



Institute for  
European  
Environmental  
Policy



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

## Global Workshop on National Experiences in Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

***Opportunity to participate in a survey to review the incorporation of biodiversity and ecosystem service values into National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions Plans***

Through decision X/2 the Conference of the Parties adopted a revised and updated Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, for the 2011-2020 period. The decision called for Parties to translate this overarching international framework into revised national biodiversity strategies and actions plans (NBSAPs). Strategic Goal A of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity calls for Parties to ‘*address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society*’. Of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets identified for achieving this goal, Targets 1 and 2 specifically call for Parties to create awareness of the values of biodiversity and integrate biodiversity values into strategies and planning processes

In this context, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), with financial support from the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, is carrying out a project to examine the lessons learnt from incorporating the values of biodiversity and ecosystems into NBSAPs. The study will review the different approaches and reasons for integrating the values of biodiversity and ecosystems into revised NBSAPs. The project will consider both monetary and non-monetary values. To this end, a brief survey to review national approaches has been prepared. The results of the survey will be used to produce a report on good practice and lessons learnt on integrating biodiversity and ecosystem service valuation into NBSAPs and hence support the implementation of Target 1 and 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

Members of the project team from both UNEP-WCMC and IEEP will be available throughout the duration of the workshop to assist Participants in completing the survey through face to face interviews. These informal interviews will take place in the margins of the workshop and will take no longer than 20 minutes to complete. As well as completing the full survey, participants will be given the option to part complete the survey, being issued with a personal URL which will enable them to complete the survey and amend previous answers at a later date. The survey and supporting background information is provided as an Annex to this notification in the event that participants wish to view the survey before the workshop and/or start to plan their answers.

Please note that an official CBD notification ([Ref: SCBD/SEL/ML/GD/79105](#)) had been circulated to CBD National Focal Points asking them to participate in this survey online, and that by participating in the workshop interviews focal points will have already contributed to this process.

For further information about the survey interviews please contact Anna Chenery, UNEP-WCMC ([anna.chenery@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:anna.chenery@unep-wcmc.org)).

## Annex 1

### **Survey: Lessons learnt from incorporating the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services into NBSAPs**

#### **Introduction**

Thank you for contributing to this survey, which is being conducted by UNEP-WCMC and IEEP for a project to examine the lessons learnt from incorporating the values of biodiversity and ecosystems into the development of National Biodiversity and Action Plans (NBSAPs). It has been commissioned by the UK Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), in co-ordination with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The survey is being conducted to collect insights on different country practice and also assist in the identification of a selection of case study countries for further follow-up to explore interesting approaches. The summary survey results will contribute to a report on good practice and lessons learnt on integrating biodiversity and ecosystem service values into NBSAPs and hence support the implementation of Target 1 and 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. This report will be available to all survey respondents.

**Please Note:** The questions in this survey are aimed at the production of updated and revised NBSAPs which align with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the associated Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

#### **Survey Practicalities**

For ease of use the survey is divided into sections, with supporting background information that can be viewed online if needed. Respondents can exit and return to the survey as many times as they wish to complete the questions or amend previous answers. **It is important to note that answers whether partially completed or fully completed will only be saved if the respondent clicks on the 'next page' button.** If the respondent exits the survey before clicking the 'next page' button, any answers on the working page will be lost.

Once completed and finalized respondents can officially submit the completed survey. The survey should take 15 to 25 minutes in total to complete and the results will be presented in the final report in summary form, with no identification of the answers by country or individual. The project team may wish to contact respondents regarding participation as a case study country or conduct smaller consultations by telephone or email to obtain further information. For this purpose we kindly ask you to indicate whether you would be interested in participating further in the project and to provide your contact details.

The final date for completion of the survey is **23 April 2012**.

Thank you very much for contributing your time and knowledge.

Regards,

Anna Chenery  
UNEP-WCMC  
(anna.chenery@unep-wcmc.org)

## Survey Background

Article 6b of the CBD calls for Parties to *'integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies'*.

At the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10) held in Nagoya in 2010, Parties adopted the [Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020](#). Strategic Goal A of the Strategic Plan calls for Parties to *'address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society'*. Of the [Aichi Biodiversity Targets](#) identified for achieving this goal, two specifically call for Parties to create awareness of the values of biodiversity and integrate biodiversity values into strategies and planning processes:

- *Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are **aware of the values of biodiversity** and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.*
- *Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, **biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes** and are being incorporated into **national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems**.*

In order to meet these targets, parties are invited to update and revise their NBSAPs in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

## Section 1: NBSAP Status and links to other strategies and plans

National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions Plans (NBSAPs) are the principal instruments for implementing the CBD at the national level. At CBD COP 9 ([Decision IX/8](#)) and CBD COP 10 ([Decision X/2](#)) Parties adopted guidance for the revision of their NBSAPs and agreed to revise their NBSAPs in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, respectively.

