Committed to Biodiversity

Germany’s Cooperation with Developing Countries and Emerging Economies in Support of the Convention on Biological Diversity for Sustainable Development
UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON BIODIVERSITY

In October 2010, governments agreed to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 for halting and eventually reversing the loss of biodiversity of the planet. To build support and momentum for this urgent task, the United Nations General Assembly at its 65th session declared the period 2011-2020 to be the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity. It will serve to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan and promote awareness and the mainstreaming of biodiversity at all levels.

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ACRONYMS

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<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>Access and Benefit-Sharing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BioCF</td>
<td>BioCarbon Fund</td>
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<td>BMU</td>
<td>Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety</td>
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<td>BMZ</td>
<td>Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
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<td>CBD</td>
<td>Convention on Biological Diversity</td>
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<td>COMIFAC</td>
<td>Central African Forest Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>EbA</td>
<td>Ecosystem-based Adaptation</td>
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<td>EBSA</td>
<td>Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas</td>
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<td>FCPF</td>
<td>Forest Carbon Partnership Facility</td>
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<td>FC</td>
<td>Financial Cooperation</td>
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<td>GIZ</td>
<td>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH</td>
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<td>ICI</td>
<td>International Climate Initiative</td>
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<td>IPBES</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</td>
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<td>IUCN</td>
<td>International Union for Conservation of Nature</td>
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<td>KfW</td>
<td>KfW Development Bank</td>
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<td>NBSAP</td>
<td>National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-governmental organisation</td>
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<td>ODA</td>
<td>Official Development Assistance</td>
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<td>OECD-DAC</td>
<td>The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development’s (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>REDD+</td>
<td>Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goal</td>
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<td>TC</td>
<td>Technical Cooperation</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>UNCCD</td>
<td>United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
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<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</td>
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<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
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<td>WWF</td>
<td>World Wide Fund for Nature</td>
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Committed to Biodiversity

Germany’s Cooperation with Developing Countries and Emerging Economies in Support of the Convention on Biological Diversity for Sustainable Development
Aichi Biodiversity Targets: Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

**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 processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.

**Target 3:** By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.

**Target 4:** By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

**Strategic Goal B:** Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

**Target 5:** By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.

**Target 6:** By 2020, all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.

**Target 7:** By 2020, areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.

**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, 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 domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

**Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services**

**Target 14:** By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and wellbeing, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

**Target 15:** By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

**Target 16:** By 2015, the “Nagoya Protocol” on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.

**Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building**

**Target 17:** By 2015, each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

**Target 18:** By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.

**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 accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.
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Biodiversity underpins the Earth’s ecosystem and is the basis for the way in which nature sustains life. It ensures our food production, regulates our water supply and keeps our air clean. It helps us to mitigate climate change and protects us against natural disasters such as flooding and landslides. And because intact ecosystems offer remedies and recreation, biodiversity also provides a basis for our health and well-being.

Regional reports published this year by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) show that despite multifaceted global efforts - and some successes - every region in the world continues to lose biodiversity rapidly. Rural and poorer sections of the population in developing countries are particularly severely affected, as most of them rely directly on what nature provides for their survival. As an example, 70 per cent of small farmers rely on ecosystem services for the majority of their income. And small farmers produce 80 per cent of all food in developing countries, ensuring the food supply in these areas.

In many countries, economic development also relies on biodiversity. The economic value of the natural capital of developing countries is estimated at 47 per cent of their total assets. Around 1.6 billion people live on forest products, which they use for food, fuel and medicines. Nature tourism generates 77 billion US dollars in earnings around the world and the seas and oceans provide a living for more than 660 million people globally. The German Government has taken on the major challenge of preserving biodiversity. At international level, it has committed to implementing the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the 2030 Agenda. After all, in addition to the equitable provision of food, water, energy and health services, sustainable development also means ensuring that we do not use more resources than the Earth can provide.

I am delighted that, with this joint publication, we have an opportunity to present the international commitment to biodiversity of both the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). BMZ has been fulfilling its global responsibility in the field of development cooperation wholeheartedly for many years and is one of the major donors worldwide in this area. As part of our development cooperation, we help strengthen our partner countries’ capacity to create and manage conservation areas on land and in the sea and support them in putting an end to illegal practices that damage the environment, such as poaching. We promote sustainable land use and sustainable supply chains that help to preserve biodiversity. We also work for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits gained from access to and utilisation of genetic resources.

In the framework of our partnership with Africa, we support protection of natural resources as a crucial condition for an emerging, green and sustainable Africa. We therefore welcome the decision to hold this year’s Conference of the Parties on the African continent. The conference will be crucial in paving the way for a new strategic framework for the CBD.
Preface

Svenja Schulze
Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Biological diversity secures life on our planet. Intact ecosystems not only provide habitats for animals and plants, they are vital for human beings as well. However, in spite of much global effort and numerous successes, biodiversity is disappearing worldwide at an alarming rate. The continuing decline in animal and plant species and the destruction of their natural habitats are signs of dramatic environmental changes across the globe which are also, in part, a result of the impacts of climate change.

Here in Germany, we are combating the destruction of nature and, as a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), fulfilling our obligation to implement the goals of the CBD Strategic Plan. Germany adopted a comprehensive National Strategy on Biological Diversity as early as 2007, implementing it with a range of measures. To boost these measures, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety launched the Nature Conservation Campaign 2020. This ambitious programme of action is aimed at generating a positive trend in biodiversity through dialogue and the development and testing of model solutions and new initiatives.

However, we are also aware that Germany has a global responsibility. Like climate change, the conservation of biodiversity is one of the biggest challenges of our time, and can only be effectively tackled with international cooperation and commitment. For that reason, we launched the International Climate Initiative (IKI) 10 years ago in order to support our partner countries financially in their efforts to achieve their climate targets. However, we also wanted the IKI to find comprehensive solutions to both climate change and biodiversity loss. Therefore, biodiversity has been a funding area of the IKI since 2011. Moreover, many projects in the funding areas mitigation and adaptation also take biodiversity into particular account. One example of these are the projects on ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change.

In biodiversity-relevant IKI projects we assist our partner countries in the implementation of their biodiversity strategies. Some IKI biodiversity projects pursue traditional nature conservation goals such as supporting protected areas. Others promote innovative strategies for integrating biodiversity issues into other policy fields and sectors. This is particularly important, because it holds the key to combatting the loss of biodiversity and making sustainable development possible.

The Federal Environment Ministry’s IKI projects supplement Germany’s development cooperation activities on biological diversity. I hope that our projects make a visible and substantial contribution to our joint goal of halting the loss of biological diversity and bringing humankind closer to living in harmony with nature.

I am pleased that this joint brochure of the Federal Environment Ministry and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development will give readers an insight into the projects of Germany’s development cooperation and International Climate Initiative.

Svenja Schulze
Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
Biological diversity - or biodiversity - is life. It comprises the wealth of plants, animals, fungi and micro-organisms, the diversity of genetic material within species and the whole spectrum of habitats such as deserts, rainforests, grasslands, coastal waters and floodplains. We are used to the way in which nature functions around us in all its diversity. It is only when nature gets out of balance that we realise that we depend day in and day out on the services it provides. Biodiversity gives us and future generations opportunities for economic, social and cultural development. Our ability to withstand climate change and natural disasters is also largely dependent on healthy, functioning ecosystems. The conservation of biological diversity is of major importance for poverty reduction and sustainable development. For this reason, it has been a key area of German cooperation with developing countries and emerging economies for many years.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) forms the binding international legal framework for the conservation of biodiversity. There are 196 Parties to the Convention, which has thus been ratified by almost every country in the world. The three principal objectives of the Convention are the conservation of biodiversity, its sustainable use, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. The German Government regards the CBD as a key framework for national and international efforts aimed at conserving the natural foundations of life.

In adopting the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Parties to the CBD have agreed on a comprehensive, integrated and ambitious programme. In 2020, they will take stock and evaluate the extent to which the objectives have been achieved. Until then, efforts must be stepped up significantly and focused in order to counteract the trends confirmed in the fourth Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4), which was published in 2014 at the halfway point. Efforts must focus in particular on removing harmful subsidies, reducing pollution, especially by surplus nutrients, halting the degradation and fragmentation of natural habitats and protecting coral reefs.

Through its cooperation with developing countries and emerging economies, Germany is assisting more than 90 countries to implement the Strategic Plan. Measures supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) are promoting the establishment of interconnected and ecologically representative protected area systems, the effective and socially equitable management of terrestrial and marine protected areas and the development of strategies for the sustainable use of biological diversity. Further measures are contributing to mainstream biodiversity conservation in political, economic and societal decision-making processes. For the German Government it is vital that these activities support local and indigenous communities and poor population groups in developing countries and in emerging economies to maintain and improve their livelihoods.

Germany also supports the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol to the CBD. This regulates access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of these resources. The protocol is intended to serve local communities applying traditional knowledge to conserve biological diversity and use it sustainably; it also benefits research institutions and companies in the pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and biotechnology sectors by providing certainty that their use of genetic resources complies with national and international law.

Ongoing biodiversity loss, climate change and soil degradation are signs of dramatic global environmental changes that are closely interlinked and influence each other. The German Government is particularly committed to the conservation of forests, as forests harbour a large proportion of the world’s biodiversity and because around 11 per cent of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions are caused by deforestation or degradation of forests. At the Climate Summit in Paris in 2015 Germany made considerable pledges to support the reduction of deforestation and the rehabilitation of forests. Through its commitment to conserving biological diversity, the German Government also contributes to the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to which the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) committed themselves in the Paris Agreement. In ac-
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cordance with the resolutions of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Germany has also declared its commitment to the goal of a ‘land degradation neutral world’ - that is, a world in which the land degradation that occurs is at least counterbalanced by soil restoration measures.

Considering the close interlinkages of the Rio Conventions (the CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD) and other important multilateral environmental agreements, a greater use of their synergies is being pursued. In view of the growing trade with wildlife and wildlife products such as ivory and rhinoceros horn, this includes the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Washington Convention, CITES).

The objectives of international biodiversity conservation have also been incorporated into the 2030 Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September 2015. In addition to the goal of protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, a separate goal was adopted for the oceans and the conservation of marine life. In addition, the conservation of natural ecosystems and biological diversity is enshrined as a cross-cutting issue in other goals of the 2030 Agenda such as food security, water supply, urban development and climate change mitigation (see back of the brochure).

The regional assessment reports issued by the Intergovernmental Science Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) for the regions of Europe and Central Asia, Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific supported by Germany and approved in March 2018 clearly attest to this pressing need for action. Except for a few positive examples, in each of the regions a number of factors are reducing or even destroying biodiversity and nature’s capacity to provide ecosystem services. The main reasons are environmental pollution and changes to habitats, non-sustainable use of natural resources, the spread of invasive alien species, and climate change.

A key insight across all regions is the realisation that the chances of all regions and nearly all countries of achieving the SDGs are seriously threatened. This is due to the low priority accorded to policies and measures that contain and reverse the loss of biodiversity and the ongoing degradation of nature’s benefits for humans, as the Executive Secretary of IPBES put it.

The expert group for preparing the 2018 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development also concluded that with respect to SDG 15, the state of nature and ‘Life on Land’ is deteriorating at a perilous pace despite the occasional positive signal.

