Riksrevisjonen

Office of the Auditor General of Norway

The Office of the Auditor General of Norway's investigation of the authorities' efforts to survey and monitor biological diversity and to manage protected areas

Presentation held in Tanzania
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Background

- Maintaining the biological diversity significant environmental challenge
- The UN Convention on biological diversity (CBD)
- National strategies for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity

Methodology

- Traditional tools: Document analysis, interviews

- Other tools: Web-based questionnaire, expert panel, field inspections, expert study

Findings

The national programme for surveying and monitoring biodiversity

- Goals of the management system not specified
- Poor decision-making basis for the inter-ministerial committee
- Unsatisfactory cost estimate of the programme
- Substantial remaining needs for surveying and monitoring activities

Management of protected areas

- 30 percent of the protected areas threatened
- Ministry of the Environment has postponed maintenance and management of protected areas
- Remaining need for measures in the protected areas
- Poor cost estimates of measures in the protected areas

Overall finding:

The authorities' efforts have been characterized by an inadequate ability to convert high environmental ambitions into specific action

Impact and results

- Report stated by the ministry as helpful for the coming efforts
- Increased budgets

Challenges, barriers and lessons learned

- Difficult to find ”sufficiently impartial” experts
- 5 ministries audited – costly and time consuming
- Replace interviews with written questions or surveys

Thank you for your attention!