

# Towards a new CBD Strategy 2021 - 2030 Results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop

## Aim of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop on 30 June and 1 July 2018, Montreal

The second expert workshop convened prior to SBSTTA-22/SBI-2 to discuss **targets of the current Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and their relevance for the post-2020 biodiversity strategy**. Inter alia, the following questions were addressed:

- **Should the current targets be maintained, adjusted, or replaced?**
- **Do we need additional targets until 2030?**
- **How should the linkages to the targets under the SDGs be reflected?**
- **How to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

In addition, the implementation of the strategy with its targets was discussed along the following question:

- **What are pros and cons of implementation mechanisms?**

The agenda of the workshop is provided in Annex 1.

Thirty-one participants from different stakeholder groups attended the workshop. A summary of the discussions and results was presented to about 40 participants during SBI-2 in a side event on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

## About the Project

In 2020, the 15th Conference of the Parties to the CBD is expected to decide on a new CBD strategy for the next decade. In anticipation of this, WWF Germany is organizing three international workshops with experts from different stakeholder groups and disciplines to prepare a final paper with contributions to the deliberations of the new CBD strategy. In this discussion paper, WWF aims to provide concrete input to the ideas and proposals relevant for the positions of different actors, such as Parties to the CBD or various non-governmental organizations and stakeholders. Information on the project can be found here: <http://www.biodiv.de/en/projekte/aktuell/cbd-strategy.html>.

The project will run until the end of 2018 and intermediate results were presented at side events of SBSTTA-21 in 2017, and SBSTTA-22 and SBI-2 in mid-2018. WWF anticipates presenting the final discussion paper at the 14th Conference of the Parties in Egypt in November 2018.

## Modus operandi of the workshop

The report from the second international workshop provides a summary of the discussion and proposals made by participants under the headline of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and on aspects to improve implementation and governance.

The workshop was explicitly NOT meant to reach consensus or negotiate any positions, but to discuss, share, and catalogue views and opinions.

## Background information for the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Workshop

A background paper circulated to the participants prior to the meeting summarized relevant information from

- a. the Horizon Scanning exercise on future priority thematic topics,
- b. the SBSTTA-22 and SBI-2 documents related to the Aichi Targets,
- c. IUCN Position Paper on SBSTTA-22 and SBI-2,
- d. the attempt to provide answers to the following guiding questions, based on the analysis of the Aichi Target progress presented in the four IPBES Regional Assessment Reports (<https://www.ipbes.net/deliverables/2b-regional-assessments>).

1. Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050?
2. If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?
3. How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?
4. What are potential additional targets until 2030 to address important issues?
5. What are pros and cons of implementation mechanisms?

The full background document is attached in Annex 2.

## Input from other Studies

**Results of assessing Aichi targets' SMARTness:** Georgina Chandler from RSPB presented results of a study that has assessed how SMART the framing of the 20 Aichi Targets in the current Strategic Plan is. This work has asked a group of international experts to score the Aichi Targets against a set of 'SMART'-based criteria and then investigated the relationship between these criteria and progress made towards the target using the findings from two global progress assessments (SMART – specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time-bound).

More information on the results of this study was provided as Information Document 35 to SBSTTA-22 (CBD/SBSTTA/22/INF/35) which is accessible here: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/bf53/55a1/41afdeacdff7bba10267f20b/sbstta-22-inf-35-en.pdf>.

**Horizon Scanning exercise on future priority thematic topics:** As part of the overall project the task was carried out inspired by the Horizon Scanning methodology to look into future themes via two online questionnaires.

The aim was to **identify important thematic topics**, which are likely to be of high relevance for the decade 2021-2030 paving the way to CBD's 2050 vision, which will be considered for the inclusion in the discussion paper. After two rounds of feedback the results were compiled in a report. The main outcomes are included in the background paper which informed the workshop participants (see Annex 2).

The full report is available at the ibn website here:

[http://www.biodiv.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/PDF/Projekte-aktuell/WWF\\_CBD\\_post\\_2020\\_HorizonScanning\\_Report.pdf](http://www.biodiv.de/fileadmin/user_upload/PDF/Projekte-aktuell/WWF_CBD_post_2020_HorizonScanning_Report.pdf)

Given that most respondents identified “policy coherence, governance, enforcement” an important topic for CBD's post-2020 strategy, this topic was included in the programme for discussion at the second workshop.

## Results on Aichi Targets 1 to 15

The following chapters summarize the discussion at the workshop related to the Aichi **Targets 1 to 15**.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 1

**By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.**

Participants were of the opinion that the target has not been reached, but is still relevant for the 2050 vision. It was argued that the implementation is hard to measure, because the phrase 'being aware of' is quite vague and unspecific. To overcome that problem a definition of awareness would be needed. It was also argued that measures to raise awareness need to be part of communication strategies of the CBD. e.g. under the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness programme (CEPA). There is a need to identify key audiences that should be reached and milestones could be set per target audience.

Potential milestones to underpin the target could be

- by 2022, a definition of target groups and strategies to reach them has been prepared
- by 2022, definition is found of what kind of awareness is meant in the target
- by 2030, biodiversity has been integrated into the curricula of all schools and universities.

Participants observed the need to think more about how 'increased awareness' can lead to the needed behavioral changes.

With respect the SDGs the link to education-related targets was emphasized.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 2

**By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.**

Participants agreed that the target has not been achieved and should be kept. It was argued that biodiversity values need to be integrated much better into strategies that are developed in other sectors. To better integrate biodiversity values clearer structures and effective instruments are needed, in particular in spatial planning, in which the priorities for land-use of different sectors are compiled, balanced and harmonized, including biodiversity issues. For example, the current way economic assessments are done needs to be changed to more efficient accounting for biodiversity values. The overall goal should be that biodiversity issues are a central consideration in planning processes of all kind.

It was also argued that harmonized reporting systems at least among the Rio Convention, even better among further MEAs, would help to incorporate biodiversity values into national accounting.

In addition, other ministries besides the ministries of environment and agriculture should be encouraged to report on their contribution to the implementation of all biodiversity targets.

Potential milestones to underpin the target could be

- by 2025, biodiversity is considered within all national development strategies.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 3

**By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.**

For AT 3 participants saw the clear need to keep the target as it has not been sufficiently implemented.

Potential milestones to underpin the target could be

- by 2022, develop a list of priority sectors and of harmful subsidies,
- by 2024, positive incentives for the prioritized sectors are in place,
- by 2030, negative incentives are fully phased out.

An important step for implementation could be having other non-environmental ministries to report on activities to address harmful subsidies.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 4

**By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.**

Participants agreed that the need for such a target still exists, but that the target as currently formulated is not very concrete. It does neither specify sectors nor drivers of loss. Therefore, a newly formulated text (or a rationale) should break down the target into different sectors. Then, concrete sector by sector actions plans could be required. The formulation 'have taken steps' is too vague. The target should call for specific actions more concretely.

A potential milestone to underpin the target could be

- by 2025, determine the ecological limits for each sector.

A potential addition to a new formulation of the target could be

- 'by 2030, all governments have a special spatial plan at all scales and the necessary legislation and administrative resources are in place to enforce it.'

The concept of planetary boundaries could be mentioned and integrated in a re-formulated target.



### Aichi Biodiversity 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.**

Participants were of the opinion that the target is still needed and that the formulation

should express more the urgency, e.g. by taking out the words 'where feasible'. There was also the view to delete the words 'including forests' as this distracts from the need to address all natural habitats.

