CBD 4NR: Decision VIII/14

- **Fourth national reports to be submitted by March 2009**
- **National reports outcome-oriented**
- **Focus on status and trends in biodiversity**
- **Actions and outcomes in relation to 2010 target**
- **GBO3 prepared for publication in 2010, using information from the national reports and global indicators.**
- **Sample 4NR to be prepared**
- **UK volunteered to prepare sample chapter IV.**

Sample Chapter IV

Three sections:

Section A. Progress towards the 2010 Target:

Parties are requested to assess progress towards the 2010 target at the national level, using the CBD framework of global goals and targets.

**Section B. Progress towards the Goals and Objectives of the Strategic Plan of the Convention:**

Parties are requested to assess progress in meeting, or contributing to, the relevant goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan.

Section C. Conclusions:

Parties are asked to provide an overall assessment of whether implementation of the Convention has had an impact on improving conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Section A: Background

- **COP7 *Decision VII/30* develop and test trial indicators relating to seven focal areas**
- **22 Indicators developed for use at global, regional, national and local levels.**
- **Parties invited to use indicators to assess progress towards their goals and targets.**
- **Framework (of goals, targets and indicators) <u>provisional.</u> In-depth review at COP10 (in 2010) (**Decision VIII/15)
- **GBO2 welcomed.**
- **Lessons learnt from use of the global indicators** (Decisions VIII/7 & VIII/15)
- **Role of the 2010 Biodiversity Indicator Partnership noted**

CBD
Convention on Biological Diversity

Global Biodiversity Outlook 2

UNEP
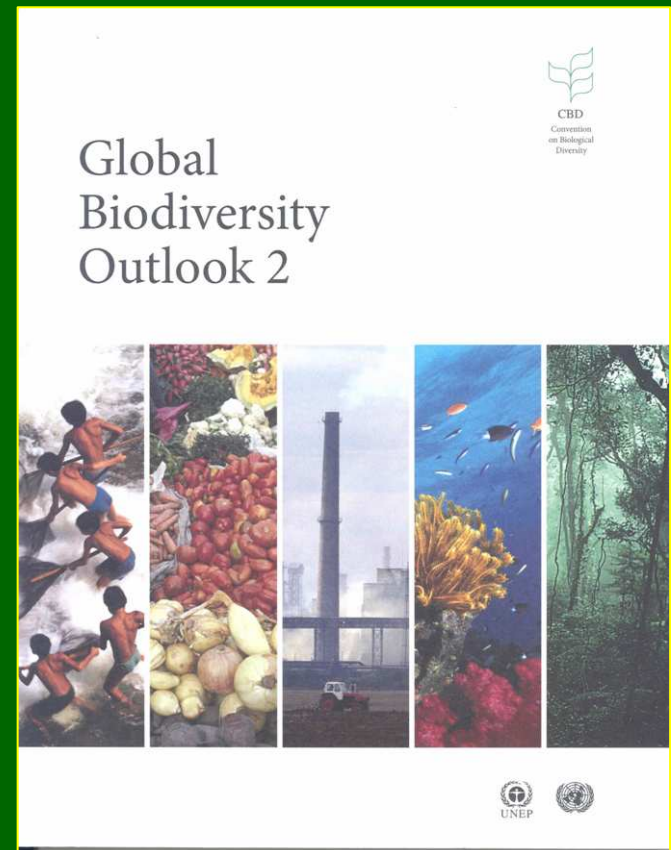
UK 2010 indicators

- Set of 18 headline indicators:
- Focus on biodiversity outcomes
- Mapped to CBD and EU frameworks
- Use existing data sources (avoid new burdens)
- First published in hardcopy June 2007
- Website only update in May 2008
- Being updated for hardcopy and website in May 2009
- Provides core of UK CBD 4th National Report
- Communication vehicle for biodiversity beyond 2010
- Potential template for other countries

