

2010 TARGET - to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth. Meta adotada pela COP 6 (The Haggue, Holanda, 2002) e endossada pelo World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johanesburgh/2002) e pela Assembléia Geral das Nações Unidas.

Goals and Sub-targets

In decision VII/30, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to establish goals and sub-targets (listed below) for each of the identified [focal areas](#) to clarify the 2010 Biodiversity Target and promote coherence among the programmes of work of the Convention by providing a flexible framework within which [national and/or regional targets may be developed](#).

The COP requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to review and further refine the goals and sub-targets, ensuring that they are linked to relevant Millennium Development Goals, initiatives of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the goals articulated by other relevant international processes and to identify indicators for the sub-targets, ideally associated with the [indicators](#) adopted to assess progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target.

Focal Area: Protect the components of biodiversity

Goal 1. Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes

Target 1.1: At least 10% of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.

Target 1.2: Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected

Goal 2. Promote the conservation of species diversity

Target 2.1: Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups

Target 2.2: Status of threatened species improved.

Goal 3. Promote the conservation of genetic diversity

Target 3.1: Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.

Focal Area: Promote sustainable use

Goal 4. Promote sustainable use and consumption.

Target 4.1: Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and Production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity.

Target 4.2: Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced.

Target 4.3: No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade.

Focal Area: Address threats to biodiversity

Goal 5. Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.

Target 5.1: Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased.

Goal 6. Control threats from invasive alien species.

Target 6.1: Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled.

Target 6.2: Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.

Goal 7. Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.

Target 7.1: Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change

Target 7.2: Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity

Focal Area: Maintain goods and services from biodiversity to support human well-being

Goal 8. Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods

Target 8.1: Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained.

Target 8.2: biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained.

Focal Area: Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices

Goal 9 Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities

Target 9.1 Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices

Target 9.2: Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing

Focal Area: Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources

Goal 10. Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources

Target 10.1: All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements.

Target 10.2: Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources.

Focal Area: Ensure provision of adequate resources

Goal 11: Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention

Target 11.1: New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20.

Target 11.2: Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4.

3rd Biodiversity Outlook Draft Synthesis Executive Summary – DRAFT

Not to be quoted or cited (<http://www.cbd.int/gbo3review/>)

The target agreed by world Governments in 2002, “to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth” has not been met. There are multiple indications of continuing decline in biodiversity, including:

- ❖ Populations of vertebrate species fell by nearly a third on average between 1970 and 2006, and continue to fall globally, with especially severe declines in the tropics and among freshwater species.
- ❖ Species which have been assessed for extinction risk are on average moving closer to extinction. Amphibians face the greatest risk and coral species are deteriorating most rapidly in status.
- ❖ Natural habitats in most parts of the world continue to decline in extent and integrity, although there has been significant progress in slowing the rate of loss for tropical forests and mangroves in some regions. Freshwater wetlands, salt marshes, seagrass beds and coral reefs are among the habitats showing the most serious declines.
- ❖ Extensive fragmentation and degradation of forests, rivers and other ecosystems has also led to loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- ❖ Crop and livestock genetic diversity continues to decline in agricultural systems.
- ❖ The five principal pressures directly driving biodiversity loss (habitat change, overexploitation, pollution, invasive species and climate change) are either constant or increasing in intensity.
- ❖ Humanity’s ecological footprint has reached 1.3 times the biological capacity of the Earth, having increased from 1.2 since the 2010 biodiversity target was agreed.

The existence of the 2010 biodiversity target has helped to stimulate important action to safeguard biodiversity, such as setting aside more areas for conservation (on both land and in coastal waters) and initiatives to tackle some of the direct causes of ecosystem damage, such as pollution and alien species invasions. Some 167 countries now have national biodiversity strategies and action plans. At the international level, financial resources have been mobilized and progress has been made in developing mechanisms for research, monitoring and scientific assessment of biodiversity. However, the actions taken to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity have not been on a sufficient scale to address the pressures on biodiversity.

There has been insufficient integration of biodiversity issues into broader policies, strategies and programmes, and as a consequence the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss have not been addressed significantly.

Under “business as usual”, continuing high levels of extinctions and loss of habitats are projected throughout this century. For example: Tropical forests would continue to be cleared in favour crops and pastures, and potentially, for biofuel production. Climate change, the introduction of alien species, pollution and dam construction, would put further pressure on freshwater biodiversity and the services it provides. Overfishing would continue to damage marine ecosystems and cause the collapse of more fisheries.

There is a high risk of dramatic biodiversity loss and accompanying degradation of a broad range of ecosystem services if ecosystems are pushed beyond certain thresholds or tipping points, with the highest impacts falling on the poor. For example:

- ❖ The Amazon forest, due to the interaction of deforestation, fire and climate change, could undergo a widespread dieback with the forest moving into a self-perpetuating cycle of more frequent fires and intense droughts leading to a shift to savanna-like vegetation. Such dieback becomes much more likely to occur if deforestation exceeds 20 – 30% (it is currently above 18% in the Brazilian Amazon) or if global warming exceeds an average of two degrees. It would lead to regional rainfall reductions, compromising the sustainability of agriculture. There would also be global impacts through increased carbon emissions, and massive loss of biodiversity.
- ❖ The build-up of phosphorus from agricultural fertilizers and sewage effluent lock freshwater lakes into a long-term, algae-dominated (eutrophic) state. This could lead to declining fish availability with implications for nutrition in many developing countries. There will also be loss of recreation opportunities and tourism income, and in some cases health risks for people and livestock from toxic algal blooms. Similar nitrogen-induced phenomena in coastal environments lead to hypoxic dead zones with major economic losses resulting from reduced productivity of fisheries and decreased tourism revenues.
- ❖ The combined impacts of ocean acidification, warmer sea temperatures and other human induced stresses make tropical coral reef systems vulnerable to collapse. More acidic water (brought about by higher carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere) decreases the availability of the carbonate ions required to build coral skeletons. Together with the bleaching impact of warmer water, elevated nutrient levels from pollution, overfishing, sediment deposition arising from inland deforestation, and other pressures, reefs increasingly become algae-dominated with catastrophic loss of biodiversity, threatening the livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people.

