



International Expert Workshop on the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators and Post-2010 Indicator Development

A workshop convened by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)

In cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

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The 2010 Biodiversity Indicators and the post-2010 indicators framework

Background Review Document for Reading Workshop Participants

Support for the workshop provided by the following:



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1. Introduction and background

1.1 Purpose and structure of this document

This document is intended to provide background information and highlight key points for discussion at the expert workshop on the 2010 biodiversity indicators and post-2010 indicator development by reviewing i) the development of the 2010 biodiversity indicators, ii) the national use of biodiversity indicators, and iii) the views of biodiversity stakeholders regarding the 2010 indicators and the post-2010 indicator framework.

Section 1 presents the background to the biodiversity indicators in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other biodiversity-related conventions, and outlines the rationale and methodology used in this report.

Section 2 presents a review of progress in developing the global biodiversity indicators, and highlights some of the key challenges. It also explores the extent to which the 2010 indicators have been taken up by Parties to the CBD, by reviewing material on the uptake and use of indicators at the national level contained in the 3rd and 4th National Reports to the CBD. The section also presents the results of an online stakeholder consultation by UNEP-WCMC on the 2010 indicators. A wide range of biodiversity stakeholders was asked whether in their view the existing indicator set was sufficient, scientifically rigorous, policy-relevant and effectively communicated. Section 2 finishes with a set of guiding questions for the workshop participants to consider during working groups on day 1.

Section 3 sets the scene for discussions regarding post-2010 indicator development. It includes some emerging thoughts regarding the direction of possible post-2010 targets and how this affects indicator discussions, as well as some respondents' views regarding indicator needs from the online stakeholder consultation. Section three finishes with a set of guiding questions for the workshop participants to consider during working groups on days 2 and 3.

1.2 The 2010 framework of targets and indicators and the 2010 biodiversity indicators Partnership

At its sixth meeting in 2002, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted a Strategic Plan, with the mission 'to achieve, by 2010, a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level, as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth' (decision VI/26). This 2010 target was subsequently endorsed by the Heads of State and Government at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa, and was incorporated as a new target under the Millennium Development Goals (Target 7b).

Although indicators for biodiversity had been considered in the Convention since the second meeting of the COP in 1995, it was only at the seventh meeting of the COP in 2004, that global indicators were first identified. In order to assess progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target the COP, at its seventh meeting, developed a framework of goals and targets within a set of seven focal areas and identified provisional indicators for evaluating biodiversity status and trends (decision VII/30). Based on the findings of an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) reviewed the use of the indicators and further developed the set of indicators (recommendation X/5). Subsequently, the COP, at its eighth

meeting in 2006, further refined the 2010 indicators and allocated them to the targets under each goal (decision VIII/15) (Table 1).

Table 1: Provisional indicators for assessing progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target as presented in CBD decision V111/15 (2006). Indicators considered ready for immediate testing and use (in 2006) in green, those requiring further development in red.

Focal Area	Headline indicator
Status and trends of the components of biological diversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems, and habitats 2. Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species 3. Coverage of protected areas 4. Change in status of threatened species 5. Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals, cultivated plants, and fish species of major socioeconomic importance
Sustainable use	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management 7. Proportion of products derived from sustainable sources 8. Ecological footprint and related concepts
Threats to biodiversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Nitrogen deposition 10. Trends in invasive alien species
Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Marine Trophic Index 12. Water quality of freshwater ecosystems 13. Trophic integrity of other ecosystems 14. Connectivity / fragmentation of ecosystems 15. Incidence of human-induced ecosystem failure 16. Health and well-being of communities who depend directly on local ecosystem goods and services 17. Biodiversity for food and medicine
Status of traditional knowledge, innovations and Practices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. Status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages 19. Other indicator of the status of indigenous and traditional knowledge
Status of access and benefit-sharing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Indicator of access and benefit-sharing
Status of resource transfers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 21. Official development assistance provided in support of the Convention 22. Indicator of technology transfer

In response to the establishment of the framework of goals, targets and indicators, the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (2010 BIP, www.twentyten.net) was formed, with major support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The 2010 BIP brings together a host of international organizations working on indicator development, to provide the best available information on biodiversity trends to the global community and assess progress towards the 2010 target. The three main objectives of the 2010 BIP are: i) to generate information on biodiversity trends which is useful to decision-makers, ii) to ensure improved global biodiversity indicators are implemented and available, and iii) to establish links between biodiversity initiatives at the global, regional and national levels to enable capacity-building and improve the delivery of the biodiversity indicators. The Partnership, supported with funding from GEF, the European Commission and UNEP, will continue to the year 2010 and beyond to provide the best available information on biodiversity trends to all its users, to promote the various ways in which the global indicators can be applied and communicated, and to support uptake of the indicators at national and regional levels. The eighth

meeting of the COP noted 'the progress made in establishing the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership' (decision VIII/15).

Indicators have been discussed and developed in some of the other biodiversity-related conventions as well. The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, at the ninth meeting of its COP in 2005, developed an initial set of eight ecological outcome-oriented indicators for assessing the effectiveness of selected aspects of the Convention's implementation (the so-called first tranche of indicators) (resolution IX.1). The tenth meeting of the COP in 2008, through resolution X.10, requested the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) to operationalise the first tranche and to develop a second tranche of indicators.

In Resolution 8.7, the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) requested the CMS Secretariat and the Scientific Council to continue working towards the adoption of suitable indicators to measure the achievement of the 2010 Target. Two existing indices were selected as a basis for further work towards developing specific indicators for migratory species: the IUCN Red List Index and the Living Planet Index.

Through decision 14.1, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requested the Standing Committee to develop indicators for each of the objectives contained in the CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2013, based upon the work of the Strategic Vision Working Group convened at COP 14 (2007). Subsequently, the Standing Committee, at its 57th meeting in 2008, adopted a set of indicators for the objectives of the CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2013.

1.3 The emerging post-2010 agenda

The ninth meeting of the CBD COP, in 2008, recalled COP decision VIII/15, in which the COP had decided to consider at its ninth meeting the process for revising and updating the Strategic Plan, with a view to adopting a revised Strategic Plan at its tenth meeting. The COP requested the Working Group on Review of Implementation (WGRI) to draft a revised and updated Strategic Plan, including a revised biodiversity target, for the period 2011-2022 (decision IX/9). WGRI was requested to draw upon an examination, to be undertaken by SBSTTA, of the outcome-oriented goals and targets and associated indicators, with a view to recommending adjustments.

In preparation for the task for SBSTTA and WGRI, the Secretariat invited Parties and organizations to submit views on the updating and revision of the Strategic Plan. In addition, the Secretariat established an electronic forum on the same subject. The third meeting of WGRI as well as the 14th meeting of SBSTTA, which will undertake the tasks requested by COP 9, are both scheduled for May 2010. They are expected to adopt recommendations for COP 10, which is scheduled for October 2010.

As Parties to the CBD begin to consider revisions to the Strategic Plan, there is a question as to whether, and to what extent, the current biodiversity indicator framework should be extended or modified, or whether a completely new set of indicators will be required. This technical expert workshop has been organised to assist the CBD in answering this question. It is anticipated, therefore, that the results of this expert workshop will inform both the WGRI and SBSTTA discussions in May 2010 as well as other upcoming international dialogues on the post-2010 target.

1.4 Review rationale and methodology

The overall objective of the workshop is to review the use and effectiveness of the 2010 biodiversity

indicators with a view to providing guidance for the development of a robust post-2010 indicators framework. This background review document is intended to inform and guide the workshop discussions by providing the following:

- A review of progress and challenges in the development and use of the 2010 indicators at global and national levels
- Some perspectives on the development of post-2010 indicators
- A set of guiding questions to be considered during working group discussions at the Reading workshop.

The review has been compiled by the 2010 BIP Secretariat at UNEP-WCMC. Three sources of evidence have been used. First, the ongoing progress reports and submissions to the CBD for the third edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* (GBO-3) from the 2010 BIP Key Indicator Partners responsible for delivering the 2010 indicators at a global scale. This had provided the most up-to-date picture of the status of development of the full suite of biodiversity indicators together with an overview of current trends revealed by the indicators.

Second, an analysis of the reporting of indicators in the CBD 3rd National Reports (3NR, 2005, 146 Parties submitted) and 4th National Reports (4NR, 2009, 45 Parties submitted as of 15 June 2009) using data publicly available on the CBD website. The CBD report analyser (www.cbd.int/reports/analyzer.shtml) was used where appropriate, together with a more in-depth reviewing and cross-referencing of the content of individual Party's reports.

Third, an online stakeholder consultation undertaken by UNEP-WCMC from 16 March to 16 May 2009. A notification to CBD Parties by the Executive Secretary drew their attention to the consultation, and an invitation to contribute was widely circulated among biodiversity stakeholders. A total of 119 responses were collected using a web-based survey designed on www.surveymonkey.com. Questions aimed to address the following four themes regarding the 2010 biodiversity indicators: sufficiency, scientific rigour, policy-relevance and communication. Respondents were also asked for their views on possible amendments and additions for a post-2010 indicator framework. Open questions provided respondents the opportunity to submit their own thoughts and comments.

2. Reviewing the development and use of the 2010 biodiversity indicators

2.1 Progress and challenges in the development of the global 2010 biodiversity indicators

Since CBD COP Decision VIII/30 and the establishment of the 2010 BIP, progress has been made in developing the global biodiversity indicators. Of those considered ready for testing and use, all have developed further in terms of data coverage and updating. Of the nine headline indicators that needed further work, four have received attention (Proportion of products derived from sustainable sources; Ecological footprint and related concepts; Health and well-being of communities who depend directly on local ecosystem goods and services, and; Biodiversity for food and medicine). A total of 27 indicators are now being developed under 17 of the headline indicators (see Appendix 1 for details and a summary of what the indicators tell us).

However, there are a number of ongoing challenges to the delivery of the full suite of indicators by 2010 and the tracking of progress against the 2010 Biodiversity Target:

- Submissions for only 15 of the 27 indicators have so far been received for input to GBO-3. Although limited time remains for further submissions, it is likely that this flagship report on progress towards 2010 will not include coverage of all of these global indicators.
- Five headline indicators are not receiving any attention under the 2010 BIP (Trophic integrity of other ecosystems; Incidence of human-induced ecosystem failure; Other indicator of the status of indigenous and traditional knowledge; Indicator of access and benefit-sharing, and; Indicator of technology transfer). One of the seven focal areas (Status of access and benefit-sharing) has no indicators under development.
- Many of the indicators have patchy coverage, either geographically or in terms of content. For example, the data within relatively well-developed species indicators tend to be biased towards certain taxonomic groups. Likewise comprehensive global data on the extent of very few ecosystems other than forests is available.
- For indicators compiled from sub-global (often national) datasets, data consistency across different sources can be an issue.
- Due in part to time and resource constraints, most of the indicators being developed within the 2010 framework are being compiled from existing datasets which may not have been collected or compiled for tracking biodiversity change, and which are therefore imperfect proxies.
- Few of the global indicators have been subjected to independent and transparent peer review.

2.2 Progress and challenges in the uptake of biodiversity indicators at the national scale

In CBD decision VII/30 on future evaluation of progress of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, it was considered that the biodiversity indicators should be identified and developed in such a way as to be usable at global, regional, national and local levels, where so desirable by Parties. The application of a universal common indicator suite at national level would in many cases aid the compilation of global indicators. However it was also recognised that the framework of goals, targets and indicators would be a flexible framework that could and should be tailored to specific national priorities. Thus Parties were invited to use or develop their own national indicators that would be most relevant to national priorities. As a result, global and national indicator processes are not fully aligned.

A review of the available 3rd and 4th National Reports to the CBD suggests that national indicators have been adopted using the CBD framework as a guide, but designed to fit the specific context of a specific country. There is widespread recognition of the importance of national indicators and reference is made in both 3rd and 4th National Reports to a very wide range of indicators (see Appendix 2). These span all seven focal areas, although overall there is a greater reference to indicators under three focal areas: status and trends of the components of biodiversity; threats to biodiversity, and; ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services.

A more detailed review of the currently available 4th National Reports suggests that:

- Parties are in different stages as far as the use of national indicators to specifically measure progress towards the 2010 target is concerned. Some indicated that they do not have national indicators; some indicated that indicators are being developed, some mentioned indicators in their report but no further detail or data were provided, some alluded to indicators in the report and presented information showing trends in status of biodiversity and ecosystems. Few Parties reported on the indicators with evidence of use.
- Nine Parties (21% of the sample) mentioned they have not developed national biodiversity indicators. Reasons for this include weak central government coupled with a lack of

administrative and technical capacity, inadequate funding available to the government, political instability and countries just coming out of armed conflicts meaning routinely monitoring indicators was not feasible.

