



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF/55
5 October 2012

ENGLISH ONLY

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Eleventh meeting
Hyderabad, India, 8-19 October 2012
Item 3.3 of the provisional agenda*

THE BIODIVERSITY INDICATORS PARTNERSHIP AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The Executive Secretary is pleased to circulate herewith, for information of participants in the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, a document entitled “*The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020: How the partnership could contribute to implementing CBD COP11 Draft Decisions with respect to global, regional and national indicator development and use*”. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership provided by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre.
2. The document is being circulated in the form and language in which it was received by the Secretariat.

* UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1.

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The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

How the partnership could contribute to implementing CBD COP11 Draft Decisions with respect to global, regional and national indicator development and use

Key Messages

- Since 2010, the BIP has actively supported the implementation of the new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity at global, regional and national scales, and is growing in size and scope to meet the needs of Parties.
- The BIP is well positioned to act as the principle vehicle for coordinating the development of biodiversity indicators at global, regional and national scales, and for delivery of indicator information for monitoring progress towards the Aichi Targets and the development of CBD outputs such as the Global Biodiversity Outlook
- The BIP and the CBD Secretariat have recently agreed to work together to ensure that the BIP is more closely integrated into CBD processes
- The BIP has secured funding to support development and use of indicators at national level, in support of NBSAP revision and implementation during 2012-2013
- BIP partners contribute substantially to global indicator development and maintenance, but current expectations exceed available resources, thereby necessitating further joint fundraising efforts

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1) Introduction

At the 15th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) a recommendation was adopted on the 'Indicator framework for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets'. As well as noting the indicative indicator framework identified by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, recommendation XV/11 requested the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP) and other relevant organisations, to achieve a number of actions concerning global, regional and national indicator development for implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The recommendations have now been transposed into Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.22 for the eleventh Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD.

In response to these requests the BIP has produced this information document. It reviews each of the CBD COP 11 draft decisions for global, regional and national indicator support and identifies how the partnership can assist in their implementation.

2) The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership since 2010

2.1 *The Partnership up to 2010*

The BIP is a global initiative established in 2007 in response to CBD Decision VII/30, with substantial funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to assist in monitoring progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target. The BIP was subsequently endorsed by the CBD in Decision VIII/15. From 2007 to 2010 the Partnership brought together over 40 organizations worldwide to develop, strengthen, implement and communicate a suite of complementary indicators, which were agreed by parties to the CBD at COP 8 (Decision VIII/15) in 2006. The BIP made substantial process in developing global biodiversity indicators for the framework. Of the headline indicators considered ready for testing and use in 2006, all were further developed in terms of data coverage and updating. Of the nine headline indicators that were identified as needing further development, four received substantial attention. In total the Partnership brought together and reported on 29 specific metrics for 17 of the CBD headline indicators. This work provided comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date information on global biodiversity trends for decision makers. The work of the 2010 BIP resulted in a significantly enhanced and more comprehensive evidence base for the third Global Biodiversity Outlook, released in 2010, compared with earlier volumes.

2.2 *The Partnership since 2010*

In order to support the revised and updated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the BIP has undergone an extensive review process and has identified the following four objectives for the continued Partnership:

- An enlarged and enhanced partnership to facilitate experience sharing and indicator implementation in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

¹ <http://www.cbd.int/recommendation/sbstta/?id=12968>

² <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-11/official/cop-11-01-add2-en.pdf>

- A significant expansion in national capacity-strengthening for the development and use of biodiversity and ecosystem service indicators as part of NBSAP updating and implementation.
- Providing a communication hub website for developing and communicating compelling storylines from the combined suite of global indicators.
- A much closer integrated working relationship with the Secretariat of the CBD

Since CBD COP 10, BIP partners have played an active role in the supporting processes to inform COP 11, particularly through participating in both the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Indicators for the Strategic Plan 2011-2020³, and the supporting International Expert Workshop⁴. As a result the BIP made significant contributions to the indicative indicator framework which was recognised by SBSTTA 15 in Recommendation XV/1.

