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Item 9 of the provisional agenda*
Biodiversity and agriculture

Synthesis of submissions on the status of implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity**

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In decision [15/28](#), the Conference of the Parties invited Parties to provide, on a voluntary basis, information on their activities and results from the implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity, in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as appropriate. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to compile the submissions and to make them available for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held prior to the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
2. Pursuant to that decision, the Secretariat issued notification [2025-067](#) to invite Parties to respond to an online questionnaire on the status of implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity, which can be found in the annex to the present document.
3. The questionnaire consisted of 10 questions and was divided into three sections: general information (sect. I); overview questions (sect. II); and status of implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity (sect. III). Parties were also invited to provide information on relevant policies, regulations, or frameworks as well as linkages to national biodiversity strategies and action plans, targets and indicators.

* CBD/SBSTTA/27/1.

** The present document is being issued without formal editing.

4. The Secretariat received 35 submissions from Parties¹ in response to notification 2025-067. Original submissions are available at www.cbd.int/notifications/2025-067. This document presents a synthesis of the submissions to the questionnaire.

II. Synthesis of information

A. General information

5. The 35 submissions received by the Secretariat cover all regional groups under the Convention on Biological Diversity, namely Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and Western Europe and Other Groups (WEOG). Table 1 presents the regional distribution of submissions by Parties.

Table 1

Regional distribution of submissions

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Number of Parties</i>
Africa	4
Asia-Pacific	7
Eastern Europe	7
LAC	7
WEOG	10
Total	35

B. Overview questions

6. For questions 1 to 3, Parties could select one single answer. To question 1 “Is the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity being (directly or indirectly) taken into account in your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)?”, most Parties (16) responded that soil biodiversity was indirectly addressed in their NBSAP through the following:

(a) Actions that can improve soil health under targets focused on the restoration of wetlands, peatlands and grasslands through specific programmes and funds, assessing soil taxa through reports on wild species and biological collections that support soil biodiversity monitoring, research and integrated pest management, despite limited data for most species which highlights the need to expand activities related to taxonomy and soil biodiversity monitoring, reducing the impacts of pollution on biodiversity through partnerships and funds that promote integrated management of nutrients and pest control products as well as sustainable agricultural practices such as cover cropping and rotational grazing, carbon sequestration and increasing resilience to climate change, addressing challenges to sustainable agriculture through specific programmes, partnerships and funds supporting the co-development of on-farm solutions, and adopting practices that support soil health;

(b) Goals related to the restoration of degraded lands, integrated spatial planning and control of invasive alien species as well as a specific goal for the remediation of contaminated sites incorporating ecological considerations, with an emphasis on soil and sediments;

(c) Technical and regulatory instruments at regional and local levels under an objective focused on reducing pollution, including from industrial wastewater and hydrocarbons, as well as a programme to strengthen the capacities of relevant authorities to reach the national goal of reducing pollution from the use of agrochemicals on 30 per cent of agricultural lands;

¹ Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cook Islands, Ecuador, Ethiopia, European Union, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Guinea, Hungary, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Togo, Ukraine and Yemen.

(d) Tools and guidance on best practices for the use of soil and biodiversity to prevent emerging infectious diseases as well as actions to reverse soil degradation in agricultural and natural ecosystems through agroecological soil management;

(e) Actions related to agricultural soil management practices to preserve soil fertility and prevent soil degradation.

7. Twelve Parties reported that soil biodiversity was directly addressed in their NBSAP. A Party mentioned that actions under two goals of their NBSAP were related to soil biodiversity. A Party also noted that their NBSAP presented goals, some of which set forth actions related to the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity, that articulate biodiversity conservation, integrated spatial planning and sustainable agrifood systems. In addition, a Party highlighted that their NBSAP presented actions related to ecosystem recovery and restoration, including soil and edaphic ecosystems recovery, biodiversity in agricultural and livestock lands, freshwater ecosystems, the recuperation of damaged land by extractive and industrial activities and the fight against pollution. Examples of actions include efforts to prevent the risk of soil erosion on land affected by large fires through hydrological-forestry actions, development of legal measures to support the sustainable use of fertilizers and phytosanitary products, eco-schemes to promote low carbon agriculture and agroecology for farmers who commit to practices that generate environmental benefits such as improving soil structure, reducing erosion and desertification, increasing soil carbon content and reducing soil emissions, promotion of silvopastoralism² and transhumance³ to improve landscape and ecological connectivity, including through livestock seed dispersal and pollination, the prevention of wildfires, the regulation of water cycle and soil quality, implementation of a strategic plan for wetlands in accordance to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat and recognizing the importance of Ramsar sites to combat desertification and land degradation, ecosystem restoration, including the restoration of mining sites, and advancement of the cleaning and restoration of polluted and damaged soils aligned with a circular economy. Moreover, many Parties mentioned adhering to regional strategies, such as the European Union Soil Strategy for 2030, the proposed European Union Directive on Soil Monitoring and Resilience and the European Union Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, which can provide a coherent framework for the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity. Three Parties responded that their NBSAP was under development. One Party reported that soil biodiversity was not addressed in their NBSAP, noting that very limited data and research activities on the matter were available. Three Parties responded “Other”, mentioning that soil biodiversity was addressed in other national strategies. Table 2 presents the regional distribution of responses, while figure I illustrates the relative frequency of responses.

