

## Case Study Booklet

International Workshop “Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Production Landscapes:  
Integrated Approaches in Design and Implementation of National Biodiversity  
Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)”

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## CAMBODIA

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### *Cambodia's NBSAP implementation related to Production Landscapes*

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#### ***(1) Process of incorporation into NBSAP***

As signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Kingdom of Cambodia developed its initial National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in 2002 with 17 themes and the current version of NBSAP was updated in 2016, covering 24 thematic areas to conserve and make sustainable use of the country's biodiversity for the national and global benefits. The updated of NBSAP was the result of efforts and commitments made by various government institutions, academies, stakeholders, biodiversity specialists, conservation partners and non-governmental agencies.

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) was developed under the overall coordination of the General Directorate of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection of the Ministry of Environment, and the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development. In order to ensure a truly participatory approach in the review process that would lead to the full ownership of the update of NBSAP and an effective engagement in the implementation process there was several consultative workshops and meeting with an inter-ministerial technical working group which consisted of 9 ministries and other government entities, local communities and indigenous ethnic minorities, civil society and non-governmental organization to participate actively in the consultation. Noticeable that the development of the NBSAP was based on a broad and inclusive consultation process to ensure consensus, strategic cohesion. NBSAP is emphasized much on building institutional capacity and knowledge to strengthen conservation management and enforcement, expand community livelihood opportunities and support sustainable uses of biodiversity.

## ***(2) Success factors and obstacles to incorporation into NBSAP***

NBSAP's Cambodia vision is by 2050; Cambodia's biodiversity and its ecosystem services are valued, conserved, wisely used and well managed and the NBSAP is applicable to implement in Cambodia context. Therefore we have mission need to complete namely is to mainstream biodiversity issues and values in national development, sectoral policies, plans and programmes and to protect and wisely use biodiversity by reducing the various direct and indirect pressures causing its loss or degradation.

However, the overall impact of the NBSAP has been limited by inadequate human, financial and institutional capacities, combined with insufficient knowledge and awareness of the value of sustainable development and poverty reduction in the country.

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## **Section 2: Implementation status, challenges and future considerations of the target policies/projects**

### ***(1) About the policies/projects***

The 'Strengthening national biodiversity and forest carbon stock through landscape-based collaborative management of Cambodia's Protected Area System as demonstrated in the Eastern Plains Landscape' (hereafter referred to as 'CAMPAS') project is funded by the GEF Trust Fund and has been Executing Agency by Ministry of Environment. The project will be implemented as a collaborative project between the Ministry of Environment, other national level Ministries as appropriate, subnational government agencies in Mondulhiri Province, and a consortium of non-governmental organisations including WCS, WWF, Birdlife, Live & Learn and ERECON.

The objective of the CAMPAS project is to 'enhance Cambodia's protected area management effectiveness and secure forest carbon through improving inter-sectoral collaboration, landscape connectivity and sustainable forest management'. The project's overall goal is 'to improve the sustainability of Cambodia's system of protected areas mainstream biodiversity into production landscapes, and promote conservation of carbon stocks'.

### ***(2) Current situation of implementation and challenges***

Related to production landscape in NBSAP we have keys achievements noticeably that our protected area in Cambodia was established in 1993 which was 23 protected areas equal to 3.194.796ha. that cover 17% of the country's land area. After the depth reform

of environmental and natural resource was taken place in 2016, currently the protect area increase to 45 equal to 5.904.883ha. Which cover 32% of the country's land area. For sustainable forestry we will establish habitat restoration with native tree plantations and enhanced agro-forestry practices over at least 500 hectares and increase resource and livelihood security for communities in community protected areas (CPAs) / community forests (CFs) / community fisheries (CFi).

Last but not least, for community participation, in 2017 there are 100 potential eco-tourism sites was identified in Cambodia mostly in protected area such as beautiful landscape, biodiversity attraction, fresh air etc. Besides that communities can get income and local products are promoted by providing services to tourists such accommodation, food, tour guide and they change their behavior toward biodiversity by participation in protected natural resources.

### ***(3) Future implementation***

We will continue to engage with all stakeholders to raise and strengthen awareness of NBSAP to line ministries and other stakeholders in order for them including key actions to their action plan and policy. Hopefully all stakeholders and line ministries effectively implement NBSAP and known by publics.

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## **Section 3: Contributions to achievement of relevant national biodiversity targets and Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

### ***(1) Relevant Aichi Biodiversity Target(s)***

There are 24 thematic approaches in Cambodia's NBSAP. Among the 24 thematic approaches there are 3 which closely related to production landscape such as thematic 1 protected area system: national biodiversity target 6 and 8 (Aichi target 11 and 14), thematic 9 sustainable forestry: national biodiversity target 5 (Aichi target 7) and thematic 19 community participation: national biodiversity target 8 (Aichi target 11).

### ***(2) Evaluation***

Monitoring and evaluation are essential for Cambodia Biodiversity Targets as well as for Aichi Targets. The monitoring and evaluation emphasis the progress of implementation, status, trends of biodiversity and their value. That allow for an adaptive effective and efficient of NBSAP.

Technical working group have suggest indicators including biological, ecological, social and economic. There are two categories of the indicators which include input, process

and output indicators referred to performance indicators which calculated from data that routinely collected, maintained and analyzed by various stakeholders. Another indicator's category includes outcome and impact indicators.

However, broad participation and strong coordination mechanism from all stakeholder was required to enhance efficiency and avoid unnecessary duplications.

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#### **Section 4: Future steps including further policy development and review of implementation of existing policies, including lessons learned**

##### ***(1) Future plans***

In order to achieve the integration of production landscape into NBSAP, in future, we must develop a clear policy related to payment for ecosystem service so that stakeholders have obligation to participate in protection eco-system and natural resources.

##### ***(2) Lessons learned and key messages***

In order to implement NBSAP successfully, human resource is one of a very importance factor as not many people properly understand about benefit of protection biodiversity and natural resources. We need to build capacity and raise awareness of community and everyone who involve in project about value of biodiversity. In addition, conducting a substantial research with applicable recommendation for management is also crucial to take action.

## COLOMBIA

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*Mangrove Ecosystems in Colombia:  
Current status of the ecosystem and actions for its conservation and management*

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### **Section 1: Process of incorporation of the target policies/projects into the NBSAP, including success factors and challenges**

#### ***(1) Process of incorporation into NBSAP***

Our NBSAP focuses on our National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (PNGIBSE) through the execution of concrete actions that are coordinated between sectors on a regional level that allow the reduction of direct and indirect pressures on our biodiversity and ecosystem services, maintaining follow-up and periodic evaluations on the progress towards attaining national objectives. In this same way, it promotes the incorporation of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the sectorial pacification with short, medium and long term actions, so that productivity and competitiveness take into account the resilience of socio-ecosystems as a referent for growth.

For Colombia, our NBSAP will serve as the Action Plan for the Implementation of the PNGIBSE, and is known locally as Colombia's 'PAB' or '*Plan de Acción de Biodiversidad*'.

The process that was applied for the construction of our NBSAP began in 2014 and was made possible through consultations with different authorities that make up our National Environmental System (Directorates and Offices from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Autonomous Regional Corporations, Research Institutes, National Natural Parks, academic and scientific sector on national and regional level), as well as having done several workshops and creating working groups with specific productive sectors, such as Mining, Energy and Hydrocarbons, Agriculture and Infrastructure in the framework of existing inter-institutional work plans. The goal was to have environmental authorities, scientists, academics, different ministries and productive sector representatives work in a coordinated and articulated manner in order to promote joint responsibilities



in actions regarding knowledge, conservations, use and restoration in a way that improves and increases participation and the recognition of biodiversity and its ecosystem services as a public value.

In the year 2012, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, with the support of the National Department for Planning and the Alexander von Humboldt Institute, presented the National Policy for the Integral Management of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, formulated based on the articulation between plans and strategies from different sectors in a national level, and as a result of the revision and update of the 1996 National Policy for Biodiversity.

