

MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE EUROPEAN PLANT CONSERVATION STRATEGY



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Planta Europa is the network of organisations working to conserve the wild plants, both higher and lower, of Europe and their habitats.

VISION

A world in which plants are valued – now and for the future.

GOAL

To halt the loss of wild plant diversity in Europe by 2007.

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ISBN: 1 904749-14-3

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Planta Europa wishes to acknowledge the financial contribution of Plantlife International, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Swedish Species Information Centre

Introduction

The European Plant Conservation Strategy (EPCS) is a joint initiative of the Council of Europe and Planta Europa. The Strategy is based upon contributions from the delegates at the third Planta Europa Conference, the European expert meeting in preparation for SBSTTA/VII, the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention and numerous European conservation organisations.

The EPCS was developed as a contribution to, and part of, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). The 42 targets of the EPCS are arranged under five objectives, which correspond to the objectives of the GSPC:

1. Understanding and documenting plant diversity
2. Conserving plant diversity
3. Using plant diversity sustainably
4. Promoting education and awareness about plant diversity
5. Building capacity for the conservation of plant diversity

Each target has a named lead organisation that has pledged to take the target forward.

The European Plant Conservation Strategy was submitted to the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention in November 2001. The Standing Committee recognised the EPCS as a valuable contribution to the development of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, and recommended that Contracting Parties formulate and implement, or reinforce, as appropriate, national plant conservation strategies or have them incorporated as an integral part of national biodiversity strategies (Recommendation No 87, 2001).

In April 2002, the European Plant Conservation Strategy was recognised as a contribution to the GSPC adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity (Decision VI/9). It also contributes to the Pan European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS).

This mid-term review of the EPCS was undertaken by the fourth Planta Europa conference in Valencia, Spain, September 2004. The review found that more than 50% of the targets are progressing well; two have in fact already been achieved.

The conference delegates recognised, however, a number of key constraints and issues, which resulted in lack of progress in some of the targets and have implications for the successful implementation of the EPCS by 2007.

1. Inconsistent commitment by the identified lead organisations to implement assigned targets.

It was difficult to determine progress in a number of targets as not all lead partners had submitted progress reports to Planta Europa prior to the conference or were not present at the conference to report.

It was also apparent that some lead organisations were not fully aware of the implications of their role as lead or were not in a position to make progress in delivery of their assigned targets. These leads would either have to be replaced or provided with additional support.

It is therefore recommended that resources be found to host a dedicated workshop at the earliest opportunity involving the existing and proposed new target leads to more concretely define actions and resource needs to ensure the continued implementation of the EPCS.

2. The EPCS is a joint document between the Council of Europe and Planta Europa. Although Planta Europa is making every effort to fulfil its own commitments to implement the strategy, many of the actions required for achieving a target are outside the control of Planta Europa and fall into the remit of governments. **Therefore there is a need for the Council of Europe and its member governments to make a greater commitment to the strategy's implementation.**

3. Implementation of the EPCS should be enhanced through increased harmonisation of activities with the GSPC, the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the Bern Convention obligations. The proposed national focal points should also play a significant role in harmonisation with the GSPC and other obligations in European countries, such as mandatory implementation of Natura 2000 in EU Member States.

4. A clear monitoring and evaluation process for reviewing the implementation of the EPCS needs to be established. It was recommended that national /sub national focal points be established to monitor the implementation of the European Strategy in all countries.

5. Although the conference reviewed overall progress in the EPCS implementation, a focus was laid on the Planta Europa network's contribution to the strategy's implementation. This was in recognition that there is now broader ownership of the strategy beyond Planta Europa. As a result, **a key output of the conference was the development of a set of Critical Targets for Planta Europa and its members to be achieved by 2007.**

The Critical Targets and associated Action Plan describes what Planta Europa and its members see as their most crucial (and minimum) contribution for the delivery of plant conservation in Europe over the next 3 years. The following critical areas were identified: strengthening Planta Europa's capacity and its membership; promoting and enabling plant conservation in Europe; and contributing to key plant conservation programmes.

