UNEP

CBD

Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/2
12 May 2014

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC,
TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
Eighteenth meeting
Montreal, 23-28 June 2014
Item 3.1 of the provisional agenda*

DRAFT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY WITH THE MAIN MESSAGES OF THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In decision X/2, the Conference of the Parties decided that the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook should provide a mid-term review of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and analyse how the implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 has contributed to the 2015 targets of the Millennium Development Goals (paragraph 13). The Conference of the Parties further called for a plan, to be considered by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, for the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.

2. In considering this plan, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, in recommendation XVI/2, emphasized that:

(a) GBO-4 should provide a mid-term assessment of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

(b) GBO-4 should address:

(i) The possible policy responses that could be effective in contributing to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

(ii) The level of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (considering both national commitments, plans and targets adopted by Parties; and the level of implementation on the ground);

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(iii) How achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets would contribute to the 2050 vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

(iv) How progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets contributes to the Millennium Development Goals and their 2015 targets;

(c) GBO-4 should be easy to understand and accessible to a variety of different audiences and will consist of several products, to be released at key events starting with the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The content will draw on available information from a range of sources, including available information provided by Parties.

3. In decision XI/3, the Conference of the Parties, drawing on the detailed guidance on scope and preparatory process provided by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in recommendation XVI/2, took note of the progress report on the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and requested the Executive Secretary to make a draft available for review at a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (decision XI/3, section C, paragraphs 1 and 7 (g)).

4. The draft of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook was prepared on the basis of information from fifth national reports and national biodiversity strategies and action plans updated since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. It also draws on a review of scientific literature, information on indicators, through the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, information and case studies received from Parties and relevant organizations, a review of published scenarios as well as some new global scenarios and statistical extrapolations of selected indicators to 2020. The preparation of GBO-4 has been supported by financial or in-kind support from Canada, European Union, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It was guided by an advisory group through face-to-face meetings and email exchanges. The Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice was provided with regular progress reports and provided oversight of the preparation process.

5. A large number of individual experts, key organizations and networks, in addition to staff and interns at the Secretariat, have contributed to the preparation of this Outlook. A consortium of DIVERSITAS, the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, University of British Columbia Fisheries Centre, and the University of Lisbon, supported by more than 30 lead authors and 40 contributing authors from some 30 countries, undertook the technical work on each Aichi Biodiversity Target, interlinkages between targets, near-term extrapolations to 2020 and mid-term scenarios to 2050, as well as analysing the contribution to the Millennium Development Goals and proposals for the post-2015 sustainable development agenda. A transparent peer review process was undertaken, involving internal technical reviews followed by a public review of the technical chapters. These chapters have been revised based on the comments received and have been made available for a second peer-review which runs in parallel to the peer-review of the main GBO-4 report. The Global Biodiversity Information Facility provided a science writer to prepare a document that is easy to understand.

6. The current note contains a draft of the Executive Summary of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (section II) and suggested recommendations (section III). It is complemented by a draft of the full report being issued as an information document (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/INF/2) and for peer-review as well as supporting technical documents underlying the main report (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/INF/8 and 9). It is further accompanied by a note on the implication of the key findings to the work of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/2/Add.1).

II. DRAFT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK

A. Background

7. In 2010, the world's Governments came together in Nagoya, Japan and adopted a shared vision for a more harmonious relationship between humanity and nature.

8. They were responding to the worrying realization that the global target to reduce significantly the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010 had been missed. That had been the major conclusion of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-3), which this present document follows up.

9. GBO-3 had warned that all major pressures on biodiversity were increasing, and that some ecosystems were being pushed towards critical thresholds or tipping points. If these thresholds were passed, there was a real risk of dramatic loss of biodiversity and degradation of a broad range of services on which people depend for their livelihoods and well-being. The poor would suffer the earliest and most severe impacts, but ultimately all societies and economies would be affected.

10. The previous Outlook also concluded, however, that biodiversity loss could still be slowed and, in time, even halted, if Governments and society took coordinated action at a number of levels. This meant addressing the underlying causes or drivers of biodiversity loss, often embedded deep within our systems of decision-making, financial incentives and patterns of production and consumption. It also meant understanding and minimizing the pressures on biodiversity and ecosystems, and targeting measures directly at conservation and restoration of ecosystems critical to the survival of species and the provision of important services.

