

(D) NATURE

SGP2012 Target	Current Progress
Keep nature areas for as long as possible.	Incorporating Nature Areas into new parks.
Verify and update information on indigenous flora and fauna through biodiversity surveys.	A 2-year study on the biodiversity of Singapore was completed in 2007. Monitoring of biodiversity status in our Nature Reserves and in our marine environment is on-going.
Establish more parks and green linkages.	NParks will be completing more than 100km of park connectors by Mar 2009.
Set up a National Biodiversity Reference Centre.	National Biodiversity Reference Centre was set up in May 2006.

Maintaining Nature Areas

1 Despite Singapore's limited land area, we have managed to balance the demands of development and nature conservation. Some existing natural areas have been incorporated into new developments to preserve the rich biodiversity found within. For example, a natural mangrove area was incorporated into Admiralty Park; and the area between Nee Soon Swamp (part of the Central Catchment Nature Reserve) and Lower Seletar Reservoir is being developed as a connector park.

Parks and Green Linkages

2 To bring the parks closer to the community, NParks will be completing more than 100km of park connectors by Mar 2009. Beyond that, it aims to provide 900 ha of green space and 360km of park connectors by 2030 under the IMCSD blueprint.

Biodiversity Studies

3 In 2007, NParks completed the Nature Areas Survey, a 2-year study on the biodiversity of Singapore. Thirty-five new records of various organisms were documented and 7 species of organisms that were previously thought to be extinct locally were rediscovered.

4 The National Biodiversity Reference Centre (NBRC) was set up in May 2006, and was renamed the National Biodiversity Centre (NBC) in Jan 2008. It is not only responsible for the conservation of both terrestrial and marine flora and fauna of Singapore, but it also maintains an updated information database Singapore's biodiversity. The work undertaken by the NBRC will be further strengthened by the formulation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in Mar 2009. This would be a framework document that would chart the course for biodiversity conservation for the next 5 years. The NBSAP is also an initiative listed in the IMCSD blueprint.