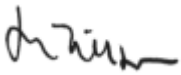


Please provide to following details on the origin of this report

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Submission	
Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report:	
Date of submission:	23 May 2001

Please provide summary information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on the types of stakeholders who have been actively involved in its preparation and on material which was used as a basis for the report

The report was produced by Gordon Patterson, the Senior Adviser Biodiversity in the Forestry Commission. It was prepared based on information gained from a number of national initiatives. Although stakeholders were not directly involved in the preparation of the report a wide range of stakeholders are actively involved in the national initiatives on which the report is based.

Decision IV/7 on Forest biological Diversity

1. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this decision by your country?							
a) High		b) Medium		x		c) Low	
2. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?							
a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	x	d) Severely limiting	

3. Has your country assessed the status and trends of its forest biological diversity and identified options for its conservation and sustainable use? (Decision IV/7, paragraph 12)	
a) no	
b) assessment underway (please give details below)	x
c) assessment completed (please give details below)	
d) not relevant	

<i>If a developing country Party or a Party with economy in transition -</i>	
4. Has your country requested assistance through the financial mechanism for projects that promote the implementation of the focused work programme on forest biological diversity? (Decision IV/7, paragraph 7)	
a) no	
b) yes (please give details below)	

Programme element 1: Holistic and inter-sectoral ecosystem approaches that integrate the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking account of social and cultural and economic considerations

5. Has your country identified methodologies for enhancing the integration of forest biological diversity conservation and sustainable use into an holistic approach to sustainable forest management at the national level? (Work Programme, paragraph 13)	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	x
d) not applicable	
6. Has your country developed methodologies to advance the integration of traditional forest-related knowledge into sustainable forest management, in accordance with Article 8(j)? (Work Programme, paragraph 14)	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	
d) not applicable	x
7. Has your country promoted cooperation on the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological resources at all levels in accordance with Articles 5 and 16 of the Convention? (Work Programme, paragraph 15)	

a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	x
d) not applicable	
8. Has your country promoted the sharing of relevant technical and scientific information on networks at all levels of protected forest areas and networking modalities in all types of forest ecosystems? (Work Programme, paragraph 17)	
a) no	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	x
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	
d) not applicable	

Programme element 2: Comprehensive analysis of the ways in which human activities, in particular forest-management practices, influence biological diversity and assessment of ways to minimize or mitigate negative influences

9. Has your country promoted activities for an enhanced understanding of positive and negative human influences on forest ecosystems by land-use managers, policy makers, scientists and other relevant stakeholders) (Work Programme, paragraph 29)	
a) minimal activity	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	x
d) not relevant	
10. Has your country promoted activities to assemble management experiences and scientific, indigenous and local information at the national and local levels to provide for the sharing of approaches and tools that lead to improved forest practices with regard to forest biological diversity? (Work Programme, paragraph 30)	
a) minimal activity	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	x
d) not relevant	
11. Has your country promoted activities with the aim of providing options to minimize or mitigate negative and to promote positive human influences on forest biological diversity? (Work Programme, paragraph 31)	
a) minimal activity	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	x
d) not relevant	

12. Has your country promoted activities to minimize the impact of harmful alien species on forest biological diversity? (Work Programme, paragraph 32)	
a) minimal activity	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	x
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	
d) not relevant	
13. Has your country identified means and mechanisms to improve the identification and prioritisation of research activities related to influences of human activities, in particular forest management practices, on forest biological diversity? (Work Programme, paragraph 33)	
a) minimal activity	
b) yes - limited extent (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant extent (please give details below)	x
d) not relevant	
14. Does your country hold research results and syntheses of reports of relevant scientific and traditional knowledge on key forest biological diversity issues and, if so, have these been disseminated as widely as possible? (Work Programme, paragraph 34)	
a) not relevant	
b) some relevant material, but not widely disseminated	
c) significant material that could be more widely disseminated (please give details below)	x
d) yes - already widely disseminated (please give details below)	
15. Has your country prepared case-studies on assessing impacts of fires and alien species on forest biological diversity and their influences on the management of forest ecosystems and savannahs? (Work Programme, paragraph 35)	
a) no - please indicate below whether this is due to a lack of available case-studies or for other reasons	x
b) yes - please give below any views you may have on the usefulness of the preparation of case-studies for developing a better biological understanding of the problem and/or better management responses.	

