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**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM TO THE
STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY (2011-2020)**

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

1. The Executive Secretary is circulating herewith, for the information of participants in the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the progress report on the contribution of the United Nations System to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, submitted by the United Nations Environment Programme in its capacity as the Secretariat of the Environment Management Group of the United Nations.
2. The document is being circulated in the form and language in which it was provided to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

* UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Rev.1.

The Secretariat of the Environment Management Group, UNEP

October , 2014

Progress Report on the contribution of the United Nations System to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020)

Prepared by the UN Environment Management Group (EMG)

Information Note by Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP and Chair of the Environment Management Group

1. The 11th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Hyderabad, India, invited the United Nations Environment Management Group “to continue facilitating cooperation among its members in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to provide a progress report for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting”.
2. It further decided to “continue contributing to the activities of the Environment Management Group (EMG) and its Issues Management Group (IMG) on Biodiversity, including by compiling, reviewing and updating the various recommendations for synergistic activities and to cross-map the existing and potential contributions of multilateral environment agreements and other relevant instruments with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets”
3. At their 18th meeting in November 2012, the Executive Heads of United Nations agencies convening in their capacity as senior officials of the Environment Management Group (EMG) ¹, welcomed the decision by the COP, underlining the important function the IMG occupied in facilitating UN system-wide support to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.
4. The senior officials agreed to further develop and finalize the synthesis mapping report of the strategic objectives and key functions of EMG members *vis a vis* the Aichi Targets; consider how biodiversity concerns could be best integrated into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); to prepare a common approach to support the review and implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs); and to prepare a progress report on its work for consideration of the COP of the CBD at its 12th meeting.
5. Subsequently, UN entities exchanged views on the relevance of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity to the ongoing SDG process and the post 2015 Development Agenda. They welcomed the paper prepared by the CBD titled “*The relevance of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Targets for the SDGs*” as a good starting point for this process and agreed to liaise with their respective focal points to the Thematic Consultations of the UN Task Team on the Post 2015 Development Agenda, to highlight the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Targets in their individual submissions.
6. The UN entities further agreed to support the development of a consolidated knowledge management tool to bring together any guidance notes, data, tools and indicators in the UN system that could support countries in the implementation of the Aichi Targets. A UN system Biodiversity Online Mapping Tool was developed, containing information on UN agencies’ key functions, tools, indicators and decisions in support of the Aichi Targets². The mapping tool is hosted by INFORMEA and contains contributions by 17 UN entities and MEAs.

¹ Information on the EMG’s mandate and current work can be found in its website at www.unemg.org

² The biodiversity mapping tool can be accessed at <http://ieg.informea.org/>.

7. IMG members agreed to review and provide updates on their contributions to the Aichi Targets through the Online Mapping Tool, that was presented to the 17th meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 17) in Montreal, Canada in October 2013, offered as a support to countries in their efforts to monitor progress against selected Aichi targets.
8. The mapping exercise shows that EMG members are involved in many activities in support of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and most EMG members have biodiversity related activities as part of their own targets and strategies. Agencies' inputs mainly addressed the areas of knowledge management, assessment and awareness raising, capacity building, influencing institutions and policy frameworks, sustainable management of biodiversity, data collection, monitoring, research and finance.
9. After preparation of the Biodiversity Mapping Tool, The 19th meeting of the EMG senior officials extended the IMG on Biodiversity for another year to respond to the decision of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and to continue facilitating cooperation of its members in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The IMG was mandated to undertake and coordinate the following tasks:
 - a) Present the online biodiversity mapping tool to CBD SBSTTA 17, transfer it to the CBD for future maintenance and make it available to Member States and other stakeholders.
 - b) Contribute, as appropriate, to the NBSAPs Forum for the review and implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
 - c) Contribute to the mid-term review process of the Aichi Targets, including by providing indicators and data, in particular those relevant to the national level implementation of the targets; also, further consider ways to integrate the Aichi Targets into other country level planning tools such as the UNDAFs.
 - d) Prepare a progress report by the EMG on contribution of the UN system to the Strategic Framework for Biodiversity, for consideration of the twelfth COP of the CBD.
10. The Biodiversity Mapping Tool, available online at <http://ieg.informea.org/>, was submitted to the CBD Secretariat and presented to the 17th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the CBD in October 2013.
11. The 9th meeting of the EMG Issue Management Group on Biodiversity was convened on 10 December 2013 in the margins of the Second Plenary Meeting of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES-2) in Antalya, Turkey. The meeting focused on implementation of the Strategic Plan at the national level through country-level policies and strategies, as well as country-level development planning tools such as UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs)³. It considered UNDAF process entry points through which biodiversity can be integrated, as well as tools and guidelines to ensure inclusion of biodiversity, both in policies and in regional and national-level projects. The IMG agreed to continue this discussion by looking at other national-level processes and at the NBSAPs and their linkages with the UNDAF and other planning processes at the national level.
12. A Note (Annex 1) was prepared with inputs by UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, FAO, IFAD, CITES, IMO and the CBD Secretariat, providing a non-exhaustive overview of existing initiatives, policies and processes of the UN agencies relevant for mainstreaming biodiversity and promoting the implementation of the Aichi Targets at the national level. The Note describes the UNDAF process and identifies entry points for inclusion of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and

