



Biodiversity Policy and Strategy of Ethiopia

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Part One

I. Definition of words and concepts

Agrobiodiversity: the interaction between the environment, genetic resources and management systems and practices used by culturally diverse peoples, and encompasses the variety and variability of animals, plants and micro-organisms that are necessary for sustaining key functions of the agroecosystem, including its structure and processes for, and in support of, food production and food security.

Access: the collection, acquisition, transfer and use of genetic resource and/or associated community knowledge.

Biodiversity: the variability among living organisms from all sources including, *inter alia*, terrestrial, marine, and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems.

Biodiversity Research: the investigation, identification and documenting of the composition, distribution, structure, and function of biodiversity; understanding the roles and functions of genes, species, and ecosystems; grasping the complex links between modified and natural systems; and using this understanding to support sustainable development.

Biosecurity: the strategic and integrated approach to manage biota, health and environment related risks.

Biosphere Reserves: sites designated to promote the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable development, and scientific research which are meant to demonstrate a balanced relationship between people and nature.

Community Knowledge: knowledge, practices, innovations or technologies created or developed over generations by local communities on the conservation and use of genetic resources.

Conservation: the protection and management of biological resource while promoting sustainable utilization.

***Ex-situ* Conservation:** the conservation of components of biological diversity outside their natural habitats.

Ecosystem: a dynamic complex of plant, animal and microorganism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

Ecosystem Services: the short- and long-term benefits people obtain from ecosystems; and these include: provisioning, regulatory, supporting and cultural services.

Genetic Resource: any genetic material of biological origin and its derivatives containing genetic information having actual or potential value for humanity.

***In-situ* Conservation:** the conservation of components of biological diversity within their natural habitats.

Other Effective Conservation Measures: geographically defined areas, other than protected areas, which are governed and managed in a way that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the *in-situ* conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem functions and services and, where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socioeconomic, and other locally relevant values.

Protected Area: a clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature and associated ecosystem services and cultural values.

Sustainable Use: the use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.

II. Abbreviations

ABS: Access and Benefit Sharing

CBD: Convention on Biological Diversity

DSI: Digital Sequence Information

FDRE: Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

GMO: Genetically Modified Organism

MEA: Multilateral Environmental Agreement

OECMs: Other Effective Conservation Measures

PA: Protected Area

Part Two

III. Background and Introduction

Ethiopia, one of the mega-biodiverse countries of the world, consists of 12 ecosystems that are recognized on the basis of vegetation types, and 18 major and 49 minor agroecological zones that harbor a great diversity of plants, animals and microbes. The major ecosystems of the country, as addressed by the National Ecosystem Assessment, include the Mountain, Forest and Woodland, Aquatic and Wetland, Rangeland and Agricultural Ecosystems. The country stretches from 3° N to 15° N latitude and from 33° E to 48° E longitude, and has an area of 1,127,127 km².

Ethiopia is a country of great geographic diversity. Erosion, volcanic eruptions, tectonic movements and subsidence have occurred for centuries in the country and still continue to occur accentuating the unevenness of the surface. As a result, Ethiopia is subjected to wide altitudinal and physio-geographic variations. The altitudinal variation of the country ranges from 126 meters below sea level, in the Danakil depression in Afar region, to the highest peak of 4,620 meters above sea level, on Mount Ras Dashen. The Great Rift Valley runs from the northeast to southwest of the country and separates the western and southeastern highlands. Extensive semi-arid lowlands in the East, South and West are extensions of these highlands. Due to these physio-geographic variations, the country has variable climatic conditions within close distances.

Macro- and micro-climatic conditions of the country are highly variable. Rainfall distribution of the country is seasonal. The major rainy season is from June to September while the short rainy season occurs between February and April.

The political organizational structure of Ethiopia follows a federal and regional state pattern. Ethiopia is recognized to be an ethnically diverse country encompassing over eighty ethno-linguistic groups. This makes the country one of the bio-culturally rich nations of the world.

IV. Key Challenges Facing Ethiopia's Biodiversity

Ethiopian's biodiversity is facing a multitude of direct and indirect pressures which resulted in biodiversity loss, erosion of associated community knowledge as well as decline in ecosystem services.

Conversion of natural forests, grazing lands, woodlands, and wetlands into agricultural land and settlement areas constitutes a major threat to the biodiversity of Ethiopia. The ever-increasing human encroachment and land-use changes have resulted in the erosion of gene pools of Ethiopian's endemic crops including coffee (*Coffea arabica*) and teff (*Eragrostis tef*), threatening their long-term sustainability.

Unsustainable utilization of biological resources, coupled with other factors like soil erosion and unsustainable utilization of water resources for development undertakings, has threatened the biodiversity and ecosystem services in Ethiopia. Similarly, over harvesting of woody species and medicinal plants, overgrazing and excessive browsing by livestock have also contributed to the degradation of rangelands, bushlands and forest ecosystems.

Invasive alien species cause biodiversity loss by competing with native species for nutrients, feed & food and habitat; and also alter the physical environment negatively affecting agricultural lands, rangelands, national parks, water ways, lakes, rivers, reservoirs and power dams, road sides and urban green spaces with huge economic as well as social consequences.

Climate change is known to have caused adverse ecological, economic and social impacts in Ethiopia. For example, climate change resulted in either shortening or prolonging of the rainy season, which, in turn, put a direct impact on cropping patterns affecting productivity as well as sustainability of local varieties and breeds. Other consequences of such changes include shortage of livestock feed, disease outbreak, changes in disease distribution patterns, shrinkage of rangelands, desertification, forest fire, high evapotranspiration and drought.

Promoting monoculture by focusing on the use of improved plant varieties and animal breeds leads to loss of local agricultural biodiversity (agrobiodiversity). Agrobiodiversity is an essential component for sustainable production, enhancing productivity and quality as well as ensuring sustainable provision of ecosystem services. Therefore, the loss of agrobiodiversity will lead to loss of local plant varieties and animal breeds, thereby reducing ecological, economic and cultural benefits and resilience to climate change.

