

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
EDPRS	Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (Rwanda)
GDP	gross domestic product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MKUKUTA	National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (Mkakati wa Kukuza Uchumi na Kupunguza Umaskini) (United Republic of Tanzania)
NGO	non-governmental organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PEI	Poverty-Environment Initiative
PRSP	poverty reduction strategy paper
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme



# Glossary

**benefit-cost ratio.** The ratio of the discounted benefits to the discounted costs of an activity, project, programme or policy measure. If the ratio is one or greater, the present value of benefits is greater than the present value of costs; the activity, project, programme or policy measure therefore generates net benefits, i.e., is profitable (Dixon and Sherman 1991). *See also* **cost-benefit analysis**.

**bequest value.** The personal or social benefit received by the present generation from leaving a resource for future generations to enjoy or use. Bequest values are one of the reasons why present generations protect natural areas or species for future generations (Dixon and Sherman 1991).

**budgeting.** The process of deciding how much public spending should be committed in the future years or year and how it should be spent. The budgeting process differs enormously from one country to another and entails budget review, preparation, submission, allocation, approval, execution, and monitoring and reporting (Economist 2009). *See also* **medium-term expenditure framework**.

**capacity assessment.** An analysis of current capacities against desired future capacities, which generates an understanding of capacity assets and needs, which in turn leads to the formulation of capacity development strategies (UNDP 2007). *See also* **institutional and capacity strengthening**.

**carbon trading.** A market-based approach to achieve environmental objectives that allows those who are reducing greenhouse gas emissions below what is required to use or trade the excess reductions to offset emissions at another source inside or outside the country. In general, trading can occur at the intracompany, domestic and international levels. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Second Assessment Report adopted the convention of using "permits" for domestic trading systems and "quotas" for international trading systems. Emissions trading under Article 17 of the Kyoto Protocol is a tradable quota system based on the assigned amounts calculated from the emission reduction and limitation commitments listed in Annex B of the Protocol (IPCC 1995; UNFCCC 1998). *See also* **Clean Development Mechanism**.

**champion (poverty-environment).** Practitioner who takes on the role of advocating the integration of poverty-environment considerations into development planning at national, sector and subnational levels. Champions include high-level decision-makers and government officials who serve as ambassadors for poverty-environment mainstreaming.

**civil society.** The voluntary civic and social components of society. In 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, governments agreed on the following definition of major civil society groups: farmers, women, the scientific and technological community, children and youth, indigenous peoples and their communities, workers and trade unions, business and industry, non-governmental organizations and local authorities. Since then, the concept of civil society has continued to evolve, with different views of how it should be defined. In relation to the environmental field, civil society can be categorized under the following groups: service delivery, representation, advocacy and policy inputs, capacity-building and social functions (UNEP 2004). *See also non-governmental actor and stakeholder.*

**Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).** A mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol that allows industrialized countries with a greenhouse gas reduction commitment to invest in projects that reduce emissions in developing countries as an alternative to more expensive emission reductions in their own countries. In practice this means that industrialized countries finance investments in the fields of renewable energy (e.g. wind, hydropower and biomass energy), improved industrial processes and energy efficiency, improved waste management (e.g. landfill gas) or agriculture in developing countries (UNFCCC 2008a). *See also carbon trading.*

**climate change.** A statistically significant variation in either the mean state of the climate or in its variability, persisting for an extended period (typically decades or longer). The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in Article 1, defines climate change as “a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.” The Convention thus makes a distinction between climate change attributable to human activities altering the atmospheric composition and climate variability attributable to natural causes (IPCC 2009).

**climate change adaptation.** Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities. Various types of adaptation can be distinguished, including anticipatory, autonomous and planned adaptation (IPCC 2009).

**climate change mitigation.** Any anthropogenic intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases (IPCC 2009).

