



Convention to Combat Desertification

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Assessment of implementation of the Convention against performance indicators

Preliminary analysis of information contained in reports from affected and developed country

Parties, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations and the Global Environment

Facility on operational objective 2 of The Strategy

Preliminary analysis of information contained in reports from affected and developed country Parties, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations and the Global Environment Facility on operational objective 2 of The Strategy

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This document contains the synthesis and preliminary analysis of information submitted by affected and developed country Parties, the Global Environment Facility and the Global Mechanism on operational objective 2 of The Strategy: policy framework. It analyses three consolidated performance indicators from a global perspective and provides additional, more detailed, analysis from subregional and regional perspectives.

The document offers some conclusions on the status of activities relating to operational objective 2 (baseline perspective) and some recommendations for consideration by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention on the need to adjust, streamline and strengthen related activities in view of the achievement of these objectives (target perspective).

Due to the fact that Parties and other reporting entities submitted their first reports following an indicator-based approach, some considerations regarding the implementation of and reporting against indicators are also included in document ICCD/CRIC(9)/10 feeding the iterative process.

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I. Introduction

1. The present document is a synthesis and preliminary analysis of information submitted by Parties and observers on operational objective 2 of The Strategy: policy framework.¹
2. For each performance indicator pertaining to this operational objective (see chapters II, III and IV below), a section on global analysis discusses the state of affairs relating to that performance indicator from a global perspective, based on information provided by both affected and developed country Parties. More detailed information is provided in the adjacent sections on subregional and regional analysis for affected country Parties, as well as for developed country Parties², the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Global Mechanism (GM), where appropriate.
3. General conclusions on the status of activities relating to operational objective 2 (OO 2) are presented at the end of the report and capture important issues relating to baseline information for the performance indicators (baseline perspective). Some recommendations for consideration by the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) have been drawn up on the need to adjust/streamline/strengthen activities in view of the achievement of the objectives of The Strategy (target perspective). Following a results-based framework, the CRIC may wish to provide actionable guidance to Parties and institutions of the Convention in order to allow follow-up on targeted recommendations to be put forward to the Conference of the Parties (COP) for its consideration.

II. Performance indicator CONS-O-5 for outcomes 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3

Number of affected country Parties, subregional and regional entities to have finalized the formulation/revision of national action programmes (NAPs)/subregional action programmes (SRAPs)/regional action programmes (RAPs) aligned to The Strategy, taking into account biophysical and socio-economic information, national planning and policies, and integration into investment frameworks.

(See CONS-O-5 in decision 13/COP.9, annex III.)

A. Global analysis

1. **Number of countries to have finalized the formulation/revision of NAPs aligned to The Strategy taking into account biophysical and socio-economic information, national planning and policies, and integration into investment frameworks**
 4. One country out of 89 affected country Parties which reported aligned its NAP in the reporting period, and one formulated and aligned its NAP after the adoption of The

¹ See decision 3/COP 8, contained in ICCD/COP(8)/16/Add.1.

² Including regional economic integration organizations constituted by developed countries (with reference to the European Union in the present reporting and review process).

Strategy. This represents 2.2 per cent of affected country Parties that submitted reports. For eight affected country Parties, the status of their alignment is unclear (see subsections II.B.1.a, II.B.1.b and II.B.1.e below); four affected country Parties reported on the alignment of their NAPs in 2010, that is, outside the reporting period. It is clear that, even if these uncertainties are resolved, a very small number of affected country Parties have NAPs aligned to The Strategy.

5. Out of 89 affected country Parties, 54 have NAPs which are not aligned; and 19 have not yet adopted their NAPs. This means that more than 20 per cent of affected country Parties which reported do not have a NAP. Two countries did not answer the questions on their NAPs.

6. Africa is the region with the highest number of countries having a NAP while Northern Mediterranean and Central and Eastern European countries have more countries without a NAP than with one.

Table 1
Status of NAP alignment (Global)

Region	NAP adopted or aligned in the reporting period (2008–2009)	NAP adopted but not aligned	NAP not adopted	Status of NAP alignment unclear or outside the reporting period	Planned time to have an aligned NAP		
					2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015
Africa	0	21	4	4	13	10	1
Asia	0	18	3	6	9	8	1
LAC	1	11	4	1	8	5	1
NMED	0	2	3	0	1	3	0
CEE	1	2	5	1	2	5	0
Global (total)	2	54	19	12	33	31	3

2. National contribution to the target

By 2014, at least 80 per cent of affected country Parties, subregional and regional entities have formulated/ revised a NAP/SRAP/RAP aligned to The Strategy.

(See decision 13/COP.9, annex III, performance indicator CONS-O-5, target.)

7. With six countries currently having an aligned NAP (late 2010), it is clear that the target is very far from being achieved. Based on the number of countries that provided information during this reporting cycle, the target would be reached if 72 countries were to align their NAP by 2014. Consequently, 66 countries would need to undertake efforts in the next three to four years. A total of 64 countries indicated their plan to do so by the end of 2013, and a further 3 countries in the biennium 2014–2015. This means that all countries would have to meet their goal if the target is to be achieved. It is beyond doubt that this will present a major challenge for affected country Parties, as well as for the Convention institutions that are expected to render support in this regard.

3. Qualitative assessment

Has the formulation and/or alignment of the NAP been supported by external assistance, and if yes, did you receive assistance from one or more institutions (secretariat, GM, GEF, bilateral, multilateral (United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, international financing institutions, etc.); if yes, which type of assistance (technical support, financial support, or capacity-building).

(See ICCD/CRIC(9)/INF.2, section II.C.5, template for CONS-O-5.)

8. If the 8 Parties for which a lack of clarity on the status of their NAP alignments are put aside, there are only 2 countries for which the formulation or alignment of their NAPs took place in the reporting period. Many countries (73), however, responded to the questions. There are two explanations for this: either countries have not yet completed the process of formulating or aligning their NAPs but nevertheless wanted to report already on the support they are receiving, or alternatively, countries reported on the support they received with the formulation of their NAPs before or after the reporting period. Since it is not possible to distinguish between the two possible reasons, and since some interesting outcomes emerge from the analysis of information received, the assessment is presented here regardless of this ambiguity.

9. Of the Parties that answered this question, 60 per cent reported that they received support for the formulation and/or alignment of their NAPs and 40 per cent that they did not. Central and Eastern Europe was the least supported region with Africa being the most supported.

10. There are significant variations among the reported number of institutions providing support. Globally, three types of institutions have equal numbers: the secretariat, the GM and multilateral institutions. Half of all supported countries received assistance from one or more of these three types of entities. The GEF was listed by one third of the supported countries and bilateral support was mentioned by only nine countries. The secretariat and the GM are the most active entities providing support to countries for the formulation and/or alignment of their NAPs.

11. Some details of geographic distribution of support are particularly interesting: the UNCCD secretariat, the GEF and other multilateral institutions provide assistance to all 4 supported regions, the GM supported 3 regions and bilateral support was provided to just 2 regions.

12. Financial assistance is clearly the predominant type of support (71 per cent). Nine countries (or 22 per cent) reported having received technical support, and only three (or 7 per cent) received support with capacity-building.

Table 2
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (Global)

Region	NAP formulation and/or alignment supported		Support by institutions					Type of support		
	Yes	No	secretariat	GM	GEF	Bilateral	Multilateral	Technical	Financial	CB
Africa	16	9	6	9	6	6	10	4	10	1
Asia	15	9	7	5	3	0	6	3	10	0
LAC	10	7	8	9	3	3	4	2	6	2
NMED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CEE	3	4	2	0	1	0	2	0	3	0
Global (total)	44	29	23	23	13	9	22	9	29	3

Figure 1
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP by institutions (Global)

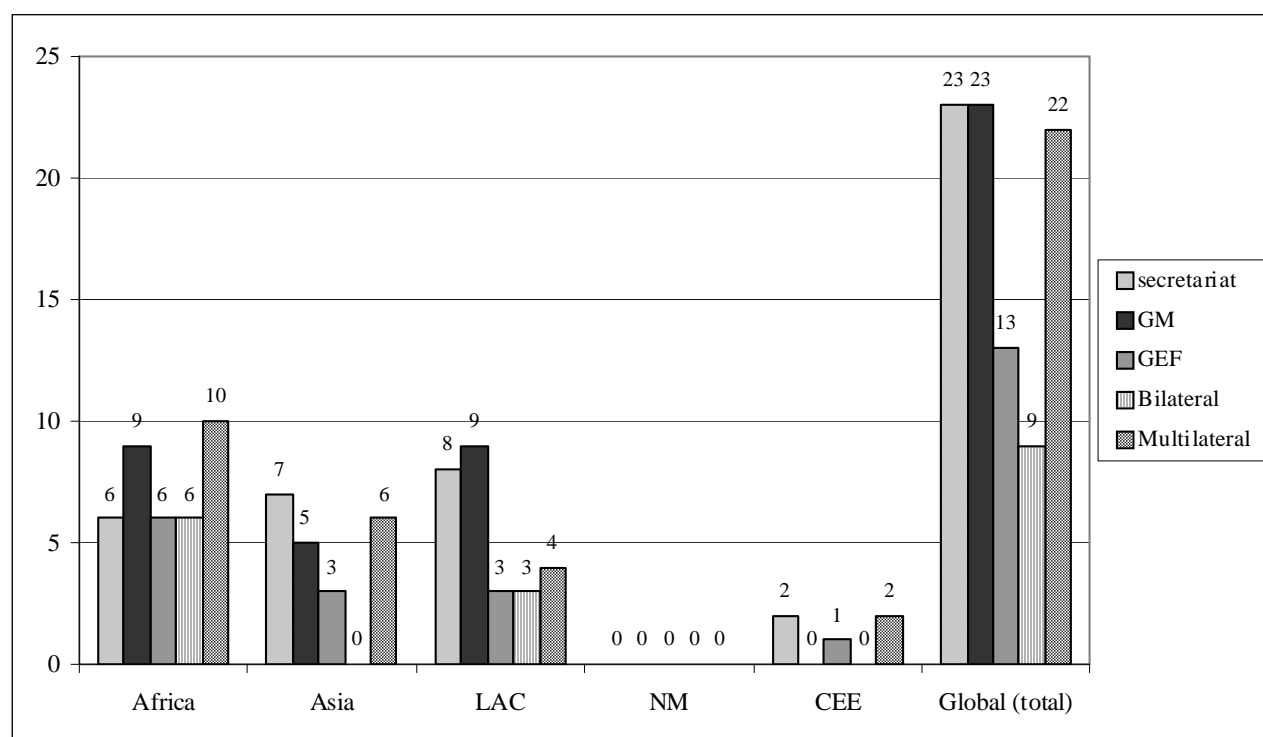
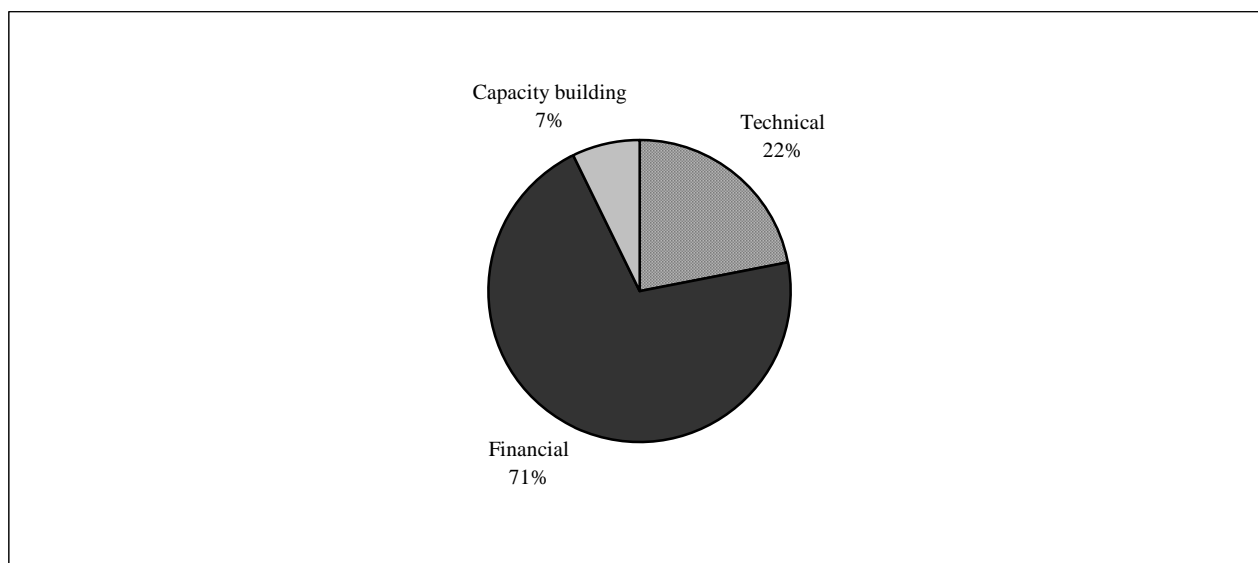


