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SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION XIII/24 OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The United Nations Environment Programme, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) have been collaborating to support the implementation of decision XIII/24 of the Convention of Biological Diversity and the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020, contained in annex II to the decision.
2. The present information document provides a report prepared by UNEP-WCMC which summarizes work that has been undertaken in this regard from November 2017 to April 2018 in consultation with other relevant organizations and stakeholders, including the secretariats of other biodiversity-related conventions. It provides access to key outputs of this work – most notably three compendia of guidance relevant to enhancing synergies among biodiversity-related conventions. It also presents recommendations on possible next steps and activities to enhance cooperation and collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions, and delivering on decision XIII/24, that were prepared by the UNEP-WCMC project team as one of the project outputs.
3. The report also provides some of the further plans, in particular under a project of the United Nations Environment Programme on “Realizing synergies for biodiversity”.

* [CBD/SBI/2/1](#).

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Since November 2017, a number of activities to address actions described in the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020, contained in annex II to CBD decision XIII/24, have been carried out under a joint project involving the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Environment Programme.

2. Building on recommendations developed as a final output of this project (presented in section IV. of this report), further activities to address actions described in the road map will be implemented under a project of the United Nations Environment Programme, "Environmental Treaties Programme – realizing synergies for biodiversity". An overview of both projects is provided below.

II. PROJECT ENTITLED "SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION XIII/24"

3. The project entitled "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" supported the implementation of several key actions in the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020. Funded by the Governments of Finland and Switzerland and the European Union, the project has been jointly managed by CBD Secretariat and the United Nations Environment Programme and executed by UNEP-WCMC. A second component of this project supported the convening of a meeting of the informal advisory group on synergies that was established pursuant to decision XIII/24.

4. The project had the following objectives:

(a) Increase access to existing information and guidance on achieving coherence and synergies;

(b) Increase access to existing guidance on capturing, managing and using biodiversity-related data and information;

(c) Increase access to available key biodiversity data and information sources;

(d) Collate further case studies based on national experience of cooperation and collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions;

(e) Make recommendations on how the work undertaken can be built upon.

5. The project has resulted in the following outputs:

(a) Three compendia of guidance¹ synthesising information available on the following topics as a means to make them more accessible to users:

(i) [Synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the national level](#);

This compendium includes existing guidance material focusing specifically on enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, including relevant decisions and resolutions of the conventions' governing bodies. It can be accessed via the following link: http://wcmc.io/compendium_synergies.

(ii) [Capturing, managing and using biodiversity-related data and information](#);

This compendium includes information sources for capturing, managing, using, and sharing data in the context of biodiversity and ecosystem services. It can be accessed via the following link: http://wcmc.io/compendium_data.

¹ Addressing key actions B1(a) and (d) and C1(a) of CBD decision XIII/24, Annex II and available under <https://www.unep-wcmc.org/resources-and-data/biodiversitysynergies>.

(iii) [Key global databases related to the biodiversity-related conventions.](#)²

This compendium provides details of global-level databases relevant to the implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions. The information is supplemented by an annex, which provides metadata on each database, listing relevant conventions, Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets. It can be accessed via the following link: http://wcmc.io/compendium_databases.

(b) A report providing an overview of initiatives for enhancing coordination and collaboration at various levels across biodiversity-related conventions.³ This will inform implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24 through demonstrating the many types of activities that are already under way, and which can be actively built on, as well as identifying the key stakeholders for each;

(c) 14 Case studies sourced in response to a CBD notification 2017-128, which complement the already existing 63 case studies in the UNEP Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels (UNEP Sourcebook).⁴ An outreach and a side-event for further experience-sharing on the topic was held in the margins of the twenty-first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice held in December 2017 in Montreal;

(d) Development of a project proposal for the creation of an online database for guidance on synergies.⁵ The objective of the proposed project is to: (a) improve access to existing guidance on coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions at the national level (content of the three compendia); and (b) create an interactive online library of case studies on synergies populated in a first instance with case studies included in the United Nations Environment Programme Sourcebook and case studies submitted in response to CBD Notification 2017-128. These outputs could be delivered as two separate entities, or combined within on one data portal for all guidance material. The benefit of the latter, other than cost savings, is that this could also be used as a basis for a biodiversity-related conventions general portal on synergies where information on the subject-matter are presented in a comprehensive, efficient and user-friendly manner and thus being maintained with a more comprehensive longer-term vision. A discussion paper on *Hosting a future database on synergies on InforMEA* has also been developed;

