

THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION 2020



International legislation pre-1992:

World Heritage Convention

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES)

Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)

International legislation pre-1992:

World Heritage Convention

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and

Flora (CITES)

Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)

International legislation post-1992:

Convention on Biological Diversity
UN Convention to Combat Desertification
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

Agenda 21: Programme of Action for Sustainable Development Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
World Summit on Sustainable Development – Plan of Implementation
Regional instruments and strategies, e.g. EU Habitats Directive and the European
Commission's European Biodiversity Strategy

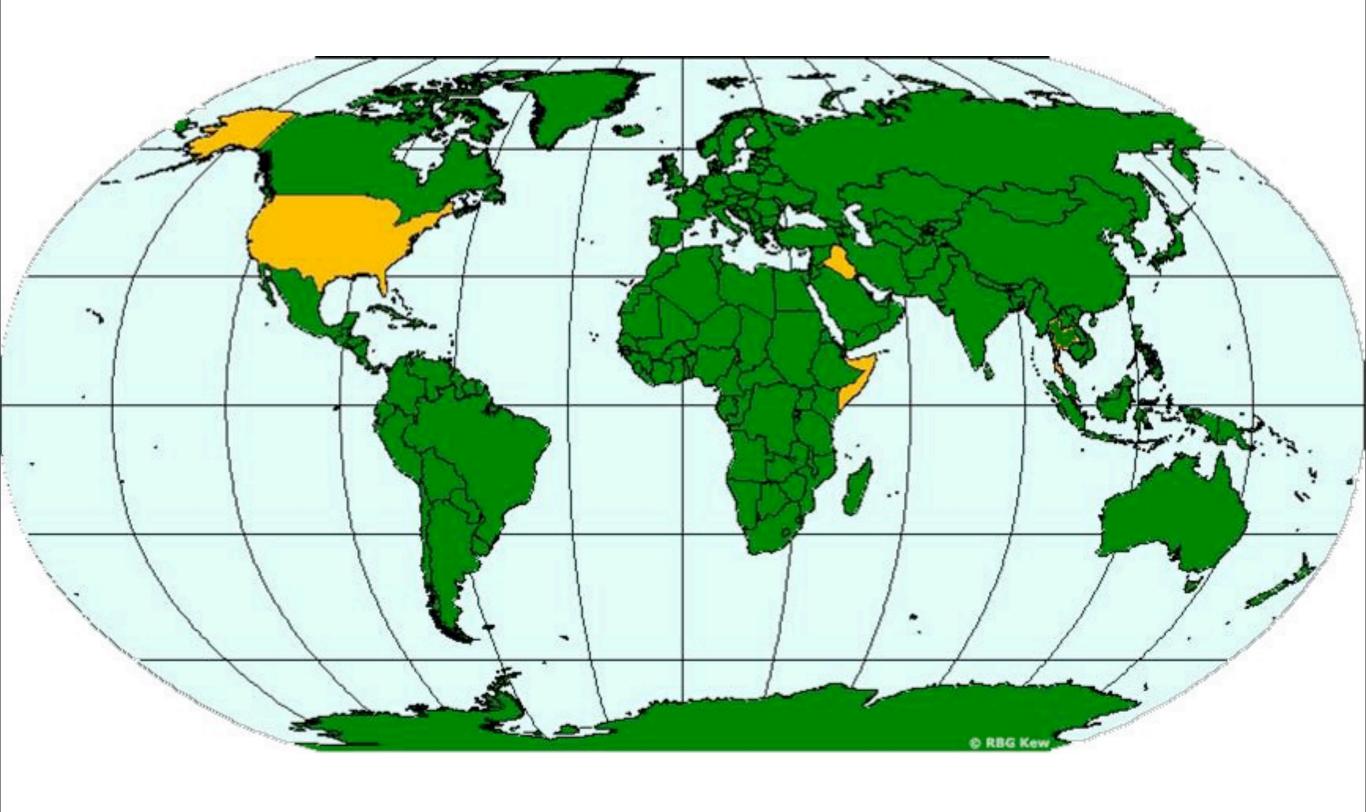
National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

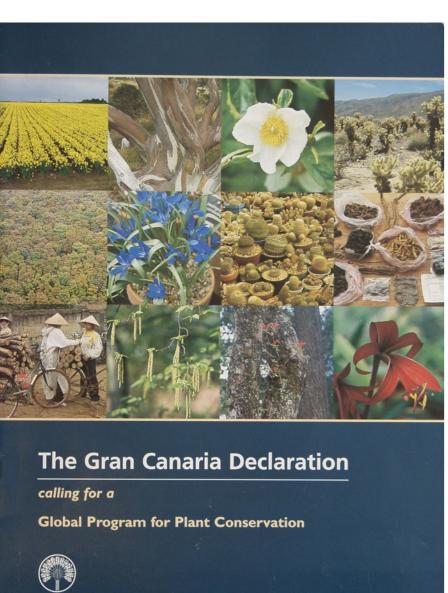
The objectives of the CBD

- 1. The conservation of biological diversity
- 2. The sustainable use of its components
- 3. The fair & equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources

Parties to the CBD

Non-party – The Holy See, Iraq, Somalia, United States of America





Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh (Stephen Blackmore) Jardin Botanico Canario Viera y Clavijo, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain (David Bramwell) Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Peter Crane) National Programme for Biodiversity Conservation and Genetic

Resources, **Brazil** (Braulio Dias)

Plants Committee, IUCN Species Survival Commision and International Centre for Nature Conservation, New Zealand (David Given) Genetic Resources Science and Technology Group, International Plant

Genetic Resources Institute, Italy (Toby Hodgkin)

Jardin Botanico Nacional de Cuba, Cuba (Angela Leiva)

American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta and Flagstaff Arboretum, Arizona (Nancy R. Morin)

National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow, India (P. Pushpangadan) Missouri Botanical Garden, USA (Peter H. Raven)

Insituto Alexander von Humboldt, Bogota Colombia (Cristian Samper)

DIVERSITAS and Institute of Ecolgy, National University of Mexico, UNAM, Mexico (Jose Sarukhan)

National Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium, Malawi and Commonwealth Science Council, UK (Jameson Seyani)

East African Plants Specialist Group, IUCN Species Survival Commission and National Museums of Kenya, Kenya (Stella Simiyu)

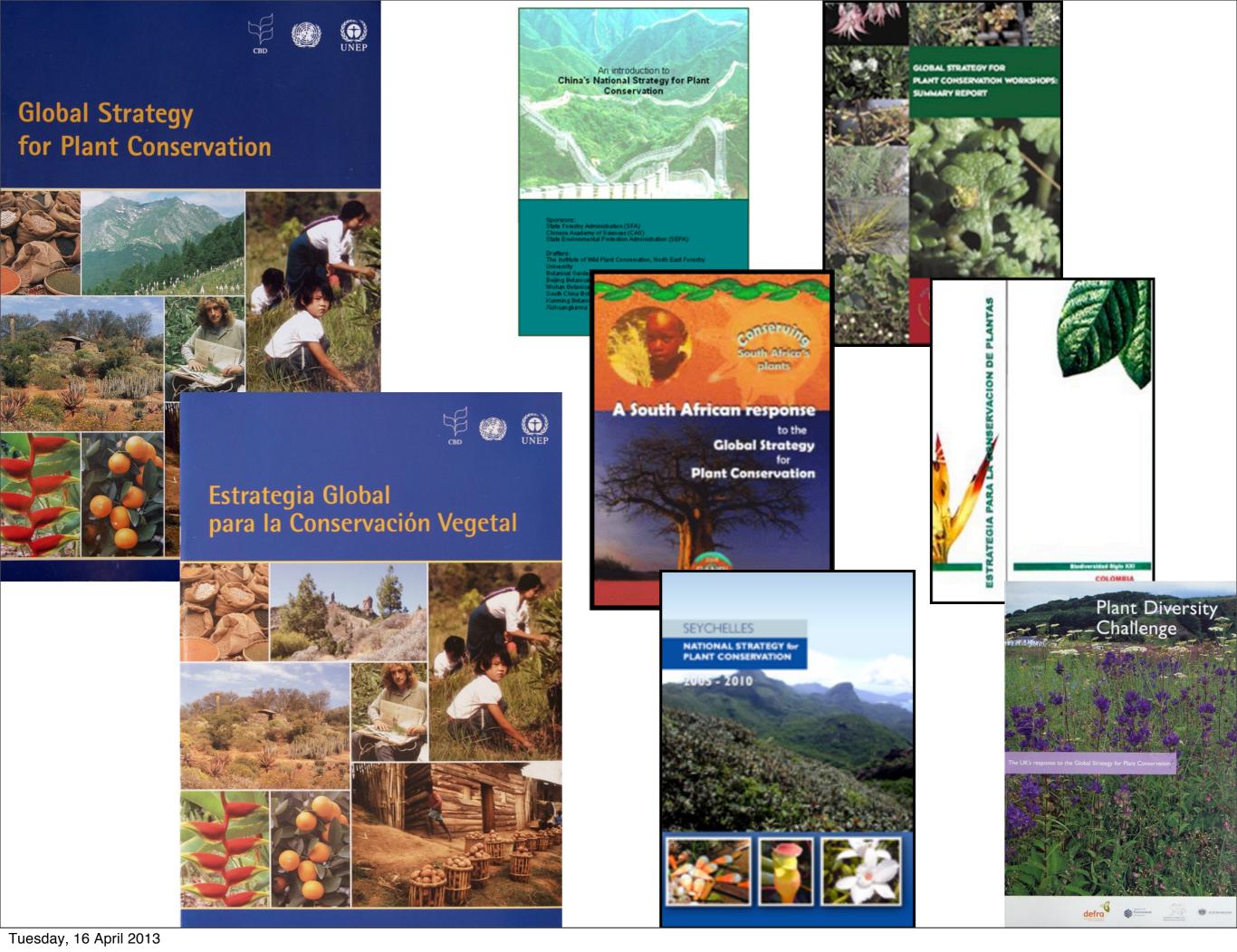
Moscow Division of Botanic Gardens Conservation International and Moscow main Botanical Garden, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia (Igor A. Smirnov)

Botanic Gardens Conservation International (Peter Wyse Jackson)

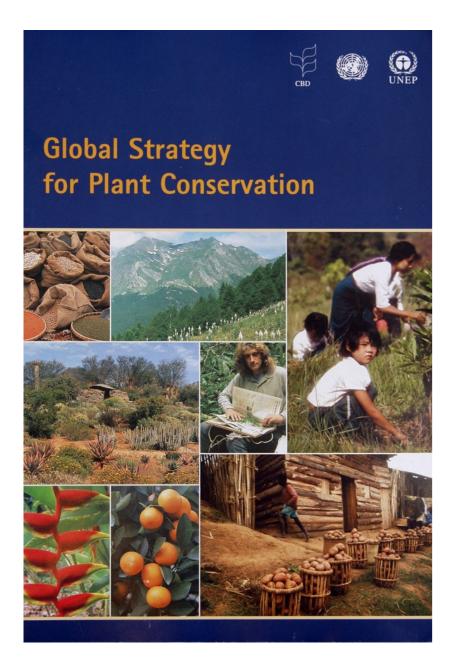
Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

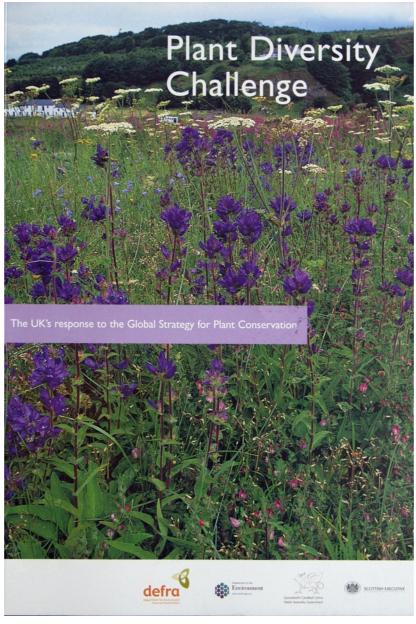
Adopted unanimously by the 187 governments at the 6th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP) – The Hague, Netherlands, 19th April, 2002

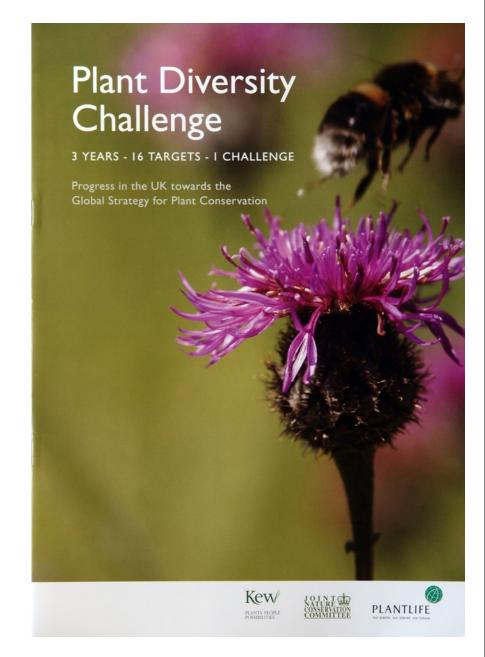
GSPC Objective: to halt the current and continuing loss of plant diversity



Progress in the UK





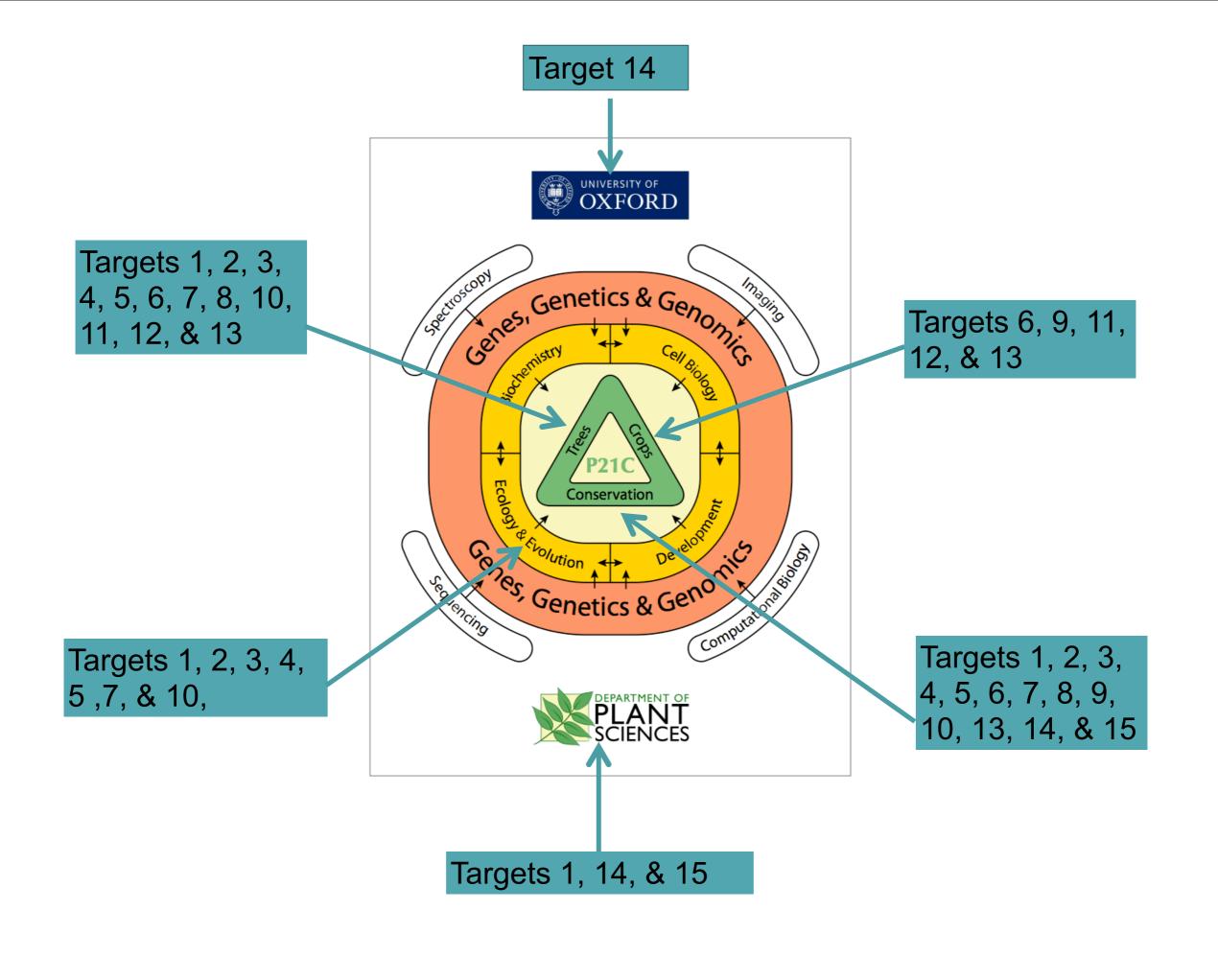


What was new about the GSPC?

