



**Indigenous Peoples
Rights International**

Championing Indigenous Peoples Rights

TRAINING MANUAL

**Integrating Indigenous Peoples' rights
and perspectives in the implementation
of the Kunming-Montreal
Global Biodiversity Framework**





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OCTOBER 2024





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INTRODUCTION

The Indigenous Peoples Rights International (IPRI) is engaging with its partners at the national level to “Enhance Indigenous Peoples’ Participation in Implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework at the National Level”. It aims to empower Indigenous Peoples to actively participate in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) by enhancing their knowledge, advocacy skills, and collaboration with relevant stakeholders. IPRI underscores the critical role of Indigenous Peoples in safeguarding biodiversity and aims to enhance the integration of their rights and perspectives into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and other measures and processes to implement the GBF.

This training manual aims to provide information that can strengthen the voice and engagement of Indigenous Peoples in national GBF implementation and thereby enhance the recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples’ rights and contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

METHODOLOGY



METHODOLOGY

This manual is structured into four modules:

MODULE 1 focuses on the concept of biodiversity, the current threats against biodiversity and the role of Indigenous Peoples in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

MODULE 2 focuses on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other important steppingstones towards the adoption of the GBF.

MODULE 3 provides an overview of the GBF and its vision, goals and targets.

MODULE 4 analyses the implementation and support mechanisms that underpin the GBF, including planning, monitoring and finance.

The modules can be used in flexible manner, either for a full course on the GBF or as background material for discussion of specific components of the GBF.

Each module has an **introductory text** with numerous references to additional sources of information, as well as a set of **key questions** for reflection and discussion. The introductory text can either be read as self-study or presented by a facilitator to a group of participants in a training course. Similarly, the key questions can be used to facilitate a discussion with a group of participants or simply used to trigger reflection by the individual reader. After the key question, there is a suggested **reporting format** for key questions, which can be used to systematically gather responses from the group or the individual reader.

Finally, at the end, the section on **developing a strategy for engagement** indicates how the input gathered through the 4 modules can be used to develop a comprehensive and longer-term strategy for awareness, capacity-building, advocacy and engagement.

BIODIVERSITY



· MODULE 1 · BIODIVERSITY

Biological diversity – or biodiversity – is the variety of life on Earth and its myriad patterns. It includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. In short, it is the web of life of individuals and of species that we as human beings are an integral part of and that we fully depend on¹.

Biodiversity supports all systems of life on Earth, and all human beings depend on biodiversity for food, medicine, energy, clean air and water, and security from natural disasters². Significantly, most Indigenous Peoples have close relationships with and direct dependency on the ecosystems they inhabit. And in particular, they hold distinct spiritual relationships with the lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources that they traditionally own or otherwise occupy and use³. Consequently, Indigenous Peoples possess traditional knowledge and practices for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, which make them indispensable partners in all efforts pertaining to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Biodiversity has developed over billions of years, in constant interaction with air, water and soil but is currently under threat, mainly due to the environmental impacts of modern human societies. **The deterioration of biodiversity is now happening at a speed that is unprecedented in human history⁴:**

.....
Biodiversity includes:

Ecosystems
such as forests, deserts, seas and mountains.

Species
such as plants, animals, insects, microorganisms.

Genetic variations within species,
such as crops that are particularly resistant to draughts, or animals adapted to a mountainous region.

.....

25%
of animal and plant groups are threatened with extinction, many within the next decades.

Ecosystems such as forests, wetlands and coral reefs are disappearing at an alarming rate.

The diversity of crops and domesticated animals is shrinking as commercial agriculture favors few varieties.

Global climate change, ozone depletion, pollution and waste further accelerate the loss of biodiversity.

¹ See more at: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2000: Sustaining Life on Earth [here](#)

² See the GBF para. 1.

³ See the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), article 25.

⁴ See Section A of the GBF, available [here](#), CBD Sustaining Life on Earth [here](#), and the GBO 5 [here](#).

The key drivers of biodiversity loss are land and sea use change, overexploitation, climate change, pollution, and invasive alien species, driven by unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, population growth and technological development.

Since 2001, the **Global Biodiversity Outlook** (GBO) has periodically assessed the status of global biodiversity and analysed the steps taken globally to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity. The Global Biodiversity Outlook 5⁵ was released in 2020 and emphasised that humanity stands at a crossroads: so far, action to reach global biodiversity targets has been insufficient, and without transformative change, biodiversity will continue to decline. The report highlights that while this will affect humanity as such,

.....
“it will have a have a particularly detrimental effect on indigenous peoples and local communities, and the world’s poor and vulnerable, given their reliance on biodiversity for their wellbeing”⁶.
.....

While Indigenous Peoples are particularly and directly affected by the loss of biodiversity, they also hold the key to the conservation and sustainable use of much of the world’s biodiversity.

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) performs regular assessments on biodiversity and ecosystem services and their interlinkages, which include comprehensive thematic, global and regional assessments.

The 2019 IPBES Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services concludes that “nature is declining globally at unprecedented rates and constitutes a direct threat to human well-being in all regions of the world”⁷. It further concludes that “[t]hree-quarters of the land-based environment and about 66% of the marine environment have been significantly altered by human actions. On average these trends have been less severe or avoided in areas held or managed by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities”⁸.

