

Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Programme of Work on Protected Areas



Petkeljärvi National Park (photo: Vallas)

CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas in Finland

Analysis of implementation of key actions 2012-13

The report's methodology is based on the recommended PoWPA reporting framework (by CBD COP11, decision X/31) and it was formulated to match the Finland's PoWPA action plan "Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Programme of Work on Protected Areas" and specifically focuses on its chapter "***Priority and timeline for key actions of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas***". Priority actions and timelines are presented in the order of PoWPA programme elements and actions. A numerical analysis was conducted to assess the progress in achieving the key actions.

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Programme of Work on Protected Areas in Finland

Analysis of implementation of key actions

Priority actions and timeline for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

The responsibility for implementation actions of the NBSAP, and thus for implementation of the PoWPA, are delegated to the relevant ministries and other stakeholders. The first mentioned ministry bears the main responsibility. The following abbreviations are used in the list of actions:

MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MD	Ministry of Defence
MEC	Ministry of Education and Culture
MEE	Ministry of Employment and the Economy
MEnv	Ministry of the Environment
MF	Ministry of Finance
MFA	Ministry for Foreign Affairs
MI	Ministry of the Interior
MJ	Ministry of Justice
ML	Ministry of Labour
MSAH	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
MTC	Ministry of Transport and Communications
Metla	Finnish Forest Research Institute
MH	Metsähallitus
MTT	Agrifood Research Finland
FEI	Finnish Environment Institute
GFR	Game and Fisheries Research
LYNET	Finnish Partnership for Research on Natural Resources and the Environment

A numerical analysis was conducted to assess progress in achievement of the key actions. The assessment was measured from 0 to 4, using the same numerical system as in the draft reporting framework of the PoWPA: 0 – no progress; 1 – planning phase; 2 – initial progress; 3 – substantial progress; 4 – nearly or fully completed.

Actions for implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas in Finland

Programme Element 1: Direct actions for planning, selecting, establishing, strengthening and managing protected area systems and sites

Action 1: Strengthening of national and regional protected area network

*0 – no progress; 1 – planning phase; 2 – initial progress; 3 – substantial progress; 4 – nearly or fully completed

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Analysis of progress (0-4)*	Information on actions taken
NATIONAL LEVEL				Updated NBSAP 2012-2020 approved in March, 2013. Action 18: Implement measures in accordance with Decision X/31 on protected areas of the Convention [on Biological Diversity], such as gap analyses and the additional measures required by them. (Several subtargets)
Development of a goal-oriented, national vision and an action plan for strengthening of protected area system and fulfilment of international obligations under CBD	2012-	MEnv, MAF, MEE, MF, MH, other stakeholders	1	NBSAP, action 18 subtarget: “Draw up a national development plan on protected areas, through cooperation between administrative sectors and by taking climate change into account. “ > Work not yet started on new

				development plan for PA system (except national parks and mires)
Assessment of representativeness, comprehensiveness and ecological gaps of protected area system as well as connectiveness of the protected area system	2012-2015	MEnv	2	Progress for forests and mires, entire PA system not yet assessed HELCOM (2013): <i>Overview of the status of the network of Baltic Sea marine protected areas</i> ; Finland's BSPAs analysed separately
Development of a plan for realisation of Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and of NBSAP 2012-2020: conservation of 17 % of terrestrial and inland waters and 10 % of coastal and marine protected areas, including criteria for calculating the percentages and monitoring the fulfilment of the Target 11	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF, MEE	0	Work not yet started on determination of national criteria (especially interpretation of IUCN PA definition of "other effective means" of protection)
Completion of National Conservation Programmes and of Natura 2000 site conservation and regular assessment of the state of the network (Site Condition Assessment NATA)	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF, MH	2	Nature Conservation Programmes completed, but statutory establishment of designated PAs still going on. Programme drawn and initiated for statutory establishment of over 800 new Nature Reserves (circa 2,500 designated sites with area of 800,000 ha) Site condition assessment (NATA) for over 100 Natura 2000 sites with coverage corresponding to over half of network area
Improvement of management effectiveness of protected area network to enhance conservation statuses of habitats and species and adaptivity to climate change	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF	2	New indicators to measure effectiveness have been developed; according to implementation report 2007-2012 of Habitat Directive, the overall conservation status has remained more or less stable

