Challenges and opportunities for countries in achieving the Global Biodiversity Framework

Results of the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership's
Rapid Capacity Needs Assessment (RCNA)

Executive Summary

Halting and reversing nature loss through the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) will require a concerted effort from countries, organizations, and multiple stakeholders. Implementing the GBF will also require an increase in political will, financial resources, technical support, policy alignment, as well as information, technology, and innovation. This document provides valuable insights into the challenges and priorities that countries face when aligning their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) with the GBF. It is based on the results of a rapid capacity needs assessment (RCNA), conducted by the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership with a small group of countries in late 2023.

The RCNA highlights significant capacity gaps faced by countries but also differences between the countries that responded to the survey. These insights serve as a starting point for dialogue and strategic planning, highlighting the need for tailored approaches to effectively support each CBD Party.

It will be important to use the findings from the RCNA to inform targeted capacity-building efforts, resource allocation, and support mechanisms for countries as they work towards implementing the GBF. This might include sharing best practices, facilitating knowledge exchange, providing technical assistance, and mobilizing financial resources where they are most needed.

The RCNA survey was distributed to national focal points to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Protocols. It received 45 responses from government representatives between August and December 2023. While these responses represent a snapshot in time and a subset of countries (23% of all CBD Parties), they offer valuable preliminary insights. The following takeaways emerge from the analysis of the results:

- **Universal need for support:** Across all 45 country respondents, there is substantial need for support to implement the GBF. Financing is the most significant priority for most countries, alongside demands for skills development, creation and management of knowledge and information systems, improved governance processes, and implementation support.
- **Variety in self-reported capacity across targets:** Some overall trends emerged from the analysis that indicate shared priorities and need for support in areas such as financing and engaging with the private sector. However, overall, there was significant variation in needs across countries.
- **Diverse self-reported potentials:** Countries exhibited a wide range of self-assessed potentials to achieve GBF targets, irrespective of income classification and geographic grouping. Some countries reported the strong likelihood to achieve targets such as Target

3, Target 10, Target 22, and Target 23, whereas others reported they are unlikely to achieve Target 15, Target 18, and Target 19. Tailored strategies and support mechanisms are essential to support the individual circumstances and priorities of each country.

● **Significant interest in peer-to-peer learning:** Government respondents expressed a strong interest in collaborative learning opportunities on a range of topics. However, readiness to share knowledge and experiences varied across topics. For example, access to finance is an area of high demand but with limited readiness to share.

These findings provide preliminary insights into country capacity needs and priorities for GBF implementation. They serve as a basis for further dialogue, resource mobilization, and strategic planning to accelerate progress toward global biodiversity goals and targets. The results can be used to support decision making and future actions by founders, donors, and governments. They also serve as a baseline for conducting further needs assessments and progress reporting.

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Introduction

Following the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) in 2022 by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), a global effort has emerged to provide support to countries in updating, revising, implementing and monitoring their NBSAPs. The NBSAP Accelerator Partnership is a country-led initiative aimed at supporting the implementation of ambitious NBSAPs to collectively achieve the goals and targets of the GBF. Under the leadership of the governments of Colombia and Germany, the partnership mobilizes whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to strengthen global, regional, and national ambition on biodiversity action aligned with GBF targets through its four work areas — knowledge, advocacy, matchmaking, and in-country facilitation.

In the lead-up to the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership [Operational launch in September 2023](#), which took place in the margins of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership launched two surveys[1]: a rapid capacity needs assessment and a stakeholder mapping survey. The rapid capacity needs assessment (RCNA) was designed as a preliminary tool to gauge countries' existing capacities, resources, and needs for implementing the GBF. While this document will present the results of the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership's rapid capacity needs assessment (RCNA), it's important to note that the RCNA represents a limited subset of countries and may not be fully representative. Its preliminary scope aimed to shed light on the diverse priorities and challenges faced by nations in aligning their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) with global biodiversity goals. Nonetheless, these insights serve as a starting point for dialogue and planning, and highlight the need for tailored approaches to support individual country needs.

The rapid capacity needs assessment (RCNA) was disseminated via an official notification (SCBD/IMS/NP/ET/CP/91218)[2] on 15 August 2023 to CBD national focal points and to focal points to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols. On 14 September 2023, a new notification[3] was issued extending the survey deadline. The survey deadline was extended a third time in light of the invitation to submit an Expression of Interest to receive technical support from the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership, for which completing the Rapid Capacity Needs Assessment was an eligibility requirement. The survey was closed in December 2023.

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[1] Notification SCBD/IMS/NP/ET/CP/91218 distributed on 15 August 2023 is available online [here](#). On 14 September 2023, a new notification was issued extending the survey deadline. Notification is available [here](#). The survey deadline was extended a third time in light of the invitation to submit an Expression of Interest to receive technical support from the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership, for which completing the Rapid Capacity Needs Assessment was an eligibility requirement. See [here](#).

[2] Notification available online [here](#).

[3] Notification available [here](#).

Respondent Profile

The survey participants were diverse in terms of income levels and geographic representation. Nearly half of the respondents came from lower-middle-income economies (42%), followed by those from upper-middle-income economies (27%), low-income economies (24%), and high-income economies (7%). Geographically, the majority of respondents hailed from Africa (44%), followed by Asia (22%), Latin America and the Caribbean (18% each), and Europe and Oceania (4% each). Notably, no responses were received from Western European/other countries. See figures 1A and 1B.
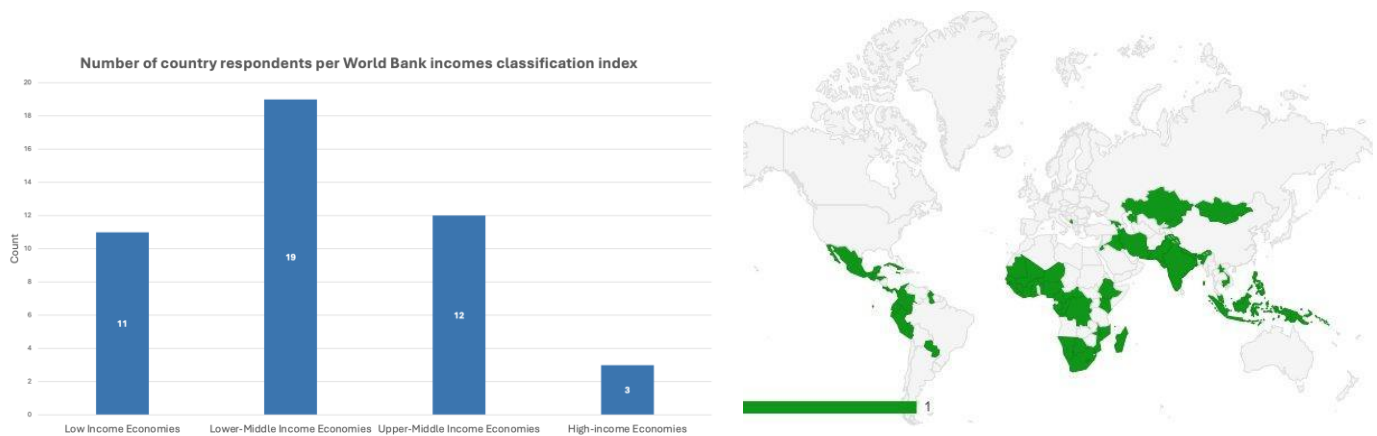

