



# Roles of Subnational Governments with Respect to Biodiversity toward 2020 and beyond



Aichi, JAPAN

ANAAE, MEXICO

Campeche, MEXICO

Catalonia, SPAIN

Gangwon, KOREA

Ontario, CANADA

Québec, CANADA

São Paulo, BRAZIL

Compiled by :

**GoLS** (Group of Leading Subnational Governments  
towards Aichi Biodiversity Targets)

In collaboration with  
**nrg4SD** and **ICLEI**  
November 2018

## PREFACE

There are two years to implement actions in order to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABT). The Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the parties (COP14) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), to be held in November 2018 at Sharm El-Sheikh in Egypt, will discuss efforts needed to achieve the ABT and the process of developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework.

We, the “Group of Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets” (GoLS) were established at COP13 by active subnational governments who think that a positive participation of subnational governments for the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 is essential to conserve biodiversity, especially since the endorsement of the COP10 decision X/22 on the “Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities for Biodiversity”. Since our 1<sup>st</sup> statement issued in 2016, we have been working together mainly to enhance the Parties’ recognition of the role of subnational governments.

COP14 is the occasion to renew our commitment with the adoption of a 2<sup>nd</sup> Statement which underlines the importance of subnational governments, especially for the mainstreaming of biodiversity, and our willingness to contribute to the process of the final assessment of ABTs, as well as the international discussions on the post-2020 framework.

We believe our new statement and the following report could be useful to most of the COP14 agenda, especially to item 17 (“Long-term strategic directions to the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, approaches to living in harmony with nature and preparation for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework”) and item 22 (“Mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors”). Indeed, this document shows examples of major initiatives implemented by GoLS’ members that cover many ABTs and promote the mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors.

We sincerely hope this document can contribute to the discussions during COP14 and the 6th Biodiversity Summit of Local and Subnational Governments.

November 2018  
Group of Leading Subnational Government  
toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets (GoLS)

## INDEX

**About the *Group of Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets (GoLS)*** p.1-4

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**Statement of GoLS to COP14  
“Roles of Subnational Governments with Respect to Biodiversity toward 2020 and beyond”** p.5-7

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**Major Initiatives of the Members of GoLS** p.8-21

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# ABOUT THE GROUP OF LEADING SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENTS TOWARD AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS (GOLS)

## 1. Background

The Strategic Plan 2011-2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, must be implemented through national actions. Additionally, it advocates for a strong engagement of subnational governments. The Parties at COP-10 have moreover endorsed the “Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities for Biodiversity” by COP decision X/22. The important role of subnational governments was repeatedly expressed and strengthened by the COP decision XI/8 and XII/9. The Quintana-Roo Communiqué on Mainstreaming Local and Subnational Biodiversity Action at the 5<sup>th</sup> Biodiversity Summit along COP13 and COP decision XIII/3 are proof of the recognition given to subnational governments on a global scale. These plans, targets and decisions have encouraged the continuation of many innovative strategies toward the protection of biodiversity and the implementation of the Strategic Plan at a subnational level, all over the world.

## 2. Establishment

The Group of Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets (GoLS), firstly advocated by the Governor Hideaki Ohmura of Aichi to promote and strengthen the initiatives of subnational governments, was established by six founding members in 2016. The members gathered for the first time during COP13 in Cancun, Mexico, to adopt their First Statement with the support of the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD), ICLEI, the Secretariat of the CBD (SCBD) and the Mexican Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO). They launched the statement at the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Biodiversity Summit of Cities and Subnational Governments.



The adoption of the statement of GoLS at the first meeting

## 3. Current Members

In addition to the six founding members, two more subnational governments joined GoLS after COP13. Therefore, it now consists of eight members: Aichi (Japan), Asociación Nacional de Autoridades Ambientales Estatales (ANAAE, Mexico), Campeche (Mexico), Catalonia (Spain), Gangwon (South Korea), Ontario (Canada), Québec (Canada) and Sao Paulo (Brazil).

## 4. Achievements

### a) Along COP13 (December 2016)

GoLS launched “The statement by the Group of Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets” at the 5<sup>th</sup> Biodiversity Summit and got



The launch of the statement of GoLS at 5<sup>th</sup> summit

recognized in the outcome document of the Summit, the “Quintana Roo Communiqué” . (See Annex)

The first joint action of GoLS, a forum titled “Contribution of Subnational Governments for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets” , was held during COP13. In this forum, the participants shared experiences of subnational initiatives on biodiversity. They also recognized that collaboration with regional stakeholders are important and that subnational governments are key to promote such regional collaboration.

**b) Along SBSTTA21 (December 2017)**

GoLS held a side event, in collaboration with nrg4SD, ICLEI and SCBD, on the “Importance of Subnational Governments for Mainstreaming of Biodiversity into the Sectors of Energy and Mining, Infrastructure, Manufacturing and Processing



The side event of GoLS at SBSTTA21



The Guideline by ICLEI & SCBD

Industry and Health” . This was also the first appearance of the “Guidelines for an integrated approach in the development and implementation of national, subnational and local Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans”<sup>2</sup> developed by ICLEI and the SCBD. The summary of the forum, highlighting the importance of horizontal and vertical collaborations among a variety of governments and showing the willingness of GoLS to contribute to the mainstreaming of biodiversity in all spheres, was delivered to the CBD Executive Secretary.

**c) Organization of an Executive Level Online Meeting (March 2018)**

GoLS held an executive level online meeting on “Future initiatives of Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets” open to the public through YouTube. The participants exchanged their experiences and shared the recognition of the roles of subnational governments. They finally identified future actions to keep enhancing their initiatives to mobilize subnational governments and their active participation in the CBD meetings.

