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CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

WWF PROPOSAL

ON THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

In response to: *Post-2020 global biodiversity framework: discussion paper*
(CBD/POST2020/PREP/1/1)

December 2018

KEY MESSAGES

Introduction

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework needs to galvanize transformative action at a global scale. At the highest level, WWF proposes a framework that:

1. recognizes the co-equal objectives of 'bending the curve' for **nature and nature's contributions to people**;
2. seeks to create synergies between climate, biodiversity, and human development under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
3. provides clear, quantifiable targets that mobilize state and non-state actors;
4. significantly strengthens implementation, monitoring, and accountability;
5. enables enhanced engagement of all actors; and
6. addresses all three objectives of the Convention.

Structure, mission and targets

Guiding principles

To maximize the impact of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and elevate the importance of nature in the global sustainability agenda, the post-2020 targets structure and framework should:

- *Be action and results-oriented.* Focus on actions to address drivers to bring tangible results that will collectively bend the curves by 2030;
- *Be designed to address drivers of loss.* Connect appropriate actions (i.e. interventions and policy responses) to each driver to also mobilize non-environment actors to take needed actions;
- *Focus on actors.* Formulate unambiguous targets that allow actors to see the path forward;
- *Clearly define success.* Select, and commit to monitoring, indicators closely aligned with outcomes; and
- *Articulate relevance to humanity.* Clearly define the links between nature and people.

WWF's proposal for the post-2020 targets structure seeks to build upon the strengths of the current 2011-2020 CBD Strategic Framework, while incorporating learning from its implementation by incorporating the five principles listed above.

Endorsement of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should take place **at the highest political level**, in order to achieve the political momentum and mainstreaming necessary to delivering transformative change for people and the planet.

Structure

WWF's proposed structure for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is articulated as a pyramid, with a high-level Goal (2030 Mission) for nature at the top. Subsequent levels of the pyramid clarify the cause-effect relationships between this Goal (2030 Mission), the state of nature and its contributions to people, actions (or interventions) to address drivers and pressures, and the enabling conditions for action.

Each of the levels of the pyramid below the Goal (2030 Mission) are articulated through ambitious, quantified and SMART targets that together achieve the Goal (2030 Mission):

- *Objectives* that define two co-equal curves (nature and nature's contribution to people - or ecosystem services) that we will need to bend to meet the Goal (2030 Mission),
- *Actions* we will need to undertake to bend those curves, and
- *Enabling Conditions* to allow those Actions to be implemented.

WWF recommends that the pyramid be complemented with the implementation and governance mechanisms described below and a monitoring and evaluation system to arrive at a comprehensive post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Mission

WWF proposes the following Goal (2030 Mission) statement:

“By 2030, halt the loss of biodiversity and put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of all people and the planet”

To achieve this mission, WWF recommends that the post-2020 targets structure explicitly **identifies nature** (i.e., genetic diversity, species diversity, ecosystem diversity) **and nature's contributions to people** (i.e., material and regulating functions such as food, fibre, timber, water and climate regulation, and cultural functions) **as interdependent and co-equal objectives**. This framing draws directly on the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and clearly articulates the role of nature in underpinning the achievement of the human development and climate components of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Targets

We recommend the adoption of a clear organizing structure for the post-2020 targets, based on an understanding of how individual actions contribute to halting and reversing the decline in nature and nature's contributions to people by 2030 (i.e., 'bending the curves').

We propose the development of **high-level targets focused on the five major direct drivers of biodiversity loss and one indirect driver of biodiversity loss** (identified by IPBES), including:

- Land/sea use change
- Direct exploitation
- Pollution
- Alien invasive species
- Climate change
- Unsustainable consumption (indirect)

We propose to **nest critical enabling conditions** within each of the targets, **including governance, the respect for human rights, and finance**.

Each of these targets will build upon the existing Aichi Targets to contribute (to a greater or lesser extent) to 'bending the curve' for nature and nature's contributions to people.

To catalyze the transformative change required to deliver on this mission, it is critical that Parties, other governments, and non-state actors view the post-2020 targets as credible and actionable. **WWF recommends the CBD Secretariat convenes Parties, other governments, and non-state actors** (including representatives of the scientific community, business, indigenous people, and local communities) to **co-create a set of targets** which:

- Draw on the best available science synthesized by the forthcoming Global Assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and any newly developed scientific evidences;
- Directly address the drivers of biodiversity loss as identified by IPBES (including land/sea use change, pollution, direct exploitation, climate change, alien invasive species, and unsustainable consumption);
- Contribute directly (via the environmental Sustainable Development Goals) or indirectly (via a contribution to the non-environmental Sustainable Development Goals) to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Synergies and alignment with the SDGs

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should recognize that biodiversity loss, climate change and unsustainable development are inseparable challenges that are caused by the same drivers, and must be addressed together. For it to be a truly global framework, it should be relevant to and align with (1) the other biodiversity related conventions including the two other Rio Conventions and (2) the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, so that (relevant parts of) the framework will be co-owned by them.

Synergies with the climate change agenda should be fostered through the inclusion of a target that aims to scale-up nature-based solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation, which currently fits within the proposed high-level target structure outlined above under the climate change driver.

To foster synergies and strengthen collaboration between conventions, WWF proposes further promoting and operationalising mechanisms for joint verification and reporting, cross-convention implementation at national level, and research and information sharing.

To ensure alignment between the post-2020 biodiversity framework and the environmental SDGs, we propose that:

- Parties and other governments ensure an inclusive discussion between the HLPF, ECOSOC, UNGA and CBD - leading to a decision of the UNGA by 2020 on the way forward for updating the SDG targets on biodiversity with a 2020 end date, taking account of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
- Targets set under the post-2020 global biodiversity framework articulate the critical role of biodiversity in the achievement of the 'non-biodiversity' targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, highlighting where there are co-benefits for nature and people. The adoption of nature and nature's contributions to people as co-equal objectives under the post-2020 global biodiversity framework provides the foundation for this alignment.

Address critical data gaps to enable action

Recent scientific analyses¹ suggest that clearly defined, quantified targets supported by an indicator which closely tracks outcomes (rather than intermediate proxies) catalyze greater actions than poorly quantified targets or those with undefined indicators.

Efforts to conserve global biodiversity are constrained by substantial data gaps. To address this critical barrier to achieving the targets laid out under the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, we recommend creating a **clear mechanism for identifying and addressing key methodological and data gaps in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework**, potentially under IPBES. Urgent and sustained action to address these gaps, and identify scientifically robust, quantitative indicators is needed to enable Parties, other governments and non-state actors to establish and track their contributions to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Implementation mechanisms, engagement, and resource mobilisation

¹ For example, Jacob, 2017

Commitments by Parties, other governments and non-state actors

We propose a mechanism for Parties, other governments and non-state actors to commit to, and monitor their contributions under the targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. We recommend that any mechanism² by which Parties, other governments and non-state actors commit to specific contributions should include:

- an improved reporting process, that allows for regular gap analysis between the results of collective national level actions and global targets;
- a clear and frequent ratcheting mechanism, under which actors are required to increase their level of ambition if progress falls short of the scale of action required.

Engagement of stakeholders and rights holders

Enhanced engagement of stakeholders and rights holders should be reflected in the post-2020 framework through both structures and processes of the CBD, as well as being recognized as a critical enabling condition nested within each of the proposed targets. Enshrining these rights within both CBD processes and the targets themselves will permanently enable stakeholder and rights holder's engagement and contributions to achieving the Goal (2030 Mission). Strengthening inclusion in the CBD process could for example take the form of providing non-state actors structured opportunities at CBD COPs to indicate the barriers they face and potential solutions to scaling up action to reduce the loss of nature, or by establishing an advisory body to advice on promoting diversity and the engagement of non-Party actors.

Resource mobilisation

Our proposed post-2020 global biodiversity framework includes finance and resource mobilization as a critical enabling condition for delivering transformative change for nature and nature's contributions to people. We recommend targets set under the framework incorporate a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy with explicit 2030 targets, milestones and indicators to enable timely and effective implementation of actions.

Details of these proposals are provided below.

² The successes and challenges of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris agreement could inform the design of this mechanism.

Detailed WWF response to the questions in document *CBD/POST2020/PREP/1/1: Post-2020 global biodiversity framework: discussion paper*

A. Structure of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

*Question 1: What could constitute an effective **structure** for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, what should its different elements be, and how should they be organized?*

WWF proposals

1. General structure: pyramid

WWF proposes that the structure of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework be guided by several principles to improve its communicability and actionability, including the following:

- Clearly communicating the state of nature and nature's contributions to people;
- Clarifying the inter-related cause-effect relationships between the state of nature, drivers and pressures, actions (interventions), and the enabling conditions for action; and
- Prioritizing the key actions required to reverse the loss of nature and identifying which actors must take them.

WWF proposes to visualize the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in a pyramid form (Figure 1), which accomplishes each of these three principles. This pyramid is designed to clarify the cause-effect relationship between the high-level Goal (2030 Mission) and its objectives (describing the state of nature and its contributions to people), actions (or interventions) to address drivers and pressures, and the enabling conditions for action, and, therefore, how the Goal and its objectives can be achieved through different actions. To maximize communicability, we propose grouping actions into similar “action groups”, as with the Strategic Goals of the 2011-2020 Mission. Targets (see section E below), measured by indicators, can be constructed at any level of the framework (objective, action, or enabling condition) but arranging them in pyramid form helps elucidate the inter-relationships between them.

