**Guidelines and template for the review of the draft monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework**

## Background

1. The second meeting of the Open-ended Working Group[[1]](#footnote-2) on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework invited the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-fourth meeting to, among other things, carry out a scientific and technical review of the updated goals and targets, and related indicators and baselines, of the draft global biodiversity framework. Under agenda item 3 the Subsidiary Body will consider this issue.
2. Tables 1 and 2, presents a draft monitoring framework for the 2050 Goals and the 2030 targets respectively. These tables are being made available for the purposes of peer review. In both tables’ interim formulations of the proposed 2050 goals and milestones and the 2030 targets are provided for context. Review comments are not being sought on these parts of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework at this time. Columns A, B of the tables provide draft monitoring elements and indicators to be used at the global level to monitor progress in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Further column C provides information on the baseline year for the indicator and on the frequency that the indicator is updated where known. Review comments are being sought on columns A, B and C only.

## II. Submitting Comments

1. To ensure that your comments are given due consideration, please send them by e-mail to [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int), at your earliest convenience but **no later than 25 July 2020**
2. When submitting comments, please adhere to the following guidelines as much as possible:
   1. Please provide all comments in writing and in an MS Word or similar document format using the table provided below.
   2. Please provide full contact information for the individual/Government/organization submitting the comments.
   3. Please avoid commenting on issues related to grammar, spelling, or punctuation, unless it affects the overall meaning of the text, as the document will be edited as the final draft is prepared.
   4. To facilitate the revision process please be as specific as possible in your comments. In areas where you feel additional or alternative text or information is required, please suggest, if possible, what this text may look like or what should be included.
   5. If you refer to additional sources of information, please include these with your comments when possible or provide a complete reference or hyperlink.
   6. Please focus your comments on columns A (monitoring elements), B (indicators) and C (Indicator baseline year and frequency of updates) of the tables 1 and 2.
   7. If you are suggestion the inclusion of additional indicators please provide information on if the indicator is currently operational, the organization supporting its development, its baseline (i.e. the year data is first available) and how frequently the indicator is updated (i.e. monthly, yearly, every two years etc.).
   8. All review comments will be posted on the webpage[[2]](#footnote-3) for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in the interests of transparency
3. Should you have any questions regarding the review process, please contact [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int).

***III. Template for Comments***

1. Please use the review template below when providing comments.
2. The complete draft of the monitoring framework has been released in a portable document format (PDF). For tables 1, 2 and 3 column letters and row numbers have been provided as well as page numbers. Please use these as a reference as illustrated in the table below. General comments can be included in the table by referring to Page 0 and Line 0.

**TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Review comments on the draft monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework** | | | | | |
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|  |  | ***Comments*** | | | |
| **Table** | **Page** | **Column letter** | **Row number** | | **Comment** |
| 1 | 2 | C | 15 | | **Monitoring element for Goal A2 (Ecosystem integrity and connectivity (terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems)): Trends in fragmentation and quality of forest ecosystems**  We propose the inclusion of the River Connectivity Status Index (CSI) as an indicator. The CSI is a measure of a river’s connectivity along four different dimensions. It is an important addition to terrestrial and marine-focused connectivity indicators. Connectivity is a critical element of riverine health: it allows for species and sediment movement as well as hydrologic cycles. The CSI is a peer-reviewed indicator using the best available data. |
| 1 | 4 | C | 42 | | **Indicator for monitoring element (Trends in area of terrestrial and inland water areas conserved) for goal A6 (Protection of critical ecosystems): Protected area coverage**  In addition to protected areas coverage, we recommend using the protected area downgrading, downsizing, and degazettement (PADDD) indicator to assess quality and change in protected areas. Tracking dynamics of protected area size and status (including upgrades, downgrades, expansions, downsizes, establishments, and degazettements) would provide a much more accurate and informative picture of PA and OECM progress. We note our recommendation in Target 2 (Row 47) to integrate PADDD and urge its inclusion there. |
| 1 | 4 | C | 43 | | **Indicator for monitoring element (Trends in area of terrestrial and inland water areas conserved) for goal A6 (Protection of critical ecosystems): Coverage of other effective area-based conservation Measures**.  We want to ensure that PAs and OECMs also include areas that are conserved by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) where appropriate. IPLC-governed areas can fit into either category and the process to determine this should be addressed with the consent and participation of IPLCs. We recommend a specific indicator on IPLC areas in Target 20 (Row 242) below which can help in clarifying these important differences. |
| 1 | 4 | C | 48 | | **Indicator for Monitoring element for goal A6 (Protection of critical ecosystems): Trends in areas of particular importance for ecosystem services conserved.** We recommend adding “Global stocks of Irrecoverable Carbon” as an indicator for this element. “Stocks” will be measured in two ways: (1) the area of the carbon-containing places that are conserved, and (2) mass of carbon contained in this area. Climate change is one of the major threats to biodiversity and irrecoverable carbon represents the places that we most urgently need to protect to maintain climate stability. Irrecoverable carbon is carbon in ecosystems that is vulnerable to loss during a land-use conversion and, if lost, could not be recovered by 2050 (the timeframe by which we need to reach net zero emissions). We can track annually the proportion of irrecoverable carbon that is still intact by using an updated dataset and map from CI. |
| 1 | 4 | C | 48 | | **Indicators for Monitoring element for goal A6 (Protection of critical ecosystems): Trends in areas of particular importance for ecosystem services conserved.** We recommend using an indicator that would assess protection coverage of the range of areas important to ecosystem services as identified in Goal B.  In addition, we have proposed adding areas of particular importance for ecosystem services to the monitoring elements of Target 2 (see below, Table 2, Rows 39-42). |
| 1 | 5 | C | 56 | | **Indicator for Monitoring element for Goal Element B1. Nature’s regulating contributions including climate regulation, disaster prevention and other: Trends in regulation of climate**  We propose deleting the certified forest indicator because forests/ecosystems can contribute to climate change mitigation without being verified. However, we do note the importance of certification as an indicator in other parts of the framework.  It is critical that we track enhanced sinks and reduced emissions of terrestrial carbon as well as the enhanced sequestration of carbon by native ecosystems. Both are essential for climate change mitigation. As such, we propose two indicators for this monitoring element:  (1) Irrecoverable carbon, which would be measured in carbon “stocks” of area and mass (see Goal B, line 48 above for more details on the definition of Irrecoverable carbon), and  (2) Carbon sequestration, which is calculated as the rate of addition of new biomass and/or soil carbon to a system on an annual basis.. |
| 1 | 5 | C | 58 | | **Indicator for Monitoring element for Goal Element B1. Nature’s regulating contributions including climate regulation, disaster prevention and other: Trends in regulation of freshwater quantity, quality, location and timing**  We propose an indicator that monitors the “status of ecosystems providing globally important services for the regulation of water quantity, quality, location and timing”. Several organizations forming the Critical Natural Capital (CNC) Partnership2 are working together on developing the methodology for this indicator using a range of data sources. The indicator includes identification of the sites that deliver these services. This information can be provided at regular intervals to assess the state of water provisioning through ecosystem services across the globe. |
| 1 | 5 | C | 62 | | **Indicator for Monitoring element for Goal Element B1. Nature’s regulating contributions including climate regulation, disaster prevention and other: Trends in regulation of hazards and extreme events**  We recommend adding an indicator that monitors the status of ecosystems that provide coastal and terrestrial flood protection. Such an indicator would be based upon measures of extent and integrity of the ecosystems that provide the service, such as healthy mangroves protecting from coastal erosion. These disaster risk reduction services are currently being modelled by a range of methodologies and could be used for monitoring at various scales. |
| 1 | 6 | A | 64-67 | | **Goal Element B2. Nature’s material contributions including food, water and others**  We recommend adding “Trends in status of ecosystems providing globally important services for food security and nutrition” and “Trends in status of ecosystems providing globally important services for meeting human water needs”. These ecosystem services are being tracked by CI and partners through the Critical Natural Capital Partnership project2. |
| 1 | 6 | C | 65 | | **Indicators for Monitoring Element for Goal B2 (Nature’s material contributions including food, water and others): Trends in the provision of food and feed from biodiversity.**  An important indicator needed to monitor this element is “state of important sites delivering ecosystem services related to food”; these areas are essential to improving nutrition. Several organizations, including CI, are working together as part of the Critical Natural Capital Partnership (see footnote on Page 3 above) to develop the methodology for this indicator using a range of data sources. The indicator would include identification of the sites that deliver these services and monitoring of their status. This information can be provided at regular intervals to assess the state of food provisioning through ecosystem services across the globe. This entails mapping the places around the world that are highest-performing in terms of providing provisioning of food-related ecosystem services to all humanity, particularly to the world’s most vulnerable people. |
| 1 | 6 | C | 66 | | **Indicators for Monitoring Element for Goal B2 (Nature’s material contributions including food, water and others): Trends in the provision of materials and assistance from biodiversity.** We recommend tracking the state of areas that provide critical levels of ecosystem services through delivery of materials, such as non-timber forest products, which is part of the data assessed by the Critical Natural Capital (CNC) partnership (see footnote on Page 3 above). The research community's ability to estimate or model the provision of wild fiber, fuel, medicine, materials to people is advancing. |
| 2 | 9 | C | 24 | | **Indicator for Monitoring element (Trend in the area of degraded terrestrial ecosystems restored) for T1.4 (Restoration of degraded ecosystems): Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area (SDG indicator 15.3.1).**  In addition to tracking trends in degraded ecosystems that have been restored, we recommend measuring the proportion of land that is degraded over total land area. This element monitored under the UNCCD and SDG 15.3.1 and both use the indicator “Trends.Earth”, which uses indices that monitor changes in primary productivity, land cover and soil organic carbon. We recommend adoption of this monitoring element and indicator by the CBD as well.  We also recommend an indicator of restoration quality. “Trends.Earth” picks up changes in productivity but not necessarily whether such a change contributes to biodiversity increase. CI is working with a partner to explore a proxy indicator: increase in secondary natural forest cover. |
| 2 | 10 | C | 31 | | **Indicator for monitoring element (Trends in habitat connectivity) for Target T1.5 (Maintenance and restoration of connectivity of natural ecosystem):**  **Protected Connected (Protconn).**  We recommend the specific development of a marine connectivity indicator with the support of Conservation International, IUCN’s Marine Connectivity Working Group, and a number of academic and other institutions. This would entail the development of a method for assessing connectivity of marine protection and/or connectivity of marine habitats (also relevant to the habitat fragmentation element). The resulting indicator would also have relevance for other UN Conventions and processes such as the High Seas Treaty and the SDGs. |
| 2 | 10 | C | 35 | | **Indicator for monitoring element for T2.1 (Trends in extent of protected areas): Protected area coverage.**  We support the inclusion of an indicator on protected area downgrading, downsizing, and degazettement (PADDD) to monitor this element of Target 2 because tracking the dynamics of protected area size and status (including upgrades, downgrades, expansions, downsizes, establishments, and degazettements) is an important aspect of the quality of areas under protection (or OECMs). PADDD specifically tracks 1) losses in coverage due to downsizing and degazettement and (2) Change in status and rules within protected areas, including downgrades to protected areas and other area-based conservation measures |
| 2 | 11 | C | 38 | | **Indicator for monitoring element (Trends in extent of areas under other area-based conservation measures) for T2.1 (Area of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystem under protection and conservation): Coverage of other effective area-based conservation measures.**  We recommend an indicator that measures the “extent of IPLC lands that have some form of recognition, documentation and/or titling”. Given the large proportion of intact lands under IPLC tenure or management, this governance type of protected and conserved area needs concerted efforts for assessment. This will lead to strengthening of security and contribute to long-term biodiversity protection. |
| 2 | 11 | B | 39-42 | | **Monitoring element for T2.2. (Areas of particular importance for biodiversity are protected and conserved as priority): Trends in proportion of areas of particular importance for biodiversity protected and conserved.**  We recommend including an element that monitors the protected area and OECM coverage of priority areas delivering ecosystem services for climate, food and water. See Table 1 (Rows 64-67) above for further detail on how these trends can be measured. |
| 2 | 11 | B | 39-42 | | **Monitoring element for T2.2. (Areas of particular importance for biodiversity are protected and conserved as priority): Trends in proportion of areas of particular importance for biodiversity protected and conserved.**  We recommend adding the following Monitoring element: Trends in areas of particular importance for ecosystem services conserved.  Areas providing important ecosystem services are being identified by CI and partners through the Critical Natural Capital partnership3. This approach can help identify areas of particular importance to be prioritized for protection under Target 2. This information can then be used to assess trends over the next 10-30 years. |
| 2 | 11 | C | 48 | | **Indicator for Monitoring Element T2.4. Trends in proportion of protected areas and other effective area based conservation measures under various governance regimes.**  We recommend developing a governance indicator for this monitoring element that determines effectiveness of governance, similar to how management effectiveness is assessed. |
| 2 | 12 | C | 52 | | **No indicator proposed for monitoring element (Policy and governance practices outside of protected areas and OECMs compatible with their management objectives) for T2.7. (Integration into landscape and seascape context)**  We also suggest an IPLC land tenure/management indicator (see Row 38). |
| 2 | 16 | C | 97 | | **Indicator for Monitoring element for T7.1. (Increased biodiversity contribution to climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction): Trends in carbon stocks in different ecosystems.**  We recommend tracking this element through the use of an indicator on the “Trends in global stocks of Irrecoverable Carbon” through the use of the Irrecoverable Carbon data layer (see Table 1, Row 48 above). Irrecoverable carbon is carbon in ecosystems that is vulnerable to loss during a land-use conversion and, if lost, could not be recovered by 2050 (the timeframe by which we need to reach net zero emissions). CI manages this dataset with partners, and it tracks carbon content per ecosystem type. |
| 2 | 20 | C | 117 | | **Indicator for monitoring element (Trends in area of agriculture under sustainable practices) for T9.1. (Sustainable management of agricultural biodiversity, including soil biodiversity, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives): Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area (SDG indicator 15.3.1).**  We recommend measuring the proportion of land that is degraded over total land area. This element is monitored under the UNCCD and SDG 15.3.1 and both use the indicator “Trends.Earth”, which uses indices that monitor changes in primary productivity, land cover and soil organic carbon. We recommend adoption of this monitoring element and indicator by the CBD as well. |
| 2 | 21 | C | 129-131 | | **Indicator for Monitoring element for T10.3. (Regulation of freshwater quantity, quality, location and timing): Trends in natural freshwater ecosystems proving good ambient water.**  We propose to adjust two of the proposed indicators for this element as follows:  (1) Revise this indicator to “Change in the extent and status of water-related ecosystems over time (modified SDG indicator 6.6.1)”.    Additionally, define "water related ecosystems" to include both aquatic ecosystems and the terrestrial ecosystems that are essential for regulating the quality, quantity and timing of water.    (2) Proportion of bodies of water (inclusive of rivers, groundwater, floodplains, lakes, and wetlands) with good ambient water quality and quantity, including variations in quantity over time (modified SDG indicator 6.3.2) |
| 2 | 22 | A | 133-139 | | **T11.2. Contributions of biodiversity to human health and well-being**  We recommend that clear definitions of human health and well-being need to first be agreed before detailed monitoring can take place. Human and ecosystem well-being are multidimensional concepts, therefore there are numerous methods to measure well-being. Once these dimensions are agreed, then a process can be undertaken to identify appropriate indicators. Conservation International has a team of social scientists and other experts that can contribute to this overall process and more specific methodologies on indicators. |
| 2 | 25 | C | 152 | | **Indicator for monitoring element (Trends in integration of biodiversity and ecosystem service values into planning processes) for T13.1. (Biodiversity reflected in policies and planning at all levels): (a) Number of countries that have established national targets in accordance with or similar to Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 in their national biodiversity strategy and action plans and the progress reported towards these targets; and (b) integration of biodiversity into national accounting and reporting systems, defined as implementation of the System of Environmental- Economic Accounting (SDG indicator 15.9.1).**  We support the inclusion of SEEA and urge that is be kept as an indicator. |
| 2 | 26 | C | 157 | | **Indicator for monitoring element (Trends in integration of biodiversity and ecosystem service values into national accounts) for T13.2. (Biodiversity reflected in national and other accounts): (a) Number of countries that have established national targets in accordance with or similar to Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 in their national biodiversity strategy and action plans and the progress reported towards these targets; and (b) integration of biodiversity into national accounting and reporting systems, defined as implementation of the System of Environmental- Economic Accounting (SDG indicator 15.9.1).**  We support the inclusion of SEEA and urge that is be kept as an indicator. |
| 2 | 39 | C | 242 | | **Indicator for monitoring element (Trends in the recognition of rights over relevant resources) for T20.1. (Equitable participation of IPLCs in decision-making related to biodiversity and rights over relevant resources): Trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous and local communities (decision X/43).**  We support this indicator and recommend it includes measures of the extent of IPLCs lands that have some form of recognition, documentation and/or titling. We also propose adding the following to the text of the indicator: “ensuring that additional data sources, including those verified from IPLCs, are included”. We encourage the use of a wide range of studies and datasets, including forthcoming reports, that can help inform the analysis of this trend. Some current studies lack inclusive processes or quality data. Given the large proportion of intact lands under IPLC tenure or management, this governance type of protected and conserved area needs concerted efforts for assessment. This will lead to strengthening of security and contribute to long-term biodiversity protection. |
| 2 | 39-40 | A | 244-246 | | **T20.2. Equitable participation of women and girls in decision-making related to biodiversity and rights over relevant resources.**  We recommend adding “participation *and leadership”* to this monitoring element to recognize that women and girls not only participate in decisions, but they can lead the processes of decision-making. This is a timely and critical precedent to set the tone for the next decade. Thank you for considering this. |

*Comments should be sent by e-mail to* [*secretariat@cbd.int*](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int)***no later than 25 July 2020****.*

1. [CBD/WG2020/REC/2/1](https://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/wg2020-02/wg2020-02-rec-01-en.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)