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DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF TARGET 3 OF THE KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Cambridge, United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
12–14 June 2023

REPORT OF THE MEETING

Introduction

1. In its decision [15/13](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity encouraged Parties and other Governments to work together with all stakeholders to jointly implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in a spirit of cooperation and mutual support, at the global, regional, subregional, national and subnational levels, across areas and sectors, through bilateral joint work programmes where appropriate, and through existing global, regional, subregional, national and subnational instruments, mechanisms and processes.
2. Pursuant to the decision, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity collaborated with relevant partners to begin the development of a global partnership to support the achievement of Target 3 of the Framework, drawing in particular on experiences and lessons learned from the Global Partnership on Aichi Target 11 and the Friends of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas partnership.
3. The Secretariat convened a meeting to develop a global partnership to support the achievement of Target 3, in collaboration with the World Commission on Protected Areas of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-WCPA) and the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). The meeting was hosted by UNEP-WCMC in Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, from 12 to 14 June 2023.
4. The meeting focussed on how the Target 3 partnership could:
 - (a) Enhance understanding of:
 - The implementation needs of Parties to the Convention, rights holders and relevant stakeholders
 - The support provided by partners
 - Gaps in technical and financial support
 - (b) Strengthen the alignment and coordination of support for implementation efforts to:
 - Enhance cooperation
 - Provide targeted technical support to address gaps
 - Provide targeted financial support to address gaps
 - (c) Build technical capacity for implementation through access to knowledge and best practices;
 - (d) Reinforce linkages to other relevant targets, in particular Targets 1 and 2;

- (e) Demonstrate how progress made in achieving Target 3 can spur progress towards other targets of the Framework.

Item 1. Opening of the meeting

5. The meeting was opened by the Director of UNEP-WCMC, Neville Ash, at 9 a.m. on 12 June 2023, followed by statements by the Head of Science Policy and Governance unit of the Secretariat, Sakhile Silitshena, and by the Chair of IUCN-WCPA, Madhu Rao.

Item 2. Meeting background and objectives

- 6. Ms. Rao made a presentation on the background and the objectives of the meeting:
 - (a) Reconstitute and re-envision the partnership;
 - (b) Identify priorities, challenges, and opportunities;
 - (c) Map what organizations are already planning to do to support Parties;
 - (d) Agree on how best to collaborate and align in support of the Parties;
 - (e) Develop a clear strategy for the Partnership to support Parties to implement Target 3.
- 7. Ms. Rao then introduced the meeting facilitator, Jessica Ball. Ms. Ball led the participants through a series of introductory questions through the interactive presentation platform, Menti, where participants introduced themselves and reflected on their expectations and hopes for the meeting.
- 8. Following this, Ms. Silitshena gave a presentation on experiences with, and lessons learned from the Programme of Work on Protected Areas and Aichi Target 11 Partnerships.
- 9. Ms. Ball led the participants through a series of Menti questions on their experiences with the previous partnerships and how this new partnership can build on the work already done. The key message that came out of the Menti responses highlighted the importance of being inclusive but also being aware that the bigger the partnership becomes, the harder it becomes to manage. Therefore, a careful balancing act is required.

Scene-setting technical presentations

- 10. A series of three scene-setting technical presentations were given. Ms. Silitshena presented, on behalf of the Secretariat, the findings from the global report on the status of achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.¹ The report, published in 2021, contains an outline of the global status of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures and opportunities for action, and underlines the importance of expanding the focus beyond increasing the coverage of those areas and measures to ensure that sites are ecologically representative and well-connected and that greater emphasis is placed on equitable governance and the achievement of conservation outcomes through effective management.
- 11. Ms. Rao presented, on behalf of IUCN-WCPA, the technical guidance supporting Target 3 implementation. The presentation introduced the mandate of WCPA highlighted the need to focus on measuring outcomes rather than inputs, ensure the effectiveness of OECMs, diversify governance and management of conservation efforts, make tools accessible and practical, address the remaining 70 per cent of areas, and showcase the benefits of biodiversity for people. Reference was also made to a number of available guides for Target 3.²

¹ United Nations Development Programme, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and UNEP-WCMC, *Creating a Nature-Positive Future: The contribution of Protected Areas and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures* (New York, United Nations Development Programme, 2021).

