UNEP

Convention on Biological Diversity

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
  CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Thirteenth meeting
Cancun, Mexico, 4-17 December 2016
Agenda item 10

DECISION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

XIII/5. Ecosystem restoration: short-term action plan

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Article 8(f) and decisions XI/16 and XII/19,

Aware that Parties have identified ecosystem restoration needs in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and in other national, regional and global strategies and/or plans, and that a number of ecosystem restoration activities are under way with support from various organizations and Governments, and *noting* that many degraded ecosystems are still in need of restoration,

Welcoming the progress made in the implementation of the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative, supported by the Korea Forest Service of the Republic of Korea,

Underlining that ecosystem restoration, when effectively implemented and coherent with other related policies, helps to achieve not only many of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, but also several Sustainable Development Goals,[1] ecosystem-based adaptation and combating desertification, mitigating the effects of drought and supporting mitigation under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[2] land degradation neutrality under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification,[3] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[4] the wise use of wetlands under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands,[5] the four Global Objectives on Forests of the United Nations Forum on Forests, commitments under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild

---

[1] See General Assembly resolution 70/1, annex.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[4] General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.

[5] Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

Animals,[6] the Bonn Challenge of the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration and the objectives of many other initiatives,

Noting that restoration needs to be carried out in ways that balance social, economic and environmental objectives, and that the engagement of all relevant stakeholders, such as land owners, and indigenous peoples and local communities, is crucial at all stages of the restoration process especially as regards the participation of women, *recognizing* that women are powerful agents of change and their leadership is critical in community revitalization and renewable natural resource management,

Recalling the urgency to enhance efforts to achieve targets related to restoration by 2020,

Noting the deliverable 3(b)(i): thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration currently being undertaken by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services due to be completed in 2018,

1.   *Adopts* the short-term action plan on ecosystem restoration, as contained in the annex to the present decision, as a flexible framework and adaptable to national circumstances and legislation for immediate action towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 12, 14 and 15, and Targets 4 and 8 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, and other internationally agreed goals and targets, and in particular targets identified in national biodiversity strategies and action plans or other relevant strategies and plans;

2.   *Urges* Parties and *encourages* other Governments and relevant organizations, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant stakeholders to promote, support and take actions on ecosystem restoration inter alia by making use, as appropriate, of the short-term action plan on ecosystem restoration as a flexible framework according to national circumstances;

3.   *Encourages* Parties, when developing and implementing ecosystem restoration action plans and when updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, to take into account existing goals and commitments on restoration, including those promoted under other relevant processes, and to include them in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

4.   *Invites* Parties in a position to do so and other donors, such as international finance agencies, including the Global Environment Facility and regional development banks, to provide support for ecosystem restoration activities, as well as monitoring processes integrated as appropriate into programmes and initiatives for sustainable development, food, water and energy security, job creation, climate change mitigation, adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and poverty eradication;

5.   *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations and stakeholders, to consider ecosystem restoration in reef, coastal and marine ecosystems as well as urban environments, in the action plans, where relevant, to ensure that marine environments are sustained;

6.   *Invites* Parties to provide, on a voluntary basis, information on their activities and results from the implementation of the action plan, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to compile the submissions and make them available through the clearing-house mechanism;

7.   *Encourages* relevant organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities to promote the implementation of ecosystem restoration, which is crucial for reaching the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and enhancing the provision of ecosystem services and to support Parties in their efforts to implement the short-term action plans on ecosystem restoration;

---

[6] Ibid., vol. 1651, No. 28395.

