

WORK PLAN – STREAMLINING EUROPEAN 2010 BIODIVERSITY INDICATORS (SEBI2010)

Prepared by the SEBI2010 coordination team (EEA/ETC-NPB, ECNC and UNEP-WCMC)

European Environment Agency



European centre for nature conservation



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1 Introduction

This work plan provides the logical framework for the activities that need to be carried out in order to ensure European coordination of the development and implementation of biodiversity indicators for assessing, reporting on and communicating achievement of the 2010 target to halt biodiversity loss. This activity will be called Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI2010 and hence more pronounceable than the initial acronym of IEBI2010)

The work plan is intended to give guidance to a range of organizations and persons that will be involved in the organizational structure that underpins the work. It starts off with a brief reminder of the background for the activity and follows by answering the basic questions why, what, how, who and when. In addition, it briefly covers issues relating to communication with stakeholders on planning and progress as well as the potential for financing the activities.

The work plan (version 1) was developed by the SEBI2010 coordination team following their first meeting on 7 July 2004 at the European Environment Agency (EEA) and was revised in the light of comments received before and during the kick-off meeting held in the Agency on 6 January 2005 to produce this document, version 2). It will be a dynamic document with regular updates. Delivery of the work plan will be a collaborative effort, open to all interested governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations and experts.

2 Background

Recent years have seen political agreements on halting or significantly reducing the current rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010 (the 2010 target). This is accompanied by a growing consensus on the need for structured European coordination of biodiversity monitoring, indicators, assessment and reporting efforts, with a long-term perspective and sound funding basis.

The activities and outputs proposed as part of this SEBI2010 work plan address three policy contexts:

1. European Union: the work plan responds to the Message from Malahide and the EU Council Conclusions of 28 June 2004 (10997/04) by developing, testing and finalising a first set of EU headline biodiversity indicators. It will also underpin, and ensure consistent biodiversity indicators and information required under the Lisbon Agenda, the sustainable development strategy, the habitats and birds directives and the biodiversity strategy;
2. Pan-European: the work plan is consistent with action plan developed as a follow-up to the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity and hence responds to requirements under the UNECE Environment for Europe process and the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS);
3. Global: the EU biodiversity headline indicators are a derived version of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) headline indicators, adopted as part of CBD decision VII/30 in February 2004, customized to the European needs. Therefore the work plan also responds to CBD Decision VII/30.

A common element in these three processes is the 2010 target and a common tool is the agreed set of indicators.

For the purpose of this work plan, reference is made to a number of key documents that provide background on the specific requirements for European biodiversity monitoring and indicators and the rationale for coordination activities:

- EU Council conclusions of 28 June 2004 on Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 (10997/04) which endorsed the list of EU headline biodiversity indicators - <http://register.consilium.eu.int/pdf/en/04/st10/st10997.en04.pdf>
- 'Message from Malahide'. Outcome of the EU Presidency stakeholder conference 'Biodiversity and the EU – Sustaining life, sustaining livelihoods', 25-27 May 2004, Malahide, Ireland - http://www.eu2004.ie/templates/document_file.asp?id=17810 and background paper on the list of EU headline biodiversity indicators - http://www.eu2004.ie/templates/document_file.asp?id=17051

- Seminar report 'Europe joining forces to reach the 2010 biodiversity target – the need for coordinated monitoring', 23 March 2004, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium – http://www.ecnc.nl/doc/ecnc/publicat/EP_Seminar_Report.pdf
- Kyiv action plan on biodiversity monitoring and indicators, endorsed by the Task Force and Bureau of the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS), 14 May 2004, Strasbourg, France - [http://www.strategyguide.org/docs/bureau/may2004/STRA-CO\(2004\)3f_Rev_E.doc](http://www.strategyguide.org/docs/bureau/may2004/STRA-CO(2004)3f_Rev_E.doc)
- Background paper for the joint meeting of Eionet, IWG-BioMIN and PEBLDS 'Development of plan and guidelines for indicators and monitoring to help achieve the 2010 target for biodiversity in Europe', 21-23 April 2004, EEA, Copenhagen, Denmark - <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.eu.int/information/indicator/F1078143615>
- Decision VII/30 of the Seventh Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD/COP7) 'Strategic Plan: future evaluation of progress' - <http://www.biodiv.org/decisions/default.aspx?dec=VII/30>