With regards to the role of Indigenous Peoples in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, IPBES emphasizes that:

.....
“At least a quarter of the global land area is traditionally owned, managed, used or occupied by indigenous peoples. These areas include approximately 35 per cent of the area that is formally protected and approximately 35 per cent of all remaining terrestrial areas with very low intervention”.
.....

⁵ The Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO) is published by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with guidance from the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA). See GBO-5 from 2020 [here](#).

⁶ GBO-5, page 12.

⁷ See IPBES 2019: Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services, available [here](#).

⁸ See more [here](#).

KEY QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTIONS AND DISCUSSION

<p>What are the ecosystems, species and variations of individual species that are of particular importance for the Indigenous Peoples and communities in your area?</p>	<p>Are these ecosystems, species and variations of individual species thriving or deteriorating?</p>	<p>If some of these ecosystems, species and variations of individual species are deteriorating, what are the drivers of change that affect them?</p>	<p>What are the consequences of the deterioration of these ecosystems, species and variations of individual species for the Indigenous Peoples and communities in your area?</p>	<p>What is the role of Indigenous Peoples in your area in conserving and sustainably managing these ecosystems, species and species variations?</p>
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REPORTING FORMAT FOR KEY QUESTIONS

Most important ecosystems, species and species variations for Indigenous Peoples	Are these ecosystems, species and species variations thriving or threatened?	Drivers of change that affect these ecosystems, species and species variations	Consequences for Indigenous Peoples of the deterioration of these ecosystems, species and species variations	Role of Indigenous Peoples in conserving and sustainably managing ecosystems, species and species variations
▪	▪	▪ ...	▪	▪ ...
▪	▪	▪ ...	▪ ...	▪ ...

CONVENTIONAL ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



· MODULE 2 ·

THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) was adopted in 2022, but it builds on and relates to instruments, processes and platforms that have a much longer history and which address other aspects of sustainable development. When engaging with the GBF, it is therefore useful to have a general understanding of this broader context.

Key instruments and processes that have shaped the Global Biodiversity Framework.

In 1992, the ground-breaking UN Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the “**Earth Summit**”, took place in Brazil.

The Earth Summit adopted several instruments that together constitute a global framework for sustainable development. These include Agenda 21, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change as well as the Convention on Biological Diversity, among others.

According to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the 1992 Earth Summit “*represented a turning point in the promotion of indigenous peoples’ rights relating to the environment. A number of legal instruments adopted at the Earth Summit, (...) established international legal standards to protect indigenous peoples’ rights to their traditional knowledge and practices in the area of environmental management and conservation. Most importantly, there now exists an international legal framework which recognises the unique relationship indigenous peoples have with their traditional lands*”⁹.

From the outset, **Agenda 21** recognised indigenous peoples’ historical relationship with their lands as well as their holistic traditional scientific knowledge of their lands, natural resources and environment, and states

⁹ [OHCHR leaflet no.10 on indigenous peoples and the environment.](#)

that national and international efforts to implement environmentally sound and sustainable development should recognize, accommodate, promote and strengthen the role of indigenous peoples. Indigenous Peoples are considered one of the “**Major Groups**”, whose engagement and participation are critical to all processes relating to sustainable development, including those on biological diversity¹⁰. Consequently, Indigenous Peoples have organised in caucuses that follow the main processes related to sustainable development, including those under the CBD.

The **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** was one of the instruments adopted in 1992 at the Earth Summit. The CBD has three main objectives: the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of the components of biological diversity; and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, which are closely linked to the everyday lives of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their traditional knowledge. In particular, Article 8(j) of the CBD aims to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

The GBF was adopted within the CBD umbrella and the overall purpose of the GBF is the full implementation of the three objectives of the Convention in a balanced manner¹¹.

Core objectives of the instruments that were adopted at the Earth Summit are now reflected in the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, and the 17 **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. For example, SDG 13 captures key objectives of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and SDGs 14 and 15 set targets for the protection of terrestrial and marine biodiversity based on the CBD¹².

Indigenous Peoples have engaged in processes under the CBD from the outset.

The **International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB)** organises the caucus that follows the processes under the CBD and other major international environmental meetings to help coordinate indigenous strategies. The IIFB was formed in 1996 and is a collection of representatives of Indigenous governments, Indigenous NGOs and Indigenous academics and activists. It has a coordinating committee with representatives of the 7 social-cultural regions of the world. The IIFB aims to ensure that the rights of Indigenous Peoples and their contributions to nature are recognized and respected during the negotiation and adoption of the decisions of the CBD and its protocols, and its further implementation¹³.

¹⁰ Chapter 26 of Agenda 21 is dedicated to recognizing and strengthening the role of Indigenous Peoples in sustainable development (see more [here](#)).

¹¹ See para 4 of the GBF.

¹² See more about the 17 SDGs and their implementation [here](#).

¹³ The IIFB has followed the processes related to the CBD since 1996 and has a comprehensive website that include information about IIFB composition, events, engagement, statements and positions. See more [here](#). See also interview with IIFB co-chair Ramiro Batzin (in Spanish) [here](#).

The **Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network (IWBN)** was formed in 1998. The objective of the IWBN is to bring the issues of Indigenous women to the forefront of international discussions while emphasizing the vital role they play in biodiversity conservation. The network facilitates a community of practice relating to Indigenous Women, Traditional Knowledge, Policy, and Biodiversity Conservation. The network has members from all 7 regions of the world¹⁴.

Both IIFB and IWBN took active part in the negotiations of the GBF.

THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is an international multilateral treaty that has been ratified by most countries in the world and formally accepted by some regional economic organizations such as the EU¹⁵. The CBD is legally binding on these "**Parties to the Convention**".

The CBD provides the overarching legal and institutional framework for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, while the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) is a global action plan that provides specific, time-bound targets and goals to operationalize the CBD's objectives. In order to fully engage with the GBF, it is therefore important to understand the key aspects of the CBD¹⁶.

The CBD has three main objectives, which collectively aim to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity while ensuring fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from genetic resources. These objectives are:

Conservation

Protection and preservation of biodiversity, including ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity through measures such as protected areas, buffer zones, rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems eradication of invasive species, legislation, and other "in-situ" conservation measures. The conservation objective also includes ex-situ conservation measures¹⁷ such as establishment of botanical gardens, seed-banks, breeding programs etc.

Sustainable use

Sustainable use of biological resources in a way that encourages practices that allow humans to benefit from biodiversity, while ensuring that the natural systems can continue to provide these resources for future generations. The Convention, in article 10(c) specifically mentions the need to protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements.

¹⁴ Read more about the IWBN [here](#).

¹⁵ See the full list of the 196 parties to the Convention [here](#).

¹⁶ A full training manual on the CBD for Indigenous Peoples and local communities is available [here](#).

¹⁷ Ex-situ conservation refers to the conservation of biological diversity outside their natural habitats.

Fair and equitable benefit sharing

Ensuring that benefits derived from genetic resources, such as those used in pharmaceuticals, agriculture, and biotechnology, are shared fairly and equitably. It includes providing access to genetic resources and sharing the benefits (e.g., monetary, non-monetary and technological) with the countries or communities that provide them, particularly ensuring that Indigenous Peoples and local communities benefit from the use of their traditional knowledge and resources.

The three objectives of the CBD imply both opportunities and risks for Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples are holders of traditional knowledge and territories that are key to both conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Hence, Indigenous Peoples are indispensable partners in the implementation of the CBD. On the other hand, Indigenous Peoples' traditional livelihoods (such as small-scale fisheries, rotational agriculture or pastoralism) are often not respected or well-understood and undermined by state legislation and policies or by private sector initiatives. Likewise, while Indigenous Peoples are protectors of crucial biodiversity, they are often pushed away by so-called "fortress conservation"¹⁸. Finally, while traditional knowledge and associated genetic resources (for example crop varieties) can be applied broadly and thereby benefit both Indigenous Peoples and societies at large, such knowledge and resources are often appropriated without the consent or benefits for Indigenous Peoples.

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND PRACTICES

Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of Indigenous Peoples is considered a cross-cutting issue in the CBD, as it is equally relevant to the objectives of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as benefit-sharing.

The relevance of traditional knowledge to the CBD

The website of the CBD¹⁹ highlights why traditional knowledge is a key crosscutting issue of the Convention:

Traditional knowledge refers to the knowledge, innovations and practices of Indigenous Peoples and local communities around the world. Developed from experience gained over the centuries and adapted to the local culture and environment, traditional knowledge is mostly transmitted orally from generation to generation. Indigenous cultures are collectively held, taking forms in stories, songs, folklore, proverbs, cultural

¹⁸ Fortress conservation is a model that fences off ecosystems and excludes those that are the traditional caretakers of the land (such as Indigenous Peoples).

¹⁹ See the full explanation [here](#).

values, beliefs, rituals, community laws, local languages, and agricultural practices, including the development of plant species and animal breeds.

There is broad recognition of the contribution that traditional knowledge can make to both the conservation and the sustainable use of biological diversity, which are fundamental objectives of the Convention.

This knowledge is valuable not only for those who depend on it in their daily lives, but also for contemporary industry and agriculture. However, traditional knowledge has often been used in recent years by modern industry to develop new products and techniques without the involvement and consent of the holders of such knowledge, who have also received none of the resulting benefits.

Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices is prominently addressed in article 8 of the CBD, which addresses in-situ conservation²⁰. Specifically, **Article 8(j)** stipulates that Parties to the Convention shall:

“...respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities²¹ embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices”.

In 1998, the COP decided to establish a **Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions** (the WG8J) with a mandate to work on the implementation of article 8(j) and related provisions on traditional knowledge. The COP adopted a Program of Work on Article 8(j) in 2000 and, subsequently, the WG8J has developed principles, guidelines and tools for national implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions²². A new program of work of the WG8J, aligned with the GBF, is currently under discussion.²³

The **Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization**²⁴ is a

²⁰ In-situ conservation is 1) the conservation of ecosystems, natural habitats and species in their natural surroundings and 2) the conservation of domesticated or cultivated species, in the surroundings where they have developed their distinctive properties. See the definition of in-situ conservation and other key terms of the CBD [here](#).

²¹ In 1992, the language used in the CBD was “indigenous and local communities”. However, in 2014, the COP decided to use the term “indigenous peoples and local communities” in future decisions under the Convention. This aligns the language used under the Convention with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which was adopted in 2007. See FPP “From Agreements to Actions”: a Guide to applying a human rights-based approach to the Kunming-Montreal GBF”, p. 16 on the CBD terminology on Indigenous Peoples and local communities, available [here](#).

²² See pages 21-26 of the training manual on the CBD for Indigenous Peoples and local communities for more information on the outcomes of the WG8J [here](#).

