

Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
Steering Committee

Introduction to the Convention on Biological Diversity
and the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

Purpose

This paper provides Members with the background information on the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Convention) and the approach to formulate a Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) in Hong Kong.

The Convention on Biological Diversity

2. Biodiversity¹ is important because it underpins ecosystem functioning and the provision of essential ecosystem services. The Convention emerged from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 and came into force in 1993. It was the first global agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of all components of biodiversity including genetic sources, species and ecosystems. It sets out three main objectives: the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of its components; and the sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way. To date, there are 193 contracting parties to the Convention.

3. The Convention covers all ecosystems, species and genetic resources and acknowledges that humans can utilize biodiversity resources for their benefit. However, it also emphasises that biodiversity should not be used in a way or at a rate that would result in its long-term decline. It underlines the precautionary principle in cases where there is a threat of significant loss of biodiversity. It recommends the Parties to substantially invest in conserving biodiversity, as this would bring broad environmental, economic and social benefits² in return.

4. The Convention provides a global legal framework for action on biodiversity. It identifies common problems and set the overall goals and general obligations. The Ecosystem Approach was adopted as the primary framework for action under the

¹ Biodiversity is the variety of life on earth and comprises the variability within species, among species and of ecosystems. Human well-being depends on this “web of life”.

² The philosophy of the Convention is enshrined in its Preamble. Details are published in “How the Convention on Biological Diversity promotes nature and human well-being”, by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, April 2000. <http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-sustain-en.pdf>

Convention and is a strategy for integrated natural resource management that takes a holistic approach to managing biodiversity and its components. Although the Convention is an international treaty, responsibility for its implementation resides with each party at the national level. However, it does not have specific lists of sites or species to be conserved. Individual Parties would need to decide its national strategies and plans to meet the Convention's overall goals³. All the governments ratifying the treaty, known as the Conference of the Parties (COP), is the authority of the Convention. The COP will meet every two years or as needed to review the progress of the Convention, identify new priorities and set work plans for its members.

Decision X/2: Strategic Plan on Biological Diversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

5. In 2002, the Parties to the Convention committed themselves to significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss at global, regional and national levels by 2010. Although this commitment had inspired various actions at different levels, they could not address the continuous loss of biodiversity. To halt the decline in biodiversity and enhance its benefits for people, the COP adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (the Strategic Plan) and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (Aichi Targets) at its 10th meeting held in 2010 in Nagoya, Japan. The Strategic Plan has a vision, a mission and 20 headline targets organized under five strategic goals. The vision of the Plan is: *“By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people”*.

6. The mission of the plan⁴ is to ensure the coherent implementation of the Convention and the achievement of its three goals, by taking “effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that, by 2020, ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet’s variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication.”

7. Twenty ambitious yet achievable targets, known as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (**Annex A**), provide a flexible framework for the Parties to establish or review their national targets on biodiversity conservation, taking into account local needs and priorities. These targets are organized under five strategic goals which represent different approaches to address biodiversity loss:

- Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by

³ The Capacity Building Module provided by the Convention Secretariat clearly indicated that national biodiversity strategy and action plans are key implementation tools of the Convention. The Preamble of the Convention pointed out that each Contracting Party is responsible for conserving the biological resources which they have sovereign rights over. For details, please refer to <http://www.cbd.int/convention/articles/default.shtml?a=cbd-00>

⁴ The original mission statement of the Strategic Plan is in the Annex of Decision X/2 adopted at COP10 meeting. <http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-10/cop-10-dec-02-en.pdf>

- mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society
- Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use
- Strategic Goal C: Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity
- Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services
- Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

Developing a Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) for Hong Kong

8. The People’s Republic of China is a Party to the Convention and the Convention has been extended to Hong Kong SAR since May 2011. Under the Strategic Plan, Parties are obliged to develop, adopt as a policy instrument, and commence implementing an effective, participatory and updated national Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) by 2015.

