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

### REPORT OF THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON RESOURCE MOBILIZATION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

#### INTRODUCTION

1. Recognizing the lack of sufficient financial resources to leverage biodiversity loss, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention, through its decision XI/4, encouraged Parties and relevant organizations to develop country-specific resource mobilization strategies, as part of their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), with a view to increasing funding to support the Convention and its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of their existing financial mechanisms (paragraph 25). In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, subject to voluntary contributions, to organize regional and subregional workshops on the establishment of robust baselines and reporting framework and the preparation of national financial plans for biodiversity (paragraph 27).

2. The present workshop was one of a series of regional workshops organized to support Parties in these tasks. It was organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through its Biodiversity Finance (BIOFIN) Initiative, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), through its World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) and its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP), and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Financial support was provided by the Government of Denmark and the European Union. The workshop was hosted by ESCAP, with logistic facilities from the United Nations Conference Center, in Bangkok.

3. The targeted outcomes of the workshop were:

(a) To enhance 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; and

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

4. In that context, the workshop format featured 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 country-specific action plans. Presentations and other meeting documents are available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=RMWS-2014-03>. The workshop was conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic.

5. In attendance were nominated resource mobilization experts from the following Governments: Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu. A number of United Nations organizations as well as relevant international and national organizations were also represented. The list of participants is provided as annex IV to the present report.

### **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP**

6. The workshop was opened at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 6 May 2014.

7. Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, Director of the Environment and Development Division of the United Nations Economic Social Commission of the Asia Pacific (ESCAP), welcomed the participants and expressed his pleasure that ESCAP was co-host of this important workshop. Mr. Chung briefly introduced the work of ESCAP in mainstreaming environment into development across government and society; an objective that was consistent with Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

8. He recalled that in 2005 ESCAP members attending the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific agreed on green growth as a strategy for achieving sustainable development. Mr. Chung explained that the green growth strategy aimed to frame sustainability as a driver of economic growth and poverty reduction rather than as a financial burden. The biggest challenge, he stressed, was to bridge the “time gap” between the returns on investment in pressing short-term priorities such as poverty reduction and job creation, and the returns from investments in natural capital which accrued only in the long term. In line with this, he underlined that market and other incentives for investments in biodiversity values should be built into national economic growth strategies. Closing his statement, Mr. Chung underlined that Governments and policymakers needed to move away from “short-termism” and focus on synergizing the three dimensions of sustainable development.

9. Speaking on behalf of Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, CBD Executive Secretary, Mr. Ravi Sharma, Principal Officer of the Technical Support for Implementation division of SCBD, welcomed the participants and expressed his gratitude to the Government of Denmark and the European Union, as well as to other co-sponsors and co-organizers for the financial and technical support that facilitated the workshop. Referring to the provisional financial targets adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting, he emphasized the need for national Governments to translate the global Strategic Plan into national policies through the integration of biodiversity into their budgetary exercises, the review and update of their NBSAPs and also by focussing on strengthening technical capacity through exchange of experiences on meeting these ambitious targets for 2015.

10. Mr. Sharma briefly reported on the Secretariat’s main activities in supporting achievement of these targets; namely: the upcoming second report of the High-level Panel on Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, which aimed to articulate the link between investments in biodiversity conservation and economic benefits arising from these investments, and the second informal dialogue meeting held in Quito, Ecuador in April 2014, where various policy options were identified and discussed, including mechanisms and safeguards for substantially increasing the scope of resource mobilization for biodiversity. He also referred to the different workshops organized in different regions to support resource mobilization. In his concluding remarks, he emphasized the need for building capacity among finance and environment ministries, as well as national planning processes.

11. Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, Director of the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (UNEP-ROAP) referred to statistical information on the rapid decline of biodiversity and ecosystems in the Asia and Pacific region, representing twice the decline of the global average. He further referred to the challenges that most countries of the region were facing to stem biodiversity crisis, habitat loss and climate change issues and called for a proactive attitude and decisive actions to be

identified at the workshop. He said that the mandate of the workshop would provide a unique opportunity to address finance gaps and deploy financing methodologies in order to raise the level of ambition needed to achieve the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Pointing on the items outlined in the agenda, he urged participants to capitalize on the diverse lessons learned and expertise gained at the workshop as they share their respective knowledge and experience in the implementation of the biodiversity agenda.

12. Adding on Mr. Zahedi's remarks, Ms. Jamison Ervin, representing UNDP-BIOFIN, stressed that the foundation of green economy resided in investing in biodiversity and ecosystems as the most cost effective element towards sustainable development. She also highlighted the link between biodiversity and security, livelihoods, poverty and disaster risk reduction. Harnessing these links could be achieved by safeguarding and strengthening biodiversity and ecosystems while taking into account specific steps in the development trajectory, thus creating a 'virtuous circle': (i) to become aware of the current trajectory and the value of nature; (ii) strive towards more conscious biodiversity-related financial decisions; (iii) change practices from business as usual vs. sustainable management; and (iv) learn from outcomes and results. She also outlined the three main safeguards steps that UNDP believed that, if designed and implemented appropriately, could lead to leverage additional financial resources to reduce the biodiversity finance gap: (i) the assessment of current level of investment in biodiversity and related expenses; (ii) the assessment of cost and benefits of implementing the biodiversity targets; and (iii) the elaboration of a range of biodiversity financial mechanisms.

13. Ms. Sutthiya Chantawarangul, speaking on behalf of the European Union delegation in Bangkok, noted that a key challenge was how to translate lessons learned into concrete actions and to communicate these key messages in a convincing manner to the key actors and politicians who had the decision power and who did not necessarily have the appropriate understanding to implement pertinent approaches. She provided an overview of diverse biodiversity programmes/projects supported by the European Union, including the global initiative on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), which focused on drawing attention to the economic benefits of biodiversity including the growing cost of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.

14. The workshop participants subsequently introduced themselves, highlighting their respective affiliation and expertise with regard to the preparation of their countries' resource mobilization plan, fifth national reports and/or NBSAPs. They also expressed their expectations from the workshop.

## **ITEM 2. UNDERSTANDING THE BROADER CONTEXT: IDENTIFYING AND INTEGRATING BIODIVERSITY BENEFITS AND VALUES**

15. Ms. Rina Maina P. Rosales, from the Economic Center for Studies of the Philippines and Member of the High-level Panel on Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, gave a keynote presentation on the work of the High-level Panel. Recalling that the High-level Panel under its second phase was tasked to most cost effectively secure biodiversity benefits through actions both within and outside the biodiversity sectors, she noted the need to improve participation, institutions and governance as one significant challenge. She proceeded to provide an overview of the findings from the regional cost/benefit analysis of biodiversity conservation in Asia and the Pacific regions: (i) there is substantial evidence on the benefits of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in these two regions; (ii) there is a substantial gap between available and required resources for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as in most countries, net benefits were often locally negative; and (iii) the need for countries to invest in stronger enforcement and institutional frameworks as a basis for implementing environmental management.

