



Meeting 2

JNCC-NGO Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies Group

2nd July 2014

To find more about JNCC's OT and CD programme visit:
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=4079>

COVER NOTE

JNCC Overseas Territories strategic priorities for 2016-2017

This paper outlines some of JNCC's strategic priorities for work with the UK Overseas territories to 2017. The JNCC/NGO Overseas Territories & Crown Dependencies Group is invited to discuss and comment on these priorities.

The paper also makes reference to ongoing work recommended by the group in two areas.

1. Mapping conservation activities in the UK Overseas Territories to Aichi Targets.

Annex 2 provides an example of work undertaken by the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum (UKOTCF) to contribute to this work. The group are asked to comment on approach taken and to identify other sources of content and how these might be incorporated.

2. OT Biodiversity Data Access.

Annex 1 contains draft terms of reference, proposed by NGOs, for a State of Nature partnership. The group is invited to discuss how our proposed work on OT Biodiversity data could contribute to the proposed State of Nature Partnership and to give early direction for the work in terms of purpose and objectives.

JNCC Overseas Territories strategic priorities for 2016-2017

1 Introduction

1.1 This paper summarises proposed priorities for JNCC's Overseas Territories work looking ahead from mid 2014 through to end Financial Year 2016/17. The paper describes these priorities in terms of a range of current strategic projects which are in progress and new (or potential) projects which are expected to be developed between mid 2014 and the beginning of the next Financial Year in 2015.

1.2 The paper does not attempt to describe all of JNCC's work, current or planned, under this Programme given that the Programme supports a range of small projects and other activities as part of its overall support for the Territories and the Crown Dependencies¹. One of the demonstrated strengths of the Programme in recent years has been its flexibility and its ability to respond rapidly to emerging opportunities within the Territories or needs of the relevant UK Government Departments. As a result, medium term planning of the kind described in this paper (looking a couple of years ahead) can only describe proposed priority actions based on current knowledge of OT needs, Government policy priorities and also likely funding and staffing levels. New opportunities may emerge to which JNCC can respond.

1.3 The overarching aim of the OT Programme, as with JNCC's work as a whole, is to encourage '*Good policy-making, planning, development and environmental risk management within the OTs*' and a number of strategic projects have been developed over the past three years to achieve this aim. These are described in this paper as part of the current cycle of projects (initiated in 2011) with a new proposed work cycle beginning in 2015. The current cycle of projects are designed to support the integration of environmental issues into decision making; the new proposed work cycle is designed to assist the OTs to implement long term monitoring of policy implementation, the effectiveness of new, 'Green', policies and also monitor biodiversity status and trends in the Territories.

2. Strategic basis for current cycle of JNCC Overseas Territories work

2.1 The JNCC OT Programme aims to help good policy-making and planning within the OTs, with proper consideration given to the value of ecosystem goods and services in decision making. A number of strategic projects have been developed in collaboration with the Territories and UK Government over the past three years to achieve this aim based on the needs and capacity of each Territory and their desire to collaborate with JNCC.

2.2 Figure 1 illustrates the hierarchical approach JNCC has taken to encouraging good OT policy making with 'knowledge' (baseline surveys, tools, capacity to use these tools, knowledge of ecosystem values) underpinning policy development. JNCC has engaged in a range of projects, funded through its own resources, from Defra or the FCO, to assist Territories to acquire the knowledge and capacity necessary for good policy making. In some cases the knowledge, tools and skills are already well developed and JNCC has focussed on supporting environmental economic assessments. Elsewhere, baseline surveys and development of GIS systems and user capacity were needed.

2.3 In some Territories evidence (knowledge) based environmental policies are being developed using ecosystem assessments at the national level (to identify and describe critical ecosystems) and/or environmental mainstreaming processes (based on stakeholder

¹ This paper describes only Overseas Territories work.

consultations) to identify Territory specific environmental actions needed to develop and implement policies.

