



OECD submission concerning CBD notification on the invitation for views on the preparation, scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

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The OECD assists governments by providing analysis to support the development of biodiversity policies that are environmentally effective, economically efficient and distributionally equitable. Economic and policy analysis by the OECD focuses on the economic valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services; the use of economic and other policy instruments to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; indicators; economic modelling and outlooks; among others. This work also supports the Convention on Biological Diversity, including through the contribution of data to inform progress towards the Aichi Targets.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) stands ready to support and contribute to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Recognising the importance of this process, and in order to help inform the agenda, the OECD, as part of its 2019-2020 programme of work under the Environmental Policy Committee (EPOC) and the Working Party on Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems (WPBWE), will be undertaking a project on **The Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework: Targets, Indicators and their Measurability Implications at Global and National Level**.

The aim of this project is to provide technical analysis that examines the measurability implications of possible new biodiversity targets in a post-2020 framework, at the global and national level. Drawing on lessons learned from the 2011-2020 Strategic Framework, including the successes, challenges, opportunities and capacity-building needs, this project will examine the types of targets and indicators that could be developed to track progress at both the global and national level.

In contrast to the development of the 2011-2020 Strategic Framework, where many of the indicators to monitor progress towards the Aichi Targets were developed several years after the targets had been agreed upon, this work is intended to assist governments to prepare on both targets and corresponding indicators for a post-2020 framework in a coherent way. In this context, it is also intended to help examine approaches, implications and opportunities for, enhancing biodiversity mainstreaming.

Further context:

Global biodiversity indicators have improved substantially over time¹ and efforts are underway to address the remaining data gaps for the purposes of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) through initiatives like the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP). Nevertheless, it remains inherently difficult to measure progress towards many of the Aichi Targets in a consistent way at smaller scales, particularly at national level. This is different from, for example, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, through which an international climate goal has been set (i.e., to keep global temperature rise in this century well below 2 degrees centigrade) and greenhouse gas emissions inventories are provided by Parties on different time lags, allowing ongoing assessments of progress. Future aggregate GHG emissions can be more easily projected from Parties' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). A similar framework could be useful in the context of biodiversity, provided that it does not undermine, but reinforces and complements the current approach through the NBSAPs.

However, while progress on climate change mitigation can be summarised in unit, e.g. of tCO₂e,² the impacts of efforts to mitigate biodiversity loss and degradation cannot be adequately captured in a single indicator. Measuring performance therefore requires multiple indicators (e.g., change in forest cover, changes in the number of threatened species). The agreed goals and targets of a post-2020 biodiversity framework will have implications for their measurability at both a global and national level. Further consideration on how the actual objectives of any post-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity will enable an assessment of their progress and the contributions that individual nations are making towards the international goals is merited. Ideally, all targets would be specific, measurable, ambitious, realistic and time-bound (SMART). While the current Aichi Biodiversity Targets are time-bound, only a few are specific in a quantitative sense.

As part of this project, and to help prepare for the post-2020 biodiversity framework, an international expert workshop will be convened in Paris, France at the OECD headquarters on February 26, 2018. The aim of this workshop is bring together a broad range of stakeholders - including government, the scientific community, NGOs, academia, and the private sector - to share insights and exchange views on the development of the post-2020 biodiversity framework. A background paper will be shared in advance of the workshop to help structure discussions.

It is intended that discussions at the workshop will feed into the next iteration of the analysis, which is aimed for release at the end of 2019/early 2020.

¹ Both in terms of the comprehensiveness of what is being monitored for the 2011-2020 Aichi Targets as well as the means of monitoring.

² Either as an annual flow or for CO₂ as a cumulative total.