

Convention on
Biological Diversity

The Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health

November 2026



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



Biodiversity and Health linkages

BD underpins NCP and provides ecosystem goods and services that are essential to health and well-being

- **Source of food**
- **Medicines & Medical Discoveries:** Many modern medicines come from plants, animals, fungi, and microbes found in biodiverse ecosystems.
- **Purification of water and air:** Healthy ecosystems act like natural filters and buffers that keep our environment healthy.
- **Mental & Emotional Wellbeing:** Exposure to biodiverse nature has been shown to reduce stress, anxiety, and depression



Biodiversity is thus a **key environmental determinant of health**, and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can benefit human and planetary health



Biodiversity and Health linkages

Biodiversity loss and negative health outcomes share many common drivers, including direct drivers of environmental change

changes in land and sea use,

overexploitation,

climate change,

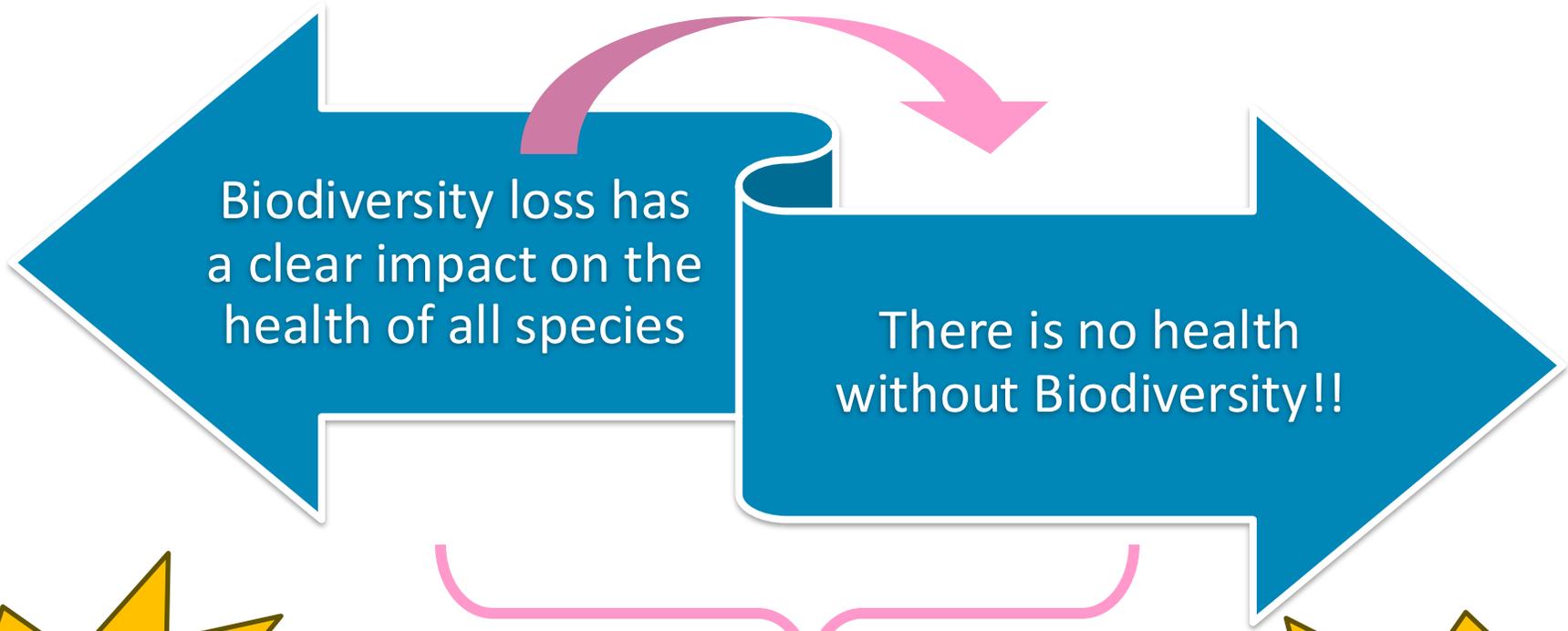
pollution,

invasive alien species

among others...