The following table summarises the discussions that took place during the strategy workshops and plenary sessions at the Planta Europa Conference. Key recommendations from the Conference's thematic workshops were integrated. The table is a collaborative effort of the Planta Europa Conference delegates, facilitators of the thematic and strategic workshops, Planta Europa members, Planta Europa Steering Committee, Advisors to the Steering Committee, Lead Partners and the Planta Europa Secretariat.

The subsequent recommendations were that 32 of the EPCS targets should be revised or have milestones added (as identified), two targets should be dropped, and three additional targets should be included. Two targets are successfully completed

Objective	Completed	In progress	No progress, still relevant	New target or target substantially changed	Deleted
1. Understanding and Documenting	0	6	3	1	0
2. Conserving	1	14	5	1	1
3. Using Sustainably	0	1	0	0	0
4. Promoting Awareness	0	1	0	4	0
5. Building Capacity	1	4	1	1	1

REVISED TARGETS AND MILESTONES

NO	Progress	Initial target and milestones (2002)	Revised target and new milestones (2004)	Lead organisation
I UNDERSTANDING AND DOCUMENTING PLANT DIVERSITY				
I.01	In progress	Working list of all known European plant species (including cryptogamic plants and fungi) produced By 2004: Prioritised list of groups that require taxonomic revision produced	Target unchanged By 2006: ECCB to produce a European checklist of bryophytes By 2007: Working list of all known European plant species (including cryptogamic plants and fungi) produced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euro+Med Plantbase • European Committee for Conservation of Bryophytes (ECCB) • European Council for the Conservation of Fungi (ECCF)
I.02	In progress	European Red List for vascular plants, revised list for bryophytes, and preliminary Red Lists for lichens, macrofungi and other selected groups published	Target unchanged By 2005: Invite the European +Mediterranean +Macronesian Plant Specialist Groups to advise Planta Europa how to achieve the target By 2007: ECCB to complete revision of all Bern, HSD, endemic, near-endemic and CR species By 2007: All national endemic vascular plant species included in the IUCN Red List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Plant Specialist Group of IUCN • ECCF • ECCB
I.02a	New target		Develop Red List for Wild Crops Relatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PGR Forum • IUCN/SSC Crop Wild Relative Specialist Group
I.03	Target still relevant, but no lead organisation	Manual of tried and tested (species and habitat) monitoring protocols for scientists and naturalists made available on the web By 2004: Compiled list of national monitoring programmes and made available on web	Target unchanged, no new milestones	New lead organisation to be identified
I.04	In progress	First edition of European Important Plant Areas (IPA) Inventory completed By 2002: Operational Secretariat and regional/local nodes established By 2002: National human and knowledge resource studies completed From 2002: Newsletter published annually By 2002: Guided web chat room launched By 2003: Provisional site selection manual drafted By 2004: First draft national lists compiled for all European countries By 2004: IPA Workshop at Planta Europa Conference IV By 2004: Site selection manual revised By 2007: Inventory completed for all European countries	Target unchanged By 2007: Develop work with butterfly, bird and other conservation organisations as to how IPAs and similar networks could contribute to understanding of High Nature Value Farming Areas By 2007: Identify contact points (NGO, regional or national government, as appropriate) in countries where no progress on IPAs to consider how best to stimulate the identification of IPAs in those countries (Plantlife International) By 2007: National Planta Europa members to work with contact point to initiate projects to contribute to IPA network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plantlife International
I.05	Target still relevant, although no progress has been achieved to date	Research initiated to assess effectiveness of IPA approach By 2003: IPAs Evaluation and Monitoring Manual produced By 2003: National overviews of threats to IPAs produced (with recommendations)	Target unchanged By 2005: Develop guide to best practice to show what is possible, to identify possible roles for IPAs, and encourage others to copy, recognising national diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plantlife International
I.06	In progress	Information about all designated areas important for plant conservation included in the Common Database on Designated Areas	Target unchanged By 2007: Data on habitats and species are brought together in the ETC/WCMC database of European sites nationally designated for plant conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity (ETC/BD)
I.07	Target still relevant, although no progress has been achieved to date	Effectiveness of the "improved biodiversity indicators" for Sustainable Forest Management assessed in at least four biogeographical regions	Target unchanged, no new milestones	No lead organisation

