

AHTEG on Indicators – key outcomes



James Williams
Maria Cecilia Londoño

Together for Nature

Monitoring Framework / AHTEG

CoP15 Decision [15/4](#) established the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

CoP15 Decision [15/5](#) established the Monitoring Framework for the KM-GBF

Decision 15/5 also established an Ad-Hoc Technical Expert Group on indicators running to CoP16

30 Party and 15 Observer experts were selected by the SBSTTA Bureau



AHTEG Meetings



Online

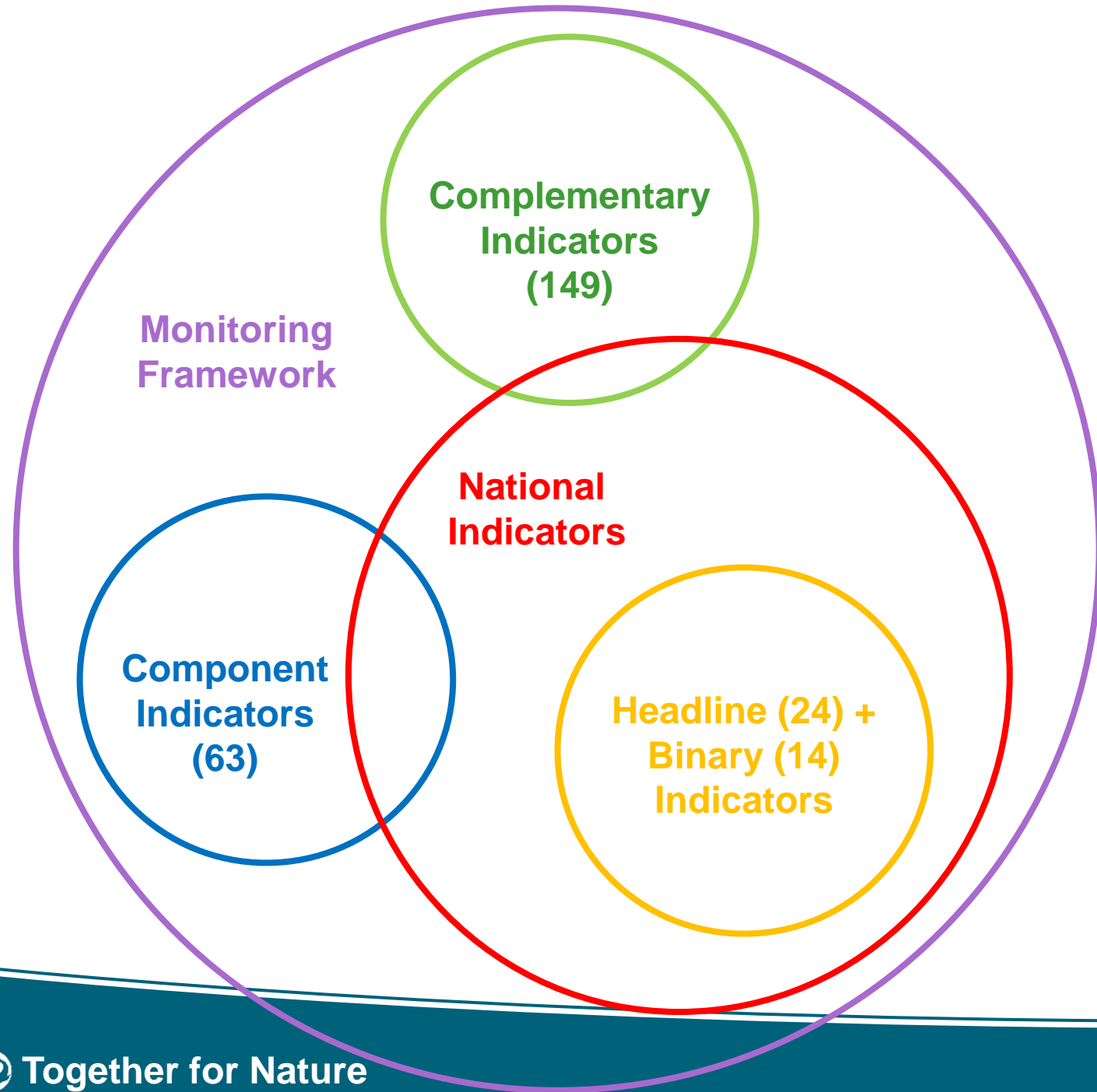
- 2 May,
- 11 July,
- 4 December,
- 29 January

