



LIFE IN HARMONY, INTO THE FUTURE

**Convention on Biological Diversity COP 10
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety MOP 5**

**October 2010
Aichi-Nagoya, Japan**



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

BIODIVERSITY

Benefits and Crisis

Humankind has enjoyed a wide range of benefits through the use of Earth's biologically diverse ecosystems. In recent years, however, population growth and technological progress have expanded human activity, causing the fragmentation and destruction of ecosystems. This crisis in biodiversity threatens the basis for human well-being.

Human Well-being

- Security and safety
- Basic goods
- Health, etc.

Cultural Services

People have gained spiritual and religious values from ecosystems. For example, in indigenous societies, cultural identities are often tied closely to particular habitats or wildlife.

Ecosystem Services

Provisioning Services

Basic goods essential for human life, such as food, fresh water, wood, fiber and medicines, are provided by sound ecosystems.

Regulating Services

Safe and secure conditions for human life are maintained through the functions of ecosystems that regulate air quality and water flow, preventing excessive exposure, floods and other disasters.

Biodiversity in Crisis

Habitat Change

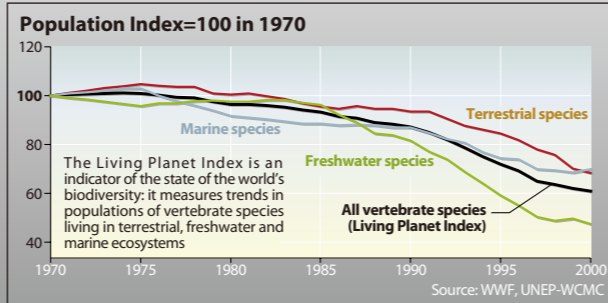
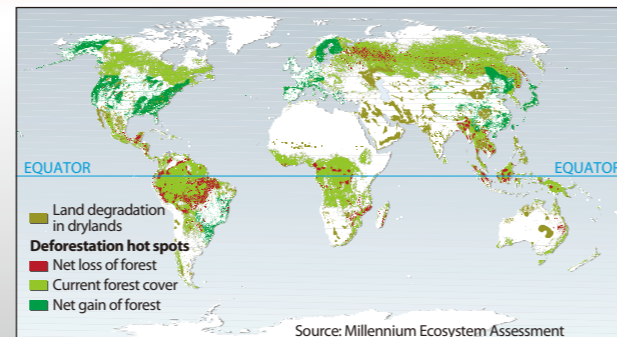
Forests and grassland are shrinking due to conversion to agriculture, drawing of water for irrigation and leaching of nutrients, etc. This is causing the deterioration of natural habitats.

Pollution

Excessive flows of nitrogen compound fertilizers and phosphoric acid into fresh water or the sea in coastal areas contribute to eutrophication, resulting in deteriorating quality of water.

Climate Change

Increasing earth surface temperatures and rising sea levels threaten numerous species with extinction, and the risk of disease outbreaks and negative impact on agriculture are predicted.



Reference: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005.

THE NEED FOR ACTION

Degradation in ecosystems could most harmfully hit poor people whose lives directly depend on ecosystem services, and irreversible damage would permanently deprive humankind of their potential benefits. To allocate the benefits of ecosystems equitably among all people in the world and pass them on to future generations, we must take actions immediately to prevent the degradation of ecosystems.

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

For the Present and Future Generations

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is the most effective framework for global society to take actions to conserve biodiversity.

Its objectives are: (1) conservation of biodiversity, (2) sustainable use of its components and (3) sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. The CBD entered into force in 1993 and today, 192 states and the European Community are Parties to the Convention.

ACTIONS REQUIRED OF PARTIES

(1) Conservation of biological diversity

- Designate and manage protected areas
- Regulate or manage biological resources
- Adopt measures for ex-situ conservation

(2) Sustainable use of the components of biodiversity

- Integrate consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making
- Adopt measures relating to the use of biological resources to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity

(3) Fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources

- Recognize sovereign rights of states over genetic resources
- Make access to these resources subject to prior informed consent (PIC) and mutually agreed terms (MAT)
- Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of these resources

(4) National strategies, plans or programmes and reporting

- Develop national strategies, plans or programmes
- Present regular reports on measures taken and their effectiveness

PROGRESS TO DATE

(1) Measures taken toward the CBD objectives

At the sixth Conference of the Parties (2002), the Parties committed themselves to "the 2010 Biodiversity Target," to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss.

