



**CONVENTION ON  
BIOLOGICAL  
DIVERSITY**



UNEP



WCMC

## **Capacity building for CBD implementation 2008-2010**

**Multi-year Programme of Work for UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre assistance in implementing the decisions of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity**

### **Background**

On 27 March 2006, in the margins of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Curitiba, Brazil, the Executive Secretary of the CBD and the Director of UNEP-WCMC signed an agreement on a framework for future collaboration to support the implementation of the CBD. In order to implement this agreement, both parties developed a multi-year programme of work for the implementation of decisions of COP 8 of relevance to the mandate of UNEP-WCMC. It was agreed at the time that after COP 9 the implementation of the programme of work would be reviewed and a new programme of work, responding to the decisions of COP 9, established.

This programme of work builds on the existing collaboration between UNEP-WCMC and the CBD Secretariat and Parties in order to bring the technical and capacity building expertise within UNEP-WCMC to bear on the improved implementation of the Convention.

UNEP-WCMC has been supporting the CBD – both the Parties and the Secretariats – for many years and has also been working extensively with other conventions such as CITES, CMS and Ramsar, including on developing synergies between conventions. An important aspect of UNEP-WCMC's assistance has been on building the capacity of Parties to implement the conventions. This is in line with the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building and the mandate for UNEP, provided by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its 23<sup>rd</sup> session (decision 23/3), to implement the Bali Strategic Plan.

### **Aim**

This document sets out a programme of work between COP 9 and COP 10 that identifies how UNEP-WCMC, through its technical and capacity-building expertise, will support the Secretariat and Parties in the implementation of the Convention and in particular, but not limited to, the decisions of COP 9.

### **Structure**

This document consists of three sections, each with identified activities. Section I refers to areas of work in which the role of UNEP-WCMC is explicitly recognised in COP 9 decisions. Within some of these areas, activities not strictly mandated by a COP 9 decision have been inserted in order to keep the document coherent. Section II covers other key areas of work. Section III addresses supporting activities (monitoring, evaluation and reporting) for the implementation of this multi-year programme of work.

## **Section I: Areas of work in which the role of UNEP-WCMC is explicitly recognised in COP 9 decisions**

1. Protected Areas
  2. 2010 indicators and the Global Biodiversity Outlook
  3. National reporting
  4. Marine and coastal biodiversity
  5. Dryland biodiversity
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### **Programme Area 1 –Protected Areas**

#### **Activity 1.1: Further develop tools to assist in the monitoring of progress in implementing the programme of work on protected areas**

This activity responds to COP decision IX/18 and also to decision VIII/24, both of which make explicit reference to the role of UNEP-WCMC and the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) and requests WCMC, the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and the WDPA consortium to further develop tools to assist in monitoring progress in the implementation of the CBD programme of work on protected areas (decision IX/18, paragraph 8). COP decision IX/18 welcomes the efforts by UNEP-WCMC and IUCN to develop a) new transparent mechanisms including verification and review to improve the quality of data in the WDPA and b) additional datasets associated with the WDPA on protected-area management effectiveness, local livelihoods, and relevance for carbon storage, among others.

#### **Activity 1.2: Maintain and improve the United Nations list component of the World Database on Protected Areas**

This is a specific request of COP decision IX/18, paragraph 8, to WCMC, the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and the WDPA consortium.

#### **Activity 1.3: Assist the Executive Secretary in developing, as part of national reporting on biodiversity, a streamlined reporting process on the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas through standardized information gathering**

This responds directly to COP decision IX/18, paragraph 10, which makes explicit reference to the role of UNEP-WCMC and IUCN in providing support to the Executive Secretary.

#### **Activity 1.4: Further develop additional datasets associated with the World Database on Protected Areas on protected-area management effectiveness, local livelihoods, and relevance for carbon storage**

This responds to COP decision IX/18 (preamble paragraph), which welcomes with appreciation the efforts by UNEP-WCMC and IUCN to develop a) new transparent mechanisms including verification and review to improve the quality of data in the WDPA and b) additional datasets associated with the WDPA on protected-area management effectiveness, local livelihoods, and relevance for carbon storage, among others.

