

IUCN's Position Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Convention on Biological Diversity

Fifth meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (OEWG5)

Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15)

3 – 19 December 2022, Montreal, Canada

Key Messages

IUCN urges Parties to increase efforts, be bolder and more ambitious to finalize and adopt the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. We call on Parties to conclude negotiations in a spirit of collaboration and compromise for an ambitious framework that will catalyse the necessary action and change to achieve the vision of *living in harmony with nature*.

To achieve this vision, the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework's mission should inspire action and be clear in its aim to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity to achieve a nature-positive world by 2030.

Furthermore, to realise this, the Global Biodiversity Framework must (not in priority order):

- ✓ Conserve at least 30% globally of terrestrial, inland water and marine and coastal ecosystems, including all key biodiversity areas (KBAs), in effective and equitable, representative and connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), including territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities with their free, prior and informed consent. The Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Standard helps ensure that area-based conservation is delivering outcomes for people and nature.
- ✓ Recognise the contribution of sustainable production systems, including agriculture, to biodiversity conservation and ecological connectivity in production landscapes and seascapes.
- ✓ Include a distinct, ambitious goal for ecosystems for 2050, and targets for the restoration of degraded ecosystems globally and aligned with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. The IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology and the Red List of Ecosystems are credible, widely respected standards to guide action and monitor ecosystems. The Typology provides a comprehensive global classification and indicative maps. The Red List of Ecosystems identifies which ecosystems are threatened.
- ✓ Scale-up species conservation through a distinct, ambitious species goal for 2050, and specific targets to prevent extinctions, reduce extinction risk of wild species and ensure that use is safe – for human and animal health-, legal and sustainable, supported by the Global Species Action Plan and a new programme of work on species conservation.
- ✓ Include a distinct goal for genetic diversity, in support of the third component of biodiversity.
- ✓ Include explicit references to Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in targets 8 and 11; the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions™ provides clear parameters for defining NbS and a common framework to help benchmark progress.
- ✓ Consistently promote gender equality and integrate comprehensive rights-based and gender-responsive approaches, empowerment of women and girls, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, and their full, effective and equal participation in its implementation and review.
- ✓ Increase 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, leveraging private finance and improved domestic resource mobilization.
- ✓ Eliminate, redirect and reduce 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/4/1](#); [CBD/WG2020/5/2](#))

This 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](#) at the fourth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG4) in June 2022. Proposed language (in **bold**) is presented as well as 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 notes with appreciation the work undertaken by the Informal Working Group and encourages Parties to consider the Group's observations and text proposals when continuing the negotiations of the GBF at the fifth meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG5). IUCN encourages the OEWG to work collaboratively and in a spirit of compromise to present a clean text to the Conference of the Parties.

Section B. *bis*

A section containing the principles for the implementation of the entire framework is needed to streamline the wording of the goals and targets, but more importantly, to ensure their applicability throughout. As such, these must also be reported on, alongside the progress in implementing 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 and international human rights law.
 - The implementation of the Framework must equally be carried out with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) including their free, prior, and informed consent, and with full recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, waters, 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 11, 12, 14, 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.

Mission

To take urgent action across society to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to achieve a nature-positive world for the benefit of the 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 of biodiversity loss, and actions needed.

Further, biodiversity outcomes to be achieved by 2030 are best incorporated within the Goals as appropriate, to 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.

- ✓ IUCN proposes disaggregating Goal A into the 3 components of biodiversity, including 2030 outcomes, as follows:
 - ***The loss in area, integrity and connectivity of all natural ecosystems is halted from 2020, restoration is underway by 2030 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 ecological integrity; and c) reducing risk of collapse. Appropriate timelines would be “from now” for halting loss, and “by 2050” for reversing loss, that is, to have gains in area and integrity of all ecosystems.
 - ***Human-induced species extinctions are halted from 2020, the overall risk of species extinctions is reduced by 20% in 2030 and to zero by 2050, and the population abundance of wild native species increases 20% by 2030 and 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 wild 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.
 - ***All genetically distinct populations are maintained, genetically vulnerable populations are identified and ideally secured, and long-term genetic conservation strategies are developed and initiated by 2030, and 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 and adaptive potential 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.
- ✓ Regarding Goal D, IUCN supports starting with the Option 1 formulated by the Informal Group and further formulating it as follows:
 - ***Adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building, scientific cooperation and access to appropriate environmentally sound technology to fully implement the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework are secured from all sources and equitably accessible to all Parties, particularly developing countries and small island developing States, with public and private financial flows aligned with the 2050 Vision in order to close the biodiversity finance gap of 700 billion USD per year.***

