

Policy Dialogue on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity: Transforming Policies into Action



Impetus for the Partnership

- The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) study has drawn international attention.
- Since the TEEB study, a number of international fora have been initiated by international conservation organizations to promote the results of the study.
- The TEEB Study presents a compelling rationale for promoting its application in the daily decisions of governance and management .

Impetus for the Partnership

- Failing to account for the value of biodiversity and ecosystems loss would lead to wrong choices and decisions in addressing sustainable development challenges.
- A better understanding of the value of biodiversity can significantly boost political support to effect changes in the way people do things and further mobilize financial resources to address the threats and drivers of biodiversity loss and ecosystems degradation.



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office



UNEP
United Nations Environment Programme

giz

The Initiative for ASEAN

Bringing High level officials from different ministries (e.g. environment, finance, economics/planning) of ASEAN Member States to:

- Introduce the TEEB initiative;
- Communicate the full benefits of ecosystems and biodiversity for economic development;
- Raise awareness on the importance of integrating the values of ecosystems and biodiversity into national planning processes; and
- Promote synergy among different sectoral programs and policies in the context of TEEB and climate change.

The Initiative for ASEAN

Policy Dialogues:

- Manila 25-26 January 2012,
- Bangkok 6-9 February 2012 back to back with TEEB Technical Training with UNEP covering other regions, South Asia, North Asia, China, ASEAN
- TEEB Technical Workshop - Hanoi, 26-30 March 2012 back to back with Biodiversity Indicators Workshop (UNEP-WCMC)

The Challenges:
**A consolidation of
perspectives**

AWARENESS AND PERCEPTION

ISSUES

- General appreciation on the importance of TEEB in policy making but need to convey and impart to all levels of stakeholders, not only to policy makers at national level but also to communities, provincial and regional authorities
- Awareness-raising and information dissemination, especially at the community level, is needed
- Development (economic) is perceived to be more important than environment/ecosystem conservation; need to highlight of the need for balanced development.
- Investment in natural capital can be encouraged, if investors/buyers are clearly identified, specific strategies are put in place, spatial planning is linked, and institutional support is provided

METHODOLOGICAL AND CAPACITY ISSUES

- Difficulty in incorporating cost of biodiversity and ecosystems and costs implications to exports services
- Integrating TEEB considerations into national plans and Programmes
- Data limitation – need for stronger cooperation on data provisions for further TEEB study; harmonized data and trans-boundary coverage often lacking
- Long, tedious and high costs of stakeholders engagement (high cost)
- Sharing of methodologies – impacts assessment and risk mitigation
- Linking with Biodiversity Target (Aichi Target 2011-2020)

- Incorporation of natural accounting into local GDP account
- Funding and capacity limitation to carry out methodologies and tools
- Encourage more synergy among related governments and non-government parties
- Engagement with private sector and financial institutions important for immediate action
- Building capacities for academic institutions such as universities to undertake valuation processes.