**cost-benefit analysis.** A comparative analysis of the present value of the stream of economic benefits and costs of an activity, project, programme or policy measure over some defined period of time (the time horizon). A boundary of the analysis is also defined in order to indicate what effects are included in the analysis. The results of the cost-benefit analysis are usually presented in terms of a net present value, a benefit-cost ratio or an internal rate of return, which is the discount rate at which the present value of benefits exactly equals the present value of costs. If the internal rate of return is higher than the cost of capital or a predetermined rate of interest, the project, programme or policy measure is profitable (Dixon 2008; Dixon and Sherman 1991). *See also economic analysis.*

**cost-effectiveness analysis.** A technique of analysis that makes an attempt to estimate benefits and focuses on the least-cost means of reaching a goal. This approach is commonly used for social or environmental projects, programmes and policies in which the benefits of reaching a goal are difficult to value or hard to identify (Dixon 2008; Dixon and Sherman 1991). *See also economic analysis.*

**costing.** The process of evaluating, through estimates, mathematical models and prediction of future needs, how much the implementation of a specific policy measure or the achievement of a goal or target through a set of policy measures will cost.

**economic analysis.** The broad process of studying and understanding trends, phenomena and information that are economic in nature. Economic analysis can quantify the contribution of the environment to a country's economy, through revenues, job creation and direct and indirect use of the resources by the population. By demonstrating the multiple values of the environment, expressed both in monetary and broader non-monetary terms, economic analysis can help persuade key decision-makers that the sustainable management of the environment will help them achieve development goals, such as poverty reduction, food security, adaptation to climate change and other measures of human well-being. *See also* **cost-benefit analysis**, **cost-effectiveness analysis** and **environmental valuation**.

**economic development.** Qualitative change and restructuring in a country's economy in connection with technological and social progress. The main indicator of economic development is increasing gross domestic product (GDP) per capita (or gross national product per capita), reflecting an increase in the economic productivity and average material well-being of a country's population. Economic development is closely linked with economic growth (World Bank 2004a).

**ecosystem.** A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (MA 2005). Ecosystems have no fixed boundaries; instead, their parameters are set according to the scientific, management or policy question being examined. Depending upon the purpose of analysis, a single lake, a catchment area or an entire region could be an ecosystem (WRI 2005).

**ecosystem services.** The benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include:

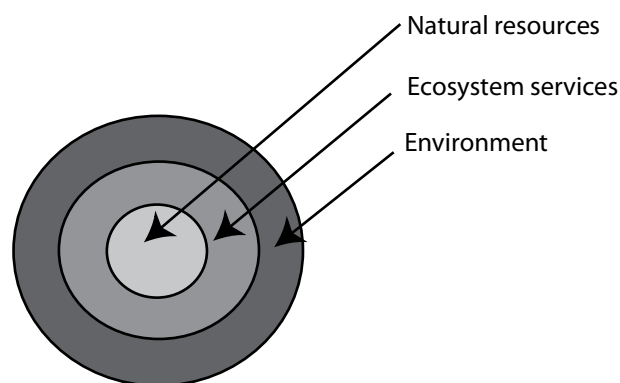
- **provisioning services.** The products obtained from ecosystems, including, for example, genetic resources, food and fibre, and freshwater
- **regulating services.** The benefits obtained from the regulation of ecosystem processes, including, for example, the regulation of climate, water and some human diseases
- **cultural services.** The nonmaterial benefits people obtain from ecosystems through spiritual enrichment, reflection, recreation and aesthetic experience, including, for example, knowledge systems, social relations and aesthetic values
- **supporting services.** The services necessary for the production of all other ecosystem services, including, for example, biomass production, production of atmospheric oxygen, soil formation and retention, nutrient cycling, water cycling and provision of habitat

The human species, while buffered against environmental changes by culture and technology, is fundamentally dependent on the flow of ecosystem services (MA 2005). *See also* **environment** and **natural resource**.

**entry point.** An opportunity for influencing decision-makers to consider poverty-environment issues in the process at stake. Possible entry points include the formation or revision of a poverty reduction strategy paper (PRSP), a national development plan, a national development strategy based on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) or

related implementation processes. The development and revision of sector strategies or plans, such as an agricultural sector plan, constitute another opportunity. Likewise, the start of the national budget allocation process or review (e.g. medium-term expenditure review) or the launch of relevant national consultation processes can prove to be excellent entry points for poverty-environment mainstreaming.

**environment.** The living (biodiversity) and non-living components of the natural world, and the interactions between them, that together support life on earth. The environment provides goods (*see also natural resource*) and services (*see also ecosystem services*) used for food production, the harvesting of wild products, energy and raw materials. The environment is also a recipient and partial recycler of waste products from the economy and an important source of recreation, beauty, spiritual values and other amenities (DFID et al. 2002). On the other hand, the environment is subject to environmental hazards such as natural disasters, floods and droughts and environmental degradation (e.g. soil erosion, deforestation).



