

International Workshop - Session 2

Japan's biodiversity policies
relevant to the science-policy
interface

- In relation to the CBD and the
IPBES -



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National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan 2012-2020

The National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan 2012-2020 (NBS-J 2012-2020), which is the fifth Strategy since the first one was developed in 1995, was adopted by the Cabinet in September 2012. The NBS-J 2012-2020 set out Japan's roadmap for the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets under the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, which was adopted at the CBD-COP10 - the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity held in Nagoya in 2010. Simultaneously the roadmap was also set out to aim for signifying a new paradigm of Living in Harmony with Nature in light of the experience through the Great East Japan Earthquake that taught us there are two opposite sides of nature: a provider of nature's benefits and a formidable threat.

The NBS-J 2012-2020 focuses on the benefits of nature (ecosystem services) to explain the importance of biodiversity through the connection between ecosystem services and people's lives. The National Biodiversity Strategy consists of three parts. The first part includes five basic strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The second part sets out 13 targets and 48 key action goals to attain the national targets to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity

Targets. Indicators are also described for assessing the levels of achievement. The third part includes about 700 specific measures with 50 numerical targets. (Fig. 1) The previous NBS-J had four basic strategies, set out as the broad direction for the policies that Japan must address in a prioritized manner during the planned period. In addition to them, the NBS-J 2012-2020 has another basic strategy, "strengthening the scientific basis for policy making", which was newly added as fifth one. Among the 13 national targets, Target E-2

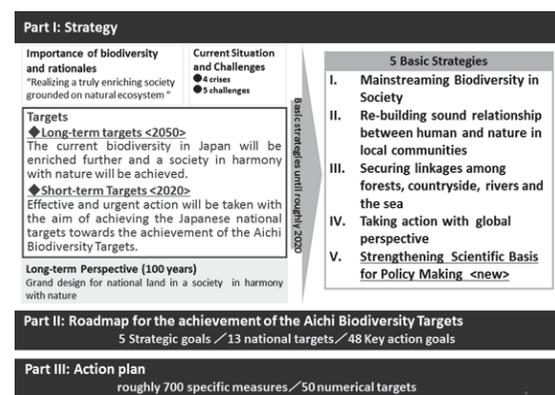


Fig.1 Overview of the NBS-J 2012-2020

stipulates "strengthen scientific grounds as well as the connections between science and policy" and under this target, some key action goals are set out, which are relevant to the science-policy interface. (Table 1)

Table 1 Key Action Goals relevant to Science-Policy Interface

E-2-2; Enhance data collection on the natural environment, such as the National Survey on the Natural Environment, continuously and quickly update it, and improve how quickly information from it is disseminated, while also setting in place structures to collect, provide, and share data through collaborations between various actors by 2020.
E-2-3; Work to round out the scientific knowledge related to marine organisms and ecosystems by 2020.
E-2-4; Carry out comprehensive assessment of biodiversity in Japan and perform midterm assessment related to Japan's national targets for the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
E-2-5; Japan will actively participate in and contribute to the IPBES in order to make it an effective and efficient framework that is grounded in scientific evidence, and will set in place a domestic structure for this purpose.

Japan's Policy measures under the NBS-J 2012-2020 relevant to science-policy interface

Based on the NBS-J 2012-2020, the Japanese government is promoting necessary policy measures in order to strengthen the science-policy interface. The followings are some of the major ones.

Recognizing the significance of current assessment and future prediction on biodiversity based on scientific data and its analysis, we have been conducting continuous research and surveys, such as the National Surveys on the Natural Environment. For example, Japan has been developing a nationwide 1:25,000 vegetation map since 1999, which is to be utilized as basic information to develop environmental measures. We also launched a survey Project for promoting monitoring of the sites of important ecosystems in 2003, in order to monitor the changes in ecosystems at fixed points over a long period of time. As of January 2014, surveys are being conducted at 1,020 sites with various ecosystems nationwide, in cooperation with the local citizens so that the surveys can be implemented more effectively. The results of the surveys are being used as basic data for various measures, including designating protected areas and preparing the Red Lists. For the purpose of sharing the information between various stakeholders in easy-to-use form and utilizing them for policy measures and other activities, a new system called *Ikimono Log* (meaning the log of living organisms) were launched in 2013, where data is collected from various stakeholders such as local governments, research institutes, academia, NGOs and citizens, and shared them through WEB sites and by other means. We will further develop data on biodiversity by focusing on continuous updating, faster reporting, mutual utilization and the sharing of data.

