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**Engagement with subnational governments,
cities and other local authorities to enhance
the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal
Global Biodiversity Framework**

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Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 7 of decision [15/12](#), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to undertake a review of the role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in the implementation of the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and to submit the report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for consideration at a meeting held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
2. Pursuant to that request, the Secretariat commissioned ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, with contributions from Regions4, to prepare the review. An executive summary of the review was made available to the Subsidiary Body of Implementation at its seventh meeting, in document [CBD/SBI/7/9](#).
3. The completed review, as prepared by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, with contributions from Regions4, is contained in the annex to the present note and is reproduced as received, for the information of participants in the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

* [CBD/COP/17/1/Rev.1](#).

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

Annex

Review of the role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in the implementation of the convention on biological Diversity, its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The review of the role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is reproduced below in the form in which it was received by the Secretariat.

1. Introduction: Context and mandate

The adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)¹ marked a historic commitment by Parties to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. The Framework was adopted by the 196 Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) in Montreal, Canada, in December 2022 (CBD, 2022a).

Alongside the adoption of the KMGBF in 2022, the Conference of the Parties (COP) adopted a package of decisions to support its implementation. These decisions established a global review mechanism comprising a mid-term review, at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP17) and a final review, at COP19, (decisions 15/6² and 16/32³). The process is supported by the mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review established under the Framework. In addition, Decision 15/12⁴ adopted the Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities, and Other Local Authorities (2023–2030), recognizing the essential role of local and subnational governments in implementing the KMGBF and strengthening their participation in its planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and review processes. The global review will assess collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF, identify implementation gaps, and inform efforts to raise ambition towards the Framework's 2030 targets and 2050 goals.⁵

The global review process is supported by an Advisory Committee to ensure that the process remains Party-led and by the Ad hoc Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (AHSTAG), which provides technical inputs to the preparation of the report on collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF. By February 2026, 119 Parties had submitted national targets aligned with the framework, and 44 had updated their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

The global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework indicated that, despite increasing efforts to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, collective implementation remains insufficient to achieve the ambitions of the KMGBF. Available evidence also highlighted the increasingly important role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in supporting implementation of the Convention and the Framework. Across the seven Action Areas of the Plan of Action adopted under Decision 15/12, the global review documented growing evidence that subnational governments are translating global biodiversity commitments into practical action in areas in which they exercise statutory or administrative responsibilities, including biodiversity planning, ecosystem restoration, protected and conserved areas, ecological connectivity, capacity development, resource mobilization, monitoring and public engagement. The review also demonstrated that implementation is being strengthened through partnerships, voluntary reporting platforms, technical

¹ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-04-en.pdf>

² <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-06-en.pdf>

³ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-32-en.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-12-en.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/4baa/aad3/64dbc46b0d9c6ebe6217259b/sbstta-28-02-rev1-en.pdf>

networks and peer learning initiatives, including the CitiesWithNature⁶ and RegionsWithNature⁷ Action Platforms. These mechanisms have increased the visibility of local and regional biodiversity action while supporting knowledge exchange, collaboration, and contributions to national and global reporting processes.

At the same time, it identified several recurring challenges. These include limited coordination across levels of government, insufficient technical and financial capacity, inconsistent monitoring and reporting systems, and the need for stronger integration of subnational and local contributions into national biodiversity planning, implementation and reporting. A particularly significant finding was that the contributions of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities are not yet systematically captured in national reporting processes. As a result, a substantial body of local action remains invisible within national and global assessments of progress. This limits the collective understanding of how implementation is advancing across governance levels and may underestimate the critical role that local and regional actors play in delivering biodiversity outcomes. Strengthening multilevel governance, enhancing cooperation between levels of government and improving the integration and visibility of subnational and local contributions will therefore be essential to accelerating implementation of the KMGBF and achieving its 2030 targets.⁸

The whole-of-government approach reflected in the KMGBF recognizes that implementation relies on action and cooperation across levels of government, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and institutional arrangements. The examples reviewed illustrate how subnational and local authorities can translate national biodiversity priorities into measures suited to territorial and local contexts and how coordination across levels of government can support coherence between national and local implementation.

Against this background, and in the context of the Plan of Action adopted under Decision 15/12, the present review examines the role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities through the seven Action Areas of the Plan of Action, highlighting achievements, emerging trends, persistent challenges and opportunities to strengthen multilevel governance and the integration of local and subnational contributions into biodiversity planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting.

2. Purpose and scope:

This report was prepared in response to paragraph 7 of CBD Decision 15/12, in which the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to undertake a review of the role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols and the KMGBF. The present document constitutes the review prepared pursuant to that request. It is intended to provide a structured assessment of available evidence rather than an exhaustive inventory or a statistically representative global assessment.

The executive summary presented to the Subsidiary Body of Implementation at its seventh meeting provided a high-level review based on the evidence available at that stage. The present document expands the evidence base through additional case studies and implementation examples from cities, regions and partner organizations around the world, and, importantly, draws cross cutting findings on the functions, enabling conditions, barriers and multilevel governance arrangements that emerge across the seven action areas.

The review does not seek to benchmark or rank the performance of individual jurisdictions, nor does it measure aggregate global progress by subnational and local governments. The examples are illustrative and reflect information that was readily available or voluntarily submitted through the CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature platforms. They demonstrate the range of roles that subnational and local authorities

⁶ <https://citieswithnature.org/>

⁷ <https://regionswithnature.org/>

⁸ Global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework-
<https://www.cbd.int/gbf/implementation/globalreview>

may perform, but they cannot be used to infer the prevalence, effectiveness or geographic distribution of those roles globally.

This first review should therefore be understood as an initial evidence base. Its findings can inform future efforts to strengthen the systematic collection, comparability and integration of information on subnational and local implementation, including in the context of national reporting and subsequent reviews of collective progress.

3. Methodology

Consistent with CBD Decision 15/12, which notes that the review of the Plan of Action is to be undertaken subject to the availability of resources, no dedicated funding was available to undertake a comprehensive or systematic global survey of local and subnational biodiversity action. As a result, this report draws on available, anecdotal knowledge and evidence from previous overviews and reports of local and subnational actions and information reported through relevant platforms, initiatives and voluntary reporting mechanisms, including CitiesWithNature, RegionsWithNature and Arboris, Regions4's case study database.⁹ The case studies presented in this report provide an illustrative—not exhaustive—snapshot of biodiversity action by cities, regions and local authorities.

To further strengthen the evidence, base for this review, a targeted call for case studies was issued to cities and subnational governments¹⁰ worldwide and advertised through the various social media platforms, inviting submissions that demonstrate practical actions aligned with the targets of the KMGBF and the seven Action Areas of the Plan of Action under CBD Decision 15/12. The call sought examples showcasing ecosystem restoration, urban nature, resilience-building and other biodiversity initiatives, while highlighting measurable impacts, lessons learned, innovative approaches and opportunities for replication and scaling. Consequently, the examples captured in this report represent only a small fraction of the work being undertaken on the ground globally, reflecting those initiatives that have been documented and voluntarily reported. Nevertheless, they demonstrate how subnational and local governments are translating biodiversity commitments into action, overcoming implementation challenges, and contributing to the achievement of the KMGBF. Together, they offer valuable insights into opportunities, barriers and enabling conditions that can support more effective multilevel governance for biodiversity and help accelerate collective progress towards a nature-positive future. In selecting the case studies presented in this report, efforts were made to achieve broad geographical representation and reflect a diversity of regional contexts, governance arrangements, ecosystem types and implementation approaches. While the selection is not comprehensive, it aims to showcase examples from different regions of the world to illustrate the breadth of local and subnational biodiversity action.

4. Analytical Approach

The case studies and other evidence collected for the review were considered in relation to the seven Action Areas of the Plan of Action under decision 15/12 and their contribution to implementation of the KMGBF. In addition to illustrating implementation in different contexts, the evidence provides a basis for identifying recurring themes concerning the functions exercised by subnational governments, cities and other local authorities; enabling conditions and implementation challenges; and connections between local and subnational action and national biodiversity planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting. These recurring themes are highlighted in the analysis below.

The evidence base has important limitations. The review relies substantially on voluntarily reported and publicly available information. Efforts were made in selecting the case studies to achieve broad geographical representation and reflect diverse regional contexts, governance arrangements, ecosystem types and implementation approaches. Nevertheless, the resulting sample is illustrative rather than

⁹ Building on the success of the Regions4 Case Study Database, Arboris creates a broader platform to connect knowledge, foster collaboration and accelerate the replication of effective subnational solutions.

¹⁰ It is important to note all case studies received are not included for the sake of brevity.

statistically representative and does not provide a basis for comparing performance among regions, country groups or levels of government.

Paragraph 7 of decision 15/12 also refers to the role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in the implementation of the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols. The information available for the present review relates predominantly to implementation of the Convention and the KMGBF and provides limited information specifically concerning implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing. Consequently, the review does not provide a separate assessment of the role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in implementation of the Protocols. This limitation should not be interpreted as indicating absence of relevant roles or activities.

5. Review of Local and Subnational Contributions to the Plan of Action under CBD

Decision 15/12: A Framework for Implementation

Decision 15/12 sets out the Plan of Action of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities for biodiversity (2023 – 2030), building on Decision X/22¹¹. The Plan of action renews and strengthens the Convention's commitment to engaging subnational governments, cities and other local authorities as essential partners in implementing the Convention and the KMGBF. It calls on Parties, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, to strengthen the participation of subnational governments and cities in the development, implementation and reporting of NBSAPs, while supporting enhanced technical, institutional and financial capacity at the local and subnational levels.

A key component of this governance architecture is the **Advisory Committees on Local Governments and Biodiversity and on Subnational Governments and Biodiversity**. Renewed under Decision 15/12, the Committees provide structured channels for cities and regional governments to engage collectively with the Convention and contribute their perspectives to CBD processes and the implementation of the Plan of Action. The **Advisory Committee on Local Governments and Biodiversity**, coordinated by ICLEI's Cities Biodiversity Center, brings together political representatives from cities, supported by a technical working group. The **Advisory Committee on Subnational Governments and Biodiversity**, coordinated by Regions4 in partnership with the Government of Québec, provides a corresponding platform for regional governments. Together, they support political engagement, exchange of implementation experiences, collective positioning and dialogue with Parties and the CBD Secretariat.

The Decision also provides a practical implementation framework set out in seven interrelated Action Areas that form a Plan of Action to promote collaboration across levels of government, strengthen biodiversity planning, resource mobilization, capacity development, knowledge generation, communication, and monitoring and reporting. Together, these Action Areas (outlined in the table below) provide a common framework through which Parties, subnational governments, cities and partner organizations can coordinate efforts to accelerate implementation of the KMGBF.

Action Area	Synopsis
Action Area 1 (AA1): Development and implementation of biodiversity strategies and action plans reflecting the involvement of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities	Promotes the integration of biodiversity into policies, planning, decision-making and development across all sectors and levels of government. It encourages a whole-of-government approach, ensuring biodiversity is embedded within spatial planning, infrastructure, finance, health, climate, agriculture and other sectoral policies.
Action Area 2 (AA2): Collaboration between levels of government, and mainstreaming	Focuses on improving vertical and horizontal coordination between national, subnational and local governments, while strengthening partnerships with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, civil

¹¹ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-10/cop-10-dec-22-en.pdf>

Action Area	Synopsis
	society, academia, the private sector and other stakeholders. It promotes inclusive governance and multilevel collaboration to accelerate biodiversity action.
Action Area 3 (AA3): Resource mobilization	focuses on collaborating with subnational governments, cities and other local authorities to strengthen resource mobilization in line with the principle that management should be decentralized to the lowest appropriate level. It also seeks to create enabling conditions for increased private sector investment and reforms that can generate new revenue streams for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration at the subnational and local levels.
Action Area 4 (AA4): Capacity development	Supports the development of technical, institutional and human capacity required to implement biodiversity action. It encourages peer learning, training, innovation, technology transfer and the exchange of experiences, tools and good practices among local and subnational governments and their partners.
Action Area 5 (AA5): Communication, education and public awareness	Promotes public awareness, environmental education and meaningful stakeholder engagement to build support for biodiversity action. It encourages communication, citizen participation, behavioral change and the sharing of success stories to inspire action and strengthen ownership across society.
Action Area 6 (AA6): Assessment and improved information for decision-making	Promotes the development and sharing of scientific knowledge, local knowledge, monitoring systems, indicators, data collection and voluntary reporting. It encourages evidence-based decision-making and enables local and subnational governments to demonstrate their contributions to the implementation of the KMGBF through consistent monitoring and reporting mechanisms.
Action Area 7 (AA7): Monitoring and reporting	Focuses on strengthening the participation of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in biodiversity monitoring, reporting and review processes. It encourages the use of online commitment and reporting platforms, such as CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature, to report on and track progress towards biodiversity commitments. It also promotes the involvement of subnational and local actors in the monitoring and review of national biodiversity targets, the inclusion of their contributions in national reporting under the Convention, and the coordination of their inputs into the global review of progress towards the objectives of the Convention and the KMGBF.

Importantly, Decision 15/12 also recognizes the CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature Action Platforms as voluntary mechanisms through which subnational governments, cities and other local authorities can monitor and report their biodiversity commitments and actions, supporting greater visibility of local action and its integration into national and global biodiversity reporting processes.¹²

Annex 1 presents the alignment of the case studies with the seven Action Areas of the Plan of Action. While each case study has been assigned to the Action Area that best reflects its primary focus, many demonstrate integrated approaches that contribute to multiple Action Areas. This

¹² Landmark recognition for cities & regions in historic COP15 Decisions- <https://cbc.iclei.org/news/landmark-recognition-for-cities-regions-in-historic-cop15-decisions/>

cross-cutting nature highlights the interconnectedness of biodiversity planning, governance, financing, capacity development, communication, decision-making, and monitoring in advancing local and subnational implementation of the KMGBF. Key takeaways of the integrated and cross-cutting nature of implementation are summarized below under heading 5.

The case studies below are illustrative. Following each Action Area, an analytical synthesis draws out principal functions illustrated by the examples, recurring enabling conditions and implementation challenges identified in the material reviewed, and relevant connections with implementation by Parties and other levels of government.

Action area 1: Development and implementation of biodiversity strategies and action plans reflecting the involvement of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities

Cali Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PAB-Cali): A Multi-Stakeholder Governance Instrument for Urban Nature Management - Colombia

Located within the Tumbes–Chocó–Magdalena biodiversity hotspot, Santiago de Cali is one of Colombia’s most biodiverse cities, yet rapid urbanization, ecosystem fragmentation, water pollution, and climate pressures have transformed over 80% of its territory, threatening critical ecosystems. To address these challenges, the city developed its first Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PAB-Cali), financed by the Inter-American Development Bank and prepared by the Alexander von Humboldt Biological Resources Research Institute and ICLEI Colombia under the leadership of the Department of Environmental Management (DAGMA). The strategy provides a roadmap to 2036, aligning local action with the KMGBF, the Sustainable Development Goals, and Colombia’s National Biodiversity Policy. Developed through an inclusive four-stage process involving over 140 representatives from government, academia, civil society, communities, and the private sector, the plan is informed by biodiversity data documenting more than 5,100 species, 234 wetlands, and over 1,500 water springs. It is structured around five strategic pillars: urban-rural integration, resilient urban environments, biodiversity conservation, knowledge and traditional wisdom, and governance, supported by cross-cutting themes of climate action, water stewardship, equity, and financing. PAB-Cali establishes measurable targets, strengthens biodiversity governance, promotes ecosystem restoration and connectivity, and integrates biodiversity into long-term urban planning, positioning Cali as a regional leader in nature-positive and climate-resilient urban development.