Figure 1A (left): Number of survey respondents to the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership's Rapid Capacity Needs Assessment per World Bank income classification (n=45). Figure 1B (right): Geographic distribution of government responses (n=45) to the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership's Rapid Capacity Needs Assessment.

Institutional arrangements and coordination mechanism

This section focuses on the institutional arrangements made for NBSAPs as reported by respondents:

Limited shared responsibility for NBSAP implementation:
The overwhelming reliance on the national entity responsible for environment and biodiversity for coordinating NBSAP revision and implementation indicates a lack of shared responsibility across governmental departments or agencies. This suggests potential challenges in achieving holistic and integrated approaches to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, as other sectors may not be fully engaged in the process.

Low participation by the private sector:
The relatively low participation of the private sector in NBSAP steering/coordination committees (65%) and collaborative efforts with the responsible entity (less than half) highlights a gap in private sector engagement in biodiversity conservation initiatives. This underrepresentation may hinder the mobilization of resources, expertise, and innovation needed from the private sector to address biodiversity challenges effectively.

Limited elaboration on "other" entities:
The lack of elaboration on entities categorized as "Other" in both coordination and monitoring/reporting responsibilities suggests a potential lack of clarity or transparency regarding these roles. This ambiguity could impede effective coordination, collaboration, and accountability within NBSAP implementation efforts. Further clarification and transparency regarding the roles and responsibilities of these "Other" entities may be necessary for more effective and inclusive biodiversity conservation strategies.
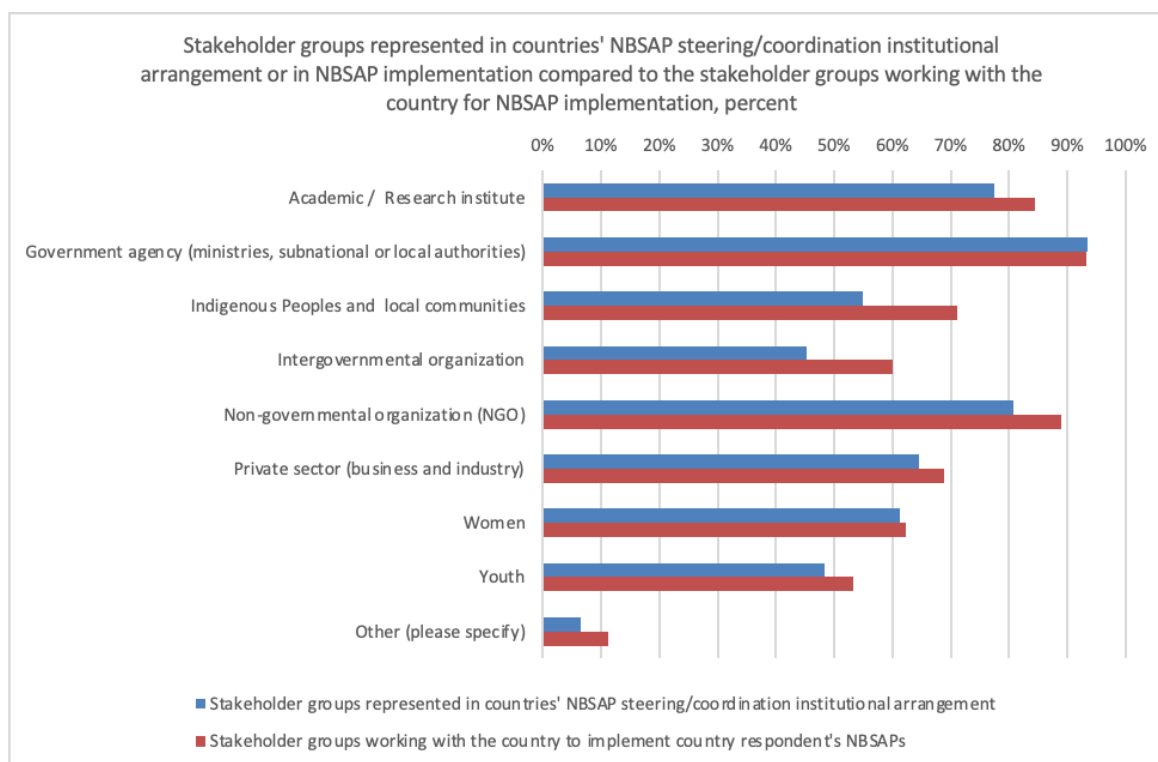
Figure 2: Stakeholder groups represented in countries' NBSAP steering/coordination institutional arrangement or in NBSAP implementation compared to the stakeholder groups working with the country for NBSAP implementation

The participation of women and youth in NBSAP steering/coordination committees is noteworthy, with 61% of respondents reporting representation of women and 48% reporting representation of youth. This indicates a recognition of the importance of gender and generational diversity in biodiversity conservation efforts. The participation of women and youth in collaborative efforts with the responsible entity for NBSAP implementation is relatively slightly higher, with 62% for women and 53% for youth. This suggests potential challenges in fully integrating the perspectives and contributions of women and youth in decision-making processes and institutional arrangements related to biodiversity conservation.

