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A. REPORTING PARTY

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Date of submission	

Information on the preparation of the report

Box I.

Please provide information on the preparation of this report, including information on stakeholders involved and material used as a basis for the report.

The wide variety of biodiversity-related materials listed below was heavily consulted for the information contained in this report. Key representatives of various relevant government agencies, NGOs and private sector organizations provided in the table below were involved as well in preparing the report especially in the consultation process through interviews and the workshops.

Biodiversity Country Study 1992
 NEMS 1992
 Biology and Conservation of Sea Turtles
 Reports from the Forests Genetics Project

Arnavon Islands Marine Conservation Area Report series
Terrestrial Assessments of West Isabel and East Choiseul 2002
National Marine Assessment 2004
International Waters (Solomon Islands) Project Report Series
Solomon Islands Assessment Report to the WSSD
Solomon Islands National Report to the UNCCD
Solomon Islands Human Development Report 2003
Solomon Islands: Review of Environmental Law
National Economic Recovery and Rehabilitation Plan
Solomon Islands Millennium Development Goals Report 2004
Solomon Islands Land Information system
Australian Museum Survey Report Mammals
Survey reports on Butterflies and moths
Biodiversity related Research reports deposited in the Ministry of Education and Training
Annual reports of relevant NGOs eg. WWF, TNC, CI, ECANSI, SIDT, World Fish centre etc
Annual reports of the Central Bank
Solomon Islands Country Environmental Analysis: Mainstreaming Environmental Considerations
in Economic and Development Planning Processes
A Review of Solomon Islands Legislation relating to Environment and Natural Resources
Condition of the Marine Environments in Marovo Lagoon
Solomon Islands Forestry Sector Review
National Report to the UNCCD (3rd report)
Combined Cross-Cutting Assessment: UNCBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC
Marine Resource Management and Conservation in Solomon Islands: Roles, Responsibilities and
Opportunities
The Revised Solomon Islands Code of Logging Practice
Review of Organisational Requirements for the Department of Environment and Conservation
Thematic Assessment Report: UNCCD
Thematic Assessment Report: UNFCCC
Thematic Assessment Report: UNCBD
Solomon Islands Government: Programme of Action- Policy, Objectives, Strategies and Targets
2000-2002
Review and Assessment of Priority Environmental Concerns in Solomon Islands
Grand Coalition for Change Government: Policy Framework Document 2006
Grand Coalition for Change Government: Policy Translation and Implementation Document 2006
Rapid Ecological Assessment: Marine Resources of Solomon Islands
Solomon Islands Fisheries, Marine and Coastal Legislation and Policy Gap Analysis
National Forest Policy
Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management in Solomon Islands
The Nature Conservancy: Melanesian Action Plan 2005 - 2010
Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy (ARDS)
Solomon Islands Water Policy
Ministry of National Planning and Aid Coordination: Corporate Plan 2007-2011
Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation: Corporate Plan 2007-2009
Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources: Corporate Plan 2006-2008
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock: Corporate Plan 2006-2008
Global Biodiversity Outlook 2
The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
National Forest Resource Assessment 2003
Mammal Survey of four areas on Isabel and Choiseul Islands

Key Stakeholders involved in Consultations and Workshops

Government Agencies	Dept. of Forests, Environment and Conservation
	Dept. of Fisheries and Marine Resources
	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
	Dept. of Lands and Housing
	Dept. of National Planning and Development
	Dept. of Health and Medical Services
	Dept. of Education and Training
	Dept. of Foreign Affairs
	Dept. of Energy, Mines and Water Resources
	Dept. of Commerce and Trade
Provinces	Temotu Province
	Makira Province
	Malaita Province
	Guadalcanal Province
	Isabel Province
	Central Province
	Rennell Bellona Province
	Western Province
	Choiseul Province
Parastatals	SICHE
	USP Honiara Centre
	SIMTRI
	SI Visitors Bureau
Private Sector	KFPL
	Forestry Industry Association
	Wildlife Exporters Association
	SI Marine Exporters
	SI Marine Mammal Education Centre
	Western Province Tourism Association
Non Governmental Organisations	Solomon Islands Development Trust
	ECANSI – Environmental Conservation Action Network of Solomon Islands
	World Life Fund for Nature (WWF)
	TNC – The Nature Conservancy
	CI – Conservation International
Community Based Organisations	Lauru Land Conference
	Tetepari Descendents Association

B. PRIORITY SETTING, TARGETS AND OBSTACLES

Box II.

Please provide an overview of the status and trends of various components of biological diversity in your country based on the information and data available.

Marine diversity in the Solomons (e.g., corals) is globally significant, and survey work is just beginning to scratch the surface of patterns across the whole marine fauna. The historically renowned terrestrial diversity has long attracted the attention of biodiversity scientists and conservation organizations. For instance, of the 163 species of land birds that breed in the Solomons, 72 (44%) are found nowhere else in the world, and another 62 (38%) are represented in the Solomons by unique races or subspecies. These are the highest levels of avian endemism per unit area anywhere on earth. Although high levels of avian endemism have made the Solomons famous around the world, numerous endemic frogs, lizards, snakes, snails, insects, butterflies, some plant groups such as orchids, and the recently described levels of nearshore marine diversity, also reflect a rich history of dispersal, isolation, and speciation.

Despite lack of information, what is known of the Solomons reveals a truly remarkable biota of global significance both in its patterns of endemism and its relatively intact character. Subsequent updates will refine these figures, but the following bullets summarize some of what is known of the exceptional species diversity and endemism within the Solomons:

- Approximately 3,200 species of higher plants described with some groups exhibiting significant endemism (e.g. orchids and palms); 16 threatened under IUCN Red Data criteria.
- At least 51 native mammal species inhabit the archipelago, with nearly 20 being endemic (including several spectacular Macrochiropterans such as the *Pteralopex* spp. complex) and 20 of which identified as threatened (3 likely extinct or near extinction; 2 large rats and a pteropid bat).
- Highest levels of avian endemism for any area of its size on earth: as mentioned above, 163 breeding landbird species, with nearly 2/3 representing endemic species or subspecies and well over 20 identified as threatened.
- Among endemic birds are: the Solomons sea eagle (*Haleetus sanfordi*) and the Ghizo white-eye (*Zosterops luteirostris*) arguably the most restricted range full-species eagle and passerine birds on earth;
- Critical wintering and breeding habitat for a variety of internationally threatened or rare and poorly known waterbird species such as bristle-thighed curlew (*Numenius tahitensis*) which relies on the Solomons for wintering and pre-breeding habitat; Beck's Petrel (*Pseudobulweria becki*) and Heinroth's shearwater (*Puffinus heinrothi*) are very likely to build their yet to be discovered nesting burrows somewhere in the currently unprotected montane forests of the Solomons.
- Approximately 80 reptiles with over one third endemic and 5 identified as threatened species; herpetofauna includes significant marine turtle breeding populations as well as the endemic prehensile-tailed skink (*Corucia zebrata*), the largest on earth, currently confined to tall lowland and mid-elevation forests in the Solomons currently under heavy threat from logging
- Over 30 frog species and counting with levels of endemism likely in excess of 90%; species number and distributions poorly known and overall diversity is increased with nearly every newly surveyed major island site.
- Nearly 300 freshwater fishes described thus far with numerous higher-level endemics described within the last several years (including numerous genera and a possible new en-

demid family of Gobioid fish); current species numbers and distributions very poorly known.

- At least 197 species of butterflies; 34 endemics.
- With upwards of 500 species of coral organisms described, the Solomon Islands coral diversity is one of the highest on earth, paralleled only by Raja Ampat in Indonesia
- One of the richest concentrations of reef fishes: recent surveys indicate a current total of 1019 reef-dwelling fish species in Solomon waters; 786 were observed while the rest found from museum collections. A formula for predicting the total reef fish fauna indicates that at least 100 more species can be expected to occur in the Solomon Islands.
- Recent surveys have recorded 10 species of threatened cetaceans in Solomon Islands, but historic records and local knowledge suggest an exceptionally rich beaked whale fauna that to date is almost completely unknown
- Sea grass: 10 species of sea grass, 80 percent of known species in Indo-Pacific region.
- 22 species of sea cucumbers
- Bivalves: 10 species were recorded
- Mangroves: 20 species and 2 hybrids found
- Marine turtles: 5 species with the exception of flatback; only 3 nest here including leatherback, hawksbill and green turtles

Ecosystems, habitats and biomes diversity

The last few years has seen a continuous growth in the number of areas being targeted for conservation and management across the country. Many of these efforts have been led and initiated by NGOs and CBOs with the support of governments and local communities. A majority of work focuses on smaller marine areas whilst a number of large programmes are focusing on large terrestrial areas covering different types or mix types of ecosystems, habitats and biomes. The new efforts have increased the national areas now under conservation development, even though many of these areas are still some years away from being formalized as conservation or protected areas. The initiatives are very encouraging and have continued a very positive trend. Major threats however continue through industrial logging which is three times the sustainable level.

Species diversity

The efforts in research work by many stakeholders have continued to provide critical information for further scientific work and management decisions for all groups involved in biodiversity management. Many of these groups include renowned research institutions such as the Australian National University, American Museum of Natural History, University of California Santa Barbara, World Fish Center, The Nature Conservancy, WorldLife Fund for Nature and Conservation International. The information flowing from many of the current work has increased the knowledge on diversity of species in the country and continues to show the global importance of Solomon Islands diversity of ecosystems and species.

Genetic diversity

Some work continues on genetic diversity of natural populations, especially focusing on birds. Most relevant work however concentrates on agricultural biodiversity. More efforts need to target this area to assist current and further management interventions.

Biodiversity components – i) ecosystems, habitats and biomes diversity, ii) species diversity, and iii) genetic diversity. Biodiversity considerations include abundance, variations and distribution

Priority Setting

1. Please indicate, by marking an "X" in the appropriate column below, the level of priority your country accords to the implementation of various articles, provisions and relevant programmes of the work of the Convention.

Article/Provision/Programme of Work	Level of Priority		
	High	Medium	Low
a) Article 5 – Cooperation	X		
b) Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use	X		
c) Article 7 - Identification and monitoring		X	
d) Article 8 – <i>In-situ</i> conservation	X		
e) Article 8(h) - Alien species		X	
f) Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions			X
g) Article 9 – <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation		X	
h) Article 10 – Sustainable use of components of biological diversity		X	
i) Article 11 - Incentive measures		X	
j) Article 12 - Research and training		X	
k) Article 13 - Public education and awareness		X	
l) Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts		X	
m) Article 15 - Access to genetic resources			X
n) Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology		X	
o) Article 17 - Exchange of information		X	
p) Article 18 – Scientific and technical cooperation		X	
q) Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits			X

r) Article 20 - Financial resources			X
s) Article 21 - Financial mechanism	X		
t) Agricultural biodiversity	X		
u) Forest biodiversity		X	
v) Inland water biodiversity			X
w) Marine and coastal biodiversity	X		
x) Dryland and subhumid land biodiversity			NA
y) Mountain biodiversity		X	

Challenges and Obstacles to Implementation (use checklist)

2. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the provisions of the Articles of the Convention (5, 6,7, 8, 8h, 8j, 9, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15,16, 17, 18, 19 and 20)																		
3 = High Challenge									1 = Low Challenge									
2 = Medium Challenge									0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome									
N/A = Not applicable																		
Challenges	Articles																	
	5	6	7	8	8h	8j	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
a) Lack of political will and support	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	3	3	3
b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	2
c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	2
e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2

weakness																		
f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	2
g) Loss of traditional knowledge	1	2	2	2	1	3	1	3	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1
h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	2
i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	2
j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	1	3	3	3	3
k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	3	3	3	3	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
n) Lack of economic incentive measures	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
o) Lack of benefit-sharing	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	3	3	3	1	3	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3
q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

r) Lack of effective partnerships	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
s) Lack of engagement of scientific community	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	3
u) Poverty	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
v) Population pressure	1	3	1	3	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	3	3	3	3	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	1	3
x) Lack of capacities for local communities	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1
y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	1	3	3	3	2	1	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	1
z) Weak law enforcement capacity	2	1	3	3	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1
aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	1	1	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	3
bb) Others (please specify)																		

2010 Target

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VII/30, annex II, decided to establish a provisional framework for goals and targets in order to clarify the 2010 global target adopted by decision VI/26, help assess the progress towards the target, and promote coherence among the programmes of work of the Convention. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box III.

Goal 1	Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes.		
Target 1.1	At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>Solomon Islands have not produced its NBSAP, in which the national targets are expected to be defined. Further, while it is recognized in some development sectoral strategies and action plans such as agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and trade that sound environmental management contributes to economic growth, there has been little evidence available to suggest that the productive sectors were serious about integrating biodiversity into these strategies and/or action plans. The NEMS, however, has specific programmes to address biodiversity issues faced by the country. Efforts are underway to resurrect the NBSAP and to review the NEMS, which we hope to complete this year. The successful completion of these two important activities as explicitly defined in Environment and Conservation Division's annual work plan should help us advance current efforts to establish our national targets in fulfilling our obligation to meet the objectives of the CBD.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	<p>The relevant government agency has a national policy to promote agricultural practices and strategies to ensure its activities are economically and environmentally sustainable. The policy attempts to promote effective and efficient methods and facilities for animal and plant protection to ensure food security through appropriate land utilization.</p> <p>There are two strategies to implement the policy statement, which are of particular relevance to the objectives of the CBD. The Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy (ARDS) and the Sustainable Land Management Strategy, if implemented, should play a major part in protecting the country's agricultural biodiversity through, first increasing the supply and availability of food and other crops, and livestock and second, supporting the conservation, improvement and sustainable use of natural resources for food and agriculture.</p> <p>The strategies, however, were too general and lacked any specific biodiversity targets either for the species or</p>

			genetic diversity of crops or even livestock.
b) Inland water		X	Inland water biodiversity is one of the areas that lack adequate attention in terms of information about its abundance, distribution and current status. Little or nothing has been done to understand fresh water aquatic biodiversity. The water policy is more focused on sustainable water resource management.
c) Marine and coastal		X	<p>It is one of the important national policy statements pertaining to marine and coastal resource management and conservation that the marine resources should be conserved to ensure their sustainable utilization. The NEMS listed protection of biodiversity as a priority area for Solomon Islands. Even certain provincial ordinances have specific provisions for biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>The Fisheries ministry has devised strategies on management plans for major inshore fisheries and empowers local communities to manage their marine resources. The Fisheries Act 1998 gives recognition to promoting the conservation of the country's significant marine resources. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has a plan to establish MPAs in at least 3% of tropical coasts of Solomon Islands.</p> <p>Despite the recognition for marine biodiversity conservation, no targets have been set either for MPAs or species conservation. But there is more emphasis on promoting the sustainable use of marine and coastal living resources.</p>
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable
e) Forest		X	<p>It is a national policy to support forest research institutions to identify and regulate the use of endemic plant species in reforestation projects and support existing and planned reforestation programmes in logged-out areas. Accordingly, the responsible agency makes it one of its top priorities to improve seed collections for both exotic and endangered plant species while maintaining links with regional and international organizations on forest research programs.</p> <p>A sustainable forestry conservation program with emphasis on forest management and conservation has been established to protect 12,000 hectares of undisturbed forest on a particular island in the country, in addition to a forest conservation grant to support community-based organizations conserve their forest. The program is in line with national forest policy objective 4 to provide strong support for the protection of the environment and ecological sustainability.</p> <p>There are nonetheless no specific targets established for the country's rich but poorly understood forest biodiversity.</p>
f) Mountain		X	Like inland water program of work this area also suffers from lack of information concerning the genetic, species and habitat diversity that can be found here. There were some research work done on avifauna on mountains in Solomon Islands but little is known about other biological diversity and their associated habitats.

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	
Please provide details below.	
<p>Solomon Islands did not have a national target for biodiversity conservation, not to mention the target set by TNC for 3% of tropical coast of Solomon Islands to be protected. The only national strategy that we have which specifically focuses on environmental protection and biodiversity conservation was the National Environmental Management Strategy (NEMS). Although this blueprint document is out of date and needs to be reviewed and updated, a number of strategies and priority programs in there are still relevant and appropriate to deal with biodiversity-related issues faced by the country. Relevant priorities included strengthening the country's resource database, protecting areas of high ecological significance, land resource management, sustainable use of forest resources and sustainable use of marine resources. The NEMS is being reviewed and updated.</p>	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
<p>There are good prospects for the coastal and marine environment as many MPAs have already been established with many more being planned. For terrestrial environment and inland water systems there are major challenges to overcome here.</p>	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
<p>Indicators used: lack of targets; ad hoc approach to existing PAs; lack of legislative support.</p>	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
<p>The challenges faced in successfully implementing the NEMS included lack of financial resources and technical expertise to carry out the necessary activities. There was also lack of political support for the implementation of the NEMS but as well as lack of mainstreaming into national strategies, programs and action plans.</p>	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	
<p>Setting targets for biodiversity conservation is important but targets should apply to both marine and terrestrial environments.</p>	

Box IV.

Target 1.2	Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>The Environment and Conservation Division has been working with partner non-governmental organizations such as The Nature Conservancy (TNC), WWF and Conservation International (CI) to protect and conserve areas of high ecological importance or value in Solomon Islands. Already there are 30 MPAs led by NGOs including community-based conservation areas established throughout the country, which not only recognizes the ecological dimension of conservation but, also the uniqueness of the sites and their productivity such as the one for hawksbill turtle species and the leatherback turtle species. In Roviana Lagoon, Western province many community based conservation areas for targeted species have been established there. More than 40 other sites have been identified as potential marine conservation areas, with high marine biodiversity.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock has a rural development project which has been designed to have minimal environmental impacts through the application of an environmental planning tool, namely environmental impact assessment (EIA). An important requirement for the EA studies is the production of specific environmental management plans (EMP) for particular projects and sites.
b) Inland water		X	A preliminary aquatic survey associated with the country's freshwater system has been conducted in parts of the country in order to understand freshwater biodiversity for possible protection. No other activities have been implemented prior to or following this freshwater survey.
c) Marine and coastal	X		There are already functioning MPAs established by TNC, WWF and FSPI in partnership with local communities and government in the country. The MPAs are more focused on ecological value and the uniqueness of the sites and their productivity as important habitats or breeding sites for certain marine species. A country-wide survey of the country's marine biodiversity, namely Solomon Islands Marine Assessment including cetaceans and dugongs has been completed in 2004 with funding support from TNC. Cetacean conservation and management is being looked at for further assessment.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		The government of Solomon Islands has recently signed an agreement with the European Union (EU) to support forest management and conservation on Tetepare Island and in Makira province. A forest conservation grant scheme to support community organisations manage their forest resource was an important component of the agreement. In the NEMS, several potential terrestrial

			conservation areas have been identified. In Makira province local communities in central Bauro highlands have been working with CI to protect their forest and its associated habitats and biodiversity.
f) Mountain	X		The Central Bauro Highlands conservation project in Makira province is located in the interior, mountainous region of the island. The emphasis of the project is to protect and conserve the region's biodiversity including forest, its associated animals with their habitats and rivers and streams with their associated biological organisms and their habitats as an alternative to logging.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>The Environment and Conservation Division (ECD), the central government agency responsible for environmental management and biodiversity planning and conservation in Solomon Islands, identified conservation programmes for identified sites as an important priority area in its corporate plan 2000 to 2009. It plans to implement its conservation program in partnership with relevant NGOs such as TNC, WWF and CI, which also have similar strategies, plans and programs for conservation for the country. The involvement of local communities and other stakeholders is important for the program as stipulated in the national policy framework, to adopt an integrated approach to conservation.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
<p>At present there are 30 marine conservation areas (MPAs) in Solomon Islands with the number of protected areas expected to increase in the immediate future. The emphasis over the recent past has been on MPAs predominantly run by international conservation NGOs. There are now efforts to include the terrestrial environment in the country's conservation programmes, with the involvement and participation of local communities in community based conservation projects given particular attention. For example, the Tetepare marine conservation area project is managed by the resource owners themselves but the technical and financial support is provided by WWF. Environmental awareness and education and research and education play significant part in these conservation initiatives.</p>			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
<p>Indicators used: increase in coverage of protected areas; inclusion of terrestrial environment in protected areas; more MPAs established; use of EIA in projects with potential to destroy the environment; and strengthened partnership between government and conservation NGOs.</p>			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
<p>Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.</p>			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box V.

Goal 2	Promote the conservation of species diversity		
Target 2.1	Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
The government has been working with its partner NGOs and international research institutions through surveys, environmental education and awareness and information exchange to promote understanding concerning population stock of particular species of animals and plants in order to be able to introduce appropriate measures to restore, maintain or reduce the decline of their populations.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, through its research division, has identified it as a priority to re-establish its research centre to find means of addressing food and nutrition security for the country. Of central importance to this strategy is the development of new crops and technologies to ensure particular crops are not heavily exploited for food, and for planting materials to be bulked up at research field stations and on- farms to be able to supply the material to farmers.
b) Inland water	X		The Code of Logging Practice and the forestry law has specifications and provisions that do not allow logging activities near inland water systems such as rivers, streams and drainage lines. The driving factor for these restrictions is the minimization of pollution to the surface water from sediments, oil and other logging debris.
c) Marine and coastal	X		Over exploitation of sea turtles (hawksbill and leatherback) including their eggs, sea cucumbers, trochus and many other marine species have prompted the agency responsible to ban the harvesting of these resources through regulations. Species management plan is also required for threatened species. Several MPAs were also established with the primary aim of protecting the populations of these species and put a stop to this unsustainable consumption pattern because their populations have already been endangered.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		The forestry division prohibited certain tree species to be harvested during logging operations through regulations. Other regulated tree species can be harvested but must not be exported to overseas markets despite their high commercial value. A management plan is in place to

			conserve a particular tree species, which is endemic to the country and rare. These are protected species under forestry law.
f) Mountain	X		In terms of forest resources, it is not permitted under forestry law to disturb or harvest by logging trees above 400 metres above sea level. This makes biodiversity associated with mountains quite stable due to lack of disturbance from industrial logging activities.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>The agencies responsible for fisheries, forestry, agriculture and environment all have this target in their respective strategic plans and work programs. The emphasis of these programs is either to restore or maintain or reduce the decline of populations of species. The Environment and Conservation Division, for instance, establishes a monitoring program for hawksbill and leatherback turtle species while Fisheries department has a monitoring program for other marine resources on which people are heavily reliant.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
<p>Since the establishment of the Arnavon Marine Conservation Area there has been a substantial increase in the populations of the hawksbill turtle and other marine resources such as sea cucumbers and trochus together with some land-based animals. This encouraging trend has also been reported in other marine conservation areas in different parts of the country where the population status of selected marine species has been on the rise, due to their protection and management.</p>			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
<p>The following have been used as indicators to measure the achievements in relation to this target: populations of targeted marine species substantially increased; sound management measures introduced; resource users are less reliant on these species; extension of protected areas to other identified sites.</p>			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
<p>Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.</p>			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box VI.

Target 2.2	Status of threatened species improved		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>A number of rapid ecological surveys have been conducted on certain animal and plant species with technical and financial support from outside research institutions with the aim to determine their distribution, abundance and status. The continued decline, due to overexploitation and unsustainable consumption, of certain animal and plant species has already prompted concerted actions by the government, relevant NGOs and community groups to put in place mechanisms to improve their threatened status. Not only has regulations proved very effective in these endeavours, but the establishment of protected areas with the support of resource owners and NGOs is making a great contribution in this regard.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	Despite heavy dependence of rural people on certain root crops and plants for food, none of these crops or plants appears to be under threat due to over extraction. However, crops such as taro had been severely threatened by plant diseases. Taro breeding programmes locally and regional had produced tolerant varieties which somewhat reduced the threat of taro extinction.
b) Inland water		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
c) Marine and coastal	X		There has been more effort put into this sector than any other productive sectors because of the increasing concern about unsustainable harvesting of certain marine species. Besides the establishment of the MPAs as a means to save the declining populations of certain marine species such as hawksbill turtle, species management plans are also required for the sustainable utilization of other marine resources such as sea cucumbers and trochus.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable
e) Forest		X	Some botanical survey work has been undertaken by forestry officers in the past but the work was only limited to understanding the distribution and occurrence of major vegetation types of Solomon Islands.
f) Mountain		X	Some terrestrial surveys on the flora and fauna of Solomon Islands mountain biodiversity have been undertaken but they were only limited to understanding their distributions and variations.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			

b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X
Please provide details below.	
<p>The fisheries and environment departments have developed sectoral strategies and work programs to address the continuing decline of certain species of marine species, on which people depend for food. The agriculture division is equally concerned about greater dependence on certain crops for food resulting in the development of the agriculture and rural development strategy (ARDS). The NGOs have their own strategies and programs as well, in support of government's efforts and initiatives to ensure threatened species are given adequate attention with the aim of improving their status. The environment division is now taking measures for butterfly exporters to establish butterfly ranching instead of wild caught.</p>	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
<p>There has been a substantial increase in the populations of the marine species, for example, hawksbill turtle and other marine resources being protected, at designated sites. This encouraging trend has also been reported in other marine conservation areas in different parts of the country where the population status of selected marine species has been on the rise, due to their protection and management as demonstrated at community managed marine protected areas in Roviana lagoon in the western part of the country.</p>	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
<p>The following have been used as indicators to measure the achievements in relation to this target: populations of targeted marine species substantially increased; sound management measures introduced; resource users are less reliant on these species; increased awareness of importance of protected area systems by local communities; community-based conservation areas gradually accepted; introduction of closed and open season.</p>	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
<p>Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.</p>	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	
<p>NGOs and government should seriously work together to bring cohesive and concerted actions in biodiversity planning and conservation.</p>	

Box VII.

Goal 3	Promote the conservation of genetic diversity		
Target 3.1	Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>The agriculture, forestry and fisheries departments have been involved in collections and cultivation of specimens of crops, plants and some marine species in their respective field stations as a means of protecting these wildlife species because of overexploitation and unsustainable consumption patterns. Also to provide sufficient planting materials to farmers to grow on their land, as an <i>ex situ</i> conservation initiative.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The agriculture division has a collection of indigenous and exotic fruit trees at its field experimental stations in four provinces, which aims to make available enough planting materials for farmers to grow. In the past collections of root crops were also made while traditional knowledge associated with the use of these crops was also recorded. Kastom garden also has its own collections of native and exotic plant species at its gene banks at seed saving centers in the country.
b) Inland water		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
c) Marine and coastal	X		The School of Marine Biology and Aquaculture, James Cook University has conducted a wide ranging investigation into the status of parrotfishes or parrot fishery in a particular site in Solomon Islands, with particular emphasis on understanding the fishers' perception of resource and management. Traditional management or conservation ethic was heavily used in this work.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		The forestry division has been doing some work to improve the status of certain local tree species (such as rosewood) of high commercial value by cultivating them in its field station. Unsustainable harvesting of these native tree species in the wild is increasingly becoming a threat to their survival so the program aims to make available sufficient planting materials from the trial plots to interested farmers to grow.
f) Mountain		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and			

strategies?	
a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X
Please provide details below.	
The agriculture and forestry departments are currently doing experiments with certain food plants and commercial tree species at their respective field stations according to their work plans.	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
There has already been some collections of food plants and other commercial tree species by agriculture and forestry departments and Kastom garden for <i>ex situ</i> conservation, which offers good prospects to conserve these plants and tree species.	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
Indicators used: plant and tree collections; <i>ex situ</i> conservation effort; establishment of germplasms or gene banks.	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
Challenges encountered: lack of political will; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; unsustainable consumption patterns; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	

Box VIII.

