



Observatoire pour la Biodiversité
et les Aires Protégées en Afrique de l'Ouest

West Africa Subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation
Support Centre (TSCC/WA)

Hosted by the Centre de Suivi Écologique (CSE) through the
OBAPAO Consortium



THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN
For Life on Earth

2025–2026 Biennial Workplan

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Summary

The 2025–2026 Biennial Workplan establishes the strategic, institutional and operational framework for the implementation of the West Africa Subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre (TSCC/WA), created under the Technical and Scientific Cooperation (TSC) mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The Workplan operationalizes the mandate of the TSCC/WA as a regional platform supporting technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge-sharing of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) across West Africa countries.

The overall objective of the TSCC/WA is to support ECOWAS and UEMOA Member States in the implementation, monitoring, reporting and updating of their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), while facilitating technical and scientific cooperation, demand-driven technical assistance, innovation, technology transfer and regional knowledge exchange among Parties and stakeholders. Particular emphasis is placed on identifying and responding to the priority technical, institutional and capacity-building needs expressed by Parties and regional institutions.

The TSCC/WA is hosted by the Centre de Suivi Écologique (CSE) through the Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas in West Africa (OBAPAO) Consortium and builds on the expertise and operational experience of regional institutions including RAMPAO, AGRHYMET and the Regional Marine Centre of the University of Ghana. It also capitalizes on synergies with regional and international initiatives such as BIOPAMA, CEBio-Eco/AO project, NaturAfrica, GMES & Africa and West Africa Sustainable Ocean Program (WASOP). The Workplan was also developed based on the regional support programme for the implementation of NBSAPs in West Africa (2026–2030), prepared under the operationalization process of the TSCC/WA and regional biodiversity cooperation mechanisms.

The Workplan responds directly to CBD COP Decisions 15/8 and 16/3, guidance from the CBD Secretariat and the Global Coordination Entity (GCE), recommendations from the TSCC Operationalization Workshop held in Montreal in January 2026, and priority needs identified at national and subregional levels.

The Workplan adopts a Results-Based Management (RBM) framework structured around four strategic outcomes: (i) operationalization and institutional strengthening of the TSCC/WA; (ii) enhanced visibility, stakeholder engagement and knowledge management; (iii) strengthened biodiversity finance and strategic partnerships; and (iv) enhanced technical and scientific cooperation supporting KM-GBF implementation.

Priority interventions include strengthening regional coordination and science-policy interfaces, improving national biodiversity information systems and their interoperability between sub regional system, supporting harmonized biodiversity monitoring and reporting systems, strengthening technical capacities, supporting preparation of the 7th National Reports, mobilizing biodiversity finance and reinforcing regional scientific cooperation and knowledge-sharing mechanisms.

The total estimated implementation budget amounts to USD 2,592,820, of which USD 1,226,420 is expected to be covered through ongoing support mechanisms, notably through CEBio-Eco/AO and associated initiatives. The remaining financing gap will require complementary resource mobilization focused on governance mechanisms, national systems, technical assistance, biodiversity finance, communication, innovation and regional cooperation.

Fully aligned with the KM-GBF, the Workplan contributes particularly to Targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 13, 17, 19, 20, 21 and 23, while supporting ECOWAS and UEMOA environmental priorities, the regional strategy on protected and conserved areas, and regional biodiversity initiatives. Through this framework, the TSCC/WA aims to translate global biodiversity commitments into coordinated, measurable and evidence-based national and subregional actions across West Africa.

1. Introduction

The West Africa Subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centre (TSCC/WA) was established under the Technical and Scientific Cooperation (TSC) mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in line with COP Decisions 15/8 and 16/3, to support the implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) in West Africa.

The Centre is hosted by the Centre de Suivi Écologique (CSE) through the consortium of the Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas in West Africa (OBAPAO), composed of CSE, RAMPAO, AGRHYMET and the Regional Marine Centre of the University of Ghana. The West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU/UEMOA) serves as institutional host on behalf of ECOWAS/CEDEAO.

The overall objective of the TSCC/WA is to support the implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in West Africa by assisting ECOWAS and UEMOA Member States in the implementation, monitoring and updating of their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), while facilitating technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge sharing, demand-driven partnerships and technology transfer among Parties and regional stakeholders.

The TSCC/WA builds on the achievements and lessons learned from major regional biodiversity initiatives and programmes, including BIOPAMA, PAPBio, PAPFor, NaturAfrica, GMES & Africa, WASOP and the CEBio-Eco/AO project. One of the major achievements of the BIOPAMA programme was the development of the Subregional Programme to Support the Implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs/SPANBs) in West Africa (2026–2030), which provides an important strategic foundation for this Biennial Workplan.

The operational self-assessment of the consortium and the capacity needs assessment conducted with Parties identified several priority needs at national and subregional levels, including:

- strengthening biodiversity monitoring and reporting systems;
- improving harmonization and interoperability of biodiversity data and information systems;
- reinforcing capacities in GIS, remote sensing, biodiversity indicators and biodiversity data management;
- supporting implementation, monitoring and reporting of NBSAPs and the KM-GBF;
- facilitating access to scientific expertise, technologies, innovation and biodiversity finance mechanisms;
- strengthening technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge-sharing and regional coordination mechanisms;
- and improving biodiversity governance, communication and stakeholder engagement.

The assessments also highlighted the importance of strengthening the broader ecosystem of actors involved in biodiversity governance and implementation, including national institutions, universities, research centres, civil society organizations, women and youth networks, Indigenous

Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), local development actors and private sector stakeholders.