Target 1

Place all terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems under integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning or other effective management processes addressing land and sea use change, retaining and enhancing the ecological integrity and connectivity of existing

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
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highly 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, loss of ecological integrity 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 highly 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

Bring to restoration at least 2 billion hectares of degraded inland water, marine and terrestrial ecosystems, enhancing ecological integrity and connectivity in and within ecosystems, focusing on priority ecosystems.

- ✓ IUCN recommends keeping the target short and focused on the area-based target and fundamental components of implementation. Although additional text proposals were made during OEWG4 to address important aspects of implementation such as i) more specific ecosystems, ii) types of ecosystem restoration actions and iii) the environmental and social considerations of ecosystem restoration towards climate change, indigenous peoples and local communities, these aspects can be drawn from the implementation itself and from further guidance. In this regard, IUCN invites Parties to consider the following elements:
- ✓ **An ambitious area-based target, set up at “at least 2 billion hectares”.** Science-based estimations of restoration potential comprise:
 - Restoration of at least 350-400 Mha of transformed to natural ecosystems over the period 2021-2030 is needed to achieve net gains of 5% in the global area of natural terrestrial ecosystems by 2030 (in addition to actions to reduce rates of loss of natural ecosystems)⁶.
 - The potential of restoration opportunities is estimated at 1.6 billion ha of cropland and 2.2 billion ha of grazing land for the period 2020 – 2050⁷. 30% of this potential, roughly 1/3 of the time period under estimation, equates to 1.14 billion ha.
 - A recent preliminary estimate informs that a global river restoration target set at 30% of restoration needs is estimated at least 300,000 kilometres⁸. If we would consider the extension of oceans potential to be restored millions of hectares would be added. Crucially, restoration of oceans and inland water ecosystems have not been accounted for in estimates above.
- ✓ **The area-based target should be represented in hectares rather than a percentage.** This will allow countries to aggregate their progress to a global number and avoid the challenge of defining ‘degraded ecosystems’ as a condition to calculate a percentage to restore. Each country will have the responsibility to establish their restoration targets following science-based definitions of degradation and restoration (such as the ones from the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration), relying on best knowledge, focusing on priority ecosystems and reporting their activities in hectares (or km for rivers).
- ✓ **Alignment with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.** Target 2 needs to encompass **all ecosystem restoration activities**, namely⁹: i) restoration of transformed and degraded ecosystems back to a natural state (ecological restoration); ii) restoration of transformed ecosystems focusing on rehabilitating their ecosystem

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

⁶ https://geobon.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Ecosystem_brief.pdf

⁷ With measures including conservation agriculture, agroforestry on cropland and grazing land, grazing management, grassland improvement, forest plantations on degraded land, assisted natural regeneration, and cross-slope barriers (measures known as rehabilitation, also part of ecosystem restoration). 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 https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/cbd_framework_proposal_for_target_2_ecosystem_restoration_for_rivers_low_res_.pdf

⁹ Gann, G. D., McDonald, T., Walder, B., Aronson, J., Nelson, C. R., Jonson, J., Hallett, J., Eisenberg, C., Guariguata, M., Liu, J. Hua, F., Echeverria, C., ... & Dixon, K. W. (2019). International principles and standards for the practice of ecological restoration. *Restoration Ecology*. 27 (S1): S1-S46., 27(S1), S1-S46

functions and services (rehabilitation); and iii) restoration of areas aiming to reduce societal impacts, contaminants and other threats (remediation). 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 2 should **emphasize the importance of restoring priority ecosystems** and in that regard, we suggest countries to agree on a guiding definition. 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.
- ✓ The outcome of restoration is to enhance integrity and connectivity in and within ecosystems. This will guide ecosystem restoration implementation to avoiding risks of negative impacts to biodiversity and communities as ecosystem integrity refers to the completeness and functionality of an ecosystem and its ecological processes, particularly in relation to its natural state¹¹.

