

## Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (Agenda Item 3.2)

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### Recommendations

#### IUCN recommends that:

- √ Parties, other governments and organizations further **support** implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation by:
  - developing national and/or regional strategies;
  - considering activities for enhanced achievement of the targets and provide additional information on progress towards all targets;
  - supporting the identification of tools for the exchange of information and capacity building; in particular, supporting development of a toolkit, that describes *inter alia* tools and experiences that can help enhance national, subregional and regional implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation;
  - calling on donor countries to support the development of capacity-building, technology transfer, and financial support programmes to assist developing countries, in particular, least developed countries, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and countries with economies in transition, to effectively implement the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation;
  - nominating focal points for Strategy implementation, in cases where these positions have not yet been identified.
  
- √ Parties **contribute** towards achieving target 2 as well as target 5 of the Global Strategy of Plant Conservation by:
  - assessing plant species according to IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (Version 3.1); or
  - conducting a preliminary assessment using RapidList; or
  - utilizing national or regional assessment using the Guidelines for Application of IUCN Red list Criteria at Regional Levels (Version 3.0).

IUCN remains highly committed to the achievement of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and commends all Parties and supporting organizations that have made good progress on achieving targets 5, 8, 9, 11, and 14. In particular, IUCN wishes to take this opportunity to express its appreciation to Botanic Gardens Conservation International for the secondment of a Programme Officer to the Secretariat of the Convention to support the implementation of the Strategy. IUCN also notes that many capacity building activities have taken place and are ongoing. However, IUCN also acknowledges that progress on other targets has been slow and limited while awaiting results from an in-depth review and an ongoing consultation process with stakeholders to build consensus before moving forward.

IUCN welcomes and supports Recommendation SBSTTA XII/2 and wishes to reiterate and reinforce its support to the review of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the development of its activities beyond 2010. IUCN urges that any recommendations from the review should be designed and proposed in line with current action, especially capacity building efforts. In addition, IUCN strongly supports the recommendation that emerging issues of global environmental change, namely, the impact of climate change and nutrient loading be addressed through the existing targets.

## Ongoing implementation of the Strategy

While awaiting the results of this review, IUCN believes that a number of actions can be undertaken by Parties to further implementation of the Strategy.

### IUCN recommends that:

- √ Parties, other governments and organizations further **support** implementation of the Strategy by:
  - developing national and/or regional strategies;
  - considering activities for enhanced achievement of the targets and provide additional information on progress towards all targets;
  - supporting, also, the identification of tools for the exchange of information and capacity building; in particular, support development of a toolkit, that describes *inter alia* tools and experiences that can help enhance national, subregional and

- regional implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation;
- calling on donor countries to support the development of capacity-building, technology transfer, and financial support programmes to assist developing countries, in particular, least developed countries, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and countries with economies in transition, to effectively implement the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation;
- nominating focal points, in cases where these positions have not yet been identified.

IUCN welcomes the concept of a “Plant Conservation Report” to which it has made a contribution, and expresses appreciation to the Executive Secretary of the CBD Secretariat, the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation, UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre, and other relevant organizations, Parties, Governments and stakeholders for delivering this report at COP9.

## Implementing Target 2

In 2002, IUCN was asked by the CBD to take a lead in helping to facilitate implementation of target 2: *A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.* IUCN is pleased to report that it has significantly increased its efforts to support work to achieve this target.

Among these efforts, IUCN has developed the following tools to contribute to the achievement of target 2 as well as other targets:

- 1) **Full conservation assessments of plant species:** for publication on the [IUCN Red List of Threatened Species](http://www.iucnredlist.org)™. [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)
- 2) **Preliminary conservation assessments of plant species:** RapidList, a new tool to conduct preliminary assessments of plants, has been developed and presented at SBSTTA, in July 2007. Several hundred plants have been preliminarily assessed using [RapidList](http://www.iucnsis.org). The tool is now freely available in French and Spanish at the following internet address: [www.iucnsis.org](http://www.iucnsis.org) Please note that RapidList is also a tool to achieve target 3: *Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.*

### 3) National and regional conservation assessments

A vast amount of information exists on the conservation status of plant species at national and regional levels, which constitutes a significant contribution to target 2. Some assessments have been carried out using the IUCN system of Categories and Criteria. All these assessments constitute valuable information.

IUCN is carrying out a comprehensive compilation of this information, as a follow up to the IUCN-led consultation in 2003 on progress towards achieving target 2. Initial results of this ongoing consultation are presented at COP9. Parties are urged to contribute further information to the process.

#### **IUCN recommends that:**

- √ Parties **contribute** towards achieving target 2 as well as target 5 by:
  - assessing plant species according to IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (Version 3.1); or
  - conducting a preliminary assessment using RapidList; or
  - utilizing national or regional assessment using the Guidelines for Application of IUCN Red list Criteria at Regional Levels (Version 3.0).