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UPDATED ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION IN THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORTS

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This note presents an update on the key findings from an analysis of the fourth national reports received by 15 September 2010. As such, it complements document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/8 on Implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan and Progress Towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target. The statistical analyses undertaken here are based on a review of 126 reports received by the middle of July 2010, including a few advanced draft reports, with supplementary information from more reports received by 15 September 2010. A list of countries that have submitted their fourth national reports as of 22 September 2010 is contained in Annex I. Annex II provides examples of legislation related to biodiversity adopted by some countries, particularly in the past few years. Annex III provides some examples[1] of actions taken by countries to achieve the goals and sub-targets of the 2010 Biodiversity Target. More examples or case-studies can be found in the booklet entitled "Action for Biodiversity 2020 – Towards a society in harmony with nature".

II. PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF KEY FINDINGS FROM ANALYSIS OF FOURTH NATIONAL REPORTS

A. Status and trends of, and threats to, biodiversity

2. Nearly all the countries report continued biodiversity declines, though some national reports provide cases of positive statuses and trends. For example:

* UNEP/CBD/COP/10/1

[1] Examples or cases are selected from as many reports as possible received, including some advanced draft reports. A database is being developed to provide more examples or cases.

/…

(a) Most (91%)[2] Parties reported that at least one, but in most cases, several species within their national territories was in a state of decline. However, several countries also reported that populations of species have either stabilized or are increasing in number;

(b) Most (80%) Parties reported that biodiversity was important for human well-being in their country. Further, in several reports, it is implied that biodiversity loss will have serious consequences on human well-being, particularly in relation to the livelihoods of local communities.

3. Most countries did not analyse trends of changes in biodiversity primarily due to lack of historical data, systematic monitoring or research. Only a minority of countries provided trend analysis of some species or habitats based on monitoring results over years. For example:

(a) Canada reports a rapid decline in sea ice cover: extent of Arctic ice has decreased from about 6.3 million km^2 in 2000 to about 4.3 million km^2 in 2007;

(b) China reports that its marine trophic index shows signs of a moderate increase since 2000, following earlier large declines;

(c) Ethiopia reports a continued increase in the population sizes of the Ethiopian Wolf and the Walia Ibex from 2002 to 2009;

(d) The European Union reports a decline of 18% between 1990 to 2006 in the number of common forest bird species;

(e) Hungary reports that the population size of the great bustard has almost doubled since the 1990s, following a massive decline in the 1980s, though levels still remain at about one-third of the population which existed in the 1970s;

(f) India reports an increase in the number of threatened species between 2004 and 2008, mostly due to the increase in the number of species classified as “vulnerable”;

(g) Indonesia reports a deforestation rate of 1.08 million hectares during the period 2000 to 2005, falling from a peak of 2.83 million hectares during the period 1997 to 2000;

(h) Italy reports an increase in the number of naturalized alien higher plant species from 782 in 2005 to 1023 in 2008;

(i) Madagascar reports lower rates of deforestation of many types of forest in 2000 as compared to 1990;

(j) Malaysia reports improved quality of river basins in the period 2000 to 2007;

(k) Mexico reports declining catch and trophic levels of several commercial marine fish species;

(l) The Philippines reports continuing loss of forest area which declined from 23 per cent in 1988 to a projected 6 per cent in 2010;

[2] Note: These and subsequent statistics are based on an assessment of 126 national reports, including a few advance draft reports, available at the time of analysis in English, French, Russian and Spanish. In presenting statistical responses, generic terms are used: “Nearly all” is used for 90% over, “most” for 70% over, “many” for 40% over, “some” for between 40% and 15% and “few” for less than 15%.

(m) Uganda reports higher population levels for buffalo, elephant, hippopotamus and zebra species in the period 2004 to 2006 as compared to the period 1999 to 2003, following severe declines over previous decades;

(n) The United Kingdom reports that in 2008 about 60% of populations of priority species were increasing or stable. Also, the number of species increasing in population was similar to what was reported in 2005. The overall trend between 2002 and 2008 was positive with a decline in the number of decreasing species;

(o) Finland reports on the near doubling of the population of grey seals in the 2000 to 2008 period and even more of an increase in the total seal population of the Baltic Sea, including marked increase in the population of ringed seals. Both grey and ringed seals declined steeply in the twentieth century before the monitoring schemes (for ringed seals in 1985 and for grey seals in 2000) were put in place;

(p) Denmark reports that its forest area increased steadily in the period from 1881 to 2006. The population index of forest birds, according to the monitoring results, increased by 16% from 1976 to 2006. Meanwhile, since the 1960s, a drastic decline in the number of hares (with a 31% drop between 2000 and 2007) was reported. .

(q) Papua New Guinea reports that, between 1972 and 2002, a net 15% of its tropical forests was cleared and 8.8% was degraded through logging;

(r) Nigeria reports that 43% of its forest has been lost in the past 25 years, and that some local varieties of crops, such as sword bean, African yam bean, Lima beans and snake tomato, are becoming extremely rare;

(s) Oman reports that the population of Loggerheads turtles on Masirah Island has declined since the 1970s to a level of perhaps 20,000-25,000 by the early 1990s, and to an estimated minimum of 12,000 by 2008;

(t) The Federated States of Micronesia reports that many species in the country are in serious decline or are on the precipice of extinction. In terms of mammals, nearly all of the fruit bats or flying foxes, are threatened or endangered.

(u) Sri Lanka reports that its forest loss has considerably slowed down.

(v) Brazil reports that annual deforestation of the Brazilian portion of the Amazon has slowed very significantly, from a peak of more than 27,000 km^2 in 2003-2004 to just over 7,000 km^2 in 2008-2009, constituting the lowest rate recorded in more than 20 years of monitoring.

4. The main threats to biodiversity identified by most countries include habitat fragmentation or loss, unsustainable use or overexploitation of natural resources, invasive alien species, pollution and climate change:

(a) Nearly all (94%) Parties reported that habitat fragmentation and loss were driving biodiversity loss in their country;

(b) The unsustainable use/overexploitation of resources was reported as being a threat to biodiversity in most (90%) countries;

(c) Most (91%) Parties indicated that invasive alien species were having negative impacts on some aspects of biodiversity;

(d) Most (92%) Parties reported that climate change was either currently driving biodiversity loss or would be in the relatively near future. Some of the noted changes caused by climate change include changes in the timing of important ecosystem events, such as flowering or migration dates, and changes to the range distribution of certain species;

(e) Nearly all (95%) Parties signalled that pollution/nitrogen was posing a threat to biodiversity.

5. While the five pressures mentioned above were the most common globally, it should be noted that several countries identified more specific pressures. These pressures include such things as population pressures, fire, charcoal production, overgrazing, and the unsustainable harvest of certain key resources. For example:

(a) The Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Syria mentioned charcoal production as one of the major threats to biodiversity, particularly forests;

(b) San Tome and Principe and a few other countries reported that the use of destructive harvesting or fishing tools, such as grenades or other explosives, posed a major threat to biodiversity;

(c) Azerbaijan, Mongolia, China, Lesotho and some other countries have identified overgrazing as one of the main causes of degradation in grassland and biodiversity in grassland;

(d) Indonesia and many other countries reported that the population growth and associated overexploitation of natural resources are putting increasing pressures on their biodiversity;

(e) A few countries, such as Afghanistan, Nepal, Mozambique, Democratic Republic of Congo and Iraq, mentioned that conflicts and the proliferation of weapons had caused damage to biodiversity;

(f) Indonesia and a few other countries also mentioned that land, forest and other fires had caused damage to biodiversity and are now one of the major threats to biodiversity;

(g) Myanmar and a few other countries observed that demands for animal and plant products in neighbouring countries and the international market were putting great pressures on the conservation of some animal and plant species;

(h) Liberia, Mauritius and a few other countries mentioned that sand mining had caused considerable damage to biodiversity, particularly in the marine and coastal ecosystems.

6. Among underlying causes of continued biodiversity loss, Parties cite the limited knowledge of biodiversity, limited capacities for conservation, low levels of biodiversity awareness and public support, lack of coordination among relevant sectors in conservation and sustainable use or weak mainstreaming of biodiversity into relevant sectors, lack of economic evaluation of biodiversity and, consequently, the lack of incentives or measures to promote the conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing, and weak law enforcement. For example:

(a) Most (86%) Parties report that limited capacity, including financial, human and technical issues, is a major obstacle to the implementation of one or more of the three goals of the Convention. Both developed and developing countries have indicated that limited capacity is an issue. However, this lack of capacity has not prevented actions from being taken;

(b) The absence of, or difficulties in, accessing scientific information as well as limited awareness of biodiversity issues were identified by most (91%) Parties as being an obstacle to the

protection of biodiversity. The need for awareness-raising amongst the general public and decision-makers was noted in several national reports;

(c) Most (77%) Parties report that limited biodiversity mainstreaming, fragmented decision-making and/or limited communication between different ministries or sectors are challenges to undertaking concerted national actions to meet the three objectives of the Convention;

(d) Many (61%) Parties report that the absence of economic valuations of biodiversity and, consequently, the lack of effective incentives or measures were obstacles to mobilizing all possible resources in efforts to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity.

B. Implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans

7. Nearly all countries report on having developed and adopted national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Some (18%) Parties have revised their national biodiversity strategy and action plan. Revisions are designed to identify and meet new challenges and to respond to recent guidance from the Conference of the Parties.

8. The Convention and national biodiversity strategies and action plans have promoted substantial activities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. For example:

(a) Many (58%) Parties reported that they have a protected area coverage equal to, or in excess of, 10% of their terrestrial area (see examples in Annex III progress towards Target 1.1);

(b) Most (85%) Parties reported that they have developed new legislation related to biodiversity since their third national reports were submitted (see annex II below). Legislative developments in many countries to promote the implementation of the Convention, as well as mainstreaming, are noteworthy. However, few parties provided information on the impact of new legislation;

(c) Most (75%) Parties report that they have species or ecosystem recovery programmes in place for some elements of their national biodiversity (see examples in annex III concerning progress towards target 2.1). However, the presence of recovery programmes for certain species or ecosystems does not mean that all species/ecosystems are covered. From the reports received, it appears that recovery programmes tend to be concentrated on emblematic biodiversity or biological resources of socio-economic importance. Further few countries report on the outcomes of these programmes on biodiversity;

(d) Nearly all (91%) Parties have mechanisms in place for environmental impact assessment, and some (38%) reported having mechanisms related to strategic environmental impact assessment in place. For example, Benin's Poverty Reduction Strategy requires the use of strategic environmental assessment to integrate environmental considerations into all relevant plans, programmes and projects derived from the strategy. This allows decision-makers to include environmental and sustainability concerns on an equal footing with economic and social concerns from the very beginning of the decision-making process. Most countries appear to have legislation or similar mechanisms related to the use of environmental impact assessment in place, however, in most reports it is unclear how environmental impact assessment is being applied;

(e) Many (66%) Parties indicated they were using the Ecosystem Approach in some manner. Most Parties reported that they were using the Ecosystem Approach to manage certain ecosystems, such as forests, while a few Parties indicated that the Ecosystem Approach was being used in an integrated manner across the country;

(f) Most (86%) Parties indicate that they are taking actions towards mainstreaming. Much of the actions appear to be in relation to the forestry and agricultural sectors. The integration of biodiversity into other sectors is less common;

(g) Nearly all (95%) Parties report that they are undertaking programmes or projects related to monitoring, research and/or the creation of databases. For example, Turkey has established a national database called "Noah's Ark" to monitor the state of biodiversity in the country and use the data for more effective conservation. However, despite these actions, the information from the national reports suggests that much remains to be done in relation to monitoring, particularly with regards to monitoring the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Further several of the monitoring programmes that are in place have considerable gaps and tend to focus on key species or ecosystems;

(h) Most (87%) Parties have co-management and/or community involvement in the management of biological resources. Fiji (also indicated in the reports of Samoa and other Pacific countries) cited a technical report prepared by Hugo Govan in 2009 on the status and potential of locally-managed marine areas in the South Pacific which confirms that the South Pacific has experienced a remarkable expansion in marine managed areas in the last decade. The management of these protected areas, implemented by over 500 communities spanning 15 independent countries and territories, builds upon a unique feature of the region -- customary tenure and resource access, making use of, in most cases, community strengths in traditional knowledge and governance, combined with a local awareness of the need for action. The important role played by non-governmental organizations in involving local people in the management of natural resources was mentioned in several reports;

(i) Some Parties report that they have been exploring ways and means to sustainably use biodiversity, such as through sustainable tourism or eco-tourism, while linking biodiversity conservation with improvements in local livelihoods and poverty reduction. For example, in Guyana, the Iwokrama Canopy Walkway (which gives visitors to the Iwokrama Forest a unique view of the forest canopy and its wildlife) is a unique benefit-sharing example of a forest-based business partnership, involving local communities and private-sector businesses. This venture demonstrates how ecotourism can be financially successful and provide tangible benefits for and ownership by indigenous communities;

(j) Some (47%) Parties reported having some form of benefit-sharing mechanisms in place. These tended to be in the form of fledgling legislation, as opposed to concrete programmes or mechanisms;

(k) Nearly all (98%) Parties report that they are undertaking actions related to education and public awareness. While some of these actions are part of strategic communication, education and public awareness campaigns, others are more general. The role of non-governmental organizations, particularly in developing countries, was noted by several Parties as being important in awareness-raising activities.

(l) Some (38%) Parties report that they are using spatial planning to some degree;

(m) Many (61%) Parties report that sub-national policies are contributing to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity;

(n) Many (72%) Parties report that they are undertaking activities related to climate change adaptation, with few reports mentioning specific measures to address climate change impacts on biodiversity, some (37%) report that they are taking actions related to climate change mitigation and some (39%) report that they have undertaken vulnerability assessments. Some countries report that the implementation of their national programme of action to address desertification issues is also contributing to biodiversity conservation;

(o) Most (81%) Parties report that they are participating in transboundary management or cooperation initiatives. These management initiatives take various forms ranging from bi-lateral

agreements with neighbouring countries and regional initiatives, to developing specific agreements such as the Helsinki Accord on the Baltic Sea. Further, while several of these agreements are related to protected areas, others are related to shared ecosystems or resources such as mountain ranges and rivers. Transboundary agreements were common in both developed and developing countries.

9. Few reports provide detailed assessments concerning the extent to which activities in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans have been implemented or what outcomes have been achieved. Only a number of the reports analysed provide quantitative assessments of implementation of activities or elements of the NBSAP. For example:

(a) Djibouti reports that 30% of the projects identified in the NBSAP have been carried out;

(b) France reports that 32% of actions identified in the NBSAP have been completed, an additional 54% have been initiated, while 14% have yet to be launched;

(c) Krygyzstan reports that 30% of the strategic components of its NBSAP have been successfully implemented;

(d) Togo reports that 40% of the 119 priority actions in its NBSAP have been implemented;

(e) Turkmenistan reported that 49% of the objectives and activities in its NBSAP have been implemented;

(f) Namibia reports that 42% of targets included in its NBSAP have been fully achieved and 38% of targets partially achieved;

(g) St. Lucia reports that 19 of 22 (86%) of NBSAP projects have been completed;

(h) Samoa reports that 73% of actions included in its NBSAPs have been completed.

10. While there are few quantitative assessments, they are remarkably similar in their results with implementation levels ranging from 30 to 50%. They are also broadly consistent with the overall perception that NBSAP implementation remains low, but not insignificant.

11. Few countries have provided analysis of the outcomes or impacts that NBSAP implementation has generated. Some countries do provide cases or success stories in this regard.

12. All the countries report on challenges encountered in NBSAP implementation or in the implementation of the Convention as a whole. For example, India has assessed challenges and constraints for implementation of each of the objectives identified in its NBSAP while highlighting progress and achievements made. The main obstacles to implementation reported include: limited financial, technical and human resources and capacities, limited information, lack of political will, lack of coordination between ministries, poverty, low level of awareness of biodiversity issues, and limited incentives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

13. In many countries, national biodiversity strategies and action plans are implemented through individual projects or programmes. Almost all the countries report on programmes and projects developed to implement their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other similar strategies. For example, Australia's Caring for Our Country Initiative, which consolidates various initiatives and programmes related to biodiversity, provides an investment of $2.25 billion over the first five years (2008-2013) and aims to have an environment that is healthy, protected, well-managed, resilient and that provides essential ecosystem services in a changing climate.

14. Financial support for the implementation of NBSAP in many developing countries is clearly lacking. Most of them depend on external support or funding for individual projects, though a few developing countries, such as Malaysia and Vietnam, said their support to NBSAP implementation would increase. In terms of implementation mechanisms, some countries such as Finland and Indonesia have adopted sectoral responsibilities for implementing NBSAP, however evidence is lacking to prove the effectiveness of such a mechanism. The United Kingdom has adopted a partnership approach for implementing its biodiversity action plan through devolved administration.

