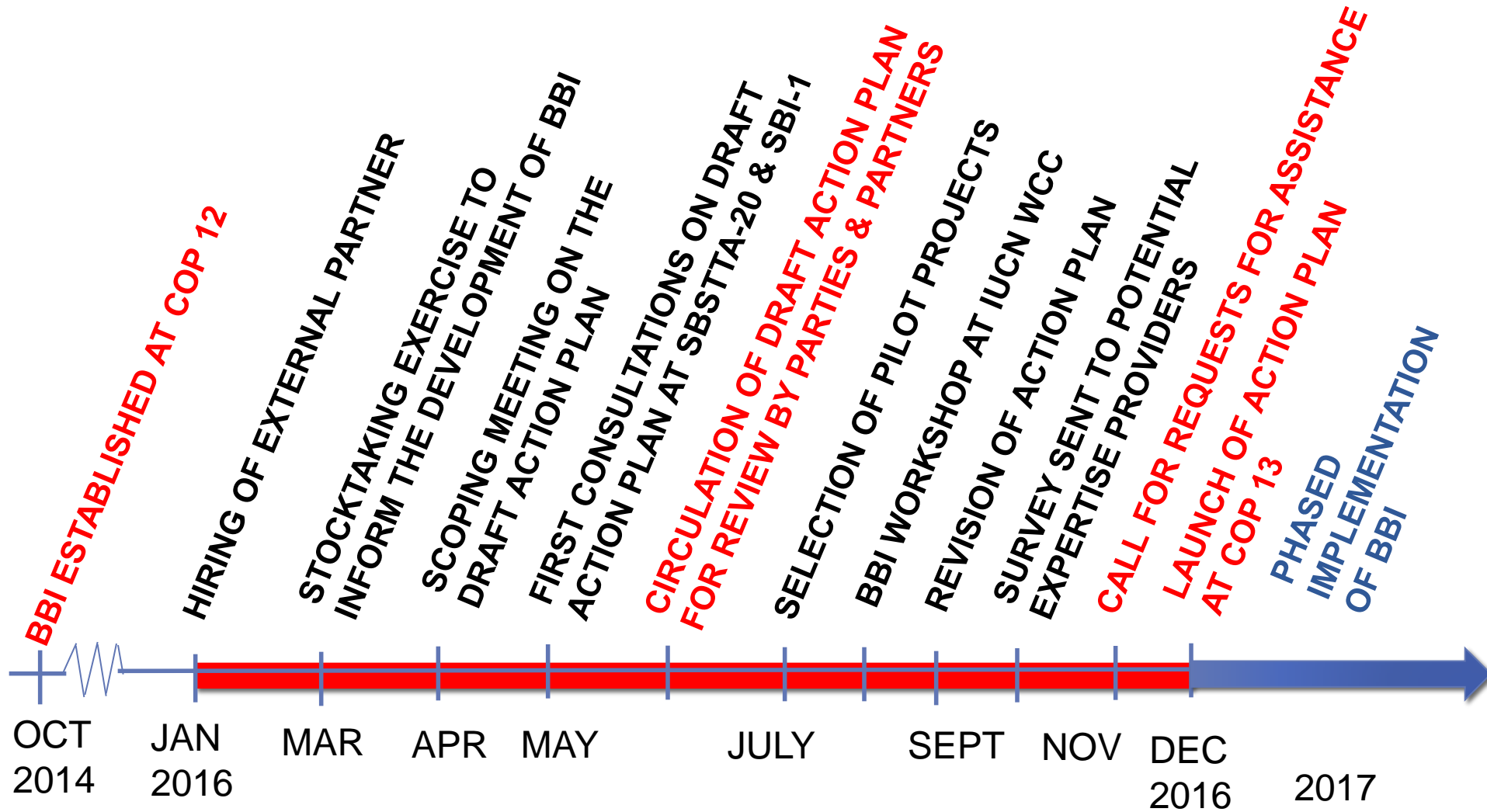# An Introduction

Background

- Established by the Government of the Republic of Korea in October 2014 at COP12.

- Purpose:
  - Catalyze and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer among Parties to the Convention and its Protocols.
  - Contribute to implementation of the:
    - *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and of the NBSAPs.
    - *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs*

- Article 18 of the CBD (related Articles 16, 17 & 19); Article 22 & 23 of Nagoya Protocol; Article 22 of Cartagena Protocol.