16. Ms. Rosales's presentation was followed by a question/answer session. The following points were raised: (i) the need for conceptual clarifications; (ii) the need to establish institutional frameworks for the financial process; (iii) the need for an overview on sources of resources available, such as the (potential) contribution of tourism to biodiversity (Maldives). In the subsequent discussion, Ms. Rosales mentioned that different ecosystem services such as water supply, fisheries, forest protection, agriculture, hydro-electricity, tourism, etc. were used to assess the cost/benefits. Transforming measured but notional

ecosystem values into actual revenue was a complex task.

17. Mr. Abisha Mapendembe (UNEP-WCMC) introduced a project undertaken by UNEP-WCMC and the Institute of European Environmental Policy, in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat and funded by the United Kingdom's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, on the NBSAPs revision process and critical entry points and approaches which support inclusion of values. Emphasizing the need to use a broad definition of biodiversity values components (economic, cultural, intrinsic and social), he outlined the different steps and tips for incorporating them into the NBSAPs revision process, including the following elements: stakeholder engagement; ecosystem assessment; ecosystem service mapping; ecosystem service indicators; monetary valuation and accounting. He also presented a series of common lessons learned and good practices drawn from selected country case studies. Mr. Mapendembe concluded by drawing attention to the available modules and guidance tool on how to mainstream biodiversity at the national level and how to make a business case for biodiversity.

18. In the subsequent discussion, experts discussed in particular how to sustain stakeholder engagement given limited capacity for follow-up, changing assignments etc., and how to monitor and evaluate progress. Ensuring adequate and long-term coordination among different sectors and associated line ministries was identified as an important challenge by many experts. The building of informal networks was identified as an interesting first, which could be followed by a more formal process at the commitment stage. Preliminary assessments were useful on key challenges and priorities, and on identifying key actors to be involved in the process. Setting a strategy including clear milestones could be useful in assessing progress effectively. High-level endorsement of the strategy was a key success factor.

19. Ms. Makiko Yashiro, from UNEP-ROAP, presented the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), an international initiative funded by the European Union that drew attention to the economic benefits of biodiversity, including the growing cost of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. TEEB's approach was to help decision-makers recognize, demonstrate and, where appropriate, capture the values of ecosystem and biodiversity in order to mainstream ecosystem services into policy-making processes. The TEEB reports also provided a useful framework that helped understanding how nature capital could contribute to human well-being. She highlighted the components of the three main phases of the TEEB project which consisted of the project preparation and scoping; country study; and review and dissemination of results. Ms. Makiko also presented an overview of ongoing national TEEB studies (Bhutan, Philippines, and other African and Caribbean countries).

20. Ms. Joyce Lee, also from UNEP-ROAP, introduced the Poverty and Environment Initiative (PEI), a joint UNDP-UNEP global programme implemented in over twenty countries, nine of which were in Asia and the Pacific. The overall objective of the PEI programme was to promote green economy and support country-led efforts to mainstream poverty-environment linkages into national and subnational development planning, from policy-making to budgeting, implementation and monitoring. She also outlined the financial and technical services provided by the PEI programme to government decision-makers and stakeholders. In the region, the programme focused on climate financing for sustainable development and natural resources for poverty reduction through the promotion of quality investments, climate financial framework and environment expenditure reviews, as well as the improvement of local governance.

21. Drawing on their countries' experiences, experts subsequently discussed (i) how to sustain institutional change at the end of project based activities under TEEB and PEI; (ii) how to achieve the due balance between mitigation and adaptation strategies; and (iii) how to address the mismatch between the typically very high livelihood impact of biodiversity loss and the lack of sustainable funding. References were made to recent national case examples that could address such challenges, such as the Indonesia green fiscal framework and Nepal's recent activities to green national budgets. Assessing the cost effectiveness of moving from an option to another was critical to ensure better and more sustained allocations. Import success factors include recognizing biodiversity values and introducing instruments to compensate communities for protecting ecosystems.

22. Mr. Angelito V. Fontanilla from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines (DENRP) provided an overview of the Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services programme in the Philippines (Phil-WAVES), a Government trust-funded project promoting sustainable development through wealth accounting and natural capital. The Phil-WAVES programme demonstrated the successful translation of the ecosystem accounting theory into concrete actions. The main challenge faced was how to effectively use ecosystem accounts to support the development and implementation of tools, such as payment mechanisms, for sustainable long-term financing. Another challenge was to engage stakeholders through communication and outreach with a view to building ownership and to enhancing advocacy on decision makers to illustrate the link between natural resources and national budget.

23. Participants expressed their appreciation to Mr. Fontanilla for sharing that successful country experience. They sought and received further clarification on a number of methodological issues.

24. Mr. Mapendembe presented a recent UNEP project on how to enhance cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions and exploring opportunities for further synergies, and contribution towards a more coherent system of international environmental governance. The project, funded by the European Union and the Swiss Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, aimed to analyze and provide non-prescriptive guidance on opportunities for enhancing the effectiveness of cooperation among biodiversity-related MEAs, at all levels, including on synergies through resource mobilizations. The project would be implemented through four interrelated work packages.

25. Building on his presentation, a number of experts pointed to the need of building or enforcing subregional cooperation in order to achieve adequate and effective synergies based on practical cases, as well as the support from MEAs.

26. Mr. Daniel Clarke, Statistician with ESCAP, presented on valuing and accounting work for the Environment undertaken in the Asia, summarizing the outcomes of a workshop on this topic that was co-organized by the South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE), UNEP and ESCAP and held from 8 to 10 October 2013 in Bangkok. This workshop was based on two main background references with a twofold objective: (a) the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Experimental Ecosystem Accounts and (b) Basic data on Economic Environmental social Statistics. During this workshop, emphasis was put on of methods for valuing and accounting for ecosystem services and the associated measures of natural capital, building on the foundation knowledge provided in the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounts, the United Nations University's International Wealth Report, and many other related national and international publications. Mr. Clarke also highlighted key challenges discussed during the meeting such as the lack of resources and expertise.

27. During subsequent discussions, participants sought clarification on the agreed methodology used to set priorities for the region. Mr. Clarke underlined research priorities for the Asia region as follows: (i) assessing data gaps for basic priority accounts; (ii) ecosystem asset account pilot studies; and (iii) agreed methods for valuing ecosystem services, mostly built on a broad of principles, SEEA framework and ESCAP's guidance given that no specific technical method was applied.

### **ITEM 3. UNDERSTANDING THE BROADER CONTEXT: ACTORS AND INSTITUTIONS**

28. Ms. Jamison Ervin presented the four conceptual frameworks of UNDP's BIOFIN methodology: (i) public and private expenditure review; (ii) pressure state response framework; (iii) pressure and state with root causes analysis; and (iv) valuation methodology. Ms. Ervin further outlined the main steps towards developing a national resource mobilization strategy as follows: (i) identifying drivers of loss of biodiversity; (ii) identifying and a relevant institutions and actors, including from different economic sectors; (iii) reviewing biodiversity-related expenditures; (iv) assessing costs of prioritized strategies and actions; (v) calculating the financial gap; (vi) identifying potential finance mechanisms and associated actors; and (vii) synthesizing this into a resource mobilization plan.