11. This analysis formed the background to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, agreed at Nagoya in 2010. The strategy included an ambitious yet achievable set of targets (the Aichi Biodiversity Targets), most with an end-point of 2020, aimed at setting us on the path towards the long-term vision of a world without biodiversity loss or degradation of ecosystems. Together, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets represent an essential window of opportunity to reconcile human development with conservation and sustainable use of the species, landscapes, ecosystems and biological processes on which all societies ultimately depend. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 is now accepted as the overarching framework for action on biodiversity, and the United Nations General Assembly designated the period 2011-2020 as the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity.

12. Published almost at the halfway point of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan, this fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4) provides a timely report: on **progress towards meeting the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and actions required to keep on track**, on **prospects for achieving the longer-term vision**, and on the importance of biodiversity in meeting broader **goals for sustainable human development** during this century.

Key overall messages

13. The analysis underlying this Outlook provides both encouraging evidence of positive action in support of biodiversity, and a set of major challenges to the international community.

14. There has been **significant progress towards meeting some components of the majority of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets** (see annex). Some target components, such as protecting at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, are on track to be met.

15. However, in most cases this progress **will not be sufficient to achieve the goals set for 2020**, and additional action is required to keep the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 on course. Key recommended actions for achieving each target are listed below.

16. Extrapolations for a range of indicators suggest that based on current trends, **pressures on biodiversity will continue to increase at least until 2020**, and that **the status of biodiversity will continue to decline**. This is despite the fact that society's **responses to the loss of biodiversity are increasing dramatically**, and in the light of national plans and commitments are expected to continue to increase for the remainder of this decade. At least part of the explanation may be that it takes time for positive actions to have an impact.

17. Meeting each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets cannot be tackled in isolation, as **some targets are strongly dependent on targets being achieved**. Actions towards certain targets will have an especially strong influence on achievement of the rest: in particular, targets relating to addressing the underlying causes of biodiversity loss, developing the framework for implementing the Aichi Biodiversity Targets at the national level (national biodiversity strategies and action plans), and mobilizing financial resources. Meeting the Aichi Biodiversity Targets would contribute significantly to broader global priorities addressed by current discussions on post-2015 **sustainable development goals**; namely, **reducing hunger and poverty, improving human health**, and ensuring a sustainable supply **of energy, food and clean water**. This provides an opportunity to bring biodiversity into the mainstream of the wider development agenda.

18. Plausible pathways exist for achieving **the 2050 vision for an end to biodiversity loss**, in conjunction with **key human development goals, limiting climate change to two degrees Celsius warming and to combat desertification and land degradation**. However, reaching these joint objectives requires deep changes in society including much more efficient use of land, water, energy and materials, rethinking our consumption habits anwd in particular major transformations of food systems.

B. Summary of progress and key actions related to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

19. In framing the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, Governments recognized that progress could only be sustained if actions were applied simultaneously on addressing the underlying causes of biodiversity loss; on reducing the direct pressures on biodiversity and promoting its sustainable use; on improving the status of biodiversity through safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity; on enhancing the benefits to all from ecosystems and biodiversity; and on enhancing implementation of all these goals through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building. The targets are therefore aligned to five Strategic Goals reflecting this approach. The following summarizes the conclusions of GBO-4 on the recent trends, current status and projections to 2020 relating to these five overarching goals and their corresponding Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and identifies some key actions.

Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

Recent trends, current status and projections

20. **Public awareness of biodiversity and its importance** appears to be increasing in both the developed and developing world, although it remains at a low level in some countries (Target 1). Important progress has been achieved in **incorporating biodiversity values** into planning processes and strategies to reduce poverty, and integrating natural capital into national accounts. Wide variations among countries remain, but international initiatives are helping to reduce these differences (Target 2). Governments continue to provide **subsidies harmful to biodiversity**, especially relating to fisheries, and while agricultural subsidies are increasingly shifting **towards positive incentives for conserving biodiversity**, these incentives do not always achieve their aims (Target 3). While natural resources are being used much more efficiently to produce goods and services, this advance is overwhelmed by our

greatly increased total **levels of consumption**, and it is unlikely that ecosystems can be kept within safe ecological limits given current patterns of consumption (Target 4).

