

## Template for submitting comments on the draft manual for Strengthening NBSAPs through Landscape Approaches (UNU)

Please submit comments by **26 May 2023** to the following email address: [landscape\\_approaches\\_nbsaps@unu.edu](mailto:landscape_approaches_nbsaps@unu.edu) (cc: [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int))

Contact information	
<b>Surname:</b>	Amos
<b>Given Name:</b>	Charlotte
<b>Government</b> (if applicable):	UK
<b>Organization:</b>	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>City:</b>	
<b>Country:</b>	
<b>Postal Code:</b>	
<b>Phone Number</b> (including country code):	
<b>E-mail:</b>	Charlotte.amos@defra.gov.uk
<b>Please provide general comments on the draft manual below.</b>	
<p>This document provides a simple introduction to landscape approaches, but further detail could be provided on the importance of landscape approaches for biodiversity conservation and how this can be achieved in practice. Further detail could also be provided in section 3 on the relevance of landscape approaches to the different targets, such as exploring the links between the targets and drawing out how landscape approaches can help achieve multiple targets. For example, taking a landscape approach to Target 1 could help identify suitable land to restore in Target 2 to increase extent and/ or quality of ecosystems and enhance landscape connectivity, which can facilitate species dispersal contributing to enhanced gene flow and achieving in-situ conservation within Target 4.</p>	
<b>Please provide other comments indicating the line number below.</b>	
Line number	Comments
44	“December 2023” should be “December 2022”
110	“such as target 3 of the GBF on protecting 30% of land and sea by 2030” We suggest amending it to “such as target 3 of the GBF on protecting <u>at least</u> 30% of land and <u>of the ocean</u> ” or “at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas” as agreed at COP15.

	<p>“requires conservation outside protected areas” - It is unclear whether this is referring to contributions to GBF Target 3 beyond Protected Areas (ie. OECMs) or other efforts e.g. spatial planning, that would contribute to wider targets. If the latter, it may be more appropriate to refer to a different GBF target here such as Target 1. If the former, greater consideration should be provided for how protected areas and OECMs can be integrated into the wider landscape/ seascape using a landscape approach.</p> <p>Overall, there could be further exploration of the role that landscape approaches could provide for achieving the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature and for achieving the 2030 mission, in particular, halting and reversing biodiversity loss.</p>
129-130	<p>“Countries are expected to use the GBF as a guide for their own national biodiversity planning and target-setting when they revise and update their NBSAPs.” Parties are <u>required</u> to update their NBSAPs <u>in line with</u> the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its goals and targets. We suggest strengthening this sentence to make this requirement clear.</p>
95-96	<p>“The size, quality, and connectivity of ecosystems in a landscape and/or seascape, determine their ecological integrity and their capacity to produce ecosystem services” it would be helpful here to define what “quality” means, and how this differs to “ecological integrity”? We would also suggest changing “determine” with “impact”.</p> <p>Overall, this paragraph should dive deeper into the relationship between land cover, landscape pattern and biodiversity dynamics in order to emphasize the important role that landscape approaches can provide for biodiversity conservation in addition to the provision of ecosystem services. For instance, landscape connectivity is only briefly mentioned again in line 350, but as stated it can play a key role in landscape approaches. This should be explored more in this paragraph, highlighting how landscape composition (what is in the landscape and its quality) and its configuration (spatial arrangement and connectivity) influences biodiversity dynamics and in turn species conservation.</p>
99-100	<p>“For the sake of efficiency, the term “landscapes” is used here to refer to both landscapes and seascapes <b>in most cases.</b>”</p> <p>“In most cases” means it can be unclear whether particular statements are intended to apply to both terrestrial and marine environments. It also risks a greater focus on the terrestrial environment and sidelining marine considerations and examples. This may mean that this document is mis-identified as a resource to only support GBF implementation on land.</p> <p>E.g:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Line 133 – “a spatial plan is a strategy...stating... the <b>land</b> allocations for implementation” (this seems to omit marine spatial planning and “sea” allocations)</li> <li>- Lines 155-156 - “land-use planning” (can a marine equivalent be provided here?)</li> <li>- Line 267 - “land use change” (sea-use change is also a key driver of biodiversity loss)</li> </ul>
31-32 AND	<p>These lines need reconciling to ensure there is a clear understanding of “landscape approaches”:</p>

<p>138-139</p> <p>AND</p> <p>238-239</p>	<p>“landscape approaches can be applied directly at the local or landscape scale” (31-32)</p> <p>“...landscapes are local features. Landscape approaches are, therefore, applied at the local level” (138-139)</p> <p>“landscape approaches... are always applied at the landscape (local) level”</p>
<p>157-158</p>	<p>“Agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry use disproportionately large areas of land or sea for critical production activities” - it may be useful to provide a reference/qualification for this statement (particularly with regard to aquaculture)</p>
<p>Page 11 (table)</p>	<p>The explanation of how a landscape approach could be incorporated into GBF Target 3 should also reflect/consider the language within the target itself to ensure that Protected Areas and OECMs are “integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean”.</p> <p>Also the paper should note that OECMs are “<b>recognised</b>” rather than “determined”.</p>
<p>Page 12 (table)</p>	<p>“If applied to various parts of the landscape and not only conserved areas” - it should be more clearly reflected that GBF Target 5 already applies to all use, harvesting and trade of wild species, not just that which may take place within conserved areas.</p>