NO	Progress	Initial target and milestones (2002)	Revised target and new milestones (2004)	Lead organisation
1.08	Some progress has been made, new lead organisation needed	Single web address and list server for exchanging information on European Red List projects established and maintained	Target unchanged By 2005: Planta Europa to invite partners to contribute links to the existing web pages	No lead organisation
1.09	In progress	List of threatened European plant taxa in ex situ collections published on the web	Target unchanged By 2005: Provide a link to the result of a survey undertaken by BGCI to assess current holding of European threatened plant species and ongoing plant conservation projects on the Planta Europa website	• BGCI
2 CONSERVING PLANT DIVERSITY				
2.01	In progress, new lead organisation needed	National programmes to identify and monitor non-red listed rapidly declining species promoted in 15 European countries and species included in recovery programmes as appropriate	National programmes to identify and monitor non-red listed rapidly declining species promoted in 15 European countries By 2007: Secure lead organisation for the target: Planta Europa Secretariat to write to the new Chair of the IUCN European Plant Specialist group after Bangkok congress By 2007: Collate existing information on these programmes from at least 15 countries By 2007: Establish an appropriate mechanism for disseminating information e.g. specific website linked to the European Union clearing house mechanism By 2007: Address national authorities and EU about the need for these programmes	New lead organisation to be identified
2.02	In progress	To have promoted the development and implementation of recovery programmes in relevant countries for 50 priority plants across all taxa, their selection to be informed by European Red Lists and lists of rapidly declining but widely scattered species as these become available By 2004: List of priority species appropriate for recovery programmes developed by 2004	To have promoted the development and implementation of recovery programmes in relevant countries for 50 priority plants across all taxa, their selection to be informed by appropriate European priority species lists and lists of rapidly declining but widely scattered species as these become available By 2007: Information on the implementation of species recovery plans and management programmes (local, national and regional – Pan Europe, Mediterranean and EU) to be made available from one central place or clearing house for the species on the following priority lists: Bern Convention, IUCN Top 50, 50 Threatened Species of the European Flora in need of urgent conservation measures (draft by Jean-Yves Lesouef for the Council of Europe)	• Parties to the Bern Convention • IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) – not confirmed
2.03	Some progress has been made, new lead organisation needed	Flagship trans-boundary partnership projects for the recovery of at least 5 priority species to have reached implementation stage	Exemplary trans-national (including transboundary) partnership projects for the recovery of at least 5 priority (near endemic or threatened) or flagship species to have reached implementation stage By 2007: Secure lead organisation for the target: Planta Europa Secretariat to ask WWF (through the WWF international office). By 2007: Funding in place for at least one trans-national project	New lead organisation to be identified
2.04	In progress	Spore-bank for pteridophytes established By 2004: Necessary technical protocols developed	Target unchanged By 2007: List of organisations hosting gene banks made available By 2007: List of protocols for gene banking made available By 2007: List of priority species of pteridophytes By 2007: Creation of an SS European Fern Specialist sub group	• Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh • IUCN SSC – not confirmed

