

**DRAFT**

**The Egyptian Protected Area Work Plan in response to the CBD Program  
of Work on Protected Areas**

**October 2005**

**PROGRAMME ELEMENT 1: Direct Actions for Planning, Selecting, Establishing, Strengthening, and Managing, Protected Area Systems and Sites**

<b><i>Goal 1.1 - To establish and strengthen national and regional systems of protected areas integrated into a global network as a contribution to globally agreed goals</i></b>		
<p><b>Target:</b> By 2010, terrestrially<sup>2</sup> and 2012 in the marine area, a global network of comprehensive, representative and effectively managed national and regional protected area system is established as a contribution to (i) the goal of the Strategic Plan of the Convention and the World Summit on Sustainable Development of achieving a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010; (ii) the Millennium Development Goals - particularly goal 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability; and (iii) the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.                      3 Parties may wish to use IUCN Red List of Threatened Species criteria, version 3.1</p>		
<b><i>Suggested activities of the Parties</i></b>	<b><i>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</i></b>	<b><i>By</i></b>
<b><i>1.1.1.</i></b> By 2006, establish suitable time-bound and measurable national and regional level protected area targets and indicators.	1- Update existing System Plan to include targets and indicators of management effectiveness by end 2006.	NCS/NCSCB
<b><i>1.1.2.</i></b> As a matter of urgency, by 2006, take action to establish or expand protected areas in any large, intact or relatively unfragmented or highly irreplaceable natural areas, or areas under high threat, as well as areas securing the most threatened species in the context of national priorities, and taking into consideration the conservation needs of migratory species.	1- Establishment of new protected areas in highly vulnerable regions, which are not well represented (Mediterranean coastal desert and marine ecosystem): Salum and Qattara are priority area, for which proposals for declaration are under development (by 2006) and the Gebal Elba and Wadi Allaqi PAs are functionally linked.	NCS/NCSCB
<b><i>1.1.3.</i></b> As a matter of urgency, by 2006 terrestrially and by 2008 in the marine environment, take action to address the under-representation of marine and inland water ecosystems in existing national and regional systems of protected areas, taking into account marine ecosystems beyond areas of national jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law, and transboundary inland water ecosystems.	1- Develop proposal for the declaration of the Salum PA (including a substantial marine component) by 2006  2- Evaluate Mediterranean marine habitats by 2007  3- Extend coverage of some existing coastal Mediterranean PAs (n=4) to include marine habitats by 2008	NCS/NCSCB/ IUCN  NCS/NCSCB/ IUCN NCS
<b><i>1.1.4.</i></b> By 2006, conduct, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders, national-level reviews of existing and potential forms of conservation, and their suitability for achieving biodiversity conservation goals, including innovative types of governance for protected areas that need to be recognized and promoted through legal, policy, financial institutional and community mechanisms, such as protected areas run by government agencies at various levels, co-managed protected areas, private protected areas, indigenous and local community conserved areas.	Development of a facilitating policy environment for the participatory management of protected areas by mid 2006 and testing of co management arrangement in one PA (White Desert)	NCS/NCSCB/IUCN
<b><i>1.1.5.</i></b> By 2006 complete protected area system gap analyses at national and regional levels based on the requirements for representative systems of	PA system gap analysis to be conducted as part of the System Plan revalidation by end 2006	NCS/NCSCB /BioMap

<p>protected areas that adequately conserve terrestrial, marine and inland water biodiversity and ecosystems. National plans should also be developed to provide interim measures to protect highly threatened or highly valued areas wherever this is necessary. Gap analyses should take into account Annex I of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant criteria such as irreplaceability of target biodiversity components, minimum effective size and viability requirements, species migration requirements, integrity, ecological processes and ecosystem services.</p>		
<p><b>I.1.6.</b> By 2009, designate the protected areas as identified through the national or regional gap analysis (including precise maps) and complete by 2010 terrestrially and 2012 in the marine environments the establishment of comprehensive and ecologically representative national and regional systems of protected areas.</p>	<p>By end 2006 a revised System Plan will be delivered based on the gap analysis and other financial, political and practical considerations</p>	<p>NCS/NCSCB</p>
<p><b>I.1.7.</b> Encourage the establishment of protected areas that benefit indigenous and local communities, including by respecting, preserving, and maintaining their traditional knowledge in accordance with article 8(j) and related provisions.</p>	<p>The benefiting of local communities has been acknowledged in the establishment of PAs in Egypt particularly at St Katherine and Wadi El Gemal. The latter has specifically capitalised on the conservation of indigenous ways of life.</p> <p>1- Establish and extend management systems in at least four PAs, which will maximise benefits and inputs from local communities (St Katherine, Wadi El Gemal, White Desert and Elba).</p> <p>2- Give priority to declaration of new PAs where indigenous ways of life are strongly linked with nature, such as Salum.</p> <p>3- Include local inhabitants in the scoping process prior to PA declaration</p>	<p>NCS/ Red Sea LIFE/Elba</p>