8.   *Invites* Parties and relevant organizations to give due consideration to community-based initiatives on ecosystem restoration in the context of the Convention's Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity;[7]

9.   *Requests* the Executive Secretary to communicate the present decision to the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services so that it can be taken into account in the preparation of the deliverable 3(b)(i): thematic assessment on Land Degradation and Restoration;

10.   *Encourages* Parties to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the implementation of national biodiversity-related activities on ecosystem conservation and restoration;

11.   *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to support the efforts of Parties in making use of the short-term action plan on ecosystem restoration by:

(a)   Enabling capacity-building and supporting the use of tools in collaboration with relevant partners and initiatives, including by implementing the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative in collaboration with the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other initiatives covering other non-forest ecosystems;

(b)   Updating the information on guidance, tools and initiatives relating to ecosystem restoration[8] and making it available through the clearing-house mechanism.

Annex

SHORT-TERM ACTION PLAN ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

I.   OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE

1.   The *overall objective* of this action plan is to promote restoration of degraded natural and semi-natural ecosystems, including in urban environments, as a contribution to reversing the loss of biodiversity, recovering connectivity, improving ecosystem resilience, enhancing the provision of ecosystem services, mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change, combating desertification and land degradation, and improving human well-being while reducing environmental risks and scarcities.

2.   The *purpose* of the action plan is to help Parties, as well as any relevant organizations and initiatives, to accelerate and upscale activities on ecosystem restoration. It aims to support timely achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, in particular Aichi Biodiversity Targets 14 and 15. Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 aims to restore and safeguard, by 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, Target 15 calls for the restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems by 2020. The action plan can also contribute to the achievement of objectives and commitments under other conventions, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, and the United Nations Forum on Forests, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

---

[7] Contained in decision XII/12, annex.
[8] UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/35.

3.   The *specific objectives* of this action plan are to help Parties as well as relevant organizations and initiatives to:

(a)   Promote, support and accelerate action in the planning, implementation and monitoring of ecosystem restoration activities at all levels;

(b)   Identify and formalize regional, national and local targets, policies and actions for ecosystem restoration;

(c)   Identify and communicate the benefits of ecosystem restoration to generate public awareness, support and involvement.

II. SCOPE AND SCALE

4.   Ecological restoration refers to the process of managing or assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed as a means of sustaining ecosystem resilience and conserving biodiversity. Degradation is characterized by a decline or loss of biodiversity or ecosystem functions. Degradation and restoration are context-specific and refer to both the state of ecosystems and to ecosystem processes.

5.   The action plan aims to facilitate ecosystem restoration across all types of habitat, biomes and ecosystems, including forests, grasslands, croplands, wetlands, savannas and other terrestrial and inland water ecosystems, marine and coastal ecosystems, and, as appropriate, urban environments. The activities can be applied at the national, regional, subnational and site levels within a land- and seascape perspective. Actions intended to reduce, mitigate or reverse direct drivers of degradation, restore ecosystem conditions and processes may be undertaken on a range of scales within a mosaic of land uses, for a range of purposes and with different actors. Actions on the national or regional scale are necessary to provide an enabling institutional framework.

6.   The action plan provides options for actions that can be undertaken in the short term. However, restoration involves sustained activities over the medium and long term. Therefore, the actions identified in this plan should be undertaken in the context of the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

7.   The action plan can be applied to: (a) cases where ecosystems are already under ongoing restoration; (b) degraded ecosystems have already been identified and considered for restoration; (c) degraded ecosystems which have not yet been considered for restoration. The action plan can also contribute to the enhancement of ecosystem functions.

III.   PRINCIPLES

8.   Ecosystem restoration is a complement to conservation activities, and provides many benefits both inside and outside of protected areas, which brings multiple benefits. Priority should be given to conserving biodiversity and preventing the degradation of natural habitats and ecosystems by reducing pressures and maintaining ecological integrity and provision of ecosystem services (see guidance for integrating biodiversity considerations into ecosystem restoration in appendix I). Ecosystem restoration is not a substitute for conservation, nor is it a conduit for allowing intentional destruction or unsustainable use.

