

Protected Areas

Contracting Party	Germany
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Submission	
<i>Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report:</i>	
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Please provide summary information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on the types of stakeholders who have been actively involved in its preparation and on material which was used as a basis for the report

According to the allocation of competencies prescribed by Germany's Basic Law, responsibility for nature conservation matters lies with the *Länder* <Federal States>. Consequently, the sixteen *Länder* were asked to submit contributions on the issues addressed by this report which were relevant to them. The following summary report was prepared on the basis of these contributions from the *Länder*, some of which contained differing or contradictory responses. As such, although the report gives an approximate overview of the situation in Germany as a whole, it does not permit concrete conclusions to be drawn vis-à-vis the situation in the various *Länder*. To this end, it would be necessary to examine the individual contributions submitted by the *Länder*, some of which contain lengthy opinions. These are not enclosed with this report, but are accessible either via the national focal point (see above) or from the respective supreme nature conservation authorities of the *Länder*.

Protected areas

System of protected areas

1. What is the relative priority afforded to development and implementation of a national system of protected areas in the context of other obligations arising from the Convention and COP Decisions?			
a) High	X	b) Medium	
2. Is there a systematic planning process for development and implementation of a national system of protected areas?			
a) no			
b) in early stages of development	Section 3 of the Federal Nature Conservation Act <BNatSchG> – cross-Länder system of interlinked biotopes		
c) in advanced stages of development			
d) yes (please provide copies of relevant documents describing the process)	Copy 1 and 2 attached (HE)		
3. Is there an assessment of the extent to which the existing network of protected areas covers all areas that are identified as being important for the conservation of biological diversity?			
a) no			
b) an assessment is being planned for			
c) an assessment is being undertaken			
d) yes (please provide copies of the assessments made)	Copy 3 attached (HE)		
d) On the basis of the coherent European ecological network, Natura 2000 (Directive 92/43 EEC)			

Regulatory framework

4. Is there a policy framework and/or enabling legislation in place for the establishment and management of protected areas?	
a) no	
b) in early stages of development	
c) in advanced stages of development	
d) yes (please provide copies of relevant documents)	With opinions from the <i>Länder</i> of BE, MV, NW, SN, BY, HE

5. Have guidelines, criteria and targets been adopted to support selection, establishment and management of protected areas?	
a) no	
b) in early stages of development	
c) in advanced stages of development	
d) yes (please provide copies of guidelines, criteria and targets)	In selected <i>Länder</i> (opinions from NW, BY, HE)
6. Does the management of protected areas involve the use of incentive measures, for instance, of entrance fees for park visitors, or of benefit-sharing arrangements with adjacent communities and other relevant stakeholders?	
a) no	In selected <i>Länder</i>
b) yes, incentive measures implemented for some protected areas (please provide some examples)	In selected <i>Länder</i> (EU Directive 1257/99; extensification, management, compensatory payments)
c) yes, incentive measures implemented for all protected areas (please provide some examples)	Opinion from HE

Management approach

7. Have the principal threats to protected areas and the biodiversity that they contain been assessed, so that programmes can be put in place to deal with the threats, their effects and to influence the key drivers?	
a) no	
b) an assessment is being planned for	With varying scope in individual <i>Länder</i>
c) an assessment is in process	With varying scope in individual <i>Länder</i>
d) yes, an assessment has been completed	With varying scope in individual <i>Länder</i> (opinion from HE)
e) programmes and policies to deal with threats are in place (please provide basic information on threats and actions taken)	
8. Are protected areas established and managed in the context of the wider region in which they are located, taking account of and contributing to other sectoral strategies?	
a) no	
b) yes, in some areas	X (opinion from HE)
c) yes, in all areas (please provide details)	