- The majority of Parties listed indicators that were in development. Quantitative indicator data was not often presented as evidence of change. Some Parties used simple (qualitative) scoring to show if there has been progress, no change or negative development with regard to specific global 2010 indicators.
- The majority of developing countries blamed their failure to routinely apply indicators on lack of capacity, lack of consistent trend data, absence of ecological baselines against which change is measured and lack of established monitoring systems. “Marginalisation” of environmental ministries and limited knowledge on the definition of indicators to measure progress towards the 2010 CBD target also hinders progress.
- One Party reported that although there is a vast body of data available on various aspects of biodiversity in the country, many of the data sets are “one-off” studies, often covering only a portion of the country. As a result, it has been a challenge to find ways of integrating different data sets and making them comparable to produce time series statistics.
- A lack of institutional responsibility and accountability for biodiversity survey and monitoring makes it very difficult for some countries to establish and verify biodiversity trends. Data ownership and management were common problems. Many government institutions “do not have data management structures in place so that data and information is often ‘person-bound’ rather than ‘institution-bound’” (quote taken from one 4th National Report).
- Sustaining good biodiversity monitoring systems over time is a major challenge in some cases, particularly after donors exit.

2.3 Stakeholder views on the 2010 biodiversity indicators – results from an online consultation

Of the 119 responses received, 76 provided substantive comment. Responses were equally spread between governmental, academic, intergovernmental, non-governmental, and commercial sectors. In addition to the summaries below, a representative range of verbatim responses for questions 1-4 have been presented in Appendix 3; readers are encouraged to peruse the responses for the nuances of commentary that are diminished by summary.

- **Sufficiency**

Consultation question “Is the set of 2010 Indicators sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets? If not, why not?”

Response summary; “sufficient”: 35%, “insufficient”: 65%

The first question yielded the most animated responses, many of which alluded to (i) a lack of evenness in indicator coverage across the framework focal areas, (ii) a lack of baseline and (iii) a lack of data. Those who were more positive highlighted the lack of data as inevitable and emphasised the need for more systematic data collection. Several suggestions for additional indicators were proposed and have been summarised below.

- **Scientific Rigour**

Consultation question “To what extent is the set of 2010 Indicators scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive?”

Response summary “rigorous”: Yes: 43%, No: 57%

“logical”:	Yes 72%,	No: 28%
“comprehensive”:	Yes: 62%,	No: 28%

Whilst a majority of respondents commented that the CBD indicator framework was both logical and comprehensive, its scientific rigour was questioned. It was highlighted that there has been limited communication of methodologies of the indicators to date, with notable exceptions that are published in peer reviewed journals. Requests for peer review of all indicators were made. A concern over the lack of a clear time-defined baseline and therefore criteria for “success” was also raised.

- **Policy relevance**

Consultation question “To what extent have the 2010 Indicators been useful and policy-relevant? What kind of use has been made of them and by whom?”

Response summary	“useful”:	Yes: 74%,	No: 26%
	“policy relevant”:	Yes: 63%,	No: 37%

The responses were more positive in this theme than any other with a majority of comments referring to the widespread use of biodiversity indicators by government reporting mechanisms. In addition, it was suggested that the CBD indicator framework has drawn much-needed attention to the lack of relevant data sets from which indicators can be calculated.

The wider use by governments of targets and assessing progress towards them has been commented upon several times; and the utility of the CBD indicator framework in this context.

- **Effective communication**

Consultation question “Are the 2010 indicators being communicated effectively individually and in combination?”

Response summary	“Individually”:	Yes: 36%	No: 64%
	“In combination”:	Yes 35%	No: 65%

The overwhelming consensus is clearly of a lack of communication, in particular outside of the scientific community. Appendix 3 presents numerous specific comments highlighting the view that public engagement and awareness of biodiversity indicators, both individually and in combination, is currently deficient and in need of improvement. This view is consistent with the 2010 BIP user needs survey recently undertaken (results on www.twentyten.net).

- **Additional comments / views expressed by respondents**

In addition to the sometimes lengthy answers provided to specific questions, the final comments section yielded views clustered around three themes:

- A perception of a lack of funding to adequately develop successful biodiversity indicators;
- A sense of the definition of biodiversity being vague, and so the prospects of a meaningful biodiversity assessment was doubtful;

- Enhancing alignment with the Millennium Development Goals.

One comment in particular captures the essence of the challenges perceived by many respondents:

“Since the very beginning I saw this as a sadly empty exercise. I always expressed the view that one could: 1) base indicators of biodiversity loss on remote-sensing, if enough resources and training would be allocated to many developing countries, to do the ground-truthing; 2) Citizen-science networks of observers could also be established, on a long term basis, again, given resources and determination. But [some donors have] always refused to provide resources for monitoring, and most developing nations do not monitor well practically anything related to biodiversity. Conclusion? We have a nice list of indicators, largely crafted by non-expert delegates in into-the-dawn sessions of the SBSTTA, for which nobody outside the developed world is compiling the needed data. And this is the bottom line.”

2.4 Questions for the workshop to consider on day 1 – lessons learned

- To what extent do the current indicators inform progress towards the 2010 target? What can the current indicators tell us that is of relevance to the 2010 target, and what can they not?
- To what extent are the 2010 indicators sufficient to track progress against the 2010 Biodiversity Target? (Working Group 1)
- To what extent are the 2010 indicators sufficiently scientifically rigorous? (Working Group 2)
- To what extent have the 2010 indicators been useful and policy-relevant? (Working Group 3)
- To what extent have the 2010 indicators been communicated effectively? (Working Group 4)
- What lessons can be learnt from the 2010 biodiversity indicator process?
- What has constrained the development of the global biodiversity indicators? What have been the greatest challenges?
- Why have some focal areas enjoyed greater indicator coverage and development than others?
- Is the current indicator framework too broad to be deliverable and of practical use?
- Why have the global indicators not been universally adopted at the national level?
- What are the greatest challenges to indicator development and use both at regional and national scales?

3. Perspectives on possible post-2010 biodiversity indicators

3.1 Targets, frameworks and indicators in a post-2010 world

Whatever indicators are chosen for the post-2010 period will depend on the target/s adopted by the CBD. However these targets must be measurable, and this depends on our scientific capability to develop and deliver the appropriate indicators to track progress. Thus, the development of targets and indicators must be an iterative process and undertaken in tandem. This workshop is not expected to develop explicit recommendations for post-2010 targets but to consider, in light of possible future targets, what is possible from a scientific perspective in terms of indicator delivery. The conclusions will have implications for how targets might be framed, and thus may contribute to the adoption of measurable targets.

One view that has been expressed regarding the 2010 Biodiversity Target is that it is rather loosely

defined, without a clear baseline or success criteria – it is not a SMART (strategic, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound) target, but rather an aspirational goal.

Similarly, the current suite of global biodiversity indicators are not all designed for directly measuring progress towards this target. Although many of the better-developed indicators measure the status and trends of certain elements of biodiversity, the indicator framework includes reference to a selection of threats and responses, to related issues including ecosystem functioning and ecosystem services, and to issues of concern to the CBD that appear less directly related to reducing the rate of biodiversity loss, such as issues regarding traditional knowledge and access and benefit-sharing.

Whilst the agreement over post-2010 targets, goals and sub-targets will be a political process, there is an opportunity to influence the decision-making by providing a scientific perspective about which kinds of target will be most measurable (and therefore achievable) and which kinds of indicators can be delivered to track progress.

There are a number of possibilities for the direction in which post-2010 targets might go (these will be explored further in presentations and discussion on day 2 of the workshop). A non-exhaustive list of current perspectives includes the following:

- The existing 2010 Biodiversity Target is extended in broadly equivalent form (i.e. focusing on reducing biodiversity loss)
- The target (or sub-targets) retains a focus on conserving biodiversity but with explicit prioritisation/specification of the parts of biodiversity upon which the target will apply
- The target (or sub-targets) emphasises maintaining ecosystem functioning
- The target (or sub-targets) emphasises maintaining/enhancing the flow of ecosystem services
- The target (or sub-targets) includes reference to maintaining human well-being and/or reducing poverty
- The target (or sub-targets) emphasises thresholds or dangerous limits which should not be exceeded (whether in terms of biodiversity loss, or in terms of the levels of drivers and pressures, or...).

Without knowing exactly where the debate over post-2010 targets will lead, it is difficult to make recommendations regarding specific indicators. However, given the range of likely outcomes listed here, it is possible to consider how such targets could be measured and which could be done most effectively given current scientific knowledge.

3.2 Perspectives expressed in the online stakeholder consultation

Two questions in the online consultation solicited respondents' views on the possible content of a post-2010 biodiversity indicators framework:

Consultation question "Is the number of indicators correct or are there too many/too few?"

Many respondents dismissed this question as irrelevant. Of the comments, there was an even split between those who felt the current framework had an appropriate number of indicators and those who felt it needed fewer. The suggestions of "two to three per Goal" and "three per Focal Area" were made a number of times too. There were no advocates of increasing the number of indicators, reinforced by the overriding sense that the current indicators were far from complete.

Consultation question "What new indicators might be needed for the post-2010 period?"

The majority view is captured in the following quote: “We do not have meaningful indicators of biodiversity loss, now, at less than global and low resolution, because THERE ARE NO DATA. Before trying to invent more indicators, lacking data, we need to address the issue of why it is that developing countries mostly do not monitor the components of biodiversity. Establish one steady, high-resolution monitoring effort and then you can construct indicators on top of those data. No data, no existing indicators, only theoretical lists of them”.

Of those suggesting new indicators, there were many requests for biodiversity-relevant indicators of climate change and of ecosystem services. Several respondents have also highlighted a general lack of marine-related indicators, with the same comments also made by some in the concluding views section of the consultation. Table 2 lists the new indicators raised; nominally ranked by frequency of suggestion.

Table 2: Suggested new indicators for post-2010 from the online stakeholder consultation

Suggested new indicators for post 2010	N^o comments
• Climate change	<i>Many</i>
• Ecosystem services	<i>Many</i>
• Ecosystem service loss	<i>Several</i>
• Habitat restoration using native species	<i>Several</i>
• Marine environment indicators	<i>Several</i>
• Hazardous substance indicator	<i>few</i>
• Industries that have a negative impact on biodiversity	<i>1</i>
• Ocean pollution	<i>1</i>
• Trends in pollinators	<i>1</i>
• ABS: No. of community-corporate resource management partnerships	<i>1</i>
• Indicator of national policy involvement	<i>1</i>
• Resources spent on national biodiversity monitoring	<i>1</i>
• National habitat legislation indicator	<i>1</i>
• Tourism and biodiversity	<i>1</i>

Additional comments capture the breadth of views presented in the consultation:

“There is a need to discuss more specifically (and beyond the CBD realm) how the post-2010 target framework would look like and within this discussion, the role of indicators is particularly relevant. There have been some moves to change the existing language of the 2010 target from “significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss” to wording that a) directly reflects implications for humanity and b) is more positive. Thus, for example, “retain biodiversity above dangerous limits for humanity”. It has been argued that this is a) stronger than the current formulation, b) more policy-relevant; and c) aligns better with the ongoing negotiations on climate change under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Nevertheless, there are three major concerns with this approach: a) given the high uncertainty and redundancy around biodiversity function, “dangerous limits” would almost certainly not be precautionary enough; b) there are differences in kind between the UNFCCC and the CBD, not least in that biodiversity loss is irreversible; c) in any case, the UNFCCC itself has and continues to struggle with the definition of dangerous limits. What are the alternatives? Probably the answer lies within a conceptually similar but stronger and simpler wording used relative to the current formulation, and with a realistic timeline (“Reduce the rate of biodiversity loss to zero by 2050”? or pushing to the other end through restoration efforts, e.g. something like “Reduce the rate of biodiversity loss to below zero by 2070”?)”

“We recommend that the CBD should adopt a long term inspiring vision along with one or more shorter term biodiversity targets. As noted in the joint-NGO submission on the strategic plan, a new biodiversity target with a timeline of 2020 would coincide with the likely timelines of the UNFCCC. This timeline has also been proposed by the UK’s House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee in their report on the 2010 Biodiversity Target (10 November 2008). The group recommended a long-term vision to 2050 that is specific enough to guide strategic planning beyond 2020 and suggested the following text: “The Vision of the post-2010 strategic plan is to ensure a healthy planet by 2050 that ensures the conservation of biodiversity for its own sake and for human well-being through the conservation and sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.”

“...the [current] indicators provided at the global level are important to track implementation of the CBD provisions, but are limited to outcome indicators. Process indicators that reveal concrete action being taken by Parties, response indicators that show a Party’s responses to specific issues, or sustainability indicators that show action by Parties to ensure sustainability of responding to future issues are lacking. As such, given the fact that achieving 100% of the final desired outcome is a difficult task, the global indicators should also have provided some process, response and sustainability indicators. This report recommends that some new global targets that include process, response or sustainability indicators should be adopted by the CBD...”

