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National Ecological Networks

What's the big idea? Future Visions...

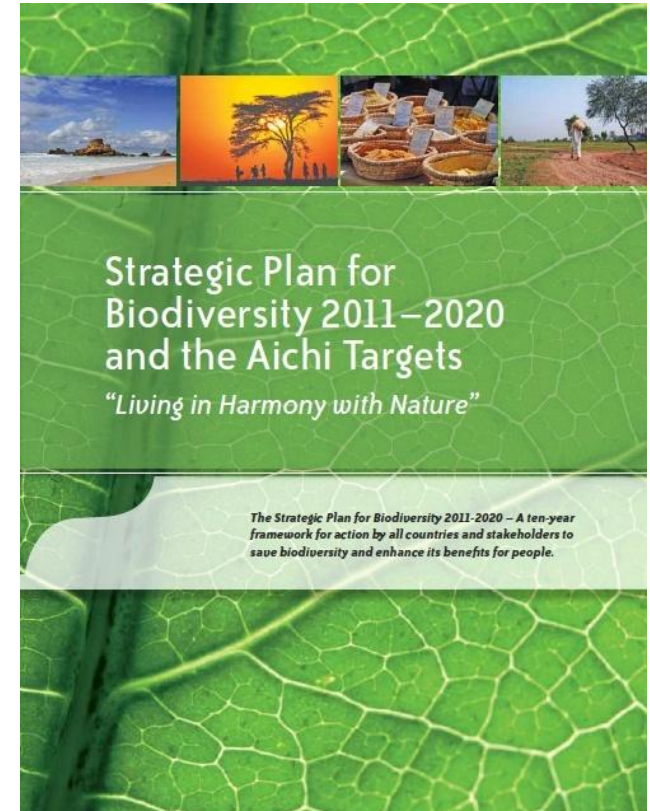
The Global Policy Context
6-7 February 2013

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Director, Global Species Programme



The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

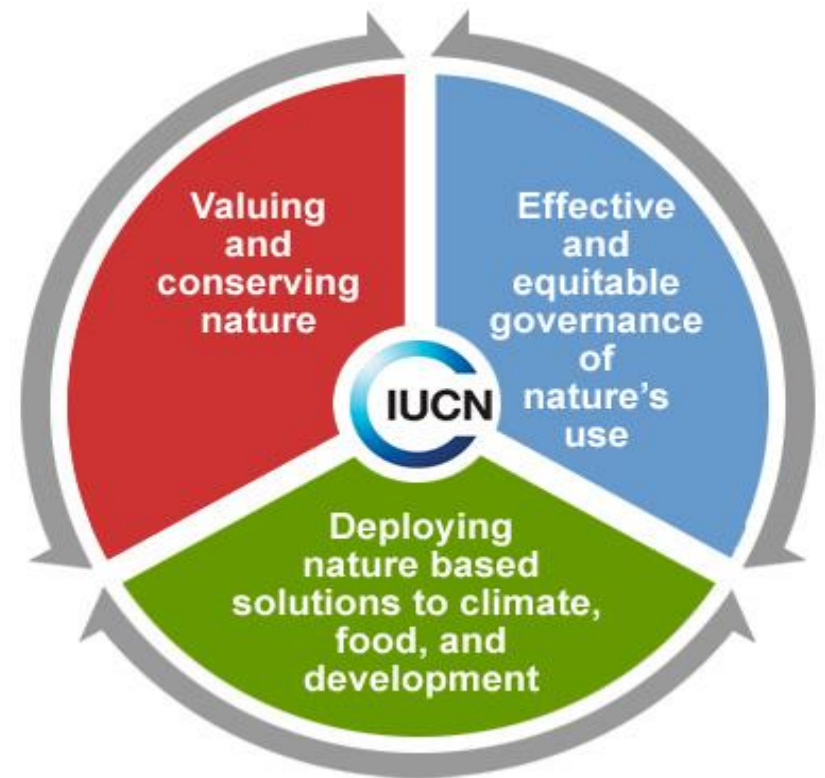
- Adopted at Biodiversity Convention's (CBD) COP10 Nagoya, Japan
- A Vision for 2050, Mission for 2020 and 20 targets (most for 2020)
- Arranged under five Strategic Goals
- Including a target on Resource Mobilisation
- Clear articulation of what needs to be done to secure life on this planet
- A big step forward!





IUCN Programme 2013-2016

- Nature based solutions: nature as a socio-economic solution to the challenges of today
- Aichi targets underpin entire IUCN Programme
- Champions!





Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity

- Targets are set at the national level within a 'flexible framework'
- National level targets must 'add up' to the equivalent target set for the global level

$$2 + 2 = 4$$

or

$$2 + 2 = 3?$$



How can the Strategic Plan be implemented?

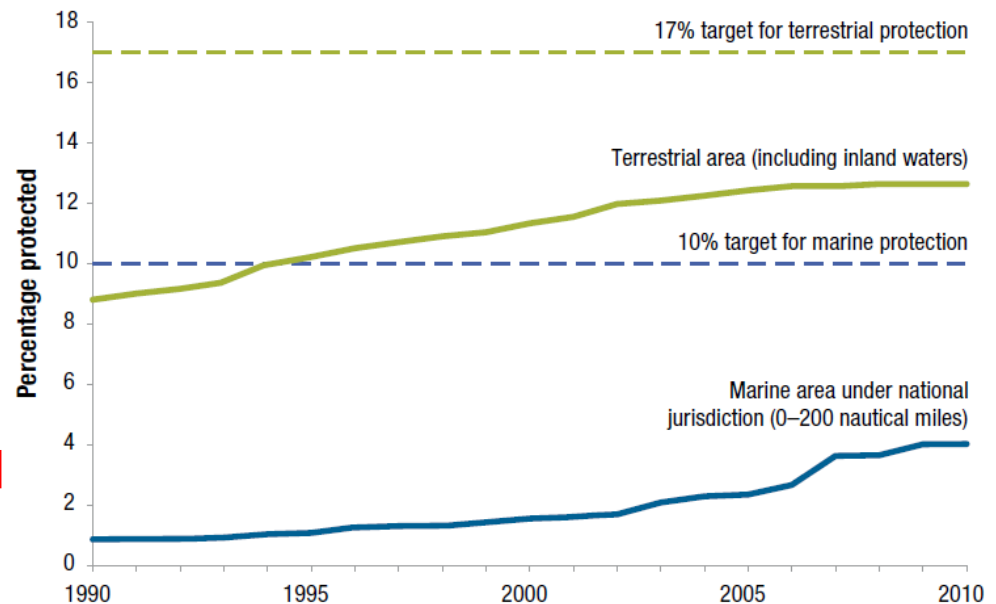
- In 2014: mid-way through the UN Decade of Biodiversity!
- Progress towards the achievement of the Strategic Plan will be reviewed at CBD COP12; S. Korea
- The emphasis now is a push for necessary decisions for action





Aichi Target 11: Protected Areas (+ Ecological networks)

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**





National Ecological Network

- Could deliver Aichi Target 11
- And many others
- For nature, for people



The Scottish Government



Scottish Wildlife Trust



Parties to the CBD: EU, UK, (England, Scotland).....

December 2011

EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020

Biodiversity

In Europe, almost a quarter of wild species are now threatened with extinction

Biodiversity – the extraordinary variety of ecosystems, species and genes that surround us – is not only important in its own right, it also provides society with a wide range of ecosystem services upon which we depend, such as food, freshwater, pollination, protection against floods, etc....

Biodiversity is however in crisis. In Europe, almost a quarter of wild species are now threatened with extinction and the majority of ecosystems are degraded to the point where they are no longer able to deliver their valuable services. This degradation represents enormous social and economic losses for the EU.

Key drivers of biodiversity loss, such as habitat change, overexploitation of natural resources, the introduction and spread of invasive alien species and climate change, have increased, offsetting the positive effects of actions to stem biodiversity loss.

In May 2011, the European Commission adopted a new strategy that lays down the framework for EU action over the next ten years in order to meet the 2020 biodiversity headline target set by EU leaders in March 2010.

The strategy is built around six mutually supportive targets which address the main drivers of biodiversity loss and aim to reduce the key pressures on nature and ecosystem services in the EU. Each target is further translated into a set of time-bound actions and other accompanying measures.

The strategy will be implemented through a Common Implementation Framework involving the European Commission and Member States. In partnership with key stakeholders and civil society, it is underpinned by a solid EU baseline on the state of biodiversity and ecosystems in Europe which will be used as a basis for monitoring progress.

The EU will also continue to play an active role at the international level, helping to ensure the global biodiversity commitments adopted at the 2010 Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan, are met.

EU 2050 vision
By 2050, European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides – its natural capital – are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human well-being and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided.

EU 2020 headline target
Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

nature




Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services



The Scottish Government





Finally...

‘The future depends on
what we do in the present’

Mahatma Gandhi