



Business & Biodiversity

Involving business in the implementation of the Convention

All businesses, irrespective of their size, sector and location, ultimately depend on biodiversity. Business is referred to in the Convention text, in Conference of the Parties (COP) decisions, and in the Convention's Strategic Plan. At its eighth meeting in 2006, the COP adopted the first decision focusing exclusively on business engagement. This decision covers, in particular, the engagement of Parties with the business community when developing and implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; the participation of business in Convention meetings; the compilation, dissemination and strengthening of the 'business case' for biodiversity; and the compilation and development of good biodiversity practice.

Why it is important:

- Businesses possess biodiversity relevant knowledge, technical resources and managerial skills
- How companies manage biodiversity is, increasingly, seen as relevant to their bottom line performance

The importance of business was highlighted this past year by the Potsdam Initiative. Adopted in March 2007 by the Group of Eight (G8) and Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa, the Potsdam Initiative included a focus on the business community and market incentives.

What the CBD is doing:

The Secretariat is currently compiling information on the 'business case' for biodiversity and examples of good biodiversity practice in different sectors, for posting on the Clearing House Mechanism.

It publishes a newsletter on business and biodiversity.

At COP 9, Parties will consider "further ways and means to promote business engagement in the implementation of the Convention, with a particular emphasis on the Convention's role in facilitating such engagement."



For more information:

Guide to Business Events at COP 9: www.cbd.int/business/COP-9.shtml

Business and biodiversity: www.cbd.int/business

COP decisions: www.cbd.int/decisions/?m=COP-08&id=11031&lg=0

Business, 2010 Newsletters: www.cbd.int/business/newsletter.shtml

Potsdam Initiative www.bmu.de/english/international_environmental_policy/g8/doc/38948.php



ONE NATURE ONE WORLD OUR FUTURE
COP 9 MOP 4 Bonn Germany 2008

Convention on Biological Diversity

