



Convention on Biological Diversity

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REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON RESOURCE
MOBILIZATION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
Bangkok, 6–8 May 2014

BACKGROUND AND PROGRAMME

I. BACKGROUND OF THE WORKSHOP

1. Further to the request expressed by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, this workshop is one of a series of regional workshops to support Parties in the establishment of robust baselines and reporting framework, and the preparation of national financial plans for biodiversity (see decision XI/4, paragraph 27).

2. The workshop is organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Development Programme, through its Biodiversity Finance (BIOFIN) Initiative, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the United Nations Environment Programme, through its World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP), with financial support provided by the European Union. The workshop will be hosted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

3. In 2010, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The Strategic Plan, which has been recognized as the main global framework for biodiversity policy action by the United Nations system, underlines that biological diversity underpins ecosystem functioning and the provision of ecosystem services essential for human well-being. It provides for food security, human health, the provision of clean air and water; it contributes to local livelihoods, and economic development, and is essential for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including poverty reduction.

4. The Conference of the Parties recognized that funding for biodiversity has been insufficient to address the rate of biodiversity loss and that the lack of sufficient financial resources (at international, national or local level) continues to be one of the main obstacles to achieving the Convention's objectives. The high-level panel on global assessment of resources for implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 noted that the implementation and delivery of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets requires the development of an appropriate and coherent political and institutional framework, and strong political will, particularly at national and regional levels. In order to give effect to the development of such frameworks at national level, the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting encouraged Parties to develop, as a matter of priority and as appropriate, country-specific resource mobilization strategies, or finance plans, as part of their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

5. Participants in the workshop will comprise one resource mobilization expert from each of the countries in the region, such as the official in charge of resource mobilization and/or the development of national finance plans for the implementation of revised national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

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The following countries were invited to nominate officials: Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Federal States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Niue, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and Yemen. Several regional and subregional organizations and United Nations organizations were also invited to send their representatives to this workshop.

6. The workshop seeks to contribute to achieving the following outcomes:

(a) Enhanced capacity of participants to apply pertinent methodologies, frameworks and tools for identifying, assessing, and reporting existing biodiversity finance, in order to develop robust financial baselines and for developing national finance plans, including financial targets, for effective implementation of revised NBSAPs;

(b) Enhanced understanding of participants of the importance, for effective mobilization of financial resources, of identifying relevant biodiversity values and incorporating these values in national development strategies and policy frameworks, including in revised national biodiversity strategy and action plans and associated resource mobilization planning; and of existing case studies and good practices on pertinent approaches and measures for such identification and incorporation.

7. The immediate objective and output of the workshop is to support the development, in accordance with national circumstances, of individualized and prioritized action plans towards the development of national finance plans. The emphasis of the workshop will be on exchange of national experiences and active learning, and the step-by-step development of this action plan. With this in mind, the workshop format features a mix of presentations with question and answer sessions, plenary discussions, and work sessions to apply relevant tools and training modules towards the development of the action plan. A preliminary programme of the workshop is provided below.

8. Participants are invited to identify, and share at the workshop, their national experiences and lessons learned on the various items in the programme and, to this effect, they may wish to undertake a stocktaking on (i) national activities associated with assessing biodiversity benefits and values, and the associated potential demand for biodiversity-related ecosystem services; (ii) the national planning landscape and associated actors and institutions, (iii) drivers of change and associated actors and institutions, (iv) existing domestic finance mechanisms and volume of resources; (v) existing sources of Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding for biodiversity. Participants are also invited to review and bring their national biodiversity strategy and action plan in its current state of revision or updating, and to identify a number of action items amenable for costing and financial gap analysis. In order to facilitate the detailed planning of the workshop agenda, participants who intend to share their experiences in form of a formal presentation are invited to inform the workshop organizers accordingly, at their earliest convenience but no later than **22 April 2014**.

9. The Secretariat issued a note for participants containing details of logistical arrangements, including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other matters for the workshop. The note is available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=RM-2014-03>. The language of the workshop will be Arabic and English, with interpretation being provided in both languages.

10. The registration of participants will commence at the meeting venue at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, 6 May 2014.

II. PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

	Tuesday 6 May	Wednesday 7 May	Thursday 8 May
9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Registration and welcome (8.30 a.m.-10.00 a.m.) Understanding the broader context: identifying and integrating biodiversity benefits and values	Baselining and reporting Presentation (UNDP) Presentation: country experiences Q&a, discussion	Closing finance gaps: finance mechanisms (<i>continued</i>) Presentations: country and regional experiences Work session
10.30 a.m. -12 noon	Keynote presentation (HLP) Presentation (UNEP-WCMC) Country experiences Q&a, discussion	Costing and identifying finance gaps Presentation (UNDP) Presentation: country experiences Q&a, discussionnn	Towards national finance plans: integrating resource mobilization plan into national planning frameworks Presentation (UNDP) Presentation: country experiences Work session
12 noon – 2.00 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
2.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Taking stock: stages in NBSAP revision and in the preparation of national finance plans Presentation (UNDP) Work session	Closing finance gaps: finance mechanisms Presentation (UNDP) Presentations: country and regional experiences	Making the case for biodiversity financing Presentation (-UNEPWCMC) Interactive exercise
3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.	Understanding the broader context: actors and institutions in other planning processes Presentation (UNDP) Presentations: country experiences Work session	Closing finance gaps: finance mechanisms (<i>continued</i>) Presentations: country and regional experiences	Final plenary discussion: identification of next steps Evaluation and closure