<p><b>Goal 1.2 - To integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectors so as to maintain ecological structure and function</b></p>		
<p><b>Target:</b> By 2015, all protected areas and protected area systems are integrated into the wider land- and seascape, and relevant sectors, by applying the ecosystem approach and taking into account ecological connectivity and the concept, where appropriate, of ecological networks.</p>		
<p><b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b></p>	<p><b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b></p>	<p><b>By</b></p>
<p><b>I.2.1.</b> Evaluate by 2006 national and sub-national experiences and lessons learned on specific efforts to integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectoral plans and strategies such as poverty reduction strategies.</p>	<p>By end 2006 develop a GEF proposal to evaluate the economic valuation of PAs in Egypt and the benefits to national and local economies and their future potential and their role in poverty reduction.</p>	<p>NCS/NCSCB</p>

<b>1.2.2.</b> Identify and implement, by 2008, practical steps for improving the integration of protected areas into broader land- and seascapes, including policy, legal, planning and other measures.	Will be based on the findings above.	NCS/NCSCB
<b>1.2.3.</b> Integrate regional, national and sub-national systems of protected areas into broader land- and seascape, inter alia by establishing and managing ecological networks, ecological corridors and/or buffer zones, where appropriate, to maintain ecological processes and also taking into account the needs of migratory species.	This will be addressed through the System pPan evaluation	NCS/NCSCB
<b>1.2.4.</b> Develop tools of ecological connectivity, such as ecological corridors, linking together protected areas where necessary or beneficial as determined by national priorities for the conservation of biodiversity.	This will be addressed generally through the System Plan evaluation and tested with the functional linkage of Wadi Allaqi with Gabal Elba PAs.	NCS/NCSCB/GEF
<b>1.2.5.</b> Rehabilitate and restore habitats and degraded ecosystems, as appropriate, as a contribution to building ecological networks, ecological corridors and/or buffer zones.	Efforts along these lines have been conducted to rehabilitate mangroves, establish grazing exclosures, and managing wetland habitats.  Priority habitat restoration schemes should be established in Zaranik and Omayed to control the impacts of over grazing.	NCS/RAMSAR

<b>Goal 1.3 - To establish and strengthen regional networks, transboundary protected areas (TBPAs) and collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across national boundaries</b>		
<b>Target:</b> Establish and strengthen by 2010/20126 transboundary protected areas, other forms of collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across national boundaries and regional networks, to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, implementing the ecosystem approach, and improving international cooperation. 5. Ecological corridors may not be applicable to all Parties 6. References to marine protected area networks to be consistent with the target in the WSSD plan of implementation.		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
<b>1.3.1.</b> Collaborate with other parties and relevant partners to establish effective regional networks of protected areas, particularly in areas identified as common conservation priorities (e.g. barrier reef systems, large scale river basins, mountain systems, large remaining forest areas and critical habitat for endangered species), and establish multi country coordination mechanisms as appropriate to support the establishment and effective long term management of such networks.	Revive earlier efforts to coordinate with both Sudan and Libya to establish a TBPA in the Gebel Uweinat area. Preliminary explorations have been made for establishing potential TBPAs involving 3 PAs i.e. Siwa, Salum and Elba/Allaqi .	NCS
<b>1.3.2.</b> Collaborate with other Parties and relevant partners through the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) to establish and manage protected areas in marine areas beyond the limits of	By end 2006 develop a comprehensive vision for the establishment of Marine PAs in Salum (Egypt) and Tubruq (Libya) under the auspices of IUCN.	NCS/IUCN

national jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, including the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and based on scientific information.		
<b>1.3.3.</b> Establish, where appropriate, new TBPAs with adjacent Parties and countries and strengthen effective collaborative management of existing TBPAs.	By early 2007 establish a GEF project proposal to elaborate the unified management of Elba and Allaqi PAs and initiate coordination with the Sudanese for trans-boundary conservation measures.	NCS/GEF
<b>1.3.4.</b> Promote collaboration between protected areas across national boundaries.		