C. Biodiversity mainstreaming

15. Many countries (72%)[3] reported that biodiversity issues have been integrated into various national-level, sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes, particularly poverty reduction papers, sustainable development strategies, national development plans and action plans to address related challenges such as climate change.

16. Some countries (30%) reported that biodiversity issues had been integrated into their sub-national or local plans. A few countries reported that some of their local governments have developed their own biodiversity strategies and action plans. For example, Japan's Basic Act on Biodiversity (2008) required all the prefectures to develop their own biodiversity strategies. Several states of Mexico have also adopted their biodiversity strategies and action plans. A few countries reported on the integration of biodiversity into their regional development plans or bioregional plans. Some countries (38%) mentioned that biodiversity has been included in their local and community-based plans and programmes, particularly community-based programmes related to fisheries, forestry and tourism management. Some countries (30%) report that their local and community-based plans are linked with the objectives of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

17. Overall, very few countries elaborate on mechanisms to make mainstreaming happen and even fewer on how mainstreaming has generated outcomes. However, a few countries reported that mechanisms or institutional frameworks had been established to coordinate sectoral and cross-sectoral policies and actions on biodiversity. For example, South Africa has established a National Biodiversity Framework to coordinate and align the efforts of many organizations and individuals involved in conserving and managing biodiversity, so that efforts will focus on the most urgent issues and the roles of key stakeholders will be fully utilized. Several countries reported on the establishment of sub-national biodiversity management bodies. For example, with the support of its National Heritage Trust Fund, Australia has established 56 community-based regional natural resources management bodies.

18. Many countries reported on actions taken at sectoral and cross-sectoral levels that have contributed to implementation of NBSAPs, however, details are still lacking as to how these sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes have impacted changes in biodiversity.

19. As noted above, nearly all (91%) Parties have mechanisms in place for environmental impact assessment and some (38%) reported having mechanisms related to strategic environmental impact assessment in place. Both figures represent an increase from the situation revealed by the third national reports.

D. Progress towards the 2010 target and goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan (2002-2010)

20. The fourth national reports provide numerous examples of progress towards the goals and sub-targets of the 2010 Biodiversity Target (see annex III below). Most encouraging in this regard is the increase in protected areas, particularly terrestrial, while the establishment of marine protected areas is still far below the target. The reports corroborate other evidence that overall the 2010 Biodiversity Target

[3] The statistics for mainstreaming are based on 113 final and advanced draft reports received by end of March 2010.

has not been met. No country reported having met the 2010 Biodiversity Target and some (26%) Parties unequivocally state that they have not met it.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTIES THAT HAVE SUBMITTED FOURTH NATIONAL REPORTS
(as of 30 September 2010) (in order of receipt)

Final reports:

1. Estonia
2. Kyrgyzstan
3. Niger
4. Cameroon
5. Cuba
6. China
7. Ghana
8. Burundi
9. Afghanistan
10. Cambodia
11. Australia
12. Bhutan
13. DR Congo
14. Djibouti
15. Egypt
16. Jordan
17. Japan
18. Myanmar
19. Thailand
20. Tajikistan
21. Morocco
22. Niue
23. Mongolia
24. Italy
25. Poland
26. Belarus
27. Sweden
28. Nepal
29. Spain
30. Mauritania
31. Sri Lanka
32. Algeria
33. Philippines
34. Viet Nam
35. Norway
36. South Africa
37. Malaysia
38. Armenia
39. Czech Republic
40. Uganda
41. European Union
42. Botswana
43. United Kingdom
44. Croatia
45. India
46. Rwanda
47. Hungary
48. Republic of Korea
49. Republic of Moldova
50. Syrian Arab Republic
51. Finland
52. Guinea
53. Comoros
54. Mexico
55. Lebanon
56. Togo
57. France
58. Belgium
59. Canada
60. Dominica
61. Sudan
62. Tunisia
63. United Republic of Tanzania
64. Kenya
65. Yemen
66. Benin
67. Turkmenistan
68. Equatorial Guinea
69. Mali
70. Ethiopia
71. Indonesia
72. Congo
73. Chile
74. Madagascar
75. Slovakia
76. Romania
77. Grenada
78. Lithuania
79. Monaco
80. Russian Federation
81. Sao Tome and Principe
82. Cape Verde
83. Israel
84. Costa Rica
85. Luxembourg
86. Samoa
87. Lesotho
88. Dominican Republic
89. Guatemala
90. Pakistan
91. Swaziland
92. Honduras
93. Angola
94. Denmark
95. Tuvalu
96. Liberia
97. Côte d'Ivoire

98. Guinea-Bissau
99. Fiji
100. Azerbaijan
101. Liechtenstein
102. New Zealand
103. Latvia
104. Georgia
105. Ecuador
106. Netherlands
107. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
108. Tonga
109. Bangladesh
110. Germany
111. Central African Republic
112. Chad
113. Ireland
114. Malta
115. Ukraine
116. Mozambique
117. Nigeria
118. Micronesia (Federated States of)
119. Kazakhstan
120. Saint Lucia
121. Burkina Faso
122. Papua New Guinea
123. Iraq
124. Oman
125. Kuwait
126. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
127. Brunei Darussalam
128. Belize
129. Qatar
130. Panama
131. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
132. Serbia
133. Singapore
134. Malawi
135. Nicaragua
136. Antigua and Barbuda
137. Cyprus
138. Lao People's Democratic Republic
139. Mauritius
140. Namibia
141. Switzerland
142. Colombia
143. Uruguay
144. Bosnia and Herzegovina
145. Zambia
146. Argentina
147. Turkey
148. Portugal

Advanced drafts:

149. Brazil
150. Bulgaria
151. El Salvador
152. Eritrea
153. Guyana
154. Iran (Islamic Republic of)
155. Jamaica
156. Kiribati
157. Maldives
158. Montenegro
159. Peru
160. Saudi Arabia
161. Senegal
162. United Arab Emirates

LIST OF PARTIES THAT HAVE NOT SUBMITTED THEIR FOURTH NATIONAL REPORTS
(as of 30 September 2010)

1. Albania
2. Austria
3. Bahamas
4. Bahrain
5. Barbados
6. Bolivia
7. Cook Islands
8. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
9. Gabon
10. Gambia
11. Greece
12. Haiti
13. Iceland
14. Marshall Islands
15. Nauru
16. Palau
17. Paraguay
18. Saint Kitts and Nevis
19. San Marino
20. Seychelles
21. Sierra Leone
22. Slovenia
23. Solomon Islands
24. Somalia
25. Suriname
26. Timor-Leste
27. Trinidad and Tobago
28. Uzbekistan
29. Vanuatu
30. Venezuela
31. Zimbabwe

Annex II

EXAMPLES OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY-RELATED LEGISLATION

Algeria	A law for the protection of mountain zones in the context of sustainable development was adopted in 2004
	A law expanding the list of species whose conservation is of national interest was passed in 2009.
Armenia	Since 2000 the National Assembly has adopted new laws on specially protected nature areas, on flora, on fauna as well as the new land code, water code and forest code.
Bhutan	In 2001 an environmental impact assessment act was passed.
	In 2003 a biodiversity act was passed.
Cambodia	In 2008 a law giving more responsibility to sub-national councils to oversee local development and natural resources management was passed.
	In 2006 a fishery law was adopted which requires fishery management to be based on the Ecosystem Approach and which emphasizes the conservation of fish habitats. Eight fish sanctuaries have been established at the national level.
Central African Republic	In 2008 a law on the Forest Code was passed.
Chile	The law on General Principles of the Environment was amended in 2007.
	A law on native forest restoration was adopted in 2008.
	The 2007 law on National System of Certification of Agricultural Organic Products establishes the conditions for the commercialization of organic products and their equivalents.
Djibouti	*The Environmental Framework Law* of 2001 includes procedures for environmental impact assessment and regulations regarding the transport of dangerous products. As of 2004 the law also includes provisions for the creation of terrestrial and marine protected areas and the protection of biodiversity.
The Dominican Republic	The Constitution of the Dominican Republic was amended in 2009 giving constitutional weight and strength to issues of biodiversity conservation. In addition, a number of biodiversity-related laws such as Biodiversity Law, Forest Resources Law and Coastal and Marine Resources Law have been developed and sent to Parliament for approval. A draft regulation on access and benefit-sharing was also developed in 2002.
European Union	Directive 2004/35/EC on environmental liability establishes a framework for environmental liability based on the 'polluter pays' principle, with a view to preventing and remedying environmental damage.
	Rural Development Article 39 (1)-(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, and Article 27 of Regulation (EC) No 1974/2006 promote agri-environment measures that support the rearing of 'farm animals of local breeds indigenous to the area and in danger of being lost to farming', and the preservation of 'plant genetic resources naturally adapted to the local and regional conditions and under threat of genetic erosion'. Article 28 of Regulation 1974/2006 also supports the conservation of genetic resources in operations not covered by the above-mentioned measures by supporting the preservation of endangered animal and plant genetic resources.
Finland	The Land Use and Building Act, adopted in 2000 and since revised, makes it is possible to designate National Urban Parks as a means of protecting and maintaining the beauty of the cultural or natural landscape, biodiversity or related values in townscapes.
Germany	A new Federal Nature Protection Act entered into force in March 2010 as a result of constitutional reform in Germany in 2006. Since 2005 strategic environmental

