



Convention on
Biological Diversity

How the work on Biodiversity and Health under the CBD relates to human rights

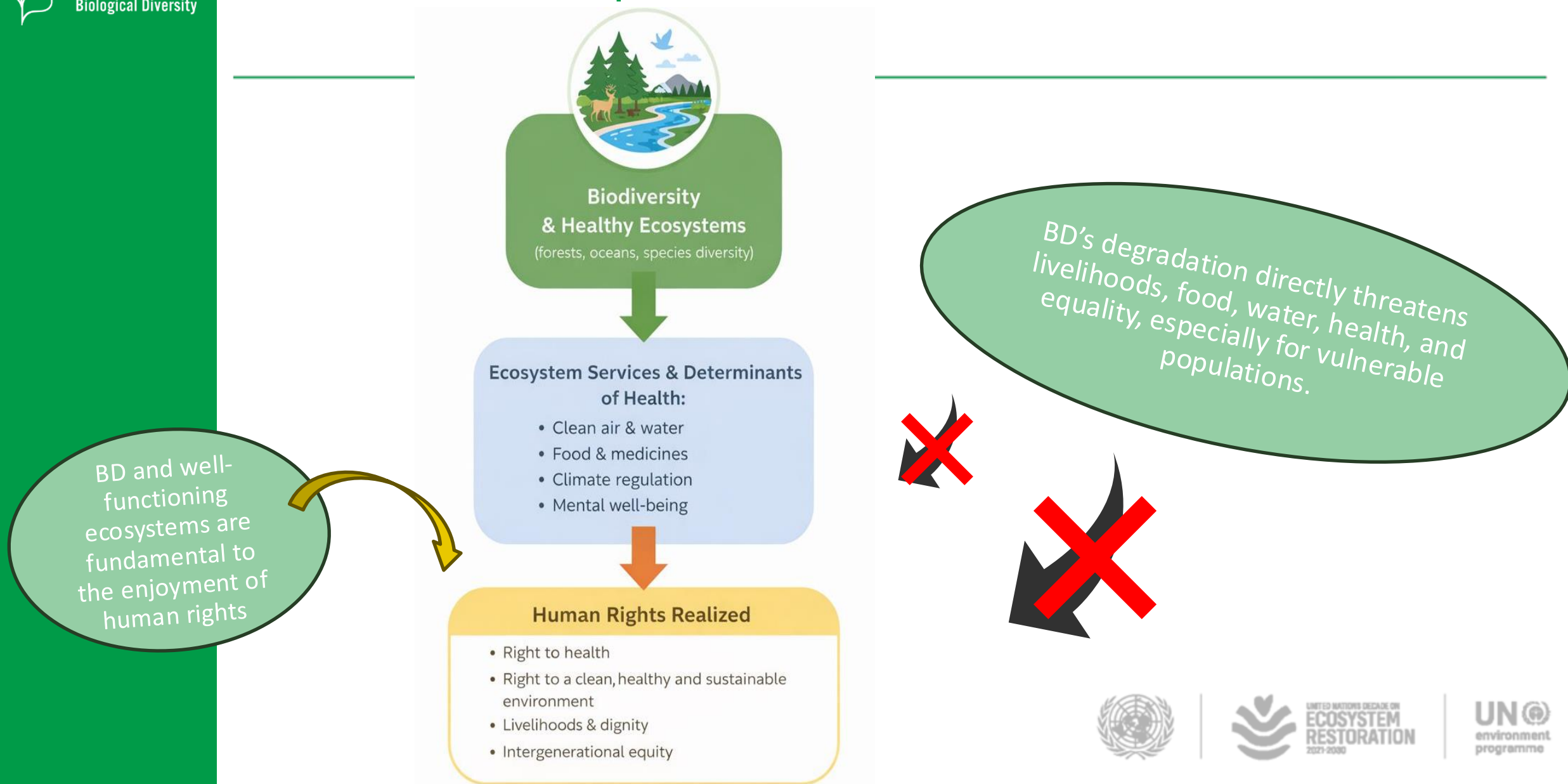
Marianela Araya Quesada
Program Officer Biodiversity and Health/Invasive Alien Species
21 January 2026



