



SOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHY PLANET

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PANORAMA – Unlocking solutions to support implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework through capacity development and knowledge management

This **information document** is relevant to the Long-term Framework for Capacity Development and the Knowledge Management Component of the Global Biodiversity Framework to be considered under Agenda Item 7 of the Third Meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on “Capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, knowledge management and communication”. The implementation of these elements of the Global Biodiversity Framework depends on the commitment, collaboration and partnership of organisations around the world, and the Decisions on this agenda item to be adopted at the 15th Conference of the Parties will likely call for this commitment and partnership. The PANORAMA partnership described in this Information Document has contributed throughout the consultations convened by the CBD Secretariat towards the compilation of the Long-Term Framework for Capacity Development. This information document was prepared by the PANORAMA partnership composed of GIZ, IUCN, GRID-Arendal, ICCROM, ICOMOS, IFOAM, Rare, World Bank Group, UNDP and UNEP.

The Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity are currently developing the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework for adoption at the 15th Conference of the Parties. Its implementation will be supported by several strategies and mechanisms, including a long-term strategic framework for capacity development and a complementary knowledge management component.

The purpose of the Long-term Strategic Framework for Capacity Development is to guide the capacity development efforts of governmental and non-governmental actors to support implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. In particular, the Strategic Framework envisages that partnerships will provide effective mechanisms to mobilize capacities and to share knowledge, expertise, technologies and financial resources, and should be strengthened. The Knowledge Management Component provides the strategic means of implementation that will underpin the achievement of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. It encompasses a range of processes, strategies and practices through which biodiversity knowledge, information and data are generated, discovered and collected, organized/curated, stored, shared and used/applied to achieve biodiversity-related objectives and outcomes.

The **PANORAMA: Solutions for a Healthy Planet Partnership** is a global partnership that will support both the long-term strategic framework for capacity development and the knowledge management component. PANORAMA documents and promotes verified examples of inspiring, replicable solutions across a range of conservation and sustainable development topics, enabling cross-sectoral learning and inspiration. It allows for



communication among solution providers and users through a virtual online platform and further face-to-face and virtual formats.

Current themes within PANORAMA include ecosystem-based adaptation, agriculture and biodiversity, business engagement, nature-culture interfaces, sustainable urban development and resilience, protected areas, marine and coastal; others are likely to be added in the future. Each peer-reviewed and published solution is analysed to identify the factors or building blocks that contribute to its successful application, and the online platform allows users or solution seekers to discover and access this knowledge, the solution providers, the relevant communities of practice, and also to compare and contrast solutions across geographies and sectors.

It mobilizes the involvement of several organisations, at present including GIZ, IUCN, UNDP, UNEP, Rare, GRID Arendal, ICCROM, ICOMOS, IFOAM - Organics International, and the World Bank, in support of collating and analysing solutions drawn from proven case studies. PANORAMA has grown both in size and scope over several years. By April 2021, it included 868 solutions from 614 solution providers from 117 countries. From its inception, its relevance and contribution to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, progress towards the Aichi Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals has been recognised specifically. In the context of the emerging Global Biodiversity Framework, it will contribute towards:

- **Capacity development** including through enabling evidence-based implementation as well as processes that allow adaptive learning in the face of change.
- **Knowledge generation, management and sharing** for effective biodiversity planning, policy development, decision-making, implementation, transparency and responsibility.
- **Outreach, awareness, uptake and application** of learning in practice.

The approach adopted by PANORAMA is fully consistent with the meaning and scope of capacity development set out in the Draft Long-term Strategic Framework, especially in the sense that **capacity is developed** through and by **situated learning** of engaged stakeholders. While coordinated action on capacity development for implementation requires an overarching strategic framework to guide cooperation, PANORAMA's niche has been to demonstrate in practice that capacity development begins at the implementation interface in real situations involving stakeholders, who learn and experience the means to address problems that they face. It supports implementation through inclusive, practical, bottom-up learning, building the bridge between local implementation and global policy direction and demonstrating the power of a strong, diverse and flexible partnership and network.

