



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

CBD/SBI/2/INF/6
20 April 2018

ENGLISH ONLY

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

Second meeting

Montreal, Canada, 9-13 July 2018

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SHORT-TERM ACTION PLAN (2017-2020) TO ENHANCE AND SUPPORT CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties, in decision XIII/23, adopted a short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. It requested the Executive Secretary to support and facilitate, in collaboration with partners, as appropriate, the implementation of the short-term action plan. The Executive Secretary was also requested to undertake monitoring and evaluation of the outcomes and effectiveness of ongoing capacity-building activities supported and facilitated by the Secretariat, with a view to better targeting and improving future capacity-building activities, and to report on the results to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for consideration at its second meeting (paras. 3, 15(d) and 15(f) of decision XIII/23).

2. The present document provides a summary description of the activities supported or facilitated by the Secretariat in collaboration with partners and their respective outputs. The outputs are reported against the respective Aichi Biodiversity Targets and cross-cutting activities as presented in the short-term action plan. A list of all the activities carried out, their sources of funding and other support as well as the partners that delivered or co-organized them is provided in annex I.

3. Most of the activities carried out during this biennium have been supported by the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Government of the Republic of Korea through the Sustainable Ocean Initiative, the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative; the Bio-Bridge Initiative, the Peace and Biodiversity Dialogue Initiative and the Biosafety Capacity-building Initiative, and by the European Union.

Cross-cutting capacity-building support activities, tools and services implemented or coordinated by the Secretariat

4. The Secretariat supported a number of cross-cutting activities, tools and services supporting various substantive programmes. In March 2017, the *Biodiversity e-Learning Platform*¹, which was developed in collaboration with the United Nations Systems Staff College (UNSSC) with financial support from the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund, was launched. The platform currently contains more than 20 modules on protected areas, access and benefit-sharing, biosafety and

¹ The Biodiversity e-Learning Platform is accessible at: <https://scbd.unssc.org>

biodiversity valuation, which can be accessed by any user. Plans are underway to expand the platform to host webinars and massive open online courses (MOOCs) in collaboration with partners.

5. The Secretariat, with funding from the Republic of Korea through the Bio-Bridge Initiative, also launched various tools and mechanisms to facilitate technical and scientific cooperation. This includes a help desk and associated support tools to assist Parties in articulating their needs, access available technical support opportunities and match the expressed needs with available support. A [Bio-Bridge web platform](#) was also launched in March 2017 to enable Governments and relevant stakeholders to submit, as appropriate, requests for assistance, make offers of such assistance, announce opportunities for technical and scientific cooperation, and access a wide range of technical and scientific knowledge assets and curated resources.² As of 31 March 2018, 34 requests for assistance have been submitted by 26 countries, 49 providers of assistance have registered to offer assistance and 22 opportunities have been recorded through the platform. Of the 34 requests received, 13 have been addressed through seed funding support and matchmaking.

6. The Secretariat also organized four regional Bio-Bridge Initiative round tables for Asia-Pacific (Incheon, Republic of Korea, 15-19 October 2017), Africa (Entebbe, 7-9 November 2017), Latin America and the Caribbean (Bogota, 27-29 November 2017) and Central and Eastern Europe and the Central Asian Republics (Minsk, 26-28 February 2018). Further information is provided under section three below.

7. Pursuant to paragraphs 15(a) and 15(c) of decision XIII/23, the Executive Secretary continued to establish and strengthen partnerships with various organizations involved in capacity-building related to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. Also in response to paragraph 16 of decision XIII/23 and paragraph 17 of decision XIII/24, the Secretariat embarked on the process of promoting synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level with regard to enhancing the provision of capacity-building and guidance.

8. As noted in documents CBD/SBI/2/10 and CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.1, the Secretariat organized a meeting on “Enhancing coordination and collaboration in supporting the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions among relevant agencies and convention secretariats” in September 2017 in Rome, back-to-back with the twelfth ordinary meeting of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions. As a follow up to one of the meeting’s recommendations, the Secretariat convened teleconferences with the Capacity Development Coordinators from biodiversity-related convention secretariats and relevant international organizations to review existing mechanisms, programmes, projects and activities, identify common areas and gaps across the Conventions requiring capacity-building, propose means for exchanging best practices, and identify concrete joint actions. Further follow-up teleconference and meetings are scheduled to take place in 2018.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 1

9. The Secretariat in collaboration with the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN) organized Regional Youth Capacity-Building Workshops on Biodiversity for Africa (Johannesburg, South Africa from 14 to 19 August 2017), Asia (Singapore, 22-27 May 2017) and Latin America and the Caribbean (Bogota, 2-5 May 2017). At least 103 youths from 48 countries³ attended and learned about the Convention, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as the national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) of their respective countries. The participants developed new initiatives to support their countries’ national biodiversity strategies and action plans, which will be implemented by the youth in collaboration with relevant government agencies and/or non-governmental organizations.

² See Notification No. 86354 - <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2017/ntf-2017-024-bbi-en.pdf>.