Pollution is the other threat to Ethiopia's biodiversity. Improper management or disposal of solid and liquid wastes from large- and small-scale factories, municipal wastes as well as deposition of

nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorous from agricultural fields are the causes of pollution and degradation of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

While the above-mentioned underline causes of biodiversity loss constitute direct drivers, factors like population expansion, poverty and lack of awareness belong to the category of indirect drivers. Ethiopia's population has quadrupled in just half a century. Population growth increases resource consumption, expansion and intensification of land use, exploitation of marginal lands and weakening of traditional resource-management systems exerting pressure on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Poverty, which obliges people and nations to focus on short-term benefits, giving less attention to long-term economic development, affects biodiversity and environmental sustainability. Thus, poverty prompted people to engaged in immediate income generating activities like charcoal making, extraction of timber, over fishing and illegal hunting.

Low level of awareness is the primary factor that hinders comprehending the full extent of the contributions of biodiversity and ecosystem services to the national economy and sustainable development. Taking the Ethiopian situation, lack of adequate awareness at both the decision makers and the public level contributed for unsustainable utilization of biological resources, leading to the loss of biodiversity and decline in ecosystem services.

V. Policy justifications

Ethiopia is a country rich in biodiversity though much remains to be done in investigating and documenting the wealth of biological resource and associated community knowledge. Biodiversity and ecosystem services are the basis for economic and social development of a country. The current and future economic, social and ecological contributions of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of the resource is not just a matter of technical concern but also political imperative as well.

In light of the contributions that biodiversity has for Ethiopia's economic development, and considering the growing threats biodiversity and ecosystem services are confronted with, it is fundamental to work towards the conservation and sustainable utilization of the country's biological resources for the benefit of both the present and future generations. Lack of data and documentation has proven to impede efficient utilization of the country's biological resources while continuing habitat destruction is leading to loss of the biological diversity before much of

it could be documented.

Currently, biological resources are being threatened by anthropogenic and natural drivers including: agricultural expansion, unsustainable utilization of natural resources, demographic pressure, climate change and variability, alien invasive species and environmental pollution. Halting or minimizing the loss of biodiversity and promoting its sustainable utilization calls for urgent and concerted action among many stakeholders. Biodiversity considerations need to be addressed as an important component in policy documents to ensure effective coordination and integration of efforts to conserve, sustainably utilize and accrue fair and equitable benefit from the use of genetic resources.

Ethiopia's legal and policy frameworks strongly emphasize environmental conservation and sustainable development. The Constitution of Ethiopia, in Article 44 (1), guarantees all citizens the right to a clean and healthy environment, while Article 92 mandates both the government and citizens to protect and preserve the environment, to ensure that development initiatives do not cause environmental harm. Similarly, Article 89 (5) of the Constitution underscores the responsibility of the government to ensure that all Ethiopians benefit from the country's natural resources, including land, biodiversity, and environmental health, by ensuring sustainable use. The Ethiopian Environmental Policy (1997) further consolidates this commitment by integrating environmental management into national development strategies, emphasizing sustainable resource use to prevent degradation. The major policy framework on the biological resources of the country is the Biodiversity Policy of Ethiopia (1998). The Policy aimed at conserving Ethiopia's rich biological resources. However, this policy has been in use for close to three decades and hence needs to be revised for there are issues that were not covered adequately by the existing framework.

A biodiversity policy which balances the trade-offs between biodiversity conservation and economic growth and sustainable development is essential. Such a policy will promote the protection, conservation and sustainable utilization of biological resources as well as sharing of benefits to local communities whose continued interactions contributed to the maintenance and flourishing of the biological resources. Furthermore, incentive mechanisms that are instrumental to promote the conservation of biodiversity and its management were not made part of the existing policy document and hence has not been applied. Besides, contemporary issues such as

Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) to Genetic Resources and associated Community Knowledge as well as Digital Sequence Information (DSI) were not considered when the existing policy was formulated.

Lack of awareness on and appreciation of the collection, transfer and circulation of plant, animal and microbial genetic resources, particularly importing and exporting of the same has resulted in negative consequences on the conservation, sustainable use as well as regulation of the resources; and this is particularly attributed to lack of a clear and comprehensive policy guide.

The above-mentioned situations, therefore, make necessary the revision of the existing policy in the manner that addresses the current aspiration and expectation in terms of conserving the country's biological resources and meeting the climate resilient green economic development initiative.

Part Three

VI. Vision

By 2040, Ethiopia's biodiversity is conserved and sustainably utilized benefiting the country's population.

VII. Mission

To conserve Ethiopia's biological diversity, ensure that its components are sustainably utilized and put in place an efficient benefit sharing system that fosters equity and sustainable development.

VIII. General goal

To put in place an efficient biodiversity governance system for effective conservation and sustainable utilization through enhanced involvement of all role players.

IX. Specific goals

1. Ensure that the Ethiopian biological resources and essential ecosystems as a whole are conserved, developed, managed and sustainably utilized;
2. Assert national sovereignty over genetic resources and develop a mechanism for a fair exchange, safe movement and proper management of these resources;
3. Enrich the genetic resources of the country through introduction, repatriation and restoration in accordance with the appropriate laws;
4. Recognize, foster, augment, promote, encourage and protect community knowledge, practices and innovations associated with biodiversity;
5. Integrate and mainstream biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, strategies, plans, programs and projects;
6. Build and develop national scientific capacity and capability to explore, collect, characterize, identify, evaluate, utilize and conserve the country's biological resources;
7. Ensure that the country and its people share benefits that arise from the use of genetic resources and associated community knowledge equitably;
8. Encourage the participation of local communities, including youth and women, in all decision-making processes that pertain to biodiversity and associated community knowledge;

9. Promote national, regional and international cooperation in biodiversity and associated community knowledge related engagements;
10. Promote partnership and incentive mechanisms to enhance biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization;
11. Promote citizen science, particularly the sensitization towards biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and access and benefit sharing.

