



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Suggestions for Preparing the Executive Summary of the 5NR

Regional Workshop for Central Asia and
Central and Eastern Europe on the
Preparation of the Fifth National Report

Minsk, Belarus
20 - 24 January 2014



United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

What is its purpose?

- Highlights key messages in nontechnical language
- Allows readers to mentally prepare
- Provide policy relevant information for decision makers at all levels
- Often the most read section
- Possible basis for communication and outreach products

An executive summary should:

- Contain the main messages, important facts, necessary background information and major conclusions from the report
- Contain information from each section of the report
- Be concise but have enough information to understand the issues
- Give the same impression as the entire report

An executive summary should not:

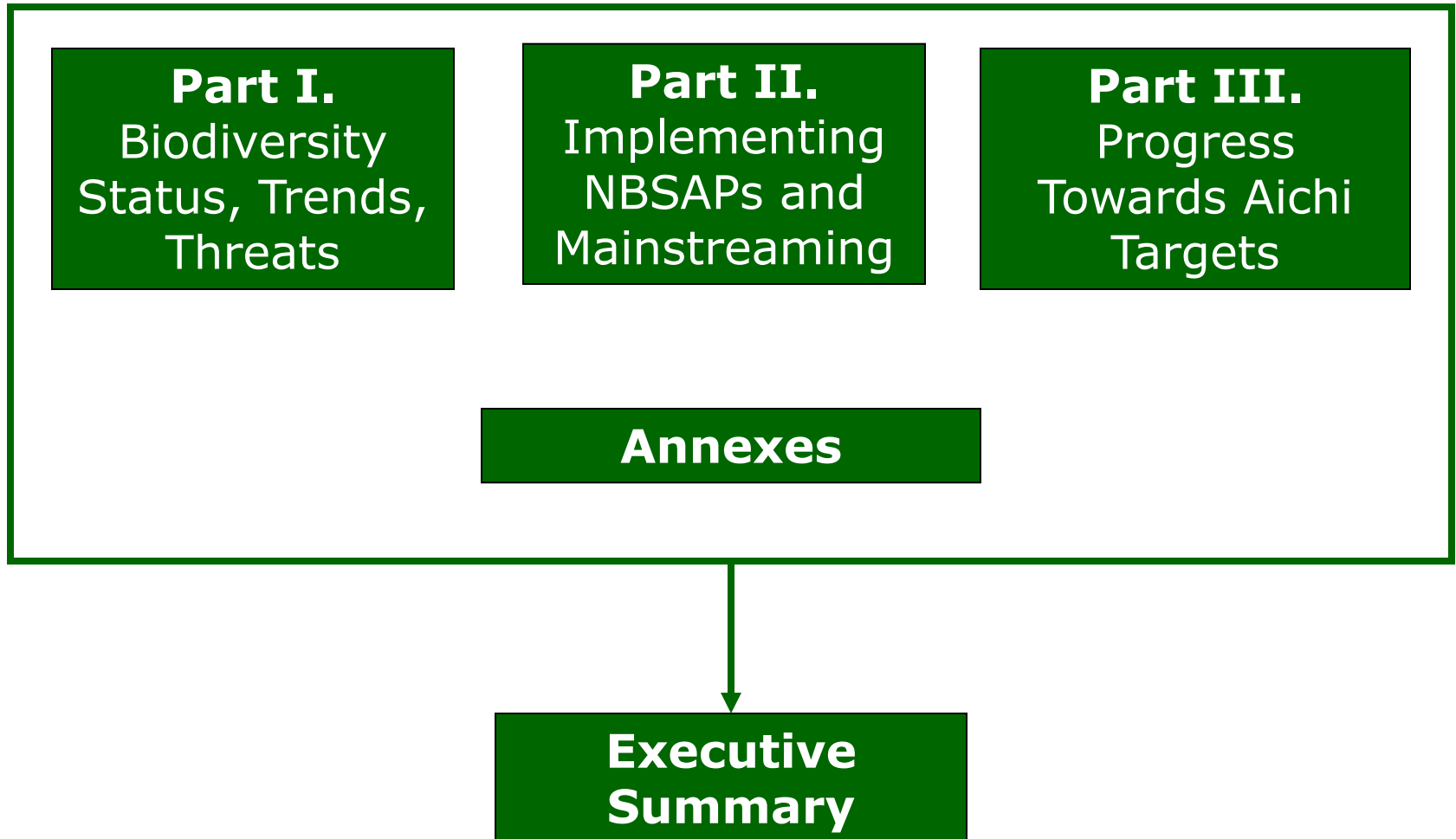
- Be an outline or introduction to the main report