2.3 The Partnership beyond 2012

In close collaboration with the Secretariat of the CBD, as well as other Multilateral Environmental Agreements, the BIP will further develop and enhance its work on biodiversity indicators to measure progress towards the Aichi Targets. It will co-ordinate annual global scale indicator reporting, both in terms of monitoring progress towards the Aichi Targets and in terms of annual reviews of the status of indicator development to fill gaps in the framework of indicators for the Aichi Targets. This includes working with different sectors to ensure that sufficient indicator information is available across the biodiversity related topics of the Aichi Targets.

- The restructured BIP will be recognised as the principle vehicle for coordinating the development of indicators at global, regional and national scales for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the primary mechanism for monitoring progress towards the Aichi Targets and the delivery of indicator information for the development of CBD outputs, such as the Global Biodiversity Outlook.
- At the sub-global level the BIP will continue to support the development of national level monitoring and indicators through regional capacity building workshops and the development of an extensive range support materials (including capacity building toolkit, e-learning materials). These activities will be integrated into the NBSAP support activities of the CBD Secretariat.
- All BIP products, ranging from new products such as the Aichi Targets Passport, and the existing global and national indicator websites will be restructured to be made accessible through the CBD website, and branded under the “UN Decade of Biodiversity”
- The BIP will continue to strengthen its work on linking the development of monitoring and new indicators and in this regard will continue its role as the focal point for indicators within the relevant GEO BON working group.

³ AHTEG Report: www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-15/information/sbstta-15-inf-06-en.pdf

⁴ International Expert Workshop Report: <http://www.bipindicators.net/expertworkshop>

- The BIP will continue to pay significant attention to key multilateral processes involving biodiversity indicators, including the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals arising from the Rio+20 process, as well as to promoting biodiversity indicators in other sectors.
- Joint fundraising efforts will be undertaken between the BIP secretariat and CBD Secretariat to maintain BIP activities, to reinforce the funding secured to implement the 2012-13 activities.

2.4 The Partnership Organization

The BIP is organised into four components:

- A secretariat, hosted by UNEP-WCMC in Cambridge, UK
- Numerous partner indicator organisations, located around the world and working both individually and in collaborations to develop, implement and maintain global indicators suitable to track the Aichi Targets
- A steering committee to be chaired by the Executive Secretary of the CBD. The main role of the steering committee is to provide advice and guidance to the BIP on strategic direction and implementation of its work, and to measure its performance.
- A user group, proposed to provide advice and guidance on the needs of key users to ensure BIP activities and outputs are fit-for-purpose, including for NBSAP development

3) Supporting Global Indicator Development, 2011-2020

Item 3.3 paragraph 8 of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requested the BIP to work in collaboration with the CBD Executive Secretary and other relevant organizations to achieve a number of actions concerning global indicator development, including the development of technical rationale for the indicators, ensuring that each Aichi Biodiversity Target can be monitored by at least one global indicator and to explore the harmonization of indicators between Conventions and sectors. In the following sections, for each CBD COP11 draft decision, the situation, challenge and activities that the BIP is both currently undertaking and could do with the availability of the appropriate partners and resources, have been identified.

3.1 Provide Global Indicator Information

3.1.1 Draft decisions

Item 3.3 paragraph 8 (i) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP and other relevant organisations, to ‘Develop practical information on the indicators, including the rationale behind the indicators, their development status, the scale at which they are applied and information on data sources and methodologies, to assist in the application of each of the indicators’ and ‘Further develop and maintain the online database on indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020’, respectively.

3.1.2 Issue

Sufficient useful information is provided to all stakeholders, from indicator development practitioners to policy makers and media, to create and maintain a comprehensive database to provide access to all relevant information about suitable indicators for the CBD Strategic Plan.

3.1.3 What *is being provided* by the BIP

Detailed information on all indicators that tracked the 2010 Target is available through the BIP website: www.bipindicators.net.

