

# **Report of the Global Workshop on National Experiences in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**

**Brasilia, 12 to 14 March 2012**

## **Hosted by**

- UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Ministry of the Environment, Brazil

## **In collaboration with**

- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

## **Co-chaired by**

- Mr. Robin Mortimer (United Kingdom)
- Dr. Roberto Cavalcanti (Brazil)

## INTRODUCTION

The Workshop was an informal expert consultation, co-hosted by the Governments of Brazil and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and organised in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD). The workshop was professionally facilitated and took place from 12 to 14 March 2012 in Brasilia, Brazil. This is the full report of the meeting.

The regionally balanced workshop brought together Government nominated experts from XX countries:

The Workshop also included representatives of a number of international, inter-governmental, and non-governmental organisations: XX

A list of participants is provided at Annex 1.

### Aims and objectives

At the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2012, Parties adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including 20 ambitious “Aichi Biodiversity Targets” for 2020 or earlier.

The purpose of the Workshop was to provide an informal setting where countries could share examples and experiences in their efforts to meet the challenges associated with updating their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and with setting national targets, in line with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The Workshop also intended to assist Parties prepare for the discussion of these issues at the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI-4) in May 2012, and to add further momentum to the process in the lead-up to COP-11 in October 2012.

The Workshop was structured around national progress made in regard to the following four aspects of implementation of the Strategic Plan: 1) progress and challenges with revision of NBSAPs; 2) target-setting; 3) mainstreaming biodiversity into landscapes and economic sectors; 4) resources and partnerships for implementation. It was conducted in a very participatory, problem-solving style, with only short presentations for “scene-setting” and with expert facilitation of breakout groups.

### Workshop Programme

The meeting followed the Workshop Programme and the Supplementary Note to the Workshop Programme, set out in UNEP/CBD/WSSPNE/1/1 and UNEP/CBD/WSSPNE/1/1/Add.1, respectively. These documents are provided in Annex 2.

## I. OUTCOMES OF THE WORKSHOP

Views indicated in this summary from the Workshop are not necessarily representative of, or agreed by, all participants.

### A: General messages from the Workshop:

- **NBSAPs are a key part of delivering the 2020 global goals**; most biodiversity actions take place at the national and sub-national levels and NBSAPs provide a focal point for leadership, engagement and resource mobilisation to deliver national goals and targets.
- **Sharing experiences** between countries and regions on revising NBSAPs, setting national targets, developing tools for successful implementation and mobilising resources will be critical if we are to meet the Aichi targets.
- **Raising awareness** of the importance and value of biodiversity across all sectors, and at the highest political level, is necessary, and will continue to be necessary, if we are to meet the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- **Building the knowledge base** on biodiversity and **closing the science-policy gap** will be a key if we are to meet the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- **Every country will need to play their part** if we are to meet the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

### B: Specific points that emerged from the discussion on the process of revising NBSAPs

- Revising NBSAPs takes **time, expertise, money and resources**.
- **NBSAPs need to be adopted as a policy tool** and **Political will** is critical for successfully revising, adopting and implementing a revised NBSAP. **Political buy in is needed across all political parties**, at the highest level and across all Government Departments if successful implementation of NBSAPs is to be achieved.
- **Engaging all relevant stakeholders at an early stage** in the revision of the NBSAP process, in particular in developing and implementation of targets, can help raise awareness and secure buy-in to the process.
- **Mainstreaming needs to be more than just a concept which takes the place of real action.** It needs to be a reality where biodiversity concerns are embedded into all relevant sectors, including the private sector, and is recognised as being important and necessary. Using networks is an effective way of making mainstreaming a reality.
- **Building in regular monitoring of progress** towards implementation of NBSAPs will be necessary if the global 2020 Aichi targets are to be met. Using tools such as indicators is a helpful way of doing this.

### C: Specific points that emerged from the discussion on target setting

- We need '**SMART**' targets
- In particular targets need to be **MEASURABLE**. This can be achieved either by including a quantitative element within the target itself or by supplementing a broad target with a suite of more specific 'measurable' sub-targets or indicators. **Baseline information** for these will be important.
- There is a **quality-versus-quantity** issue when setting certain targets. In some instances setting targets that are quantifiable may not necessarily lead to the broader outcomes that are required. In such instances, qualitative targets may be more appropriate.
- When setting targets it is **important to build on what has already been done, including in the context of other relevant national, regional and international frameworks**.