- ▲ 16 outcome-orientated targets to be achieved by a set date
- ▲ First ever internationally agreed targets in biodiversity conservation
- ▲ Recognised as an innovative model approach to target setting for the CBD
- ▲Unique integration of national and international initiatives in plant conservation

The GSPC provides a framework of action at global, regional, national & local levels to *inter alia*

- facilitate development of global consensus of key objectives
- ▲ focus research on key generic issues
- set standards for plant conservation
- ▲ mobilise support
- ▲ facilitate collaboration



The GSPC believes in inter alia

- the ecosystem approach as adopted by the CBD
- the principle of access & benefit-sharing as provided by the CBD
- local knowledge and expertise
- ▲ the linkage between in situ and ex situ conservation
- ▲ linking science to social and economic issues
- improving communication

GSPC 1 – five objectives with 16 targets to be hit by 2010

- 1. Understanding & Documenting plant diversity
 - 2. Conserving Plant Diversity
 - 3. Using plant diversity sustainably
- 4. Promoting education & awareness about plant diversity
 - 5. Training & building capacity for plant conservation www.plants2020.org/

TARGET	WORLD	UK
1 - Global checklist		
2 - Preliminary assessment of conservation status		
3 - Scientifically tested conservation protocols		
4 - 10% of land protected		
5 - 50% of important plant areas protected		
6 - 30% of production areas managed for conservation		
7 - 60% threatened species conserved in situ		
8 - 60% threatened species conserved ex situ		
9 - 70% genetic diversity of crops conserved		
10 - Control strategies in place for 100 worst weeds		
11 - No species endangered by trade		
12 - 30% plant derived products from sustainable supplies		
13 - Halting the loss of local knowledge		
14 - GSPC included in formal education		
15 - next generation of specialists trained		
16 - Networks established		

The 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP) - decision X/17 Nagoya, Japan, 18th October, 2010 http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=12283

GSPC 2 - 5 objectives with 16 new targets to be hit by 2020

- 1. Plant diversity is sufficiently **understood** & documented to enable a sustainable future
- 2. Plant diversity is urgently and effectively conserved
- 3. Plant diversity is used in a sustainable and equitable manner
- 4. Education and awareness about plant diversity, its role in sustainable livelihoods and importance to all life on Earth is promoted
- 5. The capacities and public engagement necessary to implement the Strategy are developed

Objective 1

Plant diversity is sufficiently **understood** and documented to enable a sustainable future

Targets 1-3

Original Target 1 - A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete World flora

The original target was 85% complete by 2010 and the remaining 15% was part-complete. More taxonomists are required and the Global Taxonomic Initiative is critically important

TARGET 1

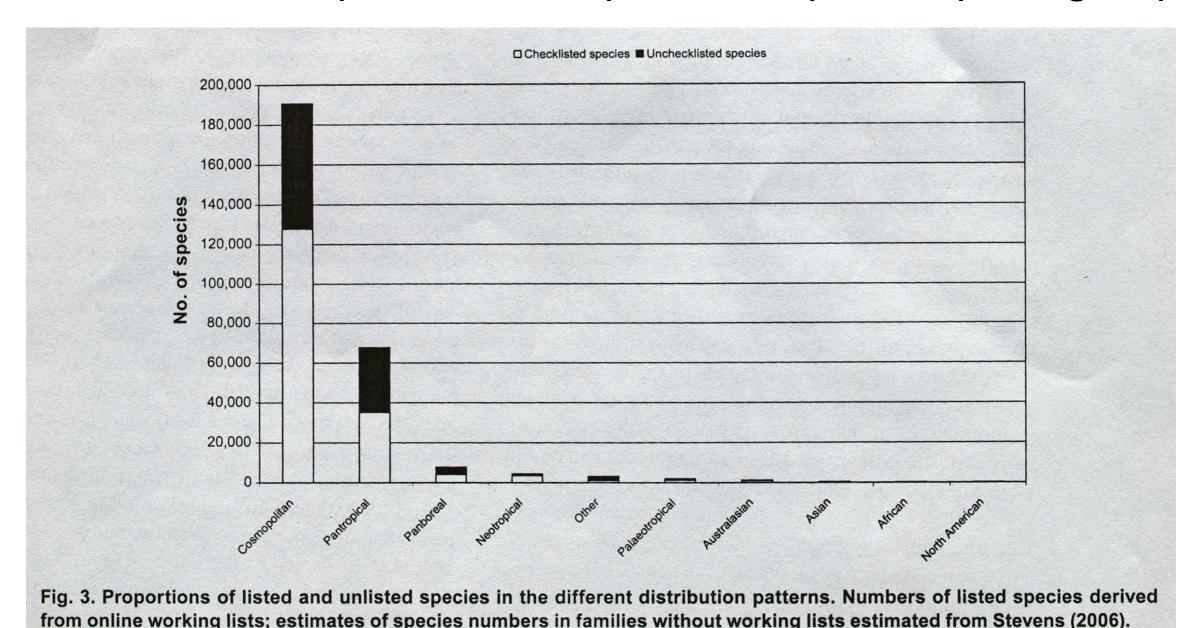
An on-line flora of known plant species

Progress to May 2008

Group	URL	Accepted species listed
Bryophytes	http://mobot.mobot.org/W3T/Search/most.html	13,370
Ferns and fern allies	http://homepages.caverock.net.nz/~bj/fern/	12,838
Cycads	http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/PlantNet/cycad/wlist.html	279
Conifers	2007 annual checklist www.catalogueoflife.org	1,016
Ephedra	www.kew.org/wcsp/	65
Gnetum	www.kew.org/wcsp/	. 29
Welwitschia	www.kew.org/wcsp/	1
Ginkgo	www.kew.org/wcsp/	1
Total non-flowering	plants	27,599
Flowering plants	Currently available—see Appendix in Taxon online issue	140,341
Flowering Plants	Being compiled, on course for completion by end 2007 (Asteraceae by 2010, see text)	34,156
Total flowering plan	its (estimated working list available by end of 2007, see text)	174,497
Total		202,096

Gaps in the working list

- 177,785 species are yet to be integrated into the working list of which 133,000 (70% of the gap) are in just 33 families (see first half of this lecture for the list)
- Most of the families (and the vast majority of the species) yet to be listed are widespread cosmopolitan or pan-tropical groups



Possible reasons why some families have not yet been worked on and thus lists not completed and vice versa

Since 9 of the 10 largest families have been completed size is not a problem (and the 10th family, the Asteraceae, is being completed at present)

Although most of the groups yet to be listed are pan-tropical or cosmopolitan, most of the pan-tropical or cosmopolitan groups have already been completed

Among the unlisted groups are some ancient groups (Apiaceae), ethno-botanicaly important (Apocynaceae, Brassicaceae & Solanaceae), widely cultivated ornamentals (Ericaceae, Boraginanceae, Ranunculaceae etc) scientifically important (Proteaceae) dominated by one large genus (Solanaceae, Moraceae, Ericaceae)

Actual reasons why some families have not yet been worked on and thus lists not completed

Lack of taxonomic expertise (just 120 people from 20 countries have worked on the list to date)

Existing expertise being employed elsewhere such as flora writing

The tyranny of the RAE and high-impact journals

Perfectionist taxonomists "A man would do nothing if he waited until he could do it so well that no one would find fault with what he has done." Cardinal Newman

A monograph of Lupins, Colin Hughes A monograph describes all the species in a genus



Lupinus Fabaceae



- Amphiatlantic distribution
- •35 countries
- Monograph- Agardh (1875)
- •1800 species names for c.250 species
- •Flora treatments e.g. California, Intermountain Basin, Paraguay

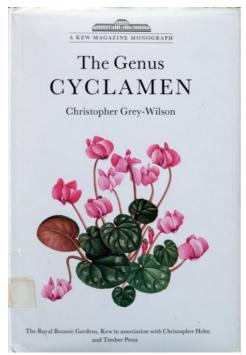


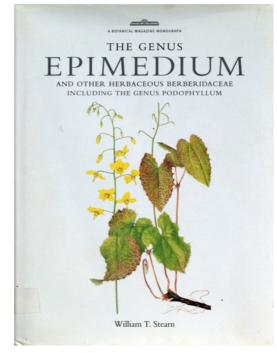
THE FLORA OF OXFORDSHIRE John Killick, Roy Perry and Stan Woodell

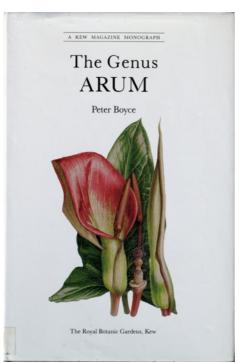
NEW FLORA OF THE BRITISH ISLES SECOND EDITION CLIVE STACE

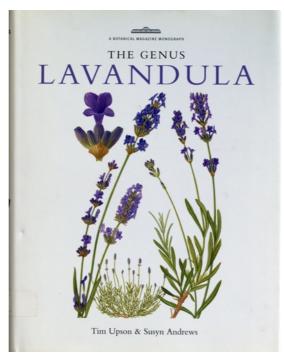


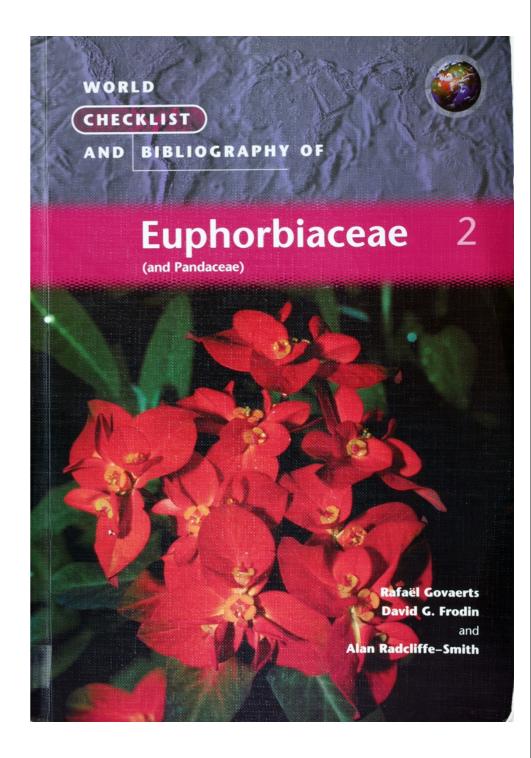
Regional Floras, Generic monographs & World checklists

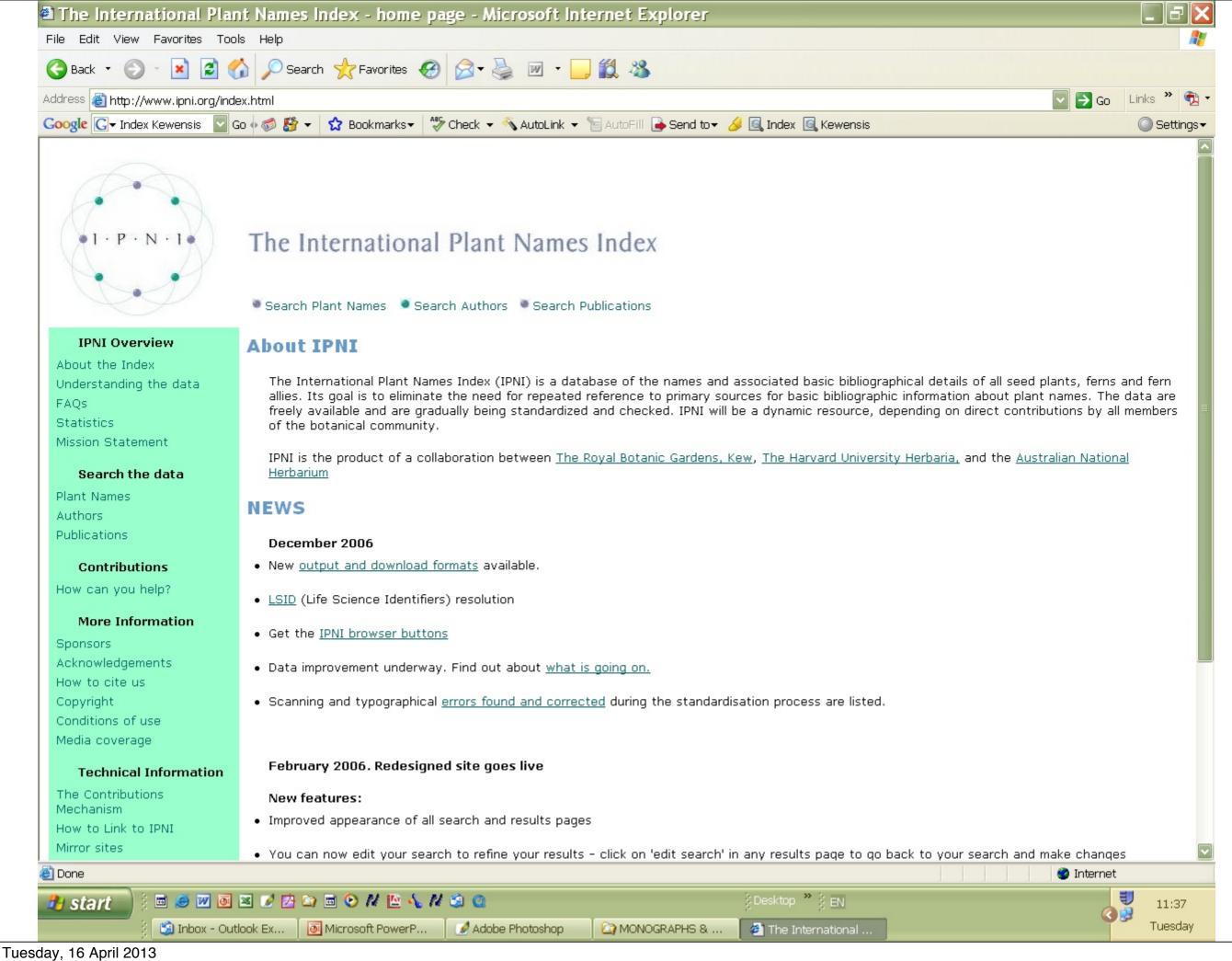






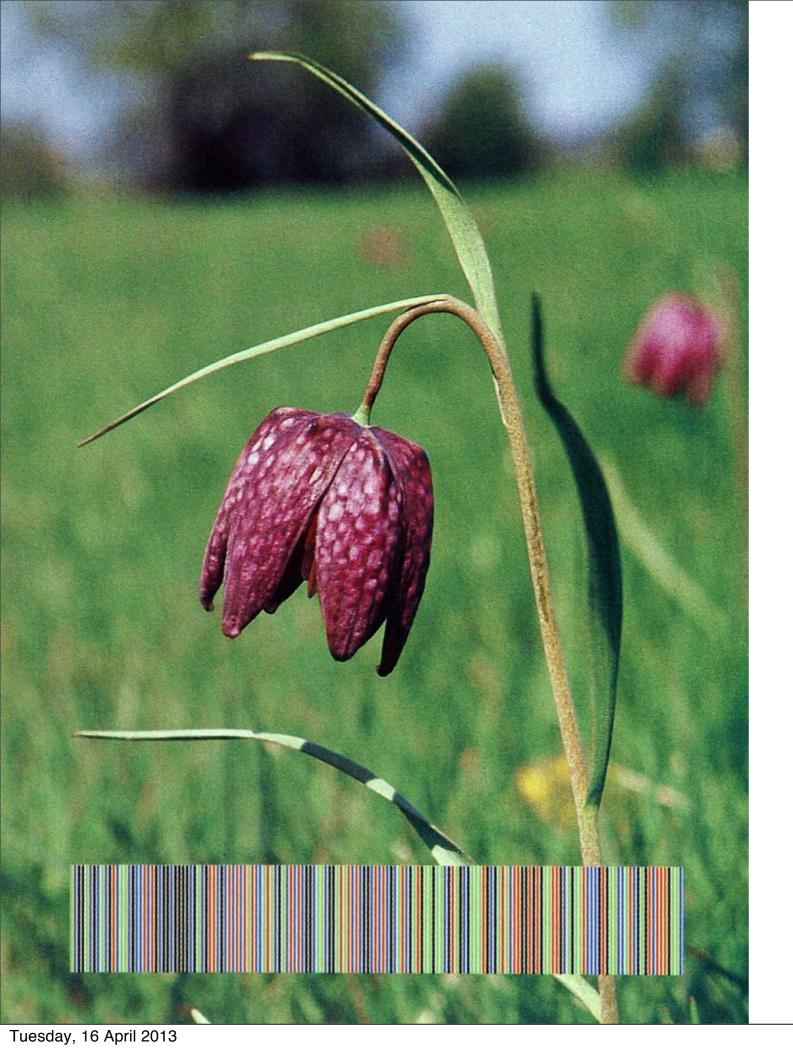






UK Checklists 2006

		2002	2004	2006
FUNGI	Basidiomycotes	No	No	Yes - 2005
	Ascomycetes and other families	No	No	No
LICHENS		Yes	Yes - revised 2002/03	Yes
PROTISTS	Myxomycotes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ALGAE	Charophytes (stoneworts)	Yes	Yes	Yes - updated annually
	Freshwater and terrestrial algae	Yes	Yes - 2 nd edition 2003	Yes
	Marine algae	No	Yes - 2003	Yes - 2 nd edition 2006
PLANTS	Vascular plants (seed plants & ferns)	Yes	Yes	Yes - updated annually
	Bryophytes (mosses & liverworts)	Yes	Yes	Yes - updated 2005



At Kew a project has begun to "bar-code" all species to aid with identification

NBG Wales has completed bar coding the flora of Wales & it is over 90% accurate

Original Target 2 – A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known species at national, regional & international levels

REVISED TARGET 2

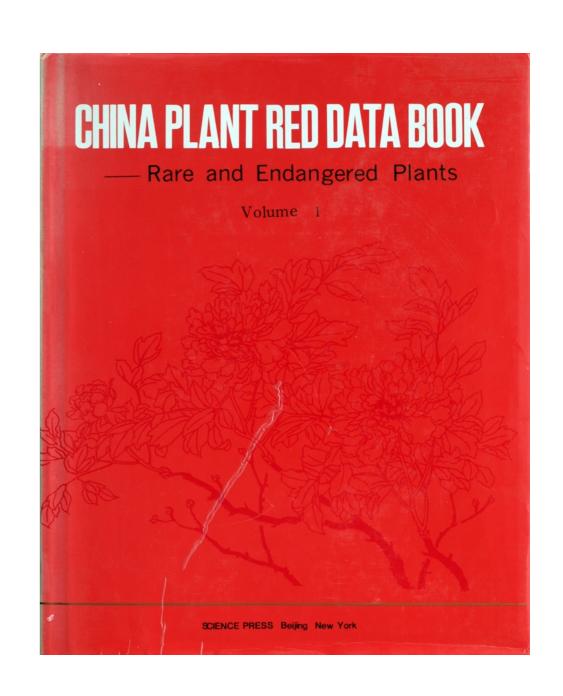
An assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species to guide conservation action at national, regional and international levels

Proposed Milestones

- 2012 working list of all evidence-based species conservation assessments
- 2015 published list of known threatened species
- 2020 all pant species assessed with evidence
- full set of national/regional Red Lists

IUCN Species Survival Commission

- 100 Specialist Groups 30 for plants
- 7000 volunteers 3000 botanists
- The world's best professionals working on a voluntary basis
- Providing data and information to develop conservation tools
- IUCN Red Lists of Threatened Species



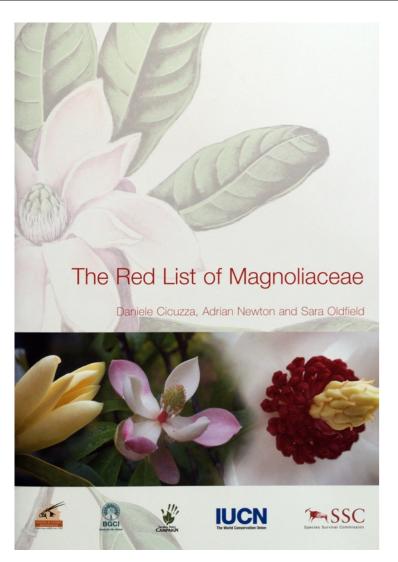


Euphorbia medicaginea red-listed for Sardinia but very common in the Algarve.

