

# Harnessing **National Ecosystem Assessments** for the Development, Update, and Implementation of **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans**

**National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)** are key for implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at national level and should be reviewed periodically to keep them aligned with new global goals and targets.

**National ecosystem assessments** support **NBSAPs** by:

- Providing up-to-date, comprehensive, and critical syntheses of knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services and their linkages to people.
- Bringing together a range of knowledge systems and engaging a wide set of stakeholders and knowledge holders.
- Identifying biodiversity-related knowledge gaps.
- Bridging the gap between science, policy and practice by convening different actors and sectors to support greater integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services considerations into decision-making.



## Azerbaijan

"The Azerbaijan National Ecosystem Assessment (NEA) aims to form an essential knowledge ground for the management, use and protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services that is important at the national and subnational levels. It will help policymakers to improve existing ecosystem management policies and create new grounds for management approaches."

*Azerbaijan National Ecosystem Assessment, 2024*



## Bosnia and Herzegovina

"The NEA should be understood as an opportunity to i) strengthen capacities for improvement of the science-policy-practice interface; ii) identify gaps in current knowledge and generate new knowledge related to nature and natural resources; iii) foster the recognition and integration of traditional and local knowledge in biodiversity policies and actions; iv) develop and use instruments, tools and methodologies to support decision-making processes through application of the results of the Assessment in the sectoral policies."

*Assessment of the State of Nature and Management of Natural Resources in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Summary for Policymakers, 2024*

(soon available online)



## Botswana

"At the national level, there is a lack of integrated understanding of ecosystems, their interdependencies, linkages, and drivers as well as their specialised traditional knowledge. A national [ecosystem] assessment will help to address this and will improve the National Spatial Plan (NSP). The NBSAP envisions that by 2025 'ecosystem, species and genetic diversity is valued, protected, and used sustainably and equitably.' Without an NEA, neither the valuation nor the sustainable management of ecosystems specified here will be possible."

*Botswana National Ecosystem Assessment, Updated Scoping Report, 2023*



## The Dominican Republic

"The starting point of this assessment, based on science and other knowledge systems, is that it will allow us to effectively know the state of our ecosystems and make informed decisions for their conservation and sustainable use in the medium, short and long term. These results will also be a major contribution to the fulfilment of our Biodiversity Strategy."

Solhanlle E. Bonilla-Duarte, Director of Research and Environmental Economy, Vice-Ministry of Climate Change and Sustainability, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Scoping report, NEA-The Dominican Republic.



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