

SEA and biodiversity – delivering the Millennium Development Goals

How can SEA help to catalyse capacity building and action to promote the MDGs?

How can SEA be used to help make links between biodiversity, poverty and development needs_

The 8 Millennium Development Goals, 18 targets, 48 targets...by 2015

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality & empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/Aids, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

Sustainable development, biodiversity and human wellbeing, and the MDGs : three key considerations

- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment -
Biodiversity underpins ecosystem services –
Ecosystem services underpin human wellbeing
- Poverty Reduction Strategy Programmes
Resilience of socio-ecological systems
Access, distribution, rights to natural resources
- ‘Threatened’ – priority and focus of assessment

Five questions to focus the presentations and discussion

1. Most, if not all, of the MDGs have links with biodiversity, or are sustained by biodiversity, not only the goal of 'ensuring environmental sustainability'. **How can SEA promote and raise awareness of these critical links?**
2. Biodiversity, poverty, vulnerability and resilience - **how can SEA best safeguard socio- ecological resilience in working to meet the MDGs?**
3. Objectives-led SEA: **How can we build the MDGs – or the biodiversity conditions that underpin the attainment of these MDGs - effectively into SEA,** so that SEA and decision-making becomes explicitly led by these objectives and related criteria?
4. **Which key areas of SEA and associated consideration of biodiversity should we be striving to improve, to deliver the MDGs?** a) process, b) information, c) stakeholder involvement, d) decision making?
5. **At what level/s should we be concentrating capacity building effort** through SEA and consideration of biodiversity to improve delivery of the MDGs - decision-makers, NGOs, business, the public, and/or local communities?