



PRESS RELEASE

CBD Secretariat's new Action Agenda platform fosters “whole-of-society approach” to showcase commitments and actions from non-state actors to put biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030

- *New platform features expanded showcase of the 11 action categories identified to promote recommended transition pathways, as noted in 5th Global Biodiversity Outlook.*
- *Open-source software tools for sub-national and non-state actors to create their own commitment platforms to advance interoperability and networking.*
- *More responsive navigation of the growing list of pledges, promotional materials and videos explaining how sectors and stakeholders are taking steps to shift away from ‘business as usual’.*

Montreal, 18 August 2021 – The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) today unveiled its newly designed platform for the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People.

Spearheaded by the Governments of China and Egypt in 2018 and supported by the CBD Secretariat, the Action Agenda serves as a mechanism to catalyse broad-based non-state actors' actions. The platform will continue to raise public awareness, building on the existing and growing momentum of urgent action from various non-state actors in support of the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-15) to the CBD in Kunming, China.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, CBD Executive Secretary, said, “The Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People is critical to building a whole-of-society approach towards the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.”

“This inclusive initiative has helped to raise public awareness actions to tackle nature loss and restore biodiversity at the global, national, and local levels. In the lead up to COP-15, the Secretariat continues to invite more commitments and showcase partner engagement, demonstrating why it is in everyone’s best interest to take action.”

The upgraded platform showcases voluntary commitments to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity by sub-national actors and non-state actors, including youth, non-governmental



organizations, the business and private sectors, academia as well as indigenous peoples and local communities.

In its two-year existence, over 200 commitments have been showcased on the platform. These include more than 44 submissions by alliances and coalitions accounting for over 300 partners and at least 34 submissions indicating more than one commitment pledged.

In order to continue inspiring and promoting multi-party commitments towards the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the Action Agenda requires increased collaboration and engagement.

By sharing both knowledge and tools the CBD Secretariat continues to engage sub-national and non-state actors to submit relevant commitments. This new platform features:

- An expanded showcase of the 11 action categories identified to promote the recommended transition pathways, as noted in the 5th *Global Biodiversity Outlook*.
- Open-source software tools for sub-national and non-state actors to create their own commitment platforms to advance interoperability and networking.
- More responsive navigation of the growing list of pledges, promotional materials and videos explaining how sectors and stakeholders are taking steps to shift away from 'business as usual', signaling new measures and practices, in line with what science tells us is needed to reverse nature loss, reduce inter-connected risks and put biodiversity on a path to recover by 2030.
- Events showcased to promote collaboration in building a groundswell of actions ahead of COP-15.

In promoting ambitious yet practical commitments, the Action Agenda spotlights inclusive, innovative and cross-sectoral actions, among a range of actors, fostering a whole-of-society approach to advance the CBD's three objectives and realize the 2050 Vision to of living in harmony with nature. With the leadership and political support of the Governments of Egypt and China, the Action Agenda has helped catalyze a range of actors, as well as a Friend of Action group, to champion leaders in different sectors, and across the world, to confront key drivers of biodiversity loss, and deliver new, forward-looking commitments to drive transformative change throughout the decade.

This momentum has helped draw greater attention to COP-15 and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework by sub-national and non-state actors, including the business and finance sectors.

On the road to COP-15, the Secretariat anticipates a continued rise in collaborative initiatives, among a mix of community, public and private actors, aligning commitments in support the post-2020 framework, stimulating important political momentum to boost the pace of action, innovation and engagement.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Visit the platform or contact us at action.agenda@cbd.int to register your action.

Visit [the portal](#).

About the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Opened for signature in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, and entering into force in December 1993, the CBD is an international treaty for the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of the components of biodiversity and the equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources. With 196 Parties, the CBD has near universal participation among countries. The CBD seeks to address all threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services, including threats from climate change, through scientific assessments, the development of tools, incentives and processes, the transfer of technologies and good practices and the full and active involvement of relevant stakeholders including indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, women, NGOs, sub-national actors and the business community. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing are supplementary agreements to the CBD. The Cartagena Protocol, which entered into force 11 September 2003, seeks to protect biodiversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. To date, 173 Parties have ratified the Cartagena Protocol. The Nagoya Protocol aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies. Entering into force 12 October 2014, it has been ratified by 131 Parties.