

The Malaysian National Policy on Biological Diversity and the Aichi Targets

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Background on Malaysian National Policy on Biological Diversity

- The assessment of biological diversity in Malaysia was published in 1997 following a study made in 1995-1996 (funded by UNEP)
- The assessment provided the basis for the drafting of the National Policy on Biological Diversity for Malaysia. In 1998, the policy was published and launched by the Minister of Science, Technology and the Environment

MALAYSIA

COUNTRY STUDY ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

ASSESSMENT
of
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
in
MALAYSIA

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
1997



**Dasar Kepelbagaian
Biologi Kebangsaan**
*National Policy
on Biological
Diversity*

The Vision and Policy Statement

Vision

- To transform Malaysia into a world centre of excellence in conservation, research and utilisation of tropical biological diversity by the year 2020

Policy Statement

- To conserve Malaysia's biological diversity and to ensure that its components are utilised in a sustainable manner for the continued progress and socio-economic development of the nation

Objectives

- i. To optimise economic benefits from sustainable utilisation of the components of biological diversity;
- ii. To ensure long-term food security for the nation;
- iii. To maintain and improve environmental stability for proper functioning of ecological systems;
- iv. To ensure preservation of the unique biological heritage of the nation for the benefit of present and future generations;
- v. To enhance scientific and technological knowledge, and educational, social, cultural and aesthetic values of biological diversity;
- vi. To emphasize biosafety considerations in the development and application of biotechnology;

Strategies and Action Plans

- Its content

- 15 Strategies to deal with all the objectives of the policy
- Each strategy has a list of action plans, e.g. under Strategy 1, Improve the scientific knowledge base, there are 11 Action Plans

Analysis of the Malaysian Strategies and the Aichi Targets

- Most of the Aichi Targets can find home in the Malaysian Strategies
 - As expected, they are not in the format of the Targets but could be accommodated in the Malaysian Strategies
 - 3 Strategies cannot find reference in the Targets
 - Strategy 11. Develop Policies, Regulations, Laws and Capacity Building on Biosafety
 - Strategy 13. Promote International Cooperation and Collaboration
 - Strategy 14. Exchange of Information
 - 2 targets has no home in the Malaysian Strategy
 - Target 3 on incentives
 - Target 16 on implementation of Nagoya protocol

Important Strategies for Malaysia but not strongly reflected in the Aichi Targets

- Strategy 3. Develop a Centre of Excellence In Industrial Research In Tropical Biological Diversity
- Strategy 4. Strengthen the Institutional Framework for Biological Diversity Management
- Strategy 7. Enhance Skill, Capabilities and Competence
- Strategy 9. Review Legislation to Reflect Biological Diversity Needs

For Malaysian post-2010 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

- Although the Malaysian National Policy on Biological Diversity has various levels of success (see 4th national report to CBD) since its launch in 1998, there were weaknesses:
 - Actors or parties responsible for the action plans in the policy were not identified
 - No timelines or deadlines were made in the action plans
 - No indicators to measure success of each action plan
- Hence there is a need for more coordination to implement the Policy fully

Changes since

- Cross-sectoral integration and mainstreaming of biodiversity for Malaysia
 - The establishment of the National Biodiversity-Biotechnology Council (NBBC) chaired by the Prime Minister in 2001 to mainstream biodiversity in different ministries and state governments – now known as NBC
 - Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment was formed in 2004 to deal with issues on biodiversity and environment (all departments and government institutions dealing with biodiversity and environment are now under this ministry)
 - Issues on biodiversity are included the 5-year Malaysia Plans

Way forward for Malaysian post-2010 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)

- Review of Malaysian National Policy on Biological Diversity will be conducted in 2011-2012 and there will develop its NBSAP – subject to obtaining funds from GEF
- Lessons learned from the 1998 Policy will be applied in the post-2010 NBSAP
- The Aichi targets will be internalized so that the reviewed NBSAP for Malaysia will reflect Malaysia's needs for sustainable development while striving to meet the global biodiversity agenda



THANK YOU