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Strengthening the national biodiversity strategies and action plans:

revision and implementation

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Strengthening the national biodiversity strategies and action plans: **revision and implementation**

UNEP

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I. Introduction

The enhancement of synergies among the more than five hundred biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral environmental agreements in force has increasingly been recognized as a means for the effective implementation and governance of biodiversity. Considering national implementation as a key opportunity for enhancing synergies, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has embarked on a series of actions to promote synergies among the conventions and multilateral environmental agreements.

One such action is to support countries in finalizing and implementing the national strategy cum policy document on biodiversity – the national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) – to effectively consider the linkages among key biodiversity conventions for the effective achievement of national, regional and global biodiversity objectives.

The present document has been produced to support and enhance a better understanding of seven key biodiversity conventions, namely the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Convention on Migratory Species), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention), the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention), the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the International Plant Protection Convention in the context of updating/revising/reviewing the NBSAPs and their subsequent implementation.

The present document is aimed at supporting the national focal points of the above conventions and providing options for integrating the objectives, targets, indicators and implementation plans in such a manner that they are mutually supportive and fully considered at the national level within the NBSAPs. The document draws significantly from previous guidance from conventions such as the Convention on Migratory Species and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and provides an overview of how each convention relates to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.[1]

1 https://www.cbd.int/sp/.

II. Background

Biodiversity is life, biodiversity is our life! The role and relevance of biodiversity and ecosystems in securing our current and future lives, both urban and rural, cannot be overstated. Countries and stakeholders have addressed global biodiversity and ecosystems decline through a series of legal, policy and regulatory mechanisms. Though there are a number of national, subregional, regional and global agreements and conventions related to ecosystems and biodiversity, seven are considered the key biodiversity conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on Migratory Species, the Ramsar Convention, the World Heritage Convention, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the International Plant Protection Convention.[2],[3] The secretariats of those conventions form the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (Biodiversity Liaison Group), which was established under the Convention on Biological Diversity.[4],[5]

While some of those conventions, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, have specific mandates related to ecosystems and biodiversity, others such as the Convention on Migratory Species, the Ramsar Convention and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture have a specific focus on habitats, ecosystems and species. Given

2 All information as of 20 December 2015 is taken from the respective multilateral environmental agreement websites.

3 For the purposes of the present document, the conventions listed are considered key biodiversity-related conventions. The terms "biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements", "biodiversity-related conventions" and "biodiversity-related agreements" are used interchangeably. The term "biodiversity-related conventions" is used in the present paper for reasons of clarity.

4 Decision VII/26 (paras. 1–2) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

5 https://www.cbd.int/brc/.

their mandates to implement actions, guided by their respective governing bodies and assisted by their subsidiary bodies and scientific advisory bodies, national implementation of the seven key biodiversity-related conventions is crucial to achieving effective biodiversity conservation, including the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Synergies in action to implement the conventions are essential for maximizing the results and impacts of implementation and to ensure the most efficient use of limited financial resources. However, national actions on synergies are still suboptimal. Achieving synergies requires additional impetus, most importantly at the national level, where the parties to the seven biodiversity-related conventions identify needs through the governing bodies of the relevant conventions.[6]

Recognizing the need for enhanced cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions, several governing bodies have called for synergies in implementation at the national, regional and global levels.[7] Such requests were also made by United Nations agencies (e.g. UNEP,[8] the Environment Management Group,[9] the Joint Inspection Unit[10] and others).

In paragraph 89 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", Heads of State and Government and high-level representatives called for enhanced synergies among the multilateral environmental agreements.[11]

III. Role and relevance of NBSAPs in promoting cooperation and synergies

Article 6 of the Convention on Biological Diversity provides that each party shall, in accordance with its particular conditions and capabilities, develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes, and integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies. NBSAPs are the principal instruments for implementing the Convention at the national level in accordance with article 6.

In its decision X/2,[12] the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity urged parties and other Governments to review, and as appropriate update and revise, their NBSAPs, in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020.[13] As of March 2016, a total of 83 countries had submitted their revised and/or updated NBSAPs, while several parties were either finalizing or revising their NBSAPs.[14]

Since NBSAPs constitute the key policy document for implementing the Strategic

6 "Elaboration of options for enhancing synergies among biodiversity-related conventions" (see UNEP/EA.2/12/Add.1). Available from http://unep.org/environmentalgovernance/Portals/8/publications/elaborations-options-enhancing-synergies-biodiv-paper.pdf.

7 Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels, UNEP, Nairobi. Available from https://www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/unep-sourcebook-web.pdf.

8 UNEP/GCSS.XII/14, annex I, decision SS.XII/3. Available from http://www.unep.org/gc/gcss-xii/docs/Proceedings/K1280542%20-%20e-GCSS-XII-14.pdf (accessed on 10 December 2015).

9 UNEP, "Advancing the biodiversity agenda" (Nairobi, 2010). Available from http://www.unemg.org/images/emgdocs/publications/Advancing_the_biodiversity_agenda_biodiversity_Publication_full_report.pdf (accessed on 20 December 2015).

10 Management Review of Environmental Governance within the United Nations System (JIU/Rep/2008/3) and Post-Rio+20 Review of Environmental Governance within the United Nations System (JIU/Rep/2014/4).

11 A/RES/66/288, para. 89. Available from http://www.uncsd2012.org/thefuturewewant.html (accessed on 10 December 2015).

12 UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

13 Ibid.

14 https://www.cbd.int/nbsap (accessed on 9 March 2016).

Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and considering that several biodiversity related conventions have already aligned their strategies and activities with the Strategic Plan and Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the NBSAP serves as the main vehicle for enhancing cooperation and synergies at the national level.[15] The Biodiversity Liaison Group[16] has also agreed to use the Strategic Plan as the guiding framework for the strategic implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions.

IV. Experiences of how the national biodiversity strategies and action plans have dealt with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020

The *Interim Assessment of Revised National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans*[17] indicates that very few NBSAPs systematically consider policy, legal and implementation options for enhancing national-level cooperation and synergies across the biodiversity conventions, possibly owing to a lack of clarity about how synergies would promote the effective implementation of biodiversity related and ecosystem-related actions at the local and national levels. A small number of NBSAPs have, however, considered such options.[18]

Using the outcomes of a questionnaire survey, UNEP, in collaboration with the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC), realized that national focal points generally do intend to promote and deal with synergies and cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions at the local and national levels. The outcome document of the consultative process undertaken by UNEP to develop a set of options for enhancing cooperation and synergies among the biodiversity related multilateral environmental agreements, entitled "Elaboration of options for enhancing synergies among biodiversity-related conventions",6 provides the following recommendations on dealing with synergies issues while revising and updating the NBSAPs and their implementation.

(a) Taking into account already existing materials, prepare streamlined and simple guidance and tools for facilitating the development, revision and implementation of NBSAPs across the conventions.

(b) Support the integration of NBSAPs and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets into different sectors, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and sustainable development instruments at all levels.

15 http://www.cbd.int/cooperation/BLG-9-rep-final-en.pdf (accessed on 10 December 2015).
16 https://www.cbd.int/cooperation/doc/report-hlr-2010-09-01-en.pdf (accessed on 15 December 2015).
17 Pisupati, B., and Prip, C. Assessment of Revised National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), (UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Fridtj of Nansen Institute, Lysaker, Norway, 2015). Available at https://www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/Interim-Assessment-of-NBSAPs.pdf.
18 See the NBSAPs of Moldova, Niue and Seychelles.

Photo: © William Dalton

(c) Support parties in accessing timely funding provided through the Global Environment Facility for the development, revision and implementation of NBSAPs, through promotion of coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions in a coordinated manner among their respective national authorities.

(d) Support the exchange of experience on the development and implementation of NBSAPs and voluntary peer review of NBSAPs, including through the NBSAP Forum, with a particular focus on the coherent implementation of biodiversity-related conventions.

(e) Explore the use of regional approaches to address transboundary issues identified in NBSAPs, by focusing efforts on collaboration between national focal points and authorities and stakeholders involved in the implementation of NBSAPs in different countries.

(f) Elaborate on the role of each convention and United Nations body in contributing to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Though not explicitly elaborated in the NBSAPs, several countries with a range of experience and approaches on how to tackle the synergies issue have already started to put in place institutional, programmatic, financial and strategic actions to realize synergies, although a number of challenges remain. A detailed description of such actions is set out in the "Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels", published by UNEP in 2015. However, the post-2010 NBSAPs that have been finalized by countries thus far are still weak in dealing with synergies issues specifically.

V. Guidance from the conventions for national biodiversity strategies and action plans

The following sections provide additional information and inputs for consideration while revising/updating/reviewing the NBSAPs with a view to promoting and enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions.

A. Convention on Migratory Species

The Convention on Migratory Species includes different types of requirements for conservation, depending on the degree of threat to a particular species. In articles I and II, parties generally acknowledge the importance of migratory species and the need to take action – individually or in cooperation – to improve the unfavourable conservation status of migratory species and to prevent them from becoming endangered. Species considered endangered are listed in Appendix I to the Convention.

Parties that are range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavour, in accordance with Article III.4:

(a) To conserve and, where feasible and appropriate, restore those habitats of the species which are of importance in removing the species from danger of extinction;

(b) To prevent, remove, compensate for or minimize, as appropriate, the adverse effects of activities or obstacles that seriously impede or prevent the migration of the species;

(c) To the extent feasible and appropriate, to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger the species, including

strictly controlling the introduction of, or controlling or eliminating, already introduced exotic species.[19]

In accordance with Article III.5, parties that are range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I are required to prohibit the taking of animals, except if the taking is for scientific purposes, for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or survival of the affected species, for accommodating the needs of traditional subsistence users of such species, or if extraordinary circumstances require the taking.