**d) Along SBSTTA22 and SBI2 (July 2018)**

GoLS compiled and posted a “Voluntary Report on the Contribution of Subnational Governments for the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets”<sup>3</sup> as an information document for SBI2. It



The Voluntary Report posted to SBI2



The side event of GoLS at SBSTTA22

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cbc.iclei.org/project/bsap-guidelines/>  
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/SBI-02>



showcased how GoLS' members are contributing to the mainstreaming of biodiversity,. GoLS also held a side event on the "Contribution of Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets," in which the delegations of six Parties, namely Canada, China, Egypt, Japan, Korea and Mexico, participated. These six Parties supported the intervention and proposition made by GoLS in SBI2.

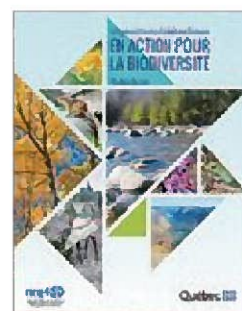
## 5. Collaboration with other international initiatives at subnational level

GoLS is actively collaborating with other international initiatives, such as the Advisory Committee on Subnational Governments (AC SNG) and the Regions for Biodiversity Learning Platform (R4BLP)<sup>4</sup>.

The AC SNG had the first meeting in April 2012 in Curitiba, Brazil and is the permanent structure officially recognized by the CBD through Decision X/22 of COP10 which aims to bring the voices of subnational governments to the agenda of the CBD. The AC SNG is coordinated by nrg4SD. It has contributed to the CBD by producing a document titled "Subnational governments in action for biodiversity-Case studies" , presented at COP13 in Cancun (Mexico).

The R4BLP is a flagship biodiversity initiative by nrg4SD, officially recognized and supported by the SCBD. It consists of a global community of proactive subnational governments working together to build capacities for biodiversity conservation, encourage healthy ecosystems and promote sustainable livelihoods for their citizens.

The R4BLP is a shared learning experience that aims to work toward advancing the global biodiversity agenda, by designing and implementing policies and best practices intended to drive progress and promote innovation, also aligned to the subnational implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and beyond. The objectives and values of R4BLP are inspired by those promoted by the Bio-Bridge Initiative, an overarching programme of the CBD focused on catalyzing and facilitating technical and scientific cooperation by linking Parties or regions with technical and scientific needs with those that are able to provide support.



The Case study by ACSNG



A meeting of R4BLP in its pilot project

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.nrg4sd.org/biodiversity/r4blp/>

## **Annex - The Statement by the Group of Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

Biodiversity is key to the well-being of humankind, for it provides us with food, clean air and water, and also helps to adapt to, and mitigate, the negative effects of climate change. However, it is endangered by various drivers including excessive exploitation of resources, pollution and rapidly changing climate.

The Aichi Biodiversity Targets are the twenty substantial targets adopted, as a part of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, to improve the status of biodiversity at CBD COP10 held in Nagoya, Aichi in 2010. Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets are also critical to the achievement of some of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

However, the Global Biodiversity Outlook 4 (GBO-4) concluded that although there has been significant progress towards meeting some components of the majority of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in most cases this progress will not be sufficient to achieve the targets set for 2020 and additional action is required to keep the Strategic Plan on course.

Subnational governments, including States, Provinces, Regions and Prefectures, are the stewards of global ecosystems in microcosm, and have the potential to develop comprehensive efforts for the conservation of biodiversity as well as its sustainable use. Their active contributions are essential to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Subnational governments are also able to work with their respective national governments, ultimately responsible for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

They have a close relationship with citizens, municipalities, private companies, NGOs and educational institutions. By joining them in taking actions, subnational governments are able to utilize unique methods corresponding to the characteristics of local ecosystems. Therefore, subnational governments are expected to play a role in society, and integrating the activities of each region's various stakeholders

At COP10, Decision X/22 endorsed the *Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities for Biodiversity 2011-2020*, and the Advisory Committee on Subnational Governments (AC SNG) was established in April 2012 under the leadership of the Secretariat of the CBD in order to contribute to the implementation of this action plan.

### **1. Our initiative and actions**

Recognizing the importance of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in conservation of biodiversity and the role of subnational governments towards achieving them, we have implemented advanced measures within our respective territories to conserve biodiversity on our own volition.

We will discuss those actions and lessons learned to enhance our measures toward conservation of biodiversity.

Furthermore, we will be a driver in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets. To this aim, we call on subnational governments in the world to take part in our discussion and, building on the past activities of the AC SNG, apply the lessons learned into the implementation of each government's actions to conserve biodiversity. We also encourage them to participate in international learning platforms for subnational governments including the Learning Platform Regions for Biodiversity led by The Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD) and the Global Community for Local & Regional Action for Nature coordinated by ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability.

### **2. Call to the Parties**

Subnational governments can fulfil their potential under the efficient political frame set by the COPs and the appropriate development of policies by the Parties to the Convention.

We call on the Parties to take measures to enhance the capacities of subnational governments and to better support subnational governments in implementing the CBD and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

We call on the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue their assistance in implementing the Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

We are willing to support the efforts of the Parties, the Secretariat of the CBD and other critical players such as donors and financing mechanisms to the fullest extent possible in achieving these goals.

December 2016



## Statement of the Group of the Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets (GoLS)

*to the 14th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity  
Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, November 2018*

### **“Roles of Subnational Governments with Respect to Biodiversity toward 2020 and beyond”**

Subnational governments<sup>1</sup> are natural mainstreamers. They can manage urban and rural conservation linkages through ecological corridors, secure ecosystem services such as food and water and manage productive landscapes. They are in a unique position to ensure vertical integration of governance among different levels of government. Furthermore, according to the Secretariat of the CBD (SCBD), at least 50% of the most recent national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and national reports rely on subnational governments and urban activities.


We, the Group of Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets (GoLS), underline the importance of subnational governments for the conservation of biodiversity. This is why we gathered at the 13th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-13 of the CBD) in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2016 to launch our first statement, which affirms our commitment to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABT) adopted at COP-10 in 2010.

