



## **CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

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TECHNICAL EXPERT ON THE GLOBAL STRATEGY  
FOR PLANT CONSERVATION OF THE CONVENTION  
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
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### **DRAFT MATRIX OF ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO THE 16 DRAFT GSPC TARGETS UNDER EXISTING INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES**

# **Draft Matrix of activities relevant to the 16 draft gspc targets under existing international initiatives**

Targets	Notes	Relevant Existing International/Regional Initiatives
<b><i>Understanding and documenting plant diversity:</i></b> Objectives: Document the plant diversity of the world, including its use and its distribution in the wild, in protected areas and in <i>ex situ</i> collections. Monitor the status and trends in global plant diversity and its conservation, and identify plant species at risk. Develop an integrated, distributed, interactive information system to manage and make accessible information on plant diversity. Promote research on the genetic diversity, ecology and conservation biology of plants, and on social, cultural and economic factors that impact biodiversity, so that plant diversity, both in the wild and in the context of human activities, can be well understood and utilised to support conservation action		
<b>Target 1: A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.</b>	<p>A working list of all known plant species is a fundamental requirement to underpin plant conservation actions. Such a list needs to be supported by additional information on plant uses, geographical distributions, folk taxonomy systems and other data on plant diversity and status.</p> <p>This would be a step towards a complete global flora, the preparation of which would require field surveys of plants, especially in developing countries.</p>	<p>Species 2000, Global Biodiversity Information Facility</p> <p>CBD Global Taxonomy initiative</p> <p>IUCN-Species Survival Commission specialist groups</p> <p>IUCN-SSC Species Information System</p> <p>International Agenda for Botanic Gardens</p> <p>Diversitas</p> <p>FAO Global Plan of Action (GPA) activity 1: Surveying and inventorying plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.</p>
<b>Target 2: An assessment of the conservation status of [all] known plant species, at international, regional and national levels.</b>	<p>An assessment of the conservation status of plant species is required to guide conservation priorities and approaches. The IUCN "Red Lists" and reports of the SSC specialist groups provide baseline data for some taxonomic groups and geographical regions. The assessment should include an inventory of species conserved in protected areas and <i>ex situ</i> (botanic gardens, gene banks).</p>	<p>IUCN "Red Lists" and reports of the SSC specialist groups.</p> <p>International Agenda for Botanic Gardens.</p> <p>MAB programme: inventory of species conserved in biosphere reserves.</p> <p>GPA activity 17: constructing comprehensive information systems for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture</p> <p>GPA activity 18: developing monitoring and early warning systems for loss of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture</p>
<b>Target 3: An understanding of basic conservation needs for threatened plant species and plant communities, with conservation protocols</b>	<p>The biology, demography, genetics and ecology of plants, both in the wild and in the context of human activities, need to be understood to support recovery programmes, other</p>	<p>IUCN-Species Survival Commission action plans</p> <p>UNEP-WCMC data sets and monitoring activities.</p> <p>International Agenda for Botanic Gardens</p>

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<b>and/or techniques to assess and protect plant communities developed as necessary.</b>	conservation actions and the long-term management of plant diversity.	Research programmes promoted or supported by international societies for conservation biology, conservation genetics, habitat restoration and management, etc.
<b><i>Conserving plant diversity</i></b> Objectives: Improve long-term conservation, management and restoration of plant diversity <i>in situ</i> (both in more natural and in more managed environments), and <i>ex situ</i> , paying special attention to the conservation of the world's important areas of plant diversity, and to the conservation of plant species of direct importance to human societies.		
<b>Target 4: [10 percent] of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.</b>	<p>In situ conservation is the primary means for conservation action under the Convention. This is a target for <i>in situ</i> conservation of (i) representative ecosystems. Ecological regions could be defined in terms of centres of plant diversity, ecoregions, or biogeographical zones.</p> <p>Geographic data sets maintained by WCMC could contribute to monitoring of progress in reaching this target.</p>	<p>MAB: Biosphere reserves</p> <p>Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)</p> <p>Convention to Combat Desertification</p> <p>World Heritage Convention</p> <p>IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas</p> <p>Important Plant Areas programmes</p> <p>Regional initiatives on the designation and protection of important areas for plant diversity, such as the European Union's Habitats Directive and the Bern Convention.</p> <p>Other Regional Plant Conservation Strategies and Action Plans, eg. in Europe, Southern Africa, Caribbean etc.</p>
<b>Target 5: Protection of [70 per cent] of the world's most important areas for plant diversity assured.</b>		<p>MAB: Biosphere reserves</p> <p>Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)</p> <p>Convention to Combat Desertification</p> <p>World Heritage Convention</p> <p>IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas</p> <p>Important Plant Areas programmes</p> <p>Regional initiatives on the designation and protection of important areas for plant diversity, such as the European Union's Habitats Directive and the Bern Convention.</p> <p>Other Regional Plant Conservation Strategies and Action Plans, eg. in</p>

