



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



# The Experiences and Lessons from the Fourth Round of CBD National Reporting

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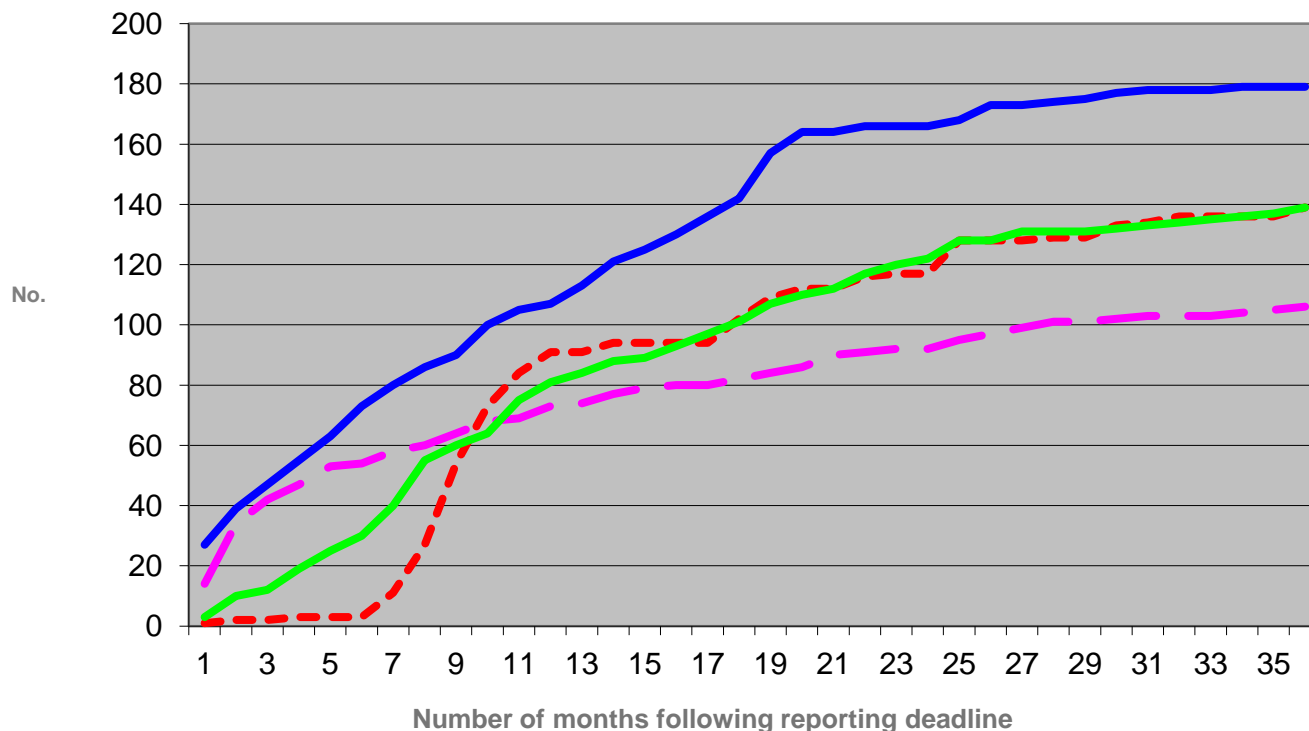
# Submission of the Fourth National Report

## Historical Record-level High Submission Made:

- The fourth national report was due by 30 March 2009 (decision VIII/14);
- 26 reports received by the deadline;
- 165 reports received by COP 10 (October 2010)
- 173 reports and 10 draft reports received by COP 11 (October 2012)
- A few countries (Iraq, Somalia, Timor L'este, etc) had submitted their national report for the first time.

# Trends of Submission of National Reports

## National Report Submission Timelines



**NR1 [- -]** - Due 1 Jan 1998 (original deadline was 30 June 1997 however deadline was extended due to fact that only 1 report had been received) \* 11 reports received by extended deadline (TOTAL TO DATE = 153)  
**NR2 [- -]** - Due 15 May 2001 \* 14 reports received by deadline (TOTAL TO DATE = 135)  
**NR3 -** Due 15 May 2005 \* 3 reports received by deadline (TOTAL TO DATE = 152)  
**NR4 -** Due 30 March 2009 \* 26 reports received by deadline (TOTAL TO DATE = 183) (173 final, 10 substantial draft)



# Factors Contributing to High-rate Submission

- Stronger political will of Parties
- Change in format to allow more flexibility
- Supporting materials and tools
- Capacity development workshops (9 in total for various regions, 5 in 2010)
- Frequent communication with Parties
- Early access to and release of funds from the GEF



# Factors Contributing to High-rate Submission (Cont'd)

- Support from partners (IUCN Countdown 2010; UNEP-WCMC, GBIF, Birdlife International, regional and sub-regional organizations such as ACB);
- Funding from the Government of Japan for capacity development workshops;
- Sample chapters prepared and made available;
- Reviewing draft reports by the Secretariat and relevant experts to facilitate finalization and submission of the report.



# Lessons Learned (Process)

## Despite record-level submissions, a few lessons had to be learned in terms of the process:

- Many countries submitted reports six months after the deadline due to late initiation of national process to prepare the report;
- Many countries late in submission due to long process of internal consultation and approval;
- Some countries late in submission or did not submit a report due to inadequate planning of the process, such as no plan developed or no funding allocated or applied from the GEF;
- Capacity development activities mostly organized after the deadline;
- Some countries did not review carefully the guidelines and related supporting materials before preparing the report;
- Report was done by a few experts or consultants without adequate stakeholder involvement.



# Lessons Learned (Content of 4NR)

**Info quality in 4NR much improved, however it should be noted that:**

- Many reports unbalanced in structure (lengthy Chapter I while short Chapter IV);
- Many reports present more facts than analyses;
- Analysis of progress towards the 2010 targets compromised partly due to inadequate understanding of what each target entails;
- Cases or success stories to illustrate outcomes or impacts of implementation are relatively few in many reports;
- Data used in many reports are out of date (repeated from earlier national reports), and data collection limited in scope;
- Indicators for assessments or measuring progress towards the 2010 targets (either global or national indicators) not used in many reports;
- Graphics or other tools for better presentation of info not used in many reports..



# What can be done better this round

## At national level:

- Early initiation and good planning of process;
- Preparing 5NR as a part of process of updating NBSAP and funds set aside for preparing 5NR;
- Using more effective coordination and consultation mechanisms;
- Involving more stakeholders and experts;
- Using more sources of data and information;
- Improving analysis and quality of report;
- Shortening time for internal consultation and approval.



# What can be done better this round

## At international level:

- Capacity development workshops to be held before the deadline;
- More partnerships to be developed to provide direct support;
- More frequent communication to facilitate initiation of process, identify needs and difficulties and provide support in time;
- Facilitating early submissions.



**Thank you for your attention!**

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