



RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Recommendations on the Generation
of Additional Resources and Re-
Directing Resources for the Post
2020 Biodiversity Framework in
Achievement of the Sustainable
Development Goals

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List of Acronyms

ACPMEAs - Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Multilateral Environmental Agreements Program

CBD - Convention on Biological Diversity

COP - Conference of Parties

SACCOs - Savings and Credit Cooperatives

WHO - World Health Organization

1.0 Introduction

Our present systems of economic and business organizations are simply not sustainable. Environmentalists have begun to address the extent to which a company is (or is not) contributing to sustainable development. Most companies are currently profoundly un-sustainable and are, naturally, reluctant to formally disclose this in an annual environmental report. Environmental reporting should become a legal requirement in order to curb the increasing havoc wreaked on the environment. However, it appears very unlikely that serious and substantive sustainable development reporting (something which is still fairly minimal and under-developed) could be adopted quickly enough to help prevent the further spread of irreversible global environmental and social desecration.

The world's greatest challenge is the loss of biodiversity and the interlinked challenge of climate change (which is the talk of the day). We can clearly see this in the agricultural sector, a sector that is already finding it difficult to produce their products due to the current climatic change which has affected the ozone layer and has caused unpredictable weather seasons. Therefore, there is growing concern on how to curb this and have helped the environment to maintain its natural condition. This requires more education regarding the benefits of keeping the environment and allocating resources to reestablish the damages caused.

Health wise, both plants and animals are facing hard times with the current climate leading to withering of plants and suffocation of animals; in fact, some species are going to extinction (swept away). Human beings face double effects from the unkempt environment just to mention but a few, emission of untreated chemicals to waters and even air affects the breathing and digestive systems after taking it directly or indirectly from their foods. Besides, mining involves dangerous chemicals like Mercury, Plead etc. that is poisonous to humans and can even lead to miscarriages. Therefore, there is a need to restore nature to its cause and maintain it, which needs resources from all stakeholders to facilitate the process.

In order to achieve the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Conference of the Parties have proposed and recommended the inclusivity of Resource Mobilization in the achievement of the objectives. Due to the fact that humanity and other living

organisms are now facing mass extinction, we are looking to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as a remedy for current hazardous effects and shall minimize the exploitation of the resources. The need to align current needs to maintain global prosperity with the need for mutual support for sustainable development is key. This calls for partnerships amongst all stakeholders' public and private – together to explore options and approaches for mobilizing and providing additional resources from all sources, to support the implementation of the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework and provide possible solutions to reduction in over exploitation of natural resources instead of business-as-usual management of existing resources. According to Resource mobilization expert group COP14: CBD/COP/14/7, 27 August 2018, the CBD has three priorities, that is:

- (a) Reduce and redirect resources that cause harm to biodiversity.
- (b) Generate additional Resources for biodiversity-positive outcomes.
- (c) Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of resource usage.

This paper aims to give solutions on soliciting more resources for a positive result for biodiversity. However, the priorities go in tandem and therefore under different sub-topics we shall also discuss how it relates to each concept. That implies that, as we generate additional resources for a positive biodiversity outcome, we should also take to account policies that can reduce or minimize the harm caused to biodiversity and ensure effectiveness and efficiency of resource usage through evaluation and auditing. Besides, for us to generate more resources and cause less harm to the already infringed biodiversity, we must find possible solutions to reducing harm and re-directing energy and attention to a more productive and healthier environment in order to meet the 2050 Sustainable Development goals.

In addition, we must constantly explore, identify and pursue opportunities .The executive heads must lead from the fore-front not leaving resource mobilization solely to the resource mobilization teams.

As youths, our ideas and full engagement is the very key for the growth of a friendly environment. We shall use a case study of mining (i.e., gold mining) to showcase how this resource has been

hazardous to our biodiversity instead of being more helpful and how we can effectively use this and redirect its allocations and reduce the harm caused to youths and to the world so that it may generate more funds for the support of a positive outcome in biodiversity to meet the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework. A case study of gold mining shall be used to showcase how the practice has been hazardously conducted and the harms it has caused, but also shall explain how the resources obtained can be redirected to create a positive biodiversity and meet the 2050 sustainable development goals.

The report is conducted by ACP MEAs youth mentees of 2021 in order to suggest possible solutions to achieve the global goals of sustainable development.