Goal 4	Promote sustainable use and consumption.
Target 4.1	Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?	
a) No	
b) Yes, the same as the global target	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established	X
Please provide details below.	
Agriculture division has developed initiatives to introduce new crops and technologies to ensure particular crops are not heavily exploited for food and for planting materials to be provided in multiple numbers to demonstration farms. Forestry division prohibited certain tree species to be	

harvested except in exceptional circumstances. In terms of marine resources, several organizations including government and private sector enterprises are involved in seaweed farming and sustainable fisheries. Environment and Conservation division is working on a mechanism to ensure export of wildlife from Solomon Islands is not detrimental to the species involved under an approved programme, for example, butterfly ranching.

II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).

Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		In order to ensure certain crops are not over exploited by farmers the agriculture department has developed new initiatives for agricultural innovations and practices that will make the crops available in the longer term. Without new technologies to make planting materials available in large quantities, available stocks can be depleted to the detriment of the crops. Similar activities are being implemented by Kastom garden.
b) Inland water	X		There is currently a ban on crocodile export due to overexploitation and this is imposed by a CITES resolution.
c) Marine and coastal	X		Several organizations both in public and private sectors including NGOs have been active in sustainable fisheries through protected area systems and farming of certain inshore marine species. In most of the MPAs, there is a long closed season established with a limited access to the resources either for food or commercial purposes. For aquaculture, harvest is strictly controlled by how successful the species involved are reproduced.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		While activities in the forestry sector, at least for selected tree species, have not been sustainable due to heavy logging industry, extraction of a great majority of other plant species for building construction materials, food and other traditional uses are determined on the basis of need and suitability. Even in logging, specific trees are not allowed to be harvested or trees whose stem is below a specified measurement can not be felled for log, as well.
f) Mountain	X		Due to environmental concerns, logging operations are not permitted under law to extend beyond 400 meters above sea level. Subsistence agricultural practices are also mostly restricted to flat to moderately steep slopes, due to the thin layer of fertile soil on very steep slopes resulting from soil erosion.

III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) No	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X

Please provide details below.

Relevant productive sector of the Solomon Islands economy including fisheries, agriculture and forestry have incorporated various strategies in their respective action plans and work programs,

emphasizing the sustainable management of their rather destructive activities. The responsible environmental agency of government has put considerable emphasis on proper regulation of the country's wildlife trade in accordance with the CITES requirements.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

It is being realized that some components of biodiversity can be depleted and threatened with extinction. This led to the growing emphasis on development of species specific management plans for particular plants and animals both on land and in the sea, as a management measure to control their use and ensure their productive status in terms of their abundance and distribution.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Relevant indicators used to measure progress in achieving the target are: development and adoption of species management plans for threatened species; incorporation of sustainable production in productive sectoral plans and strategies; and tendency for the use of regulatory measures; CITES ratification.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Certification schemes in forestry, fisheries and agriculture sectors can be a very useful instrument for environmental protection here.

Box IX.

Target 4.2		Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target		X	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock has developed initiatives to introduce new crops and technologies to ensure the distribution and abundance of particular crops remain stable by reproducing planting materials in multiple numbers to farmers. Forestry division prohibited certain tree species to be harvested except in exceptional circumstances. In terms of marine resources, several organizations including government and private sector enterprises are involved in seaweed farming and sustainable fisheries instead of direct take from the wild. Environment and Conservation division is working on a mechanism to ensure export of wildlife from Solomon Islands is not detrimental to the species involved under an approved management program.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		New crops and technologies are being developed to help farmers have an assured supply of planting materials for cultivation.
b) Inland water	X		The Environment Act provides for the protection, preservation and conservation of the environment, including prevention and control of pollution to water. River Waters Act 1969 provides measures for watershed control in relation to rivers only.
c) Marine and coastal	X		Growing emphasis on management plans to control use of specified species with the use of regulations not to harvest species of specified sizes while use of destructive fishing methods is prohibited under law.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		Harvest of trees under specified sizes are prohibited for round log exports while land clearing for roads and log landings must not exceed specified measurements.
f) Mountain	X		Mountain biodiversity are rarely affected because major economic development activities in agriculture and forestry or mining industry are highly restricted to areas not considered environmentally sensitive.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	
Please provide details below.			
Relevant productive sector of the Solomon Islands economy including fisheries, agriculture and			

forestry have incorporated various strategies in their respective action plans and work programs, emphasizing the sustainable management of their rather destructive activities. The responsible environmental agency of government has put considerable emphasis on proper regulation of the country's wildlife trade in accordance with the CITES requirements.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Considerable progress has been made in terms of introducing regulatory mechanisms to reduce unsustainable use of marine biodiversity. In forestry and agriculture sectors, the pressure from high population and need for economic growth tend to make it very difficult to effectively manage and control activities in these sectors. Prospects for fisheries are encouraging with the recovery of threatened species but the unsustainable consumption patterns encountered in other two sectors will continue unabated for some time round.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Relevant indicators used to measure progress in achieving the target are: recovery of populations of threatened species; development and adoption of species management plans for threatened species; incorporation of sustainable production in productive sectoral plans and strategies; and tendency for the use of regulatory measures.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Intensified effort is needed to establish more terrestrial or forest conservation areas to restrict agriculture and forestry activities encroachments.

Box X.

Target 4.3	No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Environment and Conservation Division (ECD) has established a quota system for the animal species that are heavily exploited for international trade in Solomon Islands. New regulatory mechanisms are being considered under an approved management program in accordance with CITES.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	All crops for export are raised in plantations and farms. No wild flora is exported.

b) Inland water		X	Export of wildlife from inland water has never been processed.
c) Marine and coastal	X		Growing emphasis on management plans to ensure proper control of specified species excessively exploited for commercial purposes in international markets. A quota system has been established for specified species destined for export.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		Harvest of known commercial tree species under specified sizes are prohibited under law for round log exports. Other native tree species of commercial significance were also not allowed under law for round log exports.
f) Mountain	X		A quota system has been established, especially for terrestrial animal species including parrot birds, reptiles and butterflies which are heavily exploited for international trade. The quota has been allocated to wildlife dealers.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>New regulatory mechanisms and a new set of criteria are being considered for introduction by ECD in line with its work plan to ensure the international trade in country's wildlife are properly regulated in accordance with the CITES requirements and an "approved management program" under the Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998. The primary purpose of the Act is to give effect to the CITES in Solomon Islands.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
<p>The level of international trade in wildlife species, in particular terrestrial animal species has seen some reduction over the past years. The main reasons have been the inclusion of a number of the animal species normally exported in Appendix I of CITES and the introduction of strict regulatory measures by importing countries for wild caught animals. Solomon Islands membership of CITES in June 24 2007 will greatly improve activities to control the wildlife trade because of legal requirements to declare someone as an "approved person" under a registration mechanism pursuant to the Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998.</p>			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
<p>Relevant indicators used to measure progress in achieving the target are: reduction in level of international trade in commonly exported species; accession to CITES in June 24 2007; introduction of approved management program; and register of approved person under a ministerial declaration.</p>			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
<p>Challenges encountered: lack of political will; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; unsustainable consumption patterns; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-</p>			

based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

It is extremely important for wildlife surveys to be conducted on commonly exported animal species in the country to determine their distribution and abundance to inform sound decision for management purposes.

Box XI.

Goal 5	Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.		
Target 5.1	Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
The Environment Act requires proper land use planning, through development control and EIA, to be part of any economic development activities in order to reduce or avoid adverse impacts on environmentally sensitive areas or ecologically significant areas. In the mining sector it is also a mandatory requirement for mining operations to be environmentally acceptable. Even in forestry sector, logging operations in certain designated areas are not permitted.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		An agriculture strategy has been developed to include EIA on agriculture activities as a means to reducing land or environmental degradation.
b) Inland water	X		Logging operations in certain designated areas are not permitted, for example, within certain meters from streams (25m) and rivers (50m).
c) Marine and coastal	X		Certain fishing methods, for example, use of dynamite to kill fish have been prohibited in part because of its adverse impacts on benthic habitats. Coastal economic developments are also subject to EIA to reduce their environmental impacts on the marine environment.
d) Dry and sub humid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		Timber harvesting plans are an important requirement for logging activities where adherence to the code of logging practice, to reduce environmental degradation, is a necessity.

f) Mountain	X	Except for subsistence cultivation, major sectoral economic development activities are highly restricted in areas beyond certain heights, for instance, logging not allowed beyond 400 meters above sea level.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?		
a) No		
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan		
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X	
Please provide details below.		
<p>The Environment Act requires proper land use planning, through development control and EIA, to be part of any economic development activities in order to reduce or avoid adverse impacts on environmentally sensitive areas or ecologically significant areas. In the mining sector it is also a mandatory requirement for mining operations to be environmentally acceptable. Even in forestry sector, logging operations in certain designated areas are not permitted.</p>		
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.		
<p>Disturbance to natural habitats or ecosystem integrity will continue to be experienced due to population pressure and continued emphasis on extractive industries for economic growth. Landscape level planning offer better prospects to address this, together with declaration of protected area systems for areas of high conservation value.</p>		
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.		
<p>Relevant indicators used to measure progress in achieving the target are: increase in number of protected areas; application of EIA process; mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into development sectors;</p>		
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.		
<p>Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; population pressure; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels; and loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.</p>		
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.		
<p>It is important for areas of high conservation values be at species or ecosystem level to be identified.</p>		

Box XII.

Goal 6	Control threats from invasive alien species.		
Target 6.1	Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target		X	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
The South Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) and Secretariat of Pacific Community (SPC) have been working with relevant government agencies (ECD and Agriculture) in Solomon Islands in to ensure introduction pathways of invasive alien species are controlled.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The quarantine section of agriculture has an ongoing inspection program for pests at the country's main points of entry at the airports and seaports. The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has developed a program to assist agriculture strengthen their capacity in this area including the development of the Biosecurity Bill.
b) Inland water		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
c) Marine and coastal	X		SPREP has developed a regional strategy and plan, namely PACPOL of which an important component was the control of invasive species introduced by sea transport. A similar plan tailored to the national context should have been developed for Solomon Islands by relevant agencies.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
f) Mountain		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	
Please provide details below.			
The agriculture Quarantine has identified as one of its strategies in its corporate plan 2006-2008 to prevent the likely introduction of unwanted pests, diseases and invasive alien species into the country. A joint program between agriculture and environment division is being developed to provide a mechanism to address the synergies and inter linkages between SPREP's invasive species programme and SPC's invasive program in the country.			

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
While pressures will continue to come from increased transport, trade and tourism, SPREP's invasive species programme and SPC's invasive program in the country have greater potentials to identify and introduce appropriate measures to do something about the issue.
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
Indicators used: limited work in this field; invasive alien species not a priority of government; limited monitoring for invasive alien species.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels; loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.
Joint and cooperative effort should be promoted and strengthened among relevant agencies and strong partnership established by government with importing enterprises.

Box XIII.

Target 6.2	Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
The agriculture Quarantine already has in a place a management plan for avian influenza and is working on a similar plan for giant snail thought to have introduced by logging companies through machinery. The SPREP's invasive species programme and SPC's invasive program will help the country develop similar plans or strategies in due course.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The agriculture Quarantine Division of MAL already has in place a management plan for avian influenza and is working on a similar plan for giant african snail (GAS). A general pest response plan was developed for pest outbreaks.
b) Inland water		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.

c) Marine and coastal	X		SPREP has developed a regional strategy and plan, namely PACPOL of which an important component was the control of invasive species introduced by sea transport. The programmes by SPREP and SPC invasive species will hopefully help the country with a specific plan for marine environment.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
f) Mountain		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>The agriculture Quarantine has identified as one of its strategies in its corporate plan 2006-2008 to prevent the likely introduction of unwanted pests, diseases and invasive alien species into the country. A joint program between agriculture and environment departments is being developed to provide a mechanism to address the synergies and interlinkages between SPREP's invasive species programme and SPC's invasive program in the country.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
<p>It has been established that a great number of alien species have already entered and multiplied themselves in Solomon Islands. Despite current efforts and until effective management plans or measures are in place to identify and monitor the major pathways for alien species and control specific alien species, the problem is an increasing concern for the country.</p>			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
<p>Indicators used: management plans developed; strengthened coordination between relevant agencies; interlinkages between relevant programs identified and improved.</p>			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
<p>Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels; loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.</p>			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
<p>Baseline information on the invasive alien species already in the country needs to be updated so that targeted responses or appropriate management measures are introduced and implemented.</p>			

Box XIV.

Goal 7	Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.		
Target 7.1	Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>There are currently no national strategies or plans, for example, the national adaptation plan of action (NAPA) to address effects of climate change in the country. The adaptation plan is being developed but the priority will likely be on the adaptation in natural or human systems to climatic stimuli or their effects. Solomon Islands has been involved in similar projects prior to this, for example, the PICCAP project to make an inventory of national green house gas under which a national implementation strategy has been drafted and more recently the greenhouse abatement and renewable energy project (PIGGAREP) to mitigate the impact of climate change. SPREP is assisting the Pacific region with the adaptation to climate change project (PACC).</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The MAL has a strategy to enhance food security in response to food emergency situations such as droughts and long wet season, cyclones, sea-level rise, and floods.
b) Inland water	X		A vulnerability and adaptation assessment has been completed for freshwater resource in specific localities in Solomon Islands.
c) Marine and coastal		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		There is a possibility that work on the clean development mechanism (CDM) will be pursued, which involves forest conservation and management.
f) Mountain		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>While a national adaptation plan of action for climate change is being developed under the Meteorology department, it is less likely for biodiversity issues to be given adequate attention in the action plan. The PACC is being designed and formulated with the assistance of SPREP and could be</p>			

the vehicle for this, with relevant information produced by NAPA to undertake priority adaptation measures.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

Due to the level of poor understanding about the linkages between climate change and biodiversity progress in this target will be challenging with natural habitats, population of species and genetic diversity being vulnerable to decrease.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Indicators used: lack of national strategies or action plans; inadequate attention accorded to this area; limited support; low priority.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels; loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Critical habitats, population of species and genetic diversity need to be identified and protected, which hopefully should contribute to resilience and facilitate adaptation despite climatic stimuli.

Box XV.

Target 7.2		Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target		X	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
In the Solomon Islands NEMS pollution control has been identified as a priority area, with a couple of programmes designed to reduce pollution from industrial processing. Pollution control also constitutes an important part in the Environment Act 1998.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The Environment Act makes it mandatory for any agricultural development projects to go through an EIA process as a condition for development consent. A national agricultural strategy (ARDS) has been developed for agricultural sector, which requires EIA for activities in the sector.
b) Inland water	X		The Forestry Act and the Solomon Islands Code of Logging Practice have specific requirements for logging operations within the vicinity of any stream or river systems. The EIA provision in the Environment Act applies here, as well.
c) Marine and coastal	X		Solomon Islands is a Party to several international environmental conventions dealing marine pollution, namely SPREP Convention and MAPOL. The EIA provision in the Environment Act applies here, as well.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		The Forestry Act and the Solomon Islands Code of Logging Practice have made it legally binding on logging companies not to unnecessarily cut the forest because of its ecological importance and the ecosystem services it provides. The EIA provision in the Environment Act applies here, too.
f) Mountain	X		Due to environmental sensitivities, areas beyond 400 meters above sea level are out bound for logging operations. Despite intense and level of logging activities in Solomon Islands, mountain ecosystems are rarely affected.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	
Please provide details below.			

In the Solomon Islands NEMS pollution control has been identified as a priority area, with a couple of programmes designed to reduce pollution from industrial processing. Pollution control also constitutes an important part in the Environment Act 1998. This is an important activity in the environment agency's corporate plan and work programme. In the forestry and agriculture sectors environmental protection was given due attention in their respective strategies and corporate plans.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

The level of pollution and the amount of pollutants entering the environment pose a serious concern for the country, which will not be effectively addressed until Solomon Islands fully commits itself to implementing relevant conventions it has ratified or signed.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Indicators used: pollution control as a priority area in the NEMS; recognition of EIA as a tool for environmental management; existence of Environment Act and its pollution control aspect;

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; population pressure; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels; loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Adequate resources and capacity are necessary to effectively deal with the increasing amount of pollutants entering the environment.

Box XVI.

Goal 8	Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods.		
Target 8.1	Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
<p>In the forestry sector it is not permitted for timber trees under a specified size to be harvested while roading specifications have been developed in order that the forest cover is not unnecessarily disturbed. At least 25 percent of canopy cover should be left standing with minimal disturbance from logging activities in addition to the requirement to establish buffer strips of 25 meters and 50 meters from streams and rivers respectively. The fisheries agency prohibits use of dynamite fishing as a fishing method.</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		There is a lot of emphasis on supporting the conservation, improvement and sustainable use of natural resources for food by the relevant agency. Under the forestry Act, it is a requirement for disturbed land area to be rehabilitated with the soil stockpiles removed during land clearing. The reason is to maintain soil productivity.
b) Inland water	X		It is a requirement to establish buffer strips of 25 meters and 50 meters from streams and rivers respectively to reduce pollution to the water system. Similar guidelines are being developed for agricultural developments to restrict chemical applications near surface water system.
c) Marine and coastal	X		Use of certain fishing methods such as dynamite fishing is completely banned. Harvesting of specified marine resources, for example, turtles under certain sizes also prohibited.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	This environmental condition is not applicable in Solomon Islands.
e) Forest	X		It is not permitted for timber trees under a specified size to be harvested while roading specifications have been developed in order that the forest cover is not unnecessarily disturbed. At least 25 percent of canopy cover should be left standing with minimal disturbance from logging activities.
f) Mountain	X		With the exception of subsistence farming, major economic activities such as industrial logging and commercial agriculture are not allowed in such regions.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			

b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan	
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes	X
Please provide details below.	
<p>The forest policy identifies as one of its key implementation strategies to provide support for the protection of the environment and ecological sustainability. Its corporate plan and work plan is consistent with relevant requirements under forestry Act. The environment agency gives significant emphasis to the application of the EIA process for prescribed developments in its corporate plan and work plan. The fisheries agency gives considerable emphasis to better resource management through legislation and community management. For agriculture, it is one its strategic approaches to conserve and rehabilitate the environment to support agriculture and food production.</p>	
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.	
<p>Most of the ecosystem services provided by the forest, rivers, and coastal areas are currently declining due to heavy logging, agricultural developments, population pressure and pollution from industrial and solid wastes and sewage. Food and fibre production from agriculture and aquaculture appear to be stable.</p>	
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.	
<p>Indicators used: sustainability of food production; better resource management practices; selective logging; inland water protection;</p>	
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.	
<p>Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; population pressure; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels; loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.</p>	
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.	
<p>Knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management should be promoted among stakeholders through public education and awareness.</p>	

Box XVII.

Target 8.2		Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target		X	
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
In the economic development sectors in forestry, fisheries and agriculture there have been considerable emphasis on providing environment conducive to enhancing food security and alleviating rural poverty, increased opportunities and livelihoods for rural fishers and assist communities with reforestation activities as a means of supporting their livelihoods.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Among the responsible department's strategies, there are two strategies that directly addresses the target, namely enhancing food security and alleviating poverty and supporting conservation, improvement and sustainable use of natural resources for food and agriculture.
b) Inland water	X		There are relevant provisions in the forestry Act not disturb streams and rivers by logging activities because of the importance of inland water as one source of food for the rural communities. Similar guidelines are being developed for agricultural developments to restrict chemical applications near surface water system.
c) Marine and coastal	X		There are strategies developed by the responsible agency to expand aquaculture activities, introduce management plans for particular marine species and empower communities to manage their marine resources.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable
e) Forest	X		Important plant species for food, cultural and traditional uses such as canoe, housing, etc, and medicines are not allowed to be harvested or destroyed during logging operations under the forestry Act.
f) Mountain	X		With the exception of subsistence farming, major economic activities such as industrial logging and commercial agriculture are not allowed in such regions.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes		X	
Please provide details below.			
In reality, efforts to enhance food security and alleviating poverty and support conservation, improvement and sustainable use of natural resources for food and agriculture, expand aquaculture			

activities, introduce management plans for particular marine species and empower communities to manage their marine resources and provide support for the protection of the environment and ecological sustainability form an important integral component of respective agencies' strategies and work programme.

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.

The current trend is positive because of the efforts put into alleviating poverty, sustainable use of natural resources and empowering communities to manage their resources while emphasizing the importance of environment protection and ecological sustainability.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Indicators used: sustainable rural livelihood strategies; environment protection and ecological sustainability strategy; community empowerment strategy; sustainable use of natural resources strategy.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; unsustainable consumption patterns; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; population pressure; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels; loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Such biological resources should first be identified and recorded.

Box XVIII.

Goal 9	Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities.		
Target 9.1	Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			X
Please provide details below.			
Solomon Islands through National Museum and Attorney General's Chambers is collaborating with SPREP and South Pacific Commission in developing a model law on traditional and access to and benefit sharing of traditional knowledge for the country.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details

a) Agricultural	X		A Guide to Useful Plants in Solomon Islands has been developed which includes information on food plants, customary use plants (medicine, perfumes, etc) and other agricultural important plants. There was also the Farming System Agronomy used to be under agriculture which did some preliminary study on the traditional knowledge aspects of agricultural practices.
b) Inland water		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
c) Marine and coastal	X		The International Waters Programme (IWP) has conducted socio-economic surveys in targeted areas in Solomon islands. Participatory consultation was heavily used in soliciting information from pilot communities to identify the root causes of coastal fisheries-related problems in the region, which draws largely on traditional knowledge.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable
e) Forest	X		A proposal to develop better understanding of the importance and uses of Solomon Islands forest or plants has been under discussion with a Japanese research institution.
f) Mountain	X		It is likely that the above project will also cover mountainous plants.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
While it has been recognized that traditional knowledge, innovations and practices need to be protected attempts to realize this is still at discussion stage between relevant authorities (national museum and Attorney General's Chambers).			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
The long term decline in traditional knowledge is likely to continue unless appropriate measures are initiated by relevant authorities to reduce the rate of decline.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Indicators used: lack of appropriate policies and laws; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully			

utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

It is very important to put as a high priority for Solomon Islands.

Box XIX.

Target 9.2	Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
This is currently being addressed through SPREP at the regional level however it is still in infancy stage. Solomon Islands through National Museum and Attorney General's Chambers is collaborating with SPREP and Secretariate of the Pacific Community (SPC) in developing a model law on traditional and access to and benefit sharing of traditional knowledge for the country.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
b) Inland water		X	T There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
c) Marine and coastal		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
f) Mountain		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
There has been virtually no work undertaken for this target in Solomon Islands. Relevant authorities are currently looking at developing a model law on the subject to better protect traditional knowledge and access to this body of knowledge.			

IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.
The target is achievable but depends on political will, nationally and internationally, and on building capacity among indigenous and local communities.
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.
Indicators used: lack of appropriate policies and laws; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels;
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XX.

Goal 10	Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources.		
Target 10.1	All transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			
b) Yes, the same as the global target			X
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Relevant government authorities in agriculture, environment, and health together with private companies have already started some work on the biosafety issues in Solomon Islands under the national biosafety project. In the national economic recovery, reform and development plan 2003-2006 (NERRDP), there has been an important activity for draft legislation on access and benefit sharing of genetic resources to be made.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		The SPC has developed a generic material transfer agreement (MTA) which PICs can use in transfer of plant material between SPC and regional countries.

b) Inland water		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
c) Marine and coastal		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
e) Forest		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
f) Mountain		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
There has been virtually no work undertaken for this target in Solomon Islands. Relevant authorities are currently addressing this issue under the biosafety project in trying to put in place mechanisms for this.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
The target is achievable but depends on political will, nationally and internationally, and on building capacity among indigenous and local communities.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Indicators used: lack of appropriate policies and laws; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns. limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			
Solomon Islands need to expedite its current activities in biosafety and access and benefit sharing of genetic resources because it has very rich biodiversity.			

Box XXI.

Target 10.2		Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared with the countries providing such resources	
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
There has been virtually no work undertaken for this target in Solomon Islands. Relevant authorities are currently addressing this issue under the biosafety project in trying to put in place administrative and regulatory mechanisms for this.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
b) Inland water		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
c) Marine and coastal		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
e) Forest		X	A Memorandum of Agreement between the Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation and Kochi Prefectural Makino Botanical Garden of Japan has been concluded recently, which among other issues, it was agreed for the Japanese research company to give proper considerations to protect the economic interests of Solomon Islands within the context of the CBD. No formal arrangements have been made in this regard.
f) Mountain		X	There is generally no information available for this POW due to very limited work done in this area.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No		X	
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
There has been virtually no work undertaken for this target in Solomon Islands. Relevant authorities are currently addressing this issue under the biosafety project in trying to put in place regulatory and administrative mechanisms for this.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
The target is achievable but depends on political will, nationally and internationally, and on building			

capacity among indigenous and local communities.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Indicators used: lack of appropriate policies and laws; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; weak law enforcement capacity; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Box XXII.

Goal 11	Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention.		
Target 11.1	New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
Solomon Islands heavily depends on financial support from the developed country Parties to implement the CBD at the national and local level.			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		Regional organizations such as FAO and SPC and bilateral support from donor governments (AusAID, ROC, World Bank, EU) to Solomon Islands over the past years have been very helpful in this sector, for example, the publication on useful plants in Solomon Islands (Ethnobotany: Useful Plants of Solomon Islands by Henderson & Handcock). A sustainable land management project with funding assistance from GEF and others is being planned for the country.

b) Inland water	X		A preliminary aquatic survey was completed for numerous river systems in Solomon Islands with funding support from outside research institutions.
c) Marine and coastal	X		A rapid ecological survey or marine assessment has been completed for the country's marine resources with funding support from NTC and others. Detail studies is now required to understand population stock and migratory of certain species
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable
e) Forest	X		A number of forestry projects are being implemented to assist the responsible agency in such areas as information management, inventory, reforestation and forest conservation in different parts of the country.
f) Mountain		X	Support for mountain biodiversity has not been effective.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
Solomon Islands is at present placed under the category of less developing state and very much dependant on international donor institutions and development partners for most of its projects in the environment and conservation sector.			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
The success of this target in Solomon Islands largely depends on political will internationally and how effectively biodiversity concerns are integrated with development assistance frameworks and related policies and strategies.			
V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.			
Indicators used: limited support from national government; heavy dependence on GEF for enabling activities; biodiversity concerns not mainstreamed and integrated into other sectors and developing planning.			
VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.			
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.			
VII) Please provide any other relevant information.			

Box XXIII.

Target 11.2	Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4		
I) National target: Has a national target been established corresponding to the global target above?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, the same as the global target			
c) Yes, one or more specific national targets have been established			
Please provide details below.			
<p>Technical assistance to enable Solomon Islands effectively implement its commitments under the CBD have always been through training workshops and regional and/or international meetings. Such workshops are mainly related to ongoing projects and often organized with some technical support from relevant regional intergovernmental bodies such as SPREP, Secretariat of the Pacific Community and Australian Center for International Agriculture Research (ACIAR).</p>			
II) National targets for specific programmes of work: If such national target(s) ha(s)(ve) been established, please indicate here, and give further details in the box(es).			
Programme of work	Yes	No	Details
a) Agricultural	X		AusAID, EU, World Bank, Republic of China (ROC), FAO, SPC, and GEF have provided technical and monetary support for agriculture programmes.
b) Inland water		X	There has been virtually no work undertaken in this area.
c) Marine and coastal	X		European Union has an ongoing project with the fisheries department to develop the country's aquaculture.
d) Dry and subhumid land		X	Not applicable.
e) Forest	X		AusAID has been supporting forestry department in its reforestation programme for several years, with more support expected from EU and World Bank.
f) Mountain	X		A terrestrial conservation project has been in existence in one part of the country with technical assistance provided by various overseas technical expertise and in different competences.
III) Has the global or national target been incorporated into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?			
a) No			X
b) Yes, into national biodiversity strategy and action plan			
c) Yes, into sectoral strategies, plans and programmes			
Please provide details below.			
<p>Relevant technical expertise in different sectors has always been supplied from outside the country, as a component of the assistance program.</p>			
IV) Please provide information on current status and trends in relation to this target.			
<p>Several capacity building training workshops have already been attended by officers from environment and development planning departments along with project personnel in related areas</p>			

such as project planning and management, improving negotiating skills of MEA negotiators and concerning information about GEF operations and mechanisms.