It was argued that 'degradation and fragmentation' should get a more prominent place in the text by bringing the words into the first part of the sentence. Then the formulation 'significantly reduced' could be left out and the target would call also for degradation and fragmentation to be brought close to zero instead of just calling to reduce them.

Proposals to underpin the target with milestones included:

- by 2022, identify the rate of degradation, fragmentation and loss, at least halve it by 2025, bring it close to zero by 2030.
- until 2022, identify the rate of degradation, fragmentation and loss, by 2025 bring it close to zero and start a process of regaining or restoration of at least X% by 2030.

If a formulation is kept that includes the term 'rate of loss' this would need a baseline to define how high the rate is that has to be halved. If 'zero loss' would be the aim such a baseline would not be needed. Furthermore, it was discussed if 'no loss' is unrealistic and if instead a concept of 'no net loss' should be favored, which then would have to include a restoration component. If 'no net loss' would be taken up as a concept this would need a global agreement on areas where no loss at all would be implemented compared to others where a certain amount of loss can be accepted.

It was also observed that AT 5 has a close link to the UNCCD targets to halt land degradation.

Deep sea mining was mentioned as a growing driver of loss of marine habitats.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 6

**By 2020, all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.**

It was consensus amongst the participants that the target is still needed and that any reformulation should not fall behind the current level of ambition to have ALL stocks sustainably used.

It was argued that a newly formulated target should also mention aquatic mammals (which are not part in the current text!). Furthermore it was observed that the current text does also include freshwater species, although the target is mainly perceived as a marine target. A new formulation could therefore make the inclusion of freshwater species more obvious. Or the target could be divided into two sub-targets, one on marine and one on freshwater ecosystems.

It was also discussed that implementation of the target would need an agreement what constitutes sustainable harvesting, e.g. via certification schemes or standards for sustainable fisheries.

As the target also talks about recovery plans a percentage of stocks that 'are restored/have recovered' could be included in the target text including a timeline.

A milestone concept could build on the three steps: firstly, agree on sustainability standards and certification schemes, secondly, achieve this sustainability level, and thirdly, recover X% of the stocks.

It was also discussed if a target should call for integrated ocean management which would then also cover issues like deep sea mining or pollution with plastics.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 7

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

There was no doubt that the target is still needed and not yet reached. It was discussed that in order to measure implementation there is a need for better defining what 'sustainably managed' means, e.g. standards, certification, percentage under organic/eco-label management, limited use of pesticides and fertilizers etc. This would also create a direct link to AT 8 on pollution with excess nutrients.

For better implementation it would also be useful to include 'plans for sustainable land-use' across the sectors mentioned.

If the target will be reformulated completely one could also think of naming drivers that have to be tackled, e.g. monocultures, high-intensive farming etc.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 8

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

Participants agreed that a target addressing pollution is still needed. It was discussed that the current text could be made more specific by either bringing in concrete percentages of reduction or by concretely defining what 'non-detrimental levels' are.

It was also expressed that mentioning 'from excess nutrients' distracts from the fact that the target deals with pollution of all kinds. Therefore, either the words 'excess nutrients' should be deleted or other important pollutants like pesticides or plastic should also be spelled out explicitly.

It was seen as a potential weakness of the current target text that it does not name any actors or concrete actions to be taken.



### Aichi 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.**

Participants discussed that AT 9 is already formulated in a way which includes a series of steps to be taken. Therefore, it could be kept as it stands.

A proposal to underpin the target with milestones could be

- by 2022, pathways are identified,
- by 2024, species are prioritized,
- by 2030, IAS are controlled or eradicated.

It was also discussed that an ongoing monitoring and identification system needs to be established, as new IAS could appear at any given time. An additional risk and new pathway can emerge through modern techniques of synthetic biology which are a potential new source of species that could become invasive.



Another discussion evolved around the question what would follow after a successful eradication of a given IAS. Would restoration be needed or could it be expected that the ecosystems recovers by itself to a status it had before the IAS appeared? Therefore, to amend the word 'restoration' in a revised target would make sense.



### Aichi Biodiversity 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.**

It was stated that the target had a timeline until 2015 and has already been missed without being replaced or amended. Despite this status of being expired participants clearly expressed the view that a target to address multiple anthropogenic pressures on vulnerable ecosystems is urgently needed on the way to the 2050 vision.

With respect to the current text participants felt that it stays somehow unclear as it mentions 'multiple anthropogenic pressures' very generally, but identifies 'climate change' and 'ocean acidification' explicitly. 'Coral reefs' are singled out while at the same time AT 10 addresses vulnerable ecosystems in general. It was therefore discussed if it would not make more sense to have a specific target on coral reefs. Focusing on climate change and multiple anthropogenic pressures could be formulated in a more overarching target addressing all vulnerable ecosystems.

As target 10 is focussing on 'multiple pressures' it would be useful to highlight 'integrated cumulative impact assessment' and 'integrated management' in order to urgently tackle this complexity.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 11

**By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.**

Even if AT 11 is often mentioned as the one where implementation went comparatively well participants agreed that the achievement of AT 11 is merely on the percentage of terrestrial protected areas, but not on the other elements like e.g. 'areas of particular importance for biodiversity'.

Several options of amending the target were discussed: either going for higher percentages (e.g. have the same percentage for terrestrial and marine areas, e.g. 30%), or concentrating on the elements that have not been achieved so far. In this respect the concept of 'key biodiversity areas' was discussed which could be brought into a newly formulated target. It was also argued that key biodiversity areas have a lot of overlap with areas under 'other effective area-based conservation measures' (OECM), which is another element of AT 11. It was observed that the percentages are a global target, not meaning that every CBD Party has to reach them on their territories. Implementation would need a global consensus where to best place protected areas and certainly some countries would need support (resources, capacity building) to contribute a bigger share.

Some participants emphasized that designation of protected areas must not include violation of human rights, as has been the case previously in some countries.

Ecologically and Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) could be used for identifying a percentage of marine protected areas.



### Aichi Biodiversity 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.**

Participants agreed that AT 12 is one of the targets with the least progress although it is at the very heart of the Convention to prevent extinction. The text of the target as such was seen as quite clear and straight forward, not only addressing just the prevention of extinction, but also the improvement of the status of threatened species. Therefore, the target could stand as it is.

It was also observed to keep in mind the risk that the possibility of genetic engineering might undermine the concept of conservation, as species could be 'recreated'.



### Aichi Biodiversity Target 13

**By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.**

Participants observed that the target is partly unclear which actors are addressed. It could be 'seed banks' that store seeds as well as 'small scale farmers' who grow rare varieties. The important role of women was expressed in that regard.

It was discussed that a plan of action until 2022 would be helpful for better implementation and that such a plan should take into account the ongoing initiatives, e.g. the ones of the FAO.

It was observed that genetic engineering has a growing influence on the genetic variety of e.g. cultivated plants and that therefore the target has a direct link to both CBD Protocols. This link should be kept in mind when discussing the integration of the Protocol targets into the new biodiversity framework.

During the discussion the questions arose why the target focuses on 'the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and domesticated animals and their relatives', whereas the conservation of genetic diversity of all species is a main objective of the CBD. It was unclear if this comparatively narrowed focus should be kept or broadened. It was also questioned why AT 13 is the only place in the current strategic plan where genetic diversity is mentioned at all.