This section of the survey briefly examines the current status of NBSAP revision and links to other policies and strategies which may support biodiversity mainstreaming.

For further information visit the NBSAPs pages of the [CBD website](#).

### 1.1 What is the status of NBSAP updating in your country?

- ☐ Completed
- ☐ Some elements and parts completed
- ☐ NBSAP updating plans generated, but work has not yet commenced on NBSAP updating
- ☐ No work conducted so far
- ☐ Don't know

### 1.2 How is work on NBSAP updating in your country organized?

- ☐ One ministry/agency has responsibility for completing the entire NBSAP, in isolation from other agencies and sectors
- ☐ One agency has responsibility for completing the entire NBSAP, consultations are undertaken with other agencies and sectors

- ☐ Different agencies are responsible for completing different sections of the NBSAP
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Other (please specify)

### 1.3 What format does/will your revised NBSAP take?

- ☐ A single document
- ☐ Several 'stand alone' elements which relate to different aspects of the NBSAP, e.g. separate strategy plan, implementation plan, finance plan etc.
- ☐ Several 'stand alone' elements for different sectors and /or cross-sectoral policies and programs
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Other (please specify)

### 1.4 Please provide other relevant information on NBSAP updating organization:

### 1.5 Does/will your countries' NBSAP link to any of the following (tick all that apply):

- ☐ Development Plans
- ☐ Poverty Reduction Strategies/Plans
- ☐ Green Economy Strategies/Plans
- ☐ Forestry Strategies/Plans
- ☐ Fisheries Strategies/Plans
- ☐ Agriculture Strategies/Plans
- ☐ Climate Change Strategies/Plans
- ☐ Budgets
- ☐ Legislation
- ☐ Other (please specify)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don't know

[illegible]

- To highlight the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services to human and societal well-being, livelihoods and the economy.
- To align NBSAPs with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, particularly Strategic Goal A and underlying Aichi Biodiversity Targets 1 and 2.
- As a tool for mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors, policies and programmes.

This section of the survey examines the approaches used for incorporating biodiversity and ecosystem service values into NBSAPs

[illegible]

***Ecosystem assessments** are to be understood as the gathering of physical and spatial information relating to the quality and health of ecosystems, using biodiversity and ecosystem service indicators. An analysis of the interactions of ecosystems with economic and social systems may be part of it.*

***Economic valuation** refers to the assignment of monetary values to market and non-marketed assets, goods and services provided by ecosystems.*

***Social valuation** is to be understood here as any formalised non-monetary way of accounting for the value of biodiversity and ecosystems.*

**If you have indicated that social valuation is used in your country please specify the valuation approach used:**

## 2.2 To what extent does/will your NBSAP make reference to ecosystem services (ES)?

See '[Background](#)' for further information on ecosystem services

- ☐ No mention
- ☐ Recognition of the ecosystem functions(biophysical aspects) rather than ecosystem services
- ☐ Recognition of ecosystem services
- ☐ Recognition of ES and commitment to develop ES indicators
- ☐ Recognition of ES and commitment to do **ecosystem assessments** including mapping
- ☐ Don't Know

Which ecosystem services are recognized?

## 2.3 To what extent does/will your NBSAP reflect the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services?

- ☐ No current mention (skip straight to **question 2.5**)
- ☐ Recognition of value but no commitment to carry out economic and/or social valuation
- ☐ Recognition of values and commitments to carry out valuation/assess values
- ☐ Recognition of values plus commitment to take the values into account in decision making.
- ☐ Don't Know (skip straight to **question 2.5**)

**2.4 This recognition of biodiversity and ecosystem services value covers (tick all that apply):**

- ☐ The direct value to the economy with a focus on 'provisioning services' such as timber, food, materials
- ☐ Other values to the economy from 'regulating services' such as water regulation/purification, erosion, pollination, disease regulation, climate mitigation
- ☐ 'Cultural and social values' with potential economic benefits such as landscape and amenity value, ecotourism and recreation
- ☐ Wider 'Cultural and social values' with no direct impact on the economy such as values related to identity, cultural, aesthetic and spiritual values
- ☐ Intrinsic value - i.e. biodiversity for its own sake
- ☐ Other

Please provide further details:

**2.5 To what extent does/will your NBSAP incorporate commitments to / announce measures in the area of complementing national economic accounts with natural capital / environmental accounts – i.e. *physical accounts in physical units*?**

See '[Background](#)' for further information.