V) Please provide information on indicators used in relation to this target.

Indicators used: number of training workshops organized and attended; information concerning how to access GEF resources; cooperation between relevant regional organizations such as SPREP, SOPAC, Forum Secretariat and UN agencies such as UNEP and UNDP.

VI) Please provide information on challenges in implementation of this target.

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels;

VII) Please provide any other relevant information.

Making available technical assistance is particularly important for Solomon Islands to enable it fulfill its commitment and obligation.

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)

The Conference of the Parties, in decision VI/9, annex, adopted the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Parties and Governments are invited to develop their own targets with this flexible framework. The Conference of the Parties considered the Strategy as a pilot approach for the use of outcome oriented targets under the Convention. In decision VII/10, the Conference of the Parties decided to integrate the targets into the reporting framework for the Third National Reports. Please provide relevant information by responding to the questions and requests contained in the following tables.

Box XXIV.

Target 1. A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>The forestry division has produced a list of tree species known in Solomon islands and categorized them into three categories. These include (i) species (25) identified as high priority for genetic resource operations and activities (ii) important indigenous tree species and uses (50) and (iii) important exotic tree species and uses (20).</p> <p>A Guide to Useful Plants in Solomon Islands has been developed and is with the agriculture department, which includes information on food plants, customary use plants (medicine, perfumes, etc) and other agricultural important plants.</p>	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>These two government agencies (forestry division & agriculture ministry) have both included relevant activities to this target in their respective work plans and programmes. The forestry division, for example, continues to implement important activities to further develop database on the tree species that are present in the country.</p>	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
<p>A table containing tree species already identified in the country has been developed and this database will continue to be developed as new species are being recognized, with a botanist specifically assigned to implement the work plan.</p>	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
<p>i) plant and tree collections and identification; (ii) establishment of germplasms or gene banks.</p>	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	

(i) plant and tree collections and identification made; (ii) germplasms or gene banks established; (iii) a guide to Useful Plants in Solomon Islands produced.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXV.

Target 2. A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

X

b) No

Please specify

The forestry division with the assistance of the South Pacific Regional Initiative on Forest Genetic Resources (SPRIG) has undertaken a new initiative to develop a conservation and sustainable management strategy for tree species in Solomon islands. An agreement to develop better understanding of the importance and uses of Solomon Islands forest or plants has been concluded between Solomon Islands government and a Japanese research institution.

A Guide to Useful Plants in Solomon Islands has been developed and is with the agriculture department, which includes information on food plants, customary use plants (medicine, perfumes, etc) and other agricultural important plants.

The work undertaken by forestry and agriculture will eventually be used as a basis for plant conservation in the country.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

X

b) No

Please specify

The research section within forestry division has developed a conservation and management strategy for one of the tree species identified and it is the plan to work with relevant government agencies and local communities to implement the strategy by developing pilot activities in some of the areas where the tree species occurs.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

A preliminary survey of the sites thought to have the occurrence of this tree species *Xanthostemon* sp. has been undertaken in 2002 through general consultation with the people in Isabel and Choiseul island. A team of forestry officers were later dispatched to the identified sites to quantify the stands at specific areas.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Concerning the forestry project, the following activities have been identified to achieve the target (i) community engagement in conservation (ii) identification of proposed conservation area (iii) establish demonstration plots (iv) seed and specimen collections (v) establishment of natural regeneration plots

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

(i) consultation with resource owners (ii) preliminary site surveys (iii) development of conservation and sustainable management strategy (iv) identification of activities to establish conservation sites.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXVI.

Target 3. Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>The forestry division has been doing some work to improve the status of certain local tree species (such as rosewood) of high commercial value by cultivating them in its field station. Unsustainable harvesting of these native tree species in the wild is increasingly becoming a threat to their survival so the program aims to make available sufficient planting materials from the trial plots to interested farmers to grow.</p> <p>A proposal to develop better understanding of the importance and uses of Solomon Islands forest or plants has been under discussion with a Japanese research institution. Timber harvesting plans are an important requirement for logging activities where adherence to the code of logging practice, to reduce environmental degradation, is a necessity.</p>	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>The agriculture and forestry departments as well as Kastom Garden are currently doing experiments with certain food plants and commercial tree species at their respective field stations according to their work plans.</p>	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
<p>There have already been some collections of food plants and other tree species of conservation value by agriculture and forestry departments and Kastom garden for <i>ex situ</i> conservation, which offers good prospects to conserve these plants and tree species.</p>	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
<p>(i) plant and tree collections; (ii) establishment of germplasms or gene banks; (iii) establishment of field stations for experiments.</p>	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
<p>(i) development and adoption of species management plans for threatened species; (ii) incorporation of sustainable production in productive sectoral plans and strategies; (iii) tendency for the use of regulatory measures; (iv) CITES (Convention on International in Endangered Species) ratification.</p>	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXVII.

Target 4. At least ten percent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The unsustainable level of forest removal due to logging, agricultural practices and increased population growth poses serious threat to the country's tropical rainforest.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

Logging activities continues unabated, which has long been practiced since the mid-1980s and for two decades there has been no effective management of the overall rate of harvesting of the country's natural forest. Although a new national policy statement was made in 2003, which implemented would reverse existing trend, it remains largely unimplemented.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Since 2003 un-logged forest, approximately 325,000 hectares, considered having conservation values worthy of protection have been included in the commercial forest estate and most of these areas have since been logged. The trend looks disturbing as logging companies are running out of accessible un-logged forest to harvest while companies are seeking re-entry into previously logged areas.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

Although the country's natural forest continues to be heavily exploited some measures have been put in place nonetheless, including (i) development of a national forest policy (ii) development of a forest strategy for Solomon Islands 2006 – 2011.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

(i) rate of forest removal (ii) number of license issued to logging companies (iii) entry into potential areas of conservation values.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXVIII.

Target 5. Protection of fifty percent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

Some botanical survey work has been undertaken by forestry officers in the past but the work was only limited to understanding the distribution and occurrence of major vegetation types and conditions. A number of forestry projects are being implemented to assist the responsible agency only in such areas as information management, inventory, reforestation and forest conservation in different parts of Solomon Islands.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The government of Solomon Islands has recently signed an agreement with the European Union (EU) to support forest management and conservation on Tetepare Island and in Makira province. A forest conservation grant scheme to support community organisations manage their forest resource was an important component of the agreement.

According to Solomon Islands Forest Strategy, WWF has identified 5 geographic areas to establish viable ecologically representative protected areas network to protect the conservation values of country's rainforest, all of which meet the criteria of high biological diversity.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Of the 5 geographic areas identified in the forest strategy, there has been some work already undertaken in two of these sites, to protect their forest biodiversity because of their conservation values. Several more terrestrial conservation areas are being established despite the competing goals of development and environmental protection.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)
(i) development of a forest strategy for Solomon Islands 2006 – 2011 (ii) establishment of representative ecologically protected areas network (iii) financial resources secured (iv) protected area legislation being considered.
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)
(i) financial resources secured (ii) representative forest conservation areas established (iii) involvement of donor financial institutions (iv) community involvement and participation.
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.
VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXIX.

Target 6. At least thirty percent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Removal of forest for subsistence cultivation or agriculture without proper land use planning schemes compounded by population pressure and subsequent encroachment into new lands is a major issue for the country.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
The department of agriculture has a strategy for supporting the conservation, improvement and sustainable use of natural resources for food and agriculture, with activities mainly to conserve and rehabilitate environment to support agriculture and food production and to establish and pursue proper land use planning strategies.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	

Pressure on cultivated land and virgin forest for new production land is increasing due to population pressure and economic interests.
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)
(i) development of proper land use planning strategies (ii) introduction of EIA technique on agricultural projects (iii) rehabilitation of degraded land for agriculture and food production.
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)
(i) land use planning strategies developed (ii) EIA technique introduced (iii) degraded land rehabilitated and conserved for agriculture.
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns.
VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXX.

Target 7. Sixty percent of the world's threatened species conserved <i>In-situ</i>.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Although no specific targets have made to conserve threatened species <i>in-situ</i> the forestry division has identified a particular tree species <i>Xanthostemon sp</i> for this particular species due to its limited regional distribution in the country. Several tree species were also prohibited through regulatory measures not to be disturbed by logging in their current environment.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
An initial survey has been undertaken to clearly identify where this tree species is concentrated and occurred and plans are in place to work with resource owners where the tree occurs to protect this particular plant species. A qualified forester is assigned to work on this.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	

Progress has been slow due to inadequate financial and technical resources to protect this plant species but forestry division is committed to ensure the project comes to fruition.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

(i) consultation with resource owners (ii) preliminary surveys of distribution and occurrence (iii) identification of particular sites for conservation purposes.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

(i) adjacent communities and resource owners consulted (ii) preliminary field surveys undertaken (iii) appropriate sites for conservation identified (iv) activities to enhance existing work developed.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXI.

Target 8. Sixty percent of threatened plant species in accessible *Ex-situ* collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 percent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

X

b) No

Please specify

The forestry division has been doing some work to improve the status of certain local tree species (such as rosewood) of high commercial value by cultivating them in its field station, for later distribution for *ex situ* conservation.

The agriculture division has a collection of indigenous and exotic fruit trees at its field experimental stations, which aims to make available enough planting materials for farmers to grow. Kastom garden through Solomon Islands Planting Materials Network (PMN) has its own collections of native and exotic plant species at its gene banks at seed saving centers in the country, for *ex situ* conservation.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

X

b) No

Please specify

The agriculture and forestry departments are currently doing experiments with certain food plants and commercial tree species at their respective field stations according to their respective work plans. The agriculture department, for example, has identified tree crops development, vanilla development and exotic and indigenous crops development in its corporate plan 2007 – 2010. The *ex situ* storage of planting materials by Kastom garden is an ongoing programme.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Good progress has already been made by Solomon Islands Planting Materials Network and agriculture department in establishing *ex-situ* conservation of many threatened plant species.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

(i) plant and tree collections (ii) establishment of germplasms or gene banks; (iii) establishment of field stations for experiments (iv) distribution of planting materials or seeds.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

(i) plant and tree collections made; (ii) germplasms or gene banks established; (iii) field stations for experiments established (iv) planting materials or seeds distributed.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXII.

Target 9. Seventy percent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Although the forestry division and agriculture department did some work in this thematic area of work by identifying plant species of high priority for genetic resource operations and activities and made some collections of root crops with the traditional knowledge associated with the use of these crops also recorded, there is a lot to be done here.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Relevant productive sector of the Solomon Islands economy including agriculture and forestry have incorporated various strategies in their respective action plans and work programs, emphasizing the sustainable management of their rather destructive activities.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
Lack of accessible knowledge and information and lack of financial, human and technical capacities will continue to impede progress in this thematic area of work despite existing efforts to record traditional knowledge associated with the country's plant genetic resources.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
(i) identification of plant species of high priority for genetic resource operations (ii) documentation of the traditional knowledge associated with these crops and plant species (iii) formulation of sustainable management strategies.	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
(i) plant species of high priority for genetic resource operations identified (ii) incorporation of sustainable production in productive sectoral plans and strategies; (iii) traditional knowledge associated with plant genetic resources recorded.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXIII.

Target 10. Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

While management plans are in place for certain animals and diseases, for example, avian influenza and giant African snail none is currently available for invasive alien plant species. The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) did undertake a preliminary survey of alien plant species in the country in the past.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

The agriculture Quarantine has identified as one of its strategies in its corporate plan 2006-2008 to prevent the likely introduction of unwanted pests, diseases and invasive alien species into the country. A joint program between agriculture and environment division is being developed to provide a mechanism to address the synergies and inter linkages between SPREP's invasive species programme and SPC's invasive program in the country.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

While pressures will continue to come from increased transport, trade and tourism, SPREP's invasive species programme and SPC's invasive program in the country have greater potentials to identify and introduce appropriate measures to do something about the issue.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

(i) participation in regional alien species programme (ii) improve coordination between relevant agencies (iii) establish synergies between relevant programmes.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)
(i) management plans developed; (ii) coordination between relevant agencies strengthened; (iii) inter-linkages between relevant programs identified and improved.
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.
VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXIV.

Target 11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Under the Wildlife Protection and Management Act and the Forest Utilisation Act it is prohibited to extract for international trade various species of plants, some endemic, threatened and culturally significant to locals. New regulatory mechanisms are being considered under an approved management program in accordance with CITES, which includes approved program for plant species.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
New regulatory mechanisms and a new set of criteria are being considered for introduction by ECD in line with its work plan to ensure the international trade in country's wildlife including plant species are properly regulated in accordance with the CITES requirements and the Wildlife Protection and Management Act.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
The pressure from high population and need for economic growth tends to make it very difficult to effectively manage and control activities in forestry and agriculture sectors.	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	

(i) inclusion of certain plant species in the Prohibited Exports under the Wildlife Protection and Management Act (ii) listing of certain plant species as Protected Species under the Forest and Timber Utilisation Act (iii) introduction of management program for particular plant species.
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)
(i) non-export of prohibited plant species; (ii) accession to CITES in June 24 2007; (iii) introduction of approved management program; (iv) register of approved person under a ministerial declaration.
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target
Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.
VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXV.

Target 12. Thirty percent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
Please specify	
Agriculture division has developed initiatives to introduce new crops and technologies to ensure particular crops are not heavily exploited for food and for planting materials to be provided in multiple numbers to demonstration farms.	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
Relevant productive sector of the Solomon Islands economy including agriculture have incorporated various strategies in its action plan and work program, emphasizing the sustainable management of its activities, for example, through export of cultivated rather than wild plants or crops.	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	

While activities in the forestry sector may not be sustainable due to overexploitation of selected tree species and due to the rate at which timber harvesting is currently taking place, agriculture department has developed new initiatives to introduce new crops and technologies to ensure particular crops are not heavily exploited for food.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

(i) development of strategies (ii) introduction of new technologies (iii) establishment of trial plots for certain tree species.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

(i) strategies developed (ii) new technologies developed (iii) trial plots developed.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXVI.

Target 13. The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

X

b) No

Please specify

The ministry of agriculture and livestock has stocktaked its plant resource and associated local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care. This has been published in the book - A guide to useful plants in the Solomon Islands with information on food plants, agriculturally important plants and custom used plants – crafts, medicinal, adornment /perfumes, fish poison and medicinal plants.

Another document on the flora of Solomon Islands has also been produced with plan now underway for it to be reviewed.

Kastom Garden Association, an established organization promoting local food production has a project relating to traditional crop conservation and production. This is potentially significant in the consideration of local knowledge and sustainable livelihood.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>The Research unit within DAL in the past has set the Farming System Agronomy (FSA) to enable a study of the traditional knowledge aspect of agriculture be studied and documented. This is a current target area to be strengthened and revived in its current work plan.</p> <p>The Agricultural and rural development strategy, one of the major policy document of the government, focuses on improving rural livelihood by improving strategies for optimum agricultural system and improving access necessary infrastructure and services. This has implication to plant resources</p> <p>In the agriculture policy document of the current government one of its major focal areas is to strive to increase local agricultural output for both consumption and import substitution/export and also to ensure that food security for Solomon Islanders is improved and maintained to keep pace with a growing population.</p>	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
<p>Kastom Garden Association local food production has a project relating to local traditional crop conservation and production and is on going and extended into provinces.</p> <p>The Agricultural and rural development strategy has been launched and funded by the European Union.</p> <p>In implementing the major agriculture polices of the government the Agriculture division has developed initiatives to introduce new crops and technologies to ensure particular crops are not heavily exploited for food and for planting materials to be provided in multiple numbers to demonstration farms.</p>	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
(i) development of strategies (ii) development of new technologies (iii) establishment of trial plots	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
(i) strategies developed (ii) technologies developed and tested (iii) trial plots developed.	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	
<p>Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.</p>	
VII) Any other relevant information	

Box XXXVII.

Target 14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes.	
I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>Solomon Island currently has a Herbarium unit with the Ministry of Forestry, Environment and Conservation. Given the recent ethnic conflict it is currently temporarily relocated to the Fiji and plan is underway for its re-establishment, this important for student and public research.</p> <p>Development of published materials such as A guide to useful plants in the Solomon Islands and the flora of Solomon Islands, which are available for educational and public awareness uses.</p> <p>Kastom garden demonstration farms are practical in terms of education and public awareness and also undertake training programs for local stakeholders in the provinces.</p>	
II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?	
a) Yes	X
b) No	
Please specify	
<p>Arrangements or plans to relocate the collections of plant specimens from Solomon Islands held in Fiji are underway in accordance with forestry division work programme. The materials should be available for education purposes in the Herbarium in the country in the near future. Environment and Conservation Division has an environmental awareness programme in place, another medium for disseminating information about the country's plant diversity and their conservation values.</p>	
III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)	
<p>Information about the country's national forest resource has been produced and is available to the public in the publication Solomon Islands National Forest Resource Assessment Update 2006.</p>	
IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)	
<p>(i) relocation of plant specimens from Fiji (ii) production of National Forest Resource Assessment Update 2006 (iii) formulation of environmental awareness programme.</p>	
V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)	
<p>(i) National Forest Resource Assessment Update 2006 produced (ii) environmental awareness programme formulated (iii) importance of plant diversity included in awareness program.</p>	
VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target	

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXVIII.

Target 15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

Solomon Islands currently only has a very limited number of trained people available in this area while the facilities they are using for research and gene banks need to be improved. In other words the research facilities are very basic.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

b) No

X

Please specify

Despite poor facilities and inadequate staff, the forestry division has been working on a plan to improve its research activities at respective field stations in the provinces, with the agriculture department undertaking similar activities at its field stations.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Current efforts by forestry division and agriculture department to improve knowledge and manage threatened plant species in the country are slow due to inadequate financial and technical resources to support the work.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

(i) establishment of field stations for research (ii) assignment of staff for research activities (iii) collaboration with regional and international research institutions on plants.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

(i) research field stations established (ii) officers assigned to research activities (iii) MoU signed for collaboration between international research institutions and government.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XXXIX.

Target 16. Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.

I) Has your country established national target corresponding to the above global target?

a) Yes

X

b) No

Please specify

The agriculture division has a collection of indigenous and exotic fruit trees at its field experimental stations in four provinces, which aims to make available enough planting materials for farmers to grow. Kastom garden through Solomon Islands Planting Materials Network (PMN) has its own collections of native and exotic plant species at its gene banks at seed saving centers in the country, whose aim was to produce, process and distribute agriculturally useful plants through out its network.

II) Has your country incorporated the above global or national target into relevant plans, programmes and strategies?

a) Yes

X

b) No

Please specify

The agriculture and forestry departments are currently doing experiments with certain food plants and commercial tree species at their respective field stations according to their work plans. The agriculture department, for example, has identified tree crops development, vanilla development and exotic and indigenous crops development in its corporate plan 2007 – 2010.

III) Current status (please indicate current status related to this target)

Financial and technical support is important to properly establish and strengthen the existing activities, although a substantial progress has already been made by Solomon Islands Planting Materials Network and agriculture department.

IV) Measures taken to achieve target (please indicate activities, legislative measures and other steps taken with a view to achieve the target)

(i) plant and tree collections (ii) establishment of germplasms or gene banks; (iii) establishment of field stations for experiments (iv) distribution of planting materials or seeds within the network (v) establishment of networks around the country.

V) Progress made towards target (please specify indicators used to monitor progress towards the target)

(i) plant and tree collections made; (ii) germplasms or gene banks established; (iii) field stations for experiments established (iv) planting materials or seeds within the network distributed (v) networks around the country established.

VI) Constraints to achieving progress towards the target

Challenges encountered: lack of political support; lack of appropriate policies and laws; inadequate capacity; lack of adequate scientific research capacities; lack of accessible knowledge and information; lack of financial, human and technical resources; lack of synergies at national level; lack of capacities for local communities; lack of effective partnerships; natural disasters and environmental change; and unsustainable consumption patterns; limited public participation and stakeholder involvement; lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders; existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized; lack of public education and awareness at all levels.

VII) Any other relevant information

Box XL.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The activities outlined above are in many ways contributing to the achievement of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, 2010 target and Millennium Development Goals. The impacts of the actions taken, however, are not really obvious and slow due to inadequate resources. In terms of the Strategic Plan, there is a tendency now for broader engagement across society with improved financial, human scientific capacity in implementing the CBD. Millennium development goal 7 on environmental sustainability also benefits from these activities so as improvements in some targets, for example, targets 1.2 and 2.1 as far as the 2010 targets are concerned. It is particularly important for information about the CBD to be circulated widely to relevant stakeholders.

Ecosystem Approach

The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention. At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties has affirmed that the ecosystem approach is the primary framework for action under the Convention (decision II/8). The Conference of the Parties, at its fifth meeting, endorsed the description of the ecosystem approach and operational guidance and recommended the application of the principles and other guidance on the ecosystem approach. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties agreed that the priority at this time should be facilitating implementation of the ecosystem approach. Please provide relevant information by responding to the following questions.

3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹ Is your country applying the ecosystem approach, taking into account the principles and guidance contained in the annex to decision V/6? (decision V/6)	
a) No	
b) No, but application is under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects are being applied	X
d) Yes, substantially implemented	

4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Is your country developing practical expressions of the ecosystem approach for national policies and legislation and for implementation activities, with adaptation to local, national, and regional conditions? (decision V/6)	
a) No	X
b) No, but development is under consideration	
c) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying some principles of the ecosystem approach	
d) Yes, practical expressions have been developed for applying most principles of the ecosystem approach	

5. Is your country strengthening capacities for the application of the ecosystem approach, and providing technical and financial support for capacity-building to apply the ecosystem approach? (decision V/6)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, within the country	
c) Yes, including providing support to other Parties	

6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country promoted regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders? (decision V/6)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, informal cooperation (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, formal cooperation (please provide details below)	

¹ Please note that all the questions marked with have been previously covered in the second national reports and some thematic reports.

Further comments on regional cooperation in applying the ecosystem approach across national borders.

Application of the ecosystem approach is being examined more at the regional level than at the national level. At the national level, some of the international NGOs implement their own versions of the ecosystem approach.

7. Is your country facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach? (decisions VI/12 and VII/11)

a) No	X
b) No, some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on facilitating the exchange of experiences, capacity building, technology transfer and awareness raising to assist with the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

Some initiatives are being considered at the regional level, with some training already undertaken for Asia and Pacific region representatives in Thailand in 2006.

8. Is your country creating an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach, including through development of appropriate institutional frameworks? (decision VII/11)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant policies and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the creation of an enabling environment for the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

C. ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION

Article 5 – Cooperation

9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Is your country actively cooperating with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation (please give details below)	X
c) Yes, multilateral cooperation (please give details below)	X
d) Yes, regional and/or sub regional cooperation (please give details below)	X
e) Yes, other forms of cooperation (please give details below)	
Further comments on cooperation with other Parties in respect of areas beyond national jurisdiction for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
<p><i>Bilateral cooperation</i> – Solomon Islands has a number of active bilateral cooperative agreements with a number of Metropolitan countries. A cooperative agreement with Australia enables it to improve its capacity for surveillance of its national waters especially in relation to its oceanic and pelagic resources. The Australian bilateral assistance programme has been ongoing in the forestry sector for more than fifteen years and focuses on monitoring of the industry. A cooperative agreement with the Republic of China covers areas on relevant high level training and demonstration agricultural farms. A new agreement has been effected recently with a Botanical garden Japan covering development of botanical gardens and related activities.</p> <p><i>Regional</i> - Solomon Islands is a very active member of the Pacific Forum and all other regional organizations in the Pacific region where relevant issues of the convention are addressed. A number of regional agreements have already been in place as reported in the last report. New agreements include a Trilateral MOU between Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia covering the highly migratory leatherback turtle. A Memorandum of Understanding covering cetaceans was also concluded in the reporting period and is being implemented in the region. Existing regional agreements covers areas in forest genetic resources, and taro and other agricultural resources and invasive species.</p> <p><i>Multilateral</i> – Solomon Islands is a member of a multitude of international or global agreements as reported in the last report and continues to do whatever it can to implement those agreements. It has recently acceded to CITES and has already put in place domestic legislation to effect the convention (CITES) at the national level. One of the most significant cooperative agreements for Solomon Islands during this reporting period is the coming into force of the new Tuna Convention for the Western Pacific which also establishes the new Tuna Commission for the same area. This new agreement will assist countries of the region with other stakeholders to manage tuna and other pelagic resources.</p>	

10. Is your country working with other Parties to develop regional, sub regional or bioregional mechanisms and networks to support implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 A)	
a) No	
b) No, but consultations are under way	
c) Yes, some mechanisms and networks have been established (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, existing mechanisms have been strengthened (please provide details below)	
Further comments on development of regional, sub regional or bioregional mechanisms and networks	

to support implementation of the Convention.

The Trinational MOU referred to in part 9 is not only a regional or sub regional mechanism but a bio-regional arrangement to promote the conservation and management of sea turtles in the biological region between the governments of Solomon Island, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia. The regional organizations are the most effective regional mechanisms in the Pacific apart from mechanisms of international NGOs. The main regional organizations are the Pacific Forum, Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Pacific Applied Geosciences Commission, and the Pacific Community. The regional organizations in partnerships with member countries and governments of the region, multilateral institutions, national, regional and international NGOs have a number of relevant regional strategies that have become effective mechanisms for implementing various aspects of the convention. These strategies include the Pacific Plan, Action strategy for nature conservation, Regional strategy on Marine Turtles, Avifauna Strategy, Invasive Species strategy, Waste Management strategy, and Pacific Pollution Prevention strategy.

At the project level, a number of activities have been initiated with the assistance of other parties. Whilst some of these activities have been done through the government, many have also been done through NGOs and civil society groups active inside and outside of the country. A number of these networks have been facilitated through the programmes and activities of regional organizations in the region as well as international NGOs and Multilateral institutions and UN agencies. One of the most active networks in the region is the Roundtable meeting on nature conservation which comprises regional stakeholders in conservation and is basically tasked in overseeing the implementation of the regional strategy on conservation. Many of the other activities have been through the electronic media and discussion groups focusing on a number of themes and subjects.

11. Is your country taking steps to harmonize national policies and programmes, with a view to optimizing policy coherence, synergies and efficiency in the implementation of various multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) and relevant regional initiatives at the national level? (decision VI/20)

a) No	
b) No, but steps are under consideration	X
c) Yes, some steps are being taken (please specify below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive steps are being taken (please specify below)	

Further comments on the harmonization of policies and programmes at the national level.

The issue of harmonization of national policies/programmes to optimize coherence, synergies and efficiency in MEA implementation and relevant regional initiatives is recognized but has been a great challenge given the status of resources (both human/financial) required to even start the efforts. A number of relevant but adhoc initiatives have been started with assistance of NGOs to review the biodiversity related legal framework and identify gaps that can be the focus of future programmes/interventions on harmonization, coherence and synergies. The NCSA programme has produced an increased understanding of the capacity issues and has indicated the draft road map for future interventions in the area.

Box XLI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this strategy specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Efforts on cooperation have been consistent and improving through the reporting period and have

been supported much by regional organizations and international NGOs. Cooperation is the 'pacific way' and has continued to add impetus to the need for action for regional and international initiatives. The outcomes and impacts have been tangible in seeing through a number of initiatives and programmes being implemented and even on those on the drawing board. Many of the activities that have come about due to cooperative efforts involving the country, other parties, NGOs, communities, various government agencies, UN agencies, regional organizations has surely added further efforts in pursuing the 2010 target, reviving of the NBSAP programme, and contributing progress towards the MDGs. Constraints continue to be lack of resources in terms of human and finance, good governance, weak policies and the general lack of awareness. The fact that Solomon Islands is still in a post conflict situation means that priorities are driven by issues related to nation rebuilding.


