

Linking action agendas to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Referring to Notification [2019-108](#) and heeding [CBD/SBSTTA/23/INF/4](#) of 6 November 2019, we make recommendations for linking biodiversity and climate action agendas, in harmony with Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. The Sharm El Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People presents an opportunity for building these linkages as part of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The following recommendations are for consideration in Section D, *Additional considerations for identifying indicators for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework* of CBD/SBSTTA/23/INF/4 6 November 2019.

Strong governance mechanisms will be crucial for a new relationship between nature and people compatible with Global Climate Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda 2030.

Biodiversity loss and climate change present a double challenge to the world, with compounding effects accelerating tipping points. Degradation of ecosystems weakens adaptive capacity to climate impacts and compromises human health and well-being, through multiple threats, for instance to food security and clean water. Moreover, feedback loops pose a serious threat to the prospects of sustainable development. According to [Global Sustainable Development Report](#) published in 2019, biodiversity loss and climate change impair the prospects of sustainable development across multiple indicators, including eradicating poverty, hunger and malnutrition, as well as improved human health, terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystem health, and more.

There is enormous transformative potential through collaborative actions by governments, and a wide range of stakeholders, such as cities and regions, businesses and investors, civil society organizations, labour unions, universities, and other local and regional actors.

This potential is recognized and supported across multiple platforms. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) established the Sharm El Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People to boost actions by non-Party actors in the lead up to COP15 in Kunming, and to support the strategic plan for biodiversity and its Aichi Targets. As part of CBD's vision of Living in Harmony with Nature by 2050, the Action Agenda's goals include, among other things, nature-based solutions to address global challenges. By creating a hub for data tracking, transparency and credibility, and mapping of actions, the online portal of the Action Agenda for Nature and People presents an opportunity to strengthen the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, in multiple ways:

- A post-2020 Action Agenda for Nature and People should demonstrate the growing number of actions and commitments by a multiplicity of actors with a wide geographic participation.
- By making solutions visible to both Parties and non-Parties, opportunities arise to scale up demonstrated approaches. Solutions and cooperation can be further catalyzed

through regular and thematic interfaces between policy makers, researchers, and stakeholder groups, as well as to consider opportunities to strengthen existing initiatives and to broker new ones in underserved areas.

- Non-party action can contribute to accelerated achievement of biodiversity goals; allowing governments to ramp up ambitions.
- Through tracking progress, possibly in partnership with analytical partners, a post-2020 action agenda can demonstrate that commitments are followed by credible action.

For accelerating achievement of these targets, we recommend adopting nature-based solutions as a *cross-cutting action agenda indicator* to be harmonized across the Sharm El Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People, Global Climate Action, and Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. A cross-cutting indicator will enable sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices. It can contribute to strengthening the successors to Aichi Target 10 for reducing anthropogenic pressures on vulnerable ocean ecosystems impacted by climate change, Aichi Target 14 for supporting ecosystems' services for water, health, livelihoods and well-being, and Aichi Target 15 for supporting resilience of ecosystems contributing to carbon stocks and thereby climate change mitigation. It will strengthen links in particular with SDG 2 zero hunger, SDG 3 health and well-being, SDG 13 climate action, SDG 14 life below water, SDG 15 life on land, and the other SDGs of Agenda 2030.

In the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, stronger interlinkages are needed to maximize synergies across action agendas, while reducing trade offs. Combining efforts through an interlinked nature-based solutions action agenda indicator, will confer tangible benefits to governments, as well as non-Party and local actors. It will open opportunities to share knowledge and draw on lessons learned across platforms shedding light on where actions need to be improved, where support is needed to address knowledge and data gaps, and for strengthening enabling environments. These opportunities can contribute to building mutually beneficial synergies and positive feedback loops across action agendas.

Post-2020 global biodiversity framework recommendations

Strengthening synergies across action agendas: Stronger linkages present opportunities to catalyze positive feedback loops for transformative actions, and will be crucial to bolster a new relationship between Nature and People. A cross-cutting nature-based solutions action agenda indicator is needed across climate biodiversity agendas, with links to Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Tracking actions' output performance: Promoting transparency through tracking is a crucial component of action agendas. Data collection should go beyond tracking pledges, and track effectiveness based on the production of outputs. Moreover, tracking actions need to be compatible with the tracking in CGA, and SGDs along comparable criteria. Compatible tracking methodologies can promote efficient comparative analyses across action agendas, with mutual benefits both for biodiversity and climate change. It will also help enable mutual support through sharing knowledge and experience, supporting efficient comparison of data and knowledge gaps.

Enabling local actions and addressing geographic imbalances: Initiatives by local and non-Party stakeholders can help strengthen regional biodiversity actions by a multiplicity of actors, e.g., Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America. An Agenda for Nature and People should help catalyze and strengthen actions in these regions.

Supporting actions with high ambition for adaptation and resilience against the impacts of biodiversity loss and climate change and threats to sustainable development: Strengthening adaptation actions that have both biodiversity and climate co-benefits is essential to supporting adaptive capacities that transcend local benefits. Unlocking the adaptive and resilience capacities through nature-based solutions can promote large scale, earth systems adaptiveness to impacts on human health and well-being, food security, terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems health.

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