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THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET IN EU DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

“HALTING THE LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY BY 2010”

A critical challenge for EU external development

In 2001, EU Heads of State and Government meeting at the EU's Spring Summit in Gothenburg, made a commitment to “halt the decline of biodiversity by 2010”. In 2002, on the occasion of the Sixth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and, subsequently, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), world leaders agreed to “the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity”.

The aim of this paper is to provide a brief analysis of the progress made by the EU towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target in its external development co-operation policy with a focus on policies and programmes for Africa Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and Asia and Latin America (ALA) countries. Progress made is assessed in light of the political commitments and instruments adopted and their implementation. Whilst acknowledging the importance of the development aid delivered through bilateral relations, the paper focuses on the initiatives and undertakings made by the European Commission in its development cooperation policy to foster the achievement of the 2010 Biodiversity target outside Europe.

In 2001, EU Heads of State and Government meeting at the EU's Spring Summit in Gothenburg, made a commitment to “halt the decline of biodiversity by 2010”. In 2002, on the occasion of the Sixth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and, subsequently, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), world leaders agreed to “the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity”.

These commitments were also reflected in the renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy approved by the European Council in June 2006.

The EU is the world's foremost donor of development aid, accounting for 57% of the total official development assistance

(ODA)¹. As a global leader on environmental issues, and in recognition of its commitment to contribute to a significant reduction in the worldwide rate of biodiversity loss by 2010, the EU has a special responsibility towards the preservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services in its development cooperation. Indeed, one of the agreed actions under the 2006 Sustainable Development Strategy is the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy in both its European and its global dimensions (Convention on Biological Diversity).

The inextricable links between environment and development are now well accepted as well as the understanding that many environmental issues can only be tackled through a multilateral and co-operative approach. Degradation of the natural environment has profound

negative impacts on human beings, their health and their livelihoods or may spark conflict and migration owing to the scarcity of natural resources. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment² highlights how biodiversity loss and deteriorating ecosystem services contribute - directly or indirectly - to worsening health, higher food insecurity, increasing vulnerability for populations and women and children in particular, decreasing material wealth and worsening social relations.

The renewed framework for EU development policy again emphasises the need to mainstream environment along with other key cross-cutting issues in development cooperation with EU's partner countries. This is a challenge that EU decision makers and governments cannot afford to miss.

A PROMISING POLICY FRAMEWORK

The combined policy frameworks for EU development co-operation and biodiversity protection set out a number of promising measures towards the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target in development co-operation policy:

- The EU Development Consensus and environmental sustainability
- Biodiversity targets in EU development cooperation
- EU Council and the Message from Paris

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ENSHRINED IN EU DEVELOPMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK

“The European Consensus on Development”³, adopted on 20 December 2005 by the European Council, the Parliament and the Commission sets out the new framework for the development policy of the European Union. The document asserts that the primary and overarching objective of EU development cooperation is “the eradication of poverty in the context of sustainable development, including pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)”. “Ensuring environmental sustainability” is the seventh of the eight MDGs and incorporates a target to: i) integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources. Progress indicators for this target include the proportion of land area covered by forest and the ratio of area protected to maintain biological biodiversity to surface area.⁴ In 2007, the MDG monitoring framework was revised to include four new targets: one of these, Target 7.B aims to “Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss.”⁵

Preserving ecosystem services and biodiversity also underlies the achievement of the other MDGs as illustrated below. The EU will produce a review of its contribution to the MDGs in preparation for the expected UN review event in 2010.

The European Consensus also reaffirms in the “Common objectives”, the commitment “to promoting policy

coherence for development” to ensure that EU interventions take account of the objectives of development cooperation in all policies which are likely to affect developing countries and to maximise the positive contributions that these non-aid policies can make. Environment is one of the twelve areas for policy coherence for development (PCD) that are of particular importance for attaining the MDGs⁷.

HOW BIODIVERSITY CONTRIBUTES TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS⁶

MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Biodiversity and ecosystem services are essential to the productivity of agriculture, forests, and fisheries. The soil fertility, erosion control and nutrient cycling provided by ecosystems enables people to derive food, water, fibres, fuel, income and livelihoods from natural and managed landscapes; degraded ecosystems make the poor more vulnerable to increased frequency and impact of droughts, floods, landslides and other natural disasters.