In keeping with the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 of the CBD, the German Government therefore focuses its international activities on the one hand on causes of biodiversity loss. On the other hand, it aims to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns and to ensure that the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services is taken into account in economic and political decision-making processes. The international commitment to implementing the CBD described in this publication is grounded in this comprehensive understanding.
In 2018, Germany, as one of 196 signatories, is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) coming into force. In the past 25 years, the CBD has significantly contributed to counteracting biodiversity loss, establishing institutions for the conservation of biodiversity and raising the general public’s awareness that this problem is one of the big global challenges for environmental and sustainability policy. The adoption of the CBD by the international community at the 1992 Earth Summit was therefore far more than an agreement to protect nature and species diversity. The CBD not only aims to conserve biodiversity; it also seeks to achieve its sustainable use and to share the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources in a fair and equitable manner. In these efforts, all actors are constantly confronted with new challenges such as keeping up with changes in research and (bio-)technology and responding to new findings on the interaction between biodiversity and climate change. This requires constant refinement of the approaches for implementing the Convention. In its impact, the agreement goes beyond environmental protection and contributes to global cooperation for our sustainable development. The Aichi Targets agreed on in 2010 are therefore not only a key component of the CBD; their principles are also found in the 2030 Agenda’s Sustainable Development Goals. Germany realised the significance of the Convention and ratified it at an early stage. Its cornerstones have not only been reflected in German environmental policy, but also German development policy is geared to the CBD and its overarching approach. For example, German development cooperation has supported the Pilot Program to Conserve the Brazilian Rainforest (PPG7) from 1994. In addition, Germany is committed to using lessons learned from the implementation of projects with partners from developing countries and emerging economies for further developing the CBD, for instance with respect to participatory protected area management, marine conservation, access and benefit-sharing and in dealing with intellectual property rights. At the same time, the German Government is actively involved in the concrete implementation of the resolutions of the CBD, such as through the TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) initiative started in 2007. In 2008, Germany hosted the 9th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD and while holding the COP presidency it played a leading role in the facilitation of negotiations resulting in the Nagoya Protocol and the Aichi Targets.
BMU is responsible for national and international environmental policy, including international biodiversity and climate policy. Since 2008 BMU has been running the International Climate Initiative (IKI) as an instrument for biodiversity and climate financing. International projects that implement the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020 are financed through the IKI funding area ‘Biodiversity’. Preference is given to funding measures derived from partner countries’ National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and strategies for resource mobilisation. In its funding areas of climate change mitigation and adaptation, the IKI aims at strong synergies with the conservation and restoration of ecosystems and the sustainable use of biological resources, for example through REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) and Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA). The IKI is open to a wide range of applicants and supports projects conducted by German implementing organisations, multilateral organisations, development banks, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), universities, research institutes and private-sector companies. BMU engages mainly in countries and regions that have globally important ecosystems and are committed to the objectives of the CBD. These countries are usually recipients of Official Development Assistance (ODA) as defined by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD-DAC).

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Over the past twenty years, Germany has continuously increased its financial contribution to international biodiversity conservation. Since 2013 Germany has provided more than 500 million euros annually for the conservation of forests and other ecosystems worldwide; it has thereby more than quadrupled its contribution since 2007. The German Government has thus adhered to the funding pledge made by Chancellor Angela Merkel at the ninth Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Bonn in 2008. Around 80 per cent of Germany’s contribution to international biodiversity financing is provided by BMZ, with around 20 per cent provided by BMU.

At the twelfth Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, in 2014, the member states agreed that international financial flows for the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 should be doubled by 2015 against the baseline of average annual biodiversity funding for the years 2006-2010. Further, it was agreed that this financial commitment should be maintained at least at this level until 2020. The German Government has achieved this target so far and is determined to continue to fulfil this commitment in the coming years.

BMZ is responsible for financing, planning and coordinating development policy and for developing corresponding strategies, principles and programmes. Bilateral official development cooperation is based on agreements between the governments of the partner countries and the German Government. These agreements are concluded during government negotiations, which are usually held every two years. Over the last decade, BMZ has considerably increased the volume of commitments to partner countries and regional organisations for the conservation of biological diversity, including forests. In addition, BMZ integrates biodiversity measures into projects and programmes in other areas of development cooperation such as agriculture, water and promotion of sustainable economic development. Around 90 per cent of BMZ funds are spent on bilateral cooperation. The remaining funds are channelled through multilateral institutions such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the World Bank’s Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).

BMZ commissions implementing organisations to carry out bilateral development cooperation projects. The KfW Development Bank implements financial cooperation (FC) projects, while the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH undertakes technical cooperation (TC). The aim of FC is to build and expand social and economic infrastructure and to create the efficient institutions needed to conserve natural resources and the environment. In addition to the financial resources provided by the German Government, KfW increasingly leverages additional funding for biodiversity purposes through reduced-interest loans that combine grants from the German Government with loans from the capital market. TC is primarily concerned with enhancing the capacities of individuals, or-
Both BMZ and BMU attach great importance to working with other actors, commissioning them directly to implement selected projects. The cooperation partners include national and international NGOs, churches, foundations, scientific institutions, the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as well as other international and multilateral organisations, such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

BMZ has a specific budget that it uses to support German NGOs working at the interface between nature conservation and the fight against poverty and implementing projects that aim to achieve conservation of biodiversity.
The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a multilateral instrument for financing a number of global environmental agreements. It supports projects that benefit global environmental protection in the following areas: climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management, measures to tackle land degradation, as well as international waters and chemicals management. The GEF also serves as the financial mechanism for the CBD and helps member countries meet their obligations under the Convention. Since the GEF was established in 1991, Germany has contributed an average of 11 to 13 per cent of the Facility’s overall budget, making it the third-largest donor, after the USA and Japan. In total, Germany has committed over 2.2 billion euros to the GEF Trust Fund since its foundation. In the seventh financing period starting now (2019-2022) the German Government is contributing 502.5 million US dollars. Roughly one-third of GEF’s funds are deployed for biodiversity projects. Germany plays an active role in the GEF Council. At project level, Germany collaborates with the GEF in several countries.

In addition, Germany supports the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the BioCarbon Fund (BioCF) Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL), both of which are managed by the World Bank. The FCPF is currently the main instrument for financing implementation of REDD+ at global level. It contributes to the large-scale reduction of emissions caused by deforestation and forest degradation in tropical and subtropical developing countries. The FCPF supports around 50 countries to achieve REDD+ readiness. Through its Carbon Fund, it will also for the first time make payments to around a quarter of these countries for verified emission reductions. Until the end of 2017, Germany has contributed a total of 360.4 million euros to the FCPF. The BioCF is a multilateral facility: it pursues a broad approach to climate change mitigation that is based on land use and that aims to achieve emission reductions not only through REDD+ but also through sustainable agriculture and improved land-use planning. In 2014, Germany contributed 35 million euros for this purpose to the BioCF.

**Biodiversity Financing Commitment: What Counts Towards it?**

The donor countries calculate the biodiversity financing commitment using the Rio Markers and the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) codes of the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD-DAC. The Rio Markers serve to quantify the allocations of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the objectives of the Rio Conventions. Projects whose main focus and principal objective is to support implementation of the CBD are assigned Rio Marker 2 for biodiversity and are reported as a 100 per cent contribution towards the German ODA commitment for biological diversity. To further mainstream biodiversity conservation into other sectors and focal areas of development cooperation in line with the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020, it has been possible since 2012 to integrate biodiversity ‘sectoral components’ into projects and programmes with other principal objectives, such as those that promote agriculture, water resource management or sustainable economic development. These projects and programmes are assigned Rio Marker 1 for biodiversity. In calculating the biodiversity pledge, only the volume of the specific biodiversity ‘sectoral component’ is included.

2350.4 million euros provided by BMZ and 10 million euros provided by BMU.
GERMANY'S CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERSITY FINANCING 2006-2017

The graph and table show annual bilateral pledges and multilateral disbursements for biodiversity and forest-related projects whose main focus and principal objective is to support at least one of the three objectives of the CBD. Since 2012, the donor countries also take components of projects with Rio Marker 1 into account, provided that they make a direct and verifiable contribution to biodiversity conservation (see box on p.12). The graph also shows the average funding level for the years 2006-2010 (194 million euros), which is taken as baseline for assessing adherence to the international financing target agreed under the CBD.
How Germany contributes to implementing the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in partner countries

The Strategic Plan 2011-2020 provides the overarching framework for Germany’s contribution to the implementation of the CBD. Its primary aim is to ensure that all Parties to the Convention undertake coherent efforts to tackle the causes of declining biodiversity. This requires governments to expand and improve their involvement in nature conservation and to pursue the effective mainstreaming of biodiversity objectives across government, society and the economy. Attaining these objectives calls for action at regional, national and local level and at multiple entry points. As the Aichi Targets are closely interlinked, achieving them requires integrated, cross-sectoral approaches. The necessary changes can only be triggered by engaging sectors such as agriculture and forestry, fisheries, water, energy, mining and education. While many countries worldwide have already taken steps towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan at different levels, these efforts are not yet sufficient to tackle the multiple drivers of biodiversity loss. This was one of the conclusions of the fourth Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4), which was published at the 12th Conference of the Parties to the CBD. The analysis is supported by the regional IPBES-reports, which were launched at the beginning of 2018.

As one of the Parties to the CBD, Germany is required to implement the Strategic Plan at home and to support its international partners’ efforts to conserve biodiversity. Selected projects and approaches serving the latter purpose are presented in this publication. At the same time, these measures contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Priorities of the German engagement are highlighted on separate topic pages.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020:
LIVING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

VISION
By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.

STRATEGIC GOAL A
Adress the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

STRATEGIC GOAL B
Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

STRATEGIC GOAL C
Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

STRATEGIC GOAL D
Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

STRATEGIC GOAL E
Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building
The underlying causes of biodiversity loss are often found in institutional, political, legal and cultural framework conditions. These frequently give rise to perverse incentives that encourage resource-intensive lifestyles, promote unsustainable patterns of production or consumption and contribute to ecosystem degradation. This is where Strategic Goal A comes into play. The analysis and assessment of ecosystem services, as well as campaigns and training programmes for politicians, scientists and citizens, help to highlight the value of ecosystems and bring about positive social change. A change in behaviour is not only needed on the side of the consumers, but also of the producers. Enterprises which use biodiversity sustainably and whose production processes are environmentally friendly, could potentially create jobs and provide long-term employment and thereby contribute to poverty reduction. It is the governments’ responsibility to introduce a general framework providing incentives, legislation and monitoring mechanisms, which reduce environmental harm and greenhouse gas emissions, using energy and resources efficiently and halting biodiversity loss. The conservation of biodiversity has to be anchored in national and sectoral strategies, development plans and investment programmes from an early stage onwards. Environmental impact assessments, for example, are an important instrument for ensuring that environmental risks and ecosystem services are properly taken into account on a par with economic considerations in new initiatives, whether public or private. This approach makes it possible to eliminate harmful incentives and avoid environmentally harmful production, so that further destruction of ecosystems can be prevented.

The benefits and advantages that humans gain from biodiversity are called ecosystem services. These can be material or immaterial in nature.  

CENTRAL ASIA: RAISING AWARENESS FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY BEHAVIOUR

In Kyrgyzstan 50 to 70 per cent of pasture and woodland have been degraded by overgrazing and poor forest management. More and more biodiversity is being lost and rural poverty is increasing. Like other countries in Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan is also seriously threatened by climate change and its glaciers are melting rapidly. This is causing soil erosion and landslides, resulting in even more degraded land.

German technical cooperation is supporting a regional project that aims to promote sustainable land management in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan. The focus is on supporting people who use the land, public authorities, and private businesses in their efforts to introduce economically viable and ecologically sustainable forms of land use, taking climate protection issues into account. The project also contributes to environmental education and awareness raising on the efficient use of scarce resources.

In Kyrgyzstan a TV series gives children and young people an understanding of the economical use of resources. The 15-minute episodes address important topics such as climate change, energy and the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. They are broadcasted nationwide on the main public service broadcasting channel in two languages, Kyrgyz and Russian. In the south of the country the program is also shown in school classes. The idea of the TV series is currently being transferred to neighbouring Uzbekistan, so that the program can be produced there as well.