Key actions to accelerate progress towards this goal

21. More effective communication of the role of biodiversity for sustainable development to audiences outside of the biodiversity constituency is needed.

22. Better use of the social sciences, including an understanding of the social, economic and cultural drivers motivating behavioural change, their interplay, and the implications for policy design,, would improve the effectiveness of strategies seeking to influence individual choices towards favouring biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

23. With adequate investment and capacity development in low-income countries, most Governments can build on existing environmental statistics to start assessing the values of ecosystems and integrate them into national accounts, focusing on priority ecosystems.

24. Eliminating all harmful fishing subsidies would save billions of dollars each year, and increase both the size and value of catches in the long term. Bio-energy subsidies can be removed or reformed to take account of the full impacts of biofuel crops on both greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity. Removal of harmful subsidies in agriculture can liberate funds for well-targeted incentives to promote practices favourable for biodiversity. Projects under the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in developing countries, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+) mechanism can provide important incentives favouring biodiversity so long as potentially perverse outcomes are avoided.

25. Sustainable production and consumption can be stimulated by a combination of government incentives, including sustainable procurement policies, and harnessing market forces through partnership with the private sector.

Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

Recent trends, current status and projections:

26. **Loss of forest habitats** in some regions, for example the Brazilian Amazon, has been significantly slowed. However, deforestation in many other tropical areas of the world is still increasing, and habitats of all types, including grasslands, wetlands and river systems, continue to be fragmented and degraded (Target 5). **Overfishing** continues to be a major problem, with an increasing percentage of fish stocks overexploited, depleted or collapsed, and inappropriate fishing practices causing damage to habitats and non-target species. On the other hand, an increasing number of fisheries, concentrated in the developed world, are certified as sustainable (Target 6). Increased certified forestry, especially in boreal and temperate zones, and increased adoption of good agricultural practices signify more sustainable production. Nevertheless **unsustainable practices in agriculture, aquaculture and forestry** still cause substantial environmental degradation and biodiversity loss (Target 7). **Nutrient pollution** has stabilized in parts of Europe and North America but is projected to increase in other regions, and remains a significant threat to aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity. Other forms of pollution such as from chemicals, pesticides and plastics are increasing (Target 8). Governments are increasingly taking steps to control and eradicate **invasive alien species**. For example a growing number of eradications, particularly from islands, show that reversing the threat from invasive species is often feasible and effective. However the overall rate of invasions, with great economic and ecological costs, shows no sign of slowing. Preventive measures have been taken in a limited number of countries (Target 9). **Multiple pressures** on coral reefs, both land-based and due to marine activities, continue to increase, although some large coral areas are being incorporated into marine protected areas (Target 10).

Key actions to accelerate progress towards this goal:

27. Integrated policies which cover public engagement, land-use planning, positive and negative incentives, monitoring and law enforcement have demonstrated to be effective in tackling deforestation in some countries and successful approaches could be adapted and applied elsewhere.

28. Sustainable fisheries management, incentives to reduce fishing effort and enforcement of regulations will reduce overexploitation, in turn easing pressures on vulnerable ecosystems such as coral reefs.

29. Reduced losses of crops during production, distribution and consumption, fewer chemical inputs and more efficient use of nutrients and water are all required to improve sustainability of agriculture, and certification can be expanded in tropical forestry, agriculture and aquaculture.

30. Better targeting of fertilizer to crop demand, recycling manure and eliminating phosphates from detergents are critical to reducing nutrient pollution, along with better sewage treatment, reduced fossil fuel use and restoration of wetlands.

31. Reducing the threat posed by invasive alien species, pests and diseases requires greater attention to both preventive measures at borders and elsewhere and eradication or control of established alien invasive species, making better use of decision-support tools such as risk analysis and cost-benefit analysis.

32. Integrated management of river basins and coastal zones are essential to ease pressures on coral reefs, combined in the longer term with effective steps to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and thereby limit ocean acidification.

Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

Recent trends, current status and projections:

33. Taking current commitments into account, the target of **protecting 17 per cent of terrestrial areas** by 2020 is likely to be met globally, although protected area networks remain unrepresentative and many critical sites for biodiversity are poorly conserved. The target for coastal **marine protected** areas is also on course to be met, although the high seas are much less well covered. Inadequate management of protected areas remains widespread (Target 11). Despite individual success stories, the average **risk of extinction** for birds, mammals and amphibians shows no sign of decreasing (Target 12). **Genetic diversity** of domesticated livestock is eroding, with more than one-fifth of breeds (22%) at risk of extinction, and the wild relatives of domesticated crop species are increasingly threatened by habitat fragmentation and climate change (Target 13).

Key actions to accelerate progress towards this goal:

34. As protected area networks expand, they must become more representative of the planet's ecological regions, of freshwater habitats, and of sites of global importance for biodiversity.

35. The management effectiveness of protected areas and other area-based conservation measures must be improved.

36. Reducing extinction risk is strongly dependent on actions under Strategic Goal A (addressing underlying causes) and Strategic Goal B (reducing direct pressures), as well as more effective and representative protected area networks but targeted species recovery actions are also often essential.

37. Improved incentives, collaboration among countries and more resources, especially in developing countries, are required to maintain indigenous livestock breeds.

38. Targeted protection of the wild relatives of important crop species, and enhanced support to on-farm management of crop diversity, will prevent further genetic erosion of plants critical to human livelihoods and food security.

Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

Recent trends, current status and projections:

39. **Habitats important for ecosystem services**, for example wetlands and forests, continue to be lost and degraded. Some groups of species **of special importance to the poor**, for example birds and mammals used in food and medicine, are moving more quickly to extinction than species not used for these purposes (Target 14). However, **restoration** is under way for some depleted or degraded ecosystems, especially wetlands and forests, sometimes on a very ambitious scale, as in China. Many countries, organizations and companies have pledged to restore large areas. Abandonment of farmland in some regions including Europe, North America and East Asia is enabling 'passive restoration' on a significant scale (Target 15). The **Nagoya Protocol** on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is expected to be in force by the target date of 2015, opening up new opportunities for benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services to be more widely and fairly shared (Target 16).

Key actions to accelerate progress towards this goal:

40. Enhancing benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services depends fully on actions supporting Strategic Goals A, B and C (addressing underlying causes, reducing direct pressures and improving the status of biodiversity).

41. Governments need to identify and restore degraded ecosystems and areas where restoration could contribute to enhanced connectivity in the landscape and improve ecosystem services. This involves providing incentives for restoration, including through use of market mechanisms such as wetland mitigation banking.

42. Priority should be given to the conservation and restoration of areas that provide water resources, or that provide other essential services to local communities.

43. Bringing the Nagoya Protocol into full operation, with appropriate national regulations and procedures, will help to maximize and share benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building

Recent trends, current status and projections:

44. **National biodiversity strategies and action plans** are expected to be in place for most Parties by 2015 (Target 17), helping to translate the aims of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 into national actions. **Traditional knowledge** continues to decline as indicated by the loss of linguistic diversity and large-scale displacement of indigenous and local communities to urban areas, although this trend is reversed in some places through growing interest in traditional cultures and involvement of local communities in management of protected areas (Target 18). **Data and information on biodiversity** are being shared much more widely through initiatives promoting and facilitating free and open access to digitized records from natural history collections and observations, including through citizen science networks; however, much data and information remain inaccessible and capacity is lacking to mobilize them in many countries (Target 19). Based on current trends, **financial resources towards implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020** will not have increased substantially during the decade 2011-2020 (Target 20).

Key actions to accelerate progress towards this goal:

45. Implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans is essential, including through setting of measurable national targets aligned with the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets, participatory planning and the establishment of systems to monitor progress towards the targets. NBSAPs must also include policies relating to specific economic sectors.

46. Initiatives to encourage restoration of traditional languages and promote customary sustainable use can support respect for traditional knowledge and its application in support of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

47. Investment in data digitization and capacity to mobilize, disseminate and use biodiversity data and knowledge, as well as cultural and regulatory change to encourage sharing of data, will widen the evidence base informing research and policy.

48. Greater investment is required to provide comprehensive, near-real time and publicly available information on land-use change and other biodiversity change.