During the first biennium, the TSCC/WA will place particular emphasis on institutional operationalization, biodiversity data governance, regional coordination, partnership development, resource mobilization and the progressive deployment of technical and scientific cooperation activities in support of Parties and regional stakeholders.

2. Operational Self-Assessment

The operational self-assessment of the TSCC/WA highlighted both the strong foundations already established through the OBAPAO consortium and the major challenges that still need to be addressed to support effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) in West Africa. The assessment confirmed that the TSCC/WA benefits from strong institutional anchoring, recognized technical expertise, operational biodiversity information systems and a broad network of regional and international partnerships. At the same time, it revealed important gaps related to coordination, financing, technical capacities and biodiversity data governance.

2.1. Subregional Priorities

At the subregional level, the assessment identified the need to strengthen biodiversity governance, institutional coordination and scientific cooperation mechanisms across West Africa ([Sub regional assessment](#)). While several regional initiatives already support biodiversity management, coordination among countries, technical institutions and regional actors remains uneven. Strengthening collaboration among CBD focal points, regional organizations, scientific institutions and technical agencies therefore emerged as a major priority. The assessment also emphasized the importance of improving the integration of scientific and technical information into regional policy and decision-making processes while consolidating regional coordination mechanisms for biodiversity monitoring and reporting.

Another key subregional priority concerns biodiversity data governance and interoperability of monitoring systems. Biodiversity information remains fragmented across institutions and countries, with important gaps in accessibility, harmonization and standardization of data and methodologies. Although the RRIS-OBAPAO already provides a regional reference system interoperable with international platforms such as GBIF, the IUCN Red List and KBA databases, important information gaps persist regarding ecological corridors, restoration monitoring, marine and terrestrial spatial planning, ecosystem services and biodiversity finance indicators. The TSCC/WA will therefore prioritize strengthening interoperability between national systems and RRIS-OBAPAO, harmonizing regional indicators aligned with the KM-GBF and strengthening biodiversity information systems and regional knowledge-sharing mechanisms.

The assessment also highlighted the importance of strengthening scientific cooperation, innovation and regional knowledge management. Priority areas include strengthening thematic scientific networks, regional working groups, South-South cooperation, citizen science initiatives and regional research collaboration. The assessment further emphasized the need to strengthen

the participation of universities, research centres, civil society organizations, women and youth networks, local communities and private sector actors in regional biodiversity governance and knowledge systems.

Financial sustainability also emerged as a major regional challenge. Many biodiversity monitoring systems and regional cooperation activities remain highly dependent on externally funded projects. Strengthening partnerships with development banks, financial institutions and private sector actors will therefore be essential to support long-term biodiversity finance and sustainable implementation of the KM-GBF across West Africa.

The self-assessment additionally identified several operational needs within the consortium itself. The transition from a regional observatory mechanism toward a fully operational TSCC requires strengthening the consortium's operational capacities, including:

- additional human resources and long-term technical expertise;
- reinforced coordination and management mechanisms;
- stronger thematic expertise in emerging KM-GBF areas;
- improved digital infrastructure and interoperability systems;
- enhanced communication and visibility capacities;
- and sustainable financial and institutional support mechanisms.

The assessment also highlighted the need to progressively expand partnerships with other regional and national institutions, universities, research centres and specialized organizations in order to strengthen the regional pool of expertise available to support countries. In several highly specialized thematic areas, the consortium will initially need to rely on North-South and South-South cooperation mechanisms while progressively developing long-term regional expertise within West Africa.

2.2 National Priorities and Capacity Needs

At the national level, the assessment highlighted important technical and institutional capacity gaps affecting implementation and monitoring of the KM-GBF and NBSAPs/SPANBs. Many countries continue to face challenges related to biodiversity monitoring, GIS and remote sensing, biodiversity data management, ecological restoration monitoring and protected area effectiveness assessments. Countries also expressed strong needs regarding preparation of 7th National Reports, implementation and monitoring of NBSAPs and use of Earth observation technologies.

The assessment further revealed weaknesses related to biodiversity data collection systems, interoperability of national databases and operationalization of national biodiversity information systems and CHMs. Several countries also face institutional instability, limited technical expertise and insufficient human resources dedicated to biodiversity monitoring and reporting processes.

Particular national capacity gaps were identified in emerging KM-GBF thematic areas such as Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), Digital Sequence Information (DSI), biotechnology, biosafety and biodiversity finance. Countries also expressed strong needs regarding access to biodiversity and climate finance mechanisms, development of bankable biodiversity projects and long-term

resource mobilization. These findings confirm the importance of strengthening national technical capacities, institutional coordination mechanisms and long-term technical assistance through the TSCC/WA framework.

3. RBM Framework

Impact	Enhanced biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit-sharing in West Africa in line with KM-GBF Goals A–D				
Outcomes	KM-GBF Targets	Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification	2026 Targets
TSCC/WA fully operational and effectively functioning	20, 21	Governance bodies, staffing and operational systems established	Coordination Unit functional; Steering Committee and STC operational	Official decisions, HR contracts, meeting reports	TSCC/WA fully operational; 6 experts mobilized
Enhanced visibility, responsiveness, knowledge management and stakeholder engagement supporting KM-GBF implementation	20, 21, 23	Communication systems, stakeholder engagement and knowledge-sharing mechanisms operational	Communication strategy operational; Help desk functional; Communities of practice operational	Communication products, workshop reports, platform reports	14 countries assessed; 1 regional help desk operational; 1 community of practice operational
Sustainable biodiversity financing mobilized and strategic partnerships strengthened	8, 19	Biodiversity finance and partnership mechanisms operational	Financing strategy developed; Partnerships formalized; Project pipeline available	Financing strategies, MoUs, donor reports	1 regional biodiversity finance plan; 05 project concepts developed; 6 partnerships formalized