9. Although Hong Kong is not a Contracting Party *per se*, we are preparing a city-level BSAP for Hong Kong in response to the call at the 10th COP meeting⁵ and to enhance conserving our biodiversity. Our BSAP will be developed in line with the international best practice as embodied in COP’s guidance on implementation of the Convention⁶ in formulating strategies and action plans. The strategic framework as set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 will be taken into account in formulating action plans. Noting the recent emphasis of COP decisions on public participation⁷, we, will adopt an open, participatory and iterative approach in developing our BSAP.

10. The BSAP of Hong Kong will provide administrative and planning guidance on biodiversity conservation for 2015 – 2020. It will include:

- (a) comprehensive stock-taking of the local biodiversity;

⁵ The COP endorsed “Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity” at its 10th meeting (Decision X/22), which intends to invite and support Parties and subnational governments to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020 and the Aichi Targets: <http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/default.shtml?id=12288>.

⁶Key guidelines for developing, revising, and/or implementing the national BSAP in accordance with the Convention are provided by COP 9 (Decision IX/8 para. 85). They include guidelines on i) meeting the objectives of the Convention; ii) the components of BSAP, including the scope and targets; iii) the support process – e.g. institutional arrangements and communication strategy, and iv) monitoring and review of BSAP – e.g. having a Clearing House Mechanism. Details on these key guidelines are in CBD Capacity Building Module 1: An Introduction to National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/b1-train-intro-nbsap-revised-en.pdf>

⁷ Public participation provisions are laid out in the decisions of COP 9 (Decision IX/8) and COP 10 (Decision X/2), calling on Parties to “engage indigenous and local communities, and all relevant sectors and stakeholders” in biodiversity planning and implementation. Further details are provided in Boxes 1 and 2 in Capacity Building Module 5: Ensuring Inclusive Societal Engagement in the Development, Implementation and Updating of NBSAPs (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/b5-train-stakeholder-nbsap-revised-en.pdf>)

- (b) strategies on biodiversity conservation; including a vision, a set of guiding principles, and priorities; and
- (c) action plans on priorities identified, which would also include monitoring plans, milestones and timelines to guide and evaluate the implementation.

11. Given that it will be the first BSAP to be developed for Hong Kong, the BSAP will appropriately lay down the current knowledge on the biodiversity of this city, including its status, the ecosystem services it provides, the relevant legislation and measures that protect our biodiversity resources, and the potential challenges ahead. This stock-taking will focus on consolidating existing information rather than conducting new research or generating new knowledge⁸.

12. The BSAP will also set out the biodiversity strategy for Hong Kong in 2015 – 2020. This strategy will be derived from the discussions of the committees taking account of the stakeholder engagement and public consultation exercises. The strategy would indicate the paths to address the most pressing biodiversity issues, taking into account the social and economic needs of Hong Kong⁹. Key stakeholders, including relevant government officials, green groups, local representatives, private sectors and experts will gather together¹⁰ to identify knowledge gaps and formulate action plans. The public can also join the Focus Groups discussions or get involved in the public engagement exercise to express views and aspirations on Hong Kong's BSAP.

13. We aim at finalizing the BSAP for implementation by 2015. Biodiversity planning and citizen involvement, however, will not end with the completion of a BSAP document. The status of biodiversity in Hong Kong and the progress of BSAP implementation will be monitored by programmes/indicators to be developed under the BSAP. These monitoring results, together with public feedbacks, will be evaluated during the further revision of our BSAP in 2020. In gist, our BSAP will evolve in a cyclical and adaptive manner as recommended by the Convention (Figure 1).

⁸ Paragraph 2.2, Module 2 of the NBSAP Training Package titled "The Biodiversity Planning Process: How to Prepare or Update a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan", indicated that "the generation of new knowledge, where necessary, will take place simultaneously with other activities in the biodiversity action plan, rather than before other actions are taken". The text of the module is at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/b2-train-prepare-update-nbsap-revised-en.pdf>

⁹ Details on the operation of the committees and setting of biodiversity strategies in Hong Kong are at Committee Paper BSAP SC Paper 02/2013 "Operation of Steering Committee, Working Groups and Focus Groups" and Committee Paper BSAP SC Paper 03/2013 "Strategy and Priorities".

¹⁰ Further details on the consultation exercise for BSAP development is in BSAP Paper SC 02/2013: Operation of Steering Committee, Working Groups and Focus Groups.

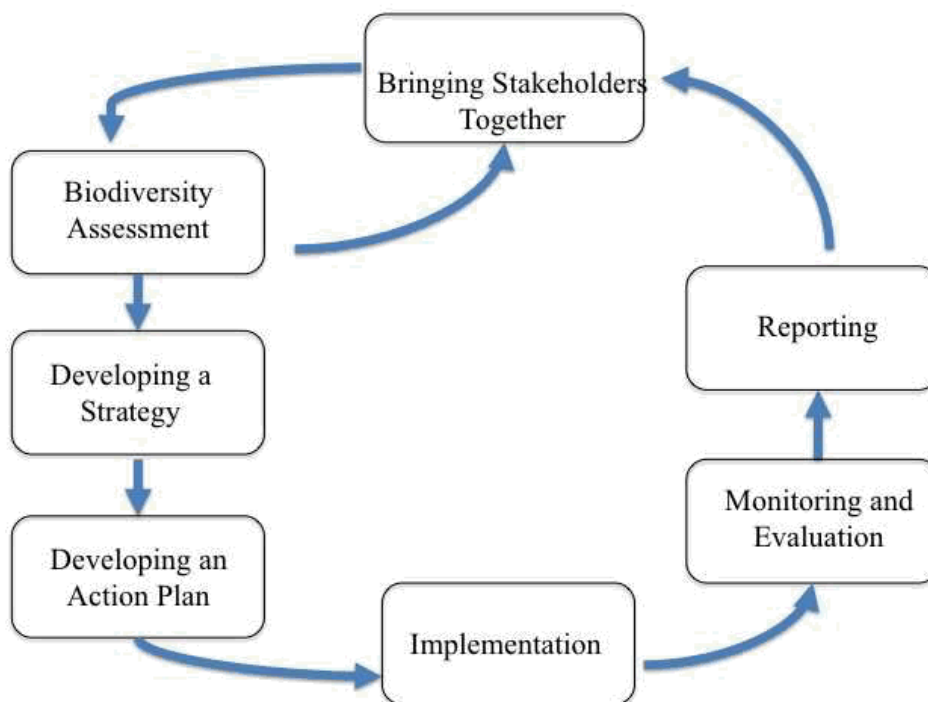


Figure 1. Steps of biodiversity planning: A cyclical and adaptive process¹¹

Developing a BSAP for Hong Kong: Proposed Approach and Timeframe

14. To develop a BSAP, a three-tier committee has been set up to gather information, identify knowledge gaps and formulate action plans¹². It consists of a Steering Committee, three Working Groups and Focus Group(s) that operates under the relevant Working Group. This set-up aims at engaging a wider group of stakeholders while collecting their opinions in a more structured but flexible manner, and educating across sectors the concepts on biodiversity conservation and BSAP development.

15. Two stakeholder engagement sessions on BSAP were held in January 2013. In addition, a public engagement exercise is proposed to be carried out during the formulation of BSAP. The exercise will aim at gathering views and aspirations from the general public and other social groups, who may or may not be familiar with biodiversity conservation issues. It also aims at educating these groups about the Convention and the BSAP as well as enhancing their awareness on biodiversity conservation. The main tasks to be carried out include hosting community forums,

¹¹ The cyclical and adaptive process is taken from in Module 2 of the training package on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/b2-train-prepare-update-nbsap-revised-en.pdf>). It is adapted from Miller, K. R. and S. M. Lanou. 1995. National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experiences Around the World. Washington D.C., Nairobi, Gland: WRI, UNET and IUCN.

¹² Further details on the operation of Working Groups and Focus Groups are in BSAP SC Paper 02/2013: Operation of Steering Committee, Working Groups and Focus Groups.

exchanging views in engagement meetings, and enhancing awareness through publicity activities.

Timeframe of BSAP Formulation

16. The Environment Bureau/Environmental Protection Department and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department have kicked off the public engagement process for BSAP in early 2013. A dedicated webpage on BSAP¹³ has also been launched in March 2013 to educate the public about the Convention and the BSAP, and to keep them updated on the upcoming events.





17. The tentative schedule of meetings and milestones are as tabulated in **Annex B**.

**Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Environmental Protection Department**

June 2013

¹³The dedicated webpage on BSAP contains the background of the Convention and the BSAP, news and events relevant to Hong Kong's BSAP development, an overview of the on-going biodiversity conservation measures in Hong Kong, and relevant links: http://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/con_bsap/con_bsap.html

**The Strategic Plan on Biodiversity 2011 – 2020
and Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

Strategic Goal A Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	
Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
	<p><u>Awareness of Biodiversity Values</u> By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity¹⁵ and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.</p>
	<p><u>Integration of Biodiversity Values</u> By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting system.</p>
	<p><u>Incentives</u> By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity¹⁶ are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimise or avoid negative impacts and positive incentives¹⁷ for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio-economic conditions.</p>
	<p><u>Use of Natural Resources</u> By 2020, at the latest, governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits¹⁸.</p>





¹⁴ Copyright BIP/SCBD applies to all Aichi Biodiversity Target Icons used in this paper.

¹⁵ The values of biodiversity, should be interpreted in the broadest sense, including environmental, cultural, economic and intrinsic value. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 1: Awareness increased. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T1-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

¹⁶ Incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity generally emanate from policies or programmes that induce unsustainable behaviour harmful to biodiversity, often as unanticipated and unintended side effects of policies or programmes designed to achieve other objectives. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 3: Incentives reformed. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T3-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

¹⁷ Positive incentives are economic, legal or institutional measures designed to encourage activities beneficial to biodiversity. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 3: Incentives reformed. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T3-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

¹⁸ Ecological limits can generally be understood as a point where the amount of resources being extracted or used is less or equal to the amount of resources ecosystems are able to provide on a

Strategic Goal B	
Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	
Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
	<p><u>Loss of Habitats</u></p> <p>By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.</p>
	<p><u>Sustainable Fisheries</u></p> <p>By 2020, all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing¹⁹ is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impact on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.</p>
	<p><u>Areas under Sustainable Management</u></p> <p>By 2020, areas under agriculture²⁰, aquaculture²¹ and forestry²² are managed sustainably²³, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.</p>
	<p><u>Pollution</u></p> <p>By 2020, pollution²⁴, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.</p>

sustainable basis while maintaining ecosystem functionality. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 4: Sustainable consumption and production. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T4-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

¹⁹ Overfishing refers to harvesting activities which reduce fish stocks to levels that effect their ability to replenish themselves. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 6: Sustainable management of marine living resources. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T6-quick-guide-en.pdf>)



²⁰ Agriculture is a broad term that encompasses the cultivation of animals, plants, fungi, and other life forms for the purposes of providing food, fibre, and other products used to sustain life. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 7: Sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T7-quick-guide-en.pdf>)



²¹ Aquaculture refers to the cultivation of fish, crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic plants. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 7: Sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T7-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

²² Forestry refers to the interdisciplinary process of establishing, managing, using, and conserving forests and their associated resources. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 7: Sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T7-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

²³ Managed sustainably refers to situation in which the use of the components of biodiversity occurs in such a way and at a rate that does not lead to their long-term decline. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 7: Sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T7-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

²⁴ Pollution refers to chemical contaminants that are introduced to the environment resulting in instability or harm. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 8: Pollution reduced. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T8-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

	<p><u>Invasive Alien Species</u></p> <p>By 2020, invasive alien species²⁵ and pathways are identified and prioritised, priority species are controlled or eradicated and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.</p>
	<p><u>Vulnerable Ecosystems</u></p> <p>By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimised, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.</p>


<p>Strategic Goal C</p> <p>To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity</p>	
<p>Aichi Biodiversity Targets</p>	
	<p><u>Protected Areas</u></p> <p>By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10% of coastal and marine areas²⁶, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representatives and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective areas-based conservation measures²⁷, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape.</p>
	<p><u>Preventing Extinction</u></p> <p>By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species²⁸ has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.</p>




²⁵ Broadly, invasive alien species are those which have been introduced and/or spread outside their natural ranges and as a result threaten biodiversity. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 9: Invasive alien species prevented and controlled. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T9-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

²⁶ The areas can include not only strict protected areas but also areas that allow sustainable use consistent with the protection of species, habitats and ecosystem processes. In addition to state-run areas, indigenous and community conserved areas as well as private areas may be included in the total area provided the other conditions are met. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 11: Protected areas increased and improved. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T11-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

²⁷ Other effective area-based conservation measures may also include restrictions on activities that impact on biodiversity. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 11: Protected areas increased and improved. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T11-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

²⁸ Threatened species include those species which are classified as vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. ((Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 12: Extinction prevented. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T12-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

	<p><u>Agricultural Biodiversity</u></p> <p>By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species²⁹, is maintained and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimising genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.</p>
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Strategic Goal D Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services	
Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
	<p><u>Essential Ecosystem Services</u></p> <p>By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services³⁰, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities and the poor and vulnerable.</p>
	<p><u>Ecosystem Resilience</u></p> <p>By 2020, ecosystem resilience³¹ and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks³² has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.</p>
	<p><u>Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing</u></p> <p>By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.</p>

²⁹ These species may include species used in traditional medicines, non-timber forest products and local land races. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 13: Genetic diversity maintained. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T13-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

³⁰ Ecosystems which provide services related to the provision of food, fibre, medicines and fresh water, pollination of crops, filtration of pollutants, and protection from natural disasters are among those ecosystem services provided by biodiversity which are essential for human wellbeing. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 14: Ecosystems and essential services safeguarded. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T14-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

³¹ Ecosystem resilience refers to the ability of an ecosystem to cope with and respond to disturbances and to restore itself. In general, degraded ecosystems tend to have lower resilience and are therefore less able of recovering after a disturbance. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 15: Ecosystems restored and resilience enhanced. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T15-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

³² Carbon stocks, in the context of this target, refer to the accumulated stores of carbon found in biomass and soils. Major carbon stocks include ecosystems such as tropical forests, many wetlands, peatlands, seagrass beds and mangroves. (Ref: Quick Guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 15: Ecosystems restored and resilience enhanced. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/targets/T15-quick-guide-en.pdf>)

Strategic Goal E Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building	
Aichi Biodiversity Targets	
	<p><u>NBSAPs</u></p> <p>By 2015, each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing, an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP).</p>
	<p><u>Traditional Knowledge</u></p> <p>By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.</p>
	<p><u>Biodiversity Knowledge</u></p> <p>By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.</p>
	<p><u>Resource Mobilisation</u></p> <p>By 2020, at the latest, the mobilisation of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilisation should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resources needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.</p>

Schedule of BSAP Development 2013 – 2015

2013		
	<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Other Targets</u>
Jan	Public Engagement on Nature Conservation – BSAP development (ENB)	
Feb		
Mar		Launch of dedicated webpage for BSAP
Apr		
May		
Jun	1 st SC Meeting	
Jul	1 st Meeting of TBWG, MBWG, PESWG	
Aug		
Sep		
Oct	2 nd Meeting of TBWG, MBWG, PESWG	
Nov		
Dec	2 nd SC Meeting	
2014		
	<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Other Targets</u>
Jan	3 rd Meeting of TBWG, MBWG, PESWG	
Feb		
Mar		Start preparation of a draft BSAP based on WG's recommendations
Apr	4 th Meeting of TBWG, MBWG, PESWG	
May		
Jun	3 rd SC Meeting	
Jul	5 th Meeting of TBWG, MBWG, PESWG	
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov	6 th Meeting of TBWG, MBWG, PESWG	Revise draft BSAP based on views received in the engagement exercise
Dec	4 th SC Meeting	
2015		
	<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Other Targets</u>
Jan		
Feb		
Mar		
Apr		
May	5 th (final) SC Meeting	Finalize BSAP

Legend:

MBWG – Marine Biodiversity Working Group

PESWG – Publicity, Education and Sustainability Working Group

SC – Steering Committee

TBWG – Terrestrial Biodiversity Working Group