Biodiversity indicators in your pocket 2007
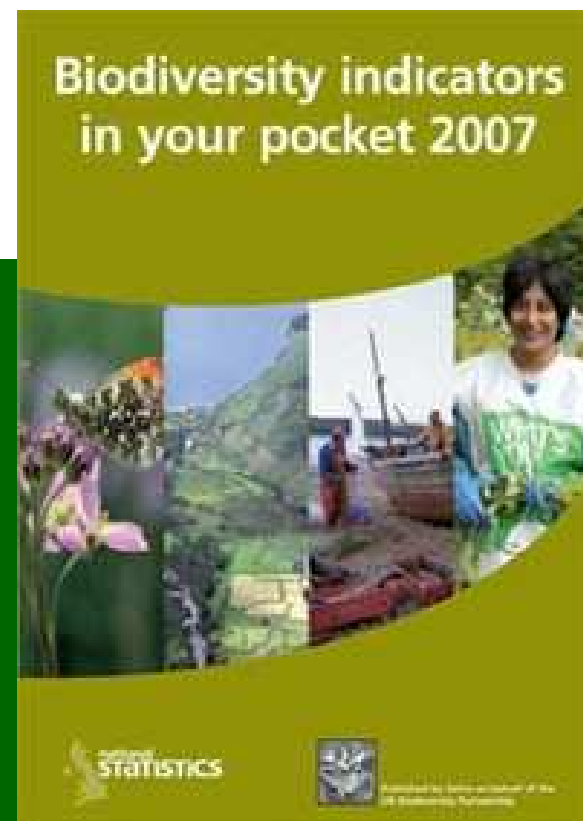
UK 2010 target indicators (1)

EU/CBD Focal Areas	UK Indicators
1.Status and trends of the components of biological diversity	1. **Trends in populations of selected species: (a) wild birds;** **(b) butterflies**
	2. Plant diversity in the wider countryside
	3. Status of Priority Species
	4. Status of Priority Habitats
	5. Trends in genetic diversity of cultivated plants
	6 (a) Extent of protected areas and; (b) Proportion of features in favourable condition.
2.Sustainable use	**7. Proportion of woodland area under certified management**
	8. Area of land under agri-environment scheme agreement
	9. Proportion of commercially exploited fish stocks around the UK harvested sustainably.

UK 2010 target indicators (2)

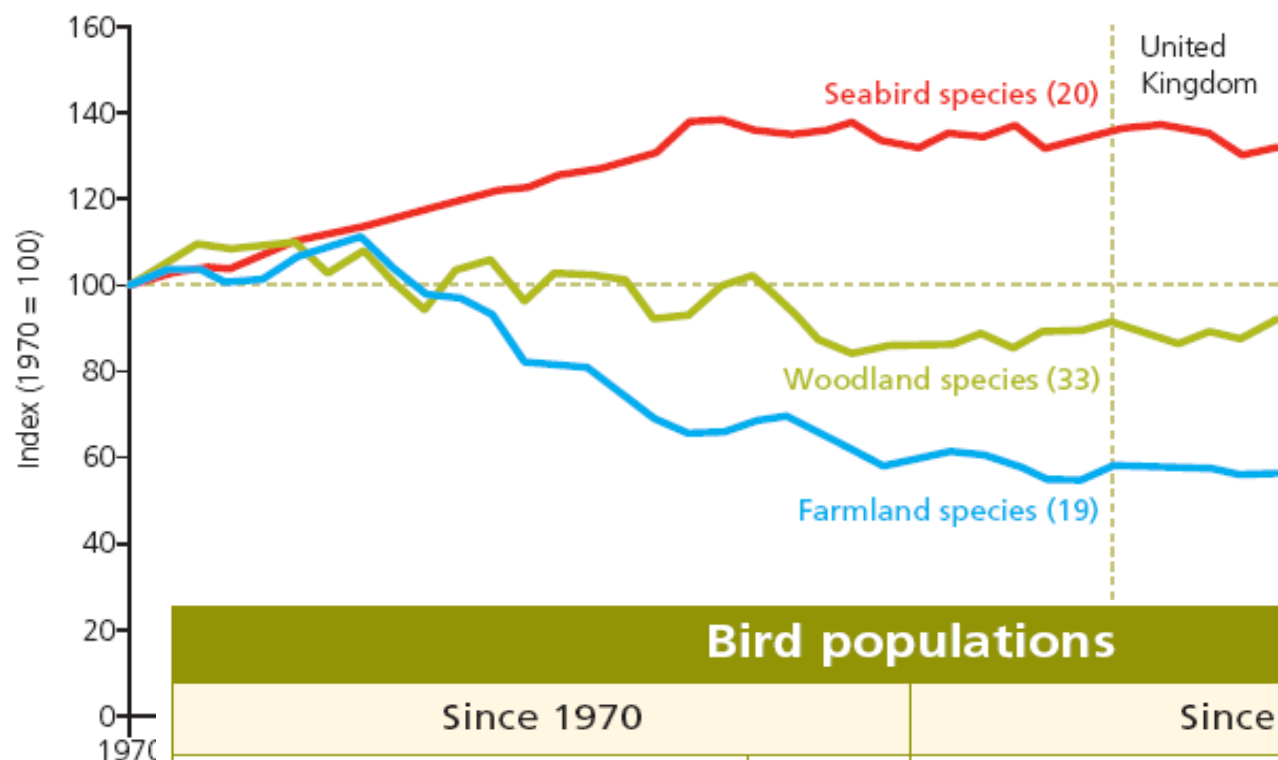| EU/CBD Focal Areas	UK Indicators
3.Threats to biodiversity	**10. Ecological impacts of air pollution**
	11. Invasive species
	12. Timing of biological events
4.Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services	*13. Marine trophic index*
	14. Habitat networks
	15. Rivers of good chemical and biological quality
5.Status of resource transfers and use	**16. Public sector environmental protection expenditure on biodiversity in the UK**
	17. UK Government funding for conservation of global biodiversity
6.Public opinion	**18. Volunteer time spent in conservation**

