years is to take forward IUCN's work to develop a global standard for the identification of areas of importance for biodiversity – designed to be applicable on land and in the sea all over the planet. This will help ensure that areas of importance are protected through a variety of conservation measures, including protected areas of all IUCN categories and governance types.

A further challenge is to link up the integration of such data sets. The Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) links the IUCN Red List with the World Database on Protected Areas and information on areas of importance for biodiversity (key biodiversity areas – or KBAs). Work to identify ecologically and biologically significant areas (EBSAs) to

further opportunities for IUCN to make its knowledge available to policy makers. In addition to the knowledge products described above, the next four years offer multiple opportunities at international, regional and national levels, for IUCN to convene meetings, conduct learning events and disseminate guidance and best practices in all relevant fields. Premier events during this period include the IUCN World Conservation Congresses in 2012 and 2016, the IUCN World Parks Congress in 2014 and the IUCN Species Congress in 2015 (see below for influencing strategy of these IUCN platforms).

Global result 1.2: Policy and governance systems reflect the full values of biodiversity to enable action at all levels towards the achievement of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

IUCN has a long history of applying its knowledge in developing, advising and implementing biodiversity-related agreements at all levels. Such agreements include hard and soft law instruments addressing a wide range of biodiversity conservation issues from local to global.

IUCN will in particular work to ensure the strengthening of policies to support the conservation of species and management of protected areas. Priority multilateral environmental agreements are those that focus on biodiversity – CBD, CITES, World Heritage Convention, Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, as well as the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (IWC). Of continuing concern for the conservation community is governance of natural resources both in terrestrial and marine realms. Given the poor levels of protection of the marine environment, both within and beyond national jurisdiction (e.g. the high seas), this must remain a focus for IUCN.

The World Heritage Convention provides a clear policy mandate for IUCN as its key advisor on Natural World Heritage sites. This role has recently expanded the focus on evaluation of nominations to prioritize the conservation of the sites that are already listed (Natural World Heritage Sites constitute almost 10% of the area of protected areas globally). Work will continue to focus on implementation of management effectiveness assessments, and the need for adaptive management of World Heritage sites in the face of climate change.

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 offers a good basis for cohesion in all of IUCN's policy work at global, regional and national levels. This will range from assisting governments in implementation at regional and national levels, to working to disseminate knowledge at the global level as well as taking action on the ground.

The incorporation of biodiversity values into national accounting and reporting systems (as well as national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes) is the focus of CBD Strategic Plan Target 2 and a key policy priority for IUCN's Programme. Successful case studies will be highlighted to encourage widespread adoption of appropriate polices at the national level, in support of the achievement of this target.

A further priority is to ensure that IUCN's engagement is carried out in a clear way with simple, powerful, consistent and effective messaging. In addition, there is a need to promote a cohesive approach to IUCN's engagement with all key policy instruments we engage with to avoid 'reinventing the wheel' each time a big policy event takes place.

Further cohesion will come from improved joint -s 0 [illegible]

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Beyond the confines of multilateral environmental agreements, IUCN has a proud tradition the

More broadly by working

The overall approach aims to test the assumption that if inequity in governance of natural resources is addressed, then resulting improvements in both biodiversity conservation and livelihoods are possible. In this respect IUCN will with aim to bring the many existing tools and approaches mentioned above together into a robust and standardized framework that would not only set a globally recognized benchmark for strengthening governance and decision-making processes on the conservation and use of biodiversity and natural resources but also enable practitioners and policy makers to design locally appropriate roadmaps to achieve this. The intention would be that such a framework would enjoy the same international credibility and recognition as the IUCN Red List has as the key starting point for scientifically underpinned conservation action.

Global results

Core Programme Area 2 has two global results: the first on tools and knowledge for better decision making for biodiversity conservation; the second on policies and governance for biodiversity conservation that recognize and respect rights.

Global result 2.1:

Thematic Programme Area 3: Nature-based solutions to climate change

Situation analysis

Human-induced climate change is already happening at an increasing rate of change and its impacts are irreversible. Delay in reducing emissions significantly constrains opportunities to achieve greenhouse gas concentration stabilization levels and thereby increases the risk of more severe climate change impacts. The interpretation by policy makers of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s 4th Assessment Report conclusions led them to agree that the global average temperature should not increase by more than 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and achieving this target means stabilizing the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gasses at around 450 ppm $CO_{2\,eq}$[3]. This in turn would require that by 2050 global emissions of CO_2 (the major greenhouse gas) need to be reduced by 50–85% over 2000 levels – still only providing a 40–60% probability

received attention in the international climate policy arena, the UNFCCC, as a potential cost-effective

that based on the current pledges from both industrialized and developing countries there is a gap of 5–9 $GtCO_2$ equivalent which needs to be addressed by 2020 *if* the world is to have a "likely" (i.e. greater that 66%) chance of keeping global temperature increases below 2°C. Through the Cancun Agreements, the COP also agreed important elements of an adaptation framework, a REDD+ regime, modalities for technology transfer and laid the basis for the future financial arrangements that are crucial to the developing country Parties. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is the only, long-term answer to restoring the global climate to stability. Ecosystem-based mitigation options, including REDD+, should

and widely adopted at local and national level, with particular emphasis on the participation of and benefits for natural resource dependent communities

There is an urgency to deliver adaptation and mitigation actions on the ground. There is a need for increased knowledge, dialogue, capacity building and implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation, in which IUCN can provide global leadership. IUCN should build on its expertise in natural resource management to promote ecosystem-based adaptation at national and local level through supportive institutional arrangements, standards and tools. IUCN will build on its experience in forest conservation and community forest management to promote REDD Readiness at national and local level, through supportive institutional arrangements, standards and tools. IUCN can promote a better understanding of the role of ecosystems in the carbon cycle, and in particular how the management of these ecosystems can enhance their capacity to sequester carbon, including in: coastal systems (e.g. mangroves and seagrasses), peat lands, wetlands,

Global result 3.3: Knowledge, standards and tools to assess the impacts of climate change on biodiversity continue to be improved and are widely available to support conservation, adaptation and mitigation at local, national and global levels

stressors

Climatechangeandoceanacidificationarebecomingsignificantnewthreatsto globalbiodiversity andarelikelyto compoundthe impactsof habitatloss,over-exploitation,invasivespecies,andother stressorsthat alreadythreatengeneticdiversity,speciesandecosystems.Whileuncertainty

Foodsecuritythus combinesthe availabilityof food with physical,socialand economicaccessto food, the capacityto utilize food and the stability of the whole systemover time.

Finallythe recent Foresightreport[14] concludesby five key challengesthat future food production systemswill haveto meet: demandfor food will haveto be balanced by supplyachievedthrough use of naturalresourcesthat is sustainable;adequatestability of food suppliesand protection of the most vulnerable;achievingglobalaccessto food to end hunger;managingthe contribution of food systemsto mitigate climatechange;and maintainingbiodiversityand ecosystemservicesthat underpinand sustainproductionsystems.Therefore the importanceof biodiversityconservationto societycanbe furtherenhancedif the importanceof healthyfunctioningecosystems'are mainstreamedinto nationaland internationalfood securitypoliciesand programmes.

Justification for IUCN prioritization as a Thematic Programme Area in 2013-16

IUCNhasa long history of promotingand demonstratingthe importanceof biodiversityand ecosystemservicesto humanwell-beingand to livelihoodsof rural poor. Despitethis, activitieshave tended to be dispersed,makingcoherentinfluencingof developmentpolicydifficult. GivingIUCN's work on humanwell-beinga sharperfocus– i.e. on food security access itselfTc (activities)Tj 9 TT1 1

security. While there is a reasonable general policy basis to move forward on food security it is also recognized that this issue is poised to move further up the international agendas. Therefore as and new developments emerge over the forthcoming years, it may be possible that additional guidance may have to be sought from Council once implementation begins.

Apart from IUCN's own internal mandate there are several international considerations that strengthen the justification for refocusing the current Thematic Programme Area on human well-being around the issue of food security. During next 24 0 tc 9.0022 is time the Tc [(fr)-6(am)-6(e)] TJ /TT6 1 Tf 0.55 0 0 0.55 0 0 Tm 0 Tc 0 Tw 0 Tj T

IUCN's approach

IUCN has a unique opportunity to mainstream food security and the overall issue of human well being and ecosystems management by bringing the untapped expertise from the different Commissions as well as the regional and national members throughout the network. Several of these members are already increasing their efforts in the food security area.

IUCN will provide its knowledge and ongoing development of improved and enhanced ecosystem management and ecosystem services for food security to improve the livelihoods of rural poor and secure sustainable human food supplies.

IUCN work on food security will focus on the rural poor and in particular the 1.4 billion that directly depend to some degree on nature to sustain their livelihoods. IUCN's approach will extend beyond growing and catching food taking into account wider livelihood and ecosystem considerations necessary to provide long-term resilience, security and development opportunities.