(e) Development of an updated power point presentation with notes and a concept for a webinar on the UNEP Sourcebook, in order to facilitate further sharing of experiences;⁶

(f) Recommendations on how to enhance access to data and information related to cooperation and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions via biodiversity-related convention websites and with regard to the CBD Clearing House Mechanisms;⁷

(g) Recommendations on possible next steps to help address decision XIII/24. These recommendations are presented in section IV below.

6. Components of the project are complemented by aspects of the ongoing “Realizing synergies” project, implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme.

² <http://wcmc.io/biodiversitysynergies>.

³ http://wcmc.io/synergies_overview.

⁴ <http://wcmc.io/sourcebook-web>.

⁵ Addressing key action C1(e) of CBD decision XIII/24, Annex II.

⁶ Addressing key action C1(e) of CBD decision XIII/24, Annex II.

⁷ Addressing key action C1(f) of CBD decision XIII/24, Annex II.

III. PROJECT OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME “ENVIRONMENTAL TREATIES PROGRAMME – REALIZING SYNERGIES FOR BIODIVERSITY”

7. To support efforts to strengthen synergies in the implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions at both international and national levels, the United Nations Environment Programme has established a project with funding from the European Union and the Government of Switzerland, entitled “Environmental Treaties Programme - realizing synergies for biodiversity”. In addition to supporting implementation of CBD decision XIII/24 (cooperation), the project is also supporting implementation of decision XIII/22 (communications), decision XIII/23 (capacity-building), and decision XIII/27 (national reporting), as well as related resolutions of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in particular resolution 2/17, and decisions of other biodiversity-related conventions. The project has been developed in consultation with the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions, who serve on its steering committee. It has five components or outputs:

(a) Output 1: Input to ‘biodiversity towards 2030’. This has two sub-components, one of which relates to CBD decision XIII/24 and the other to decision XIII/22:

- (i) The United Nations Environment Programme’s engagement in collaborative activities aimed to enhance synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, including the implementation of the “road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020”, the work of the informal advisory group and, as appropriate, inputs to the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
- (ii) Contribution to the process for preparing a long-term post-2020 strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 being led by the CBD in line with decision XIII/23. IUCN is contributing to the delivery of this output through the design and implementation of an IUCN Members’ Survey on capacity development, synergies across the biodiversity-related conventions and their enhanced implementation, an analysis of that work and dissemination of the findings;

(b) Output 2: Communications / cooperation with public information officers. The United Nations Environment Programme is working with the information officers of the Secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions to promote messaging, products and information that will contribute to achieving biodiversity-related goals and targets, including those of the Sustainable Development Goals, and to support implementation of CBD decision XIII/22 on a framework for a global communications strategy;

(c) Output 3: Materials related to synergies are made available and are disseminated. This has two components:

- (i) The United Nations Environment Programme will work the developers and owners of tools that support implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans to build national capacity to access and use them. Focusing on what is most needed at the country level, mechanisms and materials may include workshops, webinars, e-learning, workbooks and slide-sets, as appropriate;
- (ii) The United Nations Environment Programme is contributing to responding to CBD decision XIII/24, Annex II, Area C.1, on ‘enhancing management of and avoiding duplication related to information and knowledge, national reporting, monitoring and indicators’. This includes supporting development of guidance materials and complementing efforts undertaken to implement the road map. The objective of such materials is to support national level efforts, including options for action contained in Annex I of CBD decision XIII/24, and aim for relevance to the implementation of all biodiversity-related conventions. This component contributes to and complements the

project “Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24” described in sub-section II. C, above.

(d) Output 4: Data and reporting tool DART. Development of a data reporting tool (DART) which will support the experts and focal points managing their information at national level for preparing national reports to the biodiversity-related conventions.

(e) Output 5: National-level work. Supporting participating countries in setting up processes to realize synergies at the national level (subject to the availability of resources).

