

Workshop on Scenarios and models for exploring future trends of biodiversity and ecosystem services changes



Robin Miège,

Head of Unit ENV.G1
Economic Analysis and Sustainable
Development
DG Environment

The growing importance of Biodiversity and Ecosystem services

- ❑ Biodiversity matters for human wellbeing, as it is the basis for a variety of ecosystem services
- ❑ Biodiversity is important for the economy too (TEEB study, etc).
- ❑ Its loss is continuing, most probably the 2010 target will be missed.
- ❑ 2010 is an important year for the formulation and agreement on the new Biodiversity target for EU and globally (CBD, Nagoya meeting).
- ❑ This is the time to address **what next** for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Recommendations for scenario and modelling work for TEEB

- ❑ Run scenarios on sustainable ecosystem use
- ❑ Work more on the absence of feedback loops between loss of biodiversity / ecosystems and economic growth to enhance the credibility of results.
- ❑ Pay attention to quantifying in models the trade-offs between provisioning and regulating services.
- ❑ Produce an inventory of model runs for all major ecosystems should be drawn up and the loss of services expected under different scenarios.
- ❑ Develop maps of best conservation opportunities available.

A lot of models and scenarios for biodiversity exist today, but:

- ❑ WHAT are they good for? (which biomes, which ecosystem services, what policies, etc)
- ❑ At what scale can they work?
- ❑ How easily can be modified, updated, allow for top-ups?

There are some well known gaps, but are there more?

- ❑ Marine ecosystems
- ❑ Accounting for regulatory and cultural ecosystem services
- ❑ Substitution between ecosystem services as well as the interactions between them
- ❑ Moving between different scales (from various regional efforts to global aggregation, or using global models for regional applications)

Biodiversity Scenarios and Models for WHEN:

- Deliver input for the TEEB Phase II reports and facilitate the discussion on the post 2010 target foreseen for the CBD COP-10 meeting in Nagoya, Japan, in November 2010.
- With view of developing the post 2010 biodiversity policy, provide input and identify options for further development of modelling efforts for biodiversity **and** Ecosystem services, and scenarios that can be used for future forward studies.

What this workshop aims to do:

- ❑ to discuss the review of different scenarios and models used to explore trends in biodiversity loss and ecosystem change;
- ❑ to review how these models have factored in policy action, notably environmental and conservation policies;
- ❑ to propose and discuss on a set of options for suitable models and scenarios to be used in global or regional assessments.
- ❑ to contribute identifying:
 - What is achievable for TEEB (delivery on early 2010)
 - Lessons for longer term efforts, including further R&D