	assessment (SEA) has been prescribed by law for certain plans and programmes.
Hungary	Agri-environmental measures will be included under the New Hungary Rural Development Plan, which will be implemented in 2009. The plan will help to find a suitable balance between the compulsory conservational requirements and the possibility of voluntary measures; subsidies for such biodiversity-supportive measures will be eligible for farmers on ca. 914,000 ha. The revision of the Act on National Spatial Planning in 2008 has led to the greater integration of biodiversity consideration into spatial planning. The revised NSP Act provides framework regulations concerning the land use of the revised national ecological network.
Iraq	Law on protection of wild animals and birds was adopted in 1979 and is being updated in 2010.
Japan	As part of Japan's Biodiversity Basic Law, local governments are encouraged to develop local biodiversity strategies. To support local public authorities in this task, the Japanese Ministry of the Environment has developed guidelines on the development of local biodiversity strategic action plans.
Kenya	The Seeds and Plant Varieties Act regulates the genetic quality of seeds and plants in Kenya by detailing provisions on seed testing, transactions in seeds, prevention of cross-pollination and on plant breeder rights.
Lebanon	The 2004 hunting law explicitly refers to the Convention on Biological Diversity and promotes sustainable hunting by, amongst other things, defining the hunting season, banning the hunt of certain species and established breeding centres for certain species. Law for the Protection of the Environment 2002 – includes principle of biodiversity protection.
Madagascar	Decree n°2003-439 puts in place environmental department ("cellules") in each of the government's ministries
Mauritius	Plant Protection Act was adopted in 2006 and Fisheries and Marine Resources Act was adopted in 2007. In addition, a few regulations concerning marine protected areas, fishing of sea cucumbers, undersized fish and removal of corals and shells were adopted respectively in 2006, 2007 and 2008.
Montenegro	A law on protection of nature was adopted in 2008.
Morocco	Legislations related to the regulation of pollutants, protected areas and environmental impact assessment, amongst others, have been adopted.
Norway	The Management of Wild Marine Resources Act went into force in 2009. The purpose of this Act is to secure a sustainable and socio-economically profitable management of wild marine resources and associated genetic materials and to contribute to securing employment and settlement in coastal communities.
Philippines	In January 2008 the Supreme Court designated 84 branches of first-level courts and 31 branches of second-level courts as special Environmental Courts or "green courts" to handle cases involving violations of environmental laws.
Poland	A new act on ecological farming was introduced in 2004. This act regulates, amongst other things, the conditions for farming and food processing with the use of ecological methods, and specifies the system of control and certification
	The Act on Nature Conservation was adopted in 2004.
	The 2008 Act on Sharing Information on Environment and its Protection, Involvement of Society in Nature Conservation, and on Environmental Impact Assessment creates a new system for supervising environmental impact assessment procedures.
Serbia	A number of laws related to biodiversity and the environment were adopted in 2009 and 2010, including Law on Organic Production, Law on Agriculture and Rural Development, Law on Plant Protection and Law on Forests.

Spain	A law adopted in 2007 provides for the creation of a Spanish Inventory of Traditional Knowledge related to Natural Patrimony and for the conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity and geological diversity.
	An environmental assessment law, which aims to regulate, clarify and harmonise provisions related to environmental impact assessment, was adopted in 2008.
Sri Lanka	The 1937 Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance No. 2 was amended by a 2009 Act which, besides protecting animal and plant life within national reserves, has provision for the protection of certain categories of animals and plants throughout the country.
	The Marine Pollution Prevention Act which was adopted in 1981 and which was amended in 2008 resulted in the establishment of the Marine Pollution Prevention Authority (MPPA) and provides for the prevention, reduction and control of pollution in Sri Lankan waters, amongst other things.
Tunisia	A new law on Marine Protected Areas was adopted in 2009
Uganda	The Constitution of Uganda recognizes and makes special provisions for environment and natural resources. The Constitution has a number of Articles which are relevant to the CBD, such as *Article 237(2)(b)* which mandates Parliament to make laws which authorize the central government or local governments, to hold in trust for the people various ecosystems for the common good of all citizens.
Uruguay	Spatial Planning Act was adopted in 2008, which requires all sectors to protect biodiversity and sustainably use natural resources through implementing national and sub-national guidelines for spatial planning.
United Kingdom	A 2003 reform of the Common Agricultural Policy reduced the environmental impact of agriculture by removing incentives to intensify production.
Swaziland	The Biodiversity Conservation and Management Bill was adopted in 2008 with a view to consolidating the different biodiversity-related legislations and giving effect to the principle of cooperative governance. The Access and Benefit-sharing Bill was also adopted in 2008 to regulate access to genetic resources and the sharing of benefits.
Switzerland	In 2007 an Ordinance on Parks of National Importance was passed, regulating the planning, establishment and management of parks of national importance. In 2009 the Federal Act on the Protection of the Environment was revised to preserve the natural foundations of life sustainably, including biodiversity and soil biodiversity, among others. In 2008, an Ordinance on the Introduction of Organisms into the Environment was passed, with a view to protecting people and the environment against the harmful effects caused by the use of organisms, including IAS, pathogens and GMOs. In 2008, the Federal Act on Agriculture was revised, which stresses the importance of biodiversity conservation in agro-ecosystems, supports organic farming and provides a legal basis for ecological compensation.
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	In 2007 a regulation on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing was introduced, setting out procedures for access to genetic resources for scientific, commercial and conservation purposes, with benefit-sharing provisions. A law on nature protection was adopted in 2004 and revised in 2006 and 2007. Also during 2007-2008, legislation on water management, forestry, hunting and fisheries was adopted.
Honduras	Biodiversity Law and Forest, Protected Areas and Wildlife Las have been adopted recently.
Lao PDR	Revised Forestry Law and Wildlife Law were adopted in 2007.

Annex III

EXAMPLES OF NATIONAL LEVEL ACTIONS TOWARDS THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET

Target	Example
Focal Area: Protect the components of biodiversity	
Goal 1: Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes	
1.1: At least 10% of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.	• **Lithuania –** 15.13% of the country is covered by protected areas, this is an increase of more than 3% since 2004. Special Protected Areas make up 7% of this while Special Areas for Conservation make up 9%.
	• **Tajikistan –** specially protected natural territories (SPNT) account for 22% of its total land area. SPNT in **Belarus** account for 21.9% of its land area.
	• **Slovakia –** Protected sites and zones cover more than 24% of the national territory while Natura 2000 sites cover 29% of the Slovak territory.
	• **Chile –** National parks, national reserves and national monuments comprise approximately 19% of the national territory.
	• **Latvia –** Since 2004, 108 new protected areas were designated and 48 existing protected areas expanded for the Natura 2000 network. Now the protected areas cover 11% of the country's land area. In addition, biosphere reserves cover 7% of the country's land area.
	• **Norway –** 14.3% of the Norwegian mainland is protected as national parks, nature reserves or other conservation areas. The figure for Svalbard (Arctic) is 65%. Most of the protected areas occur in the alpine zone.
	• **European Union –** At the core of EU biodiversity policy are the Birds and Habitats Directives, which provide the legal basis for the Natura 2000 network of protected areas. The combined Natura 2000 network now comprises more than 25,000 sites, covering around 17% of the total land area of the European Union.
	• **Botswana –** has set aside 45% of its land area as protected areas.
	• **Cuba** has a total of 253 protected areas, encompassing 19.95% of the national territory. 16.85% of the terrestrial and 24.81% of the marine territories have been protected.
	• **Panama –** The number of protected areas increased from 65 in 2006 to 97 in 2009.
	• **Spain –** Protected areas in Spain cover 6.2 million hectares, which represents 11.8% of the national territory.
	• **Philippines –** Terrestrial protected areas increased from 8.5% of the total land area in 1992 to 13.8% in 2008. The number of MPAs increased from 439 in 1997 to 1169 as of 2007. Management effectiveness of these sites increased from 10-15% in 2000 to 20-30% in 2007.
	• **Cyprus –** The protected areas coverage increased from 11.8% to 19% of the country's area during 2006-2010.

