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## UNU-IAS Report

# MDG on Reducing Biodiversity Loss and the CBD's 2010 Target



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## **MDG on Reducing Biodiversity Loss and the CBD's 2010 Target**

**Balakrishna Pisupati**

**Renata Rubian**

*"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts  
can be counted."*

*Albert Einstein*



# Contents

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Foreword</b>   | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>1. Introduction</b>  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>2. The MDGs Review</b>   | <b>8</b>  |
| 2.1 How scientific are the MDGs?  | 8         |
| 2.2 Global Targets: Pros and Cons   | 8         |
| 2.3 Global versus Local   | 8         |
| <b>3. The 2010 Target up to now</b>   | <b>10</b> |
| 3.1 Policy Development versus Implementation  | 10        |
| 3.2 Developing the 2010 Indicators  | 10        |
| 3.3 The Millennium Assessment Report: Evidence of Biodiversity Loss                         | 11        |
| 3.4 Biodiversity vis-à-vis Environment  | 11        |
| <b>4. Linking MDGs and the Global Biodiversity Target</b>                                   | <b>13</b> |
| <b>5. Comparative Analysis</b>  | <b>15</b> |
| <b>6. Using the Indicators</b>  | <b>16</b> |
| 6.1 MDGs progress so far: Country Report Assessments  | 16        |
| 6.2 The 2010 Target: Assessing achievement through the CBD Third National Reports           | 17        |
| <b>7. The Challenge</b>   | <b>18</b> |
| <b>8. Policy Options</b>  | <b>21</b> |
| <b>9. Way Forward</b>   | <b>26</b> |
| 9.1 Mainstreaming environment across MDGs   | 26        |
| 9.2 Supporting better implementation of MEAs to achieving MDGs                              | 26        |
| 9.3 Local actions to achieving MDGs   | 26        |
| <b>References</b>   | <b>27</b> |
| <b>Annex I — Official Indicators for Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)</b> | <b>29</b> |
| <b>Annex II — Indicators Relevant to the 2010 Goals and Sub-targets</b>                     | <b>31</b> |
| <b>Annex III — CBD Third National Reports on the 2010 Target</b>                            | <b>33</b> |
| <b>Endnotes</b>   | <b>36</b> |

## List of Figures, Boxes and Tables

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Box 1: Biodiversity and its Loss—Avoiding Conceptual Pitfalls   | 12 |
| Table 1: Indicators for Assessing Progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target (Adopted in CBD COP DecisionVII/30) | 11 |
| Table 2: Potential Direct Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on the Millennium Development Goals Achievement              | 14 |
| Table 3: Relationship between 2010 Biodiversity Loss Goals, Targets and Indicators and MDG Targets                  | 18 |
| Table 4: Actions and Strategies Needed for Linkages between 2010 Target and the remaining MDG Targets               | 21 |
| Graphic 1: Percentage of countries with country-specific targets as called for in Target 7.A                        | 16 |
| Graphic 2: Percentage of countries using global indicators  | 17 |

## Foreword

This year, 2008, is very important to all of us who are working on conservation and development! We are at the mid-point of assessing our progress on achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as preparing for the 2010 'Year of Biological Diversity' with more emphasis on realizing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) targets to reduce the rate of loss of biological diversity for poverty alleviation (popularly called the 2010 targets).

In September 2008, Heads of State from around the world will meet in New York to discuss progress towards achieving the MDGs, a commitment they undertook in 2000. The focus will be not to ascertain progress on a few goals or targets but to look at all goals and targets as a holistic package to deal with sustainable development. A quick review of the national reports on MDGs from countries around the world indicates one significant gap both in terms of available information and assessment of a specific target under MDG 7 on environmental sustainability. The shortfall is related to the target 7 B on reducing biodiversity loss by 2010.

We all agree that biological diversity has a lot to contribute to human well-being and sustainable development. As quoted by McNeil and Schie in 2002, biodiversity is the 'life insurance policy for life itself'. Progress under the CBD work programmes to realize the 2010 targets have been progressive, though slow. A number of indicators were developed under the aegis of the CBD since 2002 when the 2010 targets were adopted during the Sixth Conference of Parties (COP6). However, there seems to be a gap in terms of linking them with the MDG 7 (target 7B in particular) making it difficult for countries to report progress and assess the realization of MDG 7. This paper attempts to provide such a link between the CBD 2010 targets and MDG target 7 in a manner that can be used by governments and policy makers to understand the linkages and assess progress to be made under both the platforms viz. the CBD and MDGs in order to achieve mutually supportive implementation of the work programmes at national levels.

UNU-IAS is pleased to lead the discussion on this issue through the presentation of this report and we hope that in coming years countries can use elements of this report to ascertain ways and means of dealing with the MDG target 7B as well as link actions to CBD processes so that conservation and development agendas can be better realized.



A. H. Zakri  
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September 2008





# 1. Introduction

Beginning with the 1972 Stockholm Summit on Sustainable Development, the links between economic, social and environmental aspects to achieving sustainable development have received increasing attention. The Rio Conventions (biodiversity, climate change and desertification) infused new life into providing global and national frameworks to integrate environment into national development. Efforts to advance such commitments, to make this planet a better place to live and to ensure that development does not deprive people of their basic minimum livelihood needs, has led countries to develop a set of measurable goals and targets to achieve sustainable development during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2000. These goals, termed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), currently form the basis of all debates and discussions on development around the world. In 2005, the UNGA adopted a set of detailed targets related to Goal 7 on environmental governance which aimed at significantly reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity by the year 2010 (Target 7 B)<sup>1</sup>. This Target is supported by two indicators for monitoring progress, namely, the proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected and the proportion of species threatened with extinction. While there has been eagerness from the UN Member States to achieve the eight MDGs by the year 2015 since the Millennium Declaration was signed in 2000 (see Annex I, 5: Indicators for monitoring the MDGs), concerns are mounting as to whether the goals, targets and indicators set out are realistic in terms of measuring and monitoring for concrete results.

Parallel to the MDGs process is the adoption of the 2010 Global Biodiversity Challenge and the subsequent development of targets and indicators under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), as expressed by decision VI/26 of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in April 2002. This decision commits Parties to an effective and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level, as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth. This commitment and the 2010 target were also endorsed by the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in its Plan of Implementation (PoI) in paragraph 44.<sup>2</sup> The 2010 target is now recognized by the international community beyond the framework of the CBD, representing an important achievement in putting biodiversity back on the international agenda (See Annex II, Table 6: Indicators relevant to the 2010 goals and sub-targets).

This paper attempts to verify the hypotheses that there is a greater likelihood that initiatives under the CBD process to achieve the 2010 target are more tangible than at the MDG level; that there is a need to link the targets and indicators of the 2010 commitments of the CBD with those of the MDGs; and that the MDGs can use the programme of work under the CBD as an interim indicator of successful national implementation in relation to sustainable development, not just with respect

to measuring progress on Goal 7 on environmental sustainability, but for other Goals as well. In order to further investigate these assumptions, the first and second sections of the paper will provide a background and a blueprint of the current state of MDGs and the 2010 target in general. The third section will focus on synergies and potential for aligning the achievements of the MDGs and the 2010 target, and the likely trade-offs. The fourth section compares the goals, targets and indicators set under each of these frameworks and reverts back to the main hypothesis of the paper. The fifth and sixth sections further advance the debate by stressing the methods of using the indicators and highlighting prospects for attaining the MDGs and the 2010 sub-targets. Finally, the last section identifies some policy actions for dealing with challenges that lies ahead.

This paper will not attempt to exhaust all resources and literature available on the MDGs and the 2010 target, but to engage readers in a broad discussion on the validity of the indicators, the need for cross-cutting references and analysis, and the need for reviewing and/or generating newer indicators.

## 2. The MDGs Review

### 2.1 How scientific are the MDGs?

The Millennium Development Goals demonstrate a package of commitments countries have renewed to celebrate the Millennium. None of the goals are new except that they are re-packaged with time bound targets and indicators.

Questions have been raised about the rationale of some of the goals as well as the ease with which countries can use the indicators. Review of MDG 7 indicates that the goal, targets and indicators were developed without much thought of today's realities requiring enormous efforts to put the environmental agenda back into the development mainstream. Some even argue that the scientific basis for developing and realizing the MDGs is weak. Additionally, Target 7 B has such a simplified, generic set of indicators that use of these targets has been very limited at the country level, as indicted by the country reports of 2006 and 2007. The MDG Report of 2008 has very little information on the progress made towards the target of reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010. The report indicates that in response to the loss of global biodiversity, 21 million square kilometers of protected areas, including land and sea, were created in 2007.<sup>3</sup> In addition, there has been a slowing down in deforestation, or net loss of forest area, patterns. However, the report notes that protection alone is insufficient, as those areas need to be sustainably managed in order to attain the maximum benefits for the environment and local communities. The MDG Report recognizes that data on the number of species threatened with extinction is most comprehensive for birds, although imperfect indicators of trends in other forms of biodiversity are also available. With the global agreement and political commitment to realise the MDGs, we now have a responsibility to ensure that as many MDGs targets are met as possible.

### 2.2 Global Targets: Pros and Cons

Mainstreaming the MDGs into the international agenda has its pros and cons. Jolly (2003) anticipates criticisms by academics and development practitioners regarding the setting of global goals, which may: (1) favour a top down process of planning and implementation of goals, creating a burden on local communities at the expense of their own interests; (2) create a bias in the selection of development goals, favouring those that are supported by donors, as opposed to goals tailored to local needs; (3) generate excessive concerns with quantitative results, while overlooking qualitative measurements; (4) lead national and local government agencies to produce statistics that are not consistent with the reality, in order to conceal the unavailability of data or failure in meeting the goals; and (5) encourage exaggerated expectations, which may lead to disappointment when goals are not met. Notwithstanding these criticisms, Jolly (2003) points out that rather than using these arguments against the MDGs, they should be taken into account on their implementation.

On other hand, setting global goals such as the MDGs may compel countries to commit to higher standards of development, freeing technical and financial resources and leading developed countries to allocate additional financial aid towards the achievement of agreed goals. However, countries may not be properly guided or supported—through the provision of tools and methodologies—to evaluate their actions to deal with the MDGs, especially MDG 7. Such a limitation is visible with regard to target 7 B.

Progress on implementation of the MDGs so far is influenced by a variety of factors including cost estimates. As Reddy and Heuty (2005) indicate, cost estimates can directly determine the choice of strategies. There is more than one plausible strategy to achieve each of the goals. Therefore, it is crucial to identify the costs of realizing the MDGs through alternative means in order to adopt the most efficient approach. Costing data for dealing with some MDGs such as Goal 2, 3, 4 and 5 are now available but costing for dealing with MDG 7 is still unclear resulting in weak economic arguments and planning for investing into achieving this MDG.