1. PANORAMA's alignment and contributions to the Long-term Strategic Framework for Capacity Development

1.1 Meaning and scope of capacity development

The implementation of this framework requires that a diverse range of organisations adopts the key principles for capacity development, and mobilises implementation through their collective efforts. PANORAMA's experiences to date include:

- (i) Embracing all **three levels of capacity development** outlined in the Strategic Framework. Taking these in reverse order, PANORAMA appeals to and recognises the individual practitioner who has identified an approach to solving a problem in the field, who can benefit from an exchange among peers to learn and to adapt this learning in new situations. This promotes a culture of learning and enables practitioners to scale up and apply learning in diverse situations and geographies. It

helps to distil new knowledge and capacity, to raise awareness, and to inform national, regional and global policy for an enhanced enabling environment.

- (ii) Regarding **types of capacity**, PANORAMA sees these as interactive, drawing firstly on the inspiration and thirst for learning that successful approaches yield. Most pressures and threats to biodiversity are characterized in a negative manner, yet successful solutions are motivating and assist communication and uptake. The PANORAMA approach is to link discovery with reflection, critical analysis and communication, deliberate exchange, dissemination and adoption/uptake. PANORAMA partners are building monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment into the methodology, a key aspect of which is whether and how the solutions can be adapted and applied more frequently and more widely.

1.2 Guiding principles

PANORAMA's strength and contribution lies in recognising and applying the principle that interventions should be designed and implemented according to recognized good practice and lessons learned. This is fundamental to PANORAMA's 'theory of change', where the experiences documented by the practitioner are captured in a standardized and participatory manner to determine their constituent "building blocks" enabling success.

PANORAMA Solutions are derived in good practice. Rather than simply being scaled up, they are presented as interactive building blocks which often re-occur in diverse examples. For instance, effective community participation has characteristics that are perceived differently across geographical settings, but have similar core principles and values applicable widely.

The long-term strategic framework precisely reflects how PANORAMA operates:

- building on existing processes, ensuring that new initiatives fully utilize existing processes, with interventions tailored to specific needs and contexts;
- maximizing peer to peer learning and exchange;
- embracing a variety of approaches, targeting resources and capacity locally; and
- embracing full participation of all stakeholders.

Instead of focusing on what capacity development **should do**, PANORAMA seeks to analyse what **has been done successfully**, and to enable emulation and adaptation in new situations. For example, it is possible to develop capacity on how gender mainstreaming is effective by analysing cases which show how gender has been critical to a successful outcome. Especially if documented by actors including women at source, this is a more powerful means to develop capacity in this regard than simply to set a framing condition that gender should be integrated.

1.3 Key strategies to improve capacity development for implementation

The key strategies outlined in the Long-term Strategic Framework closely reflect the PANORAMA 'theory of change' and its implementation. The following aspects highlight the main ways in which PANORAMA will support the implementation of the strategy:

- (i) PANORAMA offers an opportunity to further **institutionalize capacity development**, beyond each separate organization. Just as this Long-term Strategic Framework offers generic advice for capacity development initiatives, PANORAMA offers an approach available to any institution, from the smallest to the largest. By providing a

flexible and adaptive framework applicable across sectors and levels, PANORAMA creates a critical mass of knowledge and information widely accessible. The development pathway for PANORAMA includes the recommendations for “scaling up internal knowledge management, organizational learning, mentorship and peer-to-peer support, nurturing of communities of practice, and the systematic sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned”.

- (ii) PANORAMA can **bridge learning across sectors**. Although it had its origins in marine and coastal conservation and in protected and conserved areas, PANORAMA has developed to embrace solutions for ecosystem-based adaptation, agriculture and biodiversity, business and biodiversity, nature-culture interfaces, sustainable urban development and resilience and others. When solutions are disaggregated into their component building blocks, similar building blocks manifest across and among sectors, allowing for the transfer of learning, knowledge and capacity. Relevant elements of learning for the achievement of SDGs 14 and 15 can immediately be transferred to other SDGs, and will enable sharing of solutions across the goals and targets of the Global Biodiversity Strategy. It makes sense to continue to explore further how PANORAMA can address a wider scope of sectoral issues in the future. A careful targeting to search for solutions for specific sectoral problems would be a logical development.
- (iii) PANORAMA is a **“made to measure” partnership**. It was conceived of in a partnership setting, and designed to allow the partnership to grow, while drawing on the complementary capabilities of the partners. Supported by a partnership agreement and protocol that sets out its purpose and approach, PANORAMA has grown to embrace several institutional partners, each of which has a global remit, and which can work locally anywhere in the world. The partnership model allows each autonomous partner to commit resources to the partnership, to play complementary roles and to take responsibility for one or another of the thematic communities. Joint decision-making ensures a consistent and principled approach, and has guided the addition of partners, and the expansion of thematic scope. PANORAMA is “conservative” in that it can benefit from project resources, can assist project partners with a bespoke methodology for capturing lessons learned. Moreover, it retains the solutions in a long-term curated database that outlives any of the component projects, and maintains their value for providers and users in the long-term.