29. Further to a round of clarifying questions and answers, and building on the BIOFIN methodology, experts were subsequently invited to complete an exercise designed to gain an aggregated overview of the status of NBSAP revision and the elaboration of a resource mobilization plan in the Asia and the Pacific region. A compilation of the results of this exercise is contained in annexes I and II to the present report.

30. Ms. Jamison Ervin subsequently presented on identifying drivers of biodiversity loss and relevant financial actors/institutions. She underlined the key practices and policies that were driving biodiversity loss and the major steps that would allow planners to identify the most important drivers of negative/positive trends in biodiversity and ecosystems, the most important practices and policies that were driving these trends, as well as the underlying factors that contributed to these policies.

31. Ms. Ervin provided a more detailed definition of policy and practice drivers of biodiversity loss by sharing some examples from the Asian countries and around the globe: (i) protected areas were isolated, with few connectivity corridors because of social pressures for land; (ii) the protected area network was not yet designed for climate resilience because of inadequate capacity; (iii) mining industries affected water resources because full environmental impact assessments were not conducted or were incomplete; (iv) agricultural frontier was expanding into sensitive ecosystems because of weak land-use planning; and (v) poaching and illegal trade threatened the viability of elephant populations because of market forces.

32. Participants engaged in a very dynamic discussion during the reflection point session. Many experts shared their countries' experiences and identified root causes of biodiversity loss such as the lack of capacity and awareness; political barriers; or the impact of climate change.

33. Following the discussion, Ms. Ervin proceeded with the description of enabling factors and their associated opportunities and challenges: (i) political will and leadership; (ii) public media/perception; (iii) good governance and inter-sectoral coordination; (iv) public participation; (vi) information about values and; (viii) utilization of funding.

34. Drawing on concrete countries examples, Ms. Ervin further presented the identification of key finance actors/institutions as a very important step in designing a resource mobilization strategy. It was important to identify (i) the actors responsible for the existing status quo; (ii) who currently benefited from and paid the cost of biodiversity in the status quo; (iii) who already or would benefit from biodiversity under the status quo or from the projected new scenario; (iv) the role of key actors in setting budget priorities and other finance related; and (v) what were the existing finance capacities and capacity needs.

35. Participants were invited to break into small groups and engaged in an exercise to start drafting action plans to develop a national resource mobilization strategy. They first completed a stocktaking exercise on the assessment of the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services, identifying the most important ecosystems in their country, major beneficiaries and status of valuation assets, in addition to the possible steps towards the assessment of the values of key biodiversity components and ecosystems. They were subsequently invited to apply the key steps on identifying drivers of biodiversity loss and relevant financial actors/institutions in their countries through a different exercise, and shared their results.

#### **ITEM 4. BASELINING AND REPORTING**

36. Ms. Jamie Ervin presented the key steps on biodiversity-related expenditure review. She underlined the importance of this phase as it established the baseline for public and private expenditures on biodiversity-related activities, and determined the financial gap between what was currently being spent and what would need to be spent to implement the NBSAP. The following steps needed to be taken into account during the expenditure review: (i) identify relevant finance actors; (ii) extract budgetary data from relevant finance actors; (iii) develop a single coherent system for coding and processing all data; (iv)

analyze all relevant expenditures from the past, and project into the future. Ms. Ervin also outlined the three key issues in expenditure review: (i) relevancy (coding the level that some expenditures to biodiversity); (ii) effectiveness (some expenditures are more effective in conserving biodiversity than others); and (iii) environmentally harmful expenditures (some expenditures harm biodiversity).

37. Building on these steps during subsequent discussion, participants emphasized (i) the importance of an appropriate evaluation of subsidies and expenditures, given that some subsidies were positive and others had negative impacts on biodiversity; (ii) the need to capture all sources and entities, including governmental, donors, and private investors; (iii) the need to align expenditure reviews with existing processes, such as procurements plan or endorsement letters; (iv) the role of capturing the efficiency and effectiveness of expenditures. One of the challenges mentioned was to collect the data from private sector in the absence of incentives.

38. Mr. Satish C. Garkoti from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) of India presented work undertaken in India to identify and assess biodiversity-related expenditures. Building on an overview of pertinent schemes of the MoEF highlighting different sources of core, non-core and peripheral funding in support of biodiversity conservation in India, he underlined that each state and union territory in India allocates part of its budget for expenditure on the environment. Peripheral funding pertained to funding related to biodiversity conservation under 77 schemes and programmes of 23 Ministries/Departments of the Government of India other than the MoEF. He also drew attention to India's efforts to align its national biodiversity targets with the Millennium Development Goals with a view to creating synergies towards achieving related targets for biodiversity conservation and human development.

39. Participants sought clarification on the difference between core, non-core and peripheral funding. Dr. Garkoti explained that core and non-core funding were exclusive contributions from the MoEF and peripheral funding emanated from other commission, states, departments, other provinces or ministries. Participants also inquired about the processes utilized to gather relevant data from the different stakeholders. Dr. Garkoti explained that the existence of a template document and the direct involvement of the stakeholders/relevant ministries facilitated the compilation of the data.

## **ITEM 5. COSTING AND IDENTIFYING FINANCE GAPS**

40. Identifying the cost of strategies and determining the financial gaps was a crucial stage in the NBSAP review process. Noting its significance, Ms. Jamison Ervin (UNDP) underlined six main key issues to be considered in assessing costs and financial gaps: (i) one-time vs. recurring costs; (ii) timing, as not all costs would occur at once; (iii) sequencing and prioritizing, as not all strategies and related costs were equal; (iv) return on investment, using an activity-based cost accounting model; (v) calculating also cost of inaction, and (vi) considering the appropriate time horizon for analysis.

41. Based on an exchange of national experiences, participants commented on the complexity of developing a coherent prioritizing system, in the light of different departments from different agencies with different priorities, and of measuring the immediate and long-term benefits on biodiversity investments, taking into account social pressure, political and economic problems.

## **ITEM 6. CLOSING FINANCE GAPS**

42. Ms. Jamison Ervin made a brief introduction on possible finance mechanisms for biodiversity. She provided a statistical overview of global financial flows for conservation and their sources, noting that the amount needed for protected areas for instance was minimal when compared with global GDP or the GDP of the 20 richest countries. Ms. Ervin further recalled the cost estimates of the High-level Panel on Biodiversity Finance, ranging from \$150-450 billion annually through 2020 to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. However, official ODA was less than \$5 billion annually (less than 5%). The global cost estimate for protected areas was \$34 billion/year and only about half the costs were currently funded

(~17 bb/yr). Drawing on financial gap analysis for protected areas in Belize, she explained how to calculate finance gaps and, based on this calculation, devised a plan to close these gaps. She subsequently reviewed the range of finance mechanisms available, such as green taxes, positive tax incentives, fiscal reform, procurement policies, cap and trade, PES schemes, market certification and biodiversity offsets. She also underscored the importance of selecting the appropriate mechanism and ensuring that appropriate safeguards were in place. Feasibility screening criteria took financial, legal, administrative, social, political and environmental factors into consideration.

