

The Gambia

Third national report

CONTENTS

A. REPORTING PARTY	2
Information on the preparation of the report.....	2
B. PRIORITY SETTING, TARGETS AND OBSTACLES.....	4
Priority Setting.....	6
Challenges and Obstacles to Implementation.....	7
2010 Target.....	10
Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC).....	39
Ecosystem Approach	55
C. ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION.....	58
Article 5 – Cooperation.....	58
Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use.....	60
Biodiversity and Climate Change.....	62
Article 7 - Identification and monitoring.....	64
Decisions on Taxonomy	67
Article 8 - In-situ conservation [Excluding paragraphs (a) to (e), (h) and (j)].....	70
Programme of Work on Protected Areas (Article 8 (a) to (e))	72
Article 8(h) - Alien species.....	77
Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions	81
GURTS	81
Status and Trends	81
Akwé: Kon Guidelines.....	81
Capacity Building and Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities	82
Support to implementation.....	83
Article 9 - Ex-situ conservation.....	84
Article 10 - Sustainable use of components of biological diversity.....	86
Biodiversity and Tourism.....	89
Article 11 - Incentive measures	91
Article 12 - Research and training.....	94
Article 13 - Public education and awareness.....	95
Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts.....	99
Article 15 - Access to genetic resources	103
Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology.....	107
Programme of Work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation	108
Article 17 - Exchange of information.....	111
Article 18 - Technical and scientific cooperation	112
Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits	115
Article 20 – Financial resources	117
D. THEMATIC AREAS	123
Inland water ecosystems.....	125
Marine and coastal biological diversity	128
General.....	128
Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management	129
Marine and Coastal Living Resources	129
Mariculture	131
Alien Species and Genotypes	132
Agricultural biological diversity	133
Annex to decision V/5 - Programme of work on agricultural biodiversity.....	134
Forest Biological Diversity.....	139
General.....	139
Expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity	140
Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands.....	147
Mountain Biodiversity.....	149
E. OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION.....	153
F. COMMENTS ON THE FORMAT	154

A. REPORTING PARTY

Contracting Party	The Gambia
NATIONAL FOCAL POINT	
Full name of the institution	Department of Parks and Wildlife Management
Name and title of contact officer	Dr. Almamy Camara, Director, Department of Parks and Wildlife Management
Mailing address	Department of Parks and Wildlife Management C/o Abuko Nature Reserve, Kombo Central Western Division, Banjul, The Gambia
Telephone	(220) 4376972/3
Fax	(220) 4392179
E-mail	Almamoc@hotmail.com
CONTACT OFFICER FOR NATIONAL REPORT (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)	
Full name of the institution	Same as above
Name and title of contact officer	
Mailing address	
Telephone	
Fax	
E-mail	
SUBMISSION	
Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report	
Date of submission	October 2006

Information on the preparation of the report

Box I.

Please provide information on the preparation of this report, including information on stakeholders involved and material used as a basis for the report.

Report Preparation: This report has been prepared through a participatory process involving members of the Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Working Group as the National Coordinating Body for the implementation of projects and programmes in the fields of Agriculture and Natural resources, including the three environment related Rio conventions, members of the National Task Force on Biodiversity (a subset of the ANR Working Group), members of the Divisional Coordinating Committee (DCC) representing the Five administrative divisions and the Municipalities, representatives of Local NGOs dealing with biodiversity matters, a national consultant and the national Focal Point for CBD. The ANR Working Group retained the Biodiversity Task Force which was constituted in 1997, for the purpose of carrying out the biodiversity country study (NBSAP) as well as give guidance for the preparation of this report and recruited a national consultant to work with the Task Force under the supervision of the Focal Point. The report guideline was initially distributed to members of the Biodiversity Task Force for their sector specific input at the end of which a three-day retreat workshop

was convened where all relevant stakeholders were represented. With the assistance of the members of the Task Force, the national consultant prepared a 1st draft of the report under the supervision of the Focal Point and distributed the draft to members of the Task Force for their review and comments. Based on the comments received, the national consultant prepared and submitted a 2nd draft report, which was distributed to members of the ANR Working Group for their review and comments. Based on those comments a final version of this report was prepared by the national consultant.

Both the members of the ANR Working Group and the Task Force are representatives of governmental, non-governmental and parastatal institutions, which have clearly defined responsibilities in the implementation of the CBD. Thus, they are primary actor stakeholders and by virtue of their Gambian citizenship, secondary beneficiary stakeholders. The basic material used as the basis for the report is Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for The Gambia (1999) supplemented by the report on Biodiversity Status and Trends in The Gambia (1999), Second National report 2002, RAMSAR Management Plan 2000, Poverty Reduction Strategy Programme 2001, Action Plan to Combat Desertification 2000, Capacity Needs Assessment Report for the three Rio Conventions 2004 and discussions between the consultant and individual members of the Task force and ANR Working Group as well as representatives of other institutions.

B. PRIORITY SETTING, TARGETS AND OBSTACLES

Box II.

Please provide an overview of the status and trends of various components of biological diversity in your country based on the information and data available.

Overview of Biodiversity Status and Trends The Gambia: With its characteristic Sudano- Savanna woodland vegetation type has different types of ecosystems, including close woodlands, open woodland, plantation ecosystems, tree and shrub savanna, wetland ecosystems (marine, coastal and inland freshwater) agricultural (cropland and rangeland) ecosystems.

The wetlands of The Gambia cover almost 20% of the total land area of the country. Of this 6.4% is mangrove forest, 7.8% is uncultivated swamps and 3.2% cultivated. Wetlands are increasingly being used for rice cultivation and for dry season grazing for livestock and they provide the main breeding and nursery areas for the main commercial fish species. Many species of wildlife are totally dependent on wetlands including the rare and threatened West African Manatee, the clawless Otter and the Sitatunga antelope. Preliminary manatee survey (2006) by the Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM) to determine the population status of manatees has suggested an increase in the population of the species as is now found that manatees inhabit areas beyond their traditional range.

The Gambian Wetlands are of international importance for numerous species of rare breeding birds such as the White-Backed Night Heron, Pels Fishing Owl and the Fin Foot. They also serve as wintering grounds for vast numbers of Palearctic migrants, waders, terns, herons and birds of prey such as osprey. The annual water bird census conducted by the DPWM with financial support from Wetlands International has revealed that most of the countries wetlands outside formal protection face threats ranging from habitat degradation and loss of species as a result of unsustainable use of wetland resources. However much of the wetland ecosystems particularly those still not protected retain much of their original vegetation cover and associated species.

Forest biodiversity is of crucial importance to biological diversity of several life systems, forest reserves serve as sources of energy, material for the construction industry, food and medicine to the population. About 43% of the country land area, (4, 730km²) is under forest cover with woodlands accounting for 10%, the remainder consists of savanna woodlands and mangroves that are found along the Gambia River. The mangrove forest cover is estimated at 453,400ha. There are 66 forest parks covering a total area of 34, 029ha. Currently, 25,000ha of forest is under community management. The forest ecosystem has dramatically changed in the last two to three decades from a dense and highly diverse biological environment to its present degraded state. The forest policy of (1995-2005) seek to reserve, maintain and develop 30% of the country's total land area into forest and ensure that the local communities manage 75% of this forest area.

The Gambia's biodiversity in relation to agriculture is embodied in agricultural systems, wild plants and animals species, domesticated species, soil organisms and pests. The country's land and water resources are important live supporting systems important for crop, livestock, and wildlife and forest products.

Agriculture is predominantly rain fed, with rain fall declining since the beginning of sahelian drought in the late sixties. The River Gambia and the underground aquifer system constitute the major sources of water resources. Good drinking water from both the shallow and the deep aquifers is estimated at 80,125, 00m³, increasing water and land use has adversely affect biological diversity.

Fifty two percent (52%) of the Gambia's total land area representing 5, 558km² is arable land, while 28-36 percent of this arable land is cultivated annually. Soil fertility is generally low due to pressure on the land and poor agricultural management practice. Soil nutrient mining is a serious concern. The lost of soil through erosion is estimated at 12.5tons per hectare per year.

The domesticated animal resource of agricultural importance is quite considerable. The recent NASS (2004) put livestock numbers at 452, 029 heads of cattle, 206,679 sheep, 357, 404 goats, 36,459 horses, 68, 666 donkeys, 14, 000 pigs and poultry at 692, 426 birds.

Marine and coastal biodiversity management data shows that the coastline of The Gambia is 80m long with an exclusive economic zone extending over 200 nautical miles from the low water mark. Fisheries resources are provided from both the river covering an area of 2, 000km² and the ocean covering the continental shelf area of 5000km². the total biomass of fish resources in Gambian water is estimated at 178,000tons (22,000tons of demersal and 156000tons of pelagic species).

Certain fish species such as lobster (*Palinurus spp*), sharks, catfish, (*Arius heudeloti*) and white grouper (*Epinehelus aethus*) are threatened as a result unsustainable human exploitations. Based on current production levels, there is considerable scope for exploiting marine pelagic fisheries and aquaculture.

Total fish potential from maritime fisheries is estimated at about 88,000 tons with pelagic and demersal fish resources constituting 78% and 21%, respectively. Total annual fish production is around 38,000 tons indicating surplus potential. No information is currently available on the size of annual fish landing from river fisheries.

In the area of biodiversity assessment there is still little assessment carried out in The Gambia. The first of such an exercise was carried out in 1997, culminating in the document entitled " Biodiversity Status and Trends in the Gambia (1999)"

Inventory for the mammals, birds, amphibians, butterflies and dragonflies have been compiled from 1996 and are regularly updated. The most recent of these listed 125 mammals, 566 birds, 74 reptiles, 33 amphibians, 627 fish, 78 dragonflies and 173 butterflies (C, Emms and Barnett, 2005) and over 140 trees and shrubs. The most comprehensive lists are the birds and fish. However, the other lists are incomplete and the number of species will continue to grow as more surveys are carried out.

Species inventory have also been compiled for Abuko Nature Reserve, Kiang West National Park, Nuimi National Park, Boabolon Wetland Reserve, Tanbi Wetland Complex, Tanji Bird Reserve and River Gambia National Park. The most comprehensive of these is Abuko Nature Reserve, which is the most studied area for biodiversity in the Gambia.

There are reference collections for the cetaceans, marine turtles, bats, reptiles and amphibians. The first two are kept in the Gambia at DPWM, whereas the bat collection is at Senekenberg Museum, Germany, and the reptiles and amphibians collection at the zoological museum of Michigan University in the USA. The cetacean and turtle are both in poor condition and there is no suitable location or facility to house the alcohol collection-bats, reptiles and amphibians in the Gambia.

Human induced introduction of exotic neem tree (*Azadirachta indica*) and Lanatana (*Lantana camara*) has threatened plant species of several ecosystem types in the Gambia. The neem tree spreads through suckering and has formed extensive thickets in many parts of the country. Its control is hampered by the ability of the roots to sprout and its spread is threatening many habitats types from coastal scrub woodlands to riverine forest in fresh water stretches of the River Gambia. The feeding behavior of many species of birds contributes to the spread of the species in almost all terrestrial ecosystems. The severity of the threat pose by the neem tree to the country's biological and other natural resources is leading to the adoption and possible replication of a research conducted in Senegal on converting the biomass (seeds and leaves) into pesticide is currently being considered by National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI). This research initiative is expected lead to the process of leading a mass campaign to control the spread of this invasive species. The water hyacinth (*Eichhirnia crassipes*) has also become established in the upper reaches of the Aahein river and requires elimination to prevent its further spread.

The agricultural biodiversity encompassing agro-ecosystems, domesticated plants and animal species, soil microorganisms, pollinators, pest, wild relatives of domesticated crops and animals as well as plant genetic materials -including traditional varieties, cultivars, hybrids and different types of germplasm play an important role in agricultural development in The Gambia. Plants and animals genetic materials provide the genetic base/reservoir used in the enhancement or development of new/improved crop varieties and animal breeds.

Priority Setting

1. Please indicate, by marking an "X" in the appropriate column below, the level of priority your country accords to the implementation of various articles, provisions and relevant programmes of the work of the Convention.

Article/Provision/Programme of Work	Level of Priority		
	High	Medium	Low
a) Article 5 – Cooperation	X		
b) Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use	X		
c) Article 7 - Identification and monitoring	X		
d) Article 8 – <i>In-situ</i> conservation	X		
e) Article 8(h) - Alien species		X	
f) Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions		X	
g) Article 9 – <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation		X	
h) Article 10 – Sustainable use of components of biological diversity	X		
i) Article 11 - Incentive measures		X	
j) Article 12 - Research and training	X		
k) Article 13 - Public education and awareness		X	
l) Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts	X		
m) Article 15 - Access to genetic resources		X	
n) Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology	X		
o) Article 17 - Exchange of information	X		
p) Article 18 – Scientific and technical cooperation	X		
q) Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits			X
r) Article 20 - Financial resources	X		
s) Article 21 - Financial mechanism		X	
t) Agricultural biodiversity	X		
u) Forest biodiversity	X		

v) Inland water biodiversity	X		
w) Marine and coastal biodiversity	X		
x) Dryland and subhumid land biodiversity	X		
y) Mountain biodiversity			N/A

Challenges and Obstacles to Implementation

2. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the provisions of the Articles of the Convention (5, 6,7, 8, 8h, 8j, 9, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15,16, 17, 18, 19 and 20)	
3 = High Challenge	1 = Low Challenge
2 = Medium Challenge	0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome
N/A = Not applicable	

Challenges	Articles																	
	5	6	7	8	8h	8j	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
a) Lack of political will and support	1	1	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3
b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	1	1	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	-	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	-	3	3	3	-	-	3	3
e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
g) Loss of traditional knowledge	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
h) Lack of adequate scientific research	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

capacities to support all the objectives																		
i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
n) Lack of economic incentive measures	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
o) Lack of benefit-sharing	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	-
r) Lack of effective partnerships	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
s) Lack of engagement of scientific community	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
u) Poverty	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
v) Population pressure	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
x) Lack of capacities for local communities	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
z) Weak law enforcement capacity	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
bb) Others (please specify)																		

2010 Target

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VII/30, annex II, decided to establish a provisional framework for goals and targets in order to clarify the 2010 global target adopted by decision VI/26, help assess the progress towards the target, and promote coherence among the programmes of work of the Convention. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box III.

Goal 1	Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes.		
Target 1.1	At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target		X	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		X	
Please provide details below.			
<p>- Protected Area Coverage: The Gambia aims to increase the Protected Area coverage from its current level of 4.09% to 10% by 2010, covering all the major ecosystem types in the country. Wetlands cover about 20% of the country (including 6.4% of mangrove forest; 7.8% of uncultivated swamps; and 3.2% of cultivated swamps).</p> <p>-The Forest Policy (1995-2005) seeks to reserve, maintain and develop 30% of the country's total land area into forest and to ensure that 75% of this forest area is managed by local communities</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Aim is to protect and sustainably utilize as much as possible a significant area of the country's agric. Biodiversity
b) Inland water	X		Protection by developing 500 hectares of wetland in 2006 and a further protection and development of 500 hectares annually until 2010.
c) Marine and coastal		X	ICAM project aims to develop and protect key marine and coastal ecosystems
d) Dry and subhumid land	X		At least 10% of the total land area to be set aside as Protected Areas (PAs)
e) Forest	X		At least 30% of the forest cover be managed and protected
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	

Please provide details below.
-The targets and strategies have been incorporated in sectoral targets of the strategy for poverty reduction and a National Water Policy is being formulated to be incorporated (PRSP). And also in the 1999 publication of the National Biodiversity Strategy and action plan. -The Forest Policy (1995-2005) is also relevant
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
-Presently, about 60% of wetlands and other ecosystems in the country are under some form of protection. - Number 1.1 is relevant
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
- Percentage of wetlands protected (ie. free from pollution, misuse. Etc.) <i>- Percentage of inter drivers from salination, pollutions etc.</i> - Percentage of forest/dry lands etc. under protection as PAs, Forest Parks, Community Reserves, Private Reserves etc.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
- Low level of community awareness - Inadequate Institutional Capacity - Inadequate Financial Resources
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.
The new National Water Policy which is now finalized highlights recent emerging concerns and catalogued into the existing strategy.

Box IV.

Target 1.2	Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
National Parks, coastal and marine protected areas, forest parks, private and community forests are established.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Lowland Agricultural Development Project (LADEP) in key lowland areas etc.
b) Inland water	X		Specific wetlands with mangrove vegetation have been commissioned as reserve areas– eg. Tanbi by ICAM Project etc

c) Marine and coastal	X		Protection of mangrove and other species
d) Dry and subhumid land	X		To set aside at least 10% of the total land area as PAs
e) Forest	X		Forest parks, community rangelands, woodlands,PAs- about 30% of forest land managed and 10% of land area declared as PAs by 2010 (see ' d' above)
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			X
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
Strategies and plans have been incorporated into the Agriculture and Natural Resources Sector, Poverty Reduction Strategy Programmed (PRSP) and also a national biodiversity policy framework is being developed. (target 1.1 relevant)			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
A review on the envisaged implementation programme of the National PRSP is in progress. Furthermore, the document has been prepared and a national workshop is planned before it goes to Parliament for final approval. (see target 1.1)			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
- Percentage (%) of protected wetlands , rivers , drylands etc. (see target 1.1)			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
- Lack of community awareness of ownership. - Low capacity of communities in protection of particular areas. -Poverty etc (see target 1.1)			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box V.

Goal 2	Promote the conservation of species diversity
Target 2.1	Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	

c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		X	
Please provide details below.			
Many species are now protected by law e.g. the Senegalese long tail parakeet, the common hippo, the Sitatunga etc.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Certain crop varieties are protected by law e.g nitrogen fixing trees (Accacia albida)
b) Inland water	X		Inland waters and associated species such as the manatee and other species are protected by law.
c) Marine and coastal	X		Marine and Coastal mangrove areas and associated animals are protected by law
d) Dry and subhumid land	X		Dry and Subhumid lands and associated species of animals
e) Forest	X		Protected tree species such as Mahogany, African iron wood etc
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	
Please provide details below.			
(See targets 1.1 &1.2)			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target. (Targets 1.1 & 1.2 Relevant)			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target. Observations in the field confirm an increase in the number of certain species of animals and trees e.g. hippos (incidence of conflict), west African manatee, dolphins etc - Available data shows that there are 99 species of mammals, 49 species of reptiles and 30 species of amphibians making a total of 178 species of wild animals in The Gambia.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target. Poor awareness in people & poor information flow			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
N/A			

Box VI .

