



Integration of Environmental Considerations into Agriculture and Forestry Policies and Operations

Working Group A

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What was discussed and agreed at Kiev?

• Challenges

- Agriculture and forestry sectors play a large role in the local and national economies of several countries.
- Socio-economic crisis in economies in transition and environmentally inefficient management have resulted in adverse and irreversible changes of renewable natural resources and degradation of agriculture lands and traditional nature use territories

• Recommendations

- Countries need to develop environmentally responsible agriculture and forestry sectors by supporting and promoting *mainstreaming* of environmental considerations into countries' development programs, sector strategies, plans and investments
- Countries need to address simultaneously and strategically the challenges of economic growth and an environment in these key sector, so as to achieve improved environmental outcomes.

But what is mainstreaming? It means different things to different people

“mainstreaming - the way of life or set of beliefs accepted by most people [so it becomes normal practice]” Cambridge University Press

“the Environment Strategy emphasizes the importance of integrating or internalizing - or “mainstreaming” - environment into country development programs, sector strategies, and investments” The World Bank

“the integration of environmental considerations into UNDP’s policies, programming and operations to ensure the coherence and sustainability of our mission and practices” UNDP

“conceptual shift that identifies environmental sustainability as an objective of the development process, rather than on focusing on compliance with environmental standards as a side condition to the achievement of other objectives” Inter-American Development Bank

“safeguarding the environment and natural resources base as a broader Government’s development goal” Country definition



Developing consensus on a clear definition of mainstreaming ...

Integrating environmental considerations into sectoral programs, strategies and investments by shifting from the pure compliance with environmental standards and regulations to environmental sustainability as a broad goal of the development process.

The background of the slide features a grid of light blue and white squares. Overlaid on this grid are several nature-themed images: a cluster of red berries on a green stem in the upper left; a close-up of a pink flower with a yellow center in the upper right; a large, soft-focus yellow flower in the lower left; and a pink, spiky flower in the lower right.

Challenges for Mainstreaming

- Identifying and pursuing “win-win” policies, programs and interventions
 - Be clear about the environment-economic growth linkages so an economic case can be made for mainstreaming
- Recognizing that trade-offs need to be made and ensuring that such trade-offs are socially optimal
 - Develop coordination mechanisms and appropriate negotiations skills in environment and other ministries
 - Internalize environmental and social costs into policy reforms and investment decisions

What are the key environment/economic-growth linkages...

- Improving environmental policies and governance leads to improved quality of growth.
- Protecting and improving management of natural assets leads to improved competitiveness
- Protecting of people's health from environmental risk and pollution leads to improved people's quality of life and long-term labor productivity
- Increasing access to environmental markets leads to private sector investments in environmental related activities.
- Improving management and conservation of regional and common goods leads to regional economic integration.



Translating them in the agriculture and forestry sectors...



Linkage	Agriculture	Forestry
<p>Improving environmental policies and governance will lead to improved quality of growth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strength sectoral capacity in environmental assessment, policy, management and enforcement. • Support establishment of markets of ecosystems services and independent certification of sustainable natural resource base. • Introduce pricing policies and incentives for improving environmental performance of the agriculture activities. • Introduce appropriate environmentally related taxes in relation to agriculture. • Introduce environmental management systems. • Introduce eco-labeling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strength sectoral capacity in environmental assessment, policy, management and enforcement (Albania, Russia). • Introducing good practices in environmental management. • Supporting establishment of markets of ecosystems services and adoption of independent certification of sustainable forest products (Russia, Romania, Turkey). • Support greater community involvement in decision-making (Albania). • Introduce appropriate environmentally related taxes in relation to forestry.

Translating them in the agriculture and forestry sectors...



Linkage	Agriculture	Forestry
<p>Protecting and improving management of natural assets will lead to improved competitiveness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote reforms on land management and remove policy-induced distortions (Albania). • Promote sustainable management and development of land and water resources including watershed management, soil erosion control (Armenia, Turkey, Albania). • Improve land tenure and property rights. • Promote institutional reforms focused on users' organizations (Various). • Support rehabilitation/ improvement of irrigation/drainage facilities (Various). • Support improvements to irrigation technology (Turkey). • Support introduction of best agriculture practices including biological pest control methods (Romania). • Promote cost-recovery in irrigation (Albania, Macedonia, Romania, Kyrgyz Republic, Turkey, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sustainable forests and pastures management. • Review sectoral policies and subsidies. • Increase investments for protecting ecological functions and environmental services of forest. • Support communal management of forests and pastures (Albania, Armenia). • Support reforestation and forestation (Albania, Armenia).

Translating them in the agriculture and forestry sectors...

Linkage	Agriculture	Forestry
Protecting of people's health from environmental risk and pollution will lead to improved people's quality of life and long-term labor productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support irrigation projects with specific environmental health outcomes (Serbia and Montenegro).• Improve drainage in irrigation projects (Albania).• Introduce policies and programs to reduce people's vulnerabilities to environmental risks.• Improve practices in handling agricultural chemicals, water pollution control.• Facilitate production of environmentally safe food (Albania).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain and enhance forest resources, which remove pollutants from the atmosphere.

Translating them in the agriculture and forestry sectors...

Linkage	Agriculture	Forestry
Increasing access to environmental markets will lead to private sector investments in environmental related activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support/promote organic farming (Romania).• Improve food safety and veterinary practices (Croatia, Macedonia)• Provide financial support for improving agricultural practices and reduce residues in meat and produce (Georgia, Romania).• Provide financial assistance to improve animal waste management facilities, slaughterhouses and other agro-processing enterprises (Serbia and Montenegro) .	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote access to forests certification mechanisms (Russia and Turkey).• Access markets for global environmental services such as carbon sequestration (Albania and Moldova).

Translating them in the agriculture and forestry sectors...

Linkage	Agriculture	Forestry
<p>Improving management and conservation of regional and common goods will lead to regional economic integration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve cross-boundary watershed and ecosystem management (Turkey).• Promote regional sustainable development in transboundary biological corridors.• Protect/preserve areas with high biodiversity and valuable habitats (Tajikistan).• Preserve wild relatives and land races of many of the world's major food crops.• Reduce discharge of nutrients and agro-chemicals to international water bodies (Romania, Turkey).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect/preserve and maintain areas with high biodiversity and valuable habitats in forest ecosystems (Albania, Georgia, Russia).• Promote afforestation/ reforestation efforts, which could contribute to meeting the challenge of climate change (Albania, Moldova).

Ongoing Study on Environmental Mainstreaming into Agriculture and Forestry



- **Objective:** To review the successful experiences of transition countries and develop good practice guidelines and approach for mainstreaming environmental consideration into forestry and agriculture policies and operations.
- **Focus countries:** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
- **Expected outputs:** Report on assessment of progress from Kiev to Belgrade, defined approach for mainstreaming environment in forestry and agriculture, action plan, and identify future Bank options for donor engagement.



Ongoing Study on Environmental Mainstreaming into Agriculture and Forestry

- We ask for your collaboration on the conduction of this study to identify past, ongoing and planned initiatives and participate in the country-specific case studies

