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Resource mobilization and financial mechanism: financial mechanism

Considerations for preparing further guidance to the Global Environment Facility including the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the eighth replenishment period of its Trust Fund (July 2022 to June 2026)**

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In its decision 15/15 (para. 5), the Conference of the Parties adopted a four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the eighth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. In the same decision (para. 11), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare elements of a draft four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the ninth replenishment period of the GEF (2026–2030), for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at a meeting prior to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2. In preparing its response to that request, the Secretariat conducted the following review:

(a) Examined the four previous quadrennial outcome-oriented frameworks of biodiversity programme priorities adopted so far by the Conference of the Parties and analyzed the subsequent GEF programming directions;

(b) Assessed the extent to which existing guidance to the GEF has addressed the funding needs of recipient countries to implement the targets of the Framework, using the information gathering exercise prepared for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(c) Reviewed recent development of biodiversity-related resource programming, including the programming directions and project approvals under the GEF Trust Fund, GBF Fund the programming directions of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, and strategic planning under the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

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3. The present note reports on the findings of that review and is structured as follows. Section II provides background to the practice of preparing four-year outcome-oriented frameworks of programme priorities. Section III summarizes key elements of the previous four-year outcome-oriented frameworks of programme priorities. Section IV provides an analysis of outcome elements of previous four-year frameworks of programming priorities and their relevance to the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Section V contains an examination of the evolution of GEF programming directions related to biodiversity. Section VI contains an analysis of the alignment of existing previous guidance to the GEF with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Section VII provides information on recent resource programming for biodiversity. Section VIII contains concluding reflections.

II. Background of the four-year outcome-oriented frameworks of programme priorities as guidance to the Global Environment Facility

4. A four-year framework of programme priorities to inform the replenishment cycles of the GEF Trust Fund has been provided by the Conference of the Parties to the GEF on four occasions, spanning the periods of GEF-5, GEF-6, GEF-7 and GEF-8 replenishments from July 2010 to June 2026. The Conference of the Parties initiated the process of developing a four-year outcome-oriented framework at its ninth meeting in May 2008. According to decision IX/31, the purpose of the initiative was to enhance the process of formulating and consolidating guidance to the financial mechanism and provide coherent and prioritized guidance to the GEF. The result was to be used as input for consideration during the fifth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, as related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity for the period from 2010 to 2014. The arising four-year framework was based on the existing guidance, the Strategic Plan of the Convention, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, GEF-4 strategy for biodiversity focal area, as well as findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

5. Despite evolution over time, the primary rationale and basic logic have continued to guide the framing of the four-year frameworks of programme priorities. Key elements that have been included in the quadrennial frameworks are described in the following section.

III. Elements of the previous four-year outcome-oriented frameworks of programme priorities

6. Key considerations and elements that have been included in the quadrennial frameworks are as follows.

A. Strategic alignment under the Convention

7. The various strategic plans under the Convention have provided the primary basis and guidance to the development of the outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities. In decision XI/5, annex, para. 3, the Conference of the Parties stated that the GEF-6 biodiversity strategy should take into account the fact that the Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide a flexible basis for Parties which can be adapted, taking into account different national circumstances and capabilities, including in revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Similarly, in decision XIII/21, annex I, para. 1, the Conference of the Parties indicated that the third quadrennial framework to inform GEF-7 utilized the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Convention's Protocols to set priorities for the financial mechanism, building on the GEF-6 biodiversity focal area strategy and the GEF-6 programming directions. Recognizing that the seventh replenishment cycle of the GEF Trust Fund covered the last two years of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and the first two years of a successor framework, the four-year framework 2016-2020 highlighted areas where additional funding from the GEF would provide the necessary support to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, as well as prioritized support for key enabling activities, in particular those which would become

important for the post-2020 period, under a successor framework to the current Strategic Plan. (decision XIII/21, annex I, para. 2)

8. The fourth quadrennial framework of programme priorities to inform GEF-8 utilized the Convention and its Protocols, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to set priorities for the financial mechanism. In particular, the goals and targets of the Framework provided direction for the outcomes of this four-year framework, bearing in mind that GEF-8 and GEF-9 would together cover the expected eight years to the 2030 deadlines of the targets (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 1). The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should support the rapid and effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by contributing to resource mobilization from all sources, including through increased GEF funding, which is adequate, predictable, sustainable, timely and accessible and through allocations dedicated to the biodiversity focal area and co-benefits for biodiversity across other focal areas and global programmes, including integrated programmes, recognizing the need for streamlined programming and approval process to enable timely disbursement of resources (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 5).

B. Link with funding needs assessment

9. The third quadrennial framework (for GEF-7) sought to facilitate the seventh replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund commensurate with the funding needs identified in the needs assessment under the Convention (decision XIII/21, annex I, para. 2)

C. Link with GEF programming

10. In adopting the first quadrennial framework (for GEF-5), the Conference of the Parties acknowledged the GEF-4 strategy for biodiversity as a useful starting point for GEF-5 and requested GEF, for the fifth replenishment period, to build on the GEF-4 strategy based on the four-year framework of programme priorities. (decision IX/31B, para. 4)

D. Implementation leadership

11. The Conference of the Parties invited the Global Environment Facility, the recipient and non-recipient Global Environment Facility participants, relevant global and regional partner organizations, and the Executive Secretary to promote a successful implementation of the four-year framework of programme priorities (decision XIII/21, para. 2), and encouraged the Executive Secretary to maintain and strengthen the dialogue with the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility with a view to enhancing the implementation of the guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties during the fourth replenishment period of the Facility and onwards (decision IX/31B, para. 1)

E. National biodiversity strategies and action plans

12. The Conference of the Parties highlighted the important role of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAP) as a tool in identifying national needs and priorities for financing from the Global Environment Facility, and expected the quadrennial outcome-oriented frameworks of programme priorities to be a key catalyst in translating national biodiversity strategies and action plans into programmes and projects that can be co-financed through the financial mechanism. (decision XIII/21, annex I, para. 1)

F. Primary role of recipients

13. The Conference of the Parties noted that the Global Environment Facility is built on the principles of country-drivenness and country ownership (decision IX/31B, preamble), and emphasized primary role of recipient Parties in ensuring the achievement of the outcomes set out in the quadrennial framework of programme priorities (2018-2022) for the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (decision XIII/21, para. 6). The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should be developed in a fully transparent and inclusive manner, with a view to ensuring that projects to be funded by GEF during its eighth replenishment are to be

developed on a context-specific and country-driven basis, addressing the priority needs of recipient countries (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 9). The GEF, in its eighth replenishment period, should explore ways to significantly improve the access to funding for all recipient countries (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 15).

G. Stakeholder engagement

14. The second quadrennial framework stated that the GEF should continue to engage key stakeholders, including the Secretariat of the Convention, in the process of formulating the GEF-6 strategy for the biodiversity focal area (decision XI/5, annex, para. 6). The effective implementation of a quadrennial outcome-framework of programme priorities depends upon the engagement of all relevant stakeholders, including businesses and subnational governments, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities, with particular attention to the gender dimension as well as to respecting, preserving and maintaining traditional knowledge, innovations, and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as their customary use of biological resources, with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, at all relevant levels. (decision XIII/21, annex I, para. 3) Effective communication must be incorporated in the design phase as an integral part of projects to raise public awareness and promote engagement, whenever critical for achieving the conservation and sustainable use of important biodiversity, and it can also contribute to achieving more sustainable consumption patterns, as per Aichi Biodiversity Target 4. (decision XIII/21, annex I, para. 4)

15. The fourth quadrennial framework contained in decision 15/15, annex I reinforced the requisite for stakeholder engagement. To improve its efficiency and effectiveness in delivering sustainable results during the GEF- 8 replenishment period, GEF should continue to improve its policies regarding governance and the standards its implementing partners are held to (para. 19). The GEF, in its eighth replenishment period, should explore ways to improve the access to funding for indigenous peoples and local communities (para. 16). The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should promote engagement with recipient countries to support national resource mobilization and the development and implementation of national biodiversity finance plans (para. 17). The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy, programming directions and policy recommendations should reinforce the GEF's efforts to mobilize and engage with different stakeholders including the private sector (para. 18).

H. Science, knowledge, capacity and technical support

16. The third quadrennial framework provided that the importance of improving the science and knowledge base relating to biodiversity at the national level should be taken into account (decision XIII/21, annex I, para. 6). Capacity-building and technical support should continue to be provided to recipient countries under the Convention and its Protocols as well as by global and regional partner institutions. Activities undertaken under the framework should be informed by improved biodiversity monitoring programmes (para. 5).

I. Policy coherence

17. According to the second quadrennial framework, the GEF-6 biodiversity strategy should take into account coherence with, and synergies among, country-driven programmes and priorities set out in revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans, while focusing on filling the highest priority gaps associated with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets (decision XI/5, annex, para. 4). The GEF-6 biodiversity strategy should promote coherence and synergies among the GEF focal areas of biodiversity, land degradation, international waters, climate change – mitigation and adaptation, and within the context of country-driven programmes and priorities (para. 5). Implementation of the third quadrennial framework should include an enhanced focus on policy frameworks and the promotion of policy coherence to achieve the expected outcomes. (decision XIII/21, annex I, para. 7)

18. The fourth quadrennial framework stated that the GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should take into account coherence with, and synergies among, country-driven programmes and priorities set out in national biodiversity strategies and action plans to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 8). The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should promote agreed global environmental benefits and development pathways that benefit biodiversity and are also carbon-neutral and pollution-free, including through coherence and synergies among the GEF integrated programmes and focal areas of biodiversity, land degradation, international waters, climate change (both mitigation and adaptation), and chemicals and waste, and within the context of country-driven programmes and priorities (para. 10).