Evaluation of need for statutes and their priorities, and of management plans for areas that are reserved for State protection in land use plans and are outside of conservation programmes and Natura 2000 network	2012-2020	MEnv	1	Comprehensive evaluation to be conducted 2015; individual sites have been taken into the programme for statute establishment (see above)
Strengthening of representativeness and connectivity of forest protected areas in the Southern Finland, by implementation of METSO Programme on state-owned and private lands, and development of a mosaic of comprehensive protected area network	2012-2015-2020	MEnv, MAF	3	METSO sites protected 2009-2013 voluntarily on private lands (15,000 ha) and purchased for the state (12,000 ha) METSO sites protected from commercial forestry in 2009 (10,000 ha) and 2013 (20,000 ha)
Implementation of the conservation programme of the National Strategy for Mires and Peatlands	2012-2020	MAF, MEnv, MEE	3	Mire Conservation Programme Working Group > new Programme will be drafted by the end of 2014
Improvement of management of sites in the Bird Wetlands Conservation Programme, restoration of wetlands, improvement of wetland protected area representativeness and implementation of the Ramsar Convention	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF, MEE	2	National Ramsar Committee was established in 2013 National Ramsar Committee: National Ramsar Action Plan to be drawn in 2014 11 new Ramsar sites proposed, not yet designated
Strengthening of marine protected areas by implementing HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan and the HELCOM Recommendations	2012-2020	MEnv, MFA, MEE, MTC	2	Five new Natura 2000 sites approved by Government resolution in 2012; when approved by EU Commission, will become new BSPAs; new management plans approved for BSPA sites HELCOM PROTECT project lead by Finland in 2014 to strengthen the BSPA network
Completion of VELMU Inventories of underwater marine environment and evaluation of need for establishment of new marine protected areas and	2012-2015	MEnv, MI, MD, MEC, MAF,	3	VELMU inventories completed in 2009-2013 in an area of over 40,000 ha along all parts of the western, south-western and

broadening of existing ones		MTC, MEE, MF		southern coast Evaluation of need for new marine protected areas to be conducted in 2014
Inventorying of Important Plant Areas (IPAs)	2012-2020	MEnv	0	Work not yet started (or planned)
Enhancement of network of National Urban Parks	2012-2020	MEnv	2	New National Urban Park established in Turku in 2013
Evaluation of possibilities for new kinds of protected area categories and governance types (for example provincial level parks)	2012-2020	MEnv	0	Work not yet started
Application of IUCN categories to Finnish protected area system (using 2008 guidelines) to make Finnish protected area data more comparable on a global scale	2012-2015	MEnv, MH, other stakeholders	3	Guidelines for applying IUCN PA management categories in Finland approved in 2013; classification of established State-owned PAs completed, category assignment of private protected areas 2014-
Keeping the information on Finnish protected areas up-to-date in the World Database on Protected Areas	2012-2020	MEnv	4	New data updated in 2013 to the European CDDA database (managed by the European Environment Agency), data delivered to WDPA from the EEA
REGIONAL LEVEL				
Continuation and strengthening of transboundary park cooperation	2012-2020	MEnv	4	On-going transboundary projects between Finland and Russia and Sweden: - 2013-2014 Fennoscandian Green Belt Promotes the preservation of the unique natural and cultural values in the protected areas of the Karelia region - 2012-2014 Quality-CET Cross-Border project developing eco-tourism cooperation in Karelia region - 2012-2014 ABCG Heritage Increases regional knowledge about Arctic Biological,