In accordance with Article III.3, a species may be removed from Appendix I if it is no longer considered to be in danger of extinction and is likely to remain out of such danger. So far, no species have been removed. According to Article IV.1, the species listed in Appendix II are considered to have an unfavourable conservation status and require international agreements for their conservation and management. The list also includes species with a conservation status which would significantly benefit from the international cooperation that could be achieved by an international agreement.

In accordance with Article IV.3, parties that are range States of migratory species listed in Appendix II "shall endeavour to conclude agreements where these should benefit the species and should give priority to those species in an unfavourable conservation status". Pursuant to Article IV.4, agreements can also be established "for any population or any geographically separate part of the population of any species or lower taxon of wild animals, members of which periodically cross one or more national jurisdiction boundaries". A large majority of agreements and memorandums of understanding under the auspices of the Convention on Migratory Species have been concluded on the basis of Article IV.4.

19 http://www.cms.int/en/convention-text.

Photo: © Peter Prokosch/Grid Arendal

1. Links to national biodiversity strategies and action plans

According to the guidance provided by the Convention on Migratory Species in 2011 on linking the Convention with the NBSAPs,[20] although NBSAPs take into account key biodiversity issues, they often fail to integrate migratory species that may not be endemic or a major component of the local biodiversity. However, as a whole, migratory species are often important constituents of the local, national and regional biodiversity. As such, the integration of migratory species into NBSAPs is as important as the integration of endemic species.

Since migratory species are seen as an integrated part of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, they cannot and should not be targeted by a separate implementation tool. Migratory species' integration into NBSAPs can often be seen as important not only for their conservation but also for the overall national biodiversity and sustainability.

20 http://www.cms.int/en/education/capacity-building/nbsaps (accessed on 30 June 2016).

Additionally, NBSAPs are encouraged to address direct threats, such as climate change, pollution and invasive alien species, which can have a pronounced effect on migratory species.

2. Integrating issues of the Convention on Migratory Species into post-2010 national biodiversity strategies and action plans

The present section provides set of options for countries currently finalizing their post-2010 NBSAPs, considering the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and subsequent implementation.

(i) Process

The following provides some measures that national focal points for the Convention on Migratory Species and for the agreements and memorandums of understanding of the Convention on Migratory Species could take, depending on national circumstances and if they have not done so already, to ensure that migratory species concerns are reflected in the revised and updated NBSAPs.[21],[22]

Steps

1. Establish contact with the focal points for the relevant biodiversity convention, especially those for the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Ramsar Convention, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the World Heritage Convention and the International Plant Protection Convention;

2. Become familiarized with current and future priorities of the conventions, decisions of governing bodies, implementation experiences and national priorities;

3. Develop a prioritization framework specific to the Convention on Migratory Species to be integrated within the revision and/or implementation plan of the post 2010 NBSAP;

4. Integrate planning and implementation programmes between the Convention on Migratory Species, the Convention on Biological Diversity and relevant conventions at the national levels by joint projects.

(ii) Content

1. Link the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and relevant indicators with the specific targets and indicators of the Convention on Migratory Species that are under development at the global level and translate the linkages to national level actions through NBSAPs and programmes specific to the Convention on Migratory Species;

2. Fully consider and integrate planning, management and monitoring of national protected areas that consider key species corridors and migratory species specific routes/ranges;

3. Ensure species, habitat and ecosystem restoration and recovery programmes are considerate of migratory species priorities;

Photo: PETER PROKOSCH

21 At its eighth meeting, held in Nairobi in 2005, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species adopted a resolution on integration of migratory species into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and into ongoing and future programmes of work under the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CMS/Conf. 8.26) with an annex on guidance for integrating migratory species into NBSAPs (resolution 8.18). The guidelines presented here largely incorporate this guidance.

22 http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/doc_27_guidelines_nbsap_e_0.pdf.

4. Ensure environmental assessments and action plans under NBSAPs fully take into consideration issues related to migratory species and their sustainable use and management;

5. Integrate economic and social considerations of migratory species during the development of national programmes on environmental economics and natural capital accounting;

6. Support mainstreaming communication, education and awareness-raising actions related to the Convention on Migratory Species within national implementation plans for the NBSAP;

7. Ensure threats to biodiversity and ecosystems, such as habitat loss, invasive species, climate change and unsustainable use that are considered within the NBSAP are cognizant of impacts related to migratory species and include appropriate mitigation and adaptation plans;

8. Develop resource mobilization and capacity-building strategies within the NBSAPs that consider the priorities of the Convention on Migratory Species within the national context;

9. Identify options for joint reporting on issues related to multiple multilateral environmental agreements that consider actions related to the Convention on Migratory Species.

(iii) Mapping the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015–2023[1]

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity goals and Aichi Biodiversity Targets		
Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably	
	2. By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems	
	3. By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions	
	4. By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits	
B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	5. By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced	

1 Based on http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_02_Strategic_Plan_for_MS_2015_2023_E_0.pdf.
2 There is no correspondence between targets 3 and 9 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015–2023[1]	
Strategic Plan for Migratory Species	Strategic Plan for Migratory Species targets[2]
1. Address the underlying causes of decline of migratory species by mainstreaming relevant conservation and sustainable use priorities across government and society	1. People are aware of the multiple values of migratory species and their habitats and migration systems, and the steps they can take to conserve them and ensure the sustainability of any use
	2. Multiple values of migratory species and their habitats have been integrated into international, national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes, including on livelihoods, and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems
	4. Incentives, including subsidies, harmful to migratory species, and/or their habitats are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation of migratory species and their habitats are developed and applied, consistent with engagements under the Convention on Migratory Species and other relevant international and regional obligations and commitments
2. Reduce the direct pressures on migratory species and their habitats	5. Governments, key sectors and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption, keeping the impacts of use of natural resources, including habitats, on migratory species well within safe ecological limits to promote the favourable conservation status of migratory species and maintain the quality, integrity, resilience and ecological connectivity of their habitats and migration routes
	10. All critical habitats and sites for migratory species are identified and included in area-based conservation measures so as to maintain their quality, integrity, resilience and functioning in accordance with the implementation of Aichi Target 11, supported where necessary by environmentally sensitive land-use planning and landscape management on a wider scale

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity goals and Aichi Biodiversity Targets		
Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
	6. By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem-based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits	
	8. By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity	
	9. By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment	
	10. By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning	
C. To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity	11. By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes	
	12. By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained	
	13. By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socioeconomically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity	
D. Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services	14. By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and wellbeing, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable	

Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015–2023[1]	
Strategic Plan for Migratory Species	Strategic Plan for Migratory Species targets[2]
	6. Fisheries and hunting have no significant direct or indirect adverse impacts on migratory species, their habitats or their migration routes, and impacts of fisheries and hunting are within safe ecological limits
	7. Multiple anthropogenic pressures have been reduced to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of migratory species or to the functioning, integrity, ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats
	7. Multiple anthropogenic pressures have been reduced to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of migratory species or to the functioning, integrity, ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats
	7. Multiple anthropogenic pressures have been reduced to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of migratory species or to the functioning, integrity, ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats
3. Improve the conservation status of migratory species and the ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats	10. All critical habitats and sites for migratory species are identified and included in area-based conservation measures so as to maintain their quality, integrity, resilience and functioning in accordance with the implementation of Aichi Target 11, supported where necessary by environmentally sensitive land-use planning and landscape management on a wider scale
	8. The conservation status of all migratory species, especially threatened species, has considerably improved throughout their range
4. Enhance the benefits to all from the favourable conservation status of migratory species	12. The genetic diversity of wild populations of migratory species is safeguarded, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion
	11. Migratory species and their habitats which provide important ecosystem services are maintained at or restored to favourable conservation status, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity goals and Aichi Biodiversity Targets		
Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
	15. By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification	
	16. By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation	
E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building	17. By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
	18. By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels	
	19. By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied	
	20. By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by parties	

Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015–20231	
Strategic Plan for Migratory Species	Strategic Plan for Migratory Species targets[2]
	11. Migratory species and their habitats which provide important ecosystem services are maintained at or restored to favourable conservation status, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable
5. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacitybuilding	13. Priorities for effective conservation and management of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems have been included in the development and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, with reference where relevant to Convention on Migratory Species agreements and action plans and their implementation bodies
	14. The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and their customary sustainable use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, thereby contributing to the favourable conservation status of migratory species and the ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats
	15. The science base, information, training, awareness, understanding and technologies relating to migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, their value, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of their loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and effectively applied
	16. The mobilization of adequate resources from all sources to implement the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species effectively has increased substantially

B. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

In April 2011, the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora produced a draft guide for the parties to the Convention, entitled "Contributing to the development, review, updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)",[23] which provides inputs for countries revising and/or updating their NBSAPs to consider Convention specific issues at the national and regional levels.

The Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in adopting the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008–2013, identified as a key component Goal 3: contribute to significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss by ensuring that the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and other multilateral instruments and processes are coherent and mutually supportive.