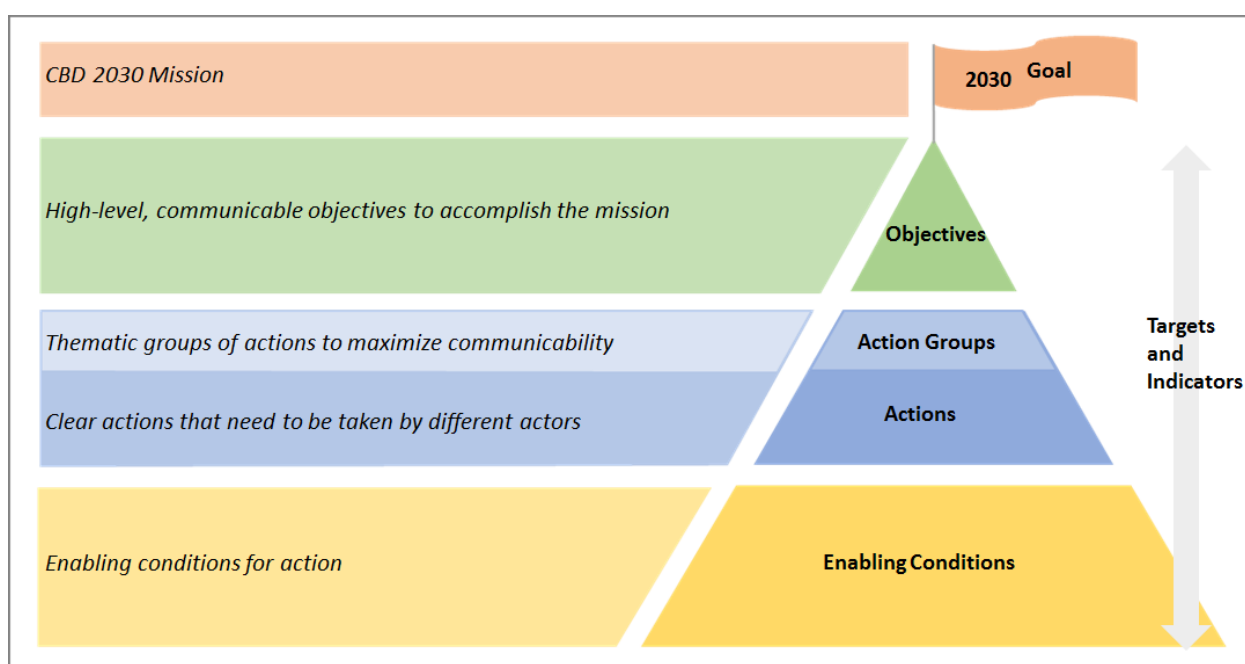


Figure 1. Proposed organizing framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

2. Specific framework recommendations

WWF proposes that each layer of the pyramid fits together to describe a cohesive set of actions needed to accomplish our proposed mission of halting and reversing the loss of nature (Figure 2):

- At **Objective** level, we propose to contextualize the high-level mission statement by introducing two co-equal ‘curves’ that must be bent—a curve on nature (e.g., species and ecosystems) and a curve on nature’s contributions to people (e.g., regulation of air, water, climate). These two co-equal objectives (nature and nature’s contributions to people) will have associated high-level targets, communicating the desired state of nature in 2030.
- At **Actions** level, the actions needed to bend these curves are grouped for communicability by their contribution to the five major direct drivers of nature loss as identified by IPBES:
 - land/sea use change
 - direct exploitation of animals and plants
 - climate change
 - pollution
 - alien invasive species,
 - plus one indirect driver of nature loss, unsustainable consumption.

These six groups of actions (drivers) would have associated high-level targets (See annex 1 for an example.), with specific actions having their own targets that identify the necessary actors for their achievement. The six driver targets seek to provide the post-2020 framework with a set of communicable and simple targets that are also quantified, holistic, and robust.

- At **Enabling Conditions** level, the necessary conditions for action, including finance and governance, are identified.

Some enabling conditions - such as those for equitable benefit sharing, increased resource mobilisation and governance - are inherently crosscutting at the global scale and therefore may need to have their own targets that sit across the entirety of the pyramid (rather than nested within any single action).

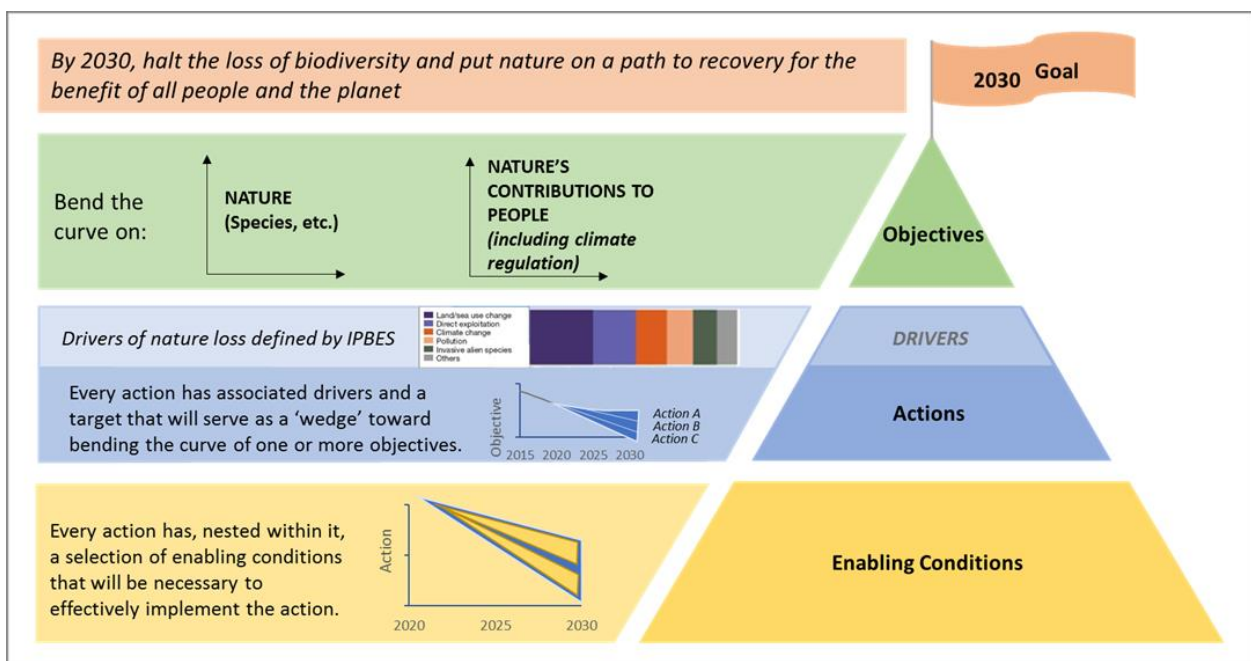


Figure 2. Specific recommendations for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

B. Ambition of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Question 2: In the context of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, what would “ambitious” specifically mean?

WWF proposals

- An “ambitious” post-2020 global biodiversity framework is one that clearly articulates the scope and scale of actions needed to halt biodiversity loss and secure nature’s contributions to people, grounded in the best-available science.

- The ambition underpinning the framework will inform the specific actions and targets identified, as well as the implementation mechanisms needed to deliver transformative change.

Framework

- The starting point of the framework should be an **ambitious** Goal (2030 Mission), i.e. to halt the loss of biodiversity and put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of all people and the planet by 2030, which articulates the transformative change the CBD aims to achieve by 2030.
- In order to achieve that (ambitious) Goal (2030 Mission), **key elements of the framework that contribute to or facilitate achieving it should also be ambitious**, requiring more than incremental changes from the current situation. These elements include:
 - **Objectives** that collectively define what needs to be done to achieve the mission, i.e. to bend the curve for nature and nature's contributions to people, with clear **actions** that address the drivers of biodiversity loss, and that achieve the systemic changes to governance and finance required to achieve the mission.
 - Greatly **strengthened and robust implementation and compliance mechanisms** that ensure that all required actions are taken to achieve the targets and goal in the agreed timeframes. Therefore, implementation mechanisms need to support and reflect substantial increases in implementation action, accountability and transparency.
 - **Enabling conditions** at levels that are required to implement actions to achieve the objectives and the Goal (2030 Mission). This includes substantial increases in funding, good governance, inclusiveness and equity, capacity and awareness, and communication.

Implementation

- An essential component of the ambitious framework should be that **it is endorsed at the highest political level**, through a Heads of State Summit, in order to achieve the political momentum, mainstreaming and international cooperation it requires.
- An ambitious post-2020 framework should **galvanize a broader action agenda for non-state actors**, under which they commit to, and deliver meaningful contributions toward bending the curve for nature, and nature's contributions to people.

Details of these proposals are presented in the sections below.

Background

WWF's proposals for the ambitious framework are based on the premise that 'business as usual' is no longer an option and that transformational change is required to reverse the decline of biodiversity and to secure nature's contributions to people. To deliver transformational change, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should articulate a clear set of targets, grounded in the best available science, that articulate the specific actions we need to take to address the drivers of biodiversity loss, and 'bend the curve' for nature. Importantly, the post-2020 framework needs to galvanize action by both state and non-state actors, as well as promote structural alignment between key conventions (including the Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) to maximize synergies toward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development .

C. 2050 Vision for Biodiversity

Question 3.a: What, in real terms, does "living in harmony" with nature entail?

WWF proposals

The second part of the vision, with an addition to reflect equitable use, provides some guidance about what 'living in harmony' could entail. That second part plus addition reads:

*"By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely **and equitably** used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people."*

“In harmony” implies that humanity operates within planetary boundaries, with sustainable patterns of production and consumption nested within a green economy and reflected in all relevant strategies and plans of Parties and other governments.