The limited involvement of intersectoral agencies, such as those responsible for planning, economic development, or coordinating national programs, in NBSAP coordination and implementation is notable. Only a small percentage of respondents reported the inclusion of these agencies. This lack of engagement from intersectoral agencies may indicate a siloed approach to biodiversity conservation, where efforts are primarily led by environmental and

biodiversity-focused entities without fully integrating broader development priorities and strategies.

Given the interconnected nature of biodiversity conservation with various sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, and finance, fostering greater collaboration and coordination among intersectoral agencies could enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of NBSAP implementation efforts. This could involve promoting cross-sectoral dialogue, establishing mechanisms for joint planning and decision-making, and integrating biodiversity considerations into sectoral policies and programs.
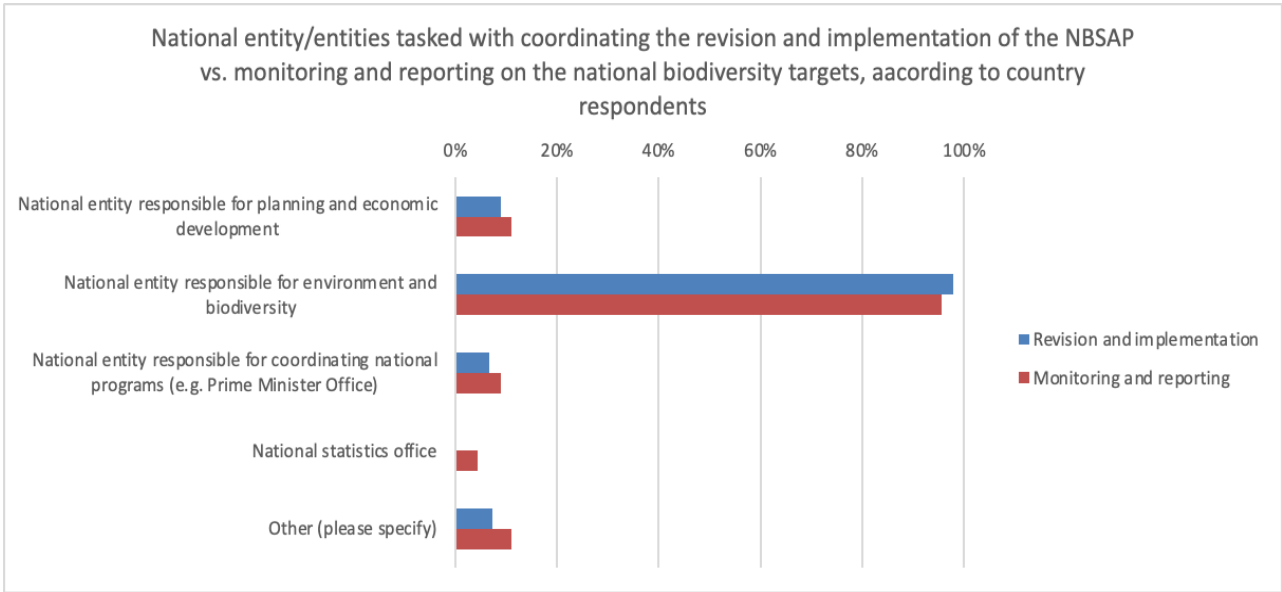

Figure 3: National entity/entities tasked with coordinating the revision and implementation of the NBSAP vs. monitoring and reporting on the national biodiversity targets, according to country respondents.

Alignment of NBSAPs with the GBF

This section focuses on how countries are aligning their national biodiversity strategy and action plans (NBSAPs) with the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). Respondents were asked about the challenges their countries faced in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, aiming to identify potential weaknesses in NBSAP implementation and anticipate future challenges. It's important to note that neither the 2010 Global Biodiversity Targets and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, set by the CBD, were met globally. The Global Biodiversity Outlook reported that none of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets were fully achieved, with only six targets partially attained. This context underscores the significance of understanding past challenges to inform current efforts in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.[4,5]

Country alignment with GBF targets[6,7,8,9]

- 71% of countries have already begun aligning their NBSAPs with the GBF targets, reflecting proactive engagement in global biodiversity conservation efforts.

- 18% responded negatively to this question, indicating some countries have yet to initiate alignment efforts, while 11% expressed uncertainty regarding their alignment status.

Difficulties encountered in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets

- Financial constraints emerged as a primary challenge, with 96% of respondents highlighting the lack of financial resources as a barrier. Additionally, 84% expressed

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[4] CBD, 2020. Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 (Montreal). https://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo5/publication/gbo-5-en.pdf. (Accessed 06 December 2023).

[5] Targets 9, 11, 16, 17, 19 and 20.

[6] OECD (2019), Biodiversity: Finance and the Economic and Business Case for Action, report prepared for the G7 Environment Ministers' Meeting, 5-6 May 2019.Available online; https://www.oecd.org/environment/resources/biodiversity/Executive-Summary-and-Synthesis-Biodiversity-Finance-and-the-Economic-and-Business-Case-for-Action.pdf (Accessed 14 December 2023).

[7] E.M. Cardona Santos, F. Kinniburgh, S. Schmid, N. Büttner, F. Pröbstl, N. Liswanti, H. Komarudin, E. Borasino, E.B. Ntawuhiganayo, Y. Zinngrebe, Mainstreaming revisited: Experiences from eight countries on the role of National Biodiversity Strategies in practice, Earth System Governance, Volume 16, 2023,100177,ISSN 2589-8116,https://doi.org/10.1016/j.esg.2023.100177.(Accessed 08 December 2023).

[8] Xu, H., Cao, Y., Yu, D. et al. Ensuring effective implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity targets. Nat Ecol Evol 5, 411–418 (2021). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41559-020-01375-y (Accessed 08 December 2023).

[9] Deutz, A., Heal, G. M., Niu, R., Swanson, E., Townshend, T., Zhu, L., Delmar, A., Meghji, A., Sethi, S. A., and Tobinde la Puente, J. 2020. Financing Nature: Closing the global biodiversity financing gap. The Paulson Institute, The Nature Conservancy, and the Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability.Available online: https://www.paulsoninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/FINANCING-NATURE_Full-Report_Final-with-endorsements_101420.pdf (Accessed 12 December 2023).

difficulty in integrating estimates of biodiversity loss costs into financial plans of other sectors.