Target 2.2		Status of threatened species improved	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established		X	
Please provide details below.			
Some animal and bird species are protected by law. At the level of research the parkland fenderbia albida is in state of wide community protection, crowned cranes protected, Abyssinian hornbill protected, the Mahogany tree as well as pterocarpus erinaceus among others are under protection.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	Status of Hippos in the Gambia River to be determined soon
c) Marine and coastal	X		ICAM project is looking into the status of the manatee, dolphin, & turtle as species of concern as well as map out their habitat and assess its quality
d) Dry and subhumid land	X		The setting aside of PAs in this ecosystem accords protection to the assemblage of species therein
e) Forest	X		Specific legislation and programmes to protect tree species like Borassus aethiopicum, Pterocarpus erinaceus, Danielia oliverii, Ceiba pentandra and Khaya senegalensis These tree species seem to be increasing in number as a result
f) Mountain		X	Does not apply
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	
Please provide details below.			
The forestry Act 1998, and the 2003 biodiversity bill accord protection to the above cited tree and animal species under their respective mandates			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Acts have been enacted and implementation in progress			

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
A considerable decline in the incidence of poaching involving threatened species of plants and animals
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
-Poverty, lack of alternative uses of species, animal/farmer conflict, capacity constraints
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box VII.

Goal 3	Promote the conservation of genetic diversity		
Target 3.1	Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a policy framework has been or is being worked on in the areas of crops, fisheries, livestock & wildlife - pure breeds of indigenous livestock species (Ndama cattle) are being multiplied for reproduction and conservation. - crop improvement programme (NERICA), Tree domestication and aqua culture (fisheries resource conservation). 			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Pilot F. albidea parkland established initially 5 hectares subject to improvement, improvement of Ndama's (indigenous cattle) genetic make- up.
b) Inland water	X		Inland valley conservation rice based development network in operation with a focus on promoting the conservation of the genetic diversity of NERICA as a Species/variety of rice.
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	

e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
Inland valley conservation and rice development programme ongoing under the Dept. of State for Agriculture, programme on transferring the resistance of the Ndama cattle to related local and other breeds through genetic means is on-going(ITC)			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Work in progress- However, lack of funding seem to be presenting hurdles to the Ndama genetic improvement activities			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
An increasing number of farmers are now planting the NERICA rice due to its short duration and high yields etc			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
-Lack of funding for the Ndama genetic improvement and multiplication scheme -NERICA rice development is a new technology and as such its complete adoption will take some time			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box VIII.

Goal 4	Promote sustainable use and consumption.		
Target 4.1	Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
In the Gambia, bush meat and other forest products are not managed for conservation of biodiversity however, livestock are being bred for sustainable use purposes.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain		X	
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box IX.

Target 4.2

Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes, the same as the global target | |
| c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established | |

Please provide details below.

– However, Livestock imports to augment local livestock numbers reduced. Forest covers being depleted due to firewood and charcoal extraction reduced & wildlife generally slow in its comeback but on the increase and poaching reduced.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	Sustainable farming techniques in use
b) Inland water		X	Improved and sustainable rice growing
c) Marine and coastal		X	Sustainable fishing techniques being deployed
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Habitat destruction in all its forms prohibited
e) Forest		X	Forest clearance and conversion into farmlands discouraged
f) Mountain		X	

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan | |
| c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes | |

Please provide details below.

A ban or prohibition on unsustainable biodiversity consumption practices is reflected in the various

sectoral programmes and legislations as well as the NBSAP

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Despite the laws, unsustainable biodiversity consumption continues to be observed

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

?

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

- Poverty
- Inadequate capacity
- Lack of pilot sustainable use projects
- Inadequate financial resources

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box X.

Target 4.3		No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target		X	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Crocodiles, manatees, turtles, brown necked parrot, ground crane etc. and some tree species such as Mahogany, pterocarpus erinaceus etc are all endangered.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	
Please provide details below.			
The forestry and wildlife laws both prohibit unregulated trade in all species of fauna and flora irrespective of status in accordance with CITES			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Current CITES provisions apply			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Number of CITES permits issued			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			

Low level of awareness on CITES; lack of funding

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XI .

Goal 5	Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.		
Target 5.1	Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target		X	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>- However loss and degradation of natural habitats can still be observed though at a reduced rate. Bodies of inland waters are beginning to show signs of degradation.</p> <p>On the other hand, a system wide surveillance on land use and soil conservation by extension has markedly improved the resource base. The biodiversity policy aims at protecting 10% of the natural habitat area of the country as PAs .</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Several soil & water conservation practices adopted.
b) Inland water	X		<i>Inland water management is key in the IVC consulum.</i>
c) Marine and coastal	X		To protect about 10% of the Gambia's original habitat including representative examples of all the major ecosystem types.
d) Dry and subhumid land	X		Same as above
e) Forest	x		Same as above plus the envisaged management of 30% of forest land as protected forests of different categories.
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		X	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	

Please provide details below.

-**NBSAP** aims at increasing the PA coverage from 4.09% to 10% by 2010. Before the CBD, the PA coverage was 3.7% which steadily increased to its present level of 4.09%.

-The forestry legislation and policy aims at protecting 30% of the total forest land area and about 75% of this to be managed as community forests.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Implementation of the various plans , strategies , policies and laws is in progress and generally seem to be moving in the direction of success

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Habitat survey maps, observations during ground surveys etc

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Poverty, Inadequate capacity, Resource constraints

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XII.

Goal 6	Control threats from invasive alien species.		
Target 6.1	Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>-However major programmes and efforts (legislative) are being implemented with the aim of controlling the introduction and spread of alien invasives such as : Camara lantana, Neem(Azadrata indica), Water hyancith and other invasive weeds of maize and millet (striga).</p> <p>A joint GOTG/ World Bank action – African Emergency Locust Project- to eradicate and control the menace of locusts in the Gambia is being implemented by the Department of State for Agriculture .</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	Appropriate legislative measures to prevent the introduction of alien invasives into the agric. Ecosystem enacted
b) Inland water		X	- Water conservation approach focusing on efficient management and use of water as a vehicle for the introduction of alien invasives being implemented. - Project appraisal soon on the integrated management of invasive aquatic species.
c) Marine and coastal		X	Legislative measures on ballast water discharge almost finalized and fisheries legislation on the release of fish in aqua culture facilities is in place.
d) Dry and subhumid land		x	Import and Export regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of alien invasives (fauna & flora) on drylands can be found in relevant sectoral legislations such as forestry , fisheries, wildlife etc
e) Forest		x	Same as above
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>-However NBSAP, forestry, wildlife, agriculture and fisheries legislations and policies touched on alien invasives and their pathways to prevent introduction and spread.</p>			

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
Generally, alien invasive are not given the due attention they deserve and their control and eradication is done on an adhoc, haphazard and sectoral manner. No coordinated national movement.
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
Field observations, Number of new invasives, new areas covered/affected
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
Resource constraints, inadequate capacity
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XIII.

Target 6.2	Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
-However, There are plans of action for the control of locusts and probably striga as alien invasives			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X

b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	

Box XIV.

Goal 7	Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.		
Target 7.1	Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
-However, the second National Communication to the UNFCCC touched on practical options for mitigating the impact of climate change on biodiversity as well as adaptation and Public Awareness. Genetic improvement of livestock (cattle & small ruminants) initiated though at the research level.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	Preservation of purebreds of Dwarf goats, Djalloake sheep and Ndama cattle through genetic means
b) Inland water		X	A National Adaption Plan of Action (NAPA) on Climate has been prepared.

c) Marine and coastal		X	Efforts to control coastal erosion initiated and plans implemented. Mangrove reclamation programmes underway
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Initiatives to re - establish and enhance the vegetation through PAs , Forest Parks etc are in progress
e) Forest		X	Efforts to reclaim lost forests in progress
f) Mountain			Does not apply
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>Through a stakeholder consultation the second National Communication which will include inventory and impacts on biodiversity is on the way.</p> <p>Also as part of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the Department of Livestock Services (DLS) is working with farmer groups to breed purebreds.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Gaps and constrains have been identified from the first National Communication.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rainfall pattern improved in amounts, distributions and time frame. - Improved afforestation. - number of farmer participants and number of animals 			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate up to date data for analysis. - Limited expertise and funds. - Inadequate public awareness and capacity. 			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box XV.

Target 7.2		Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>--However appropriate tools and methodologies vital for safeguarding the integrity of biodiversity eg. EIAs and SEAs are already in place.</p> <p>- There is a Proposed project on zero pollution integrated technology</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Assumes the responsibility upon approval.			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	Plants to introduce zero pollution integrated technology at Horticulture and Livestock level.
b) Inland water		X	Enforcement mechanism efforts and Public Awareness campaign are some of the main strategies.
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>-However laws on environmental management and law establishing the rules for import, handling, licensing, registration or granting right to dispose waste being implemented by the National Environment Agency(NEA)</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
Enforcement of relevant waste disposal regulations are in progress and public awareness intensified.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			

- Amount of waste number of waste dumpsites
- Level of public awareness on waste and related pollution management

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

- Inadequate human resources to carry out enforcement of regulation
- Inadequate monitoring of transboundary waste/pollution movement

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XVI .

Goal 8	Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods.		
Target 8.1	Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multidisciplinary approach to natural resource management and the enforcement of regulatory measures all contribute towards maintaining the capacity of ecosystems - The Department of forestry (Community forestry concept) and the Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (community PA schemes) have leading and long standing role and experience in these areas and works with the communities to derive benefits for their improved livelihood. 			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	Agriculture and natural resources policy is being developed
b) Inland water		X	Draft water resources management policy is in Circulation for comments
c) Marine and coastal		X	Wildlife/Biodiversity, Forestry, fisheries and general environmental policies and laws all emphasized the need to maintain the capacity of ecosystems for sustained livelihoods
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Same as above
e) Forest		X	Same as above
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and			

strategies?	
a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X
Please provide details below.	
The various Acts (ie NEMA, Waste Management Act, Wildlife bill, Forestry Act, Fisheries Act Hazardous Chemicals, Pesticide Control and Management Act are meant to maintain the capacity of the Chemicals, Pesticide Control and Management Act are meant to maintain the capacity of the Ecosystem to support livelihoods	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
Implementation in progress	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
-Number of community owned and managed PAs and forest reserves - Income derived from ecosystems eg honey, edible fruits and nuts , ecotourism benefits etc	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
-Resource limitations -Capacity constraints -Lack of ecosystem approach to resource management	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	

Box XVII.

Target 8.2	Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	
Please provide details below.	
The Gambia is far behind on these issues, however forest produce is protected and more farmlands in use to propagate and improve indigenous varieties. The Poverty Reduction Strategic Paper (PRSP) addresses issues of this nature	

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain			

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XVIII.

Goal 9	Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities.		
Target 9.1	Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
-However generally, the community forestry (CF) concept is participatory and local knowledge base, Innovations and practices of communities is central in management criteria.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural			
b) Inland water		X	Wildlife and Forestry programmes and activities put emphasizes on traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities as they relate to PAs and forest parks in different ecosystems
c) Marine and coastal		X	Same as above
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Same as above
e) Forest		X	Same as above
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
See 11 above			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XIX.

Target 9.2

Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

Please provide details below.

- But local communities are also very secretive over their traditional knowledge.
- It goes a long way to sensitize the community on their rights in benefit sharing etc.
- On the national scale Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) as well as IPRs as they relate local communities is yet to be incorporated into the relevant laws. Terminator technology or Genetic Use Restriction Technology (GURTS) is yet to be addressed.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	Community forestry and Wildlife schemes ensures the protection of the rights of local communities in relation to the areas they manage and protect
c) Marine and coastal		X	Same as above
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Same as above
e) Forest		X	Same as above
f) Mountain			

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	

c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes

Please provide details below.

- However the forestry and biodiversity acts/ bills in relation to community PAs provide such protection to a certain level (ABS) but not IPRs .

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Concept still not widespread

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

- Low capacity of local communities
- Inadequate negotiation skills
- Inadequate finances

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XX.

Goal 10	Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.		
Target 10.1	All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Working towards such an approach and strategy.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XXI .

Target 10.2

Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources

I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?

a) No	X
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	

Please provide details below.

?

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	
b) Inland water		X	
c) Marine and coastal		X	
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	
e) Forest		X	
f) Mountain			

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	

Please provide details below.

N/A

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

N/A
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
N/A
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
N/A
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XXII.

Goal 11	Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention.		
Target 11.1	New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			N/A
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural			
b) Inland water			
c) Marine and coastal			
d) Dry and subhumid land			
e) Forest			
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			

b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	

Box XXIII.

Target 11.2	Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			N/A
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural			
b) Inland water			
c) Marine and coastal			
d) Dry and subhumid land			

e) Forest			
f) Mountain			
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VI/9, annex, adopted the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. The Conference of the Parties considered the Strategy as a pilot approach for the use of outcome oriented targets under the Convention. In decision VII/10, the Conference of the Parties decided to integrate the targets into the reporting framework for the Third National Reports. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box XXIV.

Target 1. A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
<p>- However IN EMMS, C. & BARNETT L.K. (2005) GAMBIAN BIODIVERSITY: A provisional checklist of all species recorded within the Gambia, West Africa. MAKASUTU WILDLIFE TRUST, ABUKO NATURE RESERVE.</p> <p>-The Department of forestry has a checklist of medicinal plants used and in use in the Gambia</p> <p>-The Department of parks & Wildlife Management produced a list of all the trees in Abuko Nature Reserve including their names and uses- The 50 trees of Abuko.</p>	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
N/A	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
N/A	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
N/A	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
<p>-Capacity constraints-legislative, systemic, individual and institutional</p> <p>-Inadequate financial resources</p>	

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXV.

Target 2. A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
N/A	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity constraints- systemic, individual, institutional and legislative - Inadequate financial resources 	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXVI.

Target 3. Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
N/A	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-Capacity constraints- systemic, institutional, individual and legislative -Inadequate financial resources	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXVII.

Target 4. At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Forests woodlands, marine and coastal areas, drylands, inland waters and wetlands are being increasingly put under protection as PAs, forest parks, community reserves and other categories of PAs to cover about 10% of the total land area by 2010.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-Into the forestry policy and law as well as in the National Action Plan (NPA) to combat desertification -In the Wildlife/Biodiversity policy and bill (2003) as well as in the NBSAP - In the fisheries legislation and policy	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
-Target not yet reached, but progress towards its realization is encouraging	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
-Legislative and policy actions/measures in the areas of Wildlife and forestry etc to introduce the concepts of private and community ownership and management of forests and PAs as well as community ownership of fishing areas	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
-Number of private/community forests, protected areas, special fishing zones etc established	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-Capacity constraints -Inadequate finances	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXVIII.

Target 5. Protection of fifty percent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
- However this is an integral part of target 4	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXIX.

Target 6. At least thirty percent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-Capacity constraints-mainly legislative, institutional and individual	
- Inadequate financial resources	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXX.

Target 7. Sixty percent of the world's threatened species conserved <i>In-situ</i>.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
- However this target constitutes an important part of target 4, in fact, for us they inseparable .	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	
Please specify	
See target 4	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Target 4	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Target 4	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Target 4	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Target 4	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXI.

Target 8. Sixty percent of threatened plant species in accessible <i>Ex-situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 percent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-Inadequate finances	
-Low capacity to negotiate	
-inadequate storage facilities	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXII.

Target 9. Seventy percent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-Capacity constraints -Lack of finances - Low political will	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXIII.

Target 10. Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Capacity constraints- Inadequate finances- Low political will- Inadequate knowledge about alien invasive species in country	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXIV.

Target 11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Unregulated trade in wild flora prohibited by law	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
International trade in wild fauna and flora has been well addressed in the new CITES legislation for the Gambia as well as in the various sub-sectoral policies and laws such as the Wildlife/Biodiversity bill and the Forestry law	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
No species of wild flora is endangered by international trade	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
The CITES legislation is being reviewed and finalized. The sub-sectoral laws are being implemented and are very effective in curbing illegal trade.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Number of CITES permits issued, annual CITES reports, forestry department annual reports and statistics, number of endangered wild flora	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resource constraints - Inadequate capacity to monitor all our international borders due to their porous nature <li style="padding-left: 20px;">-Poverty 	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXV.

Target 12. Thirty percent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-Capacity constraints -Inadequate finances -Poverty -Weak sub-regional collaboration	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXVI.

Target 13. The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-However, government is very much concerned and has directed relevant sectors to work towards this target	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
-However, the target is incorporated into the Poverty Reduction Strategic Paper (PRSP) document	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Implementation in progress	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
Presidential directive as part of the PRSP preparatory process	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Number of government institutions that incorporated aspects of the strategy into their activities and budgets	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-Capacity constraints -Resource limitations -Poverty	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXVII .

Target 14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
National taskforce on Communication, Education, Public Awareness (CEPA) formed.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
The relevant sectors of Wildlife, Forestry, Agriculture, fisheries etc have incorporated aspects of this target into their respective sectoral plans, policies and strategies.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Impressive, message getting across, apparent change of attitude in relation to resource use	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
National Taskforce on CEPA incorporating all relevant institutions is used for CEPA activities so that only one national message and not several conflicting messages are delivered to the public.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
Good progress, high number of people exposed to CEPA activities	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
Resource and capacity constraints	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXVIII.

Target 15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
-Capacity limitations	
-Inadequate finances	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXIX.

Target 16. Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Very old trees are still being poached and new ones are not being planted.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XL.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

--

Ecosystem Approach

The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention. At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties has affirmed that the ecosystem approach is the primary framework for action under the Convention (decision II/8). The Conference of the Parties, at its fifth meeting, endorsed the description of the ecosystem approach and operational guidance and recommended the application of the principles and other guidance on the ecosystem approach. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties agreed that the priority at this time should be facilitating implementation of the ecosystem approach. Please provide relevant information by responding to the following questions.