49. National, thematic, subglobal and global assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services, supported by the Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), will also give policymakers a sounder basis on which to make decisions.

50. Much greater investment in implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 will prove cost effective in supporting livelihoods and meeting the long-term aspirations of the Sustainable Development Goals. Efforts are needed to simultaneously increase both development assistance and domestic budgets and leverage greater resources from the private sector.

C. The way forward

51. This mid-term report on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 suggests that the majority of its targets are still achievable, if challenging to meet. Achieving these targets requires innovative and bold action in many areas, and a sustained focus on biodiversity in a wide range of policy areas for the second half of this decade. Success stories have demonstrated that effective action does not come from 'silver bullet' solutions, but from simultaneously addressing multiple causes of biodiversity loss through monitoring and data analysis, changing economic incentives, applying market pressures, enforcing rules and regulations, involving indigenous and local communities and stakeholders and targeting conservation of threatened species and ecosystems – among many other routes to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

52. The effort and resources behind the actions recommended in this Outlook can and must be strengthened by the critical links between biodiversity and long-term human development. Many of the same measures required to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will also support the goals of greater food security, healthier populations and improved access to clean water and sustainable energy for all – although there will be trade-offs along the way, and these need to be acknowledged openly and addressed. We must recognize the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as a strategy for sustainable development, and accelerate our actions to the point where we finally seize this opportunity to live in harmony with nature.

III. SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATION

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Takes note* of the draft of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and underlying technical documents;

2. *Welcomes* the financial and in kind support provided by Canada, the European Union, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook;

3. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to participate in the peer-review process for the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, taking into account comments made during the eighteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as well as other peer-review comments, to:

(a) Finalize the main report of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook with a view to launching it during the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(b) Initiate, in collaboration with relevant partners and in line with the communication strategy for the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, the preparation of products targeted to specific audiences with a view to conveying key messages from the Outlook to those audiences;

5. *Takes note* of the implications of the key findings of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook for the future work of the Convention, contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on the implications of the findings of GBO-4 to the work of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/2/Add.1) and requests the Executive Secretary to use these as a basis for developing draft elements of a "Pyeongchang Roadmap" for the enhanced implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets for the consideration of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Annex

TARGET 'DASHBOARD' – A SUMMARY OF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS, BROKEN DOWN INTO THEIR COMPONENTS

The table below provides an assessment of progress made towards each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as the level of confidence, based on the available evidence, associated with the assessment. It aims to provide summary information on whether or not we are on track to achieve the targets. The assessment uses a five-point scale:

5 - On track to exceed target, i.e., we are doing even better and expect to achieve the target before 2020;

4 – On track to achieve target, i.e., if we continue our efforts we expect to achieve the target by 2020;

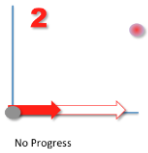
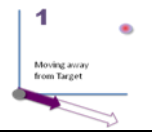
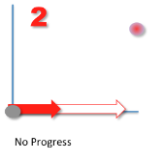
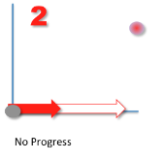
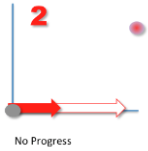
3 - Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate, i.e., unless we step up our efforts, we will have missed the target in 2020;

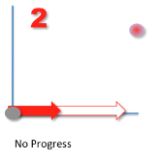
2 - No significant change, i.e., we are neither moving towards the target nor away from it;

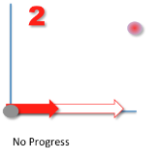
1 - Moving away from target, i.e., things are getting worse rather than better.

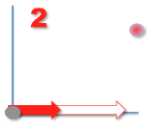
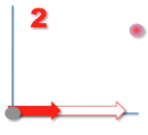
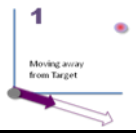
The assessment is subject to change as additional information becomes available, including from national reports to the Convention on Biological Diversity and additional updated NBSAPs. Aichi Biodiversity Targets 10, 16 and 17 have end dates of 2015.

