

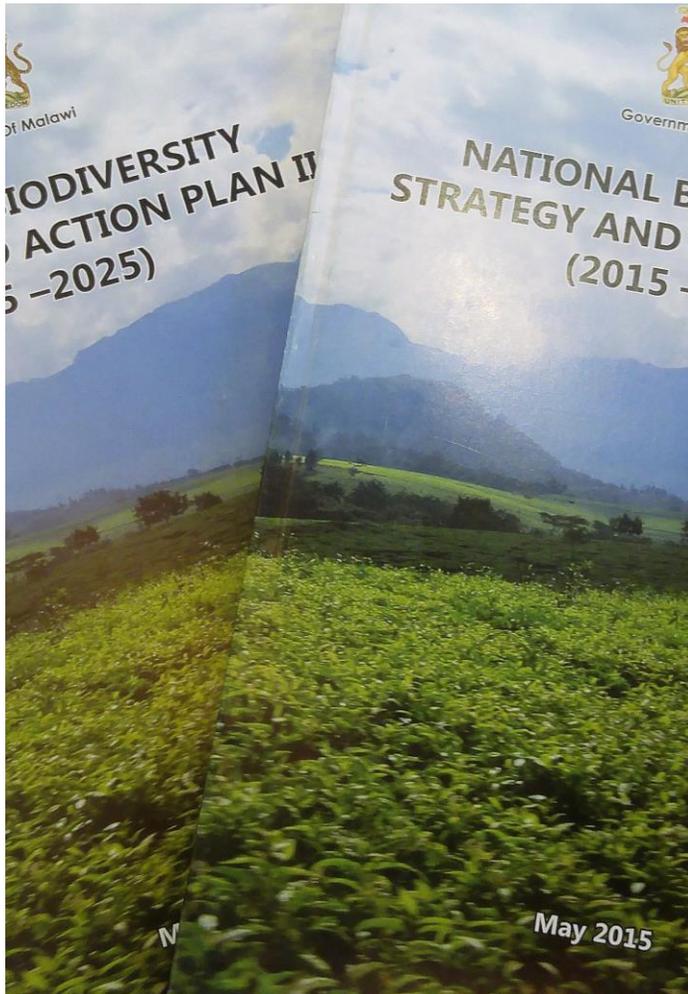
# Lessons learnt from efforts to implement Aichi Biodiversity Targets

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# Interpreting Aichi Targets for Use at National Level



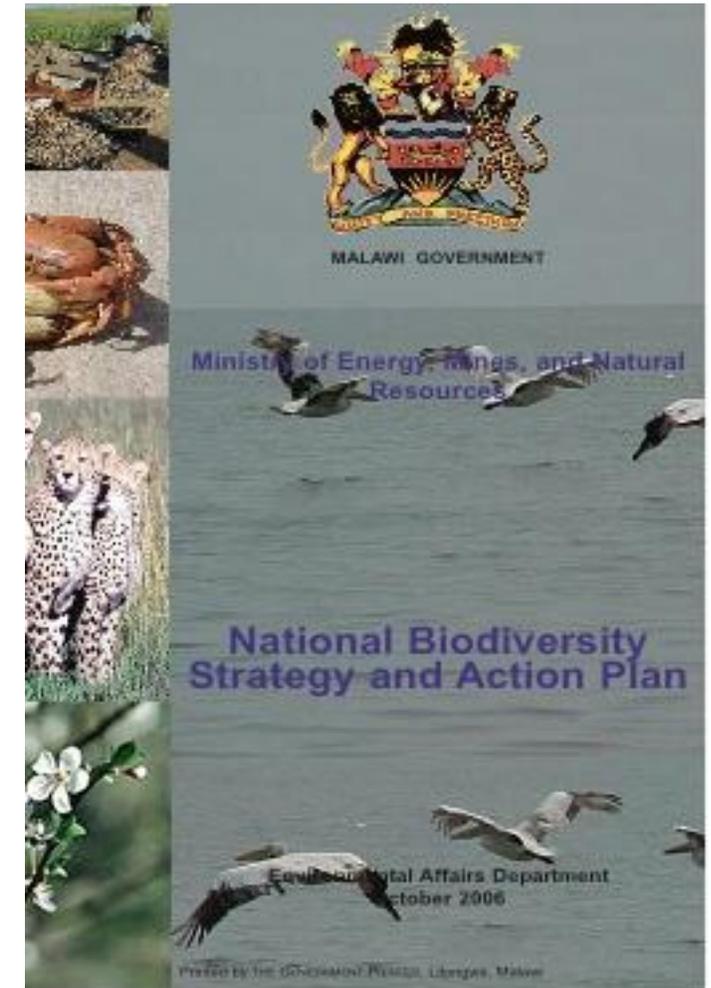
Malawi finalised development of its NBSAP in 2015