- Capacity limitations, particularly in human and technological resources, were commonly cited. This included issues such as lack of information and data (76%), limited monitoring and surveillance systems (71%), and restricted technical capacity (67%).

- Cross-sectoral collaboration deficiencies were evident, with 73% of respondents noting limited involvement of industries and non-environmental ministries in biodiversity plans. Moreover, 67% highlighted challenges in mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into various sectors, and 62% faced difficulties in implementing frameworks at regional and local levels.

Understanding these challenges provides valuable insights for decision-makers to prioritize resource allocation, capacity-building initiatives, and intersectoral collaborations in NBSAP implementation.

- Addressing financial constraints requires exploring innovative funding mechanisms and enhancing the capacity to incorporate biodiversity considerations into economic planning through robust cost estimation methodologies.

- Capacity-building efforts should focus on improving data collection and analysis capabilities, strengthening monitoring systems, and enhancing technical expertise to support evidence-based decision-making.

- Promoting cross-sectoral collaboration and mainstreaming biodiversity considerations across diverse sectors are crucial for effective implementation of NBSAPs and achieving GBF targets.

Table 1: Self-reported difficulties in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Difficulties	Count	% of Total Responses (n=45)
Lack of financial resources	43	96%
Difficulty in incorporating estimates of the financial costs of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation into the financial plans of other sectors	38	84%
Lack of information and data	34	76%
Limited involvement of industries and non-environmental ministries and agencies in plans and projects	33	73%
Limited monitoring and surveillance systems	32	71%
Lack of mainstreaming	30	67%
Limited technical capacity	30	67%
Lack of human resources	29	64%
Difficulty in implementing frameworks and translating these to regional and local-level actions	28	62%
Limited coordination between national agencies	24	53%
Lack of management effectiveness assessment systems	23	51%
Limited management effectiveness	20	44%
Lack of understanding of the links between biodiversity and other societal challenges	19	42%
Difficulties in upscaling pilot projects	19	42%
Complex land tenure systems	18	40%
Lack of necessary legal frameworks	15	33%
Land tenure uncertainties	15	33%
Lack of protected areas management and development plans	13	29%
Vested interests in maintaining current incentive schemes	12	27%
General lack of knowledge of how to conserve biodiversity	8	18%
Other	2	4%

Assessment of capacity needs for GBF implementation:

- A majority of countries (87%) have not initiated assessments or scoping exercises related to capacity needs for GBF implementation. This indicates a potential gap in proactive planning to address capacity requirements for achieving GBF goals and targets.

Rating of country's capacity for GBF implementation:

- Among the respondents who have undertaken assessments or scoping exercises (13%), varied perceptions of capacity were reported.

- One country expressed confidence in having high capacity to implement most targets, suggesting a robust readiness for GBF implementation.

- Two countries reported moderate capacity, indicating a level of preparedness but with room for improvement.

- Another two countries admitted to having limited capacity, signaling challenges in effectively implementing GBF targets.

- Additionally, one country indicated uncertainty regarding their capacity status, highlighting a need for further assessment and clarity.

The high proportion of countries yet to assess capacity needs underscores the importance of prioritizing capacity-building efforts for successful GBF implementation. For countries with ongoing assessments, tailored interventions should be devised based on their identified capacity strengths and weaknesses.

Collaboration and knowledge-sharing among countries with varying capacity ratings can facilitate peer-to-peer learning and support in addressing common challenges. Continuous monitoring and evaluation of capacity-building initiatives are essential to ensure progress towards enhancing national capacities for GBF implementation.

Has your country undertaken assessments or scoping exercises related to capacity needs for GBF implementation? If yes, How would you rate your country's capacity to implement the national targets and actions contributing to the GBF goals and targets?
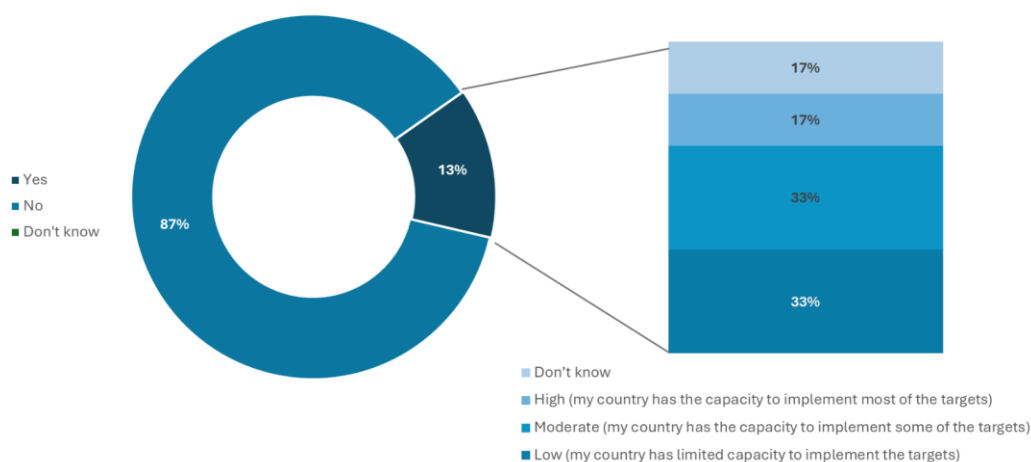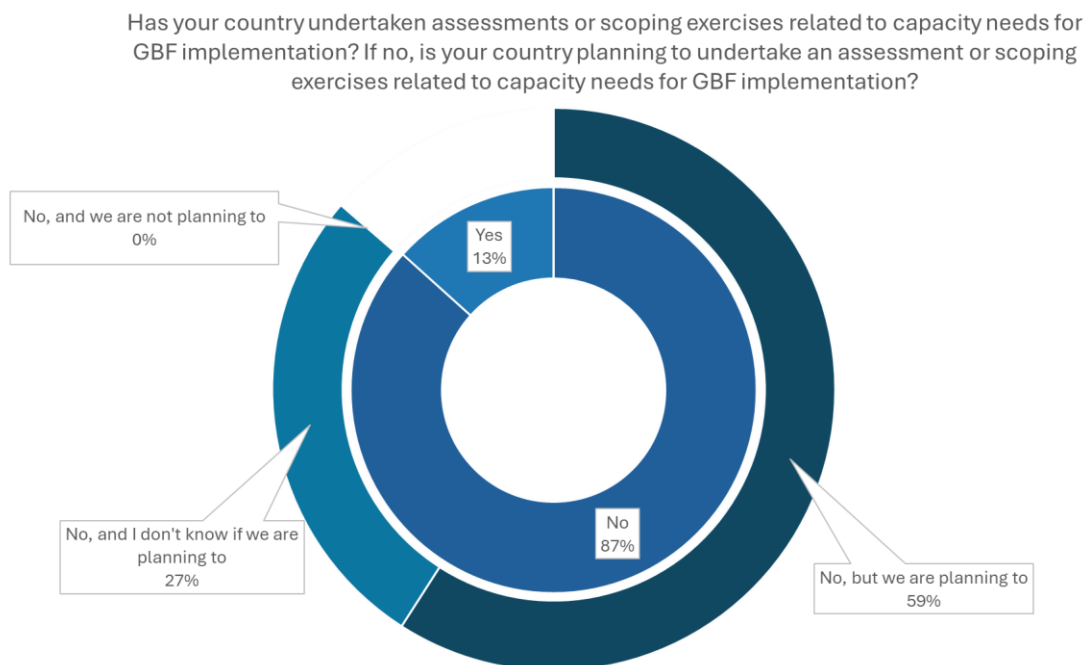
Figure 4: Proportion of countries that have undertaken assessments or scoping exercises related to capacity needs for GBF implementation, broken down by self-reported capacity to implement national targets and actions contributing to the GBF goals and targets.

