

IUCN's Position Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Convention on Biological Diversity

Fourth meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (OEWG4)

21-26 June 2022, Nairobi, Kenya

Key Messages

IUCN urges Parties to increase efforts, be bolder and more ambitious in order to make progress at this session of the fourth meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group, and calls on Parties to:

- ✓ Continue negotiations in a constructive manner for an ambitious framework that will catalyse the necessary action and change to achieve the vision of *living in harmony with nature*.
- ✓ Agree on what should be achieved by 2030 and define clear, communicable goals and the actions to achieve them.

IUCN recalls the various landmark global agreements and frameworks adopted since 2010 when the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was approved. These processes' elements and associated commitments were agreed as a package assuming complementarity among them and within set mandates. The same approach should guide the design of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

IUCN considers that to achieve the vision of *living in harmony with nature*, the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework must aim to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity by 2030, and achieve recovery and restoration by 2050.

To realise this, the Global Biodiversity Framework must include (not in priority order):

- ✓ Conservation and protection of at least 30% globally of terrestrial, inland water and marine and coastal ecosystems, in effective and equitable, representative and connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), including all key biodiversity areas (KBAs) and indigenous and local community-conserved lands and territories with the free, prior and informed consent of their custodians.
- ✓ Recognition of the contribution of sustainable production systems, including agriculture, to biodiversity conservation and connectivity in the production landscape and seascape.
- ✓ A distinct, ambitious goal for ecosystems for 2050, and targets for the restoration and connectivity of degraded ecosystems globally, and the sustainability of managed ecosystems through the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.
- ✓ Scaling up of species conservation through a distinct, ambitious species goal for 2050, and specific targets to prevent extinctions, improve the status of wild species and ensure that use is safe, legal and sustainable, supported by the Global Species Action Plan.
- ✓ References to Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in relevant targets; NbS can provide biodiversity benefits while addressing societal challenges, and the use of the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions™ can facilitate integration across several multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).
- ✓ Consistent integration of a comprehensive rights-based approach (RBA).
- ✓ Increasing financial resources, from all sources, to at least USD 200 billion per year, including new and additional financial resources, and increasing international conservation finance flows to correspond to the share of global biodiversity footprint embedded in international trade, - currently approximately 30%, leveraging private finance and improved domestic resource mobilization.
- ✓ Elimination, redirection and reduction of at least USD 500 billion per year in harmful subsidies.

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Preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework ([CBD/WG2020/REC/3/1](#)) & First Draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework ([CBD/WG2020/3/3](#))

This position paper presents IUCN's further comments and recommendations on elements of Draft 1 of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). It presents revisions to IUCN's [position](#) on the resumed session of the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG3.2) in March 2022. It includes views on some elements of the Framework where IUCN has a particular contribution to make.

IUCN's position on the GBF is guided by related [Resolutions and Recommendations](#) adopted by its Members at the IUCN World Conservation Congress.

IUCN's proposed language and other recommendations are in **bold** followed by a rationale.

Mission

To take urgent and transformative action across society to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and begin restoration for the benefit of planet and people.

- ✓ The mission statement must provide a concise explanation for the existence of the framework: it should support the vision and provide purpose and direction to all involved in its implementation.
- ✓ The wording of the mission must be inspirational and compelling, to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity and to achieve a nature-positive world by 2030¹. It must convey that this will not be business-as-usual.

Goals

The GBF should include distinct goals for ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity, given their differences in geography, responses to human drivers, and actions needed.

- ✓ IUCN proposes disaggregating Goal A into the 3 components of biodiversity as follows:
 - ***The loss in area, integrity and connectivity of all natural ecosystems is halted from 2020 and reversed by 2050, reducing their risk of collapse***².

For ecosystems, the goal must include three core elements: a) halting and reversing the loss of area; b) halting and reversing loss of integrity; and c) reducing risk of collapse. Appropriate timelines would be “from now” for halting loss, and “by 2050” for reversing loss.

- ***Human-induced species extinctions are halted from 2020, the overall risk of species extinctions is reduced to zero, and the population abundance of native species recovers to viability by 2050***³.

