

**C1. The costs of actions
necessary for the conservation
and sustainable use of
biodiversity**

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The Questions we discussed: ...for COP9 ...for COP10

- Do we know what we need to do to halt biodiversity loss?
- Do we know how much it costs?
- Who pays and how can markets help?

Do we know what we need to do to halt biodiversity loss?

- Proximate drivers of biodiversity loss are well-known but the complexity of underlying drivers requires a systemic response
- **BUT The failure to internalise the costs of losses is another significant driver for biodiversity loss.**
- **We know a lot already about Biodiversity loss and what we know is enough to make us act, so not to lose opportunities.**
- **Develop consistent (and simple) metrics to manage absolute but also relative costs**

Do we know how much it costs?

- The conservation finance gap is manageable (current investment is derisory)
- Conservation costs vary widely; significant savings can be achieved by targeting on the basis of opportunity costs
- Management costs are possible to grasp, but opportunity costs and **the costs of mainstreaming** represent a challenge
- BUT, a big portion of reversing biodiversity loss can be done quickly with not so demanding resources (win-win)
- Instead of speaking only about costs, tackle also perverse subsidies

Who pays and how can markets help?

- Models exist to 'internalize' biodiversity values in economic decision-making; the way to achieve scale is to harness market forces – **Distributional effects need also to be taken on board**
- Most urgent actions are needed for the poorest regions, rich in biodiversity. Develop mechanisms that will allow benefit transfers **and recognise and reward traditional knowledge**
- **A Key challenge is how to create and maintain market demand for biodiversity**

Conservation cost analysis for COP10

- Review conservation targets / indicators at different scales (spatial, temporal, etc) – Mapping the situation, address what can be first done quickly
- Identify categories of conservation action, using a vulnerability threat-based approach
- Compile and analyze data on the cost-effectiveness of conservation actions
- Identify cost-reducing conservation actions (e.g. fishing subsidy reform) with attention how to overcome vested interests
- Model the costs of alternative scenarios – distributional aspects

Finance and incentive analysis for COP10

- How to increase the quantity and quality of North-South funding for conservation? **Use GEF for benefit transfers?**
- How to strengthen economic incentives for BC in different countries and productive sectors? **Institutional arrangements, design of PES in such a way so to minimise transaction costs.**
- What are the best options to attract significant private investment in conservation? **Synergies with CC Mitigation (REDD)?**