

THEMATIC CONSULTATION ON SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Online Survey – Preliminary Compilation

An online survey was organized from 27 July – 18 August 2020, as part of the activities planned for the thematic consultation on the sustainable use of biological diversity for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (notification [2020-051](#)).

A total of 86 responses were submitted to the Secretariat, including 33 from Parties and other governments, 22 from non-governmental organizations, 8 from indigenous groups, 6 from private sector, 5 from intergovernmental organizations, 3 from programmes or specialized agencies of the United Nations, 3 from academia, 3 from conventions and other agreements (Secretariat units), 2 from youth and 1 from a local authority.

This document provides a preliminary compilation of some of the points raised in the survey. The purpose of this document is only to support the discussion of the online forum, as part of the thematic consultation on the sustainable use of biological diversity for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. This document is not a comprehensive review of all the responses submitted in the survey. A comprehensive summary of the results of the survey will be included in the final report of the consultation. This preliminary compilation aims to help and facilitate the discussion of the online forum and has been prepared under the supervision of the co-leads of the consultation and in close collaboration with the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

Synthesis of some of the points raised in the survey

Section I - Sustainable use of biological diversity in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

- The contributions of human actions and activities to conservation, restoration, sustainable use and equitable benefit-sharing of biodiversity could be recognized, encouraged and strengthened in the framework.
- There is a need to have more clarity and definition of concepts such as integrity, healthy ecosystem, productivity gap, conservation, sustainable use.
- In order to achieve sustainable use, issues such as sustainable consumption and production and trade need to be addressed.
- Mainstreaming is important for ensuring the sustainable use of biological diversity.
- Use of biodiversity must be sustainable both inside and outside protected areas and OECMs and there is a need for integrated approaches between conservation and sustainable use.
- Incorporating the framework at national and subnational level will be critical for its implementation.
- Simplifying the wording of the Goals would be useful and might allow a more balanced incorporation of sustainable use.
- It is positive that the theory of change of the Framework focuses on reducing the threats caused by the unsustainable use of biodiversity.
- The focus on the benefits to people that can be derived from sustainable use is a strength of the Framework.

- The current structure focusing on Nature’s Contributions to People, which is consistent with the SDG framework and the relationship between nature (goal A), economy (NCPs in goal B) and society (equitable sharing in goal D) is also seen as a strength.
- The framework offers an opportunity for setting up a new set of incentives for building bridges between resource managers and biodiversity conservation communities.
- Some of the wording used in relation to sustainable use is vague (for example “meeting the needs of people through sustainable use and benefit-sharing”).
- The distinction between sustainable use in general and sustainable use of wild species, is at times confusing (needs clarity of concepts).
- More attention could be given to the promotion of sustainable use of elements of biodiversity in human managed ecosystems to meet people’s needs (e.g. food, fiber, fuel, tourism) and support conservation goals.
- The coverage of monitoring elements and indicators of Nature’s Contributions to People needs to be strengthened.
- Targets could address innovative means of economic development through sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Effective knowledge and technology transfer from developed nations could be strengthened or better reflected.
- Conservation and sustainable use are not mutually exclusive, this could be strengthened in the framework.
- Making the ecosystem approach more prominent throughout the sustainable use components of the Framework would be useful.
- Marine issues are underrepresented and therefore need to be strengthened.
- A tier approach for the indicator framework would be useful, similar to that being used under the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Links between the sustainable use of biological diversity and the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environment) could be strengthened within the scope of the Convention.
- Activities that depend on or have impacts on biodiversity, such as tourism or sectors, including infrastructure, can be better reflected in the Framework.
- Issues related to intragenerational and intergenerational equity and rights-based approaches could be strengthened.
- Education or awareness raising activities could be part of the draft monitoring framework.
- It is important to consider transformative change within the framework.

Section II - Sustainable use of biological diversity in the targets of the draft monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Some points related to Target 4

- Clarification is needed in the target, as references to “wildlife” and “fauna and flora” in the target and monitoring elements may unnecessarily exclude species of plants, fungi and bacteria.
- Important drivers of biodiversity loss are overlooked, including timber harvesting and detrimental impacts on non-target species and habitats.
- There is a need to clarify that Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) and Vulnerable (VU) species should be excluded from extractive sustainable uses.
- The word “safe” needs to be defined or removed. Presently, it is not clear for whom the use needs to be safe. And no indicators exist to measure safety.

- Regarding monitoring elements, trends in illegal trade and harvesting need to be monitored as well as legal activities. Increasing legal harvesting does not mean illegal harvesting will be reduced. Specific wording in the text, monitoring elements and indicators addressing illegality and unsustainable practices could be included to fully recognize the role illegal harvesting and trade play in biodiversity decline and/or over-exploitation.

Some points related to Target 8

- This target should aim to ensure sustainable use rather than benefits, if sustainable use is ensured, wild species will contribute to nutrition, food security and livelihoods of more people in 2030 and beyond.
- Target 8 addresses an important issue and the equitable sharing of nature's benefits is a fundamental condition for the success of the global biodiversity framework, in particular for balancing the generation of benefits and long-term sustainability.
- It is unclear if domesticated species are covered in this target, since only wild species are mentioned, but some indicators are related to agriculture.
- The monitoring element and indicators are only focused on use of fauna for food and medicine which does not address all of the benefits listed in the target and excludes plants and microbes. A range of other benefits were suggested, including psychological benefits, poverty alleviation, jobs, fragrance, biopharmaceuticals, cosmetics, fashion, pets and personal care.
- Important cultural services could be captured in this target including recreation, spirituality, education, inspiration, etc.