The current work plan and the coordination team are a direct follow-up to the joint meeting listed above. This meeting proposed the setting up of a coordination team to lead the European coordination process to develop and document EU and pan-European level indicators based on the list of trial indicators adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity and support countries and the European Union to meet the 2010 target and their respective EU, pan-European and global reporting obligations.

Close coordination will be ensured with the working group on indicators and monitoring set up by DG Environment as an advisory group within the EU Biodiversity Expert Group, with PEBLDS Council, and with those processes already established by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to develop 2010 indicators (<http://www.biodiv.org/2010-target>).

The SEBI2010 activities will be funded as far as possible through the European Environment Agency's core and additional budgets for work with EEA member and other participating countries (EU-25 member states, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, FYR of Macedonia and Serbia & Montenegro) on the development of biodiversity monitoring, indicators, assessment and reporting. Further funding - possibly through EEA, UNEP, Council of Europe and other donors - will be used to extend support to EECCA countries (Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia). 450-600 keuro is likely to be available in 2005 to support SEBI2010 activities across Pan-European countries. This will provide some funding for meetings and for some experts time but will not fully cover all the proposals for contributions made in the run-up to the kick-off meeting on 6 January 2005. The coordination team will therefore prioritise the use of the available fund on the basis of more detailed proposals received from interested experts in early 2005 to ensure a good balance of expertise and geographical coverage.

3 The work plan

3.1 Overall objectives

The objectives of the work to be done for SEBI2010 by the coordination team and any processes it establishes in support of countries and other interested bodies to help achieve the 2010 target are:

1. to consolidate, test, refine, document and help produce streamlined sets of policy-relevant biodiversity indicators meaningful in the context of the 2010 target;
2. to help ensure adequate funding for the development and production of indicators and assessments, and related monitoring activities, to support implementation and achievement of the policy decisions and targets;
3. to improve coordination, exchange of information, collaboration and international streamlining on biodiversity-related indicators and monitoring activities building on current activities and good practice;

4. to consider the wider use of the indicators, and their applicability within other relevant indicator frameworks and assessment processes.

3.2 Working methods

Developing and streamlining 2010 biodiversity indicators, as agreed by the European Union, PEBLDS Council and CBD Conference of Parties, requires effective coordination within Europe to ensure consistency and avoid duplication of effort. This is the role of the proposed coordination team, which will carry out its work with support from expert groups and individual experts. This will be a collaborative effort, open to all interested governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations and experts.

Different organisations are responsible for the production and reporting of indicators at different levels. For example:

- National governments are responsible for the indicators produced by various public (and possibly private) organisations for their countries and reported under various national and international reporting obligations
- EEA and other organisations are responsible at EU or European level for producing indicators and for compiling indicators produced by other public and private organisations, for example for annual environmental signals reports, and
- UNEP-WCMC is responsible at the global level for producing indicators and for compiling indicators produced by other public and private organisations, for example for inclusion in the Global Biodiversity Outlook report to be produced in 2005

It is expected that the following types of expert will participate in SEBI2010 to share experiences, reinforce capacities and ensure that relevant and reliable sets of indicators are specified:

- national officials with responsibility for reporting on indicators and implementing actions to meet the 2010 target,
- governmental and non-governmental experts familiar with monitoring and data collection for indicator production,
- national and international experts familiar with compiling and using regional and global level indicators, and
- representatives of the European Commission, PEBLDS Joint Secretariat and other secretariats responsible for the implementation of international legislation, conventions and agreements.