<b>Goal 1.4 - To substantially improve site-based protected area planning and management</b>		
<b>Target:</b> All protected areas to have effective management in existence by 2012, using participatory and science-based site planning processes that incorporate clear biodiversity objectives, targets, management strategies and monitoring programmes, drawing upon existing methodologies and a long-term management plan with active stakeholder involvement.		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
<b>1.4.1.</b> Create a highly participatory process, involving indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders, as part of site-based planning in accordance with the ecosystem approach, and use relevant ecological and socio-economic data required to develop effective planning processes.	Principles of participatory approach to be enshrined in principles of emerging policy documents to guide nature conservation and protected area management in Egypt by mid 2006	NCS/NCSCB
<b>1.4.2.</b> Identify appropriate measurable biodiversity conservation targets for sites, drawing on criteria laid out in Annex I to the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant criteria.	By end 2006, four PAs will apply biodiversity monitoring schemes	NCS/ BioMap
<b>1.4.3.</b> Include in the site-planning process an analysis of opportunities for the protected area to contribute to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at local and regional scales as well as an analysis of threats and means of addressing them.	Opportunities and threat analysis is already included in the PA management planning process.	
<b>1.4.4.</b> As appropriate, but no later than 2010, develop or update management plans for protected areas, built on the above process, to better achieve the three objectives of the Convention.	1- By end 2006 establish management plans at White Desert and Qarun.  2- By mid 2007 establish management plans for Elba and Siwa.  3- By 2010 All PAs in Egypt to have uniform and well structured management.	NCS/NCSCB
<b>1.4.5.</b> Integrate climate change adaptation measures in protected area planning, management strategies, and in the design of protected area systems.	Implicit in the large area, diverse habitats and altitudinal ranges of several PAs in Egypt notably Gabal Elba/Allaqi and St. Katherine.	
<b>1.4.6.</b> Ensure that protected areas are effectively managed or supervised	Training needs assessment to be carried out by mid 2006.	NCSCB/IUCN

through staff that are well-trained and skilled, properly and appropriately equipped, and supported, to carry out their fundamental role in the management and conservation of protected areas.		
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<b>Goal 1.5 - To prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to protected areas</b>		
<b>Target:</b> By 2008, effective mechanisms for identifying and preventing, and/or mitigating the negative impacts of key threats to protected areas are in place.		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>		
<b>1.5.1.</b> Apply, as appropriate, timely environmental impact assessments to any plan or project with the potential to have effects on protected areas, and ensure timely information flow among all concerned parties to that end, taking into account decision VI/7 A of the Conference of the Parties on guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation and/or processes and in strategic environmental assessments	<p>This has been the practice for many years in Egypt.</p> <p>By mid 2006 establish a clear and uniform EIA system for activities within and around Pas through the EIA TU..</p> <p>By end 2006 have all PA staff trained and well acquainted with EIA procedure within PAs.</p>	NCS/ NCSCB
<b>1.5.2.</b> Develop by 2010 national approaches to liability and redress measures, incorporating the polluter pays principle or other appropriate mechanisms in relation to damages to protected areas.	<p>This has been well developed for damage to coral reefs, but further measures need to be developed.</p> <p>By end 2006 consolidate all liability procedures into single policy document</p> <p>By end 2007 develop damage evaluation schemes for various biodiversity resources</p>	NCS/ NCSCB
<b>1.5.3.</b> Establish and implement measures for the rehabilitation and restoration of the ecological integrity of protected areas.	Development of species recovery plans for several species including Acacia, medicinal plants and desert tortoise.	NCS
<b>1.5.4.</b> Take measures to control risks associated with invasive alien species in protected areas.	By end 2006, to have collated all available information on invasive species of Egypt, and have a plan for identification and risk management	NCS/ BioMAP
<b>1.5.5.</b> Assess key threats to protected areas and develop and implement strategies to prevent and/or mitigate such threats.	This has been partly achieved in current System Plan, but will be better addressed in the System Plan Review by end 2006.	NCS/ NCSCB
<b>1.5.6.</b> Develop policies, improve governance, and ensure enforcement of urgent measures that can halt the illegal exploitation of resources from protected areas, and strengthen international and regional cooperation to eliminate illegal trade in such resources taking into account sustainable customary resource use of indigenous and local communities in accordance with article 10(c) of the Convention.	Policy review and consolidation by early 2006	NCS/ NCSCB

