

Canada and the Convention on Biological Diversity (Robert McLean)

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**Canadian policy context:
2020 Biodiversity goals, targets
and indicators for Canada**

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Global Context: The Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020

- In October 2010, Canada and other Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) agreed on the Convention's Strategic Plan 2011-2020
- Strategic Plan is a globally aspirational, flexible framework of goals and targets
- Success depends on contributions from all sectors, not just governments
- All Parties urged to:
 - Develop national biodiversity targets that are relevant domestically, using the Strategic Plan and its Aichi targets as a guide
 - Review, update and revise national biodiversity strategies and action plans as appropriate and report by COP-12 in 2014

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Outline

- Canadian Context: Biodiversity Outcomes Framework
- Global Context: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Strategic Plan 2011-2020
- Developing Canada's 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets
- Target 1: Protected Areas and Other Effective Area-Based Measures
- Target 14: Inventory of Protected Spaces
- Role of the CCEA in Reporting on Area-Based Conservation
- Next Steps in Development of Canada's 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets

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Developing Canada's 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets

- Biodiversity goals and targets are an important tool in advancing and promoting conservation in Canada
 - Focus on biodiversity priorities for Canada
 - Provide basis for measuring and reporting progress
- Identify specific, medium-term outcomes to support long-term outcomes of the Biodiversity Outcomes Framework
- Like many countries, draft goals and targets are informed and inspired by Aichi targets, tuned to Canada's unique context
- Federal, provincial and territorial government working group developed initial draft 2020 biodiversity goals and targets for Canada
 - Goals and targets recently updated in light of feedback to date
- Specifics on how progress will be measured will be key
 - Indicators and data sources

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Canadian Context: Biodiversity Outcomes Framework

- Complements and builds on the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy (1995)
- Endorsed by federal, provincial and territorial ministers in 2006
- Provides the architecture for setting out domestic direction to 2020

What Conservation And Use Outcomes	Healthy and Diverse Ecosystems	Viable Populations of Species	Genetic Resources and Adaptive Potential	Sustainable Use of Biological Resources
Why Benefits For People	Clean air, water and soil and provision of ecological services essential for human well-being	Sustainable yield of food and fibre	New food varieties, pluraric ecotourism, bioprospecting	Healthy, prosperous communities, sustainable livelihoods, traditional lifestyles
How Management Outcomes	Assess Plan Do Track	Research and information support planning and decision-making Biodiversity outcomes integrated into land, water and resource management plans in a participatory manner Informed and enabled implementation Monitoring and reporting systems support continuous improvement		

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Draft Biodiversity Goals for Canada

By 2020...

Goal A: Canada's lands and waters are planned and managed using an ecosystem approach to support biodiversity conservation outcomes at local, regional and national scales.

Goal B: Direct and indirect pressures as well as cumulative effects on biodiversity are reduced, and production and consumption of Canada's biological resource are more sustainable.

Goal C: Canadians have easy access to adequate and relevant information about biodiversity and ecosystem services to support conservation planning and decision-making.

Goal D: Canadians are informed about the value of nature and more actively engaged in its stewardship.

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Target 1: Protected Areas and Other Effective Area-Based Measures (Goal A)

By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial areas and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas, are conserved through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

- Target 1 is an abridged version of Aichi Target 11
 - Key elements including connectivity, ecological representivity, equitable and effective management are core facets of Canada's protected areas efforts, and are included in background material on Target 1 (see handout)
- Protected areas represent a key means of conserving biodiversity
 - Help maintain ecosystem services and globally important ecosystems
 - Provide opportunities to link with nature and to conduct research and monitoring
 - Currently approximately 10% terrestrial and 1% marine territory in protected areas.
- To date CCEA has led the way in telling this key part of the story through the Conservation Areas Reporting and Tracking System (CARTS)

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Target 14: Inventory of Protected Spaces (Goal C)

By 2020, Canada has a comprehensive inventory of protected spaces that includes private conservation areas.

Possible indicators:

- The establishment of a centralized comprehensive inventory
- The number and/or nature of new elements and/or methods that are incorporated into Canada's protected spaces tracking and reporting system

- Target 14 supports Target 1
 - Specifies the mechanism for tracking and reporting progress
 - Provides opportunity to highlight a valuable tool in gathering and making available information on biodiversity conservation
- Progress will be made as tracking and reporting expands and improves, e.g.:
 - Addition of data to CARTS
 - Integration of other relevant datasets
 - Enhancements to information made available (e.g. new mapping, reporting tools)

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Target 1: Capturing Other Effective Area-Based Measures

- Increasing recognition of the value in capturing a broader picture which includes private conservation areas
 - Taking into account other effective area-based conservation measures will highlight established conservation measures that are not currently reported internationally
- Jurisdictions now integrating non-government conservation areas into CARTS
 - Provides more accurate picture of domestic efforts
 - Provides recognition of range of actions by partners
 - Helps expand dialogue about value, benefits and opportunities in participating in area-based conservation activities
- **Outstanding decision:** Definition of other effective area-based conservation measures
 - Many types of activities could contribute – challenge is to define what is included / not included – must have clear conservation value
 - Work is underway – DFO network of marine protected areas and decision guidance on other measures
 - CCEA advice is key to this decision

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Role of the CCEA in Reporting on Area-Based Conservation

- CCEA (and CARTS) is a key vehicle to achieve timely, consistent reporting nationally and internationally:
 - National Report on Protected Areas – Canada's protected areas story
 - Canada's National Report to the CBD
 - Progress toward 2020 biodiversity goals and targets included in reports every 4 years, (5th National Report in 2014, the 6th in 2018).
 - Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators – Protected Areas Indicator
 - CBD Secretariat to report on overall progress reported by all parties toward global targets
 - IUCN: World Database on Protected Areas
- CCEA provides advice on:
 - How areas are assessed, using IUCN classifications
 - Criteria and guidance on how we measure other conservation areas
 - Tracking and reporting other elements where possible (connectivity, ecological representivity, etc.)

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Target 1: How Progress Will Be Measured

Possible indicators:

- Percentage of total terrestrial territory (including inland water) conserved in protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.
- Percentage of total coastal and marine territory conserved in marine protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

- CARTS would be a key data source in measuring progress
- Opportunity to report both rolled up percentages and to report separately on each element in the target (ie. terrestrial, marine, protected areas, other conservation areas)
- Opportunity for other types of reporting to highlight achievements, e.g.:
 - Quantitative and/or qualitative measures of progress on other key elements (e.g. connectivity, effective management, etc.)
 - Case studies

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Next Steps in Development of Canada's 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets

- Identify and select appropriate indicators that will allow Canada to track and report on progress against targets
- Finalize Canada's 2020 biodiversity goals, targets and related indicators between now and summer 2013
- Report on domestic goals and targets in Canada's 5th National Report to the CBD in 2014

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