J. Integration and synergy

19. The first quadrennial framework of programme priorities encouraged collaboration at national level between national focal points for the Convention, for related environmental agreements and for the Global Environment Facility, including through the projects supported by the Facility, and invited the Global Environment Facility to continue to promote such collaboration, including through regional and national workshops for the focal points; (decision IX/31B, para. 2)

20. The third quadrennial framework recognized the opportunities for synergy, inherent in the unique institutional design of the Global Environment Facility, with related multilateral environmental agreements, as well as synergies with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDGs 14 and 15, and encouraged integrated approaches to project design as well as global and regional projects, noting that regional approaches are indispensable for addressing certain elements of the biodiversity agenda, such as migratory species. It encouraged collaboration at national level among national focal points of the Convention and its Protocols, of related environmental agreements, and of GEF, including through GEF-supported projects. (decision XIII/21, para. 3 and annex I, para. 8)

21. The fourth quadrennial framework of programme priorities recognized that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is an overarching framework of high relevance to all biodiversity-related conventions and agreements, and sought to promote the implementation of complementary measures that may enhance programmatic synergies and efficiencies, among the Convention, its Protocols and other biodiversity-related conventions and agreements, relevant to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the mandate of the GEF (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 3). Several actions were included:

(a) The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should recognize the contribution of multi-country, regional, transboundary and global projects, to the implementation of the objectives of the Convention, its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including to the implementation of global initiatives adopted under the Convention and its Protocols, and multi-country, regional, transboundary and global initiatives that leverage contributions from biodiversity-related conventions and agreements (para. 6)

(b) The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should recognize that the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions and agreements in the context of national biodiversity priorities and strategies will contribute to the three objectives of the Convention and its Protocols and the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (para. 7)

(c) The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should promote and implement, as appropriate, the ecosystem approach, and/or nature-based solutions as defined by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session (para. 11)

(d) The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should promote synergies, cooperation and complementarity in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention with those of the other conventions served by GEF, as well as with other biodiversity-related

conventions and agreements, recognizing the important contributions that these instruments can make to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and vice versa (para. 12)

(e) During the GEF-8 period, GEF should further interact and cooperate with multilateral development banks and other public and private financial institutions to integrate the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as the contributions of the other biodiversity-related conventions within their activities and report on funding contributing to their implementation (para. 13)

(f) The GEF-8 outcome and impact indicators and associated monitoring processes should be effectively used to assess the contribution of the GEF-8 to the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, its Protocols, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including through measuring the co-benefits for biodiversity across all relevant GEF activities (para. 14)

K. Reporting back

22. While adopting the four-year outcome-oriented frameworks of programme priorities, the Conference of the Parties requested the Global Environment Facility to report back on its implementation and how it responds to the individual elements and their components (decision XI/5, para. 2), include information regarding the individual elements of the consolidated guidance, in particular the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities in its future reports to the Conference of the Parties (decision XIII/21, para. 5), or include in its report to the Conference of the Parties an explanation on how GEF-8, through the elements of its programming directions, is contributing to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, and to each goal and target of the Framework and its monitoring framework (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 2).

IV. Structural outcome elements of previous four-year frameworks of programming priorities and their relevance to the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

23. Each of the four-year frameworks has contained or highlighted expected outcomes applicable to their respective targeted timeframes. These outcomes contained in the previous four quadrennial frameworks may be re-considered around the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets as follows:

<i>GBF target/theme</i>	<i>Relevant previous outcome elements</i>
Planning, indicators, monitoring and reporting	<p>National compliance with reporting obligations under the Convention and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is promoted (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 4.5);</p> <p>The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, any relevant indicators for national and global use for assessing the progress of implementation of the Strategic Plan, and the current set of output, outcome and impact indicators, and associated monitoring processes and tracking tools, currently in use by the Global Environment Facility (decision XI/5, annex, para. 2(a), (d) and (e));</p> <p>Parties meet their reporting obligations under the Convention and the Protocols, through submission of relevant national reports and of relevant information through the clearing-houses, national policy and institutional frameworks are reviewed, their implementation and effectiveness assessed, and gaps identified and addressed by the frameworks, the review and, as appropriate, revision and update, of national biodiversity strategies and</p>

	<p>action plans in the light of a successor framework to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, is implemented, incorporating an enhanced focus on achieving policy coherence (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcomes 15, 16 and 17);</p> <p>The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including its goals and targets which define the outcomes being sought, national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, the mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review, the enabling conditions outlined in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework required for its implementation (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 4(a), (b), (d), (f) and (g)).</p>
<p>Target 3 (conservation of at least 30% of territorial areas)</p>	<p>Financing gap is reduced to meet protected area management objectives by securing increased revenue and diversification of revenue streams to meet total expenditures, coverage of marine ecosystems globally and in national protected area systems is increased, ecosystem coverage of under-represented terrestrial ecosystems areas as part of national protected area systems is improved, management of terrestrial and marine protected areas is improved. (decision IX/31, annex, outcomes 1.1 -1.4);</p> <p>The area of protected areas under effective and equitable management is significantly increased, including development of sustainable financing, the ecological representativeness of protected area systems, and their coverage of protected areas, and other effective area-based conservation measures, of particular importance for biodiversity is increased, especially habitats for threatened species. (decision XIII/21, annex I, Expected Outcomes 8 and 9).</p>
<p>Target 4 (species and genetic diversity recovery and conservation, and human-wildlife conflict management)</p>	<p>Conservation status of threatened species is improved (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 1.6);</p> <p>Loss, fragmentation, and degradation of significant natural habitats, and associated extinction debt, is reduced, halted or reversed, and conservation status of known threatened species is improved and sustained, including through monitoring, spatial planning, incentives, restoration, and strategic establishment of protected areas and other measures (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcome 4).</p>
<p>Target 5 (sustainable, safe and legal use, harvesting and trade of wild species)</p>	<p>Pressures on biodiversity from habitat change, land-use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use are reduced, sustainable use of biological diversity in terrestrial ecosystems including in forest ecosystems, dry and sub-humid lands, mountain ecosystems and islands, particularly Small Island Developing States is enhanced, sustainable use of biological diversity in aquatic ecosystems, including in inland water ecosystems, marine and coastal ecosystems, and islands, particularly small island developing States is enhanced (decision IX/31, annex, outcomes 2.1 - 2.3);</p> <p>Sustainable use, trade and consumption related to biological diversity are promoted. (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 3.4);</p> <p>Anthropogenic pressures on vulnerable coastal and marine ecosystems, including coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds, and associated ecosystems, including pollution, overfishing and destructive fishing, and</p>

	unregulated coastal development, are reduced, thus contributing to ecosystem integrity and resilience; illegal, unregulated and unsustainable taking, and/or trafficking of species of flora and fauna, including marine species, is significantly reduced and both demand and supply of related products is addressed, with priority action on threatened species (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcomes 7 and 10).
Target 6 (At least 50% reduction in the introduction of invasive alien species and impact management)	Threats to biological diversity from invasive alien species are controlled (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 6.1); Management frameworks for invasive alien species are improved (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcome 6).
Target 8 (climate change impact minimization and resilience)	Resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change is maintained and enhanced (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 1.5).
Target 10 (sustainable management of agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry areas)	Agricultural biodiversity is promoted in agricultural systems and practices, and genetic resources important for food and agriculture are conserved and sustainably used and associated benefits are shared equitably (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 3.6); Biodiversity supporting key agricultural ecosystems, such as through pollination, biological pest control, or genetic diversity, is conserved and managed, contributing to sustainable agricultural production (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcome 5); Forest and aquatic biodiversity is promoted in forestry and fishery systems and practices, and genetic resources important for human well-being are conserved and sustainably used and associated benefits are shared equitably (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 3.7).
Target 12 (significant increase in sustainable green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas)	The Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity (2023–2030) (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 4(e)(iii)).
Target 13 (significant increase of the benefits shared from genetic resources, digital sequence information and associated traditional knowledge)	Measures to facilitate access to genetic resources in accordance with national legislation and in harmony with the relevant CBD provisions and are promoted, measures to encourage the fair and equitable sharing of benefits, on mutually agreed terms, arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge in harmony with the relevant CBD provisions and in accordance with national legislation are promoted, development and implementation of national systems on access and benefit sharing in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties are promoted. (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 5.1 -5.3); The number of ratifications of the Nagoya Protocol is increased, number of countries that have adopted legislative, administrative or policy

	<p>measures on access and benefit-sharing to implement the Protocol is increased, including, inter alia and as appropriate, measures for mutual implementation with other relevant international agreements, coordination in transboundary genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, and/or procedures to issue internationally recognized certificates of compliance. (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcomes 13-14);</p> <p>Specific priorities for continued capacity-building to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, support for the integration and mainstreaming of access and benefit-sharing on genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in policies and activities related to biodiversity and sustainable development, support for the development and sustainment of long-term institutional capacities for managing, monitoring and evaluating national access and benefit-sharing frameworks (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 4(i), appendix D).</p>
<p>Target 14 (Full integration of biodiversity values within and across all levels of government and across all sectors)</p>	<p>Policy and regulatory frameworks governing sectors outside the environment sector incorporate measures to achieve the three objectives of the Convention, markets are created for ecosystem services as well as for locally value-added ecosystem goods derived from sources that are sustainably managed, technically rigorous biodiversity standards are mainstreamed into certification systems for goods produced in agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and other sectors (decision IX/31, annex, outcomes 3.1-3.3);</p> <p>Financial, fiscal, and development policies, as well as planning and decision-making take into account biodiversity and ecosystem values, in the context of the different tools and approaches used by Parties to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected Outcome 1).</p>
<p>Target 15 (enabling of businesses, large and transnational companies and financial institutions to reduce biodiversity-related risks)</p>	<p>Economic sectors affecting significant biodiversity adopt sustainable supply chains and/or clean production processes, thus minimizing their impacts on biodiversity (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcome 3).</p>
<p>Target 17 (biosafety, handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits)</p>	<p>National compliance with reporting obligations under the Convention and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is promoted, national biosafety frameworks are established as appropriate in line with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, operational national biosafety frameworks contribute to the safe use of biotechnology and to the protection of the environment and human health. (decision IX/31, annex, outcomes 4.5, 4.8 and 6.2);</p> <p>The Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011–2020 (decision XI/5, annex, para. 2(b));</p> <p>The number of ratifications of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya–Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress is increased, national implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya–Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on</p>

	<p>Liability and Redress is enhanced. (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcomes 11-12);</p> <p>The Implementation Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Capacity-building Action Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 4(h)).</p>
<p>Target 18 (reduction of harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scaling-up of positive incentives)</p>	<p>Social, economic and legal incentive measures are supportive of the Convention's three objectives, national biodiversity action plans are mainstreamed into development strategies and programmes. (decision IX/31, annex, outcomes 3.5 and 4.2);</p> <p>Identified significant incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity are eliminated, phased out, or reformed, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other international obligations and taking into account national socioeconomic conditions (decision XIII/21, annex I, expected outcome 2).</p>
<p>Target 19 (mobilization of at least \$200 billion per year from all sources, with at least \$20 billion per year by 2025 and at least \$30 billion from international finance)</p>	<p>National biodiversity planning is enhanced, including elaboration and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (decision IX/31, annex, outcome 4.1);</p> <p>The strategy for resource mobilization, including the establishment of a global biodiversity framework fund by GEF, national biodiversity finance plans (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 4(c), 4(e)(i)).</p>
<p>Target 20 (strengthening of capacity and technology transfer, and promotion of innovation, scientific and technical cooperation)</p>	<p>Implementation of the programme priorities is strengthened including through science, technology and innovation, clearing-house mechanism, and communication, education and public awareness, transfer of and access to technologies are promoted and facilitated from developed to developing countries as well as among developing countries and other Parties. (decision IX/31, annex, outcomes 4.3 and 4.7);</p> <p>The long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 4(e)(ii)).</p>
<p>Target 21 (accessibility of best available data, information and knowledge)</p>	<p>Developing countries' knowledge on all components of biodiversity, in particular through taxonomy, is improved, protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices is improved, and the involvement of local and indigenous communities in the achievement of the Convention's three objectives is strengthened (decision IX/31, annex, outcomes 4.4 and 4.6).</p>
<p>Target 23 (gender equality)</p>	<p>The Gender Plan of Action (2023-2030) (decision 15/15, annex I, para. 4(e)(iv)).</p>

24. Several targets of the GBF have not been dealt with in the existing quadrennial outcome-oriented frameworks of programme priorities, including:

- (a) Target 1 (spatial planning and management of all areas);
- (b) Target 2 (restoration of at least 30% of degraded ecosystems);

- (c) Target 7 (at least 50% reduction in excess nutrients lost to the environment and in the risk of pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, and elimination of plastic pollution);
- (d) Target 9 (sustainable management and use of wild species to benefit people);
- (e) Target 11 (regulating services restoration and enhancement);
- (f) Target 16 (enabling of sustainable consumption choices, reduction of global footprint of consumption, and halving of global food waste);
- (g) Target 22 (representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information, and full protection of environmental human rights defenders).