3b. What are the implications of this for the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

WWF Proposals

Transformational change is needed. Therefore, **the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should address the drivers of biodiversity loss comprehensively and equitably.** This implies that the post-2020 framework will articulate a clear, scientifically robust set of targets to address the drivers of biodiversity loss, with Parties and other governments articulating specific, quantitative contributions to reflect the spatial variation in biodiversity, consumption, and production across the world.

Question 3.c: What actions are needed between now and 2050 to reach the 2050 Vision?

WWF proposals

WWF’s proposals for the post-2020 framework, presented in this document and others, are designed to set biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030 and to achieve the 2050 vision of *living in harmony with nature*.

In addition to implementing the post-2020 framework, more research (by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, IPBES, and others), **dialogue, and action will be required** to achieve that vision, including to better understand:

- The desired future state of nature, particularly in relation to other claims on land and oceans, and to create a global strategy that recognizes the interdependencies, synergies and trade-offs between climate, water, food and nature;
- The translation of scientifically robust global targets into (a) state-level targets that are tailored to different contexts, and (b) non-state actor targets (e.g., businesses and IPLC);
- The transition to an inclusive, green economy and the implications of this new economic model;
- The advocacy and communications necessary to foster meaningful contributions by non-state actors; and
- Effective and equitable future global and local environmental governance models.

D. Mission

Question 4: What would be the elements and content of an actionable 2030 mission statement for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

WWF proposals

An actionable Goal (2030 Mission) statement should describe the desired state of nature by 2030. It should link the conservation of nature and nature’s contribution to people to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It should be ambitious and inspiring, easy to communicate and relevant to different audiences. It should provide the foundation for contributions by state and non-state actors.

WWF proposes the following mission statement:

By 2030, halt the loss of biodiversity and put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of all people and the planet.

Background

The mission provides the overarching goal for Parties, other governments and non-state actors between now and 2030. It is operationalized by a set of specific actions (underpinned by enabling conditions) to address the drivers of biodiversity loss (as outlined in Section A). Each action is

clearly articulated and has a defined quantitative target value to be achieved by 2030. A scientifically robust indicator (outlined in Section K) monitors progress toward each target.

E. Biodiversity Targets

Questions 5:

5(a) What does “**SMART**” targets mean in practical terms?

WWF Proposals

For the purposes of the targets of the post-2020 framework, WWF proposes the following definition of a SMART target:

- **Specific:** The target describes a specific area and clear focus for improvement. It is clearly defined and focused, not encompassing many different components that would each require very different actions. A *specific* target will have one outcome indicator associated with it.
- **Measurable:** Progress towards the target can be measured. This could be through quantitative or qualitative indicators³. Inherently, a *measurable* target will be comprised of components that have well-defined and precise terms, and therefore can be objectively measured. Qualifiers such as “substantially” or “effective” may have variable interpretation, hampering measurability (Butchart et al., 2016). Consequently, a measurable target will either avoid the use of ambiguous qualifiers, or define them within the target itself (Butchart et al., 2016).
- **Ambitious:** The target is sufficient in scale and scope to contribute meaningfully to achieving the mission.
- **Relevant⁴:** The target addresses an area that is relevant for and has significant impact on achieving the mission. Targets under the post-2020 framework should be designed to meaningfully address the drivers of nature loss.
- **Time-bound:** The target specifies when it can be achieved.

In addition to the SMART criteria, well-designed targets meet the following criteria:

- **Scientifically robust:** The actions and quantitative thresholds are based on the best-available science (notably the forthcoming First Assessment of IPBES).
- **Down-scalable:** Targets are designed to allow Parties, other governments and non-state actors to articulate clearly their contributions under each target.
- **Communicable:** Wherever possible, targets should be succinct, and avoid the use of technical jargon, to ensure that individual actors can easily comprehend the specific actions they can take to contribute toward the target.

WWF’s proposal for the post-2020 biodiversity framework incorporates SMART targets at three levels: objectives, actions, and enabling conditions. Each level will require different types of targets, with the objectives having very high-level state targets and the actions and enabling conditions having more specific response targets.

5(b) How should the **set of targets in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework relate to existing Aichi Biodiversity Targets**?

WWF proposals

The Aichi Biodiversity Targets should be the starting point for the targets in the new post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which must build on, further develop and streamline the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

The post-2020 framework should build upon many of the concepts outlined in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, but orient them in a logical framework, such as the pyramid structure, that clearly articulates how the specific actions led to the desired outcome. This restructured

³ In some cases, indicators may not exist yet, but it is reasonable to expect that they will be developed in time.

⁴ Note that the **R** in the WWF proposal stands for ‘Relevant’ and not for ‘Realistic’, as suggested in CBD/POST2020/PREP/1/1.

framework will also lead to fewer, but more meaningful indicators at the objective, driver and action level (see section A).

The post-2020 framework should encompass the same breadth of actions necessary to halt biodiversity loss, but should reframe individual targets to meet the SMART criteria. Similarly, to ensure targets are clearly communicable and actionable by Parties, other governments, and non-state actors, targets should be concise.

The process of building on, further developing and streamlining the Aichi Biodiversity Targets should ensure that existing, well defined and appropriate targets are maintained, while new or adjusted targets will be formulated to fill gaps and facilitate the achievement of the Goal (2030 Mission) through better implementation, monitoring and communication.

Background

While the Aichi Biodiversity Targets encompass the broad suite of actions necessary to halt the loss of biodiversity, many of the targets are a mix of objectives, actions and enabling conditions. This represents a barrier to the easy communication of the targets, and does not provide a clear 'roadmap' for the actions required by Parties, other governments, and non-state actors. Similarly, many of the current Aichi Targets are not quantifiable (Tittensor et al., Butchart et al), which is a key attribute of effective targets.

*5(c) How should the set of targets in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework **align with other global targets**, including those adopted under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?*

WWF proposals

i) General

The post-2020 targets should:

- **Align with other relevant global targets**, i.e. they must complement and support other global targets. This will require a clear articulation of the linkages and dependencies in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to other relevant global targets. This is particularly important to address the inseparable challenges of biodiversity loss, climate change and sustainable development.
- **Draw from voluntary multinational agreements** that have gained widespread support, such as the *New York Declaration on Forests*, or the *10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production* (included in SDG 12).
- **Maximize the role of natural ecosystems (i.e. nature-based solutions) in climate mitigation** (and adaptation vis-à-vis the Sendai Framework).

ii) Alignment with the SDGs

- WWF calls upon Parties and other Governments **to ensure** an inclusive discussion between the HLPF, ECOSOC, UNGA and CBD leading to a decision on the way forward by the UNGA in 2019 or 2020, **to update the SDG targets on biodiversity** with a 2020 end date. This process should take into account the targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework that aim to build upon many of the current environmental SDG targets.⁵
- **The set of targets in the post-2020 framework should articulate the role of biodiversity for the attainment of the 'non-biodiversity' targets** of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Background

21 UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets will mature in 2020, twelve of which integrate key elements of the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets agreed under the CBD. Given progress on most of the environmental SDG targets is slow⁶ and they are unlikely to be met by 2020, a clear and coherent process for extending efforts to 2030 and ensuring the integrity of the overall SDG framework is needed. Without a strong environmental pillar, we will not succeed in achieving Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development agreed by 193 Member States in 2015.

⁵ Different scenarios for this process can be found in the following WWF document: http://wwf.panda.org/knowledge_hub/all_publications/?345116/SDG-policy-paper

⁶ See 2018 SDG Index and Dashboards Report here: <http://sdgindex.org/reports/2018/>

Conversations on these targets need to start well ahead of 2020 to ensure buy-in from stakeholders and decision-makers.

F. Voluntary commitments and contributions

Question 6: *What form should voluntary commitments for biodiversity take and how should these relate to or be reflected in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?*

WWF proposals

WWF proposes the following **guidelines for voluntary biodiversity commitments**:

- Parties should run a process to define their voluntary biodiversity commitments that is inclusive of all stakeholders and all relevant sectors and ministries.
- The commitments should be commensurate with the ambition of reversing the loss of biodiversity and restore nature by 2030.
- At a later stage, the commitments should be integrated into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and into national reporting processes.
- Non-party actors⁷ are encouraged to report their commitments either as part of voluntary biodiversity commitments of Parties and other Governments, and associated with national reporting processes, or in a complementary report presented through the *Sharm El Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People*.

Background

The main objective of voluntary biodiversity commitments by Parties and other Governments should be to galvanize political momentum, to incentivize a 'race to the top' and to provide countries with an opportunity to show leadership in addressing, halting and reversing nature loss. The voluntary character of the commitments will give Parties greater ownership of the process, which can further add to the political momentum and improve the chances of achieving the Goal (2030 Mission) of the post-2020 framework. The commitments should either be tailored to national priorities and capacities, and/or be focused on supporting regional or global priorities, such as capacity building, financing governance and communication. They would be in addition to, not instead of, existing NBSAPs and would not be expected to be as comprehensive and detailed as the NBSAPs.

G. Relationship between the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and other relevant processes

Question 7a: How could a post-2020 global biodiversity framework help to ensure coherence, integration and a holistic approach to biodiversity governance

Question 7b. What are the implications for the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

WWF proposals

i) General proposals

The *post-2020 global biodiversity framework* should:

- **Recognize that biodiversity loss, climate change and unsustainable development are inseparable challenges**, caused by the same drivers, **and must be addressed together**. For it to be a truly global framework, it should be relevant to, align with and be developed in synergy with (1) the (other) biodiversity related conventions⁸, (2) the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and (3) the two other Rio Conventions, so that (relevant parts of) the framework will be co-owned by them.

⁷ See 17d below for specific suggestions for IPLC.