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 equitably governed and effectively managed protected areas, other effective area-based conservation measures, including dedicated traditional lands and territories, while preventing involuntary resettlement, and recognizing the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including over their lands, territories and resources with their free, prior and informed consent, and acting in accordance with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and international human rights norms.

- ✓ 'Conserve' is the main verb.
- ✓ **Conservation of a minimum of 30%** of each of terrestrial, inland waters, and marine and coastal areas is scientifically well-supported, and should include all areas of importance for biodiversity and all key biodiversity areas (KBAs) as identified using the internationally agreed KBA Standard¹². It is essential to include the term "areas of importance for biodiversity, including all key biodiversity areas" as a bottom line. IUCN also notes the synergies between high carbon and high biodiversity places as areas of importance.
- ✓ **Retain language that strengthens recognition of IPLC rights.** It is essential that, in the body of Target 3, Parties include text on the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities. Parties should 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* however the expansion of protected and conserved areas (PCAs) foreseen in this Target requires, in IUCN's view, that specific reference to the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and the need for free, prior and informed consent, is explicitly included in this target, enabling these elements to be effectively monitored and built into reporting under the overall Global Biodiversity Framework.
- ✓ **The emphasis of the target should be on the quality of conservation.** The world needs to conserve biodiversity through effective and equitable systems of protected areas, other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), and dedicated traditional lands and territories, that are equitably governed and effectively managed and achieve their conservation and social outcomes:
 - In line with CBD Decision 13/2, Parties are invited to apply the [IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas Standard](#) to help ensure that area-based conservation is delivering outcomes for people and nature. 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
 - '...other effective area-based conservation measures' OECMs, as defined by CBD Decision 14/8, are dedicated to particular kinds of use that have a positive effect on nature that achieves equivalent outcomes

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

¹¹ <https://www.cbd.int/api/v2013/documents/EF052A4A-8751-AB04-8208-F2CBDA387E24/attachments/212351/WCS-2.pdf>

¹² <https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/about-kbas/applications/international-conventions>

to effective protected areas. For example, a military zone may secure important natural values, while still being dedicated to the primary purpose.

- Traditional lands and territories, including areas of Indigenous peoples and local communities have long-established patterns of low-level use and conservation management practices that effectively conserve biodiversity in the long term. Such areas may be dedicated by their customary owners and custodians to contribute to Target 3, with their free, prior and informed consent.
- ✓ **Sustainable use areas should be addressed in other targets**, specifically targets 5 and 10. There are important areas within the production landscape and seascape that may effectively conserve biodiversity and could qualify to be recognised as effective conservation measures. Target 3 should specifically refer to protected and OECMs as defined by the CBD, and include traditional lands and territories freely dedicated to conservation, rather than sustainable use areas, managed to optimize harvest (including rotation forestry, sustained yield fisheries and crop agriculture). IUCN supports efforts to work with managers of production systems to identify and recognise the important conservation values of these sites.

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 endangerment and extinctions, given **some species require targeted species-specific actions to recover**, including genetic management or genetic rescue, population supplementation, breeding programs, etc.¹³. 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 wild 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, while safeguarding customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.

- ✓ The purpose of this target is to address overexploitation and trade - domestic and international -, including illegal trade.
- ✓ An explicit reference to preventing pathogen spillover is needed, whether as framed in IUCN's suggested wording above, or by the term "safe", which is currently missing in the streamlined text proposed by the Informal Working Group.

¹³ <https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/fee.2537>

- ✓ According to the IPBES Global Assessment¹⁴ and IPBES Sustainable Use Assessment¹⁵, overexploitation, mainly via harvesting, logging, hunting and fishing has the second largest negative impact on nature, and fishing has had the most negative 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.