43. Following this overview, participants were invited to break into different groups to identify one or two mechanisms that could be applicable or not in their countries. Rapporteurs of the groups also underlined the option to use additional mechanisms: government policies, pressure on local community, impunity taxes, tax reductions for private sector businesses which complied or promoted environmental policies; allocation of specific funds allocated for specific ecosystems (for instance, mountain area funds in Pakistan), etc. Ms. Ervin emphasized the importance of assessing the feasibility of the strategies in order to adapt them to the country's specific needs and circumstances.

44. Ms. Hitomi Rankine, Environmental Affairs Officer at ESCAP further elaborated on the work of ESCAP, specifically in promoting green growth and green economy approaches through investment in natural capital and human capital. Complementing the methodologies previously outlined, mainly on valuation, Ms. Rankine underscored four key success factors for supporting investments in natural capital, including through PES: (i) the identification of direct and indirect potential investors, partners and beneficiaries by focusing on value capture rather than cost recovery; (ii) the establishment of government specific strategies and common policies, such as rights/obligations for ecosystem services use; mandatory type of fees; legal mechanisms (for example the legislation for forest management in Costa Rica); tax breaks; environment bonds; green tax and budget reform, etc; (iii) linking spatial (land use) planning/protection with ecosystem service functions compensation; in Thailand for instance, some agriculture banks allow farmers to plant trees as a security for loan; (iv) institutional support to facilitate cooperation across administrative and national boundaries; for example, in Malaysia, one province can be the investor in another province.

45. Participants noted the limited practical experience in the implementation of these mechanisms and wondered about the effectiveness of ecosystem service payments in developing countries, with their pressing economic priorities. Reacting to these observations, Ms. Rankine underlined the importance of relying on scientific assessments of existing or potential threats to biodiversity in these countries as an important basis for prioritization. Another crucial point was to formulate and communicate a compelling vision of the returns on investment in biodiversity conservation to national government at the highest levels in order to secure the national commitment that would be needed.

46. Mr. Anders Nordheim from the UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI) provided an overview of the history, mission and recent achievement of the initiative, with particular emphasis given to the Natural Capital Declaration as a contribution to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem in business decision-making. Building on the concept of nature as a stock of ecosystems that yields a renewable flow of goods and services that underpin the economy and provide inputs and benefits to businesses and society (e.g. food, fiber, water, energy, timber), the NDC aims to: (i) identify financial risks and opportunities linked to natural capital impacts and dependencies of company operations and supply chains; (ii) integrate natural capital factors into financial products and services; (iii) work towards accounting for natural capital; and use and integrated approach for information disclosure and reporting.

47. Mr. Ravi Sharma presented an overview of the biodiversity focal areas strategy and related programming for the sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-6). He noted that there were multiple funding streams in GEF-6, aligned with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. He also referred to relevant programmes under, and objectives of, other different focal areas strategies such as the Land Degradation Strategy as well as the programmes on International Waters and Sustainable Forest Management. He recalled that, on 16 April 2014, 30 donor countries pledged US\$ 4.43 billion for the



Global Environment Facility to support developing countries' efforts over the next four years to prevent degradation of the global environment. These available financial resources aim to enhancing the development and implementation of national resource mobilization strategies; Baseline and target setting at national level; Subsidies, fiscal reform; PES, biodiversity offsets; Capacity-building; Outreach; National strategy development and implementation. Allocation would be \$1.2896 billion.

48. During the question/answer session, participants sought and received additional clarification on the UNEP-FI project application process and the GEF financial mechanism.

49. Mr. Angelito V. Fontanilla, Philippines, presented the five main components of the protected areas financing mechanism of the Philippines and noted that due to the resource mobilization activities for upscaling National Integrated Protected Areas, a total of 239 PAs had been established covering 5.4M hectares, representing 13.6% of the country's land area and about 0.64% of the nation's marine territory. He described the scope and operations of the Integrated Protected Area Fund (IPAF), a government trust fund which received donations, endowments and revenues generated within protected areas, which were also disbursed to finance projects of the National Integrated Protected Area System. He elaborated on the legal aspect of the mechanism and presented some legal, budgetary and other pertinent documents.

50. In the subsequent discussion, participants received clarification on the methodologies used to assess the benefits and how the shortfall revenues were compensated.

51. Ms. Leimona Beria, scientist with the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF), shared some emerging lessons from ICRAF research work in Southeast Asia testing schemes that rewarded the provision of ecosystem services that could benefit rural livelihoods while enhancing ecosystem service provision. Drawing on recent cases from Indonesia and the Philippines, she noted that such rewards motivated farmers to increase tree cover and enhance the variability of species on agricultural lands. The flexibility offered by different income options enabled farmers to better cope with climate fluctuations. Another study of ICRAF confirmed that agroforestry systems could help protect soil and maintain water quality and quantity while generating livelihood options supported by natural forests.

52. She specifically mentioned the Climate-smart, Tree-based, Co-investment in Adaptation and Mitigation in Asia project, which aimed to improve the livelihoods and resilience of smallholding farmers by reducing their vulnerability to climate change, in particular in Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam. The Rewarding Upland Poor for Environmental Services (RUPES) project tested schemes that reward the provision of environmental services in tree-based, agricultural landscapes. RUPES successfully influenced national agricultural and environmental policies in China, India, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines, and also introduced innovations in pro-poor schemes.

53. The discussions were specially focused on the contribution of agriculture to environmental degradation climate change. Participants sought and received clarification on methodologies to be used to alleviating these impacts and in mobilizing additional resources, considering that most PES schemes were funded by Governments. Pointing at the lessons learned from the case study of Indonesia, Ms. Beria stressed the importance of making an effective use of resources, investing in biodiversity and use agroforestry, for example, as a means to generate financial ecosystem benefits.

54. Mr. Michael Green from the GMS Environment Operation Center provided an overview of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Economic Cooperation Programme, which promoted regional cooperation among Cambodia, PR China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam, with the Asian Development Bank acting as Secretariat. The GMS Core Environment Programme (CEP) aimed to reduce poverty and the environmental impact of rapid development in Southeast Asia through natural capital (food, water, energy), based on four main components: (i) environmental monitoring, planning and safeguards; (ii) biodiversity landscapes and livelihoods sustainability; (iii) climate change and (iv) institution building and financing. Highlighting various projects that were sponsored in the different phases of the CEP, he noted that total CEP investment in natural capital amounted to US\$ 16.6 billion in

2013.