X. Guiding principles

The following general principles will guide the interpretation and application of the biodiversity policy of Ethiopia:

- **Inter-generational equity:**
Promote wise utilization and management of biological resources to ensure the benefits of both the present and future generation to come.
- **Intrinsic value:**
Every form of life and ecological system is unique and warrants respect from humanity.
- **Science-policy–practice synergy:**
Scientific evidence-based decision and knowledge-based implementation.
- **Duty of care:**
Due care by all towards protecting, conserving and avoiding adverse impacts on biodiversity.
- **Sustainability:**
Conserve and sustainably use biodiversity for economic development, social wellbeing and environmental health for the benefit of both the present and future generations.
- **Good governance:**
Stakeholder engagement, participation and informed consent of all stakeholders in decision making related to the conservation, sustainable use and access and benefit sharing from biodiversity resources.
- **Cooperation and collaboration:**
Address issues that pertain to biological diversity in good faith, in the spirit of mutual benefit, without compromising Ethiopia’s sovereignty and territorial integrity; engage

with neighboring countries with respect to biological resources that transcend national boundaries, and continue to exercise a proactive and constructive role in international activities.

- **Recognition to local communities:**

Recognize knowledge, practices, innovations, customs and norms of local communities in the conservation of biological diversity; respect their rightful share of benefits arising from the use of biodiversity.

- **Integration and mainstreaming of biodiversity:**

Dedicate appropriate attention to the inclusion of biodiversity-related issues in national legal and institutional frameworks and their implementation at all levels.

- **Accountability and transparency:**

Accountability *vis-a-vis* decisions relating to the conservation and use of biodiversity through explicit and justifiable processes.

- **Gender concern:**

Adequate focus to women, youth and children as they play a vital role in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

- **Adherence to biosafety:**

Adequate biosafety-related precautionary measures during the introduction, adoption, development, use and dissemination of biotechnological outputs.

- **International responsibility:**

Delivering the objectives of international agreements that pertain to biodiversity and environment as per the standard and expectations, placing Ethiopia at the forefront.

XI. Scope

This Biodiversity policy and strategy shall be applicable to the biodiversity of Ethiopia and undertakings that affect its components.

XII. Biodiversity Policy Issues, Objectives and Strategies

1. Policy Issue: Conserve Ethiopia's biodiversity

1.1. Policy Objective: To identify important components of biodiversity and threatening processes

Strategies:

1. Develop biological, social and economic criteria and indicators for identifying components of biodiversity;
2. Undertake the research necessary to identify components of Ethiopian biodiversity and understand ecological functions and processes;
3. Conduct biodiversity mapping focusing on biological resource distribution, threat status and level of protection (prioritization);
4. Develop a mechanism to manage and distribute useful information to the public and decision makers.

1.2. Policy Objective: To ensure *in-situ* conservation of genetic resources and enhance the maintenance and recovery of endemic, endangered / threatened and economically important species as well as key ecosystems

Strategies:

1. Establish an effective framework/roadmap for the conservation of endemic, endangered/threatened and economically important species as well as key ecosystems;
2. Develop recovery and maintenance plans for the conservation of endemic, endangered/threatened and economically important species as well as key ecosystems;
3. Establish *in-situ* conservation sites for endemic, endangered/threatened and economically important species as well as key ecosystems;
4. Develop a management plan and monitoring framework for the conservation sites.

1.3. Policy Objective: To ensure the establishment of representative protected area systems

Strategies:

1. Undertake comprehensive assessments for the identification of areas suitable for the establishment of representative Protected Areas (PAs);
2. Engage in designation processes and putting in place appropriate legislative measures;
3. Develop a management plan and monitoring framework of PAs;
4. Enhance the conservation status and governance aspects of the existing PAs;
5. Promote the protection of Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs) and establishment and development of Biosphere Reserves;
6. Strengthen the involvement of local communities, environmental activists, operators, and volunteers in decisions and governance-related matters of PAs & OECMs.

1.4. Policy Objective: To restore and rehabilitate degraded habitats/ecosystems and enhance the recovery of component species and the whole system

Strategies:

1. Identify critically degraded habitats/ecosystems;
2. Prioritize degraded areas and develop restoration and rehabilitation plans;
3. Undertake restoration and rehabilitation of degraded habitats/ecosystems and recovery of populations;
4. Develop management plans and monitoring framework;

1.5. Policy Objective: To ensure *ex-situ* conservation of biodiversity

Strategies:

1. Establish and strengthen local and national gene banks and other facilities for *ex-situ* conservation;
2. Strengthen the existing Botanical Gardens and facilitate the establishment of new ones;
3. Coordinate and support efforts of the different institutions engaged in genetic resources collection and working towards *ex-situ* conservation and information exchange;
4. Create a link between *in-situ* and *ex-situ* conservation sites by facilitating the recovery and restoration of threatened species using materials from *in-situ* sites and *ex-situ* collections;

5. Coordinate collaborative *ex-situ* conservation programmes at national, regional and global levels to maximize the country's genetic resources conservation;
6. Develop human and technical capacity for *ex-situ* conservation as well as strengthening its various educational roles.

1.6 Policy Objective: To promote the recognition and integration of local community and traditional knowledge into policies, programmes and development initiatives

Strategies:

1. Identify local community's and traditional knowledge to be promoted and integrated into policies, programmes and development initiatives;
2. Develop and implement a framework that recognizes the values of local communities and indigenous knowledge in relation to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
3. Develop a monitoring and evaluation systems to follow up the impacts of the implementation of the integrating the local community and indigenous knowledge into that contribute.

2. Policy Issue: Generate scientific information and best practices

2.1. Policy Objective: To promote research that enhances the conservation, sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit sharing

Strategies:

1. Build national scientific capacity for the assessment, collection, characterization and evaluation of the country's biodiversity;
2. Generate and update data and information on Ethiopia's biodiversity and associated community knowledge;
3. Strengthen delivery of extension and research services related to the management of agricultural, forestry, and pastoral systems to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
4. Survey and support the development of community-based resource management initiatives and scale up lessons learned and best practices in further interventions;

5. Establish and strengthen networking among national and international research partners including local communities, governmental and non-governmental institutions and the private sectors;
6. Mobilize financial, technical and other resources that support research undertaking related to biodiversity;
7. Establish national biodiversity research database.