1.1 Background

Both global media and government and non-governmental organizations have recognized and reported on the growing dangerous effects of the current state of disharmony between human activities and the environment. This has caused global alarm and the raising of the crucial question of “how do we restore this ruined relationship?” Due to mishandling of the environment, there is rapid loss of living organisms, which therefore is likely to affect the ecosystems at a global scale from unstable food production and pressures on natural forests and the terrestrial ecosystems to the reckless and non-legalized industrialized fishing that is ravaging countless species of aquatic organisms. Science has also proven the rapid extinction of biodiversity. More research has been conducted since the 20th century and therefore has proved the mammoth loss of organisms due to poor maintenance of the environment. For Example, in gold mining, lives are lost through accidents, while digging the land some organisms are displaced and even killed and plants are cut down and killed notwithstanding the aquatic animals suffocating due to release of hazardous chemicals to water bodies.

1.2 Necessity of Resource Regeneration

Generation of more resources implies that, that which is available is not enough or not well utilized as was expected. Due to the hurdles that have been caused by carelessness about the

environment, more resources are needed to restore it to its original state. This subtopic will therefore discuss the reasons why more resources are needed, check how the initial allocations are disbursed and used and finally give recommendations on policies to enforce accountability and equitable usage of the resources.

- Why regenerate more funds? (the necessity of funds regeneration)
- Effective strategies for resource mobilization

It is of great importance that steps to preserve biodiversity have been happening across the globe. The impact of such environmental concern is vital and the contribution of both public and private stakeholders is highly appreciated. Despite the contribution of public and private partners, there is a great challenge in resource mobilization strategies. One of the reasons that CBD is not reaching its goal is the gap in the financial sector / inadequacy of funds. It was recommended in Aichi for biodiversity target 20 that there is a need for substantial increase in the mobilization of financial resources from all sources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan, in accordance with the agreed strategies for resource mobilization.

1.2.1 Suggested Financial Mobilization – Processes and Strategies Enhancing Biodiversity

- a) Identification process of stakeholders from; private and public institutions that could respond to the Environmental concern at all levels: be it local, national, regional, and international and that includes, Politicians, business leaders, heads of organizations etc.
- b) Assessment or auditing of the Global Environment Facility delivered through local (grassroots) organizations on achievement of its purpose.
- c) Setting biodiversity financial mechanisms at all levels from local to international level which may depend on the urgent need, the distribution of funds in installments.
- d) There should be ad hoc funds to support in case of emergency or when things don't go as planned.
- e) Promote an informed sense of urgency to tackle the effects of biodiversity loss. When done intentionally, this will show that it is a good investment, provides value for money,

does good work and achieves this through delivery, accountability, increased oversight, increased operations in the field, and a decrease in operation costs.

- f) Creation of central information systems to provide evidence of performance. Donors should get updates on proceedings and functionality of the allocations; hearing about a suspicion or an allegation from the organization is preferable than learning of this from the media or any other third party.

1.2.2 Breaking the Chain of Corruption in Resource Allocation

Corruption has been a hindrance to a positive biodiversity. This is due to poor governance and lack of transparency and equity in resource allocation. Most audits conducted can never prove the full utilization of the funds allocated for the drive of the environment. In some cases, there is inequity in allocations of resources, therefore as youths, we recommend that thorough mechanisms be put in place to see to the expenditure of the allocations and policies be well spelt on the consequences for misappropriation of the funds. In doing so, there is a need to evaluate the existing leadership and restructure it to make it better and more transparent.

1.2.3 Soliciting Additional Resources

Resource mobilization demands more engagement with the full range of relevant stakeholders. However, this in turn requires, in some cases, educating these stakeholders on the reasons for mobilizing resources for the environment and how they relate to the environment. This section will involve cooperation with stakeholders (primary, secondary and tertiary more so, politicians and businesspersons) on how to place biodiversity on the agenda of several government ministries and numerous sectors in society. A range of communication, education and awareness interventions are needed. This involves the following:

- Networking, as well as a deliberate effort to establish new working relations;
- Defining common goals: what is our mission and how do we achieve it?
- Influencing decision making processes;

- Negotiating;
- Strengthening capacities and;
- Updating knowledge.