Face to face

- Montreal 3-6 October
- Cambridge 12-15 March

Lots of work between formal meetings, including meetings of subgroups and with other experts

From a Party Perspective



Idealism



Pragmatism

Status of Headline Indicators (Oct. 2023)



Status code	Indicators	Status explanation
1	D1, D2, D3*, 1.1*, 7.2*, 9.1*, 15.1*, 18.1, 18.2,	Methods not yet developed , and a process needs to be established to develop these
2	B1*, C1*, C2*, 2.2*, 21.1,	Methods not yet developed, but a process is underway , led by one or more organisations, to develop them
3#	A2, A4, 6.1, 9.2*,	Methods developed (or partially developed) and tested/piloted, but data not yet widely available (and/or collection not yet underway).
4#	A1, 3.1, 7.1, 10.1, 12.1,	Methods established, data being compiled, and indicator operational in at least some countries, but further investment in methods ongoing and/or further (data collection required) .
5#	A3, 5.1, 10.2,	Methods established, data being compiled and accessible, and indicator operational for most/all countries.

* Indicator marked in Decision 15/5 as lacking an agreed up-to-date methodology

Indicator / Methodology maintained by one or more organizations

Status of Headline Indicators (March 2024)



Status code	Indicators	Status explanation
1	1.1*, 9.1*	Methods not yet developed , and a process needs to be established to develop these
2	C1*, C2*, D3*, 15.1*, 21.1	Methods not yet developed, but a process is underway , led by one or more organisations, to develop them
3#	B1*, 7.2*, 9.2*, 18.2	Methods developed (or partially developed) and tested/piloted, but data not yet widely available (and/or collection not yet underway).
4#	A1, A2, A4, D2, 2.1*, 6.1, 7.1, 18.1	Methods established, data being compiled, and indicator operational in at least some countries, but further investment in methods ongoing and/or further (data collection required) .
5#	A3, D1, 3.1, 5.1, 10.1, 10.2, 12.1	Methods established, data being compiled and accessible, and indicator operational for most/all countries.

* Indicator marked in Decision 15/5 as lacking an agreed up-to-date methodology

Indicator / Methodology maintained by one or more organizations

Progress (1)

- **Headline indicators**
 - Updated metadata
 - Advised by studies on various subjects
 - 1.1 and 9.1 not available at present
- **Binary Indicators**
 - Created metadata
 - Advice on wording changes
 - Aggregation method
- **Glossary**
- **Gap Analysis**
 - Target elements
 - Review of component and complementary indicators
- **Capacity Building Survey**



Progress (2)

- Approach to Section C
 - Human rights approach, IPLCs, gender, age
 - Ecosystem classification
- Traditional Knowledge Indicators
 - Traditional occupations (HI 9.2)
 - Participation
 - Land Use and Land Tenure
 - Linguistic Diversity
- Finance Indicators
 - Target 18 & Goal D
- ABS Indicators
 - Goal C & Target 13



Approach for Binary Indicators

1) Make the answers to questions categorical rather than strictly binary

Starting Point

(a) No

(b) Yes

Proposed (SBSTTA 25)

(a) No

(b) No, but under development

(c) Yes, partially

(d) Yes, fully

N.B. Categorical responses may vary according to the question asked

2) Split questions for an indicator so they are easier to answer

Details in Annex of [CBD/SBSTTA/25/REC/1](#)

Aggregating the answers from multiple questions for a binary indicator

- Two aggregation levels
 - Within a question (i.e. for multiple choice questions)
 - Between questions for an indicator (for a target)

Answers proposed in SBSTTA 25 paper

- (a) No
- (b) No, but under development
- (c) Yes, partially
- (d) Yes, fully

Proposed (SBSTTA 26)

- (a) No
- (b) Developing
- (c) Partially
- (d) Fully

Multi-choice questions

Convert multiple-choice answers into single-choice format

Hypothetical question X:

Does your country have policy, legislative and administrative frameworks at the national and subnational levels that apply to the following:

Party #1:

- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3
- Option 4

Party #2:

- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3
- Option 4

Party #3:

- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3
- Option 4

Overall answer:

“Yes, fully”

“Yes, partially”