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		Europe, Southern Africa, Caribbean etc.
<b>Target 6: At least [30 per cent] of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.</b>	<p>A large proportion of the terrestrial area is dominated by production lands for agriculture or forestry. Much important plant diversity is located in these production lands, as well as in marginal lands and other human-dominated landscapes, such as cities. Protected areas can cover only a small proportion of this area. Thus conservation of plant diversity measures in the wider landscape, including private and community lands, is important as part of a total strategy for plant conservation.</p> <p>Agri-environmental indicators such as those being developed by OECD and by FAO in collaboration with CBD (Programme of work on agricultural biodiversity) could help to monitor progress towards this target.</p>	<p>MAB: Biosphere reserves</p> <p>GPA activity 2: supporting on-farm management and improvement of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.</p> <p>GPA activity 11: promoting sustainable agriculture through diversification of crop production and broader diversity in crops.</p> <p>GPA activity 12: promoting development and commercialisation of under-utilised crops and species.</p> <p>International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.</p> <p>Certification schemes developed for forest products, organic agriculture etc.</p>
<b>Target 7: [50 per cent] of the world's threatened species effectively conserved in situ.</b>		<p>MAB: Biosphere reserves</p> <p>Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)</p> <p>World Heritage Convention</p> <p>IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas</p> <p>Regional initiatives on the designation and protection of important areas for plant diversity, such as the European Union's Habitats Directive and the Bern Convention.</p> <p>Other Regional Plant Conservation Strategies and Action Plans, eg. in Europe, Southern Africa, Caribbean etc.</p>
<b>Target 8: [90 per cent] of threatened plant species in accessible ex situ collections, preferably in the country of origin, and [20 per cent] of them</b>	<p><i>Ex situ</i> conservation complements <i>in situ</i> conservation by providing: (i) a last line of defence against extinction in the wild; (ii) material for recovery programmes; and (iii) material for</p>	<p>GPA activities 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9: <i>Ex situ</i> conservation (for crop plants, wild relatives and wild food plants).</p> <p>International Agenda for Botanic Gardens: Botanic Gardens' collections to be enhanced to include genetically representative samples of rare and</p>

Targets	Notes	Relevant Existing International/Regional Initiatives
included in recovery and restoration programmes.	research, education and to support sustainable use.	endangered species.  Conservation of wild plant germplasm by CGIAR centres/ FAO International Network of Ex Situ Collections  Regional Plant Conservation and Botanic Garden Strategies and Action Plans, eg. in Europe, Southern Africa, Caribbean etc.
<b>Target 9: [70 per cent] of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved and associated local and indigenous knowledge maintained.</b>	Genetic erosion of crop plants and other socio-economically valuable plant species is a serious concern. Maintenance of diversity important to adapt to multiple environments and global change, and for continued crop improvement. Research on the genetic basis and diversity of such plants will underpin the achievement of this target. Core-collections can conserve c/. 70% GD in small samples. Further work required for plants with recalcitrant seeds, minor crops, wild relatives and medicinal plants (and lower targets may be required for such groups). Botanic gardens, and conservation <i>in situ</i> (including in biosphere reserves and protected areas) also contribute, especially for wild plants and lesser used species.	GPA activities 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9: Ex situ conservation (for crop plants, wild relatives and wild food plants). CGIAR and national genebanks make major contribution in this regard.  International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.  UNEP GEF Project on the Conservation of Crop Wild Relatives (IPGRI and partners)  Conservation of wild plant germplasm by CGIAR centres/ FAO International Network of Ex Situ Collections
<b>Target 10: Management plans in place for [90 per cent] of major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.</b>	Invasive alien species are acknowledged to be the second most important threat to biological diversity.	International Plant Protection Convention  Global Invasive Species Programme  IUCN SSC Invasive Aliens Specialist Group
<b>Using plant diversity sustainably</b> Objectives: Strengthen measures to control unsustainable utilization of plant resources. Support the development of livelihoods based on sustainable use of plants, and promote the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of plant diversity		
<b>Target 11: No species of wild flora subject to unsustainable exploitation because of international trade.</b>	This target is the main purpose of the CITES strategic plan to 2005.	CITES  TRAFFIC network

