

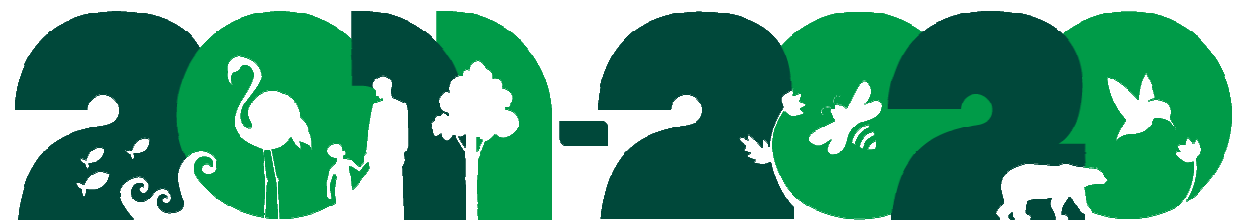


Convention on
Biological Diversity

Suggestions for Preparing Part I of the fifth national report

Regional Workshop for the Caribbean Countries on
the Preparation of the Fifth National Report

Gros Islet, Saint Lucia
16-20 September 2013



United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Overall Focus

Assessing the status, trends and threats of biodiversity and implications for human well-being:

- Importance of biodiversity (nationally, regionally or globally)
- Changes in status and trends of biodiversity since the last national report
- Main threats to biodiversity (both direct and indirect)
- Impacts of biodiversity changes for human well-being
- Possible scenarios for future changes

Possible information to include

Question 1: Why is biodiversity important for your country?

- Highlight contributions of biodiversity and related ecosystem services to human well-being, socio-economic developments, livelihoods, poverty reduction etc.
- Where available include estimates of economic and other values of biodiversity
- Use examples of “exceptional” biodiversity and services/benefits it provides.
- Use examples to illustrate the impacts caused by biodiversity loss/decline

Possible information to include

Question 2: What major changes have taken place in the status and trends of biodiversity in your country?

- Focus on changes since last national report but highlight relevant historical data
- Present a general overview of the status of biodiversity using available assessments/studies
- Focus on those ecosystems/species that are nationally important
- Use indicators where possible
- Include case studies that demonstrate significant changes in biodiversity

Possible information to include

Question 3. What are the main threats to biodiversity?

- Describe the major threats (both direct and indirect) to biodiversity
- Link the threats to biodiversity with the observed changes in status and trends of biodiversity

Possible information to include

Question 4. What are the impacts of the changes in biodiversity for ecosystem services and the socio-economic and cultural implications of these impacts?

- Describe the impacts of the changing status of biodiversity on human well-being, livelihoods, poverty reduction, etc.
- Consider nationally significant ecosystem goods and services

Possible information to include

Optional Question: What are possible future changes for biodiversity and their impacts?

- Describe possible future scenarios for biodiversity
- Compare what might happen under “business as usual” policies with what might happen with greater investment in biodiversity
- Use scenario analysis models if available
- Describe scientific uncertainties for such analysis

