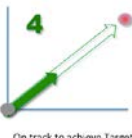





## Summary of progress towards the GSPC targets - 2014

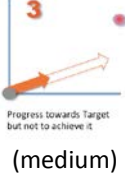




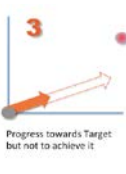


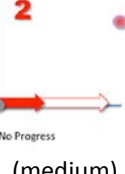

The table below provides an assessment of progress made towards each of the GSPC targets and compares this with the assessment of progress towards corresponding components of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. It aims to provide summary information on whether or not we are on track to achieve the targets by 2020. The assessment uses a five-point scale:

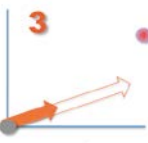


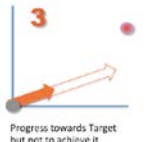

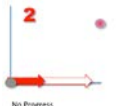
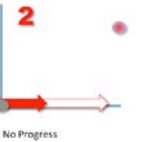

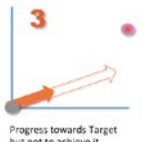

5. - On track to exceed target, i.e. we are doing even better and expect to achieve the target before 2020;
4. - On track to achieve target, i.e. if we continue our efforts we expect to achieve the target by 2020;
- 3 - Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate, i.e. unless we step up our efforts we will have missed the target in 2020;
2. - No significant change, i.e. we are neither moving towards the target nor away from it;
1. - Moving away from target, i.e. things are getting worse rather than better.











This assessment is based on the information provided for the mid-term review of the GSPC, largely by GPPC members and the level of confidence, based on the available evidence, is indicated for each target. The assessment is subject to change as additional information becomes available, including from national reports to the CBD and additional updated NBSAPs.

GSPC Target	Current status (and level of confidence for ranking)	Comments	Related Aichi Target and element	Progress towards relevant Aichi Target element <sup>1</sup>
<b>Target 1.</b> An online flora of all known plants	 On track to achieve Target (high)	The establishment of the World Flora Online Consortium is a major step towards this target. Good progress has been made at the national level in many countries, including several mega-diverse countries. Concerns about declining taxonomic capacity may be one constraint to the achievement of this target.	<b>Target 19: Knowledge improved, shared and applied</b> Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved	 On track to achieve Target
<b>Target 2.</b> An assessment of the conservation status of all known plants as far as possible, to guide conservation action	 Progress towards Target but not to achieve it (high)	This Target is essential to provide a baseline for setting priorities and measuring conservation progress. So far progress at the global level has been slow. IUCN is, however, on track to achieve its target of assessing 10% of the world's plants for the Red List by 2020. Progress at the national level is generally good and particularly encouraging in some mega-diverse countries. The Target may be achievable if information from the IUCN Red List and national sources were to be combined.	<b>Target 19: Knowledge improved, shared and applied</b> Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved	 On track to achieve Target

<sup>1</sup> As indicated in the draft technical background documents prepared for GBO4

<p><b>Target 3 :</b> Information, research and associated outputs and methods necessary to implement the Strategy developed and shared</p>		<p>An on-line toolkit has been developed and is available in all UN languages. However, much relevant 'how to' information continues to lie in unpublished reports, not easily accessible to plant conservation practitioners. Greater efforts are needed to promote the use of the toolkit and evaluate its use.</p>	<p><b>Target 19: Knowledge improved, shared and applied</b> Biodiversity knowledge, science base and technologies are widely shared and transferred, and applied</p>	
<p><b>Target 4.</b> At least 15 per cent of each ecological region or vegetation type secured through effective management and/or restoration</p>		<p>This target is achieved mainly by actions taken to implement Aichi Targets 11 and 15. A report on Aichi Target 11 notes that 55% of terrestrial ecosystems have at least 10% coverage by protected areas and 7% have at least 75%.</p>	<p><b>Target 11: Protected areas:</b> At least 17% of terrestrial and inland waters areas protected. Protected areas are ecologically representative. Protected areas are effectively and equitably managed</p>	
<p><b>Target 5:</b> At least 75 % of the most important areas for plant diversity of each ecological region protected with effective management in place for conserving plants and their genetic diversity</p>		<p>This is a particularly important target to inform <i>in situ</i> plant conservation worldwide. A significant number of countries have identified important areas for plant diversity. However, it is not clear how many of these are incorporated into protected area systems, are being effectively managed or how well these are distributed across ecological regions. More support is needed for consolidation of national information at the global level.</p>	<p><b>Target 11: Protected areas:</b> Areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services protected</p>	
<p><b>Target 6:</b> At least 75 per cent of production lands in each sector managed sustainably, consistent with the conservation of plant diversity</p>		<p>This Target is achieved mainly through broader land-use initiatives. Increasingly, sustainable production methods are being applied in agriculture. Similarly, sustainable forest management practices are being more broadly applied. However, there are questions concerning the extent to which plant conservation specifications are incorporated into such schemes and there needs to be more cross-sectoral collaboration.</p>	<p><b>Target 7: Sustainable agriculture, aquaculture and forestry</b> Areas under agriculture are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity  Areas under forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity</p>	
<p><b>Target 7:</b> At least 75 per cent of known threatened plant species conserved <i>in situ</i></p>		<p>At the global level it difficult to measure progress because of slow progress with Target 2 and lack of protected area inventories for plants. Despite encouraging progress in some countries, overall the continuing loss of natural habitat means that the <i>in situ</i> conservation status of many species is getting worse. Furthermore, many species that occur within protected areas are not effectively conserved and are affected by factors such as invasive species, climate change and unregulated harvesting.</p>	<p><b>Target 12 Extinction prevented</b> Extinction of known threatened species has been prevented. The conservation status of those species most in decline has improved and sustained  (NB plants have generally not been included in the Target 12 assessments)</p>	