⁸ The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS); Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar); Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage; International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA); International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling which established the International Whaling Commission (IWC)

- **Include mechanisms that foster synergies and strengthen collaboration** between these conventions (and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development), for example to promote joint verification and reporting, cross-convention implementation at national level, and research and information sharing.

ii) Specific proposal:

WWF proposes that:

1. **The Biodiversity Liaison Group⁹ (BLG) take on a wider role and stronger mandate** beyond addressing administrative and institutional issues of shared concern, by examining opportunities for mutual cooperation, for example to promote joint verification and reporting, with a view to taking these issues back to the decision-making bodies of the respective Conventions as appropriate. The BLG should play a key role in making sure that the **post-2020 framework will provide the mechanism that helps countries to align** (internally) **their implementing, monitoring and reporting efforts on the multiple biodiversity related conventions**. In order to play these roles more effectively, it also needs to expand its membership to include the other two Rio Conventions.
2. **The Joint Liaison Group¹⁰ of the three Rio conventions be formalised and strengthened** to foster alignment and policy cohesion.
3. **IPBES be better resourced and given a wider role**, including in identifying, researching and addressing issues that straddle the remit of the above-mentioned conventions.
4. **Gaps and overlaps in the current global biodiversity governance framework be identified and options to address them formulated.** IPBES can potentially assist in this analysis. Agreements that are proposed or already under negotiation¹¹, as well as regional conventions, should also be taken into account.
5. **Reflect the synergies that are sought at the international level in better in-country coordination** of the implementation of all biodiversity-related conventions, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the 2 other Rio Conventions, by establishing or strengthening national options for that coordination. This includes aligning national-level targets and deliverables across all biodiversity-related action plans, with enhanced accountability, for example through inclusion in NBSAPs of actions to improve coordination. It also includes simplifying and aligning national reporting mechanisms for the different processes.¹²
6. **CBD COPs include agenda items** where the other conventions provide information on their ongoing contributions to the achievement of certain targets.
7. **Synergies with the climate change agenda be fostered** through the inclusion of a target that aims to scale-up nature-based solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation, which currently fits within the proposed high-level target structure outlined above under the climate change driver.
8. **Nature-based solutions be further integrated in the ongoing revision of ambition of NDCs under the UNFCCC**, as an indispensable commitment by Parties to address climate change.

⁹ The Biodiversity Liaison Group includes the Secretariats of the five biodiversity-related Conventions - CBD, CITES, CMS, WHC and Ramsar). More recently, the secretariats of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA); International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, which established the International Whaling Commission (IWC), joined the group.

¹⁰ <https://www.cbd.int/cooperation/liaison.shtml>

¹¹ For example, the proposed legally binding agreement on ocean plastics and the global legally binding instrument on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in [ocean] areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), currently being negotiated under the auspices of the UN General Assembly.

¹² In addition, including UNFF's Strategic Plan on Forests and others.

Background

- Many direct and indirect drivers of climate change and biodiversity loss are the same and thus there are important synergies in addressing these issues together.
- Effective conservation, management and restoration of natural and managed ecosystems can make significant contributions to maintain and enhance natural-carbon stocks (both in land and oceans) and to mitigating climate change. Nature-based solutions can also contribute significantly to climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction, thereby reducing the vulnerability of people and the ecosystems upon which they depend.
- A mandate from the highest political level to integrate action on these connected challenges will be essential to overcome institutional barriers to integration.

H. Mainstreaming

Question 8: How can the post-2020 global biodiversity framework incorporate or support the mainstreaming of biodiversity across society and economies at large?

WWF proposals

WWF's proposal for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is **designed to ensure that mainstreaming occurs** by clearly identifying actions across sectors and for both state and non-state actors. **The aim** of the mainstreaming component of the post-2020 framework **should be that by 2030, all investments, policies, programs, plans or actions of relevant sectors**¹³ - made either by public or by private actors at local, national, regional and global levels - **do not undermine and strive to contribute to reversing biodiversity loss**. Mainstreaming will also be facilitated by a framework that: 1) is clear and easily understandable by decision makers; 2) contributes to foster high level political ownership, 3) supports and enables implementation of a strategy approach; and 4) is action oriented.

Box 1 below lists indicative actions to support mainstreaming.

Box 1. *Indicative list of actions on mainstreaming*¹⁴

Many of these recommendations are directed towards Parties and other governments but they will require support from other actors, including the CBD, for example through continued dialogue with other UN agencies such as WHO, IMO and FAO.

Mainstreaming within national government requires:

- Disclosure of information about investments, subsidies, customs data, land allocations, supply chains information, project information and assessment, etc. to enable assessing the impacts of these sectors on biodiversity.
- Realignment of policies, plans, programs and future investments in sectors with the biggest direct impact on biodiversity (agriculture, forestry, fishery, tourism, infrastructure, mining, manufacturing and energy) with the aim to contribute to bending the curve on nature loss and in particular to ensure wildlife corridors and ecosystem functions of areas significant for biodiversity, and to build relevant institutional capacity.
- Carrying out strategic and long-term ecoregion-based and inclusive spatial planning, which takes biodiversity conservation and climate smart development at its heart, and accommodate the areas and territories managed by IPLC.
- Strengthening and consolidate natural capital accounting systems. This could support businesses to increase transparency on their dependence of nature through their supply chains and business models.
- Strengthening policy coherence and action from local authorities, including cities, on biodiversity, notably on key areas under their responsibility such as spatial planning.

¹³ Including, but not limited to, agriculture, forestry, fishery, tourism, infrastructure, mining, manufacturing and energy.

¹⁴ In reference to decision COP/14/3

Mainstreaming by business

Parties to the CBD and other governments can encourage *the private sector to mainstream biodiversity by strengthening regulatory frameworks* that (1) incentivizes pro biodiversity measures by the private sector, and (2) supports the use of science-based approaches to assess and disclose their impacts on biodiversity and dependence on ecosystem services¹⁵¹⁶. These frameworks should:

- Lead to the elimination of subsidies that support activities that are harmful to biodiversity and to redirecting these subsidies to activities that sustain natural resources (in line with Aichi target 3; see also section 12b below).
- Apply science-based target setting as a criteria in national fiduciary rules and responsibilities or in good-practice guidelines.
- Support businesses and investors to integrate biodiversity and natural capital into mainstream financial activities and foster investments in natural capital as a new asset class¹⁷.

The *Sharm El Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda* could provide opportunities for companies that have robust targets to showcase their leadership to create a race to the top.

We provide additional proposals to promote mainstreaming by businesses in our response to question 17f below.

Background

Mainstreaming means integrating the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies. Action by non-environmental sectors and actors is essential to address the drivers of biodiversity loss. Mainstreaming biodiversity across economic sectors has not been achieved during the current Strategic Plan 2011-2020. Only few public or private companies, investors or multilateral organisations integrate biodiversity factors in their core strategies, report on impacts and try to mitigate them. The development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework offers an opportunity to create the broad support for a wide range of targets and actions by state and non-state actors that will help to achieve mainstreaming of biodiversity in policies, programs and plans. In this regard, the work of the Informal Advisory Group on Mainstreaming of Biodiversity¹⁸ to inform the post-2020 global biodiversity framework about a long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming of biodiversity will be critical.

I. Relationship with the current Strategic Plan

Question 9: What are the lessons learned from the implementation of the current Strategic Plan? And how can the transition from the current decade to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework avoid further delays in implementation and where should additional attention be focused?

The WWF proposals in this document are all based on lessons and experiences with the design and implementation of the current strategic plan.

WWF believes that **in addition, attention should be paid to increasing the political momentum and relevance of biodiversity**. Political momentum that escalates the critical importance of nature to the heads of state level of the Parties is required to achieve and implement a strong post-2020 global biodiversity framework that is mainstreamed across sectors. Building the political momentum can be achieved by developing a stronger and compelling narrative that positions nature and biodiversity as the foundation of sustainable development, and by establishing a motivated movement of Parties, other governments and non-state actors in support of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

¹⁵ Following the decision of COP/XIII/3

¹⁶ There are existing and emerging initiatives to develop and promote these approaches. For example, methods on impact and benefits assessment, target setting (such as the Science Based Targets Network), best management practices, restoration guidelines and monitoring and validation.

¹⁷ See the EU Business and Biodiversity Platform

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/biodiversity/business/workstreams/finance/index_en.htm

¹⁸ Decision COP/14/3

K. Indicators

Question 10: *What indicators, in addition to those already identified in decision XIII/28, are needed to monitor progress in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the national, regional and global scales?*

This section outlines the necessary attributes of indicators that spur action, and enable accountability, provides some illustrative examples of indicators based on the pyramid framework (proposed in section A), and highlights the importance of implementing a clear process for indicator selection and development.

WWF proposals

Attributes of good indicators

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should have **a set of high level and easily accessible indicators** that can be measured easily for accountability purposes. Such indicators will also help to set the baseline to measure contributions by non-state actors.¹⁹ We recommend drawing on the First Global Assessment of IPBES, which represents a synthesis of best-available science (due to be published in May 2019) to identify *specific* indicators for each proposed target.

All indicators adopted under the framework should have the following **three characteristics**:

- i) Allow for quantitative measurement of progress toward a specific target.** Indicators developed from subjective data (e.g., expert judgment, IPLC judgment, knowledge or values) should be converted into quantitative units, recognizing that quantitative indicators spur greater action than qualitative ones²⁰.
- ii) Focus on outcomes, not outputs.** Indicators drive action toward a specified end. Consequently, indicators selected under the post-2020 framework should closely track the desired outcomes for nature or nature's contributions to people, rather than activities or outputs.