Timeline – BBI Development Process

BBI ESTABLISHED AT COP 12

HIRING OF EXTERNAL PARTNER

STOCKTAKING EXERCISE TO INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT OF BBI

SCOPING MEETING ON THE DRAFT ACTION PLAN

FIRST CONSULTATIONS ON DRAFT ACTION PLAN AT SBSTTA-20 & SBI-1

CIRCULATION OF DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR REVIEW BY PARTIES & PARTNERS

SELECTION OF PILOT PROJECTS

BBI WORKSHOP AT IUCN WCC

REVISION OF ACTION PLAN

SURVEY SENT TO POTENTIAL EXPERTISE PROVIDERS

CALL FOR REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

LAUNCH OF ACTION PLAN AT COP 13

PHASED IMPLEMENTATION OF BBI

OCT 2014 | JAN 2016 | MAR | APR | MAY | JULY | SEPT | NOV | DEC 2016 | 2017

Action Plan 2017-2020

BBI's Vision

Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and to its Protocols are <u>actively cooperating and sharing</u> knowledge, tools, technologies, expertise and other resources through regional and global <u>partnerships and networks</u> to achieve their national biodiversity objectives and targets

BBI's Mission

To be an <u>overarching programme</u> fostering and facilitating technical and scientific cooperation among countries and institutions in order to halt the loss of biodiversity and ensure that ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services

Aim of the Bio-Bridge Initiative

Catalyze and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation in support of implementation of the Convention and its Protocols by:

- linking Parties that have specific technical and scientific needs with institutions that are able to provide technical support and resources to meet those needs; and

- creating a space for countries and institutions to share knowledge, tools, technologies good practices and lessons learned.

Aim of the Bio-Bridge Initiative

NEEDS

- Appropriate knowledge, tools, resources to achieve ABTs
- Support for identification & development of TSC opportunities
- Support for identification & implementation of solutions

BIO-BRIDGE

- HELP DESK
- MEETINGS
- ONLINE RESOURCES

RESPONSES

- Foster increased TSC among Parties and institutions
- Technical assistance to develop TSC initiatives
- Matching defined needs with resources and experts from partner networks

FACILITATING TECHNICAL & SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION AMONG COUNTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

BBI Objectives

Specific Objectives:

- To **foster increased cooperation among Parties** and institutions to share knowledge, tools and resources

- To provide technical **assistance to Parties and relevant institutions to articulate theirTSC needs** and identify and develop opportunities for addressing needs through TSC

- To **match articulated Party needs with the available knowledge, tools and resources -** harness expert and institutional networks

1. Foster Increased engagement in TSC among Parties and partners

ACTIVITIES:

- Implement a communication and outreach strategy to increase understanding of the value and importance of TSC:
  - **Outreach Strategy** to engage all CBD Parties and stakeholders
  - **Web strategy** to effectively manage knowledge and facilitate cooperation
  - **Mobilize networks of organizations** that will support BBI in the delivery of TSC
- Organize regional roundtables and thematic meetings, to encourage new cooperation
- Provide seed funging for innovative TSC initiatives

2. Provide technical assistance for needs articulation through help desk

ACTIVITIES:

• Establish the **BBI help desk** as a means to support Parties in seeking TSC

• Receive and compile technical assistance needs through a **common form and approach**

• Operationalize the help desk service to **assist Parties with the articulation of needs** and elaboration of requests for assistance

3. Match needs with appropriate knowledge, tools, resources through help desk

ACTIVITIES:

•Develop and implement approach to select most **appropriate response** to requests for assistance (set response options)

•Provide a **knowledge base of resources** relevant to TSC

•Develop and implement a **transparent process to support eeeennnnnnnn ssssoooss nnnn'** for new TSC initiatives (expert-supported project proposals to be delivered through TSC with specific partners)

•Support applications to partner mechanisms engaged in TSC or capacity development

Desired Outcomes

Objective	Outcome
Foster increased engagement in TSC among Parties and institutions	• Parties will be proactively seeking opportunities and partners for biodiversity-related TSC • Parties and other stakeholders will be proactively offering biodiversity-related solutions to other countries • Parties will consult with each other regularly about available solutions to biodiversity challenges • Parties will co-finance TSC projects
Provide technical assistance for needs articulation	• Parties and other stakeholders will have facilitated access to technical and scientific assistance and knowledge • Parties will identify and precisely articulate their priority needs
Match needs with appropriate knowledge, tools, resources	• Parties will develop robust proposals for TSC initiatives, ready to be funded and implemented • Projects resulting from matchmaking implemented • Partner institutions are actively involved in promoting and implementing TSC • Online resources and links to other tools, resources and programmes are being used to share and uptake solutions

Important Caveat…

…BBI is NOT a funding mechanism

→Focus is on catalyzing and fostering TSC among countries & institutions, supporting the articulation of needs, supporting the development of robust project proposals, matching needs with relevant partners, mobilizing external resources

→Building partnerships to support delivery of many TSC initiatives, and to leverage core project funding

BBI Guiding Principles

- An **overarching catalytic** programme

- Simple and **easily accessible**

- **Demand-driven and flexible** approach to supporting TSC initiatives through a "**help desk**"

- Providing support in an **Integrated and systematic manner** for needs articulation, proposal development, matchmaking

- A focus on **long-term cooperation at the institutional level**

- Emphasis on **transfer of technology and know-how**

- Prioritizing of resources to meet the needs of **developing countries and countries with economies in transition**

- Working in **synergy with other programmes of work and relevant initiatives,** building on their experience, filling gaps

Key Features of BBI

- A **help desk** with staff available to assist and direct Parties in their search for specific technical and scientific expertise and resources

- A **catalytic** programme designed to facilitate TSC initiatives among countries and institutions

- **Decentralized** support mechanisms through regional hubs and networks, maintained by partner institutions

- A **network of partners** providing technical and scientific assistance upon request – expertise, tools, resources, etc.