³ Because there is already ongoing work within the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, the IMG agreed to focus its work on Task 3 on UNDAFs.

areas where UN agencies could enhance cooperation to better support national efforts and capacities.

13. Key findings and recommendations in the Note on how biodiversity integration and cooperation at the national level could be enhanced included:

- a. Biodiversity is included to some extent in some existing UNDAFs, and in the guidelines supporting their formulation process, but there is room for improvement to scale up the efforts to help meet the Aichi Biodiversity Targets within the set timeframe.
- b. The environmental guidelines for the UNDAF process do not include the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, and the guidelines, when revised, should be modified to reflect this.
- c. UN Country Teams (UNCTs) do not always have the knowledge or the experience to address all relevant issues during the Common Country Assessment (CCA). They could be assisted by a capacity building section or a practical chapter on biodiversity in the Guidance Note on Mainstreaming Environmental Sustainability in Country Analysis, which would help identify synergies between biodiversity and other issues and sector targets, and encourage compliance by showing how biodiversity implementation contributes to the overall development agenda. Previous exercises such as mainstreaming climate change considerations into the CCA and UNDAFs could be looked at as examples.
- d. Top-down and bottom-up guidance or training material on biodiversity and development would be a useful tool to support UNDG Director Teams, UNCTs and governments in the UNDAF process.
- e. A useful input by the UN system could be to bring in existing national biodiversity-related targets and baseline data and NBSAPs during the assessment phase of UNDAFs (CCA or other), ensuring that national biodiversity targets and priorities are included in the result matrix and supported by the UNDAF from different sectoral perspectives, including those of sectoral agencies other than those responsible for environmental matters.
- f. A more detailed discussion at the UNDAF formulation stage and preparation period on the potential contributions of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing efforts to national development, and on national biodiversity priorities could help ensure that biodiversity and the Aichi Targets are integrated into the UNDAFs.
- g. UN agencies might make known their biodiversity related activities in the country in question and highlight how they relate to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and to national biodiversity priorities and targets, as well as take steps to ensure that biodiversity is integrated into their national-level projects and programs.
- h. The new UNDAF roll-outs could be an appropriate context for stepping up the work with countries as “pilots” on the integration of biodiversity issues, pending the revision of the UNDAF guidance to better reflect biodiversity values and the Strategic Plan for biodiversity.
- i. Communication efforts are needed to inform key decision makers and the general public about the tangible benefits of biodiversity. These efforts should be coordinated with nationally planned events and could include organizing national biodiversity days and high-profile events that emphasize the importance and value of biodiversity.

14. With the submission of this progress report to the twelfth meeting of the CBD COP, the mandate of the Issue Management Group on Biodiversity is accomplished. In view of the time-bound nature of the Issue Management Groups, the senior officials of the EMG decided to conclude the work of the IMG on Biodiversity at their 20th meeting on September 25th, 2014.

15. The considerations of the IMG on enhancing integration of biodiversity into national level processes including the NBSAPs, UNDAF and other planning processes and other inter-agency cooperation to support implementation of the Strategic Plan on Biodiversity can be followed up by the Aichi Biodiversity Target Task Force (ABTTF), and other appropriate fora, in which many EMG members, as well as several non-UN entities, already participate.

