



# Transboundary conservation for biodiversity and peace

**Trevor Sandwith**  
**IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme**  
**13 December 2016**

**Transboundary conservation is a process of cooperation to achieve conservation goals across one or more international boundaries**

Source:

Vasilijević, M., Zunckel, K., McKinney, M., Erg, B., Schoon, M., Rosen Michel, T. (2015). *Transboundary Conservation: A systematic and integrated approach*. Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 23, Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. Page xi



# A range of objectives

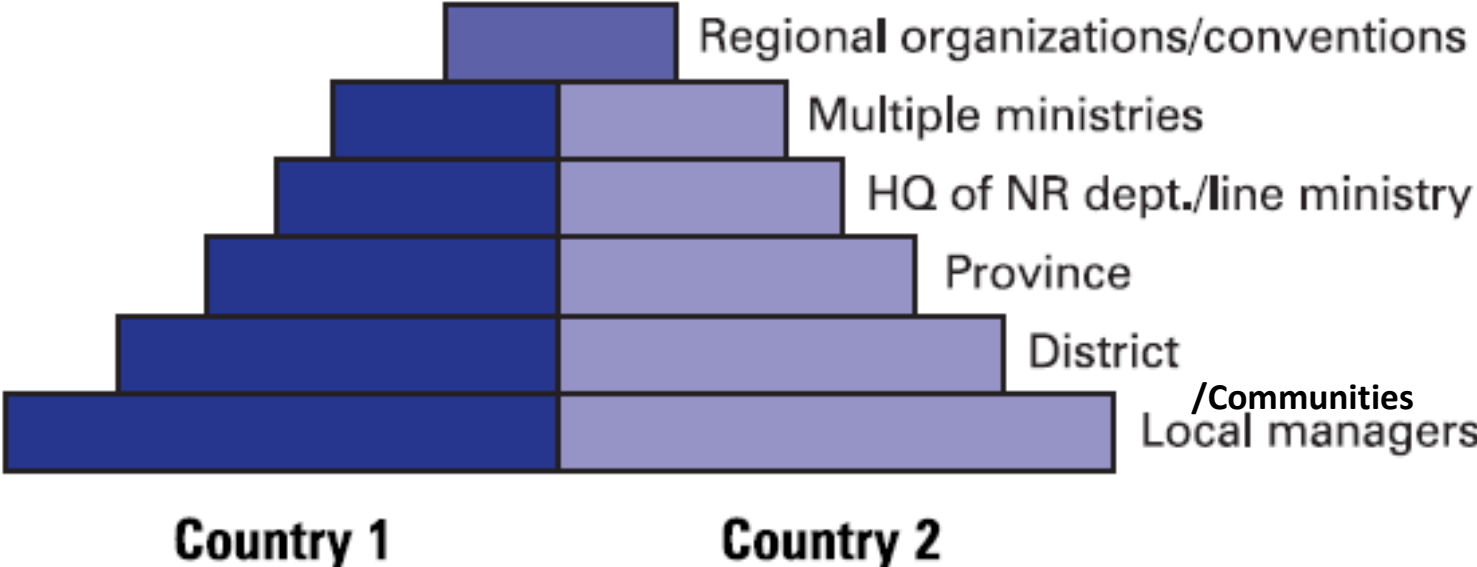
- Biodiversity conservation
- Cultural heritage and exchange
- Community ties and traditions
- International cooperation
- Fostering peace and security
- Promotion of sustainable development
- Regional economic integration
- Restitution of land tenure and rights
- Local economic development
- Poverty alleviation