V. GEF programming directions related to biodiversity

25. The four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities was tailored to the need for developing GEF programming directions by the GEF, which was initiated since the fourth replenishment in June 2006. The structures of these GEF programming directions have evolved over time as summarized in table 1 below. Their most common elements include goals, objectives, outcomes, programming targets and indicators, with the GEF-8 programming directions structured around goal, objectives and project support.

Table 1: Structures of GEF programming directions

GEF-4	GEF-5	GEF-6	GEF-7	GEF-8
	Goal	Goal	Goal	Goal
	Impact	Impacts	Impacts	
	Indicators	Indicators; Gender indicators	Indicators	Expected global environment benefits targets: Core indicators
Strategic objective	Objectives	Focal area objective	Objectives	Objectives
Primary outcome	Expected outcomes and indicators	Programs: Expected outcomes and indicators	Outcomes	Rationale
Programming target (targets and indicators)	Outcome targets	Programming targets; Corporate level outcome targets	Indicators	Project support
	Core output		Means of verification	

26. The goal of GEF-4 biodiversity focal area was in accordance with the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity. As demonstrated in table 2 below, the notion of ecosystem goods and services was taken up in the GEF5 and GEF6 goals while the wording “globally significant” began to appear in the GEF6-GEF8 goals. The phrase “conservation and sustainable use” in the GEF4 and GEF5 goals was replaced by the wording “maintain” in the GEF6 and GEF7 goals, and evolved to include the wording conserved, sustainably used, and restored “restored”. Correspondingly, GEF6 and GEF7 programming targets aggregated protected areas and production landscapes and seascapes, while GEF4, GEF5 and GEF8 provided separated programming targets for protected areas and production landscapes and seascapes. GEF8 programming targets further disaggregated terrestrial and marine areas, and introduced land and ecosystems under restoration.

Table 2: Goals of biodiversity focal area across GEF replenishments

Phase	Goal	Programming targets
GEF4	The conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.	80 million hectares of protected areas. 75 million hectares in production landscapes and seascapes.
GEF5	Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services.	170 million hectares of existing or new protected areas . 60 million hectares of production landscapes and seascapes under sustainable use.
GEF6	Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services it provides to society.	300 million hectares of landscapes and seascapes under improved biodiversity management.
GEF7	Maintain globally significant biodiversity in landscapes and marine habitat.	1.2 billion hectares for impacts and outcomes.
GEF8	Globally significant biodiversity conserved, sustainably used, and restored.	150 million hectares of terrestrial protected areas and 100 million hectares of marine protected areas created or under improved management . 10 million hectares of land and ecosystems under restoration. 195 million hectares of landscapes and 70 million hectares of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity.

27. Objectives of biodiversity focal area have also evolved over the successive GEF replenishments. As shown in table 3, there have been three to five objectives set for each programming directions document, broadly grouped along the three headings of GEF-8: conservation, sustainable use and restoration; Protocol implementation; and planning and resourcing. The first grouping “conservation, sustainable use and restoration” previously included protected area systems and mainstreaming across sectors, landscapes and seascapes. The Protocol section comprised both the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing. The final heading aimed at transformation to governance and financing.

Table 3: Objectives of biodiversity focal area across GEF replenishments

GEF8	GEF7	GEF6	GEF5	GEF4
Objective 1. To improve conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of natural ecosystems	Objective 2. Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species.	Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected area systems.	Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected area systems.	I. Catalyzing sustainability of protected area systems at national levels.
	Objective 1. Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes.	Objective 4: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes and seascapes and production sectors.	Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors.	II. Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in production landscapes and sectors.

Objective 2. To effectively implement the Cartagena and Nagoya protocols.	Objective 3. Further develop biodiversity policy and institutional frameworks.	Objective 2: Reduce threats to globally significant biodiversity.	Objective 3: Build capacity for the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.	III. Capacity building for the Cartagena Protocol on biosafety.
		Objective 3: Sustainably use biodiversity.	Objective 4: Build capacity on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing.	IV. Generation and dissemination of good practices for addressing current and emerging issues in biodiversity.
Objective 3. To increase mobilization of domestic resources for biodiversity.	Objective 3.	Objective 4.	Objective Five: Integrate CBD obligations into national planning Processes through Enabling Activities.	IV

28. Along the objectives of biodiversity focal area strategies across GEF replenishments, associated outcomes or expected outcomes have been identified to establish programming results frameworks. As demonstrated in table 4, these intended outcomes have been presented in sometimes slightly different formats, but in general organized around the following themes:

- 1) Improved ecosystem coverage, effective management, and financial sustainability of protected area systems, both terrestrial and marine;
- 2) Inclusive conservation;
- 3) Improved conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine habitats (mainstreaming);
- 4) Sustainable use of wildlife and prevention of the extinction of known threatened species;
- 5) Improved prevention, control and management of invasive alien species;
- 6) Enhanced implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
- 7) Enhanced implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing;
- 8) Increased transformation of national planning, institutions and financing related to biodiversity.

Table 4: Outcomes of biodiversity focal area across GEF replenishments

GEF8 project support	GEF7 outcomes	GEF6 outcome	GEF5 expected outcomes	GEF4 primary outcome
1) Financial sustainability, effective management, and ecosystem coverage of protected area systems.	1) Outcome: Landscapes and marine habitat under improved management.	Outcome 2.1 Increase in area of terrestrial and marine ecosystems of global significance in new protected areas and	Outcome 1.1: Improved management effectiveness of existing and new protected areas. Outcome 1.2: Increased revenue for protected area	Biodiversity conserved and sustainably used through the expansion, consolidation, and rationalization of national

<p>Inclusive conservation initiative.</p>		<p>increase in threatened species of global significance protected in new protected areas. Outcome 2.2: Improved management effectiveness of new protected areas. Outcome 1.1. Increased revenue for protected area systems and globally significant protected areas to meet total expenditures required for management. Outcome 1.2: Improved management effectiveness of protected areas. Outcome 6.1. Integrity and functioning of coral reef ecosystems maintained and area increased.</p>	<p>systems to meet total expenditures required for management.</p>	<p>protected area systems.</p>
<p>1) Biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors.</p>	<p>2) Outcome: terrestrial habitat under improved conservation and sustainable use (million hectares). 2) Outcome: marine habitat under improved conservation and sustainable use (million hectares).</p>	<p>Outcome 9.1 Increased area of production landscapes and seascapes that integrate conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into management.</p>	<p>Outcome 2.1: Increase in sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation.</p>	<p>Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity integrated into production systems and sectors, development models, policies and programs.</p>

<p>1) Sustainable use of biodiversity.</p>		<p>Outcome 3.1: Reduction in rates of poaching of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions (baseline established per participating country). Outcome 7.1 Increased genetic diversity of globally significant cultivated plants and domesticated animals that are sustainably used within production systems.</p>		
<p>1) Prevention, control and management of invasive alien species.</p>		<p>Outcome 4.1 Improved management frameworks to prevent, control, and manage invasive alien species (IAS). Outcome 4.2 Species extinction avoided as a result of IAS management (if applicable).</p>	<p>Outcome 2.3: Improved management frameworks to prevent, control and manage invasive alien species.</p>	
<p>2) The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.</p>	<p>3) Outcome: Protocols to CBD under implementation.</p>	<p>Outcome 5.1 Adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1 Potential risks of living modified organisms to biodiversity are identified and evaluated in a scientifically sound and transparent manner.</p>	<p>Enhanced management capacity developed for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.</p>

		that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health (both women and men), and specifically focusing on transboundary movements.		
2). The Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing.		Outcome 8.1: Legal and regulatory frameworks, and administrative procedures established that enable access to genetic resources and benefit sharing in accordance with the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol.	Outcome 4.1: Legal and regulatory frameworks, and administrative procedures established that enable access to genetic resources and benefit sharing in accordance with the CBD provisions.	Improved analysis, synthesis, dissemination and uptake of good practices, innovative approaches and new tools, and emerging technical and social issues in biodiversity conservation from projects and programs supported and implemented by GEF and other actors.
3). Diagnostics and planning, early implementation, and capacity building and institutional set-up for implementation and monitoring.	3) Outcome: NBSAPs revised as appropriate.	Outcome 9.2 Sector policies and regulatory frameworks incorporate biodiversity considerations Outcome 10.1 Biodiversity values and ecosystem service values integrated into accounting systems and internalized in development and	Outcome 2.2: Measures to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity incorporated in policy and regulatory frameworks. Outcome 5.1 Development and sectoral planning frameworks at country level integrate measurable biodiversity	

		finance policy and land-use planning and decision-making.	conservation and sustainable use targets.	
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29. 26. The GEF-6 and GEF-8 programming directions documents presented comparative assessments between GEF programming investments and the globally adopted biodiversity targets (previously the Aichi biodiversity targets and presently the GBF targets), which is demonstrated in table 5 below.