Table 2

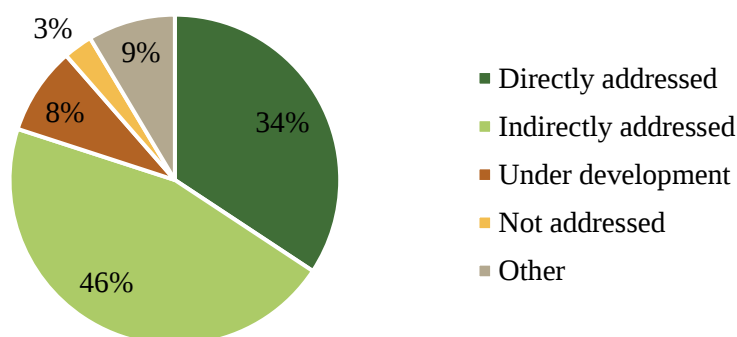
Question 1 – Status of soil biodiversity in NBSAPs aligned with the KMGBF

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Directly addressed</i>	<i>Indirectly addressed</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not addressed</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	2	1	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	4	0	1	0
Eastern Europe	1	5	1	0	0
LAC	2	4	1	0	0
WEOG	6	1	0	0	3
Total	12	16	3	1	3

² FAO definition of silvopastoralism refers to a type of agroforestry systems with combination of trees and grazing of domesticated animals, including in rangelands. More information: <https://www.fao.org/agroforestry/about-agroforestry/overview/en>

³ UNESCO definition of transhumance refers to the seasonal movement of people with their livestock between geographical or climatic regions. Each year, in spring and autumn, men and women herders organise the movement of thousands of animals along traditional pastoral paths. More information: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/RL/transhumance-the-seasonal-droving-of-livestock-01964>

Figure I
Relative frequency of responses to question 1



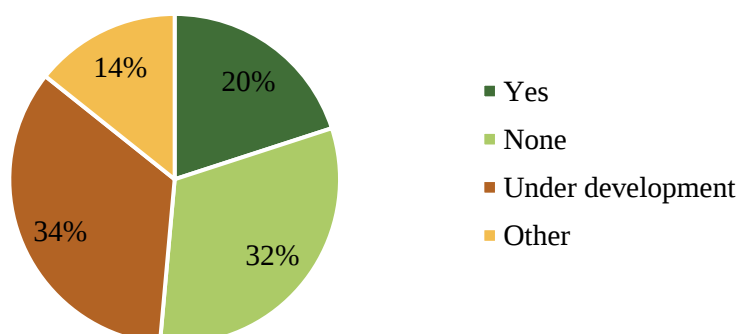
8. To question 2 “Are there any national target(s) and indicator(s) for monitoring soil biodiversity in place?”, most Parties (12) reported that national targets and indicators for monitoring soil biodiversity were under development, with one Party mentioning they were in the process of implementing an integrated soil monitoring framework. A Party also specified they were considering the development of an earthworm indicator that takes land management practices into account, complemented by the monitoring of soil microorganisms. In addition, a Party mentioned they were developing to assess agricultural management practices and their capacity to support diverse soil biota. Moreover, a Party highlighted the centralization of biodiversity information through an integrated system that monitors pollinating insects, invasive alien species and soil biodiversity. Seven Parties reported having such national targets or indicators, including through the assessment of soil health, soil organic carbon, species richness and population abundance of soil organisms. Five Parties responded “Other”, mentioning that some national targets or indicators indirectly monitored soil biodiversity. Table 3 presents the regional distribution of responses, while figure II illustrates the relative frequency of responses.

Table 3

Question 2 – Status of national targets and indicators for monitoring soil biodiversity

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	2	1	0
Asia-Pacific	1	4	1	1
Eastern Europe	1	3	2	1
LAC	1	2	2	2
WEOG	3	0	6	1
Total	7	11	12	5

Figure II
Relative frequency of responses to question 2



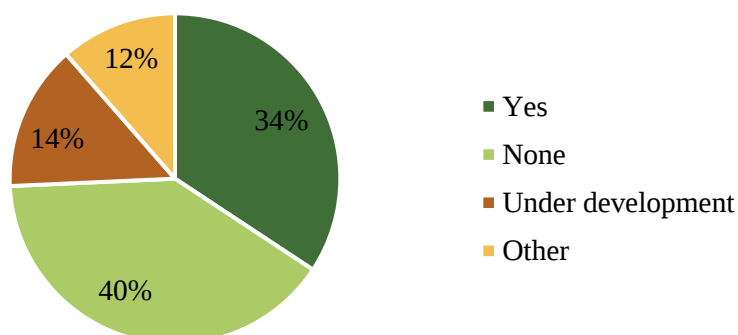
9. To question 3 “Is fungal biodiversity, as per the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity, included in any national policy or strategy?”, most Parties (14) responded that fungal biodiversity was not included in national policies or strategies, with one Party mentioning the lack of national expertise and knowledge in the matter. A Party also noted that while national policies or strategies specific to fungal biodiversity were not yet in place, experts in mycology will be solicited to characterize soils with the aim of improving their productivity. In like manner, a Party mentioned that the use of mycorrhizae and bioinputs in agriculture was promoted within national agroecological programmes. They further highlighted the need for research to assess the risk of non-native microorganisms becoming invasive alien species. Twelve Parties reported that fungal biodiversity was included in national policies, strategies, action plans, programmes, legislations, monitoring frameworks or inventories, including instruments focusing on soil health, agriculture, environmental protection and forestry falling within the competence of relevant authorities. A Party further highlighted that one target of their NBSAP directly addressed fungal biodiversity through the maintaining of living and preserved fungal collections. A Party also mentioned that under their national soil monitoring programme, soil biodiversity, including fungi and bacteria, will be monitored using environmental DNA. In addition, A Party noted that national legislations protected fungi and that the extraction of fungi was restricted in protected areas and in privately owned areas identified as priority sites for the conservation of biodiversity. Five Parties responded that the inclusion of fungal biodiversity in national policies or strategies was under development. A Party mentioned that fungi were monitored using molecular biological methods, which will undergo further development. A Party also noted that their national catalogue of fungi, which encompasses species with food or medicinal uses, was not part of a national policy that addresses soil biodiversity. They highlighted the need for further research on fungal biodiversity and their edaphic role in ecosystems as well as integration of fungal biodiversity into sectoral policies. Four Parties reported “Other”, with one Party noting that fungi protection at national and regional levels currently focuses on rare and endangered species, including species assessed for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and one Party mentioning that information on fungal biodiversity was collected by the national food agency and made available to the public. Some Parties also specified that fungal biodiversity was indirectly covered by national instruments. Table 4 presents the regional distribution of responses, while figure III illustrates the relative frequency of responses.