With respect to the links to SDGs it was observed that there is a direct link to food security, no hunger (SDG 2), no poverty (SDG 1), and equity and peace (SDG 16).





### Aichi Biodiversity Target 14

**By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.**

Participants felt that although such a target is still valuable the current formulation is quite unspecific and a newly formulated target should identify key ecosystems and key services. Furthermore it was discussed that the target should clarify to which level ecosystems should be restored.

It was also discussed that AT 14 is the only one mentioning the needs of particular groups. Participants felt that it would make more sense to mention these needs in a more overarching way as such needs should be respected under all targets and not only be mentioned in one specific AT.

In practice AT 14 touches aspects on rights, justice, land ownership etc. which should also be better addressed in an overarching manner.



### Aichi Biodiversity 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, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.**

Participants agreed that a target on 'ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks' is still needed, as well as a target on ecosystem restoration. However, the way these issues are merged in the current text is rather confusing. It was proposed to separate climate issues from resilience and restoration issues.

A restoration target should not only mention a certain percentage but should also make clear which 15% should be restored or how to prioritize. As already mentioned under AT 14 'restoration' would need a level or base clarifying what status should be reached through restoration measures.

One idea was to put into the target that 25%-30% of climate mitigation should be done through ecosystem-based approaches and ecosystem restoration.

## Results on Aichi Targets 16 to 20

The Aichi **Targets 16 to 20** have not been discussed in detail at the workshop due to the fact that the timeline of Aichi Target 16 and 17 already expired in 2015 and that targets 17 to 20 contain issues that are relevant to ALL targets.

The current status of the implementation of these targets was presented in the introduction session of the workshop including comments on the relevance for the next 10-year strategy. The pertinent slides are presented below.



## Current status of target implementation



### Target 16: Nagoya Protocol

By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is **in force** and **operational, consistent with national legislation**

#### Status of implementation

- The entry into force of the Protocol on 12 October 2014 marked the achievement of the **first part of Target 16**
- Parties are still in the process of establishing institutional structures to implement the Protocol
- ...the operationalization of the Protocol, as required by the second part of Target 16, **has not yet been fully achieved** (CBD/SBI/2/2, para 25)
- As of January 2018, 105 Parties to the CBD have ratified the Protocol and actions continue to be taken to support its operationalization (INF, p 132)

→ This target was procedural and basically fulfilled

**Note:** there is a discussion whether targets related to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol should be included into the post-2020 CBD framework



## Current status of target implementation



### Target 17: NBSAP

By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and **updated** national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

#### Status of implementation

- NBSAPs are the principal instrument for implementing the Convention at the national level. (CBD/SBI/2/2, para 11)
- A total of 69 Parties met the 2015 deadline, and 85 others submitted their NBSAPs by 14 March 2018, **making a total of 154**. This represents almost **80 per cent of the Parties to the Convention** (CBD/SBI/2/2, para 13)

→ This target was procedural and basically fulfilled

What about the 20% left?



## Current status of target implementation



### Target 18: **traditional knowledge**

By 2020, the **traditional knowledge, innovations and practices** of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are **respected, subject to national legislation** and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels

#### Status of implementation

- A review of the scientific information which has become available since 2014 suggests that the situation is largely unchanged from what was previously reported in GBO-4. (CBD/SBSTTA/22/INF/10, para 137)

→ This target appears to be relevant for ALL targets and implementation on ALL levels; therefore ongoing efforts needed to 'respect' and 'fully integrate'



## Current status of target implementation



### Target 19: **knowledge**

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.

#### Status of implementation:

- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) - established in 2012, addresses knowledge and science base;
- still lack of appropriate application of knowledge in decision making.
- general lack of information related to the socioeconomic issues affecting biodiversity and how they can be effectively addressed
- progress towards this target is largely unchanged from what was previously reported (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5, para 35, and /INF/10, para 138ff)

→ Target could be kept ! Ongoing efforts needed to improve situation

→ Milestone: improving socioeconomic knowledge

→ Milestones: More and better application of knowledge on different levels



## Current status of target implementation



### Target 20: **mobilization of financial resources**

By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed **process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization**, should increase substantially from the current levels. **This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.**

#### Status of implementation / reporting resource needs:

- *Only 76 Parties having submitted information through the financial reporting framework* (CBD/SBI/2/7, para 6).
- *Progress in reporting against the targets for resource mobilization is overall slow* (CBD/SBI/2/7, para 12).
- [GBO-4] noted that *there was insufficient data* to report with confidence on progress towards the mobilization of financial resources from all sources
  - Target should be kept in principle as related to means of implementation
  - focus on improving the resource mobilization strategy to be discussed

## Results on potential additional targets

The discussion on potential new and additional targets resulted in the following proposals:

- a target on 'biosafety',
- a target related to 'environmental justice and human rights',
- a target addressing 'synergies' with biodiversity-related conventions, other conventions (UNFCCC, UNCCD etc.), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),
- a target highlighting the need for 'integrated spatial land-use planning', which is of particular relevance for space-related targets.

## Results on implementation mechanisms

Participants discussed pros and cons of the current implementation mechanism in order to rethink the existing governance system and develop ideas for improvement.

#### Pros of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs):

- NBSAPs are a key tool in implementing the CBD at the national level; according to Article 6 of the CBD Parties are obliged to develop and implement NBSAPs; *each Party shall: (i) Develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes which shall reflect, inter alia, the measures set out in this Convention relevant to the Contracting Party concerned; (ii) Integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies;*
- NBSAPs are owned by countries and define country-specific targets which contribute to achieve agreed global targets;
- NBSAPs are national commitments to global targets;
- NBSAPs are developed in a complex process to improve the whole strategy every 4 years;
- NBSAPs are more focused on national level targets and achievements; therefore more politically realistic than global targets;

- Indicators on national level differ from those on global level; should also include process-based indicators to ensure the enabling institutional environment is established for progress;

#### **Cons of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs):**

- NBSAPs are difficult to compare; they have different timelines, most of them go beyond 2020;
- NBSAPs are also difficult to aggregate to get a global overview if they add up to a sufficient level to achieve the global ambition; a comprehensive gap analysis is needed;
- Difficult to define progress of NBSAPs, because in biodiversity you can do everything right and still not get the expected result;
- All ministries should be required to report on NBSAPs;
- Finance ministries don't have the same stake in NBSAPs as they have in NDCs;
- Need to create more pressure to raise ambitions of national targets;

#### **General comments on NBSAPs:**

- NBSAPs could be reframed so they are more clearly seen as 'ambitious national contributions to the global outcomes';
- NBSAPs need smarter targets and should be used to ensure voluntary contributions which are comparable and can be added up to close the gap on global level;
- If NBSAPs are opened up too often, all kind of mischief can happen;
- How countries address their international footprint could and should be included in NBSAPs;
- Clear indicators are needed that can be broken down at national level, underpinned by baselines;
- Revising NBSAPs in the way it was done last time to align with the 2011-2020 Strategy will cost money because it is done in a very thorough consultation process;
- To get GEF funding to do such an additional consultation might be difficult; current replenishment cycle is until 2022; would need to advocate in 2022 to get the financial support for an update; need for an update could be underpinned by the argument that NBSAPs should be updated based on new framework (GEF replenishment is every 4 years);