Enhanced and operational technical and scientific cooperation mechanisms supporting biodiversity monitoring and KM-GBF implementation	1, 2, 3, 4, 13, 17, 20, 21	Technical assistance, biodiversity monitoring and scientific cooperation mechanisms strengthened	Number of countries supported; IMET assessments conducted; Interoperable systems strengthened	reports of national validated data, IMET reports, RRIS-OBAPAO platform	14 countries supported; 20 IMET assessments; 02 interoperable national systems strengthened
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3.1. Actions plan

Overall objective		The overall objective of the TSCC/WA is to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in West Africa by assisting ECOWAS and UEMOA Member States in the implementation, monitoring and updating of their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), while facilitating technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge sharing, demand-driven partnerships and technology transfer among Parties and regional stakeholders.		
Outcomes	Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Baseline & Targets
Outcome 1: TSCC/WA fully operational and functioning as a regional technical and scientific cooperation support centre (KM-GBF Target 21)	Output 1.1 Coordination and governance mechanisms established and operational	1.1.1. Develop and validate TORs, governance framework and operational procedures for TSCC/WA operationalization	Operational TORs and procedures validated	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 operational framework
		1.1.2. Organize consultation meetings with the CBD Secretariat and to formalize the collaboration through Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)	MoU developed and validated	Baseline: 0 ; Target :1 draft MoU finalized
		1.1.3. Facilitate signature of the Host Agreement between CSE/OBAPAO and the CBD Secretariat for the operationalization of the TSCC/WA	Host Agreement officially signed	Baseline: 0 ; 1 Host Agreement/MoU signed and operationalized
		1.1.4. Establish the TSCC/WA Coordination Unit hosted by CSE/OBAPAO	Coordination Unit established and operational	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 unit
		1.1.5. Recruit TSCC/WA Coordinator and technical staff	Coordinator and technical staff recruited	Baseline: 2 Target: 6 experts mobilized
		1.1.6. Establish Steering Committee / Scientific and Technical Council (STC) (Establish coordination mechanisms with CBD, TSCC, CHMs, IBPES, ABS and Biosafety national focal points, scientific institutions and regional institutions) and thematic working groups	Steering Committee operational; Number of thematic groups operational	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 Steering Committee Baseline: Fragmented coordination Target: 1 operational coordination framework Baseline thematic groups : 1 (Target3) thematic groups operational ; Target : 3 groupes (Protected and conserved Areas (3) ; Data, sciences and knowledge management (20 and 21) ; ABS and Biosafety (13 and 17), 19 (finance)
	Output 1.2 TSCC/WA premises, IT infrastructure and digital systems operational	1.2.1. Set up offices, digital infrastructure and collaboration systems	Offices and systems operational	Baseline: Existing OBAPAO Infrastructure Target: operational TSCC/WA office
		1.2.2. Strengthen interoperability framework between RRIS-OBAPAO and national systems	Interoperability framework operational	Baseline: Partial interoperability Target: 10 countries progressively connected
	Output 1.3 Biennial workplans and operational tools developed	1.3.1 Develop 2025–2026 Biennial Workplan	Workplan validated	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 validated plan
		1.3.2. Establish monitoring, reporting and Results-Based Management (RBM) framework	RBM framework operational	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 RBM framework

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Outcomes	Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Baseline & Targets
Outcome 2: Enhanced visibility, responsiveness, knowledge management and stakeholder engagement for effective KM-GBF implementation in West Africa	Output 2.1 Capacity needs assessments and stakeholder mapping completed	2.1.1. Conduct regional and national capacity needs assessments of Parties	Assessment reports available	Baseline: Partial assessments Target: 16 countries assessed
		2.1.2. Conduct stakeholder mapping and institutional coordination analysis	Stakeholder mapping available	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 regional mapping
		2.1.3. Engage universities, women and youth organizations, LCs and private sector actors	Number of stakeholder groups engaged	Baseline: Limited engagement Target: Multi-stakeholder engagement platform operational
	Output 2.2 Communication, visibility and help desk systems operational	2.2.1. Develop TSCC/WA communication and visibility strategy	Communication strategy validated	Baseline: Existing OBAPAO communication strategy Target: 1 updated strategy
		2.2.2. Develop branding, webpage, newsletters, technical briefs and institutional communication products	Number of communication products developed	Baseline: 0 Target: 3 communication products
		2.2.3. Establish regional help desk and technical assistance mechanism	Regional Help desk operational	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 regional help desk operational
		2.2.4. Organize official TSCC/WA launch event	Launch event organized	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 launch event
		2.2.5. Participate in regional and international biodiversity conferences and forums	Number of conferences/events attended	Baseline: Existing participation Target: 8 events
	Output 2.3 Regional knowledge-sharing and scientific cooperation mechanisms strengthened	2.3.1. Establish/support thematic working groups and community of practice	Number of thematic groups operational community of practice establishing	Baseline: 0 Target: 5 communities of practice operational
		2.3.2. Optimize Conservation Hub and digital knowledge-sharing platforms	Digital collaboration platform operational	Baseline: Existing Conservation Hub Target: Enhanced regional platform operational
		2.3.3. Develop biodiversity knowledge Management strategy	Knowledge Management strategy	Baseline: 0 Target: knowledge Management strategy validated
		2.3.4. Strengthen capacities of focal points and stakeholders on communication and dissemination of scientific information	Number of focal points and stakeholders trained	Baseline: Limited capacity-building Target: 1 regional training session
Outcome 3: Sustainable financing mobilized and partnerships strengthened	Output 3.1 Resource mobilization and biodiversity finance mechanisms developed	3.1.1. Green and Blue Economy: What strategy for financing biodiversity policies in west Africa ?	Study on strategy for financing biodiversity policies available	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 regional study on financing biodiversity policies
		3.1.2. Develop TSCC/WA Resource mobilization plan and long-term sustainability framework	Resource mobilization plan developed	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 sustainability framework

