

## **Plenary Session**

### **The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB): Mainstreaming Conservation for Poverty Reduction in South Asia**

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) assesses existing knowledge from peer reviewed literature, datasets, estimations and models which examine the economic costs of biodiversity decline and the loss of ecosystem services worldwide, as well as the costs and benefits of actions to reduce these losses, focusing on a medium to long term perspective. It fills these needs at a conceptual level, and also provides quantitative output in terms of unit values by biome, and by ecosystem service / biodiversity value, with a third dimension added due to the variability attributable to socio-economic factors such as population density and the wealth of beneficiaries. The approach is to synthesize a critically relevant ecological and economic foundation, which is necessary to understand the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity.

The proposed TEEB plenary session would

1. Discuss the interim findings of TEEB;
2. Evaluate roles played by Ecosystem Services in poverty alleviation; and,
3. Assess the effects and effectiveness of different economic based response policies for management of ecosystem services and poverty alleviation in South Asia.

#### **Plenary Organizer:**

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