Planned assessments or scoping exercises for GBF implementation:

● Among the respondents who have not initiated assessments or scoping exercises related to capacity needs for GBF implementation (39 out of 45 respondents), there is a positive outlook for future planning.

● 23 country representatives indicated that they are planning to undertake such assessments or exercises, demonstrating proactive intent to assess capacity needs for GBF implementation.

● 16 country representatives expressed uncertainty regarding their country's plans, indicating a need for further clarification or decision-making in this regard.

● Encouragingly, none of the respondents stated that they are not planning to undertake assessments, suggesting a widespread recognition of the importance of assessing capacity.

● This collective readiness to either initiate or plan for assessments signifies a proactive approach among countries, laying the groundwork for effective capacity-building efforts in support of GBF goals and targets.

Has your country undertaken assessments or scoping exercises related to capacity needs for GBF implementation? If no, is your country planning to undertake an assessment or scoping exercises related to capacity needs for GBF implementation?

Figure 5: Proportion of countries that have undertaken assessments or scoping exercises related to capacity needs for GBF implementation. For those yet to do so, the graphic shows the proportion with plans for assessment.

Good Practices for Implementation of the NBSAPs

This section explored questions regarding countries' ability to provide support to their peers in NBSAP implementation.

Assisting other countries in capacity-building:

- Respondents exhibited diverse perspectives on how they could support other countries in enhancing their capacity to implement national biodiversity strategy and action plans (NBSAPs) and contribute to achieving the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) goals and targets.

- A significant number of countries (28 out of 45) emphasized the importance of enhancing institutional capacity through experience-sharing and knowledge transfer. This underscores the value of peer-to-peer learning and collaboration in fostering effective biodiversity conservation strategies.

- Furthermore, 16 countries expressed their readiness to support peers in monitoring and reporting progress on NBSAPs, reflecting a commitment to transparency and accountability in biodiversity conservation efforts.

- Additionally, 10 countries highlighted the importance of building political will and facilitating societal shifts, recognizing the significance of governance structures and societal engagement in driving sustainable biodiversity outcomes.

- These responses are particularly promising as they suggest an inclination towards fostering South-South collaboration, leveraging the experiences and expertise of countries from the Global South to support one another in biodiversity conservation efforts.
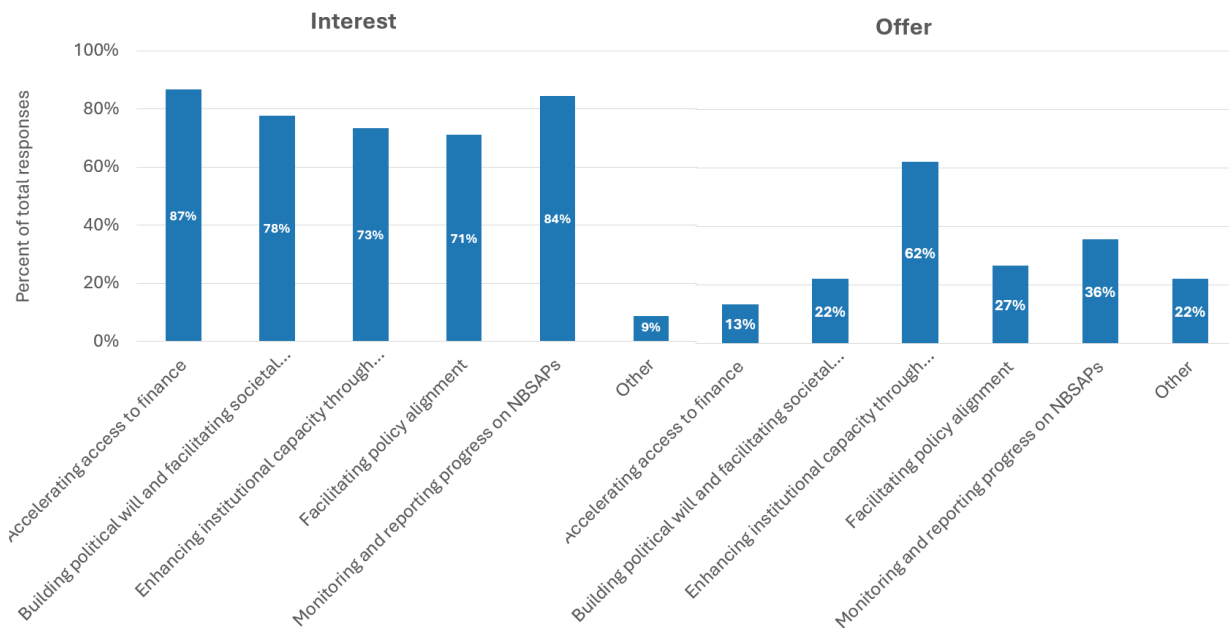
Interest in receiving support:

- Conversely, when asked about the types of assistance they were interested in receiving, respondents expressed high demand across various areas.