(2) Access and benefit-sharing

At the fifth Conference of the Parties (2000), the Parties established the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS). The sixth Conference of the Parties (2002) adopted the voluntary Bonn Guidelines. In September 2002, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Summit), agreement was reached on launching negotiations on an international ABS Regime.

(3) The Cartagena Protocol

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety entered into force in 2003. This protocol defines procedures for reaching advance informed agreement on the import or export of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology, their safe handling, transport, packaging and identification. Today, 156 states and the EC are Parties to this protocol.

JAPAN'S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CBD

- As its national strategic plans, required of all Parties as set forth in the CBD, Japan has issued and revised national strategies four times to date, in 1995, 2002, 2007 and 2010.
- In 2008, Japan enacted the Basic Act on Biodiversity, which overarches a wide range of domestic laws related to biodiversity, including wildlife management and nature conservation. Within the framework of the Basic Act, Japan is advancing measures on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in a coherent, systematic manner.



JAPAN HOSTS CBD COP 10 & CARTAGENA PROTOCOL MOP 5

In October 2010, Japan will host the tenth Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP 10) and the fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (MOP 5) in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture. Government representatives of the Parties will gather to decide on the measures necessary to further promote implementation of the CBD.



(Top photos Nagoya Convention & Visitors Bureau)



CBD COP 9 in Bonn, Germany (2008)
(Aichi-Nagoya COP 10 CBD Promotion Committee)

LIFE IN HARMONY, INTO THE FUTURE: MESSAGE FROM JAPAN AS THE HOST COUNTRY OF COP 10/MOP 5

Given the accelerated speed of biodiversity loss, for the purpose of conserving biodiversity, it is increasingly important and imperative to ensure harmonized approaches between human activities and nature, and this theme should be taken as a common approach of all Parties and stakeholders into the future.



The logo for COP 10/MOP 5 features animals arranged around the humans in the center, representing the concept of "living in harmony with nature." The figures of parent and child symbolize the will to pass the value of biodiversity to future generations. Origami (paper craft), Japan's traditional culture, represents the wisdom of humanity.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY 2010



2010 International Year of Biodiversity

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity. Many conferences and events are planned for educational and awareness-raising purposes throughout the year. The high-level meeting of the UN General Assembly in September will be a good occasion for leaders of the UN member states to discuss the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

TOWARD PROGRESS ON THE KEY ISSUES AT COP 10 & MOP 5

As the host country of COP 10/MOP 5, Japan will make substantive contributions to the discussion on the following issues.

1 PROGRESS TOWARD 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET AND REVISED STRATEGIC PLAN, BIODIVERSITY TARGET AND INDICATORS

A wide range of efforts have been made to achieve the 2010 target, but it is unlikely that this target will be met. At COP 10, the Parties will revise the strategic plan and develop post-2010 targets in the plan.

Japan has submitted proposals for post-2010 targets to the CBD Secretariat. The main point of our proposal is to present a menu of concrete means to achieve the targets, for the purpose of assisting each Party and other stakeholders in taking measures in their own situations.

Japan's Proposals for Post-2010 Targets

Short-term Targets (2020)

To have the following actions taken by 2020, so as to halt biodiversity loss:

- (1) To conduct full observations and analyses on the state of biodiversity
- (2) To expand activities for biodiversity conservation
- (3) To mainstream biodiversity across government and society

(for more details, please visit <http://www.cbd.int/sp/sp2010+/inputs.shtml>)

Mid/Long-term Target (2050)

Enhancing the harmony between human beings and nature all around the world, to improve the state of biodiversity from the current level as well as to sustainably increase the benefits of ecosystem services.

2 INTERNATIONAL REGIME ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING (ABS)

In accordance with the decision adopted at the eighth Conference of Parties (2006), negotiation is underway at the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on ABS toward the completion of the work on an international regime on ABS at COP 10.



