



CONSULTATIONS ON MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN,
NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND INDIA'S
SIXTH NATIONAL REPORT TO
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

2017



Ministry of Environment, Forest and
Climate Change, Government of India



National Biodiversity
Authority



United Nations
Development Programme

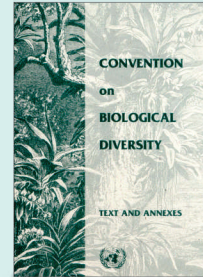
INTRODUCTION



- Biodiversity refers to the variety and variability of life on earth and forms the foundation of the vast array of ecosystem services that contribute to human well-being. It provides food, fuel, shelter, medicine and other products which are vital for survival of life on earth. Biodiversity manifests itself at three levels: Genetic diversity which refers to genetic variation within species; Species diversity which refers to the numbers and kinds of living organisms; and Ecosystem diversity which denotes the variety of habitats, biological communities and ecological processes.
- India is a mega diverse country rich in biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge. Livelihoods of millions of people in India depend on biodiversity. Conservation of biodiversity is therefore a national priority.
- India is a Party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), a comprehensive legally binding international agreement which addresses all aspects related to biodiversity. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) is the nodal Ministry for implementation of CBD in India.
- India is recognized as a leader on biodiversity conservation in developing and implementing relevant legal and policy regimes.
- In pursuance to the CBD, India has enacted the Biological Diversity (BD) Act 2002 to implement the provisions of the Convention. The BD Act is aimed at conservation of biological resources, sustainable use of its resources, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use. The BD Act is implemented through a three-tier mechanism: National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) and Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs).
- There are two mandatory obligations of CBD on all Parties: preparation of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) as provided for in Article 6 and preparation of National Reports as provided for in Article 26.
- NBSAPs or equivalent documents are the principal instruments for implementing the CBD at the national level. The CBD requires countries to prepare NBSAPs and to ensure that these plans are mainstreamed into planning activities of all those sectors which can have an impact on biodiversity.
- India's National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) 2014 includes 12 National Biodiversity Targets (NBTs) developed through an extensive consultation process with stakeholders.
- Preparation of National Reports at regular intervals helps a Party monitor and review the status of implementation of the Convention while identifying gaps in its capacity, constraints and impediments. India has submitted her First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth National Reports in 1998, 2001, 2005, 2009 and 2014, respectively.
- The sixth national report is due to be submitted by 31 December, 2018.
- This brochure provides an overview of India's NBAP and NBTs. It also describes the process for seeking inputs from stakeholders for the sixth national report.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

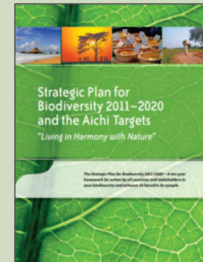
- Adopted at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, the CBD is the first global agreement addressing all aspects relating to biodiversity. The three objectives of the Convention are: conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of these resources. With 196 Parties, the Convention has near universal membership. Two protocols have so far been adopted under the aegis of CBD: Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in 2000, and Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) in 2010.
- Protecting biodiversity is in our self-interest. Towards this, while the Convention sets overall goals, policies and general obligations, the responsibility for achieving its goals rests largely with the countries themselves. While governments (through Ministries responsible for environment, forests, agriculture, fisheries, energy, tourism etc.) play a leadership role, other sectors of society need to be actively involved since their choices and actions will determine conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- The Conference of Parties (CoP) consisting of representatives of all governments that have ratified the treaty, is the governing body of CBD. The CoP regularly reviews progress under the CBD, identifies new priorities, and sets work plans for members.



Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets










"Living in Harmony with Nature"

- The United Nations (UN) General Assembly has declared 2011-2020 as the UN Decade on Biodiversity (UNDB) to raise awareness about the importance of and threats to biodiversity. Coinciding with UNDB, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 has been adopted by CoP-10 to the CBD as a ten-year overarching framework for action by all countries and stakeholders to save biodiversity and enhance its benefits for people. The Strategic Plan is comprised of a shared vision, a mission, five strategic goals and 20 ambitious yet achievable targets, collectively known as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The Strategic Plan serves as a flexible framework for the establishment of national and regional targets and it promotes the coherent and effective implementation of the three objectives of the CBD.
- For implementation of the Strategic Plan, all Parties to CBD are required to develop national targets taking into account national circumstances, review, update and revise NBSAPs by integrating these national targets, in line with the Strategic Plan, monitor and review the implementation of their NBSAPs and report to CoP through the fifth and sixth national reports.



