

Towards a new CBD Strategy 2021 - 2030

2. International Workshop

Background information and objective

The following background information aims to support an efficient discussion on the key question of the second workshop about a new CBD strategy 2021-2030:

The second expert workshop will discuss **targets of the current Strategic Plan 2011-2020**. Inter alia, the following questions will be addressed:

1. Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050?
2. If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?
3. How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?
4. What are potential additional targets until 2030 to address important issues?
5. What are pros and cons of implementation mechanisms?

To answer these questions appropriately, the following aspects must be kept in mind according to the timeframe until 2050:

- There is urgency to act, because biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation is still ongoing in an unprecedented way,
- The ambition must be high, significant, and punchy to achieve a systemic and transformational change in society and economy within the next thirty years,
- The appropriate suite of strategic goals until 2030 should be backed by sound science and other relevant evidence.

Some official and information documents from SBSTTA-22 and SBI-2 contain relevant information to inform the discussion at the workshop. If such information related to the sessions of the workshop it is referenced below.

Background on Session 1 - Input from other processes

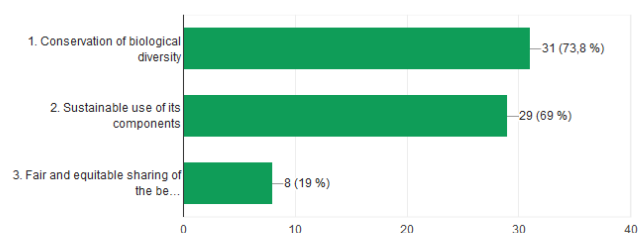
SMARTness of current targets: RSPB commissioned a study that has assessed how SMART the framing of the 20 Aichi Targets in the current Strategic Plan is. This work has asked a group of international experts to score the Aichi Targets against a set of 'SMART'-based criteria and then investigated the relationship between these criteria and progress made towards the target using the findings from two global progress assessments (SMART – specific, measurable,

Horizon Scanning exercise on future priority thematic topics: The task was carried out inspired by the Horizon Scanning methodology to look into future themes via two online questionnaires. The aim was:

- To identify important thematic topics, which are likely to be of high relevance for the decade 2021-2030 paving the way to CBD's 2050 vision, which will be considered for the inclusion in the discussion paper. After two rounds of feedback the following results will inform the workshop participants.

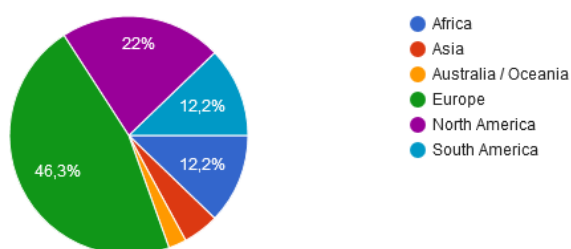
Of the three objectives of the Convention (CBD), I consider myself relatively more knowledgeable about:

42 responses



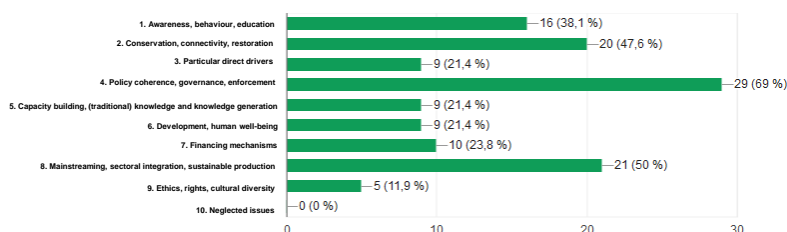
Optional 3: My geographical region:

42 responses



Please tick which three clusters you consider to be the most urgent...

42 responses



Question:



Please consider and tick which three clusters you consider to be the most urgent for Parties to address in the next decade in order to achieve the CBD's three objectives and the 2050 vision

Table 3: Clustering of keywords and times mentioned

	Cluster	Explanation / Examples	Expertise in		
			Cons.	SU	ABS
1	Awareness, behaviour, education	referring e.g. to awareness rising, sensitisation, education, communication	6%	2%	8%
2	Conservation, connectivity, restoration	referring e.g. to conservation measures for terrestrial, marine or freshwater species (area-based or species-specific), protected areas, connectivity, restoration, reintroductions, extinctions	15%	3%	0%
3	Particular direct drivers	referring e.g. to climate change, pollution, invasive species, poaching, or other particular direct drivers that are not regarded as fitting into the category "neglected issues"	6%	8%	0%
4	Policy coherence, governance, enforcement	referring e.g. to good / better / more effective / local / inclusive governance, governance structures, policy coherence, effective implementation, compliance, enforcement, particular provisions such as given by the CBD framework (and possible general or structural modifications thereof such as the adoption of new targets or protocols), the necessity to involve all relevant stakeholders, participation (e.g. of developing countries) in CBD process, the call for global / regional / national / local approaches	17%	14%	35%
5	Capacity building, (traditional) knowledge, knowledge generation	referring e.g. to capacity building, science, knowledge generation, innovations, specific knowledge gaps and the call for addressing them, e.g. via monitoring of biodiversity or by monitoring of policy implementation and policy effectiveness, reporting, sharing of information, addressing fundamental / conceptual issues (such as "definition of sustainability"), integration / use of traditional and local knowledge	15%	18%	27%
6	Development, human well-being	referring e.g. to development, poverty reduction, socio-economics, human well-being, health, livelihoods, sufficient income, food security, benefits to people	10%	13%	3%
7	Financing mechanisms	referring e.g. to nature funds, financial compensation, investments to promoting biodiversity conservation, market-based instruments	3%	4%	0%
8	Mainstreaming, sectoral integration, sustainable production	referring e.g. to sectoral integration, green accounting, internalization of negative externalities, certification schemes, commodity chains, telecoupling, market forces, system changes (e.g. reducing harmful subsidies), energy, resource-use, operation within planetary boundaries / safe limits, sustainable agriculture / fishery / forestry, social-ecological systems, ecological landscapes, compatibility between human activities and biodiversity conservation, balance of needs, landscape stewardship, ecosystem services	18%	32%	9%
9	Ethics, rights, cultural diversity	referring e.g. to the right to live, property rights, indigenous peoples rights, intra- and inter-generational justice, integration of relevant claims, fairness, respect, the necessity to keep promises, responsibility, respect for cultural diversity, cultural values and the necessity to conserve biocultural diversity	9%	5%	17%
10	Neglected issues	referring e.g. to microorganisms, animal welfare, freshwater biodiversity, novel ecosystems, digitalization, or other specific issues that are regarded to have been insufficiently addressed by the CBD	2%	2%	1%

Background on Session 2 – Targets under the five strategic goals

The following chart summarized relevant information from the SBSTTA and SBI documents below, which contain more background information:



Current status of target implementation

*The scientific literature suggests that **the assessment of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets contained in the fourth edition (GBO-4) remains valid.** This conclusion is consistent with ...the assessment and analysis of ...the fifth national reports and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans...developed, updated or revised... (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5, para 10)*

*... **indicators** that were used in the GBO-4 and have updated data points, **the overall direction of the trend has not changed.** This information suggests, ..., that **biodiversity is continuing to decline even though the responses to biodiversity loss are increasing.** (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5, para 12)*

*The **key messages** from the **regional summaries for policymakers** of the **IPBES assessments for Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe and Central Asia** are consistent with the conclusion from ...GBO-4, ...they provide further evidence that the pressures on biodiversity are increasing, that its status is decreasing and that, while actions are being taken, **they are not yet sufficient to halt the loss of biodiversity** (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5, para 22)*

CBD/SBSTTA/22/5: UPDATED SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SELECTED AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND OPTIONS TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS

CBD/SBSTTA/22/INF/10: UPDATED SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SELECTED AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND OPTIONS TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS

CBD/SBI/2/2: PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

Link to the SDGs and their targets:

[TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD: THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT A/RES/70/1](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/) (sustainabledevelopment.un.org)

A) group of enabling targets: 1, 2, 3, 4



Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been fully reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

In 2010 (COP-10 in Nagoya) it was discussed if the qualifier 'ALL' should be included before 'people' or if in any case ALL PEOPLE is synonymous with 'everybody'. At least in this understanding the target has not been achieved and would still be relevant as an enabling condition on the pathway to the 2050 vision.

The target addresses the awareness of the VALUES of biodiversity and STEPS people can take, not of IMPLEMENTING steps once being aware of the values. Therefore, milestones to underpin a more ambitiously formulated target could refer on one hand to MEASURABLE LEVELS OF AWARENESS, on the other hand to STEPS OR ACTIONS to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity.

It is common understanding in many scenarios for the future of biodiversity that without a TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE IN PERSONAL BEHAVIOUR based on higher biodiversity awareness current drivers of biodiversity loss will not be eliminated. Therefore, a post-2020 target on awareness of the values of biodiversity must still be considered as a precondition to reach the 2050 vision

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

Several SDG targets mention awareness, e.g. 4.7 on education, 12.8, or 13.3 on education with respect to climate change, without timelines or with a timeline of 2030.

If a new CBD target would aim at awareness only, it would at least help to foster the achievement of these SDG targets, if it would aim at also implementing relevant steps, it would foster the achievement of many more SDG targets, depending on the steps taken.



Target 2: 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 systems.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

Milestones to underpin the target could refer to certain planning processes in different sectors (e.g. that all negative impacts of new traffic infrastructure have to be compensated until 20XX).

The second part of AT 2 speaks of incorporation of biodiversity values into national accounting and reporting systems. This text already allows for pledges e.g. if states would publish how they did such an accounting and then ensure that they take steps to conserve these accounted biodiversity values. Regular reporting would then allow to assess if such pledges are really implemented.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

Being aware of biodiversity values (AT 1) and officially recognizing such values by accounting (AT 2) are basic steps in many scenarios that go beyond business as usual and such scenarios show

that without a change based on such awareness and recognition the 2030 agenda and its SDGs will not be achieved. Therefore, a CBD target like AT 2 is fundamental not only for SDG 15.9 but also for SDGs on poverty reduction or ending hunger, which could be counterproductive to biodiversity conservation if biodiversity values are not integrated appropriately into planning processes



Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives 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.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 3 aims at eliminating incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity and developing and applying positive incentives. This could be underpinned by milestones referring to certain harmful subsidies (e.g. in agriculture or fisheries), including levels and timelines, or to the development and application of positive incentives e.g. tax reductions for environmental friendly consumption of energy, products with small ecological footprint, environmental friendly practices in agriculture etc.. This would allow for traceable pledges on national or regional level (e.g. on EU level).

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

Implementation of AT 3 would support the implementation of several SDG targets directly. As market distortions caused by incentives also influence equity and the chances for development of the poor and vulnerable there are further links to SDG goals, e.g. SDG 8 and SDG 10.



Target 4: 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 limits.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 4 addresses sustainable production and consumption in all sectors and by all possible stakeholders like governments and businesses. It is formulated as a stepwise process of taking steps and implementing plans and aims at 'keeping the impact within safe ecological limits' without defining such levels. Milestones could therefore relate to certain levels of impacts which must not exceeded, and individual enterprises or business sectors could pledge.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

As the Agenda 2030 is aiming at sustainable development, the term 'sustainable' appears in many SDG targets, e.g. in 8.4 on sustainable consumption and production, 12.1, 12.a and targets under SDGs 14 and 15. A CBD target on enhanced sustainability in sectors beyond agriculture, forestry and aquaculture (addressed under AT 7) would therefore help to implement several SDGs.

B) group of conservation outcome targets: 5, 9, 11, 12, 13



Target 5: 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.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 5 is very comprehensive as it includes all natural habitats and is also measurable and ambitious, although the inclusion of 'where feasible' undermine the level of ambition. Taking out these two words would raise the level and was heavily discussed in Nagoya 2010.

Another shortcoming is that the target stays without definition what is meant by 'significantly reducing' (with respect to degradation and fragmentation). Therefore, possible milestones could be in relation to certain levels of reduction of degradation, fragmentation or loss.

The target as it stands relates to the loss of 'natural habitats', but does not include biodiversity in non-natural habitats like urban areas or agricultural areas which are no longer natural. If such habitats should be included the formulation should relate to 'biodiversity in habitats' rather than to just 'habitats' (because it would not make sense to call for halting the loss of non-natural habitats, but it could make sense to call for not losing the biodiversity of such habitats).

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

SDG 15.2 has a 2020 timeline, which means that any new CBD target on halting/reducing the loss of habitats, including forests, would have to be paralleled with a new respective target under SDG 15, even if the timeline of the AT is simply extended.

AT 5 also relates to SDG 15.5 on reducing degradation, which has no explicit timeline. A new CBD target with a timeline or even milestones would therefore give a more concrete schedule for SDG 15.5. If the new target would also relate to the biodiversity of urban habitats it would also help to implement SDG 11 to make cities and other urban areas more resilient and sustainable.



Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 9 is formulated as a series of actions that have to be taken to deal with the problem of invasive alien species. This series of actions would make it quite easy to define milestones along the individual actions. Depending on the status of implementation it might be possible to extend the overall timeline, eliminate steps that have already been taken by a majority of countries (e.g. identification of pathways) and then assign milestones to the following steps of the series.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

Any new CBD target on invasive alien species or the extension of the timeline of the existing AT 9 would have to be paralleled with a respective target under SDG 15. As invasive alien species also occur in marine habitats, control or eradication of such species would also foster the implementation of SDG 14.



Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and elements of the target will likely be reached, while other elements not.

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 11 is often referred to as the target about protected areas and the main focus is given to the concrete percentage of land and sea cover at which the target aims. These percentages have actually been reached or nearly reached in many regions of the world, which of course is a success, but does not mean the target has been fully implemented. The target has more components which are still not implemented: designation of new protected areas rarely followed the priority of protecting areas of high biodiversity value, pure designation does not guarantee effective management, connectivity is not automatically given and integration into the wider landscapes and seascapes is also often not the case.

Therefore, most of the targets components are not reached and still important for the 2050 vision. If milestones should be agreed upon they should not only concentrated on the pure percentage of protected areas but relate to the other components as well, e.g. to MANAGEMENT, PLACEMENT IN AREAS IMPORTANT FOR BIODIVERSITY, OR CONNECTIVITY. Recent examples also show that designation of protected areas can even be reversed. e.g. to allow mining.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

Next to AT 11 are SDG targets 14.5 and 15.1 which include protection components, plus other targets e.g. 6.5 on water resources by 2030 or 6.6. on water related ecosystems by 2020 or 14.2 on protection of marine and coastal ecosystems by 2020.

A CBD target including timelines and milestones on effective management, connectivity and permanence would therefore help the implementation of several SDGs.



Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 12 is at the very heart of the CBD and is a direct follow-up of the 2010 biodiversity target, which was to 'significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity until 2010'. Missing this target by far in 2010 was a main cause for the formulation of a much more detailed strategic plan until 2020, including the 20 Aichi Targets.

Nevertheless, AT 12 will be as widely missed as it was the case with the 2010 target, as the drivers of biodiversity loss have not diminished since then. Any milestone like defining reduction levels or mentioning percentages of threatened species to be conserved would express a major reduction of the level of ambition that CBD had even more than 10 years ago.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

In addition to SDG target 15.2, target 14.4 on marine issues has a 2020 timeline and any new CBD target would have to be paralleled.



Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socioeconomically as well as culturally valuable species is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 13 consists of several components and progress can only be claimed for a part of it. Seed banks and plant banks have been growing so that a larger part of the genetic diversity is at least documented and stored, but the wild relatives of cultivated plants and domesticated animals are still declining. Strategies for minimizing the genetic erosion have not been fully developed and are far from implementation.

Milestones could relate e.g. to certain species groups or to certain percentages of genetic varieties.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

As cultivated plants and domesticated and farmed animals are a major source of food the loss of the genetic diversity of such species would likely heavily affect achieving SDG goal 2 (to end hunger and achieve food security) as a whole. Without food security other SDGs like SDG 1 (no poverty) or SDG 16 (peace and justice) will be difficult to be achieved either. A CBD target on maintenance of genetic diversity therefore is an important basis for the 2030 agenda of the SDGs.

C) group of driver-oriented targets: 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15



Target 6: By 2020, all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 6 is very long and comprehensive, including nearly all marine organisms (fish, invertebrates, plants) and explicitly ALL stocks, and refers to current practices in order to minimize further damage, as well as to recovery plans to repair damages which have already been caused. It contains some expressions that lack clear definitions: 'no significant adverse impacts' does not specify which level would be seen as significant and the expression 'safe ecological limits' is also not defined. The measurability of target implementation would benefit from clearer definition of these terms.

Underpinning the target with milestones (e.g. until 2025 overfishing is reduced to a defined level) would be a clear loss of ambition compared to the target as it stands. One option would be to postpone the entire target until e.g. 2025 instead of 2030 to address the urgency. As unsustainable harvesting is clearly linked to subsidies harmful to biodiversity (compare AT 3) a milestone could refer to such subsidies (e.g. eliminate them until 2022 in order to reach the target fully until 2025).

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

A new target or even the same target with a different timeline would have to be paralleled with respective targets und SDG 14.



Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 7 allows for interpretation: it could mean 'all' areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably or a not clearly defined percentage of areas are managed sustainably. Furthermore, there is no definition what 'sustainably' means in that context, except the qualifier 'ensuring the conservation of biodiversity'. It is not clear to which level of biodiversity conservation or status this refers. For example, if it refers to a situation with biodiversity that existed before intensification of agriculture started, it is probably impossible to reach that situation again. If it refers to current levels in highly intensified areas of agriculture the target loses its meaning. Therefore, 'sustainable management' would need a clear definition in the context of these land uses, such as by certification standards.

Milestones (like certain percentages of areas) would only make sense if linked to concrete hectares of areas or levels of 'sustainability', e.g. expressed via areas of agriculture, aquaculture and forestry with certification standards. This would also need a baseline definition stating what area was already sustainably managed in 20xx.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

A clear definition of 'sustainable management' and reference to certification schemes would also improve measurability of progress to SDG 2 and target 2.4 on sustainable food production.



Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 8 calls for reducing pollution to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem functions and biodiversity, without defining such levels. Even with this vague definition (and not calling for halting pollution) the target has not been reached and in many areas pollution is still growing, including the excess nutrients specifically mentioned in the target text.

Milestones could be set in relation to defined levels of reduction or in relation to specific sources of pollution.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

Different SDG targets mention different pollutants, e.g. 3.9 addresses hazardous chemicals with a 2030 timeline, 6.3 speaks of water quality improvement by better wastewater management by 2030, and 12.4 cares for waste management by 2020. Looking at 14.1. and its 2025 deadline there are various SDG targets which would benefit from a CBD target on reducing or halting pollution, especially if there were defined and measurable levels of reduction. AT 8 itself has close relationships to AT 14 calling for safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services, including those related to water. Pollution is one major threat to many of such ecosystems and their services, so the failure to reach AT 8 is affecting to reach AT 14 as well.



Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

According to the urgency of the target (e.g. loss of coral reefs) the timeline of this target was set to 2015. Therefore, it became evident in 2015 that the target has been missed.

Before underpinning the target with milestones it would be necessary to agree on a process how to deal with a timeline that has already exceeded. An extension would be one option.

When taking a closer look to the target text it reveals that the target to also about all vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

Given the mixture of timelines in the respective SDG targets and the already exceeded timeline of AT 10, a newly formulated target could lead to milestones and timelines fitting to the SDGs.



Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, 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.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 14 is a very broad target as it relates to ecosystems that provide essential services and contribute to health and livelihoods, which is true for most kind of ecosystems at least for local people. Even uninhabited ecosystems like high mountains can provide essential services e.g. water. Also the formulation to take into account the needs of women, ILKs and the poor and vulnerable is very broad. On the other hand, the formulation 'restored and safeguarded' is not very specific and does not define any levels of restoration or safeguarding.

Therefore, milestones which refer to certain levels of restoration or criteria for safeguarding could help to foster implementation of this target.

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

If a new CBD target comparable to AT 14 would be formulated, potential milestones could refer to the timelines of different SDG targets, some of which would also have to be paralleled to the new CBD target: SDG targets which deal with poverty reduction (1.4), ending hunger (2.1), gender equality (5.a), water related ecosystems (e.g. 6.6), or restoration (14.2, 15.1).



Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

Is the Aichi target still relevant and appropriate for the next decade 2021-2030 on the pathway to reach the Vision 2050 - given the assumption that the Vision as such will remain unchanged?

Yes, target is still meaningful, relevant, and has not been reached

If yes, how to underpin the target with milestones up to 2030?

AT 15 specific as it mentions the margin of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems to be restored. However, it lacks any definition of degradation and gives no hint to which level restoration should aim. Especially in ecosystems that have been used for centuries a baseline for restoration would be needed (either to a certain degree of usage or back to pre-human conditions?).

Furthermore, there is no guidance as to what areas of the 15% should be restored (the most valuable, the easiest to restore, the rarest, the most threatened?).

Milestones accompanied with clear definitions and baselines to underpin this target would allow for concrete steps, e.g. for the restoration of a certain ecosystem type in a given region (like e.g. the coral reefs in the Caribbean, or the bogs in Western Europe as identified carbon sinks, etc.).

How can the text be formulated to support reaching one or more of the SDGs and their targets?

Several SDG targets link to AT 15, as they cover resilience (1.5, 11.b, 13.1, 14.2), climate change (13.2), or restoration (15.1, 15.3). These targets differ in their timelines, including 2020, 2030 or none at all. A CBD target with more concrete milestones could better relate to these timelines.

D) group on governance, policy coherence, implementation

Background information from SBI document:

CBD/SBI/2/2: PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

CBD/SBI/2/17: PROPOSALS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND PARTICIPATORY PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

The group on governance should discuss PROS and CONS of the following mechanisms:

Role of NBSAPs:

11. *NBSAPs are the principal instrument for implementing the Convention at the national level. Since 1993, 190 Parties have developed at least one NBSAP*

21. *... that NBSAPs, most of which already contain targets and which, in some cases, extend past 2020, already provide flexibility in setting national targets and/or adapting any global targets to national circumstances. It was suggested, therefore, that it could be unclear how any voluntary national commitments would relate to the NBSAPs. It was also observed that the focus should be on implementing existing commitments and not adopting new ones.*

18. *The majority of NBSAPs developed or revised since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties contain targets related to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, though, for some Aichi Targets, such as Targets 3, 6, 10, 14, 17 and 18, there were many NBSAPs (over 30 per cent) without associated national targets or commitments. Aichi*

Biodiversity Targets 1, 9, 16, 19 and 20 are the Aichi Targets with the greatest number of broadly similar national targets or commitments. ...

Overall, the majority of national targets and/or commitments contained in the NBSAPs were lower than the Aichi Targets or did not address all of the elements of the Aichi Target. Generally, the national targets that have been set to date are more general than the Aichi Targets. As more NBSAPs are received, this overall picture may change.

Efforts have been made to translate the Aichi Biodiversity Targets into national commitments, and national actions have been taken to reach the Aichi Targets. However, these commitments and efforts will need to be significantly scaled up if the Aichi Targets are to be met and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 more generally is to be successfully implemented.

Voluntary commitments: Potential role of a NDC-like or Bonn Challenge mechanisms

21. A further issue identified in the submissions was the possible development of national voluntary commitments related to biodiversity. ... developing a process analogous to, or informed by, the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) process under the UNFCCC or the Land Degradation Neutrality Targets under the UNCCD could be useful ... building ownership for the successful implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

... voluntary commitments put forward by both State and non-State actors for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 14 at the Ocean Conference, held in New York in June 2017.

... international and non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector, local authorities (subnational governments) and other stakeholders should be encouraged to develop biodiversity related commitments which could contribute to the national and global overall objective of safeguarding biodiversity.

A number of Parties also identified challenges to developing national voluntary biodiversity commitments prior to the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. These concerns included the difficulty of making commitments when the scope and format of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is unclear and the possible need to refine these commitments once the post-2020 global biodiversity framework has been agreed.

...it could be unclear how any voluntary national commitments would relate to the NBSAPs. It was also observed that the focus should be on implementing existing commitments and not adopting new ones.

Concerns were also expressed that national biodiversity commitments may merely become a compilation of the NBSAPs and that such a process may distract from the need to develop, revise or update these instruments in a timely fashion.

The need for robust guidance on how to formulate national commitments to ensure that such commitments can be adequately monitored and evaluated was also noted.

IUCN Position Paper on SBSTTA-22 and SBI-1:

a) IUCN is of the view that some features of the “NDC approach” could be considered for the existing NBSAPs, guided by specific science-based targets for each country. This ‘bottom up’/‘voluntary’ approach could, if designed carefully, help transform the political landscape of the CBD in a more positive direction by promoting country-led action and collaboration. Likewise, ‘global stocktakes’ to monitor progress on implementation against agreed global biodiversity targets at periodic intervals, and for countries to periodically enhance global ambition and action over time, should also be considered.

In this regard, IUCN highlights its work in developing the Bonn Challenge Barometer. To date, Bonn Challenge commitments amount to 47 pledges to bring 160.2 million hectares under restoration worldwide. To capture and provide evidence of advances, partnership opportunities, needs and bottlenecks, IUCN initiated the development of a flexible yet standardised assessment tool currently shaped through an iterative process of design and piloting in multiple Bonn Challenge jurisdictions. The results of the application of the Barometer tool will be captured in a series of reports, beginning with the 2017 Spotlight Report. The Barometer will also track progress on Goal 5 of the New York Declaration on Forests. IUCN stresses the importance of turning pledges into action on the ground.

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<http://www.biodiv.de/en/projekte/aktuell/cbd-strategy.html>

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