

Analysis of the level of accomplishment of biodiversity and environmental targets set over the past decades

The overall analysis was performed in three steps:

1. Extraction and analysis of the goals and their degree of accomplishment by a group of assessment experts,
2. Review of this analysis by another group of assessment experts,
3. Joint review and agreement on final wording.

Ten international treaties and reports have been included in this analysis. The level of accomplishment was coded into three categories of attainment: low, medium, high. Colour coding corresponded to these as orange for low, yellow for medium, green for high.

The assessment experts distinguished the documents in two different types:

- **Type 1: Clear and direct targets and reporting:** the targets were extracted from the documents, keeping as close to the original statement as possible. In these cases, the experts used the information in the agreements and the reports with a textual extraction.

Documents identified as Type 1:

- International treaties:
 - Millennium Development Goals,
 - 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
 - Aichi Targets.
- Reports:
 - Millennium Development Goals Report,
 - Global Biodiversity Outlook 3, 4 and 5,
 - The Sustainable Development Goals Report.

- **Type 2: Unclear/vague targets and fulfilment reporting:** an interpretative analysis was necessary to identify the targets as well as the degree of compliance:
 - For some cases, the assessment experts took as a guide the targets assessed in the compliance reports (e.g., “Global Biodiversity Outlook 3” in relation to “Progress on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity”).
 - In cases where the compliance targets were also unclear, the assessment experts conducted an interpretive dialogue between what was proposed in the reports and in the international agreements (e.g., “Paris Agreement” and “Views on the elements for the consideration of outputs component of the first global stocktake”).

Documents identified as Type 2:

- International treaties:
 - Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity,
 - Paris Agreement under UNFCCC,
 - Progress on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity,

- Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Report:
 - Views on the elements for the consideration of outputs component of the first global stocktake.

While aiming for an objective analysis, this evaluation of targets on biodiversity involves subjective judgment from the assessment experts. Reports often balance the often-negative news on non-attainment of targets with the more positive note regarding the progress in a related process but is not part of the target itself). On the same logic, assessment experts also positively assessed progress for some targets (e.g., failure to accomplish but a mention of some related progress was evaluated as 'medium' rather than 'low').