				<p>Cultural and Geological heritage in the northern Fennoscandia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2013-2014 Saving our joint treasure: sustainable trout fisheries for transborder Oulanka River system”. <p>Research transboundary project on the status of the populations of brown trout and its socio-economic significance for the local communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2013–2014 Wild Forest Reindeer <p>Finnish-Russian project to halt the declining of Wild Forest Reindeer populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2011– 2014 Boundless Bothnian Bay <p>The aim of the Finnish-Swedish project is to strengthen the Bothnian Bay as a common area, in which attractions and services are widely known in both countries. Furthermore, the project aims to increase awareness of the Bothnian Bay area and its islands as an important tourist attraction and as an important physical and mental resource among locals, visitors and decision-makers.</p> <p>In addition bilateral nature conservation working groups between Finland-Russia, Finland-Estonia, Finland-Russia are promoting and implementing a great number of TB-activities.</p> <p>Also Barents Region Protected Areas – project (BPAN) was built to implement the PoPWA targets solely.</p> <p>Fennoscandian Green Belt initiatives including national and trilateral (FIN-RUS-NOR) working groups endorse transboundary nature conservation and sustainable development.</p>
Establishment of a national working group to promote Fennoscandian Green Belt Initiative, to coordinate work with neighbouring countries	2012-2014	MEnv	4	Working group established in 2014

within the Initiative and to maintain contacts with European Green Belt Initiative				
Development and implementation of a plan for Green Belt protected areas in Finland	2012	MEnv	3	Active international research cooperation related to the Green Belt of Fennoscandia has continued. Kalevala Park in the Finnish side of the Green Belt of Fennoscandia (GBF) has been established. Transboundary park cooperation has continued and it is enhanced through projects with EU-funding. National GBF Working Group has been appointed with all regional councils in the area as its members. Local actors are encouraged to initiate projects that further develop the GBF concept.
Implementation of Barents Protected Area Network project (BPAN 2011-2013) that aims for a comprehensive protected area network in the Barents region of Finland, North-West Russia, Norway and Sweden	2012-2013	MEnv	4	Project implemented successfully, planning of a new project is on-going

Action 2: Integration of protected areas into broader land- and seascapes through development of broad scale land use planning

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Analysis of progress (0-4)*	Information on actions taken
Improvement of spatial landscape level planning, including marine spatial planning, using the ecosystem approach to maintain coherent ecological entities and networks and to conserve habitats and species and maintain	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF	2	Tools developed for general (provincial-scale) protected area planning and incorporated into the new protected area database systems; general planning

ecosystem services				<p>round scheduled in 2015</p> <p>Finland is working with member states of HELCOM on marine spatial planning; several projects ongoing to enhance information resources</p>
Application of green and blue infrastructure concept (ecological network) and development of a national approach to implement the concept in practice	2012–2020	MEnv, MAF	0	Work not yet started
Improvement of ecological functionality and connectivity of Natura 2000 network as part of broad scale green and blue infrastructure	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF	1	Ongoing (see below); comprehensive assessment not yet conducted
Reservation of areas in land use plans to safeguard biodiversity and to improve connectiveness of the Natura 2000 network	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF, MTC, MEE	2	<p>Continuous work, large number of new or updated regional land use plans completed – assessment of nature conservation possibilities incorporated into the process</p> <p>Several specific regional plans for placement of wind mill and fish cultivation sites</p>
Implementation of the Action Plan based on the First Assessment of Threatened Habitat types in Finland to improve status of habitat types (i.e. statutory protection of new habitat types)	2012–2020	MEnv, MAF, MEE, MTC	2	<p>Action plan for improving the state of threatened habitat types in Finland approved in 2011. Implementation ongoing.</p> <p>New habitat types proposed for statutory protection (by amendment of Act on Nature Conservation or other legislation)</p>

