



CBD COP-12

# GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK - 4

WWF Coordination on CBD, 04 September 2014

TWELFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO  
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
6 - 17 October 2014 - Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea

- Agenda Item 11.** Fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and
- Agenda Item 12.** Mid-term review of progress towards the goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and further actions to enhance progress

## WWF key messages

WWF welcomes the Fourth Edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4) and congratulates the CBD Secretariat and the authors of GBO-4 for their work. WWF fully agrees with GBO-4's general conclusions listed in paragraph 4/Item 12, COP-12 Draft Decision in Document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Add.2.

WWF is concerned that four years after the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets, progress towards the achievement of those targets is slow, and that without major political, societal changes and actions, these targets are not likely to be met by 2020.

Moreover, WWF is deeply concerned that target 10 will not be met by its upcoming 2015 deadline. This is very troublesome, given the known climate change and ocean acidification effects on marine ecosystems, as demonstrated by the IPCC AR 5, as well as by the excellent CBD Updated Synthesis of the Impacts of Ocean Acidification on Marine Biodiversity. These effects will have serious consequences for livelihoods and food security globally if urgent measures to reduce anthropogenic impacts on vulnerable ecosystems are further delayed.

The GBO4 draft executive summary notes that the Aichi Targets cannot be achieved in isolation, and this is also true of the management of our use of the oceans and coasts; we need an integrated ecosystem based approach that looks at the marine environment as a whole and that ensures that no one activity impedes upon another including making space for the 'activity' of biodiversity conservation, upon which so many other activities and economic and social outcomes depend.

CBD, its Parties and all stakeholders cannot afford to fail again. WWF calls on Parties, other Governments, stakeholders and relevant organisations to take GBO-4's conclusions seriously and translate them into real actions.

WWF urges COP-12 to adopt the draft decision with consideration of WWF proposed text changes (as presented in Annex 1, below). In particular, WWF calls on COP-12 to urge Parties to:

1. Take urgent and specific priority actions that will accelerate demonstrable progress towards effective implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 to attain the Aichi Targets as recommended by the GBO-4.

2. Request the Executive Secretary to communicate and advance the key findings to international organisations, UN agencies, other Governments and stakeholders to support Parties in their efforts to garner commitments and mobilise additional resources according to the Resource Mobilization Strategy and Aichi Target 20 for the full implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 in order to attain the Aichi Targets, especially through the implementation of the national strategies and action plans (NBSAPs).

3. Engage and partner with civil society organisations, private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities in speeding-up implementation of the Strategic Plan and in particular NBSAPs at national levels.

4. Report to the Convention on progress using evidence-based information on biodiversity change, and use the capacity of partners such as CSOs, private sectors, indigenous peoples and local communities to help in monitoring and evaluating conservation work against relevant indicators, harmonizing indicators and data collection methods where possible to improve cost effectiveness.

WWF believes more urgent attention and actions need to be given to marine issues. WWF provides herewith our positions on individual targets related to marine issues in Annex 2.

## ANNEX 1

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WWF welcomes the draft decision as set out in Document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Add.2 and calls on COP-12 to consider for inclusion the following proposed text changes in its final decisions.

New text proposed by WWF is in bold and underlined. Text that WWF recommends to delete is highlighted with ~~strike-through~~.

***Item 11. Fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook***

***Item 12. Mid-term review of progress towards the goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and further actions to enhance progress***

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*The following comprises the draft decisions contained in recommendations XVII/1 and XVIII/1 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA). Paragraphs 1-10 and 14 comprise the draft decision in SBSTTA recommendation XVIII/1; paragraphs 11-13 comprise paragraph 4 of the draft decision in SBSTTA recommendation XVII/1; and paragraph 16 comprises paragraph 5 of the draft decision in SBSTTA recommendation XVII/1. In addition, paragraph 15 is taken from SBSTTA recommendation XVII/3.*

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***Fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, Mid-term review of progress towards the goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and further actions to enhance progress***

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Recalls* that the purpose of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 is to promote effective implementation of the Convention through a strategic approach, comprising a shared vision, a mission, and strategic goals and targets (“the Aichi Biodiversity Targets”), that will inspire broad-based action by all Parties and stakeholders and *takes into account* the different tools and approaches used by Parties to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

*Fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, Mid-term review of progress towards the goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets*

