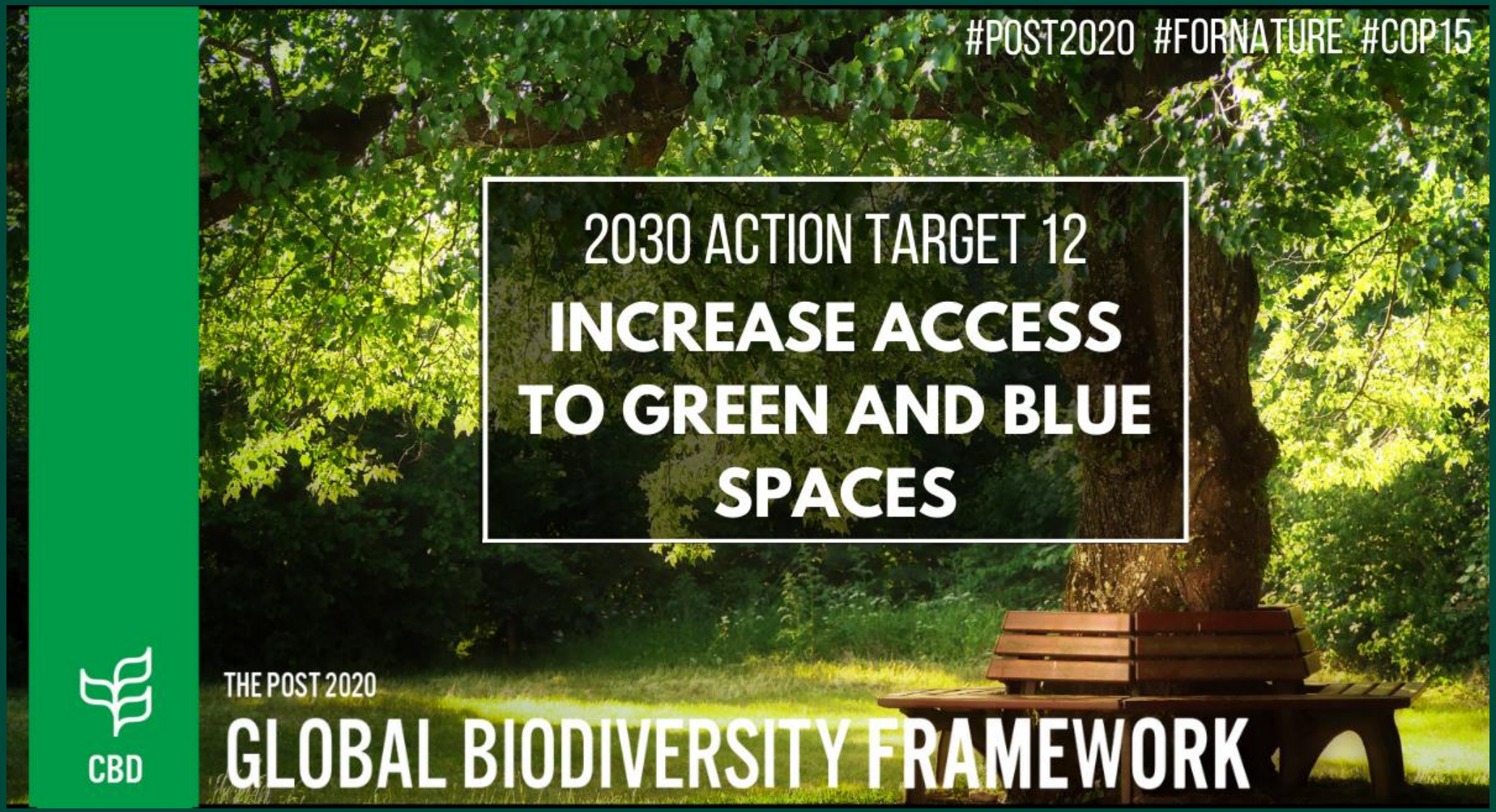

Participate in WG2020-3

Read other one-pagers

Read the full First Draft

Target 12. Increase the area of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces, for human health and well-being in urban areas and other densely populated areas.

Objective:

Green and blue spaces have a range of positive effects on human physical and mental wellbeing[55]. Further, these spaces can provide important habitat for species, improve habitat connectivity, provide ecosystem services and help mediate extreme events, if managed with such objectives in mind[56]. To achieve the 2050 Vision and the proposed Goals of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework there is a need to increase the area of, access to (including ex-situ transportation), and benefits from green and blue spaces.

Component:	***Indicators (Headline in bold)***
Increase area of green and blue spaces	**12.0.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is green/blue space for public use for all**
Increase the access to and benefits from green and blue spaces – Access to green and blue spaces can be increased by creating such spaces and/or by increasing the area of and access to existing ones. Such increases are then expected to result in increases in the benefits to people. Actions will likely require the direct involvement and participation of city and other subnational authorities, as these entities often have the mandate for the planning and development of urban environments.	12.2.1 National environmental-economic accounts of recreation and cultural services

Further explanation of target elements

Green and blue spaces – areas of vegetation, inland and coastal waters, generally in or near to urban areas. These can have a range of positive effects on human physical and mental well-being and provide connection to nature. Further, green and blue areas provide important habitat for species, improve habitat connectivity, provide ecosystem services and help mediate extreme events, if managed with such objectives in mind[57].

Human health and well-being – Physical and psychological health and well-being. As an example, the critical importance of urban nature in providing resilience in time of crisis was demonstrated by the COVID-19 pandemic, during which access to green spaces in cities and the countryside has been an important factor in supporting health and well-being while people observe social distancing requirements.

Urban and other densely populated areas – Generally, access to green and blue spaces is more limited for urban dwellers and those living in densely populated areas. Further, more economically and/or socially marginalized groups often have more limited access to such spaces[58], requiring specific attention to ensure that their needs are met.

Linkages

Objectives of the CBD – sustainable use of the components of biological diversity

Drivers of biodiversity loss – land/sea use change, direct exploitation, climate change, pollution, invasive species

GBF targets

Reducing threats to biodiversity – T1 spatial planning, T2 ecosystem restoration, T3 protected areas, T4 species recovery, T7 pollution, T8 climate/ecosystem-based approaches

Meeting people's needs – T11 nature's contributions to people

Tools and solutions – T14 biodiversity values

Sustainable Development Goals

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

GBO-5 pathways

Sustainable freshwater transition, land and forests transition, sustainable cities and infrastructure transition, sustainable climate action transition, biodiversity-inclusive one health transition

Click here to for more information on the First draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

[55] For example, see Tyrväinen et al (2019). Health and well-being from forests – experience from Finnish research. Santé Publique, S1(HS1), 249-256. https://doi.org/10.3917/spub.190.0249; Wood et al (2018). Not All Green Space Is Created Equal: Biodiversity Predicts Psychological Restorative Benefits From Urban Green Space. Frontiers in Psychology 9.

[56] Lepczyk, et al (2017). Biodiversity in the City: Fundamental Questions for Understanding the Ecology of Urban Green Spaces for Biodiversity Conservation. BioScience. 67. https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/bix079; Aronson et al (2017). Biodiversity in the city: key challenges for urban green space management. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment. 15.

[57] Op. cit. Lepczyk, et al (2017)

[58] Geary et al (2021). A call to action: Improving urban green spaces to reduce health inequalities exacerbated by COVID-19. Preventive Medicine. 145. 106425. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2021.106425; Miró et al (2018). Links between ecological and human wealth in drainage ponds in a fast-expanding city, and proposals for design and management. Landscape and Urban Planning. 180. 93-102. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2018.08.013.