**environmental accounting.** The consideration of the value of the environment in both national accounting and corporate accounting. National accounting refers to the physical and monetary accounts of environmental assets and the costs of their depletion and degradation. Corporate accounting usually refers to environmental auditing, but may also include the costing of environmental impacts caused by a corporation (OECD 1997).

**environmental fiscal reform.** Taxation and pricing instruments aimed at improving environmental management, including taxes on the exploitation of natural resources (e.g. forests, minerals, fisheries), user charges and fees (e.g. water charges, street parking fees, permits or licences on environment and natural resources), taxes or charges on polluting emissions (e.g. air pollution) and reforms to subsidies (e.g. on pesticides, water, energy).

**environmental impact assessment.** A study done to determine the probable environmental impacts (positive and negative) of a proposed project, to assess possible alternatives and to create environmental mitigation plans for a project that may have significant negative environmental impacts (UNEP 2007b).

**environmental mainstreaming.** The integration of environmental considerations into policies, programmes and operations to ensure their sustainability and to enhance harmonization of environmental, economic and social concerns (European Commission 2007).

**environmental sustainability.** The longer-term ability of natural and environmental resources and ecosystem services to support continued human well-being. Environmental sustainability encompasses not just recognition of environmental spillovers today, but also the need to maintain sufficient natural capital to meet future human needs (WRI 2005).

**environmental valuation.** The process of placing monetary value on environmental goods or services that do not have accepted prices or where market prices are distorted. A wide range of valuation techniques exist and are suited to address different issues (e.g. survey-based techniques, changes in production, hedonic approaches and surrogate markets) (Dixon 2008; Dixon and Sherman 1991). *See also* **economic analysis**.

**genuine savings.** Savings (income not used for current consumption) achieved once depletion of natural resources and environmental damages are subtracted from the gross savings of a country (World Bank 2004a).

**gross domestic product (GDP).** The total final output of goods and services produced within a country's borders, regardless of whether ownership is by domestic or foreign claimants (Dixon and Sherman 1991).

**household poverty assessment.** Collection and analysis of data on the determinants of poverty. Increasingly this includes environment factors such as access to water and energy (Brocklesby and Hinshelwood 2001).

**institutional and capacity strengthening or development.** The process through which the abilities of individuals, organizations and societies to perform functions, solve problems, and set and achieve objectives in a sustainable manner are obtained, strengthened, adapted and maintained over time. It entails building relationships and values that will enable individuals, organizations and societies to improve their performance and achieve their development objectives. This includes change within a State, civil society or the private sector, and change in processes that enhance cooperation between different groups of society. Capacity development is a concept broader than organizational development as it includes an emphasis on the overall system, environment or context within which individuals, organizations and societies operate and interact. *See also* **capacity assessment**.

**integrated ecosystem assessment.** An assessment of the condition and trends in an ecosystem; the services it provides (e.g. clean water, food, forest products and flood control); and the options to restore, conserve or enhance the sustainable use of that ecosystem through integrated natural science and social science research methods (MA 2005).

**integrated policymaking for sustainable development.** A process that incorporates the main objectives of sustainable development—economic development, poverty reduction and environmental protection—into policy actions. Integrated policymaking for sustainable development goes beyond assessment and evaluation by extending to the whole process including agenda setting, policy formulation, decision-making, implementation and evaluation (UNEP 2008a).

**livelihood.** The assets and activities required for a means of living. The assets might consist of individual skills and abilities (human capital), land, savings and equipment (natural, financial and physical capital, respectively) and formal support groups or informal networks that assist in the activities being undertaken (social capital). A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base (DFID 2001).

**mainstreaming.** The process of systematically integrating a selected value, idea or theme into all domains of an area of work or system. Mainstreaming involves an iterative process of change in the culture and practices of institutions (DFID et al. 2002).

**market failure.** A situation in which market outcomes are not efficient. Market failure occurs when prices do not completely reflect the true social costs or benefits. In such cases, a market solution results in an inefficient or socially undesirable allocation of resources. If the benefits of protected areas are underestimated, for example, a smaller amount of area will be protected than is socially desirable (OECD 1997; Dixon and Sherman 1991).