Specifically IUCN will:

1. Promote science based knowledge and lessons in collaboration with Commissions and Members on how biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management underpins food security and contributes to long-term sustained increases in food productivity.
2. Advocate for increased equity in use of natural resources and ecosystem services between smallholder farming and fishing systems and industrial large-scale food production.
3. Promote gender equality to guarantee that women and men can have access to, participate in and benefit equally from food security initiatives.
4. Identify opportunities for and promote the incorporation of ecosystems services into national mitigation strategies especially with respect to enhancing the stability of production.
5. Advocate for the recognition of the role of biodiversity conservation and ecosystems in supporting international and national development and food security policies and nature-based approaches to complement existing food security strategies being undertaken by mainstream development organizations.
6. Build strategic partnerships with mainstream food security constituencies including the CG system, International Fund for Agricultural Development, UN Food and Agriculture Organization etc.

Finally this Thematic Programme Area will focus on food security and conservation as it pertains to the livelihoods of the most vulnerable rural and coastal communities and, for reasons of focus and delivery, will not explicitly attempt to address broader food production issues related to modern international agri-business *per se*. Nevertheless close implementation links will be maintained with Thematic Programme Area on Greening the world economy, particularly with respect to their engagement with the agricultural sector – in order that operational and delivery synergies are optimized and policy and programmatic interventions are completely coherent.

Global results

Thematic Programme Area 4 has three global results: the first two on IUCN influencing policy and best practice respectively; the third on enabling and leading the broader conservation community and the role it can play in food security.

Global result 4.1: Global, regional and national food security policies and strategies benefit from biodiversity conservation and ecosystems management in strengthening the resilience and

sustainability of small-scale, community-based production and wild-harvest food systems (terrestrial and fisheries/marine).

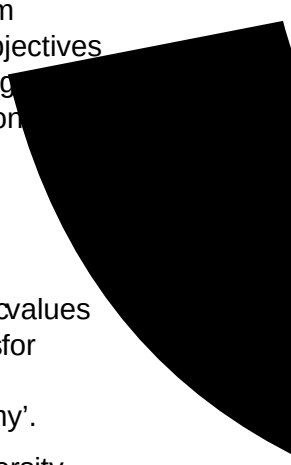
Foodsecuritywithout sustainableecosystemmanagementis not possibleover the long-term. The rural poor in particular,obtai**based**

IUCN's general policy clearly state that it is both unacceptable and inefficient

Thematic Programme

are increasingly being used to ‘internalize’ the values of

Debates about the 'Green Economy' reveal that the fundamental role of nature in supporting human well-being is still under-appreciated. The perceived conflict between economic performance and environmental quality is an example of this knowledge gap. In the long-run, efforts to eradicate poverty and promote human development will only succeed if they reflect the dependency of human societies on healthy ecosystems or the economic risks of biodiversity loss. Ecosystem conservation and restoration is thus a key ingredient for achieving fundamental economic objectives such as greater productivity, reduced cost and risk, or increased profits. In short, the challeng IUCN in the coming years is to demonstrate clearly how conserving nature contributes to econ development and business success.



IUCN's approach

Building on recent progress in generating knowledge and raising awareness on the economic values of biodiversity (e.g. the TEEB publications), the time has come to focus on practical solutions for mainstreaming ecosystem values in the economy. This work aims to fill the capacity and implementation gaps currently impeding the transition to a truly sustainable 'Green Economy'.

In line with the 2008–2012 IUCN Programme, efforts to ensure greater recognition of biodiversity values remain central to the Union's engagement in the transition to a Gre TD .000 [illegible]

demonstrate the importance of socio-ecological resilience as it relates, for instance, to climate change adaptation and food security.

Global result 5.2: Opportunities to benefit from biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are supported by relevant public policies and private decision making and contribute to greening the economy at local, national, and global scales.

The emphasis on building

Annex 1: STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/X/2)

Vision

The vision of this Strategic Plan is a world of "Living in harmony with nature" where "By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people."

The mission of the Strategic Plan

The mission of the Strategic Plan is to "take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet's variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication. To ensure this, pressures on biodiversity are reduced, ecosystems are restored, biological resources are sustainably used and benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources are shared in a fair and equitable manner; adequate financial resources are provided, capacities are enhanced, biodiversity issues and values mainstreamed, appropriate policies are effectively implemented, and decision-making is based on sound science and the precautionary approach."

Strategic Goal A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning

Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.

Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.

Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

Strategic Goal C: Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.

Target 12: By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.

Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and conserved

Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.

Target 20: By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 from all sources, and in