NO	Progress	Initial target and milestones (2002)	Revised target and new milestones (2004)	Lead organisation
2.05	In progress	80% of the genetic diversity of 50% of regionally and nationally threatened species stored in gene banks (prioritised by degree of threat) By 2004: Inventory of taxa held in European germplasm (heredity material) collections and gaps for collection identified	A range of the genetic diversity of 50 % of regionally and nationally threatened species stored in gene banks (prioritised by threat) By 2007: Inventory of taxa held in European germplasm (heredity material) collections and gaps for collection identified	• BGCI
2.06	In progress	At least 12 priority species of bryophytes brought into <i>ex situ</i> conservation and methodology promoted internationally	Target unchanged By 2007: Additional European priority species included in the programme – e.g. Annex II of the Habitats Directive	• Royal Botanic Gardens Kew
2.07	In progress	Manual with guidelines and case studies of best practice for integrated (<i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i>) plant conservation programmes made available on the web	Target unchanged, no new milestones	• Federation de Conservatoire Botanique
2.08	Target still relevant, although no progress has been achieved to date	Protocols for <i>ex situ</i> conservation for all groups of vascular plants, cryptogamic plants and fungi produced	Target unchanged By 2007: Establish/promote a central mechanism for disseminating information on all protocols e.g. link appropriate websites to the European Clearing house mechanism	• BGCI
2.09	In progress, improved coordination is needed	Plant conservation benefits of effective Rural Development Plans (including agri-environmental schemes) and other relevant environmental stewardship incentive measures promoted in all European countries By 2003: Comparative survey at European level on plant conservation benefits and shortcomings of agri-environmental schemes By 2003: Feasibility of development of effective indicators considered	Target unchanged By 2005: Quick scan of existing data of Planta Europa member countries to produce report to be used for the new rural development plans By 2007: Identify best practice examples of using agri-environmental schemes in at least 5 European countries and disseminate results By 2007: Planta Europa Secretariat to approach DG Agriculture or produce LIFE Nature proposal for funding for this target	• IUCN Regional Office for Europe (ROE) • Koninklijke Nederlandse Natuurhistorische Vereniging (KNVV) Suggested partners: WWF Brussels Office, IEEP and BirdLife
2.10	In progress	Management plan for at least 5 endangered taxa of wild crop relatives initiated in at least one protected area in each of 5 or more European countries By 2003: EU funding obtained By 2003: Development of a web enabled database of European wild crop relatives	Management plan for at least 5 endangered species of wild crop relatives initiated in at least one protected area in each of 5 or more European countries By 2005: Development of methodologies to design and implement management plans By 2007: EU funding obtained By 2007: Development of a web enabled database of European wild crop relatives	• European Cooperative Programme for Crop Genetic Resources Networks (ECP/GR) • European Forest Genetic Resources Programme (EUFORGEN)
2.11	In progress	80% of the genetic diversity of 30% of wild crop relatives and other socio-economically and ethnobotanically important species stored in gene banks By 2004: Inventory completed and gaps identified	Target unchanged, no new milestones	• ECP/GR • EUFORGEN
2.12	Initial target was unrealistic and substantially revised	Inclusion in the Habitats and Species Directive (and Emerald Network) of all qualifying species listed in the Bern Convention with the formal support of at least 3 national governments By 2003: List of qualifying species produced By 2004: States within the range of each qualifying species contacted	To keep Annexes of the Habitats Directive updated and promoted to European Commission through national governments By 2007: Produce a list of qualifying species and conduct an analysis of the benefits of adding those species, and problems in not doing so in 2 countries (Romania and Bulgaria)	• Parties to the Bern Convention /EU Member States/EU Candidate Member States • IPA country partners and IPA secretariat