Where an indicator does not align closely with the desired outcome, actions tend to focus on maximizing the value of the indicator, rather than seeking the desired outcome (a phenomenon known as Goodhart's Law²¹). For many biodiversity state indicators, this will require moving beyond indicators of areal-extent (e.g. forest extent) to measures of 'quality' (e.g., species abundance, biodiversity intactness, or forest degradation; see also annex 2).

Where outcome indicators are subject to long lag times (between action and detectable response in the outcome indicator), one or more leading (or milestone) indicators (which are more responsive to near-term action) should be identified. However, this should not be afforded the same importance as progress toward outcome indicators.

- iii) Enable disaggregation by Parties and non-state actors.** Many biodiversity indicators are only applicable at a global scale, and are difficult to downscale to national scale, or to scales appropriate to non-state actors (e.g. business, IPLC). This represents a substantial barrier to action by Parties, other governments and non-state actors. Consequently, we recommend the adoption of indicators designed to enable adoption in national contributions and commitments by non-state actors.

We recommend drawing on the First Global Assessment of IPBES, which represents a synthesis of best-available science (due to be published in May 2019) to identify *specific* indicators for each proposed target.

¹⁹ Tools to measure corporate biodiversity footprint already exist such as the ENCORE tool by Natural Capital Finance, the Global Biodiversity Score (GBS), and the Biodiversity Footprint for Financial Institutions (BFFI) among many others.

²⁰ Butchart et al., 2016; Jacob et al., 2017

²¹ Barnes et al., 2018

Indicator development process

- There is a **clear tension between the timely selection of indicators and the widely recognized limitations of many existing indicators**. If we seek to use only currently available datasets, we risk perverse outcomes²² by focusing only on those components of the post-2020 framework that are measurable. At the same time, failure to identify meaningful indicators in a timely manner slows the pace of implementation by Parties, other governments and non-state actors.
- Creating a **clear mechanism for identifying and addressing key methodological and data gaps in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework**, potentially under the IPBES, is necessary to accelerate the development of indicators needed to measure delivery on the transformative scale of change laid out in the proposed Goal (2030 Mission).
- The rapid establishment of this indicator development mechanism will allow **targets and indicators to be developed at the same time** through an iterative process, with the identification of potential indicators helping to refine the measurability of targets, and vice versa.²³

Background

Scientifically credible indicators are a critical component of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Indicators operationalize a target, and provide the benchmark against which progress is judged. Well-designed indicators drive coordinated and aligned action by Parties, other governments, and non-state actors toward a target. Poorly designed indicators are, at best, a barrier to action, and at worst, may risk perverse outcomes.

Scientific analysis suggests that global agreements deliver greater progress when the actions needed are unambiguous and clearly defined²⁴, the desired future state is quantified²⁵, and quantitative data on outcomes (not immediate proxies for those outcomes) is available²⁶. Reviews of progress toward the Aichi Targets suggest progress was highest where clearly articulated quantitative targets were defined (e.g., the extent under protection component of Aichi Target 11). Poorly defined and non-quantitative targets made slower progress.²⁷ Where a target contained both quantitative and non-quantitative elements, action by Parties and other governments was skewed toward the former. For example, while substantial progress was made on the extent under protection under Aichi Target 11, limited progress was made on the undefined elements of the Target, including protected area representation, connectivity, outcomes and equitable and effective governance.²⁸ The three characteristics for the post-2020 framework indicators, proposed above, are based on this evidence.

L. Implementation and NBSAPs

Question 11: *How can the effectiveness and implementation of the NBSAPs be strengthened, what additional mechanisms or tools, if any, are required to support implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and how should these be reflected in the framework?*

Background

An important reason for the insufficient progress towards achieving the Aichi targets is insufficient accountability.

²² Barnes et al., 2018

²³ See lessons learnt BIP:

https://www.bipindicators.net/system/comfy/cms/files/files/000/000/184/original/3182_Lessons_Learnt_2pp_A4.pdf

²⁴ Fukuda-Parr et al., 2014; Butchart et al., 2016

²⁵ Butchart et al., 2016

²⁶ Butchart et al. 2016; Jacob 2017

²⁷ Butchart et al., 2016

²⁸ Barnes et al., 2018

WWF proposals

i) Improving NBSAPs and national reports

An important step in strengthening implementation and accountability will be to strengthen the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), as well as the existing national reporting mechanisms so that their accuracy can be improved, and that national reports can be aggregated to provide a global picture. They can then be used for stocktaking and tracking of ambition and progress at global level, as well as assessing any gap or shortfall in collective action against global targets, including capacity gaps at national level. At the global level, this will require globally agreed indicators and resources to collect the data for these indicators. This could possibly be done within the framework of monitoring for Agenda 2030.

Figure 3 below outlines WWF's proposals for how the current system could be adjusted to enable this gap analysis. The new global targets, set in 2020 at a high level of ambition, should inform the NBSAPs. It should be expected that the NBSAPs might be adjusted to reflect the new global targets as well as any voluntary national commitments that might have been made in the run up to 2020. National reporting should aim to show how the NBSAPs and the implementation of voluntary commitments are delivering against all the global targets.

National reporting should allow Parties to aggregate assessments, on the basis of which a global overview of the current status of ambition and actions could be created. This global overview would in turn enable assessments of progress towards the global targets and any gaps that need to be addressed. This would also help to ensure increased transparency and enable clear communication about progress and lack thereof.



Figure 3. Schematic overview of proposed planning and reporting cycle

These amendments would improve accountability and reporting, and - as experience has shown - adding stocktaking to review moments incentivizes countries to increase implementation.

ii) Improving ownership and buy in

NBSAPs, national reports and implementation action will be further enhanced if stakeholders

are involved throughout the planning and implementation cycle, for example through a multi-stakeholder platform, and if the sign-off of key plans and reports is done at a high political level, indicating strong signals of high level political commitment.

M. Resource mobilization

Question 12a: How should the post-2020 global biodiversity framework address resource mobilization?

WWF proposals

WWF proposes to include a **target addressing resource mobilization as an enabling condition for all relevant targets under the post-2020 framework**. In particular, resource mobilization component of the post-2020 framework must address the mobilization of sufficient funding by all actors from all sources for the implementation of:

- a) the actions of the post-2020 framework through the NBSAPs of all Parties;
- b) specific strategies for the enabling conditions for timely and effective delivery, such as the communication strategy, the capacity building strategy, the data and information strategy and a strategy to enhance participation of different groups, in particular youth, women, and IPLC;
- c) an effective financial reporting system;
- d) the additional commitments and voluntary contributions.

Background

Resource mobilization must be an integral part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as decided by COP-14²⁹. This is closely linked to the level of ambition of the framework and means of implementation of all elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Question 12b: What implications does this have for the scope and content of the framework?

i) Scope and content of resource mobilization

WWF proposal:

The expert panel about resource mobilisation should consider the following aspects when preparing the analysis, studies, and reports to inform the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework on the funding needs, financial gaps, and resource mobilization opportunities:

- a) The assessment of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization (SRM) and the current level of available resources from all sources including the funding needs and gaps.
- b) If the level of ambition of the post-2020 framework will be at the same level or higher than the level of the current Strategic plan, the overall available resources from all sources must significantly increase.
- c) The post-2020 framework should address synergies and alignment with the other biodiversity-related conventions, including the UNFCCC and UNCCD, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Hence, the resources for the implementation of these instruments should be used to capitalize, complement, and leverage funding for the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
- d) The results of the BIOFIN project.
- e) The need for additional funding instruments, such as a Project Preparation Facility to promote an integrated, coherent and multi-disciplinary approach to support the implementation of the three Rio Conventions.³⁰

Background

A process to identify the financial aspects of the elements above has been laid out in decision CBD/COP/14/22, namely that an expert panel should be tasked to address these issues.

ii) Resource mobilization and subsidies harmful to biodiversity

WWF proposals

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should include a target (similar to Aichi target 3) to eliminate subsidies that are harmful to nature and nature's contribution to people. This target can be situated in the framework as an element of relevant sustainable production targets. The actions to which this target will be attached should be based on an analysis of all incentives and subsidies harmful to biodiversity and on the barriers to eliminate them.

²⁹ Decision CBD/COP/14/22

³⁰ See: <https://unfccc.int/news/un-calls-to-address-linked-climate-biodiversity-and-desertification-threats>

Background

Parties should consider the following question in the context of resource mobilization for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:

How does resource mobilization relate to the current spending on biodiversity-harmful subsidies?

This question is of utmost relevance to the achievement of an ambitious post-2020 global biodiversity framework: As long as public money is allocated to subsidies that are harmful to biodiversity in an order of magnitude that is significantly higher than public spending for biodiversity, Parties will not achieve the ambitious goals and targets of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

N. Financial mechanisms

Question 13: How can the Global Environment Facility support the timely provision of financial resources to assist eligible Parties in implementing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

WWF Proposals

- **Donors to the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund should step up their contribution** to guarantee sufficient resources are available for the periods of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework that are covered by GEF-8 and GEF-9 (from July 2022 to June 2026, and from July 2026 to June 2030 respectively).
- **The Global Environment Facility should look into options to engage more with the private sector** to leverage funding for the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, in particular to address mainstreaming and drivers.

Background

- The current 7th GEF cycle ends in June 2022 and will therefore cover the first two years of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The GEF-7 replenishment did not meet the funding requirements identified in the relevant funding needs assessment.
- A funding needs assessment for the GEF-8 replenishment will be carried out according to decision CBD/COP/14/23, para 14, and considered at COP-15. As the needs assessment must be completed by 2020, GEF recipient countries will likely provide their funding needs based on their current NBSAPs.
- If the post-2020 global biodiversity framework's ambition will be higher than the current Strategic Plan, this may pose some challenges for the establishment of funding need for the period 2021-2030.
- The current Strategic Plan and the implementation at national level in GEF-recipient countries is still significantly underfunded.

