



Target 21: Participation



No proposed changes

Target 21. Ensure equitable and effective participation in decision-making related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, and respect their rights over lands, territories and resources, as well as by women and girls, and youth.



Important Elements of the Target

Equitable and effective participation in decision-making related to biodiversity by IPLCs, women and youth

- wording is different from the usual “full and effective”, but “equitable” also addresses the issue of unequal power relations
- broad inclusion of women, girls and youth, as well as those within IP and LC communities
- biodiversity decision-making also includes environmental governance and participation in NBSAPs and related decision making
- cross-cutting relevance, but also especially for T20



Important Elements of the Target

Respect rights of indigenous peoples and local communities over lands, territories and resources

- alignment with language from the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- cross-cutting relevance: conservation targets (expansion of PAs in IP territories, access to resources in PAs overlapping with IP territories), customary sustainable use targets (human-wildlife conflict, issue of legality, productive areas expanding to indigenous territories), ABS, TK
- Theory of Change and enabling conditions mentions rights-based approaches



Points for consideration

- respect, protection and promotion of human rights in conservation; access to justice (for IPHRDs/EHRDs)
- access to information
- recognition of indigenous territorial waters
- respect for traditional knowledge (ABT 18); Decision X/43 indicators
- participation in monitoring and in NBSAPs



Key Messages

- This target should be maintained as it contains crucial elements for IPLCs, women and youth
- Full, equitable and effective participation of IPs & LCs, women and youth is crucial in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and review of NBSAPs as well as in relevant biodiversity decision-making; **this is especially so for indigenous peoples as rights-holders in their traditional territories** (cross-cutting)



Key Messages

- Respect for IPLC's rights over lands, waters, territories and resources is an extremely important condition that supports them as stewards of biodiversity, and this should be maintained in the final adopted Post-2020 GBF (cross-cutting)



Key Messages (continued)

- Not only respecting rights is important, but also ensuring that those whose rights have been violated in the name of conservation should have access to justice. There have been documentations of rights violations of IPHRDs and EHRDs because of conservation, and this issue needs to be addressed in the framework.



Key Messages (continued)

- Furthermore, Target 21 should be linked to Section I. Enabling conditions, where rights-based approaches are mentioned. Cooperation with international conventions should also include alignment with international human rights rights guidance and instruments should be emphasized here as well - the direct reference to UNDRIP is very much welcome



Many thanks

Prepared by Abigail Kitma, Kantuta Conde, Josefa Tauli, Sharon Naini, Suni Lama with help and review of IIFB Caucus