



SBSTTA-24 Informal Session

Agenda Item 3: Post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Intervention by the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN)

18 February 2021

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Thank you Madame Chair. I am speaking on behalf of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network.

GYBN recognizes the post-2020 framework as a unique opportunity to collectively take necessary steps toward social and environmental justice – the fairest transformational pathway towards a life in harmony with nature. It is also an opportunity to correct past failures of neglecting to sufficiently recognize, monitor, and report on the contributions of youth, women, Indigenous peoples and local communities to biodiversity. When our contributions are not being measured, they are not reported; and when they are not reported, **we become invisible**. This would be a big disservice to what the post-2020 framework is trying to achieve, and is something we must no longer accept.

We have 4 comments on **CBD/SBSTTA/24/3 and its addendum**:

1. First, we are concerned about discussing and agreeing on headline indicators without having yet agreed on goals and targets, among which we still see major gaps, such as the insufficient reflection of human rights-based approaches, intergenerational equity, gender considerations, and priorities of IPLCs. These are crucial cross-cutting issues that must be integrated throughout the framework. We fully support France and Sweden statements in this regard.
2. Second, we re-emphasize, as Dominican Republic also mentioned, that data **must** be disaggregated by age, sex, and indigenous status wherever possible and relevant, so that the current and future indicators can monitor outcomes for youth, women, and IPLCs.
3. Third, on the Technical Expert Group, the Terms of Reference must explicitly ensure the involvement of rightsholder and stakeholder groups. Expertise within the Expert Group must represent diverse knowledge systems, and must hear directly from the groups concerned on which indicators would be the most meaningful to reflect their contributions both quantitatively and qualitatively.

We propose the following addition to Annex II, paragraph 3:

- After the words “ geographical representation,” we propose the addition:  
**“representation from major rightsholder and stakeholder groups,”**
4. Additionally, meaningful youth-related indicators that meet the criteria as listed in the addendum may likely not yet exist and will have to be developed with our full and effective participation, especially for Targets 19 and 20.

Finally, we would like to thank the Netherlands for starting intergenerational partnerships and giving a voice to young people; as well as Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, the ASEAN and the EU for supporting youth participation in the CBD in different ways. Such initiatives are crucial to build young people’s capacity in biodiversity policy and can also greatly enhance implementation. We hope that more parties will follow their examples and we offer our help to advise them on how to do so meaningfully.

Thank you Madame Chair.