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030



Relationship between BD, Health and HRs

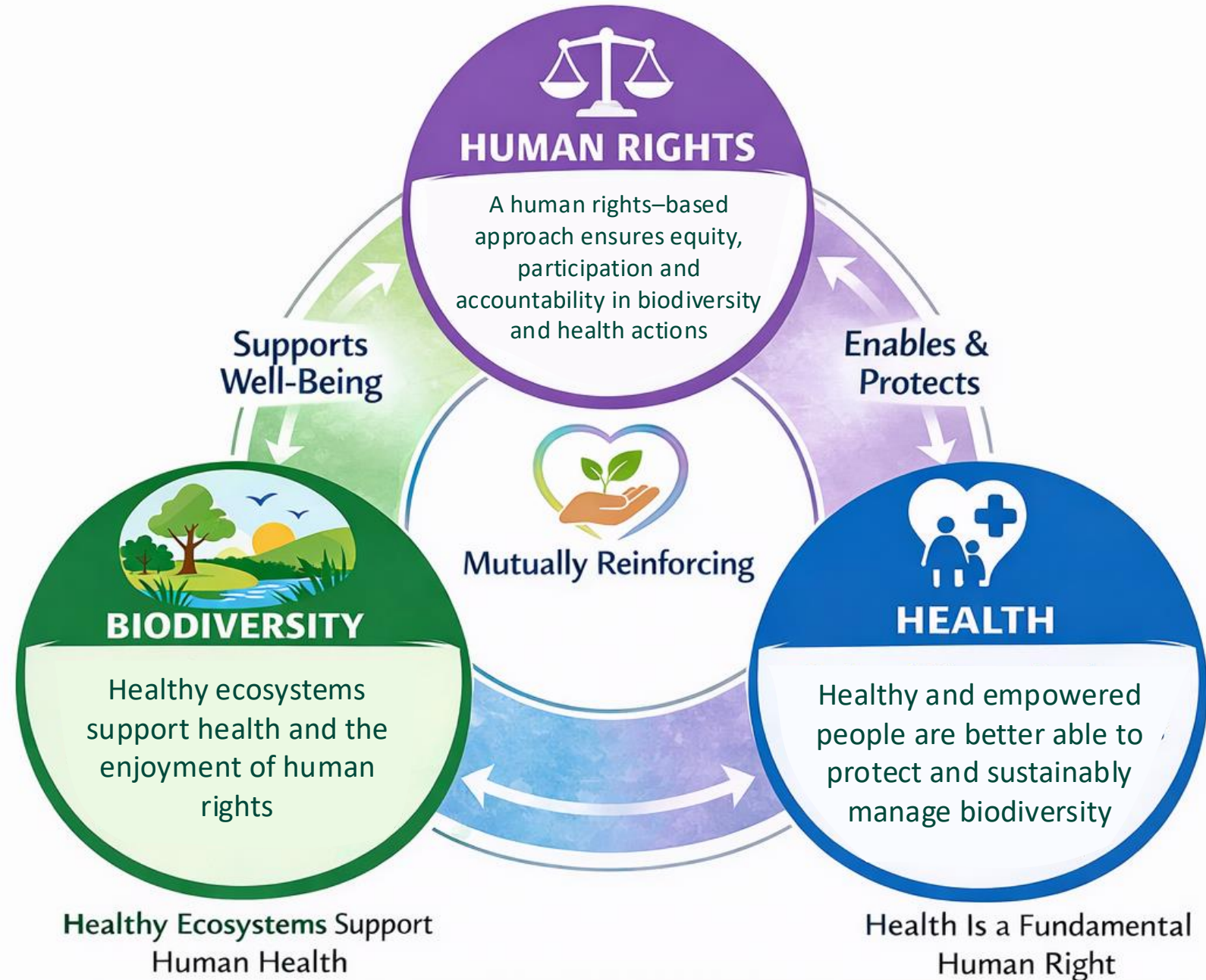


Biodiversity, Health and Human Rights: A Reinforcing Nexus

Convention on
Biological Diversity

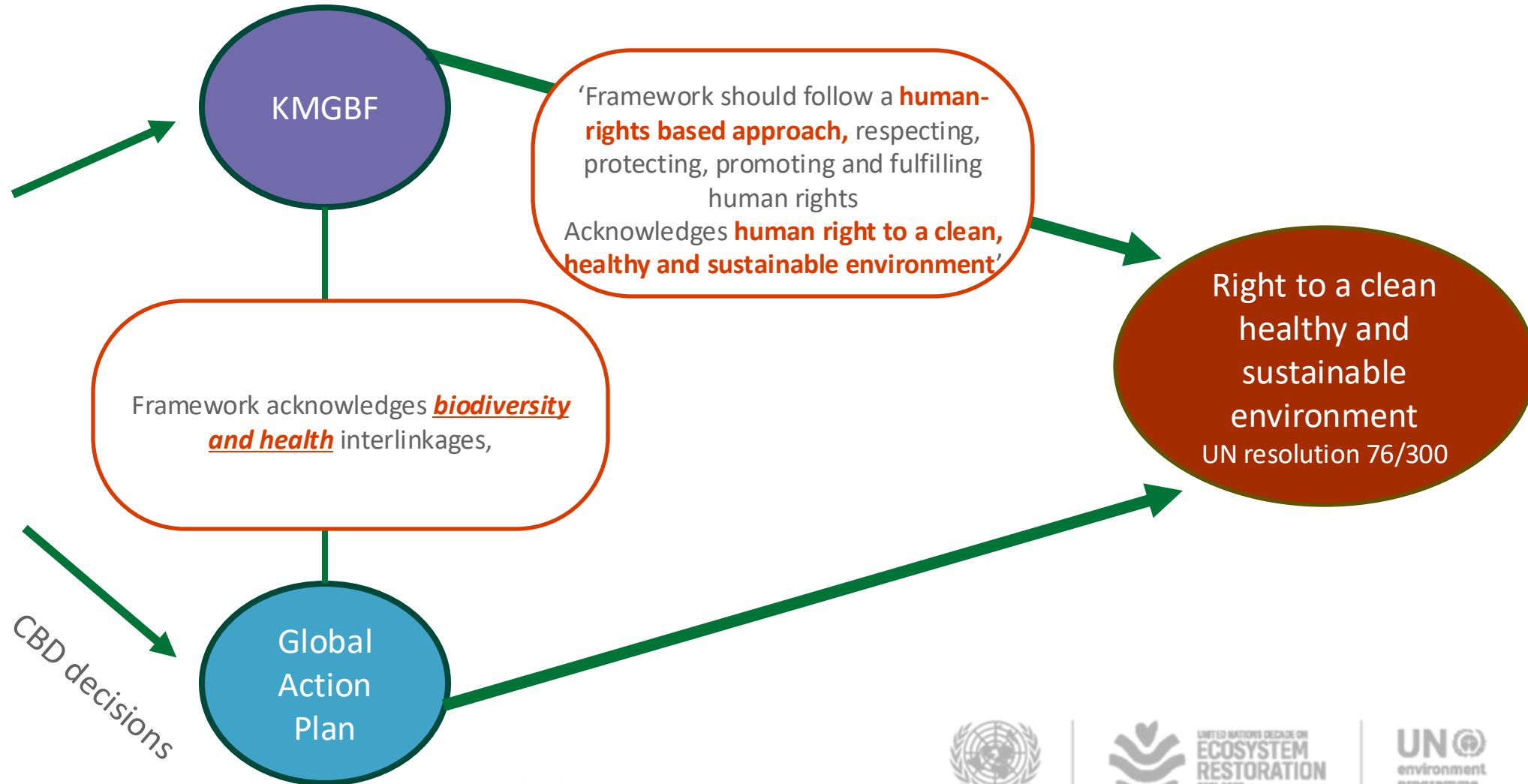


Convention on
Biological Diversity



HRs-Biodiversity-Health relationship under the CBD

The importance
of **human rights**
obligations



The Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health

A strategic framework to support countries and stakeholders in integrating biodiversity and health considerations into national policies, strategies, programmes, and accounts

Two sets of voluntary actions, implemented at various levels:

General & Sector-specific actions

The health of the environment and the health of all species are interconnected and interdependent;

No single actor can do this alone

BD loss contributes to health inequities, especially for people in vulnerable situations



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030

UN
environment
programme

How *human rights* are considered in the GAP?

The GAP

Use a Human Rights–
Based Approach as a
Foundation:

- The GAP considers internationally recognized rights, including
 - Right to health (1948);
 - Right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (2022).

Link the Right to Health
with Biodiversity
Protection by:

- Acknowledging that BD underpins core determinants of health: clean water, food, medicines, and climate regulation;

Considers the Rights of
indigenous peoples and
local communities

- recognizing that IPLCS are often custodians of biodiversity and holders of critical traditional knowledge
- Acknowledges the importance of FPIC, and indigenous practices in biodiversity and health-related interventions

Address Equity and
Non-Discrimination:

- recognizing that biodiversity degradation disproportionately affects vulnerable people (women, children, IPLC, etc)
