



Global Youth
Biodiversity
Network



Empowering
Youth For
Biodiversity

SBI-3 Informal Session

Statement by the **Global Youth Biodiversity Network**

Agenda Item 7. Capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, knowledge management, and communication

10th of March 2021

Delivered by: Athena Syarifa

Thank you Madame Chair.

It is paramount that a robust capacity development framework is agreed upon and implemented together with the post 2020 GBF, as lack of capacities have been identified as one of the key challenges for Parties to implement the Aichi targets.

We believe that such a robust framework should focus on empowering all relevant sectors of society. We must move beyond business-as-usual practices for capacity development that are frankly, alienating and patronizing to developing countries and marginalized groups.

While the draft framework mentions the importance of non-state actors, GYBN feels that the documents still keep initiatives centered around government institutions and its machinery.

What we are sadly missing is a more inclusive and participatory whole-of society approach for capacity development, which includes formal and informal mechanisms, as well as resources, to leverage partnerships with different non-government actors.

We urge parties to include substantially more references to **the need for inclusion and co-creation** of programmes with relevant rights-holders and stakeholders, including youth, women, indigenous peoples and local communities. Here partnering with established actors to avoid duplication of efforts plays a fundamental role.

When we, young people, are empowered and engaged meaningfully, through co-designing and co-development of programmes, we can further enhance developing capacities and awareness necessary for meeting the goals of the Post-2020 GBF.

From the experience of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, co-creation, concrete support and trust in the work of rightholders that are taken less into account, such as youth, women and ipics have a strong positive impact.

For example, since 2017 and thanks to the support of multiple donors and parties, GYBN has organized several Capacity Building Workshops for youth in almost all regions of the world, where over 340 youth leaders from 120 countries received comprehensive training in how they can support the implementation of the CBD, resulting in 46 small-scale youth-led projects which have been supported and implemented on the local and national level.



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Furthermore, in over 40 countries and regions, GYBN chapters are operating as capacity development and mobilization hubs for young people committed to biodiversity.

Promoting intergenerational dialogue and empowering key rightholders to develop capacities within their own communities is the only way to engage them effectively and inclusively.

Therefore, we wish to see a capacity development framework, including technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge management and communication that fosters intergenerational partnerships at all levels. Concretely, we suggest that meaningful IPLC, women and youth engagement and intergenerational initiatives are included in national, regional and international capacity development strategies. Directly accessible funding should be provided for such activities and they should be included in our monitoring and evaluation frameworks, with indicators disaggregated by sex, age and indigenous status.

We will be sending concrete text suggestions in written form. We are furthermore open to dialogue with any interested actor to discuss how we can create meaningful intergenerational partnerships to enhance not only capacity development but overall implementation, unleashing the true potential of this framework in enabling the transformative change we need.

Thank you Madame Chair.

[THE NEXT PAGE INCLUDES AN ANNEX WITH OUR CONCRETE PROPOSALS]



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ANNEX 1

The Global Youth Biodiversity Network wishes to submit the following concrete proposals to the documents of Agenda item 7 to the informal sessions of SBI-3:

In the draft recommendation (CBD/SBI/3/7):

- **In paragraph 7** of the draft recommendation it should be added: **women and youth** after indigenous peoples and local communities.
- **In paragraph 18(b)** of the draft recommendation it should be added: **women and youth** after indigenous peoples and local communities.
- **In paragraph 18(e)** of the draft recommendation it should be added that the capacity development forum should include perspectives of IPLCs, women and youth and have a proportional amount of representatives from these groups

In the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity development (CBD/SBI/3/7/Add.1):

- **Paragraph 26 (a):** Ensure inclusion of all relevant entities and groups in capacity development processes, including through extensive stakeholder mapping; **especially indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth**
- **After paragraph 30** of the draft long term strategic framework we wish to have a new subheading (E.2) mentioning that “**Intergenerational perspectives should be fully integrated into biodiversity capacity development efforts**”.
- **Paragraph 34** of the draft long term strategic framework includes that NBSAPs should include plans on youth engagement in capacity development, as well as intergenerational initiatives.
- **Paragraph 63** of the draft long term strategic framework should include that capacity development indicators in the post-2020 monitoring framework should be, if relevant, disaggregated by age, sex, indigenous status and other relevant groups.



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