- ✓ IUCN supports the observations of the Informal Group on the Post-2020 GBF on the invasive alien species (IAS) target in that it needs to contain clear actions followed by outcomes.
- ✓ IUCN cautions against a distinction between ‘priority’ IAS and ‘other known IAS’ as suggested in the streamlined text by the Informal Working Group as it is confusing and risks diverting resources away from essential action. ‘Priority invasive alien species’ refers to IAS that have harmful impacts upon biodiversity and related ecosystem services. **Target 6 should focus on, and refer to priority IAS** as it would allow countries to prioritise IAS at a national level, and optimally allocate limited resources and efforts on reducing the introductions of targeted priority IAS.
- ✓ IUCN also notes that ‘eradicate, reduce, or control IAS’ is not an outcome of preventing introduction and establishment of priority (and other) IAS, as it currently reads in the streamlined text by the Informal Working Group. The management of established IAS needs to be a separate action in its own right as they deal with a different element of IAS. The prevention of introductions and establishment of IAS addresses impacts from future IAS (i.e. future impacts) and is achieved through pathway management, biosecurity and early detection and rapid response measures. Eradicating, controlling, or containing IAS populations addresses impacts from currently established IAS (i.e. current and future impacts), and in order to effectively reduce these impacts to native biodiversity in line with the frameworks goals these measures need to be undertaken in priority sites that are both susceptible and vulnerable to the impacts from IAS. Therefore, **IUCN strongly encourage retaining the reference to priority sites in the target text.**
- ✓ ‘Priority sites’ acknowledges the vulnerability and susceptibility of islands and freshwater systems to the impacts from invasive alien species.
- ✓ 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.**
- ✓ 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 \(GRIIS\)](#).

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.

¹⁴ 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>

¹⁵ IPBES (2022): Thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. J.-M. Fromentin, M.R. Emery, J. Donaldson, M.-C. Danner, A. Hallosserie, D. Kieling (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. XX pages. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6448567>
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- ✓ The recent adoption of the definition of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) by UNEA-5¹⁶, 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 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.
- ✓ 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 9

Ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable, thereby providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, safeguarding and protecting the livelihoods and food security of, and customary sustainable use by, indigenous peoples and local communities.

- ✓ IUCN has recognized the links between sustainable use, human livelihoods, poverty, and equity, as well as the reciprocal relationship between wildlife conservation and wildlife benefiting people, especially those who live in closest proximity to it, and the importance of incentivized conservation to long-term biodiversity conservation efforts.
- ✓ For this target, Parties should consider the findings of the IPBES Sustainable Use Assessment¹⁷, namely:
 - use of wild species contributes directly to the well-being, resources and income of billions of people globally, e.g., in some countries, wild foods contribute to food and nutrition security for one third to 100% of the nation's population or select populations within it;
 - reliance on wild species is highest in developing countries;
 - the use of wild species is particularly important to people in vulnerable situations (often encompassing IPLCs), and their needs should be prioritized in decision-making;
 - unsustainable use of wild species contributes to accelerating biodiversity loss; and
 - sustainable use of wild species is an avenue for realizing conservation and development goals.
 - Contribution of Sustainable Use to SDGs is substantial but overlooked.

Target 10

Sustainably manage 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 –sustainably manage¹⁸.
- ✓ 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

¹⁶ <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/39752/K2200677%20-%20UNEP-EA.5-Res.5%20-%20Advance.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

¹⁷ IPBES (2022): Thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. J.-M. Fromentin, M.R. Emery, J. Donaldson, M.-C. Danner, A. Hallosserie, D. Kieling (eds.). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. XX pages. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6448567>

¹⁸ 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)

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 services¹⁹. 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.

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 services²⁰, 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 14

Ensure the integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, national accounts, and strategic environmental and environmental impact assessments within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, finance, tourism, health, manufacturing, infrastructure, energy and mining, and deep-sea mining with safeguards, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.

- ✓ The Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 showed that none of the Aichi targets on "mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society" have been achieved: IUCN suggests targets 14 and 15 are cornerstones for achieving transformative changes.
- ✓ IUCN supports the suggestion from the Informal Group to include a reference to "national" to clarify that "accounts" is a reference to "national accounts".
- ✓ IUCN supports the fact that some specific sectors are mentioned.

Target 15

Take legal, administrative or policy measures to ensure that all business and financial institutions, particularly those with significant impacts on biodiversity, regularly monitor, assess, and fully and transparently disclose their dependencies and impacts on biodiversity along their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios, in order to significantly reduce negative impacts on

¹⁹ 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. Löschke, 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. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press. In Press.

²⁰ Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. (2019). *Op. cit.*
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biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other international obligations,

- ✓ The target text should refer to corporate assessment, target-setting, delivery and reporting of contributions to the Global Biodiversity Framework using a Nature-Positive approach.

Target 18

Identify, eliminate, or reform incentives including subsidies harmful for biodiversity, in a just, effective and equitable way, while progressively reducing them by 2030 by at least 500 billion USD per year, starting with the most harmful subsidies, and, as appropriate, redirect and repurpose them to domestic and international nature-positive activities, consistent and in harmony with relevant international obligations.

