

Using Indicators to Assess Progress to Achieve Targets Sixth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Challenges

Difficulties in establishing operational indicators stem largely from the complex, multidimensional nature of biodiversity and lack of monitoring data.

Actions taken

1. Setting up an expert group from various sectors and institutions to develop an indicator framework.
2. Holding workshops to discuss the indicator framework.
3. Collecting data of indicators by experts of various sectors.
4. Develop methods to evaluate progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Solutions

We developed a system of national biodiversity indicators composed of pressure, state, benefit and response indicators. The development of indicators follows six principles: (1) comprehensively covering all components of biodiversity; (2) objectively and timely reflecting changes in biodiversity; (3) easy understanding and wide acceptance by policy makers, the public and managers; (4) data capable of accurately measuring progress while keeping collection costs low; (5) sensitive to changes brought by policy changes or reforms; and (6) internationally usable while reflecting unique national circumstances.

The indicator system has 20 first-level indicators and 66 second-level indicators. Time series data of indicators were collected from national and departmental statistics, scientific assessment reports, pilot monitoring schemes, peer-reviewed papers, governmental websites, and databases.

Outcomes

China has made positive progress towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Among them, China is exceeding Targets 14 (important ecosystem services restored and safeguarded), 15 (ecosystem resilience and carbon sequestration increased), and 17 (implementation of NBSAPs). China is on track to achieve Targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19 and 20. China has achieved some progress towards Targets 6 (sustainable fishery), 9 (invasive alien species prevented and controlled), 10 (pressures on coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems reduced), and 12 (endangered species protected), however the rate of progress is slow.



Progress Towards 2020 Global Biodiversity Targets

Target 1: Awareness of biodiversity values	Target 11: Protected areas
Target 2: Integration of biodiversity values	Target 12: Preventing extinctions
Target 3: Incentives	Target 13: Agricultural biodiversity
Target 4: Use of natural resources	Target 14: Essential ecosystem services
Target 5: Loss of habitats	Target 15: Ecosystem resilience
Target 6: Sustainable fisheries	Target 16: Nagoya Protocol on ABS
Target 7: Areas under sustainable management	Target 17: NBSAPs
Target 8: Pollution	Target 18: Traditional knowledge
Target 9: Invasive Alien Species	Target 19: Biodiversity knowledge
Target 10: Vulnerable ecosystems	Target 20: Resource mobilization



On track to achieve target



Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate



Exceeding target