Programme element 3: Methodologies necessary to advance the elaboration and implementation of criteria and indicators for forest biological diversity

16. Has your country assessed experiences gained in national and regional processes, identifying common elements and gaps in existing initiatives and improving indicators for forest biological diversity? (Work Programme, paragraph 43)	
a) minimal activity	
b) yes - limited assessment made (please give details below)	x
c) yes - significant assessment made (please give details below)	
d) not relevant	

17. Has your country carried out taxonomic studies and inventories at the national level which provide for a basic assessment of forest biological diversity? (Work Programme, paragraph 43)	
a) minimal activity	
b) yes - limited assessment made (please give details below)	
c) yes - significant assessment made (please give details below)	x
d) not relevant	

If you have ticked any of the boxes in questions 5 to 17 above which invite you to provide further details, please do so here.

(Information can include descriptions of methodologies and of activities undertaken, reasons for success or failure, outcomes and lessons learned)

Q1. Medium priority only in the sense that many actions are also driven by other global and regional processes such as the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Ministerial Conferences on the Protection of Forests in Europe, although the UK Biodiversity Action Plan is also a key driver.

Q2. Adequate resources exist for research actions over practical timescales. Implementation of action programmes on the ground is limited by resources.

Q3. Assessment of status and trends is well advanced in some categories such as forest area, natural forest area and some species of trees, shrubs flora and fauna. However ecosystem quality is not well enough assessed yet and status and trend for many species especially lower plants and invertebrates are only superficially known.

Options for conservation and sustainable use are quite well understood at stand and woodland scale but not yet the larger scale land use interactions.

Q5. Policies, guidelines and technical guidance are well developed. Still more to be done to develop forest and land use planning at larger spatial scales.

Q7. The UK Biodiversity Action Plan has been developed as the main mechanism to engender co-operation. Government, land managers, NGOs, and business to a lesser extent have collaborated to agree and start to implement targeted action plans for priority habitats and species and at national regional and local scales for cross-sectoral action for biodiversity(all types not just forest).

Q8. Participated in European programmes on classifying protected areas and an inventory of strictly protected forest research reserves. An evaluation of forest protected areas and protective mechanisms in UK has been carried out and we will run a workshop to discuss recommended improvements.

Q9. As well as an existing forest biological diversity research programme, a cross-cutting multi-sectoral research agenda is being developed in UK as a result of a two year series of workshops and consultancy review. This covers the direct and indirect influences of policies and trends such as climate change and also socio-economic issues.

Q10. Guidelines are developed following extensive consultation with stakeholder groups. Methodologies are being developed to consult and involve local communities in decision-making. Forest planning in state sector and private sector requires consultation procedures, which are promoted and supported by national funding. Environmental Assessment has been implemented to meet the relevant EU Directive.

Q11. Research programmes into re-forestation of former forest lands in ways to enhance FBD and also into restoring degraded natural woodlands which had been converted to plantations of exotic species. Also research on alternative silvicultural systems to clear-felling is underway, as well as a wide variety of projects to mitigate impacts of operations such as harvesting and road-building.

Q12. Considerable work has been carried out on reducing the impacts of existing introduced species which impact on forests notably grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) and muntjac and sika deer (*Muntiacus reevesi* and *Cervus nippon*). A policy review is about to start on all implications of alien species for biodiversity in the UK.

Q13. As per Q9; the workshops are generating a set of priorities for research.

Q14. We produce a wide range of types of publication and some computerised decision support tools. However there is not yet a single repository of these or a system to guide users to the information they need. The state forest service has published an online search facility to allow users to locate publications by keyword, and a cross-sectoral government search facility is under development for publicly available government information.

Q15. Not prioritised. Case study for alien species will be part of the review mentioned in Q12.

Q16. We are currently reviewing national indicators in the light of experience since publication in 1998 of the UK Forestry Standard and experience of the MCPFE set of C&I.

Q17. Good taxonomic tradition and a lot of inventory information without a strong enough system to collate it. Current efforts are being focussed on developing a National Biodiversity Network for all aspects of UK Biodiversity to support inventory and monitoring.