3. ?¹ Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into accounts the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6? (decision V/6)


a) No	
b) No, but application is under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects are being applied	X
d) Yes, substantially implemented	

4. ? Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions? (decision V/6)

a) No	
b) No, but development is under consideration	
c) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying some principles of the ecosystem approach	X
d) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying most principles of the ecosystem approach	

¹ Please note that all the questions marked with ? have been previously covered in the second national reports and some thematic reports.

5. Is your country strengthening capacities for the application of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to apply the ecosystem approach? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) Yes, within the country	X - Makasutu Wildlife Trust (MWT) is strengthening capacities within the Gambia by running short courses on Biodiversity, National Environmental Policies & the Law; Research Skills in Biodiversity; Preparing proposals, Management Plans & Biodiversity Indicators; etc. at the Darwin field Station for Biodiversity research, Education & Training at Abuko Nature Reserve. MWT is also in the process of developing a Diploma Course in Biodiversity & Natural Resource Management with the Gambia College.
c) Yes, including providing support to other Parties	

6.  Has your country promoted regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) Yes, informal cooperation (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, formal cooperation (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders.	
<p>-Through the OMVG and Futa Jallon Highlands Organization with shared transboundary surface water ways,</p> <p>-Nuimi/Saloum transboundary protected area and the AEWA/UNEP flyway project with governments of the Gambia, Senegal, Mauritania, Guinea etc within the framework of sub regional and regional cooperation.</p> <p>-Sub-regional Programme on Marine and Coastal ecosystems (PRCM) for the development and</p>	

management of Marine Protected Areas along the West African Coast of the countries of The Gambia, Senegal, Cape Verde, Guinea, Guinea Bissau etc

7. Is your country facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach? (decisions VI/12 and VII/11)

a) No	
b) No, some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

Grassroots consultations and public awareness/beneficiary capacity building programme have been carried out in the Nuimi/Saloum transboundary PA focusing on mangrove regeneration with support from the Ramsar Small Grant Fund as well as from PRCM and IUCN Dakar office.

8. Is your country creating an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach, including through development of appropriate institutional frameworks? (decision VII/11)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant policies and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the creation of an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

The creation of reserved areas for community ownership and control to sustain biodiversity and maintain the ecosystems are in place, Lowland Agricultural Development Project (LADEP) as well as The Integrated Coastal Area and Marine biodiversity management Project (ICAM) all of which puts strong emphasis on all the components of the ecosystem.

C. ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION

Article 5 – Cooperation

9. ? Is your country actively cooperating with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	X
c) Yes, multilateral cooperation (please give details below)	X
d) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation (please give details below)	X
e) Yes, other forms of cooperation (please give details below)	
Further comments on cooperation with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
<p>The Gambia and Senegal/Ghana have sub-regional co-operations on the Niuni and Sine Saloum delta transboundary PA. There is also a transboundary agreement between Senegal and Gambia (Jinack protocol), a sub-regional conservation body (regional Programme for the Conservation of Marine ecosystems in West Africa -PRCM). CCLME (coordinated by NEA), , Subregional fisheries commission for the regulation, control and protection of fisheries in the sub-region (Gambia, Senegal, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and Cape Verde Islands); Draft NEPAD project agreement between Gambia and Senegal on the development, protection and management of biological corridors for improved management of natural resources;</p> <p>-Convention on the African Migratory Locusts; Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (WACAF); Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Combating Marine Pollution in cases of Emergency in West and Central African Region (WACAF); Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management within Africa of Hazardous Wastes; and the Convention Establishing a Permanent Inter- State Drought Control Committee for the SAHEL (CILLS); Cooperation with the Netherlands (private sector) to develop nature based tourism in the Gambia through the judicious use of nature/biodiversity</p> <p>-CITES Convention; Ramsar Convention; World Heritage Convention; UN Convention on the Law of the sea; Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer; Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer; Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal; Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon tests in the Atmosphere in Outer Space and under Water; and London Amendments to the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone Layer; Wetlands International(WI); AEWA; CMS; Algiers Convention etc</p>	

10. Is your country working with other Parties to develop regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 A)	
a) No	
b) No, but consultations are under way	X
c) Yes, some mechanisms and networks have been established (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, existing mechanisms have been strengthened (please provide details below)	
Further comments on development of regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention.	

- Collaboration with Senegal to conclude and operationalise the Jinack Protocol on Niimi/Saloum cross border PA;
- Meeting with Senegal to harmonize the management plans of Niimi and Saloum PAs and conduct joint management operations such as bird census, CEPA activities as well as technical and administrative exchange visits;
- Sub-Regional collaboration on the West African Marine and Coastal Mangrove Ecosystems (PRCM) as regards Marine Protected Areas (MPAS) including the development of a communication network (RAMAO) among the Marine Protected Areas

11. Is your country taking steps to harmonize national policies and programmes, with a view to optimizing policy coherence, synergies and efficiency in the implementation of various multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and relevant regional initiatives at the national level? (decision VI/20)

a) No	
b) No, but steps are under consideration	
c) Yes, some steps are being taken (please specify below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive steps are being taken (please specify below)	X

Further comments on the harmonization of policies and programmes at the national level.

-NBSAP developed and adopted which led to the development of a new biodiversity policy and bill (1999/2003); National Biosafety framework policy is being developed; National policies on water and to combat desertification in place; NAPA programme - a multi-sectoral approach geared towards the harmonization of interventions against the negative effects of climate change thereby enhancing biodiversity developed; Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) working group is on policy review to harmonize policies of the sectors; National level Task Forces have been formed in the areas of Biodiversity, Climate Change and Desertification to create awareness among the general public and to ensure complementarity and avoid conflict in biodiversity management and sustainable use activities; National Environment Agency (NEA) as a watch dog institution for the environment created backed by a high level Council –NEMA; and a harmonized policy for the Agriculture and Natural Resources sector is under development

Box XLI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The Regional programme on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs- PRCM) as well as the sub-regional Fisheries Commission and the Jinack Protocol of Agreement regarding Niimi/Saloum cross border PAs all of which involved one or more of the countries within the sub-region represents the onset of a closer collaboration and relationship among West African countries in regard to CBD implementation and specifically objective 1.6 of the strategic plan which states that "Parties are collaborating at the regional and subregional levels to implement the Convention".

The establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) under the PRCM programme is a direct contribution to MDG No. 7: Enhancing Environmental Sustainability.

Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use

12. Has your country put in place effective national strategies, plans and programmes to provide a national framework for implementing the three objectives of the Convention? (Goal 3.1 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant strategies, plans and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the strategies, plans and programmes for implementing the three objectives of the Convention.

The NBSAP project. On signing and ratifying the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), The Gambia assumed several commitments in order to promote the conservation and sustainable use and the sharing of benefits arising from the use of biodiversity in its territory. Long before the CBD (1981) the Ministry of the Environment was created as well as the Environment Unit now NEA. An Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) working group and a Biodiversity Task Force were created to implement the provisions of the CBD as well as provide guidance for the NBSAP process. The NBSAP project, supported by GEF, began in 1999, and its main objectives are:

-To conduct and publicize strategic studies through the assessment of the nation's biodiversity resources;

-To enhance the maintenance of various existing PAs

-To improve the protection of wildlife and associated habitats within and outside PAs

-To create the BCH and implement a Biodiversity Information Network

-To elaborate National Reports to the CBD

-To elaborate and implement a National Biodiversity Policy

-To strengthen regional cooperation in biodiversity

The NBSAP project supported the elaboration of the new biodiversity policy and bill (2003)

The National water policy which being formulated is setting the framework measures for sustainable use and conservation of inland waters/wetlands. However, the Biosafety framework is in its final stages and it include the policy, implementation bodies and administrative procedures.

13. ? Has your country set measurable targets within its national strategies and action plans? (decisions II/7 and III/9)

a) No	
b) No, measurable targets are still in early stages of development	X
c) No, but measurable targets are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, relevant targets are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, reports on implementation of relevant targets available (please provide details below)	

Further comments on targets set within national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

The national targets within the strategies and action plans are in their embryonic stages and will be further defined through a consultative process involving all the relevant stakeholders: Some of the early targets are:-

-Maintain saline intrusion on the Gambia River below 175km

-To determine the amounts in cubic litres to be extracted from the Gambia river for irrigation.

- Wildlife Conservation Department: By 2010, 10% of total threatened ecosystem with its associated species will be protected.

- Forestry Department: By 2005, 200,000 hectares of forest would be under sustainable forestry Management to date only 30,000 hectares is under sustainable forestry management. Target seemed to be too high and policy is been reviewed **(However, the forest sector policy are; a) to reserve, maintain and develop forest land resources covering at least 30% of the total area of the country; b) to ensure that 75% of forest lands are managed and protected in accordance with forestry principles in order to increase the forest resources base).**

14. Has your country identified priority actions in its national biodiversity strategy and action plan? (decision VI/27 A)

a) No	
b) No, but priority actions are being identified	
c) Yes, priority actions identified (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on priority actions identified in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

The NBSAP of 1999 has eleven (11) well defined priority actions for immediate implementation and one of them the "integrated management of coastal and marine biodiversity" (ICAM) is being implemented with support from GEF.

15. Has your country integrated the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as benefit sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision VI/27 A)

a) No	
b) Yes, in some sectors (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, in major sectors (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, in all sectors (please provide details below)	

Further information on integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit-sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

- Community forest parks and wetland owner groups have been established and benefits from these resources are shared in a sustainable manner.
- The forestry act and policy as well as the biodiversity bill and policy (2003) have provisions on benefit sharing and effective community participation
- The fisheries law and policy are promoting sustainable fisheries and sustainable yields concept
- The lowland Agricultural Development Project on the sustainable use of biodiversity in the lowlands
- Special programmes on aquaculture and fisheries at the Dept. of Fisheries as part of the national Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRSP).
- The national water policy for the sustainable use of the country's water resources
- Climate change programmes on green house gases under the Dept. of Water Resources
- The programme on alternative sources of energy seeks to promote conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
- The new Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy seeks to enhance agric. Biodiversity for improved livelihoods in a complex production system with multitudes of interest groups.
- the new water resources policy seeks to protect and sustainable utilize water with emphasizes on integrated water resources management.

16. Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan (NBSAP)? (decision VI/20)	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
I) If YES, please briefly describe the extent to which it addresses	
(a) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species	x
(b) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species' habitats, including protected areas	Bijol Islands an off shore island within Tanji Bird Reserve is protected.
(c) Minimizing or eliminating barriers or obstacles to migration	x
(d) Research and monitoring for migratory species	Bijol Islands monitoring programme on the breeding colonies of terns; Research programme on Whales, Dolphins, Turtles etc
(e) Transboundary movement	Establishment of NIUMI/Saloum transboundary PA as an important site for migratory species
II) If NO, please briefly indicate below	
(a) The extent to which your country addresses migratory species at national level	N/A
(b) Cooperation with other Range States since 2000	N/A

Biodiversity and Climate Change

17. Has your country implemented projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but some projects or programs are under development	X
c) Yes, some projects have been implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.	
The National Adaptations Plan of Action (NAPA) on climate change developed with grassroots/ stakeholder consultations in progress.	

18. Has your country facilitated coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification? (decision VII/15)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	X
c) Yes, relevant mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the UNFCCC and the UNCCD.

-A National Climate Change (NCC) stakeholder committee has been established with a secretariat to ensure that Mitigation and Adaptation Projects are in line with commitments under UNFCCC and the UNCCD

-Synergy of the three Rio environmental Conventions Project - CBD, UNCCD, and UNFCCC GEF project just finalized, with the objective of reconciling the implementation of these three environmental Conventions in the Gambia.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

- Increase in awareness on Climate Change and biodiversity issues

- Intensified political will and commitment

- Broad stakeholder involvement and development of sectoral programmes on adaptation and mitigation

-Recognizing that the NBSAP is recent, the period of 1999- 2006 was important for its establishment as planning authority on biodiversity in The Gambia. The elaboration of the first ever comprehensive biodiversity policy and bill for the Gambia was recently concluded. This has helped reinforced the role of NBSAP as coordinator of different social sectors aiming at CBD implementation in the country. It is being slowly observed that biodiversity conservation is being slowly integrated into other sectors of society, including those that cause environmental damage. Outcomes also include the recognition of priority areas for conservation, sustainable use, benefit sharing and access (ABS), IPRs, biosafety, revenue retention etc.

- The implementation and strengthening of NBSAP are a direct contribution to Goal 3 of the CBD strategic plan (National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors serve as an effective framework for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention).

- The NBSAP implementation also will contribute to Goal 11 of the 2010 targets- Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention.

-The NBSAP contribute to reaching Objective 9- Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; revert loss of environmental resources; and Goal 7 (ensuring environmental sustainability) of the MDGs

-The NBSAP facilitated coordination among sectoral policies and action plans, promoted public and stakeholder participation and involvement in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, sufficient information dissemination at the national and international levels as well as public education and awareness at all levels.

Box XLII .

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Article 7 - Identification and monitoring

19. ? On Article 7(a), does your country have an ongoing programme to identify components of biological diversity at the genetic, species, ecosystem level?

a) No	
b) Yes, selected/partial programmes at the genetic, species and/or ecosystem level only (please specify and provide details below)	X
c) Yes, complete programmes at ecosystem level and selected/partial inventories at the genetic and/or species level (please specify and provide details below)	

Further comments on ongoing programmes to identify components of biodiversity at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

- The manatee survey, Butterfly transect, National Forest inventory annual water bird census, monthly monitoring of breeding bird colonies, ANR, biophysical survey in rice and mangrove zones, drift fence monitoring of reptiles, amphibians, small mammals and insects.
- Third National Report is being developed in which the National Biodiversity framework is included taking into consideration genetics species and ecosystem level.
- Makasutu Wildlife Trust (MWT's) Ongoing programmes include:
 - Long-term monitoring of vegetation in permanent plots in Abuko Nature Reserve (ANR)
 - Long-term monitoring of Butterflies, Amphibians & Reptiles in ANR
 - Long-term monitoring of Birds in ANR
 - Long-term monitoring of Birds, Aquatic reptiles & mammals along the length of the River Gambia.
- The Strategy for Poverty Alleviation (SPAII) Aquaculture programme- contribute to the identification of species composing the fisheries resources in Gambian waters

20. ? On Article 7(b), which components of biological diversity identified in accordance with Annex I of the Convention, have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes?

a) at ecosystem level (please provide percentage based on area covered)	X
b) at species level (please provide number of species per taxonomic group and percentage of total known number of species in each group)	X
c) at genetic level (please indicate number and focus of monitoring programmes)	X

Further comments on ongoing monitoring programmes at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

Monitoring programmes are in development stages:-

- Bat monitoring to identify and catalogue the diversity of bat species in the Gambia

- Butterfly and bird monitoring as well as fish stock monitoring to determine population size, species number, favorite habitats , threats etc to aide management decisions
- BBI project (monitoring of biodiversity in mangrove and rice growing areas) to determine how biodiversity can be protected and at the same time contribute to poverty alleviation.
- Monitoring of Manatees, Dolphins, turtles to determine their status in the country

21. ? On Article 7(c), does your country have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes on any of the following key threats to biodiversity?

a) No	
b) Yes, invasive alien species (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, climate change (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, pollution/eutrophication (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, land use change/land degradation (please provide details below)	X
f) Yes, overexploitation or unsustainable use (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on monitoring programmes on key threats to biodiversity.

- Country network of weather observing stations are established
- Yearly rainfall etc. being monitored
- Forestry licenses being controlled
- Ozone project under NEA for refrigerator proliferation control of CFC
- CCD- Operation Desertification Control Project (NBD)
- metrological data collected and frequently disseminated by (water Resources)
- Fish stocks monitoring using bird colonies as indicators
- Closed seasons for oyster collection
- banned inappropriate fishing nets and gears –Fisheries Department
- National joint Marine and Fisheries Department patrol of Gambian waters to monitor the activities of foreign fishing vessels in order to curb unsustainable fishing practices.

22. ? On Article 7 (d), does your country have a mechanism to maintain and organize data derived from inventories and monitoring programmes and coordinate information collection and management at the national level?

a) No	
b) No, but some mechanisms or systems are being considered	X
c) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are being established	X
d) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, a relatively complete system is in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the coordination of data and information collection and management.

- (MWT presents the Data gathered on vegetation, butterflies, Amphibians, Aquatic reptiles and mammals etc are either as scientific papers published in International Journals or as Reports which are widely circulated).
- National agricultural data center under the Dept. of Planning (DOP) which provide information on the status of farming households and the extent and status of farming in the country.
- National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) keeps research data on agricultural crops in a databank at the level of the institution

- Dept. of Parks & Wildlife Management (DPWM) under ICAM created a data base on manatee, dolphins, turtles etc in computers and as printed copies at the level of the Dept.
- Fisheries and Forestry both collect data on fish stocks and forest resources as it relates to their respective sectors and stored in either the computer or as printed material.

23. ? Does your country use indicators for national-level monitoring of biodiversity? (decision III/10)

a) No	X
b) No, but identification of potential indicators is under way (please describe)	
c) Yes, some indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	
d) Yes, a relatively complete set of indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	

Further comments on the indicators identified and in use.

- Efforts are underway to develop indicators for Soil, livestock, range management, agriculture and biodiversity monitoring

Box XLIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- constraints encountered in implementation.

- Identification and Monitoring of biodiversity is still not well developed and practiced widely in the Gambia. However, it is slowly gaining momentum, and it is hoped that once fully developed and used widely, it will reduce pressure from habitat loss, land degradation and land use change and unsustainable water use.