The BIP website has been updated to align with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Access to indicator information is through a new search facility which enables users to explore the indicators by one or any combination of the following fields: Strategic Goal, Aichi Target, Headline Indicator, and Pressure-State-Benefit-Response. Each indicator has its own webpage, from which a factsheet can be viewed/downloaded. The information available for each indicator includes:

- Indicator facts
- Indicator rationale
- Current status
- Indicator scale
- Indicator presentation
- Interpreting the indicator
- Current storyline
- National use
- Future developments
- Indicator publications

The content on the indicator pages is regularly reviewed and updated by partners to ensure that the information is up to date and accurately reflects the current status of the indicators. The BIP has worked with the CBD Secretariat to ensure that the CBD Strategic Plan indicator database⁵ links directly to the appropriate indicator pages on the BIP website. This ensures connectivity between the indicator information provided by the BIP and CBD websites.

The BIP in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat has undertaken a branding of the Aichi Targets, including icons for each of the 20 Aichi Targets.

A major output of this process is the production of an “Aichi Target Passport”, available in hard copy and as a Smartphone App, being launched at CBD COP11. It presents one or two indicators per each of the Aichi Biodiversity targets to highlight:

1. What progress has been made towards the targets to date
2. What baselines exist from which future progress can be monitored

The Passport constitutes a proof of concept for annual indicator reporting and how the BIP can provide this. The Passport will be further updated as more information becomes available and following the outcomes of CBD COP 11 in October 2012.

⁵ <http://www.cbd.int/sp/indicators/>

To Download the Aichi Targets Passport as a Smartphone App, please visit:

iTunes store: <http://d.pr/3dKU>

Google play shop: <http://d.pr/3z1W>

3.1.4 What *could be provided* by the BIP

Subject to the availability of resources additional planned website interaction options will include: essential biodiversity variables (to be developed in liaison with GEOBON), the key policy questions identified by the AHTEG on indicators for the Strategic Plan and possibly regional masks. A forum for indicator practitioners to informally share experiences under each Aichi Target is also planned. In addition, visualization could be utilized to enable spatial examination of indicator data.

As the BIP expands to include new indicators for the Aichi targets, the BIP secretariat will ensure that these indicators have their own web page on the website with information available for the fields specified in section 3.1.3. The Partnership will work to ensure that indicator information is kept up to date and remains available in all six UN languages.

3.2 Develop Global Indicators for each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

3.2.1 Draft decision

Item 3.3 paragraph 8(ii) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP and other relevant organisations, to *‘Further develop global indicators identified in annex I ... with a view to ensuring that each Aichi Biodiversity Target can be monitored by at least one global indicator by 2014, taking into account indicators that are already in use by, or relevant to, other conventions, regional agreements and processes.’*

3.2.2 Issue

The thematic coverage of the Aichi Targets is substantially broader than the focal areas of the 2010 biodiversity target, as such not all targets are covered by the 2010 Target indicators.

The indicator framework developed at the AHTEG on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 consists of 12 headline indicators and 97 operational indicators. These operational indicators have been categorized as follows:

- A. Global priority and ready for use (22 indicators)
- B. Priority for development at the global level (36 indicators)
- C. For consideration at the sub-global level (39 indicators)

3.2.3 What *is being provided* by the BIP

The existing CBD indicators for 2010 have been mapped against the operational indicators in categories A and B (categories concerned with global indicator development) using Annex 1 of Recommendation XV/1 and the addendum to the report of the AHTEG on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2012 6 (Table 1).

As a result, eleven of the 20 Aichi Targets could be monitored by at least one existing indicator which is classified as developed, and a further three Targets could be monitored by one or more existing indicators that are still in development. Strategic Goal B is the best covered of the five Goals, with all underlying Targets being represented by at least one indicator (developed or developing). Target 5 has the most global indicators of all the Aichi Targets, with five developed indicators and three indicators still in development.

Table 1 Mapping of existing indicators against the Strategic Goals and Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Global level indicators only. ●= existing developed indicator; ○= existing indicator in development.

