

Interaction between the Rio Conventions on Climate and Biodiversity: Analysis of the Integration of Ecosystem-Based Approaches and Nature- Based Solutions into the UNFCCC

Authors : Dieudonne Mevono Mvogo

Abstract : The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)-Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) co-sponsored workshop report suggests that climate change and biodiversity loss are two of the most pressing issues of the Anthropocene. Research establishes the interconnection between climate change and biodiversity. On the one hand, the impact of climate change on biodiversity loss - 14 % over the past century - is projected to surpass other threats - land and sea use 34 % and direct exploitation of species 23 % - during the 21st century. Response measures to climate change also affect biodiversity negatively or positively. On the other hand, actions to halt or reverse biodiversity loss can enhance land and ocean capacity for carbon sequestration. These actions can also promote adaptation by ensuring adaptive capacity. This systemic interaction between climate change and biodiversity affects the human quality of life. The United Nations Secretariat's report entitled 'Gaps in international environmental law and environment-related instruments: towards a global pact for the environment,' released in 2018, states that cooperation and mutual support among agreements dealing with climate change, the protection of the marine environment, freshwater resources and hazardous waste are indispensable for the effective implementation of the Convention on the Biological Diversity (CBD). Since biodiversity is being lost at an alarming rate, this study aims to evaluate the cooperative framework for the coherence and coordination between climate change and biodiversity regimes to provide co-benefits for climate and biodiversity crises. It questions the potential improvement regarding integrating ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions - promoted by the CBD - into the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Keywords : rio conventions, climate change, biodiversity, cooperative framework, ecosystem-based approaches, nature-based solutions

Conference Title : ICENRL 2023 : International Conference on Environmental and Natural Resources Law

Conference Location : Rome, Italy

Conference Dates : November 20-21, 2023