- A **proactive** approach **to identifying specialized knowledge and biodiversity-related technologies**, and facilitating its widespread transfer

Main BBI Tools

- Help desk
  - assist countries to articulate their needs/elaborate their request for assistance;
  - matchmaking service to link countries' needs with available support.

- Web platform
  - provide workspace to submit requests for assistance, express interest to offer technical assistance (TA), and register TA opportunities;
  - facilitate access to available opportunities and curated resources (e.g. case studies) with links to other sites/tools;
  - support online fora and networks.

- Regional roundtables and regional network hubs
  - catalyze new cooperation
  - support BBI activities within regions.

Beneficiaries of BBI services

- Parties to the Convention and its Protocols

- Priority for assistance will be given to:
  - Developing countries, in particular:
    - least developed countries
    - small island developing States
  - Countries with economies in transition; and
  - Indigenous peoples and local communities.

Providers of technical assistance

May include:

- Governments
- International organizations
- NGOs
- Regional organizations and centres of excellence
- Research and academic institutions
- Development assistance agencies
- Foundations
- Private sector

BBI Governance

Steering Committee

- Decision-making and management oversight

- Composition:
  - 5 government representatives (one per regional group)
  - A representative per donor country/organization
  - A representative from the GEF
  - Chair of the SBI

Advisory Committee

- Advise on BBI operations and implementation

- Composition:
  - Chair of the SBSTTA
  - Chair of the IAC-CHM
  - Chair of the Compliance Committee Cartagena Protocol
  - Chair of the Compliance Committee Nagoya Protocol
  - 2 representatives from the CSP
  - A representative IPLCs

Progress to date

- BBI Action Plan 2017-2020 launched in December 2016

- Help desk in place

- BBI website and Bio-Bridge Web Platform established

- Operational procedures and guidelines, including criteria for review and selection of requests for assistance developed

- Four BBI Pilot projects completed

- Ten new BBI demonstration projects selected for funding

- The central help desk began receiving requests for assistance in 2017

  Visit https://www.cbd.int/biobridge for updates
Email: biobridge@cbd.int

Phased implementation

- Phase I (2017-2018)
  - Developing basic web infrastructure
  - Establishing help desk, protocols for help desk services
  - Communication and outreach
  - Testing help desk services with recurrent evaluation and adaptation
  - Working with partners to support evolving BBI
  - Mobilizing additional resources
  - Programme evaluation

- Phase II (2019-2020)
  - More focused programme, based on learning from Phase I
  - Establishment of regional BBI nodes/help desks
  - Developing additional tools/resources as needed

Submission of requests for assistance

A central help desk began receiving requests for assistance in January 2017.

Visit https://www.cbd.int/biobridge for updates

Send an e-mail: biobridge@cbd.int

Monitoring and Evaluation

- A monitoring and evaluation framework will be developed based on indicators and targets in order to improve performance over time, and to ensure that the BBI meets, and continues to meet, the needs of Parties.

Financial Sustainability

- Fundraising is essential in order to develop BBI's presence in a number of regions, to support TSC projects, and to ensure long-term support for TSC initiatives under the convention and its protocols.

The Future of BBI

BBI's Success will require:

- Identification of effective, replicable approaches

- Adaptation of effective approaches to specific contexts

- Willingness of countries/institutions to share their success stories and approaches with others

- Long-term cooperation relationships to support uptake, adaptation and implementation of knowledge, know-how, technologies, etc.

- Diverse and sustainable sources of support – funding, expertise

Questions

- What BBI support services would be most useful to your country?
- What type of cooperation opportunities are you looking for? (expert help, help with fundraising, networking for inspiration, exchange of good ideas)
- How can BBI support already ongoing TSC initiatives in your respective countries?
- How can BBI best achieve broad and lasting impact?
- What would BBI's success look like, say 10 years from now?

Relevant documents on BBI

UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/21

Bio-Bridge Initiative Action Plan 2017-2020

UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/22

Stocktaking Summary of the Technical and Scientific Cooperation Needs of Parties, Previous Work Carried out Under the Convention and Initiatives Relevant to the Bio-Bridge Initiative.

Thank you!

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Website:https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/