Table 5. Link between the Global Biodiversity Framework targets and GEF programming directions

Global Biodiversity Framework Targets	Contribution of GEF-8 Programming	Contribution of GEF-6 programming
Target 1: Spatial planning and management of all areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • International Waters Focal Area • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program • Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development Integrated Program • Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program • Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program • Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Program 	
Target 2: Restoration of at least 30% of degraded ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Program (support to restoration of ecosystems including in production landscapes and seascapes) • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program • Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 1: Improving Financial Sustainability and Effective Management of the National Ecological Infrastructure • Program 2: Nature’s Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate. • Program 9: Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface • Program 10: Integration of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services into Development & Finance Planning • Sustainable forest management program • Amazon SFM program • Commodities integrated approach

<p>Target 3: Conservation of at least 30% of territorial areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program • International Waters Focal Area (support to sustainable management of fisheries and marine protected areas) • Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program (support to sustainable management of fisheries and marine protected areas) • Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 1: Improving Financial Sustainability and Effective Management of the National Ecological Infrastructure • Program 2: Nature’s Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate. • Program 7: Securing Agriculture’s Future: Sustainable Use of Plant and Animal Genetic Resources. • Program 9: Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface • Amazon SFM Program
<p>Target 4: Species and genetic diversity recovery and conservation, and human-wildlife conflict management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 1: Improving Financial Sustainability and Effective Management of the National Ecological Infrastructure • Program 2: Nature’s Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate. • Program 3: Preventing the Extinction of Known Threatened Species • Program 4: Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species. • Program 5: Implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB). • Program 7: Securing Agriculture’s Future: Sustainable Use of Plant and Animal Genetic Resources. • Program 9: Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface • Amazon SFM Program
<p>Target 5: Sustainable, safe and legal use, harvesting and trade of wild species</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • International Waters Focal Area • Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program 	
Target 6: At least 50% reduction in the introduction of invasive alien species and impact management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 4: Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species.
Target 7: At least 50% reduction in excess nutrients lost to the environment and in the risk of pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, and elimination of plastic pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemicals and Waste Focal Area (support to targeted actions to reduce pollution) • Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution Integrated Program • Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program • Sustainable Cities Integrated Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemicals, international waters, and land degradation focal area
Target 8: Climate change impact minimization and resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Mitigation Focal Area (support to land-based climate change mitigation) • Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development Integrated Program (support to the maintenance of connectivity and ecosystem integrity including in production landscapes and seascapes) • Food System Integrated Program • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program (support to the maintenance of connectivity and ecosystem integrity including in production landscapes and seascapes) • Biodiversity Focal Area • Sustainable Cities Integrated Program • Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Program (support the alignment of national climate and biodiversity strategies, and investments in nature-based solutions, including the protection of forest areas) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 2: Nature’s Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate. • Program 6: Ridge to Reef+: Maintaining Integrity and Function of Coral Reef Ecosystems. • International waters focal area
Target 9: Sustainable management and use of wild species to benefit people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • International Waters Focal Area • Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program (support to conservation and sustainable use of wildlife) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 2: Nature’s Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate. • Program 9: Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program • Inclusive Conservation Initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable forest management program • Amazon SFM program • Commodities integrated approach
Target 10: Sustainable management of agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Systems Integrated Program (support to the sustainable production of food) • International Waters Focal Area • Biodiversity Focal Area • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program (support to the conservation and sustainable management of critical forest biomes) • Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program • Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program, and Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program (support to sustainable management of fisheries and marine protected areas) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 2: Nature’s Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate. • Program 6: Ridge to Reef+: Maintaining Integrity and Function of Coral Reef Ecosystems. • Program 7: Securing Agriculture’s Future: Sustainable Use of Plant and Animal Genetic Resources. • Program 9: Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface • International water focal area • Food security integrated approach • Sustainable forest management program • Amazon SFM program
Target 11: Regulating services restoration and enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development Integrated Program • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program • Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program • Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program • Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Program 	
Target 12: Significant increase in sustainable green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Cities Integrated Program 	
Target 13: Significant increase of the benefits shared from genetic resources, digital sequence information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 8: Implement the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing

and associated traditional knowledge		
Target 14: Full integration of biodiversity values within and across all levels of government and across all sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development Integrated Program • Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program • Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 9: Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface • Program 10: Integration of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services into Development & Finance Planning • Amazon SFM program
Target 15: Enabling of businesses, large and transnational companies and financial institutions to reduce biodiversity-related risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program • Food Systems Integrated Program • Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development Integrated Program • Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program • Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution Integrated Program • The Private Sector Engagement Strategy 	
Target 16: Enabling of sustainable consumption choices, reduction of global footprint of consumption, and halving of global food waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Systems Integrated Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 9: Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface • Commodities integrate approach
Target 17: Biosafety, handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • Food Systems Integrated Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 5: implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
Target 18: Reduction of harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scaling-up of positive incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program 10: Integration of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services into Development & Finance Planning • Commodities integrated approach
Target 19: Mobilization of at least \$200 billion per year from all sources, with at least \$20 billion per year by 2025 and at least \$30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General monitoring and reporting

billion from international finance		
Target 20: Strengthening of capacity and technology transfer, and promotion of innovation, scientific and technical cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area 	
Target 21: Accessibility of best available data, information and knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • Inclusive Conservation Initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated with project design and implementation
Target 22: Representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information, and full protection of environmental human rights defenders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Focal Area • Inclusive Conservation Initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated with project design and implementation
Target 23: Gender equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on Gender Equality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated with project design and implementation

30. The GBF Fund programming document has further identified potential gaps in GEF-8 programming directions as follows:

Target 1 (Spatial planning and management of all areas)	Supported partially but focused on site and subnational levels. Spatial and land/use planning is supported within the context of integrated landscape/seascape management interventions. Very limited national level efforts.
Target 2 (Restoration of at least 30% of degraded ecosystems)	Supported partially but gaps in support for restoration at national level in areas of importance for globally significant biodiversity. Restoration to generate biodiversity benefits within targeted landscapes and seascapes has been primarily at a small-scale level and not geared towards areas of global importance for biodiversity.
Target 3 (Conservation of at least 30% of territorial areas)	Supported with need for scaling up. Focus on effective management of protected areas (PAs) within targeted landscapes/seascapes. However, investment in PA expansion and in sustainable financing mechanisms has been limited and inadequate to address the current needs and opportunities.
Target 4 (Species and genetic diversity recovery and conservation, and human-wildlife conflict management)	Supported with need for scaling up.

Target 5 (Sustainable, safe and legal use, harvesting and trade of wild species)	Supported with need for scaling up. Sustainable use of: (a) wild and native species from terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems; and (b) agrobiodiversity including protection of Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) in-situ through CWR Reserves within integrated landscape/seascape management interventions. Support to countries that cooperate in the sustainable management of freshwater and marine fisheries and aquaculture within and beyond maritime areas of national jurisdiction, including promotion of joint-management policy frameworks, market mechanisms, and ecosystem-based management approaches.
Target 6 (At least 50% reduction in the introduction of invasive alien species and impact management)	Well supported with need for scaling up. Support to this target has prioritized island ecosystems given that invasive alien species are one of the largest threats to island biodiversity.
Target 7 (At least 50% reduction in excess nutrients lost to the environment and in the risk of pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, and elimination of plastic pollution)	Partially supported with need for scaling up. Improving and changing production practices to be more sustainable in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry within integrated landscape/seascape interventions. Supporting countries with shared freshwater and marine ecosystems to reduce point and non-point sources pollution and hypoxia, through cooperative legal and institutional frameworks, market incentives, and sustainable management. Support to eliminate hazardous pesticides from agriculture.
Target 8 (Climate change impact minimization and resilience)	Supported with need for scaling up.
Target 9 (Sustainable management and use of wild species to benefit people)	Supported with need for scaling up. Sustainable use of: (a) wild and native species from terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems; and (b) agrobiodiversity including protection of Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) in-situ through CWR Reserves within integrated landscape/seascape management interventions.
Target 10 (Sustainable management of agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry areas)	Well supported at landscape/seascape scale and producer unit level. Improving and changing production practices to be more sustainable in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry at producer unit and at landscape/seascape scale.
Target 11 (Regulating services restoration and enhancement)	Area-based support applying an ecosystem approach and nature-based solutions.
Target 12 (Significant increase in sustainable green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas)	Supported with need for scaling up.

<p>Target 13 (Significant increase of the benefits shared from genetic resources, digital sequence information and associated traditional knowledge)</p>	<p>Supported with need for scaling up. Capacity building support for implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.</p>
<p>Target 14 (Full integration of biodiversity values within and across all levels of government and across all sectors)</p>	<p>Supported with need for scaling up. Limited investment that supports a comprehensive policy change process to integrate biodiversity into policy and development.</p>
<p>Target 15 (Enabling of businesses, large and transnational companies and financial institutions to reduce biodiversity-related risks)</p>	<p>No support being provided. No support being provided for governments to take the legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage, enable or ensure that business and financial institutions monitor, assess, and disclose impacts on biodiversity.</p>
<p>Target 16 (Enabling of sustainable consumption choices, reduction of global footprint of consumption, and halving of global food waste)</p>	<p>Limited potential to generate global environmental benefits.</p>
<p>Target 17 (Biosafety, handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits)</p>	<p>Supported with need for scaling up. Capacity building support for implementation of the Capacity-building Action Plan for the Cartagena Protocol.</p>
<p>Target 18 (Reduction of harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scaling-up of positive incentives)</p>	<p>No targeted support on elimination, phase out or reform of subsidies. Support to biodiversity finance plans and development of NBSAPs will identify harmful subsidies at national level.</p>
<p>Target 19 (Mobilization of at least \$200 billion per year from all sources, with at least \$20 billion per year by 2025 and at least \$30 billion from international finance)</p>	<p>Supported with need for scaling up. Support is provided to the development of biodiversity finance plans and countries can use their STAR allocation to implement a select number of financial mechanisms. There is increasing demand for blended finance. Recent trends in the GEF Trust Fund show that demand largely exceeds availability of financing through the Blended Finance window. Biodiversity-related projects compete with other focal areas, where blended finance models are more mature and more prone to attract private sector investment.</p>
<p>Target 20 (Strengthening of capacity and technology transfer, and promotion of innovation, scientific and technical cooperation)</p>	<p>Embed relevant capacity building and information management activities into project design including strengthening the role of science and technology innovation for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use</p>

Target 21 (Accessibility of best available data, information and knowledge)	Embed relevant capacity building and information management activities into project design including strengthening the role of science and technology innovation for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.
Target 22 (Representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information, and full protection of environmental human rights defenders)	Supported partially with need for scaling up. GEF policy framework applies to all GEF programs/projects to ensure participation of IPLCs in GEF projects. Inclusive Conservation Initiative in GEF-7 and GEF-8 is providing limited resources to IPLCs.
Target 23 (Gender equality)	Relevant to the project design.

VI. Alignment of existing previous guidance to the GEF with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

31. The request contained in decision 15/15 required elements of a draft four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols to be aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in anticipation of the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026–2030). Table 6 provides a summary of conceptual alignment between the Global Biodiversity Framework targets and existing guidance to the Global Environment Facility and to the Parties. Fair amount of guidance is only available on one quarter of the Global Biodiversity Framework targets. There is no previous guidance for implementation by the Global Environment Facility on seven of the 2030 targets. Fourteen of the targets are covered to varying extent by previous guidance, but not in any systematically structured manner. Better alignment also needs to consider national level alignment, scientific and technical evolutions, and developments under biodiversity-related conventions and agreements.