While highlighting the main contributions that PANORAMA will make to the implementation of the Long-term Strategic Framework for Capacity Development, PANORAMA is also challenged by the Framework’s ambition. Several aspects of the Framework will guide PANORAMA’s future development. These include better understanding of the process leading to uptake and adoption of solutions, a better understanding of how learning actually takes place in mediated learning situations, how specific actions will achieve impact and develop new capacity. These and other aspects are contained in the PANORAMA Business Plan, and will be priorities for the future. Fortunately, the accumulation of a wide range of solutions in PANORAMA already enables significant analysis of the portfolio. PANORAMA has several academic partners eager to exploit the potential of the database and experiences in PANORAMA to enhance understanding of the underlying cause and effect relationships.

2. PANORAMA's alignment and contributions to the Knowledge Management Component of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

2.1 Meaning and scope of knowledge management

The Knowledge Management Component “encompasses a range of processes, strategies and practices through which biodiversity knowledge, information and data are generated, discovered and collected, organized/curated, stored, shared and used/applied to achieve biodiversity-related objectives and outcomes. Such objectives may include informed policy development, decision-making, planning and implementation or ongoing organizational learning through the collection and sharing of best practices and lessons learned from past activities in order to inform or improve future activities”.

As outlined above in the context of capacity development, PANORAMA will contribute to the Knowledge Management Component in particular through the collation of case-studies of successful practice (solutions) across several themes in conservation and sustainable development. As an expanding contribution to the Knowledge Management Component, PANORAMA will remain accessible for the addition of new thematic communities, a growing portfolio of solutions for knowledge generation, curation, sharing and application, and will enable monitoring of uptake and impact.

2.2 Pillars of knowledge management supported by PANORAMA

PANORAMA will deliver support for knowledge management in an integrated manner across all four pillars of the Knowledge Management Component:

- (i) **People:** The power of PANORAMA lies in the communities of practice that generate and apply solutions. Derived from the experiences of its many Solution Providers operating in field situations, solutions are created and validated through peer review, explored through online searches, webinars or workshops by Solution Seekers or other users, and curated and managed in thematic communities by PANORAMA partner organisations in a coordinated way. PANORAMA provides a space where practitioners, decisionmakers, private sector and academia meet, connect and exchange knowledge.
- (ii) **Processes:** PANORAMA has developed a systematic and standardized method for translating practical experience into solution case studies, and makes this available for any solution provider to use. The PANORAMA partnership will continue to develop strategies to ensure that knowledge relevant to the Global Biodiversity Framework is captured, managed, peer-reviewed by experts, shared and used, and to invite participation by other organisations. PANORAMA's business plan maintains the coordination and further development of the partnership and knowledge platforms and networks.
- (iii) **Technology:** PANORAMA has designed and implemented a web-based knowledge-sharing platform centred on an online database of solutions www.panorama.solutions. Users can access the platform and its resources without registration, but can also register, upload their own case-studies and interact with other users. Case-studies and other resources can be downloaded from the platform. Case studies uploaded onto the platform are channelled through an expert peer review process hosted by the platform. The platform also enables users within thematic communities to interact, to participate in a range of other activities, including webinars and on-site workshops, and to access documentation regarding these events.