**PROGRAMME ELEMENT 2:  
Governance, Participation, Equity and Benefit Sharing**

<b>Goal 2.1 - To promote equity and benefit-sharing</b>		
<b>Target:</b> Establish by 2008 mechanisms for the equitable sharing of both costs and benefits arising from the establishment and management of protected areas.		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
<b>2.1.1.</b> Assess the economic and socio-cultural costs, benefits and impacts arising from the establishment and maintenance of protected areas, particularly for indigenous and local communities, and adjust policies to avoid and mitigate negative impacts, and where appropriate compensate costs and equitably share benefits in accordance with the national legislation.	By end 2006 develop a GEF proposal to evaluate the economic valuation of PAs in Egypt and the benefits to national and local economies and their future potential and their role in poverty reduction. Enshrine principles in developing policy and financial mechanisms e.g. user fees, benefit sharing, compensation claims etc.	NCS/NCSCB
<b>2.1.2.</b> Recognize and promote a broad set of protected area governance types related to their potential for achieving biodiversity conservation goals in accordance with the Convention, which may include areas conserved by indigenous and local communities and private nature reserves. The promotion of these areas should be by legal and/or policy, financial and community mechanisms.	To be incorporated into policy principles for nature conservation and protected area management by mid 2006	NCS/NCSCB
<b>2.1.3.</b> Establish policies and institutional mechanisms with full participation of indigenous and local communities, to facilitate the legal recognition and effective management of indigenous and local community conserved areas in a manner consistent with the goals of conserving both biodiversity and the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities.	By end 2006 establish the NCS policy, reflecting and addressing specific policies towards local community involvement	NCS/NCSCB
<b>2.1.4.</b> Use social and economic benefits generated by protected areas for poverty reduction, consistent with protected-area management objectives.	Implemented on a model basis in St. Katherine and to be extended to another prototype of PA management, which focuses on poverty alleviation in Wadi El Gemal PA by end 2006	NCS/ Red Sea LIFE
<b>2.1.5.</b> Engage indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders in participatory planning and governance, recalling the principles of the ecosystem approach.	Implement at least one prototype of PA management, which focuses on local community participation in the White Desert PA by end 2006	NCS/ NCSCB
<b>2.1.6.</b> Establish or strengthen national policies to deal with access to genetic resources within protected areas and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization, drawing upon the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising out of their Utilization as appropriate.		

<b>Goal 2.2 - To enhance and secure involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders</b>		
<b>Target:</b> Full and effective participation by 2008, of indigenous and local communities, in full respect of their rights and recognition of their responsibilities, consistent with national law and applicable international obligations, and the participation of relevant stakeholders, in the management of existing, and the establishment and management of new, protected areas		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
2.2.1. Carry out participatory national reviews of the status, needs and context-specific mechanisms for involving stakeholders, ensuring gender and social equity, in protected areas policy and management, at the level of national policy, protected area systems and individual sites.	Policy review and development to address specifically stakeholder involvement by early 2006	NCS/NCSCB
2.2.2. Implement specific plans and initiatives to effectively involve indigenous and local communities, with respect for their rights consistent with national legislation and applicable international obligations, and stakeholders at all levels of protected areas planning, establishment, governance and management, with particular emphasis on identifying and removing barriers preventing adequate participation	White Desert management plan as a model for stakeholder involvement developed by mid 2006	NCS/NCSCB
2.2.3. Support participatory assessment exercises among stakeholders to identify and harness the wealth of knowledge, skills, resources and institutions of importance for conservation that are available in society	1- Series of participatory workshops for co-management planning scheduled between 2006 and 2007 to be initiated in White Desert in 2005  2- By end 2005, hold a workshop of stakeholders to identify ways in which biodiversity information is required.  3- By end 2006, to have a fully functional online web-based Clearing House Mechanism containing as much of the information required as is available	NCS/NCSCB/BioMap
2.2.4. Promote an enabling environment (legislation, policies, capacities, and resources) for the involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders in decision making, and the development of their capacities and opportunities to establish and manage protected areas, including community-conserved and private protected areas	By end 2006 establish the NCS policy, reflecting and addressing specific policies towards local community involvement	NCS/NCSCB
2.2.5. Ensure that any resettlement of indigenous communities as a consequence of the establishment or management of protected areas will only take place with their prior informed consent that may be given according to national legislation and applicable international obligations	No resettlement envisaged	