Decisions on Taxonomy

24.? Has your country developed a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) No, but a plan is under development	
c) Yes, a plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, reports on implementation available (please provide details below)	
Further information on a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1.	
N/A	

25.? Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on investment on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections.	
<p>-However NARI is establishing a crop Germplasm centre. (MWT is currently seeking funds to establish a National Herbarium at the Darwin field station Abuko Nature Reserve).</p>	

26.? Does your country provide training programmes in taxonomy and work to increase its capacity of taxonomic research? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on training programmes in taxonomy and efforts to increase the capacity of taxonomic research.	
N/A	

27.? Has your country taken steps to ensure that institutions responsible for biological diversity inventories and taxonomic activities are financially and administratively stable? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	
b) No, but steps are being considered	X
c) Yes, for some institutions	
d) Yes, for all major institutions	

28.* ² Is your country collaborating with the existing regional, subregional and global initiatives, partnerships and institutions in carrying out the programme of work, including assessing regional taxonomic needs and identifying regional-level priorities? (decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) No, but collaborative programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessments)	
d) Yes, comprehensive collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessment and priority identification)	
Further information on the collaboration your country is carrying out to implement the programme of work for the GTI, including regional needs assessment and priority identification.	
-However (MWT) has obtained funds from the Darwin Initiative Fund, UK for the establishment of the Darwin field station & is seeking a further extension for the development of a Diploma Course).	

29.* Has your country made an assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities at the national level for the implementation of the Convention? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, basic assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	
c) Yes, thorough assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	
Further comments on national assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities.	
- -However in the National Capacity needs Assessment for the implementation of the biodiversity convention, capacity needs for the identification and characterization of species (fauna and flora) has been given prominence.	

² The questions marked with * in this section on Taxonomy are similar to some questions contained in the format for a report on the implementation of the programme of work on the Global Taxonomy Initiative. Those countries that have submitted such a report do not need to answer these questions unless they have updated information to provide.

30. * Is your country working on regional or global capacity building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
Further comments on regional or global capacity-building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties.	

31. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, for forest biodiversity (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for marine and coastal biodiversity (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, for dry and sub-humid lands (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, for inland waters biodiversity (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, for mountain biodiversity (please provide details below)	
g) Yes, for protected areas (please provide details below)	
h) Yes, for agricultural biodiversity (please provide details below)	
i) Yes, for island biodiversity (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention.	

32. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, for access and benefit-sharing (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for Article 8(j) (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, for the ecosystem approach (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, for impact assessment, monitoring and indicators (please provide	

details below)	
f) Yes, for invasive alien species (please provide details below)	
g) Yes, for others (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention.	

Article 8 - *In-situ* conservation
[excluding paragraphs (a) to (e), (h) and (j)]

33. ? On Article 8(i), has your country endeavored to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are being identified	
c) Yes, some measures undertaken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components.	
<p>-Capacity 21 - Under the National Environment Agency: The programme is designed to enhance the capacities of public institutions, NGOs, CBOs, individuals, industry etc. for the sustainable management and rational use of biodiversity in The Gambia;</p> <p>-The National Biodiversity Strategy And Action Plan (NBSAP): Sets out the overall goals and strategic actions to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the country such as : framework for policy and field actions; provide guidance for policy, legal and institutional reforms as deemed necessary; plan and coordinate national biodiversity conservation efforts; guide programmes on investment and capacity building; and information sharing and coordinated action among national stakeholders</p> <p>- The Integrated Conservation And Management of Coastal and Marine Biodiversity (ICAM): This programme is aimed at protecting targeted globally significant species and their associated habitats through research, training and the implementation of sustainable use actions with the active participation of associated local communities;</p> <p>-Lowland Agricultural Development Proramme (LADEP) - The aim of this programme is to adopt an integrated approach to the development of Gambian lowlands with a view to improving rice productivity/production while not compromising the quality of biodiversity as the raw material for production.</p>	

34. ? On Article 8(k), has your country developed or maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations?	
a) No	
b) No, but legislation is being developed	X
c) Yes, legislation or other measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
Further information on the legislation and/or regulations for the protection of threatened species and populations.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The National Biosafety framework is being developed. - The Gambia environment Action Plan (GEAP) and National Environment Management Act (NEMA)-1992, - Forestry act 1998 and forestry policy 1995-2000, Biodiversity Act 1999 and biodiversity policy 2003, Banjul Declaration 1977; Wildlife Amnesty Programme 1995/6; phytosanitary Act.; Fisheries Act. 	

35. ? On Article 8(l), does your country regulate or manage processes and categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant processes and categories of activities being identified	
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the regulation or management of the processes and categories of activities identified by Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biodiversity.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Established lawful hunting season under the wildlife/biodiversity Act, use of inappropriate fishing gear/fishing nets prohibited, ban of the exploitation of certain species of trees and wildlife, ban of charcoal burning, prohibited international trade in critically endangered species of wildlife while trade is strictly regulated in other species -NEMA (1994) rules about the concession of environmental licences to activities which modify the environment 	

Box XLIV.

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation
<p>- The initiatives to recover endangered animal species have attained satisfactory results, sometimes achieving to reverse the threatened status of the species. Such initiatives are becoming stronger and obtaining their autonomy. The wildlife Amnesty project/ programme exemplify this process.</p>

- No direct contribution is made to any objective of the CBD Strategic Plan, even though important indirect contributions are made.
- The protection of endangered species significantly contributes to objective 2 of the CBD Strategic Plan (To promote the conservation of species diversity), and more specifically to Goal 2.2 (Improve the status of threatened species).
- NBSAP-The actions for the protection of endangered species contributes to an important element of the action plan. The other aspects of the action plan deals with the conservation of biodiversity outside of conservation areas.
- Efforts employed to protect species and to conserve biodiversity contribute towards attaining Goal9 of Objective 7 of the MDGs (Integrate the principles of sustainable development into national policies and programmes, and revert the loss of environmental resources).
- Constraints- Inadequate supervision and enforcement; lack of/low capacity for biodiversity protection in regions with high levels of poverty and high levels of biodiversity; pressure from urban expansion and economic activities; limited public participation and involvement of social players; inadequate preventive and proactive measures, causing reactive policies; weakened institutions resulting in lack of capacity for action; lack of technology and expertise transfer; poor information dissemination at the national level; lack of financial and human resources; poor economic incentive measures; inadequate synergy at the national level; poor horizontal cooperation among social actors; poverty; population pressures; unsustainable production and consumption patterns; poor local community capacity etc

Programme of Work on Protected Areas (Article 8 (a) to (e))

36. Has your country established suitable time bound and measurable national-level protected areas targets and indicators? (decision VII/28)

a) No (please specify reasons)	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	X
c) Yes, some targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	

Further comments on targets and indicators for protected areas.

Forestry = 30% in 2005 or 200,000 hectares of forest land to be protected
 Wildlife = 10% of the total country area under protection by 2010, including Marine Protected Areas
 Prepare Management Plans for about 90% of all the PAs in the country by 2010
 Identify about 90% of biodiversity hotspots and other ecologically sensitive areas in the country by 2010

37. Has your country taken action to establish or expand protected areas in any large or relatively unfragmented natural area or areas under high threat, including securing threatened species? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on actions taken to establish or expand protected areas.

- Tanbi wetland complex together with Nuimi National Park as important stands of mangroves along the west African Coast have been given protected area status
- There are 66 forest parks covering a total area of 34,029 hectares, there are currently 12,000 hectares of forest land under community management
- From 1996 to 2006 the PA coverage had been increased from 3.7% to its present level of 4.09% and there are plans to increase this to 10% by 2010 through the establishment of further MPAs as PAs.
- A Programme to encourage the creation of community and private nature reserves and other categories of PAs is on course
- Plans are in the pipeline to elaborate and or update management plans for existing PAs

38. Has your country taken any action to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) Not applicable	
c) No, but relevant actions are being considered	X
d) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on actions taken to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas.

- Tanbi wetland complex is being considered as an MPA
- Bijol Island and NNP are also being considered as MPAs
- the NBSAP has called for the inclusion of Marine and Inland water ecosystems in the existing national PA system- this recommendation is being addressed.

39. Has your country identified and implemented practical steps for improving the integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	

below)	
Further comments on practical steps for improving integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community forest conservation programs as contained in the Forest Policy (1995-2005) and in the Forest Act of 1998. - Within the framework of –PRCM- the Sub-regional Programme on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs); -Within the framework of the NBSAP (1999), the Wildlife Act (2003) and the Biodiversity Policy (1999) -Plans are underway to accord Man And Biosphere Reserve (MAB) status to Niimi National Park, Baobolon wetland Reserve and Tanbi wetland Complex with the assistance of IUCN and UNESCO (MAB) offices in Dakar -Ongoing Integrated Coastal And Marine Biodiversity Management (ICAM) Project to determine the status and protect manatees, turtles and dolphins. Already, community representatives and PA staff have been trained in species and habitat assessment and monitoring 	

40. Is your country applying environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant EIA guidelines are under development	
c) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to some projects or plans (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to all relevant projects or plans (please provide details below)	
Further comments on application of environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All projects identified to have relevance to Biodiversity have to undergo the EIA with guidelines and plans for evaluating effects on protected areas established and on biodiversity in general and related social dimensions – Abuko Nature Reserve for example is in the process of being fenced, to mitigate the possible environmental effect of the Trade Gateway Project located at Banjul International Airport. EIA hand book and guidelines have been specifically developed for this purpose. 	

41. Has your country identified legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas? (decision VII/28)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes, some gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below))	X
d) Yes, many gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identification of legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Indeed, both the NBSAP and the Wildlife Act (2003), the new Biodiversity Policy (1999) have identified gaps (institutional and legislative) that present hurdles to the establishment and management of PAs ; - National Capacity Needs Assessment (2006) also identified capacity gaps that militate against PA 	

management

However, the total area protected under each biome is insufficient for the conservation of biodiversity (a minimum of 10% of integral protection by biome is necessary, according to the conclusions of the " 1V International Congress on Protected Areas" Caracas 1992)

- The Protected Areas that have been created so far are yet to attain completely the objectives for their creation

42. Has your country undertaken national protected-area capacity needs assessments and established capacity building programmes? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, a basic assessment undertaken and some programmes established (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, a thorough assessment undertaken and comprehensive programmes established (please provide details below)	

Further comments on protected-area capacity needs assessment and establishment of capacity building programmes.

-Indeed, the Capacity Needs Assessment Enabling Activity under the CBD has identified the Capacity constraints for PA Management at the national level; the Capacity Needs Assessment for the three Rio Conventions of CBD, Climate Change and Desertification is a further input to this process.

43. Is your country implementing country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant plan is under development	X
c) Yes, relevant plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, relevant plan is being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on implementation of country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas.

-The Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM) is responsible for the implementation and management of the Protected Areas System within the framework of the NBSAP. The DPWM acts in partnership with institutions and programmes which fund the creation, implementation, management and maintenance of Protected Areas. The institutions of relevance are:

PRCM (IUCN, WWF- WAMER, WI, FIBA etc Regional Offices in Dakar)- PA surveillance, infrastructural development and Communication Education and Public Awareness activities;

ICAM Project (World Bank GEF, WWF-WAMER)- to determine the status of identified endangered species, come up with management prescriptions, involve local communities and build their capacities;

Project Gambia in collaboration with the University of Central Lancashire- the aim is to collect basic biodiversity data which will lead to the development of more focused research activities and ultimately help in the establishment and management of PAs ;

Ramsar Small Grants Fund for Wetlands Conservation and Wise Use;

Global Environment Facility (GEF);

-Government of the Gambia Contribution through the annual budget

-Proposal to retained percentage of the revenue generated by PAs is been submitted for

consideration by the central government

44. Is your country implementing appropriate methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant methods, standards, criteria and indicators are under development	X
c) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use and some international methods, standards, criteria and indicators in use (please provide details below)	

Further comments on methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance.

-Rapid field assessment for the establishment and management of Protected Areas in The Gambia: The method is used by DPWM to establish criteria for the establishment and management of Wildlife PAs. For the application of the method, the following strategies are used:- threats and stresses; biological importance; socio-economic importance; vulnerability/fragility to support the development of legal frameworks; design and planning of the areas; human resources; communication and information; infrastructure; financial resources; planning; decision-making process; research; monitoring and evaluation etc.

-The following are formed at the level of each PA to evaluate the effectiveness of PAs: - Standing committees, Park management committees, CMC sites management committees, Technical Advisory Committees etc.

Box XLV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

During the past few years, a lot of efforts went into the application and strengthening of the national system of PAs to respond to the calls of the CBD. Currently, about 4.09% of Gambian territory is protected as Protected Areas. Data collected through field assessments led to the creation of additional PAs in ecologically sensitive areas.

-The 4.09% national coverage for PAs is not sufficient to ensure the adequate protection of biodiversity. Constraints include:-limited inclusion of biodiversity issues across other sectors of society; loss of traditional knowledge; low pro-active preventive measures causing reactive policies; weak institutions with low capacity for action; lack of human resources; low technology and expertise transfer; lack of capacity building on adequate scientific research to support PA objectives; poor documentation and knowledge on the loss of biodiversity and the goods and services it provides; poor information dissemination at the national level; low capacity at the local level etc

Article 8(h) - Alien species

45. Has your country identified alien species introduced into its territory and established a system for tracking the introduction of alien species?	
a) No	
b) Yes, some alien species identified but a tracking system not yet established	X
c) Yes, some alien species identified and tracking system in place	
d) Yes, alien species of major concern identified and tracking system in place	

46. ? Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, but only for some alien species of concern (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for most alien species (please provide details below)	
Further information on the assessment of the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species.	
-However, alien invasives such as the neem tree (<i>azediraena indica</i>), Strigar and lantana camara are considered as threats to habitats and major agricultural crops such as cereals.	

47. ? Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate, those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under consideration	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.	
-Local field level actions such as manual uprooting of Striga from cereal fields is frequently carried out.	
-Both the Wildlife/Biodiversity Act (2003) and the Forestry Act. (1998) expressly prohibits the introduction of animal and plant specimens in the country without EIA and an appropriate licence issued by an appropriate authority. The same laws cited above also prohibits the import of live specimens for breeding purposes, as a pet or ornament, as safari exhibits etc without an EIA and a proper licence.	

48. ? In dealing with the issue of invasive species, has your country developed, or involved itself in, mechanisms for international cooperation, including the exchange of best practices? (decision V/8)	
a) No	
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation	
c) Yes, regional and/or subregional cooperation	
d) Yes, multilateral cooperation	X

Within the framework of CITES and the on-going African emergency locust control project.

49. ? Is your country using the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches as appropriate in its work on alien invasive species? (decision V/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the use of the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches in work on alien invasive species.	

50. Has your country identified national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	
b) No, but needs and priorities are being identified	X
c) Yes, national needs and priorities have been identified (please provide below a list of needs and priorities identified)	
Further comments on the identification of national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles.	
<p>The following project documents- NBSAP, Status and Trends of Biodiversity in The Gambia and National Action Plan to combat desertification among others touched on the issue of alien invasive species and supports the need to elaborate a national report on invasive alien species, which will compile important information on the needs and priorities of the country concerning this issue.</p> <p>- The department of Agriculture has produced an inventory of floral invasive species in the country.</p>	

51. Has your country created mechanisms to coordinate national programmes for applying the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the mechanisms created to coordinate national programmes for implementing the Guiding Principles.	

52. Has your country reviewed relevant policies, legislation and institutions in the light of the Guiding Principles, and adjusted or developed policies, legislation and institutions? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	X
b) No, but review under way	
c) Yes, review completed and adjustment proposed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, adjustment and development ongoing	
e) Yes, some adjustments and development completed (please provide details below)	
Further information on the review, adjustment or development of policies, legislation and institutions in light of the Guiding Principles.	
See comments in question 47	

53. Is your country enhancing cooperation between various sectors in order to improve prevention, early detection, eradication and/or control of invasive alien species? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	
b) No, but potential coordination mechanisms are under consideration	X
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on cooperation between various sectors.	
Locust control programme include livestock, agriculture, forestry, Community Development and wildlife departments as well as the military See comments in question 47.	

54. Is your country collaborating with trading partners and neighboring countries to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity in ecosystems that cross international boundaries? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	
b) Yes, relevant collaborative programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, relevant programmes are in place (please specify below the measures taken for this purpose)	
Further comments on collaboration with trading partners and neighboring countries.	
-Within the framework of CILLS and ECOWAS, Gambians were sent to Senegal and Mauritania to fight the African locust from North Africa. -The Gambia is a member state of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Plant Protection Convention of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).	

55. Is your country developing capacity to use risk assessment to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity and incorporate such methodologies in environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA)? (decision VI/23)

a) No	
b) No, but programmes for this purpose are under development	X
c) Yes, some activities for developing capacity in this field are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further information on capacity development to address threats of invasive alien species.

The National Environment Management Act (NEMA) 1994 establishes the requirement of an EIA and a licence for any activity involving the use of Living and Genetically Modified Organisms (LMOs & GMOs)

56. Has your country developed financial measures and other policies and tools to promote activities to reduce the threats of invasive species? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant measures and policies are under development	
c) Yes, some measures, policies and tools are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures and tools are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the development of financial measures and other policies and tools for the promotion of activities to reduce the threats of invasive species.

Box XLVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The NBSAP, National Action Plan to combat desertification (NAPAD) and the Status and Trends of Biodiversity in the Gambia are the first national diagnosis on this issue. The diagnosis is being conducted within the implementation of Article 8h of the CBD. Based on this diagnosis, policies and actions may be planned with the objective of minimizing harm to biodiversity caused by alien species.

Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions

GURTS

57. Has your country created and developed capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to genetic use restriction technologies?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to GURTs.	
<p>Although The Gambia has not developed programs specifically related to GURTS, there are mechanisms in the country which allow the participation of those who retain and utilize traditional knowledge in the decision-making process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Farmers Platform- This national association is the official link between Government and farmers on matters relating to Agriculture. - National Livestock Farmers Association- also is the official link between Government and livestock farmers. <p>National association of Traditional Medicine Practitioners is also the official link between government and practitioners of traditional medicine</p>	

Status and Trends

58. Has your country supported indigenous and local communities in undertaking field studies to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but support to relevant studies is being considered	
c) Yes (please provide information on the studies undertaken)	
Further information on the studies undertaken to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and priority actions identified.	

Akwé:Kon Guidelines

59. Has your country initiated a legal and institutional review of matters related to cultural, environmental and social impact assessment, with a view to incorporating the Akwé:Kon Guidelines into national legislation, policies, and procedures?	
a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	X
c) Yes, a review undertaken (please provide details on the review)	

Further information on the review.

