



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

# Global Biodiversity Outlook 4

Regional Workshop for Middle East and North Africa on  
the Preparation of the Fifth National Report

Doha, Qatar  
14-17 December 2013



**United Nations Decade on Biodiversity**

# Scope of GBO-4

## Flagship publication of the Convention

In **decision X/2** the COP decided that GBO-4 would provide a mid-term review of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

### Information sources:

- Fifth national reports and other information provided by Parties
- Indicator information
- Scenario assessments
- Scientific literature

# Scope of GBO-4

## **GBO-4 will consider 4 questions:**

- 1. What actions need to be taken to achieve the Aichi Targets?**
- 2. Are we on track to reach the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by 2020?**
  - i. What national and regional commitments, plans and targets have been adopted?
  - ii. What is the level of implementation of the Strategic Plan?
- 3. How do the Aichi Targets and progress towards them position us to realize the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan?**
- 4. How does implementation of the Strategic Plan and progress towards the Aichi Targets contribute to the MDGs?**

# Scope of GBO-4

**The major weakness of GBO-3 was the limited use of national information**

For GBO-4, 2 “volumes” are planned. One focusing on global status and trends and the other based on more national information drawn from the 5<sup>th</sup> National reports

Aim to make GBO-4 more relevant to Parties by including more national information

# Party Involvement

**Parties can participate in the preparation of GBO-4 in a number of ways including:**

- Providing advanced drafts of the 5th National Report
- Case Studies
- Indicator information and other relevant national information
- Providing assessments of NBSAP implementation and on the establishment or implementation of National Targets
- Participating in the peer reviews of the drafts of GBO-4

# Party Involvement

## Ideally case studies should:

- Link to the Strategic Plan
- Provide a “story line” of the actions taken
- Contain experiences and lessons that are widely applicable
- Be substantiated with quantitative information
- Provide a description of impacts or outcomes achieved or expected and the measures taken to achieve them
- Contain conclusion and lessons learned
- Identify factors that may have influenced outcomes or are likely to influence outcomes in the future

# Party Involvement

## Case study examples from the Arab region:

**Yemen: Socotra, Aden Wetlands and Bura'a protected areas are successfully managed by local communities and NGOs. They were good examples of participatory approach management supported by the government with cooperation donors. Success is demonstrated by poverty reduction and income increase in neighboring communities, and good management , sustainable use and conservation of natural resources in the protected areas.**

•**Jordan.**

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# Advisory Group

**In recommendation XVI/2, SBSTTA** requested that an Advisory Group be established to provide guidance on:

- The GBO-4 preparation process
- Data and methodology standards
- Development plans and outputs
- Quality assurance
- Case-studies



# Advisory Group

## Composition:

Mr. Adjima Thombiano – Burkina Faso

Ms. Risa Smith – Canada

Mr. Haigen Xu – China

Ms. Teresita Borges Hernández – Cuba

Mr. Jan Plesnik – Czech Republic

Mr. Moustafa Mokhtar Ali Fouda – Egypt

Ms. Anne Teller – European Commission

Mr. Asghar Mohammadi Fazel – Iran

Mr. Tohru Nakashizuka – Japan

Ms. Roxana Solis Ortiz – Peru

Ms. Yvonne Vizina - Metis Nation Council

Ms. Joji Carino - Tebtebba Foundation

Mr. David Morgan – CITES

Ms. Linda Collette – FAO

Mr. Tim Hirsch – GBIF

Mr. Thomas Lovejoy – GEF-STAP

Mr. Stuart Butchart – IUCN

Mr. Matt Walpole – UNEP-WCMC

SBSTTA Bureau Chair – *Ex Officio*

# Timeline

- The COP will meet in 2014 and then in 2016
- In order for the COP to consider GBO-4 and to take meaningful action based on it, the report needs to be available at COP12 in 2014
- Given the short timeline and that the fifth national reports are due 31 March 2014 multiple products related to GBO-4 will be released in order to take advantage of the information that is available