	• **China –** During 1999-2007, the number and coverage of nature reserves have increased significantly. Protected areas now cover 15.2% of the country.
	• **New Zealand –** 33 marine reserves have been established within its territorial sea. In addition, Benthic Protection Areas that protect 30% of its EEZ from bottom trawling and dredging have been created.
	• **Uganda** has 12.86% of its total country area protected. It has also gazetted a total of 11 Ramsar sites. There has been a progressive increase in the number of wild animals in protected areas in the last 15 years.
	• **Belize** has 102 protected areas, representing 22.6% of its total national territory.
	• **Algeria's** network of protected areas covers 36.5% of the national territory and represents most of the country's ecosystems. 10% of the country's wetlands are protected RAMSAR sites.
	• **Brunei Darussalam –** 41% total land area has been allocated for protection or conservation purposes.
	• **Costa Rica –** a system of protected areas has been established, covering 26.2% of the country's land area. In addition its forest cover increased from 40% in 1992 to 48% in 2005.
	• **Burkina Faso –** 15.19% of the country is covered by protected areas. In 2009 12 new Ramsar sites were created.
	• **Central African Republic –** 11% of the country is covered by protected areas and the percentage goes up to 15% according to the IUCN classification of protected areas which includes reserves with hunting prohibitions.
	• **Dominican Republic** – 32 additional protected areas were declared during 2005-2009, bringing the total number of protected areas to 119 including marine protected areas and accounting for a total of 52.8% of the national territory.
	• **Namibia –** has established 20 state protected areas accounting for some 17% of the total land mass of the country.
	• **Cambodia –** The coverage of protected areas accounts for 26.1% of the total land area.
1.2: Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected	• **Spain –** In 2008 El Cachucho, an extensive offshore bank and seamount with surrounding slopes and a complex system of channels and canyons was declared as a marine protected area. The area, which covers 234 000 hectares, is home to important populations of deep sea sponges with some sections of the park having up to 750 sponges per hectare. The area is also home to deep water sharks and giant squid. The marine protected area is the first created under the new Spanish law for Natural Heritage.
	• **Fiji –** The establishment of a network of locally-managed marine areas has been underway since 2000, across 410 traditional fishing grounds. Fiji has also aimed to protect 30% of its marine area as a network of ecologically representative and effectively managed areas within fishing

	grounds. This network has not only conserved Fiji's resources but also empowered local communities. This initiative has won the 2002 Equator Initiative Award.
	• **Serbia -** 42 Important Bird Areas (IBA) and 40 Prime Butterfly Areas (PBA) have been identified, representing 14.25% and 10.23% respectively of the national territory.
	• **Tonga** - The new concept on conservation is developed and implemented by the fishery sector, called Special Management Area (SMA). There are six SMAs established throughout Tonga. This is a community programme where all management responsibilities are carried by the communities. This initiative has led to an overall improvement in conservation and the sustainable management of natural resources.
	• **Papua New Guinea –** For over a decade, the Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program (TKCP) has been partnering with local landowners on the Huon Peninsula to create and manage the country's first Conservation Area, encompassing over 187,000 acres of cloud forest and Matschie's tree kangaroo habitat. TKCP works within the YUS Local Level Government in Morobe Province, PNG.
	• **Russian Federation –** Significant expansion of specially protected naturally territories in the Far East during 2007-2008 (by creating three national parks) has stopped the decline of the Usurisky tigers and other rare species in the region.
	• **Burundi –** A national action plan has been established related to priority sites for conservation. As part of this process the lakes in the northern part of the country, covering 30,000 hectares, have been protected.
Goal 2. Promote the conservation of species diversity	
2.1: Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups	• **Norway –** Historically 72 populations of salmon have become extinct however 27 of these have been re-established as a result of measures taken to reduce acidification and exterminate salmon parasites.
	• **Oman –** The Arabian Oryx population has been restored to a viable population of 500 after 10 years of captive breeding, according to data provided by the Diwan of Royal Court in 2009.
	• **Ethiopia –** The Walia ibex is confined to the Simen Mountains National Park which covers an area of 412 km2 of the Simen Mountains watershed. In the 1990s IUCN listed the species as critically endangered and the species population was estimated at between 200 and 250 individuals between 1994 and 1996. The main threat to the species is habitat loss. However as a result of various conservation actions, including the implementation of an integrated conservation and development project, in 2004 the population stood at around 500 and by 2009 had reached 740.
	• **Iran (Islamic Republic of) –** Captive breeding of some important threatened species such as Persian Fellow Deer, Asiatic Cheetah, Siberian Crane in their original habitats has improved their status. The number of monitored cheetah has improved during the past 2-3 years.
	• **Maldives –** A 10-year moratorium was put in place for the protection of turtles and certain rare species from exploitation and export. Harvesting of sea turtle eggs is prohibited in 10 selected parts of the country where

	sea turtles are under severe threat. A shark fishery ban is imposed from 2010.
	• **Uganda –** Trends in abundance and distribution of some selected species show a steady increase in population: Elephants - 100% increase (550 in 1995 to 3000 in 2004); Buffalo - 61% increase (7000 in 1995 to 18000 in 2004); Mountain Gorillas - 8% increase (292 in 1995 to 315 in 2002); Giraffe - 52% increase (153 in 1995 to 320 in 2004); Chimpanzee - 33% increase (3300 in 1997 to 4950 in 2003).
	• **Burkina Faso –** The protection of elephants has achieved positive results with the population of elephants increasing steadily.
	• **Egypt** made efforts in 2008 to save a few endangered species through captive breeding (e.g., Oryxdammah, Arabian Oryx (four new births), Caracal, porcupine). The Cheetah was introduced for the first time in 40 years, in addition to breeding the fourth generation of the Egyptian Gazelle. The number of African turtles is also growing, with the total having reached 1,469 compared with 113 previously, representing 17 species. As well, medicinal plants, acacia trees, El Ombet and mangroves were cultivated successfully in several protected areas.
	• **Georgia –** a reintroduction programme is being implemented for goitered gazelle and a programme being implemented to restore the wild goat population.
	• **Germany –** has successfully restored the population of wolves and sturgeons.
	• **Iraq –** is restoring the Mesopotamian marshland which is an important wintering ground for many Eurasian bird species.
	• **Mauritius –** began a restoration programme in 1984 with the removal of non-native plant species on Ile aux Aigrettes and the eradication of rats, cats and mongooses. Several endemic and critically endangered species were subsequently reintroduced to the island. Since the start of the project nearly 90% of the island has been weeded and replanted with native plants. The reintroduction of native fauna has been largely successful and has contributed significantly to stabilizing waning populations of important and critically endangered species.
	• **Pakistan –** with the support of IUCN, WWF and other partners, the country has been implementing a rehabilitation programme for degraded mangroves since 1997. So far 6.5 million seedlings and a network of container plants nurseries have been established. Some species have been reintroduced to bring genetic variation and vibrant sustainability of plants and larger ecosystems. Some virgin estuarine areas have created new world records for high growth rates of mangroves. Pakistan has also implemented a reintroduction programme for two protected turtle species.
	• **Oman –** is implementing a mangrove transplantation project to enhance existing mangrove vegetation or reforest bare lagoons, with evident signs of regeneration of mangroves in many areas. Oman is also implementing a coral reef restoration project by transplanting artificial coral balls and cleaning up the environment to reduce risks caused by abandoned fishing nets and diving activities.
	• **Mozambique – With** the support of the African Development Bank, the EU and IUCN, biodiversity is being recovered in the Gorongosa