**PROGRAMME ELEMENT 3:  
Enabling Activities**

<b>Goal 3.1 - To provide an enabling policy, institutional and socio-economic environment for protected areas</b>		
<b>Target:</b> By 2008 review and revise policies as appropriate, including use of social and economic valuation and incentives, to provide a supportive enabling environment for more effective establishment and management of protected areas and protected areas systems		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
<b>3.1.1.</b> By 2006, identify legislative and institutional gaps and barriers that impede the effective establishment and management of protected areas, and by 2009, effectively address these gaps and barriers	Process of institutional reform of the Nature Conservation Sector of the EEAA initiated in 2005 with the goal of establishing a modern and autonomous authority for nature conservation.	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.1.2.</b> Conduct national-level assessments of the contributions of protected areas, considering as appropriate environmental services, to the country's economy and culture, and to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals at the national level; and integrate the use of economic valuation and natural resource accounting tools into national planning processes in order to identify the hidden and non-hidden economic benefits provided by protected areas and who appropriates these benefits.	By end 2006 develop a GEF proposal to evaluate the economic valuation of PAs in Egypt and the benefits to national and local economies and their future potential and their role in poverty reduction.	
<b>3.1.3.</b> Harmonize sectoral policies and laws to ensure that they support the conservation and effective management of the protected area system	General nature conservation and protected area policy reviews and policy development scheduled during 2006.	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.1.4.</b> Consider governance principles, such as the rule of law, decentralization, participatory decision-making mechanisms for accountability and equitable dispute resolution institutions and procedures	See 3.1.1	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.1.5.</b> Identify and remove perverse incentives and inconsistencies in sectoral policies that increase pressure on protected areas, or take action to mitigate their perverse effects. Whenever feasible, redirect these to positive incentives for conservation	To be conducted by the Technical Unit for Marketing and Economics by end 2006	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.1.6.</b> Identify and establish positive incentives that support the integrity and maintenance of protected areas and the involvement of indigenous and local communities and stakeholders in conservation	To be conducted by the Technical Unit for Marketing and Economics by end 2006	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.1.7.</b> Adopt legal frameworks to national, regional and sub-national protected areas systems of countries where appropriate.	In place	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.1.8.</b> Develop national incentive mechanisms and institutions and legislative frameworks to support the establishment of the full range of protected areas that achieve biodiversity conservation objectives including on private lands and	To be addressed as part of the Business Plan for NCS by end 2006	NCS/NCSCB

private reserves where appropriate.		
<b>3.1.9.</b> Identify and foster economic opportunities and markets at local, national and international levels for goods and services produced by protected areas and/or reliant on the ecosystem services that protected areas provide, consistent with protected area objectives and promote the equitable sharing of the benefits	To be addressed as part of the Business Plan for NCS by end 2006	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.1.10.</b> Develop necessary mechanisms for institutions with responsibilities for conservation of biological diversity at the regional, national and local level to achieve institutional and financial sustainability.	To be addressed as part of the Business Plan for NCS by end 2006	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.1.11.</b> Cooperate with neighbouring countries to establish an enabling environment for transboundary protected areas and for neighbouring protected areas across national boundaries and other similar approaches including regional networks.	By early 2007 establish a GEF project proposal to elaborate the unified management of Elba and Allaqi PAs and initiate coordination with the Sudanese for trans-boundary conservation measures.	