The activities presented in this work plan for Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI2010) are focussed on development and streamlining of indicators to monitor progress and help achieve the 2010 target. They will build on current monitoring and available data ie start with what is already readily available. They will complement and not replace other activities to describe, model and understand biodiversity and the pressures upon it, and to take actions to achieve the 2010 target.

For consistency and clarity it would be best if indicators were streamlined/harmonised from national to global levels across all countries. However time is short and we must start with what is available. Different countries are at different stages of development in their indicator and data production, and related monitoring systems. It will only be possible to streamline some of the indicators and include subsets of countries in most of the indicators by 2010. The indicators selected for inclusion in the first set of indicators to monitor progress to 2010 will therefore be at various stages of completeness and consistency across the national, regional and global levels and within different ecosystem types by 2010. However SEBI2010 will assess and document the state of development so that the completeness and consistency of the various indicators are known and described.

The proposed structure (as presented at the joint Eionet/IWG-BioMIN/PEBLDS meeting in April 2004) with a small coordination team and expert groups to consider specific (groups of) indicators has been selected to ensure focus, efficiency and effectiveness and avoid duplication. The coordination team will consist of a representative from each of European Environment Agency (with support from its topic centre on biological diversity, ETC/BD), European Centre for Nature Conservation (ECNC) and UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), who will each contribute a significant amount of time to the coordination, development and completion of the agreed work. Representatives of the

European Commission (DG Environment), PEBLDS Joint Secretariat and other organisations when appropriate will be invited to coordination team meetings.

The expert groups and/or individual experts will focus on specific indicators and groups of indicators, and involve relevant national and international experts in their work to ensure that current practice is fully considered, that national, international and specific technical requirements and limitations are fully taken into account, and that the development and implementation of indicators is streamlined as far as possible across national, EU, Pan-European and global level indicators to avoid duplication and ensure consistency.

The SEBI2010 expert groups will:

- Involve a range of expertise from governmental, non-governmental and inter-governmental organisations
- Review the current situation (quickly since much is known and documented already)
- Consider which indicators provide the best quality, including relevant geographic coverage
- Identify what additional information may already be available to bolster/extend existing initiatives (e.g. the bird indicator currently covers 18 countries – a subset of the EU25 or Pan-Europe 52 countries)
- Consider how methods for one indicator might be extended or adapted to develop others which can complement existing initiatives
- Based on the initial reviews and analyses, produce proposals in a consistent format on how and by whom the indicators can be initially produced and tested, including cost-estimates and time-schedules (terms of reference for indicator design and testing)
- Once agreed by the coordination team, help the appropriate governmental and non-governmental organisations participating in SEBI2010 to produce and test an initial set of indicators at EU and pan-European level
- Evaluate the initial indicators produced against the agreed terms of reference
- Document their reviews, analyses and proposals so that these are readily available in a consistent form
- Provide proposals and recommendations to the co-ordination team in a consistent format for the further improvement of the coverage, consistency, data availability and logistics, accuracy and representativity of the indicators, as well as recommendations on enhancing monitoring, for review by a Joint Eionet/IWG-BioMIN/PEBLDS meeting prior to onward transmission to governance groups for adoption as necessary
- Provide assistance, on request, to individual countries to produce national indicators in line with the regional and global developments

Details of the activities, outputs and terms of reference for the coordination team and expert groups are presented below.

3.3 Outputs

The SEBI2010 coordination team and any processes it establishes have been set up to be operational from 2004 until 2010 to provide:

- a coherent European programme in 2005 for the progressive development of biodiversity indicators which should be as consistent as possible at the national, EU, European and global levels making best use of current monitoring and available datasets;
- an initial set of tested indicators at EU and Pan-European levels;
- proposals and guidance on the further development, production and delivery of agreed indicators;
- a recommendation for an approach to using the agreed indicators to measure the progress of national governments, the European Union and the pan-European community towards achieving the EU and Kyiv target to halt the loss of biodiversity at all levels by 2010;

- advice on how to relate the change in biodiversity at EU and pan-European level to policy measures adopted at these levels, so as to provide information to enable the EU and countries to adjust or strengthen the measures concerned;
- proposals, guidance, recommendations and information for presentation to the appropriate European governance groups developing biodiversity policy for formal adoption;
- information to the CBD secretariat, advisory and governance processes on the results of the work being undertaken so that those processes can learn lessons from what is being done in Europe.