- Accelerating access to finance emerged as the most sought-after support, with 87% of respondents expressing interest in this area. This highlights the critical role of financial resources in implementing NBSAPs and achieving biodiversity targets.

- Additionally, there was considerable interest in opportunities related to monitoring and reporting progress on NBSAPs (84%), building political will and facilitating societal shifts (78%), enhancing institutional capacity through experience-sharing and knowledge transfer (73%), and facilitating policy alignment (71%). These interests align closely with

the challenges identified in NBSAP implementation and indicate a strong desire for support in addressing these issues.

The alignment between the support countries are willing to offer and the assistance they seek underscores the potential for meaningful peer-to-peer collaboration in biodiversity conservation.

By leveraging shared experiences, best practices, and lessons learned, countries can collectively enhance their capacity to implement NBSAPs and contribute to achieving the ambitious goals of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Figure 6: Types of assistance country representatives are interested in receiving from other countries and would offer to other countries if given the opportunity.

Table 2: Types of support from other countries that respondents were interested in receiving.

Accelerating access to finance	39
Building political will and facilitating societal shifts	35
Enhancing institutional capacity through experience-sharing and knowledge transfer	33
Facilitating policy alignment	32
Monitoring and reporting progress on NBSAP	38
Other	4

Support for the Implementation of National Targets

This section provides insight into the types of support countries need in order to achieve their National Targets. Questions were asked about their capacity to achieve each GBF target and what forms of support would be needed for this.

The highest-rated type of support for countries of all income classifications was strengthening institutional capacity and accelerating access to finance. This aligns with the types of difficulties experienced when attempting to implement the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. High-income countries reported the lowest need to build political will and enhance institutional capacity, while this was still ranked fairly high for countries with low-income classification. The diversity in responses demonstrates the need for individualized needs assessments compared to broad implementation plans.
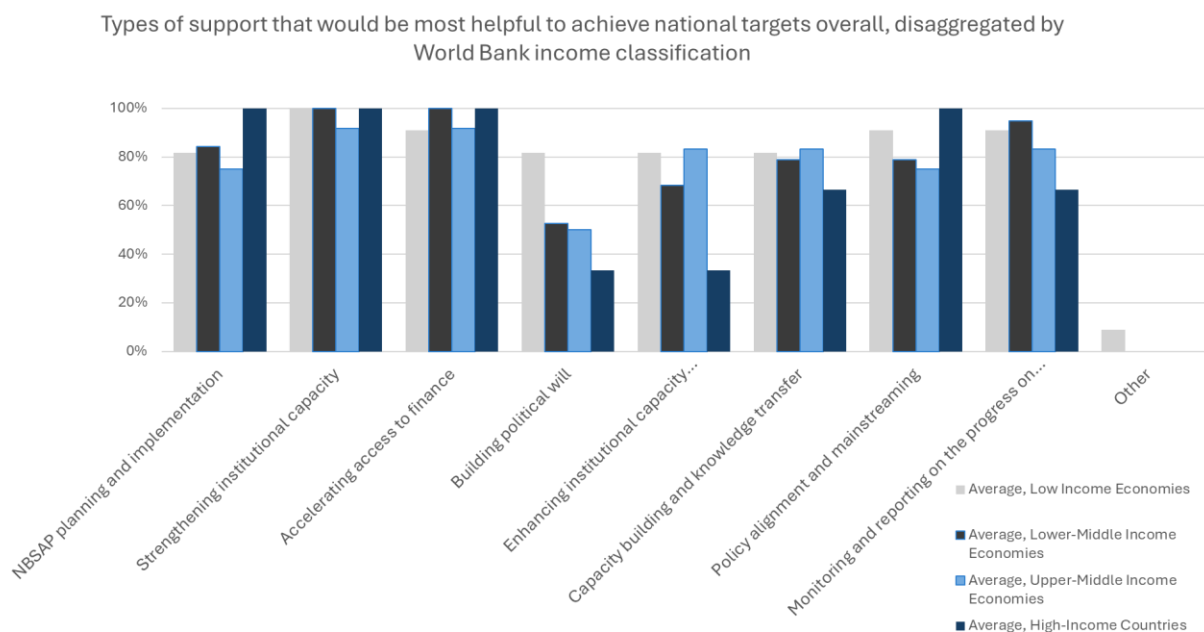
Figure 7: Types of support that would be most helpful to achieve national targets overall, disaggregated by World Bank income classification.

