

Mainstreaming Biodiversity in developing countries

The case of Belgium

28 October 2015, Brussels, Belgium

Roundtable on the CBD programme on “Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development”.

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CEBioS programme - “Capacities for Biodiversity and Sustainable development”

Integration and mainstreaming before 2013

2008-2012 Federal Plan for the integration of Biodiversity in 4 key sectors.

The 4 sectors:

- Development Cooperation
- Transport and mobility
- Scientific research
- Economy

Activities by the Development Cooperation:

- Awareness raising (Attachés at Embassies, Brussels office)
- Training sessions (a.o. earmarking biodiversity related activities in projects)
- Integration of biodiversity in multi-annual bi-lateral cooperation agreements.

Belgium

2013 Law on Development Cooperation

Objectives of development cooperation: sustainable human development, poverty eradication, fight exclusion and inequality.

For governmental, non-governmental and multilateral

- 3 priority themes: human rights (incl. children), decent work, strengthening society
- 2 transversal themes: gender and **environment**.

Missed opportunity: no mention of 'biodiversity'.

For the governmental development cooperation:

- 4 sectors: health care, education and training, agriculture and food security, basic infrastructure
- Gender and environment are integrated in the 4 sectors.

Strategic context



At National Level: Belgian National Strategy for Biodiversity (2020) Most relevant targets for development cooperation?

Objective 11: Ensure continued and effective international cooperation for the protection of biodiversity

- 11.1 Gain a comprehensive view of all cooperation and **interregional projects** supported by Belgium
- 11.2 All programmes and projects funded **in partner countries** have an ex ante environmental assessment procedure, ranging, as appropriate, from environmental screening to full environmental impact assessment or strategic environmental assessment
- 11.3 Make best use of Belgian expertise to support implementation of the Convention **in developing countries**
- 11.4 Promote integration of biodiversity and biosafety into the development plans of partner countries
- 11.5 Enhance **international coordination** and effective exchange of information between ex situ conservation centres
- 11.6. Contribute to the creation of an enabling environment for biodiversity **in partner countries**, based on national priorities as well as their integration into relevant policy instruments

At National Level: Belgian National Strategy for Biodiversity (2020) Most relevant targets for development cooperation?

Objective 12: Influence the international agenda within biodiversity-related conventions

- 12.1. Enhance Belgium's contribution to the protection of **global** biodiversity
- 12.2. Keep up our leading role in different international and EU forums to strengthen and ensure coherence, within the framework of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets, between biodiversity related conventions
- 12.3. Enhance synergies between CBD and the bodies of the Antarctic Treaty System and UNCLOS

At National Level: Belgian National Strategy for Biodiversity (2020) Most relevant targets for development cooperation?

Objective 13: Enhance Belgium's efforts to integrate biodiversity concerns into relevant international organisations and programmes

- 13.1 Integrate biodiversity concerns into **all international organisations** and programmes that are relevant to biodiversity
- 13.2 Support **efforts of developing countries** to combat illegal logging and associated illegal trade as well as their efforts to Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (**REDD+**)

Belgium

Subsidiarity principle

Regional level:

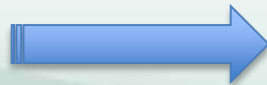
Flanders

Wallonie-Bruxelles

Federal level



Own programmes



ODA

Regional: Flanders

Department of Foreign Affairs:

Themes

- Extreme poverty (MDG 1),
- Health care (MDG 4-6),
- Ecological sustainability (MDG 7),
- Partnership for development (MDG 8).

From other departments, e.g. Tropisch Bossenfonds

Partner countries of Flanders:

- Malawi, Mozambique and South Africa
- Sectors: health (31%), agriculture and livestock (15%), creation of decent jobs (12%).



Regional: Wallonie - Bruxelles

Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI):

- Le Conseil Wallonie-Bruxelles de la Coopération Internationale (CWBCI)
- L'Association pour la Promotion de l'Education et de la Formation à l'étranger (APEFE)
- L'Union des Villes et Communes de Wallonie (UVCW)
- DNF (département Nature et Forêts), Service public de Wallonie: Bilateral cooperation with Morocco and Mauritania.