Table 4

Question 3 – Status of fungal biodiversity in national policies and strategies

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	2	1	0
Asia-Pacific	2	4	1	0
Eastern Europe	3	2	1	1
LAC	2	4	1	0
WEOG	4	2	1	3
Total	12	14	5	4

Figure III
Relative frequency of responses to question 3



10. For questions 4 to 9, Parties could select multiple answers. To question 4 “Analysis of gaps: Which of the following options do you perceive as barriers to implement the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity at national level?”, 24 Parties identified a lack of information and knowledge. Twenty-four Parties reported a lack of capacity and resource limitations. Twenty-one Parties identified policy and institutional constraints. Seventeen Parties reported a lack of research at national level. One Party responded “Other”, mentioning that a national programme is currently supporting universities to research critical gaps in soil science. Many Parties provided details on the gaps they identified by specifying the following in the comments:

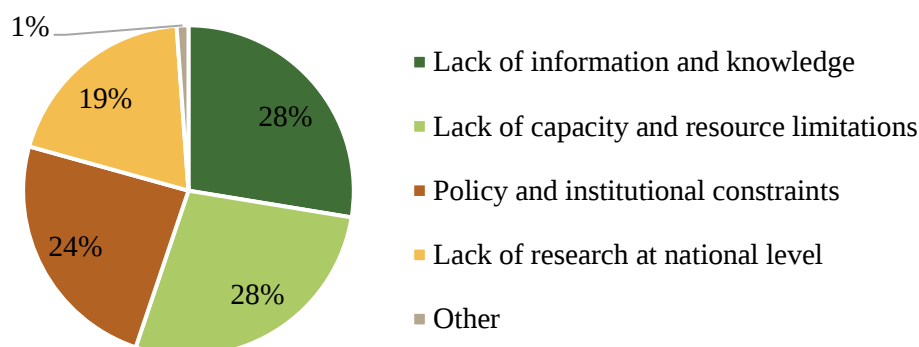
- (a) Limited availability of institutional, human and financial resources;
- (b) Lack of research on soil biodiversity, including taxonomic research;
- (c) Limited availability of technical and scientific data, information, tools and guidance;
- (d) Lack of a monitoring framework, including indicators, specific to soil biodiversity;
- (e) Silos between institutions, sectors and other stakeholders;
- (f) Need for awareness-raising aimed at policymakers and the general public.

11. Table 5 presents the regional distribution of responses, while figure IV illustrates the relative frequency of responses.

Table 5
Question 4 – Identification of gaps

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Lack of information and knowledge</i>	<i>Lack of capacity and resource limitations</i>	<i>Policy and institutional constraints</i>	<i>Lack of research at national level</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	3	2	2	1	0
Asia-Pacific	5	6	3	5	0
Eastern Europe	5	4	6	4	0
LAC	5	6	5	5	0
WEOG	6	6	5	2	1
Total	24	24	21	17	1

Figure IV
Relative frequency of responses to question 4



12. To question 5 “Analysis of opportunities: Which of the following items do you perceive as opportunities to enhance the implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity at national level?”, 14 Parties reported an opportunity to link the implementation of the Plan of Action with a government’s strategy for the agricultural sector. Twelve Parties identified an opportunity to link the implementation of the Plan of Action with the NBSAPs and the KMGBF monitoring framework. Five Parties reported an opportunity to enhance capacity, technology and use of tools. Four Parties responded “Other”, and many Parties provided details on the opportunities they identified by specifying the following in the comments:

- (a) Include indicators for soil biodiversity in the KMGBF monitoring framework;
- (b) Link the Plan of Action with national and regional monitoring frameworks;
- (c) Enhance the integration of traditional knowledge related to soil biodiversity in national strategies, including for the agricultural sector;
- (d) Enhance the integration of soil biodiversity in national legislations;
- (e) Promote awareness-raising on the importance of soil biodiversity to policymakers;
- (f) Promote participatory approaches in governance and capacity-building activities;
- (g) Support innovative learning approaches for stakeholders;
- (h) Strengthen partnerships such as the one between the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Global Soil Partnership as well as interinstitutional and intersectoral collaboration and coordination.

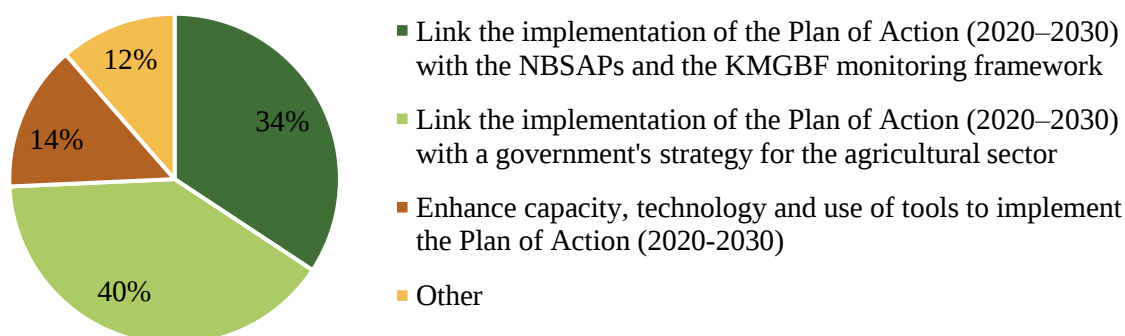
13. Table 6 presents the regional distribution of responses, while figure V illustrates the relative frequency of responses.

Table 6

Question 5 – Identification of opportunities

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Link with NBSAPs and KMGBF monitoring framework</i>	<i>Link with government's strategy for the agricultural sector</i>	<i>Enhance capacity, technology and use of tools</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	2	1	0
Asia-Pacific	2	4	1	0
Eastern Europe	3	2	1	1
LAC	2	4	1	0
WEOG	4	2	1	3
Total	12	14	5	4

Figure V

Relative frequency of responses to question 5

C. Status of implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity

14. Question 6 addresses Element 1: Policy coherence and mainstreaming of the Plan of Action and is divided into the following six sub-questions. To question 6.1 on the activities to develop and implement coherent and comprehensive policies for the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of soil biodiversity, most Parties (24) responded that said activities were under development. Four Parties reported that said activities were implemented and seven Parties responded “Other”. Table 7 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 7

Question 6.1 – Develop and implement coherent and comprehensive policies

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	1	5	0	1
Eastern Europe	1	5	0	1
LAC	0	4	0	3
WEOG	1	7	0	2
Total	4	24	0	7