Traffic light's assessment

✓	Improving
≈	Little or no overall change
✗	Deteriorating
•••	Insufficient or no comparable data

- Two assessment periods:
- Long-term – assessment of change since the earliest date for which data are available.
- If data do not precede 1996 a long term assessment is not made.
- Short-term - assessment of change since 2000

(1a) Trends in populations of wild birds

JOINT NATURE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Wild bird populations: farmland birds, woodland birds and seabirds, 1970-2005

Seabird species (20)

United Kingdom

Woodland species (33)

Farmland species (19)

Index (1970 = 100)

Note: Figures in bra

Source: Royal Socie

Bird populations				
Since 1970			Since 2000	
Farmland birds	❌		Farmland birds	≈
Woodland birds	❌		Woodland birds	≈
Seabirds	✅		Seabirds	≈

Trends in populations of bats
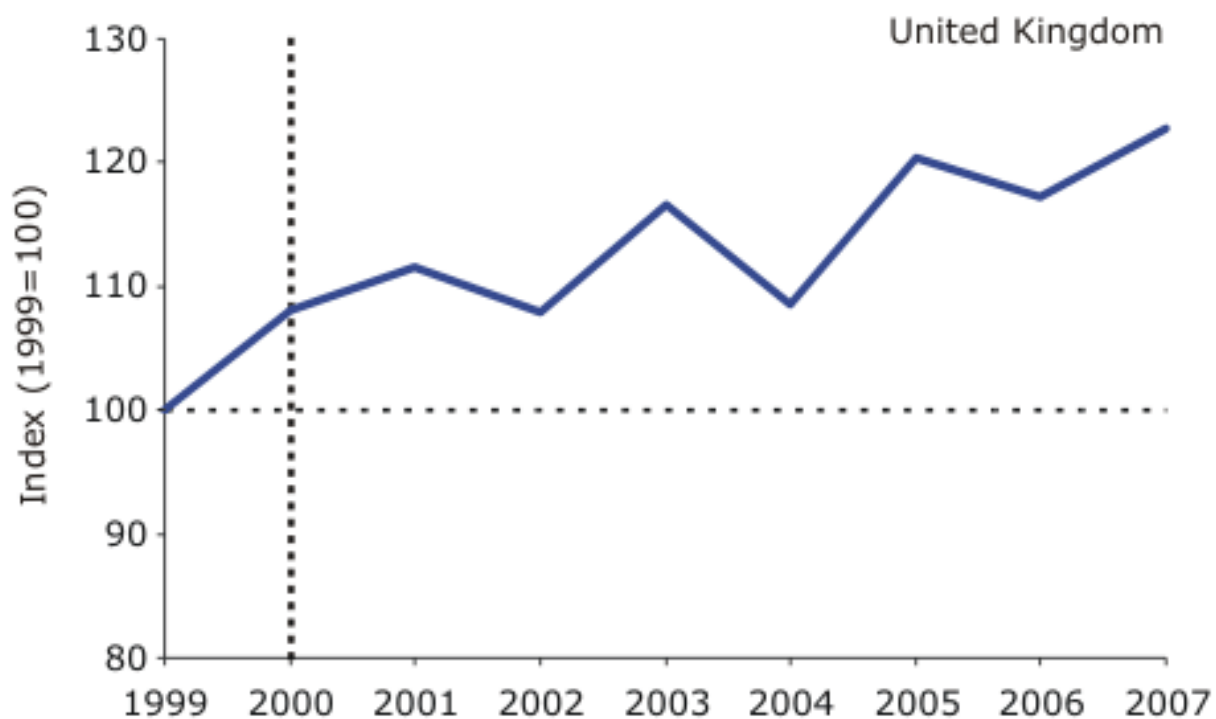
Source: Bat Conservation Trust - National Bat Monitoring Programme

