

# International Expert Workshop

## The Impact of Consumption on Ecosystems and Biodiversity

### Beyond Borders

### - A TEEB Perspective -

21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015

International Academy for Nature Conservation,  
Isle of Vilm,  
Germany



# **The Impact of Consumption on Ecosystems and Biodiversity**

## **Beyond Borders**

### **- A TEEB Perspective -**

In a globalized world and with increasing demand for food and changing consumption patterns the strain on ecosystem and biodiversity beyond borders is growing substantially. This is what footprint analysis, life cycle assessments, the living planet index and other useful approaches indicate globally, nationally and sub-nationally.

Yet, what specifically are key causes and factors for ecosystem degradation and loss of biodiversity elsewhere as a result of unfavorable consumption patterns? What methods are useful to trace evidence and develop solutions to adapt demand for harmful consumer products? What initiatives exist already to tackle the problem and what role could TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) play to raise awareness and instigate action. Since 2007, TEEB has contributed significantly to value the benefits of ecosystems and biodiversity to societies around the world. Currently, a global TEEB study focusing on agriculture and food is carried out as well as a number of TEEB Country Studies. Could TEEB also offer solutions for sustainable consumption?

In order to discuss these and other questions the workshop organizers (the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN), the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) and UNEP's TEEB Office) brought together scientists, decision makers and other actors concerned about the impact of consumption on ecosystem and biodiversity beyond borders. We would like to:

- further raise awareness for the relevance and importance of the issue,
- share insights and experiences on analytical methodologies (e.g. footprint analysis, input-output models),
- discuss lessons learned from different initiatives and cases that addressed these issues including TEEB country studies and TEEB for Agriculture & Food and identify where further analysis would be most useful, and
- explore the potential of relevant policy approaches and instruments, e.g. in relation to international trade, supply-chain management, food waste reduction etc.

The workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss scientific, policy and implementation related work on these aspects and to further explore their implications and results in several breakout groups and discussion sessions.

## Programme

### Wednesday, 21 October 2015

- 16:10**            **Latest ferry prior to the start of the workshop from Lauterbach/Mole to Vilm**
- 17:00**            **Introduction to Vilm**
- 17:20**            **Workshop background and objectives**  
*Heidi Wittmer, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research*  
*Tomas Declercq, UNEP TEEB Office*  
*Bettina Hedden-Dunkhorst, German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation*
- 17:40**            **Introduction of participants**
- 18:30**            ***Dinner***
- 19:30**            **Session 0: Setting the Scene**  
In an interactive setting, including a consumption game, we will jointly compile experiences and expectations from participants and derive key issues for further discussion and elaboration during the workshop.

### Thursday, 22 October 2015

- As of 07:30**      ***Breakfast***
- 09:00**            **Session I: Methodologies for assessing impacts of consumption on biodiversity and ecosystem services elsewhere**
- The objective of this session is to identify and discuss different types of methodological approaches that are suitable to assess and address consumption impacts.
- Chair:** *Tomas Declercq, United Nations Environmental Programme TEEB Office*
- Understanding the impacts of consumption with input-output analysis**  
*Alexandra Marques, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research*
- Novel method for identifying leverage points in certification for maximizing food security and environmental gains**  
*Malinka Virah-Sawmy, Luc Hoffmann Institute*
- Hybrid input-output approaches to trade and footprint accounting**  
*Martin Bruckner, Vienna University of Economics and Business*

**Integrating the values of ecosystem goods and services in the governance of tropical supply-chains: Making use of the benefits of sustainable production**

*Mark van Oorschot, Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency*

**Working Session I**

In breakout groups participants will discuss challenges and potentials of different methodological approaches and elaborate further ideas how impacts elsewhere could be captured well. Research gaps and open questions will be identified.

**12:30**                      ***Lunch Break***

**13:30**                      **Working Group I continued**

**14:00**                      **Session II: Experiences and Application**

This session aims to identify applications that can inspire change in consumption and lifestyle patterns. Generated ideas may also build upon or fit in already ongoing work streams, such as the TEEB Agriculture & Food Initiative."

**Chair:** *Bettina Hedden-Dunkhorst, German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation*

**Planet on the plate**

*Markus Wolter, World Wildlife Fund for Nature Germany*

**TEEB portfolio of work and links to consumption**

*Tomas Declercq, UNEP TEEB Office*

**From sustainable use towards sustainable consumption of biodiversity**

*Eduardo Escobedo, Responsible Ecosystems Sourcing Platform*

**15:30**                      ***Walk around the Isle***

**17:00**                      **Working Session II**

We will discuss questions like, what related initiatives, networks and projects exist already, what mechanisms work for which sectors, what are the barriers for implementation, what information and support is needed to foster implementation?

**18:30**                      ***Dinner***

**19:30**                      **Working Session II continued**

## Presentation and Discussion

### Funding biodiversity projects – BMUB's International Climate Initiative

*Jasmin Hundorf, International Climate Initiative Programme Office*

Friday, 23 October 2015

**As of 07:30**      **Breakfast**

**09:00**              **Session III: Policies and Policy Instruments**

The objective of the session is to provide an overview of experiences with policy approaches and instruments to address impacts of consumption on biodiversity and ecosystem services in the countries to origin

**Chair:** *Heidi Wittmer, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research*

#### **Policy approaches – a United Kingdom perspective**

*James Vause, UNEP-WCMC*

#### **Experience from German Development Cooperation**

*Henrike Peichert, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)*

#### **Policy approaches – a Netherlands perspective**

*Mark van Oorschot, Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency*

#### **Policy approaches and instruments - a German perspective**

*Ulf Dietmar Jaeckel, German Environment Ministry, Bettina Hedden-Dunkhorst, German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation*

#### **Working Session III**

We will discuss in working groups challenges and potentials of different policy approaches. Key questions include: how to involve the private sectors, what is the role of consumers and how much can and should policy influence their choices?

**12:30**              **Lunch Break**

**13:30**              **Working Groups III continued**

**15:00**              **Summary of results, linking of results and way forward**

**16:30**              **End of Workshop and early departure from Vilm**

**19:30**              **Visit to the Vilm Photo Gallery and get together**

***As of 07:00***      ***Breakfast***

**07:25**              **Excursion to Putbus on the Isle of Rügen**

We take the ferry from Vilm at 7:25 and the train from Lauterbach/Mole to Putbus (arriving 8:04). Putbus is on the way back to the mainland. In Putbus we will have a guided walk and learn about its unique history and its development. Afterwards we will visit a small business dealing with ecological products and discuss its business model with the founder. Finally we take part in the *first Rügen Week for Sustainability* and get an introduction to the vision and activities of the Biosphere Reserve Südost-Rügen.

**12:00**              **Departure from Putbus**