15. To question 6.2 on the activities to safeguard and promote the importance as well as the practical application of soil biodiversity and integrate them into broader policy agendas such as food security, ecosystem and landscape restoration, climate change adaptation and mitigation, urban planning and sustainable development, most Parties (20) responded that said activities were under

development. Eight Parties reported that said activities were implemented and seven Parties responded “Other”. Table 8 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 8

Question 6.2 – Safeguard and promote the importance and the practical application of soil biodiversity and integrate them into broader policy agendas

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	2	0	0
Asia-Pacific	3	3	0	1
Eastern Europe	1	5	0	1
LAC	0	4	0	3
WEOG	2	6	0	2
Total	8	20	0	7

16. To question 6.3 on activities to promote the implementation of good practices in sustainable soil management and spatial planning in a participatory manner, most Parties (20) responded that said activities were under development. Ten Parties reported that said activities were implemented and five Parties responded “Other”. Table 9 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 9

Question 6.3 – Promote the implementation of good practices in sustainable soil management and spatial planning in a participatory manner

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	4	0	1
Eastern Europe	2	5	0	0
LAC	1	4	0	2
WEOG	4	4	0	2
Total	10	20	0	5

17. To question 6.4 on activities to strengthen synergies between scientific evidence, conservation, restoration and sustainable practices, farmer-researcher community practices, agricultural advisory services and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities to better support policies and actions, most Parties (18) reported that said activities were under development. Eleven Parties responded that said activities were implemented, one Party reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and five Parties responded “Other”. Table 10 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 10

Question 6.4 – Strengthen synergies to better support policies and actions

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	3	1	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	4	0	1
Eastern Europe	1	5	1	0
LAC	0	6	0	1
WEOG	5	2	0	3
Total	11	18	1	5

18. To question 6.5 on activities to address linkages between soil biodiversity and human health, nutritious and healthy diets and pollutant exposure, most Parties (19) reported that said activities were under development. Four Parties responded that said activities were implemented, two Parties

reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and 10 Parties responded “Other”. Table 11 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 11

Question 6.5 – Address linkages between soil biodiversity and human health, nutritious and healthy diets and pollutant exposure

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	1	1	1
Asia-Pacific	1	4	1	1
Eastern Europe	0	5	0	2
LAC	1	4	0	2
WEOG	1	5	0	4
Total	4	19	2	10

19. To question 6.6 on activities to promote ways and means to overcome obstacles to the adoption of good practices in sustainable soil management associated with land tenure, the rights of users of land and water, in particular women, the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, in accordance with national legislation and international instruments, recognizing their important contributions through their knowledge and practices, gender equality, access to financial services, agricultural advisory services and educational programmes, most Parties (16) reported that said activities were under development. Seven Parties responded that said activities were implemented, three Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and nine Parties responded “Other”. Table 12 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 12

Question 6.6 – Promote ways and means to overcome obstacles to the adoption of good practices in sustainable soil management associated with land tenure and rights

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	2	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	1	1
Eastern Europe	2	4	0	1
LAC	0	5	0	2
WEOG	1	2	2	5
Total	7	16	3	9

20. In addition, many Parties provided details on the status of implementation of Element 1: Policy coherence and mainstreaming of the Plan of Action by specifying the following in the comments:

(a) At the national level, soil biodiversity may be directly or indirectly addressed through one or more instruments such as NBSAPs as well as other national strategies, action plans, policies, regulations, legislations, programmes and initiatives supporting funding, research, capacity-building and implementation of good practices in sustainable soil management, with multiple governmental agencies covering the matter;

(b) A Party noted that national regulations were in place to address the remediation of contaminated soils as well as threats to soil biodiversity caused by the use of hazardous or toxic chemicals, together with registries of contaminated soils;

(c) A Party also indicated that sustainable soil and drought management under the national soil strategy could benefit the environment, economy, food security, human health, infrastructures, biodiversity and communities, including women and youth;

(d) Furthermore, a Party reported progress toward a national soil health strategy and implementation of initiatives that guide agricultural policy and funding, in addition to promoting sustainable soil management through best practices such as cover cropping, rotational grazing and improved nitrogen management;

(e) In addition, a Party mentioned the implementation of integrated forest conservation strategies, which may contribute to the resilience and ecological functionality of soils, in alignment with national commitments under land degradation neutrality targets;

(f) Moreover, a Party reported progress toward a comprehensive national soil policy that takes agriculture, ecosystem restoration and climate change into consideration and supports implementation at the field level;

(g) Additionally, a Party highlighted the integration of agriculture and forest soil protection into national policies related to integrated and renewable energy systems, adaptation to climate change, including through the promotion of the bioeconomy, the circular economy and proximity agriculture in rural areas, desertification mitigation and forest management with a gender equality approach as well as into the proposed European Union Directive on Soil Monitoring and Resilience. They further mentioned that an inventory of traditional knowledge related to agricultural biodiversity included plants that can improve soil health by increasing soil fertility or preventing soil erosion;

(h) In like manner, a Party noted that land tenure and the rights of land and water users were regulated at national level, including through a comprehensive and reliable registry of land titles. They also specified that a national legislation was in place to uphold the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities;

(i) In addition to Governments, Parties noted that soil biodiversity was supported by United Nations agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility, the Asian Development Bank and the private sector, among other stakeholders.

21. Question 7 addresses Element 2: Encouraging the use of sustainable soil management practices of the Plan of Action and is divided into the following six sub-questions. To question 7.1 on activities to promote the improvement of soil health and the enhancement of soil organism abundance and diversity through sustainable agricultural practices, most Parties (18) responded that said activities were under development. Fourteen Parties reported that said activities were implemented and three Parties responded “Other”. Table 13 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 13

Question 7.1 – Promote the improvement of soil health and the enhancement of soil organism abundance and diversity through sustainable agricultural practices

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	2	0	0
Asia-Pacific	3	3	0	1
Eastern Europe	2	5	0	0
LAC	0	6	0	1
WEOG	7	2	0	1
Total	14	18	0	3

22. To question 7.2 on activities to facilitate, for all relevant stakeholders, access to information, policies, tools and enabling conditions, such as access to technologies, innovation and funding, as well as to traditional practices that promote the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity at the field level, most Parties (19) reported that said activities were under development. Ten Parties responded that said activities were implemented, one Party reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and four Parties responded “Other”. Table 14 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 14