Article 6 - General measures for conservation and sustainable use

12. Has your country put in place effective national strategies, plans and programmes to provide a national framework for implementing the three objectives of the Convention? (Goal 3.1 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant strategies, plans and programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, plans and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the strategies, plans and programmes for implementing the three objectives of the Convention.

Solomon Islands has yet to produce its NBSAP but efforts are under way to complete the plan which has stalled for sometime. There is currently no national strategic plan following the end of the NERRDP last year. A national report has been produced on the status of sustainable development strategies in the country with a view to add input to any new strategic plan but this has stalled. The new GCCG policies and its policy translation document has aspects covering various relevant issues in the areas of agriculture, fisheries, mineral resources and mining, environment and conservation, tourism, and commerce and trade. The documents however are too prescriptive and do not provide much opportunities for detailing relevant programmes and projects relevant to the CBD. The most up to date national strategy is the National Forest Conservation Strategy which is now funded by the European Union. The strategy has been projectized and has started implementation with the setting up of a Project Implementation Unit under the Department of Forests, Environment and Conservation. The strategy focuses on three thematic areas: Protected Areas, Sustainable Forest Management through Market Mechanisms and Community Enterprise, and Forests Governance. The draft NCSA action plan which has come out of the NCSA project focuses on the following five goals: 1. Good Governance and Environmental Stewardship at National and Provincial level, 2. Strengthening research, development and monitoring capacity to address priority environmental issues and international obligations, 3. Expanding training and education to increase environmental management capacity, 4. Creating an environment conducive to development and transfer of appropriate technology, and 5. Effective management and implementation of the international, regional and national environmental agenda. The other major national strategy that has just been completed is the Agricultural Rural development Strategy and is now being implemented. This strategy focuses on

13.  Has your country set measurable targets within its national strategies and action plans? (decisions II/7 and III/9)

a) No	
b) No, measurable targets are still in early stages of development	

c) No, but measurable targets are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, relevant targets are in place (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, reports on implementation of relevant targets available (please provide details below)	
Further comments on targets set within national biodiversity strategies and action plans.	
<p>The last national strategic plan (NERRDP) which ended in 2006 has measurable targets but these are all socio-economic targets. A new national strategic plan is being developed and information on targets is unavailable. The forest conservation strategy has specific targets covered under its three thematic areas. The draft NCSA action plan currently has many outputs under its five identified goals which can be regarded as targets, but lacks indicative timeframes. It also prioritizes some projects which include the review and update of the state of environment report, review and implementation of the national environmental and management strategy, national technology needs assessments, national environmental database and information management system, land use planning and land resources management project, and Division of Environment and Conservation institutional strengthening project.</p>	

14. Has your country identified priority actions in its national biodiversity strategy and action plan? (decision VI/27 A)	
a) No	
b) No, but priority actions are being identified	X
c) Yes, priority actions identified (please provide details below)	
Further comments on priority actions identified in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.	
<p>In the absence of a NBSAP, sectoral strategies such as the Forest Conservation strategy and the cross cutting action plan coming out of the NCSA have relevant priority actions. The Forest Conservation strategy focuses on the three thematic areas: Protected Areas, Sustainable Forest Management through Market Mechanisms and Community Enterprise, and Forests Governance. The draft NCSA action plan focuses on its five goals with many outputs. The NEMS still has relevant actions that require further implementation. The ARDS focuses on improving efforts to effectively address rural livelihoods and foster rural growth.</p>	

15. Has your country integrated the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as benefit sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision VI/27 A)	
a) No	
b) Yes, in some sectors (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, in major sectors (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, in all sectors (please provide details below)	
Further information on integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit-sharing into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.	
<p>The last national strategic plan does have relevant actions relating to conservation through a number of sectoral departments activities. The new GCCG policies and Policy Translation document does feature various relevant aspects of conservation and the need to increase benefits from the exploitation of natural resources including biological resources. Sectoral strategies include the Forest Conservation Strategy, NCSA draft action plan, Agricultural Rural Development Strategy, and the Tuna Management Plan. The Forest Conservation strategy and NCSA draft action plan include some</p>	

major activities focusing on benefit sharing. All major sectoral departments have corporate plans that direct their implementation activities. Many of these plans however do not have much in terms of benefit sharing even though most of the development activities involve national and local benefits.

16. Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan (NBSAP)? (decision VI/20)	
a) Yes	
b) No	X
I) If YES , please briefly describe the extent to which it addresses	
(a) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species	
(b) Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species' habitats, including protected areas	
(c) Minimizing or eliminating barriers or obstacles to migration	
(d) Research and monitoring for migratory species	
(e) Transboundary movement	
II) If NO , please briefly indicate below	
(a) The extent to which your country addresses migratory species at national level	The Tuna Management Plan addresses the highly migratory but globally important tuna species. National and regional efforts continue on turtles which are also highly migratory. These included establishing MPAs and protecting nesting and feeding grounds for the species. The Wildlife Protection and Management Act protect a number of migratory species and put many of them under strict management. The Arnavon Islands Marine Conservation Area which basically is a protected Hawksbill Turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>) rookery establishes a management plan which also covers the protection of migratory birds transiting through the conservation area.
(b) Cooperation with other Range States since 2000	The Trilateral MOU between Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia addresses various aspects of the migratory species, leatherback turtle (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>). Solomon Islands is a signatory to a recent regional MOU on Cetaceans in the Pacific. Its recent accession to the CITES has reaffirmed its commitment to the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species at the regional and global levels. Solomon Islands is also one of the first few countries to ratify the Western Pacific Tuna convention forcing its coming into force and allowing more focus and increased efforts in managing the globally important migratory tuna species which has come under undeserved pressure from developed distant fishing nations.

Biodiversity and Climate Change

17. Has your country implemented projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but some projects or programs are under development	
c) Yes, some projects have been implemented (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the projects aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change that incorporate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.	
<p>The Solomon Islands has started work on the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) funded under the LDC fund. This will basically produce an action plan. A regional adaptation project is being developed by the Pacific Regional Environment Programme which will hopefully assist Solomon Islands implement some practical adaptation projects and programmes. Solomon Islands drafted its National Implementation Strategy but has never finalized it. Local communities are increasingly aware of and experience real life rising sea level/extreme events and their impacts especially in their coastal environments and have used their own resources to either mitigate or adapt to the phenomenon such as constructing rudimentary mitigating sea walls and artificial islands.</p>	


18. Has your country facilitated coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification? (decision VII/15)	
a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	X
c) Yes, relevant mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the coordination to ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation projects are in line with commitments made under the UNFCCC and the UNCCD.	
<p>Even though not much effort has been focused on this issue the draft National Implementation Strategy should be one of relevant mechanisms for this decision. The UNCCD National Action Plan should also be the other plan that should cater for the decision but Solomon Islands has yet to produce its NAP under the UNCCD.</p>	

Box XLII.

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
<p>Apart from a draft National Implementation strategy which is still to be finalized and the start of the NAPA, the general lack of any tangible policy development on climate change to direct either mitigation or adaptation measures is the main issue. While the enabling activities have helped to improve the setting for further developing required actions for meeting the goals of the Strategic Plan of the</p>

convention, the 2010 targets, and the MDGs, more work needs to be done urgently to put in place tangible actions to address climate change issues. The main constraints encountered relate to capacity issues especially financial, human and institutional capacities. The current policy void also adds to the lack of appropriate action that needs to be taken urgently.


Article 7 - Identification and monitoring

19.  On Article 7(a), does your country have an ongoing programme to identify components of biological diversity at the genetic, species, ecosystem level?

a) No	
b) Yes, selected/partial programmes at the genetic, species and/or ecosystem level only (please specify and provide details below)	X
c) Yes, complete programmes at ecosystem level and selected/partial inventories at the genetic and/or species level (please specify and provide details below)	

Further comments on ongoing programmes to identify components of biodiversity at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

Even though existing policies, strategies and corporate plans favors an approach towards national programmes for such purposes there are no ongoing national programmes due to various factors including the lack of appropriate expertise and financial resources. Targeted or selected programmes are being implemented through a number of programmes by government agencies as well as NGOs such as through development of protected areas or MPAs. The ongoing regional programme on Indigenous Forest Trees which is also implemented in the country focuses efforts at the genetic and species level. The new MOU between the Kochi Prefectural Makino Botanical Garden of Japan and the Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation focuses more efforts at the species level. A national marine assessment work carried out by a consortium of national government agencies, international NGOs, and provinces and local communities has completed much needed work at the species and ecosystem levels in the marine environment. This has been a major work and has provided much needed information for national and local decision making. Some of the ongoing efforts on protected areas development such as the work on Tetepari Island by WWF and the Tetepari Descendents Association, and the Makira Highlands Conservation project by Conservation International and the Makira Conservation Foundation have focused efforts at the species and ecosystem level.

20.  On Article 7(b), which components of biological diversity identified in accordance with Annex I of the Convention, have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes?

a) at ecosystem level (please provide percentage based on area covered)	X
b) at species level (please provide number of species per taxonomic group and percentage of total known number of species in each group)	X
c) at genetic level (please indicate number and focus of monitoring programmes)	

Further comments on ongoing monitoring programmes at the genetic, species and ecosystem level.

Systematic monitoring exists for marine turtles targeting identified critical rookeries. This work is supported by external assistance. At the ecosystem level, the Solomon Islands is part of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network and information gathered from monitoring sites will assist in its management decisions. The large protected areas projects have their own specific work relating to their areas which target species and ecosystems. The Ministry of Agriculture keeps a monitoring system for known invasive species as part of its biosecurity programme.

21. On Article 7(c), does your country have ongoing, systematic monitoring programmes on any of the following key threats to biodiversity?

a) No	
b) Yes, invasive alien species (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, climate change (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, pollution/ eutrophication (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, land use change/land degradation (please provide details below)	X
f) Yes, overexploitation or unsustainable use (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on monitoring programmes on key threats to biodiversity.

The Ministry of Agriculture has established systems for monitoring invasive species introduction and control. The Regional climate monitoring programme assists Solomon Islands to gather baseline data through a tidal gauge which also provide other climatic information. The Solomon Islands Ministry of Lands has a programme on land administration which also provides information on land use change from time to time. Information on commercial trees and marine resources which are under exploitation are currently under monitoring programmes of the Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation and the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources. These monitoring activities however need further improvement and support.

22. On Article 7 (d), does your country have a mechanism to maintain and organize data derived from inventories and monitoring programmes and coordinate information collection and management at the national level?

a) No	
b) No, but some mechanisms or systems are being considered	
c) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are being established	X
d) Yes, some mechanisms or systems are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, a relatively complete system is in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the coordination of data and information collection and management.

Data Management continues to be a big problem for Solomon Islands. Efforts however continue to improve. The Ministry of lands probably has the most improved system to date with a developed GIS system, through AusAIDs assistance. Otherwise other data collection and management is still done at the sectoral level with a number of government agencies still keeping their own information system in relation to their own specific work and responsibilities. These include the Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock; Forests, Environment and Conservation, Fisheries and Marine Resources, and Mines, Energy and Water Resources. Other social sectors still keep theirs such as in Health and Education. National data collection and its coordination at the national level is still very weak and needs immediate remedial action.

23. ♦ Does your country use indicators for national-level monitoring of biodiversity? (decision III/10)	
a) No	
b) No, but identification of potential indicators is under way (please describe)	
c) Yes, some indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	X
d) Yes, a relatively complete set of indicators identified and in use (please describe and, if available, provide website address, where data are summarized and presented)	
Further comments on the indicators identified and in use.	
There is no established monitoring program at the national level. However, monitoring programs are happening mostly at the project level in relation to many protected or conservation areas being developed throughout the country by international NGOs and community organizations. In a number of these projects selected species are used as indicators.	

Box XLIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
The outcomes and impacts of actions taken under this article are generally satisfactory for Solomon Islands given the constraints. The actions taken will certainly contribute to goals of the strategic plan, the 2010 target and the MDGS. The actions will nevertheless need further improvement.

Decisions on Taxonomy

24. ♦ Has your country developed a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) No, but a plan is under development	
c) Yes, a plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, reports on implementation available (please provide details below)	
Further information on a plan to implement the suggested actions as annexed to decision IV/1.	
The Solomon Islands has not developed a plan in relation to this decision. It has however entered into an MOU between a Botanical Garden in Japan to pursue stalled efforts in this issue.	

25. ◊ Is your country investing on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on investment on a long-term basis in the development of appropriate infrastructure for your national taxonomic collections.	
Following the ethnic tensions, the herbarium collection has been shifted to Fiji. Collections in the former Dodo Creek Agricultural Research Station, was torched during the ethnic crisis. Efforts are being revived through the MOU referred to above between the Kochi Botanical Garden in Japan and the government. In terms of zoological collections, there has been very little effort.	

26. ◊ Does your country provide training programmes in taxonomy and work to increase its capacity of taxonomic research? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on training programmes in taxonomy and efforts to increase the capacity of taxonomic research.	
The only relevant training at present is through undergraduate training programmes in other countries. There has been very little post graduate training.	

27. ◊ Has your country taken steps to ensure that institutions responsible for biological diversity inventories and taxonomic activities are financially and administratively stable? (decision IV/1)	
a) No	
b) No, but steps are being considered	X
c) Yes, for some institutions	
d) Yes, for all major institutions	

28.*² Is your country collaborating with the existing regional, subregional and global initiatives, partnerships and institutions in carrying out the programme of work, including assessing regional taxonomic needs and identifying regional-level priorities? (decision VI/8)	
a) No	
b) No, but collaborative programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of	X

² The questions marked with * in this section on Taxonomy are similar to some questions contained in the format for a report on the implementation of the programme of work on the Global Taxonomy Initiative. Those countries that have submitted such a report do not need to answer these questions unless they have updated information to provide.

regional needs assessments)	
d) Yes, comprehensive collaborative programmes are being implemented (please provide details about collaborative programmes, including results of regional needs assessment and priority identification)	
Further information on the collaboration your country is carrying out to implement the programme of work for the GTI, including regional needs assessment and priority identification.	
Some work is being done through regional programmes implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community especially in relation to agricultural biodiversity.	

29. * Has your country made an assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities at the national level for the implementation of the Convention? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	X
b) Yes, basic assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	
c) Yes, thorough assessment made (please provide below a list of needs and capacities identified)	
Further comments on national assessment of taxonomic needs and capacities.	
It is very obvious that there is a critical lack of capacity in taxonomy and the need is very high. This situation needs and demands urgent support from the convention.	

30. * Is your country working on regional or global capacity building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	
b) Yes, relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
Further comments on regional or global capacity-building to support access to, and generation of, taxonomic information in collaboration with other Parties.	
Some activities are being undertaken by regional organization such as the SPC and global net works such as BioNET International.?	

31. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8? (annex to decision VI/8)	
a) No	
b) Yes, for forest biodiversity (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, for marine and coastal biodiversity (please provide details below)	

d) Yes, for dry and sub-humid lands (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, for inland waters biodiversity (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, for mountain biodiversity (please provide details below)	
g) Yes, for protected areas (please provide details below)	X
h) Yes, for agricultural biodiversity (please provide details below)	X
i) Yes, for island biodiversity (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the programmes of work under the Convention.	
Some initiative or activities have been undertaken for forest or plant taxonomy, protected areas, and agricultural biodiversity.	

32. * Has your country developed taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention as called upon in decision VI/8?	
a) No	X
b) Yes, for access and benefit-sharing (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, for Article 8(j) (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, for the ecosystem approach (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, for impact assessment, monitoring and indicators (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, for invasive alien species (please provide details below)	
g) Yes, for others (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of taxonomic support for the implementation of the cross-cutting issues under the Convention.	
The need to build capacity in taxonomy is the same for all areas or themes under the convention.	

Article 8 - *In-situ* conservation
[excluding paragraphs (a) to (e), (h) and (j)]

33. On Article 8(i), has your country endeavored to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are being identified	X
c) Yes, some measures undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to provide the conditions needed for compatibility between present uses and the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components.

Some efforts have started to pursue relevant actions in relation article 8 (j) and In-situ Conservation. Some potential policy measures have been identified and should be pursued for further development especially in relation to access and benefit sharing.

34. On Article 8(k), has your country developed or maintained the necessary legislation and/or other regulatory provisions for the protection of threatened species and populations?

a) No	
b) No, but legislation is being developed	
c) Yes, legislation or other measures are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the legislation and/or regulations for the protection of threatened species and populations.

The Wildlife Management and Protection act 1998 protects certain threatened species and populations from commercial exploitations. The Fisheries Act 1998 also protects and puts in place management measures for certain threatened species such as the salt water crocodiles (*Crocodilus porosus*), turtles, beche-de-mer, coconut crabs, cray fish etc.

35. On Article 8(l), does your country regulate or manage processes and categories of activities identified under Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant processes and categories of activities being identified	
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the regulation or management of the processes and categories of activities identified by Article 7 as having significant adverse effects on biodiversity.

This is done through the Environment Act 1998 where such activities can be identified and required to go through and EIA process. Other legislation regulate some threats such as the Quarantine Act regulating threats from invasive or alien species introductions and the Mines and Minerals Act regulating activities in the mineral sector and requiring EIA on some of their activities as in mining.

Box XLIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation

The activities undertaken under this article is satisfactory and will contribute towards the goals of the Strategic plan, the 2010 targets, and the MDGS. As activities continue to progress in this area by various stakeholders, further improvements are expected.

Programme of Work on Protected Areas (Article 8 (a) to (e))

36. Has your country established suitable time bound and measurable national-level protected areas targets and indicators? (decision VII/28)

a) No (please specify reasons)	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	X
c) Yes, some targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive targets and indicators established (please provide details below)	

Further comments on targets and indicators for protected areas.

Even though targets and indicators have not been established due to various reasons, efforts in Protected Areas development have improved much with government, communities and international NGOs cooperating to target significant large areas. The total number of protected areas under development or established has gone up to more than 30 and comprises mostly marine protected areas and managed mostly by communities.

37. Has your country taken action to establish or expand protected areas in any large or relatively unfragmented natural area or areas under high threat, including securing threatened species? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on actions taken to establish or expand protected areas.

Some existing protected areas projects have their expansion programmes and do cover threatened species. These include the expansion programme of the Arnavon Islands Marine Conservation Area which cover the greater Arnavon region.

38. Has your country taken any action to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) Not applicable	
c) No, but relevant actions are being considered	
d) Yes, limited actions taken (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, significant actions taken (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on actions taken to address the under representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in the existing national or regional systems of protected areas.

Current efforts in protected areas development in the Solomon Islands is more focused on marine areas with around 30 sites being under development. Many of these are community based marine areas and do add to an increased area of marine areas being under biodiversity management. In terms of inland water ecosystem, the area covered by the East Rennell World Heritage site includes the largest freshwater lake in the insular pacific, lake Teganno.

39. Has your country identified and implemented practical steps for improving the integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many steps identified and implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on practical steps for improving integration of protected areas into broader land and seascapes, including policy, planning and other measures.

Some background work for improving integration has been done such as identifying gaps in the legislative framework and an ADB effort on integration of environment issues in economic decision making and planning. The Bismarck Solomon Seas Ecoregion (BSSE) programme developed through WWF is implemented under the cooperative agreements between Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands as the ecoregion is a large covering the areas of the three countries.

40. Is your country applying environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant EIA guidelines are under development	
c) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to some projects or plans (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, EIA guidelines are applied to all relevant projects or plans (please provide details below)	

Further comments on application of environmental impact assessment guidelines to projects or plans for evaluating effects on protected areas.

The Environment Act 1998 requires EIA on development activities including protected areas development. EIA guidelines have also been applied in some projects and take into account potential effects on protected areas.

41. Has your country identified legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	
c) Yes, some gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below))	
d) Yes, many gaps and barriers identified (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on identification of legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede effective establishment and management of protected areas.

Works on legislative and institutional gaps have been completed recently under two programmes. One of the work is part of the now completed International Waters project whilst another is part of an international NGOs assistance.

42. Has your country undertaken national protected-area capacity needs assessments and established capacity building programmes? (decision VII/28)

a) No	
b) No, but assessments are under way	X
c) Yes, a basic assessment undertaken and some programmes established (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, a thorough assessment undertaken and comprehensive programmes established (please provide details below)	

Further comments on protected-area capacity needs assessment and establishment of capacity building programmes.

The NCSA project has completed some relevant assessments which included some assessments on this issue and has made a draft action plan. An institutional assessment of the Environment and Conservation Division of the Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation had been completed and made relevant recommendations.

43. Is your country implementing country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas? (decision VII/28)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant plan is under development	
c) Yes, relevant plan is in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, relevant plan is being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on implementation of country-level sustainable financing plans that support national systems of protected areas.

Even though there is no national system of protected areas which would definitely require in-depth

consideration of sustainable financing of protected areas some of the existing projects do have sustainable financing (e.g. Arnavon MCA) whilst others are working on the issue.

44. Is your country implementing appropriate methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance? (decision VII/28)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant methods, standards, criteria and indicators are under development	
c) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, some national methods, standards, criteria and indicators developed and in use and some international methods, standards, criteria and indicators in use (please provide details below)	

Further comments on methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas management and governance.

There are no existing national methods, standards, criteria and indicators but specific project sites and the implementing groups have their own approaches to evaluating effectiveness. Some of the international NGOs do have their own methods which are applied in many of their project sites. All projects do have their own project specific indicators for evaluating effectiveness which involves mostly the use of selected indicators species.

Box XLV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The outcomes and impacts under this article has been significant following an increase in the number of areas established or being developed as protected areas. The number of relevant activities has increased significantly with many groups taking up a number of initiatives through various mechanisms. New programmes are in place and new funding have also been secured for further work. All these have contributed towards the achievement of the goals of the Strategic plan, the 2010 target, the MDGs, development of the NBSAP and all other national policies and plans.

Article 8(h) - Alien species

45. Has your country identified alien species introduced into its territory and established a system for tracking the introduction of alien species?	
a) No	
b) Yes, some alien species identified but a tracking system not yet established	
c) Yes, some alien species identified and tracking system in place	X
d) Yes, alien species of major concern identified and tracking system in place	

46. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country assessed the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species?	
a) No	
b) Yes, but only for some alien species of concern (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, for most alien species (please provide details below)	
Further information on the assessment of the risks posed to ecosystems, habitats or species by the introduction of these alien species.	
Most of the current relevant works have been done through the regional organizations, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). The work done by SPREP has involved the formulation of a draft regional strategy on invasive species. The work done by SPC focused more on invasive species affecting agriculture.	

47. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country undertaken measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate, those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under consideration	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.	
This is basically done by the Agricultural Quarantine Service under the Quarantine Act. Other legislation are also applicable e.g. Environment Act in requiring EIA for introductions, and Wildlife Protection and Management Act requiring specific permits for imports of species. A new Biosecurity Bill is under development.	

48. In dealing with the issue of invasive species, has your country developed, or involved itself in, mechanisms for international cooperation, including the exchange of best practices? (decision V/8)

a) No	
b) Yes, bilateral cooperation	X
c) Yes, regional and/or sub regional cooperation	X
d) Yes, multilateral cooperation	X

49. Is your country using the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches as appropriate in its work on alien invasive species? (decision V/8)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the use of the ecosystem approach and precautionary and bio-geographical approaches in work on alien invasive species.

Solomon Islands has yet to make full use of the Ecosystem approach at the national or even at the local levels. The international NGOs working through out many of the local communities do have their versions or aspects of the ecosystem approach applied in many of the programmes though. The precautionary approach is the most effective approach the Solomon Islands can take in addressing the issue of invasives due to its lack of resources to address problems arising from invasive species introductions. As an island nation the Solomon Islands may be spared from many potential invasives but the current aliens and existing invasives are already causing a lot of problems and are not effectively addressed.

50. Has your country identified national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) No, but needs and priorities are being identified	
c) Yes, national needs and priorities have been identified (please provide below a list of needs and priorities identified)	

Further comments on the identification of national needs and priorities for the implementation of the Guiding Principles.

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51. Has your country created mechanisms to coordinate national programmes for applying the Guiding Principles? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the mechanisms created to coordinate national programmes for implementing the Guiding Principles.	
Various aspects of the Guiding principles are already part of the existing management regimes for alien invasive species. Procedures existing in various legislations do also form part of the incorporation of the principles in national arrangements.	

52. Has your country reviewed relevant policies, legislation and institutions in the light of the Guiding Principles, and adjusted or developed policies, legislation and institutions? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	
b) No, but review under way	X
c) Yes, review completed and adjustment proposed (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, adjustment and development ongoing	
e) Yes, some adjustments and development completed (please provide details below)	
Further information on the review, adjustment or development of policies, legislation and institutions in light of the Guiding Principles.	
This is being done through the new efforts to develop a new biosecurity bill.	

53. Is your country enhancing cooperation between various sectors in order to improve prevention, early detection, eradication and/or control of invasive alien species? (decision VI/23)	
a) No	
b) No, but potential coordination mechanisms are under consideration	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on cooperation between various sectors.	
Under existing arrangements involving agencies such as agriculture, environment, customs, and Police at the national and provincial levels. The most current issue is the recent discovery of giant African snail in the capital Honiara and its vicinity control and prevention efforts have involved a number of those above groups, including farmers and all others at the community level.	

54. Is your country collaborating with trading partners and neighboring countries to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity in ecosystems that cross international boundaries? (decision VI/23)

a) No	
b) Yes, relevant collaborative programmes are under development	
c) Yes, relevant programmes are in place (please specify below the measures taken for this purpose)	X

Further comments on collaboration with trading partners and neighboring countries.

Through existing national legislations and management regimes and international quarantine control systems such as the SPS agreements and the international plant protection agreement.

55. Is your country developing capacity to use risk assessment to address threats of invasive alien species to biodiversity and incorporate such methodologies in environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA)? (decision VI/23)

a) No	
b) No, but programmes for this purpose are under development	
c) Yes, some activities for developing capacity in this field are being undertaken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further information on capacity development to address threats of invasive alien species.

Risk assessment is part of the normal assessment requirement under the Quarantine Act and done by Solomon Islands Quarantine Services (SIAQS). Not much is done yet in incorporating such methodologies with EIA or SEAs.

56. Has your country developed financial measures and other policies and tools to promote activities to reduce the threats of invasive species? (decision VI/23)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant measures and policies are under development	
c) Yes, some measures, policies and tools are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures and tools are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the development of financial measures and other policies and tools for the promotion of activities to reduce the threats of invasive species.

The agriculture Quarantine Division of MAL already has in place a management plan for avian influenza and is working on a similar plan for giant african snail (GAS). A general pest response plan was developed for pest outbreaks.

Box XLVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The outcomes and impacts of actions under this article have been below required actions in terms of alien invasives which have become established in many parts of the country. The major constraints have been due to lack of resources and expertise to design programmes to effectively address the problems.

Article 8(j) - Traditional knowledge and related provisions

GURTS

57. Has your country created and developed capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to genetic use restriction technologies?

a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on capacity-building programmes to involve and enable smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders to effectively participate in decision-making processes related to GURTS.

A lot of work are now going on with small holder farmers but not so much focusing on GURTS.

Status and Trends

58. Has your country supported indigenous and local communities in undertaking field studies to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)

a) No	
b) No, but support to relevant studies is being considered	
c) Yes (please provide information on the studies undertaken)	X

Further information on the studies undertaken to determine the status, trends and threats related to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and priority actions identified.

Some works in this field are done by NGOs, principally by Kastom Garden Association. Individual efforts have been completed and published by certain individuals in some parts of the country. One such major work is in the Marovo Lagoon in the Western Province by Professor Edvard Hviding with assistance from UNESCO and others. Some other works are ongoing through others such as by Professor Aswani from UCSB in the Roviana Lagoon areas also in the Western Province.