MDG 2 and 3: Achieve universal primary education; Promote gender equality and empower women

When biodiversity and ecosystem services are degraded or destroyed, the burden falls disproportionately on women and girls, who are forced to travel farther and spend more time in the search of drinking water, fuel food, and other forest products. This increased burden limits their opportunities for education, literacy and income generating activities.

MDG 4, 5 and 6: Reduce child mortality; Improve maternal health; Combat major diseases

Genetic resources are the basis for modern and traditional healthcare treatments. Some 80% of the world’s people rely on traditional healthcare systems that use traditional medicines, mostly derived from plants found in the local environment. The global pharmaceuticals industry also depends on genetic diversity: of the 150 most frequently prescribed drugs, more than half are derived from or patterned after the natural world. Also affecting maternal and child health is the increased spread of malaria, dengue fever, and other insect and water borne diseases linked to degraded ecosystems. Loss of biodiversity and ecosystem function can lead to economic disruption, population dislocation and urban crowding, which encourages the spread of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, hepatitis and HIV/AIDS.

MDG 8: Develop global partnership of development

Maintaining biodiversity and the integrity of critical ecosystem functioning will require global partnership – encompassing government, the private sector and civil society in developing and industrial countries. MDG 8 embodies, among other things, the commitment of the developed countries to increase development assistance and open their markets to developing country products – efforts that should be undertaken in ways that support rather than degrade the biological resource base on which achievement of the MDGs ultimately depends.

BIODIVERSITY TARGETS FOR EU DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION POLICY

In 2004, the Environment Council endorsed the Message from Malahide⁸ on “Halting the decline of biodiversity – Priority objectives and targets for 2010”, resulting from the stakeholders’ conference “Biodiversity and the EU - Sustaining life, sustaining livelihoods”. The Message from Malahide includes a series of objectives which are of primary importance to biodiversity in development cooperation: forestry, economic and development cooperation, international trade, indicators and monitoring.

In 2006, the EU commitment to the 2010 biodiversity target was translated into an action plan: The “EU Action Plan to 2010 and Beyond”⁹ (hereafter called “the 2010 Action Plan”). The Environment Council welcomed the Communication from the Commission and the Action plan in its conclusions of 18 December 2006. The section dealing with “The EU and Global Biodiversity” has three objectives, one of which is “to substantially strengthen support for biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance”. Two headline targets are attached to it:

- Target A7.1: financial resources flowing annually to projects directly benefiting biodiversity has substantially increased in real terms (for period 2006-2010 compared with period 2000-2005; and again for period 2011-2013);
- Target A7.2: EU “mainstream” external development assistance delivering enhanced biodiversity and related livelihoods benefits, and negative impacts on biodiversity prevented or minimised, from 2006 onwards.

The implementation of these measures needs to be a concerted and co-ordi-

THE PARIS CONFERENCE ON BIODIVERSITY IN EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION SEPTEMBER 2006

Organised under the initiative of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) in partnership with the European Commission, Belgium, Finland (holder of the EU Presidency at the time), France and Sweden, this conference brought together more than 450 participants from a range of stakeholders in development cooperation and environment protection, including the European Parliament and the Commission, representatives of 17 EU member states, 40 partner countries, several regional and international organisations, NGOs and the private sector.

Devised to improve the understanding and treatment of matters linked to biodiversity in development assistance of the European Commission and the Member States, it aimed at facilitating the dialogue between environment and development communities.

The Message from Paris adopted as an outcome of the Conference identifies four sets of challenges and related recommendations for common action on integrating biodiversity into EU development cooperation:

- to support the integration of biodiversity in partner countries;
- to improve governance;
- to reinforce the available instruments and the coherence between policies; and,
- to acknowledge the worldwide importance of biodiversity of overseas European countries and territories.

The proceedings of the Conference are available at www.iucn.org

nated effort between the European Commission and Member States.