## **Programme Area 2 – 2010 indicators and the Global Biodiversity Outlook**

**Activity 2.1:** Work with the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership to continue to make progress on their contribution to the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

COP decision IX/10, paragraph 5, encourages the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership to continue to make progress on their contribution to the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. UNEP-WCMC is coordinating the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership.

**Activity 2.2:** Assist the Executive Secretary in preparing the draft of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

COP decision IX/10, paragraph 1, welcomes the scope and format, work plan, communication strategy and financial plan for the development of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-3) and requests the Executive Secretary to proceed with the preparations of GBO-3 on the basis of this plan. This activity is rolled over from the multi-year programme of work between SCBD and UNEP-WCMC responding to COP 8 decisions and is highly relevant as GBO-3 is due to be published and disseminated for the International Year of Biodiversity 2010 and COP 10 in 2010.

**Activity 2.3:** Review the use of indicators in the second edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and develop specific recommendations for future reporting on indicators for the third Global Biodiversity Outlook

This activity from the previous programme of work between SCBD and UNEP-WCMC remains to be implemented and comes timely with the preparations for GBO-3 (see activity 2.2. above). It responds to COP decision VIII/15 and is based on the work of UNEP-WCMC on 2010 indicators.

## **Programme Area 3 – National reporting**

**Activity 3.1:** Continue the work on harmonized reporting on inland water biodiversity between the Ramsar Convention and the Convention on Biological Diversity

COP decision IX/19, paragraph 5, invites the Ramsar Convention, the United Nations Environment Programme and UNEP-WCMC to continue their joint work on harmonized reporting between the Ramsar Convention and the CBD. The decision refers to work on this issue undertaken from 2006-2008 by UNEP and UNEP-WCMC with the Ramsar Secretariat through a UNEP knowledge management project.

**Activity 3.2:** In collaboration with the Implementing Agencies of the GEF, provide technical support for the drafting and delivery of the fourth national reports

The fourth national reports are due end of March 2009, in order to make information available for COP 10 and not least for the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. The focus of this activity would be to provide support to Parties in drafting and delivery of the fourth national reports, as requested by Parties through the Secretariat or the GEF.

Note that it is understood that all activities will be carried out working in direct cooperation with the relevant programme staff of the CBD Secretariat

## **Programme Area 4 – Marine and coastal biodiversity**

**Activity 4.1:** Assist the Executive Secretary in promoting wide use of the IMap successor entitled High Seas Biodiversity Information Module on marine areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, including, where appropriate, its integration into the World Database on Protected Areas, and updating relevant information, incorporating information on ecosystem functions and connectivity, threats and habitats in the water column

COP decision IX/20, paragraph 5, welcomes the review of spatial databases containing information on marine areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and the development of an Interactive Map (IMap), which was prepared in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC and requests the Executive Secretary to invite the International Maritime Organization and other relevant organisations to promote wide use of the IMap and update relevant information.

**Activity 4.2:** Provide support to the in-depth review of the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity, in particular in terms of information on marine and coastal protected areas in the World Database on Protected Areas and marine areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction

Through decision VII/31, the COP decided to undertake an in-depth review of the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity at its tenth meeting in 2010. In the framework of the previous programme of work between SCBD and UNEP-WCMC, UNEP-WCMC worked on up-to-date information on marine and coastal protected areas within the World Database on Protected Areas as well as on marine areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction (see activity 4.1 above). This activity aims to bring the UNEP-WCMC expertise into the process of the in-depth review of the marine and coastal biodiversity programme of work.

## **Programme Area 5 – Dryland biodiversity**

**Activity 5.1:** Assist the Executive Secretary in updating the map delineating dryland areas of the world to better reflect dry and sub-humid tropical forests.

Through decision IX/17, paragraph 13, the COP adopted the delineation option for dry and sub-humid lands resulting from the study by UNEP-WCMC, subject to the addition of dry and sub-humid tropical forests, which takes due account of the UNCCD criteria, and uses criteria based on the definition under the CBD as a way to define eco-regions, that encompass biological and ecological criteria as a basis to define dry and sub-humid lands, and requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC, to update the map contained in the annex to the decision to better reflect dry and sub-humid tropical forests.