- (iv) **Content:** The bulk of PANORAMA's content are the current total of 823 solution case studies, contributed by 588 solution providers from 117 countries in seven thematic communities. The thematic communities are hosted by one or more PANORAMA partners coordinated through the platform. The underlying relational database enables classification and search according to region, scale, ecosystem type, theme, challenge, SDG, Aichi Target and thematic classifications. Building blocks, text and keywords generate a cumulative index accessible through the search facility. The peer review process, partners, ownership, associated documents and publications are freely available.

2.3 Outcomes and objectives supported by PANORAMA

PANORAMA will support the implementation of the knowledge management component by:

- Making publicly available relevant information and knowledge across its thematic communities, building on and learning from the experiences of others;
- Facilitating increased collation, sharing and use of information relevant to implementation;
- Developing capacity to capture, manage and utilize information in a growing portfolio of PANORAMA themes;
- Building an active network of interacting communities of practice;
- Being a source of case-studies to demonstrate and illustrate effective approaches;
- Contributing to information sharing across biodiversity-related conventions and organizations.

2.4 PANORAMA's contributions to the knowledge management strategies

The Knowledge Management Component of the Global Biodiversity Framework will demand committed contributions from a wide variety of organisations and initiatives. PANORAMA commits to supporting implementation in several ways. These are highlighted below, using the proposed strategies for implementation presented in the Knowledge Management Component.

A. Promoting knowledge generation and synthesis

PANORAMA will:

(a) Continue to expand the scope of its thematic coverage to include priority topics
(b) Expand the PANORAMA partnership, and the hosting of relevant thematic communities
(c) Engage with research and academic institutions to enhance the analysis of the portfolio of solutions and to better understand how learning takes place across practitioner networks
(d) Contribute towards capacity development to capture and disseminate knowledge but also to apply knowledge for impact

B. Facilitating knowledge discovery and collection

PANORAMA will:

(a) Further develop the web-based platform of solutions to enable the collation, verification and publication of knowledge across a broad array of practitioners globally.
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(b) Promote the use of online search and discovery tools, coupled with facilitated knowledge exchanges either online or in person
(c) Facilitate the engagement and recognition of solution providers and solution seekers and their ability to participate in knowledge exchange and learning processes.
(d) Involve and recognise knowledge holders from a diversity of situated learning communities, and better understand the manner in which knowledge sharing takes place.

C. Enhance knowledge organisation and sharing

PANORAMA will:

(a) Strive to enhance the tagging and identification of solutions in accordance with elements of the Global Biodiversity Framework and programmes of work within the MEAs.
(b) Work with others to improve metadata standards for knowledge management.
(c) Strive for interoperability of information and knowledge systems of biodiversity-related conventions and other information providers across the biodiversity community
(e) Reach out to relevant communities of practice to improve accessibility to PANORAMA's portfolio of solutions
(h) Provide guidance on lessons learned in PANORAMA for knowledge management and sharing.

D. Promoting the effective use of knowledge

PANORAMA will:

(a) Implement a communication strategy to promote the uptake, utilization and application of solutions for the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework
(b) Promote and contribute to the sharing of experience in the use of information and knowledge, including through communities of practice
(c) Engage a broad range of stakeholders in the use of PANORMA's knowledge sharing tools, including through social media
(d) Contribute to ongoing dialogues between the research community and policymakers, decision makers and practitioners
(e) Strengthen knowledge networks around thematic communities of practice and invite participation
(f) Promote the use of lessons from the portfolio of solutions for project planning and implementation

E. Conducting knowledge audits and reviews

PANORAMA will:

(a) Undertake periodic reviews of the scope and relevance of the solutions portfolio, and on the manner in which users contribute and make use of knowledge to enhance the value of the PANORAMA portfolio and partnership.
(b) Seek to broaden the thematic coverage of the portfolio and respond to opportunities to support implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework by addressing identified gaps.
(c) Continue to contribute to periodic reviews of the knowledge management component

The ambition of the Knowledge Management Component is that: “relevant knowledge management organizations, initiatives and processes will be leveraged to support the effective implementation of the knowledge management component of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. An interactive online database of such organizations, initiatives and processes will be established to help foster coordination, collaboration and complementarity in the generation, collection, management, sharing and use of biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge”.

PANORAMA has significant contributions to make towards the implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and is committed to be a part of the online database and continuing process of knowledge management associated with the closely related capacity development.