Many of these stakeholders may have little or no understanding of biodiversity or disregard scientifically prepared plans, policies and existing mechanisms due to a lack of awareness of their importance and the serious implications of overlooking them on economic development and poverty alleviation.

1.3 Nature Discussion with Politicians and Business Personnel

Politicians, private sectors and business owners are the most influential people in the world as they sit at the top table to make decisions by making laws or funding the processes. However, almost 90% of them are never bothered with environmental matters. Involving politicians to achieve the biodiversity goals that can be executed will be elaborated in the following paragraph.

Through the ministry of environment and forestry related movements, politicians should be engaged in several workshops which will enhance their capacity on the value of nature. Educating a politician will influence several followers who will finally embrace the act just because their leaders are doing it. Experience and research as witnessed in Kenya and conducted in Sri Lanka respectively has shown that trying to make all politicians and decision makers biodiversity experts can be futile, and that it is more effective to accept their level of knowledge and interests and concentrate on how best to put biodiversity on their agendas. An example of Kenyan scenario has been when politicians through the Nobel Prize winners (the late Prof. Wangari Mathai) encouragement on tree planting after and before the event. It has become a norm in any formal function that people plant trees. This requires the two modalities of both informal and formal communication, which is, having a chat with them informally before they have cabinet sittings or committee sittings after the formal communication. Politicians can help in the following ways:

- Increase of environmental allocations in the budget and having a committee assessing its utilization.

- Through political parties and individuals, politicians can allocate a smaller percentage to maintain biodiversity from membership contributions.
- Politicians can also be used at various levels to fundraise for the environment maintenance where they mobilize their supporters as well; this shall be viewed as a project maybe done on an annual basis or so.
- Politicians, through their sittings and working process related to laws, can make and pass laws or policies on tax payment and allocation to support nature from every sector.

Next to politicians, business owners can also aid in resource mobilization for biodiversity. This can be successful after educating them on the benefits of the process. They can be engaged to support in various ways, such as:

- They can grant permissions to youths and well-wishers to access their business premises and have some donation points for nature where people can drop some cash.
- Businesspersons can also act as donors in the process of donations for the environment, bearing in mind that a poor biodiversity affects them indirectly via the tertiary stakeholders.
- Through their companies they can do 'community service to nature' where they do donations and cleaning as an organization with advertisements. This shall encourage the customers too to donate for nature as they shall be viewed to be on the lead

1.4 Case Study

The case study captures gold mining in Macalder Mines in Kenya, South African open cast mining and mining in Peru. Gold being one of the precious minerals is extracted using various means. The methodologies used vary and gold as a final product undergoes several processes of which these processes mostly, in fact almost 98% deteriorate the environment and affect the biodiversity either through chemicals used, by land degradation, loss of lives for both aquatic and terrestrial animals and plants; however, the products can be redirected resourcefully to curtail the havoc and minimize the harm to the environment. This study therefore will recommend some

measures and safer ways of gaining this resource to benefit the biodiversity and provide possible solutions of reducing the harm caused to the biodiversity.

Artisanal and small-scale mining, defined as mining by individuals, groups or cooperatives with minimal or no mechanization often in the informal sector of the market, is an important economic activity in many developing countries across Africa, Asia and South America. The process accounts for a quarter of the world's gold output (Donkor & Nartey, 2006). Small-scale gold mining occurs near the surface and within unconsolidated rocks, the most frequent being deposits contained in riverbed alluvium and colluvium and altered upper portions of quartz veins (Odumo et al. 2011). The small-scale miners employ traditional techniques for mineral extraction and usually operate under hazardous, labor intensive, highly disorganized and illegal conditions to access chemicals and other illegal products to facilitate the process. In order to free gold particles, the miners add mercury to the ore forming a mercury-gold amalgam; a process referred to as the amalgamation method. The amalgam is then cleaned with water and later roasted in high temperatures to release the gold from the mercury.