8. In addition to contributing to aspects of the work outlined in section A, above, implementation of the project has already started to contribute to the work being conducted under the convention concerning capacity-building, national reporting and the post-2020 framework for biodiversity.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS ON POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS AND ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION AMONG THE BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS, AND DELIVERING ON COP DECISION XIII/24

9. The recommendations included in this section have been developed for the final output of the joint United Nations Environment Programme and CBD Secretariat project to support decision XIII/24 described in section I above: a report entitled “Recommendations on possible next steps and activities to enhance cooperation and collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions, and delivering on COP decision XIII/24”, which was shared with the members of the informal advisory group on synergies at the end of April. The recommendations directly build up and use all other outputs of the project. The recommendations also take into account the feedback received during the peer-review of the three compendia of guidance, presented under I.A.5.(a), in January and February 2018.

10. The recommendations include, firstly, recommendations for building up on the project outputs; and secondly, other recommendations for delivering on CBD COP decision XIII/24 and in particular the activities outlined in the road map. In the original report, all recommendations are also mapped against the key actions listed in Annex II to CBD decision XIII/24. This matrix is provided in annex to the present document.

A. Recommendations for building up on project outputs

11. *Recommendation 1: follow-up to all the project deliverables*

(a) **Consider when and how to further promote and communicate each of the project deliverables** also through the work of the Informal Advisory Group (IAG) on Synergies and the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions, so as to both inform the discussion within those forums, and to obtain feedback on next steps and actions to be taken.

12. *Recommendation 2: on follow-up activities to the three compendia of guidance*

(a) *Consider creating a “one-stop shop”* for all guidance material identified in the three compendia of guidance to facilitate access and promote its use. The aim would be to create a structure that ensures ownership by all of the biodiversity-related conventions as well as regular updating once new guidance becomes available. This could, for example, be achieved through a joint conventions website and could potentially building on the initial wireframe developed for two of the synergies compendia;

(b) *Consider carrying out promotional activities to advertise the existence of the materials and a future online database/ joint website*, for example via a joint notification, producing a one-pager that explains the project. It is important that we seek to do this across conventions, and not just within CBD;

(c) *Consider making available key documents identified in the compendia* (e.g. the Sourcebook) *and/or the future online database itself in the other United Nations languages*;

(d) *For each of the compendia consider whether this is something that needs periodic update, and if so how frequently*. This could either be the subject of explicit periodic review/request, or addressed more passively through encouraging additions to the online catalogue;

(e) Consider a review of the use of the available guidance material and potentially its impact. This could e.g. be achieved through an online survey and follow-up interviews with users. The work would inform any future development or strengthening of existing guidance material.

13. **Recommendation 3:** *Follow-up activities regarding the ‘Compendium of guidance on achieving synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at the national level’*

(a) Consider facilitating easier access to the guidance material through development of an online interactive database. This could be done as a stand-alone project or by building up on the wireframe for an online database developed for the other two compendia. Regardless of where the online database would be hosted, it will be important to promote it via relevant websites, including the convention websites;

(b) Consider providing a synthesis of options for actions at the national level derived from all relevant guidance documents. This could be presented online, e.g. through the use of a decision tree that guides users in the identification of suitable options for implementation given the specific circumstances of the country or region/ challenges faced. In addition, options could be linked to relevant case studies. This exercise could be undertaken with cross-reference to the options for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the national level contained in annex I of CBD COP decision XIII/24;

(c) Consider whether any of the identified guidance could be usefully developed as case studies for further promoting, and for including in the library of case studies, recognizing that much of this guidance will have been used by one or more Parties in implementing the biodiversity-related conventions.

14. **Recommendation 4:** *Follow-up activities regarding the ‘Compendium of guidance for capturing, managing and using data information’ and the wireframe developed for a future online database of the guidance material*

(a) Consider facilitating easier access to the guidance material through development of an online interactive database. Regardless of where the online database would be hosted, it will be important to promote it via relevant websites, including the convention websites. Part of the work on this has already been undertaken, with development of a wireframe;

(b) Consider researching and incorporating additional information on guidance. Drawing on feedback received during the review phase, in particular from members of the CHM IAC and a number of focal points, include information on who should be using the guidance, and how;

(c) Consider carrying out a gap analysis of where additional guidance is needed related to data management systems in the context of synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, either through the development of new material or through the strengthening of existing guidance. The aim would be to promulgate the guidance in order to support the further development of national systems for biodiversity information management and reporting in part as a means for supporting implementation of conventions at the national level. This could be supported by the compendium, and by case studies and pilot projects discussed elsewhere. This would help to fulfil key action C.2.(a).

