



HIGH-LEVEL PANEL ON GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

In 2012, the United Kingdom-India sponsored High-Level Panel on the Global Assessment of the Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 reported on 'Resourcing the Aichi Biodiversity Targets' – including acknowledgement of uncertainties, time and data constraints – to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-11), held in Hyderabad, India on 8-19 October 2012.

The Panel produced eight key messages:

1. Implementation and delivery of the Targets requires the development of an appropriate and coherent political and institutional framework and strong political will, particularly at the national and regional level.
2. Investment in natural capital will deliver significant co-benefits for sustainable development.
3. Existing evidence suggests that benefits are likely to significantly outweigh costs.
4. There are clear differences in the relative scale of investment required to deliver the various Targets. In addition, the investment needed to deliver a Target is not necessarily correlated to its importance.
5. Many factors affect the magnitude of the estimates of the investments needed to achieve each of the Targets. These include the scope of the activities to be costed and associated investment opportunities and the potential synergies among Targets as well as uncertainties arising from limitations in data and methodologies.
6. There are many inter-linkages and co-dependencies to consider both between the Targets themselves, and between the Targets and other national policy goals.
7. Funding from a diverse range of international and national sources, and across different policy areas is required to secure the full range of economic and social benefits to be gained from meeting the Aichi Targets.
8. Further research is vital to help further develop and refine the estimates.

The figures provided by the High-Level Panel (phase 1) were a first assessment of the total resources required to deliver the Targets, including the current levels of resources allocated to the relevant activities. It was estimated that one-off investments account for between 60% and 70% of the overall global resource needs for delivering the Targets over the 2013 to 2020 period. Through simple addition of the resource requirements identified for each Target (see Table below), the costs for implementing the twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets were estimated at between US\$ 150 billion and US\$ 440 billion per year. However, it is expected that these resource requirements neither should nor could be met by biodiversity finance alone, and there is potential for considerable synergies among the Targets, so that coordinated action could substantially reduce the total estimate.

In Decision XI/4, COP-11 welcomed the initial findings of the High-Level Panel (phase 1), and invited the Panel, in collaboration with other relevant initiatives that could provide a more bottom-up approach, to continue its work with a broadened composition and to report back on the results of its work to COP-12. Hence, with the generous financial support of the Government of the United Kingdom and the European Commission, the first High-Level Panel has been expanded to create a regionally-balanced Panel of fifteen members through a formal process of nomination by Parties and appointment by the CBD Executive Secretary.

Strategic Goal	Target	Investment needs (US\$ million)	Recurrent expenditure per annum (US\$ million)	Average annual expenditure (2013 – 2020) (US\$ million)
A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	1: Awareness raising	54	440 – 1,400	280 – 890
	2: Biodiversity values	450 – 610	70 – 130	100 – 160
	3: Incentives	1,300 – 2,000	8 – 15	170 – 270
	4: Sustainable consumption & production	55 – 107	8 – 15	12 – 23
B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	5: Reducing habitat loss (forests and wetlands)	152,300 – 288,800	13,300 – 13,700	39,200 – 52,100
	6: Fisheries	129,900 – 292,200	800 – 3,200	16,900 – 40,000
	7: Sustainable Agriculture, Aquaculture and Forestry	20,800 – 21,700	10,700 – 11,000	13,200 – 13,600
	8: Pollution	77,600 – 772,700	24,400 – 42,700	35,400 – 139,200
	9: Invasive alien species	34,100 – 43,900	21,005 – 50,100	23,300 – 52,900
	10: Coral reefs	600 – 960	6 – 10	80 – 130
C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity	11: Protected areas (terrestrial and marine)	66,100 – 626,400	970 – 6,700	9,200 – 85,000
	12: Species conservation	–	3,400 – 4,800	3,400 – 4,800
	13: Genetic diversity	550 – 1,400	15 – 17	80 – 190
D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services	14: Ecosystem restoration	30,000 – 299,900	–	3,750 – 37,500
	15: Restoration of forests	100	6,400	6,400
	16: Nagoya Protocol	55 – 313	–	7 – 39
E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building	17: NBSAPs	114 – 1,100	110 – 560	50 – 170
	18: Traditional knowledge	210 – 340	210 – 340	210 – 340
	19: Science base	1,800 – 4,200	1,400 – 1,600	1,600 – 2,100
	20: Mobilisation of financial resources	10 – 79	3 – 20	4 – 30