- ☐ Doesn't
- ☐ Acknowledges need
- ☐ Commits to doing
- ☐ Announces measures and makes link to clear targets (e.g. timeline)
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Commitment made/measures initiated, but outside the NBSAP - please specify where:

**2.6 To what extent does/will your NBSAP incorporate commitments to / announce measures in the area of integrated economic and environmental accounting (as per UN SEEA and WAVES) – i.e. *monetary accounts in monetary units*?**

See '[Background](#)' for further information.

- ☐ Doesn't
- ☐ Acknowledges need
- ☐ Commits to doing
- ☐ Announces measures and makes link to clear targets (e.g. timeline)







Policy support tools



Online help desks



Advisory services



Technical support from The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) Network



Other (optional)



If Other (please specify)

## Section 4: Respondent details

### 4.1 Name:

### 4.2 Are you answering this survey as (tick all that apply):

- ☐ A CBD National Focal Point
- ☐ An individual responsible for NBSAP updating within my country
- ☐ A TEEB Focal Point for country
- ☐ Other (please specify)

### 4.3 What is your role in updating your countries NBSAP?

- ☐ Overseeing the complete production of the NBSAP
- ☐ Responsible for NBSAP component - Incorporating biodiversity and ecosystem service valuation in
- ☐ Responsible for NBSAP component - Incorporating poverty and livelihood issues into NBSAP
- ☐ Responsible for NBSAP component - Targets and indicators
- ☐ Responsible for NBSAP component - Other component
- ☐ Advisory Role
- ☐ No role in NBSAP updating
- ☐ Don't know

Please provide more information on your role:

#### 4.4 Institution name:

#### 4.5 Type of institution:

- ☐ Government
- ☐ NGO
- ☐ Commercial
- ☐ Academic
- ☐ Other (please specify)

#### 4.6 Contact details

Please note these details will be kept confidential and will only used for survey follow-up and distribution the final project report

Email (optional):

Telephone (optional):

#### 4.7 Country you represent in answering this questionnaire:

#### 4.8 Have you /are you planning to attend a NBSAP Capacity Building Workshop conducted by the CBD Secretariat?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, please specify which:

#### 4.9 Would you be happy for UNEP-WCMC and IEEP to contact you regarding the collection of further information or participation in the project as a case study country?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**4.8 Have you /are you planning to attend a NBSAP Capacity Building Workshop conducted by the CBD Secretariat?**

☐

No

☐

Yes, please specify which:

**4.9 Would you be happy for UNEP-WCMC and IEEP to contact you regarding the collection of further information or participation in the project as a case study country?**

☐

Yes

☐

No

## Finish

Thank you for participating in this survey.

**Would you like to receive the final report from the project?**

☐

Yes (please check that you have included your email under question 4.6)

☐

No

## **Annex 2**

### **Survey: Lessons Learnt from incorporating the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services into the development of NBSAPs**

#### **Supporting Background Information**

##### **Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service assessment and valuation**

Nature provides humanity with a myriad of direct benefits – food, water, fuel, materials for construction and development of medicines. This has been conceptualised as ecosystem services and also includes water purification, climate regulation, natural pest control and natural hazard management. Nature also creates opportunities for recreation and tourism, is integral to identity and cultural values, is a living library for science, and provides a store of information at the genetic, organism, species and ecosystem level. In 2005, the Millennium ecosystem assessment (MEA) has produced the most commonly used typology of these services which is summarised in Box 1 below.

##### **Box 1: Ecosystem services**

According to the MEA (2005), **ecosystem services** refer to the flow of benefits that people obtain from ecosystems. The MEA 2005 classified ecosystem services along the following typology:

- *provisioning services* (e.g. food, fibre, fuel, water);
- *regulating services* (benefits from ecosystem processes that regulate e.g. climate, floods, disease, waste and water quality);
- *cultural services* (e.g. recreation, tourism, and aesthetic, spiritual and ethical values);
- *supporting services* necessary for the production of all other.

This questionnaire has broadly adopted this classification. It must however be noted that others exist and that different classifications may be used depending on the purpose.

Source: MA (2005) Ecosystems and Human Well-being – Synthesis, URL:

<http://www.maweb.org/documents/document.356.aspx.pdf>

Under-valuing biodiversity and ecosystem services has contributed to the steady loss of forests, soils, wetlands and coral reefs as well as wild species, local varieties of crops and productive assets like fisheries. Ignoring values beyond the immediate, private and saleable leads to mankind running down the planet's natural capital stock without understanding the value of what we are losing.