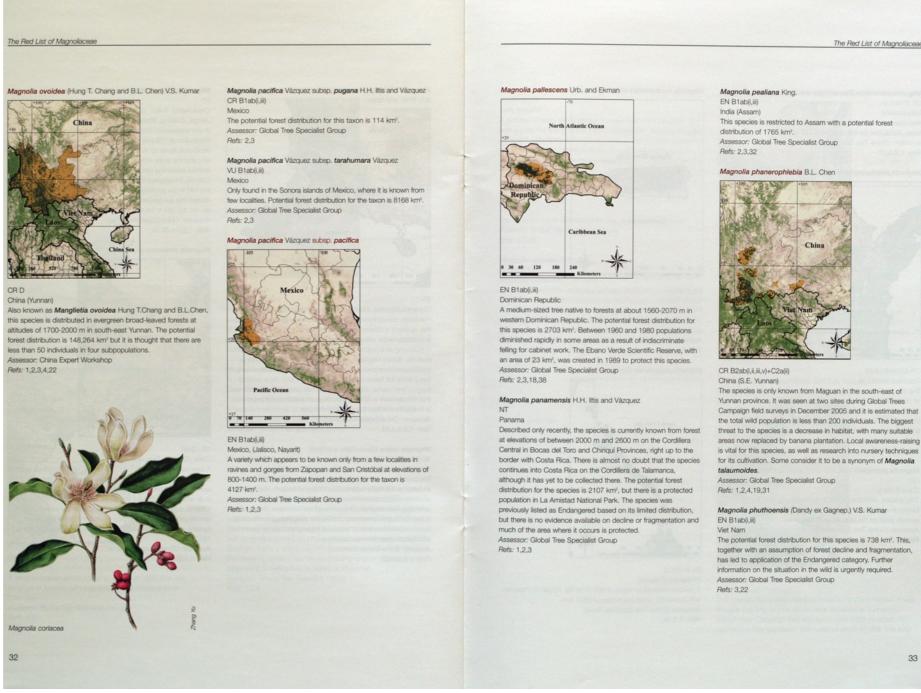
Tuesday, 16 April 2013

Compiling preliminary assessments

- The present IUCN system is too fussy
- It is proposed that as a first step plant species to be placed into one of four categories: Extinct (includes EX and EW); Threatened (includes CR, EN and VU); Not Threatened (includes NT and LC); and Data Deficient (DD).



Taxonomic authorities can provide a lot of data for target 2

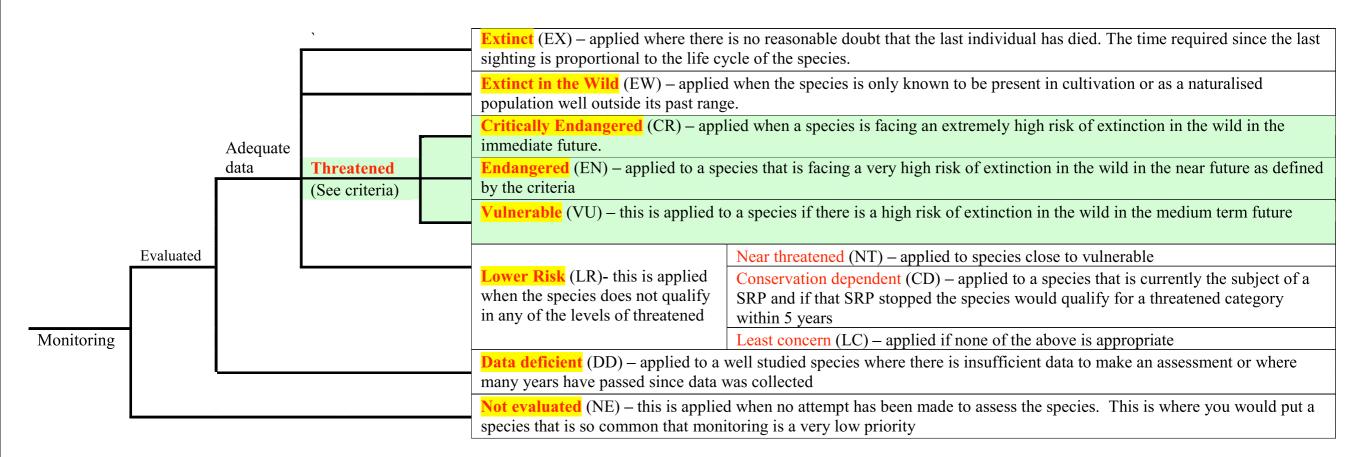


IUCN Red List Categories

IUCN RED LIST CATEGORIES post 1994

adapted from Walter & Gillett (1998) & PLANT TALK 26 p34 (Oct 2001)

03/01/2006 12:04



The criteria: In order to place a species in one of the 3 threatened categories the conservation worker evaluates that species against these categories all of which have quantitative values for each level of threatened-ness.
 Only one criterion has to be met for a species to be classified as threatened.
 A Declining population
 B Small distribution plus decline or fluctuation
 C Small population plus decline
 D Very small or restricted population
 E Quantitative analysis (QA)

Criteria for endangered & vulnerable species

THE CRITERIA FOR CRITICALLY ENDANGERED, ENDANGERED & VULNERABLE SPECIES

summarised from Walter & Gillett (1998) – see the original for more detail

	CRITERIA				
CATEGORY	A	В	C	D	E
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	An observed reduction of >80% in the past 10 years or 3 generations* or a predicted reduction of the same size in the next ten years or 3 generations*	Extent of occurrence <100km² or area of occupancy <10km² plus one-site only or fragmentation, decline & fluctuations	Population fewer than 250 mature individuals & decline of >25% (in 3 years or one generation*) or very fragmented distribution or all in one place	Population fewer than 50 mature individuals	QA showing that the probability of extinction is >50% in 10 years or 3 generations*
ENDANGERED	An observed reduction of >50% in the past 10 years or 3 generations* or a predicted reduction of the same size in the next ten years or 3 generations*	Extent of occurrence <5000km² or area of occupancy <500km² plus one-site only or fragmentation, decline & fluctuations	Population fewer than 2,500 mature individuals & decline of >20% (in 3 years or one generation*) or very fragmented distribution or all in one place	Population fewer than 250 mature individuals	QA showing that the probability of extinction is >10% in 100 years
VULNERABLE	An observed reduction of >20% in the past 10 years or 3 generations* or a predicted reduction of the same size in the next ten years or 3 generations*	Extent of occurrence <20,000km² or area of occupancy <2,000km² plus one-site only or fragmentation, decline & fluctuations	Population fewer than 10,000 mature individuals & decline of >10% (in 3 years or one generation*) or very fragmented distribution or all in one place	Population fewer than 1,000 mature individuals	QA showing that the probability of extinction is >10% in 100 years

^{*} Whichever is the longer

UK Red lists 2006

		2002	2004	2006
FUNGI	Basidiomycotes	In prep.	In prep.	In prep.
	Ascomycetes and other families	In prep.	In prep.	In prep.
LICHENS		Yes	Yes - revised 2003	Yes
PROTISTS	Myxomycotes	No	No	No
ALGAE	Charophytes (stoneworts)	Yes	Yes	Yes - revised 2004
	Freshwater and terrestrial algae	No	No	No
	Marine algae	No	No	Preliminary assessment
PLANTS	Vascular plants (seed plants & ferns)	Yes	Yes	Yes - complete revision 2005
	Bryophytes (mosses & liverworts)	Yes	Yes	Yes - partial revision 2005

Original Target 3 - Development of models with protocols for plant conservation & sustainable use, based on research & practical experience

REVISED TARGET 3

Develop & share information, research & associated outputs, and methods necessary to implement the strategy.

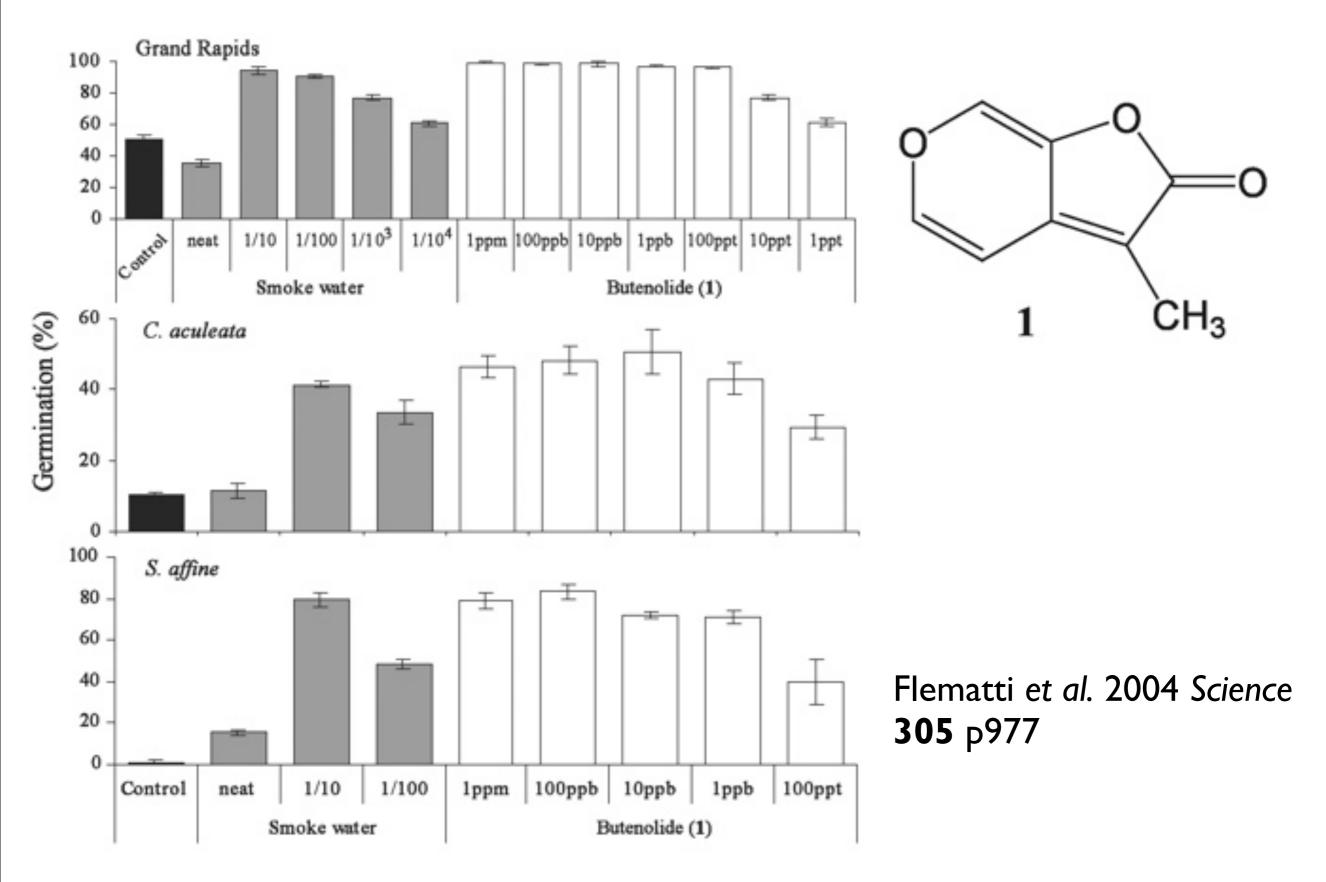
Proposed Milestones

- 2012 Toolkit to support implementation of the GPSC
- 2015 web-based compilation of resources



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BUTENOLIDE: 3-methyl-2H-furo[2,3-c]pyran-2-one



Threatened Species Databases



British Bryological Society

HOME

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Activities UK Bryodiversity

sity Learning More

Resources

Bryology Portal

BBS > Bryodiversity > Threatened Bryophyte Database Project

Threatened Bryophyte Database (TBDB)



Background

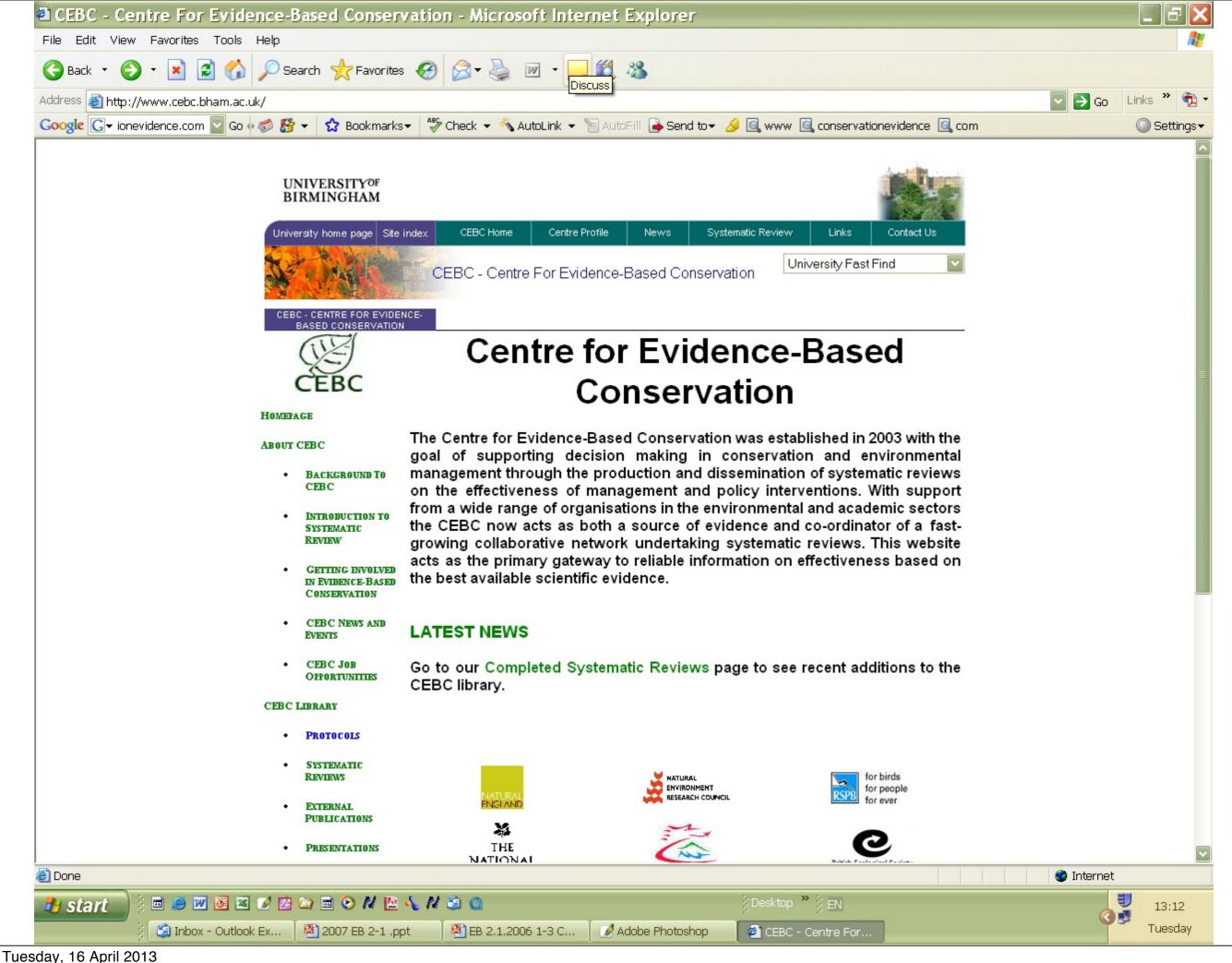
Following the appearance of the *Bryophyte Red Data Book* in 2001 (Church *et al.*, 2001), it became clear that conservation of threatened bryophytes would best be served by a more active system than could be achieved by a one-off book publication. This has been attempted for vascular plants through the Threatened Plant Database Project, a co-operative venture between the statutory nature conservation agencies, Plantlife and the Botanical Society of the British Isles. The idea was to create a 'live' database of records of threatened plants that could be kept up-to-date, that would contain information on the state of populations of threatened species, and that would service their conservation by informing initiatives such as the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP). Much good work was done during the course of this project, and also many valuable lessons learned. It was considered that it was time to do something similar for bryophytes, and consequently a three-year contract has been set up with English Nature, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Countryside Council for Wales, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, the Biological Records Centre (BRC) and Plantlife to work with the BBS to run a Threatened Bryophyte Database (TBDB).