The review of country status reports on achieving the MDGs submitted to the 60<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly (UNGA) session indicates that there is a clear variation in the way countries have used the targets and indicators set by the MDGs. While many of the countries faithfully used the targets and indicators provided to ascertain the progress they made, several of them adjusted or proposed adding new indicators to address country needs and priorities. This marks a clear shift in the way countries ought to look at MDG targets and indicators given the decisions at the 60<sup>th</sup> UNGA to use MDGs as “the” national reporting framework from 2006 onwards. It is necessary to re-evaluate the use of MDG targets and indicators as rigid set of guidance to being opportunities for tailoring national level targets and indicators to measure local success in achieving the MDGs.

### 2.3 Global versus Local

A number of MDGs are phrased as global goals. There is an implicit interpretation that the MDGs are to be attained globally, which may risk disregarding the level of achievement in individual countries. For instance, given that 65% of the world's poor currently live in Asia, a strategy focused on achieving poverty reduction (MDG-1) in India and China is believed to be crucial for attaining the targets under this goal. No one will dispute that by eliminating poverty in Asia the world would be closer to meeting the MDG-1. However, this achievement cannot be translated in a tangible improvement in the lives of poor people elsewhere. Therefore, focusing on achieving quantifiable absolute numbers for certain MDG targets could lead to a fallacious belief that there has been a significant improvement in meeting the commitments made on the ground.

Furthermore, one should consider that data gathered for each country often does not capture the diversity of outcomes for each national region across the various social indicators and the MDG targets. According to an assessment on the achievement of MDGs conducted by the World Bank in Sri Lanka, the report concluded that “the findings draw attention to the unpalatable truth that even if the country as a whole attains a particular MDG, some regions in the country might still fall way below the expected outcomes.”<sup>4</sup> The report also puts emphasis on the need to systematically monitor MDG outcomes and the impact of social assistance programs by generating reliable data, as a way to decide what set of interventions are better equipped to effectively work towards attaining the goals.

This example indicates that monitoring and achieving the goals is a multilevel process, which implicates different scenarios and stages of development, increasing the complexity of effectively measuring the indicators. Moreover, the technical and human capacity of countries to implement the MDGs varies broadly, leading to discrepancies between regions and further increasing the challenge of building a comparative framework to analyse data gathered for all indicators across countries. Standardization of available data without generating further burden on countries and data deficiency are *de facto* a major challenge in this task.

The eight MDG goals agreed upon in 2000 evolved into 21 time-bound targets and 60 quantifiable indicators (see Annex I, Table 5: Indicators for monitoring the MDGs). The MDGs were conceptualized as a guiding framework and, as such, they are expected to be flexible. Therefore, countries were invited to adapt the measuring indicators to their own reality. This is further discussed in section IV.

## 3. The 2010 Target up to now

### 3.1 Policy Development versus Implementation

The life cycle of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) is divided between policy development and implementation phases. After a decade invested in policy development, the CBD at its sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-6) initiated a transition of its processes, mechanisms and instruments to focus on implementation. The adoption of the 2010 target, under the CBD process by decision VI/26 of the COP, and its subsequent endorsement by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, lay down the foundation for the new phase of the Biodiversity Convention. In decision VI/26 the strategic plan of the Convention is presented. In its mission, "Parties commit themselves to a more effective and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth."

In COP decision VII/30, countries agreed on a framework to enhance the evaluation of achievements and progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan and, in particular, its mission to achieve a significant reduction of biodiversity loss. The Strategic Plan of the Convention seeks to promote coherence among the various programmes of work and to provide a flexible framework within which national and regional targets may be set, and indicators identified. This framework includes seven focal areas: (1) reducing the rate of loss of the components of biodiversity; (2) promoting sustainable use of biodiversity; (3) addressing the major threats to biodiversity, including those arising from invasive alien species, climate change, pollution, and habitat change; (4) maintaining ecosystem integrity, and the provision of goods and services provided by biodiversity in ecosystems, in support of human well-being; (5) protecting traditional knowledge, innovations and practices; (6) ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources; and (7) mobilizing financial and technical resources, especially for developing countries, for implementing the Convention and the Strategic Plan.

For each of the focal areas, goals and sub-targets were identified as well as indicators for assessing progress towards the 2010 target.<sup>5</sup> The goals and sub-targets are expected to be integrated into the programmes of work of the Convention, while providing a flexible framework for national and/or regional targets to be developed. In this regard, the Convention invites Parties to establish their own targets and to identify indicators that can measure national progress towards the 2010 target (See Annex II, Table 6: Indicators relevant to the 2010 goals and sub-targets).

### 3.2 Developing the 2010 Indicators

In decision VII/30, the Conference of the Parties (COP) provided specific guidance on the characteristics of the indicators to be identified or developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Indicators for Assessing Progress Towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target<sup>6</sup> such as: (1) indicators should not be used to evaluate the level of implementation of the Convention in individual Parties or regions; (2) the same indicators may be used at the global, regional, national and local levels; (3) indicators should relate to one or more of the various programmes of work of the Convention; (4) indicators should take into consideration relevant MDGs and indicators developed by other relevant international processes; and (5) existing data sets should be used. The development of indicators should also consider availability of data and suitable technologies, and existing discrepancies in technical and human capacity among countries.

Initially, the COP agreed on eight indicators for immediate testing (listed in column B, see Table 1) and another 13 indicators which required further development (listed in column C, see Table 1). A process for further testing and developing the indicators was agreed by the COP, requiring inputs from the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), the Ad Hoc Working Groups on ABS and Article 8(j), and the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Indicators for Assessing Progress Towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target.

Within the CBD process, there is a gradual shift from focusing on the implementation of individual programmes of work (POWs) to a general process based on the 2010 target and indicators. Such an approach is also taken by other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) such as the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Convention on International Trade on Endangered Species (CITES) and others.

**Table 1: Indicators for Assessing Progress Towards The 2010 Biodiversity Target (Adopted in CBD COP Decision VII/30)**

| <b>A: Focal area</b>  | <b>B: Indicator for immediate testing</b>   | <b>C: Possible indicators for development by SBSTTA or Working Groups</b>  |
|---|---|--|
| Status and trends of the components of biological diversity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats</li> <li>Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species</li> <li>Coverage of protected areas</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in status of threatened species (Red List indicator under development)</li> <li>Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals, cultivated plants, and fish species of major socioeconomic importance</li> </ul>  |
| Sustainable use   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management</li> <li>Proportion of products derived from sustainable sources</li> </ul>  |
| Threats to biodiversity                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nitrogen deposition</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numbers and cost of alien invasions</li> </ul>  |
| Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marine trophic index</li> <li>Water quality in aquatic ecosystems</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application to freshwater and possibly other ecosystems</li> <li>Connectivity/fragmentation of ecosystems</li> <li>Incidence of human-induced ecosystem failure</li> <li>Health and well-being of people living in biodiversity-based-resource dependent communities</li> <li>Biodiversity used in food and medicine</li> </ul> |
| Status of traditional knowledge, innovations and Practices  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further indicators to be identified by WG-8j</li> </ul>   |
| Status of access and benefit-sharing                        |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator to be identified by WG-ABS</li> </ul>   |
| Status of resource transfers                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official development assistance provided in support of the Convention (OECD-DAC-Statistics Committee)</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator for technology transfer</li> </ul>  |

### 3.3 The Millennium Assessment Report: Evidence of Biodiversity Loss

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) Report offers a scientifically valid confirmation that the world is facing an unprecedented loss of biodiversity and that much remains to be done to tackle the problem. Thus, the CBD priority now is clear. There is a need to move forward and achieve the 2010 target, which is only viable if there is a concerted agreement among biodiversity-related conventions and relevant stakeholders.

Despite this scenario, the MA Report is optimistic to state that appropriate responses at the global, regional and national level are feasible in order to achieve by 2010 a reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss for certain components of biodiversity or for certain indicators, and in certain regions. Some of the sub-targets endorsed by the 2010 target could further be achieved if there is a commitment in implementing the solutions incorporated into the programmes of work of the CBD. Nevertheless, the MA Report indicates that it is very unlikely that the sub-targets aimed at addressing threats to biodiversity, which include land use change, climate change, pollution, and invasive alien species, could be achieved by 2010. Moreover, greater efforts will be needed to maintain the level of ecosystems goods and services that support human well-being.<sup>7</sup>

The framework of goals and targets adopted by decision VII/30 is general and is meant to be used as a guide to achieve the longer-term objectives of the Convention, surpassing 2010. Some sub-targets might also receive greater emphasises within the CBD process, for instance issues related to habitat loss, conservation of protected areas, and sustainable management, while issues related to climate change and pollution might not be adequately addressed.<sup>8</sup>

### 3.4 Biodiversity vis-à-vis Environment

Progressively, we have witnessed the substitution of the term 'biodiversity' with 'environment' by development practitioners, international organizations and governments. The interchanging of these terms has led to a disregard of specific issues pertaining to biodiversity since environment is semantically more generic. More than a decade after the Rio Summit in 1992, the term biodiversity has been downgraded, and few development writings still refer to this term.<sup>9</sup> The 2010 target brings back to the spotlight biodiversity-related issues and how these can contribute in practical terms to poverty reduction.

For the purposes of assessing progress towards the 2010 target, CBD COP decision VII/30 defines biodiversity loss "as the long-term or permanent qualitative or quantitative reduction in components of biodiversity

and their potential to provide goods and services, to be measured at global, regional and national levels.”<sup>10</sup>

While measuring biodiversity loss, the MA Report indicates that there are conceptual pitfalls that need to be avoided (see box 1, below) given that biodiversity has many components and different levels, comprising of diversity among organisms (i.e. plants, animals or

microorganisms), diversity within and among species and populations, and diversity among ecosystems. Therefore, as the report concludes, ‘no single component, whether genes or ecosystems, is consistently a good indicator of overall biodiversity, as the components can vary independently.’<sup>11</sup> This further complicates the quest to develop indicators that are scientifically accurate and measurable.

### **BOX 1. BIODIVERSITY AND ITS LOSS—AVOIDING CONCEPTUAL PITFALLS**

Different interpretations of several important attributes of the concept of biodiversity can lead to confusion in understanding both scientific findings and their policy implications. Specifically, the value of the diversity of genes, species, or ecosystems per se is often confused with the value of a particular component of that diversity. Species diversity in and of itself, for example, is valuable because the presence of a variety of species helps to increase the capability of an ecosystem to be resilient in the face of a changing environment. At the same time, an individual component of that diversity, such as a particular food plant species, may be valuable as a biological resource. The consequences of changes in biodiversity for people can stem both from a change in the diversity per se and a change in a particular component of biodiversity. Each of these aspects of biodiversity deserves its own attention from decision-makers, and each often requires its own (albeit connected) management goals and policies.

