

City Biodiversity Index Report 2012

Indicator 17:

Policy, rules and regulations – Existence of local biodiversity strategy and action plan

Annotations concerning practicability of data assessment

In comparison with the national wide strategy on biological diversity the city of Heidelberg has many identical or similar programmes and projects. Heidelberg introduced e.g. a biotope linking system and a species protection plan already in the 1990th. Therefore it is not difficult for us to achieve the scoring.

Database for scoring

NBSAP	LBSAP
Concretization of regional-specific minimum densities of link elements (fringe structures and stepping-stone biotopes, such as hedges and field boundaries)	Biotope linking system since 1992, long-term contracts with farmers, monitoring
Support of zoos and botanical gardens, as well as other players involved in zoological and botanical nature conservation, and the conservation of genetic resources during the implementation of ex situ measures	The Heidelberg Zoological Garden supports several conservation programmes and breeding projects (e.g. Rolloway long tailed monkey –in West-Africa, <i>Cercopithecus diana roloway</i>)
Avoidance of the entrainment and release of non-native species in the wild	Measurements to control neophytes together with NGOs
The creation of nature experience sites in the countryside, preferably in areas accessible on foot, in order to encourage children's understanding of nature	Creation of the <i>via naturae</i> and <i>forest-adventure-path</i> , Establishment of an educational center for children und school classes
Formulation and implementation of species conservation programmes to conserve and rehabilitate specific species and species groups	Species protection Plan since 1997, definition of priority areas and species of special interest
Promotion of rare tree and bush varieties such as the True Service tree (<i>Sorbus domestica</i>), the yew (<i>Taxus baccata</i>) etc. in their original native regions and within the context of semi-natural forest management	Promotional project for medlar (<i>Mespula germanica</i>)
Drafting of programmes for the naturalistic development of waterbodies, renaturation of waterbodies	It exists an water body-development-action plan, several watercourses have been open up and restored to near-natural conditions
Effective involvement of NGOs in the conception and implementation of relevant programmes at local authority level	Implementation of a roundtable meeting with the NGO, university etc. to discuss nature protection projects
Forest owners, forest associations and wood associations follow the principles of sustainable and near-natural forest management	The city owned forest is PEFC- and FSC-certificated.

LBSAP incorporates elements of NBSAP, and includes 4 or more CBD initiatives

Basis of scoring: **4 points**

City Biodiversity Index Report 2012

Indicator 18 - 19: Institutional capacity

Annotations concerning practicability of data assessment

A database in relation to the number of inhabitants would be more convincing (possibly taking into consideration the total area of the city).

Database for scoring

Indicator 18

Number of essential biodiversity-related functions that the city uses: 3

1. Botanical garden
2. Zoological garden
3. Arboretum

Basis of scoring: **3 points**

Indicator 19

Number of city or local government agencies involved in inter-agency cooperation pertaining to biodiversity matters: 6

1. Office of Environmental Protection, Trade Supervision and Energy
2. Landscape Architects and Forestry Office
3. City Planning office
4. Regional Office for agriculture
5. Rhine-Neckar Regional Association
6. Vicinity Association Heidelberg-Mannheim

Basis of scoring: **4 points**

City Biodiversity Index Report 2012

Indicator 20 - 21: Participation and partnership

Annotations concerning practicability of data assessment

A database in relation to the number of inhabitants would be more convincing (possibly taking into consideration the total area of the city).

Indicator 21 is similar to the indicator 16.

Database for scoring

Indicator 20

Formal or informal process exists as part of the routine process

Basis of scoring: **4 points**

Indicator 21

Number of agencies/private companies/NGOs/academic institutions/international organisations with which the city is partnering in biodiversity activities, projects and programmes: 19

Basis of scoring: **3 points**

City Biodiversity Index Report 2012

Indicator 22 - 23: Education and awareness

Annotations concerning practicability of data assessment

Indicator 22:

The school curricula are specified by the states "Land Baden-Württemberg". The city has no influence. Anyway biodiversity and nature awareness is included in the school curriculum but it depends on the individual teacher if the educational offers made by local government and NGO's are accepted.

Therefore we don't consider this indicator as useful.

Indicator 23: A database in relation to the number of inhabitants would be more convincing (possibly considering the total area of the city). Information on how many people attended the events is not easy to get. So Heidelberg will try to gather them in our second application of the index.

Database for scoring

Indicator 22

Biodiversity or elements of it are included in the school curriculum.

Basis of scoring: **(4 points)**

Indicator 23

Number of outreach or public awareness events held in the city per year (year 2011): **182**

Participants: 7041

Basis of scoring: **3 points**

For the full list of the events see file: indicator_23 list of events.pdf