Figure 2
Type of support provided for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (Global)



B. Affected country Parties (subregional and regional analysis)

1. Number of countries to have finalized the formulation/revision of NAPs aligned to The Strategy taking into account biophysical and socio-economic information, national planning and policies, and integration into investment frameworks

a. Africa

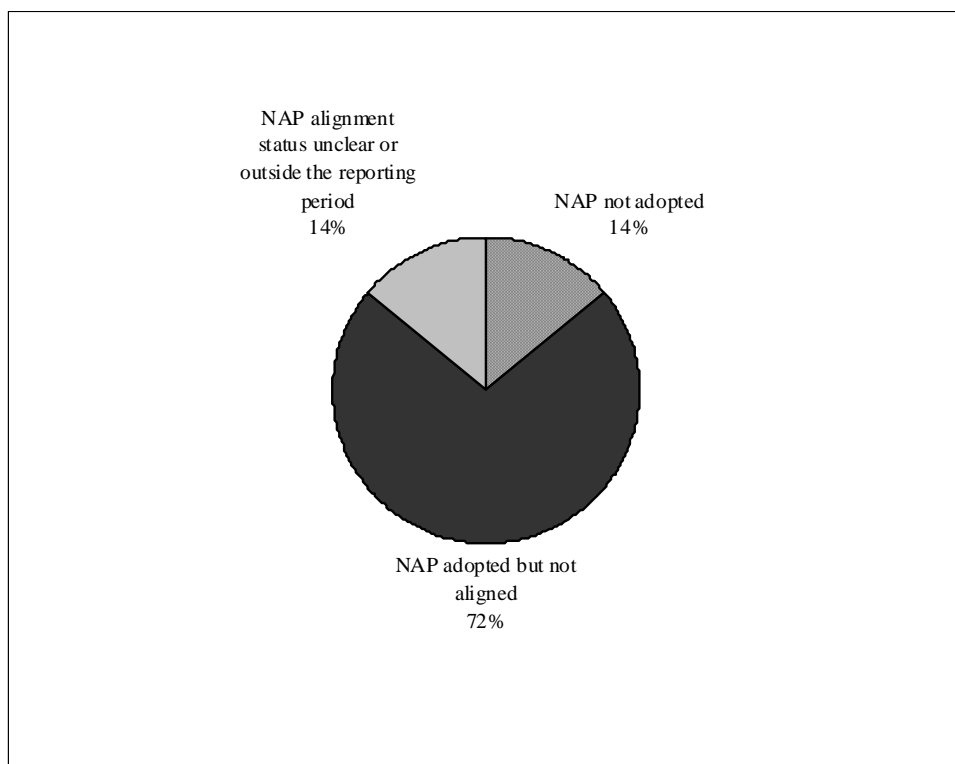
13. In Africa, 4 out of 29 countries that answered this question still do not have a NAP (2 in Western and 1 in both Central and Southern Africa). A total of 21 countries reported that they have a NAP but that it is not aligned to The Strategy. Four countries that provided a positive answer to the question as to whether alignment had been made provided contradictory additional information on the alignment process³. Since for at least two of these countries the alignment dates (even if possible error is neglected) are outside the reporting period (2008–2009), and for at least one of them it is unknown when the alignment took place, they are considered as “status of alignment unclear or outside the reporting period” for the purpose of the present statistics.

³ One country Party stated that the alignment took place in 2005 (that is, before the adoption of The Strategy); one stated that it had aligned the NAP but did not provide the date and stated further that it planned to align it in the period 2010–2011; one stated that it aligned its NAP in 2010 but also that it planned to do so in 2010–2011; and one stated that it aligned its NAP in November 2010.

Table 3
Status of NAP alignment (Africa)

Subregion	NAP adopted or aligned in the reporting period (2008–2009)	NAP adopted but not aligned	NAP not adopted	Status of NAP alignment unclear or outside the reporting period	Planned time to have an aligned NAP		
					2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015
Central Africa	0	3	1	2	3	1	0
Eastern Africa	0	3	0	1	2	1	0
Northern Africa	0	3	0	0	3	0	0
Southern Africa	0	5	1	0	2	2	1
Western Africa	0	7	2	1	3	6	0
Africa (total)	0	21	4	4	13	10	1

Figure 3
Status of NAP alignment (Africa)



b. Asia

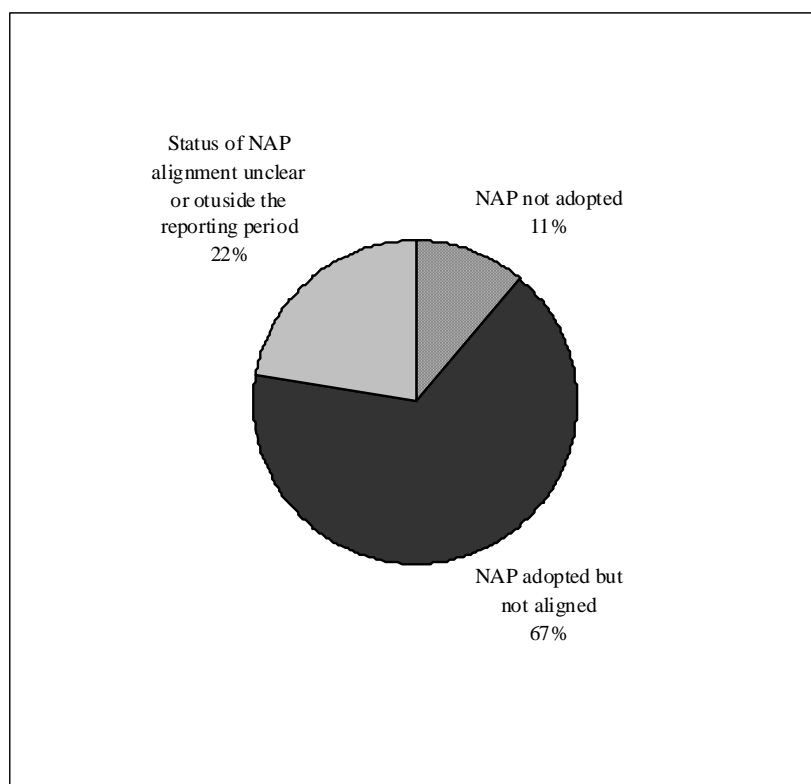
14. All reporting affected country Parties in Asia, except 3 (one in the Pacific, one in South Asia and one in South-East Asia) have a NAP. Eighteen countries reported that they have a NAP although not aligned to The Strategy. Two country Parties (one in East Asia and one in South-East Asia) reported that they aligned their NAP in 2010, that is, outside the reporting period. For another group of four countries that answered positively to the question on NAP alignment, the status is unclear: one reported that it aligned its NAP in

1998, that is, before the adoption of The Strategy, and that it is nevertheless planning to do so in 2010–2011, one country reported that it aligned its NAP in 2003 (before the adoption of The Strategy), and two did not provide the date of alignment, but stated that they planned to do so in the period 2010–2011. These six countries are therefore considered as “status of alignment unclear or outside of the reporting period” for the purpose of the present statistics.