|	Since 1978	Since 2000	Latest year
Bat populations:	❌	✔️	Increase (2007)

BIYP

Focal area, indicator title and individual measure(s) (where applicable)		Long term change[1]	Change since 2000
Focal area 1. Status and trends of the components of biological diversity			
1a. Trends in populations of selected species (birds)	Farmland birds	❌ 1970	≈
	Woodland birds	❌ 1970	≈
	Seabirds	✅ 1970	≈
1b. Trends in populations of selected species (butterflies)	Butterflies of the wider countryside	≈ 1976	≈
	Specialist butterflies	❌ 1976	≈
2. Plant diversity	Open habitats	❌ 1990-98	⚫⚫⚫
	Woodlands	❌ 1990-98	⚫⚫⚫
	Boundary habitats	❌ 1990-98	⚫⚫⚫
3. UK BAP Priority Species		⚫⚫⚫	✅
4. UK BAP Priority Habitats		⚫⚫⚫	≈
5. Genetic diversity		⚫⚫⚫	⚫⚫⚫
6. Protected areas	Extent of protected areas	✅ 1996	✅
	Condition of species and habitat features	⚫⚫⚫	⚫⚫⚫
Focal area 2. Sustainable use			
7. Sustainable woodland management		⚫⚫⚫	✅
8. Area of agri-environment land		✅ 1992	✅
9. Sustainable fisheries		✅ 1990	✅
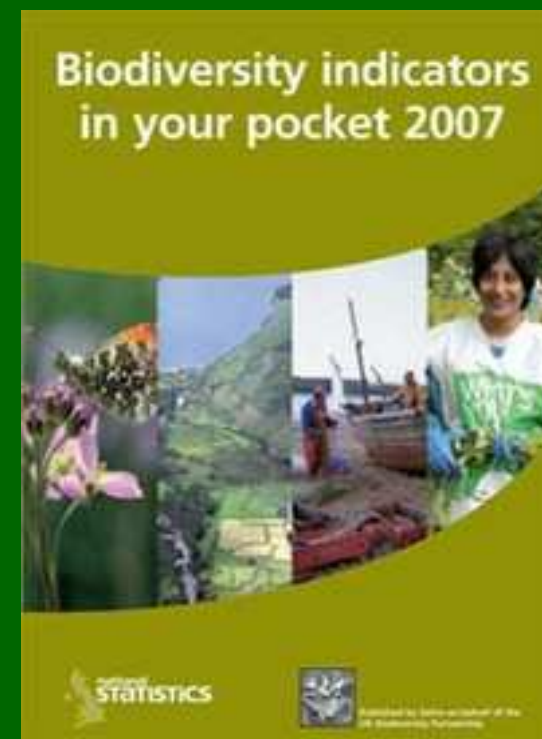
Biodiversity indicators in your pocket 2007