Acaulon triquetrum

Aims

It is intended to keep up-to-date, detailed records of target species, in order to track the condition of their populations, and so inform conservation action. The aims of the project are:

- to collate detailed records of target species (including population information) on a database;
- to incorporate records from recent and ongoing survey work (e.g. arable bryophytes project, Plantlife conservation and survey programmes);
- to feed information to UK BAP lead partners and conservation agencies;



Objective 2

Plant diversity is urgently and effectively conserved

Targets 4-10

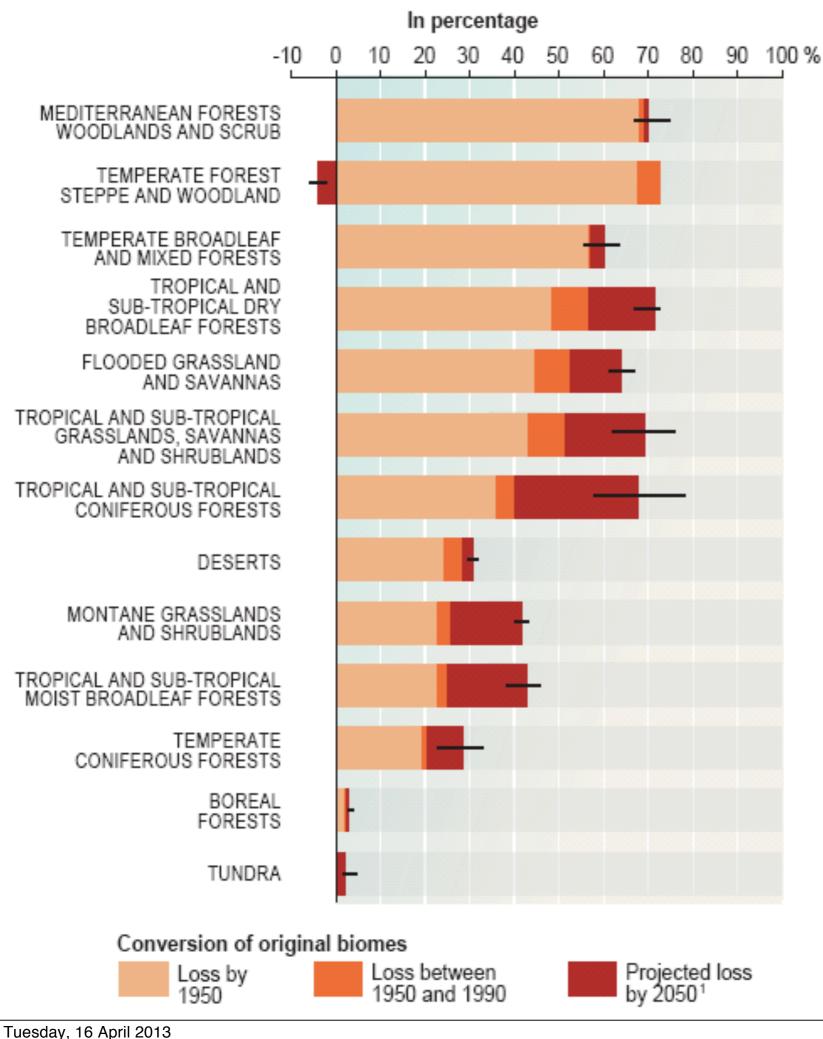
Original Target 4 – At least 10% of the World's ecological regions effectively conserved – reached already

REVISED TARGET 4

At least 15% of each ecological region or vegetation-type secured through effective management &/or restoration

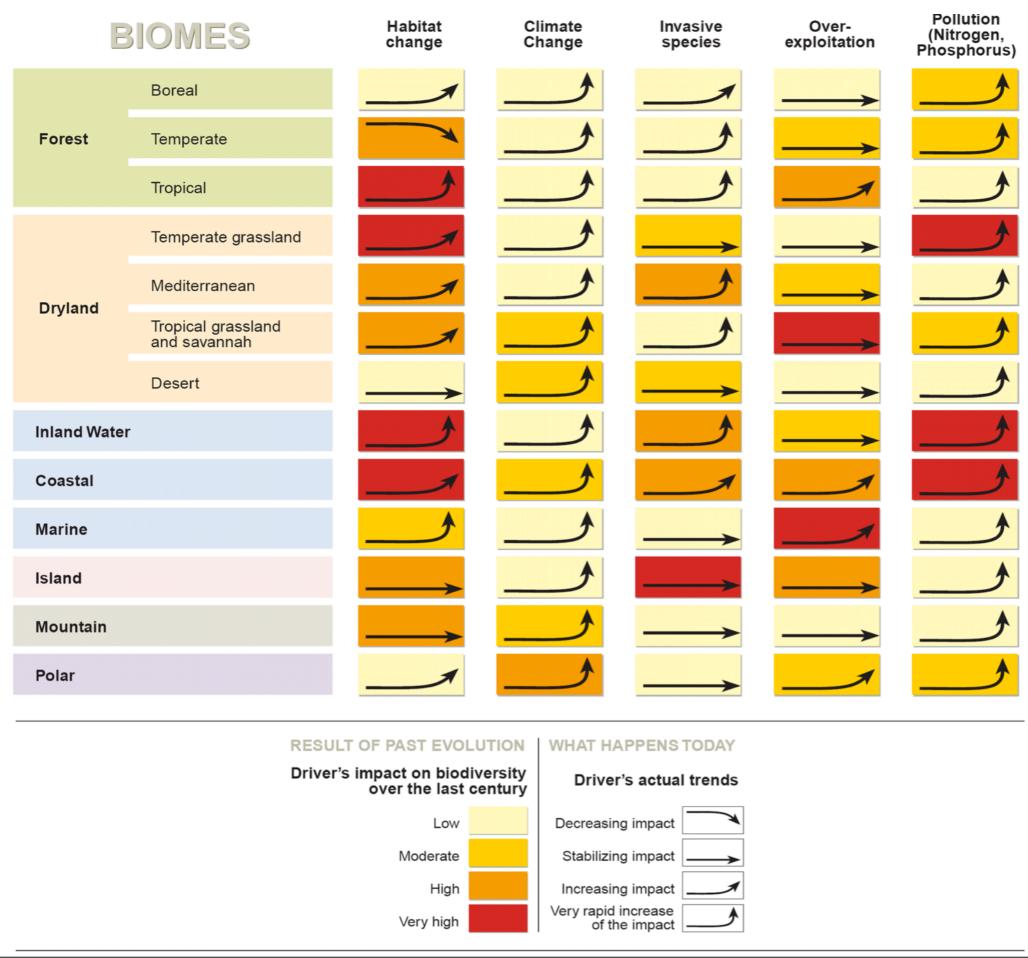
Proposed Milestones

- Establish which of the existing global or regional ecological region classifications are suitable for use
- Identify the co-incidence of protected areas and these ecological regions
- develop guidance on the management of critical vegetation types
- trial the implementation of management guidance through the ecosystem approach
- The conservation of ecosystems whether they are diverse or not



% loss of ecosystems before 1950, between 1950 & 1990 & projected loss by 2050

Different biomes have suffer differently from the different threats





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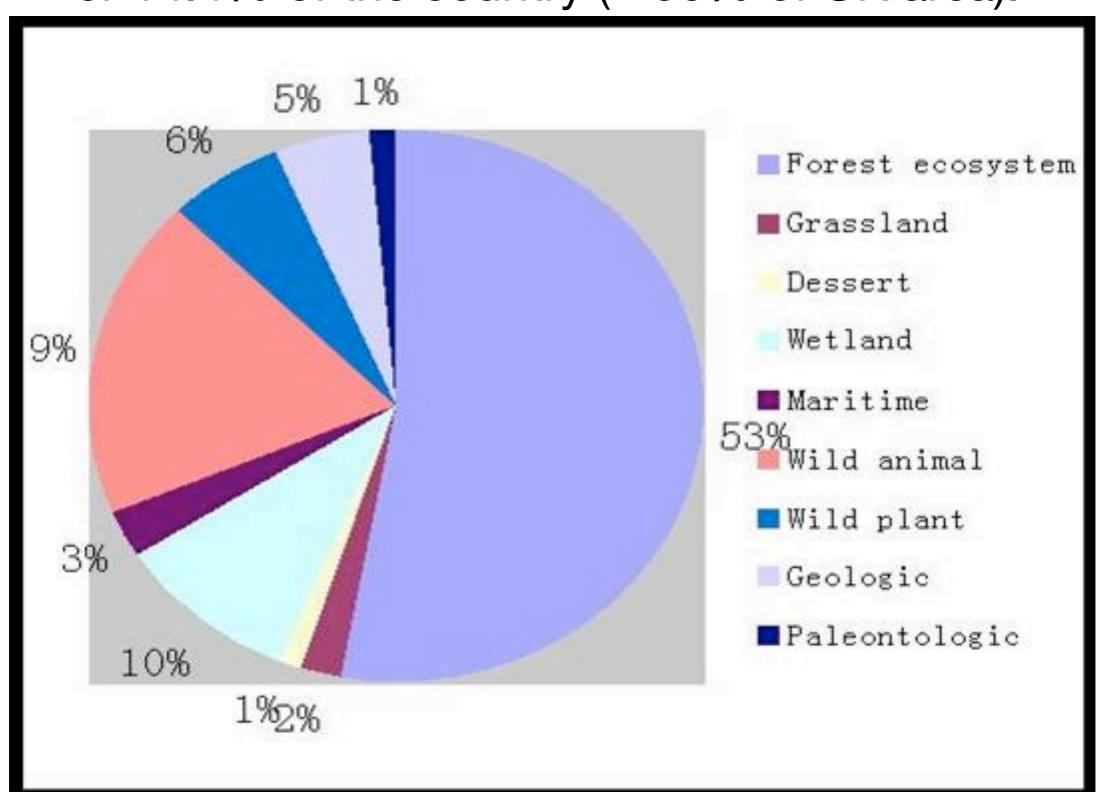
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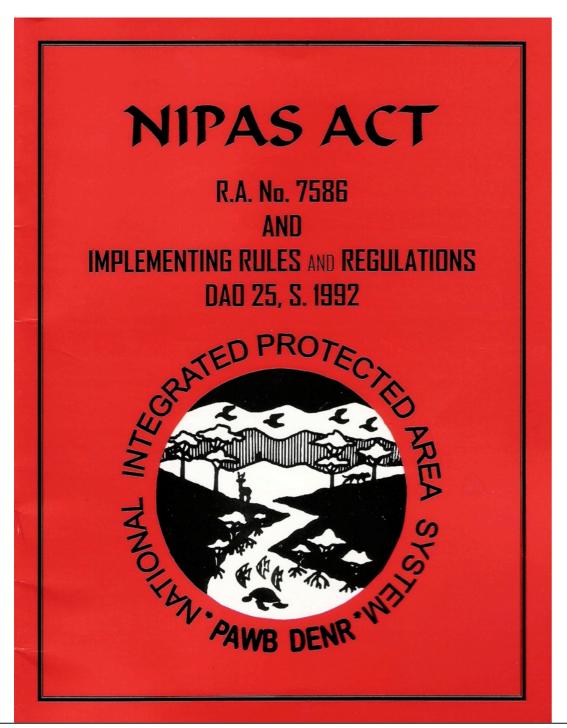
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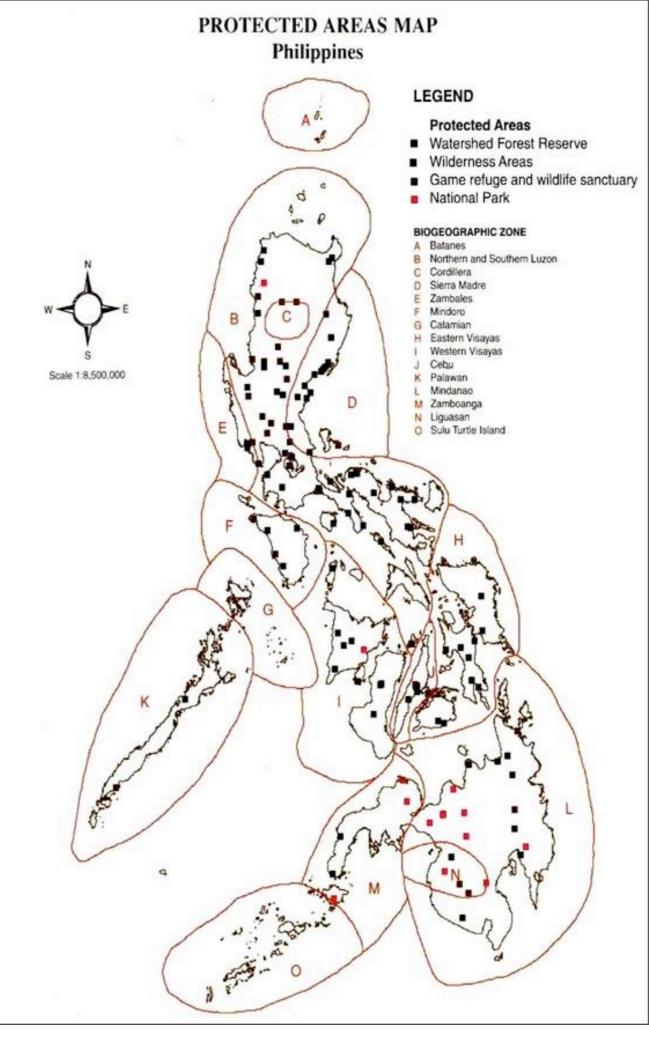
Protected areas in China

By 2003 there were more than 2,000 nature reserves in China. These covered more than 13,000,000 hectares (130,000 sq km) or 14.4% of the country (= 50% of UK area).



Philippines National Integrated Protected Areas Scheme 1992. 89 protected areas totalling 2,950,000 hectares or 8.7% of the total land area





Original Target 5 – Protection of 50% of the most important areas for plant diversity

REVISED TARGET 5

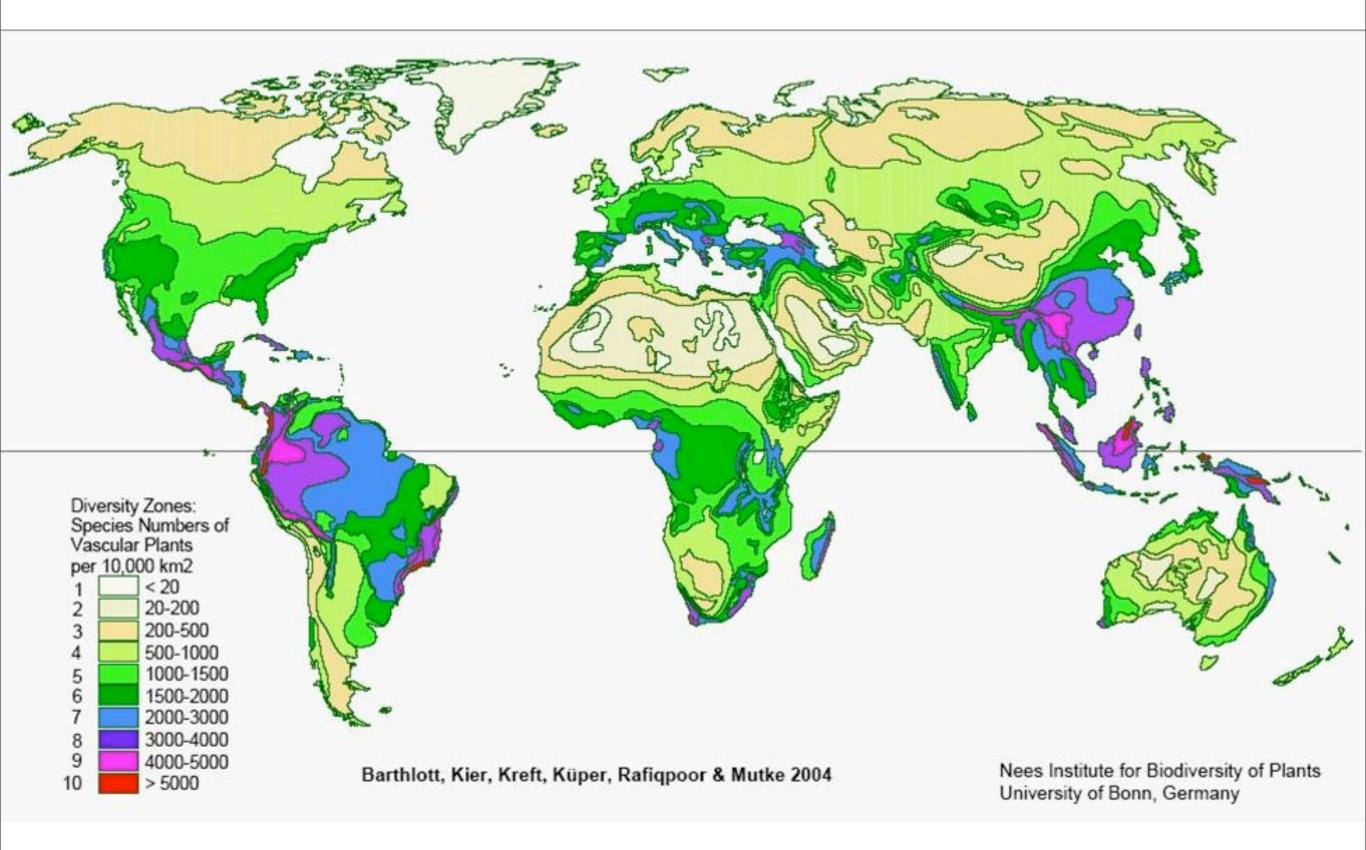
Protection of at least 75% of the most important areas for plant diversity assured with effective management for conserving plant diversity