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Outcomes	Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Baseline & Targets
(KM-GBF Target 19)		3.1.3. Establish pool of experts on biodiversity and climate finance	Number of financing experts mobilized	Baseline: Limited expertise Target: Expert pool operational
		3.1.4. Develop portfolio of bankable regional biodiversity projects	Number of project concepts developed	Baseline: 0 Target: 05 project concepts
	Output 3.2 Strategic partnerships strengthened	3.2.1. Strengthen collaboration with TSCCs, CBD Secretariat, regional and international organizations	Number of partnerships formalized	Baseline: Existing partnerships Target: 6 MoUs/partnerships
		3.2.2. Develop partnerships with banks, donors, NGOs, universities and private sector actors	Number of strategic partnerships established	Baseline: Limited engagement Target: Expanded multi-stakeholder partnerships
	Output 3.3 Countries supported on biodiversity finance mobilization	3.3.1. Provide technical assistance to countries on biodiversity and climate finance mobilization	Number of countries supported	Baseline: Limited support Target: 3 countries supported
		3.3.2. Support development and submission of bankable biodiversity projects	Number of funding proposals submitted	Baseline: 0 Target: Multiple regional proposals submitted
	Outcome 4: Enhanced and operational technical and scientific cooperation mechanisms supporting effective implementation, monitoring and knowledge exchange on biodiversity across West Africa	Output 4.1 Countries supported in implementation and monitoring of NBSAPs and the KM-GBF	4.1.1. Promote and facilitate demand-driven technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer among Parties	Number of cooperation requests supported
4.1.2. Develop “one-stop service centre” facilitating access to biodiversity expertise, methodologies and tools			Service centre operational	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 operational service mechanism
4.1.3. Support biodiversity data collection and validation			Number of countries supported for data collection and validation	Baseline: 0 datasets/reports Target: 10 countries' reports
4.1.4. Develop practical guide for OECMs/AMCEZ implementation in West Africa			OECM guide available	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 guide
4.1.5. Support to the preparation of the 7th National Reports, indicator alignment and implementation of NBSAPs			Number of countries supported	Baseline: 0 Target: 10 countries supported
4.1.6. Scale up IMET assessments in protected and conserved areas			Number of IMET assessments conducted	Baseline: Existing BIOPAMA+PAPFOR+PAPBIO Target: 20 IMET assessments conducted
4.1.7. Strengthen interoperability between CHMs, RRIS-OBAPAO and national systems			Number of interoperable systems strengthened	Baseline: Partial interoperability Target: 10 interoperable national systems

Overall objective				
The overall objective of the TSCC/WA is to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in West Africa by assisting ECOWAS and UEMOA Member States in the implementation, monitoring and updating of their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), while facilitating technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge sharing, demand-driven partnerships and technology transfer among Parties and regional stakeholders.				
Outcomes	Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Baseline & Targets
	Output 4.2 Regional biodiversity monitoring and information systems strengthened	4.2.1. Framework for aligning GBF indicators from local to subregional level in West Africa	Guide of the framework validated	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 regional guide
		4.2.1. Support for the development of the first Action Plan (2026–2030) for the West African Protected and Conserved Areas (PCAs) Management Strategy towards 2050	Document of 1st actions plan validated	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 actions plan
		4.2.2. Elaboration of subregional reporting on implementation of KM-GBF in West Africa	Subregional GBF-KM report validated	Baseline: 0 Target: 1 subregional report validated
	Output 4.3 Regional expertise, scientific cooperation and innovation strengthened	4.3.1. Countries Capacity Building Strategy	Capacity building strategy validated	Baseline 0 : Target 1: subregional report validated
		4.3.2. Acquisition of ArcGIS Pro licenses and ArcGIS Online platform access for countries and the subregional team	Number of countries supported	Baseline: 0 Target: 14 counties
		4.3.3. Organize trainings on biodiversity monitoring, GIS, remote sensing, indicators, AI and digital tools	Number of trainings organized Number of participants trained	Baseline: Existing BIOPAMA trainings Target: 4 regional trainings
		4.3.4. Establish pools of scientists and thematic experts	Number of experts mobilized	Baseline: Existing expertise Target: Regional expert pool operational
		4.3.5. Starting a process of support development of Red Lists of species and ecosystems and Green Lists of protected areas	Number of countries supported	Baseline: Existing initiatives Target: 3 countries supported
		4.3.6. Facilitate South-South and North-South exchanges and peer learning	Number of exchanges facilitated	Baseline: Existing initiatives Target: 3 exchanges sessions
		4.3.7. Share best practices, lessons learned and regional methodologies	Number of methodologies/tools developed	Baseline: Existing tools Target: Regional methodological package available
		4.3.8. Collaborate with biodiversity technology transfer initiatives and Earth observation programmes	Number of collaboration initiatives established	Baseline: Existing initiatives Target: Strengthened partnerships

3.2. Operational Considerations

Implementation of the 2025–2026 Biennial Workplan will rely on a multi-level coordination and governance mechanism involving the institutional and technical structures of the TSCC/WA, national CBD focal points, regional organizations, scientific institutions, civil society organizations, and Local Communities (LCs), women and youth networks, as well as technical and financial partners.