# Examples from all around the world



# Involving all levels of authority



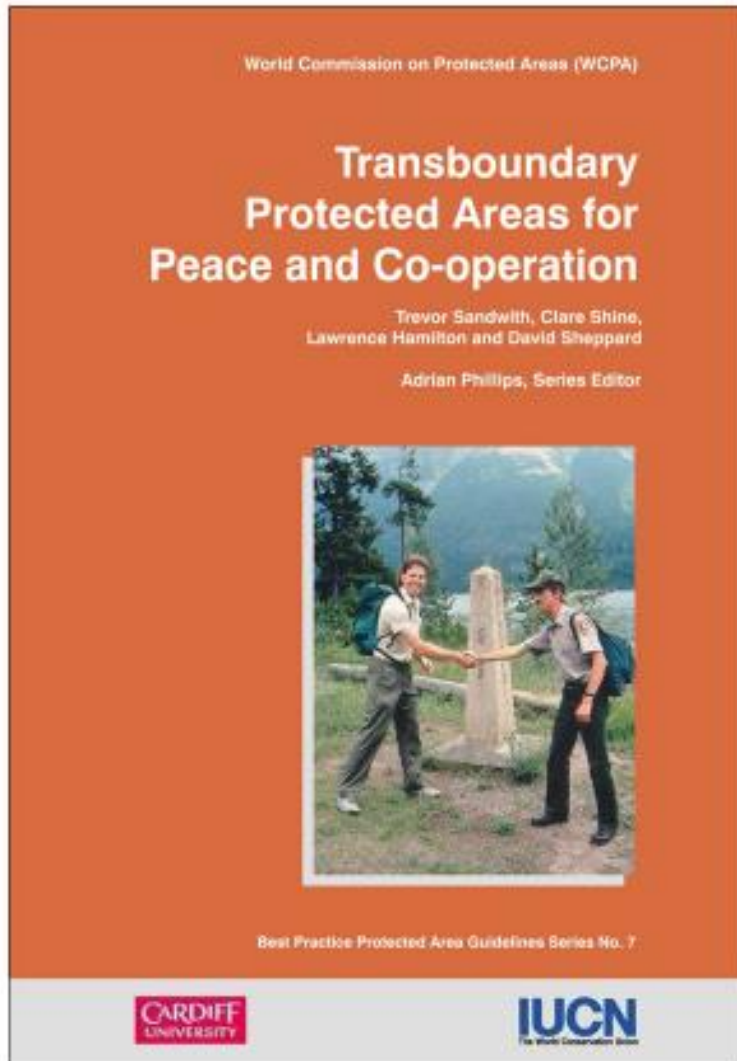
# Different levels of cooperation

| Model of cooperation                        | Example  |
|---|--|
| <b>Communication or Information sharing</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regular communication on actions, problems, opportunities or other relevant issues</li><li>• Regular sharing of information, e.g. notifying about various management actions in a particular site</li></ul>  |
| <b>Consultation</b>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seeking opinion, feedback or advice from each other, e.g. on how to solve a problem, how to improve a management action, etc.</li><li>• Cooperative process with the aim to harmonise management</li></ul>   |
| <b>Coordinated action</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jointly coordinated management actions implemented within the sovereign areas of each other party, that contribute to the conservation goals of the entire transboundary ecosystem, e.g. monitoring of species and ecological processes occurs as regular activity where the results contribute to conservation of species or ecosystems</li><li>• This model is considered to be a form of cooperative management</li></ul> |
| <b>Joint implementation of decisions</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jointly coordinated and implemented management actions across the sovereign boundaries, e.g. joint law enforcement patrols, joint fundraising and project implementation, the producing of marketing material that profiles the TBCA as a single entity, etc.</li><li>• This model is considered to be a form of cooperative management</li></ul>  |

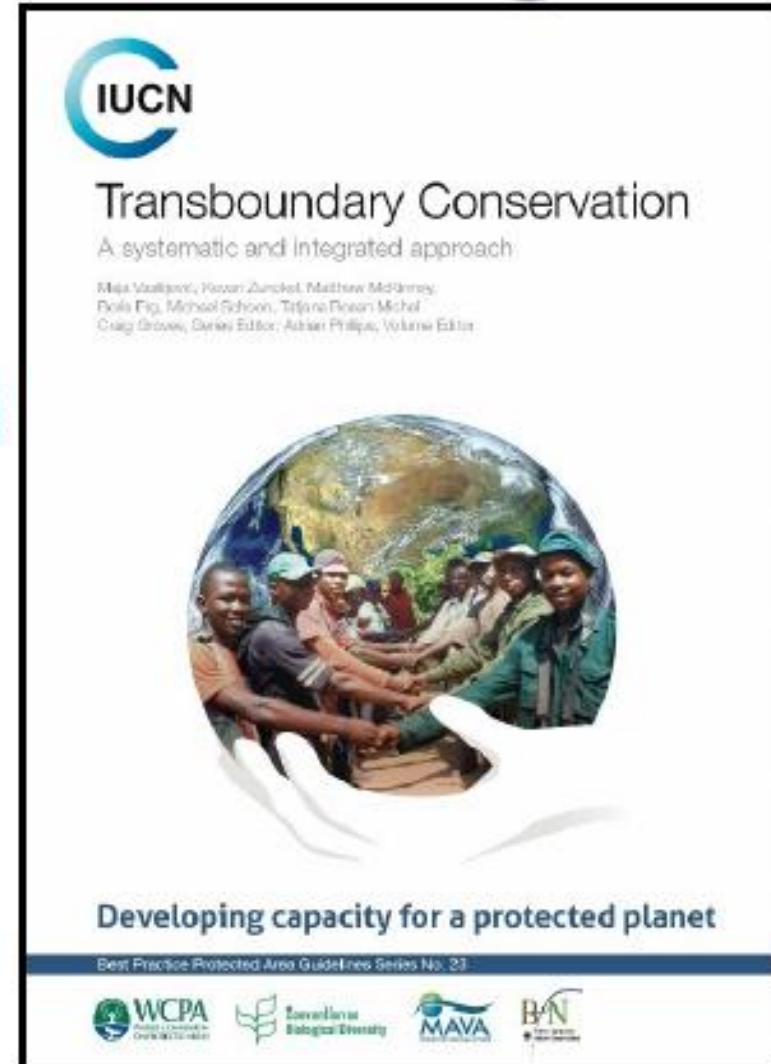
# Several instruments for achieving agreement

