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SHORT-TERM ACTION PLAN (2017-2020) TO ENHANCE AND SUPPORT CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1.   The Convention on Biological Diversity requires Parties to establish and maintain programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components and provide support for such education and training for the specific needs of developing countries (Article 12, paragraph (a)). It also requires Parties to promote technical and scientific cooperation with other Parties, in particular developing countries, in the implementation of the Convention and in doing so to give special attention to the development and strengthening of national capabilities, by means of human resources development and institution building (Article 18, paragraphs 1 and 2) and the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies (Article 18, paragraph 4). Furthermore, it calls for establishment of a clearing-house mechanism to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation (Article 18, paragraph 3).

2.   At its previous meetings, the Conference of the Parties has adopted a number of decisions inviting Parties, relevant organizations and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) to implement a number of measures to enhance capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, and the use of available mechanisms and advanced technologies, including the clearing-house mechanism, to support and facilitate the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of its Aichi Biodiversity Targets.[1]

3.   The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, adopted in decision X/2, also recognizes that reversing the current rate of biodiversity loss requires multiple actions, including the enhancement of support mechanisms for capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and access to financial and technical resources. Accordingly, it calls for the development of global and regional capacity-building programmes to provide technical support and facilitate peer-to-peer exchange; partnerships and cooperation with various organizations; development of a biodiversity knowledge network comprising a database and networks of experts and practitioners; and development and strengthening of national clearing-house

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[1] Relevant decisions include decisions XI/2; XII/2 B; X/33, para. 8; XII/15, para. 3; XI/16, para. 5; XII/19, para. 5; XI/1 D, para. 1; XII/16, para. 9 (a-b); XI/18; IX/30; X/15; X/31, para. 7; XI/24, para. 10; and XII/3, paras. 30, 31 and 32.

mechanism nodes linked to the central clearing-house mechanism to facilitate access to and exchange of information, knowledge, expertise and experience.

4.   In its decision XII/2 B, the Conference of the Parties recognized the importance of a coherent and mutually supportive approach to capacity-building, exchange of information, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer under the Convention and its Protocols and requested the Executive Secretary to, inter alia, continue promoting and facilitating activities to strengthen the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and in particular targets where implementation has been weak.

5.   Furthermore, in paragraph 8 of the above decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to undertake (i) an evaluation of the effectiveness of capacity-building activities that the Secretariat has supported and facilitated, including recommendations on how to further integrate the needs expressed by Parties using participatory approaches; (ii) a review of related partnership arrangements and opportunities for delivery; and (iii) an analysis of the gaps in capacity-building activities supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and, building on these elements, develop a short-term action plan to enhance and support capacity-building, especially for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, and to convene an expert group to examine the proposed short-term action plan prior to its submission to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for consideration at its first meeting.

6.   Pursuant to the above decision, the Executive Secretary conducted an online survey in December 2015 to evaluate the effectiveness of capacity-building activities facilitated and/or supported by the Secretariat during the period 2013-2015. The Executive Secretary also reviewed existing partnership arrangements and opportunities for delivery of capacity-building support to Parties and indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs). He also analysed the gaps in capacity-building activities supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, based on the information provided by Parties in their fifth national reports, national biodiversity strategies and actions plans (NBSAPs) and national capacity self-assessment (NCSA) reports. The results of the survey, the existing partnerships and the gap analysis are presented in information document UNEP/CBD/SBI/I/INF/29.

7.   The present action plan is based on the analysis of gaps in capacity-building activities supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and also takes into account the results of the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Secretariat's capacity-building activities as well as the review of existing partnership arrangements and opportunities for delivery of capacity-building support. It also incorporates the input from the online discussions of the expert group held from 8 to 17 February 2016[2] and relevant information contained in other documents prepared by the Executive Secretary for the twentieth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 20) and the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 1). It also takes into account the outcomes of a scoping exercise that was done for the Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI) through a series of consultations about the needs for technical and scientific cooperation and the potential synergies and possible duplication with other initiatives.[3]

8.   The document describes the current situation and the rationale for intervention (section II), the core principles to guide the capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation efforts (section III), the overall strategic framework for the action plan (section IV), the means of implementation (section V) and how the action plan will be monitored and evaluated (section VI). A list of cross-cutting activities to be implemented by the Secretariat in collaboration with relevant organizations to provide general support tools and services that will facilitate the substantive capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation activities is presented in the annex. The substantive capacity-building and technical and

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[2] Details of the online discussion are available on the clearing-house mechanism at
http://www.cbd.int/mechanisms/capacitybuilding.shtml.

