Take the NBSAP Journey

NBSAP FORUM

Societal links to biodiversity include impacts and dependencies of **natural resource uses** (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, grazing, forestry) and of various **extractive and productive sectors** (e.g. energy, mining, tourism, transportation, waste and manufacturing) on biodiversity.

Assessing the **social and economic values of biodiversity** can help planners make a political and economic case for increased investment in biodiversity, and demonstrate the efficiency and effectiveness of ecosystem-based solutions.

A **multi-disciplinary team**, and a **multi-sectoral advisory group** ensure broad support for the planning process and for implementation. Effective planning and data management are critical at this stage.

Planners should review previous NBSAPs agains the **Aichi Biodiversity Targets**, and against new national development and biodiversity goals.

GET ORGANIZED

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Form team
Form advisory group
Develop work plan
Manage data

TAKE STOCK

Review previous NBSAP

ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS

IDENTIFY STAKEHOLDERS

Identify potential stakeholders
Conduct stakeholder analysis

COMMUNICATE PROCESS

Develop communicaiton plan
Build political will

Key NBSAP stakeholders may have a legal responsibility for managing biodiversity, have an impact on biodiversity, be affected by new policies, and/or may possess relevant biodiversity knowledge.

A communication plan should clearly identify key stakeholders, and identify the specific interests and methods for engagement for each stakeholder group in the NBSAP revision process. An effective communication plan can also help build political support for implementation.

GATHER INFORMATION

IDENTIFY LINKAGES BETWEEN SOCIETY AND BIODIVERSITY

Identify key ecosystem services
Identify trends in stocks and flows
Identify key uses and beneficiaries
Assess economic and social values
Assess resource use and consumption

IDENTIFY BIODIVERSITY STATUS AND TRENDS

Identify key species
Identify key ecosystems
Identify key biodiversity areas
Assess status and trends
Identify drivers of change

Key species include species that are rare, threatened or endangered; play a disproportionate role in ecosystem functioning; and/or have high social or economic importance.

Key ecosystems maintain critically important ecosystem services related to water, food, fiber, energy and disaster risk reduction, among others.

Key biodiversity areas include areas that are critical for preventing extinctions, for maintaining life cycles of species, such as feeding, breeding, dispersal, staging, mating and migration; and/or for maintaining viable population sizes.

Some important **status and trends** to assess in the NBSAP revision process include:

- Extent of land and water under sustainable production
- Extent of use of sustainable practices within various sectors
- Population, spatial distribution, threats, protection status of key species
- Extent, ecological integrity, threats and protection status of key ecosystems and key biodiversity areas
- Changes in the stocks and flows of ecosystem services
- Protected area extent, distribution, governance, representativeness and management effectiveness
- Impacts of key threats and drivers of change

Key laws and policies are those that do or may have an impact, positive or negative, on the sustainable use, conservation and/or equitable benefits sharing of biodiversity. **Key institutions** include those institutions responsible for setting and enforcing laws and policies, such as governmental agencies, ministries and departments.

Key capacities important in the NBSAP revision process include the abilities to:

- Gauge potential impacts of large trends and forces, including climate change
- Develop and compare biodiversity and development scenarios for the future
- Gauge long-term tradeoffs between multiple development scenarios
- Understand and effectively communicate the long-term benefits of ecosystems
- Influence the highest levels of government to invest in biodiversity
- Mobilize private and public finance for biodiversity investment
- Counteract powerful and well-funded lobbyists and interest groups

ASSESS LEGAL, INSTUTIONAL AND POLICY ENVIRONMNENT

Assess key laws
Assess key policies
Identify key institutions
Assess capacities
Assess key opportunities

ASSESS BIODIVERSITY FINANCE ENVIRONMENT

Review biodiversity expenditures
Identify environmentally harmful incentives
Identify positive incentives
Identify and analyze potential finance actors
Identify and analyze potential finance mechanisms

A biodiversity expenditure review tracks the amount and effectiveness of relevant biodiversity-related expenditures, both public and private, over a given period of time. This creates a baseline against which biodiversity costs can be measured.