DRAFT

Enhancing integration of biodiversity into country planning tools including UN Development Assistant Frameworks (UNDAFs)

Contributions and Perspectives of the UN system

Introduction

The 19th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the Environment Management Group (EMG) in September 2013, requested the Issue Management Group on Biodiversity (IMG) to “*consider ways to integrate the Aichi Targets into country level planning tools such as the UNDAFs*”. This note has been prepared seeking the views of the members of the Issue Management Group with inputs by UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, FAO, IFAD, CITES, IMO and the CBD Secretariat. It aims to address how biodiversity has been considered and integrated in the **United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs)**, including in the current practices and existing efforts and tools. In addition, it looks at what possible guidelines exist that may help UN agencies ensure the inclusion of biodiversity, both in policies and in regional and national-level projects, and makes an attempt to examine what could be done to support biodiversity efforts at national level. The importance of identifying opportunities and entry points for integrating the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, as well as the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAPs) and the decisions of the biodiversity-related MEAs as well as sectoral biodiversity-related processes, into the UNDAFs was emphasised in this context.

The UNDAF as an entry point for biodiversity integration

Implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and global decisions requires translating international commitments into national measures. The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is a strategic tool that aims at helping the UN system to best support a country in fulfilling its international obligations. It represents an agreement between a government and the UN system to collectively work towards results, expressed as a limited number of prioritized outcomes, that are aligned with national priorities and goals and identified based on a common country assessment carried out collectively by the UN resident and non-resident agencies.

The UNDAF serves as a strategic framework for the United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs), by defining ways in which the UNCTs can best support the country in achieving its development goals, and by describing government approved activities, outcomes and UN agency responsibilities, making it a significant entry point for enhancing biodiversity implementation at the country level. Consisting of representatives of the different UN entities, the UNCTs lead the UNDAF process in close collaboration with governments, ensuring inter-agency coordination at the national level by involving “all entities in the UN system that carry out operational activities for development, emergency, recovery and transition” in support of the development agenda of governments.

While the UNDAF is the key instrument for enhancing UN coherence, other entry points and targets for incorporating biodiversity into national level planning could include the United Nations Development Group’s Development Operations Coordination Office (UNDG/DOCO) process, via regional offices, the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) supported by the Bretton Woods Institutions or Employment and Growth Strategy Papers (EGSPs) and budget allocation processes such as Medium-Term Expenditures Frameworks, Sectoral Negotiations, etc. The various policy and projects of individual UN agencies, and the work of their country offices along with any national focal points, can also provide important entry points.

Biodiversity in UNDAFs

Biodiversity has received limited attention in the UNDAFs, a comprehensive overview and a clear picture of ongoing and completed initiatives addressing biodiversity are not available. This is due to limited efforts by agencies to integrate biodiversity in their national level work as well as to the poor integration of NBSAPs in national development planning, in addition to priority setting in the UNDAFs themselves. Without a comprehensive analysis, the overall perception is that only few UNDAF documents include biodiversity as a noteworthy component.

According to the UNDG Report on Findings From a Survey of UN Country Teams on Rio+20 Themes⁴, sent to 135 UNCTs in 2011, most strategy and policy development activities did address climate change, sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, energy and agriculture, while some UNCT's also supported the development of strategies and policies on biodiversity.

To improve the current lack of attention and make biodiversity related efforts more compelling at the national level, the real and potential contributions of biodiversity and ecosystem services to development challenges at the country level need to be better articulated and emphasized. It is equally important to understand which Aichi Targets in particular are being addressed by ongoing UNCT efforts and which Targets are not being covered at all, or less so than others.

Examples of current initiatives in support of Biodiversity in UNDAFs

UN agencies support the development and implementation of the UNDAFs nationally, regionally and globally by offering capacity development and training activities to the UN Country Teams, providing expertise, information and data, and offering technical support to the UNDAF implementation.

A number of efforts on mapping and integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services in UNDAFs have been undertaken such as:

- UNEP and UNDP joint Poverty and Environment Initiative e.g. by:
 - Contributing to budget guidelines for Ministries of Planning/Finance on how they can better include environmental sustainability and biodiversity;
 - Supporting key sector policy & budgetary development processes and cross-sector coordination to ensure that sustainability objectives are being operationalized;
 - Ensuring that social and environmental considerations are taken into account so that the poor and marginalized can participate in the sustainable management of biodiversity including the use of traditional knowledge;
- CBD Secretariat assistance to the UNCT in Nepal to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services in the UNDAF with a focus on indigenous peoples and local communities;
- CBD Secretariat pilot analysis on the links between a revised NBSAP and the UNDAF;
- CBD and UNDG Initial discussions on biodiversity integration in UNDAFs;
- UNDG guidelines and training package developed on how to mainstream environmental sustainability into the UNDAFs and CCA process. A guidance note for use by the UNCTs has

⁴<http://www.undg.org/index.cfm?P=1050>

been developed on *Integrating Food and Nutrition Security into Country Analysis and the UNDAF*⁵, where the issues pertaining to environmental sustainability are noted, included those related to biodiversity;

- Efforts by “UNEP Delivering as One Focal Points” in regional offices in mainstreaming environmental sustainability into UNDAFs and Common Country Strategic Frameworks;
- UNDP’s Biodiversity and Ecosystems Global Framework.