Internationally, the Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) was established in 2002 as an international framework for scientifically evaluating trends in biodiversity and ecosystem services as well as the strengthening the science-policy interface. Based on the IPBES programme of works, Japan will actively participate and contribute to its works, utilizing existing networks such as Asia Pacific Observation Network (AP-BON) or Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), that we have been supporting, so that IPBS will become an effective body. We will also develop national schemes for the assessment of current status of biodiversity in Japan, which correspond to the IPBES activities. Once a comprehensive assessment is conducted, we will summarize the assessment results in an easy-to-understand manner such as by mapping the results, and periodically updating the information. Indicators could be set to identify the current status and the effects of various measures.

References:

- The Government of Japan (2012) National Biodiversity Strategy 2012-2020
<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/jp/jp-nbsap-v5-en.pdf>
The Government of Japan (2014) Fifth National Report of Japan to the Convention on Biological Diversity
<https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/jp/jp-nr-05-en.pdf>
Biodiversity Centre of Japan (National Survey on the Natural Environment, AP-BON, etc.)
http://www.biodic.go.jp/index_e.html



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National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan

1993: Convention on Biological Diversity entered into force

Convention on Biological Diversity: Article 6

“Develop national strategies, plans or programs for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity ...”

1995: 1st National Biodiversity Strategy

2002: 2nd National Biodiversity Strategy

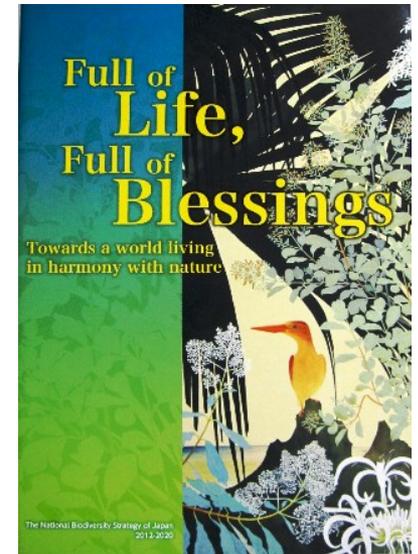
2007: 3rd National Biodiversity Strategy

2008: Basic Act on Biodiversity

**2010: 4th National Biodiversity Strategy
(Statutory strategy)**

2010: Adoption of Aichi Biodiversity Targets at COP10

2012: Revision of NBSAP based on COP10 outcomes



Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets

■ Vision

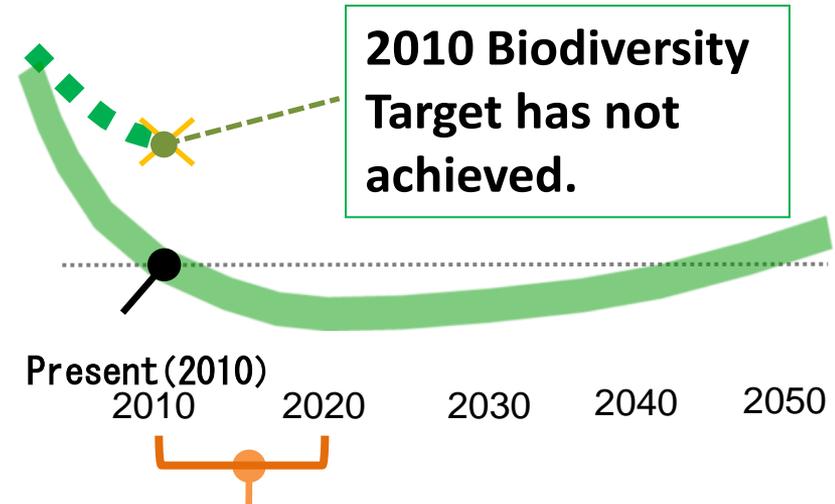
- 「*Living in harmony with nature*」
- 「World where “By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people”」

■ Mission

Take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity

■ 20 Targets “Aichi Biodiversity Targets”

ex 17% of terrestrial and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas are conserved as protected areas, etc.



■ Japan proposed the decade from 2011 as “UN Decade on Biodiversity”

Structure of the new NBSAP of Japan

Part I: Strategy

Importance of biodiversity and rationales

“Realizing a truly enriching society grounded on natural ecosystem “

Current Situation and Challenges

- 4 crises
- 5 challenges

Targets

◆ Long-term targets <2050>

The current biodiversity in Japan will be enriched further and a society in harmony with nature will be achieved.

