Revision of biodiversity indicators

What was agreed?

• A revision of the set of biodiversity indicators in the UNECE Guidelines is proposed. The revision should take into consideration better alignment with biodiversity related SDG indicators. The experts of the European Environment Agency (and their European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity) and IUCN should be involved in that revision.

What was done?

• Recommendations for revising the ECE set of environmental indicators: Energy and Biodiversity (ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2017/3).
Revision of biodiversity indicators

- D1 Protected areas
- D2 Biosphere reserves and wetlands of international importance
- D3 Forests and other wooded land
- D4 Threatened and protected species
- D5 Trends in the number and distribution of selected species
- D6 Invasive alien species
Revision of biodiversity indicators

D1 Protected areas

Protected Area Coverage of species can be difficult to measure, as the species maps do not provide sufficient granularity to be certain that species can be located within specific Protected Areas. A more accurate measurement of the effectiveness of protected areas for conservation outcomes for indicator D1 would be of Protected Area Coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas. This is an accepted indicator of progress towards Aichi Target 11 and it will furthermore align D1 with the following SDG indicators:

- SDG indicator 14.5.1: Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas;
- SDG indicator 15.1.2: Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type;
- SDG indicator 15.4.1: Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity.

Recommendation: Secretariat updates the production table for D1 to be adopted by the Joint Task Force during its fourteenth session. It is further recommended that this update will take into account Protected Area Coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas.
## Revision of biodiversity indicators

### D2 Biosphere reserves and wetlands of international importance

**Recommendation:** Secretariat develops a production table for D2 to be adopted by the Joint Task Force during its fourteenth session. This work will integrate any updates made for D1 in taking account of Protected Area Coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas. This will also ensure that D2 is better aligned with SDG indicators 14.5.1, 15.1.2, and 15.4.1.

The production table for D2 should take into account:

- Criteria for Identifying Wetlands of International Importance, as adopted by the parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) and indicators listed in the 4th Strategic Plan 2016–2024 of the Convention; 12
- UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR).

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### D3 Forests and other wooded land

**Recommendation:** Secretariat updates the production table for D3 to be adopted by the Joint Task Force during its fourteenth session.

Revisions would ensure that the production table for D2 is in line with:

- SDG indicator 15.1.1: Forest area as a proportion of total land area;
- SDG indicator 15.2.1: Progress towards sustainable forest management;
- Updated Pan-European indicators for Sustainable Forest Management that were endorsed by the ministers at the 7th Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (FOREST EUROPE).
Revision of biodiversity indicators

D6 Invasive alien species

Recommendation: Secretariat develops a production table for D6 to be adopted by the Joint Task Force during its fourteenth session.

The production table for D2 should take into account:
• SDG indicator 15.8.1: Proportion of countries adopting relevant national legislation and adequately resourcing the prevention or control of invasive alien species;
• European Environment Agencies indicator on invasive alien species in Europe;
• Convention on Biological Diversity indicator on trends in invasive alien species and links to target 9 of the convention.

Thanks for your attention