

## Research needs expressed in the Decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity: Cross-Cutting Issue: Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

Plants are universally recognized as a vital part of the world's biological diversity and an essential resource for the planet (<http://www.cbd.int/gspc/default.shtml>). In addition to the small number of crop plants used for basic food and fibres, many thousands of wild plants have great economic and cultural importance and potential, providing food, medicine, fuel, clothing and shelter for vast numbers of people throughout the world.

The cited Decisions that express research needs are VI/9 and X/17, also checked were Decisions V/10, VII/10, IX/3 and XII/15.

### Direct research needs

Decision	Paragraph	Chapeau / Heading	Text	Source <a href="http://www.cbd.int/decisions/">http://www.cbd.int/decisions/</a>
VI/9	Annex I Para 5	Within the ultimate and long-term objective, a number of sub-objectives can be identified as follows:	<b>Document the plant diversity of the world</b> , including its use and its distribution in the wild, in protected areas and in <i>ex situ</i> collections; <b>Monitor the status and trends in global plant diversity</b> and its conservation, and threats to plant diversity, and <b>identify plant species, plant communities, and associated habitats and ecosystems, at risk</b> , including consideration of "red lists"; <b>Promote research on the genetic diversity, systematics, taxonomy, ecology and conservation biology of plants and plant communities, and associated habitats and ecosystems</b> , and on social, cultural and economic factors that impact biodiversity, so that plant diversity, both in the wild and in the context of human activities, can be well understood and utilized to support conservation action.	<a href="http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&amp;id=7183">cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&amp;id=7183</a>
VI/9	Annex I Appendix Target 2	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.	There are currently about 270,000 known species. Of those still to be evaluated, <b>sufficient information for a full assessment is only available for a proportion</b> . Thus, only a preliminary assessment will have been carried out on the remaining, "data-deficient" species. Subsequently, <b>further fieldwork will be essential to enable more comprehensive assessments</b> to be undertaken.	<a href="http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&amp;id=7183">cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&amp;id=7183</a>
VI/9	Annex I		Key areas where <b>the development of models with protocols is</b>	

	Appendix Target 3		<b>required</b> include: the <b>integration of in situ and ex situ conservation; maintenance of threatened plants</b> within ecosystems; applying the ecosystem approach; balancing sustainable use with conservation; and methodologies for setting conservation priorities; and methodologies for monitoring conservation and sustainable use activities.	
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#### Indirect research needs

Decision	Paragraph	Chapeau / Heading	Text	Source
VI/9	Annex I Para 9	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.	The Strategy addresses the Plant Kingdom with focus on higher plants, and other well-described groups such as Bryophytes and Pteridophytes. Parties may choose on a national basis <b>to include lower taxa.</b>	<a href="http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&amp;id=7183">http://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop-06.shtml?m=COP-06&amp;id=7183</a>
VI/9	Annex I Para 12	The global targets for the year 2010 are as follows:	A widely accessible <b>working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora;</b> A preliminary <b>assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species</b> , at national, regional and international levels; Development of <b>models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research</b> and practical experience.	
VI/9	Annex I Appendix Target 1	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.	A <b>working list of known plant species</b> is considered to be a fundamental requirement for plant conservation. In effect the target will require the <b>compilation and synthesis of existing knowledge, focusing on names and synonyms, and geographical distribution.</b> Further <b>work on national and regional floras is necessary</b> to lay the basis for the longer term aim of developing a complete world flora, including local and vernacular names.	
VI/9	Annex I Appendix Target 5		The <b>most important areas for plant diversity</b> would be <b>identified according to the criteria including endemism, species richness, and/or uniqueness of habitats, including relict ecosystems</b> , also taking into account the provision of ecosystem services.	
X/17	Annex	Targets for 2011 - 2020	An online <b>flora of all known plants.</b> An <b>assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species</b> , as far as possible, to guide conservation action. 70 per cent of the <b>genetic diversity of crops</b> including their wild relatives and other socio-economically valuable plant species	

		<b>conserved.</b>	
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