

SANBI Technical and Scientific Cooperation (TSC) Support Centre: Workplan

1 October 2024 to 30 December 2026

Version: 1.2 (Final)



Technical & Scientific
Cooperation Centre



Contents

Purpose of the workplan.....	2
Strategic alignment.....	2
High-level objectives for Oct 2024 to Sep 2026.....	3
Priority work streams	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Workplan.....	4

Purpose of the workplan

1. This workplan sets out the SANBI-hosted Subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation (TSC) Support Centre (hereafter referred to as SANBI TSC Centre), programme of work for the two-year period 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2026. It acknowledges activities undertaken in the period October 2024 to September 2025, as well as focusing on the upcoming period October 2025 to December 2026.
2. Its purpose is to operationalise a sub-regional role envisaged under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, information exchange and knowledge management in support of the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).
3. The workplan prioritises near-term, low-cost actions that activate cooperation, connect needs and offers, and improve access to data, information and expertise across the region.

Strategic alignment

4. The workplan responds to relevant sections of the GBF on the means of implementation, and directly contributes to the achievement of Goal D, Target of 20 and 21 relating to capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and resource mobilization. It is anchored in COP Decision 15/8 on technical and scientific cooperation and related mechanisms, and guided by COP16 decisions (including Decision 16/3) on knowledge management and cooperation. It positions the SANBI TSC Centre as a subregional support centre under the Convention's mechanism to strengthen technical and scientific cooperation, working in concert with the Global Coordination Entity and partners.
5. This workplan is aligned with the capacity needs assessment undertaken by Parties during the period of June to July 2025. It specifically responds to the identified capacity gaps and priorities, thereby supporting Parties in the effective implementation of their NBSAPs and the GBF.
6. The workplan is also consistent with Decision 10/4 on the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya–Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, and Decision 5/3 on the capacity-building and development action plan for the Nagoya Protocol of the Nagoya Protocol. Within its mandate, the SANBI TSC Centre will align cooperation and knowledge-sharing with these frameworks by connecting Parties to relevant information, tools and partner programmes, and by supporting inclusive awareness and participation alongside technical and scientific cooperation.
7. The workplan is informed by the Long-term Strategic Framework for Capacity-Building and Development (Decision 15/8, annex I), guiding country-owned efforts for GBF implementation. It defines and categorises capacity, sets a vision for 2030 and 2050, sets long-term and medium-term outcomes, and guiding principles including inclusive analysis

of capacities and needs, country ownership and commitment, strategic and integrated system-wide approaches, use of recognised good practices and lessons learned, full integration of indigenous people and local communities (IPLCs), gender and youth perspectives, and monitoring, evaluation and learning from the start.

8. It aligns with the CHM Work Programme (2024–2030), with SANBI TSC Centre actions mapping to Goal 1 (promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation), Goal 2 (facilitate exchange of information), Goal 3 (support planning, monitoring, reporting and review) and Goal 4 (facilitate networking and collaboration). The workplan emphasises early, practical contributions such as collaborative platforms, matchmaking between country needs and available expertise, and communities of practice (consistent with Outcomes 1.1 and 1.2 of the CHM Work Programme).
9. The workplan aligns with SANBI’s legislated mandate under South Africa’s National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004), which includes generating, curating and disseminating biodiversity knowledge, coordinating and supporting research, building capacity, with specific alignment to the goals of the Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy (BHCDS), and providing evidence and advice for policy and implementation. The SANBI TSC Centre leverages SANBI’s convening role, networks and systems, while remaining demand-led and complementary to SANBI’s domestic programmes.

Outcomes for Oct 2024 to Dec 2026

- a) **OPERATIONALIZATION:** The SANBI TSC achieves operational milestones and is established as functional support centre that is actively guided by affiliated Parties, demonstrating strong country ownership and a two-way flow of technical exchange
- b) **VISIBILITY and RESPONSIVENESS;** The SANBI TSC Centre is widely recognised as visible and responsive support centre for Technical and Scientific Cooperation in the subregion
- c) **TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION** The emergent SANBI subregional TSC network shows tangible evidence of nascent cooperation, knowledge exchange and measurable progress on selected thematic focus areas.
- d) **PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION:** SANBI TSC Center secures stakeholder confidence, and begins the process of co-developing a pathway for the sustainable, long-term resourcing of the SANBI TSC Centre

Workplan

Outcome 1. Successful Operationalization of Effective Support Centre

The SANBI TSC achieves operational milestones and is established as functional support centre that is actively guided by affiliated Parties, demonstrating strong country ownership and a two-way flow of technical exchange.

	Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Y1	Y2	Partners
1.1	Systems of effective management in place	1.1.1	Appoint/ second an interim Coordinator	Coordinator appointed		SANBI
		1.1.2	Establish lean coordination unit	Coordination unit in place		SANBI
1.2	Systems of effective planning in place	1.2.1	Develop and implement SANBI TSC Centre workplan with results based indicators	Biennial Workplan Submitted & Approved		SANBI, Steering Committee, SCBD
		1.2.2	Develop and implement SANBI TSC Centre implementation roadmap	Implementation Roadmap Submitted & Approved		SANBI AfD
1.3	Systems of effective coordination in place	1.3.1	Sign SANBI TSC Centre Host Agreement between SANBI and the Secretariat of the CBD (hereafter referred to as SCBD)	Host agreement signed		SANBI, SCBD
1.4	Systems of inclusive governance in place	1.4.1	Establish and convene the Steering Committee for the TSCC	2 meetings		SANBI
		1.4.2	Establish and convene the Partnership Committee Group for the TSCC	1 meeting		SANBI

The responsive focus is on enabling connections between countries and partners across (partners reflected in the workplan have formalised their commitments through agreements/ official commitments) the region and access to information on opportunities for technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and innovations.

