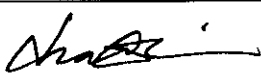


Thematic Report on Mountain Ecosystems

Please provide the following details on the origin of this report.

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Please provide summary information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on the types of stakeholders who have been actively involved in its preparation and on material which was used as a basis for the report.

The process for preparing the report.

This report has been prepared by the Ministry of Environment(MOE) in consultation with Korea Forest Service(KFS), Korea Forest Research Institute(KFRI), and National Arboretum(NA).

Materials which were used as a basis for the report

1. National Biodiversity Strategy(Republic of Korea), National report submitted to CBD Secretariat in 1997
2. Basic Forest Policy Law(May, 2001)
3. The 4th Forest Basic Plan(1998~2007)

Mountain Ecosystems

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|--|-----------------------|--|--|-------------|-----------------------|
| <p>1. What is the relative priority your country accords to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Pertaining to this issue, KFS has been implementing appropriate policies and regulations including minimizing forest land-use change for other purposes and designating forests of possible damage as protected areas)</p> | | | | | |
| a) High | <input type="radio"/> | b) Medium | | c) Low | |
| <p>2. How does your country assess the resources available for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems, both domestic and international?</p> | | | | | |
| a) Good | | b) Adequate | | c) Limiting | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>3. Has your country requested financial assistance from GEF for funding the activities for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems?</p> | | | | | |
| a) no | | | | | |
| b) yes, please provide details | | <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/></p> <p>The Ministry of Environment submitted a project proposal for PDF-B to UNDP in 2002, but yet to be approved. The project titled "Establishment of a Eco-network for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of Paekdudaegan and its vicinity of Korean Peninsula".</p> | | | |

Assessment, Identification and Monitoring

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| <p>4. Has your country undertaken any assessment of direct and underlying causes of degradation and loss of biological diversity of mountain ecosystems?</p> | |
| a) no, please specify the reasons | <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/></p> <p>The Korea Forest Service has not conducted any official investigation; however, destruction and division of habitats, wildfire, landslide, reckless deforestation, and poaching are regarded as possible causes of degradation and loss of biological diversity.</p> |
| b) yes, please specify major threats and their relative importance, as well as gaps | |
| c) If yes, please specify the measures your country has taken to control the causes of loss of mountain biodiversity | |
| <p>5. Has your country identified taxonomic needs for conservation and sustainable use of biological</p> | |

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| diversity of mountain ecosystems? | |
| a) no, please specify the reasons | |
| b) yes, please specify | <input type="radio"/> The Korea Forest Service established DB on plants to facilitate management and conservation of forest plants. Moreover, Korea Forest Service is carrying out a project on preserving 217 species of endemic and rare plants as well as 42 species of under evaluation with National Plant Information System. |
| 6. Has your country made any assessment of the vulnerability or fragility of the mountains in your country? | |
| a) no, please specify the reasons | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) yes, please specify the results and observed impacts on mountain biodiversity | |
| 7. Has your country made any assessment important for conservation of biological diversity of mountain ecosystems at the genetic, species and ecosystem levels? (You may wish to use the Annex I of the Convention for categories of biodiversity important for conservation) | |
| a) no, please specify the reasons | |
| b) yes, some assessments or monitoring undertaken (please specify) | <input type="radio"/> The Korea Forest Service is drawing up lists of endangered plants. |
| c) yes, comprehensive assessments or monitoring programmes undertaken (please specify where results can be found, and opportunities and obstacles, if any) | |

Regulatory and Information System and Action Plan

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| 8. Has your country developed regulations, policies and programs for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems? | |
| a) no | |
| b) yes, please specify sectors | <input type="radio"/> -Regulations: Basic Forest Policy Law, Forest Area Management Law, Establishment and Promotion of Arboretum Law, and Regulation for the Protection of Native Plant and Forest Genetic Resource. * Basic Forest Policy Law legislated in 2001 prescribes “the preservation of biodiversity of mountain ecosystem” as special measures to achieve sustainable forest management. - Policy : The 4 th Forest Basic Planning - Programs : ㉓ Concentrated control of forest diseases and insect pests to maintain healthy forest and to prevent loss of forest resources. |