For species, the goal must include three core elements: a) halting human-induced extinctions; b) reducing extinction risk to zero; and c) recovering population abundance of native species to viability. Appropriate timelines would be “from now” for halting extinctions, and “by 2050” for reducing risk to zero and for recovering viability.

- ***Genetic diversity within and among populations of species has been restored and secured by 2050 thereby ensuring their evolutionary adaptive potential***⁴.

For genetic diversity, the goal must include two core elements: a) maintaining all genetically distinct populations (e.g. among populations); and b) maintaining at least 97% genetic diversity within populations, usually by high effective population size and appropriate genetic exchange, for preventing severe loss of fitness over the coming century.

- ✓ Regardless of whether Parties decide to maintain three separate biodiversity goals, or decide to combine these as *back-to-back sentences* within a single Goal A, all IUCN recommendations regarding core elements apply.

¹ In accordance with IUCN's Resolution [WCC-2020-RES-116](#) adopted by IUCN Members at the World Conservation Congress, 2021.

² The stated formulation is derived from key papers in the scientific literature on an ecosystems goal, in particular Nicholson et al. 2021 Nature Ecol Evol

³ The stated formulation is derived from key papers in the scientific literature, such as Williams et al. 2021 Conserv Lett

⁴ The stated formulation is derived from Hoban et al. 2020 Biol Conserv

2030 outcomes

The GBF needs biodiversity outcomes incorporated within the Goals as appropriate, in order to be achieved by 2030 and be on track to delivery of the 2050 Goals and 2030 Mission. Without this, there is a 30-year gap between the Targets and the Goals.

- ✓ The 2030 outcomes related to Goal A can be captured within the goal:
 - For ecosystems, an appropriate 2030 outcome could be “**restoration is underway to reverse the loss in area and integrity in all natural ecosystems**”.
 - For species, appropriate 2030 outcomes could be “**species extinction risk reduced by 20% and average population abundance of native species increased by 20%**”.
 - For genes, appropriate 2030 outcomes could be “**all genetically distinct populations are maintained, genetically vulnerable populations are identified, and long-term genetic conservation strategies are developed and initiated**”.
- ✓ The 2030 outcomes related to Goal D, as they are currently proposed, coincide with Targets 18 and 19.

Section B. bis

A section of the framework containing the principles for its implementation will help frame the necessary conditions applicable to the entire framework, and streamline the wording of the goals and targets.

- ✓ Beyond mere guidance for the implementation of the framework, the elements listed in this new section should be considered as the foundation of the GBF. For IUCN these principles are:
 - The implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework shall contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and both should complement one another.
 - The Framework is for all – governments at all levels, and the whole of society.
 - Collaboration and coordination are necessary to enhance coherence and synergies for effective and efficient implementation at all levels. This applies at the global level, between the Convention and its Protocols, with other biodiversity-related conventions, the Rio Conventions, and relevant multilateral environmental agreements, and also at the national level.
 - The implementation of the Framework must fully respect, protect and fulfil human rights, including the right to a safe, clean, and healthy environment. It must equally be carried out with the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities including their free, prior, and informed consent, and with full recognition of the rights of Indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources, as set out under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and with full respect for their diverse knowledge systems.
 - Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.
 - Intergenerational equity and empowerment of youth.
 - The Global Biodiversity Framework is to be implemented in line with the objectives and all provisions of the Convention, in particular in accordance with Articles 16, 17, 18, 20 and 22.
 - The Global Biodiversity Framework is to be implemented based on sound science, with due consideration of the precautionary principle and the ecosystem approach.
- ✓ Since many of the elements listed relate to section I – *Enabling Conditions*, IUCN supports bringing these important aspects to the forefront of the framework, and removing section I.

Target 1

Incorporate all terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems under integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning, retaining and enhancing the ecological integrity and connectivity of existing intact and wilderness areas and known areas of high biodiversity value, including all key biodiversity areas.

- ✓ The focus of the target should be on the action.