The underlying causes of biodiversity loss are often found in institutional, political, legal and cultural framework conditions. These frequently give rise to perverse incentives that encourage resource-intensive lifestyles, promote unsustainable patterns of production or consumption and contribute to ecosystem degradation. This is where Strategic Goal A comes into play. The analysis and assessment of ecosystem services, as well as campaigns and training programmes for politicians, scientists and citizens, help to highlight the value of ecosystems and bring about positive social change. A change in behaviour is not only needed on the side of the consumers, but also of the producers. Enterprises which use biodiversity sustainably and whose production processes are environmentally friendly, could potentially create jobs and provide long-term employment and thereby contribute to poverty reduction. It is the governments’ responsibility to introduce a general framework providing incentives, legislation and monitoring mechanisms, which reduce environmental harm and greenhouse gas emissions, using energy and resources efficiently and halting biodiversity loss. The conservation of biodiversity has to be anchored in national and sectoral strategies, development plans and investment programmes from an early stage onwards. Environmental impact assessments, for example, are an important instrument for ensuring that environmental risks and ecosystem services are properly taken into account on a par with economic considerations in new initiatives, whether public or private. This approach makes it possible to eliminate harmful incentives and avoid environmentally harmful production, so that further destruction of ecosystems can be prevented.

The benefits and advantages that humans gain from biodiversity are called ecosystem services. These can be material or immaterial in nature.

The broadcasts can be accessed at http://naturalresources-centralasia.org/index.php?id=170
A GLOBAL COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT BIODIVERSITY

People need to be aware of the value of biodiversity if the goals of the CBD and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 are to be achieved. Germany therefore supports global efforts to make the benefits of biodiversity, which are essential to human well-being, visible in politics and society. A targeted WWF campaign aims to reach up to a billion people to inform them about the importance of biodiversity and to encourage them to get involved at the local level. Social media are used to spread information about endangered species, threatened wetlands and forests, which are worth protecting, to secure the biodiversity values for people. The global communication campaign “Connect2Earth” kicked-off at Earth Hour in March 2018 having achieved as many as 3.5 billion digital impressions via Twitter, Facebook and Instagram in 188 participating countries since January. 250 celebrities and prominent personalities, including UN Secretary General António Guterres, supported the campaign and called for biodiversity conservation and climate protection. During the UN’s “World Environment Day”, “Oceans Day” and “Coral Triangle Day” nearly 8.5 million digital impressions have been counted on social media. In order to measure the long-term impact of the campaign, representative surveys on awareness are being carried out in ten key countries, which belong to the most biodiverse regions of the world and are home to 50 per cent of the world’s population.

NATURAL CAPITAL AS A DRIVER OF DEVELOPMENT: THE WAVES PARTNERSHIP

Natural resources and ecosystems are the basis for almost half of the wealth of developing countries. They make a major contribution to economic progress, creation of jobs and growth. In order to make these services transparent, Germany has funded the World Bank’s WAVES (Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services) Partnership with a total of 2.2 million US dollars since 2012. WAVES supports selected partner countries, especially in Africa, in the valuation of their natural capital. The aim of the partnership is to calculate environmental costs and to ensure that the value of natural capital is guaranteed a place in national planning and policymaking in the long term. Rwanda has been a WAVES partner country since 2013. 90 per cent of the country’s population are dependent on natural resources and ecosystem services. By assessing the interactions between economy and nature, it has been possible to ensure that these services have been considered in the National Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy and the National Development Plan, “Vision 2020”.

In the Philippines, similar assessments have highlighted the great importance of the Laguna de Bay Lake as a source of food and employment in the region. They also revealed that there has been a serious deterioration in the condition of the coral reefs and mangrove forests in southern Palawan. The Philippine Government is taking this information into account in their development and action plans. In this way, it has been possible for WAVES to contribute to the sustainable and equitable use of resources.
ECO BUSINESS FUND: INCENTIVES FOR A “GREEN ECONOMY” IN LATIN AMERICA

Latin America is home to the largest rain forests on earth, thousands of kilometres of coastline, and an incredible diversity of animals and plants. The eco.business Fund was founded in 2014 to support private companies in the implementation of measures, which serve to protect this natural wealth and use it sustainably in the fields of agriculture, forestry, fishing and ecotourism. The purpose of the fund is to invest public funds so as to overcome market barriers and mobilise additional private capital for the protection of natural resources. Borrowers are usually companies, which are too large for having access to micro-credit programmes, but too small for big commercial banks. The eco.business Fund closes this gap and provides capital for environmentally friendly small- and medium-sized enterprises, as these kinds of companies are best suited to accelerate the transition to a “green economy”.

The goal of the eco.business Fund is to protect and sustainably manage additional 12,000 square kilometres of ecologically valuable land by 2019. Furthermore, 600 companies engaged in sustainable production are supposed to be given financial support and 288,000 “green” jobs shall be created or maintained. It is also envisaged that the programme will be extended into additional countries, making the region even “greener”.

Germany is one of the three founding members. Therefore, Germany has played a key role in the creation and management of the fund and is contributing a total of 70 million euros. Various other donors and banks participate financially in the fund as well.

PERU: INTEGRATING BIODIVERSITY INTO ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY INSTRUMENTS

The economy of Peru has experienced a strong upswing in the last 20 years. This has, however, come at a high price in terms of biodiversity loss. Unsustainable use and production processes have led to the degradation of ecosystems in many places. In order to ensure that much more attention is given to biodiversity in future governmental strategies and development plans as well as their implementation, the Peruvian Ministry of the Environment (MINAM) has begun to overhaul its environmental policy instruments. Strategic Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Assessments are key to this.

MINAM has been advised by Germany in the application of the instrument Strategic Environmental Assessment. The instrument ensures that key environmental concerns are given just as much attention as economic and social factors. The drafting of strategies and plans is therefore biodiversity-friendly right from the start. As a pilot project, an environmental assessment of the Loreto Regional Development Plan was carried out with particular regard for biodiversity criteria. The region is considered a biodiversity hotspot. With an area of approximately 370,000 square kilometres, it is not only the largest region of the country - it is also covered by more than half of Peru’s lowland rainforest.

At the same time, handbooks have been drafted with German support to standardise environmental impact assessments for major projects in the mining, oil and gas, and energy sectors. Clearly defined evaluation criteria ensure that comprehensive aspects of biodiversity are included in any evaluation: from species diversity to ecosystems and ecological habitats. In this way, Environmental Impact Assessments are now much more transparent and comprehensible in Peru.
**VALUATION OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN MEXICO**

Germany supports Mexico in raising public awareness of the functions of ecosystems, which are essential to human survival. The valuation of ecosystem services in state protected areas was part of the collaboration between the project “EcoValor” and the National Commission for Natural Protected Areas (CONANP). EcoValor advised CONANP and its strategic partners throughout Mexico on new funding channels, sustainable tourism, and new methods of communication about the importance of ecosystem services. Facts and figures relating to the value of ecosystem services were collected in eight representative natural protected areas and fed into the political discourse. This made it possible, amongst other things, to raise awareness about biodiversity conservation in the context of diving tourism in protected areas. Furthermore, the results provided local authorities with a basis for sustainable conservation of their protected areas. One of the major achievements of German support was the designation of the whole Caribbean island of Cozumel as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 2016. It is one of the 182 federal areas in Mexico with national protected status covering a total of 900,000 square kilometres. The island is surrounded by the Caribe Mexicano marine and coastal reserve, which was also created by the Mexican Government in 2016 in the context of the 13th Conference of the Parties to the CBD, using results from the EcoValor project. Mexico has thus taken a major step towards achieving CBD Aichi Target 11.

**BORDERLESS: COOPERATION WITH THE TOURISM INDUSTRY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA**

To enable migration for wild animals throughout their habitats, the 15 states of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have declared contiguous natural landscapes as cross-border protected areas, so-called Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs). Since 2006 there is a huge new conservation area in Southern Africa: Kavango-Zambezi (KAZA) is the largest of 18 TFCAs. With an area of over 520,000 square kilometres it is the largest cross-border protected area in the world. By combining a total of 36 national parks, nature reserves and other protected areas and by involving the local populations and facilitating tourism, e.g. through simplified visa issues, Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe are promoting both, the sustainable development of tourism and economy in their countries as well as the conservation of biodiversity. Two highlights of KAZA are the UNESCO World Heritage Sites: the Victoria Falls and the Okavango Delta. Furthermore, the KAZA park is home to Africa’s largest contiguous population of elephants and helps to protect a large number of endangered species. Since 2006 German financial cooperation has supported the creation of KAZA with a total of 36 million euros, making Germany the largest donor. One of the key aims is to build up sustainable tourism within KAZA. This creates jobs and helps to fund conservation measures. So, in 2015/16, the German sustainability initiative Futouris and German financial cooperation set up the „KAZA - Sustainable Lodges“ project, introducing common standards for sustainable accommodation throughout the KAZA region.

The other TFCAs in Southern Africa are also rich in impressive cultural and natural attractions, such as the Fish River Canyon and the Maloti-Drakensberg mountains. With the support of German TC, the marketing initiative “Boundless Southern Africa” helps regional providers promote sustainable tourism in these protected areas. In line with the slogan “nature, culture and community”, tourists get the opportunity not only to experience the wilderness but also to get to know local people and their traditions. In this way, Germany also supports new opportunities for generating income in neighbouring communities outside the parks in Malawi, Zambia, Namibia, Eswatini, Mozambique and South Africa.
**Mainstreaming**

Mainstreaming refers to the systematic integration of biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services into all political, economic and social decision-making processes. It is an integral part of the second strategic goal of the CBD on promoting sustainable use.

Economic sectors such as forestry and tourism as well as agriculture and fisheries contribute significantly to the loss of biodiversity, in spite of the fact that these sectors are themselves very much dependent on intact ecosystems. Biological diversity issues need to be given greater consideration in other sectors too, for example transport, energy, mining and urban development as well as areas such as spatial planning. The fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, published in 2014, and the five IPBES regional assessment reports, published in spring 2018, make it clear that increased biodiversity conservation efforts are required, if biodiversity loss is to be stopped by 2020.

Mainstreaming not only tackles the causes of biodiversity loss, it also promotes sustainable development. Paving the way for a sustainable future in accordance with the 2030 Agenda and the 2050 Vision of the CBD requires a major shift towards greater awareness of environmental issues and the importance of biodiversity - a shift which is reflected in the actions of manufacturers and consumers, governments and businesses.

This is why Germany supports partner countries in the implementation and further development of appropriate strategies and policy instruments and in this way contributes at a global level to pushing forward the necessary transformation. It is also substantial that poor people in developing countries and emerging economies are able to maintain and improve their livelihoods. In order to reach all population groups, special attention is given to the interests and contributions of local actors, such as indigenous peoples, communities and local civil society organisations.