O. Review process

Question 14: *What additional mechanisms, if any, are required to support the review of implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and how should these be integrated into the framework?*

WWF proposal

WWF proposes to establish a **ratcheting mechanism**, using the improved existing NBSAPs and national review mechanisms outlined above. The ratchet mechanism could follow a four-year cycle as outlined in figure 4 below:

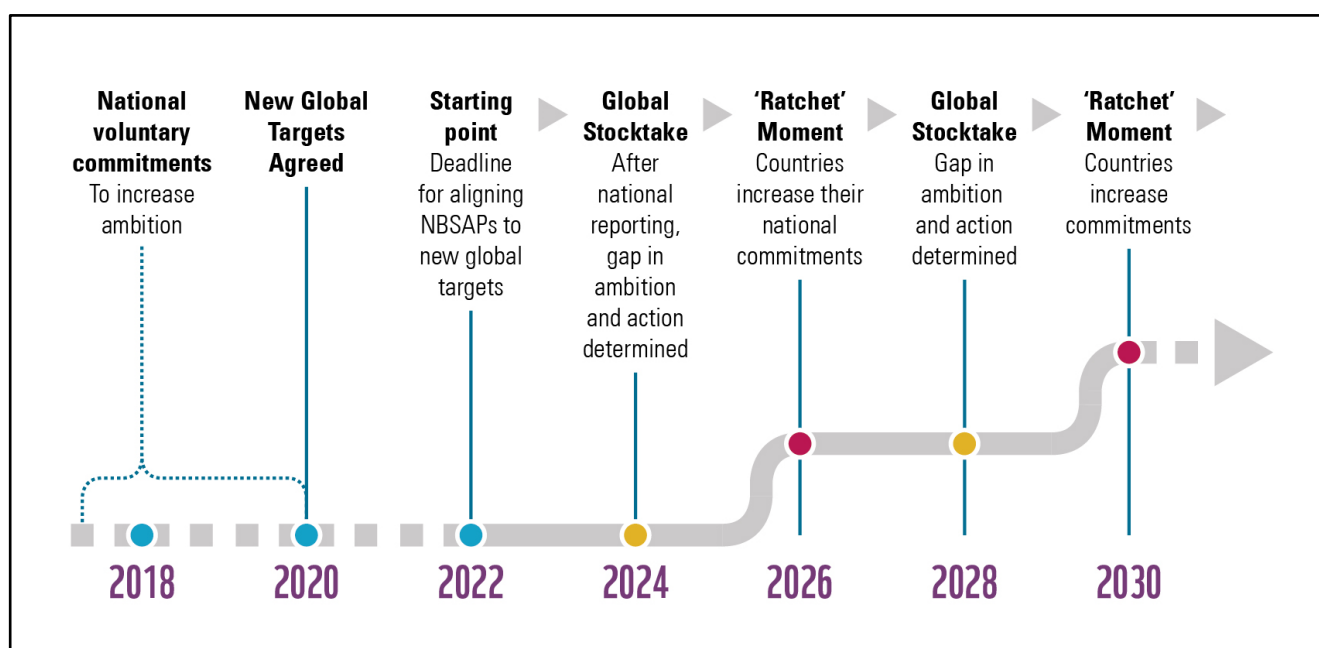


Figure 4. Timeline and steps of the proposed ratchet mechanism.

A detailed description of the proposed ratchet mechanism is presented in a submission by WWF UK³¹ to the CBD secretariat to complement this general outline.

Background

WWF believes that the experiences from the implementation mechanism for the Paris Agreement, including the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), could inform the further improvement of the implementation mechanism for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Voluntary Biodiversity Commitments (VBCs) could provide a similar dynamic as the NDCs did ahead of Paris, enticing a ‘race to the top’ to show ambition and leadership ahead of COP-15. One marked difference to the Paris Agreement would be that the VBCs are not as comprehensive as the NBSAPs. For example, countries could concentrate in their VBCs on areas that they want and must focus on.

However, we believe that the most attractive feature related to the NDCs is not the voluntary contributions but the increase of national ambitions at regular intervals, through the ‘ratcheting mechanism’. This mechanism ensures that national activities are regularly updated so that they will add-up, over the short- to mid-term, to the agreed global targets. It also supports transparency and accountability of the implementation framework.

P. Relationship between the Convention and the Protocols

Question 15: What are the issues associated with biosafety under the Convention and what are the implications for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

Currently no WWF proposals

Question 16: What are the issues associated with access and benefit-sharing under the Convention and what are the implications for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

WWF proposals

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should address all three objectives of the CBD in a balanced way. This should be reflected in ambitious actions to support achieving objective three of the CBD in particular through implementation of the Nagoya protocol, to

³¹ WWF UK (2019): *Pledge → review → ratchet*: A proposal to increasing national commitments to achieving the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

improve ABS between countries and within countries, including through supporting actions outlined in box 2 below.

Box 2. Access and Benefit Sharing: supportive actions.

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should include actions to support the following:

National level

- **Establishing or improving institutional structures, legislative/policy and regulatory measures on access and benefit-sharing** to provide legal certainty, clarity and transparency and the need to ensure that the Nagoya Protocol and other relevant international instruments are implemented in a mutually supportive manner.
- **Promoting adoption of regional approaches** for harmonized implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and capacity-building activities among countries that share the same genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, keeping in mind the needs and priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC) and relevant stakeholders.

National level actions to support IPLC in:

- **Institution building and coordination.**
- **Developing minimum requirements for mutually agreed terms**, protocols and model contracts for benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of traditional knowledge.
- **Incorporating Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) elements in existing community protocols** dealing with resource or land management or bio trade.
- **Participating** in the implementation of the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol related to IPLC.

CBD level

- **Provide case studies** or assessments to demonstrate good practices on establishing of the mutually agreed terms or local protocols on ABS involving communities and industry as well as national ABS legislations.

Background

An assessment of the effectiveness of the Nagoya Protocol³², which is the main mechanism to implement the 3rd objective of the CBD on ABS, has shown that a lot needs to be done to ensure that this objective of the Convention is achieved.

Q. Integrating diverse perspectives

Note: The proposals in responses to questions 17a to 17f complement the proposals under question 18.

Question 17a: How can the post-2020 global biodiversity framework facilitate the involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities and support the integration of traditional knowledge as a cross-cutting issue?

WWF Proposals

The post-2020 framework should facilitate the involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC) and support the integration of traditional knowledge as a crosscutting issue by promoting:

- Strong measures and mandates for meaningful consultations with IPLC throughout Parties' participation in and implementation of the CBD.
- Strong accountability, implementation and reporting by Parties with regard to the involvement of IPLC and the integration of traditional knowledge.

Specific proposals are included in box 3.

³² CBD/NP/MOP/DEC/3/1

Box 3. Proposals for the post-2020 framework to facilitate the involvement of IPLC and support the integration of traditional knowledge

1. Targets: **Strengthen equity and inclusion in all post-2020 targets.** In particular, all targets, and their monitoring, should be based on science and multiple types of knowledge, i.e. on better-integrated local and Indigenous knowledge³³.
2. Further strengthen the **equitable sharing of benefits** through:
 - **Fostering the integration of the programme of work for Article 8j**, including proposals for a second phase of work on the Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use in the post-2020 framework, and linking it to the development of community protocols for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS.
 - **Ensuring ‘Mutually Agreed Terms’** for use of Traditional Knowledge associated with genetic resources.
 - **Considering including a target related to Article 10c** that is similar to the current Aichi target 18 in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework^{34 35}.
 - Promoting that the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) is respected and implemented.
 - Promoting appropriate legislation³⁶ to safeguard traditional knowledge(s) and their collective creators and keepers.

To support these actions, the work by the Working Group on 8j and the development of a strategy on how to integrate article 10c of the Convention³⁷ should be accelerated.
3. **Strengthen equity and inclusion in the management of protected and conserved areas**, through:
 - Promoting appropriate recognition, support, and protection for the collective rights of IPLC, including tenure rights, and their efforts to protect, conserve, manage and restore their ICCAs/Territories of Life according to traditional institutions and decision-making.
 - Enhancing livelihood options and means for IPLC to continue to safeguard nature.
 - Promoting effective incentives for the participation of IPLC in dialogues about ways to restore nature, and about how to live in harmony with nature.
4. **The establishment of an advisory group** to provide guidance to the CBD for the protection of human rights and help integrate human rights principles in the post-2020 framework.³⁸

Background

Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs)/Territories of Life of Indigenous and Local Communities contain a huge proportion of the remaining biological and cultural diversity of the planet. IPLC are key actors of conservation and ‘custodians of nature.’ The post-2020 global biodiversity framework represents an opportunity for strengthening global collaboration and involvement of these custodians.

The effectiveness of conservation by IPLC, both men and women, is rooted in their governance and knowledge systems, values and practices of sustainable use, conservation, and restoration. Traditional knowledge(s) are embedded in the communities and their areas and territories, hence become essential components for the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, and for the support of sustainable landscapes and development. Drivers of biodiversity loss are also threatening the organisations and individuals who are defending biodiversity and nature against these threats. The Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on Nature and Culture at CBD COP-14, and the

³³ In accordance with the findings and recommendations of dialogues on connecting traditional knowledge systems and science such as under IPBES.

³⁴ For example: *‘By 2030, indigenous peoples and community conserved areas - Territories of Life that conserve critical cultural and biological diversity and ecosystem functions are secured and strengthened in their governance to support the well-being and livelihoods of their indigenous peoples and local community custodians and contribute to achieving global conservation, climate and sustainable development goals.’*

³⁵ In addition, possibly a target for ICCAs-Territories of Life and sustainable customary practices for sustainable landscapes and seascapes.

