

Sud Expert Plantes Développement Durable (SEP2D), a multilateral sustainable development programme, is making every effort to bolster partnerships and collaboration on plant biodiversity, building bridges between research, education and societal demands, by encouraging:

- the scientific community to work on applied topics, such as the major challenges associated with conservation and tropical plant biodiversity assessment (especially through Conventions on Biological Diversity and Climate Change),
- national authorities, public stakeholders, private sector operators and associations to meet societal demands by developing a culture of public-private partnership and backing vocational training for the green economy job market.

An international dynamic focused on biodiversity

The SEP2D programme is part of an international dynamic to offer guidance and support to the scientific communities in the Southern countries, as highlighted at the 10th meeting of the Convention on Biodiversity in Nagoya in 2010. At this Convention, plans were set out to 'improve, transfer, apply and widely share knowledge, scientific foundations and technologies associated with biodiversity, together with its values, its operating mechanisms, its current state, its trends, and the impacts of its depletion' by the year 2020.

Targeting 22 countries



A programme centred on the sustainable management of plant biodiversity

This initiative covers a highly multilateral scope of activity, centred on plant life and the associated scientific community, working in a South-South and South-North network, in collaboration with major international stakeholders.

Its applied dimension means that it focuses on the interface between research and action, together with public-private sector partnerships on conservation and biodiversity assessment.

Shared multilateral and thematic governance

The steering committee is made up of sponsors, representatives from the South and the programme's main partners. It draws on information from a Scientific and Pedagogical Council structured around four themes:

- forests and mines;
- medicinal drugs, cosmetics and agrobiodiversity;
- research and collections;
- training and awareness raising.

The IRD is responsible for managing the programme.

Action to promote research, innovation, training and policy advice

Sectoral activities (identifying, formalising and supporting projects in the South):

- support for innovative, basic and applied research initiatives led by actors in the field, particularly within civil society,
- backing for plant biodiversity collections, botanical gardens and vocational training courses, contributing to plant biodiversity assessment,
- promotion of South-South or distance training within the French-speaking world.

Cross-disciplinary activities (coordination, networking, promoting research with the South):

- public-private collaboration on biodiversity assessment,
- creation of networks to coordinate the interface between research and action and public-private sector partnerships,
- arrangement of meetings at the Convention on Biodiversity and help in obtaining international texts.

An institutional partnership to support projects in the South

A sum totalling around €5.3 million has been donated by the French Development Agency (AFD), the French Global Environment Fund (FFEM), the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MAEDI), and other public and private partners. Around two thirds of this funding is immediately available for the

programme to use as it sees fit, while the remainder has been earmarked by backers for specific initiatives. Some donors are also making contributions in kind, amounting to around 52 full-time equivalent employees in total over five years.

With the involvement of:





























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