This policy of State has as an objective the promotion of the Integral Management of Biodiversity and its Ecosystem Services in a way that the resilience of socio-ecological systems is maintained and improved on a national, regional, local and cross-boundary level, taking into account joint efforts between the State, the productive sectors and civil society. IN this same way, it establishes the relationship between the strategic framework of the Policy and the fulfillment of the Aichi Targets. For this purpose, it proposes six main axis: (i) Biodiversity, conservation and protection of the environment; (ii) Biodiversity, governance and creation of public value; (iii) Biodiversity, economic development and quality of life; (iv) Biodiversity, knowledge, technology and information management; (v) Biodiversity, risk management and provision of ecosystem services; and (vi) Biodiversity, shared responsibility and global commitments. These are further divided in 33 strategic lines, looking to target underlying causes and motors for loss and transformation of biodiversity.

Our NBSAP has a strategy for resource mobilization that is in the process of being constructed and is supported by BIOFIN. Regarding costs for short, medium and long term targets of the NBSAP, initial calculations indicate that in order to be able to implement them, Colombia will require around USD 4.813 million.

Within the targets of our NBSAP, on a productive level, we have contemplated actions that involve economic sectors, such as agriculture, that will have indicators regarding sustainability, follow-up and verification mechanisms for compliance, and others that promote local development in a sustainable manner, and in territories high in biodiversity and those affected by the internal armed conflict. In that same line, reconversion plans with indicators related to sustainability, green business, and the formulation and implementation of the National Strategy for Bioprospecting, amongst others.

## ***(2) Success factors and obstacles to incorporation into NBSAP***

Our NBSAP can be considered and ‘umbrella’ type instrument that encompasses the policies that Colombia has and in certain ways, concrete actions can be attained, as well as contemplating specific plans, programs and projects. In this line and for the case regarding marine and coastal topics, Colombia has a policy for coastal and insular zones since the year 2000. The main objective of this

policy is “Promote the sustainable development of oceanic spaces and coastal zones that allow, by means of integrated management, the contribution for the improvement of the quality of life for the Colombian population, the harmonious development of productive activities and the conservation and preservation of the marine and coastal ecosystems and their resources.” This policy is the one that implements specifically the components of the NBSAP and that was formulated along the lines of chapter 17 of the Agenda 21 from the Rio Declaration.

From a national perspective, the integrated management of coastal zones in Colombia works under the concept developed by the Coastal Environmental Units (CEU) for the National Environmental Policy for the Sustainable Development of Oceanic Spaces and Coastal and Insular Zones of Colombia. These CEUs will be able to work with the Ordination and Integrated Management Plan, which will establish objectives, targets, programs, projects, strategies, and the measures needed for the administration and sustainable management of renewable natural resources.

In the programs, rehabilitation and restoration of marine and coastal degraded ecosystems is contemplated, and propose the formulation, concertation and operation of programs with characteristic that put at risk their environmental quality, concentrating in specific sites with an integrated and interdisciplinary approach. Mangroves make up part of these ecosystems, and therefore are object of these processes of planning and environmental ordinance. In that same line, Colombia has a National Program for the Sustainable Use, Management and Conservations of Mangrove Ecosystems. Given that these are catalogued as ‘ecosystems of special ecological importance’, it was strategic and widely accepted without problems for their inclusion in our NBSAP construction.

However, even though these efforts for ordinance exist, along with the management of the CEUs, Colombia has faced in recent years important institutional changes, which has presented new challenges for coordination within the environmental sector and its work with others.

- 2011: Regional Environmental Authorities with jurisdiction over marine and coastal zones
- 2011: Creation of the Directorate for Marine and Coastal Affairs and Aquatic Resources within the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
- 2013: Regulation for the ordinance of marine, coastal and insular territories in Colombia

## **Section 2: Implementation status, challenges and future considerations of the target policies/projects**

### ***(1) About the policies/projects***

The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is the governing body regarding environmental policy on a national level. However, the implementation must reach the region led by the Regional Environmental Authorities (REAs), in particular cases, with whichever entity administers the National Natural Parks of Colombia and the research institutes, with the participation of the productive sectors (fisheries, energy, transportation) and communities in general (fishermen, NGOs, ethnic minorities).

Specifically, Colombia has a National Plan for Mangroves, which works as a mechanism for follow-up to actions in regards of conservation and use of mangrove ecosystems. Within this entire process, the following components are tackled:

1. **Zoning**: Zoning of ecosystems on a scale of 1:25.000 with categories and regimen use. This work is currently not being done on a national level, but there are important activities that have been carried out by REAs beginning in the year 2000.
2. **Planning**: There are plans for ‘specific’ integral management for some units under the category of sustainable use (zoning). For example, “*Estuarine Sector of Cispatá Bay*”, “*Swamp of Caimanera*”, and “*Gulf of Tribugá*”. More ‘general’ management plans, for instance for mangroves in the jurisdiction of Corponariño (an Autonomous Regional Corporation) in the Pacific region. Regarding diversity of resources, there is a need to concentrate in the ‘anchor’ plans dedicated to: wood, fish, amongst others, as well as articulate with planning instruments with ethnic minorities.
3. **Protected Areas**: Declare protected areas or a regional character or on a national level, in order to attain Aichi Target 11. During 2017, very important areas were declared in relation to mangrove ecosystems. The *Regional District for Integral Management el Encanto* in the mangroves of Bajo Baudó with 314,000 hectares, and the *National District for Integral Management Cabo Manglares* with 192,000 hectares. Both of these are located in the Colombian Pacific.
4. **Research**: The zoning processes are the result of diagnostic studies and characterization of these ecosystems led by the Environmental Authorities with the support of the academic sector and some NGOs. However, other studies exist that are very specific and go way before the year 2000, boarding topics, such as productivity regarding fishery resources, associated fauna, accumulation of metals, quality of sediments, amongst others. Currently, research on fixation of CO<sub>2</sub> is being undertaken.

5. **Participation, Education and Capacity Building:** All the REAs have specific plans and programs of environmental education. These are carried out with the communities and involve the productive sector. In that same line, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development takes on within its policy, the active relationship with the local communities, for example working on topics of restoration (with the own language) with the *Eperara Siapidara* indigenous population from the Colombian Pacific. Additionally, there has been work done regarding education in ways of projects for awareness with WWF.
6. **Restoration:** Colombia has lines for restoration and monitoring for mangroves that were constructed in a participative manner (communities or environmental authorities), and has developed pilot projects for restoration in different regions of the country since 2015 and has invested about 200 million pesos.
7. **Productive Projects:** Environmental authorities identify and implement different productive alternatives for the communities that depend directly or indirectly from mangrove resources, such as: conservation and management of wild fauna, restoration of mangrove deteriorated areas, nature tourism, traditional productive systems, technologic alternatives for the reduction of pressure over mangrove resources (efficient stoves, for instance).
8. **Legal and Normative Aspects:** We have normative instruments since 1995 targeting topics of ordinance and currently we are working on updating these instruments.
9. **Information Systems:** Colombia has a geographical information system specific for mangroves (SIGMA). This system (<http://buritaca.invemar.org.co/SigmaGeoVisor/>) came about from the need to know, unite, organize and exchange available information in an efficient manner for the management of the mangrove ecosystems of the country. In this sense, the SIGMA has become a repository of information and a tool that generated reports related to four lines of action or modules of information: (i) State module, which supports data supplied by the National Protocol on Monitoring; (ii) Pressure module or look-out of mangroves; (iii) Management module, which visualizes actions developed by authorities in the framework of the Program for Sustainable Use, Management and Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems in Colombia; and (iv) Goods and Services module. Additionally, the SIGMA works under the Environmental Marine Information System (SIAM) (<http://siam.invemar.org.co/>), which is the bringing together of conceptual elements, policies, norms, processes, human resources, and technologies that articulate the environmental marine and coastal information generated, administered or required on a national, regional or local level. The SIAM has as its objective, the development of the instruments of gathering, analysis and management of environmental information and of the use or marine and coastal resources in Colombia as elements for support for the generation of knowledge, decision making processes and management directed towards the sustainable

development in a space that encourages civil participation. Both systems are administered by the Institute of Marine and Coastal Research of Colombia – INVEMAR.