National Statistics

Focal area, indicator title and individual measure(s) (where applicable)		Long term change[1]	Change since 2000
Focal area 3. Threats to biodiversity			
10. Ecological impacts of air pollution	Area affected by acidity	✓ 1996	✓
	Area affected by nitrogen	✓ 1996	≈
11. Invasive species		•••	•••
12. Spring Index		Not assessed	Not assessed
Focal area 4. Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services			
13. Marine Trophic Index		•••	•••
14. Habitat connectivity		•••	•••
15. River quality	Biological	✓ 1990	✓
	Chemical	✓ 1990	≈
Focal area 5. Status of resource transfers and use			
16. Expenditure on UK biodiversity		•••	✓
17. Expenditure on global biodiversity		•••	✓
Focal area 6. Public awareness and participation			
18. Conservation volunteering		•••	✓

BIYP

Biodiversity indicators in your pocket 2007

national statistics
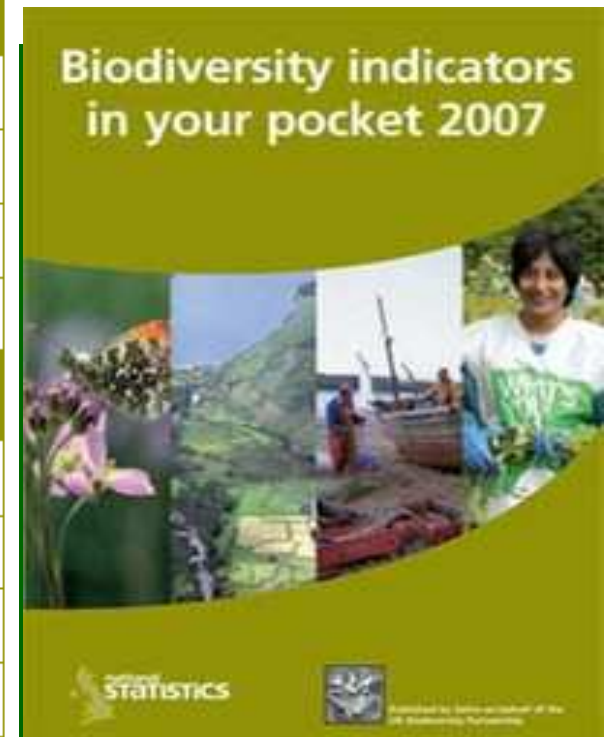
UK Information available

- National Biodiversity Network (UK GBIF node)

  www.searchnbn.net

- Clearing House Mechanism   www.chm.org.uk

- UK BAP – online reporting (BARS)

  http://www.ukbap-reporting.org.uk/

- Nature Barometer   http://www.jncc.gov.uk/barometer

- Conservation Status assessments

  www.jncc.gov.uk/article17

- UK 2010 biodiversity indicators   www.jncc.gov.uk/biyp

PROTECTING THE COMPONENTS OF BIODIVERSITY

Goal 1. Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes

Global targets	UK contribution to global target	Relevant UK indicator and associated measures		Assessment of change for each measure		Summary of change	Related UK and national targets
				Long term [1]	Since 2000		
1.1: At least 10% of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.	Over 2.4 million hectares of land and freshwater have been designated as protected areas under national and international legislation, representing about 10 % of the land area of the UK. A further one million hectares of UK coastal seas have also been designated.These areas have been selected to cover habitats and species of particular importance for the Atlantic biogeographic region. To ensure sites are representative of the entire region site selection is coordinated at a European level under the EU Habitats Directive. The UK is currently in the process of designating marine protected areas.	6. Protected sites www.jncc.gov.uk/page-4241	Area of protected sites	✓ 1996	✓	The total area of land and sea protected in the UK has increased between 1996 and 2007 from 2.3 million to 3.5 million hectares - an increase of 48%. Since 2000 there has been a 12% increase	No relevant UK targets
			Condition of features on protected sites	⋯	⋯	Sites are designated with the aim of conserving specific biological or geomorphological features Of those biological features assessed up to the end of 2006, 69.9% of national sites or areas of special interest, 61.8% of European Special Areas for Conservation and 79.9% of European Special Protected Area features were in favourable or recovering condition. The UK is currently setting a baseline and no assessment of change is available.	The UK Government has a target to bring 95% by area of nationally important wildlife sites in England into favourable condition by 2010.