<b>Goal 3.2 – To build capacity for the planning, establishment and management of protected areas</b>		
<b>Target:</b> By 2010, comprehensive capacity building programmes and initiatives are implemented to develop knowledge and skills at individual, community and institutional levels, and raise professional standards		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
<b>3.2.1.</b> By 2006 complete national protected-area capacity needs assessments, and establish capacity building programmes on the basis of these assessments including the creation of curricula, resources and programs for the sustained delivery of protected areas management training	By early 2006 NCS capacity needs assessment to be completed	NCS/NCSCB
<b>3.2.2.</b> Establish effective mechanisms to document existing knowledge and experiences on protected area management, including traditional knowledge in accordance with Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, and identify knowledge and skills gaps	PA reporting to include documentation of traditional knowledge	NCS/BioMAP
<b>3.2.3.</b> Exchange lessons learnt, information and capacity-building experiences among countries and relevant organizations, through the Clearing-house Mechanisms and other means.	By end 2006 establish an effective Internet-based PA clearing house mechanism	NCS/NCSCB/BioMAP
<b>3.2.4.</b> Strengthen the capacities of institutions to establish cross-sectoral collaboration for protected area management at the regional, national and local levels.		
<b>3.2.5.</b> Improve the capacity of protected areas institutions to develop sustainable financing through fiscal incentives, environmental services, and other instruments	To be addressed as part of the Business Plan for NCS by end 2006	NCS/NCSCB

<b>Goal 3.3 To develop, apply and transfer appropriate technologies for protected areas</b>
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<b>Target:</b> By 2010 the development, validation, and transfer of appropriate technologies and innovative approaches for the effective management of protected areas is substantially improved, taking into account decisions of the Conference of the Parties on technology transfer and cooperation		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
3.3.1. Document and make available to the Executive Secretary appropriate technologies for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of protected areas and management of protected areas.	Publication of Egypt's experience with Protected Areas in 2005 and Nature/biodiversity conservation in 2006.	NCS/NCSCB
3.3.2. Assess needs for relevant technologies for protected area management involving indigenous and local communities and stakeholders such as the, research institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector	This is carried out through the PA management planning process	NCS/NCSCB
3.3.3. Encourage development and use of appropriate technology, including technologies of indigenous and local communities with their participation, approval and involvement in accordance with Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, for habitat rehabilitation and restoration, resource mapping, biological inventory, and rapid assessment of biodiversity, monitoring, in situ and ex situ conservation, sustainable use, etc	This is carried out through the PA management planning process and initiated in Wadi El Gemal, St. Katherine and Zaranik PAs and species recovery programmes for Acacia, selected medicinal plants and tortoise.  Elba and Wadi El Gemal PA management to be developed as an example	NCS/NCSCB
3.3.4. Promote an enabling environment for the transfer of technology in accordance with decision VII/29 of the Conference of Parties on technology transfer and cooperation to improve protected area management.	Policy on technology transfer to be developed as part of policy review for NCS.	NCS/NCSCB
3.3.5. Increase technology transfer and cooperation to improve protected area management	Emphasise technology transfer in PA management planning.	NCS/NCSCB

<b>Goal 3.4 - To ensure financial sustainability of protected areas and national and regional systems of protected areas</b>		
<b>Target:</b> By 2008, sufficient financial, technical and other resources to meet the costs to effectively implement and manage national and regional systems of protected areas are secured, including both from national and international sources, particularly to support the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
3.4.1. Conduct a national-level study by 2005 of the effectiveness in using existing financial resources and of financial needs related to the national system of protected areas and identify options for meeting these needs through a mixture of national and international resources and taking into account the whole range of possible funding instruments, such as public funding, debt for nature swaps, elimination of perverse incentives and subsidies, private funding, taxes and fees for ecological services	Initiated with a financial analysis of the Nature Conservation Sector conducted in 2005 as a prelude to the development of a generic business plan in 2006	NCS/NCSCB
3.4.2. By 2008, establish and begin to implement country-level sustainable	Scheduled under the work programme for the Marketing and	NCS/NCSCB

financing plans that support national systems of protected areas, including necessary regulatory, legislative, policy, institutional and other measures	Outreach Technical Unit between 2006 and 2007	
3.4.3. Support and further develop international funding programmes to support implementation of national and regional systems of protected areas in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and small island developing States	N/A	
3.4.4. Collaborate with other countries to develop and implement sustainable financing programmes for national and regional systems of protected areas		
3.4.5. Provide regular information on protected areas financing to relevant institutions and mechanisms, including through future national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and to the World Database on Protected Areas	Scheduled under the CHM	
3.4.6. Encourage integration of protected areas needs into national and, where applicable, regional development and financing strategies and development cooperation programmes		