Table 4
Status of NAP alignment (Asia)

Subregion	NAP adopted or aligned in the reporting period (2008–2009)	NAP adopted but not aligned	NAP not adopted	Status of NAP alignment unclear or outside the reporting period	Planned time to have an aligned NAP		
					2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015
Central Asia	0	4	0	1	1	3	0
East Asia	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Pacific	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
South Asia	0	3	1	0	2	1	0
South-East Asia	0	3	1	1	2	0	0
West Asia	0	6	0	2	2	3	1
Asia (total)	0	18	3	6	9	8	1

Figure 4
Status of NAP alignment (Asia)



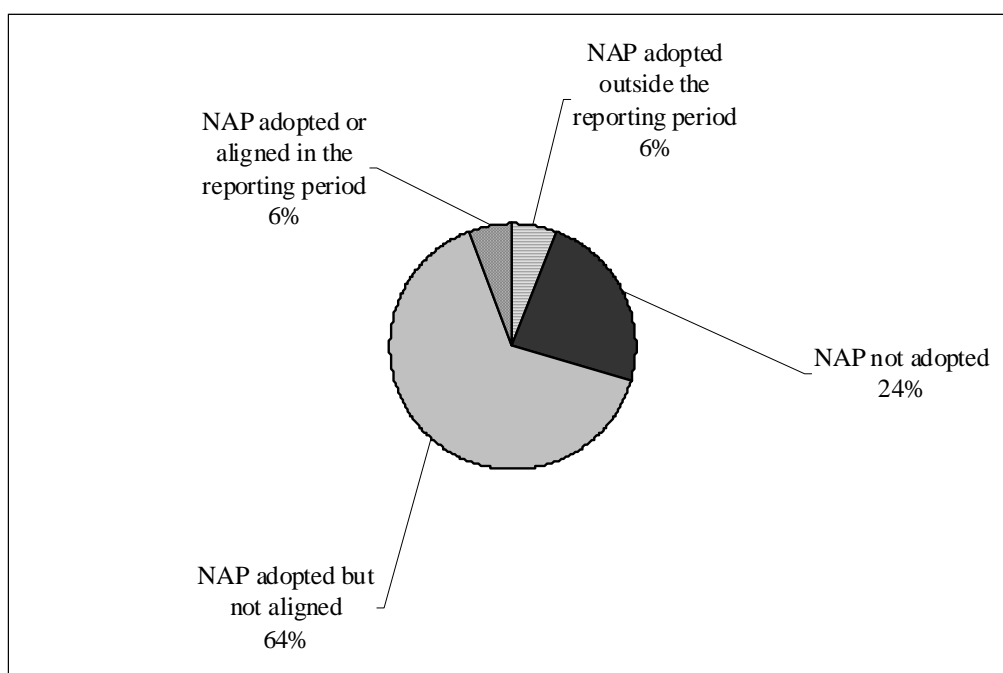
c. Latin America and the Caribbean

15. Data from LAC reports show that 11 out of 17 countries in LAC have a NAP that is not aligned to The Strategy while 4 have not yet formulated a NAP (3 in the Caribbean and 1 in the South Cone). One country (Cuba) reported having aligned its NAP with The Strategy in the reporting period (2008) and another country reported having formulated an aligned NAP after the adoption of The Strategy in 2008 but outside the reporting period (2010).

Table 5
Status of NAP alignment (LAC)

Subregion	NAP adopted or aligned in the reporting period	NAP adopted but not aligned	NAP not adopted	NAP adopted outside the reporting period	Planned time to have an aligned NAP			
					2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015	2016–2017
Andean	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	0
Caribbean	1	2	3	1	4	1	0	1
Mesoamerica	0	4	0	0	2	2	0	0
South Cone	0	2	1	0	1	2	0	0
LAC (total)	1	11	4	1	8	5	1	1

Figure 5
Status of NAP alignment (LAC)



16. Those countries that aligned their NAPs to The Strategy in the reporting period were asked about the features of their NAPs. Cuba responded that it included in its aligned NAP biophysical and socio-economic baseline information, DLDD drivers, barriers to sustainable land management and recommendations to remove these barriers. It reported

that it did not include its aligned NAP in the integrated investment frameworks but that integration into its national development planning and relevant sectorial and investment plans and policies was being undertaken. Furthermore, the aligned NAP was not integrated into the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and Cuba did not use the guidelines contained in document ICCD/COP (9)/2/Add.1 (hereinafter referred to as “the Guidelines”).

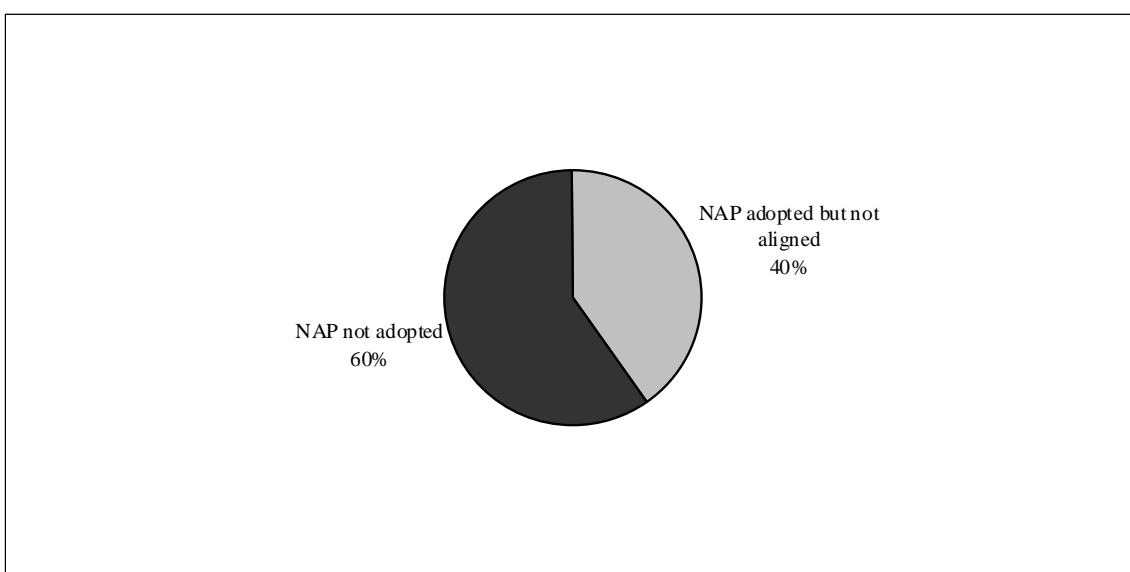
d. *Northern Mediterranean*

17. Two Northern Mediterranean countries adopted their NAPs prior to The Strategy but did not align them to it. Three countries have not yet adopted a NAP.

Table 6
Status of NAP alignment (NMED)

	NAP adopted and aligned in the reporting period (2008–2009)	NAP adopted but not aligned	NAP not adopted	Planned time to have an aligned NAP		
				2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015
NMED (total)	0	2	3	1	3	0

Figure 6
Status of NAP alignment (NMED)



e. *Central and Eastern Europe*

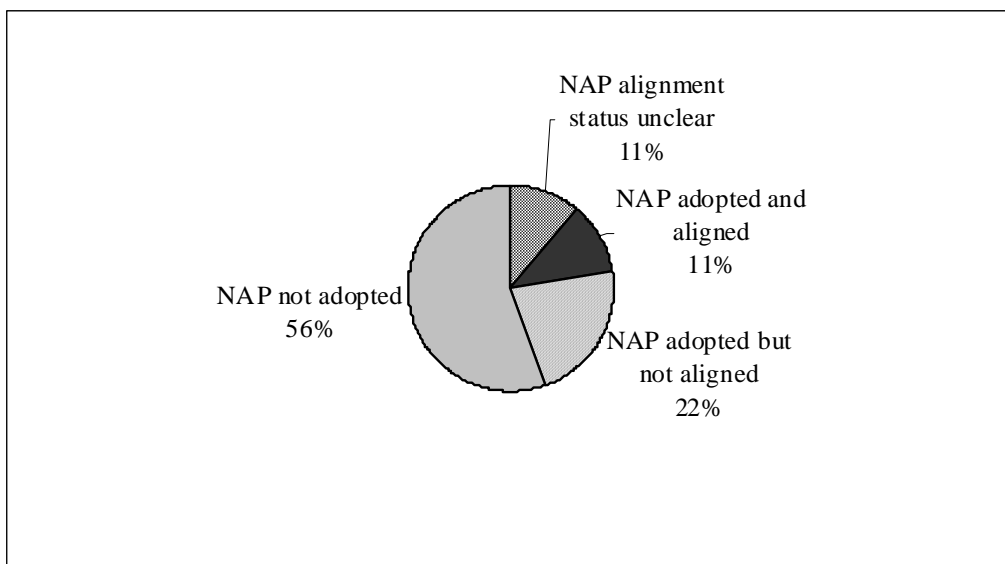
18. Three reporting CEE countries adopted their NAPs prior to The Strategy. Five countries do not have a NAP. One country (Bulgaria) adopted its NAP after the adoption of The Strategy (2008) and has aligned its NAP to The Strategy. One country stated that it had

aligned its NAP, but further stated that it plans to align it in the period 2010–2011; and is therefore treated as “NAP alignment status unclear”.

Table 7
Status of NAP alignment (CEE)

	<i>NAP adopted or aligned in the reporting period (2008–2009)</i>	<i>NAP adopted but not aligned</i>	<i>NAP not adopted</i>	<i>NAP alignment status unclear</i>	<i>Planned time to have an aligned NAP</i>		
					2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015
CEE (total)	1	2	5	1	2	5	0

Figure 7
Status of NAP alignment (CEE)



19. In Bulgaria, the NAP is supported by biophysical and socio-economic information. It considers assessment of DLDD drivers that are barriers to sustainable land management and includes recommendations to remove these barriers. It has been included in an integrated investment framework and has been integrated into national development planning and relevant sectorial and investment plans and policies. The NAP has been integrated into the country’s PRSP. Bulgaria referred to the use of the Guidelines while developing its aligned NAP.

2. National contribution to the target

By 2014, at least 80 per cent of affected country Parties, subregional and regional entities have formulated/ revised a NAP/SRAP/RAP aligned to The Strategy.

(See decision 13/COP.9, annex III, performance indicator CONS-O-5, target.)

a. *Africa*

20. In Africa, if the unclear information about the status of NAP alignment is not considered, there is at this point in time (late 2010) one country with an aligned NAP. This constitutes 3 per cent of the reporting countries. If 80 per cent of the reporting countries (24) were used as a benchmark, it would mean that 23 countries (77 per cent) would still need to have an aligned NAP by 2014. If all countries that reported on their intention to meet their goal actually do so, the target will be achieved. However, given the current figures, this presents a significant challenge.

b. *Asia*

21. If those Asian countries that provided unclear information about the status of NAP alignment are not considered, there are currently only two countries with an aligned NAP. This represents 7 per cent of reporting countries. In order to achieve the 80 per cent target with the full set of reporting countries (23), 21 countries (73 per cent) would need to have an aligned NAP by 2014. A total of 18 countries indicated their intention to do so. However, even if all these countries meet this goal, the target will still not be achieved.

c. *Latin America and the Caribbean*

22. According to the data from LAC countries, the region would achieve the target by 2014 if all the plans were accomplished. Currently, 2 countries have an aligned NAP whereas achieving the target would mean that 14 countries would have an aligned NAP by 2014. This is exactly the number of countries that indicated their plan to have an aligned NAP by that date. As for Africa, achieving the target presents a significant challenge.

d. *Northern Mediterranean*

23. One Northern Mediterranean country did not report on its plans to align the NAP. Four other countries should, if their plans are achieved, have an aligned NAP by 2014. This means that the 80 per cent target would be reached.

e. *Central and Eastern Europe*

24. Seven CEE countries indicated their intention to have an aligned NAP by 2014. Since there is already one country with an aligned NAP, this would mean that the target would be achieved.