Global targets	UK contribution to global target	Relevant UK indicator and associated measures		Assessment of change for each measure		Summary of change	Related UK and national targets
				Long term [1]	Since 2000		
2.1: Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups.	At a global scale the IUCN Red Data Books identify species at high risk of global extinction. Considering the vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered categories 51 species within the list occur in the UK: Marine fish and marine mammals are quite prominent. Of the 1,149 species recently identified as the priorities for national conservation action 18.4% (211 species) have UK populations representing more than 25% of the biogeographic total. These are broken down as follows: Birds 23 Mammals 1 Inverts 56 Higher Plants 52 Lower Plants 71 Other 8	1a. Populations of key species (birds) www.jncc.gov.uk/page-4235	Farmland	✗ 1970	≈	Overall the long term decline in farmland and woodland birds in the UK appears to have halted. Since 2000 these populations have been stable. Seabird populations are also relatively stable. The overall trends tend to mask, to a certain extent, ongoing declines for some of the more specialized birds.	The UK Government has a target to reverse the long-term decline in farmland birds in England by 2020.
			Woodland	✗ 1970	≈		
			Seabirds	✓ 1970	≈		
			Wintering waterbirds	✓ 1975	✗	By 2005/6 wintering waterbird populations had declined to 56% of the baseline level despite an increase between 1975/6 and 2000/1.	No relevant UK targets
		1b. Populations of key species (butterflies) www.jncc.gov.uk/page-4236	Specialist species	✗ 1976	≈	Since 2000, there has been little or no significant change in the populations of specialist and butterflies of the wider countryside in the UK.	No relevant UK targets
			Wider countryside species	≈ 1976	≈		
		1c. Populations of key species (bats) www.jncc.gov.uk/page-4271		✗ 1978	✓	Since 2000 widespread bat populations within the UK have increased by 14% despite historical declines in population size.	No relevant UK targets

Section B. Progress towards the Goals and Objectives of the Strategic Plan of the Convention: Parties are requested to assess progress in meeting, or contributing to, the relevant goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan.

UK proposes to provide a summary text description for each objective drawing on existing UK and country (sub-national) level reports (e.g. BARS) and indicators.

Sample of Section B

Goal 2: Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention

2.1 All Parties have adequate capacity for implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans

The UK was one of the first countries to produce a national biodiversity action plan (www.ukbap.org.uk, first published in 1994). The UK BAP is a robust document that has stood the test of time and has driven many conservation successes (Defra, 2007: http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/pdfs/biodiversity/ConBioUK-Oct2007.pdf).

The UK has a wealth of scientific and technical expertise. It is involved in many international programmes of work to help to share this expertise, for example through the Darwin Initiative (see 2.5 for details).

One of the suite of UK Biodiversity Indicators concerns expenditure on biodiversity in the UK by the public sector and non-governmental organisations (http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3970). Since 2001/01 there has been a year-on-year increase in biodiversity expenditure from the public sector in real terms, resulting in an overall increase of 33% (over the same period GDP increased 22%). In 2005/06, £360 million of public sector funding was spent on biodiversity. Spending by non-governmental organisations fluctuated between 2000/01 and 2005/06, peaking in 2002/03; during this period there was an overall increase of 26%; in 2005/06 NGOs spent c. £170 million on biodiversity.

Section C

- Parties are asked to provide overall assessment of whether implementation of the Convention has had an impact on improving conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

UK BAP contribution to improvements
- Galavanised biodiversity community through partnership
- Raised awareness of biodiversity
- Focussed action on priorities
- Provided framework for planning, implementation and sharing best practice

