



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.: General
21 January 2026
English only

Subsidiary Body on Implementation

Sixth meeting

Rome, 16–19 February 2026

Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Planning, monitoring, reporting and review: update on national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets and national reporting

Summary of key findings from regional and subregional dialogues on biodiversity monitoring and reporting

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In decision [15/6](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted an enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review.
2. Between the fifteenth and sixteenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat of the Convention, in collaboration with relevant partners, held a series of 12 regional and subregional dialogues on national biodiversity strategies and action plans.¹
3. In decision [16/32](#), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to convene, under the guidance of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, subregional and/or regional dialogues, taking into account the experiences and lessons learned from the previous dialogues. In addition, the Conference of the Parties made further requests related to exchanging knowledge and building capacity with regard to the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the provision of capacity-building and development support from regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres. The dialogues are listed as sources of information for the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Framework and described in [CBD/SBI/6/4](#).
4. The Secretariat, together with relevant partners, organized nine regional and subregional dialogues on biodiversity monitoring and reporting between May and December 2025,² with the objectives of (a) accelerating the national processes of updating or revising national biodiversity strategy and action plan in alignment with the Framework through the sharing of experiences, good practices and lessons learned, including ways and means to address challenges; (b) promoting the implementation of the monitoring framework of the Framework at the national and regional level including the development and use of indicators, and (c) enhancing capacities for the preparation of

* [CBD/SBI/6/1](#).

¹ CBD/SBI/5/2/Add.3. Summary of key findings from regional and subregional dialogues on national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Available at www.cbd.int/doc/c/ab79/cd56/6699661d621c719e3815f8dd/sbi-05-02-add3-en.pdf

² See the annex for the list of dialogues.

the seventh national report. Some dialogues included a thematic focus of interest for the region or subregion. The European Commission and the European Union organized one dialogue for the countries of Western European and Others Group.

5. The dialogues were hosted by Parties that agreed to host the dialogues and that provided logistical and organizational support. In addition, the Secretariat worked with the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres to deliver the technical content during the dialogue. The relevant regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres were invited to each dialogue and where possible the centres helped co-organize the dialogues. In some cases, regional partners were also involved. A list of dialogues, including the hosts and the regional partners is provided in the annex.

6. The Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme and the UNEP China Trust Fund provided financial and organizational support for the regional and sub-regional dialogues. For the dialogues with a thematic focus on restoration, financial and organizational support was also provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Additional support was provided by the Commonwealth, African Union Commission, and the European Union for the anglophone Africa dialogue, and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany through the regional project of the German Agency for International Cooperation and the International Organisation of la Francophonie provided support for the francophone Africa dialogue.

7. In addition, technical support was provided to facilitate the discussions by the above-mentioned partners, including staff from the United Nations Development Programme and United Nations Environment Programme that work in the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership and *GEF-8 Umbrella Programme to Support NBSAP Update and the 7th National Reports*. In addition to the partners previously mentioned, technical support for the monitoring agenda items was provided by the Group on Earth Observation (GEO), GEO Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO-BON), United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. These partners helped develop the overall approach for the monitoring sessions, the technical content and provided presentations.

8. At the closing of each dialogue, participants agreed on a summary of key points or conclusions that had emerged from the discussions, including common challenges, lessons learned, best practices and opportunities.³ The present document contains an overview of the content and format of the dialogues (sect. II) and a summary of key findings from these dialogues (sect. III). A list of regional or subregional dialogues organized in 2025 is contained in the annex.

II. Content and format of the dialogues

9. The dialogues were organized in response to decisions [15/5](#) and [16/31](#) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to operationalize the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and decisions [15/5](#), [15/6](#) and [16/32](#) to provide capacity support for its implementation and the operationalization of planning, monitoring, reporting and review mechanisms, in particular the preparation and submission of the seventh national reports.

10. The dialogues were designed and tailored to meet the needs of the participating countries in the regions and subregions, in consultation with relevant partner organizations. The duration of the dialogues varied due to different sources of funding and partnerships with different organizations involved in the organization. Common topics in the dialogues included:

(a) Sharing progress in revising or updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national targets, including discussions related to:

³ The reports of the dialogues are available at <https://www.cbd.int/reports/nr7>.

- (i) Reflecting on the national processes for updating or revising national biodiversity strategies and action plans and identifying steps that can be taken to finalize the update or revision, including challenges and support needs;
 - (ii) Linking national priorities with regional and global priorities and reflecting on possible regional strategies and cooperation;
 - (iii) Identifying challenges and pathways from planning to implementation including support from technical and scientific cooperation support centres;
 - (iv) Exploring avenues for integrating the Protocols and relevant MEAs into the updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans
 - (v) Exploring opportunities for increasing synergies among related conventions, treaties and agreement, through mainstreaming biodiversity into related planning documents and policies, and vice versa;
 - (vi) Addressing issues related to means of implementation including innovative financing and capacity development;
 - (vii) Involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, and other stakeholders;
 - (viii) Opportunities, including partnerships, to address the issues and challenges identified with the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.
- (b) The implementation of the monitoring framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework at national and regional level, including discussions related to:
- (i) The development or improvement of national monitoring plans and systems for the updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
 - (ii) The development and use of indicators for national planning and reporting;
 - (iii) Regional cooperation in monitoring.
- (c) The preparation and submission of the seventh national report, including the use of the online reporting tool

11. Some dialogues included sessions with a thematic focus of regional interest identified following consultations with relevant partners. For example, the dialogues for ASEAN member states⁴ and Latin America⁵ focused on restoration monitoring and reporting, while the dialogue for Eastern Europe and Central Asia⁶ focused on biodiversity and health. The dialogue for francophone Africa⁷ discussed access to multilateral funds and other financing mechanisms. The dialogue for Western Europe and Others Group⁸ was organized in connection with the launching of regional technical and scientific cooperation support centres.

⁴ Subregional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting with a focus on ecosystem restoration (Target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework), 2–5 September 2025, Bangkok.

⁵ Subregional dialogue for Latin American countries on biodiversity monitoring and reporting with a focus on ecosystem restoration (Target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework), 17–20 November 2025, Bogota.

⁶ Regional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting with a focus on biodiversity and health for countries in Central Asia and Eastern Europe, 25–28 November 2025, Yerevan.

⁷ Regional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting for francophone African countries, 3–5 September 2025, Yaoundé.

⁸ Regional dialogue on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans for the Western European and Others Group and for Parties covered by the European Subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre, 23 September 2025, Brussels.

12. Several dialogues were held back-to-back or in parallel with other relevant regional workshops. For example, the dialogues for the Pacific countries⁹ and for East and South Asia¹⁰ were held following a regional workshop on synergetic implementation of relevant multilateral environmental agreements. This allowed for exchanges between participants, collaboration among relevant organizations, and increased synergies.

13. For each dialogue, Parties were invited to nominate two representatives to attend, and it was advised that one nominee should be the national focal point for the Convention or a government official who is responsible for leading the work on revising or updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and the second nominee could be an expert or officer working on biodiversity monitoring and reporting or issues which the dialogues focused on. In addition, for most of the dialogues, representatives from major groups were invited, including representatives from indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth. The Secretariat also identified and invited other relevant stakeholders and organizations at the regional or subregional level. Representatives from regional or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres were invited to participate and contribute to the organization of the dialogues. Most dialogues included a session to present and discuss the objectives and work plans of the centres in relation to biodiversity monitoring and reporting.

14. Participants in the dialogues prepared national presentations, shared experiences in revising or updating their national biodiversity strategy and action plan and contributed to the group discussions on challenges and opportunities. Participants also shared their experiences, challenges and opportunities in the development and improvement of national monitoring plans and systems for the updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, including the development and use of indicators for planning and reporting. The dialogues provided training on the preparation and submission of the seventh national report and opportunities for countries to share their approaches of reviewing the implementation of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national targets. Most dialogues also provided training on the use of the Online Reporting Tool.

III. Summary of key findings from regional and subregional dialogues on biodiversity monitoring and reporting

15. During each dialogue, participants countries were given the opportunities to share lessons learned and experiences on one of the topics described below. These lessons learned and experiences are contained in the reports of the different dialogues. Below is a summary of common key finding that emerged throughout the various dialogues.

A. Progress in the revision and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national targets

16. During the dialogues, information on the status and progress in the revision and updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and national targets, was shared by participating countries. Most of the countries in most regions and subregions stated that they have either already submitted, are in an advanced stage or are finalizing the revision or update of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Most Parties had submitted national targets by the time the dialogues occurred.

17. In some regions and subregions, only a few countries had already submitted revised or updated plans at the time of the dialogue, but most stated that they planned to submit them in 2026, depending on funding and national consultations. Some of the reasons for delays highlighted by participants included the lack of financial resources, administrative delays and criteria to access fundings, and the lack of availability of technical expertise. They also identified certain external matters,

⁹ Subregional dialogue for the Pacific small island developing States on biodiversity monitoring and reporting, 29 and 30 May 2025, Apia.

¹⁰ Regional dialogue for East and South Asia on biodiversity monitoring and reporting, 9 and 10 October 2025, Bangkok.

particularly natural disasters or political transitions, as having a significant impact on national processes.

18. Some general challenges noted by participants across the workshops were the lack of or difficulty in accessing data, the lack of technical expertise and capacity gaps, issues with resource mobilization (funding availability and delays, procurement bottlenecks), and the difficulty of involving and coordinating all institutions and sectors directly involved in biodiversity management. Some participants noted that while cooperation with and involvement of all stakeholders (including indigenous people and local communities, youth, and women) is important, the engagement that has occurred is sometimes insufficient.

19. Participants also identified opportunities and possible solutions to the challenges noted above, including capacity building, the use of online consultations, partnerships and collaboration, and making use of support from the regional technical and scientific cooperation support centres. Suggestions to improve stakeholders' involvement included building capacity of their representatives, integration of indigenous and local knowledge in databases or policy and decision-making processes, the creation of enabling environment and developing or improving processes for the effective participation of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities and stakeholders.

B. Implementation of the monitoring framework at national and regional level

20. Across the regions, it was noted that national monitoring systems were at different stages of development. Many countries stated that they have developed or are developing or improving national monitoring plans or mechanisms for the updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans. However, participants from some regions shared that their countries had very limited national systems and capacities for monitoring. In some regions, only a few countries had developed national monitoring systems for the updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans and even fewer countries had put in place a national monitoring system with adequate coverage of species and ecosystems for the purpose of monitoring. The need for regional cooperation in monitoring was highlighted in this context.

21. Participants in the dialogues recognized that biodiversity monitoring was a long-term investment essential for the effective implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. It was critical that monitoring be carried out consistently and that standardized data collection protocols or methods be used to facilitate data analysis, data-sharing and data reporting.

22. Many success stories related to monitoring systems were shared during the dialogues. However, challenges in monitoring remain and some countries identified the following gaps: limited data for certain ecosystems, gaps in data availability and access, and lack of consistent monitoring over multiple years. Some regions identified a need for training, capacity support, resources and technology transfer for monitoring. Some regions found it useful to establish spatial data systems and use spatial data for monitoring and reporting, however countries are experiencing difficulties due to limited monitoring systems and data in this regard.

23. Some of the main challenges identified for monitoring included: lack of political will, limited resources, expertise and capacities for monitoring, fragmented data or information management systems, lack of reporting structures, permitting issues for data collection, limited data from the local level and lack of common methodologies and standards. Participants observed that biodiversity monitoring may be done by different institutions, sometimes across multiple sectors, making collaboration and sharing data challenging. Some countries found it difficult to validate global data. Countries highlighted the need for stronger cross-sector coordination, especially with agriculture, forestry, water, health, and spatial planning. Participants also highlighted the need for the custodians of global and regional datasets to identify ways to tailor their services to meet national monitoring

and reporting needs. The need for exchange between Parties and institutions providing global and regional datasets was noted.

24. Good practices mentioned by countries included: establishing partnerships for monitoring and data sharing, developing key parameters for data collection, establishing data-collection and data-sharing standards or protocols, integrating different types of data for use and increasing resources and capacities. Integrating various means of monitoring at various levels, using various means of data collection such as GIS and community-based monitoring, establishing centralized data sets, using tools such as BON in a Box and the Global Ecosystem Atlas were also identified as options for addressing those challenges. Others suggested leveraging existing regional coordination mechanisms to close capacity and knowledge gaps, banking on data available through other Multilateral Environmental Agreements, increasing access to, awareness and capacity building about global datasets.

25. Additionally, in most of the dialogues, participants highlighted the need for regional or sub-regional cooperation in monitoring considering that many countries have limited resources and capacities for monitoring and associated data management. Representatives of some monitoring-focused organizations such as the Group on Earth Observation (GEO), GEO Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO-BON), United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as well as relevant regional and sub-regional organizations presented their work to participants, including tools available to support national monitoring.

26. The dialogues also benefited from the participation of representatives from the regional and/or subregional support centres. In many of the dialogues, the possible role that the centres could play in supporting countries in the region was discussed, including knowledge and technology transfer, assistance in mobilizing partners and funders, and pooling and sharing data, methods and best practices. Participants suggested regional support such as targeted training for related specific indicators, report preparation and for issues related to implementation.

C. Preparation and submission of the seventh national report

27. Many countries have started the preparation of the seventh national report and most of the participating countries aimed to submit it before or by the deadline set in decision 15/6 (28 February 2026).

28. During the dialogues, information and training on the use of the online reporting tool for the seventh national report were provided to participants. Some common questions and challenges for Parties on the preparation and submission of the seventh national report emerged, including the fact submitting partial information might be difficult; the fact that the national report is based on national targets and that some Parties are still working to develop and submit their targets; questions related to entering data on national, component or complementary indicators when the headline indicator does not have available data; and the lack of available global data sources.

29. Other challenges noted by participants included time constraints for consultation, data collection and validation, difficulty in reporting on all elements of the targets and difficulty in reporting on actions aimed at implementing national targets and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans due to the short amount of time available for implementation.

30. Participants discussed how various sources of information for measuring and reporting on progress, including from actions that are already underway or undertaken from existing national biodiversity strategies and action plans could be used.

D. Thematic sessions

31. Some of the dialogues included a thematic focus. The dialogues which included a thematic session were:

(a) *Restoration monitoring and reporting*: Subregional dialogue for countries represented by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, 2–5 September 2025, Bangkok, and Subregional dialogue for Latin American countries, 17–20 November 2025, Bogota;

(b) *Access to multilateral funds and other financing mechanisms*: Regional dialogue for francophone African countries, 3–5 September 2025, Yaoundé;

(c) *Biodiversity and health*: Regional dialogue for countries in Central Asia and Eastern Europe, 25–28 November 2025, Yerevan.

1. **Restoration monitoring and reporting with a focus on Target 2 of the Framework**

32. Two of the dialogues had a focus on restoration. It was noted that most countries had set national targets addressing restoration, with the great majority focused on terrestrial ecosystems. The variety of approaches to restoration was reflected in the wealth of experiences and the diversity of indicators and monitoring methodologies shared by countries across the regions. In most countries, there was also a range of institutions and stakeholders engaged in work on restoration indicators and monitoring. Countries widely acknowledged the importance of indigenous-led and community-based restoration and the need to ensure their visibility in national reporting.

33. Some of the challenges identified with respect to restoration monitoring and reporting included: limited financial resources, limited expertise and capacity, and challenging coordination among the different actors. It was also noted that, while guidance and tools for monitoring and reporting do exist, awareness and use of them are often limited. Various types of guidance and a range of tools were shared during the dialogues to support the development of monitoring systems and data collection that would inform restoration activities. Multiple organizations positioned to help countries with respect to the monitoring of and reporting on restoration initiatives. The experience, expertise and knowledge at regional level related to restoration monitoring and reporting should be leveraged to support mutual learning.

2. **Access to multilateral funds and other financing mechanisms**

34. In some regions, access to financing remains a major obstacle for countries. The dialogues provided an opportunity for different agencies to present relevant funds, mechanisms, and financing initiatives, and to give information on how to access funding.

35. Participants agreed on the urgent need to strengthen access to multilateral financing mechanisms and to explore innovative financing options to support the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as well as to integrate national financing plans into biodiversity strategies to ensure the sustainability of actions.

3. **Biodiversity and health**

36. One region had a focus on biodiversity and health. The discussion identified opportunities to integrate biodiversity–health linkages, often through the One Health approach, into updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and biodiversity monitoring frameworks.

37. Participants also highlighted the added value of explicitly incorporating One Health language and concepts into plans. They emphasized the importance of expanding stakeholder engagement to include ministries of health and other relevant sectors, as well as promoting intersectoral learning and awareness through targeted communication tools, training activities, and practical methodologies.

Annex

List of regional and subregional dialogues on biodiversity monitoring and reporting¹¹

<i>Dialogue</i>	<i>Date and location</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Local and regional partners</i>
Regional dialogue for member States of the Southern African Development Community and the East African Community on the update or revision of national and regional biodiversity strategies and action plans	19–23 May 2025, Cape Town, South Africa	Government of South Africa and South African National Biodiversity Institute	East African Community, Southern African Development Community, African Union Commission, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
Subregional dialogue for the Pacific small island developing States on biodiversity monitoring and reporting	29–30 May 2025, Apia	Government of Samoa and Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme	
Subregional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting with a focus on ecosystem restoration (Target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework), 2-5 September 2025, Bangkok, Thailand	2–5 September 2025, Bangkok	Government of Thailand and ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity	
Regional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting for francophone African countries	3–5 September 2025, Yaoundé	Government of Cameroon and COMIFAC	
Regional dialogue on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans for the Western European and Others Group and for Parties covered by the European Subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre	23 September 2025, Brussels	European Commission, European Union	European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC), Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences (RBINS)
Regional dialogue for East and South Asia on biodiversity monitoring and reporting	9–10 October 2025, Bangkok	Government of Thailand	UNEP Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences of China, IUCN Asia Office and ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Subregional dialogue for Latin American countries on biodiversity monitoring and reporting with a focus on	17–20 November 2025, Bogota	Government of Colombia and Humboldt Institute,	UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

¹¹ Global partners are recognized in section I of this report.

<i>Dialogue</i>	<i>Date and location</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Local and regional partners</i>
ecosystem restoration (Target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework)			
Regional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting with a focus on biodiversity and health for countries in Central Asia and Eastern Europe	25–28 November 2025, Yerevan	Government of Armenia	UNEP Regional Office for Europe
Subregional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting for selected countries in the Caribbean	2–4 December 2025, Paramaribo	Government of Suriname	UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
Subregional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting for countries in Western Asia	21–23 December 2025, Manama	Government of Bahrain	UNEP Regional Office for West Asia