

## Press Release

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### International Youth Conference on Biodiversity Yokohama, Japan 2024

Montreal 28 February 2024. The call for applications for young people to participate in the International Youth Conference on Biodiversity, Yokohama 2024, is now open until 30 March 2024.

Highlighting over a decade of active youth engagement in the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Conference will be held in August 2024 in Yokohama City, Japan, in a collaboration between the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN), the Ministry of Environment of Japan, the City of Yokohama, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Japan Biodiversity Fund.

Over one hundred young people from all over the world will gather at the Conference from 25 to 31 August 2024 in Yokohama City, Japan, to share experiences and plan actions in support of the effective implementation of the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#).

The one-week programme will highlight the role of young people as agents of change for the benefit of biodiversity. It will provide young people with an opportunity to develop bonds and networks with other national and regional participants from diverse sectors and create a movement to drive transformative change for the success of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular its targets 22 and 23, and Section C (n) on intergenerational equity.

Through music, art, culture, discussions and workshops, the young leaders will engage in creative sessions and develop projects to amplify their voices, spark innovation, and drive meaningful action for a sustainable future, in which we live in harmony with nature.

Conference participants and their partners will have the opportunity to work towards the whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach that underpins the Framework. The Conference will also support implementation of the Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity (2023–2030).

Details on the call for application are available at the following link: <https://bit.ly/IYCB2024> The deadline for applications is 30 March 2024 at 23:59 PST (Pacific Standard Time).

#### About the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)



Opened for signature in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, and entering into force in December 1993, the CBD is an international treaty for the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of the components of biodiversity and the equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources.

With 196 Parties, the CBD has near universal participation among countries. The CBD seeks to address all threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services, including threats from climate change, through scientific assessments, the development of tools, incentives and processes, the transfer of technologies and good practices and the full and active involvement of relevant stakeholders including indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, women, NGOs, sub-national actors and the business community.

The [Nagoya Protocol](#) entered into force 12 October 2014. It provides a transparent legal framework for the effective implementation of one of the three objectives of the CBD: the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. The Nagoya Protocol also covers traditional knowledge (TK) associated with genetic resources. More information on the Nagoya Protocol and traditional knowledge can be found on the [Traditional Knowledge](#) programme of work webpage.

The [Cartagena Protocol](#), entered into force 11 September 2003. is an international agreement which aims to ensure the safe handling, transport and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health.

More information:

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#### About the Global Youth Biodiversity Network

Founded in 2010, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN) is a global coalition of young people and youth organizations who have joined forces to lead, support, and accelerate a just and equitable transition to a society that lives in harmony with nature.

GYBN aims to raise awareness of the values of biodiversity among young people, empowering them to take action. The network's objective is to support youth activities for biodiversity on both the national and regional levels by providing an international structure for exchange and coordination, capacity-building training, and political representation on the international level.

Over the last 14 years, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network has grown to become a mature coalition of more than 700 member organizations and 60 national chapters and 3 regional chapters, representing a total of 1,25 million youth worldwide.

Since 2012, GYBN is the main coordination platform for youth participation in the negotiations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).