3. Qualitative assessment

Has the formulation and/or alignment of the NAP been supported by external assistance, and if yes, did you receive assistance from one or more institutions (secretariat, GM, GEF, bilateral, multilateral (United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, international financing institutions, etc.); and if yes, which type of assistance (technical support, financial support, or capacity- building).

(See ICCD/CRIC(9)/INF.2, section II.C.5, template for CONS-O-5.)

a. *Africa*

25. In Africa, 16 countries received external assistance with the formulation and/or alignment of their NAPs. A total of 9 countries reported that they received no assistance.

26. Multilateral institutions and the GM are the most represented entities that provided support, predominantly of a financial nature. In this context, it is worth noting that, according to the information provided, some coordinated support to country Parties could have taken place as part of a joint strategy by multilateral institutions although the data submitted do not allow for more detailed analysis on this.

Table 8
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (Africa)

Subregion	NAP formulation and/or alignment supported		Support by institutions					Type of support		
	Yes	No	secretariat	GM	GEF	Bilateral	Multilateral	Technical	Financial	CB
Central Africa	4	2	2	3	3	0	4	1	3	0
Eastern Africa	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0
Northern Africa	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Southern Africa	4	2	1	3	3	1	2	1	2	0
Western Africa	4	4	2	3	0	2	3	1	2	1
Africa (total)	16	9	6	9	6	6	10	4	10	1

Figure 8
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP by institutions (Africa)

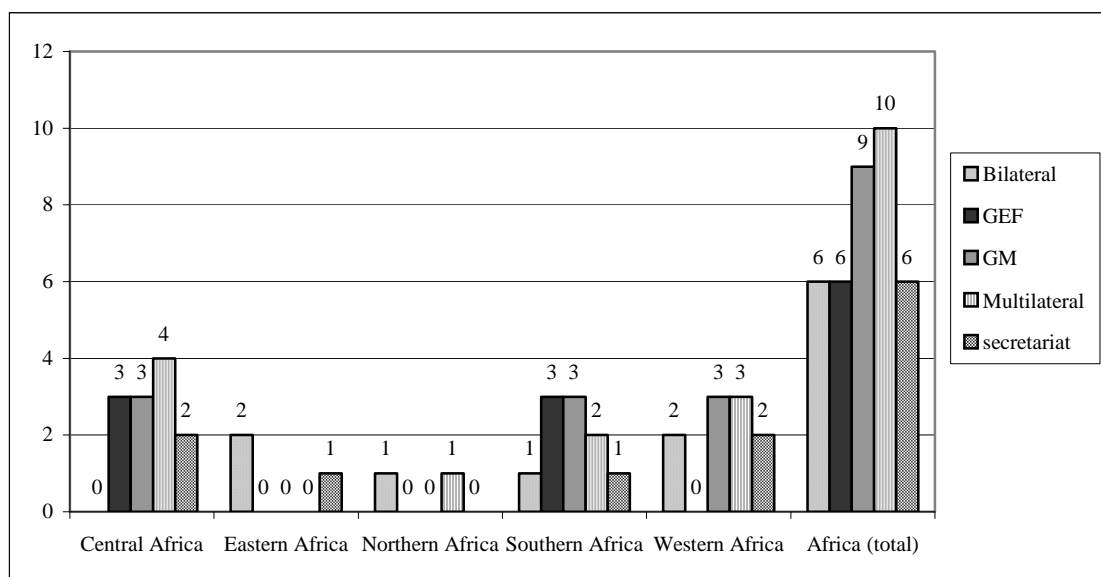
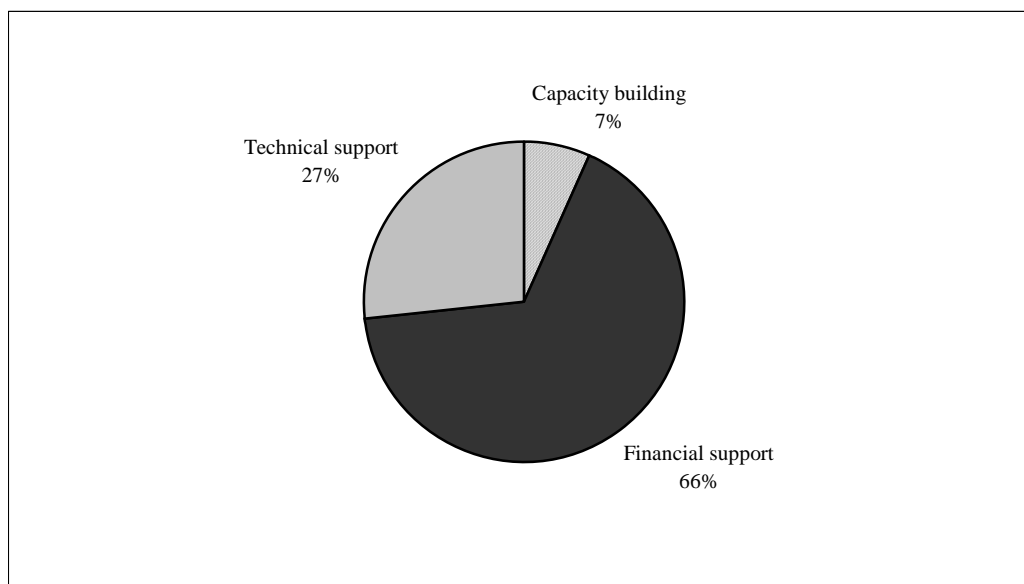


Figure 9
Type of support provided for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (Africa)



b. *Asia*

27. With regard to external support received by Asian country Parties with the formulation and/or alignment of their NAPs to The Strategy, more than half of the country Parties reported having received external assistance; one third reported no such assistance.

28. The UNCCD secretariat and the multilateral institutions were most active in providing support, mainly of a financial nature.

Table 9
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (Asia)

<i>Subregion</i>	<i>NAP formulation and/or alignment supported</i>		<i>Support by institutions</i>					<i>Type of support</i>		
	Yes	No	secretariat	GM	GEF	Bilateral	Multilateral	Technical	Financial	CB
Central Asia	3	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	0
East Asia	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Pacific	3	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	3	0
South Asia	3	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	3	0
South-East Asia	2	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	0
West Asia	3	4	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	0
Asia (total)	15	9	7	5	3	0	6	3	10	0

Figure 10
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP by institutions (Asia)

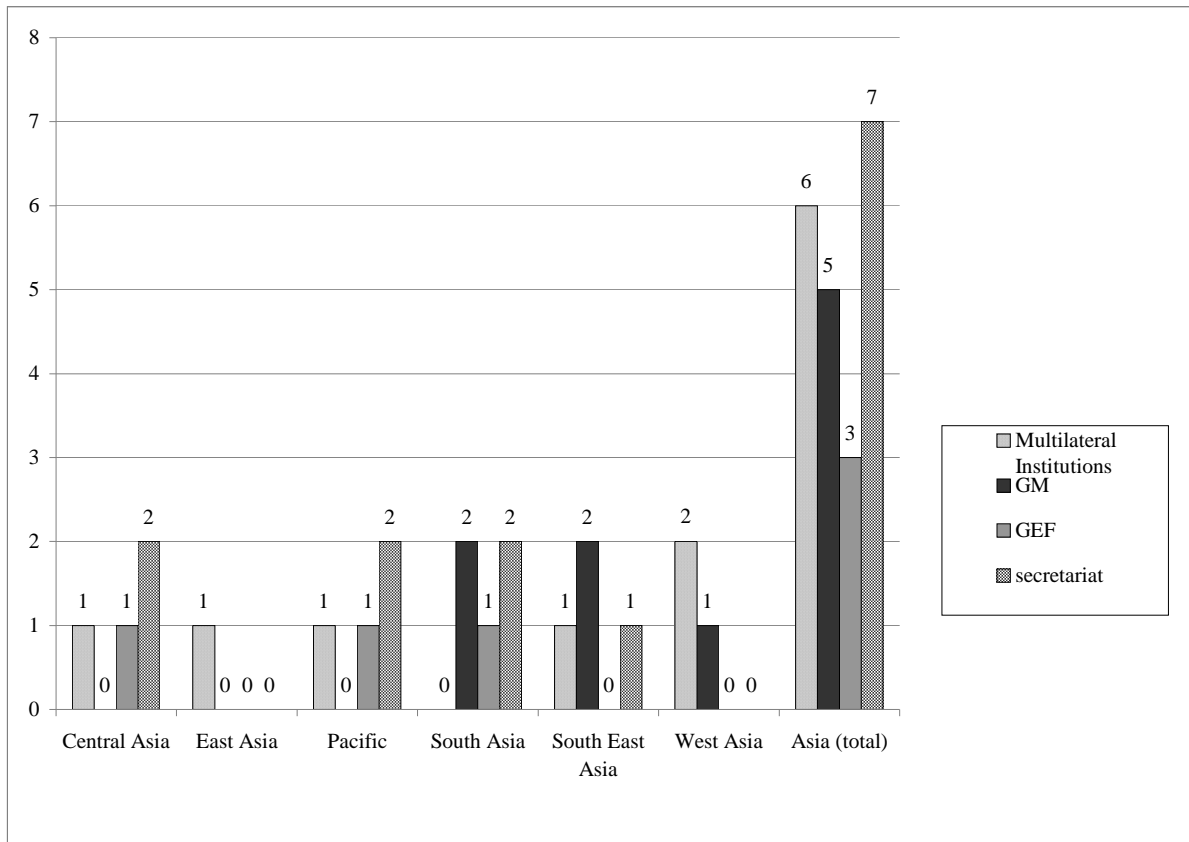
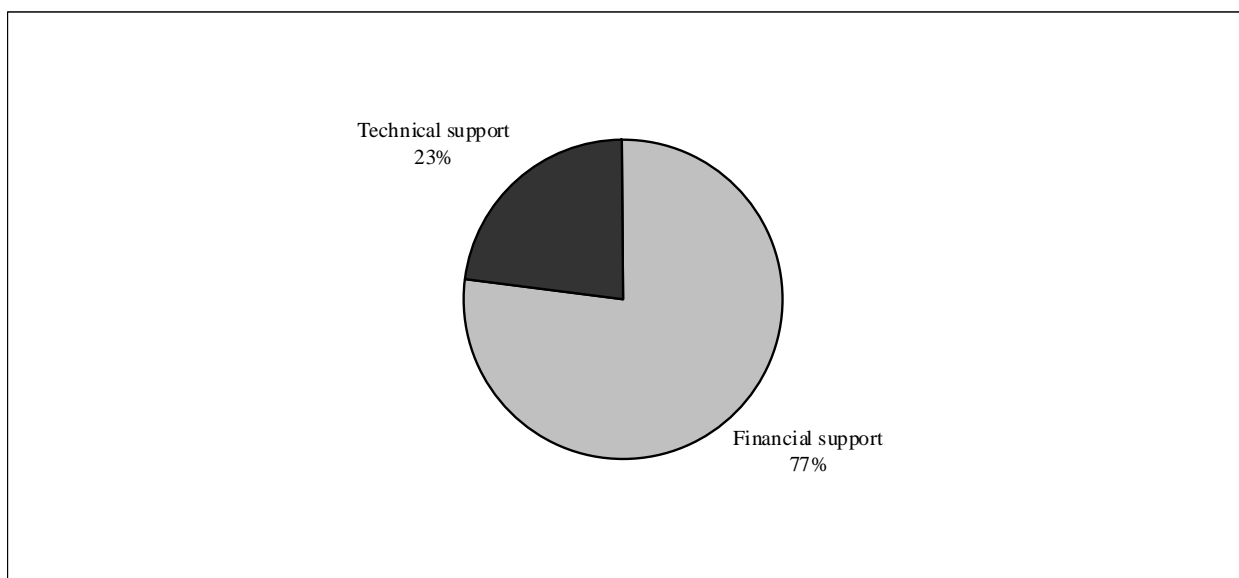