² Available guides include: [30x30 solutions website](#); [Best practice in delivering the 30x30 Target](#).

12. Heather Bingham presented on behalf of UNEP-WCMC on the Protected Planet³ and progress on Target 3. The presentation explained how the Protected Planet database functions, and how data are provided by Parties and other data providers, highlighting how there is a need for an unprecedented level of global coordination to address both the quantitative and qualitative elements of Target 3 and how information from Protected Planet can aid in this. Protected Planet includes information on coverage, management effectiveness assessments, ecoregions, and connectivity. Ms. Bingham highlighted the opportunity to more comprehensively identify and map OECMs and place greater emphasis on the qualitative aspects of Target 3.

Item 3. Needs of the Parties to the Convention, rights holders and relevant stakeholders for achieving Target 3

Identifying priorities and challenges

13. Participants split into breakout groups to consider and discuss the priorities and challenges relating to a) increasing coverage and quality of protected areas and OECMs; b) human rights, equity and governance; and c) ensuring adequate and sustainable finance for protected areas and OECMs.

14. Following the discussions, the breakout groups reconvened and shared their key points through Menti. These responses are summarized below:

15. Key priorities:

(a) Increasing coverage and quality of protected areas and OECMs:

- Capacity-building: enhancing understanding of OECMs, developing management plans, updating national information in global databases, understanding drivers of biodiversity loss, promoting shared ownership and accountability, and assisting with translating the global target into national contributions.
- Quality over quantity: prioritizing quality aspects in achieving the target. This involves assisting Parties in identifying areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ensuring adequate monitoring efforts, focusing on tangible outcomes, addressing specific areas that will drive progress, and establishing accountability within the reporting systems.
- Inclusive planning: early inclusion of key stakeholders in design phases; increase the percentage of protected areas and OECMs under co-management categories of governance; free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) and Indigenous rights essential for the creation of new protected areas and OECMs; and involvement of all stakeholders to strengthen legislative frameworks.

(b) Human rights, equity, and governance:

- Focus on conservation outcomes and quality: Recognition of OECM contribution to global target; Emphasis on outcomes tailored to each context; mapping of needs, interests, and rights for spatial planning; addressing quality and equity issues in sites; and inclusion of non-governmental entities in reporting.
- Awareness and capacity-building: Enhancing capacities of stakeholders and increasing public awareness on the benefits of conservation efforts, including protected areas and OECMs; highlighting the linkages between nature conservation and climate change, as well as the importance of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC): Sharing success stories and examples related to IPLC-led governance, OECMs, and community initiatives; developing tools and methodologies that promote respect for human rights, equity, and inclusive governance.

³ [Protected Planet](#).

- Limited access to funding: the challenge of funding availability, in particular for local communities was emphasized. Suggestions included allocating a portion of the State budget for local conservation work, developing national-level systems for conservation financing, addressing financial challenges, such as limited budget allocation and long-term sustainability. Leveraging partner experience, identifying areas of financial assistance need at the community and indigenous community levels, and aligning with key biodiversity areas were also emphasized.
- Engagement: increasing the involvement of local communities, IPLCs, the private sector; inclusion of all stakeholders, rights holders, and whole-of-government; support the coordinated collective actions that engage all levels from local to global governance; promote collaborative human rights approach; increase the diversity of governance into protected and conserved areas.
- Political: address legislative barriers and lack of political will; administrative reforms to advance the effectiveness of protected areas; invest technical, political and financial resources into increasing the number of indigenous and community conserved areas that are recognized; and ensure the allocation and recognition of rights is the basis for negotiation of new protected areas and OECMs.

