

National Experiences and Lessons Learned from Preparation of the Fourth National Report

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Commission







Fourth National Report (4NR)

- ☐ The 4NR to the UNCBD has been the only formal review of the NBSAP since its completion in 1999.
- ☐ This document was completed and submitted to the UNCBD in 2010





4NR Process

- ☐ Consultative process
- ☐ Interviews
- Questionnaires
- ☐ Two Workshops
 - First to gather information
 - Second to go over draft report of 4NR





Key Stakeholders

- ☐ Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission
- ☐ Bahamas National Trust
- ☐ Dept. of Agriculture
- ☐ Dept. of Marine Resources
- ☐ Forestry Section (Ministry of Environment and Housing)
- ☐ Dept. of Environmental Health Services
- ☐ Dept. of Local Government
- ☐ The Nature Conservancy
- ☐ College of The Bahamas



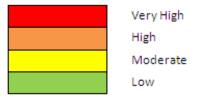


- ☐ Gerace Research Center
- ☐ Island School Cape Eleuthera
- ☐ Bimini Biological Field Station
- ☐ Water and Sewerage Corporation
- ☐ Bahamas Reef Environmental Education Foundation
- ☐ Friends of The Environment
- ☐ Andros Conservancy and Trust
- ☐ Bahamas Marine Mammal Research Center

Summary of the Status, Trends and Threats to Biodiversity

	Threat/Menaces						
Ecosystems / Biodiversity Component		Climate Change	Habitat Loss	Invasive Species	Pollution	Over- exploitation	
	Agricultural	7	7	7	→	R	
	Coppice Forest	A	7	7	7	71	
	Pine Forest	71	1	71	7	71	
	Inland Waters	7	7	7	1	7	
	Islands	71	7	7	7	7	
	Coastal	个	1	1	个	个	
	Coral Reefs	个	7	7	7	个	
	Mangroves	7	7	7	7	7	
	Deep Water	7	\rightarrow	7	7	7	
	Seagrass Beds	7	→	7	7	1	

Driver's Impact on Biodiversity



Driver's Trends

R	Decreasing Impact		
→	Stabilizing Impact		
7	Increasing Impact		
^	Very Rapidly Increasing Impact		





Summary of Progress Made on the Priority Actions Outlined in the NBSAP

Strategic Action	Activities Attempted	Progress (Scale: 0-5) (lowest- highest)
Establishment of The Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission as a legal entity.	5 of the 8	2
Establishment of the National Biodiversity Task Force and Preparation for National Consultative Process.	2 of 2	3
3. The National Consultative Process.	5 of 5	1
Implementation of the Recommendations of the Biodiversity Data Management Project.	4 of 4	1
Preparation of Bioregional Guidelines, Position Papers and Policy Statements.	1 of 3	0
6. Planning for a System of National Parks.	3 of 3	3
7. Development of Monitoring and Evaluation Methodologies.	2 of 3	2
Protection or Rehabilitation of Threatened or Degraded Ecosystems and of Threatened Species.	1 of 3	2
Improvement of the Botanic Gardens to Enhance its Capacity for Ex Situ Conservation.	2 of 3	1





Impact of Implementation of CBD

- ☐ Significantly assisting with sensitization of the public, policy makers, politicians and agencies to understand the need for biology conservation
- ☐ Assisting with the development of policies, plans, and strategies
- ☐ Creating a national focus for implementing agencies and resource managers to meet through the biodiversity committee
- ☐ One of the main driving forces for the creation of the BEST Commission and the Ministry of Environment
- ☐ Providing avenues for the Bahamas to access international conservation funding





Lesson's Learned from the 4NR

- No defined national targets nor implemented global target indicators in policies and strategies
 - Measuring progress based on expert and practitioner information
- ☐ Lack of personnel at scientific and support levels
- ☐ Monitoring and reporting protocols should be implemented for research
- ☐ Lack of framework for intra and inter-agency communication
- ☐ Lack of comprehensive database
- ☐ Knowledge on biodiversity is fragmented
- ☐ Members of National Biodiversity Subcommittee usually have little or no opportunity to apply what has been learnt
- ☐ Archipelagic nature makes implementation and enforcement difficult
- ☐ Instillation of networks and infrastructure is challenging





Future Priorities for Improving Implementation of UNCBD

- Standardized monitoring of biodiversity through a well defined monitoring, evaluation and storage system, therefore establishing ecological baselines;
- ☐ Establishment of indicators for tracking progress for the implementation of the CBD goals;
- ☐ Updating the NBSAP, inclusive of concise national goals and targets;
- ☐ Identifying mechanisms for sustainable financing for institutional strengthening and research:
- ☐ Implement on-going public awareness programs;
- ☐ Implementation and enforcement of environmental fines;
- ☐ Development of a monitoring system that can be updated in real time.