2.4 JNCC managed or partnered projects completed, or in progress, to support this strategic approach are summarised in Figure 2 and include:

- Mainstreaming/Green Economy projects completed in the Falklands, Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands², with projects in progress in the Turks and Caicos and Bermuda³;
- Environmental economic assessments in BVI, Anguilla⁴;
- Ecosystem assessments in Anguilla⁵ and Falklands⁶;
- Development of GIS capacity in Anguilla and across all of the South Atlantic OTs;
- Marine baseline mapping in St Helena and terrestrial habitat mapping in Anguilla⁷;
- The cross Territory Marine Protected Area workshop⁸, Lionfish seminars⁹, Ascension Regional Workshop and First OT GIS meeting¹⁰.

2.5 This suite of strategic projects was initiated in 2011 and this current cycle of work will continue (through specific project support, workshops, and support for funding bids) into 2016 through the following activities:

- Participation in or support for Darwin Plus project funding bids with a focus on the strategic issues of lionfish control, ecosystems assessments and use of environmental economics;
- Collation and dissemination of results from the suite of FCO funded Caribbean environmental economics to demonstrate the value and use of such assessments including support the proposed Bonaire environmental economics workshop in 2014;
- Support the Second OT GIS meeting (TCI) in 2015.

²

³ FCO/JNCC/Defra funded

⁴ FCO funded

⁵ Government of Anguilla project; JNCC partner; Darwin Plus funded.

⁶ FCO and JNCC funded

⁷ St Helena Darwin funded, JNCC managed. Anguilla project JNCC funded.

