

Towards implementing Aichi target 3

Roadmap & exercises

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Economics days

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CBD



Aichi target 3 of the Strategic Plan

“By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.”

Towards implementing Aichi target 3

1. Consider undertaking immediate concrete action on:

- harmful incentives, including subsidies, which are 'natural' candidates for removal, phase out, or reform
- Existing opportunities for broadening or scaling up of positive incentive measures

2. Undertake transparent assessments of programmes and policies examining:

- their effectiveness against stated objectives,
- their cost-efficiency,
- their environmental impacts,
- their impacts on equity.

This could for instance be undertaken within broader EFR activities, and would need to include both existing potentially harmful incentives as well as existing positive incentive measures.

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3. Based on these assessments, develop prioritized plans of action:

- for removal, phase out or reform of incentives harmful for biodiversity by 2020;
- for introducing and/or strengthening positive incentive measures by 2020.

Revised NBSAPs could include a timetable for the preparation of the assessments, and for the development and implementation of the action plan.

- See guidance questions in the short guides for more details

Exercise on harmful incentives

(by country teams)

Step 1: Identifying priority candidates (15 minutes)

- First phase (5 minutes): please work separately and in parallel:
 - Assignment for the 'environment' representative: please identify 3 programmes or policies in your country which you believe generate (the most) important harmful incentives for biodiversity and the environment.
 - Assignment for the 'finance/economic/planning' representative: please identify 3 programmes or policies which you believe are not very (or even: the least) effective/targeted.
- Second phase (10 minutes): Please compare notes. Do you have some overlap?
 - If yes: congratulations! You found *natural* candidates for prioritized removal or reform.
 - If no: please have a look at each other's notes and identify (5 minutes):
 - Any cost-ineffective programmes with environmentally harmful effects?
 - Any environmentally harmful programmes which are not very cost-effective?
 - If yes: these could be interesting candidates for prioritized reform.

Exercise on harmful incentives

(by country teams)

Step 2: Designing phase out or reform (30 minutes)

- Identify one or (time permitting) two programmes which you believe are in need of reform, and develop (tentative) answers to the following questions (30 minutes):
 1. Which stakeholders are relevant? Are there stakeholders who could act as champions for removal, phase out, or reform?
 2. How could stakeholders' interests be addressed (compensation, gradual phase out, ...)? What are the pros and cons of the different options in the specific case at hand?
 3. Are there opportunities for enhancing the effectiveness of the programme while reducing environmental damage?
 4. Are there opportunities to mitigate harmful impacts?
 5. Based on the answers, develop a 'roadmap' and timetable for phase out or reform.

Exercise on positive incentive measures

(by country teams)

I. Reviewing existing incentive programmes (20 minutes)

- Review existing incentive measures in your country and identify opportunities for
 1. replication or scaling up of existing programmes;
 2. improving targeting/effectiveness;
 3. improve social/equity impacts;
 4. improving financial sustainability.

Exercise on positive incentive measures

(by country teams)

II. Opportunities for new incentive programmes (20 minutes)

1. Discuss and agree on criteria that are most relevant to identify high potential or high priority for introducing positive incentives. Existing threats to biodiversity? Economic values of biodiversity? Social development concerns?
2. Based on the above, identify critical gaps where introducing new incentive programmes could be helpful.
3. What do you think are the key steps required in introducing these new programmes?