

Aide memoire

<i>Session</i>	Session 4 – Interlinkages between biodiversity and agriculture: Part II – Policies and institutions
<i>Title of presentation</i>	Spatial planning as a tool to mainstream biodiversity in agriculture and related sectors by identifying conservation priorities
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Abstract

In Peninsular Malaysia the general direction for land use including biodiversity conservation, identifying agriculture areas and physical development is guided by the National Physical Plan. Currently the 2nd National Physical Plan (NPP2) is being implemented from 2010-2020 which has 8 main themes and theme no. 3 is dedicated to “Conserving Agriculture Resources & Rural Development” and theme no. 6 is on “Conserving Natural Resources, Biodiversity & the Environment”. To complement the implementation of NPP2, the government launched the Central Forest Spine (CFS) Master Plan which is an ambitious programme to connect 4 major forest complexes for biodiversity conservation and secure important water catchment areas. CFS covers an area of approximately 5.3 million ha; over 40% of the land area in Peninsular Malaysia.

Together with the NPP2 and the CFS, there is also a policy document in the form of Common Vision on Biodiversity which calls for the mainstreaming biodiversity in all sectors including agriculture. Malaysia, in early 2016 unveiled her revised National Policy on Biological Diversity, which is in line with the Global Aichi Biodiversity Targets and has in place targets that support sustainability in the agriculture sector and mainstreaming biodiversity. Based on this backdrop, this paper will offer a snapshot on how macro level spatial policies which are supported by sector based thematic policies on biodiversity and agriculture could support Malaysia in meeting her sustainable development agenda in line with SDGs. This paper will also highlight some key priority issues in addressing challenges which emerged through a research involving a multi-stakeholder participation.

Key considerations

- Spatial planning and clear sector based policies complemented with identifying key priority issues are important especially when resources are limited.
- Have a plan that fits national circumstances and priorities within the wider SDG framework.
- Need to go beyond awareness rising to change attitudes and actions regarding biodiversity and sustainable agriculture production and consumption at all levels of society.

Key discussion points and conclusions

- Deploy spatial tool to effectively address biodiversity conservation and agriculture in an integrated manner such as to have a network of connected protected areas and the ecosystem services link in supporting agriculture.
- All plans/policies must be accompanied with a clear resource mobilisation plan to facilitate implementation.
- Need to promote the internalisation of the appreciation of biodiversity.

Key question/s that you would pose at the roundtable discussions

- There should be also more focus on underutilised crops in meeting food demand and security issues especially in biodiversity rich regions. The roundtable could address this issue especially why is there a lack of research and cooperation to mainstreaming these crops in the agriculture sector?
- Depending on the presentations, will put forward other questions later especially on emerging issues faced by developing countries with regard to biosafety and IP issues.