Biodiversity Nagoya Strategy Action Plan 2030: Mapping Priority Areas for Biodiversity Conservation in Nagoya City - Japan

As part of the Biodiversity Nagoya Strategy Action Plan 2030, Nagoya City launched the Biodiversity Important Area Map (Seibutsu Tayosei Juyo Area Map) in July 2024 to support biodiversity conservation and nature-positive urban development. The initiative addresses the limited availability of biodiversity information by identifying and visualizing areas of high ecological value, enabling developers and landowners to integrate biodiversity considerations into planning from the earliest stages. Covering the entire city, the map uses a 250-metre grid system to assess biodiversity importance based on records of rare species, conservation activities, and ecological features such as forests, parks, and aquatic habitats. Areas of exceptional ecological significance are designated as "particularly important areas," while sensitive species data are protected through controlled access. The initiative relies on information sharing and voluntary action rather than regulation, encouraging biodiversity-conscious decision-making across the city. A key innovation is the integration of citizen science, with biodiversity observations submitted through the Biome smartphone application and validated by experts, strengthening both the city's biodiversity knowledge base and public participation. Led by Nagoya City, the initiative supports the implementation of Japan's National Biodiversity Strategy, contributes to the 30by30 target, and helps mainstream biodiversity into urban planning. Its innovative approach was recognized with the Excellent Prize at the 5th Green Infrastructure Awards.

The Kampala Urban Forestry Management Plan - Uganda

The Kampala Urban Forestry Management Plan (KUFMP) 2024–2028/29 provides a roadmap to restore, protect,

and sustainably manage Kampala's urban forest across its five city divisions. Developed in response to rapid urbanisation, climate change, and environmental degradation, the plan integrates urban forestry into city planning while supporting biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, and community well-being. The KUFMP is built around five strategic objectives: expanding and protecting urban tree cover; strengthening institutional and regulatory frameworks; promoting community participation through tree adoption, school greening, and awareness campaigns; integrating urban forestry into physical planning and infrastructure development; and establishing a robust monitoring, learning, and adaptive management system using GIS, remote sensing, and citizen reporting. Key actions include citywide tree audits and mapping, targeted tree planting in roadsides, wetlands, schools, and canopy-deficient neighbourhoods, and the development of a tree permitting and registry system supported by the forthcoming Urban Tree Ordinance. Community engagement has been strengthened through youth, women's, school, and faith-based greening initiatives, alongside innovations such as tree tagging and the Kampala Tree Watch App. The establishment of an Urban Forestry Technical Committee and a citywide Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Reporting framework further supports evidence-based decision-making. By targeting a 30% increase in urban tree canopy cover by 2039, Kampala is advancing a model of integrated, climate-resilient urban forestry governance in Africa.

Advancing 30×30 through inclusive conservation in California - United States

Launched in 2020, California's 30×30 initiative aims to conserve 30% of the state's lands and coastal waters by 2030. Responding to accelerating habitat loss, urban development and climate change, the initiative seeks to protect and restore biodiversity, strengthen climate resilience and expand equitable access to nature. Its implementation strategy, Pathways to 30×30, combines ten complementary approaches, including regionally led conservation, voluntary conservation easements, strategic acquisitions, restoration, improved coordination, aligned investment and adaptive management. Collaboration is central to California's approach. The state works with Indigenous peoples and local communities, local governments, universities, NGOs and private landowners to identify priorities and implement conservation measures. Indigenous leadership helped guide the designation of the Chuckwalla and Sattitla Highlands National Monuments, while agreements between California Native American tribes and California State Parks support collaborative stewardship across nearly 900,000 acres. These partnerships integrate biodiversity protection with cultural knowledge, heritage and long-term territorial stewardship. As of June 2025, 26.1% of California's land and 21.9% of its coastal waters were under long-term conservation. Major achievements include reconnecting nearly 400 miles of habitat through the Klamath River restoration; establishing the 4,543-square-mile Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, California's first tribally nominated and co-stewarded marine sanctuary; and securing international recognition of the state's Marine Protected Area Network through the IUCN Green List. Progress is monitored through CA Nature and the Protected Areas 30×30 Toolkit, which bring together biodiversity, climate, access and conservation data to identify gaps and support transparent, evidence-based decisions. California invested approximately \$1.3 billion in projects supporting its conservation goals between 2022 and 2025. Additional resources are provided through Proposition 4, a \$10 billion climate bond approved in 2024 that directs funding toward biodiversity, restoration, parks, public access and ocean-climate action. California's experience demonstrates that ambitious area-based conservation depends on sustained investment, connected ecological networks, adaptive management and shared responsibility—while recognizing that biodiversity, climate resilience, cultural stewardship and community well-being must be advanced together.

From Global to Local: CT BIO - ABEMA Role in Implementing the KMGBF through State Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans - Brazil

The ABEMA Technical Chamber on Biodiversity (CT BIO) was established in 2023 to strengthen coordination and harmonize biodiversity action across Brazil's states. Building on ABEMA's observer status to the CBD, CT BIO helps translate international commitments under the KMGBF into subnational policies and territorial action, particularly supporting Target 14 on mainstreaming biodiversity into decision-making. CT BIO supports the development and implementation of the NBSAP and State Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (SubNBSAPs). It develops methodological guidelines, policy briefs, training and workshops, while thematic working groups facilitate knowledge exchange, technical cooperation and evidence-based decision-making. Its work also promotes integration across biodiversity, climate resilience, bio economy and sustainable development agendas. The initiative uses a cooperative federalism and multi-level governance model, connecting state environmental agencies with national and international biodiversity processes and ensuring subnational priorities inform national decision-

making. CT BIO has also strengthened state participation in conservation instruments, including National Action Plans for Threatened Species. Since its establishment, CT BIO has produced technical outputs, supported numerous biodiversity events and engaged thousands of participants. Partnerships with organizations including CAF, GIZ, TNC and UNDP have supported capacity building and SubNBSAP implementation. Overall, CT BIO demonstrates how institutional coordination and subnational capacity-building can mainstream biodiversity into governance and planning.

Collaboration Across Municipalities to Preserve Rio de Janeiro's Biodiversity to align with the NBSAP-Brazil

The State of Rio de Janeiro established the Support Program for Municipal Protected Areas (ProUC) to strengthen cooperation with its 92 municipalities and expand effective biodiversity conservation across the state. Created in 2009, the program combines state-level coordination with municipal implementation to protect the Atlantic Forest, improve ecosystem services and align local action with Brazil's National Biodiversity Strategy and the KMGBF. ProUC provides continuous technical assistance to municipal environmental authorities, supporting the legal creation of protected areas, training public officials, preparing management plans and developing Municipal Atlantic Forest Conservation and Restoration Plans. It also supplies equipment and vehicles for monitoring, inspection and wildfire response. Importantly, the program connects conservation performance with fiscal incentives: by helping municipalities formalize and register their protected areas, ProUC enables them to access revenues through the Ecological ICMS, a tax redistribution mechanism linked to environmental performance. Since its launch, ProUC has supported the creation of more than 60 municipal protected areas covering approximately 120,000 hectares. It has also reviewed and regularized over 400 legal and land-tenure documents, trained hundreds of public managers and strengthened biodiversity monitoring through technical support and camera traps. Public tools—including Brazil's first Atlas of Municipal Protected Areas and an online observatory—promote transparency, improve access to conservation data and support evidence-based decision-making. For COP17, ProUC demonstrates how coordinated multilevel governance can transform global biodiversity ambition into measurable territorial outcomes. By combining strategic guidance, municipal capacity-building, transparent monitoring and financial incentives, Rio de Janeiro is enabling local governments to conserve biodiversity more effectively while delivering benefits such as water security, climate regulation, recreation and resilience to natural hazards.

Natural Reykjavík! Turning Biodiversity Commitments into Action - Iceland

Reykjavík has translated its biodiversity commitments into practical action through Natural Reykjavík! a new biodiversity action plan built on the city's 2016 Biodiversity Policy. Rather than revising the policy, the municipality focused on implementation, developing 80 measurable actions with clear responsibilities, timelines, and budgeting to strengthen accountability across departments. The plan prioritizes biodiversity conservation and restoration, climate resilience, environmental education, invasive species management, research, monitoring, and the implementation of commitments under the Berlin Urban Nature Pact. Over the past decade, Reykjavík has designated five new protected areas, restored three wetlands, expanded ecological corridors and blue-green infrastructure, improved bird habitat protection, and strengthened invasive species management. The action plan was developed through a participatory process involving municipal departments, NGOs, scientists, and residents. Public consultations and a city-wide survey confirmed strong support for biodiversity investment, accessible green spaces, and neighborhood pocket parks, leading to additional actions to expand these areas. Key commitments include planting 10,000 trees annually, applying the 3-30-300 rule to improve equitable access to nature, restoring wetlands, expanding afforestation and protected areas, strengthening ecological connectivity, advancing biodiversity monitoring, and investing in environmental education. By combining long-term planning, measurable implementation, and strong public engagement, Reykjavík demonstrates how cities can successfully localize global biodiversity commitments while creating healthier, more resilient, and nature-positive urban environments.

Key findings from Action Area 1

The examples under Action Area 1 illustrate how subnational governments, cities and other local authorities can translate national and global biodiversity objectives into territorially specific strategies, action plans, spatial priorities and implementation programmes. Their contribution is particularly visible in examples

involving land-use and spatial planning, protected and conserved areas, restoration and urban development. Several cases also show explicit alignment between local or subnational strategies and national biodiversity priorities, including NBSAP development or implementation.

Across these examples, frequently observed features include identified institutional responsibilities, access to biodiversity and spatial information, measurable objectives or targets, implementation arrangements and mechanisms for stakeholder participation. The cases also illustrate the importance of coordination across levels of government, including subnational support to municipalities and mechanisms through which subnational priorities can inform national processes. The broader evidence reviewed identifies uneven institutional capacity, data limitations and weak connections between local and national planning and reporting as recurring implementation challenges.

Action area 2: Collaboration between levels of government, and mainstreaming

1. Strengthening Municipal Biodiversity Planning through Integrated Development Plan (IDP) Biodiversity Toolkits – South Africa

South Africa's Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), in partnership with the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and other stakeholders, is supporting municipalities to mainstream biodiversity into local planning by through the developing municipal biodiversity and Integrated Development Plan (IDP) toolkits. Recognizing that local governments play a critical role in implementing the KMGBF, the initiative equips municipalities with practical guidance to integrate biodiversity, ecosystem services, climate adaptation, and ecological infrastructure into spatial planning and development decision-making. The toolkits provide municipalities with accessible methods for incorporating biodiversity priorities into Integrated Development Plans, Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs), land-use planning, and environmental management processes. They also promote the use of bioregional plans, ecosystem priority areas, ecological support areas, and nature-based solutions to strengthen resilience to climate change while safeguarding critical ecosystems and the services they provide to communities. Through technical guidance, capacity development, and collaboration between national, provincial, and local governments, the initiative strengthens evidence-based planning and promotes greater policy coherence across governance levels. By embedding biodiversity considerations into routine municipal planning processes, the toolkits help local governments make more informed development decisions, reduce biodiversity loss, and build more resilient, inclusive, and nature-positive cities and towns, demonstrating a scalable approach to mainstreaming biodiversity across South Africa's municipalities.

Innovative Practices in Ecological Restoration and Biodiversity Conservation on Saline-Alkali Lands in the Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-City - China

The China–Singapore Tianjin Eco-City, located on the western shore of Bohai Bay along the East Asia–Australasia Flyway, demonstrates how biodiversity conservation can be integrated into large-scale urban development. Decades of land reclamation, aquaculture, and pollution had degraded coastal ecosystems and threatened migratory bird habitats. In response, biodiversity was embedded into the city's master plan through cross-departmental governance, an eco-city indicator system, and the protection of wetlands, shorelines, and ecological corridors. Major restoration actions included treating 2.15 million m³ of sewage, removing 3.85 million m³ of contaminated sediment, reconnecting 180 km² of waterways, eradicating invasive *Spartina alterniflora*, restoring coastal habitats, and creating a 15 km ecological corridor. The Relict Gull was adopted as a flagship species, supported through habitat restoration, monitoring, and the establishment of a 540-hectare protected area. Nature education centers, ecological product valuation, and marine eco-tourism further strengthened public participation and sustainable development. By 2024, green coverage had reached 50%, water quality improved from below Class V to Class III, and recorded bird species increased from 106 to 214, including globally significant migratory species. Supported by local and national government investment, the project demonstrates how integrated planning, ecological restoration, and biodiversity mainstreaming can successfully balance urban growth with long-term ecosystem conservation.

Varzaneh Ramsar Wetland City: Integrating Wetland Conservation, Climate Resilience and Sustainable Urban Development - Iran

Varzaneh, a historic desert city in central Iran, is located near the internationally important Gavkhouni Wetland, a

Ramsar Site that has been severely affected by climate change, prolonged drought, and reduced flows from the Zayandeh-Rud River. Wetland degradation has threatened biodiversity, agriculture, public health, and local livelihoods, while increasing dust storms, soil salinity, and ecosystem decline. In response, the municipality adopted an ecosystem-based approach to urban management that integrates wetland conservation, climate resilience, environmental education, and eco-tourism into local development. Working with environmental organizations, universities, NGOs, communities, and national agencies, the city promoted sustainable water management, biodiversity monitoring, wetland restoration, and public awareness campaigns. Eco-tourism initiatives highlighting the desert landscape, migratory birds, local culture, and traditional architecture also created new economic opportunities linked to conservation. A major achievement was Varzaneh's designation as Iran's first Ramsar Wetland City in 2022, recognizing the municipality's commitment to balancing urban development with ecosystem conservation and community participation. Supported by municipal funding, national environmental programs, tourism investments, and partnerships, the initiative strengthened stakeholder collaboration, integrated wetland protection into urban planning, and raised international awareness of the Gavkhouni Wetland. Today, Varzaneh serves as a national model for integrated sustainable wetland governance, ecosystem restoration, and climate adaptation.

The LIFE ResLand Project, Cascais- Portugal

The LIFE ResLand project demonstrates how Portugal's National Strategy for Nature Conservation and Biodiversity 2030 (ENCNB 2030) and the National Nature Restoration Plan (PNRN) can be implemented at the local level. Coordinated by Cascais Ambiente in partnership with the Institute for Nature Conservation and Forests (ICNF), the project restores degraded ecosystems within the Sintra-Cascais Natural Park while strengthening collaborative governance between municipalities, landowners, and national authorities. Key actions include restoring riparian habitats, removing invasive alien species, planting native vegetation, and improving soil water retention to reduce erosion and increase resilience to droughts and floods. The project also addresses rural land fragmentation by using Forest Intervention Zones (ZIFs) to coordinate the management of privately-owned land, improving ecological connectivity and supporting biodiversity conservation. To reduce wildfire risk, LIFE ResLand promotes silvopastoral management, using native livestock in rotational grazing systems to replace dense, combustible vegetation with more resilient landscape mosaics. Community engagement is a central component of the project, with environmental education initiatives, including the Guardians of the Landscape program, encouraging active participation by landowners, schools, and local communities. By combining ecosystem restoration, climate adaptation, sustainable land management, and public engagement, LIFE ResLand provides a practical model for implementing national biodiversity and restoration objectives while enhancing ecological resilience at the landscape scale.

Uniting conservation, research, innovation, and collaborative action to protect an at-risk turtle in Montréal- Canada

Montréal's large parks play a vital role in protecting and restoring urban biodiversity, providing habitat for numerous species, including the Northern Map Turtle (*Graptemys geographica*), which is listed as vulnerable in Québec and a species of special concern in Canada. Facing threats from habitat loss, flooding, and nest predation, the species has become a priority for conservation within the city's biodiversity management program. As a member of Québec's Turtle Recovery Team, the City of Montréal collaborates with government agencies, conservation organizations, and research institutions to monitor populations and implement habitat restoration measures. Annual boat surveys inform the installation of basking platforms, nesting mounds, and invasive species management within the Grand parc de l'Ouest. The city also created Havre-aux-Tortues, an observation platform that enables visitors to observe turtles without disturbing their habitat. Since 2022, partnerships with the Nature Conservancy of Canada and Zoo de Granby's Mission Faune have expanded nest monitoring and protection through volunteer programs. In 2025, more than 80 hatchlings were successfully incubated and released, while a new project at Montréal's Biodôme is raising hatchlings for future monitored release. The city is also pioneering drone and artificial intelligence technologies to improve turtle monitoring, strengthening biodiversity conservation while advancing innovative approaches to urban ecological management.