Outcome 2. Visibility and Responsiveness

The SANBI TSC Centre is widely recognised as a visible and responsive support centre for Technical and Scientific Cooperation in the subregion by providing a “one-stop service centre” for Parties to biodiversity-related conventions, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to access technical and scientific knowledge, expertise, tools and other resources.

Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Y1	Y2	Partners
2.1 Data and Systems for Engagement with the Parties in place	2.1.1 Develop and Implement Capacity Needs Assessment	Completed Capacity Needs Assessment			SANBI AfD
	2.1.2 Develop system for consistent engagement with the Parties and periodic updates	Internal Procedure			SANBI
2.2 Communications Strategy and Systems in place	2.2.1 Develop and periodically update webpage for the SANBI TSC Centre (including opt-in mailing list)	SANBI TSC Centre webpage established; # of webpage hits			SANBI
	2.2.2 Develop SANBI TSC Centre Branding	SANBI TSC Centre Logo & PowerPoint template completed			SANBI AfD
	2.2.3 Create and monitor dedicated SANBI TSC Centre email address	SANBI TSC Email Address established; disaggregated data about # of queries			SANBI
	2.2.4 Launch the SANBI TSC Centre with Parties and partners	SANBI TSC Centre launched; # of social media posts			SANBI
	2.2.5 Initiate and maintain regular communication with Parties and partners and other stakeholders through appropriate communication channels to share information	Number of communications products; reach of communications products			SANBI
2.3 Centre helpdesk established and maintained	2.3.1 Operationalize helpdesk and publicize	Helpdesk established; number of inquiries			SANBI
	2.3.2 Ensure effective operationalization of helpdesk	# of responses resolved within x period of time			SANBI
					SANBI, Parties, Partners

Outcome 3. Technical and Scientific Cooperation and Technology Transfer

The emergent SANBI subregional TSC network shows tangible evidence of nascent cooperation, knowledge exchange and measurable progress on selected thematic focus areas.

Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Y1	Y2	Partners
3.1 Peer Exchange and Cooperation promoted and facilitated	3.1.1 Support and co-host technical cooperation events/meetings that support GBF implementation in the sub-region	2 events /meetings co-hosted by SANBI TSC Centre			SANBI and partners
3.2 Structured Matchmaking System established	3.2.1 Develop or Adapt Curated Partner Registry	Registry completed or adapted			SANBI
	3.2.2 Develop or Adapt Stakeholder Registry	Registry completed or adapted			SANBI
	3.2.3 Facilitate matchmaking between Parties and organizations in multiple modalities	At least 2 matches completed			SANBI NBSAP Accelerator Partnership
3.3 Targeted capacity support facilitated	3.3.1 Provide targeted capacity support that is directly linked to GBF targets	1 capacity support implemented			SANBI
3.4 Access provided to useful scientific data, tools, resources and best practices	3.4.1 Explore strategic partnership with NBSAP Accelerator Partnership or other relevant global mechanisms to leverage the matchmaking facility and enhance knowledge access.	Acceptance letter from the NBSAP Accelerator			SANBI NBSAP Accelerator Partnership

Outcome 4. Partnership Development and Resource Mobilisation

SANBI TSC Center secures stakeholder confidence, and begins the process of co-developing a pathway for the sustainable, long-term resourcing of the SANBI TSC Centr

High-level outputs	Indicative Activities	Indicators	Y1	Y2	Responsible
4.1 System of Resource Mobilization and Partnership Development established	4.1.1 Develop Resource Mobilization Plan with input from partners and Parties	Resource Mobilization Plan			SANBI Afd DBSA
	4.1.2 Develop a business case that clearly outlines the SANBI TSC Centre needs, capacity shortfalls, and budget requirements	Business case developed			SANBI Afd
	Profile SANBI TSC Centre at key international and regional events/fora	Presentation at least 2 events/fora			SANBI, Partners
4.2 Strategic partnerships to catalyse TSC projects and programmes built and fostered	4.2.1				

Outcome 3. Technical and Scientific Cooperation and Technology Transfer

The emergent SANBI subregional TSC network shows tangible evidence of nascent cooperation, knowledge exchange and measurable progress on selected thematic focus areas.

Outputs	Activities	Indicators	Y1	Y2	Partners
	4.2.2	Coordinate with other regional TSC Centres and global platforms to ensure the Centre is part of a network of support			SANBI, SCBD
	4.2.3	Support development of projects and programmes by Partners that would contribute to meeting needs of Parties			SANBI, Partners
4.3 Resources to address identified technical and scientific needs mobilized	4.3.1	Develop and/or co-develop strategic products to mobilise support to and strengthen operationalisation of TSC Centres			SANBI, Partners
	4.3.2	Develop and/or co-develop funding proposal to respond to priorities identified by Parties in the capacity needs assessment			SANBI, Partners