- acknowledging the importance of intergenerational equity

Intergenerational equity and the GAP



Policy level

- Ex. ensure full and effective participation of youth, including through youth focal points to bridge the contributions and needs of young people and strengthen intergenerational equity



National coordination and stakeholder engagement

- Ex. mainstream holistic approaches (ie. One Health, whole-of-society, etc.) to ensure action from a diverse set of actors



Risk assessment

- Ex. calls for the integration of human rights and intergenerational equity considerations into biodiversity and health risk assessments to identify current and future needs



Knowledge generation, capacity building

- Ex. promote youth participation and knowledge exchange to support intergenerational transfer of information and experiences.

What can we expect from implementation of the GAP?

A ***coordinated approach*** to address common drivers of biodiversity loss and poor health outcomes

Co-benefits for biodiversity and health:

- Ex. Protection and sustainable use of biodiversity
- Ex. Reduced risk of communicable and non-communicable diseases

Support to the ***human right to a “clean, healthy, and sustainable environment” and the “right to health”***

Improved ***opportunities for future generations*** through healthier ecosystems and communities



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030

UN
environment
programme

More information at

The Global Action Plan can be found below:



اللغة العربية

中文

English

Français

Русский

Español

<https://www.cbd.int/health>



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION
2021-2030

UN
environment
programme

Thank you!



Kunming - Montreal
GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Secretariat of the Convention
on Biological Diversity

secretariat@cbd.int
www.cbd.int



Convention on
Biological Diversity



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030

UN
environment
programme