In its decision 15.10, the Conference directed its Standing Committee to "review the adopted post 2010 biodiversity targets and, if necessary, make adjustments to the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008–2013, as appropriate".[24] The memorandum of cooperation between the secretariats of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the Convention on Biological Diversity (1996) states that "the secretariats will consult their contracting parties with a view to encouraging integration and consistency between national strategies, plans or programmes under the Convention on Biological Diversity and plans or programmes under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora."[25]

In its resolution Conf. 10.4 (Rev. CoP14) on cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention also suggested that "parties, as appropriate to their national circumstances and to encourage synergy, take measures to achieve coordination and reduce duplication of activities between their national authorities for each Convention". Additionally, it called upon parties to "explore opportunities for obtaining funding through the Global Environment Facility for relevant projects, including multilateral projects, which fulfil the eligibility criteria and guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to the Global Environment Facility".[26]

Additionally, in paragraph a) of its decision 16.46, the Conference of the Parties directed the secretariat to continue to collaborate with the secretariats of other conventions, UNEP and other bodies in order to facilitate the harmonization of knowledge management and streamlining of reporting, including ways to reduce the burden of reporting on parties.[27]

1. Integrating the priorities of the Convention into post-2010 NBSAPs

(i) Process[28]

1. Identifying and engaging stakeholders. The national Convention on Biological Diversity and/or NBSAP focal point and the Convention Management Authority could jointly work towards revising/updating the NBSAP. The Convention

23 http://www.unep.org/environmentalgovernance/Portals/8/documents/CITES-NBSAP-Module.pdf.
24 https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/dec/valid15/E15-Dec.pdf.
25 https://cites.org/common/disc/sec/CITES-CBD.pdf.
26 https://cites.org/eng/res/10/10-04R14.php.
27 https://cites.org/eng/dec/valid16/195.
28 Modified after the publication of "Contributing to the development, review, updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) – A Draft Guide for CITES Parties".

Management Authority should be a key member of the committee/working group for the updating/revision and further implementation of the NBSAP.

2. Assessing national biodiversity priorities and links with illegal trade. During this step, Convention-related drivers of biodiversity loss, the policies and legislation adopted to reduce biodiversity loss and the very strategic relationships between species and human well-being specific to the Convention could be included in the stocktaking exercise. This would ensure that the update and revision would include Convention considerations in the future as well as synergistic planning and implementation of national biodiversity priorities across the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

3. Developing a strategy. During this stage, several of the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets can be linked to the objectives of the CITES Strategic Vision, and the Convention objectives and indicators can be mainstreamed into the priorities and targets set by the country (see the table below on specific links between the Convention and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets).

4. Developing a plan of action. Given that the objectives and indicators of the Convention have been included in the targets and priorities set by the country during the revision/updating of the NBSAP in stage three, a set of activities and actions can be developed or taken from an existing Convention national action plan in stage four.

5. Implementing the NBSAP. Once the action plan has been developed, it must be implemented within a certain timeframe. The Convention Management Authority could implement the activity stream related to the Convention (noting that this activity stream could also be an existing Convention action plan that is already being implemented) within the framework of a wider and more mainstreamed biodiversity action plan.

Photo: © Tony Karumba

6. Monitoring and evaluating implementation of the NBSAP. If a Convention national action plan is integrated into the NBSAP, its implementation can also be tracked during this stage.

7. Reporting. Although this is a requirement specific to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the national report of the Convention could include the process followed to integrate and enhance synergies with the other biodiversity-related conventions to ensure the more effective and coherent implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at the national level. The national report could also complement, contribute to or facilitate preparation of the biennial report of the Convention on International

Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora on measures taken to enforce the provisions of the Convention.

(ii) Content

Some Convention-related issues that might be introduced into the NBSAPs as they have a direct link to the Aichi Targets include, but are not be limited to:

1. Protection of species and development of species management plans. There are species that are of significance to a country that may be listed in one of the Convention appendices. Countries should specifically include their interests or concerns related to these species into their NBSAPs, including the management of the species and its habitat, the nature, scope and product of any use (e.g. commercial or non-commercial, consumptive or non-consumptive, live or dead specimens or their parts or derivatives), the safe transport of live specimens, the impacts of domestic or international trade, any possible risks of overexploitation, administrative, scientific, legal and institutional structures and capacity-building required to conserve and sustainably use the species.

2. Convention "non detriment findings". Policies, strategies and action plans that provide for capacity-building to scientifically monitor the current status and levels of harvest for Appendix II species in order to ensure that those levels are not detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild, or to its role in the ecosystem, may possibly be included in the NBSAPs. These activities could be focused on population status, distribution, population trends, harvest quotas, other biological and ecological factors, and trade information.

3. Compliance facilitation. Development and use of electronic permitting (marking and tracking) systems to trade in Convention specimens would greatly assist in the handling and processing of Convention applications, and the collation and dissemination of Convention trade information. An electronic permitting system can assist users of biodiversity products to comply with the provision of traceability of legal origin in the Convention. Parties may wish to include the development of such a system in their NBSAPs.

4. Wildlife trade policy. Wildlife trade policies should be developed and implemented in coordination with other government policies and relevant ministries and agencies. As recommended by resolution Conf. 15.2, on wildlife trade policy reviews, reviews of existing wildlife trade policies can also be included in the updating of the NBSAPs, especially in steps one to six of the seven-step process for updating NBSAPs. The reviews can include, but are not be restricted to:

   (a) Preparing a systematic inventory of policy-related information and activities for the management and conservation of Convention-listed species;

   (b) Taking stock of the main policy achievements and failures (what is working and what is not working);

   (c) Developing indicators and criteria to identify and analyse the main reasons for achievements and failures;

   (d) Consulting and involving relevant stakeholders in the evaluation of policy performance;

(e) Empowering national authorities by increasing their policy-related knowledge and skills;

(f) Suggesting concrete ways of improving policy effectiveness and making more rational policy choices.

Trade policies can have either or both positive and negative impacts on biodiversity. If managed and implemented appropriately, they can improve conservation status or production and contribute to the long-term sustainability of biodiversity. However, if managed unsustainably, trade policies can lead to overexploitation, loss of habitat and healthy ecosystems, which provide both goods and services for trade. A sizeable amount of trade is related to biodiversity products or products and services derived from healthy ecosystems. The Convention provides a legally binding regulatory regime that ensures "that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation through international trade."

It might be useful for countries to explore this relationship more fully while revising and updating the NBSAPs and possibly request the inclusion of a chapter on trade in biological resources in their NBSAPs. This chapter could be linked to a country's obligations to the Convention and its targets.

Additionally, the four pillars of the Convention – science, compliance, enforcement and knowledge – could be integrated into the policy framework that would be developed as part of the NBSAP.

(iii) Mapping the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the strategic priorities of the Convention

The CITES Vision Statement is to conserve biodiversity and contribute to its sustainable use by ensuring that no species of wild fauna or flora becomes or remains subject to unsustainable exploitation through international trade, thereby contributing to the significant reduction of the rate of biodiversity loss. Similarly, the three main objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity are the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of the components of biological diversity; and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. Thus the two conventions share similar objectives and strong mandates from their respective conferences of the parties.

Photo: © Tony Karumba

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably 4. By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits	
B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	5. By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced	
10. By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning		
E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building	17. By 2015 each party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan	

1 Decision 16.3 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, "CITES Strategic Vision 2008–2020". Available from https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/res/16/E-Res-16-03.pdf.

Goals of the strategic plan of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[1]	Objectives of the strategic plan of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
	Objective 3.2 Awareness of the role and purpose of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora is increased globally Objective 1.6 Parties cooperate in managing shared wildlife resources Objective 1.7 Parties are enforcing the Convention to reduce illegal wildlife trade
Goal 3: Contribute to significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss and to achieving relevant globally-agreed goals and targets by ensuring that Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and other multilateral instruments and processes are coherent and mutually supportive	Objective 3.4 The contribution of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora to the relevant Millennium Development Goals, the sustainable development goals set at WSSD, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the relevant outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development is strengthened by ensuring that international trade in wild fauna and flora is conducted at sustainable levels
Objective 3.5 Parties and the secretariat cooperate with other relevant international organizations and agreements dealing with natural resources, as appropriate, in order to achieve a coherent and collaborative approach to species which can be endangered by unsustainable trade, including those which are commercially exploited	
Goal 1. Ensure compliance with and implementation and enforcement of the Convention Goal 2. Secure the necessary financial resources and means for the operation and implementation of the Convention	Objective 1.1. Parties comply with their obligations under the Convention through appropriate policies, legislation and procedures Objective 1.2. Parties have in place administrative procedures that are transparent, practical, coherent and user-friendly, and reduce unnecessary administrative burdens Objective 1.3. Implementation of the Convention at the national level is consistent with decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
	18. By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels	
	19. By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied	
20. By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by parties		

Goals of the strategic plan of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[1]	Objectives of the strategic plan of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
	Objective 1.4. The Appendices correctly reflect the conservation needs of species Objective 1.5 Best available scientific information is the basis for non-detriment findings
	Objective 2.1. Financial resources are sufficient to ensure operation of the Convention Objective 2.2. Sufficient resources are secured at the national and international levels to ensure compliance with and implementation and enforcement of the Convention Objective 2.3. Sufficient resources are secured at the national and international levels to implement capacity building programmes Objective 3.1. Cooperation between the Convention and international financial mechanisms and other related institutions is enhanced in order to support Convention related conservation and sustainable development projects, without diminishing funding for currently prioritized activities

C. World Heritage Convention

The objectives and implementation plans for the global strategy of the World Heritage Convention indicates strong links between the objectives and strategies of several biodiversity-related conventions such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on Migratory Species and the Ramsar Convention.

