

VfU Forum Biodiversity

Irina Detlefsen, 04. April 2011

Biodiversity Declarations, Policies and Guidelines

Core questions to be asked:

- Is there a business case for the financial sector?
If yes, what is its relevance compared to other topics?
- Is there a necessity to have biodiversity principles, guidelines and policies to handle biodiversity issues?

VfU-Forum Biodiversity

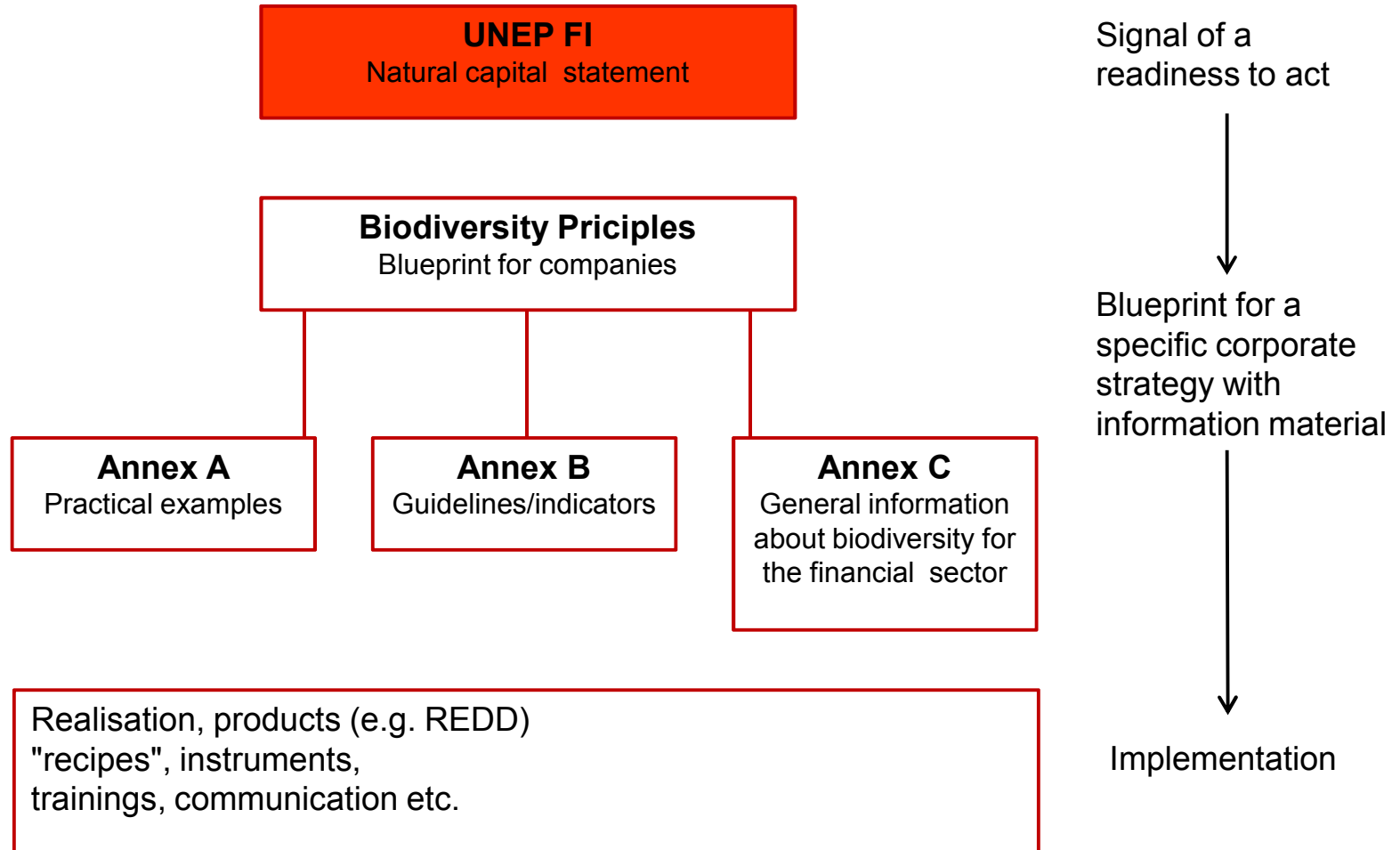
Setting

- 2009 VfU Round Table: Biodiversity has been identified as an important topic
- 2010 Working group "VfU-Forum Biodiversity": dealing with BES issues from a practical point of view:
 - Link and cooperation with BES initiative of Leuphana University Lüneburg, Global Nature Fund and the German Ministry of the Environment
 - Draft version of the Biodiversity Principles: presented in Nagoya (COP)
 - VfU Round Table 2010: presenting current results, discussing next steps

Status Quo

- Financial institutions are not ready to sign the Biodiversity Principles within the next years. They rather see them as guidelines.
 - There is a need for more detailed information:
 - Business case examples (from a financial institution's perspective)
 - Background information, relevance
 - Indicators, description of the possible impact on:
 - Governance, strategy, management system, building and production site, supply chain, products, production process, logistics, human resources, communication.
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Integration of Biodiversity Principles



Biodiversity Principles for the Finance Sector

The recommendations are based on the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity:

- The conservation of biological diversity
- Sustainable use of its components
- Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources

Definition of "Biodiversity" from a financial sector's perspective

Biodiversity Principles for the Finance Sector

Anchoring in the corporate management system

- Strategy, policy and guidelines (incl. measurable targets)
- Clear commitment and responsibility in the senior management
- Regular reporting
- Avoid products and services which have a negative impact on BES
- Involve employees, capacity building (awareness raising, information, training)

Anchoring in the business segments

- Research activities
 - Asset management
 - Retail banking
 - Insurance and reinsurance
 - Corporate banking
 - Investment banking & global markets
 - Project finance
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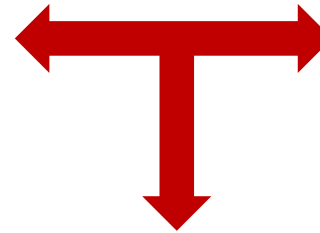
Annex B: Guidelines / Indicators

Business segments

- Governance, strategy
- Management system, compliance
- Building and production site
- Supply chain
- Products
- Production processes
- Transport and logistics
- Human resources
- Communication and reporting

Impact factors

- Loss of habitat
- Climate change
- Overexploiting
- Emissions
- Neobiota and GMOs



Indicators