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Resource mobilisation for biodiversity and sustainable development

CEEweb for Biodiversity's recommendations for CBD COP-12

CEEweb welcomes the various signs of increased financial support to biodiversity in the past two years, as pointed out by the GBO-4 and the Global Monitoring Report on RMS.

CEEweb welcomes that the number of innovative financial mechanisms being applied has increased around the world.



CEEweb urges that the COP adopts comprehensive Guidelines on Safeguards in Biodiversity Financing Mechanisms as an absolute minimum.

CEEweb urges that the COP adopts ambitious final targets for resource mobilisation and proposals for concrete and effective actions for implementing Aichi Biodiversity Target 20 as a very first step.

CEEweb urges that the COP adopts ambitious decision on modalities for the full operationalization of the Aichi Biodiversity Target 3 as a very first step.

However, CEEweb is greatly disappointed that CBD COP **does not address effectively the underlying causes of biodiversity loss** despite the clearly stated Strategic Goal A of its Strategic Plan. In particular, the COP does not show the political will and highlight the fundamentals to effectively eliminate, phase out or reform incentives harmful to biodiversity (Aichi Target 3), and neither does it outline the conditions for sustainable production and consumption patterns in order to keep resource use impacts within safe ecological limits (Aichi Target 4). The proposed draft decisions on concrete and effective actions for Aichi Target 20, the guidelines on safeguards in BFM, as well as on the modalities and milestones for the full operationalization of Aichi Target 3 **lack the systems thinking and the conceptual basis for effective outcomes.**



Therefore CEEweb urges that the COP incorporates within the above mentioned draft decisions and its future work the following:



1. Outlining the framework to develop **holistic resource use and land use policies** on national and international levels.

Now the proposed COP decisions do not prevent that new financial resources are generated for biodiversity on the (in)direct expense of increased environmental pressure. Just the opposite, the urging need for more resources to restore declining biodiversity and ecosystem services imply the growing environmental pressures within the current system.

Thus CEEweb points out the **Energy entitlement scheme** as proposed by the Resource Cap Coalition, which is a possible policy tool for sustainable resource use. The scheme addresses the drivers of biodiversity loss through addressing the values, reforming the financial incentives, and transforming the production and consumption patterns.



2. Compulsory carrying out of **sustainability checks** for each BFM.

A comprehensive sustainability check goes beyond the proposed safeguards for BFMS, as it scrutinizes the BFMs within the whole economic, social and ecological system. Such assessment would consider *inter alia*:

- a. How are the revenues for biodiversity financing generated? The scheme is not sustainable if the BFM eventually relies on environmentally harmful activities through generating the revenues.
- b. Does the use of the finances generated within the BFM contribute directly or indirectly to increased environmental pressure locally or elsewhere?
- c. How long is the mobilised resource available? Is the BFM capable of ensuring sustainable resource and land use through restoring balance, which eventually leads to its own elimination?
- d. How vulnerable is the BFM to market forces?
- e. Does it contribute to all three targets of the CBD at the same time? Does it ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources?



3. **Reforming the international development assistance**, which shall be for the benefit of biodiversity financing and based on the principles of sustainability.

The reform shall be based on a holistic international resource and land use scheme, similarly to the national level policy tool.

A reformed system shall truly reflect the role of both donor and recipient countries in resource use, its benefits and the associated environmental pressures. It shall be also fully transparent and in line with the countries' performances and responsibilities. Such a reform shall underline the implementation of several Aichi Targets in terms of eliminating the drivers underlying biodiversity loss in the global trade and development context, addressing local and global environmental pressures through the resource and land use scheme, and generating resources for restoration of ecosystems. The scheme would greatly contribute to delivering the SDGs as well in a wider sustainability framework.

The CBD COP shall deliver its own targets and be a global driver of change towards developing holistic policies also as a contribution to the post-2015 UN development agenda and SDGs!

More information:

Resource Cap Coalition and the Energy entitlement scheme: www.ceeweb.org/rcc

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CEEweb for Biodiversity is a network of non-governmental organizations in the Central and Eastern European region. Our mission is the conservation of biodiversity through the promotion of sustainable development.