The TSCC/WA Coordination Unit, hosted by the Centre de Suivi Écologique (CSE) through the consortium of the Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas in West Africa (OBAPAO), will ensure:

- overall coordination and operational management of the Biennial Workplan;
- facilitation of technical and scientific cooperation processes at the subregional level;
- coordination of regional partnerships as well as communication and visibility activities;
- organization of technical support missions, regional workshops and capacity-building activities;
- mobilization of technical expertise, scientific networks and knowledge-sharing mechanisms;
- support for data harmonization, information management and regional reporting processes;
- as well as monitoring, evaluation and reporting to the CBD Secretariat and strategic partners.

Implementation will rely on close collaboration with regional and international partners, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), CIFOR-ICRAF, BirdLife International, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), regional development banks, specialized technical agencies, as well as other Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centres (TSCCs) in particular African TSCC.

At the national level, implementation will involve:

- national CBD focal points, Clearing-House Mechanisms (CHMs);
- ministries and technical agencies responsible for biodiversity, environment, forestry, fisheries, water, land-use planning and sustainable development;
- universities, research institutions and centres of excellence;
- civil society organizations, LCs and community-based organizations;
- women and youth networks engaged in biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods;
- as well as private sector actors and professional organizations whose activities influence biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The operationalization of the Workplan will also build on existing regional initiatives, cooperation frameworks and knowledge platforms, including the Regional Reference Information System of OBAPAO (RRIS-OBAPAO), as well as the CEBio-Eco/AO project, NaturAfrica Program, West

Africa Sustainable Ocean Program (WASOP); West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL), in order to strengthen synergies, avoid duplication of efforts and ensure the long-term sustainability of technical and scientific cooperation mechanisms in West Africa.

3.3. Chronogram

Outcomes/Outputs	Code	Activities	2024		2025				2026			
			Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Outcome 1: TSCC/WA fully operational and functioning as a regional technical and scientific cooperation support centre (KM-GBF Target 21)												
Output 1.1 Coordination and governance mechanisms established and operational	1.1.1	Develop and validate TORs, governance framework and operational procedures					•	•	•	•		
	1.1.2	Consultation meetings with CBD Secretariat and MoU formalization			•	•	•					
	1.1.3	Facilitate Host Agreement signature with CBD Secretariat					•					
	1.1.4	Establish TSCC/WA Coordination Unit			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	1.1.5	Recruit coordinator and technical experts					•	•	•	•	•	•
	1.1.6	Establish Steering Committee/STC and thematic groups							•	•	•	•
Output 1.2 TSCC/WA premises, IT infrastructure and digital systems operational	1.2.1	Set up offices, digital infrastructure and collaboration systems									•	•
	1.2.2	Strengthen RRIS-national interoperability framework	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Output 1.3 Biennial workplans and operational tools developed	1.3.1	Develop 2025–2026 Biennial Workplan/ Draft 2027-2028			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	1.3.2	Establish RBM and reporting framework						•	•	•	•	
	1.3.3	Biannual report						•	•	•	•	•
Outcome 2: Enhanced visibility, responsiveness, knowledge management and stakeholder engagement for effective KM-GBF implementation in West Africa												
Output 2.1 Capacity needs assessments and stakeholder mapping completed	2.1.1	Conduct regional and national capacity needs assessments			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	2.1.2	Conduct stakeholder mapping and coordination analysis							•	•	•	•
	2.1.3	Engage universities, women, youth, IPLCs and private sector					•	•	•	•	•	•

Outcomes/Outputs	Code	Activities	2024		2025				2026			
			Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.2 Communication, visibility and help desk systems operational	2.2.1	Develop communication and visibility strategy								•	•	
	2.2.2	Develop branding, portal, newsletters and communication tools					•	•	•	•	•	•
	2.2.3	Establish regional Help Desk mechanism								•	•	•
	2.2.4	Organize official TSCC/WA launch event								•		
	2.2.5	Participate in biodiversity conferences and forums	•				•	•	•		•	•
Output 2.3 Regional knowledge-sharing and scientific cooperation mechanisms strengthened	2.3.1	Establish/support communities of practice and thematic groups								•	•	•
	2.3.2	Optimize Conservation Hub and digital platforms : one-stop service centre” facilitating access to biodiversity expertise, methodologies and tools								•	•	•
	2.3.3	Develop biodiversity knowledge management strategy							•	•	•	
	2.3.4	Train focal points on communication and dissemination									•	
	2.3.5	Capitalization of best practices and methodologies									•	•
Outcome 3: Sustainable financing mobilized and partnerships strengthened (KM-GBF Target 19)												
Output 3.1 Resource mobilization and biodiversity finance mechanisms developed	3.1.1	Conduct Green and Blue Economy financing study								•	•	•
	3.1.2	Develop TSCC/WA sustainability and resource mobilization framework									•	•
	3.1.3	Establish biodiversity finance expert pool								•	•	•
Output 3.2 Strategic partnerships strengthened	3.2.1	Strengthen collaboration with TSCCs and organizations	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	3.2.2	Develop partnerships with donors, banks and private sector			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Output 3.3 Countries supported on biodiversity finance mobilization	3.3.1	Provide biodiversity finance technical assistance to countries							•	•	•	•
	3.3.2	Develop and submit regional biodiversity funding proposals			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Outcomes/Outputs	Code	Activities	2024		2025				2026				
			Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Outcome 4: Enhanced and operational technical and scientific cooperation mechanisms supporting effective implementation, monitoring and knowledge exchange on biodiversity across West Africa													
Output 4.1 Countries supported in implementation and monitoring of NBSAPs and the KM-GBF	4.1.1	Facilitate technical/scientific cooperation and technology transfer									•	•	•
	4.1.2	Support biodiversity data collection and validation			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	4.1.3	Develop OECM/AMCEZ implementation guide										•	•
	4.1.4	Support 7th National Reports, NBSAP alignment and support				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	4.1.5	Scale up IMET assessments									•	•	•
	4.1.6	Strengthen CHM–RRIS interoperability					•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Output 4.2 Regional biodiversity monitoring and information systems strengthened	4.2.1	Develop framework for GBF indicator alignment			•	•	•	•	•	•			
	4.2.2	Support Action Plan for West African PCA Strategy 2050					•	•	•	•			
	4.2.3	Elaborate subregional GBF-KM assessment report						•	•	•	•		
Output 4.3 Regional expertise, scientific cooperation and innovation strengthened	4.3.1	Develop and implement Capacity Building Strategy				•	•	•	•	•	•		
	4.3.2	Deploy ArcGIS Pro licenses and ArcGIS Online access					•	•	•	•	•	•	
	4.3.3	Organize trainings on GIS, RS, AI and indicators			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	4.3.4	Establish regional pools of scientists and experts								•	•	•	•
	4.3.5	Launch Red Lists/Green Lists support process									•	•	•
	4.3.6	Facilitate South-South and North-South exchanges				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	4.3.7	Collaborate with Earth Observation initiatives									•	•	•

