



DRAFT

Expert Meeting on Development of Post 2010 Global Biodiversity Targets¹

2-3 October 2009

UNEP Headquarters, Gigiri, Nairobi

Key Recommendations on the Future Biodiversity Targets beyond 2010

Recognising the need for engaging in a series of dialogues and discussions on the issue of defining and further developing the post 2010 global biodiversity targets, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with Secretariat to the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) and Countdown 2010 organised the above expert meeting to provide some specific inputs into the design and development of post 2010 biodiversity targets based on the reflections of recommendations and outcomes of various meetings and consultations held so far.

This is an unedited, draft version of the key outcomes of this meeting.

The participants at the workshop discussed the need for a clear, short vision and mission statements reflecting the possibility of a long term vision for 2050 and a short term mission for 2020 to move forward the global biodiversity agenda beyond 2010.

Considering the need for a 'statement' on post 2010 targets that is succinct, strategic and significant, the participants suggested three levels of messages

1. A short few word headline statement that is easy to remember and related to all people
2. A strategic and politically sound vision statement, and
3. A detailed, time bound and inclusive mission statement.

¹ The meeting was held under the Chatham House Rules

Based on discussions on these, the following were recommended to fulfill the needs:

1. Short Headline Statement

Options

- ♣ “Sustaining Life on Earth”
- ♣ “To conserve and manage [nature] [biodiversity] to preserve our future”
- ♣ Saving [nature] [biodiversity] [in view of its] indispensable role for mankind’
- ♣ ‘Biodiversity is Life’ (*Official CBD Slogan*)

2. Strategic, politically sound vision statement

Vision 2050

- **Biodiversity is maintained and restored, to secure a healthy planet and to deliver essential benefits for sustainable development and human wellbeing for all.**

The following is the explanatory text that provides background for the above statement to help understand the components enshrined in the vision statement.

Biodiversity is maintained and restored, //

- *The phrase encapsulates the first objective of the CBD: conserve biodiversity. Assumption that drivers and pressures hampering the maintenance of biodiversity have been addressed by 2015, removed by 2020.*
 - *‘Biodiversity’ as defined by the CBD.*
 - *‘maintained’: positive; requires that loss is halted, but also that viability is maintained; addresses resilience; ensuring long term viability; maintain current natural biodiversity processes of change, potentially at all three biodiversity levels (genetic, species and ecosystem)*
 - *‘restored’: habitat is primary focus; to restore ecosystem services; includes natural recovery as well as reintroduction from ex situ stocks & relocation etc; quality dimension of restoration, not just quantity; restored to a baseline reflecting scientific knowledge on ecosystem functioning as well as the aspirations*

and expectations of those who used to benefit from the services that have been lost – what is necessary to maintain is biodiversity viability and enhance ecosystem services.

to secure a healthy planet //

- *The phrase encapsulates the second objective of the CBD: sustainably use biodiversity. Maintaining and restoring biodiversity is necessary but not sufficient,*
 - *addresses sectoral mainstreaming;*
 - *needs complementary/concerted actions from sectors relevant for management of natural resources;*
 - *addresses interactions between biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and desertification;*
 - *as well as essential role of maintaining & restoring biodiversity in addressing climate change, land degradation and desertification. In doing so, users of biodiversity will acquire both the benefits that derive from the direct use of biodiversity (food, fibers, fuel, medicines, recreational, spiritual, cultural, etc., the commercialization of such benefits i.e. green-based economies) as well as from its indirect benefits (climate regulation and mitigation, prevention from the adverse effects of extreme events such as environmental disasters, etc.) while being able to continue relying on the natural capital that guarantees such direct and indirect uses;*
- *‘secure’:*
 - *implies urgent and imperative, as alternative to ‘sustaining’ (too soft) and ‘ensuring’ (biodiversity alone cannot ensure a healthy planet);*
- *‘healthy planet’:*
 - *all-encompassing; everyone relates to it as Earth processes – at all scales - are ultimately all linked and interdependent;*
 - *refers to the idea of there being planetary limits or thresholds which must not be exceeded if planet is to be healthy for humanity & nature;*
 - *healthy implies resilient.*

and to deliver essential benefits for sustainable development and human wellbeing for all.

- *The phrase encapsulates the third objective of the CBD: equitably sharing the benefits derived from the sustainable use of biodiversity. Embraces all human economies and societies; also addresses mainstreaming; provides further motivation for biodiversity*

maintenance and restoration; specifically addresses enhancing ecosystem services.

- *'deliver essential benefits': ecosystem services – including supporting, regulating, provisioning and cultural (ref MA), and actual and option value (ref TEEB).*
- *'Sustainable development and human wellbeing for all':*
 - *biodiversity is essential for poverty eradication (assume poverty has been cut by half by 2015 (MDG), and hopefully eradicated before 2050);*
 - *intra and inter-generational equity (Principle 3 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992 - ref Brundtland text);*
 - *"for all" takes account of geography (north/south) as well as within country, encompasses indigenous people, less jargon*

3. A detailed, time bound and inclusive mission statement.

Options for 2020 target/goal

Option 1

- *By 2020 we have taken the necessary urgent, concerted and effective actions to address the threats facing biodiversity so as to stop BD loss and start to restore ecosystems thus ensuring the delivery of essential benefits and avoiding dangerous or irreversible environmental change*

Option 2

- *By 2015, initiate the necessary urgent, concerted actions to effectively address the pressures on biodiversity, [aimed at halting] [to halt] biodiversity loss by 2020 and avoiding dangerous and/or irreversible environmental change, while ensuring the equitable delivery of essential benefits.*

Explanatory Statement for the Mission

Note the urgency – need 2020 deadline in order to achieve the 2050 vision.