Newcastle: Bringing Biodiversity into City Planning - Australia

The City of Newcastle (CN) is demonstrating how biodiversity action can be integrated into the management of a growing regional city through the Newcastle Environment Strategy 2023 (NES), a 10-year roadmap supporting climate action, nature-based solutions and a circular economy. The NES is delivered through operational plans with defined priorities, timeframes and measurable targets, enabling coordinated implementation across Council while allowing actions to adapt to emerging evidence. Its development incorporated more than 4,500 community responses, input from 200 environmental experts and 150 Council staff. In 2024, Newcastle established a 22-hectare Biodiversity Conservation Agreement protecting wetland and woodland at Black Hill, an important regional biodiversity corridor supporting threatened species. The site is managed in partnership with the Mindaribba Aboriginal Land Council, incorporating Indigenous knowledge and stewardship. Biodiversity is also being embedded into land-use planning through a dedicated Biodiversity in Local Environmental Plan Making Policy. Scientific monitoring informs implementation, including koala surveys and mapping of 7,631 hectares of native vegetation, 11 threatened ecological communities and more than 12 km of biodiversity corridors. The NES sets targets to 2045, including protecting two strategic biodiversity corridor gaps annually, restoring waterways and riparian habitat, and achieving 40% overall tree canopy cover. Recent delivery includes 249 hectares of bushland restoration, 10,530 native plants, 2,313 trees and extensive community participation, demonstrating how strategic planning, monitoring and partnerships can deliver measurable biodiversity and climate-resilience outcomes.

Sustaining Dunga Swamp in Winam Gulf, Kisumu City through incentivized conservation and community led interventions - Kenya

Dunga Swamp, located within Kenya's Winam Gulf, is a Key Biodiversity Area and Important Bird Area that provides critical habitat for the endangered sitatunga antelope, papyrus yellow warbler, and important fish breeding grounds. However, the wetland faces growing pressures from pollution, informal settlements, invasive species, unsustainable reed harvesting, agricultural encroachment, and upstream deforestation. To address these challenges, the Kisumu City Department of Environment, community organizations, government agencies, and development partners have adopted a collaborative, community-led management approach. Key actions include integrated catchment planning, wetland restoration, pollution control, sustainable livelihood programs, climate-smart urban farming, financial literacy training, and the promotion of traditional reed handicrafts to encourage sustainable harvesting and support local incomes. The Municipality contributes through land-use planning, waste management, greening initiatives, and implementation of the Kisumu County Climate Change Action Plan. Community-based organizations such as Dunga Ecotourism and Environmental Association (DECTTA) manage the Dunga Boardwalk, generating eco-tourism revenue that supports conservation, while birdwatching initiatives and monthly clean-up campaigns raise environmental awareness. Supported by partners including UNDP and Slum Dwellers International, the Dunga-Namthoi-Nyandiwa Wetland Management Plan provides a framework for phased implementation. Together, these efforts strengthen biodiversity conservation, improve community resilience, and demonstrate integrated wetland governance in an urban landscape.

Whole of Government and whole of society approach to implementing Rio de Janeiro's Biodiversity Strategy through Landscape-scale Restoration - Brazil

Launched in 2021, the Forests of Tomorrow Program translates Rio de Janeiro's State Policy for Ecological Restoration and State Forest Restoration Plan into coordinated action across the Atlantic Forest. Designed to operate across all 92 municipalities, the program is currently active in 14 municipalities spanning six hydrographic regions. It prioritizes degraded areas of high ecological importance, including protected areas, rural properties, watersheds and water-catchment zones, to restore native vegetation, strengthen ecological connectivity and recover services such as water regulation, soil fertility, carbon sequestration and climate resilience. Implementation is progressing through successive phases and coordinated action between the State Secretariat for the Environment and Sustainability, the State Environmental Institute, municipalities and financial partners. The first two phases placed more than 400 hectares under restoration, while a further 410 hectares are being restored across three hydrographic regions. A planned fourth phase aims to restore more than 1,000 additional hectares. Financing combines environmental compensation through Forest Restoration Commitment Agreements with public and partner resources, including the blended finance *Floresta Viva* initiative, creating a scalable model for delivering the state's restoration objectives. Progress is tracked through the State System for Monitoring and Evaluation of

Restoration, which assesses ecological indicators and reforestation performance to determine whether restored ecosystems are achieving stability and natural succession. New socioeconomic monitoring protocols also capture benefits such as employment, workforce development and community participation. By connecting policy, territorial prioritization, municipal delivery, financing and monitoring, *Forests of Tomorrow* demonstrates how a subnational biodiversity strategy can move from ambition to measurable implementation while advancing restoration, climate resilience and sustainable development together.

Multispecies well-being in city development – COEVOLVERS project and Nature Positive Turku to support engagement and impact, Turku - Finland

The City of Turku is embedding a multispecies perspective into urban planning to support its strategic goal of becoming a nature-positive city. Recognizing that urban development should consider the needs of both people and ecosystems, the city is developing a Nature Positive Roadmap to ensure future growth restores and strengthens nature rather than degrades it. Supporting multispecies well-being is also seen as essential for achieving biodiversity and climate goals while improving the city's livability and economic resilience. Through the EU Horizon Europe-funded COEVOLVERS project (2022–2026), Turku has piloted innovative approaches in the Pansio–Perno district, a living lab of approximately 6,000 residents. The initiative has brought together city officials, planners, researchers, residents, businesses, foundations, and NGOs to co-design nature-positive planning solutions. Activities include habitat restoration in areas affected by invasive species, Umwelt walks that explore landscapes from the perspectives of different species and communities, multispecies stakeholder analyses, and art-based engagement methods that help identify the ecological and social values of urban nature. The Nature Positive Roadmap, being developed with universities, research organizations, the public sector, companies, and residents, is expected to be implemented by 2027, embedding multispecies thinking across the city's planning, governance, and decision-making processes.

Cities and regions advancing the transition towards a nature-positive economy- Europe

The Cities and Regions Pioneer Program, developed by the EU-funded [GoNaturePositive! project](#), brings together local and regional public authorities committed to exploring and advancing the transition towards a nature-positive economy. It provides a collaborative space for cities and regions to exchange experiences, learn from peers, access emerging knowledge, practical guidance and tools, and contribute their own experiences, challenges and solutions to the development of practical approaches for implementing nature-positive strategies at local and regional level. Through webinars, workshops and community exchanges, the program supports local and regional governments interested in advancing nature-positive approaches through planning, governance, finance, policy and implementation. The program provides a platform to learn from pioneering cities and regions already testing new approaches to restore ecosystems, strengthen resilience, improve quality of life and create economic opportunities that work with nature.

Supporting regional and local governments to mainstream Nature-based Solutions through [NetworkNature-Europe](#)

NetworkNature, a leading platform for Nature-based Solutions (NbS), supports regional and local policymakers and implementers in integrating and mainstreaming NbS across policy instruments. It is developing tailored policy support packages that bring together relevant tools, evidence, guidance, case studies and good practices from EU-funded NbS research and innovation projects, NetworkNature activities, its Task Forces and NbS Hubs, as well as other relevant initiatives. The packages support the integration of NbS into regulatory, planning, financial and educational instruments and across policy areas including climate adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity, zero pollution, sustainable agriculture, urban development and health. Particular attention is given to examples of successful NbS integration in national and subnational policies and to making existing knowledge and evidence accessible and actionable for policymakers. Through this work, NetworkNature supports local and regional public authorities in translating knowledge and evidence on NbS into policy and implementation.

Key findings from Action Area 2

The evidence under Action Area 2 illustrates that the role of subnational and local authorities can extend beyond stand-alone biodiversity measures. Planning, infrastructure, climate adaptation and territorial development functions provide entry points for integrating biodiversity into public decision-making. The cases include examples of both vertical collaboration across national, subnational and local levels and horizontal coordination across departments, sectors and stakeholders.

Examples of mechanisms used to support collaboration include intergovernmental programmes, cross-departmental structures, common planning tools, technical guidance, shared information and partnerships with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, civil society, academia and other stakeholders. The wider review also identifies limited coordination across levels of government and uneven technical capacity as recurring challenges. Taken together, the examples illustrate the relevance of multilevel governance to integrating biodiversity objectives into planning and implementation across sectors.

Action area 3: Resource mobilization

Hutuo River Restoration (Shijiazhuang) Haizhu Wetland: Practices in Biodiversity Restoration and Multi-Stakeholder Governance in the Core Area of a Megacity - China

Haizhu Wetland, located in the densely populated core of Guangzhou, demonstrates how a megacity can balance urban development with biodiversity conservation. Formerly a 10,000-mu orchard threatened by development, the area was permanently protected through an innovative “expropriation without conversion” policy, enabling long-term ecosystem restoration. The Guangzhou municipality restored a three-tiered wetland water network, tidal flats, and habitats for birds, fish, insects, and native vegetation. Key interventions included creating a 1,140-mu water bird corridor, establishing a 50-hectare bird protection zone, restoring rice paddies with fish passages and water purification systems, and preserving traditional dragon boat culture. Smart technologies, including drones and automated monitoring stations, support biodiversity monitoring, while citizen science, volunteer programs, and a nature education alliance delivering over 200 courses have strengthened public participation. An innovative financing model combines government investment with private capital and new approaches to generating value from ecological information. Long-term ecological monitoring data have been monetized through the Guangzhou Data Exchange, creating an innovative mechanism to generate financial value from biodiversity and ecosystem monitoring. By 2024, wetland coverage had reached 79.4%, bird species increased from 72 to 198, vascular plants from 294 to 835, and insects from 42 to 832, while water quality improved from below Class V to Class III. Recognized as a Wetland of International Importance in 2023, Haizhu Wetland demonstrates how integrated governance, ecological restoration, technology, community participation, and innovative financing can enhance biodiversity, climate resilience, and urban livability.

Onrus Catchment-to-Coast River Restoration and Rehabilitation Project, Overstrand - South Africa

The Onrus Catchment-to-Coast (C2C) Project was established by the Overstrand Municipality to restore the degraded Onrus River system, including its wetlands, peatlands, riverbanks, and estuary. Following decades of invasive alien plants, erosion, altered hydrology, and damage from the 2019 wildfire and 2023 floods, the municipality adopted an integrated catchment-scale approach that manages the entire river system as a connected ecosystem. The project first focused on establishing the governance, scientific, and institutional foundations needed for long-term restoration. A multi-stakeholder Steering Committee, comprising government agencies, research institutions, landowners, technical experts, and funding partners, was created to coordinate planning and decision-making. Through a partnership with ICLEI and UNEP’s Generation Restoration initiative, the project developed a Situation Assessment, Wetland Rehabilitation Plan, Estuary Maintenance Management Plan, Invasive Alien Plant Plan, and sustainable funding model. The initiative has since leveraged additional investment, including funding for clearing over 154 hectares of invasive alien plants and establishing the Palmiet nursery to supply indigenous plants for future restoration. Supported by partnerships with Stellenbosch University, the Agricultural Research Council, and other organizations, the project has strengthened municipal capacity and secured international recognition. Although ecological restoration is ongoing, the project provides a strong foundation for long-term ecosystem recovery, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience. In addition, the project attracted blue carbon offset funding towards alien clearing and peatland restoration.

Mobilizing Biodiversity Finance: Paraná's Pioneering Biodiversity Credit Policy - Brazil

In 2024, Paraná became the first subnational government to establish a public policy on biodiversity credits. Developed by the State Government in partnership with the LIFE Coalition for Business and Biodiversity and supported by the Regional Development Bank of the Far South (BRDE), the initiative seeks to channel private finance towards the conservation and restoration of ecosystems. It enables companies to help address the environmental pressures associated with their operations by purchasing credits generated through verified biodiversity conservation activities. The pilot initially targets 25 Private Natural Heritage Reserves selected through public calls and technical criteria. To generate eligible credits, participating reserves must obtain LIFE Certification, providing an independent verification component. Revenues from the credits will be reinvested in conservation projects within the reserves, rewarding private landowners for maintaining biodiversity and strengthening the long-term financial sustainability of protected areas. Paraná intends to expand the model in the future to include municipal, state and federal parks. A cooperation agreement between the State Secretariat for Sustainable Development and BRDE underpins the initiative's financial mechanism. BRDE is expected to allocate R\$2 million (approximately €350,000), to finance companies' purchases of biodiversity credits from eligible reserves. By connecting verified conservation outcomes, private-sector demand and development finance, Paraná is testing an innovative model for mobilizing biodiversity funding at the subnational level. Its experience provides a valuable contribution to COP17 discussions on biodiversity finance, business engagement and the safeguards needed to ensure that emerging nature markets deliver credible and additional conservation outcomes.

BIOCLIMA: Mobilizing Public and Private Finance for Nature in Lombardy - Italy

Launched in 2022, BIOCLIMA – Biodiversity and Climate is a pioneering public-private initiative promoted by the Lombardy Region through the LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020 project, with support from Fondazione Cariplo and technical assistance from Etifor. The program was designed to address the persistent financing gap for biodiversity by combining regional funding with private co-financing for nature-based solutions in forests, protected areas and Natura 2000 sites. Its objectives include restoring habitats, strengthening ecological connectivity, increasing climate resilience and enhancing the ecosystem services provided by Lombardy's natural areas. BIOCLIMA allocated €3.5 million in regional grants to 12 projects, while requiring beneficiaries to secure co-financing covering at least 30% of project costs, including a minimum contribution from private sources. This blended approach mobilized more than €5.6 million overall and created a framework through which businesses, foundations, public authorities and protected-area managers could jointly invest in biodiversity. Projects were also required to measure and certify their expected impacts on biodiversity and carbon storage through scientifically rigorous, internationally recognized approaches. The initiative has supported improvements across more than 300 hectares of existing forests, alongside targeted biodiversity interventions covering a further 27 hectares. It has also enabled over 4,600 hectares to pursue or obtain FSC certification, including approximately 1,460 hectares where positive impacts on ecosystem services have been validated or verified. For COP17, BIOCLIMA demonstrates how subnational governments can use public finance strategically to reduce investment barriers, attract private participation and generate measurable outcomes for biodiversity and climate, offering a replicable model for financing nature-based solutions at the territorial level.

Québec Makes History with the First Subnational Contribution to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund - Canada

At the UN Biodiversity Conference COP16 in Cali, Québec announced a CAD \$2 million contribution, approximately USD \$1.4 million, to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), becoming the first subnational government to support the fund directly. Established under the Global Environment Facility, the GBFF helps developing countries implement the KMGBF by financing actions to conserve, restore and sustainably manage biodiversity. Québec's contribution formed part of USD \$163 million in new pledges announced during COP16. The investment extends Québec's biodiversity leadership beyond its own territory, complementing domestic action under its 2030 Nature Plan with international cooperation and solidarity. By contributing to a multilateral fund traditionally supported by national governments, Québec demonstrated that regions and other subnational authorities can participate directly in global resource mobilization and help close the biodiversity finance gap. The contribution also reinforced the importance of broadening the GBFF's donor base so that implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework becomes a genuinely whole-of-government and whole-of-society effort. Québec's leadership provides a powerful example of how subnational governments can move beyond

advocacy to become active financial partners in global biodiversity governance. The contribution established an important precedent and sent a strong political signal: regions possess not only the territorial responsibilities needed to deliver biodiversity action locally, but also the capacity to mobilize resources, strengthen multilateral cooperation and support implementation globally.

