



Convention on
Biological Diversity



6NR



OUTCOME OF SAMOA'S 6TH NATIONAL REPORT TO CBD

*Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on
post-2020 global biodiversity framework*

28th Jan – 1st Feb, 2019 Nagoya, Japan


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Basic context of Samoa's goals for the 6th National Report

- Samoa's current NBSAP (2015-2020) has 20 NBSAP targets which is well aligned with the Global ABTs with 96 measures/actions
 - The progress towards achieving these targets was assessed via a data driven and consultative process
 - Samoa's main intention with the 6NR is to make it as visual as possible with maps and illustrations for many of the ABTs
 - Samoa also intends to produce a short and concise executive summary for decision makers
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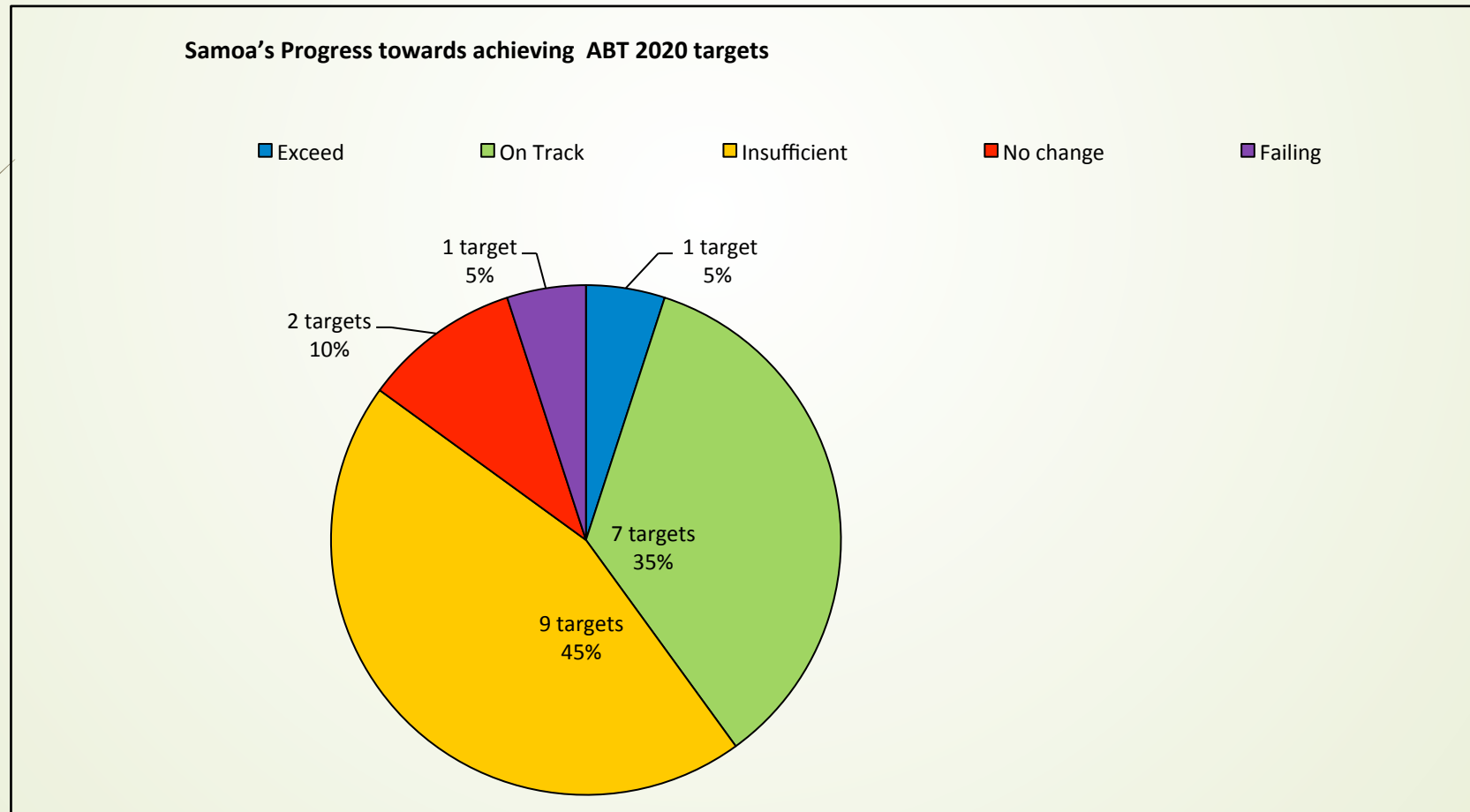
Process undertaken (Sep – Dec 2018)