Figure 11
Type of support provided for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (Asia)



c. Latin America and the Caribbean

29. Ten LAC countries reported that they received support with the formulation and/or alignment of their NAPs and seven reported that they did not.

30. The secretariat and the GM were the institutions providing most support, which was mainly of a financial nature.

Table 10
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (LAC)

Subregion	NAP formulation and/or alignment supported		Support by institutions					Type of support		
	Yes	No	secretariat	GM	GEF	Bilateral	Multilateral	Technical	Financial	CB
Andean	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
Caribbean	4	3	3	4	2	1	2	0	3	1
Mesoamerica	3	1	2	3	0	1	1	0	3	0
South Cone	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
LAC (total)	10	7	8	9	3	3	4	2	6	2

Figure 12
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP by institutions (LAC)

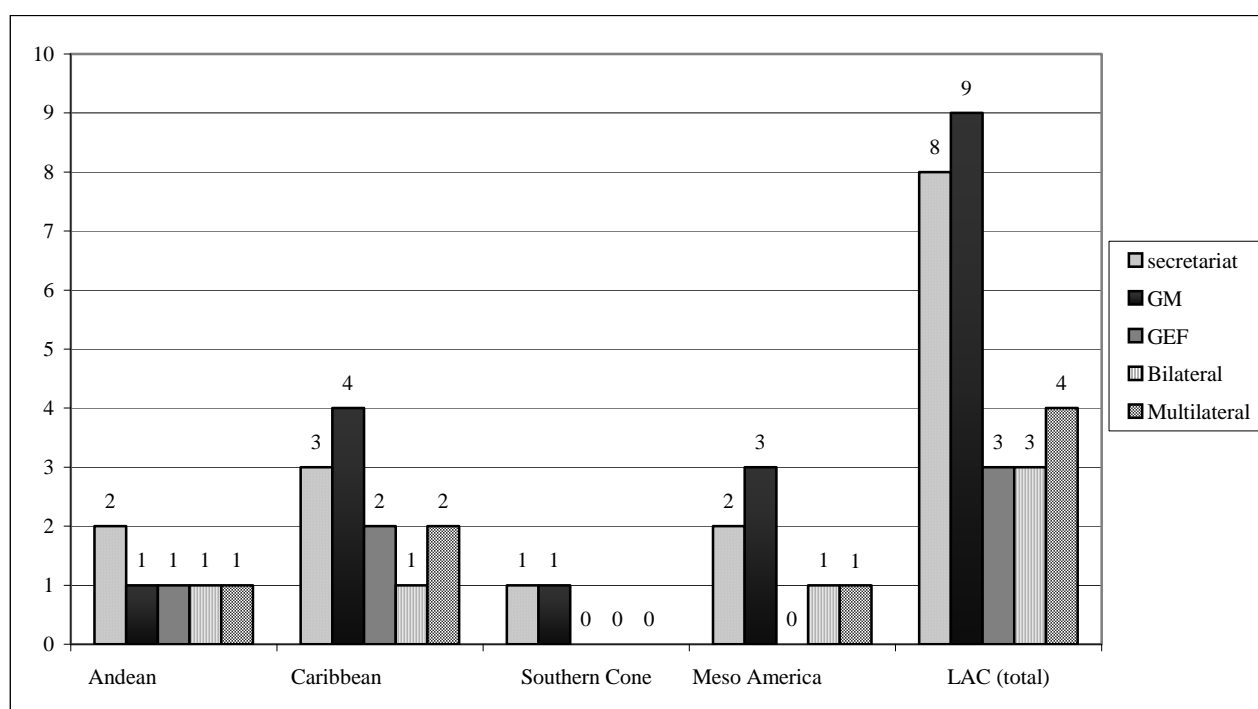
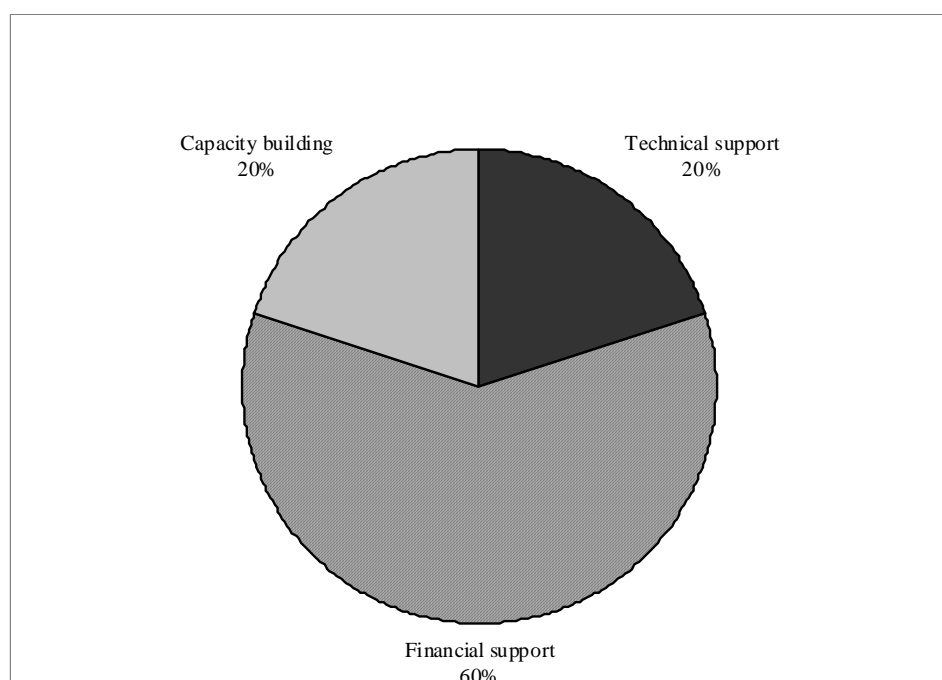


Figure 13
Type of support provided for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (LAC)



d. *Northern Mediterranean*

31. No country in this region reported receiving external assistance for the formulation and/or alignment of its NAP, which may imply that concerned activities were financed from their own resources.

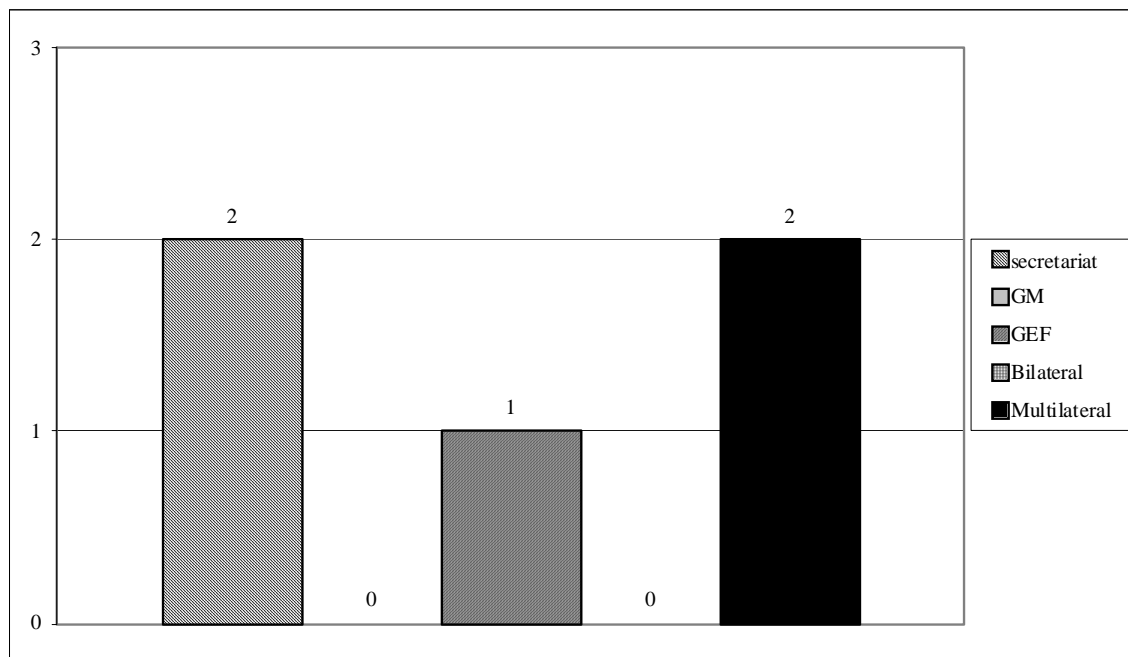
e. *Central and Eastern Europe*

32. Central and Eastern Europe is the only region in which more countries received no support than those that did receive support. Countries that were supported mainly by the secretariat and multilateral organizations received financial support only.