2.2. Policy Objective: To improve knowledge and understanding of the country's biodiversity components and their values

Strategies:

1. Develop and implement public awareness and sensitization programmes on biodiversity for different target groups;
2. Create a network for information exchange and dissemination among institutions involved in biodiversity research, management and/or conservation;
3. Recognize, encourage and support institutions engaged in biodiversity research, management, conservation and information dissemination;
4. Develop or strengthen biodiversity education and training programmes to different target groups including adults, women and youth;
5. Integrate biodiversity issues into national curricula;
6. Foster the promotion of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through various mechanisms, *inter alia*, through co-curricular activities, campaigns and relevant events.

2.3. Policy Objective: To enhance the understanding of the status and trends of biodiversity and ecosystem services

Strategies:

1. Undertake surveys and assessments to determine the past and present status of biodiversity and ecosystem services, formulate possible scenarios, and assess the nature and level of underlining factors of change;
2. Identify and map endemic, endangered/ threatened and economically important species and their habitats/ecosystems;

3. Establish a framework for ecological gap analysis for identifying and monitoring ecosystems, habitats and species that require rehabilitation/restoration and protection;
4. Enhance coordination among government institutions, museums, universities, civil society organizations and individuals involved in biological inventories;
5. Apply multidisciplinary approach and also integrate all categories of knowledge in developing a system of indicators for national use in resource assessment, conservation planning and monitoring;
6. Build national capacity to conduct inventories by increasing the number and skill of professional and citizen scientists to collect and identify biological specimens.

3. Policy Issue: Environmentally sound and sustainable livelihood in human managed ecosystems

3.1. Policy Objective: To ensure sustainable management of agrobiodiversity and sustainable food production

Strategies:

1. Generate data and information on the status and trends of agrobiodiversity and their conservation status periodically;
2. Mainstream agrobiodiversity into national and sectoral biodiversity and land use planning policies and decision-making processes;
3. Devise a mechanism to incentivize communities engaged in agrobiodiversity conservation and management;
4. Promote nature-based local production systems characterized by maintaining high species diversity, environmental and social sustainability and equity.

3.2. Policy Objective: To promote sustainable management of rangeland biodiversity

Strategies:

1. Generate data and information on the status and trends of rangelands, their conservation status periodically;
2. Integrate and mainstream pastoral and semi-pastoral issues into national and sectoral biodiversity and land use planning policies and decision-making processes;

3. Devise a mechanism to incentivize communities engaged in sustainable utilization and management of rangelands and their conservation;
4. Promote traditional livestock production systems characterized by maintaining species and breed diversity, sustainable resource use norm and environmental stability and social equity.

3.3. Policy Objective: To promote environmentally sound and sustainable development around protected areas

Strategies:

1. Support and promote relevant developmental and other activities adjacent to PAs that are compatible with the objectives of the protected area;
2. Empower communities (including women, youth, and people with disabilities) residing near protected areas to participate in protected area management through training and education;
3. Devise a mechanism to manage PAs in collaboration with local communities and other stakeholders;
4. Conduct a survey of existing community conservation practices and document their experiences for use.

3.4 Policy Objective: To mitigate and halt the impact of industries and the energy sector on biodiversity and ecosystem services

Strategies:

1. Identify mining and industry-related threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services,
2. Establish a framework to mitigate the impact of mining and energy sector on biodiversity and ecosystem services;
3. Integrate large scale industries and energy sectors with biodiversity conservation in ways that maximize the use of resources without causing adverse effects to the environment;
4. Establish a robust framework for monitoring the impact of industries and energy activities on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

4. Policy Issue: Preventing, controlling, and mitigating threats to biodiversity

4.1. Policy Objective: To eliminate or minimize effects of population pressure on biodiversity

Strategies:

1. Put in place a legislative framework that promotes reasonable population growth;
2. Design mechanisms that encourage population regulation such as the introduction of incentives, diversification of livelihood, creation of adequate job opportunities in rural settings;
3. Mainstream population issues into other sectoral and cross sectoral policies, programs, plans and school curricula;
4. Establish a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to regularly assess the impact of population on biodiversity.

4.2. Policy Objective: To eliminate or minimize the effects of land-use change on biodiversity

Strategies:

1. Develop land use policy at national and regional state levels;
2. Adopt intensive production approaches in agriculture, manufacturing and urban development without compromising biodiversity;
3. Promote the reconversion of transformed landscapes into their natural state;
4. Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to track the extent of either forward or backward land-use changes and the associated impact on biodiversity.

4.3. Policy Objective: To eliminate or minimize the effects of pollution and climate change on biodiversity

Strategies:

1. Ensure the enforcement of the national environmental legislations of varying categories;
2. Mainstream the issue of environmental health and climate change in various sectoral and cross sectoral policies as well as school curricula;
3. Promote the adoption of green and blue technologies and engage in undertakings that foster the reduction of ecological footprint;

4. Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to regularly assess the impact of pollution and climate change on biodiversity.

4.4. Policy Objective: To prevent, control and eradicate invasive alien species

Strategies:

1. Ensure the implementation of the national invasive alien species strategy;
2. Adopt a proactive approach and appropriate technologies to control the introduction and establishment of invasive alien species;
3. Regularly monitor and evaluate the status, trends and impacts of invasive alien species and devise/revise and implement controlling strategies.

4.5. Policy Objective: To regulate the transfer, handling, use and release of genetically modified organisms

Strategies:

1. Enforce and strengthen existing legislation to regulate genetically modified organisms;
2. Improve awareness concerning the risks and benefits of modern biotechnology, including Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) on biodiversity;
3. Provide a framework for safe development and application of modern biotechnology and GMOs;
4. Develop and support national capacity *vis-a-vis* modern biotechnologies and GMOs;
5. Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to regularly assess the impact of modern biotechnology and GMOs.

5. Policy Issue: Mainstream biodiversity considerations into other national and regional initiatives

5.1. Policy Objective: To integrate biodiversity issues, as appropriate, into research, development and conservation programmes or projects at national and sub-national levels

Strategies:

1. Ensure that research, development and conservation programmes or projects took into account conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;

2. Establish and strengthen biodiversity-related platforms or networks of stakeholders that serve as forums for assuring research, development and conservation-related initiatives that dedicate appropriate attention to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use;
3. Foster collaboration and partnership among policy makers, the scientific community and practitioners with respect to biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits;
4. Establish a scheme to regularly monitor the extent of integration of biodiversity issues into research, development and conservation-related initiatives and thereby evaluate outcomes achieved.