(c) Adequate and sustainable finance for protected areas and OECMs:

- Identification: need to identify all sources of funding, including from private sector, non-State funding, and alternative funding sources that are more accessible, flexible, and adaptable at different levels; new finance models; identifying the cost and benefits for individual funding and sites.
- Distribution: benefits must be distributed equitably; create or improve match-making platforms between donors and recipients, which can also be done regionally; establish better channels for access for IPLCs to access funding at the local level; increase the visibility and importance of under-funded protected areas and OECMs.
- Other: regulations and legislation should be updated to make financial models work at scale and ensure effective management of protected areas and OECMs; ensure high integrity in the incubation or expansion of innovative financial mechanisms.

16. Key challenges

(a) Increasing coverage and quality of protected areas and OECMs:

- Indigenous and traditional territories: capacity-building needed; interpretations of territories in relation to protected areas and OECMs; how to track and report.
- OECMs: Capacity-building needed; lack of legislation; ensuring what is counted has high biodiversity value.
- Quality: Disaggregating freshwater from terrestrial; identifying areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services; global representativeness across all ecosystems.
- Resources: need to increase personnel and financial; more research needed to assess alternative financing; long-term planning and investment needed, especially to address connectivity and the impact of climate change.
- Communication: sharing case studies and examples in a way that reaches wider audiences; Show how nature is interrelated with well-being; and balancing biodiversity outcomes with outcomes for people
- Political: how to ensure long-term planning with changing political governments/regimes; transboundary areas; accountability.

(b) Human rights, equity and governance:

- Understanding, cooperation, and communication: lack of appreciation and recognition of IPLC-led conservation; lack of clarity around OECMs, Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs), and other worldviews; lack of political will and understanding and often quick to defensiveness; lack of political trust; regional cooperation needed for regional challenges; conservation outcomes need to be created and communicated.
 - Governance and planning: areas beyond the 30 per cent; connecting all levels of governance; more governance types needed to reflect real world complexities; barriers and issues around shared governance, both in establishing and reporting; many countries have weak protected area legislation on rights, equity and governance; lack of access to finance and capacity-building, especially for IPLCs.
 - Socioeconomic realities: understanding the local context and being adaptable; poverty and associated pressures; protected areas are at risk if they do not benefit people; how to address biodiversity targets that conflict with human rights; need for justice; tenure rights not always respected.
- (c) Ensuring adequate and sustainable finance for protected areas and OECMs:
- Capacity and communication: capacity-building needed to enable access to and utilise finance; professionalization of the protected areas and OECM workforce; address knowledge gaps on available financing and how to access it; innovative incentives can be factors in to OECMs; understand the competing needs; biodiversity conservation needs to have higher public and political profile to support national budget commitments.
 - Sustainability of financing: need sufficient funding and information on where this funding is most needed, especially at the community level; funding also required for existing protected areas and OECMs; limited national government investment into conservation, especially for long-term management; funding can be mainstreamed from other sectors; establishment or modification of regulations and legislation to make sustainable finance work at scale; innovative sustainable finance mechanisms that consider needs based approach and blended finance options can be explored; funding also needed to ensure benefits in protected area buffer zones.
 - Accessibility of financing: coordination of funders, especially for regional and transboundary implementation; funding processes need to be simplified and streamlined to enable access; easy access for regional and IPLC funding needs to be available.

Identifying opportunities

17. Participants split into five regional breakout groups ⁴ to discuss the opportunities being developed/explored to facilitate or accelerate the implementation of Target 3. Participants were invited to first think individually about four categories of opportunities,⁵ and then come together to discuss as a group. One member from each group was invited to join a panel session where they reported back from their group discussions. The four categories of opportunities to facilitate or accelerate the implementation of Target 3, with key points raised during group discussions were:

18. Effectiveness of existing protected and conserved areas systems in achieving conservation outcomes, and adequacy of coverage protected and conserved areas systems in relation to areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services:

(a) Key points:

⁴ The five regional breakout groups were as follows: Latin America and Caribbean; Western Europe and North America; Africa; Asia Pacific; and Central and Eastern Europe.