55. Mr. Charles Besançon from the CBD Secretariat introduced the Life Web initiative and provided a comprehensive background on the mandate of the initiative. He outlined the main steps to take in submitting a project for evaluation (develop a comprehensive and focused project) and encouraged delegates to take advantage of the available resources under the initiative. Participants sought, and were given, clarification on the project application process. Mr. Besançon invited interested experts to contact him or to access the programme through the website for additional information.

#### **ITEM 7. TOWARDS NATIONAL FINANCE PLANS**

56. Ms. Ervin summarized the earlier steps to be undertaken in the development of a national resource mobilization strategy. She underscored the interrelation between the NBSAP revision process and the development of the resource mobilization strategy, highlighting the possible steps countries could take to integrate resource mobilization into the NBSAP review process, namely: (i) identifying sectors that might pay for biodiversity and identifying potential finance actors and mechanisms; (ii) identifying potential synergies and entry points based on key issues; (iv) developing an action plan that could advance towards a resource mobilization plan, including valuation of biodiversity and ecosystems, (v) identifying policy and practice drivers of change, key actors and institutions and financial gaps. She highlighted the last step in the process, which was to develop a full resource mobilization plan, as time and finances allow, including the following components: (i) background and overview; (ii) policy and institutional analysis; (iii) expenditure review; (iv) strategies, actions and costs; (v) projected future states with investment; (vi) opportunities for mobilization resources; (vii) making the case for biodiversity investments; (viii) and consolidated resource mobilization plan with finance mechanisms, actors, timelines.

57. Taking on this synthesis, participants engaged in a dynamic discussion focusing on the potential synergies and entry points within each of the countries of the subregion. The group highlighted the crucial need of aligning biodiversity to the national policies and the national agenda as a critical precondition to access dedicated international funding sources. They also noted the importance of earmarking funds mobilized for biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as their associated challenges. They also underscored the importance of communicating regularly with key actors responsible for the implementation of national development plans, in particular focal points of related Conventions. In short, the final observations were based on how to make a good case for biodiversity and the key strategies elements and strategies to use to convince and engage finance and other key ministries.

58. Participants subsequently engaged in a role play exercise on making the case for biodiversity to finance stakeholders such as ministers of finance or economic development. This exercise aimed to simulate the translation process of the lessons learned during the workshop into concrete actions. Most importantly, this exercise sought to tease out effective communication strategies that experts need to adopt when 'making the case for biodiversity' to key actors and decision makers.

59. Participants engaged in a very dynamic discussion following the role play, noting the complexities and challenges they would probably have to face in transmitting the key messages. A range of useful lessons were identified, namely: (i) the importance of being well prepared, including anticipating possible communication barriers; (ii) the need to be concise, focussed, and results-oriented; (iv) the usefulness of providing positive and concrete examples of financial gains resulted from biodiversity conservation and investments.

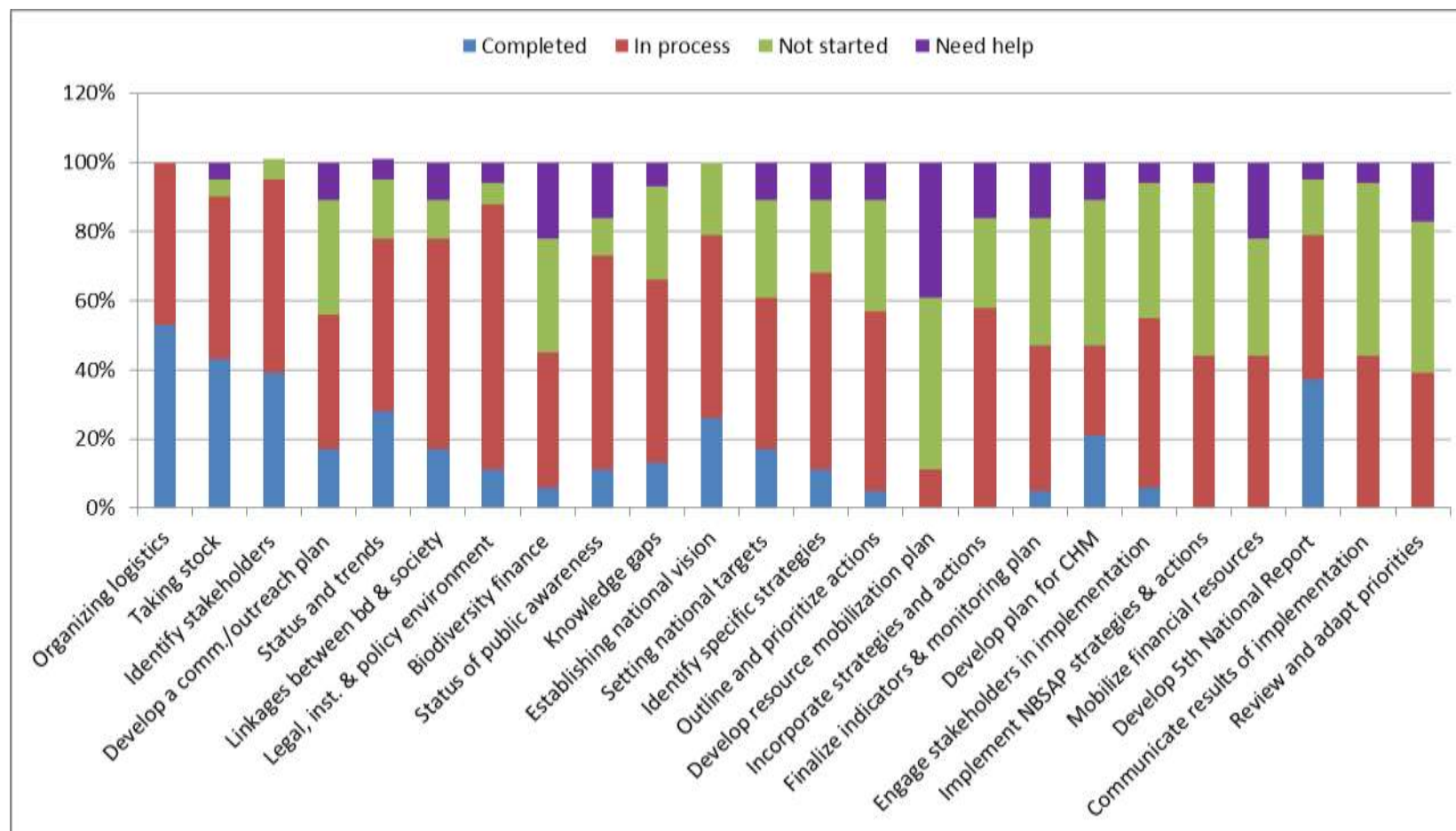
#### **ITEM 8. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP**

60. Participants were invited to complete a workshop evaluation questionnaire. A synopsis of the results of the survey is provided in annex III.

