INPUT TO THE REPORT OF THE HIGH-LEVEL PANEL ON GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

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CLUSTER REPORT ON RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

TARGET 17: ENABLING ACTIVITIES

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ASSESSING THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND ACHIEVE THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS:

TARGET 17

Target 17 relates to a cluster of Aichi Targets grouped under *Enabling Activities* for the purpose of the present assessment. Under this cluster are found five targets: Aichi Target 16 to Target 20. As defined by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) enabling activities are defined as '*activities that prepare the foundation to design and implement effective response measures to achieve Convention objectives*'. Following the definition, some of the Aichi Targets of this cluster do not involve recurrent costs for achieving them since recurrent costs arise once implementation starts e.g. Target 16. Furthermore, the resource needs of the targets in this particular cluster are estimated separately for each Target in question.
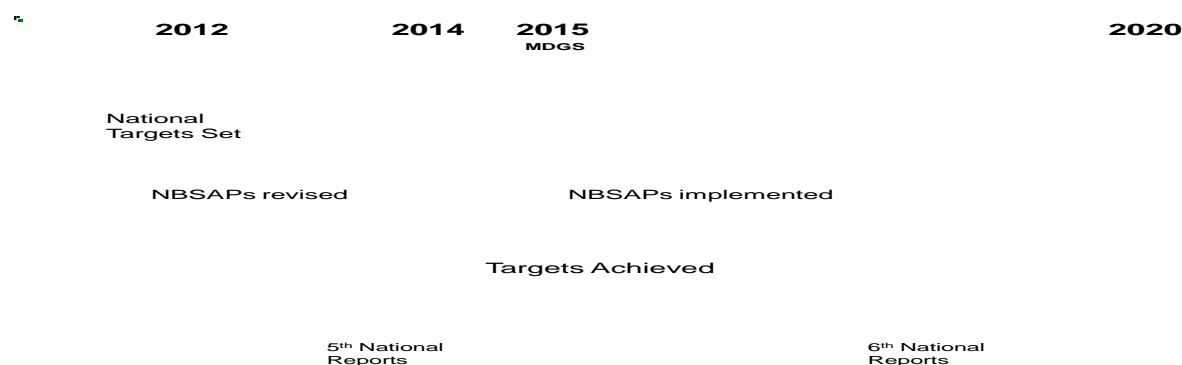
1. INTRODUCTION TO TARGET 17

By 2015, each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

Definition and interpretation

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are the key instrument for translating the Convention and decisions of the Conference of the Parties into national action. For this reason, it will be essential that Parties have developed, adopted and commenced implementing as a policy instrument an updated NBSAP which is in line with the goals and targets set out in this Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 by 2015. To date, 175 Parties have prepared national biodiversity strategies in line with CBD Article 6. COP has adopted consolidated guidance for the development, updating and revision of NBSAPs (Decision IX/8). In line with this decision, NBSAPs should catalyze a number of strategic actions in countries including: Integration of biodiversity in broader national strategies (see Target 2); CEPA; ensuring availability of information and knowledge for action, including through national CHM nodes; ensuring availability of appropriate tools for implementation; providing capacity building and facilitating access to financial resources; and ensuring monitoring, reporting and review, including identification and use of indicators as appropriate. **Figure 1** illustrates the process between 2012 and 2020.

Figure 1: Process to meet Target 17 during 2011-2020

Source: SCBD

The implementation process implies that planning process would, of necessity, involve dialogue with and full and effective participation of all sectors of society, including indigenous and local communities, and at all levels of government. Participatory stakeholder involvement throughout the design, planning and implementation of an NBSAP is essential to ensure that the plans will be effective. A revised NBSAP should not be a static planning document but a dynamic process that allows individual Parties to identify their needs, priorities and opportunities for biodiversity in light of their broader national goals. Regional and sub-national strategies should be developed where appropriate. The target for 2015 implies that, not only are NBSAPs developed through a participatory approach, but that they are used as effective tools for mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society. As all programmes of work, cross-cutting issues and initiatives developed under the Convention provide guidance

on how the three objectives of the Convention can be implemented, they are all relevant to this target. (http://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/rationale/target-17/).