Table 11
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP (CEE)

	<i>NAP formulation and/or alignment supported</i>		<i>Support by institutions</i>					<i>Type of support</i>		
	Yes	No	secretariat	GM	GEF	Bilateral	Multilateral	Technical	Financial	CB
CEE (total)	3	4	2	0	1	0	2	0	3	0

Figure 14
Support for formulation and/or alignment of the NAP by institutions (CEE)



III. Performance indicator CONS-O-6 for outcome 2.4

Number of partnership agreements established within the framework of the Convention between developed country Parties/United Nations and IGOs and affected country Parties.

(See CONS-O-6 in decision 13/COP.9, annex III.)

33. Only developed country Parties, United Nations agencies and the intergovernmental organizations, including the GEF, were requested to report on this performance indicator. As no United Nations agency or intergovernmental organization, apart from the GEF, submitted their report in this reporting and review process, and the GEF did not answer questions relating to this performance indicator,⁴ the global analysis for this indicator is in fact the analysis of the answers provided by developed country Parties.

⁴ Following an exchange between the Secretariat of the GEF and the UNCCD secretariat, the GEF announced that due to issues relating to internal data collection and data availability, the GEF would not be in a position to report against all performance indicators. Feedback on constraints to data availability by the GEF will be integrated into the iterative process in order to enable it to provide relevant information to the CRIC in the next reporting cycles.

Global analysis

1. Number of partnership agreements concluded between developed country Parties and affected country Parties

34. Of the developed country Parties, 25 per cent did not answer these questions, and five countries stated that they had no partnership agreements. Therefore, the calculation of numbers relies on answers from four developed country Parties (Australia, Germany, European Union and Switzerland).

35. Given the small number of Parties that reported the existence of partnership agreements, the numbers of agreements reported are small: altogether there were 20 partnership agreements (in 2008 and 2009). Partnership agreements relating to integrated investment frameworks established within integrated financing strategies other than the integrated financing strategy (IFS) devised by the GM are the most represented (60 per cent of all agreements). Those established within the IFS devised by the GM represent 5 per cent of the total figure.

Table 12

Number of partnership agreements concluded between developed country Parties and affected country Parties

	<i>Partnership agreement relating to integrated investment frameworks established within the IFS devised by the GM</i>		<i>Partnership agreement relating to integrated investment frameworks established within other integrated financing strategies</i>		<i>Partnership agreement not relating to integrated investment frameworks</i>	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
DCP (total)	2	1	11	12	7	7

2. National contribution to the target

By 2014 at least two UNCCD related partnership agreements are active in each affected country Party.

(See decision 13/COP.9, annex III, performance indicator CONS-O-6, target.)

36. The target relating to this performance indicator is set for affected country Parties. However, the calculation pertaining to it is based on the information provided by developed country Parties, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations. With low response rates from these entities, it is clear that only a limited assessment can be given regarding achievement of this target.

37. A total of 27 countries were listed by developed countries as their partners for various types of partnership agreements. Out of these 27 affected countries, 20 are in Asia (all 5 Central Asian countries, 2 in East Asia, 1 in Pacific, 6 in South Asia, 6 in South-East Asia), while only 3 are in Africa (2 in Northern Africa and 1 in Western Africa) and 4 in LAC (2 in the Caribbean, 1 in Mesoamerica and 1 in South Cone). Each of these 27

countries was mentioned only once. One developed country Party listed Asia as a region for a partnership agreement.

38. Developed country Parties were asked whether, at the time of reporting, they had plans for concluding one or more partnership agreements with one or more affected country Parties. Out of 12 developed country Parties, 4 did not answer this question, 6 answered that they were not planning to conclude partnership agreements with affected country Parties, and 2 answered that they were planning to do so in the period 2010–2011.

39. Mathematically, since there are 168 affected country Parties, by 2014 there should be at least 336 partnership agreements. With currently 27 such countries, we are at 8 per cent of achievement of this target. With only two developed country Parties reporting their intention to establish such agreements in the future, it is becoming evident that achievement of this target is likely to be missed.

3. Qualitative assessment

Has the conclusion of partnership agreements been facilitated by Convention-related institutions or bodies, and if yes, by whom (secretariat, GM, GEF, other).

(See ICCD/CRIC(9)/INF.3, section II.C.4, template for CONS-O-6.)

40. Out of 12 reporting developed country Parties, 8 answered this question and 4 did not.

41. The main information that can be gleaned from the related figures is that the vast majority of partnership agreements were concluded without support from Convention-related institutions. Two countries listed the GM as supporting institution, while no country mentioned the secretariat or the GEF.

Table 13

Support by institutions for conclusion of partnership agreements

Support by institutions

secretariat	GM	GEF	No support
0	2	0	6

IV. Performance indicator CONS-O-7 for outcome 2.5

Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation, at all levels.

(See CONS-O-7 in decision 13/COP.9, annex III.)

A. Global analysis

1. Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation

42. There are currently 116 synergistic initiatives in 64 affected country Parties. Most of the countries have both types of synergetic initiatives (joint planning/programming initiatives and operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement).

43. While there is a slight variation in the preferred type of synergetic initiative regionally, globally there is an equal number of joint initiatives and operational mechanisms (58 in both cases). Twelve initiatives were reported to include two out of the three Rio conventions. Africa and Asia are equal frontrunners as far as the number of joint initiatives is concerned, while Africa is clearly the most active region with regard to operational mechanisms.

44. All regions have more countries implementing synergistic initiatives than not, except for operational mechanisms in the Northern Mediterranean.

45. Taking 2009 as the reference year, out of 64 affected countries which have a synergistic initiative, 16 (or 25 per cent) were supported by developed country Parties.⁵

Table 14

Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (Global)

<i>Region</i>	<i>Joint planning/programming initiatives for Rio conventions</i>			<i>Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement</i>		
	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions
Africa	16	12	2	21	9	0
Asia	17	10	1	13	12	2
LAC	11	4	2	10	2	5
NMED	3	2	0	2	3	0
CEE	6	3	0	5	4	0
Global (total)	53	31	5	51	30	7

46. All types of synergistic initiatives are more or less equally present in affected country Parties, except for the establishment of a national coordinating committee for implementation of the three Rio conventions. Only 20 out of 64 countries reported that they have a national coordinating committee. A significant number of countries (approximately

⁵ Since the affected country Parties that participated in this reporting and review cycle do not fully match those reported as beneficiaries of support by developed country Parties, a fully-fledged comparative analysis cannot be made.

one quarter for joint initiatives and one half for operational mechanisms) reported that they had other types of initiatives than those listed in the reporting template.

Table 15
Types of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (Global)

<i>Type</i>	<i>Subregion</i>					<i>Global (total)</i>
	Africa	Asia	LAC	NM	CEE	
Joint planning/programming initiatives for the three Rio conventions						
Review of national plans and identification of gaps in synergies	11	11	5	3	5	35
Identification of sectors and policies that could benefit from synergies and cooperation	13	12	10	3	5	43
Review of plans and policies to enhance cooperation	11	12	6	2	5	36
Enhancement of the institutional and scientific capacity of relevant stakeholders as well as of their awareness	16	12	11	2	4	45
Other	7	4	4	0	3	18
Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement						
Carry out periodic meetings between focal points and focal point teams	16	11	8	2	3	40
Establishment of a national coordinating committee for implementation of the three Rio conventions	12	5	2	0	1	20
Other	13	7	10	0	1	31

2. National contribution to the target

By 2014, each affected country Party has either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies among the three Rio conventions.

(See decision 13/COP.9, annex III, performance indicator CONS-O-7, target.)

Table 16
Status of synergistic initiatives – national contribution to the target (Global)

<i>Region</i>	<i>Status of synergistic initiatives</i>				
	2008–2009	Planned for 2010–2011	Planned for 2012–2013	No plan	By 2014
Africa	21	1	5	3	27
Asia	19	0	5	4	24
LAC	15	1	1	0	17
NM	3	0	1	1	4
CEE	6	0	2	1	8
Global (total)	64	2	14	9	80

47. The situation relating to the achievement of the target whereby all affected country Parties will have one synergistic initiative by 2014 is very positive. Almost two thirds of the affected country Parties that reported already had at least one such initiative. While the figures are highest in Africa and Asia in absolute terms, LAC is the frontrunner in terms of percentage of countries having synergistic initiatives (88 per cent). The situation in other regions is also positive: Africa 70 per cent, Asia 68 per cent, NMED 60 per cent and CEE 80 per cent.

48. LAC is also the only region where all the countries that do not yet have a synergistic initiative expressed their intention to establish one by 2014. This will be the only region to have achieved the target if plans are not changed before 2014.

49. Globally, 90 per cent of the affected country Parties would have a synergistic initiative by 2014. While this is a reasonably good perspective, it will nevertheless mean that the target will not be achieved. However, two developed country Parties expressed their intention to support the establishment of such initiatives in affected country Parties.

B. Affected country Parties (subregional and regional analysis)

1. Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation

a. Africa

50. Altogether 39 synergistic initiatives were reported from Africa. Sixteen African countries are implementing joint planning/programming initiatives for the three Rio conventions, and 12 not. Two countries reported such initiatives as being limited to two Rio conventions (both in Northern Africa). There was no subregion without at least one such initiative and Western Africa is a clear frontrunner with 7 such initiatives. Central Africa and Southern Africa are subregions with more countries not having initiatives than those having them.

51. Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement are more represented than joint planning/programming (21 compared to 16 at the regional level). Here again, Western Africa has the highest number. There was no subregion without such an initiative, and only in Central Africa were there more countries without such initiatives than those with them.

Table 17
Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (Africa)

<i>Subregion</i>	<i>Joint planning/programming initiatives for Rio conventions</i>			<i>Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement</i>		
	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions
Central Africa	3	4	0	3	4	0
Eastern Africa	3	1	0	4	0	0
Northern Africa	1	0	2	3	0	0
Southern Africa	2	4	0	3	3	0
Western Africa	7	3	0	8	2	0
Africa (total)	16	12	2	21	9	0

52. There is no clear dominance of type for either joint planning/programming initiatives or operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement. Many countries reported that their synergistic initiative(s) reflected most or all related types of these initiatives. A significant number of Parties reported that they had other types of initiatives than those listed in the template.