Question 7.2 – Facilitate access to information, policies, tools and enabling conditions

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	4	1	1	1
Eastern Europe	1	5	0	0
LAC	0	6	0	1
WEOG	4	4	0	2
Total	10	19	1	4

23. To question 7.3 on activities to facilitate site-specific remediation of contaminated soils, preferring those alternatives that show minor risks to biodiversity, while exploring the implementation of bioremediation strategies that use native microorganisms, most Parties (19) reported that said activities were under development. Six Parties responded that said activities were implemented, four Party reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and six Parties responded “Other”. Table 15 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 15

Question 7.3 – Facilitate site-specific remediation of contaminated soils

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	1	1	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	1	1
Eastern Europe	1	4	1	1
LAC	0	5	0	2
WEOG	1	6	1	2
Total	6	19	4	6

24. To question 7.4 on activities to prevent the introduction and spreading and minimize the impact of invasive alien species that present a direct and indirect risk to soil biodiversity, and monitor the dispersion and eradicate, control or manage those already established, most Parties (20) reported that said activities were under development. Eight Parties responded that said activities were implemented, one Party reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and six Parties responded “Other”. Table 16 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 16

Question 7.4 – Prevent the introduction and spreading and minimize the impact of invasive alien species that present a direct and indirect risk to soil biodiversity

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	2	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	1	1
Eastern Europe	0	6	0	1
LAC	0	6	0	1
WEOG	4	3	0	3
Total	8	20	1	6

25. To question 7.5 on activities to promote sustainable soil and associated water and land management practices that maintain, restore and promote the resilience of carbon-rich soils (such as peatlands, black soils, mangroves, coastal wetlands, seagrasses and permafrost), most Parties (16) reported that said activities were implemented. Fourteen Parties responded that said activities were under development, one Party reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and four Parties responded “Other”. Table 17 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 17

Question 7.5 – Promote sustainable soil and associated water and land management practices that maintain, restore and promote the resilience of carbon-rich soils

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	3	1	0	0
Asia-Pacific	4	2	0	1
Eastern Europe	2	4	1	0
LAC	0	5	0	2
WEOG	7	2	0	1
Total	16	14	1	4

26. To question 7.6 on activities to promote conservation, restoration and sustainable management of soil biodiversity, and implement where appropriate, ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction while considering potential impacts on indigenous peoples and local communities, small-scale food producers and peasants, most Parties (19) reported that said activities were under development. Nine Parties responded that said activities were implemented, one Party reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and six Parties responded “Other”. Table 18 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 18

Question 7.6 – Promote conservation, restoration and sustainable management of soil biodiversity and implement ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation and mitigation

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	2	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	1	1
Eastern Europe	1	5	0	1
LAC	0	5	0	2
WEOG	4	4	0	2
Total	9	19	1	6

27. In addition, many Parties provided details on the status of implementation of Element 2: Encouraging the use of sustainable soil management practices of the Plan of Action by specifying the following in the comments:

(a) A Party mentioned that ecosystem approaches to adaptation were under development. A Party also shared an example of a project in collaboration with agribusinesses, academia and the Global Soil Partnership under the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations that aims to increase soil carbon content and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable soil management practices;

(b) Additionally, a Party noted that through payment for ecosystem services and restoration activities, community beneficiaries are incentivized to adopt best land management practices that can contribute to maintaining healthy soils by preventing erosion, reestablishing vegetation cover and maintain the hydrological function of forest soils;

(c) Moreover, a Party referred to national initiatives that promote agroecology, regenerative and organic agriculture. For example, they shared that a GEF-funded project could strengthen the capacities of farmers and extensions workers, including financial capacities. They further noted that the control of invasive alien species and the protection of wetlands were addressed in the framework of national strategies and legislations. Also, they mentioned that regulations regarding contaminated soils and remediation with ecological considerations were under development;

(d) In addition, a Party highlighted the importance of linking the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity with work related to ecosystem restoration and bioremediation;

(e) Also, a Party noted that a national sustainable agriculture partnership could support the adoption of environmental beneficial management practices, including sustainable soil management practices, by providing cost-shared funding;

(f) In addition, a Party mentioned that their NBSAP and other national strategic plans outlined agriculture practices that may benefit soil health such as the proper use of fertilizers as well as the inclusion of carbon-rich ecosystems such as wetlands in strictly protected areas and the reduction of the impacts of climate change toward food security. They also noted that information on nature and biodiversity will be compiled and made accessible to stakeholders through a national system of indicators, in addition of having a national catalogue of invasive alien species;

(g) Furthermore, a Party highlighted the implementation of sustainable land practices such as retaining stubble, minimising tillage, optimizing the use of pesticides and fertilizers as well as adopting best grazing management systems, including cell, strip and rotational grazing, and establishing long-term groundcover which could maintain or improve soil health. They further referred to partnerships between the Government and the industry to enable informed decision-making through robust data and scientific research to support both productivity and sustainability outcomes. They also mentioned that tools and resources to improve soil health were available to the public at the local level;

(h) In addition, a Party specified that measures on sustainable soil management, prevention of invasive alien species and management of contaminated sites were implemented through comprehensive legislations as well as the European Union Common Agricultural Policy. They further noted the need for integration and consideration of direct impacts to indigenous peoples and local communities.

