Workshop on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Exploring options and sharing experiences.
COP 6, Decision VI/9 adopted the GSPC

Goal:

“halt the current and continuing loss of plant diversity”
Scope of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

- Understanding and documenting plant diversity
- Conserving plant diversity
- Using plant diversity sustainably
- Promoting education & awareness about plant diversity
- Capacity building for plant diversity
Scope of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

- 16 outcome-orientated targets to be achieved by 2010
- Linked to the key overarching Global Biodiversity Conservation target for 2010, adopted by CBD and governments, to achieve “a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010”.
Understanding and documenting plant diversity (baseline targets 1-3)
Conserving plant diversity (in situ targets 4-7,10)
Conserving plant diversity (ex situ targets 8-9)
Using plant diversity sustainably (11-13)
Promoting education and awareness about plant diversity -14:

(xiv) The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes;
Building capacity for the conservation of plant diversity 15 & 16:

- (xv) The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy;

- (xvi) Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.
The GSPC articulates elements of the key programmes and cross cutting issues

- Forests, Drylands, Mountain, Island, Agricultural Biodiversity and Protected Areas
- Access to Genetic resources and Benefit Sharing
- Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices (Article 8j)
- Indicators, education and sustainable tourism
- Taxonomy (GTI)
- Alien invasive species (GISP)
Role: Provides a framework to:

- facilitate harmony between existing initiatives aimed at plant conservation
- identify gaps where new initiatives are required
- promote mobilization of the necessary resources
- be a tool to enhance the ecosystem approach to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
COP 6

**Emphasized** that targets should be viewed as a **flexible framework** within which **national and/or regional targets** may be developed, **according to national priorities and capacities**, and taking into account differences in plant diversity between countries;
Stressed the potential role of the strategy in contributing to poverty alleviation and sustainable development;

Emphasized the need for capacity-building, particularly in developing countries, small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, in order to enable them to implement the strategy;
Invited Parties, other Governments, the financial mechanism, and funding organizations to provide adequate and timely support to the implementation of the strategy, ...

especially by developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition
Encouraged Parties to **nominate focal points** or designate from among existing focal points to:

(a) **Promote and facilitate implementation** and **monitoring** at national level, **including the identification of national targets** and **their integration** in national biodiversity strategies and other plans, programmes and activities.

(b) **Promote the participation** of **national stakeholders** in the **implementation** and monitoring of the Strategy at national level;

(c) **Facilitate communication** between **national stakeholders** and the **Secretariat** and **Global Partnership for Plant Conservation**;
PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION
Nominations of focal points

- **Africa**: Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Madagascar, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, Zimbabwe,
- **Asia**: India, Japan, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand,
- **Europe**: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Denmark, Estonia, EU, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Spain, UK,
- **Islands**: Bahamas, Comoros, Cuba, Singapore, Tonga, Trinidad,
- **Middle East**: Oman, Saudi Arabia,
- **Americas**: Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Belize, Mexico, Venezuela
Progress in development of national strategies

- **Pre GSPC** – Colombia

- **Published** (UK, Philippines, Seychelles)

- **Draft** (Honduras, Ireland)

- **In Process** (China, Germany, Nepal, Malaysia)

- **National response** (South Africa)

- **NGO led process** (New Zealand)
Implementati
on
of the GSPC:

- National level responses
- Regional strategies and other sectoral initiatives

South Africa  Colombia  New Zealand  Ireland

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

Botanic Gardens  Important Plant Areas  Europe  U.K.  Seychelles
Regional Strategies

- **Europe** (published and 1st phase review completed)
- **Arabian Peninsula** (under development)
- **Latin America** (1st & 2nd Workshop in 2003 & 2006)
- **Caribbean Region** (national responses, meeting April 2006)
European Plant Conservation Strategy – An example for review outcomes

- Mid Term Review - 250 plant experts involved - 4th European conference in Valencia, Spain (September 2004).
- Identified constraints in the implementation of EPCS’s nine targets
- Developed more realistic milestones were given to these nine
- Amended four targets
- Added two new targets
Other initiatives

**Global**
- International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation *(published)*

**Regional**
- African Botanic Gardens Strategy *(published)*
- Botanic Garden Strategy for Latin America *(includes 2010 targets)*
- Botanical Gardens Strategy for the Americas

**National:**
Various: e.g. Chinese Network of Botanic Gardens *(CAS)*
Communication and public awareness of the GSPC

Leaflets and brochures to enhance public awareness:
- GISP – Target 10; Plantlife International - Target 5; Botanic Gardens Conservation International - target 8 and 14.

Translations
- Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish, by volunteers.

Bookmarks
- BGCI produced bookmarks summarizing the sixteen targets of the strategy in the six United Nations languages for COP 8

Dissemination:
- The GSPC brochures distributed at the CITES Conference of Parties, the Second World Conservation Congress (IUCN) and the International Botanical Congress.
3rd Global Botanic Gardens Congress

April 16-20, 2007 Wuhan, China

2007年4月16-20日，中国，武汉
Capacity Building

- African Regional Course in Plant Conservation Strategies – Uganda 2004 – 16 countries (RBG Kew, SCBD, BGCI, GPPC)
- International Botanical Congress - May 2005 etc
- Caribbean Regional Workshop on the GSPC – May, Montserrat 2006 -11 island states (DEFRA, UK; JNCC; RBG Kew; BGCI; SCBD)
- Latin American Botanical Congress – July 2006
- China - Nov. 2006 (DEFRA, JNCC, RBG Kew, BGCI, SCBD)
- Spain – Nov. 2006 (Cordoba Botanic Gardens, Spanish Government and Ramon Areces Foundation)
- 3rd Global Botanic Gardens Congress, Wuhan, China, April 2007
- Many others.
The Global Partnership for Plant Conservation

- Launched at COP7,
- Friday 13th February, 2004
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
The Global Partnership for Plant Conservation

1st Conference of the GPPC (2005, Dublin)

* Documented case studies to support GSPC implementation
  - www.botanicgardens.ie
* Expanded membership at all levels
* Guidance and tools for national implementation
* Support for regional/national partnerships
IN DEPTH REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GSPC.
Upcoming – in depth review

Multi-year programme of work of the COP to 2010,

COP 7 decided to undertake the in-depth review of the GSPC with a focus to:

- Assess the implementation and effectiveness of the programme of work;
- Review the targets

Notifications to Parties and relevant agencies and stakeholders sent in July 2006.

Plan:

- COP 9 – Germany 2008
Liaison group meeting – Ireland 23-25th October 2006

- Enhancing national implementation of the Global Strategy, and its contribution to meeting the 2010 biodiversity target, the MDGS and responding to the challenges arising from the conclusions of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment;

- Proposals of elements of the toolkit for the Global Strategy to assist in national implementation, including proposals for its dissemination;

- A review of the potential impact on climate change and other factors that may impact plant conservation and hence implementation of the Global Strategy

Proposals on options for the Global Strategy after 2010.
National Reports

- whether a national target has been set;
- whether the global or national target has been incorporated into the relevant plans, programmes and strategies;
- the current status;
- measures taken to achieve target indicating activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target;
- progress made towards the target specifying indicators used to monitor progress towards the target;
- constraints to achieving progress towards the target and any other relevant information.
Summary of responses, n=91

CBD Parties
1) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

- a: 31% (59)
- b: 14% (28)
- No Answer: 2% (5)
- Not Analyzed: 51% (98)
**e.g. Target 1**

![Bar chart showing the status of national targets for various GSPC Targets](chart.png)
Target 1

National targets mainstreamed vs not mainstreamed

GSPC targets

- Target incorporated into relevant plans, programmes strategies
- Target not incorporated
Target 1

Progress in national implementation

GSPC Targets

- current status
- Measures taken to achieve target
- Progress made
Current status

- Target setting limited
- Focus on intention of target rather than target itself
- No indicators
- Mainstreaming if linked to other initiatives
- More progress where regional effort/initiatives/strategies are in place
General conclusion

- 10% of Parties either have developed national strategy or targets for plant conservation or incorporated these in their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)
Implementation of targets

Targets with limited development

- **Target 2** A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels
- **Target 4** At least 10% of each of the world’s ecological regions effectively conserved
- **Target 6** At least 30% of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity
- **Target 10** Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems
- **Target 12** 30% of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed
Challenges

- National implementation constrained – slow paced.
- Lack of mainstreaming at national level – poor institutional linkages and limited integration.

Constraints:

- technical (lack of data, tools and technologies)
- financial (limited funding available),
- institutional (coordination, capacity and capability)
- regulatory (lack of appropriate supporting policies and legal framework).

- Complex demands for CBD implementation at national level – many programmes of work.
Proposed recommendations

- Urges Parties that have not yet done to
  - nominate focal points for the Strategy (only 58 Parties have done this)
  - develop national and/or regional strategies for plant conservation with targets, and consider their integration into NBSAPs and other relevant national and regional policies and action plans, as part of broader plans to achieve the 2010 biodiversity target and the relevant Millennium Development Goals
Request Parties, other governments and relevant organisations to

- undertake activities for achieving enhanced implementation of the Strategy, in particular its targets 2, 4, 6, 7, 10 and 12

- provide additional information on the progress made towards achieving the targets of the Strategy, including quantitative data and additional information from other sectors and processes such as in forestry and agriculture
Considers the further development of the Strategy beyond 2010 including by integrating targets related to climate change and nutrient loading.
Executive Secretary; in collaboration with the global partnership for plant conservation, relevant organisations with contribution from Parties and relevant stakeholders:

- A toolkit that describes *inter alia* tools and experiences that can help enhance national implementation (draft outline presented as Annex I of the document)

- A Plant Biodiversity Outlook that would serve as a communication and awareness-raising tool on the status of plant conservation and the GSPC’s implementation: prepared by the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre Cambridge, U.K.
CONSIDERATIONS AND LINKAGES IN NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL OUTLOOK 3

- increased pollutants in the atmosphere;
- vast areas of land resources degraded;
- depleted and degraded forests;
- biodiversity under threat;
- increasingly inadequate freshwater resources of deteriorating quality; and
- seriously depleted marine resources.
FIGURE 2.18 | Global Ecological Footprint

Billion hectares

- Built-up land
- Earth's biocapacity
- Food, fibre, and timber
- Energy

## FIGURE 4.1 | Main direct drivers of change in biodiversity and ecosystems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driver</th>
<th>Habitat Change</th>
<th>Climate Change</th>
<th>Invasive Species</th>
<th>Over-exploitation</th>
<th>Pollution (nitrogen, phosphorus)</th>
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### Driver’s impact on biodiversity over the last century
- **Low**
- **Moderate**
- **High**
- **Very high**

### Driver’s current trends
- **Decreasing impact**
- **Continuing impact**
- **Increasing impact**
- **Very rapid increase of the impact**
The Millennium Development Goals were agreed upon at the United Nations Millennium Summit in 2000. Under each Goal, specific targets for 2015 were established.

**GOAL 1:** Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger  
**GOAL 2:** Achieve universal primary education  
**GOAL 3:** Promote gender equality and empower women  
**GOAL 4:** Reduce child mortality  
**GOAL 5:** Improve maternal health  
**GOAL 6:** Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases  
**GOAL 7:** Ensure environmental sustainability  
**GOAL 8:** Develop a Global Partnership for Development
2010 Biodiversity Target

- to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth.
**Box 2.1 | Headline indicators for assessing progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target**

**FOCAL AREA: Reducing the rate of loss of the components of biodiversity, including: (i) biomes, habitats and ecosystems; (ii) species and populations; and (iii) genetic diversity**

- Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats
- Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species
- Change in status of threatened species
- Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals, cultivated plants, and fish species of major socio-economic importance
- Coverage of protected areas

**FOCAL AREA: Maintaining ecosystem integrity, and the provision of goods and services provided by biodiversity in ecosystems, in support of human well-being**

- Marine Trophic Index
- Connectivity/fragmentation of ecosystems
- Water quality in aquatic ecosystems

**FOCAL AREA: Addressing the major threats to biodiversity, including those arising from invasive alien species, climate change, pollution, and habitat change**

- Nitrogen deposition
- Trends in invasive alien species

**FOCAL AREA: Promoting sustainable use of biodiversity**

- Area of forest, agricultural and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management
- Ecological footprint and related concepts

**FOCAL AREA: Protecting traditional knowledge, innovations and practices**

- Status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages

**FOCAL AREA: Ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources**

- Indicator to be developed

**FOCAL AREA: Mobilizing financial and technical resources, especially for developing countries, in particular, least developed countries and small island developing states among them, and countries with economies in transition, for implementing the Convention and the Strategic Plan**

- Official development assistance provided in support of the Convention

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*Focal areas and associated headline indicators are from decision VII/30, with refinements as recommended in SBSTTA recommendation X/5. This box lists only those headline indicators discussed in this edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, and the sequence of focal areas differs from decision VII/30.
Acknowledgements

- SCBD
- Royal Botanic Gardens Kew
- BGCI and the HSBC Investing in Nature Support
- Governments of Canada, Colombia, Ireland and UK
- British Airways Assisting Conservation and Local Communities Programme
- Global Partnership for Plant Conservation
- IUCN
- Plantlife International
- People and Plants International
- FAO
- WWF
- UNEP-WCMC
- CITES Plants Committee
- IPGRI
- and many others