²³ See the statement by the IIFB in May 2024 on the WG8J new program of work [here](#).

²⁴ See the text of the Nagoya Protocol [here](#).

supplementary agreement to the CBD. It was adopted in 2010 and entered into force in 2014. It provides a legal framework for the implementation of the CBD objective regarding fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. The Nagoya Protocol intends to:

Establish more predictable conditions for access to genetic resources.

Ensure benefit-sharing when genetic resources leave the country providing the genetic resources.²⁵

The Nagoya Protocol addresses traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources with provisions on access, benefit-sharing and compliance. Article 7 establishes that:

“...each Party shall take measures, as appropriate, with the aim of ensuring that traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that is held by indigenous and local communities is accessed with the prior and informed consent or approval and involvement of these indigenous and local communities, and that mutually agreed terms have been established”.

It also addresses genetic resources where indigenous and local communities have the established right to grant access to them. Article 6.2. establishes that:

“...In each Party shall take measures, as appropriate, with the aim of ensuring that the prior informed consent or approval and involvement of indigenous and local communities is obtained for access to genetic resources where they have the established right to grant access to such resources”.

In 2018, the Conference of the Parties (COP) adopted the Mo'otz Kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines for the development of mechanisms, legislation or other appropriate initiatives to ensure prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities for accessing their knowledge, innovations and practices, for fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of their knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and for reporting and preventing unlawful appropriation of traditional knowledge. The Guidelines highlight key components of prior and informed consent, including: a) lack of pressure, intimidation, manipulation, or coercion in decision-making; consent or approval being sought in advance or authorization; b) the provision of relevant information and c) the right not to grant consent or approval²⁶.

²⁵ Read more about the Nagoya Protocol [here](#).

²⁶ See the decision by the COP 13 [here](#) and the Mo'otz Kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines [here](#).

In a related but different process, the **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)** adopted a new **Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge**, in May 2024²⁷. Once the Treaty enters into force in a given country, those who apply for a patent based on genetic resources and/or associated traditional knowledge will have to disclose the country of origin or source of the genetic resources and/or the traditional knowledge.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CBD

The **Conference of the Parties (COP)** is the governing body of the CBD and is composed of representatives from all the Parties. The COP meets periodically (normally every two years) to review progress in the implementation of the Convention, make decisions to further its objectives, and provide guidance for future actions.

The GBF was adopted by **COP 15**, in December 2022. **COP 16** will take place in Cali, Colombia from 21st October to 1st November 2024²⁸.

The **International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB)** is actively engaging in the COPs²⁹. Section 1.8. of the training manual on the CBD for Indigenous Peoples and local communities provides detailed information about how to engage in the COPs and other bodies under the Convention³⁰.

The COP is further assisted by two bodies:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)³¹. SBSTTA is responsible for providing recommendations to the COP on the technical and scientific aspects of the implementation of the Convention.

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI)³². The SBI undertakes review of progress in implementing the Convention and identifies strategic actions to enhance implementation, including how to strengthen the means of implementation.

The IIFB engages actively with both SBSTTA and SBI³³.

²⁷ See the press release of WIPO about the Treaty [here](#).
²⁸ See the official webpage of COP 16 [here](#).
²⁹ All statements made by the IIFB at previous COPs are available [here](#).
³⁰ The training manual is available [here](#).
³¹ See more [here](#).
³² See more [here](#).
³³ See documents related to the IIFB's engagement with SBSTTA [here](#) and engagement with SBI [here](#).

FINANCIAL MECHANISM FOR THE CBD

Article 20 of the CBD establishes that developed countries should provide “new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed full incremental costs” of implementing their obligations under the Convention. Further, article 21 establishes a **mechanism** for providing financial resources to developing countries to reach the objectives of the Convention.

It is the **Global Environment Facility** (GEF), which is designated to operate the financial mechanism of the CBD, under the authority and guidance of the COP. The COP has adopted comprehensive guidance for the financial mechanism³⁴.

The GEF is a multilateral facility, which comprises a number of funds, dedicated to combat biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution, among others. These include the GEF Trust Fund, the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund, among others. The GEF is also designated to operate the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, established to support the realization of the GBF (see module 4).

Since its inception in 1991, the GEF has provided more than 25 billion US\$ in financing and mobilized 145 billion US\$ for country-driven priority projects.³⁵

In most cases, the GEF provides funding to support government projects and programs. Governments decide on the executing agency (governmental institutions, civil society organizations, private sector companies, research institutions).³⁶ Between 1991-2014, the GEF actively involved Indigenous Peoples in over 220 medium- and full-size projects, which are accessible in the GEF project database and searchable by country.

The GEF has various initiatives to enhance its partnership with Indigenous Peoples, including:

Principles and Guidelines for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, which, inter alia, require the development of a specific plan for Indigenous Peoples who may be negatively or positively affected by a GEF-financed project, as well as full and effective participation in any project that may impact Indigenous Peoples.³⁷

Environmental and Social Safeguards, which include a minimum standard on Indigenous Peoples, which require Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of affected Indigenous Peoples when projects impact their land and natural resources, cause relocation or affect cultural heritage.³⁸

³⁴ See more [here](#).

³⁵ See more about GEF [here](#).

³⁶ See more about how GEF projects work [here](#).

³⁷ See the Principles and Guidelines [here](#).