Proposed Milestones

- 2012 Evaluation of protected areas against important areas for plant diversity
- 2013 Identify and address threats to plants and plant habitats in IPAs
- 2015 incorporate plant conservation into management plans
- 2015 At least 5 actively managed IPAs in every country

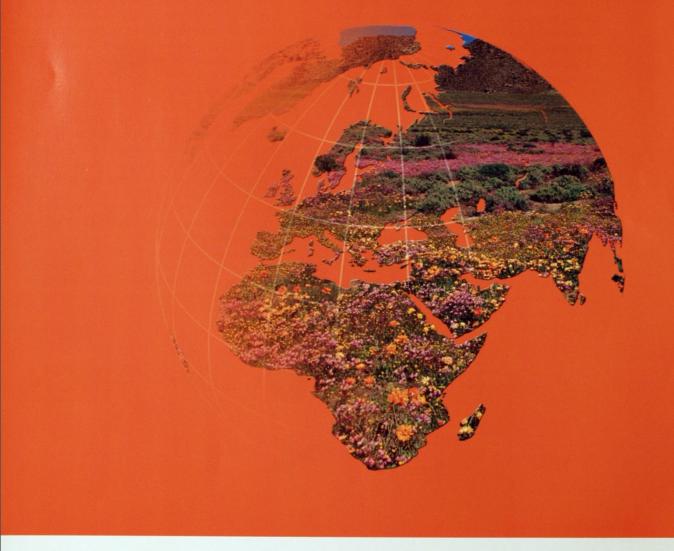
The view that the impact of climate change may make this target (and in situ conservation in general) ineffective, is not substantiated

Global distribution of vascular plant species





IDENTIFYING AND PROTECTING THE WORLD'S MOST IMPORTANT PLANT AREAS



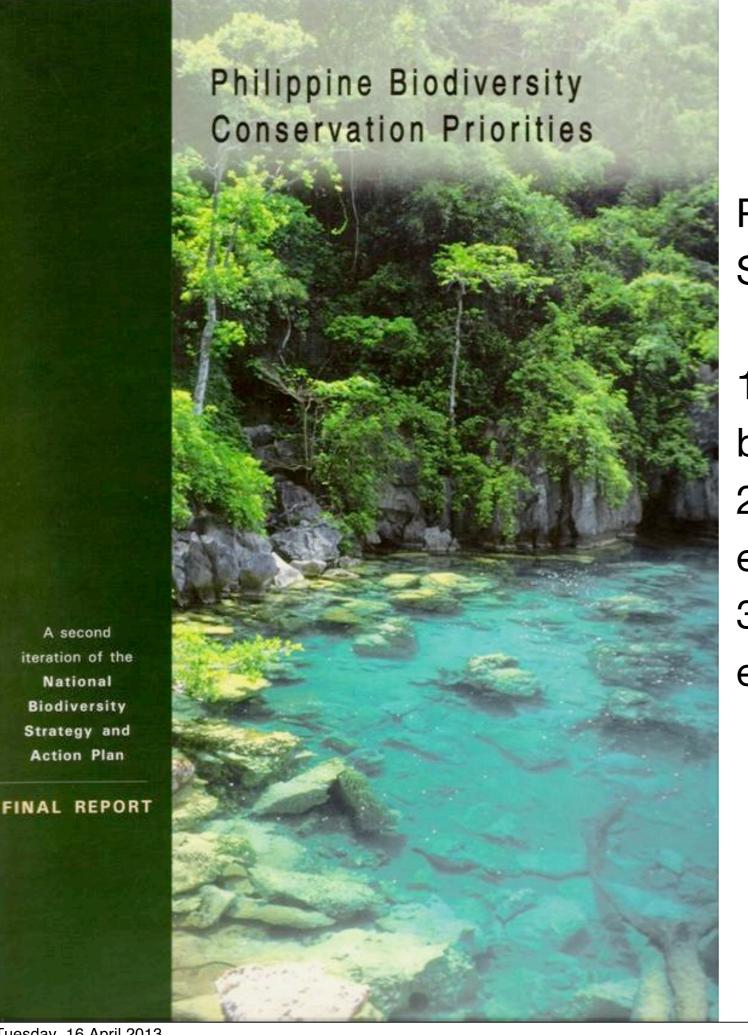
A pilot project is being carried out in Armenia, Bolivia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, & Uzbekistan funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). To date 15.8% of the land in these countries is in protected areas.

PLANTLIFE INTERNATIONAL: A GUIDE TO IMPLEMENTING TARGET 5 OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION









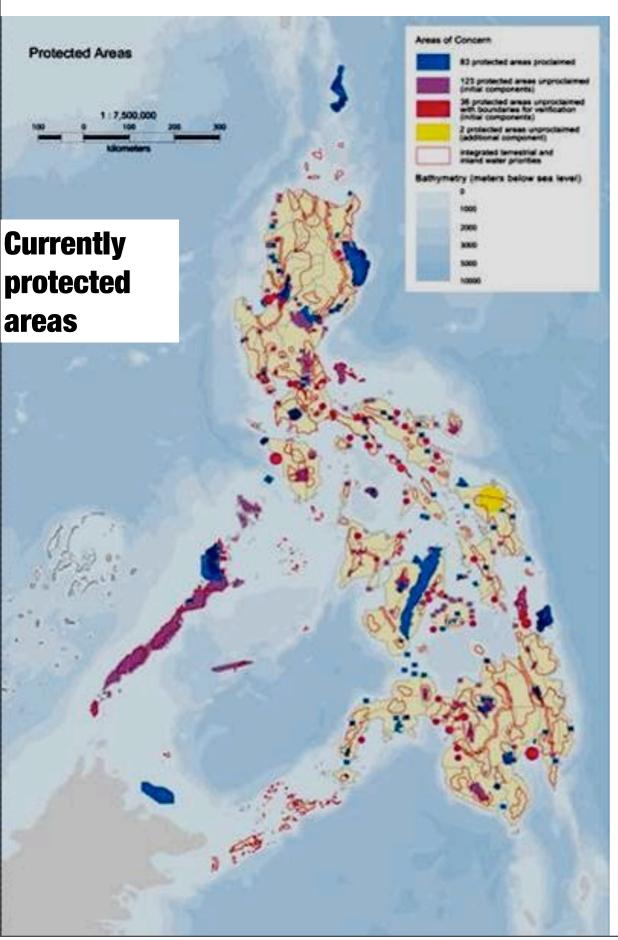
Philippine National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan.

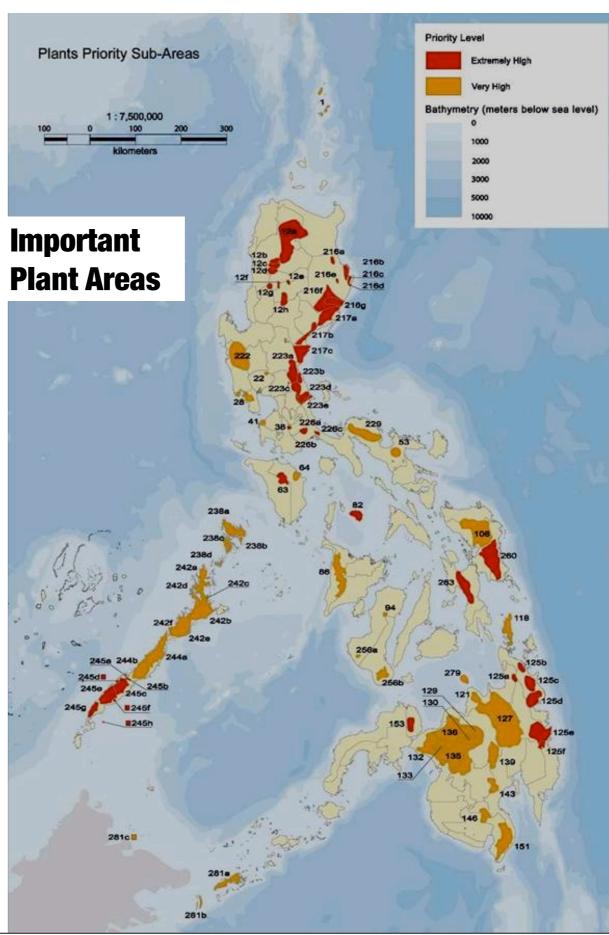
- 1. Mapped the areas of highest biodiversity
- 2. Mapped distributions of endangered species
- 3. Compared the above with existing protected areas

A second iteration of the

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

Only 39 of the current protected areas overlapped with the 88 newly identified Important Plant Areas





Original Target 6 – At least 30% of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity

REVISED TARGET 6

At least 75% of production lands in each sector managed sustainably for plants & consistent with the conservation of plant diversity

Proposed Milestones

- establish links between the GSPC & programmes of work on agricultural & forest biodiversity
- develop specific guidance for each sector
- test the guidance in 2 sites in each production region

This target must be linked to the UN Millennium Development Goals

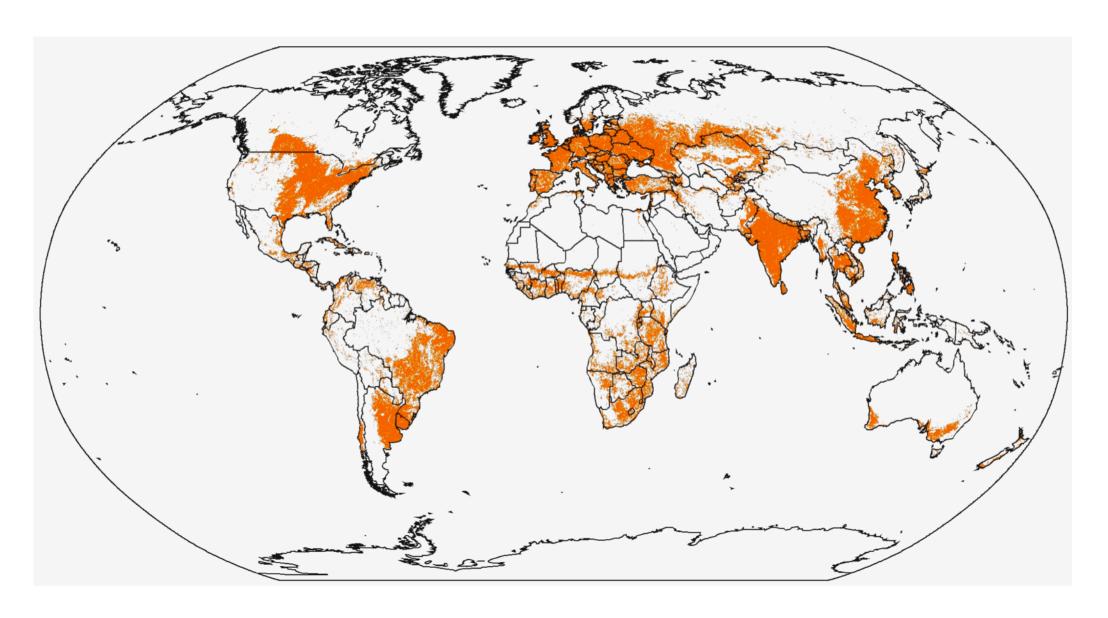
International Progress towards Target 6

11% of total forest area is designated as primarily for the conservation of biodiversity

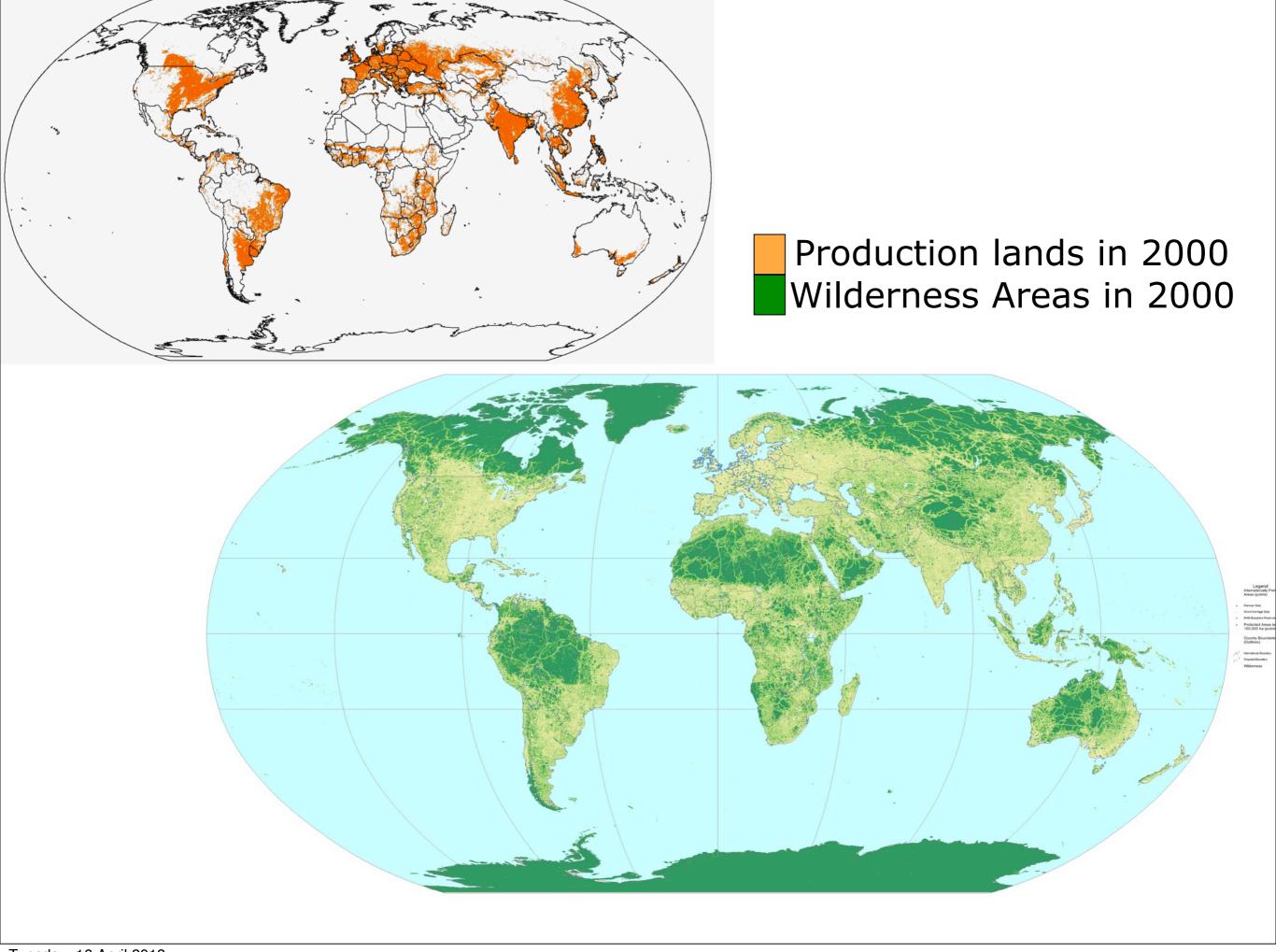
65% of total forest area has conservation of biodiversity as one of its designated functions (Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005)

However this has been a very difficult target to measure

More land was converted to production lands in the second half of the 20th century than in the preceding 250 years. Production lands cover 25% of the land area



Production lands in 2000





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Irrigation of soya beans in Brazil – sustainable? The water is diverted from the Amazon



Original Target 7 – 60% of the World's threatened species conserved in situ

REVISED TARGET 7

At least 75% of threatened species conserved in situ

Proposed Milestones

- develop the means to measure if threatened species *are* conserved in protected area systems that take into consideration climate change (e.g. reserves with multiple habitat types or altitudinal gradients)
- a monitoring system that allows a baseline to be established so that progress can be monitored
- development of management plans for protected areas or specific species
- 100% of single-country endemic species in protected areas or covered by management plans

The in situ paradox

It is assumed that conserving a threatened species in its habitat is the best strategy because the habitat can provide all the needs of the threatened species

but

the same habitat also includes the threat that has resulted in the decline of the species