***Opportunities
for co-benefits***

Biodiversity and Health linkages



Aligned with the One Health approach

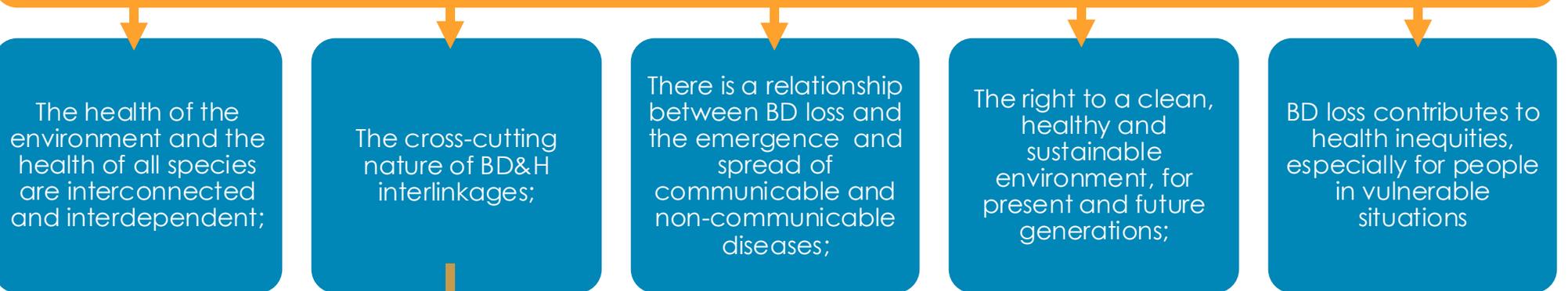
The Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health

Aligned with global frameworks like SDGs and KMGBF



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



No single actor can do this alone

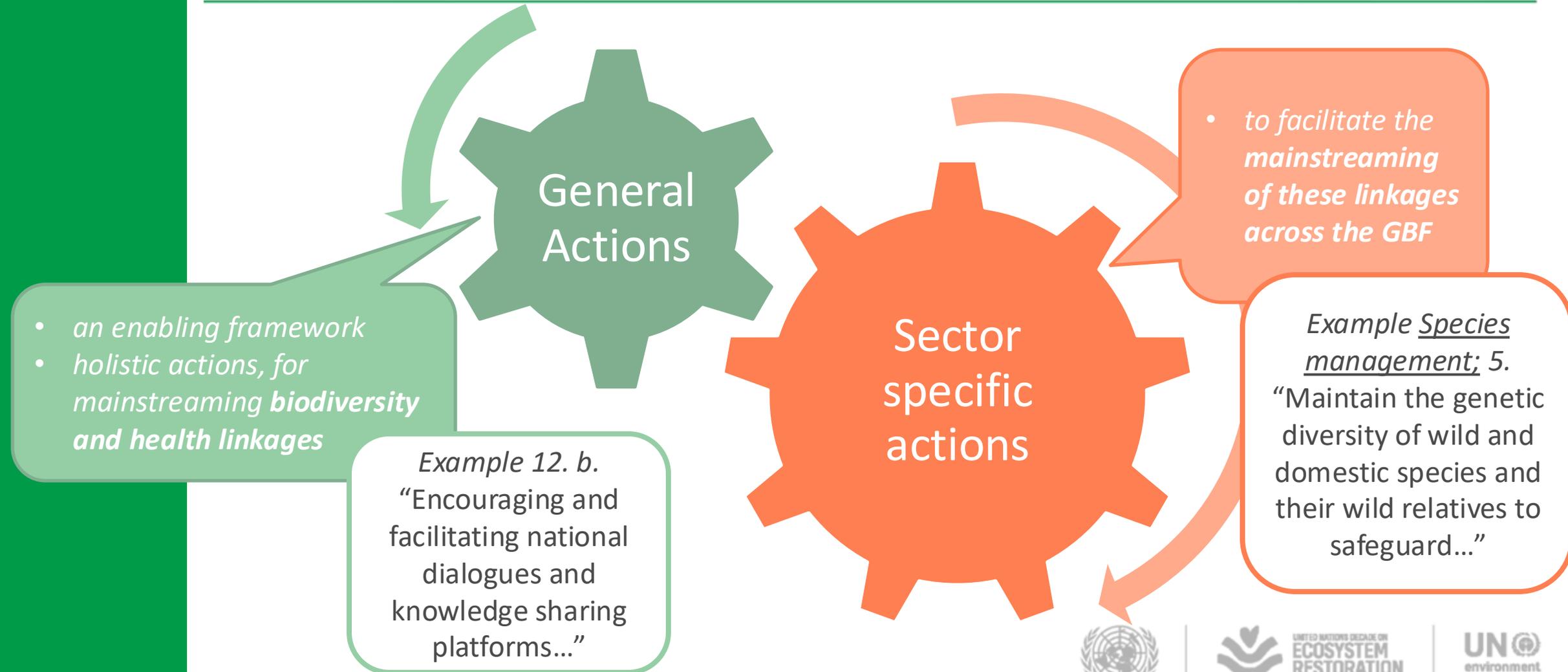
This is in line with
a One Health
Approach