Environmentally harmful incentives include, for example, fishing quotas that promote high by-catch levels; and subsidies that promote excessive chemical fertilizer and pesticide use.

Potential finance actors include any individuals and/or institutions who benefit from or who harm biodiversity, either directly or indirectly.

Potential finance mechanisms include, for example:

- Fiscal reform (e.g. reduce subsidies)
- Biodiversity offsets
- Market certification
- Payment for ecosystem services
- Voluntary and mandatory fees
- Conservation trust funds

A target is a specific goal that a country would like to achieve. **An indicator** is a verifiable and discreet unit of measurement that can be used to gauge progress.

Targets and indicators help planners focus on a small set of criteria, and develop a robust snapshot of status and trends.

The **national biodiversity vision** describes what the country would like to achieve in the future, or the relationship between society and biodiversity. **Specific priorities and key principles** help outline the shape and countours of the revised NBSAP, and guide the revision process.

DEVELOP STRATEGIES

DEVELOP VISION

Establish vision
Identify key priorities

SET NATIONAL TARGETS

Identify national targets
Establish indicators

ASSESS PUBLIC AWARENESS

Assess awareness of biodiversity
Assess awareness of biodiversity values

ASSESS KNOWLEDGE GAPS

Assess key knowledge gaps

Assessing what is unknown is just as important as assessing what is known. Typical **knowledge gaps** include vulnerability of species and ecosystems to climate change; trends in ecosystem services; ecological integrity of ecosystems; and spatial distribution of key threats, such as invasive alien species. .

Widespread awareness of the status and trends of biodiversity, the social and economic value of biodiversity and ecosystems, and the consequences of biodiversity loss, particularly on the poorest and most vulnerable society members, is essential in helping to change the trajectory of development toward a sustainable pathway.

Mainstreaming strategies include the integration of biodiversity components into key sectoral plans and policies through a variety of mainstreaming mechanisms (e.g., biodiversity offsets), and **sustainable use strategies** include managing forests, grasslands, oceans, rivers and other ecosystems within safe ecological limits.

Protection strategies include strategies to improve the protected area network (e.g., expansion and reconfiguration, management effectiveness, improved policies); and to improve *ex situ* conservation (e.g. gene banks).

Restoration and resilience strategies include a wide range of actions aimed at restoring ecological integrity and functioning, and increasing resilience to threats and pressures, such as climate change.

Access and benefits strategies include strategies related to prior informed consent, mutually agreed terms, benefits sharing, and traditional knowledge.

Enhancing implementation strategies include strategies related to improving education and public awareness, developing capacity, and undertaking research.

DEVELOP STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

Biodiversity mainstreaming
Sustainable resource use
Protection
Restoration and resilience
Access and benefits sharing
Enabling strategies

DEVELOP PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

DEVELOP PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Develop detailed action plan
Develop resource mobilization plan
Incorporate into policy frameworks
Incorporate into budgets
Finalize targets and indicators

In a detailed implementation plan, every strategy has a set of specific actions, and each action has a responsible actor, a clear timeline, and a set of specific indicators for gauging success.

A resource mobilization plan outlines potential finance actors, mechanisms and opportunities for each strategy, and indicates how much revenue each mechanism is expected to generate.

Incorporating NBSAPs into budgets and policy frameworks ensures that the strategies and actions are fully institutionalized and implemented.

Monitoring and adaptation are critical components of the NBSAP revision process because they enable planners to adapt their strategies and priorities based on changing conditions. **Communicating progress** (including in the form of national reports) can help in measuring progress toward global targets, accelerating learning across countries, and building momentum and political will within a country.

MONITOR AND REPORT

MONITOR, ADAPT, LEARN AND COMMUNICATE

Report results nationally
Report internationally
Review progress
Adapt priorities

IMPLEMENT NBSAP

Engage stakeholders
Build political will
Mobilize financial resources
Implement prioritized actions

IMPLEMENT THE NBSAP

It is easier to envision and plan change than it is to implement it. The implementation phase requires the most **diligence and commitment** if NBSAPs are to have a national and global impact. It is essential that planners continue to build political will for the outcomes of the revised NBSAP, and make implementation a priority.