The advantages of in situ conservation of threatened species

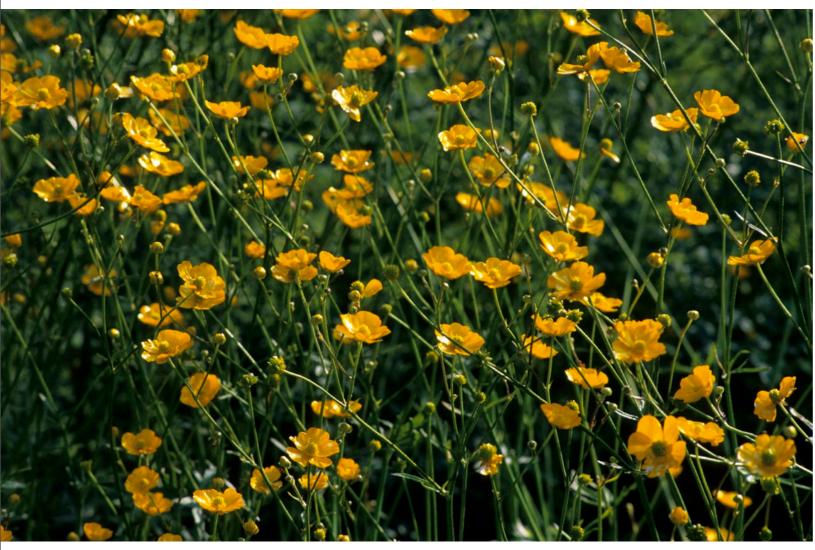
- 1. Communities are conserved and with them all aspects of the plants biology (e.g. pollinators & mycorrhizal fungi)
 - 2. Wider ecological services are also preserved
 - 3. Genetic diversity is more likely to be conserved due to larger number of individuals being present

The disadvantages of in situ conservation of threatened species

- 1. Constant, regular monitoring is expensive
 - 2. Site security is essential
- 3. The threat has to be removed and this can be difficult & expensive.
 - 4. If the threat is climate change then it may not be removable
 - 5. Some management will be required

CAN NATURE KEEP UP WITH CHANGES IN THE CLIMATE?

http://www.worldwildlife.org/climate/pubs.cfm



▲ Ranunculus acris & Anemone sylvestris ▶

Both flowered 15 days earlier in 2004 than the historical average





In 2004 snowdrops flowers 21 days earlier than the historical average & *Prunus spinosa* flowered 39 days earlier



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Original Target 8 – 60% of threatened species in accessible *ex situ* collections, preferably in the country of origin, & 10% of these included in recovery & restoration programmes

REVISED TARGET 8

At least 75% of threatened species conserved in ex situ collections, & at least 20% in recovery & restoration programmes

Proposed Milestones

- Ex situ collections of all Critically Endangered species must be genetically representative of the species
- A metadatabase of living collections producing regular progress reports
- establishment of a monitoring system for species included in recovery programmes

International Progress towards Target 8

To date 15,000 threatened species are known to be in living collections. In the absence of targets 1 & 2 being completed it is impossible to know what percentage this represents

The advantages of ex situ conservation of threatened species

- Conserving one species at a time is conservation on a human scale
 Monitoring is easy
 - 3. Plants are protected from stochastic events & climate changes4. The plants are separated from the threats

The disadvantages of ex situ conservation of threatened species

- 1. Other aspects of the plant's biology (i.e. pollinators & mycorrhizal fungi) may not be conserved
 - 2. Genetic diversity can be low due to space restrictions
 - 3. Hybrids may arise when otherwise isolated species are grown together
- 4. Selection of plants that are better suited to cultivation than to survival in the original habitat and this may hamper future re-establishment programmes

Volume 2 • Number 2 • April 2005 Guttinas Botanic Gardens Conservation International Quarterly Newsletter

9,000 plants safe from extinction Botanic gardens provide safe haven for over a quarter of known threatened plants

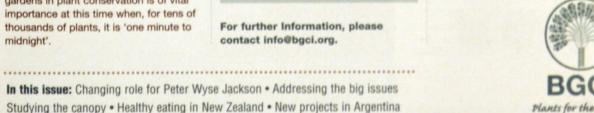
A recent study by BGCI indicates that approximately 9,000 plants which are threatened in the wild, are in fact in cultivation in botanic gardens around the world. This number makes up about one quarter of the plants presently known to be at risk, but is only a small percentage of the possible total. Although the 1997 IUCN list of endangered plant species listed 34,000 plant species as endangered worldwide, scientists estimate that anything up to 100,000 plants may be under serious threat of extinction due to mass habitat destruction and global climate change. BGCI's survey involved the development of a new tool, the Plant Search Database. It allows botanic gardens to check for the first time what they hold in their collections against an international list of plants, recorded alongside their status in the Red Book of Threatened Species maintained by IUCN-The World Conservation Union.

With over 200 million visitors a year and approximately 6.1 million living plant collections, botanic gardens are uniquely placed to act as sanctuaries for plants, as well as educating people about the devastating impact humankind has on many species. The work of botanic gardens in plant conservation is of vital importance at this time when, for tens of thousands of plants, it is 'one minute to midnight'



BGCI's plant search database is accessible to all through BGCI's website (www.bgci.org). The database includes plant records provided by over 500 botanic gardens worldwide. BGCI is keen to receive further plant records from any garden which has not yet contributed data.

For further Information, please contact info@bgci.org.





2005 - 9,000 threatened species in botanic gardens **2007** – 12,000 in cultivation

2009 – 15,000 threatened species in living collections



Ex situ conservation in China

- 1. In 2002, the Chinese Academy of Sciences established a comprehensively planned & geographically structured ex situ conservation programme
- 2. Covered 31,000 species native to China (10% World flora)
- 3. A 15 year master plan exists to conserve all the 2,000 endangered native species





Ex situ conservation in China

- 1. By 2005 ½ of the Chinese threatened native species are being conserved in three botanic gardens
- 2. Xishuangbana BG in SW China, South China BG (Guanzhou) & Wuhan BG each have has 400 spp in cultivation.



Ex situ conservation in China

- 1. Model programmes have been drawn up for 2,000 species
- 2. Investigations into genetic integrity of collections, genetic diversity, inbreeding depression, hybridisation & genetic adaptation to cultivation.
 - 3. Done for Sinojackia



SEED BANK FOR THE M



OME to the Millennium Seed Bank project and the Seed Conservation Department, the Wellcome Trust Millennium Building at Wakehurst Place opened its doors to the public on Saturday 26 August 2000.

Designed by architects Stanton Williams and built by the construction company Longley, the building occupies a ground area of 5,500 square metres on land owned by Kew adjacent to Wakehurst Place. Being sited in an area of outstanding natural beauty, the Wellcome Trust Millennium Building was designed to harmonise with neighbouring agricultural buildings and the sixteenth century mansion house. The stainless steel barrel-vaulted roofs have already dulled to a colour that matches the lead work on the mansion but without any adverse effects on ground water quality.

The functionality of this prestigious building, however, is more important than its visual character. By the year 2010 the large underground vaults, designed for a 500-year life span, will store seed from about 24,000 wild plant species, mostly from dryland areas. These seed collections will be secured by legally binding agreements between Kew and its international partners.

This global resource will allow staff and research visitors to widen scientific understanding of comparative seed biology. This knowledge, shared with Kew's partner institutions through publications and training, will raise capacity for effective and sustainable conservation, particularly in regions where human livelihoods are most dependent on wild plant species.



For a project supported directly by public funds from the National Lottery, it is appropriate that there is a major public exhibition at the centre of the building. In the Orange Room (named in recognition of the Premier Sponsor of the Appeal, Orange plc) visitors can learn about Kew's seed conservation work through

a variety of exhibits and computer-aided interactive displays, as well as watch scientists working in the adjacent laboratories. In the first month after opening, over 15,000 people visited this new facility.

Contact: Roger Smith (01444 894412)

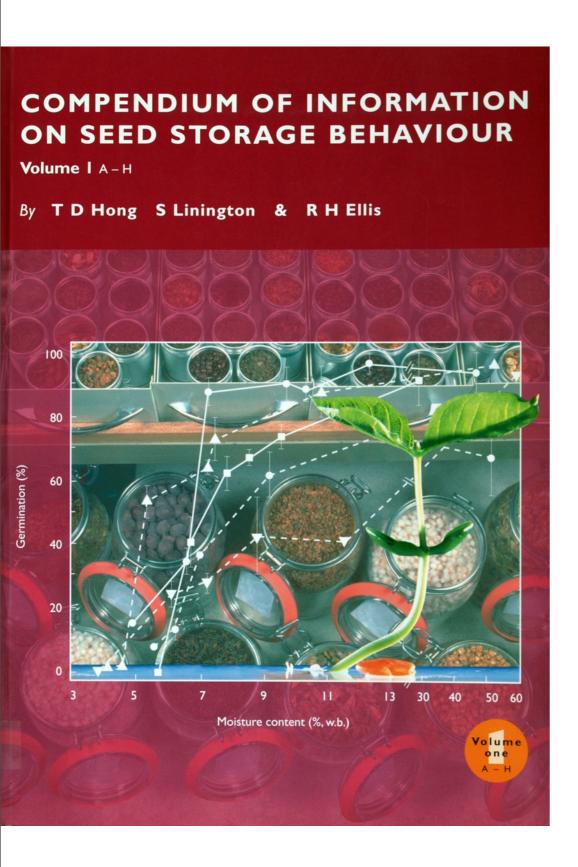






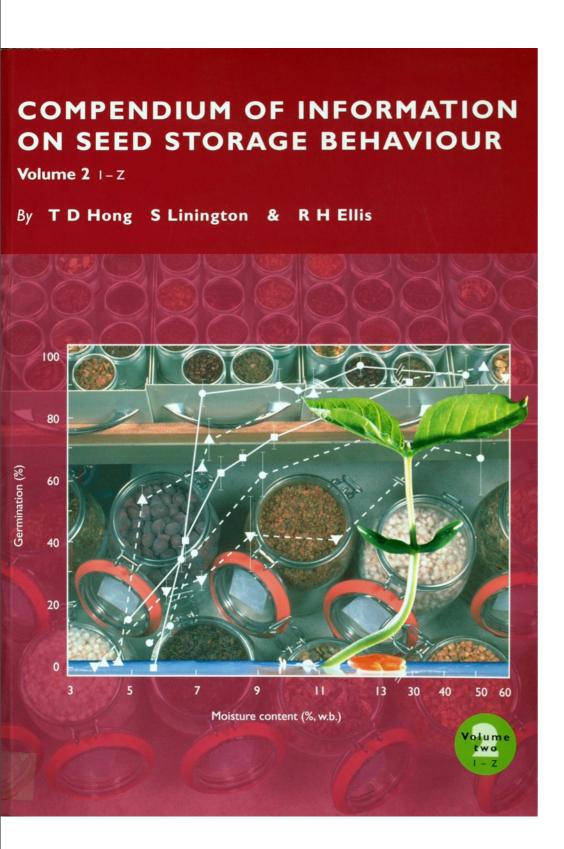
UK Progress towards Target 8

Completed because the entire British Flora is in the Millennium Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place (a part of RBG Kew)



Advantages of seedbanks

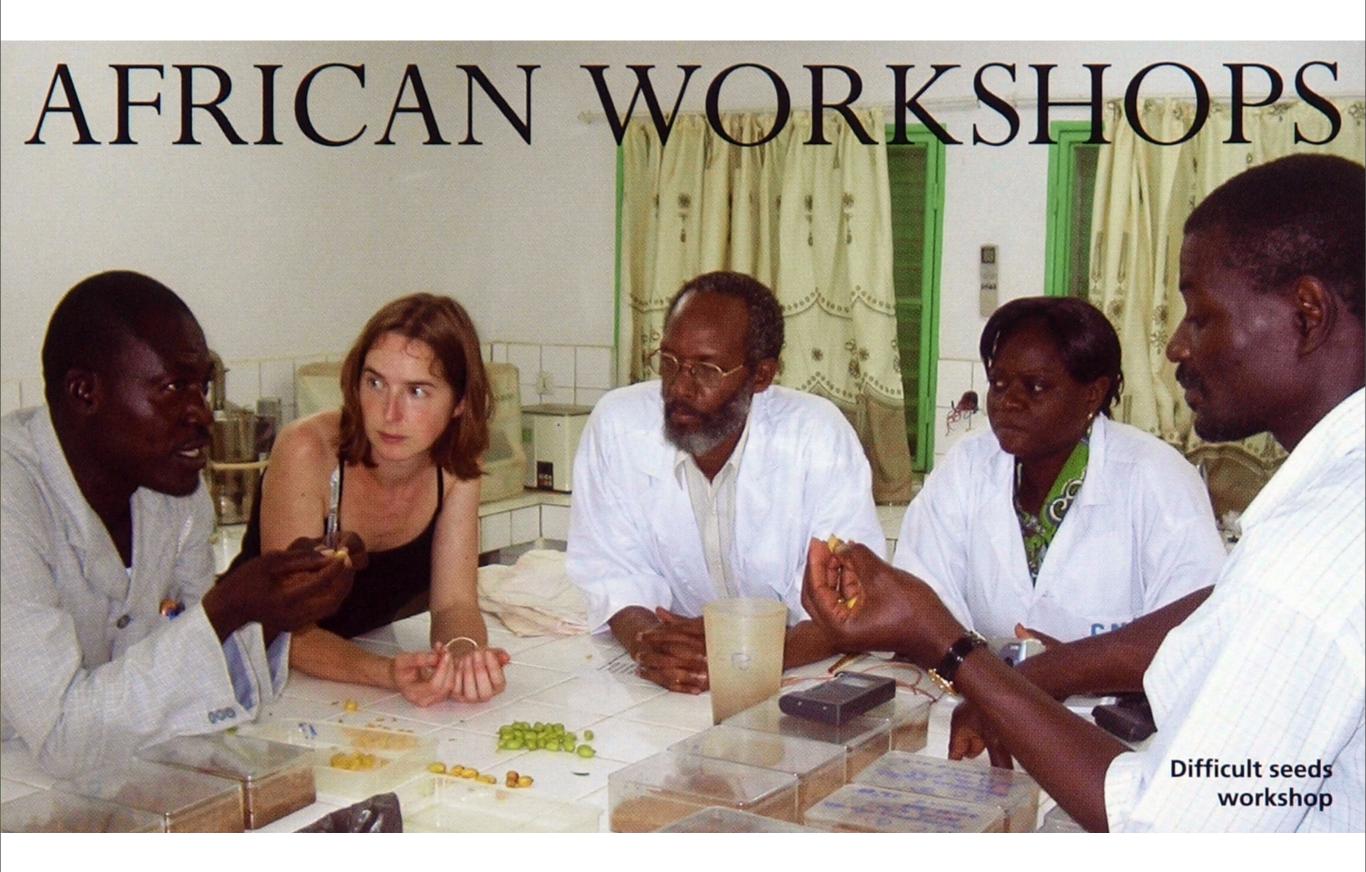
- 1. large gene bank
- 2. simple daily maintenance
- 3. protected from stochastic environmental threats
- 4. space efficient
- 5. centres of expertise & research
- 6. opportunities for twinning & support
- 7. focus for raising awareness
- 8. donor friendly



Drawbacks of seedbanks

- 1. ongoing, expensive technical maintenance
- 2. other biotic factors absent
- 3. genetic drift & selection
- 4. not all species suitable
- 5. ambiguous educational message
- 6. not an end in itself

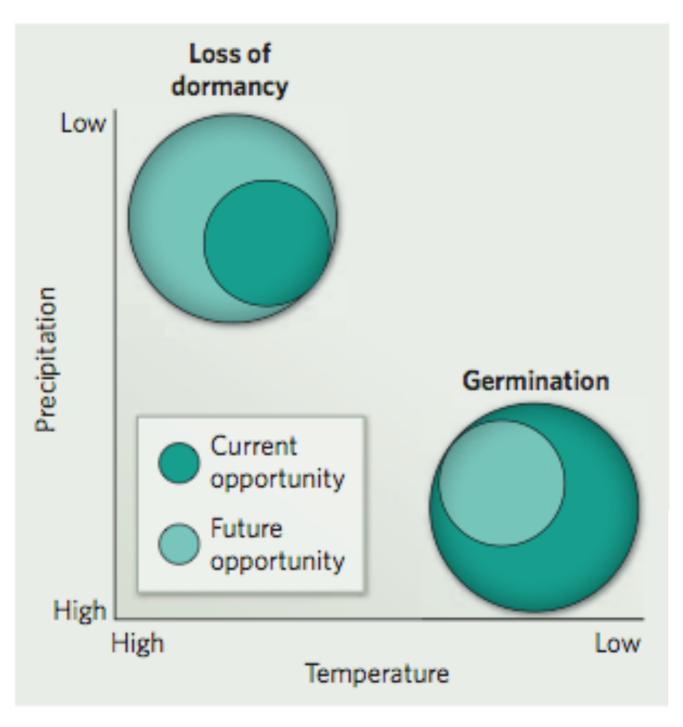
The MSB has been a catalyst for many joint projects





Future-proofing seed banks

Walck & Dixon Nature **462** p721 10 Dec 2009



To be sure that seeds are relevant in a climate-changed world ... we must harvest as much genetic diversity as possible ... and collect not 100g of seed but up to 100 kg of big seeds ... to capture sufficient genetic diversity to rebuild the world's ecosystems.

Figure 1 | Changes in climate could affect the success of stored seeds. For seeds that need warm, dry conditions for dormancy to end, and cool, moist conditions to germinate — such as Western Australia's kangaroo paw — future warming and drying may enhance dormancy loss, but offer a smaller window for germination.