THE MESSAGE FROM PARIS AND THE EU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

In December 2006, EU Ministers at the General Affairs Council welcomed the “Message from Paris – Integrating biodiversity into European development cooperation”¹⁰. In its conclusions, the Council in particular “underlines that conservation, sustainable use of and equitable sharing of benefits from biodiversity as well as sustaining ecosystem services are core development issues” and “shares the concern expressed on the continuing decline of biodiversity and ecosystem services and underlines the urgent need for intensified and coordinated efforts to halt this trend”. The Council further “highlights the importance of including biodiversity and sustaining ecosystems services in policy dialogue processes with partner countries and regions encouraging them to further identify needs and prioritise them in national and regional development strategies and plans;” and

“invites the Commission, [...], to report to the Council on a regular basis on the implementation of main priority actions identified in the Message from Paris”. A first assessment of the work undertaken shall be presented in October 2008 at the IUCN World Conservation Congress by the French Presidency of the EU.

The many political declarations and policy instruments represent a comprehensive public pledge to put the EU at the forefront of tackling the environmental challenge with a coherent and sustainable external development cooperation policy. They represent a genuine response to European citizens concerns regarding biodiversity loss. The result of a recent European poll for Eurobarometer reveals that 70% of Europeans believe that the loss of global biodiversity is a very serious problem¹¹.

However, the recent progress report published by the European Commission: “A first assessment of implementing the EC Biodiversity Action Plan” shows that considerable effort is still required to effectively turn policy into action.

THE IMPLEMENTATION GAP

NO SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE SO FAR IN EC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR BIODIVERSITY

The first target of Objective 7 of the 2010 EU Action Plan is “financial resources flowing annually to projects directly benefiting biodiversity has substantially increased in real terms (for period 2006-2010 compared with period 2000-2005; and again for period 2011-2013)”;

The first annual report on the implementation of the 2010 Action plan describes progress on the two Community activities listed to reach this headline target as follows:

BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR BIODIVERSITY IN THE THEMATIC PROGRAMME

In February 2007, in accordance with Article 13 of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), the EU adopted a Thematic Strategy as a guide to implement the Thematic Programme for the environment and sustainable management of natural resources, including energy (ENRTP). Following on the 2004 development aid reform, the ENRTP replaces a previous budget line which had a focus on work in developing countries to foster sustainable forest management and environmental protection.

The Thematic Strategy has a first priority activity for “working upstream on MDG 7 to promote environmental sustainability”. Priority number two is to promote the implementation of EU initiatives and internationally agreed commitments. This includes, among the eleven issues, support for actions related to biodiversity, forest, fisheries and marine coastal resources, and

combating desertification. The performance indicator related to the biodiversity activities is an “increase in number and quality of country and regional programmes for 2010 and 2013 that address biodiversity issues”¹².

In February 1998, the European Commission adopted a Communication on a European Biodiversity Strategy. Under this Strategy, four biodiversity action plans have subsequently been adopted. One of them is the Biodiversity Action Plan on Economic and Development Cooperation outside Europe (BAP-EDC) adopted in 2001.

The Thematic Strategy for the Environment and Sustainable management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) adopted in 2007, refers to this Action Plan for the biodiversity activities to be financed.

“In total, approximately 120 million Euro will be available for biodiversity related matters under 2007-2010 ENRTP. This represents an annual average of 37.5 million Euro, more or less equivalent to the amount of the funding earmarked in the 2000-2006 period”¹³. Of the 218 million Euro spent between 2000 and 2004 under the previous budget lines, 10% were allocated to biodiversity, 39% to forests and 2% to ocean and fisheries¹⁴.

FUNDING FOR SPECIFIC BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS VIA GEOGRAPHIC PROGRAMMING

The major part of EU funding for development comes through the geographic programming in application of the DCI regulation and the European Develop-

ment Fund (EDF) for Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP).

While the annual EDF allocation has been approximately doubled between the 9th and 10th EDF, the annual flow of commitments for the major programmes in the biodiversity field in ACP countries, excluding biodiversity activities within rural development programmes, has gone from 14 million Euros for the 2000-2006 period to 19 million Euros¹⁵. For Asia, “the general trend is of a significant decrease in the field of biodiversity [...], either in relative or absolute terms”. For Latin America, the report on the Action Plan states that “very few countries are concerned in that region”.