10. **Institutional Strengthening**: Processes for the collective construction, such as: lines for monitoring and restoration, updating of norms in relation to mangroves, consolidation of a space for dialogue; pilots for monitoring and restoration of mangroves, and the constructions and capacity building related to the SIGMA.

## (2) *Current situation of implementation and challenges*

Close to 273,000 hectares

- 74% in the Pacífico: 201.178 hectares
- 26% in the continental Caribbean: 71.742 hectares
- <0,1% in the insular Caribbean: 211 hectares

50% of the REAs have zoning of their mangroves that has been approved by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and the other 50% has studies of categorization and diagnostics to attain formal approval.

100% report actions on the National Program for Mangroves.

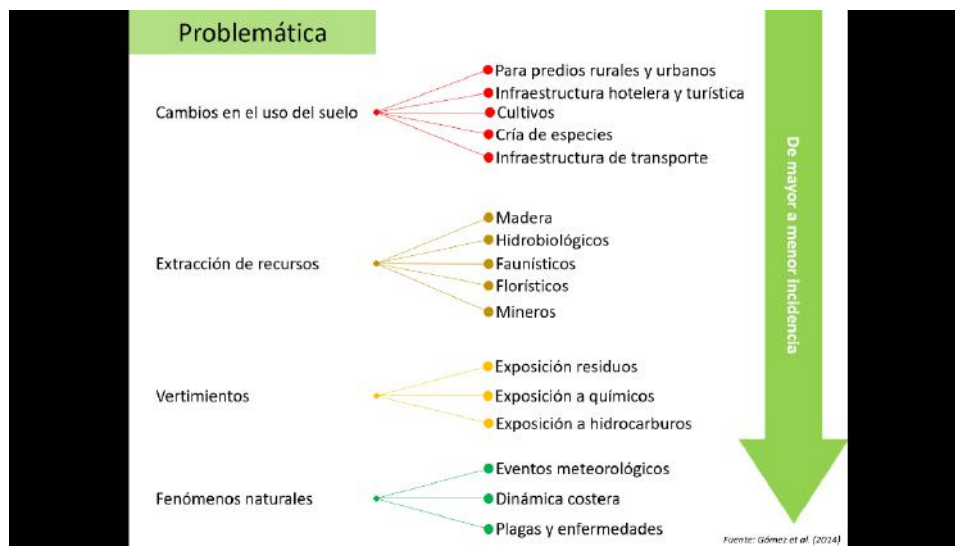
The actions taken on my the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development are focused on the generating of action lines for the sustainable use and conservation strategies of mangrove ecosystems, working hand in hand with different Environmental Authorities and local communities as key actors for the protection and sustenance.

- Pilot projects on mangrove restoration since (in coordination with Regional Autonomous Corporations: Corponariño, Codechocó, Carcucre) in 2014, 2015 and 2017.
- Pilot projects on participative restoration of mangroves with indigenous population *eperarara siapidara* (Cauca: 2015, 2017).
- Pilot projects for monitoring of mangroves in Colombia (2015)
- Guidelines for the monitoring of mangroves in Colombia (2014)
- Guidelines for mangrove restoration in Colombia (2015)
- Updating regulations regarding mangroves in Colombia (2016, 2017)
- Community greenhouses in the Ciénaga Grande of Santa Marta with the University of Magdalena (2017)

Challenges:

- Growth in population
- Insertion in the “economy”
- Conversion for urban, tourism, and infrastructure development

- Degradation due to forest and fishery resource extraction
- Natural impacts



### (3) *Future implementation*

Mangroves, according to Colombian legislation, are ecosystems or special ecological importance, as well as ‘*páramo*’ ecosystems and wetlands. In terms of percentages in comparison to other ecosystems on a national level, mangroves represent a reduced value, but extremely high in ecosystem values (economic and non-economic), as a source of fishery resources, protection for coastal lines, landscape value, connectivity and integrality with other ecosystems, amongst others.

- General awareness of the ecosystem value of mangroves. The Pacific Region of the country has the most extensive and important ecosystem in the entire region.
- Colombia must complete the zoning of the entirety of all the mangrove ecosystems in the country, with a perspective of sustainable development (projects, works or activities of development that are aligned to the conservation of these ecosystems)
- Achieve that all REAs consolidate their respective Management Plans for Mangrove Ecosystems.
- Local communities must participate actively in the implementation of these management plans.
- Generate true relevance in financial terms for the conservation and appropriate use of these ecosystems.
- Consolidate economic and financial instruments for conservation of these ecosystems.
- In relation to the NBSAP, formulate or update regional plans for action for biodiversity, in compliance of the financial strategy.

### **Section 3: Contributions to achievement of relevant national biodiversity targets and Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

#### **(1) *Relevant Aichi Biodiversity Target(s)***

Colombia focuses on Aichi Target 11:

1. 50% of the mangroves in Colombia are protected under the mechanism of National or Regional Protected Areas.
2. Regional Parks that have Objectives of Conservation dedicated to mangroves implemented by different Autonomous Regional Corporations:
  - National Regional Park ‘Old Point’ in the Island of San Andrés – Archipiélago of San Andrés, Providence and Santa Catalina (CORALINA)
  - Regional District for Integrated Management “La Caimanera” (CARSUCRE)
  - Regional District for Integrated Management “Cispatá” (CVS)
  - Regional District for Integrated Management “Tribugá – Cabo Corrientes” (CODECHOCO)
  - Regional Natural Park and Regional District for Integrated Management “La Plata y La Sierpe” (CVC)
  - Regional Natural Park “El Cuerva” (CRC)
  - National Park “Bajo Mira y Frontera” (CORPONARIÑO)
  - Regional District for the Integrated Management ‘el Encanto’ of the mangroves of Bajo Baudó (CODECHOCO)
  - National District for Integral Management ‘Cabo Manglares’ (CORPONARIÑO)

For the construction of our NBSAP, there had to be an articulation between the Aichi Targets and the national priorities for conservation and the sustainable use of Biodiversity and the keeping of environmental services. Some targets that were set have a relation with the Aichi Targets, and others must be read in a more indirect way keeping in mind other global commitments.

#### **(2) *Evaluation***

- The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development carries out annually follow-up to the National Program for Mangroves in order to share experiences on the different topics in which we have advanced, not only in regards of REAs, but in the academic sector, NGOs and civil society in general. This relates directly to the PNGIBSE and the NBSAP, as well as to the indicators for management that are reported by the REAs.
- In addition, Colombia is part of the Regional Initiative for the Conservation and Rational use of

Mangroves, Corals and Wetlands associated to the RAMSAR Convention, and the compliance report is generated annually.

- Colombia works on the implementation of the Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of Mangroves in the Pacific South-east, in the framework of the Standing Commission of the South Pacific (CPPS). In this regard, it has been identified as a joining of priority actions of cooperation that contribute to the protection, recuperation and sustainable use of this important coastal ecosystem.
- In 2016, the GEF project “Designing and Implementation of a Subsystem of Marine Protected Areas in Colombia” was finalized. This project included the creation of various protected areas (previously mentioned), where a strong component of mangrove ecosystems was identified.

Currently, we are working on the GEF project “Improving mangrove conservation across the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape (ETPS) through coordinated regional and national strategy development and implementation”, which has included directly the participation of the local community and the regional authorities.

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#### **Section 4: Future steps including further policy development and review of implementation of existing policies, including lessons learned**

##### ***(1) Future plans***

Main and most important challenges:

- Specify a vision for sustainable development in the framework of construction and implementation of projects, works or activities for conservation and appropriate use of mangrove ecosystems.
- Effective implementation of economic and financial instruments for the conservation of these ecosystems.
- Institutional strengthening for the REAs.
- Continuity of productive projects with the communities that use the mangrove ecosystems in accordance to lines for conservation.
- Even though we have the reports from the REAs, which must have the necessary thoroughness and give a broad vision of the implementation of the PNGIBSE, it’s important to articulate with processes for projects and works that somehow affect these ecosystems in regards of follow-up, control, mitigation of impacts and compensation.