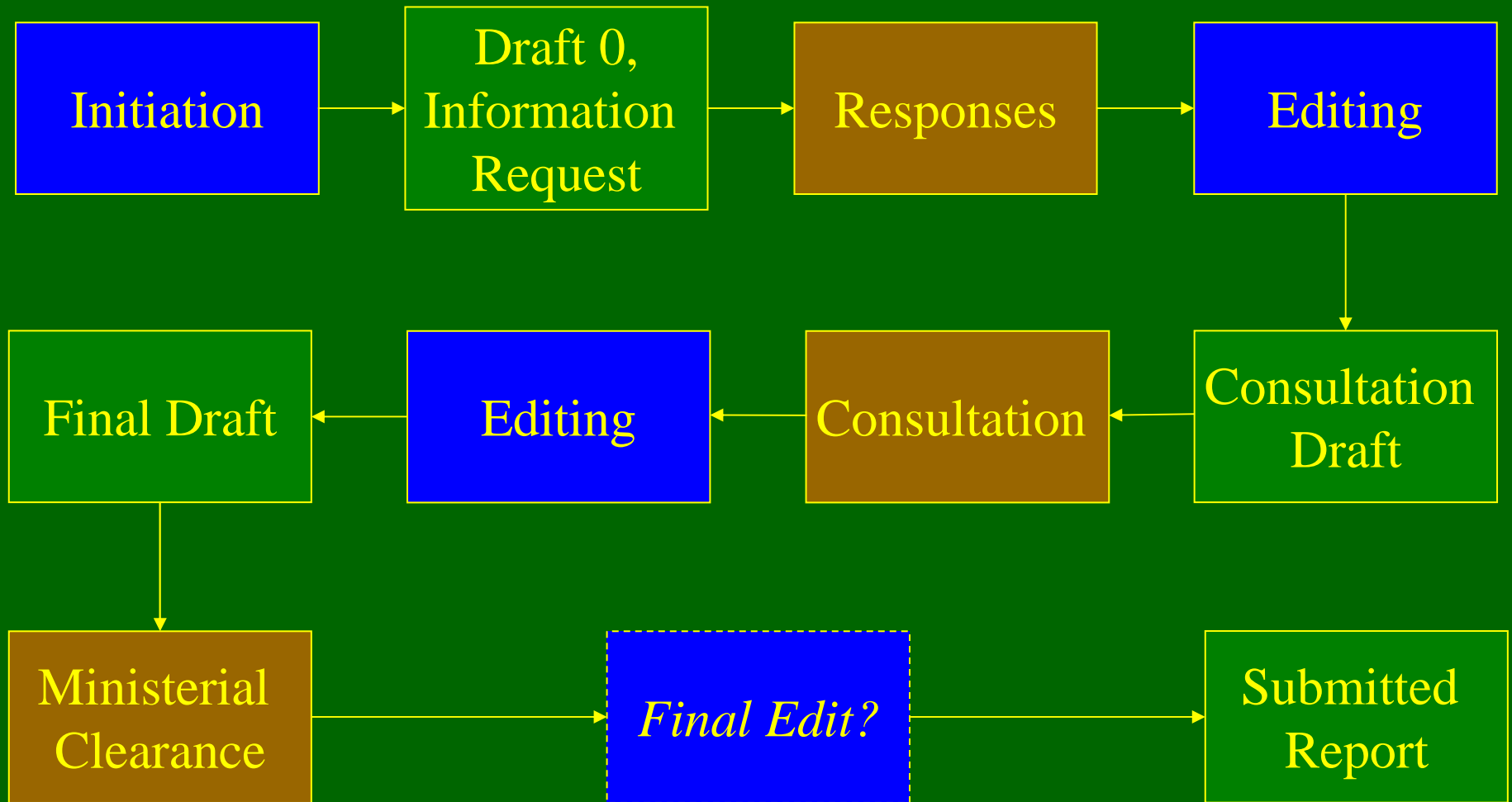Summary of meeting 2010 Target when results of indicators avaialble in 2009

- **Parties are asked for Suggestions for actions that need to be taken at the regional and global levels to further enhance implementation of the Convention at the national level, including:**

  – **refining existing programmes of work or developing new ones to address emerging issues;**

  – **suggesting goals and objectives that may be included in the future Strategic Plan of the Convention; and**

  – **identifying mechanisms that need to be established at various levels.**

  UK likely to be bold and suggest goals and objectives around things we most want to see happen globally

Other reporting issues

- **Making reports <u>more</u> outcome based**

- **Reducing the reporting burden**

- **Tackling timing / synchrony**

- **Improving co-ordination of EU / CBD reporting**

- **Integrating information into assessments**
  - **Making better use of what we already have**
  - **Interpreting trends**

- **Using more data and less text**
  - **indicators**

- **THANK YOU**