“No”

Aggregating question answers for an indicator

Possible answer sets:

- 5 • “Yes, fully” ONLY
- 4 • “Yes, partially” only OR “Yes, partially” + “Yes, fully”
- 3 • Any “Yes, fully” PLUS one or more “No, ...” or “No”
- 2 • Any “Yes, partially” and “No, ...” and/or “No”, BUT no “Yes, fully”
- 1 • “No, but...” only OR “No, but...” + “No”
- 0 • “No” ONLY

6 point ordinal scale

Answer dependent

Maps answer sets onto outcomes

Showing progress to 2030 via Binary Indicators

- A six-point scale allows more positive implementation progress points than a four-point scale
- Comparison between the 7th and 8th National reports (2026 and 2029 respectively) should allow Parties to show progress being made in these binary indicators
- Consideration needed at a national level on the assessment process for binary indicators; for example deciding whether to involve observers as well as Government
- Parties could choose to assess progress annually on the binary indicators – driving improvements and implementation on process-based issues



Advice from the AHTEG to the SBSTTA-26 meeting

I. Introduction

II. Background

III. Summary of the AHTEG's work

IV. Recommendation

CBD/SBSTTA/25/2, which became

[CBD/SBSTTA/25/REC/1](#)

and its Annexed list of binary indicator questions

- Annex I: List of headline, binary, component and complementary indicators*
- Annex II: Status of headline indicators + issues relating to Section C
- Annex III: Summary of research and knowledge gaps

[SBSTTA/26/2/Add.1](#): Advice on wording of the binary questions

* This list includes a revised list of component and complementary indicators as well as proposed wording changes to the headline indicators (wording changes are proposed for technical reasons on the basis of the methodological work as described in the metadata). It also includes recommended disaggregations of the headline indicators.

INF14 / INF19

~400 pages



Advice from the AHTEG to Parties, and organizations supporting Parties, to use, where relevant, in implementing the monitoring framework

In [INF 14](#):

- Introduction and guidance on applying headline and binary indicators, including the aggregation of the binary indicators
- Taking Section C of the GBF into account when implementing the monitoring framework, including guidance on people and biodiversity (human-rights based approaches, IPLCs, gender, youth and other groups) and on ecosystems
- Metadata for each headline and binary indicator
- Glossary of key terms in the monitoring framework

In [INF 19](#):

- Building biodiversity observation networks to fill spatial and temporal data gaps
- Capacity needs and opportunities to fill capacity gaps
- Research and knowledge gaps in terms of monitoring the breadth and scope of the goals and targets of the GBF



IAG-TSC
T20
INF21

TEG
Finance Indicators
Goal D, T18
INF20

Capacity
Building
Survey
INF19

WG8j
TK indicators
HI 9.2
INF 11

Online Forum
(76 comments:
35, 7, 3, 14, 17)

Liaison Group on
the Cartagena
Protocol
T17
INF13

Study on ABS
indicators
Goal C, T13
INF12

FAO
Expert
meeting
HI 7.2
INF18

Lots of individual
and organisational
expertise e.g.
FAO, GEO-BON,
IUCN, ILO, OECD
(+DAC), UNEP (+
WCMC, BIOFIN,
Habitat),
Listed in Annex I of
SBSTTA/26/2 and
in INF14 + INF19