Action 3: Development of site-specific protected area planning and management

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Analysis of progress (0-4)*	Information on actions taken
Drafting and implementation of management plans of protected areas and Natura 2000 sites as needed	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF, MH	3	New management plans approved for over 100 Natura 2000 sites 2009-2013, coverage of statutory management plans over 80%
Development of restoration and management methods, development of monitoring of restoration and management effectiveness and of cost-effective targeting of restoration and management actions to improve quality, functionality and connectiveness of protected area network and its capacity to buffer climate change	2012–2020	MEnv, MAF	2-3	Development of methods is ongoing, both research and operational implementation. Several publications: Ecological restoration and management in boreal forests – best practices from Finland 2012, Handbook for the restoration of drained peatlands 2013
Needs assessment of management and restoration actions in protected areas in order to evaluate adaptation of habitat types and species to climate change	2013–2015	MEnv, FEI, MH, MAF, LYNET institutions, universities	2-3	Needs assessment ongoing, evaluation of adaptation needs more research
Implementation of a research programme that addresses adaptation to climate change, including summary of research results to support monitoring and decision-making in protected areas in relation to climate change, and continuation of research cooperation in boreal taiga region and the Baltic Sea area and participation in regional strategies of adaptation to climate change	2012–2015	MEnv, MAF, MEC, MFA	2	Adaptation research ongoing and active, but only modest progress has been made specifically in relation to protected areas
Development of methods of adaptive management in land use planning that takes into account adaptation to climate change (specifically also in protected areas)	2012–2015	MEnv	1	Guidelines for management planning of protected areas updated in 2010 with focus on adaptive management, including consideration of climate change impacts.

Restoration of Bird Wetlands Conservation Programme sites	2012-2016	MEnv, MAF	1	Programme for restoration of sites exists, implementation has progressed slowly
Implementation of objectives of the METSO [Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland] Programme, especially regarding restoration activities in wooded environments	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF	3	The METSO Programme (2008-2016) has been implemented according to action plan. The action programme focuses on voluntary protection of privately-owned forests, but Metsähallitus also has a key role in implementing the programme, especially in restoration. Over 13,000 ha of forests and mires in PAs have been covered. The METSO Programme will be extended to 2020.
Implementation of the restoration actions of the National Strategy for Mires and Peatlands	2012-2020	MAF, MEnv, MEE	3	Restoration of peatlands in protected areas is ongoing as part of the EU-funded Boreal Peatland LIFE project (2010–2014) and the METSO programme (2008-2016)
Improvement of management of traditional agricultural habitat types in protected areas	2012-2020	MEnv	2	The extent of continuously managed traditional agricultural habitats in PAs has increased from 2600 ha in 2009 to 4100 ha in 2013. More is needed. An action plan for management of such habitats is being drafted for 2014-2020.
Assessment of Red List of Finnish Species at ten-year intervals, improvement of information on endangered species through inventories, utility of the information through information systems development and exchange of information, development and implementation of action plan for species conservation	2012-2020	MEnv, FEI, MAF, GFR, MEC, Museum of Natural History, universities	3	Latest RED LIST completed in 2010, next one is due 2020; work to improve data is ongoing; action plan for prioritized measures being drawn up New database for (threatened and other) species on State lands finished 2013-2014

Programme Element 2: Governance, participation, equity and benefit sharing

Action 4: Promotion of equity and benefit-sharing and assessment of costs and benefits

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Analysis of progress (0-4)*	Information on actions taken
Evaluation of the state of ecosystems and ecosystem services (especially in protected areas)	2013–2014	MEnv, FEI, MAF, GFR, Metla, MTT	2	Natura 2000 site condition assessment of over 100 sites has been conducted since 2010, including all 37 national parks. Coverage is now about 40% of the Natura 2000 network area and the aim is to have complete coverage by 2018. In 2009, new methodology was introduced for determining local economic benefits of protected area based nature tourism. Total gain from 2010 to 2013 has been over 50 million Euros (143 Me to 183 Me) and 500 new person years (1840 pyrs to 2337 pyrs)
Implementation of a research programme for Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) and ecosystem services, including protected areas	2012-2015	MEnv, MAF, MEE	2	TEEB Finland is primarily based on synthesizing and analyzing existing knowledge. Furthermore, thematic expert working groups, covering key Finnish ecosystems, have been established. The purpose is to develop syntheses of ecosystem services state-of-play (e.g. available indicators and existing evidence base) while also seeking to establish consensus on the next steps. Finally, the