### Promoting policy coherence and cooperation across sectors, e.g.

- **...through environmental impact assessments**
  - Environmental and climate assessment during planning of cooperation projects with developing countries and emerging economies

- **...through support for National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs)**
  - Support for national biodiversity planning
  - Protection of biodiversity in ASEAN member states
  - Promotion of integrated approaches to biodiversity and climate protection
  - Including biodiversity components ("sectoral components") in projects inherent to other areas of development cooperation funding

- **...through integration of biodiversity into other areas of funding for cooperation with developing countries and emerging economies**

### Awareness raising and sustainable consumption, e.g.

- **...for the diverse values of biodiversity**
  - Sustainable and climate-sensitive land use for economic development in Central Asia
  - Scaling up communication about biodiversity to achieve Aichi Target 1

- **...to promote sustainable production and consumption**
  - Cooperation with the tourism industry in Southern Africa

### Promoting sustainable use in the private sector and across various economic sectors, e.g.

- **...in forestry**
  - Initiative for deforestation-free supply chains
  - Biodiversity conservation and sustainable forestry COMIFAC
  - Indonesia Forestry Programme

- **...in agriculture**
  - Maintain and enhance biodiversity in agricultural landscapes in Tajikistan, India, Kenya and Mexico

- **...in fisheries and aquaculture**
  - Participatory management of marine, coastal and land resources; protection of biodiversity in coastal areas; fisheries monitoring
  - Protection and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in the Benguela Current Marine Ecosystem

### Strengthening the case for and establishing the ecosystem approach, e.g.

- **...through identification and assessment of ecosystem services**
  - Ecosystem-based adaptation through protection of mangrove forests in Viet Nam
  - Ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change in mountain regions
  - Support for the capacity of developing countries to address science-policy issues through IPBES

- **...through more effective cooperation with the scientific community**

- **...through more effective cooperation with the scientific community**

- **...by assessing the value of natural capital**
  - WAVES action programme (Global Partnership on Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services)

- **...in the course of the development and implementation of funding strategies for biodiversity conservation**
  - BIOFIN: Funding biodiversity conservation
  - Adaptation of public investment to climate change in Latin America (IPACC II): Integration of ecosystem services into public investment and business decisions in Peru
  - eco.business Fund: Incentives for a „green economy” in Latin America

### Anchoring in national budgets, economies and financial markets, e.g.

- **...by assessing the value of natural capital**
  - WAVES action programme (Global Partnership on Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services)

- **...in the course of the development and implementation of funding strategies for biodiversity conservation**
  - BIOFIN: Funding biodiversity conservation
  - Adaptation of public investment to climate change in Latin America (IPACC II): Integration of ecosystem services into public investment and business decisions in Peru
  - eco.business Fund: Incentives for a „green economy” in Latin America

- **...through support for National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs)**
  - Support for national biodiversity planning
  - Protection of biodiversity in ASEAN member states
  - Promotion of integrated approaches to biodiversity and climate protection
  - Including biodiversity components ("sectoral components") in projects inherent to other areas of development cooperation funding
The most important factors causing biodiversity loss include the destruction of habitats, overuse of natural resources, pollution and climate change as well as the spread of invasive alien species. Strategic Goal B aims to reduce these factors and calls for the sustainable use of ecosystems by 2020. The conservation of forests plays a crucial role in the realisation of these goals. Tropical and subtropical forests provide habitat to more than 70 per cent of all terrestrial animal and plant species. More than 1.6 billion people depend on forests for their livelihood. However, more than seven million hectares of forest are lost every year – an area roughly equivalent to the size of Ireland. One of the driving factors is logging, which is often illegal, and the conversion of forest to other forms of land use. This promises faster and higher returns than the conservation of forests and their various services that are hardly ever considered as an economic value. One of the main factors causing between 55 and 80 per cent of global deforestation is the conversion of forest into agricultural land for the production of palm oil, meat, coffee, cocoa, soya and other commodities. Therefore, the establishment of deforestation-free supply chains offers promising opportunities for forest conservation. Independent certification of companies improves transparency, supports relevant law enforcement, and creates the basis for investment in sustainable land management.

Healthy marine and coastal areas improve the livelihood of many people: More than 660 million people worldwide depend on fisheries and aquaculture for their existence. According to the FAO, however, as much as 60 per cent of fish stocks are being exploited to the limit of sustainability. 30 per cent are already classified as over-fished. Sustainable land use, forestry and fisheries are not only essential to biodiversity conservation. They are also the key to global food security.

http://www.wwf.de/fileadmin/fm wwf/Publikationen-PDF/Wald Aktiv.pdf

7 FAO 2015: Forest Resource Assessment. NB: Global Forest Watch estimates the annual rate of deforestation to be 18 million hectares

THE CONGO BASIN: PRESERVING THE WORLD’S SECOND LARGEST TROPICAL FOREST AREA

The Congo Basin is the second largest rainforest area on earth. Germany supports the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), and thereby its ten member states, in sustainably managing these forests, managing protected areas, developing tourism facilities and combating poaching. Germany is furthermore promoting the certification of forest concessions with a view to enabling more socially acceptable and environmentally sound forest management. On top of this, Germany is promoting rules regarding access to genetic resources and for sharing the benefits resulting from their usage in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol. The aim here is to protect the region’s forest ecosystems while utilising their potential for combating poverty and strengthening economic development.

Ten new cross-border protected areas have been established in the region, including the protected areas of Tri-National de la Sangha (Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic) and Yamoussa (Cameroon, Chad) which are supported by Germany. Altogether, 12.5 per cent or 500,000 square kilometres of the area of the COMIFAC countries have been declared protected areas with different levels of protection and more than five million hectares of forest concessions have been certified. Also as part of the bilateral cooperation, Germany is providing support in establishing and managing protected areas in the Congo Basin. Thanks to these intensive protection efforts, the population of the endangered eastern lowland gorilla has increased by 61 per cent at the high altitudes of the Kahuzi-Biega National Park in the past 15 years. In addition to this, Germany is involved in the development and capitalisation of environmental funds (the Sangha Tri-National Trust Fund (FTNS) and the Okapi Fund) to contribute towards sustainable funding for the conservation of biodiversity in the Congo Basin.
CONSERVING INDONESIA’S TROPICAL FORESTS THROUGH SOCIAL FORESTRY

10 per cent of the world’s remaining tropical forest can be found in Indonesia. This forest is home to unique flora and fauna. In spite of this, illegal logging and deforestation to make way for agriculture and mining are destroying increasingly large parts of this unique natural realm. Due to this large-scale deforestation, Indonesia is one of the countries with the highest CO2 emissions. According to the World Bank, the country is currently the third highest emitter of CO2. Germany supports forestry projects in Indonesia, which, on the one hand contribute to forest conservation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and on the other hand also have a positive impact on the livelihoods of the local population. Community-based forestry models and social forestry create the conditions for environmentally and socially responsible forest management. This approach includes the granting of land titles by the Indonesian government to local communities in order to ensure the sustainable management of forest areas, for example by protecting existing forests and the reforestation of suitable areas. The project is proving to be a successful model: after several years of preparatory work, five community forests, covering a total of around 50,000 hectares, have been licensed as “social forestry”. This scheme has been successfully implemented in 77 villages in Indonesia so far. The local communities benefit from the environmental protection and are actively participating in the process. This approach reduces the pressure on natural forests and their biodiversity and encourages long-term sustainable use of forests.

INCREASING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF INDONESIAN RUBBER PRODUCTION

In cooperation with the company Continental, Germany is promoting sustainability in the natural rubber supply chain in Indonesia. Indonesia is the world’s second largest producer of natural rubber, which is produced in areas of tropical rainforest. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that cultivation of rubber trees does not lead to deforestation. Since January 2018, German technical cooperation and Continental have been working together for the sustainable and verifiable supply of natural rubber through deforestation-free supply chains. This cooperation is a form of public-private partnership (supported by BMZ’s develoPPP.de program).

Within the project, a total of 400 small farmers who produce natural rubber are being trained to cultivate high-quality rubber according to clearly defined sustainability criteria. Thanks to the higher quality of the rubber, higher yields and opportunities for direct marketing, the farmers are able to earn more from their sales. They are given support to form producer groups, enabling them to position themselves better in the market and increase their income in the long term. A digital tracking system, all the way from the individual small farmer to Continental’s goods entrance, guarantees the transparency of the supply chain. The development partnership with Continental, as one of the world’s largest suppliers of the car industry, is an important innovative step forward in the fight against deforestation of tropical rain forests and for the sustainable and verifiable supply of raw materials and it involves local people and secures their livelihoods.
COMMUNITY-BASED RESOURCE PROTECTION IN THE LAKE TANA BIOSPHERE RESERVE
The fertile Lake Tana region in Ethiopia, with its thousands of years of cultural history, is considered a key region for biodiversity. More than 18,000 common cranes use the extensive wetlands around the lake each year. At present, the ecosystems are still providing the services that are vital for the livelihoods of the local population. However, poverty, population growth, climate change and major agricultural projects are increasing the pressure on natural resources. The German Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU) and its partners were able to achieve a crucial milestone when the area received the status of a UNESCO biosphere reserve in 2015. Nevertheless, and private land owners must cultivate their land at least once a year in order to prevent the invasive species from returning. Native tribes such as the Gonds and Baigas are benefitting from the approach twice over. They live in close symbiosis with the forest and the forestry authority rewards them for removing Lantana in the forest. In addition, they are given permission to gather forest fruits. In this way, Lantana on more than 1,000 hectares have been removed in the Mandla districts to date.

INDIA: CONTROLLING THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES
Indigenous tree and shrub species in the proximity of the Kanha Tiger Reserve in India are increasingly being displaced. This is due to the aggressive and rapid spread of the invasive species Lantana camara. The forest and residents living near the forest are suffering from the increasing concentration and encroachment of Lantana, which renders the land inaccessible. In both private and municipal areas, the result is a loss in valuable land for cultivation and livestock farming.

In cooperation with the affected rural population and the forest protection agencies in India, German technical cooperation is developing sustainable solutions to curb the spread of Lantana. As a result, unproductive and neglected areas can be used again and the diversity of indigenous tree and shrub species increases. The local communities are maintaining the areas themselves. At the same time, they are laying down rules of conduct for the use of the recovered areas. Open grazing, for instance, is prohibited further capacity development for the local population and the government is needed in order to preserve themselves the sensitive ecosystems and use them sustainably. For this purpose, the German Government has provided around 2.9 million euros for the work of NABU since 2012. Ten local wildlife rangers monitor the development of the ecosystems and support the population in the management of the protected area. Local inhabitants are actively involved in the protective measures. For example, families have planted two million trees in 200,000 home gardens in order to reduce soil erosion while providing food and shade. Residents are furthermore getting involved in other areas, such as independently and sustainably managing five wetlands, planting one hundred erosion channels to keep land loss at bay, and growing ten forest islands around monasteries, convents and churches creating natural walls to keep out cattle. Moreover, ecotourism is supported through local guides and infrastructure. A total of 40 small-scale environmental protection projects are being implemented, while 280,000 school pupils have taken part in the Lake Tana Biosphere Reserve Day in 2018.

In collaboration with universities, schools, the private sector, civil society and more than 350 households in 40 cooperatives, ways to improve people’s knowledge and living standards are being developed - with the aim of making the Lake Tana Biosphere Reserve a vibrant place.
CONSERVING MARINE BIODIVERSITY ACROSS BORDERS

The Benguela Current Marine Ecoregion stretches along the coast of Angola, Namibia and South Africa. Fishing and tourism are important economic sectors in the region, but they are facing increasing pressure due to oil and gas exploitation and seabed extraction of diamonds and other minerals. Aggravating this situation, the Cape of Good Hope is a major shipping trade lane. In order to ensure the sustainable development of the biodiversity-rich marine environment in spite of these challenges, the governments of the three countries ratified the Benguela Current Convention (BCC) in 2016.

Germany supports the BCC countries in the introduction of marine spatial planning. For this purpose, the status quo in each of the three countries was analysed to provide a basis for the development of marine spatial plans. South Africa subsequently succeeded in adopting a National Strategy for Marine Spatial Planning. In Angola, the process has led to the development of the Ministry of Fisheries into a Ministry of Fisheries and Sea. In Namibia, the project is showing signs of success as well: Marine spatial planning has been integrated into the fifth National Development Plan.