9.   Ecosystem restoration activities should be consistent with the provisions of the Convention. In particular, the 12 principles of the Ecosystem Approach of the Convention are highly relevant for guiding ecosystem restoration activities.[9] The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[10]

---

[9] https://www.cbd.int/ecosystem/

[10] General Assembly resolution 61/295.

and other guidance that may be relevant in particular situations includes, the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable use of Biodiversity,[11] the Akwé: Kon guidelines,[12] the Tkarihwaié:ri Code of Ethical Conduct,[13] and the Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity.[14]

10.   Ecosystem restoration activities should be planned at various scales and implemented using the best available science and traditional knowledge. The prior informed consent and full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as the engagement of women and other relevant stakeholders are important considerations at all stages of the processes. Communication, education and public awareness are also important to consider at all stages so that the benefits and costs of ecosystem restoration activities are widely understood.

IV.   KEY ACTIVITIES OF THE ACTION PLAN

11.   The plan comprises four main groups of activities that could be undertaken, as a menu of options, on a voluntary basis, by Parties and other Governments, in collaboration with relevant organizations, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities. The four main groups of activities are:

   (a)   Assessment of opportunities for ecosystem restoration;

   (b)   Improving the institutional enabling environment for ecosystem restoration;

   (c)   Planning and implementation of ecosystem restoration activities;

   (d)   Monitoring, evaluation, feedback and disseminating results.

12.   An iterative process may be required with feedback among and within these four main groups of activities (see indicative timeline in appendix II).

A.   Assessment of opportunities for ecosystem restoration

13.   To ensure that restoration activities are implemented in areas requiring restoration and that are high priority taking into account ecological, economic, social and institutional realities, it is useful to implement broad-scale ecosystem assessments, including mapping, or to make use of existing assessments. These assessments can be undertaken at various levels according to national circumstances and adjusted in the light of more detailed assessments that result from the site-level activities in step C. The following actions may be considered, and, as appropriate, taken:

   1. **Assess the extent, type, degree and location of degraded ecosystems** at regional, national, and local scales as well as the drivers of ecosystem degradation. Take into account current restoration activities and initiatives, and how these integrate biodiversity considerations.

   2. **Identify and prioritize geographical areas** where restoration would contribute most significantly to achieving national level targets contributing to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (such as priority areas for the conservation of biodiversity, areas that provide essential ecosystem services, and areas that would enhance the integrity of protected areas and their integration into wider land- and seascapes).

   3. **Involve indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders.** Identify and obtain the prior and informed consent and full and effective participation of indigenous peoples

---

[11] Decision VII/12, annex II.

[12] Decision VII/16 F.

[13] Decision X/42, annex.

[14] Decision XII/12 B, annex.

and local communities and involve relevant stakeholders in the process, including consideration for gender balance, in the identification of priority areas for restoration.

4. **Assess the potential costs and multiple benefits of ecosystem restoration at relevant scales**. Benefits may include those linked to biodiversity and ecosystem services, and socioeconomic benefits, such as water and food security, carbon capture and sequestration, jobs and livelihoods, health benefits, and disaster risk reduction (e.g. fire and erosion control, and coastal protection). Identify opportunities for maximizing co-benefits and for reducing or eliminating conflicts among co-benefits. Costs of inaction may also be significant. Capitalize on lessons learned from previous restoration activities and the potential for ecosystem restoration to provide ecosystem services using nature-based solutions and developing green infrastructure.

5. **Assess the relevant institutional, policy, and legal frameworks** and identify financial and technical resources, as well as gaps, for implementing ecosystem restoration. Analyse opportunities for innovative approaches to restoration, including financial ones.

6. **Identify options to reduce or eliminate the drivers of the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems at various scales**. Utilize pre-degradation baselines where appropriate and consult with experts and stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local communities to determine baselines and other requirements, such as: resources; behavioural changes; incentive mechanisms; addressing perverse incentives; adopting sustainable land, water, forest, fisheries and agriculture management practices; diversifying land tenure; and recognizing resource rights. Assess areas where the implementation of sustainable productive practices could contribute to ecosystem restoration and to prevent land degradation.