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¹⁰

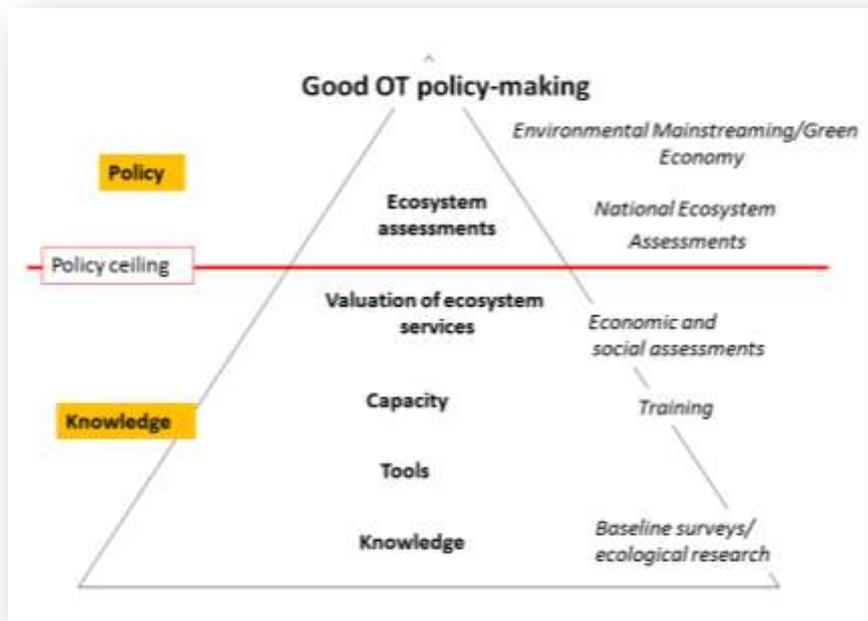


Figure 1

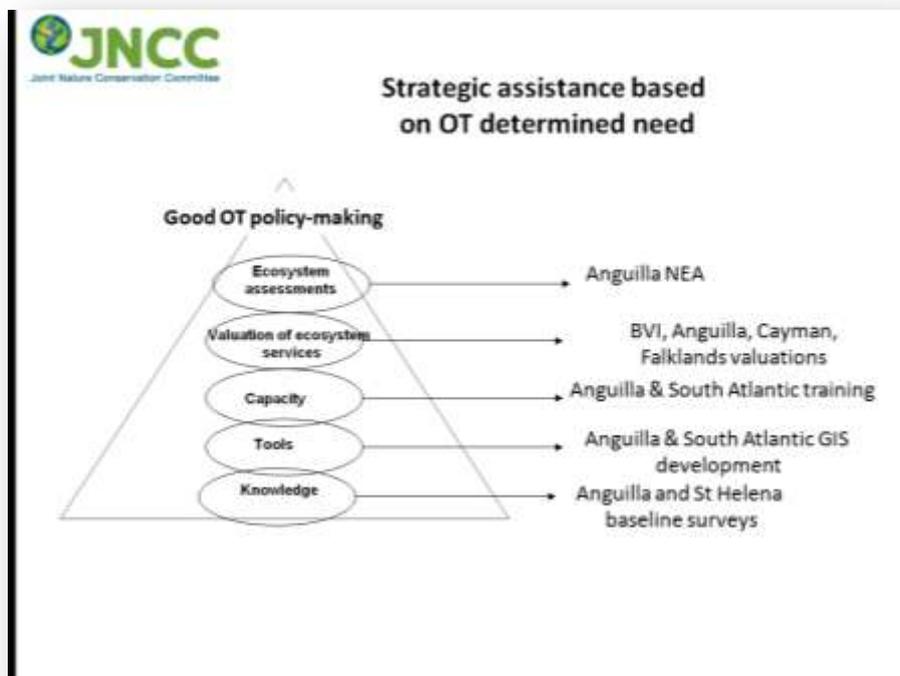


Figure 2

3. Future OT work priorities – the next cycle.

3.1 The current cycle of strategic work, developed to encourage and support good policy-making and planning within the OTs, will continue but wind-down over the next two years and be gradually replaced by a different suite of strategic projects which will reflect:

- The need to develop the tools, techniques and capacity to monitor the effectiveness of these new policies in integrating environmental issues into decision making and planning. This should include the ability to establish biodiversity status and trends within individual OTs and collectively;
- Limitations on funding and staffing within JNCC itself, and across UK Government as a whole, necessitating building new working partnerships with OTs, NGOs and UK Government Departments and the need to identify and pursue funding from new sources.

3.2 New work priorities (in addition to those described in Section 2) will include some or all of the following strategic projects:

- A JNCC led Life Plus funding application on behalf of group of French, Dutch and UK Caribbean Overseas Territories and Outer Regions to seek funding for a regional lionfish research and response project.

JNCC is currently collaborating with Association of the Overseas Countries and Territories of the European Union (OCTA) to establish eligibility for the group, a suitable bidding partnership and a technical specification for the project. A 2014 or 2015 bid is currently being considered.

- A JNCC led 'Aichi Targets' project to Work with OTs, UK Government and NGOs to maximise the value of the CBD Aichi targets to the OTs for reporting, monitoring and priority setting. This could guide a long-term conservation strategy for the UKOTs helping to determine UK priorities in supporting OT conservation.
 - *This is expected to be a collaborative project with all of the UK OTs, relevant NGOs and UK Government Departments. A provisional project plan is in preparation and will be circulated for consultation in the second half of 2014. If confirmed as feasible, the project will be allocated resources (staff and financial) in the JNCC Corporate Plan for 2015/16 and is expected to extend over two financial years. An example based on work by the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum (UKOTCF) to map work they are associated with to the Aichi targets has been provided (Annex 2).*
- A JNCC led 'OT Biodiversity Data Access' project to work with the UK OTs to establish effective access to OT biodiversity data through a JNCC designed and managed information system. A basic knowledge of the status of Overseas Territories' biodiversity and trends of biodiversity over time is missing and this would remedy this deficiency.

This is expected to be a collaborative project with all of the UK OTs, relevant NGOs and UK Government Departments. A provisional project plan is in preparation and will be circulated for consultation in the second half of 2014.