When examining the self-reported capacity, distinct patterns emerged, shedding light on the highest and lowest self-reported capacity to deliver certain targets among country respondents.
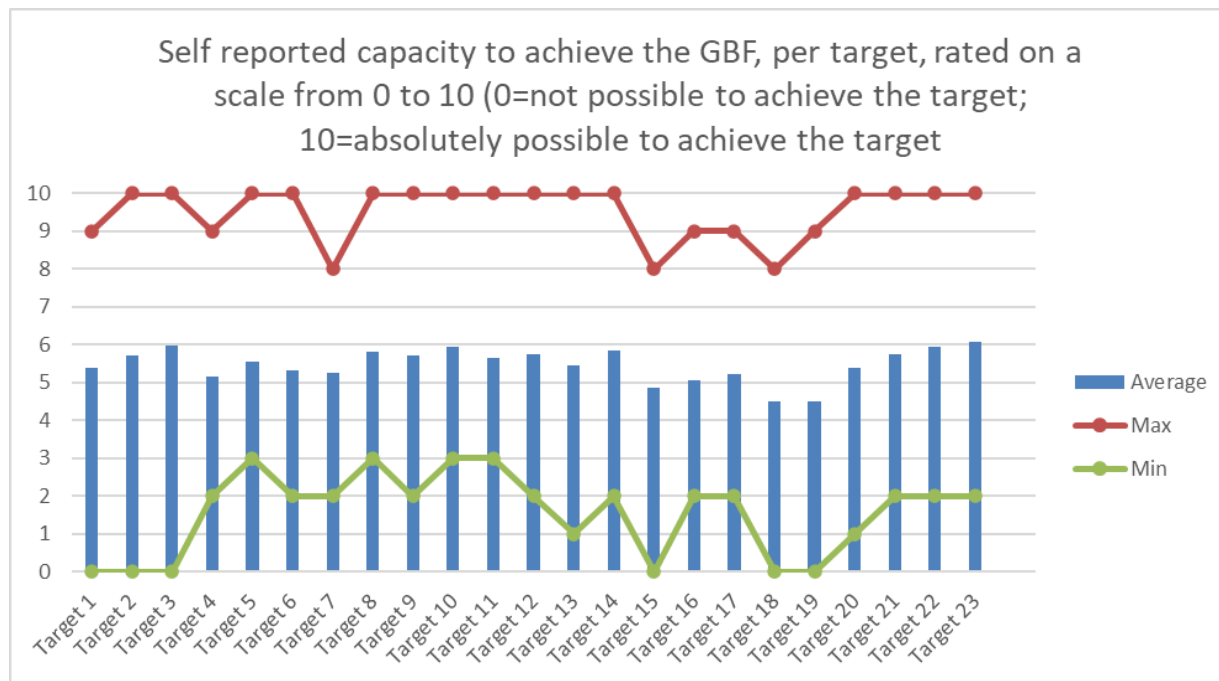
Figure 8: Self-reported capacity to achieve the GBF, per target, rated on a scale from 0-10.

High capacity targets:
- Target 3 (Conserve 30% of Land, Waters, and Seas), Target 10 (Enhance Biodiversity and Sustainability in Agriculture, Aquaculture, Fisheries, and Forestry), Target 22 (Ensure Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice and Information Related to Biodiversity for all), and Target 23 (Ensure Gender Equality and a Gender-Responsive approach for Biodiversity Action) showed the highest self-reported capacities. These targets highlight the importance of inclusive governance, sustainable resource management, and ecosystem conservation.

Interplay of targets 3 and 10, and 22 and 23:
- Targets 3 and 10 emphasize the vital relationship between biodiversity conservation and sustainable land and resource management, especially in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry. Meanwhile, Targets 22 and 23 stress inclusivity and gender responsiveness in biodiversity governance and action.

Challenges with low capacity targets:
- Three targets, Target 15 (Businesses Assess, Disclose and Reduce Biodiversity-Related Risks and Negative Impacts), Target 18 (Reduce Harmful Incentives by at Least $500 Billion per Year, and Scale Up Positive Incentives for Biodiversity), and Target 19 (Mobilize $200 Billion per Year for Biodiversity From all Sources, Including $30 Billion Through International Finance), reported the

lowest average self-reported capacities among governments. These targets primarily involve finance and the private sector, indicating challenges in mobilizing funds, regulating financial incentives, and ensuring transparency and accountability in financial flows related to biodiversity.

Inconsistencies and heterogeneity:
- The graph highlights inconsistencies in countries' self-reported capacities, with Targets 2 and 3 showing a wide range of responses from 0 to 10. This reflects the heterogeneity in the sample and emphasizes the need to avoid a one-size-fits-all approach in addressing biodiversity conservation challenges.
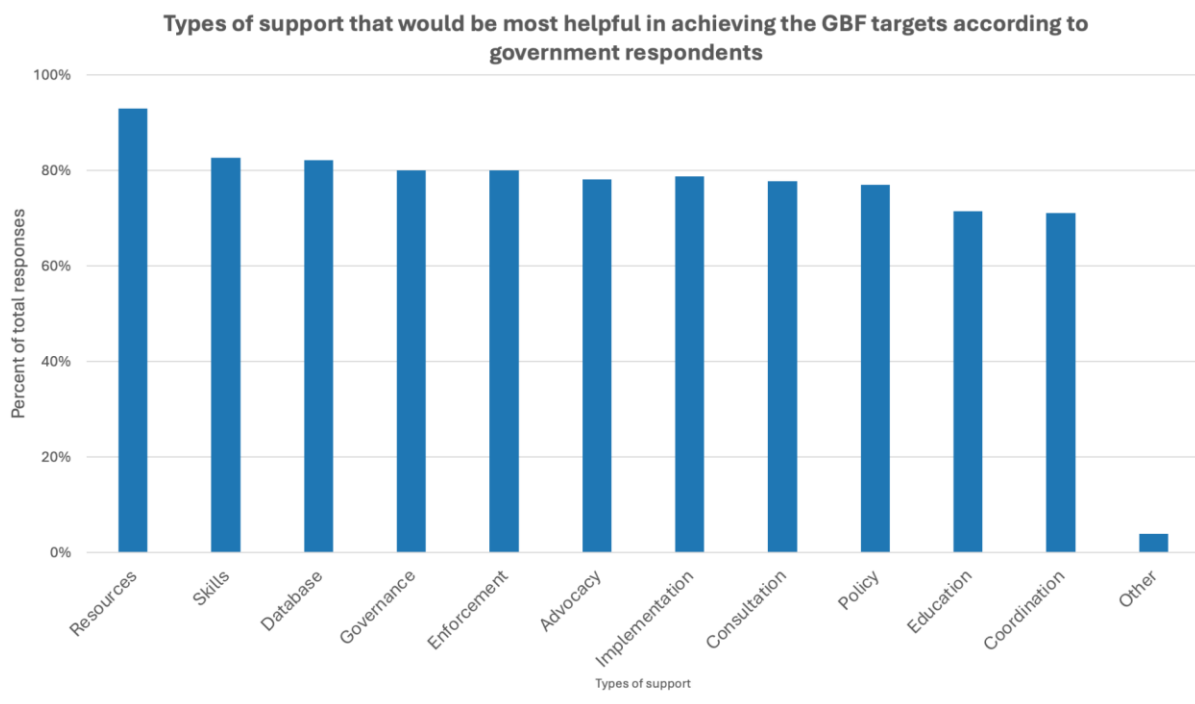
Figure 9: Types of support that would be most helpful in achieving the GBF targets according to government respondents.