3.3 Questions for the workshop to consider on days 2/3 – recommendations for post-2010 indicators

- Bearing in mind the lessons from the 2010 process identified during day 1, what should be done differently in the post-2010 period?
- If the current biodiversity target is extended in broadly similar form beyond 2010, then:
 - Which if any of the indicators in the current framework should be continued beyond 2010?
 - Which of the indicators in the current should be given priority in terms of development?
 - Which of the indicators in the current framework should not be continued?
 - Should the focus be on indicators of biodiversity status and trends, or on other aspects of a DPSIR (drivers, pressures, state, impacts, response)-style framework? What about the incorporation of process indicators?
 - Is there a need for new global biodiversity indicators in the post-2010 period?
- If the focus of a post-2010 target is likely to be significantly different (e.g. focusing on ecosystem functioning, ecosystem services, human well-being or dangerous thresholds), then what kinds of indicators (existing or otherwise) would be required?
- What kinds of new indicators are we currently well placed to develop/deliver in the short term? Which might be more difficult or require longer term development?
- What new scientific advances or initiatives could be used in the development of post-2010 indicators?
- How and by whom are new indicators best developed?
- What could be done to ensure that indicators are sufficiently scientifically rigorous?
- What could be done to ensure that indicators are appropriately delivered, communicated and used?
- How are the linkages between national, regional and global scales best facilitated?
- How can the right balance between scientific rigour, scalability and policy relevance be achieved?
- What resources, guidance and training may be required to ensure more comprehensive development and delivery of indicators at different scales?

Appendix 1: What do the 2010 biodiversity indicators tell us? - the status of indicators

A summary of the current status of each of the CBD framework indicators is tabulated below. In addition factsheets on each of the indicators are available at the 2010 BIP website (www.twentyten.net).

The CBD Conference of the Parties, through decision IX/10, requested the Executive Secretary to invite the 2010 BIP partners to make available the latest scientific information on the 2010 indicators for the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*. The deadline for submission of GBO3 indicator storylines, graphics and case studies to the 2010 BIP Secretariat was subsequently set as 31 March 2009; however to date only 15 of 27 indicators are represented, indicating the challenges to implement several of the indicators. The delays are the result of data limitations and a development schedule originally designed around assessing progress by 2010 rather than a year earlier.

Each indicator trend is presented in Appendix 1, where it has been possible to summarise from the submissions. In addition a “traffic light” system highlights the trend for each indicator for which information is available. Where data are not yet available, or the indicator as yet represents a baseline only, no trend can be ascertained.

The highlights of the preliminary results can be summarised as follows:

- Not all indicators have trend data. A total of 18 indicators had trend data for one or both of the pre-2000 and the post-2000 periods.
- From the data available, it can be summarised that, although responses (mainly in terms of funding and the establishment of protected areas) are increasing, so too are threats. Use of biodiversity is increasingly unsustainable and status and trends data indicates that biodiversity itself continues to decline.
- Of those indicators for which global data are available, the following indicate negative trends for both periods: Trends in the extent of selected biomes, ecosystems, and habitats (forest); Trends in the extent of selected biomes, ecosystems, and habitats (corals reefs, sea-grass and mangroves); Living Planet Index; Red List Index; Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits; Wild Commodities Index; Ecological footprint and related concepts; Invasive alien species; Marine Trophic Index; Biodiversity for food and medicine, and; Status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages.
- The following indicators show positive trends: coverage of protected areas; area of forest under sustainable management (certification), and; official development assistance provided in support of the CBD.
- For those indicators with global trend data available for at least one of the two periods, the outlook for most suggests that biodiversity loss is not being reduced; ten are in ‘red’, while three are in ‘green’ and five are in ‘amber’. The overall picture therefore points to a continuous downward trend; there are no signs of a ‘significant’ reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss at the global level.

Table showing indicator development progress and summarised findings. The ticked columns show progress in different facets of indicator development; in particular note the “GBO-3” column for indicators that have submitted information for consideration in GBO-3, as of 15 June 2009.

→↗↘ = trend, with incomplete data coverage; →↗↘ = trend, with global data (horizontal arrow indicates no clear trend)

● Negative outlook – no evidence of reduced rate of loss, reduced threats or greater response ● No clear trend (or insufficient data) ● Positive outlook - evidence of reduced rate of loss, reduced threats or greater response

Focal Area	Indicator	2010 BIP Partner	Data collation	Storylines	Graphics	Ongoing devt	GBO 3	2010 BIP web		Trend Pre 2000	Trend Post 2000	Outlook
Status and trends of the components of biodiversity	Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats: Forests	FAO	✓		✓	✓		✓	Currently compiled from national reporting as part of the FAO Forest Resource Assessment (FRA). In future this indicator can be assessed globally and continuously using satellite observations and does not require field-based monitoring.	↘	↘	●
	Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats: Others	UNEP-WCMC	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Habitats monitored for which trend data compiled: coral reefs, seagrasses and mangroves. Other habitats under development: grasslands, dry and sub-humid lands, peatlands, inland wetlands, crop lands, polar/ice, tidal flats/estuaries.	↘	↘	●
	Living Planet Index	ZSL & WWF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Living Planet Index (LPI) is updated and published biannually. Calculated using time series population data for vertebrate species. The 2006 LPI is based on over 3,600 populations for over 1,300 species of fish, amphibian, reptile, bird and mammal.	↘	↘	●

Focal Area	Indicator	2010 BIP Partner	Data collation	Storylines	Graphics	Ongoing devt	GBO 3	2010 BIP web			Trend Pre 2000	Trend Post 2000	Outlook
	Global Wild Bird Index	BirdLife International	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Measures average population trends of a representative suite of wild birds. Early phase of development at the global level. Regional indicators developed in Europe. Progress made in Africa (Botswana, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe).		↘	→	●
	Waterbird Indicator	Wetlands International	✓		✓	✓		✓	Based on the International Waterbird Census, with data beginning in 1967. Under development.	-	-		
	Coverage of protected areas	UNEP-WCMC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Monitors changes in extent of protected areas globally, including increases in the number of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and the growth in area of their coverage. Protected areas data are sourced from the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA).	↗	↗	●	
	Overlay of biodiversity with protected areas	UNEP-WCMC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	To monitor the changes in protection of areas of key importance for biodiversity worldwide, to help to identify ecologically distinct priority areas for conservation. Composed of indicators that relate to species and taxon diversity as well as ecosystem and habitat protection,	-	-		
	Management effectiveness of protected areas	University of Queensland & UNEP-WCMC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Focus on three themes: protected area design, adequacy and appropriateness of management systems and processes, and delivery of protected area objectives. A suite of 14 Protected Areas Management Effectiveness (PAME) indicators, developed between UNEP-WCMC, IUCN WCPA, and UQ, currently under peer review.	-	→	●	

Focal Area	Indicator	2010 BIP Partner	Data collation	Storylines	Graphics	Ongoing devt	GBO 3	2010 BIP web			Trend Pre 2000	Trend Post 2000	Outlook
	Red List Index and Sampled Red List Index	ZSL	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Basis of two indicators: the Red List Index (RLI) and Sampled Red List Index (SRLI). RLIs have been published for all bird species (1988-2008) and mammal species (1996-2008) and a preliminary RLI is available for all amphibian species (1980-2004). Sampled Red List Index (SRLI) is based on a representative sample of species selected from a broader spectrum of taxonomic groups, including reptiles, fish, insects, spiders, crustaceans, molluscs, corals, plants, fungi and algae		↘	↘	●
	<i>Ex situ</i> crop collections	FAO & Bioversity International	✓			✓		✓	Indicator shows changes in the crop genetic diversity available for sustainable agricultural production, and changes in the efforts to collect specimens and conserve		-	-	
	Genetic diversity of terrestrial domesticated animals	FAO & ILRI	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Indicator to show trends in the genetic diversity of domesticated animals of major socioeconomic importance over time.		-	-	
Sustainable use	Area of forest under sustainable management: certification	UNEP-WCMC	✓		✓	✓		✓	Indicator involves analysis of trends in area of forest committed to certification schemes, as well as contribution of certification schemes to conservation.		↗	↗	●

Focal Area	Indicator	2010 BIP Partner	Data collation	Storylines	Graphics	Ongoing devt	GBO 3	2010 BIP web		Trend Pre 2000	Trend Post 2000	Outlook
	Area of forest under sustainable management: degradation and deforestation	FAO	✓			✓	✓	✓	Indicator will combine satellite observation data with information on growing stock (available for over 150 countries) and additional information from FRA to capture degradation and deforestation in forests.	-	-	
	Area of agricultural ecosystems under sustainable management	FAO	✓			✓		✓	The four indices are: (i) Development and adoption of policies, strategies, and plans that support and promote the sustainable use of agriculture, (ii) Adoption of best agricultural practices and technologies by farmers and herders (iii) Status and trends of agricultural biodiversity and ecosystem services (iv) Status and trends in sustaining agricultural livelihoods	-	-	
	Proportion of fish stocks in safe biological limits	FAO	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	Indicator has been published in FAO publications including the <i>State of the World's Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA)</i> , and the catch statistics it is based on are also included in the <i>Marine Trophic Index</i> and <i>Ecological Footprint</i> .	↘	↘	●
	Status of species in trade	CITES	✓		✓	✓		✓	Indicator measures changes in the species in international trade.	-	-	
	Wild Commodities Index	UNEP-WCMC	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	Indicator will track how the status of wild populations of a selection of highly used species has changed over the last two decades	↘	↘	●

Focal Area	Indicator	2010 BIP Partner	Data collation	Storylines	Graphics	Ongoing devt	GBO 3	2010 BIP web			Trend Pre 2000	Trend Post 2000	Outlook
	Ecological footprint and related concepts	Global Footprint Network	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Ecological Footprint of 150 countries has been calculated for every year from 1961 to 2002, and the global Footprint is calculated by summing national results or by using globally aggregated data. The Ecological Footprint is updated and published biannually		↘	↘	●
Threats to biodiversity	Nitrogen deposition	International Nitrogen Initiative	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	Trends in the deposition of Nitrogen, and the subsequent response of ecosystems to this deposition are an indicator of threats to biodiversity and ecosystem health.		↘	→	●
	Invasive alien species	Global Invasive Species Programme	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Four indicators under development: i) Status of Alien Species Invasion; ii) Trend in National Invasive Alien Species Policy; iii. Trends in International Invasive Alien Species Policy; iv. Global Indicator of Biological Invasion.		↘	↘	●
Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services	Marine Trophic Index	University of British Columbia		✓	✓			✓	The index is calculated largely using catch composition data from countries around the world; available online at: www.seaaroundus.org		↘	↘	●
	Water quality	UNEP GEMS/ Water Programme	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	Indicator has 4 components: (i) Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) (ii) Nitrate concentration reflects trophic status. (iii) Suspended sediments. (iv) pH and temperature ; with trends over a ten-year period		↘	→	●

Focal Area	Indicator	2010 BIP Partner	Data collation	Storylines	Graphics	Ongoing devt	GBO 3	2010 BIP web			Trend Pre 2000	Trend Post 2000	Outlook
	Forest Fragmentation	UNEP-WCMC & FAO	✓			✓		✓	Indicator will use satellite observation data to assess changes in the fragmentation of forest ecosystems. Metadata analyses of case study landscapes resulted in a “BioFrag” index, which assigns a value for fragmentation effects on biodiversity to each cell of a landscape and allows calculation of an average across a landscape.		-	-	
	River fragmentation and flow regulation	The Nature Conservancy		✓	✓		✓	✓	Indicator measures the degree to which freshwater systems have been altered by dams and other channel fragmentation, and other stresses associated with water withdrawals and diversions: (i) fragmentation (number and placement of dams), and flow regulation (ii) (how much water is stored behind dams).		-	-	
	Health and well-being of communities	UNEP-WCMC & WHO	✓			✓		✓	Indicator will examine issues relating to human health and well-being, such as food security, nutritional intake and/or household income, in the context of biodiversity		-	-	
	Nutritional status of biodiversity	FAO	✓			✓		✓	Indicator to monitor biodiversity over time by measuring the composition and consumption of food and medicinal plant and animal genetic resources. (i) Identification of the number of foods consumed by variety or cultivar, as well as their component values. (ii) The second phase involves measuring the actual consumption of biodiversity for food and medicine over time.		-	-	
	Biodiversity for food and medicine	TRAFFIC Intl	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Indicator has two approaches: i) Red List - Identifying where more than one temporal assessment of species harvested for food and medicine undertaken; ii) Availability - changing affordability of goods from species.		↘	↘	●

Focal Area	Indicator	2010 BIP Partner	Data collation	Storylines	Graphics	Ongoing devt	GBO 3	2010 BIP web			Trend Pre 2000	Trend Post 2000	Outlook
Status of knowledge, innovations and practices	Status and trends of linguistic diversity and Nos of speakers of indigenous languages	UNESCO & Terralingua	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Indicator will assess the status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages. Includes 1,476 entries, from studies of North America, Latin America, Australia and some of Pacific.		↘	↘	●
Status of access and benefits sharing	<i>To be determined</i>								No technical partner has been identified to develop this indicator. The Secretariat of CBD retains responsibility to take this forward.				
Status of resource transfers	Official development assistance provided in support of the Convention	OECD	✓	✓		✓		✓	Indicator uses 'biodiversity marker' developed by the <i>OECD / Development Assistance Committee (DAC)</i>	-	↗	●	

Appendix 2: An analysis of the indicators referred to in 3rd and 4th National Reports to the CBD