Assumptions

The main assumption in this assessment is that Parties will provide comprehensive NBSAPs following their obligations to the Convention and COP guidance and decisions in terms of integrating the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, accounting for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, taking into consideration also, their national circumstances, priority goals and targets, among other factors. It is also assumed that Parties will undertake the important and main activities to produce or update their NBSAPs and National Reports also in accordance to the guidance provided by the Financial Mechanism's Reporting Framework. The activities that are selected are those believed to be important to most or all countries. So far, around 100 proposals for transforming NBSAPs to meet these challenges have been received and approved by the GEF for the 5th replenishment period of July 2010-June 2014.

For costing the following assumptions are made:
a) Total funding proposed to the GEF (GEF Trust Fund + Co-financing) are assumed to reflect the total amount needed by the country that made the proposal, keeping in mind that what is often proposed is often based on what could be available from these sources rather than what is actually needed;
b) The lower amount of the range of estimates (Scenario 1) used in the present assessment is one that is capped at the average GEF grant for NBSAP revision in GEF-5 based on proposals approved by the GEF, plus co-financing (leveraged by the grant). This is assumed to represent the lowest amount that could be needed by a country given that few proposals have been received that request less than this amount;
c) The higher amount of the range of estimates (Scenario 2) used in the present assessment is one that includes more detailed activities (including at sub-national level) and a longer term plan (Ten-year plan) and is based on the highest GEF grant for NBSAP, combining BD-EA plus an additional amount allocated from a country's STAR allocation[1] and the amount leveraged by these funds (co-financing). This is assumed to represent the higher amount that could be needed by a country.
d) It is also assumed no major economic, political and particularly environmental shocks occur in the countries that affect the planning process in major ways.

This assessment recognizes the fact that geographically larger and resource rich countries may require much higher amounts to produce NBSAPs, reports and CHM activities that fulfil all of their intended purposes. It also recognizes the possibility that some countries limit their needs to what they believe could be available to lower the transaction costs of access to the funds given the tight timelines to which Parties are working.

Challenges

The NBSAP planning process, following the Target, involves such main steps as: a) getting organized, b) Assessment/Country study, c) Developing a strategy, d) Developing a Plan of Action, e) Implementation, f) Monitoring and evaluation, g) Reporting, and h) Regularly updating the NBSAPS for such plans to be dynamic. Reports related to the financial mechanism further need to use the newly designed FM reporting framework. NBSAPs and National Reports involve TEEB like studies to gather and compile biodiversity information and assess needs and gaps, and to design a strategic action plan for biodiversity at national level (including sub-national level...). The amount of resources (human, scientific and technical, and financial) required for the task also vary from country to country depending on numerous factors including size of the country, types and condition of biodiversity resources, vision, goals and targets among many others. This makes it very challenging to find or calculate accurate cost information.

Indicators to measure progress towards this goal could include: the number of countries with revised NBSAPs; the number of stakeholders who participate in the revision and updating process of NBSAPs; national assessments of NBSAP implementation; the number of countries with national CHM websites; the number of visitors per year to national CHM websites; and the quality of content and on-line services national CHM websites offer, as well as web user feedback. Most of this information can be easily gathered through the existing national

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[1] Note that, in this case, the country chose to use its STAR allocation for the work on Target 17. Indeed, briefly speaking, once a comprehensive NBSAP is developed, it can help efficiently handle other activities in an optimal way.

reporting process. However, none of these indicators will indicate if the target is met by fulfilling all requirements and guarantee that the information contained in the NBSAPs and National Reports are complete. For this reason, costs of such reports, when the case occurs, may be misleading. Hence, the range of estimates arrived at in this assessment could only be viewed as indicative. Furthermore, as the process of mainstreaming of biodiversity into other sectors becomes more and more effective, the challenge of accurately costing to biodiversity planning process across a wide range of sectors becomes correspondingly greater.

Links to the CBD and COP Decisions
This target is related to Article 6 of the Convention

Article 6. General Measures for Conservation and Sustainable Use: Each Contracting Party shall, in accordance with its particular conditions and capabilities:

(a) 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 this Convention relevant to the Contracting Party concerned; and

(b) Integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

Article 26. Reports
Each Contracting Party shall, at intervals to be determined by the Conference of the Parties, present to the Conference of the Parties, reports on measures which it has taken for the implementation of the provisions of this Convention and their effectiveness in meeting the objectives of this Convention.