3.4 Activities

Specific activities to be carried out by the SEBI2010 coordination team with the support of expert groups or individual experts as appropriate in order to achieve the four overall objectives are listed below:

3.4.1 Objective 1: to consolidate, test, refine, document and help produce streamlined sets of policy-relevant biodiversity indicators, meaningful in the context of the 2010 target

- 1.1 review the availability and use of relevant indicators and data (and existing documentation) being produced within various ongoing programmes at the national, European and global levels;
- 1.2 consider options for establishing indicators consistent with the agreed EU/PEBLDS/CBD lists and make proposals on which options should be followed and why; these options should build on current activities and good practice and can be based on in-situ monitoring, remote sensing, statistical sampling surveys, spatial integration techniques (GIS), mapping and mathematical modelling as appropriate;
- 1.3 help the appropriate organisations participating within SEBI2010 to test and produce indicators aggregated at different biogeographic, regional, EU and European levels as appropriate to show current level of geographic representativity and how this could/should be extended
- 1.4 propose a methodology and institutional arrangements to maintain or develop the required dataflow at the European level, produce each indicator and ensure its validation – these proposals will be presented to the appropriate European governance groups by the coordination team for formal approval;
- 1.5 describe and document the indicators including meta-data using the templates to be provided by the coordination team and taking into account policy needs and relevance (see annex 1 which presents a proposal for meta-data based on the template for the EEA core set of indicators)

3.4.2 Objective 2: to help ensure adequate funding for the development and production indicators and assessments, and related monitoring activities, to support implementation and achievement of the policy decisions and targets.

- 2.1 communicate with funding bodies on what is being done and on outputs;
- 2.2 make estimates of the costs of monitoring, data gathering, data management and indicator production/validation to provide the required indicators at the different geographical scales and fit for purpose;
- 2.3 help convince funding bodies of need for long-term funding;
- 2.4 acknowledge funding bodies/sponsors;
- 2.5 maintain regular contacts with (potential) funding bodies/sponsors;
- 2.6 encourage sponsors to 'adopt' an indicator or event.

3.4.3 Objective 3: to improve coordination, exchange of information and collaboration on biodiversity-related indicators and monitoring activities, building on current activities and good practice

- 3.1 establish and support expert groups to review the current situation as indicated in point 1.1 above, test options and make proposals on how to proceed with specific (groups of) indicators;
- 3.2 organize working meetings;
- 3.3 develop terms of reference and guidance for the experts groups;
- 3.4 develop a communication plan and communication tools (internal and external);
- 3.5 maintain regular liaison with, and report regularly on actions being taken to Eionet, DG Environment, EU Environment Council, PEBLDS Council, the CBD Secretariat and other stakeholders through progress reports, presentations of results and participation in relevant meetings, etc;
- 3.6 develop guidance for, and cooperation agreements with, data holders;
- 3.7 compile, make available and help build on good practice information;
- 3.8 arrange for training and capacity building events;
- 3.9 maintain databases of contact, expertise, ongoing biodiversity-related monitoring and indicator activities and enable convenient access via for example the EC Clearing-house Mechanism or PEBLDS Strategy Guide.