There are greater opportunities than previously recognized to address the biodiversity crisis. Even though it will be extremely challenging to prevent further human-induced biodiversity loss for the near-term future, smarter policies can help to avoid the most dangerous impacts on people and societies, and on the diversity of nature itself. In the longer term, biodiversity loss may be stopped or even reversed, if urgent and concerted action is initiated now in support of an agreed long-term vision. Such action to conserve biodiversity and use it sustainably will reap rich rewards - through better health, greater food security and less poverty.

Placing greater priority on biodiversity is central to the success of development and poverty-alleviation measures. It is clear that continuing with “business as usual” will jeopardize the future of human societies, and none more so than the poorest. For example, some models predict that the combined impacts of climate change and overfishing could shift the distribution of fish populations away from the tropics, where fish plays an essential role in providing food security.

The linked challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change must be addressed with equal priority and in close co-ordination, if the most severe impacts of each are to be avoided. Reducing the further loss of ecosystems such as tropical forests, peatland soils, and salt marshes will be a crucial step in limiting the build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. At the same time, keeping the variety and resilience of ecosystems can help us adapt to those consequences of climate change which are already unavoidable.

Better protection of biodiversity should be seen as a prudent and cost-effective investment in risk-avoidance for the global community. The consequences of abrupt ecosystem changes on a large scale are so great in terms of human security, that it is rational to minimize the risk of triggering them - even if we are not clear about the precise probability that they will occur. Investment in resilient and diverse ecosystems (“ecological infrastructure”), able to withstand the multiple pressures they are subjected to, may be the best-value insurance policy yet devised.

Scientific uncertainty surrounding the precise connections between biodiversity and human well-being should not be used as an excuse for inaction. No one can predict with accuracy how close we are to ecosystem tipping points, and how much additional pressure might bring them about. What is known from past examples, however, is that once an ecosystem shifts to another state, it can be difficult or impossible to return it to the original conditions which will often have shaped economies and patterns of settlement for generations.

Effective action to slow the decline in biodiversity depends on addressing the underlying causes or indirect drivers of that decline. This will mean:

- ❖ Much greater efficiency in the use of land, energy, fresh water and materials to meet demand.
- ❖ Use of market incentives, and avoidance of perverse subsidies to minimize unsustainable resource use and wasteful consumption.

- ❖ Strategic planning in the use of land, inland waters and marine resources to reconcile development with conservation of biodiversity and the maintenance of ecosystem services.
- ❖ Developing systems to ensure equitable sharing of benefits arising from use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.
- ❖ Communication, education and awareness-raising to ensure that as far as possible, everyone understands the value of biodiversity and what steps they can take to protect it.

Urgent action is needed to reduce the direct drivers of biodiversity loss. In many cases, multiple drivers are causing biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystems. Sometimes, it may be more effective to concentrate urgent action on reducing those drivers most responsive to policy changes. This will strengthen biodiversity and protect its value for human societies in the short to medium-term, while the more intractable drivers are addressed over a longer time-scale. For example the resilience of coral reefs – and their ability to withstand and adapt to coral bleaching and ocean acidification – can be enhanced by reducing overfishing, land-based pollution and physical damage.

Direct action to conserve biodiversity must be continued, targeting vulnerable and culturally-valued species combined with a priority to safeguard key ecosystem services, particularly those of importance to the poor. This should include the protection of functional ecological groups – that is, those species collectively responsible for the provision of ecosystem services such as pollination, top predator control of herbivore numbers, cycling of nutrients and soil formation.

Increasingly, restoration of terrestrial, inland water and marine ecosystems will be needed to re-establish ecosystem functioning and the provision of valuable ecosystem services.

Economic analysis shows that ecosystem restoration gives good economic rates of return. However, the levels of biodiversity and ecosystem services remained below the levels of the pristine ecosystems reinforcing the argument that, where possible, avoiding degradation through conservation is preferable (and even more cost-effective) than restoration after the event.

A key challenge will be for the real benefits of biodiversity, and the costs of its loss, to be reflected within economic systems and markets. Perverse subsidies and the lack of monetary value attached to hugely important services provided by ecosystems have been important factors contributing to the loss of biodiversity. Through regulation and other measures, markets can and must be harnessed to create incentives to safeguard and strengthen, rather than to deplete, our natural infrastructure. The re-structuring of economies and financial systems following the global recession provides an opportunity for such changes to be made.

Better decisions for biodiversity must be made at all levels and in all sectors, but government has a key enabling role to play. Reducing the loss of biodiversity will require action across society and government, including work with all the major economic sectors. Some of the most effective actions in support of biodiversity will be “bottom-up” initiatives from communities, local authorities or businesses taking advantage of national legislation or programmes.

We can no longer see the continued loss of biodiversity as an issue separate from the core concerns of society: to tackle poverty, to improve the health, prosperity and security of our populations, and to deal with climate change. Each of those objectives is undermined by current trends in the state of our ecosystems, and each will be greatly strengthened if we finally give biodiversity the priority it needs.

The action taken over the next two decades will determine whether the relatively stable and benign environmental conditions on which human civilization has depended for the past 10,000 years will continue beyond this century. If we fail to use this opportunity, many ecosystems on the planet will move into new, unprecedented states in which the capacity to provide for the needs of present and future generations is highly uncertain.