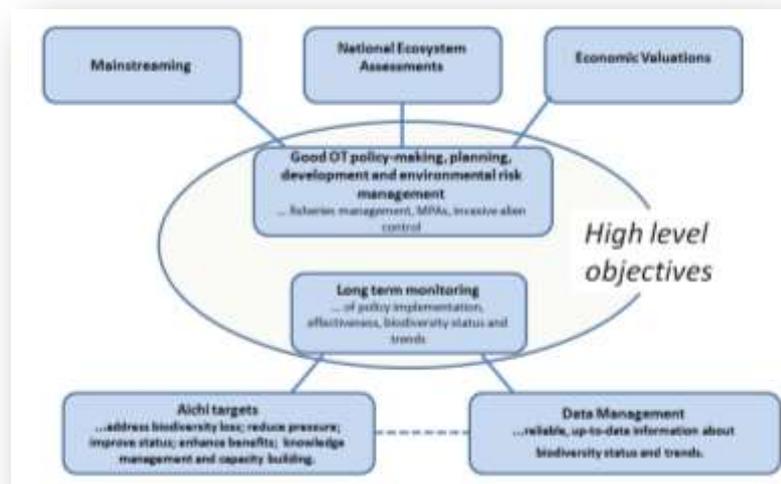
If confirmed as feasible, the project will be allocated resources (staff and financial) in the JNCC Corporate Plan for 2015/16 and is expected to extend over two financial years. This work could potentially make a contribution to the state of nature partnership (Annex 1)

3.3 The three new projects listed above represent those strategic areas where JNCC provisionally intends to direct its main effort in 2015 and beyond. All three may not be confirmed as feasible and other priority projects may be identified in the future in response to new technical or funding opportunities emerging in the OTs or from UK Government policy initiatives.

4. Conclusions

4.1 The major elements of JNCC's OT work programme, in terms of committed and new work areas, for 2014 through to 2016 are described in this document. These are, and will continue to be, complemented by a suite of minor projects, and training support, designed to give as much financial and technical assistance as possible to the OTs in their attempts to conserve and manage their biodiversity and to implement policies that take account of ecosystem goods and services.

4.2 The relationship between the existing suite of projects (supporting policy development) and the proposed new cycle of work (to monitor policy effectiveness and biodiversity trends in the long term) is described in Figure 3. The 'twin' high level objectives of supporting 'good policy making' in the OTs and assisting in the development of long term monitoring, are supported by a suit of maturing projects (Mainstreaming, Ecosystem Assessments and Economic Evaluations) and new emerging projects (Aichi Targets and Data Access). Over the coming two years the emphasis will shift from supporting integration of environmental issues into policy making to supporting development of tools and strategies to monitor implementation of these policies and their effectiveness, and to monitor biodiversity status and trends.



Annex 1

State of Nature Partnership Terms of Reference - Draft

The role of the Partnership

The State of Nature (SoN) is a partnership of organisations that are directly involved with conservation evidence and/or conservation delivery, that will work together on appropriate science and evidence-based products. Organisational endorsement may vary according to the product – not all SoN partners need endorse all SoN activities. Partners sign up to the principles of working together under the banner of the SoN Partnership.

The principal role of the SoN Partnership is to enhance biodiversity monitoring in the UK and its Overseas Territories: understanding the status and trends of species, habitats, sites and other environmental variables including those which drive changes in biodiversity, and the causes and consequences of changes in these. This will include supporting and improving data collection, collation and analysis; improving access to raw and interpreted data and improving the methods and extent of communications so that key results are accessible, comprehensible and meaningful to a variety of audiences, including decision makers and the public.

Types of Partnership Activities

Enhancing data collection, collation and analysis

- Sharing knowledge, ways of working, information within the Partnership
- Working together towards a shared framework for environmental monitoring
- Working together towards improved access to environmental monitoring data

Reviewing our understanding

- Producing a SoN report on at appropriate intervals
- On the state of species and other measures of ecosystem health
- On the mechanisms underlying the changing state of nature, including conservation action

Furthering our understanding

- On species status and other measures of ecosystem health
- Through research into mechanisms underlying biodiversity change
- Of the potential and realised impact of conservation action

Fund Raising

- Fund raise against Partnership projects or activities with the express agreement of the Partnership

Engaging

- Joint communications of project results to engage many sectors of society; scientific, business, government and the public

Commenting

- Producing Partnership responses to consultations or similar

Representing

- Representing the Partnership on steering groups, committees and other fora.

Membership

Member organisations will dictate their level of participation in the Partnership. Membership means agreeing with the aims of the partnership and nominating a representative to suggest, lead and/or sign up to activities and initiatives as organisational priorities and resources allow.