## Section II: Other key areas of work

6. Biodiversity and climate change
  7. Island biodiversity
  8. Inland water biodiversity
  9. Clearing-House Mechanism
  10. Global Taxonomy Initiative
  11. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
  12. Biodiversity for Development
  13. Incentive measures
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### Programme Area 6 – Biodiversity and climate change

**Activity 6.1:** Provide information, *inter alia* through the *Ad Hoc* Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change, that supports Parties in implementing activities regarding reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and other ecosystem-based mitigation measures, and adaptation policies that take biodiversity into account

This responds to COP decision IX/16 that establishes an *Ad Hoc* Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change (paragraph B12) and invites relevant organisations to provide support to Parties in implementing a wide range of activities laid out in annex II to the decision (paragraph B10).

### Programme Area 7 – Island biodiversity

**Activity 7.1:** Through the Global Islands Database, provide information for the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity

The COP, through decision VIII/1, established the programme of work on island biodiversity. The programme of work identifies a range of activities that fall within the core remit of UNEP-WCMC, *inter alia* priority action 1.1.1.1 (identify, classify, map and prioritize island ecosystems and sensitive areas important for biodiversity and/or for the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services). In addition, COP decision IX/21, paragraph 3, recognizes the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA) as one of the mechanisms to implement the island biodiversity programme of work, welcomes the contribution of some Parties and organizations for having supported the establishment of a coordination mechanism, and invites other Parties, organizations and donor agencies to further support it. UNEP-WCMC has been involved with the establishment of GLISPA and the Global Islands Database is the key WCMC mechanism of support to GLISPA and to the programme of work on island biodiversity.

### Programme Area 8 – Inland water biodiversity

**Activity 8.1:** Provide information on invasive alien species, including on their impacts on inland water biodiversity

The COP, through decision VII/4, established the revised programme of work on inland water biodiversity. The programme of work identifies a range of activities for

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which UNEP-WCMC is referred to as a collaborator or partner. For goal 1.4 on invasive alien species, UNEP-WCMC is listed as collaborator and is in a position to contribute to the information needs identified in activities 1.4.2, 1.4.6, 1.4.8 and 1.4.9, which refer to the impacts of invasive alien species on inland water biodiversity.

**Activity 8.2: Contribute to an improved understanding of the biodiversity of inland waters**

The revised programme of work on inland water biodiversity aims in goal 3.1 for an improved understanding of the biodiversity found in inland water ecosystems and UNEP-WCMC is referred to as one of the main partners. UNEP-WCMC is in a position to contribute particularly to the activities 3.1.6 (Strengthen working partnerships with appropriate organizations and institutions which undertake, or can assist in mobilizing, research efforts leading to an improved understanding of the biodiversity and functioning of inland water ecosystems, and the practical application of the ecosystem approach) and 3.1.8 (Further develop methods and techniques for the valuation of goods and services of inland water ecosystems, incentives and policy reform, and the understanding of ecosystem function).

## **Programme Area 9 – Clearing-House Mechanism**

**Activity 9.1: Make information on protected areas available through the Clearing-House Mechanism**

Decision IX/30, paragraph 3b, encourages relevant partners holding biodiversity-related information to investigate ways to make their information accessible through the Clearing-House Mechanism. It also requests the Executive Secretary to collaborate with UNEP and its related institutions on biodiversity issues and knowledge management (paragraph 6h iii). Given recent and current collaboration between SCBD and UNEP-WCMC on the World Database on Protected Areas (see previous programme of work between the two institutions), information from the WDPA could be made available through the CHM website.