Table 6. Implementation guidance

Global Biodiversity Framework Targets	Guidance to the GEF	Guidance to the Parties
Target 1: Spatial planning and management of all areas	N.A.	Integration, sectoral guidance, pollution reduction, participation
Target 2: Restoration of at least 30% of degraded ecosystems	Some	Planning, incentives, monitoring, ecosystems, habitats and species, climate resilience, business partnership and technologies, participation
Target 3: Conservation of at least 30% of territorial areas	Fair	Planning, monitoring, ecosystems, areas and species, finance, climate, restoration, mainstreaming, benefit sharing, technology cooperation, participation
Target 4: Species and genetic diversity recovery and conservation, and human-wildlife conflict management	Some	Planning, conservation, recovery and restoration, targeted measures, monitoring and knowledge, climate, integration, health, alien species,

		research and technologies, participation and partnership
Target 5: Sustainable, safe and legal use, harvesting and trade of wild species	N.A.	Planning, legality, demand reduction, integration and markets, monitoring and identification, research and technologies, participation and cooperation
Target 6: At least 50% reduction in the introduction of invasive alien species and impact management	Fair	Planning, conservation and restoration, prevention, control, coordination and participation, financing, climate
Target 7: At least 50% reduction in excess nutrients lost to the environment and in the risk of pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, and elimination of plastic pollution	N.A.	Planning, monitoring, agricultural inputs, nutrients, pesticide, aquatic pollution, waste management
Target 8: Climate change impact minimization and resilience	Some	Planning, conservation and restoration, ecosystems, species, economic measures, vulnerability and awareness, monitoring and research, indigenous matters, synergies
Target 9: Sustainable management and use of wild species to benefit people	Limited	Food, human health, livelihoods, sectoral consideration and tourism
Target 10: Sustainable management of agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry areas	Fair	Sustainable agriculture, sustainable aquaculture, sustainable fisheries, and sustainable forestry
Target 11: Regulating services restoration and enhancement	N.A.	Environmental quality, climate and natural hazards
Target 12: Significant increase in sustainable green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas	N.A.	Sustainable urbanization, planning, economic measures, conservation, awareness, monitoring and research, partnership and participation
Target 13: Significant increase of the benefits shared from genetic resources, digital sequence information and associated traditional knowledge	Extensive	All areas of the Protocol
Target 14: Full integration of biodiversity values within and across all levels of government and across all sectors	Limited	Planning, conservation and sustainable use, genetic resources, ecosystems, climate, health, gender, budgeting and financing, private sector, accounting, indigenous matters, awareness
Target 15: Enabling of businesses, large and transnational companies and financial institutions to reduce biodiversity-related risks	N.A.	Planning and policies, incentives, engagement and participation, cooperation and partnership, conservation, resourcing, certification, disclosure and reporting, research and technologies, impact, liability and redress, monitoring, knowledge and awareness, indigenous matters

Target 16: Enabling of sustainable consumption choices, reduction of global footprint of consumption, and halving of global food waste	N.A.	Procurement, sustainable patterns, supply chains, demand reduction, health, gender, monitoring, incentives, awareness
Target 17: Biosafety, handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits	Extensive	All areas of the Protocol
Target 18: Reduction of harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scaling-up of positive incentives	Limited	Planning, valuation and studies, positive incentives, perverse incentives
Target 19: Mobilization of at least \$200 billion per year from all sources, with at least \$20 billion per year by 2025 and at least \$30 billion from international finance	Limited	Planning, statistics, national budgeting, mobilizing instruments
Target 20: Strengthening of capacity and technology transfer, and promotion of innovation, scientific and technical cooperation	Extensive	Planning, conservation and restoration, technologies, thematic consideration, clearing-house mechanisms and scientific and technical cooperation, capacity building and development, monitoring and knowledge generation, funding, partnership and collaboration, South-South cooperation
Target 21: Accessibility of best available data, information and knowledge	Some	Accessibility to data, information and knowledge, governance, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies
Target 22: Representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information, and full protection of environmental human rights defenders	Limited	Representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information
Target 23: Gender equality	Some	Integral to the whole process

32. The detailed mapping of each GBF target against relevant guidance for implementation by the Conference of the Parties is provided as follows:

Target 1 (Spatial planning and management of all areas)	No dedicated decisions have been adopted to guide implementation by the Global Environment Facility, and a limited number of decision elements are available to the Parties. Implementation information is generally not available.
Target 2 (Restoration of at least 30% of degraded ecosystems)	Guidance to the Global Environment Facility is limited to ecosystem resilience and climate change in decision VII/20 (2004), paragraph 6(a). Guidance to the Parties is focused on planning, incentives, monitoring, ecosystems, habitats and species, climate resilience, business partnership and technologies, participation. Ambitious restoration programmes are under way or proposed in many regions, with the potential to deliver significant gains in ecosystem resilience and preservation of carbon stocks. But information and data on ecosystem health and quality, and monitoring systems generally lack.

<p>Target 3 (Conservation of at least 30% of territorial areas)</p>	<p>Many decisions have been adopted to guide implementation by the Parties, with particular focus on planning, monitoring, ecosystems, areas and species, finance, climate, restoration, mainstreaming, benefit sharing, technology cooperation, participation. Several pieces of guidance are available to the Global Environment Facility. The proportion of the planet's land and oceans designated as protected areas has been increasing, but progress has been more modest in ensuring that protected areas safeguard the most important areas for biodiversity, are ecologically representative, connected to one another as well as to the wider landscape and seascape and are equitably and effectively managed. Loss, degradation and fragmentation of habitats remains high in forest and other biomes, especially in the most biodiversity-rich ecosystems in tropical regions. Wilderness areas and global wetlands continue to decline. Fragmentation of rivers remains a critical threat to freshwater biodiversity. Challenges include: complex land tenure systems; land tenure uncertainties; bias towards creating protected areas in remote areas rather than on making them ecologically representative and covering areas of importance for biodiversity; greater focus on terrestrial than on marine areas; limited recognition of the ecosystem approach in protected areas management; limited management effectiveness; lack of management effectiveness assessment systems; limited coordination between national agencies; lack of protected areas management and development plans; limited monitoring and surveillance systems; lack of financial and human resources.</p>
<p>Target 4 (Species and genetic diversity recovery and conservation, and human-wildlife conflict management)</p>	<p>No comprehensive guidance has been adopted to guide the Global Environment Facility, and guidance to the Parties is focused on planning, conservation, recovery and restoration, targeted measures, monitoring and knowledge, climate, integration, health, alien species, research and technologies, participation and partnership. Species continue to move, on average, closer to extinction, and nearly one quarter of assessed species are threatened with extinction unless the drivers of biodiversity loss are drastically reduced, with an estimated total of one million threatened species across all groups. Vertebrate species populations have fallen, on average, by more than two-thirds since 1970, and by nearly one-third since 2010. Genetic diversity of cultivated plants, farmed and domesticated animals, and wild relatives, continues to be eroded. The wild relatives of important food crops are poorly represented in ex situ seed banks that help guarantee their conservation, important for future food security. The proportion of livestock breeds that are at risk or extinct is increasing, although at a slower rate than in earlier years. Wild relatives of farmed birds and mammals are moving closer to extinction.</p>
<p>Target 5 (Sustainable, safe and legal use, harvesting and trade of wild species)</p>	<p>No specific guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility, and limited guidance to the Parties is focused on planning, legality, demand reduction, integration and markets, monitoring and identification, research and technologies, participation and cooperation. Wild flora and fauna continue to decline as a result of international trade.</p>
<p>Target 6 (At least 50% reduction in the introduction of invasive alien</p>	<p>Implementation guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility and the Parties, with the latter focusing on planning, conservation and restoration, prevention, control, coordination and participation, financing, climate. Good progress has been made during the past decade on identifying and prioritizing invasive alien species in terms of the risk they present, as well as in the</p>

species and impact management)	feasibility of managing them. Successful programmes to eradicate invasive alien species, especially invasive mammals on islands, have benefited native species. However, these successes represent only a small proportion of all occurrences of invasive species. There is no evidence of a slowing down in the number of new introductions of alien species.
Target 7 (At least 50% reduction in excess nutrients lost to the environment and in the risk of pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, and elimination of plastic pollution)	No specific implementation guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility, and limited guidance to the Parties is focused on planning, monitoring, agricultural inputs, nutrients, pesticide, aquatic pollution, waste management. Pollution, including from excess nutrients, pesticides, plastics and other waste, continues to be a major driver of biodiversity loss. Despite increasing efforts to improve the use of fertilizers, nutrient levels continue to be detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity. Plastic pollution is accumulating in the oceans, with severe impacts on marine ecosystems, and in other ecosystems with still largely unknown implications. Actions taken in many countries to minimize plastic waste have not been sufficient to reduce this source of pollution.
Target 8 (Climate change impact minimization and resilience)	Elaborated guidance is available for implementation by the Global Environment Facility and the Parties, with the latter focusing on planning, conservation and restoration, ecosystems, species, economic measures, vulnerability and awareness, monitoring and research, indigenous matters, synergies. Multiple threats continue to affect coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change and ocean acidification. Overfishing, nutrient pollution and coastal development compound the effects of coral bleaching. Hard coral cover has declined significantly in some regions, and there has been a shift towards coral species less able to support diverse reef habitats. Other ecosystems especially in mountains and polar regions have experienced significant impacts from climate change, compounded by other pressures.
Target 9 (Sustainable management and use of wild species to benefit people)	Limited implementation guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility and the Parties, with the latter focusing on food, human health, livelihoods, sectoral consideration and tourism. The capacity of ecosystems to provide the essential services on which societies depend continues to decline, and consequently, most ecosystem services (nature's contributions to people) are in decline. In general, poor and vulnerable communities, as well as women, are disproportionately affected by this decline. Mammal and bird species responsible for pollination are on average moving closer to extinction, as are species used for food and medicine. There is generally a lack of funding for research, programmes and green infrastructure projects, and lack of knowledge or data on how the needs of women may be taken into account in ecosystem management.
Target 10 (Sustainable management of agriculture, aquaculture,	Partial guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility and implementation guidance to the Parties is not provided in a structured manner. A third of marine fish stocks are overfished, and many fisheries are still causing unsustainable levels of bycatch of non-target species and are damaging marine habitats. There has been a substantial expansion of efforts to promote sustainable agriculture, forestry and aquaculture over recent years, including

fisheries, and forestry areas)	through farmer-led agroecological approaches. Biodiversity continues to decline in landscapes used to produce food and timber; and food and agricultural production remains among the main drivers of global biodiversity loss.
Target 11 (Regulating services restoration and enhancement)	No guidance has been elaborated for implementation, though some decision elements for Parties are relevant, such as in environmental quality, climate and natural hazards.
Target 12 (Significant increase in sustainable green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas)	No implementation guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility, and relevant decisions for the Parties cover sustainable urbanization, planning, economic measures, conservation, awareness, monitoring and research, partnership and participation.
Target 13 (Significant increase of the benefits shared from genetic resources, digital sequence information and associated traditional knowledge)	Extensive guidance is available for implementation by the Global Environment Facility and the Parties. There are still not many examples of the benefit arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources being shared with the countries providing such resources.
Target 14 (Full integration of biodiversity values within and across all levels of government and across all sectors)	Limited implementation guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility, and some decision elements for the Parties are related to planning, conservation and sustainable use, genetic resources, ecosystems, climate, health, gender, budgeting and financing, private sector, accounting, indigenous matters, awareness. There has been a steady upward trend of countries incorporating biodiversity values into national accounting and reporting systems, but there is less evidence that biodiversity has been truly integrated into development and poverty reduction planning as required by the target. Some of the challenges were: challenge of implementing regulatory frameworks and translating these to regional and local-level actions; lack of mainstreaming; difficulty of incorporating estimates of the financial costs of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation into the financial plans of other sectors.
Target 15 (Enabling of businesses, large and transnational companies and financial	No specific implementation guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility, and guidance to the Parties emphasizes planning and policies, incentives, engagement and participation, cooperation and partnership, conservation, resourcing, certification, disclosure and reporting, research and technologies, impact, liability and redress, monitoring, knowledge and awareness, indigenous matters.