³⁶ This may include legislation regarding the shared and collective nature of IPR, effective community-based monitoring and documentation, support to IPLC to develop relevant and mutually agreed indicators, and a fair FPIC process.

³⁷ Article 10(c): *Protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements*

³⁸ Including the obligations to protect Land and Environmental Defenders and the UN Declaration on Human Rights defenders.

Statement of the Executive Secretary of CBD on the occasion of the launch of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages (Jan 2019) underscore that biological and cultural/linguistic diversity are not only closely linked but also mutually reinforcing. Cultures can be a positive driver to help keep the health and diversity of life and balance of the planet.

Question 17b: How should gender issues be reflected in the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

WWF proposals

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should **promote shared power and control over resources between women and men**, including through integrating power sharing across targets.

In addition, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should include **awareness creating activities** around women's rights to equality and promote their exercise. This should be dealt with as a crosscutting issue and address both substantive rights (e.g. right to land, access, use and control natural resources) and procedural rights (e.g. right to information, participation).

Background³⁹

Equality and equity can improve natural resource governance. Women, especially Indigenous and local women as custodians of biodiversity and holders of knowledge(s), play vital roles in the governance and management of natural resources. However, despite women's involvement in the use of natural resources around the world, many women face barriers to participating fully in the planning, management, governance or ownership, of those resources, and are not equally benefitting from them. This is particularly relevant for marginalized women. Such barriers can be legal, institutional, financial, educational, or cultural in nature, and can have profound impacts by locking women into cycles of poverty and marginalization, while also negatively affecting the sustainability of natural resources.

Question 17c: How should issues related to subnational governments, cities and other local authorities be reflected in the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

WWF proposals

WWF proposes that the post-2020 framework:

- **Integrates urban issues into the post-2020 targets**, such as through the creation of urban-focused targets (or indicators) and urban-related implementation metrics, and ask Parties and other governments to track and report urban-related natural habitat loss. This could include utilization of urban-based green infrastructure.
- Recognizes that local governments should be involved in all planning stages by establishing mechanisms in the post-2020 framework that enable consultation with sub-national and local government stakeholders while recognising their inherent advantages and limitations.
- Recognizes and includes mechanisms to influence international and bilateral institutions, which fund projects affecting CBD goals and ensure that urban biodiversity impacts and ecosystem services are recognised and incorporated into their programmes. These include the Global Environment Fund, the Green Climate Fund and other mechanisms under the UNFCCC, the World Bank, regional development banks and bilateral donors.

Background

Sub-national and local governments, in particular cities, have an important role to play in achieving a future in harmony with nature. Urban growth is a major cause of habitat loss and cities account for over half of global resource consumption, waste and population⁴⁰. Cities also offer opportunities to implement solutions that minimise impacts on nature via improved resource efficiency and as centres of innovation to identify and implement sustainable solutions.

³⁹ As confirmed at the recent COP-14, Parties can already take action leading up to COP-15: the effective and meaningful implementation of the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action needs additional capacity and resources, plus more on-the-ground guidance to strengthen knowledge on the linkages between gender and biodiversity, and improve gender equality and equity.

⁴⁰ Nature in the Urban Century, The Nature Conservancy 2018. <https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-insights/perspectives/nature-in-the-urban-century/>

In addition to minimising damage, local authorities can take on a positive role by valuing and incorporating natural capital and urban biodiversity in land-use planning. The CBD should recognise the important potential role of cities and subnational governments and develop systems that facilitate this. Actions by local authorities to address urban growth implications will contribute to national efforts to fulfil international commitments. Empowering cities to take these actions will require capacity building, funding, planning and implementation among multiple actors, across geographies and scales. The range of concerns set out in *Sustainable Development Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities* demonstrates the breadth of the role of local governments. The CBD can play an important role in achieving this goal.

Question 17d: How can the post-2020 global biodiversity framework facilitate the involvement of civil society in the development and implementation of the framework?

WWF proposals

WWF proposes the following actions in the post-2020 framework design process:

- **Increase the number of civil society voices** represented at global, regional and national consultations and meetings. Currently, opportunities are limited and available resources insufficient to ensure the participation in numbers that reflect the diversity and scope of the important contributions and aspirations of civil society. This is true for global and regional consultations and meetings, but increasingly also at national level.
- **Encourage the creation of structured mechanisms** to ensure that meaningful consultations with civil society are held before Parties submit their reports.
- **Consider allowing open mechanisms and additional channels** by which input from grassroots gatherings of IPLC, youth and women, and civil society organizations, can be shared into formal meetings during the development and implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.⁴¹
- **Consider constituting an advisory group** to further detail how non-Parties especially civil society can participate and contribute in more effective and inclusive ways in the post-2020 framework, and strengthen current platforms and fora for engaging civil society actors and voices.
- Actively encourage and support individual and collective submissions by civil society of voluntary bio-cultural diversity commitments as part of voluntary biodiversity commitments of Parties and other Governments, or in a complementary report. This will provide additional evidence of the important contributions and commitment of civil society. Moreover, IPLC as custodians of nature and territories of life can bring the cultural dimension to the agenda of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The final Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on Nature and Culture highlighted that biological and cultural diversity are not only closely linked but also mutually reinforcing.⁴²

Background

The engagement of civil society is to be understood as the collective mobilization and commitment of organizations, alliances, networks and groups or associations of rights holders, including Indigenous Peoples, women, youth and other groups with marginalized voices to contribute to and support a global biodiversity framework that incorporates their perspectives and targets. This needs to be strengthened and secured in all steps and levels of the process leading to the (development and) implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Strong involvement of civil society will send a clear signal to political leaders that the world wants change and is ready to collectively support and act for higher ambition. Secondly, it will improve the co-ownership of the process and strengthen the delivery of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Only a concerted effort by all actors can deliver the scale of action required for transformational change. Thirdly, it will create an opportunity for Parties and non-Party actors to share best practices, learn from each other, and increase collective accountability for delivery.

⁴¹ These could be thematic events or focused on meaningful and open discussions with civil society on the side of other consultations already planned (regional, SBSTTA, etc.) or special channels for submission after grassroots gatherings in addition to the submissions deadlines already agreed.

⁴² The Minister of Environment of Egypt: "Culture is the driving force to keep the health and balance of our planet." Text of the declaration: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/8b76/d85e/c62f920c5fd8c4743e5193e1/cop-14-inf-46-en.pdf>

Question 17e: How can the post-2020 global biodiversity framework facilitate the involvement of youth in the development and implementation of the framework?

WWF proposals

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should include **a strategy for youth engagement**, that should be geared towards empowering youth and include mechanisms for access to decision-makers, and programmes and opportunities for youth to learn, engage, get active, and lead. The strategy should be developed in cooperation with youth organisations and reflect that today's youth are adept at global communication, adaption and mobilization.

Question 17f: How should issues related to the engagement of the private sector be reflected in the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

WWF proposals

Within the structure of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework itself, WWF encourages Parties to **create opportunities for the private sector to display leadership and solutions through:**

- Building on the *Sharm el Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda* by **establishing an ongoing action agenda** that creates the opportunity for the private sector (alongside other actors) to showcase scalable, transformation solutions. The secretariat of the CBD should also be mandated to find ways that such an action agenda could be connected to the Marrakech Platform under the UNFCCC Paris agreement and to non-state actor engagement under the UN High Level Political Forum on the SDGs to demonstrate the interrelationships between environmental and social sustainability.
- **Providing non-state actors**, including the private sector, **with structured opportunities at CBD COPs to indicate the barriers they face and potential solutions to scaling up action** to reduce the loss of nature. These interventions should be captured in an annual report that informs national and international decision making.
- **Encouraging and capturing private sector contributions in the form of Voluntary Biodiversity Commitments** and including these in the ratchet and review system of the post-2020 targets. There should be a set of guidelines for such contributions from the private sector to allow them to be quantified and aggregated in terms of their contribution to the achievement of the post-2020 targets. Aggregating these contributions from the private sector can help demonstrate where there are barriers to increased private sector and opportunities for scaling up transformational efforts.
- Agreeing that **Parties will present a report** on the implementation of the suggested steps to drive action by the private sector as part of their regular national reports to the CBD. This report should detail i) what measures the Parties have taken to implement those recommendations, ii) what issues (if any) they faced in implementing them, and iii) what they intend to do to resolve these issues.

In addition, the CBD should **create the enabling conditions** for increased private-sector engagement through a series of COP-15 decisions or a work programme that supports private sector engagement in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Box 4 lists these actions.

Box 4. *Creating the enabling conditions for increased private sector participation*

The CBD can create the enabling conditions for increased private-sector engagement **through a series of COP-15 decisions or a work programme** that supports private sector engagement in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework through:

1. Improving and sharing information on the economic case for nature protection and restoration, by:

- **Launching a technical committee** to help Parties and the private sector to understand better the importance of healthy ecosystems and biodiversity in increasing and maintaining resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- **Inviting Parties to contribute to the scaling up of the IPBES work** on the monetary and non-monetary valuation of ecosystem functions and services. This work should also be widely

communicated in reports and at events where business representatives can gain a better understanding of the importance of nature and biodiversity for business sustainability.

- **Requesting the IPBES to assess environmental risk mapping and stress testing tools**, and gaps in the current availability of such tools, to enable businesses to better understand and manage their environmental risks.