Table 18
Type of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (Africa)

<i>Type</i>	<i>Subregion</i>					<i>Africa (total)</i>
	Central Africa	Eastern Africa	Northern Africa	Southern Africa	Western Africa	
Joint planning/programming initiatives for three Rio conventions						
Review of national plans and identification of gaps in synergies	3	3	1	1	3	11
Identification of sectors and policies that could benefit from synergies and cooperation	2	2	2	1	6	13
Review of plans and policies to enhance cooperation	2	2	3	1	3	11
Enhancement of the institutional and scientific capacity of relevant stakeholders as well as of their awareness	2	2	3	2	7	16
Other	1	1	1	2	2	7

<i>Type</i>	<i>Subregion</i>					<i>Africa (total)</i>
	Central Africa	Eastern Africa	Northern Africa	Southern Africa	Western Africa	
Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement						
Carry out periodic meetings between focal points and focal point teams	2	4	1	2	7	16
Establishment of a national coordinating committee for implementation of the three Rio conventions	2	3	1	2	4	12
Other	2	2	2	2	5	13

b. Asia

53. Altogether 33 synergistic initiatives were reported from Asia.

54. In terms of joint planning/programming initiatives for all the Rio Conventions, a majority of Asian countries (61 per cent) have such initiatives. One country Party has such initiatives, but only for two Rio conventions. The remaining 10 country Parties (36 per cent) did not report any joint initiative.

55. In contrast to the joint initiatives, a smaller number of country Parties (48 per cent) reported on the existence of an operational mechanism for joint implementation of the Rio conventions (two Parties had such a mechanism for two Rio conventions, while 12 Parties did not report any such operational mechanism). One Party did not answer the question. There was no subregion without at least one such initiative, and only in South-East and West Asia was the number of countries without such an initiative higher than those with such an initiative.

Table 19

Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (Asia)

<i>Subregion</i>	<i>Joint planning/programming initiatives for Rio conventions</i>			<i>Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement</i>		
	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions
Central Asia	4	1	0	3	2	0
East Asia	1	1	0	2	0	0
Pacific	4	0	0	4	0	0
South Asia	1	2	1	1	2	1
South-East Asia	3	2	0	0	3	1
West Asia	4	4	0	3	5	0
Asia (total)	17	10	1	13	12	2

56. In terms of the types of joint initiatives, 1 country reported joint initiatives of five types mentioned in the template, 4 countries reported four different types of joint initiatives, 6 countries had at least three joint initiative types, 4 reported two joint initiatives, and the remaining 2 countries reported only one type of joint initiative. Only 2 countries reported all three types of operational mechanisms, while 4 countries reported two types of operational mechanisms. A majority of them reported only one type of operational mechanism.

57. All types of joint initiatives were basically equally used. However, with regard to operational mechanisms, there is a clear predominance of the type relating to periodic meetings between focal points and focal point teams. In both cases, countries also used other types of synergistic initiatives.

Table 20

Type of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (Asia)

Type	Subregion						Asia (total)
	Central Asia	East Asia	Pacific	South Asia	South East Asia	West Asia	
Joint planning/programming initiatives for the three Rio conventions							
Review of national plans and identification of gaps in synergies	2	3	2	1	3	0	11
Identification of sectors and policies that could benefit from synergies and cooperation	2	1	2	2	2	3	12
Review of plans and policies to enhance cooperation	2	1	4	0	2	3	12
Enhancement of the institutional and scientific capacity of relevant stakeholders as well as of their awareness	4	1	3	0	2	2	12
Other	0	0	0	1	2	1	4
Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement							
Carry out periodic meetings between focal points and focal point teams	3	1	3	1	0	3	11
Establishment of a national coordinating committee for implementation of the three Rio conventions	0	1	3	0	0	1	5
Other	1	1	1	1	1	2	7

c. *Latin America and the Caribbean*

58. Altogether 28 synergistic initiatives were reported by Latin America and the Caribbean.

59. Data show that 11 out of 17 country Parties are implementing a joint initiative for the three Rio conventions while 2 countries reported having joint initiatives for two Rio Conventions: in consequence, 13 out of 17 (76 per cent) of the countries of the region are

implementing joint initiatives aimed at strengthening synergies between the Rio conventions. Four countries reported no such initiative. There was no subregion without such an initiative. In all subregions, more countries reported having such an initiative, than not having one.

60. There is a somewhat higher number of operational mechanisms for joint implementation for the three Rio conventions. Most of the countries in the LAC region (88 per cent) reported having such a mechanism. Out of these 15 countries, 5 reported having such mechanisms for two Rio conventions only, while 2 have no operational mechanisms in place. There was no subregion without such an initiative. In all subregions, more countries have such an initiative, than have not.

Table 21
Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (LAC)

<i>Subregion</i>	<i>Joint planning/programming initiatives for Rio conventions</i>			<i>Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement</i>		
	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions
Andean	2	0	1	1	0	2
Caribbean	4	3	0	5	2	0
Mesoamerica	3	0	1	2	0	2
South Cone	2	1	0	2	0	1
LAC (total)	11	4	2	10	2	5

61. Unlike in Africa and Asia, different types of initiatives were not equally used. Most of the countries reported having joint initiatives on the enhancement of the institutional and scientific capacity for relevant stakeholders and for raising awareness among them, as well as initiatives on identification of sectors and policies that could benefit from synergies and cooperation. As far as operational mechanisms are concerned, periodic meetings of focal points and their teams proved again to be the most utilized type. Similarly, as in Africa and Asia, there were many other types of synergistic initiatives used by the countries.

Table 22
Types of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (LAC)

<i>Type</i>	<i>Subregion</i>				<i>LAC (total)</i>
	Andean	Caribbean	Mesoamerica	South Cone	
Joint planning/programming initiatives for three Rio conventions					
Review of national plans and identification of gaps in synergies	1	3	1	0	5
Identification of sectors and policies that could benefit from synergies and cooperation	2	4	3	1	10
Review of plans and policies to enhance cooperation	2	3	1	0	6
Enhancement of the institutional and scientific capacity of relevant stakeholders as well as of their awareness	3	4	3	1	11
Other	1	1	1	1	4
Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement					
Carry out periodic meetings between focal points and focal point teams	3	2	2	1	8
Establishment of a national coordinating committee for implementation of the three Rio conventions	1	1	0	0	2
Other	2	3	3	2	10

d. Northern Mediterranean

62. Altogether five synergistic initiatives were reported from the Northern Mediterranean.

63. Three countries are implementing joint initiatives (and two not), while three countries have operational mechanisms for joint implementation of mutual reinforcement (and three not). All these synergistic initiatives involve all three Rio conventions.

Table 23
Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (NMED)

	<i>Joint planning/programming initiatives for Rio conventions</i>			<i>Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement</i>		
	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions
NMED (total)	3	2	0	2	3	0

64. There is no significant variation of types of joint initiatives, while for operational mechanisms no country reported the existence of a national coordinating committee for implementation of the Rio conventions. It should be noted that, unlike in any other region, countries did not use any type of synergistic initiatives other than those listed in the template.

Table 24
Type of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (NMED)

<i>Type</i>	<i>NMED (total)</i>
Joint planning/programming initiatives for the three Rio conventions	
Review of national plans and identification of gaps in synergies	3
Identification of sectors and policies that could benefit from synergies and cooperation	3
Review of plans and policies to enhance cooperation	2
Enhancement of the institutional and scientific capacity of relevant stakeholders as well as of their awareness	2
Other	0
Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement	
Carry out periodic meetings between focal points and focal point teams	2
Establishment of a national coordinating committee for implementation of the three Rio conventions	0
Other	0

e. *Central and Eastern Europe*

65. Altogether 11 synergistic initiatives were reported from the Northern Mediterranean.

66. There is a similar number of joint initiatives (6 countries having them, 3 not) and operational mechanisms (5 countries having them, and 4 not). All these synergistic initiatives involve all three Rio conventions.

Table 25

Number of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (CEE)

	<i>Joint planning/programming initiatives for Rio conventions</i>			<i>Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement</i>		
	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions	Yes	No	Yes, but for only two of the Rio conventions
CEE (total)	6	3	0	5	4	0

67. There is no significant variation of types of joint initiatives. As in all other regions, periodic meetings of focal points and their teams is a type of operational mechanism that is used more frequently than the establishment of a national coordinating committee.

Table 26

Types of initiatives for synergistic planning/programming of the three Rio conventions or mechanisms for joint implementation (CEE)

<i>Type</i>	<i>CEE (total)</i>
Joint planning/programming initiatives for the three Rio conventions	
Review of national plans and identification of gaps in synergies	5
Identification of sectors and policies that could benefit from synergies and cooperation	5
Review of plans and policies to enhance cooperation	5
Enhancement of the institutional and scientific capacity of relevant stakeholders as well as of their awareness	4
Other	3
Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement	
Carry out periodic meetings between focal points and focal point teams	3
Establishment of a national coordinating committee for implementation of the three Rio conventions	1
Other	1

2. National contribution to the target

By 2014, each affected country Party has either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies among the three Rio conventions.

(See decision 13/COP.9, annex III, performance indicator CONS-O-7, target.)

a. *Africa*

68. In the reporting period (2008–2009), out of 30 reporting African countries, 21 countries had either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies between the three Rio conventions, and 9 not.

69. Out of those 9 countries which have neither an operational mechanism nor joint initiatives in place, only 6 countries plan to have such a mechanism by the end of 2013; and for the remaining 3 Parties no such plan exists yet.⁶

70. If these plans are not changed, Africa will not reach the target by 2014.

71. All Eastern and Northern African countries already have at least one synergistic initiative; they have therefore reached the target.

Table 27

Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms (Africa)

<i>Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms</i>				
<i>Subregion</i>	2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015	No plan yet
Central Africa	2	2	0	1
Eastern Africa	1	1	1	0
Northern Africa	1	1	0	0
Southern Africa	0	2	0	2
Western Africa	6	4	0	0
Africa (total)	10	10	1	3

b. *Asia*

72. In the reporting period (2008–2009), out of 28 reporting African countries, 19 countries had either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies between the three Rio conventions, and 9 not.

73. Out of those 9 countries that have neither an operational mechanism nor joint initiatives in place, 5 plan to have such an initiative by the end of 2013; the remaining 4 Parties (1 in Central Asia, 2 in South Asia and 1 in West Asia) have no such plan as yet.⁷

74. If these plans are not changed, Asia will not reach the target by 2014.

⁶ The number of countries that did not have any synergistic initiative in the period 2008–2009 does not match the number of countries that expressed their intention to establish one, because some countries that already have one type of synergistic initiative expressed their wish to establish the other type.

⁷ See footnote 6.

