



Division of Technology, Industry,
and Economics
Economics and Trade Branch



Incorporating Biodiversity into Trade-Related Integrated Assessments

Presentation of UNEP's Draft Manual

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OVERVIEW OF UNEP'S INITIATIVE

- ❖ 4-year initiative on trade-related policies and biodiversity in the **agriculture sector** launched in July 2005 and implemented by UNEP-ETB.
- ❖ Responds to requests by the CBD Conference of Parties '*to study further the impacts of trade liberalisation on agricultural biodiversity*' (COPDECISION VI/5).
- ❖ Six ACP governments and national research institutes selected and responsible for implementing projects on the ground.
- ❖ Funded by European Commission and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

OVERALL MISSION

Support African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries in their efforts to promote national sustainable development, poverty reduction and biodiversity conservation objectives by enhancing capacities in these countries to assess, design and implement agricultural trade-related policies that further these objectives.



MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Year 1:

Trade and Biodiversity Manual developed to provide guidance for assessing trade-related policies in the agriculture sector at the national level (conceptual framework + step-by-step process) and establishment of international experts group.

Year 2-3:

Implementation of six pilot projects by national teams in ACP countries in various agricultural sub-sectors and trade contexts (e.g. EU-ACP negotiations on EPAs) and with a view to using and adapting the Manual to local conditions.

Year 4:

Development and implementation of National Policy Action Plans based on the outcomes of the country-based assessments. These action plans will seek to balance trade, development and biodiversity goals.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide guidance on how to incorporate biodiversity impacts in integrated assessment methodologies in the context of agricultural trade policies.
- Contribute to filling an analytical gap and improve understanding of the effects of trade liberalisation on agricultural biodiversity.
- Build the capacity in developing countries to develop, negotiate and implement trade policies in the agricultural sector that will maximise development gains, while minimising negative impacts on biodiversity.

BIODIVERSITY FOCUS

**Innovative part of the Manual =>
Strong focus on biodiversity**

Important to identify opportunities and challenges for biodiversity because of:

- Global significance of agricultural production for biodiversity and ecosystems;
- Strong interdependence between biodiversity, food security and poverty reduction; and
- Opportunities provided by biodiversity to income generation and sustainable development.

STRUCTURE OF THE MANUAL

The Manual is divided into 2 volumes:

- ❖ **Volume I** is a practical step-by-step approach to undertaking integrated assessments of trade policy in the agricultural sector, and prioritising biodiversity.
- ❖ **Volume II** is an accompanying reference document. It explains in detail the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and the complex linkages that exist between trade in the agriculture sector and biodiversity.

VOLUME I OF THE MANUAL

Presents the practical aspects of incorporating biodiversity into an integrated assessment, i.e. How to do it?

Suggests a 6-stage approach to integrated assessment:

- ❖ Each **STAGE** is further subdivided into **ACTIONS** to clarify the process.
- ❖ Where additional guidance might be useful with respect to actions that are relatively more complex, **ACTION SHEETS** have been developed.

