



# biodiversity



UNITED NATIONS

**Contribution of the United Nations System to the Implementation  
of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**

Prepared by the UN Environment Management Group (EMG)

# context

**This flyer provides a quick picture of the report prepared by the UN Environment Management Group (EMG) on UN System contribution to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity which was submitted by its Chair Mr. Achim Steiner, the Executive Director of UNEP, to the 11th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.**

The tenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Nagoya, Japan) called on the UN Environment Management Group (EMG) to contribute to the international decade on biodiversity 2011-2020. It also specifically invited the EMG in building on its report "Advancing the Biodiversity Agenda, A UN System Wide Contribution" to identify measures for effective and efficient implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity across the United Nations System and provide a report on its work to the eleventh Conference of the Parties in Hyderabad, India.

The EMG aims to identify opportunities for cooperation in mainstreaming biodiversity into UN agencies and Conventions policies in a manner consistent with their mandates. This approach reinforces the belief that biodi-

versity will be enhanced and the targets will be achieved if the targets are incorporated into specific development sectors. Those with responsibilities related to land management, agriculture, forestry, water resources, wetlands and fisheries all have contributions to make, as do those with indigenous knowledge of their local communities.

The primary challenge to deliver a comprehensive, global response and assistance to countries requiring technical support is the need to coordinate activities and facilitate cooperation among a wide range of actors. Greater cooperation and synergy are needed in the operations of the UN agencies and Conventions dedicated to biodiversity-related matters.

To achieve this goal, the EMG Issue Management Group (IMG) on Biodiversity was engaged in a mapping exercise of the UN system contributions to the implementation of the Aichi Targets, through the preparation of an overview of the UN agencies and Conventions activities and strategies and the way these contribute to the Aichi Targets. This would be a basis for an agreed approach to an effective and efficient UN System-Wide contribution to the Strategic Plan possibly in the form of an implementation plan.

**United Nations System contributors:** CBD, CITES, CMS, DESA, FAO, IFAD, IMO, Ramsar, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNU, UNWTO, WBG, WHC, WHO, WIPO.

**The Environment Management Group (EMG)** is a United Nations (UN) System-Wide coordination body. It furthers inter-agency **Cooperation** in support of the implementation of the international environmental and human settlement agenda. Its **Membership** consists of the specialized agencies, programmes and organs of the United Nations including the secretariats of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements. It is chaired by the Executive Director of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and supported by a secretariat provided by UNEP. More information on the EMG can be found at [www.unemg.org](http://www.unemg.org).

Additional information, including the full report, can be found on the EMG webpage:

[www.unemg.org](http://www.unemg.org)

Inquiries can be addressed to the EMG Secretariat:

[emg@unep.org](mailto:emg@unep.org)

# mapping

## Contributions of the UN Agencies and Conventions to the Aichi Targets

By understanding how each UN agency and Convention can help to advance the Strategic Plan and target development on a variety of topics, each agency can better understand how its efforts contribute to a more efficient, targeted, strategic and comprehensive approach

to country support. The knowledge arising from the mapping exercise should help the IMG to consider what types of decisions need to be made; identify where are the current gaps and how the IMG and other stakeholders can build a coalition to address them.

Strategic Goal	Targets	CBD	CITES	CMS	Ramsar	WHC	DESA	FAO	IFAD	IMO	UNEP	WHO	UNU	WIPO	UNWTO	UNDP	WBG	UNCTAD	UNESCO
Mainstreaming biodiversity	1 Aware of the values of biodiversity	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	●
	2 Integration of biodiversity	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	●
	3 Elimination of incentives harmful to biodiversity	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	×
	4 Development and/or implementation of plans for sustainable production and consumption	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	●
Reducing pressure on biodiversity	5 Halving the rate of loss of all natural habitats	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	●
	6 All fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	×
	7 Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	●
	8 Reducing pollution	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	×	×
	9 Invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	×	×
	10 (2015) Minimize the anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	×	●
Safeguarding ecosystems	11 Conservation of terrestrial and marine areas	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	●
	12 Prevent extinction of known threatened species	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	●
	13 Minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding genetic diversity	●	×	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	●	●
Enhancing benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services	14 Restoring and safeguarding ecosystems	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	●
	15 Enhanced ecosystem resilience	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●	●
	16 Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources (...)	●	×	×	×	●	●	●	×	×	●	×	●	●	●	●	×	●	●
Enhancing implementation	17 Implementation of national biodiversity strategy and action plan	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	×	●	×	×	●	●	●	×
	18 Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities respected	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	●	●	●	×	●	●	●	●
	19 Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, improved	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	×	●	×	●	×	●	●	●	●	●
	20 Mobilization of financial resources	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	×	●	×	●	×	×	●	●	●	×

● Contributing × Not Contributing

# findings

## **Ongoing cooperation in support of member states**

A number of the UN agencies and Conventions already conduct activities or cooperate on biodiversity as part of their own strategies. Most EMG members could, however, greatly enhance their contributions to the implementation of the Aichi Targets. A number of mechanisms for cooperation are already in place – among the Conventions on Biological Diversity and the other Rio Conventions and among the United Nations intergovernmental agencies. Some mechanisms focus on specific thematic areas, and these cooperative efforts are starting to create important interactions with key sectors such as land management, agriculture and forestry.

A number of United Nations System-Wide actions address the indirect drivers of biodiversity loss through the provision of policy advice, communications, education and public awareness. These actions include the implementation of the ecosystem approach, the revision of economic incentives and the mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors in government and society.

## **Capacity support for national action**

Several EMG members are involved in capacity-building activities that directly or indirectly support the implementation of the Aichi Targets at the national level. This capacity-building could be further improved with a more proactive and conscious effort to integrate biodiversity issues into the development agency and Conventions activities.

## **Tools for monitoring and evaluation**

Several EMG members offer assistance in generating, monitoring, maintaining and sharing important data on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Countries can use these data as they pursue their biodiversity targets. The assistance includes the development of indicators and measures of biodiversity change.

Work carried out on indicators at the global level by the United Nations and others can also support countries in their efforts to review the effectiveness of their own national biodiversity strategies and action plans,

poverty reduction strategies, national strategies for the Millennium Development Goals and other relevant policy instruments. Such support may help strengthen the socioeconomic aspects of regional and national biodiversity information networks.

## **Facilitating information exchange and promoting awareness**

Several EMG members have ample experience in promoting awareness and enhancing information exchange between different stakeholder groups and identifying win-win situations across sectors. The information exchange among members is not always optimal, however, leading sometimes to counterproductive actions, duplication of efforts and inefficient use of resources.

## **Resource mobilization**

A number of EMG members play important roles in mobilizing resources for global and national activities that have an impact on biodiversity. These members could increase their contribution to national efforts towards the implementation of the Aichi Targets by developing and applying a more coherent approach to the linked agendas of development, poverty reduction, environmental protection and biodiversity management.

## **Further work**

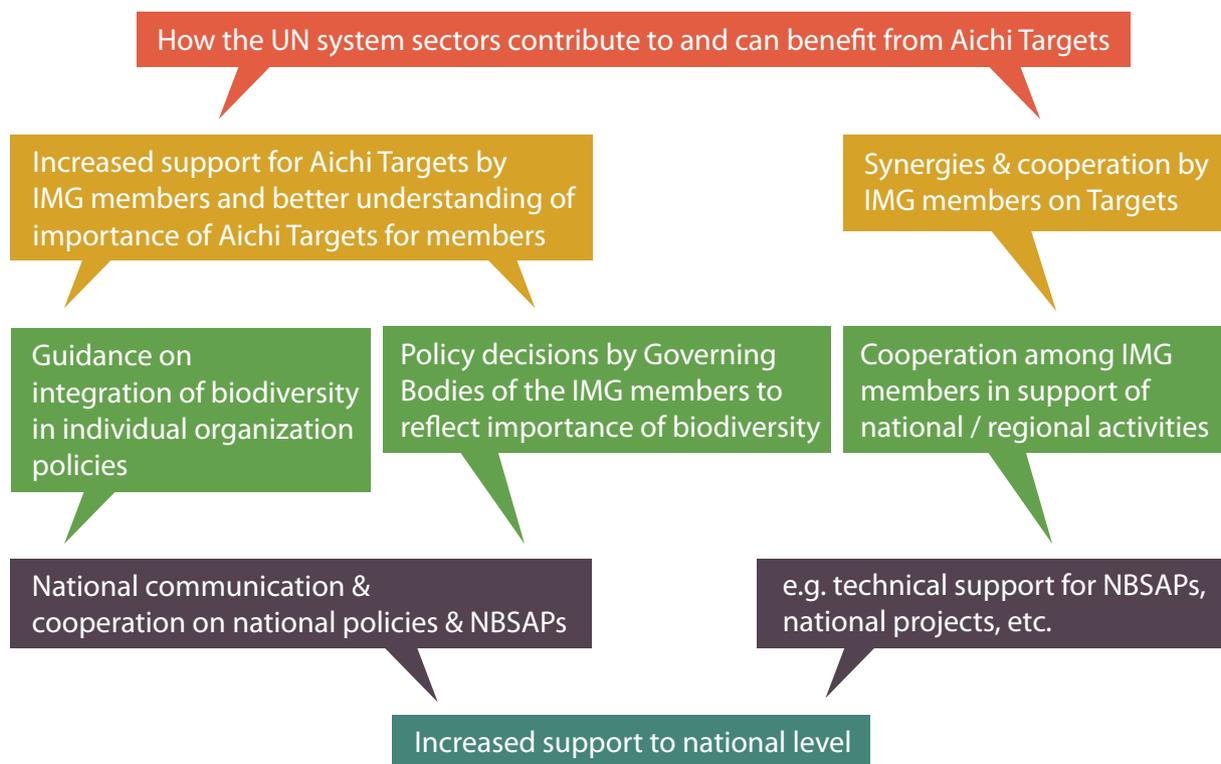
- Continue the mapping of strategies, activities and responsibilities at the global, regional and national levels to serve as a living tool for cooperation, planning and reporting on progress
- Identify approaches for development sectors support to the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) as a mainstreaming and integrative tool in the countries
- Better integrate existing policy documents on biodiversity into the work of the UN agencies and Conventions
- Integrate all the biodiversity-related Conventions into the updating and implementation of NBSAPs
- Identify cooperation at the regional level in support of the Aichi Targets

# approach

## Facilitate the integration of biodiversity through UN sectors

The figure below aims to show how the mapping could help the UN agencies and Conventions to contribute to the Aichi Targets at global and national levels and similarly how a good understanding of the Targets and their integration could

help the agencies and Conventions in advancing their respective policies. A draft synthesis report on the contribution of the UN agencies and Conventions to the Strategic Plan is provided as information document to the CBD COP11.





**Mainstreaming biodiversity**

- 1 Aware of the values of biodiversity
- 2 Integration of biodiversity
- 3 Elimination of incentives harmful to biodiversity
- 4 Development and/or implementation of plans for sustainable production and consumption

**Reducing pressure on biodiversity**

- 5 Halving the rate of loss of all natural habitats
- 6 All fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably
- 7 Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably
- 8 Reducing pollution
- 9 Invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized
- 10 (2015) Minimize the anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems

**Safeguarding ecosystems**

- 11 Conservation of terrestrial and marine areas.
- 12 Prevent extinction of known threatened species
- 13 Minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding genetic diversity

**Enhancing benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services**

- 14 Restoring and safeguarding ecosystems
- 15 Enhanced ecosystem resilience
- 16 Implementation of Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources (...)

**Enhancing implementation**

- 17 Implementation of national biodiversity strategy and action plan
- 18 Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities respected
- 19 Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, improved
- 20 Mobilization of financial resources

targets