The annexed table 1 is prepared to include additional information by UN agencies on their contributions to UNDAFs or other national level planning tools that support integration of biodiversity at national development level.

Biodiversity in the UNDAF guidelines

A Guidance Note on Mainstreaming Environmental Sustainability in Country Analysis and the UNDAF was released in 2009 to assist UNCTs and Implementing Partners by outlining entry points, actions and tools to promote environmental mainstreaming in the UNDAF process. The Aichi Targets, and the Nagoya Protocol on *Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity* alike, were only adopted in 2010 and are, therefore, not incorporated in these guidelines.

The guidelines for preparing an UNDAF were revised by UNDG in 2010 and emphasize an all-inclusive approach, encouraging the full involvement of the UN system as a whole. Biodiversity is referred to as part of Environmental Sustainability, one of five inter-related, normative principles for UN development cooperation identified in the UNDAF Guidelines.

Biodiversity is explicitly noted as a potential area for cooperation within the UNDAF, relevant to all steps of the country programming and associated rural development, agriculture and food security, public health and education and governance and support for economic and institutional reforms. The CBD report *Mainstreaming Biodiversity into National Sectoral and Cross-Sectoral Strategies, Policies, Plans and Programs* from 2011 is referred to as relevant Cross-cutting Environmental guidelines for biodiversity issues.⁶

Considering that the aim of the UNDAF is “to addresses the national capacity gaps in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and other international development objectives and treaty obligations, including the multilateral environmental agreements”, it is worth mentioning that the existing approach and guidelines are aligned with MDG 7 – *Ensure Environmental Sustainability*, and in particular 7B - *Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss*. In this context, biodiversity conservation is recognized as being fundamental for development achievements, and the connection between biodiversity and the UNDAF is evident.

Possible options for further integration

- 1) Focusing on UNDAF entry points and the new UNDAF roll-outs

Biodiversity is included to some extent both in some existing UNDAFs, and to some extent in the guidelines supporting their formulation process, but there is room for improvement to scale up the

⁵ <http://toolkit.undg.org/uploads/contents/1328131579.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/b3-train-mainstream-revised-en.pdf>

efforts to meet the Aichi Biodiversity Targets within the set timeframe. Issues include at what stage of the elaboration of new UNDAFs, or the review of existing ones, biodiversity can be further emphasized and mainstreamed; how UNCTs could be supported in establishing the link between the implementation of biodiversity efforts and the achievement of other development goals; and how the benefits of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to the national development agenda could be further highlighted and explored.

The new UNDAF roll-outs could be an appropriate context for stepping up the work with selected countries on the integration of biodiversity issues. A more detailed discussion at the UNDAF formulation stage and preparation period on the potential contributions of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing efforts to national development, and on national biodiversity priorities, could help ensure that biodiversity and the Aichi Targets are integrated.

The UNDAF formulation process consists of five main steps: a roadmap, a detailed country analysis, an outcome development phase that, based on national priorities in relation to resources available to the government leads to a result matrix, followed by a monitoring and evaluation phase where the UNCT and the government conducts annual reviews to assess progress towards results.

National biodiversity priorities, embodied in National biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), should be integrated throughout all steps of the formulation process.

To fully integrate biodiversity into the framework, the development and inclusion of specific and concrete actions, targets and indicators from the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan into the UNDAF

result matrix are crucial. It would also be important to include the National CBD Focal Points of the country in the UNDAF discussions.



A useful input by the UN system could be to bring in existing national biodiversity related targets and baseline data during the assessment phase (CCA or other), ensuring that national biodiversity targets and priorities are included in the Result Matrix and supported by the UNDAF from different sectoral perspectives, including those of non-environmental agencies. Furthermore, UN agencies might make known their biodiversity related activities and expenditures in the country and how they relate to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and to national biodiversity priorities and targets. Since the Nagoya Protocol is considered an important step to biodiversity conservation, it could also be reflected in this context.

For UNDAF processes that have already started, the annual UNDAF reviews (progress and gap analysis) could be considered an entry point.