⁵ (i) Qualitative considerations of existing protected and conserved area systems; (ii) Human Rights Based Approaches; (iii) Financing; and (iv) National policy commitments to area-based conservation.

- Indigenous and traditional territories: increase recognition and titling of indigenous lands and territories; recognizing sacred sites and species of cultural significance.
- Regional level: transboundary strategies; management of common resources, and assessment of representativeness; improve connectivity; strengthen legal frameworks.
- Spatial planning: creating new, or leveraging existing, tools that maximize quality of biodiversity; ensure spatial planning is multi-benefit for biodiversity and people; integrate indigenous knowledge and practices; gap analysis of what needs to be done and where; integrate livelihoods.
- Communication, knowledge, tools, and capacity-building: compile list of existing information and what areas require additional information; understanding biodiversity patterns within and across regions; technical support from NGOs; knowledge exchange for 30x30 solutions; support the monitoring of outcomes and effectiveness; share lessons learned in management; make knowledge accessible through common language, more translation, especially of definitions; make issues relevant to local communities;
- OECMs: how countries define and recognize OECMs; strengthening what already exists; connecting with other targets, such as target 1 and 2; putting OECMs into policy and legal reforms; knowledge exchange between countries on lessons learned.
- Engagement and capacity-building: scale community-based conservation and stakeholder engagement; have communities lead the process, through co-designing and co-delivering projects with IPLCs to fundamentally change institutional structures; protected area personnel need to have more engagement to share knowledge and training.

19. Mechanisms necessary for integrating human rights considerations in protected and conserved area systems:

(a) Key points:

- IPLC: Governance of IPLC territories as separate or complementary to governance of protected areas and OECMs; cross-cutting participation of IPLCs throughout the protected area and OECM process; strengthening capacities of IPLCs to directly manage their resources; self-reporting by IPLCs; incorporate Indigenous and local knowledge in the effective management of land/sea; increase recognition of land tenure and security, considering IPLC mindset with appropriate safeguards and capacity-building on human rights.
- Governance types: promote diverse governance through investment; strengthen governance at all levels; increase interest of different actors in participating in governance of protected areas and OECMs.
- Capacity-building: capacity of governments to understand rights-based approaches as positive; building capacity for implementation; lessons learned from other sectors; outreach to amplify governance concepts; OECMs as socially diverse or inclusive alternatives in conservation initiatives; create voluntary guidance for human rights-based approach.
- Integration: context of local communities and conservation must be considered; design and promote jobs related to protected areas; tourism as opportunity for development of communities around/in protected areas; local legislation enforces human rights-based approaches; regional cooperation for transboundary issues.

20. Financial mechanisms for sustainable protected and conserved area systems:

(a) Key points:

- Capacity-building, guidance, and tools: guidance and best practices for ecosystem services; identify existing tools; share good case studies from protected areas/OECMs/Countries that have developed site-level sustainable financing mechanisms.
 - Coordination: improve coordination of finance to ensure efficiency for funds available; opportunities through GEF for regional and national projects; support with NGOs; sustainable finance database; coordinate climate finance with biodiversity finance; connecting sustainable finance within protected and conserved areas to outside areas; need for GEF and other funding mechanisms to be flexible and accessible.
 - Incentives and accountability: need for finance to include socioeconomic benefits; carbon trading, debt swaps, and other innovative tools may be a good incentive for protected area and OECM recognition; accountability for funding pledged; need to minimize perverse incentives.
 - IPLC: create mechanisms for IPLCs to access funds easily and directly.
21. Existing or new national policy commitments that are relevant to Target 3 achievement:
- (a) Key points:
- IPLC: Recognition and titling of indigenous lands and territories; national policy for indigenous territories and global instrument; supporting the achievement of Target 3 provides an opportunity to recognize other conservation efforts or measures, such as communal lands and territories; increase participation and inclusion in policy formation.
 - Global agreements and reports: synergies with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) processes and financing; NBSAPs; IUCN and IPBES reports; WCPA site-level tool.
 - Enhance policy coherence: effective spatial planning; links with policies to restrict/decrease other 70 per cent; capacity-building at policy level; legislation and legal review, produce template legislation that can promote best practices and can be adapted to national context; mainstream policy, government agencies working together, transboundary governance; equity and governance language and concepts need to be included in protected area legislation.
 - Connectivity: ensure transboundary agreements are in place.
 - OECMs: OECMs recognized at local level need to be also recognized at national and global level; world database on OECMs (WD-OECM) should include verification by non-government.

