



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Synergies in implementing the CBD and other MEAs

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Why synergies at the national level are important for the CBD



Benefits of strengthening synergies:

- More holistic approach to addressing biodiversity issues
- Coherent national position on biodiversity issues
- Efficient national report preparation
- Contributes to the achievement of multiple international obligations
- Facilitates the efficient use of human, technical and financial resources
- Reducing duplication and redundancy
- Improved access to and sharing of data and knowledge
- Improved access to funding/other resources

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International calls for synergies



UN General Assembly:

- Noted the need for enhanced cooperation among the Rio Conventions (December 2009)
- Adopted “The Future We Want”, encouraging coordination and cooperation between MEAs (July 2012)



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CBD COP decisions on synergies



Collaboration with Rio Conventions

XII/20 – decision on climate change

- Requests the ES to collaborate with UNFCCC and others to promote ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation

XI/21 - decision on climate change

- Encourages Parties to promote synergies between biodiversity and climate-change policies and measures
- Para 13. Mandate for collaborative work through the Joint Liaison Group of the three Rio conventions

X/35 – decision on Dry and sub-humid lands

- Para 5. *Also urges* Parties and other Governments and relevant organizations to support activities identified in national capacity self-assessments (NCSAs) that promote synergies among the three Rio conventions at the sub-national, national and regional level, within dry and sub-humid lands;
- Para 8 mandates joint work with UNCCD and UNFCCC



Collaboration with other MEAs:

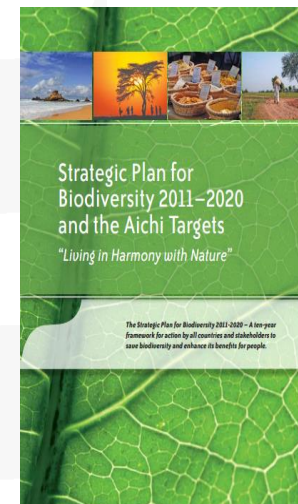
- XII/30 – on the financial mechanism ; Section A. on enhancing programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions:
 - Para 1. *Invites* Parties to enhance coordination among their respective biodiversity-related convention national focal points, in order to identify national priorities in support of the implementation of the various biodiversity-related conventions that are aligned with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and with the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and incorporate them into their NBSAPs;
 - Para 2. *Invites* the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions to provide elements of advice concerning the funding of the national priorities referred to in the paragraph above

Existing mechanisms for synergies



Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

- The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity serves as the overarching framework on biodiversity for the entire UN system.
- It seeks to halt the loss of biodiversity, secure the Earth's variety of life, and contribute to human well-being and poverty eradication.
- Implementation of the Strategic Plan is driven by national and subnational actions, with supporting activities at the regional and global levels.
- The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity can be used as a vehicle for achieving synergies at national level e.g. actions to achieve Aichi Target 15 will contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable land management as well as biodiversity objectives.



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Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020



Framework for all Conventions and stakeholders

Vision: Living in harmony with nature. By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.

Mission: Take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet's variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication

20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets under 5 Strategic Goals

Implementation mechanisms

5 Strategic goals



- A. Address the **underlying causes** of biodiversity loss (mainstreaming)
- B. Reduce the **direct pressures** and promote sustainable use
- C. Directly **safeguard** ecosystems, species and genetic diversity
- D. Enhance the **benefits** to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services
- E. Enhance **implementation** through participatory planning, knowledge management, resource mobilization and capacity building

Strategic goal A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss

Target 1: By 2020, People are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

Target 2: By 2020, biodiversity values are integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and national accounts ...

Target 3: By 2020, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed

Target 4: By 2020, Governments, business and stakeholders have plans for sustainable production and consumption and keep the impacts resource use within safe ecological limits.

Strategic goal B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.

Target 6: By 2020 all stocks managed and harvested sustainably, so that overfishing is avoided

Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.

Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.

Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.

Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

Strategic goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas are conserved through systems of protected areas.....

Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.

Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives is maintained,

Strategic goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services are restored and safeguarded,

Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems,

Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefits Sharing is in force and operational

Strategic goal E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

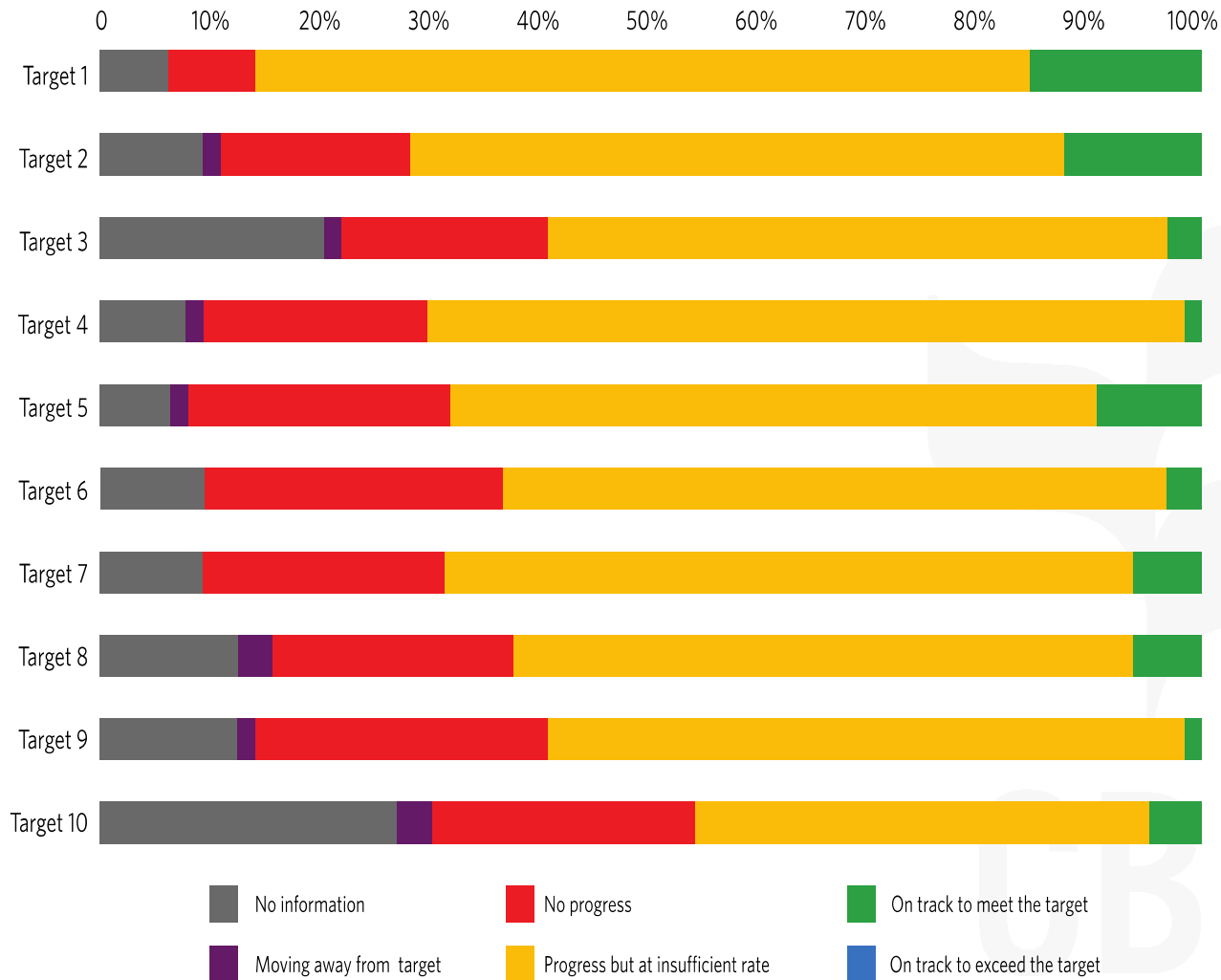
Target 17: By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated NBSAP.

Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities and their customary use, are respected.