## *(2)Lessons learned and key messages*

- Work must be carried out and strengthened based on the society and local communities (fishermen, indigenous populations, afro populations, women, schooled population) and make them owners of these processes.
- Each vision from society must be respected in regards of cultural, social, religious and biological values.
- The vision towards marine, coastal and insular ecosystems is different from the vision and management needed for continental ecosystems, and therefore the measures for Management must target these differences.
- Human resources from the REAs must be strengthened in order to tackle the challenges that come with the administration of natural resources in each region.
- Colombia must strengthen current and existing processes in relation to the peace process (financial, human, social, and cultural).

## ESTONIA

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### *Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Agricultural Landscapes: the case of Estonian grasslands*

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### **Section 1: Process of incorporation of the target policies/projects into the NBSAP, including success factors and challenges**

#### ***(1) Process of incorporation into NBSAP***

- 2001-2006 subsidies for management of grasslands were paid from Estonian state budget (administered by Ministry of the Environment)
- Since 2001 funds are available for restoration: the state fund based on revenues from environmental charges and since 2007 also EU funds.
- 2004 Estonia joins EU and since 2007 uses EU agricultural fund for rural development to pay subsidies for management of grasslands. Payments coordinated by Ministry of Rural Affairs, in cooperation with Environmental Board and Ministry of the Environment
- Estonian NBSAP up to 2020 (approved 2012 by EE Government), sets general framework and targets of conservation of grasslands. Preceded coordination among Ministries and publication in [www.osale.ee](http://www.osale.ee)
- Action Plan for Semi-Natural Grasslands 2014 - 2020 (adopted 2013 by Minister of the Envir.). Builds on NBSAP and elaborates the approach, targets and actions. Sets the country-level priorities and targets for habitat management and restoration. Compiled and administered by Environmental Board (under Min. of the Envir.) involving farmers, NGOs and university experts. Introduction of APSNG to public: press releases, media broadcasts, training, booklets etc.

#### ***(2) Success factors and obstacles to incorporation into NBSAP***

Factors supporting the incorporation into NBSAP

- Crucial role of academic community and NGOs
- Long-time tradition of scientific research
- Country-level approach: inventories, data, GIS, targets and priorities

- EU nature conservation policy and agri-environmental measures
- Funds available for management and restoration, purchase of equipment and livestock
- Training of farmers and policy implementing staff

The process itself didn't meet major obstacles. The following challenges were met and needed to be consistently addressed:

- Low awareness, interest and lack of specific knowledge in agricultural sector
- Specific and costly management methods, lack of equipment and livestock
- Increased work load and costs of personnel and administration

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## **Section 2: Implementation status, challenges and future considerations of the target policies/projects**

### ***(1) About the policies/projects***

NBSAP has set the general conservation framework and targets 2020. APSNG specifies targets and conservation measures for grasslands, taking a country-scale approach.

Estonian Rural Development Plan (2014 - 2020) has integrated the objectives of APSNG and has foreseen appropriate budget for management of grasslands. Its implementation is administered by Ministry of Rural Affairs. This policy embraces conservation of all different grassland ecosystems in Estonia. The actual implementation is up to interest of local farmers and private land owners (actual and potential managers). Best management and restoration practices and techniques are discussed among implementation authorities, experts, scientists and farmers. Respective regulations for management and restoration are issued by Min of the Envir and Min of Rural Affairs.

### ***(2) Current situation of implementation and challenges***

The process is succeeding towards the targets set in NBSAP. The implementation scheme is in place, including budget, legal aspects and personnel. The interest and knowledge of managers has increased. Innovative restoration measures are introduced and used. The area of managed grasslands has raised significantly (from 16,145 ha in 2007 to 29,967 ha in 2016), it enables to maintain valuable landscapes, habitats, species. Set targets enable more focused implementation and further adaptation of policies. The current policy has had a positive impact on rural development, economy and employment. Experience in high quality producing (meat, wool) is expanding. Networks of managers, experts, and administrative authorities function and support the implementation. Public awareness has been addressed in multiple ways: TV and radio broadcasting, monthly nature magazine, daily newspapers, booklets, displays in protected areas.

Mainstreaming is not a one-off effort, it needs consistent communication, rising of awareness, involvement of stakeholders and financial support. Somewhat low interest of agricultural sector in

biodiversity mainstreaming is still met. Communication can be improved to involve more private land owners to the management scheme. Increasing workload of administrative staff needs to be better addressed in future. Complex natural conditions have challenged the implementation, but local enthusiasm and the beauty of well-managed landscapes is highly motivating.

### ***(3) Future implementation***

There is a good progress in achieving the area-based targets. The quality and effectiveness of implementation needs ongoing attention. Renewal of both APSNG and NBSAP with foreseen relevant revision of implementation are foreseen. Targets need to be adjusted accordingly. Further implementation efforts are needed for: 1) integrated environmental and agricultural counselling service, and 2) the more effective measures for priority grasslands.

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## **Section 3: Contributions to achievement of relevant national biodiversity targets and Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

### ***(1) Relevant Aichi Biodiversity Target(s)***

NBSAP sets quantitative targets which contribute to AT1, AT14, AT15.

NBSAP and APSNG contribute to:

AT1- communication, media, training; AT3 – incentives for biodiversity; AT4 – sustainable use of resources, unintensified management; AT5 – maintenance of habitats; AT7 – sustainable management; AT8 – unintensified management; A12 – extinctions prevented; AT14 – essential services maintained (e.g. pollination); AT15 – restoration of habitats; AT17 – NBSAP, APSNG in place; AT19 – knowledge relating to biodiversity improved.

### ***(2) Evaluation***

Data from all available sources will be compiled and used for assessment. Quantitative data exist for assessing the contribution to some Aichi Targets (eg AT1, AT14, AT15, AT20). Red List assessments show contribution relating to species (AT12). Assessment of implementation will be conducted for NBSAP during its revision. It will assess the progress in implementing both of the qualitative and quantitative targets. For assessing achievements of some Aichi targets special studies may be needed (e.g. AT1). Assessment of status of grasslands and related species based on information from monitoring and inventories.

## **Section 4: Future steps including further policy development and review of implementation of existing policies, including lessons learned**

### ***(2) Future plans***

Revision of the strategic documents and targets set therein:

Revising NBSAP by 2020;

Revising Action Plan for Semi-Natural Grasslands 2014 – 2020 by 2020;

Revising Rural Development Plan for agricultural policy schemes by 2020.

Farmers, scientists and practitioners are involved in order to plan the actions for the next period and improve the implementation based on the lessons learned.

### ***(3) Lessons learned and key messages***

Key messages:

NBSAP and the more detailed action plan for grasslands were crucial tools for country-scale planning, communication and mainstreaming. These enable to

- set targets and visions
- introduce your targets and vision to the public
- apply for funding and plan budget
- negotiate with other sectors/institutions
- reach your targets

As important as the abovementioned country-scale plan are:

- involvement of stakeholders
- communication of the implementation to the public

## ETHIOPIA

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### *Integrating relevant national policies and projects into NBSAP designing and Implementation*

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### **Section 1: Process of incorporation of the target policies/projects into the NBSAP, including success factors and challenges**

#### *(1) Process of incorporation into NBSAP*

##### **Background**

Ethiopia with diverse landscape comprises twelve types of ecosystem and is amongst 25 biodiversity richest countries and known for its two biodiversity hotspots; the Eastern Afromontane and the horn of Africa Hot spot. The country is also a center of origin for many of the world's cultivated crops. Nevertheless, Ethiopia's biodiversity is challenged by multiple anthropogenic and some natural factors. To curb the situation Ethiopia has taken various policy/strategic measures, few of which include but not limited to institutionalizing biodiversity conservation, arranged an overall coordinating ministry for environment, forest & climate change and endorsed important international conventions & enacted national laws pertinent to biodiversity.