Xiaomeisha Ecology-Oriented Development (EOD) Model: An Innovative Practice of Synergizing Biodiversity Conservation and Green Economy Development in Coastal Cities - China

Shenzhen's Xiaomeisha EOD Project demonstrates how ecological restoration can drive sustainable coastal development by transforming environmental challenges into economic opportunities. Located in Yantian District, the project addressed degraded nearshore water quality, shoreline erosion, declining coral reefs, fragmented land-sea governance, and an overreliance on traditional tourism through an integrated EOD approach. The Municipality established a collaborative governance framework with a dedicated leadership task force and a single entity responsible for investment, construction, operations, and maintenance. Restoration efforts included creating protected conservation zones, establishing three ecological land-sea corridors, rehabilitating approximately 2,000 m² of coral reefs, restoring 33,000 m² of sandy beach, improving river and coastal water quality, and planting more than 2,400 nectar-producing plants. Ecological infrastructure, including an underwater eco-museum, science center, and a 1.8 km mountain-to-sea trail, was developed to promote nature education and sustainable tourism. A key innovation is the reinvestment model, where revenue from ecotourism and environmental education is channeled back into conservation, reducing dependence on public funding. The project has achieved Class I nearshore seawater quality, improved ecosystem connectivity, increased coral and pollinator populations, and generated approximately RMB 215 million in 2025, demonstrating a replicable model for balancing biodiversity conservation with sustainable economic development.

Yokohama Green-up Plan - Japan

Yokohama, Japan's second-largest city, has demonstrated how a rapidly growing metropolitan area can conserve biodiversity through the Yokohama Green-up Plan, first launched in 2009. Developed in response to decades of urban expansion that reduced forests and farmland, the plan provides a long-term framework for protecting and creating green spaces while strengthening residents' connection with nature. The Green-up Plan is built around three priorities: conserving forests through partnerships with residents and businesses; protecting farmland while promoting local food production and agricultural experiences; and creating accessible green spaces that enhance biodiversity and urban livability. The strategy is reviewed every five years, with the current phase covering 2024–2028, and is supported by public awareness campaigns that encourage community participation. A distinctive feature of the initiative is the Yokohama Green Tax, a dedicated municipal tax that provides stable funding for biodiversity conservation. Revenue supports forest conservation (61%), farmland initiatives (7%), and urban greening (32%), ensuring sustained investment in nature. Over the first 15 years, more than 1,000 hectares of woodland were designated as protected land, with the rate of designation now more than three times higher than at the start of the program. The Green-up Plan demonstrates how dedicated financing, long-term planning, and community stewardship can successfully integrate biodiversity conservation into a growing city.

Gui'an Plum Garden: A Model for Integrated Ecological Restoration and Community Benefit-Sharing - China

Launched in 2021, this restoration project transformed a 1,200-mu fire-damaged pine forest in Guizhou's karst region, where vegetation cover had fallen to 23% and ecosystem functions were severely degraded. Challenging soil conditions and limited natural regeneration highlighted the need for an approach that combined ecological restoration with long-term economic sustainability and community participation. A professional restoration program introduced erosion-control measures, improved soil fertility using organic fertilizers and microbial agents, and established a diverse vegetation system by planting nearly 300 plum varieties alongside native water-conserving trees and oil-seed camellia. To generate sustainable livelihoods, the project capitalized on plum blossom culture by developing seasonal festivals, creative products, and ecotourism linked to the local cultural economy. The initiative is based on an innovative partnership between government, private enterprises, village collectives, and local farmers. Enterprises finance restoration and tourism infrastructure, village collectives contribute land as equity, and residents benefit through employment, homestays, local businesses, and revenue sharing. A dedicated benefit-sharing fund reinvests 15% of annual revenue into education, healthcare, and other community services. Vegetation cover has increased to 82%, soil erosion has declined by 60%, and the site now attracts more than 30,000 visitors per day during peak flowering season, demonstrating a replicable model that delivers ecological restoration alongside lasting economic and social benefits.

Key findings from Action Area 3

The cases under Action Area 3 illustrate a range of ways in which subnational and local authorities can mobilize or direct resources for biodiversity action. Examples in the review include public budgets and investment, dedicated municipal taxes, public-private finance, ecological tax-redistribution mechanisms and, in one case, a direct subnational contribution to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund. Other examples show public authorities creating incentives or institutional arrangements intended to support investment in conservation and restoration.

The financing approaches documented are highly context-specific and reflect the mandates, fiscal arrangements and institutional capacities of the jurisdictions concerned. The review does not assess their transferability or comparative effectiveness. At the same time, technical and financial capacity are identified in the wider evidence base as recurring implementation challenges. The examples therefore illustrate both the potential for local and subnational resource mobilization and the importance of enabling legal, fiscal and institutional context in which particular instruments operate.

Action area 4: Capacity development

Hohhot's Dahei River: Transforming an "Ecological Challenge" into "Vital Green Wedge" through Innovative Systematic Water Ecological Restoration - China

Hohhot, located in the ecologically significant Yellow River Basin, faced severe environmental degradation caused by low rainfall, poor soils, sand mining, untreated sewage, and riverbank encroachment. These pressures significantly degraded the Dahei River, threatening biodiversity and reducing the river's ecological functions. To restore the ecosystem, the Municipality adopted a strategy that prioritized natural regeneration supported by targeted restoration measures. Key actions included removing pollution and illegal structures along 8.6 km of the river, restoring natural flood capacity, using recycled water and sponge city infrastructure to improve water management, restoring wetlands and floodplains through nature-based solutions, rehabilitating sand-mining pits into connected aquatic habitats, and creating boardwalks and viewing platforms to promote sustainable public access. A core bird sanctuary was also established with ongoing monitoring and protected management. By 2025, vegetation cover had increased from less than 30% to over 85%, with 755 plant species, 35 mammal species, and 218 bird species recorded, including numerous nationally protected species. Water bird numbers quadrupled compared to the previous year, and the Red-breasted Goose was recorded in Hohhot for the first time. Supported by ecological restoration bonds and public-private financing, the project combines ecological restoration, biodiversity monitoring, and sustainable tourism, demonstrating how integrated river restoration can enhance biodiversity, climate resilience, and long-term urban sustainability.

Peace with Nature in Yeoncheon: A Nature-based City from Government to Community - Korea

Yeoncheon County, located along the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), is home to internationally important biodiversity, including Red-crowned and White-naped Cranes, Eurasian otters, and leopard cats. While decades of restricted access protected these ecosystems, the county has faced severe depopulation. To address both challenges, Yeoncheon has adopted a community-led approach that connects biodiversity conservation with local development. Since 2013, the Municipality has invested in environmental education and community capacity building, enabling residents to establish ecotourism enterprises and conservation groups such as Birds Korea Yeoncheon and the Hantan-Imjin Ecotourism Association. Since 2022, local residents have participated in biodiversity monitoring through citizen science and Bioblitz surveys, while a youth-focused program launched in 2025 has integrated biodiversity into school curricula and teacher training. The initiative is guided by the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Management Plan (2020–2030) and supported through partnerships with UNESCO, ICLEI, the East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership, and other organizations. Funded primarily by Yeoncheon County, the Municipality coordinates education, partnerships, and community engagement while providing the planning framework for local action. Since 2021, more than 90 biodiversity programs have reached over 3,200 participants, creating a self-sustaining community of conservation practitioners and demonstrating how biodiversity can drive resilience, education, and sustainable development in a border region.

MAGEPAN: Strengthening Provincial Management of Ecuador's Natural Heritage - Ecuador

Developed by the Consortium of Autonomous Provincial Governments of Ecuador (CONGOPE) in collaboration with the country's provincial governments, the Manual for the Strategic Management of Natural Heritage (MAGEPAN) strengthens the ability of provincial authorities to exercise their environmental responsibilities. Published in 2023, the manual responds to persistent challenges including limited coordination across levels of government, uneven technical and operational capacity, insufficient conservation finance and growing pressure on natural resources. It provides provincial environmental teams with a common framework for integrating natural heritage into territorial planning, regulation, investment and decision-making. MAGEPAN was built through a comprehensive assessment of the legal, administrative, technical, financial and governance capacities of Ecuador's 23 provincial governments. Interviews, surveys and three regional validation workshops ensured that its recommendations reflected provincial realities and priorities. The resulting guide combines four cross-cutting areas (including conservation systems, territorial planning, citizen participation, and environmental education and communication) with ten thematic areas covering issues such as biodiversity conservation, wildlife, ecosystem services, forests, marine and coastal areas, watershed management, environmental funds and intergovernmental cooperation. Its modular structure, practical strategies and library of provincial good practices allow it to serve both as a reference tool and as a basis for coordinated action. MAGEPAN has already helped strengthen provincial natural heritage teams, standardize the management of conservation areas and improve the use of territorial information. Since its publication, at least two provincial governments have declared conservation areas following strategies set out in the manual. An initial investment of US\$35,000 supported its development, workshops and training, while a subsequent cooperation agreement between CONGOPE and WWF secured approximately US\$100,000 to develop additional operational tools. Its participatory methodology, adaptable structure and relatively modest cost offer a replicable model for building subnational capacity and turning decentralized environmental responsibilities into more coherent and effective conservation action.

Strengthening Indigenous Capacity and Leadership for Biodiversity Conservation in Québec - Canada

Through its 2030 Nature Plan and 2024–2028 Action Plan, Québec has made Indigenous leadership a structural component of its biodiversity policy. Target 13 of the Nature Plan recognizes the biocultural values, ancestral practices and knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples, engaging all 11 Indigenous nations in Québec—including 41 First Nations communities and 14 Inuit villages. Rather than limiting participation to consultation, the approach positions Indigenous nations, communities and organizations as conservation leaders and governance partners, reflecting the close relationship between biodiversity, culture and stewardship. Québec is translating this commitment into dedicated, longer-term financing. More than CAD \$30 million is expected to be provided through Target 13 by 2028, including CAD \$15 million to establish the Indigenous Leadership Fund for Biodiversity Conservation with the First Nations of Québec and Labrador Sustainable Development Institute. Its first call

supported 16 projects worth CAD \$7.2 million across seven First Nations, 12 communities and four Indigenous organizations. Québec has also provided CAD \$6 million to establish the Cree-led Eeyou Ecofund and finalized a further CAD \$6 million grant for the Inuit Nation. Complementary investments support Indigenous-led protected areas, conservation knowledge, migratory caribou dialogue and participation in the management of existing protected areas. This support extends beyond financial transfers to shared stewardship, collaborative monitoring and the integration of Indigenous and scientific knowledge. Indigenous partners are contributing to the development of biodiversity indicators, protected-area approaches and conservation priorities, while long-term dialogue mechanisms are helping align regional policy with community realities and governance expectations. By embedding Indigenous leadership in policy, finance and implementation, Québec is strengthening cultural resilience, improving equity in access to conservation resources and creating the conditions for more effective and enduring biodiversity outcomes.

Strengthening Indigenous-Led Capacity and Governance Through Napo's Amazonian Chakra - Ecuador

In Ecuador's Napo Province, the provincial government and Kichwa communities are working together to safeguard the Kichwa Amazonian Chakra, an ancestral agroforestry system that integrates food crops, medicinal plants and forest species while reproducing the ecological structure of the Amazon rainforest. Formally recognized through a provincial ordinance in 2017, the Chakra combines biodiversity conservation, sustainable production, climate resilience and intergenerational knowledge transmission. At its center are the *chakramamas*—Indigenous women who manage the Chakra, conserve seeds and pass ecological, cultural and spiritual knowledge to future generations. Capacity development is embedded in the initiative's participatory governance model. The multi-stakeholder *Chakra Group* brings together Indigenous organizations, provincial and municipal governments, national ministries, universities, NGOs and international partners to coordinate training, technical assistance, territorial planning, restoration and climate adaptation. This structure places Indigenous communities at the centre of decisions affecting their territories while strengthening their ability to engage with public institutions, manage natural resources and shape conservation policy. The Corporación de Asociaciones de la Chakra Amazónica, representing approximately 2,400 Kichwa families, including women and young people, provides an important platform for collective leadership and coordination. The initiative also strengthens producers' technical and commercial capacities through a Participatory Guarantee System and the Chakra Seal. This community-led certification model uses participation, trust and shared accountability to verify compliance with the Chakra's ecological and cultural principles, providing a more accessible alternative to conventional certification. By supporting differentiated market access for products such as cacao and guayusa, the system links biodiversity stewardship with more equitable livelihoods while preserving the Chakra's integrity. Its recognition by FAO as a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System further reinforces the value of Indigenous knowledge, community institutions and locally rooted capacity as foundations for resilient territorial development.

Key findings from Action Area 4

The examples under Action Area 4 indicate that capacity development can encompass more than training individual staff. The cases include institutional strengthening, technical assistance, peer learning, access to specialist expertise, monitoring systems and support for working with communities and knowledge holders. Several examples show subnational authorities providing technical or institutional support to municipalities or local actors, while others illustrate the role of networks and partnerships in expanding access to knowledge and expertise.

Examples involving Indigenous Peoples and local communities also illustrate capacity development linked to community-led stewardship, participatory governance and the use of Indigenous and local knowledge. Across the cases, technical assistance, peer-to-peer exchange, dedicated funding and continuing institutional arrangements are among the mechanisms used to support capacity. The review does not provide a comparative assessment of which approaches are most effective across different governance contexts.

Action area 5: Communication, education and public awareness

Putting Communities at the Heart of Conservation in Québec - Canada

The Government of Québec has committed to conserving 30% of its continental and marine environments by 2030, responding to growing pressures from habitat loss, climate change and development. Recognizing that this target cannot be achieved through government action alone, Québec is building an inclusive conservation model that enables citizens, organizations, local governments and Indigenous nations and communities to help identify and advance new areas for protection. In 2024, Québec launched a public call for protected-area proposals in southern Québec, generating more than 500 submissions. More than 400 continental proposals—including 35 submitted by Indigenous nations, communities or organizations—are moving forward for discussion through regional dialogue tables, while 14 marine areas are being considered following an ecological gap analysis. These participatory processes, together with a distinct pathway for Indigenous-led proposals, are designed to build local support and consensus before final government decisions, expected in 2027. Québec is also expanding its approach beyond traditional parks and reserves by establishing guidelines for recognizing Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs): areas that are not formally designated as protected but nevertheless deliver lasting biodiversity outcomes. An online assessment tool, interactive conservation map, official submission process and technical support from Nature Québec make participation more accessible. By November 2025, 21 OECMs had been formally recognized, with more than 20 additional proposals under review. To strengthen accountability, Québec is developing a biodiversity indicator framework that will assess progress not only by the area conserved, but also through ecological representativeness, connectivity and effective long-term management. Its COP17 experience demonstrates how subnational governments can translate the KMGBF into an operational and participatory model—combining ambitious targets with accessible tools, Indigenous peoples' participation, regional dialogue and shared responsibility for implementation.

Healthy Ecosystems Chapter of San Francisco's 2026 Update to the Climate Action Plan - United States

Reimagining San Francisco (RSF) is a collaborative alliance established in 2023 to advance urban biodiversity, climate resilience, and equitable access to nature while contributing to the 30x30 conservation target. Bringing together more than 60 city agencies, academic institutions, community organizations, and nonprofits, RSF coordinates biodiversity conservation and habitat restoration across the city through shared planning, data, and community-led action. Recognizing that neighborhoods with higher proportions of communities of color have significantly less park space and biodiversity than predominantly white neighborhoods, RSF places environmental justice at the center of its governance. Grassroots organizations, including Literacy for Environmental Justice, Sutro Stewards, and the American Indian Cultural District, help shape restoration priorities and ensure culturally responsive conservation. The alliance has established a Data Working Group to develop tools that identify biodiversity gaps, monitor progress, and guide investment. Its Biodiversity Access Tool supports strategic habitat connectivity, while the Share Nature Dashboard tracks progress towards citywide conservation goals. Early actions include micro-grants for dune restoration, schoolyard greening, and community stewardship initiatives. By combining collaborative governance, data-driven planning, and community leadership, RSF is creating a more biodiverse, climate-resilient, and equitable city where access to nature supports both ecosystem health and human well-being.