Guidelines on the conduct of EIA in relation to development projects include aspects on cultural, environmental and social impacts on relevant communities. Cultural and environmental impact assessments are included in the various sectoral and sub-sectoral policies and laws.

60. Has your country used the Akwé:Kon Guidelines in any project proposed to take place on sacred sites and/or land and waters traditionally occupied by indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)

a) No	X
b) No, but a review of the Akwé: Kon guidelines is under way	
c) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further information on the projects where the Akwé:Kon Guidelines are applied.

Capacity Building and Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities

61. Has your country undertaken any measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities to be effectively involved in decision-making related to the use of their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/16)

a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes being developed	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities.

62. Has your country developed appropriate mechanisms, guidelines, legislation or other initiatives to foster and promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in decision making, policy planning and development and implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at international, regional, subregional, national and local levels? (decision V/16)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are under development	X
c) Yes, some mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the mechanisms, guidelines and legislation developed.

The NGO Affairs Agency is collaborating with National and International NGOs through MOUs and other agreements to promote the participation of local communities in decision making etc. through training and other forms of skills development is necessary for the active participation.

63. Has your country developed mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities with specific provisions for the full, active and effective participation of women in all elements of the programme of work? (decision V/16, annex)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are being developed	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of women of indigenous and local communities in all elements of the programme of work.

Even though the country has not developed national-scale mechanisms, isolated initiatives are conducted to increase participation of women in the decision- making processes.

- Examples include: Women working in artisanal fisheries sector who are trained in the techniques of fish smoking, drying, processing and marketing, Women groups in the areas tie-dyeing, soap making etc all geared towards building the self- management capacity of community women and youth.

Support to implementation

64. Has your country established national, subregional and/or regional indigenous and local community biodiversity advisory committees?

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes	

65. Has your country assisted indigenous and local community organizations to hold regional meetings to discuss the outcomes of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and to prepare for meetings under the Convention?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details about the outcome of meetings)	

Further information on the outcome of regional meetings.

66. Has your country supported, financially and otherwise, indigenous and local communities in formulating their own community development and biodiversity conservation plans that will enable such communities to adopt a culturally appropriate strategic, integrated and phased approach to their development needs in line with community goals and objectives?

a) No	X
b) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further information on the support provided.

Box XLVII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

There are many projects with the purpose of protecting local communities which are conducted by NGOs. Most of these projects aim at integrating the most serious problems of the reality of the Gambian local communities, which refers to issues related to poverty, capacity building and the conservation of biodiversity.

Article 9 - Ex-situ conservation

67. ? On Article 9(a) and (b), has your country adopted measures for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biological diversity native to your country and originating outside your country?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures adopted for the *ex-situ* conservation of components of biodiversity native to your country and originating outside your country.

-However, there are / is a botanic garden, museum and animal orphanage which contribute to the ex- situ conservation of components of biodiversity.

68. ? On Article 9(c), has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions.	
<p>-The wildlife amnesty project collects from people wild life under captivity, train them and reintroduce them as appropriate into their natural habitat</p> <p>- In collaboration with Makasutu Wildlife Trust (MWT), Government has authorized the setting up of a wildlife clinic where in deserted and orphaned animals are looked after health wise before their release into the natural environment.</p>	

69. ? On Article 9(d), has your country taken measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <i>in-situ</i> populations of species?	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <i>in-situ</i> populations of species.	
-However, CITES regulations are enforced at the national level. Comments regarding question 67 are relevant.	

Box XLVIII .

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
<p>Although not fully developed, the aim of the botanic garden, animal orphanage and national museum is to among others contribute to <i>ex-situ</i> conservation in the Gambia. The policy guiding the operation of these structures reflects the CBD demands, such as the access to genetic resources and distribution of benefits, emphasizing the commitment of these institutions to CBD implementation.</p>

Article 10 - Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

70. ? On Article 10(a), has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making?

a) No

b) No, but steps are being taken

c) Yes, in some relevant sectors (please provide details below)

d) Yes, in most relevant sectors (please provide details below)

X

Further information on integrating consideration of conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making.

-Such steps /measures include the poverty alleviation strategy paper which promotes the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the overall national effort to eradicate poverty.

_ The NBSAP as well as the fisheries sector policy advocates for the sustainable use of biological resources.

71. ? On Article 10(b), has your country adopted measures relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No

b) No, but potential measures are under review

c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)

d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the measures adopted relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity.

-The fisheries sector monitors the operations of national and foreign fishing vessels to ensure that fishing activities are conducted in such a way that will guarantee the sustainable use of living marine resources of the fishing zones.

- Various committees and action plans are either in place or are being developed to control and or prevent bushfires, to prevent deforestation and to significantly reduce biodiversity loss.

72. ? On Article 10(c), has your country put in place measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements?

a) No

b) No, but potential measures are under review

c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)

d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements.

-Government is encouraging the creation and operationalization of a national association of Traditional Medicine Practitioners as a means of further protecting biodiversity, improves food security and health.

73. ? On Article 10(d), has your country put in place measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biodiversity has been reduced.	
-Community managed forests and protected area are encouraged by the relevant sectoral and sub-sectoral policies and laws such as forestry and wildlife	
-Private reserves are also being encouraged. The role of government in all these is to provide technical support if the need arises.	

74. ? Has your country identified indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)	
a) No	
b) No, but assessment of potential indicators and incentive measures is under way	X
c) Yes, indicators and incentive measures identified (please describe below)	
Further comments on the identification of indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
-The environment award scheme provides incentives to communities, groups and individuals for adopting sustainable management principles to increase productivity and reduce environmental degradation.	

75. ? Has your country implemented sustainable use practices, programmes and policies for the sustainable use of biological diversity, especially in pursuit of poverty alleviation? (decision V/24)	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential practices, programmes and policies are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on sustainable use programmes and policies.	
- Models of successful sustainable development programmes/ projects are not easy to come by.	

76. ? Has your country developed or explored mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)	
a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	X
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please describe below)	
Further comments on the development of mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity.	
-Government is exploring the possibility of a legislation that will promote/ encourage the participation of the private sector in the sustainable use of biodiversity. Examples include private nature reserves and forest plantations.	

77. Has your country initiated a process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)	
a) No	X
b) No, but the principles and guidelines are under review	
c) Yes, a process is being planned	
d) Yes, a process has been initiated (please provide detailed information)	
Further information on the process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.	
N/A	

78. Has your country taken any initiative or action to develop and transfer technologies and provide financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some technologies developed and transferred and limited financial resources provided (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many technologies developed and transferred and significant financial resources provided (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development and transfer of technologies and provision of financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.	

Biodiversity and Tourism

79. ? Has your country established mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	X
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please specify below)	
d) Yes, existing mechanisms are under review	

Further comments on the establishment of mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity.

-The use of water sports and the littering of river banks and pollutions through tourism are being considered to create the appropriate mechanism in the already finalized water policy at the department of water resources
 - The impacts of over crowding in protected areas as a result of heavy tourist visitation is being looked at.

80. ? Has your country provided educational and training programmes to the tourism operators so as to increase their awareness of the impacts of tourism on biodiversity and upgrade the technical capacity at the local level to minimize the impacts? (decision V/25)

a) No	
b) No, but programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please describe below)	

Further comments on educational and training programmes provided to tourism operators.

-(Makasutu Wildlife Trust (MWT) has trained 80 local Tourist Guides in Wildlife Guiding skills, including: Basic Ecology, Habitats, including the identification of Insects, Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds, Mammals, & as well as general Conservation in the Gambia).
 - The Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM) undertakes capacity development within communities associated with protected areas.

81. Does your country provide indigenous and local communities with capacity-building and financial resources to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management? (decision VII/14)	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are being considered	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments in the capacity-building and financial resources provided to indigenous and local communities to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management.	
N/A	

82. Has your country integrated the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development in the development or review of national strategies and plans for tourism development, national biodiversity strategies and actions plans, and other related sectoral strategies? (decision VII/14)	
a) No, but the guidelines are under review	
b) No, but a plan is under consideration to integrate some principles of the guidelines into relevant strategies	
c) Yes, a few principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)	X
d) Yes, many principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)	
Further information on the sectors where the principles of the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development are integrated.	
-The NBSAP and the new tourism strategy document all encourage and promote the use of instruments which will ensure that tourist activities are compatible with biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.	

Box XLIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

-There is a growing willingness to insert biodiversity into sectoral policies, programs and projects of the Gambia Government. The Government strategy includes the environment as one of its main dimensions. It should also be emphasized that there is a growing presence of the

business sector in the environmental arena , be it by adapting actions to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity or by supporting and funding projects on these themes e.g. Makasutu Cultural Forest.

-The increase of the inclusion of biodiversity issues across several sectors contributed towards achieving Objective 3 of the CBD Strategic Plan (National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans and the integration of biodiversity into relevant sectors serve as an effective framework for the implementation of the objectives of the convention).

Article 11 - Incentive measures

83. ? Has your country established programmes to identify and adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X - 1) Participatory approaches; a) Community forestry programme of the Forestry Department b) Buffer zone management programme of Parks and Wildlife c) Sustainable livelihood fisheries project
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the programmes to identify and adopt incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The projects are implemented through community representative (Management Committees) in collaboration with the sectoral Departments such as the department of Forestry, Department of Parks and Wildlife Management, Department of Fisheries as they relate to access to land, loans to acquire fishing gear, donation of cash or implements as a result of adopting sustainable biodiversity management practices at field level.

84. ? Has your country developed the mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas? (decisions III/18 and IV/10)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, review of impact of mechanisms available (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanism or approaches to incorporate market and non-market values of biodiversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes.

-The Gambia is considering mechanisms for incorporating Biological diversity market values into national plans, policies and programs, but mechanisms for non-market values are yet to be developed.

85. ? Has your country developed training and capacity-building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private-sector initiatives? (decision III/18)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place	
d) Yes, many programmes are in place	

86. Does your country take into consideration the proposals for the design and implementation of incentive measures as contained in Annex I to decision VI/15 when designing and implementing incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision VI/15)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the proposals considered when designing and implementing the incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

-However, consideration is given to the sustainability of the incentive measures to be applied to determine its likelihood of creating dependency and ultimately kill local innovations/alternatives.

87. Has your country made any progress in removing or mitigating policies or practices that generate perverse incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity? (decision VII/18)

a) No	
b) No, but identification of such policies and practices is under way	X
c) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified but not entirely removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified and removed or	

mitigated (please provide details below)

Further information on perverse incentives identified and/or removed or mitigated.

The policies to decentralize the management of Biological resources e.g. the forest legislation (1998) and Biological Diversity policy and Wildlife Act (2003) all identified negative incentives and the need to eradicate them e.g subsidies on the importation of pesticides for use in agriculture etc.

Box L.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

- a) More forest areas under sustainable Community Management (29 thousand hectares, July 2006).
- DPWM manages Kiang West National Park of 22 thousand hectares with the adjacent communities.
- b) Sectoral policies are contributing towards the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention by ensuring sustainable Management of Biological resources through community participation.
- c) Various sectoral policies (Forestry, DPWM, Fisheries) contribute in cutting down the rate of loss of Biological Resources by empowering communities to take management responsibilities.
- The availability of political willingness at the highest level (**the Presidency**) manifested e.g. in the Dubai **Declaration by the President of the Republic of The Gambia** which pledges to mobilize the civil society for proper environmental management.
- d) Strategies and Action Plans are only developed but not implemented.
- e) These Policies (Forestry, DPWM, Fisheries) contribute to the achievement of Goal 7 of the MDG's.
- f) – i) Institutional Capacity – The level of trained personnel
ii) Lack of materials and financial resources

Article 12 - Research and training

88. ? On Article 12(a), has your country established programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components?	
a) No	
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X - (MWT has developed a series of short courses & is developing a Diploma Course – see answer to question 5).
Further information on the programmes for scientific and technical education and training in the measures for identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
Yes certificate training on Biodiversity research skills trainers conducted at national level. e.g. - Forestry Department is running a Certificate Training in Forestry - Gambia College offers a Diploma in Environmental Management - University of the Gambia offers a Degree Program on Agriculture & Biological Sciences	

89. ? On Article 12(b), does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further information on the research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (The government of the Gambia has encouraged MWT to carry out research by contributing land in the protected area of ANR for the Darwin field station & for the accommodation for researchers). - GOTG supports MWT on its research activities - Forestry Department runs incremental trials to access forest productivity - The Gambia Renewable Energy Centre conducts research on Solar energy to cut dependency on fuel wood - Appropriate Technology Unit of Community Development focusing on improved cooking stoves also to reduce forest degradation. 	

90. ? On Article 12(c), does your country promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below) But Limited	X
Further information on the use of scientific advances in biodiversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion and use of Aqua culture by Fisheries Department - Tree improvement through seed tree selection by the Forestry Department - The use of scientific advances is limited as a result of the low capacity of the concerned institutions. 	

Box LI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Article 13 - Public education and awareness

91. Is your country implementing a communication, education and public awareness strategy and promoting public participation in support of the Convention? (Goal 4.1 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	
b) No, but a CEPA strategy is under development	X
c) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a limited extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the implementation of a CEPA strategy and the promotion of public participation in support of the Convention.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CEPA strategy will be built on the existing Agricultural Communication Division, The Gambia Forest Communication Concept, Communication Support Unit of Community Development, Environmental and Education Communication Unit of the NEA as well as the environmental education and awareness unit of the Department of Parks and Wildlife Management. 	

92. Is your country undertaking any activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on Communication, Education and Public Awareness as contained in the annex b decision VI/19? (decision VI/19)

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on CEPA.

- However efforts are currently underway in the following areas:
 - Training of staff
 - Procurement of necessary equipment & Audio -visual materials
 - Logistical support
- Message content development

93. Is your country strongly and effectively promoting biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level? (decision VI/19)

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the promotion of biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level.

(MWT carries out sensitization through short courses for local decision makers & the media, TV & Radio programmes & Newspaper articles & by donating books on the Butterflies, Amphibians, Reptiles & Mammals of the Gambia to all the Lower Basic Schools in the country).

-Forest Department's Newsletter (out of the forest), Agricultural Magazine (Senelaa), Environmental news letter (Earth News) of NEA, Film shows and theatre groups.

- The ICAM project is working on the publication of a newsletter on marine and coastal resources and the need for their protection

94. Does your country promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further information on the efforts to promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level.	
Through celebrations of the following national and international events at local level:	
- Anti-Bushfire Day	- World Ozone Day
- World Biodiversity Day	- World Wetlands Day
- World Environment Day	- World Migratory species Day
- World Water Day	- World Desertification Day

95. Is your country supporting national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some activities supported (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many activities supported (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the support of national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness.	
-The Gambia is actively participating in the following activities: African Agro Forestry/Forestry Research Network, (AFRONET), West African Bird Study Association (WABSA) works with West African Association of Marine Environment in Senegal (WAAME), and the West African Network on the issues of invasive alien species and The transboundary protected area of Niuni (Gambia) and Saloum (Senegal) conduct joint sensitization activities at their common borders etc.	

96. Has your country developed adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness?	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness.	
There is inadequate capacity at National level to satisfactorily deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness (limited human and material resources)	

97. Does your country promote cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness at the national, regional and international levels? (decisions IV /10 and VI/19)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the promotion of cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness, at the national, regional and international levels.	
Through sectoral collaboration and Regional Networking – (see No. 95 above)	

98. Is your country undertaking some CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention?	
a) No (please specify reasons below)	
b) Yes, some activities undertaken for some issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, many activities undertaken for most issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive activities undertaken for all issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention.	
Gender and population/social dimensions under the implementation of the UNCCD and the Strategy for Poverty Alleviation (SPA) as well as the NBSAP.	

99. ? Does your country support initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biological diversity conservation matters in their practice and education programmes as well as into their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision IV/10 and Goal 4.4 of the Strategic Plan)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biodiversity conservation in their practice and education programmes as well as their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.	
<p>-Stakeholders are supported in developing management plans and methods for the use of Biological diversity resources e.g. community forestry projects in the villages, sustainable livelihood fisheries Project, initiatives on village ecotourism campements etc.</p> <p>-ICAM is in the process of promoting rural biodiversity management initiatives in the context of protected area management through micro-finance scheme</p>	

100. Is your country communicating the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and establishing appropriate linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development in the implementation of your national CEPA programmes and activities? (decision VII/24)	
a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes developed and activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes developed and many activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the communication of the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and the establishment of linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development.	
N/A	

Box LII .

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increased level of public awareness on Biodiversity and sustainable use issues <p>(b,c,d,e,f) see Box XLVIII on No. 87</p>

Article 14 – Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts

101. ? On Article 14.1(a), has your country developed legislation requiring an environmental impact assessment of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biological diversity?	
a) No	X
b) No, legislation is still in early stages of development	
c) No, but legislation is in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, legislation is in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, review of implementation available (please provide details below)	
Further information on the legislation requiring EIA of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biodiversity.	
-However, both National Environment Agency's (NEA) NEMA (1994) and Forestry Department's legislation(1998) as well as the wildlife/biodiversity policy and Act (2003) require Environmental Impact Assessment of proposed projects. Guidelines for conducting EIA are in place.	

102. ? On Article 14.1(b), has your country developed mechanisms to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	X
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanisms developed to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biodiversity.

Legislations and Regulations are in place at the relevant sectors and sub-sectors with appropriate and relevant monitoring mechanisms **But** enforcement is very weak due to lack of / inadequate capacity.

103. ? On Article 14.1(c), is your country implementing bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction?

a) No	
b) No, but assessment of options is in progress	
c) Yes, some completed, others in progress (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biodiversity outside your country's jurisdiction.

The Gambia has ratified the UNFCCC, UNCCD and UN CBD, RAMSAR wetlands agreement, CMS, AEWA, CITES, West African Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission, Algiers Convention etc.