B. Improving the institutional enabling environment for ecosystem restoration

14. In order to facilitate the implementation of ecosystem restoration actions, the further development of the enabling institutional framework for ecosystem restoration should be considered. This includes providing legal, economic and social incentives, and appropriate planning mechanisms, and fostering cross-sectoral collaboration, to promote restoration and for reducing ecosystem degradation. This work may be informed by the assessments undertaken in step A, and, especially A5, and could be undertaken in parallel with the planning and implementation activities undertaken in step C. The following actions may be considered, and undertaken as appropriate:

1. **Review, improve or establish legal, policy and financial frameworks for the restoration of ecosystems.** This may include, as appropriate, laws, regulations, policies and other requirements for protecting and restoring habitats, as well as improving ecosystem functions. It may require a certain proportion of land, coast or sea to be maintained in its natural state.

2. **Review, improve or establish a legal and policy framework for land tenure**, and for recognizing the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

3. **Promote and strengthen formal and informal education systems at all level**s by including content related to ecosystem restoration, and raise awareness about the benefits of ecosystem restoration for the economy and the well-being of society, including through the dissemination of scientifically sound information.

4. **Review, improve or establish terrestrial and marine spatial planning processes** and zoning activities in the framework of integrated management.

5. **Consider the need for safeguard measures** to reduce risks of displacing habitat loss and degradation as well as other risks to biodiversity and indigenous peoples and local communities (see Principles and appendix I).

6. **Review, improve or establish targets, policies and strategies for ecosystem restoration**. These activities would normally be reflected in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and/or national plans for sustainable development, climate change mitigation and adaptation and land management. Setting targets can demonstrate political commitment and help to increase public awareness, support and engagement. Existing targets established under other relevant processes may also be taken into account.

7. **Develop accounting processes** that take into account the values of natural land, semi-natural, ecosystems, and of the functions and services they deliver.

8. **Promote economic and financial incentives** and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives harmful to biodiversity in order to reduce the drivers of ecosystem loss and degradation, and to foster ecosystem restoration, including through sustainable productive activities.

9. **Develop plans for resource mobilization**. Create a framework for mobilizing resources to support ecosystem restoration, from national, bilateral and multilateral sources, such as the Global Environment Facility, leveraging national budgets, donors and partners, including the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities and non-governmental organizations, to implement the action plans and to fill gaps identified through assessments in step A. Public funds and instruments can be used to leverage private funding through such methods as, inter alia, risk guarantees, payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, and other innovative financial approaches.

10. **Promote and support capacity-building and training and technology transfer** for the planning, implementation and monitoring of ecosystem restoration so as to improve the effectiveness of restoration programmes.

C. Planning and implementation of ecosystem restoration activities

15. Restoration activities should be planned on the basis of priorities identified in step A and implementation facilitated by actions in step B. Actions would benefit from consultation with stakeholders and experts from various disciplines to assist with all phases of project work (assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting). Capacity-building for stakeholders, including legal and legislative support for the rights of women and indigenous peoples and local communities, may be required. The following actions may be considered, and undertaken as appropriate:

1. **Identify the most appropriate measures for conducting ecosystem restoration**, based on the best available evidence and taking into account ecological appropriateness, the use of native species, scale of measures linked to the processes to be restored cost-effectiveness, and support to indigenous peoples' and community conserved territories and areas, and respect for their traditional customary knowledge and practices. Emphasis should be given to restoration approaches and activities that allow people to maintain and/or establish sustainable livelihoods.

2. **Consider how ecosystem restoration activities can support the ecological and economic sustainability** of agriculture and other production activities, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction, and enhance ecosystem services, including for urban areas. Restoration may be mainstreamed into land- and seascape planning. The expected effects of restoration activities on the ecological function of adjacent lands and waters should be considered, for example through environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments. Potential future environmental changes, such as those resulting from climate change, should be taken into account.