The status of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services continues to decline in many of these regions. Furthermore the impacts of climate change calls for urgent consideration to be given to the maintenance of ecosystem services and sustainable use of natural resources in country national strategies. Half way to the Millennium Development Goals, eight years since EU Members states and the European Commission made the commitment to halt biodiversity loss by 2010, biodiversity conservation and natural resources have still not been brought into the mainstream of EU development and funding.

WWF CALLS ON THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND EU MEMBER STATES TO:

- ensure that support for biodiversity is increased along with other areas within the planned overall increase in EU development aid;
- work with Partner Countries towards Sectoral Budget Support focused on environment;
- develop sustainable, beyond project, sources of funding for biodiversity (such as trust funds or payments for ecosystem services);
- take the opportunity of the mid-term review to propose increased support for biodiversity conservation in regions and countries of particular importance for global biodiversity;
- explore funds from the intra-ACP programme to develop strategic biodiversity initiatives in collaboration with ACP countries.

MAINSTREAMING OF ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY IN THE OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK: THE PRACTICE MUST BE SCALED UP

The second headline target of Objective 7 of the 2010 Action plan is “to “mainstream” external development assistance delivering enhanced biodiversity and related livelihoods benefits, and negative impacts on biodiversity prevented or minimised, from 2006 onwards”.

There are a number of procedures and tools to foster the mainstreaming of biodiversity in development cooperation programme. Their implementation

still however needs to be made more systematic to guarantee results at the scale of the level of ambition set.

The European Consensus on Development introduced the principle of “concentration” focusing EU Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) in a limited number of areas of action. Environmental sustainability is one of the nine focal areas for Community action and among the four cross-cutting issues for a “strengthened approach to mainstreaming”. At the programming stage, the Commission requires that only two focal areas for Community action be selected per country. Applying the principles of partnership and country ownership, the choice for environmental sustainability as a focal or non-focal sector therefore depends on the policy dialogue between the partner country and the EU. Nevertheless, the mainstreaming of environment is compulsory in EC programming.

FROM COUNTRY ENVIRONMENT PROFILES TO COUNTRY STRATEGY PAPERS: BIODIVERSITY FALLS OFF

The frameworks for EC Country and Regional Strategy Papers (CSPs/RSPs) have been revised in light of the European Consensus and require the preparation of country and regional environmental profiles (CEP/REP). A summary of the CEP is annexed to the Strategy Papers and relevant points are used for the assessment of the environmental situation in the country diagnosis. The new frameworks have been used for the programming in ACP countries of the 10th EDF. The current CSPs and RSPs for Asia and Latin America were prepared before the new framework and guidelines were agreed¹⁶. The Commission reports that CEPs have been prepared

for most countries in the 2007-2013 programming exercise.

The EU Report on Policy Coherence for Development states that “the analysis of the CSPs of ACP countries for the 10th EDF points to a growing awareness of the importance of environmental issues” with “environment being mentioned as a relevant PCD in 22 CSP out of 59, making it the fourth most frequently mentioned PCD area”¹⁷. However, the report also states that “no particular environmental issues are mentioned”. In the same vein, the Progress report on the 2010 Action plan states that “Country Environmental Profiles for most partner countries stress the importance of biodiversity [...]. However, very few countries have identified biodiversity as a priority sector for cooperation in their Country Strategy Papers. This is a major impediment to enhancing Community funding for biodiversity in development cooperation”¹⁸.

These assessments are in marked contrast to the corresponding action listed in the 2010 Action plan. Action A7.2.1 puts a clear emphasis on the importance that CSPs “take fully into account” the biodiversity requirements identified in the country environment profiles. The use of political dialogue to raise the profile of environmental issues during the programming process has been identified by the Commission in its response to the EU Court of Auditors Special Report 6/2006.

Better consideration of biodiversity issues is expected in the Regional Strategy Papers, in particular for the Pacific region, Overseas Countries and Territories and Central Africa. RSPs are still in the process of preparation.