Examples from the fourth national reports

Guyana –Number and percentage of Threatened Species by Taxonomic Group

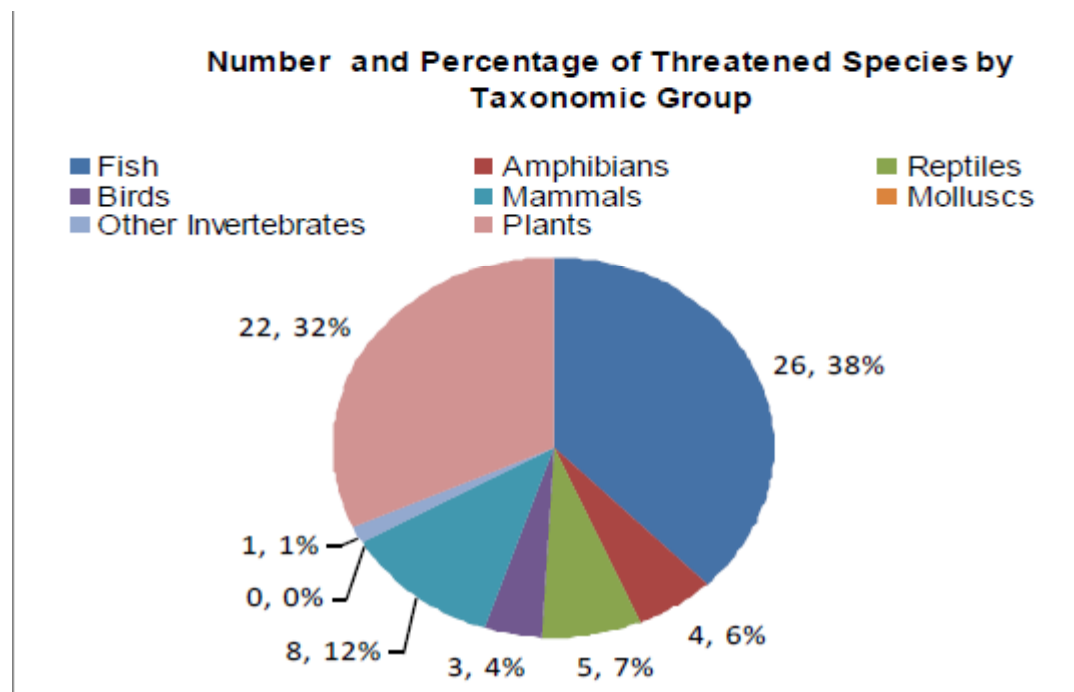


Figure 2: Number and percentage of threatened species by taxonomic group for Guyana

Examples from the fourth national reports

Trinidad and Tobago – Impacts of Land-sourced Pollution on Various Aspects of Human Well-being

Contaminant or Alteration	Food Security and Poverty Alleviation	Public Health and Safety	Ecosystem Health	Economic and Social Benefits. Uses	Total
Sewage	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	12.00
POPs	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	12.00
Heavy Metals	2.00	2.17	2.17	2.00	8.34
Oils (Hydrocarbons)	2.17	2.17	3.00	2.17	9.51
Nutrients	3.00	2.00	3.00	2.17	10.17
Sediments	2.17	1.75	3.00	2.80	9.72
Litter/Solid Waste	2.17	2.30	3.00	3.00	10.47
Toxic, other Wastes	2.30	2.50	2.30	2.30	9.40
PADH	3.00	2.00	3.00	2.00	10.00

1 – Low Impact

2 – Medium Impact

3 – High Impact

For each pollutant, the severity of each impact was given a weighted score out of 3. The total severity for each pollutant was then calculated by finding the sum of the scores awarded to the four individual impacts.

Source: IMA and UNEP 2008



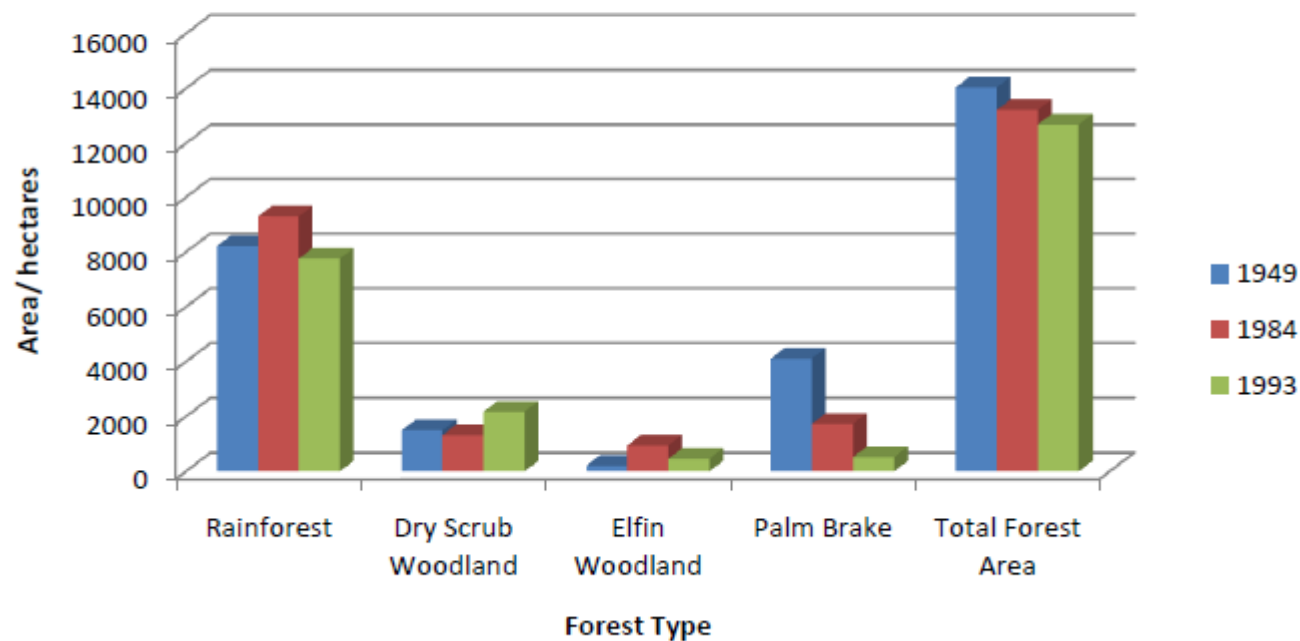
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Examples from the fourth national reports