What types of information should be included?

- Overall **status and trends** of biodiversity
- **Major threats** to biodiversity specific to your country
- Extent to which **threats are being addressed**
- **Key actions** related to the Strategic Plan and the Aichi Targets
- Information on **National Targets**
- Overall assessment of **NBSAP implementation**
- Areas where national **implementation has been most effective/lacking**
- **Major obstacles** to implementation
- **Future priorities**

Structure of the Fourth National Report

Main report



Examples from the Fourth National Reports

Iran

“...Considering the progress already achieved towards biodiversity protection and sustainable use, priority actions for the future include:

1. Revise and update the first NBSAP of Iran for incorporating biodiversity indicators, targets and specific strategies for implementing priority elements of the CBD;
2. Complete national biodiversity indicators and develop a systematic approach for their measurement;
3. Improve public awareness on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity resources
4. Field studies on selected species and ecosystems for better understanding of biodiversity status and trends, and implementation of conservation and rehabilitation measures for threatened endemic species...”

Examples from the Fourth National Reports

Latvia

“Although there are several great achievements in the implementation of nature legislation and policy documents, nature conservation still is not a priority for the government. In nature conservation sector implementation of the requirements of the EU directives is the priority. Another well-known and traditional obstacle is economical pressure and **the fact that nature conservation is mostly seen as a restrictive issue. It derives from lack of information on biodiversity values and benefits and insufficient communication** on nature issues to the politicians and general public...

Examples from the Fourth National Reports

Estonia

“As to the **most important biodiversity trends in Estonia**, the aboriginal breeds and varieties becoming a rarity, decrease of semi natural grasslands and intensifying economization in agriculture; decreasing old forests, impoverishment in species and ecosystems and decrease in elements important for biodiversity due to intensified management in forestry; excessive fishing; impoverishment in sea ecosystems, pollution, eutrophication and spread of alien species in them can be brought out. In peri-urban areas there is quite a rapid growth in the extent of dwelling areas and this is accompanied with decrease of biodiversity in these territories. On landscape level both homogenization and fragmentation of biodiversity are simultaneously taking place due to human action processes”

Annexes

Use annexes to provide information that does not fit easily into the main parts of the report but is nonetheless important to include

Three possible Annexes :

- **Annex I:** Information concerning the preparation of the fifth national report
- **Annex II:** Other sources of information
- **Annex III:** Implementation of the programmes of work, cross cutting issues and COP decisions

Annex III

Thematic and Cross Cutting Programmes

- Agricultural Biodiversity
- Dry and Sub-humid Lands Biodiversity
- Forest Biodiversity
- Climate Change and Biodiversity
- Communication, Education and Public Awareness
- Economics, Trade and Incentive Measures
- Ecosystem Approach
- Etc.

Annex III

- Decisions X/37 (Biofuels and Biodiversity)
- Decision X/44 (Incentive Measures)
- Decision XI/2 (SP and NBSAPs)
- Decision XI/14 (Article 8 j)
- Decision XI/18 (Marine and coastal biodiversity)
- Decision XI/19 (Biodiversity and climate change)
- Decision XI/26 (GSPC)
- Decision XI/29 (GTI)

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