Source: www.cbd.int

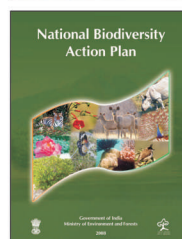
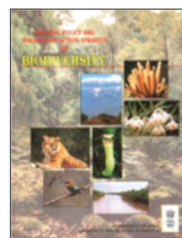
Overview of Aichi Biodiversity Targets

	Awareness of biodiversity increased		Biodiversity values integrated		Increased reformed		Sustainable production and consumption
	Habitat loss halved or reduced		Sustainable management of aquatic living sources		Sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry		Pollution reduced
	Invasive alien species prevented and controlled		Ecosystems vulnerable to climate change		Protected Areas		Reducing risk of extinction
	Safe-guarding genetic diversity		Ecosystem services		Ecosystem restoration and resilience		Access to and sharing benefits from genetic resources
	Biodiversity strategies and action plans		Traditional knowledge		Sharing information and knowledge		Mobilizing resources from all sources

INDIA'S NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN (NBAP)



- Article 6 of CBD enjoins upon all Parties to prepare national strategies, plans or programmes for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (commonly called NBSAPs), and to integrate conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.
- Pursuant to ratification of CBD, a National Policy and Macrolevel Action Strategy on Biodiversity was prepared by India in 1999 through a consultative process, as a macro level statement of existing policies and programmes, gaps and further actions needed for conservation and sustainable use.
- After approval of National Environment Policy (NEP) in 2006, updation of the 1999 document was taken up in consonance with NEP, and using the report of an externally aided project on preparation of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. India prepared its second generation National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) in 2008.
- There are 175 action points in India's NBAP, 2008 under the following broad thematic areas:
 - Strengthening and integration of in situ, on-farm and ex situ conservation,
 - Augmentation of the natural resource base and its sustainable utilization,
 - Ensuring inter and intra generational equity,
 - Regulation of introduction of invasive alien species and their management,
 - Assessment of vulnerability and adaptation to climate change and desertification,
 - Integration of biodiversity concerns in economic and social development,
 - (vii) pollution impacts,
 - Development and integration of biodiversity databases,
 - Strengthening the implementation of policy, legislative and administrative measures for biodiversity conservation and management,
 - Building national capacities for biodiversity conservation and appropriate use of new technologies,
 - Valuation of goods and services provided by biodiversity and use of economic instruments in decision-making processes and
 - International cooperation.
- Under the project on preparation of NBSAP which was implemented from 2000-2004, State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (SBSAPs) were also prepared for states.
- With the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 including the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, Parties to the CBD were required to revise and update the NBSAPs by integrating the national targets.
- Accordingly, 12 National Biodiversity Targets (NBTs) in line with 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets have been developed by India, and the NBAP 2008 updated in 2014. Associated indicators and monitoring framework have also been developed to provide a roadmap for achieving the NBTs.
- The updated NBAP 2014 integrating the NBTs is available at the websites of the CBD and the Ministry at the links <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/in/in-nbsap-v3-en.pdf> and <http://envfor.nic.in/sites/default/files/NBAP%20Addendum%202014.pdf>, respectively.



NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY TARGETS



MoEFCC initiated the process of developing NBTs through a high level meeting with concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India (GoI) in November 2011 followed by a series of inter-ministerial meetings and stakeholders consultations over a period of three years. NBTs have been prepared based on extensive consultation with a range of stakeholders and a review of programmes and activities being undertaken by the concerned Ministries/ Departments in the GoI and by concerned agencies.