Original Target 9 – 70% of the genetic diversity of food crops & other major socio-economically plant species conserved along with the associated indigenous & local knowledge

REVISED TARGET 9

70% of the genetic diversity of crops & other socioeconomically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous & local knowledge maintained

Proposed Milestones

- Development, with Indigenous & Local Communities, priority lists of socio-economically important, underutilized species or little known crops
- Increase the involvement of global agencies such as the FAO, Bioversity, and the Global Crop Diversity Trust to avoid replication of effort



At the International Maize & Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) wild wheat (Aegilops tauschii) is providing resistance to pests & diseases and tolerance to drought, water logging, heat, & soil salinity

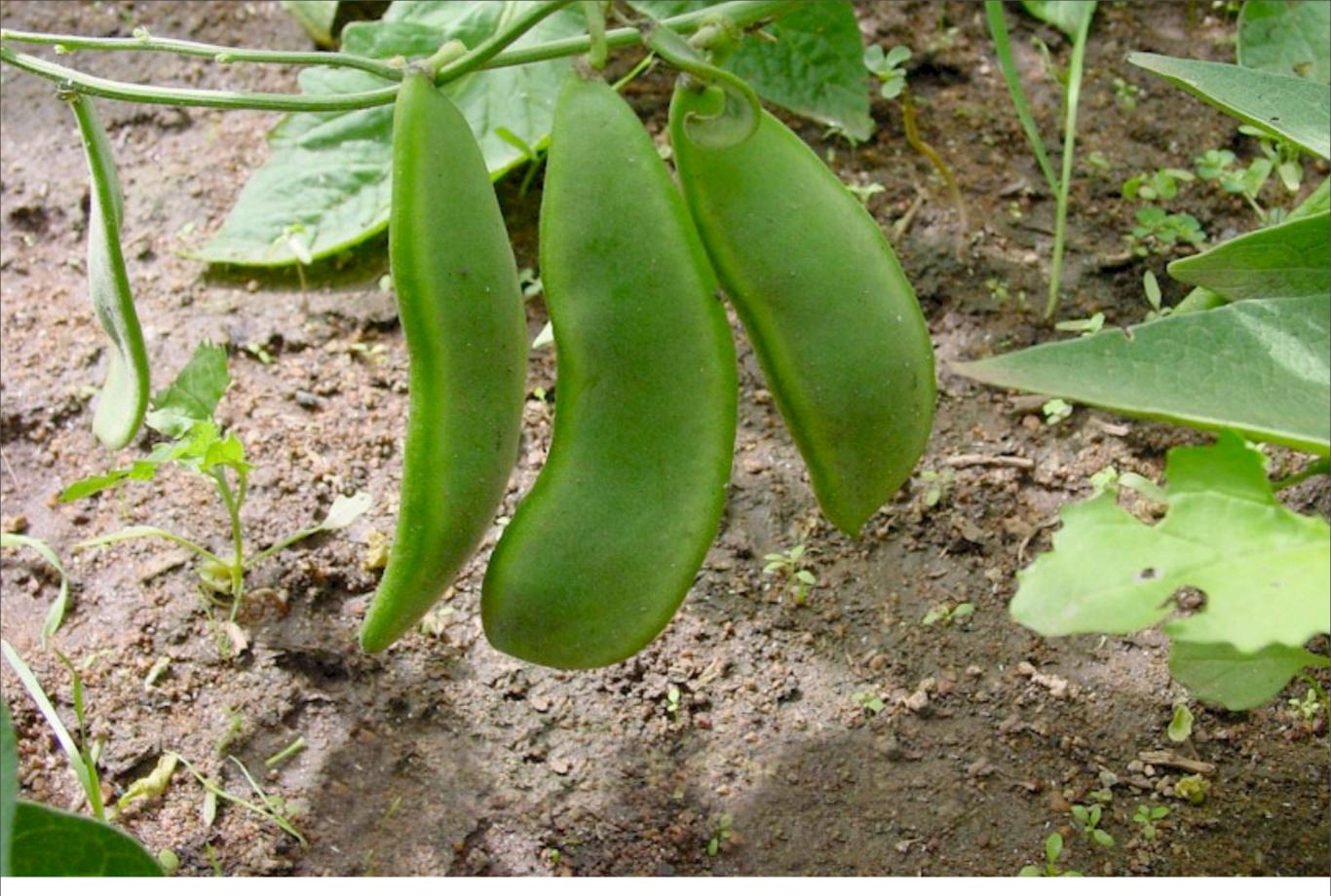
HRI Warwick – maintains the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources Base Collections of *Allium, Brassica, Daucus, Lactuca & Raphanus*. Funded by Oxfam & UK Government



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In 36 home gardens in Cuba there is more genetic diversity of lima beans than in the FAO seedbank

Original Target 10 – Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien invasive species that threaten plants, plant communities & their associated habitats & ecosystems – fully achieved

REVISED TARGET 10

Effective management plans in place to prevent new invasions and to develop management plans for IPAs that have suffered from invasions

Proposed Milestones

- establish priority lists of biological invasions affecting IPAs
- develop lists of potential invasive species for given ecosystem/localities as a toolkit for management plans
- Establish global principles for developing management plans to address invasions including restoration
- agree general principles to identify important plant areas (in this context)

International Progress towards Target 10

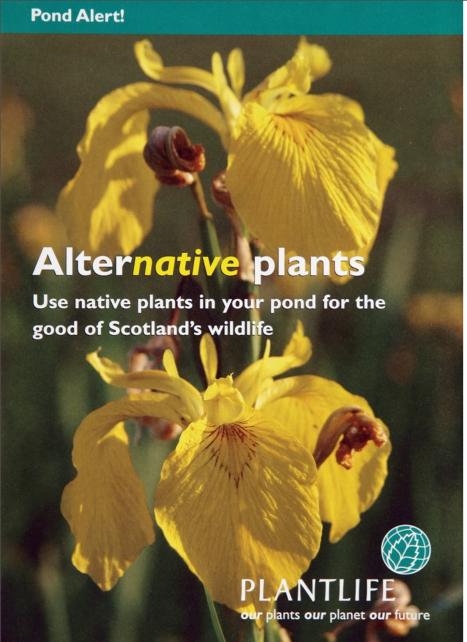
GISP has achieved a great deal and there are control strategies in place for the 100 worst non-native invasive species.

UK Progress towards Target 10

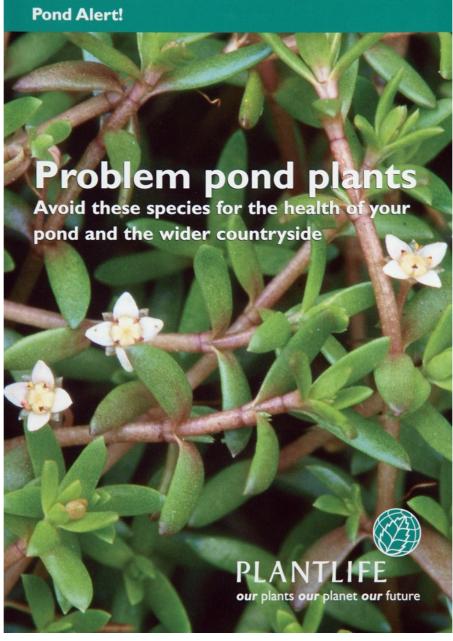
UK gardeners are still part of the problem in the UK and the message does not seem to be getting through.



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PlantLife in Scotland is trying to prevent the sale of invasive aquatic species







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A **native** species is one that was present before humans arrived. An **archaeophyte** is an honorary native; in the UK these are plants that arrived before 1500. A **neophyte** is a plant that has arrived since 1500 due to the activity of humans. An **non-native, invasive plant species** is a non-native species that spreads naturally in natural and seminatural habitats and that produces a significant change in the composition, structure, & ecosystem processes.

The Tens Rule

ALIEN SPECIES IN BRITAIN & IRELAND – some numbers to ponder

The TENS RULE in British flowering plants ¹					
	Number	% of the total number			
	of species	of imported species			
Total imported and in cultivation ²	12,642				
Total found on uncultivated land at least once	1,642	13.1			
Total established as self propagating populations	210	1.6			
Species that have become pests	39	0.3			
Species that have become severe pests	14	.1			

Native & introduced plants of the British Isles ³							
	1928	% of the			% of spp		
	figures ⁴	total flora	figure	total flora	in B.I.		
Species in cultivation			$70,000^{5}$		100		
Native species	$1,700^6$	46	1,700	32	2.4		
Species recorded on uncultivated land at least once	1,999	54	3586	68	5.1		
Species established as self propagating populations	293	8	885	17	1.3		
Number of hybrids between native & alien species			60	1	0.09		

The numbers in the boxes show a good level of agreement. Put simply this means that there is more than a 1:100 chance of a plant that is brought into the UK escaping from cultivation into a non-cultivated habitat. Does this mean that there should be a total ban on the further import of non-native species?

¹ Adapted from Williamson M. (1997) Biological Invasions ISBN 0 412 59190 1

² probably an underestimate since RBG Kew alone grows in excess of 30,000 species

⁸ Adapted from Clement E.J. & Foster M.C. (1994) Alien plants of the British Isles ISBN 0 901158 23 2

⁴ Druce G.C. (1928) British Plant List Arbroath

⁵ RHS Plant Finder (2000)

⁶ Clapham A.R., Tutin T.G. & Warburg E.F. (1978) Excursion Flora of the British Isles ISBN 0 521 04656 4



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Rhododendron *ponticum* in Killarney woods



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Tuesday, 16 April 2013

Common characters of alien invasive species

- 1. large annual seed production
- 2. long-term seed viability in the soil seed bank
 - 3. self-compatible or non-specific pollinator
 - 4. vegetative propagation
 - 5. rapid growth
 - 6. long distance seed dispersal
 - 7. smothering leaf canopy
 - 8. VERY DIFFICULT TO KILL



Oxalis pes-caprae in Portugal



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Objective 3

Plant Diversity is used in a sustainable and equitable manner

Targets 11-13

Original Target 11 – No species of wild flora to be endangered by international trade

REVISED TARGET 11

No species of wild flora endangered by international trade

Proposed Milestones

- Strengthen links between the CBD and the CITES
- Strengthen national links between GSPC focal points and CITES focal points

Progress towards Target 11

1) Increased custom cases of dealing with trade of CITES listed material.

(Timber plants, medicinal plants, plants used in cosmetics, pot pourri, horticultural trade, cultural uses.)

- 2) DNA bar-coding will help with identification
- 3) EU controls are in place to protect UK species from overexploitation and/or control use of wild plant resources from other countries.

A CITES manual for botanic gardens





TASMANIAN TREE FERN

Manfern - Dicksonia antarctica

This tag certifies that this tree fern has been salvage harvested in accordance with a management plan approved by the governments of Tasmania and the Commonwealth of Australia.



Legal trade is straight forward





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Trade in ornamental plants from the Philippines

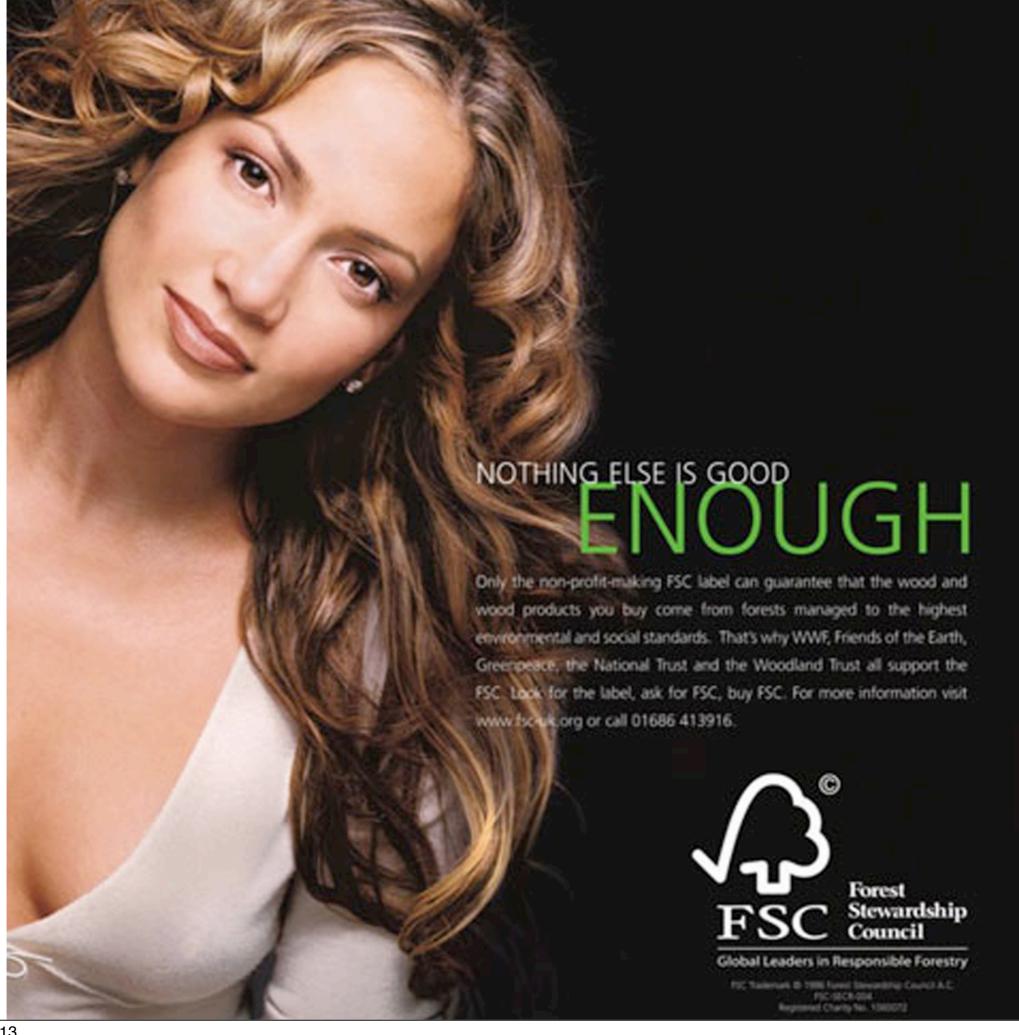
- 1) 75% of exported native species were wild collected
- 2) Many of these plants were collected in protected areas
- 3) There is a voracious demand for orchids in particular
- 4) There were insufficient nurseries in the Philippines
- 5) An accreditation scheme has been introduced

Original Target 12 – 30% of plant-based products must be derived from sustainably managed sources

REVISED TARGET 12

All wild harvested plant based products sourced sustainably

- 2015 in collaboration with FAO & Biodiversity to inventory plant-based products with the species from which they are derived
- 2015 assess/certify the sustainability of a range of plant-based products
- co-ordination with CITES





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Is it reasonable to expect Customs to identify timber?









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INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN MEDICINAL & AROMATIC PLANTS

- 1) 70,000 species (25% of the World Flora is used for medicinal &/or aromatic properties)
- 2) 15,000 of these are threatened species
- 3) 3,000 species are traded internationally
- 4) Supply chains are very complicated
- 4) 100 species are cultivated commercially



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Original Target 13 – To halt the decline of plant resources <u>and</u> the associated local knowledge & practices that support sustainable livelihoods, food security & health care

REVISED TARGET 13

Maintain or increase indigenous & local knowledge, innovations, & practices associated with plant sources to support customary use, sustainable livelihoods, local food security, and health care

- collaboration with the Millennium Development Goals framework
- incorporation of this target into national sustainable development policies



Strophanthine, from Strophanthine, used to treat heart disease



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Objective 4

Promotion of **education** and **awareness** about plant diversity, its role in sustainable livelihoods, and its importance to all life on Earth

Target 14

Original Target 14 – Incorporate the importance of plant diversity & the need for its conservation into communication, education and public awareness (engagement) programmes

REVISED TARGET 14

Incorporate the importance of plant diversity & the need for its conservation into communication, education and public awareness programmes

- develop specific indicators to monitor progress
- 2015 develop key messages for communication/marketing plan for the GSPC
- develop programme to spread the key message that climate change is a biological and socio-economic issue as well as meteorological



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Education for Sustainable Development:

Guidelines for in Botanic G



Educación para el Desarrollo Sustentable

Lineamientos de Acción para los Jardines Botánicos



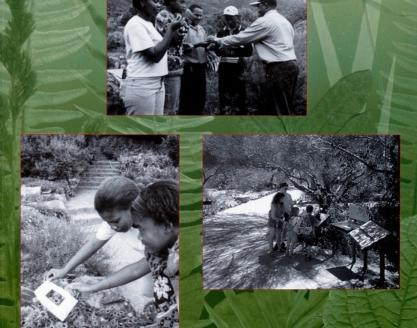
Educación Ambiental en Jardines Botánicos



¡DÉLE VIDA A SU JARDÍN!