SVG 4NR

Figure 1.3 -Area covered by different forest types in St. Vincent in 1949, 1984 and 1993



Examples from the fourth national reports

Trinidad and Tobago: Summary status and trends of key biodiversity-related ecosystem services

Northern Range ecosystem service	Service type - Provisioning/ Regulating/ Supporting	Condition	Trend	Certainty/ Confidence level
<i>Forested ecosystems</i>				
Timber	Provisioning	Fair	Decreasing	High
Non-timber forest products (including wildlife hunting)	Provisioning	Fair	Decreasing	Medium
Runoff regulation and retention (flooding and landslides)	Regulating	Fair	Decreasing (rapidly)	Medium to High
Climate and microclimate regulation	Regulation	Fair	Decreasing	Medium
Soil conservation	Regulating	Fair	Decreasing	Medium
Biodiversity services – wildlife habitat	Regulating and supporting	Fair	Decreasing	Medium
Water cycling and replenishment (for the provision of freshwater)	Supporting	Fair	Decreasing	Medium
Amenity value (recreation and ecotourism)	Cultural	Good	Decreasing	Medium



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Examples from the fourth national reports

Trinidad and Tobago –Status of diversity of major crops

Major Crops	Genus	No. of Accession	Relative Importance		State of Diversity			
			Food Security	Economic	I	D	RS	UN
Pigeon Peas	<i>Cajanus</i>	3	H	H			*	
Citrus	<i>Citrus</i>	156	H	H	*			
Major Aroids	<i>Colocasia, Xanthosoma</i>	4	H	H			*	
Sweet Potato	<i>Ipomoea</i>	85	H	H			*	
Cassava	<i>Manihot</i>	66	H	H			*	
Rice	<i>Oryza</i>	5	H	L		*		
Eggplant	<i>Solanum</i>	1	H	L	*			
Cowpea	<i>Vigna</i>	5	L	L			*	
Maize	<i>Zea</i>	3	M	L			*	
Breadfruit	<i>Artocarpus</i>	2	H	L			*	
Yams	<i>Dioscorea</i>	41	M	L			*	

H – High , I – Increasing , D-Decreasing , RS – Remaining the same , UN – Unknown, M – Medium, L- Low

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources Central Experiment Station.2007.



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Examples from the fourth national reports

Antigua and Barbuda – Average rate of beach erosion (1996-2001)

Beach	Average rate of erosion 1996-2001
Dickenson Bay	-0.59 m/yr
Jabberwock Beach	-0.11 m/yr
Deep Bay	-0.73 m/yr
Pigeon Point Beach	-0.07 m/yr
Mamora Bay	-0.09 m/yr
Mosquito Cove	-1.39 m/yr
Dutchman Bay	-0.30 m/yr
Long Bay	-0.25 m/yr
Fort James Beach	-0.21 m/yr
Ffryes Bay	-0.53 m/yr
Falmouth Beach	-0.08 m/yr
Palm Beach (Barbuda)	-0.80 m/yr



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Examples from the fourth national reports

Barbados – Summary of Threats and Implications of Biodiversity Loss

Biome/ Ecosystem Type	Threats	Drivers of Threats		Implications
		Direct Drivers	Indirect Drivers	
Terrestrial	Land development	Pollution	Unsustainable patterns of consumption & production	Habitat loss
	Grass, pasture, sugarcane fires	Habitat change, loss, destruction	Population growth & distribution	Loss of species – endemic, endangered
	Introduction of invasive species	Alien invasive species	Market failure	Ecosystem fragmentation
	Agri-chemical use			Loss of ecosystem benefits
	Excessive land clearing			Pollution of fresh water systems
	Climate change			Soil erosion
				Food insecurity



