



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Review of implementation of the Kunming-Montreal
Global Biodiversity Framework, including
means of implementation

Analysis of national biodiversity strategies and action plans revised and updated aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. National biodiversity strategies and action plans are the principal instrument for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity at the national level. Article 6 of the Convention establishes that each Contracting Party “shall, in accordance with its particular conditions and capabilities, develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes which shall reflect, inter alia, the measures set out in the Convention relevant to the Contracting Party concerned”.
2. In its decision [15/6](#), the Conference of the Parties requested Parties to revise and update their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its goals and targets, including those related to means of implementation, and to submit them by the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. It requested Parties not in a position to do so by that time to communicate national targets, as a stand-alone submission, by the sixteenth meeting, in advance of the full submission of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.
3. A list of the Parties that submitted national biodiversity strategies and action plans is available in document CBD/SBI/5/2. The present note provides an analysis of the 18 revised or updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans submitted as at 28 August 2024, in one of the official languages of the United Nations, or with a summary provided in one of the official languages.¹ An analysis of national targets is available in document CBD/SBI/5/2/Add.2.

* CBD/SBI/5/1.

** The present document is being issued without formal editing.

¹ Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Cuba, European Union, France, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Spain, Suriname and Uganda.

II. Background

4. Since the entry into force of the Convention in 1993, 193 Parties to the Convention have prepared at least one national biodiversity strategy and action plan. Of those prepared and submitted before the adoption of the Framework, 71 covered a period up to 2030, one covered a period up to 2035 and 16 covered a period up to 2050. Although those national biodiversity strategies and action plans remain temporally valid, it is expected that they will be revised or updated to be aligned with the Framework and its goals and targets, as requested by the Conference of the Parties in its decision 15/6.

5. An analysis of national biodiversity strategies and action plans submitted during the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 was included as part of the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, published in 2020. A further analysis was prepared by the Secretariat for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.² The analysis highlighted successes and challenges encountered in the development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans during that decade. One of the main challenges related to the long time lag between the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the development of aligned national biodiversity strategies and action plans. While Parties had a five-year period for preparing and submitting their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, only 69 Parties had submitted their national biodiversity strategies and action plans by the deadline of December 2015. By 17 October 2022, an additional 108 countries had submitted an updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan, bringing the total to 177, but many of those national biodiversity strategies and action plans were submitted very close to the end of the decade of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020.

6. One of the main challenges noted by Parties during the previous decade were the delays in initiating Global Environment Facility enabling activity projects which provide support for developing national biodiversity strategies and action plans. While the national biodiversity strategies and action plans developed during the decade 2011–2020 included more successes in terms of achieving whole-of-government approaches, as compared with the decade 2001–2010, there remained gaps in several areas, notably: adoption of national biodiversity strategies and action plans as a national policy through legislation; costing the actions of the plan and developing a clear finance plan; stakeholder engagement; building capacity; and mainstreaming in other sectors of government. In addition, national targets in many national biodiversity strategies and action plans were not aligned with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020.

III. Progress in updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

7. Since the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, 20 countries have submitted a revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan pursuant to the request in decision 15/6. During the dialogues on national biodiversity strategies and action plans held between August 2023 and September 2024,³ most Parties indicated that they were in the process of preparing their revised or updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans but had prioritized the development and submission of national targets.⁴

8. Of the 18 national biodiversity strategies and action plans considered in the analysis, 2 were from African States, 6 from Asia-Pacific States, 1 from an Eastern European State, 3 from Latin American and Caribbean States and 6 from Western European and other States. The analysis is based on an assessment against the national biodiversity strategies and action plans guidance adopted in

² CBD/COP/15/9/Add.1.

³ CBD/SBI/5/2/Add.3.

⁴ For further information on these dialogues see document CBD/SBI/5/2/Add.3.

decision IX/8 which includes guidance related to (a) process and legal status; (b) components of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans; (c) mainstreaming.

A. Process and legal status of revised/updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans

9. Most of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans have been developed with some level of stakeholder engagement or expect to involve stakeholders in the implementation. More than half of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans analysed state that the Party undertook an assessment of its previous national biodiversity strategy and action plan as part of its process to revise or update it. In addition, more than half of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans analysed have been adopted as policy instruments. It is expected that at least some of the other Parties will adopt their national biodiversity strategies and action plans as policy instruments at a later date, given the short time between completion and submission, which may not have been sufficient for these processes to be undertaken in some countries.

B. Components of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans

10. Of the revised or updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans analysed, most contain either targets or actions pertaining to communication, education and public awareness. Most also contain references to means of implementation, including finance and capacity development. However, less than half of them have a resource mobilization strategy or mention the intention to develop one at a later date. More than half of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans reviewed mention an intention to address gender issues across the development of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

C. Mainstreaming

11. Most of the revised or updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans contain a plan to mainstream biodiversity into relevant sectors. More than half of the revised or updated strategies and plans mention linking with subnational level plans. Less than half address the valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, while the intention to develop payment for ecosystem service programmes is occasionally mentioned. Just over half of the revised or updated strategies and plans mention a link with national development plans; most, however, are linked with sustainable development plans. A link with a poverty eradication strategy or similar instrument is only occasionally mentioned.

D. Targets, actions, monitoring

12. A summary of the national targets submitted is presented in document CBD/SBI/5/2/Add.2. In the submitted national biodiversity strategies and action plans, more than half contain actions related to the implementation of national targets, and most contain targets or actions to implement the Protocols, other multilateral environmental agreements and the Sustainable Development Goals. More than half contain a monitoring and evaluation plan; however, less than half of them provide details related to how specific indicators will be used for monitoring, and less than half use the headline indicators adopted in decision 15/5.