

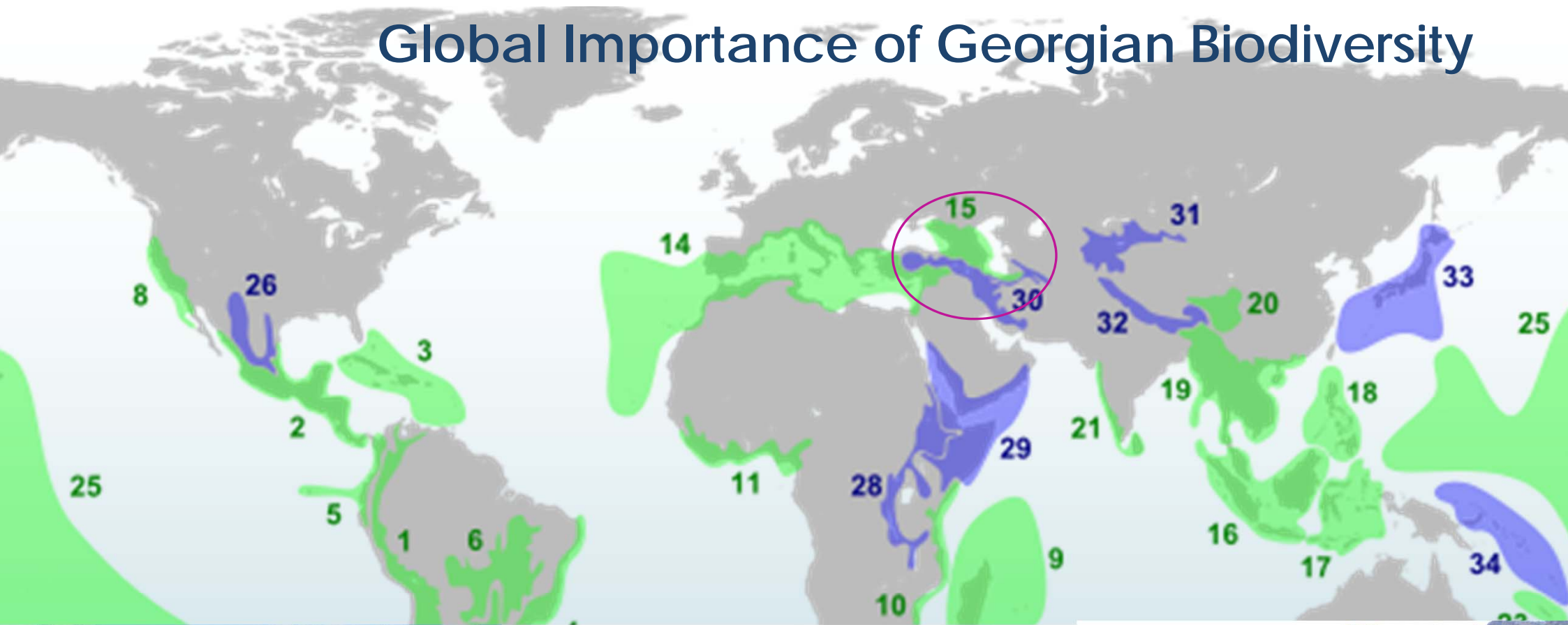


Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

# Indicators for Biodiversity Monitoring in Georgia

UNECE, 12th Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators  
17 - 18 November 2016  
Geneva, Switzerland