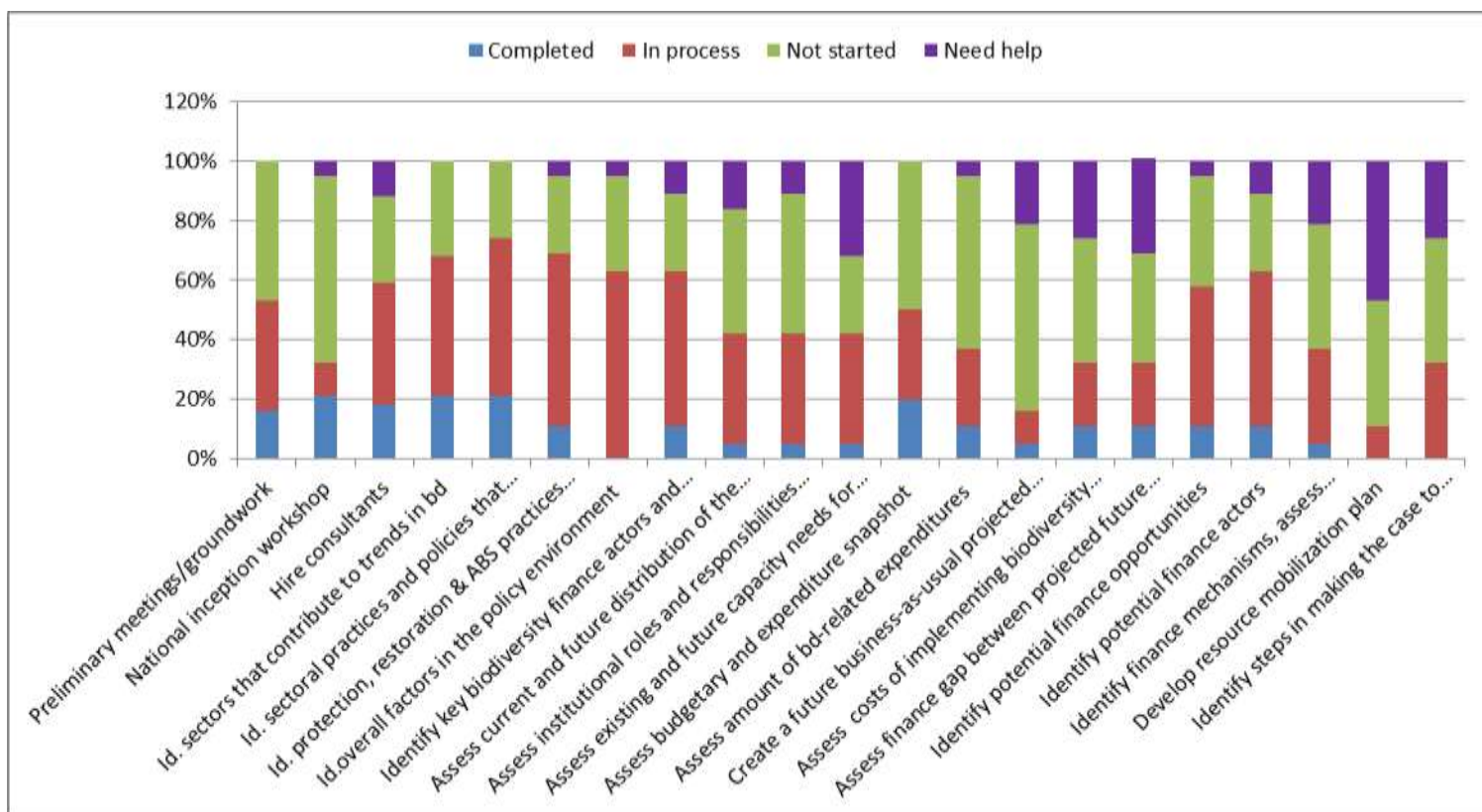
61. The meeting was adjourned at 4.30 p.m. on Thursday, 8 May 2014.

*Annex I*

**NBSAPS REVIEW: OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS IN THE REGION**



# DEVELOPING NATIONAL FINANCE PLANS: OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS IN THE REGION



*Annex II*

**RESULTS FROM THE EXERCISE ON: INTEGRATING RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN  
INTO NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORKS**

	<b>Development plans and synergies</b>	<b>Examples/remarks</b>
<b>Group 1</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hydropower</li> <li>• Ecotourism</li> <li>• Mining – CSR</li> <li>• National development</li> <li>• Climate Change and mitigation plans</li> <li>• Forestry plan</li> <li>• Agriculture Plan</li> </ul>	ICZM & DRR for Mangrove protection and rehabilitation through REDD+ and other mechanisms
<b>Group 2</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of negotiation platforms</li> <li>• Legal frameworks/policies</li> <li>• Voluntary programmes</li> <li>• Economic valuation of transboundary</li> <li>• Community engagement</li> </ul>	<p>Strong monitoring mechanism Quotu system</p> <p>Stop relying on donors funds only</p>
<b>Group 3</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-level meeting to raise awareness</li> <li>• 10% Tourism revenue</li> <li>• Food security, Livelihoods and Fisheries</li> <li>• Electricity/Energy</li> <li>• Compensation/redress</li> <li>• Increased Government allocations</li> <li>• Cost evaluation</li> <li>• Institutional support</li> </ul>	<p>Lack of staff awareness of ecosystem</p> <p>Valuing ecosystem</p> <p>Water management</p> <p>Political will / Conflict of interests</p>
<b>Group 4</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land-use/Forestry plan</li> <li>• Agriculture plan</li> <li>• Disaster Risk reduction</li> <li>• Climate change adaptation</li> <li>• National Protected Area Plan</li> <li>• National development plan</li> <li>• Rural Health plan</li> </ul>	<p>Preventing soil erosion, landslide, Water quality Improve productivity</p> <p>Priorities, poverty reduction; population</p>

COMMENTS ABOUT NATIONAL STATUS FOR NBSAPS AND BIOFIN:

		NBSAP	GETTING ORGANIZED	Organizing logistics	Taking stock	ENGAGING/COMMUNICATING WITH STAKEHOLDERS	Identify relevant stakeholders	Develop communication plan	GATHERING INFORMATION	Status and trends of biodiversity and ES	Linkages between bdy and society	Legal, institutional, policy environment	Biodiversity finance stocktake	Status of public awareness	Knowledge gaps	DEVELOPING STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS	Establishing national vision	Setting national targets	Identify specific strategies	DEVELOPING PLANS FOR IMPELMENTATION	Outline and prioritize specific actions	Develop resource mobilization plan	Ensure strategies are incorporated into frameworks	Finalize indicators and develop monitoring plan	Develop plan for CHM	IMPLEMENTING THE NBSAP	Engage stakeholders in implementation	Implement specific strategies, actions	Mobilize finance	MONITORING AND REPORTING	Develop 5th National Report	Communicate results broadly	Review and adapt priorities
		RM	GETTING STARTED	Hold preliminary meetings	Hold national inception workshop	Hire appropriate consultants	1A) POLICY REVIEW	Identify key sectors	Identify key sectoral practices and policies	Identify protection, restoration, ABS drivers	Identify policy environment factors	1B) INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW	Identify key finance actors	Assess distribution of costs, Benefits	Assess institutional roles	Assess existing and future capacity needs	1C) REVIEW BIODIVERSITY EXPENDITURES	Assess national budget and expenditure	Assess biodiversity-related expenditures	Create future BAU projected baseline	1D) ASSESS THE COSTS OF BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS	Assess the one-time and recurring costs	CALCULATE THE FINANCE GAP	Assess finance gap bet. projected future baseline	IDENTIFY FINANCE ACTORS, OPPS, MECHANISMS	Identify finance opportunities	Identify finance actors	Identify finance mechanisms, feasibility and revenue	DEVELOP FINANCIAL RESOURCE PLAN	Develop comprehensive res mob plan	Identify key steps in making the case		
Bhutan	NBSAP			3	4		3	1		3	3	3	3	2	3		3	3	3		3	2	3	3	2		2	2		2	2		2
	RM			2	2	2		3	3	4	3		3	3	3	3		3	3	1		1		1		3	3	1		2	2		
Cambodia	NBSAP			3	3		3	3		3	3	3	3	3	3		4	3	3		3	2	3	3	2		3	3	2		3	3	3
	RM			3	2	3		3	3	3	3		3	2	3	3		3	3	2		3		3	2		3	2		2	3		
China	NBSAP			4	4		4	4		4	3	4	3	3			4	4	3		1	1	2	3	3		3	3	3		4	2	2
	RM			3	2	1		4	4	3	3		3	3	3	1		1	1	1		4		4		3	3	2		1	1		
Cook Islands	NBSAP			3	2		2	2		3	3	3	2	3	3		3	3	3		3	1	3	3	3		3	3	1		2	3	1
	RM			2	2	2		3	3	3	3		3	1	1	3		2	2	2		1		1		3	3	2		2	2		
Fiji	NBSAP			3	3		3	3		3	1	1	1	1			3	2	2		2	1	3	2	4		3	3	3		4	3	3
	RM			2	2			2	2	2	1		1	2	2	2		2	2	2		2		2		2	2	2		2	2		
Iran	NBSAP			3	3		3	3		3	3	3	3				3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3		3	3	3		3	3	3
	RM			4	4	3		4	4	3	3		3	3	3	3		4	4	3		3		3		4	4	3		3	3		
Jordan	NBSAP			3	3		3	3		2	3	3	2	3	2		3	2	3		3	2	3	3	2		3	2	3		2	2	3
	RM			3	2	2		3	3	3	3		3	3	3	3		2	2	2		1		1		1	1	1		1	2		

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	NBSAP	GETTING ORGANIZED	Organizing logistics	Taking stock	ENGAGING/COMMUNICATING WITH STAKEHOLDERS	Identify relevant stakeholders	Develop communication plan	GATHERING INFORMATION	Status and trends of biodiversity and ES	Linkages between bdy and society	Legal, institutional, policy environment	Biodiversity finance stocktake	Status of public awareness	Knowledge gaps	DEVELOPING STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS	Establishing national vision	Setting national targets	Identify specific strategies	DEVELOPING PLANS FOR IMPELMENTATION	Outline and prioritize specific actions	Develop resource mobilization plan	Ensure strategies are incorporated into frameworks	Finalize indicators and develop monitoring plan	Develop plan for CHM	IMPLEMENTING THE NBSAP	Engage stakeholders in implementation	Implement specific strategies, actions	Mobilize finance	MONITORING AND REPORTING	Develop 5th National Report	Communicate results broadly	Review and adapt priorities
	RM	GETTING STARTED	Hold preliminary meetings	Hold national inception workshop	Hire appropriate consultants	1A) POLICY REVIEW	Identify key sectors	Identify key sectoral practices and policies	Identify protection, restoration, ABS drivers	Identify policy environment factors	1B) INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW	Identify key finance actors	Assess distribution of costs, Benefits	Assess insitutional roles	Assess existing and future capacity needs	1C) REVIEW BIODIVERSITY EXPENDITURES	Assess national budget and expenditure	Assess biodiversity-related expenditures	Create future BAU projected baseline	1D) ASSESS THE COSTS OF BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS	Assess the one-time and recurring costs	CALCULATE THE FINANCE GAP	Assess finance gap bet. projected future baseline	IDENTIFY FINANCE ACTORS, OPPS, MECHANISMS	Identify finance opportunities	Identify finance actors	Identify finance mechanisms, feasibility and revenue	DEVELOP FINANCIAL RESOURCE PLAN	Develop comprehensive res mob plan	Identify key steps in making the case		
Bhutan	NBSAP		3	4		3	1		3	3	3	3	2	3		3	3	3		3	2	3	3	2		2	2	2		2	2	2
	RM		2	2	2		3	3	4	3		3	3	3	3		3	3	3	1		1		1	3	3	1		2	2		
Cambodia	NBSAP		3	3		3	3		3	3	3	3	3	3		4	3	3		3	2	3	3	2		3	3	2		3	3	3
	RM		3	2	3		3	3	3	3		3	2	3	3		3	3	2		3		3	2	3	2		2	3			
China	NBSAP		4	4		4	4		4	3	4	3	3			4	4	3		1	1	2	3	3		3	3	3		4	2	2
	RM		3	2	1		4	4	3	3		3	3	3	1		1	1	1		4		4		3	3	2		1	1		
Cook Islands	NBSAP		3	2		2	2		3	3	3	2	3	3		3	3	3		3	1	3	3	3		3	3	1		2	3	1
	RM		2	2	2		3	3	3	3		3	1	1	3		2	2	2		1		1	3	3	2		2	2			
Fiji	NBSAP		3	3		3	3		3	1	1	1	1		3	2	2		2	1	3	2	4		3	3	3		4	3	3	
	RM		2	2			2	2	2	1		1	2	2	2		2	2	2		2		2	2	2	2	2		2	2		
Iran	NBSAP		3	3		3	3		3	3	3	3			3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3		3	3	3		3	3	3	3
	RM		4	4	3		4	4	3	3		3	3	3	3		4	4	3		3		3	4	4	3		3	3			
Jordan	NBSAP		3	3		3	3		2	3	3	2	3	2		3	2	3		3	2	3	3	2		3	2	3		2	2	3
	RM		3	2	2		3	3	3	3		3	3	3	3		2	2	2		1		1		1	1	1		1	2		
Lebanon	NBSAP		4	3		3	1		2	2	1	2	2	2		2	1	1		2	1	2	1	2		2	1	1		2	2	2
	RM		2	4	3		2	2	2	2		2	1	2	1		2	2	2		1		1		2	2	1		1	2		
Malaysia	NBSAP		4	3		3	3		3	2	3	2	3	2		3	2	2		2	2	2	2	4		2	2	2		4	2	2