A pilot study could be envisaged focusing on few selected countries and/or the inclusion of few selected Targets (e.g. Target 2). For example in 2014, 42 new countries enrolled in the UNDAF process.

2) Contributing to national knowledge and capacity building

The UN system can support integration of biodiversity in UNDAFs by facilitating knowledge sharing and preparing relevant knowledge products and frameworks. It can offer its specific reviews, guidance, training materials related to biodiversity and make sure that the staff active in the UNDAF process is

well informed and able to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in their areas of activity and competence. The UN agencies can help highlight how sectors, other than environment, contribute to the implementation of the Biodiversity Targets, and how biodiversity supports those other sectors.

UNCTs do not always have the knowledge or the experience to address all relevant issues during the CCA. They could be assisted by a capacity building section or a practical chapter on biodiversity in the Guidance Note on Mainstreaming Environmental Sustainability in Country Analysis, which would help identify synergies between biodiversity and other issues and sector targets, and encourage compliance by showing how biodiversity implementation contributes to the overall development agenda. Previous exercises, such as mainstreaming climate change considerations into the CCA and UNDAFs, could be looked at as examples.

To achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, biodiversity must be reflected in decisions taken by all parts of society and in all sectors. Mainstreaming biodiversity consideration into policies, strategies and projects of individual UN agencies, whose activities in some way impact or rely on biodiversity and ecosystem services is therefore important and would support the identification of synergies

Possible support for national level efforts could include:

- Top-down and bottom-up guidance or training material on biodiversity and development as a useful tool to support UNDG Director Teams, UNCTs and governments in the UNDAF process.
- Assess the current biodiversity-related content in the existing UNDAF guidelines and analyse gaps, needs and opportunities with regard to the inclusion of the Aichi Targets.
- Include the CBD National Focal Points in UNDAFs discussions.
- Review and suggest input to the UNDAF Environmental Sustainability guidelines and existing sectorial guidance to ensure mainstreaming of biodiversity.
- Support communication efforts to inform key decision makers and the general public about the tangible benefits of biodiversity. These efforts should be coordinated with nationally planned events and could include organizing national biodiversity days and high-profile events that emphasise the importance and value of biodiversity.
- Assist in highlighting particular achievements relating to biodiversity in important economic sectors like mining and tourism.
- Assist in bringing various sectors and role players together: the government, civil society and private sector.
- Assist countries through appropriate projects in generating high quality scientific information (not only data) that can be used to inform development planning.
- Support key biodiversity agencies in countries.

Table 1

Additional information by UN agencies on their contributions to UNDAFs or other national level planning tools that support integration of biodiversity at national development level.

UN Entity	Involvement in the UNCT/UNDAF processes with relevance to biodiversity	Involvement in other processes at national level in relation to biodiversity	Relevant supportive frameworks and guidelines developed by the entity
UNESCO	<p>UNESCO is involved in the UNCTs / UNDAF process in all regions of the world. UNESCO is chairing, serving as secretary or otherwise involved in the thematic areas of “Environmental Sustainability”, “Environment”, “Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change” and “Agriculture” in many countries, and thus there is scope to include biodiversity in these countries’ UNDAF. UNESCO has not directly promoted the Aichi Targets within the UNDAF context.</p>	<p>UNESCO has been involved in several biodiversity projects at national level: for example, in India – UNESCO’s World Heritage Biodiversity Programme has provided assistance to four World Heritage sites for frontline anti-poaching capacity development which included equipment provision, veterinary care, legal training in wildlife crime (in collaboration with Tiger Trust, New Delhi). This benefitted large mammals such as elephants and tigers in particular. The Programme also held a conference for World Heritage site managers in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, India and Sri Lanka to share experiences in the conservation of biodiversity in World Heritage sites in South Asia.</p> <p>In Indonesia – UNESCO’s Jakarta Office has carried out several projects that focus on biodiversity, including one to protect critical orangutan habitat in protected areas of northern Sumatra. It built capacity for community-based ecotourism (to provide alternative livelihoods to logging), organized restoration of degraded forests, created guidelines for orangutan rescue, conducted remote sensing of protected area boundaries to create maps for park staff and local communities, and awareness raising of protected area and environmental law to empower local communities to enforce extant legislation and dissuade outsiders from logging and poaching.</p> <p>UNESCO pursues the integration of national strategies in the area of science, technology and innovation for sustainable development with other sectoral and crosscutting strategies and action plans, including National Biodiversity Strategies and Action plans (NBSAPS), thus contributing to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity target 19. Recently UNESCO has developed guidelines for integrating World Heritage into NBSAPS, which contributes directly to Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Heritage sites • Man and the Biosphere Programme

