

ANNEX

Matrix for the review of implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity

This table can also be completed on-line at: <http://www.cbd.int/island/reports.shtml>

Party: Ascension Island Government Conservation Department

<p>2020 Biodiversity Targets (“Aichi Targets”) <i>(Text in bold above target is a synopsis of the target, for easy reference)</i></p>	<p>Progress/Obstacles</p>
<p>Strategic goal A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society</p>	
<p>General awareness of biodiversity is achieved</p> <p>Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, all people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.</p>	<p>The Ascension Island Government Conservation department actively seeks to make the public more aware of the terrestrial and marine flora and fauna of Ascension. The Conservation department runs an Explorers club for the school children every summer, providing them with the opportunity to learn about Ascension’s endemic and native species, sites of scientific and geological interest and how they can help in school or as individuals. Island and turtle tours for visitors are carried out by Conservation staff. The Conservation centre sells books about Ascension’s natural environment, provides free leaflets and information on Ascension’s history. We also run a successful volunteer programme. Volunteers help with a range of activities, from invasive species control, seabird monitoring and endemic plant propagation.</p>
<p>Biodiversity is mainstreamed into development strategies and plans</p> <p>Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.</p>	<p>Ascension Island is currently working in collaboration with RSPB, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, University of Exeter, the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (Edinburgh) and the Natural History Museum to develop a funding proposal, with the aim of developing the Island’s first Biodiversity Action Plan. If funding is obtained, development of the plan will begin in 2011. Although several biodiversity projects have been successful, such as the Darwin Turtle Project 98-2000; FCO/RSPB funded Seabird Restoration Project and a number of OTEP projects, a comprehensive biodiversity strategy is lacking. On 26 September 2001 the Ascension Island Government and United Kingdom Government signed up to an Environment Charter for Ascension. The AIG Conservation Department aims to conserve Ascension’s natural heritage by implementing the Governments commitments under the Island’s Environmental Charter.</p>
<p>Biodiversity incentives are used in policy (negative avoided, positive applied)</p> <p>Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or</p>	

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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.	
Sustainable (biodiversity-friendly) production and consumption are in place 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	
Rate of loss of all habitats are at least halved, fragmentation and degradation reduced 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	
Fish, invertebrates and aquatic plants are sustainable harvested Target 6: By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.	
Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity	
Pollution and eutrophication are contained and controlled Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.	
Invasive alien species identified, priority species controlled/eradicated, pathways contained 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	Feral Cat Eradication Programme 2001-2004 Since March 2001, RSPB has been helping AIG to implement a FCO funded seabird restoration project on Ascension. This included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing a Conservation Officer post, funded initially by the project and subsequently by AIG; and

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	<p>2. A feral cat eradication programme, delivered by Wildlife Management International Limited (WMIL) a New Zealand company specialised in island restoration including the removal of alien species, funded initially by the project and subsequently by RSPB.</p> <p>In a short space of time and before complete feral cat eradication had been achieved, there were positive signs of seabirds recolonising the mainland. The project is of significant international importance. It was the first time that a cat eradication has been attempted on an island of this size and with a domestic population of cats. The last few feral cats were removed in 2004 when the external involvement of WMIL ended. Ascension Island was declared feral cat free in 2006.</p> <p>Increasing regional capacity to reduce the impacts of invasive species on the South Atlantic United Kingdom Overseas Territories – the South Atlantic Invasive Species Project. November 2007 – December 2009. Funded by: EU, managed by the RSPB.</p> <p>Outcomes: Development of regional capacity in order to control the spread and proliferation of invasive alien species on UKOTs in the South Atlantic region. An assessment of the existing status of invasive species and recommendations for action. Strengthened local operational capacity to control the introduction and spread of invasive alien species. The effective control and/or removal of key invasive alien species. Increased awareness of the benefits of controlling and/or removing invasive alien species</p>
<p>Pressure from ocean acidification and climate change on coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems minimized</p> <p>Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning</p>	
<p align="center">Strategic goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity</p>	

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<p>17% terrestrial and 10% of coastal and marine areas are conserved in networks of protected areas</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Green Mountain National Park. Funded by: OTEP Dates: April 2004 – End of April 2005</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <p>The development and initiation of a management plan for the proposed Green Mountain National Park. Focusing on public awareness and endemic plant protection and restoration.</p> <p>A pilot project for the management of future protected areas on Ascension.</p> <p>Green Mountain, a site of natural beauty and an important habitat for Ascension’s endemic species of plants was made more accessible to the public.</p> <p>The protection of wild endemic plant colonies.</p> <p>The creation of an endemic plant nursery.</p> <p>A complementary public awareness campaign.</p>
<p>Extinction of all threatened species is prevented, conservation status is improved</p> <p>Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.</p>	<p>Ascension Island Endemic Plants Conservation Project ASC 503. June 2008-May 2010. Funded by: OTEP</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <p>A continuation of the work started during the OTEP-funded Green Mountain National Park projects.</p> <p>Horticulture protocols and Species Action Plans for endemic plant species produced.</p> <p>Propagation of all endemic plant species and reintroduction into designated restoration sites.</p> <p>Herbarium voucher collections completed.</p> <p>DNA collections sent to RBG Kew.</p> <p>A continuation of the invasive species clearance in priority conservation areas and the wild populations of endemics.</p> <p>IUCN red listing assessment completed for all endemic plant species.</p> <p>Rediscovery of the extinct <i>Anogramma ascensionis</i>.</p>
<p>Breeds/varieties of cultivated animals and plants and their wild relatives are maintained, strategies for genetic erosion are in place</p> <p>Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.</p>	

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<i>Strategic goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services</i>	
Ecosystems that provide water, health, livelihoods and well-being are restored and safeguarded 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.	
Ecosystem resilience and carbon stocks from biodiversity are enhanced, at least 15% of degraded ecosystems are restored, promoting joint implementation of Rio Conventions 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.	
Nagoya protocol on ABS is in force and operational Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.	
<i>Strategic Goal E: Enhance Implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building</i>	
All Parties have an effective and updated NBSAP produced in a participatory manner Target 17: By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.	
Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of ILC, customary use, are respected and integrated into the Convention, ILCs participate at all relevant levels Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels	
Biodiversity science and technology are improved, shared and applied	

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<p>Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.</p>	
<p>A substantive increase in financial resources invested in biodiversity is achieved</p> <p>Target 20: By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 from all sources and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resources needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.</p>	