Connecting Citizens to Nature through Yokohama Waterside Oshi-katsu (Fandom Activities) Campaign - Japan

This campaign, introduced by the City of Yokohama, uses the popular Japanese concept of *oshi-katsu*—enthusiastically supporting a favorite person, place, or activity—to strengthen citizens' connections with local rivers, streams, and waterfronts while fostering environmental stewardship and biodiversity awareness. Developed in response to declining public engagement and [residents' dissatisfaction with water quality and local waterside environment](#) despite significant improvements in water quality, the initiative aims to enhance well-being by encouraging residents to rediscover and appreciate their local watersides. A central feature is the Yokohama Waterside Report, a citizen-led survey using the Water Environment Soundness Index to assess waterways across five indicators: natural condition, biodiversity, water clarity, waterside amenity, and regional water culture. The results help residents better understand the ecological and cultural value of local watersides while inspiring them to identify their own favorite ("oshi") places. The campaign also highlights the work of local conservation groups, whose restoration efforts have supported the return of species such as fireflies and dragonflies, while encouraging

wider community participation. A playful mascot, Donburako, further promotes public engagement through blogs, social media, and educational activities. By combining citizen science, environmental education, and cultural storytelling, the initiative strengthens biodiversity awareness, community stewardship, and public participation, contributing to local implementation of the KMGBF.

Building Business Capacity for Nature-Positive Management in Aichi - Japan

Since February 2024, the Aichi Prefectural Government has organized Nature-Positive Management Promotion Seminars to help businesses integrate biodiversity and natural capital into corporate decision-making. As one of Japan's leading industrial regions, Aichi is home to a large concentration of manufacturing companies, including many small and medium-sized enterprises that may have limited access to information about their dependencies and impacts on nature. The initiative bridges this knowledge gap by translating international biodiversity developments into accessible and locally relevant guidance. The seminars help participating companies understand natural capital, identify biodiversity-related risks and opportunities, reduce the environmental impacts of their activities and explore more sustainable production and management practices. Attention is given to small and medium-sized enterprises in the machinery manufacturing sector, which plays a central role in Aichi's economy. By building awareness and facilitating dialogue between government and industry, the program supports businesses in responding to emerging expectations under the KMGBF, including Target 15 on assessing, disclosing and reducing corporate impacts on biodiversity. Although primarily focused on knowledge-sharing and awareness, the program is intended to stimulate practical changes in business behavior. Aichi is therefore considering indicators such as participant satisfaction and post-seminar changes in corporate practices to evaluate its effectiveness and refine future support. The initiative demonstrates how subnational governments can strengthen private-sector capacity by providing companies, particularly smaller businesses, with the knowledge and dialogue opportunities needed to connect biodiversity policy with everyday economic decision-making.

Raising Public Awareness and Mobilizing Communities for Mangrove Restoration in Saint-Louis- Senegal

The Departmental Council of Saint-Louis, Senegal, has launched a mangrove restoration initiative that combines coastal protection, biodiversity conservation and climate adaptation with community engagement and sustainable local development. Recognizing mangroves as natural barriers against erosion, important carbon sinks and sources of local livelihoods, the project promotes their planned and sustainable management across both urban and natural ecosystems. The project particularly recognizes and supports the role of women and communities whose livelihoods depend directly on these coastal environments. Communication, education and public participation are central to the initiative. Awareness campaigns, capacity-building workshops and multi-stakeholder dialogues have helped local authorities and communities develop a shared understanding of the ecological and socioeconomic importance of mangroves. Participatory reforestation activities translate this awareness into direct action, while inter-municipal cooperation supports coordinated management of ecosystems that cross administrative boundaries. Complementary livelihood initiatives, including ecotourism, aquaculture and renewable energy, help reduce dependence on environmentally harmful practices and connect conservation messages with tangible community benefits. The project's communication and governance approach has gained national and international recognition through the Local Leadership Excellence Award and the Guangzhou Urban Innovation Award. It has also inspired mangrove management platforms in the Saloum and Casamance deltas and contributed to the establishment of a national platform led by Senegal's Directorate of Marine Protected Areas. Its consideration for replication in The Gambia and Guinea-Bissau demonstrates how effective public awareness, community mobilization and knowledge exchange can extend the influence of a local restoration initiative across an entire region.

ReDuna: Community-Led Coastal Dune Restoration for Climate Resilience, Almada- Portugal

Almada Municipality has implemented a long-term coastal dune restoration program to address dune degradation, strengthen sediment retention, and improve resilience to climate change. First launched in response to severe coastal erosion caused by Storm Christina in 2014, the initiative applies nature-based solutions to restore dune ecosystems while actively engaging local communities in their protection. The program combines dune restoration with environmental education, volunteer campaigns, workshops, and stakeholder partnerships involving coastal management authorities, beach concessionaires, schools, sports clubs, and community organizations. The

Municipality coordinates restoration activities, technical monitoring, community mobilization, and fundraising to ensure the initiative's long-term sustainability. Initial restoration works were financed through the EU-supported Thematic Operational Program for Territorial Development (POVT), with subsequent phases supported by the Portuguese Environment Agency (APA) through inter-administrative agreements. Community engagement and education have also been strengthened through the Horizon Europe-funded NBS EduWORLD project (2022–2025). Since its launch, the project has expanded following additional storm events, with restoration now linked to planned artificial beach nourishment. The initiative has improved dune stability, enhanced natural sediment retention, increased coastal resilience to erosion and extreme weather, and fostered stronger community stewardship. Presented at COP21 as Portugal's climate adaptation demonstration project, it continues to provide a replicable model for nature-based coastal restoration and collaborative governance.¹³

Restoring Natural Coastal Processes on Haifa's Blue Flag Beaches - Israel

Haifa Municipality restored its coastline by removing nearly 1,000 tons of obsolete concrete infrastructure and replacing it with environmentally friendly alternatives to restore natural coastal processes. The project aimed to reverse shoreline erosion, improve beach accessibility, and strengthen coastal resilience by allowing natural sediment movement and beach regeneration. Implemented over a two-year period, the initiative restored natural sediment dynamics, resulting in significant beach widening and increased sand accumulation. Restoration activities were complemented by public awareness campaigns and integrated into the municipality's Blue Flag beach management program to promote sustainable coastal stewardship. The project was led by Haifa Municipality in partnership with EcoOcean, the national Blue Flag operator, local stakeholders, and the Ministry of Environmental Protection. Funding was provided through the municipality's operational budget, with additional support from the national Clean Coast Program. Rather than continuing to maintain deteriorating concrete infrastructure, resources were redirected towards long-term ecological restoration and sustainable infrastructure, including modular beach access pathways. The Municipality coordinated project planning, infrastructure removal, stakeholder engagement, and climate adaptation measures. Outcomes include improved coastal resilience, reduced erosion, enhanced ecosystem functioning, greater public access to beaches, and increased public awareness of nature-based approaches to coastal management. The project demonstrates how ecological restoration can provide long-term environmental, social, and climate adaptation benefits.

Expanding Urban Biodiversity Through Native Tree Planting, Iguaba Grande - Brazil

Iguaba Grande launched an urban afforestation program in April 2025 to address degraded urban areas, limited tree cover, biodiversity loss, urban heat island effects, and low environmental awareness among residents. The initiative aims to restore urban ecosystems while improving the city's resilience, livability, and ecological health. Led by the Municipal Department of Environment and the Municipal Garden teams, the project has planted 2,200 native tree seedlings across degraded urban spaces and along the lagoon shoreline. Restoration activities are complemented by environmental education program that encourage residents to participate in conservation and strengthen appreciation for local biodiversity and ecosystem services. Municipal technical teams oversee planting, monitoring, and ongoing maintenance to ensure the long-term success of the initiative. The municipality serves as the driving force behind the program by coordinating implementation, providing technical supervision, and facilitating community engagement. Through this collaborative approach, the project promotes sustainable urban development, strengthens compliance with environmental legislation, and fosters a shared sense of stewardship for natural resources. Early outcomes include increased urban green cover, the creation of habitat for birds and pollinators, improved erosion and flood control, reduced urban heat island effects, and greater public participation in environmental conservation. The initiative remains ongoing and demonstrates how urban afforestation can deliver both ecological and social benefits for current and future generations.¹⁴

Community-Based Coastal Ecosystem Restoration in Playa del Carmen - Mexico

Playa del Carmen Municipality, through Zona Federal Marítimo Terrestre (ZOFEMAT), is restoring coastal dune

¹³ Case study received through Blue Flag

¹⁴ Case study received through Blue Flag.

ecosystems to strengthen biodiversity, improve climate resilience, and enhance community stewardship. The project focuses on producing and transplanting native dune vegetation, restoring degraded coastal dunes, training certified beach personnel, and delivering environmental education workshops alongside community restoration activities. The initiative aims to transplant at least 500 native seedlings, with a minimum 60% survival rate, supported by continuous ecological monitoring from August 2025 to April 2026. Governance combines municipal leadership with environmental education, private sector partnerships, including the Blue Flag beaches program, and active citizen participation, creating a collaborative and scalable model for coastal restoration. The project is primarily financed through the internal resources of ZOFEMAT Playa del Carmen, complemented by in-kind contributions from socially responsible companies and partner organizations, including logistical support, food, and hydration for volunteers. The Municipality leads project implementation, training, restoration activities, monitoring, and evaluation. Expected outcomes include stabilized dune systems, increased native vegetation cover, enhanced habitat for coastal biodiversity, improved resilience to climate impacts such as erosion and storms, and greater public awareness of the importance of conserving coastal ecosystems. This initiative demonstrates how municipal leadership and community partnerships can deliver effective nature-based solutions for coastal restoration.¹⁵

Key findings from Action Area 5

The evidence under Action Area 5 illustrates the role that cities and subnational governments can play in connecting biodiversity action with residents, schools, community organizations, businesses and other local actors. The cases include communication, environmental education, participatory conservation processes, citizen engagement and community restoration activities linked to biodiversity implementation.

The examples also show the use of locally relevant and accessible approaches to participation and awareness-raising. In several cases, engagement is linked directly to conservation planning, restoration, monitoring or management rather than being limited to information campaigns. The material reviewed therefore illustrates communication, education and participation as practical components of implementation, particularly where local and subnational authorities work directly with communities and other local stakeholders.

Action area 6: Assessment and improved information for decision-making

Using Biodiversity Monitoring to Drive Urban Conservation: eThekweni's State of Biodiversity Report - South Africa

For the past 17 years, eThekweni Municipality (Durban) has produced an annual State of Biodiversity (SoB) Report, providing a comprehensive assessment of the city's biodiversity and informing conservation priorities and management actions. More than a monitoring exercise, the report serves as a decision-support tool for municipal planning and has been published in isiZulu for the past three years to improve accessibility and public engagement. The 2024/25 report highlights the protection of an additional 187 hectares through the proclamation of the Widenham Wetland Protected Environment and other conservation mechanisms. While the overall extent of the Durban Metropolitan Open Space System (DMOSS) remained stable, the proportion under active management increased from 7.14% to 13.29% through improved cross-departmental coordination. The report also recommends declaring Treasure Beach Municipal Reserve as a Nature Reserve to further expand protected areas. Conservation achievements include recovery efforts for the critically endangered Durban Dwarf Burrowing Skink, wetland restoration that increased bird diversity at Van Riebeeck Wetland Park, and the discovery of a new plant species endemic to the municipality. During the reporting period, more than 1,000 hectares of invasive alien plants were cleared, creating 288 jobs and 991 training opportunities. The SoB Report demonstrates how long-term monitoring, evidence-based planning, and strong partnerships can advance biodiversity conservation while delivering social and economic benefits.

Rescuing Native Orchids: Biodiversity Conservation at Kappad Blue Flag Beach - India

¹⁵ Case study received through Blue Flag.

The Kappad Blue Flag Beach Wild Orchid Restoration Initiative was established to conserve native orchid species threatened by roadside tree removal associated with a national highway development project. Led by the District Tourism Promotion Council (DTPC) Kozhikode in partnership with the Malabar Botanical Garden and Institute for Plant Sciences (MBGIPS), Chemancheri Grama Panchayat, and the Beach Management Committee, the project demonstrates how scientific conservation can be integrated into sustainable tourism. Around 20 native orchid specimens representing six Western Ghats species were carefully rescued and scientifically transplanted onto suitable host trees within the protected Kappad Blue Flag Beach. The restoration site is monitored through geo-tagging and long-term biodiversity assessments, tracking orchid survival, growth, flowering, natural recruitment, and adaptation. The initiative also serves as an outdoor learning site, providing environmental education for visitors, students, researchers, and local communities while promoting responsible tourism and biodiversity stewardship. The project is funded through the DTPC Kozhikode and the Kerala Tourism Department's Blue Flag Beach Management Program, with in-kind scientific support from MBGIPS. Municipal partners coordinate implementation, biodiversity management, monitoring, and stakeholder engagement. The initiative has successfully safeguarded threatened native orchid populations, protected associated pollinator networks, strengthened public awareness, and established a biodiversity monitoring database, demonstrating how habitat restoration and tourism can work together to conserve the unique natural heritage of the Western Ghats.¹⁶

Turning Satellite Intelligence Data into Forest Protection in Rio de Janeiro- Brazil

Since 2016, the State of Rio de Janeiro has operated *Olho no Verde*, a satellite monitoring system designed to detect and combat illegal deforestation across the Atlantic Forest. Covering all 92 municipalities and approximately 1.4 million hectares of remaining forest, the initiative combines geospatial intelligence, artificial intelligence and enforcement coordination to identify environmental violations at an early stage. By preventing the illegal removal of native vegetation, it helps protect ecological corridors, water sources, ecosystem services and climate resilience. The system can detect vegetation loss in areas as small as 100 square meters and has generated more than 6,500 deforestation alerts since its launch. Once validated, alerts inform field inspections and can lead to equipment seizures, embargoes, administrative penalties and arrests for environmental crimes. An integrated dashboard connects alerts with inspection and enforcement outcomes, while a spatial database consolidates historical information on deforestation, embargoed areas and follow-up measures. This enables authorities to identify trends, evaluate responses and strengthen accountability. Rio de Janeiro's experience demonstrates that technology is most effective when monitoring data is connected directly to institutional action. The integration of continuous satellite observation, automated data processing and rapid coordination with enforcement agencies has strengthened the state's capacity to respond to illegal deforestation across jurisdictions. By turning near-real-time intelligence into inspections and legal measures, *Olho no Verde* provides a practical model for using data, technology and institutional coordination to protect biodiversity.

Mapping and Monitoring Ecological Connectivity to Guide Decisions in Québec - Canada

Launched in 2017 by the Nature Conservancy of Canada and its conservation partners, the Québec Ecological Corridors Initiative (QECI) works to restore and maintain connections between fragmented natural areas across southern Québec. Operating in 11 administrative regions, it brings together provincial and municipal governments, researchers, Indigenous communities, conservation organizations, landowners, farmers and other land users. The Government of Québec supports the initiative through financing, policy alignment and its authority over habitat conservation and land-use planning. Assessment, mapping and knowledge-sharing are central to the initiative. Scientific evidence is combined with local knowledge to identify and validate ecological corridors, understand fragmentation and determine where protection, restoration and stewardship can deliver the greatest benefits. Collaborative mapping has produced regional ecological networks across all 11 participating regions, while online toolkits, citizen-science activities and a biennial symposium make information accessible to landowners, practitioners and planning authorities. Six landscape-scale projects are also developing management and monitoring plans for priority connectivity areas using IUCN guidance. This evidence is being translated into territorial decisions. More than 70 municipalities and Regional County Municipalities have incorporated ecological corridors

¹⁶ Case study received through Blue Flag

into planning instruments, over 160 ecology-inclusive forest management plans have been approved, and more than 15,500 hectares of natural areas have been secured. Québec's updated Government Land-use and Planning Guidelines further require Regional County Municipalities to integrate habitat conservation and ecological connectivity when revising their land-use and development plans by 2027. Québec is also finalizing a broader biodiversity monitoring framework developed through consultation with government ministries, academia and Indigenous nations, communities and organizations. Its indicators are expected to include a measure of habitat fragmentation in southern Québec, enabling authorities to assess whether connectivity is stabilizing or improving over time. By connecting spatial data, collaborative monitoring and land-use policy, the initiative strengthens transparency, adaptive management and the use of biodiversity information in public decision-making.