Consensus on need for financial resources:
- There was overwhelming consensus among all 45 government respondents across all targets regarding the necessity of financial resources, with 93% of all funding and resource response options selected. This underscores the critical importance of adequate funding for biodiversity conservation efforts.

Wide range of support:

- Apart from financial resources, all other support types were also deemed essential, with selection rates ranging from 71% to 83% across all targets and government respondents. This indicates a diverse range of support needs across various aspects of biodiversity conservation.
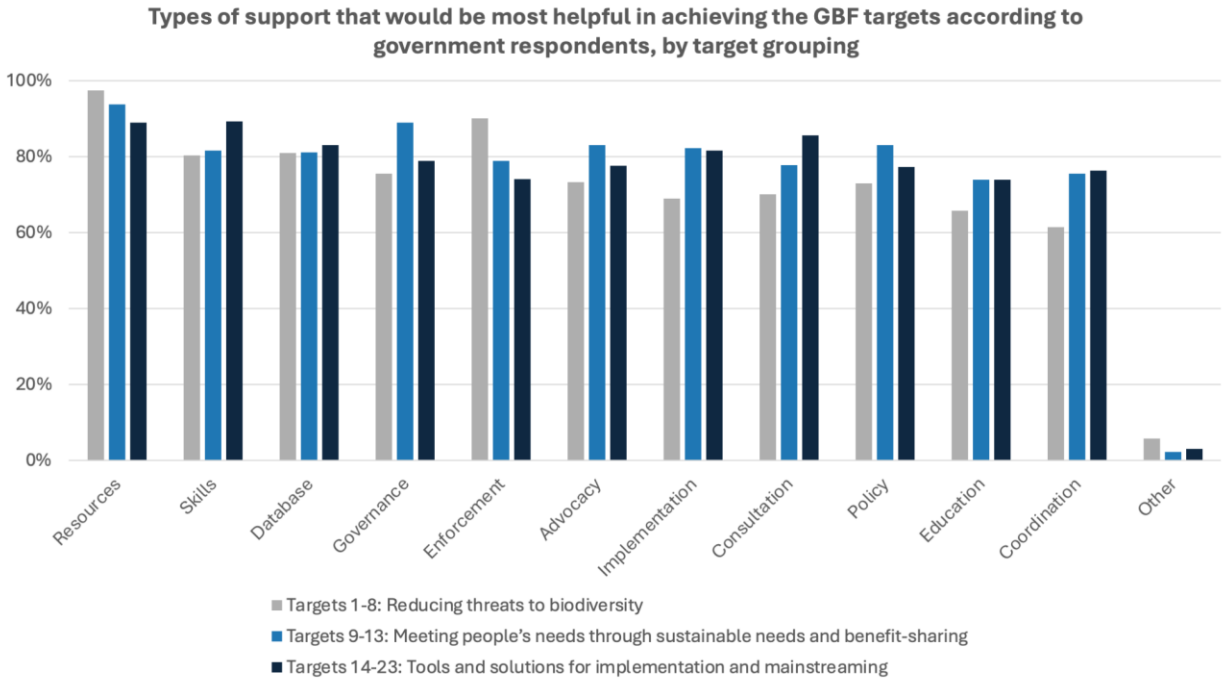
Importance of skills development:
- Responses categorized under "skills," including support needed for training, skills development, workshops, knowledge-sharing, and peer-to-peer learning, were selected 83% of the time. This highlights the significance of capacity-building initiatives in enhancing the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation efforts.

Need for data management and governance enhancement:
- Similarly, responses tagged under "database," including database creation and the establishment of monitoring systems, were selected 83% of the time. This underscores the importance of robust data management systems for informed decision-making.
- Governance-related responses, encompassing the need to improve governance structures and decision-making processes, were selected 80% of the time. This indicates a recognition of the importance of effective governance in guiding biodiversity conservation strategies.

Importance of Enforcement and Implementation Support:
- Responses categorized under "enforcement," including support needed to enforce laws, policies, and regulations, were selected 80% of the time. This highlights the importance of regulatory mechanisms in ensuring compliance with biodiversity conservation measures.
- Similarly, support needed for implementation, encompassing the execution of plans, programs, or schemes, was selected 79% of the time. This underscores the necessity of effective implementation strategies to translate conservation goals into tangible actions on the ground.

Types of support that would be most helpful in achieving the GBF targets according to government respondents, by target grouping

Legend:
- Targets 1-8: Reducing threats to biodiversity
- Targets 9-13: Meeting people's needs through sustainable needs and benefit-sharing
- Targets 14-23: Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming

Figure 10: Types of support that would be most helpful in achieving the GBF targets according to government respondents, by target grouping.

Broken down by target grouping, the demonstration of support needs is still high among all groups. Notably, enforcement support was reported to be of higher need across threats to biodiversity, compared to implementation support as a lower-ranked need regarding threats to biodiversity. Consultation support was higher in the implementation and mainstreaming targets compared to lower ranking in enforcement support. This demonstrates a heterogeneous profile of support for individual target groups. These differences combined with the different results found in Figure 9 broken down by World Bank income classification emphasize the need for country-specific programming related to NBSAP implementation and future plans for capacity-building.

Conclusion

The RCNA analysis highlights the diversity of country needs, capacities, and priorities, and provides a glimpse into the complexity of protecting nature and biodiversity conservation. While the gaps identified remain substantial, it's crucial to acknowledge that they are not uniform. Each nation faces a unique set of circumstances and requirements in aligning their NBSAPs with the GBF.

As the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership begins its work, it will move beyond these initial findings to meet individual country needs. Tailored and demand-led approaches are essential to support countries on their journey toward achieving ambitious biodiversity conservation and sustainable development goals. In line with this commitment, we extend an invitation to countries and interested stakeholders to actively engage in shaping the future of biodiversity conservation together with the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership and welcome your insights on how best to operationalize our work plan and matchmaking mechanism.

Together, let's embark on this journey together, ensuring that no nation is left behind in our shared commitment to safeguarding the planet's rich biodiversity for generations to come.

Acknowledgements

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The NBSAP Accelerator Partnership is co-chaired by the governments of Colombia and Germany:

Gobierno de **Colombia**

The Federal Government

Implemented by an interim Global Coordination Unit through:

Convention on Biological Diversity

UNDP

UN environment programme

Supported by:

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

IKI INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH