

THEMATIC WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Bern, 30 March – 1 April 2020

CONCEPT NOTE

Sustainable use of biological diversity is one of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and decision V/24 frames sustainable use as a cross-cutting issue. Sustainable use is also defined as an effective tool to combat poverty, to achieve sustainable development also through supporting implementation of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and its goals, and is reflected in the 2050 Vision: “By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and **wisely used**, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.”

The sustainable use of biological diversity is not only essential to the full functioning of ecosystems and survival of species but also benefits humankind, particularly those people who are dependent on biological resources for their livelihoods notably women, youth, the poor and those in vulnerable situations. However, one of the challenges for the global biodiversity agenda, is enhancing human livelihoods while minimizing human negative impacts on the natural resource base.

While the Convention has taken a sectoral approach to address the sustainable use of biodiversity through its programmes of work and cross-cutting initiatives¹ in 2004 and building on the Ecosystem Approach, all Parties adopted the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the sustainable use of biodiversity at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.² The Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity provide a framework for assisting Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, resource managers, the private sector and other stakeholders, in ensuring that their uses of biological diversity will not lead to its long-term decline. The principles highlight how ecosystems contribute to and maintain cultures, societies and communities.

The Convention has taken an integrated approach to addressing the sustainable use of biodiversity through the work on mainstreaming which is generally understood as ensuring that biodiversity, and the services it provides, are appropriately and adequately factored into policies and practices that rely and have an impact on biodiversity. In 2016, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Cancun Declaration³ on mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for well-being as well as subsequent decisions of the Conference of the Parties (including 14/6 and 14/7), in which Parties committed to work at all levels within governments and across all sectors to mainstream biodiversity; and in 2018, Parties decided⁴ to establish an Informal Advisory Group on Mainstreaming of Biodiversity to advise the Executive Secretary and the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties on further development of the proposal for a long-term approach to mainstreaming biodiversity also as a contribution to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Furthermore, the Convention recognizes that the involvement and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities and stakeholders, including in natural resource management is a prerequisite for their conservation and sustainable use. The programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions⁵ is the main instrument that Parties to the Convention have given themselves to achieve, by 2020, the commitments in Article 8(j) and related provisions and later, Aichi Biodiversity Target 18.⁶ Regarding Article 10(c), the chief means of implementation, building on the Addis Ababa Guidelines for Sustainable use, is the Global Plan of Action on the Customary Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity.

¹ <https://www.cbd.int/programmes/>

² <https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/addis-gdl-en.pdf>

³ <https://www.cbd.int/cop/cop-13/hls/cancun%20declaration-en.pdf>

⁴ [Decision 14/3](#) Mainstreaming of biodiversity in the energy and mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing sectors

⁵ The Conference of the Parties adopted the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions in [decision VII/16](#).

⁶ See Target 18 at: <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/#GoalD>

While some elements of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets address the sustainable use of biodiversity, for example Targets 6 and 7, these will likely not be met. It has further been noted that many national biodiversity strategies and action plans did not have associated national targets or commitments relating to Target 6.⁷ The most recent *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services* issued by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services indicates that rapid decline in biodiversity, ecosystem functions and many of nature's contributions to people means that the environmental goals embodied in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will not be achieved based on current trajectories.

In 2020, Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity will adopt a new post-2020 global biodiversity framework. In this context, the present thematic workshop will discuss how the sustainable use of biological diversity can be incorporated into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework with a view to supporting the 2050 vision.