##### **How, When and Where**

The program designing involved academia, research, key sector ministries, the donor community and the lead institution for Biodiversity during the period 2012-2014.

Ministries/Entities Involved in the process

Ministries( Agriculture NR, Env't, Forest & CC, Ministry of Livestock & Fishery ,Ministry of Water Irrigation & Electricity, Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation, state environment agencies, state bureaus of agriculture,) 04 national universities, UN agencies( UNDP, UNESCO),Global Environment Facility(GEF, donor agency), Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute, Ethiopian Wild Life Conservation Authority, Ethiopian Agri. Research Institute, sub-national & local officials and community representatives.

## *(2) Success factors and obstacles to incorporation into NBSAP*

### **Why Ethiopia incorporated policies/projects into NBSAP**

Wider analysis was made by the team of technical people during the NBSAP designing in-terms of identifying critical sectors which have both positive and negative contributions on biodiversity. Based on this pertinent policies/project objectives have been harmonized with NBSAP targets and accordingly we have synchronize major policy/directives and project actions into NBSAP targets to exhaustively exploit existing opportunities of those policies/projects and to mitigate negative impacts that might arise from development investment and activities of major programs, especially those in the production land scape to cushion our biodiversity resources and also create conducive condition for the implementation of NBSAP.

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## **Section 2: Implementation status, challenges and future considerations of the target policies/projects**

### *(1) About the policies/projects*

#### **Major policies and projects considered and integrated into the NBSAP process of Ethiopia and brief description of the policies/projects;**

**Agriculture and NRM related core policy/programs:** Watershed management and conservation of ago-biodiversity as these policy/programs have high relevance for restoration and conservation of BD

**Livestock and Fishery policy/programs:** Selection of local breed, genetic conservation & integrated rangeland management policy/programs

**National Education policy/programs:** mainstreaming BD in the education system & school environment clubs

**Environment, Forest and Climate Change:** Forest restoration, ecosystem service, Biodiversity mainstreaming

**Wild Life Conservation:** Integrated habitat conservation underway

**National REDD+:** Readiness phase considered BD, institutional building as a priority action

**Forest Sector Capacity Building Program:** Afforestation, Reforestation, Restoration of degraded land

**Mainstreaming Incentives for BDC:** Enabling framework for BDC & Promoting ecosystem service payment

**Sustainable Land Management Program:** Completed phase I with countable results around watershed mgt, LUP and range areas dev't. Starting new phase with relevant BD components

**GIZ:** Conservation & sustainable use, capacity building of key institutions

**Mainstreaming Agro Biodiversity:** Conservation of endemic crop varieties, phased-out but sustained in existing agricultural production program/system

## **(2) Current situation of implementation and challenges**

Through the NBSAP preparation process the 18 targets are harmonized and aligned with two key national plans known as CRGE and GTP and some other sectoral policies/projects. Since then the NBSAP targets and actions are assigned to relevant ministries for their implementation and reporting to Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute. Planning, implementation and reporting mechanism is designed and become operational on a quarter and annual basis.

## **(3) Future implementation**

Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute has reviewed its NBSAP I and has identified best practices and areas need serious improvement. Accordingly, it has the following key issues are identified as special consideration for future NBSAP implementation;

- Coordinating NBSAP implementation at higher level by the national BD council, which is led by minister, ministry of Environment, Forest & CC and also over sought by the prime minister through the council
- Intensify resource mobilization from both internal and external sources
- Strengthening Biodiversity mainstreaming in target policies/projects by enhancing collaboration among wider stakeholders
- Enhancing institutional capacity of the national coordinating agency(EBI)

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## **Section 3: Contributions to achievement of relevant national biodiversity targets and Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

### **(1) Relevant Aichi Biodiversity Target(s)**

In terms of achieving Aichi targets Ethiopia is in a good progress, accordingly 9 Aichi targets are on a track to meet or exceed the Aichi targets, 10 Aichi targets Progress to achieve the Aichi Target, but at an insufficient rate and 1 target (target 20) has no progress totally.

Contribution of the above stated target policies/projects to NBSAP and Aichi Targets can be summarized as follows

Target Policy/project	NBSAP targets	Aichi targets
GTP II	1-18	1-20
CRGE	3,4,5,6,7,10,12,13,	5,6,7,8,9,10,
NAP	10,11,	5-10
Agriculture & NRM	1,4,10,11,12,13,14,15,16	1,5, 6,7,8,9,10,12,13,14,15
Livestock & Fishery	1,2,3,4,5,7,8,9,13,14,15,16	5,6,7,8,9,10,12
Education	1,2,5,7,10,11,16	1,2,3,4
Environment, Forest & CC	3,4 5, 10	7,15,5,
Wild Life Conservation	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,11,12	4,7,12,13,14,15,16,



REDD+	3,4,5,9,10,13,16,17,18	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,17,18,19,20
FSCBP	1,2,3,4, 5,10	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
Mainstreaming Incentives for BDC	1,2,3,4,5,10,13,14,16,17,18	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,17,18,19,20
SLM	1,4,5,10	12,13,14,17,18
KFW/GIZ	1,4,5,10,13	12,13,14,17,18
Mainstreaming Agro BD	1,3,6,9,	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,
Bonga Biosphere Reserve	3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
Participatory Forest Management	3,4,5	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10
Others		

## **(2) Evaluation**

Preparation process of Ethiopia's NBSAP has made critical analysis and consideration on how to measure contributions of target policies and project towards achieving NBSAP targets, accordingly designed quantifiably measurable indicators and baselines for results obtained from the target policies/projects. Though challenges were noticed to measure contribution at beginning, modifications were made to measure the changes in the due course of planning, implementation and reviews.

When comes to Aichi targets it is still difficult to measure contribution in a quantitative aspect as almost all of the Aichi targets are qualitative. In this sense we have only assured that issues of the Aichi targets are covered by strategies and actions under the target policies/projects. We do also sense that national NBSAP targets are well aligned with Aichi targets and can address Aichi targets in a tailored made fashion.

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## **Section 4: Future steps including further policy development and review of implementation of existing policies, including lessons learned**

### **(1) Future plans**

As it always do Ethiopia examines its institutional and policy provisions and implementation arrangements to ensure that international commitments and national biodiversity conservation objectives are met or not. Hence, future plans and policy considerations emphasize institutional suitability & policy practicability, systemic capacity and law enforcement towards realizing NBSAP targets.

### **(2) Lessons learned and key messages**

The following key lessons were drawn from the process and implementation of NBSAP preparation and incorporation of target policies/projects into NBSAP

- Fragmentation of biodiversity activities over several institutions that was previously considered as impossible to coordinate has been addressed through enhanced platforms and coordination mechanism. We learnt that multiplicity of players doesn't always mean a challenge, it could also be an opportunity to enhance actions in different policy/program streams
- Results obtained from donor funded programs/projects could be sustained once it is integrated into existing national systems and policies, and we learnt that early integration are much better than those integrated at the latter stage
- We have learnt that balancing between internal and external funding source until issues of biodiversity conservation is fully attained higher ownership level by a national government, which also is a transformative effort to realize full legal enforcement for the conservation work and sound fiscal decision to increase pro-biodiversity investment

**Key Message:** We have seen from the field that Biodiversity conservation is the most costly task that need our much time, energy and capacity, nevertheless we have a firm believe that it pays back now and for generations. Therefore Let us join hands to restore, conserve and fairly utilize them!



## JAPAN

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### *Japan's NBSAP and Satoyama Landscape Policies*

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### **Section 1: Process of incorporation of the target policies/projects into the NBSAP, including success factors and challenges**

#### ***(1) Process of incorporation into NBSAP***

The necessity of conservation of secondary nature, or Socio-Ecological Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS), including secondary forests and farmlands, was first described in Japan's first NBSAP which was published on 1995 after the adoption at the Ministerial meeting, as well as in the following revisions which were decided by the Cabinet. In the process of developing NBSAP, competent ministries provided relevant policies and projects under each national target which had been developed through inter-ministerial discussion. Therefore there was no obstacle to incorporation.

We find no difference in the process compared to the other biodiversity mainstreaming policies.