Akwé:Kon Guidelines

59. Has your country initiated a legal and institutional review of matters related to cultural, environmental and social impact assessment, with a view to incorporating the Akwé:Kon Guidelines into national legislation, policies, and procedures?	
a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, a review undertaken (please provide details on the review)	
Further information on the review.	
<p>The issue of indigenous and local communities in Solomon Islands is integrated into the EIA process and is not taken independently as the whole country comprises mostly indigenous and local communities with small foreign and immigrant communities.</p>	

60. Has your country used the Akwé:Kon Guidelines in any project proposed to take place on sacred sites and/or land and waters traditionally occupied by indigenous and local communities? (decision VII/16)	
a) No	
b) No, but a review of the Akwé: Kon guidelines is under way	
c) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further information on the projects where the Akwé: Kon Guidelines are applied.	
<p>The EIA required of many types of development activities in the Environment Act, the EIA requirement of the Mines and Minerals Act, the Code of Logging Conduct and Standard Logging Agreement take accounts of various elements of the Akwé:Kon Guidelines. Some efforts are ongoing to establish some legal regimes covering cultural properties and indigenous knowledge.</p>	

Capacity Building and Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities

61. Has your country undertaken any measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities to be effectively involved in decision-making related to the use of their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/16)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes being developed	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to enhance and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities.	
<p>Some measures undertaken by NGOs through their own programmes. The most active NGO in this field is the Kastom Garden Association who has established a Planting Materials Network through out the country and is doing a lot of the most relevant work with the local communities, even establishing seed banks, in situ and ex situ sites for farmers. The Kastom Garden Association work in cooperation with the government in many of their programmes.</p>	

62. Has your country developed appropriate mechanisms, guidelines, legislation or other initiatives to foster and promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in decision making, policy planning and development and implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at international, regional, sub regional, national and local levels? (decision V/16)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are under development	
c) Yes, some mechanisms, guidelines and legislation are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the mechanisms, guidelines and legislation developed.

Nothing formal but many projects on the ground are promoting such approaches. These include NGO programmes on conservation and good governance in the rural communities. The new government policy on the bottom up approach which focuses on rural development is promoting the same concept. Some sectoral strategies such as the Agricultural Rural Development Strategy have similar aims and objectives targeting programmes at the national and local levels.

63. Has your country developed mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities with specific provisions for the full, active and effective participation of women in all elements of the programme of work? (decision V/16, annex)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are being developed	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanisms for promoting the full and effective participation of women of indigenous and local communities in all elements of the programme of work.

Most programmes which are implemented by NGOs and government agencies at the local level takes account of elements of the POW but not at the national level, even though mechanisms at the national and provincial level have the potential to address the POW as well. These mechanisms include the National Council of Women and the provincial councils of women, the newly created Ministries of Women, Youth and Children and Rural Development and Indigenous Affairs. All programmes whatever they may be requires active and full involvement of local communities as 85% of this country is owned and controlled by the people. They decide what goes on in their land and their surrounding areas.

Support to implementation

64. Has your country established national, subregional and/or regional indigenous and local community biodiversity advisory committees?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant work is under way	X
c) Yes	

65. Has your country assisted indigenous and local community organizations to hold regional meetings to discuss the outcomes of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and to prepare for meetings under the Convention?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details about the outcome of meetings)	

Further information on the outcome of regional meetings.

Lack of capacity and financial resources has not enabled this to happen. Some activities at the project level do give opportunities for some relevant issues to be discussed at the community level.

66. Has your country supported, financially and otherwise, indigenous and local communities in formulating their own community development and biodiversity conservation plans that will enable such communities to adopt a culturally appropriate strategic, integrated and phased approach to their development needs in line with community goals and objectives?

a) No	
b) Yes, to some extent (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further information on the support provided.

Most of the conservation areas already developed or being developed are basically promoting such community development through biodiversity conservation. The Arnavon Islands marine Conservation Area Management Plan is an example. Most of the NGOs working in a number of the conservation areas around the country are also helping communities to develop their community development plans through appropriate management plans related to the conservation sites being developed.

Box XLVII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The outcomes and impacts under this article have improved a lot and contribute much more positively to the goals of the strategic plan, the 2010 target and the MDGs. Many of the activities have improved their focus as far as the article is concerned.

Article 9 - *Ex-situ* conservation

67. ◊ On Article 9(a) and (b), has your country adopted measures for the <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of components of biological diversity native to your country and originating outside your country?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures adopted for the <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of components of biodiversity native to your country and originating outside your country.	
<p>Work on <i>ex-situ</i> conservation focuses on the Forestry and Agriculture sector. Whilst the forestry sector focus on commercial trees with the establishment of plots in their research establishments, the agriculture sector have sites through out the country for agricultural species even though the status of these in established field stations are currently unclear following events related to the recent ethnic conflict. The most active body pursuing this activity at the moment is a local NGO, Kastom Garden Association, which has established <i>ex-situ</i> sites in some of the provinces for agricultural species for food security purposes. More details of this are given under the thematic section on agricultural biodiversity.</p>	

68. ◊ On Article 9(c), has your country adopted measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for the reintroduction of threatened species into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions.	
<p>Some efforts were done in the past especially for marine species under commercial exploitation e.g. trochus (<i>trochus niloticus</i>) and clam shells (<i>Tridacna sp</i>). Investigations are ongoing through the World Fish Center for other potential re-introductions such as the beche-de-mer (Holothruids).</p>	

69. ◊ On Article 9(d), has your country taken measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <i>in-situ</i> populations of species?	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to regulate and manage the collection of biological resources from natural habitats for <i>ex-situ</i> conservation purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and <i>in-situ</i> populations of species.	
<p>There have been no measures as there have been no significant collections from natural habitats for <i>ex-situ</i> purposes so as not to threaten ecosystems and in situ populations. There were some</p>	

collections in the past involving some species e.g clam shells for ex situ and propagation purposes for re-introductions to the natural ecosystems. Collections for ex-situ purposes outside the country, however, are subjected to existing management regimes but are not for the purpose of reducing threats on in situ populations.


Box XLVIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Out comes and impacts under this article have not improved whilst threats continued unabated mainly from commercial exploitation such as industrial logging and over fishing. Contributions of activities under this article to the goals of the strategic plan, 2010 target and the MDGs have been minimal. This information will be useful for the country to progress its development of the NBSAP which is yet to be finalized.


Article 10 - Sustainable use of components of biological diversity

70.  On Article 10(a), has your country integrated consideration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making?

a) No	
b) No, but steps are being taken	
c) Yes, in some relevant sectors (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, in most relevant sectors (please provide details below)	X

Further information on integrating consideration of conservation and sustainable use of biological resources into national decision-making.

Most existing national and provincial laws try to address the issue of sustainable use in terms of license issued for exploitation of certain resources, limits on take, specific areas allowed for take and so on. Existing sectoral policies also focus on the issue. The strong commitment to sustainable use and its integration into national decision making is not consistent and quite often decisions are made on the contrary though due to political pressure and interference.

71.  On Article 10(b), has your country adopted measures relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the measures adopted relating to the use of biological resources that avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity.

Most sectors have legislation that regulate the use of natural resources or biological diversity and have incorporated principles of sustainable use. The use of fisheries and marine resources is principally regulated under the Fisheries Act. The use of forestry resources is regulated by the Forest Resources and Timber Utilization Act but which is now completely out of date and is in urgent need of a new act. The use of wildlife resources is regulated under the Wildlife Protection and Management Act. The Environment Act manages use through the use of EIA and so on. Many other pieces of legislation are also used for the purpose of such controls as in the Quarantine Act, Mines and Mineral Act etc. Existing policies further details actions required in many of the relevant sectors that are responsible for the use of resources. Implementation and enforcement of all these Acts however are not effective.

72. On Article 10(c), has your country put in place measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures that protect and encourage customary use of biological resources that is compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements.

Many of the national legislation including those referred to in Q72 above allow customary and subsistence use of biodiversity for specific species and areas of take.

73. On Article 10(d), has your country put in place measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures that help local populations develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biodiversity has been reduced.

The main activity at the moment is reforestation of logged over areas by some companies and local landowner communities. The resources for such reforestation activities are required under a levy but this has been used by the government for different purposes and has not allowed reforestation of most land that have been logged. Local communities however are determined to reforest their logged over areas and do the work themselves but are at most times neglected by the government. More work needs to be done though as the reforested areas are basically monoculture plantations made of exotic species. Some project activities are happening in some areas to rehabilitate marine areas such as former mangrove areas. The International Waters Project in the country is one such project rehabilitating mangrove areas.

74. ♦ Has your country identified indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)

a) No	X
b) No, but assessment of potential indicators and incentive measures is under way	
c) Yes, indicators and incentive measures identified (please describe below)	

Further comments on the identification of indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Indicators and incentive measures are basically done at the project level associated with a number of conservation area development activities. Incentive measures at these project locations usually do not provide quick return to resources owners and do raise unmet expectations to local communities.

75. ♦ Has your country implemented sustainable use practices, programmes and policies for the sustainable use of biological diversity, especially in pursuit of poverty alleviation? (decision V/24)

a) No	
b) No, but potential practices, programmes and policies are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on sustainable use programmes and policies.

Most national, regional or local level programmes and policies implemented by government agencies and NGOs have aspects aimed at poverty alleviation. In programmes and policies involving natural or biological resources there is definitely a move towards sustainable practices, which are actually required under various national and provincial laws. These involves a number of approaches from management measures such as harvest and catch limits to regulating the number of operations or size of activities involved in specific or groups of resources.

76. ♦ Has your country developed or explored mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision V/24)

a) No	
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please describe below)	X

Further comments on the development of mechanisms to involve the private sector in initiatives on the sustainable use of biodiversity.

National mechanisms have been established through existing legislation and current government policies. Some of these exist on legislation and have not been activated or have been inactive whilst some have been activated and have been functioning. Examples include the National Fisheries Council under the Fisheries Act, the Solomon Islands Sustainable Development Advisory Committee under the Environment Act which involve participation from the private sector.

77. Has your country initiated a process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)

a) No	X
b) No, but the principles and guidelines are under review	
c) Yes, a process is being planned	
d) Yes, a process has been initiated (please provide detailed information)	

Further information on the process to apply the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

As mentioned earlier in other parts of this report, various elements of sustainable use have been integrated into existing legislation and policies but there has not been any formal application of any established process to pursue the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines or other sustainable development principles and guidelines.


78. Has your country taken any initiative or action to develop and transfer technologies and provide financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity? (decision VII/12)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some technologies developed and transferred and limited financial resources provided (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many technologies developed and transferred and significant financial resources provided (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the development and transfer of technologies and provision of financial resources to assist in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.

Some principles of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines are being implemented through programmes and projects implemented by many stakeholder groups (government agencies, NGOs, community groups, private sector) but not as a fully implemented programme with developed technologies for transfer with financial resources.


Biodiversity and Tourism

79.  Has your country established mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please specify below)	
d) Yes, existing mechanisms are under review	

Further comments on the establishment of mechanisms to assess, monitor and measure the impact of tourism on biodiversity.

Tourism in Solomon Islands focuses on ecotourism and generally markets its destinations on ecologically based attractions. The potential impacts of tourism can be assessed under existing legislation such as the Environment Act, Town and Country Planning Act etc at the pre-approval stage. Environment assessments can also be carried out on existing establishments.

80.  Has your country provided educational and training programmes to the tourism operators so as to increase their awareness of the impacts of tourism on biodiversity and upgrade the technical capacity at the local level to minimize the impacts? (decision V/25)

a) No	
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please describe below)	X

Further comments on educational and training programmes provided to tourism operators.

Tourism Division and Visitors Bureau do carried out training for tourism developers. The regional organization responsible for tourism in the Pacific also assists countries in training programmes and helps to secure funds for training and development at the country level.

81. Does your country provide indigenous and local communities with capacity-building and financial resources to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management? (decision VII/14)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are being considered	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments in the capacity-building and financial resources provided to indigenous and local communities to support their participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management.

The government through the Tourism division involved local communities and provinces in various national workshops especially in relation to a number of policies and planning issues and the latest efforts to develop tourism development plans. The government had also assisted in providing or securing funds from various sources for local operators for capital and product development, and management.

82. Has your country integrated the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development in the development or review of national strategies and plans for tourism development, national biodiversity strategies and actions plans, and other related sectoral strategies? (decision VII/14)

a) No, but the guidelines are under review	
b) No, but a plan is under consideration to integrate some principles of the guidelines into relevant strategies	X
c) Yes, a few principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)	
d) Yes, many principles of the guidelines are integrated into some sectoral plans and NBSAPs (please specify which principle and sector)	

Further information on the sectors where the principles of the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development are integrated.

The latest effort focuses on the development of provincial tourism development plans and will provide the opportunity to integrate relevant principles and guidelines for biodiversity and tourism development. On of the efforts on integration involved a review by the ADB on integration of environmental considerations into the economic decision making.

Box XLIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The outcomes and impacts of activities under this article have been positive in pursuing the goals of the strategic plan, the 2010 target and the MDGs. This has also been due to activities of the industry basing its market on ecotourism. The major constraints continue to be lack of resources in terms of finance and human expertise and weak national policies and plans

Article 11 - Incentive measures

83. Has your country established programmes to identify and adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity?

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the programmes to identify and adopt incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Similar measures are integrated in approval for licenses and permits issued for various resources exploitation activities. Many of these measures are included as conditions for the approvals and prevent or exert precautionary measures in the concerned development activities. No formal programmes however, exist or have been pursued for this purpose.

84. Has your country developed the mechanisms or approaches to ensure adequate incorporation of both market and non-market values of biological diversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes and other relevant areas? (decisions III/18 and IV/10)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant mechanisms are under development	
c) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, review of impact of mechanisms available (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanism or approaches to incorporate market and non-market values of biodiversity into relevant plans, policies and programmes.

As a country dependent on the exploitation of its natural resources, particularly biological resources, Solomon Islands has to consider market values for its products as in the forestry industry (logs, timber and timber products), fishing industry (fish, fish products, aquaculture products, all marine products such as trochus, beche-de-mer, etc), in all agricultural and eco-tourism products. Non market

values are mostly considered in Conservation area developments and in the development and implementation of their management plans where their intrinsic value are important; development and approval of logging agreements and logging plans, where certain parts of approved concessions are reserved or taboo sites which sometime involves culturally significant plants and animals and are therefore protected; and other similar approvals for resource use developments.

85. ♦ Has your country developed training and capacity-building programmes to implement incentive measures and promote private-sector initiatives? (decision III/18)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place	
d) Yes, many programmes are in place	

86. Does your country take into consideration the proposals for the design and implementation of incentive measures as contained in Annex I to decision VI/15 when designing and implementing incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (decision VI/15)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the proposals considered when designing and implementing the incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

87. Has your country made any progress in removing or mitigating policies or practices that generate perverse incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity? (decision VII/18)

a) No	
b) No, but identification of such policies and practices is under way	
c) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified but not entirely removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, relevant policies and practices identified and removed or mitigated (please provide details below)	

Further information on perverse incentives identified and/or removed or mitigated.

Solomon Islands has long known some of the major practices that generate perverse incentives especially in the natural resources sector which involves the exploitation of the country's forests, fisheries and agricultural resources. The removal of these policies and practices has been a major challenge in some sectors due basically to political reasons, and increasingly, the lack of state control over these resources.


Box L.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The outcomes and impacts of activities under this article has been very low, if not, below satisfactory due to the low level of activities serving the purposes of this article. In fact, in some sectors, the impacts of current policies have been negative. In terms of the activities themselves however, the outcomes provide some basis for further interventions that could potentially provide further improvements.

Article 12 - Research and training

88.  On Article 12(a), has your country established programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components?

a) No	X
b) No, but programmes are under development	
c) Yes, programmes are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the programmes for scientific and technical education and training in the measures for identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

There are no formally established programmes but there are a number of adhoc activities that integrate research and training in their programmes which are currently ongoing or are coming into operation. Many of these are associated with the conservation area development activities that are ongoing through out the country by NGOs and local communities. These are especially important in the large conservation areas such as the Arnavon Islands, Tetepari Island and the Makira Highlands programmes. There is an ongoing research and education initiative between the government and the University of Queensland that has just been renewed. The MOU with the Kochi Prefectural Makino Botanical Garden of Japan focuses on research and training as well. The Trinational MOU between PNG, Indonesia and Solomon islands also involves research and training. Many other national and NGO projects that are ongoing involve a lot of research work as well as training. Some of these major works are also in the field of agriculture where some NGOs are also active.

Some organizations do have research facilities in the country and do target specific areas of research and training. These include the World Fish Center which is based in the Western province. Government ministries have research responsibilities and do coordinate and carry out research work even though a number of them will need to revive or improve their capacity. These include the Research Divisions of the Ministries of Fisheries and Marine Resources; Agriculture and Livestock; and Forestry, Environment and Conservation. The government is currently encouraging researchers from outside the country to carry out research work and training where possible in the country, through a Research Act. The government also continues to send its citizens for relevant undergraduate and postgraduate training but this continues to be a very slow process and is not meeting the demand of the work that are required to be done. Existing policies, Ministries Corporate Plans and annual work plans do feature promotion of research work and training.

89. On Article 12(b), does your country promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

See Q88 above.

90. On Article 12(c), does your country promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources?

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further information on the use of scientific advances in biodiversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Solomon Islands cooperates and promotes the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of resources. This is especially true in the field of agriculture where techniques in biotechnology have been used in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of selected species of food crops. The work in developing conservation areas has also involved some scientific advances in field techniques such as in the use of radio tracking devices and satellites to track migratory species such as sea turtles. The use of computer technology in a number of similar activities and in information systems has also improved essential methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

Box LI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The outcomes and impacts of activities taken under this article has been positive in contributing to the goals of the strategic plan, the 2010 target, the MDGs, and the development of the NBSAP. The very weak research capability in the country and the lack of resources continue to be a major constraint.

Article 13 - Public education and awareness

91. Is your country implementing a communication, education and public awareness strategy and promoting public participation in support of the Convention? (Goal 4.1 of the Strategic Plan)	
a) No	X
b) No, but a CEPA strategy is under development	
c) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a limited extent (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, a CEPA strategy developed and public participation promoted to a significant extent (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the implementation of a CEPA strategy and the promotion of public participation in support of the Convention.	
<p>The most relevant strategy at present is the regional strategy on environmental education which is produced periodically through the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. Various aspects of this strategy are implemented through regional programmes. These include programmes such as the Year of The Sea Turtle and the Waste Awareness Campaigns.</p> <p>At the national level, public awareness is currently going on mostly at the project level and by many NGO and community organizations. Most projects which have awareness components including public awareness programmes, at the national level are mainly projectized and do not form part of any formal CEPA type strategy.</p>	

92. Is your country undertaking any activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on Communication, Education and Public Awareness as contained in the annex to decision VI/19? (decision VI/19)	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many activities are being undertaken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the activities to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work on CEPA.	
<p>Many aspects of the POW are implemented at the national level by many stakeholders such as government agencies, UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO), NGOs (WWF, CI, TNC, FSPI, Live and Learn, ECANSI, Kastom Garden, SIDT, DSE, SIPPA), Community organizations and local authorities. Many of the activities of these groups involve such methods and techniques as workshops and meetings, radio programmes covering various subjects areas covered by the convention, production of learning materials for dissemination to stakeholders, networking through internet, linking through the web, discussion groups through internet, use of national focal points, programme managers and coordinators.</p>	

93. Is your country strongly and effectively promoting biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level? (decision VI/19)

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, to a limited extent (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, to a significant extent (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the promotion of biodiversity-related issues through the press, the various media and public relations and communications networks at national level.

Yes but as explained above in Q92, these are mostly done by NGOs and others, and not by government on a pro-active basis. Most of the time, the media have taken the initiative to promote the issues on their own initiative and without much assistance from the government.

94. Does your country promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level? (decision VI/19)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the efforts to promote the communication, education and public awareness of biodiversity at the local level.

Through the many projects and programmes implemented at the local or rural level by government agencies, provincial authorities, NGOs and community groups. As a country of rural population (with 85% of the population in the rural areas and living, using and owning 85% of the land) most biodiversity or biodiversity related projects are implemented in the rural areas.

95. Is your country supporting national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness? (decision VI/19)

a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some activities supported (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many activities supported (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the support of national, regional and international activities prioritized by the Global Initiative on Education and Public Awareness.

At the national level, Solomon Islands is implementing a number of initiatives relevant to decision VI/19, through some stakeholders. It has also pioneered communications systems in the rural areas which are suitable for its situations and many other countries of the region through donor assistance. This allows the rural areas to communicate with the urban centres and the rest of the world via the internet. They also access the internet from their rural villages. The system is also now used to deliver distance education courses offered by the University of the South Pacific. The system is called the Pipofastaem Network.

At the regional level, Solomon Islands support and cooperates with others partners to put in place regional communication and education systems. These includes distance or extension education systems run through the University of the South Pacific, communications systems used in scientific monitoring such as the Climate Monitoring project and information networks such as the Pacific Environmental Information Network.

96. Has your country developed adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness?	
a) No	
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the development of adequate capacity to deliver initiatives on communication, education and public awareness.	
See Q91-95	

97. Does your country promote cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness at the national, regional and international levels? (decisions IV /10 and VI/19)	
a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on the promotion of cooperation and exchange programmes for biodiversity education and awareness, at the national, regional and international levels.	
At the national level, Solomon Islands has promoted cooperation and exchange programmes between projects and programmes. For instance, staff from other conservation projects run by one NGO went to a government assisted project on site to see and learn about the project for purpose of replication. Schools and communities have gone on site to see and learn about conservation areas. At the regional level, project staff from other countries came over to project sites in the Solomon Islands to learn about how conservation projects were implemented and how some field techniques were applied on the site.	

98. Is your country undertaking some CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention?	
a) No (please specify reasons below)	
b) Yes, some activities undertaken for some issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes, many activities undertaken for most issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive activities undertaken for all issues and thematic areas (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the CEPA activities for implementation of cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes of work adopted under the Convention.	
Some of the activities done through the International Waters project and the National Capacity Self Assessment project. Others done through other GEF funded enabling activities such as the National Adaptation Programme of Action under the UNFCCC, Year of the Sea Turtle programme, and Waste Awareness campaigns. The involvement of Solomon Islands in the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development indicates some implementation of CEPA and cross-cutting issues under the convention.	

99. Does your country support initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biological diversity conservation matters in their practice and education programmes as well as into their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies? (decision IV/10 and Goal 4.4 of the Strategic Plan)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the initiatives by major groups, key actors and stakeholders that integrate biodiversity conservation in their practice and education programmes as well as their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

Solomon Islands continues to work together with major groups, key actors and stakeholders in various programmes where ever it can. It continues to work together with NGOs and communities in Conservation Area and Community development programmes and other large programmes such as in agriculture and food security, ecotourism, world heritage sites, invasive species. These major groups, key actors and stakeholders include local community groups, local authorities, tribes and clans, churches, women and youth, community interest groups, private sector, NGOs, parastatals, investors, UN agencies, Donors and regional organizations.

100. Is your country communicating the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and establishing appropriate linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development in the implementation of your national CEPA programmes and activities? (decision VII/24)

a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes developed and activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes developed and many activities undertaken for this purpose (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the communication of the various elements of the 2010 biodiversity target and the establishment of linkages to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development.

Some discussions held through the UNESCO National Commission but weaknesses within this commission have not enabled further development of potential linkages.

Box LII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Due to the number of groups involved in awareness activities at the project level, the outcomes and impacts of the activities undertaken under this article has improved contribution to the goals of the strategic plan, the 2010 target, the MDGs and the development of the NBSAP. Lack of resources continues to be major constraints.

Article 14 - Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts

101. On Article 14.1(a), has your country developed legislation requiring an environmental impact assessment of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, legislation is still in early stages of development	
c) No, but legislation is in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, legislation is in place (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, review of implementation available (please provide details below)	

Further information on the legislation requiring EIA of proposed projects likely to have adverse effects on biodiversity.

The Environment Act 1998 requires specified types of development activities to undergo some kind of EIA process. Under the Act, a list of potential development activities that are likely to cause adverse effects on biodiversity are required to go through an EIA process. The regulations to this act are yet to be completed though. Another Act, the Mines and Minerals Act require Mining activities to undergo an EIA process as well.

102. On Article 14.1(b), has your country developed mechanisms to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	X
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the mechanisms developed to ensure that due consideration is given to the environmental consequences of national programmes and policies that are likely to have significant adverse impacts on biodiversity.

The main mechanisms for this requirement are through the national planning guidelines and procedures which include project appraisal processes under Ministry of National Planning and Aid Coordination and the Policy Evaluation unit of the Prime Ministers Office. Following changes to the government and the administration these guidelines and procedures have been found wanting. Appraisal processes which used to integrate environmental considerations have disappeared altogether. New efforts have started to re-establish these national planning guidelines.

103. On Article 14.1(c), is your country implementing bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biological diversity outside your country's jurisdiction?

a) No	
b) No, but assessment of options is in progress	
c) Yes, some completed, others in progress (please provide details below)	
d) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the bilateral, regional and/or multilateral agreements on activities likely to significantly affect biodiversity outside your country's jurisdiction.

Solomon Islands is implementing bilateral agreements with distance water fishing nations (US, Ja-

pan, South Korea, Taiwan and EU) in relation to tuna resources and is a member of other regional treaties covering the high seas. It is also a member of and party to UNCLOS and the newly completed Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region and related protocols, Convention on the Prohibition of Fishing with Long Drift Nets in the South Pacific, the Biosafety Protocol, Montreal Protocol, UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol, CITES, Stockholm (POPs) convention, and Convention to Ban the importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Waste and to Control the Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Waste within the South Pacific Region.

104. On Article 14.1(d), has your country put mechanisms in place to prevent or minimize danger or damage originating in your territory to biological diversity in the territory of other Parties or in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction?

a) No	
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place based on current scientific knowledge	X

105. On Article 14.1(e), has your country established national mechanisms for emergency response to activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, mechanisms are still in early stages of development	
c) No, but mechanisms are in advanced stages of development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further information on national mechanisms for emergency response to the activities or events which present a grave and imminent danger to biodiversity.

Emergency response mechanisms exist for pollution emergencies through a regional treaty and alien invasive species. An emergency response programme is currently applied to control the occurrence of the giant African snail in the country. Emergency response to natural disasters which also impacts heavily on biodiversity is also in place.

106. Is your country applying the Guidelines for Incorporating Biodiversity-related Issues into Environment-Impact-Assessment Legislation or Processes and in Strategic Impact Assessment as contained in the annex to decision VI/7 in the context of the implementation of paragraph 1 of Article 14? (decision VI/7)

a) No	
b) No, but application of the guidelines under consideration	
c) Yes, some aspects being applied (please specify below)	
d) Yes, major aspects being applied (please specify below)	X

Further comments on application of the guidelines.

The EIA requirements under the Environment Act incorporate more biodiversity related issues as with other major issues. The issue of Strategic Impact Assessment is not under legislation and is not practiced and applied as much as should be.

107. On Article 14 (2), has your country put in place national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity? (decision VI/11)

a) No	
b) Yes (please specify the measures)	X

Further comments on national legislative, administrative or policy measures regarding liability and redress for damage to biological diversity.

Most development activities in the natural resources sector involve a lot of damages and do incur liabilities and compensation (redress) is a major issue in the country. Administrative measures have been established for some kind of damages especially to biological resources. These measures however need to be strengthened through proper legislation and policies. Most existing legislation such as the Environment Act and Wildlife Protection and Management Act do have penalties and fines for all sorts of offences including offences on damages to biodiversity. There is a need however to strengthen the liability and redress aspects in existing legislation and policies.