Ways of working

All member organisations can:

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- Propose Partnership projects and activities
- Sign-up to and decide their role in proposed projects and activities
- Propose new Partnership members
- Suggest changes to the terms of reference
- Put themselves forward to the Partnership working group

By and large these activities will take place at an annual Partnership meeting and through correspondence.

At the start of each Partnership project participants will be invited to sign-up, agree roles and responsibilities, agree the timetable and agree project resourcing, with external funding sought as required.

Governance

- The central coordination role of the Partnership will be undertaken by the RSPB
- A Partnership Steering Group will be created to guide our work in consultation with the wider SoN Partnership
- The steering group will meet quarterly, and the wider Partnership annually

Miscellaneous

The terms of this agreement are not intended to be legally or financially binding upon member organisations, nor to create any formal or legal partnership or give rise to any legal rights or obligations; rather it constitutes an expression of the current intention of the member organisations to engage in co-operative collaboration.

Annex 2

Appendix 1. Some ideas for biodiversity conservation objectives for UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies, derived from international agreements, Environment Charters, strategies for their implementation, assessments of progress by territories, discussions at UKOTCF-organised conferences for territories etc.

Aichi Biodiversity Targets	Environment Charter Commitments by UKOT Governments	Environment Charter Commitments by UK Government	Some of the general points from Measures of Performance on the Charters	Some points from the 2009 DEFRA/FCO/DFID/JNCC agreement on UKOT biodiversity	Some initial ideas for Objectives/ Targets for UKOTs (?by 2020, to fulfil UK Govt commitment)
<p>Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society</p>	<p><i>(Re-arranged to provide the nearest match to the subjects of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. There is obviously not a simple match. Each Commitment is given once, and other major correspondences indicated by Commitment numbers.)</i></p> <p>The government of the UKOT will:</p>	<p><i>(Re-arranged to provide the nearest match to the subjects of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. There is obviously not a simple match. Each Commitment is given once, and other major correspondences indicated by Commitment numbers.)</i></p> <p>The government of the UK will:</p>	<p><i>(This is by no means an exhaustive extract from this major review. The review addressed mainly the progress by UKOTs, as UK Government was not in a position to report on progress on its own Commitments.)</i></p>		<p><i>Note: abbreviation UKOT should be taken to include UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies.</i></p>
<p>1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.</p>	<p>9. Encourage teaching within schools to promote the value of our local environment (natural and built) and to explain its role within the regional and global environment. 10. Promote</p>		<p>Major progress in most Territories on some educational and awareness commitments but some lacked an adequate curriculum structure, examinations and</p>		<p>UKOTs include local biodiversity in a global context in their schools curriculum and assessments, with appropriate course materials and field work.</p> <p>UKOT citizens and other residents aware of the</p>

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	publications that spread awareness of the special features of the environment in the Territory; promote within the Territory the guiding principles set out above.		course materials taking account of local biodiversity.		biodiversity importance of the Territory and the steps they can take, individually and together, to conserve it.
2. By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.	5. Commit to open and consultative decision-making on developments and plans which may affect the environment; ensure that environmental impact assessments include consultation with stakeholders. + 3, 4		EIAs are publicly available in certain UKOTs but, in others, developments have taken place without EIA s and, if they are available, they cannot be accessed by the public - who are not fully consulted nor inadequate notice given.		Biodiversity and its conservation needs incorporated in UKOT development and other strategic plans. These plans subject to open consultation with specialists and local persons in draft. Development proposals in UKOTs require Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), and the plans and EIAs are openly and readily available for consultation with specialists and local persons The value of biodiversity in providing ecosystem services is acknowledged and incorporated into UKOT development and strategic plans.
3. By 2020, at the latest,	3				Examination and

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incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.					identification for each UKOT of the positive and negative incentives which impact biodiversity. Elimination of harmful disincentives. Introduction and/or acknowledgement of positive incentives for biodiversity and ecosystem services.
4. By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources	3. Ensure that environmental considerations are integrated within social and economic planning processes, promote sustainable patterns of production and consumption within the Territory. 4. Ensure that		Whilst some UKOTs indicate progress in e.g. fisheries management, others aspects (e.g. waste management) are reported as problematic in several. Energy generation has also emerged recently as		Government departments and all international businesses as well as large local businesses, have achieved ISO 140001 and/or have developed Environmental Management Systems.