The countries are also being supported in their work to describe Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) and to identify new EBSAs. The descriptions of all 20 national and three cross-border areas have been revised and eleven new EBSAs have been proposed. In addition, measures for the protection and sustainable use of EBSAs are currently being developed. These unique areas are an important component of marine spatial planning, because they foster an ecosystem-based approach to management.
MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING THE BIODIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Germany is funding a global project for the promotion of biodiversity and ecosystem services in agricultural landscapes. As part of this project, land users, civil society and public institutions in Tajikistan, India and Kenya are being trained to appropriately use adapted forms of agriculture that foster biodiversity instead of destroying it. For this purpose, traditional biodiversity-friendly agricultural practices, which have already proved their worth at the local level, have been catalogued. The catalogue serves as a database for integrating biodiversity concerns into policy and planning processes.

In Mexico, Germany is funding a regional project to promote stronger integration of biodiversity in the agricultural sector. A large proportion of the Mexican population lives from agriculture. Existing practices are rarely sustainable, however, and often lead to a deterioration in ecosystem services. The project therefore supports its partners to take account of the cultural and economic value of biodiversity and ecosystem services in their planning and decision-making. This serves to promote sustainable agricultural production. In this context, the project has advised the Mexican Ministry of Agriculture (SAGARPA) in the process of drafting a national strategy for the integration of biodiversity. Furthermore, support was provided for a workshop for small-scale producers and political decision-makers from Mexico, in which the participants were able to share their knowledge of traditional and biodiversity-friendly methods of farming. In order to further promote this exchange between actors in the agricultural sector, the “Centre for the Integration of Biodiversity” in SAGARPA was opened in March 2018.

Between 4.8 and 12.7 million tonnes of plastic from municipal waste end up in the oceans every year.
Marine protection

Oceans cover 71 per cent of the earth’s surface. They play a crucial role in regulating the global climate and contribute to food and income security for millions of people. In spite of being so vitally important, oceans are the least protected areas in the world. With one specific goal of the 2030 Agenda devoted to the ocean (SDG 14: Life below Water), the crucial importance of intact oceans and seas for sustainable development now is a permanent issue on the global political agenda.

Germany has been supporting partner countries for many years in their efforts to protect coastal and marine areas, to use these areas sustainably, and to secure their long-term financial basis. This active engagement has been strengthened in recent years. Key issues besides the creation and management of marine protected areas include the promotion of sustainable small-scale fisheries, the fight against illegal fishing, reduction of pollution, the protection of coastal populations against the effects of climate change, and the conservation of mangrove forests. Recently, more efforts have been undertaken to initiate projects in support of the UN ad hoc process of drafting a new legally binding instrument (under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, UNCLOS), which aims to protect biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Development policy measures are clustered in a “Ten-Point Plan of Action for Marine Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries”.

The German Government is strongly promoting marine conservation:
- As a founding member of the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI), Germany is actively involved in the identification and scientific description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs). The latest contribution of the Federal Government to the GOBI adds up to 5.2 million euros over five years to fund an expansion of the research portfolio.
- Projects carried out by NGOs for the establishment and extension of marine protected areas and the strengthening of sustainable small-scale fisheries are being funded through the Blue Action Fund. In addition, the “Save our mangroves now” initiative is raising awareness for the importance of mangrove forests among political decision-makers. Solutions for the conservation of mangroves are now being implemented.
- The Blue Solutions initiative promotes capacity-building and the sharing of proven solutions for the sustainable management of marine and coastal areas throughout the world.
- Germany supports the Partnership for Regional Ocean Governance (PROG) and thereby helps to improve the supra-regional management of marine resources.
- The STRONG High Seas project (with a budget of 3.9 million euros during 2017-2022) aims at strengthening regional governance structures for the conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Together with the secretariats of the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific and the Abidjan Convention, Germany is supporting integrated and ecosystem-based governance of the South Eastern Pacific and the South Eastern Atlantic ocean regions.

In a nutshell

MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING THE BIODIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES

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Volume and number of current projects for the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity

Regional distribution of German funding for projects dedicated to the conservation of marine and coastal areas

Between 660 and 880 million people depend on fisheries and aquaculture and therefore on intact marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods.¹⁰

²⁰% of fishing is illegal. The income lost as a result amounts to between $11 and $23.5 billion annually across the globe.¹¹

STRATEGIC GOAL C:
Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

Protected areas are under increasing pressure due to growing global demand for land and natural resources. And yet, they are of utmost importance for biodiversity conservation. The Parties to the CBD have agreed to effectively protect at least 17 per cent of the world’s land surface including inland water and 10 per cent of marine and coastal ecosystems by 2020. Worldwide about 15 per cent of the land (including inland water) and seven per cent of the oceans are already under protection. Despite this progress, many ecosystems are still under-represented in the protected area systems of the countries concerned. Territories of importance for biodiversity conservation often do not have protected status. At the same time, areas already protected are often isolated and, as a result, unable to perform their ecological functions. It is therefore necessary to integrate zones of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services into protected area systems, to connect existing reserves (in biotope networks) and to ensure that management is efficient and equitable.

When protection measures are combined with sustainable use, they create development opportunities and are more likely to be accepted by the local population. The interests of the local population must always be taken into account. The challenge lies in the fact that various actors, whose interests often conflict and who sometimes have different legal systems, need to work together and negotiate agreements for the protection and use of particular areas - often across national borders.

Transnational collaboration is also needed for species protection - just like in Sub-Saharan Africa: the region has been suffering a major poaching crisis for a number of years. This development is fuelled especially by the growing demand for wildlife products such as ivory and rhino horn in Asia. The trade in these products is now largely controlled by international criminal organisations. Intensive cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination is therefore absolutely essential, if the achievements of past and current development work are not to be wiped out. In addition to the conservation of habitats and species, another key objective is the maintenance of genetic diversity within species, conserving both wild and cultivated varieties. This is a precondition for the ability of plants and animals to adapt to changes in environmental conditions and resist diseases. It is also of importance for the adaptation of agricultural production to the consequences of climate change.

AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES IN LATIN AMERICA

Many Latin American countries have chalked up remarkable successes in expanding their national protected areas. Brazil boasts more than 2,300 protected areas totalling over 2.5 million square kilometres (including almost one million square kilometres of marine area). In total 18 per cent of Brazil’s land area and 26 per cent of its marine area are under protection. Just for comparison: Brazil’s terrestrial protected area surface compares to roughly four times the land area of Germany.

Germany is supporting Brazil in reinforcing its system of protected areas and with conserving and managing its coastal and marine biodiversity. The capacity of Brazilian environmental agencies - at national, federal state and municipal levels - was strengthened and over 400 individuals responsible for protected areas have participated in training courses to date.

Comprehensive planning of protected areas and spatial planning ensures that negative impacts on terrestrial and marine biodiversity are prevented. In five of Brazil’s marine protected areas, totalling 7,380 square kilometres, sustainable use by traditional fisher communities is supported. Another approach is used for supporting local protected areas. Although cities and communities make important contributions to conserving biological diversity, these contributions often go unnoticed. Germany therefore supports municipalities in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru with exchanging knowledge and offers training courses for implementing area-based conservation measures in order to conserve protected areas and biodiversity.
BLUE ACTION FUND: PROTECTING MARINE BIODIVERSITY

Despite their outstanding value, only seven per cent of the oceans worldwide are currently under protection. In order to improve this situation, BMZ, as part of its “Ten-Point Plan of Action for Marine Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries”, through KfW Development Bank, founded the Blue Action Fund and is providing the necessary funding. The fund supports national and international NGOs in their work in marine and coastal conservation and promotes sustainable use in fisheries, aquaculture and tourism. It contributes to the conservation of marine biodiversity by promoting new protected areas and facilitating better management of existing protected areas. The fund focuses on key regions of marine biodiversity in partner countries of German cooperation. In response to calls for tenders, interested NGOs submit bids, each of which relates to a particular key region, to the Blue Action Fund. The fund assesses the project proposals and makes sure that the plans are in line with national and international conservation strategies. This ensures that the projects contribute towards compliance with the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (Aichi Target 11) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG 14). The German Government is contributing a total of 44 million euros to the Blue Action Fund and the Swedish Government is participating in the fund with a contribution of approx. 8 million euros. Preparations are being made for further contributions.

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK: CONSERVATION OF A UNIQUE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE IN TANZANIA

As a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Serengeti National Park is of major symbolic significance for nature conservation in the eyes of both the Tanzanian Government and the international community. The national park forms the core area of the Serengeti ecosystem, which measures over 30,000 square kilometres and extends from Tanzania into southern Kenya, one of the world’s largest intact savannah areas. It is famous the world over for the seasonal migration of nearly two million wildebeests, zebras and various types of antelope. The globally significant protected area represents an economic potential for the population. Poaching, often also undertaken to secure livelihoods, continues to threaten the park. For this reason, Germany supports measures through which the communities at the national park borders can benefit to a greater extent from the economic potentials of conservation. To achieve this, the Serengeti National Park Outreach Department and its activities in the districts of Serengeti and Ngorongoro are supported and the district administrations directly advised. The introduction of a competition related to the conservation of the Serengeti ecosystem constitutes a major milestone in these efforts: Communities that have verifiably improved their active involvement in the area of resource conservation and, for example, have regular patrols conducted by local gamekeepers, receive support in the form of social infrastructure such as school buildings and health stations. This approach demonstrates to local people that nature conservation has direct payoffs for them. This active involvement is supplemented by the promotion of land-use planning with the participation of the local population and of local savings and loans associations for promoting nature conservation that grant their members micro-credits for resource-neutral investments and by investments in the park infrastructure and equipment.
“SAVE OUR MANGROVES NOW!” INITIATIVE

Mangroves are of great importance for coastal protection and secure food and income for the coastal population in many developing countries. They also store up to five times more carbon than tropical rain forests. In spite of serving these important functions, nearly 50 per cent of mangrove forests have disappeared since the middle of the 20th century.

Together with WWF and IUCN, the German Government is advocating to stop the loss of mangrove forests and thereby secure the livelihoods of over 120 million people worldwide. The initiative “Save our mangroves now!” raises awareness for the importance of mangroves throughout the international community, builds partnerships with countries and other key actors in mangrove conservation, and closes gaps of knowledge.

A major success, to which the initiative has contributed, is the inclusion of mangrove conservation in the call for action for SDG 14 adopted at the UN Ocean Conference in 2017. The first mangrove country partnership with Madagascar has already been announced at the 2017 Climate Change Conference in Bonn. Germany funds this partnership, which serves to improve the management of mangrove forests with seven million euros. Practical solutions for sustainable mangrove conservation are implemented locally through pilot projects and trainings, especially in East Africa. The Initiative prepares research studies regarding the legal framework for mangrove conservation as well as the potential for investment, and the factors that contribute to the success and sustainability of mangrove projects. In Kenya the carbon storage capacity of the country’s largest mangrove forest is currently being assessed, so that this function can be recognised as a contribution to the country’s climate change mitigation measures.

EXPANSION AND EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Philippines are a hotspot of biodiversity and simultaneously a country that is particularly affected by the effects of climate change. Since 2012, Germany has supported a bilateral project to improve the management of more than 60 protected areas. In addition, 55 new marine and terrestrial protected areas have been established and legally secured, while a further 45 are currently subject to application and approval procedures.