◆ Short-term Targets <2020>

Effective and urgent action will be taken with the aim of achieving the Japanese national targets towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Long-term Perspective (100 years)

Grand design for national land in a society in harmony with nature

Basic strategies until roughly 2020

5 Basic Strategies

- I. **Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Society**
- II. **Re-building sound relationship between human and nature in local communities**
- III. **Securing linkages among forests, countryside, rivers and the sea**
- IV. **Taking action with global perspective**
- V. **Strengthening Scientific Basis for Policy Making <new>**

Part II: Roadmap for the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

5 Strategic goals / 13 national targets / 48 Key action goals

Part III: Action plan

roughly 700 specific measures / 50 numerical targets

Structure of the new NBSAP of Japan

Part 1: Strategy

Part 2: Roadmap for the achievement of Aichi BD Targets

5 Strategic goals

13 National Targets
(in line with 20 Aichi BD Target)

48 Key action goals

81 Relevant Indicators
(for assessing the progress of implementation)

Part 3 : Action Plan

roughly 700 specific measures

50 numerical targets

Key Action Goals relevant to Science-Policy Interface

E-2-2; Enhance data collection on the natural environment, such as the National Survey on the Natural Environment, continuously and quickly update it, and improve how quickly information from it is disseminated, while also setting in place structures to collect, provide, and share data through collaborations between various actors by 2020.

E-2-3; Work to round out the scientific knowledge related to marine organisms and ecosystems by 2020.

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Progress Review of NBSAP Implementation one year after its adoption (Sep 2013)

Part 1 : Progress Review on the Five Strategic Goals

Some progress has been made in measures based on 5 strategic goals, including increased number of Japanese Crested Ibis returned to the wild. At the same time, some challenges, such as ecosystem based disaster risk reduction/climate change adaptation, or **further support to strengthen scientific grounds for interface with policy**, have been specified..

Part 2 : Progress Review on the Roadmap towards Aichi Targets

Progress has been made in measures based on the National Targets and most indicators shows positive movement, achievement of targets or high-level standards. Target 11 on terrestrial protected areas and Target 17 on NBSAP have been already achieved.

Part 3 : Progress Review on Action Plans (700measures)

Of the 50 numerical targets, 7 items have achieved their targets.
Of the 700 measures listed, about 3% measures had achieved their goals,
and 95% initiatives have been progressed.

→ **Though some progress has been made,
Further efforts are needed to achieve the final goals.**

Monitoring Sites 1000 Project (Since 2003 -)

Accumulation of Each Ecosystem Data for ten years

Alpine zones

Forests and grasslands

Satoyama

Lakes, mires and marshes

Sandy shores

Rocky shores

Tidal flats

Seagrass beds

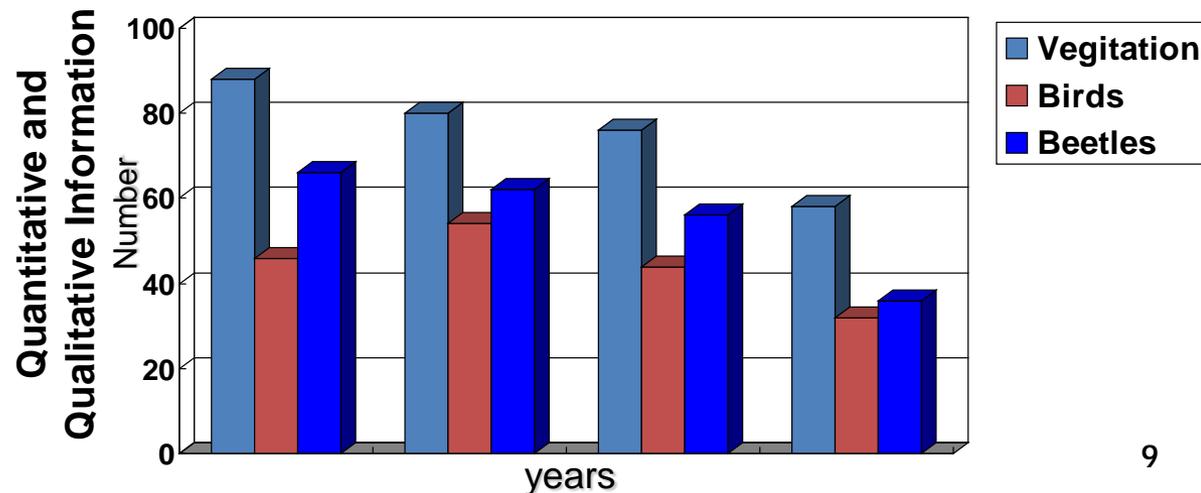
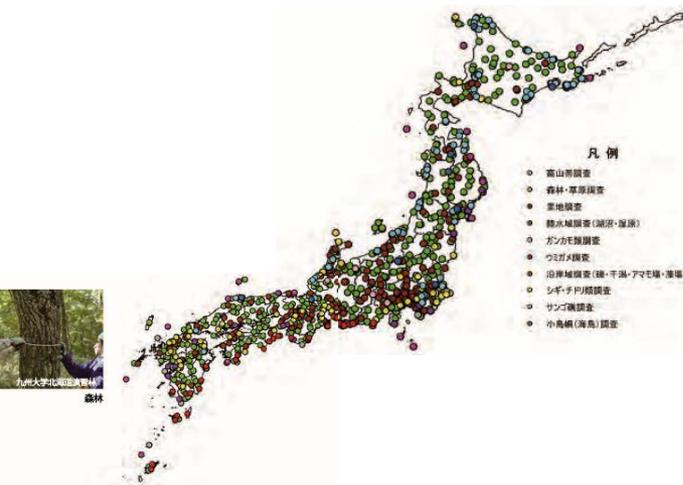
Algal beds