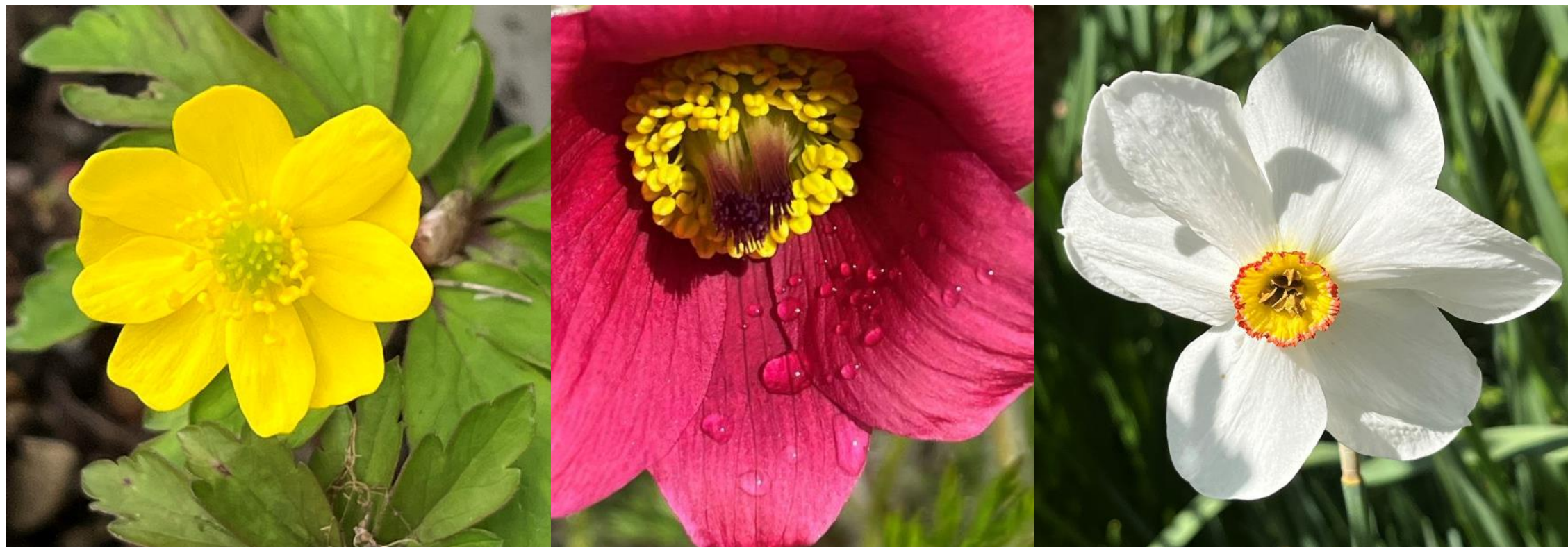
Associated Documents

Thank you AHTEG

Welcoming with extreme appreciation the extraordinary expertise and enthusiasm the Expert Group brought to bear on its enormous mandate and the excellence of the advice provided to the 26th Meeting of SBSTTA and 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.



Questions?



AHTEG Mandate

- a) Technical advice on remaining and unresolved issues relating to the monitoring framework (+ detail in subparagraphs);
 - b) Guidance on the use of indicators in national planning and reporting;
 - c) Guidance on ways to fill temporal and spatial data gaps; and
 - d) Advice on existing capacity, gaps and needs.
- **Annex II to Decision [15/5](#)**



Target level aggregation

Party #1:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 Yes, partially
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #2:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #3:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 Yes, partially

Target level aggregation

Hypothe

Party #1:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 Yes, partially
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #4:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 No
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #2:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #5:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 No, but under development
- X3 No, but under development

Party #3:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #6:

- X1 No
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 No, but under development

4

3

Target level aggregation

Hypothetical target X

Party #1:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 Yes, partially
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #4:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 No
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #7:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 No
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #2:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #5:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 No, but under development
- X3 No, but under development

Party #8:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 No, but under development
- X3 No, but under development

Party #3:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #6:

- X1 No
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 No, but under development

Party #9:

- X1 No
- X2 Yes, partially
- X3 No, but under development

4

3

2

Target level aggregation

Hypothetical target X

Party #1:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 Yes, partially
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #4:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 No
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #7:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 No
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #10:

- X1 No, but under development
- X2 No
- X3 No, but under development

Party #2:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #5:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 No, but under development
- X3 No, but under development

Party #8:

- X1 Yes, partially
- X2 No, but under development
- X3 No, but under development

Party #11:

- X1 No, but under development
- X2 No, but under development
- X3 No, but under development

Party #3:

- X1 Yes, fully
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 Yes, partially

Party #6:

- X1 No
- X2 Yes, fully
- X3 No, but under development

Party #9:

- X1 No
- X2 Yes, partially
- X3 No, but under development

Party #12:

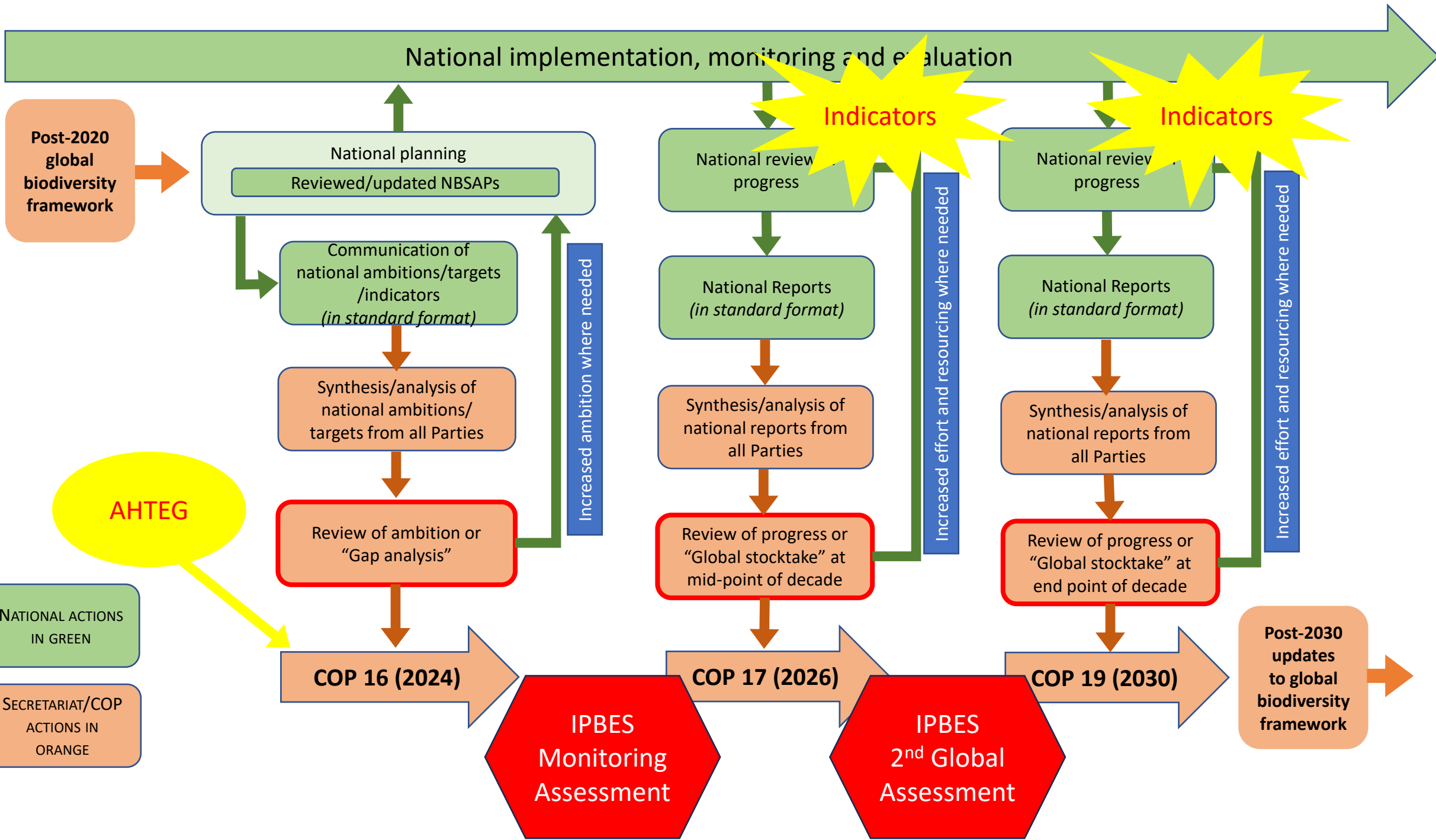
- X1 No
- X2 No
- X3 No, but under development

4

3

2

1



Documents to concentrate on at SBSTTA 26

[SBSTTA 26/2](#)

IV. Recommendation

[SBSTTA/26/2/Add.1](#): Advice on wording of the binary questions

[CBD/SBSTTA/25/REC/1](#) and its Annexed list of binary indicator questions

It is not anticipated that the Annexes in document 26/2, or the INF documents, will be negotiated at SBSTTA, but Parties have been invited in [Notification 2024-033](#) to submit views on the work undertaken by **3 May 2024**.

Webinars / Workshop

- Series of webinars April - early May
- Cover a range of the subjects that the AHTEG has worked on
- Schedule and links / recordings at <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/indicators-ahteg/webinars>
- Thanks to everyone who is contributing
- Workshop on 11 May in Nairobi
- Please join us

