



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.: General
10 September 2026
English only

**Kunming dialogue on collective progress in the
implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global
Biodiversity Framework in support of the global review**
Kunming, China, 7–9 September 2026

Co-Chairs' summary of the Kunming dialogue on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

I. Introduction

1. In the lead up to the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which will be held in Yerevan, Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth representatives, experts and other stakeholders met from 7 to 9 September 2026 in Kunming, China, to participate in the Kunming dialogue on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in support of the global review.
2. We, Minister of Ecology and Environment of China and President of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Huang Runqiu, and Secretary of State (Nature) of Canada and host of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Nathalie Provost, served as the Co-Chairs of the Kunming dialogue. We opened the dialogue together with the Governor of Yunnan Province, China, Wang Yubo; the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia and President of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Fabio Arjona Hincapié; the Minister of the Environment of Armenia and President of the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Hambardzum Matevosyan; and the Executive Secretary of the Convention, Astrid Schomaker.
3. The Kunming dialogue fostered a discussion on how to address the gaps and challenges identified in the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Framework. These discussions were complemented by inputs shared through interactive online webinars held in parallel to the dialogue.
4. We were encouraged by the strong engagement and valuable experiences shared during the dialogue. We hereby present our Co-Chairs' summary of what we heard during the meeting. In order to produce the summary, we asked the members of the Ad Hoc Scientific and Technical Advisory Group for the Preparation of the Global Report on Collective Progress in the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework who moderated the discussions during the dialogue to identify critical points for inclusion.

II. Co-Chairs' summary

5. The main points are organized according to the topics discussed during the meeting (i.e. scope and coverage of national targets, action and implementation, means of implementation, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches, and data and knowledge).

(a) *Scope and coverage*

6. National ownership of, and commitment to, national biodiversity strategies and action plans has increased since the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in 2022. Current national biodiversity strategies and action plans reflect national priorities and circumstances, previous experiences and what is achievable based on the means of implementation available.

7. To maintain and increase momentum in implementing the Framework, Parties should, in the short term, continue to carry out implementation efforts rather than renegotiate the scope and coverage of national targets.

8. Gaps in the scope and coverage of national targets could also be addressed by strengthening political will and broadening the range of sectors and actors contributing to implementation, both within and outside government, including by promoting the use of existing mechanisms, initiatives and other multilateral environmental agreements. This would require strengthening the business case for the Framework and translating its concepts and terminology into languages adapted for the audience.

9. Parties may be able to refine the scope and coverage of national targets to achieve better alignment with the Framework during implementation, including through bottom-up approaches. However, some aspects of the global targets may not fully align with national priorities and contexts, and thus gaps in the scope and coverage of national targets will likely persist.

10. There is a need to fully reflect the efforts of different parts of government and society in national reports and the future global report.

(b) *Action and implementation*

11. Between now and 2030, the priority should be to close implementation gaps, including by prioritizing lagging targets, in particular those addressing the indirect drivers of biodiversity loss, and stepping up means of implementation.

12. Stronger whole-of-government and whole-of-society engagement will be required to fully implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the engagement of, and coordination with, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, subnational governments, cities and other local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, other multilateral environmental agreements, non-governmental organizations, women, youth, research organizations and the business and finance community. While all sectors are related to or dependent on biodiversity, there is a need to pay specific attention to integration across agriculture, forestry, water, health, energy and finance.

13. Data and evidence should be used to inform actions and improve the quality of implementation and biodiversity outcomes on the ground, in order to replicate positive examples and identify actions with the highest return on investment.

14. Further capacity development is needed in the areas of coordination and partnerships, as well as technical expertise for planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, data systems and implementation. The regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres have the potential to address gaps in capacity and technical and scientific cooperation, but realizing this potential will require sufficient resources and access to expertise across all targets.

15. There are many positive examples of initiatives and partnerships contributing to implementation. The priority should be to improve coherence and coordination among existing initiatives and to enhance their effectiveness and their alignment with the targets of the Framework and national needs. Further efforts are needed to improve the uptake, accessibility and sustainability of initiatives and partnerships, including through simplified and standardized processes. These issues should be prioritized in new initiatives and partnerships.

16. Strategic alignment across multilateral environmental agreements, including alignment of goals, targets, indicators, reporting platforms, monitoring systems and data, will facilitate cooperation and reduce duplication at the national and subnational levels. Science-policy cooperation is needed to provide a shared evidence base for all conventions. Integrated implementation approaches and plans offer significant opportunities for achieving co-benefits and accelerating progress towards 2030 targets.

