

Research needs expressed in the Decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity: Thematic Work Programme on Dry and Subhumids Lands Biodiversity

The biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands (<http://www.cbd.int/drylands/default.shtml>) provides critical ecosystem services to support two billion people, 90% of whom live in developing countries. The conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands is, therefore, central to livelihood development and poverty alleviation.

The cited Decisions that express research needs are V/23 (where the draft programme of work is annexed), VI/8, VIII/2, IX/17 and X/35, also checked were Decisions VI/4 and VII/2.

Direct research needs

Decision	Paragraph	Chapeau / Heading	Text	Source http://www.cbd.int/decisions/
V/23	Annex I Part II Activity 4	Draft programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands.	Building knowledge on ecological, physical and social processes that affect the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands, especially ecosystem structure and functioning (e.g., grazing, droughts, floods, fires, tourism, agricultural conversion or abandonment).	cop-05.shtml?m=COP-05&id=7165
V/23	Annex I Part II Activity 5		Identification of the local and global benefits , including soil and water conservation, derived from the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands, assessment of the socio-economic impact of its loss, and the undertaking of studies on the interrelationship between biodiversity and poverty , including analysis of: (i) the benefits from biodiversity for poverty alleviation; and (ii) the impact of biodiversity conservation on the poorest.	
V/23	Annex I Part II Activity 7		Promotion of specific measures for the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands, through , inter alia: The establishment and promotion of research and development programmes with a focus on , inter alia, building local capacity for effective conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands;	

V/23	Annex I Part II Activity 9		Exploring innovative sustainable uses of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands for local income generation, and promoting their wider application.	
V/23	Annex I Part II Para 11	The activities [of part B] to be carried out through:	Case-studies on successful management of dry and sub-humid lands that could be disseminated through, inter alia, the clearing-house mechanism.	cop-05.shtml?m=COP-05&id=7165
VI/8	Annex I Part II Planned Activity 10	Dry and subhumid lands biodiversity.	The knowledge base on the organisms that maintain the crucial soil crust should be developed at national and regional levels, as well as the need for greater knowledge of the micro-organisms in nutrient cycling, and increased taxonomic information of pests and diseases. In many parts of the world, there is a need to increase taxonomic capacity to identify the lichens , and to then develop identification tools. Taxonomic work will need to develop easy-to-use identikits for key soil lichens, algae, soil invertebrates, pest insects and other herbivores, and other taxa that will be the harbingers of change.	cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&id=7182
VIII/2	Para 4		Recognizes the urgent need for the systematic collection of biodiversity data at all three levels (genetic, species and ecosystem) and across all representative biomes of the programme of work on the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands as a basis for decision-making on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands and to facilitate the assessment of progress towards the 2010	
VIII/2	Para 5	The Conference of the Parties	<i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to improve national, regional and global data on dry and sub-humid lands ecosystem goods and services, their uses and related socio-economic values; on species at lower taxonomic orders including soil biodiversity; and on the threats to which dry and sub-humid lands ecosystems are subjected in view of the ongoing assessment of progress towards the 2010 targets and other global goals;	COP-08&id=11014

Indirect research needs

Decision	Paragraph	Chapeau / Heading	Text	Source http://www.cbd.int/decisions/
V/23	Annex I Part II Activity 1	Draft programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands.	Assessment of the status and trends of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands, including landraces, and the effectiveness of conservation measures.	cop-05.shtml?m=COP-05&id=7165
V/23	Annex I Part II Activity 2		Identification of specific areas within dry and sub-humid lands of particular value for biological diversity and/or under particular threat, such as, inter alia, endemic species and low lying wetlands, with reference to the criteria in Annex I to the Convention on Biological Diversity.	
V/23	Annex I Part II Activity 3		Further development of indicators of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and its loss, for the various ecosystem types, for use in the assessment of status and trends of this biological diversity.	
V/23	Annex I Part II Activity 6		Identification and dissemination of best management practices , including knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities that can be broadly applied, consistent with the programme of work under the Convention on Article 8(j) and related provisions.	
V/23	Annex I Part II Para 7	The activities [of part A] are to be carried out through:	Targeted research , including existing programmes of international and national research centres and research systems and other relevant international or regional programmes, with additional funding for priority work needed to overcome barriers to the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands; Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary case-studies on management practices , carried out primarily by national and regional institutions, including civil-society organizations and research institutions, with support from international organizations for catalysing the preparation of studies, mobilizing funds, disseminating results, and facilitating feedback and lessons learned to case-study providers and policy makers. New resources could be needed to promote such studies to analyse the results and to provide necessary capacity-building and human-resource development;	cop-05.shtml?m=COP-05&id=7165
IX/17	Para 2	The Conference of the Parties	<i>Encourages</i> Parties to develop regional and subregional research centres and networks for the exchange of research , information, traditional and cultural knowledge and technology concerning dry and sub-humid lands;	cop/?id=11660

IX/17	Para 17	The Conference of the Parties	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant organizations, such as the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, to compile information on the impacts of drought on biodiversity and prepare proposals on management options for biodiversity and drought, including early-warning systems.;</p>	<p>cop/?id=11660</p>
X/35	Para 2	The Conference of the Parties	<p><i>Urges</i> Parties and other Governments, where appropriate, to:</p> <p>Develop and implement, or revise existing, drought-management plans and early-warning systems at all levels, including regional and subregional and basin-level management plans, taking into account the impact of drought and desertification on biodiversity and the role of biodiversity and actions to combat desertification in increasing the resilience of dry and sub-humid lands, [...]</p> <p>Develop and implement best-practice guides for integrated planning between dry and sub-humid lands and wetlands with a view to contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands;</p>	<p>cop/?id=12301</p>