³ This includes 46 participants from 16 African countries, 29 participants from 19 Asian countries and 28 participants from 13 GRULAC countries.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 2

10. The Secretariat also collaborated with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Stockholm Resilience Centre, Pronatura, El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR), the NBSAP Forum and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in organizing a massive open online course (MOOC) on “Introduction to Resilience for Development”. Part 1 of the MOOC: “[Understanding Resilience Thinking](#)” was held from 31 October to 27 November 2017 and Part 2: “Applying Resilience Thinking to National Biodiversity Plans” was held from 23 January to 13 February 2018.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 4 and others (2, 3, 11, and 20)

11. In June 2017, the Secretariat collaborated with UNDP, the NBSAP Forum and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in organizing a six-week massive open online course on “Greening Consumption and Production”, which was held from 31 May to 12 July 2017. The course was hosted on TNC’s [Conservation Training website](#). A total of 1,371 participants from 138 countries, including policymakers and practitioners working in the area of sustainable consumption and production, took part in the course.

12. Through the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist (TAPAS) Group, the Secretariat supported three training workshops in Southern Africa in May and June in the context of the project entitled “Tourism Partnerships and Concessions in Protected Areas: Cooperating for Success”. The workshops took place in South Africa (30 May -2 June 2017), Namibia (20-21 June 2017) and Mozambique (27-28 June 2017). A total of 32 participants from 11 countries took part in the workshops.⁴ The participants learned about existing policies and good practices, shared experiences and success stories, and discussed the challenges they face in improving tourism concession policies and partnerships. The project also produced “Guidelines for Tourism Partnerships and Concessions for Protected Areas: Generating Sustainable Revenues for Conservation and Development”.⁵

Aichi Biodiversity Target 5 and other forest-related targets

13. As part of the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI), the Secretariat in collaboration with the Government of South Africa also organized a capacity development workshop for Central, Eastern and Southern Africa on the restoration of forest and other ecosystems to support the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 14 and 15 in Durban, South Africa from 2 to 6 October 2017. The participants, *inter alia*, learned how to integrate biodiversity considerations in restoration activities across landscapes, through integrated and collaborative planning, implementation and reporting, and how to develop national ecosystem restoration plans with specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound (SMART) national targets.

14. In July 2017, the Secretariat through the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI) also supported six ecosystem restoration projects in Bhutan, Cambodia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico and Peru.⁶ These projects were selected from a total of 85 submissions that were received from 41 countries. The projects were selected by an expert committee taking into account their strong local community involvement, long-term monitoring approach and focus on critical ecosystem services.⁷

Aichi Biodiversity Target 9

15. The Secretariat conducted a capacity-building workshop (Kingston, Jamaica, 18-22 September 2017) and a post-workshop webinar for Caribbean small island developing States towards achieving

⁴ The countries were: Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

⁵ The guidelines are available at <http://www.cbd.int/tourism>.

⁶ A total of USD 100,000 was granted to the six projects under the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI). This increased FERI’s funding portfolio to nearly USD 1 million granted to 13 countries to date with since 2016.

⁷ See further details at: <https://www.feri-biodiversity.org/2017projectcall>

Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community and other partners.⁸ It also coordinated with the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership the update of information in the Global Registry of Introduced and Invasive Species ([GRIIS](#)) and a web page on “[How to Use GRIIS](#)” was developed in collaboration with IUCN-Invasive Species Specialist Group.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 (also Target 11) - Marine

16. In line with the short-term action plan and in response to decisions XIII/9-12, XII/22-23, XI/17-18 and X/29, the Secretariat in collaboration with various partners carried out the following capacity-building activities: Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) capacity-building workshop for the wider Caribbean and Central America (San José, Costa Rica, 20-24 February 2017) and a national workshop for Cameroon (Yaoundé, 17-19 January 2018); pre-training sessions on ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) and regional workshop to facilitate the description of EBSAs in the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea region (Baku, 24-29 April 2017) and in the Baltic Sea (Helsinki, 19-24 February 2018); and a training of trainers workshop on cross-sectoral planning and management of marine resources (Seocheon, Republic of Korea, 25-29 September 2017).

17. The Secretariat also provided technical advice to relevant global and regional processes related to conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity. Through the above activities and the sharing of scientific and technical information, learning exchanges, training on specific tools and guidelines, the Secretariat contributed to long-term capacity development for national implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 14, in marine and coastal areas. It also engaged various global and regional partners to contribute to this effort.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 11

18. The Secretariat continued to encourage and provide support to Parties and partners in different regions to strengthen cooperation and promote concerted efforts towards developing sustainable capacities to achieve Target 11 by 2020. This included organization of dialogue sessions for experts and implementing partners at the regional and country levels and provision of advice on the establishment of Regional Implementation Support Networks to assist countries with on the ground implementation of prioritized national actions, and of coordination mechanisms to foster alignment and synergy of the support activities of various partners in each region. Financial support was secured for establishment of such mechanisms in Asia and the Pacific as well as in Latin America.

19. The Secretariat also compiled and shared information and experiences on various elements of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, including measures to enhance integration and mainstreaming of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures into the wider land and seascapes and across sectors, and the effective governance models for management of protected areas. A knowledge-sharing event on the contributions of the Like-Minded Megadiverse Countries to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 was also held on 12 December 2017 in Montreal.