3 INTERNATIONAL REGIME FOR LIABILITY AND REDRESS

Based on the Cartagena Protocol, preparatory work is underway to consider an international regime for liability and redress in cases of damage resulting from the release of imported living modified organisms (LMOs) into the environment, with the aim of completing the work by MOP 5.

4 OTHERS

The agenda of COP 10/MOP 5 includes:

- (1) The establishment of a new mechanism to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, IPBES)
- (2) Study on the economic evaluation of ecosystem services and cost of their loss (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity, TEEB), etc.



The toki (Japanese crested ibis), an endangered bird

(Bottom photos Nagoya TV Tower Corporation)

JAPAN IN ACTION

Sharing Japan's contributions toward global efforts

To achieve the goal of improving the state of biodiversity from the current level, many individuals and groups in Japan are actively engaged in various efforts using their resources in rural and industrial areas. Japan intends to provide assistance to other countries, bringing our experience and knowledge, which can be applicable to diverse social and economic conditions around the world.

MANAGING NATIONAL PARKS IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS

- In Japan, to preserve the natural environment, national parks have been managed without nationalizing the land, but instead by cooperating with local residents and businesses, on whom regulations are imposed. The advantage of this system is to designate wider areas as national parks with low costs of conservation and management.
- This approach would also be effective in developing countries, where poverty alleviation and development are priority issues. Japan is ready to assist these other countries.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES: THE SATOYAMA INITIATIVE

- For the conservation of biodiversity, we need not only to preserve and leave natural wilderness untouched, but also to conserve the ecosystems that have gradually been formed and maintained through human activities such as farming, forestry and fishing.
- In many parts of the world, these ecosystems are in crisis due to urbanization and industrialization; however, many efforts are being made to overcome these crises.
- Japan proposes the "Satoyama Initiative" to collect experiences and information on the use of the ecosystems and measures taken around the world, and to share them to promote such efforts.

MANAGING RIVERS TO PRESERVE AND CREATE WILDLIFE HABITATS

- Japan has developed methodologies and techniques that positively affect biodiversity by restoring and creating good conditions for wildlife habitats.
- Methodologies suited to being shared around the world include (1) the restoration and creation of good conditions for wildlife in the construction of river infrastructure, instead of fortifying river banks with concrete materials, and (2) the building of fish-ways around dams and other structures in rivers to ensure continuity between upstream and downstream fish habitats.



Left: Before improvement (location about 300m from right photo); Above: After removal of concrete banks and adjustment of river width to match natural terrain (Shinichi Yoshimura)

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF GENETIC RESOURCES

- While the international regime on ABS would address common issues such as the prevention of misappropriation of genetic resources, it is also important for each Party to take its own initiatives.
- Japan has been collaborating with other Asian countries in conducting research and development of genetic resources, especially of microorganisms, through which technology transfer and human resource development can be promoted for the utilization of microorganisms.
- Such collaboration will be enhanced further beyond COP 10.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

- Technologies have been developed and are widely used in Japan to ensure both conservation of biodiversity and productive activities.
- Agriculture: Ecosystem-friendly agricultural production methods, such as organic farming; maintenance of wildlife habitats in paddies and water channels.
- Forestry: Establishment and enforcement of forest management and conservation plans; wide use of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management; measures to combat illegal logging.
- Fisheries: Promotion of sustainable fishery management through combinations of resource management measures, such as limiting catch amounts and time/area closures.



Cleanup activities in a national park (Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment)



A satoyama landscape in the Philippines (Japan Wildlife Research Center)



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Examples of Assistance by Japan

Ecosystem deterioration and biodiversity loss make it all the harder for many people around the world to resolve such problems as poor sanitary conditions and unstable economic foundations. Japan has assisted developing countries in protecting the environment and managing natural resources while taking account of the need to reduce poverty. We will continue to support efforts for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in regions vulnerable to changes in the ecosystem.