- Initial meeting with MNRE and UNDP CO – to develop a work plan
- First NBSAP Steering Committee Meeting – inception meeting with SC on the project and the workplan
- Data Collection & Literature Review and Write up
- First Stakeholders consultation inception – first initial findings presented and received feedback from stakeholders
- 2nd Steering Committee Meeting – to update on progress of report.
- 2nd Stakeholders workshop – to validate the analysis of NBSAP/ ABT and review NBSAP indicators
- Awaiting final review from UNDP before finalising it for cabinet approval and official submission to CBD secretariat



Overall Findings

Samoa's sixth national report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) shows a mixed bag with some targets likely to be achieved by 2020 while progress towards others is slipping behind the target.



Summary of NBSAP/Aichi Biodiversity Targets **achievable**

ABT 4 Sustainable production and consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial logging is no longer a major threat to forest resources and there is a ban on timber exports from Samoa.• Samoa has put in place many institutional frameworks and policies to guide sustainable production and consumption with the support from all relevant stakeholders.• Banning of importation of plastic is another example of responsible consumption.
ABT 14 Ecosystem Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The government purchased the Catholic land in the upper Vaisigano Catchment Area for ecological restoration and protection of watershed is an example of Payment for Ecosystem Services.• Completion of management plans for 3 national parks and KBAs.

Summary of NBSAP/ABT that are in progress but insufficient to meet the targets

ABT 9 Invasive alien species prevented and controlled	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IAS Samoa has established a list and identified major pathways. There have been control and eradication programs in the past although measures are not sufficient to prevent the continuing increase IAS (plants, animals etc)
ABT 11 Protected Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of PAs has increase over the years however there are many loose ends such as management effectiveness of PAs; legal status of PA and no information about the area coverage for the many fisheries marine reserves to name some of the gaps in information on strengthening PA management and achieving its progress towards ABT 11.

Summary of each NBSAP/ABT with no significant change

ABT 12

Reducing risk of extinction

- No major changes in the status of threatened species for Samoa on the IUCN Red List. Most of the species that have been considered critically endangered are now extinct such as the swallowtail butterfly, sheath-tailed bats and the tooth billed pigeon continues to be an elusive bird as there have been no confirmed sightings of adult bird.
- There is poor updated status on marine threatened species that are on the IUCN Red list especially the coral species status.
- More investment should target the recovery of threatened Samoan species on the IUCN Red List.



Lessons Leant from the 6NR Analysis

1. Some Indicators do not correlate with the NBSAP Target;

Eg: Target 19 for NBSAP indicators only focus on CHM and information management whilst the actual target is talking about science base research and information sharing and knowledge improvement

2. Lack of Information sharing between divisions within the Ministry as well as among stakeholders;

3. Poor monitoring system in place to regularly update biodiversity information that comes from Biodiversity Rapid Assessment surveys (species, ecosystems, IAS and etc

4. Legislations and policies - although we have a lot

Lessons Learnt Continued

5. **Need to disseminate survey on biodiversity values during national events/education programs** - there is much awareness on biodiversity but a simple survey to gauge the in-depth knowledge and the value people place on biodiversity should be part of MNRE national environment events and part of data monitoring;
6. **GIS Spatial Monitoring** - consideration for dedicated staff to focus on the update of spatial mapping information especially for biodiversity related areas – species, invasive species, protected areas both marine and terrestrial to ensure information are regularly updated using maps to assess trends in changes of biodiversity and for reporting ;
7. **Consideration for the NBSAP/AB Targets that are:** listed as no significant changes (3,10,12,13 and 15) to be prioritized for biodiversity investment in the next GEF support, as well as targets with progress but insufficient information (1,2,5,7,8,9, 11,



Conclusion

Overall, Samoa has done very well in its implementation of the NBSAP Action Plan despite having absorbed all the 20 ABT as national targets.

- At least by 2020 Samoa has a confidence level of 60% in achieving its ABT;
- And between now and 2020 some of the NBSAP/AB Targets listed in progress will change especially the Target 1, 8, 9, 11, and 19 to achievable given some of the work covered under recent biodiversity related projects;
- Investment in biodiversity related work through external funding projects and local budget is critical to ensure effective management of PA, recovery of threatened species and to control and eradicate invasive species



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