20. Under the Peace and Biodiversity Dialogue Initiative, the Secretariat in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme’s World Conservation Monitoring Centre continued updating the Global List of Transboundary Protected Areas and identifying transboundary conservation areas/transboundary protected areas in international conflict zones where opportunities for initiating dialogue and establishing peace parks exist. It also continued to develop and promote relevant tools and

⁸ <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/acp-meas/news/building-capacity-manage-invasive-alien-species-ias-and-supporting-technical-and-scientific>

guidelines, including an e-learning module on transboundary protected areas, which includes lessons on managing emergency situations and armed conflict.⁹

Aichi Biodiversity Target 14

21. The Secretariat and the World Health Organization (WHO) jointly convened, in collaboration with the Finnish Ministries of Environment and of Social Affairs and Health a regional capacity-building workshop on biodiversity and human health for the European region from 23 to 25 October 2017, in Helsinki, Finland. The workshop enabled policy makers to better understand the biodiversity-health linkages and how those linkages could be mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national health strategies to support the implementation of decision XIII/6 on biodiversity and health.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 15 (also Targets 7 and 14)

22. In 2017, the Secretariat in collaboration with SwedBio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre organized three Regional Dialogues and Learning Missions for Eastern and Southern African region (Durban, South Africa, 2-6 October 2017), Pacific Island countries (Suva, 23-27 October 2017) and for South America (Bogota, 27 November - 1 December 2017). A total of 120 participants from 43 countries took part in the three events. The dialogue seminars provided an informal setting for open discussions on existing approaches, challenges and opportunities for mainstreaming ecosystem-based approaches, as well as related policies and actions under the CBD and other multilateral environmental agreements. The field visits allowed host countries to showcase concrete examples of the linkages between policy and action. Participants also exchanged experiences of integrating ecosystem-based approaches in climate-related work and identified potential synergies among those approaches for delivering benefits related to multiple objectives of Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 16

23. With support from the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the European Union and other partners, the Secretariat in collaboration with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) launched a new capacity-building programme to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, building on a similar programme that was implemented during the 2015-2016 biennium. The programme will include six regional courses to be carried out in 2018. Each course will comprise three components: a mandatory six-week preparatory e-learning session using the eight e-learning modules developed in the previous phase; a five-day intensive face-to-face workshop; and follow-up peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing through an online discussion and networking forum.

24. The Secretariat also partnered with Bioversity International, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative and the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in organizing a tandem workshop on mutually supportive implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty for countries in South and Southeast Asia in Los Baños, Philippines, from 27 to 30 March 2017. The workshop brought together national focal points of the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty from Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines to discuss complementarity in policies and procedures for access to plant genetic resources.¹⁰ A similar workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean is planned for September 2018. Fact sheets presenting scenarios that may arise at the interface of the two instruments and how national focal points can respond were also produced as part of this collaboration.

25. Furthermore, the Secretariat continued to carry out capacity-building for the use of the ABS Clearing-House. A help desk was maintained to provide on-demand technical support to users of the ABS

⁹ <https://www.cbd.int/peace/information/resources/e-learning/default.shtml>

¹⁰ See details at: https://www.bioversityinternational.org/treaty_nagoya_workshop_2017.

Clearing-House, including quick responses to questions and requests for guidance on how to use the platform. The Secretariat also provided proactive personalized follow-up support to Parties (via email and phone) to assist them in understanding and complying with their information-sharing obligations under the Protocol. A number of on-demand capacity-building trainings for the use of the ABS Clearing-House were also provided remotely (via webinar or Skype). A number of capacity-building and guidance materials were also developed, including an e-learning module on the ABS Clearing-House, an online FAQ section, as well as a number of step-by-step instructional guides outlining how to submit information and use the ABS Clearing-House.

26. The Secretariat also continued to develop and populate two databases on capacity-building initiatives and resources through the ABS Clearing-House.¹¹

Aichi Biodiversity Target 18 (also Target 16)

27. Thanks to the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat also embarked on a new phase of the “capacity development programme on national arrangements for achieving traditional knowledge elements of Targets 18 and 16 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020”. The project activities include: an online global forum; and four regional capacity development programmes for Asia, Africa, Latin America and Caribbean, and the Pacific.

28. The Secretariat in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), and the Indigenous Women’s Network on Biodiversity (IWNB) organized an *Online Forum on Traditional Knowledge for achieving Target 18 and contributing to Target 16 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* on 30 November 2017. The Forum, which was conducted in English, Spanish and French, enabled participants to share experiences regarding the establishment of national arrangements to advance the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 18 and 16 and to ensure that traditional knowledge is valued, protected and promoted for the implementation of the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 17

29. The Secretariat contributed to a workshop organized by UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean to facilitate the development and implementation of updated national biodiversity strategy and action plans (NBSAPs) in the Caribbean countries.

30. Following the earlier support provided to countries to revise and update their NBSAPs, the Secretariat through the Japan Biodiversity Fund provided funding and technical support to pilot projects to assist a few developing countries to implement prioritized elements of their revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans.¹² Among other things, countries were assisted in developing proposals and implementing on-the-ground activities with concrete and measurable outputs that directly helps them to move forward in the implementation of the NBSAPs.