5.2. Policy Objective: To integrate women and youth considerations, as appropriate, into research, development and conservation programmes or projects at national and sub-national levels of biodiversity issues

Strategies:

1. Ensure that research, development and conservation programmes or projects took into account women and youth issues from the perspectives of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use;
2. Devise a mechanism for the involvement of women and youth in decision making processes, at all levels, *visa-a-vis* biodiversity conservation and sustainable use;
3. Establish and strengthen women and youth-related platforms or networks that facilitate engagement by stakeholders on issues that pertain to the nexus between gender and biodiversity;
4. Establish a scheme for regularly monitoring the extent of involvement of women and youth in biodiversity-related research, development and conservation initiatives and for evaluating the progress achieved.

5.3. Policy Objective: To ensure the implementation of Ethiopia's international, sub-regional and regional obligations related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

Strategies:

1. Review biodiversity-related international agreements and processes that Ethiopia is a party to and assess the extent of implementation as per its commitments;

2. Ensure that research, development and conservation programmes or projects contribute to the implementation of Ethiopia's commitments and obligations;
3. Establish and strengthen a system of reporting and feedback obtaining mechanisms *vis-a-vis* the accomplishment of international commitments and obligations;
4. Establish and strengthen coordination mechanisms to ensure consistent negotiations, implementation and reporting in multilateral and regional environmental agreements (MEAs) for sustainable biodiversity management;
5. Mobilize resources from financing mechanisms under MEAs to support biodiversity conservation and management.

5.4. Policy Objective: To facilitate the development of partnerships and stakeholder involvement in sustainable biodiversity conservation and management

Strategies:

1. Map stakeholders engaged in or with potential to contribute to sustainable biodiversity management;
2. Develop and implement a strategy on partnerships and stakeholder's involvement to enhance biodiversity management;
3. Promote investments in biodiversity initiatives and programmes by providing appropriate incentives;
4. Develop and implement conflict resolution strategy in the conservation and management of biodiversity at local, sub-national and national levels;
5. Develop partnership with international academic, research and conservation institutions and also diplomatic missions situated in Ethiopia to promote the conservation of biodiversity as a common cause.

6. Policy Issue: Share benefits derived from the use of Ethiopia’s genetic resources and associated community knowledge fairly and equitably

6.1. Policy Objective: To acknowledge the roles and contributions of local communities in the conservation of genetic resources and associated community knowledge

Strategies:

1. Organize a comprehensive national level information on the roles and contributions of local communities in the conservation of genetic resources and associated community knowledge;
2. Develop and implement schemes for the recognition and promotion of community knowledge and its holders;
3. Establish a scheme for reviewing and evaluating the impact the recognition schemes resulted in.

6.2. Policy Objective: To benefit local communities as a reward to their ages-old contribution as stewards of biodiversity and thereby bring local livelihood improvements

Strategies:

1. Strengthen the existing benefit sharing framework and develop a new one as appropriate;
2. Establish categories of the rewards to be applied as a benefit sharing package; and implement based on appropriate modalities;
3. Establish a scheme for reviewing and evaluating the extent of satisfaction of community members as well as impacts on local biodiversity.

6.3. Policy Objective: To promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through the application of local knowledge, practices and innovations

Strategies:

1. Identify local knowledge, practices and innovations instrumental in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
2. Devise mechanisms to promote and integrate local knowledge, practices and innovations in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;

3. Establish a scheme for reviewing and evaluating the impact of attaching benefit sharing to local knowledge, practices and innovations and the consequent promotion of the same has brought about on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

7. Policy Issue: Develop capacity to conserve, manage and use biodiversity

7.1. Policy Objective: To raise awareness and improve knowledge on the benefits of biodiversity

Strategies:

1. Develop human resource and infrastructure capacity to promote public awareness on the values and benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services;
2. Coordinate and support institutions and organizations engaged in raising awareness on conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity;
3. Establish a scheme for assessing and identifying awareness-related human resource and infrastructure capacity gaps.

7.2. Policy Objective: To improve capacity for the conservation and use of biodiversity and associated community knowledge

Strategies:

1. Develop human resource and infrastructure capacity to identify and categorize biological resources and prioritize their conservation by employing various approaches;
2. Develop facilities for *in-situ* and *ex-situ* conservation of genetic resources;
3. Establish data collecting, storage and sharing system to promote the conservation, sustainable use and development of biodiversity and associated community knowledge;
4. Establish and strengthen data sharing platform with stakeholders and partners.

8. Policy Issue: Enhance trans-boundary cooperation

8.1. Policy Objective: To promote trans-boundary cooperation on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and associated community knowledge

Strategies:

1. Identify potential areas of cooperation for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and associated community knowledge with neighboring countries;
2. Develop and strengthen measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as for sharing benefits derived from resources common to both Ethiopia and neighboring countries;
3. Develop a scheme for sharing experience, mutual support and training with neighboring countries in areas related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use;
4. Establish a joint monitoring and evaluation scheme regarding collaborative interventions related to trans-boundary biodiversity resources management.

8.2. Policy Objective: To establish cooperation *vis-a-vis* regulating the movement of genetic resources and Genetically Modified Organisms

Strategies:

1. Identify potential areas of cooperation regarding the movement of genetic resources and transfer, handling, use and release of GMOs with neighboring countries;
2. Develop and strengthen a framework for the movement of genetic resources and transfer, handling, use and release of GMOs with neighboring countries;
3. Establish a joint monitoring and evaluation scheme regarding movement of genetic resources and transfer, handling, use and release of GMOs with neighboring countries.

9. Policy Issue: Contribute to the establishment of specialized regime on access to genetic resources and genetic sequence information

9.1. Policy Objective: To develop a system of identification and registration of digital sequence information or data derived from genetic resources

Strategies:

1. Develop genome analysis-based comprehensive data set on the genetic resources of the country in a manner that asserts ownership and sovereign right over the sequenced genetic information;
2. Establish a system that supports the registration, recognition and use of information or data derived from genetic resources;
3. Ensure that benefits accrued from the use of digital sequence information or data derived from genetic resources are secured;
4. Establish a monitoring system to evaluate the benefits the use of digital sequence information or data has brought.