institutions to reduce biodiversity-related risks)	
Target 16 (Enabling of sustainable consumption choices, reduction of global footprint of consumption, and halving of global food waste)	No implementation guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility, and guidance to the Parties is related to procurement, sustainable patterns, supply chains, demand reduction, health, gender, monitoring, incentives, awareness. While an increasing number of governments and businesses are developing plans for more sustainable production and consumption, these are not being implemented on a scale that eliminates the negative impact of unsustainable human activities on biodiversity. While natural resources are being used more efficiently, the aggregated demand for resources continues to increase, and therefore the impacts of their use remain well above safe ecological limits. Two challenges are: lack of funding and capacity to upscale activities; and limited involvement of industries and non-environmental ministries and agencies in plans and projects.
Target 17 (Biosafety, handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits)	Extensive guidance for implementation by the Global Environment Facility and the Parties, with the latter related to the whole range of biosafety issues, such as national planning, synthetic biology, transit and contained use, notification, bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements and arrangements, risk assessment and risk management, unintentional transboundary movements and emergency measures, handling, transport, packing and identification, information sharing and biosafety clearing house, capacity building, public awareness and participation, socio-economic considerations, liability and redress, financial mechanism and resources, monitoring and reporting, compliance.
Target 18 (Reduction of harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scaling-up of positive incentives)	Limited guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility, and guidance to the Parties is focused on planning, valuation and studies, positive incentives, perverse incentives. Little progress has been made in eliminating, phasing out or reforming subsidies and other incentives potentially harmful to biodiversity, and in developing positive incentives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. Relatively few countries have taken steps even to identify incentives that harm biodiversity, and harmful subsidies far outweigh positive incentives in areas such as fisheries and the control of deforestation. Challenges include limited capacity; funding and legislative action; vested interests in maintaining current incentive schemes; difficulties in upscaling pilot projects.
Target 19 (Mobilization of at least \$200 billion per year from all sources, with at least \$20 billion per year by 2025 and at least \$30 billion from	Limited guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility and guidance to Parties is related to planning, statistics, national budgeting, mobilizing instruments. There have been increases in domestic resources for biodiversity in some countries, with resources remaining broadly constant for others over the past decade. Progress on identifying funding needs, gaps and priorities and the development of national financial plans and assessments of biodiversity values has been full institutionalized and internalized.

international finance)	
Target 20 (Strengthening of capacity and technology transfer, and promotion of innovation, scientific and technical cooperation)	Extensive implementation guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility and guidance the Parties is related to planning, conservation and restoration, technologies, thematic consideration, clearing-house mechanisms and scientific and technical cooperation, capacity building and development, monitoring and knowledge generation, funding, partnership and collaboration, South-South cooperation. Some developing countries have mechanisms and programmes in place for technology transfer and cooperation, but limited capacity and access to technology remains an obstacle to implementation in many developing countries.
Target 21 (Accessibility of best available data, information and knowledge)	Guidance on awareness raising is available to the Global Environment Facility, and guidance to the Parties is related to accessibility to data, information and knowledge, governance, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies. Significant progress has been made in the generation, sharing and assessment of knowledge and data on biodiversity, with big-data aggregation, advances in modelling and artificial intelligence opening up new opportunities for improved understanding of the biosphere. However, major imbalances remain in the location and taxonomic focus of studies and monitoring. Information gaps remain in the consequences of biodiversity loss for people, and the application of biodiversity knowledge in decision making is limited.
Target 22 (Representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information, and full protection of environmental human rights defenders)	Limited guidance for implementation is available to the Global Environment Facility, and guidance to the Parties is related to representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information. There has been an increase in the recognition of the value of traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use, both in global policy fora and in the scientific community, but there is limited information indicating the extent to which indigenous peoples and local communities are effectively participating in associated processes.
Target 23 (Gender equality)	Some guidance is available to the Global Environment Facility and the Parties, with implementation integral to the whole process in progress.

VII. Recent development of resource programming for biodiversity

A. GEF-8 work programme development

33. Building upon the historic GEF-8 replenishment, the first two years of GEF-8 operations have already seen the two largest work programmes approved by the GEF Council, and all project proposals have been required to demonstrate how the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets will be addressed. Table 7 provides a summary of these targets addressed by each project proposal, including 28 of 45 projects approved by the 64th GEF Council and 29 of 46 projects

by the 65th GEF Council. About 63 percent of approved projects registered links with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets.

Table 7. Mapping of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Targets to the Integrated Programs

Projects and Programs	Focal area	KMGBF Targets
GEF C.64		
Ecosystem Restoration Integrated Program	IP	1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23
Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program	IP	2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Program	IP	2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution Integrated Program	IP	7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23
Eliminating Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains Integrated Program	IP	7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program	IP	1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
11286 Umbrella Programme to Support NBSAP Update and the 7th National Reports 11281 Umbrella Programme to Support NBSAP Update and the 7th National Reports		
11285 Eighth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme (Part 1)	MFA	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23
11282 Mainstreaming Climate-Resilient Blue Economy in the BCLME Region (BCLME IV Project)	MFA	2, 7, 14, 15, 16, 20
11273 Mesoamerica Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program	MFA	2, 3, 4
11269 Empowering Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) to manage biodiversity data and information as a strategy to conserve their territories, safeguard traditional knowledge, and promote integrated biodiversity management	BD	1, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 20, 21, 22 and 23
11268 Biodiversity Wildlife Territories	BD	1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 19, 21, 23
11267 Beyond 30x30: Securing resilience in the Eastern Tropical Pacific through enhanced transboundary cooperation	IW	3
11250 Blue and Green Island Integrated Programme	MFA	1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 19, 20, 21
11249 Ecosystem restoration and sustainable livelihoods in the Biocultural Corridor of the Central West of Mexico (COBIOCOM)	MFA	1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 19, 21
11241 Congo Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program	MFA	1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20

11213 Generating opportunities for livelihoods and biodiversity through participatory governance of natural resources and the economic diversification of the communities of the central forest corridor of Honduras	MFA	3, 4, 6, 7
11212 Resilient communities, land restoration and sustainable ecosystem management	MFA	1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 20, 21, 22, 23
11211 Shifting to Zero Waste Against Pollution (SWAP) Initiative	Chemicals and waste	7, 16
11209 Strengthening ecological connectivity in natural and productive landscapes between the Amistad and Darien biomes	MFA	1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 14
11208 Strengthening inter-institutional coordination for the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation in national, regional and local public policies in Chile	BD	1, 3, 10, 14, 20 and 22
11198 Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase 3	MFA	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
11181 Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution	MFA	2, 7, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20
11180 Strengthening integrated transboundary management of the Incomati and Maputo river basins	IW	1, 2, 3
11169 Eliminating hazardous chemicals from supply chains	MFA	7
11166 Plastic Reduction in the Oceans: Sustaining and Enhancing Actions on Sea-based Sources (PRO-SEAS)	IW	7, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23
11142 Guinean Forests (GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program)	MFA	1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23
11141 Transforming Policy and Investment through Improving Ecosystem Management and Restoration of Degraded Drylands of Dedoplistskaro Biosphere Reserve in Georgia to Generate Multiple Environmental and Socio-Economic Benefits	MFA	1, 2, 4, 8, 10, 11, 13
11118 Ecosystem Restoration	MFA	2, 3, 8, 14, 18, 19, 20
11117 Community-based Wildfire Risk Management in Lebanon's Vulnerable Landscapes	MFA	1, 11, 23
11115 Strengthening management to combat threats from Aquatic Invasive Alien Species in Venezuela	BD	2, 3, 6, 20, 21, 23
11113 Promoting sustainable fisheries management in the Red Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (RedSeaFish project)	IW	5, 9, 10, 20, 21, 23
11110 Fortifying Infrastructure for Responsible Extinguishments (FIRE)	Chemicals and waste	7
11102 Indo-Malaya Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program	MFA	3, Annex 2b missing
11085 Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Programme	MFA	2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22
GEF C.66		
Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program	IP	2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 20, 21, 22, 23