#### ***(2) Success factors and obstacles to incorporation into NBSAP***

Please see above.

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### **Section 2: Implementation status, challenges and future considerations of the target policies/projects**

#### ***(1) About the policies/projects***

Environmental change due to reduced human activities, such as insufficient management of farmland or secondary forest, is recognized as one of "the four crises to biodiversity" in Japan's latest NBSAP. Our policy described in NBSAP is as follows.

Basic strategy: Reviewing and rebuilding relationships between human and nature in local communities

Sub-strategy: Promotion of agriculture, fishery and forestry which contribute to biodiversity conservation

Individual policies and projects related to promotion of sustainable or biodiversity-friendly agriculture, fishery and forestry are listed as key actions.

## **(2) Current situation of implementation and challenges**

<NBSAP2010>

- “Action Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Socio-ecological Production Landscapes (Satochi-Satoyama)” was formulated as the practical action plan for the policies and measures of regional approaches prescribed in the National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan 2010. The purpose of the Action Plan was to initiate a nationwide movement by presenting the key principles and direction of the national policies and measures for the conservation and sustainable use of Satochi-satoyama, to various stakeholders such as farmers and foresters, local communities, private organizations, enterprises, governments and experts.
- Case examples are collected and information is disseminated on policies for using traditional natural resources in Japan based upon the Action Plan.

<NBSAP2012-2020>

- Direct support is offered for the dissemination and entrenchment of norms for agricultural environments, the certification of eco farmers, and conservation oriented agriculture (environmentally-friendly farming) such as organic farming. One example of the results of this is that there has been a rise in the cumulative number of new eco farmer certifications, with this reaching 278,540 certifications as of the end of FY2012.<B-2-1>
- Initiatives are being promoted that seek a balance between production-related activities and biodiversity by means of setting in place agricultural production bases that take biodiversity into consideration.<B-2-1>
- The maintenance and conservation of forests are promoted based upon matters that should be taken into consideration regarding the biodiversity conservation functions possessed by forests, as well as forestry work for producing forests that contribute to such functions being exercised found in the Basic Plan for Forests and Forestry and the National Forest Plan. For National Forest, careful, detailed work is performed while curtailing the excessive disturbance of forest ecosystems. <B-2-2>
- The development of diverse forests is promoted by means of converting conifer forests to broadleaf forests, long rotation management, and other measures that are suited to the special characteristics of the site. <B-2-2>
- Japan is providing technical support to a number of initiatives based upon the Action Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Socio-ecological Production Landscapes (Satoyama), which was formulated in FY2010, with a view towards the conservation and use of Satoyama areas within Japan. These initiatives include holding technical training courses, sharing information

related to precedent case examples, and handbooks on methods for selecting regions subject to conservation and their conservation and management.<D-1-3>

- Since FY2012 Japan has been considering methods for effectively using the grass and wood-based biomass resources that are generated through its conservation activities for Satoyama areas.<E-2-1> (as of March 2014)
- In 2015, ecologically significant Satochi-Satoyama (500 sites) were selected for the purpose of identifying nationally significant areas for biodiversity conservation and of promoting conservation measures by various stakeholders. (as of December 2015)
- In 2016, Japan developed “Connecting and Supporting of “Forests, Villages, Rivers and the Sea” project to support the sustainable use of natural resources produced in Satoyama such as agricultural products, water and wood-based biomass, and thus to contribute to conservation of Satoyama landscape.
- 10 regions have been adopted as demonstration programs to develop “Platform for various stakeholders”, “Economic mechanisms” and “Human resources”.

### **(3) *Future implementation***

Further promotion of the related policies/projects.

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## **Section 3: Contributions to achievement of relevant national biodiversity targets and Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

### **(1) *Relevant Aichi Biodiversity Target(s)***

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

Relevant national target: Engage in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries that ensure the conservation of biodiversity in a sustainable manner by 2020.

2. Aichi 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.

Relevant national target: Strengthen the benefits received from biodiversity and ecosystem services in Japan and elsewhere by giving consideration to the needs of women and local communities through the conservation and restoration of ecosystems by 2020. Carry out initiatives for each species with an awareness of the importance of the sustainable use of natural resources found in Satochi-Satoyama areas in particular.

## **(2) *Evaluation***

Evaluation is conducted simultaneously with the process of developing the National Report submitted to the Secretary of CBD. Some targets are evaluated with quantitative indicators, while the rest are with qualitative information.

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## **Section 4: Future steps including further policy development and review of implementation of existing policies, including lessons learned**

### **(1) *Future plans***

We are planning to revise the current NBSAP based on the post-2020 global targets will be adopted at CBD/COP15 in Beijing. Each ministry/agency is supposed to review and assess the progress to establish their future plans, including new policies/projects where necessary.

### **(2) *Lessons learned and key messages***

Japan's action plan for NBSAP is comprised of policies/projects which are individually implemented by a wide variety of ministries/agencies. Therefore we find it difficult to carry out integrated approaches for Satoyama Landscape, which require not only biodiversity perspectives but also socio-economic and agricultural/fishery/forestry perspectives.

## MEXICO

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### *Implementation of the Mexican National Biodiversity Strategy: the mainstreaming process*

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### **Section 1: Process of incorporation of the target policies/projects into the NBSAP, including success factors and challenges**

#### ***(1) Process of incorporation into NBSAP***

The Mexican Biodiversity Strategy (ENBioMex) presents an Action Plan to guide its implementation. For each of the proposed actions, it identifies deadlines and responsible stakeholders from the local and regional perspectives. During the process of elaboration and consultation of the ENBioMex, contributions were received from different stakeholders whose responsibilities and competencies are included in the Action Plan for the implementation of the diverse actions. The success of the Strategy will lie in the extent of this instrument's appropriation by the different stakeholders and their commitment to take actions to assist its implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The establishment of a mechanism to facilitate the coordination within the Federal Public Administration has been proposed to conduct the monitoring and evaluation of the Strategy. The Strategy was formulated with the participation of almost 400 people and more than 130 institutions from federal and subnational governments, civil society organizations and academia.

#### ***(2) Success factors and obstacles to incorporation into NBSAP***

The implementation of the ENBioMex is based on specific efforts from different sectors that are reflected in the development of biodiversity mainstreaming agendas and the process of the *State Strategies for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity*.

During the last decades, the conservation focus in Mexico has shifted towards promoting sustainable production and resource use in lands outside of protected areas, as more than half of all species are found in productive landscapes. This suggests that conservation efforts must include farmers, foresters and other producers in the productive landscape, if they are to be effective. Conservation initiatives working with producers have proven to help to ameliorate the fragmentation of habitats, increase socio-ecosystemic connectivity and ensure the long-term sustainability of the productive landscape.



The role played by the scientific community, the civil society and cooperation agencies is also recognized in the ENBioMex. A central aspect in the Strategy is the recognition that Mexican biological diversity is also linked to its cultural diversity; so, the importance of indigenous peoples, afro-descendants and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of our natural heritage needs be highlighted.

The main obstacles have to do with the reticence of productive sectors to modify their producing practices in order to take into account biodiversity considerations in all their processes.

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## **Section 2: Implementation status, challenges and future considerations of the target policies/projects**

### ***(1) About the policies/projects***

Since 2002, Mexico has been part of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (MBC), a regional initiative which now extends from Southern Mexico to Colombia. The purpose of Mexico's involvement in the MBC was to focus on connectors for the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources, including biodiversity, in the natural and productive landscapes surrounding natural protected areas of southern Mexico, through the mainstreaming of biodiversity criteria in public expenditure and in selected local planning and development practices.

The six Mexican states that are part of the MBC (Chiapas, Campeche, Oaxaca, Quintana Roo, Tabasco and Yucatan) comprise a variety of high-priority ecoregions and biomes.

Mexico has invested in the MBC initiative around USD 70 million dollars (including Federal investment funds and international cooperation funds), in hundreds of communities in the six states involved. The targeted area encompasses 171,224 km<sup>2</sup> in priority terrestrial sites for biodiversity outside of protected areas (identified by Mexico's biodiversity gap analysis for the Convention on Biological Diversity).