NO	Progress	Initial target and milestones (2002)	Revised target and new milestones (2004)	Lead organisation
2.13	In progress	Inclusion of all relevant threatened vascular plants (including tree species), cryptogamic plants and fungi in relevant Bern Convention annexes promoted By 2004: Data sheets of all eligible cryptogamic plants completed By 2004: Data sheets of all vascular plant and fungi completed	Produce datasheets for bryophytes, lichens & algae to promote their inclusion in Bern Convention Annexes By 2007: Planta Europa Secretariat to approach potential partners for lichens & algae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant Experts Group Bern Convention ECCF ECCB
2.14	Target still relevant, although no progress has been achieved to date	IPAs promoted for inclusion in the PEBLDS and National Biodiversity Action Plans, and promoted to support, inform and underpin international protected area networks (e.g., Emerald, Natura 2000, Pan-European Ecological Network, Ramsar etc.)	Target unchanged By 2006: CEE overview and 7 national publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plantlife International
2.15	Target still relevant, although no progress has been achieved to date	Programme designed and initiated to evaluate the effectiveness of current protected area management across selected sites of European importance for plants and recommendations disseminated to date	Target unchanged By 2007: Develop series of case studies, with information from English Nature, Valencia Microreserve project, and anything relevant from the Plantlife International CEE project report By 2007: Review of reports generated under Habitat Directive requirements By 2007: Clearing house mechanism established – Planta Europa Secretariat to lead By 2007: Collated info provided to WCPA to develop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Planta Europa Secretariat English Nature
2.16	In progress	Existing initiatives on enhancement of wild plant diversity in urban and peri-urban areas reviewed in at least 5 countries	Target unchanged By 2007: Planta Europa members requested to provide information to Planta Europa secretariat By 2007: Showcase successful projects on the Planta Europa website By 2007: Provide information to MAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAB-UNESCO Urban group
2.17	Target still relevant, although no progress has been achieved to date	Planta Europa to support partners in the defence of threatened sites important for plant conservation By 2004: A mechanism (casework strategy) By 2004: Relevant procedures for helping to save threatened sites promoted within Planta Europa network	Target unchanged By 2007: Data base of casework developed By 2007: Requests for support & information redirected back to national and regional bodies and experts By 2007: Planta Europa act as a clearing house/information exchange body which included above database and case studies submitted by Planta Europa members on their own experience By 2007: Newsroom site added to Planta Europa website through which Planta Europa members could exchange information and experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planta Europa Secretariat Planta Europa members
2.18	Completed	Practical micro-reserve programmes established and operational in least 2 regional pilot areas By 2004: Benefits of micro-reserve programmes disseminated to target pilot areas	Suggested follow up work: Dissemination of information and experience of micro-reserve programmes Generalitat Valenciana to provide information on experience Generalitat Valenciana to collate the information on micro-reserve programmes across Europe and produce a review of experience. The review should cover the differing institutional and legislative frameworks, micro reserve management, and monitoring processes The review should be made available to WCPA, CoE, national bodies, and Planta Europa membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generalitat Valenciana

NO	Progress	Initial target and milestones (2002)	Revised target and new milestones (2004)	Lead organisation
2.19	No progress. Combined new target incorporates initial targets 2.19 and 2.20. No new lead organisation identified	Support/campaign for national water strategies in every European country that gives priority to the importance of high water quality to the environment	Support/campaign for national water strategies and national laws that support a high water quality By 2007: Produce an information sheet for botanists on how they can engage in the water framework process	New lead organisation to be identified
2.20	Deleted	Support/campaign for successful transposition of the Water Framework directive into national law with ecologically meaningful long term targets set for water quality	See above 2.19, new combined target	• Planta Europa members
2.21	In progress, improved coordination is needed	Up to date information on European invasive species made available to relevant target audiences By 2004: National lists of invasives compiled in at least 90% of Planta Europa member countries and publicised as appropriate By 2004: All relevant information included in web database of the Global Invasive Species Programme By 2006: List of alien invasive species in Europe including their distribution and their negative ecological and economical effects published By 2006: Fact sheets on the biology including information about control measures of 100 of the worst invasive species published	Target unchanged By 2007: Establish common European database. Need to approach IUCN & Bern Convention to determine what has been done & whether can coordinate the development of a database. Also establish a link with the VI Framework project starting in February 2006 By 2007: Early Warning System for invasive species in Europe established (lead to be identified)	• IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group • Bern Convention • GISP – Global Invasive Species Programme
2.22	In progress	Holistic institutional, policy and legislative framework for invasive species control established in 25% of European countries	Target unchanged By 2007: Initiate a pilot project in up to 10 countries to develop more fully By 2007: Adoption of ESIAS (European Strategy on Invasive and Alien Species) in national countries – Planta Europa to take lead lobbying By 2007: Action plans for limited (5-10) of the most problematic invasive species in Europe – in most countries	• IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group • Planta Europa members
3 USING PLANT DIVERSITY SUSTAINABLY				
3.01	In progress	Best practice for the conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants (and other sociologically important plants) identified and promoted to relevant policy makers By 2004: Evaluation of case-studies and other relevant information completed By 2004: Synthesis of literature on best practices for conservation and sustainable use of plants in Europe completed and promoted to relevant policy makers	Target unchanged, no new milestones	• WWF Traffic