Coral reefs

Small islets

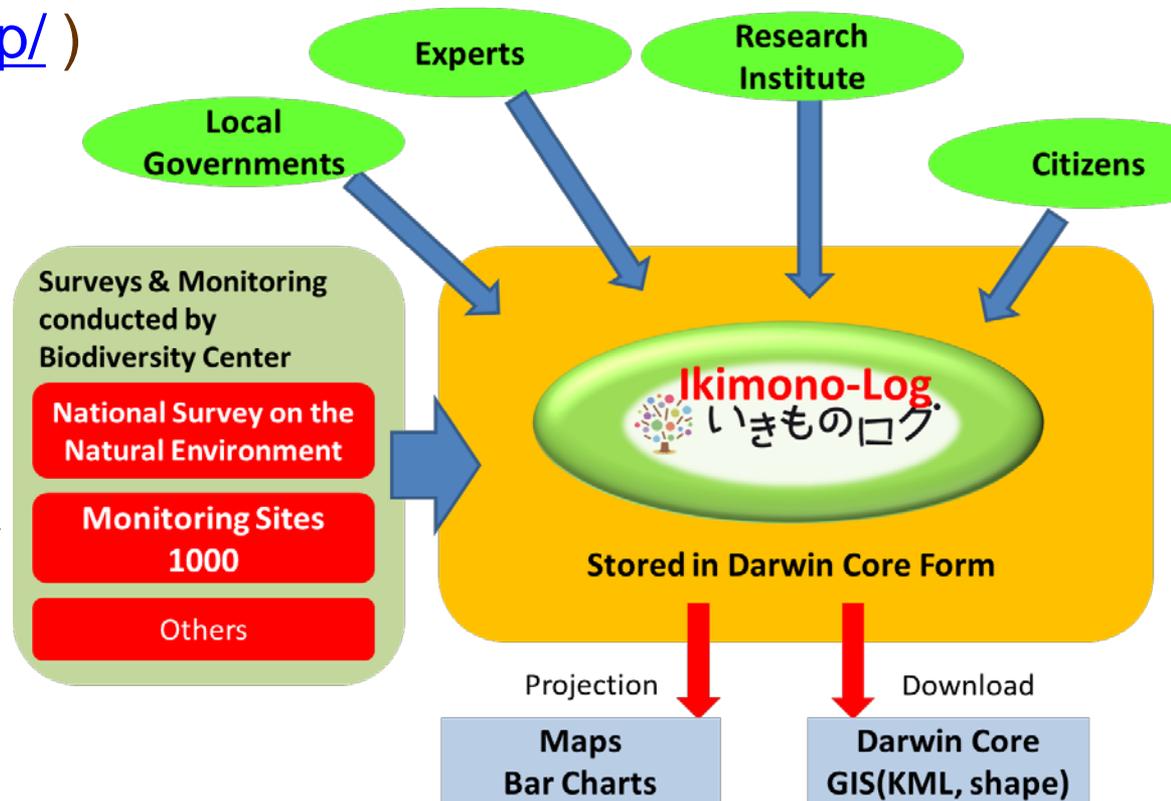
- Detecting the degradation of local natural environments to take appropriate measures
- Assessing the impact of global climate changes
- Providing more concrete information to take conservation and/or restoration measures, and sustainable resource use

Site Distribution of Monitoring Sites 1000



Ikimono-Log (Log of Living Organisms)

- A biodiversity data collection, storage, and provision system
- Collected from public through the Internet
- Stored in Ikimono-Log Database
(<http://ikilog.biodic.go.jp/>)
- Anybody can browse species distribution map and download data from database with web browser
- Survey results of Ministry of the Environment and biodiversity Information are stored in the same database



Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services (IPBES)



now has
121 member
countries



What is IPBES? Formally Established
in April 2012

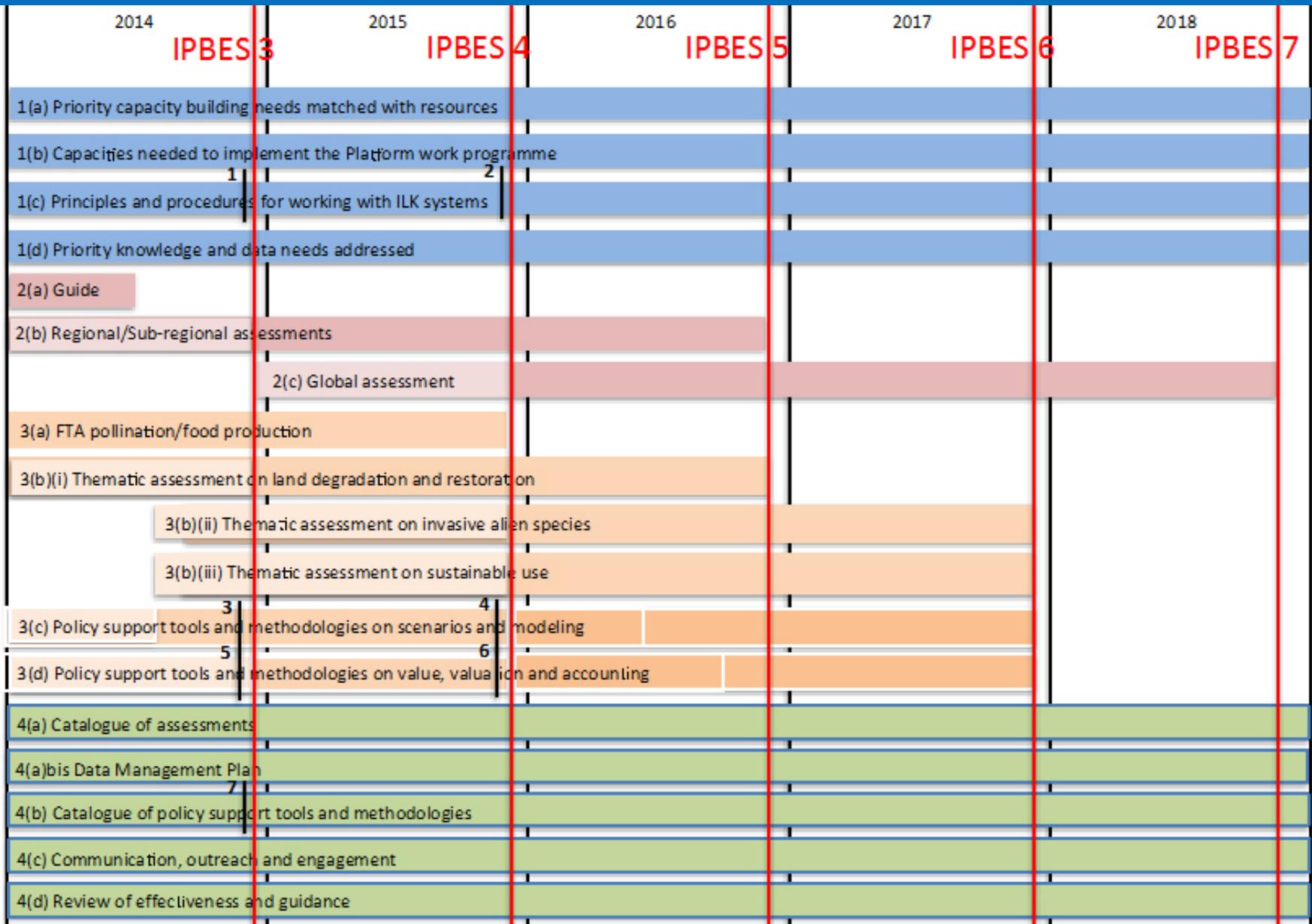
- An interface between scientific and policy communities relating to biodiversity and ecosystem services

Four main functions

1. Knowledge generation
2. Regular and timely assessments
3. Support policy formulation and implementation
4. Capacity building