<p><b>Target 8:</b> At least 75 per cent of threatened plant species in <i>ex situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and at least 20 per cent available for recovery and restoration programmes</p>	 <p>(high)</p>	<p>At the global level, 29% of the species listed on the 2013 IUCN Red List are known to be in <i>ex situ</i> collections but this is only a limited representation of globally threatened plants. Higher percentages are recorded at the regional and national levels. The first part of the target (<i>ex situ</i> collections) has already been achieved by some countries, but it remains challenging for mega-diverse countries.</p> <p>For use in recovery and restoration programmes, more effort is needed to ensure that <i>ex situ</i> collections are genetically representative of species populations. Greater emphasis should be given to seed conservation to enhance restoration potential, with research needed to address species that cannot be seed banked.</p>	<p><b>Target 12 Extinction prevented</b> Extinction of known threatened species has been prevented</p> <p>The conservation status of those species most in decline has improved and sustained</p> <p>(NB plants have generally not been included in the Target 12 assessments)</p>	 
<p><b>Target 9:</b> 70 % of the genetic diversity of crops including their wild relatives and other socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, while respecting, preserving and maintaining associated indigenous and local knowledge</p>	 <p>(low)</p>	<p>The Global Plan of Action on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture addresses this Target. It is likely that the Target has already been met for major crops that are important globally. However the challenge is to meet this target for the many thousands of other species that are of socio-economic importance at the national or local level. There is a need for a global inventory of such species to guide conservation and sustainable use priorities.</p>	<p><b>Target 13: Genetic diversity maintained</b> The genetic diversity of cultivated plants is maintained</p> <p>The genetic diversity of wild relatives is maintained</p> <p>The genetic diversity of socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species is maintained</p>	  <p>Not evaluated</p>
<p><b>Target 10:</b> Effective management plans in place to prevent new biological invasions and to manage important areas for plant diversity that are invaded</p>	 <p>(medium)</p>	<p>Increasing global trade and the multiple pathways of introduction represent a major challenge to preventing new invasions.</p> <p>Although some encouraging activities are on-going in managing areas already affected, the evidence suggests that progress is insufficient to meet the target.</p>	<p><b>Target 9: Invasive alien species prevented and controlled</b> Introduction and establishment of IAS are prevented.</p>	
<p><b>Target 11</b> No species of wild flora endangered by international trade</p>	 <p>(High)</p>	<p>This target is implemented through the action of CITES and a resolution on Cooperation with the GSPC was adopted in 2013 by CITES COP 16.</p> <p>Significant progress has been made in developing Guidelines for determining Non-Detriment Findings for perennial species and these are now starting to be applied.</p>	<p><b>Target 4: Sustainable consumption and production</b> Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve, or have implemented, plans for sustainable production and consumption...</p>	

<p><b>Target 12:</b> All wild harvested plant-based products sourced sustainably</p>		<p>The introduction of the FairWild Standard provides a necessary tool to measure future progress towards this target. Although there are a number of interesting initiatives taking place at the national level, involving both the public and private sectors, it is unlikely that the target will be met at the global level.</p> <p>Sustainable sourcing is difficult to promote as information on species that are harvested and levels of exploitation is generally not available.</p>	<p><b>Target 4: Sustainable consumption and production</b> Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve, or have implemented, plans for sustainable production and consumption...</p>	
<p><b>Target 13:</b> Indigenous and local knowledge innovations and practices associated with plant resources maintained or increased, as appropriate, to support customary use, sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care</p>		<p>Although a wide range of initiatives to conserve traditional knowledge have been developed at national and local levels, progress towards this target is difficult to measure as baselines have not been quantified.</p> <p>This target can be considered an 'enabling' target, supporting the achievement of other targets.</p>	<p><b>Target 18: Traditional knowledge respected</b> Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities are respected</p>	
<p><b>Target 14:</b> The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, education and public awareness programmes</p>		<p>Plants are often neglected in the conservation debate because of lack of information but also more fundamentally lack of popular interest and concern. Significant progress in Targets 1, 2 and 5 will help to make a stronger case for action. Increasing participation in citizen science programmes, which are often focused on plants, is helping to raise awareness amongst a broader community but additional innovative approaches are needed.</p>	<p><b>Target 1: Awareness increased</b> People are aware of the values of biodiversity</p> <p>People are aware of the steps they can take to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity</p>	
<p><b>Target 15:</b> The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities sufficient according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy</p>		<p>The broad scope of the GSPC requires considerable capacity building across a range of disciplines. Botanical capacity generally is concentrated outside areas of high plant diversity and skill-sharing needs to be strengthened. There is a worrying decline in the teaching of botany at University level and much capacity building is being undertaken within the informal education sector, for example through botanic garden training courses</p>	<p><b>Target 19: Knowledge improved, shared and applied</b> Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved</p>	
<p><b>Target 16:</b> Institutions, networks and partnerships for plant conservation established or strengthened at national, regional</p>		<p>At the global level, the establishment of the GPPC has made a good start at bringing together the plant conservation community, but engagement needs to be further developed and sustained. Greater efforts are also needed to engage with the many other sectors that have a vital role to play.</p>	<p><b>Target 19: Knowledge improved, shared and applied</b> Biodiversity knowledge, science base and technologies are widely shared and transferred, and applied</p>	

and international levels to achieve the targets of this Strategy				
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