



BIODIVERSITY

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's vision of a sustainable and equitable future for people and planet depends on the goods and services contributed by the world's ecosystems and the biodiversity within them.

Yet over the last century, there has been an unprecedented loss of this biodiversity from habitat destruction, overexploitation, pollution, climate change, and the introduction of invasive alien species. All of these problems are the result of human activity.

A 2015 study by the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the Natural History Museum and British universities showed that by 2005 land-use change alone had caused a decrease of 13.6% in the average number of species found in local ecosystems, compared to the pre-industrial era. We now face sudden and irreversible change that could compromise our planet's ability to support human development. Urgent action is needed to halt this decline.

UN Environment's Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Unit prioritizes this action, working with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to arrest the decline in biodiversity and conserve ecosystem services for the benefit of current and future generations. We have worked together on over 350 projects, helping more than 150 countries improve and expand their action on biodiversity.

CASE STUDY

Protecting biodiversity, balancing benefits

The tiny community of Pinakota Grama Panchayat in India's rural Andhra Pradesh State is surrounded by dense tropical forest. Many of its residents earn their livelihoods from the forest, collecting or farming non-timber produce, including plants such as 'the King of Bitters' (*Andrographis paniculata*).

The local community has used this plant for centuries to treat conditions from stomach pain and intestinal worms to malaria and anaemias, and with the benefits of traditional herbal medicines increasingly recognised in the developed world, there is rising demand for the plants, giving the villagers the opportunity to sell their produce for cash.

Unfortunately, the residents have little control over this market and are vulnerable to unscrupulous traders who can exploit them and sell the produce to pharmaceutical companies at high margins. In addition, there is a real danger that overexploitation could result in these plants disappearing forever – both reducing the forest's genetic diversity and depriving local people of valuable medicine and income.

With GEF support, UN Environment is addressing these issues through an Access and Benefit Sharing project. Working with the Government of India in 10 states, the project is enabling equitable access to biological resources, assessing their economic value and better sharing their benefits amongst local people.

One result is the creation of local biodiversity funds. Fees are levied on those who collect the biological produce of the forest for commercial purposes. This money is used for conservation activities, such as the distribution and planting of seedlings.

"Due to the project we are able to get benefits from the resources available in our village, and the livelihoods of the people have increased," says Krupa Shamhi, chair of Pinakota Grama's new Biodiversity Management Committee, which is responsible for conserving and documenting the area's diverse flora and fauna. "We are able to avoid middlemen in resource transactions and earn more income. These benefits have helped us to work towards biodiversity conservation."

By bringing together the villagers, traders, and businesses involved in the market for herbal medicines, the project has shown that it is possible for local people to benefit from the rich biodiversity of their homeland, while still preserving these resources for generations to come.

Unep Biodiversity Programme Implementa

Shekhar Singh



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UNEP's Assistance in the Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Development States (SIDS) United Nations Environment Programme,2004 **The UNEP Biodiversity**
Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente,1995 Integrating Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Rules of the World Trade Organization David R. Downes,1999 In the 1990s the international community placed both biodiversity protection and trade liberalization high on its agenda resulting in the formation of global agreements and institutions such as the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity CBD and the World Trade Organization WTO Distinct in character they are increasingly linked through the many ways that trade rules affect biodiversity Developing separately and involving very different communities there is a risk that the rules and policies of one regime could hinder the effectiveness of the other This publication seeks to encourage sustainable development by examining and building upon the complementary aspects of these two international regimes It describes specific proposals fo resolving or avoiding conflicts and for promoting synergies including opportunities to support effective implementation of the trade related aspects of the CBD Intended as background for both trade and environment experts and officials as well as for environment and development non governmental organizations Pleadings, Minutes of Public Sitings and Documents / Mémoires, procès-verbaux des audiences publiques et documents, Volume 22 (2015)(2 vols) Intl. Tribunal for the Law of the Sea,2016-10-05 The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea is an international court with competence to settle disputes concerning the law of the sea It is a central forum for the settlement of disputes relating to the interpretation and application of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea This volume contains the texts of written pleadings minutes of public sitings and other documents from the proceedings concerning the Request for an Advisory Opinion submitted by the Sub Regional Fisheries Commission SRFC Request for Advisory Opinion submitted to the Tribunal The documents are reproduced in their original language The Tribunal delivered its Advisory Opinion on 2 April 2015 It is published in the Reports of Judgments Advisory Opinions and Orders 2015 ITLOS Reports 2015 Le Tribunal international du droit de la mer est une juridiction internationale qui a comp tence en mati re de r glement des diff rends relatifs au droit de la mer Il est une instance centrale pour le r glement des diff rends relatifs l interpr tation et l application de la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer Le pr sent volume contient le texte des pi ces de la proc dure crite des proc s verbaux des audiences publiques et d autres documents produits au cours de l instance relative la Demande d avis consultatif soumise par la Commission Sous R gionale des P ches CSRP Demande d avis consultatif soumise au Tribunal Les documents sont reproduits dans la langue originale utilis e Le Tribunal a rendu son avis consultatif le 2 avril 2105 L avis est publi dans le Recueil des arr ts avis consultatifs et ordonnances 2015 TIDM Recueil 2015 **The UNEP Biodiversity Programme and Implementation Strategy** United Nations Environment Programme,Biodiversity Programme and Implementation

Strategy,1995 **Biodiversity Program Study** , THE UNEP Biodiversity Programme and Implementation Strategy
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Assessments AoA is a start up phase of a regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment including socio economic aspects AoA represents the most comprehensive initiative undertaken to date by the UN system to better coordinate ocean governance Its central recommendation calls for a mechanism that builds on existing global regional and national institutions and processes while integrating all available information including socio economic data on how our seas and oceans are actually being used Publisher s description **Biodiversity Program Study** Shekhar Singh,2001 **Protection of the Environment for the New Millennium** Kalliopi Koufa,2002 Lectures and papers presented at the Institute s annual session **Annual Evaluation Report** United Nations Environment Programme,2002 **Environmental Issues** United Nations Publications,1997 Symposium on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the Bern Convention Council of Europe,1995

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