108. Has your country put in place any measures to prevent damage to biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being developed	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	X

Further information on the measures in place to prevent damage to biological diversity.

See Qs above. Through many enacted legislation, policies, administrative and management measures, and traditional and customary laws and practices.

109. Is your country cooperating with other Parties to strengthen capacities at the national level for the prevention of damage to biodiversity, establishment and implementation of national legislative regimes, policy and administrative measures on liability and redress? (decision VI/11)

a) No	
b) No, but cooperation is under consideration	
c) No, but cooperative programmes are under development	
d) Yes, some cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	X
e) Yes, comprehensive cooperative activities being undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on cooperation with other Parties to strengthen capacities for the prevention of damage to biodiversity.

A number of bilateral programmes exist which cover relevant aspects. Notable ones include the AuSAID funded Forest Management project which has been putting a lot of efforts in developing legislation in the Forestry sector. The programme has been focusing on many other aspects such the development of the Code of logging practice and monitoring of operations to ensure adherence and best practice performance. A NZAID programme is assisting the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources with a Capacity Building programme to pursue similar objectives.

Box LIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The relevant activities undertaken under this article have contributed positively to the achievement of the goals of the strategic plan, the 2010 targets, and the MDGs. Additional resources and further strengthening and improvement of capacity at all levels will add further impetus to continuous improvement in this area.

Article 15 - Access to genetic resources

110. Has your country endeavored to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms, in accordance with paragraphs 2, 4 and 5 of Article 15?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the efforts taken by your country to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, on the basis of prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms.

A Research Act is the most relevant legislation that can be applied to this issue in the absence of any policy or laws covering ABS. Some efforts have started to examine possible regimes to govern the issue but nothing has been finalized. Some of the existing arrangements such as those under some current Materials Transfer Agreements (in agriculture) and MOUs have been done on an adhoc basis and not based on any well established policy or legislation.

111. Has your country taken measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Parties, in accordance with Article 15(6)?

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further information on the measures to ensure that any scientific research based on genetic resources provided by other Contracting Parties is developed and carried out with the full participation of such Contracting Parties.

There had been one or two examples in the field of agriculture but no formal policy or legislative based measures have been taken. (Check further with agriculture)

112. Has your country taken measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the results of research and development and of the benefits arising from the commercial and other use of genetic resources with any Contracting Party providing such resources, in accordance with Article 15(7)?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place (please provide details below)	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the type of measures taken.	
Some efforts have started to examine potential regimes in ABS.	

113. In developing national measures to address access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, has your country taken into account the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further information on national measures taken which consider the multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing as set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.	
Not applicable as Solomon Islands as yet to develop an ABS system or regime. Solomon Islands participates in the ITPGR and would certainly take into account its access system when developing its own ABS.	

114. Is your country using the Bonn Guidelines when developing and drafting legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing and/or when negotiating contracts and other arrangements under mutually agreed terms for access and benefit-sharing? (decision VII/19A)

a) No	X
b) No, but steps being taken to do so (please provide details below)	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Please provide details and specify successes and constraints in the implementation of the Bonn Guidelines.	
In some of the existing arrangements, elements of the Bonn Guidelines are taken into account. The Guidelines are used in the current efforts to develop a national regime.	

115. Has your country adopted national policies or measures, including legislation, which address the role of intellectual property rights in access and benefit-sharing arrangements (i.e. the issue of disclosure of origin/source/legal provenance of genetic resources in applications for intellectual property rights where the subject matter of the application concerns, or makes use of, genetic resources in its development)?

a) No	
b) No, but potential policies or measures have been identified (please specify below)	
c) No, but relevant policies or measures are under development (please specify below)	X
d) Yes, some policies or measures are in place (please specify below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive policies or measures adopted (please specify below)	

Further information on policies or measures that address the role of IPR in access and benefit-sharing arrangements.

Solomon Islands is currently examining potential issues and elements for a national ABS system. Another effort assisted by a regional organization is working on a potential law on IPR issues but covering more cultural property than genetic resources.

116. Has your country been involved in capacity-building activities related to access and benefit-sharing?

a) Yes (please provide details below)	X
b) No	

Please provide further information on capacity-building activities (your involvement as donor or recipient, key actors involved, target audience, time period, goals and objectives of the capacity-building activities, main capacity-building areas covered, nature of activities). Please also specify whether these activities took into account the Action Plan on capacity-building for access and benefit-sharing adopted at COP VII and available in annex to decision VII/19F.

As part of the NCSA project to identify capacity building issues and develop an action plan for capacity building.

Box LIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

As there has been very low activity undertaken under this article, the outcomes and impacts of activities undertaken have been very minimal and have not contributed much to the goals of the strategic plan, the 2010 target and the MDGs. Much will need to be done and included in the NBSAP to implement the article.

Article 16 - Access to and transfer of technology

117. On Article 16(1), has your country taken measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment?	
a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	
Further information on the measures to provide or facilitate access for and transfer to other Parties of technologies that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity or make use of genetic resources and do not cause significant damage to the environment.	

118. On Article 16(3), has your country taken measures so that Parties which provide genetic resources are provided access to and transfer of technology which make use of those resources, on mutually agreed terms?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation is in place	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy or subsidiary legislation are in place	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative arrangements are in place	
g) Not applicable	X

119. On Article 16(4), has your country taken measures so that the private sector facilitates access to joint development and transfer of relevant technology for the benefit of Government entities and the private sector of developing countries?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive policies and measures are in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	X
Further information on the measures taken.	

Box LV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

There has been very little activity and little outcome and impacts under this article.

Programme of Work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation

120. Has your country provided financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation? (decision VII/29)

a) No	X
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the provision of financial and technical support and training to assist in the implementation of the programme of work on transfer of technology and technology cooperation.

121. Is your country taking any measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation? (decision VII/29)

a) No	X
b) No, but some measures being considered	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures to remove unnecessary impediments to funding of multi-country initiatives for technology transfer and for scientific and technical cooperation.

122. Has your country made any technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, basic assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, thorough assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on technology assessments addressing technology needs, opportunities and barriers in relevant sectors as well as related needs in capacity building.

The most appropriate assessments to date is under the National Capacity Self Assessment project which does examine some aspects of this article and has recommended some further actions under the projects draft action plan.

123. Has your country made any assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	X
b) No, but assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the assessments and risk analysis of the potential benefits, risks and associated costs with the introduction of new technologies.

124. Has your country identified and implemented any measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation, including assessing capacity building needs? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	X
b) No, but some programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some programmes are in place and being implemented (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive programmes are being implemented (please provide details below)	

Further comments on measures to develop or strengthen appropriate information systems for technology transfer and cooperation.

125. Has your country taken any of the measures specified under Target 3.2 of the programme of work as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention? (annex to decision VII/29)

a) No	X
b) No, but a few measures being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please specify below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please specify below)	

Further comments on the measures taken as a preparatory phase to the development and implementation of national institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks to facilitate cooperation as well as access to and adaptation of technologies of relevance to the Convention.

Existing technologies relate mainly to extractive technologies, information systems and research methodologies and techniques.


Box LVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

As there has been very little activity under this article, the outcomes and impacts have been very minimal. In some sectors, the lack of proper management of technology-use is quite detrimental to the objectives of the convention.

Article 17 - Exchange of information

126.  On Article 17(1), has your country taken measures to facilitate the exchange of information from publicly available sources with a view to assist with the implementation of the Convention and promote technical and scientific cooperation?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

The following question (127) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

127. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 17(1), do these measures take into account the special needs of developing countries and include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on?	
a) No	
b) Yes, but they do not include the categories of information listed in Article 17(2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	
c) Yes, and they include categories of information listed in Article 17 (2), such as technical, scientific and socio-economic research, training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, repatriation of information and so on	

Box LVII.

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
<p>Information on biodiversity is available for public from a number of sources. Accessing it however may be difficult for many as lack of resources usually makes it difficult to make information readily available for those who seek it. Disseminating information to the public usually faces the same problems of lack of resources. Accessing information from outside sources is the most difficult. The government has put some efforts in making available information to the public through existing facilities and other media and believes that the actions so far has made some positive impacts towards global and national objectives.</p>

Article 18 - Technical and scientific cooperation

128. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 18(1), has your country taken measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
Further information on the measures to promote international technical and scientific cooperation.	
<p>Policy measures are in place for such cooperation at regional and international levels. Regional cooperation is done mostly through regional organizations such as the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, South Pacific Geoscience Commission and the Forum Secretariat. Some of the existing bilateral and multilateral agreements cover such cooperation in the field of fisheries, agriculture, forestry, and environment. Many programmes or projects implemented at the national level involve cooperation with local communities and authorities, provincial governments, civil society organizations and national and</p>	

international NGOs. Solomon Islands co-operates with many countries of the region and outside of the region, as well as with many UN agencies, and multilateral institutions in biodiversity and related issues. A number of reputable external institutions have established some links, some through MOUs, to implement some scientific work in the country. These include the University of Queensland, Australian National University, The American Museum of Natural History, and University of California in Santa Barbara.

129. On Article 18(4), has your country encouraged and developed methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant methods are under development	
c) Yes, methods are in place	X

130. On Article 18(5), has your country promoted the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide some examples below)	X

Examples for the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention.

Mainly in joint research programmes with its partners such as private external research institutions or universities, NGOs, other governments' research institutions. Some research works are currently ongoing through a number of the above groups with involvement of relevant national, provincial and local authorities, communities and tribes, and local community groups. Many of these works are part of the current conservation area development activities whilst others are part of research and development programmes whilst others are part of education and academic programmes. Some of the work includes research work on potential commercial marine species by the World Fish Center and the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources. The research work with Kochi Prefecture Botanical Garden in Japan and the Ministry of Forest, Environment and Conservation will target the country' fauna, basically in terms of taxonomy but also in potential products. The Secretariat of the Pacific Commission has been working with the government in Tuna tagging for some years as part of the tuna resources monitoring programme in Pacific. A research work on Indigenous Trees Genetic Project between the government of Australia and countries of the region including Solomon Islands is ongoing. Turtle monitoring work has been ongoing with some institutions including NOAA. Other works in agriculture has involved other institutions such as the ACIAR (Australian Center for International Agricultural Research) and so on.

131. Has your country established links to non-governmental organizations, private sector and other institutions holding important databases or undertaking significant work on biological diversity through the CHM? (decision V/14)

a) No	
b) No, but coordination with relevant NGOs, private sector and other institutions under way	
c) Yes, links established with relevant NGOs, private sector and institutions	X

The following question (132) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

132. Has your country further developed the CHM to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation? (decision V/14)	
a) No	
b) Yes, by using funding opportunities	
c) Yes, by means of access to, and transfer of technology	
d) Yes, by using research cooperation facilities	
e) Yes, by using repatriation of information	
f) Yes, by using training opportunities	
g) Yes, by using promotion of contacts with relevant institutions, organizations and the private sector	
h) Yes, by using other means (please specify below)	
Further comments on CHM developments to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to gain access to information in the field of scientific and technical cooperation.	

133. Has your country used CHM to make information available more useful for researchers and decision-makers? (decision V/14)	
a) No	X
b) No, but relevant initiatives under consideration	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on development of relevant initiatives.	
The CHM does not function in Solomon Islands at present and needs to be revived, provided funds are available as it is very expensive to host such system in the country. Information is not restricted and should be publicly available for researchers. Researchers are required to submit copies of their work with the National Library and information should be available to the public on request.	

134. Has your country developed, provided and shared services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of the CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions? (decision V/14)	
a) No	X
b) Yes (please specify services and tools below)	
Further comments on services and tools to enhance and facilitate the implementation of CHM and further improve synergies among biodiversity-related Conventions.	

Box LVIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The activities undertaken under this article have had positive outcomes and impacts as new and important information continue to be gathered and used for decision making at various levels. These activities and information gained contributes positively to the goals of the strategic plan, the 2010 target, and the MDGs. What has been gathered so far will also contribute towards the completion of the country's NBSAP.

Article 19 - Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits

135. On Article 19(1), has your country taken measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Contracting Parties which provide the genetic resources for such research?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive legislation are in place	
e) Yes, comprehensive statutory policy and subsidiary legislation are in place	
f) Yes, comprehensive policy and administrative measures are in place	

136. On Article 19(2), has your country taken all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access by Parties, on a fair and equitable basis, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Parties?

a) No	
b) No, but potential measures are under review	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place	

Box LIX.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Solomon Islands started some work on the National Biosafety Framework project which is still to be completed. As products have yet to be produced, there have been very little outcomes and impacts of action taken and contributions towards global and national objectives have been minimal.

Article 20 – Financial resources

Box LX.

Please describe for each of the following items the quantity of financial resources, both internal and external, that have been utilized, received or provided, as applicable, to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, on an annual basis, since your country became a Party to the Convention.

a) Budgetary allocations by national and local Governments as well as different sectoral ministries	Budgetary resources have not been allocated for specific CBD implementation but on relevant activities, and it is not possible to disaggregate information on what is CBD relevant and what is not, given the resources and time for the compilation of this report. The information here is general information on annual budgetary allocation for the relevant Ministries and Departments averaged for the last few years. These are allocations only, which are normally not all spent for the allocated year. For three most relevant Ministries, i.e. Ministry of Forest, Environment and Conservation; Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources; and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the average national budget allocation would be around USD 8-9 million each. The figure includes most external assistance to the ministries and which are mostly for development activities. Actual spending per year for each of the above ministries would be around 60-70%
b) Extra-budgetary resources (identified by donor agencies)	There are no extra-budgetary resources or support specific for CBD related activities from Donors
c) Bilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	Australia supports a number of relevant programmes in Forestry, Lands and Agriculture. NZ support some fisheries programmes.
d) Regional channels (identified by donor agencies)	The regional organization supporting CBD activities are SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme), SPC (Secretariat of the Pacific Community), SOPAC (South Pacific Geo Science Commission) and Forum Fisheries Agency.
e) Multilateral channels (identified by donor agencies)	Multilateral channels are very important to Solomon islands and include European Union, The World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Global Environment Facility, UNDP, and FAO

f) Private sources (identified by donor agencies)	Mostly used by NGOs from foundations and so forth. The NGOs active in Solomon Islands using such sources are Worldlife Fund for Nature (WWF), Conservation International(CI), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Foundation of the Peoples of The South Pacific (FSPI), ECANSI, Live and Learn Centre, Oxfarm, Save the Children-Australia, Solomon Islands Development Trust (SIDT) etc
g) Resources generated through financial instruments, such as charges for use of biodiversity	Solomon Islands is dependent on the exploitation and use of biodiversity for it economic growth. Some examples of financial instruments used to generate resources include Timber levy, Logging licence fee, Wildlife Export permit fees, and Fisheries licence fees.

Box LXI.

Please describe in detail below any major financing programmes, such as biodiversity trust funds or specific programmes that have been established in your country.

As far as financing programmes are concerned, Solomon Islands does not have any at the national level. The new Forest Conservation Strategy funded by EU is the only programme that is starting up with such a scheme aimed at assisting NGOs and communities to develop their community conservation areas. A conservation area project has a trust fund established.

137. On Article 20(1), has your country provided financial support and incentives to those national activities that are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention?

a) No	
b) Yes, incentives only (please provide a list of such incentives below)	
c) Yes, financial support only	X
d) Yes, financial support and incentives (please provide details below)	

Further comments on financial support and incentives provided.

The Solomon Islands government supports many biodiversity related activities including some of the current work on conservation area development. It provides many of its staff to assist many of the biodiversity related work going on with other stakeholders. The government also provides financial support to many of its citizens undertaking undergraduate training in universities and colleges in the Pacific region and in Australia and New Zealand.

The next question (138) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

138. On Article 20(2), has your country provided new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed incremental costs to them of implementing measures which fulfill the obligations of the Convention?

a) No	
b) Yes (please indicate the amount, on an annual basis, of new and additional financial resources your country has provided)	

Further comments on new and additional financial resources provided.

The next question (139) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

139. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Article 20(2), has your country received new and additional financial resources to enable it to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfill the obligations of the Convention?	
a) No	
b) Yes	X

140. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country established a process to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector? (decision V/11)	
a) No	X
b) No, but procedures being established	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on processes to monitor financial support to biodiversity, including support provided by the private sector.	
Solomon Islands does receive significant amount of funding from developed countries and multilateral institutions but has not established any monitoring processes for such financial supports.	

141. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has your country considered any measures like tax exemptions in national taxation systems to encourage financial support to biodiversity? (decision V/11)	
a) No	
b) No, but exemptions are under development (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, exemptions are in place (please provide details below)	X
Further comments on tax exemptions for biodiversity-related donations.	
Many biodiversity activities and many of the stakeholders involved in biodiversity programmes are usually granted tax exemptions on applications or as conditions in their agreed MOU with the government.	

142. Has your country reviewed national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance allocated to biodiversity, with particular attention paid to positive incentives and their performance as well as perverse incentives and ways and means for their removal or mitigation? (decision VI/16)	
a) No	X
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes (please provide results of review below)	
Further comments on review of national budgets and monetary policies, including the effectiveness of official development assistance.	

143. Is your country taking concrete actions to review and further integrate biodiversity considerations in the development and implementation of major international development initiatives, as well as in national sustainable development plans and relevant sectoral policies and plans? (decisions VI/16 and VII/21)

a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	
c) Yes, in some initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, in major initiatives and plans (please provide details below)	

Further comments on review and integration of biodiversity considerations in relevant initiatives, policies and plans.

A number of sectoral policies and plans do integrate biodiversity considerations. These include sectoral plans such as the Tuna management Plans, the draft NCSA action plan, the draft NIS under the UNFCCC. Many Ministerial corporate plans do integrate biodiversity issues. A number of international projects also do follow strict requirements on environmental considerations and allow integration of biodiversity of issues. Some examples include the Community Sector Programme of AuSAID adopting and Environmental Management Framework. The World Bank Funded Agricultural Rural Development Strategy also adopted an Environmental Management Framework.

144. Is your country enhancing the integration of biological diversity into the sectoral development and assistance programmes? (decision VII/21)

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, into some sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, into major sectoral development and assistance programmes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the integration of biodiversity into sectoral development and assistance programmes

A number of large development assistance programmes have environmental management frameworks as major components.

The next question (145) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

145. Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which area your country has provided financial support to developing countries and/or countries with economies in transition. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.

A r e a s	Support provided
a) Undertaking national or regional assessments within the framework of MEA (decision VI/8)	
b) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)	
c) Enhance national capacity to establish and maintain the mechanisms to protect traditional knowledge (decision VI/10)	

d) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation (decision V/26)	
e) Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision VI/9)	
f) Implementation of the Bonn Guidelines (decision VI/24)	
g) Implementation of programme of work on agricultural biodiversity (decision V/5)	
h) Preparation of first report on the State of World's Animal Genetic Resources (decision VI/17)	
i) Support to work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and development of regional and sub regional networks or processes (decision VI/27)	
j) Development of partnerships and other means to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the programme of work on dry and subhumid lands biological diversity (decision VII/2)	
k) Financial support for the operations of the Coordination Mechanism of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision VII/9)	
l) Support to the implementation of the Action Plan on Capacity Building as contained in the annex to decision VII/19 (decision VII/19)	
m) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity (decision VII/27)	
n) Support to the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas (decision VII/28)	
o) Support to the development of national indicators (decision VII/30)	
p) Others (please specify)	
Further information on financial support provided to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.	

The next question (146) is for DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

146. Please indicate with an "X" in the table below in which areas your country has applied for funds from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), from developed countries and/or from other sources. The same area may have more than one source of financial support. Please elaborate in the space below if necessary.

Areas	Applied for funds from		
	GEF	Bilateral	Other
a) Preparation of national biodiversity strategies or action plans	X		X
b) National capacity self-assessment for implementation of Convention (decision VI/27)	X		
c) Priority actions to implement the Global Taxonomy Initiative (decision V/9)			
d) <i>In-situ</i> conservation (decision V/16)			X
e) Development of national strategies or action plans to deal with alien species (decision VI/23)			
f) <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation, establishment and maintenance of <i>Ex-situ</i> conservation facilities (decision V/26)			X
g) Projects that promote measures for implementing Article 13 (Education and Public Awareness) (decision VI/19)			X
h) Preparation of national reports (decisions III/9, V/19 and VI/25)	X		
i) Projects for conservation and sustainable use of inland water biological diversity (decision IV/4)			X
j) Activities for conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity (decision V/5)		X	X
k) Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (decision VI/26)	X		
l) Implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative			
m) Implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity			X
n) Others (please specify)			

Further information on application for financial support.

Box LXII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this article and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

As a least developed country, Solomon islands could not support itself to manage its precious biodiversity. It has been depending mostly on external assistance and would expect that trend to continue. The management of the country's biodiversity cannot be done by the state alone and must be supported by all stakeholders from within and outside of the country. The participation of many groups in the biodiversity agenda has been most helpful in bringing in increased resources and supporting and building the capacity at various levels in the country and has contributed a lot to global and national biodiversity objectives.

D. THEMATIC AREAS

147. Please use the scale indicated below to reflect the level of challenges faced by your country in implementing the thematic programmes of work of the Convention (marine and coastal biodiversity, agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity, inland waters biodiversity, dry and sub-humid lands and mountain biodiversity).

3 = High Challenge							1 = Low Challenge
2 = Medium Challenge							0 = Challenge has been successfully overcome
N/A = Not applicable							
Challenges	Programme of Work						
	Agricultural	Forest	Marine and coastal	Inland water ecosystem	Dry and subhumid lands	Mountain	
(a) Lack of political will and support	2	2	1	3	NA	3	
(b) Limited public participation and stakeholder involvement	2	2	1	3	NA	2	
(c) Lack of mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity issues into other sectors	2	2	1	3	NA	3	
(d) Lack of precautionary and proactive measures	3	3	2	3	NA	3	
(e) Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness	2	1	1	3	NA	2	

(f) Lack of transfer of technology and expertise	2	2	2	3	NA	3
(g) Loss of traditional knowledge	3	3	3	3	NA	3
(h) Lack of adequate scientific research capacities to support all the objectives	2	2	2	3	NA	3
(i) Lack of accessible knowledge and information	2	2	2	3	NA	2
(j) Lack of public education and awareness at all levels	3	3	3	3	NA	3
(k) Existing scientific and traditional knowledge not fully utilized	2	2	2	3	NA	3
(l) Loss of biodiversity and the corresponding goods and services it provides not properly understood and documented	3	3	3	3	NA	3
(m) Lack of financial, human, technical resources	2	2	2	3	NA	3
(n) Lack of economic incentive measures	2	2	3	3	NA	3
(o) Lack of benefit-sharing	3	3	3	3	NA	3
(p) Lack of synergies at national and international levels	3	3	2	3	NA	3
(q) Lack of horizontal cooperation among stakeholders	2	2	2	3	NA	3
(r) Lack of effective partnerships	2	2	2	3	NA	3
(s) Lack of engagement of scientific community	2	2	2	3	NA	2
(t) Lack of appropriate policies and laws	2	2	2	3	NA	3
(u) Poverty	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
(v) Population pressure	3	3	3	3	NA	2

(w) Unsustainable consumption and production patterns	2	3	3	3	NA	2
(x) Lack of capacities for local communities	3	3	3	3	NA	3
(y) Lack of knowledge and practice of ecosystem-based approaches to management	3	3	3	3	NA	3
(z) Weak law enforcement capacity	2	3	3	2	NA	2
(aa) Natural disasters and environmental change	3	3	3	3	NA	3
(bb) Others (please specify)						

Inland water ecosystems

148. Has your country incorporated the objectives and relevant activities of the programme of work into the following and implemented them? (decision VII/4)				
Strategies, policies, plans and activities	No	Yes, partially, integrated but not implemented	Yes, fully integrated and implemented	N/A
a) Your biodiversity strategies and action plans	X			
b) Wetland policies and strategies	X			
c) Integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans being developed in line with paragraph 25 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development		X		
d) Enhanced coordination and cooperation between national actors responsible for inland water ecosystems and biological diversity	X			
Further comments on incorporation of the objectives and activities of the programme of work				
<p>The Solomon Islands Water Policy identifies it as one of its implementing strategies to adopt an integrated sectoral approach for effective management of the country's water resources. This is in light of the fragmented nature of existing coordination of water resource management in Solomon Islands, which does not support sustainable water resources management. Despite the existence of the water policy, there is obviously little attention accorded to sustainable use and conservation of inland water biodiversity and ecosystems in the policy document.</p>				

149. Has your country identified priorities for each activity in the programme of work, including timescales, in relation to outcome oriented targets? (decision VII/4)

a) No	X
b) Outcome oriented targets developed but priority activities not developed	
c) Priority activities developed but not outcome oriented targets	
d) Yes, comprehensive outcome oriented targets and priority activities developed	

Further comments on the adoption of outcome oriented targets and priorities for activities, including providing a list of targets (if developed).

There is obviously little attention accorded to sustainable use and conservation of inland water biodiversity and ecosystems in terms of implementing the key activities identified for the programme of work. While it is recognized that protecting inland water biodiversity and ecosystems are important for achieving the 2010 target, neither have outcome-oriented targets nor priority activities developed in line with the focal areas identified in the framework for the Strategic Plan of CBD.

150. Is your country promoting synergies between this programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level? (decision VII/4)

a) Not applicable (not Party to Ramsar Convention)	X
b) No	
c) No, but potential measures were identified for synergy and joint implementation	
d) Yes, some measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)	
e) Yes, comprehensive measures taken for joint implementation (please specify below)	

Further comments on the promotion of synergies between the programme of work and related activities under the Ramsar Convention as well as the implementation of the Joint Work Plan (CBD-Ramsar) at the national level.

Solomon Islands is not a Party to the Ramsar Convention and as such the Joint Work Plan has not received much attention. A lot of Ramsar relevant works however, are ongoing in the conservation area development activities. Of particular relevance is the establishment of East Rennell which covers Lake Tengano, as the first World Heritage site in the insular Pacific. A potential Ramsar site (Lauvi Lagoon) was assessed in the past for purposes of pursuing accession to Ramsar.

151. Has your country taken steps to improve national data on: (decision VII/4)			
Issues	Yes	No	No, but development is under way
a) Goods and services provided by inland water ecosystems?		X	
b) The uses and related socioeconomic variables of such goods and services?		X	
c) Basic hydrological aspects of water supply as they relate to maintaining ecosystem function?		X	
d) Species and all taxonomic levels?		X	
e) On threats to which inland water ecosystems are subjected?		X	
Further comments on the development of data sets, in particular a list of data sets developed in case you have replied "YES" above.			

152. Has your country promoted the application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems? (decision VII/4)	
a) No, the guidelines have not been reviewed	X
b) No, the guidelines have been reviewed and found inappropriate	
c) Yes, the guidelines have been reviewed and application/promotion is pending	
d) Yes, the guidelines promoted and applied	
Further comments on the promotion and application of the guidelines on the rapid assessment of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems.	
There needs to be more awareness on the guidelines as they are not so well known to appropriate authorities. More attention and work needs to be done to get activities with regard to the guidelines.	

Box LXIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

The fact that there is generally no information available on this POW, due to very limited attention given to the implementation of the key activities and the integration of the objectives of the POW in other sectoral strategies or programmes, compounded by the absence of any NBSAP for Solomon islands have made the task difficult in assessing the effectiveness of the POW in terms of achieving the Strategic Plan and Millennium Development Goals. In reality no substantive actions have been undertaken in this POW and hence there has been limited contribution to achieving the 2010 target by protecting inland water biodiversity and ecosystems.