³⁸ See the GEF Policy on Environmental and Social Standards [here](#).

An Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (IPAG), which provides guidance and advice to the GEF on all matters relevant to Indigenous Peoples and the activities of GEF, particularly aiming to enhance dialogue among the Indigenous Peoples, the GEF Secretariat and its partner agencies, and other experts³⁹.

There is also a **GEF Small Grants Programme** (GEF-SGP) which provides grants up to 75'000 US\$ and support to strategic projects up to 150'000 US\$. Between 1991-2014, the GEF-SGP supported more than 2,300 projects that involved Indigenous Peoples. Most of these focused on biodiversity conservation⁴⁰.

Information about all GEF-SGP projects is available in a database, which is searchable by region, country and key topics, among others⁴¹.

STRATEGIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Article 6 of the CBD stipulates that, each Contracting Party shall develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

These national strategies and plans are called **National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions Plans (NBSAPs)**. To date, 194 of the 196 Parties to the CBD have developed at least one NBSAP⁴². Following the adoption of the GBF in 2022, the Parties are requested to revise and update their NBSAPs and align these with the GBF and its goals and targets.

In addition, article 26 of the CBD call for the Parties to **present national reports**, which inform about the measures they have taken for implementation, and their effectiveness in meeting the objectives of the Convention.

In 2002, the COP adopted the first overarching Strategic Plan for the CBD, with a target to significantly reduce biodiversity loss by 2010. However, in 2010, the Global Biodiversity Outlook 3 could conclude that this target was not met⁴³.

In 2010, the COP adopted a revised and updated **Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**, which included the **Aichi Biodiversity Targets**⁴⁴. The Plan established 5 strategic goals and 20 targets to be reached within the timeframe of the plan. To implement the Plan, Parties were required to, inter alia:

³⁹ See more about the IPAG [here](#).

⁴⁰ See more [here](#).

⁴¹ The database can be accessed [here](#).

⁴² NBSAPs and national reports can be found [here](#).

⁴³ See GBO-3 [here](#).

⁴⁴ See more on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets [here](#).

Update and revise their NBSAPs

Develop national targets, contributing to the collective efforts to reach the Aichi targets

Integrate the updated NBSAPs into national development, accounting and planning processes

Monitor implementation of the NBSAPs and national targets, using indicators

In 2020, the Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 (GBO-5)⁴⁵ concluded that biodiversity is declining at an unprecedented rate, and the pressures driving this decline are intensifying and that none of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets were fully met.

KEY QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTIONS AND DISCUSSION

What are the opportunities and risks associated with the three objectives of the CBD for Indigenous Peoples in your country/area?

What are the experiences that Indigenous Peoples in your area/country have with engagement on the CBD or related processes on sustainable development?

Have Indigenous Peoples in your country/area experience with or benefitted from funding from the GEF?

Were Indigenous Peoples involved in the development of your country's latest NBSAP? What were the main issues addressed? Was it sufficient ambitious – and was there sufficient progress in its implementation?

REPORTING FORMAT FOR KEY QUESTIONS

CBD objective	Opportunities for Indigenous Peoples	Risks for Indigenous Peoples
Conservation of Biodiversity	▪ ...	▪ ...
Sustainable use of biodiversity	▪ ...	▪ ...
Fair and equitable benefit sharing		

⁴⁵ Access the GBO-5 [here](#).

QUESTION	RESPONSE
Experiences of Indigenous Peoples with engagement on CBD or related processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ...
Experience with or benefits from GEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ...

LATEST NBSAP	RESPONSE
Involvement of Indigenous Peoples in formulation, implementation or monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ...
Main issues addressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ...
Level of ambition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ...
Progress in implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ...

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK



• MODULE 3 •

THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

The **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**⁴⁶, in short also known as the **Global Biodiversity Framework** or **GBF**, was adopted by COP15 in December 2022 in Montreal⁴⁷.

The text of the GBF was developed over a period of four years, including five meetings of the Open-Ended Working Group on the ‘post-2020 global biodiversity agreement’ as it was previously known⁴⁸.

The active and impactful engagement of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) was significant throughout the negotiations, and the resulting text reflects many (but not all) of their expressed priorities⁴⁹.

The CBD establishes the legal and strategic foundation for biodiversity conservation, while the GBF is a framework for urgent and transformative action, which outlines detailed actions and milestones to achieve the CBD objectives by specific timeframes⁵⁰. Hence, the GBF aligns with the CBD’s three main objectives for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and benefit-sharing. The Moreover, the GBF is aligned with and supports the achievement of the SDGs⁵¹.

The implementation of the GBF is supported by additional measures that were adopted at COP15, including a monitoring framework, an enhanced mechanism for planning, monitoring, reporting and reviewing implementation, and financial resources.

⁴⁶ See the full text of the GBF [here](#).

⁴⁷ The GBF is named after two cities: Kunming, which was scheduled to be the host city for COP15 in 2020 but, due to COVID restrictions, the hosting duties were transferred to Montreal, where COP 15 happened in 2022.

⁴⁸ See more information about the process [here](#).

⁴⁹ See the Forest Peoples Programme’s analysis of the GBF and the engagement of IIFB [here](#).

⁵⁰ See GBF, para. 4.

⁵¹ See GBF, para. 3.

VISION AND LONG-TERM GOALS OF THE GBF

The overall **vision** of the GBF, to be reached by 2050, is:

“a world of living in harmony with nature where by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.”⁵²

To reach this vision, the GBF sets **four long-term goals** to be achieved by 2050:

Goal A (biodiversity conservation):

The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored, substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050;

Human induced extinction of known threatened species is halted, and, by 2050, the extinction rate and risk of all species are reduced tenfold and the abundance of native wild species is increased to healthy and resilient levels;

The genetic diversity within populations of wild and domesticated species, is maintained, safeguarding their adaptive potential.

Goal B (sustainable use of biodiversity):

Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued, maintained and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050

Goal C (benefit-sharing):

The monetary and non-monetary benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and digital sequence information on genetic resources, and of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, as applicable, are shared fairly and equitably, including, as appropriate with indigenous peoples and local communities, and substantially increased by 2050, while ensuring traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources is appropriately protected, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in accordance with internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments.

⁵² See GBF, section F, para. 10.

Goal D (means of implementation):

Adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and access to and transfer of technology to fully implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework are secured and equitably accessible to all Parties, especially developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, progressively closing the biodiversity finance gap of \$700 billion per year, and aligning financial flows with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

TARGETS

In addition to the overall vision and long-term goals for 2050, the GBF sets 23 targets for immediate action, to be reached by 2030. The targets are clustered in three groups, as follows:

Cluster 1 addresses biodiversity conservation (targets 1-8),

Cluster 2 addresses sustainable use and benefit-sharing (targets 9-13)

Cluster 3 focuses on tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming (targets 14-24)

TARGET SUMMARY	TARGET TEXT ⁵³
Cluster 1: Reducing threats to biodiversity	
1. Plan and manage all areas to reduce biodiversity loss	Ensure that all areas are under participatory, integrated and biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and seause change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.
2. Restore 30% of all degraded ecosystems	Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.

⁵³ The text of all targets and related guidance is available [here](#).

TARGET SUMMARY	TARGET TEXT ⁵³
<p>3. Conserve 30% of land, waters and seas</p>	<p>Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.</p>
<p>4. Halt species extinction, protect genetic diversity, and manage human-wildlife conflicts</p>	<p>Ensure urgent management actions to halt human induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and conservation of species, in particular threatened species, to significantly reduce extinction risk, as well as to maintain and restore the genetic diversity within and between populations of native, wild and domesticated species to maintain their adaptive potential, including through in situ and ex situ conservation and sustainable management practices, and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize human-wildlife conflict for coexistence.</p>
<p>5. Ensure sustainable, safe and legal harvesting and trade of wild species</p>	<p>Ensure that the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, preventing overexploitation, minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reducing the risk of pathogen spillover, applying the ecosystem approach, while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.</p>
<p>6. Reduce the introduction of invasive alien species by 50% and minimize their impact</p>	<p>Eliminate, minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services by identifying and managing pathways of the introduction of alien species, preventing the introduction and establishment of priority invasive alien species, reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of other known or potential invasive alien species by at least 50 per cent by 2030, and eradicating or controlling invasive alien species, especially in priority sites, such as islands.</p>

TARGET SUMMARY	TARGET TEXT ⁵³
<p>7. Reduce pollution to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity</p>	<p>Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: (a) by reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; (b) by reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half, including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and (c) by preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.</p>
<p>8. Minimize the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and build resilience</p>	<p>Minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and increase its resilience through mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction actions, including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, while minimizing negative and fostering positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity.</p>
<p>Cluster 2: Meeting people’s needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing</p>	
<p>9. Manage wild species sustainably to benefit people</p>	<p>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, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.</p>
<p>10. Enhance biodiversity and sustainability in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry</p>	<p>Ensure that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably, in particular through the sustainable use of biodiversity, including through a substantial increase of the application of biodiversity friendly practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches, contributing to the resilience and long-term efficiency and productivity of these production systems, and to food security, conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.</p>

TARGET SUMMARY	TARGET TEXT ⁵³
11. Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people	<p>Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.</p>
12. Enhance green spaces and urban planning for human well-being and biodiversity	<p>Significantly increase the area and quality, and connectivity of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas sustainably, by mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and ensure biodiversity-inclusive urban planning, enhancing native biodiversity, ecological connectivity and integrity, and improving human health and well-being and connection to nature, and contributing to inclusive and sustainable urbanization and to the provision of ecosystem functions and services.</p>
13. Increase the sharing of benefits from genetic resources, digital sequence information and traditional knowledge	<p>Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030, facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.</p>
Cluster 3: Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming	
14. Integrate biodiversity in decision-making at every level	<p>Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.</p>

TARGET SUMMARY	TARGET TEXT ⁵³
<p>15. Businesses assess, disclose and reduce biodiversity-related risks and negative impacts</p>	<p>Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, supply and value chains, and portfolios; (b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns; (c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable; <p>in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.</p>
<p>16. Enable sustainable consumption choices to reduce waste and overconsumption</p>	<p>Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices, including by establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education and access to relevant and accurate information and alternatives, and by 2030, reduce the global footprint of consumption in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, significantly reducing overconsumption and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.</p>
<p>17. Strengthen biosafety and distribute the benefits of biotechnology</p>	<p>Establish, strengthen capacity for, and implement in all countries, biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention on Biological Diversity and measures for the handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits as set out in Article 19 of the Convention.</p>
<p>18. Reduce harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scale up positive incentives for biodiversity</p>	<p>Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least \$500 billion per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</p>