Second, because biodiversity refers to diversity at multiple scales of biological organization (genes, populations, species, and ecosystems) and can be considered at any geographic scale (local, regional, or global), it is generally important to specify the specific level of organization and scale of concern. For example, the introduction of widespread weedy species to a continent such as Africa will increase the species diversity of Africa (more species present) while decreasing ecosystem diversity globally (since the ecosystems in Africa then become more similar in species composition to ecosystems elsewhere due to the presence of the cosmopolitan species). Because of the multiple levels of organization and multiple geographic scales involved, any single indicator, such as species diversity, is generally a poor indicator for many aspects of biodiversity that may be of concern for policy-makers.

These two considerations are also helpful in interpreting the meaning of biodiversity “loss.” For the purposes of assessing progress toward the 2010 targets, the Convention on Biological Diversity defines biodiversity loss to be “the long-term or permanent qualitative or quantitative reduction in components of biodiversity and their potential to provide goods and services, to be measured at global, regional and national levels” (CBD COP VII/30). Under this definition, biodiversity can be lost either if the diversity per se is reduced (such as through the extinction of some species) or if the potential of the components of diversity to provide a particular service is diminished (such as through unsustainable harvest). The homogenization of biodiversity—that is, the spread of invasive alien species around the world—thus also represents a loss of biodiversity at a global scale (since once-distinct groups of species in different parts of the world become more similar) even though the diversity of species in particular regions may actually increase because of the arrival of new species.

**Source: Ecosystem and Human Well-Being (Biodiversity Synthesis), 2005.**

## 4. Linking MDGs and the Global Biodiversity Target

As affirmed in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, “the strong links that exist between biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation are not always recognized or understood.”<sup>12</sup> Given the importance of ecosystems goods and services for the maintenance of human well-being, it is important to recognize that the environment, or more specifically, biodiversity, is a cross-cutting issue. Therefore, environment underpins all MDGs not only the MDG-7 on environmental sustainability, as illustrated in Table 2, given the symbiotic relationship between poverty, human well-being and ecosystem services.

Taking into account the relevance of the issue, UNEP launched an initiative on mainstreaming environment beyond MDG-7. This initiative is expected to further enhance the profile of MEAs and their compliance by Party Governments, as MEAs can play a significant role in the implementation of the MDGs. Overall, three levels of linkages between MEAs and the MDGs can be identified: (1) formal decisions in MEAs processes and work programmes that are of direct relevance to MDGs; (2) MEAs priority activities that have direct impact to MDGs; (3) MEAs decisions that identify areas of cooperation that could be used to interlink with the MDGs. Conversely, there is a need for the MDGs to play a role in dealing with MEA implementation. However, this link is visibly absent within the MDG debates.

As the carrying capacity of ecosystems is gradually impaired and the capacity of ecosystems to provide goods and services is affected, inevitably biodiversity loss will directly affect human well-being. There are important linkages between the objectives of the CBD, particularly the 2010 target, and the MDGs that cannot be disregarded.<sup>13</sup> The Millennium Assessment Report, for instance, identifies the loss of ecosystem services as being a major barrier to the achievement of poverty, hunger and disease reduction as set out by the MDGs.

However, CBD goals and the MDGs implementation should be coordinated so that initiatives targeted to promote the conservation of biodiversity do not limit the benefits that could accrue to local communities, and so that the attainment of MDGs through short-term economic development does not harm biodiversity. Therefore, likely trade-offs and synergies between these development processes have to be taken into account seriously in order to inform decision-makers.

This approach is consistent with paragraph 1 of decision VII/32 of the Conference of the Parties, which urges Parties, Governments, international financial institutions, donors and relevant intergovernmental organizations to implement development activities in ways that are consistent with, and do not compromise, the achievement of the objectives of the CBD and the 2010 target, as a contribution towards the MDG process.

Given the likely trade offs between development activities and biodiversity conservation, Governments and relevant interested individuals should consider mitigation actions in order to guarantee the reduction of biodiversity loss, which will otherwise negatively impact human livelihoods. Regrettably, the current political thinking is such that countries still regard environmental issues as constraints to achieving sustainable development. For instance, out of 100 countries assessed by the UNDP, almost two-thirds of the cases indicated this type of view.<sup>14</sup> Nonetheless countries also reported on the positive impacts of improving environmental conditions to achieve other development priorities.<sup>15</sup>

UNDP (2007) reviewed MDG Country Reports (MDGRs) in order to assess to what extent environmental issues were taken into consideration in the implementation of other MDGs beyond MDG-7, highlighting linkages between environment and other areas of development. From the analysis, two main findings emerge: (1) There is no clear reference to environmental issues outside of MDG-7. Environment is not mainstreamed into other development processes, a weak correlation between poverty and environment is identified and response systems have not been developed to address both concerned areas simultaneously. (2) Emphasis on environmental issues is given to water availability and sanitation issues, particularly regarding health development goals. Scattered references to food security, climate change variations and natural hazards can be found outside of MDG-7 reporting and; (3) There is limited or no clear reporting from countries on the 2010 target that is measurable.

UNDP (2005) indicates that a majority of countries linked environment to poverty and hunger eradication (MDG-1), followed by child mortality (MDG-4) and diseases (MDG-6). Maternal health (MDG-5) and education (MDG-2) were goals considered to have the least connection with environment.

**Table 2: Potential Direct Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on the Millennium Development Goals Achievement**

| <b>MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS: BIODIVERSITY LOSS AS A CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>MDG</b>  | <b>Some examples of links with biodiversity loss</b>  |
| Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger (Goal 1)   | <p><i>Biodiversity guaranteeing human well-being:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As 40% of the global economy is based on biological products and ecosystem processes, a reduction of its components will directly affect the world economy, increasing poverty levels<sup>6</sup>;</li> <li>• Currently only 30 crop species dominate the worldwide food production and 90% of animal food supply comes from 14 mammal and bird species - species which themselves rely on biodiversity for their productivity and survival. Continuous biodiversity loss will significantly threaten food security and income, through the reduction of crop genetic diversity and extinction of many livestock breeds.</li> <li>• 900 million extremely poor men, women and children who live in rural areas are the most vulnerable to suffer the negative impacts from biodiversity loss.<sup>17</sup></li> </ul>  |
| Achieve universal primary education (Goal 2)  | <p><i>Biodiversity guaranteeing human well-being:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortage of wood fuel imposes time and financial costs on poor households, putting a particular burden on those that are short of labour and making it harder for children to attend school.</li> </ul>  |
| Promote gender equality and empower women (Goal 3)  | <p><i>Women as users and custodians of biodiversity:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The marginalization of women leads to the marginalization of the traditional knowledge (TK) that they preserve, which is indispensable for maintaining livelihood security and conserve biological diversity.<sup>18</sup> TK can be used in order to ensure food availability during periods of crisis such as civil conflicts, natural calamities or disabling diseases.</li> <li>• Degradation of biodiversity reduces the availability of fuel, non-timber forest resources (NTFRs) and potable water, increasing the time women spend in collecting these resources everyday. This may lead to a decline in the quality of livelihood for the entire family.</li> </ul>  |
| Health related goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduce child mortality (Goal 4)</li> <li>• improve maternal health (Goal 5)</li> <li>• combat major diseases (Goal 6)</li> </ul> | <p><i>Biodiversity regulates pests and diseases:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low-income rural people depend on the consumption of traditional wild foods<sup>19</sup>, medicine and fuels for meeting daily needs of micronutrient and protein.</li> <li>• The WHO suggests that 80% of the world's people rely on traditional medicines and traditional systems of medicine for day-to-day health care. In addition, medicinal plants can provide an important source of income for the rural poor, especially for women. A decline in biodiversity components will adversely impact on the protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices. Many widely used products, such as plant-based medicines and cosmetics, are derived from TK. Biodiversity loss as well as loss of traditional knowledge from globalisation will directly impact communities dependent on traditional medicine.</li> <li>• Ecosystem alterations will lead to a decreased control of disease vectors (i.e. malaria mosquito vector).</li> <li>• Wetlands, for instance, are needed as water regulators to protect us from floods and storm surges, to help in moderating climatic change with other ecosystems such as forests, and to act as living filters for pollutants and excess fertilizers.</li> <li>• Biological control can reduce the dependency and costs associated with pesticides.</li> <li>• Environmental-related diseases (i.e. diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections, leukaemia, etc) are primary causes of child mortality.</li> </ul> |
| Ensure environmental sustainability (Goal 7)  | <p><i>Biodiversity providing ecosystem services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity loss will directly affect the quality and quantity of ecosystem services provided—such as watershed protection, biodiversity habitat, carbon storage, soil fertility, recycling of nutrients, control of erosion and pollinating crops and trees.</li> <li>• Soil microorganisms maintain soil fertility and structure for crop production. Reduction of these microorganisms will lead to poor soil quality and disruption of soil food webs.</li> <li>• The MA Report in its findings indicates that two-thirds of ecosystem services are in decline, many of them to a level that cannot be restored (i.e. global fisheries stocks<sup>20</sup>).</li> </ul>  |
| Global partnership for development (Goal 8)   | <p><i>The Global Biodiversity Challenge:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop income generation opportunities through sustainable livelihoods using Public-Private Sector partnerships with supporting policies and investments at local levels.</li> </ul>   |

From all biodiversity-related and Rio Conventions, the CBD has been the most proactive in its work on interlinkages and on making its contribution to the MDGs clear. As mentioned previously, the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, in its decision VII/32, recognizes that achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular MDG-1 (Combating poverty and hunger), MDG-6 (Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases), and MDG-7 (Ensuring environmental sustainability), are

dependent on the effective conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.

Other biodiversity related conventions are also collaborating with the CBD to achieve the 2010 target on biodiversity loss, as well as other related activities to the MDGs.



## 5. Comparative Analysis

Comparison between the levels of discussions made on CBD indicators with the level of discussions on the MDGs is beginning to happen both within the CBD as well as within the MDG processes. However, it is important to understand some fundamental differences between the processes before attempting comparisons. These differences include:

(1) *Pressure and response processes vs. result based:* Most of the CBD related indicators discussed have pressure and response processes where actions related to conservation are measured based on the pressure the biodiversity is under as well as the manner in which the ecosystems and species respond to such pressures. This is because ecosystems and species are dynamic and changing. These two sets of indicators are later linked to result indicators in order to develop the work programmes. Thus, the basis for arriving at results on whether countries are moving towards achieving the 2010 targets are principally based on the pressures that exist on the ecosystems and species (including gene based variability). This often becomes a challenge for countries to use the 2010 indicators at local and specific levels. Unlike the CBD indicators, the MDG indicators are result based. The responses of countries to measure sustainable development are based on specific results. From the synthesis report presented by countries to the UNGA, it is clear that there was very little focus on pressure and response components.<sup>21</sup> Attaran (2005), Reddy and Huety (2005) indicate the fact that several of the MDG related targets are difficult to measure since countries tend to be handicapped by the lack of pressure and response indicators.