<p>UNDP</p>	<p>UNDP plays a leading role in UNDAF development. Resident Coordinators who lead UNCTs and UNDAF processes are funded and managed by UNDP. UNDP is also a key development partner in countries working across sectors and with multiple stakeholders. UNDP operates in 177 countries and territories around the world and are actively involved in UNDAF processes. UNDP also supports UNDAF processes through our regional and headquarters offices.</p>	<p>UNDP helps ensure a clear development angle in countries' biodiversity management efforts. Through the provision of sound policy advice, and the development and implementation of programmes that help demonstrate sound biodiversity management practices on-the-ground and build capacity to sustain them, UNDP helps more than 140 countries to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity, and to secure ecosystem services that are vital to human welfare and their development efforts. UNDP's biodiversity and ecosystems portfolio is the largest in the UN system. UNDP works in 146 countries, managing 512 projects on ecosystems and biodiversity with US\$ 1.5 billion in funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other sources, and co-financing of US\$ 3.5 billion.</p> <p>The ecosystems and biodiversity programme has been successful in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • helping to establish over 2,000 protected areas in 85 countries, covering 272 million hectares; • undertaking interventions in production sectors and development planning in 38 countries, covering 244 million hectares; and • promoting ecosystem-based adaptation to or mitigation of climate change in 71 countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP's Biodiversity and Ecosystems Global Framework 2012-2020
<p>UNEP</p>	<p>UNEP's role is to provide environmental expertise and promote the integration of environmental sustainability into the UNDAF.</p> <p>UNEP is involved in the UNDAF process through the Inter-Agency and Country Level Coordination Unit (ICCU), part of UNEP's Division of Regional Cooperation. ICCU has a team of regional coordinators posted in five of UNEP's six regional offices. It also has a staff at UNEP headquarters in Nairobi.</p> <p>Primarily through its Regional Offices, UNEP has been increasingly engaging in UNCTs since 2007 and has supported over 90 countries to mainstream environmental</p>	<p>UNEP plays a leading role in developing and advancing the agenda on biodiversity conservation and management by strengthening the enabling environment so that countries can more effectively implement commitments made as Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to which UNEP provides the Secretariat, providing environmental information and assessments, identification and development of tools and methodologies for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</p> <p>UNEP initiatives where it works directly with countries on biodiversity include the WCMC, TEEB, and UNEP FI. Significant programmatic areas of support include incorporating biodiversity into REDD+ processes, ecosystem assessments, the NBSAP revision process (including indicators and mainstreaming), marine spatial planning, protected area management (including climate change resilience).</p> <p>UNEP is currently working with approximately 130 countries and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Indicator Development Framework. • Incorporating and Utilizing Spatial Data and Mapping for NBSAPS • Guidance to Support NBSAP Practitioners.

FAO

sustainability in the UNDAFs.

As a Non-Resident agency the nature/degree of UNEP's support to UNCT varies from country to country. Key inputs to the UNDAF process include provision of environmental data and information in the form of National Environmental Summaries, capacity building for UNCTs on tools and methodologies for mainstreaming environmental sustainability, technical support in the development and implementation of project/joint programs resulting from the UNDAF process.

Biodiversity conservation and management is one of the key areas covered, especially in view of country commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Other themes include, but are not limited to, climate change, disaster risk reduction and green economy in general.

FAO is an active member of the UNCT and formally signs the UNDAF in every country where it has a Representation and in most of the non-resident countries. The level/degree of FAO's participation and the specific topics which are part of the FAO's components in the UNDAFs vary from country to country and are under the purview of the responsible country offices.

FAO has streamlined Environmental and Social principles (through the project cycle guide) in its programmes and projects funded under its Country Programme Frameworks that are aligned with the UNDAFs. The FAO EIA Guidelines contain basic policy requirements that are set out for key topical or work areas including biodiversity.

territories around the world each year. In 2014, this includes 86% of countries in Africa and over 50% of countries and territories in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Oceania.

FAO's mandate and priorities encompass several Aichi targets. FAO is involved in a number of biodiversity projects at national, regional and global level. FAO supports countries designing biodiversity related international instruments and implementing them at national level. These instruments, while focusing on the sustainable management of natural resources, address the very basis of national development issues such as poverty eradication, human wellbeing and food security. They target key environment sectors such as the agriculture, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture sectors and require collaboration across stakeholders from different sectors for their implementation at national level.