[3] For more details, see UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6.

scientific cooperation activities relating to the different Aichi Biodiversity Targets and to the operational objectives of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety are presented in document UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/38. Those activities are based on the mandate given to the Executive Secretary in previous decisions of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the two Protocols. Some of the activities are already being implemented and will be continued during the period 2017-2020. The list may be updated in light of experience gained and any further guidance that may be provided by future meetings of the Conference of the Parties or as otherwise as necessary.

II. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS AND BASIS FOR ACTION

9.   The fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* (GBO-4), a mid-term assessment of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, concluded that while encouraging steps had been taken towards achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan and some of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, it was clear that substantially greater efforts were required to meet most targets. The report noted that this would require implementing a package of measures, including further capacity-building support, especially for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition. GBO-4 further noted that partnerships would be required at all levels to leverage broad-scale actions, to garner the necessary ownership and foster synergies in the national implementation of various multilateral environmental agreements.

10.   In their national capacity self-assessments (NCSAs), which were conducted between 2003 and 2010 with support from UNDP-GEF,[4] many countries noted that effective implementation of the Convention was hindered mostly by limited capacities, financial and technical resources and a lack of information.[5] Over 45 per cent of the 119 countries whose NCSA reports were analysed called for capacity-building support to deal with the following issues as a priority: deforestation, habitat damage, endangered species, invasive alien species, biosafety, sustainable use, and access and benefit-sharing (ABS). Ninety-five countries (80 per cent) identified the following cross-cutting issues as their highest priorities: public awareness, environmental education, and information management and exchange; development and enforcement of policy and regulatory frameworks; strengthening of institutional mandates, structures and frameworks; incorporation of the Convention obligations into national legislation, policy and institutions; sustainable financing; cross-sectoral coordination; and capacity for planning, monitoring and evaluation.

11.   The analysis of gaps[6] in capacity-building activities supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, conducted by the Secretariat pursuant to paragraph 8 (d) of decision XII/2 B, shows that currently Aichi Biodiversity Targets 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 19 are the least supported by existing capacity-building activities and materials.

12.   In terms of capacity-building delivery, a report prepared for the Secretariat in 2014 by Globaltronique, Inc., noted that capacity-building efforts of the Secretariat consisted of many small, discrete short-term activities, many of which were implemented in an uncoordinated and non-complementary manner. The report observed that the approach had undermined the impact of the Secretariat's capacity-building efforts. The Secretariat has since taken a number of measures to address the identified gaps and weaknesses.

13.   The present action plan responds to the above capacity-building needs and gaps. It includes a set of core capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation activities to be implemented in an

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[4] The funding was provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

[5] See the NCSA synthesis report and the individual country NCSAs at https://www.thegef.org/gef/ncsa.

[6] The gap analysis is presented in documents UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6 and UNEP/CBD/SBI/I/INF/29.

integrated and coordinated manner over the period 2017-2020 in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020. The action plan underlines the importance of collaborative partnerships at the national, regional and international levels.

14.   The action plan complements capacity-building strategic frameworks and action plans developed under the Convention, namely: the strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and the Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative. It also seeks to contribute, as appropriate, to the implementation of other global initiatives and plans, such as the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building, [7] the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development (GAP),[8] and the Sustainable Development Goals (Targets 4.7 and 17.9).[9]

III.   GUIDING PRINCIPLES

15.   The capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation activities set out in this action plan should, as appropriate:

        (a)   Be demand-driven and responsive to the specific needs and priorities identified by Parties and indigenous peoples and local communities;

        (b)   Use a "building blocks" approach to ensure that the activities complement, and do not duplicate, previous efforts;

        (c)   Be linked with, or integrated into, broader programmatic initiatives and not be implemented as one-off activities;

        (d)   Optimize the use of available financial, human and technical resources;

        (e)   Ensure broad and timely participation of relevant stakeholders in the design, implementation and evaluation of capacity-building activities;

        (f)   Be flexible and adaptive, emphasizing a learning-by-doing approach;

        (g)   Be results-oriented, focusing on demonstrable results and outcomes;

        (h)   Apply a train-the-trainer approach, where feasible;

        (i)   Promote collaboration and partnerships in the delivery at all levels;

        (j)   Ensure sustainability of the actions initiated.