104. ? On Article 14.1(d), has your country put mechanisms in place to prevent or minimize danger or damage originating in your territory to biological diversity in the territory of other Parties or in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction?

a) No	X
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place based on current scientific knowledge	

105. ? On Article 14.1(e), has your country established national mechanisms for emergency response to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	X
Further information on national mechanisms for emergency response to the activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biodiversity.	
The National Environment Agency has an Inspectorate Unit for responding to disasters when and where they occur as well as activities likely to present danger to biodiversity. There is also a National Disaster Relief and Emergency Committee at the level of the office of the President which also responds to emergencies and is guided by the emergency disaster preparedness plan. Forest fires prevention and control strategies contained in the Forestry legislation of 1998.	

106. Is your country applying the Guidelines for Incorporating Biodiversity-related Issues into Environment-Impact-Assessment Legislation or Processes and in Strategic Impact Assessment as contained in the annex to decision VI/7 in the context of the implementation of paragraph 1 of Article 14? (decision VI/7)	
a) No	
b) No, but application of the guidelines under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects being applied (please specify below)	X
d) Yes, major aspects being applied (please specify below)	
Further comments on application of the guidelines.	
The Guidelines for National Environment Agency's EIA document, Department of Forestry and Wildlife have guidelines for EIA as part of their respective legislations, though not adequately applied as a result of limited capacity.	

107. On Article 14 (2), has your country put in place national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity? (decision VI/11)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please specify the measures)	
Further comments on national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity.	
However, there are various regulations stipulating fines and other punitive measures such as fines for starting Bush fires, illegal tree felling, unauthorized sand mining, poaching, illegal wildlife trafficking etc. but the issue of redress is still not adequately addressed.	

108. Has your country put in place any measures to prevent damage to biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being developed	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures in place to prevent damage to biological diversity.	
<p>-Inventory of wetlands and other ecologically sensitive areas facing environmental vulnerability and degradation with a view to revitalizing them and promoting the prevention and abatement of potential impacts caused by the implementation of projects of national priority, or caused by growing and localized human action, which may lead to the environmental deterioration of these areas;</p> <p>-Operation combating Desertification :- This is an NGO/Government of The Gambia partnership project with support from IUCN with the objective of reducing the expansion of desert areas or areas in the process of desertification;</p> <p>-Agriculture soil management and Conservation Programme under the Department of State for Agriculture is aimed at ensuring adequate soil management and use, and to promote the restoration of degraded areas, in order to ensure sustainable food production and availability of quality water for human and animal consumption</p> <p>-Gambia Renewable Energy Centre (GREC)- aims at increasing the offer of energy provided by renewable sources , minimizing environmental impacts on biodiversity;</p> <p>-Annual Nationwide Tree Planting Programme: - aims at improving the forest cover and raising people's awareness about the importance of biodiversity in general .</p>	

109. Is your country cooperating with other Parties to strengthen capacities at the national level for the prevention of damage to biodiversity, establishment and implementation of national legislative regimes, policy and administrative measures on liability and redress? (decision VI/11)	
a) No	
b) No, but cooperation is under consideration	
c) No, but cooperative programmes are under development	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, comprehensive cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on cooperation with other Parties to strengthen capacities for the prevention of damage to biodiversity.	
<p>There is sub regional collaboration with Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania and Cape Verde in surveillance of the territorial waters against illegal fishing activities. There is also a cross-border agreement between Gambia and Senegal regarding the Sine Saloum and Niomi protected areas (For more information see submission for Article 5).</p>	

Box LIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

-The initiatives taken under this article contribute towards achieving the objectives of the CBD as well as objective 5 of the CBD 2010 goal (reduce the pressure of habitat loss, of changes in land use and degradation, and of unsustainable water use).

- Additionally, the initiatives contribute towards the implementation of the NBSAP and the biodiversity Policy which aims at strengthening the monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity as well as at promoting the restoration of degraded ecosystems and overexploited biodiversity components;

- The initiative equally contribute towards achieving Objective 7 of the MDGs (ensure environmental sustainability), as well as clearly defined the need for institutional strengthening and poverty alleviation etc.

(Box XLVIII No. 87 is also relevant).

Article 15 - Access to genetic resources

110. ? Has your country endeavored to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms, in accordance with paragraphs 2, 4 and 5 of Article 15?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the efforts taken by your country to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms.

- The NBSAP (1999) and the Biodiversity Policy (1999) touches on Access to genetic resources and distribution of benefits there of . Establishment of a controlled system of access and fair and equitable sharing of benefits originating from the use of genetic resources and components of the genetic heritage, which promotes the addition of value through scientific research and technology development, and which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is being considered.

- The National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) is collaborating with Regional Research Agencies e.g. West African Rice Development Association (WARDA), International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the International crop Research Institute for semi and Arid Regions (ICRISTA) to improve access to genetic resources.

111. ? Has your country taken measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Parties, in accordance with Article 15(6)?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	x
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Contracting Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Contracting Parties.

-Measures have been put in place to ensure that the International Trypanotolerance Centre (ITC) which is looking into maximizing the genetic potentials of the Ndama cattle through genetic improvements and the various trials on the genetic improvement of rice varieties are carried out with the full participation of Gambian scientists.

112. ? Has your country taken measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the results of research and development and of the benefits arising from the commercial and other use of genetic resources with any Contracting Party providing such resources, in accordance with Article 15(7)?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	x
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the type of measures taken.

- Such measures are contained in the Biodiversity and Wildlife Policy(1999) as well as in the NARI Agricultural Research Programme . However, there is inadequate implementation of the measures in practical terms due to inadequate capacity.

113. ? In developing national measures to address access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, has your country taken into account the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?

a) No	x- However
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on national measures taken which consider the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing as set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

-The Biodiversity and Wildlife Policy (2003) recognized the need for ABS and emphasized the importance of complementarity between the national ABS system and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Further work is needed to achieve this objective.

114. Is your country using the Bonn Guidelines when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing and/or when negotiating contracts and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing? (decision VII/19A)

a) No	x
b) No, but steps being taken to do so (please provide details below)	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	

Please provide details and specify successes and constraints in the implementation of the Bonn Guidelines.

-Arrangements are being put in place to draft policy and other measures on ABS. Contract negotiations are based on sectoral, sub-sectoral and national development guidelines and interests at sectoral levels. National guidelines are yet to be developed.

115. Has your country adopted national policies or measures, including legislation, which address the role of intellectual property rights in access and benefit-sharing arrangements (i.e. the issue of disclosure of origin/source/legal provenance of genetic resources in applications for intellectual property rights where the subject matter of the application concerns, or makes use of, genetic resources in its development)?

a) No	x-However
b) No, but potential policies or measures have been identified (please specify below)	
c) No, but relevant policies or measures are under development (please specify below)	
d) Yes, some policies or measures are in place (please specify below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive policies or measures adopted (please specify below)	

Further information on policies or measures that address the role of IPR in access and benefit-sharing arrangements.

-The Biodiversity Policy (1999) & the Biosafety framework legislation under development touched on IPR and ABS arrangements, however, these issues are dealt with within the general framework of the biodiversity convention and the biosafety protocol.

116. Has your country been involved in capacity-building activities related to access and benefit-sharing?

a) Yes (please provide details below)

b) No

X

Please provide further information on capacity-building activities (your involvement as donor or recipient, key actors involved, target audience, time period, goals and objectives of the capacity-building activities, main capacity-building areas covered, nature of activities). Please also specify whether these activities took into account the Action Plan on capacity-building for access and benefit-sharing adopted at COP VII and available in annex to decision VII/19F.

N/A

Box LIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

a) Albeit in an embryonic stage, the measures initiated as described above contribute towards achieving Objective 2 of the CBD Strategic Plan(parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical, and technological capacity to implement the convention); Objective 10 of the CBD 2010 Goals (ensure the just and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the use of genetic resources); MDG No. 7: (ensure environmental sustainability) and objective 2 (eradicate extreme poverty and hunger) since they mostly concern local communities who possess traditional knowledge and more affected with poverty;

b) The following difficulties were identified: need for greater political support, limited public participation and involvement of social actors, need to expand and train human resources, lack of technology and expertise transfer, loss of traditional knowledge, inadequate scientific research capacity, lack of documentation on the loss of biodiversity and of the goods and services provided by biodiversity, insufficient information dissemination at the national level, inadequate synergy at the national level, lack of capacity at local level etc.

(Refer also to box XLVIII No. 87)

Article 16 – Access to and transfer of technology

117. ? On Article 16(1), has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment?

a) No	x
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment.

The training of trainers on biodiversity research skills being conducted by Makasutu Wildlife Trust (MWT) in collaboration with the Department of Parks and Wildlife Management is itself an internal/national mechanism for technology transfer for the proper management and use of biodiversity

118. ? On Article 16(3), has your country taken measures so that Parties which provide genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which make use of those resources, on mutually agreed terms?

a) No	x
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative arrangements are in place	
g) Not applicable	

119. ? On Article 16(4), has your country taken measures so that the private sector facilitates access to joint development and transfer of relevant technology for the benefit of Government institutions and the private sector of developing countries?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)	x
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	

Further information on the measures taken.

Gambia Investment Promotion and Free Zone Agency (GIPFZA) promotes private sector investment including technology transfer.

Box LV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Insufficient information to register positive results.

Programme of Work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation

120. Has your country provided financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation? (decision VII/29)

a) No	X However
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the provision of financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation.

- The Gambia Renewable Energy Centre, Gambia Technical Training Institution and the University of the Gambia received financial and technical support to undertake research development in the field of energy and appropriate Technology Development. Admittedly, these initiatives were not intended for the relevant CBD programme of work as described above.

121. Is your country taking any measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation? (decision VII/29)

a) No	x
b) No, but some measures being considered	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation.

--

122. Has your country made any technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	x
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, basic assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, thorough assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building.	

123. Has your country made any assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	x
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies.	

124. Has your country identified and implemented any measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation, including assessing capacity building needs? (annex to decision VII/29)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	x
c) Yes, some programmes are in place and being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation.	
- The Clearing House Mechanism- BCHM Gambia. This CHM is in the development phase.	

125. Has your country taken any of the measures specified under Target 3.2 of the programme of work as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	x
b) No, but a few measures being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please specify below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please specify below)	

Further comments on the measures taken as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention.

Box LVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

-Inadequate initiatives to report on outcomes and impacts.

Article 17 - Exchange of information

<p>126. ? On Article 17(1), has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources with a view to assist with the implementation of the Convention and promote technical and scientific cooperation?</p>	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	<p>X</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (MWT has provided a very well-stocked resource centre on Biodiversity & Natural Resource Management at the Darwin field station with free access to all).Private individuals in the area of ornithology (Reference Book on Birds of Senegambia) - WAF CET 1 & 2 repeats (Study report on Cetaceans of the Gambia, Senegal etc) - Turtle preliminary studies published by Oryx Magazine - Study reports on Manatee, turtles etc by the ICAM project
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

The following question (127) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

127. ? On Article 17(1), do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries and include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?	
a) No	
b) Yes, but they do not include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	
c) Yes, and they include categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	

Box LVII .

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
<p>The initiatives taken have the potential to contribute, but too early to say in positive terms how and in what forms.</p>

Article 18 - Technical and scientific cooperation

128. ? On Article 18(1), has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
(MWT collaborates in its various research activities with experts from Museums & Universities in the UK, USA, Germany & the Netherlands).	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tran boundary conservation Agreement between the Gambia and Senegal on the Management of Nuimi and Delta du Saloum PAs as one ecological entity. - Sub regional programme on the conservation and Management of Marine Resources & Environment (PRCM) for species and habitats (Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau/Guinea, Cape Verde Sierra Leone) - Sub regional biodiversity programme on Rice and Mangrove (BBI) on Rice and Mangrove habitat 	

- Gambia River Basin studies (Senegal, Gambia, Guinea, G/Bissau)
- Sub regional interstate committee to combat drought and desertification in the Sahel (CILLS)

129. ? On Article 18(4), has your country encouraged and developed methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant methods are under development	x
c) Yes, methods are in place	

130. ? On Article 18(5), has your country promoted the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide some examples below)	x

Examples for the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention.

- West African Cetacean Research and conservation programme 1997-98, 1999-2001 (WAF CET 1&2)
- West African Manatee Research programme (2005)- Wetlands International and Gambia government
- Project Gambia (2006)- Between the Gambia and the University of Central Lancashire (Uclan): The aim is to investigate the conservation status and potential for long-term survival of the West African Manatee, Marine turtles, Monk seal and some species of primates.

131. Has your country established links to non-governmental organizations, private sector and other institutions holding important databases or undertaking significant work on biological diversity through the CHM? (decision V/14)

a) No	x
b) No, but coordination with relevant NGOs, private sector and other institutions under way	
c) Yes, links established with relevant NGOs, private sector and institutions	

The following question (132) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

132. Has your country further developed the CHM to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation? (decision V/14)

a) No	
b) Yes, by using funding opportunities	
c) Yes, by means of access to, and transfer of technology	

d) Yes, by using research cooperation facilities	
e) Yes, by using repatriation of information	
f) Yes, by using training opportunities	
g) Yes, by using promotion of contacts with relevant institutions, organizations and the private sector	
h) Yes, by using other means (please specify below)	
Further comments on CHM developments to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation.	

133. Has your country used CHM to make information available more useful for researchers and decision-makers? (decision V/14)	
a) No	x-However
b) No, but relevant initiatives under consideration	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on development of relevant initiatives.	
We do publish Research Reports on Cetaceans and Turtles in collaboration with UNEP/CMS in CMS publications and in the Oryx Magazine	

134. Has your country developed, provided and shared services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of the CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions? (decision V/14)	
a) No	x-However
b) Yes (please specify services and tools below)	
Further comments on services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions.	
- The initial phase of the CHM has trained sector personnel and biodiversity-related Conventions focal points in the use of e-mail and there are plans to provide equipments for use in the next phase as well as train them in the design of websites.	

Box LVIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

- a) Operationalized MOU with Senegal, conduct of Joint monitoring & surveillance of Biodiversity Resources & Habitats
 - sub regional training programme on identified species and management issues conducted
 - Technical & Scientific Reports eg. On cetaceans etc produced
- b) sub regional Joint Research activities/programmes
 - Published Reports on Cetaceans and Marine Turtles
- c) Cross-sectoral programmes & Activities and the strengthening of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) contributes towards achieving the CBD 2010 target
- d) country Report, First & Second National Report
- e) The current rate of implementation will enable the Gambia to meet MDG 7 .
- f) Lack of Human, Material and Financial Resources
 - Weak enforcement of Regulations
 - Socio-cultural barriers and poverty
 - Inadequate physical infrastructure in laboratories etc.

Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits

135. ? On Article 19(1), has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research?

a) No	x
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation are in place	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy and subsidiary legislation are in place	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place	

136. ? On Article 19(2), has your country taken all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access by Parties, on a fair and equitable basis, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Parties?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

Box LIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

a) The National Biosafety Framework which is in its final stages of completion hopes to establish safety rules and enforcement mechanisms for activities involving the construction, cultivation, production, manipulation, transport, transfer, import, export, storage, commercialisation, consumption, release in the environment, and disposal of genetically modified organisms (GMO) and products thereof; create a national structure/body on biosafety to be responsible for biosafety matters etc

f) The difficulties encountered were: Inadequate dissemination of information on Biotechnology; need for greater political support; inadequate involvement of social players; inadequate preventive proactive measures causing reactive policies; limited capacity for action caused by the weakening of institutions; inadequate human resources; poor technology and expertise transfer; poor horizontal cooperation among social players; inadequate effective partnership; poor CEPA activities at all levels; inadequate capacity building at local levels etc

Article 20 – Financial resources

Box LX.

Please describe for each of the following items the quantity of financial resources, both internal and external, that have been utilized, received or provided, as applicable, to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, on an annual basis, since your country became a Party to the Convention.

a) Budgetary allocations by national and local Governments as well as different sectoral ministries	
b) Extra-budgetary resources (identified by donor agencies)	
c) Bilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	
d) Regional channels (identified by donor agencies)	
e) Multilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	
f) Private sources (identified by donor agencies)	
g) Resources generated through financial instruments, such as charges for use of biodiversity	

Box LXI.

Please describe in detail below any major financing programmes, such as biodiversity trust funds or specific programmes that have been established in your country.

--

137. ? On Article 20(1), has your country provided financial support and incentives to those national activities that are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention?	
a) No	
b) Yes, incentives only (please provide a list of such incentives below)	
c) Yes, financial support only	X
d) Yes, financial support and incentives (please provide details below)	
Further comments on financial support and incentives provided.	
<p>-Salaries and some logistics, as well as annual Budgetary allocations to sectors such as Wildlife, Forestry, Fisheries, Water resources, Agriculture etc for the implementation of sectoral activities as they relate to the environment in general and biodiversity in particular.</p> <p>-Some material and monetary incentives to communities, individuals, groups etc for undertaking sustainable biodiversity management practices at field level.</p>	

The next question (138) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

138. ? On Article 20(2), has your country provided new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed incremental costs to them of implementing measures which fulfill the obligations of the Convention?	
a) No	
b) Yes (please indicate the amount, on an annual basis, of new and additional financial resources your country has provided)	
Further comments on new and additional financial resources provided.	

The next question (139) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

139. ? On Article 20(2), has your country received new and additional financial resources to enable it to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfill the obligations of the Convention?	
a) No	X
b) Yes	

140. ? Has your country established a process to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector? (decision V/11)	
a) No	X
b) No, but procedures being established	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on processes to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector.	
-However all funds are channeled through the Department of State for Finance and Economic Affairs and the Central Bank opens an account for specified activities and sub-sectors with a corresponding working account at the level of treasury Department controlled by the Accountant General's Department.	

141. ? Has your country considered any measures like tax exemptions in national taxation systems to encourage financial support to biodiversity? (decision V/11)	
a) No	X
b) No, but exemptions are under development (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, exemptions are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on tax exemptions for biodiversity-related donations.	

142. Has your country reviewed national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance allocated to biodiversity, with particular attention paid to positive incentives and their performance as well as perverse incentives and ways and means for their removal or mitigation? (decision VI/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes (please provide results of review below)	
Further comments on review of national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance.	

