



Global BioTrade Programme: Linking trade, biodiversity and sustainable development

Biodiversity is the natural capital base for a sustainable economy. The conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use and trade of biodiversity-derived products and services can provide countries valuable opportunities for economic development and improvement of livelihoods.

Currently, there are many stakeholders working in the areas of trade and biodiversity. However, their interventions are not often synchronized and, therefore, synergies are not maximized. Consequently, various agencies and partners implement initiatives in isolation, ultimately resulting in inefficient coordination and duplication of efforts.

With the increasing global demand for biodiversity-based products and services, **partnership** will play an important role in further strengthening governance frameworks, mechanisms, and networks to scale up the BioTrade agenda and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



**Working together for
a better world**



The BioTrade Initiative offers an opportunity to propel SDGs 12, 15 and 17, among others, and the Aichi Targets closer to the finish line. UNCTAD has a specific mandate on trade and biodiversity and is in a unique position to take leadership in a convener role.

OBJECTIVE

Provide key stakeholders with the ability to seize and capitalize on trade opportunities from linking biodiversity and sustainable development, thereby advancing the implementation of the SDGs, as well as the Aichi Targets.

OUTCOME 1

Increase coordination and knowledge sharing among stakeholders

by having a logical and impact-oriented direction:

- Stakeholders Steering Committee defines and monitors the Roadmap (programme workplan)
- Creates a knowledge and sharing mechanism
- Compiles lessons learnt, best practices and success cases on BioTrade
- Organizes knowledge sharing events

OUTCOME 2

Enable a policy environment for BioTrade companies at national and international levels

by facilitating ABS compliance and other regulatory requirements:

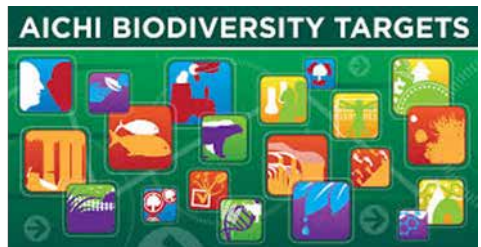
- Implement Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) policy and advocacy for ABS-compliant value chains
- Jointly address non-tariff measures and other emerging issues
- Provide BioTrade-related information and statistics related to SDGs and Aichi Targets

OUTCOME 3

Facilitate market linkages for companies selling BioTrade-related products

by working with partners to increase market demand:

- Raise awareness and facilitate business engagement in BioTrade
- Increase the number of companies applying BioTrade Principles & Criteria (BT P&C) through online self-assessment tools that also benchmark with other standards





The BioTrade Initiative of UNCTAD – launched in 1996 – promotes trade and investment in biodiversity-derived products and services. It works in 46 countries with national, regional and international partners.

BioTrade refers to the collection, production, transformation and commercialization of goods and services derived from native biodiversity (species and ecosystems) under environmental, social and economic sustainability criteria.

BioTrade sectors

- Personal care
- Pharmaceuticals / phytopharma
- Food
- Fashion
- Ornamental flora and fauna
- Handicrafts
- Textiles and natural fibres
- Sustainable tourism
- Forestry-based carbon credit activities

BioTrade Principles and Criteria

1. Conservation of biodiversity
2. Sustainable use of biodiversity
3. Equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use of biodiversity
4. Socio-economic sustainability (productive, financial and market management)
5. Compliance with national and international legislation and agreements
6. Respect for the rights of actors involved in BioTrade activities
7. Clarity about land tenure, use and access to natural resources and knowledge

BioTrade impact in figures

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Sales of BioTrade beneficiary companies and associations | €4.4 billion (2016) |
| Number of value chains supported | 3,500 |
| Number of beneficiaries Producers/farmers collectors/hunters and workers, among others | ~ 5 million worldwide |

BioTrade Partners

- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)
- GIZ ABS Initiative
- HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation
- International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO)
- PhytoTrade Africa Network
- Regional and National BioTrade Programmes and partners, including Ministries of Trade and Environment and their attached agencies, Trade Promotion Organizations (TPOs), academia and civil society, among others.
- Swiss Import Promotion Programme (SIPPO)
- Union for Ethical BioTrade (UEBT)
- United Nations agencies, including UN Environment and the United Nations Development Programme

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