	National Park where there were large populations of wildlife including endemic plants but the civil war in the mid 1970s led to the killing of many animals. Efforts have been made since 1992 to resume the park status as area of outstanding biodiversity value, and now the park is rehabilitated through recovering destroyed infrastructure, reintroducing some species and recruiting specialized staff for management.
	• **Ukraine –** there are some regional programmes on the restoration of commercially important fish species, such as salmon in the Tisa River Basin.
	• **India –** has special flagship programmes for the conservation of tiger, elephant and snow leopard. These operate on a large landscape and have led to the recovery of these species and conservation of their habitats. India currently has 37 tiger reserves and 26 elephant reserves.
	• **Thailand –** implemented a marine turtle nursery and breeding project to restore its wild population. In 2007, 580 baby green turtles, 104 baby leatherback turtles and 93 baby olive ridley turtles were bred and released to the sea at different time periods.
2.2: Status of threatened species improved	• **Mongolia –** The Government of Mongolia has implemented several measures to reintroduce the Przewalski Horse into its natural habitat in Mongolia. As of 2007, approximately 300 heads of Przewalski Horse have been released into three different regions. While the species is still listed as critically endangered, the population is increasing.
	• **Ireland –** The Roseate Tern is the rarest breeding seabird in northern Europe and is listed in Annex I to the EU Birds Directive and in Appendix II of the Berne Convention as well as the Bonn Convention. In 1988, Rickabill Island, located off north County Dublin was designated as a Special Protection Area under the EU Bird Directive and a Statutory Refuge for Fauna under the 1976 Wildlife Act. When the lighthouse keepers left the island in 1989, a conservation NGO and the State cooperated to secure the Rockabill Island for the terns. Birdwatch Ireland carries out wardening and monitoring of Rockabill. As a result the number of Roseate Tern nests has increased from 152 in 1989 ro a peak of 1,052 nests in 2009.
	• **Singapore –** Its species recovery programme places high priority on species that are recorded as endangered in the second edition of the Singapore Red Data Book (2008). The erection of artificial nest-boxes has resulted in facilitating the successful breeding of the Oriental Pied Hornbill in several parts of the country. Habitats suitable for dragonflies have been enhanced and created in several parks, hence increasing the species diversity and the dragonfly population.
	• **Guyana –** The population of the Arapaima (which decreased markedly in 2001 due to overharvesting and illegal exploitation) has increased significantly today as a result of a ban on harvesting to allow the stock to replenish as well as due to collaborative management of natural resources with local organizations and communities. From fish counts in January 2004, 1170 Arapaima were counted, compared with 450 estimated in 2001.
	• **El Salvador –** A permanent ban was imposed in 2009 on the use of eggs and other derived products from sea turtles. In addition this year a million sea turtle babies were released. This has helped improve the status of sea turtles.

	• **United Kingdom –** The review of priority species and habitats resulted in 123 species no longer meeting the criteria for selection on the revised list. In some, but not all, cases this was a result of conservation action. Species such as the Devil's bolete (*Boletus satanas*) and the Killarney fern (*Trichomanes speciosum*) were removed from this list because of successful conservation efforts.
Goal 3. Promote the conservation of genetic diversity	
3.1: Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.	• **Lithuania –** There are over 8,000 plant specimens contained in Lithuanian botanical gardens, parks and research stations and a plant gene back contains more than 2,280 plant seed specimens.
	• **Tunisia** – In 2007 a national gene bank was created as a means of promoting research on agricultural biodiversity. The bank identifies and collects endemic as well as introduced species, and helps to reintroduce extinct species from seeds held in foreign gene banks. The bank currently has 1600 cereal crop and 10000 other accessions.
	• **Kenya –**The Kenya Forestry Seed Centre was established in 1985 to provide certificated, high-quality treed seeds. Seed collection is carried out by a network of eight collection centres distributed in all ecological zones of Kenya. The seeds are obtained from selected and established tree stands of both exotic and indigenous species. The Centre has over 4,000 kg of clean seeds annually from more than 120 different species. KFSC holds the national forestry genetic collection in the form of bulk seed to meet seed demand for tree planting programmes.
	• **Algeria –** In 2008, as part of rural development projects, 173 pilot farms were reoriented towards the conservation and promotion of genetic resources of local breeds (in particular, Ouled Djellal sheep). A national committee has been established to promote local varieties of olives, dates and figs. Hunting centers have been established in which endemic species threatened with extinction are raised.
	• **Egypt –** Due to the importance of conserving Sinai's unique genetic resources and biodiversity, the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs has established a Botanical Peace Garden in Sharm El-Sheikh in which genetic resources of medical and aromatic plants of the South Sinai governorate have been collected and raised since 2006.
	• **Nepal –** A Community Seed Bank for enhancing local seed security has been established with the participation of local communities in Kachorwa. The seed bank collects and identifies available seeds of landraces and stores them. To date, 60 landraces of rice, 5 of sponge gourd, 3 of pigeon pea and 2 of finger millet seeds, have been collected and stored in the seed house.
	• **United Kingdom –** The Millennium Seed Bank Project, hosted by the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, is the largest *ex situ* conservation project ever conceived. Its partners will have banked seed from 10% of the world's wild plant species by the end of the decade. These will include the rarest, most threatened and most useful species known to man.
	• **Bangladesh –** Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute, Rice Research Institute and Jute Research Institute maintain gene banks. About 6,249 accessions of rice, 5,631 accessions of jute, 565 accessions of wheat, 1,750 accessions of pulses, 604 accessions of oil seeds, 3,522 accessions

	of vegetable and 158 accessions of species have been stored in the BARI gene bank.
	• **Viet Nam -** The national plant gene bank preserves 12,307 varieties of 115 species, many of which are indigenous with unique features.

Focal Area: Promote sustainable use

Goal 4. Promote sustainable use and consumption.	
4.1: Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity.	• **Morocco –** A co-management agreement between the High Commission for Water, Forests and to Combat Desertification (*Haut Commissariat aux Eaux et Forêts et à la Lutte Contre la Désertification)* and a women's cooperative was established in the Eastern region of the country related to wild rosemary. As part of the agreement the cooperative has the right to use and sell extracts and essential oils extracted from 22,000 hectares of wild rosemary in exchange for sustainably exploiting the resource and allowing sufficient time for its recovery.
	• **Sweden –** The Swedish Board of Fisheries has started a co-management programme for the fishing industry based in Vättern, the second largest lake in Sweden. The aim of the project is to reach long-term sustainable fishing in the lake. The co-management project is carried out under the auspices of the Lake Vättern Society of Water Conservation, in which municipalities, companies, and county administration boards participate. The work undertaken as part of this programme include, amongst other things, an analysis and possible adaptation of fishing guidelines for the lake, the production of information brochures, and the evaluation of no-fishing zones in the lake. This programme is one of 6 co-management pilot projects commissioned by the government.
	• **Russian Federation –**"model forests" have been established in different regions of the country to promote sustainable forest management.
	• **United Kingdom –** During the 1990s the percentage of fish stocks considered to be harvested sustainably was around 10 per cent. In 2000, it was 5 per cent, but has increased to 25 per cent in 2007.
	• **New Zealand –** has 1.8 million hectares of planted forests and 44% of the planted forest estate is Forest Stewardship Council certified, which also provide habitats for some indigenous species, thereby supporting the vital conservation of biodiversity role of indigenous forest ecosystems.
	• **Finland –** Almost all Finnish forests are PEFC certified. The Finnish FFCS forest certification system has criteria that focus on safeguarding habitat and species diversity.
	• **South Africa –** 80% of commercial forest plantations in the country are managed according to Forestry Stewardship Council standards.
	• **Czech Republic –** 7.36% of all agricultural land is devoted to organic agriculture. The country has set an objective of increasing the share of organic agricultural land to at least 10% by 2010. If current trends persist this target will be met.
4.2: Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that	• **Morocco –** A co-management programme in the Kenitra region related to wood resources was established. The co-management agreement allows local co-ops to manage the wood resources and in its first year reduced illegal logging by 98%.

impacts upon biodiversity, reduced.	• **Lao PDR –** Strict control of massive destruction equipment/tools for collecting or harvesting biodiversity resources is clearly provided in national related laws and regulations such as Forestry Law, Wildlife Law and Environment Law.
	• **Sri Lanka –** As part of the National Forest Policy (1995) and National Wildlife Policy (2000) a moratorium on state mediated logging of all Wet Zone forests was introduced in the 1990s. As a result most of the logged forests in the Wet Zone are now regenerating.
	• **The Netherlands –** Progress is being made, though slow, in reducing international footprints and biodiversity loss by making product chains more sustainable.
	• **Tanzania –** As a result of implementation of the Strategy on National Integrated Coastal Management, pressure on coastal resources has been reduced through alternative income generating activities such as sea weed, paprika and fish farming, and beekeeping projects.
	• **Egypt –** Diving and tourism have been putting significant pressure on the coral reefs along the Egyptian Red Sea coast. Measures implemented to reduce damage to coral reefs included creating and maintaining over 1500 fixed moorings (to reduce damage caused by anchor dropping), patrolling and tourist monitoring, enhanced law enforcement and reviewing EIAs. The recent data show that in some Red Sea reef areas, living coral cover increased by 15% from 2001-2009.
	• **Armenia –** The prevalence of illegal logging has been reduced over the last few years. In 2003 it was estimated that 42 236 trees were illegally felled in the country while in 2008 the number of illegally harvested trees was 2080.
4.3: No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade.	• **Turkmenistan** – Prohibiting the export of snakes for the last 15 years allowed for the populations of the Central-Asian cobra *(Naja oxiana)* and lebetina viper *(Macrovipera lebetina)* to increase two-fold and it has been proposed to reclassify them from "rare and disappearing species" to "restored species".
	• **Dominica** – The population of the endemic Imperial Parrot (*Amazona imperialis)* has increased to some 250 mature individuals from a previous low, in 1993, of just 80 to 100 individuals. If the current increasing population trend continues the species will eventually be down listed from endangered to vulnerable. The species is listed under Appendices I and II of CITES.
	• **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines –** Trade in wild species is monitored through trade licenses and mandatory inspections of all imports and exports of terrestrial and marine species.