				<p>insights of expert working groups will be complemented by workshops carried out to engage broader range of stakeholders (e.g. representatives of sectoral, industry and NGOs) into the process.</p> <p>The final results of TEEB Finland are foreseen to be published at the end of 2014.</p>
Promotion of sustainable nature-based tourism and recreational use of nature in protected areas in such a way that it does not threaten conservation values or management objectives of the area	2012–2020	MEnv, MEE, MAF, MH	3	Sustainable Nature Tourism Principles, Sustainable Nature Tourism Plans, Sustainable Tourism Development Strategies, EUROPARC Charter, Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) methodology
Applying Akwé:Kon guidelines in the Sámi homeland area to mitigate conflicts between reindeer husbandry and other land use and negative impacts on nature in the region, safeguarding Sámi culture and traditional knowledge	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF, MEE, MTC, Sámi Parliament, MH	3	<p>Pilot for application of Akwé: Kon guidelines in management planning process of the Hammastunturi Wilderness Reserve (first time globally), decision to apply guidelines in all management planning in the Saami homeland area</p> <p>National 8j working group established and functioning</p>
Reconciliation of hunting and nature conservation in protected areas through participatory management planning	2012-2020	MH	4	Part of routine in all management planning of protected areas

Programme Element 3: Enabling Activities

Action 5: Evaluation of legislation and putting policy into action

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Analysis of progress (0-4)*	Information on actions taken
Evaluation of the Nature Conservation Act in relation to protected areas and implementation of necessary changes	2012-2014	MEnv	3	Evaluation done; proposed changes in the work programme for updating the Nature Conservation Act, Amendment in 2011 and additional amendment under way in 2013 (i.e. for establishment of SAC sites according to EU Habitats Directive)
Improvement of taking into account conservation and nature values in the renewing of the Environmental Protection Act	2012–2014	MEnv	3	New Act on Environmental Protection proposed 2013, approval 2014 Government Decree on Oil Response proposed 2013, approval 2014
Taking into account biological diversity in the assessment of the Land and Building Act and its conclusions	2012–2013	MEnv	2	Assessment completed in 2013, amendments to the Act are under way
Taking into account biological diversity in evaluation of renewal of Fishing Act	2012-2020	MAF	3	Assessment completed, proposed changes partly taken into account, e.g. enhancing protection of threatened fish stocks and important migratory and spawning sites
Monitoring of implementation of NBSAP 2012-2020 and completion of necessary changes, including monitoring of fulfilment of obligations under PoWPA	2012–2015	MEnv, other ministries and stakeholders	2	Evaluation of NBSAP implementation due 2015, preliminary monitoring of PowPA 2014
Implementation of River Basin Management Plans (7 river basin districts), including monitoring of Natura 2000 sites with water-based biodiversity values	2012-2015	MEnv, MAF	3	7 river basin management and action plans approved in 2009. Implementation of plans started, first evaluation due 2015;

				<p>Monitoring of biodiversity values of Natura 2000 sites as part of the site ecological status assessment and monitoring programmes of the river basin action plans.</p> <p>Guidelines for reconciliation of Water and Habitats goals (2013)</p>
Implementation of the EU Marine Strategy Directive in accordance with statutory actions and targets	2012–2020	MEnv, MAF, MTC	2-3	<p>Work goes on schedule set by EU: National legislation in 2011. Government resolution on the first stage of the marine strategy in 2012. Monitoring programme to be completed in 2014.</p>
Updating of national strategy of adaptation to climate change, including assessment of protected area network's capability to adapt to climate change	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF, MTC, MEE, MSAH, MFA	0	<p>Evaluation in 2013 of the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (2005) > strategy update begun 2013</p> <p>Evaluation in 2013 of the Environmental Administration's Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (drafted 2008, supplemented 2011)</p>
Implementing actions of the National Strategy on Harmful Alien Species and other obligations in international agreements on alien species	2012-2020	MAF, GFR, MEnv, FEI, MTC	2-3	<p>Finland's National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species was completed in 2012 and national Advisory Board for Invasive Alien Species was established in 2013.</p> <p>Initial progress in many aspects of the strategy and international obligations; cooperation with Nordic and Baltic countries, e.g. within the Baltic Sea area and in the northern European Network on Invasive Alien Species (NOBANIS).</p> <p>Invasive species now incorporated into</p>