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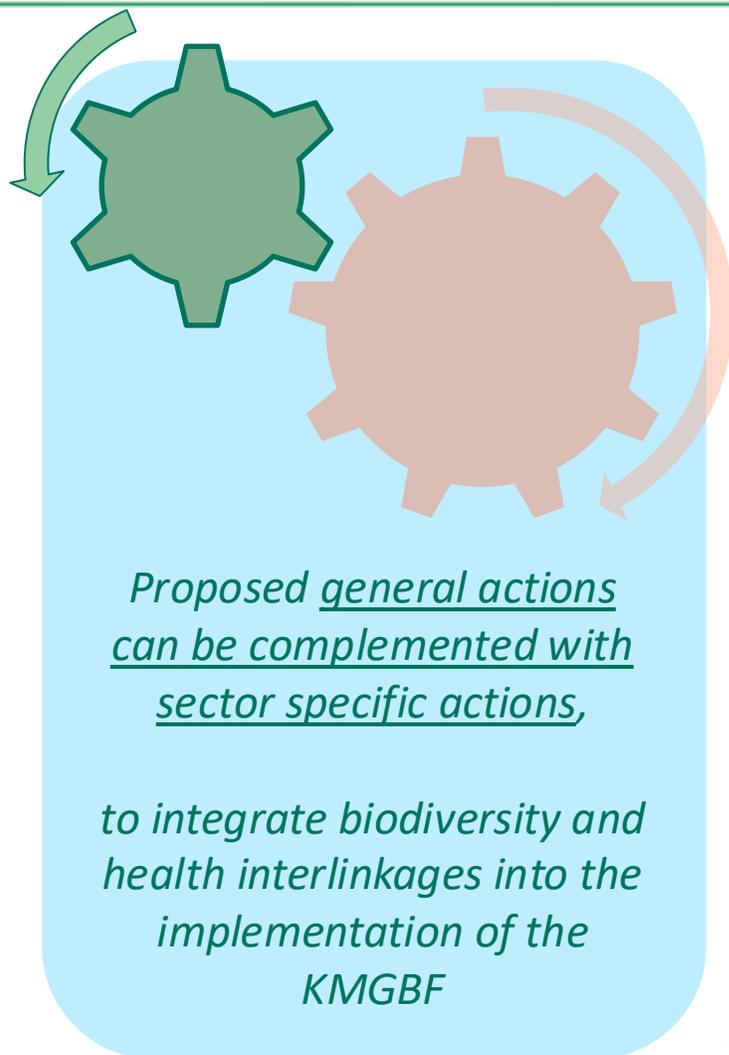
UN
environment
programme

Actions to mainstream biodiversity and health interlinkages into national policies, strategies, programmes, and accounts





General actions



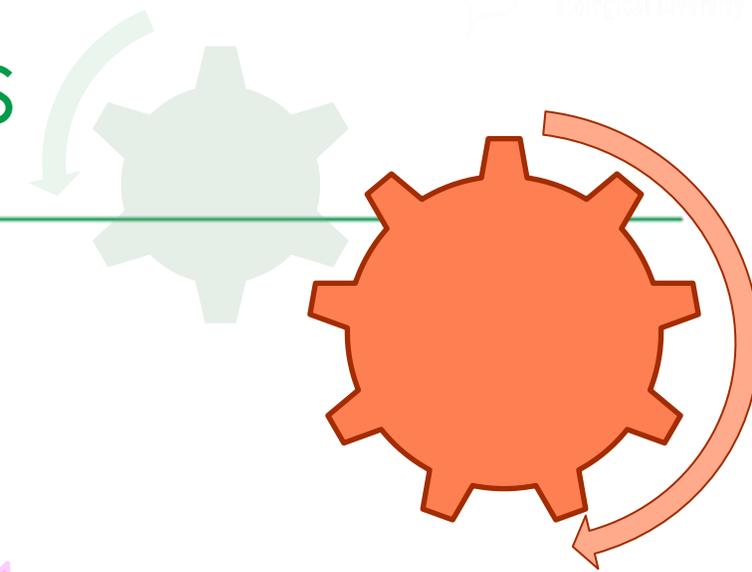
Are meant to be **holistic!**

- Mobilize sectors, disciplines, and communities
- Stress the need for intergenerational equity and public participation
- Share information
- Establish local operative networks or committees