15. **Recommendation 5:** *Follow-up activities regarding the ‘Compendium of guidance on key global databases related to biodiversity-related conventions’ and the wireframe developed for a future online database of the guidance material*

(a) Consider facilitating easier access to the guidance material through development of an online interactive database. Regardless of where the online database would be hosted, it will be important to promote it via relevant websites, including the convention websites. Part of the work on this has already been undertaken, with development of a wireframe.

(b) Consider researching and incorporating additional information on the use of the databases, addressing feedback received during the review phase. This would in particular cover the target audience and user-friendliness, including the potential for disaggregation of data at the national or

site-level. Information on language availability of the different databases could also be added since this is not always clear from the landing page. Including information on data integration requirements could also be considered;

(c) *Consider including regional databases and information services.* The original review only covered global databases and illustrative examples of regional databases and information services, but there are significantly more regional databases and information services that could be included (e.g. African Elephant Database or the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for water birds);

(d) *Consider the development of recommendations on how to maximize data compatibility and links between databases* by engaging in relevant discussion of the MEA-IKM initiative (InforMEA) and the CHM network. This would draw on the work done in compiling the compendium and take this further in developing understanding on how links could be made to these databases in ways that increase their accessibility and utility for conventions and their implementation.

16. **Recommendation 6:** *Follow-up activities to further foster experience exchange at the national level*
Activities under the joint project included: Case studies sourced in response to CBD Notification 2017-128; outreach and a side event held in the margins of SBSTTA-21; development of design options for an online library of case studies/ success stories on synergies and subsequently a project proposal for an online database on guidance for synergies; and activities to further communicate the value of the United Nations Environment Programme 'Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels' (through the updating of a Power Point presentation on the Sourcebook and the design of a webinar on the subject-matter)

(a) *Consider increasing access to case studies by building a user-friendly online database.* The aim would be to create or make use of a structure that ensures sustainability and use by all of the biodiversity-related conventions as well as regular updating once new case studies become available. This could, for example, be achieved through a joint conventions website or by adding another dimension to a future online database for the guidance included in the three compendia. It should be highlighted that the maintenance of an online library of case studies on synergies is more resource-intensive than the maintenance of a database for the type of information included in the compendia, since it requires active sourcing of additional case studies and support for their development, as well as review of submitted case studies to ensure their quality/ usefulness. This would help to fulfil key action C1(b) of the road map.

(b) *Consider updating the existing case studies in the Sourcebook.* In preparation for a future online library of case studies, case study contributors to the Sourcebook could be contacted in order to request updates to the 2015 information. As these 63 case studies have already been prepared for sharing with peers, it should be a straightforward exercise to get them updated for resubmission. This would help to fulfil key action C1(e) of the road map;

(c) *Consider organizing further events to foster experience-sharing and sourcing of additional case studies.* This can include sessions in the margins of relevant upcoming meetings such as CBD SBSTTA-22, SBI-2 and COP 14, and the Ramsar Convention COP 13. This could also include webinars, which would then be made available as a resource linked to the online library of case studies. This would help to fulfil key action C1(e) of the road map;

(d) *Consider creating a series of short inspiring videos* on selected synergies success stories, either by country or by theme, showing how fostering collaboration between the biodiversity-related conventions is leading to new opportunities for biodiversity action. These videos would be available on relevant websites, a future online library of case studies, as well as shared on social media. This would help to fulfil key action C1(b) of the road map.

17. **Recommendation 7:** *Follow-up activities regarding the discussion paper 'Overview of existing initiatives for enhancing coordination and collaboration across the biodiversity-related conventions'*

(a) *Consider increasing access to the information by making it available online,* e.g. via a joint convention website or as part of a future comprehensive database on guidance for synergies. The

aim would be to create or make use of a structure that ensures ownership of all of the biodiversity-related conventions as well as regular updating of information as necessary.

