

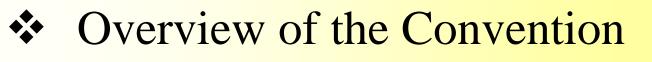
#### IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY www.biodiv.org

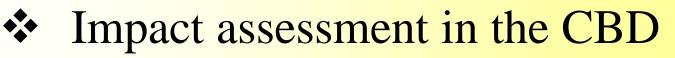
#### **Robert Höft**

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- CBD and IAIA
- Current challenges



24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Association of Impact Assessment

Vancouver, 26-29 April 2004



## **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





## **CBD** Overview

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





## **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





Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

#### **Thematic areas**

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

## **CBD** Overview

#### **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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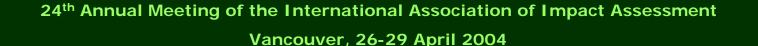




#### The 2010 target

*"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









#### 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





IA in the CBD

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



## 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







- 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





# UNEP

## IA in the CBD

## IA under Article 14 Decision VI/7-A and VII/7

Guidelines for incorporating biodiversityrelated issues into environmental impact assessment legislation or processes and in strategic impact assessment

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#### 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



## 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





## 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





## 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



## Thank you for your attention