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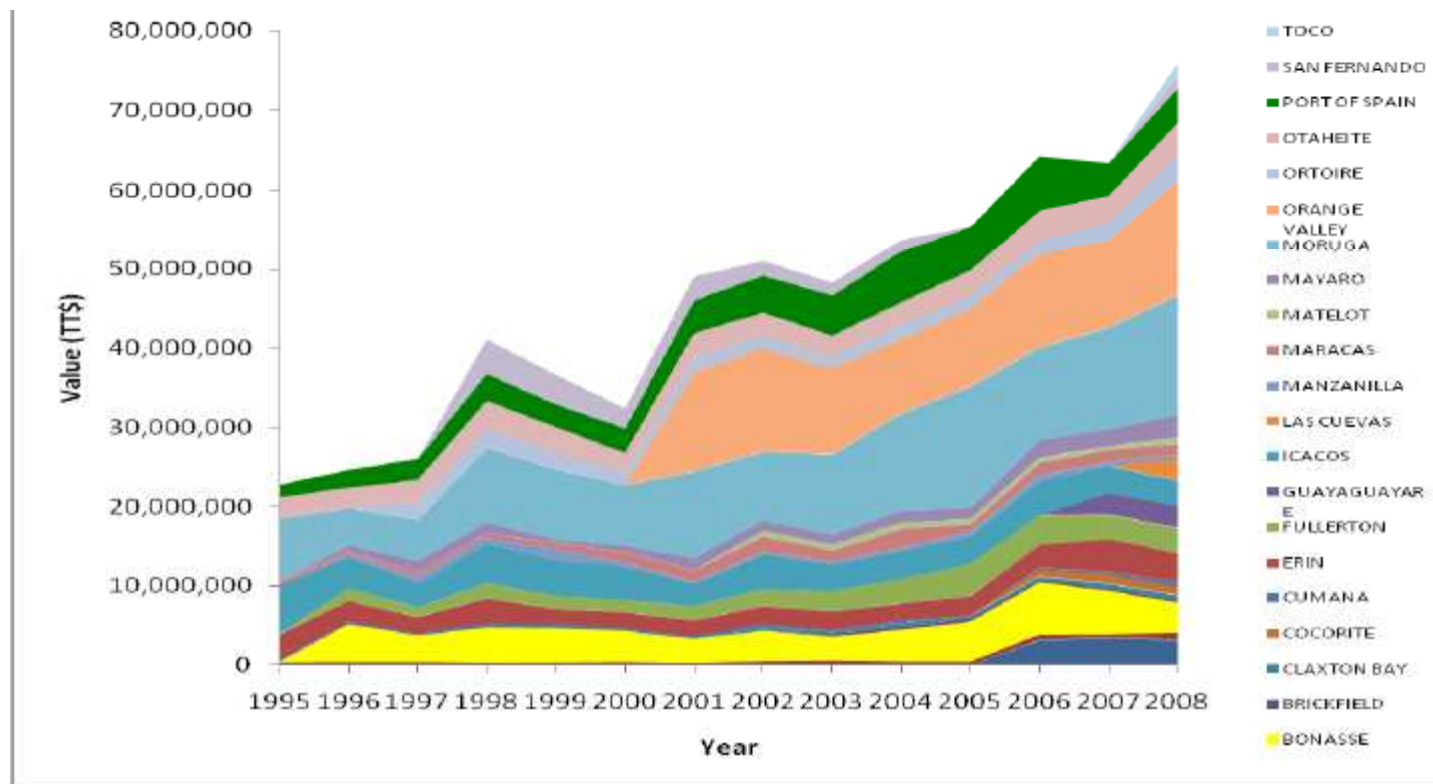


Examples from the fourth national reports (SVG 4NR)