9.2. Policy Objective: To fulfill Ethiopia's commitment to international arrangements under the Convention on Biological Diversity

Strategies:

1. Raise awareness with respect to digital sequence information or data, ownership and sovereign right, and use and benefit sharing;
2. Develop a tool that facilitates Ethiopia's involvement in the establishment of the specialized access regime and also that the Country's interests are addressed;
3. Establish a monitoring system to evaluate the performance of the specialized access regime and assess impacts of the arrangement.

XIII. Details of Biodiversity Policy Issues, Objectives and Strategies

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
1	Conserve Ethiopia's biodiversity and associated community knowledge	To identify important components of biodiversity and threatening processes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop biological, social and economic criteria and indicators for identifying components of biodiversity; 2. Undertake the research necessary to identify components of Ethiopian biodiversity and understand ecological functions and processes; 3. Conduct biodiversity mapping focusing on biological resource distribution, threat status and level of protection (prioritization); 4. Develop a mechanism to manage and distribute useful information to the public and decision makers. 	
		To ensure <i>in-situ</i> conservation of genetic resources and enhance the maintenance and recovery of endemic, endangered/threatened and economically important species as well as key	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish an effective framework/roadmap for the conservation of endemic, endangered/ threatened and economically important species as well as key ecosystems; 2. Develop recovery and maintenance plans for the 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>ecosystems</p> <p>To ensure the establishment of representative protected area (PA) systems</p>	<p>conservation of endemic, endangered/ threatened and economically important species as well as key ecosystems;</p> <p>3. Establish <i>in-situ</i> conservation sites for endemic, endangered/threatened and economically important species as well as key ecosystems;</p> <p>4. Develop a management plan and monitoring framework for the conservation sites.</p> <p>1. Undertake comprehensive assessments for the identification of areas suitable for the establishment of representative PAs;</p> <p>2. Engage in designation processes and putting in place appropriate legislative measures;</p> <p>3. Develop management plans and monitoring frameworks of PAs;</p> <p>4. Enhance the conservation status and governance aspects of the existing PAs;</p> <p>5. Promote the protection of Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs) and establishment and development of Biosphere Reserves;</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To restore and rehabilitate degraded habitats/ecosystems, and enhance the recovery of component species and the whole systems</p> <p>To ensure <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of biodiversity</p>	<p>6. Strengthen the involvement of local communities, environmental activists, operators, and volunteers in decisions and governance-related matters of PAs & OECMs.</p> <p>1. Identify critically degraded habitats/ecosystems; 2. Prioritize degraded areas and develop restoration and rehabilitation plan; 3. Undertake restoration and rehabilitation of degraded habitats/ecosystems and recovery of populations; 4. Develop a management plan and monitoring framework.</p> <p>1. Establish and strengthen local and national gene banks and other facilities for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation; 2. Strengthen the existing Botanical Gardens and facilitate the establishment of new ones; 3. Coordinate and support efforts of the different institutions engaged in genetic resources collection and working towards <i>ex-situ</i> conservation and information exchange;</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To promote the recognition and integration of local community and traditional knowledge into policies, programmes and development initiatives</p>	<p>4. Create a link between <i>in-situ</i> and <i>ex-situ</i> conservation sites thereby facilitating the enrichment of <i>ex-situ</i> collection and restoration of threatened species;</p> <p>5. Coordinate collaborative <i>ex-situ</i> conservation programmes at national, regional and global levels to maximize the country's genetic resources conservation;</p> <p>6. Develop human and technical capacity for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation as well as strengthening its various educational roles.</p> <p>1. Identify local community's and traditional knowledge to be promoted and integrated into policies, programmes and development initiatives;</p> <p>2. Develop and implement a framework that recognizes the values of local communities and indigenous knowledge in relation to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;</p> <p>3. Develop a monitoring and evaluation systems</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
2	Generate scientific information and best practices	To promote research that enhances the conservation, sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit sharing	<p>to follow up the impacts of the implementation of the integrating the local community and indigenous knowledge into that contribute.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build national scientific capacity for the assessment, collection, characterization and evaluation of the country's biodiversity; 2. Generate and update data and information on Ethiopia's biodiversity and associated community knowledge; 3. Strengthen delivery of extension and research services related to the management of agricultural, forestry, and pastoral systems to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; 4. Survey and support the development of community-based resource management initiatives and scale up lessons learned and best practices in farther interventions; 5. Establish and strengthen networking among national and international research partners including local communities, governmental and 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To improve knowledge, understanding and awareness of the country's biodiversity components and their values</p>	<p>non-governmental institutions and the private sectors;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Mobilize financial, technical and other resources that support research undertaking related to biodiversity; 7. Establish national biodiversity research database. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and implement public awareness and sensitization programmes on biodiversity for different target groups; 2. Create a network for information exchange and dissemination among institutions involved in biodiversity research, management and/or conservation; 3. Recognize, encourage and support institutions engaged in biodiversity research, management, conservation and information dissemination; 4. Develop or strengthen biodiversity education and training programmes to different target groups including adults, women and youth; 5. Integrate biodiversity issues into national 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To enhance the understanding of the status and trends of biodiversity and ecosystem services</p>	<p>curricula;</p> <p>6. Foster the promotion of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through various mechanisms, <i>inter alia</i>, through co-curricular activities, campaigns and relevant events.</p> <p>1. Undertake surveys and assessments to determine the past and present status of biodiversity and ecosystem services, formulate possible scenarios, and assess the nature and level of underlining factors of change;</p> <p>2. Identify and map endemic, endangered/ threatened and economically important species and their habitats/ ecosystems;</p> <p>3. Establish a framework for ecological gap analysis for identifying and monitoring ecosystems, habitats and species that require rehabilitation/restoration and protection;</p> <p>4. Enhance coordination among government institutions, museums, universities, Civil Society Organizations and individuals involved in biological inventories;</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