IV.   STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

A. Strategic priorities

16.   In accordance with decisions XII/2 B and XI/2, the focus of the Secretariat's capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation support activities for the period 2017-2020 will be on strengthening the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. In implementing the action plan, the Secretariat will take into account targets where implementation progress has been weak (Targets 5, 8, 9, 10 and 12)[10] and targets that have not been

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[7] The Bali Strategic Plan, adopted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in 2004, contains various actions related to biodiversity: http://www.unep.org/GC/GC23/documents/GC23-6-add-1.pdf.

[8] See details about GAP at http://en.unesco.org/gap and http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002305/230514e.pdf.

[9] See https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300 and https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/capacity-building.

[10] According to the fifth national reports, Targets 5, 8, 9, 10, and 12 are lagging behind most.

covered by the Secretariat's capacity-building activities in any region (Targets 4, 7, 8 and 13). The Secretariat will also take into account targets that are least supported by the capacity-building activities and materials facilitated by the Secretariat (Targets 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 19).[11] Due regard will also be given to supporting the implementation of strategic objectives 1 and 2 of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020.

17.   In addition, the Secretariat will focus its efforts on the establishment/strengthening of key capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation support tools and services, including databases for capacity-building initiatives, resources and opportunities; the SCBD e-learning platform; the matchmaking mechanism (through the Bio-Bridge Initiative); a quality assurance system; and a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation activities, tools and materials supported or facilitated by the Secretariat in collaboration with partners.

B. Target audience

18.   The primary target audience of the capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation activities in this action plan are relevant government officials and institutions in developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities. The Secretariat will also encourage partner organizations, where feasible, to broaden the reach of the activities to cover key stakeholders outside government (including civil society, women's and youth groups, private sector, trade unions, and the academic and scientific community) who are involved in the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols or are playing a major catalytic role at the regional, national and local levels.

C. Strategic approaches

19.   As part of the functional review of the Secretariat, core functions with respect to capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and the clearing-house mechanism have been grouped under operational goal 3 of the Secretariat's medium-term operational results framework (UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/22). The Secretariat will continue to promote such an integrated and mutually supportive approach to capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and the use of the clearing-house mechanism. It will also further engage in partnerships with a view to fostering coordination, synergy and complementarity with relevant activities of other conventions, processes and initiatives, including the capacity-building programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA) and others.[12]

20.   The Secretariat will collaborate with partner organizations in the delivery of the action plan activities and will focus its efforts on facilitation and coordination roles, including overall planning and coordination of activities, training of trainers, quality control, facilitation of knowledge-sharing and peer-to-peer learning, matchmaking, and the monitoring and assessment of the impact of capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation activities.

21.   The Secretariat will continue to underline the importance of strengthening capacity at the individual, organizational and systems levels, broaden the capacity-building delivery methods and modalities (beyond workshops and provision of training materials), maximize the use of new information communication technologies to broaden e-learning opportunities, tailor capacity-building interventions more closely to country needs and priorities, and promote a more programmatic approach.

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[11] According to the analysis of gaps in capacity-building activities supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 done by the Secretariat, and presented in document UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/29, Targets 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 19 are the least covered by the capacity-building activities and materials supported and facilitated by the Secretariat.

[12] Further information about partnership initiatives that the Secretariat is engaged in is presented in document UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/29.

V. MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

22.   The action plan will be implemented through various means, including:

        (a)   Technical cooperation with regional and international partners: The Secretariat will establish and/or strengthen strategic partnerships with various regional and multilateral organizations and centres of excellence to leverage technical resources and expertise. Bilateral agencies could also support joint pilot projects or activities under such strategic partnerships;

        (b)   Joint initiatives: The Secretariat will collaborate with partner organizations in designing and implementing specific joint activities and programmes, such as delivery of training workshops/courses, design of e-learning activities, including Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), and development of training and guidance materials. These could be stand-alone interventions or part of broader projects and institutionalized programmes;

        (c)   Targeted pilot projects: The Secretariat will progressively develop and implement, in collaboration with partners, targeted pilot projects to facilitate experiential learning through practical hands-on activities and the sharing of knowledge based on empirical experience. It will also identify, in coordination with partner organizations, successful country projects or programmes that can provide on-site practical experience-sharing and learning by participants from other countries;

        (d)   Implementation of interoperability with websites and databases of Parties and partner organizations to facilitate automatic access to information on capacity-building and scientific and technical support tools and activities, including capacity-building initiatives, materials, e-learning modules, calendars of capacity-building events, and other information available on the respective sites;

        (e)   Bilateral and multilateral funding: Parties and development partners in a position to do so will be invited to provide voluntary funding to support the implementation of specific activities or groups of activities in the action plan. The action plan activities will also be more closely linked to relevant broader capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation initiatives or programmes supported by bilateral and multilateral agencies in order to promote synergies at the national and regional levels. Cooperation between the different donors and partner organizations will be crucial to enhancing the impact and sustainability of capacity-building activities and outputs.

VI. MONITORING AND REVIEW

23.   The implementation of the action plan will be monitored using the indicators for each activity. The Secretariat will prepare progress reports and make them available to Parties ahead of the second and third meetings of the SBI. The updates will highlight the main activities undertaken, the results achieved and the challenges encountered.

24.   An independent evaluation of the relevance and effectiveness of the action plan in facilitating and supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets will be carried out in 2020 and the report, including recommendations for improvement, will be submitted to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for its consideration.

Annex

**LIST OF CROSS-CUTTING CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION SUPPORT ACTIVITIES
TO BE CARRIED OUT DURING THE PERIOD 2017-2020**[13]

Activity	COP or COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Indicators	Responsibility/ partners[14]	Resources needed[15]
1. Develop online tools to enable Parties and IPLCs to assess and register their capacity-building (CB) and technical and scientific cooperation (TSC) needs in the clearing-house mechanism (CHM)	XII/2 B, XI/2	2017-2018	Common formats for capacity needs assessment and TSC assistance request forms are available online through the CHM; A repository (database) of CB and TSC needs expressed by Parties and IPLCs established	Number of Parties using the common format to assess and register their CB and TSC needs in the CHM; Number of Parties submitting requests for CB and TSC assistance; Number of expressed needs stored in the database	SCBD, BBI, IPBES, CTCN	Staff time (SCBD and BBI)[16]
2. Further develop and maintain the searchable databases for CB and TSC initiatives, resources and opportunities (including CB and TSC providers) in the CHM	XII/2 B, XI/2	2017-2018 Ongoing	Online searchable databases for CB and TSC initiatives, tools/resources and opportunities in the CHM populated and used by Parties; A database of CB and TSC providers is accessible to all Parties; At least 50 partners offering CB and TSC support and resources registered in the CHM	Number of records of CB and TSC initiatives, resources and opportunities registered; Number of downloads from the databases by Parties and other users; Number of partners that have their records in the databases	SCBD, BBI, CSP, etc.	Staff time (SCBD and BBI)
3. Further develop and maintain the SCBD e-learning platform (LMS) to facilitate the hosting, administration and delivery of e-learning courses/modules	XII/2 B, XI/2	2017-2018 Ongoing	A fully functional SCBD e-learning platform in place and actively used	Number of e-learning courses/ modules hosted on the platform; Number of people using the e-learning platform	SCBD, UNSSC	$62,300[17] Staff time

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[13] This list includes general cross-cutting activities to be implemented by the Secretariat in collaboration with relevant organizations to provide support tools and services that will facilitate the implementation of substantive capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation activities relating to different Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the operational objectives of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which are presented in document UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/38.

[14] Abbreviations and full names of the organizations and initiatives are provided at the end of the annex.

[15] The amounts in this column are only indicative at this stage.

[16] This includes SCBD staff as well as BBI personnel, including a BBI Programme Manager (at P-4 level) and a BBI Project Assistant (at G6 level) and consultants funded by the Government of the Republic of Korea, through the Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI).