	Biodiversity Awareness	By 2020, a significant proportion of the country's population, especially the youth, is aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
	Biodiversity Valuation & Poverty Alleviation	By 2020, values of biodiversity are integrated in National and State planning process, development programmes and poverty alleviation strategies.
	Safeguarding Natural Habitats	Strategies for reducing rate of degradation, fragmentation and loss of all natural habitats are finalized and actions put in place by 2020 for environmental amelioration and human well-being.
	Managing Invasive Species	By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and strategies to manage them developed so that populations of prioritized invasive alien species are managed.
	Sustainable Landscapes	By 2020, measures are adopted for sustainable management of agriculture, forestry and fisheries.
	Protected Areas	Ecologically representative areas on land and in inland waters, as well as coastal and marine zones, especially those of particular importance for species, biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved effectively and equitably, on the basis of Protected Areas (PA) designation and management and other area-based conservation measures and are integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes, covering over 20% of the geographic area of the country, by 2020.
	Maintaining Genetic Diversity	By 2020, genetic diversity of cultivated plants, farm livestock and their wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing generic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.
	Ecosystem Services	By 2020, ecosystem services, especially those relating to water, human health, livelihoods and well being, are enumerated and measures to safeguard them are identified, taking into account the needs of women and local communities, particularly the poor and vulnerable sections.
	Access and Benefit Sharing	By 2015, Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair & Equitable Sharing of Benefits arising from their utilization as per the Nagoya Protocol are operational, consistent with national legislation.
	Inclusive Governance	By 2020, an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity action plan is made operational at different levels of governance.
	Protecting Traditional Knowledge	By 2020, national initiatives using communities traditional knowledge relating to biodiversity are strengthened, with a view to protecting this knowledge in accordance with national legislations and international obligations.
	Biodiversity Awareness	By 2020, opportunities to increase the availability of financial, human and technical resources to facilitate effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the national targets are identified and the Strategy for Resource Mobilization is adopted.

LINKAGES OF NBTs WITH AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS




- Biodiversity is at the centre of many economic activities, particularly those related to agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. Globally, nearly half of the human population is directly dependent on natural resources for its livelihood, and many of the most vulnerable people depend directly on biodiversity to fulfil their daily subsistence needs.
- Biodiversity and ecosystem services that they provide, play a key role in addressing some of the key developmental challenges. The role of biodiversity is now recognized globally, also evident through its inclusion across many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and associated targets. Though SDGs 14 and 15 are primarily focussed on biodiversity and natural resource management (NRM), both biodiversity and NRM are also reflected in various other SDGs.
- The contributions of biodiversity to achieving the SDGs can be easily understood by a mapping of the linkages between the SDGs, and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- As India's NBTs are aligned with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, implementation of NBTs would contribute not only to achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets but also contribute to achieving SDGs.

Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), officially known as Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, have been agreed upon by the 193 Members of the United Nations. Seventeen SDGs with 169 targets between them set out an ambitious framework to address a range of global societal challenges. They contribute directly to human well-being and development priorities.



Linkages of India's NBTs with Aichi Biodiversity Targets and SDGs

India's NBTs	Aichi Biodiversity Targets	SDGs
  	   	         
   	     	         
 	  	         
  	  	         
  	   	         

Consideration of biodiversity and ecosystem services is essential for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs, and in the implementation of key national priorities for sustainable development. Some examples of how conservation efforts can contribute to SDGs are given below.

Contribution of biodiversity to relevant SDGs: Indicative examples

Conservation efforts	Contribution to relevant SDGs
Well-managed, restored and protected forests can provide long-term water security, especially during times of drought, and can provide firewood to low income groups.	6, 13, 15
Protected and restored wetland ecosystems can buffer coastal and lowland communities against the impacts of floods, and can provide critical water filtration services, thereby greatly reducing or eliminating the need for built water-treatment infrastructure.	1, 6, 13, 15
A well-functioning national protected area system can provide national augment revenue and support local jobs and livelihoods.	8, 14, 15
The protection of agricultural genetic diversity, including of crop wild relatives, can help to ensure long-term national food security, particularly for species that are well adapted to climate extremes, such as flood, drought and excessive heat.	2, 13
Efforts at identifying, preventing and eradicating invasive alien species will save millions of dollars, increase the productivity of natural ecosystems, and decrease the risk of food scarcity.	13, 15
Ecosystem protection and restoration efforts can help to buffer coastal communities from the impacts of climate change, such as by buffering areas from more frequent and more severe coastal storms and rising sea levels, and preventing landslides and natural disasters from catastrophic deluges.	1, 13, 14
Well-managed ecosystems can provide a storehouse of medicinal resources that can be critical for maintaining health in rural areas as per traditional health systems.	3
The protection and restoration of coral reefs, and the prevention of key marine threats, can ensure the long-term health of fisheries, providing both critical nutrition and livelihoods to millions.	1,2, 14