(b) *Consider whether this is something that needs periodic update, and if so how frequently.* This would probably be best achieved through periodic review and request for further information, possibly in the lead up to each successive CBD COP, possibly as an information document, to inform the agenda item on cooperation.

18. **Recommendation 8:** *Follow-up activities to the document 'Improving access to existing guidance, data and information via biodiversity-related convention websites'*

(a) *Consider how to follow up on the recommendations made on improving access to information on synergies through the conventions' websites,* noting that follow up on these recommendations would help to increase recognition of what is already happening, as well as increasing access to key materials;

(b) *Consider the potential value of developing of a joint convention website or webpage* that would allow at a minimum for easy access to all guidance material and potentially also host databases such as for the compendia of guidance, the case studies and the overview of initiatives on synergies.

B. Other recommendations for delivering on CBD COP decision XIII/24 and in particular the activities outlined in the road map

Recommendations are made that further build on the outputs of the joint United Nations Environment Programme/CBD Secretariat project as well as on discussions in the informal advisory group on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions. Each of the recommendation could contribute to implementing key actions of the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020 contained in annex II of CBD COP decision XIII/24.

19. **Recommendation 9:** *Consider developing appealing and practical communication material which focuses on key messages and practical steps for implementation.* The objective is to support national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and organizations involved in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify suitable practical approaches in an efficient manner in order to facilitate behavioural change of key stakeholders. This could involve visualizing entry points and popular or promising options for cooperation at the national level, as well as the benefits to be obtained. Thematic briefs could for example be developed building up on each section of the Sourcebook. The communication material could be developed and refined through global or regional workshops or similar events. This would help to fulfil key action C1(b) and contribute to C2(a) of the road map.

20. **Recommendation 10:** *Consider preparing briefs to inform the biodiversity mainstreaming agenda.* The objective would be to provide guidance for enhancing sectorial planning through the creation of synergies, including informing national planning in implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Targeted at national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and organizations involved in the implementation of the conventions, the briefs could for example focus on specific sectors such as energy, agriculture or fisheries and include relevant information on guidance, initiatives and case studies, thus making the link between synergies and mainstreaming. Subject to availability of resources, the briefs could be prepared in time for CBD COP 14 and cooperation with the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform under FAO could also be explored. This would help to fulfil key action C1(b) and C1(c) of the road map.

21. **Recommendation 11:** *Consider developing guidance on synergies in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and similar strategies and action plans to implement other biodiversity-related conventions.* This recommendation responds to feedback by stakeholders involved in other biodiversity-related conventions than CBD, that the focus of the synergies discourse with respect to biodiversity and ecosystem service planning is always only on NBSAPs. While NBSAPs are of course a key tool for synergies at the national level, the criticism is that nevertheless broader awareness related to all convention planning tools (such as national wetland policies under the Ramsar

Convention) is crucial to identify entry points for synergy. The target audience would be national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and other stakeholders involved in the implementation of the convention. This would help to fulfil key action C1(c) of the road map.

22. **Recommendation 12:** Consider developing a briefing note on possible opportunities for a coordinated approach to funding from GEF-7 and other multilateral systems, where appropriate. Subject to availability of resources, this could be prepared in time for CBD COP 14. This work would build up on section 6 of the United Nations Environment Programme Sourcebook and in particular Annex 3 on *Opportunities for accessing GEF funds for the coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions* and thus be targeted at national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions as well as national GEF focal points. Next to CBD COP 14, a presentation on the subject-matter could also be explored at GEF Regional Expanded Constituency Workshops. The briefing note would need to be developed in close cooperation with relevant GEF people. This would help to fulfil key action C1(d) and contribute to key action C2(d) of the road map.

23. **Recommendation 13:** Consider further exploring options for enhancing synergy on national reporting with regard to the post-2020 agenda for biodiversity. This includes common sets of indicators and modular approaches to reporting. As the process for a post-2020 global biodiversity framework proceeds, work needs to progress in parallel on indicator and reporting processes, so that these are defined as soon as possible after the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is approved to allow for a very active process for review of implementation. All aspects – the framework itself, the indicators and the reporting – should be considered in the context of all biodiversity-related conventions so as to reinforce opportunities for consistent approaches and collaboration in implementation. This is anticipated in COP decision XIII/24 on cooperation and COP decision XIII/27 on national reporting, and in SBSTTA recommendation XXI/1 with respect to preparation for discussing the process for development of the post-2020 global biodiversity agenda. It would help to fulfil key action key action B1(i) of the road map.