2. *Welcomes* the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*;

3. Acknowledges *with appreciation* the financial and in kind support provided by Canada, the European Union, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the preparation of the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*;

4. *Notes* the following general conclusions of the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* with regard to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020:

(a) There has been encouraging progress towards meeting some elements of most Aichi Biodiversity Targets but, in most cases, this progress will not be sufficient to achieve the targets unless further urgent and effective action is taken to reduce the pressures on biodiversity and to prevent its continued decline;

(b) Meeting the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will contribute significantly to fighting hunger and poverty, improving human health, ensuring a sustainable supply of energy, food and clean water, facilitating climate-change mitigation and adaptation, combating desertification and land degradation, and reducing vulnerability to disasters and they will contribute to the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals;

(c) Actions to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets should be undertaken in a coherent and coordinated manner; Actions towards certain targets, notably those that address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss, the development and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the further development and sharing of information, and the mobilization of resources, will have an especially strong influence on the achievement of the other targets;

(d) Attaining the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will require a suite of actions at the national level, typically including: legal or policy frameworks; socioeconomic incentives aligned with such frameworks; public and stakeholder engagement, including the effective participation of indigenous and local communities; monitoring; and compliance. Coherence of policies across sectors and the corresponding government ministries, is necessary to deliver an effective package of actions;

(e) It is necessary to broaden political and general support for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to achieve the objectives of the Convention. This will require working to ensure that all levels of government and stakeholders across society are aware of the multiple values of biodiversity and related ecosystem services;

(f) Partnerships at all levels are required for the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, to leverage broad-scale actions, to mainstream biodiversity across sectors of government, society and the economy and to enable synergies in the implementation of the various multilateral environmental agreements;

(g) There are opportunities to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 through enhanced technical and scientific cooperation among Parties. Further capacity-building support and technology transfer will also be needed, especially for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition;

(h) A substantial increase in the mobilization of financial resources from all sources, in accordance with Aichi Biodiversity Target 20, is needed for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020;

5. *Notes with great concern* that, given the progress made, Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 will not be achieved by its 2015 target date;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To analyse the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* with the aim of proposing ways to enhance guidelines for future national reports **such as reporting on monitoring and evaluation of implementation** and to report on this to the Subsidiary Body and the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention<sup>1</sup> at meetings held prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

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<sup>1</sup> This is subject to a decision by the Conference of the Parties, at its twelfth meeting, on the establishment of a subsidiary body on implementation, as recommended by the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention, at its fifth meeting, in paragraph 7 of its recommendation 5/2.

(b) To transmit the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* to the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, other relevant organizations and to the General Assembly of the United Nations and to bring the main findings of the report to the attention of these bodies **to find sustainable pathways towards achieving the 2050 vision and the future post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);**

(c) To implement in collaboration with relevant partners, as appropriate, and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders such as other sectors and youth the communication strategy, for the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* with a focus on key audiences;

**(d) to communicate and advance the key findings to international organisations, UN agencies, other Governments and stakeholders to support Parties in their efforts to garner commitments and mobilise additional resources according to the Resource Mobilization Strategy and Aichi Target 20 for the full implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 in order to attain the Aichi Targets, especially through the implementation of the national strategies and action plans (NBSAPs).**

7. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, as appropriate, to take steps to disseminate widely the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* and its findings, including by translating the report into local languages;

*Enhancing implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets*

8. *Recalling* decision XI/22 and United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/212,<sup>2</sup> *highlights* the need to ensure the appropriate integration of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and sustainable development goals and notes, in this respect, the relevant findings of the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*;

9. *Emphasizing* that, in order to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and to progress towards the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, it will be necessary to enhance and accelerate implementation, *urges* Parties and encourages other Governments to take comprehensive **and immediate** measures necessary to ensure the full implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and corresponding national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

10. *Emphasizing* that the specific actions needed to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to improve progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will vary with national circumstances and priorities, including those set out in updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, *encourages* Parties, other Governments and Organizations, to make use of, in a flexible manner, the list of potential key actions contained in Annex I to this decision to enhance progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

11. *Take notes* of the key scientific and technical needs relating to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, as identified by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its seventeenth meeting and contained in annex II to the present decision, for use in future considerations on the implementation of the Strategic Plan and achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

