

Annex 7. SwedBio's Human Rights-Based Approach policy

This policy document intends to address the need for comprehensive and easily applicable guidelines on a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) framework for the SwedBio programme. This HRBA policy will serve as guidance to the SwedBio team, but the content may prove itself useful to a broader audience.

Introduction

The HRBA is a conceptual framework for the process of human development that is normatively based on international human rights standards and operationally directed to promoting and protecting human rights. It seeks to analyse inequalities which lie at the heart of development problems and redress discriminatory practices and unjust distributions of power that impede development progress and often result in groups of people being left behind, according to UN Common Understanding (2003)¹.

The Human Rights Based Approach in development cooperation

The HRBA in development cooperation is based on the recognition that human rights and development are closely interconnected and mutually reinforcing, as recognised by the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Right to Development (1986)².

The approach, based on a human rights legal framework, has reshaped development cooperation paradigms. The HRBA envisions more sustainable actions, and the empowerment of people, particularly vulnerable and marginalised groups, in order to prompt effective democratic participation in decision-making. Programme and project implementation has evolved from a needs perspective³⁴ to a human rights-centred perspective, where people who are subjected to rights violations are active agents of development. Solutions are crafted by the affected people, based on their vision and criteria for change. This approach addresses vulnerability as a symptom of poverty or marginalisation, and as a structural issue which is both caused by and resulting in unequal power relations in society. The HRBA framework empowers people (rights holders), so that they can be aware of their rights and able to demand them. Additionally, it aims to analyse the responsibility and obligation of states, their institutions, and non-state actors (duty bearers) to strengthen their capacities to fulfil their particular obligation and responsibility towards the rights holders. However, there is a lack of capacity among rights holders and duty bearers, which needs to be addressed in order to guarantee or increase their participation and accountability.

Rights holders and duty-bearers

The rights holders are all individuals and groups who are entitled to specific rights. Specifically, in SwedBio work, these rights holders are groups living in urban poverty, Indigenous peoples and local communities, pastoralists, small-scale food producers and fishers, and many other groups that are marginalised and vulnerable in developing countries. These groups are supported by SwedBio to be aware of and exercise their rights, and to claim and hold duty-bearers accountable. Duty-bearers are actors who have

¹ United Nations Development Group 2003. The Human Rights-Based Approach to Development Cooperation: Towards a Common Understanding Among UN Agencies. Available at: <https://unsdg.un.org/resources/human-rights-based-approach-development-cooperation-towards-common-understanding-among-un>

² UN General Assembly Declaration on the Right to Development (1986). Available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/righttodevelopment.aspx>

³ In a needs approach perspective, people are the objective of the development interventions. They are passive and invited to participate. In addition, the needs approach concentrates on immediate needs and causes of problems in existing power structures. On the other hand, the rights-based approach is cemented on people's human rights and in their active participation in decisions that changes their realities and conditions.

⁴ Kirkemann Boesen, J. & Martin, T. 2007. Applying a rights-based approach an inspirational guide for civil society The Danish Institute for Human Rights. p. 10

responsibilities to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of all. They are primarily state actors, but can also be non-state actors. However, it is worth noting that all duty-bearers are also rights holders.

Global Background and Context

*Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination*⁵. According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), proclaimed in 1948, all people are born equal. However, not everyone has equal opportunities. Hence, the rights perspective aims to ensure people are able to achieve equal opportunities, and to protect their way of living and environment. Swedish Development Cooperation is centred around five perspectives, two of which are overarching and integrated across all Sweden's international development cooperation. These consist of: poor people's^{6 7 8} perceptions on development, and a rights-based approach (called the rights perspective in Swedish policy)⁹. These two fundamental perspectives provide that people who are facing the problems are active participants in tackling them, and are responsible for the solutions. In this view, development is human-centred;¹⁰ it addresses, uncovers and fights discrimination, and amends unjust distribution of power.