- **Transboundary World Heritage Sites (World Heritage Convention, UNESCO)**
- **Transboundary Biosphere Reserves (Man and the Biosphere Programme, UNESCO)**
- **Transboundary flyways and migration routes (Bonn Convention, Ramsar Convention)**
- **Regional agreements (SADC, ASEAN)**
- **Bilateral or multilateral treaties**
- **Memoranda of Understanding between countries**

# Best Practice Guidelines



Revised,  
updated and  
expanded

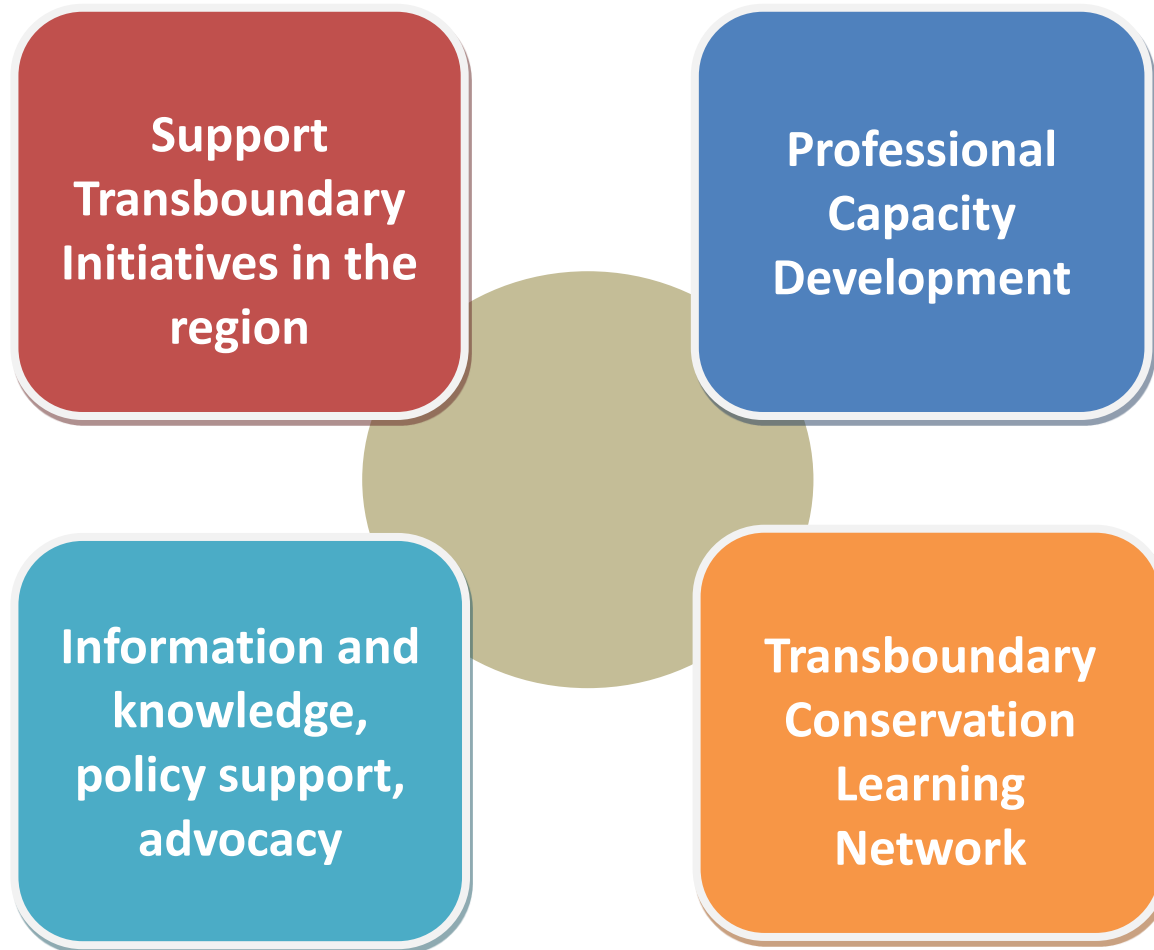




# Transboundary connectivity

1. The world's relatively well-developed systems of **protected areas** can serve as examples of how to address connectivity issues, building ecological networks and applying the ecosystem approach at the landscape level;
2. **Transboundary** protected areas and conservation (at the national and sub-national level) provide a great opportunity to enhance participatory conservation strategies across nations, meaningful at the landscape level;
3. Transboundary protected areas and **connectivity conservation** offer an opportunity to manage landscapes at different scales through alliances between governments and the civil society;
4. **Transboundary cooperation** is especially relevant when dealing with connectivity conservation; and
5. **Connectivity conservation** is a practical and useful framework to achieve Aichi targets at the national and regional level.

# Regional knowledge exchange





IUCN  
World  
Conservation  
Congress  
Hawai'i 2016

Planet at the crossroads

1-10 September 2016, Hawai'i

WHY ATTEND

PROGRAMME

TAKE PART

HAWAI'I

## 036 - Transboundary cooperation and protected areas

*adopted through electronic ballot prior to Congress*

NOTING that many areas of high biodiversity value straddle international borders and that transboundary conservation initiatives have been expanding over recent years;

ACKNOWLEDGING the fact that transboundary cooperation to achieve conservation goals across international boundaries has the capacity to deliver multiple objectives, including enhanced nature conservation outcomes, ecological sustainability, enhanced ability to respond to climate change, sustainable socio-economic development, and the promotion of peace;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the fact that cooperative frameworks supported by transboundary conservation processes may be used as a platform for peace building and international collaboration in times of climate change and political instability, involving local communities, indigenous peoples, protected area staff, conservation officials, civil society, and scientists;