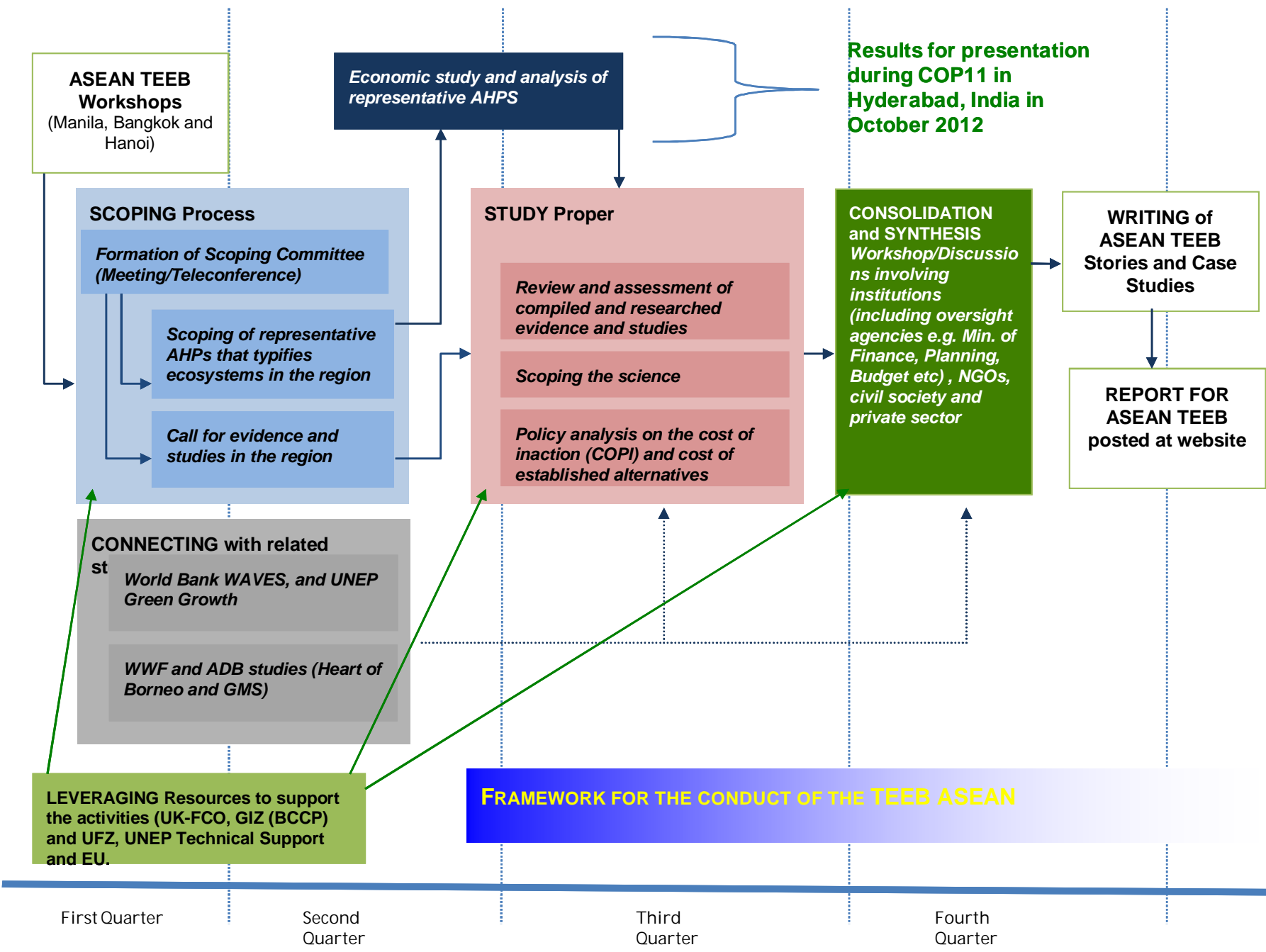
CONNECTING AND ESTABLISHING SYNERGY WITH OTHER EFFORTS

- On climate change and biodiversity linkages, to solve one problem is to solve the other, but with exception in biofuels use (issues of land conversion, crops); adaptation measures options that utilize ecosystems, but some can have very negative effects in ecosystems and ecosystem services
- Engage commercial bankers as well as people who are responsible on gross savings rates should be next invited
- Need for success stories, case studies – how far did you go in getting policy uptake. Use of ecosystem-based adaptation, REDD+ discussions and implementation.

- Need for a more sophisticated model of science-policy link; start thinking of examples like the UK NEA (independent study and government response); governments need to be aware; experts need to realize that they are not the only stakeholder in the room; multi-stakeholder models; treating these as public policy processes
- Use of Medium-Term Planning and Budgeting Framework
- Recognize the methodological issues, capacity issues and practical issues for valuation taking into account the local perspectives and adapt their perspective by developing appropriate approaches

- The importance of making the entire exercise as credible, transparent, and understandable: refinement of indicators for building credibility
- Holding dialogues with private sector (e.g. banking sector) to emphasize their valuable role in the mainstreaming process. Bringing business and governments together and discuss the implications of short term and long term scenario building processes.
- Consider the developments in ABS discussions given its huge potential for the valuation process.

The Next Steps:
A Way Forward for the
TEEB Initiatives



First Quarter

Second Quarter

Third Quarter

Fourth Quarter

Thank you for kind attention!