IMPLEMENTATION OF NBAP: MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION



- Mainstreaming biodiversity means integration of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in both cross-sectoral plans such as sustainable development, poverty reduction, climate change adaptation/mitigation, trade etc.; and in sector-specific plans such as agriculture, fisheries, forestry, mining, energy, tourism, transport etc. Mainstreaming biodiversity is particularly important for sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, tourism etc. that depend heavily on biodiversity and its components, as well as related ecosystem functions and services. These sectors also have impact on biodiversity in direct and indirect ways.
- The mandate for mainstreaming biodiversity is provided for in Article 6 (b) of CBD which obliges Parties to “Integrate as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies”.
- As the activities of all economic sectors impact biodiversity in some way and at some level, through mainstreaming biodiversity concerns can be internalized into the way economic sectors, development models, policies and programmes operate. Integrating biodiversity concerns into the way sectors operate can have immediate benefits in improving environmental quality and productivity, and can also serve as a long-term safeguard for sustainable development. Ideally, biodiversity policy should not be seen as independent of sectoral policies, but rather sectoral policies should be seen as an instrument to implement national biodiversity goals. Mainstreaming of biodiversity into sectors can include strategies to reduce the negative impacts that the sector has on biodiversity.
- Mainstreaming biodiversity is not only a commitment under the CBD but also one of the underlining objectives of sustainable development. NBSAPs are considered as an important tool and a key instrument for mainstreaming biodiversity.
- Implementation of NBSAPs and achieving NBTs cannot be accomplished without close cooperation among all stakeholders. These include: concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government, NBA, SBBs, State Forest Departments, State Planning Boards and relevant departments of State Governments such as fisheries, forests, agriculture, livestock and animal husbandry, mining and education, local-level institutions, including BMCs, Forest Rights Committees, Village Eco development Committees, Joint Forest Management Committees and Gram sabhas (village assemblies) are critical elements for implementation of the NBAP.



Importance of biodiversity for various sectors: Some examples

Agriculture

Biodiversity is the basis of agriculture as it is at the origin of all crops and domesticated livestock and the variety among them. Essential functions, such as nutrient cycling, decomposition of organic matter, soil formation and rehabilitation, pest and disease regulation, and pollination that benefit crop and livestock production, are maintained by ecosystems which are critical to sustain food production, nutrition, human and animal well-being.

Fisheries

Marine, coastal and inland ecosystems host a variety of aquatic biological diversity that play a significant role in achieving food security and improved nutrition, promoting health and reducing poverty, and offering opportunity for employment and income generation. Fisheries and aquaculture depend on the sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems to maintain economic, social and ecological benefits in the long term. Mainstreaming biodiversity in fisheries policies, programmes and plans is key to sustain the habitats which serve as feeding, spawning and nursery sites which are essential for fish populations. Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture are key components of sustainable development.

Forestry

Forests hold the majority of the world's terrestrial biodiversity and offer a diverse set of habitats for plants, animals and micro-organisms. The diversity of forest ecosystems is extremely important for sustainable development. The ecosystem services that forests provide are vital for all life forms and in particular to local communities. Development and implementation of appropriate policies and practices, contributes to forest and wildlife protection and in turn biodiversity conservation.

Tourism

The tourism sector is one of the major sectors of the global economy. Nature-based tourism relies on biodiversity and diverse ecosystems to attract tourists. Tourism can contribute directly to the conservation of sensitive areas and habitats through a variety of activities and by raising awareness of the importance of biodiversity. There are pathways for ensuring the long-term sustainability of tourism while also ensuring that it contributes positively to biodiversity, such as by integrating biodiversity into policies and models for tourism development, adoption of practices for sustainable infrastructure, conservation of landscape and ecosystems and capacity building programmes for creating awareness about the importance of biodiversity for tourism sector.