Biodiversity in Belgian ODA

Federal level

Belgian cooperation
DGD

At DGD level: new Strategy
for the Environment (2014)



Multilateral cooperation



Bilateral or Direct cooperation



Indirect cooperation, ANGs

At DGD level: new Strategy
for the Environment (2014)

Belgian cooperation
DGD

Indirect cooperation, ANGs

Flemish Interuniversity Council –Development Cooperation (VLIR-UOS)
Académie de Recherche et d'Enseignement supérieur (ARES-CUD-CIUF)

Vlaamse Vereniging voor Ontwikkeling en Technische Bijstand (VVOB)
Association pour la Promotion de l'Education et de la Formation à l'Etranger (APEFE)

NGOs (Broederlijk Delen, Trias, Protos, enz...)

Federal institutions

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS)
Royal Museum of Central Africa (RMCA)

Multilateral cooperation

Bilateral or Direct cooperation

Belgian Development
Agency (CTB)

18 Partner countries

+ other eligible countries


ODA for Biodiversity

OECD-DAC
CRS data-set

Quantification: Rio Markers (0-1-2)
Pro and contra!

National Level: Belgium (federal)

Belgian Multilateral Cooperation

- 
- Voluntary core-funding to more than 20 UN organisations (KB 12-06-2012) , e.g. (potentially related to biodiversity): UNDP, UNV, UNEP, WFP, FAO, CGIAR, Global Partnership for Education.
 - Compulsory core-funding to Multilateral Fund of the Protocol of Montreal, GEF, Least Developed Country Fund
 - ECOWAS, BOAD, EAC, CEPGL & Mekong RC.
 - DGD is actively involved in multi-year strategic planning and bi-yearly or yearly operational planning, as well as the functioning of the international organisations through Board meetings

Support to local private sector

- 
- Through CTB
 - BIO, the Belgian Investment Company for Developing countries

Belgian cooperation DGD

Indirect cooperation, ANGs

Flemish Interuniversity Council –Development Cooperation (VLIR-UOS)
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NGOs (Broederlijk Delen, Trias, Protos, enz...)

University cooperation

Other funding
agencies
(BELSPO, FWO,
EU)

Federal institutions

Royal Belgian Institute Natural Sciences (RBINS)
Royal Museum of Central Africa (RMCA)

Scientific research on taxonomy, ecology, ...
Capacity building (Taxonomy, ecology, ...)

CEBioS programme: Capacities for Biodiversity and Sustainable Development



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- [CEBioS workshop in fish biology and parasitology in D. R. Congo](#)
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- [Book review by Luc Janssens de Bisthoven](#)
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- [CEBioS mission in Democratic Republic of Congo in July 2015](#)
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- [UN General Assembly Adopts Resolution on Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade](#)
[posted on: 05/08/2015]

CEBioS stands for 'Capacities for Biodiversity and Sustainable Development', formerly known as 'the DGD-RBINS programme'.

The CEBioS programme is carrying out capacity building for partners of the Belgian cooperation in the field of biodiversity conservation and sustainable management linked to poverty eradication. It works in the framework of international obligations of Belgium under the [Convention on Biological Diversity \(CBD\)](#), the [EU biodiversity strategy to 2020](#) and the [Belgian biodiversity strategy 2020](#).

CEBioS is housed and executed at the [Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences \(RBINS\)](#), where it belongs to the [Operational Directorate 'Nature'](#). CEBioS is part of the 'BIOPOLS' group (Belgian forum for biodiversity policy) and is closely associated with the [Belgian Focal point to the Convention on Biological Diversity \(CBD\)](#).

The CEBioS programme is financed by the [Directorate-General for Development Cooperation \(DGD\)](#) through a protocol of cooperation between the Ministry of development cooperation and the Ministry of science policy. Both [DGD](#) and [BELSPO](#) are part of the steering committee of CEBioS.




Belgian National Food Bank in the Global Tackling Initiative



WITH THE SUPPORT OF
THE BELGIAN
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



.be



museum
Operational Directorate Natural Environment
OD Nature | OD Natuur | DO Nature

Institutional framework

- Protocol of cooperation between the Ministry for science & technology and the Ministry for development cooperation
- RBINS: hosts CBD, CHM, GTI, IPBES, SBSTTA NFPs and brings expertise to DGD concerning Aichi targets for development cooperation (CEBioS programme)
- CEBioS: 10 year strategy with 6 strategic objectives
- CEBioS: hosts CHM & GTI NFPs