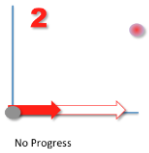
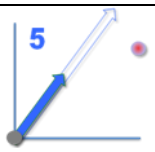
	Target Elements	Status	Comment	Confidence
Target 1	People are aware of the values of biodiversity		Limited geographical coverage of indicators. Strong regional differences	Low
	People are aware of the steps they can take to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity		Evidence suggests a growing knowledge of actions available, but limited understanding of which will have positive impacts	Low
Target 2	Biodiversity values integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies		Differences between regions. Evidence largely based on poverty reduction strategies	Medium
	Biodiversity values integrated into national and local planning processes		Also shows regional variation, not clear if biodiversity is actually taken into consideration	Medium
	Biodiversity values incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate		Initiatives such as WAVES show growing trend towards such incorporation	High
	Biodiversity values incorporated into reporting systems		Improved accounting implies improvement in reporting	High

	Target Elements	Status	Comment	Confidence
Target 3	Incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity, eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts		No significant overall progress, some advances but some backward movement. Increasing recognition of harmful subsidies but little action	High
	Positive incentives for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity developed and applied		Good progress but better targeting needed. Too small and still outweighed by perverse incentives	High
Target 4	Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve, or have implemented, plans for sustainable production and consumption…		Many plans for sustainable production and consumption are in place, but they are still limited in scale	High
	… and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits		All measures show an increase in natural resource use	High
Target 5	The rate of loss of forests is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero		Deforestation significantly slowed in some tropical areas, although still great regional variation	Low
	The loss of all habitats is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero		Varies among habitat types, data scarce for some biomes	Medium
Target 6	All fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches		Great regional variation, positive for some countries but data limited for many developing countries	High
	Recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species		Variable progress in some regions	High
	Fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems		Some progress e.g. on long-lining used in tuna fisheries, but practices still impacting vulnerable ecosystems	Medium
	The impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits, i.e. overfishing avoided		Proportion of overexploited fisheries still rising globally, but with regional variation	Medium

	Target Elements	Status	Comment	Confidence
Target 7	Areas under agriculture are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity		Increasing area under sustainable management, based on organic certification and conservation agriculture. Nutrient use flattening globally. No-till techniques expanding	High
	Areas under aquaculture are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity		Progress with sustainability standards being introduced, but in the context of very rapid expansion. Questions about sustainability of expansion of freshwater aquaculture	High
	Areas under forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity		Increasing forest certification and criterion indicators. Certified forestry mostly in northern countries, much slower in tropical countries	High
Target 8	Pollutants (of all types) have been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity	No clear evaluation	Highly variable between pollutants	--
	Pollution from excess nutrients has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity		Nutrient use leveling off in some regions, e.g. Europe and North America, but at levels that are still detrimental to biodiversity. Still rising in other regions. Very high regional variation	High
Target 9	Invasive alien species identified and prioritized		Measures taken in many countries to develop lists of invasive alien species	High
	Pathways identified and prioritized		Major pathways are identified, but not efficiently controlled at a global scale	High
	Priority species controlled or eradicated		Some prioritized control and eradication, but data limited	Low
	Introduction and establishment of IAS prevented		Some measures in place, but not sufficient to prevent continuing large increase in IAS	Medium
Target 10	Multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning		Pressures such as land-based pollution, uncontrolled tourism still increasing, although new marine protected areas may ease overfishing in some reef regions	High

	Target Elements	Status	Comment	Confidence
	Multiple anthropogenic pressures on other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning	Not evaluated	Insufficient information was available to evaluate the target for other vulnerable ecosystems including seagrass habitats, mangroves and mountains	--
Target 11	At least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas are protected		Extrapolations show good progress and the target will be achieved if existing commitments on designating protected areas are implemented. Inland water protection has distinct issues.	High
	At least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas are protected		Marine protected areas are accelerating but extrapolations suggest we are not on track to meet the target. With existing commitments, the target would be met for territorial waters but not for exclusive economic zones or high seas	High
	Areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services protected		Progress for protected Key Biodiversity Areas, but still important gaps. No separate measure for ecosystem services	High
	Protected areas are ecologically representative		Progress, and possible to meet this target for terrestrial ecosystems if additional protected areas are representatives. Progress with marine and freshwater areas, but much further to go	High for terrestrial and marine, low for inland waters.
	Protected areas are effectively and equitably managed		Reasonable evidence of improved effectiveness, but small sample size. Increasing trend towards community involvement in protection. Very dependent on region and location	Low
	Protected areas are well connected and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape		Initiatives towards corridors and transboundary parks, but still not sufficient connection. Freshwater protected areas remain very disconnected	Low or very low.
Target 12	Extinction of known threatened species has been prevented		Further extinctions likely by 2020, e.g. for amphibians and fish. For bird and mammal species some evidence measures have prevented extinctions	Low