Among several fundamental rights already guaranteed by the UDHR, in the past decade, several actors have also been calling attention to the need for recognition of the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment in a global instrument, as this is core to the full enjoyment of a vast range of human rights.^{11 12} Moreover, human rights are central to support biodiversity mainstreaming, protection of ecosystems as well as for sustainable changes aimed by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which together with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are core parts of Sweden's international development cooperation.

People who are directly dependent on access to natural resources are especially vulnerable to both degradation of ecosystems and to limitations in access to nature's contributions to people (ecosystem services). But other groups of people, such as those living in poverty in urban areas, are all dependent on nature's contributions to people for their survival. These communities living in urban poverty, especially in informal settlements, as well as Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), are disproportionately affected by the adverse effects of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, exacerbated by climate change. This leads to increasing inequalities. Furthermore, these negative effects

⁵ UN 1948. Universal Declaration of Human Rights

⁶ The perspective of poor people on development *means that the situation, needs, conditions and priorities of poor women, men and children are to be the starting point for combating poverty and for promoting equitable and sustainable development*. Both Sida and SwedBio take a multidimensional view of poverty. However, SwedBio prefers to prioritize the use of the endogenous development approach as well as look into people's condition through the lens of their well-being than use terms like poor or poverty. Thus, the use of poor people's perspective in this text sought to inform the terminology used for development cooperation accurately.

⁷ Government of Sweden 2019 Strategy for capacity development partnership and methods that support the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

⁸ Sida 2017. Dimensions of Poverty: Sida's Conceptual Framework. Stockholm: Government of Sweden.

⁹ Government of Sweden 2019 Strategy for capacity development partnership and methods that support the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. Available at:<https://www.government.se/country-and-regional-strategies/2019/06/strategy-for-capacity-development-partnership-and-methods-that-support-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/>

¹⁰ The approach is centred on people's well-being, inclusion, equity, the valorisation of diverse culture and knowledge systems, as well as the full realisation of human rights.

¹¹ Knox, J. 2018. Framework Principles on Human Rights and the Environment: Report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. UN OHCHR. Report Number: A/HRC/37/59.

¹² Knox, J. 2017. Report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. UN OHCHR. Report number: A/HRC/34/49.

undermine the crucial role played by IPLCs in upholding biodiversity. Thus, there is an urge, in local and global policies, to consider, respect and recognise the rights, perspectives, *culture, traditional practices and knowledge of Indigenous peoples as key contributors to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment*.¹³ In the strive for the recognition of the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, the need for empowering and protecting environmental human rights defenders has also been voiced, as they play a critical role in defending biodiversity, nature, and its contributions to people.

Unequal access to opportunities translates into alarming rates of inequalities and poverty in the world. Forging a path towards reducing inequalities and poverty, and strengthening equity and democracy, is what drives the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) framework in international policy instruments and development cooperation.

Human rights as a cross-cutting dimension in global policies

Human rights has been introduced in a cross-cutting manner in numerous global policy processes that focus on biodiversity, sustainable use of natural resources, food security and governance. Among these international policy processes, SwedBio has prioritised the following principles and instruments to guide its work:

The Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), specifically through the 2016 Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-Being *commit to work at all levels within governments and across all sectors to mainstream biodiversity, establishing effective institutional, legislative and regulatory frameworks, tailored to national needs and circumstances, and incorporating an inclusive economic, social, and cultural approach with full respect for nature and human rights*.¹⁴ However, efforts are still being made to integrate the HRBA perspective in the CBD as an enabling condition to the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.¹⁵

The SDGs incorporate an extensive range of human rights principles and standards throughout their 17 targets, and the 2030 Agenda puts forward the commitment to the realisation of human rights in its preamble and shared principles and commitments.¹⁶

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) presents evidence and relevant conclusions for a human rights perspective as cross-cutting to interventions that yield a transformational change in global sustainability pathways.¹⁷