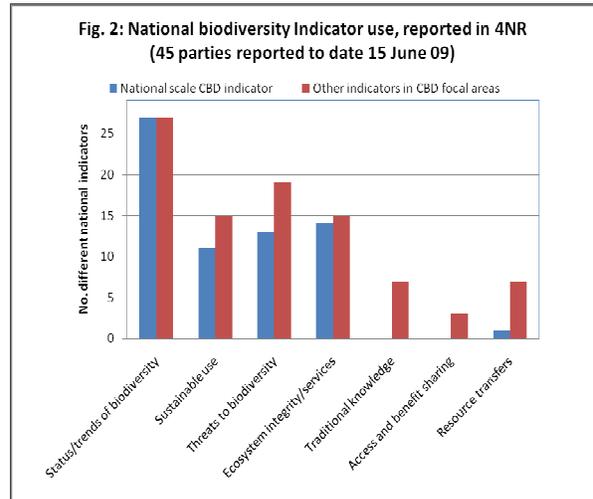
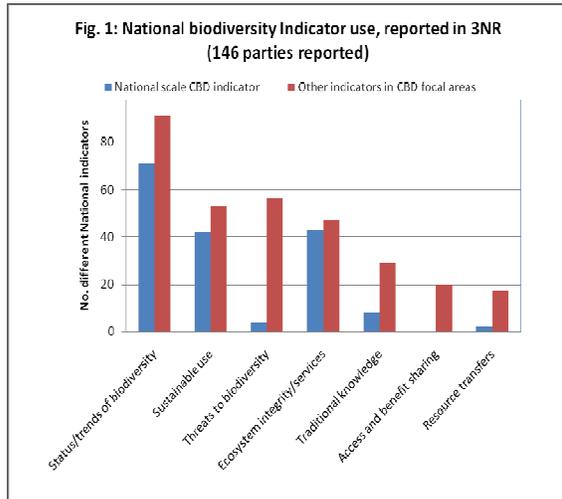
A desk study of the reporting of indicators in the CBD 3rd National Reports (3NR, 2005, 146 Parties submitted) and 4th National Reports (4NR, 2009, 45 Parties submitted as of 15 June 2009, although only 42 were used in the analysis – reports in Arabic and Thai were not translated) has been carried out using data publicly available on the CBD website. The CBD report analyser (www.cbd.int/reports/analyzer.shtml) was used where appropriate, together with both reviewing and cross-referencing individual Party's reports.

Differences in the format and emphasis of questions relating to indicators between 3NR and 4NR need to be taken into account when considering their analysis. In the 3NRs, Parties were asked to provide information on indicators used in relation to all the targets in the framework of goals and targets (decision VII/30). In the guidelines for the 4NRs, Parties are encouraged to use indicators in their national report, whether recommended and part of the CBD framework or developed at national level. This focus on actually using indicators to prepare the reports reflects the increased focus, within the 4NRs, on outcomes of activities undertaken while the previous reports required information the processes. Consequently, in the 4NRs, Parties were invited, if they so wished, to submit information on national indicators used in the report. The information on the indicators themselves (rather than the outcome) has become voluntary and less important. This difference has been taken into consideration when extracting indicator information from Party's reports for this document.

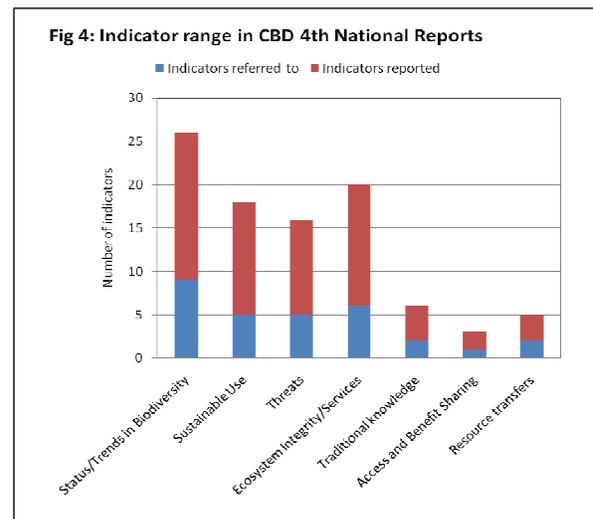
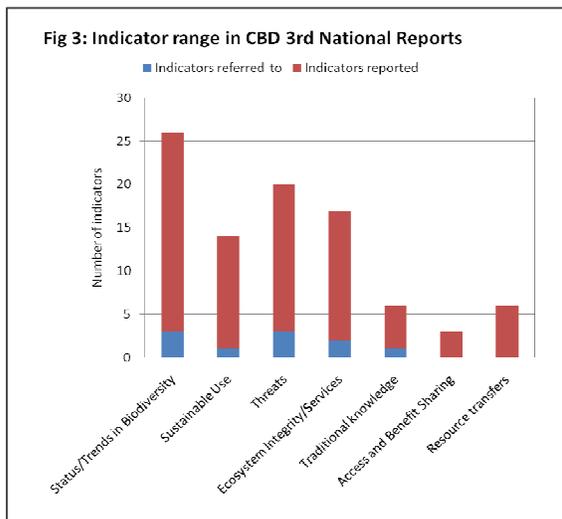
Using the 3NRs and 4NRs as a proxy of national indicator use, figures 1 and 2 highlight the number of Parties that reported using or developing indicators. For all seven focal areas, more Parties reported on alternative indicators than on the specific indicators proposed by the CBD COP. Of the wide variety of national indicators reported, it is noteworthy that numerous national indicators have been reported in focal areas that are currently under-represented by indicators proposed by the CBD (notably Access and Benefit Sharing).

When looking at the number of different types of indicators both alluded to (i.e. referred to in National Report sections without mentioning a specific indicator) and specifically reported (figures 3, 4), one can see that there has been little increase in the number of indicators being developed. This finding is preliminary as the submission deadline for the 4NRs was 31 March 2009 and a majority of CBD Parties are yet to submit their 4NRs; other parties may then still report additional indicators - in fact it seems likely that if more than 100 parties report there will be additional indicators identified.

Figures 1 & 2: Number of Parties reporting on indicators in the third and fourth national reports, using either the CBD indicator framework or alternative (national) indicators



Figures 3 & 4: The number of different indicators referred to or specifically reported on in 3NR and 4NR in the CBD focal areas



In contrast, Figures 5 and 6 highlight the significant (order of magnitude) increase in the number of indicators being reported per country in each focal area, between the 3NRs and 4NRs. The reporting differences between 3NR and 4NR reduced the emphasis on “process” and therefore 4NR guidelines were less explicitly requesting indicators to be described. Notwithstanding the possible bias in “keen early reporters”, this could be taken to suggest a substantial increase in use of national indicators as tools to assist in implementation and CBD reporting obligations. This is particularly evident for indicators in the focal area of status and trends of components of biodiversity.

Figure 5: Types of Indicators reported as being under development per party and focal area in the third and fourth national reports to the CBD.

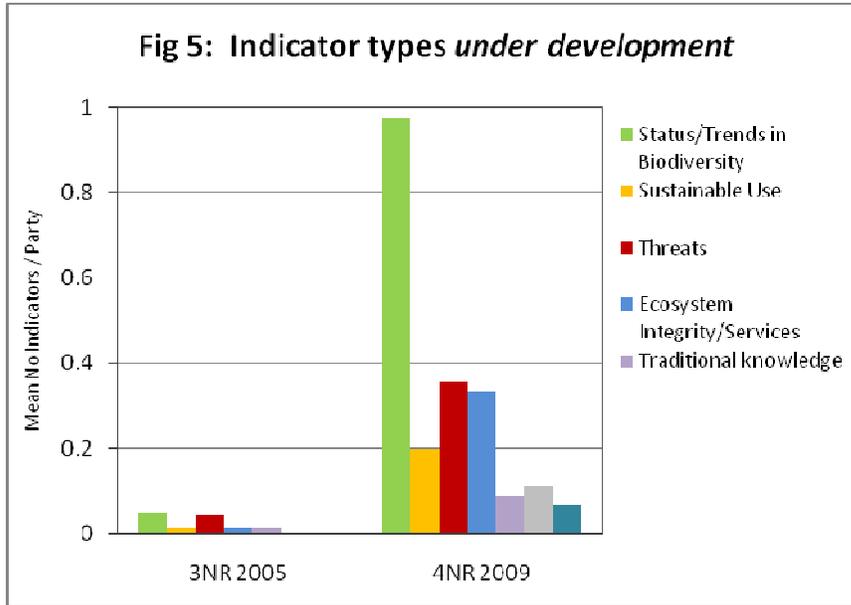
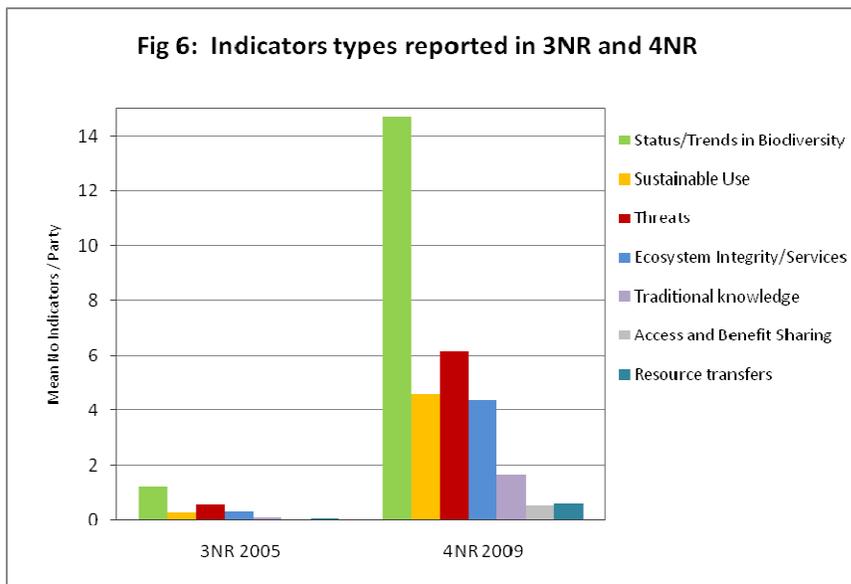


Figure 6: Types of indicators reported on per party and focal area in the third and fourth national reports to the CBD.



Appendix 3. Comments compiled from the online stakeholder consultation

Sufficient	<i>Question1: Is the set of 2010 indicators sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets? If not, why not?</i>
✓	In terms of thematic coverage, the 2010 indicators are sufficient. However, in terms of specificity it could have been much better talking about explicit indicators in line with a comprehensive categorization approach. For instance, territorial expansion of protected areas could have indicated the changes in different categories such as marine, estuarine, riverine, lacustrine and palustrine system. Similarly for terrestrial classification could have been based on ecosystem characteristics instead of functional titles. It could have been inclusive of identification criteria such as I/CCAs. Similar comments would be applicable in line with policy level accomplishments and knowledge management aspects
✓	In my opinion the existing set of 2010 indicators is a comprehensive one, but if two subjects of: "climate change and biodiversity" and "Tourism and biodiversity" would be added to that list, all aspects of biodiversity will be covered.
✓	Status and Trends of Biological Diversity. The coverage of protected areas should consider only those with an effective and active management; in other words, we should consider only those PA with staff and management. Sustainable Use. Trends in marine (open sea) fisheries should be included. Ecosystem Integrity for Terrestrial Ecosystems, trends of pollinators (major taxa) should be included.
✗	Probably not, as not all indicators will be providing a trend but will rather provide a baseline. Also there needs to be some clever analysis bringing a number of the indicators together, so as to develop a number of smaller pictures
✗	Some of them need more details. It is also important not to be blinded by them, in the sense of keeping an eye on the ultimate goal, which is the sustainable livelihoods of people.
✓	I think that the indicators 2010 may provide information that may be useful for assessing the achievement of the objectives established. The fact remains that the parties provide the necessary time and with precision.
✗	There are only few indicators under the Focal area "threats to biodiversity". Many threats are of course covered in the other focal areas. I am not very familiar with the indicator development process under the CBD, but at a quick glance there seems to be unevenness. In the above mentioned focal area, for instance, I miss an indicator related to hazardous substances.
✓	Yes, I think that the indicators are reasonable. It is always possible to add more, but there is usually a significant time and cost involved in tracking each indicator, so the list should be as short as possible (but not shorter)
✓	Yes, however they are very broad and it will be difficult to compare results across regions at a meaningful scale.
✓	Yes - indicators are sufficient in number and content. However, the indicators are generally "lagging indicators" and are measures of what has already happened. It would be useful to have a few leading indicators i.e. planned measures to halt the decline in Biodiversity egg Number of countries with specific legislation in place or planned; areas proposed for protection.
✓	I believe it may be sufficient but it is difficult to tell from the way they are currently articulated i.e. incomplete sentences