4. Resource Needs and Indicative Budget

Outcomes/Outputs	Code	Activity	Estimated Budget (USD)		
			Total	Cover by CEBio-Eco/AO	Requested
Output 1.1 Coordination and governance mechanisms established and operational	1.1.1	Finalization and validation of TORs and operational procedures			
	1.1.4	Strengthening the TSCC/WA Coordination Unit	50 000		50 000
	1.1.5	Recruitment/mobilization of complementary expertise (Coordinator, Expert staff: ABS, biosafety, political analyst, financial)	116 400		116 400
	1.1.6	Establishment of Steering Committee/STC and thematic working groups			
Output 1.2 TSCC/WA premises, IT infrastructure and digital systems operational	1.2.1	Improvement of BIOT offices and collaborative systems	50 000		50 000
	1.2.2	Adaptation of RRIS-OBAPAO to KM-GBF and interoperability systems	50 000		50 000
Output 1.3 Biennial workplans, reports and operational tools developed	1.3.2	Development of RBM and monitoring/evaluation framework	15 000		15 000
Sub total Outcome 1: TSCC/WA fully operational and functioning as a regional technical and scientific cooperation support centre (KM-GBF Target 21)			281 400		281 400
Output 2.1 Capacity needs assessments and stakeholder mapping completed	2.1.1	Regional and national capacity needs assessments	370 000		370 000
	2.1.2	Stakeholder mapping and institutional coordination analysis			
	2.1.3	Engagement of universities, women, youth, LCs and private sector	170 000	50 000	120 000
Output 2.2 Communication, visibility and help desk systems operational	2.2.1	Updating TSCC/WA communication and visibility strategy	20 000		20 000
	2.2.2	Portal, branding, newsletters and communication products	50 000		50 000
	2.2.3	Establishment of regional Help Desk	10 000		10 000
	2.2.4	Organization of official TSCC/WA launch event	100 000	100 000	
	2.2.5	Participation in regional and international biodiversity conferences	70 000	20 000	50 000
Output 2.3 Regional knowledge-sharing and	2.3.1	Communities of practice and thematic working groups	60 000	60 000	

scientific cooperation mechanisms strengthened	2.3.2	Optimization of Conservation Hub and digital platforms / One-stop service centre	50 000	50 000	
	2.3.5	Capitalization of best practices and methodologies	100 000	50 000	50 000
Sub Total Outcome 2: Enhanced visibility, responsiveness, knowledge management and stakeholder engagement for effective KM-GBF implementation in West Africa			1 000 000	330 000	670 000
Output 3.1 Resource mobilization and biodiversity finance mechanisms developed	3.1.1	Biodiversity finance and Green/Blue Economy study	30 420	30 420	
	3.1.2	TSCC/WA resource mobilization and sustainability framework	50 000		50 000
	3.1.3	Establishment of biodiversity/climate finance expert pool	15 000		15 000
Output 3.2 Strategic partnerships strengthened	3.2.1	Strengthening regional and international partnerships	10 000		10 000
	3.2.2	Partnerships with banks, donors and private sector	15 000		15 000
Output 3.3 Countries supported on biodiversity finance mobilization	3.3.1	Technical assistance to countries on biodiversity finance/ BIOFIN	0		
	3.3.2	Development of regional project proposals	75 000		75 000
Sub total Outcome 3: Sustainable financing mobilized and partnerships strengthened (KM-GBF Target 19)			195 420	30 420	165 000
Output 4.1 Countries supported in implementation and monitoring of NBSAPs and the KM-GBF	4.1.1	Technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer	10 000		10 000
	4.1.2	Development of regional OECM/AMCEZ guide	40 000		40 000
	4.1.5	Support to the preparation of the 7th National Reports, indicator alignment and implementation of NBSAPs	396 000	396 000	
	4.1.6	Scale up IMET assessments in protected and conserved areas	160 000	160 000	
	4.1.7	RRIS-CHM-national systems interoperability	50 000		50 000
Output 4.2 Regional biodiversity monitoring and information systems strengthened	4.2.1.	Framework for aligning GBF indicators from local to subregional level in West Africa			
	4.2.2.	Support for the development of the first Action Plan (2026-2030) for the West African Protected and Conserved Areas (PCAs) Management Strategy towards 2050	15 000	15 000	
	4.2.3.	Elaboration of subregional reporting on implementation of KM-GBF in West Africa	50 000	50 000	
Output 4.3 Regional expertise, scientific cooperation and innovation strengthened	4.3.1.	Capacity Building Strategy	35 000	25 000	10 000
	4.3.2	Complementary ArcGIS Pro & ArcGIS Online support	10 000	10 000	
	4.3.3	Strengthening regional/country training programmes	245 000	200 000	45 000