Since then, we have organized several online meetings and held two side events during meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the CBD: one on the “Importance of Subnational Governments for mainstreaming of biodiversity into the sectors of energy and mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing industry and health” (SBSTTA21, December 2017) and one on the “Contribution of Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets” (SBSTTA22, July 2018). We also hosted an executive-level online meeting open to the public on “Future initiatives of Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets” (March 2018). Moreover, we posted our “Voluntary Report on the Contribution of Subnational Governments for the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and

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<sup>1</sup> The first level of government immediately below the national level and above the local level. Subnational governments include regional governments such as states, provinces, prefectures, domains, territories, lander, cantons, autonomous communities, oblasts, etc., depending on the country. They are distinct from “local governments,” which include all levels of government below the subnational level.





Aichi Biodiversity Targets” as an information document during the 2nd meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI2, July 2018), where we requested that, “*as appropriate, the Parties mention their effort to engage and collaborate with many stakeholders including subnational governments for the mainstreaming of biodiversity in the sixth national report*” . Finally, during these two years, we established strong relationships with other subnational initiatives led by nrg4SD and ICLEI, and met with the Executive Secretary of the SCBD.

Based on our progress, we now would like to share the following key messages for COP14 ;

- 1) As expressed in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are essential for sustainable development, and all levels of government should commit to them.
- 2) Subnational governments can contribute to advocating for the value of biodiversity in their societies, both vertically with their national governments and municipalities and horizontally with a wide variety of stakeholders.
- 3) The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the ABTs and the Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities (COP Decision X/22) have all recognized and mobilized subnational governments. Their contribution should be properly estimated in the final assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan.
- 4) The roles of subnational governments should also be considered when discussing the post-2020 global framework. It is necessary and critical to recognize the mandates and resources of subnational governments so that they can be involved in the process to build the framework and implement it in vertical coordination.

Therefore, we, the GoLS, commit to supporting to the Advisory Committee of Subnational Governments and its Subnational Coalition for Biodiversity Action, to delivering our experiences to the world, to expanding communications among subnational governments, and to contributing to the mobilization of subnational governments across the world.

November 2018







## Members of GoLS

### **Aichi Prefecture, Japan**

*Governor* Hideaki Ohmura

### **ANAAE, Mexico**

*Chairman* Roberto Iván Alcalá Ferráez

### **Campeche State, Mexico**

*Minister of Environment and Natural Resources* Roberto Iván Alcalá Ferráez

### **Generalitat de Catalonia, Spain**

*Minister for Territory and Sustainability* Damià Calvet

### **Gangwon Province, Republic of Korea**

*Governor* Moon Soon Choi

### **Gouvernement du Québec, Canada**

*Minister for the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change* MarieChantal Chassé

### **State of Sao Paulo, Brazil**

*Governor* Márcio França

## Supporting Partners

### **The Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD)**

*Secretary General* Natalia Vera

### **ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability**

*Secretary General* Gino Van Begin



## About Aichi

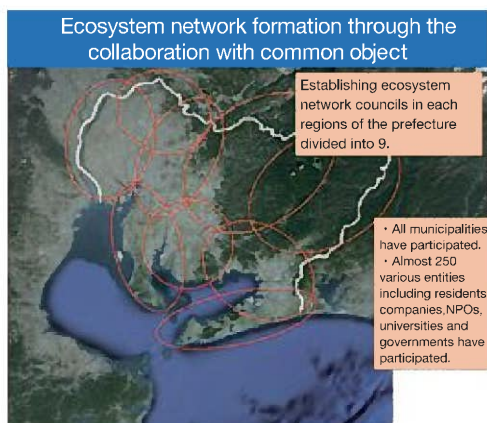
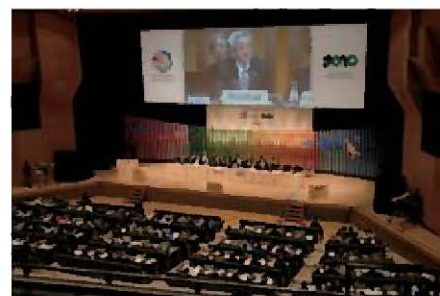
- Population: Approx. 7.5 million
- Area: 5,163km<sup>2</sup>
- GDP: Approx. 350 billion USD Main industries: Motor vehicles, airplanes
- Nature preserves: Approx. 17.2% of the prefecture
- Fauna and flora: 16,180 species

## Major Initiatives in Aichi ~Ecosystem Network Formation & Greenery Tax~

### Relevant to Aichi Biodiversity Targets Nos.1, 2, 5, 9, 12, 18, 19, 20

"Expo 2005 Aichi, Japan" with the theme "Nature's Wisdom," and CBD COP 10, which produced the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Target (ABT), were held in Aichi prefecture.

Hosting these global scale environment-oriented events increased awareness of the importance of nature among residents, and people in various positions are making efforts to overcome the dilemma between economy and environment.



In March of 2013, the Aichi Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2020 was devised with "Ecosystem Network Formation" as the core initiative, aiming to conserve or create spaces for plants and animals in urban, suburban, and rural areas across the region, engaging various entities such as universities, NPOs, private companies, and governments under common objectives. Finally, nine Ecosystem Network Councils consisting of diverse local entities were established to cover the entire prefecture by November of 2016. Currently there are 237 member organizations in total. (ABT 1)

These councils have rolled out various activities for preserving regional ecosystems. Thus the "Ecosystem Network Formation" has a good effects on other Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Most of the councils are collaborating with experts on biodiversity. For example, in one council, a famous tortoise researcher is guiding an effort with local residents and children to research and exterminate the invasive alien Mississippi red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) in order to conserve endemic tortoises. (ABT 9, 19)





Another council is working to conserve the little tern (*Sternula albifrons*), which raises its young in Japan. This migratory bird is an internationally endangered species. The Wild Bird Society of Japan is partnering with local companies to create stony protected spaces suitable for the birds to nest. These efforts utilize unused areas of factory land intentionally kept vacant to avoid damage from the sea. (ABT 12)

Regulation ponds that large-scale developers are obligated to build to mitigate flood risks can become good wetland biotopes. Some councils are trying to transform regulation ponds attached to factories into natural wetlands and use them as gene-banks for rare species. (ABT 5, 12)