Interpretación Ambiental en Jardines Botánicos

Informe de la Red de Diversidad Botánica de África Austral (Southern African Botanical Diversity Network)



Marÿke Honig



Tuesday, 16 April 2013





Wildflower Society



Association of British **Fungus Groups**





Cotswold Rare Plants Group

Landlife

British Ecological Society

Linnean Society of London

Ministry of Defence



Botanical Society of Scotland

Ancient Tree Forum

British Mycological Society

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN

Tree Council







Fauna and Flora International

Ashmolean Natural History

Society of Oxfordshire



Scottish Environmental



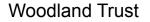


Protection Agency























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Objective 5

To develop the **capacities** and public engagement necessary to implement the GSPC

Targets 15 & 16

Original Target 15 – to increase the number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation, according to national needs to reach the targets of this strategy

REVISED TARGET 15

To increase the number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation, according to national needs to reach the targets of this strategy

- identify a lead agency to push this target forward
- Increase the amount of high-quality whole plant biology taught in schools and universities



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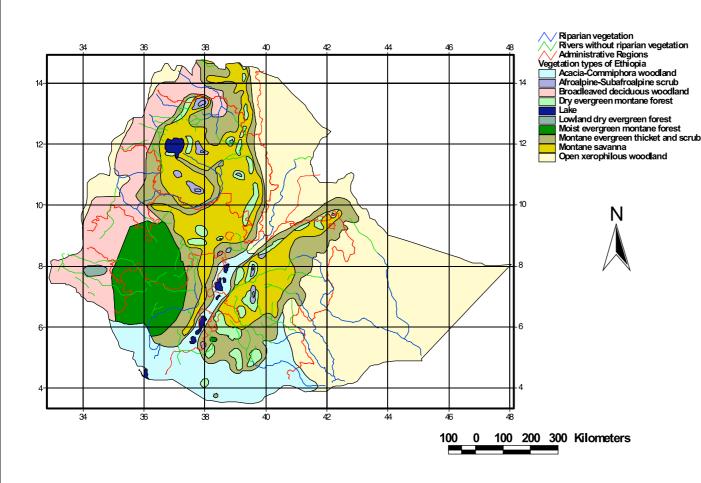


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Plant conservation in Ethiopia

Area – 1,130,000 km² (x4 UK area) with huge topographical and climatic variation e.g. 2,200mm of rainfall in the wettest areas **Population** – 77,000,000 people the majority of whom live in the mountains to escape the malaria

Flora – 6,000 species of which 10% are endemic

Problems – lack of public awareness of sustainability lack of trained professionals omnipresent poverty

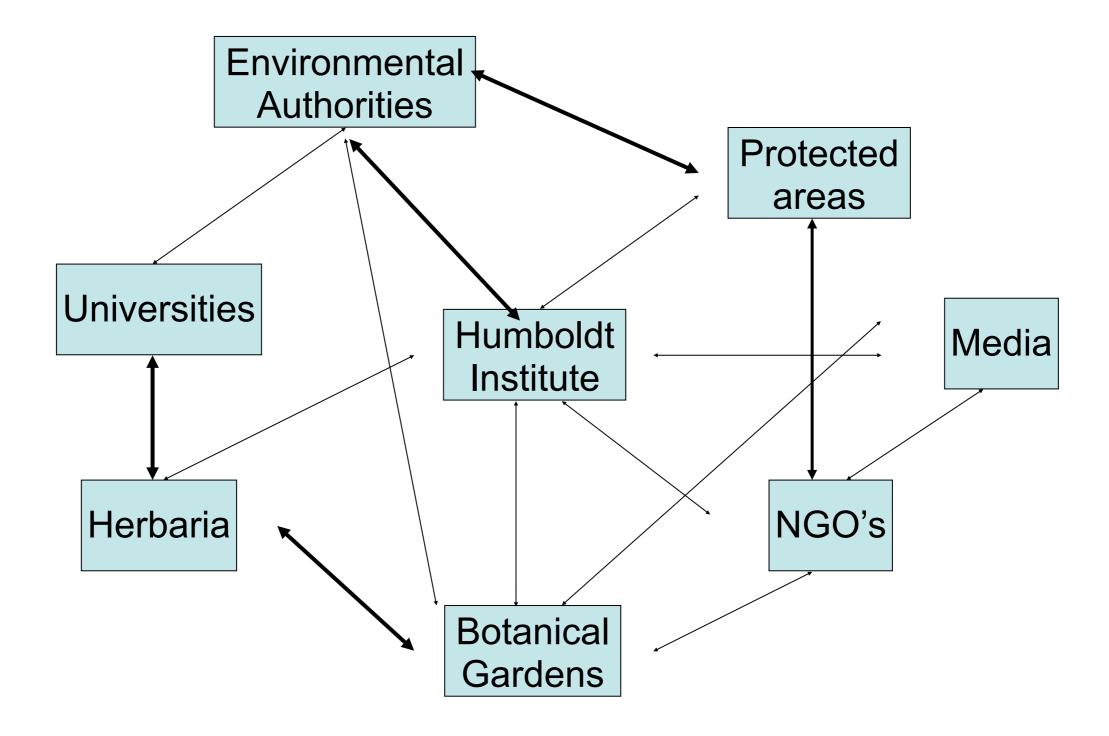
Original Target 16 - Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional & international levels

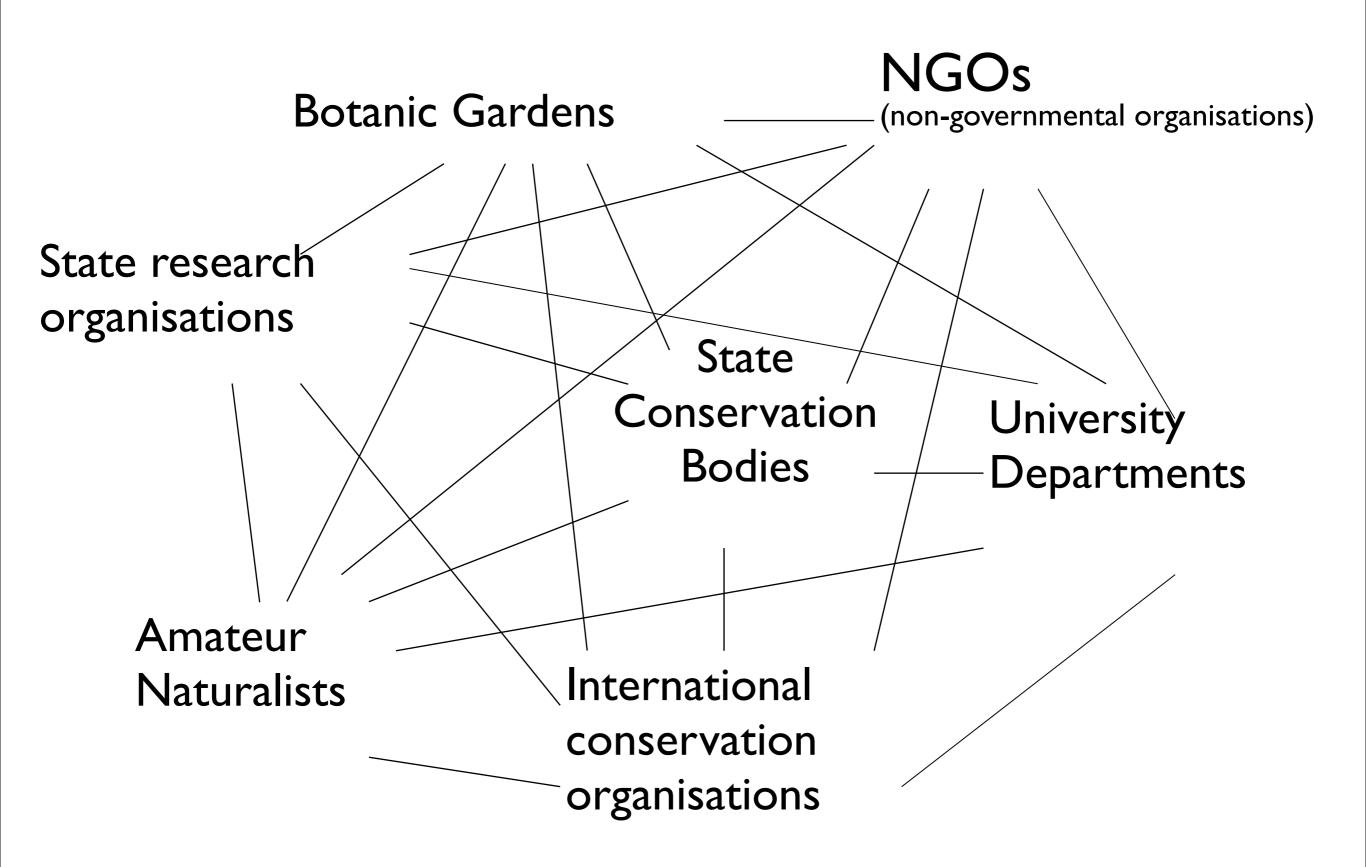
REVISED TARGET 16

Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional & international levels

- 2015 Included as a key component of the Toolkit
- Increase & widen the membership of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation

Colombian network based on the Humboldt Institute





Basic National Network

The Global Partnership for Plant Conservation

A voluntary initiative that brings together international, regional & national organisations in order to contribute to the implementation of the GSPC



















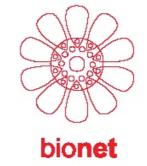












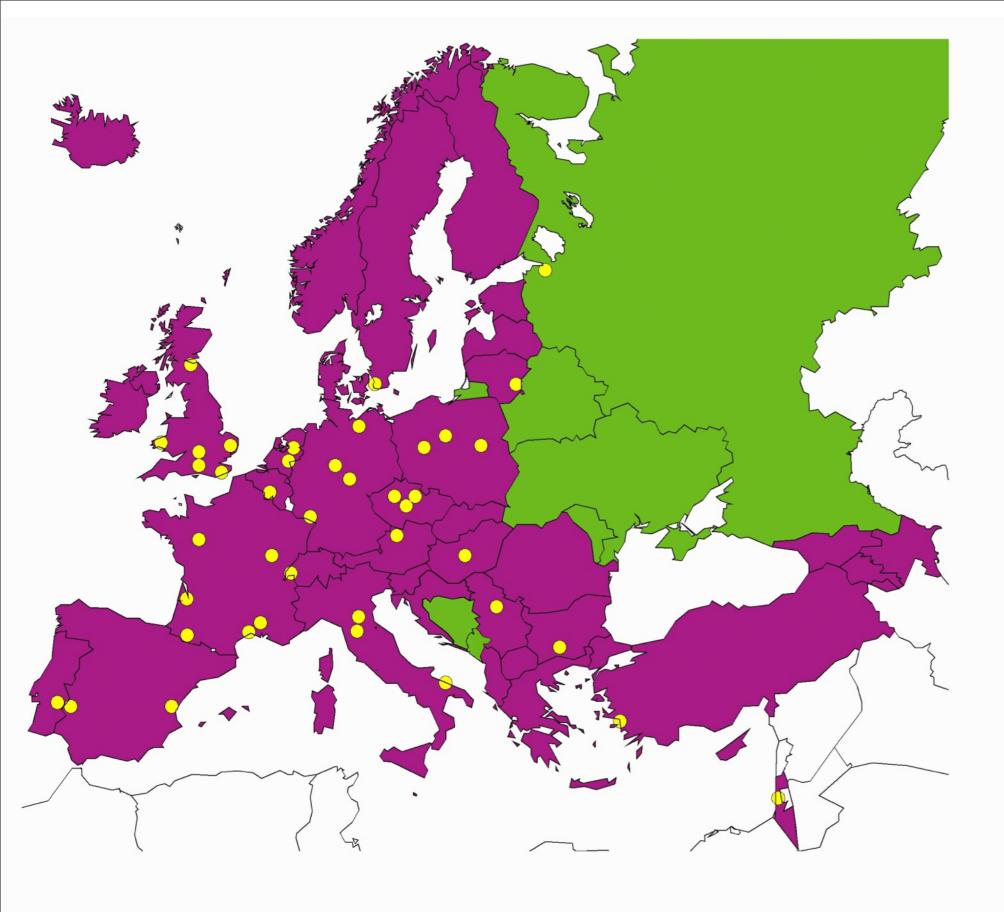














Observers:

Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Moldova, Russian Federation & Ukraine

Legend





Member country





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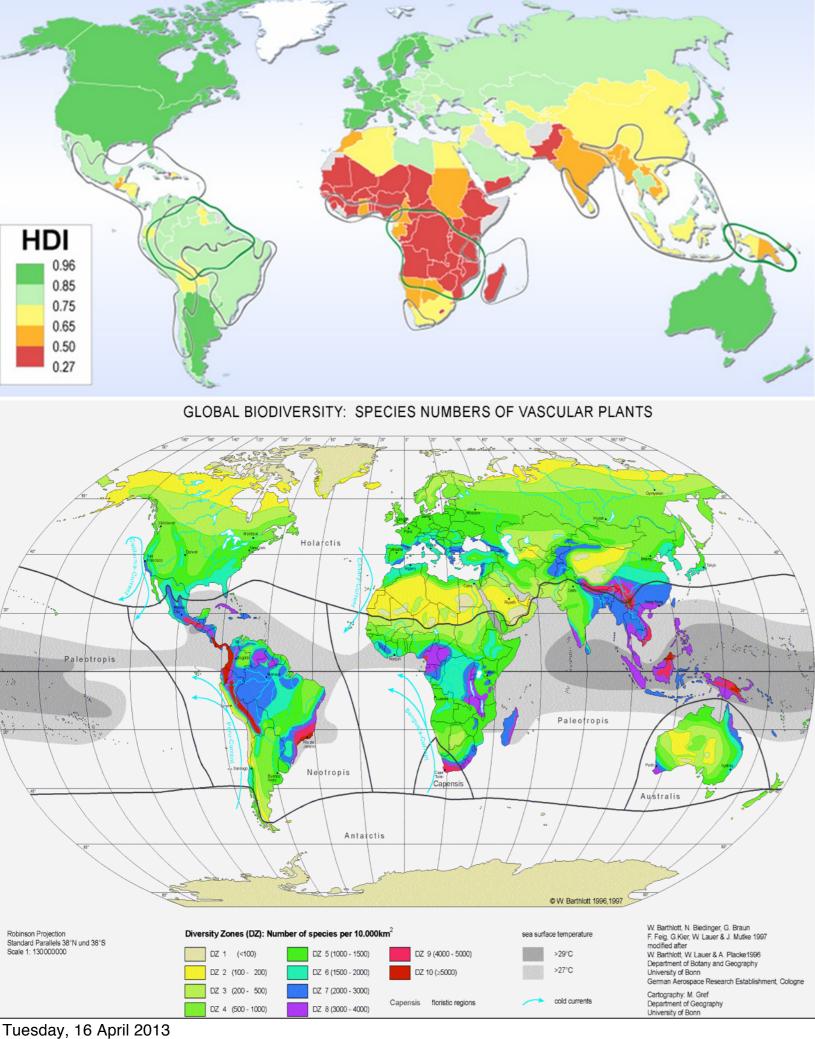
UN Millennium Development Goals

- 1. Eradicate extreme poverty & hunger
- 2. Achieve universal primary education
- 3. Promote gender equality & empower women
- 4. Reduce child mortality
- 5. Improve maternal health
- 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria & other diseases
- 7. Ensure environmental sustainability
- 8. Develop a global partnership for development

[www.un.org/millenniumgoals/#]

UN Millennium Development Goals – targets

- 1. To halve the proportion of people whose income is less than on dollar per day
- 2. To halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger
- 9. To integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies & programmes & to reverse the loss of environmental resources
- 10. To halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water & sanitation
- 11. To achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers



Comparison of plant diversity (in terms of plant **species**) and human poverty measured (measured by Human Development Index.

HDI - is based on life expectancy, knowledge, & standard of living)

Poverty & conservation – some views

- 1. Poverty & conservation are separate policy realms
- 2. Poverty reduction must not be compromised by resource conservation
- 3. Poverty is a critical restraint on conservation
- 4. Poverty reduction depends on living resource conservation
- 5. Poverty reduction must not compromise resource conservation

Adams et al. (2004) Science 306 p1147

Sachs et al. Science vol.325 p.1502

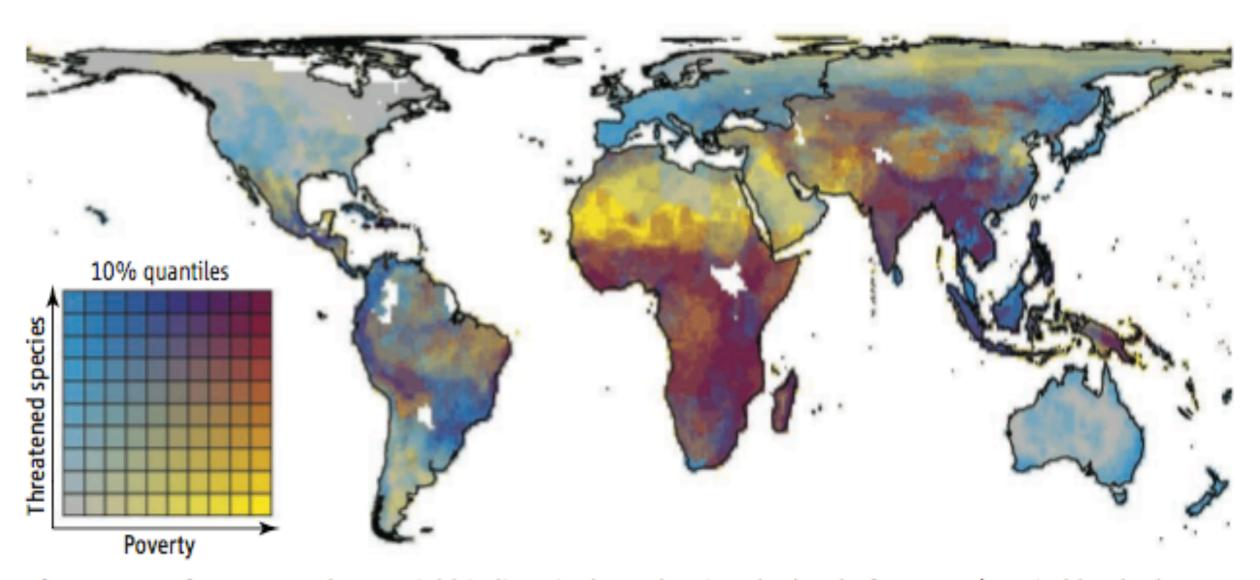


Fig. 1. Map of poverty and potential biodiversity loss, showing the level of poverty (proxied by the log rate of human infant mortality) combined with the log number of threatened species of mammals, birds, and amphibians per one-degree grid square (Behrmann equal-area projection). White areas represent missing data. Data from (14) and (15).

Science

MAAAS





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