The FAO promotes a cross-cutting human rights-based approach to food security and nutrition: In 2004, the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security¹⁸ were adopted by FAO Member Nations and endorsed by the

¹³ UN, 2007. Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples

¹⁴ CBD, 2016. The Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-Being. UNEP/CBD/COP/XIII/24. Available at: <https://www.cbd.int/cop/cop-13/hls/cancun%20declaration-en.pdf>

¹⁵ Report of the Thematic Workshop on Human Rights as an enabling condition in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Available at: <https://www.cbd.int/post2020/doc/WS-HR-CBD-post2020-GBF-Report-en.pdf>

¹⁶ United Nations, 2015. Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UNGA. Resolution number: A/RES/70/1. Available at: https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

¹⁷ Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (2019) Summary for policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Paragraph D3.

¹⁸ FAO, 2004. Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security

Committee on World Food Security (CFS). The right to adequate food is a legal obligation under international law, first recognized as a human right in the UDHR (Article 25).

The FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Small Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) guide a range of actors on the design, implementation monitoring and evaluation of sustainable and equitable fisheries through the promotion of a HRBA. It guides small-scale fisheries groups in policy processes, encouraging their full and effective participation and emphasising their needs while promoting equality and fulfilment of their human rights.¹⁹

The Human Rights Based Approach in SwedBio's work

A HRBA is mainstreamed as a cross-cutting issue in SwedBio's Theory of Change (ToC) and its two overarching impact pathways, *the Dialogue for knowledge and policy pathway* and the *Collaborative partner implementation pathway*. The ToC responds to the main challenges identified, which includes that human rights are directly or indirectly undermined for many local actors. Therefore, the HRBA is reflected in SwedBio's actions and displayed across the entire ToC by emphasising the support to the less heard voices and enabling partners organisations to generate local and context-relevant actions for increasing sustainability and equity, in accordance with their objectives and SwedBio's vision.²⁰

Core human rights principles and standards guide SwedBio's work, particularly Sida's perspective²¹ on specific human rights principles, namely *Participation, Transparency, Accountability* and *Non-discrimination*. In addition, the human rights principles of *Indivisibility, Interdependence* and *Interrelatedness* play an important role in guiding SwedBio's work on human rights to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.²² (see Appendix).

The application of a HRBA in SwedBio's work helps to understand power structures, support the rights holders, as well as empower them to exert their rights. Furthermore, it also serves to hold the duty-bearers accountable towards the rights holders. SwedBio supports multi-actor dialogues to attempt to strengthen the capacity of duty-bearers to fulfil their obligations and responsibility towards the human rights of people, especially the most marginalised and vulnerable. Applying a Multiple Evidence Base approach in SwedBio's multi-actor dialogues and other interactions with rights holders and duty bearers serves to elevate and highlight rights holders' knowledge, strengthen their capacity and confidence to be heard and respected as well as to reduce power imbalances between rights holders and duty bearers.

SwedBio's through its several partnerships work from a bottom-up and top-down perspective to reduce capacity gaps, emphasise empowerment and accountability, and strengthen communication between rights holders and duty-bearers.

Regarding SwedBio's policy engagement, under both the *Dialogue for knowledge and policy pathway* and the *Collaborative partner implementation pathway*, SwedBio supports the participation of rights-holders in policy processes, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), promoting capacity building, bridging the communication gap between marginalised and vulnerable groups, civil society organisations and state and non-state actors, and enabling knowledge sharing among them, based on equity, reciprocity and usefulness for all involved. As for the work undertaken under the *Collaborative partner*

¹⁹ FAO, 2015. Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication

²⁰ See SwedBio Theory of Change.