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well within safe ecological limits.	environmental impact assessments are undertaken before approving major projects and while developing our growth management strategy. + 5		a topic where the monopoly suppliers in certain UKOTs have attitudes several decades out of date.		
Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use					
5. By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.	2. Ensure the protection and restoration of key habitats, species and landscape features through legislation and appropriate management structures and mechanisms, including a protected areas policy, and attempt the control and eradication of invasive species. + 4		Certain UKOTs have designated new protected areas (although management plans for some need developing), but there has been damage to protected areas and other important nature sites in a few. Serious illegal hunting in one UKOT at least.		UKOT natural terrestrial ecosystems mapped and regularly re-mapped, and marine biotopes sampled. Further loss of natural ecosystems (including habitats of species) halted. Extent and condition of all ecosystems improved.
6. By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and	2, 3			Strategic priorities for the UK Government's support for biodiversity	Marine reserves integrating no-take zones in place in all UKOTs

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<p>aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.</p>				<p>conservation in the Overseas Territories will comprise the following: v. developing ecosystem-based initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of the marine environment.</p>	<p>An assessment of the fisheries of the UKOTs undertaken to determine sustainability.</p> <p>Illegal fishing reduced and/or halted through effective and innovative enforcement measures.</p> <p>Capacity in sustainable fishery management built.</p> <p>Fishery of depleted and declining species reduced and/or halted.</p>
<p>7. By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.</p>	<p>3</p>				<p>Biodiversity (or environmental) management plan in place and implemented for all agriculture, aquaculture and forestry areas/enterprises in UKOTs.</p> <p>EIAs conducted for all new agriculture, aquaculture and forestry initiatives.</p> <p>Sustainability indexes and</p>

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					sustainability requirements defined for each sector identified and at least one monitored.
8. By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.	8. Ensure that legislation and policies reflect the principle that the polluter should pay for prevention or remedies; establish effective monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. + 3, 4		Reports from some UKOTs of little effective monitoring or enforcement.		Adequate monitoring for pollution in place, with a plan which specifies levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity. Enforcement procedures in place and implemented.
9. By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.	2		Progress has been made on certain UKOTs in respect of dealing with some invasive species, but some new invasions have occurred.	Strategic priorities for the UK Government's support for biodiversity conservation in the Overseas Territories will comprise the following: ii. preventing the establishment of invasive alien species, and eradicating or controlling species that have already become established;	Review in place of invasive alien species present or likely invaders for each UKOT. Basic strategy in place for prevention, rapid response and control. Adequate quarantine arrangements in place to prevent further invasions. Certain invasive species [list separately for each UKOT] eradicated. Rapid monitoring system established in high risk invasive alien entry points such as harbours.
10. By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic	3, 8				Identification of climate change and ocean

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pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.					<p>acidification impacts on the UKOT.</p> <p>Identification and, where feasible, quantification of the anthropogenic pressures on coral reef, sea-grass, mangrove, marsh, low-lying terrestrial and other vulnerable ecosystems undertaken.</p> <p>Capacity built in relation to the threats of climate change and ocean acidification and compounding impacts.</p> <p>Anthropogenic pressures reduced and minimised. Appropriate energy policies in place.</p>
<i>Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity</i>					
11. By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and	2				In each UKOT, at least 17% of terrestrial and inland

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inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.					water, and at least 10% (and ideally 30%) of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.
12. By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.	2				No further species extinctions in UKOTs. Species which have declined [to be listed for each UKOT] improved in conservation status. Monitoring system in place to substantiate these analyses.
13. By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated					Inventory and audit undertaken of native genetic