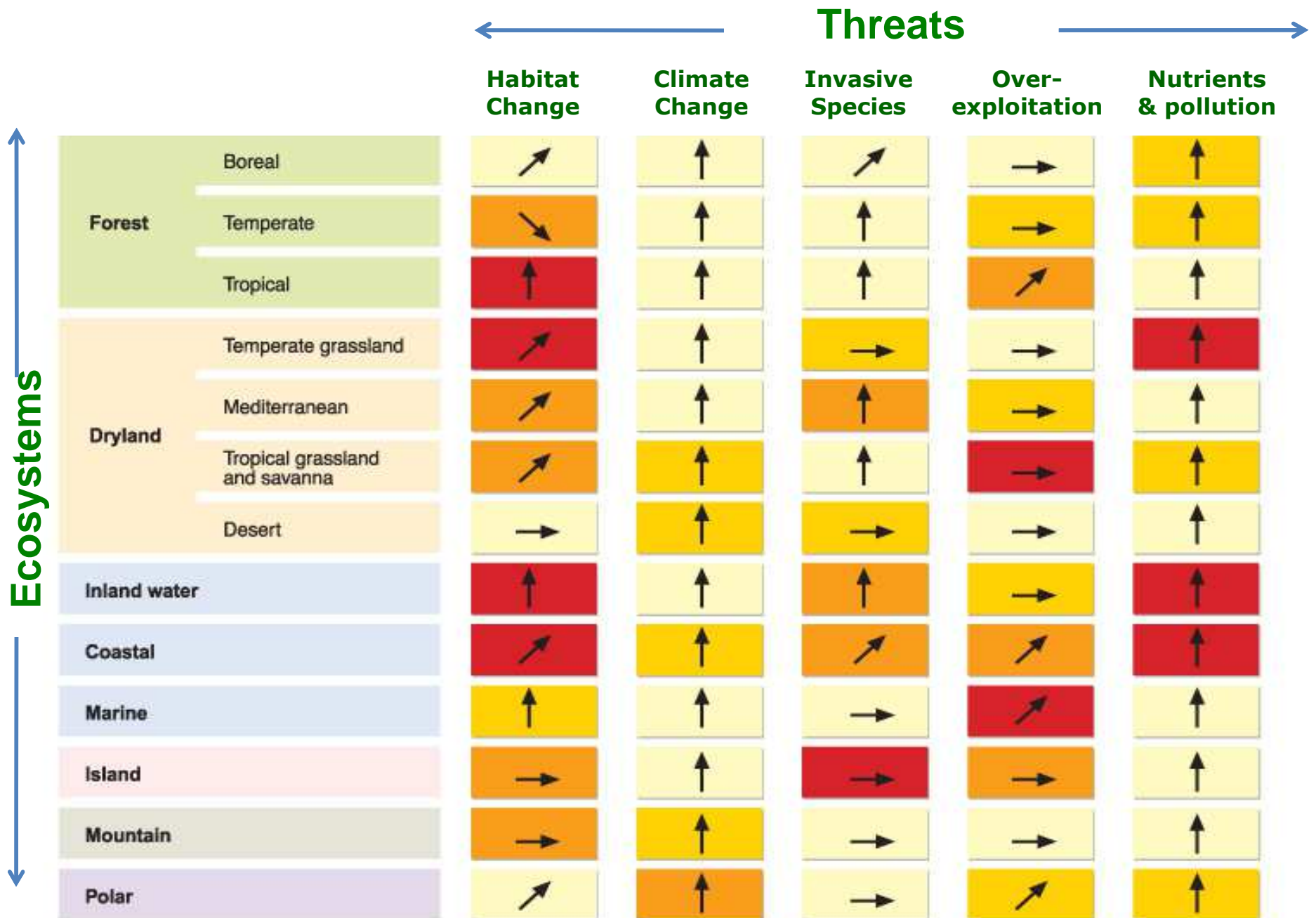


Examples from the fourth national reports

Trinidad and Tobago – Estimated Value of Landings by Sites in Trinidad (1995-2008)



Source: Fisheries Division 2010



Overall Suggestions

- Focus on most recent data and to provide historical data for context and for illustrating trends
- Focus on analyzing the information more than description
- Focus on nationally important species and ecosystems
- Use cases to help illustrate how actions taken have resulted in changes in biodiversity.
- Draw on all types of data and information
- Use expert/qualitative assessments where data is lacking
- To use existing indicators to assess the status and trends of biodiversity and the threats to it
- To use tools such as tables, charts, figures, graphics for better analysis and communication

Reference Materials and Information Sources

- GEO and regional assessments
- Reports by UN organizations (UNEP, UNEP-WCMC, FAO, UNDP, GEF, etc.)
- Reports by Regional organizations (SPREP)
- Global Biodiversity Information Facility
- GEO BON
- TEEB and its reports
- Biodiversity Indicators Partnership
- Reports by NGOs:
 - Living Planet Report
 - IUCN Red List
 - State of the World's Birds

**Secretariat of the
Convention on Biological Diversity**
World Trade Centre
413 St. Jacques street, Suite 800
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2Y 1N9
Tel. 1 (514) 288 2220
secretariat@cbd.int
www.cbd.int