Strategic Goal	Aichi Biodiversity Target	Existing 2010 Indicators	Aichi Passport (2012)
A	1. Awareness		●
	2. Poverty		
	3. Subsidies		
	4. Consumption	● ●	●
B	5. Habitat Loss	● ● ● ● ● ○ ○ ○	●
	6. Fish Stocks	● ● ● ○ ○	●
	7. Agriculture	○	●
	8. Pollution	● ○ ○	●
	9. Invasive Aliens	● ○ ○	○
	10. Coral reefs	●	●
C	11. Protected areas	● ● ●	● ●
	12. Extinctions	● ● ●	● ●
	13. Genetic Diversity	○ ○	●
D	14. Ecosystem Services	● ● ○	●
	15. Resilience		
	16. ABS		●
E	17. NBSAP implementation		●
	18. Traditional Knowledge		●
	19. Biodiversity Knowledge		○
	20. Resource mobilization		●

To fill in the identified gaps, the BIP is working to enlarge the suite of indicators and partners through the adoption of a flexible and inclusive three tiered approach:

1. Actively search for existing indicators
2. Exploring the potential within existing Partners

⁶ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=AHTEG-SP-IND-01>

3. Open call for proposals (will be opened after CBD COP11 in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat)

Guidelines for new partners have been prepared, summarizing the criteria for the inclusion of new indicators and partners, as well as the benefits and expectations.

Six new indicators and partners have already been brought in by the BIP secretariat in 2012, including the Marine Stewardship Council with the Number of MSC Certified fisheries indicator covering Target 6. The other five indicators cover Targets 1, 8, 10 and 18. In addition, the new partner Forest Stewardship Council is taking forward the existing indicator Forest certification under Target 7 and another partner is under discussion to take forward an existing indicator for Target 20. Three more indicators and partners are under discussion and if successful will cover Targets 3, 7, and 14.

3.2.4 What could be provided by the BIP

Aichi Targets 2, 3, and 15 are not yet covered by any existing indicators. The 2011 AHTEG on Indicators for the Strategic Plan identified possible operational indicators. Although the existing indicator 'Official Development Assistance in support of the Convention' maps against Target 20, 15 indicators for monitoring Resource mobilization were adopted in Decision X/3 and at this stage the future of this indicator is dependent on operationalization of the adopted indicators.

Indicator maintenance: The 2010 Biodiversity target indicators, if maintained and updated, can be used to report progress against just over half of the Aichi Targets. The BIP has been working to update indicator information and a number of the indicators have been updated and will be ready in 2014 for reporting against the Aichi Targets and for the production of GBO-4.

Filling Indicator Gaps: The BIP will endeavour to ensure that each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets is covered by at least one global biodiversity indicator; by enlarging the partnership through the inclusion of members who have already established indicators, monitoring systems or datasets which could be utilized to fill indicator gaps.

The BIP will continue with its flexible and inclusive approach to include new indicators, which may result in the addition of several indicators per target in some cases. This may be beneficial for complex and multi-faceted targets for which the use of a single indicator may not tell the whole story. However for some targets it may not be possible to find/invite partners with existing indicators or datasets to fill indicator gaps.

In these instances and subject to availability of resources, the partnership would aim to develop new indicators to fill these remaining gaps.

The BIP could regularly report to each SBSTTA and/or Conference of the Parties on progress in global indicator development, together with an update on the status of each indicator (see "Aichi Passport", section 3.1.3)

3.3 Identify indicators for consistent use across parties

3.3.1 Draft decision

Item 3.3 paragraph 8(iii) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP and other relevant organisations, to 'Propose a limited

number of simple, easily applicable and cost-effective indicators that can potentially be implemented by all Parties’.

3.3.2 Issue

Of the 27 global indicators developed by the Partnership, 16 are reliant on national data and therefore could potentially be applicable for national use across all Parties. The challenge is to identify which “simple, easily applicable and cost-effective” indicators would be accepted by all parties.

Most national indicators are primarily developed to meet national priorities rather than international reporting processes. However, there are many opportunities for improving the alignment between national and global biodiversity indicators. This would not only strengthen the global indicators but also assist countries and regions to develop comparable indicators and analyses.

3.3.3 What is being provided by the BIP

As part of a SCBD-led process, the BIP is drawing upon its extensive network of global indicator developers and experience in national indicator development to review and present options on suitable indicators that could be applied across Parties as part of a SCBD-led process. This review will also provide recommendations on the mechanisms needed to support the process and opportunities for promoting synergies between MEAs and other processes such as the potential SDGs.

3.3.4 What could be provided by the BIP

Once the revision is finished, the BIP could provide assistance in implementing the indicators and supporting capacity building for indicator reporting.

3.4 Explore Indicator Harmonization across MEAs

3.4.1 Draft decision

Item 3.3 paragraph 8(iv) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP and other relevant organisations, to *‘Explore options for the further harmonization of global indicators and their use between the Convention on Biological Diversity and other conventions, regional agreements and processes, and promote further collaboration including through the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions’.*

3.4.2 Issue

There are limited resources for indicator development, and for efficiencies to be made by harmonizing indicator use across different processes where possible.

3.4.3 What is being provided by the BIP

The BIP secretariat and its Partners, including IUCN, have previously mapped both the Aichi Targets and existing indicators across biodiversity-relevant MEA’s. The Partnership has also consistently reported indicator information to the MDG indicator process to support the monitoring of progress towards Goal 7 (Environmental Sustainability). The BIP secretariat has also utilised the indicator

development capacity strengthening processes of the BIP to support the piloting of land degradation impact indicators for the UNCCD⁷.

3.4.4 What *could be provided* by the BIP

The BIP web portal could be developed to be a core resource for indicators, with filtering capabilities to both look at relevant indicators for specific MEAs as well as visualising cross-cutting issues and synergies between the indicator requirements of different MEAs. This could be combined with enhanced efforts to encourage the partnership to engage with the stakeholders in related and relevant MEAs to both share the indicators that are available and finesse the possible indicator disaggregation to be as fit-for-purpose as possible for a given MEA.

The BIP secretariat is also carefully tracking the ongoing discussion on establishment of an Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. If, as seems likely, this process advocates the use of a range of indicators and metrics for biodiversity and ecosystem services, then it would seem entirely appropriate to draw on existing experience, and seek alignment with work that is already under way. The BIP stands ready to support this and other processes (including the SDGs being discussed at Rio+20) in whatever manner seems most appropriate.

3.5 Promote collaboration with other sectors

3.5.1 Draft decision

Item 3.3 paragraph 8(v) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP and other relevant organisations, to '*Promote the further collaboration on biodiversity monitoring and indicators with the forestry, agriculture, fisheries and other sectors on the global, regional and national levels*'.

3.5.2 Issue

Cross-sectoral indicator mainstreaming has the potential to offer further efficiencies but has not yet been explored in detail.

3.5.3 What is being provided by the BIP

To date the BIP has supported the development of tools for the business sector through engagement with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), resulting in a report entitled *Approach for Reporting on Ecosystem Services: Incorporating Ecosystem Services into an Organization's Performance Disclosure*, which looks at emerging issues around ecosystem services and how corporations interact with them, reap the benefits and as a result need to monitor and protect them. The report⁸ suggests a series of indicators that organizations could use to assess and report their impacts on ecosystem services.

The BIP has also explored how indicators can be linked into coherent narratives and graphically presented to assist in the understanding of different sectoral issues related to biodiversity and ecosystem services, see: www.bipindicators.net/linkedindicators. This work has assisted in shaping the discussion towards the new CBD strategic plan.

⁷ www.unccd.int/en/programmes/Science/Monitoring-Assessment/Pages/Impact-Testing.aspx

⁸ <http://www.bipindicators.net/bippublications>

The BIP has funding to run an annual technical partner meeting in both 2012 and 2013; which amongst other things will provide a forum to discuss cross-sectoral indicator development.

3.5.4 What could be provided by the BIP

The partnership is well positioned to take a much more pro-active role in addressing mainstreaming issues, coupled with an expansion of the sectoral scope of partners invited into the BIP. This is particularly relevant for certain Aichi Targets for which finding indicators in the environmental sector has proved difficult. The BIP has the potential to engage with new sectors to fill in these gaps, such as the Energy and Subsidies sectors for Targets 1 and 2. This can also be coordinated with work with other MEAs and processes.