Focal Area: Address threats to biodiversity	
Goal 5. Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.	
5.1: Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased.	• **Madagascar** has reduced the rate of decline of several forest types in the country. The rate of loss of humid forests has been reduced from 0.79% per year (1990-2000) to 0.35% (2000– 2005). Similarly loss of dry forests has been reduced from 0.7% per year to 0.42% per year, over the same time periods, while the decline of mangrove forests, which was occurring at a rate of 0.17% in the 1990s, has been stopped altogether.
	• **Algeria –** A programme for the preservation of steppe areas regenerated 15% of this ecosystem. This is being complemented by a pasture planting programme that covered 248,000 ha between 2001and 2007.
	• **Czech Republic –** Forest area is increasing by 0.07% annually and currently covers 33.7% of the country's total area. In forest areas spruce and pine are declining but beech, oak, ash and maple are increasing.
	• **Brazil –** The most recent satellite data show that annual deforestation of the Brazilian portion of the Amazon has slowed very significantly, from a peak of more than 27,000 square kilometres in 2003-2004 to just over 7,000 square kilometres in 2008-2009, the lowest rate recorded in more than 20 years of monitoring. Preliminary indications based on monthly observations suggest that this declining trend has continued for 2009-2010.
	• **China** has witnessed the continuous growth of forest resources (forest cover increased from 8.6% in 1949 to a current coverage of 18.21%).
	• **Central African Republic –** The rate of degradation of natural habitats caused by fires has been reduced thanks to national and local radio awareness campaigns.
	• **Ecuador –** Initiatives such as the Chongon Colonche Project have helped to lower the deforestation rate. In 1990 and 2000, the annual deforestation rate was at 2.39%. In 2005, the deforestation rate in the forest areas was lower than 0.5%.
	• **Zambia –** Poaching of elephants was reduced and the elephant population increased by 20% from what was reported in the third national report.
	• **Philippines –** Forest cover has increased from 23.9% of the total land area in 2003 to 52.6% in 2006.
Goal 6. Control threats from invasive alien species.	
6.1: Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled.	• **Norway –** In 2006 an action plan to prevent the escape of farmed fish was developed. The plan contains 30 actions, including double securing fish hatchery drains and regulating the mesh size of nets, to reduce farmed fish entering the environment.
	• **Ghana** is participating in a regional Invasive Alien Species program together with **Zambia**, **Ethiopia** and **Uganda**. It has made progress in identifying and controlling 4 plant invasive species in the country.
	• **Sweden** has put in place a high level of protection against invasive alien species. Most intentional releases of alien species are strictly regulated, and risk analysis and permit systems are in place.

	• **Malaysia** – A National Action Plan for invasive alien species has been finalized. The Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services controls 52 entry points to prevent the introduction of invasive alien species.
6.2: Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.	• **Australia –** Bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *rotundata*) is a highly invasive coastal shrub of South African origin, which has invaded 900 kilometres of the New South Wales coastline. Bitou bush has been declared a weed of national significance, a noxious weed, and a Key Threatening Process in New South Wales. The NSW Bitou Bush Threat Abatement Plan identifies priorities for management independent of land tenure by prioritizing the species at greatest risk from bitou bush and the sites where its control is most critical.
	• **Italy –** Article 12 of the amended Decree of the President of the Republic forbids introduction of any alien species. The guidelines for introducing fauna provided by the Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea contain specific measures for preventing and controlling IAS.
	• **Estonia –** Estonia uses both control measures and information gathering and monitoring to mitigate the impacts of Giant Hogweed, an invasive plant introduced for ornamental purposes in the 1950s.
Goal 7. Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.	
7.1: Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change	• **Australia -** In 2008, the Australian Government committed $200 million over five years to the Great Barrier Reef Rescue Programme. This funding will be used to address the impacts of declining water on reef health by helping farmers to further reduce nutrients, chemicals and sediments leaving their land. Further 180,000 hectares of the land across the Great Barrier Reef Catchments have been protected as a means of improving the water quality reaching the reef. By reducing the amount of land-based pollutants entering the Great Barrier Reef ecosystem, the reef will be given a chance to regain its inbuilt natural resilience and ability to cope with the impacts of climate change.
	• **Antigua and Barbuda –** A project is being implemented in the McKinnon Pond located in its Northwest Coast to restore its flood mitigation and other functions and biodiversity so as to mitigate climate change impacts.
7.2: Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity	• **The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia –** As a result of banning the use of phosphorous in detergent, the extension of water treatment, new treatment technologies and new agricultural measures the nitrate, heavy metal and phosphorous loads found in water systems has decreased and water quality has improved.
	• **Liechtenstein –** Extensive measures have been implemented to minimize water pollution. In addition to waste water treatment, the entry of nutrients from agriculture has been reduced due to implementation of legal provisions concerning livestock and natural fertilizer storage, organic farming and extensive cultivation of stream shoulders without fertilizers and pesticides.
	• **Denmark –** From 1990 to 2007 average nitrogen atmospheric emissions on Danish land and sea areas fell by 32%. The government's Green Growth of 2009 set more stringent requirements with regard to the discharge of ammonia in order to protect especially sensitive habitats from nitrogen.

	• **European Union –** Though all European countries have nitrogen surpluses, overall agricultural nitrogen surpluses have fallen. The adoption of nutrient management plans and environmental farm plans has been instrumental in achieving this reduction.
Focal Area: Maintain goods and services from biodiversity to support human well-being	
Goal 8. Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods	
8.1: Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained	• **Vietnam – A** green corridor was established in the forest belt linking Phong Dien Nature Reserve and Bach Ma National Park. The corridor covers an area of approximately 130,000 hectares and includes both medium and lowland mountains. The forest corridor was established to protect part of the Huong River's watershed, which provides environmental services for the fishery sector and by way of flooding reduction. As part of the project economic incentives are provided to local stakeholders to encourage them to actively participate in natural forest management and biodiversity conservation.
	• **Belgium –** The fragmentation of watercourses by weirs and sluices, together with the degradation of water and habitat quality, is an important problem for the conservation of aquatic species. In 1996 the Benelux countries (Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg) announced their intention of achieving free fish migration in all water catchments by 2010. The Flemish Environmental Policy Plan aimed to achieve free fish migration within a priority network of 3000 km that comprises the most important breeding sites and migration routes. An evaluation shows that restoration is in progress. By the end of 2007, 116 of the 796 barriers along this network had been dealt with. Meanwhile migratory fish species are recovering slightly.
	• **Australia –** The Great Eastern Ranges Initiative is a programme designed to help people, plants and animals adapt to future environmental threats by maintaining, improving and reconnecting 'islands' of natural vegetation along the great eastern ranges which have become isolated because of development. In the state of New South Wales the ranges are a source of clean water for more three quarters of Australians, contain the catchment for the most reliable rainfall in eastern Australia, harbour two thirds of New South Wales's vulnerable and endangered plant and animal species as well as provide a multitude of other cultural and socio-economic benefits.
8.2: Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained.	• **Afghanistan –** With the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Kingdom a sustainable agricultural and livelihoods project was initiated in Eastern Hazarajat from 2003 to 2008. The project sought to reduce conflict and confusion regarding pasture ownership, a major cause of land degradation, and resulted in approximately 157,000 hectares of pasture being brought under community based pasture management.
	• **Cameroon –** The Heifer Project, which operates in 5 provinces in the Republic, practically demonstrates appropriate techniques for conserving and managing various forms of biodiversity. In 2003 they succeeded in assisting over 10 000 resource limited families through placements of various species of livestock (dairy cattle, pigs, goats, sheep, rabbits, poultry, snails, bees and fish) and by providing training, production material and technical support.