3. **Develop ecosystem restoration plans with clear and measurable objectives and goals** for expected environmental, economic and social outcomes. In addition to goals and objectives, plans could include the extent and lifetime of the project, the feasibility of mitigating degrading forces,

budget and staff requirements, and a coherent plan for monitoring project implementation and efficacy. Project goals may include the desired future condition of the areas being restored, and the expected ecological and socioeconomic attributes of the reference ecosystem(s). In addition, project goals could explicitly specify ecological and socioeconomic targets (e.g., biomass of vegetation, jobs), and for each target an action (e.g., reduce, increase, maintain), quantity (e.g., 50 per cent), and timeframe (e.g., five years). Objectives could then be developed with an appropriate monitoring programme to detail the specific steps required to fulfil the goals.

4. **Develop explicit implementation tasks, schedules, and budgets**. Anticipated details of implementation, including site preparation, installation, or follow-up activities, may be considered. In addition, performance standards could be explicitly stated, along with a preliminary and adaptable list of questions to be addressed through monitoring and the proposed protocols that will be used to examine project success at specified intervals during restoration. Monitoring and evaluation may benefit from the establishment of standards for data collection, management and retention, analyses, and sharing of lessons learned.

5. **Implement the measures outlined in the ecosystem restoration plan** to conserve, manage sustainably, and, restore degraded ecosystems and landscape units in the most effective and coordinated manner possible, making use of existing science and technology and traditional knowledge.

D.   Monitoring, evaluation, feedback, and disseminating results

16.   Monitoring activities should begin during the earliest phases of project development to enable ecosystem conditions and socio-economic effects to be measured against a reference model. Effective monitoring may include extensive planning prior to initiation of restoration activities, including establishing baselines, using biological indicators, and setting clear and measurable restoration objectives based on these indicators. Remote sensing may also be a cost-effective monitoring technique in some ecosystems that can easily be repeated. Monitoring results and the lessons learned on the outcomes of activities in steps B and C may be documented, analysed and used to support adaptive management. The following actions may be considered, and undertaken as appropriate:

1. **Assess the efficacy and effects of implementing the ecosystem restoration plan**, including the success of ecosystem restoration activities and the environmental and socioeconomic costs and benefits. This may be done in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders including indigenous peoples and local communities and be based on the questions and analysis set out in the monitoring section of the restoration plans in step C4.

2. **Adjust plans, expectations, procedures, and monitoring through adaptive management** based on monitoring results and lessons learned and promote continuity beyond the project end.

3. **Share lessons learned** from planning, financing, implementing and monitoring ecosystem restoration plans in collaboration with stakeholders to demonstrate the practices and areas that provide multiple benefits of ecosystem restoration, identify unintended consequences, and improve outcomes of future restoration efforts, using this through national clearing-house mechanisms and the global clearing-house mechanism, among others, for exchanging information.

V.   SUPPORTING GUIDANCE, TOOLS, ORGANIZATIONS AND INITIATIVES RELATING TO ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

17.   Relevant guidance and tools developed under the Convention, and those developed by partner organizations and initiatives, as well as relevant organizations and initiatives are provided, for example, in information document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/35 and the United Nations Environment Programme's Rapid Response Assessment *Dead Planet, Living Planet — Biodiversity and Ecosystem*

Restoration for Sustainable Development,[15] among others, and will be made available in the clearing-house mechanism.

VI.   ACTORS

18.   This action plan is addressed to all relevant stakeholders, including national, subnational and municipal governments, Parties to the Rio conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements, donor agencies, including the Global Environment Facility, the World Bank and regional development banks, private and corporate donors, pension funds and business consortia, as well as other relevant international bodies and organizations, land owners and land managers, indigenous peoples and local communities, and civil society and citizens.