<b>Goal 3.5 - To strengthen communication, education and public awareness</b>		
<b>Target:</b> By 2008 public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the importance and benefits of protected areas is significantly increased		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
3.5.1. Establish or strengthen strategies and programmes of education and public awareness on the importance of protected areas in terms of their role in biodiversity conservation and sustainable socioeconomic development, in close collaboration with the Communication, Education and Public Awareness Initiative (CEPA) under the Convention on Biological Diversity and targeted towards all stakeholders.	By mid 2006 produce a draft CEPA	NCS/ NCSCB BioMAP
3.5.2. Identify core themes for education, awareness and communication programmes relevant to protected areas, including inter alia their contribution to economy and culture to achieve specific end results such as compliance by resource users and other stakeholders or an increased understanding of science-based knowledge by indigenous and local communities and policy makers and an increased understanding of the needs, priorities and value of indigenous and local communities' knowledge, innovations and practices by Governments,	By end 2006, develop some examples of the assessment of the economic value of biodiversity, to be placed on the CHM  By end 2005, start a demonstration program of joint monitoring by rangers, volunteers and indigenous people	NCS/ BioMAP

non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders		
3.5.3. Strengthen, and where necessary, establish information mechanisms directed at target groups such as the private sector, policy makers, development institutions, community-based organizations, the youth, the media, and the general public	By end 2006, have a functional web-based CHM  By end 2006, develop a multimedia university course in biodiversity and conservation	NCS/ BioMAP
3.5.4. Develop mechanisms for constructive dialogue and exchange of information and experiences among protected-area managers, and between protected area managers and indigenous and local communities and their organizations and other environment educators and actors		
3.5.5. Incorporate the subject of protected areas as an integral component of the school curricula as well as in informal education.	By end 2006, develop a multimedia university course in biodiversity and conservation	NCS/ NCSCB BioMAP
3.5.6. Establish mechanism and evaluate the impacts of communication, education and public awareness programmes on biodiversity conservation to ensure that they improve public awareness, change behaviour and support the achievement of protected area objectives	To be addressed by CEPA	NCS/ NCSCB BioMAP

#### PROGRAMME ELEMENT 4:

##### Standards, assessment, and monitoring

<b><i>Goal 4.1 - To develop and adopt minimum standards and best practices for national and regional protected area systems</i></b>		
<b><i>Target:</i></b> By 2008, standards, criteria, and best practices for planning, selecting, establishing, managing and governance of national and regional systems of protected areas are developed and adopted.		
<b><i>Suggested activities of the Parties</i></b>	<b><i>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</i></b>	<b><i>By</i></b>
4.1.1. Collaborate with other Parties and relevant organizations, particularly IUCN, on the development, testing, review and promotion of voluntary protected areas standards and best practices on planning and management, governance and participation.		
4.1.2. Develop and implement an efficient, long-term monitoring system of the outcomes being achieved through protected area systems in relation to the goals and targets of this work programme.	By end 2006, have developed long-term monitoring schemes in at least 4 PAs; and by 2010 throughout all PAs	NCS/ BioMAP
4.1.3. Draw upon monitoring results to adapt and improve protected area management based on the ecosystem approach.	By end 2007, have an effective system of monitoring evaluation that feeds into management	NCS/ BioMAP