CEBioS Programme

Capacities for Biodiversity and sustainable development

CEBioS
Programme

6 strategic objectives,
10 year strategy,
Agreement Min. Dev. Coop. &
Min. Science Policy

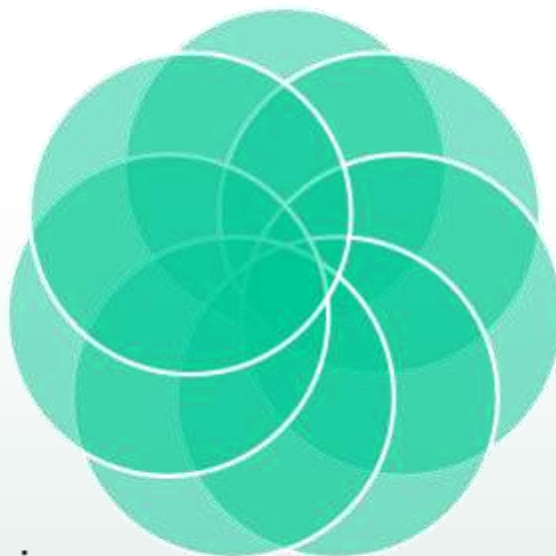
Transversal themes

Biodiversity and ecosystem
services for the reduction of
poverty

OS6 : Strengthening
awareness and capacities
concerning the **Protocol
of Nagoya** in Belgium and
in the partner countries

OS5 : Strengthening
knowledge about
**measuring, reporting
and monitoring** of
political choices and
interventions

OS4 : **Mainstreaming
biodiversity and
ecosystem services** in the
political sectors linked to
development cooperation



OS 1 : Strengthening the
**scientific and technical
knowledge base**

OS 2 : Strengthening the
**exchange and the use of
information** in a.o.
governance

OS 3 : Contribution to
public awareness

Geographical focus on 5 countries: Burundi,
Benin, DR Congo, Peru and Vietnam

National Level: Belgium (federal)

Federal Institutions

CEBioS
Programme
What?

Some examples of mainstreaming/awareness

- Participation to COP, SBSTTA, WGRI, WIPIEI
- Contribution to Dehradun/Chennai recommendations, global discussion on SDGs (e.g. OECD-Environet)
- Training of civil servants (DGD, attachés, partners)
- Training of NGOs and private sector (N, S: in prep.)
- Competitive calls for awareness projects (CBD and CHM focal points of partner countries), e.g. 12 gestes pour l'eau au Bénin (booklet)
- Financial support to partners for posters and workshops, e.g. Burundi national awareness workshop for decision makers and entrepreneurs, document on ecosystem services
- Work on Clearing House Mechanism and indicators
- Synergy with VVOB on mainstreaming biodiversity into the Education sector in D.R. Congo

Support to national CHM networks



How does it work?

Process supporting South-demand and ownership

- South demand by National CBD Focal Point to Belgian CBD and or CHM NFP
- Acceptance by Belgian CHM NFP
- Partnership between Belgian and CHM NFPs
- Training of webmasters by Belgian CHM on the use of PTK and upgrading of national CHM websites
- Regional Workshops for exchange of best practices (partnership with CBD)
- Competitive calls for projects about strengthening CHM websites
- Competitive calls for projects to raise public awareness on biodiversity.

Tackling the taxonomic impediment

How does it work?

2 annual calls for grants (GTI/SO1) for trainings in taxonomy and access to collections in Belgium and *in situ* trainings:

- Open within constraints of eligibility criteria (relevance to development, poverty alleviation, track record, country, scientific level)
- Competitive
- 1 internal call/year: for scientists of RBINS → South
- 1 external call/year: from Southern scientists → Belgium.

Examples: edible mushrooms in DR Congo, pollinators in Burundi, aquatic oligochaets in Benin, etc.



Support to Office Burundais pour la Protection de l'Environnement (OBPE) in Burundi

- Partnership between RBINS (via CEBioS programme) and OBPE (agency of Min. of Environment) provides support to:
 - The national Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)
 - The collections and the library
 - Research and habitat monitoring in the national parks
 - Better valuation and sustainable use of ecosystem services (mushrooms, pollinators)
 - Awareness raising amongst decision makers.





Thank you!

Lake Victoria, biodiversity hotspot for Cichlidae, basin of 35 Million people and 5 countries, Photo @ L. Janssens de Bisthoven