The project has already achieved some major successes. Around a quarter of all 240 protected areas in the Philippines can now be managed more efficiently. This is the conclusion reached by management effectiveness surveys that have been carried out in accordance with the internationally recognised METT method (Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool). The METT results are based on comprehensive factors such as improvement with regard to legal basis, management planning, human resources, involvement of the population, monitoring and awareness raising, and also the implementation of the conservation measures themselves. However, the exercise is not only about achieving a good result. Equally important is that it enhances the understanding that improving protected area management is a process of continuous learning. With its measures relating to biodiversity conservation and sustainability, the project has made a contribution to the CBD and also supported the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The improved conservation status and the new protected areas, for example, are also contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation - for instance through their function as carbon reservoirs.
WORKING TOGETHER TO CONSERVE BIODIVERSITY IN HIN NAM NO NATIONAL PARK

With its distinctive rock pinnacles, the Hin Nam No National Protected Area in Khammouane Province in Laos is one of the most impressive karst areas in the world. The limestone forest is home to a large number of animal and plant species, which are worth protecting. Some of them have been discovered only recently. The German cooperation aims to conserve this unique natural landscape and habitat, on which about 20 local communities depend for their livelihood. Support is being given to local authorities and to the local inhabitants to enable them to manage the protected area jointly. In order to protect it more efficiently, the Lao Government is being supported in building up its capacities for the management of the area. The biodiversity conservation measures are opening up new economic opportunities for the local population. So far, 115 inhabitants of the villages around Hin Nam No have been recruited and trained as wildlife and forest rangers. Other villagers have been trained to provide various services for the growing number of tourists, for example by acting as tour guides. As first such area in Laos, the government proposed Hin Nam No for nomination as a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site in the summer of 2016. A feasibility study and a road map for nomination as a transboundary World Natural Heritage Area have been drafted jointly with the neighbouring country of Viet Nam. In addition, a research programme has been commissioned, specifically to back up the nomination by providing the supporting data.

COMBATING POACHING AND ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE IN AFRICA AND ASIA

Africa has lost 30 per cent of its elephant population through poaching in only the past ten years. Elephant tusks and rhino horns fetch high prices, especially in Asian countries like China and Viet Nam, where they are valued as status symbols. The trade in wildlife products is one of the most lucrative forms of crime worldwide. Huge profits and weak law enforcement create ideal conditions for corruption all along the illegal trade chain. Stopping poaching requires an approach, which transcends borders and sectors. Under the auspices of BMZ and BMU, the transnational “Partnership Against Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade in Africa and Asia” is tackling criminal activities up and down the entire trade chain. The aim is to fight the criminal business in cooperation with politics, civil society and the private sector. The project therefore works closely with the German Federal Foreign Office, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection.

With German support, wildlife protection institutions and customs authorities work together across borders in order to combat crime more effectively. During the past five years, it has been possible to tighten up legislation in important transit and destination countries such as Malaysia and Viet Nam. More than 200 employees of the police, customs and judiciary from over 20 countries in Africa and Asia have been trained to identify suspicious shipments and conduct investigations against smugglers. Combating poaching successfully also requires restricting the demand for wildlife products. In China, for example, the world’s largest internet retailer „Alibaba” now removes new online ads for articles made of ivory or rhino horn on an everyday basis. This has led to a reduction in the number of online ads from 50,000 to 10,000 per month.
SUPPORTING WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN NAMIBIA

Diverse wildlife and stunning landscapes make Namibia one of the most attractive destinations in Africa for nature tourism. In 2017 the tourist industry alone accounted for 13.8 per cent of total gross domestic product. Namibia has recognised the great value of its biodiversity - 40 per cent of the total land area is already protected. In this context, the Namibian Government makes sure that the local population is closely involved in protection measures. The success of this strategy is shown on the following examples: Wild animal populations have recovered significantly in recent years. Hence, Namibia is now home to the largest wild black rhino population in the world and one of the largest elephant populations, which has increased over the past 20 years from 7,500 elephants to 22,000 in 2015.

And yet Namibia’s elephants and rhinoceroses are still under threat. Increased poaching is a serious menace to the populations and has a devastating impact on biodiversity and the country’s economy. Through technical cooperation, Germany is supporting the Namibian Government in drafting and implementing national guidelines for community-based wildlife management. Complementary, financial cooperation of the German Government is supporting the Namibian Ministry of the Environment in implementing the National Wildlife Conservation Strategy by creating its own anti-poaching unit and associated infrastructure - Germany has committed 15 million euros. In close cooperation with neighbouring countries and through the creation of decentralised anti-poaching camps, procurement of professional equipment, and training of wildlife conservation staff, transboundary wildlife conservation is to be implemented and illegal trade reduced.
Strengthening protected areas and combating wildlife crime

The German Government is supporting the establishment of a global network of protected areas on land and in the oceans in many different ways. The goal is to maintain biodiversity worldwide and to conserve ecosystem services, which are of vital importance to a great many people. In cooperation with developing countries and emerging economies, Germany provides support for protected areas covering a total of about 1,513,000 square kilometres - more than the land area of Germany, France and Spain put together. A central concern with providing financial support and technical advice is to also open up development prospects for local populations through the protection of ecosystems. Partner countries are therefore supported in their efforts to strengthen institutions, so that - with the participation of local people - the management of protected areas can be improved. Opportunities for sustainable use are also being developed jointly. However, many of the protected areas, which are receiving support, continue to be threatened by wildlife crime. Poaching and illegal trade in wildlife products, such as ivory and rhino horn, not only endanger animal populations but also threaten the security and economic livelihoods of local people, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa. Cooperation with the local population is therefore central to preventing and combating poaching. In order to break the links in the illegal trade chain in the countries of origin, transit and consumption, Germany is working together with a large number of partners across countries, regions and sectors. In a common effort, law enforcement of wildlife protection is improved and, through targeted campaigns, a reduction in demand for rhino horn and ivory, especially in Asian countries, is achieved.

In a nutshell

- Germany currently supports the fight against poaching with €142 million in Africa, €46.6 million in Asia, and €13.4 million supra-regionally.
- German financial cooperation supports protected areas throughout the world:
  - 927,000 km² in Latin America
  - 403,000 km² in Africa
  - 170,000 km² in Asia
  - 13,000 km² in Europe
- Decrease of number of elephants over the last 10 years: ~111,000
- Losses due to poaching during past 5 years (2013-2017):
  > 6,000 African rhinoceroses in Southern Africa

As at 01.01.2018

Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

Functioning ecosystems provide essential services for people like clean drinking water, firewood, food and medicinal plants. They also reduce the risk of environmental disasters, such as floods and landslides. It is often the world’s poorest people who are most reliant on these services of nature. Strategic Goal D aims, among other topics, to safeguard these ecosystem services and to restore at least 15 per cent of damaged ecosystems.

Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) combines the safeguarding of ecosystem services with adaptation to the impacts of climate change. With sustainable management and the conservation and restoration of ecosystems, “natural” adaptation is facilitated. Alongside built infrastructure, there is a need above all for resilient ecosystems which provide long-term protection. Mangrove forests and intact coral reefs, for instance, protect the coast by acting as breakwaters and serving as so-called “natural infrastructure”. Natural habitats, such as forests, mangroves and wetlands, make a major contribution to carbon storage and the mitigation of climate change. Within the framework of REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation), forests are conserved as a climate protection measure.

Payments are made in line with international standards for the verifiable reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. Recognition of the local population as a key actor is an important step towards gaining support for conservation efforts. It is equally important to involve women and indigenous people in decision-making, thereby ensuring that everyone benefits from conservation efforts.

The Nagoya Protocol on “Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization” aims to realise the third goal of the CBD. The protocol obliges the contracting parties to create appropriate conditions, so that, in the event of a transfer of genetic resources, the benefits arising from their use are shared equitably between the users and the countries of origin. The Nagoya Protocol also lays down minimum standards in order to give users and providers greater transparency and legal certainty. Moreover, for the first time in international law, a control system is to be introduced that enables users to verify compliance with the legislation in the countries of origin, even if the user is situated in another country.

CLIMATE PROTECTION THROUGH FOREST CONSERVATION: THE GNU INITIATIVE

Forests are one of our earth’s greatest treasures. They have a decisive influence on our climate and provide living space for more than 1.6 billion people. And they safeguard our ecological, social and economic well-being. In spite of serving these vital functions, forests are continually being destroyed, especially in developing countries.

This is why the German Government has been promoting climate protection through forest conservation – in short: “REDD+” - for the past ten years. The „GNU Initiative” is an especially important part of this work. GNU stands for Germany - Norway - United Kingdom, the three largest donors in forest protection. Together with 150 representatives of governments, the private sector, civil society and international organisations, they have committed themselves in the New York Declaration on Forests to stop deforestation by 2030. In taking steps to implement this commitment, the initiative concentrates not only on forest protection, but also on the restoration of forest landscapes and the development of deforestation-free supply chains. GNU have therefore announced that they are making a total of five billion US dollars available between 2015 and 2020. Part of this is flowing into the REDD Early Movers (REM) programme. REM is a lighthouse project created by Germany. It is one of the first programmes in the world to reward countries financially for successfully limiting deforestation and thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions. About 70 per cent of the payments go to indigenous peoples and local communities. The results are evident: Through REM, GNU have now compensated 16 million tons of carbon dioxide. That is equivalent to the annual emissions of 20 per cent of all cars in Germany.
FOREST PROTECTION IN AFRICA DRIVEN FORWARD BY THE AFR100 INITIATIVE
Proceeding deforestation and degradation of forests threaten the livelihoods of many people all over the world. Africa is affected particularly: 65 per cent of the land area are already degraded and more than 2.8 million hectares of forest are lost every year. This is an area almost the size of Belgium. This development is not only disastrous for the environment and for the climate, but it also has a direct impact on the future prospects and food security of local populations. Together with the African Union, the World Bank and the World Resources Institute (WRI), BMZ has therefore created the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100). The aim of the AFR100 Initiative is to restore 100 million hectares of forest and tree-rich, productive landscapes in Africa by 2030 (Forest Landscape Restoration, FLR). By supporting this Africa-wide Initiative, BMZ is contributing to the implementation of the Bonn Challenge, which aims to restore 350 million hectares of forest worldwide by 2030. So far, 26 countries have joined the AFR100 Initiative and committed themselves to the restoration of forest landscapes covering a total of 84.8 million hectares.
FLR is not just about reforestation. In addition to the natural regeneration of forest landscapes through efficient grazing and fire management, FLR measures include the introduction of sustainable forest management, the creation of agroforestry systems, the restoration of gallery forests or mangroves, and planting for protection. Another course of action is the development of value chains for timber and tree products. FLR operates according to the important principle that diverse interest groups should have an input into land use planning and the causes of deforestation should be discussed openly.
As a founding member of the Initiative, BMZ gives support especially to the AFR100 secretariat and to Ethiopia, Cameroon, Madagascar and Togo to enable them to meet their forest restoration targets. In Ethiopia, for example, considerable success has been achieved through the establishment of new protected areas and the construction of small dams across river valleys. The lusher vegetation protects the soil, improves water-storage capacity, and increases agricultural production and hence the incomes of local people.

FOREST REGENERATION AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN GUATEMALA
The ‘Sierra de las Minas’ mountain range in Guatemala serves an important function by filtering and regulating the flow of water into the neighbouring ‘Bocas del Polochic’ wetlands. A large proportion of the region’s indigenous rural population just manages to eke out an existence from subsistence farming. Due to the lack of resources, more and more land is being used for agriculture and the adjoining forests are disappearing rapidly. Furthermore, the expansion of agribusiness, such as palm oil plantations, and mining are aggravating the problem of deforestation and, as a result, threatening the whole water catchment area.
Through a project run by the NGO OroVerde, the German Government is supporting Guatemala and local civil society in efforts to safeguard the functions of the forests and reduce the pressures on natural resources. These measures help cushion the negative effects of climate change, such as droughts and heavy rainfall throughout the region. The project assists farming families in establishing gardens, rearing small animals and creating biodiverse agroforestry systems in which a large variety of crops, such as cocoa, bananas and manioc, are cultivated. Surpluses can then be sold to the local population. Around 196 hectares of forest have already been restored through reforestation. In this way, it is not only the forests and animals that benefit - also the inhabitants of the catchment area profit from the positive impact on their living conditions and food security.
Access and Benefit-Sharing

Since 2014, the Nagoya Protocol has provided an international legal framework for the drafting of national regulations which govern access to genetic resources for use in research and development and the sharing of the resulting benefits (ABS). By ratifying it in 2016, Germany joined the countries committed to implementing the Protocol. Before being allowed to access genetic resources for research, users must now first conclude a contract with the country of origin, if this is determined by national law. The contract specifies who should share in - and how they should share in - the scientific and economic benefits arising out of research, development and commercialisation. The aim is to provide legal certainty for those who utilize resources and fair agreements for the countries of origin.