<b>Goal 4.2 - To evaluate and improve the effectiveness of protected areas management</b>		
<b>Target:</b> By 2010, frameworks for monitoring, evaluating and reporting protected areas management effectiveness at sites, national and regional systems, and transboundary protected area levels adopted and implemented by Parties.		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
4.2.1. Develop and adopt, by 2006, appropriate methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of protected area management and governance, and set up a related database, taking into account the IUCN-WCPA framework for evaluating management effectiveness, and other relevant methodologies, which should be adapted to local conditions.	Establish a management effectiveness by early 2007	NCS/NCSCB
4.2.2. Implement management effectiveness evaluations of at least 30 percent of each Party's protected areas by 2010 and of national protected area systems and, as appropriate, ecological networks.	Implement management effectiveness evaluation schemes in three PAs (Wadi Rayan, St. Katherine, and Ras Mohamed) by mid 2007	NCS/NCSCB
4.2.3. Include information resulting from evaluation of protected areas management effectiveness in national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity.		NCS/NCSCB
4.2.4. Implement key recommendations arising from site- and system-level management effectiveness evaluations, as an integral part of adaptive management strategies.		NCS/NCSCB

<b>Goal 4.3 - To assess and monitor protected area status and trends</b>		
<b>Target:</b> By 2010, national and regional systems are established to enable effective monitoring of protected-area coverage, status and trends at national, regional and global scales, and to assist in evaluating progress in meeting global biodiversity targets.		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
4.3.1. Implement national and regional programmes to monitor and assess the status and trends of biodiversity within protected area systems and sites.	By mid 2006 four or more PAs apply biodiversity monitoring schemes (St Katherine, Ras Mohamed, Wadi El Gemal, Elba, Saluga & Ghazal)	NCS/ BioMap
4.3.2. Measure progress towards achieving protected area targets based on periodic monitoring and report on progress towards these targets in future national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as in a thematic report at COP-9.	By end 2007, have established mechanisms for evaluating and reporting on monitoring schemes in order to enable action; and feed results into the CBD reporting scheme	NCS/ BioMap
4.3.3. Improve and update national and regional data bases on protected areas and consolidate the World Database on Protected Areas as key support mechanisms in the assessment and monitoring of protected area status and trends.		
4.3.4. Participate in the World Database on Protected Areas maintained by		

UNEP-WCMC, and the United Nations List of Protected Areas and the State of the World's Protected Areas assessment process.		
4.3.5. Encourage the establishment and establishment use of new technologies including geographic information system and remote sensing tools for monitoring protected areas.	By end 2007, have a web-based publically available section of the CHM that maps biodiversity information according to user choices using a GIS	NCS/ BioMap

<b>Goal 4.4 - To ensure that scientific knowledge contributes to the establishment and effectiveness of protected areas and protected area systems</b>		
<b>Target</b> Scientific knowledge relevant to protected areas is further developed as a contribution to their establishment, effectiveness, and management.		
<b>Suggested activities of the Parties</b>	<b>Egypt's response: actions to be taken</b>	<b>By</b>
4.4.1. Improve research, scientific and technical cooperation related to protected areas at national, regional and international levels.	By mid 2006, have run workshops in universities and other institutions to promote and support joint work on biodiversity research and monitoring	NCS/ BioMap
4.4.2. Promote interdisciplinary research, to improve understanding of the ecological social and economic aspects of protected areas, including methods and techniques for valuation of goods and services from protected areas	By end 2006, have well-researched examples of the evaluation of biodiversity in named PAs available on the CHM	NCS/ BioMap
4.4.3. Encourage studies to improve the knowledge of the distribution, status and trends of biological diversity.	By end 2007, have a web-based publically available section of the CHM that allows rangers and other qualified users to add to mappable biodiversity information on a GIS that will allow these assessments to be made	NCS/ BioMap
4.4.4. Encourage collaborative research between scientists and indigenous and local communities in accordance with Article 8(j) in connection with the establishment and the effective management of protected areas	By end 2005, to have established a demonstration monitoring scheme in St Katherine that is a joint effort between rangers, indigenous people and scientists	NCS/ BioMap
4.4.5. Promote the dissemination of scientific information from and on protected areas including through the clearing-house mechanism.	By end 2007, have a web-based publically available CHM containing all available information on biodiversity	NCS/ BioMap
4.4.6. Promote the dissemination of, and facilitate access to, scientific and technical information, in particular publications on protected areas, with special attention to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States.	as 4.4.5	
4.4.7. Develop and strengthen working partnerships with appropriate organizations and institutions which undertake research studies leading to an improved understanding of biodiversity in protected areas.	By end 2007, have encouraged, supported and fostered long-term relationships between PAs and local universities to establish research programmes in biodiversity	NCS/ BioMap