WWF PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATES:

- Raise awareness among European development policy makers and cooperation partners on the importance of addressing biodiversity and the value of ecosystem services as central issues for achieving the MDGs;
- Provide a leadership role to give biodiversity conservation issues, as identified in the environmental profiles, a prominent place in the “programming dialogue” between the partner country/region and the EC, supporting the full involvement of the national government departments responsible for biodiversity and natural resources.
- Facilitate the appropriate participation of partner countries’ civil society in major stages of development cooperation planning;
- Use the CEP/REP or national/regional equivalents as tools to highlight the importance of undertaking specific actions for biodiversity;
- Take the opportunity of the mid term-review of the programming cycle to further mainstream initiatives directly benefiting biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- Systematically seek inputs and opinions from civil society, in particular the poor and indigenous peoples, as well as governmental viewpoints, in setting country-level priorities for aid programmes

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS (SEA)

SEAs are used to integrate environmental considerations in policies, plans and programmes, including in budget support. The 2001 Environment Integration Strategy recommended the use of SEAs to systematically incorporate environmental considerations “into the preparation of all strategic plans and programmes of EC development co-operation, in particular CSP as well as indicative programmes, structural adjustment programmes and sector wide reform and support programmes”¹⁹. The Strategy also stressed the importance of supporting partner countries’ capacity to undertake SEAs and EIAs.

The Consensus on Development also requires that SEAs are used on systematic basis in both budget and sectoral aid. Given that the EU has committed itself to double the percentage of its assistance through budget support or Sector Wide Approach arrangements, a thorough and systematic undertaking of SEAs taking into account the biodiversity conservation requirements as identified in the CEP is crucial. The progress report on the 2010 Action plan states that: “almost all draft CSPs include a commitment to undertake SEAs”. According to the Commission in response to a question from the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, commitments to carry out SEAs have been made in 27 CSPs in addition to several underway.²⁰ This is a positive development. However, it will be important that SEAs are actually carried out and their conclusions are taken into consideration. Completion of SEA and the monitoring of defined actions must be a transparent process .

WWF CALLS ON THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATES TO:

- Set performance indicators to use funding to build up partner countries’ capacity to undertake SEA according to best practices and to act on their results.
- Ensure adequate public participation and representation of stakeholders in these processes.
- Increase capacity within headquarters and delegations/embassies to tackle the specific requirements of biodiversity mainstreaming and in particular in the use of SEAs;
- Work in a coordinated manner with partner countries and amongst donors to produce jointly agreed SEAs.
- Set up a specific mechanism to ensure that SEA findings and recommendations are translated into action in Country and Regional Strategy Papers and National and Regional Indicative Programmes.

WILL THE EU STRATEGY FOR MAINSTREAMING ENVIRONMENT IN DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION HELP TO DELIVER THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET?

THE EU COURT OF AUDITORS SPECIAL REPORT: CRITICAL STOCKTAKE

In response to the very critical European Court of Auditor's special report in 2006²¹ concerning the environmental aspects of the Commission's development cooperation, the Commission undertook to revise its 2001 environmental integration strategy with the view of presenting a Communication to the European Parliament and the Council on this issue. The process of consultation began in July 2007.

POLICY COHERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT: LIMITED PROGRESS

The EU report on Policy Coherence for Development in 2007 also acknowledges the insufficient progress made regarding the mainstreaming of environment and natural resources in development cooperation instruments. Five key problems are identified:²²

1. the limited streamlining of environment into EU external policies;
2. limited share of environmental activities in overall development cooperation;
3. insufficient harmonisation among bilateral donors and multilateral actors;
4. inconsistent use of available instruments to assess environmental impact of different activities
5. lack of country ownership: environmental stakeholders are often not represented at the negotiating tables where PRSPs, CSPs or bilateral aid programmes are being discussed.

The weak and limited progress so far in the mainstreaming of biodiversity in development cooperation policy calls for a renewed high level political commitment to put the 2010 biodiversity target prominently on the EU external development agenda. The revised environmental integration strategy should be the central EU instrument to this end. It should be supported and agreed jointly by the Commission, the Parliament and the Member States and adopted at the highest level to give further guarantees for its effective monitoring, reporting and implementation.