PROCESS OF INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT

Stage A. Understanding the policy context



Stage B. Determining the focus



Stage C. Assessing the impacts



Stage D. Developing policy recommendations



Stage E: Implementing policy recommendations



Stage F: Monitoring and evaluation

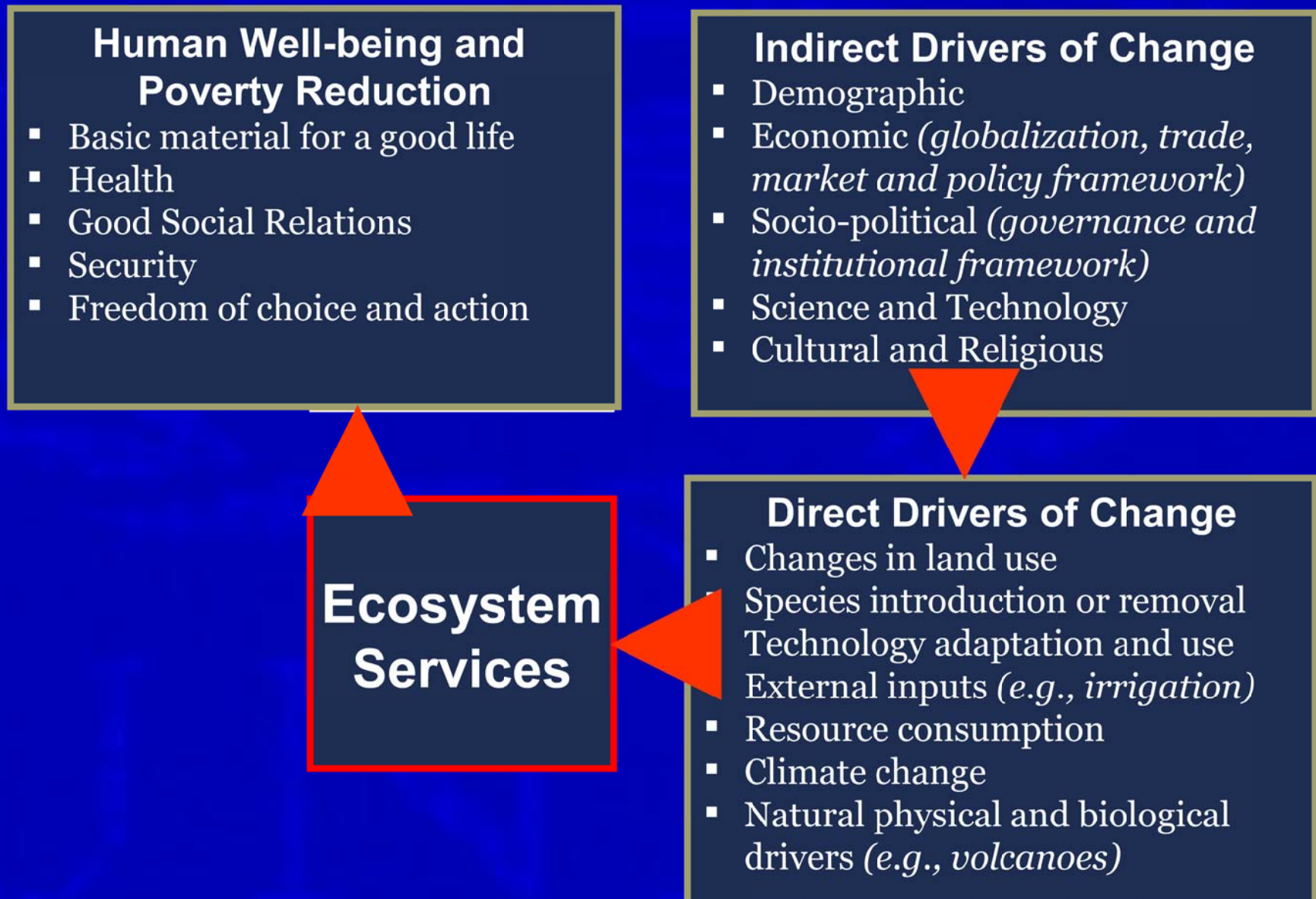
VOLUME II OF THE MANUAL

- ❖ Explains in detail the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services and the complex linkages that exist between trade in the agriculture sector and biodiversity.
- ❖ Contains additional relevant supporting information on both procedures and substance to support efforts to undertake integrated assessment focused on biodiversity.
- ❖ Provides a **conceptual framework** for representing and mapping the linkages between trade policies, agriculture, biodiversity and ecosystems and human well-being.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

- ❖ The step-by-step process for conducting the integrated assessment is based on a **conceptual framework**.
- ❖ The framework is adapted from the conceptual framework of the **Millennium Ecosystem Assessment** (chapter 5 of Volume II of the Reference Manual).
- ❖ Countries are encouraged to adapt the conceptual framework presented to their own domestic situations.

MILLENNIUM ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK



ADAPTED CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Human well-being

Trade agreements and
other influences on
agriculture

Biodiversity and
ecosystem services

Agricultural activities
and change in
state of land

CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ The Manual builds on earlier work produced by UNEP on integrated assessment, in particular:
 - Reference Manual for the Integrated Assessment of Trade-Related Policies, UNEP, 2001.
 - Handbook on Integrated Assessment of Trade-Related Measures: The Agricultural Sector, UNEP, 2005.
- ❖ The Manual is also intended to complement the general integrated assessment frameworks developed by the CBD, FAO, IAIA, IUCN, WWF, the Environment Outlook (GEO) and the European Union (EU).
- ❖ Specifically, this Manual builds on the framework and results of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA).

CONCLUSIONS (cont.)

- ❖ The innovative part of the Manual consists of the integration of the biodiversity perspective.
- ❖ It is envisaged that work undertaken in the context of individual country projects will help refine the biodiversity dimension of integrated assessment.
- ❖ The integrated assessment process (Volume I) and conceptual framework (Chapter 5, Volume II) are intended to be adapted to the unique and varied situations found in different countries.
- ❖ National institutions and governments are encouraged to refine the framework and process to their specific needs.

Thank you

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.unep.ch/etb/areas/IntTraRelPol.php>