Sufficient	<p>Question1: Is the set of 2010 indicators sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets? If not, why not?</p>
	<p>with very little/no indication of the exact manner in which they will be quantified/qualified.</p>
✓	<p>The set is certainly helpful in drawing conclusions on the achievement of the 2010 goals and targets. While an "all embracing" set with more indicators would be desirable in a perfect world, the current set provides a very good basis to assess trends and status in biodiversity. The biggest challenge for the assessment of the 2010 target is to my understanding not the set of indicators but the lack of capacity on a global level to gain reliable long-time data to fill these indicators with life. This needs to be improved over the next years. On the other hand some new and additional indicators might have to be added to the set. If trade-offs have to be made between the comprehensiveness of the set of indicators and the operationalisation of the current set it would opt for the later.</p>
✓	<p>Yes, it would be if we were already measuring all of them and if agreed baselines had been established. That is clearly not the case and perhaps we should be aiming for a strong baseline to use as the foundation of monitoring a post-2010 framework</p>
✓	<p>I think the indicators are comprehensive and well thought through, though the problem will be making them specific enough to be meaningful. Under threats to biodiversity I think 'habitat conversion' could be added (even though this information is implicitly collected under the first indicator under 'status and trends of the components of biological diversity). I really like the indicator 'proportion of products sourced from sustainable sources' - under 'status of access and benefit sharing' could an indicator be added such as 'the number of community-corporate resource management partnerships'</p>
✓	<p>In general, the answer is yes, it is as good as the underlying data allow. It is particularly weak in reflecting the status of freshwater and marine biodiversity, but this is a limitation of the underlying data, not of the indicators themselves. If one takes into consideration the differences among the seven focal areas of the 2010 target, it is clear that the level of development of "social indicators" – under focal areas "status of traditional knowledge, innovation and practices" as well as "status of access and benefit sharing" – is rather low. It is also true that some indicators considered ready for immediate use and testing will benefit from increased efforts and development.</p>
✗	<p>No. Under Focal Area "Status and Trends of the Components of Biological Diversity" and Focal Area "Status of resource transfers" there should be indicators measuring: inter-institutional cooperation for CBD implementation, cooperation between institutions responsible for CBD implementation and reporting and interested stakeholders (civil society, businesses, research and media); resources spent of GDP for biodiversity targets implementation as a % of GDP and their effectiveness (e.g. number of protected areas established, number of management plans, number of species taken out from the IUCN Red list, etc.); resources spent on establishment of national biodiversity monitoring systems and their effectiveness.</p>
✗	<p>First, the "Goals and Targets" give a rather incomplete answer to the fundamental "rate of biodiversity loss" question. It would be possible (theoretically) to successfully hit these goals and targets without significantly slowing the loss of biodiversity in most of the world's (managed) ecosystems. The existing "goals and targets" do not give a basis for a comprehensive system of "state" indicators. Given this limitation the current set of proposed indicators does have potential to provide information on achieving the "goals and targets". To my mind the crucial section is on "ecosystem integrity", and here the indicators are still in development. The answer to the above question depends on how fully the "trophic integrity of other ecosystems" indicators are developed.</p>

Sufficient	<p>Question1: Is the set of 2010 indicators sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets? If not, why not?</p>
x	<p>My particular interest is in the "Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals, cultivated plants, and fish species of major socioeconomic importance" and I do not feel sufficient detail has been provided to assess the indicator. For the plant indicator the three sub-indicators identified: a. The quantity of accessions, genera, species, and crops conserved in ex situ collections; b. The quality of ex situ collections; c. Capacity to conserve crop genetic diversity in ex situ collections in terms of conservation facilities and human resources. Only a. provides an assessment for the Trend and numbers could increase or decrease without reference to any form of threat so it is not a very robust indicator.</p>
x	<p>Threats to biodiversity - does not include loss of habitat; does not include overhunting. These are the main threats alongside exotics and climate change (although the latter is still being worked out).</p>
x	<p>In the area of species loss not. We still have no tools to measure and monitor directly the dynamics of species. The necessary infrastructure is only slowly being build up (egg GBIF), tools to collect in a standardized way new specimen data are not established in most of the world, the sociological changes to share data are not implemented, and conservation is still too individualistic and not up to date to modern possibilities offered through the Internet. Indirect observations tools, such as remote sensing data is though increasingly available and could be a very important part to build up evidence based tools rather than inferred.</p>
x	<p>No. Status and trends does not differentiate natural from artificially created (GMO) biodiversity. Threats considers N and alien species, but not toxic pollutants (e.g., As, He, U; DDT and other pesticides; possibly emergent nanoparticles; petrochemical, persistent organic chemicals, and other contaminants), habitat modifiers (e.g., agro-forestry monocrops, paved/impervious surfaces, drained wetlands, explosion-wrecked coral reefs, mountain top-removing strip mines, etc.), or resource depletion degraders (e.g., industrial bioprospecting) Ecosystem services does not consider contaminated (e.g., US superfund, former nuclear testing sites), quarantined or boobytrapped (e.g., Korean DMZ) ecosystems where humans cannot fully extract such services. Traditional knowledge misses the legal allocation of land and resource usage to traditional users (e.g., indigenous communities of Amazon forest region).</p>
x	<p>The focal areas and provisional indicators are reasonable given the types of information required to develop a reasonable proxy for the state of biodiversity - particularly given current constraints in the availability of data. What is primarily missing, however, are clear standards for the collection of data, which can be evenly applied across all jurisdictions.</p>
x	<p>The current indicators - and in particular data availability - are reasonably well suited to provide information on trends for Goal 1 (Targets 1.1. and 1.2), Goal 2 (Target 2.2), Goal 4 (4.3), Goal 5 (Target 5.1), Goal 6 (Targets 6.1 and 6.2), and Goal 7 (Target 7.2). Information/data regarding the other Goals and Targets are insufficient. As the majority of these touch on socio-economic issues which are difficult to disentangle from direct indicators of the state of biodiversity, it will be difficult to develop completely empirical measures for these - and hence measures of progress would have to be based on expert opinion.</p>
x	<p>A large amount of information will be generated by the indicators however the key will be the how the indicators are defined and the quality of the data used in compiling the indicators. If resources are limited fewer but better defined and compiled indicators is the preference. Eliminating an indicator compiled with unreliable or insufficient data would be better than a poorly calculated one.</p>

Sufficient	<p>Question1: Is the set of 2010 indicators sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets? If not, why not?</p>
✘	<p>It is unrealistic. Most indicators lack data in most countries. The only indicators for which data may be available are those based on remote sensing.</p>
✘	<p>May also want to include goal and targets for increasing awareness of the need to protect biodiversity outside the communities already focused on it (e.g., the public).</p>
✘	<p>Status of access and benefit-sharing: there is a need to involve the private sector as it has such a significant influence on other indicators. An additional indicator could be: percentage of corporations having and following an explicit biodiversity strategy.</p>
✓	<p>The indicators are ok; would be good to see more tangible relationship with UNFCCC.</p>
✘	<p>In short, no. There are some of the targets that do not have indicators that link directly to them. For example target 6.1, 6.2 and 7.1. Although trends in alien species are an indicator this does not monitor whether pathways are controlled or management plans are in place. I strongly suggest that the list of indicators is directly linked to the list of goals and targets so that one can see where the gaps are.</p>
✓	<p>Generally speaking yes, but some indicators have to be improved in detail and with respect to data quality; e.g. some sub-indicators are available only for some parts of the world or some taxonomic groups; e.g. the Headline Indicator “Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species” only covers vertebrate species, no invertebrates and no plants at all. Conclusions drawn from this limited species set should be interpreted with caution with respect to the question, if the 2010 target (as a whole) was achieved.</p>
✘	<p>No, because it lack adequate spatial and temporal coverage both at the level of species and ecosystems.</p>
-	<p>Norway reports to the Pan European initiative, SEBI2010 (Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators) that was launched in 2004. This is a regional reporting initiative to the CBD indicators. Norway at present reports on the following three indicators to the SEBI2010, and has so far only reviewed the capability of reporting to the 23 others. We would at the moment not be ready to answer whether the set of 2010 indicators are sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets.</p>
✓	<p>In most cases, the 2010 indicators provide broad guidance on achieving the CBD Goals and Targets. It is noted that some indicators remain in development. As they are retrospective, the data collected will provide general information about the status of global biodiversity conservation. Gathering and generating information that could inform future trends and outlook could be useful in anticipating changes that may impact on the achievement of the 2010 Goals and Targets. Hence, this will inform strategy development accordingly.</p>
✘	<p>The indicators have shown the main information to be achieved in each focal area. For example (i) trends in biomes, ecosystems, and habitats, (ii) trends in abundance and distribution. Regarding the “coverage of protected areas” indicator, while this may sufficient for Target 1.1, emphasize in the outcome of the PA management should become the next target. The nature of Parties condition requires different indicators. Therefore, different sets of indicators might be needed depends on the specific conditions of the Party.</p>
✘	<p>The set of 22 indicators is too large and too broad to provide concise and useful information (see also our response</p>

Sufficient	<p>Question1: Is the set of 2010 indicators sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets? If not, why not?</p>
	<p>under Survey 5). Most of the work accomplished to date is too narrow in its scope (either biased geographically, ecologically or towards certain groups of species) to give a full picture, or is too remote from the in-country situation to give a detailed enough picture. Several of the indicators overlap within Focal Areas (e.g. Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species and Change in status of threatened species, both of which can be covered through the IUCN Red List assessment process). There is also overlap between the aims and outcomes between different Focal Areas (e.g. Status and trends of the components of biological diversity and Threats to biodiversity – you cannot analyse the former without a good understanding of the latter).</p>
<p>✘</p>	<p>The current Convention goals and sub-targets do cover the breadth of biodiversity issues in the CBD but the accuracy and strength of these targets depends on the appropriate selection of indicators - and the methods and data that inform these indicators - used to report against their success. In general, it is strongly suggested that indicators and supporting datasets are selected based on existing international opportunities in order to a) promote some level of standardized reporting and comparison between countries; b) minimize the cost burden of collecting, maintaining and reporting on information by individual nations and c) mainstream and promote existing international efforts at monitoring the status of biodiversity. A good example is the proposed use of the IUCN Red List to indicate status of threatened species (target 2.2.). This database also holds potential, with relatively minor interpretation and analysis, to support reporting against targets on pollution (target 7.2.) food, health and other values of biodiversity to human wellbeing (target 8.2.). Another example could be the protection of AZE sites by individual countries as an indicator for target 1.2. The Alliance for Zero Extinction (www.zeroextinction.org) represents an existing effort by over 60 international and national NGOs to identify the tip of the iceberg in terms of biodiversity loss. Consideration of AZE would greatly strengthen indicators on protected area coverage by emphasizing protection of high priority areas rather than a basic area protected, which have historically included areas of low opportunity cost and often low priority. Such an indicator, based on AZE, is already in use by Environmental Performance Index as an indicator of protection of critical habitats (http://epi.yale.edu/CriticalHabitatProtection). The EPI is a joint effort by the Yale, Colombia, the World Economic Forum and the European Commission’s Joint Research Council. Although the indicators do not present an explicit terrestrial bias, they may be particularly weak in reflecting the status of freshwater and marine biodiversity. This is a historical limitation of the underlying data rather than any explicit shortcomings of the indicators selected here. Addressing these limitations – essentially data gaps - should be a priority (e.g. marine protected areas via World Database of Protected Areas, global marine species assessments via IUCN Red List).</p>
<p>✘</p>	<p>The current set of indicators is insufficient in two key ways that will need to be addressed in the future: Firstly the indicators do not adequately cover the full range of goals and targets set by the CBD COP, and even cover the three objectives of the Convention in an uneven manner. Unless used carefully in communications the indicators then have the potential to misrepresent the range of what the Convention is trying to achieve. Secondly within the focal areas there is an apparent bias in the indicators towards those that are better developed, or for which there is better data. So, for example, the indicators on species are better developed and more widely used than those on ecosystems or genetic resources, even though they may be less meaningful in the context of the Convention as a whole. This is being addressed, but needs to be recognised as the review proceeds.</p>
<p>✘</p>	<p>No, because the baseline is lacking and the definition of biodiversity is still too difficult to quantify.</p>
<p>✘</p>	<p>Climate change has not been fully considered.</p>