CONABIO has been the institution in charge of implementing the MBC in Mexico, and has promoted partnerships with other stakeholders, federal institutions such as the National Commission on Protected Areas (CONANP), the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR), as well as with state and local governments, local producer associations, research and academic institutions and civil society organizations.

The ENBioMex and its action plan 2016-2030 has taken into account these efforts and recognizes their importance as part of the Conservation and Restoration axis and the action: 2.17 Promote the connectivity of ecosystems to ensure the continuity of ecological processes.

### ***(2) Current situation of implementation and challenges***

Due to its innovative biodiversity conservation activities, the Mesoamerican Biodiversity Corridor's approach has been adopted by other states of Mexico. Moreover, over the past decade, the conservation

focus in Mexico has shifted towards promoting sustainable production and resource use in lands outside of protected areas, as more than half of all species are found in productive landscapes. Conservation initiatives working with producers have proven to help ameliorate the fragmentation of habitats, increase socio-ecosystemic connectivity and ensure the long-term sustainability of the productive landscape. Mexico's MBC initiative achieved significant policy development objectives given the success in mainstreaming biodiversity criteria in public expenditures as evidenced by their incorporation into the objectives and operational rules of relevant investment programs promoted by Mexico's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA). Furthermore, Mexico presented in 2016, during the Thirteenth meeting of CBD's Conference of the Parties (COP 13), its *National Vision for Integrated Landscape Management and Connectivity*, which states that "In 2030, on a quarter of Mexico's surface, spatial management decisions are taken with an articulated and adaptive approach from terrestrial and inland water landscapes —both rural and urban— and seascapes. These are connected and managed integrally through negotiation and collaboration processes that value and link the interests of all stakeholders. Hereby, the conservation and sustainable use of natural and cultural resources are ensured for the benefit of national development".

### **(3) *Future implementation***

Alignment among policies, institutions and programs across sectors and across levels is needed to improve the incentive framework for integrated landscape management, sustainable resource use, to build capacity at local levels and promote financial sustainability of actors. Therefore, Mexico is negotiating a GEF grant for a national project called Sustainable Productive Landscapes (SPL), as means to enhance the coordination within and across public programs with private as well as communal actions for mainstreaming biodiversity, promoting sustainable agricultural production and reducing deforestation and land degradation. The SPL project will also assist with the implementation of the *National Vision for Integrated Landscape Management and Connectivity*.

*The ENBioMex considers biodiversity mainstreaming in many of the strategic axis and actions, and there is a GIZ-SAGARPA-CONABIO project that it is consolidating the mainstreaming agenda within the agricultural sector. While another GIZ-CONABIO project will start to look for new sectors: energy, mining, infrastructure and health.*

### Section 3: Contributions to achievement of relevant national biodiversity targets and Aichi Biodiversity Targets

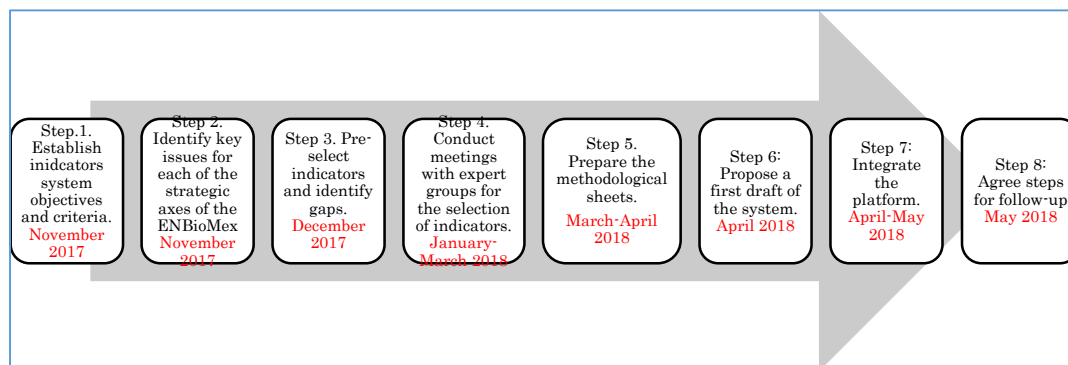
#### (1) *Relevant Aichi Biodiversity Target(s)*

The strategy also operates linked to other public policy instruments such as the National Climate Change Strategy, the Mexican Strategy for Plant Conservation, Strategy for the Conservation of Natural Protected Areas, the National Wetland Policy, and the Territorial Ecological Ordinances. The joint operation of this public policy instrument framework is aligned with the Aichi Targets and with the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### (2) *Evaluation*

It is proposed that within the framework of the national reports presented by Mexico every four years to the CDB, there will be a progress assessment of the ENBioMex be made. This is because the preparation of the reports, in addition to being an international commitment of Mexico, requires a coordinated work by CONABIO and the Environmental Ministry (SEMARNAT) that involves government agencies and civil society. It also proposes the design and implementation of an online monitoring and reporting platform that allows all stakeholders to report on the actions they have carried out within the framework of ENBioMex and have access to these reports, in order to promote the results achieved.

A roadmap to the establishment of an indicators and assessment system has been set up:



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### Section 4: Future steps including further policy development and review of implementation of existing policies, including lessons learned

#### (1) *Future plans*

Mexico's *National Vision for Integrated Landscape Management and Connectivity* was designed as a first stage towards achieving a national strategy on this subject.

Moreover, the GEF-funded Sustainable Productive Landscapes project, which is expected to be implemented from 2018 to 2023, has been designed with the participation of its Ministry of Agriculture

(SAGARPA) and other federal institutions (CONANP, CONAFOR, among others). It will help coordinate these institutions at the national level and provide capacity building for local governments for improved mainstreaming of biodiversity and integrated landscape management policies and programs. Federal level institutions like SAGARPA, CONAFOR, CONANP, and their associated partners and constituents will benefit from support to mainstream biodiversity as well as harmonize landscape policies and programs at the local level.

Mexican NBSAP, ENBioMex was published in 2016, so its implementation process has begun and will continue until 2030. However, it is envisioned to make periodic revisions and adjustments in order to have it aligned to international processes, such as the 2020 CBD's Strategic Plan.

## *(2) Lessons learned and key messages*

Through training and organization, mainstreaming biodiversity in production landscapes can be harmonized if we learn from local groups' experience and build bridges with public officials. Consolidating the ability to work with local technical groups, civil society organizations and local producers who, over several decades, have demonstrated the usefulness of agro-ecological activities can be used as evidence to promote reorientation of public investment towards mainstreaming biodiversity in production landscapes. Therefore, activities for strengthening social capital should be targeted to organizational networks (CSOs, academia, research institutions, etc.).



## SOUTH AFRICA

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### *Mainstreaming biodiversity in production sectors, with specific reference to Stewardship in the Nuwejaars Wetland Special Management Area*

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### **Section 1: Process of incorporation of the target policies/projects into the NBSAP, including success factors and challenges**

#### *(1) Process of incorporation into NBSAP*

The work in the biodiversity sector has evolved substantially in the past 10 years, with a range of strategies/programme and projects being developed to address various aspects of natural resource management and socio-economic development, and which express the possibilities biodiversity presents to the development agenda.