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<p>plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.</p>					<p>resources (plants, animals and other kingdoms) and the species of actual and potential socio-economic and cultural importance.</p> <p>Measures in place to conserve those most at risk and to avoid over-exploitation of any.</p>
<p><i>Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services</i></p>					
<p>14. By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and</p>	<p>2, 3, 4</p>			<p>Strategic priorities for the UK Government's support for biodiversity conservation in the Overseas Territories will comprise the following: iv. developing tools to value ecosystem services to inform sustainable</p>	<p>Sustainable development strategy in place, and capacity built in recognising and understanding the value of ecosystem services provided by natural systems and species.</p> <p>Development and poverty alleviation strategies</p>

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local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.				development policies and practices;	acknowledge the role of natural ecosystems and wild species in providing services and give protection to these.
15. By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.	2			Strategic priorities for the UK Government's support for biodiversity conservation in the Overseas Territories will comprise the following: iii. developing cross-sectoral approaches to climate change adaptation that are consistent with the principles of sustainable development;	By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification. Plans developed for further restoration.
16. By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national					Measures in place to minimise the taking of genetic samples out of the country for commercial bioengineering/biotechnology without prior agreement, while not impeding appropriate non-profit research by international

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legislation.					partners. Appropriate potential national legislation about removal of genetic resources from the UKOT explored, together with appropriate inventories and customs arrangements.
<i>Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building</i>					
17. By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.	1. Bring together government departments, representatives of local industry and commerce, environment and heritage organisations, the Governor's office, individual environmental champions and other community representatives in a forum to formulate a detailed strategy for	1. Help build capacity to support and implement integrated environmental management which is consistent with the Territory's own plans for sustainable development.	Very varied situations. Most UKOTs have some sort of plan, either for implementing the Environment Charter or a Biodiversity Strategy. However, in most, there is little capacity to implement in a strategic way or to develop and implement Action Plans within an overall strategy.		Each UKOT has, and is implementing, an updated biodiversity strategy and action plan.

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	action. + 5				
<p>18. By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.</p>					<p>The UKOT has incorporated into its Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, with the full and effective participation of local communities.</p>
<p>19. By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and</p>	<p>7. Review the range, quality and availability of baseline data for natural resources and biodiversity.</p>	<p>7. Use UK, regional and local expertise to give advice and improve knowledge of technical and scientific issues. This</p>	<p>Monitoring programmes for a range of taxa and natural resources in place in a few UKOTs. For a few</p>	<p>Strategic priorities for the UK Government's support for biodiversity conservation in the Overseas Territories will comprise the</p>	<p>Information readily available on the biodiversity of UKOTs, both individually and collectively. Gaps in information</p>

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trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.		includes regular consultation with interested non-governmental organisations and networks.	taxa, there are attempts to review status across UKOTs. There remains a need to provide a collated and readily accessible overview of the status of wildlife across the Territories. (UKOTCF has been trying to resource this for some time, and will continue to do so.)	following: i. obtaining data on the location and status of biodiversity interests and the human activities affecting biodiversity to inform the preparation of policies and management plans (including baseline survey and subsequent monitoring);	identified, and a programme of surveys in progress to fill these. Monitoring programmes developed and in place for priority taxa in each UKOT.
		6. Promote better cooperation and the sharing of experience and expertise between the Territory, other Overseas Territories and small island states and communities which face similar environmental problems.		i. promoting the sharing of information and experience between the Overseas Territories and with other relevant bodies, and facilitating access to expertise that is not available in the Territories themselves, e.g. through building links with academic institutions and nature conservation agencies in the UK and elsewhere;	UK Government to reinstate its contribution to funding of UKOTCF-organised UKOT conservation conferences, suspended since 2009.