Sufficient	<p>Question1: Is the set of 2010 indicators sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets? If not, why not?</p>
x	<p>No. The indicators represent a political compromise in language rather than an actual set of the best indices for measuring trends.</p>
x	<p>No - for example, the trends in genetic diversity indicator is restricted to domesticated / cultivated species or those of socioeconomic importance, with no coverage of wild biodiversity. The indicators for 'threats to biodiversity' are restricted to nitrogen deposition and invasive species, with no coverage of other threats, notably climate change. The indicators for access and benefit sharing, and resourcing, appear to be particularly weak.</p>
x	<p>There are some questions regarding the interpretation of the indicators regarding the marine environment. 1. Does "aquaculture" include marine fishing outside enclosed aquaculture areas [such as prawn or salmon farms]? 2. Does the indicator regarding extent of coverage of protected areas apply to the marine environment? 3. Does the protected area indicator include both no-take MPAs and restricted fishing MPAs [such as no bottom trawling, but allowing net fishing]? If the answer to all those questions is "yes", then, if proper analysis is carried out, my concerns are reduced. However- re sustainable use- fishing is as relevant as forestry. To assess fish stock decline/recovery, it's desirable to record changes in catch/unit effort or direct measurement of fish biomass.</p>
x	<p>No. As far as I can see there has been no true indicator set but simply a vague set of ideals. The first goal should always have been to set a baseline (i.e. where are we at now). This would obviously have meant less bureaucrats and politicians involved at this stage but a large investment in science at the local and regional scale in order to truly have an idea of the current state of the world. You have set some targets which should be achievable such as "Trends in invasive alien species" but even these will need much on the ground investment.</p>
x	<p>I have my doubts if the set of 2010 indicators will give sufficient information to assess if we halt the current rate of loss of biodiversity. The indicators are quite broad and not sure if that would be sufficient. So have some doubts about these indicators.</p>
x	<p>No, I don't think so. In particular I see a big lack of conceptual work on how to mainstream biodiversity conservation into other policy fields, above all economic policies, energy policies, spatial development policies, etc. This is so far inadequately reflected in the 2010 indicator set. In particular I see a lack of indicators on socioeconomic drivers of biodiversity loss and socioeconomic pressures on biodiversity (see the drivers-impacts-pressures-states-responses or DPSIR scheme used by OECD, the EEA and other international environmental information bodies). My view is that most threats to biodiversity originate from human use of natural resources. Preventing biodiversity loss therefore requires changes in the patterns of resource use, and this in turn requires changes in economic structures in a more resource-conserving and biodiversity-friendly direction. (Of course in combination with classic strategies such as conservation areas etc, but these are clearly insufficient to do the trick). Designing such preventive strategies to mitigate biodiversity loss is an urgent need, but currently hampered by lacking understanding of the underlying socioeconomic drivers and pressures. The need for this kind of information is neither adequately reflected in the structure of the indicator set, nor are the indicators present sufficient to do this. For example, N deposition and invasive species are by far not the only threats to biodiversity, but are the only two indicators in that field. The Ecol Footprint (EF) is not a suitable concept to indicate "sustainable use" of biodiversity. It is to some extent useful as a proxy of aggregate pressures on biodiversity stemming from the use of natural resources, but as it lacks spatial specificity it is not suitable as a valid pressure indicator. EF maps currently available indicate where resources are being consumed (because they were established by multiplying a population density map by an estimate of the average per-capita EF in each country), but they do not indicate where humans put great pressures on ecosystems and where they don't. In other words, there is an urgent</p>

Sufficient	Question1: Is the set of 2010 indicators sufficient to provide information on achieving the CBD 2010 Goals and Targets? If not, why not?
	need for valid indicators, or at least indicators that could potentially be validated through empirical research, that map pressures on ecosystems and biodiversity. Such concepts are so far not included in the indicator set. This hampers its utility to provide information for preventive policies to reduce pressures on biodiversity.
*	No. Sustainable use indicators should also include, "Economic value from use of wild resources" These data are readily obtained from participation and spending surveys, as done regularly by governments in USA, Canada and Finland, and easy to arrange in EU by Eurostats through appropriate questions in Omnibus surveys.
*	Probably not. 1) There are not enough marine indicators. 2) The Marine Trophic Index is sensitive to sampling and requires good knowledge of food web interactions. Size-based indicators are more easily collected and less error-prone (Fulton et al 2005). 3) Target 7.1 (Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change) is not adequately addressed. Reference: Fulton, E. A., Smith, A. D. M., and Punt, A. E. 2005. Which ecological indicators can robustly detect effects of fishing? <i>ICES Journal of Marine Science</i> , 62 : 540-551.

rigorous	logical	comprehensive	Question 2: To what extent is the set of 2010 indicators scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive?
*	✓	✓	Varies across the indicators set. The more advanced indicators (in terms of progress) are in general rigorous and comprehensive. The less developed/undeveloped ones are yet to be proven
-	-	-	While scientific rigour is important, of more real importance is whether the indicator is meaningful to those using it, and whether it is fit for purpose. The degree of scientific rigour required must be defined by these two criteria.
✓	✓	✓	Moderate, but probably the best we could do given the constraints.
*	*	*	Regarding the marine environment, it is not possible to assess the rigor, logic or comprehensiveness of the indicators, unless detailed analysis of the questions I raised in Survey 1 is carried out. Under threats, it is necessary to include measurements of changes in the following forces relating to the marine environment; 1. temperature of seawater- critical to corals; 2. changes in nutrients and other pollutants run-off from land; 3. Ph of water column- again, critical to corals and other organisms [as well as ability of the seas to absorb carbon dioxide].
✓	✓	✓	The set of 2010 indicators scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive is capacity building of mechanism and institution for CBD.
-	-	*	I cannot fully judge the scientifically rigorousness of all the indicators, but some of the indicators seem to be

rigorous	logical	comprehensive	
			Question 2: To what extent is the set of 2010 indicators scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive?
			difficult to understand to the 'general public' in terms of their way of describing 'the state of biodiversity'.
✓	✓	✓	This is a little difficult to answer without doing a review of the methodology of the indicator set. My understanding is that there is a logic to the selected indicators in that they are the best that can be delivered against the targets, given the time-frame and available data. Also that a framework has been established to make these indicators as rigorous as possible.
✗	✗	✗	It varies depending on the indicator (difference between trends in species and ABS for instance).
-	-	✓	It's okay, there are some assumptions built in to some indicators that requires logical jumps, but this is complemented by direct measures.
✗	✗	✗	Again, I do not think they are scientifically rigorous, logical and certainly not comprehensive. Having said this, I believe many in the scientific community have pulled together to design the best indicators they can in a post hoc fashion and in line with the accepted wording of the Decisions of the Parties. This has meant that the indicators are based around available data and some re-jigging of the wording of the agreed indicators. They were never designed to be comprehensive or even complementary and coherent as a set of indicators.
✓	✓	✓	It's more than 90% logical and comprehensive
✓	✓	✓	In the scale between 1-10, the set 2010 is 7.
✗	✓	✓	To the extent that the indicators are borne of a political not scientific process they present a reasonable response. It could be, however, that they are too ambitious in relation to the resources available to support them.
✗	-	✗	By and large the indicators are scientifically sound, but as indicated above there are large and important gaps. The structure of the indicator set is absolutely not convincing, as detailed above. The Ecological Footprint, despite the large and continuously growing literature discussing this concept, has still severe methodological shortcomings, in particular related to the data sources used to construct the accounts and to some essential aggregation methods, in particular the equivalence and yield factors used to calculate the EF. Explicit links to socioeconomic data and indicators are at present completely lacking. This hampers any attempt to guide socioeconomic trajectories in more biodiversity-friendly directions. I also miss work on the potential threats on biodiversity stemming from plans to multiply the production of bio-energy (bio-fuels, solid biomass for energy production, etc.).
✗	✗	✗	It is a good start. Developing rigorous indicators that are also widely applicable and affordable is very difficult... That said, no, these indicators are not quite there yet. FYI, the Trans-Atlantic Marine Ecological Indicators Project, a cooperative EU-US initiative, housed by the Luso-American Foundation, Lisbon, may be of interest.
-	✓	✗	The current set is logical but by no means comprehensive, particularly given what we now know about ecosystem services. Scientifically rigorous will depend on the transparency and peer review process in place
-	-	-	Only partially rigorous and comprehensive from a scientific point of view. Such an indicator system should also

rigorous	logical	comprehensive	
			Question 2: To what extent is the set of 2010 indicators scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive?
			include an analysis of the institutional and legal background of the application of the indicator system.
-	✓	✗	I understand there has been a lot of rigour and logic in developing them, balanced with pragmatism. As noted the comprehensiveness depends on how things go with indicating "trophic integrity". If this covers only select ecosystems, and only a simplified measure of the number of intact trophic levels, it will not be comprehensive. Ecosystems have a lot of attributes at the community level which are changing under human pressure (e.g. diversity of different guilds and apparent redundancy or interchangeability within guilds). If they continue to change in ways uncharacteristic of their evolutionary history then biodiversity loss has not been slowed, but current indicators may not reflect this.
✗	-	✗	The "Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals, cultivated plants, and fish species of major socioeconomic importance" is not rigorous or comprehensive but does employ easily accessible data sets held by FAO so could be said to be logical if no funds are available for further monitoring. Fish seem to have been ignored alongside non-crop socioeconomically important plant genetic diversity.
✓	-	✓	I think it is a reasonable compromise between the need to be rigorous and comprehensive and the need to keep the cost of tracking under control.
✗	-	-	Not sufficiently rigorous ('threats reduced' is way to general).
✗	✓	✓	Rigorous - not at all. As I have said in my previous answer. Logical - yes. There is no doubt that the vague ideas are in the right area. It not so much that the goals are unachievable but rather we will not have the true information to know if they are or not. Comprehensive - yes but without being specific. I think many countries will need to set their own comprehensive targets once they have the information in order to have something to aim for.
✓	-	✗	The set follows the CBD focal areas and is to that extent logical. As regards scientific rigour I feel that this is very much assured by the governance structure of the partnership. However, the weak data basis for some indicators might challenge their scientific rigour. But this seems to be a problem of capacity for monitoring and data collection than of scientific rigour. The set is broad but not comprehensive. The focal areas sustainable use, threats and resources could and should be further elaborated while keeping the overall number of indicators small.
✓	-	✓	Indicators appear to be current, relevant and scientifically justifiable.
✗	✗	✗	The ones (species level) I am familiar with, they are not.
✓	✓	✓	The quality of available data regarding the state of biodiversity (particularly whether these data are verifiable) is improving in some areas - such as spatial changes in terrestrial habitat extent/quality, endangered species, protected areas, invasive species, and water quality. While many gaps remain, the "robustness" of these data sets is continually improving, and it is reasonable to say that the processes for analyzing these data are logical and comprehensive. The quality of available data which can be considered comprehensive is much lower for focal areas related to traditional knowledge or sustainable use. A great many social and economic factors are bundled with changes in how communities utilize species and ecosystems over time, rendering many of these

rigorous	logical	comprehensive	
			Question 2: To what extent is the set of 2010 indicators scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive?
			attributes extremely difficult to measure accurately.
-	-	✓	Indicators for the goals and targets are reasonably comprehensive and rigorous - and are improving steadily. Indicators for the others are not, in my opinion, scientifically rigorous.
-	-	-	The indicators will depend on the comprehensive and reliable data collection equally distributed across all regions.
-	✓	✓	They lack explicit recognition that biodiversity components, structure, functioning and stakeholders are scale-dependent: "trends in abundance and distributions of selected species" Distribution is a scale-dependent concept. It begs the question of what at what extents and resolutions we are talking about. Imagine a report on the same species, shared in Mexico, reported at 1:64,000,000 and Costa Rica, reported at 1:100,000. It is impossible to compare the results. Others are too vague: "Status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages" Indigenous languages, like English or French? Or Japanese? Or Tagalo? Or Bahasa? Or tribal languages...but where? In cities? Nahuatl is increasing in Mexico City... These indicators lack a coherent framework and are to a large extent the result of meeting of non-experts.
-	-	-	Need indicators relative to increasing awareness of the issues and their criticality to long-term healthy planet stability.
	✓	✓	I believe the indicators are logical and comprehensive but they also might be a bit subjective because different experts might evaluate same situation differently.
-	-	-	The indicators are ok, but what about reliable data collection?
✓	✓	✓	They are much too vague at the moment and operationalizing them will be extremely difficult, but in general I think they are scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive.
✓	✓	✓	Highly relevant and well coverage on the current affair/ issues
-	✗	✗	The main problem I experience in this regard is that some of the indicators are quite vague. For example "Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals..."; "Water quality of freshwater ecosystems" and "Connectivity and fragmentation of ecosystems". These are all quite broad concepts which would need to be made much more specific before they could be clearly measured. For example with genetic diversity what exactly should one measure, is it heterozygosity in the population? If so, this is not very practical.
✗	✓	✓	The overall set of indicators covers a wide range of components of biodiversity (biomes, habitats, species and genetic diversity) and seems to be sound (some proposals for additions are given below). Scientific quality strongly differ between indicators, especially with respect to representativeness, e.g. concerning the trends of animal species; populations and species monitored often were not selected randomly; organism-related indicators mainly focus on vertebrates and ignore other groups, especially plants; there is, in parts an overlap between groups used simultaneously in different indicators (e.g. birds). Another shortcoming is the lack of clear rules for - the update intervals of the indicators - defining target values or thresholds (e.g. what exactly is a "significant" reduction in the loss of biodiversity?) for the indicators.