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| | <p>(b) Preservation and management of mountain ecosystems for native plant resources in systematic ways.</p> <p>(c) preservation of forest genes, species, and ecosystems by designating and managing protection forest area.</p> <p>(d) Systematical preservation, management, and industrialization of native plants.</p> <p>(e) Establishment of the Korean Peninsula Ecological Network made up of three major eco-axes including Paekdu Mountains</p> |
| <p>9. Has your country applied the ecosystem approach (adopted at COP 5) in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems?</p> | |
| a) no | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) yes, please provide some cases or examples | |
| <p>10. Does your national biodiversity strategy and action plan cover mountain biological diversity?</p> | |
| a) no, please specify why | |
| b) yes, please give some information on the strategy and plan, in particular on mountain biodiversity | <p><input type="radio"/></p> <p>National Biodiversity Strategy, a national report published in 1997, placed a great emphasis on restoration and preservation of forests, executing following plans :</p> <p>(a) Maintenance of forest productivity,</p> <p>(b) Establishment of effective forest management system, and</p> <p>(c) Enhancement of public benefits from forests</p> |
| <p>11. Has your country disseminated the relevant information concerning management practices, plans and programmes for conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems?</p> | |
| a) no | |
| b) yes, please provide details where information can be retrieved concerning management practices, plans and programmes | <p><input type="radio"/></p> <p>The Korea Forest Service has disseminated relevant information to public through various kinds of activities such as operating National Arboretum, facilitating DB access on plant resources, hosting Korea Floritopia and academic seminars, and publishing native plants information.</p> |

Cooperation

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| <p>12. Has your country undertaken any collaboration with other Parties for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems at the regional level or within a range of</p> |
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| mountains? | |
| a) no | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) yes, please specify the objectives of this collaboration and achievements | |
| 13. Has your country signed or ratified any regional or international treaty concerning mountains? | |
| a) no | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) yes, please specify which treaty and provide as much as possible a report on the progress in the implementation of the treaties, including any major constraints in the implementation of the treaties | |

Relevant thematic areas and cross-cutting issues

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| 14. Has your country taken account of mountain ecosystems while implementing thematic programmes of work on agricultural, inland waters, forest, and dry and sub-humid lands biological diversity? | |
| a) no | |
| b) yes – but in only one or two thematic programmes of work | |
| c) yes, included in all programmes of work | <input type="radio"/> |
| d) if yes, please specify details | The Korea Forest Service placed a stress on management of various forest ecosystems to maintain forest biodiversity at the time of establishing the Basic Forest Plans. The Korea Forest Service expanded designated areas and now plans to conserve and manage habitat environment, forest genetic resources, forest insects, and soil micro-organism systematically. |
| 15. Has your country taken any measures to ensure that the tourism in mountains is sustainable? | |
| a) no, please specify why | |
| b) yes, but in early stages of development (please specify the reasons) | <input type="radio"/> - The Korea Forest Service runs various eco-tourism facilities and programs such as arboretum, natural recreation forest, designating eco forest, and green shower trail. |
| c) in advanced stages of development (please specify the reasons) | |
| d) relatively comprehensive measures being implemented (please specify the reasons) | |
| 16. Has your country taken any measures to protect the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems? | |

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| a) no | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) not relevant | |
| c) yes, but in early stages of policy or programme development | |
| d) yes, in advanced stages of development | |
| e) some programmes being implemented | |
| f) comprehensive programmes being implemented | |
| 17. Has your country developed any programmes for the protection of natural and cultural heritages in the mountains? | |
| a) no | |
| b) yes, please provide some information in the programmes | <input type="radio"/> -Establishment of manageable scope, revamp of related laws such as Forest Land Management Act, designation of reserved forests, and purchase of privately-owned forests to preserve and manage Paekdu Mountains in environment-friendly ways. -Adoption of forest interpreter system to inspire citizens with the conservation spirit for forest. |
| 18. Has your country established protected areas in mountains? | |
| a) no | |
| b) yes, please specify the percentage of mountains under protected areas out of total mountain areas in your country | <input type="radio"/> Designating about 6% of the whole forest areas as protected areas , which are specified as 346,000ha of reserved forests and 21,000ha of genetic resources protection forests. |
| 19. Has your country undertaken any activities to celebrate the International Year of Mountains and Eco-tourism? | |
| a) no | |
| b) yes, please specify | <input type="radio"/> In 2002, The Korea Forest Service conducted diverse activities to instill the public awareness on forest protection through adopting Forest Charter, producing advertisement materials, holding an international symposium and public event. |

Case-studies

Please provide case-studies made by your country in conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in mountain ecosystems.

Further comments