The Target is also related to the relevant decisions on national biodiversity strategies and action plans. COP guidance on developing NBSAPs, COP 9 Decision IX/8 on the review of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan, paragraph 8, provides consolidated guidance to assist Parties in the development and revision of their NBSAP. The Target is part of COP-10 Decision X/2 – The Strategic Plan of Biodiversity 2011-2020; and also shows up in Decision X/26 GEF-6 Funding Needs Assessment.

COP 10 – Decision X/25: Additional guidance to the financial mechanism on National Biodiversity strategy and Action Plans:

1. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide adequate and timely financial support for the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related enabling activities, and *requests* the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies to ensure that procedures are in place to ensure an expeditious disbursement of funds;

2. *Recalling* its "Four-year framework of programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity for the period from 2010 to 2014" proposed in decision IX/31 and *noting* that objective 5 of the GEF-5 Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy is to "Integrate CBD obligations into national planning processes through enabling activities", *requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide support to eligible Parties in a expeditious manner, for revising their national biodiversity strategies and action plans in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

Link to other Targets
Because NBSAPs should, in principle, include all strategic actions related to biodiversity of a nation they are linked to all of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets that require action plans, priority setting and strategy to cost efficiently achieve them; i.e. basically all targets. Target 17 is closely linked to Target 16 and Targets 18-20 of its cluster requiring Enabling Activities. It is also linked for example to Target 2 that requires that by 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems; and Target 4 demanding that by 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits. The Target is also related to Target 1 about awareness of biodiversity values, including enabling CEPA activities, to mention but a few.

2. ACTIONS

Numerous actions are needed to be taken to build and update an effective NBSAP report. Some of the main ones are listed below:

1. Introduction setting the scene and provides the rationale: This consists of values of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the country and their contribution to human well-being; causes and consequences of biodiversity loss; constitutional, legal and institutional framework; and lessons learned from the earlier NBSAPs and the process of developing the Updated NBSAP…
   a) *Activity 1: Preparation*
      * Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports;
      * Identifying stakeholders, consultations, and awareness;
      * Supplementary studies (e.g. the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss highlighting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to human well being.

2. National Biodiversity Strategy should include a Long-term vision; principles governing the strategy; main goals or priority areas; and national targets that are SMART…among other things.
   b) *Activity 2: Setting National Priorities and Goals and Targets*
      * Setting national targets, principles and main priorities of the strategy through national consultation.

3. National Biodiversity Action Plan includes among other national actions to achieve the strategy, with milestones; application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities; and sectoral action, i.e. mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans.
   c) *Activity 3: Developing the Strategy and Action Plan*
      * Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through national consultations;
      * Addressing the application and implementation of the NBSAP at sub-national levels through consultations with sub-national and local authorities;
      * Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations.

4. Implementation plans consisting among other plan for capacity development for NBSAP's implementation, including a technology needs assessment; communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP; and plan for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP.
   d) *Activity 4: Development of implementation plans*
      * Developing a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation;
      * Conducting a Technology needs assessment alternative: developing a plan for increasing technical capacity;
      * Developing a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP implementation;
      * Developing a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation.

5. Institutional, monitoring and reporting consisting of activities of monitoring and evaluation, clearing house mechanism, national coordination structures…
   e) *Activity 5: Institutional monitoring, reporting and exchange*
      * Establishing and strengthening of national coordination structures;
      * CHM development;
      * Development of indicators and monitoring approach
      * Fifth national reports

6. Adoption by the Government: *Adoption*
   f) *Activity 6: Adoption*

Although, the main activities are as described above, Parties may use different approaches and define more or less detailed activities under each section during their project proposals to the GEF for enabling activities related funding. In fact, Article 6 states that Parties can meet their obligation under the Article through a set of "equivalent" sectoral strategies and policies rather than an NBSAP.

3. METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

The assessment of this section is based on expert opinion, various proposals submitted to the GEF, and the literature where possible.