Marine and coastal biological diversity

General

153. Do your country's strategies and action plans include the following? Please use an "X" to indicate your response. (decisions II/10 and IV/15)

a) Developing new marine and coastal protected areas	X
b) Improving the management of existing marine and coastal protected areas	X
c) Building capacity within the country for management of marine and coastal resources, including through educational programmes and targeted research initiatives (if yes, please elaborate on types of initiatives in the box below)	X
d) Instituting improved integrated marine and coastal area management (including catchments management) in order to reduce sediment and nutrient loads into the marine environment	X
e) Protection of areas important for reproduction, such as spawning and nursery areas	X
f) Improving sewage and other waste treatment	X
g) Controlling excessive fishing and destructive fishing practices	X
h) Developing a comprehensive oceans policy (if yes, please indicate current stage of development in the box below)	X
i) Incorporation of local and traditional knowledge into management of marine and coastal resources (if yes, please elaborate on types of management arrangements in the box below)	X
j) Others (please specify below)	
k) Not applicable	

Please elaborate on the above activities and list any other priority actions relating to conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.

There are already functioning MPAs established by TNC, WWF and FSPI in partnership with local

communities and government in the country. The MPAs are more focused on ecological value and the uniqueness of the sites and their productivity as important habitats or breeding sites for certain marine species. A country-wide survey of the country's marine biodiversity, namely Solomon Islands Marine Assessment including cetaceans and dugongs has been completed in 2004 with funding support from TNC. Cetacean conservation and management is being looked at for further assessment, which should be vital in formulating a comprehensive oceans policy. At present there are 30 marine conservation areas (MPAs) in Solomon Islands with the number of protected areas expected to increase in the immediate future. One conservation approach that is given considerable attention and already applied in some marine conservation areas is the community based conservation or locally managed marine areas.

Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management

154. Has your country established and/or strengthened institutional, administrative and legislative arrangements for the development of integrated management of marine and coastal ecosystems?

a) No	
b) Early stages of development	X
c) Advanced stages of development	
d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management.

Protection and sustainable management of Solomon Islands marine biodiversity, coastal and aquatic environments is among the important conservation and management principles enshrined in the Fisheries Act 1998. The concept of integrated coastal zone management has even received some attention by Fisheries department. A national fisheries policy with a broader marine and coastal component and new legislation to give it the legal force has been identified as important for sound management of marine and coastal ecosystems in Solomon Islands, though the existing Fisheries Act does not have a provision to protect marine biodiversity.

155. Has your country implemented ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal resources, for example through integration of coastal management and watershed management, or through integrated multidisciplinary coastal and ocean management?

a) No	
b) Early stages of development	X
c) Advanced stages of development	
d) Arrangements in place (please provide details below)	
e) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of application of the ecosystem to management of marine and coastal resources.

The government of New Zealand together with Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and South Pacific Commission (SPC) has been working with fisheries department to review the Fisheries Act, its regulations and provincial ordinances and fisheries legislation relative to coastal fisheries. The SPC coastal fisheries programme focuses its effort on an ecosystem based approach to coastal fisheries management.

Marine and Coastal Living Resources

156. Has your country identified components of your marine and coastal ecosystems, which are critical for their functioning, as well as key threats to those ecosystems?

a) No	
b) Plans for a comprehensive assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)	
c) A comprehensive assessment is currently in progress	
d) Critical ecosystem components have been identified, and management plans for them are being developed (please provide details below)	
e) Management plans for important components of marine and coastal ecosystems are in place (please provide details below)	
f) Not applicable	

Further comments on the current status of assessment, monitoring and research relating to marine and coastal ecosystems, as well as key threats to them

A marine assessment has been conducted on Solomon Islands marine resources with the aim of understanding the biodiversity and status of coral reefs, sea grass beds, oceanic cetaceans, reef food fish, commercial invertebrates and associated habitats in order to develop conservation and management plans for the marine resources, where needed. A number of marine ecological surveys were also done previously by environment and fisheries officers on dugong and marine turtles habitats, nesting sites and feeding grounds.

Important recommendations were made as a result of these surveys due to the threats posed to these resources from increased exploitation of certain resources, population pressure and destruction of mangrove and reef ecosystems. Management plans are in place for a majority of MPAs established and managed by the local communities. Detailed assessment of abundance, distribution and variations of marine and coastal ecosystems is being planned so that appropriate management plans can be developed.

157. Is your country undertaking the following activities to implement the Convention's work plan on coral reefs? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.

Activities	Not implemented nor a priority	Not implemented but a priority	Currently implemented	Not applicable
a) Ecological assessment and monitoring of reefs			X	
b) Socio-economic assessment and monitoring of communities and stakeholders			X	
c) Management, particularly through application of integrated coastal management and marine and coastal protected areas in coral reef environments		X		
d) Identification and implementation of additional and alternative measures for securing livelihoods of people who directly depend on coral reef services			X	

e) Stakeholder partnerships, community participation programmes and public education campaigns			X	
f) Provision of training and career opportunities for marine taxonomists and ecologists		X		
g) Development of early warning systems of coral bleaching		X		
h) Development of a rapid response capability to document coral bleaching and mortality		X		
i) Restoration and rehabilitation of degraded coral reef habitats		X		
j) Others (please specify below)				
Please elaborate on ongoing activities.				
<p>Ecological assessment and monitoring of reefs, socio-economic assessment and monitoring of communities and stakeholders, identification and implementation of additional and alternative measures for securing livelihoods of people who directly depend on coral reef services, and stakeholder partnerships, community participation programmes and public education campaigns are all important and integral components of the functioning MPAs in Solomon Islands. These are ongoing activities. In the community managed conservation areas monitoring of the coral reefs is jointly undertaken either by consultants with resource owners or by resource owners themselves with the technical and financial support of the major conservation NGOs such as WWF or TNC in the country.</p>				

Marine and Coastal Protected Areas

158. Which of the following statements can best describe the current status of marine and coastal protected areas in your country? Please use an "X" to indicate your response.	
a) Marine and coastal protected areas have been declared and gazetted (please indicate below how many)	X
b) Management plans for these marine and coastal protected areas have been developed with involvement of all stakeholders	X
c) Effective management with enforcement and monitoring has been put in place	X
d) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas is under development	X
e) A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas has been put in place	
f) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas managed for purpose of sustainable use, which may allow extractive activities	X
g) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas includes areas which exclude extractive uses	X

h) The national system of marine and coastal protected areas is surrounded by sustainable management practices over the wider marine and coastal environment.	
i) Other (please describe below)	
j) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of marine and coastal protected areas.	
<p>A large number of the MPAs have been declared and gazetted and also have management plans developed for them. This, however, varies between the MPAs. Process for the declaration and gazettal of other MPAs is being pursued. For example, the ten (10) sites that have been declared in Roviana and Vonavona, Western province are all legally protected with all having management plans. The Arnavon Islands Marine Conservation Area is also legally protected under a provincial ordinance. For Tetepare and other MPAs all have management plans established for them but still lack legal protection. Many of these MPAs are either community based conservation or locally managed marine areas with heavy involvement of all stakeholders. Monitoring of coral reefs and the MPAs in general are sometimes undertaken by hired consultants but the locals also do a lot of monitoring themselves. A national system or network of marine and coastal protected areas is under development, to which all these MPAs report. Extractive uses or activities within these marine and coastal protected areas vary from one site to the next, with opened and closed seasons for sustainable use only.</p>	

Mariculture

159. Is your country applying the following techniques aimed at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity? Please check all that apply.	
a) Application of environmental impact assessments for mariculture developments	No
b) Development and application of effective site selection methods in the framework of integrated marine and coastal area management	No
c) Development of effective methods for effluent and waste control	No
d) Development of appropriate genetic resource management plans at the hatchery level	No
e) Development of controlled hatchery and genetically sound reproduction methods in order to avoid seed collection from nature.	No
f) If seed collection from nature cannot be avoided, development of environmentally sound practices for spat collecting operations, including use of selective fishing gear to avoid by-catch	No
g) Use of native species and subspecies in mariculture	No
h) Implementation of effective measures to prevent the inadvertent release of mariculture species and fertile polypoids.	No
i) Use of proper methods of breeding and proper places of releasing in order to protect genetic diversity	NA
j) Minimizing the use of antibiotics through better husbandry techniques	NA
k) Use of selective methods in commercial fishing to avoid or minimize by-catch	No
l) Considering traditional knowledge, where applicable, as a source to develop sustainable mariculture techniques	NA

m) Not applicable	
Further comments on techniques that aim at minimizing adverse impacts of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity.	

Alien Species and Genotypes

160. Has your country put in place mechanisms to control pathways of introduction of alien species in the marine and coastal environment? Please check all that apply and elaborate on types of measures in the space below.	
a) No	X
b) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from ballast water have been put in place (please provide details below)	No
c) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from hull fouling have been put in place (please provide details below)	No
d) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from aquaculture have been put in place (please provide details below)	No
e) Mechanisms to control potential invasions from accidental releases, such as aquarium releases, have been put in place (please provide details below)	No
f) Not applicable	
Further comments on the current status of activities relating to prevention of introductions of alien species in the marine and coastal environment, as well as any eradication activities.	
A preliminary survey of the invasive alien species that threaten Solomon Islands has been undertaken in the past by SPREP. Recently SPREP has put some effort into its invasive species programme to assist its member countries to control potential alien species. The agriculture department has a national programme to prevent the likely introduction of unwanted pests, diseases and invasive species into the country in conjunction with the SPC. SPREP also has a marine pollution programme, which can be linked with its invasive programme to specifically address alien species of major threat to the marine and coastal environments.	

Box LXIV.

<p>Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken; b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention; c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target; d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans; e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; f) constraints encountered in implementation.
<p>The problem of invasive alien species has long been recognized in Solomon Islands through the work initiated by SPREP to identify alien species introduced to the country. While the issue is being looked at under the new SPREP initiative, no tangible contributions have been observed in moving the country closer to achieving the 2010 targets or the MDG. However, in terms of the Strategic Plan the fact that regional organizations such as SPREP and SPC are collaborating with each to reduce threats from alien invasive species with improved financial, technical and technological capacity suggests that some progress has been made on this front. This element of the POW has not received good enough attention due to lack of resources nonetheless.</p>

Agricultural biological diversity

161. Has your country developed national strategies, programmes and plans that ensure the development and successful implementation of policies and actions that lead to the conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity components? (decisions III/11 and IV/6)

a) No	
b) No, but strategies, programmes and plans are under development	
c) Yes, some strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive strategies, programmes and plans are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on agrobiodiversity components in national strategies, programmes and plans.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) has a tree crops development programme for ngali nut *Canarium sp.* and other indigenous and exotic fruit trees. An essential component of the programme was to make collections of selected fruit trees and maintain the germplasms at field experiment stations (FES). A Tree Crops Development project is being implemented in 2007 by the Transitional Support for Agriculture Project (TSAP), funded under the AusAID Technical support, looking at rapid multiplication of fruit trees at the FESs. The Kastom Garden Project, an independent NGO registered in Solomon Islands, also has a similar program to that of agriculture whose primary focus is to preserve, through use, the agricultural biodiversity of Solomon Islands, produce, process and distribute agriculturally important plants, provide training in seed saving and assist rural communities to establish regional seed saving centers. This is done through Solomon Islands Planting Material Network which is responsible for seed production, processing and distribution.

162. Has your country identified ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use, including food security, of agricultural biological diversity? (decision V/5)

a) No	X
b) No, but potential measures are under review	
c) Yes, some measures identified (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures identified (please provide details below)	

Further information on ways and means to address the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies on the *In-situ* and *Ex-situ* conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity.

There is currently lack of information about the scientific assessment of genetic use restriction technologies (GURT) or "terminator technologies" in Solomon Islands. The agriculture department of Solomon Islands government together with Kastom Garden has separate but similar programmes for the development and preservation of exotic and indigenous species of agricultural significant crops and plants crops mainly through use and maintenance of germplasms at field experiment stations in the country.

Annex to decision V/5 - Programme of work on agricultural biodiversity

Programme element 1 – Assessment	
163. Has your country undertaken specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity such as on plant genetic resources, animal genetic resources, pollinators, pest management and nutrient cycling?	
a) No	
b) Yes, assessments are in progress (please specify components below)	X
c) Yes, assessments completed (please specify components and results of assessments below)	
Further comments on specific assessments of components of agricultural biodiversity.	
<p>The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock has been doing some work on specific components of the country's agricultural biodiversity, which included development of exotic and indigenous crops, conducting of research for further use or domestication of indigenous animal species and conducting of national agricultural pest and disease survey on crops in Solomon Islands. Contingency plans for pest and disease incursions into the country are being developed and tested for its effectiveness. This will be done jointly with Customs and Immigration by reviewing all import protocols for all machinery imported for logging operations in the Solomon Islands, being one of the pathways. Essentially it is one of the important objectives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock to promote the conservation, domestication and further utilisation of the country's indigenous animal and plant biodiversity. The Indigenous Temotu Traditional Agriculture (ITTA) system which is practiced in Temotu Province comprises the integration of indigenous root crops and tree crops where the species of fruit trees used acts as nutrient recyclers bringing up nutrients from deep underground to the surface for shallow rooted crops to access.</p> <p>Other related work especially on taro <i>Colocasia esculenta</i> and banana varieties <i>Musa spp</i> has been undertaken by the Kastom Garden Project in the country in the recent past. A total of 81 different accessions of banana have been collected from one of the major islands Makira of the Solomons and were planted in a gene bank at a rural training center while for taro, Solomon Islands has been considered to have a very high taro genetic diversity. Pests and diseases are major factors seriously influencing taro production in the country. Solomon Islands Planting Material Network plays a key role in the <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation. (goal 3)</p>	
164. Is your country undertaking assessments of the interactions between agricultural practices and the conservation and sustainable use of the components of biodiversity referred to in Annex I of the Convention (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance)?	
a) No	
b) Yes, assessments are under way	
c) Yes, some assessments completed (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive assessments completed (please provide details below)	
Further comments on assessment of biodiversity components (e.g. ecosystems and habitats; species and communities; genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance).	
<p>Following some assessment by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of the type of farming system and the limited availability of improved agricultural planting material for cultivation in the country, plans are now being developed to re-establish coconut and cocoa seed gardens replacing existing seed gardens which are now too old, conduct on-farm participatory research and development of crops for possible export, address land degradation by improved farming system, and establish nursery and other propagation facilities as a means of improving the seed supplies.</p>	

The work by Kastom Garden to establish regional seed saving centers for agriculturally useful plants in the country also attempts to grow and multiply seeds for latter distribution to farmers. Like the agriculture department, Kastom Garden mainly store, multiply and distribute seeds that have social, cultural and economic significance, for instance, some vegetables, taro, and banana. It is an important component of Kastom Garden's program to ensure improved farming practices and farming techniques. More than 100 indigenous and exotic species of agricultural significant crops and plants are already conserved by the network.

165. Has your country carried out an assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities in sustaining agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecosystem services for food production and food security?

a) No	
b) Yes, assessment is under way	
c) Yes, assessment completed (please specify where information can be retrieved below)	X

Further comments on assessment of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and indigenous and local communities.

An agronomic farming system survey was conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) in the past on the traditional farming systems practiced by indigenous and local communities in Solomon Islands. Kastom Garden did quite a lot of work in this area as well by looking at traditional knowledge and crops used by local communities. The studies by MAL and Kastom Garden were largely concerned with examining the complex social, cultural, economic and environmental factors influencing these traditional farming systems and their innovations. As part of plans to develop a conservation strategy for taro in the Pacific region, Kastom Garden did a more comprehensive study on taro *Colocasia esculenta* with the aims to understand what is happening with taro cultivation in farmers' fields and indicate future areas of intervention in order to strengthen farmers capacity to continue to maintain this genetic resource and heritage.

166. Has your country been monitoring an overall degradation, status quo or restoration/rehabilitation of agricultural biodiversity since 1993 when the Convention entered into force?

a) No	X
b) Yes, no change found (status quo)	
c) Yes, overall degradation found (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, overall restoration or rehabilitation observed (please provide details below)	

Further comments on observations.

The highly fragmented nature and lack of adequate collaborations among relevant government departments in sharing pertinent information with each other has not been helpful in promoting this. Rarely are information shared between and among relevant agencies or organisations though developed activities needed different stakeholders to be involved in. Lack of prior knowledge about the Convention and its range of programmes of work and thematic areas by stakeholders has been a hindrance. Apart from the agricultural biodiversity assessments mentioned previously, which were mainly implemented on ad hoc basis for agriculture and food security, no proper monitoring has been undertaken.

Programme element 2 - Adaptive management

167. Has your country identified management practices, technologies and policies that promote the positive, and mitigate the negative, impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, and enhance productivity and the capacity to sustain livelihoods?

a) No	
b) No, but potential practices, technologies and policies being identified	
c) Yes, some practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive practices, technologies and policies identified (please provide details below)	

Further comments on identified management practices, technologies and policies.

Both the Ministry of Agriculture & Livestock, and Kastom Garden have been involved in efforts to promote agricultural biodiversity for agriculture and food security for some times now. Some of the planned activities by agriculture are the development of exotic and indigenous crops, conducting of research for further use or domestication of indigenous animal species and conducting of national pest or disease survey on plants or crops in Solomon Islands. New crops and technologies are being developed to ensure constant supply of planting materials to farmers. There is increasing attention being focused on improving farming systems in the country.

For Kastom Garden, collections of indigenous and exotic species of agricultural significant crops and plants are also among its priority and important activities. As part of its agricultural training to farmers, Kastom Garden emphasizes improved agricultural practices such as integrated pest management and seed saving, increasing the diversity of food crops available to farmers and improved farming techniques. It has been identified that relevant indigenous knowledge or traditional farm management practices should be used in combination with foreign concepts in innovative ways on the farms.

Programme element 3 - Capacity-building

168. Has your country increased the capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders, to manage sustainable agricultural biodiversity and to develop strategies and methodologies for *In-situ* conservation, sustainable use and management of agricultural biological diversity?

a) No	
b) Yes (please specify area/component and target groups with increased capacity)	X

Further comments on increased capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities, and their organizations and other stakeholders.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, and Kastom Garden both make capacity building as an important component of their respective work programmes. For agriculture, training of farmers in rapid propagation methods for indigenous and exotic crops (sweet potato, onion, potato, carrots, taro, etc) is one of their main emphasis. On-farm research with selected farmers will also be carried out for these indigenous and exotic crops with assistance in processing and marketing of the crops. This is to ensure the newly developed crops and technologies are successfully adopted.

Kastom Garden through the Solomon Islands Planting Materials Network has been active in conducting training for farmers and local communities in seed production, establishment of seed saving centres or seed bank in the islands and making efforts to incorporate traditional farming techniques or knowledge into its programme. Local people have been provided with relevant training to ensure a sustained agriculture programme by the organization, taking into consideration its aim to preserve and use agricultural biodiversity by local and indigenous communities.

169. Has your country put in place operational mechanisms for participation by a wide range of stakeholder groups to develop genuine partnerships contributing to the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but potential mechanisms being identified	X
c) No, but mechanisms are under development	
d) Yes, mechanisms are in place	

170. Has your country improved the policy environment, including benefit-sharing arrangements and incentive measures, to support local-level management of agricultural biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but some measures and arrangements being identified	
c) No, but measures and arrangements are under development	X
d) Yes, measures and arrangements are being implemented (please specify below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to improve the policy environment.

Solomon Islands Grand Coalition for Change Government (GCCG) has placed great emphasis on building and strengthening supporting market infrastructures to enable farmers sell their produce on a regular basis and at fair prices. This marketing infrastructure will be backed by the active service of a Market Information Services Unit. To assist with these efforts, access to relevant training on processing and marketing of crops are integral to this policy. A comprehensive agriculture and rural development strategy (ARDS) with clear outline of the short-term and long-term goals for the agriculture sector is being developed, the implementation of which under the Agriculture Development Project (ADP) will ensure the developments in this sector are economically and environmentally sustainable.

Programme element 4 – Mainstreaming

171. Is your country mainstreaming or integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes?

a) No	
b) No, but review is under way	
c) No, but potential frameworks and mechanisms are being identified	X
d) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed and integrated into some sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	
e) Yes, some national plans or strategies mainstreamed into major sectoral plans and programmes (please provide details below)	

Further comments on mainstreaming and integrating national plans or strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes.

Efforts by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock for the development of new crops and technologies have been incorporated into the Agricultural and Rural Development Strategy (ARDS), which *inter alia* prioritizes fostering the development of the agricultural sector in the country. The ARDS was a joint effort by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, and Department of Planning and Aid Coordination, Ministry of Infrastructure Development, Ministry of Provincial Government, and

NGOs. The Rural Livelihoods Strategy funded by AusAID identified development of new root crops and improved tree crop varieties as two of its priorities to address food security issues and enhance agricultural biodiversity, involving collaborative efforts from SPC, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Kastom Garden and Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). In the Solomon Islands National Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS) protection of the country's biodiversity in terms of its rich animal and plant diversity has been identified as one of the important priorities for the country to implement. The need for traditional forms of agroforestry practices to be promoted among local communities equally received particular attention in the NEMS.

172. Is your country supporting the institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms for the mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity in agricultural strategies and action plans, and its integration into wider strategies and action plans for biodiversity?

a) No	
b) Yes, by supporting institutions in undertaking relevant assessments	
c) Yes, by developing policy and planning guidelines	X
d) Yes, by developing training material	
e) Yes, by supporting capacity-building at policy, technical and local levels	
f) Yes, by promoting synergy in the implementation of agreed plans of action and between ongoing assessment and intergovernmental processes.	

Further comments on support for institutional framework and policy and planning mechanisms.

The ARDS and Rural Livelihoods Strategy (RLS) are important policy documents designed to provide guidance for the MAL and relevant stakeholders such as the Kastom Garden to mainstream agricultural biodiversity into their respective work programmes or action plans. The MAL attaches greater emphasis on agricultural genetic resources, being one of its strategic directions, to promote the conservation, domestication and further commercialization of indigenous animal and plant or agricultural biodiversity for food production. Irrespective of the importance of these documents to the agricultural sector, the ARDS and RLS have remained largely discrete, with their interlinkages yet to be established. However, under the ARDS, the ADP is soon to be implemented, where all stakeholders will be expected to play their roles in agriculture development.

173. In the case of centers of origin in your country, is your country promoting activities for the conservation, on farm, *In-situ*, and *Ex-situ*, of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture, including their wild relatives?

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the conservation of the variability of genetic resources for food and agriculture in their center of origin.

Both the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) and Kastom Garden through Solomon Islands Planting Materials Network have been involved in collection of seeds and the establishment of seed banks to promote agricultural biodiversity in agriculture for food security. This is in line with one of the strategies of the MAL to promote the conservation, domestication and further commercialization of indigenous animal and plant genetic resources of Solomon Islands. Of the collections by MAL and Solomon Islands Planting Materials Network, the main intention has been to rapidly produce the crops and distribute to local farmers to grow. Conservation of genetic resources either *in situ* or *ex situ* has been encouraged. Essentially, it is part of the MAL strategy to increase the diversity of food crops available to farmers by also introducing improved planting materials from other countries. The seed banks or seed saving centers of both organizations are located in their respective field stations. Solomon Islands Planting Materials Network already conserved in excess of 100 indigenous and exotic species of agricultural significant crops and plants while MAL has germplasms for mostly different varieties of tree crops at designated field stations throughout the country. Kastom Garden

has been involved in *ex situ* conservation of banana and taro varieties in Makira and Malaita provinces over past years, using materials from these gene banks to distribute to its member farmers.

Box LXV.

Please provide information concerning the actions taken by your country to implement the Plan of Action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators.

The MAL has already undertaken some work in the country to realize the objectives of this Plan of Action for Conservation and sustainable Use of Pollinators. MAL introduced the oil palm pollinator in the early 1990s and saw the enormous benefits this insect brings to agriculture. Similarly, the European honey bee was also introduced with its benefits being realized in honey and crop yields. However, actions to promote conservation and sustainable use of pollinators have not yet been fully realized. The indiscriminate use of pesticides is discouraged to avoid killing pollinators or beneficial insects for that matter.

Box LXVI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

A great deal of effort and a lot of progress has been made by relevant government and private organizations in implementing the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity in the country. The MAL and Solomon Islands Planting Material Network have huge collections of seeds of exotic and indigenous crops and plants in their respective field experiment stations. The rationale for these collections is the promotion of the conservation, domestication and further commercialization of indigenous animal and plant biodiversity of the country for agriculture and food security. The intensified effort put into this programme of work with new initiatives to develop new root crops and improve tree crop varieties, establish germplasm or gene banks at seed saving centers and produce, process and distribute them to small holder farmers are all important within the contexts of Strategic Plan of the Convention, 2010 target and Millennium Development Goals.

As far as the Strategic Plan is concerned, it is encouraging to note that biodiversity concerns are being integrated into relevant sectoral plans, programs and policies in progressing goal 1 of the plan. In terms of Millennium Development Goals, the activities outlined above are relevant to goal 7 on environmental sustainability and goal 1 to assist in food security to eradicate poverty and hunger. For 2010 targets, goals 2, 3 and 4 are directly affected by the above interventions.

Forest Biological Diversity

General

174. Has your country incorporated relevant parts of the work programme into your national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes?	
a) No	
b) Yes, please describe the process used	X
c) Yes, please describe constraints/obstacles encountered in the process	
d) Yes, please describe lessons learned	
e) Yes, please describe targets for priority actions in the programme of work	
Further comments on the incorporation of relevant parts of the work programme into your NBSAP and forest programmes	
<p>Solomon Islands still have not produced an NBSAP. The relevant government institution does however has its own forest program besides the similar programmes operated by NGOs. A sustainable forestry conservation program with emphasis on forest management and conservation has been established to protect undisturbed forest on certain islands in the country, in addition to a forest conservation grant to support community-based organizations conserve their forest. The program is consistent with the national forest policy objective 4 to provide strong support for the protection of the environment and ecological sustainability. According to the forest policy objective 1, it has been the primary focus for Solomon Islands government to adopt a long term view of the forest largely because of the ecological or non-consumptive uses and other benefits and services forest provides.</p> <p>It is an important element of the forestry work programme to monitor the extent and quality of the country's forests in terms of national forest inventory data, extent of logged over areas, licensed areas and remaining commercial forest areas. An important requirement here is to exclude high impact uses of the forests where these causes unacceptable long term damage to the forests. The forest program further emphasizes monitoring of logging operations for compliance with environmental restrictions or safeguards imposed by the forestry law and the code of logging practice for forest ecosystems not to be unnecessarily disturbed. World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) has designed a Forest Strategy for Solomon Islands based on the biological or ecological and cultural significance and threatened nature of the country's forest biodiversity. The strategy has already been translated into an action plan and due to be implemented on Tetepare Island, Western province and Central Bauro Highlands in Makira/Ulawa province, through protected area systems.</p>	

Box LXVII.

<p>Please indicate what recently applied tools (policy, planning, management, assessment and measurement) and measures, if any, your country is using to implement and assess the programme of work. Please indicate what tools and measures would assist the implementation.</p>
<p>The national forest policy has two objectives, which have direct relevance to the forest programme of work, namely objectives 1 and 4. The primary focus of objective 1 is for Solomon Islands government to adopt a long term view of the forest largely in recognition of the ecological or non-consumptive uses and other benefits and services forest provides. This relates to 4 emphasising strong support for the protection of the environment and ecological sustainability. The code of logging practice has been developed with the view to ensuring selection logging takes into account the ecological and cultural functions of the forest. It also gives guidelines for planning and monitoring of logging operations. Its ultimate objective is to ensure minimal damage to the forest ecosystem and habitats as a tool for forest management.</p>

The forest inventory database held by the forestry department of the country's forest resource, if properly used, has been intended to assist in planning of logging operations, to minimize the level of destruction of the forest ecosystems and its other important services. Solomon Islands has specific requirements for environment impact assessment (EIA) to be applied to forest operations including logging or other types of economic development activities that can have significant adverse impacts on the environment.