(2) *Limited social focus:* Several of the indicators for measuring progress of the MDGs are socio-centric while the 2010 indicators are not. This lack of focus on social components of indicators by the CBD is well recognised in the recent review reports of the 2010 programme of work as well as in reports on CBD implementation. Though use of the ecosystem approach to conservation is central to CBD implementation, countries are still unclear on how to mainstream social dimensions into conservation action.

(3) *Limited environmental focus:* Though several initiatives and reports are being developed to address the need to mainstream environment across the MDGs, the environmental dimension to several MDG targets and indicators are still lacking.<sup>22</sup> This will pose a challenge for those who seek to ensure that MEAs in general, and the CBD in particular, are mainstreamed across the MDGs to achieve the best results not just in managing local environments but in achieving real actions on sustainable development. Studies related to development of indicators to bring in the linkages are often biased towards using biodiversity related indicators and fail to link them with development indicators.

In spite of the above differences, both the MDGs and 2010 targets have some commonalities when it comes to assessing progress towards implementation. These include the lack of specific and validated data on baseline information. While countries were to design

the development of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) on baseline information, it is clearly acknowledged that many countries still lack specific data when it comes to the status of biodiversity at local and national levels, with countries often at different stages of national reporting. This is similar for information related to components of the MDGs, such as data and information on malaria.<sup>23</sup> The second similarity is the focus on country level implementation of actions. While the CBD processes stressed this from the beginning (and to a major extent achieved this through national reports), focus on national level implementation of action towards achieving the MDGs and review of progress is a recent phenomenon within the MDG process. However, the big challenge for MDG related reporting is the need for appropriate guidance to countries on how to measure progress—not just in statistical terms of assessing the information but also in generating information and doing a qualitative analysis.

## 6. Using the Indicators

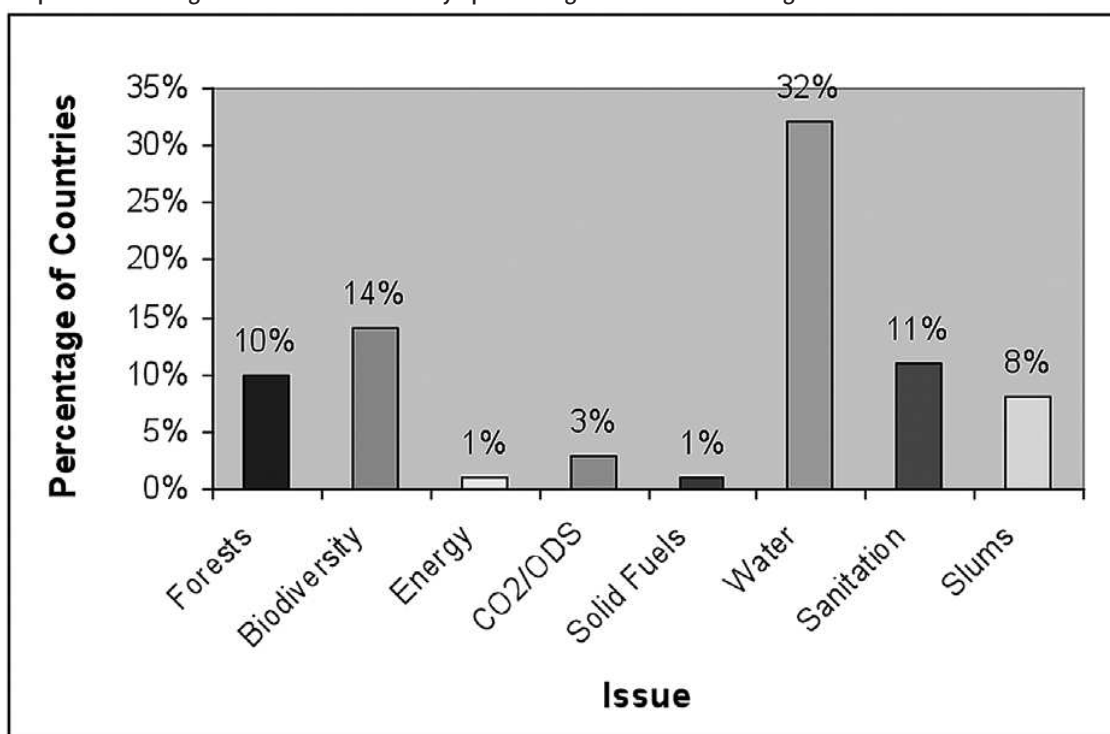
### 6.1 MDGs progress so far: Country Report Assessments

Assessment of national reports conducted by UNDP on MDGs indicate that only 89% of countries used MDGs indicators and 14% of countries made some changes to the indicators. However, there is very little analysis on the practical use of indicators for MDGs.<sup>24</sup>

Countries were encouraged to modify the global targets and select indicators relevant to those targets within the MDG process. Adopting country-specific

targets in order to attain the MDG goals is crucial to maintaining sustainability. Over 50% of countries have adopted specific time bound and measurable targets, particularly on Target 7.C for increasing access to water and sanitation. Only 23% of the countries report setting a specific target to reverse the loss of environmental resources, as called for in MDG Target 7.A. Out of these, 13% of the countries have developed specific targets for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, particularly setting up protected areas (see Graphic 1 below).<sup>25</sup>

Graphic 1: Percentage of countries with country-specific targets as called for in Target 7.A

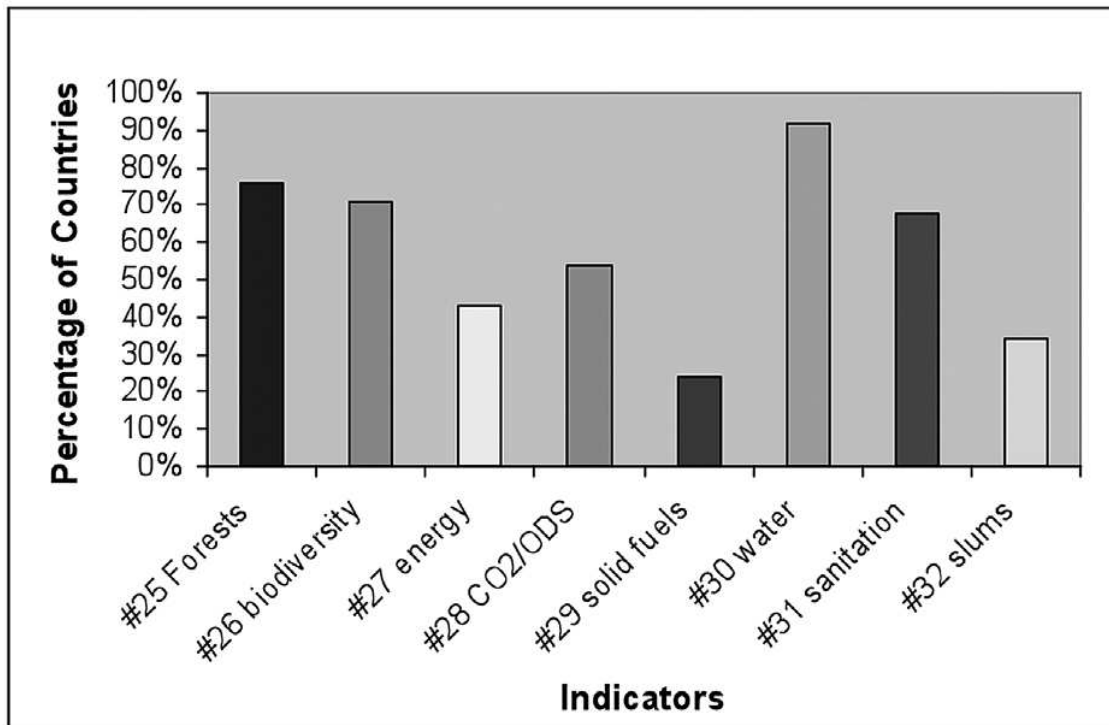


Source: UNDP, 2005.

Reporting on environmental sustainability and achievements on MDG-7 was weak overall, given the costs associated with monitoring and evaluation methods, and the lack of reliable national data and in-country statistical capacities. This is further evidenced by the fact that only 5% of the countries have reported on

all eight MDG-7 indicators. Nearly all countries provided information on water accessibility and sanitation indicators, while few reported on land tenure conditions (See Graphic 2 below). Apart from these, forest cover is still the area monitored by the majority of countries, followed by protected areas for biodiversity conservation.

Graphic 2: Percentage of countries using global indicators



Source: UNDP, 2005.

## 6.2 The 2010 Target: Assessing achievement through the CBD Third National Reports

The CBD through the 2010 target invited Parties and Governments to develop their own targets within the flexible framework provided in COP decision VII/30, annex II. An assessment of the Third National Reports submitted to the CBD reveals the stage of progress towards achieving the 2010 target in respondent countries (see Annex III, Graphic 3 and 4). Countries were required to inform whether a national target had been established corresponding to each of the 2010 global targets (see Annex III, Matrix 1). From responses received, it is clear that a significant majority of countries have not set out targets to address issues pertaining to access and benefit-sharing (Target 10.2), the protection of traditional knowledge (Target 9.2), redressing the impact of invasive alien species (Target 6.2), facilitating the transfer of technology (Target 11.2) and financial resources (Target 11.1) for the implementation of the Convention (see Annex III, Graphic 3). Therefore, achievements in these focal areas are likely to be impaired. At the same time, the results from the assessment of the national reports are consistent with the outputs from the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention held in September 2005, where the meeting

indicated the prospects for attaining the targets and sub-targets agreed under the 2010 initiative.<sup>26</sup>

Countries were also requested to inform the CBD Secretariat whether the global or national targets established had been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies (see Annex III, Graphic 4). Once again, the majority of countries indicated a lack of coordination of activities for matters related to access and benefit-sharing (Target 10.2), protection of traditional knowledge (Target 9.2), transfer of technology (Target 11.2) and financial resources (Target 11.1), since neither the global or national targets had been incorporated into other national development strategies (see Annex III, Graphic 4).

Assessment of national reports submitted by Parties to the CBD indicates that several countries have started to mainstream elements of the 2010 targets into sectoral plans, programmes and strategies. This was possible because of specific provisions to do so under Article 6(b) of the CBD, as well as the provision of suitable guidance on mainstreaming biodiversity conservation across sectors. It is important for countries to receive such similar guidance on mainstreaming environment across the MDGs.

## 7. The Challenge

Bearing in mind that biodiversity includes both living species and ecosystems, it will be a challenge to answer the question of how relevant indicators can be defined in coherence with ongoing policy processes. The 2010 indicators were developed to ensure that countries have the option to modify and adopt them to suit local needs when measuring for actions related to achieving the 2010 goals. From the assessment of the CBD third national reports (Annex III, Matrix 1 and Graphic 3), it is clear that for all the 2010 targets, the majority of countries, apart from taking guidance from the global target, have opted for developing specific national targets to address each issue.