As part of its cooperation with developing countries and emerging economies, Germany supports partner countries and regional organisations (e.g. Ethiopia, India, the COMIFAC and the Central American Integration System, SICA) in their implementation of ABS. This includes setting up the necessary legal framework and building capacities of individuals and organisations. Important issues include: clarification of ownership to genetic resources by state authorities or indigenous people, the development of ABS strategies in the field of biological research as well as the development of internet-based systems for the analysis of scientific publications and patent applications. In cooperation with the Commission of the African Union, Germany also works to empower the African Union member states for their participation in further negotiations on the Nagoya Protocol. In addition, BMZ supports the development of value chains. An example of one such value chain is the use of essential oils of the globe thistle, Echinops, from Cameroon, for research and development in France.

Alternatives to mineral oil from extracts of different species of aloe are used to grease the fibers in the production of jute bags for coffee beans. The replacement is needed due to high mineral oil residues found in coffee packed in such bags.
ENSURING GENDER EQUALITY IN BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

Sustainable and participatory development in South East Europe (SEE) requires the integration of biodiversity into relevant strategies and action plans. Therefore, Germany is deeply involved in the development of regional capacities for surveying and assessing the value of ecosystem services in order to provide relevant information as a basis for political decisions and to demonstrate the importance of biodiversity conservation for investments. As an example, a study was undertaken to investigate how the ecosystem services of wetlands affect income, jobs and public revenue in several sectors, such as renewable hydroelectric energy, agriculture, water supply and tourism. The surveys were conducted in the cross border region of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro.

Gender issues also play an important role within this cooperative project. An evaluation of the “Open Regional Fund for South-East Europe - Biodiversity” came to the conclusion that the particular needs, opinions and interests of women, girls, men and boys in relation to biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources have not yet been given sufficient attention in NBSAPs. Hence, in addition to concrete recommendations for action, a gender mainstreaming strategy was proposed, providing the basis for integrating gender-related issues into planning, decision-making and implementation. This approach is expected to expedite progress on the path towards gender equality and to also have a positive impact on the overall development of the SEE countries.

COASTAL AND MARINE CONSERVATION IN THE CARIBBEAN

The Eastern Caribbean is a key region for biological diversity. However, the unique marine and terrestrial ecosystems of the small island states are vulnerable and particularly affected by the negative effects of climate change. In order to help the Caribbean islands adapt to climate change, Germany supports specific activities designed to reduce harmful influxes or impacts on marine protected areas and coral reefs. Measures are being undertaken to improve water supply and sewage disposal in coastal regions and adaptation measures are being implemented in agriculture and forestry. The beneficiaries of these efforts are fisher folk and farmers, people who work in the tourist industry and small and medium-sized enterprises, as the value of intact biodiversity is essential to the economic and social security of the Caribbean island states. In order to help them conserve the exceptional biodiversity of marine and coastal areas, the German Government supports the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI). The participating countries have identified a number of marine protected areas, but in many cases sustainable protection has yet to be put in place effectively. The protected areas are rarely embedded into their surrounding environment, nor do conservation strategies consider the specific land use in the neighbouring areas. So, many protected areas form a mosaic of isolated “islands of nature conservation”. Germany supports the Caribbean countries in the management and the designation of marine protected areas, amongst other things, in order to strengthen ecosystem-based adaptation for improved coastal protection against natural disasters. The measures are financed through a transnational regional environmental endowment fund, the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF).
ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN MOUNTAINOUS REGIONS
Mountains are especially prone to the impacts of climate change such as increased landslide risk, melting glaciers and decreasing biodiversity. At the same time, they are often subject to political neglect. Healthy mountain ecosystems, however, help buffer the impacts of climate change for local communities, wildlife and downstream populations worldwide.
Since 2011, the German Government helps fragile mountain ecosystems and local communities become more resilient to the impacts of climate change. The ‘Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in Mountain Ecosystems’ program worked in Peru, Uganda and Nepal to manage, conserve or restore natural environments. In Peru, for example, the project restored ancient water canals and developed grazing rotation plans. This has led to improved pasturages for herding-dependent communities, as well as to increased water availability downstream during the dry season. Not only are the pasturages more species-rich, but native species such as the vicuña are returning to these areas.

In the first phase of the project, breeders who completed trainings and a certification programme received voluntary payments for protecting and restoring the mangrove ecosystem. In Ca Mau province, this market-based PES (Payments for Ecosystem Services) mechanism led to the reforestation of 80 hectares and protection of 12,600 hectares of mangroves, thereby limiting erosion and forming a natural barrier against storms and sea level rise. This reduced farmers’ vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, while at the same time diversifying their income sources.

ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION THROUGH MANGROVE CONSERVATION IN VIET NAM
Shrimp aquaculture is a key driver of mangrove deforestation in Viet Nam, which has lost half of its mangrove forests over the past 30 years. Therefore, Germany supports the Mangroves and Markets project to develop sustainable coastal landscapes that support mangrove conservation and enhance the livelihoods and resilience to impacts of climate change of smallholder shrimp farmers in Viet Nam.

Since 2017, activities focus on upscaling successful results, adding Bhutan, Colombia and Kenya to the project. In addition, the project continues to support initiatives in Peru, Nepal and Uganda. These include the support to local communities in improving water stewardship techniques and other EbA measures. Knowledge exchange at conferences, climate negotiations and online platforms like PANORAMA foster scaling up of EbA measures outside the project countries as well.
Forest conservation

Forests still cover about 30 per cent of the earth’s surface - nearly four billion hectares. They fulfil many different functions: Forests protect the climate, supply raw materials, provide people with food, and are the basis for many people’s livelihoods. At the same time, there is growing pressure on remaining forests, especially in the tropics. This is due to global population growth and rising living standards, which lead to an increase in demand for timber products and wood as a source of energy, such as charcoal and firewood, and to the conversion of forests into agricultural land.

In partnership with other countries Germany has set out to conserve, restore and foster the sustainable use of tropical and subtropical forests and to establish deforestation-free supply chains for products such as cocoa, palm oil and soya. The support of the German Government ranges from political initiatives and multilateral funding instruments to technical and financial cooperation with partner countries:

• In 2011, Germany - together with the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration (GPFLR) and the IUCN - founded the Bonn Challenge and has been supporting the process politically and technically ever since. The aim of the Bonn Challenge is to restore 150 million hectares of forest by 2020.
• In 2014 Germany has committed itself to the implementation of the New York Declaration on Forests, which aims to halve deforestation by 2020 and end it altogether by 2030. Additionally, the Bonn Challenge’s target for forest restoration has been extended by 200 million hectares to a total of 350 million hectares of forest to be restored by 2030.
• At the climate summit in Paris in 2015, Germany, together with Norway and the United Kingdom, pledged five billion US dollars by the year 2020 for the implementation of the New York Declaration on Forests with the purpose of reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation of forests (REDD+):
  • Germany is currently the largest donor to the most important multilateral REDD Initiative, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, and has contributed a total of 360 million euros to date.
  • Germany belongs to the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI), a partnership between Central African countries, donors and other partners, with the goal of conserving the rainforests of Central Africa (covering 240 million hectares).
  • In cooperation with currently 26 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, the BMZ is supporting the restoration of up to 100 million hectares of forest and tree-rich, productive land by 2030 through its participation in the AFR100 Initiative (African Forest Landscape Restoration).

The five most important partner countries as regards forest projects of development cooperation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Amount (in million euros)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>215.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMIFAC countries</td>
<td>120.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesien</td>
<td>101.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>84.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>75.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In a nutshell

Forests provide a habitat for more than 75% of all terrestrial animal and plant species.

11% of greenhouse gas emissions are caused by deforestation and other changes of land use.

On-going forest projects which are part of bilateral development cooperation are valued at around 1.6 billion euros16, which serve...

...either primarily...

59%...or as a secondary objective serve the conservation and sustainable usage of forests.

41%

16 As at June 2018
17 As at 30.04.2018
18 As at 31.12.2017
19 Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe
STRATEGIC GOAL E: 
Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

The fifth Strategic Goal aims to strengthen the resources and means for the implementation of the Strategic Plan at all levels. Central to this is the participatory drafting, updating, adoption and implementation of NBSAPs. This requires capacity building, technology transfer and the mobilisation of financial resources from various sources. The Parties to the Convention are called upon to improve the knowledge base regarding the current state, trends and consequences of the loss of biodiversity. Another goal is to integrate the traditional knowledge of indigenous and local communities throughout the process.

The implementation of NBSAPs is often made more difficult by a lack of financial resources and a weak legal, institutional and technical framework. The Parties to the CBD therefore agreed on a comprehensive resource mobilisation strategy and set an international target for fundraising. They are called upon to calculate how much funding is needed for the implementation of their NBSAPs. They have committed themselves to further increase their own contributions to biodiversity conservation and to mobilise contributions from productive sectors. International funding is supplementary to their own domestic funding. The capital for nature conservation funds is often provided by a variety of international donors. This is why such funds are considered to be a suitable instrument for funding the conservation of biological diversity, even over a longer period of time than usual for the cooperation with developing countries and emerging economies.

Strengthening the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 in partner countries is the main concern of the German cooperation with developing countries and emerging economies in the field of biodiversity. It is mainly carried out through policy advice, promoting technical and institutional capacity, building partnerships and networks, and developing sustainable finance strategies.

generated through the visitors of the protected areas is not enough to cover the costs of their maintenance. Therefore, Germany, together with other development partners, is funding the Foundation for the Preservation of Madagascar’s Protected Areas and their Biodiversity. Interest on the Foundation’s capital covers part of the running costs for managing particular protected areas, whilst other protected areas receive direct financial support through German technical cooperation projects. Besides protection measures, those projects focus on the development of environmentally-friendly tourism and value chains, for example for honey.

PROTECTED AREAS FINANCE IN MADAGASCAR

Madagascar is the fourth largest island on earth. It has a unique world of plants and animals, fertile soils and is rich in natural resources. Nevertheless, Madagascar is one of the poorest countries worldwide. The rapidly growing population is putting increasing pressure on natural resources. Agriculture, uncontrolled use of firewood, and mineral extraction are spreading without constraint and are destroying the rich biodiversity of the country. One of the main priorities of Germany’s cooperation with Madagascar is therefore to promote sustainable management of natural resources and to protect nature. The German Government is investing in national parks and protected areas of different management categories, which also benefits the population of surrounding areas. Support is given to 28 protected areas covering a total area of about 17,000 square kilometres. However, the income generated through the visitors of the protected areas is not enough to cover the costs of their maintenance. Therefore, Germany, together with other development partners, is funding the Foundation for the Preservation of Madagascar’s Protected Areas and their Biodiversity. Interest on the Foundation’s capital covers part of the running costs for managing particular protected areas, whilst other protected areas receive direct financial support through German technical cooperation projects. Besides protection measures, those projects focus on the development of environmentally-friendly tourism and value chains, for example for honey.
NBSAPS AND MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY IN DEVELOPMENT PLANNING IN AFRICA

In order to drive forward the mainstreaming of biodiversity in Africa, Germany participated in the “Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Development” project, which was initiated by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC), until 2017. A total of eight countries in Sub-Saharan Africa were supported in the implementation of their NBSAPs. The core element of this project was the promotion of exchange between the partner countries at the regional level. Representatives of different sectors in each of the countries came together in the „African Leadership Group“ to learn from each other’s experiences, so that future decision-making could be improved. This strengthened the integration of biodiversity issues into the national and local development plans of Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia. Ghana and Uganda laid down criteria for biodiversity conservation in their sector strategies for energy, agriculture, fisheries and forestry. In Namibia, communication, education, and public relations measures were devised to raise awareness of the functions of biodiversity which are essential to our survival. The Seychelles drew up a Blue Economy Road Map, a policy guide for economic development which is in harmony with the protection and conservation of marine ecosystems. The government of this popular tourist destination also created an action plan for promoting a more sustainable tourism on the islands. The project contributed to national implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In Zimbabwe, it was possible to ensure that more attention is given to biodiversity conservation when the SDGs are adapted to fit the particular situation of the country.