- When setting targets it is important to ensure that the **resources required to successfully implement the target are thought about in parallel** to setting the target to ensure that it is both realistic and deliverable within the specified timeframe.
- In some instances setting **process-oriented targets/goals can be useful** e.g. on signing/ratifying the Nagoya Protocol.
- There is real **value in embedding a multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder challenge process** when setting targets to ensure that they are SMART, relevant to the national context and implementable on the ground.

#### D: Specific points that emerged from the discussion on mainstreaming

Implementation of the Strategic Plan will require thinking beyond traditional biodiversity conservation measures. This will mean **engaging with processes beyond the CBD**. Some of the main barriers towards implementation are **lack of political buy-in** and a **lack of knowledge** on how and **why biodiversity is important to other sectors**. A number of different strategies could be useful in helping countries to successfully mainstream biodiversity:

- **Political strategies** – influencing up e.g. getting to politicians manifestos, using high status government documents/processes to influence
- **Engagement strategies** e.g. using cross sector approaches, bringing in groups into political processes, using concepts and language which make sense to other sectors (ecosystem approach, valuation etc)  
Dealing with conflicts that arise and being clear on how biodiversity can bring benefits.
- **Institutional strategies** – such as the UK Natural Capital Committee (reporting to the finance Ministry)
- **Evidence strategies** – having correct evidence to make the case e.g. being able to explain what impact of biodiversity would be on different sectors

#### E: Specific points that emerged from the discussion on resource mobilisation

- Clear mechanisms which recognize the complexity are needed to **assess resource requirements** both at the national level and overall. This will ensure a credible framework for resource mobilisation
- **Access to the necessary finances** at both the national and international levels is one of the key barriers towards successful revision of NBSAPs.
- There is a **lack of resources** more generally for biodiversity conservation. **New and innovative resource mobilisation strategies are therefore needed** if countries are to successfully implement their NBSAPs.
- There is a **lack of capacity in expertise for accessing new and innovative finances**. There is therefore a need for sustained, specific training and personnel for tools for accessing resources.
- **Translation of the concept of valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services into practical tools** that countries can use at the national level is needed to raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity in order to mobilize new and innovative sources of funding.
- The discussions which will be held under **Rio +20** may help contribute towards the resource mobilization discussions under the CBD.

#### F: Specific points that emerged from the discussion on aggregation



## II. REPORT OF THE WORKING SESSIONS

### Opening of the Workshop

Opening statements were delivered by the Workshop Co-Chairs Mr. Robin Mortimer and Mr. Roberto Cavalcanti. A written statement by Izabella Teixeira, Minister of Environment for Brazil was delivered and a video message by Mr Richard Benyon, Minister of Environment, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was shown.

Mr Jongsoo Yoon, Vice Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea and Mr Alan Charlton, UK Ambassador to Brazil also delivered opening statements.

### **Item 1 - Revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) – or their equivalent – to contribute adequately to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**

#### *Presenters:*

Ms. Noriko Moriwake (Japan) – Japan's experience in revising its NBSAP and recent developments

Mr. Duncan Williams (United Kingdom) – Lessons learned from the UK NBSAP revision process

Ms Diana Ramirez (Guatemala) – Guatemala's revision of the NBSAP process

Mr. Thomas Koetz (European Union) – The European Union's Biodiversity Strategy to 2020: *Our life insurance – Our natural capital*

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES WHICH WERE PRESENTED OR EMERGED FROM THE DISCUSSIONS  
WILL GO HERE

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

#### *Presenters:*

Dr Roberto Cavalcanti – Transforming pre-2010 targets into 2020 targets

Mr. Paul Rose (United Kingdom) – UK experience with national target-setting to contribute to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES WHICH WERE PRESENTED OR EMERGED FROM THE DISCUSSIONS  
WILL GO HERE

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

#### *Presenters:*

Malta Qwathekana (South Africa) – South Africa's experience with mainstreaming biodiversity beyond protected areas into community and private sector landscapes

Ms. Andrea Cruz Angon (Mexico) – Mexico's experience with mainstreaming biodiversity

**Item 4 - The resource challenge – finance, participation and partnerships (selected success stories for NBSAP planning AND implementation)**

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES WHICH EMERGED WILL GO HERE

**Item 5: Aggregation – how do we track and scale-up reporting on national progress towards the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets?**

SPECIFIC EXAMPLES WHICH EMERGED WILL GO HERE

**Item 6: Final discussion and conclusions**

## **Annex 1**

### List of Participants



## **Annex 2**

Workshop Programme (as set out in UNEP/CBD/WSSPNE/1/1)