



**IMPACT ASSESSMENT
AND THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**
www.biodiv.org

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Outline

- ❖ Overview of the Convention
- ❖ Impact assessment in the CBD
- ❖ CBD and IAIA
- ❖ Current challenges





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CBD Overview

- 188 Parties
entry into force 29 December 1993
- Institutions:
 - Conference of the Parties (COP)
 - Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)
 - Open-ended Working Groups
 - Other ad-hoc bodies as necessary
 - Secretariat





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CBD Overview

- Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
90 Parties
entry into force 11 September 2003
 - COP-MOP
 - Compliance Committee





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CBD Overview

Objectives

- Conservation of biological diversity
- Sustainable use of its components
- Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources





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CBD Overview

Thematic areas

Forest BD
Agricultural BD
Marine and coastal BD
Inland water BD
Dry and sub-humid lands BD
Mountain BD
Island BD

Cross-cutting issues

Protected areas
Sustainable use
Access and benefit-sharing
Ecosystem approach
Traditional knowledge
Monitoring and indicators
Impact assessment
Climate change
Invasive alien species
Global Taxonomy Initiative
Biodiversity and tourism
Global Strategy for Plan Conservation



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CBD Overview

The 2010 target

“to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity”

- Strategic Plan (decision VI/26)
- Evaluation of progress
(decision VII/30)

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IA in the CBD

Provisions

- Article 8(j): Traditional knowledge
- Article 14: Impact assessment
- Article 15 and Annex III of the Biosafety Protocol: Risk assessment



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IA in the CBD

Article 8 (j): Traditional knowledge

- Respect, preserve and sustain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities
- Promote their wider application
- Approval and involvement of the holders
- Encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits
- Subject to its national legislation



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IA in the CBD

IA under Article 8(j)

Decision VII/16-F: Akwé: Kon

Voluntary guidelines for the conduct of cultural, environmental and social impact assessment regarding developments proposed to take place on, or which are likely to impact on, sacred sites and on lands and waters traditionally occupied or used by indigenous and local communities

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IA in the CBD

Akwé: Kon

- ❖ Voluntary nature
- ❖ Aimed to facilitate full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities
- ❖ Impacts on beliefs and customary laws, land tenure and land use practices, health and social cohesion
- ❖ Complementary to other guidelines and procedures



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IA in the CBD

Article 14: Impact Assessment and Minimizing Adverse Impacts

- ❖ Parties shall introduce EIA procedures
- ❖ Parties shall introduce SEA arrangements
- ❖ Exchange of information/consultation
- ❖ Notification of potentially affected States
- ❖ Emergency responses and contingency plans
- ❖ Liability and redress



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IA in the CBD

IA under Article 14

Decision VI/7-A and VII/7

Guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation or processes and in strategic impact assessment

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IA in the CBD

EIA/SEA guidelines

- ❖ Prepared by IAIA
- ❖ Address the integration of biodiversity considerations into existing legislations and procedures
- ❖ Focus on screening and scoping stages
- ❖ Address categories of biodiversity components listed in Annex 1 of the Convention, including ecosystem goods and services and functions
- ❖ Also adopted by Ramsar and CMS



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Current challenges

Further development of the EIA/SEA guidelines

- So far only screening and scoping stages covered
- Little guidance provided on SEA
- Need to consider guidance developed on other cross-cutting issues, e.g. ecosystem approach, sustainable use, sustainable tourism, indicators, traditional knowledge and Akwé: Kon



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Current challenges

Limitations

- Lack of communication between IA community and CBD at national level
- Lack of awareness of CBD guidelines
- Short time frame
- Lack of practical experience with CBD guidelines





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Current challenges

Through IAIA

- ❖ Improved communication between IA community and CBD at national level (IAIA liaison persons)
- ❖ Increased awareness of CBD guidelines
- ❖ Testing and application of guidelines and translation into appropriate local or (sub-) national context
- ❖ Generation of case studies and experiences



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Thank you for your attention



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