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<p>20. By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.</p>		<p>8. Use the existing Environment Fund for the Overseas Territories [replaced by Overseas Territories Environment Programme], and promote access to other sources of public funding, for projects of lasting benefit to the Territory' environment.</p> <p>9. Help the Territory identify further funding partners for environmental projects, such as donors, the private sector or non-governmental organisations.</p> <p>10. Recognise the diversity of the challenges facing Overseas Territories in very different socio-economic and geographical situations.</p>		<p>“current funding arrangements ... are insufficient to fully meet the UK’s international commitments for biodiversity conservation, and are not necessarily focused on the strategic priorities identified. In 2007, RSPB conducted an exercise to cost biodiversity priorities in the UKOTs, and estimated that funding of £16 million pa was required. Following consultation with UKOT governments in 2008, JNCC advised that the total cost of meeting high priority biodiversity conservation projects was in excess of £48 million over a 5-year period.”</p> <p>“Increasing the budgets available for biodiversity conservation in the UKOTs will not immediately solve all the problems. Many</p>	<p>UK Government establishes a fund of at least £20m pa to contribute to its responsibilities in respect of implementing biodiversity management and species and ecosystem recovery plans etc in UKOTs.</p> <p>Each UKOT Government establishes an annual biodiversity conservation budget appropriate to the size of its economy.</p> <p>Those UKOTs with an appropriate tourism industry establish a conservation fund based on a percentage of visitor taxes held in a separate account for this purpose and managed openly by a body drawn from governmental and NGO conservation body stakeholders, and used for conservation purposes.</p> <p>Capacity of UKOT bodies raised, where appropriate, by joint working with NGOs from Britain or other UKOTs; this includes developing and</p>

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				<p>Territory governments do not currently have the institutional capacity to spend increased funding effectively or to prepare high-quality bids for funding.”</p> <p>Future UK Government funding arrangements for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the UKOTs will: i. be sufficiently flexible to reflect the different social, economic and environmental characteristics of each Territory; ii. be focused on the strategic priorities listed; iii. encourage regional or cross-Territory initiatives, e.g. where these offer an effective means of addressing the impacts of climate change and invasive species; iv. support long-term capacity-building (e.g. through funding of training,</p>	<p>implementing funding from BEST and other sources.</p>

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				<p>secondments and cross-Territory skill exchange), as well as on-the-ground conservation work; v. not be a substitute for reasonable recurrent expenditure from Territory governments.</p> <p>UK Government will ... help the UKOTs to take full advantage of EU initiatives and funding opportunities, such as BEST, through liaison with the European Commission and other EU institutions.</p>	
(Issues which cross many Aichi Targets, allocated sequential numbers:) 21.	6. Implement effectively obligations under the Multilateral Environmental Agreements already extended to the Territory and work towards the extension of other relevant agreements.	3. Facilitate the extension of the UK's ratification of Multilateral Environmental Agreements of benefit to the Territory and which the Territory has the capacity to implement. 4. Keep the Territory	A little progress on designation of Ramsar sites in a few Territories. Slow progress towards the joining of Territories in UK ratification of MEAs, with bottlenecks at both Territory and UK Government ends in various		All UKOTs included in UK's ratification of: Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (achieved); Convention on Biological Diversity; Convention on Migratory Species; Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species; World Heritage Convention. UKOTs designate under the

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		informed regarding new developments in relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements and invite the Territory to participate where appropriate in the UK's delegation to international environmental negotiations and conferences.	cases.		Ramsar Convention those proposed Wetlands of International Importance identified in the 2005 review. UKOT sites on the UK WHC Tentative List 2011 progressed.
22.	11. Abide by the principles set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and work towards meeting International Development Targets on the environment.	11. Abide by the principles set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and work towards meeting International Development Targets on the environment.			[Incorporated in other Environment Charter Commitments]
23.		2. Assist the Territory in reviewing and updating environmental legislation. 5. Help the Territory to ensure it has the legislation, institutional capacity and mechanisms it		The UK Government will build on its current efforts by: iii. enabling Overseas Territory governments to input effectively to Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other global initiatives by	Review available for each UKOT on legislative needs to fulfil biodiversity conservation requirements. Any legislation required for biodiversity conservation drafted, legislated and implemented.

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		needs to meet international obligations.		establishing a network of contact points, providing early warning of key issues, and giving timely feedback. In particular, Overseas Territories will be consulted on the development of UK/EU positions and efforts will be made to minimise reporting requirements;	UK Government to consult routinely UKOT Governments and NGOs prior to MEA meetings