By considering the range of the costs of implementing the activities needed to achieve the targets, and identifying the opportunities to most cost effectively secure such benefits through actions both within and outside the biodiversity sector, the next phase of the research builds on the initial work of the High-Level Panel. In response to the following questions, the benefits of meeting the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will be assessed by examining both the positive impacts on biodiversity directly and the wider benefits to society that result from the investments and policy developments required:

- *Benefits*
 - What will be the economic benefits of delivering the Aichi Targets?
 - What evidence is there of the nature, scale and value of these benefits, at national and international levels?
- *Investment needs*
 - What investments need to be made to deliver the Aichi targets and to secure these benefits?
 - Where would these investments be best directed or focused?
 - Which Targets will these investments help to meet, and what are the synergies and overlaps between Targets?
 - What types of on-going annual expenditures will be required?
 - How do the types of investments and ongoing expenditures identified compare to those identified in the first phase of the HLP research?
- *Resource requirements*
 - What evidence is there of resource needs at the project and country level?
 - How does this evidence compare with the analysis presented in the HLP's report to COP-11?
 - What evidence is there for current allocations relative to needs?
 - What are the implications for the resources required to deliver the targets, individually and collectively?
- *Policy alignment and development*
 - How do the identified investment needs and the benefits they will achieve align with other policy agendas, such as the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals?

- To what extent can we identify synergies and opportunities for joint delivery at the country and programme level?
- What are the implications for the overall resource requirements to meet the Aichi Targets, and the degree to which additional resources need to be targeted to them?
- To what extent can improvements in governance, institutional and policy development at the country level contribute in a cost-efficient manner to deliver actions to achieve the Targets?
- *Cost effectiveness*
 - How can the Aichi Targets be delivered at least cost, taking account of the synergies between the targets and the investments required, the sequencing of actions and the synergies with other policy agendas?
 - What evidence is there of the cost effectiveness of different investments, taking account of biodiversity gain and contribution to the Targets relative to cost?
 - What are the implications for the sequencing and/or prioritisation of investments in moving towards achieving the Targets?
- *Benefits and costs*
 - What does the evidence as identified above tell us about the balance between the benefits and costs of meeting the Targets?
 - How can this evidence be used to make the case for the investments required?

Approach

The High-Level Panel (phase 2) is supported by a Research Team that works with the Panel and CBD Project Manager to compile the evidence and analysis required to meet these aims, and to report its findings and recommendations. The Research Team has taken on the responsibility for ensuring the timely execution of the agreed programme of work and delivery of the reports, ensuring that the Panel is able to report as anticipated in the timeframe set out below. The research and drafting will be steered and reviewed by the High-Level Panel.

The Panel is:

- providing strategic leadership and guidance to the research and identify the priorities within it;
- working directly with the Research Team and CBD Secretariat to draw key messages, conclusions and recommendations from the research;
- engaging with other relevant institutions and initiatives to secure the cooperation and provision of evidence for analysis;
- engaging with CBD Parties to raise awareness of the study and its findings; and
- overseeing delivery of a draft report for WGRI-5 consideration and feedback, and a final report for COP-12.

Key dates of the High-Level Panel

- 30-31 May 2013: 1st High-Level Panel meeting (Trondheim, Norway)
- 22 November 2013: 1st draft report submitted to High-Level Panel
- 2-4 December 2013: 2nd High-Level Panel meeting (Chennai, India)
- 17 March 2014: Revised draft report available for peer review
- 14-15 April 2014: 3rd High-Level Panel meeting (possibly Brazil)
- 23 May 2014: Delivery of draft report for WGRI-5 to CBD Secretariat
- 16-20 June 2014: WGRI-5 (Montreal, Canada)
- 4 July 2014: Revised draft report to High-Level Panel
- 31 July 2014: Delivery of final report and 15-page Executive Summary for COP12 to CBD Secretariat
- 6-17 October 2014: COP12 (Pyeongchang, Korea)

In order to facilitate broader support for the work programme, ensure linkages to relevant CBD decisions, work to provide continuity to the first phase of the assessment accomplished in 2012, and alignment with intersessional initiatives such as those for the CBD (e.g., GBO-4), as well as the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) processes, the High-Level Panel is administered by the CBD Secretariat.

For further information, visit <http://www.cbd.int/financial/hlp/> or email hlp@cbd.int.