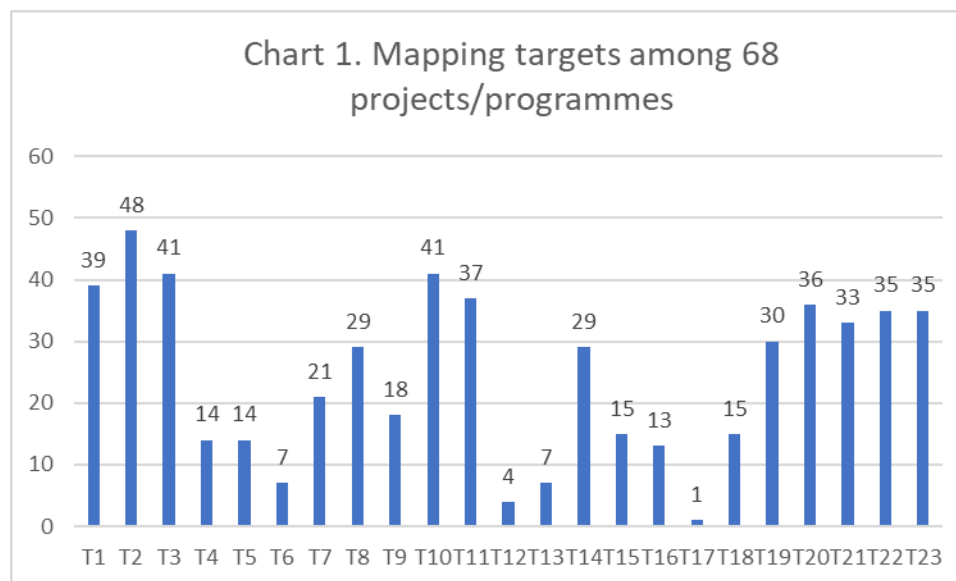
Food Systems Integrated Program	IP	1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program	IP	2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 20, 21, 22, 23
Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development Integrated Program	IP	1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program	IP	1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
11452 Program for improving sustainable marine fisheries opportunities in SADC – The Case of the Mozambique Channel.	MFA	1, 2, 8, 11, 19, 23
11449 Strengthening the System of Protected Areas and Improvement of its Financial Sustainability	BD	3
11435 Improving wetlands management for biodiversity and improved human-wildlife coexistence.	MFA	1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 20, 22, 23
11432 BioSouth: The Pacific-Andean-Amazonian Ecological and Cultural Connectivity Corridor	MFA	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 19, 20, 22, and 23
11426 Restoration and Preservation of Key Biodiversity Areas and Ecosystems in Anbar Province, Iraq	MFA	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
11422 Lake Ecosystem Restoration in Indonesia through Integrated Governance, Landscape, and Community-based Approaches.	MFA	1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 20, 21, 22, and 23
11410 Strengthening integrated transboundary source-to-sea management of the Ruvuma River Basin and its coastal zones to ensure ecosystem health and livelihood security	IW	1, 2, 3, 7, 10, 15
11396 Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Miombo Ecoregions of Zambia	MFA	1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 14
11395 Enhancing biodiversity conservation and reducing climate vulnerability in Central Vietnam for sustainable development utilizing a landscape approach	MFA	1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 19, 22
11394 Inclusive Conservation, Restoration, and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Priority Ecoregions	BD	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 22 and 23
11391 Guinean Forests (GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program) Addendum (February 2024)	MFA	1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23
11386 Acción Páramos: conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the páramos in Ecuador	BD	1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22
11378 Central Asia Water and Land Nexus (CAWLN) for Ecosystem Restoration, Improved Natural Resource Management and Increased Resilience	MFA	1, 2, 10, 11 and 20
11349 Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program (CHO-IP)	MFA	2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 12, 23
11348 Restoring Ecosystem Connectivity for Biodiversity and Sustainable Livelihoods in the Litani Watershed Project (ECONNECT)	LD	2, 5, 9, 10, 15, 19, 20, 21 23
11347 Reimagining National Parks for People and Nature - Mega Living Landscapes Project	BD	2, 3

11337 Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase 3-Addendum Council Meeting Feb 5, 2024	MFA	3, 22
11336 Recovering the Sustainability of Ecosystems Affected by Drought in Northeastern Argentina	LD	1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 22, 23
11331 Restoration and sustainable management of Land for improved livelihoods in the degraded landscapes of Free State and Northwest Provinces of South Africa	MFA	2, 3, 5, 11
11327 Living Amazon Mechanism	BD	10, 15, 16, 19, 20
11324 Innovative use of financial instruments for Biodiversity Conservation and Restoration in Latin America and the Caribbean	BD	1, 2, 3, 19, 22, 23
11304 Enhancing transboundary fisheries management in the Lower Mekong Basin	MFA	1, 2, 3
11214 Food Systems Integrated Program	MFA	1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23
11210 Sustainable Wool and Mohair Value chain Competitiveness project (WaMCoP)	MFA	13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 23
11167 Restoration of Wetlands and other important Amazonian Ecosystems - Capacity-building, innovation, development and technological transfer for ecological restoration and climate change mitigation	MFA	1, 2, 3, 10 and 22
11148 Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program	MFA	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23
11116 Promoting sustainable economic benefits through the conservation of critical biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Eastern Coastal Region of Sri Lanka	MFA	1, 2, 3, 11, 14, 19, 21, 22
11114 Rehabilitating and conserving the mountain landscapes in Khangai region of Mongolia for improved ecosystem services and community livelihoods	MFA	1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 14, 19, 21, 22, 23
11053 Implementation of the La Plata Basin SAP priorities through regional and national actions	IW	21, 22

34. Projects approved within the biodiversity focal area allocations are concentrated in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, indigenous peoples and local communities, wildlife, mainstreaming, invasive alien species, protected areas, inclusive conservation, innovative use of financial instruments. The chemicals and waste focal area allocations financed the two projects “shifting to zero waste against pollution (SWAP) initiative” and “fortifying infrastructure for responsible extinguishments (FIRE)” that mentioned potential contributions to target 7 on pollution reduction. The land degradation focal area allocations were used to finance the two projects “recovering the sustainability of ecosystems affected by drought in northeastern Argentina” and “restoring ecosystem connectivity for biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in the Litani watershed project (ECONNECT)” that will address target 2 on ecosystem restoration and several other targets. The international water focal area allocations financed six projects that demonstrated links with biodiversity targets. No standing-alone climate change focal area projects indicated links with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets. Over half of the approved projects with biodiversity targets are through multi-focal area modality through which allocated resources from climate change, biodiversity and land degradation are pooled together.

35. Chart 1 presents a mapping of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets addressed by 68 approved projects and programmes. The targets enjoying the largest number of project/programme support are target 2 on ecosystem restoration, target 3 on conservation and target

10 on sustainable production landscapes and seascapes. Other targets such as T1 on spatial planning, T20-T23 also lean towards higher numbers. T19 on resource mobilization, T8 on climate change, and T14 on valuation sit in the middle. Target 17 on biosafety, T12 on cities, T13 on sharing benefits, and T6 on invasive alien species are among the targets with the least number of project/program support. Other targets such as T16 on sustainable consumption, T4 and T5 on species management, T15 on business and T18 on incentives also have the lower number of relevant project/programme support.



B. GBFF programming

36. The development of programming directions for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund offered one of the first opportunities to examine how financial support to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets can be better organized. The programming directions document approved by the 64th GEF Council identified gaps in support through GEF-8 programming options, and elaborated eight action areas for complementarity and scaling up support, including:

- (a) Action Area One: Biodiversity conservation, restoration, land/sea-use and spatial planning (Targets 1, 2, and 3)
- (b) Action Area Two: Support to IPLC stewardship and governance of lands, territories, and waters (Targets 1, 2, 3, and 22)
- (c) Action Area Three: Policy alignment and development (Targets 14, 15, 18)
- (d) Action Area Four: Resource mobilization (Targets 18 and 19)
- (e) Action Area Five: Sustainable use of biodiversity (Targets 5 and 9)
- (f) Action Area Six: Biodiversity mainstreaming in production sectors (Targets 7 and 10)
- (g) Action Area Seven: Invasive alien species (IAS) management and control (Targets 6)
- (h) Action Area Eight: Capacity building and implementation support for biosafety, handling of biotechnology and access and benefit sharing, including under the Nagoya and Cartagena protocols (Targets 13 and 17)
- (i) GBF Fund Support to Enabling Factors and Project Design and Operations

37. According to the programming directions for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, the complementary and scaling up support can be provided as follows:

Target 1 (Spatial planning and management of all areas)	Expand spatial and land/sea-use planning from site and sub-national level to national level to achieve the ambition of the Target.
Target 2 (Restoration of at least 30% of degraded ecosystems)	Identify and begin restoration of national-level priority areas to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity and ensure the persistence of globally significant biodiversity.
Target 3 (Conservation of at least 30% of territorial areas)	Expand conserved areas and enhance effective management to achieve national goals including associated financing strategies. Additional support to IPLC-led stewardship and governance (This support would not be exclusive to only conservation-focused strategies but include sustainable use of biodiversity and likely contribute to other Targets of the GBF.).
Target 4 (Species and genetic diversity recovery and conservation, and human-wildlife conflict management)	Given that the Action Areas of the GBF Fund Programming Directions collectively contribute to the implementation of the area and policy-based targets, they will all contribute to progress on Target 4 to halt human-induced extinctions and maintain and restore genetic diversity.
Target 5 (Sustainable, safe and legal use, harvesting and trade of wild species)	Establish enabling policy and legal frameworks for sustainable use, analytical support for policy development on legal aspects of trade of wild species including the development and implementation of national policies, measures and actions aimed at mapping and promoting sustainable biodiversity-based activities.
Target 6 (At least 50% reduction in the introduction of invasive alien species by 50% and impact management)	Expand support to all countries for implementation of comprehensive invasive alien species management frameworks, beyond the current focus on islands.
Target 7 (At least 50% reduction in excess nutrients lost to the environment and in the risk of pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, and elimination of plastic pollution)	Address and reduce pollution risks to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services including support to national policy development.
Target 8 (Climate change impact minimization and resilience)	Given that the Action Areas of the GBF Fund Programming Directions collectively contribute to the implementation of the area and policy-based targets, they will all contribute to progress on Target 8 (Minimize the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity).
Target 9 (Sustainable management and use of wild species to benefit people)	Sustainable use approaches that expand beyond landscape/seascape focused interventions including filling national policy, legal, regulation, enforcement, or institutional gaps. Additional support to implementation of eligible

	elements of the Global Plan of Action on Sustainable Customary Use. Support the development and implementation of sustainable biodiversity-based products, services and activities that enhance biodiversity, to generate social, economic, and environmental benefits.
Target 10 (Sustainable management of agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry areas)	Scale up sustainable use of biodiversity and biodiversity mainstreaming in production practices to sector scale.
Target 11 (Regulating services restoration and enhancement)	The area-based conservation/ sustainable use targets are supported by Action Areas focused on conservation and sustainable use, alignment of policies supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, and resource mobilization strategies thus the enhanced investment provided by the GBF Fund has a high potential of generating positive biodiversity outcomes at scale. Collectively these Action Areas will contribute to the achievement of Target 11 (Restore and enhance ecosystem function) given that these investments are applying an ecosystem approach and nature-based solutions.
Target 12 (Significant increase in sustainable green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas)	Target 12 was assessed as having limited potential to generate global environmental benefits even though its achievement will potentially generate significant local environmental and development benefits. Therefore, it does not require specific GBF Fund support.
Target 13 (Significant increase of the benefits shared from genetic resources, digital sequence information and associated traditional knowledge)	Scale up existing capacity-building support.
Target 14 (Full integration of biodiversity values within and across all levels of government and across all sectors)	Develop and implement national (or regional as appropriate) policy and regulatory frameworks that integrate biodiversity considerations into sectors that impact biodiversity and promote practices for sustainable land/sea and resource use practices that generate benefits for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.
Target 15 (Enabling of businesses, large and transnational companies and financial institutions to reduce biodiversity-related risks)	Policy analysis and research for governments to require large and transnational companies and financial institutions to monitor, assess and disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity.
Target 16 (Enabling of sustainable consumption choices, reduction of global	The implementation of Target 16 in most GEF recipient countries would have limited potential to generate global environmental benefits. Therefore, it does not require specific GBF Fund support.