Item 4. Ongoing provision of support for achieving Target 3

22. Ms. Rao made a summary presentation outlining the current support being provided at the global, regional and national levels. The presentation was based on the information provided by the participants through a survey sent out prior to the meeting, as well as from the responses collected during the Menti questions introduced throughout the meeting. Responses included perspectives from Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, intergovernmental organizations, donors and international and regional organizations. The presentation provided an overview of the policy, technical, finance, and capacity support currently being provided.

Item 5. Strengthening alignment and coordination of support for achieving Target 3

23. Following the summary presentation, four IPLC representatives were invited to join a panel discussion. The panel discussion focused on the role and rights of Indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation, in particular in relation to Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The panellists emphasized that IPLCs play a significant role in maintaining global biodiversity and that their contributions should be recognized and supported, and a third category of protected and conserved areas should be included to recognize these areas.

24. The panel highlighted the importance of full and effective participation of IPLCs in the partnership discussions. They also discussed the information gap and emphasized the need for increasing the recognition and adoptions of traditional knowledge as a scientific contribution. The experience of Canada in advancing IP-led conservation was shared, highlighting the Indigenous Circle of experts' role in Indigenous-led conservation efforts. The panel stressed the need for better recognition of IPLCs' contributions in national policies, implementation approaches, and including the right to participation and free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC). Capacity-building for IPLCs, as well as governments and other stakeholders, was identified as a key priority, along with sharing positive case studies and self-determined priorities of IPLCs. Overall, the panel called for an open, respectful, and long-term partnership that ensures the permanent exchange of knowledge and experiences.

25. Participants also heard briefings from representatives of the Global Environment Facility and major alliances and initiatives established to provide support for achieving Target 3, namely the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) and the Global Ocean Alliance (GOA). The representatives from the HAC, GOA and GEF each introduced their work, and responded to several questions posed by the moderator, and the audience. From their experiences, the panellists provided insight on how this partnership could be structured to enhance efficiency and collaboration, where this partnership will differ from the existing alliances, and how the GEF functions. The panellists stressed the importance that this new partnership develop a clear mandate for what it would like to achieve, so that a streamlined approach can be developed that ensures to focus on the leverage points that will really help Parties, maintain the current momentum, minimize duplication, and learn from the different perspectives of the partnership members. The need to match the reality of what the partnership can provide to the needs of the Parties was also stressed, as was the importance of linking Target 3 to the other Targets.

Item 6. Mission, objectives, structure and operations of the proposed partnership to support the achievement of Target 3

Identification of partnership priorities

26. To best align support for achieving Target 3, the participants were asked to work in small groups to discuss options for aligning support, focusing in particular on how to increase the effectiveness of support and avoid the duplication of efforts among partners and to identify the areas that most urgently require cooperation.

27. The responses provided during the previous exercise were presented to the participants through a Menti poll, where participants were asked to rank the list from most to least urgently requiring cooperation. With this information as a backdrop, participants were invited into a fishbowl discussion, where the chairs were placed in circles. The inner circle of chairs was open to those who wished to join the free-flowing conversation, and participants were invited to join and leave the inner circle as they wished.