3.4.4 Objective 4: to consider the wider use of these indicators, and their applicability within relevant indicator frameworks and assessment processes

- 4.1 consider how the proposed indicators relate one to another, and how they might be more effectively used in combination in national and international assessments;
- 4.2 consider how the proposed indicators relate to any other indicators proposed for inclusion in the EU, PEBLDS, CBD and other lists;
- 4.3 in the light of the above, consider how the proposed indicators can best contribute to the assessment, understanding and communication of progress and the needs for action to achieve the 2010 target and other policy commitments (EU habitats and birds directives, other international conventions, etc);
- 4.4 ensure consultation and feedback mechanisms between the work as part of SEBI2010 and other processes (see section 5) in order to harmonize approaches and agree division of work.

3.5 Timetable

Relevant requirements and schedules for the EU, PEBLDS and CBD calendars are listed in Annex 2.

3.5.1 Timetable for the proposed activities in 2005

This section presents the key milestones and deliverables with an indication of when they should be delivered by the coordination team or expert groups.

	Coordination team	Expert groups
January	6 th SEBI2010 Kick-off meeting in Copenhagen 31 st Updates work plan and distributes it with revised questionnaire to interested experts	
February	28 th Confirms the initial composition and chairs of the first six expert groups taking the interests expressed by experts, size, geographic and technical representation into account	15 th Experts confirm their interest in participating in one of the six expert groups and indicate the nature and scale of the contribution they would like to make
March	31 st Prepares paper on SEBI2010 progress and plans for Luxembourg EU Presidency workshop	Start to review the state-of-play on requirements and data availability and to prepare proposals including cost estimate and time-schedules for initial testing and production of indicators in pilot studies
April	15 th Prepares and distributes first (short) SEBI2010 progress report 30 th Endorses/amends proposals for pilot studies to test and produce selected indicators, and helps arrange the necessary funding	15 th Expert group chairs submit these proposals to coordination team for review, approval, allocation of means, consolidation and communication to all interested stakeholders
May	Continue <i>throughout year</i> support to expert groups and communication with stakeholders Meet regularly (eg quarterly and in conjunction with other meetings) with DG Environment, PEBLDS Joint Secretariat, MCPFE Liaison Office, etc as appropriate	Continue <i>throughout year</i> to work on the reviews, mobilisation of data, testing, validation and draft documentation/metadata for their respective indicator(s), working closely with the organisations producing the candidate indicators
June	tbc annual meeting of coordination team and expert groups with interested stakeholders (June or September)	30 th Expert group chairs submit 1-page interim reports to coordination team
July	15 th Prepares and distributes first (short) SEBI2010 progress report	
August		
September	tbc annual meeting of coordination team and expert groups with interested stakeholders (June or September)	30 th Expert group chairs submit 1-page interim reports to coordination team
October	15 th Prepares and distributes first (short) SEBI2010 progress report	
November		
December		30 th Expert group chairs submit full reports on progress in 2005 and plans for 2006 to coordination team for consolidation and communication

Time investment

It is anticipated that the work of the coordination team will require a time investment of about 200 days per year, including:

- preparation of work plan updates, guidance to expert groups, notes of meetings and progress reports;
- annual meeting with expert groups and stakeholders;
- support to expert groups including participation in their meetings as appropriate;
- participation in other meetings as appropriate, including reporting on progress/activities;
- review of papers, proposals and other documents
- coordination and finalization of draft guidance /documentation from expert groups.

It is anticipated that experts fully participating in the expert groups will need to contribute in the order of 10-30 days per year each, including:

- annual meeting with coordination team and other stakeholders;
- 1-3 meetings of individual expert groups (some meetings should be back-to-back with above annual meeting and/or other indicator-related meetings);
- reviewing relevant documents;
- searching for additional, relevant data sources, experts and organizations;
- drafting documents;
- working with selected countries and relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations to review current activities and consider options for the development and inclusion of indicators consistent with the EU/PEBLDS/CBD lists.

4 Organizational structure

4.1 Coordination team

4.1.1 Mandate

The coordination team's mandate is established in the PEBLDS action plan for biodiversity monitoring and indicators (STRA-CO (2004) 3f revised) adopted by the PEBLDS Bureau in May 2004 and in the Message from Malahide and Malahide main paper on Indicators (Malahide/MP/Indicators). Additional details were also provided in the paper presented to the EU Biodiversity Expert Group Meeting on 28 April 2004.

