



Living in harmony with nature

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)

The Convention on Biological Diversity calls for each Party to develop a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) to guarantee that the objectives of the Convention are undertaken at all levels and in all sectors in each country (Article 6). The national biodiversity *strategy* reflects the country's vision for biodiversity and the broad policy and institutional measures that the country will take to fulfill the objectives of the Convention, while the *action plan* comprises the concrete actions to be taken to achieve the targets of the strategy. The strategy should include ambitious but realistic and measurable national targets developed in the framework of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The strategy and action plan are developed by each Party in accordance with national circumstances and capabilities.

It is essential that all sectors whose activities impact on biodiversity be brought into the NBSAP process early. This is what is meant by 'mainstreaming' — all stakeholders in biodiversity working together to develop and implement the NBSAP. Mainstreaming also means integrating biodiversity considerations into related legislation, plans, programmes and policy, such as National Development Plans; National Strategies for Sustainable Development; Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers; Strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals; National Programmes to Combat Desertification; National Climate Change Adaptation or Mitigation Strategies; and relevant private-sector policies.

While the NBSAP can take the form of a single biodiversity planning document, it can also be conceived as comprising a 'basket' of elements on, for example, laws and administrative procedures; scientific research agendas, programmes and projects; communication, education and public awareness activities; forums for inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder dialogue. The NBSAP should be a living process by which increasing information and knowledge, gained through the monitoring and evaluation of each phase of implementation, feed an ongoing review and improvement.



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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Fast Facts

- ▶ National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans are the key instruments for the implementation of the Convention
- ▶ To date, 173 Parties have developed NBSAPs (of these some 40 Parties have revised their Strategies)
- ▶ COP-10 urges Parties to revise and update their NBSAPs in line with the revised and updated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, for the 2011–2020 period
- ▶ A growing number of countries are preparing Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans at the sub-national and local levels
- ▶ COP-10 decided that the fifth national reports are due by 31 March 2014, and that the reports should focus on implementation of the 2011–2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Learn More

Find out what your country is doing to implement the Convention by accessing your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and National Reports through the pop-down menu at ▶ www.cbd.int/countries

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans ▶ www.cbd.int/nbsap

National Reports ▶ www.cbd.int/reports

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

413, Saint Jacques Street, suite 800
Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 1N9
Canada

Tel.: +1 514 288 2220
Fax: +1 514 288 6588
UNBiodiversity@cbd.int

www.cbd.int/nbsap