rigorous	logical	comprehensive	Question 2: To what extent is the set of 2010 indicators scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive?
✓	✓	✓	I think they do a good job in those components considering the data that is currently available, but much more could be done if a true global biodiversity observation system was put into place.
	✓	✓	In aspect of logical, indicators are good. I think it's better that we prepare more facilities for developing countries because in these countries there are many legal issues; in summary I can say that the indicators are comprehensive.
✗	-	-	A number of the 2010 indicators (for example, nitrogen deposition, trends in invasive alien species, area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management) are generally accepted mechanisms with which to measure the impact on biodiversity. The practicality of measuring some indicators may be difficult in implementation, particularly where a country(ies) may not provide the information required for the indicator measure. The rigour of the data supplied towards these indicators by a country(ies) relies on the use of scientifically accurate measurement techniques with the result that quality may vary country by country. Some qualitative indicators are more difficult to measure (for example, status of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices) and may not provide for quantitative analysis. Whilst results from these qualitative indicators are acceptable, they may be easily challenged.
✗	✓	✓	"Nitrogen deposition" and "Trends in invasive alien species" are not enough to measure all different threats to biodiversity. Some other indicators, like "Health and well-being of communities who depend directly on local ecosystem goods and services" may be differently interpreted and it is difficult to provide data as they are not specific and concrete enough. Otherwise, they are logical and quite comprehensive.
✗	-	-	From the scientific point of view, the indicators provide the "what" to measure. In order to be scientifically robust, the data/information and the methodology of measurement need to be verifiable. Therefore a methodology framework that regards Party capacity should be made available. The differences in the capacity of the Party to monitor and implement also seems to be overlooked from the indicators.
	✓	✓	It is hard to evaluate scientific rigor at the level of the entire set of indicators: this is better judged at the level of individual indicators (many of which are yet to be developed). However, the set of 2010 indicators is generally logical and comprehensive.
✗	✗	✗	Many of the indicators chosen have the potential to be rigorous and logical and, if full data coverage and analysis were to be achieved for all the indicators, comprehensive. However, the multiplicity of indicators and the dearth of dedicated funding for achieving full coverage for any indicator has meant that there has been insufficient time and resources to complete much work that would have been desirable. Thus the world view provided by the work accomplished so far for many of the individual indicators may not be scientifically rigorous, logical or comprehensive, and thus the results presented from the whole set of indicators will itself not be rigorous, logical and comprehensive. A more successful strategy would have been to invest adequately in a smaller number of well-designed indicators that were each rigorous, logical, defined in scope and, above all, achievable. For example, work on the IUCN Sampled Red List Index (SRLI) indicator is being used to measure 'Changes in status of threatened species', with scope also to measure 'Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species'. Work towards the SRLI has been rigorous, logical, globally comprehensive and taxonomically inclusive, because the project was designed specifically for this purpose four years ago. A great deal of new data gathering, methodology development and analysis have been undertaken for this project

rigorous	logical	comprehensive	Question 2: To what extent is the set of 2010 indicators scientifically rigorous, logical and comprehensive?
			explicitly for the purpose of measuring progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target. Progress has been significant but resource-limited, with a heavy reliance on charitable foundations in the absence of appropriate funding at national or international level for this work. Nonetheless we consider the SRLI to be the indicator which best fulfils the criteria of scientific rigour, logic and comprehensiveness, since it is purpose-designed with a robust statistical underpinning, based on auditable data analysed in compliance with agreed international standards, global in coverage and as taxonomically representative as possible.
✓	✓	✓	It is difficult to evaluate scientific rigor across the complete set of indicators presented here. Such rigor is best assessed for individual indicators. A more fundamental concern over scientific rigor is that many of the targets lack clear time-defined and (at least minimum) measures of success. Ideally, a set of 'milestone' targets against which ongoing progress could be measured and presented at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties between 2010 and 2020 would facilitate ongoing action rather than all action being delayed until the impending 2020 target causes a flurry of activity. These measures should be a strategic set of annual or biannual targets that provide a roadmap for delivery on a specific sub-target. Without baselines and defined targets in general, indicators may show trends around a specific goal, any statement of progress towards the larger 2010 target will be impossible. The perverse effect here may be to make these goals appear unachievable and thus create a disincentive for action by governments. Alternatively, setting clear and ongoing targets may make the process unpalatable to some governments due to costs, and may require substantial negotiation. Finally, many of the individual indicators are yet to be defined and so assessing their rigor is not possible at this time. However, on the whole, the set of 2010 indicators –based on the limited information presented - is logical and comprehensive.
✗	✗	✗	Not very. Diversity refers to many (diverse) aspects whereas the set proposed provides only one aspect. Cultural indicators (e.g. languages) are also questionable: that is, many local languages may indicate a fragmented area with weak or poor connectivity whereas we might strive to be interconnected.

Useful	Policy Relevant	Question 3: To what extent have the 2010 indicators been useful and policy-relevant? What kind of use has been made of them and by whom – please provide details?
-	✓	Some have been picked up in a policy setting (CMS springs to mind). This seems rare even though.
		They are often claimed by governments to have been observed, yet at the same time, the same governments pursue goals which meet the demands of the powerful and act to defeat the objectives which underlie the indicators.
-	✗	The disadvantage with the 2010 indicators is that they have not all been available since the target was set in 2002, and they have therefore not really guided policy development and implementation in the years since. One of the take-home messages therefore has to be the importance of thinking about baselines and indicators when targets are initially set.

Useful	Policy Relevant	<p align="center">Question 3: To what extent have the 2010 indicators been useful and policy-relevant?</p> <p align="center">What kind of use has been made of them and by whom – please provide details?</p>
✘	-	Not very useful, as most of us use other indicators for assessing progress, and use these indicators to show other signs of progress than the 2010 target.
-	-	Many of the indicators are still under development and the results yet to be published. Thus it's rather premature to comment on their use and policy relevance. The proof will be how well they (as a set) inform progress against the 2010 target. Having said that, some of the better established indicators have already been shown to be very useful. For example, the European Wild Bird Indicator is being used to inform the review of the EU Common Agricultural Policy.
-	-	Indicators classified as ready for testing have been policy relevant in as much as they have been "publicized" and used to raise awareness beyond their constituency. The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership has been in that respect key for this purpose although the way in which it functions and the way in which its products reach out to a wider audience can be improved. Definitely, this has been limited to decision makers and scientists mostly in the CBD realm.
✓	✓	In China, it has been a useful process, at least for awareness raising but still limited to academics largely, so up till now not policy-relevant, so this significant challenge remains. For example China is currently revising its NBSAP but the 2010 indicators are not used as targets. Currently neither NBSAP nor 2010 targets are used in environmental planning exercises but there is at least discussion on this, since we are approaching a five year planning period. Mainly it has been used by the Dept of Nature Conservation in Ministry of Environmental Protection and its associated institutes, but has not reached across ministries where data is needed, such as agriculture, forestry, though there is some consultation here. They can be seen as a "bridge" to China developing a set of longer-term biodiversity monitoring indicators.
✓	-	I do think the indicators have had some utility in the policy realm. If nothing else, they have drawn attention to the fact that we do not have reliable data sets for measuring changes in biodiversity at local, national, regional and global levels - or at least very, very few which are likely biased by sampling distribution. I think that Europe used the indicators process to bring high profile to the issue of biodiversity loss and even though they, too, have been unable to meet the 2010 target, at least they have raised considerable awareness around this. Probably the Countdown 2010 Campaign also helped with all this. Lastly, the indicator work has brought together a set of players who have an interest in indicator work - their development and the compilation of the underlying data sets. While there is still not harmonisation among the many entities, there is in fact a lot more exchange of thought and in the future I think the community would be able to do a far better job - the politics of the Parties notwithstanding. Perhaps if the scientific community could come to better agreement on the indicators, and provide the data, then policy and decision-makers would be less able to obfuscate on their responsibilities and obligations under the MEAS. It would be excellent if there could be more harmonisation of efforts across MEAs as well.
✓	-	It's very useful for decision making and is also policy-relevant, especially regarding focal areas number 1,2 and 4, decision makers can use those in programming and also for developing the National Development Plan.

Useful	Policy Relevant	<p align="center">Question 3: To what extent have the 2010 indicators been useful and policy-relevant?</p> <p align="center">What kind of use has been made of them and by whom – please provide details?</p>
✓	✓	At a high political level, they provide a target. Targets help to galvanize action.
-	✗	In my view, the lack of explicit links to socioeconomic indicators and data greatly reduces the policy-relevance, in particular with a view towards preventive policies to reduce pressures on biodiversity through changes in resource consumption.
✓	✗	Comparable indicators have been used in: Government statistics and scientific publications. To be more widely used, these indicators need greater dissemination.
✗	-	In the marine and coastal environments, very little use has been made of them. Coverage of protected areas is the only one that is widely applied, so far as I can tell.
✓	✓	The defined indicators are useful and policy-relevant if there is an effective communication system to several sectors.
✓	✓	Among the indicators developed, there are those that are used by the ministry responsible for agriculture and forestry research institutions. Example the rate of natural protected areas, collections of plants
✓	✓	The 2010 CBD indicator system has been primarily used by the Ministry of Environment and Waters for preparing National Strategies and Action Plans on prevention of biodiversity loss and preparation of Country CBD Reports. Little progress has been made in integrating those indicators with the nascent biodiversity monitoring system in Bulgaria due to lack of financial resources, institutional arrangements and HR capacity. The 2010 indicators were not taking into consideration in preparation of strategic planning documents by other ministries in cross-cutting areas such as: transport, regional development, energy, agriculture, etc. The indicators are in general somewhat useful and policy-relevant ONLY at the national level in Bulgaria, since the information at the regional and local level is not collected or difficulty to collect and process.
-	-	This is hard to say as yet. I have drawn attention to the goals and targets (including some of the current indicators) in reporting regional progress (or otherwise), within a publication sent to policymakers in China. Some national reporting has also been done in China, but in a less objective way. I find countries are happy to discuss coverage of protected areas, and trends in abundance of those select flagship species that are recovering, but not so forthcoming about all the negative trends (i.e. most of them).
✗	✗	Apart from FAO in the State of the World report I do not know of anyone using this genetic diversity indicator.
	✗	They do not stimulate the policy-makers to actively look for potential new threats that emerge as a problem as a result of new scientific discoveries, which had not been known about.
✗	✗	I have no idea if or whether they are being used. I suspect there will be a lot of box ticking over the coming months.

Useful	Policy Relevant	<p align="center">Question 3: To what extent have the 2010 indicators been useful and policy-relevant?</p> <p align="center">What kind of use has been made of them and by whom – please provide details?</p>
-	-	The 2010 indicators have not only encouraged work on global indicators but also on regional and national level. The results of this work are only materialising now with first indicator assessments being released or indicators being used for national reporting to the CBD. A thorough review of the national reports would be needed to fully assess the extent of indicator use.
x	x	The ones I am interested have not been used, because they have not properly been developed (e.g. target2010 related). We are still where we have been in at the Rio conference.
✓	✓	Data related to protected areas/habitat extent and changes over time (including the types of protected areas) along with data on the status and trends of endangered species have proven useful in numerous policy/decision making processes at national and international levels, including in the private sector. To my knowledge these are the only indicators among those used in the 2010 process which have proven useful to a broader audience.
x	x	Some countries (mostly developed) have their own sets of indicators, and they use them for their own purposes. With the exception of the very large-scale and low resolution FAO, Living Planet Index and Red List Indicators, nobody uses global indicators, because they do not exist.
x	x	They are useful and they might have been policy-relevant, but with minor output to the private sector and up to now, with zero consequences for the financial industry.
-	-	I don't know how these have been used. I am involved in the development of the ISEAL code of practice for measuring impacts (which provides sustainability standards bodies with help in defining and monitoring the impacts of their standards) and the CBD indicators haven't really come up or informed the process at all, which is unfortunate given the work you have done already. Perhaps this speaks of a communication problem.
✓	✓	Highly relevant. Government will relate to the document to induce a measureable commitment
✓	✓	In developing our, South Africa's, National Biodiversity Monitoring framework we included a few of the indicators - coverage of Protected areas, Marine Trophic Index, change in status of threatened species, trends in abundance and distribution of selected species and a similar indicator to trends in abundance of biomes, ecosystems and habitats which looks at habitat loss.
✓	✓	At the European level CBD 2010 indicators provide a guideline for designing a congruent set of indicators in the SEBI process ("Streamlining European Biodiversity Indicators by 2010" ETC-BD/EEA); this is also the case in for indicator developments at the national level, which might be adopted or completed by country specific indicators; CBD 2010 indicators provide some kind of a minimum indicator set required for the 2010 target. Via this down-scaling process 2010 indicators indirectly influence policy at the country level.
-	-	I believe it is still early to make inferences on this. Perhaps the best examples would be coming from Europe with the Common Bird Indicator which is starting to be used to assess biodiversity and