NO	Progress	Initial target and milestones (2002)	Revised target and new milestones (2004)	Lead organisation
4	PROMOTING	EDUCATION AND AWARENESS ABOUT PLANT	DIVERSITY	
4.01	In progress, additional funds needed	A joint public promotion to articulate the case for wild plant conservation implemented by Planta Europa members By 2004: Promotion plan conceived By 2004: Information on 10 priority topics prepared By 2004: Council of Europe fact sheets on the conservation biology of 50 threatened fast-declining taxa updated and published	A joint public promotion to articulate the state of wild plants and the need for their conservation to be implemented by Planta Europa members By 2007: Preparation of a wake-up call, drawn from members work and analysis, using professional press staff By 2007: An international launch by/at the time of the next Planta Europa conference (2007) By 2007: National events to follow and reporting back from each country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of Europe • Planta Europa Secretariat
4.02	Initial target was unrealistic and substantially revised	Report on the current status of plant conservation issues in the national curriculum (both higher and lower) of all European Countries produced together with recommendations for development	Identify in each country agencies responsible for the national curriculum and promote to them the inclusion of plant issues in coverage of the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Botanical Gardens European Consortium (BGCI and IABG) • Planta Europa members
4.02a	New target		To share the experience, information and skills gained in awareness-raising within big projects (such as LIFE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LIFE fund recipients (one of) – not identified
4.02b	New target		To support communication, education and public awareness of the value of plants as a prerequisite for plant conservation By 2007: Informal network established of those working on above, including a database of who does what By 2007: Collaborative project to support informal education and awareness in Central and Eastern Europe launched	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Romanian Botanic Gardens
4.03	Initial target was unrealistic and substantially revised	Support to the plant conservation network on how to plan and manage communication to target groups, including training and help desk advice	Bring together those who do informal interactive education on plants ex situ in botanic gardens with those doing it <i>in situ</i> By 2007: Organise an international conference "Learning through recreation" By 2007: Organise a summer school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IUCN Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)
5	BUILDING CAPACITY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF PLANT	DIVERSITY		
5.01	No progress, but still relevant. No lead organisation identified	Increase employed taxonomists supporting plant conservation by 25 % in each European country By 2004: Capacity for taxonomic expertise in Europe assessed and reported on By 2005: Promote needs to national governments and relevant institutes	Target unchanged, no new milestones	New lead organisation to be identified
5.02	Target not progressing Deleted	Active partnership established with networks specialised in site management to promote training for landowners in sites important for plants		
5.03	Initial target was unrealistic and substantially revised	All targets in the European Plant Conservation Strategy supported by appropriate research By 2003: Define research needs for each target By 2003: Present Strategy to research bodies etc. By 2004: Find/allocate research partner By 2004: Draw up memoranda of understanding as necessary	All targets in the European Plant Conservation Strategy related to existing research programmes, gaps identified By 2007: Make the European Strategy better known by research funding bodies	All lead organisations

