

# High Level Conference on Business & Biodiversity

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## Workshop C: Markets for biodiversity goods and services

### Summary report

13 November 2007

# Biodiversity is relevant to a wide range of business sectors

- Small-and-medium enterprise (thousands in Natura2000 sites)
- Large multi-national companies (footprint inside & outside EU)
- Companies with a liability / responsibility for biodiversity loss
- Commercial 'producers' of biodiversity
- Good examples presented at conference (e.g. Novadelta coffee)
- State-of-the-art reviews forthcoming (e.g. Shell-IUCN report)

# Lessons from carbon markets for biodiversity

- Need political commitment to create incentives underpinned by quantitative targets
- Combine tax incentives with trading mechanisms
- Potential synergies between climate mitigation and biodiversity conservation through sustainable land use and forestry
- Private sector can bring investment capital and brokerage services
- Biodiversity is site-specific, *unlike* CO<sub>2</sub> – need to define and agree the currency
- Need for sector-level or landscape-level approach
- Explore the potential of international mechanisms

# What should the EU do?

- Relevant experience with biodiversity offsets around the globe (e.g. US mitigation banking, Australian 'Bushbroker')
- Business & Biodiversity Offsets Program – an active network with a relevant message for Europe
- Need innovation and research to achieve more efficient and *profitable* biodiversity conservation
- Can learn more from on-going initiatives through Europe (e.g. Biodiversity Technical Assistance Unit in E. Europe)
- Treat business and biodiversity as we normally do when we see new business opportunities:
  - create enabling frameworks
  - secure innovation finance
  - stimulate entrepreneurs
- Europe can take the lead!

# Towards a Biodiversity Business Facility

