

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological
Diversity
United Nations Environment Programme
413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, QC, H2Y 1N9
Canada

14 December 2018

To the Secretariat of the CBD

Views on the content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Dear Secretariat of the CBD,

In your notification SCBD/OES/DC/RH/KNM/87538, you invite stakeholders to submit their views on the preparation, scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. CDC Biodiversité, as a private sector stakeholder, would like to provide inputs on the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and in particular (a) the scientific underpinning of the scale and scope of actions necessary to make progress towards the 2050 Vision.

Setting a global quantified apex target and downscaling it using the planetary boundaries

We believe the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should include a simple, communicable and quantifiable overarching “apex goal” which underpins a set of objectives, actions and enabling conditions (see for instance *WWF views on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework*, WWF, 2018, for a detailed discussion of how such a framework could work).

The concept of planetary boundaries is well understood by the general public and scientifically sound and could be used to help set such an apex goal. Scientific research has already been conducted to link the biodiversity-related planetary boundaries into quantified targets expressed with measurable metrics. The Planetary Boundaries Research Network (PBL, Stockholm Resilience Center, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research or PIK) has worked towards translating planetary boundaries into quantifiable “budget”. It has established global limits and analysed the reduction of impacts required to stay within these limits for a number of regions. **The global limit for biodiversity loss expressed in mean species abundance is for instance 28% MSA** (*Using planetary boundaries to support national implementation of environment-related Sustainable Development Goals*, PBL, 2018¹).

This global limit could be used to set quantified targets regarding the trajectory of global biodiversity after 2020. Such targets would need to be regionalised. The work of the Planetary Boundaries Research Network has started such downscaling for China, India, the US, the EU and the rest of the world.

¹ <https://www.pbl.nl/en/publications/using-planetary-boundaries-to-support-national-implementation-of-environment-related-sustainable-development-goals>

Tools exist to measure the contribution of non-State actors to such a global apex target

The contribution of businesses to achieving such a global apex target and its regional downscaling can be measured thanks to a number of corporate biodiversity footprint assessment tools currently under development, such as the Global Biodiversity Score (GBS), the Biodiversity Footprint for Financial Institutions (BFFI) or the Biodiversity Return on Investment Metric (BRIM)². These tools will enable state and non-state stakeholders to assess their current footprint and to commit to voluntary reduction targets, along the lines of the UNFCCC COP's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). They will also enable the monitoring of the implementation of such voluntary commitments.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'P' and 'T' that loops around the text.

Philippe Thiévent
Executive Director