4.1.2 Terms of reference

1. The Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators coordination team shall provide recommendations, propose action plans and improve coordination of international initiatives within the region in the areas of harmonized and cost-effective biodiversity monitoring, assessment and reporting, with a view to supporting decision-making processes and contributing to streamlining international reporting in the pan-European region, taking into consideration specific EU needs. These recommendations and proposals will be presented by the coordination team to the appropriate EU and PEBLDS bodies for approval and to the relevant CBD bodies for information.
2. The SEBI2010 coordination team shall promote the coordination of efforts in the above areas, and in particular towards EU policy and legislation, the Kyiv Resolution and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and.
3. The SEBI2010 coordination team, individual experts assisting the team and expert groups established by the team shall use relevant results of the work of and cooperate with other international networks and fora, and give priority to the following specific areas:

- improvement of data collection, transfer and use;
- enhancement of international comparability of biodiversity information;
- development, streamlining and promotion of a set of multi-purpose, inter-related indicators that can serve local, national, regional and global needs to monitor, assess and understand progress, and help achieve the 2010 targets and other biodiversity commitments;
- cooperation on a harmonized biodiversity database on sources of data and data sets, institutes, reports and other information products using modern information technologies, as well as linking of relevant web sites;
- helping to strengthen biodiversity information and observation capacity, including monitoring networks, in countries in the pan-European region, including Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, serving as facilitator to achieve the biodiversity monitoring and information management objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy for these countries;

As part of this work, the scope for application of satellite and other remote-sensing technologies as well as mapping and mathematical modelling to complement ground-based (in-situ) biodiversity monitoring systems and networks will be considered.

4. The coordination team and the institutions that comprise it shall seek resources to support the SEBI2010 activities.
5. The work of the SEBI2010 should be conducted within a spirit of full and open access to biodiversity data in cooperation with major groups including environmental NGOs and the private sector.
6. SEBI2010 coordination team partners shall provide secretariat assistance and meeting facilities for the SEBI2010 on a rotating basis to the extent that they are able with respect to available resources.
7. The EU Biodiversity Expert Group and PEBLDS Bureau shall review the present terms of reference after the first phase of work is completed in 2006.

4.1.3 Composition of the coordination team

The proposed coordination team will be led by EEA (with support from the European Topic Centre on biological diversity), ECNC and UNEP-WCMC. The coordination team should work closely with expert group leaders and representatives of countries, European Commission, PEBLDS Joint Secretariat, other relevant international organisations and the relevant EU, PEBLDS and CBD advisory bodies to ensure coordination and consistency of the work of the coordination team and individual expert groups. Members of the coordination team will participate as far as possible in each of the expert groups but will not normally lead these groups. The coordination team will meet with the expert groups and other interested stakeholders at least annually to review progress and plan future work

4.2 Expert groups

4.2.1 Purpose

Each expert group should be established with a specific mandate and timetable/duration for work relating to one (or more) of the indicators agreed by CBD, PEBLDS and/or EU, and should consist of a small number of relevant governmental and non-governmental experts. Each group should provide a balanced range of technical expertise and geographical coverage (without becoming too large and unwieldy) to ensure that requirements and national/institutional capacities to respond are fully taken into account

4.2.2 Organization of expert groups

The coordination team will send invitations to a wide range of organizations to provide nominations for expert groups. The team will evaluate nominations in terms of geographical and thematic coverage and make a proposal for the composition of the first expert groups.

For the first phase of SEBI work, six expert groups will be established to cover specific indicators (see Table 1). For other indicators which are either already well-developed or are new types of indicators, a lighter approach will be adopted where the SEBI2010 coordination team will prepare or commission short papers to identify what needs to be done, which can then be more widely reviewed.