THE ASEAN CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY

In Southeast Asia biodiversity has been declining considerably for many years. One of the reasons for this is rapid, resource-consuming economic growth in the ASEAN states (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam). The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity in the Philippines has therefore set itself the goal of conserving the biodiversity of the region and promoting the sustainable management of natural ecosystems, thereby contributing to an improvement in living standards and food security for the rural population. Germany has been supporting the centre since 2010. The focus is on strengthening institutions concerned with biodiversity, as well as capacity building - for example through training and exchange programmes for managers and staff. The centre serves as the secretariat of the ASEAN Heritage Parks Programme. In this function and with German support, it has designated ten new parks as ASEAN heritage and 15 more protected areas are to follow. The centre also promotes the establishment of buffer zones\(^20\) on the margins of the Heritage Parks. The great biodiversity of the region has considerable economic potential for the member states, for instance from marketing ecologically produced products. However, the inhabitants of the buffer zones in particular are not yet sufficiently aware of the actual economic potential. The centre is therefore developing joint win-win approaches, in which biodiversity conservation will be combined with measures to improve the livelihood of the mainly poor population. In buffer zones of selected Heritage Parks pilot projects are already promoting biodiversity-friendly value chains, where production and processing are mostly based on local knowledge. In this way, local people are given an incentive to keep their environment healthy whilst profiting from it at the same time.

\(^{20}\) Buffer zones are areas around protected areas or natural heritage sites where limitations to resource use and specific development measures are implemented. With this they contribute additionally to the protection of the heritage sites.
THE PHILIPPINES: USING TRADITIONAL INDIGENOUS PRACTICES FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Many nature reserves in the Philippines are located in ancestral indigenous areas. In spite of international conventions and national legislation, indigenous rights and needs are often not sufficiently recognised. Thus, indigenous practices are rarely taken into account in the management of protected areas. Since 2012, German technical cooperation has therefore supported the Philippine Government in establishing a management of protected areas, which includes all affected population groups. In order to put indigenous groups in a stronger position, indigenous people, together with academics and state actors, have documented how their traditional practices contribute to biodiversity conservation. This strategy is proving to be successful: In three natural protected areas particular indigenous practices are already being recognised and promoted by the Philippine Ministry of the Environment. Indigenous people are being increasingly involved in decisions about natural protected areas. And their practices are now being integrated more often into land use planning in their traditional lands. Indigenous people are also part of local teams of observers who monitor the development of biodiversity in natural protected areas in the Philippines. In this role, they have been able to ensure that species and areas, which are culturally valuable, are recognised as an important component of biological diversity. Documentation of their practices also led to further initiatives to improve the livelihoods of indigenous communities in cooperation with the Philippine partner authorities. In this context, it was possible for some indigenous people to create an alternative source of income, for example by making and selling jam. The success of the jam-making business persuaded the Philippine Ministry of the Environment to include native fruit trees in its reforestation programme.

BES-NET: ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE AND BUILD CAPACITY FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

From its outset in 2012, Germany has been supporting IPBES, which serves as an interface between the scientific community and policy makers. The Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net) was created as a joint initiative of UNDP and UN Environment-World Conservation Monitoring Centre to complement the capacity building work of IPBES. BES-Net is a “network of networks”, co-financed by Germany, Norway and Sweden, that promotes dialogue between science, policy and practice. At the global level, BES-Net coordinates closely with some 100 partners to disseminate news and updates on biodiversity and ecosystem services through various channels, expand online knowledge resource libraries and enhance individual interactions and group discussions.

At the regional level, BES-Net supports the uptake of the IPBES Thematic Assessment Reports by organizing “Trialogues” - face-to-face dialogues to facilitate mutual learning and catalyze joint actions between scientists, policy makers and community representatives. The Regional Triologue on Pollinators, Food Security and Rural Development for Eastern Europe, for example, led Bosnia and Herzegovina to sign the Declaration on the Coalition of the Willing on Pollinators to take national action to protect pollinators and their habitats.

At the national level, BES-Net assists in developing capacity in selected countries to conduct national ecosystem assessments and the development of policy support tools to integrate assessment findings into decision-making.
STRATEGIC GOAL E

TURNING THE TABLES: POACHERS BECOME GAMEKEEPERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

The occupation of park ranger is becoming increasingly important in Southern Africa: as many as 18 Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) are short of qualified gamekeepers and park managers. The job of a ranger takes much more than just protecting animals. Rangers need to be able to involve the local population and establish sustainable tourism. To this end, Germany supports training, scholarship programmes and the necessary infrastructure. Training is currently being provided primarily for rangers in the protected areas Great Limpopo and Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA). Together these two areas encompass about 60 per cent of the total area of all TFCAs and are home to more than two million people. Local districts within the KAZA region are able to rent out land to lodge operators, who create jobs and buy food from local farmers. The impressive wildlife is the centre of attraction to lodge guests, so locals now rather protect the animals than hunting them. Through financial cooperation, Germany supports the re-training of former poachers to convert into rangers. The total cost for all 18 protected areas is expected to be 35 million euros. At the beginning, Germany will provide around 10 million euros. Almost half of this contribution is being channelled into the expansion of the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC). The college was founded in 1996 with financial support from the German Government and is the leading institution in Africa in the field of environment and nature conservation. With support from German technical cooperation, the college ran an SADC-wide training course in fire management, in which training facilities in both Tanzania and South Africa were involved. Combating poaching is also on the curriculum. The college is located in the famous Kruger National Park, in which nearly 8,000 rhinos live and are under threat from poachers. With German support, the SAWC is able to build up its capacity and provide trained personnel for stopping wildlife trade.

BIOFIN: INVESTING IN NATURE

The Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) is a global partnership led by UNDP. BIOFIN addresses a key issue for reaching the objectives of the CBD and its Strategic Plan 2011-2020, which is the lack of financial resources for the protection of biodiversity. Germany supports the initiative since 2012, together with the European Commission, Switzerland, Norway and Flanders. To date, German funding totals 37.3 million euros. Most states lack reliable information on what funds are needed to effectively implement their NBSAPs, where these funds can be sourced and how they can be adequately and effectively assigned. The initiative addresses these gaps in knowledge. The BIOFIN methodology provides innovative steps to measure current biodiversity expendi-
Successful implementation of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan, with its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, requires not only capacity-building and raising awareness of the value of biodiversity, but also the mobilization of sufficient financial resources. Germany therefore supports its partner countries in devising funding strategies for the implementation of their NBSAPs. This support is provided, for example, within the framework of the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (see page 41). Furthermore, Germany advises other states on the valuation of ecosystem services and on integrating them into development plans and budgets, including those of productive sectors. Furthermore, support is provided for innovative funding mechanisms (see project example on page 38). One focus of the German involvement is the development of sustainable finance mechanisms for protected areas. German cooperation provides long-term funding for the management of protected areas, such as low-interest loans and funds for conservation. At the same time, it also provides incentives for biodiversity conservation, for example through ensuring that local populations receive a share of the revenue from tourism in protected areas. In this way, management costs can be reduced, and the compatibility of conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity can be promoted. Opening up new sources of funding is key to this - including from the private sector. Examples for such sources are payments for ecosystem services, tax incentives for sustainable production, and “green” public investment programmes for biodiversity conservation.
BMZ-FUNDED BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS WORLDWIDE:
Ongoing projects and commitments from 2016 and 2017*

Total volume of ongoing projects
(as at 15 June 2018)

€1773 million

Total volume of commitments 2016-2017

€748 million

Latin America & Caribbean

€518.5 million

€246 million

Sub-Saharan Africa

€705.5 million

€223.3 million

* Excludes multilateral funding.
No position on the legal status of sovereign territories or borders is implied by the terms or cartographic depictions used. As at October 2018.
ONGOING BIODIVERSITY RELEVANT IKI PROJECTS OF BMU
(as at 31 December 2017)

IKI funding volume of ongoing projects (as at 31 December 2017)
Projects relevant for biodiversity by area of support

- Area II - adaptation to climate change
- Area III - conservation and sustainable use of natural carbon sinks / REDD+
- Area IV - biodiversity

Central and Latin America, Caribbean
- €92.76 million
- €65.32 million

Supra-Regional
- €9.72 million
- €38.2 million

$300 million
$139 million
$99 million
In September 2015 the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with its 17 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were also influenced by biodiversity objectives. Alongside the goal of protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, a separate goal for the conservation of oceans and marine life was adopted. In addition, the conservation of natural ecosystems and biological diversity is enshrined as a cross-cutting issue in other goals such as those relating to food security, water supply, urban development and climate change mitigation.

The greater consideration of the ecological dimension of sustainability in the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs has given biodiversity conservation new impetus. On the other hand, the implementation of the Aichi Targets also contributes to the achievement of the SDGs - not only as regards SDGs 14 and 15 which have a clear link to biodiversity and terrestrial/marine ecosystems. There are numerous other links between the two target systems. For example, the rehabilitation and protection of ecosystems providing services essential to human health (Aichi Target 14) also contributes to SDG 3 (good health and wellbeing). The implementation of the 2030 Agenda can therefore draw on synergies with existing target systems and the corresponding implementation plans and monitoring mechanisms. This enables resources to be combined (e.g. for data collection purposes), the level of ambition in relation to the implementation of the SDGs to be raised, and the conception of individual SDGs to be improved. It can also simplify countries’ decisions on action to be taken at national level to meet the requirements of the 2030 Agenda and to incorporate the necessary measures into the revision and implementation of their national development plans and into their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
1.4 Ensure equal rights and access to resources, technologies and services
1.a Mobilize resources from a variety of sources to end poverty
1.b Create sound policy frameworks based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment

2.3 Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers
2.4 Ensure sustainable food production and resilient agricultural practices
2.5 Maintain the genetic diversity of biodiversity and promote ABS
2.b Ensure equitable trade in world agricultural markets

3.9 Reduce health impacts from hazardous chemicals, pollution, and contamination

4.7 Ensure education for the promotion of sustainable development
5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

6.1 Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water
6.3 Improve water quality by reducing pollution
6.4 Increase water-use efficiency and address water scarcity
6.5 Implement integrated water resources management, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate
6.6 Protect and restore water-related ecosystems

7.2 Increase share of renewable energy

8.4 Improve global resource efficiency and decouple economic growth from environmental degradation
9.4 Increase resource-use efficiency and clean technologies and processes in infrastructure and industries
10.b Encourage official development assistance and financial flows to States in need

11.4 Protect and safeguard cultural and natural heritage
11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban and rural areas
Vision: Sustainable Development for People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships.