



Submission in response to CBD Notification 2019-008: Initial discussion document on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Reference: Discussion Paper CBD/POST2020/PREP/1/1

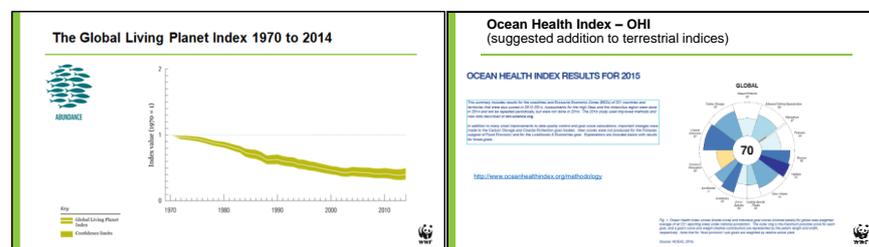
In response to the discussion paper WWF Germany provides answers to the questions under section IV of the above mentioned document. The answers build on the submission related to CBD Notification 2018-63 (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/Post2020/postsbi/wwfgermany.pdf>) and results of the project “Towards a new CBD Strategy - proposals for a new catalogue of CBD targets 2021-2030” accessible at <http://www.biodiv.de/en/projekte/aktuell/cbd-strategy.html>.

Response to A: Structure of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

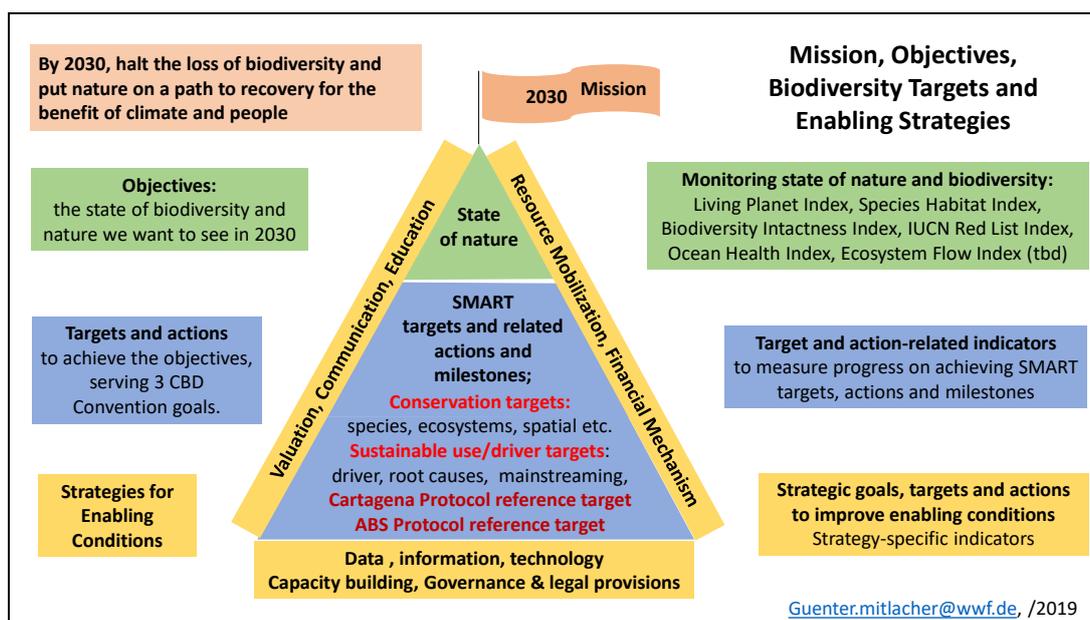
Question: What could constitute an effective structure for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, what should its different elements be, and how should they be organized?

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework may consist of several elements, which are interlinked:

- (i) **A 2030 mission**; the proposal is described in section D (orange level).
- (ii) **‘objectives’ for the ‘state of nature’**; components are (green level):
species, terrestrial ecosystems, marine ecosystems, ecosystem services
- a set of global indices could be used to monitor the ‘state of nature’, such as Living Planet Index (LPI); Red List Index (RLI); Species Habitat Index (SHI); Biodiversity Intactness Index (BII); Ocean Health Index (OHI)



- (iii) **SMART Biodiversity Targets** with actions and milestones and a set of appropriate indicators to measure progress (blue section)
- (iv) **Enabling Strategies with SMART targets and milestones** (yellow level);



- (i) An **improved implementation and reporting mechanism**; the proposal is described in section L;
- (ii) An **improved review process**; the proposal is described in section O;
- (vii) **Voluntary commitments and contributions**; the proposal is described in section F;
- (viii) A process to improve **coherence among conventions and other processes**; the proposals is described in section G.

Response to B: Ambition of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

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

An “ambitious” post-2020 global biodiversity framework clearly includes the necessary scope, content and scale of actions needed to halt biodiversity loss, to shift land-use practices to sustainability and to ensure long-term provision of all ecosystem services for the benefits of people on the planet.

Rationale:

The level of ambition must correspond with the pathways to the 2050 Vision and the wording of the 2030 mission.

The level of ambition will also inform the specific language of the Biodiversity Targets and actions needed, as well as the implementation mechanisms required to deliver the post-2020 framework.

Response to C: Vision for Biodiversity

Question: What, in real terms, does “living in harmony” with nature entail, what are the implications of this for the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and what actions are needed between now and 2050 to reach the 2050 Vision?

It is the view of many non-state actors that the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity remains relevant and should be kept as an important aspiration. A clearer definition and a common understanding is needed what ‘living in harmony with nature’ entails and means in real terms for different societies.

A starting point for developing a common understanding could be the agreed mission statement of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020:

...ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet's variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication. To ensure this, pressures on biodiversity are reduced, ecosystems are restored, biological resources are sustainably used and benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources are shared in a fair and equitable manner; adequate financial resources are provided, capacities are enhanced, biodiversity issues and values mainstreamed, appropriate policies are effectively implemented, and decision-making is based on sound science and the precautionary approach.

The actions required to move societies towards achieving the vision could likely be derived from the IPBES Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and other scientific sources.

Response to D: Mission

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

The 2050 Vision “Living in harmony with nature” should be accompanied by an inspirational and motivating 2030 mission as a stepping stone towards that ultimate goal. The wording of the mission should meet several criteria:

- (i) It should be an actionable that describe the desired state of biodiversity and nature by 2030
- (ii) It should be ambitious and inspiring, easy to communicate and relevant to different audiences
- (iii) It should provide the foundation for contributions by state and non-state actors
- (iv) It should clearly link to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the UNCCD and the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC.

The following option covers many relevant terms to meet most of the criteria:

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

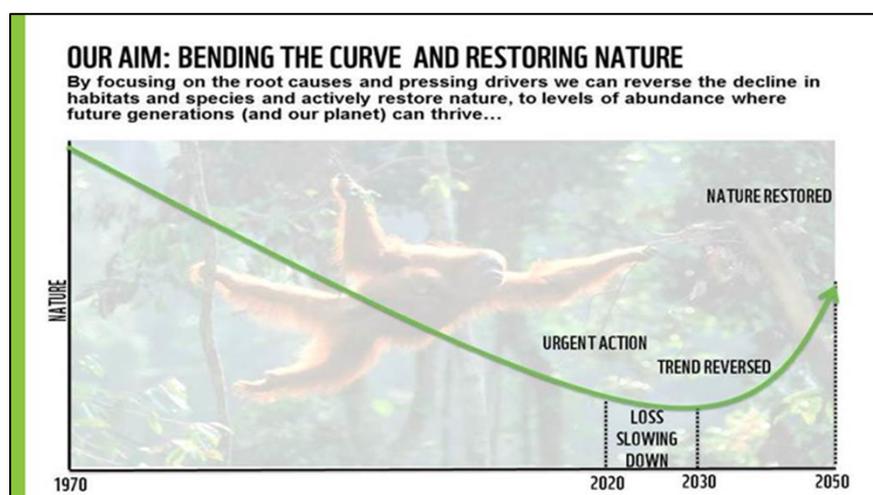
Other options would be:

Reverse the loss of biodiversity by 2030 and put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and the planet.

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

Rationale:

The mission should the overarching direction for Parties, other governments and non-state actors between now and 2030. It must be operationalized by a set of specific Biodiversity Targets and Actions (underpinned by enabling conditions) to inter alia address the drivers of biodiversity loss. The following figure illustrated the 2030 mission.



Response to E: Biodiversity Targets

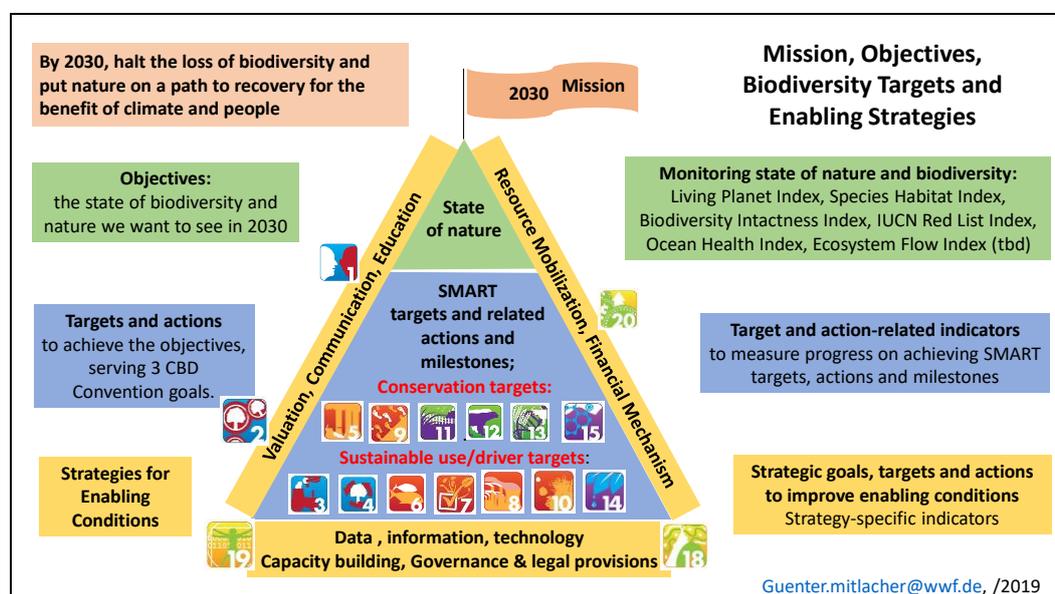
Questions:

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

Aichi Biodiversity Target analysis showed that more progress has been made towards those Aichi targets that were more measurable, realistic, unambiguous, scalable, and to some extent, more specific. Less progress has been made towards targets that were considered vague, unquantifiable or unrealistic.¹ The analysis should be considered when developing the language of Biodiversity Targets for the post-2020 framework.

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

The figure below illustrates how the Aichi Biodiversity Targets could fit into a post-2020 biodiversity framework. Many non-state actors present at the workshops noted that the Aichi Biodiversity Targets should be used as the starting point for developing any new Biodiversity Targets and that changes to these should be kept to a minimum.



(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?

The workshop results of the project (<http://www.biodiv.de/en/projekte/aktuell/cbd-strategy.html>) show proposals how to more align post-2020 Biodiversity Targets with targets under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Response to F: Voluntary commitments and contributions

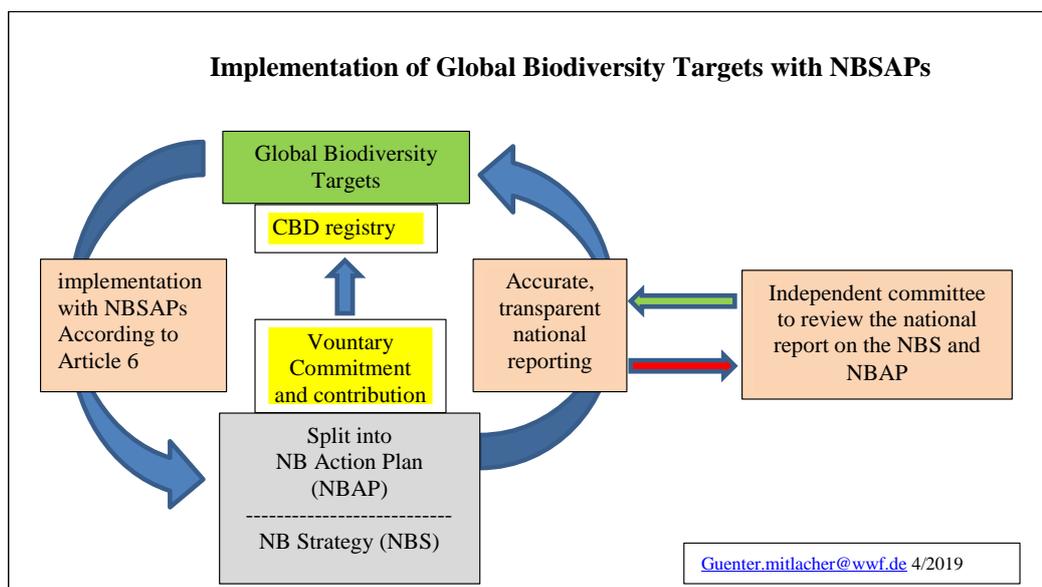
Question: What form should voluntary commitments for biodiversity take and how should these relate to or be reflected in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

Voluntary commitments and contributions have been considered to contribute to an effective post-2020 global biodiversity framework. In practice such contributions are elements that complement the implementation process. In that regard commitments and contributions that are ‘voluntary’ should clearly be distinguished from activities under the National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP), which are ‘mandatory’ (see L and figure below).

Therefore, it is appropriate to develop criteria for such commitments and contributions. Initial criteria are as follows:

¹ “Relating characteristics of global biodiversity targets to reported progress” available online at Conservation Biology <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/cobi.13322>

- Should be additional to National Biodiversity Action Plans (NBAP) and National Biodiversity Strategies (NBS, see L.);
- Should contribute to the implementation of Biodiversity Targets on global, regional and national level;
- Should contribute to the implementation of enabling strategies (see A);
- Should be cross-sectoral to include other sectors to improve mainstreaming;
- Should include different stakeholders;
- Should be more concrete, more specific, additional; link with other goals and targets, link with other conventions;
- Should be part of National Reporting and subject to the review process by the independent committee (see O.);
- Should be registered in the registry on the CBD website of the Egypt-China action agenda www.cbd.int/action-agenda .



Response to G: Relationship between the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and other relevant processes

Question: How could a post-2020 global biodiversity framework help to ensure coherence, integration and a holistic approach to biodiversity governance and what are the implications for the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

It is of utmost importance to increase the synergies and coherence between the different Rio conventions and biodiversity-related conventions, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the processes of the different UN bodies.

Rationale:

Those institutions should be included in the development of the post-2020 biodiversity framework from the beginning to ensure as much coherence as possible.

Response to H: Mainstreaming

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

Mainstreaming must be designed to ensure that Biodiversity Targets and actions are identified 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 - 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 (see A and E).

Rationale:

Mainstreaming means integrating the goals of the Convention into all relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies. The post-2020 framework must include all sectors that have direct or indirect consequences for biodiversity.

Response to I: Relationship to the current Strategic Plan

Question: 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 framework avoid further delays in implementation and where should additional attention be focused?

Many Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 were agreed on an ambitious level at that time. Given the limited responsibility of the ministries in charge in implementing the Strategic Plan it is obvious that targets that fell into the realm of those ministries made more progress than driver-oriented targets that fell into the responsibility of other ministries.

Nevertheless the driver-oriented targets provided an opportunity to address the need to include other ministries to deliver biodiversity-positive outcomes. However, that approach became a huge challenge.

For the next framework

- (i) drivers of biodiversity loss should be included into the development of the post-2020 framework from the very beginning,
- (ii) political relevance should be escalated to the Heads of State level,
- (iii) the importance of biodiversity loss, deterioration of ecosystem services and natural capital for business should be addressed more clearly in the structure of the framework (see A and E),
- (iv) a comprehensive communication strategy to raise awareness of the values of nature must accompany the implementation of the post-2020 framework from the very beginning (see R).

Response to K: Indicators

Question: 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?

The set of Biodiversity Targets (see E) and actions should be accompanied by indicators to measure progress of implementation. Indices for global level monitoring and indicators on different levels are available (see A).

Recently, the OECD international expert workshop on *The Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework: Targets, indicators and measurability implications at global and national level*, provided a relevant contribution to informing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework².

Response to L: Implementation and NBSAPs

Question: 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?

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are a key tool in implementing global Biodiversity Targets and COP decisions at the national level. According to Article 6 of the CBD Parties are obliged to develop and implement NBSAPs; each Party shall:

² <http://www.oecd.org/environment/resources/biodiversity/oecdexpertworkshoponthe-post-2020-biodiversity-framework-targets-indicators-and-measurability-implications-at-global-and-national-level.htm>

(i) Develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes which shall reflect, inter alia, the measures set out in this Convention relevant to the Contracting Party concerned;

(ii) Integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies³.

NBSAPs are focused on national level targets and achievements, which leads to a more politically realistic approach than the global target setting. In addition, NBSAPs have different timelines - most of them go beyond 2020 – and indicators on national level differ from those on global level, which makes it difficult to compare the different NBSAPs. The content of NBSAPs is challenging to aggregate in order to provide a realistic picture on the status of collective implementation results of the globally agreed Biodiversity Targets.

Therefore, it is suggested to split the NBSAPs into two parts:

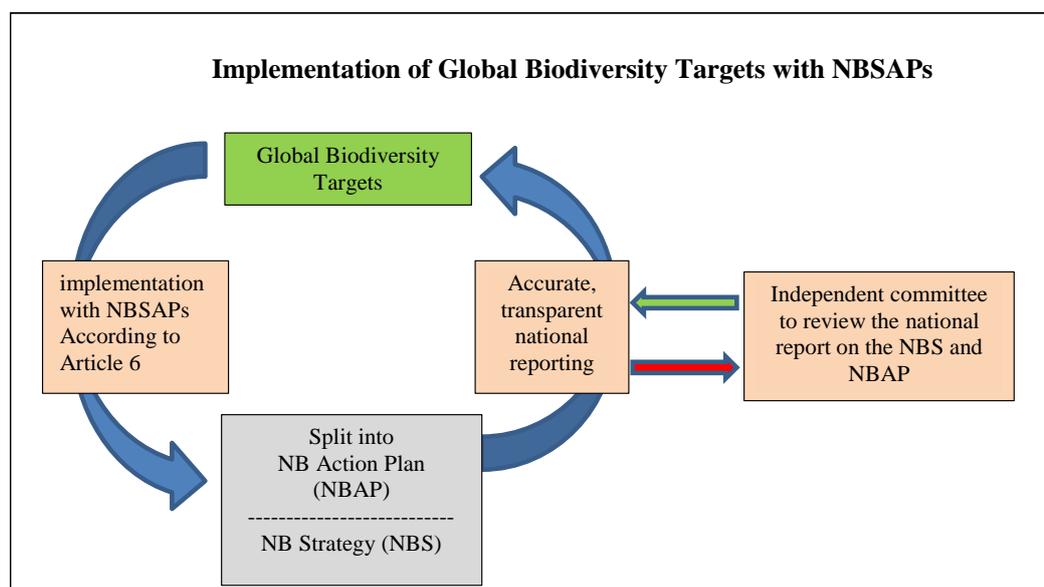
1. **The National Biodiversity Strategy (NBS)** which should contain a 10-year strategic guidance how to contribute nationally to the global Biodiversity Targets and the ‘enabling strategies’.
2. **The National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP)** which should focus on concrete actions that a CBD Party is intended to carry out nationally and internationally to contribute achieving the global targets.

Parties will report progress on the establishment of the NBS after 2020 and the implementation of the NBAP according to the COP guidance on National Reporting. National reporting should primarily focus on progress of NBAP implementation.

In order to improve accuracy national reports should be subject to an external review process, which should be executed by an independent advisory committee on national level (see figure below).

In addition, due to the differences in reporting the current analysis of all National Reports will still not be able to really assess how all Parties are progressing collectively to achieve targets. Therefore, Parties should aim to make them more comparable.

Furthermore, National Reports should explicitly include activities to implement decisions of other conventions to assess how countries perform across conventions and how they implement an integrated and synergistic approach.



³ <https://www.cbd.int/convention/articles/default.shtml?a=cbd-06>

Response to M: Resource Mobilization

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

Resource Mobilization should be captured as one of several ‘enabling strategies’ accompanying the implementation phase of the Biodiversity Targets (chapter A and E). The resource mobilization strategy should be anchored in the set of Biodiversity Targets (chapter E):

- (i) A target similar to Aichi Biodiversity Target 20 could be included in the set of Biodiversity Targets
- (ii) A ten-year resource mobilization strategy with SMART targets and milestones should be developed to adequately address the role of funding as enabling condition for the appropriate implementation of Biodiversity Targets.

Resource Mobilization is an enabling condition for the entire post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The resource mobilization strategy must address the mobilization of sufficient funding by all actors from all sources for the development and implementation of:

- (i) the National Biodiversity Strategies (NBS) and National Biodiversity Action Plans (NBAPs) of the post-2020 framework ;
- (ii) 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;
- (iii) an effective financial reporting system;
- (iv) the additional commitments and voluntary contributions (section F).

Rationale:

Resource mobilization must be an integral part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as decided by COP-14/22. This is closely linked to the level of ambition of the Biodiversity Targets and all other elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

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

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:

- (i) The assessment of the current Strategy for Resource Mobilization (SRM) and the current level of available resources from all sources including the funding needs and gaps.
- (ii) If the level of ambition of the Biodiversity Targets will be at the same level or higher than the level of the Aichi Targets of the current Strategic plan, the overall available resources from all sources must significantly increase.
- (iii) 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 Biodiversity Targets to achieve most synergies.
- (iv) The results of the BIOFIN project.
- (v) 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^{4,30}

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.

⁴ See: <https://unfccc.int/news/un-calls-to-address-linked-climate-biodiversity-and-desertification-threats>

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

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should include a target (similar to Aichi target 3) to eliminate subsidies that are harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem services. This target can be situated in the set of Biodiversity Targets as an element of relevant sustainable production or driver-oriented 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.

Rationale:

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

Response to N: Financial Mechanism

Question: 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?

The GEF should provide support as follows:

- (i) Donors to the GEF Trust Fund should step up their contribution to guarantee sufficient resources are available for the periods of the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework that are covered by GEF-8 (July 2022 to June 2026) and GEF-9 (July 2026 to June 2030).
- (ii) The GEF 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.

Rationale:

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.

Response to O: Review process

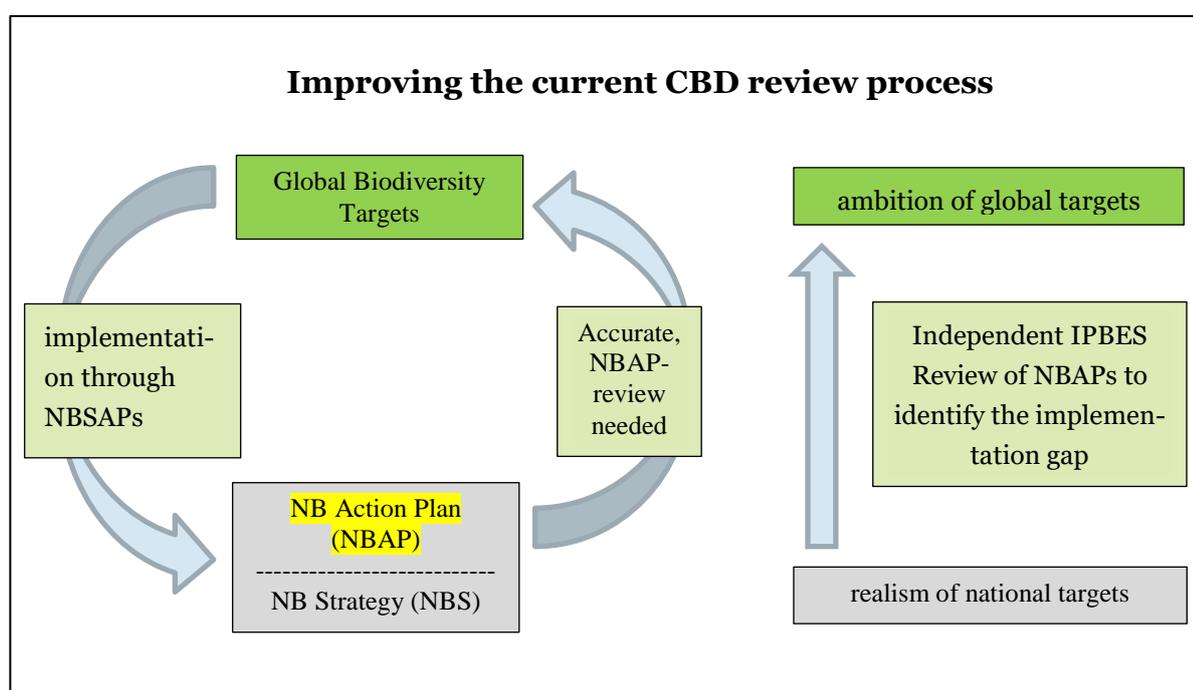
Question: What additional mechanisms, if any, are required to support the review of implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and how should these be integrated into the framework?

The current review mechanism assessing the progress of NBSAP implementation documented in National Reports could be improved. The review process should focus on the National Biodiversity Action Plans (NBAP, see L.), while the National Biodiversity Strategies (NBS, see L.) should continue to be the strategic guidance for national implementation of global targets until 2030.

The Action Plan (NBAP) could be designed as a ‘pledge and review’ mechanism similar to what was laid out in Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Paris Agreement⁵ with Nationally Determined Contributions - NDCs⁶.

A comprehensive independent gap analysis of the implementation status of all NBAP of Parties should be established as a new review process. The aim is to realistically assess progress, performance and gaps of achieving the actions of the NBAP after four-years and how all actions contributed to the global Biodiversity Targets (see figure below).

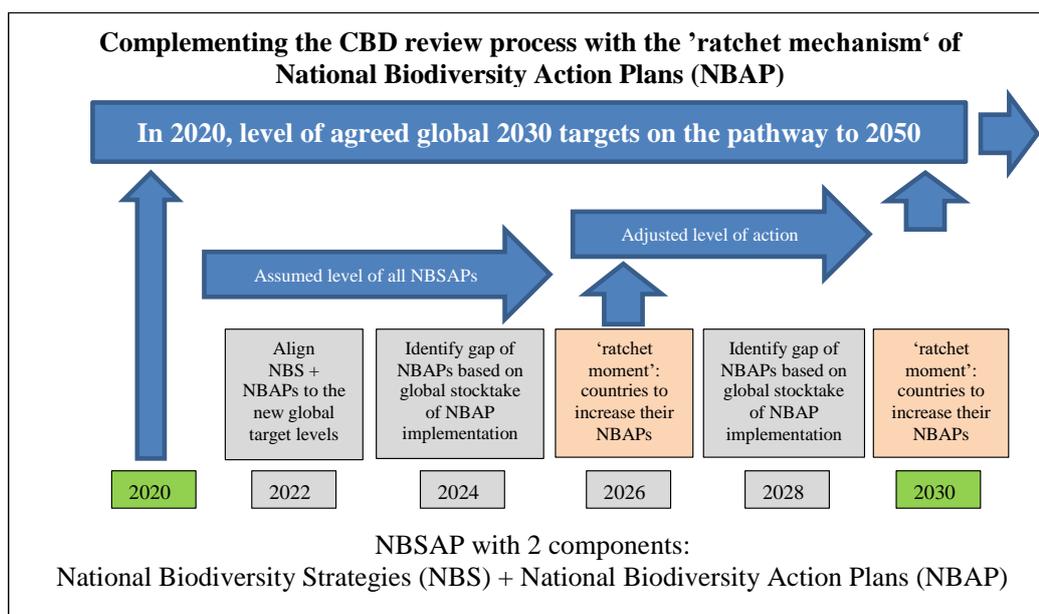
The review of the National Biodiversity Action Plans (NBAP) could be conducted by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) using the format of a ‘technical paper’ as set out in decision IPBES-3/3, Annex I, para 4 (in IPBES/3/18).



An improved review mechanism needs a clear rule that during the implementation period of targets with NBAPs only improvement, no back-stepping, is allowed until 2030. This could be ensured if a so called ‘ratchet mechanics’ will be put in place (see figure below).

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/what-is-the-paris-agreement>

⁶ <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions/ndc-registry>



A 'ratchet moment' should force Parties to regularly update and increase their national ambitions to collectively add-up, over the short- to mid-term, to the level of the agreed global 2030 targets. This complementary procedure also supports transparency and accountability of the implementation, the reporting and the entire review process.

Response to P: Relationship between the Convention and its Protocols

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

Question: 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?

The two protocols should be reflected in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework by

- (i) Including a general target into the Biodiversity Targets with a reference to the strategic approaches of the two protocols until 2030,
- (ii) Including a link to the implementation objectives and plans of the protocols.

Response to Q: Integrating diverse perspectives

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

To strengthen engagement of specific groups and to include their perspectives into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework it is important to

- (i) take into account their views related to the scope and content of the framework,
- (ii) generate buy-in for the implementation of the post-2020 framework until 2030.

Response to R: Communication and outreach

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

Communication and outreach should be captured as one of several 'enabling strategies' accompanying the implementation phase of the Biodiversity Targets (chapter A and E). The communication strategy should be anchored in the set of Biodiversity Targets (chapter E):

- (i) A target similar to Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 could be included in the set of Biodiversity Targets

- (ii) A ten-year communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) strategy with SMART targets and milestones should be developed to adequately address the role of CEPA as enabling condition for the appropriate implementation of Biodiversity Targets. CBD's current 'framework for a communications strategy' (decision XIII/22) could be a valuable starting point to draw on in that regard.

Rationale:

Raising awareness and engagement of people and different audiences through a joint communication and education initiatives by Parties and non-state actors are important prerequisites and conditions to enable the full and timely implementation of the Biodiversity Targets until 2030 and to trigger transformative change on the pathway to 2050.

Question: 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 Germany will continue to implement the global communication project 'Scaling up Biodiversity Communication for Achieving Aichi Target 1' that WWF Germany is currently implementing with WWF International until 2020. This project is supported by the German Government with funding from the International Climate Initiative (IKI) and also supports raising awareness in parallel to the process of developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

WWF will continue to roll out activities under the Memorandum of Understanding between WWF International 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.

Rationale:

The importance of supporting the development of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework through targeted and widespread communication efforts at all levels is of utmost importance, building on CBD's 'framework for a communications strategy' (decision CBD/COP/XIII/22) and existing communication strategies of Parties and non-state actors. It is crucial 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 and beyond until 2030.

Berlin, 15 April 2019

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Further information on the project and workshop reports, see:
<http://www.biodiv.de/en/projekte/aktuell/cbd-strategy.html>

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