

From the [Rio Conventions' Ecosystems Pavilion](#) : It is now widely recognized that climate change, land degradation and biodiversity are interconnected, not only through effects of climate change on biodiversity and land management, but also through changes in biodiversity and ecosystem functioning that affect climate change. The carbon cycle and the water cycle, arguably the two most important large-scale processes for life on Earth, both depend on biodiversity – at genetic, species, and ecosystem levels and can yield feedbacks to climate change.



Maintaining and restoring healthy ecosystems plays a key role in adapting to and mitigating climate change through biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and sustainable land management and yields multiple environmental, economic and social benefits.

Ecosystem-based approaches provide an important route to sustainable action and represent a vital insurance policy against irreversible damage from climate change, whereas failure to acknowledge the relationship between climate change and biodiversity and failure to act swiftly and in an integrated manner could undermine efforts for improvements in both areas.

However, enormous pressures have been put on ecosystems to support the ever-growing demand for natural resources over recent years. Ecosystem services that are central to adaptation include goods, such as food, fodder and pharmaceutical products, and services, such as nutrient cycling and hydrological flows.

This was discussed on Monday, 18 October, 2010 in Nagoya, Japan, during the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Among the major issues for the Conference:

- [The linkages between biodiversity, climate change and sustainable land management](#)
- [Economics of ecosystem services and biodiversity, climate change and sustainable land management](#)
- [Key role of protected areas in climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies](#)
- [Indigenous peoples and local communities – benefits and livelihoods](#)
- [Forest biodiversity: mitigation and adaptation – the linked benefits provided by forests](#)
- [Water, ecosystems and climate change](#)
- [Drylands biodiversity](#)
- [Ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation](#)
- [Marine, coastal and island biodiversity](#)
- [Promoting synergies for sustainable development and poverty reduction](#)
- [Looking Ahead: Enhancing Synergies](#)

The Rio Conventions' Ecosystem Pavilion

The [Rio Conventions' Ecosystems and Climate Change Pavilion](#) is a collaborative outreach activity involving the Rio Convention secretariats, with the [Global Environment Facility](#) and other important partners. The CBD's [Lifeweb](#) is also playing a key role.