3	Environmentally sound and sustainable livelihood in human managed ecosystems	To ensure sustainable management of agrobiodiversity and sustainable food production	<p>5. Apply multidisciplinary approach and also integrate all categories of knowledge in developing a system of indicators for national use in resource assessment, conservation planning and monitoring;</p> <p>6. Build national capacity to conduct inventories by increasing the number and skill of professional and citizen scientists to collect and identify biological specimens</p> <p>1. Generate data and information on the status and trends of agrobiodiversity and their conservation status periodically;</p> <p>2. Mainstream agro-biodiversity into national and sectoral biodiversity and land use planning policies and decision-making processes;</p> <p>3. Devise a mechanism to incentivize communities engaged in agrobiodiversity conservation and management;</p> <p>4. Promote nature-based local production systems characterized by maintaining high species diversity, environmental and social</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To promote sustainable management of rangeland biodiversity</p>	<p>sustainability and equity.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Generate data and information on the status and trends of rangelands, their conservation status periodically; 2. Integrate and mainstream pastoral and semi-pastoral issue into national and sectoral biodiversity and land use planning policies and decision-making processes; 3. Devise a mechanism to incentivize communities engaged in sustainable utilization and management of rangelands and their conservation; 4. Promote traditional livestock production systems characterized by maintaining species and breed diversity, sustainable resource use norm and environmental stability and social equity. 	
		<p>To promote environmentally sound and sustainable development around protected areas</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support and promote relevant developmental and other activities adjacent to PAs that are compatible with the objectives of the protected area; 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To mitigate and halt the impact of industries and the energy sector on biodiversity and ecosystem services (Industry and Energy sector)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Empower communities (including women and youth) residing near protected areas to participate in protected area management through training and education; 3. Devise a mechanism to manage protected areas in collaboration with local communities and other stakeholders; 4. Conduct a survey of existing community conservation practices and document their experiences for use. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify industry and mining sectors-related threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services; 2. Establish a framework to mitigate the impact of industry, mining and energy sectors on biodiversity and ecosystem services; 3. Integrating large scale industries and energy sectors with biodiversity conservation in ways that maximize the use of resources without causing adverse effects to the 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
4	Preventing, controlling, and mitigating threats to biodiversity emanating from driver-based Changes	To eliminate or minimize the effect of population pressure on biodiversity	<p>environment;</p> <p>4. Establish a robust framework for monitoring the impacts of Industries, mining and energy sectors' activities on biodiversity and ecosystem services.</p>	
		To eliminate or minimize the effects of land-use change on biodiversity	<p>1. Put in place a legislative framework that promote reasonable population growth;</p> <p>2. Design mechanisms that encourage population regulation such as the introduction of incentives, diversification of livelihood, creation of adequate jobs opportunities in rural settings;</p> <p>3. Mainstream population issues into other sectoral and cross sectoral policies, programs, plans and school curricula;</p> <p>4. Establish a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to regularly assess the impact of population on biodiversity.</p>	
			<p>1. Develop land use policy at National and Regional levels;</p> <p>2. Adopt intensive production approaches in</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To eliminate or minimize the effects of pollution and climate change on biodiversity</p>	<p>agriculture, manufacturing and urban development without compromising biodiversity;</p> <p>3. Promote the reconversion of transformed landscapes into their natural state;</p> <p>4. Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to track the extent of either forward or backward land-use changes and the associated impact on biodiversity.</p> <p>1. Ensure the enforcement of the national environmental legislations of varying categories;</p> <p>2. Mainstream the issues of environmental health and climate change issues into various sectoral and cross sectoral policies as well as school curricula;</p> <p>3. Promote the adoption of green and blue technologies and engage in undertakings that foster the reduction of ecological footprint;</p> <p>4. Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to regularly assess the impact of</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To prevent, control and eradicate invasive alien species</p> <p>To regulate the transfer, handling, use and release of genetically modified organisms (GMO)</p>	<p>pollution and climate change on biodiversity.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure the implementation of the national invasive alien species strategy; 2. Adopt a proactive approach and appropriate technologies to control the introduction and establishment of invasive alien species; 3. Regularly monitor and evaluate the status, trends and impacts of invasive alien species and devise/revise and implement controlling strategies. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enforce and strengthen existing legislation to regulate genetically modified organisms; 2. Improve awareness concerning the risks and benefits of modern biotechnology, including GMOs on biodiversity; 3. Provide a framework for safe development and application of modern biotechnology and GMOs; 4. Develop and support national capacity <i>vis a-vis</i> modern biotechnologies and GMOs; 5. Establish a monitoring and evaluation 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
5	Mainstream biodiversity considerations into national and sub-national initiatives	To integrate biodiversity issues, as appropriate, into research, development and conservation programmes or projects at national and sub- national levels	<p>framework to regularly assess the impact of modern biotechnology and GMOs.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that research, development and conservation programmes or projects took into account conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; 2. Establish and strengthen biodiversity-related Platforms or networks of stakeholders that serve as forums for assuring research, development and conservation-related initiatives dedicated appropriate attention to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use; 3. Foster collaboration and partnership among policy makers, scientific community and practitioners with respect to biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits; 4. Establish a scheme for regularly monitor the extent of integration of biodiversity issues into research, development and conservation-related initiatives and thereby evaluate outcomes 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To integrate women and youth considerations, as appropriate, into research, development and conservation programmes or projects at national and sub-national levels of biodiversity issues</p>	<p>achieved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that research, development and conservation programmes or projects took into account conservation women and youth issues from the perspectives of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use; 2. Devise a mechanism for the involvement of women and youth in decision making processes, at all levels, <i>visa-a-vis</i> biodiversity conservation and sustainable use; 3. Establish and strengthen women and youth-related platforms or networks that facilitate engagement by stakeholders on issues that pertain to the nexus between gender and biodiversity; 4. Establish a scheme for regularly monitoring the extent of involvement of women and youth in biodiversity-related research, development and conservation initiatives and for evaluating the progress achieved. 	
		<p>To ensure the implementation of</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review biodiversity-related international 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		Ethiopia's international, sub-regional and regional obligations related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	<p>agreements and processes that Ethiopia is a party to and assess the extent of implementation as per its commitments;</p> <p>2. Ensure that research, development and conservation programmes or projects contribute to the implementation of Ethiopia's commitments and obligations;</p> <p>3. Establish and strengthen a system of reporting and feedback obtaining mechanisms visa-a-vis. accomplishment of international commitments and obligations;</p> <p>4. Establish and strengthen coordination mechanisms to ensure consistent negotiations, implementation and reporting in multilateral and regional environmental agreements for sustainable biodiversity management;</p> <p>5. Mobilize resources from financing mechanisms under multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) to support biodiversity conservation and management.</p>	