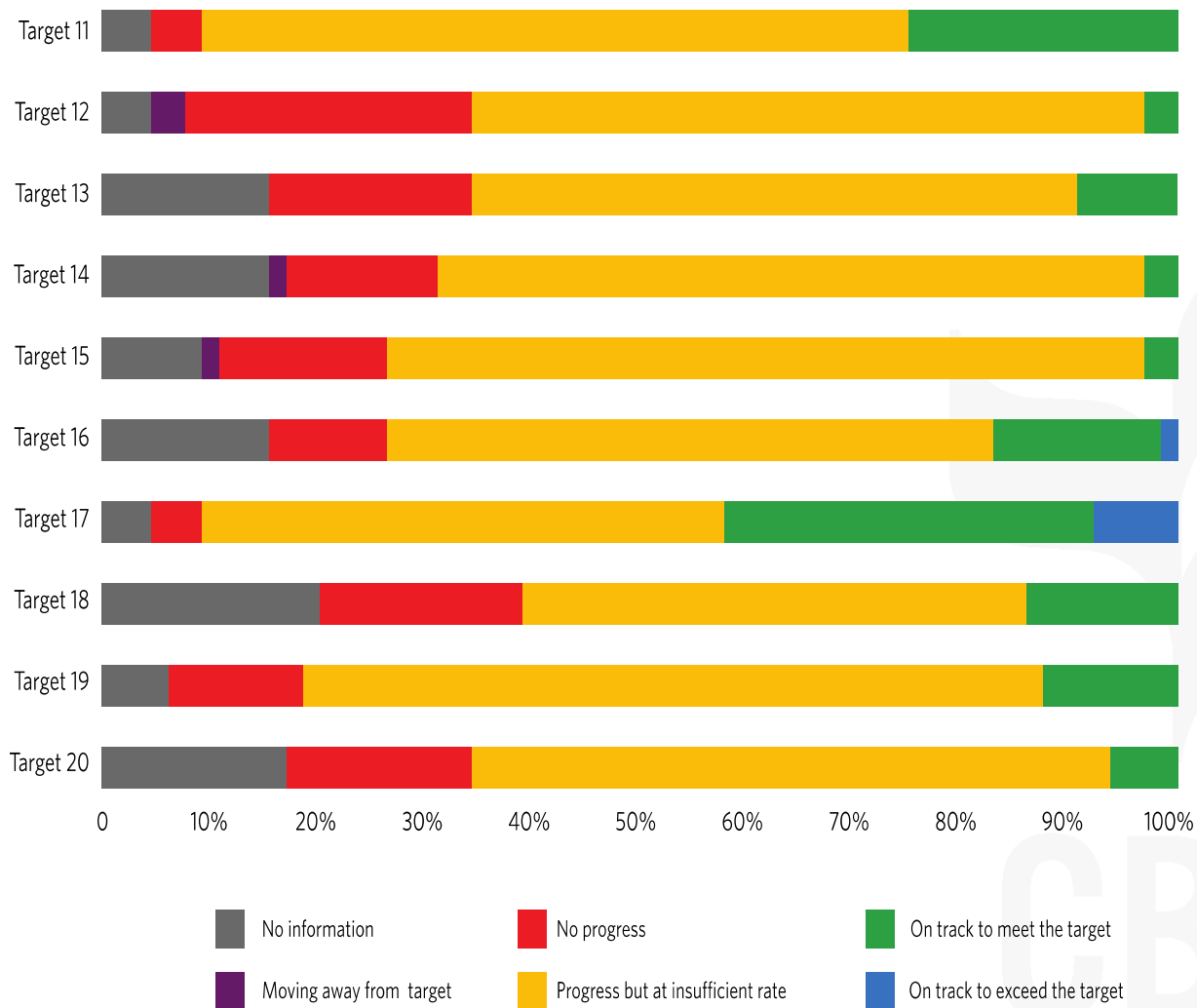
Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.

Target 20: By 2020, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources,, should increase substantially .

Mid-term review of the Strategic Plan: GBO-4



Mid-term review of the Strategic Plan: GBO-4



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Existing mechanisms for synergies (cont'd)



Synergies among Rio Conventions

- Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions (JLG)
- Joint work programme with UNCCD
- Synergies in national planning and reporting (e.g. for NBSAPs and NAPs - participation of CBD NFPs in UNFCCC LEG workshops ; Joint workshop with UNCCD)
- Outreach and communication (e.g. Rio Conventions Pavilion)

Other MEAs

- Knowledge management
 - E.g. **InforMEA** (initiative of the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Initiative that harvests and presents information such as COP decisions, news, meetings, membership, national focal points and reports from all the MEAs in a harmonized format).

