



Ref.: SCBD/MCO/AF/NP/OH/CE/86325

24 February 2017

NOTIFICATION

Review of draft guidelines to support the subnational implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the draft guidelines to support subnational implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans are now available for review on the Convention's website at: <https://www.cbd.int/subnational/draft-guidelines>. A companion document providing background on the methodology regarding the development of the guidelines is also available at this address.

The guidelines were developed in response to requests from the Conference of the Parties to the Executive Secretary "to facilitate the development by subnational governments, cities and other local authorities of subnational or local biodiversity strategies and action plans to contribute to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, in keeping with decision X/22, paragraph 2" (decision XIII/1), among others.

The guidelines are intended to assist Parties and their subnational and local governments in advancing the implementation of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and in making best use of subnational government knowledge and capacity. They intend to be general and adaptable to suit different national circumstances and priorities, as well as different institutional and legal contexts. These guidelines were developed in cooperation with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, with the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund, taking into account contributions provided by Parties in response to notifications 2015-075 and 2016-037. In addition, at the margins of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, ICLEI convened a consultation on 9 December 2016 with representatives from 17 countries to review and gain feedback on the guidelines being developed.

I would like to invite Parties to review the draft guidelines with regards to their usefulness as a tool to support subnational implementation and promoting the vertical integration of biodiversity strategies and action plans at various levels of government. I would also welcome any additional relevant resources and tools that could be referenced in the guidelines.

I would be grateful to receive your comments by email to secretariat@cbd.int as soon as possible, but no later than **23 March 2017**.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

David Cooper
Deputy Executive Secretary
Officer-in-Charge

To : CBD National Focal Points