28. Question 8 addresses Element 3: Awareness-raising, sharing of knowledge and capacity-building of the Plan of Action and is divided into the following six sub-questions. To question 8.1 on activities to increase understanding and appreciation of the role of soil biodiversity and soil health in managed and other ecosystems, most Parties (18) reported that said activities were under development. Eleven Parties responded that said activities were implemented, two Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and four Parties responded “Other”. Table 19 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 19

Question 8.1 – Increase understanding and appreciation of the role of soil biodiversity and soil health in managed and other ecosystems

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	4	2	1	0
Eastern Europe	1	5	1	0
LAC	0	5	0	2
WEOG	5	3	0	2
Total	11	18	2	4

29. To question 8.2 on activities to increase understanding of the causes and consequences of soil biodiversity decline and engage targeted key stakeholder groups on the importance of soil biodiversity for health, well-being and livelihoods, most Parties (21) reported that said activities were under development. Seven Parties responded that said activities were implemented, two Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and four Parties responded “Other”. Table 20 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 20

Question 8.2 – Increase understanding of the causes and consequences of soil biodiversity decline and engage key stakeholders on the importance of soil biodiversity

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	3	3	1	0
Eastern Europe	0	5	1	0
LAC	0	5	0	2
WEOG	3	5	0	2
Total	7	21	2	4

30. To question 8.3 on activities to build and strengthen the capacities of key stakeholder groups, as appropriate, in designing and implementing sustainable soil management practices and the sustainable application of soil biodiversity and consider traditional knowledge and practices, most Parties (21) reported that said activities were under development. Six Parties responded that said activities were implemented, two Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and six Parties responded “Other”. Table 21 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 21

Question 8.3 – Build and strengthen the capacities of key stakeholders and consider traditional knowledge and practices

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	2	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	1	1
Eastern Europe	1	5	1	0
LAC	0	5	0	2
WEOG	1	6	0	3
Total	6	21	2	6

31. To question 8.4 on activities to promote awareness-raising and sharing of knowledge through tools and digital technology, and promote capacity-building and mutual learning, including at the local and field levels by developing collaborative activities, such as peer-to-peer learning, for the promotion of best practices for soil biodiversity assessment, management and monitoring, most Parties (16) reported that said activities were under development. Seven Parties responded that said activities were implemented, one Party reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and eleven Parties responded “Other”. Table 22 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 22

Question 8.4 – Promote awareness-raising and sharing of knowledge through tools and digital technology, and promote capacity-building and mutual learning

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	2	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	2	1	2
Eastern Europe	0	5	0	2
LAC	0	4	0	3
WEOG	3	3	0	4
Total	7	16	1	11

32. To question 8.5 on activities to enhance education on, and knowledge of, soil biodiversity, soil health and the ecosystem functions and services they provide, through the update of educational curricula for professionals and foster scientific and technical cooperation and transfer of technology

in developing countries, most Parties (18) reported that said activities were under development. Eight Parties responded that said activities were implemented, two Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and seven Parties responded “Other”. Table 23 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 23

Question 8.5 – Enhance education on, and knowledge of, soil biodiversity, soil health and the ecosystem functions and services they provide

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	1	1
Eastern Europe	0	5	1	1
LAC	0	5	0	2
WEOG	5	2	0	3
Total	8	18	2	7

33. To question 8.6 on activities to support citizen science campaigns and awareness-raising activities to engage relevant stakeholders in the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity, including celebrations on 5 December of World Soil Day⁴, most Parties (15) reported that said activities were under development. Eight Parties responded that said activities were implemented, four Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and eight Parties responded “Other”. Table 24 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 24

Question 8.6 – Support citizen science campaigns and awareness-raising activities to engage relevant stakeholders

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	0	4	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	2	2	1
Eastern Europe	2	2	2	1
LAC	1	3	0	3
WEOG	3	4	0	3
Total	8	15	4	8

34. In addition, many Parties provides details on the status of implementation of Element 3: Awareness-raising, sharing of knowledge and capacity-building of the Plan of Action by specifying the following in the comments:

(a) Some Parties referred to programmes and projects that aim at advancing training and capacity building of farmers, land managers and extension workers, facilitate expertise and knowledge sharing and provide grants for research to promote sustainable soil management practices.

(b) Some Parties also mentioned the promotion of citizen science and outreach activities as part of national strategies or programmes, with one Party specifying that such activities particularly took place among ejidos, indigenous peoples and local communities. Parties provided examples of activities such as the mapping of soil biodiversity through citizen science and the organization of events by stakeholders such as international organizations, research and academic institutions to raise awareness on the importance of maintaining a living soil on the occasion of World Soil Day.

35. Question 9 addresses Element 4: Research, monitoring and assessment of the Plan of Action and is divided into the following six sub-questions. To question 9.1 on activities to promote research on sustainable soil management practices that ensure conservation, restoration and sustainable use of

⁴ See General Assembly resolution [68/232](#) of 20 December 2013 on World Soil Day and International Year of Soils.

soil biodiversity, most Parties (16) responded that said activities were implemented. Fourteen Parties reported that said activities were under development and five Parties responded “Other”. Table 25 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 25

Question 9.1 – Promote research on sustainable soil management practices that ensure conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	3	1	0	0
Asia-Pacific	3	3	0	1
Eastern Europe	1	5	0	1
LAC	1	4	0	2
WEOG	8	1	0	1
Total	16	14	0	5

36. To question 9.2 on activities to increase national capacities on soil biodiversity taxonomy and design targeted strategies to fill the existing gaps, most Parties (21) responded that said activities were under development. Seven Parties responded that said activities were implemented and eight Parties responded “Other”. Table 26 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 26

Question 9.2 – Increase national capacities on soil biodiversity taxonomy and design targeted strategies to fill the existing gaps

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	0	2
Eastern Europe	2	5	0	1
LAC	1	4	0	2
WEOG	1	6	0	3
Total	7	21	0	8

37. To question 9.3 on activities to facilitate the data collection, storage and curation of samples and encourage the development of indicators and monitoring mechanisms, most Parties (21) reported that said activities were under development. Eight Parties responded that said activities were implemented, one Party reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and five Parties responded “Other”. Table 27 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 27

Question 9.3 – Facilitate the data collection, storage and curation of samples and encourage the development of indicators and monitoring mechanisms

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	2	2	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	1	1
Eastern Europe	0	7	0	0
LAC	0	4	0	3
WEOG	4	5	0	1
Total	8	21	1	5

38. To question 9.4 on activities to promote further research to identify risks to soil biodiversity under climate change and potential adaption measures and mitigation tools, as well as risks caused by the use of hazardous or toxic chemicals, most Parties (17) reported that said activities were under

development. Seven Parties responded that said activities were implemented, three Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and eight Parties responded “Other”. Table 28 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 28

Question 9.4 – Promote further research to identify risks to soil biodiversity arising from climate change and the use of hazardous or toxic chemicals

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	2	2	1
Eastern Europe	0	5	1	1
LAC	0	3	0	4
WEOG	4	4	0	2
Total	7	17	3	8

39. To question 9.5 on activities to promote research, information management and dissemination, data collection and processing, community-based monitoring, transfer of knowledge and technologies and networking, most Parties (16) reported that said activities were under development. Ten Parties responded that said activities were implemented, three Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and six Parties responded “Other”. Table 29 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 29

Question 9.5 – Promote research, information management and dissemination, data collection and processing, community-based monitoring, knowledge transfer and technologies

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	1	3	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	1	1
Eastern Europe	0	4	2	1
LAC	1	3	0	3
WEOG	6	3	0	1
Total	10	16	3	6

40. To question 9.6 on activities to promote access to the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources in the soil, considering the potential to develop new products and medicines, in line with the third objective of the Convention and with the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, most Parties (15) reported that said activities were under development. Seven Parties responded that said activities were implemented, seven Parties reported that such activities were not relevant to their context and six Parties responded “Other”. Table 30 presents the regional distribution of responses.