#### **Pros on National Reporting**

- CBD COP decided on guidelines how to do the national reports to make them comparable;
- the guidance to the 6th national report (Decision XIII/27. National reporting <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-13/cop-13-dec-27-en.pdf>) includes that Parties need to report against the Aichi targets and the national targets of the respective NBSAP; however, the analysis of all national reports will still not be able to really assess how all Parties are progressing on Aichi targets;

#### **Cons on National Reporting**

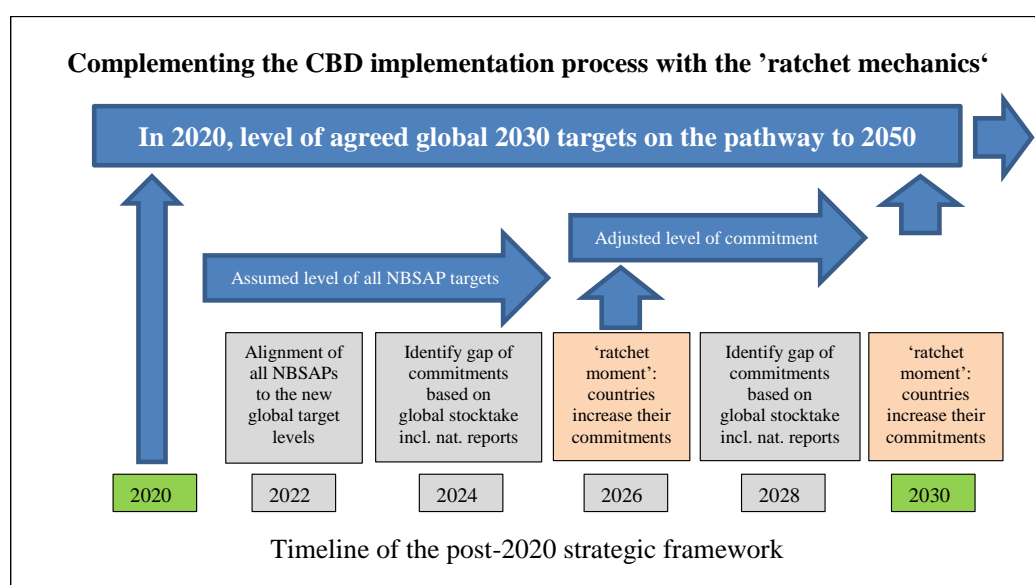
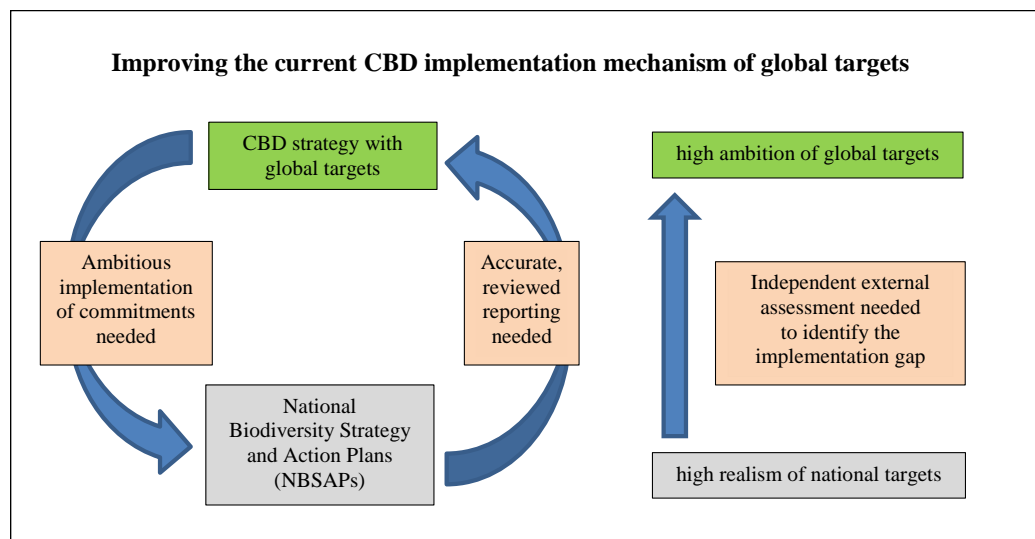
- Some countries aren't necessarily accurate in their reporting; results presented are often too optimistic;
- Often not clear what kind of implementation is really happening;
- The information in national reports is compiled by governments and no external review is in place;

#### **General comments on National Reporting**

- National reporting needs to be improved and more accurate; therefore, reporting should have some external review element; review could be done by an independent advisory committee that should be mandated to carry out the review;
- If NGOs are not consulted in the preparation of the national report NGOs could do shadow reporting;
- Reports should explicitly contain what other conventions countries are party to and how countries take an integrated approach to implement decisions across conventions;

## Proposals and recommendations to improve implementation

- The current mechanism with NBSAP and National Reports should be improved and developed further into a 'pledge and review' mechanism similar to what was laid out in the Paris Agreement with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) (see figure below);
- Such a mechanism needs a clear rule that during the implementation period of targets with NBSAPs only improvement, no back-stepping, is allowed: so called 'ratchet mechanics' (see figure below);
- In the context of the Bonn Challenge IUCN is developing the Bonn Challenge Barometer which is another tool to assess country's implementation progress of their pledges to achieve global targets in a standardised form;



- Along with improvement of implementation the story telling must be strengthened and focused: In climate change it took a lot of effort to get the issue close to people; basically it happened a lot through extreme weather situations where people recognised climate change; we need an equivalent story telling on biodiversity and nature; for example about 'pollinators' or other groups of essential animals;



## 6. Relevant SBSTTA-22 and SBI-2 documents

The following documents informed about the progress towards achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets:

In July 2018, an information document was presented at SBSTTA 22 on an UPDATED SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SELECTED AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND OPTIONS TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS (SBSTTA/22/INF/10 under: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/6db8/2029/d3de020ab5b7b039e9d665dd/sbstta-22-inf-10-en.pdf> ).

This document analysed target progress based on scientific information and came to the overall conclusion (as already mentioned in GBO 4) that the current rate of implementation will not be sufficient to fully achieve most of the ATs by 2020. Welcoming this assessment SBSTTA 22 recommended that COP 14 would urge Parties to carry out a set of actions for better implementation of targets. This recommendation focuses on what should be done to improve implementation of the current targets until 2020 and does not deal with ideas of amending or replacing the current set of Aichi targets (<https://www.cbd.int/recommendations/sbstta/?m=sbstta-22> ).

At SBI-2, the CBD Secretariat presented an updated analysis of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national reports, and the assessment of progress towards the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The pertinent documents are PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AICHI-BIODIVERSITY TARGETS, (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/1396/3abd/74462797925a30edcb34f78b/sbi-02-02-en.pdf>)

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### Further information:

<http://www.biodiv.de/en/projekte/aktuell/cbd-strategy.html>

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## Annex 1: Workshop Programme

### Final Workshop Programme

#### Part 1: Saturday, 30.06.2018

09:00 **Registration**

09:30 **Welcome and introduction to the second workshop**

Results of the first workshop and framing of the second workshop

Günter Mitlacher - WWF Germany and Dr. Axel Paulsch - ibn

#### Session 1 – Input from other processes

10:00 **Results of assessing Aichi targets' SMARTness**

RSPB commissioned a study that has assessed how SMART the framing of the 20 Aichi Targets in the current Strategic Plan is. This work has asked a group of international experts to score the Aichi Targets against a set of 'SMART'-based criteria and then investigated the relationship between these criteria and progress made towards the target using the findings from two global progress assessments.