Useful	Policy Relevant	<p align="center">Question 3: To what extent have the 2010 indicators been useful and policy-relevant?</p> <p align="center">What kind of use has been made of them and by whom – please provide details?</p>
		agricultural policies in Europe.
-	-	It is simply too early for Norway to give an relevant answer to this question.
✓	✓	The policy relevant and usage of indicators are good enough but it is better that at department of Environment we have study about all areas biodiversities.
✓	✓	The 2010 indicators have provided a useful reference point in developing our company's biodiversity strategy and framing a number of our cross-sectoral relationships. In terms of implementation on the ground a number of factors may result in differing areas of priority/focus for activity implementation (for example, competing priorities, legislative priorities, community and other stakeholder priorities, relevance to the location, available expertise and knowledge around biodiversity etc). Therefore, we believe that linking the 2010 indicators and government legislative requirements is critical to the realistic achievement of the CBD targets and indicators in the longer term.
✓	✓	The indicators are useful to assess the country's own progress towards the 2010 target and then decide what to change in the biodiversity strategy. Some of the indicators have been used for the Fourth National Report.
✓	✓	The 2010 indicators provide guidance on the achievable goals that can be developed by the Parties to meet certain criteria.
✓	✓	They have certainly been useful and policy relevant: focusing attention on the biodiversity crisis, stimulating efforts to measure it, increasing awareness about the importance of monitoring trends that have an impact on biodiversity. Unfortunately, they were extremely over-ambitious, even at the time, and so the world's governments will have dramatically failed to meet the target. Indicators have had important benefits nonetheless in opening a "long-term policy track" for tackling the biodiversity crisis. 2010 indicators are useful and policy relevant also as they relate, complement and link to other sources of scientific information on biodiversity trends like the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment or the Global Biodiversity Outlook.
✓	✓	The 2010 Biodiversity Target has been useful for moving work towards the individual programmes of work (POWs), which tend to be policy-led, to more cross-cutting Goals for implementation. The 2010 indicators can be seen to have been useful at a variety of levels: 1. They have helped to communicate to policy-makers the complexity which underlies an apparently simple objective such as achieving "a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010". 2. Adoption of certain of the indicators by the CBD has helped to focus the attention of the scientific community on achieving the highest quality outputs possible for biodiversity measurement of this sort by 2010. 3. With respect to the SRLI for Plants in particular, we can document a range of uses for the index and dataset beyond the immediate objective of providing a headline measure of changes in status of threatened species. Such 'by-products' include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first statistically robust estimate of the proportion of the world's plant species which are threatened with extinction; • Evidence-based overviews of what types of plant species are more threatened, where and why; • Projected future trends in the overall status of plant diversity worldwide; • Generation and dissemination of status assessments for thousands of plant species not previously

Useful	Policy Relevant	<p align="center">Question 3: To what extent have the 2010 indicators been useful and policy-relevant?</p> <p align="center">What kind of use has been made of them and by whom – please provide details?</p>
		<p>assessed which will help inform conservation management plans and make a very significant contribution to Target 2 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation; • The elements which comprise the SRLI can be disaggregated to generate a geographically-restricted view for a region or country of interest, a facility which appears to be of growing interest to colleagues overseas as 2010 approaches and the dearth of other comprehensive assessments become apparent; • A representative dataset on plant distributions and occurrences as the basis for further research activities, such as the potential impact of future climate change. In the future, for the indicators to be more globally policy relevant, they should be mainstreamed into national strategies and made more widely policy relevant by focusing on issues such as poverty alleviation and development through conservation of valuable ecosystem services. Use of the 2010 Indicators and details of users. Little use has been made of the aggregated results of the overall SRLI as yet, since work is still ongoing to deliver the first comprehensive product, against a very challenging timeline and with significant funding constraints. However, comprehensive assessments of all bird, amphibian and also mammal species have been published in the last few years and have received major attention in both the scientific and the mainstream media; these groups also all contribute towards the larger SRLI project to provide a representative status assessment for all biodiversity. With regard to the use of other indicators, the Living Planet Index, for example, is often cited and reproduced (e.g. in a recent lecture on Climate Change and Biodiversity by the Government’s Chief Scientist) but all too often this is done with no reference to its limitations in terms of taxonomic or geographic coverage. Thus population trends in a non-random and unrepresentative set of vertebrates from (mostly) temperate regions are mistaken for reliable assessments of the status and trends of living organisms more generally.</p>
✓	✓	<p>The 2010 target and the associated goals and subtargets have in general been useful and policy relevant in that they have increased focus on the biodiversity crisis and spurred greater effort in measuring biodiversity trends. The broader 2010 target was perhaps difficult to achieve in practice, resulting in a failure to meet the target by national governments. It is important that the potential fall-out of this failure be carefully managed in order to maintain momentum (as far as that exists). The indicators are very general in nature and for the most part are neither time bound nor measurable, making them somewhat useless at the policy level except to provide an overall direction for decision makers. As previously mentioned, the general nature of the targets does not push governments to take new or even specific actions to meet the targets. Countries are able to continue their existing strategies and efforts and then fit those actions into the indicator categories for reporting purposes. Since the targets do not have minimum levels of success defined then almost any action, whether effective or not, can be categorized as contributing to one or another of the sub-targets. As a result, the indicators have not generally been used as a basis for specific policies at the national level. The fact that numerous indicators are still under development has also prevented widespread adoption. Lack of clear definition or national-level guidance has also hampered progress and adoption. The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership has developed some guidance documents and capacity building efforts for implementing indicators at national scale but these are recent and still incomplete.</p>
✓	✗	<p>Partially - however, Marine Trophic Index is far too specific, where as Ecological Footprint is far too broad/large. We need something in the mid-range. It seems that indicators can be used by very specific groups (academics) but they can be far from the policy/regulatory framework.</p>

Individually	In combination	Question 4: Are the 2010 indicators being communicated effectively individually and in combination? If possible, please provide examples.
✓	✗	Largely to date, they have been communicated individually, through reports, etc... the combination is rare.
✓	✗	I am not convinced that they currently are, although this may be because I have not been reviewing the right documents. The indicators need to be used together to tell a coherent story, or rather a set of stories, of what is happening and where. There will be different stories to tell, or different emphases to make, for different regions, for different groups and for different sectors. And these stories need to be well targeted, so that they influence both communication and policy. For example use of the species indicators (RLI and LPI) alone essentially only tells a story of decline and ringing alarm bells, but doing it together with indicators on protected areas and aid flows gives some suggestion that something can be done about it. A simplistic example, I know, but illustrating my point. Those dealing with 2010 BIP communications and our potential future indicators need to really think through the messages that we are trying to convey, and how they can best be conveyed now and in the future.
✓	✓	The 2010 BIP project has helped to communicate the indicators through the website by linking the information.
		Some indicators have been better communicated than others and that has greatly depended on "who is behind" each one of them. IUCN has done a very good job in what concerns the Red List of Threatened Species and the Red List Index as well as the World Commission on Protected Areas has used the information gathered for the development of the coverage of protected areas indicator to reach out to a wider audience for example. Having said that, the BIP has improved the communication and messaging coming out of the indicators as a whole.
✓	✓	Yes, but in limited circles, e.g. CBD community inside and outside China and within MEP but to a lesser extent other ministries.
✗	✗	I don't think there is any evidence that the CBD Secretariat has done this particularly well but, again, the Countdown 2010 has brought a lot of profile. I am beginning to worry that the 2010 BIP needs to get on with more communications, as provided for in the budget of the GEF project, if they are to have any impact. Placing the data in GBO3 will not be enough to popularise the challenges and have an effective roll out. I think a real communications strategy is needed. Much could be learned from the sad mistakes of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment - which in many ways missed the boat by putting out their biggest story first and then never getting the attention of the press again. I am not sure you would really be able to communicate the indicators one at a time but possibly in sets that told some decent stories. I know UNEP-WCMC was working on that but I have not seen anything since.
✓	✓	I think that many of the indicators are being used successfully in public communication. The Ecol Footprint is a highly communicable concept and receives a lot of public awareness.
✓	✓	I do not believe that communication of these indicators had been effective. CBD should develop massive

Individually	In combination	Question 4: Are the 2010 indicators being communicated effectively individually and in combination? If possible, please provide examples.
		outreach programs to communicate better.
x	x	More could be done, particularly if we want post 2010 we need to get country examples out there in the public domain, highlighting much of the good work being carried out by countries. The 2010 website is a logical place for this.
x	x	No. As mentioned previously, such indicators are present only in national strategic planning documents. Therefore, they are not known and used by planning authorities at regional and local level. The civil society and the media are also largely unaware of them do to lack of specifically targeted communication campaigns. Only very few specialized NGOs in Bulgaria know about them and try to report on those indicators due to the specifics of their work.
x	x	Not from what I've seen in China. My own article (in Living Forests magazine) is the only example I've seen.
✓	-	I have been peripherally involved in the development of the genetic diversity indicator but have received little information about its recent application, but the other indicators have been more widely publicised.
x	x	What counts is how effectively the need to use these indicators is being communicated to the general policy community (i.e. not just the people already involved). There is not much evidence that this is happening yet.
x	x	No. In biology and environmental departments at my national university, I know of only one professor (who helped write CBD) and zero students who could demonstrate any meaningful awareness of the 2010 indicators without reading the link you provided. By virtue of this apparent ignorance in a major university setting -- and I believe among many of my UN-affiliated colleagues, I conclude the indicators have not been effectively communicated.
x	x	I can only speak for North America, and on this continent I would say that the 2010 Biodiversity Goal, along with the Targets and Indicators for this process, is largely unknown.
x	x	I sometimes wonder at this type of question... Of course they are not being communicated, mostly because, to a large extent, they do not exist!!! Is there a web-page of 2010 indicators, outside Europe? The 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership mostly is about texts. The few actual datalines are LPI and RLI!! And I am sorry to express this view: they are not being used at national level, anywhere. Why, because of lack of resolution; they are irrelevant to take local decisions.
x	x	Outreach needs to solicit and engage public to drive government and business at all levels.
✓	✓	Yes, I believe amongst scholars, politicians and interested stakeholders. There is very little or zero knowledge in the general public and the private sector. Even amongst CSR-manager the indicators are not known.
x	x	I don't think so. I have struggled to find detailed information on the indicators that would enable us to use them exactly as recommended. I was referred to the website http://www.twentyten.net when I enquired to the e-mail address on this survey but am not having any success in accessing the site.

Individually	In combination	Question 4: Are the 2010 indicators being communicated effectively individually and in combination? If possible, please provide examples.
✘	✘	Communication and presentation of the indicators in publications and on the internet is not yet optimal. On the internet (e.g. via BIP or the CBD website) no graphical presentations of the indicators are directly available for the global scale (only via links to other resources); sub-sets of indicators and their naming slightly differs between different sources (e.g. BIP, CBD, Global Outlook Publications), probably mirror different stages of indicator development or scale; due to this problems, it is sometimes difficult for users to decide, which version of a single indicator is up to date. Therefore, it is recommended to set up a single, up-to-date website for all 2010 indicators that provides all relevant information (description, graphics and links to data sources); the BIP-Pages might be a good starting point for these improvements.
✘	✘	I would expect that more could be done in the communication of the 2010 indicators. They are not very visible yet to the society at large.
✔	✔	We have received limited communications about the 2010 indicators directly from the CBD but have remained informed through our relationships with partner organisations. Given the vast quantity of information available about the 2010 indicators (country reports, different lists for each of the indicators, other relevant publications etc) we would like to see the information synthesised and made readily available (for example, in the Millennium Development Goals [MDGs] reports). The linkages between the MDGs and the CBD should be made clearer, particularly given that there are headline indicators from the CBD provided in the MDGs. Communication needs to be relevant and targeted to each audience (global, regional, local etc).
✘	✘	More communication would be needed. Within the European Union the EU indicators connected to the 2010 indicators are widely communicated, for instance through the EU biodiversity action plan.
✘	✘	Not really, because the funding provided to support indicator development and maintenance has been so sparse. The most effective indicators (e.g., the Red List Index) are therefore those maintained through existing initiatives. Many of the indicators have yet to emerge from development, and without any doubt, this won't happen before 2010.
✘	✘	There is room to improve the reporting of the 2010 indicators and their role (individually and in combination) in communicating trends in biodiversity related to the three objectives of the Convention. The scientific literature contains many references to the 2010 Biodiversity Target but very little indication of work being done towards monitoring it. In addition there is little mention of the 2010 Biodiversity Target in the mainstream media. The Millennium Development Goals are often cited – but we perceive very limited public awareness of the fact that reducing biodiversity loss is one of the targets underpinning Millennium Development Goal 7. It is vital that the work towards the indicators is presented in the global context of the MDGs, in particular Goal 7, which relates to Environmental Sustainability and Goal 1, which aims to eradicate poverty and hunger. As the maintenance of ecosystems for the services they provide is essential in both these Goals, they should be presented as intimately interdependent. This will also help in mainstreaming the work into national strategies and commitments. The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (RBG Kew) is heavily involved in work towards one of the indicators (Change in status of threatened species), generating data of relevance to several others, and with a strong interest in policy-relevant science and evidence-based policy making, but we have very limited awareness of work being done towards indicator development in the other Focal Areas. There is little or no overall or cross-collaboration and, beyond the individuals concerned with each indicator,

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		<p>our perception is that the work being done on the other indicators is not currently being widely disseminated.</p>
<p>x</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>The overarching target of eliminating biodiversity loss by 2010 has been well communicated throughout the international community but the indicators have not. This is at least in part because the financial support for developing and maintaining indicators has been minimal. The most effective indicators have tended to be those supported and maintained as part of existing initiatives. As a result many indicators proposed here are yet to be established and are unlikely to be by 2010. Another complicating factor is that the targets are technically worded and so are difficult to communicate to a wide audience and particularly difficult for policy-makers to champion. Indicators should be selected both for their robustness as well as ease of communication to a non-scientific audience such as change in numbers of threatened species on the Red List or AZE sites protected, rather than more complex indicators based on indices or trends in more difficult to explain concepts.</p>