²¹ <https://www.sida.se/English/partners/methods-materials/human-rights-based-approach-at-sida/>

²² Ituarte-Lima, C., and Schultz, M., (eds.) 2019. Human right to a healthy environment for a thriving Earth: Handbook for weaving human rights, SDGs, and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, SwedBio/Stockholm Resilience Centre, International Development Law Organization, Office of the High Commission of Human Rights-Special Procedures, UN Environment and Natural Justice.

implementation pathway, SwedBio supports national, regional and global organisations with activities that enable marginalised and vulnerable communities to be aware of and claim their human rights in order to access a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, as well as improve participation, transparency, gender equality and accountability. SwedBio through its partnerships contributes to the SDGs and targets, as well as to many others international policy processes and initiatives, such as the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and many others.

SwedBio supports collaborative partners who work explicitly with a human rights perspective, connecting biodiversity, healthy ecosystems, sustainable livelihoods, equity and poverty alleviation. These organisations sometimes use other terms than those used in the HRBA. Yet, it is crucial that their vision and work respects and furthers the human rights principles, particularly in relation to individuals and groups living in poverty and/or vulnerable conditions. For example, SwedBio shall ensure that its partners are treating their team members and people they engage with following the equality and non-discrimination principle, including gender equality. By doing so, SwedBio will be acting in line with the 2030 Agenda and also according to our guiding principles on knowledge collaborations.

Policy and methods development

SwedBio supports the development of policies and methods that use the HRBA as a framework to promote equitable, sustainable use of resources, biodiversity and governance. In particular, SwedBio uses its policy and dialogues reports, notably the ones on human rights and conservation²³ and on the HRBA as enabling condition in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework²⁴, with the intent to include a HRBA in multilateral environmental agreements, such as those under the CBD.

The Multi-Actor Dialogue Seminar methodology (MADs)²⁵ and the Multiple Evidence Base (MEB) methodology²⁶ are some of the methods that SwedBio has helped to develop and will continue to use to implement the HRBA. These methods have been helping to elaborate solutions in the knowledge, policy and practice interface on biodiversity multi-level governance. The MADs methodology can contribute to an understanding of the overarching challenges, interacting factors and proposed solutions to the operationalisation of the socio-ecological dimensions of the HRBA in developing countries. The MADs methodology developed by SwedBio collaboratively with its partners is based on experience gained over the past decade, and builds on diverse literature on social learning. It integrates perspectives which view multi-actor dialogue as a means for both personal and systemic transformation, and which enables for the identification of innovative, sustainable, and inclusive solutions.

SwedBio's Guiding principles for knowledge collaboration establishes transparent and primary procedures and principles, such as respect, reciprocity, trust and equal sharing to guide all collaborations. The document supports SwedBio's work to bridge and co-create new knowledge across knowledge systems and actors. It is based on various existing international frameworks and guidelines, for instance, the international human rights framework, including the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

²³ Malmer, P., Chongeywo, P. K., Clarke, C., Ituarte-Lima, C., Jonas, H., Kenrick, J., Stone, N., Tugendhat, H., (2018) Global Dialogue on Human Rights and Biodiversity Conservation Eldoret, Kenya | 20 – 23 November 2017. Workshop report. SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm, Sweden

²⁴ Report of the Thematic Workshop on Human Rights as enabling condition in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Available at: <https://www.cbd.int/post2020/doc/WS-HR-CBD-post2020-GBF-Report-en.pdf>

²⁵ Schultz, M. et. al. (2016), The biggest single opportunity we have is dialogue - Dialogue seminars as a methodology for transformative social learning and conflict resolution in international environment negotiations, SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre. https://swed.bio/wpcontent/uploads/2017/03/SwedBio-Report-on-Dialogues-Seminars_2016_2.pdf

²⁶ Tengo, M., et al. (2017). Weaving knowledge systems in IPBES, CBD and beyond—lessons learned for sustainability. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability* 26–27:17-25.

(see Appendix). Additionally, to the Guiding principles for knowledge collaboration, SwedBio activities and collaborations are guided by gender and conflict policies.