Initial work programme (2014-18) agreed at IPBES-2 in 2013

IPBES Work Programme 2014-2018

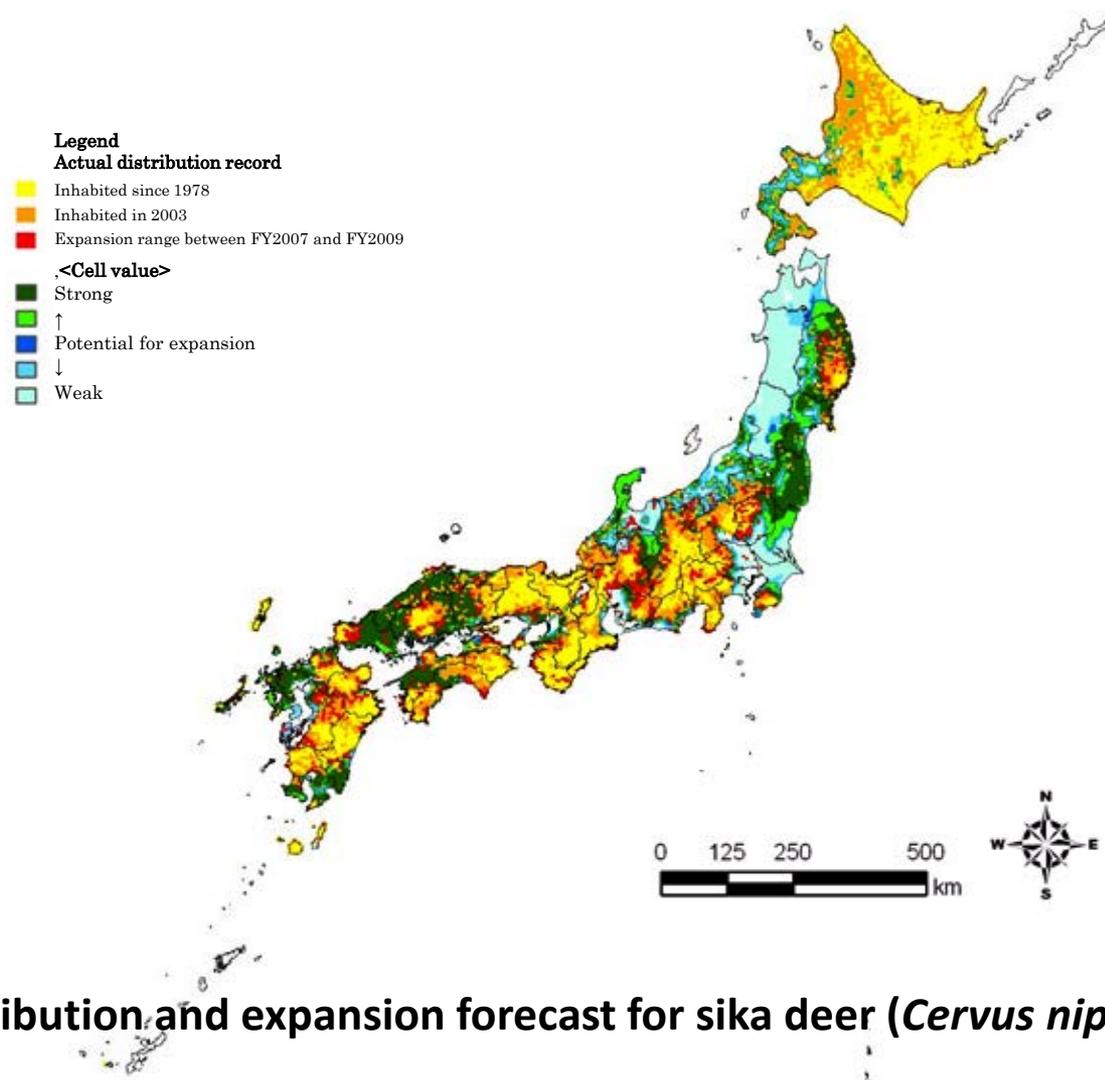


Scoping Phase
 Assessment Phase
 Tool development Phase

Geographical Mapping of Biodiversity Assessment