Table 30

Question 9.6 – Promote access to the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources in the soil

<i>CBD region</i>	<i>Implemented</i>	<i>Under development</i>	<i>Not relevant</i>	<i>Other</i>
Africa	0	4	0	0
Asia-Pacific	2	3	2	0
Eastern Europe	1	4	2	0
LAC	0	4	0	3
WEOG	4	0	3	3

Total	7	15	7	6
41. In addition, many Parties provided details on the status of implementation of Element 4: Research, monitoring and assessment of the Plan of Action by specifying the following in the comments:				
(a) Some Parties mentioned that soil data was collected and managed through a national soil monitoring framework or inventory, including systems focused on forests, in collaboration with stakeholders such as research and academic institutions, with one Party highlighting that access, sharing and use of national soil information could inform decision-making and policy outcomes;				
(b) A Party also provided an example of an upcoming project aiming at modernizing soil information as to enable the collection, storage and standardization of data as well as the development of monitoring indicators;				
(c) In addition, a Party noted that research on forests could contribute to the generation and dissemination of information related to soil biodiversity, highlighting community-based restoration and knowledge transfer as a potential base for future research;				
(d) Moreover, some Parties identified research priorities related to soil biodiversity, with one Party highlighting research on monitoring methods, including the development of indicators for monitoring soil biodiversity, management, conservation and restoration of soils and edaphic biodiversity as a priority. They further mentioned the recovery of polluted soils as an area of intervention to strengthen food, bioeconomy and the environment;				
(e) In addition, a Party highlighted soil health as a research priority to increase the resiliency of agroecosystems, which could enable outcomes such as enhanced biodiversity as well as protected soil and water resources;				
(f) Furthermore, some Parties mentioned that a legal framework regarding access to soil genetic resources the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization was not yet in place, with one Party specifying that the development of such legal framework was reflected under an objective of their NBSAP together with the target of ratifying the Nagoya Protocol by 2030;				
(g) Also, a Party noted that access to genetic resources, including from wild taxa, for commercial and non-commercial sustainable use as well as associated benefit-sharing and traditional knowledge conservation were regulated through national legislation;				
(h) Regarding gaps and opportunities, a Party mentioned the lack of permanent funding for work related to soil taxonomy and a Party noted the opportunities to strengthen institutional capacities and integrate indicators more explicitly into data systems related to soil biodiversity, particularly in the context of climate change.				
42. As for the last question, 16 Parties provided additional comments, including references to national legislations, regulatory frameworks, policies, strategies, targets, tools and guidance that indirectly promote soil biodiversity. A Party referred to instruments that promote sustainable land use, including best practices in agriculture, livestock and forestry such as sustainable soil management, integrated pest management, holistic grazing management, the implementation of cover crops and organic agriculture, in addition to delivering capacity-building activities. They also mentioned instruments that support landscape restoration, advance soil biodiversity monitoring for informed decision-making and enhance climate change adaptation and mitigation as well as ecosystem resilience. In like manner, a Party set out national targets related to reducing agricultural pollution as well as actions to prevent soil degradation, promote soil recovery, enhance soil fertility and increase agricultural biodiversity. A Party also shared an example of a project on land recycling with the aim of reactivating and reusing commercial and industrial fallow land. In addition, some Parties highlighted the role of soil biodiversity in mitigating climate change and soil degradation and the need to align NBSAPs with the KMGBF as well as the two other Rio conventions. Moreover, some Parties stressed the need to expand research to include more taxonomic groups, to bridge				

science and policy, to better align and mainstream the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity in existing policies and to increase public outreach through awareness-raising campaigns such as the celebrations of World Soil Day while promoting engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities. For example, a Party highlighted the importance of strengthening the linkages between the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity and existing instruments related to integrated soil management, sustainable agriculture including agroecology, bioeconomy and fungal biodiversity.

Annex

Questionnaire on the status of implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity

Background

The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in decision [15/28](#), adopted the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity.

In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties to provide, on a voluntary basis, information on their activities and results from the implementation of the Plan of Action, in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), as appropriate, and requested the Executive Secretary to compile the submissions and to make them available for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held prior to the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

This questionnaire aims to facilitate the submission of information from Parties. The submission at the national level on the status of implementation of the Plan of Action provides a better understanding of how soil biodiversity was reflected in the preparation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) as well as in the national targets and indicators.

The Secretariat will compile the responses, as well as relevant policies, regulations or frameworks that have been implemented, and identify gaps and needs to further support countries in implementing the Plan of Action aligned with the KMGBF. The analysis of the responses will be made available for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-seventh meeting.

Instructions

This online questionnaire consists of 10 questions and is divided into three sections:

- I. General information;
- II. Overview questions;
- III. Status of implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity.

The space for comments can be used to provide an information on relevant policies, regulations or frameworks as well as linkages to the NBSAPs, targets and indicators.

This offline template is available to facilitate internal coordination. For official submission, please complete and submit only one [online questionnaire](#) per Party.

Deadline

Please complete the online questionnaire, to the best of your ability, and in line with the appropriate Ministries and relevant institutions at national level as applicable, by 4 July 2025. Any follow up questions or comments can be directed to the CBD Secretariat (secretariat@cbd.int).