- ✓ Ultimately, the intent of this target should be to address land- and sea-use change and the resulting ecosystem degradation and destruction, as one of the major drivers of biodiversity loss, through integrated spatial planning and regulation.
- ✓ Halting the loss of biodiversity implies maintaining what currently exists. Therefore, the loss of all natural ecosystems, especially those within existing intact and wilderness areas must be avoided, reduced and reversed. This should be supported by increasing ecological integrity and both functional and structural connectivity⁵.

Target 2

Restore the ecological integrity and connectivity of at least 20 per cent of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems, focusing on priority ecosystems.

- ✓ Refine language to ensure that ‘restoration’ is the leading verb.
- ✓ The core of Target 2 should remain an ambitious numeric target for the restoration of ecosystems to halt species extinction rates and safeguard the genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species. This can be attainable considering the following:
 - The potential of restoration opportunities estimated on 1.6 billion ha of cropland, 2.2 billion ha of grazing land, and 1.4 billion ha of natural areas accounting for almost 40% of the global land area⁶,
 - Global ecosystem restoration commitments that cover about 1 billion hectares, with many currently under implementation⁷.
 - That ecosystem restoration can be implemented across the restorative continuum, with actions aimed at improving ecosystem functions through to the highest level of recovery, based on local native reference ecosystems⁸. Ecosystem restoration can be achieved through several landscape approaches and not only through ecological restoration. As CBD/SBSTTA/24/3/Add.2/Rev.1 explains, ecosystem restoration can include (a) restoring converted areas back to natural states; (b) improving the ecological integrity of degraded natural areas; and (c) rehabilitating converted and degraded areas (including degraded agricultural lands) to improve both productivity and integrity.
 - Baseline years or reference ecosystems are determined for each landscape or seascape to guide the design of an ecosystem restoration plan, noting that the aim is not necessarily to achieve the status of reference ecosystems. Therefore, the establishment of a global baseline is not needed for the success of this target.
- ✓ **Ecosystem integrity** must be referred to in the language of the target as a state to achieve in restored ecosystems, as it refers to the completeness and functionality of an ecosystem and its ecological processes, particularly in relation to its natural state⁹.
- ✓ **Priority ecosystems** should be defined to allow a common understanding. A recent study identified priority areas for restoration focused on the concurrent achievement of goals for biodiversity, the mitigation of climate change and minimizing costs¹⁰. Planning for restoration should be based on the principles developed for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, to consider the landscape context, including connectivity, and should include ensuring the maintenance of restored ecosystems in the long-term.

Target 3

Conserve at least 30 percent each of terrestrial, inland waters, and marine and coastal areas globally, prioritizing areas of particular importance for biodiversity and associated ecosystem services, including all key biodiversity areas, through ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures that are equitably governed and effectively managed, including areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities.

- ✓ Simplify language and ensure that ‘conservation’ is the leading verb.

⁵ In accordance with IUCN’s Resolution [WCC-2020-RES-034](#) adopted by IUCN Members at the World Conservation Congress, 2021.

⁶ PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (2022). The global potential for land restoration: Scenarios for the Global Land Outlook 2. The Hague. Available at: <https://www.pbl.nl/sites/default/files/downloads/pbl-2022-the-global-potential-for-land-restoration-glo2-4816.pdf> (please fix citation format)

⁷ PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (2022). The global potential for land restoration: Scenarios for the Global Land Outlook 2. The Hague. Available at: <https://www.pbl.nl/sites/default/files/downloads/pbl-2022-the-global-potential-for-land-restoration-glo2-4816.pdf>

⁸ International Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration – including principles and key concepts https://cdn.ymaws.com/sites/www.ser.org/resource/resmgr/docs/SER_International_Standards.pdf

⁹ <https://www.cbd.int/api/v2013/documents/EF052A4A-8751-AB04-8208-F2CBDA387E24/attachments/212351/WCS-2.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://doi.org/10.1038/S41586-020-2784-9>