Most of the project proposals to the GEF[2] were found to adjust the total amount needed to accomplish the Target to the amount that could be provided by the GEF grant plus the co-financing that this could leverage. In reality, the activities required to design a comprehensive NBSAP (including sub-national assessment, longer term plan, mainstreaming sectors at all levels...) could cost more. The types and details of activities mentioned in the proposals differ from country to country too. Some are very detailed, others not as much. Among the proposals, two extremes are considered in the present assessment in the form of Scenario 1 (Lower estimate of needs per country) and Scenario 2 (higher estimate of needs per country). These two are mentioned above under the Assumption Section (b and c). The estimates, in both cases, consist of the amount expected from the GEF Grant plus the amount expected from co-financing. These two amounts together are expected to reflect the total cost to meet the Target by a country.

> *Scenario 1:* Lower estimate of the range (range being estimate in Scenario 1 to estimate in Scenario 2): activities requiring two more repetition (indicated as recurrent in the table) before the end the period 2013-2020 since it does not include sub-national assessment nor does it involve a long-term plan;

> *Scenario 2:* Higher estimate of the range, activities planned for 10 years, provincial (sub-national) level and more detailed activities consideration - no requirement for additional expenditure before the end of the period 2013-2020.

These estimates are then used to calculate the range of total global needs of resources to meet Target 17 for 197 countries.

4. ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCE NEEDS

Table 0.1 presents the range of amount of resources that could be needed per country[3] to meet Target 17 by 2020. The activities reflect as indicated above the main tasks to be undertaken to meet Target 17.

Scenario 1 is based on cost estimates from a proposal to the GEF. This is a case of the lowest estimates found among the proposals, does not also include sub-national level considerations, and does not consist of a long-term plan. Hence, the activities are allowed to repeat twice during 2013-2020 (under recurrent cost) to complete, revise, and update after the initial investment. The total cost for the period 2013-2020 is therefore three times the initial investment. The results for Scenario 1 in the Table 0.1 indicate an initial cost $576 000 US and recurrent costs of $1,152,000 (two times the initial amount for completing at sub-national level, revision, update...) leading to a total resource needs of *$1,728,000 US per country* for the period 2013-2020.

Scenario 2 is based on estimates provided by another country. This is a case of the highest estimates found among the proposals and includes sub-national level assessments and involves a long-term plan (10 years). In this case one update and revision is allowed during the period 2013-2020 (recurrent cost at one third of the initial cost for further revision and updating). Hence, the total cost for the period 2013-2020 is estimated to be one plus 1/3rd time the initial investment. The results in Table 0.1 show an initial cost of $5,708,446 US and a recurrent cost of $1,902,815 (1/3rd of the initial amount for update and revision) leading to a total resource needs of $7,611,261 *per country* for the period 2013-2020

Table 0.1 Estimated resource needs per country (minimum level of ambition)

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[2] As of August, the number of proposals approved by GEF is around 100

[3] In estimating needs, countries usually give estimates for groups of activities rather than per activity. Hence, efforts are made to associate the estimates provided by the countries to the group of activities identified in the Action section. Even though the cost for each activity can be approximated by using estimates from different proposals and projects these data cannot be summed up to give the total amount needed per country. This is because the list of activities and costing of activities differ from country to country. Hence, in Table 0.1 the amounts are place under the group of activities to which they are most relevant.

ACTIONS/ACTIVITIES REQUIRED TO MEET TARGET 17	Estimated costs per country		Recurrent Annual** Expenditure		Recurrent Total (2013-2020)	
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
	(in US $)					
Activity 1: Preparation	75,000	3,825,300	75,000	1912650	150,000	1,912,650
1.1 Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports;						
1.2 Identifying stakeholders, consultations, and awareness;						
1.3 Supplementary studies (e.g. the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss highlighting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to human well being.						
Activity 2: Setting/Updating National Priorities and Goals and Targets (SMART)	288,000	X	288,000	na	576,000	na
2.1 Setting national targets, principles and main priorities of the strategy Activity: Developing the Strategy and Action Plan						
Activity 3: Developing/Updating the Strategy and Action Plan	X	X		na		na
3.1 Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through national consultations; national levels through consultations with sub-national and local authorities;						
3.3 Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations.						
Activity 4: Development/Update of Implementation Plan	X	1,364,646		682323		682323
4.1 Developing a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation;						
4.2 Conducting a Technology needs assessment alternative: developing a plan for increasing technical capacity;						
4.3 Developing a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP implementation;						
4.4 Developing a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation.						
Activity 5 : Institutional, Monitoring, Reporting and Exchange	116,000	X	116,000	na	232,000	na
5.1 Establishing and strengthening of national coordination structures;						
5.2 CHM development;						
5.3 Development of indicators and monitoring approach						
5.4 Fifth and Six national reports						
Activity 6: Adoption by the Government	X	X		na	X	na
EA Management Cost	97,000	518,500	97,000	259250	194,000	259250
TOTAL AMOUNT NEEDED PER COUNTRY	*576,000*	*5,708,446*	*576,000*	*2,854,223*	*1,152,000*	*2,854,223*

