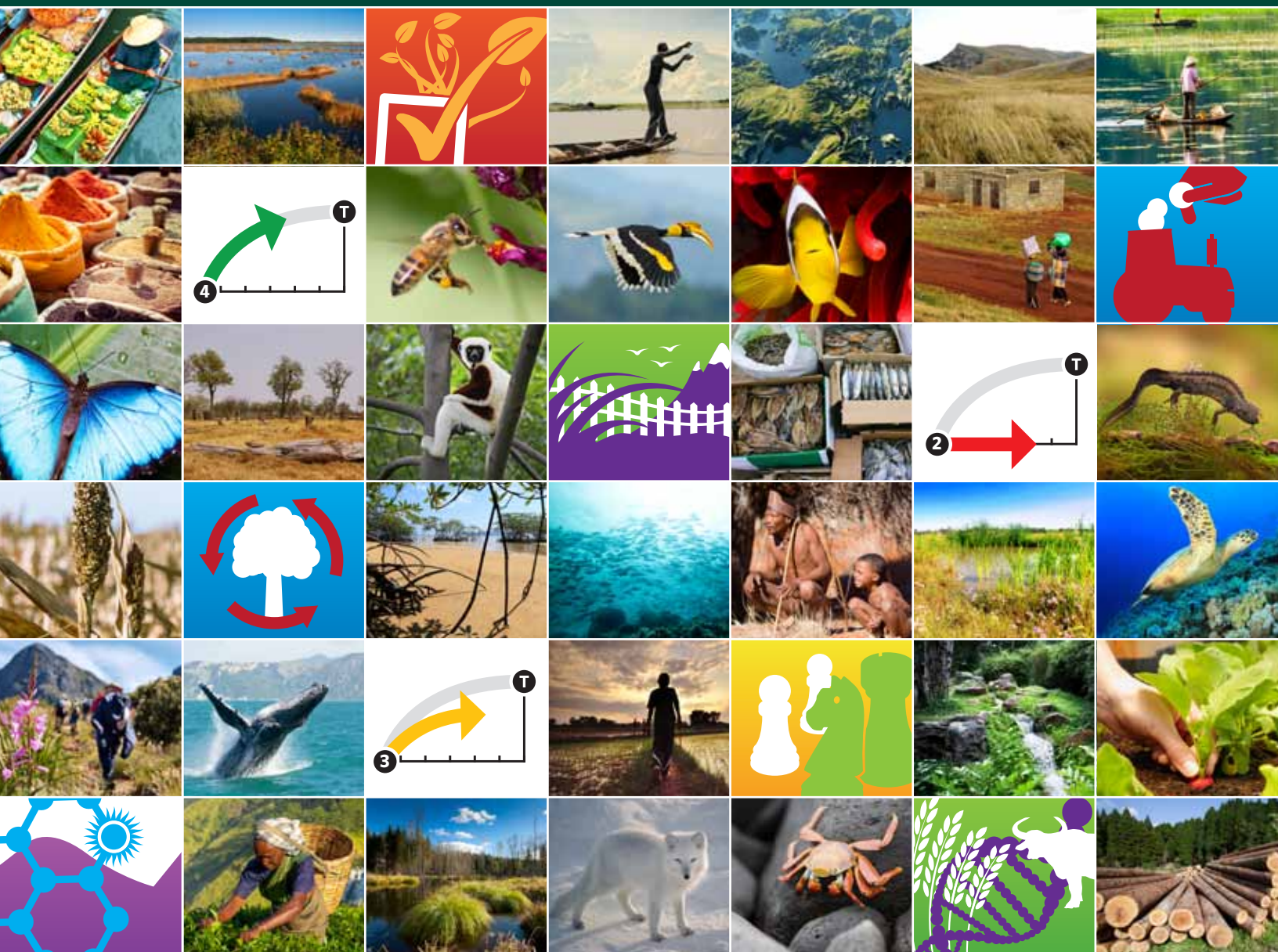


Global Biodiversity Outlook 4

A mid-term assessment of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020



Convention on
Biological Diversity



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GBO-4 has been prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity with the support of the GBO-4 Advisory Group and the SBSTTA Bureau, and in close collaboration with numerous partner organizations and individuals from Governments, non-governmental organizations and scientific networks that have generously contributed their time, energy and expertise to the preparation of GBO-4. As such GBO-4 is a product of the collective efforts of this community. The sheer number of organizations and people involved in GBO-4 makes it difficult to thank all contributors by name and doing so runs the risk that some may be overlooked. We sincerely apologize to anyone who may have been unintentionally omitted.

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While the Secretariat has taken great care to ensure that all statements made in GBO-4 are backed up by credible scientific evidence, it assumes full responsibility for any errors or omission in this work.

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Table of Contents

Forewords

Secretary General	6
Executive Director	7
Executive Secretary	8

Executive Summary

Background.....	10
Summary of progress and key actions related to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020	11
The way forward.....	17
Target ‘dashboard’—A summary of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, broken down into their components	18

Part I: Introduction

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–20 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets	24
About GBO-4	26

Part II: Evaluation of Progress Towards the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Strategic Goal A.....	30
Strategic Goal B.....	48
Strategic Goal C.....	80
Strategic Goal D	94
Strategic Goal E.....	108

Part III: Synthesis

Summary of progress towards the goals of the strategic plan and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.....	128
Interactions among the Aichi Biodiversity Targets	132
Achievement of the 2050 vision for biodiversity	134
Contribution to the Millennium Goals and the post-2015 development agenda	140

Conclusions	143
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Notes	144
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Forewords

The international community is increasingly aware of the link between biodiversity and sustainable development. More and more people realize that the variety of life on this planet, its ecosystems and their impacts form the basis for our shared wealth, health and well-being.

This positive trend must be expanded as part of our efforts to counter worrying evidence of biodiversity loss, which has its greatest impact on the poor and ultimately affects all societies and economies.

During the first years of the 2011–2020 United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity made great strides in addressing loss. Still, much more action is needed to meet the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

This Global Biodiversity Outlook 4 demonstrates that with concerted efforts at all levels, we can achieve the goals and targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020. Success will signifi-



This is all the more important at this critical time, as the world intensifies action to meet the Millennium Development Goals, craft a successor agenda for sustainable development, and adopt a meaningful legal climate change agreement—all by the year 2015.

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