

Coherent Implementation of Biodiversity-related MEAs Using NBSAPs

Diane Y. KLAIMI

MEA Implementation Support - DELC
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Regional Office for West Asia (ROWA)
P.O. Box 10880
Manama, Bahrain
Diane.Klaimi@unep.org



NBSAPs & MEAs

- **Outcomes of CBD COP 10 Nagoya, Japan October 2010**
CBD COP 10 decision X/2- Review NBSAPs in line with new biodiversity Strategic Plan 2011-20 by setting national and regional targets within the global flexible framework in accordance with national priorities and capacities, **and adopt NBSAPs as a policy instrument for biodiversity.**
- NBSAPs review offer a unique opportunity for countries in the Arab region to begin thinking of developing joint programmes to deal with biodiversity issues across all biodiversity related MEAs and policy sectors.
- Consider NBSAPs as an umbrella framework for supporting implementation of all MEAs by identifying commonalities and synergistic programmes/actions



NBSAPs can help synergies between biodiversity related conventions...

COP 10, Decision X/II Art.3(f)

Support the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans as effective instruments to promote the implementation of the Strategic Plan and mainstreaming of biodiversity at the national level, taking into account synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions in a manner consistent with their respective mandates;



...and vice versa

COP 10, Decision X/II Art.3(g)

Promote the generation and use of scientific information, develop methodologies and initiatives to monitor status and trends of biodiversity and ecosystem services, share data, develop indicators and measures, and undertake regular and timely assessments, ... in order to strengthen the science policy interface, thereby enhancing the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020:



Obstacles to NBSAP implementation (from UNU-IAS study)

- Better functioning of coordination structures to oversee implementation
 - Placing biodiversity in a broader development policy context **is still a challenge**
 - Very few NBSAPs include measures to implement the other global biodiversity related conventions
 - Vertical and horizontal cooperation necessary





Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) related to Biodiversity

- Are powerful global instruments for environmental governance, towards achieving policies at the national level
- Coordinated mechanisms that unites parties, government agencies, scientific research, NGOs, local communities, private sector and other stakeholders and that are a result of transparent international negotiation processes.
- MEAs have more thematic focus which helps better understanding and awareness



What are biodiversity-related MEAs?

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
- World Heritage Convention (WHC)
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)

Cooperation through the Biodiversity Liaison Group



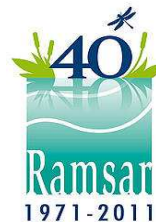
Specific Focus of biodiversity-related MEAs

- Species, genetic diversity: CMS, CITES, ITPGRFA
- Ecosystem: CMS, Ramsar, WHC
- Services: CITES, ITPGRFA, Ramsar, WHC
- Sustainable use: CITES, ITPGRFA, Ramsar
- Economic incentives: CITES, ITPGRFA,



Why do we need to enhance synergies among biodiversity-related MEAs?

- To strengthen the governance, programmatic and administrative support for more effective implementation
- **Subjects covered by different MEAs are intricately linked and thus a coordinated approach is essential.**
- The need for improved coherence
- **Biodiversity is Cross Cutting: full engagement of all stakeholders and MEAs is required**
- **Compliance: there are concerns about possible redundancies and duplications in MEA reporting.**
- **Saving on resources both financial and human**
- **Align relevant national policies**
- **Integrate or mainstream MEA processes**



“Individually we are one drop, together we are an Ocean”
R. Satoro

Cooperation and Synergies among Biodiversity-related MEAs

- A better dialogue and cooperation amongst various MEAs secretariats:
- A better Dialogue among parties at the regional level
- A better dialogue with regional organizations: LAS, ACSAD, AOAD, ROPME, PERSGA, ICARDA, FAO...etc
- A more focused and coherent Programme of Work at national and international levels



CMS

AEWA

- The African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement developed so far under the auspices of AEWA, focuses on migratory waterbirds.

ACCOBAMS

- The Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area is a regional approach covering large and small cetaceans

IOSEA

- The Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia

Slender-billed Curlew

- The Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the Slender-billed Curlew

Raptors (Birds of Prey)

- The Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia

Dugong

- The Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Dugongs and their Habitats



CMS Conservation Objectives

- **Objective 1:** to ensure that the conservation and management of migratory species (MS) is based on the best available information
- **Objective 2:** to ensure that MS benefit from the best possible conservation measures
- **Objective 3:** to broaden awareness and enhance engagement in the conservation of MS amongst key actors
- **Objective 4:** to reinforce CMS's overarching and unifying role in the conservation and management of MS





Convention on Migratory Species CMS Parties

we hope to include seven others: **(Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar and the UAE)**

<i>Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding</i>				
Jordan	AEWA		IOSEA	
Saudi Arabia			IOSEA	
Syria	AEWA	ACCOBAMS		
Yemen			IOSEA	Slender-billed Curlew

	AGREEMENTS		MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING			
	AEWA	ACCOBAMS	IOSEA	Birds of Prey	Slender-billed Curlew	Dugong
Bahrain	RS		S	RS		
Iraq	RS			RS	RS	
Kuwait	RS		RS	RS	RS	
Lebanon	X	X		RS	RS	
Oman	RS		S	RS	S	
Qatar	RS		RS	RS		
UAE	RS		S	S	RS	S

Table Key: RS – Range State; S – MOU Signatory; X – Party to Agreement



Ramsar Convention

- The NBSAP process should recognize water and wetlands as being essentially interlinked since wetlands play a critical role as a natural infrastructure that stores and delivers water. Without wetlands, there can be no water and *vice versa*.
- The role of wetlands is relevant not only to CBD's programme of works on inland waters but also, to their other programme of works. Wetlands should be recognized as a cross-cutting issue across CBD's spectrum of work.
- Wetlands and water also cut across the 20 targets in the 'Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, 2011-2020'. For example, the restoration and safeguarding of wetlands is relevant to Target 14 because of the essential services that wetlands provide relating to water. The designation of Ramsar Sites also contributes to Target 11 concerning the conservation and effective management of inland waters and coastal areas.



