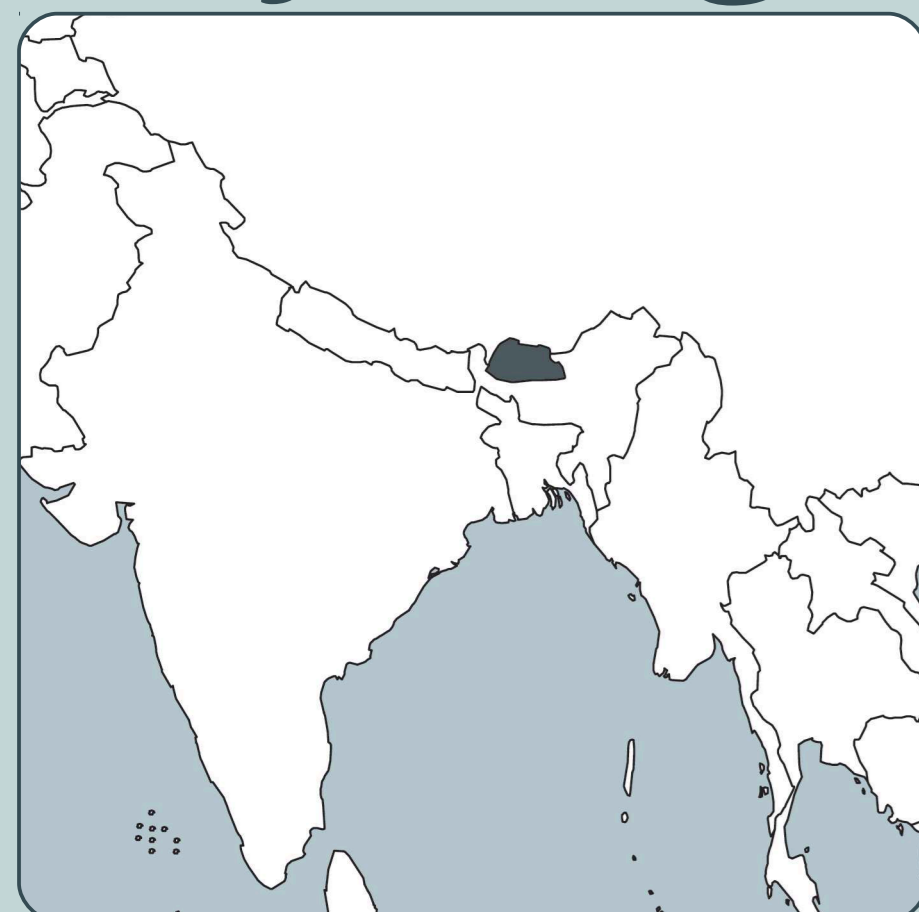


# Bhutan's Biodiversity: For Happiness and Development

## Implementation towards Aichi Biodiversity targets



Bhutan revised its NBSAP in 2014 in line with the global Aichi targets, ensuring synergies with other biodiversity related Conventions, and addressing national needs and priorities. As a national guiding document for biodiversity the NBSAP targets are mainstreamed into government planning embodied in the overall framework of Gross National Happiness (GNH).

The National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan 2014 was developed by a National Task Force through rigorous consultations. The various issues, threats, scope, and opportunities from past experiences were validated through a series of regional and national consultation with stakeholders including Members of the Parliament. Past Action Plans were reviewed to assess the gaps and include notable achievements in the field of biodiversity conservation in the county. Based on earlier experience, the current plan has definite orientation towards conservation outcomes with clear linkages to global Aichi Biodiversity Targets. There are twenty national targets linked to global targets with each target defined by strategies, actions, indicators and monitoring mechanisms. The Plan is a living document and will adapt to changing needs and priorities and address emerging issues, threats and challenges.

ABS	Access and Benefit-sharing
BFL	Bhutan for Life
BIOFIN	The Biodiversity Finance Initiative
GNH	Gross National Happiness
GPP Bhutan	Green Public Procurement in Bhutan
METT	Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan
RGoB	Royal Government of Bhutan

Not all five Strategic Goals are covered due to the following reasons:

While Bhutan is advancing on most of the national targets linked to the Aichi Targets, this Poster will highlight only key striking achievements to demonstrate commitment and progress towards NBSAP implementation. Therefore the highlight includes 4 out of the 5 Strategic Goals.

# A

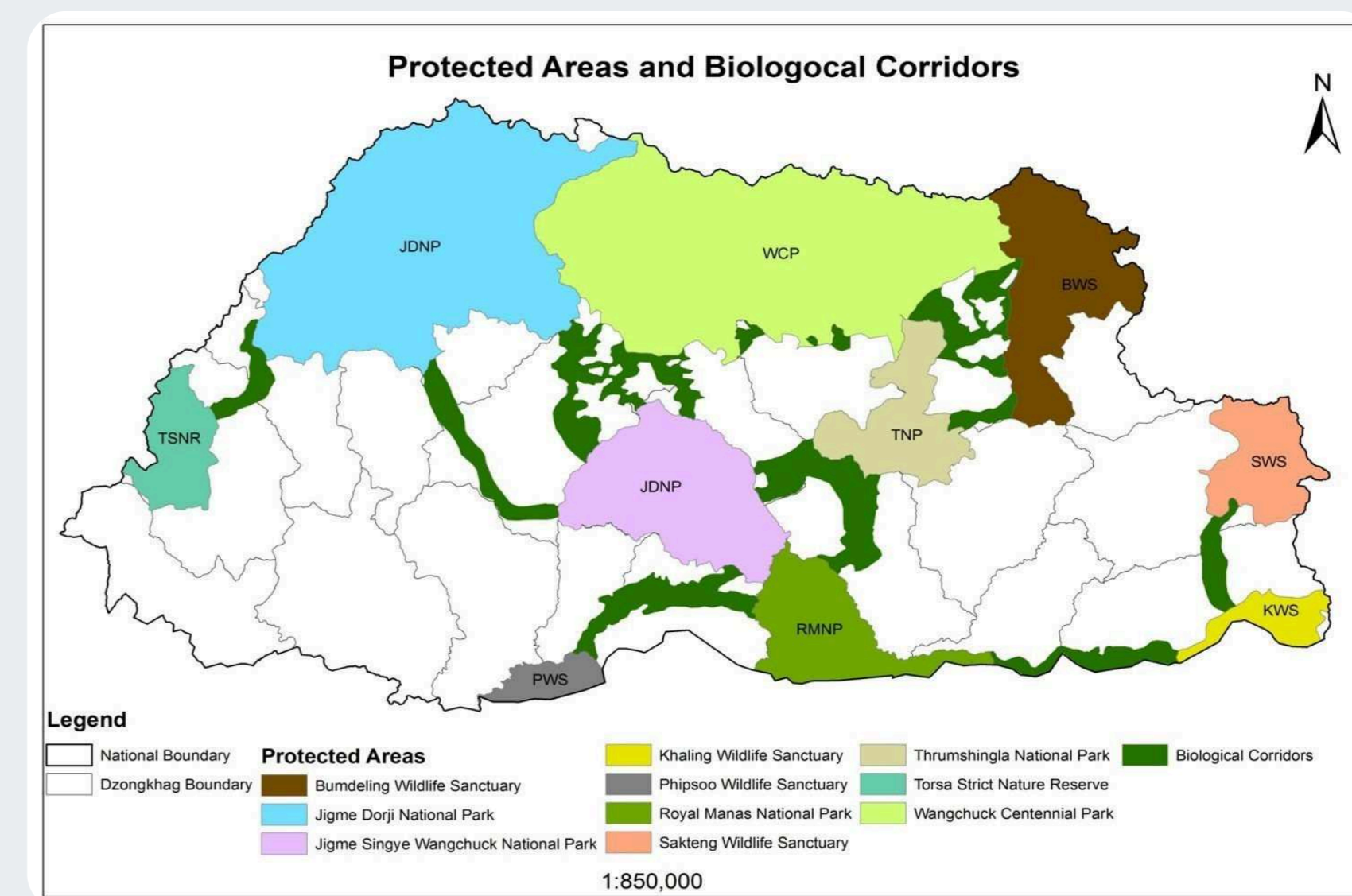


**Advancing National and Aichi Target 4 through Green Public Procurement initiative.**

The Green Public Procurement in Bhutan (GPP Bhutan) has been set up as a new project that establishes a strategic approach to scale-up public demand for environmentally and socially preferable goods, services and infrastructure. Following activities are complete or ongoing:

- Legal analysis on public procurement framework in Bhutan
- Quantitative mapping of public procurement in Bhutan: An overview of patterns, volumes and values of public spending on procurement of goods, works and services
- Mapping of Institutional arrangements and Procedures for Public Procurement in Bhutan
- Identifying strategic and administrative leverage points for implementing green public procurement
- Review of standard Bidding document

# C



**Advancement in Protected areas effectiveness and financial sustainability**

Bhutan has set aside more than half (51.44%) of its total area under a network of protected area system. The protected area network includes 5 national parks, 4 wildlife sanctuaries, 1 strict nature reserve, and 8 biological/ecological corridors. Currently progress is advancing in the following areas of management effectiveness and financial sustainability:

- The status of the biodiversity is being partially degraded but the most important values have been significantly impacted according to the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT+) report of June 2016 in Wangchuck Centennial NP, Phrumshengla NP, Jigme Dorji NP, Royal Manas NP, Jigme Singye Wangchuck NP, Jomotsangkha Wildlife Sanctuary and Jigme Khesar Strict Nature Reserve.
- The status of biodiversity is predominantly intact according to the METT+ report of June 2016 in Phibsoo Wildlife Sanctuary, Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary, Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary and Royal Botanical Park, Lamperi.

Bhutan for Life as an innovative funding initiative that aims to provide a sustained flow of finance to maintain the country's protected areas and biological corridors for perpetuity over a projected period of 14 years term developed. After that Bhutan is responsible for fully funding all the protected areas on its own through potential internal funding sources.

# D



**Bhutan ABS Fund a crucial mechanism under ABS to enhance benefits to all from access and utilization of biodiversity**

In Bhutan, respecting intergenerational equity, every Bhutanese is a trustee of the nation's natural resources. As Bhutan ventures into bioprospecting and with an existing legislation on Access and Benefit Sharing, industries and scientific communities accessing our genetic resources would be sharing benefits (both monetary and non-monetary) arising from the research and development on the accessed genetic resources. These benefits accrued (mainly monetary) will be ploughed back into communities and conservation in order to sustain conservation efforts in the long run as well as to incentivize communities and strengthen people-centric conservation.

The establishment of the Bhutan ABS Fund ensures that the benefits are shared not only with the communities providing access but also with the other communities where the need is felt necessary by the state. In doing so, Bhutan Access and Benefit Sharing Fund will serve as a vessel to hold these benefits and enable the state to distribute the benefits to the other communities widening the reach of benefits to all. Thus, the process enhances benefit sharing aspect from use of biodiversity and directly contributes to strategic goal D.

To provide strong legal backing, an ABS Policy has been developed and endorsed followed by formulation of an ABS Bill.

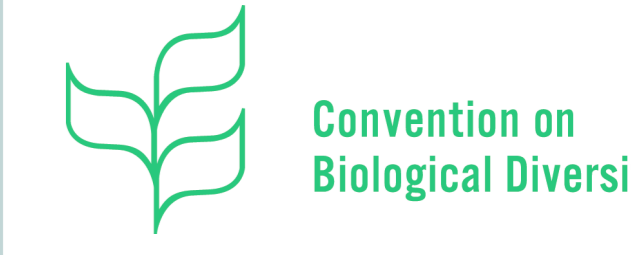
# E



**Innovating resource mobilisation for NBSAP implementation through BIOFIN**

Bhutan is one of the 30 BIOFIN countries. As an innovation to BIOFIN processes, efforts underway to combine processes to develop an integrated financing strategy for a pro-poor sustainable financing of environment, biodiversity and climate change. The proposed integrated financing framework encompasses an analysis of current policies, institutions and processes; building partnerships and coalitions among sectors; and financing through a common resource mobilization plan. The Policy and Institutional Review reveals as many as 34 Policies and Laws relevant to biodiversity financing in the country. Expenditure Review is underway to provide breakdown of expenditures related to climate and biodiversity with their linkages to poverty reduction.

In addition, the Bhutan for Life initiative, which is an innovative projects finance for permanence model is underway to ensure sustainable financing of protected areas. To ensure that Bhutan remains economically and environmentally sustainable, the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) and WWF committed in July 2014 to using an innovative funding approach for conservation. Called Project Finance for Permanence (PFP), the approach is based on a Wall Street model for organizing and financing complex, expensive and well-defined projects.



**IMPRINT**

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## NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

### A Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

- Target 1: By 2010, at least 60 percent of the population is aware of values of biodiversity and steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
- Target 2: By 2010, establish national capacity for valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services to integrate into national development planning and policy making process and national accounting system, as appropriate.
- Target 3: By 2020 incentives harmful to biodiversity are reformed and positive incentives are enhanced.
- Target 4: By 2020, relevant stakeholders adopt the principles of sustainable production and consumption of natural resources and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

### B Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

- Target 5: By 2010, high-biodiversity value habitats are mapped, the rate of losses is accounted, trends monitored and overall loss and fragmentation reduced.
- Target 6: By 2020, baseline for fish and key aquatic biodiversity established for implementation of sustainable management plans, as appropriate.
- Target 7: Areas under agriculture and forestry are managed through the adoption of sustainable management practices, ensuring conservation of biological diversity.
- Target 8: By 2020, pollution from different sources, including from use of fertilizers and agro-chemicals affecting biodiversity and ecosystem functions are maintained within the national environmental standards.
- Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.
- Target 10: By 2020, potential impacts of climate change on vulnerable ecosystems identified and adaptation measures strengthened.

### C To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

- Target 11: Maintain the current Protected Area System with enhanced management effectiveness and financial sustainability.
- Target 12: By 2020, the information on conservation status of prioritized taxonomic groups available and actions are taken to improve the status of prioritized species.
- Target 13: By 2018 genetic diversity of key cultivated plants and domesticated animals, including that of crop wild relatives are documented and conserved.

### D Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Target 14: By 2020, key ecosystems and ecosystem services are identified, assessed and safeguarded for human well-being.
- Target 15: By 2020, priority degraded ecosystems and habitats are identified and rehabilitated.
- Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya protocol is implemented through Access and Benefit Sharing legislative, administrative and institutional frameworks, which are consistent with the Nagoya Protocol.

### E Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

- Target 17: By 2015, revised National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan adopted for implementation as a national guiding document for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Target 18: By 2020, Traditional Knowledge and customary practices of communities, relevant to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are documented and used, and where appropriate revised and protected.
- Target 19: By 2020, science-based knowledge and technologies related to biodiversity are improved, made accessible and applied, where appropriate.
- Target 20: By 2016, funding requirement for implementation of NBSAP identified and funds mobilized.