Japan's traditional rice paddies are not just for rice. With frogs, insects, and birds living there, they are also rich habitats for local ecosystems. To help children better understand this, one council is carrying out a "Survey of Paddy Field Lives" in collaboration with farmers. (ABT 18)



Various activities related to preserving biodiversity are being rolled out continuously, and momentum is gradually building for cities, towns, and villages formulating biodiversity strategies. Currently eight out of 54 municipalities have created such strategies. (ABT 2)



To support these efforts to conserve the ecosystem network, Aichi established a prefectural "Greenery Tax" in 2009, which is used for projects aimed at improving conservation efforts in forests, Satoyamas, and urban green places. Utilizing this tax income, Aichi provides grants to support efforts to conserve ecosystems, such as the maintenance of Satoyama or wetlands, environmental learning to develop understanding of the functions of ecosystems, and creation of biotopes to enhance ecosystem networks which connect the habitats of living organisms. (ABT 20)

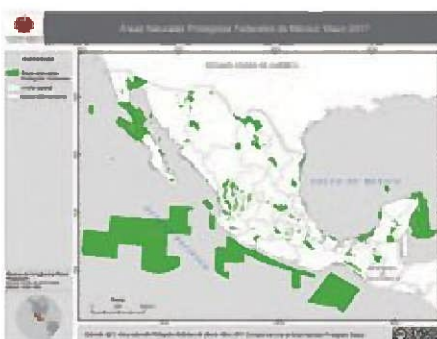




## About México

- Population: 119,530,753 (INEGI, 2015)
- Area: 5'120,679km<sup>2</sup> (INEGI, 2018)
- GDP: about 1'149,918.79 million dollars (WB, 2017)
- Main industries: Mining (oil), manufacturing
- Nature preservation: about 17.74 % (908,395 km<sup>2</sup>)
- Fauna and flora: About 110,000 species

## Major Initiatives of ANAAE, México

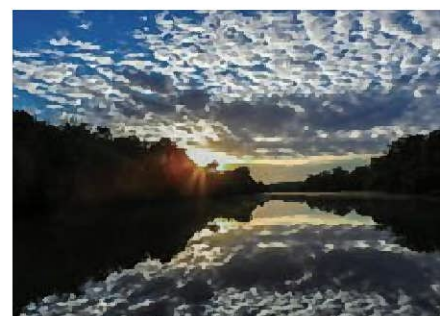


With the alignment of the National Biodiversity Strategy of Mexico (ABT 17) to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals, all biodiversity objectives of the CBD are covered. Currently, 182 federal natural areas are managed, representing more than 90 million hectares and 408 Areas Voluntarily Destined for Conservation, with an area greater than 500 million hectares as national territory. (CONANP, 2018). With these efforts, the Aichi biodiversity target 11 is surpassed. However, this also means a challenge, since it is necessary to design strategies that ensure the maintenance of species and ecosystems incorporating social, private and public participation and respecting the safeguards and knowledge of indigenous communities and peoples.



The country, concentrates between 10% and 12% of the biological diversity of the planet, constituted mostly by endemic species, which make it a proudly diverse country, belonging to a select group of 17 recognized as megadiverse countries,

which, together, they hold almost 70% of all species known to science. Species today many of them at risk because of the action and pressure of man. Mexico is considered the second country with the greatest variety of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems (Mittermeier et al., 1997). In addition, it has a national inventory of mangroves, which has allowed the restoration of about 7,000 hectares of mangroves, and which positions it among the four countries with the largest extension of mangroves, where they inhabit a wide variety of reptile, insect and fish species. Its importance lies in the fact that mangroves are a source of fishing resources; they reproduce marine species of commercial interest and also protect human settlements from floods.



During COP 13, the National Biodiversity Strategy and its Action Plan were presented to 2030, proposing that the central theme be "mainstreaming of biodiversity for well-being" with emphasis on the agricultural, forestry, fishing and tourism sectors. Therefore, Mexico, in collaboration with the German Cooperation



Agency (GIZ), developed four strategies for these sectors. After COP 13, Natural Capital of Mexico was published (Second Country Study), it is an ambitious effort that compiles and analyzes the most up-to-date and reliable knowledge that exists



worldwide on the biological diversity of the nation (ABT 1, 2, 18 and 19).

In the first quarter of 2017, the first report of the Implementation of the National Strategy on Invasive Species (ABT 9) was published with the support of the scientific committee of the GEF (UNDP).

Similarly, in November 2017 the third progress report on the implementation of the Mexican Strategy for Plant Conservation 2012-2030 (GSPC for its acronym in English) was made. (ABT 5 and 7).



There is a model of Units of Conservation and Wildlife Management (UMA), which, with work between society and government, protects about 39 million hectares, at least 19.3% of the land surface. (ABT 1, 2, 3, 4 and 14).



Regarding the implementation of actions, in the last year, economic resources have been allocated for the conservation, restoration and protection of threatened species in different ecosystems and territories, including the monitoring of biodiversity and the strengthening of capacities for fire management. This has been possible thanks to the efforts of different official government and civil society programs such as the Mexican Fund for the Conservation of Nature (ABT 1, 2, 3, 4, 18, 19 and 20) known as FMCN. An important part of the advances has been through the governance organisms, constituted by the executive and technical committees of each region, territory or basin.



In forestry, the efforts led by the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR), for production and investment have been promoted in conjunction with the GEF for the certification of forest use according to international standards (ABT 4) with more than 2 million certified hectares that included a biodiversity project in production forests and certified markets.





# Campeche, México



## About Campeche

- Population: about 0.9 million
- Area: 57,924km<sup>2</sup>
- GDP: about 36.6 billion dollars
- Main industries: Crude oil
- Nature preservation: about 40% of the state
- Fauna and flora: 4,379 species



## Major Initiatives of Campeche

The State of Campeche has worked on actions that are related to the application of its public policy instruments and that are related to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 19.