- ✓ A minimum target of 30% in each of terrestrial, inland waters, and marine and coastal areas is essential to support ambition and commitment to conserve all areas of importance for biodiversity, and is scientifically well-supported.
- ✓ Areas of particular importance for biodiversity should include all Key Biodiversity Areas as they are identified using the internationally agreed KBA Standard.
- ✓ The focus of the target should be on quality. The world needs to conserve biodiversity through effective and equitable systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) that are equitably governed and effectively managed and achieve their conservation and social outcomes.
- ✓ It is essential that Parties support the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities and work towards the implementation of all protection, conservation and restoration activities with the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of Indigenous peoples and other rights holders, and with full recognition of the rights of Indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources, as set out under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and with full respect for their diverse knowledge systems. Language to that effect is proposed in Section B *Bis*.
- ✓ In line with CBD Decision 13/2, Parties are invited to apply the [IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Standard](#) to ensure that new and existing protected areas and OECMs are delivering conservation outcomes. The IUCN Green List Standard can help Parties diagnose needs for capacity development and implementation, and track progress towards effectiveness over time. Ultimately, the Standard can help benchmark progress and verify contributions of all types of effective area-based conservation
- ✓ **Target 3 should only refer to protected and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) as defined by the CBD. Sustainable use areas, managed to optimize harvest (including rotation forestry, sustained yield fisheries and crop agriculture) should be addressed in other targets, specifically targets 5 and 10.**
 - Article 8(a) of the Convention requires each Party “as far as possible and as appropriate to establish a system of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity”. The mechanisms for that were identified in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, specifically through Aichi Target 11. Current draft Target 3 is the successor of Aichi Target 11 and it also responds directly to article 8(a) of the Convention.
 - Draft Targets 5 and 10 respond to Article 10 of the Convention which addresses overall sustainable use of the components of biological diversity. Article 10 calls for each party to adopt measures relating to the use of biological resources to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity.
 - Protected areas and OECMs under Article 8 are a distinct subset of land and sea use, where “special measures are taken to conserve biological diversity.” While their focus is on nature conservation, they allow uses consistent with their primary purposes but not generalized sustainable use^{11,12}. This is made clear by Convention Article 8(e). It provides that each party shall promote environmentally sound and *sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas* with a view to furthering protection of these areas. In other words, sustainable development and broader sustainable use goes on outside protected areas and OECMs in the wider landscape and seascape.
- ✓ OECMs are dedicated to particular kinds of use that have a positive effect on nature that achieves equivalent outcomes to effective protected areas. For example, a large military base may secure important natural values that should be retained while still being dedicated to the primary purpose. Territories and areas of Indigenous peoples and local communities may have long-established patterns of low-level use and management practices that effectively conserve biodiversity in the long term.
- ✓ There are important areas within the production landscape and seascape that may effectively conserve biodiversity and qualify to be recognised as OECMs. IUCN supports efforts to work with the managers of production systems to identify and recognise the important conservation values of sites that meet the agreed definition of OECMs.

¹¹ IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, *Conserving at least 30% of the Planet by 2030, What should count?* Gland, Switzerland; 2021.

¹² For Protected Areas, IUCN has identified six management categories that reflect varying kinds of compatible uses with the primary goal of nature conservation in accordance with Article 8. For example: Category 1a wilderness often includes hunting, Category 2 often includes tourism, Category V protected areas are meant to support biodiversity that occurs only as a result of a long-established human and-use patterns (such as rare plants and grassland birds found on extensive grasslands), and Category VI permits certain types of sustainable harvest of wild resources, with the stipulation it occurs on less than 25% of the total area of the protected area (this supports traditional indigenous and local community harvest, of such things as Brazil nuts and artisanal fishing)

Target 4

Undertake urgent management actions to enable the recovery and conservation of threatened species and the genetic diversity of wild native species populations, including through in situ and ex situ conservation, and effectively manage human-wildlife conflict and coexistence.

- ✓ The underpinning rationale for Target 4 is that while comprehensive delivery of the other targets for threat abatement (Targets 1-3, Targets 5-8) is essential for achieving the goals, it is not sufficient to prevent species extinctions, given some species require targeted species-specific actions to recover. This target should focus on threatened species, given that the recovery of non-threatened species is enabled by actions under the other targets.
- ✓ Target 4 must include three elements: a) implementation of species-specific actions; b) enabling the recovery of threatened wild species and their genetic diversity; and c) inclusion of both in situ and ex situ conservation.
- ✓ Reflecting on several Parties' suggestions in OEWG-3 to clarify the wording of "human-wildlife interactions" by adding the bracketed "[to avoid or reduce human-wildlife conflict]" and/or referring to "coexistence", IUCN suggests wording as follows: **effectively manage human-wildlife conflict and coexistence**. This wording will cover both aspects.
- ✓ IUCN, the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and other Commissions, IUCN Members, in consultation with the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions are developing the [Global Species Action Plan](#) that identifies actions needed for the sustained recovery of native species and their habitats and provides a toolkit of resources to assist governments and other stakeholders in planning, prioritizing and implementing these actions.