Instruments range from global conventions and treaties (e.g. the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the International Plant Protection Convention, which are also hosted by FAO) to more specific policy instruments for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (e.g. the various Global Plans of Action on plant, animal and forest genetic resources) to management guidelines and codes of conduct (e.g. the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management).

FAO collects information from countries and generates knowledge on issues specific to natural resources, these include a number of periodic

- The new FAO Strategic Framework, several Outcome level indicators, includes those that are also related to Aichi targets
- Strategic Objective 2: Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner
- Strategic Objective 3: Reduce rural poverty
- Strategic Objective 5: Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises
- The Commission on

assessments of natural resources, relevant to several Aichi Targets, such as:

- Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)
- State of the World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA)
- The State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- The State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- The State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- State of the World's Forests
- The State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture
- The State of the World's Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (in preparation)
- The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (in preparation)

The Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR) Mechanism has been established within FAO to support the planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of FLR at the country level, re-establishing ecosystem functions at the landscape scale and at the same time contributing to the achievement of Aichi Target 15 and the Bonn Challenge of restoring at least 150 million hectares of degraded land by 2020. FAO is also a founding member of the Mountain Partnership, a United Nations alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the world.

FAO has also developed a number of global initiatives and partnerships such as the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) and the 'One Health' approach that aims to restore social and ecological resilience to achieve global health security for humans, wildlife and agriculture production systems at the same time. Other relevant initiatives are the Cross-cutting Initiative on Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition aiming at mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use for improved human nutrition and well-being, and the Blue Growth initiatives for "the sustainable contribution, and

Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

- A broader list of biodiversity-related instruments and guidelines can be found in the document available in the FAO Biodiversity Website [here](#)⁷

⁷ http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/biodiversity_paia/FAO_Instruments_Strategic_Plan_Aichi_Targets.pdf

		<p>conservation, of living renewable resources in the marine and fresh water ecosystems as well as adjacent coastal and inland ecosystems, to food and nutrition security and poverty alleviation.” FAO’s Global Action on Pollination Services for Sustainable Agriculture has also been established to support the facilitation and coordination of the International Pollinators Initiative.</p> <p>FAO also holds the secretariat of other important initiatives such as the Global Soil Partnership, established in recognition of the central role of soil resources, including soil biodiversity, as a basis for food security and their provision of key ecosystem services, and of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, established to promote conservation through the sustainable management of terrestrial vertebrate wildlife in all biomes and geographic areas and to increase cooperation and coordination on sustainable wildlife management issues among its members and partners.</p>	
CITES	<p>Information has not been collected from national CITES authorities on the extent to which they may have been involved in UNCT/UNDAF processes with relevance to biodiversity.</p> <p>The CITES Secretariat has not been directly involved in any UNDAF processes at national level but it has participated in UNDAF-related discussions in regional (e.g. PEBLDS) and global (e.g. the IMG) forums. The importance of integrating CITES and other biodiversity-related conventions into UNCT/UNDAF processes has been highlighted in guidance provided to CITES Parties on the integration of CITES into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and related access to Global Environment Facility (GEF) funds.</p>	<p>National CITES authorities are involved in a number of processes at national level in relation to biodiversity (e.g. development planning, poverty eradication planning, financial planning and other planning, national biodiversity or other inter-agency and inter-sectoral committees, etc.).</p> <p>The CITES Secretariat has participated in one national (Grenada) and several regional (Africa, Pan-Europe and West Asia) NBSAP workshops. Recently, the Secretariat requested assistance from the UNDP Country Representative in Madagascar in convening a UNCT meeting to discuss the work of and opportunities for additional collaboration among CITES, FAO, UNDP, UNESCO, the World Bank and other bodies in relation to the illegal harvest and export of Madagascar timber species (rosewoods and ebonies).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020 (goals, objectives, indicators); • Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties; • Notifications to the Parties; • technical papers and reports; • CITES Virtual College
CBD	<p>Although the CBD Secretariat has not been much involved directly with the UNCT/UNDAF process, it has been involved in numerous discussions related to the UNDAFs and how they could address biodiversity values and ecosystems services, and be better linked to the NBSAPs process. Its work on poverty eradication and development specifically addresses the issue of better integrating biodiversity into</p>	<p>The CBD Secretariat is extensively involved in other processes at the national level in relation to biodiversity, including first and foremost work to support the development of revised NBSAPs, support for technical and scientific cooperation, and delivery of its work programme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBD • Biosafety and Nagoya Protocols • COP and MOP decisions

