



Convention on Biological Diversity

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**Kunming dialogue on collective progress in the
implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global
Biodiversity Framework in support of the global review**
Kunming, China, 7–9 September 2026
Item 3 (e) of the provisional agenda*
Group discussions

Data and knowledge

I. Purpose of the session

1. The purpose of the present session is to share experiences in monitoring the status, trends and pressures on biodiversity and in reporting using the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and to discuss the challenges and opportunities encountered, with a view to creating a nuanced understanding of ways to improve monitoring and increase knowledge, including for the next round of national reporting under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

II. Introduction

2. Parties have identified a range of interrelated issues and challenges related to improving biodiversity monitoring, data and knowledge systems to support implementation and monitoring of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. For example, questions remain on how to apply the monitoring framework, in particular the headline indicators. Similarly, questions remain on which indicators and disaggregation categories (e.g. by ecosystem type, species, indigenous peoples and local communities, gender or age) are the most important for decision-making and should therefore be prioritized. Furthermore, it is not clear what would be required to improve monitoring across levels of government or how local, national, regional and global data and knowledge systems can complement one another. Challenges also exist with respect to a range of issues, such as including traditional knowledge in monitoring, integrating quantitative data from indigenous peoples and local communities, research institutions, the private sector, women, youth and others in monitoring systems, determining priorities in the collection and management of foundational biodiversity data and developing data infrastructure to support monitoring. Additional questions include whether some types of data and knowledge can be effectively developed or managed at the global or regional levels and what the role of global organizations would be in such processes.

* [CBD/IMP/OM/2026/1/1](#).

III. Relevant key messages from the global report and links with the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation

3. The relevant main message¹ from the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is:

Key message 6: data and knowledge

There has been substantial effort by Parties to improve national monitoring and knowledge management systems, including traditional knowledge. However, there are major gaps in data availability, data-sharing, appropriate and operationalized indicators, existing infrastructure and technical capacity, which create gaps in data, information and knowledge available for decision-making.

4. The recommendation on planning, monitoring, reporting and review: global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (to be issued as recommendation 7/1), under the section entitled “data and knowledge” ([CBD/SBI/7/L.10](#), draft decision A, para. 5 (f)), contains text that could help to inform discussions on this topic. For ease of reference, the relevant text is reproduced in annex II.

IV. Guiding questions

5. The guiding questions for the sessions of the dialogue on this topic are:

(a) Question 1: What data do you use to monitor implementation and report on relevant activities? What data systems and processes do you need to use data and knowledge more effectively? What particular challenges are you facing, and what solutions, partnerships and enabling conditions can help to overcome them?

(b) Question 2: What do you think are the most pressing short-, medium- and long-term priorities for monitoring? How do you think these could be addressed?

¹ For ease of reference, the complete text of the key message is provided in annex I.

Annex I

Relevant text from the conclusion section of the draft global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*

Key message 6: data and knowledge

There has been substantial effort by Parties to improve national monitoring and knowledge management systems, including traditional knowledge. However, there are major gaps in data availability, data-sharing, appropriate and operationalized indicators, existing infrastructure and technical capacity, which create gaps in data, information and knowledge available for decision-making.

Many Parties have quantitative data for monitoring Targets 1, 2, 3, 4 and 10, but reporting was uneven across the rest of the targets, including some significant data gaps. Parties have mobilized information from government agencies, scientific institutions, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and international sources, and have made progress towards Target 21. Quantitative reporting is more developed for some ecosystems and for targets on restoration, protected and conserved areas, species status, and production systems, than for targets dealing with socioeconomic and cross-cutting issues. Qualitative reporting of elements of targets is also uneven. No Party reported on every headline indicator, and methodologies are not operational for two headline indicators. Reported data for most indicators lack comparable time series and are rarely disaggregated by ecosystem type, sex, age, relationship with indigenous peoples or local communities, or other relevant characteristics. Newer headline indicators proved particularly challenging to consistently report on and consequently to compile.

Challenges related to data and knowledge include a lack of methodological clarity for some indicators, including for the headline indicators, data availability and access, data fragmentation across institutions and platforms, insufficient technical and technological infrastructure, complexities of national statistical systems, the lack of stable and reliable financing, limited human capacity, insufficient institutional coordination and data governance and challenges related to the inclusion of traditional knowledge, with free prior and informed consent, and community-based information in monitoring efforts. Given that headline indicators are intended to guide implementation as well as measure progress, this suggests that Parties may lack the information they need to implement the Framework, further hindering progress.

Possible non-prescriptive options

- Investing in data, monitoring and multiple knowledge systems, including supporting digital infrastructure, national clearing-house mechanisms or other national information management systems, would be fundamental to ensuring effective national implementation, reporting and decision-making at the national, subnational and global levels. This would include identifying options for enhancing the means of implementation available to developing country Parties to support the development of national monitoring and statistical systems.
- Parties may benefit from identifying priority areas where investing in data analysis, monitoring and knowledge systems is most needed to underpin implementation and reporting on the Framework, including by taking into account the value of disaggregated information on ecosystem type, species, sector, sex, age, indigenous peoples or local communities and other relevant characteristics in informing decision-making, and developing national ecosystem maps.

* The full text of the draft global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is available in document [CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.1/Rev.1](#), while the summary, conclusions and key messages of the global report are available in document [CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.3-CBD/SBI/7/2/Add.1](#). The final report will be issued as a document of the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

- Peer-to-peer learning, capacity-building and targeted technical support, including at the regional and subregional levels, and involving actors other than national Governments, for example through the technical and scientific cooperation support centres.
- Research coordination and investment could be directed towards knowledge gaps identified through national reports, including gaps affecting developing countries and underrepresented ecosystems, regions, social groups and knowledge systems.
- Processes for engaging indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other knowledge holders, including leveraging community-based monitoring initiatives, could be developed jointly with them and include appropriate safeguards, mechanisms for free, prior and informed consent and recognition. Such processes could also address improving the functionality of the portal for the submission of commitments by actors other than national Governments and encouraging its use.
- Adjusting the monitoring and data systems used by businesses and financial institutions in their disclosure frameworks to align with those of governments, including alignment with the indicators used in national reports, would improve coherence and transparency.

Annex II

Relevant text from draft decision A on the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as contained in document [CBD/SBI/7/L.10](#) of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation*

The Conference of the Parties,

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5. *Highlights* the fact that, as indicated in the global report, the review has revealed both progress and gaps in implementation, in particular:

...

(f) Data and knowledge

- (i) Parties have demonstrated improvements to national monitoring and knowledge management systems, including accounting for traditional knowledge and collecting and using information from government agencies, scientific institutions, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and international sources, as reflected in the progress made towards Target 21 of the Framework;
- (ii) A total of 116 Parties reported on at least one headline indicator; the headline indicators on protected area extent (3.1), Red List Index (A.3), international public funding (D.1) and domestic public funding (D.2), which are associated with Targets 3, 4 and 19 of the Framework, were the headline indicators most reported on, while the indicators related to land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities (22.1), benefits from the sustainable use of wild species (9.1), index of coastal eutrophication (7.1) and monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments (C.1), which are associated with Targets 7, 9 and 13, were the indicators least reported on;
- (iii) For 19 of the 23 targets of the Framework, less than half of the reporting Parties submitted any data for a headline, component, complementary or national indicator; the targets with the most reported quantitative data were 1, 2, 3, 4 and 10, while Targets 8, 14, 16, 17, 20, 22 and 23 received the least;
- (iv) The use of disaggregated indicator information, including by ecosystem type, sex, age, indigenous people and local community status or other relevant characteristics, was limited;
- (v) Reporting against the indicators and monitoring efforts have been negatively affected by gaps, challenges and barriers related to methodologies, data availability and access, data fragmentation, technical and technological infrastructure, resource availability and capacity;

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* The text in the present annex has been lifted from document [CBD/SBI/7/L.10](#), without changes, and will be issued as recommendation 7/1 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation after formal editing. It is provided for information only and is not for discussion or negotiation during the dialogue. It should also be noted that document [CBD/SBI/7/L.10](#) incorporates the text of recommendation 28/1 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

Enhancing monitoring and knowledge

38. *Urges* Parties to further develop and/or strengthen national monitoring and knowledge management systems to address the gaps in data and knowledge mentioned above and to improve evidenced-based decision-making and the tracking of national progress in the implementation of the Framework;

[39. *Encourages* Parties to ensure that the foundational data needed for implementing the monitoring framework, in particular national ecosystem maps, are in place to support the operationalization of the ecosystem-based headline indicators;]

[40. *Encourages* Parties, and [requests][invites] the Global Environment Facility and invites other Governments and other organizations, to provide support for addressing the technical and financial challenges faced by Parties, especially developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in improving their national monitoring and knowledge management systems [and foundational data needed for implementing and monitoring the Framework], including by enhancing the provision of adequate, predictable, accessible and timely financial resources, technology transfer [on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed][on mutually agreed terms], technical assistance and capacity-building and development to developing country Parties in order to enable the effective implementation of the monitoring framework and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;¹]

41. *Invites* actors other than national Governments, the subregional and regional scientific and technical cooperation support centres, the secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations to support the efforts of Parties to improve national monitoring and knowledge management systems;

42. *Encourages* Parties to make full use of existing mechanisms, tools, the subregional and regional scientific and technical cooperation support centres, capacity-building and development initiatives and plans, and enhanced regional cooperation to strengthen monitoring and knowledge management systems;

43. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, actors other than national Governments and the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres supporting the implementation of the Framework to make use of the information that is contained in the global report and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets and national reports, when executing their respective mandates, and that is within their area of competence, where relevant;

44. *Encourages* Parties and [actors other than national Governments] to share experiences, lessons learned and best practices in the implementation of the Framework, including by uploading them to the virtual library of the clearing-house mechanism, and invites Parties to make use of that information, where relevant;

[45. *Invites* Parties to engage in regional and subregional dialogues on the global review and the Yerevan Pathway for accelerating implementation of the Framework[[, in line with paragraph 20 of decision [15/6](#)] [with a view to sharing actions and efforts, as appropriate][and share [any][their] respective actions and efforts, as appropriate;]]]

46. *Invites* relevant partner organizations, in particular, the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres, in coordination with the Secretariat, to conduct workshops and/or dialogues, building on existing processes as appropriate, on the findings of the first global review with a view to promoting peer-to-peer learning and sharing of experiences and best practices;

¹ The section of paragraph 41 related to the Global Environment Facility will be duplicated in the decision on the financial mechanism to be adopted at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

47. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to organize a fourth Bern Conference on cooperation among multilateral environmental agreements with a view to enhancing the implementation of the Framework by multilateral environmental agreements, based on the findings of the global report and global review and to providing options to better align planning, monitoring and reporting obligations under the Convention and those under other relevant processes;

48. *Encourages* Parties, and invites other Governments and relevant organizations to support the reporting by indigenous peoples and local communities on the implementation of the Framework including by continuing to support community-based monitoring and information systems and initiatives such as the *Local Biodiversity Outlook*;

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