12. *Also take notes* of the collation of further views of Parties with regard the scientific and technical needs relating to cross-cutting issues and to specific Aichi Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, contained in annexes I and II respectively of SBSTTA recommendation XVII/1;

13. *Invites* the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON) to engage with Parties, indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders on selected and clearly defined priority needs related to building observing systems and biodiversity monitoring;

14. *Noting*, that the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention provide detailed guidance relevant to the implementation of the various elements of the Strategic Plan for

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<sup>2</sup> In resolution 67/212 of 21 December 2012 on the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development, paragraph 23, the General Assembly, among other things, encouraged Parties and all stakeholders, institutions and organizations concerned to consider the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in the elaboration of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, taking into account the three dimensions of sustainable development.

Biodiversity 2011-2020 and *recalling* the key scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan identified by the Subsidiary Body in its recommendation XVII/1, and reiterates that, other than the specific gaps identified in that recommendation, policy-support tools and methodologies, if more widely shared and adapted to the specific needs of Parties, are sufficient to enable action to implement the Strategic Plan and to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, *requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, in its future meetings, to review the main implications of the key findings of the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* for the enhanced implementation of the Strategic Plan and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in particular for the targets where there has been insufficient progress, also in the light of the key scientific and technical needs for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, identified by the Subsidiary Body in recommendation XVII/1, additional information from fifth national reports, voluntary reports, detailed guidance from the cross cutting issues and Programmes of Work, and the updated global indicators for the Strategic Plan, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

15. Further requests the Subsidiary Body to evaluate the scope and process of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, following the publication of GBO-4, and in light of, and avoiding duplication with, the ongoing work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and to report to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to inform its consideration of the modalities of future editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook;

16. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of the necessary resources:

(a) To prepare a report on existing and possible ways and means to address the key scientific and technical needs as identified in annex II and to strengthen scientific and technical capacities especially in developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition;

(b) To further enhance the clearing house mechanism of the Convention to enable the provision of targeted technical support to Parties, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, on the identification and use of suitable policy support tools, and to strengthen synergies across national, regional and international institutions;

(c) To convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, with the terms of reference provided in annex III;

(d) To review national experience in the use of tools to evaluate the effectiveness of policy instruments for delivery of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, using information contained in the fourth and fifth national reports; and

(e) To report to a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**17. Urges Parties and invite other Governments to engage and partner with civil society organisations, private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities in speeding-up implementation of the Strategic Plan and in particular NBSAPs at national levels.**

**18. Urges Parties and invite other Governments to report to the Convention on progress using evidence-based information on biodiversity change, and use the capacity of partners such as CSOs, private sectors, indigenous peoples and local communities to help in monitoring and evaluating conservation work against relevant indicators, harmonizing indicators and data collection methods where possible to improve cost effectiveness.**

## ANNEX 2

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### Marine issues in the CBD Global Biodiversity Outlook 4 report draft

The state of the marine environment is overall deteriorating. The Aichi Targets for marine and coastal biodiversity are globally far from being on track for a 2020 (and in certain cases 2015) completion. Oceans and their resources provide numerous services for humankind, from food security including highly valuable protein and lipids, to jobs, protection against storms and floods increasingly common in a changing climate, oxygen production, carbon sequestration, medicine, components for industrial processes, etc. They are often the last recourse for the most vulnerable communities when other means for obtaining food and nutrition fail or are out of reach.

Achieving the Aichi Targets would help ensure that oceans can continue provide these benefits for people into the future.

Of particular concern are the underlying facts that coastal and ocean biodiversity and ecosystem services are not valued and taken into account in national and regional planning frameworks, and that marine activities are managed on a single sector basis, if managed at all.

The GBO4 draft executive summary notes that the Aichi Targets cannot be achieved in isolation, and this is also true of the management of our use of the oceans and coasts; we need an integrated ecosystem based approach that looks at the marine environment as a whole and that ensures that no one activity impedes upon another including making space for the ‘activity’ of biodiversity conservation, upon which so many other activities and economic and social outcomes depend.

WWF has been actively promoting a stand-alone Ocean SDG, with strong targets, and will continue to advocate for this over the coming year. Without healthy oceans, sustainable development is not possible.

**For marine**, WWF is particularly concerned about the following Aichi Targets, and proposes some solutions/approaches:

**Target 2:** The importance of integrating biodiversity values into planning processes and natural capital into national accounts cannot be understated. WWF is calling for the values of marine ecosystem goods and services to be accounted for and taken into consideration for all management decisions by governments but also by the private sector in its quest to reduce short term risk and maintain profitability in the longer term.

**Target 3:** The use of harmful fisheries subsidies must be halted. WWF calls for funds to be reallocated towards rebuilding fisheries, providing alternative sustainable livelihoods for fishers and protecting habitats vital for fish populations, thus contributing to food security and economies in the longer term, while being mindful of the needs of developing countries.

**Target 4:** The issue of overconsumption also includes the increasing appetite for marine animal protein from higher trophic levels, resulting in the depletion of large predatory species that has an impact on the entire ecosystem. The production of fish meal used for aquaculture, cattle and poultry arises out of the increasing consumption of protein in diets across the world as incomes rise. WWF believes that the food production system needs reforming and that diets, in particular in developed countries, need a shift towards lower trophic level fish, more vegetable based, etc.

**Target 6:** Overfishing and destructive fishing comprise the largest single direct threat to ocean health, and is thus a threat to achieving sustainable development. WWF believes that continuing to treat fishing as a sector in isolation exacerbates the problem, and urges governments to ensure the impacts of fishing and that unsustainable and destructive fishing, as well as IUU fishing, be properly addressed to ensure food security and livelihoods. This can be done through ensuring the implementation of an integrated ecosystem based

approach to fishing as part of a holistic system thinking around marine use and users, involving all bodies that manage ocean sectors in one single ocean management framework, both in areas within and beyond national jurisdiction. Establishing marine protected areas for ensuring fisheries are rebuilt and essential habitats protected, is a key part of reversing the trend and achieving this important target 6, as well as target 11.

**Some tools** that should be implemented at national and regional levels include:

- Setting precautionary reference points (in accordance with the Fish Stocks Agreement Art. 6 and Annex II);
- Conducting multi-species assessments (complementing single-stock assessments);
- Defining management areas through biogeographical classification;
- Making use of production potential models to ensure the system in question is not over-exploited to allow for long-term utilization;
- Protecting habitats and vulnerable marine ecosystems areas and species (making use of habitat suitability models and ROVs to identify these areas).
- Conducting environmental impact assessments (EIAs) prior to fishing activities in line with Art. 5 of the Fish Stocks Agreement and other instruments (e.g. UNGA resolutions 61/105, 64/72, 66/68, FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep Sea Fisheries, as well as the CBD Voluntary Guidelines for the Consideration of Biodiversity in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) in Marine and Coastal Areas), and making them publicly available;
- Incorporating current and predicted effects of climate change and ocean acidification on food webs into fisheries management (also in line with Target 10);
- Fully implementing Annex 1 of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement to ensure accurate and complete fishery data reports are transmitted to scientists to advance the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management.
- Increasing transparency and participation in fisheries management (at all levels);
- Making use of technologies such as VMS and AIS systems for monitoring and enforcement, as well as scientific and enforcement observers on board;

It is important to highlight the need for further scientific capacity and allocated funding, as well as accurate and complete fishery data reports to scientists to advance the development of ecosystem based fisheries management plans and respective implementation.

Even though these tools can be expensive, they are extremely important for sustainable fisheries management. Therefore, inter-state and intra-state technology transfer and capacity building should be operationalized.

**Target 7:** Unsustainable aquaculture is a problem both from a biodiversity, pollution and a sea/land use perspective. Aquaculture plants in tropical/sub-tropical countries are often situated in areas cleared from mangroves, use vast amounts of pesticides and antibiotics, and rely on wild caught fish for feed. Once a farm has exhausted its potential, either through disease or commercial reasons, the land around the plant is often so contaminated it cannot be used for anything else. Clearing mangroves reduces the protective capacity of the coast against storms, surges and floods increasingly common in a changing climate. As aquaculture often uses lower trophic level species to raise higher level species that catch a bigger price in the market and can be exported, it contributes to overfishing and overconsumption (Target 4) through the loss of valuable protein as it takes tens of kilos of wild caught fish to raise 1 kilo of farmed fish. For aquaculture to be sustainable, it needs to address all these issues, address the issue of invasive species (Target 9), and be situated in an integrated ecosystem based management planning framework.

**Target 8:** Excessive use of fertilizers in agriculture and untreated sewage from urban areas is causing dead zones in many coastal areas, contributing to the decline in biodiversity and loss of habitat for fish nurseries

etc. Plastic and toxic pollution in the oceans is cause for increasing concern, as microplastics and toxins enter the food chain and have impacts all the way up to humans and other top predators. WWF believes these issues need to be tackled at source, as the origin of the problems is land based. Thus, integrated plans between land and sea use, as well as management of waste and sewage are needed, to ensure that negative effects from land use, urban areas and industries are not transferred into the sea.

**Target 9:** WWF believes that a large part of the problems with invasive species in the marine environment can be reduced by States becoming Parties to and implementing the IMO Ballast Water Management and Antifouling Systems Conventions, so that these become universal. This would help reduce the part of invasive species that are transferred via ship hulls and ballast water, but not those associated with aquaculture, the second largest vector of invasive species. Aquaculture of locally available species would help reduce the threat of invasive species here (Target 7).

**Target 10:** WWF is very concerned that this target will not be achieved by its 2015 deadline. Coral reefs are of particular importance in tropical areas as important fishery grounds and nurseries, but also for coastal protection against storms etc. Building resilience of reefs so that these can continue to perform these important ecosystem functions is vital, and this can be done via well managed protected areas, abolition of destructive fishing practices, etc. Acidification due to the burning of fossil fuels and run off from land are also to blame, so integrated coastal zone management is needed as well as the reduction of fossil fuel and the increased use of renewable energy would help reduce the threats to coral reefs.

In addition to coral reefs, other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification, include cold water corals, sea grass, polar regions, upwelling areas, etc. Establishing area closures for fisheries in those areas, as well as the establishment of marine protected areas (in line with target 11) to reduce overall anthropogenic impacts on such vulnerable areas should be applied as adaptation measures (IGBP, IOC, SCOR (2013)) as a matter of urgency to accelerate progress towards this target. The role of seamounts as refugia for cold water corals in light of ocean acidification should be further investigated towards the implementation of enhanced conservation measures for seamounts and other vulnerable ecosystems (as referred to above) as an adaptation measure to ocean acidification.

**Target 11:** Achieving the protection of at least 10% of coastal and marine areas is in itself not enough. Too often the crucial words ‘effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems’ of MPAs are forgotten/omitted. In addition to these conditions to ensure biodiversity and connectivity for a healthy ocean, WWF would like to see that areas of particular importance for food security and livelihoods be protected and properly managed to secure these ecosystem functions for the future. This is aligned with target’s 11 emphasis on areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services. The economic, social and ecological values of the high seas and the deep seas are being increasingly recognised in this regard as well, and need to be covered by MPAs responding to the same criteria as in EEZs. MPA minimum conservation standards, consistent with the IUCN Guidelines for Applying the IUCN Protected Area Management Categories to Marine Protected Areas (2012) should be developed and adopted widely. For example, certain extractive activities like oil and gas and deep sea mining should not be allowed within an MPA.

**Target 14:** In addition to terrestrial and freshwater habitats, also marine habitats are of importance for ecosystem services, ranging from food and livelihoods to medicinal compounds and protection against natural disasters and climate change events (Target 2).

**Target 20:** If natural capital and the true values of the marine ecosystem goods and services were properly accounted for, (Target 2) there would be more funding for the implantation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. WWF is working to make the case for why investments need to flow towards biodiversity protection and sustainable use of natural resources, not for nature itself, but for the very well-being and future of humanity.



Finally, the work of the CBD on the description of areas that meet the ecologically or biologically significant area (EBSA) criteria is of utmost importance for all of the targets highlighted above, especially targets 2, 6, 10, 11 and 14. Sound biodiversity management relies on sound science. The compilation of scientific and technical information about areas that may require enhanced conservation measures is the first step towards the identification of appropriate conservation and measures.

WWF strongly supports the CBD EBSA process as the scientific and technical information contained in the workshop reports can be used as the basis for appropriate conservation and management measures to be put in place by States and competent organizations towards the implementation of ecosystem approaches, in accordance with Paragraphs 25 and 26 of Decision X/29.

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