Box LXVIII.

Please indicate to what extent and how your country has involved indigenous and local communities, and respected their rights and interests, in implementing the programme of work.

The forestry department has a national reforestation program which aims to support resource or land owners or smallholders with tree planting by subsidizing seed supplies and making available to support planting and maintenance. The Government of Solomon Islands has recently signed an agreement with the European Union (EU) to support forest management and conservation on Tetepare Island and in Makira province, with particular emphasis on sustainable forest practices by landowners. A forest conservation grant scheme to support community organisations manage their forest resource was an important component of the agreement.

In Makira province local communities in central Bauro highlands have been working with Conservation International to protect their forest and its associated habitats and biodiversity. WWF also runs a similar joint program on Tetepare, Western part of the country, adopting a community-based management approach for the island's forests or terrestrial and adjacent marine environments. Due to overexploitation of certain native tree species of commercial importance, the forestry department has established demonstration plots for selected tree species in its field stations which are intended for distribution to interested smallholders at the community level for planting.

Box LXIX.

Please indicate what efforts your country has made towards capacity building in human and capital resources for the implementation of the programme of work.

Solomon Islands is collaborating with the government of Australia through the Solomon Islands forest management project to strengthen the institution of forestry division and improve rural livelihoods through better use of forest resources. As well as that, the government of Solomon Islands through forestry department has a joint program with SPC to establish demonstration plots for selected native tree species in its field stations. The EU and World Bank funded forest management and conservation project also has a component for technical support to relevant government agencies and community groups to sustainably use the country's forest biodiversity through protected area systems.

The Ministry of Forest, Environment and Conservation has been involved with foreign research institutions on surveys of the country's forest biodiversity on numerous occasions. A case in point has been the study on the ginger plant species variations in the country by a university from Denmark. CI's terrestrial conservation program in Bauro, Makira province involves more community management through the support of CI.

Box LXX.

Please indicate how your country has collaborated and cooperated (e.g., south-south, north-south, south-north, north-north) with other governments, regional or international organizations in implementing the programme of work. Please also indicate what are the constraints and/or needs identified.

As noted from box LXIX above, much of the support Solomon Islands has been receiving for this programme of work is through north-south cooperation arrangements and regional or international organizations. The assistance by the Australian government via its international development agency AusAID and EU member states clearly illustrate north-south approach. The assistance provided by SPC is done through regional cooperation in the Pacific region while CI's support is through NGO involvement. The work of major international conservation NGOs such as CI and WWF nonetheless has elements of north-south arrangements.

It is particularly important for assistance provided through north-south or regional cooperation arrangements to put more emphasis on capacity building as an important feature of their programs. Strong coordination mechanism also needs to be established between development agencies and relevant government agencies or other stakeholders. Long term sustainability of projects after project life due to limited financial resources also is a major issue. The failure by government to provide sustained financing mechanism to continue with projects always affects implementation of projects.

Expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity

Programme element 1 – Conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing	
175. Is your country applying the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests?	
a) No (please provide reasons below)	
b) No, but potential measures being identified (please provide details below)	X
c) Yes (please provide details below)	
Comments on application of the ecosystem approach to management of forests (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impact on forest management, constraints, needs, tools, and targets).	
<p>While the national forest policy together with the code of logging practice have not explicitly made specific references to the ecosystem approach to forest management, these guidance documents have nonetheless incorporated elements of the approach as part of their implementing strategies and guidelines. For the most part, these important documents have been formulated in recognition of the ecosystem services, namely provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting services, provided by the forest. In the forest policy, this is articulated in objectives 1 and 4 while in the code of logging practice the ecological and cultural functions of the forest is clearly stated.</p> <p>This approach is a relatively new introduction to conservation and it is extremely important for those working in relevant sectors to have proper understanding of its significance. Lack of technical knowledge about the principle and the considerable emphasis put on economic growth through forest development are impediments to the effective implementation of the approach in Solomon Islands. The forest policy has not been implemented and neither does the code of logging practice strictly adhered to or complied with by logging companies. Its application as a tool for forest management in the country remains to be seen.</p>	

176. Has your country undertaken measures to reduce the threats to, and mitigate its impacts on forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please specify below the major threats identified in relation to each objective of goal 2 and the measures undertaken to address priority actions (species diversity)</p> <p>Promoting the conservation of forest biodiversity reducing the decline in species diversity has not been easy due to these major threats: population pressure, subsistence and commercial agriculture, forest development, and economic and market forces. The Solomon Islands forest strategy developed by WWF was an important initiative to help protect and conserve the country's forest biodiversity. Implementation of the strategy largely involves the establishment of protected area systems at identified sites in the country. The EU is financially supporting the scheme, with more support going for community conservation projects.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

Further comments on measures to reduce threats to, and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biodiversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

The forest management and conservation project funded by EU through STABEX will play an increasingly important part in protecting the country's forest biodiversity. As part of the funding arrangements, support will be provided to implement the Solomon Islands National Forest Conservation Strategy, an endowment fund will be established to support the conservation of 12,000 hectares of un-logged forest on Tetepare Island, already a conservation area, and a forest conservation grant scheme will be created for community organizations and NGOs to access for forest conservation.

It is prohibited under law to harvest certain tree species during logging operations. Other regulated tree species can be harvested but must not be exported to overseas markets, despite their high commercial values. Field trials have been initiated for some of these protected species in forestry field stations for *ex situ* conservation as they are not widely distributed in and their occurrence only restricted to certain parts of the country. A management plan has been developed to conserve *in situ* a particular endemic tree species *Xanthostemon* because of its restricted habitat to a certain part of two islands in the country and very rare.

177. Is your country undertaking any measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities (genetic diversity)</p> <p>A list of tree species identified as high priority for Solomon Islands for genetic resource operations has been produced for the country by the South Pacific Regional Initiative on Genetic Resources (SPRIG). It has been recommended for many of these species to be given urgent attention or for appropriate actions to be taken as early as possible in areas such as germplasm collection and research, field testing and evaluation, selection and breeding, germplasm supply and <i>ex situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation of the species. Only four of the identified species have so far seen some actions already in progress for them. The South Pacific Commission (SPC) has shown interest in resurrecting the project.</p>
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on measures to protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Lack of funding and technical support has contributed to the short life span of the SPRIG. The project has generated very useful information about the genetic resources associated with the country's forest biodiversity but inadequate skilled manpower also affected its operation. The technical capacity of forestry officers involved with the project need some attention, for them to acquire necessary training and knowledge for the long term sustainability of the existing work. During the operation of the SPRIG, the analytical work was done by technical expertise attached to the project.

178. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>Understanding the current state of the country's forests is vital for forest planning purposes, given that forests play an import part in the lives of all Solomon Islanders. Under two projects funded by AusAID, forest resource data was collected between 1992 and 1995 as part of the Solomon Islands National Forest Resource Inventory Project (SOLFRIP) and by the Solomon Island Forestry Management Project (SIFMP) in 1999. One of the objectives of SIFMP being the promotion of sustainable forest development while it was the goal of SOLFRIP to establish a computerised system that would improve the capacity of the SI Government to develop strategies for forest resource use.</p>
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on the promotion of the sustainable use of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

The SOLFRIS and SIFMP have proved very useful in describing the current state of the country's forests and for determining potential forest uses and estimating sustainable forest yields for the country. When forest sustainability was assessed in 1995 by SOLFRIS, environmentally sensitive areas totalling 320,000 hectares were identified and set aside for possible future conservation. The generation of this forest database for forestry division, primarily for planning purposes, has enabled it to promote sustainable forest development for Solomon Islands. By updating the SOLFRIS database with a combination of field assessment and the analysis of satellite photographs by SIFMP, it was easier to evaluate future management options for natural forests but also helped in estimating the extent of commercial forest for each province. Since large scale industrial logging poses considerable threat to the country's forest biodiversity, making available this geographical information through use of GIS is extremely helpful because it shows unlogged and logged over areas.

179. Is your country undertaking any measures to promote access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes		Please specify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 5 and describe measures undertaken
b) No	X	Please provide reasons below It is still very difficult to reduce pressures from habitat loss, land use change, and unsustainable water use because of population pressure, encroachment into forested areas, water pollution due to human settlements and lack of proper sanitation facilities, economic forces, inadequate land use planning system, lack of protected area systems and the land tenure system itself, where customary ownership accounts for more than 80 percent of the land.

Further comments on the promotion of access and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources. (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets)

Solomon Islands government currently does not have a formal regulatory mechanism in place on ABS regime. Less formal arrangements such as Memorandum of Agreement are used as an alternative, as manifest in the Memorandum of Agreement between the Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation and Kochi Prefectural Makino Botanical Garden of Japan. The principal purpose of inventory and research program is to make up-dated and correct taxonomic identifications of plants of the Solomon Islands. Under clause 5.3 of the agreement, it was agreed for the Japanese research company to give proper considerations to protect the economic interests of Solomon Islands within the context of the CBD.

Programme element 2 – Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment		
180. Is your country undertaking any measures to enhance the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>The EU funded forest management and conservation project has a component to support national capacity needs of relevant government agencies such as forestry department and also to resurrect the national Forestry School in the country. The national forest policy recognizes the protection and conservation of forest biodiversity under key implementation strategy for the protection of the environment and ecological sustainability. Under the Regulations to the Environment Protection Act, EIA is mandatory condition for developments in forested areas because of the ecological values of forests.</p>
b) No		Please provide reasons below
<p>Further comments on the enhancement of the institutional enabling environment for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, including access and benefit-sharing (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).</p> <p>The Code of Logging Practice which is aimed at ensuring the ecological and cultural functions of the forest and its productivity is being reviewed for further improvements. As a planning document, the guidelines contained therein are intended to reduce the level of destruction by logging to the forest ecosystems and habitats. Poor enforcement by relevant department and lack of compliance by logging companies often undermine the efficacy of the guidelines. But its stringent requirements in many cases help in efforts to protect the forest biodiversity.</p>		

181. Is your country undertaking any measures to address socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>The Solomon Islands Government identified nature conservation as a potential area for tourism development in the country. Conservation International and WWF have already undertaken some work in this area for Central Bauro highlands and Tetepare Conservation project in terms of identifying economic development opportunities appropriate to the areas. Ecotourism is predominant at Tetepare while local employment has been emphasized for Central Bauro highlands. The endowment fund agreed under the EU forest conservation project is an initiative for local communities to conserve their forests.</p>
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on review of socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

Nature conservation through protecting endemic species of flora and fauna has greater potential to bring money to the country and to develop the tourism sector. Under current Government's policy framework for the tourism sector, this is a policy objective to benefit from the country's rich biodiversity. The relevant policy statement for forestry sector is also concerned to issue moratorium on new logging licenses, being a major threat to forest biodiversity. As it is logging continues unabated because of perverse incentives due to wider economic incentives and policies. It is extremely important for adequate support to be provided to implement the policies or they may just be cosmetic in their entirety.

182. Is your country undertaking any measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>Environment and Conservation division (ECD) has always been a source of information and still is, for secondary students on the role and benefits of forest biodiversity to the country. Also, certain NGOs such as the Live and Learn Environmental Education have specific programmes to implement projects for teachers, schools and communities in the field of environment. Efforts for the resurrection of Poitete Forestry School in Western province through the EU support are integral to government's strategies to promote and improve understanding about the importance of forest biodiversity and its sustainable management.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

Further comments on measures to increase public education, participation and awareness in relation to forest biological diversity (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

There have been discussions between ECD and partner NGOs about the latter assisting the former with its environmental awareness and education programme. While NGOs realize and support this because they have personnel stationed in the rural communities who can do this, no concrete programme has been discussed as yet. The Curriculum department of the Ministry of Education over past years has involved staff of ECD in developing its environmental syllabus for primary and secondary schools. ECD should be given a major part here by identifying areas to be covered because of its familiarity with major environmental issues faced by the country, one of which is overexploitation of the country's forests.

Programme element 3 – Knowledge, assessment and monitoring

183. Is your country undertaking any measures to characterize forest ecosystems at various scales in order to improve the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of Goal 1 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>The SOLFRIS and SIFMP have proved very useful in describing the current state of the country's forests and for determining potential forest uses and estimating sustainable forest yields for the country. When forest sustainability was assessed in 1995 by SOLFRIS, environmentally sensitive areas totalling 320,000 hectares were identified and set aside for possible future conservation. The generation of this forest database for forestry division, primarily for planning purposes, has enabled it to promote sustainable forest development for Solomon Islands.</p>
b) No		Please provide reasons below

Further comments on characterization of forest ecosystems at various scales (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

The forest of Solomon Islands has been identified as constituting five major vegetation types and these include coastal strand forest, riverine forests, lowland forests including hills, montane forests and seasonal forest communities. About 4,500 species of high plants have been recognized while over 25 per cent are considered threatened.

184. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve knowledge on, and methods for, the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 2 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>The Australian government through its development agency AusAID has funded two projects on developing forest resource data for Solomon Islands between 1992 and 1995 as part of the Solomon Islands National Forest Resource Inventory Project (SOLFRIP) and by the Solomon Island Forestry Management Project (SIFMP) in 1999. It was the goal of SOLFRIP to establish a computerised system for the country to be able to improve the capacity of the Government to develop strategies for forest resource use. SIFMP has helped in describing the current state of the country's forests, which are useful for determining potential forest uses and estimating sustainable forest yields for the country. A cooperative inventory and research program of Solomon Islands medicinal and other useful plants has recently been concluded between Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation and Kochi Prefectural Makino Botanical Garden of Japan.</p>
b) No		Please provide reasons below

		<p>Further comments on improvement of knowledge on and methods for the assessment of the status and trends (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).</p> <p>The raw data held by forestry planning has considerably improved efforts by the forestry division, relevant agencies, private companies and others to clearly have an analytical knowledge of particular sites of interest before making their decisions. The GIS software used for storage, analyzing and retrieval of information proves very useful and effective. It is therefore a critical decision tool for planning purposes in terms of land use planning.</p>
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185. Is your country undertaking any measures to improve the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning?		
Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 3 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>The forestry division and environment and conservation division have been providing assistance to high school students with their research on the roles of forest biodiversity from economic, environmental and social perspectives. Understanding the current state of the country's forests is vital for forest planning purposes, given that forests play an important part in the lives of all Solomon Islanders. Curriculum department over past several years has undertaken some work to incorporate environmental topics in new syllabus designed for secondary school students.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>
<p>Further comments on the improvement of the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).</p>		

186. Is your country undertaking any measures at national level to improve the infrastructure for data and information management for accurate assessment and monitoring of global forest biodiversity?

Options	X	Details
a) Yes	X	<p>Please identify priority actions in relation to each objective of goal 4 and describe measures undertaken to address these priorities</p> <p>The forest database established by forestry planning division under Solomon Islands National Forest Resource Inventory Project (SOLFRIP) and Solomon Island Forestry Management Project (SIFMP) to improve the capacity of the Government to develop strategies for forest resource use and describing the current state of the country's forests has been operational for several years already. Though the data is raw, it has many applications depending on what particular information one needs to know, for example, environmentally sensitive areas, logged over areas, untouched forest, etc. The information are useful for determining potential forest uses and estimating sustainable forest yields.</p>
b) No		<p>Please provide reasons below</p>

Further comments on the improvement of the infrastructure for data and information management (including effectiveness of actions taken, lessons learned, impacts on forest biodiversity, constraints, needs, tools and targets).

The raw data held by forestry planning has considerably improved efforts by the forestry division, relevant agencies, private companies and others to clearly have an analytical knowledge of particular sites of interest before making their decisions. It is therefore a critical decision tool for planning purposes in terms of land use planning.

Box LXXI.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

While progress with the NBSAP has been slow, Solomon Islands through relevant government agencies and partner NGOs have done a lot of work in implementing this programme of work on forest biological diversity. Forestry division has been involved in field experiments for *ex situ* conservation of certain plant species in addition to the forest management projects involving the description of the country's forests and improving the capacity of the Government to develop strategies for forest resource use. The Government of Solomon Islands has recently signed an agreement with the European Union (EU) to support forest management and conservation on Tetepare Island and in Makira province, with particular emphasis on sustainable forest practices by landowners. The endowment fund established under the EU forest conservation project is an initiative for local communities to conserve their forests and it is integral to the forest management and conservation project. Conservation International and WWF have already undertaken some work in this area for Central Bauro highlands and Tetepare Conservation project in terms of identifying economic development opportunities appropriate to the areas. Ecotourism or nature-based tourism is central to these terrestrial conservation initiatives.

There is no doubt that these activities are contributing to the achievement of the Strategic Plan of the

Convention, 2010 target and Millennium Development Goals. In terms of the Strategic Plan, there is a tendency now for broader engagement across society with improved financial, human scientific capacity in implementing the CBD. Millennium development goal 7 on environmental sustainability also benefits from these activities so as improvements in some targets, for example, targets 1.2 and 2.1 as far as the 2010 targets are concerned. It is particularly important for information about the CBD to be circulated widely to relevant stakeholders.

Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands

187. Is your country supporting scientifically, technically and financially, at the national and regional levels, the activities identified in the programme of work? (decisions V/23 and VII/2)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on scientific, technical and financial support, at the national and regional levels, to the activities identified in the programme of work.	
NA	

188. Has your country integrated actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands into its national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

a) No	X
b) Yes (please provide details below)	
Further comments on actions under the programme of work of dry and sub-humid lands integrated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans or the National Action Programme (NAP) of the UNCCD.	
NA	

189. Has your country undertaken measures to ensure synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD process and other processes under related environmental conventions? (decisions V/23, VI/4 and VII/2)

a) No	X
b) Yes, some linkages established (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, extensive linkages established (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to ensure the synergistic/collaborative implementation of the programme of work between the national UNCCD processes and other processes under related environmental conventions.	

Programme Part A: Assessment

190. Has your country assessed and analyzed information on the state of dryland biological diversity and the pressures on it, disseminated existing knowledge and best practices, and filled knowledge gaps in order to determine adequate activities? (Decision V/23, Part A: Assessment, Operational objective, activities 1 to 6)

a) No	X
b) No, but assessment is ongoing	
c) Yes, some assessments undertaken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive assessment undertaken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the relevant information on assessments of the status and trends and dissemination of existing knowledge and best practices.

NA

Programme Part B: Targeted Actions

191. Has your country taken measures to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences? (part B of annex I of decision V/23, activities 7 to 9)

a) No	X
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of its genetic resources, and to combat the loss of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands and its socio-economic consequences.

NA

192. Has your country taken measures to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work?

a) No	
b) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
c) Yes, comprehensive measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, all identified capacity needs met (please provide details below)	

Further comments on measures taken to strengthen national capacities, including local capacities, to enhance the implementation of the programme of work.

NA

Box LXXII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

Not Applicable

Mountain Biodiversity

Programme Element 1. Direct actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

193. Has your country taken any measures to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures taken to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to mountain biodiversity

It is an offence under the Forest and Timber Utilization Act for logging activities to be undertaken above 400 meters altitude. The Environment Act has important provisions to restrict development activities in certain areas which can lead to adverse environmental consequences. This is done through the EIA requirement under the Act. There are already terrestrial conservation activities taking place in the mountainous region of the country, for example, Bauro highlands conservation area project and the proposed Mt. Maetambe conservation area in Choiseul province. A new approach known as Community Conservation Agreement is being developed which largely focuses on protecting mountainous areas of high ecological significance.

194. Has your country taken any measures to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures taken to protect, recover and restore mountain biodiversity	
The sustainable forestry and conservation project funded by EU will play a considerably important role in protecting and restoring mountain biodiversity because of its primary focus on terrestrial conservation area including mountains. It is an offence under the Forest and Timber Utilization Act for logging activities to be undertaken above 400 meters altitude.	

195. Has your country taken any measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures to promote the sustainable use of mountain biological resources and to maintain genetic diversity in mountain ecosystems	
During the Solomon Islands National Forest Resource Inventory Project (SOLFRIP) a special report was produced on the forest types that occur in the mountainous region of Solomon Islands. Bird surveys have also been undertaken in the mountainous region of the country by foreign research institutions from United States of America and Denmark. The aim of these research undertakings was to identify flora and avifauna diversity in the mountains for possible protection.	

196. Has your country taken any measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources, including preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge?	
a) No	
b) No, but some measures are being considered	X
c) Yes, some measures taken (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, many measures taken (please provide details below)	
Further comments on the measures for sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of mountain genetic resources	
The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) has been working a proposal with its member countries including Solomon Islands to develop a model law on access and benefit sharing to assist them benefit from their biological resources. A workshop to examine how best to approach this has already been held in the country with wider attendance from relevant stakeholders in the government.	

Programme Element 2. Means of implementation for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

197. Has your country developed any legal, policy and institutional framework for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing this programme of work?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant frameworks are being developed	
c) Yes, some frameworks are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive frameworks are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the legal, policy and institutional frameworks for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity and for implementing the programme of work on mountain biodiversity.

The Forest Strategy developed by WWF for Solomon Islands, among other objectives, focuses on five geographic areas of high biological priority three of which are mountainous areas including Mount Maetambe in Choiseul province, Bauro highlands in Makira province and Komarindi catchment on Guadalcanal province. The Environment Act requires all prescribed developments to be subjected to EIA and its application will certainly not easily grant development consent for projects in mountains. The Forestry Act also prohibits logging in areas above 400 meters altitude.

198. Has your country been involved in regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but some cooperation frameworks are being considered	
c) Yes (please provide details below)	

Further information on the regional and/or transboundary cooperative agreements on mountain ecosystems for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity

No such cooperative agreements have been concluded.

Programme Element 3. Supporting actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing

199. Has your country taken any measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biological diversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	X
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures for identification, monitoring and assessment of mountain biodiversity

One of the driving forces underlying the development of the Forest Strategy for Solomon Islands has been the proper protection of areas of high biological priority in the country, amongst which, are four mountainous areas including Mount Maetambe in Choiseul province, Bauro highlands in Makira

province, Komarindi catchment on Guadalcanal and Kolombangara Crater in Western province. For Bauro, Komarindi, and Kolombangara some preliminary ecological surveys have already been conducted there and their potential conservation values already established.

200. Has your country taken any measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures for improving research, technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity

Over the past several years the Environment and Conservation Division has been providing support for research institutions from abroad to conduct research on birds in the mountainous regions of the country in ensuring their activities were consistent with relevant national institutional and regulatory frameworks, for example, by endorsing their research applications. The community conservation agreement (CCA) approach currently being promoted by in the country can be a useful tool for conservation and sustainable use of mountain biodiversity. The approach is specifically concerned with biodiversity protection with wider application and involves in-kind services and small scale development assistance for alternative livelihood, to local communities. Stage of the model includes site selection and feasibility analysis, one of main criterion being biodiversity.

201. Has your country taken any measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems?

a) No	
b) No, but relevant programmes are under development	
c) Yes, some measures are in place (please provide details below)	X
d) Yes, comprehensive measures are in place (please provide details below)	

Further comments on the measures to develop, promote, validate and transfer appropriate technologies for the conservation of mountain ecosystems

Four mountainous areas including Mount Maetambe in Choiseul province, Bauro highlands in Makira province, Komarindi catchment on Guadalcanal and Kolombangara Crater in Western province have been identified for conservation purposes due to their respective unique high biodiversity. For Bauro, Komarindi, and Kolombangara some preliminary ecological surveys have already been conducted there and their potential conservation values already established through technical and financial support of outside research institutions and international conservation NGOs.

Box LXXIII.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of this programme of work and associated decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

While progress with the NBSAP has been slow, Solomon Islands through relevant government agencies and partner NGOs have been involved in numerous projects, which have direct relevance to the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity. Forestry division has been involved in forest management projects involving the description of the country's mountain forests apart from its continued enforcement of no logging provision in regions starting at 400 meters above sea level and beyond. Conservation International (CI) has undertaken some work in protecting mountain biodiversity in the Central Bauro highlands in Makira province. The development of the Solomon Islands Forest Strategy has particular concern for proper protection of areas of high biological priority in the country, amongst which, are four mountainous areas including Mount Maetambe in Choiseul province, Bauro highlands in Makira province, Komarindi catchment on Guadalcanal and Kolombangara Crater in Western province. The study culminating in the strategy shows that the mountainous regions of Solomon Islands have unique and high biological diversity.

The projects outlined above have contributed in numerous ways to the achievement of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, 2010 target and Millennium Development Goals. In terms of the Strategic Plan, the improved financial, scientific and technical capacity has enabled environmental domains, for example, mountain biodiversity not previously attracted much attention to receive some support now. Millennium development goal 7 on environmental sustainability also benefits from these projects so as improvements in some targets, for example, targets 1.2 and 2.1 as far as the 2010 targets are concerned.

E. OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

202. Has your country actively participated in subregional and regional activities in order to prepare for Convention meetings and enhance implementation of the Convention? (decision V/20)

a) No	
b) Yes (please provide details below)	X

Further comments on the regional and subregional activities in which your country has been involved.

SPREP has been arranging preparatory meetings for the Pacific region for Parties to develop a common framework and understanding on the relevant thematic issues or cross cutting issues prior to major CBD meetings, in this case the SBSTTA and COP. Solomon Islands is collaborating with major conservation NGOs in the country and other countries in the Pacific and Asia regions on various initiatives and programmes to conserve and ensure sustainable utilization of threatened species and ecosystems. Solomon Islands participated in a capacity building workshop to strengthen the negotiation skills of third world country Parties to effectively participate in CBD negotiation process, with funding and technical support from UNEP.

203. Is your country strengthening regional and subregional cooperation, enhancing integration and promoting synergies with relevant regional and subregional processes? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

X

Further comments on regional and subregional cooperation and processes.

The recent work undertaken under the national capacity self assessment (NCSA) project to establish and strengthen the linkages among the CBD, CCD and UNFCCC has significantly contributed to our understanding of the similarities between the various sectoral projects relevant national agencies and regional intergovernmental organizations are implementing at the regional and national levels. At the national level, attempts are being made to integrate biodiversity issues into other development sectoral initiatives including development planning programmes. A national action plan to implement priority activities identified in the NCSA is in draft form, with stresses the importance of aligning the identified priorities with sectoral priorities.

The following question (204) is for DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

204. Is your country supporting the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

b) No, but programmes are under development

c) Yes, included in existing cooperation frameworks (please provide details below)

d) Yes, some cooperative activities ongoing (please provide details below)

Further comments on support for the work of existing regional coordination mechanisms and the development of regional and subregional networks or processes.

205. Is your country working with other Parties to strengthen the existing regional and subregional mechanisms and initiatives for capacity-building? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

b) Yes

206. Has your country contributed to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms for implementation of the Convention? (decision VI/27 B)

a) No

b) Yes (please provide details below)

Further comments on contribution to the assessment of the regional and subregional mechanisms.

Box LXXIV.

Please elaborate below on the implementation of the above decisions specifically focusing on:

- a) outcomes and impacts of actions taken;
- b) contribution to the achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
- c) contribution to progress towards the 2010 target;
- d) progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- e) contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- f) constraints encountered in implementation.

F. COMMENTS ON THE FORMAT

Box LXXV.

Please provide below recommendations on how to improve this reporting format.

The format is acceptable and easy to use. Because of the wider scope of the CBD considering its many programs of work, goals and targets and the need to make the report reflect on them all, the way the questions have been designed and structured can only be appreciated. The number of questions, however, seems to be too many as, in my view, a number of questions under each program of work are more or less related and can best be refined and form a single question. It is acknowledged that the report should be made comprehensive and more details needed, but the more the number of questions is reduced without undermining the specificity of the questions, the easier the report can be completed.