The Ramsar Convention

- The Ramsar Convention implements projects. It is the main **implementing partner** for CBD on their work regarding water, can provide a range of policy and practical support **on the ground** for countries to conserve and ensure the wise use of their wetlands and thus, the supply of water.
- The Ramsar family always tries to look for opportunities to cooperate with other MEAs and organizations, in order to gain greater support and coordination of efforts towards the conservation and wise use of wetlands. The Convention therefore looks forward to closer cooperation and integration of work with CBD.
- Need more contracting parties in West Asia: Kuwait, Oman, KSA, Qatar



CITES

- Manages international trade with threatened species
- Binding convention by certification procedures of Ban, non-ban or managed trade
- Significant to KSA, UAE, Qatar, Tunisia, Egypt, Kuwait (Arab fp)...etc
- COP 15 Qatar: Managed trade in agar wood, bluefin tuna, Falcons
- Lebanon, Bahrain, Iraq remaining non-parties in West Asia
- IFAW training workshop for Bahrain



Work by CITES

- CITES Decision 15.10 “The Standing Committee shall review the adopted post 2010 biodiversity targets and , if necessary, make adjustments to the CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2013 as appropriate.”



Aichi Targets are relevant to all biodiversity-related MEAs

...in particular, Strategic Goal B (Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use)

...and some others

- CMS (Targets 11, 12)
- CITES (Target 12)
- Ramsar (Target 11, 14)



Aichi Targets and relevant biodiversity-related MEAs

Synergies identified in new SP Goal A

Target	CMS	CITES	Ramsar	ITPGRFA
Strategic goal A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society				
Target 1: people are aware of the values of biodiversity and steps to conserve and use it sustainably.		X		X
Target 2: biodiversity values integrated into development and poverty reduction strategies and planning and accounting processes.		X		X
Target 3: incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated	X	X		X
Target 4: Governments, business and stakeholders taken steps to implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption	X	X	X	X





Aichi Targets and relevant biodiversity-related MEAs

Synergies identified in new SP Goal B & C

Target	CMS	CITES	Ramsar	ITPGRFA
Strategic goal B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use				
Target 5: the rate of loss of all natural habitats is halved and where or to zero, and degradation is significantly reduced.	X		X	
Target 6: all fish and invertebrate and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, are within safe ecological limits.	X	X	X	
Target 7: areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.	X	X	X	X
Target 8: pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels not detrimental to ecosystem function	X		X	
Target 9: invasive alien species controlled or eradicated	X	X	X	
Target 10: By 2015, anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized	X		X	

Target	CMS	CITES	Ramsar	ITPGRFA
Strategic goal C: Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity				
Target 11: at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas are conserved	X		X	
Target 12: the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and sustained.	X	X		
Target 13: genetic diversity of cultivated plants and animals is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.				X

Aichi Targets and relevant biodiversity-related MEAs

Synergies identified in new SP Goal D & E

Target	CMS	CITES	Ramsar	ITPGRFA
Strategic goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services				
Target 14: ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water are restored and safeguarded			X	
Target 15: contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.			X	
Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.				X
Strategic goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building				
Target 17: By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated NBSAPS	X	X	X	X
Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities are respected,		X	X	X
Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity are improved, widely shared and transferred	X	X	X	X
Target 20: the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 should increase substantially	X	X	X	X



Work by biodiversity-related MEAs

COP 10, Decision X/II Art.3(f)

Parties and other Governments at the forthcoming meetings of the **decision-making bodies of the other biodiversity-related conventions** ... to consider appropriate contributions to the collaborative implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets;



Work by biodiversity-related MEAs

- CMS and CITES are drafting guidance on NBSAPs for effective integration of their programmes in NBSAPs measures
- Ramsar COP will incorporate CBD COP-10 outcomes in its deliberations



Recommendations to CBD NFPs

- Liaise with NFPs of other MEAs to strengthen synergies, avoid duplication and promote effective use of information/resources
- Identify possible linkages with specific programmes/cross-cutting issues (e.g., Ramsar, inland waters coastal biodiversity, or CITES trade implications with endangered species)



UNEP delivering on Biodiversity Synergies

- Continued political and substantive support to synergies under International Environmental Governance (IEG).
- MEA implementation support Branch-DELIC
- A plan to Establish an Ad Hoc Joint working Group UNEP on synergies (EMG, BLG, ED), MEA secretariats, regional representatives present in COPs



LAS/CAMRE Arab Working Group concerned with revision of biodiversity & desertification MEAs

- An effective regional mechanism (11th meeting 2011) **Mini COP of COPs**
- Review 10 MEAs and promote implementation, prepares for COPs, raises and coordinates the needs of Parties
- Only few Arab states attend, regional organizations
- Results: Arab countries also function as store-houses of knowledge on how to tackle core biodiversity issues by their indigenous communities, i.e. Nagoya protocol must be signed by Parties.





United Nations Environment Programme

• Thank you!