# Global Importance of Georgian Biodiversity



# Protected Areas Network in Georgia

საქართველოს დაცული ტერიტორიები

14 State Reserves

11 National Parks

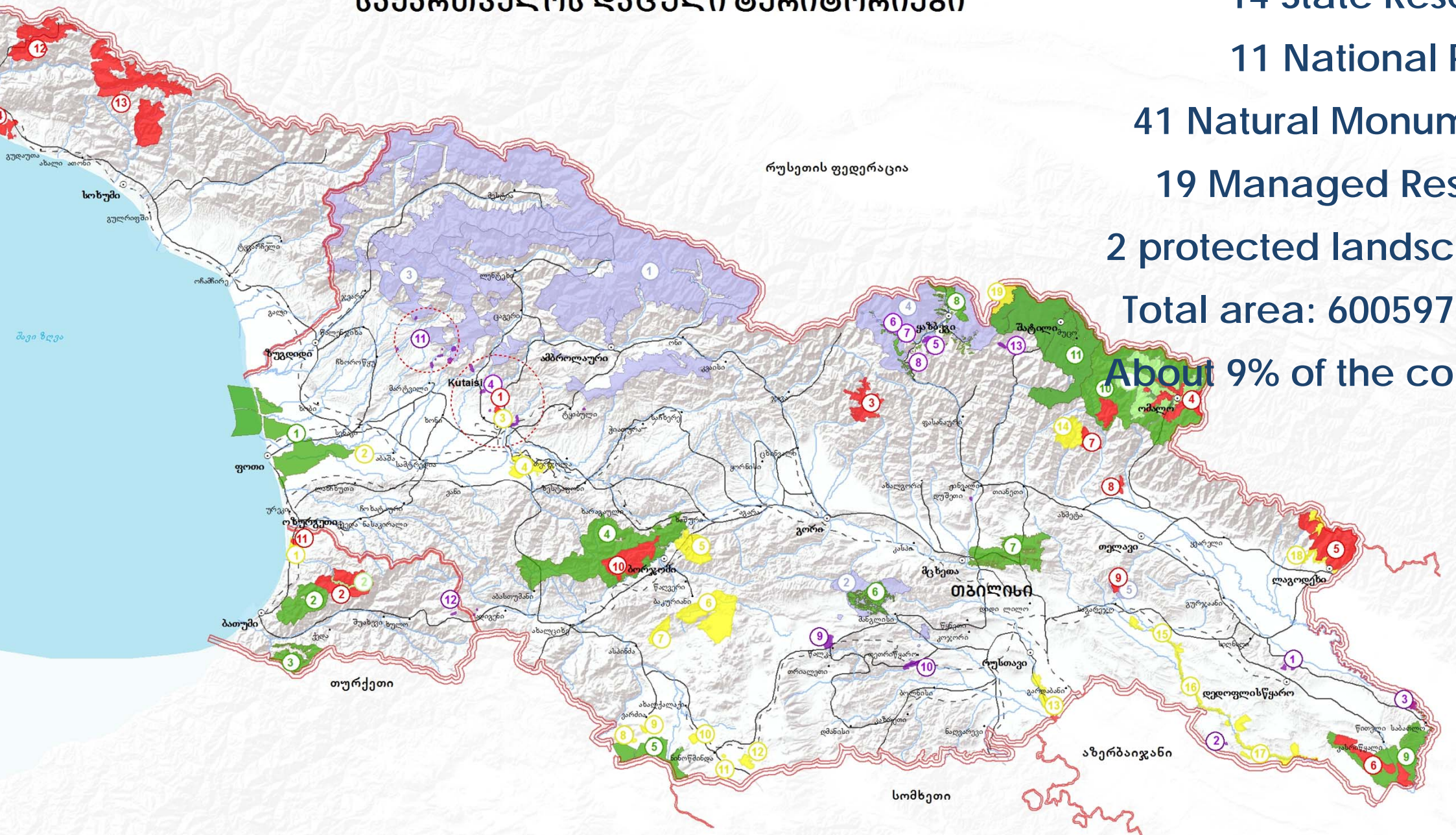
41 Natural Monuments

19 Managed Reserves

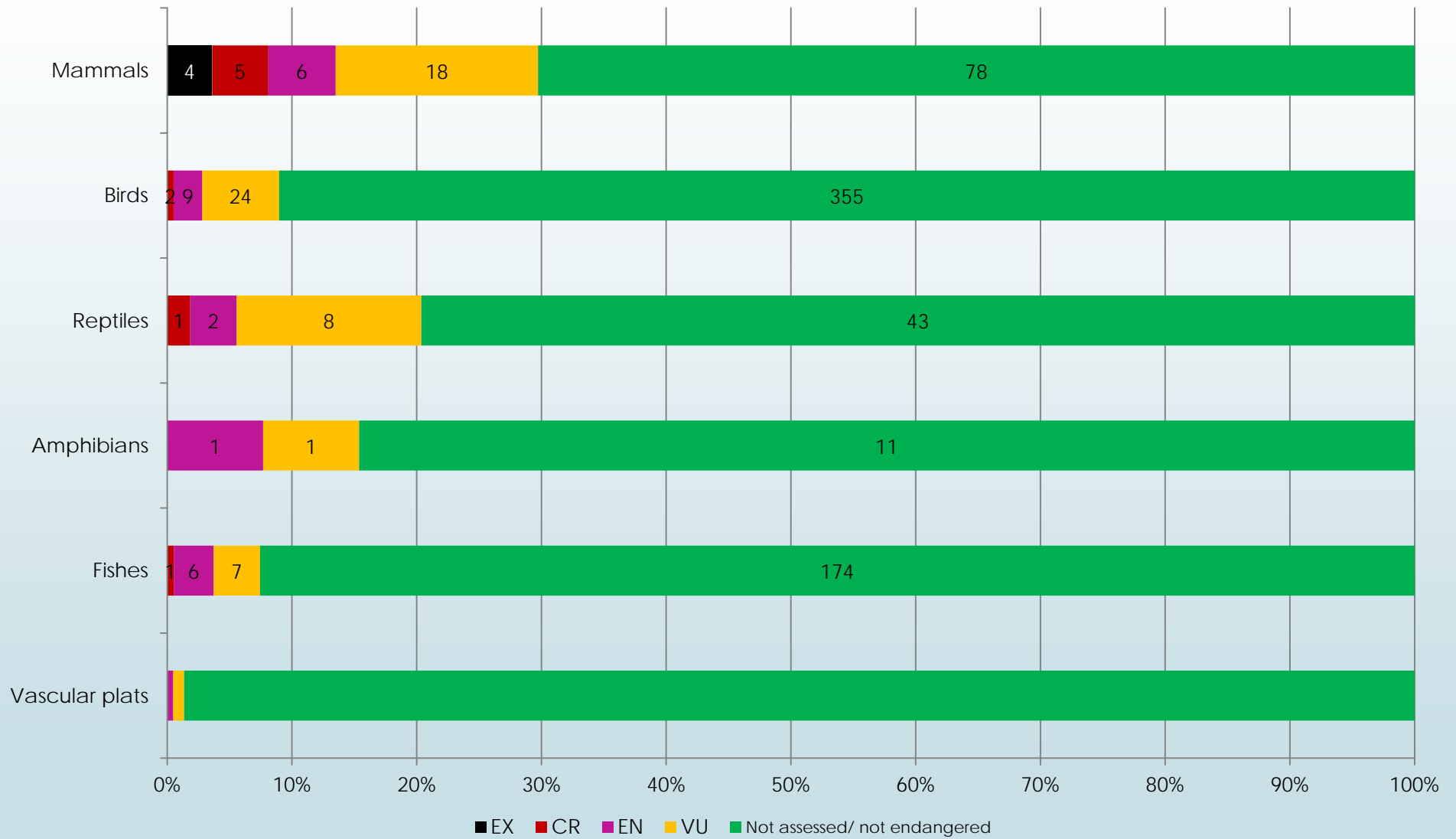
2 protected landscapes


Total area: 600597

About 9% of the country



## ► The Status of the species



- 
- ▶ `` However it is not possible to provide a precise account of the status of Georgia's biodiversity: information on the condition of ecosystems, habitats, and species has not been collected in a systematic way, while the national biodiversity monitoring system has been established only recently and is not yet fully operational ``

*States the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Georgia 2014-2020*

# Initiation of National Biodiversity Monitoring System

- ✓ Establishment of NBMS - Governmental Initiative laid down in NBSAP of 2005, supported by GIZ/CIM
- ✓ First steps taken in 2007: identification of main stakeholders, gathering information for drafting the concept of the joint system
- ✓ Concept of NBMS finalized and the list of 26 biodiversity Indicators based on OECD Pressure-State-Response Model elaborated in a participatory manner and approved in 2009 (re-approved in 2010)