Table 28
Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms (Asia)

<i>Subregion</i>	<i>Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms</i>			
	2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015	No plan yet
Central Asia	2	2	0	1
East Asia	1	0	0	1
Pacific	1	1	0	0
South Asia	0	0	0	3
South East Asia	0	2	0	0
West Asia	0	6	0	1
Asia (total)	4	11	0	6

c. *Latin America and the Caribbean*

75. In the reporting period (2008–2009), out of 17 reporting LAC countries, 15 countries had either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies between the three Rio conventions, and 2 not.

76. Of the 2 countries that have neither operational mechanisms nor joint initiatives in place, one country plans to have such an initiative by the period 2010–2011 and the other by 2012–2013.⁸

77. If these plans are realized, this means that LAC will fully reach the target by 2014.

78. At subregional level, the Andean, Mesoamerican and the South Cone subregions have already reached the target.

Table 29
Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms (LAC)

<i>Subregion</i>	<i>Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms</i>			
	2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015	No plan yet
Andean	1	1	0	1
Caribbean	2	2	0	1
Mesoamerica	2	1	0	1
South Cone	1	2	0	0
LAC (total)	6	6	0	3

d. *Northern Mediterranean*

79. In the reporting period (2008–2009), out of 5 reporting Northern Mediterranean countries, 3 countries had either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies between the three Rio conventions, and 2 not.

80. Of those 2 countries that have neither operational mechanisms nor joint initiatives in place, one country plans to have such an initiative by the period 2012–2013 and the other has no plan.⁹

⁸ See footnote 6.

81. If this plan is not changed, NMED will not reach the target by 2014.

Table 30

Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms (NMED)

	<i>Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms</i>			
	2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015	No plan yet
NMED (total)	1	1	0	1

e. Central and Eastern Europe

82. Out of 9 reporting Central and Eastern European countries, 6 countries had either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies between the three Rio conventions, and 3 not.

83. Of the 3 countries that have neither operational mechanisms nor joint initiatives in place, two plan to have such an initiative by 2012–2013 and one does not have a plan.¹⁰

84. If this plan is not changed, Central and Eastern Europe will not reach the target by 2014.

Table 31

Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms (CEE)

	<i>Plan to have joint planning/programming or operational mechanisms</i>			
	2010–2011	2012–2013	2014–2015	No plan yet
NMED (total)	1	5	0	2

C. Developed country Parties

1. Number of enabling instruments established at the national, regional and global level with the technical and/or financial support of developed country Parties

Table 32

Number of enabling instruments established with the technical and/or financial support of developed country Parties

	<i>Joint planning/programming initiatives</i>		<i>Operational mechanisms for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement</i>	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
DCP (total)	14	21	14	14

85. Out of 12 developed country Parties, 4 countries did not answer this question. Two countries stated that they did not support any synergistic instrument by affected country Parties. The 6 remaining countries reported that they provided support to an equal number of joint initiatives and operational mechanisms in 2008, while the number of supported

⁹ See footnote 6.

¹⁰ See footnote 6.

joint initiatives increased by 50 per cent with the number of supported operational mechanisms remaining constant.

86. Out of 19 affected countries, subregions and regions for which developed country Parties reported that they provide technical and/or financial support for synergistic instruments, 11 are in Africa (Angola, Ethiopia, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Tunisia as countries, Central, Eastern, Southern and Western Africa as subregions, and Africa as region), 8 in Asia (Afghanistan, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan (twice), Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan (twice), Viet Nam), one in LAC (Peru) and one in CEE (Ukraine).

87. Developed country Parties were also asked whether they had instruments in place at the national level that would allow for a coordinated positioning of their country with respect to the three Rio conventions.

88. Seven countries answered this question, and five did not. Five answered that there were such instruments. One answered that there were such instruments, but for only two of the Rio conventions, namely the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). One country answered that there were no such instruments.

2. National contribution to the target

By 2014, each affected country Party has either one joint national plan in place or functional mechanism(s) to ensure synergies among the three Rio conventions.

(See decision 13/COP.9, annex III, performance indicator CONS-O-7, target.)

89. Developed country Parties were asked whether, at the time of reporting, they planned to provide support to one or more affected country Parties and/or subregions/regions for the establishment of instruments fostering synergies between the three Rio conventions.

90. Five developed countries did not answer this question. Five stated that they were not planning to provide such support. Two answered that, in the period 2010–11, they plan to provide support to the following countries/regions: Mali, Morocco, Tunisia Africa as a region (in Africa), all five Central Asian countries and Peru.

D. Global Environment Facility

91. For this performance indicator, the GEF reported that it provided mainly financial support to one operational mechanism for joint implementation or mutual reinforcement having a global scope (UNCCD indicator-based reporting system). It also responded that there were instruments in place within the GEF that foster synergies with respect to the three Rio conventions.¹¹

¹¹ Issues relating to data availability at the level of the GEF Secretariat made it difficult for it to provide more detailed information.

E. Global Mechanism

Number of enabling instruments established at the national, regional and global level with the technical and/or financial support of developed country Parties

92. The statistics provided by the GM seem to highlight that it provides more support to operational mechanisms for joint implementation than for planning and programming initiatives. While only one such initiative was supported in 2009, the GM reported that it provided assistance to a total of 11 operational mechanisms in 2008 and 13 in 2009 at all levels (national, subregional, global). Similar to its country reporting, the GM also highlighted a number of other types of joint initiatives that it supported but which are not mentioned in the template.

93. As beneficiaries of the technical and/or financial support rendered by the GM the following initiatives, institutions are mentioned at global level: TerrAfrica, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC), Collaborative Partnership on Forests and United Nations Forum on Forests (CPF/UNFF), Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD). Specific countries that received support are Ecuador, Guatemala and Vietnam, as well as the Western African and Mesoamerican subregions. The GM also reports that it will continue with its support in the field of synergies in the forthcoming biennium but did not specify possible beneficiaries.

V. Conclusions

94. It becomes clear from the information provided by affected countries that they are at an early stage in the process of aligning their NAPs to The Strategy. Only 2 countries aligned or formulated their NAP according to The Strategy in the reporting period while 4 others did so after the end of the period. This means that reaching the target of 80 per cent of affected countries having their NAP aligned to The Strategy by 2014 will be a challenging task. With all the remaining countries indicating their intention to do so by 2014, this means that over the coming three years, on average more than 20 countries per year should achieve this goal. This will be a major task for institutions supporting the affected country Parties, since 40 per cent of the countries reported that they have so far not received any support for this process. The decision by the GEF to allocate financial resources for NAP alignment as part of the enabling activities may be very timely in supporting efforts to achieve the global target.

95. Support, which is mainly financial, is predominantly provided by the secretariat and the GM together with some multilateral institutions. The small proportion of bilateral assistance is of concern; even the current state of support rendered by the secretariat and the GM will not suffice to provide the required assistance.

96. Two additional conclusions can be drawn from the data gathered for this performance indicator. First, it should be noted that, 10 years after the Bonn Declaration (decision 8/COP.4), which invited affected developing countries to finalize their NAPs no later than the end of 2005, 20 per cent of reporting affected countries do not have a NAP. Second, it appears that countries are not well informed about this process as some of them provided contradictory information in this respect. This indicates that improvements need to be made regarding the clarity of the reporting templates. It may however also imply that countries do not have a clear picture about all the aspects of the alignment process.

97. Developed country Parties reported 20 partnership agreements with affected country Parties in each reporting year. It is worth noting that more developed countries have no partnership agreements than have them. Further, half of the developed country Parties answered that they are not planning them at all. This reflects the low level of interest among developed country Parties in establishing partnership agreements with affected country Parties despite some developed countries having decided to specialize in certain regions and subregions and being active in partnering countries from these regions/subregions.

98. With 27 affected country Parties currently having partnership agreements, 8 per cent of the target of each affected country Party having two partnership agreements by 2014 has been achieved so far. In fact, no single country has two partnership agreements at the moment.

99. It should be noted that different results may be obtained if the method for calculating this indicator were changed. Currently, the number of partnership agreements is calculated based on input from developed country Parties, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations. Given the low response rates of such organizations, it is not surprising that figures are low.

100. There are currently 116 synergistic initiatives in 64 out of 89 affected country Parties countries. Only 25 per cent of these countries received support from developed countries for synergistic initiatives. The overwhelming majority of developed countries also said that they do not plan to support such initiatives in the future.

101. Without such support, it will be difficult to achieve the target of having at least one synergistic initiative in place by 2014 in all affected country Parties. If all plans by affected country Parties are realized, 90 per cent of the affected country Parties will have a synergistic initiative by 2014. Efforts need to be made to ensure that those countries that have plans for synergistic initiatives in the periods 2010–2011 and 2012–2013 actually accomplish them. Special efforts should be invested in the nine countries that do not yet have such plans in order that they may have initiatives in place by 2014.

VI. Recommendations

102. Taking into consideration the preliminary analysis provided in this document, Parties at CRIC 9 may wish to consider the following recommendations with a view to initiating early consultations on draft decisions to be forwarded to COP 10 for consideration:

(a) Affected country Parties are urged to intensify their efforts to align their NAPs with The Strategy and, in particular, to formulate a NAP in those countries that are still without one in order to achieve the target of all affected countries having such a programme by 2014;

(b) Affected country Parties are also urged to set aside financial resources made available by the GEF for NAP alignment as part of the enabling activities required to make progress in achieving the target and to inform Convention institutions on possible support needed in this regard;

(c) The UNCCD secretariat, in close cooperation with interested GEF implementing agencies, is requested to liaise with the GEF on a possible global support programme that complements the work undertaken and financed under the enabling activities;

(d) The UNCCD secretariat and the GM are requested to take into consideration issues such as data quality and relevant methodologies for collecting information in order to feed the iterative process and eventually improve reporting by Parties and other reporting entities;

(e) The UNCCD secretariat is also requested to pursue consultations with the GEF in order to enable the Facility to provide information on performance indicators as required and as data availability within the Facility allows;

(f) Developed country Parties are invited to increase their support to the establishment of partnership agreements with, and synergistic initiatives in, affected country Parties;

(g) Following a results-based approach, the subsidiary bodies and Convention institutions are urged to include consideration of these recommendations in their respective 2012–2013 work programmes, with a view to providing the required assistance to affected country Parties in achieving operational objective 2 of The Strategy in accordance with their respective mandates;

(h) The UNCCD secretariat and the GM are requested to make additional efforts to support the process of NAP formulation and/or alignment as part of their Joint Work Programme, including by raising awareness of this process among affected country Parties.