(I) General information

Party: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

Full name of the contact person: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

Title of the contact person: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

Email address to contact: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

(II) Overview questions

1. Is the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity being (directly or indirectly) taken into account in your country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) aligned with the KMGBF?

- ☐ It is directly addressed in the NBSAP.
- ☐ It is indirectly addressed in the NBSAP.
- ☐ It was not addressed in the NBSAP.
- ☐ Under development.
- ☐ Other: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

2. Are there any national target(s) and indicator(s) for monitoring soil biodiversity in place?

If yes, please indicate in the comments.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ None
- ☐ Under development
- ☐ Other: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

3. Is fungal biodiversity, as per the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity, included in any national policy or strategy? If yes, please provide information on which policy/strategy as well as hyperlinks in the comments.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ None
- ☐ Under development
- ☐ Other: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

4. **Analysis of gaps:** Which of the following items do you perceive as barriers to implement the Initiative on Soil Biodiversity at national level? You can select multiple answers.

- ☐ Lack of information and knowledge
- ☐ Lack of capacity and resource limitations
- ☐ Policy and institutional constraints
- ☐ Lack of research at national level
- ☐ Others: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

5. **Analysis of opportunities:** Which of the following items do you perceive as opportunities to enhance the implementation of the Initiative on Soil Biodiversity at national level?

You can select multiple answers.

- ☐ Link the implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) with the NBSAPs and the KMGBF monitoring framework.
- ☐ Link the implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) with a government's strategy for the agricultural sector.
- ☐ Enhance capacity, technology and use of tools to implement the Plan of Action (2020–2030).
- ☐ Other:

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

(III) Status of implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity

The following questions are based on activities defined in the Plan of Action (2020–2030).

6. Element 1: Policy coherence and mainstreaming

6.1. Develop and implement coherent and comprehensive policies for the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of soil biodiversity.

- ☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

6.2. Foster activities to safeguard and promote the importance as well as the practical application of soil biodiversity, and integrate them into broader policy agendas such as food security, ecosystem and landscape restoration, climate change adaptation and mitigation, urban planning and sustainable development.

- ☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

6.3. Promote the implementation of good practices of sustainable soil management and spatial planning in a participatory manner.

- ☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

6.4. Strengthen synergies between scientific evidence, conservation, restoration and sustainable practices, farmer-researcher community practices, agricultural advisory services and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities to better support policies and actions.

- ☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

6.5. Address linkages between soil biodiversity and human health, nutritious and healthy diets and pollutant exposure.

- ☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

6.6. Promote ways and means to overcome obstacles to the adoption of good practices in sustainable soil management associated with land tenure, the rights of users of land and water, in particular women, the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, in accordance with national legislation and international instruments, recognizing their important contributions through their knowledge and practices, gender equality, access to financial services, agricultural advisory services and educational programmes.

- ☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

7. Element 2: Encouraging the use of sustainable soil management practices

7.1. Promote the improvement of soil health and the enhancement of soil organism abundance and diversity through sustainable agricultural practices.

- ☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

7.2. Facilitate, for all relevant stakeholders, access to information, policies, tools and enabling conditions, such as access to technologies, innovation and funding, as well as to traditional practices that promote the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity at the field level.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

7.3. Facilitate site-specific remediation of contaminated soils, preferring those alternatives that show minor risks to biodiversity, while exploring the implementation of bioremediation strategies that use native microorganisms.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

7.4. Prevent the introduction and spreading, and minimize the impact of invasive alien species that present a direct and indirect risk to soil biodiversity, and monitor the dispersion and eradicate, control or manage those already established.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

7.5. Promote sustainable soil and associated water and land management practices that maintain, restore and promote the resilience of carbon-rich soils (such as peatlands, black soils, mangroves, coastal wetlands, seagrasses and permafrost).

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

7.6. Promote conservation, restoration and sustainable management of soil biodiversity, and implement where appropriate, ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction while considering potential impacts on indigenous peoples and local communities, small-scale food producers and peasants.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

8. **Element 3: Awareness-raising, sharing of knowledge and capacity-building**

8.1. Increase understanding and appreciation of the role of soil biodiversity and soil health in managed and other ecosystems.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

8.2. Increase understanding of the causes and consequences of soil biodiversity decline and engage targeted key stakeholder groups on the importance of soil biodiversity for health, well being and livelihoods.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

8.3. Build and strengthen the capacities of key stakeholder groups, as appropriate, in designing and implementing sustainable soil management practices and the sustainable application of soil biodiversity and consider traditional knowledge and practices.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

8.4. Promote awareness-raising and sharing of knowledge through tools and digital technology, and promote capacity-building and mutual learning, including at the local and field levels by developing collaborative activities, such as peer-to-peer learning, for the promotion of best practices for soil biodiversity assessment, management and monitoring.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

8.5. Enhance education on, and knowledge of, soil biodiversity, soil health and the ecosystem functions and services they provide, through the update of educational curricula for professionals and foster scientific and technical cooperation and transfer of technology in developing countries.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

8.6. Support citizen science campaigns and awareness-raising activities to engage relevant stakeholders in the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity, including celebrations on 5 December of World Soil Day⁵.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

9. Element 4: Research, monitoring and assessment

9.1. Promote research on sustainable soil management practices that ensure conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

9.2. Increase national capacities on soil biodiversity taxonomy and design targeted strategies to fill the existing gaps.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

9.3. Facilitate the data collection, storage and curation of samples and encourage the development of indicators and monitoring mechanisms.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

9.4. Promote further research to identify risks to soil biodiversity under climate change and potential adaption measures and mitigation tools, as well as risks caused by the use of hazardous or toxic chemicals.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

9.5. Promote research, information management and dissemination, data collection and processing, community-based monitoring, transfer of knowledge and technologies and networking.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

9.6. Promote access to the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources in the soil, considering the potential to develop new products and medicines, in line with the third objective of the Convention and with the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization.

☐ Implemented ☐ Under development ☐ Not relevant ☐ Others

Comments: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

10. Additional comments

In this section, you can provide additional comments on relevant policies, regulations or frameworks as well as linkages to the NBSAPs, targets and indicators: [Click here to enter your answer.](#)

⁵ See General Assembly resolution [68/232](#) of 20 December 2013 on World Soil Day and International Year of Soils.