Target 5

Ensure that the direct and indirect exploitation, use, and trade of wild species is sustainable, legal, and poses no significant risk of pathogen spillover to humans, wildlife, and other animals, and addresses both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.

- ✓ The purpose of this target is to address overexploitation and trade, including illegal trade.
- ✓ According to the IPBES Global Assessment¹³, overexploitation, mainly via harvesting, logging, hunting and fishing has the second largest negative impact on nature, and fishing has had the most impact on marine biodiversity (target species, non-target species and habitats).
- ✓ Further, many species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species are threatened by overexploitation (including through by-catch) and trade. A recent assessment identified more than 11,702 species which are at risk of extinction as a result of trade.
- ✓ IUCN supports the reference to addressing the demand and supply of illegal wildlife products to establish a clear link to SDG target 15.7.

Target 6

Identify and manage pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species, preventing, or reducing their rate of introduction and establishment to the extent necessary to achieve the goals, and control or eradicate invasive alien species to eliminate or reduce their impacts, focusing on priority invasive alien species and priority sites.

- ✓ Introducing a percentage reduction, either to indicate the rate of introduction or establishment is arbitrary since it does not assert the level needed for the achievement of the goals. Hence, IUCN proposes adding **to the extent necessary to achieve the goals**.
- ✓ 'Priority species' refers to priority invasive alien species, especially those that have harmful impacts upon biodiversity and related ecosystem services and that the identification of 'priority sites' acknowledges the vulnerability and susceptibility of islands and freshwater systems to the impacts from invasive alien species. IUCN has developed tools that can support the identification of priority IAS species and priority sites, such as the [Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa \(EICAT\)](#) to classify invasive species by their impact for supporting prioritisation, supported by the [Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species \(GRIIS\)](#).

¹³ Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. (2019). Summary for policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services (summary for policy makers). IPBES Plenary at its seventh session (IPBES 7, Paris, 2019). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3553579>
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Target 8

Minimize the impact of climate change on biodiversity, contribute to mitigation, adaptation and resilience including through nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches, and ensure that all mitigation and adaptation efforts avoid negative impacts on biodiversity.

- ✓ The recent adoption of the definition of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) by UNEA-5¹⁴, based on the [IUCN definition](#), provides an internationally agreed understanding of this concept and should be accepted in the context of the GBF.
- ✓ Including the term Nature-based Solutions in this target alongside ecosystem-based approaches provides a strong framework of actions that address all dimensions of climate change – mitigation, adaptation, resilience and disaster risk reduction.
- ✓ NbS can be designed for reducing carbon emissions and protecting and restoring ecosystems. Nevertheless, NbS should be combined with phasing out fossil fuels and decarbonizing actions to reach climate goals rather than implemented stand alone. The potential of NbS should not imply any position or guidance regarding carbon markets driven by carbon offsets purposes. NbS for climate adaptation and mitigation can also contribute to improving the status of biodiversity and supporting rights-based approaches. For example, protected areas and OECMs can constitute effective NbS for climate change and biodiversity loss.
- ✓ The [IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions](#) provides an internationally recognized framework to i) standardize NbS approaches, ii) ensure and respond to stakeholders rights, particularly upholding the right of Indigenous Peoples to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), iii) increase the scale and impact of NbS, iv) prevent unanticipated negative outcomes or misuse, and v) help funding agencies, policy makers, and other stakeholders assess the effectiveness of NbS implementation.

Target 10

Manage for sustainability all areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry and other productive uses, ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity and enhancing ecosystem services and the resilience of these production systems.