In order to promote policies and environmental governance in biodiversity, we have promoted the coordinated work of the different actors and sectors through:

- Implementation of the operational program for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Use of Wildlife, created in 2017 to address the lines of action of ECUSBIOCAM. (*ABT 1, 4, 6, 14, 17 and 18*)



- Installation of the State Wildlife Council, composed of representatives of public institutions, non-governmental organizations, academics, hunting clubs, representatives of the Management Units for the Conservation of Wildlife (UMAS), service providers, professional Wildlife and people interested in the conservation of biodiversity, the main objective of this group is the implementation of the Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the State of Campeche (ECUSBIOCAM). (*ABT 3, 4, 17, 18 and 19*)

- Creation of the Technical Group of Rescue and Conservation of Native Media, composed of representatives of civil organizations, academic and research institutions, as well as public sector. (*ABT 4, 5, 17, 18 and 19*)

For the sustainable use of species of the region, they have been promoted in the last two years:



- Within the framework of the celebration of the International Day of Biological Diversity, the Biodiversity and Sustainability Fair was held promoting certified products of Venison meat, ocellated turkey and crocodile from UMAS. (*ABT 1 and 14*)
- First authorization in the State of Campeche to carry out the "Crocodile swamp ranch (Crocodylus moreletii)" in Palizada municipality, in the UMAS "Cocodrilos de Palizada". Crocodile eggs will be extracting from the wild for intensive management. (*ABT 1, 3 and 6*)





As part of the commitments to protect and conserve the environment from communities, the Calakmul ejidos have promoted the certification of 10 Areas Destined of Voluntary Form for the Conservation (ADVC), in the municipality of Calakmul, covering 94,795 hectares. *(ABT 1, 14, 15 and 17)*



Additionally, as a strategy for training and exchange of experiences, it has promoted the holding of different workshops and talks impacting different sectors and natural areas:

- Workshops for the conservation of at-risk species: jaguar, white-lipped peccary, Central American tapir of the Balam kin-Balam Kú-Calakmul natural protected areas complex, held in Zoh Laguna community, in Calakmul municipality, with the participation of Guatemala, Belize and Mexico experts. *(ABT 12, 18 and 19)*



- Workshop “Actions for the implementation of the biological corridor Laguna de Términos-Balam Kú-Balam Kin-Calakmul Eco region”, takes place in the City of San Francisco de Campeche, organized in coordination with the Phantera organization of Mexico and the Juárez Autonomous University of Tabasco. *(ABT 1, 15 and 19)*

- Three workshops were held to attend marine mammal strandings in Laguna de Términos, Isla Aguada community, fishermen participants and tourism service providers, under the coordination of the Marine Mammal Welfare Network (REBIMAR). *(ABT 1, 6 and 19)*
- Workshop “Strengthening Management Units for the Conservation of Wildlife of the Balam Kín-Balam Kú-Calakmul Eco-region”, held in Escárcega city, Campeche, with the participation of 80 participants, including owners and service providers of UMAS and Students of the Autonomous University of Campeche. *(ABT 7, 14, 15 and 19)*

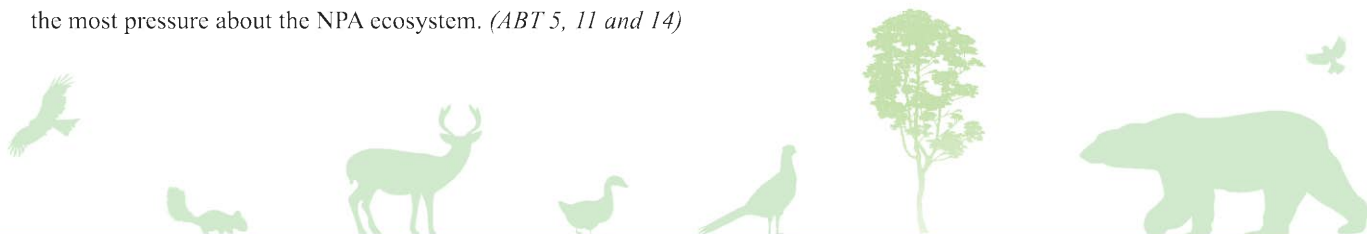


During this stewardship, the protection and conservation of the entity's natural heritage and its sustainable rational use have been promoted, through the management and equipment of office of the State Reserves NPA located in the Balam-Kú natural protected



area (NPA) the. The Advisory Board of the Balam-Kú NPA, which is the most important organ for the management and conservation of the Reserve, was installed and attended, likewise, the community participatory monitoring committees (CCVP) of Silvituc and Centenario ejidos of Escárcega were formed. The next step was the construction, equipment of 4 monitoring stations in strategic points of the Balam-Kú NPA. *(ABT 7, 11 and 14)*

Finally, hard work is being done on the delimitation of the southwestern area of the Balam-Kú NPA with a linear extension of 88 km. Through this project certainty will be created among the surrounding populations of the NPA limits, which represents 10% of the total limit, and thus avoiding impacts due to their productive activities or new irregular settlements since this area represents the most pressure about the NPA ecosystem. *(ABT 5, 11 and 14)*





# Catalonia, Spain

## About Catalonia

- Population: about 7.5 million
- Area: 32.108km<sup>2</sup>
- GDP: about 223.629 millions of €
- Main industries: industry, agriculture and farming, tourism
- Nature protection: about 32% of the territory, 600 types of natural and semi-natural habitats.
- Fauna and flora: estimated 42.700 species, but know 33.059 (2015 data)

## Major initiatives of Catalonia

### Vision

By 2030, while complying with international mandates and agreements, Catalonia will have managed to bring a halt to biodiversity loss and effectively and adaptively conserve natural heritage, while guaranteeing sustainable use of natural resources and the provision of ecosystem services. It will also have started to restore degraded ecosystems, recovering them and increasing their capacity to adapt to climate change. The conservation of natural heritage and biodiversity will have been sufficiently integrated in sectoral policies with public and private sector co-responsibility.