Finally, SwedBio supports and highlights the knowledge of Indigenous peoples and local communities and applies the walking workshop methodology²⁷ within various dialogue processes. The methodology facilitates participant interaction and knowledge exchange, promotes contact with the environment, and allows for individuals and groups to experience different perceptions and reflections.

Tools available:

- Human Rights Based Approach at Sida – methodological material²⁸ and thematic area brief.²⁹
- United Nation Human Rights Based Approach Portal³⁰
- UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment proposed framework principles.³¹

Definitions and boundaries

Human Rights Principles (UNDG 2003)³²:

Accountability and Rule of Law: States and other duty-bearers are answerable for the observance of human rights. In this regard, they have to comply with the legal norms and standards enshrined in human rights instruments. Where they fail to do so, aggrieved rights-holders are entitled to institute proceedings for appropriate redress before a competent court or other adjudicator in accordance with the rules and procedures provided by law.

Equality and Non-discrimination: All individuals are equal as human beings and by virtue of the inherent dignity of each human person. All human beings are entitled to their human rights without discrimination of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, ethnicity, age, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, disability, property, birth or other status as explained by the human rights treaty bodies.

Indivisibility: Human rights are indivisible. Whether of a civil, cultural, economic, political or social nature, they are all inherent to the dignity of every human person. Consequently, they all have equal status as rights, and cannot be ranked, a priori, in a hierarchical order.

Interdependence and Interrelatedness: The realization of one right often depends, wholly or in part, upon the realization of others. For instance, realization of the right to health may depend, in certain circumstances, on realization of the right to education or of the right to information.

²⁷ Malmer, P., Tengö, M. (eds), Fernández-Llamazares, A., Woodward, E., Crawhall, N., Hill, R., Trakansuphakon, P., Athayde, S., Cariño, C., Crimella, D., Farhan Ferrari, M., Pérez, E., Spencer, R., Trakansuphakon, N., Bicksler, A., Cariño, J., Gonzalo, E., Lengoisa, J., Lungharwo, T., Tahi, B., 2019. Dialogue across Indigenous, local and scientific knowledge systems reflecting on the IPBES Assessment on Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production, 21th to 25th January 2019, Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, Thailand. Workshop report. SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm, Sweden.

²⁸ Human Rights Based Approach at Sida Available at: <https://www.sida.se/English/partners/methods-materials/human-rights-based-approach-at-sida/>

²⁹ Human Rights Based Approach at Sida – Thematic area briefs Available at: <https://www.sida.se/English/partners/methods-materials/human-rights-based-approach-at-sida/thematic-areas/>

³⁰ UN Human Rights Portal Available at: <https://hrbportal.undg.org/the-un-and-hrba>

³¹ Knox 2018 Framework principles on human rights and the environment Available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Environment/SREnvironment/FrameworkPrinciplesUserFriendlyVersion.pdf>

³² United Nations Development Group (2003) The Human Rights Based Approach to Development Cooperation: Towards a Common Understanding Among UN Agencies. Available at: <https://unsdg.un.org/resources/human-rights-based-approach-development-cooperation-towards-common-understanding-among-un>

Participation and Inclusion: Every person and all peoples are entitled to active, free and meaningful participation in, contribution to, and enjoyment of civil, economic, social, cultural and political development in which human rights and fundamental freedoms can be realized.

The UN Common Understanding: It was adopted by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) in 2003 in order to have a consistent and common approach across UN agencies, funds and programmes. According to this common understanding the essential attributes to a Human Rights-Based Approach are the following: (1) Policies and programmes of development cooperation should further the realisation of human rights. (2) Human rights standards and principles guide all development cooperation and programming in all sectors and in all phases of the programming process. (3) Development cooperation contributes to the development of the capacities of 'duty-bearers' to meet their obligations and/or of 'rights-holders' to claim their rights.

For further information, please see SwedBio's strategies, guidelines, programme document, and website.