9. Do protected areas vary in their nature, meeting a range of different management objectives and/or being operated through differing management regimes?	
a) no, most areas are established for similar objectives and are under similar management regimes	
b) many areas have similar objectives/management regimes, but there are also some exceptions	X (opinion from HE)
c) yes, protected areas vary in nature (please provide details)	
10. Is there wide stakeholder involvement in the establishment and management of protected areas?	
a) no	
b) with some, but not all protected areas	
c) yes, always (please provide details of experience)	X (with exceptions); opinion from HE
11. Do protected areas established and managed by non-government bodies, citizen groups, private sector and individuals exist in your country, and are they recognized in any formal manner?	
a) no, they do not exist	X (with exceptions); opinion from HE
b) yes, they exist, however are not formally recognized	
c) yes, they exist and are formally recognized (please provide further information)	

Available resources

12. Are the human, institutional and financial resources available adequate for full implementation of the protected areas network, including for management of individual protected areas?	
a) no, they are severely limiting (please provide basic information on needs and shortfalls)	
b) no, they are limiting (please provide basic information on needs and shortfalls)	With opinions from the <i>Länder</i> of BE, MV, NW, HE
c) Available resources are adequate (please provide basic information on needs and shortfalls)	
d) yes, good resources are available	

13. Has your country requested/received financial assistance from the Global Environment Facility or other international sources for establishment/management of protected areas?	
a) no	X
b) funding has been requested, but not received	
c) funding is currently being requested	
d) yes, funding has been received (please provide copies of appropriate documents)	

Assessment

14. Have constraints to implementation and management of an adequate system of protected areas been assessed, so that actions can be initiated to deal with these constraints?	
a) no	In part
b) yes, constraints have been assessed (please provide further information)	In part
c) yes, actions to deal with constraints are in place (please provide further information)	In part (opinions from NW, SH, HE)
15. Is a programme in place or in development to regularly assess the effectiveness of protected areas management and to act on this information?	
a) no	
b) yes, a programme is under development (please provide further information)	Monitoring within the framework of Articles 11 and 17 of the Habitat Directive, opinion from HE
c) yes, a programme is in place (please provide further information)	
16. Has any assessment been made of the value of the material and non-material benefits and services that protected areas provide?	
a) no	X
b) an assessment is planned	
c) an assessment is in process	
d) yes, an assessment has been made (please provide further information)	

Regional and international cooperation

17. Is your country collaborating/communicating with neighbouring countries in the establishment and/or management of transboundary protected areas?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details)	With opinions from selected <i>Länder</i> (NW, SN, SH, MV, BY, HE)
18. Are key protected areas professionals in your country members of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, thereby helping to foster the sharing of information and experience?	
a) no	With some exceptions
b) yes	
c) information is not available	
19. Has your country provided information on its protected areas to the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre in order to allow for a scientific assessment of the status of the world's protected areas?	
a) no	
b) yes	X
20. If your country has protected areas or other sites recognised or designated under an international convention or programme (including regional conventions and programmes), please provide copies of reports submitted to those programmes or summaries of them.	
Cf. enclosed Copy 4 by way of an example (MV)	
21. Do you think that there are some activities on protected areas that your country has significant experience that will be of direct value to other Contracting Parties?	
a) no	
b) yes (please provide details)	Copy 5 a) (BY), 5 b) (BY), 5 c) (SN), 5 d) (BMU)

Further comments

1. Because of its very rigid format, the report is only capable to a very limited extent of reflecting the diverse circumstances which exist within Germany (federal structure; responsibility for nature conservation lies below central government level).
2. In particular, the following factors are decisive for the further development of the concept of protected areas in Germany:
 - a) The relevant European provisions on nature conservation to create a coherent European ecological network of protected areas, Natura 2000 (Birds Directive and Habitat Directive),
 - b) The provisions in the Federal Nature Conservation Act <BNatSchG> relating to a cross-*Länder* system of interlinked biotopes (Section 3 of the *BNatSchG*).

Abbreviations:

BE = Berlin
BY = Bayern
HE = Hessen
MV = Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
NW = Nordrhein-Westfalen
SH = Schleswig-Holstein
SN = Sachsen

BMU = Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Attachments to this report are available in German primarily. Copies may be obtained from the National Reports Unit of the CBD Secretariat.