Such an understanding does not seem to occur when using the MDG indicators (based on assessment of national reports on MDGs). In order to link the 2010 and 2015 targets and goals, it is therefore important to (a) indicate clearly—to countries—that the indicators suggested by the MDGs are result based and that there

is a need to develop pressure, response and process indicators for national actions; (b) encourage a better understanding of result based indicators for achieving 2010 targets at the national level; (c) develop additional indicators related to environment and biodiversity spanning all MDGs; (d) develop additional indicators for socio-economic components of biodiversity conservation, use and sharing the benefits of such use; (e) support national level modification of MDG indicators by provision of rationale and do-how guidance and methodologies; and, (f) link the indicators of the MDGs and 2010 Targets through local actions.

Table 3 identifies areas of mutual supportiveness between 2010 Goals and Targets and MDGs Targets and Indicators beyond MDG-7. Interlinkages among the targets and indicators can be strengthened, building upon the potential that each process has to offer.

**Table 3: Relationship between 2010 Biodiversity Loss Goals, Targets and Indicators and MDG Targets**

| 2010 Goals and Targets  | MDG Targets and 2010 Indicators  |
|---|--|
| <b>Protect the components of biodiversity</b>   |  |
| <b>Goal 1. Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats, and biomes.</b>  | <b>Target 7.A. [...] reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>  |
| Target 1.1: At least 10% of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.   | 25. Proportion of land area covered by forest  |
| Target 1.2: Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected.   | 26. Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area   |
| <b>Goal 2. Promote the conservation of species diversity.</b>   | <b>Target 7.A. [...] reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>  |
| Target 2.1: Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups.  |  |
| Target 2.2: Status of threatened species improved.  |  |
| <b>Goal 3. Promote the conservation of genetic diversity.</b>   | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b> |
| Target 3.1: Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and harvested species of trees, fish, and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained. |  |
| <b>Promote sustainable use</b>  |  |
| <b>Goal 4. Promote sustainable use and consumption.</b>   | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b> |
| Target 4.1: Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity.                             | 32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure  |
| Target 4.2: Unsustainable consumption of biological resources or that has an impact on biodiversity reduced.  | 27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)   |
|   | 28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons)   |
|   | 29. Proportion of population using solid fuels.  |
| Target 4.3: No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade.  |  |

| 2010 Goals and Targets  | MDG Targets and 2010 Indicators  |
|---|--|
| <b>Address threats to biodiversity</b>  |  |
| <b>Goal 5. Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use reduced.</b>   | <b>Target 7.C. Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.</b>  |
| Target 5.1: Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased  | 30. Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural<br>31. Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural<br>32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure   |
| <b>Goal 6. Control threats from invasive alien species.</b>   | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>   |
| Target 6.1: Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled.   | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>   |
| Target 6.2: Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species.   | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>   |
| <b>Goal 7. Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change and pollution.</b>  | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>   |
| Target 7.1: Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change.   | 27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)   |
| Target 7.2: Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity.   | 28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons)<br>29. Proportion   |
| <b>Maintain goods and services from biodiversity to support human well-being</b>  |  |
| <b>Goal 8. Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods.</b>   | <b>Target 1.C. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.</b>  |
| Target 8.1: Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained.  | 4. Prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age<br>5. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption  |
| Target 8.2: Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security, and health care, especially of poor people, maintained.                         | <b>Target 5.A. Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.</b><br><b>Target 6.C. Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.</b><br><b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b><br><b>Target 7.C. Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.</b> |
| <b>Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices</b>   |  |
| <b>Goal 9. Maintain sociocultural diversity of indigenous and local communities.</b>  | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes [ - ]</b>  |
| Target 9.1: Protect traditional knowledge, innovations, and practices.  | 32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure  |
| Target 9.2: Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations, and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing. |  |

| 2010 Goals and Targets  | MDG Targets and 2010 Indicators   |
|---|---|
| <b>Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources</b>  |   |
| <b>Goal 10. Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.</b>  | <b>Target 8.A. Develop further an open, rule-based predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system</b>   |
| Target 10.1: All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the CBD, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and other applicable agreements.                              | <b>Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction — both nationally and internationally</b>  |
| Target 10.2: Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources.  | <b>Target 8.E. In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries</b>   |
|   | 46. Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis.  |
| <b>Ensure provision of adequate resources</b>   |   |
| <b>Goal 11. Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical, and technological capacity to implement the Convention.</b>  | <b>Target 8.B. Address the special needs of the least developed countries</b>   |
| Target 11.1: New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing-country Parties to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20. | <b>Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction.</b> |
| Target 11.2: Technology is transferred to developing-country Parties to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20.                              | <b>Target 8.D. Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in long-term.</b>  |
|   | <b>Target 8.F. In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications</b>   |

Notwithstanding the need to work on developing more targets and indicators related to MDGs, the above table demonstrates the links that exist between the 2010 targets and MDG targets. Intentionally, this paper is not considering any attempts to link the indicators due to reasons mentioned elsewhere. This table identifies how the 2010 targets can link up to the MDGs if proponents of the CBD work programme would like to provide explicit links to the MDGs and make 2010 targets development centred. Likewise, an assessment of the table also provides the need for a re-evaluation of the MDG targets if one is interested in making the MDGs environmentally focussed. Going by the reports of countries on implementation of the MDGs and the CBD, it is clear that countries are at various levels of comfort in using the targets and indicators on their own merit. One clear message that can emerge from the linkages discussions and the status reports is that there is a need to develop more and new sub-targets for the MDGs and indicators for both 2010 and the MDGs.

## 8. Policy Options

Although there is a need for more knowledge on biodiversity and its role in the functioning of ecosystems, there is enough knowledge to justify action. This knowledge is, however, often not provided to decision makers. Scientists must put the issues of biodiversity into understandable language for politicians to act on. There is an urgent need to mainstream biodiversity into overall development and sectoral strategies, but in order to do so, the closing of the feedback loop between science and policy makers must be better addressed. The lack of knowledge also applies to the public at large. There is not always recognition of the values of biodiversity and its links to other sectors. Strengthening intersectoral links is an essential prerequisite for tackling biodiversity concerns around the world.<sup>27</sup>

There is also a need for scientists and policy-makers to think beyond short-term goals and targets because socio-economic and ecological systems respond slowly to policy measures. Therefore, the debate surrounding the attainment of the global biodiversity target and the MDGs should be expanded to consider possible strategies for post-2010 and 2015. Within this debate, new issues should be addressed incorporating dimensions previously neglected. For instance, considering the broad theme of environment (as enunciated in MDG-7) it is at least encouraging to see a focus on biodiversity. But other sectors such as climate change, pollution, ozone depletion and energy seem to have missed such opportunities to be reflected in the MDG debates. Attention must

be given to clarifying the meaning of MDG-7 and making environment a clearer concept within the MDG considerations.

One of the critical elements that needs consideration by people involved in implementing the CBD and MDGs is the need to provide explicit linkages in their policies and action programmes. Unfortunately, this is yet to happen. The task force report on MDG-7 and other reports that attempt to bring in the linkages fail to find a balance in their approaches to providing links, though the intent seems to exist. This should change. It is important that people working on conservation and CBD implementation should understand how to link their actions and policies with the broader objectives and targets of the MDGs. Similarly, development practitioners should mainstream conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity principles into their action programmes.

Considering the above, it is important to provide some guidance on how countries could be encouraged to link the 2010 CBD targets and the MDG targets using indicators developed by the respective initiatives. The following table provides a set of actions and strategies with objectives and specific activities at national and global levels to make conservation work, not just to realise the MDG 7 but also for realising other MDGs.

**Table 4: Actions and Strategies Needed for Linkages between 2010 Target and the remaining MDG Targets**

| 2010 Goals and Targets   | MDG Targets and 2010 Indicators  | Actions and Strategies Needed for Linkages   |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Protect the components of biodiversity</b>  |  |  |
| <b>Goal 1. Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats, and biomes.</b> | <b>Target 7.A. [...] reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>        | <b>Objective: Prepare, if not available, national status report on biodiversity with clear baseline information</b>  |
| Target 1.1: At least 10% of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.                | 7.1. Proportion of land area covered by forest                               | Action: Use integrated GIS and Remote Sensing data with suitable ground-truth analyses. Data to be assessed on an annual basis.  |
| Target 1.2: Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected.                                    | 26. Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area | Action: Prepare a national status report that includes representativeness of protected areas, status of biodiversity and impacts of management plans and socio-economic issues on such management principles once in at least three years. |

| 2010 Goals and Targets  | MDG Targets and 2010 Indicators   | Actions and Strategies Needed for Linkages  |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Goal 2. Promote the conservation of species diversity.</b></p> <p>Target 2.1: Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups.</p> <p>Target 2.2: Status of threatened species improved.</p>  | <p><b>Target 7.A. [...] reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b></p> <p><b>Sub-target: Asses the impacts of species based conservation efforts on local livelihoods (link to MDG 1)</b></p>   | <p><b>Objective: Develop a national database on species related information</b></p> <p>Action: Collect information and data on livelihood dependence issues in relation to local and regional biodiversity at species level.</p> <p>Action: Assess the impacts of species based economic activities and their impacts on livelihoods</p> <p>Action: Mainstream species based management plans with local development actions.</p>   |
| <p><b>Goal 3. Promote the conservation of genetic diversity.</b></p> <p>Target 3.1: Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and harvested species of trees, fish, and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.</p>   | <p><b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b></p>   | <p><b>Objective: Assess the role of agrobiodiversity in rural and urban livelihood securities, including a focus on nutrition and health securities.</b></p> <p>Action: Use the state of plant and animal genetic resources reports of FAO as reference material and assess biennial progress on their conservation and use.</p> <p>Action: Develop rural and urban food security maps using a set of social, economic, environmental, development, market and policy indicators.</p>   |
| <b>Promote sustainable use</b>  |   |   |
| <p><b>Goal 4. Promote sustainable use and consumption.</b></p> <p>Target 4.1: Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity.</p> <p>Target 4.2: Unsustainable consumption of biological resources or that has an impact on biodiversity reduced.</p> <p>Target 4.3: No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade.</p> | <p><b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b></p> <p>32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure</p> <p>27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)</p> <p>28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons)</p> <p>29. Proportion of population using solid fuels.</p> <p>Sub-target: Identify and minimise informal trade of biodiversity in addition to legal and illegal trade in species</p> | <p><b>Objective: Identify the existing and future consumption patterns and market related issues for biodiversity and its products.</b></p> <p><b>Identify means to reduce unsustainable consumption and harvesting patterns of biodiversity.</b></p> <p>Action: Develop suitable management plans for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity involving local communities.</p> <p>Action: Incorporate elements of local and decentralised governance issues as a part of implementing conservation and development plans.</p> <p>Action: Support subsidising alternate energy options to encourage alternate energy consumption patterns.</p> <p>Action: Make afforestation plans that are responsive directly to carbon emission reductions.</p> <p>Action: Provide energy efficient alternate cooking and heating devices that reduce consumption of fossil fuels.</p> <p>Action: Identify better biomass related fuel sources and promote their consumption.</p> <p>Action: Support training customs and border security officials on issues of informal trade in species. Assess the impacts of such actions.</p> |
| <b>Address threats to biodiversity</b>  |   |   |
| <p><b>Goal 5. Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use reduced.</b></p>  | <p><b>Target 7.C. Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.</b></p> <p>30. Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural</p> <p>31. Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural</p> <p>32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure</p>  | <p><b>Objective: Protect watersheds and improve biodegradation and bioremediation measures to minimise adverse impacts on biodiversity.</b></p> <p>Action: Develop better methods for watershed management and upland community based initiatives for enhancing access to safe drinking water.</p> <p>Action: Develop and use better biodegradation and bioremediation measures to deal with better sanitation at rural and urban levels.</p> <p>Action: Develop secured tenurial rights regimes for conservation and development purposes.</p>   |