143. Is your country taking concrete actions to review and further integrate biodiversity considerations in the development and implementation of major international development initiatives, as well as in national sustainable development plans and relevant sectoral policies and plans? (decisions VI/16 and VII/21)	
a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	X
c) Yes, in some initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	

d) Yes, in major initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	
Further comments on review and integration of biodiversity considerations in relevant initiatives, policies and plans.	
PRSP, NAPA PROGRAMME to combat desertification, GEAP, <u>NBSAP</u> , VISION 2020 etc	

144. Is your country enhancing the integration of biological diversity into the sectoral development and assistance programmes? (decision VII/21)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, into some sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, into major sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the integration of biodiversity into sectoral development and assistance programmes	
In the Natural Resources sector. DPWM ICAM Project as contained in the NBSAP (1999). DOSF, National Forest Management activities/programmes, DLS-Rangeland Development activities/programmes, NARI – Production system Resource Management etc. LADEP- Lowlands Agricultural Development Programme PIWAMP- Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Programme	

The next question (145) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

145. Please indicate with an “X” in the table below in which area your country has provided financial support to developing countries and/or countries with economies in transition. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.	
A r e a s	Support provided
a) Undertaking national or regional assessments within the framework of MEA (decision VI/8)	
b) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)	
c) Enhance national capacity to establish and maintain the mechanisms to protect traditional knowledge (decision VI/10)	
d) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation (decision V/26)	
e) Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision VI/9)	
f) Implementation of the Bonn Guidelines (decision VI/24)	
g) Implementation of programme of work on agricultural biodiversity (decision V/5)	

h) Preparation of first report on the State of World's Animal Genetic Resources (decision VI/17)	
i) Support to work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and development of regional and sub regional networks or processes (decision VI/27)	
j) Development of partnerships and other means to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the programme of work on dry and subhumid lands biological diversity (decision VII/2)	
k) Financial support for the operations of the Coordination Mechanism of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision VII/9)	
l) Support to the implementation of the Action Plan on Capacity Building as contained in the annex to decision VII/19 (decision VII/19)	
m) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity (decision VII/27)	
n) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas (decision VII/28)	
o) Support to the development of national indicators (decision VII/30)	
p) Others (please specify)	
Further information on financial support provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.	

The next question (146) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

146. Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which areas your country has applied for funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), from developed countries and/or from other sources. The same area may have more than one source of financial support. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.

A r e a s	Applied for funds from		
	GEF	Bilateral	Other
a) Preparation of national biodiversity strategies or action plans	X		
b) National capacity self-assessment for implementation of Convention (decision VI/27)	X		
c) Priority actions to implement the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision V/9)			
d) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)			X
e) Development of national strategies or action plans to deal with alien species (decision VI/23)			

f) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation, establishment and maintenance of <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation facilities (decision V/26)			X
g) Projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 (Education and Public Awareness) (decision VI/19)			X
h) Preparation of national reports (decisions III/9, V/19 and VI/25)	X		
i) Projects for conservation and sustainable use of inland water biological diversity (decision IV/4)			X
j) Activities for conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity (decision V/5)	X		X
k) Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (decision VI/26)	X		
l) Implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative			
m) Implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity			
n) Others (please specify) ICAM	X		X
Further information on application for financial support.			
Other funding sources include: IUCN, PRCM –West African Regional Marine and Coastal Area Programme, WWF -WAMER, Wetlands International (WI), Frankfurt Zoological Society, ADB, OMVG, PWAMP e tc. However, local & international NGO's raise/seek funding for conservation and sustainable use activity purposes which is uncoordinated.			

Box LXII .

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

- a) Modest capacity enhancement for effective implementation of CBD and other environmental conventions, slight boost for Human and Material Resources
- b) Modest contributions and inadequate achievement in the implementation of the strategic plan of the convention
- c) Modest contribution toward 2010 target
- d) Country Report prepared and submitted, First & Second National Reports prepared submitted etc.
- e) On course towards the achievement of MDG 7 and MDG 8 (to establish global partnership for development;
- f) Inadequate human, Financial and material resource

D. THEMATIC AREAS

147. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the thematic programmes of work of the Convention (marine and coastal biodiversity, agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity, inland waters biodiversity, dry and sub-humid lands and mountain biodiversity).						
3 = High Challenge			1 = Low Challenge			
2 = Medium Challenge			0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome			
N/A = Not applicable						
Challenges	Programme of Work					
	Agricultural	Forest	Marine and coastal	Inland water ecosystem	Dry and subhumid lands	Mountain
(a) Lack of political will and support	3	2	3	1	3	
(b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	3	2	3	1	3	
(c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	3	3	3	1	3	
(d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	3	2	3	1	3	
(e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	3	3	3	3	3	
(f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	3	3	3	3	3	
(g) Loss of traditional knowledge	3	3	3	1	3	
(h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	3	3	3	2	3	
(i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	3	3	3	2	3	
(j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	3	3	3	2	3	
(k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	3	3	3	2	3	

(l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	3	3	3	3	3	
(m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	3	3	3	3	3	
(n) Lack of economic incentive measures	3	3	3	2	3	
(o) Lack of benefit-sharing	3	3	3	2	3	
(p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	3	3	3	2	3	
(q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	3	3	3	2	3	
(r) Lack of effective partnerships	3	3	3	2	3	
(s) Lack of engagement of scientific community	3	3	3	2	3	
(t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	3	2	3	2	3	
(u) Poverty	3	3	3	3	3	
(v) Population pressure	3	3	3	3	3	
(w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	3	3	3	2	3	
(x) Lack of capacities for local communities	3	3	3	2	3	
(y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	3	3	3	2	3	
(z) Weak law enforcement capacity	3	3	3	3	3	
(aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	3	3	3	3	3	
(bb) Others (please specify)						

Inland water ecosystems

148. Has your country incorporated the objectives and relevant activities of the programme of work into the following and implemented them? (decision VII/4)				
Strategies, policies, plans and activities	No	Yes, partially, integrated but not implemented	Yes, fully integrated and implemented	N/A
a) Your biodiversity strategies and action plans		X		
b) Wetland policies and strategies		X		
c) Integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans being developed in line with paragraph 25 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development		X		
d) Enhanced coordination and cooperation between national actors responsible for inland water ecosystems and biological diversity		X		
Further comments on incorporation of the objectives and activities of the programme of work				
The new water policy will fully integrate the IWRM in line with paragraph 25 of the plan of implementation of the world summit on sustainable development.				

149. Has your country identified priorities for each activity in the programme of work, including timescales, in relation to outcome oriented targets? (decision VII/4)	
a) No	X
b) Outcome oriented targets developed but priority activities not developed	
c) Priority activities developed but not outcome oriented targets	
d) Yes, comprehensive outcome oriented targets and priority activities developed	
Further comments on the adoption of outcome oriented targets and priorities for activities, including providing a list of targets (if developed).	
Although the Gambia has not defined goals related to the programme of work, the many actions being undertaken on the management of inland waters significantly contribute to the implementation of the POW, since the Gambian environment action plan as well as the NBSAP is guided by CBD and other international environmental treaties, including Agenda 21.	

150. Is your country promoting synergies between this programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level? (decision VII/4)

a) Not applicable (not Party to Ramsar Convention)	
b) No	
c) No, but potential measures were identified for synergy and joint implementation	
d) Yes, some measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)	X
e) Yes, comprehensive measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)	

Further comments on the promotion of synergies between the programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level.

-The Gambia is a party to both Ramsar and the CBD and the Department of Parks and Wildlife Management is the focal point for both conventions. Consequently, all activities to be undertaken in inland water ecosystems are taken with full consideration of both conventions.

- a national wetlands committee was established to ensure that Ramsar and CBD matters are synergized for example in the elaboration of management plans for Ramsar wetland areas which have biodiversity significance to ensure wise use of limited resources and maximize benefit from joint actions.

151. Has your country taken steps to improve national data on: (decision VII/4)

Issues	Yes	No	No, but development is under way
a) Goods and services provided by inland water ecosystems?			X
b) The uses and related socioeconomic variables of such goods and services?			X
c) Basic hydrological aspects of water supply as they relate to maintaining ecosystem function?			X
d) Species and all taxonomic levels?			X
e) On threats to which inland water ecosystems are subjected?			X

Further comments on the development of data sets, in particular a list of data sets developed in case you have replied "YES" above.

-LADEP looks at the threats facing inland waters and take measures to rectify these to ensure environmental sustainability and increased productivity. LADEP is now replaced by PIWAMP.

-There is an on-going nationwide wetlands inventory to among others identify the threats with a view to addressing them to ensure environmental equilibrium as well as stability of associated species

-Annual water fowl census in important wetland areas to determine the threats and trends as it relates to associated species of animals.

152. Has your country promoted the application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems? (decision VII/4)

a) No, the guidelines have not been reviewed	X
b) No, the guidelines have been reviewed and found inappropriate	
c) Yes, the guidelines have been reviewed and application/promotion is pending	
d) Yes, the guidelines promoted and applied	

Further comments on the promotion and application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems.

-However Inland fresh water fish & fish habitats are being assessed using IUCN red list criteria & guidelines. This is part of a regional effort and not country – specific.

Box LXIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

a)-By adopting the watershed as a management unit, decentralizing the management of hydrological resources, and by ensuring public participation in the decision-making processes, the new water resources policy contributes to the conservation of biodiversity in inland waters. This policy is promoting the horizontal and vertical coordination, thus minimizing the duplication of efforts and promoting synergy among initiatives

e)-Recognizing that the new water policy proposes to integrate the management of hydrological resources with other elements of the socioeconomic and political development realities of each watershed, it will not be wrong to say that its implementation contributes indirectly towards achieving all of the MDG objectives e.g. OBJECTIVE 1- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; Objective 3- Promote equality between sexes and the autonomy of women; Objective 4- reduce infant mortality; Objective 7 - Ensure environmental sustainability

f)- Difficulties include: need for greater political support; inadequate technical, financial and human resources, little benefit sharing, poverty, population pressure, low capacity etc

Marine and coastal biological diversity

General

153. Do your country's strategies and action plans include the following? Please use an "X" to indicate your response. (decisions II/10 and IV/15)	
a) Developing new marine and coastal protected areas	X
b) Improving the management of existing marine and coastal protected areas	X
c) Building capacity within the country for management of marine and coastal resources, including through educational programmes and targeted research initiatives (if yes, please elaborate on types of initiatives in the box below)	X
d) Instituting improved integrated marine and coastal area management (including catchments management) in order to reduce sediment and nutrient loads into the marine environment	X
e) Protection of areas important for reproduction, such as spawning and nursery areas	X
f) Improving sewage and other waste treatment	X
g) Controlling excessive fishing and destructive fishing practices	X
h) Developing a comprehensive oceans policy (if yes, please indicate current stage of development in the box below)	
i) Incorporation of local and traditional knowledge into management of marine and coastal resources (if yes, please elaborate on types of management arrangements in the box below)	X
j) Others (please specify below)	
k) Not applicable	
Please elaborate on the above activities and list any other priority actions relating to conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.	
<p>c) Within the framework of the existing world bank/GEF/ Gambia Government/WWF ICAM project national training and capacity building activities among local communities and participating NGOs in species assessment, monitoring and evaluation are central to project implementation. Capacity building activities are reinforced by CEPA activities in the project areas and beyond.</p> <p>i) Field assessment reports on species like the manatee, turtles, dolphins, hippos. Etc draw a lot from traditional knowledge and is used extensively in the development of species action and area management plans</p>	

Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management

154. Has your country established and/or strengthened institutional, administrative and legislative arrangements for the development of integrated management of marine and coastal ecosystems?	
a) No	
b) Early stages of development	X
c) Advanced stages of development	
d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management.	
The World Bank/GEF/Gambia Government /WWF ICAM project is in the very early stages of its development- too early to speak of results	

155. Has your country implemented ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal resources, for example through integration of coastal management and watershed management, or through integrated multidisciplinary coastal and ocean management?	
a) No	X
b) Early stages of development	
c) Advanced stages of development	
d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of application of the ecosystem to management of marine and coastal resources.	
Comments in questions 153 and 154 are relevant	

Marine and Coastal Living Resources

156. Has your country identified components of your marine and coastal ecosystems, which are critical for their functioning, as well as key threats to those ecosystems?	
a) No	X
b) Plans for a comprehensive assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)	
c) A comprehensive assessment is currently in progress	
d) Critical ecosystem components have been identified, and management plans for them are being developed (please provide details below)	
e) Management plans for important components of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)	
f) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of assessment, monitoring and research relating to marine	

and coastal ecosystems, as well as key threats to them

N/A

157. Is your country undertaking the following activities to implement the Convention's work plan on coral reefs? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.

Activities	Not implemented nor a priority	Not implemented but a priority	Currently implemented	Not applicable
a) Ecological assessment and monitoring of reefs				X
b) Socio-economic assessment and monitoring of communities and stakeholders				X
c) Management, particularly through application of integrated coastal management and marine and coastal protected areas in coral reef environments				X
d) Identification and implementation of additional and alternative measures for securing livelihoods of people who directly depend on coral reef services				X
e) Stakeholder partnerships, community participation programmes and public education campaigns				X
f) Provision of training and career opportunities for marine taxonomists and ecologists				X
g) Development of early warning systems of coral bleaching				X
h) Development of a rapid response capability to document coral bleaching and mortality				X
i) Restoration and rehabilitation of degraded coral reef habitats				X
j) Others (please specify below)				

Please elaborate on ongoing activities.

Marine and Coastal Protected Areas

158. Which of the following statements can best describe the current status of marine and coastal protected areas in your country? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.	
a) Marine and coastal protected areas have been declared and gazetted (please indicate below how many)	X
b) Management plans for these marine and coastal protected areas have been developed with involvement of all stakeholders	Some have management plans
c) Effective management with enforcement and monitoring has been put in place	
d) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas is under development	X
e) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas has been put in place	
f) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas managed for purpose of sustainable use, which may allow extractive activities	X
g) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas which exclude extractive uses	X
h) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas is surrounded by sustainable management practices over the wider marine and coastal environment.	X
i) Other (please describe below)	
j) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of marine and coastal protected areas.	
a) Four marine and coastal PAs have been gazetted as follows: Niimi national park (1986); Tanbi wetland complex (2003); Tanji bird reserve (1993); Baobolong wetland reserve (1996)	

Mariculture

159. Is your country applying the following techniques aimed at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity? Please check all that apply.	
a) Application of environmental impact assessments for mariculture developments	Yes
b) Development and application of effective site selection methods in the framework of integrated marine and coastal area management	Yes
c) Development of effective methods for effluent and waste control	Yes
d) Development of appropriate genetic resource management plans at the hatchery level	No
e) Development of controlled hatchery and genetically sound reproduction methods in order to avoid seed collection from nature.	
f) If seed collection from nature cannot be avoided, development of environmentally sound practices for spat collecting operations, including use of selective fishing gear to avoid by-catch	Yes

g) Use of native species and subspecies in mariculture	No (proposed)
h) Implementation of effective measures to prevent the inadvertent release of mariculture species and fertile polypoids.	Yes (weak)
i) Use of proper methods of breeding and proper places of releasing in order to protect genetic diversity	Yes (weak)
j) Minimizing the use of antibiotics through better husbandry techniques	Yes
k) Use of selective methods in commercial fishing to avoid or minimize by-catch	Yes (in legislation)
l) Considering traditional knowledge, where applicable, as a source to develop sustainable mariculture techniques	Yes
m) Not applicable	
Further comments on techniques that aim at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity.	
Mariculture here refers to all techniques of aquaculture in the marine environment. The only operational shrimp culture and limited oyster culture are inclusive. The shrimp aquaculture had undergone EIA at the start and issues such as limited use of antibiotics, effluent treatment and release, safeguard against species accidental or deliberate release were captured in the assessment report. Spat collection in oyster culture was done using artificial substrates to avoid cutting/chopping off of mangrove roots (natural substrate of oysters).	

Alien Species and Genotypes

160. Has your country put in place mechanisms to control pathways of introduction of alien species in the marine and coastal environment? Please check all that apply and elaborate on types of measures in the space below.	
a) No	X
b) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from ballast water have been put in place (please provide details below)	
c) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from hull fouling have been put in place (please provide details below)	
d) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from aquaculture have been put in place (please provide details below)	
e) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from accidental releases, such as aquarium releases, have been put in place (please provide details below)	
f) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of activities relating to prevention of introductions of alien species in the marine and coastal environment, as well as any eradication activities.	
N/A	

Box LXIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

-Since ICAM is in its early stages of implementation, it will probably be too early to speak of results. However, indications are that it will result to horizontal and vertical coordination of actions on the coast as well as proper planning and regularization of the use of Gambian seaside, since the chaotic occupancy of the seaside is one of the main causes of loss and degradation of environmental resources of the coastal and marine zone

-Box LXI response(e) and (f) are relevant

Agricultural biological diversity

161. ? Has your country developed national strategies, programmes and plans that ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to the conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components? (decisions III/11 and IV/6)

a) No	
b) No, but strategies, programmes and plans are under development	X
c) Yes, some strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on agrobiodiversity components in national strategies, programmes and plans.

- In addition to the NBSAP which elaborated strategies and action plans for agricultural biodiversity there is an ongoing effort to forge even closer synergy within the agriculture and natural resources sector through the development of a comprehensive agriculture and natural resources policy to ensure that biodiversity issues are fully integrated into agricultural development initiatives

162. ? Has your country identified ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity? (decision V/5)

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures identified (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures identified (please provide details below)	

Further information on ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.