2. Changing the decision-making framework for businesses, by:

- *Inviting* an appropriate financial institution such as the Financial Stability Board to launch a Task Force on Nature Related Financial Disclosures to guide financial institutions to measure and disclose the risks they face from environmental degradation and biodiversity loss as well as their risk exposure to disrupted ecosystem services.
- Inviting Parties to mandate financial sector regulators to regulate for long-term sustainability, and to embed new measures of national economic performance that go beyond GDP to measure long-term sustainability.
- *Inviting* Parties to assess how national tax and subsidy regimes could be reformed to create a fiscal framework that encourages companies to incorporate impacts on ecosystems in their business decisions, in particular in the food and agriculture sectors.
- *Inviting* Parties to introduce compulsory or voluntary natural capital accounting for all companies registered in their jurisdiction.
- *Inviting* Parties to incorporate due diligence obligations for companies to manage and report on their environmental impacts, both domestically and through their international footprint down the supply chain in source countries.
- *Encouraging* Parties to pursue green economy policies and plans and emphasising that these plans need to go beyond the usual focus on climate and energy to incorporate explicitly biodiversity and natural capital. These national plans should encourage or require private sector companies to also develop natural capital accounts and disclose these, at the very least to regulators.
- *Inviting* Parties to put in place clear targets for environmental improvement and an enabling framework that unlocks private investment in natural capital.

Background

The value of nature can never be simply reduced to monetary figures on a balance sheet. However, it is undeniable that the global economic system and every company's bottom line is dependent on natural systems. It is estimated that our oceans, forests, rivers and lands contribute around \$125 trillion to the global economy but that we are losing trillions of dollars' worth of these contributions each year. Reversing nature loss is not only critical for the successful delivery of the Paris Climate Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but also for economic prosperity and business success.

In many, if not most cases, the drivers of biodiversity loss are driven by a financial and economic system that is dependent on unsustainable resource extraction and consumption, to the detriment of our long-term prosperity and resilience. Yet the private sector also holds the entrepreneurial skill and financial resource to provide solutions to reverse the loss of nature. The success of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in delivering the objectives of the Convention will depend largely on how well the global policy framework changes the incentives for the private sector and unlocks the potential of companies to take solutions to scale through collective action and blended finance. For these reasons private sector engagement in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is mission critical.

Question 18: How should the post-2020 global biodiversity framework reflect diverse and multiple perspectives?

WWF proposals

Proposals to strengthen engagement of specific groups are presented above. While each of these groups have specific interests, rights and roles to play, a number of proposals are relevant to all of them and to incorporating diverse and multiple perspectives in the post-2020 framework:

WWF proposes that the post-2020 framework should:

- **Give appropriate consideration and urgency to the need for enhanced cooperation** among Parties and other governments, local communities and Indigenous Peoples, civil society organizations, women, youth, academic and research institutions, and private sector. This should be based on the principle of equality⁴³, and take place through decentralized, participatory and inclusive governance arrangements and partnerships that can leverage multiple and diverse perspectives and thus enable better implementation of the Convention.
- **Enable and facilitate a substantial increase in the engagement of stakeholders and rights holders** in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, possibly through a target under the relevant governance aspects of the enabling conditions.
- **To put in place or strengthen dedicated structures and processes** to strengthen inclusion in the CBD process. For example,
 - Providing non-state actors with structured opportunities at CBD COPs to indicate the barriers they face and potential solutions to scaling up action to reduce the loss of nature. An annual report that informs national and international decision making should capture these interventions.
 - Establishing an advisory body to advice on comprehensive approach to promoting diversity and the engagement of non-Party actors.
- **Include appropriate enabling conditions** for greater engagement by non-Party actors, including:
 - Capacity building, equal access to information, technical and scientific cooperation and mutual learning, and sharing of diverse knowledges and perspectives.
 - Resources for the participation of IPLC, youth, women and civil society organizations in all post-2020 initiatives and programs.
- **Support the production and dissemination of the Local Biodiversity Outlooks⁴⁴** as a supplement to the Global Biodiversity Outlook.

Background

An ambitious and inclusive post-2020 global biodiversity framework can only be achieved through the actions by everybody, both Parties and non-Party actors alike. A much greater role needs to be given to a wide range of non-Party and non-government actors, reflecting a wider diversity of perspectives, in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to achieve bending the curve by 2030. The role that various actors already play in biodiversity conservation requires better visibility and recognition in the CBD. The importance of diversity is also in the form of the interconnectedness of cultural/linguistic and biological diversity, and forms of knowledge, spiritual traditions and practices of sustainable use of nature that are reflected in Indigenous languages and knowledge systems. Key findings from the four IPBES Regional Assessments of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services⁴⁵ support this observation. Increasing inclusion, diversity and ownership will broaden the support base for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and hence the chances of its successful implementation.

R. Communication and outreach

⁴³ An indicative list of possible principles for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is presented in annex 3.

⁴⁴ Which is an initiative of IPLC to share their success and challenges in relation to biodiversity, conservation, and sustainable use. See: <https://beta.localbiodiversityoutlooks.net/>

⁴⁵ For example:

- Key finding 12: More collaborative, inclusive, participatory and decentralized governance systems, at national, regional and global scales, diverse and multi-stakeholder governance models and arrangements ensure more diversity of voices and perspectives that are critical to building the capacity and solutions needed. These arrangements moreover can provide platforms for building consensus, mutual learning and facilitate co-production of knowledge for biodiversity conservation in the post-2020 framework.
- Key finding 13: Major gaps in knowledge still exist including the contributions of indigenous and local knowledge into national and international policy and regulatory frameworks.

Question 19a: How should the post-2020 global biodiversity framework address issues related to communication and awareness?

WWF proposals

WWF proposes to include in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:

- **A target** similar to Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
- **A ten-year communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) strategy** with SMART targets and milestones to adequately address the role of CEPA as enabling condition for the appropriate implementation of the content-related targets and actions of the framework. The CBD's current 'framework for a communications strategy' (decision XIII/22) could be a valuable starting point in that regard.

Background

Raising awareness and engagement of people through ongoing communication and education initiatives are important prerequisites and conditions to enable the full and timely implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Question 19b: How can the next two years be used to enhance and support the communication strategy adopted at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to ensure an appropriate level of awareness?

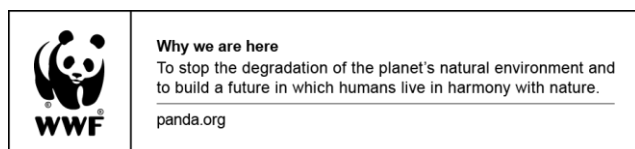
WWF proposals

WWF proposes to:

- **Continue to implement activities under the Memorandum of Understanding between WWF and the CBD Secretariat** to collaborate in support of CBD's 'framework for a communication strategy' to enhance the awareness of the values of biodiversity and the steps people can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
- **Continue to implement the global communication project** that WWF is currently implementing until 2020.⁴⁶ The project aims to scale up communication for achieving greater awareness on biodiversity and nature in support of Aichi Biodiversity Target 1. This project also supports raising awareness of the process to develop the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Background

WWF stresses the importance of supporting the development of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework through targeted and widespread communication efforts at all levels, building on CBD's 'framework for a communications strategy' (decision CBD/COP/XIII/22) and existing communication strategies of Parties, other governments and non-state actors. It is important to build momentum at an early stage in 2019 to raise public and political awareness and to mobilize people and decision maker throughout the next two years until CBD COP-15 in 2020.



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⁴⁶ The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety supports the project with funding from the International Climate Initiative (IKI).

ANNEXES

Annex 1. An illustrative example of a high-level driver target

A land/sea use change target may be: *“By 2030, all terrestrial and marine habitats have reached degradation neutrality⁴⁷, and further land and coastal habitat conversion has been halted.”*

- The target would have terminology that has been commonly defined by the Parties (e.g., “degradation neutrality”, and “habitat conversion halted”), and has associated indicators that can measure those concepts at the country and global level.
- This target would have action targets nested under it - aimed to achieve results toward reducing the pressures of land/sea use change on the loss of both nature and nature’s contributions to people - such as:
 - Sustainable agriculture reduces the biodiversity loss associated with food and fiber production by XX%.
 - Strictly protected areas (IUCN categories I and II) maintain or improve the habitat or species diversity for which they were established.
- The action targets should be explicitly linked to the state and non-state actors that would be necessary to achieve them.

In addition to the specific action targets that would fall within this broader land/sea use change target, there would be enabling conditions targets that recognize the need for good governance, financing mechanisms, etc.

Annex 2. Examples of the need for indicators to measure qualitative issues

Forest

In the case of forests our indicators largely represent (change in) the area of forest, whereas a growing body of evidence has demonstrated that biodiversity can be in decline despite a maintenance of tree cover. So (an) indicator(s) that represent(s) forest ‘quality’ is/are needed to tell the true story alongside ‘quantity’ of forest - and such indicators are available and under development through the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, such as the ‘forest specialist LPI.’

Freshwater

Qualitative indicators are especially important for freshwater ecosystems where the benefits of inclusion within protected areas may not be realised if the focus on management of these freshwater ecosystems is not ensured. Indicators such as the WWF Connectivity Index for rivers, which is an indicator for overlap between Protected Area and Key Biodiversity Area, should be further developed to address the management focus in protected areas

⁴⁷ As explicitly defined by the Parties to the Convention.

Annex 3. Indicative list of possible principles for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

- Precautionary principle
- 'Polluter pays' principle
- Intergenerational equity
- Common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities
- Respect of human rights including the right to a healthy environment, and access to justice in case of environmental and human right abuses
- Respect of the rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and peasants people (UNDROP-Declaration of peasants, men and women)
- Gender equity and equality
- Fair and equitable benefit-sharing
- Full and effective participation
- Good governance
- The interconnection of cultural and biological diversity and the multiple values of nature
- Inclusive capacity building and mutual learning and access to information