3.6 Develop Practical toolkits for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

3.6.1 Draft decision

Item 3.3 paragraph 8(vii) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP and other relevant organisations, to '*Develop an explanatory practical toolkit on each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including possible steps for measuring progress towards these targets*'.

3.6.2 Issue

The Aichi Targets cover a broad scope and explanatory guidance would enhance understanding in particular with regard to identifying steps for tracking progress.

3.6.3 What is being provided by the BIP

The BIP has produced numerous indicator factsheets, see: <http://www.bipindicators.net/indicatorpublications>. A guidance document on interpreting the Aichi Targets from the perspective of ecosystem function has recently been written by the BIP secretariat as a component of the UNEP Programme of Work sub-programme on Ecosystem Management; and is currently in review.

3.6.4 What could be provided by the BIP

The CBD Secretariat is currently developing a suite of guidance materials to meet the demand from parties during the NBSAP revision and implementation process. The partnership stands ready to support the Executive Secretary and CBD Secretariat in the development of technical guidance and other materials on indicators which can contribute to a comprehensive toolkit.

The BIP has an extensive network of partners with presence and expertise at local and national scales. Subject to availability of resources, partners would be able to draw upon these networks to actively support the CBD Secretariat in providing technical support to Parties in developing and using indicators to monitor progress towards the Aichi Targets. The BIP could support the CBD Secretariat in the provision of the explanatory toolkit by creating a mechanism to coordinate the ongoing technical support that could be provided by partners.

4) Supporting Regional and National Indicator Development, 2011-2020

Item 3.3 paragraph 7 of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requested the CBD Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP, regional centres of excellence and other relevant organizations to undertake a number of actions to support indicator development for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 at the regional and national levels.

The BIP has recently received EC/UNEP funding to maintain, support and enhance the partnership's capacity building activities for national and regional indicator development until the end of 2013. Details of how these funded activities can support the relevant CBD COP 11 Draft Decisions are provided below.

4.1 Compile Technical Guidance Materials

4.1.1 Draft decision

Item 3.3 paragraph 7(i) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP, regional centres of excellence and other relevant organisations, to *'Compile technical guidance materials for capacity-building and provide support to Parties for the further development of indicators and monitoring and reporting systems, including the information contained in the annexes to document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6, and to make it accessible in the form of a toolkit, building on the material already available on the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership web pages'*.

4.1.2 What *is being provided* by the BIP

The BIP Secretariat, working with its Partners, is currently planning a suite of indicator support tools that will be complementary to the NBSAP guidance⁹ being developed by the CBD Secretariat, and will specifically focus on the development of indicators to support the NBSAP revision process. This will include the guidance materials already produced by the partnership, together with e-learning modules and sustained support to trainers (described in section 4.2.3). These resources will be developed in close collaboration with the CBD Secretariat. User feedback will be sought to ensure that these mechanisms support and continue to support needs.

4.1.3 What *could be provided* by the BIP

Subject to the availability of resources, the BIP could support application of the resources/toolkit via a helpdesk function or other direct support to Parties; as a component of wider collective efforts to support NBSAP revision.

4.2 Assist Parties to establish indicators

4.2.1 Draft decision

⁹ www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/quick-guides

Item 3.3 paragraph 7(ii) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP, regional centres of excellence and other relevant organisations, to *'Assist Parties, especially those with limited resources and capacities and/or not yet using systematically produced indicators in their official reports and at their request, to initially establish and apply a few simple, cost-effective and easily applicable indicators for priority issues'*.

4.2.2 Issue

The majority of Parties do not use evidence from indicators in their reporting, and many Parties have requested support in developing indicators.

4.2.3 What is being provided by the BIP

A process to support the development of indicators, aimed at country-relevant key questions, has been devised, tested and refined during the BIP workshops that have run to date. This has been used to support capacity building efforts, see: www.bipnational.net. This is supported by the production of guidance materials published in all six UN languages.

The BIP is currently planning a training of trainers programme to expand the opportunities for cascading capacity building work to more indicator practitioners, and will support the regional workshops described in section 4.3.