28. Key takeaways from this conversation included: the need for a partnership with a clear objective, alignment, and accountability; the importance of a common narrative to engage stakeholders and maintain momentum, while also extending the partnership beyond Target 3 to also include Targets 1 and 2, and involve all stakeholders, adapting to the needs of Parties and ensuring IPLC participation; a whole-of-society approach, considering practical issues, challenges, and the reconciliation of conservation and economic needs; and recognizing the value of OECMs and conducting a gap analysis for all elements of the target.

Partnership structure

29. Participants were invited to join breakout groups to discuss and propose strategic foundations for the partnership, in the light of the discussions held on priorities, needs, opportunities and challenges, as well as current ongoing support, with a view to working towards an agreement on the partnership impact, outcomes, outputs, activities, inputs, as well as the overarching principles of the partnership. Following the breakout groups, the information collected was reviewed and consolidated into one working document by the workshop organizers.

30. The final day of the meeting began with the consolidated information from the previous breakout group being presented. With the goal of coming to agreement on clear impacts, outcomes and outputs of the partnership, participants were invited to join a plenary discussion for each. The partnership framework can be found in annex 1.

31. The agreed text for the partnership impact/vision was: Targets 1, 2 and 3 are successfully and inclusively implemented through facilitation and collaboration.

32. The agreed text for the partnership outcomes was: Through coordination and collaboration, the Partnership assures synergy and complementarity so that:

- I. Importance of area-based targets and pathways to implementation is communicated through clear language;
- II. Indigenous People and Local Communities and other non-State actors are full partners in implementation;
- III. Knowledge and experience is shared;
- IV. Capacity is built for implementation;
- V. Progress towards achievement of the targets is effectively measured and monitored;
- VI. Sustainable financing of area-based targets is promoted.

33. The agreed text for the partnership outputs was:

- Outcome I: Importance of area-based targets, and what success looks like, is communicated.
 - Political engagement, advocacy as necessary
 - Collective narratives: defining what success looks like for each of the three targets;
 - Internal communication
 - Justification for why the targets are important
 - Production and dissemination of consistent communication: paired with dynamic delivery and dissemination of consistent communication tools
- Outcome II: indigenous people and local communities and other non-State actors are full partners in implementation.
 - This outcome was not discussed in detail with the participants agreeing it would be developed through further consultations with IPLC representatives.
- Outcome III: Knowledge and relevant experience is shared
 - Technical guidance, guides, tools, case studies
 - Facilitating the production, as necessary
 - Collecting, mapping and sharing activities of members of the partnership
- Outcome IV: Capacity is built for implementation.
 - Example: Priority areas will be identified (OECMs, NBSAPs, mainstreaming area based targets, alternative livelihoods)
 - Including through aligning existing capacity-building programmes
 - Regional support networks
- Outcome V: Progress towards achievement of the targets is effectively measured.

- Facilitating collection and availability of data
- Monitoring, indicators, and reporting
- Where partners can provide data
- Outcome VI: Sustainable financing of area-based targets is promoted
 - Identify gaps in support and mapping sources of support
 - Facilitate complementarity and collaboration
 - Sharing information

Item 7. Conclusions and recommendations

34. Participants were invited to consider general conclusions and recommendations, as prepared by the Secretariat, WCPA and UNEP-WCMC on the basis of the discussions held under the various agenda items.

35. Ms. Silitshena provided practical information on next steps towards launching the partnership, including that it will be hosted at the Secretariat of the Convention, as well as an overview of the overarching principles, membership structure, and the benefits of membership, as heard over the three days.