	4.3.5	Support to Red Lists & Green Lists processes	50 000		50 000
	4.3.6	South-South and North-South exchanges	35 000	10 000	25 000
	4.3.7	Collaboration with Earth Observation and innovation programmes	20 000		20 000
Sub total Outcome 4: Enhanced and operational technical and scientific cooperation mechanisms supporting effective implementation, monitoring and knowledge exchange on biodiversity across West Africa			1 116 000	866 000	250 000
Sub total			2 592 820	1 226 420	1 366 400
Bank transfer and financial transaction costs 2,5 % on Requested Budget			34160		
Over Head 12% on Requested Budget			163968		
Total Requested Budget			1 564 528		

Implementation of the Biennial Workplan will require adequate technical, financial and operational resources to support the deployment of the TSCC/WA mandate across West Africa. Based on the current budget framework, the total estimated budget amounts to USD 2,592,820, of which USD 1,226,420 is expected to be covered through ongoing support from CEBio-Eco/AO and associated initiatives, while an additional USD 1,366,400 remains to be mobilized. After inclusion of bank transfer and financial transaction costs (2.5%) and institutional overhead costs (12%), the total requested budget amounts to USD 1,564,528.

Human Resources of The TSCC/WA will progressively strengthen its operational capacities through the mobilization of:

- a regional coordinator and coordination support staff;
- biodiversity data, GIS and interoperability specialists;
- biodiversity finance and resource mobilization experts;
- ABS and biosafety experts;
- monitoring, evaluation and reporting specialists;
- communication and knowledge management specialists;
- administrative and financial personnel;
- thematic technical consultants and regional experts pools.

It should be noted that the staff time of the following profiles is already partially covered through the CEBio-Eco/AO until the end of 2027:

- biodiversity data, GIS and interoperability specialists;
- monitoring, evaluation and reporting specialists;
- communication and knowledge management specialists.

The requested budget therefore mainly focuses on complementary expertise and additional operational support not yet covered under CEBio-Eco/AO, particularly:

- a regional coordinator ;
- ABS and biosafety expertise;
- political and policy analysis;
- biodiversity finance and resource mobilization expertise;
- additional coordination and administrative support;
- regional technical consultants and thematic experts.

5. Sustainability and Financing Strategy

The sustainability strategy aims to ensure the long-term operational, institutional and financial viability of the TSCC/WA beyond short-term project cycles and to progressively consolidate the Centre as a permanent regional mechanism for technical and scientific cooperation in support of the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) in West Africa.

The strategy will build on a diversified and complementary financing approach combining:

- CBD Technical and Scientific Cooperation implementation mechanisms;
- ongoing regional programmes and co-financing arrangements, particularly through CEBio-Eco/AO and associated initiatives;
- GEF programming and biodiversity-related funding mechanisms;
- bilateral and multilateral cooperation frameworks;
- regional biodiversity finance and sustainable development initiatives;
- climate-biodiversity blended finance approaches;
- partnerships with development banks, financial institutions and philanthropic organizations;
- private sector engagement and innovation partnerships;
- and collaborative financing mechanisms with regional and international partners.

The current budget framework estimates a total implementation cost of USD 2,592,820, of which USD 1,226,420 is expected to be covered through existing support mechanisms, notably CEBio-Eco/AO and related programmes. The remaining funding gap of USD 1,366,400 will require targeted resource mobilization efforts. After inclusion of operational overhead and financial transaction costs, the total requested budget amounts to USD 1,564,528.

Particular emphasis will therefore be placed on mobilizing complementary resources for activities that are not yet covered or only partially financed, including:

- regional coordination and governance mechanisms;
- ABS and biosafety expertise;

- biodiversity finance and resource mobilization support;
- interoperability and digital knowledge infrastructure;
- regional Help Desk and technical assistance services;
- communication and visibility mechanisms;
- regional scientific cooperation and innovation initiatives;
- and complementary support for countries on biodiversity finance and KM-GBF implementation.

Priority sustainability actions will include:

- development of a regional biodiversity finance action plan;
- establishment of a portfolio of bankable biodiversity and climate-related projects;
- development of a regional database on biodiversity finance opportunities and project pipelines;
- organization of donor roundtables, investment dialogues and financing forums;
- strengthening countries' capacities on biodiversity finance mobilization and access to international funding mechanisms;
- reinforcement of partnerships with development banks, the private sector and philanthropic actors;
- and progressive institutionalization of long-term regional biodiversity monitoring, interoperability and reporting systems.

The sustainability strategy will also promote stronger ownership by ECOWAS, UEMOA, national institutions and regional partners while progressively strengthening the institutional anchoring, visibility and operational sustainability of the TSCC/WA.

6. Assumptions and Risk Management

Implementation of the Biennial Workplan is based on a number of institutional, technical, financial and operational assumptions that may influence the effectiveness and sustainability of the TSCC/WA. The table below summarizes the main assumptions, associated risks and proposed mitigation measures to support adaptive and resilient implementation across West Africa.

