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## **Global workshop on national experiences in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (Brasilia, 12-14 March 2012)**

### **Supplementary Note to the Workshop Programme**

#### **Background**

The Conference of the Parties, at its tenth meeting in 2010 in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets ([decision X/2](#)). By this decision, countries are urged to update their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in line with the new Strategic Plan, to set national targets in line with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to report to COP-11 in Hyderabad, India, in October 2012, on progress achieved.

The overall aim of this workshop is to share examples and the experience of countries on their progress towards addressing and meeting challenges, and thereby help Parties prepare for the discussion of this issue at the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI-4) in Montreal, Canada, in May 2012.

The workshop will also provide an opportunity to identify and explore ways to overcome obstacles to progress, and identify examples of how these can be overcome through capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and resource mobilization.

This workshop will build upon the experience shared in the joint UK/Brazil “Informal Expert Workshop on the updating of the Strategic Plan of the Convention for the post-2010 period” held in London in January 2010 (see: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EM-StratPlan-01>).

The workshop will also draw upon and complement the series of regional and sub-regional capacity-building workshops on updating NBSAPs being convened by the CBD Secretariat with the support of Japan and other donors (see: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops2.shtml>).

#### **Workshop Objective**

**To review early progress and preparations towards the full and effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its associated Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to identify challenges to, and opportunities for, improved implementation so that these issues can be further considered by WGRI-4 and COP-11.**

**Workshop *modus operandi***

The workshop will be conducted in a fully participatory manner, with professional facilitation to assist all participants to share their experience with:

- (i) revision of NBSAPs;
- (ii) setting of national targets and assessing progress towards global targets;
- (iii) effective integration (mainstreaming) of biodiversity into landscapes and sectors; and
- (iv) identification of resource and partnership opportunities for effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

The workshop will be conducted over 3 days, and comprise a mixture of presentations, plenary discussions, parallel working groups and reporting back. A final synthesis session will generate conclusions to be carried forward to WGRI-4 and COP-11.

**The workshop will consider five main topics:**

1. Revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) – or their equivalent - to contribute adequately to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;
2. National target-setting to contribute to the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
3. Mainstreaming NBSAPs into landscapes, sectors and development policy (national experience);
4. The resource challenge – finance, participation and partnerships (selected success stories for NBSAP planning AND implementation); and
5. Assessing progress from a global perspective – how do we track and scale-up reporting on national progress towards the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets?

Details of each session and further information on how participants can prepare to contribute to the workshop are provided below.

**1. *Revision of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs)***

The goals for this session are to

- (i) assess global progress in regard to the revision of NBSAPs;
- (ii) identify critical success factors that are allowing some countries to make rapid progress;
- (iii) assess whether ongoing revisions will have sufficient scope to allow successful national implementation of the Strategic Plan; and
- (iv) identify major barriers to progress.

The CBD Secretariat will provide information of the status of NBSAP revisions at the global level since COP-10 in Nagoya, including an update of the status of GEF support to the NBSAP revision process. Some Parties will present short case studies of their national NBSAP revision processes.

Participants will have the opportunity to provide brief verbal reports on their national NBSAP revision process. Participants will work in small groups to assess the scope of their existing NBSAP, and the status of its implementation, against the 5 Goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Based on this assessment, participants will identify the major opportunities and/or barriers to revising NBSAPs to incorporate the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity in a nationally-appropriate manner.

The workshop facilitator will assist the participants to synthesize the work of the small groups into general conclusions to be carried forward to WGRI-4 and COP-11.

In preparation for this session, please ensure that you have the latest information on your current NBSAP but, more importantly, also on the status of your NBSAP revision process, with an estimate of the date of completion, and the level of adoption that is likely to be achieved (e.g. Ministerial Decree, Act of Parliament, etc.).

Working with your national colleagues, attempt to assess the scope of your current NBSAP against each of the 5 Goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, on a scale of 1 to 5, in order to better identify the “gaps” in the NBSAP that need to be addressed in the revision process. These gaps can be assessed at the level of the scope of the current NBSAP, but also in terms of the *implementation* of the current NBSAP.

## **2. *National target-setting to contribute to the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets***

Some Parties adopted quantitative national targets as a part of their efforts to meet the global 2010 Biodiversity Target to “significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity” (see <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/about/targets/> for examples). However, the global 2010 Biodiversity Target was not met, and the overwhelming majority of countries stated, in their fourth national reports, that the 2010 Biodiversity Target had not been met at the national level either, even though some significant improvements at the sub-national level were reported.