KENYA Sustainable Use of Natural Resources by Local People



Local people participating in a project in Kenya (JICA)

By providing afforestation techniques, Japan has supported local people in managing their own forests by planting and growing samplings on their farmland. This is expected to ease the problems of decreasing land productivity and deterioration of the natural environment while increasing the incomes of local residents. (2004–2009)

MALAYSIA Biodiversity and Ecosystem Conservation

To develop mechanisms for the conservation of Borneo's precious biodiversity and ecosystems, Japan has provided support including technical advice on nature reserves, such as the Ramsar wetland and wildlife corridors; development of conservation management systems that involve local people; and environmental education activities. (2002–2007, 2007–2012)



Environmental education training for teachers in a wildlife sanctuary (JICA)

PALAU Coral Reef Conservation and Environmental Education



A marine survey for coral reef preservation (JICA)

Japan established the Palau International Coral Reef Research Center (PICRC) as a research hub for the Pacific region to conserve coral reef ecosystems. Technical support has been provided to PICRC for its conducting of surveys, research and monitoring. Japan also supports environmental awareness activities for the local community by providing educational materials and tours of the aquarium. (2002–2006, 2009–2012)

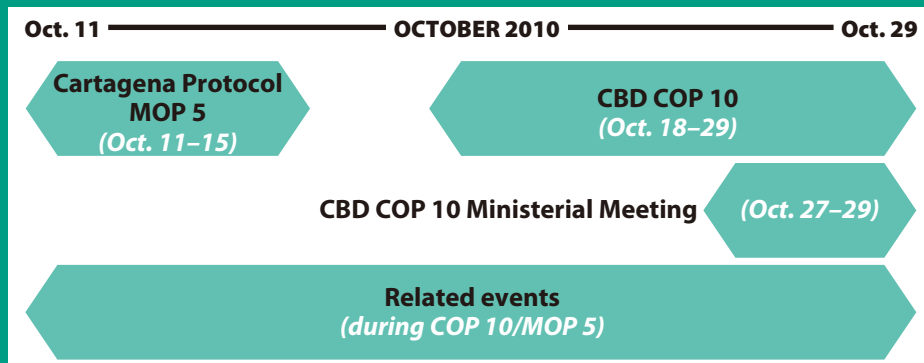


Sampling in Indonesia (National Institute of Technology and Evaluation)



Fish pass between paddies by an oriental stork successfully restored to the wild (Hyogo Prefectural Homeland for the Original White Stork)

COP 10/MOP 5 Schedule



The COP 10 venue (Nagoya Congress Center)



COP 9 exhibition booth (Aichi-Nagoya COP 10 CBD Promotion Committee)

Related events during COP 10/MOP 5

City Biodiversity Summit (October 24–26, 2010)

Leaders of local authorities around the world will gather, review and adopt the action plan and declaration on cities and biodiversity, and share experiences on issues related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use at local city levels.

Messe Nagoya (scheduled for October 27–30, 2010)

International trade fair at which companies and organizations will present information on their environmental technologies and research results and interact with those in other industries.

Conference of International Youth on Biodiversity in Aichi 2010 (August 23–27, 2010) Interactive Fair for Biodiversity adjacent to COP 10/MOP 5 venue (October 11–29, 2010)

AICHI, NAGOYA, AND COP 10/MOP 5



Logo for Aichi-Nagoya COP 10 CBD Promotion Committee

As well as cooperating toward the success of the meetings, Aichi Prefecture and Nagoya City are taking the opportunity of COP 10/MOP 5 to hold educational and commemorative events to facilitate the development of local communities in harmony with nature.

(Nagoya City)



The Fujimae tidal flats, located in the southwestern part of Nagoya City, are an important stopover for migratory birds and a registered wetland under the Ramsar Convention. In the 1990s there was a plan to reclaim this land for use as a waste disposal site, but the plan was terminated to conserve the natural environment. Huge reductions in waste have since been achieved thanks to the efforts of city residents who recognized the importance of the flats. Today, environmental activities are being carried out through partnerships between residents and local government as symbols of Nagoya residents' awareness of the importance of the environment.



(Nagoya City; photos by Toyohisa Morii)

Fujimae Tidal Flats

Links

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan <http://www.mofa.go.jp/>
Ministry of the Environment of Japan <http://www.env.go.jp/en/>
Aichi-Nagoya COP 10 CBD Promotion Committee <http://www.cop10.jp/aichi-nagoya/english/>
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity <http://www.cbd.int/>

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