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Institutional arrangements for synergies at the national/regional level



Example of institutional arrangements at the national/regional level:

- Informal and/or formal **committees** for the coordination among NFPs of biodiversity-related conventions, ministerial departments and agencies, and other stakeholders
- **National GEF committees** as mechanisms for NFPs to foster the coherent implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions
- **National strategy for the implementation of MEAs**
- **Regional initiatives** (e.g. through regional biodiversity agreements, regional workshops, UNEP's Regional Biodiversity MEAs Focal Points, regional support networks)

Opportunities for countries to implement synergies



Potential entry points for synergies at the national level:

- **Sustainable Development Goals:** Harmonizing framework for achieving multiple goals. Integration of biodiversity in national sustainable development priorities
- **Implementation of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation (EbA):** EbA enable people to adapt to the impacts of climate change by sustainably managing, conserving and restoring ecosystems to provide ecosystem goods and services. Also provide co-benefits for sustainable livelihoods.
- **National planning and reporting** (e.g. links between UNFCCC NAPs, CBD NBSAPs, and UNCCD NAPs, national reports)
- **Biodiversity mainstreaming:** Integration of biodiversity into policies and programmes across sectors.
- **Sustainable land management / drought management:** links with biodiversity, climate change and land degradation/desertification, relevant to all 3 Rio Conventions
- **Ecosystem restoration:** contributes to biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation and combatting land degradation/desertification, relevant to all 3 Rio Conventions

CBD COP guidance to the GEF on synergies



X/33 – decision on climate change,

- Para 6. *Invites* the **Global Environment Facility** to consult with the Executive Secretary on ways and means to better inform its Implementing Agencies about decisions made by the Conference of the Parties on biodiversity and climate change, especially those related to enhancing cooperation between the Rio conventions, in order to facilitate the Parties efforts pursuant to such decisions;

XI/6- on cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives

- Para 16. *Requests* the **Global Environment Facility** and *invites* other financial mechanisms to continue to support projects and activities to improve synergies among relevant multilateral environment agreements.

XII/30 – on the financial mechanism

Section A. on enhancing programmatic synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions:

- Para 4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to further liaise with the various biodiversity-related conventions and the **Global Environment Facility** in order to find ways to facilitate the efforts of Parties

CBD COP guidance to the GEF (cont'd)



XII/30 – on the financial mechanism (cont'd)

- Para 11. Decides, in anticipation of the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, to undertake, at its thirteenth meeting, **the second determination of funding requirements for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols**, in line with the terms of reference contained in the annex to the present decision ...
 - The TORs mention that the **funding needs assessment** should take into account, inter alia, synergies with other GEF-funded Conventions and synergies with other biodiversity-related Conventions.

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Findings from the funding needs assessment



- From the questionnaires, Parties reported **471 convention linkages** to potential projects during 2018-2022. While some project ideas often had more than one identified convention linkage, others were listed as not having any linkages: 1 linkage = 25%, 2 linkages = 15%, 3 linkages = 15%, >3 linkages = 17%, no linkage = 27%.
- Most of the project concepts seek to achieve **synergies with the goals of** the UNFCCC (19%) and UNCCD (15%), followed by the Ramsar Convention (16%), CITES (13%), and CMS (11%).
- Less reported are potential synergies with IPBES, World Heritage Convention, and the plant related treaties.
- Respondents did not identify synergies with the conventions addressing pollutants (Stockholm, Minamata, Montreal Protocol) in the proposed projects for 2018-2022.

CBD COP guidance to the GEF (cont'd)



Guidance to the financial mechanism of the Convention (Annex to decision X/24)

Programme priorities to provide financial resources include climate change and biodiversity:

- a) Capacity-building with the aim of increasing the effectiveness in addressing environmental issues through their commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, inter alia, by applying the ecosystem approach;
- b) Developing synergy-oriented programmes to conserve and sustainably manage all ecosystems, such as forests, wetlands and marine environments, that also contribute to poverty eradication;
- c) Country-driven activities, including pilot projects, aimed at projects related to ecosystem conservation, restoration of degraded lands and marine environments and overall ecosystem integrity that take into account impacts of climate change.

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How can GEF support implementation of synergies



- The funding needs assessment identified that many projects seek to achieve synergies (mainly with the goals of UNFCCC, UNCCD, Ramsar, CITES and CMS).
- How to use GEF-7 more efficiently to address such synergies?
- Countries could explore potential synergies with other MEAs (e.g. Stockholm, Minamata)

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Thank you for your attention!

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