# Calculated and Published Indicators

The following 12 the indicators have been calculated and published in 2013-20

P1: Fragmentation of Landscape

P4: Intensity of Fishery - 3 times

P9: Distribution area of invasive species

P11: Forest Diseases and Forest Fires – 2 times

S1: Forest Area

S7: Public Awareness on Biodiversity

S3c: Populations of Selected Plant Species/Plants

R1: Total Area of Protected Areas – 2 times

R2: Protected Areas with Management Plans

R5: Reforestation/Afforestation – 2 times


R6: Area under Organic Farming – 2 times

R7: Financial Resources for Nature Conservation – 2 times

# Need for Revision

- Several years experience demonstrated need for revision biodiversity indicators
- Three main directions of revision process:
  1. Harmonization of indicators and their assessment methods w global/international indicators
  2. Institutionalization of NBMS
  3. Capacity development for NBMS





## Objective and Scope of the UNDP/GEF Project “Harmonization of Information Management for Improved Knowledge and Monitoring the Global Environment in Georgia” in relation to biodiversity monitoring:

- to create enabling environment for informed decision-making related to biodiversity in Georgia through building information/knowledge management system

The project contributes to the development of unified system of indicators for the monitoring of biodiversity at national level through

- Harmonization of indicators system in close cooperation with stakeholders;
- Supporting improvement of legal base for biodiversity monitoring in close cooperation with GIZ.

# Process of Indicators Harmonization

- Set of indicators is being revised taking into account:
- National biodiversity targets 2014-2020;

*Under the updated NBSAP for Georgia, 21 national goals are set for the protection of biodiversity. NBSAP includes 73 indicators to measure achievements by the national targets.*

- Global Indicators for the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

*New set of national indicators is recommended to be in line with global indicators.*

- Indicators and data for National Report on ``State of Environment``

*Is recommended to be in line with UNECE biodiversity indicators*

## The list of the suggested indicators – Protected Areas

- Number, Location and Area (ha) of PAs
  - Improving site-based protected area planning and management (PAs with administrations, MPs, registered borders, buffer zones, staff qualification, Infrastructure)
  - Infrastructure causing damage to PAs
  - General financing of PA system
  - Evaluation of effectiveness of PAs management
  - Monitoring and scientific activities in PAs



## The list of the suggested indicators - Forests

Forest area and wood volume

Characteristics of forests (Area of Natural/ Semi Natural forests and forest Plantations)

Forest exploitation - Commercial logging

Afforestation/reforestation and transformation

Forests in Protected Areas

Forest inventory and management plans

Total funding allocated to the state forestry sector for management

## The list of the suggested indicators – Species and Habitats

Status of threatened species (Dynamic of populations of selected species)

Published nomenclature lists of species

Percentage of Georgian species, which are evaluated by IUCN criteria

### Hunting and Fishery

Status of selected hunting species (Dynamic of populations of selected species);

Dynamic of limits for fishing in inland waters and the Black Sea by fish species

### Invasive Species

Trends of introduction of invasive species



## Agrobiodiversity

Diversity of domesticated animals and agricultural plant varieties

Cases of illegal introduction of GMOs into environment

Change in the total area of agricultural land managed according to the principle of organic farming



## Public Awareness and Education

Trends in awareness and attitudes to biodiversity with different target groups in terms of gender;

Improved incorporation of biodiversity issues in the curricula of higher and professional education

Percentage of school and university students and teachers informed on biodiversity issues (results of quantitative and qualitative studies including the gender dimension)

## Financial Resources

Financial resources mobilized for biodiversity conservation from state budget and donor organizations

# Ongoing Activities

## ➤ Institutionalization of NBMS:

*Identification and capacity building of the relevant institutions (governmental agencies, research institutions) responsible (or to be responsible) for data collection, data input in the information management system, data processing.*

*Drafting and adoption of the legislative amendments for the data collection/processing by indicators;*

- Capacity building activities related to working with the information/knowledge management system.
- Development of software that will enable collection/processing and access to biodiversity monitoring data to relevant state and non-state bodies.



# Ongoing Activities

Further development of methodologies for data collection/processing for the NBMS

*Methodologies are developed only for 12 indicators with support the GIZ project Integrated Biodiversity Management in the Caucasus (IBiS).*

Mapping Wetlands of Georgia

Development of a design for the National Forest Monitoring Information System



Thanks a  
lot for  
attention