- ✓ The language needs to be clearer as to the action and what it is trying to achieve, IUCN suggests putting the emphasis on the action – manage for sustainability¹⁵.
- ✓ In the context of productive systems, sustainable management does not always result in positive outcomes for biodiversity. However, according to the IPCC, agroecological principles and practices, ecosystem-based management in fisheries and aquaculture, and other approaches that work with natural processes support food security, nutrition, health and well-being, livelihoods and biodiversity, sustainability and ecosystem services¹⁶. IUCN recommends express reference to these approaches in the language of the target to guide its implementation and achieve sustainable use of biodiversity and the enhancement of ecosystem services.
- ✓ In the absence of an explicit list of specific approaches that give meaning to the term ‘sustainable management’, the target should focus on the outcomes to be achieved by it, at the very least ensuring sustainable use of biodiversity and the enhancement of ecosystem services.
- ✓ IUCN supports including “other productive uses” which would avoid having to make a comprehensive list and would encompass ecosystems such as rangelands that cover vast territories.
- ✓ IUCN suggests the elimination of the word efficiency which does not seem to have a direct connection with biodiversity.
- ✓ IUCN calls for recognition of the contribution of sustainable production systems, including agriculture, to biodiversity conservation and connectivity in the production landscape, and promotes standards and tools that can help guide, achieve and recognize these contributions.

¹⁴ <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/39752/K2200677%20-%20UNEP-EA.5-Res.5%20-%20Advance.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

¹⁵ In the sense of the Convention, sustainable use means “the use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations” (Art 2)

¹⁶ IPCC, 2022: Summary for Policymakers [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, M. Tignor, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Lösschke, V. Möller, A. Okem (eds.)]. In: *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability*. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Lösschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press. In Press.

Target 11

Maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people through nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches.

- ✓ Maintaining and enhancing nature's contributions to people is dependent on maintaining and enhancing the health and integrity of natural and managed ecosystems, which is addressed in other targets, including Targets 1, 2, 3, 8 and 10.
- ✓ IUCN suggests referring to nature's contributions to people established by IPBES, which encompass eighteen ecosystem services¹⁷, to avoid an exhaustive list of ecosystem services.
- ✓ IUCN supports the reference to Nature-based Solutions (NbS) alongside ecosystem-based approaches to operationalize the target. NbS are designed to optimize ecosystem services tailored to the challenges to be addressed depending on the location.

Target 18

Identify and eliminate subsidies and incentives harmful for biodiversity, reducing them by at least US\$ 500 billion per year, and ensure that all incentives, including public and private economic and regulatory incentives, are either positive or neutral for biodiversity, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations.

- ✓ It is important that the target text includes commitment to the identification of harmful incentives. For example, reviewing ODA and other international funding for its impacts on biodiversity (and other SDGs) is currently voluntary. While most ODA (around 85%) is screened for biodiversity¹⁸ indicating whether the activity targets biodiversity, the same is not true for other official flows (OOF), even though the magnitude of OOF is almost as large as that of ODA. Only 14% of OOF has been screened for biodiversity since 2018. A reasonable goal is that all ODA and OOF is screened for biodiversity and commitment is made to ensure that no harmful incentives are generated on biodiversity.
- ✓ IUCN notes that it is important that the language in Target 18 is specific with regards to the timeline and magnitude (at least US\$ 500 billion per year) of harmful subsidies being reduced.

Target 19

Increase financial resources from all sources, including domestic, international, public and private sources to at least USD 200 billion per year, including new, additional and effective financial resources, increasing international financial flows to developing countries by at least USD 60 billion per year, leveraging private finance, and increasing domestic resource mobilization.

- ✓ Currently available estimates point to about 30% of the global biodiversity footprint being embedded in international trade^{19,20}. The amount of financial resources allocated domestically versus internationally should take into consideration and reflect the amount of domestic versus international impacts of economic activities on biodiversity. This suggests that if the total financial resources amount to USD200 billion, considering all sources, then designating about 30% (USD60 billion) rather than 5% (USD 10 billion) of them to support conservation internationally seems more appropriate. While managing biodiversity footprint may be less costly in developing countries than in developed countries, it is unlikely that investing only 5% of financial resources in developing countries (USD 10 billion out of USD200 billion) enables them to meet the targets in the Framework.