	Target Elements	Status	Comment	Confidence
	The conservation status of those species most in decline has been improved and sustained		Red List Index still declining, no sign overall of reduced risk of extinction across groups of species. Very large regional differences	High
Target 13	The genetic diversity of cultivated plants is maintained		*Ex situ* collections of plant genetic resources continue to improve, albeit with some gaps. There is limited support to ensure long term conservation of local varieties of crops in the face of changes in agricultural practices and market preferences	High
	The genetic diversity of farmed and domesticated animals is maintained		There are increasing activities to conserve breeds in their production environment and in gene banks, including through *in-vitro* conservation, but to date, these are insufficient	High
	The genetic diversity of wild relatives is maintained		Gradual increase in the conservation of wild relatives of crop plants in *ex situ* facilities but their conservation in the wild remains largely insecure, with few protected area management plans addressing wild relatives	Medium
	The genetic diversity of socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species is maintained	Not evaluated	Insufficient data to evaluate this element of the target	
	Strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding genetic diversity		The FAO Global Plans of Action for plant and animal genetic resources provide frameworks for the development of national and international strategies and action plans	High
Target 14	Ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded …		Excluding commercial agriculture and forestry, no progress in safeguarding services. High variation across ecosystems and services. Ecosystems particularly important for services, e.g. wetlands and coral reefs, still in decline	Low
	… taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable		Poor communities and women especially impacted by continuing loss of ecosystem services	Low

	Target Elements	Status	Comment	Confidence
Target 15	Ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks have been enhanced through conservation and restoration		Despite restoration and conservation efforts, there is still a net loss of forests, a major global carbon stock	Low
	At least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems are restored, contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and to combating desertification		Many restoration activities under way, but hard to assess whether they will restore 15% of degraded areas	Low
Target 16	The Nagoya Protocol is in force		Given current ratifications and additional information it is highly likely that this component of the target will be achieved in advance of the 2015 deadline	High
	The Nagoya Protocol is operational, consistent with national legislation		Given progress that has been made, it is likely that the Nagoya Protocol will be operational by 2015 in those countries that have ratified it	Medium
Target 17	Submission of NBSAPs to Secretariat by (end of) 2015		For those Parties for which information is available, about 50% are expected to have completed their NBSAP by October 2014 and about 90% by the end of 2015	Medium
	NBSAPs adopted as effective policy instrument		The adequacy of available updated NBSAPs in terms of following COP guidance is variable	Medium
	NBSAPs are being implemented		The degree of implementation of updated NBSAPs is variable	Medium

	Target Elements	Status	Comment	Confidence
Target 18	Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities are respected		Processes are under way internationally and in a number of countries to strengthen respect for, recognition and promotion of, traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use	Medium
	Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices are fully integrated and reflected in implementation of the Convention …		Traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use need to be further integrated across all relevant actions under the Convention	Low
	… with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities		Efforts continue to enhance the capacities of indigenous and local communities to participate meaningfully in relevant processes locally, nationally and internationally but limited funding and capacity remain obstacles	Low
Target 19	Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved		Significant effort on delivery of information and knowledge relevant to decision makers is being made, and relevant processes and institutions are in place	High
	Biodiversity knowledge, the science base and technologies are widely shared and transferred and applied		Improvements in analysis and interpretation of data gathered from disparate collecting and monitoring systems. However, coordination to guarantee models and technologies that can integrate this knowledge into functional applied systems need to be improved	Medium
Target 20	Mobilization of financial resources implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources have increased substantially from 2010 levels		Limited information on domestic funding. Pledges during GEF-6 show modest increase. General increase in ODA against 2006-2010 baseline. However, signs of recent decline.	Low

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