

CBD CoP15 position paper on the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

29 November 2022

Headline Messages

The one-minute summary

We want to see a nature positive mission, underpinned by ambitious and measurable goals and targets that are science-based, rights-based and implemented through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach

The non-negotiable elements

We call upon the parties of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity to adopt an ambitious and science led Post Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF or “the framework”) that enables transformative action on the protection, restoration, and management of biodiversity. The framework should include:

- A clear, concise, **nature positive mission by 2030**, emphasizing the need to “halt and reverse biodiversity loss” by 2030 with “benefit to people and planet”.
- **Ambitious and quantified goals and targets**, led by science and with clear expectations of outcomes, especially for species and 30x30, that collectively achieve the mission and are integrated into national government policy.
- Respect and recognition for **the rights, roles, and contributions of** Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs)
- A **whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach** with commitment to action and cooperation by all levels of government and by all actors of society underpinned by a strong and active Action Agenda
- **The mobilization of sufficient resources** to enable effective implementation of the framework
- Adoption of **evidence-based credible indicators** for adequate monitoring of progress within the framework.

<i>Element</i>	<i>What's needed</i>	<i>Supporting documentation / justification</i>
<i>Mission</i>	Explicit reference to "Nature Positive" or, more directly, the need to "halt and reverse biodiversity loss" with a timeline of 2030, and emphasizing "benefit to people and planet"	https://www.naturepositive.org <i>Mace et al. 2018</i> ¹ ; <i>Leclere et al. 2020</i> ²
<i>Goal A</i>	For species, explicit reference to three key components with measurable dates for progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • halt human-induced extinctions from now; • 20% reduction in extinction risk by 2030 and eliminated by 2050; • 20% increase in abundance of wild native species by 2030, and return to viability by 2050 	<i>Annex 1; Annex 2</i>
<i>Targets 1-3</i>	Explicit inclusion of "inland water" systems in area-based conservation targets	<i>Annex 3</i>
<i>Target 3</i>	Explicit reference to 30 x 30, provided this clearly applies to all systems and relates to both PAs (protected) and OECMs (conserved areas), and emphasizes outcomes (esp for biodiversity) and equitability	https://naturebeyond2020.com/ <i>Dudley & Stolton 2022</i> ³ https://www.cbd.int/side-events/
<i>Target 4</i>	An explicit focus on the call for targeted species-based interventions to support recovery of highly threatened species. Retain mention of both "in situ" and "ex situ" Emphasis on "wild" species	<i>Annex 1; Annex 2</i> <i>Bolam et al. 2022</i> ⁴
<i>Target 5, 9</i>	Recognition and support for the importance of legal and sustainable use, both as a means for achieving conservation aims while simultaneously providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people. Must also address demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.	
<i>I. Enabling conditions</i>	Must recognize and incorporate a whole-of-government/whole-of-society	

¹ <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-018-0130-0>

² <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-020-2705-y>

³ https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/TNC_UKDEFRA_30x30_BestPractices_Report.pdf

⁴ <https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/fee.2537>

	<p>approach as success requires political will and recognition at all levels and departments of governments, and relies on action and cooperation by all levels of government and by all actors of society</p>	
<i>J. Responsibility and transparency</i>	<p>Integration of targets into NBSAPs as primary mechanism for implementation by COP16</p> <p>A Biodiversity Action Agenda that mobilizes voluntary actions from wider civil society, including businesses, investors, and local communities</p>	Chan <i>et al.</i> 2022 ⁵
<i>The monitoring framework</i>	<p>Adoption of the preliminary monitoring framework alongside the GBF.</p> <p>The Living Planet Index is adopted as a Headline Indicator for Goal A</p> <p>The Red List Index is adopted as a Headline indicator for Goal A</p> <p>The Green Status of Species Index adopted as a Headline Indicator for Target 4</p> <p>IPBES Phylogenetic Diversity indicator as a headline indicator for Goal B</p>	<p><i>Annex 4</i></p> <p><i>Annex 5</i></p> <p><i>Annex 6</i></p> <p><i>Annex 7</i></p>
<i>Cross Cutting topics throughout the framework</i>	<p>Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC)</p> <p>The framework must embrace a rights-based approach, respecting the rights roles and vital contributions IPLC's. Recognition of the key stewardship role played by IPLC's and the ecosystems they inhabit and protect, alongside the need for direct funding of IPLC led initiatives.</p>	

⁵ <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41559-022-01953-2>

What is the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)?

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), with 196 Parties, is the international legal instrument for "the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources". The CBD provides an overarching framework for all biodiversity-related conventions.

What is ZSL's engagement with the CBD?

ZSL's has a long history of engagement in the CBD. Our primary focus has been on supporting national-level implementation and in providing key datasets and indicators (in particular, the Living Planet Index and the Red List Index) to support implementation and monitoring of the ambitions reflected in the CBD strategic plans.

What is happening at COP15?

The main item of discussion at this CoP is agreement of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The GBF is the successor to the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and Aichi targets. It will provide a globally agreed plan of action on biodiversity for the coming decade, and a touchpoint for holding governments and other actors to account. It will be accompanied by detailed discussions around, among others: a monitoring framework comprising various adopted indicators to monitor progress towards delivery; the mobilization of sufficient resources to implement the framework targets; and discourse over access to digital sequence information and genetic resources.

Why is the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework needed?

Although some progress has been made by nation-states in supporting biodiversity initiatives, targets and policies, the task of reaching the 2010 Aichi targets has broadly been a failure with none of the targets being fully met. Alongside this, the Living Planet Index clearly shows that global wildlife populations have dropped by 69% on average since 1970. As such, there is a vital need for a global agreement on the halting and reversing of biodiversity loss. The framework is an opportunity to rethink the global approach to the halting and reversing of biodiversity loss, through the scaling up of ambition and action as we move further into the United Nations decade on ecosystem restoration.

Annexes

- [Annex 1. Species Elements of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework](#)
- [Annex 2. Species conservation in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework: Science brief](#)
- [Annex 3. Support and a Pathway for Inland Water Ecosystems in the '30 by 30' Target, Monitoring Framework and Implementation](#)
- [Annex 4. Essential elements of a monitoring framework of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to be adopted at COP15](#)
- [Annex 5. Population Abundance: An essential measure of ecosystem integrity. Technical Briefing for CBD negotiators](#)
- [Annex 6. Measuring the Recovery of Species: Using the IUCN Green Status of Species index to track progress towards Target 4 and Goal A](#)
- [Annex 7. The tree of life: Conserving our evolutionary heritage to ensure benefits for future generations](#)