TARGET SUMMARY	TARGET TEXT ⁵³
<p>19. Mobilize \$200 billion per year for biodiversity from all sources, Including \$30 billion through international finance</p>	<p>Substantially and progressively increase the level of financial resources from all sources, in an effective, timely and easily accessible manner, including domestic, international, public and private resources, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans, mobilizing at least \$200 billion per year by 2030, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Increasing total biodiversity related international financial resources from developed countries, including official development assistance, and from countries that voluntarily assume obligations of developed country Parties, to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to at least \$20 billion per year by 2025, and to at least \$30 billion per year by 2030; (b) Significantly increasing domestic resource mobilization, facilitated by the preparation and implementation of national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments according to national needs, priorities and circumstances; (c) Leveraging private finance, promoting blended finance, implementing strategies for raising new and additional resources, and encouraging the private sector to invest in biodiversity, including through impact funds and other instruments; (d) Stimulating innovative schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, and benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards; (e) Optimizing co-benefits and synergies of finance targeting the biodiversity and climate crises; (f) Enhancing the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions⁵⁴ and non-market-based approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity; (g) Enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of resource provision and use;

⁵⁴ Mother Earth Centric Actions: Ecocentric and rights-based approach enabling the implementation of actions towards harmonic and complementary relationships between peoples and nature, promoting the continuity of all living beings and their communities and ensuring the non-commodification of environmental functions of Mother Earth.

TARGET SUMMARY	TARGET TEXT ⁵³
<p>20. Strengthen capacity-building, technology transfer, and scientific and technical cooperation for biodiversity</p>	<p>Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the Framework.</p>
<p>21. Ensure that knowledge is available and accessible to guide biodiversity action</p>	<p>Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent⁵⁵, in accordance with national legislation.</p>
<p>22. Ensure participation in decision-making and access to justice and information related to biodiversity for all</p>	<p>Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.</p>
<p>23. Ensure gender equality and a gender-responsive approach for biodiversity action</p>	<p>Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the Framework through a gender-responsive approach, where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.</p>

⁵⁵ Free, prior and informed consent refers to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent” or “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement.”

OVERVIEW OF THE GBF TARGETS

The 23 targets of the GBF are far-reaching, with a level of ambition that reflect the biodiversity crisis and requires urgent and transformative action at the global, regional, national and local levels.

Together, the targets constitute a **comprehensive roadmap for action**, which include the range of issues that need to be urgently addressed; from establishment of conservation areas (target 3) to the elimination of subsidies that are harmful to biodiversity, e.g. subsidies related to agriculture and fisheries (target 18).

Ten out of the 23 targets are dedicated to “**tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming**” (targets 14-24), underlining that the GBF is action oriented. It not only describes WHAT should happen, but also indicates HOW this should happen.

All the GBF targets are relevant to Indigenous Peoples, as they are also affected by, for example, plastic pollution (target 7), ocean acidification (target 8), and benefit from green spaces in urban areas (target 12) and reduced food waste (target 16).

It is not possible in this training module to analyze each of these targets in depth, from an Indigenous Peoples’ perspective. While some of the targets of most immediate relevance are presented in the following section, it is recommended for Indigenous Peoples who want to engage with the GBF to gain a broad overview of the targets, and then study those of most immediate relevance to their situation in more details.

The CBD Secretariat has produced a series of **Guidance Notes**, which for each target describe:

- ↳ Why is this target important
- ↳ Explanation of the target and its elements
- ↳ Links to other elements of the GBF and other frameworks and processes
- ↳ Guiding questions for national target-setting
- ↳ Indicators
- ↳ Relevant resources that can assist implementation
- ↳ These Guidance Notes are very informative and constitute a useful resource for studying the individual targets⁵⁶.

The targets reflect the “**whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach**”⁵⁷, which is the need to involve all levels and branches of government and all sectors at all levels of society. This is a general consideration for implementation⁵⁸ but individual targets mention specific groups of countries,

⁵⁶ The targets can be accessed [here](#).

⁵⁷ See para 7(c) of the GBF.

⁵⁸ See more in Module 4: Considerations for implementation.

actors and rights-holders, whose participation and contribution is particularly important in that context. These specific actors mentioned include developed countries, least developed countries, small island developing states, children and youth, women and girls, persons with disabilities, environmental human rights defenders, the scientific community, local communities and Indigenous Peoples.

The **role of businesses** is specifically addressed in target 15, with a particular focus on large and transnational companies and financial institutions that can have a severe impact on biodiversity. The target requires **states to “encourage and enable” businesses to assess, disclose and reduce biodiversity-related risks and negative impacts. This is one area, where Indigenous Peoples wanted to see stronger provisions to mandatorily regulate business conduct and not just encourage businesses to voluntarily assess and disclose risks.**

TARGETS WITH A SPECIFIC FOCUS ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

As stated by the IIFB, the GBF is ground-breaking in its “*timely recognition of Indigenous Peoples and local communities’ contributions, roles, rights and responsibilities to Mother Earth*”⁵⁹

The recognition of the important roles and contributions of Indigenous Peoples is directly reflected in many of the targets, with references to crucial aspects of the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Target 1 stipulates that by 2030, **all areas should be planned and managed in a manner that address land- and sea-use change and reduce biodiversity loss, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.**

The target is comprehensive, as it covers all marine and terrestrial areas of all countries. The specific mentioning of Indigenous Peoples’ rights underlines the importance of respecting their rights to lands, territories and resources; to participation in decision-making; to free, prior and informed consent etc. in all planning and management processes associated with this target⁶⁰.

