

What are the Dutch government's priorities in the Netherlands?

Agreements on the transition that is required

- Agree with the business community on specific measures to pay for and/or compensate for the use of biodiversity (in the Netherlands and elsewhere).

Greening measures

- Make the tax regime 'greener' and where necessary develop, re-develop and continuously update incentive policies, such as the Green Investment scheme and the VAMIL and MIA subsidy schemes.

Climate

- Promote the use of organic substances in agricultural areas as water and CO₂ buffer through pilot projects and policy.
- Actively encourage and support sequestration of CO₂ in forests and moorlands.



What are the Dutch government's priorities in international cooperation?

Anchoring in international frameworks

- Make international agreements on a fair ABS regime (no later than 2010).
- Strengthening the ties between institutions engaged in international processes aimed at financing sustainable conservation of ecosystems (UNFCCC, CBD, UNFF).
- Explore and promote a system of payment for biodiversity in international forums such as the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the WTO.
- Achieve the balanced anchoring of the three pillars of agrobiodiversity (genetic sources, ecosystem services and nature) in the CBD working programme relating to 'Payments for Ecosystem Services'.

Compensating for unsustainable burden on biodiversity elsewhere

- Continue developing and implementing the Ecobalance (part of the Future Environment Agenda).

Best practices and pilot projects

- Collect best practices and recommendations for establishing markets for ecosystem services, where possible in collaboration with UNEP, OECD, UNFF, CBD and other international organisations.
- Carry out a pilot programme in collaboration with the World Bank for projects to prevent deforestation and loss of moorland with the aim of including these activities (aimed at preventing CO₂ emission as a result of changes in land use) in the market-based instruments in international climate agreements after 2012.
- Reach agreement in the UN Forest Forum on wider and more effective use of financial instruments resources for preserving forests worldwide.
- For ecosystem service carbon sequestration, investigate whether and how a pilot project can be set up in a developing country to test identify what which what international rules are needed for payment of emission reduction by reducing deforestation.

On what themes and activities will the Dutch government seek to cooperate with partners in civil society?

- Set up scalable pilot projects with Dutch companies.
- Develop and implement sustainability indicators and benchmarks for corporate performance on biodiversity.
- Carry out pilot projects in 'payment for sustainable tourism'.
- Develop and implement additional financial instruments for specific areas and ecosystem services.
- Capacity building, to be specified in programmes.
- With the pension funds PGGM and ABP and the Association of Investors in Sustainable Development (VBDO), set up a working group to flesh out proposals for private financing of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Set up pilot projects for reducing emissions due to deforestation in the developing countries.

