

Suggestions on Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework

Suggestion 1. Advance women's participation and status in post 2020 biodiversity agenda. Gender inequality is a widespread but long-ignored problem. Today, Conservation is largely a world dominated by men. For example, here's a picture of a wetland NGO's standing committee meeting held in Nov 2018, in which not a single woman appears. It's taken for granted; and it seems that the publisher didn't realize there's anything inappropriate with this photo. It's great if conservation groups can think about gender balance in their management policies and structural designs, and to encourage more women to participate in United Nation's post-2020 biodiversity framework. Capacity-building programs are needed to mainstream agenda equality in the next decade.



(Picture source: CWA)¹

Suggestion 2. Improve synergies between different treaties and conventions related to Biodiversity. The post 2020 Framework should be a joint effort by all treaties/conventions with shared vision. Other biodiversity-focused international law entities (like CMS, CITES, RAMSAR, ITPGRFA, LOSC, WHC, etc.) should join and actively participate towards a shared post-2020 mission.

Suggestion 3. Biodiversity conservation should be a shared responsibility to e-

¹ Source: <https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/O09cOZ3lt-1lvwJoRASz7A> retrieved on 2018-12-14

commerce. Due to the large size and hard-to-trace characteristics of E-Commerce, it's very important to encourage e-commerce legislation to involve conservation contents. For example, electro-fishing is banned in China, but it's easy to buy gadgets online in numerous platforms. Countries need to make a commitment to incorporate biodiversity conservation into e-commerce legislation.

Suggestion 4. College Campus should be regarded as a new type of Protected Area. The most important place for biodiversity education is not a demarcated area in officially established PAs; instead, campus themselves can be served as PAs in the educational type. Gladly, Peking University has officially established China's first campus protected area in 2018. Which means it'll no longer be forced to get rid of all weeds and pesticides will be largely banned; zoning management with biodiversity conservation area, habitat space of important species, freshwater ecosystem, landscape area and so on; students, groups, experts, teachers and all stakeholders will be mobilized to make joint efforts like campus biodiversity monitoring and research, patrol and natural education, etc. ²

Yet it's far from enough. I would like to cite some figures: according official statistics, China's college students in 2017 amounted to 26.958 million in total. There are about 2,600 ordinary colleges and universities in the country. If colleges and universities around the country can attach importance to and practice campus as a conservation education base, not only will China will achieve greatly on its next report to SDGs, but also, the influence will bring life-time benefits to the next generations. Campus nature reserves are of great significance in education, even though their physical conditions may be far less than those of the general nature reserves. For young people, it is an irreplaceable and important place to cultivate harmony between man and nature and to foster a green production and lifestyle.

² Protecting birds in an urbanised China, <https://chinadialogue.net/article/show/single/en/10441-Protecting-birds-in-an-urbanised-China> retrieved 2018-12-14



(A Peking University Student was taking photos on newborn wild ducks swimming with their mother Duck in one of PKU's campus ponds. Picture by Linda WONG, May 2018)