This thematic workshop will enable experts from Parties to the Convention to have a participatory and inclusive dialogue, including with rightsholders and stakeholders on various aspects of the sustainable use of biological diversity, potential concrete elements and their place in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

A. Key principles

Key principles are as follows:

(a) Discussions among Parties and stakeholders will be in line with the principles of a participatory, inclusive, gender-responsive and transparent post-2020 process agreed at the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(b) The thematic workshop is an expert meeting aiming at providing the Co-Chairs of the Open-Ended Working Group on Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework with concrete and constructive inputs for consideration in their future work on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The workshop does not constitute a negotiating process but will serve to identify areas of convergence;

(c) The format and overall approaches used for previous regional and thematic consultations/workshops will be followed;

(d) Build on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, lessons learned from their implementation and current knowledge on this area of work while also identifying issues that are not included in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

(e) Sustainable use will be considered a cross-cutting objective with recognition of the interlinkages between the main causes driving the unsustainable use of biodiversity;

(f) Being guided by relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;

(g) Involve and consider alignment with strategies and approaches in other multilateral agreements and relevant international processes;

(h) Bringing a reasonable number of Parties (50-75) balanced among CBD regions. Following existing practices under the Convention for workshops involving important stakeholders in meetings, and with financial support as per CBD protocol for eligible Parties and representatives of major stakeholder groups (indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, civil society);

(i) To be organized in the period before the third meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;

(j) Consider the outcomes of the twenty-third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and of the second meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;

⁷ CBD/SBSTTA/23/2/Add.2.

(k) Conducted in English;

(l) Two co-leads chosen from among Parties will be identified. They will be engaged on this issue from the preparation of the workshop to the delivery of the outcomes of the workshop to the Co-Chairs of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and throughout the post-2020 process.

B. Expected outcome

The primary output of the workshop will be concrete proposals on how sustainable use may be considered in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. To the extent feasible and appropriate, these proposals will cover the different elements of the framework with particular focus on goals, targets, indicators and baselines while considering the zero-draft text of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

C. Key elements of a provisional agenda

- Opening.
- Background on the progress of the post-2020 global biodiversity process:
 - Overview of the process and how the outcomes of this consultation will feed into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
 - Discussion on the draft text of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and outcomes of the second meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Segment 1: Stocktake on implementation (plenary with Q&A and reflections from the floor):
 - Discussions will highlight key elements of the work that the Convention has undertaken related to sustainable use through its programmes of work, cross-cutting initiatives and decisions, including the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity as well as the ecosystem approach. This also includes consideration of what is included into the concept of sustainable use.
 - Discussion on the status of implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Targets that include elements related to sustainable use and on what has worked, or not, to advance the second objective of the Convention.
 - Discussion how sustainable use is reflected in other international agreements, instruments.
- Segment 2: A visioning exercise (in break-out groups followed by plenary discussion):
 - How to achieve the 2050 vision of “living in harmony with nature”:
 - Unfolding the 2050 vision and understanding what the “wise use of biodiversity” entails in this context and what is required by 2030 to achieve this vision.
- Segment 3: Potential substantive elements on sustainable use of biodiversity for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:
 - Break-out thematic groups (stations supported by a facilitator and a note-taker) to identify and discuss potential concrete elements with consideration to the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework, based on Aichi Biodiversity Targets, previous CBD decisions on sustainable use, submissions, input from other international instruments) on the following topics:
 - Sustainable land-use (including agriculture, forestry, tenure rights, approaches that combine conservation, sustainable use and connectivity and linked to sustainable development, links between sustainable use and restoration, etc.);

- Sustainable extractive practices/uses (including fisheries, sustainable wildlife management, sustainable use of species, sustainability of harvest, cultivation, alternative livelihood options, etc.) and unsustainable use (overexploitation);
 - Sustainable non-extractive practices/uses (including tourism, infrastructure, etc.);
 - Customary sustainable use;
 - Sustainability instruments and enablers (including subsidies, regulatory frameworks, policies, sustainable production and consumption, shifting to non-extractive livelihoods, etc.);
 - Cross-cutting approaches (including mainstreaming).
 - Review of key points raised in the workshop and identified items for further in-depth discussion on the basis of previous discussions.
 - Segment 4: Considerations and needs related to monitoring and review of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:
 - Parallel break-out groups to discuss issues related to monitoring and review:
 - Baseline information;
 - Indicators for potential post-2020 goals/targets based on the draft text of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and outcomes of the second meeting of the Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;
 - Data needs to support monitoring and review of progress.
 - Closing of the workshop.
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