However;

- The Aichi targets provided guidance to develop a comprehensive NBSAP

Assessments were not sufficiently conducted on:

- Malawi's readiness to implement the Aichi targets;
- What level of ambition is achievable for Malawi





# Time of revising NBSAP *vis a vis* actual implementation

Opportunities to present Evidence and justifications aimed at influencing national development and sectoral objectives were missed

Malawi had already implemented Target 16 on ratifying the Nagoya protocol and needed to focus on setting up national legislation

Delayed development of NBSAP affected the timely implementation of most of the targets that require time and investment e.g Effective restoration and Mainstreaming

Aligning of the NBSAP to other policies to ensure the NBSAP is a guiding policy for all biodiversity issues at national level requires proper timing

# Challenges in Interpreting the Aichi targets into national targets

Global targets that were developed to facilitate a political compromise were not clear or contradicting. e.g There was lack of clarity in target 5 about where we are headed, are we halving or bringing to Zero?

How to deal with targets that require collective action and cooperation. E.g Target 19 on improving, widely sharing and transferring knowledge, science and technologies

Qualitative Targets that were set to ensure “**effectiveness, enhancement and improvement,**” depended mostly on how effectiveness, or enhancement or improvement was defined

Is Means of achieving a target a target in itself? e.g target 4 talks about taking steps

Some targets were not clearly linked to the goals.



# Challenges in defining baselines at national level

- No adequate time or resources to establishing baselines.
- Insufficient data affected:
  - **prioritization** of the targets which resulted in **too many unachievable targets** being adopted within the timeframe. Some targets were too broad and in some instances there was **under-targeting**
  - **identification and timing of interventions**. Was it proper to introduce new interventions and approaches or continue with the existing ones?
  - having a standard against which to measure all subsequent changes. **Are our approaches and efforts working?**
  - Development of Qualitative targets which required further assessments to generate baselines.

**\*These concerns pose a challenge in determining what measures or approaches were useful and can be replicated in the post 2020 biodiversity framework.\***

KEY LESSONS TO BE  
CONSIDERED FOR THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF  
THE POST-2020  
GLOBAL FRAMEWORK



# KEY LESSONS

## Lesson 1

**Clarity of the targets is important**

## Lesson 2

**Sufficient time for national assessments and capacity building before adopting global targets and approaches at national level.**

## Lesson 3

**Do not ignore the need to invest in setting up enabling mechanisms**

## Lesson 4

**Invest efforts in approaches that result in maximum biodiversity gains.**

## Lesson 5

**Timing, particularly when seeking to mainstream in sectoral and development sectors is important**

# KEY LESSONS

## Lesson 1

**Engagement of other sectors from the onset of the process is crucial**

## Lesson 2

**The content of national strategies should always be informed by evidence and research**

## Lesson 3

**Keep an eye on the indirect drivers**

## Lesson 4

**COMMUNICATION IS KEY – To create understanding and to promote political commitment**

## Lesson 5

**Building appropriate institutional arrangements and capacity AND RESOURCES to make IMPLEMENTATION HAPPEN**

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- There is need to invest in statistical capacities and research that is more context specific to address data gaps and generate adequate baselines (National assessments)
- Commitment for continuous monitoring and tracking of implementation of national strategies is required.
- Capacity for Use of Scenarios in planning where there is high uncertainty is required to avoid increased risks and missed opportunities
- Targets should be supported with resource mobilisation and accountability mechanisms

# Recommendations

- Countries are gaining momentum to implement the revised NBSAPs
  - Focus should be on refining, realigning, updating targets and **enhancing enabling mechanisms** on specific targets and replacing those that have been implemented (What is still relevant and what is not?)
- Enhance implementation of the other two objectives of the convention (Sustainable use and Benefit Sharing)
- **Strategic communication** and investments in communication are required. (We should aim at not just approaching other sectors, but work on being approached)
- Non-state actors should be involved in assisting countries to implement specific targets. (Champions of change)



**LIVING IN HARMONY WITH  
NATURE Means taking  
biodiversity Personal. It is not  
just something we should do,  
It is who we should be.**