**They create an enabling environment for the
implementation of the GAP**



Sector Specific Actions



-Facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration
-Facilitate the mainstreaming of BD&H linkages across the KMGBF's implementation



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:

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

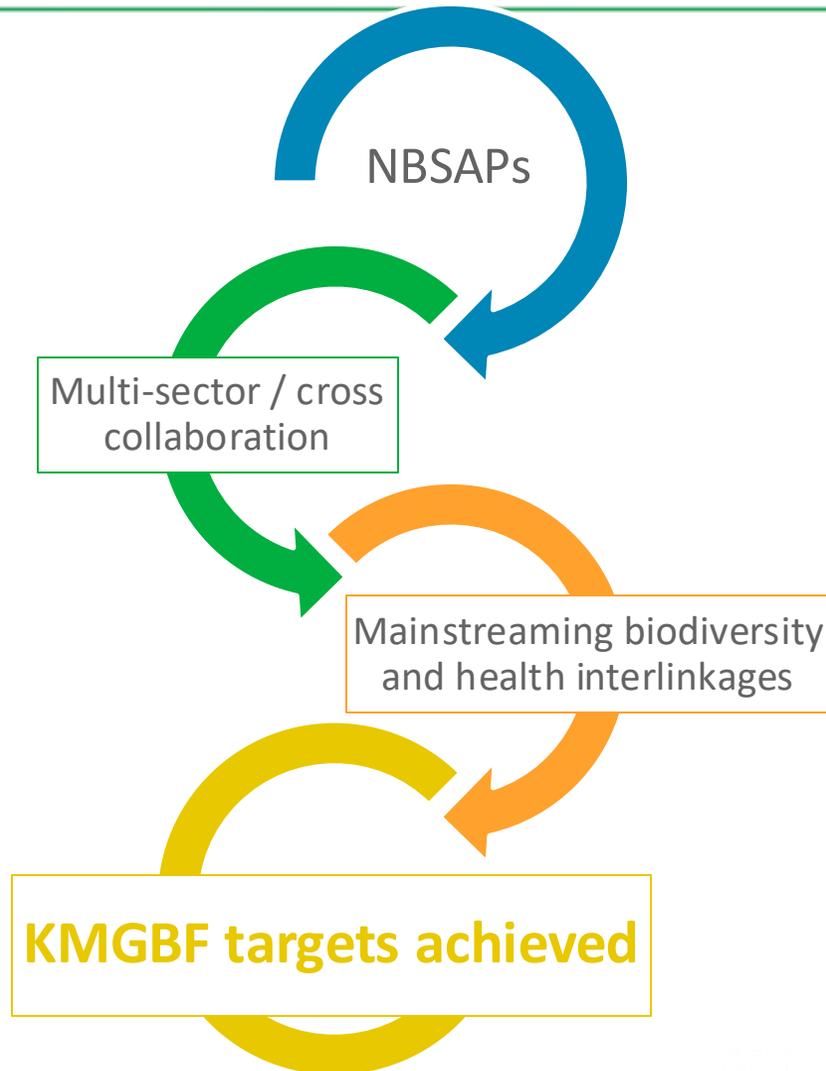
Support to the ***human right to a “clean, healthy, and sustainable environment”***

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





How can the GAP be considered in NBSAPs



NBSAPs as a Coordination Platform: Provide a structured framework for aligning biodiversity and health priorities across ministries and sectors.

Facilitating Multi-Sector Partnerships: NBSAPs can define roles for agriculture, health, water, climate, and finance sectors, fostering shared responsibility for co-benefits.

Mainstreaming Biodiversity & Health Linkages: By embedding these linkages in NBSAPs, countries can ensure integrated planning and avoid siloed approaches.

Driving Implementation of the Global Action Plan → Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: Clear integration in NBSAPs accelerates national action and supports KMGBF targets.



Conclusions



There is no health without Biodiversity!



By working together with a common understanding of the BD&H linkages we can get co-benefits;



The biodiversity community has demonstrated a clear interest in moving the biodiversity and health agenda forward;



Integrated approaches such as One Health could be very useful.