	• **Malawi** has made significant progress in documenting wild plants used for food and medicine in collaboration with communities and traditional healers with a view to come up with strategies for sustainable harvesting and propagation of medicinal plants. A traditional medicine policy and a draft Traditional Healers Bill have been prepared, both of which provide for conservation of biodiversity and preservation of indigenous knowledge. In addition, a Plant Breeders Bill, sent for approval by Parliament, also promotes preservation of indigenous knowledge and the sharing of benefits from farmers' innovations.
	• **South Africa –** Biodiversity stewardship programmes are being implemented in several provinces. The ultimate goal of these programmes is to safeguard threatened habitats and create secure biodiversity corridors within production landscapes by keeping people on the land and involving them in the conservation of these threatened habitats. Biodiversity stewardship is particularly advanced in the Western Cape Province where 40 Contract Nature Reserves, 12 Biodiversity Agreements and 19 Conservation Areas have been secured through the Stewardship Programme.
	• **Samoa** engages local villages Councils of Chiefs to assume leadership, using village by-laws to enforce bans on the use of unsustainable fishing methods and closed 'no-fishing' zones for rebuilding stocks and marine ecosystem rehabilitation. Over seventy (70) village based fisheries reserves are functional according to latest reports. There is also an increasing use of a more integrated Ecosystem Approach to the management of community fisheries reserves project, with actions to reduce land based pollution enforced by many communities.
Focal Area: Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices	
Goal 9 Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities	
9.1 Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices	• **Côte d'Ivoire –** An inventory of traditional knowledge related to the protection of forests and sacred sites has been established.
	• **Norway** – The "Arbediehtu" project was established in 2008 to develop suitable methods to record the traditional knowledge of the Sami People and to develop capacities and methods for its collection.
	• **Malaysia –** The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre started a *Traditional Knowledge Documentation Programme* in 2001. The main objective of the Traditional Knowledge Documentation Programme is to facilitate local indigenous communities in the State in preserving their traditional knowledge through recording or documenting techniques, capacity building workshops, and the propagation and management of useful indigenous plants. The project also encourages local indigenous communities to cultivate useful indigenous plants for their own uses.
	• **Benin –** The Paptia Botanical Garden is based on the traditional medicine knowledge of the Peuls people. The garden is the result of cooperation between the Peuls community, non-governmental organizations, other organizations and the local community, to capitalize on traditional knowledge related to biodiversity conservation. The garden contains 103 woody and 60 riparian species used in traditional medicine.

	• **Belize –** The Toledo Healthy Forest Initiative is being implemented to involve indigenous communities in the sustainable management of forest resources, while assisting in poverty alleviation of these communities. Several important CBOs have been established to promote indigenous rights and to maintain cultural identity. Ixchel has been instrumental in recording and preserving traditional sustainable use practices and identification of species and application of different medicinal plants.
	• **Colombia –** National Park Indiwasi Alto Fragua, Flora Sanctuary Orito Ingi Ande and Apaporis Yaigoge National Park have been declared to protect traditional and ancestral knowledge through co-management projects involving indigenous communities.
	• **Sweden –** During 2007 the Sami initiative was jointly launched. It is an initiative on the documentation and maintenance of traditional ecological knowledge from a Sami perspective. Two sets of Sami 'grassroots' pilot projects on community-based documentation on traditional Sami land tenure and use of biological resources have been initiated.
	• **South Africa** has an Indigenous Knowledge Systems Policy through which it compensates indigenous people for their effort to conserve and protect biodiversity.
9.2: Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing	• **Madagascar –** there has been approximately 500 transfers of natural resource management to local communities, covering an area of about 178,000 hectares.
	• **Canada –** The Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement, negotiated between the Government of Canada, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and four regional Inuit associations, allows for the creation of three new national wildlife areas on Baffin Island. The agreement provides for the preparation of Cultural Resources Inventories, supporting the development of interpretative materials and management plans for the ten existing and three proposed protected areas in the Nunavut Settlement Area, and will identify Inuktitut place names for these areas. Co-management and collaborative opportunities promote conservation and sustainable use through the inclusion of critical Inuit tradition ecological knowledge in the development of any management plan
	• **St Lucia –** The Heritage Tourism Programme, by involving all relevant stakeholders, particularly local communities, has brought benefits to local communities and contributed to the halting of the erosion of species and genetic diversity. This is done through the establishment of co-management agreements and enhancing the rights of communities and promoting their active involvement in management.
	• **Guyana** enacted the Amerindian Act in 2006 which recognizes and protects traditional and customary rights to titled lands. After the State, the Amerindians are the second largest legal land holders in the country, with approximately 14% of Guyana's total land mass.
	• **Mexico –** The Program of Indigenous Peoples and the Environment 2007-2012 aims to ensure that indigenous people have equal access to and fair distribution of benefits, and get involved in the implementation of the customary regulatory systems related to the sustainable use and management of natural resources and associated traditional knowledge.

Focal Area: Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources	
Goal 10. Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources	
10.1: All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements.	• **Uganda –** In 2005 the country, as part of the National Environment Act, introduced specific regulations on the access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing. The act sets out procedures for access to genetic resources for scientific research, commercial purposes, bioprospecting, conservation or industrial applications; provides for the sharing of benefits derived from genetic resources; and promotes the sustainable management and utilization of genetic resources, thereby contributing to conservation of biological resources in the country.
	• **Croatia –** The Nature Protection Act provides for fair and equitable use of research and development results arising from the use of genetic resources, and prevents anyone from becoming an owner of genetic material created from genetic material of wildlife taxa.
	• **South Africa** regulates access to genetic resources through the Biodiversity Act and ABS regulations.
	• **Sri Lanka –** The existing laws governing wild biodiversity is a control based regime rather than an open access regime which precludes access without PIC and MAT. Detailed guidelines for ABS have been developed, and National Policy for ABS and Plant Breeders' Rights Act have been proposed.
	• **Australia –** In 2004, the Australian state of Queensland enacted the *Biodiscovery Act 2004*. The Act provides for streamlined, sustainable access to Queensland's native biological resources while returning a fair and equitable benefit to the community. This means that, if the genetic code of a native plant or animal species from Queensland is used to develop a new medicine or industrial product, for example, a portion of the profits are returned to the state. The Biodiscovery Act seeks to create legal certainty for biodiscovery organizations; to ensure ecologically sound and sustainable collection activities; to provide an equitable sharing of benefits for all Queenslanders; and encourage value-added research and commercialization.
10.2: Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources.	• **Ethiopia –** In 2006, a British company, Vernique Biotech, signed a 10 year agreement with the Ethiopian Government to have access to *Vernonia (Vernonia galamensis),* a tall weed endemic to Ethiopia, the oil of which is being investigated for its possible use as a "green chemical" in the production of plastic compounds. As part of the deal, Vernique Biotech will pay a combination of license fees, royalties and a share of its profits to the Ethiopian Government.

Focal Area: Ensure provision of adequate resources	
Goal 11: Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention	
11.1: New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20.	• **United Kingdom –** The Darwin Initiative is a small grants programme that aims to promote biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of resources around the world. It seeks to share UK expertise and each application for funding support must have a UK and foreign partner organisation. Since 1992, the initiative has committed £73m to 644 projects in 149 countries, involved over 200 British institutions and partnered with 764 organizations in host nations.
	• **Denmark's** international development assistance supports projects that encourage nature and biodiversity conservation and are consistent with the CBD 2010 target. The priority issues identified for support include sustainable forest management, linking biodiversity conservation with climate change mitigation and adaption, networking protected areas and prevention of invasive alien species. In 2005 Danish development assistance totalled DDK 12.6 billion corresponding to 0.81% of GNI.
	• **European Union –** The dense humid forests of Central Africa represent the second largest block of rainforest on earth, after the Amazon, and harbour an incredible diversity of wildlife, including many rare apes. Since 1992, the European Commission has been supporting a major regional forest conservation initiative, the ECOFAC Programme, covering six countries in West Africa. As a result of the project, some 28,000km² of forests are now being managed as functioning protected areas. ECOFAC has also devoted considerable resources to providing alternative sources of revenue as a way of reducing hunting pressure on wildlife populations.
	• **Germany –** ODA-relevant commitments for biodiversity increased by 68% from 125 million EURO in 2007 to 210 million EUROS in 2008.
11.2: Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4).	• **Mali** in partnership with the Millennium Seed Bank developed the "Unité de Semences Forestières (USF) et Herbier", Mail's first seed facility. The USF allows for easier access to quality seeds.
	• **Japan** – The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) organizes a number of training courses in which it invites participants from developing countries to Japan and provides lectures and field studies on such topics as protected areas, coral reef conservation, and wetland conservation.