- Principles
 - Flexible, dynamic and adaptable
 - Non-bureaucratic
 - Voluntary
- Coordination
 - Secretariat hosted at CBD
 - Working groups on different themes led by different members
 - Regional support networks and regional coordination organizations
 - Quarterly or half-yearly virtual meetings
 - Annual in-person meetings on margins of COP of SBSTTA
- Membership
 - Open and inclusive
 - Active and ongoing support for Targets 1, 2 and 3
 - Open-ended
- Benefits of membership
 - Access to a broader range of partners
 - Increased exposure and uptake of members products and experience
 - Influence global implementation of Targets 1, 2 and 3

Item 8. Closure of the meeting

36. The meeting closed at 1 p.m. on 14 June 2023.

Annex

**Global Partnership to support the achievement of Targets 1, 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal
Global Biodiversity Framework**

Partnership Framework

July 2023

At its fifteenth meeting in December 2022, Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity agreed to an ambitious agenda to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Among the 23 targets to be achieved by 2030, the first eight focus on reducing threats to biodiversity, and Target 3 focuses on the conservation of biodiversity within protected areas systems, other effective area based conservation measures, and indigenous and traditional territories.

TARGET 3

Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.

The success of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework will lie in its implementation and depends on collaboration among actors across society.

In December 2022, on the margins of COP 15, a group of organizations and country representatives that was previously involved in supporting efforts towards achieving global goals related to protected and conserved areas convened for an informal meeting to discuss the potential development of a new partnership.

In follow up to the meeting in December 2022, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in collaboration with the World Commission on Protected Areas of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN WCPA) and the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) organised a meeting in June 2023 on the development of a partnership to support the achievement of target 3. The meeting facilitated in-depth discussions and contributions from experts representing diverse stakeholder groups, which helped to identify the goal and expected outcomes and outputs of the partnership. The meeting participants agreed that the activities of the partnership would be agreed at a first meeting of the partnership.⁶

While the partnership will focus on Target 3, the outcomes, outputs and activities intend to integrate other goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. In executing its activities, the Target 3 partnership will bear in mind the strong linkages and dependencies among Targets 1, 2 and 3. It will also take cognisance of Target 22, which ensures participation, justice, and rights for indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth persons with disabilities and environmental defenders, and Target 23, which ensures that implementation follows a gender-responsive approach.

The development of this partnership builds upon the foundation of prior successful collaborations, particularly the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) partnership and the Aichi Target 11 Partnership. Building on the discussions at the meeting in June 2023, lessons learned and best practices from

⁶ Throughout the meeting, several parallels were drawn to the implementation of Targets 1 and 2, and participants suggested broadening the scope of the partnership to include Targets 1 and 2. However, since the implementation of Targets 1 and 2 is supported by a broad set of actors, and a majority of them were not invited to the meeting or consulted on the development of this partnership, it has been decided to limit the scope of the partnership to Target 3.

the previous partnerships, this partnership framework document describes the work that the partnership will carry out moving forward. Specific activities and operational details will be developed as the partnership progresses.

Rationale

Aichi Target 11 was arguably one of the best implemented targets in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, and part of its success is attributable to the collaborations among a diverse set of organizations. These collaborations brought together the expertise and experience existing within governments, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, non-governmental organizations, the research community and many other actors.

Protected and conserved areas, and other effective area-based conservation measures are primary to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and a vast number of organizations, coalitions and networks that are involved in supporting achievement of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. A global partnership will serve to bring these actors together to provide a platform for them to exchange information on their activities, identify gaps in the provision of support for the target, and collaborate to provide support where a need for a partnership approach has been identified. This will amplify the impact of the work these actors do individually and enhance achievement of Target 3.

Partnership Framework

While the partnership is global in nature, it aims to support action at the local, subnational, national and regional levels, and is expected to feature regional and subregional coordination mechanisms. The partnership will enable not only Parties, but also non-State actors in supporting implementation of the targets. The idea for a partnership stems from the recognition of the ongoing work by organizations around the world supporting implementation of Targets 1, 2 and 3, and the need for alignment, information sharing, and collaboration to encourage synergies and avoid duplications.

Partnership Vision

The partnership seeks to support Parties, other governments, rights-holders and other stakeholders to advance the implementation of actions that would lead to the achievement of these targets. In this regard, the partnership acknowledges that this requires alignment, facilitation and collaboration.