The expert groups will be supported by the coordination team in terms of the provision of guidance and other relevant documents and through the participation of a coordination team member, or someone designated by the Team, to provide secretarial support and links to the Team and other expert groups as appropriate.

Table 1: Proposal for initial consideration of focal areas and indicators by expert groups or coordination team/individual experts

CBD focal area	Indicators	Expert group	Coordination team or individual expert
Status and trends of the components of biological diversity	Trends in abundance and distribution of selected species	X	
	Change in status of threatened and/or protected species	The above expert group should consider with the coordination team whether to include this indicator	X if not included by Expert group 1
	Trends in extent of selected biomes, ecosystems and habitats	X	
	Connectivity/fragmentation of ecosystems (<i>from focal area 'Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services'</i>)		
	Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals, cultivated plants, and fish species of major socioeconomic importance	X	
	Coverage of protected areas		X
Threats to biodiversity	Nitrogen deposition	X	
	Number and costs of invasive alien species	X	
	Impact of climate change on biodiversity		X
Ecosystem integrity and ecosystem goods and services	Marine trophic index		X
	<i>Connectivity/fragmentation of ecosystems (see above)</i>	-	
	Water quality in aquatic ecosystems		X
Sustainable use	Area of forest, agricultural, fishery and aquaculture ecosystems under sustainable management	X	
Status of access and benefits sharing	Percentage of European patent applications for inventions based on genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge that disclose the source of these resources and knowledge		X
Status of resource transfers and use	Funding to biodiversity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in economic and development cooperation (response) • in EU research, monitoring and management 		X
Public opinion (additional EU focal area)	Public awareness and participation		X

Terms of reference for expert groups

The expert groups will develop the detailed analyses, proposals and documentation that will assist the relevant organisations to compile the required data and produce the indicators at the various geographical scales once agreed. It should be stressed that the expert groups have a mainly advisory role; they will help the appropriate organisations participating in the groups to produce the indicators at the EU and Pan-European level and, on request, will help individual countries with the development of their national indicators.

1. The SEBI2010 expert groups shall work under the guidance of the SEBI2010 coordination team.
2. The SEBI2010 expert groups shall have a leader or a chairperson who will be supported by a member of the coordination team or a representative designated by the coordination team.
3. The SEBI2010 expert groups shall be responsible for selected indicators for which they shall:
 - take stock of the discussions on these indicators that have already taken place in the context of the CBD;
 - review the availability and use of relevant indicators and data within various ongoing governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental programmes at the national, European and global levels;
 - analyze options for establishing/producing the selected indicator(s) at the relevant level (this will differ by indicator) and make proposals on which options should be followed by whom and why (tested guidance). This should include selection and application of quality criteria for indicators;
 - consider how proposed indicators relate one to another or to any other indicators proposed for inclusion in the CBD/PEBLDS/EU lists, and hence can best contribute to the assessment and understanding of progress and the needs for action to achieve the 2010 target;
 - where appropriate demonstrate in pilot studies how existing data can or cannot be used to deliver identified indicators, taking into account the scalability of the indicator for possible use at the EU or pan-European level;
 - devise a methodology to ensure the required dataflow for producing the indicator from 2005 onwards, including the feasibility and costs of producing the indicator by the relevant body on a regular basis between 2005 and 2010;
 - describe and document the indicator including meta-data, links to other indicators, and who the key experts and stakeholders are;
 - communicate the proposals, proposed indicators and their documentation to the coordination team.
4. The SEBI2010 expert groups shall consist of nominated representatives of expert organizations or countries who are able to contribute at least 10 days work to the expert group in each year of its operation;
5. Representatives of the expert groups should participate in annual meetings with the coordination team and other stakeholders to report on progress and findings and to discuss future activities and division of roles and tasks;
6. The coordination team should as far as possible cover the costs for travel and subsistence for expert group members to attend meetings as part of this work plan. Depending on additional funding sources and individual needs, staff costs may be covered as well.

