



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

COFO 24
World Forest Week

Mainstreaming biodiversity into agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Agenda item 5.3



Introduction

- **Call for «mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors»** (UN Biodiversity Conference 2016, CBD/COP/DEC/XIII/3)
- **FAO initiative to act as Biodiversity Platform** (endorsed by 40th FAO Conference, C 2017/33)



Definition

«Mainstreaming» biodiversity is the process of embedding biodiversity considerations into policies, strategies and practices of key public and private actors that impact or rely on biodiversity, so that it is conserved and sustainably and equitably used both locally and globally.

*(Huntley & Redford, 2014,
STAP Advisory Document, GEF).*



Forests and biodiversity

- Although essential, **natural forests continue to be lost and degraded.**
- Key drivers of change from **outside the forest sector.**
- Still, **biodiversity is a well-recognized element of forestry**
 - Sustainable Forest Management concept
 - UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030



FAO's Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform

- **Aim:** to improve cross-sectoral coordination for mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors
- **First informal multi-stakeholder dialogue:** Rome, 29-31 May 2018



Mainstreaming biodiversity in forestry

- **Upscale implementation** of SFM
- **Strengthen biodiversity considerations** in SFM
- **Focus on interface** between forestry and agriculture/fisheries



Possible way forward

- **Integrated approach across landscapes to**
 - determine the benefits of forest biodiversity to agricultural sectors
 - identify key threats and appropriate responses for embedding biodiversity considerations into policies, strategies and practices across sectors
- **Keep in mind:**
 - Dual role: «conservation» and «sustainable use» of biodiversity
 - Trade-offs across biodiversity dimensions (ecosystems, species)

Possible way forward

- **Opportunity for countries**
 - Promote biodiversity mainstreaming within the forest sector, and
 - Promote biodiversity mainstreaming across agricultural sectors

- **Opportunities for FAO and partners**
 - Promote knowledge management and learning
 - Address data and information gaps



Points for consideration

The Committee may wish to:

- ***Consider the report from the informal multi-stakeholder dialogue of the Platform in May 2018 to provide recommendations on the work programme of the Platform.***
- ***Advise FAO, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, on strengthening the Platform in relation to forestry beyond continued implementation of SFM, considering that the implementation of SFM is an important starting point for mainstreaming biodiversity in forestry.***

Points for consideration

The Committee may wish **to invite member countries** to:

- *Engage in the Platform to exchange on opportunities for biodiversity mainstreaming in forestry;*
- *Strengthen the implementation of international arrangements relevant to biodiversity and forests, as well as the Global Plan of Action for Forest Genetic Resources.*

Points for consideration

The Committee may wish **to request FAO** to:

- *Contribute to an **improved understanding of the implications of forest biodiversity loss for the agricultural sectors**, and of responses addressing threats to forest biodiversity, through the development and dissemination of knowledge and tools, including the SFM Toolbox;*
- *Continue coordinating and supporting the **implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Forest Genetic Resources**, and regularly report to the Committee.*



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