	<p>UNDAFs and development plans at the national level.</p>		
<p>IFAD</p>	<p>IFAD is involved in the UNDAF process at the country level, and priorities are further brought into the IFAD investment portfolio through the inclusion in the Country Strategic Opportunities Paper (COSOP) which defines IFAD priority interventions within countries</p>	<p>IFAD responds to biodiversity conservations and tackles issues impacting habitat loss due to agricultural activities across its loan and grant programme. This includes: promoting sustainable agriculture and sustainable agricultural intensification to achieve the “multiple wins” of poverty reduction, food security, environmental sustainability, climate resilience, biodiversity protection and emission reductions and ; promoting secure and equitable access to land and water for poor rural women and men and enhancing their land tenure security, based on the IFAD Policy on Improving Access to Land and Tenure</p> <p>IFAD is working with Governments, CGIAR centres and other research organizations, NGOs, CSOs, etc. Prominent partners include: ICRAF, FAO, and Biodiversity International. In addition to policy work, a particular focus is on indigenous peoples and poor small holder farmers, with themes ranging from crops that grow in marginal areas; climate change tolerant crops; medicinal plants; natural resources management; eco-tourism; institutional capacity building for climate change adaptation, etc. In terms of investment projects dealing with biodiversity, the total represents cumulatively over half a billion dollars. It is worth mentioning investment projects in Bangladesh, Ecuador, Ethiopia, India, Kyrgyzstan, Jordan and Mexico.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental, Social and Climate Assessment Procedures • IFAD Policy on Environment and Natural Resources Management • IFAD Strategy on Climate Change
<p>IMO</p>	<p>IMO does not have any direct involvement in UNDAF/UNCT processes. However it is increasingly using country maritime profiles to tailor its extensive programme of maritime related capacity building and training activities to incorporate the needs of countries at the national level, targeting in particular, the development of a range of biodiversity related policies and regulations.</p> <p>Linking into and integrating with UNDAF/UNCT processes would assist in delivering synergies across terrestrial and marine biodiversity issues. One such major activity - GloBallast Partnerships Project is set out herewith.</p>	<p>The GloBallast Partnerships Project focuses on national policy, legal and institutional reforms in targeted developing countries with an emphasis on integrated management. The approach includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to build awareness; • Promotion of harmonized ballast water management; • Supporting legal, policy and institutional reforms at the national level in developing countries; and • Working with all stakeholders to promote collaboration with industry to facilitate the transfer of new technologies and approaches from country to country, as well as within and between regions. <p>GloBallast Partnerships is being implemented in 5 high priority sub-regions, through 15 Lead Partnering Countries (LPCs) and more than 70 Partner Countries selected for their high vulnerability, high needs and high marine biodiversity. LPCs are expected to take a lead role in</p>	<p>Guidance documents have been developed to assist countries in developing their national BWM strategy and model BWM legislation, undertake a rapid and appropriate status assessment, undertake an economic assessment for BWM, identify and manage the risks from organisms carried in ships ballast water and undertake Port Biological Baseline Surveys (PBBS).</p> <p>A variety of national and regional capacity building activities are organized annually under IMO's Integrated Technical Co-operation</p>

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developing legal, policy and institutional arrangements and develop National Ballast Water Management Strategies (NBWMS) that enable a risk-based approach and reduced threat of bio-invasions. LPCs are also expected to build capacity and invite neighbouring countries to participate in the capacity building activities.

The Project provides technical and financial support to the LPCs in order to facilitate the domestication and implementation of the BWM Convention and the development of NBWMSs in ways of national training events, seminars, and national task force meetings. LPCs are also trained to identify the significant environmental and economic impacts and threats to biodiversity in their major port areas, verified through port baseline surveys and economic impact assessments.

As of 30 June 2013, all 15 LPCs has fully functional National Task Forces and identified Lead Agencies. 14 LPCs have drafted NBWMS and are on track to adopt final NBWMS. National interventions are to initiate national strategy development in 42 non-LPCs. Draft National Legislation is developed by 11 LPCs. 14 LPCs have completed national ballast water status assessment. 9 LPCs have drafted national economic assessment and 4 LPCs have progressed well in this activity. 4 LPCs have ratified the BWM Convention. Ratification process is well underway in 3 LPCs. Among the 40 countries that have ratified the BWM Convention, 30 (or 75% of signatories) are developing countries that participate in the Project.

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