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### 1. Knowledge, information and monitoring of the natural heritage

The natural heritage is an irreplaceable and intrinsically valuable asset, upon which society's welfare and progress rely: deeper knowledge of it and better organisation are required to improve its management, evaluate its conservation status and identify trends

#### Objectives

- Increase information and knowledge about the components of the natural heritage and their conservation status. i) Increase research on the key components of the natural heritage and biodiversity for which Catalonia has most responsibility in their conservation. ii) Improve monitoring of the components of the natural heritage and the factors that affect them.
- Improve integration, processing and accessibility of information on the natural heritage. Integrate the information available on a common platform, disseminate it and make it accessible

### 2. Conservation of the components of the natural heritage in the context of global

Conservation of the natural heritage addresses biodiversity loss and helps adapt to and mitigate climate change: it is necessary to protect areas, recover species, restore ecosystems, manage humanised areas and halt the biodiversity loss associated with certain human activities. There is also a need to create closer links between conservation and sustainable management of the environment, and improve planning and management of the activities that take place within it.

#### Objectives

- Strengthen active and adaptive management of the System of Protected Natural Areas of Catalonia. i) Achieve effective management of the System of Protected Natural Areas ii) Complete the System of Protected Natural Areas and ensure it is representative, diverse and balanced
- Improve the conservation of native species, ecosystems and geodiversity. i) Apply endangered species recovery and conservation strategies ii) Prevent and control invasive alien species and other pest species iii) Inventory and protect natural and semi-natural habitats iv) Inventory and protect elements of the geological heritage.



- Strengthen preventive management and prevent a net loss of biodiversity in the area of environmental evaluation. Improve the environmental evaluation's effectiveness and consolidate application of the mitigation hierarchy.

### 3. Integration of the natural heritage in sectoral policies

Nature is the driving force of local development and economic progress and amplifies economic benefits and opportunities in all sectors: enhancing the integration of nature conservation objectives in sectoral policies reduces pressure on natural heritage, gives coherence to government action, and improves people's quality of life. Major initiatives are on agriculture, livestock, forestry management, fishing and maritime activity, business and financial sector, hunting and inland fishing and outdoor tourism and sporting activities.



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#### Objectives

- Improve the contribution of agricultural, livestock and forestry policies to conservation of the natural heritage and biodiversity i) Encourage positive synergies among agricultural, livestock and forestry activities and the conservation of natural heritage ii) Incorporate fire as a tool of forestry management and of habitats in a context of climate change.
- Make biodiversity conservation compatible with maritime and fishing activities. i) Improve management of recreational, tourism and sports uses on the coast and in the marine environment ii) Foster fishing activity that is compatible with conservation of marine biodiversity
- Increase the involvement of the business and financial sector in conservation of the natural heritage i) Introduce conservation of the natural heritage in business strategies ii) Reduce the impact of exploitation of natural resources on the natural heritage and the landscape.
- Increase compatibility of hunting and inland fishing with biodiversity conservation. Plan and encourage hunting and inland fishing activities based on biodiversity conservation criteria
- Encourage the compatibility of tourism, sporting and outdoor activities with conservation of nature and socio-economic development. Reduce the impact of outdoor tourism, recreational and sporting activities on the natural heritage

### 4. Society engagement

Beyond its value as a productive resource, the natural heritage also has historical, cultural, social and spiritual values that people closely identify with. By acknowledging the emotional bond with nature and involving society in the conservation of natural heritage, society is put at the forefront of efforts, becoming co-responsible for the challenge of halting biodiversity loss and improving the environment's conservation status: society should be made an active and committed stakeholder.



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- Raise people's awareness of natural heritage and biodiversity i) Raise social awareness of the impact of human activities on the services provided by nature ii) Incorporate the conservation of natural heritage in awareness-raising, education and training
- Increase individual and collective participation in conservation of the natural heritage and biodiversity i) Strengthen private conservation, co-management and land stewardship initiatives ii) Strengthen the Environmental Third Sector and citizen participation platforms.

See other initiatives at

[http://mediambient.gencat.cat/web/.content/home/ambits\\_dactuacio/patrimoni\\_natural/estrategia\\_patrimoni\\_biodiversitat/Resum\\_ESNATURA\\_EN.pdf](http://mediambient.gencat.cat/web/.content/home/ambits_dactuacio/patrimoni_natural/estrategia_patrimoni_biodiversitat/Resum_ESNATURA_EN.pdf)

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Please download images for the publication here <https://we.tl/t-5Z0KKAJ0S8>



# Gangwon, Korea



## About Gangwon

- Population : 1.56 million
- Area : 16,873.5km<sup>2</sup>
- Main industries : Service, agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- Ecosystems: forest(82%), east coast lagoons, national parks, Wetlands, etc.
- Nature preservations : about 14.7% of the land area
- Fauna and Flora : 5,353 species



Symbolic animals and plants of Gangwon

## Major Gangwon Initiatives

Restoration of the ecological axis, Expansion of natural protected areas  
Establishment of Biological Resource Centers

**Gangwon has contributed to the implementation of Aichi Targets 1,7,9,10,11,12,13,14 and15.**

Gangwon established ‘Biodiversity Strategy in Gangwon Province’ to promote conservation, explore the wise use of biodiversity and implement convention on biological diversity while organizing the CBD COP12 in 2014.

Furthermore, in order to commemorate the adoption of the ‘Gangwon Declaration’ by High-Level Segment at CBD COP12 on October 16, 2014. Gangwon designated October 16 as ‘Gangwon Biodiversity Day’ in 2015. (Target 1)



## Restoration of a major ecological axis in Korea

This project is to restore the damage caused to the Baekdu-daegan mountain system, one of the major ecological axes of Korea, due to the opening of a road on the Misiryong Pass which connects to the DMZ. Restoration work is underway, and it is expected to increase the populations of such endangered species as the Long-tailed Goral and Leopard Cat who live in the surrounding areas. Gangwon has a plan to link the project to North Korea as part of future inter-Korean cooperation projects.  
(Target 1, 12, 13, 14, 15)

※ 3 major ecological axes in Korea : Baekdu-daegan mountain system, Demilitarized Zone, seacoast and islands





## Expansion of Protected Areas('14 - '18 )

Expansion of protected areas is an international goal as well as a major goal of Gangwon.