To identify areas to conserve/restore from the viewpoint of nation wide level

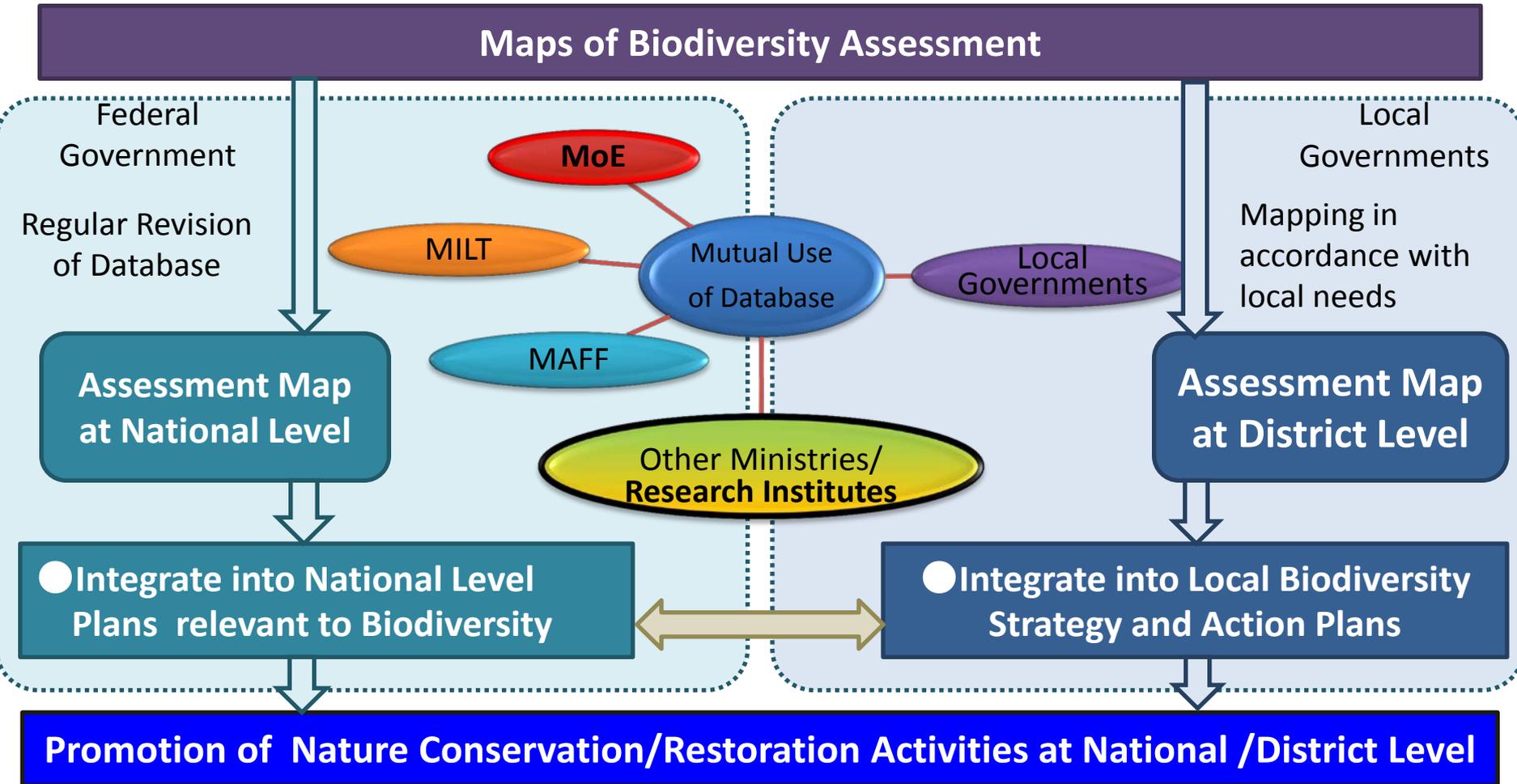
Published on <http://www.biodic.go.jp/biodiversity/activity/policy/map/list.html> (only in Japanese)



Distribution and expansion forecast for sika deer (*Cervus nippon*)