'Aim at halting loss', recognizing that halting loss by 2020 may not be possible universally, but is possible in most areas/ecosystems.

Biodiversity loss driven by direct pressure and human activities could be stopped by 2020. Biodiversity loss driven by climate change as well as by indirect drivers such as globalization, S&T, demography and cultural factors may take longer to stop.

Using 2015 timeline indicates synergy with MDG.

The Targets^{*}

A. Targets Addressing pressures on biodiversity:

1. Conversion of natural habitats is stopped (Note: overlap with target 14 below)
2. All harvest of living resources is sustainable and causes no harm to natural habitats
3. Pollution from excess nutrients and other pollutants impacting negatively on biodiversity is reduced below critical ecosystem loads.
4. New invasive alien species are prevented from being established and all existing invasive alien species are eradicated or under control
5. Measures are in place to reduce the impact of climate change on BD and to ensure that CC adaption and mitigation responses are not detrimental to BD
6. [Mitigate] the impacts of climate change on ecosystems (NB: There could be a cross-reference to the climate change mitigation targets agreed under the UNFCCC)

B. Targets to deal with responses necessary to improve the status of biodiversity:

7. Ensure effective conservation of key biodiversity areas for species, critical natural habitats, and their ecological interconnections, through protected areas and other means, (recognizing the role of local and indigenous communities in conservation).
 - Key biodiversity areas: areas important for maintaining species functioning, protecting species vulnerable to extinction
 - Critical natural habitats: ecosystems critical for maintaining habitats to key systems, providing key ecosystem services
 - Representativity: Areas that are representative of a given ecosystem type;

* While discussing the targets, the participants were able to identify few indicators related to some targets but for not all the targets

- **Ecological interconnections**: Connections that maintain ecological functioning and processes, including migratory corridors, stepping stones, etc.
- **Other means**: Other conserved areas include indigenous reserves, community conserved areas, locally managed marine areas, and other types of areas maintained by indigenous and local communities;

Proposed indicators:

- Coverage of protected areas and other conserved areas
- Overlay of biodiversity with protected areas and other conserved areas
- Areas protected with recognized importance for preventing extinction (e.g. Alliance for Zero Extinction sites)
- Protected area management effectiveness
- Another indicator on free prior informed consent

8. Contribute towards ending human-driven extinction of species by preventing further deterioration of the conservation status of threatened species and improving the conservation status (e.g., Red List status) of at least 20% of assessed threatened species, including through *ex situ* conservation, sustainable international trade and other means.

Proposed indicator: Red List; National Status Assessments,; CITES listing; CMS listing (Note: Conservation status = levels of protection, threat levels, viability (population trends))

9. Prevent erosion of ecosystem integrity and functions by maintaining the distribution and abundance of a full complement of their characteristic species.

Proposed Indicators: Index of ecosystem integrity; population distribution and abundance; Living Planet Index

10. Improve the status of crop and livestock genetic diversity in agricultural ecosystems and of wild relatives inside and outside protected areas and maintain associated local and indigenous knowledge systems, as well as through *ex situ* conservation

*Proposed indicator: *ex situ* collections, domesticated animal resources (FAO, Bioversity Intl.)* (Note: Important but difficult to measure; question if should be a target or an indicator, or incorporated in another manner; this is not an improvement on existing 2010 indicator)

C. Targets for enhancing ecosystem services and human well-being:

11. Safeguard or restore [the] terrestrial, inland water and marine ecosystems that provide critical services, especially for [indigenous and local communities and other] [the poor and] vulnerable; contribute to poverty eradication [reduction]; and enable climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Proposed indicators:(See work on measuring ecosystem services)

- **Inclusion of ecosystem in national climate change adaptation strategies;**
- **Inclusion of climate change adaptation and ecosystem services in ecological gap assessments;**
- **Inclusion of ecosystems in poverty eradication strategies;**
- **Extent and integrity of key ecosystems [restoration?]**

12. Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities by protecting their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and their rights, including benefits sharing.

13. All processes and activities involving genetic resources are consistent with the international regime on ABS. (Note: The language here needs improvement)

D. Targets in support of enabling measures:

14. Every Party has developed and implemented up-to-date national biodiversity strategy and action plans, consistent with the CBD Strategic Plan, based on adequate assessments of the status and values of, and threats to, biodiversity.

15. Knowledge and technologies on biodiversity, its value and functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss is improved and widely shared through a fully functional intergovernmental platform. (Note: technology transfer not covered here)

16. Financial resources for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use increased at least tenfold through sustainable financing mechanisms and other means at national, regional and global levels.

Addressing the role of drivers

One of the key issues that needs attention while developing the post 2010 biodiversity targets is addressing the drivers of change. While the participants were unable to spend time detailing the way to address the negative impacts of these drivers on biodiversity, suggestions were made to the following set of drivers that need attention while further developing the targets. These include:

1. [Every child] is aware of the value of biodiversity.
2. Biodiversity is mainstreamed across all economic sectors (with relevant policies and actions that might have negative impact on biodiversity) in a manner that defines their roles and responsibilities into planning, budgets and policy implementation.
3. The value of biodiversity and ecosystem services are integrated into the national economy and
4. Horizontal cooperation mechanisms established between all relevant sectors relevant to biodiversity and impacting biodiversity.