| 2010 Goals and Targets  | MDG Targets and 2010 Indicators  | Actions and Strategies Needed for Linkages  |
|---|--|---|
| Target 5.1: Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased  | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>                         | Action: Ensure better implementation of NBSAPs, NC and NAPs.  |
|   | <b>Sub-target: Minimise adverse impacts of development programmes and processes on biodiversity using suitable policy and action programmes</b>                                      | Action: Mainstream EIA processes into development programmes that are responsive to not just social and economic factors but to long-term environmental impacts   |
| <b>Goal 6. Control threats from invasive alien species.</b>   | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>                         | <b>Objective: Develop national action plans for managing invasive alien species.</b>  |
| Target 6.1: Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled.   | <b>Sub-target: Develop national strategies for managing adverse impacts of species that are invasive and having an impact on economy and environment.</b>                            | Action: Develop national 'black lists' of invasive species along with their management plans  |
| Target 6.2: Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species.                                       |  | Action: Raise awareness on such species with conservation, development and policy communities.  |
| <b>Goal 7. Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change and pollution.</b>  | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</b>                         | <b>Objective: Develop and implement national programmes on adaptation and mitigation that link programmes of work based on CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD.</b>   |
|   | Sub-target: Develop national action programmes on adaptation and mitigation that mainstream conservation and biodiversity management with climate variability impacts and pollution. | Action: Develop a joint reporting mechanism for the three Rio Conventions.  |
|   | Sub-target: Minimise by half the levels of air, water and soil pollution by 2015.  | Action: Develop local programmes on linking adaptation with livelihood and food securities.   |
| Target 7.1: Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change.   | 27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)   | Action: Empower local communities to deal with disaster management options and preparedness plans   |
| Target 7.2: Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity.   | 28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons)   | <b>Objective: Enhance means to use biodiversity services to minimise climate change impacts and pollution.</b>  |
|   | 29. Proportion of population using solid fuels.  | Action: Develop action programmes at local level that reduce pollution and improve energy efficiency.   |
| <b>Maintain goods and services from biodiversity to support human well-being</b>  |  |   |
| <b>Goal 8. Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods.</b>   | <b>Target 1.C. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.</b>  | <b>Objective: National Livelihood Support Programme initiated.</b>  |
| Target 8.1: Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained.  | 4. Prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age   | Action: Develop action programmes that maximise agrobiodiversity conservation and diversification of dietary habits and options.  |
|   | 5. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption  | Action: Provide access as well as market options for local communities on natural food based nutritional securities.  |
| Target 8.2: Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security, and health care, especially of poor people, maintained. | <b>Target 5.A. Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.</b>  | <b>Objective: Enhance maternal health through better provision of food and clean water.</b>   |
|   |  | Action: Develop local capacities to maintain and provide safe drinking water and food to expectant and lactating mothers using traditional knowledge based health and nutritional security interventions. |

| 2010 Goals and Targets   | MDG Targets and 2010 Indicators   | Actions and Strategies Needed for Linkages   |
|--|---|--|
|  | <b>Target 6.C. Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.</b>                        | <p>Action: Assess the impacts of ecosystem disturbance with incidence of malaria and suggest action programmes that minimise such incidents.</p> <p>Action: Mainstream actions into health management plans that are based on addressing impacts of climate variability and disease incidence.</p>   |
| <b>Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices</b>  |   |  |
| <b>Goal 9. Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities.</b>  | <b>Target 7.A. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes [...]</b>                     | <p>Action: Mainstream issues of using and protecting traditional knowledge for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into national development plans, including rural development options.</p> <p>Action: Develop suitable legal and management systems to protect and use traditional knowledge for local development programmes.</p>  |
| Target 9.1: Protect traditional knowledge, innovations, and practices.   |   |  |
| Target 9.2: Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations, and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing.              | 32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure   | Action: Develop secured tenurial rights regimes for conservation and development purposes.   |
| <b>Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources</b>   |   |  |
| <b>Goal 10. Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.</b>   | <b>Target 8.A. Develop further an open, rule-based predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system</b>                   | <b>Objective: National development plans and policies that are responsive to local livelihood securities and maximise rule based trading systems.</b>  |
|  | <b>Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction—both nationally and internationally</b>                | <p>Action: Develop local and regional action programmes to assess impacts of trade liberalisation on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</p> <p>Action: Develop systems and tools to establish better support for production of environmentally sensitive goods that are based on good principles of environmental management and fair trade systems.</p>  |
| Target 10.1: All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the CBD, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and other applicable agreements. |   | Action: Mainstream trade related issues into implementation of NBSAPs, NCs and NAPs.   |
| Target 10.2: Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources.   | <b>Target 8.E. In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries</b> | <b>Objective: Better use of local biodiversity for health care systems and bioprospecting purposes.</b>  |
|  | 46. Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis.  | <p>Action: Develop sustainable market options based on principles of Bonn Guidelines on ABS.</p> <p>Action: Improve local capacities to deal with better use of biodiversity and negotiation skills to deal with potential bioprospecting options.</p> <p>Action: Develop and implement national action programmes to support cheaper access to food and medicine using appropriate IPR measures that support local interests.</p> |

| 2010 Goals and Targets   | MDG Targets and 2010 Indicators  | Actions and Strategies Needed for Linkages   |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Ensure provision of adequate resources</b>  |  |  |
| <p><b>Goal 11. Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical, and technological capacity to implement the Convention.</b></p> <p>Target 11.1: New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing-country Parties to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20.</p> <p>Target 11.2: Technology is transferred to developing-country Parties to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20.</p> | <p><b>Target 8.B. Address the special needs of the least developed countries</b></p> <p><b>Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction.</b></p> <p><b>Target 8.D. Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in long-term.</b></p> <p><b>Target 8.F. In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications</b></p> | <p><b>Objective: Implementation programme at national, regional and global levels that support technology transfer, retention and development.</b></p> <p>Action: Identify and implement suitable policy options that provide positive incentives for conservation, sustainable use and sharing of benefits that contribute directly to poverty reduction.</p> <p>Action: Identify options for innovative financing mechanisms, including partnerships with private sector for better conservation efforts that contribute to local income generation and promote better market access.</p> <p>Action: Identify and implement suitable programmes, including SAPs, that contribute to national economic well-being as well as environmental prosperity.</p> <p>Action: Mainstream environmental concerns and issues into national discussions on debt relief and development of market economies.</p> <p>Action: Fully use the available options under information and communication technology for better management of biodiversity and ensuring local livelihood securities</p> <p>Action: Develop national and regional CHMs for better environmental governance and informed decision making options.</p> |

While we alluded to the fact that environment and biodiversity are words often used interchangeably within the MDG debates, it is unfortunate that other components of environment, namely that of energy, climate change and variability, pollution and ozone depletion, are completely ignored by the MDG debates while the CBD discussions consider some focus on issues of climate change from the mitigation and adaptation perspectives.

This lack of focus to mainstream components of environment will lead to some gaps in measuring progress to achieving not just MDGs but also the CBD targets. Immediate steps need to be taken to mainstream these issues not just at the policy level, but also at the local action level.

## 9. Way Forward

### 9.1 Mainstreaming environment across MDGs

It has been amply demonstrated that environment management and conservation action is critically important to achieving all of the MDGs and not just MDG-7.<sup>28</sup> Linking conservation and development planning is therefore important at the national level. Outcomes of the UNGA 60th session and review of MDG implementation, 5 years after adoption, indicated that beginning in 2006, countries have been encouraged to report on national development planning using economic, social and environmental indicators. Therefore, a set of tools and procedures for countries to use on tracking development efforts that consider using environmental indicators as well is long overdue.

Given the experience from countries reporting on implementation of CBD decisions and moving towards achieving the 2010 targets (based on third national reports of countries to the CBD), it is clear that countries will be better placed to monitor progress and evaluate the results of local action on issues such as conservation of species and ecosystems rather than assessing impacts of action on cross cutting issues such as access and benefit sharing, impacts of climate change and variability and social impacts of conservation. One of the reasons for this lack of focus from countries is due to the absence of guidance for countries to establish links using cross cutting issues.

Countries will face similar challenges for reporting or assessing impacts of local action on achieving MDGs, unless unambiguous indicators and tools are made available to them to monitor both baseline and incremental actions to achieving MDGs. This is where the experience of the CBD in relation to development and monitoring of achieving the 2010 targets could be of help for the MDG processes. Countries should understand that the indicators adopted through the MDGs at the global level are only for providing guidance and it is important for them to develop their own national and local indicators for measuring impacts as well as progress.

### 9.2 Supporting better implementation of MEAs to achieving MDGs

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA, 2005) indicated the impacts of development on environment and cautions countries on ways forward. Clear experiences are available around the world to demonstrate the fact that better implementation of multilateral environmental agreements will provide the needed impetus to achieve several targets of the MDGs. Better implementation of MEAs as well as compliance mechanisms that are rationale and monitoring of the environment on a regular basis will be important for countries to ensure better progress towards sustainable development.

It would be useful to establish an inter-agency task force that comprises of representatives of MEA secretariats

and development agencies to provide guidance for countries to link environmental management plans with development plans.

### 9.3 Local actions to achieving MDGs

Experience has shown that unless there is public understanding and awareness of the impact of development planning on local livelihood securities, little can be achieved at national and/or global levels. There is a need to ensure that local actions for achieving MDGs be clearly identified—at the country level—to make sure that realising the MDGs is not the mandate of UN agencies or Ministries of Planning but the stakeholders at large.

Local actions also provide the needed platform for countries to experiment with synergistic action that drives integration of development and conservation planning.