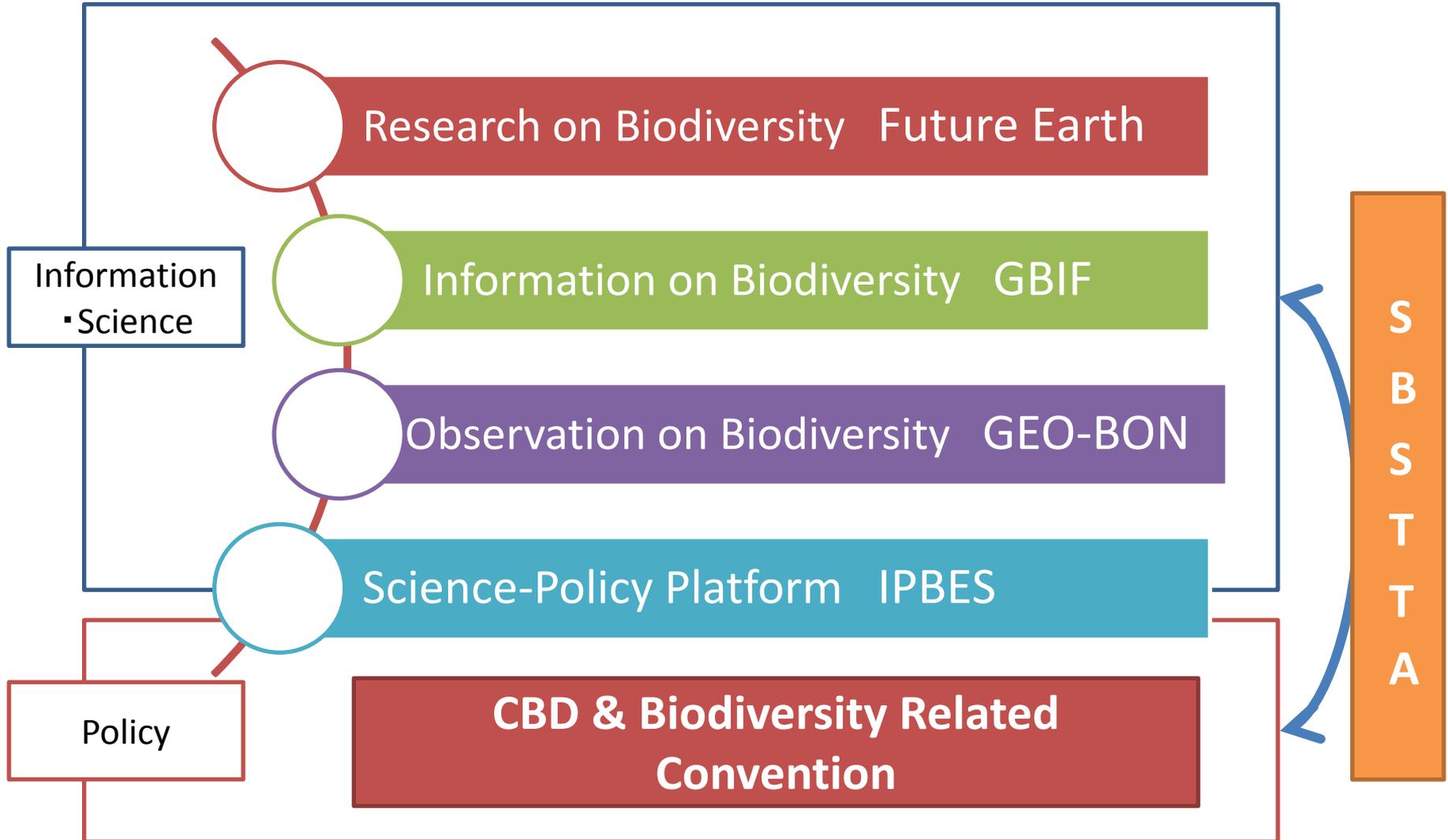
Policy Development based on Mapping of Biodiversity Assessment

- District-based biodiversity data with precise local data can be used for policy development to identify important areas and to select appropriate conservation measures



- To Develop a Manual for Utilizing of Mapping Methods based on Local Needs
- To Support On-site Activities at Local Level (Subsidies, Legal Incentives, etc.)

International Framework on Science-Policy Inter-linkage



Strengthening Science-Policy Inter-Linkage

To contribute to the international activities on assessment or future prediction on BD and ES

- Development of Indicators for Implementation of Aichi Targets
- Comprehensive Scientific Assessment on Biodiversity in Japan
- Quantitative/Economic Evaluation on Ecosystem Services and its Mapping
- Future Prediction and Scenario Analysis
- Way of Basic Data Collection and Feedback to such Collection
- Review of Domestic Research taking into account of IPBES Activities etc.



Consider to develop “JBO2 (Japan Biodiversity Outlook ver.2)”

- Set structures for the Review in Japan to contribute to IPBES
- Cooperate to provide CBD/SBSTTA process with necessary information
- Cooperation with J-BON (Japan Biodiversity Observation Network) or other research networks
- Try and error in the region for the future success in each countries and global activities

The Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Biodiversity

- Initiated in March 2013, as a initiative under the Tripartite (China, Japan, Korea) Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM)
- 2nd Meeting held in Pyeongchang, Korea, on 11 October 2014, on the occasion of CBD-COP12
- Not only Government Official but also some scientists from research institutes attended

◎ Agreed to share the National Focal Points of national research institutes for conducting expanded surveys in the areas of common interests.

◎ Agreed to expand information sharing and contribution to the implementation of the IPBES work programme (2014-2018).

◎ Suggested strengthening network of research institutions such as AP-BON and / or biodiversity center.

◎ Agreed to strengthen information sharing on invasive alien species related policy, research and development progress.





Thank you for your attention.