Target 22

Ensure women and girls equitable access and benefits from conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as their informed and effective participation at all levels of policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.

¹⁷ Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. (2019). *Op. cit.*

¹⁸ In the context of ODA and other financial flows reported internationally, "to screen for biodiversity" means indicating whether the activity targets biodiversity as a "principal" or "significant" objective. The assessment follows Rio Marker methodology by OECD <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/7e24f189-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/7e24f189-en#:~:text=The%20Rio%20Marker%20Methodology,-Applied%20to%20development&text=The%20Rio%20markers%20provide%20an,finance%20that%20is%20climate%2Dspecific>

¹⁹ Lenzen, M. *et al.* International trade drives biodiversity threats in developing nations. *Nature* **486**, 109-112. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nature11145> (2012)

²⁰ Irwin, Amanda, Arne Geschke, Thomas M. Brooks, Juha Siikamaki, Louise Mair, and Bernardo BN Strassburg. "Quantifying and categorising national extinction-risk footprints." *Scientific reports* **12**, no. 1 (2022): 1-10

- ✓ Gender equality and women's empowerment are essential for the sustainable use of biodiversity, and therefore must be an essential component of the GBF. IUCN supports including an additional Target on Gender in the Post-2020 GBF and supports the wording proposed.
- ✓ A new target focused on gender will ensure the framework simultaneously addresses the urgency and fulfils the need to ensure advancement and coherence of gender considerations throughout the GBF. It will further strengthen the GBF's contributions to global gender equality goals and will contribute to efforts to establish a gender responsive GBF. This will include contributing to efforts aimed at building gender indicators into the monitoring framework and ensuring the implementation of the GBF aligns with the upcoming Gender Plan of Action.
- ✓ An [Information Note](#) published by IUCN and the CBD Secretariat provides guidance on gender indicators.

Sections H to K

IUCN recommends merging sections H, I and J to ensure a coherent approach to all elements that support effective implementation of the framework.

For enhanced transparency, these sections could identify the support mechanisms; the components of the planning, monitoring and review mechanism and the details for the operationalization can be developed in the relevant COP decisions.

- ✓ The following are key mechanisms to ensure effective implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework:
 - Financial mechanism and the resource mobilization strategy
 - Capacity-building and development for effective national action
 - Technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer
 - Clearing-house mechanism, knowledge management and peer-peer learning, exchange and practice
 - Planning, monitoring and review mechanism
 - Programmes of work of the Convention
- ✓ For most of these mechanisms, synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements can be leveraged to support the efficient implementation of the GBF.
- ✓ These mechanisms must be grounded in robust multi-stakeholder engagement, ensuring ownership across actors and enhancing the prospects of implementation.
- ✓ Existing thematic and cross-cutting Programmes of work could translate the GBF into specific topics thereby facilitating its implementation and review, and can inform the update/development of national targets. In this regard, IUCN invites Parties to consider establishing a Programme of Work for species conservation, using the Global Species Action Plan to achieve the species-related goal and targets of the GBF.
- ✓ The planning, monitoring and review mechanism corresponds to the section on responsibility and transparency. It must identify the major building blocks and their linkages between the national and the global levels, namely:
 - national targets as part of, or in addition to, the NBSAPs indicating the contribution to the global targets;
 - national reports linked to the headline indicators, without precluding the use of nationally developed indicators;
 - a periodic global assessment of progress that identifies "ambition gaps" (the national level target is not ambitious enough to achieve the necessary progress), or "implementation gaps" (the national level target has been implemented to an insufficient degree) and informs the revision of national targets; and
 - a requirement to revise and update existing national targets and efforts, to enhance ambition and implementation.
- ✓ The details of the mechanisms can be developed in the relevant COP decisions.

Draft decision

- ✓ IUCN suggests that Parties note the findings of recent reports by the IPCC, in particular the contributions by the Working Groups II and III to the sixth Assessment Report, *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability* and *Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change* that clearly present the linkages between the climate and biodiversity crises, both in terms of impacts and solutions.
- ✓ IUCN recommends replacing the word "notes" for "decides" in operative paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5, to strengthen the decision.