



Input from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Work Stream 1 Comments

Thematic Funding Windows

1. Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation

Summary

The Secretariat recommends that a thematic funding window is established for ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation.

Description

Ecosystem-based adaptation uses biodiversity and ecosystem services in an overall adaptation strategy. It includes the sustainable management, conservation and restoration of ecosystems to provide services that help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

Examples of ecosystem-based adaptation activities include:

- Coastal defence through the maintenance and/or restoration of mangroves and other coastal wetlands to reduce coastal flooding and coastal erosion.
- Sustainable management of upland wetlands and floodplains for maintenance of water flow and quality.
- Conservation and restoration of forests to stabilize land slopes and regulate water flows.
- Conservation of agrobiodiversity to provide specific gene pools for crop and livestock adaptation to climate change.

Rationale

The 193 Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity recognized the importance and value of ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation in decision X/33 of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD¹.

The same decision recognizes the importance of improved provision of financial resources for ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation as part of a broader climate change adaptation funding portfolio.

¹ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-10/cop-10-dec-33-en.pdf>

2. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Summary

The Secretariat recommends that a thematic funding window is established in order to ensure that biodiversity resources and ecosystem services are able to adapt to the negative impacts of climate change

Description

Conservation and management strategies that maintain and restore biodiversity can be expected to reduce some of the negative impacts from climate change; however, there are rates and magnitude of climate change for which natural adaptation will become increasingly difficult.

Options to increase the adaptive capacity of species and ecosystems in the face of accelerating climate change include:

- Reducing non-climatic stresses, such as pollution, over-exploitation, habitat loss and fragmentation and invasive alien species.
- Wider adoption of conservation and sustainable use practices including through the strengthening of protected area networks.
- Facilitating adaptive management through strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems.

Rationale

The 193 Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity through decision X/33 of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD² recognized the urgent need of developing countries for the provision of financial support and technical assistance to address the challenges to biodiversity from climate change, particularly with regards to vulnerability and adaptation.

² <http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-10/cop-10-dec-33-en.pdf>