31. The project in Ecuador continued to support the government to develop a monitoring plan for its (NBSAP), identify nationally available data to support monitoring and demonstrate the contribution of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use to human well-being. The project in Sri Lanka is assisting the country to identify and integrate conservation priorities into the government’s economic development plans and to mitigate human-elephant conflicts. The project in Antigua and Barbuda is implementing a terrestrial ecosystem service valuation that focusses on the country’s tourism sector and the project in Burundi aims to facilitate the mainstreaming of biodiversity into the work plans of key sectoral ministries and the country’s Poverty Reduction Strategy. The last project comprising Botswana, Ethiopia and

¹¹ <https://absch.cbd.int/search/referenceRecords?schema=capacityBuildingInitiative>

¹² The pilot projects are being implemented in Ecuador, Sri Lanka, Antigua and Barbuda, Burundi and in Botswana, Ethiopia and Malawi.

Malawi involves testing a methodology for mapping, assessing and prioritizing biodiversity priorities, which was developed by the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 19 and the Clearing House Mechanism

32. The Secretariat through the Bio-Bridge Initiative provided seed funding and helpdesk support for 10 demonstration projects on technical and scientific cooperation.¹³ The projects were selected by an external Project Review Panel from a total of 31 requests for assistance that were submitted by Parties in response to a call issued through notification 2016-126.¹⁴ The projects seek to facilitate access to and sharing of technologies relating to biodiversity, strengthening biodiversity monitoring and developing technical capacity in ecosystem accounting. Further information on the progress made with regard to technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer is provided under section 4 below.

33. With support from the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat organized two regional capacity-building workshops on the clearing-house mechanism, one for Asian countries in collaboration with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (Bangkok, 29 January to 3 February 2018)¹⁵ and another one for Arab-speaking countries (Cairo, 5-9 March 2018). Participants in these workshops were trained on how to establish and sustain effective national clearing-house mechanisms to support the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans. They also took part in hands-on training sessions on the Bioland tool, which has been developed by the Secretariat to assist Parties in the establishment of their national clearing-house mechanisms and on the CBD online reporting tool. Based on the experience during the Bangkok workshop, the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity expressed their intent to support Bioland implementation for their member countries.

34. The Secretariat also collaborated with the *Biodiversity Management Programme (BMP)* of the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) in the Horn of Africa to convene the Joint IGAD/CBD Sub-Regional Training Workshop on the Harmonization of the CBD clearing-house mechanism (CHM) and IGAD BMP's National Biodiversity Databases, held in Addis Ababa, from 9 to 13 April 2017. The objectives of the workshop were to strengthen the capacity of participating countries to establish and sustain effective national CHMs in support of the NBSAPs in the IGAD subregion, and to build stronger awareness of CBD and CHM for biodiversity content providers, trained within the IGAD's BMP National Biodiversity Databases project. The workshop brought together 27 participants (including CHM National Focal Points and technical content managers of IGAD BMP national biodiversity databases) from six countries in the region.¹⁶

35. Furthermore, the Secretariat contributed to the *CHM capacity-building workshop for francophone partner countries in Africa*, organized by the Governments of Belgium and Togo in Lomé, from 2 to 5 May 2017. Nineteen national participants representing 10 countries attended this workshop.¹⁷ The participants reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the national CHMs established with the European CHM Portal Tool Kit (PTK) and supported through the CEBioS programme.¹⁸ Participants were introduced to the Bioland tool, including its similarities and differences with the PTK, and took part in hands-on training sessions using the Bioland-based training site to test-drive its features. Based on the

¹³ The selected countries are: Belarus, China, Colombia, Ghana, India, Malawi, Morocco, Venezuela, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. See details in notification 2018-022 available at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2018/ntf-2018-022-bbi-en.pdf>. Brief descriptions of the selected projects are available at: <https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/projects/selected>.

¹⁴ Issued through [Notification 2016-126](#) and announced through [Notification 2018-022](#).

¹⁵ Fourteen participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippine, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam attended the Asia workshop.

¹⁶ Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda.

¹⁷ Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Morocco, Niger, and Togo.

¹⁸ <http://www.biodiv.be/cebios2>

experience gained during the workshop, CEBioS and the partner countries expressed their intention to support the move to the Bioland tool during its 2018-2019 timeframe.

Aichi Biodiversity Target 20

36. The Secretariat continued its close collaboration with the Biodiversity Finance Initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP BIOFIN) to provide technical support for financial planning and reporting to non-BIOFIN pilot countries. This included contribution to a series of global webinars and the associated technical support provided by the CBD-BIOFIN Regional Technical Support Nodes.¹⁹

Cross-cutting activities (addressing various Aichi Biodiversity Targets)

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

37. With the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat collaborated with Botanic Gardens Conservation International and other partners to facilitate the implementation of technical aspects arising from decisions on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. This included the development of e-learning modules on seed conservation,²⁰ modules on Red listing of tree species to complement training materials existing on the IUCN Red List website as well as three other modules on ecological restoration focusing on forest restoration planning, species selection for forest restoration and sourcing material for forest restoration, respectively. The Secretariat also supported the organization of regional training courses on plant Red Listing (Haiti, November 2017), on ex situ conservation (Nepal, September 2017), and ecological restoration (Nigeria, September 2017). Furthermore, the Secretariat also awarded two small grants for collecting seeds of threatened species in Pakistan and India.