The current strategic objectives of the World Heritage Convention are as follows:

1. Strengthen the credibility of the World Heritage List;

2. Ensure the effective conservation of World Heritage properties;

3. Promote the development of effective capacity-building in States parties;

4. Increase public awareness, involvement and support for world heritage through communication;

5. Enhance the role of communities in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

In accordance with article 2 of the World Heritage Convention, for the purposes of the Convention, the following shall be considered as "natural heritage": natural features consisting of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations, which are of outstanding universal value from the aesthetic or scientific point of view; geological and physiographical formations and precisely delineated areas which constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals and plants of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation; natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty.

The Operational Guidelines of the World Heritage Convention[29] provide a comprehensive detail of various aspects of implementation of the Convention.

1. Integrating the Convention's priorities into post-2010 NBSAPs

(i) Process

To be fit for purpose related to the World Heritage Convention, NBSAPs must:

1. 1. Identify and include fully the focal point (the relevant ministry, department, office and individual currently in post or, if split between ministries of nature and culture, both focal points) for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in the process of implementation and review of the NBSAPs. Focal points should be part of the national steering group for the NBSAP and their contribution should be documented and noted.

2. 2. Review fully the current status of implementation of the World Heritage Convention within the country, including:

   (a) The status of World Heritage Listing in the country: the list of all natural, mixed and cultural sites and to consider their subnational, national, regional, international and biodiversity conservation values and the effectiveness of their management to conserve those values. A particular emphasis should be taken on the sites listed under World Heritage criteria ix and x (and if related to migratory

29 http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines/.

species, criterion vii) since these are specifically related to biodiversity;

(b) The status of all sites on the national tentative list of World Heritage Sites, and to consider their subnational, national, regional, international and biodiversity conservation values and the effectiveness of their management to conserve those values;

(c) The adequacy of coverage of the national tentative list in terms of global conservation priorities in the country;

(d) The overlaps between both tentative list sites and designated World Heritage Sites and national, regional and international nature conservation designations;

(e) The extent to which issues related to the challenges and opportunities of World Heritage Sites in the country relate to matters covered by the other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements;

(f) Documentation of the specific contributions of World Heritage Sites in the country related to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

3. Consult the site managers of all World Heritage Sites and all sites on tentative lists of the NBSAP, and fully consider their feedback.

4. Consider fully as an input to the NBSAP all documentation produced by the World Heritage Committee, including in particular Committee decisions, as it relates to listed World Heritage Sites.

5. Consider fully as an input to the NBSAP the most recent part 1 (national analysis) and part 2 (site-by-site analysis) periodic report questionnaires that will have been completed regarding implementation of the World Heritage Convention at the national level.

6. Contact by letter the World Heritage Centre and the World Heritage Programme of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (the designated advisory body to the World Heritage Committee on natural heritage) to ask for their observations on priorities in the NBSAP, and invite comment on the draft NBSAP.

7. Provide a copy of the completed NBPSAP to the World Heritage Centre and to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, together with a covering letter noting any actions requested in the NBSAP related to world heritage.

8. In the (very rare) cases that a country is not a signatory to the World Heritage Convention, the NBSAP should articulate how the Convention could, if signed, contribute to biodiversity conservation goals.

Photo: © Peter Prokosch/Grid Arendal

(ii) Content

To be fit for purpose related to the World Heritage Convention, each NBSAP must:

1. Include details of all World Heritage Sites (natural, cultural and mixed) and all tentative list sites (natural, cultural and mixed) that contain nationally, regionally and internationally significant biodiversity, and specify clearly the nature of those biodiversity conservation values;

2. Document the analysis and key findings considering the points listed under "process";

3. Include measures to ensure that the biodiversity values of all World Heritage Sites, and sites on tentative lists, as well as sites that would justify addition to the tentative list, are conserved, and notably to support those measures that need to be taken outside the boundaries of the site, including actions related to national institutional and legal conditions, connectivity conservation, access, rights and benefits, and the provision of adequate financial, technical and human capacity;

4. Ensure that national actions requested by the World Heritage Committee in relation to the protection of outstanding universal value related to biodiversity within World Heritage Sites is implemented fully and effectively;

5. Include measures that need to be taken within the other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements related to issues affecting World Heritage Sites;

Include details of the national focal ministry/ministries, the specific office responsible for World Heritage, the name and contact details of the current incumbent and a written confirmation that they have contributed to the NBSAP.

Photo: © Peter Prokosch
Photo on the right page: © Beyondhue

(iii) Mapping the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the strategic objectives of the World Heritage Convention

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably	
	2. By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems	
	3. By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions	
	4. By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits	
B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	5. By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced	
C. To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity	11. By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and wellconnected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes	
D. Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services	14. By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable	

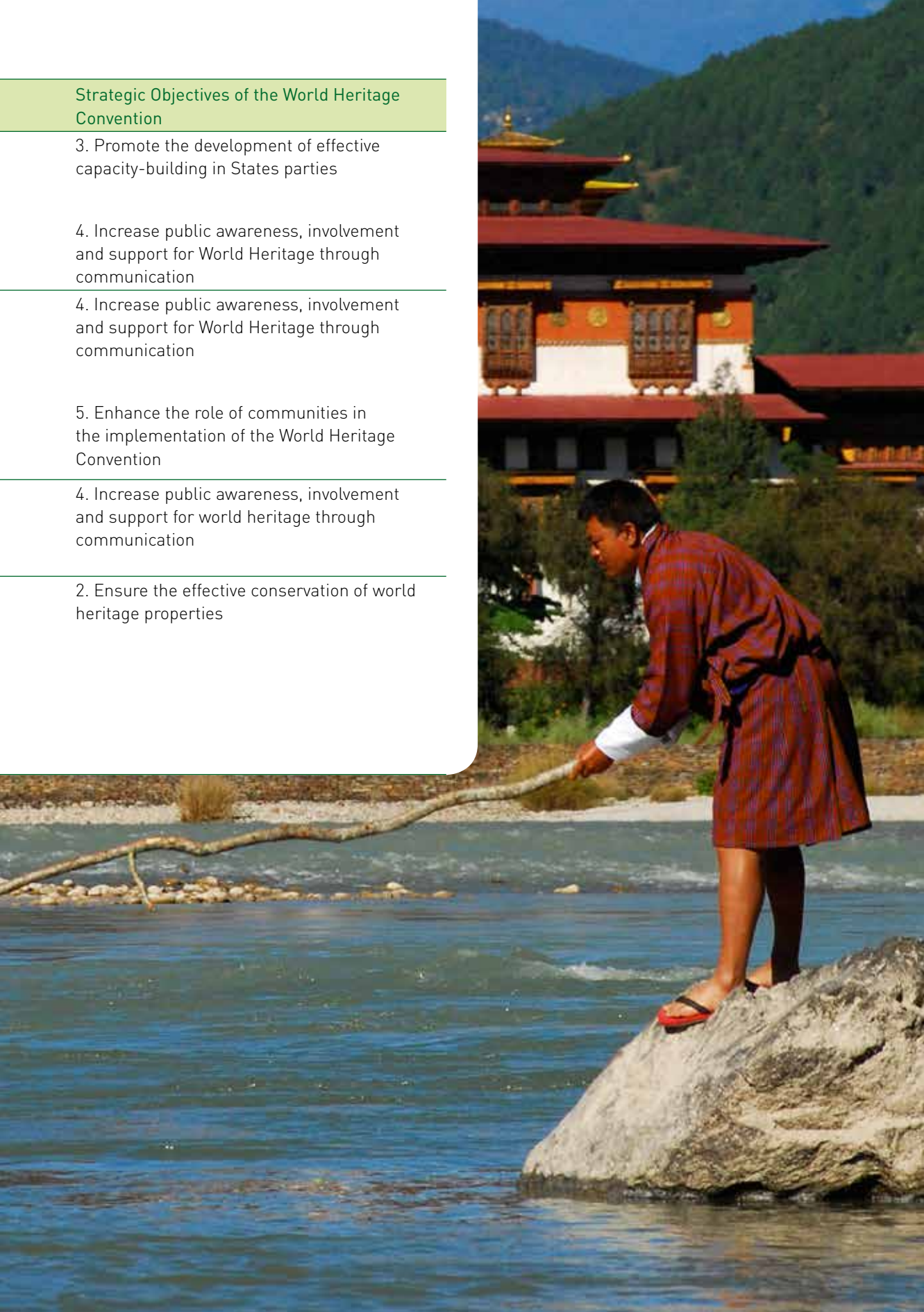
Strategic Objectives of the World Heritage Convention
2. Ensure the effective conservation of world heritage properties
1. Strengthen the credibility of the World Heritage List
4. Increase public awareness, involvement and support for world heritage through communication
4. Increase public awareness, involvement and support for world heritage through communication
2. Ensure the effective conservation of world heritage properties
1. Strengthen the credibility of the World Heritage List
5. Enhance the role of communities in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention

Photo: © Finbarr O'Reilly / Reuters

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building	17. By 2015, each party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
	18. By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels	
	19. By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied	
	20. By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by parties	

Photo: © Gill Fickling/ UNTV Field Photos

Strategic Objectives of the World Heritage Convention
3. Promote the development of effective capacity-building in States parties
4. Increase public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through communication
4. Increase public awareness, involvement and support for World Heritage through communication
5. Enhance the role of communities in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention
4. Increase public awareness, involvement and support for world heritage through communication
2. Ensure the effective conservation of world heritage properties



D. Ramsar Convention

1. Guidance from the Ramsar Convention

The Ramsar Convention mission envisages promoting the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world.

The wise use of wetlands is the key concept orienting the work of the Ramsar Convention. "Wise use of wetlands" is defined as "the maintenance of their ecological character, achieved through the implementation of ecosystem approaches, within the context of sustainable development". Wise use therefore has at its heart the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands and their resources for the benefit of people and nature.[30]

The Ramsar Convention defines wetlands as areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres.[31]

At its twelfth meeting, held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in June 2015, the Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention approved the fourth Strategic Plan to guide the parties' actions to prevent, stop and reverse the degradation and loss of wetlands for their conservation and wise use for the period 2016–2024.

Ramsar Convention contracting parties shall implement the Strategic Plan at national and regional levels by developing national wetlands policies, strategies, action plans, projects and programmes or other appropriate ways to mobilize action and support for wetlands. This can be part of or supplement to the NBSAP.

Contracting parties are encouraged to synergize their efforts aimed at implementing the Convention with measures that they take to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and other regional and global multilateral environmental agreements as they deem appropriate.[32]

Contracting parties shall develop management plans for each wetland designated for the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance and to establish the appropriate legal and administrative structures for the application of such management plans, and to provide funds for the implementation of the plans and for training of the necessary staff.

In developing a management planning process for a wetland site, it is important that wetland managers take into account the wider context of basin-scale, aquifer or coastal.

The management plan itself should be a technical document, though it may be appropriate for it to be supported by legislation and in some circumstances to be adopted as a legal document.

An authority should be appointed to implement the management planning process, and this authority should be clearly identified to all stakeholders. This is particularly important on a large site where there is a need to take account of all interests, users and pressures on the wetland, in a complex ownership and management situation.

30 http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/4th_strategic_plan_2016_2024_e.pdf.
31 Ibid.
32 Ibid.

More recently, the Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention at its twelfth meeting recognized the importance of increasing the coordination between Ramsar Convention focal points and the focal points of other conventions, to enable them to inform their counterparts of Ramsar Convention activities and agree on areas of common interest and collaboration.[33] Mechanisms to promote such coordination include the establishment of national Ramsar wetlands committees or similar bodies that invite the participation of the focal points of other multilateral environmental agreements and promote collaboration between the Ramsar Administrative Authority and the national focal points of United Nations and other global and regional agencies and bodies.

Photo © Mike Hutchings / Reuters

2. Links to NBSAPs

Although NBSAPs take into account key biodiversity issues, they often fail to integrate wetlands of international important as key ecosystems playing a vital role in the hydrology, vegetation and soils and therefore as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world.

In 2005, at a global level, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment found that inland and coastal wetland ecosystems were being lost at a rate faster than that of any other ecosystem, and the trend towards loss of wetlands resources has not been reversed since.

Since wetlands play an important role in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, they cannot and should not be targeted by a separated implementation tool. As such, their integration into NBSAPs can be seen as not only important for the conservation of species, hydrology, vegetation and soils but for the overall national biodiversity and sustainability.

Additionally, NBSAPs are encouraged to address direct threats, such as climate change, pollution and invasive alien species. All wetlands and the Ramsar sites network will have a direct relevance for any Sustainable Development Goals that are related to water quality and supply, food and water security, adaptation to climate change, energy supply, healthy living, biodiversity and sustainable use of ecosystems, sustainable human settlements, poverty eradication, innovation and the development of appropriate infrastructure.

3. Integrating Ramsar issues into post-2010 NBSAPs

The present section provides a set of options for countries currently finalizing their post-2010 NBSAPs, considering the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011–2020) and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and subsequent implementation.

33 http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/cop12_doc16_spwg_visibility_etc_e.pdf.

(i) Process

The following provides some measures that national Ramsar focal points could take, depending on national circumstances and, if they have not done so already, to ensure that wetlands concerns will be reflected in the revised and updated NBSAPs: [34], [35]

1. Establish contact with relevant biodiversity Ramsar Convention focal points;

2. Become familiarized with current and future priorities of the conventions, decisions of governing bodies, implementation experiences and national priorities;

3. Develop a Ramsar-specific prioritization framework to be integrated within the revision and/or implementation plan of the post-2010 NBSAP;

4. Integrate planning and implementation programmes between the Ramsar Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity and relevant conventions at the national level by joint projects.

(ii) Content

1. Link Aichi Biodiversity Targets and relevant indicators with Ramsar-specific targets and indicators that are under development at the global level and translate the linkages to national-level actions through NBSAPs and Ramsar specific Strategic Plan and programmes;

2. Fully consider and integrate planning, management and monitoring of wetlands that consider key species and populations of freshwater plants and animals;

3. Ensure that wetland ecosystem restoration and recovery programmes are linked with broad scale landscape and ecosystem planning, including at the integrated river basin and coastal zone scales;

4. Ensure environmental assessments and action plans under NBSAPs fully take into consideration issues related to wetlands and their sustainable use and management;

5. Integrate economic and social considerations of wetlands when developing national programmes on environmental economics and natural capital accounting;

6. Support mainstreaming communication, education and awareness-raising actions related to the Ramsar Convention within national implementation plans for the NBSAP;

7. Ensure threats to biodiversity and ecosystems such as habitat loss, invasive species, climate change and unsustainable use that are considered within the NBSAP are cognizant of impacts related to wetlands and include appropriate mitigation and adaptation plans;

8. Develop resource mobilization and capacity-building strategies within the NBSAPs that consider priorities of wetlands within the national context;

9. Identify options for joint reporting on issues related to multiple multilateral environmental agreements that consider Ramsar-related actions.

34 At its eighth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species adopted a resolution on integration of migratory species into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and into ongoing and future programmes of work under the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CMS/Conf. 8.26) with an annex on guidance for integrating migratory species into NBSAPs (resolution 8.18). The guidelines presented here largely incorporate this guidance.

35 http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/doc_27_guidelines_nbsap_e_0.pdf.

Photo: © Christof Stache/ Getty images

(iii) Mapping the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Ramsar Strategic Plan

Mapping between the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011–2020) and Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Ramsar Convention Strategic Plan 2016–2024.

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Aichi Biodiversity indicators	
2. By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems	A.2.2 Trends in integration of biodiversity and ecosystem service values into sectoral and development policies A.2.3 Trends in number of countries incorporating natural resource, biodiversity and ecosystem service values into national accounting systems	
7. By 2020, areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity	B.7.1 Trends in area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management B.8.2 Trend in emission to the environment of pollutants relevant for biodiversity	
3.By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions 4. By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits 7. By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity 8. By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity	A.3.1 Trends in identification, assessment and establishment and strengthening of incentives that reward positive contribution to biodiversity and ecosystem services and penalize adverse impacts A.3.2 Trends in the number and value of incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity, removed, reformed or phased out A.4.1 Trends in extent to which biodiversity and ecosystem service values are incorporated into organizational accounting and reporting B.7.1 Trends in area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management B.8.11 Trends in water quality in aquatic ecosystems	

Ramsar Strategic Plan targets	Ramsar Strategic Plan indicators
Target 1: Wetland benefits are featured in national/local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level	Percentage of parties that have made assessment of ecosystem services of Ramsar sites. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that have included wetland issues within national strategies and planning processes such as water resource management and water efficiency plans. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that have included wetland issues within national policies or measures on agriculture. (Data source: national reports)
Target 2: Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone	Percentage of parties that have included wetland issues in national strategies and in planning processes such as for water resource management and water efficiency plans. (Data source: national reports) Possible further indicators that may be developed (Percentage of Ramsar sites that have improved the sustainability of water use in the context of ecosystem requirements)
Target 3: Public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands	Percentage of parties reporting actions taken to implement incentive measures that encourage the conservation and wise use of wetlands. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties reporting actions taken to remove perverse incentive measures that discourage conservation and wise use of wetlands. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties reporting private sector undertaking activities for the conservation, wise use and management of wetlands in general. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties with national Ramsar Committees that include both governmental and nongovernmental representation. (Data source: new question for national reports)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Aichi Biodiversity indicators	
9. By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment	B.9.2 Trends in policy responses, legislation and management plans to control and prevent spread of invasive alien species	
6. By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem-based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits 11. By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and wellconnected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes 12. By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained	B.6.1 Trends in proportion of depleted target and bycatch species with recovery plans C.11.2 Trends in extent of marine protected areas, coverage of key biodiversity areas and management effectiveness C.12.1 Trends in abundance of selected species	

Ramsar Strategic Plan targets	Ramsar Strategic Plan indicators
Target 4: Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment	Percentage of parties that have established or reviewed national policies or guidelines on invasive wetland species control and management. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties having a national inventory of invasive alien species that currently or potentially impact the ecological character of wetlands. (Data source: national reports) Possible further indicators that may be developed (Number of invasive species that are being controlled through management actions) (Effectiveness of wetland invasive alien species control programmes)
Target 5: The ecological character of Ramsar sites is maintained or restored, through effective planning and integrated management	Number of Ramsar sites that have effective, implemented management plans. (Data source: National Report) Number of Ramsar sites that have effective, implemented management planning. (Data source: new National Report question) Percentage of parties that have made assessments of effective management of Ramsar sites. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of Ramsar sites that have updated Ramsar Information Sheets. (Data source: Ramsar sites database). Possible further indicators that may be developed (Coverage of wetland dependent bird populations by designated Ramsar sites. Indicator from resolution IX.1 to be developed). (Coverage of wetland dependent non-avian populations by designated Ramsar sites. Indicator from resolution IX.1 to be developed). (Percentage loss of International Union for Conservation of Nature Red Listed species from Ramsar sites)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Aichi Biodiversity indicators	
10. By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning 11. By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and wellconnected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes	B.10.5 Trends in extent, and rate of shifts of boundaries, of vulnerable ecosystems	
5. By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced 7. By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity 11. By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and wellconnected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes 12. By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained	B.5.5 Trends in proportion of degraded/ threatened habitats B.5.6 Trends in the proportion of natural habitats converted B.7.1 Trends in area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management C.11.1 Trends in coverage of protected areas C.11.4 Trends in representative coverage of protected areas and other area-based approaches, including sites of particular importance for biodiversity, and of terrestrial, marine and inland water systems C.12.1 Trends in abundance of selected species	

Ramsar Strategic Plan targets	Ramsar Strategic Plan indicators
Target 6: There is a significant increase in area, numbers and ecological connectivity in the Ramsar site network, in particular underrepresented types of wetlands including in underrepresented ecoregions and transboundary sites	Number of Ramsar sites that have been designated. (Data source: Ramsar sites database) Total hectares of Ramsar sites that have been designated. (Data source: Ramsar sites database) Number of transboundary Ramsar sites that have been designated. (Data source: Ramsar sites database) Number of Ramsar sites designated for the following underrepresented wetland types: Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems – [XXX Sites] Coral reefs – [XXX Sites] Wet grasslands – [XXX Sites] Peatlands – [XXX Sites] Sea-grass beds – [XXX Sites] Mangroves – [XXX Sites] Temporary Pools – [XXX Sites] Bivalve (shellfish) reefs – [XXX Sites] (Data source: Ramsar sites database)
Target 7: Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed	Number of Ramsar sites removed from the Montreux Record. (Data source: Ramsar site database) Percentage of parties reporting to the Ramsar secretariat all cases of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar sites pursuant to Article 3.2. (Data source: national reports) Number of Ramsar sites reported by parties to the Ramsar secretariat of negative human-induced change or likely change in the ecological character of Ramsar sites pursuant to Article 3.2. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that have taken actions to address the issues for which Ramsar sites have been listed on the Montreux Record. (National reports to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties) Possible further indicators that may be developed (Indicator(s) relating to (numbers of) Ramsar sites at risk)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Aichi Biodiversity indicators	
12. By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained 14. By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable 18. By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels 19. By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied	C.12.1 Trends in abundance of selected species D.14.17 Trends in the condition of selected ecosystem services E.18.1 Trends in degree to which traditional knowledge and practices are respected through full integration, participation and safeguards in national implementation of the Strategic Plan E.19.1 Number of maintained species inventories being used to implement the Convention	
4. By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits 6. By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits 7. By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity	A.4.1 Trends in extent to which biodiversity and ecosystem service values are incorporated into organizational accounting and reporting B.6.1 Trends in proportion of depleted target and bycatch species with recovery plans	

Ramsar Strategic Plan targets	Ramsar Strategic Plan indicators
Target 8: National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands	Percentage of parties that have complete national wetland inventories. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that have updated their national inventories in the last decade. (Data source: new question for National Rep1orts)
Target 9: The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, inter alia, within a river basin or along a coastal zone	Percentage of parties that have adopted wetland policies or equivalent instruments that promote the wise use of their wetlands. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that consider wetlands as natural water infrastructure integral to water resource management at the scale of river basin. (Data source: national reports) Possible further indicators that may be developed (Involvement of stakeholders in various aspects of wetland and/or basin-scale management)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Aichi Biodiversity indicators	
18. By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels	E.18.1 Trends in degree to which traditional knowledge and practices are respected through full integration, participation and safeguards in national implementation of the Strategic Plan	
1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably 2. By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems 13. By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity 14. By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable	A.1.1 Trends in awareness and attitudes to biodiversity A.2.2 Trends in integration of biodiversity and ecosystem service values into sectoral and development policies C.13.3 Trends in number of effective policy mechanisms implemented to reduce genetic erosion and safeguard genetic diversity related to plant and animal genetic resources D.14.3 Trends in benefits that humans derive from selected ecosystem services D.14.12 Trends in nutritional contribution of biodiversity: food composition	
15. By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification	D.14.1 Trends in area of degraded ecosystems restored or being restored D.15.2 Status and trends in extent and condition of habitats that provide carbon storage	

Ramsar Strategic Plan targets	Ramsar Strategic Plan indicators
Target 10: The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels	Possible further indicators that may be developed (Possible use or further development of indicator(s) linked to work currently being undertaken to develop indicator(s) for related Aichi Target 18 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity)
Target 11: Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated	Percentage of parties that have made assessment of ecosystem services of Ramsar sites. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that have incorporated wetlands issues into poverty eradication strategies. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that have implemented programmes or projects that contribute to poverty alleviation objectives or food and water security plans. (Data source: national reports)
Target 12: Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation	Percentage of parties that have established restoration plans [or activities] for sites. (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that have implemented effective restoration or rehabilitation projects. (Data source: national reports) Possible further indicators that may be developed (Outcome-based indicators(s) related to (extent of) wetland restoration possibly including remote sensing as appropriate)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Aichi Biodiversity indicators	
6. By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits. 7. By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity	B.6.1 Trends in proportion of depleted target and bycatch species with recovery plans B.7.1 Trends in area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management	
19. By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied	E.19.2 Trends in coverage of comprehensive policy-relevant sub-global assessments including related capacitybuilding and knowledge transfer, plus trends in uptake into policy[1]	

1 There is no evident linkage between the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Ramsar Convention Target 15: Ramsar Regional Initiatives "with the active involvement and support of the parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention".

Ramsar Strategic Plan targets	Ramsar Strategic Plan indicators
Target 13: Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods	Possible further indicators that may be developed (Indicators related to the relevant sectors especially using or linking to relevant Aichi Target indicators and other relevant international processes)
Target 14: Scientific guidance and technical methodologies at global and regional levels is developed on relevant topics and is available to policymakers and practitioners in an appropriate format and language	Number of "hits" on scientific and technical guidance pages of the Ramsar website and associated subtotals by country and Ramsar region of the source of these hits. (Data source: Ramsar website analytics) Number of Scientific and Technical Review Panel briefing papers downloaded from the Ramsar website and subtotals by country and Ramsar region of the source of these downloads. (Data source: Ramsar web-site analytics) Number of relevant Ramsar Handbooks downloaded from the Ramsar website and subtotals by country and Ramsar region of the source of these downloads. (Data source: Ramsar website analytics) Number of practical tools and guidance documents for wetland conservation and wise use, and other key scientific documentation, which has been developed by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel, parties and others, and is available via the Ramsar website. (Data source: Ramsar website) Possible further indicators that may be developed (Indicator(s) related to the use of guidance and availability in various language versions)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Aichi Biodiversity indicators	
1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably 18. By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels	A.1.1 Trends in awareness and attitudes to biodiversity A.1.3 Trends in public engagement with biodiversity E.18.1 Trends in degree to which traditional knowledge and practices are respected through full integration, participation and safeguards in national implementation of the Strategic Plan	
20. By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 20112020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by parties	20. Trends in mobilization of financial resources 20.1 Indicators agreed in decision X/3	

Ramsar Strategic Plan targets	Ramsar Strategic Plan indicators
Target 16: Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness.	Percentage of parties that have branded World Wetlands Day activities. (Data source: national reports) Number of World Wetland Day activities or events reported to the secretariat. (Data source: Ramsar programme on communication, capacity-building, education, participation and awareness (CEPA)) Number of internet references to World Wetland Day activities. (Data source: internet analysis) Number of internet references to the Ramsar Convention. (Data source: internet analysis) Number of social media links to World Wetland Day. (Data source: social media analysis) CEPA programmes Percentage of parties with a) a governmental CEPA national focal point and b) a non-governmental national focal point (Data source: national reports) Percentage of parties that have established national action plans for wetland CEPA. (Data source: national reports) Visitor centres Number of centres (visitor centres, interpretation centres and education centres) that have been established in Ramsar sites. (Data source: national reports) Number of centres at other wetlands. (Data source: national reports) Possible further indicators that may be developed (Indicator(s) related to whether and how wetland conservation and wiseuse issues are included in formal education programmes)
Target 17: Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016–2024 from all sources are made available	Percentage of contracting parties that have provided additional financial support through voluntary contributions to non-core-funded Convention activities. (National reports to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties) Percentage of parties that have received funding support from development assistance agencies for national wetlands conservation and management. (Data source: national reports) Possible further indicators that may be developed (Indicator(s) related to flows of financing related to different aspects of Strategic Plan implementation)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Aichi Biodiversity indicators	
None.[2]		
1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably 17. By 2015, each party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan	A.1.1 Trends in awareness and attitudes to biodiversity E.17.1 Trends in implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, including development, comprehensiveness, adoption and implementation	

Photo: © UN Photo/Martine Perret

Ramsar Strategic Plan targets	Ramsar Strategic Plan indicators
Target 18: International cooperation is strengthened at all levels	Number of regional initiatives successfully implemented. (Data source: national reports)
Target 19: Capacity-building for implementation of the Convention and the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016–2024 is enhanced	Percentage of parties that have made an assessment of national and local training needs for the implementation of the Convention. (National reports to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties)

E. International Plant Protection Convention

1. Understanding the Convention

The International Plant Protection Convention, an international treaty, was established to ensure cooperation among nations to protect global plant resources from the spread and introduction of pests of plants in order to preserve food security and biodiversity and to facilitate trade. The Convention has been deposited with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), to be administered and resourced by FAO.

FAO, through the work of the International Plant Protection Convention, provides an international plant health framework that attempts to stop the introduction of pests, weeds and pathogens of plants and pest outbreaks that negatively impacts loss of biodiversity and imbalances ecosystems. The International Plant Protection Convention allows countries to analyse pest risks to their national plant resources and to use science-based phytosanitary measures to safeguard their cultivated and wild plants. By doing this, the International Plant Protection Convention helps to:

(a) Protect farmers from economically or socially devastating pests and diseases;

(b) Reduce the numbers of pest and disease outbreaks, while protecting the environment from the loss of species diversity;

(c) Protect ecosystems from the loss of viability and function as a result of pest invasions;

(d) Facilitate trade by ensuring only scientifically justified phytosanitary measures are in place with the least impact on trade.

While the International Plant Protection Convention's primary focus has been on plants and plant products moving in international trade, the scope of the Convention also covers plants and plant products moved as research materials, biological control organisms, germplasm banks, containment facilities and anything that can act as a vector for the spread of plant pests (for example, sea or air containers, packaging materials, soil, vehicles, vessels, machinery and curios).

The 182 contracting parties of the International Plant Protection Convention work together to promote international cooperation to implement the International Plant Protection Convention. In particular, these include the review of the state of plant protection around the world, identification of actions to control the spread of pests into new areas, development and adoption of international standards, establishment of rules and procedures for resolving phytosanitary disputes, establishment of rules and procedures for sharing phytosanitary information, and cooperation with other international organizations on relevant plant-health-related matters. There are many opportunities for the contracting parties to the International Plant Protection Convention to participate directly in these processes.

2. Strategic elements of the International Plant Protection Convention

A key focus in the International Plant Protection Convention work programme is international standard setting. These international standards, along with other provisions in the Convention, are the basis on which countries establish their own specific national legislation, regulations and procedures to regulate the movement of plants and plant products with the clear goal of meeting the objectives of the Convention.

The International Plant Protection Convention is specifically mandated by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures as the only plant health standard setting organization in the world. These international standards are then relevant to members of both FAO and WTO.

Underlying all this work is the International Plant Protection Convention capacity building programme to support the implementation of the Convention and related International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. Contracting parties to the International Plant Protection Convention have agreed to promote technical assistance to other contracting parties. In particular, the Convention encourages support to developing countries to improve the effectiveness of their national plant protection organizations. The International Plant Protection Convention focuses on implementation of its strategic plan[36] and works through a series of annual themes to deliver the strategy.

3. International Plant Protection Convention's strategic objectives for 2012–2019:

(a) Protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security through the prevention of pest spread;

(b) Protect the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests;

(c) Facilitate economic and trade development through the promotion of harmonized scientifically based phytosanitary measures;

(d) Develop phytosanitary capacity for members to accomplish A, B and C.

4. Major Annual Themes (2016–2020)

2016	Plant health and food security
2017	Plant health and trade facilitation
2018	Plant health and environmental protection
2019	Plant health and capacity development
2020	International Year of Plant Health (tentative)

5. Guidance to NBSAP

Considering the strategic objectives and mandate of the International Plant Protection Convention, the following are being suggested as potential elements for consideration by countries to link the issues related to the International Plant Protection Convention for the revision/updating of post-2010 NBSAPs and subsequent implementation.

(i) Process

1. Establish contact with the national International Plant Protection Convention focal point and understand the current strategic interventions planned at the national level to focus on achieving the objectives of the Convention and the annual thematic issues identified by the Convention;

2. Develop a network with agriculture, quarantine, trade and health ministries on issues related to implementing national actions related to pest control, management, eradication, capacity-building and awareness-raising;

3. Identify direct links with the elements from above in setting national targets on management of species, including invasive species, pests and pathogens;

36 https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/563/.

4. Link the elements of national targets with indicators to measure progress of work along with the strategic plans and targets related to other biodiversity conventions, especially those under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species and the Ramsar Convention;

5. Develop a national coordination committee on related issues to implement the revised NBSAP.

(ii) Content

1. Prepare a national list of introduced and pervasive pest and pathogens that impact biodiversity, ecosystems and food production;

2. Develop a national action programme that combines eradication and management of such species as well as invasive alien species;

3. Develop a joint action strategy on implementation of Convention national priorities that consider elements of pests, pathogens under the purview of invasive alien species as indicated under the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and programmatic work plans;

4. Develop a joint national action plan under the NBSAP in capacity-building and awareness raising on impacts of pests, pathogens and related species, including invasive alien species, to integrate actions of priority under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species and the Ramsar Convention considering the impacts of those species on biodiversity and ecosystems;

5. National target setting on species management, within the NBSAP, should include priorities set under the International Plant Protection Convention for synergistic implementation and deployment of finances for realizing actions.

Photo: © Nicole Algranti.

(iii) Links to the strategic plan of the International Plant Protection Convention

International Plant Protection Convention strategic objective	Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	
Protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security through the prevention of pest spread Protect the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests	B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use C. Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity D. Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services	
Facilitate economic and trade development through the promotion of harmonized scientifically based phytosanitary measures	B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use D. Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building	
Develop phytosanitary capacity for members to accomplish A, B and C	E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building	

Convention on Migratory Species strategic goal	Ramsar Strategic Plan targets
1. Address the underlying causes of decline of migratory species by mainstreaming relevant conservation and sustainable use priorities across government and society 2. Reduce the direct pressures on migratory species and their habitats	Target 4: Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their introduction and establishment Target 7: Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed Target 13: Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries, when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods
2. Reduce the direct pressures on migratory species and their habitats	Target 13: Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries, when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods Target 18: International cooperation is strengthened at all levels
5. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacitybuilding	Target 19: Capacitybuilding for implementation of the Convention and the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016–2024 is enhanced

F. International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. Understanding the Treaty

Access and benefit-sharing, together with conservation and sustainable use, are at the heart of both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The Treaty creates a multilateral system for a limited list of crops whereby countries agree to virtually pool and share plant genetic resources of 64 crops and forages for food and agriculture-related purposes. The Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol of Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization tend to favour the negotiation of bilateral access and benefit-sharing agreements between providers and users of genetic resources and traditional knowledge. Although the Nagoya Protocol and the multilateral system of the International Treaty are meant to be implemented in mutually supportive ways, many actors involved in national policy development and implementation are uncertain about how to do this in practice.

Though there are specific provisions within the Nagoya Protocol on ensuring mutually supportive implementation of the Treaty, very few countries have put in place specific policy and related provisions for such supportive actions. Considering the NBSAPs as key national policy cum strategy documents for achieving the objectives of conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing issues, it is important for countries to specifically consider the implementation obligations of the Treaty within the Treaty rather than treating agrobiodiversity-related issues independently.

2. Strategic elements of the Treaty and links to the Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Three mutually supportive targets are proposed to address the main objectives of the Second Global Plan of Action: conservation, sustainable use and capacity development.[37] The proposed targets are as follows:

(a) Conservation target: by 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and their wild relatives, as well as of wild food plant species is maintained in situ, on farm and ex situ in a complementary manner;

(b) Sustainable use target: by 2020, there has been an increased use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture to improve sustainable crop production intensification and livelihoods while reducing genetic vulnerability of crops and cropping systems;

(c) Institutional and human capacities target: by 2020, people are aware of the values of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and institutional and human capacities are strengthened to conserve and use them sustainably while minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

The proposed targets are in line with Aichi Biodiversity Targets 1, 7 and, in particular, 13, as contained in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020.

Aichi Target 13 to maintain the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and wild relatives by 2020 is reflected in the conservation and sustainable use targets,

37 http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/i2624e/i2624e00.pdf.

which also address Aichi Target 7. The institutional and human capacities target addresses an important aspect of Aichi Target 13 related to the development and implementation of strategies minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding the genetic diversity of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

The institutional and human capacities target also contributes to Aichi Target 1, according to which, by 2020, at the latest, people shall be aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

For the monitoring of conservation and sustainable use, the Treaty uses the indicators of the FAO Second Global Plan of Action. The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, at its Fourteenth Regular Session held in Rome in July 2013, adopted 63 indicators for monitoring the implementation of the 18 priority areas of the Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.[38]

Effective monitoring of the implementation of the Second Global Plan of Action will continue to require national focal points to play an important role in contributing to and coordinating country based data repositories for the agreed indicators and targets: the national information-sharing mechanisms. Building capacity for data management and analysis will continue to be essential in that regard.

3. Linkages to NBSAPs

(i) Process

1. Establish a link with the national focal point for the Treaty and ensure communication on issues related to sustainable use and access and benefit-sharing in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol;

2. Identify direct links with the above elements in setting national targets on sustainable use and access and benefit-sharing issues of crops covered under the Treaty;

3. Link the elements of national target win indicators to measure progress of work along with the strategic plans and targets related to other biodiversity conventions, especially those under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Plant Protection Convention;

4. Develop a national coordination committee on related issues to implement the revised NBSAP that considers the above issues.

(ii) Content

1. Develop a joint implementation strategy for the sustainable use and access and benefit-sharing provisions under the Treaty, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol, using the NBSAP;

2. Ensure specific focus on the linkages within the NBSAP calling for joint actions on issues of developing national access and benefit-sharing frameworks, capacity-building and institutional building, awareness-raising and reporting;

3. Develop a reporting format for joint inputs into the governing bodies of the Treaty, the FAO's Commission on Plant Genetic Resources and the Conference of the Parties that works as the Meeting of the Parties for the Nagoya Protocol;

38 CGRFA-14/13/4.1 Rev.1.

(iii) Mapping the targets and indicators

Aichi Biodiversity Targets			International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	
Strategic goal	Aichi Target	Description	Contribution of the Treaty	
A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	Target 1	By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably	Treaty resolutions promote information systems on national plant genetic resources as well as public access to such systems. Contracting parties are encouraged to engage farmers' organizations and relevant stakeholders in matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources through awareness-raising and capacity-building	
	Target 4	By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits	Treaty decisions encourage contracting parties to engage the participation of farmers' organizations and relevant stakeholders in matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources through awareness-raising and	
B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	Target 7	By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity	Fhe Committee on Sustainable Use and supporting initiatives of the Programme, include awareness raising	

FAO	
FAO Second Global Plan of Action Target	Indicators
Institutional and human capacities target: By 2020, people are aware of the values of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and institutional and human capacities are strengthened to conserve and use them sustainably while minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity	Priority activity 18: Promoting and strengthening public awareness of the importance of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; existence of a public awareness programme promoting plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) conservation and utilization; number of stakeholder groups participating in the implementation of the public awareness programme; number of types of products developed to raise public awareness
	Priority activity 2: Supporting on-farm management and improvement of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; number of farming communities involved in on-farm plant genetic resources for food and agriculture management and improvement activities; percentage of cultivated land under farmers' varieties/landraces in areas of high diversity and/or risk; number of farmers' varieties/landraces delivered from national or local gene banks to farmers (either directly or through intermediaries) Priority activity 3: Assisting farmers in disaster situations to restore crop systems; number of households that received seeds for planting as an aid after disaster situations; percentage of seed produced at the local level out of that made available through disaster response interventions; existence of disaster risk management policies for restoring crop systems that include seed security provisions

Aichi Biodiversity Targets			International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	
Strategic goal	Aichi Target	Description	Contribution of the Treaty	
B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	Target 7	By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity	Following resolution 7/2011, the Treaty developed a programme of work on the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in a participatory manner by means of a stakeholders' consultation and in collaboration with relevant international organizations and key actors. The programme of work allows coordination with the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Global Forum on Agricultural Research. The Treaty has established the Committee on Sustainable Use and supporting initiatives of the Programme, include awareness raising	

FAO	
FAO Second Global Plan of Action Target	Indicators
Sustainable use target: By 2020, there has been an increased use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture to improve sustainable crop production intensification and livelihoods while reducing genetic vulnerability of crops and cropping systems	Priority activity 1: Surveying and inventorying plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; number of in situ (including on farm) surveys/ inventories of PGRFA carried out; number of PGRFA surveyed/ inventoried; percentage of PGRFA threatened out of those surveyed/ inventoried Priority activity 8: Expanding the characterization, evaluation and further development of specific collection subsets to facilitate use; average number of morphological and eco-geographical traits characterized per accession for the ex situ collections; number of publications on germplasm evaluation and molecular characterization; number of trait-specific collection subsets published; number of accessions distributed by gene banks to users of germplasm; number of samples distributed by gene banks to users of germplasm Priority activity 9: Supporting plant breeding, genetic enhancement and base broadening efforts; number of crops with active public pre-breeding and breeding programmes; number of crops with active private pre-breeding and breeding programmes; number of active public crop breeders; number of active private crop breeders; number of new varieties released; number of breeding activities oriented to small scale farmers, villages or traditional communities
	Priority activity 10: Promoting diversification of crop production and broadening crop diversity for sustainable agriculture; number of programmes/projects/activities to increase genetic heterogeneity of crop species and diversity within the agro-ecosystem; number of new crops and/or wild species introduced into cultivation; number of farmers' varieties/landraces delivered from national and local gene banks to farmers (either direct or through intermediaries); number of crops conserved ex situ under medium or long term conditions. Priority activity 11: Promoting development and commercialization of all varieties, primarily farmers' varieties/landraces and underutilized species; number of programmes/projects/activities promoting development and commercialization of all varieties, primarily farmers' varieties/landraces and underutilized species; number of farmers' varieties/landraces and underutilized species with potential for commercialization identified; existence of national policies that promote development and commercialization of all varieties, primarily farmers' varieties/landraces and underutilized species Priority activity 12: Supporting seed production and distribution; number of new varieties released; number of formal/registered seed enterprises; the least number of varieties that together account for 80 per cent of the total area for each of the five most widely cultivated crops; percentage of area supplied with seed meeting the standard of the formal seed sector for the five most widely cultivated crops; existence of a national seed policy and seed law

Aichi Biodiversity Targets			International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	
Strategic goal	Aichi Target	Description	Contribution of the Treaty	
	Target 12	By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained	This is a fundamental concept and objective of all the work of the Treaty, particularly in relation to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture	
	Target 13	By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socioeconomically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity	Among the seven biodiversity related conventions, apart from the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Treaty is the only instrument to have an article that outlines specific responsibilities related to progress in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 13. Article 6 of the Treaty relates directly to maintaining or enhancing the genetic diversity of crop species, as well as promoting local and locally adapted crop varieties. Treaty decisions foster the use of the Multilateral System in accordance with the Treaty text and, in particular, address reporting availability of information to potential users (including on conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources), and access to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture by farmers to broaden the genetic base of crops in use. Contracting parties should submit a report on the measures they have taken to implement their obligations under the Treaty every five years	

FAO	
FAO Second Global Plan of Action Target	Indicators
	Priority activity 4: Promoting in situ conservation and management of crop wild relatives and wild food plants; number of crop wild relatives and wild food plants in situ conservation and management actions with institutional support; percentage of national in situ conservation sites with management plans addressing crop wild relatives and wild food plants; number of crop wild relatives and wild food plants species actively conserved in situ
Conservation target: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and their wild relatives, as well as of wild food plant species is maintained in situ, on farm and ex situ in a complementary manner.	Priority activity 5: Supporting targeted collecting of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; existence of a strategy for identification of gaps in collections held by national gene banks and for targeted collecting missions to fill identified gaps; number of targeted collecting missions in the country; number of accessions resulting from targeted collecting missions in the country; number of crops collections conserved in the national gene bank(s) that require targeted collecting Priority activity 6: Sustaining and expanding ex situ conservation of germplasm; trend in annual capacity for sustaining ex situ collections; number of crops conserved ex situ under medium or long term conditions; number of species conserved ex situ under medium or long-term conditions; number of accessions conserved ex situ under medium or long-term conditions; percentage of ex situ accessions safety duplicated Priority activity 7: Regenerating and multiplying ex situ accessions; percentage of ex situ accessions for which a budget for regeneration does not exist; number of ex situ accessions regenerated and/or multiplied; percentage of ex situ accessions in need of regeneration

Aichi Biodiversity Targets			International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	
Strategic goal	Aichi Target	Description	Contribution of the Treaty	
E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building	Target 17	By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan	The Treaty has encouraged contracting parties to develop such plans and to take into account the needs and gaps related to the crop genetic resources sector in their national strategies and action plans	

FAO	
FAO Second Global Plan of Action Target	Indicators
Institutional and human capacities target: By 2020, people are aware of the values of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and institutional and human capacities are strengthened to conserve and use them sustainably while minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity	Priority activity 13: Building and strengthening national programmes; existence of a national entity (agency, committee, etc.) functioning as a coordination mechanism for PGRFA activities and/or strategies; existence of a formally appointed national focal point or coordinator for PGRFA; existence of a governmental policy framework and strategies for PGRFA conservation and use; existence of a national information-sharing mechanism for PGRFA Priority activity 14: Promoting and strengthening networks for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; membership in a regional PGRFA network; number of crop improvement networks in which national stakeholders are members; number of publications produced by national stakeholders within the framework of networks Priority activity 15: Constructing and strengthening comprehensive information systems for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; number of crop wild relatives conserved in situ documented in a publicly available information system; number of farmers' varieties/landraces cultivated on-farm and documented in a publicly available information system; number of accessions in ex situ collections documented in a publicly available information system; number of released varieties documented in a publicly available information system; participation in publicly accessible, international/regional PGRFA information systems Priority activity 16: Developing and strengthening systems for monitoring and safeguarding genetic diversity and minimizing genetic erosion of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; percentage of PGRFA threatened out of those surveyed/inventoried; existence of national systems to monitor and safeguard genetic diversity and minimize genetic erosion; number of remedial actions resulting from the existing national systems to monitor and safeguard genetic diversity and minimize genetic erosion Priority activity 17: Building and strengthening human resource capacity; existence of post-graduate, graduate and secondary educational and training programmes with incorporated aspects on PGRFA conservation and sustainable use; percentage of staff whose knowledge and skills in conserving and using PGRFA have been upgraded

(Source: Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, 2016)

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