One such programme is the Biodiversity Stewardship Programme (BDS), which was developed on the approach to protect and manage land in biodiversity priority areas that is led by conservation authorities entering into legal agreements with private and communal landowners. It recognises landowners as the custodians of biodiversity on their land and is based on voluntary commitments from landowners, with a range of different types of biodiversity stewardship agreements some involving formally declared as protected areas in terms of the Protected Areas Act 57 of 2003, others secured in terms of the Biodiversity Act, 10 of 2004 or contract law. It has proven to be a cost-effective mechanism for expanding the protected area network and making a significant contribution to meeting national protected area targets. In biodiversity stewardship areas that do not involve a formal declaration in terms of the Protected Areas Act, such as those where a Biodiversity Management Agreement governed by the Biodiversity Act or a Biodiversity Agreement bound by a contract exist, the development of a biodiversity management plans is contributing to better management of biodiversity outside of protected areas. In return for this commitment, landowners benefit through the provision of technical advice and management support from the conservation authorities, and they may qualify for certain tax-based incentives that have been put in place in South Africa. Under this system of biodiversity stewardship, land of high biodiversity importance is managed and protected through

win-win partnerships between landowners or communities and conservation authorities

This programme was incorporated in the NBSAP as follows:

*SO1: Management of biodiversity assets and their contribution to the economy, rural development, job creation and social wellbeing is enhanced.*

Outcome 1.1 The network of protected areas and conservation areas includes a representative sample of ecosystems and species, and is coherent and effectively managed

Activity 1.1.1 Expand the protected area estate across all ecosystems (including marine, estuarine, freshwater and terrestrial), based on the Protected Area Expansion Strategies at national and provincial levels

1.1.2 Expand the network of conservation area through mechanisms under the Biodiversity Act, contract law and other informal agreements between the landowner and conservation authority

1.1.3 Strengthen the institutional capacity of biodiversity stewardship programmes and the suite of incentives (such as access to technical expertise) to enhance their contribution to protected area and conservation area expansion, including through implementation of the Biodiversity Stewardship Business Case

The Ministries involved in this process include:

Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) who is South Africa's primary environmental custodian, mandated to protect the environment and conserve natural resources while balancing this with sustainable development and the equitable distribution of natural resource benefits, with its entities, the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI); South African National Parks (SANParks) and the provincial government departments responsible for the environment;

A range of other role players are also involved: NGOs, corporates, parastatals, other state departments

While the mandates of many other government departments such as rural development, water, mineral resources, agriculture, forestry, fisheries are more focused, they also have landscape perspectives. However, environment and biodiversity in particular are cross cutting across all these subjects

## ***(2) Success factors and obstacles to incorporation into NBSAP***

A significant indication of **political will** and commitment to biodiversity management and conservation was necessary to incorporate projects such as the BDS programme into the NBSAP. Outcome 10 of the Presidential Delivery Agreement, which was adopted by the Cabinet in 2010 articulate in more detail the strategic priorities of the Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) and are accompanied by measurable outputs, key activities and Outcome Delivery Performance Agreements between the President and Ministers.

Outcome 10 in the MTSF 2014-2019 is ‘**Environmental assets and natural resources that are well protected and continually enhanced**’ **Activity: Number of stewardship sites established**. Final budget allocations affect the order of priorities and phasing of the implementation of the delivery agreements.

Although there is a degree of political will, the human and financial resources to sustain the myriad of projects and programmes such as BDS necessary to protect the natural resources of the country, were severely cut since 2010 as a result of the dire economic challenges facing the country.

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## **Section 2: Implementation status, challenges and future considerations of the target policies/projects**

### *(1) About the policies/projects*

For the purposes of this exercise, the focus will be on the Protected Areas Act (57 of 2003), with its flagship Strategy, the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy, (which was recently revised, and the BDS as part of the Agulhas Biodiversity Initiative, with specific reference to the Nuwejaars Special Wetland Management Area (NSWMA) as a case study for a stewardship site.

### **The Agulhas Biodiversity Initiative (ABI)**

ABI commenced as part of the Cape Action for People and the Environment (C.A.P.E) project in 2001 with Global Environmental Facility (GEF) funding. The RSA and SANParks concluded this UNDP assisted project, to ensure the long term protection of the Agulhas Plain, which includes the Nuwejaars Wetland area, covering 270,000 ha, consisting of semi-arid lowland fynbos and renosterveld located in the Cape Floristic Region Biodiversity Hotspot (recognised for its high irreplaceability and vulnerability). This area is facing threats such as transformation through conversion to agriculture, alien plant infestation, inappropriate fire regimes, unsustainable harvesting of wild fynbos and indiscriminate coastal development.

The diversity of indigenous fynbos vegetation in this area is enormous: of the 2,500 species that occur here. Originally the Agulhas Plain was home to large herds of game, including many species of mammals.

### **Objectives**

ABI is implemented by a number of partners who have agreed to work together and pool their resources to conserve the biodiversity and ecosystems on the Agulhas Plain. Through their efforts they want to make sure that benefits flow to the local economy through activities such as responsible nature-based



tourism and the sustainable harvesting of natural vegetation.

At the start of ABI only 14% of the Agulhas Plain was conserved under legally binding arrangements. Through biodiversity stewardship agreements with landowners and the expansion of the Agulhas National Park, this figure now stands at 37% (102,000 hectares). At least 40% of the ABI area is privately owned, which reinforces the important role that landowners and the agricultural sector play in conservation.

This includes the innovative **NWSMA** managed by the Wetland Land Owner's Association formed by 23 landowners including the Elim community, who have collectively applied for their land to be declared as a Protected Environment. The extent of this area is 328,6228ha.

### **Budgets**

Up to the present, Nuwejaars received a total of 2 000 000 euro from Germany, while SANParks assisted Nuwejaars to source the following additional planning funding from the Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA) and ABI. The 2 000 000 euro was spent in 2008-2009 on inter alia game investment (368 182), a bohma (68 182), fencing (235 364), fire equipment (136 364); alien clearing (295 455), wetland restoration (9091), tourism and information,

### **Time span**

The NWSMA, once declared as a Protected Environment, will have a time span of 30 years and will be managed by ABI. SANParks is the implementing agency, while the Nuwejaars Wetland Land Owners Association (NWLOA) will be the Management Authority

### ***(2) Current situation of implementation and challenges***

A Management Plan was drawn up by the NWSMA with a range of achievements such as sustainable agriculture, creating job opportunities, developing young conservers and restoration of wetlands through alien clearing.

Despite numerous attempts to declare the area as a Protected Environment (PE), up to the present, the declaration of this area as a PE could not be achieved, due to many institutional obstacles in the way.

### ***(3) Future implementation***

Given the budget and human resource constraints, the expected future of all projects related to biodiversity remains a challenge. Prioritisation is necessary.

### **Section 3: Contributions to achievement of relevant national biodiversity targets and Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

#### ***(1) Relevant Aichi Biodiversity Target(s)***

The Nuwejaars Special Wetland Area as a stewardship site, contributes to the following Aichi targets:

***Strategic Goal A:*** *Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society*

» **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

» **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

**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

***Strategic Goal B:*** *Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use*

**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.

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

**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

**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 landscape and seascapes

***Strategic Goal D:*** *Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services.*

**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

**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

## **(2) Evaluation**

Assessment of the AB Iis done according to prescribed reporting, including quantitative evaluation of the project, however, contribution to the Aichi targets is difficult to assess.

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## **Section 4: Future steps including further policy development and review of implementation of existing policies, including lessons learned**

### **(1) Future plans**

The first *National Spatial Biodiversity Assessment* (NSBA)(2004) informed the first NBSAP. The National Biodiversity Assessment 2011 was a revision of the NSBA and added non-spatial thematic elements such as the state of species of special concern, invasive alien species and areas that contribute to climate change resilience, and ecological infrastructure and provides a summary of spatial biodiversity priority areas that have been identified through systematic biodiversity plans at national, provincial and local scales.

For this reason, the NBA 2011 (being revised) informed the revision and updating of key national biodiversity policies and strategies, including the NBSAP, the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy and the National Biodiversity Framework (NBF).

*The NBF is a legal requirement in terms of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004 and the overall purpose of the NBF is to **coordinate and align** the efforts of the many organizations and individuals involved in conserving and managing South Africa's biodiversity in support of sustainable development. The Second NBF is currently being finalised.*

### **(2) Lessons learned and key messages**

Some lessons learned in this process:

- \*The contribution of all stakeholders is a sine qua non. Consultation is therefore of the utmost importance
- \*The use of the best available biodiversity information should inform all policies/programmes/projects
- \*Apply the law as a minimum
- \*Use best practice to identify, assess and evaluate the long term avoidance of impacts and conservation of biodiversity
- \*Management plans and the effective implementation thereof is a prerequisite