Appendix I

GUIDANCE FOR INTEGRATING BIODIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS INTO ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

- Address the drivers of biodiversity loss, including land-use change, fragmentation, degradation and loss, over-exploitation, pollution, climate change, and invasive alien species. Ecosystem restoration generally costs more than avoiding degradation, and the loss of some species and ecosystem services might not be recoverable. Further, natural habitats act as refugia for species that can offer restoration opportunities to other areas.

- Avoid the afforestation of grasslands and ecosystems with naturally low tree cover.

- Determine how natural and traditional disturbance regimes (e.g., under fire or grazing) which may be important for ecosystem structure and functioning could be part of restoration activities. Make use of research on the functions of species in ecosystems and the links between ecosystem functions and services. Due consideration should be given to the restoration and recovery of species directly providing ecosystem services and functions, such as seed dispersal, pollination, and maintaining the food web (such as key predators) and nutrient flows.

- Priority may be given to the restoration of habitats important for the reproduction and recovery of species.

- Take into consideration the fact that natural regeneration may allow a degraded area to recover on its own after drivers of fragmentation, degradation and loss have been removed or reduced. If active restoration is required, such as removing invasive alien species, reintroducing native plants and animals, and revitalizing soils and hydrological processes, this will generally require greater resources over a greater period of time.

- If ecosystem restoration is being aided by planting and reintroduction, make use of native site-adapted species, giving attention to genetic variation within and among native species, their life histories and the consequences of their interactions with each other and with their environment.

- Site-based actions could be taken in the context of integrated land- and seascape management practices. For example: priority may be given to restoring ecosystem services within a mosaic of land uses; or promoting landscape connectivity and biodiversity conservation through ecosystem restoration in proximity to species refugia (e.g., protected areas, key biodiversity areas, important bird and biodiversity areas, and Alliance for Zero Extinction sites) creating buffer zones, or connectivity corridors between them.

---

[15] Nellemann, C., E. Corcoran (eds). 2010. *Dead Planet, Living Planet – Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration for Sustainable Development.* A Rapid Response Assessment. United Nations Environment Programme, GRID-Arendal. www.grida.no.

- Prevent the introduction of those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species: if the use of alien species is being considered, for example to initially stabilize severely degraded soils, this should, in particular, be guided by sound science and the precautionary approach in line with the preamble of the Convention in order to avoid loss of habitat and species due to invasive alien species.

Appendix II

INDICATIVE TIMELINE FOR SHORT-TERM ACTIONS ON ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

KEY ACTIVITIES	ONE TO THREE YEARS	THREE TO SIX YEARS
Step A. Assessment of opportunities for ecosystem restoration	Identify the drivers related to the loss of biodiversity. Identify current restoration activities and initiatives and how they integrate biodiversity considerations. Identify significantly degraded ecosystems, and areas with the most restoration potential for achieving national biodiversity targets, in collaboration with stakeholders. Evaluate lessons learned from previous ecosystem restoration activities.	Ongoing assessments, including of the potential costs and the multiple benefits. Identify and secure resources for restoration. Identify options to reduce or eliminate drivers of biodiversity loss. Build the knowledge base on best practices related to ecosystem restoration.
Step B. Improving the institutional enabling environment for ecosystem restoration	Assess targets, policies and strategies, incentive measures, spatial planning tools and processes, and consider the need for safeguard measures. Review legal, policy and financial frameworks to inform actions in step C.	Implement relevant tools, processes and measures. Evaluate adequacy of resources; seek and secure further resources as needed.
Step C. Planning and implementation of ecosystem restoration activities	Prioritize restoration opportunities based on step A and develop restoration plans with clear and measurable objectives. Prioritize most relevant tools, processes and measures for planning and implementation. Enhance existing restoration activities.	Implement restoration plans facilitated by actions in step B.
Step D. Monitoring, evaluation, feedback, and disseminating results	Share experiences from current activities and initiatives to support adaptive management and promote continuity.	Monitor results and report on lessons learned from activities in steps B and C to support adaptive management and improve outcomes of future restoration efforts.

_____