Some points related to Target 9

- The current reference to “reduce productivity gaps” is unclear and there are no indicators to measure its progress. The main objective of this target should be changed so that it is not to “reduce productivity gaps”. The main objective should be that use is sustainable, and that it contributes to resilient ecosystems in the landscape, rather than focusing on productivity, which is not one of the objectives of the Convention.
- More clarity is needed on which managed ecosystems are covered by this target.
- This target does not mention the role of biodiverse agricultural landscapes in providing habitat for species that thrive in open landscapes or for improving the connectivity of landscape to other species.
- Ecosystem restoration, ecosystem-based approaches and landscape approaches should be included in this target.
- Technology and innovation incorporated into agricultural systems and other productive systems that promote the conservation of biodiversity could be considered.

Some points related to Target 13

- The target should not only focus on mainstreaming ‘biodiversity values’ but should rather be ‘values of biodiversity and ecosystem services’ or simply ‘biodiversity’. If ‘biodiversity values’ are to be used, suggestions were made to use the existing System of Environmental Economic Accounting Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA).
- Spatial planning could be included in Target 13 rather than in Target 1. A focus on “integrated landscape and seascape management” could be added.
- This target can also include monitoring indicators on PES (Payment for Ecosystem services) and develop guidelines on how to implement PES.
- More integration of sustainable use across sectors is needed, including mainstreaming and monitoring through appropriate reporting and regulation measures.

- There is a need to increase awareness and accountability of businesses across sectors, through sector-specific guidance and mainstreaming. Accountability among sectors can be achieved through economic valuations of ecosystems. The CEPA tool kit and training would help in reaching out to various target groups and thereby more effectively mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem services across sectors.
- 'Mainstreaming across all sectors should promote coordination across sectors and levels of governance. There is a need to establish mechanisms to promote dialogue and collaboration between actors and it is key to have a harmonization of policy goals across critical sectors that influence natural resources governance.
- The target needs more reference to non-government actors and notably the private sector.
- There is a need to evaluate the impact and efficiency of the fiscal incentives associated with the management of biodiversity and reform the incentives that are ineffective, inefficient and / or contradictory.
- Reduce the impacts associated with activities in productive sectors and throughout the entire value chain of products and services that directly and indirectly generate anthropic risks for ecosystems.

Some points related to Target 15

- Target 15 can be perceived as vague and lacks precision, particularly with regards to the 'elimination of unsustainable consumption patterns' - how can this be reduced to 'zero' and how can this be measured? The elimination of these patterns should also be linked specifically to biodiversity and not simply the loss of biodiversity (as the target suggests).
- The target as currently proposed is not SMART and is too broad in scope and unclear on how these aspirations could be achieved and reported on.
- One suggestion is to break the target up into two: e.g. (i.) eliminating consumption pattern; and (ii.) understanding and appreciating.
- The language of 'individual and national cultural and socioeconomic conditions could apply to all targets. All the targets should take into account individual and national cultural and socioeconomic circumstances; this language sounds to be more suited to preambular paragraphs relating to the framework as a whole than just specifically to this target.
- Consumption patterns are a function of country development and must be treated differently across geographies in order to be fair.
- Circular economy principles should be tied into this target.
- "Ensuring people everywhere understand and appreciate the value of biodiversity" - this is an outcome of the purpose of mainstreaming and is therefore duplicative of target 13.
- This target can be well integrated/linked with SDG 12, particularly targets 12.1 and 12.8.
- Referencing the 2050 vision is redundant in the target.
- The target is similar to Target 13, where sector-specific changes must be identified.
- It is important to promote change in consumption patterns as well as in production and related supply chains. It is essential to include production into Target 15.
- Target 14 should have also been addressed by the survey given its reference to sustainable production and supply chains.

Section III - Customary sustainable use in the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Some points related to Customary Sustainable Use

- Customary Sustainable Use (CSU) needs to be strengthened in the Framework.
- Indigenous communities are important managers of biodiversity and holders of traditional knowledge; thus, the framework could properly recognize the ownership, rights and access of IPLCs to biodiversity and natural resources.

- CSU could be included in Targets 4, 8 and 9. Monitoring elements should ensure that harvesting, trade and use is respecting and recognizing the rights of Indigenous Peoples' to customary use and that the benefits to the most vulnerable are easily accounted for.
- CSU makes vital contributions to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, but it is currently undervalued, under recognized and under reported. Integrating CSU into the targets, monitoring elements and indicators of the GBF is crucial to achieving biodiversity goals.
- CSU also needs to be integrated into NBSAPs and NRs, with the full support and participation of IPLCs. Respecting, protecting, securing and promoting customary land tenure and the practice of traditional knowledge needs to be a priority for the framework.
- IPLCs initiatives that ensure the sustainable use of biodiversity need to be encouraged and financed and traditional knowledge needs to be integrated across development sectors. In addition, the capacity of indigenous communities to collect, manage and have access to biodiversity data needs to be increased.