Note: na refers to not applicable; X indicates that the activity is covered mostly by the amount indicated above and partly by the one below; Recurrent cost information for Scenario 1 two time the initial cost since activities are assumed to repeat twice during 2013-2020 and 1 time for Scenario 2 at 1/3 of the initial amount.

5. RESULTS

Table 0.2-A summarizes the range of estimated resource needs per country in order to meet Target 17. From the two scenarios, it is found that the total resource needs per country would range between nearly $1.73 million US and slightly over $7.61 million US to meet Target 11. The average annual amount is found to range between $216,000 US and $941,408 US.

Table 0.2-A Summary of total resource needs per country

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TO MEET THE TARGET	Total amount per country (2013-2020)		Average Annual Amount per Country (2013-2020)	
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Activities	(in US $)			
Activity 1: Preparation	225,000	5,100,400	28,125	637,550
Activity 2: Setting/Updating National Priorities and Goals and Targets (SMART)	864,000	X	108,000	na
Activity 3: Developing/Updating the Strategy and Action Plan	X	X	X	na
Activity 4: Development/Update of Implementation Plan	X	1,819,528	X	227,441
Activity 5 : Institutional, Monitoring, Reporting and Exchange	348,000	X	43,500	X
Activity 6: Adoption by the Government	X	X		
EA Management Cost	291,000	691,333	36,375	86,417
TOTAL AMOUNT NEEDED PER COUNTRY	*1,728,000*	*7,611,261*	*216,000*	*951,408*

Note: 2013-2020 inclusive, i.e. 8 years considered: X indicates that the activity is covered mostly by the amount indicated above and partly by the one below

Table 0.2-B presents the range of l global resource needs for 197 countries base on information in Table 0.2-A. The total resource needs to achieve Target 17 would probably range, in this case, between $340.4 million US and 1,363.3 million US, with an average annual range of $42.55 million US and 170 million US.

Table 0.2 Total resource needs for 100 and 197 countries.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TO MEET THE TARGET	Total Amount (2013-2020)		Average Annual Amount (2013-2020)	
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
GLOBAL - 197 COUNTRIES	(in US $)			
Activity 1: Preparation	44,325,000	1,004,778,800	5,540,625	125,597,350
Activity 2: Setting/Updating National Priorities and Goals and Targets (SMART)	170,208,000	X	21,276,000	na
Activity 3: Developing/Updating the Strategy and Action Plan	X	X	X	na
Activity 4: Development/Update of Implementation Plan	X	358,447,016	X	44,805,877
Activity 5 : Institutional, Monitoring, Reporting and Exchange	68,556,000	X	8,569,500	X
Activity 6: Adoption by the Government	X	X		
EA Management Cost	57,327,000	0	7,165,875	0
TOTAL AMOUNT NEEDED - 197 COUNTRIES	*340,416,000*	*1,363,225,816*	*42,552,000*	*170,403,227*

Note: X indicated that the activity is covered mostly by the amount indicated above and partly by the one below.

It is important to note that funds that are currently available under the GEF are not used to reduce the estimates of the amount needed at the global level. These results can still be viewed as conservative estimates considering the fact that if highly resource rich and geographically big countries set out to meet Target 17 as a whole by 2020, the cost of preparing a comprehensive NBSAP, national reports, and CHM (i.e. that fulfil all obligations and guidance among other), the upper range of the estimates provided per country may still be higher in these cases.