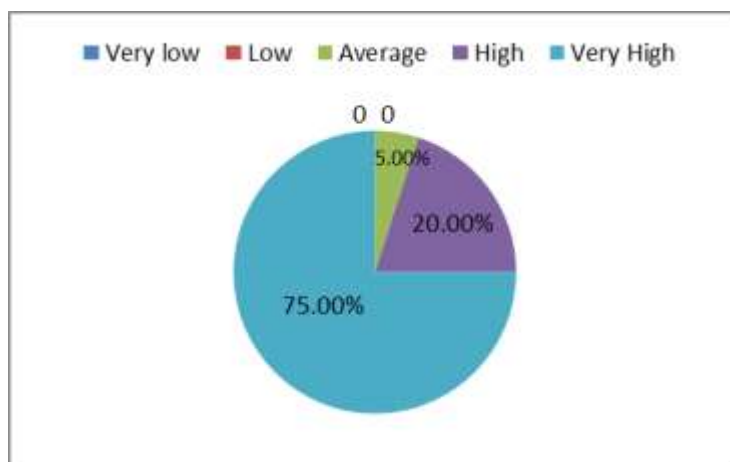
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*Annex III*

**WORKSHOP EVALUATION**

**BANGKOK, 6 - 8 MAY 2014**

- 22 workshop evaluation questionnaires were completed and the general ratings of the workshop were good to excellent;
- 95% of participants rated the usefulness of the workshop as high or very high and some participants made reference to the usefulness of the tools presented;
- More than two thirds of participants indicated that the workshop contributed to their ability to mobilize and prepare resource and financial plans;
- Some participants mentioned that the workshop provided the necessary steps, knowledge, tools, exercises and new ways of mobilizing resources. Two participants mentioned that they found useful the guidance of BIOFIN;
- The survey results showed that only 55% of participants thought that there was enough time for discussion and interaction, to exchange experiences and visions among participants and organizations. In this regard a participant mentioned that it would have been good to have more discussions between the group and the facilitator(s);
- Almost all of the participants (90%) were satisfied with the overall logistical organization.
- Suggestions for course improvements:
  - Invite relevant officials involved in finance; including the involvement of high level policy officers;
  - Present examples and good case studies of different regions;
  - More practical work, exercises,
  - Have a dedicated workshop on resource mobilization for the Pacific;
  - More discussion on the development of resource mobilization plans; more group discussions in general;
  - An exercise where participants can start drafting the resource mobilization plan or engage in an exercise with a fake country;
- The survey indicated that participants had gained experience in the following:
  - Different steps needed and guides for resource mobilization plans;
  - The mechanisms that exist to mobilize resources;
  - Key issues on resource mobilization
  - The importance of engaging stakeholders at an early stage



The following is the complete summary of the evaluations (verbatim)

Questions	1 low	2	3	4	5 high	Comments
How do you rate the overall usefulness of the workshop?			5%	20%	75%	-It will help us to know how to mobilize resources -Very useful -I found it very useful for environmentalist -It was very useful for my background on resource management
How well has this workshop contributed to your ability to prepare/update your resource mobilization strategy?			19%	38%	43%	
How would you rate the usefulness of the programme on resource mobilization and valuation?				48%	52%	-For those who are already advanced in their NBSAP process, the introductory part could be faster
In your opinion, was there enough time for discussion and interaction?		5%	40%	25%	30%	-Best practices, more discussion between group and specialist -More time would be good, but would maybe need some “neutral” moderation to stop hyper active individuals and make it useful for all
Did you consider the daily time schedule to be appropriate?			24%	33%	43%	-Very interesting programme, maybe more real work examples. I liked the slide with the “wedges” for example -Time control was not good enough / some people spoke for too long
Please rate your satisfaction on the overall logistical organization of the workshop		5%	5%	33%	57%	-Great job
Please rate your satisfaction on the venue and facilities				24%	76%	-Was impressed by the smooth integration of speakers via Skype -Great
<p><b>Please describe one main thing that you have experienced or learned here in the workshop that will be particularly helpful in your work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I know understand that RM is very important as it gives the NBSAP a complete end. Objectives – Targets – Activities – Budget + Resources</li> <li>- Steps in mobilizing natural resources, enabling factors and resource management</li> <li>- The language of finance people is very often different from that of biodiversity people</li> <li>- The different financial mechanisms to close the financial club</li> <li>- We learned a lot from national experiences that were shared</li> <li>- The Biofin related information , it gave me a clear guidance on how to develop a national RM plan</li> <li>- Identification of key issues for RM</li> <li>- Consider domestic and international RM</li> <li>- It was an important meeting and got idea for preparing to care for RM and action plan</li> <li>- How to establish a well-planned RM strategy in the country</li> <li>- How to integrate RM into out NBSAP review</li> <li>- I appreciate the hands-on work and exercises, it gives participants the opportunity to experience how to conduct such an exercise</li> <li>- How to engage stakeholders much early</li> <li>- Biofin pilot project</li> <li>- Developing RM plans taking into account applicable financing mechanisms</li> <li>- It allowed me to understand the issues/activities needed to be undertaken in order to develop/draft the RM plan</li> <li>- Conceptual model to apply for NBSAP over this is not applied yet but it will be the guidance for implementing.</li> <li>- The valuation of ecosystem services are good experiences</li> <li>- The process of RM</li> <li>- Making the economic case for biodiversity</li> <li>- Payments od ecosystem services</li> <li>- Sustainable ecosystems vs. business as usual</li> </ul>						
<p><b>Is there anything that we could have done differently to enhance the usefulness of this workshop?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Invite relevant officials</li> <li>- Have examples or presentation from the different sub-regions. A balance effort will be good</li> <li>- Field visit for successful example of resource mobilization in biodiversity related projects</li> <li>- More on practical work e.g. use of Excel or models to calculate amounts of finances needed for each specific key issue</li> <li>- Engage high policy level officers at this workshop</li> <li>- Keep a better control of time</li> <li>- Some topics needed more time</li> <li>- Some speakers spoke with a very low voice</li> </ul>						

- Conduct regional workshops on RM so that we (countries in the Pacific) can get more ground understanding
- If possible, more hands-on exercises would be great
- Last day's lunch wasn't interesting
- More activities on how to develop RM plans
- Consider adding more interesting exercises
- More activities/discussion on the development of RM plans
- Using some case studies to practice the exercise that it will help us to capture the picture and understand better
- More group discussions
- Develop an exercise where participants develop a draft on RM plans for an existing NBSAP or a fake country
- More RM plans

*Annex IV*

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Ms.	Sutthiya	Chantawarangul	Programme Officer	European Union	Sutthiya.Chantawarangul@ec.europa.eu.
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Mr.	Khalid G. E. M.	Fadlalla	Arabic Interpreter
Mr.	Mohamed A.	Moussa	Arabic Interpreter

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