[17] The Japan Biodiversity Fund (JBF) has provided $62,290 for the establishment and maintenance of a SCBD Learning Management System (LMS) to host the e-learning courses/modules until 2020. This was part of a larger project, which also supported the development of two e-learning modules on biosafety and three e-learning modules on access and benefit-sharing.

Activity	COP or COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Indicators	Responsibility/partners[14]	Resources needed[15]
4. Establish a help desk to support Parties in articulating their CB/TSC needs and elaborating their TSC projects and to coordinate the matching of requests for assistance with available TSC and CB support (resources, expertise and support tools)	XII/2 B, XI/2	2017-2018	A technical support unit (TSU) is established and serves as a help desk for Parties	Number of Parties using the help desk; Number of needs that the TSU has helped articulate	SCBD, BBI partners, GUPES network (UNEP), QCBS, CSPB	$600,000[18]
5. Establish and maintain a matchmaking mechanism to link the expressed needs to available TSC and capacity-building resources (partners or other resources)	Article 18; XI/2, XII/2 B	2017-2018 Ongoing	The TSU, supported by an online matchmaking mechanism, routes the expressed needs to relevant partners	Number of matchings completed; Number of TSC or CB projects launched after successful matchings	SCBD, BBI partners, IPBES, BES-Net, NBSAP Forum, CTCN	$1,000,000
6. Conduct matchmaking workshops and roundtables to link Parties with scientific and technical needs with the available support	Article 18; XI/2, XII/2 B	2017-2018 Ongoing	Parties are further supported in their process of finding adequate resources to fulfil their technical and scientific needs	Number of matchmaking workshops and roundtables conducted	SCBD	$500,000
7. Develop and maintain a support network for CB and TSC to facilitate the implementation of pilot CB and TSC projects and the future matchmaking initiatives	Article 18; XI/2, XII/2 B	2017-2020	A CB and TSC network is in place, ready to receive assistance requests from Parties through the matchmaking mechanism; At least 30 pilot CB and TSC projects implemented to test and refine the matchmaking mechanism and TSC approaches	Number of CB and TSC pilot projects successfully implemented; Number of agreements signed with the support network partners	SCBD, BBI, CSP, etc.	$4,000,000[19]

[18] The Government of the Republic of Korea, through the Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI), has pledged to provide up to 150k per year to support the operations of the Technical Support Unit, including costs for assisting Parties to articulate their needs and elaborate project proposals, as appropriate.

[19] It is estimated that up to $1 million will be needed per year to support pilot CB and TSC projects. Of this amount the Government of the Republic of Korea has pledged to provide up to $560k per year.

Activity	COP or COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Indicators	Responsibility/ partners[14]	Resources needed[15]
8. Develop and apply a quality assurance system for the CB and TSC activities, materials and tools developed or facilitated by the Secretariat in collaboration with partner organizations	XII/2 B, XI/2	2018-2020	Quality standards for CB and TSC activities, materials and tools established; standard operating procedures (SOPs) developed and applied across the board; The quality of CB and TSC activities, materials and tools enhanced	Number of activities, materials and tools examined against the set quality standards and improved; Percentage of participants rating highly the quality of CB and TSC activities, materials and tools	SCBD, UNDP, UNEP	Staff time (SCBD and BBI)
9. Establish a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system to assess the effectiveness of the CB and TSC activities, materials and tools, including the matchmaking mechanism, facilitated by the Secretariat in collaboration with partner organizations		2018-2020	A comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system and impact assessment; framework for CB and TSC activities, materials and tools established; Capacity-building and TSC activities, materials and tools are assessed and improved regularly; Capacity-building and matchmaking activities, materials and tools are responding effectively to the needs expressed by the Parties	Number of evaluations conducted; Percentage of participants rating highly the effectiveness of CB and TSC activities, materials and tools; Extent to which the Parties' needs expressed and stored in the database are adequately matched and addressed by the CB and TSC activities, materials and tools	SCBD, BBI partners	$100,000[20] Staff time (SCBD and BBI)
10. Develop and maintain a follow-up support system for alumni of CB and TSC activities supported or facilitated by the Secretariat in collaboration with partners	XII/2 B, XI/2	2017-2020	A database of alumni of past activities supported by the Secretariat established; An online alumni support network established through the CHM to facilitate networking and peer-to-peer exchanges and backstopping; Communities of practice on different thematic areas in place	Number of persons (alumni) actively participating in the alumni support network and peer-to-peer exchanges; Number of active communities of practice on different thematic areas	SCBD, IDLO, BBI, UNDP, UNEP	Staff time (SCBD and BBI)

[20] This amount will be used to hire a consultant to conduct an independent evaluation of the CB and TSC support programme over the four-year period.