- ✓ IUCN generally supports the streamlined text suggested by the Informal Group; however, it could be further streamlined as noted above.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ IUCN notes that there are considerable social, economic and political challenges associated with the reform of incentives, so proceeding in a progressive fashion is needed.

Target 19

Increase financial resources from all sources to at least 200 billion USD per year, including new, additional, effective, and timely resources, leveraging private finance, increasing domestic resource mobilization, as well as increase international financial flows to developing countries by at least 60 billion USD per year, aligning these flows with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and towards nature-positive economies.

- ✓ The current formulation of Target 19, coming from OEWG4 and the Informal Group is unnecessarily complex and unwieldy, effectively including multiple targets spelled out in one. We suggest removing sub-items and much of the text that was added in brackets in OEWG4 to move toward a single-target formulation as proposed above.
- ✓ This target is crucial for the successful implementation of the GBF, thus, we recommend its succinct formulation by focusing on two of the key items: overall funding and the amount of international funding to developing countries.
- ✓ Target 18 addresses harmful subsidies so including them also in Target 19 is duplicative and not necessary. We suggest deleting text related to harmful subsidies here.
- ✓ IUCN notes that the magnitude of the overall financial gap is already noted in Goal D, therefore it is not necessary to include it again in Target 19.
- ✓ IUCN also notes that the establishment of a new international funding instrument is time-consuming and is not a guarantee to yield improvements over the existing mechanisms. Especially in the near term, working within current financial instruments and financial flows is preferable, including to increase them and to align all financial flows with the global biodiversity framework, making them nature-positive.
- ✓ Through engagement with partners and private sector pioneers in the development and implementation of a Nature-Positive approach, momentum is building for innovative schemes to increase direct investment in nature, at national scale and globally, which will also support the development of enabling policy instruments for reporting and disclosure of biodiversity impact risks by business (linking to Target 15).
- ✓ 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. Currently available estimates point to about 30% of the global biodiversity footprint being embedded in international trade^{21,22}. 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

²¹ Lenzen, M. *et al.* International trade drives biodiversity threats in developing nations. *Nature* **486**, 109-112. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nature11145> (2012)

²² 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

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

Secure gender equality in the implementation of the framework by ensuring that women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention including by recognizing equal rights and access to land and natural resources of women and girls and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.

- ✓ 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, J and K to ensure a coherent approach to all elements that support effective implementation of the framework.

- ✓ 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.

For enhanced transparency, these sections could identify the support mechanisms, the components of the planning, monitoring and review mechanism and the details for their 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 that regard, IUCN encourages updating the Programmes of Work to align them with the GBF, and the establishment of a new Programme of Work for species conservation, using the Global Species Action Plan to achieve the species-related goal and targets of the GBF..
- ✓ The section on responsibility and transparency 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. IUCN supports paragraph 38 *alt.* and concurs with the observations and analysis of the Informal Working Group regarding section J.

Draft decision

- ✓ IUCN suggests addressing the decision once there is more clarity with respect to the abovementioned sections of the framework and other related decisions, such as the decision on the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review, and the decision on the strategy for resource mobilization.
- ✓ Similar to its predecessor the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is designed to further implement the Convention. In this regard, elements that recall articles of the Convention, would better be placed in the preamble of the decision as it provides a rationale / justification for the decision in the operative part (operative paragraphs 3, 13, 15 *alt.* 3).
- ✓ The draft decision is meant to operationalize the post-2020 framework; therefore, its operative part should contain the clauses that would put it into practice – its adoption, its use, duration, and references to other decisions that support its implementation.
- ✓ In this regard, IUCN calls on Parties to consider including in paragraph 10, a reference to the decision related to nature and culture, as it is now a separate decision from that on Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations. Further, IUCN encourages the addition of a paragraph in the draft decision establishing a new Programme of Work on Species Conservation and updating all other Programmes of Work to support the implementation of the post-2020 GBF.
- ✓ Finally, IUCN suggests including a reference to the IPCC sixth assessment report, the IPBES Sustainable Use Assessment, as well as the recent UN General Assembly Resolution A/76/300 recognizing the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment in the preamble, and extending an invitation to relevant international organizations to facilitate activities to support the implementation of the Convention and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.