Now, eighteen months after COP-10 and with just over 6 months before COP-11, very few Parties have established comprehensive sets of national targets that document their contribution to the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Day 2 of the workshop will focus on the experience of some “pioneer” countries, whilst also allowing other Parties to provide updates on their experience to date with target-setting. Participants will also complete exercises to become more familiar with the characteristics of SMART targets. If any quantitative targets have been discussed or adopted as a part of your NBSAP revision process, please be prepared to provide details as part of the working group discussions.

In a later session of the workshop, participants will have an opportunity to assess how national targets can be used to assess progress towards the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The fifth and sixth national reports will be the main instruments for monitoring progress towards the 2020 targets, but this will be difficult if countries have not established SMART targets and put in place adequate sets of indicators to monitor progress.

## **3. *Mainstreaming NBSAPs into landscapes, sectors and development policy (national experience)***

The history of human economic development, over the past 200 years, has been one of accelerating conversion of natural ecosystems to landscapes and seascapes increasingly influenced by human activities.

As this transition occurs, there is an ever-increasing need for landscape management to minimize continued loss through land use change, overexploitation, pollution, invasive species and, increasingly, through climate change. There is also a need to address the underlying social and economic drivers of biodiversity loss.

Mainstreaming biodiversity (CBD Article 6(b)) still constitutes a major challenge to the successful implementation of the Convention at the national level. Successful mainstreaming requires the full integration of “biodiversity thinking” and decision-making from the environment sector in all of the land use and economic sectors that generate the direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss.

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 is a response to the message from GBO-3 that greater emphasis needs to be given to reducing the impact of the underlying indirect drivers of biodiversity decline and, also, to generating greater flows of benefits from land use that is compatible with sustaining biodiversity.

In the afternoon of Day 2, participants will discuss examples of successful mainstreaming at both the landscape level and in economic sectors (agriculture, forestry, energy, mining) and work in small groups to identify opportunities and challenges to applying the same techniques in different countries over the next 10 years.

#### **4. *The resource challenge – finance, participation and partnerships***

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 is “ambitious, but achievable”, and achieving the overall objective of the Plan will be essential to determining the long-term future of biodiversity over the next millennium. It is clear that, to achieve the overall goal of the Strategic Plan, a significant increase in resources, participation and partnerships will be required.

Earlier estimates of global conservation needs range up to many tens of billions USD per year. The Conference of the Parties has requested the CBD Secretariat to complete two new global resource needs assessment and to report to the Fourth Meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation in May 2102.

Financing for biodiversity will need to come from all sources: public and private; domestic and international. To date the main source of finance has been domestic budget- at the national and sub-national levels, supplemented by development cooperation. At the international level, the Global Environment Facility, the Financial Mechanism for the Convention, has been the primary source of funding for biodiversity planning, through the Biodiversity Focal Area Enabling Activities which have supported preparation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), CHM activities and National Reports. The GEF also provides incremental cost support for implementation of priority actions that focus on globally-significant biodiversity.

Participants will receive a briefing on the outcome of the “Dialogue seminar on scaling up finance for biodiversity” to be held from 6 to 9 March 2012 in Quito, Ecuador, and will have the opportunity to discuss the opportunities and constraints to the use of different finance/funding mechanisms at the national level.

In addition, participants will have the opportunity to identify additional technical support needs, beyond financial resources, including scientific and technical support through South-South and North-South-South cooperation, IPBES, etc.

#### **5. *Assessing progress from a Global Perspective – how do we track and scale-up reporting on national progress towards the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets?***

In this session of the workshop, participants will have an opportunity to assess how national targets “add up” at a global level in terms of progress towards the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The fifth and sixth national reports will be the main instruments for monitoring progress towards the 2020 targets, but this will be difficult if countries have not established SMART targets and put in place adequate sets of indicators to monitor progress. Participants will be asked to test, in small working groups, how to “scale-up” national targets to generate aggregate statistics that can be used to monitor implementation of the Strategic Plan on a global scale, and to identify the barriers to successful aggregation for selected Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

## 6. *Conclusions*

A final session of the workshop will allow the Co-Chairs of the meeting, Brazil and the UK, to draw conclusions from the four main themes of the workshop, and to discuss with participants how best to carry these forward from the workshop into the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation (WGRI) and the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in May 2012 and October 2012, respectively.

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