MOBILIZING RESOURCES FOR NBTs



- Biodiversity provides a range of ecological and economic services and contributes to various aspects of human development. Investing in biodiversity is the basis for sustainable development. Positive biodiversity outcomes will lead to co-benefits of societal, developmental and economic growth across various sectors which is important for sustainable development.
- However, available evidences indicate that current level of investments in biodiversity conservation and management are inadequate to achieve the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets defined in the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. An assessment conducted by CBD's high level panel on Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, estimated the global financing needs for achieving the CBD Strategic Plan at between USD 150-440 billion per year by 2020. Present funding is nowhere close.
- This funding gap needs to be filled to achieve the achievement of both the global and national targets of biodiversity conservation and the SDGs.
- Parties to CBD are required to assess the extent of current expenditure and financing needs for biodiversity conservation and formation of a comprehensive methodology for resource mobilization strategies and solutions, particularly for implementation of NBSAPs and achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- In India, resource flows to the biodiversity sector include direct core funding and non-core funding (that originates from the budgetary resources of the MoEFCC); indirect peripheral funding, which comprises development budgetary resources that are allocated by other scientific and development Ministries/Departments of the GoI towards programmes that have a bearing on biodiversity conservation; and funding by the State Governments on biodiversity and environment.
- India for the first time undertook an assessment of funding for biodiversity conservation for the year 2010-2011 in which funding for core (direct and immediate biodiversity impact of MoEFCC programmes/schemes), net non-core (indirect), and net peripheral funding flows (from biodiversity relevant 29 schemes of seven Ministries/Departments other than MoEFCC), along with core funding by the State Governments was assessed. Building on this study and using similar methodology, an assessment was conducted for 2013-2014 that included expanded datasets based on peripheral funding related to 77 schemes of 23 Ministries/Departments of the GoI. Each State and Union Territory (UT) in India also allocates part of its budget for expenditure on the environment and the same was included. The overall funding for biodiversity conservation was estimated to be 92044.50 million (9204.45 crores or USD 1482.68 million) for 2013-2014. Since assessment of funding for biodiversity is work in progress, these are not conclusive or definitive figures, but only best estimates.
- Building on this exercise, further assessment of biodiversity expenditure in the country and finance needs for implementing the NBAP is being done under the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) Project which is being led by MoEFCC hosted by the NBA and is managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Under the BIOFIN study, at the national level, 118 schemes of 26 peripheral ministries have been identified for their relevance to biodiversity conservation. Further, under the BIOFIN project in India, current expenditures for biodiversity conservation in the country (from public and private sources) has been assessed, using a unique methodology developed for assessing the attributable expenditure for biodiversity conservation.

Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) Project

As a response to the assessment conducted by CBD's high level panel on global assessment of resources for implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, UNDP launched a global programme, namely, Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) in 2011 at CoP 11 to the CBD in Hyderabad. BIOFIN is a UNDP-managed global collaborative partnership to develop and implement an evidence-based methodology that improves biodiversity outcomes using finance and economics. This programme is supported by the European Union and the Governments of Germany, Switzerland, Norway and Flanders. BIOFIN aims to-

- Develop and pilot a new approach and methodology to fill the financing gap for biodiversity;
- Support CBD Parties in reporting on resource mobilization (Financial Reporting Framework);
- Assist countries to better mobilize and align domestic and international finance for biodiversity, including implementation of NBSAPs, and to achieve sustainable development goals.

The BIOFIN methodology provides an innovative, and systematic approach to estimate the finance needs for implementing National Biodiversity Action Plan and to develop a resource mobilization strategy for achieving the National Biodiversity Targets. It entails stepwise activities that enables countries to:

- Analyse the programme and institutional context for biodiversity finance;
- Measure the current national biodiversity expenditures from various sources;
- Assess future financial needs for implementing NBAP; and
- Identify and mobilize the resources required to successfully implement the NBAP

BIOFIN inter-alia aims to create an effective dialogue among multiple ministries and actors in the area of biodiversity finance that improves communication and efficiency in budget planning, resource mobilization, and biodiversity management.

BIOFIN is currently being piloted in 31 countries across the globe. Government of India joined the BIOFIN programme in the year 2015. BIOFIN was launched in India on 22 May 2015 in Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir) on the International Day for Biological Diversity. In India, BIOFIN is led by MoEFCC, hosted by NBA and is being managed by UNDP. BIOFIN is being implemented at the national level and in two pilot States of Uttarakhand and Maharashtra.



INDICATORS AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK FOR NBTs



- Indicators and monitoring framework for NBTs has been put in place, as part of updated NBAP, 2014, with a view to facilitate monitoring of trends and recording progress in their implementation through a consultative process.
- Agencies for implementation have also been identified on the basis of their mandate, domain expertise and geographical coverage for monitoring the progress in achieving the NBTs.
- Composite indicators have been provided with detailed description for each NBT with periodicity of monitoring.
- Other tools and metrics for monitoring and protecting biodiversity can also be used for monitoring progress of achieving NBTs, such as the City Biodiversity Index.