Georgina Chandler, RSPB

Q&A

10:20 **Results of Horizon Scanning Exercise to support the workshop**

To identify thematic topics, which are likely to be highly relevant and important for the decade 2021-2030 a Horizon Scanning exercise was conducted; the results will be presented to be considered for the inclusion in the discussion on potential future targets on the pathway to 2050.

Günter Mitlacher, WWF Germany on behalf of Dr. Kristina Raab, UFZ Leipzig

Q&A

10:45 Coffee break

#### Session 2 - Targets under the five strategic goals

11:15 **Introduction on maintaining, adjusting, or replacing the targets**

Given the current set of targets the following questions should guide the discussion around future target setting:

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050?**

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

**What are potential additional targets until 2030 to address important issues?**

**What are pros and cons of implementation mechanisms?**

11:30 **World Café round 1:** 3 target-related and one governance-related group

**A) group of enabling targets: 1, 2, 3, 4**

**B) group of conservation outcome targets: 5, 9, 11, 12, 13**

**C) group of driver-oriented targets: 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15**

**D) group on governance, policy coherence, implementation**

13:00 Lunch break

- 14:00 **World Café round 2:** 3 target-related and one governance-related group  
A) group of enabling targets: 4, 3, 2, 1  
B) group of conservation outcome targets: 13, 12, 11, 9, 5  
C) group of driver-oriented targets: 15, 14, 10, 8, 7, 6  
D) group on governance, policy coherence, implementation

15:30 Coffee break

- 16:00 **World Café round 3:** 3 target-related and one governance-related group  
A) group of enabling targets: 1, 2, 3, 4  
B) group of conservation outcome targets: 5, 9, 11, 12, 13  
C) group of driver-oriented targets: 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15  
D) group on governance, policy coherence, implementation

17:30 wrap up of day 1

## **Part 2: Sunday, 01.07.2018**

09.30 **Recap of day 1**

- 09.45 **World Café round 4:** 3 target-related and one governance-related group  
A) group of enabling targets: 4, 3, 2, 1  
B) group of conservation outcome targets: 13, 12, 11, 9, 5  
C) group of driver-oriented targets: 15, 14, 10, 8, 7, 6  
D) group on governance, policy coherence, implementation

10.30 Coffee break

### **Session 3—Results of the working groups**

- 11.00 Presentation of results from target-related working groups  
12:30 Final round of discussion and outstanding issues, next steps on the process  
13.00 **Closure of the workshop and lunch**

## **Part 3: Side Event at SBI-2 (#2445)**

### **Wednesday, 11 July 2018 - 13:15 h Room 7 A (Asia and the Pacific) Towards a new CBD Strategy 2011 - 2030 – results of the second international stakeholder workshop**

The second international workshop with experts of stakeholders convened prior to SBSTTA-22 to discuss the status of the current Aichi Targets of CBD's Strategic Plan 2011-2020. Results of the deliberations will be presented and participants of SBI-2 are invited to contribute to the discussion on whether targets should remain, be adjusted or replaced. A special focus was on how future CBD targets could be linked to the SDGs and subsequent targets. of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## Annex 2: Background information for workshop participants

The following background information aims to support an efficient discussion on the key question of the second workshop about a new CBD strategy 2021-2030:

The second expert workshop will discuss **targets of the current Strategic Plan 2011-2020**. Inter alia, the following questions will be addressed:

- 1. Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050?**
- 2. If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**
- 3. How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**
- 4. What are potential additional targets until 2030 to address important issues?**
- 5. What are pros and cons of implementation mechanisms?**

To answer these questions appropriately, the following aspects must be kept in mind according to the timeframe until 2050:

- There is urgency to act, because biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation is still ongoing in an unprecedented way,
- The ambition must be high, significant, and punchy to achieve a systemic and transformational change in society and economy within the next thirty years,
- The appropriate suite of strategic goals until 2030 should be backed by sound science and other relevant evidence.

Some official and information documents from SBSTTA-22 and SBI-2 contain relevant information to inform the discussion at the workshop. If such information related to the sessions of the workshop it is referenced below.

## Background on Session 1 – Input from other studies

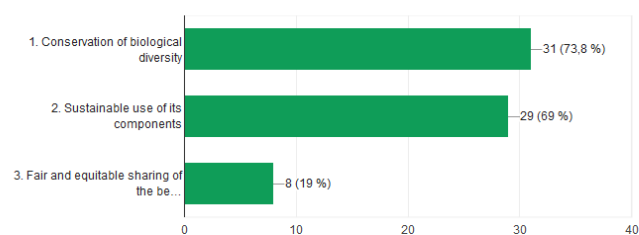
**SMARTness of current targets:** RSPB commissioned a study that has assessed how SMART the framing of the 20 Aichi Targets in the current Strategic Plan is. This work has asked a group of international experts to score the Aichi Targets against a set of ‘SMART’-based criteria and then investigated the relationship between these criteria and progress made towards the target using the findings from two global progress assessments (SMART – specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time-bound).

**Horizon Scanning exercise on future priority thematic topics:** The task was carried out inspired by the Horizon Scanning methodology to look into future themes via two online questionnaires. The aim was:

- To identify important thematic topics, which are likely to be of high relevance for the decade 2021-2030 paving the way to CBD’s 2050 vision, which will be considered for the inclusion in the discussion paper. After two rounds of feedback the following results will inform the workshop participants.

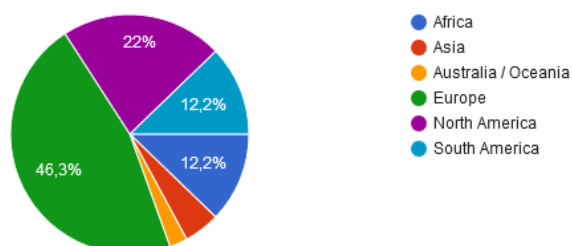
Of the three objectives of the Convention (CBD), I consider myself relatively more knowledgeable about:

42 responses



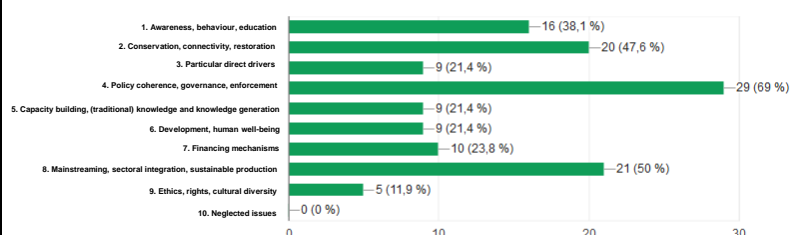
Optional 3: My geographical region:

42 responses



Please tick which three clusters you consider to be the most urgent...

42 responses



Question:

*Please consider and tick which three clusters you consider to be the most urgent for Parties to address in the next decade in order to achieve the CBD's three objectives and the 2050 vision*



**Table 3: Clustering of keywords and times mentioned**

	Cluster	Explanation / Examples	Expertise in		
			Cons.	SU	ABS
1	<b>Awareness, behaviour, education</b>	referring e.g. to .... awareness rising, sensitisation, education, communication	6%	2%	8%
2	<b>Conservation, connectivity, restoration</b>	referring e.g. to .... conservation measures for terrestrial, marine or freshwater species (area-based or species-specific), protected areas, connectivity, restoration, reintroductions, extinctions	15%	3%	0%
3	<b>Particular direct drivers</b>	referring e.g. to .... climate change, pollution, invasive species, poaching, or other particular direct drivers that are not regarded as fitting into the category "neglected issues"	6%	8%	0%
4	<b>Policy coherence, governance, enforcement</b>	referring e.g. to .... good / better / more effective / local / inclusive governance, governance structures, policy coherence, effective implementation, compliance, enforcement, particular provisions such as given by the CBD framework (and possible general or structural modifications thereof such as the adoption of new targets or protocols), the necessity to involve all relevant stakeholders, participation (e.g. of developing countries) in CBD process, the call for global / regional / national / local approaches	17%	14%	35%
5	<b>Capacity building, (traditional) knowledge, knowledge generation</b>	referring e.g. to .... capacity building, science, knowledge generation, innovations, specific knowledge gaps and the call for addressing them, e.g. via monitoring of biodiversity or by monitoring of policy implementation and policy effectiveness, reporting, sharing of information, addressing fundamental / conceptual issues (such as "definition of sustainability"), integration / use of traditional and local knowledge	15%	18%	27%
6	<b>Development, human well-being</b>	referring e.g. to .... development, poverty reduction, socio-economics, human well-being, health, livelihoods, sufficient income, food security, benefits to people	10%	13%	3%
7	<b>Financing mechanisms</b>	referring e.g. to .... nature funds, financial compensation, investments to promoting biodiversity conservation, market-based instruments	3%	4%	0%
8	<b>Mainstreaming, sectoral integration, sustainable production</b>	referring e.g. to .... sectoral integration, green accounting, internalization of negative externalities, certification schemes, commodity chains, telecoupling, market forces, system changes (e.g. reducing harmful subsidies), energy, resource-use, operation within planetary boundaries / safe limits, sustainable agriculture / fishery / forestry, social-ecological systems, ecological landscapes, compatibility between human activities and biodiversity conservation, balance of needs, landscape stewardship, ecosystem services	18%	32%	9%
9	<b>Ethics, rights, cultural diversity</b>	referring e.g. to .... the right to live, property rights, indigenous peoples rights, intra- and inter-generational justice, integration of relevant claims, fairness, respect, the necessity to keep promises, responsibility, respect for cultural diversity, cultural values and the necessity to conserve biocultural diversity	9%	5%	17%
10	<b>Neglected issues</b>	referring e.g. to .... microorganisms, animal welfare, freshwater biodiversity, novel ecosystems, digitalization, or other specific issues that are regarded to have been insufficiently addressed by the CBD	2%	2%	1%



## Background on Session 2 – Targets under the five strategic goals

The following chart summarized relevant information from the SBSTTA and SBI documents below, which contain more background information:



### Current status of target implementation

*The scientific literature suggests that **the assessment of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets contained in the fourth edition (GBO-4) remains valid.** This conclusion is consistent with ...the assessment and analysis of ...the fifth national reports and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans...developed, updated or revised... (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5, para 10)*

*... **indicators** that were used in the GBO-4 and have updated data points, **the overall direction of the trend has not changed.** This information suggests, ..., that **biodiversity is continuing to decline even though the responses to biodiversity loss are increasing.** (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5, para 12)*

*The **key messages** from the **regional summaries for policymakers** of the **IPBES assessments for Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe and Central Asia** are consistent with the conclusion from ...GBO-4, ...they provide further evidence that the pressures on biodiversity are increasing, that its status is decreasing and that, while actions are being taken, **they are not yet sufficient to halt the loss of biodiversity** (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5, para 22)*

**CBD/SBSTTA/22/5:** UPDATED SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SELECTED AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND OPTIONS TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS


**CBD/SBSTTA/22/INF/10:** UPDATED SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SELECTED AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND OPTIONS TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS


**CBD/SBI/2/2:** PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

Link to the SDGs and their targets:

[TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD: THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT A/RES/70/1](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/) (sustainabledevelopment.un.org )

## A) group of enabling targets: 1, 2, 3, 4

	<b>Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.</b>
	<b>Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?</b> Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been fully reached
	<b>If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?</b> <p>In 2010 (COP-10 in Nagoya) it was discussed if the qualifier 'ALL' should be included before 'people' or if in any case ALL PEOPLE is synonymous with 'everybody'. At least in this understanding the target has not been achieved and would still be relevant as an enabling condition on the pathway to the 2050 vision.</p> <p>The target addresses the awareness of the VALUES of biodiversity and STEPS people can take, not of IMPLEMENTING steps once being aware of the values. Therefore, milestones to underpin a more ambitiously formulated target could refer on one hand to MEASURABLE LEVELS OF AWARENESS, on the other hand to STEPS OR ACTIONS to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity.</p> <p>It is common understanding in many scenarios for the future of biodiversity that without a TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE IN PERSONAL BEHAVIOUR based on higher biodiversity awareness current drivers of biodiversity loss will not be eliminated. Therefore, a post-2020 target on awareness of the values of biodiversity must still be considered as a precondition to reach the 2050 vision</p>
	<b>How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?</b> <p>Several SDG targets mention awareness, e.g. 4.7 on education, 12.8, or 13.3 on education with respect to climate change, without timelines or with a timeline of 2030.</p> <p>If a new CBD target would aim at awareness only, it would at least help to foster the achievement of these SDG targets, if it would aim at also implementing relevant steps, it would foster the achievement of many more SDG targets, depending on the steps taken.</p>

	<b>Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.</b>
	<b>Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?</b> Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached
	<b>If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?</b> <p>Milestones to underpin the target could refer to certain planning processes in different sectors (e.g. that all negative impacts of new traffic infrastructure have to be compensated until 20XX).</p> <p>The second part of AT 2 speaks of incorporation of biodiversity values into national accounting and reporting systems. This text already allows for pledges e.g. if states would publish how they did such an accounting and then ensure that they take steps to conserve these accounted biodiversity values. Regular reporting would then allow to assess if such pledges are really implemented.</p>
	<b>How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?</b> Being aware of biodiversity values (AT 1) and officially recognizing such values by accounting (AT

2) are basic steps in many scenarios that go beyond business as usual and such scenarios show that without a change based on such awareness and recognition the 2030 agenda and its SDGs will not be achieved. Therefore, a CBD target like AT 2 is fundamental not only for SDG 15.9 but also for SDGs on poverty reduction or ending hunger, which could be counterproductive to biodiversity conservation if biodiversity values are not integrated appropriately into planning processes



**Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 3 aims at eliminating incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity and developing and applying positive incentives. This could be underpinned by milestones referring to certain harmful subsidies (e.g. in agriculture or fisheries), including levels and timelines, or to the development and application of positive incentives e.g. tax reductions for environmental friendly consumption of energy, products with small ecological footprint, environmental friendly practices in agriculture etc.. This would allow for traceable pledges on national or regional level (e.g. on EU level).

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

Implementation of AT 3 would support the implementation of several SDG targets directly. As market distortions caused by incentives also influence equity and the chances for development of the poor and vulnerable there are further links to SDG goals, e.g. SDG 8 and SDG 10.



**Target 4: By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 4 addresses sustainable production and consumption in all sectors and by all possible stakeholders like governments and businesses. It is formulated as a stepwise process of taking steps and implementing plans and aims at 'keeping the impact within safe ecological limits' without defining such levels. Milestones could therefore relate to certain levels of impacts which must not exceeded, and individual enterprises or business sectors could pledge.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

As the Agenda 2030 is aiming at sustainable development, the term 'sustainable' appears in many SDG targets, e.g. in 8.4 on sustainable consumption and production, 12.1, 12.a and targets under SDGs 14 and 15. A CBD target on enhanced sustainability in sectors beyond agriculture, forestry and aquaculture (addressed under AT 7) would therefore help to implement several SDGs.

## B) group of conservation outcome targets: 5, 9, 11, 12, 13



**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.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 5 is very comprehensive as it includes all natural habitats and is also measurable and ambitious, although the inclusion of 'where feasible' undermine the level of ambition. Taking out these two words would raise the level and was heavily discussed in Nagoya 2010.

Another shortcoming is that the target stays without definition what is meant by 'significantly reducing' (with respect to degradation and fragmentation). Therefore, possible milestones could be in relation to certain levels of reduction of degradation, fragmentation or loss.

The target as it stands relates to the loss of 'natural habitats', but does not include biodiversity in non-natural habitats like urban areas or agricultural areas which are no longer natural. If such habitats should be included the formulation should relate to 'biodiversity in habitats' rather than to just 'habitats' (because it would not make sense to call for halting the loss of non-natural habitats, but it could make sense to call for not losing the biodiversity of such habitats).

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

SDG 15.2 has a 2020 timeline, which means that any new CBD target on halting/reducing the loss of habitats, including forests, would have to be paralleled with a new respective target under SDG 15, even if the timeline of the AT is simply extended.

AT 5 also relates to SDG 15.5 on reducing degradation, which has no explicit timeline. A new CBD target with a timeline or even milestones would therefore give a more concrete schedule for SDG 15.5. If the new target would also relate to the biodiversity of urban habitats it would also help to implement SDG 11 to make cities and other urban areas more resilient and sustainable.



**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.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 9 is formulated as a series of actions that have to be taken to deal with the problem of invasive alien species. This series of actions would make it quite easy to define milestones along the individual actions. Depending on the status of implementation it might be possible to extend the overall timeline, eliminate steps that have already been taken by a majority of countries (e.g. identification of pathways) and then assign milestones to the following steps of the series.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

Any new CBD target on invasive alien species or the extension of the timeline of the existing AT 9 would have to be paralleled with a respective target under SDG 15. As invasive alien species also occur in marine habitats, control or eradication of such species would also foster the implementation of SDG 14.



**Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and elements of the target will likely be reached, while other elements not.

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 11 is often referred to as the target about protected areas and the main focus is given to the concrete percentage of land and sea cover at which the target aims. These percentages have actually been reached or nearly reached in many regions of the world, which of course is a success, but does not mean the target has been fully implemented. The target has more components which are still not implemented: designation of new protected areas rarely followed the priority of protecting areas of high biodiversity value, pure designation does not guarantee effective management, connectivity is not automatically given and integration into the wider landscapes and seascapes is also often not the case.

Therefore, most of the targets components are not reached and still important for the 2050 vision. If milestones should be agreed upon they should not only concentrated on the pure percentage of protected areas but relate to the other components as well, e.g. to MANAGEMENT, PLACEMENT IN AREAS IMPORTANT FOR BIODIVERSITY, OR CONNECTIVITY. Recent examples also show that designation of protected areas can even be reversed. e.g. to allow mining.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

Next to AT 11 are SDG targets 14.5 and 15.1 which include protection components, plus other targets e.g. 6.5 on water resources by 2030 or 6.6. on water related ecosystems by 2020 or 14.2 on protection of marine and coastal ecosystems by 2020.

A CBD target including timelines and milestones on effective management, connectivity and permanence would therefore help the implementation of several SDGs.



**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.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 12 is at the very heart of the CBD and is a direct follow-up of the 2010 biodiversity target, which was to 'significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity until 2010'. Missing this target by far in 2010 was a main cause for the formulation of a much more detailed strategic plan until 2020, including the 20 Aichi Targets.

Nevertheless, AT 12 will be as widely missed as it was the case with the 2010 target, as the drivers of biodiversity loss have not diminished since then. Any milestone like defining reduction levels or mentioning percentages of threatened species to be conserved would express a major reduction of the level of ambition that CBD had even more than 10 years ago.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

In addition to SDG target 15.2, target 14.4 on marine issues has a 2020 timeline and any new CBD target would have to be paralleled.



**Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socioeconomically as well as culturally valuable species is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 13 consists of several components and progress can only be claimed for a part of it. Seed banks and plant banks have been growing so that a larger part of the genetic diversity is at least documented and stored, but the wild relatives of cultivated plants and domesticated animals are still declining. Strategies for minimizing the genetic erosion have not been fully developed and are far from implementation.

Milestones could relate e.g. to certain species groups or to certain percentages of genetic varieties.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

As cultivated plants and domesticated and farmed animals are a major source of food the loss of the genetic diversity of such species would likely heavily affect achieving SDG goal 2 (to end hunger and achieve food security) as a whole. Without food security other SDGs like SDG 1 (no poverty) or SDG 16 (peace and justice) will be difficult to be achieved either. A CBD target on maintenance of genetic diversity therefore is an important basis for the 2030 agenda of the SDGs.

## C) group of driver-oriented targets: 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15



**Target 6: By 2020, all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 6 is very long and comprehensive, including nearly all marine organisms (fish, invertebrates, plants) and explicitly ALL stocks, and refers to current practices in order to minimize further damage, as well as to recovery plans to repair damages which have already been caused. It contains some expressions that lack clear definitions: 'no significant adverse impacts' does not specify which level would be seen as significant and the expression 'safe ecological limits' is also not defined. The measurability of target implementation would benefit from clearer definition of these terms.

Underpinning the target with milestones (e.g. until 2025 overfishing is reduced to a defined level) would be a clear loss of ambition compared to the target as it stands. One option would be to postpone the entire target until e.g. 2025 instead of 2030 to address the urgency. As unsustainable harvesting is clearly linked to subsidies harmful to biodiversity (compare AT 3) a milestone could refer to such subsidies (e.g. eliminate them until 2022 in order to reach the target fully until 2025).



**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

A new target or even the same target with a different timeline would have to be paralleled with respective targets und SDG 14.



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

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 7 allows for interpretation: it could mean 'all' areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably or a not clearly defined percentage of areas are managed sustainably. Furthermore, there is no definition what 'sustainably' means in that context, except the qualifier 'ensuring the conservation of biodiversity'. It is not clear to which level of biodiversity conservation or status this refers. For example, if it refers to a situation with biodiversity that existed before intensification of agriculture started, it is probably impossible to reach that situation again. If it refers to current levels in highly intensified areas of agriculture the target loses its meaning. Therefore, 'sustainable management' would need a clear definition in the context of these land uses, such as by certification standards.

Milestones (like certain percentages of areas) would only make sense if linked to concrete hectares of areas or levels of 'sustainability', e.g. expressed via areas of agriculture, aquaculture and forestry with certification standards. This would also need a baseline definition stating what area was already sustainably managed in 20xx.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

A clear definition of 'sustainable management' and reference to certification schemes would also improve measurability of progress to SDG 2 and target 2.4 on sustainable food production.



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

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 8 calls for reducing pollution to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem functions and biodiversity, without defining such levels. Even with this vague definition (and not calling for halting pollution) the target has not been reached and in many areas pollution is still growing, including the excess nutrients specifically mentioned in the target text.

Milestones could be set in relation to defined levels of reduction or in relation to specific sources of pollution.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

Different SDG targets mention different pollutants, e.g. 3.9 addresses hazardous chemicals with a 2030 timeline, 6.3 speaks of water quality improvement by better wastewater management by 2030, and 12.4 cares for waste management by 2020. Looking at 14.1. and its 2025 deadline there are various SDG targets which would benefit from a CBD target on reducing or halting pollution, especially if there were defined and measurable levels of reduction. AT 8 itself has close relation-

ships to AT 14 calling for safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services, including those related to water. Pollution is one major threat to many of such ecosystems and their services, so the failure to reach AT 8 is affecting to reach AT 14 as well.



**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.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

According to the urgency of the target (e.g. loss of coral reefs) the timeline of this target was set to 2015. Therefore, it became evident in 2015 that the target has been missed.

Before underpinning the target with milestones it would be necessary to agree on a process how to deal with a timeline that has already exceeded. An extension would be one option.

When taking a closer look to the target text it reveals that the target is also about all vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

Given the mixture of timelines in the respective SDG targets and the already exceeded timeline of AT 10, a newly formulated target could lead to milestones and timelines fitting to the SDGs.



**Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 14 is a very broad target as it relates to ecosystems that provide essential services and contribute to health and livelihoods, which is true for most kind of ecosystems at least for local people. Even uninhabited ecosystems like high mountains can provide essential services e.g. water. Also the formulation to take into account the needs of women, ILKs and the poor and vulnerable is very broad. On the other hand, the formulation 'restored and safeguarded' is not very specific and does not define any levels of restoration or safeguarding.

Therefore, milestones which refer to certain levels of restoration or criteria for safeguarding could help to foster implementation of this target.

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

If a new CBD target comparable to AT 14 would be formulated, potential milestones could refer to the timelines of different SDG targets, some of which would also have to be paralleled to the new CBD target: SDG targets which deal with poverty reduction (1.4), ending hunger (2.1), gender equality (5.a), water related ecosystems (e.g. 6.6), or restoration (14.2, 15.1).



**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, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.**

**Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?**

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

**If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?**

AT 15 specific as it mentions the margin of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems to be restored. However, it lacks any definition of degradation and gives no hint to which level restoration should aim. Especially in ecosystems that have been used for centuries a baseline for restoration would be needed (either to a certain degree of usage or back to pre-human conditions?).

Furthermore, there is no guidance as to what areas of the 15% should be restored (the most valuable, the easiest to restore, the rarest, the most threatened?).

Milestones accompanied with clear definitions and baselines to underpin this target would allow for concrete steps, e.g. for the restoration of a certain ecosystem type in a given region (like e.g. the coral reefs in the Caribbean, or the bogs in Western Europe as identified carbon sinks, etc.).

**How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?**

Several SDG targets link to AT 15, as they cover resilience (1.5, 11.b, 13.1, 14.2), climate change (13.2), or restoration (15.1, 15.3). These targets differ in their timelines, including 2020, 2030 or none at all. A CBD target with more concrete milestones could better relate to these timelines.

## D) group on governance, policy coherence, implementation

Background information from SBI document:

**CBD/SBI/2/2: PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS**

**CBD/SBI/2/17: PROPOSALS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND PARTICIPATORY PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK**

The group on governance should discuss PROS and CONS of the following mechanisms:

### Role of NBSAPs:

11. *NBSAPs are the principal instrument for implementing the Convention at the national level. Since 1993, 190 Parties have developed at least one NBSAP*

21. *... that NBSAPs, most of which already contain targets and which, in some cases, extend past 2020, already provide flexibility in setting national targets and/or adapting any global targets to national circumstances. It was suggested, therefore, that it could be unclear how any voluntary national commitments would relate to the NBSAPs. It was also observed that the focus should be on implementing existing commitments and not adopting new ones.*

18. *The majority of NBSAPs developed or revised since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties contain targets related to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, though, for some Aichi Targets, such as Targets 3, 6, 10, 14, 17 and 18, there were many NBSAPs (over 30 per cent) without associated national targets or commitments. Aichi*

Biodiversity Targets 1, 9, 16, 19 and 20 are the Aichi Targets with the greatest number of broadly similar national targets or commitments. ...

Overall, the majority of national targets and/or commitments contained in the NBSAPs were lower than the Aichi Targets or did not address all of the elements of the Aichi Target. Generally, the national targets that have been set to date are more general than the Aichi Targets. As more NBSAPs are received, this overall picture may change.

Efforts have been made to translate the Aichi Biodiversity Targets into national commitments, and national actions have been taken to reach the Aichi Targets. However, these commitments and efforts will need to be significantly scaled up if the Aichi Targets are to be met and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 more generally is to be successfully implemented.

### **Voluntary commitments: Potential role of a NDC-like or Bonn Challenge mechanisms**

21. A further issue identified in the submissions was the possible development of national voluntary commitments related to biodiversity. ... developing a process analogous to, or informed by, the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) process under the UNFCCC or the Land Degradation Neutrality Targets under the UNCCD could be useful ... building ownership for the successful implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

... voluntary commitments put forward by both State and non-State actors for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 14 at the Ocean Conference, held in New York in June 2017.

... international and non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector, local authorities (subnational governments) and other stakeholders should be encouraged to develop biodiversity related commitments which could contribute to the national and global overall objective of safeguarding biodiversity.

A number of Parties also identified challenges to developing national voluntary biodiversity commitments prior to the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. These concerns included the difficulty of making commitments when the scope and format of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is unclear and the possible need to refine these commitments once the post-2020 global biodiversity framework has been agreed.

...it could be unclear how any voluntary national commitments would relate to the NBSAPs. It was also observed that the focus should be on implementing existing commitments and not adopting new ones.

Concerns were also expressed that national biodiversity commitments may merely become a compilation of the NBSAPs and that such a process may distract from the need to develop, revise or update these instruments in a timely fashion.

The need for robust guidance on how to formulate national commitments to ensure that such commitments can be adequately monitored and evaluated was also noted.

### **IUCN Position Paper on SBSTTA-22 and SBI-2:**

a) IUCN is of the view that some features of the “NDC approach” could be considered for the existing NBSAPs, guided by specific science-based targets for each country. This ‘bottom up’/‘voluntary’ approach could, if designed carefully, help transform the political landscape of the CBD in a more positive direction by promoting country-led action and collaboration. Likewise, ‘global stocktakes’ to monitor progress on implementation against agreed global biodiversity targets at periodic intervals, and for countries to periodically enhance global ambition and action over time, should also be considered.

*In this regard, IUCN highlights its work in developing the Bonn Challenge Barometer. To date, Bonn Challenge commitments amount to 47 pledges to bring 160.2 million hectares under restoration worldwide. To capture and provide evidence of advances, partnership opportunities, needs and bottlenecks, IUCN initiated the development of a flexible yet standardised assessment tool currently shaped through an iterative process of design and piloting in multiple Bonn Challenge jurisdictions. The results of the application of the Barometer tool will be captured in a series of reports, beginning with the 2017 Spotlight Report. The Barometer will also track progress on Goal 5 of the New York Declaration on Forests. IUCN stresses the importance of turning pledges into action on the ground.*