



## **Why is health paired with biodiversity on the SBSTTA 26 agenda?**

SBSTTA 26 will consider a note by the Secretariat containing an updated version of the [global action plan on Biodiversity and Health](#), which is aimed at supporting Parties and stakeholders to mainstream biodiversity and health interlinkages into policies, strategies, and programmes, including targeted messages to support the mainstreaming of biodiversity into the health sector. The Subsidiary Body will then prepare recommendations for the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16).

The health of the environment and the health of all species are interconnected and interdependent. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, or the Biodiversity Plan, acknowledges the interlinkages between biodiversity and health and the [three objectives of the Convention](#). The Biodiversity Plan is to be implemented with consideration of the One Health Approach, among other holistic approaches, and acknowledges the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

### **Background**

Biodiversity underpins nature's contributions to people and provides ecosystem goods and services that are essential to human health and well-being. Biodiversity supports human health in many ways, including as a direct source of food, nutrition and traditional medicines. Biodiversity is also integral to key development sectors that modulate health outcomes directly or indirectly, such as pharmacy, biochemistry, agriculture, and tourism.

Environmental degradation contributes 24% to the overall global burden of disease. Biodiversity is a key environmental determinant of human health, and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can benefit human health by maintaining ecosystem services and by fulfilling physical and psychological needs for.

### **What is the One Health Approach?**

[One Health](#) is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems. It recognizes the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and interdependent.

The World Health Organization (WHO) along with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) make up a One Health Quadripartite.

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Important links:



<https://www.who.int/health-topics/one-health>

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