**medium-term expenditure framework.** A budgeting system comprising a top-down estimate of aggregate resources available for public expenditure in the medium term consistent with macro-economic stability; bottom-up estimates of the cost of carrying out policies, both existing and new; and a framework that reconciles these costs with aggregate resources. It is called “medium-term” because it provides data on a prospective basis for the budget year ( $n + 1$ ) and for following years ( $n + 2$  and  $n + 3$ ). The framework is a rolling process repeated every year and aims at reducing the imbalance between what is affordable and what is demanded by line ministries. The term used differs by country; besides “medium-term expenditure framework,” other terms that may be applied include multi-year expenditure framework, multi-year budget, forward budget, multi-year estimates and forward estimates (Petkova and Bird 2008). *See also budgeting.*

**Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.** A global assessment of the earth’s ecosystems and the consequences of ecosystem change for human well-being, commissioned by the United Nations Secretary-General. From 2001 to 2005, the assessment involved the work of more than 1,300 experts worldwide. Their findings provide a state-of-the-art scientific appraisal of the condition of and trends in the world’s ecosystems and the services they provide, and the scientific basis for action to conserve and use them sustainably. The work was completed in 2005 with the publication of a report (MA 2005, 2007).

**national adaptation programme of action.** A process for least developed countries to identify priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs with regard to adaptation on climate change. The programme takes into account existing coping strategies at the grass-roots level and builds upon these to identify priority activities. The Global Environment Facility is the financial mechanism for national adaptation programmes of action (UNFCCC 2008b).

**national communication.** A national report by the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to the conference of the parties. The core elements of the national communications are information on emissions and removal of greenhouse gases and details of the activities of the implementation of the Convention. Generally national communications contain information on national circumstances, vulnerability assessment, financial resources and transfer of technology; and education, training and public awareness. The Global Environment Facility provides financial assistance to the non-Annex I countries for the preparation of their national communications (UNFCCC 2008c).

**national development planning.** A comprehensive process from elaboration of a plan until implementation, by which economic development is organized around a coherent framework of objectives and means. In the context of poverty-environment mainstreaming planning encompasses preparatory work (e.g. carrying out assessments and setting up working mechanisms); policymaking (including public and policy reforms); and budgeting, implementation and monitoring, at various levels: national, sector and subnational.

**natural resource.** A natural asset (including raw materials) occurring in nature that can be used for economic production or consumption (OECD 1997). *See also* **environment** and **ecosystem services**.

**net present value.** The present-day value of the benefits and costs of a project, programme or policy measure that occur over a defined time horizon. A discount rate is used to reduce future benefits or costs to their present equivalent. The net present value is expressed in monetary terms and indicates the magnitude of net benefits generated by a project over time. A net present value greater than zero implies positive net benefits (Dixon and Sherman 1991). *See also* **cost-benefit analysis**.

**non-governmental actor.** Any actor that is not part of the government, in the broadest sense, including representatives of civil society, academia, business and industry, the general public and local communities, and the media. *See also* **civil society** and **stakeholder**.

**payment for ecosystem/environmental services.** Any of a variety of arrangements through which the beneficiary of ecosystem services compensates the providers of those services. Payment schemes may be a market arrangement between willing buyers and sellers, intermediated by a large private or public entity or government driven (WWF 2008).

**policy.** A high-level strategic plan embracing general goals, targets and implementation strategies. Examples of policy documents include poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs), Millennium Development Goal (MDG) strategies, and sector and subnational strategies and plans.

**policy measure.** An intervention supporting new policies or changes to existing policies, as well as broader sector (e.g. agriculture policy) and public reforms (e.g. participation in the decision-making process) aimed at improving environmental management for the benefit of the poor. Policy measures can take place at the national, sector or subnational level.

**poverty.** A multidimensional concept of deprivation including lack of income and other material means; lack of access to basic social services such as education, health and safe water; lack of personal security; lack of empowerment to participate in the political process and in life-affecting decisions; and extreme vulnerability to external shocks (DFID et al. 2002).

**poverty-environment indicator.** A measure of poverty-environment linkages, whether these linkages represent causal relationships between poverty and the environment or describe how environmental conditions affect the livelihoods, health and resilience of the poor to environmental risks or broader economic development.