# Timeline

**Given that COP12 will be in 2014 the following deadlines are envisaged:**

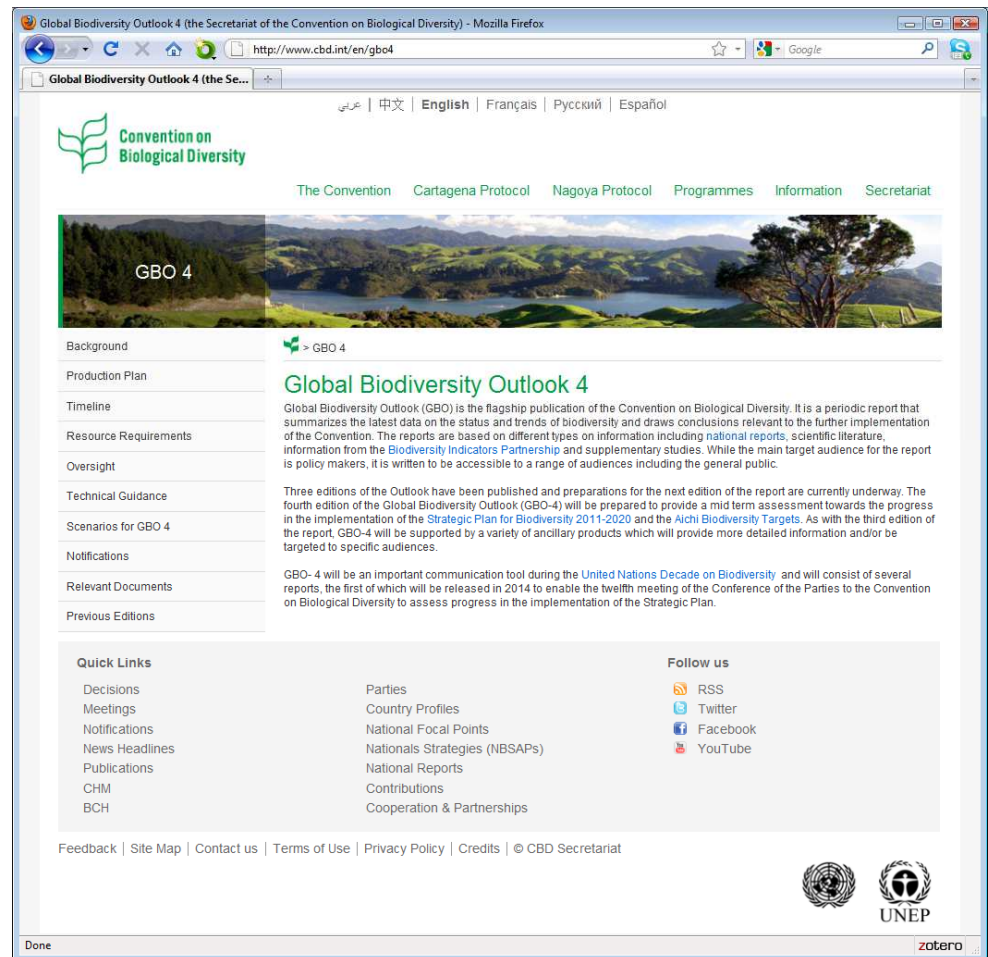
<b>Product</b>	<b>Date</b>
GBO-4 Advisory Group constituted	September 2012
Draft outline	January 2012
Progress report	October 2013
Revision of selected sections	January 2014
Peer review of all sections	May 2014
Revision of drafts	June 2014
Typesetting in English	July 2014
Translation into official UN languages	July 2014
Printing and dispatch to launch events	September 2014
Launch of the main GBO-4 report	October 2014