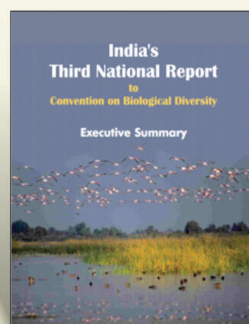
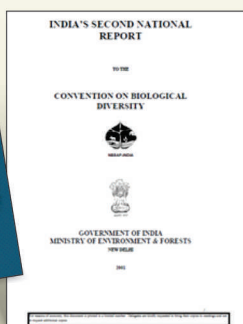
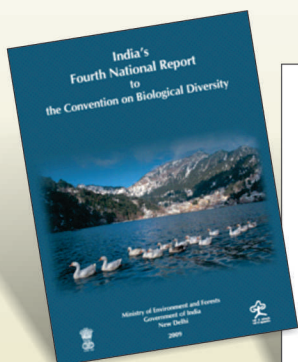
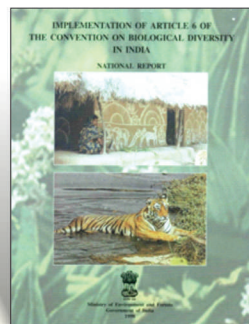
City Biodiversity Index

- A self-assessment tool namely “City Biodiversity Index (CBI) or Singapore Index (SI)” is available for evaluating and monitoring the progress of the biodiversity conservation efforts within cities against their own baselines. It was proposed during the CoP-9 of 2008 held at Singapore to benchmark biodiversity conservation efforts of cities. CBI is a quantitative index that can be arrived at by consolidating several measurable biodiversity indicators for cities.
- CBI comprises two sub - components, with the first component including background information on the city under ‘Profile of the City’. The second component on ‘Indicators’ consists of 23 indicators that measure native biodiversity, ecosystem services provided by biodiversity, and governance and management of biodiversity. Each indicator is assigned a scoring range between zero and four points, with a total maximum score of 92 points. A User’s Manual on the Singapore Index on Cities’ Biodiversity to measure the above indicators is available at the link <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/city/subws-2014-01/other/subws-2014-01-singapore-index-manual-en.pdf>.
- The CBI assists the cities in achieving their biodiversity goals that can be linked to the achievement of NBTs in India. It also acts as a public platform for creating awareness and capacity building on biodiversity. Among the stakeholders including governing departments of the city, academics, NGOs and the public, promoting networking, linkage and cooperation, through collection of information, sharing of mutual goals, resulting in better policy outcomes.
- CBI is also being used by Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), a global network founded in 1990 by 200 Local Governments from 43 countries committed to building a sustainable future, under ‘Biodiversity’, one of its 10 Urban Agendas.
- In India, Hyderabad became the first Indian city to have calculated CBI in 2012. Other cities where the efforts are underway for calculation of CBI include Vishakhapatnam, Kochi, Mangalore, Goa etc.
- CBI is expected to be relevant for development of smart cities under the ‘Smart City Mission’ initiated by GoI, as part of which 100 cities are being developed as “Smart Cities” in the first phase. Smart city features include inter alia, preserving and developing open spaces – parks, playgrounds, and recreational spaces in order to enhance the quality of life of citizens, reduce the urban heat effect in areas and generally promote eco-balance and creating walkable localities to reduce congestion, air pollution and resource depletion among many other things. Integration of the CBI as a monitoring tools for the biodiversity and eco-system health will health create smart, sustainable cities.