Targets	Notes	Relevant Existing International/Regional Initiatives
<b>Target 12: [30 per cent] of plant based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.</b>	Economic incentives can promote sustainable management. Certification schemes can provide information on progress made. Additional definitional work and monitoring efforts are required to determine contribution from non-certified production and to expand data available on sustainable levels of production, particularly of wild plants.	Certification schemes developed for forest products, organic agriculture etc.  IUCN Sustainable Use Initiative  International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.  GPA activity 12: promoting development and commercialisation of under-utilised crops and species.  GPA activity 14: developing new markets for local varieties and “diversity-rich” products.
<b>Target 13: The decline of plant resources, and associated local and indigenous knowledge, that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, reversed.</b>	Plant diversity often underpins livelihoods, food security and health care. This target is consistent with, and a special case of one of the widely agreed International Development Targets: “...ensure that current trends in the loss of environmental resources are effectively reversed at both global and national levels by 2015”.  A global index, analogous to the WWF Living Planet Index, could be developed to monitor progress	GPA activities 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.
Targets	Scope, Rationale and Notes	Relevant Existing Initiatives
<b><i>Raising awareness about the importance of plant diversity</i></b> Objectives: Articulate and emphasize the importance of plant diversity, the goods and services that it provides, and the need for its conservation and sustainable use, in order to mobilize necessary popular and political support for its conservation and sustainable use.		
<b>Target 14: The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into educational programmes.</b>	Public awareness is the key to mobilizing popular actions and to generating and sustaining necessary political actions in support of plant conservation. Focussing on education for young people could provide a good starting point for raising public understanding of the importance of plant diversity.	UNESCO-CBD initiative on public awareness.  GPA activity 20: promoting public awareness of the value of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture conservation and use.  International Agenda for Botanic Gardens: network of botanic garden educators and botanic garden public education programmes.  Joint IUCN-Dutch initiative on Biodiversity Education Public Awareness (BEPA)

***Building capacity for the conservation of plant diversity***

Objectives: Enhance the human resources, physical and technological infrastructure necessary, and necessary financial support for plant conservation.  
Link and integrate actors to maximise action and potential synergies in support of plant conservation.

<b>Target 15: The number of trained people working with adequate facilities in plant conservation and related activities [doubled]/[increased], according to national needs.</b>	This represents growth at some 10% per year. Geographical and other priorities would need to be determined to address the particularly urgent plant conservation measures needed in some regions.	GPA activity 19: expanding and improving education and training.  International Agenda for Botanic Gardens: training and capacity building programmes.  People and Plants Programme of WWF, UNESCO and RBG Kew: training programmes and training materials, especially for community-centred conservation.
<b>Target 16: Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at international, regional, and national levels.</b>	Existing networks operating at various levels provide valuable models for new initiatives. Strengthening cross-sectoral networking for plant conservation should be a priority.	GPA activity 16: Promoting networks for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.  IUCN-Species Survival Commission's network of plant specialist groups  Botanic gardens' networks at international and regional levels under International Agenda for Botanic Gardens.  People and Plants Programme of WWF, UNESCO and RBG Kew: network development including the identification of wise practices in plants conservation.