Global Taxonomy Initiative

38. In line with the capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative and in response to decision XI/39, the Secretariat, in collaboration with partners, produced an open access e-book entitled: "Introduction to ABS and the Nagoya Protocol: What DNA Barcoding Researchers Need to Know".²¹ With financial support from the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat also provided small-scale grants to eleven countries to organize training courses on the application of DNA technologies, such as DNA barcoding, for rapid species identification within the context of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI).²² The courses will be co-facilitated by trainers that were trained under the GTI Training Courses that were conducted in 2015 and 2016 in partnership with the Guelph University and Biodiversity Institute of Ontario in Canada in line with decisions XI/29 and XIII/31 of the Conference of the Parties. It is expected that through this support, it is expected that a total of 189 individuals will be trained on DNA barcoding, nine DNA libraries on species of countries' concern (including invasive alien species, threatened species and agricultural pests) will be established, and over 1,000 DNA barcoding sequence and specimen records will be created.

Gender mainstreaming

39. The Secretariat produced a pocket guide of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Gender Plan of Action, providing a summary of the plan and examples of actions undertaken by Parties. It also

¹⁹ See notification 2017-009 at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2017/ntf-2017-009-financial-en.pdf> and the webinars at <http://www.biodiversityfinance.net/biofin-webinars>.

²⁰ The e-learning modules are available in three languages (French, Spanish and Chinese) at: http://www.bgci.org/plant-conservation/seed_learning.

²¹ The e-book is accessible at <https://ab.pensoft.net/article/22579/download/pdf/>

²² The countries selected are: Belarus (together with Moldova), Bhutan, Brazil, Colombia, Nigeria, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tunisia, Turkey and Uruguay. See details in notification 2018-021 available at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2018/ntf-2018-021-gti-en.pdf>.

embarked on the development of an e-learning module on gender perspectives in sustainable ecosystem management in relation to global health, which will be part of a larger course on global health at the human-animal-ecosystem interface.

National reporting

40. The Secretariat collaborated with UNDP, UNEP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the development of technical guidance and supporting materials for the preparation of the sixth national report and organizing two capacity building workshops to assist developing countries with the preparation of their sixth national reports. Participants were introduced to available guidance materials and tools, including the voluntary online reporting tool, to facilitate the preparation of their sixth national report and had the opportunity to share experiences and interact with implementing agencies on various matters related to the reporting process. During the second workshop, participants learned how to use spatial data and tools to support the preparation of the sixth national report. Participants identified key barriers in using spatial data for biodiversity planning and reporting, reviewed key conservation questions and related spatial data layers, and learned about the *Nature for Development Spatial Data Sandbox* online platform.

41. A helpdesk was also set up at the Secretariat to respond to Parties' questions regarding the reporting guidelines and resource manual and the use of the online reporting tool. It also conducted nine regional webinars for Parties on the guidelines and the online reporting tool for the sixth national report.

Biosafety

42. The Secretariat with funding from the Japan Biodiversity Fund implemented a project to strengthen capacities for "Integrated implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, and the Convention on Biological Diversity at the national level," building on a similar earlier project that was implemented in 2015-2016. As part of the project, three regional workshops were organized for Asia-Pacific (Kuala Lumpur, 6-10 November 2017) and Africa (Lilongwe, 19-23 February 2018). The workshop for Latin American and the Caribbean is scheduled to take place in Mexico City, from 16-21 April 2018.²³ Participants learned how to achieve integrated implementation of the three instruments and shared information and experience on how biosafety is addressed in their countries' laws, policies and institutional frameworks and the challenges encountered. The Secretariat also provided small grants and technical assistance to ten countries²⁴ to implement pilot projects to test practical actions and approaches to foster integrated implementation of the three instruments, inter alia, through integration of biosafety into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and strengthening of national inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms.²⁵ The selected countries will build on the experience and lessons learned from the previous project and use the toolkit and e-learning module on mainstreaming biosafety developed in collaboration with the University of Strathclyde

43. With funding from the Japan Biodiversity Fund and the Korea Biosafety Capacity Building Initiative, the Secretariat organized subregional training workshops on detection and identification of living modified organisms for the Pacific (Suva, 27 to 29 March 2017) and Francophone Africa (Tunis, 5-9 March 2018) respectively. The workshops contributed to the strengthening capacities for national border controls on living modified organisms. Customs and border control officials learned about the Cartagena Protocol's provisions relating to handling, transport, packaging and identification of LMOs, as well as methods for sampling and detection of LMOs in the context of illegal and unintentional

²³ A total of 54 participants from 20 countries were trained. The breakdown is as follows: Asia-Pacific (28 participants from 10 Parties); Africa (26 participants from 10 countries).

²⁴ The countries are: Cambodia, Cameroon, Cuba, Ghana, Mongolia, Nigeria, Peru, Togo, Venezuela and Vietnam.

²⁵ See details in notifications 2017-064 and 2015-144 available at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2017/ntf-2017-064-bs-en.pdf> and <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2015/ntf-2015-144-bs-en.pdf> respectively.

transboundary movements. A total of 39 participants from 11 Pacific countries and 19 participants from 17 Francophone African countries attended.²⁶

44. The Secretariat and UNEP co-organized the Pacific Regional Training Workshop for Biosafety Clearing House National Focal Points in Nadi, Fiji, from 20 to 23 June 2017. The workshop brought together 15 National Focal Points Fiji, Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Kiribati. The participants developed a follow-up plan known as the “One PASIFIKA Biosafety Roadmap”, to guide island nations towards effectively putting in place biosafety measures beyond the BCH III project, enhancing capacity, establishing sustainable administrative systems, improving compliance with the Cartagena Protocol, and enhancing collaboration within the region.