# Progress to Date

## GBO-4 website developed

- Available in English, French and Spanish
- Updated periodically

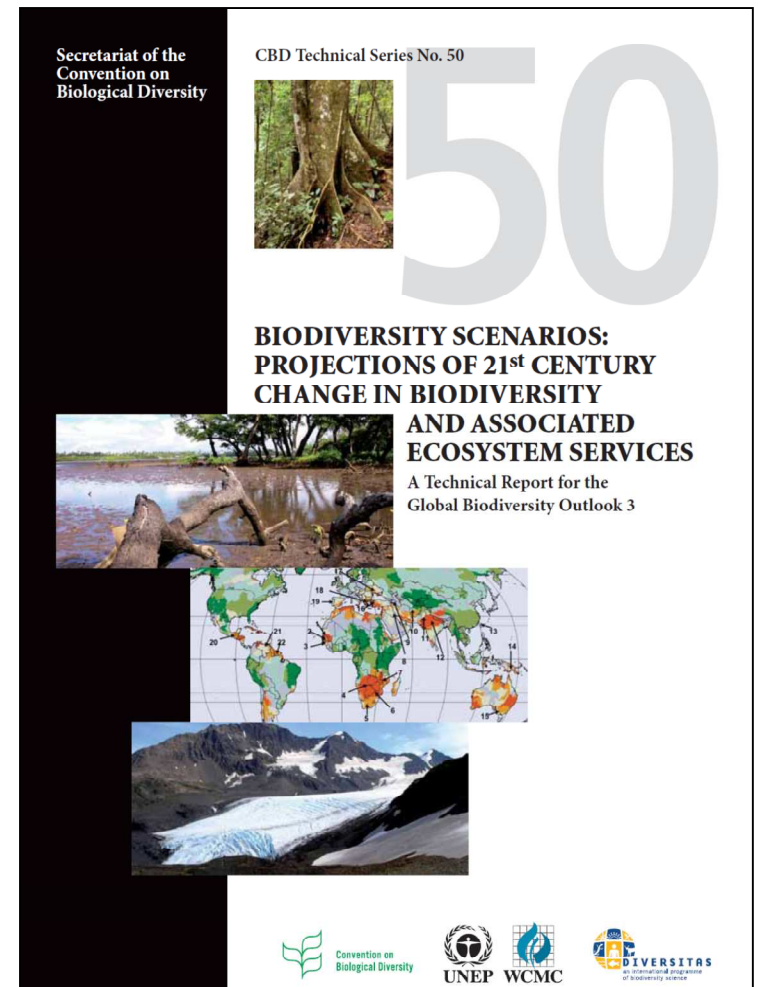
<http://www.cbd.int/en/gbo4>



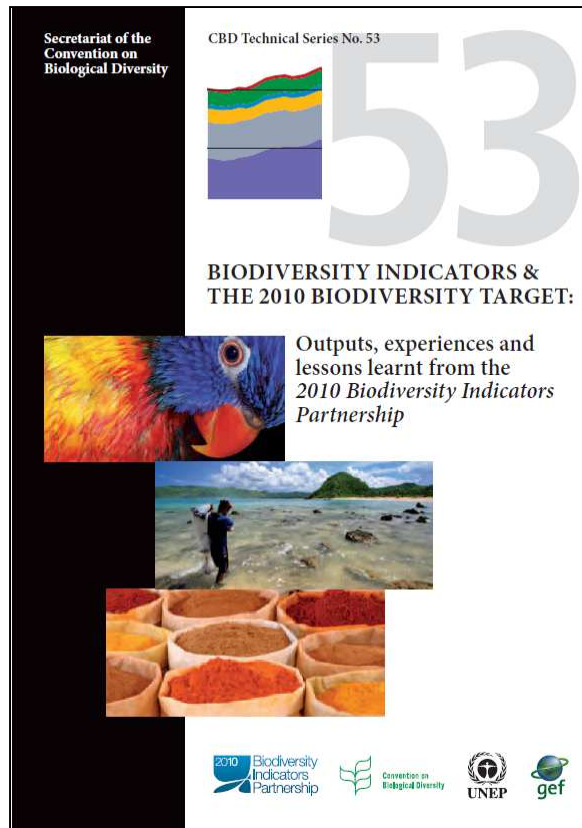
# Progress to Date

## Scenario assessment:

- Combination of reviewing existing models and scenarios and the development of new (combinations of) models where necessary
- Being conducted by a consortium composed of DIVERSITAS, UNEP-WCMC, PBL-Netherlands, UBC Fisheries Centre.



# Progress to Date



## Indicators:

- Build on work done for GBO-3
- Biodiversity Indicators Partnership as main partner

# Progress to Date



## State of Biodiversity

in West Asia

### A. Background

1. West Asia benefits from a wealth of biological diversity that harnesses a variety of terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems and associated habitats. The West Asian region comprises the Mashriq subregion (Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the Syrian Arab Republic), characterized by conditions ranging from Mediterranean humid to semi-arid, and the Arabian peninsula (Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen), dominated by conditions ranging from semi-arid to desert arid. West Asia is part of three eco-regions that incorporate a variety of ecosystems, including Mediterranean forests, deserts, plains, rangelands, savannas, oases, mountains, rivers, lakes, springs, mudflats, swamps, marshes, mangroves, seagrass beds and coral reefs, all of which provide a wide array of ecosystem services and ecological corridors for migratory species through the region. Societies in West Asia depend heavily on the nutritional, industrial and health benefits of the region's biodiversity,

which are harvested without a true understanding of the value that they represent for ecosystem functioning, and yet biodiversity is one of the main factors contributing to sustainable development in West Asia, in particular by supporting agricultural ecosystems (animals and plants).

### B. Status of biodiversity in 2010

2. Three of the world's 34 biodiversity hot spots are located in West Asia (Environment Outlook for the Arab Region – EOAR, 2010)<sup>1</sup>: the Irano-Anatolian region, the Mediterranean forest region and the Horn of Africa region, including the Arabian peninsula and the Socotra archipelago in Yemen (Conservation International, 2007).<sup>2</sup> The last mentioned is a World Heritage Site known for its rich biodiversity with 850 plant species, 254 (about 30 per cent) of which are endemic. In

<sup>1</sup> The Environment Outlook for the Arab Region (EOAR 2010). United Nations Environment Programme (Arabic version). <http://www.unep.org/dewa/Arabic/EOAR/> [last accessed 25 March 2010].

<sup>2</sup> Conservation International (2007). Biodiversity Hotspots. [http://www.biodiversityhotspots.org/hp/hotspots/hotspots\\_by\\_region/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.biodiversityhotspots.org/hp/hotspots/hotspots_by_region/Pages/default.aspx).

Plans for regional launches, regional reports, technical publications



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