

Agenda items 3 and 4: Cross cutting issues

New Zealand statement

Many thanks to Professor Zakri and the other distinguished panelists for their interesting and insightful presentations this morning.

We would like to take this opportunity to share briefly two processes in New Zealand that might be of interest.

First, earlier this year New Zealand released an Environment Domain Plan. The purpose of this plan is to develop a shared understanding of the strengths, gaps, overlaps, and deficiencies within environmental statistics. The plan aims to develop agreement between major users and data custodians on the priority activities that are needed to address the environment sectors' statistical needs. The plan addresses data associated with many issues covered by the Aichi Targets.

Second, New Zealand is moving to a more expansive suite of quantitative measures for biodiversity and ecosystems service monitoring and measuring. We have established a Biodiversity Inventory and Monitoring system, which aims to provide data on the effect of management on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The full set of monitoring sites cover a representative range of species and ecosystem services across public and privately owned land. Where active management is undertaken, the monitoring will allow for direct comparisons of cause and effect.

Lastly, we would be interested to hear from panelists and other countries on how they integrate their ecological data with economic decision making. This is clearly something that many of us are struggling with and we would be interested in hearing about any lessons learned or particular approaches that were successful to inform our own thinking.