	To facilitate the development of		1. Map stakeholders engaged in or with	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>partnerships and stakeholder involvement in sustainable biodiversity conservation and management</p>	<p>potential to contribute to sustainable biodiversity management;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Develop and implement a Strategy on Partnerships and Stakeholders involvement to enhance biodiversity management; 3. Promote investments in biodiversity initiatives and programmes by providing appropriate incentives; 4. Develop and implement conflict resolution a strategy in the conservation and management of biodiversity at local, regional and national levels; 5. Develop partnership with international academic, research and conservation institutions and also diplomatic missions situated in Ethiopia to promote the conservation of biodiversity as a common cause. 	
6	<p>Share benefits derived from the use of Ethiopia's genetic resources and associated</p>	<p>To acknowledge the roles and contributions of local communities in the conservation of genetic resources and</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organize a comprehensive national level information on the roles and contributions of local communities in the conservation of 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
	community knowledge fairly and equitably	<p>associated community knowledge</p> <p>To benefit local communities as a reward to their ages-old contribution as stewards of biodiversity and thereby bring local livelihood improvements</p> <p>To promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through the application of local knowledge,</p>	<p>genetic resources and associated community knowledge;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Develop and implement a scheme for the recognition and promotion of community knowledge and its holders; 3. Establish a scheme for reviewing and evaluating the impact the recognition scheme resulted in. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen the existing benefit sharing framework and develop a new one as appropriate; 2. Establish categories of the rewards to be applied as a benefit sharing package; and implement based on appropriate modalities; 3. Establish a scheme for reviewing and evaluating the extent of satisfaction of community members as well as impacts on local biodiversity. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify local knowledge, practices and innovations instrumental in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>practice and innovation</p> <p>To facilitate access to genetic resources and associated community knowledge</p>	<p>2. Devise mechanism to promote and integrate local knowledge, practices and innovations in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;</p> <p>3. Establish a scheme for reviewing and evaluating the impact of attaching benefit sharing to local knowledge, practices and innovations and the consequent promotion of the same has brought about on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</p> <p>1. Undertake a comprehensive assessment of access-related achievements accomplished and challenges encountered from the perspective of benefit sharing;</p> <p>2. Develop and implement mechanisms for facilitating access to genetic resources and associated community knowledge through enhanced application of benefit sharing packages;</p> <p>3. Establish a scheme for reviewing and evaluating the impact of attaching benefit</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
7	Develop capacity to conserve, manage and use biodiversity	<p>To raise awareness and improve knowledge on the benefits of biodiversity</p> <p>To improve capacity for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and associated community knowledge</p>	<p>sharing to facilitate access to genetic resources and associate community knowledge.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop human resource and infrastructure capacity to promote public awareness on the values and benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services; 2. Coordinate and support institutions and organizations engaged in raising awareness on conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity to consolidating efforts for optimum achievements; 3. Establish a scheme for assessing and identifying awareness-related human resource and infrastructure capacity gaps. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop human resource and infrastructure capacity to identify and categorize biological resources and prioritize their conservation by employing various approaches; 2. Develop facilities for <i>in-situ</i> and <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of genetic resources; 3. Establish data collecting, storage and sharing 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
8	Enhance trans-boundary cooperation	To promote trans-boundary cooperation on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and associated community knowledge	<p>system to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and associated community knowledge;</p> <p>4. Establish and strengthen data sharing platform with stakeholders and partners</p> <p>1. Identify potential areas of cooperation for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and associated community knowledge with neighboring countries.</p> <p>2. Develop and strengthen measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as for sharing benefits derived from resources common to both Ethiopia and neighboring countries;</p> <p>3. Develop a scheme for sharing experience, mutual support and training with neighboring countries in areas related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use;</p> <p>4. Establish a joint monitoring and evaluation scheme regarding collaborative interventions related to trans-boundary biodiversity resources</p>	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
		<p>To establish cooperation <i>vis-à-vis</i> regulating the movement of genetic resources and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)</p>	<p>management.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify potential areas of cooperation regarding the movement of genetic resources and transfer, handling, use and release of GMOs with neighboring countries; 2. Develop and strengthen framework for the movement of genetic resources and transfer, handling, use and release of GMOs with neighboring countries; 3. Establish a joint monitoring and evaluation scheme regarding movement of genetic resources and transfer, handling, use and release of GMOs with neighboring countries. 	
	<p>To reduce and mitigate practices harmful to biodiversity</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify actual and potential harmful practices to biodiversity characteristic of trans-boundary regions; 2. Devise and implement framework that will help reduce and halt the occurrence of harmful practices and associated impacts; 3. Establish a monitoring and evaluation systems for crosschecking implementation of plans and 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
9	Contribute to the establishment of specialized regime on access to genetic resources and genetic sequence information	To develop a system of identification and registration of digital sequence information or data derived from genetic resources	<p>enforcement of laws as well as assessing achievements and impacts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop genome analysis-based comprehensive data set on the genetic resources of the country in a manner that asserts ownership and sovereign right over the sequenced genetic information; 2. Establish a system that supports the registration, recognition and use of information or data derived from genetic resources; 3. Ensure that benefits accrued from the use of digital sequence information or data derived from genetic resources are secured; 4. Establish a monitoring system to evaluate the use of digital sequence information or data brought the intended benefits. 	
		To fulfill Ethiopia's commitment to international arrangements under the Convention on Biological Diversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raise awareness with respect to digital sequence information or data; ownership and sovereign right; and use and benefit sharing; 2. Develop a tool that facilitates Ethiopia's involvement in the establishment of the 	

No.	Policy Issues	Policy Objectives	Strategies	Remarks
			<p>specialized access regime and also that the Country's interests are addressed;</p> <p>3. Establish a monitoring system to evaluate the performance of the specialized access regime and assess impacts of the arrangement.</p>	