45. The Secretariat organised the Asia-Pacific Workshop on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms in Kuala Lumpur, from 20 to 24 March 2017. Participants were provided with theoretical and hands-on training on sampling, detection and identification of living modified organisms and laboratory methodologies used for the analysis of samples. The workshop was attended by 22 participants from 13 Parties in the region.

46. The Secretariat organized an online Forum on Public Education regarding LMOs from 3 April to 5 May 2017 to facilitate an exchange of views and information on key elements, procedures and practices of public education regarding LMOs. Subsequently, with input from the Forum the Secretariat produced a toolkit and an e-learning module on public education regarding LMOs with funding from the European Union.

47. Finally, the Secretariat made a presentation on “Biosafety and biosecurity: finding synergies at national and subnational levels” at a webinar organized through the Regions for Biodiversity Learning Platform (R4BLP) by the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development. The webinar took place on 28 June 2017.

²⁶ The workshop reports and background documents are available at: <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/CPHTPIWS-2017-01> and <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/CPDI-WS-2018-01> respectively.

Annex I

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES FACILITATED OR SUPPORTED BY THE SECRETARIAT SINCE COP 13

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Activity	Participants Gender (M:F)	No. of Countries	Source of Funding	Partners
Target 1	Youth capacity-building webinars to support their participation in the SBSTTA-21, coordinated by the Global Youth Biodiversity Network in collaboration with SCBD; November 2017	6		Japan Biodiversity Fund (JBF)	Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN)
	African Regional Youth Capacity-Building Workshop on Biodiversity organized by the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, in collaboration with the Government of South Africa and the SCBD; Muldersdrift, South Africa, 11-20 August 2017	46	16	JBF, South Africa	GYBN, Government of South Africa
	Regional Youth Capacity-Building Workshop on Biodiversity for Asia organized by the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, in collaboration with SCBD, Singapore, 22-27 May 2017	29	19	JBF, Singapore	GYBN, National Parks Board of Singapore
	Regional Youth Capacity-Building Workshop on Biodiversity for Latin America and the Caribbean organized by the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, in collaboration with SCBD Bogota, 2-5 May 2017	28	13	JBF	GYBN, Alexander von Humboldt Institute
Target 2	Part Two (“Applying Resilience Thinking to National Biodiversity Plans”) of the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Introduction to Resilience for Development organized in collaboration with UNDP through the NBSAP Forum, 23 January-13 February 2018			UNDP	UNDP
	Part One (“Understanding Resilience Thinking”) of the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Introduction to Resilience for Development organized in collaboration with UNDP through the NBSAP Forum; 31 October-27 November 2017	2,223	157	UNDP	UNDP
Target 4 and others (2, 3, 11 and 20)	Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Greening Consumption and Production organized in collaboration with UNDP through the NBSAP Forum, 31 May - 12 July 2017	1,393	138	UNDP	UNDP

	Training Workshop on Tourism Partnerships and Concessions in Protected; Maputo, 27-28 June 2017	12 (5:7)	8	Republic of Korea (BBI), Germany	IUCN Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist (TAPAS) Group, ANAC
	Training Workshop on Tourism Partnerships and Concessions in Protected Areas organized by IUCN, through TAPAS Group, in collaboration with the Government of Namibia; Windhoek, 20-21 June 2017	11 (5:6)	6	Republic of Korea (BBI), Germany	IUCN Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist (TAPAS) Group, Government of Namibia
	Training Workshop on Tourism Partnerships and Concessions in Protected Areas, 30 May – 2 June 2017	29 (10:19)	11	Republic of Korea (BBI), Germany	IUCN TAPAS Group, iSimangaliso Wetland Park, South Africa
Target 5 and other forest-related targets	Capacity-development workshop for Central, Eastern and Southern Africa on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems to support the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets organized in collaboration with Government of South Africa; Durban, South Africa, 2 - 6 October 2017	26 (18:8)	25	Republic of Korea (FERI)	Government of South Africa
	Capacity-building workshop for the Mediterranean on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems to support the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, organized in collaboration with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Government of Morocco; Agadir, Morocco, 20 - 24 March 2017	12 (8:4)	11	Republic of Korea (FERI)	FAO Government of South Africa
Targets 6, 10 and 11 (marine biodiversity)	Regional Workshop to Facilitate the Description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas in the Baltic Sea and Training Session on EBSAs, Helsinki, 19- 24 February 2018	23 (12:11)	7	Finland, Sweden	Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)
	Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) National Capacity-Building Workshop for Cameroon, organized in collaboration with the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI); Yaoundé, 17 - 19 January 2018	36 (23:13)	1	JBF, Republic of Korea (SOI)	GOBI
	Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Training of Trainers Workshop organized in collaboration with the National Marine Biodiversity Institute of Korea and various SOI partners; Seocheon, Republic of Korea, 25 - 29 September 2017	16 (10:6)	17	Republic of Korea (SOI), JBF	National Marine Biodiversity Institute of Korea and various SOI partners
	Pre-workshop training and webinar in preparation for the Regional Workshop to Facilitate the Description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) in the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea and Training Session on Ecologically or	29 (17:12)	10	JBF	Black Sea Commission, Tehran Convention Interim Secretariat, Agreement on the Conservation of