Activity	COP or COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Indicators	Responsibility/partners[14]	Resources needed[15]
11. In collaboration with partners, develop a CBD fellowships and exchange programme to foster on-the-job training, peer-to-peer learning and experience-sharing among practitioners from Parties	XII/2 B, XI/2	2018-2020	A CBD fellowships and exchange programme is established and is effectively supporting on-the-job learning and experience-sharing	Number of people participating in the fellowships and exchange programme	UNEP, UNU-IAS, UNITAR, IPBES	$960,000[21] Staff time (SCBD and BBI)
12. Establish/strengthen partnerships with relevant education and training institutions and networks to support the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols	XII/2 B, XI/2	2018-2020	Education and training institutions and networks are actively involved in education, training and research activities relevant to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols	Number of active partnerships with education and training institutions and networks on biodiversity	Various education and training institutions and networks[22]	Staff time (SCBD and BBI)
13. Collaborate with relevant education and training institutions and organizations to develop online courses, including Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), on topics relevant to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols	XII/2 B, XI/2	2018-2020	At least 20 new online courses, including MOOCs, offered on topics relevant to the implementation Convention and its Protocols	Number of online courses on biodiversity-related topics offered; Number of people taking part in the online courses	GUPES network (UNEP), UNESCO, UNU-IAS and various education and training institutions and networks	$2,000,000[23]

[21] It is estimated that up to $240,000/year will be required to support at least 8 officials selected from developing country Parties through a competitive process to participate in short-term fellowship and exchange programmes, including at the CBD Secretariat, for on-the-job experiential learning.

[22] Examples include the Global Universities Partnership on Environment for Sustainability (GUPES), the Alliance of Iberoamerican University Networks for Sustainability and the Environment (ARIUSA), the Network for Environmental Training at Tertiary Level in Asia and the Pacific (NETTLAP) and others.

[23] It is estimated that the development each MOOC will on average require about US$ 100,000 plus in-kind contribution from the respective partner universities.

Activity	COP or COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Indicators	Responsibility/ partners[14]	Resources needed[15]
14. Collaborate with education and training institutions to develop other biodiversity-related learning materials	XII/2 B, XI/2	2018-2020	Additional high quality learning materials (including educational videos and other multimedia materials, presentations) relevant to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols are made available	Number of new on biodiversity-related education and training materials developed for self-paced learning and academic instruction	Various education / training institutions and networks	$600,000[24]

List of abbreviations used in the table

BBI – Bio-Bridge Initiative (http://www.cbd.int/biobridge)
BES-Net – Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (http://www.besnet.world)
CSPB – Consortium of Scientific Partners on Biodiversity (http://www.cbd.int/cooperation/csp)
CTCN – Climate Technology Centre and Network (http://www.ctc-n.org)
GUPES – Global Universities Partnership on Environment for Sustainability (http://gupes.org)
IPBES – Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (http://www.ipbes.net)
IDLO – International Development Law Organization (http://www.idlo.int)
NBSAP Forum
QCBS – Quebec Centre for Biodiversity Science (http://qcbs.ca)
SCBD – Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme (http://www.undp.org)
UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme (http://www.unep.org)
UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (http://www.unesco.org)
UNITAR – United Nations Institute for Training and Research (http://www.unitar.org)
UNSSC – United Nations Systems Staff College (http://www.unssc.org)
UNU-IAS – United Nations University - Institute of Advanced Studies (http://ias.unu.edu)

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[24] This will cover costs for the development of different learning materials (including educational videos and other multi-media materials, PowerPoint presentations, mobile apps and others) with in-kind contribution from partner organizations.