

Implementation of CBD Programme of Work on Mountain Biological Diversity

At its seventh meeting in 2004, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted the Programme of Work (PoW) on mountain biological diversity, the overall purpose of which is the significant reduction of the loss of mountain biological diversity by 2010 at the global, regional and national levels. The overall objective the PoW is to promote the maintenance of the ability of mountain ecosystems to provide goods and services needed for human well-being, poverty alleviation and meeting the Millennium Development Goals. More specifically the PoW provides for achieving sustainability in mountain areas by reducing poverty, inequality, and marginality, preventing deterioration of natural resources and environments, and improving the capabilities of institutions and organizations to promote conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. An in-depth review of the progress made in the implementation of the mountain biological diversity programme of work is scheduled in 2010 by COP at its tenth meeting. A brief report on progress in implementation is given below. It should be noted that in presenting statistical responses the percentage used is that out of the 98 total reporting countries.

- Seventy-three percent of the responding countries have taken measures to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity. These measures *inter alia* include establishment of protected areas, anti-erosion measures, reforestation, prevention systems against forest fire, sustainable management of natural resources in buffer zones around protected areas, climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, spatial planning, and legal frameworks.
- Seventy-eight percent of responding countries have taken measures to protect recover and restore mountain biodiversity. Measures taken include: reforestation, establishment of protected areas, treatment of small watersheds, *ex-situ* conservation, restoration activities, sustainable management plans, reintroduction of species, and prohibition of illegal hunting
- Sixty-seven percent of responding countries have taken measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems. Measures taken include establishment of networks of protected areas, development of range management schemes, reintroduction of species, establishment of genetic banks, banning or regulation of illegal hunting and logging, promotion of local community involvement in management of protected areas and the use of ecosystem-based approach to management.
- Thirty-five percent of responding countries have taken measures for benefit sharing from the utilization of mountain genetic resources. A number of countries have developed strategies, laws, programmes or mechanisms for sharing benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, including those from mountain ecosystems, or protection of traditional knowledge associated with use of mountain genetic resources.
- Fifty-three percent of responding countries have developed legal, policy and institutional frameworks for the conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing the programme of work.
- Thirty-nine percent of responding countries have been involved in regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for the conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity.

- Sixty-two percent of responding countries have taken measures to identify, monitor and assess mountain biodiversity. A few countries have made such assessments as a part of their efforts to develop flora and fauna inventories or a part of their biodiversity country studies.
- Sixty-one percent of responding countries have taken measures or developed programmes to improve research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity-building including north – South / Mountain to Mountain cooperation.