Appendix. ³³ Matching Human Rights Principles and SwedBio's work

Human Rights principles and aspects to be considered when applying a HRBA.	Guiding questions for mainstreaming HRBA in SwedBio's work (The Dialogue for knowledge and policy pathway and the Collaborative partner implementation pathway).	SwedBio's guiding principles of knowledge collaboration
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there full and effective participation on decisions concerning people's realisation and protection of their fundamental human rights as well as to the right to a safe, clean and healthy environment? • Is there support from duty-bearers and a specific mechanism of participation for civil society organisations, and all rights holders, including the vulnerable and marginalised groups? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation & Representations • Indigenous & Community Ownership <p><i>"Collaborations should create space for meaningful and culturally appropriate participation of representatives of social groups." All collaborations should begin with clarity on how to manage who should be involved and for what purpose in the collaborations. It is important to have a transparent process and manage expectations."</i></p>
Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do duty-bearers have the knowledge, mandate, resources and <i>willingness to achieve their human rights obligations? Do rights holders know who the duty-bearers are and can they hold them to account?</i> • Is there any accountable mechanism for the enforcement of rights? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities' Rights, including the Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent <p><i>"When bridging in-between different knowledge systems and actors, it is important to have a clear framework and transparent principles and procedures to guide the motivation, character and intent of the various collaborative initiatives undertaken".</i></p>
Non-Discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are targeted measures being planned and implemented to enhance the protection of the rights of people living in vulnerable situations such as those lacking formal legal land and resource rights, and those most affected by the degradation of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity due to their direct dependence on them for their livelihoods? • Do all rights holders have the power to affect decision-making processes that support the enjoyment of their ecosystems related rights? <p>NB: The non-discrimination principle correlates to the principles of equality, participation and inclusion.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women & Gender • Participation & Representation • Indigenous & Community Ownership
Transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is information available? Are people able to attend, observe, participate and understand decision processes where issues that affect them are discussed? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation & Representations <p><i>"Collaborations should create space for meaningful and culturally appropriate participation of representatives of social groups." All collaborations should begin with clarity on how to manage who should be involved and for what purpose in the collaborations. It is</i></p>

³³ Source: Adapted from Human Rights Based Approach at Sida. Available at: <https://www.sida.se/English/partners/methods-materials/human-rights-based-approach-at-sida/> and Ituarte-Lima, C., and Schultz, M., (eds.) 2018. Human right to a healthy environment for a thriving Earth: Handbook for weaving human rights, SDGs, and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, SwedBio/Stockholm Resilience Centre, International Development Law Organization, Office of the High Commission of Human Rights-Special Procedures, UN Environment and Natural Justice

		<i>important to have a transparent process and manage expectations.”</i>
Indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of human rights principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do all rights holders know that they are entitled to claim the social-ecological dimensions of their economic social and cultural rights as well as their civil and political rights? Is SwedBio’s work identifying and supporting right holders such as local farmers, elders and women in the enjoyment of inter-related rights such as the right to food and its connections to agrobiodiversity and right to public participation? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The Multiple Evidence Base approach (MEB)</i> <p><i>“The MEB approach emphasizes complementarity and equitable and transparent processes for connecting across knowledge systems. Fundamental values such as respect, trust, reciprocity, and equal sharing need to characterize all interactions at all scales”</i></p>
Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>What capacity do duty-bearers have to fulfil their obligations and rights holders to claim their human rights? Can their capacity be strengthened?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Multiple Evidence Base approach (MEB) Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities’ Rights, including the Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent <p><i>“MEB emphasizes that it is important to establish frameworks to promote and enable equal and transparent connections between knowledge systems, to level any power dynamics, to empower communities, in order to fulfil the potential of knowledge synergies for equitable ecosystem governance.”</i></p>
Links to Human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>What links are there to human rights laws, treaties and systems (such as complaints mechanisms, courts and human rights bodies) at the national, regional and/or international levels? Are they sufficient, do they need to be revised, or are they non-existent and need to be developed from scratch?</i> 	