5 Involving stakeholders

Stakeholders will be informed of the ongoing and inter-related activities at national, EU, pan-European and global levels on biodiversity monitoring, indicators, assessment and reporting in relation to biodiversity and the 2010 targets. The lists below identify a first list of stakeholders to communicate with on a regular and systematic basis, key events of importance to the subject as well as related indicator initiatives.

5.1 Relevant stakeholders (to be completed)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eionet (European Environmental Information and Observation Network) – national focal points, national reference centres and European topic centres• European Commission DG Environment• EU Biodiversity Expert Group – national experts, NGOs, Commission and EEA staff• PEBLDS Council (Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy)• CBD Secretariat, advisory and governance bodies• IUCN | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IWG-BioMIN (International Working Group on Biodiversity Monitoring and Indicators)• EBMI-F (European Biodiversity Monitoring and Indicator Framework)• MCPFE (Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe)• Other conventions, including the Ramsar, Migratory Species and Bern conventions• EPBRS (European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy)• Relevant research networks |
|--|--|

Annex 1: Initial list of meta-data to be provided for each indicator proposed and adopted (to be further revised in consultation with expert groups)

- Title
- Ownership or custodianship
- Type (DPSIR, ABCDE)
- Status (consultation, proposal, adopted – within EU, PEBLDS, CBD and other lists respectively)
- Definition
- Relevant policy questions
- Description/rationale
- Data source
- Reporting obligations
- Geographical coverage
- Temporal coverage
- Update frequency
- Data quality
- Methodology of data manipulation
- Further work required
- Presentation
- Assessment of criteria for indicator selection
- Relation to other similar indicators
- Other stakeholders
- Identified experts

Annex 2: Overview of related events and requirements in EU, PEBLDS and CBD Calendars

EU calendar

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Biodiversity headline indicators adopted	Tested, optimized, finalized				
Biodiversity indicator adopted in list of Structural Indicators	Interim biodiversity structural indicator developed	Finalized by 2006			
	Monitoring: use, and if necessary develop, monitoring frameworks (building on existing monitoring approaches and methods including those of civil society) in order to establish adequate harmonized data flows for the biodiversity headline & structural indicators to reveal and communicate key trends from 2006				
	Reporting: adopt best approaches to streamline national reporting to European Community, pan-European and international agreements from 2006 onwards; headline indicators applied for reporting on progress in implementation of the ECBS and BAPs 2007 and 2010				
	Funding: adequate financial resources allocated to biodiversity indicators, monitoring, reporting and their coordination				
Habitats directive: agree how to report on favourable conservation status			Second 6-year reports (for period 2001-2006)		

Pan-European calendar

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Work plan outlining a stepped approach for a coherent monitoring programme developed	Work plan to be approved by PEBLDS Council Set up a coherent European Programme for biodiversity monitoring				
Agreement on a core set of Pan-European indicators	Testing and reporting of a core set of indicators	Report on the tested indicators, including recommendations, to support further development of biodiversity monitoring and indicators, also to improve national-level monitoring, to be delivered to COP8 and other stakeholders			
	Recommend an approach to measuring the progress of national governments, the European Union and the pan-European community towards achieving the EU and Kyiv target to halt the loss of biodiversity at all levels by 2010				
	Relate the change in biodiversity at pan-European level to policy measures taken at this level, so as to be able to adjust or strengthen the measures concerned				
	Test CBD indicators at national and regional level.				

CBD calendar

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Develop and review "indicators for immediate development" from decision VII/30	Agree on "indicators for immediate development"	Set up a programme for regular review and delivery of indicators			
	Draft Global Biodiversity Outlook for communicating indicators	First Global Biodiversity Outlook delivering 2010 indicators	Set up process for regular compilation and delivery of Global Biodiversity Outlook as a means of delivering indicators		
	Develop further indicators from proposed framework in decision VII/30	Agree on further indicators	Set up a programme for regular review and delivery of indicators		
		Promote use of indicators at national level			