

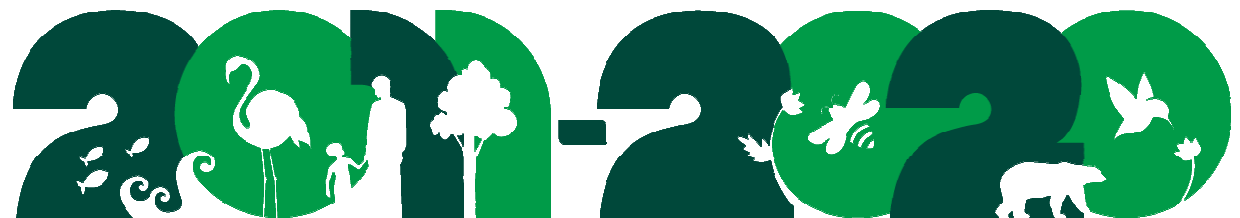


Convention on
Biological Diversity

Suggestions for Preparing the Executive Summary and Appendices of the 5NR

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

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



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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:

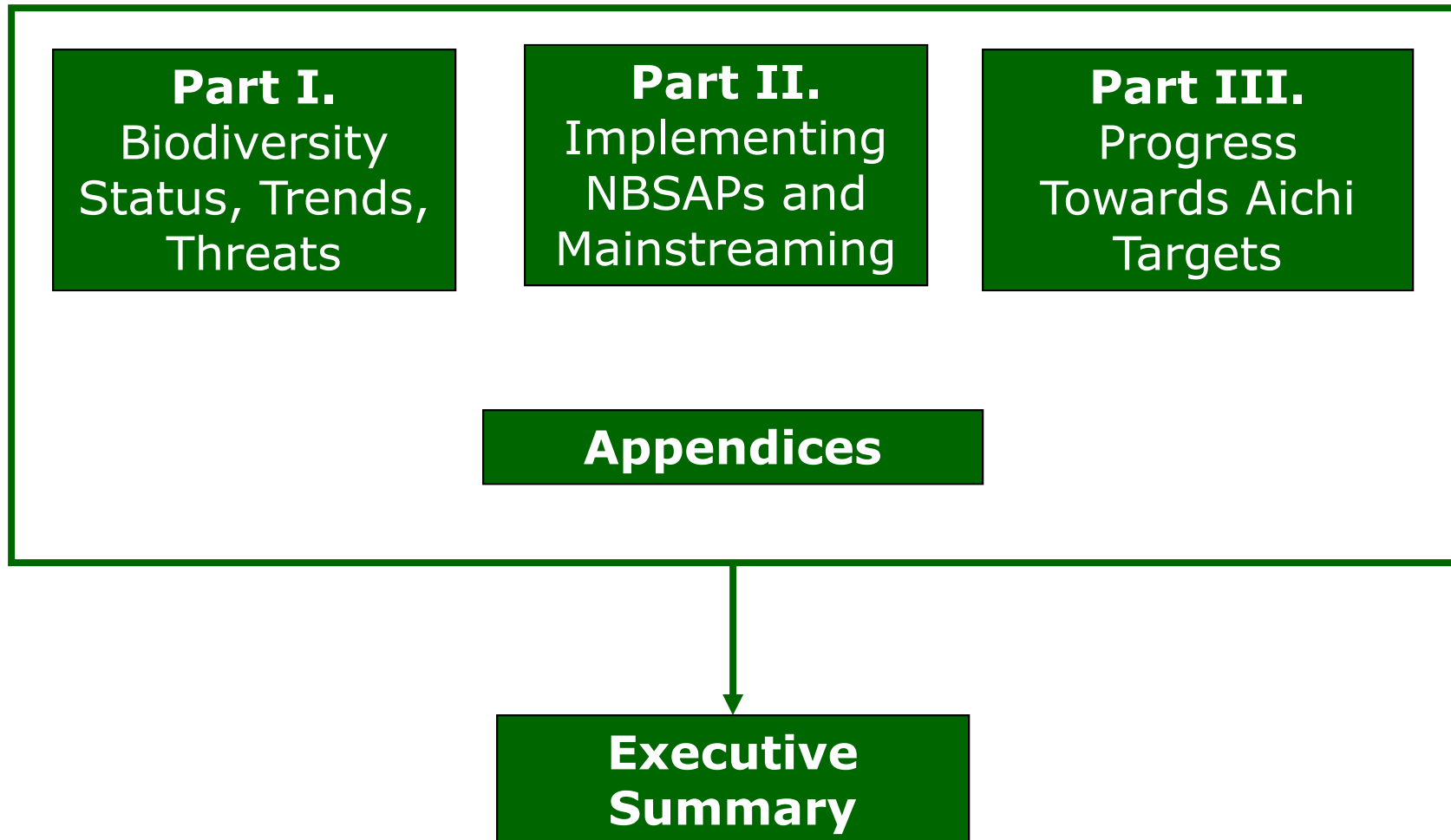
- Be an outline or introduction to the main report

What types of information should be included?

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

Structure of the Fifth National Report

Main report



Examples from the Fourth National Reports

Iraq

Although the national strategic objectives are not yet defined, it is worth mentioning that 81% of the globally important, ecological region “Tigris and Euphrates alluvial sa marsh” is contained within the borders of Iraq and priority will surely be given to marshland protection and restoration. Some achievements have already been reached in this field.

...

In the southeastern part of Iraq a marshland area called Hawizeh has been designated as a Ramsar wetland of international importance. A management plan has been drafted for this area as a part of the New Eden Group initiatives; unfortunately the management plan has not yet been implemented and there is no national legislation to implement further protections to this area.

Examples from the Fourth National Reports

Algeria

•Tendances de la diversité biologique

D'importantes menaces pèsent sur ce patrimoine qui se trouve soumis à des risques importants d'appauvrissement. Et, globalement, la tendance à la diminution de la biodiversité affecte tous les écosystèmes naturels d'Algérie. Aucun écosystème ne se caractérise par une stabilisation de la biodiversité. Les facteurs de risque les plus importants de la diminution de la biodiversité sont représentés par, d'une part, les facteurs naturels (sécheresse, incendies, inondations...) et, d'autre part, par les différentes activités anthropiques : destruction et/ou surexploitation de ressources biologiques, surpâturage, extension des terres cultivées, développement de l'armature urbaine, développement des travaux d'infrastructures, pollutions, tourisme, chasse et braconnage.

Lebanon

In general, the many areas of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and management in Lebanon witnessed a significant progress at least since the preparation of the NBSAP in 1998.

The actions of the latter and those of its draft addendum in 2005 are satisfactorily linked to and serving the 2010 Target and the related global goals and targets as well as the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

However, more improvement and actions at national level are needed to achieve progress towards the global targets.

Appendices

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

Three possible appendices :

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

Appendix III

Thematic Programmes and Cross Cutting Issues

- 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.

Info Requests from COP Decisions

- 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)

Key Suggestions for Preparing Appendix III

- Use the programmes of work or work plans particularly actions requested of Parties as a framework for reporting;
- Focus on information requests or actions requested of Parties from relevant COP 10 & 11 decisions;
- Focus on those areas/issues of national relevance;
- Link with Aichi Targets where relevant;
- Use matrices to summarize key actions taken, outcomes achieved or progress made and contributions to the implementation of the global programmes of work and the Strategic Plan;
- Highlight cases or stories of particular interest from implementation.

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