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# Annex I

Table 5: Official Indicators for Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)—Effective as of 15 January 2008<sup>29</sup>

| Goals and Targets (from the Millennium Declaration)  | Indicators for monitoring progress   |
|--|--|
| <b>Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</b>  |  |
| Target 1.A: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day                                    | 1.1 Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day <sup>30</sup><br>1.2 Poverty gap ratio<br>1.3 Share of poorest quintile in national consumption   |
| Target 1.B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people                                     | 1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person employed<br>1.5 Employment-to-population ratio<br>1.6 Proportion of employed people living below \$1 (PPP) per day<br>1.7 Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment  |
| Target 1.C: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger  | 1.8 Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age<br>1.9 Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption   |
| <b>Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education</b>   |  |
| Target 2.A: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling         | 2.1 Net enrolment ratio in primary education<br>2.2 Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary<br>2.3 Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds, women and men   |
| <b>Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women</b>   |  |
| Target 3.A: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015 | 3.1 Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education<br>3.2 Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector<br>3.3 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament   |
| <b>Goal 4: Reduce child mortality</b>  |  |
| Target 4.A: Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate   | 4.1 Under-five mortality rate<br>4.2 Infant mortality rate<br>4.3 Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles  |
| <b>Goal 5: Improve maternal health</b>   |  |
| Target 5.A: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio  | 5.1 Maternal mortality ratio<br>5.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel  |
| Target 5.B: Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health  | 5.3 Contraceptive prevalence rate<br>5.4 Adolescent birth rate<br>5.5 Antenatal care coverage (at least one visit and at least four visits)<br>5.6 Unmet need for family planning  |
| <b>Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases</b>   |  |
| Target 6.A: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS  | 6.1 HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years<br>6.2 Condom use at last high-risk sex<br>6.3 Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS<br>6.4 Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years   |
| Target 6.B: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it   | 6.5 Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs   |
| Target 6.C: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases   | 6.1 Incidence and death rates associated with malaria<br>6.2 Proportion of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets<br>6.3 Proportion of children under 5 with fever who are treated with appropriate anti-malarial drugs<br>6.4 Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis<br>6.5 Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course |

| Goals and Targets (from the Millennium Declaration)  | Indicators for monitoring progress   |
|--|--|
| <b>Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability</b>   |  |
| Target 7.A: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources   | 7.1 Proportion of land area covered by forest<br>7.2 CO <sub>2</sub> emissions, total, per capita and per \$1 GDP (PPP)<br>7.3 Consumption of ozone-depleting substances<br>7.4 Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits<br>7.5 Proportion of total water resources used  |
| Target 7.B: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss  | 7.6 Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected<br>7.7 Proportion of species threatened with extinction   |
| Target 7.C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation  | 7.8 Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source<br>7.9 Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility   |
| Target 7.D: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers   | 7.10 Proportion of urban population living in slums <sup>31</sup>  |
| <b>Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development</b>  |  |
| Target 8.A: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system  | <i>Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for the least developed countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.</i>  |
| Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction—both nationally and internationally  | <u>Official development assistance (ODA)</u>   |
| Target 8.B: Address the special needs of the least developed countries   | 8.1 Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income<br>8.2 Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)<br>8.3 Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied<br>8.4 ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes<br>8.5 ODA received in small island developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes |
| Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction              | <u>Market access</u>   |
| Target 8.C: Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing States (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly) | 8.6 Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty<br>8.7 Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries<br>8.8 Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product  |
| Target 8.D: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term   | 8.9 Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity<br><u>Debt sustainability</u><br>8.10 Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)<br>8.11 Debt relief committed under HIPC and MDRI Initiatives<br>8.12 Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services  |
| Target 8.E: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries   | 8.13 Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis   |
| Target 8.F: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications   | 8.14 Telephone lines per 100 population<br>8.15 Cellular subscribers per 100 population<br>8.16 Internet users per 100 population  |

The Millennium Development Goals and targets come from the Millennium Declaration, signed by 189 countries, including 147 heads of State and Government, in September 2000 (<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>) and from further agreement by member states at the 2005 World Summit (Resolution adopted by the General Assembly - A/RES/60/1, <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?m=A/RES/60/1>). The goals and targets are interrelated and should be seen as a whole. They represent a partnership between the developed countries and the developing countries “to create an environment—at the national and global levels alike—which is conducive to development and the elimination of poverty”.



## Annex II

**Table 6: Indicators Relevant to the 2010 Goals and Sub-targets**

| Goals and Targets  | Relevant Headline Indicators   |
|--|--|
| <b>Protect the components of biodiversity</b>  |  |
| <b>Goal 1. Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes</b>   |  |
| <p>Target 1.1: At least 10% of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.</p>   | <p>Most relevant indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coverage of protected areas</li> </ul> <p>Other relevant indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats</li> <li>Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Target 1.2: Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected</p>  | <p>Relevant indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats</li> <li>Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species</li> <li>Coverage of protected areas</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Goal 2. Promote the conservation of species diversity</b>   |  |
| <p>Target 2.1: Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups.</p>  | <p>Most relevant indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species</li> </ul> <p>Other relevant indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in status of threatened species</li> </ul>   |
| <p>Target 2.2: Status of threatened species improved.</p>  | <p>Most relevant indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in status of threatened species</li> </ul> <p>Other relevant indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species</li> <li>Coverage of protected areas</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Goal 3. Promote the conservation of genetic diversity</b>   |  |
| <p>Target 3.1: Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.</p> | <p>Most relevant indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals, cultivated plants, and fish species of major socio-economic importance</li> </ul> <p>Other relevant indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Biodiversity used in food and medicine (indicator under development)</i></li> <li>Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Promote sustainable use</b>   |  |
| <b>Goal 4. Promote sustainable use and consumption.</b>  |  |
| <p>Target 4.1: Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and Production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity.</p>                               | <p>Most relevant indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management</li> <li><i>Proportion of products derived from sustainable sources (indicator under development)</i></li> </ul> <p>Other relevant indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species</li> <li>Marine trophic index</li> <li>Nitrogen deposition</li> <li>Water quality in aquatic ecosystems</li> </ul> |
| <p>Target 4.2: Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced.</p>   | <p>Relevant indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Ecological footprint and related concepts (indicator under development)</i></li> </ul>  |
| <p>Target 4.3: No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade.</p>  | <p>Most relevant indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in status of threatened species</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Address threats to biodiversity</b>   |  |
| <b>Goal 5. Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.</b>   |  |
| <p>Target 5.1: Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased.</p>   | <p>Most relevant indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats</li> </ul> <p>Other relevant indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species</li> <li>Marine trophic index</li> </ul>  |

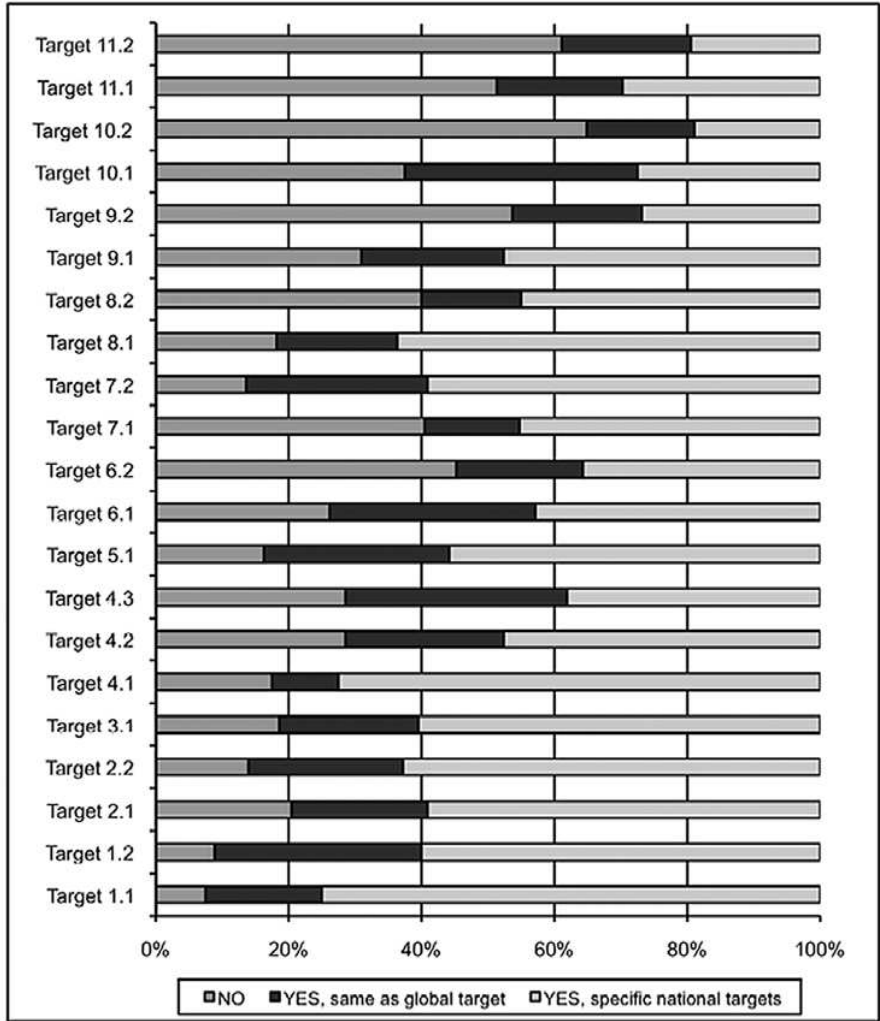
| Goals and Targets  | Relevant Headline Indicators  |
|--|---|
| <b>Goal 6. Control threats from invasive alien species</b>   |   |
| Target 6.1: Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled.  | Relevant indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in invasive alien species</li> </ul>  |
| Target 6.2: Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.   | Relevant indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trends in invasive alien species</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Goal 7. Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution</b>   |   |
| Target 7.1: Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change.  | Relevant indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Connectivity/fragmentation of ecosystems</li> </ul>  |
| Target 7.2: Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity.  | Nitrogen deposition<br>Water quality in aquatic ecosystems  |
| <b>Maintain goods and services from biodiversity to support human well-being</b>   |   |
| <b>Goal 8. Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods</b>   |   |
| Target 8.1: Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained.   | Relevant indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Biodiversity used in food and medicine (indicator under development)</i></li> <li>Water quality in aquatic ecosystems</li> <li>Marine trophic index</li> </ul>   |
| Target 8.2: biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained.  | Most relevant indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health and well-being of communities who depend directly on local ecosystem goods and services</li> </ul> Other relevant indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Biodiversity used in food and medicine</i></li> </ul> |
| <b>Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices</b>  |   |
| <b>Goal 9 Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities</b>  |   |
| Target 9.1 Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.   | Most relevant indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages</li> </ul> Other relevant indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Additional indicators to be developed</i></li> </ul>       |
| Target 9.2: Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit-sharing.   | <i>Indicator to be developed</i>  |
| <b>Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources</b>   |   |
| <b>Goal 10. Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources</b>  |   |
| Target 10.1: All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements. | <i>Indicator to be developed</i>  |
| Target 10.2: Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources.   | <i>Indicator to be developed</i>  |
| <b>Ensure provision of adequate resources</b>  |   |
| <b>Goal 11: Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention</b>   |   |
| Target 11.1: New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20. | Most relevant indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Official development assistance provided in support of the Convention</li> </ul>  |
| Target 11.2: Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph.               | <i>Indicator to be developed</i>  |