RECOGNISING the fundamental role played by protected areas in the provision of ecosystem services for the development of economic activities and the promotion of regional connectivity (including across international borders) and the importance of their effectiveness in

- **Support transboundary initiatives through thematic and regional programmes, emphasizing capacity development**
- **Facilitate the establishment of a Global Platform for Transboundary Conservation**
- **Develop and maintain a comprehensive global inventory**
- **Establish a legal resource centre**
- **Foster transboundary cooperation at bilateral and multilateral scales**
- **Strengthen existing transboundary cooperation mechanisms**
- **Encourage cooperation and exchange of knowledge and best practices**



SALZBURG  
GLOBAL  
SEMINAR



SESSION PARTNERS



PARKS FOR THE PLANET FORUM

# The Next Frontier: Transboundary Conservation for Biodiversity and Peace



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION  
*An agency of the Aga Khan Development Network*





**MINISTERIUM  
FÜR EIN  
LEBENSWEERTES  
ÖSTERREICH**







# Nationalpark<sup>®</sup> Hohe Tauern







SALZBURG  
GLOBAL  
SEMINAR



# The Salzburg Statement for Transboundary Cooperation for Biodiversity and Peace

## A CALL TO ACTION

**Our planet's natural environment is free of borders.** For millennia people benefited from free access to nature and its seemingly unlimited resources. Today, such resources are divided by lines on a map and increasingly scarce.

Many transboundary areas around the world share major ecosystems, high levels of biodiversity, and a rich cultural, spiritual and historical heritage. Well-designed conservation initiatives have unique value as a mechanism to restore ecosystem function and integrity, increase economic opportunities, unite divided communities, and rebuild trust between nations and peoples.



Our vision is of a world where transboundary cooperation **fosters trust** among sovereign nations to **overcome ideological, political, cultural and historical barriers**, tackle conflict over natural resources, **reduce migration pressures**, and **promote human well-being**.