## **Programme Area 10 – Global Taxonomy Initiative**

**Activity 10.1: Explore options for collaboration between UNEP-WCMC and the CBD Secretariat concerning the Global Taxonomy Initiative in line with decision IX/22**

The annex to decision IX/22 on the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) lists outcome-oriented deliverables for each of the planned activities for the programme of work of the GTI. UNEP-WCMC and the Secretariat will seek ways of further collaboration in the support of these deliverables. The annex lists UNEP-WCMC as a suggested actor for output 4.8.2 ('create a mechanism to address data on forest extent and specimen data') of operational objective 4: 'Within the major thematic work programmes of the Convention include key taxonomic objectives to generate information needed for decision-making in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components.'. Also relevant is operational objective 5: 'Within the programme of work on cross-cutting issues of the Convention include key taxonomic objectives to generate information needed for decision-making in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components.' One of these cross-cutting issues is protected areas. UNEP-WCMC is already working with GBIF on the identification of species locations within protected areas.

## **Programme Area 11 – Global Plant Conservation Strategy**

**Activity 11.1: Assist in the provision of information on the implementation of the Global Plant Conservation Strategy and its further development beyond 2010**

Through decision IX/3, paragraph 7, the COP acknowledges the work of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation, UNEP-WCMC, other organisations and the Executive Secretary in developing the Plant Conservation Report (see also previous work programme between SCBD and UNEP-WCMC). UNEP-WCMC stands ready to work with the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation in supporting the further implementation of the Global Plant Conservation Strategy and further aspects of decision IX/3, such as the provision of additional information on the progress made towards achieving the targets of the Strategy (paragraph 2b), and contributing to the further development and implementation of the Strategy beyond 2010 (paragraph 3). Information on the 2010 indicators is expected to play a major role in this endeavour.

## **Programme Area 12 – Biodiversity for Development**

**Activity 12.1: Support delivery of the Biodiversity for Development Initiative through promoting integration of biodiversity considerations in the Millennium Development Goals.**

The Biodiversity for Development Initiative was established by the Secretariat as a follow-up to the 2006 Conference on Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation and to the 2007 Trondheim Conference on Ecosystems and People – Biodiversity for Development – The road to 2010 and beyond. It was launched during COP 9. UNEP-WCMC will support the initiative through its work on integration of biodiversity into the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), including a special report, produced within the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators. UNEP-WCMC will also provide support to an issue of the CBD Technical Series on The Interdependence of Biodiversity and Development.

**Activity 12.2: Promote consideration of biodiversity within dryland development approaches.**

The Biodiversity for Development Initiative aims to ensure that biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are integral to national and regional economic and social development policies, legal frameworks, development plans and implementation systems. UNEP-WCMC is committed to support the initiative by contributing to aspects of biodiversity integration within dryland development approaches.

## **Programme Area 13 – Incentive measures**

**Activity 13.1: Assist the Executive Secretary in examining the international dimension of how monitoring can support the implementation of valuation tools and positive incentive measures**

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This responds to decision IX/6, paragraph 11. The decision refers to document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/9, which acknowledges the support from UNEP-WCMC in preparing the report on the terms of reference for a study on how monitoring can support the implementation of valuation tools and positive incentive measures.

### Section III: Supporting activities

- Monitoring, evaluation and reporting -

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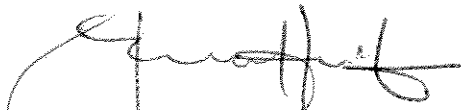
#### Programme Area 14– Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

**Activity 14.1: Monitor and evaluate the state of and report on the implementation of this programme of work**

The state of implementation of this programme of work will be regularly reviewed and evaluated by the CBD Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC on the basis of reports prepared by UNEP-WCMC, and reports delivered to COP, SBSTTA and the Working Group on Review of Implementation as appropriate.

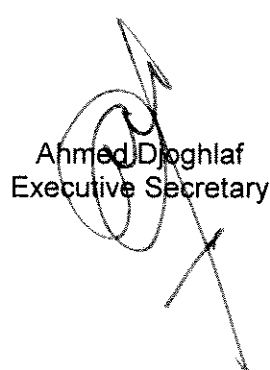
*Signed this 3rd day of September 2009.*

For and on Behalf of United Nations  
Environment Programme World  
Conservation Monitoring Centre



Jon Hutton  
Director

For and on Behalf of the Secretariat  
of the Convention on Biological  
Diversity



Ahmed Djoghla  
Executive Secretary

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