After the successful launch of the TEEB series of reports at the CBD COP-10 meeting in Nagoya, Japan, we are pleased to provide you with the following informal update on TEEB activities.

TEEB Advisory Board

The TEEB Advisory Board met on 4 February 2011 in Brussels, Belgium to review proposals for the next stage of TEEB implementation (referred to as “TEEB Phase III”). Board members agreed to extend the TEEB initiative at least until the Rio+20 Conference and CBD COP-11 meetings in 2012. They envisaged adding further members to the Board from business, communications and civil society sectors to enlarge its representation and expertise.

TEEB Phase III

For the upcoming TEEB Phase III, the Advisory Board recommended a “facilitation” approach whereby the TEEB office and partners would draw on the TEEB community of experts in order to respond to a range of end-user demands. In particular, TEEB Phase III will focus on the following three areas: policy, business, and communications/outreach. The objective of Phase III would be to mainstream TEEB beyond the biodiversity policy sphere while ensuring scientific credibility. Regarding structure, it was agreed that a “distributed secretariat” would serve TEEB’s future best. Although the exact nature of this distributed secretariat is still to be determined, as a first step the TEEB Central Office will be moved to the UNEP Economics and Trade Branch (ETB) offices in Geneva, Switzerland on 31 May 2011.

Additional TEEB assessments

A number of national and regional “TEEB” assessments are being initiated. The following provides a snapshot of some of these efforts:

- **TEEB India** – The TEEB India project was launched on 10 February 2011. It will be hosted by the Indian Ministry of Environment and Forests, but conducted through an independent structure. The project will focus on the development of a framework for assessing the economic value of India’s natural capital with a distinct three-pronged approach: 1) a national level/green accounting study; 2) state-level policy-focused studies for 3-4 pilot states; and 3) development of local examples as success stories to be showcased at the CBD COP-11 meeting in November 2012.
- **TEEB Brazil** – A national TEEB Brazil study was launched on 23 March 2011 in Brasilia. The Brazilian business community has been engaged in the framing of this study and a Brazilian “TEEB for Business” companion study. Two Brazilian companies have also committed funding to support the effort. These studies are targeted for publication by the Rio+20 conference in 2012.
- **TEEB Germany** – The TEEB Germany study (“Naturkapital Deutschland”) has been launched. The study is being managed by Germany’s Federal Agency for Conservation with UFZ, TEEB’s scientific coordinators, closely involved.
- **TEEB Norway** – The TEEB Norway report (“verdier av økosystemtjenester i Norge”) has been approved by the Norwegian Government. The report will be led by a government committee and is currently planned to be delivered in two years time.
- **TEEB for Nordic Countries** – A platform to facilitate countries from northern Europe to conduct national TEEB studies is being established under the leadership of the Nordic Council.

A number of the members of TEEB community of experts are being called on to offer technical support to these efforts. If you are interested in offering such support please do not hesitate to get in touch with the TEEB contacts highlighted below.
TEEB Business Foundation

To drive forward the TEEB for business work-stream, ICAEW (Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales) together with a large institutional coalition including IUCN, WWF-UK, the Global Reporting Initiative and a number of companies is creating a common platform (a “TEEB for Business Foundation”) to catalyse research and action on corporate externalities. Among other things this includes implementation and standardisation of measurement and disclosure as well as engagement on public policy reforms.

TEEB outreach activities

As part of a TEEB communications and outreach initiative, a series of national and regional workshops were organized across the globe to facilitate capacity building for practitioners (from national, regional and local administrations, business sectors, consumer organisations, etc.) and to propagate the results of TEEB Phase II. There was a particular focus on developing countries with global biodiversity hotspots and on countries which have significant fiscal/aid allocations for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation. The workshops aimed to contribute to the development and implementation of strategies, policies, and decisions that lead to a better management of biodiversity and ecosystems and ultimately positive social and economic impacts.

The series of TEEB outreach events included:

- 27 February–3 March 2011 – TEEB regional workshops at Local Climate Solutions for Africa 2011, Cape Town, South Africa
- 10 March 2011 – TEEB national workshop, Beijing, China
- 23 March 2001 – TEEB briefings and workshop, Brasilia, Brazil
- 24-25 March 2011 – TEEB briefings and national workshop, Lima, Peru
- 28-31 March 2011 – Regional TEEB capacity building training course for the Caribbean, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- 28-29 March 2011 – Regional TEEB workshop, Moscow, Russia
- 29-30 March 2011 – TEEB for local policy makers regional workshop, Corrientes, Argentina

TEEB communications

HAVAS - a leading global advertising and communications services group - is providing advice to TEEB on its Phase III communications strategy on a pro-bono basis. The effort will result in increased outreach and a revamping of the two dedicated TEEB websites (www.teebweb.org/ and http://bankofnaturalcapital.com/) in 2011.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who made the creation of the TEEB reports possible.

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