We seek to build a global network of outstanding transboundary initiatives that demonstrate the power of shared approaches to advance conservation and development, strengthen resilience and combat climate change.

## Catalytic Actions

Transboundary conservation areas are incubators for regional economic integration and political cooperation. The following practices and policies, consistent with the rule of law, can positively influence regional contexts and expand collaboration.

### SHARE AND COMMUNICATE

- Compile and disseminate evidence demonstrating the multiple benefits of transboundary conservation and governance: to conserve biodiversity; promote sustainable livelihoods; transform conflict and mitigate crime; combat environmental degradation and climate change; and reduce negative impacts of human displacement.
- Communicate these benefits across sectors to decision-makers and the general public, using diverse communication channels and innovative educational approaches.
- Enhance learning networks to better understand when, how and why transboundary conservation works best; capture solutions accessible to decision makers and practitioners e.g. through [www.panorama.solutions](http://www.panorama.solutions) and other communities of practice.

**Compile and disseminate evidence demonstrating the multiple benefits of transboundary conservation and governance: to conserve biodiversity; promote sustainable livelihoods; transform conflict and mitigate crime; combat environmental degradation and climate change; and reduce negative impacts of human displacement.**

## **TRANSCEND BARRIERS, FEARS AND DOUBTS**

- Address fears and mistrust linked to asymmetries in power and other factors of division, using transboundary landscape approaches to build social justice, broad-based economic development, and ecological stewardship and to incubate an ethic of engagement across sovereign borders.
- Listen and learn from communities to understand shared cultural values and address problems in mutually beneficial ways.
- Confront and help solve hard issues of cross-border illegal trade and insecurity: constructive engagement can achieve more than building fences.
- Streamline and harmonize regulations and bureaucratic processes that block cooperation.
- Link transboundary initiatives on a regional and global level to enhance spatial and sectoral connectivity.

**Address fears and mistrust linked to asymmetries in power and other factors of division, using transboundary landscape approaches to build social justice, broad-based economic development, and ecological stewardship and to incubate an ethic of engagement across sovereign borders.**



## **SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE AT SCALE**

- Recognize that transboundary linkages need to go hand-in-hand with better collaboration between ministries within countries.
- Incorporate transboundary conservation into existing regional economic integration and development programs.
- Promote private sector investments and social enterprise in transboundary conservation areas to create jobs in the green economy and tourism.
- Create new and expand existing transboundary conservation areas in accordance with global environment and development priorities.
- Expand incentives up- and downstream to sustain landscape/ecosystem services and support species conservation and ecological restoration.
- Engage humanitarian and security stakeholders in transboundary conservation strategies to prevent or resolve conflict, control crimes related to biological resource degradation, and alleviate migration pressures.
- Connect transboundary conservation initiatives to the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030 as viable mechanisms to achieve key targets.

**Engage humanitarian and security stakeholders in transboundary conservation strategies to prevent or resolve conflict, control crimes related to biological resource degradation, and alleviate migration pressures.**

# PANORAMA

SOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHY PLANET



**giz**

On behalf of:



Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,  
Building and Nuclear Safety

of the Federal Republic of Germany





# New PANORAMA platform and partnership

IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016

[Read More](#)

# Explore applied solutions from around the globe

PANORAMA is a partnership promoting examples of inspiring, replicable solutions across a range of conservation and development topics, to enable cross-sectoral learning and upscaling of successes.

[Read More](#)



## Thematic Portals

PANORAMA promotes cross-sectoral learning. Explore solutions from various topics in the thematic portals!



## Explore Solutions

Find out how you can leverage others' success stories to address challenges in YOUR work.



## Contribute Solutions

What have YOU done that worked? Share your inspiring solution!



# PANORAMA

SOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHY PLANET

An inclusive, growing partnership so far >250 solution providers, incl.:



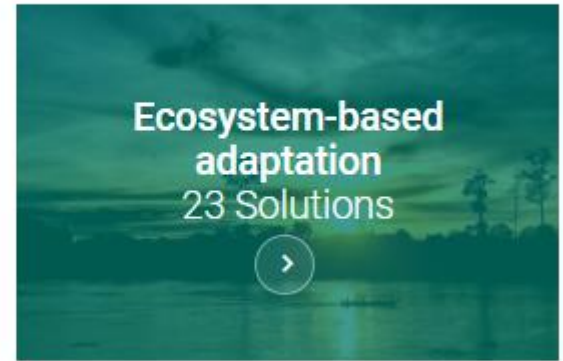
## Current Thematic Portals



Hosted by



Hosted by



Hosted by



## Managing Partners



## Development Partners

On behalf of:



of the Federal Republic of Germany



Snapshot Solution

Protected areas

European Park Maritime-Mercantour: how long term transboundary conservation can lead to a juridical common management structure

by **Patrizia Rossi**  
private

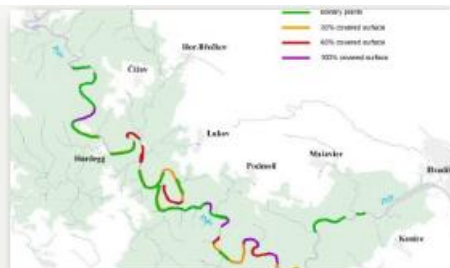


Full Solution

Protected areas

Good Water Neighbors: Rehabilitating the Jordan River through transboundary cooperation

by **Marina Djernaes**  
EcoPeace's Center for Water Security



Full Solution

Protected areas

Transboundary cooperation for the removal of an invasive river plant

by **Lenka Reiterová**  
Podyjí National Park

**Location**  
Podyjí National Park, Podmolí,



Full Solution

Protected areas

Promotion of transboundary nature protection and sustainable nature tourism

by **Riina Tervo**  
Metsähallitus, Parks & Wildlife  
Finland





PARQUE NACIONAL  
MIRADOR - RIO AZUL

# Solution in focus

Protected areas

Transboundary conservation in the Selva Maya  
through park ranger exchanges

by Rudy Herrera  
GIZ

[Read More](#)

## Building blocks

Transboundary exchange to define common activities

Transboundary conservation in the Selva Maya through park ranger exchanges

Regular review of the Annual Operative Plan (AOP)

Transboundary conservation in the Selva Maya through park ranger exchanges

Transboundary exchange workshops and training for rangers

Transboundary conservation in the Selva Maya through park ranger exchanges

Transnational institutional working group

Transboundary conservation in the Selva Maya through park ranger exchanges



# Transboundary exchange to define common activities

Due to the multiple threats to the integrity of the ecosystems that are shared between Guatemala and Mexico, directors and rangers of the institutions responsible for the administration, management and protection of the respective protected areas decide to carry out exchanges. These exchanges serve to define activities that contribute to reducing existing threats. As a result of the exchanges, the implementation of binational management and conservation strategies are continuously defined in a strategic plan for control and collaborative monitoring, aimed at, among others, minimizing the illegal trafficking of flora, fauna and archaeological remnants.



IUCN  
World  
Conservation  
Congress  
Hawaii 2016



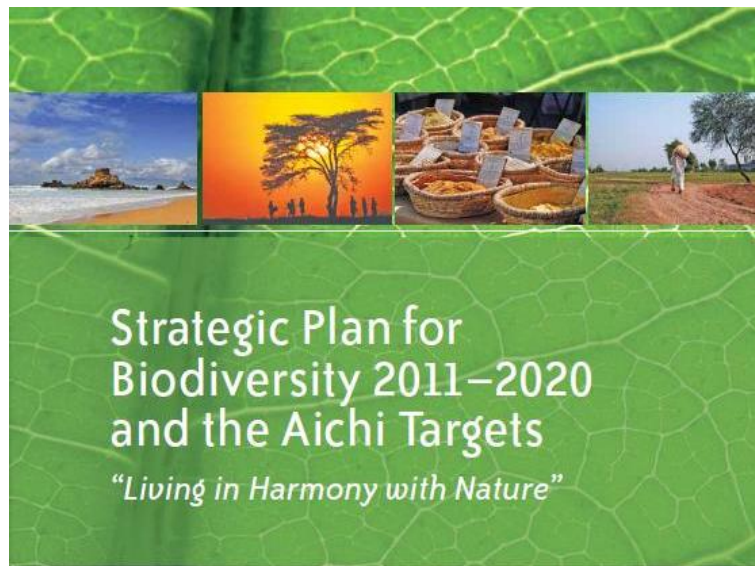
# Accelerating achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

## The Promise of Sydney Journey



# Journey

*Delivering the Promise of Sydney*



Strategic Plan for  
Biodiversity 2011–2020  
and the Aichi Targets  
*“Living in Harmony with Nature”*