(c) *Means of implementation*

17. There is a broad recognition that all means of implementation are important for the effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and that they should be used efficiently. However, there is a need to develop clear modalities for increasing the supply of means of implementation to better match the demand.

18. To increase the sustainability of implementation efforts and ownership at the national and local levels, there is a need to reduce reliance on short-term projects as a source of funding and as a vehicle for capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer.

19. Addressing gaps in means of implementation, in particular those related to domestic finance, international finance and private finance, and reforming harmful incentives, including subsidies, will require building a business case for mainstreaming and investing in biodiversity, for example by using natural capital accounting, addressing conflicting priorities and aligning economic incentives with the Framework.

20. Shifts in resource mobilization will require political will and efforts to strengthen Parties' capacity to develop biodiversity finance plans, put in place new and innovative instruments, such as biodiversity credits and debt-for-nature swaps, and mobilize resources from other sources, including philanthropy.

21. Developing national-level institutional architecture to enhance synergies among the three Rio conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements could help to maximize available resources, improve effectiveness and optimize co-benefits.

22. Strengthening the science-policy interface and enhancing new mechanisms for delivering demand-driven capacity-building, such as through the technical and scientific cooperation support centres, could provide effective and efficient ways to strengthen implementation and would require adequate financial resources.

(d) *Whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches*

23. Political will, together with legislative and regulatory frameworks, is critical to ensuring that all actors are continuously engaged in national assessments and reporting.

24. Ensuring continuity of effective coordination processes is a critical element of enabling meaningful and inclusive long-term engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities, stakeholders and actors across government.

25. Given the diversity of mechanisms and best practices among Parties and stakeholders, leveraging existing mechanisms is essential, given the limited means of implementation. This is also important as Parties often lack sufficient resources to sustain continuous engagement with other actors, including indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, in implementation. More effective engagement would require that these groups have access to financial resources and capacity-building.

26. Mechanisms for coordinating implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework differ depending on national circumstances, meaning that there is no one-size-fits-all model for whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches. However, the agreed principles set out in the Framework need to be maintained.

27. Addressing gaps in progress towards implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and implementing the Framework will require stronger engagement of rights holders and stakeholders through co-design and co-production of biodiversity actions, rather than just participation in planning and

reporting stages. The private sector has an important role to play beyond contributing to Target 15, such as through the integration of biodiversity considerations into production processes, among other mechanisms.

(e) *Data and knowledge*

28. Data and knowledge, including traditional knowledge, provide a foundation for improved decision-making and implementation, as well as monitoring and reporting. Investment in data and knowledge can help to identify what action is needed and enable more cost-effective use of resources. Such investment, together with institutional, technical and capacity support, will allow countries to report more fully across headline and national indicators in their eighth national reports.

29. Strengthening coordination and collaboration at the national, regional and international levels, including with national statistical offices, and developing appropriate data and knowledge governance, infrastructure and monitoring systems are immediate priorities for addressing data fragmentation, bringing together diverse data sources and knowledge systems and filling data gaps. This will improve reporting on headline and national indicators, including baselines, foundational data and disaggregation categories. Over the long term, this includes streamlining reporting needs for different multilateral environmental agreements.

30. Engaging data providers, managers and users and knowledge holders and using appropriate innovative approaches, methods and technologies can help to bring together diverse types and sources of data and knowledge, including qualitative and quantitative data, traditional knowledge, community-based information, citizen-science and private sector data, and data from different actors, including indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth. Better utilization of these data would require harmonization of efforts to collect data across multilateral environmental processes and between the public and private sector. This will require aligning the metrics used in different processes and disclosure frameworks with the indicators of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

31. Strengthening national monitoring systems and data standards is needed to make better use of existing data and monitoring efforts across sectors.

32. Support from international organizations, regional organizations and technical and scientific cooperation support centres could improve understanding of headline indicators, help to develop national data sets for reporting on them and fill gaps by identifying suitable regional or global data for national validation.

33. Fostering collective learning and the sharing of experiences can strengthen approaches, methods, tools and systems and enable better monitoring and implementation within countries and by regional and international organizations. The technical and scientific cooperation support centres could provide a modality for building capacity and facilitating peer-to-peer learning.

III. Conclusion

34. We, as Co-Chairs, are committed to accelerating implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and thank all participants in the Kunming dialogue for their active participation. We hope that the present summary provides useful findings that Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, subnational governments, cities and other local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, other multilateral environmental agreements, non-governmental organizations, women, youth, research organizations, the business and finance community and representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity can use in their efforts to accelerate implementation.