## Annex III — CBD Third National Reports on the 2010 Target

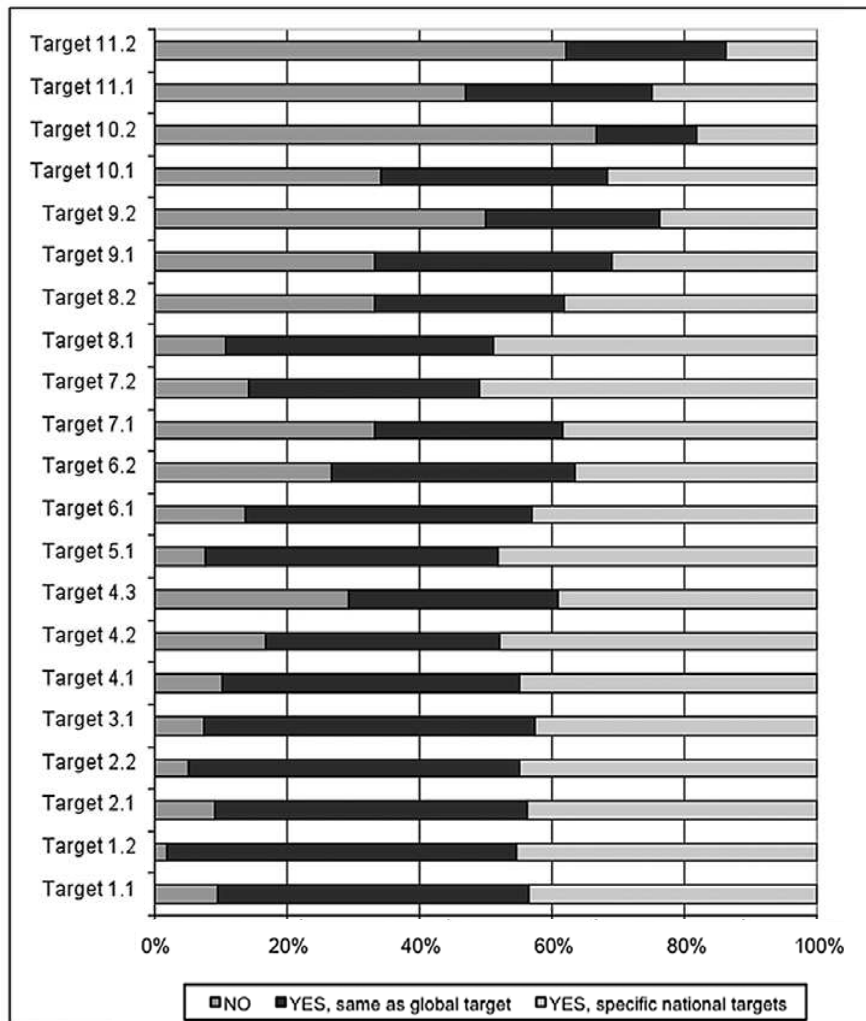
Matrix 1: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?<sup>32</sup>

| TARGETS   | NO | YES, the same as the global target | YES, specific national targets | BOTH | Not responded |
|---|----|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|---------------|
| <b>Target 1.1:</b> 10% of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved  | 3  | 7                                  | 30                             | 0    | 0             |
| <b>Target 1.2:</b> Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected   | 4  | 14                                 | 27                             | 5    | 0             |
| <b>Target 2.1:</b> Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups  | 9  | 9                                  | 26                             | 4    | 0             |
| <b>Target 2.2:</b> Status of threatened species improved  | 6  | 10                                 | 27                             | 3    | 0             |
| <b>Target 3.1:</b> Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained               | 8  | 9                                  | 26                             | 5    | 2             |
| <b>Target 4.1:</b> Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with conservation of biodiversity   | 7  | 4                                  | 29                             | 1    | 0             |
| <b>Target 4.2:</b> Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced   | 12 | 10                                 | 20                             | 3    | 1             |
| <b>Target 4.3:</b> No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade  | 12 | 14                                 | 16                             | 3    | 1             |
| <b>Target 5.1:</b> Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased   | 7  | 12                                 | 24                             | 4    | 1             |
| <b>Target 6.1:</b> Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled   | 11 | 13                                 | 18                             | 3    | 1             |
| <b>Target 6.2:</b> Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species  | 19 | 8                                  | 15                             | 3    | 1             |
| <b>Target 7.1:</b> Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change   | 17 | 6                                  | 19                             | 3    | 1             |
| <b>Target 7.2:</b> Reduce pollution and its impact on biodiversity  | 6  | 12                                 | 26                             | 4    | 0             |
| <b>Target 8.1:</b> Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained  | 8  | 8                                  | 28                             | 5    | 1             |
| <b>Target 8.2:</b> Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained   | 16 | 6                                  | 18                             | 2    | 2             |
| <b>Target 9.1:</b> Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices   | 13 | 9                                  | 20                             | 3    | 1             |
| <b>Target 9.2:</b> Protect the rights of ILCs over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to BS   | 22 | 8                                  | 11                             | 2    | 1             |
| <b>Target 10.1:</b> All transfers of GRs are in line with the CBD, ITPGR-FAO  | 15 | 14                                 | 11                             | 1    | 1             |
| <b>Target 10.2:</b> Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources  | 24 | 6                                  | 7                              | 0    | 3             |
| <b>Target 11.1:</b> New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitment under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20 | 19 | 7                                  | 11                             | 2    | 5             |
| <b>Target 11.2:</b> Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4            | 22 | 7                                  | 7                              | 0    | 4             |

Graphic 3: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?



Graphic 4 : Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?



## Endnotes

<sup>1</sup>The 2010 Biodiversity Target calls upon countries 'to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth.'

This target was endorsed by 110 leaders at the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002, and then by the Millennium +5 Summit in New York in 2005.

<sup>2</sup>For the entire text of paragraph 44, please refer to document A/CONF.199/20, Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, United Nations, Johannesburg, South AFRICA, 26 August to 4 September 2002.

<sup>3</sup>UN, 2008.

<sup>4</sup>World Bank Report (2005), *Attaining the MDGs in Sri Lanka*.

<sup>5</sup>The targets and indicators identified build upon a number of documents prepared for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), the Conference of the Parties (COP), including the results of the "2010 Global Biodiversity Challenge" meeting held in May 2003 in London.

<sup>6</sup>The AHTEG on Indicators for Assessing Progress Towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target met in Montreal from 19 to 22 October 2004.

<sup>7</sup>For further information please refer to the Report of the Ad-Hoc Working Group Review and Implementation, UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/1/2.

<sup>8</sup>UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/11/7.

<sup>9</sup>Agrawal and Redford, 2005.

<sup>10</sup>See CBD, decision VII/30 on the Strategic Plan: future evaluation of progress.

<sup>11</sup>Ecosystem and Human Well-Being (Biodiversity Synthesis), 2005, p.1.

<sup>12</sup>WSSD, POI, p. 91.

<sup>13</sup>Pisupati and Warner, 2003; UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/11/7.

<sup>14</sup>UN, 2005.

<sup>15</sup>Some linkages among environmental factors and development outcomes found by UNDP (2005), in the assessment of 100 MDG country reports, include: "(1) improving access to safe drinking water to reduce child mortality (Burundi's MDG4); (2) establishing an Early Warning System to forecast and address the consequence of adverse climatic conditions and improving water quality to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition (Rwanda, MDG1); (3) integrating the gender dimensions into land laws as a tool to guarantee equal access to and control over agricultural inputs (Rwanda, MDG3); (4) integrating access to safe water as a tool to reduce maternal mortality (Uganda, MDG5); (5) improving water networks to reduce poverty and child mortality rates (Cameroon, MDG1,4, Cambodia, MDG4); (6) improving technology for improved air and water quality, protection from floods, and land and forest management for poverty reduction and extreme hunger (Bosnia and Herzegovina, MDG1)."

<sup>16</sup>"Biodiversity and the ecosystems they support are the living basis of sustainable development. [...] They generate a wide range of goods and services on which the world economy depends. The economic value of biodiversity is estimated to be \$2.9 trillion per year, whereas that of ecosystem services is \$33 trillion per year [...]", quoted from WSSD, Plan of Implementation, A/CONF.199/20, p.91.

<sup>17</sup>The World Bank indicates that 90% of the 1.2 billion people living in extreme poverty depend on forest resources and services to guarantee their livelihoods. (See for further

information: A Renewed Commitment to Forestry, The World Bank, September 2003.

<sup>18</sup>Deda, Paola and Renata Rubian (2004).

<sup>19</sup>For instance, bushmeat is now considered the main source of animal protein in the West Africa. Low-income rural people also commercialise the bushmeat in order to buy other sources of food (Scherr, 2003).

<sup>20</sup>The FAO estimates that "world fisheries are a major source of food and employment, providing the world's growing population with 16% of its animal protein intake and serving as a source of employment for an estimated 35 million full- and part-time fishers". (Source: Excess capacity and illegal fishing: challenges to sustainable fisheries, FAO, <http://www.fao.org/newsroom/en/focus/2004/47127/> accessed on 5 September 2008.) Furthermore, the FAO Report on the State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2004 indicates that global fisheries are near to a collapse, as the top ten marine fish species that account for 30% of all fisheries production are overexploited.

<sup>21</sup>UN, 2005.

<sup>22</sup>Pisupati and Warner, 2003; UNDP *et.al.* 2005a, Balakrishna 2005.

<sup>23</sup>Attaran, 2005.

<sup>24</sup>UNDP, 2005.

<sup>25</sup>UNDP, 2005.

<sup>26</sup>For further information on this issue, please refer to the tables published in the document "Implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan and Progress Towards the 2010 Target," UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/1/2, Table 1 on the implementation of the goals and sub-targets of the Strategic Plan and Table 2 on the prospects for attaining the 2010 sub-targets agreed to under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

<sup>27</sup>WSSD, POI, p. 92.

<sup>28</sup>UNDP, 2005; MEA, 2005; Pisupati and Warner 2003.

<sup>29</sup>MDGs goals, targets and indicators, accessed on 5 September 2008, available at < <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Host.aspx?Content=Indicators/OfficialList.htm>>

<sup>30</sup>For monitoring country poverty trends, indicators based on national poverty lines should be used, where available.

<sup>31</sup>The actual proportion of people living in slums is measured by a proxy, represented by the urban population living in households with at least one of the four characteristics: (a) lack of access to improved water supply; (b) lack of access to improved sanitation; (c) overcrowding (3 or more persons per room); and (d) dwellings made of non-durable material.

<sup>32</sup>For the purposes of this research, as of 6 January 2006, the Third National Reports analysed here included, including: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Chile, China, Comoros, Cyprus, DR Congo, Denmark, Estonia, EC, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niue, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, The Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia, UK, and Zimbabwe.

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