	Biologically Significant Marine Areas; Baku, 24 - 29 April 2017				Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)
	Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Capacity-Building Workshop for the Wider Caribbean and Central America; San José, Costa Rica, 20 - 24 February 2017	63 (36:27)	18	JBF	Government of Costa Rica the Caribbean Environment Programme
Target 7	Webinar on Sustainable Use of Pollinators organized through the Regions for Biodiversity Learning Platform (R4BLP); 7 March 2018	18	6 (regions)		R4BLP
Target 9	Capacity-building workshop for Caribbean small island developing States towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9, Kingston, Jamaica, 18-22 September 2017	21	12	JBF	Government of Jamaica Great Britain Non-native Species Secretariat, CABI, Caribbean Community and UN Environment
	“Post-workshop webinar” for Small Island developing States in the Caribbean				Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
	Update of information in the Global Registry of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS)			EU	Partner organizations and country editors
Target 11	Knowledge-sharing event on the contributions of the Like-Minded Megadiverse Countries to the achievement of Aichi Target 11, Montreal, QC, Canada 12 December 2017	60			
	Provision of advice on the establishment of Regional Implementation Support Networks to assist countries with the implementation of prioritized national actions				
	Compilation of experiences on measures to enhance integration and mainstreaming of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures into the wider land and seascapes and across sectors and effective governance models for management of protected areas				IUCN, GIZ and UNDP
	Implementation of the Peace and Biodiversity Dialogue Initiative			Republic of Korea	UNEP-WCMC
Target 14	Regional Capacity-building Workshop on Biodiversity and Human Health for the European Region jointly organized with the World	70	28	Finland	World Health Organization Government of Finland

	Health Organization, in collaboration with Government of Finland; Helsinki 23-25 October 2017				
Targets 15, 14 and 7 (climate change and biodiversity)	Regional Dialogue and Learning Mission on Integrating Climate Change Action and Biodiversity Action at the National Level in South America; Bogota, 27 November – 1 December 2017	19 (5:14)	10	EU and SwedBio	SwedBio
	Regional Dialogue and Learning Mission on Integrating Climate Change Action and Biodiversity Action at the National Level in Southern Africa; Durban, South Africa, 2-6 October 2017	46 (25:21)	20	EU and SwedBio	SwedBio
	Regional Dialogue and Learning Mission on Integrating Climate Change Action and Biodiversity Action at the National Level in the Pacific; Suva, Fiji, 23-27 October 2017	47 (28:19)	13	EU and SwedBio	SwedBio
	Regional Training Workshop on National Adaptation Plans for Latin America and the Caribbean organized / conducted by the UNFCCC Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) San Jose, Costa Rica, 4-7 September 2017	41 (18:23)	26		UNFCCC Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)
Target 16	South and Southeast Asia Workshop on mutually supportive implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), organized in collaboration with Biodiversity International, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative, the ITPGRFA Secretariat and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity Los Baños, Philippines, 27 – 30 March 2017	17	8	JBF	Biodiversity International, ABS Capacity Development Initiative, ITPGRFA Secretariat, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Target 17	Pilot project on mainstreaming biodiversity into the Poverty Reduction Strategy and key sectoral ministries in Burundi			JBF	
	Pilot Project on Valuing Ecosystem Services for Biodiversity Protection in Antigua & Barbuda			JBF	Marine Ecosystems Protected Area (MEPA) Trust
	Demonstration project on “Development of a solid monitoring plan for the Ecuadorian national biodiversity strategy and action plan in Ecuador”			JBF	Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN), Ecuador
	Pilot project on integration of conservation priorities in Sri Lanka’s economic development plans			JBF	Environmental Foundation Ltd

	Demonstration / pilot project on testing a methodology for mapping biodiversity priorities in Botswana, Ethiopia and Malawi			JBF	South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), UNEP-WCMC
Targets 18 and 16	Online Forum in Preparation for the Capacity Development Programme on national arrangements on Traditional Knowledge for achieving Target 18 and contributing to Target 16 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, 30 November 2017	200			UNDP IIFB IWNB
	Twelfth Annual Global Capacity-building workshop for indigenous peoples, held in the margins of the 16th session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York, USA, 19-21 April 2017	18			Tribal Link Foundation
Target 19 and the Clearing-House Mechanism	Subregional Workshop for Arabic-speaking Countries on the Clearing-House Mechanism, Cairo, 5-9 March 2018	11 (7:4)	8	JBF	Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS)
	Regional Workshop for Asia on the Clearing-House Mechanism, Bangkok, 29 January – 2 February 2018	14 (8:6)	14	JBF	ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)
	Capacity-building workshop on the Clearing-House Mechanism for francophone partner countries in Africa; Lomé, 2 – 5 May 2017	19	10	Belgium	RBINS
	Sub-regional training workshop on the harmonization of the Clearing-House Mechanism and the Biodiversity Management Programme National Biodiversity Databases; Addis Ababa, 9 – 13 April 2017	27 (24:3)	7	Belgium	Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), RBINS
	Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Table for Central and Eastern Europe and the Central Asian Republics, Minsk, 26-28 February 2018	20 (3:17)	14	Republic of Korea (BBI)	Institute of Genetics and Cytology, Belarus
	Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Table for Latin America and the Caribbean, Bogota, 27 - 29 November 2017	29 (17:12)	21	Republic of Korea (BBI)	Alexander von Humboldt Institute Government of Colombia
	Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Table for Africa, Entebbe, 7 - 9 November 2017	36 (21:15)	28	Republic of Korea (BBI)	National Environment Management Authority of Uganda
	Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Table for Asia and the Pacific, Incheon, Republic of Korea, 16 – 19 October 2017	36 (21:15)	24	Republic of Korea (BBI)	National Institute of Biological Resources of the Republic of Korea