NO	Progress	Initial target and milestones (2002)	Revised target and new milestones (2004)	Lead organisation
5.04	In progress	<p>Increase by 25% number of volunteer recorders (amateur naturalists) for all plant groups contributing data to support plant conservation</p> <p>By 2004: Assess the current contribution amateur naturalists make to plant recording</p> <p>By 2004: Promote involvement in tailored national plant conservation projects</p>	<p>Increase the number of unpaid public participants (volunteers, friends/supporters) contributing data to support plant conservation and promote their involvement in conservation projects</p> <p>By 2007: Produce a publication to celebrate what volunteers had achieved around Europe</p> <p>By 2007: Encourage websites for volunteers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planta Europa members
5.05	In progress	<p>Communication and information exchange between scientists and plant conservationists enhanced</p> <p>By 2004: Directory of specialists in European plants developed and maintained (milestone deleted)</p> <p>By 2004: Database of projects and case studies for plant conservation developed and maintained</p> <p>By 2004: Data and information exchange system for European plant conservation and the Planta Europa Network established</p>	<p>Communication and information exchange between those working for plant conservation enhanced</p> <p>By 2005: Present website of country meta data (Plant Talk) completed</p> <p>By 2006: Pilot study on members project data and information exchange system for European plant conservation and the Planta Europa Network established</p> <p>By 2007: Previous activity rolled out for all the countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planta Europa Secretariat • Plant Talk
5.06	In progress	<p>Capacity of Planta Europa to achieve effective plant conservation enhanced</p> <p>By 2002: Network of focal points in 75% of European countries established</p> <p>By 2004: Network of focal points in each country established</p> <p>By 2004: Assessment of capacity in each country completed and gaps identified</p> <p>By 2007: Collaborative projects which raise more than Euro 1 million facilitated</p>	<p>Target unchanged</p> <p>By 2007: Network of focal points in all European countries established</p> <p>By 2007: Each focal point should ensure they have contacted the official GSPC focal point in their country and provided them with information on Planta Europa activities that are implementing the EPCS</p> <p>By 2007: All Planta Europa members should assist or initiate national assessment of needs to implement the GSPC at national level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planta Europa Secretariat
5.07	In progress	<p>Starting from 2002, key conservation messages regularly disseminated to Planta Europa members</p>	<p>Key conservation messages regularly disseminated to Planta Europa members</p> <p>From 2005: Make Plant Talk as user friendly to Planta Europa members as possible through customized versions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planta Europa Secretariat
5.08	Completed	<p>European Plant Conservation Strategy included within the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of CBD</p> <p>By 2002: Successfully lobbied at COP 6</p> <p>By 2004: Common approach towards the development and implementation of the Global Plant Conservation Strategy agreed with key international networks (e.g., Ramsar Bureau, IUCN, Euro-MAB UNESCO, Council of Europe, FAO, IPGRI) achieved</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planta Europa Secretariat



The IV Planta Europa Conference in Valencia, Spain could not have successfully taken place without the support of a wide range of individuals and organisations. We would like to particularly acknowledge the support of the following:

Universitat de València Jardí Botànic
Generalitat Valenciana Conselleria de Territori Habitatge
Universitat de València
Any Cavanilles
Ajuntament de Valencia
Plantlife International
Council of Europe
Swedish Threatened Species Unit ArtDatabanken
Life
RACC Automóvil Club
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
IVIA – Insituto Valenciano De Investigaciones Agrarias
Ministry for Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, the Netherlands
CAM
Fundación Enrique Montoliu
Scottish Natural Heritage
The Joint Nature Conservation Committee, UK

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ISBN: 1 904749-14-3

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COVER IMAGE: ALPINE FLOWERS AT SCHYNIGEPLATTE IN SWITZERLAND BOB GIBBONS/NATURAL IMAGE