This process of amalgamation is estimated to globally discharge to the environment up to 1000 tons of mercury per annum, accounting for one third of all global anthropogenic mercury pollution (Spiegel & Veiga, 2010). Exposures to mercury, even in small quantities, are associated with serious health problems including complications during fetal and early life. Elemental and methyl mercury are toxic to the central and peripheral nervous system, causing harmful effects on the nervous, digestive and immune system, lungs and kidneys (WHO 2007). Methyl mercury and arsenic, which is part of the smelter dust from gold, end up in water collection points used for human and animal use. These two compounds are associated with diseases like impairment of the peripheral vision, disturbances in 3 sensations, lack of movement coordination, impairments of speech, hearing, walking and muscle weaknesses, peeling of skin, kidney failures, respiratory failure and death (International Finance Corporation & World Bank, 2010). Besides the environment degradation caused by mining occurs mainly as a result of inappropriate and wasteful working practices and rehabilitation measures which include restrained plant growth due to acid mine because of toxic compounds and metals that are leached to the environment (Ogola et al. 2002). Direct deaths are also encountered by tears caused due to improperly

maintained mining conditions. Gold mining in Kenya has been going on for close to a century and is now being carried out primarily by artisanal miners. There are several gold deposits in the chosen area of study. They include Macalder, Masara, Osiri, and Mikei mines.

South Africa gold mining seems advanced compared to Kenyan type of mining however, its evidenced that even the mining conducted in Johannesburg and other places have negative impacts to the biodiversity and in fact, with large mining deposits, the effects are even more.

1.4.1 Effects of Gold Mining

Continuous disposal of mine wastes contributes to air and water contamination, which are detrimental to human health, livestock and wildlife biodiversity and have serious effects on the welfare of the mining communities, especially the effects of dust on people include severe coughing and vomiting. Moreover, in South Africa, local people said that contamination cannot be prevented since even water used for irrigation is contaminated.

1.4.2 Mitigating Gold Mining Effects

Gold mining has indeed raised the standards of people both miners and other beneficiaries however, it entails more risks to miners, surrounding community and environment. These include land degradation, health complications, both air and water pollution etc.

1.5 Recommendations to an Environmental-Friendly and Resourceful Mining

In this report, we therefore recommend the following to mitigate and make the mining more productive to the environment than being more hazardous.

- Comprehensible policies on mining that pay detailed attention to the mining effects of the environment and health of the miners should be structured.
- Precautionary steps such as use of personal protective clothing among the miners since the level of dust in the crushing sites is high and handling mercury with bare hands is common.

- The governments in respective countries ensure full enforcement of the law regarding the handling of Mercury to minimize its use and exposure.
- The government should check the gold pricing and enforce taxation which in turn can fund the process of creating a friendly environment.
- Policies should be recommended to ensure the disposal of wastes, most of which are chemicals, are properly done to avoid endangering the lives of both plants and animals.
- Have a central control point for mining to be able to budget for its cost and assess its benefits before conducting the actual process.
- The government should come up with an artisanal mining policy that will have well-organized laws of operation to reduce the occupational risks.
- Amounts of toxic elements like arsenic and lead in the mines are very high consequently the miners may need to take precaution and decrease possible exposure pathways from the mines through management initiatives from the SACCOs.
- Public access to the mines and mine tailings should be minimized to avert the exposure to heavy metal contamination and injuries caused due to environment degradation like collapse of mines.
- Miners should also be sensitized on the dangers of mining through workshops and eco-friendly solutions should be provided to ensure a green economy in the mining sector.

1.6 Conclusion

Environmental conservation is a collective responsibility that should be embraced by all irrespective of the position, gender or occupation. Just like have been shared in the report, resource mobilization is key in restoring nature to its original state, however, mobilization of resources requires an inclusive role where both stakeholders including primary, secondary and tertiary stakeholders are involved and politicians, businesspersons, leaders, organizations etc. take the leading role in mobilizing in order to minimize the havoc already caused by the ignorance to nature by humanity. Youths, being the most energetic people, can take the lead in campaigns

in mobilization of resources and educating the world on the need to conserve the environment via media campaigns and going practical in plantation of trees and conservation. We therefore encourage every person to take the leading and practical role in resource mobilization to ensure we holistically achieve the sustainable development goals and have an admirable biodiversity.

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ACP MEAs Programme

The ACP MEAs is a joint UNEP- EU-FAO-OACPS partnership programme. It aims to build the capacity of 79 countries in Africa, Caribbean, and the Pacific to fulfil their obligations to multilateral environmental agreements. Phase III (ACP MEAs 3) of this programme is being implemented in Africa by the African Union Commission (AUC), Abidjan Convention and Nairobi Convention, in the Caribbean by the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Cartagena Convention, in the Pacific by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The European Environmental Bureau (EEB) is the civil society partner.



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