Building the Evidence Base for Locally Managed Conservation Sites in Aichi- Japan

In April 2025, the Aichi Prefectural Government launched a program to help private landowners, NGOs and local communities obtain national certification for Sustainably Managed Natural Sites, anticipating their potential recognition as Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs). Many candidate sites already contribute to biodiversity conservation but lack the technical expertise, ecological data or administrative capacity needed for formal recognition. By reducing these barriers, Aichi is connecting local stewardship with Japan's national conservation system and its commitment to conserve at least 30% of terrestrial and marine areas. The program provides applicants with practical support to identify relevant landowners and stakeholders, prepare GIS data, undertake ecological surveys and develop monitoring plans. These activities improve the documentation of each site's biodiversity values and establish a basis for tracking ecological outcomes and management effectiveness over time. This support is particularly important for community conservation groups that have activity plans but lack systematically collected data, suitable indicators or the scientific capacity to demonstrate the results of their work. Although certification outcomes are still pending, the program is already assisting multiple applicants and increasing awareness of sustainable site management. Aichi is considering indicators such as applicant satisfaction, the number of successfully certified sites and improvements in management effectiveness to assess progress and adapt its support. The initiative demonstrates how subnational governments can strengthen the information foundations of area-based conservation by combining mapping, ecological assessment, monitoring guidance and technical capacity-building, helping locally managed sites achieve credible recognition and maintain effective conservation over the long term.

Key findings from Action Area 6

The cases under Action Area 6 illustrate the role of subnational and local authorities as both users and producers of biodiversity information. Examples include municipal and regional monitoring, spatial analysis, biodiversity indices, remote sensing, ecological surveys and community-generated data used to inform land-use decisions, protected-area management, restoration priorities and other public decisions. Several cases explicitly link monitoring or spatial information with planning, management or adaptive decision-making.

The wider evidence reviewed identifies challenges related to monitoring systems, methodologies, data availability and implementation capacity. Partnerships with scientific institutions, communities and technical networks are used in several cases to strengthen information and monitoring. The examples also illustrate the use of common indicators, indices and reporting frameworks, while reflecting different local ecological and institutional contexts.

Action area 7: Monitoring and reporting

Biodiversity Monitoring through eDNA Analysis at an OECM Site in Kobe - Japan

The City of Kobe is conserving its traditional satoyama landscapes—mosaics of rice fields, ponds, streams, grasslands, and woodlands shaped by centuries of sustainable human management—through their designation as an Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measure (OECM). Once maintained through traditional farming practices, these biodiverse landscapes have declined due to agricultural abandonment and rural depopulation,

threatening habitats that support nearly half of Japan's endangered species. In response, Kobe has partnered with local communities, businesses, universities, and non-profit organizations to restore abandoned farmland, protect rare species, undertake biodiversity monitoring, and deliver environmental education, contributing to Target 3 (30x30) of the KMGBF. A key innovation is the use of environmental DNA (eDNA), developed in collaboration with Kobe University, to monitor biodiversity through water samples without disturbing wildlife. Surveys comparing managed and abandoned irrigation ponds found significantly higher diversity of dragonflies and amphibians in actively managed sites, including rare and endangered species. The findings also identified habitat pressures affecting the Setouchi salamander, informing targeted restoration measures such as sediment removal and vegetation management. By combining community stewardship with innovative biodiversity monitoring, Kobe demonstrates how local governments can strengthen adaptive management while conserving both biodiversity and cultural landscapes.

Tracking Climate Resilience Across Mediterranean Regions Through Shared Evidence - Spain

Catalonia is helping lead the Mediterranean Climate Action Partnership (MCAP), a global alliance launched in 2023 that connects regions with Mediterranean-type climates across Europe, the Americas, Africa and Australia. Facing common threats, including drought, wildfire and extreme heat, participating regions exchange policies, strengthen technical capacity and develop coordinated responses through dedicated working groups. This shared structure enables regions to compare their experiences and move from isolated interventions towards more consistent and evidence-based climate and biodiversity action. Monitoring is supported by MCAP's Action Index, which compiles and compares resilience measures across participating regions. By identifying where action is advancing, what approaches appear effective and where further effort is required, the index supports mutual accountability and policy learning. Regular exchanges, study visits and joint initiatives complement this reporting mechanism, allowing regional governments to interpret findings, share implementation lessons and adapt their strategies based on comparable evidence. The partnership's MECEMB-MCAP project, co-led by Catalonia and California, further strengthens the connection between scientific assessment and public policy. Drawing on scientific literature, regional data, case studies and expert validation from Catalonia, California, Santiago de Chile, New South Wales and the Western Cape, it assesses how extreme climate events affect Mediterranean biodiversity. Its comparative analysis will identify shared trends, ecosystem vulnerabilities, knowledge gaps and transferable adaptation solutions, contributing to the first cross-regional assessment of climate extremes across Mediterranean ecosystems. Together, the Action Index and MECEMB demonstrate how common monitoring frameworks and collaborative research can turn regional data into practical guidance for more effective biodiversity and climate decision-making.

Integrating Biodiversity Indicators into Scotland's Climate Adaptation Monitoring - United Kingdom

Scotland is aligning its biodiversity and climate adaptation policies to address nature loss and climate change as interconnected challenges. Greater coordination between policy teams has strengthened the role of ecosystem restoration and nature-based solutions across the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and its Delivery Plan, as well as Scotland's third National Adaptation Plan (SNAP3). This alignment includes the "Nature Connects" outcome within SNAP3 and clearer ownership of actions across government directorates responsible for environment, climate, marine affairs, planning and infrastructure. A central feature of this approach is Scotland's national adaptation monitoring framework, which assesses progress towards climate resilience while incorporating indicators from biodiversity and nature-restoration policies. Approximately one-third of its indicators are drawn from these areas, helping Scotland evaluate how ecosystem health, ecological connectivity and restoration contribute to adaptation outcomes. Although biodiversity and climate strategies follow different reporting cycles, regular exchange between policy teams supports the sharing of data and findings across both processes. This integrated monitoring approach strengthens transparency, accountability and the evidence base for public decisions. It also helps determine whether measures such as blue-green infrastructure, landscape-scale restoration and improved ecological connectivity are delivering benefits for biodiversity alongside resilience to flooding, water insecurity and ecosystem degradation. By connecting indicators and reporting systems across policy areas, Scotland is moving beyond parallel strategies towards a more coherent understanding of progress for both nature and climate.

Community-Led Biodiversity Monitoring for Local Decision-Making in Yucatán - Mexico

In the Municipality of Tekax, Yucatán, a community biodiversity monitoring initiative has enabled Indigenous and local communities to generate their own information about wildlife and ecosystem health. Launched in 2021 within the buffer zone of the Puuc Biocultural State Reserve, the project engaged 43 women, men and young people from the ejidos of Chandzitznup, Sacpukenhá, San Isidro Yaxché and San Martín Hili. Led by the Government of Yucatán with support from WWF and regional, national and international partners, it combines local knowledge, participatory processes and accessible monitoring technology. Community monitors were trained to identify wildlife, select priority monitoring locations, install and operate camera traps, georeferenced sampling stations and process the resulting information. Participatory mapping helped identify trails, burrows and wildlife crossings based on community knowledge. Sixteen camera-trap stations operated continuously over 118 sampling days, with community members retrieving information monthly and organizing it in databases for analysis. This process documented 36 species of mammals, birds and reptiles across the four communities. The information generated provides a local evidence base for assessing ecosystem condition, identifying conservation priorities and developing environmental education activities. It can also inform community strategies for sustainable resource use and support the establishment of Voluntarily Designated Conservation Areas. By enabling communities to collect, interpret and use their own biodiversity data, the initiative strengthens local ownership of monitoring and ensures that traditional territorial knowledge contributes directly to conservation decisions. The project's accessible and adaptable methodology offers strong potential for replication across other forest landscapes, particularly when supported by sustained financing, technical assistance and institutional partnerships. By enabling Indigenous and local communities to generate, interpret and apply biodiversity information, Yucatán demonstrates how participatory monitoring can strengthen both local stewardship and official decision-making. As COP17 turns attention toward assessing implementation of the KMGBF, this experience shows that credible biodiversity reporting depends not only on national datasets, but also on locally generated evidence and the meaningful participation of the communities managing biodiversity on the ground.

Key findings from Action Area 7

Action Area 7 provides an important link between local implementation and planning, monitoring, reporting and review under the Convention and the KMGBF. The cases document cities and regions generating information on commitments, actions and outcomes through jurisdiction-specific monitoring systems and voluntary platforms. The review also identifies a recurring challenge in ensuring that local and subnational contributions are reflected in national biodiversity monitoring and reporting processes.

The evidence supports a distinction between the visibility of local and subnational action and its integration into national reporting. Voluntary platforms such as CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature can increase visibility and support knowledge exchange, but they do not replace national reporting arrangements. The review indicates that stronger connections between subnational and local information and national monitoring and reporting could improve the completeness of information available for national and global assessments. Accessibility, comparability, reporting capacity and coordination across levels of government remain relevant challenges identified in the review.

6. Cross-cutting insights from the case studies

The responses indicate that the vast majority of case studies contribute directly to the implementation of their country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) by translating national biodiversity priorities into practical action at the local and subnational level. Common areas of contribution include ecosystem restoration, species recovery, ecological connectivity, protected and conserved areas, sustainable land and water management, biodiversity mainstreaming into spatial planning, climate resilience, and community participation. Many respondents highlighted the importance of multilevel governance, demonstrating how municipalities, regions, national governments, research institutions, civil society, Indigenous Peoples and local communities collaborate to implement national biodiversity objectives. Several initiatives also strengthen biodiversity monitoring, generate scientific knowledge, and support national reporting under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Taken together, the case studies illustrate several recurring roles played by subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in implementation. These include translating national and global biodiversity objectives into local or territorial strategies and plans; directly implementing and managing biodiversity-related activities within their mandates; convening stakeholders and coordinating action across sectors and levels of government; and generating and applying biodiversity information through monitoring, mapping, indicators and reporting. The nature and extent of these roles vary according to national circumstances and governance arrangements.

The CT BIO case study from Brazil provides a particularly strong example of this multilevel relationship, demonstrating how subnational governments can contribute not only to NBSAP implementation but also to its development. Through its coordination of state environmental agencies, CT BIO facilitates direct state-level technical input into the NBSAP and creates feedback mechanisms through national biodiversity forums and conservation program. This ensures that local strategies, technical expertise and on-the-ground realities are reflected in national biodiversity policy and implementation. The Montréal case study reflects Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy by demonstrating how municipal action contributes to species recovery through collaborative, science-based conservation of the Northern Map Turtle, while the Kisumu case study illustrates how community-led wetland management, sustainable livelihoods, payment for ecosystem services, and pollution reduction support national biodiversity priorities. The State of Paraná's pioneering biodiversity credit scheme and the ecological tax-redistribution mechanism contribute to a wide span of Brazil's NBSAP, from reducing biodiversity loss and restoring ecosystems to promoting sustainable business activity, eliminating harmful subsidies, and increasing funding for biodiversity implementation. In countries where no NBSAP currently exists, such as the United States, respondents instead identified alignment with state or local biodiversity and climate strategies.

There is also a relevant pattern in how subnational governments are choosing to act, one that speaks directly to the ambitions of Decision 15/12 and its seven Action Areas. Rather than positioning themselves solely as recipients of biodiversity finance, several governments are designing their own financing mechanisms, blending public and private capital and, in at least one case, contributing directly to a global biodiversity fund, extending the resource mobilization envisioned under Action Area 3 into genuinely subnational leadership. At the urban scale, the City of Yokohama's Green Tax, is a dedicated municipal tax that provides sustained investment in biodiversity conservation, including forest conservation, farmland initiatives and urban greening. In Lombardy, public-private finance for habitat and forest restoration aligns with targets on ecosystem restoration, protected areas, invasive species reduction and resource mobilization.

This financial agency is often paired with a parallel shift in governance: Rather than treating Indigenous Peoples and local communities as parties to be consulted after decisions are made, a number of responses embed them as co-managers and decision-makers, backed by dedicated long-term funding and formal governance roles, reflecting the inclusive, multilevel governance called for under Action Area 2. These same governments are also investing in knowledge and monitoring, and the strongest examples share a common feature: data that is wired directly into enforcement or planning decisions rather than collected for reporting alone, underscoring the premise of Action Area 6 that credible subnational biodiversity data only delivers its full value when institutions are equipped to act on it. A related shift is visible in how governments engage the private sector, moving beyond regulating or financing businesses to actively build their capacity to assess and reduce biodiversity risk, treating companies as implementation partners for global targets rather than solely as regulated actors.

Across these and other examples, a number of enabling conditions recur, including clear institutional responsibilities, coordination between levels of government, access to technical expertise and biodiversity information, financial resources, participatory arrangements, and partnerships or peer-learning mechanisms. The case studies illustrate different combinations of these conditions rather than a single model applicable across jurisdictions.

The examples also point to recurring implementation challenges, including limited coordination across levels of government, uneven technical and financial capacity, gaps in monitoring systems and data, and difficulties in connecting local and subnational implementation with national planning and reporting

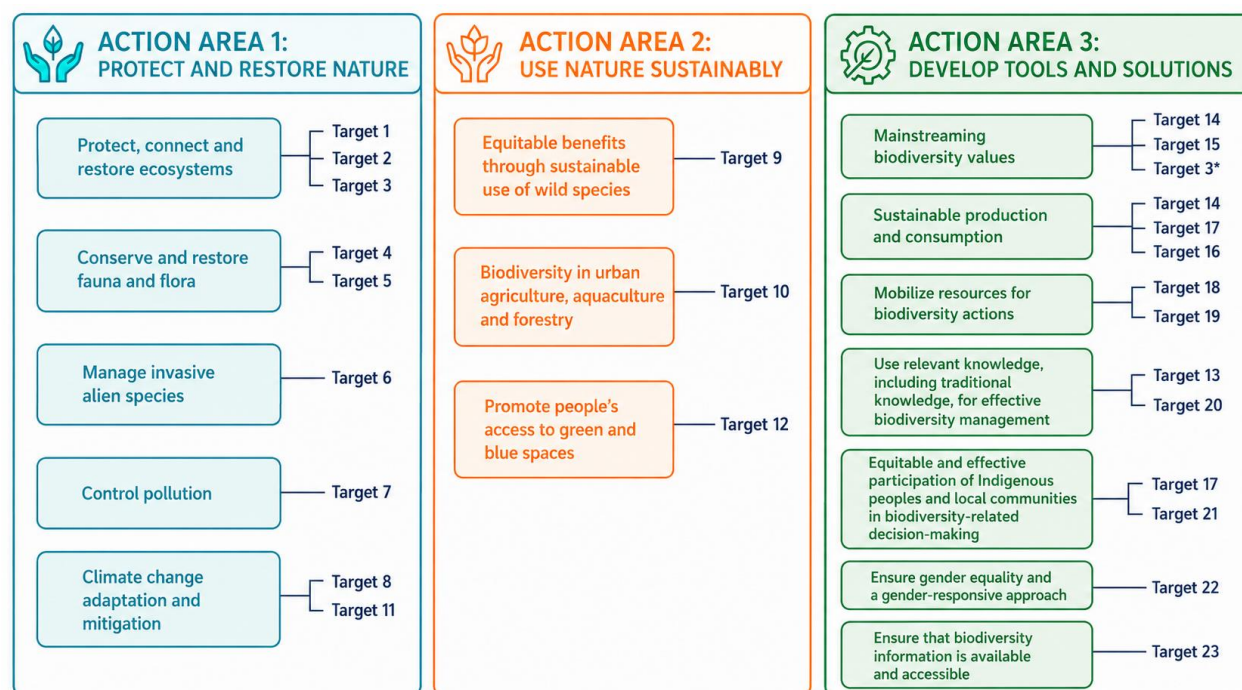
processes. Given the illustrative and voluntarily reported nature of the evidence base, the review does not seek to quantify the prevalence or relative importance of these challenges across regions or governance systems.