Assumptions	Risks	Management / Mitigation Measures
Sustained political and institutional support from Parties and regional institutions (ECOWAS and WAEMU)	Weak institutional ownership and implementation delays	Strengthen governance mechanisms, formal statut of OBAPAO
Continued collaboration with the CBD Secretariat and partners	Reduced technical cooperation and coordination efficiency	Maintain strategic partnerships and regular coordination mechanisms
Progressive mobilization of complementary financial resources	Funding gaps for activities not covered under CEBio-Eco/AO	Diversify funding sources and develop bankable project portfolios
Continued engagement of national focal points and stakeholders	Weak participation and limited ownership	Strengthen communication, CHMs, technical support and stakeholder engagement
Stable institutional environment in participating countries	Political instability and turnover of focal points	Promote institutional memory and regional expert pools
Availability of adequate technical expertise	Uneven national technical capacities	Scale up regional trainings and capacity-building programmes
Functional interoperability and biodiversity information systems	Weak interoperability and limited standardized biodiversity data	Strengthen RRIS-OBAPAO interoperability frameworks with national information systems and harmonized methodologies
Flexible and adaptive implementation mechanisms	Emerging regional crises and changing priorities	Apply adaptive and results-based management approaches

7. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

The Biennial Workplan adopts a Results-Based Management (RBM) framework designed to ensure that the implementation of the TSCC/WA mandate is based on the needs expressed by the Parties, responds to their priorities and is aligned with the implementation requirements of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) in West Africa.

The monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework will therefore place particular emphasis on the identification, assessment and consideration of priority needs in technical and scientific cooperation and capacity-building expressed by the Parties, national focal points, regional

institutions and stakeholders. As a first step, the TSCC/WA will conduct national needs assessments as well as stakeholder mapping exercises in order to identify priority gaps, technical support needs, institutional capacities and opportunities for subregional cooperation.

The RBM framework will support:

- identification and prioritization of countries' technical and scientific cooperation needs;
- monitoring of activities, outputs and progress in implementation of the workplan;
- monitoring progress towards the expected outcomes of the KM-GBF targets;
- assessment of the effectiveness of technical and scientific cooperation mechanisms;
- monitoring biodiversity data governance, interoperability and knowledge-sharing systems;
- monitoring resource mobilization and partnership development efforts;
- as well as adaptive management, learning and continuous improvement.

Monitoring systems will rely on existing regional and national mechanisms and platforms, including:

- RRIS-OBAPAO and associated regional biodiversity information systems;
- national CHMs and biodiversity databases;
- digital collaboration tools;
- as well as regional technical reporting and knowledge management mechanisms.

Particular attention will be given to:

- strengthening interoperability between regional and national systems;
- sharing tools, harmonizing biodiversity monitoring methodologies and indicators;
- improving access to standardized biodiversity data and technical information;
- as well as strengthening the science-policy interface in order to support evidence-based decision-making.

The monitoring and evaluation framework will include:

- harmonized indicators aligned with TSCC requirements;
- regional/national dashboards and interoperability tools;
- annual implementation reviews and performance assessments;
- periodic technical and financial reporting mechanisms;
- monitoring of activities financed through complementary financing mechanisms;
- as well as biennial reporting to the CBD Secretariat, regional institutions and technical partners.

The TSCC/WA will also support:

- alignment of national indicators and monitoring systems with the KM-GBF;
- preparation and technical review of the 7th National Reports;
- subregional biodiversity assessments and regional synthesis reports;
- strengthening national and subregional biodiversity monitoring capacities.

Implementation of this framework will help ensure that TSCC/WA interventions remain responsive to the evolving priorities of the Parties while strengthening regional coordination, accountability, data quality and evidence-based biodiversity governance in West Africa.

8. Conclusion

The 2025–2026 Biennial Workplan positions the TSCC/WA as a strategic regional mechanism for technical and scientific cooperation in support of the implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) in West Africa.

The Workplan is designed as a demand-driven framework that responds to the priority needs expressed by Parties and regional stakeholders while strengthening regional coordination, technical cooperation, biodiversity monitoring and knowledge-sharing mechanisms across the subregion.

By combining:

- technical and scientific cooperation;
- biodiversity governance, interoperability and data management;
- regional coordination and knowledge-sharing mechanisms;
- biodiversity monitoring, reporting and evidence-based decision-making;
- innovation, digital collaboration and technology transfer;
- capacity-building and technical assistance;
- biodiversity finance and resource mobilization approaches;
- and strategic regional and international partnerships,

the TSCC/WA provides an operational, inclusive and scalable regional framework capable of translating global biodiversity commitments into coordinated national and subregional actions.

The operationalization of the TSCC/WA will contribute to:

- supporting implementation, monitoring and reporting of the KM-GBF and NBSAPs;
- strengthening regional cooperation and institutional collaboration;

- improving access to harmonized biodiversity data, technical expertise and scientific information;
- reinforcing national biodiversity information systems and interoperability between regional information systems;
- strengthening national and regional capacities and science-policy interfaces;
- mobilizing sustainable biodiversity financing and partnerships for parties;
- and reinforcing long-term regional ownership, resilience and sustainability of biodiversity governance mechanisms in West Africa.

Building on existing regional initiatives and partnerships, including CEBio-Eco/AO, OBAPAO and associated Programs, the TSCC/WA is expected to progressively consolidate its role as a long-term regional platform supporting effective technical and scientific cooperation, biodiversity governance and implementation of global biodiversity commitments in West Africa.