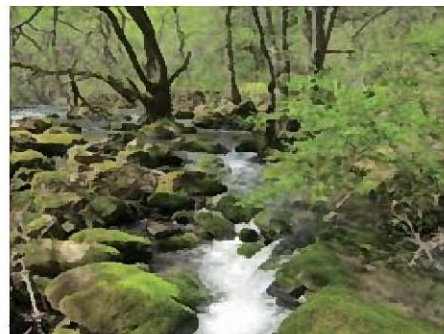
Gangwon has contributed to the preservation of biodiversity, utilization of ecosystem service and to creating a line of eco-friendly agricultural products with international accreditation while also expanding national and provincial protected areas.(Target 7,11,12,14)

- Designation of four Provincial Wetland areas (November, 2016)
- Designation of Taebaeksan National Park(August, 2016)
- Designation of the Gangwon Peace Area National Geopark(2014) and Gangwon Paleozoic National Geopark(2016)
- Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention for Dacamsan·Yongneup Wetland (October, 2018)
- Application for designation of Gangwon Eco-Peace Biosphere Reserve (October, 2018)

Provincial Wetland



Gangwon Eco-Peace Biosphere Reserve



## Establishment of Biological Resource Centers

In August 2018, the **Freshwater Prasiola Research Center** was established to preserve and cultivate the species of Freshwater Prasiola found nowhere in Korea except for Gangwon Province.



A **Restoration Center for Cloven-hoofed mammals** is currently under construction with the goal of cultivating and releasing cloven-hoofed mammals including the Long-tailed Goral and the Manchurian sika, taking advantage of the natural environment of Gangwon, which is 82% of forests.

In addition, Gangwon has a plan to build an **Institute of Biological Resources** for specialized habitat restoration and species research in the DMZ and Baekdu-daegan mountain system.(Target 9,10,12,15)





# Québec, Canada



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## About the province of Québec

- Population: Roughly 8.4 million (2017)
- Area: 1,667,712 km<sup>2</sup>
- GDP: Approximately \$330 billion (2017)
- Main industries: Aerospace, mining, agri-food, aluminum, research and innovation
- Protected areas (IUCN): Some 9.72 % of the province (2018)
- Fauna and flora: Over 41,367 species



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## Major Québec initiatives

### ~Protecting wetlands and bodies of water~

As in many countries, wetland conservation is an important issue in Québec. Natural resource development, agriculture, and urbanization put a constant pressure on these sensitive ecosystems. For the last 20 years, in southern Québec, where most of the province's population lives, approximately 20 % of wetlands have been modified or lost. However, since wetlands and bodies of water (WBW) bring fundamental benefits to society — particularly given their ability to act as a pollution filter and water regulator and their role in the conservation of biological diversity and the fight against climate change — taking steps to preserve, protect, sustainably use, and restore or create new WBWs is a top priority.

Québec has a complex legal and regulatory framework that includes some 20 laws and regulations to ensure WBW conservation. Over the last 15 years, numerous projects impacting wetland environments have shed light on the specific conservation challenges at play. The existing governmental legal and regulatory framework must therefore be updated and improved. In response, the National Assembly of Québec unanimously adopted the *Act respecting the conservation of wetlands and bodies of water* on June 2017. The Act makes “no net loss of WBW” a central objective of environmental impact assessments while promoting the development of projects with minimal impacts on these environments by fostering the use of “avoid-minimize-compensate” mitigation measures. The Act also allows for the restoration or creation of new WBW to compensate for unavoidable losses.

The adoption of this Act, which brings three (3) main tools for conserving WBWs (see figure below), meets Aichi Targets, particularly to Aichi Target 3 by introducing incentives that minimize and prevent negative impacts, as well as positive incentives to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The Act also adds a new section specifically concerning WBWs to the *Environment Quality Act* that requires compensation measures in the form of a substantial financial contribution in cases where it is impossible to avoid adverse effects on the ecological functions of WBWs. These financial contributions will be used to fund programs to restore and create WBWs.

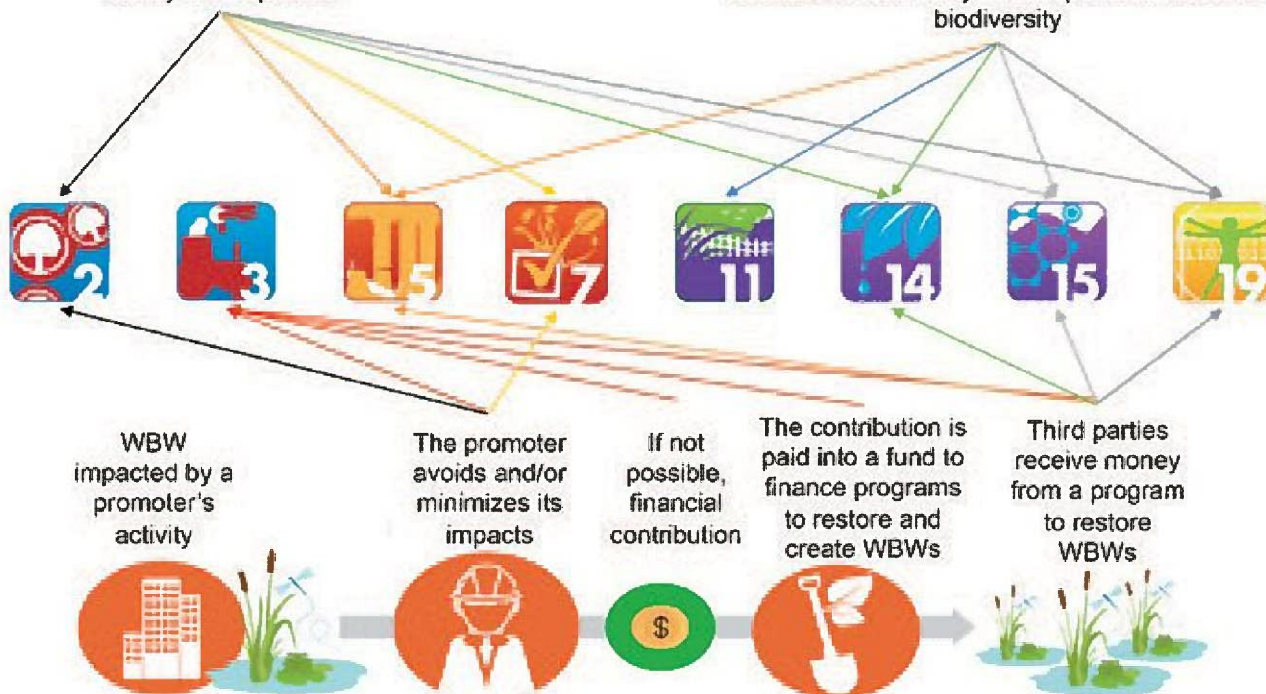
But it also responds to other Aichi Targets, such as:

- Aichi Target 2: through the adoption of a regional WBW plan that integrates biodiversity values in local development planning processes
- Aichi Target 5: through the objective aimed at achieving no net loss of WBWs and reducing WBW degradation and fragmentation



Development of a regional WBW plan by regional county municipalities

Creation of a new designation to protect WBWs because of their rarity or exceptional interest for biodiversity



- Aichi Target **7**: through the requirement for agriculture and forestry operators to sustainably manage WBWs on their private lands
- Aichi Target **11**: through a new designation status for protected areas of WBWs, which will contribute to meeting the target to make 17 % of terrestrial and inland water protected areas
- Aichi Targets **14** and **15**: through the implementation of programs to promote the restoration and creation of WBWs for ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, carbon stocks, climate change mitigation, and adaptation
- Aichi Target **19**: through monitoring of biodiversity and ecological functions when developing a regional plan, designating protected areas, or restoring a WBW

By adopting a single legislative measure, the Government of Québec is working towards achieving eight (8) Aichi Targets related to the five (5) strategic goals of the 2011–2020 Strategic Plan.



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# Sao Paulo, Brazil



## About São Paulo State

- Population: about 45 million
- Area: 248.219,63km<sup>2</sup>
- GDP: about 495 billion dollars
- Key Economic Sectors: Industry (IT, Oil, Aeronautics, Automotive and Green Economy), Financial, Services and Agribusiness
- Native vegetation cover: about 17.5% of the territory
- Fauna, Fungi, Algae and Flora: about 41,493 species

## Major initiatives of Sao Paulo ~Integrating Environmental Agendas~

The Secretariat for the Environment (SMA) – Sao Paulo State Government has a State Plan dedicated to the ABT since 2012. It promotes the integration among different biodiversity, climate changes and SDGs agendas - with good effects regarding to ABT 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17 and 19. On 2018, the SMA actions are oriented to focus its efforts till 2020 on the ABT through a public campaign and to contribute with the global discussions towards a post-2020 agenda linked to the CBD.



Cantareira State Park  
(By Fausto Pires de Campos)

On October 2011, during an International Seminar, Sao Paulo launched the "Sao Paulo Commission on Biodiversity (CPB)" at the Government Headquarter with the leadership of the Governor, promoting the implementation of the Sao Paulo Action Plan towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABS) till 2020.

The CPB integrated actions to increase the awareness of the biodiversity importance on public policies – a work that is being permanently improved.



Puma concolor (By Fausto Pires de Campos)

Having in mind the role of the SNGs on the ABT global agenda, Sao Paulo increased his participation in the implementation of the CBD.

A deep and participative evaluation regarding the ABT 11 was conducted with the leadership of a centenary institution, Instituto Florestal (Forestry Institute). The preliminary results, highlighting the different ecosystems of Sao Paulo, are being used as an important tool to different activities, by the Sao Paulo Environmental System and partners.



São Paulo Marine Islands  
(By Adriana Mattoso)

In 2014, Sao Paulo created a State System dedicated to the Protected Areas (SIGAP), supported by a participative council.

The environmental restoration is conducted with new goals and tools, improving the results.

The monitoring and the law enforcement systems are updated, with new methodologies, reinforcing São Paulo as a state that changed the pattern of deforestation.

The public participation on protected areas management is being updated by local councils with a new methodology on planning these special areas, allowing to face properly the obstacles to increase and improve this issue at São Paulo territory and sea.



*Araucaria* (By Adriana Mattoso)

Directing efforts to overcome the challenges posed by the mechanization of the sugarcane harvest and adopting actions to consolidate the sustainable development of the sugar-energy sector in the State of São Paulo, the sugarcane farmers and mills are signatories of the Agroenvironmental Protocol – “Greener Ethanol”. This is a voluntary initiative created by the State Secretariat for Environment and the Secretariat for Agriculture and Supply, the Environmental Company of the State (CESTESB), the Sugarcane Industry Union - UNICA and the Sugarcane Farmers Organization – ORPLANA. More than 40% of the Brazilian ethanol production comes from mills that are signatories of that Protocol.

To stimulate the agro-ecological transition in urban, peri-urban and rural areas with sustainable agricultural practices and natural resources use; and to increase production, supply and consumption of healthy foods, the State Secretariat for the Environment and the Secretariat for Agriculture and Supply, with the Organic Agriculture Association (AAO) and the Kairós Institute, launched in 2016 the Organic Transition Protocol, to support the gradual process of changes in the conventional system, in accordance with the principles of Agroecology.



*Uruçu Amarela* (By Nevio Savieto)

São Paulo has its Environmental Education Policy, integrating different institutions. Some activities are linked with this policy, like the awareness component of the participative plan to protect the fauna, highlighting the primates.



*Sapajus flavius* (By Adriana Mattoso)

The Government is conducting a large and participative ecological and economic zoning process (ZEE), covering all the territory and improving the public policies.

Integrating the environmental agendas, the Secretariat for the Environment installed a committee of policies integration, with three working groups, to SDG, Climate Change and Biodiversity.





(Bureau)

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