4.2.4 What could be provided by the BIP

Subject to the availability of resources, the BIP could undertake a more detailed needs assessment and provide enhanced, targeted support, regionally and nationally, for the development of priority indicators, building on the generalised Indicator development Framework and taking into account the indicators identified under Section 3.3 above.

4.3 Support Regional Capacity-building workshops

4.3.1 Draft decision

Item 3.3 paragraph 7(iii) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP, regional centres of excellence and other relevant organisations, to *'Include capacity-building on the indicators framework in regional workshops, as appropriate, to support implementation of the indicators framework by allowing Parties to update on progress, the sharing of information and lessons learned as well as areas of synergy and collaboration'*.

4.3.2 Issue

There is recognised need and demand for indicator capacity-strengthening, via established regional workshop mechanisms.

4.3.3 What is being provided by the BIP

The BIP has participated in a number of the CBD regional and sub-regional capacity-development workshops on implementing NBSAPs, to provide technical support on the use of indicators as part of the NBSAP updating process.

Four regional workshops specifically to support indicator capacity strengthening for updated NBSAPs have been delivered in 2011 and 2012. The first ran in Entebbe in September 2011, followed up by a second in Hanoi for ASEAN countries (March 2012), a third in Sri Lanka (July 2012) and a fourth one in Peru (August 2012). Regional and global BIP partners also participated, including IUCN, BirdLife International, Nature Serve, Conservation International, Wildlife Conservation Society, SACEP, ACB, and UNEP-WCMC; together with the UNEP regional offices. For more information on the workshops see: www.bipnational.net/WorkshopsProjects

Funding has been secured to support a further five regional workshops to run throughout 2013 in four regions (Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, and South Asia). The workshops will continue to focus on developing indicator capacity in the context of updating and implementing NBSAPs, and will provide a forum for BIP partners to engage regionally.

4.3.4 What *could be provided* by the BIP

There has been substantial interest from regions other than the four identified in the current BIP funding, which could be supported by rolling out the planned programme of support. The BIP is supporting the CBD series of NBSAP capacity-building workshops and provide further technical support on the use of indicators as part of the NBSAP updating process.

4.4 Review the indicator framework

4.4.1 Draft decision

Item 3.3 paragraph 7(iv) of Draft Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1/Add.2 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the BIP, regional centres of excellence and other relevant organisations, to *'Support review of the use of the indicator framework in order to identify gaps and priorities in national and regional institutions for future capacity-building, technical support and financial support by donors and partner organizations'*.

4.4.2 Issue

Reviews of the national uptake of the indicator framework are needed to establish if any of the Aichi Targets are underrepresented by national indicators. Such reviews will help identify generic or regional specific gaps for which technical support and/or capacity-building activities are needed.

4.4.3 What *is being provided* by the BIP

The BIP and its Partners, including UNEP-WCMC previously reviewed regional and national uptake of the indicator framework for the Strategic Plan 2002-2010. This review utilised a range of mechanisms to identify national biodiversity indicators and establish how they mapped against the previous Strategic Plan framework. The review entitled 'National Indicators, Monitoring and Reporting for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020'¹⁰, was conducted to support the AHTEG on Indicators for the Strategic Plan 2011-2020.

4.4.4 What *could be provided* by the BIP

¹⁰ www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-15/information/sbstta-15-inf-09-en.pdf

Subject to available funding, the BIP could conduct regular reviews of the application of the global indicator framework in the development of regional and national indicators. Using a variety of mechanisms, including comprehensive reviews of revised NBSAPs and future National Reports, the Partnership would be able to identify where gaps may exist in regards to coverage of the Aichi Targets by national indicators, and from this priorities for future capacity building and technical support. Information on the indicators would be revised as the basis of this review process, and a report provided to SBSTTA/COP on a regular basis.

For further information, please contact:

The BIP Secretariat
UNEP-WCMC
219 Huntingdon Road
Cambridge
CB3 0DL, UK
info@bipindicators.net
www.bipindicators.net

*The BIP secretariat is being represented by Dr Matt Walpole, Dr Damon Stanwell-Smith and Ms Anna Chenery of UNEP-WCMC at **CBD COP 11 in Hyderabad**. They can be located in the UNEP delegation.*