Ecosystems and their biodiversity underpin the global economy and human well-being, and need to be valued and protected. Damage to global ecosystems and biodiversity is acute and accelerating. Ecosystem damage carries costs for business and society: the number of sectors benefiting from natural capital represents a far larger share of the economy than many policy makers appreciate.

Understanding the values people derive from ecosystems is critical to inform trade-offs in decision making on land conversion and ecosystem management. Ecosystems and biodiversity are our stock of 'natural capital' – they lead to a flow of benefits that support societal and individual well-being and economic prosperity. We do not measure this capital well enough to ensure its proper management and stewardship.

Valuation is thought to be particularly useful for mainstreaming the value of ecosystems and their services as well as the biodiversity underpinning them into sectoral policies.

As identified by The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) study, a variety of economic valuation methods have been developed, refined, and applied to biodiversity and ecosystem services in a range of different contexts. Analysis of ecosystem services can be done at three levels – qualitative, quantitative and monetary. While qualitative analysis generally focuses on non-numerical information, quantitative analysis focuses on numerical data. Monetary analysis focuses on translating this data into monetary units using a range of techniques, with a view of helping to inform decision making as part of a wider evidence base.

The valuation methods generally used for determining the monetary value of biodiversity and ecosystem services broadly fall into three categories: direct market valuation methods (for provisioning services already traded in the market), revealed preference methods (e.g. looking at how environmental conditions affect house prices or how much people are willing to spend on travels to visit a natural site) and stated preference methods (e.g. survey to estimate people's willingness to pay for the increased provision of an ecosystem service). Each category has its weaknesses and strengths and their suitability needs to be determined on a case by case basis. Other valuation methods include 'production function' based approaches, which involve looking at the service provision by a biological resource, and deliberative monetary valuation approaches that can provide useful insights into the values people derive from ecosystems. Economic values for ecosystem services may be estimated directly for the site and issues in question, or may use values already developed in other studies of a similar ecosystem and context in which a valuation has been done. This method is known as the 'benefits transfer method'. The information obtained through valuation and/or the use of benefits transfer method can be used in particular to inform policy assessments – including cost-benefit analysis – so that decision makers may consider trade-offs and take better-informed decisions.

Accounting is also considered an essential component of mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystems because the protection of public goods and maintenance of ecosystem services goes to the heart of sustainable development and how it can accommodate economic growth. Proper accounting is necessary to support informed decisions.

## **Box 2: Natural capital accounts and SEEA**

Four basic categories of natural capital are generally recognised: air, water (fresh, groundwater and marine), land (including soil, space and landscape) and habitats (including the ecosystems, flora and fauna which they both comprise and support). Comprehensive natural capital accounts (of both stocks and flows) could be created and incorporated into the systems of national accounts (SNA) to allow accounting and analysis of the interactions between the economy and the environment.

The System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA) is the statistical framework that provides internationally agreed concepts, definitions, classifications, accounting rules and standard tables for producing internationally comparable statistics on the environment and its relationship with the economy. The SEEA framework follows a similar accounting structure as the System of National Accounts (SNA) and uses concepts, definitions and classifications consistent with the SNA in order to facilitate the integration of environmental and economic statistics.

A multi-year process of revision to the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts was initiated by the United Nations Statistical Commission. The revised SEEA consists of three parts: the central framework consisting of agreed concepts, definitions classifications, accounting rules and tables; experimental accounts for ecosystems and extensions and applications of the SEEA. Subsystems of the SEEA framework elaborate on specific resources or sectors, including: Energy, Water, Fisheries, Land and Ecosystems, and Agriculture. These 'sub-systems' are fully consistent with the over-arching SEEA, but provide further details on specific topics and try to build bridges between the accounting community and the community of experts in each specific subject matter.

The 1993 SEEA was revised in 2003. A new revision is expected by 2012/1013, including now a special volume on ecosystem accounts and valuation. This is part of a larger process, as reflected in references to environmental accounts for measuring progress being mentioned in relation to the Green Economy, Green Growth and Resource Efficiency and the setting of targets in this area, such as in the new CBD Aichi-Nagoya Strategy 2010, which calls for the inclusion of biodiversity and ecosystem values in national accounts.

Sources: UN Statistics Division (2011), URL: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/seea.asp>

[UK Houses of Parliament \(2011\) Natural Capital Accounting, Postnote Number 376, May 2011](#)