TO DELIVER EFFECTIVELY ON THE LEGAL, POLITICAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAIN- ABILITY AND BIODIVERSITY, THE REVISED STRATEGY SHOULD INCORPORATE THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:²³

- the stimulation of investments in environment through geographic programming and addressing particular challenges of a global or multi-regional focus;
- ways to make new aid modalities work in favour of investments in the environment and natural resources for sustainable development;
- transparency and easy access to environmental information (CEP/REP, CSP/RSP, SEA and EIA etc) with a common approach to the publication of information to facilitate civil society participation in EU development cooperation policy and programming;
- enhanced public participation with initiatives to build up capacity amongst stakeholders in partner countries on

environmental management and monitoring;

- a clear plan and indicators on the involvement of civil society groups in further development and implementation of the strategy at global, regional and national level;
- specific indicators to raise the profile of environmental issues at each stage of the programming process;
- ways of ensuring that the CEPs and REPs recommendations are raised in the political dialogues and that they are translated into the CSPs and RSPs;
- increased coherence with external aspects of other EU policies;
- mechanisms to address climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation requirements in the programming of development funding, moving up from project-based approach to full integration;
- increased training in environmental integration into EU cooperation, for all delegation officials and headquarters staff working on development cooperation with a target of 100% staff trained by 2010;
- performance indicators and not only programming indicators to assess the effectiveness and progress of mainstreaming, with a yearly review of progress.
- follow-up and practical implementation of the Council Conclusions on the Message from Paris, beginning with the French Presidency at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in October 2008.

- 1 OECD DAC
- 2 Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. *Biodiversity Synthesis*. 2005.
- 3 Official Journal C 46/01 of 24 February 2006.
- 4 MDG Monitor, UNDP, 2007
- 5 Commission Staff Working Paper SEC(2008) 433. *The Millennium Development Goals – State of Play*.
- 6 Taken from the Millennium Development Goals and Conservation. *Managing Nature's Wealth for Society's Health*, edited by Dilys Roe. 2005 (second print).
- 7 "Policy mix" adopted in the GAERC conclusions of May 2005, COM/2005/134.
- 8 Message from Malahide: Halting the decline of biodiversity - Priority objectives and targets for 2010, 27 May 2004
- 9 EU Action Plan to 2010 and Beyond" annexed to the Communication from the Commission "Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 – and beyond", COM (2006) 216 final.
- 10 Council Conclusions on the Message from Paris, 11 December 2006.
- 11 Report European Commission, DG Environment, Progress Towards Halting the Loss of Biodiversity, 15 January 2008, p. 12
- 12 Thematic Strategy for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy, Annex 4 : Matrix for Programme Implementation under the Thematic Strategy, p. 29
- 13 Progress Towards Halting the Loss of Biodiversity by 2010, A First Assessment of Implementing the EC Biodiversity Action Plan, European Commission, Directorate General Environment, 15 January 2008, p.7.
- 14 Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation: Supporting the Sustainable Development of Partner Countries, IUCN, R. Billé (ed), 2006, p. 49.
- 15 Progress Towards Halting the Loss of Biodiversity by 2010, A First Assessment of Implementing the EC Biodiversity Action Plan, European Commission, Directorate General Environment, 15 January 2008, p. 8
- 16 Environmental tools in EC development cooperation, WWF, BirdLife, Fern, September 2007, p.12.
- 17 Commission Staff Working Paper Accompanying the Commission Working Paper, EU Report on Policy Coherence for Development (COM(2007)545 final), SEC (2007) 1202, Brussels 20.09.2007, p. 44.
- 18 Progress Towards Halting the Loss of Biodiversity by 2010, A First Assessment of Implementing the EC Biodiversity Action Plan, European Commission, Directorate General Environment, 15 January 2008, p.8.
- 19 Strategy for the Integration of Environmental Considerations into Development Policy to Promote Sustainable Development – Council Conclusions 31 May 2001. Point 3.6.
- 20 Replies given by the Commission to Oral Questions, ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, 14th Session, Kigali, November 2007.
- 21 European Court of Auditors, Special Report 6/2006: The environmental aspects of the Commission's development cooperation, July 2006.
- 22 Commission Staff Working Paper Accompanying the Commission Working Paper, EU Report on Policy Coherence for Development (COM(2007)545 final), SEC (2007) 1202, Brussels 20.09.2007, p. 47.
- 23 See comprehensive briefing Revised Strategy for the Integration of the Environment into EU Development Cooperation, WWF, IUCN, FERN, BirdLife, September 2007.

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- conserving the world's biological diversity
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable
- promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption

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