



# CBD STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-30

## WWF VIEWS ON PROCESS

7 September 2017

WWF welcomes the CBD Secretariat's invitation to Parties, other governments, organisations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC) to contribute to the development of a comprehensive and inclusive process for the preparation of the post-2020 biodiversity framework. The trends of biodiversity loss today are deeply alarming: WWF's Living Planet Index, recognised as an indicator of Aichi targets, has most recently shown that business-as-usual scenarios will lead the world to a two-thirds decline in global wildlife populations by 2020. The pressures on humanity's natural resources base and ecosystem services significantly undermine sustainable development and increase risks of humanitarian crisis. **The world needs to demonstrate a drastic shift on these trends by 2020 and “bend the curve”**. As WWF's Living Planet Reports in 2018 and 2020 will outline, it is feasible to halt the trend of biodiversity loss by 2030 and restore nature to more sustainable levels by 2050 – provided urgent and wide-reaching actions have been taken by 2020 and thereafter. The ambition of the post-2020 framework must not fall any shorter than these goals.

WWF calls on the Secretariat of the CBD (SCBD) and Parties to design an **inclusive and transparent, comprehensive and integrated process** to develop the CBD's Post-2020 Strategic Plan and stands ready to offer its expertise and support through that process.

### Inclusive and Transparent

A transparent and open process should be ensured by **sharing information through regular communications** addressed to all stakeholders on the decisions, timelines, official documents, and progress made in the development of the new Strategic Plan. The Secretariat should also ensure full participation and representation in the development of a clear process in preparation for the post-2020 biodiversity framework by ensuring **regular, timely and substantive input** from all relevant stakeholders, from Parties to civil society, NGOs, businesses, IPLC, scientific community as well as local governments.

Many stakeholders have a vital role in the protection, use and management of nature, biodiversity and its ecosystems, and rely on them for their social, cultural and economic well-being. This is particularly true for the poorest and most vulnerable groups, including IPLC. Ensuring the fair and equitable participation and consultation of these actors is of utmost importance and needs to be reflected in the Post-2020 Strategic Plan to secure not only an ambitious outcome but also one that is **grounded into economic and social development plans, local/city development strategies** and integrated with **Nationally Determined Contributions for addressing climate change**.

It is imperative that all the actors are empowered to develop and embrace a common vision and commit to work together to respond to the urgent challenges we face. **An inclusive design**

**process is critical in securing ownership**, which is essential for the effective implementation of the post-2020 biodiversity framework.

## Comprehensive and Integrated

WWF urges the SCBD and Parties to ensure that the new Post-2020 Strategic Plan comprehensively addresses the Convention and its Protocols in order to improve their integration as well as the whole CBD governance, implementation, review, and financing at all levels.

The process for the development of the new biodiversity framework should also ensure **coordination and alignment with other key international processes and conventions**, and in particular the other “Rio Conventions” (UNFCCC, UNCCD) as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the *“adoption of common indicators relevant to their respective reporting processes and in alignment with the global indicators being developed in the SDG process”<sup>1</sup>*. The new CBD Strategic Plan must also be aligned with related processes and receive input from these, for example the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, the UN Environment Assembly, the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, as well as other Multilateral Environmental Agreements. This would **ensure coherence, multiply synergies and interconnections, as well as promote coordinated and effective implementation** of all these frameworks for a significantly improved impact on biodiversity, human well-being, climate change and sustainable development at all levels.

To further enhance transparency, the new Strategic Plan must be **informed by available international and national data and science**, as well as contributions from civil society, to ensure the effective implementation and realization of the post-2020 targets. The Strategic Plan should also include strategies for developing capacities for data collection and use.

The CBD needs to rally around a **simple and clear scientific message comparable to the “2°C scenario” for UNFCCC and the IPCC “scenarios”** to get there. The Strategic Plan should unite the world around a single clear, articulate and measurable overarching objective of halting and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030 and to restoring biodiversity beyond that such that we return to a safe operating space for people. The IPBES (Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services) should be tasked with supporting this, and its comprehensive global biodiversity assessment to be published should include work around such solution scenarios.

## High-Level meetings in the lead up to COP-15

With regard to the options for the preparatory process proposed in Part VI of the Information Note of 15 June 2017, WWF supports the elements proposed and is ready to be involved. In particular, WWF would like to encourage Parties and the SCBD to organize high-Level meetings, such as a **Biodiversity Heads of State Summit** in the lead up to 2020, to discuss strategic elements, foster timely political commitment and raise awareness for the new CBD Strategy. In this context, WWF strongly recommends exploring opportunities for organizing such meetings in **coordination with other international processes** (e.g. during the HLPF 2019 to be convened at the Head of State level during the 74<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly; during the High-Level Segment of the CBD COP-15 in China). WWF also encourages **regional Biodiversity Summits** and fully supports the initiative of the Government of Egypt to hold an **Africa Biodiversity Summit**.

Such High Level Summits should serve to underline the urgency of an ambitious 2020 outcome, galvanise attention and ensure full government ownership over the CBD COP-15 outcome and CBD 2020-30 Strategic Plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Fourteenth meeting of the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, 25 August 2016 Available at:  
<http://www2.unccd.int/sites/default/files/relevant-links/2017-07/jlg-14-report-en2016%20114%20bonn.pdf>