6. DISCUSSION

The above required amounts to achieve the Target may start changing, when implementation starts. The costs that are considered are planning costs and they do not include actual implementation costs. In the present assessment the amounts refer to those needed to be able to get to the implementation stage. Recurrent costs in the present assessment are those related to the preparation, completion, update or revision of the NBSAP and

reports. Other recurrent costs will start showing up after implementation and these amounts are not relevant to the present assessment and to meeting Target 17, are hard to determine at this stage, and are not considered.

Although there could be differences in resource needs from country to country, there is a high level of confidence in the estimated amounts that are presented even though the activities could depend on the level of ambition and the various circumstances of the different countries involved in the global assessment. Since the estimation drew lessons from the GEF projects (Trust Fund and Co-financing), the range of total amounts per country were expected to be representative of costs per country on average. Hence, these amounts are also used to estimate the global amounts.

As far as funding opportunities are concerned, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is one source of funding. Considering the advantages (and comparative advantages) and benefits that countries could have by meeting the Target, countries may decide to invest in the activities, and attract various types of funding sources including the private sector. The GEF has also been catalyst for leveraging large amounts of funds for projects with global environmental benefits of which NBSAPs, National Report and Clearing House Mechanism. So far, the funding evidences that are readily available are those from the GEF. Overall, the Target could potentially benefit from internal and external funding sources.

The estimates may be sensitive to changes and shocks in socio-economic, political and climatic conditions among other, that affect the amount and types of resources in a country. Where major changes/shocks occur, adjustment and revisions to the strategic action plan and all related activities will also be required sooner than planned and could cost more. Table 1.1 shows the Gap Analysis.

Table 1.1 Gap Analysis for Target 17

Target 17	
Evidence on costs	Strength of evidence (medium) – A combination of sources used and mainly information from GEF projects are used in this assessment Extent to which further research is required (considerable) - Cost information adjusted to what could be available than to what is actually needed. Further research is needed to estimate actual costs of comprehensive NBSAPS...
Evidence on current levels of expenditure	Strength of evidence (medium) Many countries have gone through the process of preparing NBSAPs National Report and CHM with the assistance of the GEF. Lack of information from other sources; Extent to which further research is required (considerable)
Other Targets	
Links to other Targets	Both within the overall cluster and with other Targets – Very high, since NBSAPs should strategically cover all issues related to biodiversity and the objectives of the Convention.
Evidence on potential co-benefits	High: to Sustainable development and poverty alleviation among other Strength of evidence (medium) if related to the Target Extent to which further research is required (considerable) – Particularly on the impacts of NBSAP's on biodiversity and other sectors
Other policy areas	
Related policy areas outside of biodiversity	e. g. climate change, rural development, health, agriculture, etc. The target deals with nationwide biodiversity strategic action plan and it touches on all the areas and more such as climate change, rural development, health (pharmaceutical, traditional medicines), R&D, agriculture, biotechnology, private companies (e.g. cosmetics industry), universities…NBSAPs when well prepared will be comprehensive
Evidence on potential benefits to other policy areas	Extent of potential benefits (very high) Extent to which further research is required (considerable) – Biodiversity has to be valued, losses estimated, and strategic action plan yet to be effectively well designed – A lot of work to be done and a lot of benefits to be generated once the exercise will be successfully completed.

Target 17
Possible results: Sustainable development including poverty alleviation i.e. beyond conservation biodiversity, sustainable use and ABS.

Benefits of delivering the target

NBSAPs, when well designed and implemented, provide an overall framework for national implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, through actions for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources. They can serve as a key element in national and sub-national policy development and planning processes and could result in demonstrable mainstreaming of biodiversity concerns at all levels. Hence, in principle they have the potential to form part of a country's overall sustainable development and poverty alleviation strategies where the case applies. Evidence indicates that NBSAPs developed outside of all other sectoral policies and programmes are neither effective in protecting biodiversity nor the integrity of critical ecosystem functions[4]. The National Reports and Clearing House Mechanism activities are also very important for various reasons including exchange of information, current awareness not only within a nation but also between nations and all other interested stakeholders.

Hence, it is important that their design and implementation be ensured through adequate and appropriate human and financial resources as well as agreed procedures and timetables for their periodic revision in order to optimally benefit from their use.

ICF GHK/ WCMC, First draft, 27.08.12

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[4] http://www.ias.unu.edu/resource_centre/Effective%20Implementation%20of%20NBSAPs%20-%20Pisupati.pdf