N/A

Annex to decision V/5 – Programme of work on agricultural biodiversity

Programme element 1 – Assessment	
163. Has your country undertaken specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity such as on plant genetic resources, animal genetic resources, pollinators, pest management and nutrient cycling?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, assessments are in progress (please specify components below)	
c) Yes, assessments completed (please specify components and results of assessments below)	
Further comments on specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity.	
<p>-However The incipient FAO, TCP programme on food security will include a component on agro forestry and native fruit tree assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) conducts an agro-forestry assessment to determine compatibility and potentials thereof, while the International Trypanotolerance Centre in collaboration with the livestock Department conduct some genetic assessment of the local cattle breeds (Ndama cattle) to determine its potential for genetic improvement. - NARI is conducting genetic and trait trials on the NERICA rice variety to determine its suitability to Gambian climatic and field conditions 	

164. Is your country undertaking assessments of the interactions between agricultural practices and the conservation and sustainable use of the components of biodiversity referred to in Annex I of the Convention (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance)?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments completed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments completed (please provide details below)	
Further comments on assessment of biodiversity components (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance).	
<p>-However NBSAP and the country study on status and trends of biodiversity in the Gambia identified all these biodiversity components, but no assessments are currently underway.</p>	

165. Has your country carried out an assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities in sustaining agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecosystem services for food production and food security?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, assessment is under way	
c) Yes, assessment completed (please specify where information can be retrieved below)	
Further comments on assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities.	
<p>- However Some measures are in place to ensure that the knowledge, innovation and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional life styles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are respected, preserved and maintained.</p> <p>-The stoats trust program and the tree domestication project due to start soon will be dealing on indigenous knowledge</p>	

166. Has your country been monitoring an overall degradation, status quo or restoration/rehabilitation of agricultural biodiversity since 1993 when the Convention entered into force?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, no change found (status quo)	
c) Yes, overall degradation found (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, overall restoration or rehabilitation observed (please provide details below)	
Further comments on observations.	
<p>-However, the advent of agricultural mechanization and short fallow periods are all leading to a steady degradation of Agricultural Biodiversity.</p>	

Programme element 2 – Adaptive management	
167. Has your country identified management practices, technologies and policies that promote the positive, and mitigate the negative, impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, and enhance productivity and the capacity to sustain livelihoods?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential practices, technologies and policies being identified	X
c) Yes, some practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on identified management practices, technologies and policies.	
<p>- ITC, NARI and Department of Agricultural Services (DAS) have limited capacity and facilities for</p>	

conservation and genetic research in plants and animals

- Faidherbia Albida Guinea Senegalesis and Pilostigma Reticulata study in North Bank Division addresses management of biodiversity and promotion of Faidgerbia Albida natural regeneration.

- Land reclamation through dyke construction, the promotion of organic farming and the inclusion of Nitrogen fixing trees is being promoted in affected areas.

Programme element 3 – Capacity-building

168. Has your country increased the capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders, to manage sustainable agricultural biodiversity and to develop strategies and methodologies for *In-situ* conservation, sustainable use and management of agricultural biological diversity?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please specify area/component and target groups with increased capacity)	

Further comments on increased capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders.

- However The national agricultural policy of Technical assistance and Rural Extension aims to train technicians who provide technical assistance and rural extension to farmers in the area of sustainable rural development and farming initiatives to strengthen and improve the quality of life of rural dwellers and promote the adoption of sustainable agro-ecological principles.

-The farmer's platform organizations and community groups (kaffos) in collaboration with the Department of State for Agriculture (DOSA) are actively engaged in IEC programmes countrywide.

- Farmer training activities on In –situ conservation strategies involving Faidherbia Albida Guinea Senegalesis and Pilostigma Reticuiata study in North Bank Division contributes towards improving the capacities of farmers.

169. Has your country put in place operational mechanisms for participation by a wide range of stakeholder groups to develop genuine partnerships contributing to the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential mechanisms being identified	
c) No, but mechanisms are under development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place	

170. Has your country improved the policy environment, including benefit-sharing arrangements and incentive measures, to support local-level management of agricultural biodiversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but some measures and arrangements being identified	
c) No, but measures and arrangements are under development	
d) Yes, measures and arrangements are being implemented (please	

specify below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to improve the policy environment.	

Programme element 4 – Mainstreaming

171. Is your country mainstreaming or integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes?

a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	X
c) No, but potential frameworks and mechanisms are being identified	
d) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed and integrated into some sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed into major sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on mainstreaming and integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes.

The following initiatives are currently underway:

- Efforts are underway to establish a national association of traditional Medicine/ Healers Association and develop a National Policy of Medicinal Plants with the participation of civil society and key public institutions.
- Both the NBSAP and the state of environment report provide some review and assessment of ongoing activities and existing instruments at the sectoral level. This established issues and priorities for further action.
- The on-going elaboration of a comprehensive policy on agriculture and natural resources to ensure complementarity of actions and programmes is a contribution towards the mainstreaming exercise.

172. Is your country supporting the institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms for the mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity in agricultural strategies and action plans, and its integration into wider strategies and action plans for biodiversity?

a) No	
b) Yes, by supporting institutions in undertaking relevant assessments	X
c) Yes, by developing policy and planning guidelines	X
d) Yes, by developing training material	
f) Yes, by supporting capacity-building at policy, technical and local Levels	
g) Yes, by promoting synergy in the implementation of agreed plans of action and between ongoing assessment and intergovernmental processes.	

Further comments on support for institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms.

The Gambia is in the process of developing its Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) policy document with support from FAO and other NGOs.

173. In the case of centers of origin in your country, is your country promoting activities for the conservation, on farm, *In-situ*, and *Ex-situ*, of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture, including their wild relatives?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on of the conservation of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture in their center of origin.

-NARI in collaboration with the Department of Agricultural Services (DAS) & NGOs is promoting activities for the conservation of in-situ genetic resources for food security.

-Furthermore, in-situ conservation has been and continues to be the main driving force behind the NBSAP and the National Conservation Strategy.

Box LXV.

Please provide information concerning the actions taken by your country to implement the Plan of Action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators.

The Gambia has no active programme on the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators and has not carried out any scientific assessment relevant to genetic use restriction technologies.

Box LXVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The CBD is being implemented through the same institutional arrangement adopted for the implementation of its allied environmental conventions of desertification and climate change. This is the institutional arrangement established for the implementation of the Gambia Environment action Plan (GEAP) in 1993.

This has not only made possible the effective integration of the implementation processes of the 3 environmental conventions but also rendered their national programme of action as important components of the strategic action programme of the GEAP.

- The main constraints include: 1. great challenges: need for greater political support; inadequate integration of themes related to biodiversity into other sectors; need to strengthen institutional capacity; loss of traditional knowledge; lack of CEPA activities at all levels; little understanding and documentation of on the loss of biodiversity and associated benefits; lack of economic incentive measures; little benefit-sharing; inadequate synergy at the national and international levels; need to

improve existing policies and legislations; poverty; population pressure; unsustainable consumption and production patterns; inadequate capacity building at the level; little capacity to execute legislation; 2. medium challenges include: limited technology and expertise transfer; limited access to knowledge and information; inadequate financial, technical and human resources etc

Forest Biological Diversity

General

174. Has your country incorporated relevant parts of the work programme into your national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes?	
a) No	
b) Yes, please describe the process used	X
c) Yes, please describe constraints/obstacles encountered in the process	
d) Yes, please describe lessons learned	
e) Yes, please describe targets for priority actions in the programme of work	
Further comments on the incorporation of relevant parts of the work programme into your NBSAP and forest programmes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elaboration of the National Forests Programme through the coordination of public policies related to issues such as land tenure regulations, credit and financing, environmental legislation, research and technology, training and capacity building among others; - Prevention and control of deforestation and bushfires; - Strengthening of civil society; - Nationwide tree planting exercise 	

Box LXVII.

<p>Please indicate what recently applied tools (policy, planning, management, assessment and measurement) and measures, if any, your country is using to implement and assess the programme of work. Please indicate what tools and measures would assist the implementation.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Biodiversity/ Wildlife Policy (1999); - National Forest Programmes as enshrined in the Forest Policy and National Action Plan to combat desertification (NAPAD); - Community Forestry Programmes to allow interested communities take management and sustainable use responsibility over their forest resources

Box LXVIII .

Please indicate to what extent and how your country has involved indigenous and local communities, and respected their rights and interests, in implementing the programme of work.

- Each proposed forest programme is subject to scrutiny by the relevant community through appropriate community structures (forest committees) and at general community meetings.

Box LXIX.

Please indicate what efforts your country has made towards capacity building in human and capital resources for the implementation of the programme of work.

- The Gambia is providing support to the forestry training centre in Kafuta where low and medium level forestry cadre are trained with the aim of going back to the communities to take up community forestry management responsibilities as well as secure self employment opportunities.

Box LXX.

Please indicate how your country has collaborated and cooperated (e.g., south-south, north-south, south-north, north-north) with other governments, regional or international organizations in implementing the programme of work. Please also indicate what are the constraints and/or needs identified.

N/A

Expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity

Programme element 1 – Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing	
175. Is your country applying the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests?	
a) No (please provide reasons below)	
b) No, but potential measures being identified (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Comments on application of the ecosystem approach to management of forests (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impact on forest management, constraints, needs, tools, and targets).	
<p>- The nucleus concept of forest management integrated the protection of gazetted forest Parks as well as the outlying/ adjacent forest areas including the plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment as one functional unit</p>	

176. Has your country undertaken measures to reduce the threats to, and mitigate its impacts on forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p data-bbox="422 336 1445 409">Please specify below the major threats identified in relation to each objective of goal 2 and the measures undertaken to address priority actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="422 420 1445 493">- Loss and fragmentation of Natural habitat due to deforestation e.g. Bush fires, climate change, fuel energy extraction etc. <li data-bbox="422 493 1445 535">- Wetland drainage and infrastructural Development <li data-bbox="422 535 1445 567">- Overgrazing and poor farming practices
b) No		<p data-bbox="422 588 1445 640">Please provide reasons below</p>

Further comments on measures to reduce threats to, and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biodiversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Measures constituting the main highlights of the forest and wildlife policies in reducing threats to forest biodiversity are as follows:

- To foster a shared sense of a society that sees itself as an integral part of nature and should use nature in a sustainable manner through CEPA activities at the national level
- National programme to protect critical ecosystems and natural habitats outside the protected areas system
- National programme to establish and manage a network of protected areas representative of major ecosystem types and unique or threatened natural habitats;
- National forest programmes involving communities in terms of ownership of resources and capacity building issues related to this.

177. Is your country undertaking any measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities - Community forestry management concept - Annual national tree planting - Joint forest park management
b) No		Please provide reasons below
Further comments on measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).		
Enrichment planting of indigenous species in both community and state forest		

178. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities Forest utilization is based on development of sustainable management plan which is being implemented
b) No		Please provide reasons below
Further comments on the promotion of the sustainable use of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Licensing and quota system - Monitoring and surveillance 		

179. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 5 and describe measures undertaken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community forests: communities own and manage their local forests (keep 95% of Revenue collected). - Joint forest park management (communities keep 50% of Revenue collected).
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

Further comments on the promotion of access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources. (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets)

- The Forest Act of 1998 grant access to forest Reserve located on customary lands
- Benefit sharing scheme is being further refined under the joint forest park management concept (50% of revenue is retained by the community and 50% goes to central government)

Programme element 2 – Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment

180. Is your country undertaking any measures to enhance the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>Decentralization of forestry management at National level.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

Further comments on the enhancement of the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Policy and institutional framework conducive to community/private involvement in forest biodiversity management have been initiated and is being implemented nationwide.

181. Is your country undertaking any measures to address socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Focusing on the management of Natural forest.
b) No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please provide reasons below

Further comments on review of socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Clearing of Natural forest to establish plantations of exotics trees lead to the loss of indigenous plant cover and therefore in biological diversity.

182. Is your country undertaking any measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gambia forest communication concept.
b) No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please provide reasons below

Further comments on measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

- Lot of community & private participation in forest management
- Steady decline of bush fire frequency & severity.
- Increased awareness about forests and forestry issues

Programme element 3 – Knowledge, assessment and monitoring

183. Is your country undertaking any measures to characterize forest ecosystems at various scales in order to improve the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
		Categorization of forest covers into 5 classes ie. Forest Parks, Community Forest, Reserves, Community control state forest, & State forest.
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on characterization of forest ecosystems at various scales (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

- Forest inventory in terms of species diversity, abundance/availability
- Financial constraints and expertise.

184. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve knowledge on, and methods for, the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities
		Capacity development at various levels such as the assessment/research techniques and methodologies being made available to all relevant national stakeholders at the Darwin Field Station
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on improvement of knowledge on and methods for the assessment of the status and trends (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

- National forest Inventory
- Community training programme on forest management
- Certificate level training in forest management
- Lack of funds to undertake professional training

185. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities Training, Sensitization of all stakeholders on the importance of forest and its actual and potential contribution to national socio-economic development agenda as well as to improving the microclimate .
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the improvement of the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

- Communities have accepted forest management and protection activities as another viable land use option for improved livelihoods
- Communities have been empowered to manage their own resources through capacity Development

186. Is your country undertaking any measures at national level to improve the infrastructure for data and information management for accurate assessment and monitoring of global forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities Gambia banned the export and import of threatened and endangered Flora and Fauna.
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the improvement of the infrastructure for data and information management (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

- National Forest Inventory
- Establishment of Divisional and border forest stations
- Computers and accessories to process data
- Build and develop skills in data processing and analysis

Box LXXI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

- a) Increased areas of forest under sustainable community management
- b) Promote positive contribution of sustainable use of forest resources
- c) 33% of land area under forest cover and 75% of which should be under sustainable management
- d) 29,000 hectares of forest under community management and 1800 hectares under joint forest park management
- e) contributes to the achievement of MDG 7
- f) Inadequate Institutional, Human, Material and Financial resources

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

187. Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work? (decisions V/23 and VII/2)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| a) No | X |
| b) Yes (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on scientific, technical and financial support, at the national and regional levels, to the activities identified in the programme of work.

Government support limited restoration & rehabilitation activities i.e. Tree planting, Bush fire control, Designation of ecologically sensitive areas.

188. Has your country integrated actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| a) No | |
| b) Yes (please provide details below) | X |

Further comments on actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands integrated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD.

National Action Plan (NAP) for desertification control is already developed but not yet implemented due to lack of funds.

189. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD process and other processes under related environmental conventions? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

- | | |
|-------|--|
| a) No | |
|-------|--|

b) Yes, some linkages established (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, extensive linkages established (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to ensure the synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD processes and other processes under related environmental conventions.	
Road map for the implementation of the NAP with support from GTZ as well as the joint programmes identified under the national capacity needs assessment for the three Rio environment related conventions	

Programme Part A: Assessment	
190. Has your country assessed and analyzed information on the state of dryland biological diversity and the pressures on it, disseminated existing knowledge and best practices, and filled knowledge gaps in order to determine adequate activities? (Decision V/23, Part A: Assessment, Operational objective, activities 1 to 6)	
a) No	X
b) No, but assessment is ongoing	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessment undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the relevant information on assessments of the status and trends and dissemination of existing knowledge and best practices.	
Pending NAP Implementation and the availability of adequate financial resources	

Programme Part B: Targeted Actions	
191. Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences? (part B of annex I of decision V/23, activities 7 to 9)	
a) No	
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences.	
Community forestry concept promoted to put more emphasis on the Dry land forest of the Northern part of the country where the need to put available forest under proper management scheme /regime cannot be overemphasized.	

192. Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work?	
a) No	
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, all identified capacity needs met (please provide details below)	
Further comments on measures taken to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work.	
Through Training workshops, exchange visits, and Financial inputs for the benefit of relevant national institutions, local communities, CBOs and NGOs	

Box LXXII.

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
<p>a) Designation of ecological sensitive areas as P/AS</p> <p>Please refer to Box LXIX</p>

Mountain Biodiversity

Programme Element 1. Direct actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing	
193. Has your country taken any measures to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity	
N/A	

194. Has your country taken any measures to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity	
N/A	

195. Has your country taken any measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems	
N/A	

196. Has your country taken any measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources, including preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources	
N/A	

Programme Element 2. Means of implementation for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

197. Has your country developed any legal, policy and institutional framework for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing this programme of work?

- | | |
|--|--|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but relevant frameworks are being developed | |
| c) Yes, some frameworks are in place (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive frameworks are in place (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the legal, policy and institutional frameworks for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing the programme of work on mountain biodiversity.

N/A

198. Has your country been involved in regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?

- | | |
|---|--|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but some cooperation frameworks are being considered | |
| c) Yes (please provide details below) | |

Further information on the regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity

N/A

Programme Element 3. Supporting actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

199. Has your country taken any measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biological diversity?

- | | |
|--|--|
| a) No | |
| b) No, but relevant programmes are under development | |
| c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below) | |
| d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below) | |

Further comments on the measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biodiversity

N/A

200. Has your country taken any measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity	
N/A	

201. Has your country taken any measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems?	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems	
N/A	

Box LXXIII .

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
N/A

E. OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

202. Has your country actively participated in subregional and regional activities in order to prepare for Convention meetings and enhance implementation of the Convention? (decision V/20)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the regional and subregional activities in which your country has been involved.	
Workshops, preparatory meetings and general capacity development initiatives in the area of biodiversity.	

203. Is your country strengthening regional and subregional cooperation, enhancing integration and promoting synergies with relevant regional and subregional processes? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on regional and subregional cooperation and processes.	
<p>-The Gambia is actively participating in the regional programme for the development of west African coastal and marine areas (PRCM)</p> <p>- Interstate committee for the control of drought in the sahel (CILLS) is another regional structure in which Gambia is actively participating</p>	

The following question (204) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

204. Is your country supporting the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, included in existing cooperation frameworks (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities ongoing (please provide details below)	
Further comments on support for the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes.	

205. Is your country working with other Parties to strengthen the existing regional and subregional mechanisms and initiatives for capacity-building? (decision VI/27 B)	
a) No	
b) Yes	X

206. Has your country contributed to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms for implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on contribution to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms.

- The Gambia is collaborating with Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea etc in endangered species and other coastal resources assessment and monitoring, conducting joint training sessions in the area of capacity building and resource mobilization for action.
- Report on the status of cetaceans in West Africa (UNEP/CMS) - The Gambia participated in this research /study.

Box LXXIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of the above decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The Gambia hosted the second PRCM forum in 2005 when and where regional marine protected area strategies and plans have been further refined and consolidated.

F. COMMENTS ON THE FORMAT

Box LXXV.

Please provide below recommendations on how to improve this reporting format.

This format is too long and should be shortened. Should be flexible to focus more on national implementation activities which could have bearing on CBD provisions instead of strictly concentrating on CBD Articles.

- - - - -