24. **Recommendation 14:** Consider enhancing synergies in the development and use of biodiversity indicators and the Sustainable Development Goals. Creation of a mapping of Biodiversity Indicator Partnership indicators currently used to measure progress in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Sustainable Development Goals and biodiversity-related convention targets and goals, as well as identifying suitable indicators to measure progress under the different processes in the future that are not currently used for this purpose. Among other things, this would contribute to implementing key action B1(g) of the road map.

25. **Recommendation 15:** Consider developing a programme for supporting national biodiversity data management. This will support national efforts in data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators, including with regard to the development of sixth national reports to CBD. This could include organizing activities to foster experience sharing, taking into account and utilizing relevant initiatives including those under the CBD CHM, InforMEA and GBIF. This builds on the compendia described above and relevant case studies, any new guidance developed, and would include capacity-building activities, and conducting pilot studies on database planning and management. This would respond to key actions B1(d), B1(e), B1(h), B2(a) and B2(b) of the road map.

Annex

MAPPING OF KEY ACTIONS OF THE ROAD MAP FOR DECISION XIII/24 OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT STEPS AND ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE SYNERGIES

Activity	Key action	Recommendation(s) related to the activity	Other related key actions
A. Enhanced cooperation and coordination mechanisms			
1. Enhancement of the efficiency of the work and processes of the BLG	Key action #1 Counterpart staff working on specific areas		
2. Involving other relevant organizations in the work of the BLG	Key action #2 Invitation to contribute to discussions of the BLG and their preparation	<i>An 'Overview of existing initiatives for enhancing coordination and collaboration across the biodiversity-related conventions' has been developed</i> Recommendation 1	
	Key action #3 Participation at meetings of the BLG		
3. Fostering cooperation in areas of common interest and within the mandates of two or more conventions	Key action #4 Continued development and strengthening of joint work programmes and memoranda of understanding.	<i>An 'Overview of existing initiatives for enhancing coordination and collaboration across the biodiversity-related conventions' has been developed</i>	
4. Enhancing the work of the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of Biodiversity related Conventions (CSAB)	Key action #5 Coordination of the CSAB including to enable the CSAB to serve as a mechanism between the conventions, IPBES and their secretariats		

Activity	Key action	Recommendation(s) related to the activity	Other related key actions
B. Enhancing management of and avoiding duplication related to information and knowledge, national reporting, monitoring and indicators			
1. Collaboration in the management of information and knowledge and alignment in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators	Key action #6 (a) Undertake an analysis of gaps and duplications of existing tools and approaches in information management and knowledge management and an assessment of their effectiveness	<i>As a first step a compendium of guidance for capturing, managing and using data information has been developed</i> Recommendation 4.c	Key actions #15, #10
	Key action #7 (b) Provide support in designing data collection and monitoring systems	Recommendation 4.a, 15	Key action #23
	Key action #8 (c) Advance and make use of relevant case studies on information management, such as those described in the UNEP Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels (the UNEP Sourcebook)	<i>A concept for the development of an online library of case studies on synergies has been developed</i> Recommendation 4.a, 6.a, 15	Key actions #9, #13, #16
	Key action #9 (d) Provide guidance on national databases, data access and use, and share experience in national database development and use, taking into account and utilizing relevant initiatives including those under the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity, MEA IKM/InforMEA and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)	<i>As a first step a compendium of guidance on key global databases related to biodiversity-related conventions has been developed</i> Recommendation 6.a, 15	Key actions #8, #9, #13
	Key action #10 (e) Support national efforts in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators, building on the work of InforMEA and the mapping exercises identified in the UNEP Sourcebook	<i>As a first step a compendium of guidance for capturing, managing and using data information and on key global databases related to biodiversity-related conventions has been developed</i> Recommendation 15	Key actions #8, #9, #13