footprint of consumption, and halving of global food waste)	
Target 17 (Biosafety, handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits)	Scale up existing capacity building support.
Target 18 (Reduction of harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scaling-up of positive incentives)	Policy analysis and research to develop new policies, legislation and strategies to eliminate, phase out, or reform incentives including subsidies harmful to biodiversity.
Target 19 (Mobilization of at least \$200 billion per year from all sources, with at least \$20 billion per year by 2025 and at least \$30 billion from international finance)	Implementation of all eligible financial mechanisms identified in the national biodiversity finance plans, NBSAPs, targeted support for Conservation Trust Funds, and a blended finance program.
Target 20 (Strengthening of capacity and technology transfer, and promotion of innovation, scientific and technical cooperation)	The achievement of Targets 20 (capacity building) is integral to the success of the GBF and, therefore, will be supported in relevant projects that require these kinds of investments to achieve higher level project goals and objectives. In many ways, these targets serve as inputs to the achievement of other GBF targets. GEF Trust Fund experience has shown that advancing sustainable progress on this target is best approached by embedding relevant capacity building and information management activities into project design including strengthening the role of science and technology innovation for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.
Target 21 (Accessibility of best available data, information and knowledge)	The achievement of 21 is integral to the success of the GBF and, therefore, will be supported in relevant projects that require these kinds of investments to achieve higher level project goals and objectives. In many ways, these targets serve as inputs to the achievement of other GBF targets. GEF Trust Fund experience has shown that advancing sustainable progress on this target is best approached by embedding relevant capacity building and information management activities into project design including strengthening the role of science and technology innovation for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.
Target 22 (Representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information, and full protection)	Embedded in all project operations supported by the GBF Fund and additional support to IPLC-led stewardship and governance. (This support would not be exclusive to only conservation-focused strategies but include sustainable use of biodiversity and likely contribute to other Targets of the GBF.) GEF's policy framework on IPLCs ¹ ensures that all GEF

¹ GEF, 2012, Principles and Guidelines for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/publications/Indigenous_Peoples_Principle_EN.pdf. GEF, 2019, Policy on Environmental

of environmental human rights defenders)	investments under the GBF Fund will be contributing to this target and will report annually on their results of doing so. A concerted effort will be made to also include participation by youth and other stakeholders identified in Target 22 as relevant to the project design.
Target 23 (Gender equality)	Target 23 refers to the way the GBF is implemented at national level focusing on gender equality. GEF's policy framework gender ² ensures that all GEF investments under the GBF Fund will be contributing to this target and will report annually on their results of doing so.

C. GCF strategic planning

38. In decision 16/2021 (Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence and Collaboration between the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility), the GEF Council welcomed the vision presented in document GEF/C.60/08 and encouraged potential follow-up actions as applicable. A meeting of Heads of the three secretariats of the Convention, the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund was convened³ in December 2022, on the margin of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. A joint declaration⁴ of the heads of the Adaptation Fund, the Climate Investment Funds, the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund to enhance access and increase impact was established in December 2003, on the margin of the twenty-eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

39. About one third of projects and programmes approved by the Green Climate Fund demonstrate strong linkages with biodiversity and ecosystems and provide co-benefits for biodiversity, well in line with the scientific conclusions on the scale of the potential contribution of nature-based solutions to climate change. Biodiversity benefits have been prioritized prominently in the targeted results of the Green Climate Fund Strategic Plan 2024-2027 (GCF/B.36/17/Rev.01), for instance,

(a) Ecosystems: Support for developing countries that results in 120 to 190 million hectares of terrestrial and marine areas conserved, restored or brought under sustainable management.

(b) 40-70 approved proposals for adaptation projects, including for locally led adaptation action.

(c) Food: Support for developing countries that results in 190 to 280 million beneficiaries adopting low-emission climate-resilient agricultural and fisheries practices, securing livelihoods while reconfiguring food systems.

(d) Support for developing countries that results in 90 to 180 national and regional financial institutions supported to access GCF resources, and other green finance, particularly for MSMEs.

VIII. Concluding remarks

40. GEF-9 will be the final and last opportunity of providing financial support under the financial mechanism to recipient countries for implementing the GBF goals and targets, and thus the importance of communicating a best practice quadrennial outcome-oriented framework of

and Social Safeguards, GEF Policy: SD/PL/03.,

www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/gef_environmental_social_safeguards_policy.pdf

² GEF, 2018, Policy on Gender Equality, GEF Policy: SD/PL/02.

www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/Gender_Equality_Policy.pdf

³ [CBD-GEF-GCF collaboration for a paradigm-shift towards large-scale ecosystem protection, restoration, and adaptive management in the context of the climate-biodiversity nexus](#), December 2022

⁴ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/statement/enhancing-access-and-increasing-impact-role-multilateral-climate-funds>

biodiversity programme priorities cannot be overstated. As initially envisaged, however, such a quadrennial framework needs to reflect recipient countries' national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other relevant national planning instruments. Recipient countries should be encouraged to submit their biodiversity plans and any proposal for the quadrennial framework should be amended accordingly before its final adoption by the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

41. A new quadrennial framework should build upon the past experience of developing and implementing various quadrennial frameworks, as elaborated in sections II, III and IV. These include link with needs assessment and GEF programming, implementation leadership, primary role of recipients, stakeholder engagement, policy coherence, integration and synergy, science, knowledge, capacity and technical support.

42. Attention is needed to several targets of the GBF that have not been dealt with in the existing quadrennial outcome-oriented frameworks of programme priorities, including: Target 1 (spatial planning and management of all areas), Target 2 (restoration of at least 30 per cent of degraded ecosystems), Target 7 (at least 50 per cent reduction in excess nutrients lost to the environment and in the risk of pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, and elimination of plastic pollution), Target 9 (sustainable management and use of wild species to benefit people), Target 11 (regulating services restoration and enhancement), Target 16 (enabling of sustainable consumption choices, reduction of global footprint of consumption, and halving of global food waste), and Target 22 (representation and participation in decision-making, access to justice and information, and full protection of environmental human rights defenders).

43. GEF biodiversity programming directions have consistently contained programming targets along its corporate level results framework. As the GBF also contains several quantified targets, there are opportunities to strengthen the connections between the GBF numeric targets and GEF programming targets, such as regarding terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management (million ha), marine protected areas created or under improved management (million ha), area of landscapes under improved practices (million ha), area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (million ha), and area of land and ecosystems under restoration (million ha).

44. GEF programming objectives and outcomes for biodiversity have evolved around the following themes, and there can be opportunities to identify and address programming gaps in terms of the GBF targets as demonstrated in section V of the present note.

- (a) Improved ecosystem coverage, effective management, and financial sustainability of protected area systems, both terrestrial and marine;
- (b) Inclusive conservation;
- (c) Improved conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine habitats (mainstreaming);
- (d) Sustainable use of wildlife and prevention of the extinction of known threatened species;
- (e) Improved prevention, control and management of invasive alien species;
- (f) Enhanced implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
- (g) Enhanced implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing;
- (h) Increased transformation of national planning, institutions and financing related to biodiversity.

45. Implementation guidance from the Conference of the Parties has been stronger for some GBF targets than for others, and this gap should be addressed as a priority under the Convention. There is no guidance for implementation by the GEF on thirty percent of the 2030 targets. The remaining two fifths of the targets are covered by some extent of guidance, but not in any systematically structured manner.

46. It is very much welcome that the GEF require all project proposals to identify which of the 23 targets of the GBF the project contributes to and explain how, for projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is from which focal area). This has enabled better monitoring of the GBF targets under support. The initial result has demonstrated gaps in work programme development involving all GBF targets, with much less attention to several GBF targets. One potential outcome could be thus on the need for balanced implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols.

47. Conservation and sustainable use, restoration and sustainable production landscapes and seascapes have been the particular focus in the past quadrennial frameworks and GEF programming directions documents. The GBF has lifted the expectations in these areas with substantially ambitious quantitative targets, such as Targets 2, 3, 6, 7, 16, 18 and 19. To live up to the expectations, an outcome is needed to call for scaled-up support to conservation, sustainable use and restoration.

48. In the sample of 70 approved GEF-8 projects with links to the GBF targets, only 12 projects (17 per cent) were financed by the biodiversity focal area allocations, and more than half of the projects were considered under the modality of multi-focal area. Links to the GBF targets are strongly observed in the integrated programs, and also found in projects that were financed by international waters focal area, land degradation focal area, and chemicals and waste focal area. By nature, Target 7 (At least 50 per cent reduction in excess nutrients lost to the environment and in the risk of pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals, and elimination of plastic pollution) should be linked to chemicals and waste focal area and international waters focal area, and Target 8 (Climate change impact minimization and resilience) should also be addressed by the climate change focal area. Based on the operational experience, an outcome could be designed to promote expanded integration of biodiversity with global environmental financing.

49. Governance transformation, including planning, institutions and planning, must take a whole-of-government approach to enabling and sustaining the implementation of the GBF targets. As designated to operate financial mechanisms for multiple multilateral environmental agreements, the GEF is uniquely positioned to support solutions to fragmented and sometimes conflicting, mutually offsetting, global environmental governance especially at the national level. Several GBF targets will not be fully achieved without a unified systematic approach in which the GEF can play a leading role, such as target 1 (Spatial planning and management of all areas), target 14 (full integration of biodiversity values within and across all levels of government and across all sectors), target 18 (reduction of harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scaling-up of positive incentives) and target 19 (mobilization of at least \$200 billion per year from all sources, with at least \$20 billion per year by 2025 and at least \$30 billion from international finance). Hence, the new quadrennial framework should have an outcome to focus on enhanced coherence in national planning, institutions, and financing.

50. In its review of guidance to the financial mechanism in decision X/24, para. 4, the Conference of the Parties decided that “guidance to the financial mechanism, for a specific replenishment period, consists of a consolidated list of programme priorities that defines what to be financed, and an outcome-oriented framework, taking into account the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including its Aichi Biodiversity Targets and associated indicators.” Specific guidance on what to be financed and how, particularly for the areas where guidance has not been adequately provided, is essential to achieving the expected outcomes defined in a four-year framework of biodiversity programming priorities. The Convention bodies, including subsidiary bodies and the secretariat, and the Global Environment Facility should be instructed to formulate relevant recommendations on implementation guidelines, as a priority, on these GBF 2030 targets requiring further collective consideration and consensual actions.