NATIONAL REPORTS TO CBD



- CBD enjoins upon Parties to present national reports to the Conference of Parties (CoP) on a regular basis. The objective of the national reporting is to provide information on measures taken for the implementation of the CBD by Parties and the effectiveness of these measures.
- The national reports are publically available and assist relevant stakeholders to formulate focused strategies and programmes to assist Parties, with implementation. This also assists individual Parties or groups of Parties to identify common issues to be addressed, thus facilitating the development of cost-effective and mutually-supportive initiatives for implementation.
- The preparation of national report is overseen or led by the national focal point for the CBD and the templates are agreed in the CoP meetings.
- All the national reports are available at <http://nbaindia.org/content/500/55/1/biodiversityrelatedi.html> and <https://www.cbd.int/reports/search/>

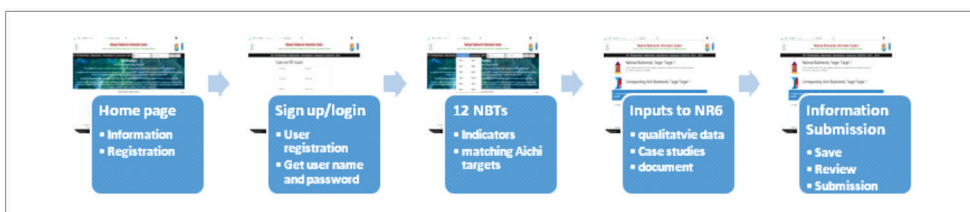


SIXTH NATIONAL REPORT TO CBD



- At CoP 13, the guidelines including reporting templates, for the sixth national report to be submitted by Parties was adopted. The format of the sixth national report requires reporting on review of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including relevant national targets, based on information concerning the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other actions taken to implement the CBD.
- The sixth national report is to be prepared through involvement of the relevant stakeholders including representatives of government ministries/state governments/representatives of indigenous peoples and local community organizations, research and academic bodies, the private sector, bodies representing the agriculture, forestry, fisheries, tourism, mining, energy, transport, manufacturing or other sectors, environmental management bodies, non-government organisations, women's organizations and agencies addressing sustainable development and poverty eradication.
- Different approaches can be used for assessment of progress towards NBTs and their national contribution towards the global Aichi Biodiversity Targets. These may include quantitative indicators i.e., measures or matrix base on verifiable data, expert opinion, stakeholder consultation and case studies.
- The sixth national report contains seven sections and a template has been provided for each section that contains specific questions with selection of possible answers.
 - i. Information on the targets being pursued at the national level
 - ii. Implementation measures taken, assessment of their effectiveness, associated obstacles and scientific and technical needs to achieve national targets
 - iii. Assessment of progress towards each national target
 - iv. Description of national contribution to the achievement of each global Aichi Biodiversity Target
 - v. Description of the national contribution to the achievement of the targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
 - vi. Additional information on the contribution of local communities (completion of this section is optional)
 - vii. Updated biodiversity country profiles
- MoEFCC, in association with NBA and UNDP is organising a series of consultation workshops with concerned stakeholders for sensitization and creating awareness on NBAP and NBTs, as well as for seeking inputs from concerned stakeholders for preparation of India's sixth national report to the CBD.
- These include regional workshops covering all states/UTs with representatives of concerned state departments including forests, agriculture/horticulture/fisheries, planning, tourism, industry, rural development etc., SBBs, State Institutes of Rural Development and Administrative Training Institutes and a national workshop with concerned departments/ministries and agencies of central government at national level. Interactive sessions with academia, research institutions, industry and NGOs are also being organized to sensitize stakeholders about the sixth national report and seek inputs.

- MoEFCC and NBA with support from UNDP have also launched a dedicated website (<http://www.nationalreport6.in/>) to receive online inputs for the sixth national report to CBD.
- The website is designed to enable stakeholders to submit information in line with the structure of the sixth national report. The website provides all relevant documents viz. NBAP, earlier national reports submitted by India, instruction manual by CBD and relevant CoP decisions.
- The following steps guide the user to submit the inputs



How To Use

Accessing the website

- Open your favourite web browser and enter the following website address: (<http://www.nationalreport6.in/>). You will be brought to the home page for the website.
- On the home page of the website, click on the 'Registration' link to create your account.
- You will be asked to provide basic contact information for registration including a username and password for accessing the website.
- There is also an option to recover a forgotten password.

Submitting the information

- As the information is to be submitted for each target, users have to select the NBT or click on the icon of the respective NBT.
- The login information has to be provided prior to entering information for each NBT.
- Each NBT has a different set of questionnaire to be answered. The users can save and edit their responses prior to submission.
- Relevant information/documents/photographs etc. can also be uploaded for each NBT.
- The website has the feature to keep track on the information already submitted on various NBTs. In case you need to logout in the middle of submission of the information, you can type the next time and continue the process.

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to submit the information for India's sixth national report to CBD.



For further information, please contact

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