Cross-cutting activities (all Aichi Biodiversity Targets) National Reporting	Workshop on the preparation of the sixth national report, Montreal, QC, Canada, 9 December 2017	91	67		UNDP UN Environment FAO
	Workshop on spatial tools for the preparation of the sixth national report; Montreal, Canada, 10 December 2017	89	72		UNDP UN Environment FAO
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (including Target 16)	South and Southeast Asia Workshop on mutually supportive implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), Los Baños, Philippines, 27 – 30 March 2017	17	8	JBF	Biodiversity International, ABS Capacity Development Initiative, ITPGRFA Secretariat, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
	Regional Workshop on the Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House and Access and Benefit-Sharing Contract Template Development, St. George, Grenada, 27-29 November 2017	15	9	GEF	IUCN UN Environment
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Workshop on Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms for Francophone Africa; Tunis, 5-9 March 2018	19 (16:3)	17	Republic of Korea (Biosafety Capacity Building Initiative)	National Gene Bank of Tunisia, Tunisian Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment
	African regional workshop on strengthening capacities for the integrated implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and the Convention on Biological Diversity; Lilongwe, 19-23 February 2018	26 (16:10)	10	JBF	Government of Malawi (Department of Environmental Affairs)
	Asian Subregional Workshop on Strengthening Capacities for the Integrated Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and the Convention on Biological Diversity; Kuala Lumpur, 6-10 November 2017	28 (16:12)	10	JBF	Government of Malaysia
	Pacific Regional Training Workshop on the Biosafety Clearing House Mechanism; Nadi, Fiji, 20-23 June 2017	15	8	GEF	UN Environment

Workshop on developing capacity for national border controls on living modified organisms in Pacific small island developing States; Suva, 27 - 29 March 2017	39 (30:9)	11	JBF	Government of Fiji
Asia-Pacific Workshop on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms Kuala Lumpur, 20-24 March 2017	22 (5:17)	13	JBF	Government of Malaysia
E-learning module and toolkit on mainstreaming biosafety developed and made available on the Biodiversity e-Learning Platform			JBF	University of Strathclyde
Pilot projects to develop and apply practical measures and approaches for integrated implementation of the CPB and the CBD.		10	JBF	

Annex II

EVALUATIONS OF CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY SCBD SINCE COP-13

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Activity	Overall Assessment (Level of satisfaction / usefulness / fulfilment of expectations)
Target 4 and others (2, 3, 11 and 20)	Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Greening Consumption and Production organized in collaboration with UNDP through the NBSAP Forum, 31 May - 12 July 2017	96% satisfaction
Targets 6, 10 and 11 (marine biodiversity)	Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Capacity-Building Workshop for the Wider Caribbean and Central America; San José, Costa Rica, 20 - 24 February 2017	Met objectives 1.5 (1 = strongly agrees) / Useful 1.23
Target 9	Capacity-building workshop for Caribbean small island developing States towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9, Kingston, Jamaica, 18-22 September 2017	88% useful
Targets 15, 14 and 7 (climate change and biodiversity)	Regional Dialogue and Learning Mission on Integrating Climate Change Action and Biodiversity Action at the National Level in the Pacific; Suva, 23-27 October 2017	Satisfactory 93% (methods used) / Effective 79% (performance)
Target 19 and the Clearing-House Mechanism	Regional Workshop for Asia on the Clearing-House Mechanism, Bangkok, 29 January – 2 February 2018	86% expectations met
	Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Table for Central and Eastern Europe and the Central Asian Republics, Minsk, 26-28 February 2018	83% expectations met 86% worth time invested 84% overall satisfaction
	Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Table for Latin America and the Caribbean, Bogota, 27 - 29 November 2017	85% overall satisfaction 81% expectations met 84% worth time invested
	Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Table for Africa, Entebbe, 7 - 9 November 2017	83% expectations met 86% worth time invested 84% overall satisfaction
	Regional Bio-Bridge Initiative Round Table for Asia and the Pacific, Incheon, Republic of Korea, 16 - 19 October 2017	86% overall satisfaction 90% expectations met 90% worth time invested
Cross-cutting activities (all Aichi Biodiversity Targets) National Reporting	Workshop on the preparation of the sixth national report, Montreal, QC, Canada 9 December 2017	91% useful
	Workshop on spatial tools for the preparation of the sixth national report; Montreal,	84% useful

	Canada, 10 December 2017	
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Asian Subregional Workshop on Strengthening Capacities for the Integrated Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and the Convention on Biological Diversity; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 6-10 November 2017	88% expectations met / 91% useful
	Workshop on developing capacity for national border controls on living modified organisms in Pacific small island developing States; Suva, 27 - 29 March 2017	83% expectations met / 90% useful
	Asia-Pacific Workshop on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms, Kuala Lumpur, 20-24 March 2017	53% expectations met / 87% useful