Therefore, the vision of the partnership is:

Target 3 is successfully and inclusively implemented through facilitation and collaboration among a diverse set of actors

Partnership Outcomes

In order to achieve its vision and build capacity at all levels of governance, members of the partnership will need to share knowledge and experience, and to engage actors within and beyond the traditional environment sectors. The partnership, through its Secretariat and members will communicate the importance of the target. Indigenous Peoples and local communities will be key members of the partnership which cannot exist without their full participation and engagement. Lastly, the partnership can leverage its diverse membership to support sustainable financing of efforts to advance success of the target.

The outcomes of the partnership are therefore expected to be:

- I. Importance of Target 3 and pathways to implementation is communicated to various audiences through clear language;
- II. Indigenous Peoples and local communities, other non-State actors and all levels of government are full partners in rights-based implementation;
- III. Knowledge and experience related to implementation of Target 3 is shared within and outside the partnership;
- IV. Capacity is strengthened for implementation;

- V. Progress towards achievement of the targets is effectively measured and monitored;
- VI. Sustainable financing of area-based targets is promoted.

Partnership Outputs

To achieve each of the outcomes listed above, several outputs are required, and these are described below each outcome. These outcomes are shared by many actors working to achieve these ambitious targets and the partnership will provide a platform for actors to coordinate and align their support.

Outcome I: Importance of Target 3 and pathways to implementation is communicated to various audiences through clear language

- Advocate and engage politically, as necessary, and highlight the importance of the targets.
- Collective narratives: define what success looks like for the target.
- Communicate within the partnership on support activities that partner organizations are engaged in.
- Jointly produce and disseminate consistent external communications as needed.

Outcome II: Indigenous peoples and local communities, other non-State actors and all levels of government are full partners in rights-based implementation

- The partnership promotes rights-based approaches across its activities.
- Participatory implementation and capacity-building and development is ensured across the activities of the partnership.
- *This outcome was not discussed in detail during the meeting and participants agreed it would be developed through further discussions.*

Outcome III: Knowledge and experience are shared within and outside the partnership.

- Ensure that technical guides, tools, case studies and other resources are shared among members of the partnership and disseminated widely, beyond the partnership.
- Facilitate production of guides where lacking, as necessary; and distil guides into user-friendly forms accompanied with consistent messaging.
- Collect, map and share activities of members of the partnership to encourage alignment, cooperation and collaboration, and to avoid duplication.

Outcome IV: Capacity is strengthened for implementation

- Identify priority areas for capacity-building where a partnership approach proves to be advantageous (examples include OECM, connectivity, including the targets in NBSAPs, mainstreaming the targets).
- Where possible, map and align existing capacity-building programmes and advise on how they could be strengthened.
- Encourage regional networks to provide support through, for example, peer to peer support, knowledge management, systematic sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned.
- Where possible, facilitate and align subregional support among members of the partnership.

Outcome V: Progress towards achievement of the targets is effectively measured and monitored.

- Facilitate collection and availability of data, as needed.

- Encourage monitoring and reporting on established indicators.
- Facilitate and contribute to stocktaking, to identify progress and gaps.

Outcome VI: Sustainable financing of area-based targets is promoted

- Supporting the existing financing structures addressing this outcome, where needed and possible.
- Identify gaps in support and map sources of support.
- Facilitate complementarity and collaboration.

Activities under each output will be agreed at the first meeting of the partnership, bearing in mind the activities of other organizations, coalitions and networks in order to avoid duplication. Activities will focus on areas where a partnership approach is advantageous.

Coordination and Membership

The partnership will align itself with other organizations, coalitions and networks such as IUCN WCPA, the High Ambition Coalition, the Global Ocean Alliance, and the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership.

Coordination of the partnership will be provided by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, supported and guided by a steering group. The partnership will function through regional support networks and coordination organizations, and working groups will be convened as needed. The partnership is expected to meet virtually, and on the margins of meetings, such as the Conference of the Parties, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

Membership of the partnership will be inclusive and open to organizations working on and providing support to Parties, rights-holders and/or other stakeholders on Target 3. It will be ongoing with no cut-off date for membership.