				species information in PA GIS database
Taking into account nature conservation and biodiversity at a national and EU level in the preparation for the next EU financing period	2012-2013	MF, MAF, MEE, MEnv	4	New financial period begun 2014, changes in the programmes and procedures taken into account, preparations for new projects under way
Ensuring of financial sustainability of protected area administration and management	2012-2020	MEnv, MF	3	Financial sustainability ensured in the proposed national budget 2015-2018

Action 6: Strengthening of communication, education and public awareness

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Analysis of progress (0-4)*	Information on actions taken
Strengthening of communication at all levels of society of importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services and the importance of protected areas in this context	2012–2020	MEnv, MEC, MAF, MEE, MH and other stakeholders	3	<p>2013 figures on MH NHS communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MH NSH had 2682 neutral or positive media hits indicating that the message of biodiversity reached the Finnish people. - Outdoors.fi – web service had 1,2 M individual visitors - The national Finnish Nature-day was launched the first time 31.8.2013 - Haltia – The Finnish Nature Centre opened 31.5.2013, and by the end of the year, they had close to 100 000 visitors. - Social media (Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter) reached hundreds of thousands of people. <p>Establishment of BD-communication working group inviting all relevant organisations has been successful and the BD-message reaches wider audiences.</p>
Development of cooperation between researchers, information providers, environmental authorities and educational sector	2012–2020	MEC, MEnv, MAF, MEE and stakeholders (i.e. Metsähallitus, Natural History Museums and Botanical Gardens, NGOs)	3	Well established cooperation, based on mainly bilateral framework agreements, between research organizations and environmental education sector, is stable, functional and effective. The plans for more multistakeholder platform are in place but not yet effectively implemented due to organisational reasons - especially waiting for the establishment of the

				Centre of Natural Resources by 2015.
Development of environmental education emphasizing biological diversity, in cooperation with stakeholders	2012–2020	MEC, MEnv, MAF, MEE and stakeholders (i.e. Metsähallitus, Natural History Museums and Botanical Gardens, NGOs)	2-3	<p>The importance of environmental education and nature interpretation is constantly increasing in Metsähallitus Natural Heritage Services (NHS). Two new visitor centres focusing on these themes have been opened in the last two years. To strengthen the relationship between children and nature is one of our key goals.</p> <p>Liminka bay visitor centre, opened in April 2012, has nature interpretation as a major focus. It also functions as a national Ramsar Wetland Centre. The Wetland Centre's task is to increase awareness of the significance of the wetlands for biodiversity and people. The visitor centre is co managed by Metsähallitus NHS and Liminka municipality.</p> <p>In June 2013 the Finnish Nature Centre Haltia was opened. Haltia is a cutting edge interactive nature centre, which gathers the pearls of Finnish nature under the same roof. Haltia is the gateway to all Finnish National Parks. Haltia's Nature School provides inspiring programmes particularly for pupils in classes 5 – 9. The objective of the nature school day is to understand the concept and importance of biodiversity, to comprehend the reasons for the loss of species and fragmentation of habitats, species survival and functioning ecosystems, to be</p>

				captivated by nature and to understand that people are dependent on and part of nature.
Improvement of the Biodiversity.fi portal for national biodiversity indicators (including protected areas and ecosystem services)	2012-2020	MEnv, MAF, MEC	3	New indicators created and used in reporting e.g. for the Convention on Biological Diversity