Overall, the responses show that local and subnational governments operationalize NBSAPs not by simply replicating national targets, but by adapting them to territorial realities: Converting broad global and national targets into site-specific projects, financing mechanisms and monitoring systems; filling implementation capacity where national institutions cannot reach; and, in several cases, developing their own biodiversity instruments and reporting channels that feed into (or stand alongside) national and global processes. It is this combination of territorial adaptation, added implementation capacity and direct reporting into global frameworks that allows local and subnational action to meaningfully advance the KMGBF.

7. Review of Local and Subnational Contributions to the KMGBF Targets: An Analysis of Commitments on Citieswithnature And Regionswithnature

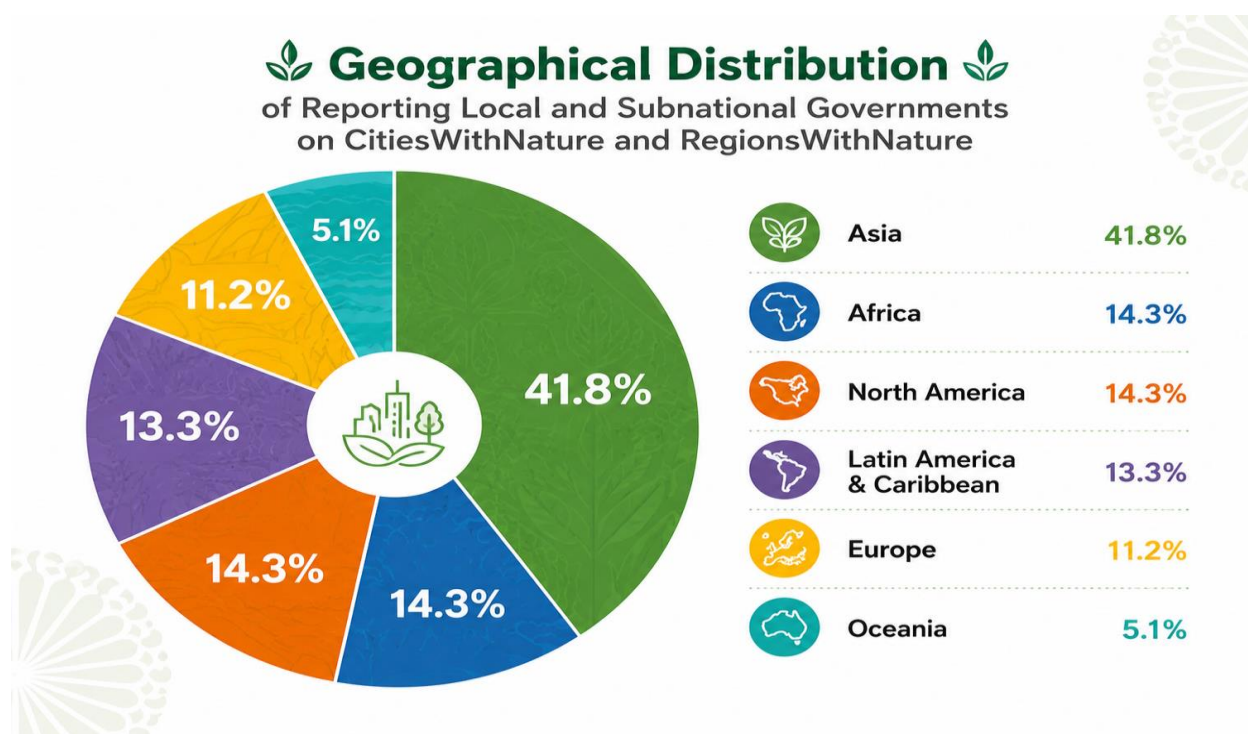
The **CitiesWithNature Action Platform** was developed, with support from the **International Climate Initiative (IKI)**, to translate the global ambitions of the **KMGBF** into practical actions that can be implemented at the local level. As illustrated below, the platform groups relevant KMGBF targets into **three overarching action areas** that align with typical local authority and municipal powers and functions, providing cities with a clear framework for connecting their local biodiversity actions to the global targets.

With funding from the **Government of Québec**, this approach was subsequently replicated through **RegionsWithNature**, extending the framework to **subnational governments**. The actions were adapted to reflect the different mandates and responsibilities of subnational governments. The alignment between local and subnational commitments and the KMGBF Targets is illustrated in the figure below:



Across the CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature platforms, **local and subnational governments** have been identified across all six global regions, although participation is uneven. **Asia accounts for the largest share, with 41 reporting governments and regions (41.8%)**, followed by **Africa and North America, each with 14 (14.3%)**. Latin America and the Caribbean accounts for **13 (13.3%)**, while Europe contributes

11 (11.2%). Oceania has the smallest representation, with five reporting governments (5.1%). This is shown in the diagram below:



The examples presented in the table below provide a snapshot of the diverse ways in which cities and subnational governments are already contributing to the implementation of the KMGBF. While not intended to represent an exhaustive assessment of implementation, the examples demonstrate that action is taking place across a broad range of the KMGBF Targets, from biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning, ecosystem restoration and species conservation to sustainable production and consumption, biodiversity mainstreaming, finance, knowledge-sharing and inclusive governance.

The examples are illustrative and should not be interpreted as an assessment of progress towards individual KMGBF targets or as representative of implementation by subnational governments, cities and other local authorities globally.

KMGBF TARGET	LOCAL / SUBNATIONAL EXAMPLE
TARGET 1: Plan and Manage all Areas to Reduce Biodiversity Loss	The City of Curitiba in Brazil is developing an extensive and interconnected Green Network, using river valleys and riparian areas as the backbone of ecological and recreational corridors. Anchored in the Master Plan and Municipal Forestry Code, this approach strengthens ecological connectivity and ensures that parks and woodlands function as connected habitats rather than isolated green spaces. The conservation and enhancement of these corridors is supported through mechanisms such as the Transfer of Development Rights and the RPPNM program for Private Natural Heritage Reserves, which encourage private landowners to contribute to the wider conservation network. Together, these measures support the maintenance, restoration and connectivity of ecosystems across the city.
TARGET 2: Restore 30% of all Degraded Ecosystems	The City of Cape Town in South Africa is committed to protecting, restoring and sustainably managing its natural areas to improve ecosystem condition, maintain biodiversity and strengthen resilience to climate change. The City prioritizes the protection and restoration of biodiversity-sensitive areas and the ecosystem services they provide, while ensuring that decisions consider the long-term needs of communities, businesses and future generations. This approach recognizes the social, cultural and economic value of healthy ecosystems and seeks to maintain and restore the natural systems that underpin Cape Town's resilience and wellbeing.
TARGET 3: Conserve 30% of Land, Waters and Seas	In October 2024, the Government of Québec in Canada adopted its 2030 Nature Plan and associated 2024–2028 Action Plan, which includes a commitment to conserve 30% of terrestrial and inland water areas and 30% of marine areas. The approach places a strong emphasis on the effective management, ecological representativeness and connectivity of protected and conserved areas. Implementation focuses on identifying priority areas to strengthen the network, accelerating the establishment of protected and conserved areas using new conservation tools adapted to Québec's territorial contexts, and ensuring their effective management and biodiversity-friendly use. Together, these actions support the expansion and improved ecological integrity of Québec's protected and conserved area network.

TARGET 4: Halt Species Extinction, Protect Genetic Diversity, and Manage Human-Wildlife Conflicts	In the United Kingdom, the Scottish City of Glasgow's Local Biodiversity Action Plan aims to strengthen the protection and recovery of native species, fauna and flora through the development and implementation of relevant policies and strategies. The City is also working to expand its network of Local Nature Reserves and enhance habitats for native biodiversity. The Glasgow Climate Plan further promotes nature-based solutions for climate mitigation and adaptation, creating opportunities to enhance and restore biodiversity while supporting the recovery and long-term persistence of native species. At subnational level, the Lombardy Region in Italy is piloting an experimental feeding station for vulnerable scavenging birds in the Alps, running from November 2024 to October 2026. Led by the Lombardy Foundation for the Environment with regional institutions, protected areas, WWF, farms, land managers and private partners, the project provides sanitized animal by-products in a regulated, monitored environment. It aims to improve survival conditions for species such as the golden eagle, black kite, bearded vulture, griffon vulture and red kite, while supporting population stability and the return of breeding species. Scientific monitoring will inform adaptive management and promote good practices among rural communities and institutions. By restoring the ecological role of scavengers, the initiative supports natural carcass disposal, nutrient cycling and ecosystem resilience, while reducing waste, emissions and risks such as starvation and lead poisoning. The project demonstrates how subnational leadership can translate the KMGBF into practical, measurable species conservation action.
TARGET 5: Ensure Sustainable, Safe and Legal Harvesting and Trade of Wild Species	The Del Carmen Municipality in the Philippines is strengthening local action to ensure that the harvesting, trade and use of wild species are sustainable, legal and safe for human health, while supporting the implementation and enforcement of national wildlife policies and legislation. Actions include raising awareness among businesses, hunters and residents; strengthening local enforcement and monitoring of wildlife harvesting and trade; establishing channels for reporting illegal activities; and supporting compliance with national standards. The Municipality is also working with government agencies, conservation organizations, local communities and other stakeholders to build capacity and promote sustainable alternatives to wild species harvesting, while supporting research and data collection to inform management and enforcement.
TARGET 6: Reduce the Introduction of Invasive Alien Species by 50% and Minimize Their Impact	Liangping District located in the northeast of Chongqing, China, is strengthening its management of invasive alien species through systematic surveys across forest, grassland, wetland and agricultural ecosystems. These assessments have identified invasive plants, insects and animals and support a clearer understanding of their distribution and potential impacts. The findings provide an evidence base for the prevention, control and management of invasive alien species across the district and support targeted action to reduce their impacts on native biodiversity, ecosystems and agricultural production.
TARGET 7: Reduce Pollution to Levels That Are Not Harmful to Biodiversity	The City of Kisumu located along the shores of Lake Victoria in Kenya, is implementing integrated waste and pollution management strategies to reduce pollution from domestic, industrial and agricultural sources, including biocides and excess nutrients Lake Victoria and its surrounding ecosystems. Through environmental regulation, sustainable agricultural practices and improvements to wastewater treatment, the city aims to reduce the discharge of harmful substances into Lake Victoria and surrounding ecosystems. These actions are complemented by public awareness, community engagement and partnerships that promote responsible waste disposal and reduced chemical use, helping to protect aquatic biodiversity, ecosystem health and water quality.

TARGET 8: Minimize the Impacts of Climate Change on Biodiversity and Build Resilience	The Municipality of Del Carmen, a coastal town located on the western side of Siargao Island in the Philippines, is implementing nature-based solutions to reduce the impacts of urban heat and create a healthier and more resilient urban environment. Actions include expanding parks and community gardens, increasing urban tree canopy, enhancing shade in public spaces and promoting the use of native and climate-appropriate vegetation. The Municipality is also promoting sustainable landscaping and rainwater harvesting to support green infrastructure, reduce runoff and strengthen local climate resilience. Community engagement and environmental education are being used to encourage residents to participate in local cooling and greening initiatives.
TARGET 9: Manage Wild Species Sustainably to Benefit People	The Western Cape Provincial Government in South Africa promotes the sustainable management and use of wild terrestrial, freshwater and marine species through a range of provincial policies and strategies. The revised 2025–2030 Provincial Biodiversity Strategic and Action Plan (PBSAP), including Strategic Objective 3, supports implementation of KMGBF Target 9 alongside the Western Cape Biodiversity Spatial Plan (2023) and Western Cape Protected Area Expansion Strategy, which guide conservation priorities and sustainable land-use planning. The Western Cape Biodiversity Act (Act 6 of 2021) and associated permitting and compliance systems regulate activities such as harvesting, hunting and trade, helping to safeguard threatened species while enabling sustainable use. Monitoring through State of Conservation Reports and the PBSAP supports evidence-based management and helps align the sustainable use of wild species with broader socio-economic development and resilience objectives.
TARGET 10: Enhance Biodiversity and Sustainability in Agriculture, Aquaculture, Fisheries, and Forestry	Mexico City has established a legal and policy framework to support the creation and management of urban gardens through sustainable agroecological practices. The framework promotes food production without genetically modified organisms or agrochemicals while contributing to food security, environmental education and the conservation of native biodiversity. And in Brazil, Campinas' Municipal Green Plan includes an Agroforestry Systems Program aligned with the Campinas Solidária e Sustentável Program. Coordinated by the Secretariat of Social Development and Assistance, the program supports the production of organic food through urban gardens and agroforestry systems, contributing to food security and more sustainable forms of urban and peri-urban production.
TARGET 11: Restore, Maintain and Enhance Nature's Contributions to People	The City of Paris is transforming its urban environment through large-scale renaturation and the expansion of green and blue infrastructure. The City is greening walls and rooftops, converting streets and parking areas into vegetated spaces, creating Oasis Courtyards in schools, restoring urban rivers and developing wetlands, rain gardens and other nature-based stormwater systems. These actions are designed to strengthen biodiversity while enhancing the ecosystem services provided by nature, including urban cooling, climate resilience, stormwater management and improved access to green spaces.

TARGET 12: Enhance Green Spaces and Urban Planning for Human Well-Being and Biodiversity	In the Republic of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam's Thematic Atlas of Nature's Benefits identifies the need to improve equitable access to green spaces and where to prioritize investment in public open spaces for exercise, recreation and physical and mental health purposes. The Atlas serves as a key resource for the City's Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and supports the integration of nature's benefits into urban planning. Seattle in the United States is working to strengthen equitable access to parks and nature, with 99% of residents currently living within a 10-minute walk of a park. The City is focusing on improving access in areas where residents would benefit most from additional green space, while also expanding access to healthy local food, nature-based trails and programs that connect people with nature in their neighborhoods. In Malaysia, Penang Island City Council is integrating blue and green spaces into urban planning and climate adaptation through initiatives such as blue-green corridors, pocket parks, urban agriculture, green infrastructure and river and coastal connectivity. These initiatives enhance biodiversity while improving access to nature, recreation, climate resilience and human wellbeing.
TARGET 13: Increase the Sharing of Benefits from Genetic Resources, Digital Sequence Information and Traditional Knowledge	As regulatory and decision-making authority over Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) related to Genetic Resources (GR), Digital Sequence Information (DSI), and Traditional Knowledge (TK) rest primarily with national governments and, where applicable, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, local and subnational governments generally do not have the mandate or authority to make commitments or take action in these areas.
TARGET 14: Integrate Biodiversity in Decision-Making at Every Level	The Western Cape Provincial Government in South Africa promotes mainstreaming biodiversity considerations across economic sectors and greater engagement by businesses in biodiversity conservation. The Provincial Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) encourages the integration of biodiversity into policies, plans, practices and projects across sectors. In addition, the Provincial Government promotes initiatives developed by originations such as WWF, SANBI and EWT, such as the Biodiversity and Wine Initiative, Badger Friendly Honey Initiative, Sandveld Biodiversity Best Practice Potato Project, Integrated Biodiversity and Ostrich Industry project and Farming for the Future support biodiversity-friendly practices within key economic sectors, which have been developed collaboratively between industry organizations, WWF, the South African National Biodiversity Institute and the Endangered Wildlife Trust. The Province also promotes early integration of biodiversity considerations into development planning and environmental assessment processes, helping businesses and developers identify and reduce potential impacts on biodiversity. These approaches strengthen collaboration between government and the private sector and support more sustainable patterns of production.
TARGET 15: Businesses Assess, Disclose and Reduce Biodiversity-Related Risks and Negative Impacts	Rio de Janeiro's Subnational Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan integrates biodiversity considerations into business and financial decision-making by requiring companies and financial institutions to assess, disclose and periodically monitor their dependencies, risks and impacts on biodiversity. The framework aims to reduce negative impacts and increase positive contributions to biodiversity. This is further supported through sustainability criteria in licensing processes, ensuring that biodiversity risks and impacts are considered within regulatory and development decision-making.

TARGET 16: Enable Sustainable Consumption Choices to Reduce Waste and Overconsumption	Aichi Prefecture in Japan is promoting more sustainable consumption patterns through measures that recognize companies demonstrating strong environmental practices, promote ethical consumption and encourage the transition towards a circular economy. These actions support efforts to reduce the overall footprint of production and consumption on biodiversity.
TARGET 17: Strengthen Biosafety and Distribute the Benefits of Biotechnology	No sufficiently aligned example has yet been identified at the local and subnational level. A relevant example should address capacity, regulatory frameworks, risk assessment or governance related to biotechnology and living modified organisms.
TARGET 18: Reduce Harmful Incentives by at Least \$500 Billion per Year, and Scale Up Positive Incentives for Biodiversity	In October 2024, the Government of Québec in Canada adopted its 2030 Nature Plan and associated 2024–2028 Action Plan. As part of the Plan, Québec is incorporating biodiversity impacts into the allocation of public grants, helping to ensure that government funding decisions consider their potential effects on biodiversity. By integrating biodiversity considerations into public financial support, the approach seeks to direct funding towards activities that are compatible with biodiversity conservation and reduce support for activities that may negatively affect biodiversity.
TARGET 19: Mobilize \$200 Billion per Year for Biodiversity From all Sources, Including \$30 Billion Through International Finance	The Government of Québec's announcement of a CAD \$2 million contribution, approximately USD \$1.4 million, to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) at COP 16 in Cali, marked the first subnational government to support the fund directly. The investment extends Québec's biodiversity leadership beyond its own territory, complementing domestic action under its 2030 Nature Plan with international cooperation and solidarity. By contributing to a multilateral fund traditionally supported by national governments, Québec demonstrated that regions and other subnational authorities can participate directly in global resource mobilization and help close the biodiversity finance gap. Québec's leadership provides a powerful example of how subnational governments can move beyond advocacy to become active financial partners in global biodiversity governance. Kisumu City in Kenya strengthens biodiversity conservation by mobilizing increased financial and technical support through strategic partnerships, budgetary allocation, and capacity-building initiatives. This includes integrating biodiversity into city planning and the budgeting process, leveraging private sector and donor investments, and enhancing technical expertise through collaboration with academic institutions, civil society, and international partners. The City will also promote innovative financing mechanisms such as green bonds, payment for ecosystem services, and community-based resource mobilization to sustain long-term biodiversity action.
TARGET 20: Strengthen Capacity-Building, Technology Transfer, and Scientific and Technical Cooperation for Biodiversity	Anji County in Zhejiang province, China, has been designated a national pilot county for tourism studies for primary and secondary school students. By integrating ecology, education and tourism, the county has developed a network of nature-based learning sites that support environmental education and practical engagement with biodiversity. Activities include nature observation, biodiversity learning, bamboo product-making and modern agricultural experiences, providing students with opportunities to develop practical knowledge and skills related to nature and biodiversity.

TARGET 21: Ensure That Knowledge Is Available and Accessible to Guide Biodiversity Action	The Western Cape Provincial Government is strengthening access to biodiversity-related information and environmental knowledge through awareness campaigns and efforts to improve environmental governance. It is also supporting biodiversity economy initiatives that encourage the sharing and application of biodiversity knowledge and provide opportunities for local communities to engage in biodiversity-related activities. The Province further recognizes the importance of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in biodiversity governance and seeks to strengthen their participation in biodiversity-related decision-making and management processes. Kisumu City is strengthening access to and use biodiversity knowledge through environmental awareness, education and community engagement. The City works with communities, schools and other stakeholders through ecological clubs, public sensitization forums and other educational initiatives to build understanding of biodiversity, climate change and ecosystem management. It also supports the use of local and traditional knowledge in biodiversity management, helping communities apply knowledge to conservation and sustainable management of natural ecosystems.
TARGET 22: Ensure Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice and Information Related to Biodiversity for all	The Government of Quebec's 2030 Nature Plan and associated 2024–2028 Action Plan, is based on the following Broad Foundations: Involve the First Nations and the Inuit; Actively engage and mobilize society as a whole; Foster discussion and synergy; and Improve access to nature. For example Quebec's Nature Plan's Target 14 aims to "Get stakeholders involved with biodiversity conservation and access to nature, while supporting Québec and international cooperation initiatives in this respect" and the 2024-2028 Action Plan identifies three objectives to implement Target 14, including: Objective 14.1 to "Share and promote biodiversity-related knowledge"; and the 2030 Nature Plan's Target 13 aims to "Support Indigenous leadership and initiatives in biodiversity conservation"
TARGET 23: Ensure Gender Equality and a Gender-Responsive Approach for Biodiversity Action	Québec's 2030 Nature Plan is a plan for all; it is inclusive of the whole of society and examples of actions initiated to progress towards gender equality issues include the adoption of a Government Strategy for Gender Equality 2022-2027 and strengthening the application of gender-based analysis (GBA) by government departments and public agencies in their projects is a cross-cutting target of the Equality Strategy.

It is important to note, the examples listed above illustrate the critical role of cities and subnational governments in translating global and national biodiversity commitments into action on the ground. As the level of government closest to communities, local and subnational governments are often directly responsible for spatial planning, land and ecosystem management, service delivery, infrastructure, public awareness and engagement with local stakeholders. Their actions therefore provide a practical bridge between national biodiversity strategies and the implementation of the KMGBF in local contexts.

The examples also demonstrate that implementation is highly context-specific, reflecting different ecosystems, governance systems, institutional capacities and local priorities. Collectively, they show that cities and subnational governments are not only implementing biodiversity policies, but are also developing innovative approaches, partnerships and governance mechanisms that can contribute to achieving the KMGBF Targets and inform implementation at other levels of government.

The absence of an example for a particular Target should not be interpreted as an absence of action. Rather, it reflects the availability and suitability of the examples identified through the current collection and review process.

8. Conclusion: Strengthening the Contribution of Local and Subnational Governments to the KMGBF

The review documents that subnational governments, cities and other local authorities are making diverse contributions to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the KMGBF. **As the first review of the role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in implementing the Plan of Action under Decision 15/12, it provides an initial evidence base on biodiversity action across different regions and governance contexts.**

Across the seven Action Areas of the Plan of Action under Decision 15/12, they are translating global biodiversity commitments into tangible actions through biodiversity planning, ecosystem restoration, mainstreaming, resource mobilization, capacity development, monitoring, reporting and public engagement. The examples documented in this review illustrate that these actors are not merely supporting implementation, but are often designing, financing and delivering action within their own mandates and areas of responsibility.

At the same time, **the review highlights that despite the range of local and subnational action documented, these contributions are not always systematically integrated into national biodiversity planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting processes.** This disconnect means that the full scale and extent of biodiversity action undertaken across all levels of government may not yet be adequately visible in national and global assessments of progress. Addressing this gap therefore presents an important opportunity to strengthen multilevel governance, improve coordination and develop more comprehensive approaches to assessing collective progress towards the goals and targets of the KMGBF.

Decision 15/12 provides a strong foundation for this work by recognizing that, while responsibility for implementing the Convention rests with Parties, subnational governments, cities and other local authorities are constituent parts of many Parties and other Governments, with distinct statutory mandates and responsibilities that can contribute to the whole-of-government approach embedded in the KMGBF. As illustrated throughout the review, these responsibilities enable local and subnational authorities to contribute to the implementation **across the seven Action Areas of the Plan of Action.** Their contributions extend across biodiversity planning, mainstreaming, resource mobilization, capacity development, communication, education and public awareness, participation, assessment, monitoring and reporting, underscoring their important role in achieving the objectives of the Convention and the goals and targets set out in the KMGBF.

The review further points to the importance of strengthening the enabling conditions for sustained action. Moving beyond ad hoc engagement towards more structured systems for collaboration, implementation, monitoring and reporting could support implementation of the KMGBF goals and targets. This should include strengthening vertical coordination between levels of government while also supporting peer-to-peer learning, technical cooperation and knowledge exchange among subnational and local authorities. Key in this regard is supporting implementation of Action Area 7 of the Plan of Action under Decision 15/12 by strengthening the integration of subnational and local contributions into national planning, monitoring, reporting and review mechanisms, including by reflecting their contributions in national reports. This would help ensure that future reviews of progress towards the KMGBF goals and targets provide a more complete picture of implementation by more effectively capturing action undertaken at local and territorial levels.

The voluntary reporting mechanisms recognized under Decision 15/12, including the **CitiesWithNature** and **RegionsWithNature** Action Platforms, provide practical tools for documenting commitments and actions, facilitating knowledge exchange and supporting the integration of subnational contributions into national and global biodiversity reporting. **Their value lies not only in increasing the visibility of local and subnational action, but also in creating opportunities to improve the accessibility, comparability and aggregation of information across different levels of governance.** Continued use and development of these mechanisms, together with capacity development, technical cooperation and partnerships, could contribute to improving the quality, consistency and visibility of biodiversity action undertaken by

subnational governments, cities and other local authorities. In addition, further efforts could support local and subnational governments to report on, and track progress against, their commitments and contributions to the implementation of the KMGBF and NBSAPs.

The case studies presented throughout this report document a range of locally led approaches being implemented across diverse governance and ecological contexts. **Collectively, they provide a snapshot—not a comprehensive account—of the biodiversity action taking place on the ground. The diversity of these examples reinforces a central finding of the review: subnational governments, cities and other local authorities are translating the objectives of the Convention and the KMGBF into action in ways that respond to local ecological, social and institutional contexts.** Building on these experiences, and supported by the continued collaboration of Parties, the CBD Secretariat, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Regions4, the Group of Leading Subnational Governments for Biodiversity and other partners, there is an opportunity to support implementation of the Plan of Action under Decision 15/12 and strengthen the contribution of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities to achieving the goals and targets of the KMGBF by 2030.

As the global community advances towards 2030, the findings of this review point to an opportunity: to build on the action underway and create the conditions for that action to be better supported, connected, coordinated and recognized. Decision 15/12 provides the policy foundation, while the Plan of Action provides a shared framework for advancing implementation. Further implementation of its provisions could be supported by strengthening multilevel governance, enhancing cooperation across all levels of government, and ensuring that local and subnational contributions are recognized, supported and reflected in national implementation, monitoring and reporting processes. **Doing so could support implementation and enable national and global reviews to capture a more complete picture of collective progress towards the KMGBF. This will require continued political commitment, sustained institutional cooperation and practical mechanisms for connecting action across local, subnational, national and global levels.** By working together, Parties, subnational governments, cities, other local authorities and partners can contribute to progress towards the goals and targets of the KMGBF and help realize the shared vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050.

ANNEX 1

Case Study	AA1	AA2	AA3	AA4	AA5	AA6	AA7
Hutuo River Restoration (Shijiazhuang) Haizhu Wetland: Practices in Biodiversity Restoration and Multi-Stakeholder Governance in the Core Area of a Megacity - China	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cali Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PAB-Cali): A Multi-Stakeholder Governance Instrument for Urban Nature Management - Colombia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biodiversity Nagoya Strategy Action Plan 2030: Mapping Priority Areas for Biodiversity Conservation in Nagoya City - Japan	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Kobe Satoyama OECM	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

2. Strengthening Municipal Biodiversity Planning through Integrated Development Plan (IDP) Biodiversity Toolkits – South Africa	✓	✓			✓	✓	
The Kampala Urban Forestry Management Plan - Uganda	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
From Global to Local: CT BIO - ABEMA Role in Implementing the KMGBF through State Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans - Brazil	✓	✓			✓		✓
Québec Makes History with the First Subnational Contribution to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund - Canada		✓	✓				
BIOCLIMA: Mobilizing Public and Private Finance for Nature in Lombardy - Italy	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓

Innovative Practices in Ecological Restoration and Biodiversity Conservation on Saline-Alkali Lands in the Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-City - China	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Varzaneh Ramsar Wetland City: Integrating Wetland Conservation, Climate Resilience and Sustainable Urban Development - Iran	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The LIFE ResLand Project, Cascais-Portugal	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Uniting conservation, research, innovation, and collaborative action to protect an at-risk turtle in Montréal- Canada		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Newcastle: Bringing Biodiversity into City Planning - Australia	✓	✓		✓		✓	

Cities and regions advancing the transition towards a nature-positive economy- Europe		✓			✓		✓
Supporting regional and local governments to mainstream Nature-based Solutions through NetworkNature-Europe		✓			✓		✓
Sustaining Dunga Swamp in Winam Gulf, Kisumu City through incentivized conservation and community led interventions - Kenya		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whole of Government and whole of society approach to implementing Rio de Janeiro's Biodiversity Strategy through Landscape-scale Restoration - Brazil	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Multispecies well-being in city development – COEVOLVERS project and Nature Positive Turku to support engagement and impact , Turku - Finland	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

Onrus Catchment-to-Coast River Restoration and Rehabilitation Project, Overstrand - South Africa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mobilizing Biodiversity Finance: Paraná's Pioneering Biodiversity Credit Policy - Brazil	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Strengthening Indigenous Capacity and Leadership for Biodiversity Conservation in Québec - Canada	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Advancing 30×30 through inclusive conservation in California - United States	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
MAGEPAN: Strengthening Provincial Management of Ecuador's Natural Heritage - Ecuador		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

Hohhot Dahei River		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Peace with Nature in Yeoncheon: A Nature-based City from Government to Community - Korea	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Putting Communities at the Heart of Conservation in Québec - Canada	✓		✓			✓	✓
Strengthening Indigenous-Led Capacity and Governance Through Napo's Amazonian Chakra - Ecuador	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Healthy Ecosystems Chapter of San Francisco's 2026 Update to the Climate Action Plan - United States	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Biodiversity Monitoring through eDNA Analysis at an OECM Site in				✓	✓	✓	✓

Kobe - Japan							
Yokohama Green-up Plan - Japan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Connecting Citizens to Nature through Yokohama Waterside Oshikatsu (Fandom Activities) Campaign - Japan		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Natural Reykjavík! Turning Biodiversity Commitments into Action - Iceland	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Building Business Capacity for Nature-Positive Management in Aichi - Japan			✓	✓	✓		✓
Raising Public Awareness and Mobilizing Communities for Mangrove Restoration in Saint-Louis-Senegal		✓			✓		
ReDuna: Community-Led Coastal Dune Restoration for		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Climate Resilience, Almada- Portugal							
Using Biodiversity Monitoring to Drive Urban Conservation: eThekweni's State of Biodiversity Report - South Africa	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Expanding Urban Biodiversity Through Native Tree Planting, Iguaba Grande - Brazil		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community-Based Coastal Ecosystem Restoration in Playa del Carmen - Mexico		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rescuing Native Orchids: Biodiversity Conservation at Kappad Blue Flag Beach - India		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Collaboration Across Municipalities to Preserve Rio de Janeiro's Biodiversity to align with the NBSAP- Brazil	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Mapping and Monitoring Ecological Connectivity to Guide Decisions in Québec - Canada		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Building the Evidence Base for Locally Managed Conservation Sites in Aichi- Japan		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Turning Satellite Intelligence Data into Forest Protection in Rio de Janeiro- Brazil					✓	✓	✓
Restoring Natural Coastal Processes on Haifa's Blue Flag Beaches - Israel		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gui'an Plum Garden: A Model for Integrated Ecological Restoration and Community Benefit-Sharing - China		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Integrating Biodiversity Indicators into Scotland's Climate Adaptation Monitoring - United Kingdom	✓	✓				✓	✓

Community-Led Biodiversity Monitoring for Local Decision-Making in Yucatán - Mexico		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
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