Activity	Key action	Recommendation(s) related to the activity	Other related key actions
	<p>Key action #11 (f) Maximize data compatibility and enhance links between the data systems of the conventions and relevant global knowledge products; improve harmonization, links and interoperability of all relevant biodiversity-related data initiatives</p>	<p><i>As a first step a compendium of guidance on key global databases related to biodiversity-related conventions has been developed</i> Recommendation 5.d</p>	
	<p>Key action #12 (g) Contribute to the ongoing processes on indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals, including their refinement, and to the discussion of biodiversity-related indicators under each of the other conventions</p>	<p>Recommendation 14</p>	<p>Key actions #10</p>
	<p>Key action #13 (h) Provide, at the regional and subregional levels, capacity-building related to data management and national reporting, including training on database systems</p>	<p><i>As a first step a compendium of guidance for capturing, managing and using data information and on key global databases related to biodiversity-related conventions has been developed</i> Recommendation 4.a, 15</p>	<p>Key actions #9, #16</p>
	<p>Key action #14 (i) Keep under review opportunities for cooperation in reporting under the conventions, in line with CBD COP decision XIII/27 on national reporting, and for ensuring interoperability between reporting systems or platforms (BLG), making use of and continuing the development of approaches and possible tools.</p>	<p>Recommendation 13</p>	
<p>2. Provide countries with capacity-building at the national level in the area of information and knowledge management</p>	<p>Key action #15 (a) Provision of appropriate tools and technology for database development</p>	<p><i>As a first step a compendium of guidance for capturing, managing and using data information has been developed</i> Recommendation 4.a, 4.b, 15</p>	<p>Key actions #10</p>

Activity	Key action	Recommendation(s) related to the activity	Other related key actions
	Key action #16 (b) Pilot studies on database planning and management, for example in two countries per region	Recommendation 15	Key actions #10
C. Enhanced provision of capacity-building and guidance			
1. Make existing guidance material more widely known and readily available or prepare new materials to address any gaps	Key action #17 (a) List of existing guidance materials on synergies	<i>A compendium of guidance on synergies has been developed</i>	Key actions #21
	Key action #18 (b) A guide and other communications material about the biodiversity-related conventions, their relationships and synergies among them	Recommendations 2.a-e., 9,	Key actions #22
	Key action #19 (c) Guidance on synergies in implementing the national biodiversity strategy and action plan and similar strategies and action plans of other biodiversity-related conventions	Recommendation 11	Key actions #18
	Key action #20 (d) Guidance document on possible opportunities for a coordinated approach to funding from the GEF and other multilateral systems including the Green Climate Fund where appropriate and/or possible	Recommendation 12	Key actions #26
	Key action #21 (e) Success stories of synergies in implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions are compiled and made available, including through the CHM and the NBSAP Forum	<i>A concept for the development of an online library of case studies on synergies has been developed</i> Recommendation 6.a-d	Key actions #16,#19, #22
	Key action #22 (f) Provide information on synergies, such as the UNEP Sourcebook, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, common issues for biodiversity-related conventions and sources of funding for biodiversity, on the websites of each of the biodiversity-related conventions, for example through a dedicated “synergies” page	<i>A document on ‘Improving access to existing guidance, data and information via biodiversity-related convention websites’ has been developed</i> Recommendations 2.a, 8.a-b	

Activity	Key action	Recommendation(s) related to the activity	Other related key actions
2. Capacity-building	Key action #23 (a) Identify common areas of national capacity-building needs, across the conventions		
	Key action #24 (b) Share information on ongoing, planned and upcoming capacity-building programmes, projects and initiatives relevant to the biodiversity-related conventions in order to facilitate a coordinated approach, avoid duplication, ensure coherence of their delivery, maximize their utilization and enable cooperation in implementation where relevant		
	Key action #25 (c) Deliver coordinated capacity-building, including through regional and subregional mechanisms and online mechanisms, taking advantage of existing networking opportunities for capacity-building and addressing common needs and areas of two or more conventions and including building capacity for synergistic implementation of the conventions	Recommendation 6.c, 15	
	Key action #26 (d) Conduct webinars, regional workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversity focal area	<i>The Power Point presentation on the United Nations Environment Programme Sourcebook, including notes has been updated, and a webinar on the subject matter has been designed</i> Recommendation 9	Key actions #20
	Key action #27 (e) To establish joint events, such as a pavilion for biodiversity-related conventions to be convened at international conventions and congresses	Recommendation 6.c, 9, 10	