Programme Element 4: Standards, assessment and monitoring

Action 7: Development of assessment and monitoring of protected areas

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Analysis of progress (0-4)*	Information on actions taken
Improvement of research cooperation in management of protected areas	2012-2020	MEnv, MEC, MAF, MEE	2-3	Progress with certain research sectors, e.g. restoration, local economic impact of nature tourism, health impacts
Implementation of monitoring and assessment systems for biodiversity information, status and trends, including protected areas	2012–2016–2020	MEnv, MAF, MEC, MEE	2-3	Progress in terrestrial and marine underwater inventories of PAs Status of habitats and species protected by the Habitats and Birds Directives and effectiveness of the Natura 2000 network assessed in 2013 Site condition assessment of Natura 2000 areas initiated 2010 and over 100 sites assessed until present
Development of information systems for biodiversity (species, habitats) and protected areas	2012-2015	MH, FEI	3	Several new GIS databases for information management and planning of protected areas developed 2009-2013. Include information on natural and cultural features, and also information on visitors and visitor impacts.
Implementation of Management Effectiveness Evaluation of protected areas	2012-2015-2020	MH	0	New reporting phase not yet started, next one planned for 2015

Action 8: Enhancement of work on a global level

Key steps	Timeline	Responsible parties	Analysis of progress (0-4)*	Information on actions taken
Implementation of the CBD Strategic Action Plan 2011-2020 in international cooperation to halt loss of biodiversity	2012–2016	MFA, MEnv, MAF	2	<p>MFA has implemented international projects:</p> <p>Peru: Protected areas in Atiquipa Lomas area and Tanzania: Greater Mahale Ecosystem (together 0.5 M€)</p> <p>MH Natural Heritage Services (NHS) is working as an active member in several major international NGOs in European and international level for nature conservation goals. Also cooperation with neighbouring countries though bi- and multilateral agreements and projects has been intensive. The cooperation within government PA agency level has been active and created number of projects with valuable outcomes for instance the project FOCA together with the National Parks of Colombia, funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, to develop the technical capacity of the National Parks of Colombia in order to strengthen the administration and management of protected areas in Colombia. In addition to CBD, NHS works closely with RAMSAR convention for its targets.</p>
Supporting actively biodiversity actions within United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Global Environment Facility (GEF)	2012–2016	MFA, MEnv	2	<p>Finland's contributions:</p> <p>UNEP Environment Fund: 2012 M€ 3,4</p>

				2013 M€ 3,4 IPBES 2013M€ 0,2 GEF for biodiversity: 2012 M€ 3,9 2013 M€ 3,9
Prioritising of cooperation projects that reduce poverty in developing countries through conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and maintenance of ecosystem services	2012–2016	MFA	2	Total funding for 78 projects for forest and water objective(s) having biodiversity component: 2012 M€ 32,8
Strengthening of cooperation and synergy between different environmental conventions at a national level, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in order to enhance the benefits for both biodiversity conservation and prevention and mitigation of and adaptation to climate change	2012–2016	MFA, MEnv, MAF	3	Total 2012 funding: 47 projects having biodiversity and climate and desertification components (synergy of 3 Rio Conventions) M€ 42,2; biodiversity and climate mitigation 106 projects M€ 82,1; BD and climate change adaptation 74 projects M€ 57,1; BD and combating desertification 81 projects M€ 70,0; BD+desertification+mitigation 76 projects M€ 68,6; BD+desertification+adaptation 49 projects M€ 43,5
Active participation in negotiations on environmental conventions and in implementation of conventions, such as CBD and especially its PoWPA and the Ramsar Convention	2012–2016	MFA, MEnv, MAF	3	Finland participates actively in the implementation of the Ramsar Convention as member of the Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period of 2013-2015: as member of the Subgroup on Finance (as former chair of the group),

				<p>as chair of the Subgroup on the Strategic Plan, as member of the Management Working Group and Transition Committee of the MWG, and as member of CEPA Oversight Panel. Finland was member of the Ramsar Standing Committee also in the period of 2009-2012.</p> <p>Finland participates actively in the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on the Biological Diversity with a delegation formed by government and indigenous Saami representatives</p> <p>Finland participates actively in the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) as well as the related COPs of the Convention on Biological Diversity</p>
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