**poverty-environment linkage.** The close relationship that exists between poverty and environmental factors, as reflected in livelihoods, resilience to environmental risks, health and economic development. Poverty-environment linkages are dynamic and context specific, reflecting geographic location, scale and the economic, social and cultural characteristics of individuals, households and social groups. The sex and age of the head of the household (female or male, adult or young person) are key factors influencing poverty-environment linkages (Brocklesby and Hinshelwood 2001; UNDP and European Commission 2000; UNDP-UNEP PEI 2007).

**poverty-environment mainstreaming.** The iterative process of integrating poverty-environment linkages into policymaking, budgeting and implementation processes at national, sector and subnational levels. It is a multi-year, multi-stakeholder effort grounded in the contribution of the environment to human well-being, pro-poor economic growth and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It entails working with government actors (head of state's office, environment, finance and planning bodies, sector and subnational bodies, political parties and parliament, national statistics office and judicial system), non-governmental actors (civil society, academia, business and industry, the general public and local communities and the media) and development actors.

**poverty-environment monitoring.** The continuous or frequent standardized measurement and observation of poverty-environment linkages, for example for warning and control (OECD 1997).

**poverty reduction strategy paper (PRSP).** Country-led, country-written document that provides the basis for assistance from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative. A PRSP describes a country's macroeconomic, structural, and social policies and programmes to promote growth, and the country's objectives, policies, interventions and programmes for poverty reduction (UNEP 2007b). Country-led PRSPs describing national objectives, policies, interventions and programmes are considered as policy documents.

**practitioner.** Any stakeholder, government or non-government, actively engaged in the environment, development and poverty reduction fields.

**programmatic approach.** A medium- or long-term approach that includes a set of activities building on each other and contributing to the aim of achieving synergies and longer-term outcomes.

**pro-poor economic growth.** Growth that benefits poor people in absolute terms, taking into account the rate of growth and its distributional pattern (Kraay 2003; World Bank 2007b). Ignoring the quality of growth and particularly the erosion of the environmental assets of the poor undermines growth itself and its effectiveness in reducing poverty, even if it may enhance short-term economic gains (DFID et al. 2002).

**public expenditure review.** A review of the public budget, within the context of public sector issues in general, that typically analyses and projects tax revenue; determines the level and composition of public spending; assesses inter- and intrasectoral allocations (agriculture, education, health, roads); and reviews financial and non-financial public enterprises, the structure of governance and the functioning of public institutions (World Bank 2007b).

**stakeholder.** Any party involved in a particular process, including any group or individual who has something at stake in the process. Stakeholders include government actors (head of state's office, environment, finance and planning bodies, sector and subnational bodies, political parties and parliament, national statistics office and judicial system), non-governmental actors (civil society, academia, business and industry, the general public and local communities, and the media); and the development community. *See also* **civil society** and **non-governmental actor**.

**strategic environmental assessment.** Any of a range of analytical and participatory approaches that aim to integrate environmental considerations into policies, plans and programmes and evaluate the interlinkages with economic and social considerations.

This family of approaches uses a variety of tools adapted and tailored to the context or policy process to which they are applied (OECD 2006a). Used in the context of poverty-environment mainstreaming, a strategic environmental assessment can also be useful in systematic review of a policy process or document to identify poverty-environment contributions and refine priorities accordingly.

**sustainable consumption and production.** The production and use of goods and services that respond to basic needs and provide a better quality of life while minimizing the use of natural resources, toxic materials, and emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle so as not to jeopardize the environment's ability to meet the needs of future generations (Norwegian Ministry of Environment 1994).

**sustainable development.** Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Brundtland 1987). Sustainable development includes economic, environmental and social sustainability, which can be achieved by rationally managing physical, natural and human capital (UNEP 2007b).

**twinning.** A framework through which organizations can work with their counterparts in a different country or region for mutual benefit through a direct exchange of national experiences of best practice. Twinning is normally used as a mechanism for institutional and capacity strengthening to develop the administrative structures, human resources and management skills needed to manage or implement a specific action or project. Twinning can involve study visits and the exchange of experts, but it can also be conducted in the form of "eTwinning"—a Web-based exchange of national experiences (European Commission 2008).



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