Target 3 stipulates that by 2030, at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas are effectively conserved and managed through systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs)⁶¹, **recognizing indigenous and traditional territories**, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, **recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities**, including over their traditional territories”.

⁵⁹ See press release of the IIFB on the adoption of the GBF [here](#).

⁶⁰ See more in the CBD Guidance Note on target 1 [here](#).

⁶¹ OECMs are sites outside protected areas that deliver effective and long-term in situ conservation of biodiversity, support associated ecosystem functions and services, and promote cultural, spiritual, socio-economic and other locally relevant values. See more [here](#).

This is the “emblematic” target of the GBF, also known as the **30x30**. The target has two specific references to Indigenous Peoples, which is of utmost importance, given the many situations across the globe where conservation measures have violated Indigenous Peoples’ rights:

The target recognizes Indigenous Peoples’ territories as a distinct category of areas for conservation and management of biodiversity (beyond protected areas and OECMs), and

The target highlights the need for respecting Indigenous Peoples’ rights in all activities carried out under this target.⁶²

ACT30 is a joint initiative of the IIFB with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Esri, bringing together governments, Indigenous Peoples and local communities to map diverse and effective pathways to reach the 30x30 target. Act30 has initiated dialogue with 14 priority countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America⁶³

Target 5 aims to ensure that the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, **while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities**⁶⁴.

Similarly, **target 9** aims to ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable and provide social, economic and environmental benefits, especially for people in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and **protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities**.

Customary sustainable use of wild species, such as fish, animals and plants is a cornerstone of the culture, livelihood and economy of many Indigenous Peoples, but is often misunderstood, restricted or even criminalized. The targets underline that customary sustainable use of wild species is a right of Indigenous Peoples, underpinned by their rights to control, use and manage lands, territories and resources.

Target 13 requires Parties to take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources⁶⁵, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030, facilitating a significant increase of the benefits

⁶² See more in the CBD Guidance Note on target 3 [here](#).

⁶³ See more [here](#).

⁶⁴ See more in the CBD Guidance Note on target 5 [here](#).

⁶⁵ Digital sequence information (DSI) refers to the digital data derived from the genetic material of organisms, including nucleotide sequences of DNA and RNA, and amino acid sequences of proteins. This information is crucial for research in genetics, biotechnology, and conservation, and plays a significant role in discussions on access and benefit-sharing of genetic resources. See more on DSI in the context of the CBD [here](#).

shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.

In this context, applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments would include the Nagoya Protocol and the newly adopted WIPO **Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge**⁶⁶, as well as the **International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture** and the **Agreement on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction** (also known as the **High Seas Treaty**).

The **High Seas Treaty** applies to marine areas beyond national jurisdiction. It will provide a legal framework for establishing marine protected areas in international waters and comprises a procedure for managing returns from the genetic resources of the high seas. In its preamble, the High Seas Treaty recalls the UNDRIP and it contains several references to Indigenous Peoples:

The recognition that States' efforts should be guided, among others, by the use of the traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples;	The obligation of States to ensure that traditional knowledge associated with marine genetic resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction that is held by Indigenous Peoples is only accessed or shared with the prior and informed consent or approval and involvement of the Indigenous Peoples concerned;	The requirement that proposals concerning the establishment of area-based management tools, including marine protected areas, also indicate specific human activities in the area, including uses by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in adjacent coastal States, and that Indigenous Peoples be invited to submit views on the merits of the proposal and any other relevant information, including information based on their traditional knowledge ⁶⁷ .
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Thereby, the High Seas Treaty is not only relevant to target 13 and provisions regarding traditional knowledge, but also of key importance to target 3, which provides form the protection of 30% of marine areas by 2030.

Target 19 aims to mobilize \$200 Billion per year for biodiversity from all sources. Specifically, **target 19 (f)** aims to enhance the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions⁶⁸ and non-market-based approaches including community based

⁶⁶ See more in Module 2: Traditional knowledge, practices and innovations.
⁶⁷ See more about the High Seas Treaty [here](#). Read more about Indigenous Peoples' customary fishing rights [here](#).
⁶⁸ The GBF explains Mother Earth Centric Actions as follows: Ecocentric and rights-based approach enabling the implementation of actions towards harmonic and complementary relationships between peoples and nature, promoting the continuity of all living beings and their communities and ensuring the non-commodification of environmental functions of Mother Earth.

natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity.

**The CBD
Guidance Note
for target 19⁶⁹
explains that**

“collective action refers to actions taken by groups of people towards a common goal or objective. Many groups, including indigenous peoples and local communities, act for biodiversity. While these actions do not necessarily generate resources, they do have value, which should be accounted for as part of this target. This also applies to Mother Earth-centric actions and other non-market-based approaches to biodiversity”⁷⁰.

Target 21 aims to ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge are accessible to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management. The target highlights that **traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent.**

Target 22 aims to ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.

This target highlights the need to respect, protect and fulfill a range of Indigenous Peoples’ rights as an integral element of the GBF:

Representation and participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making processes that affect them;

Access to justice and information, which is a key element of ensuring the full, equitable, and inclusive representation and participation of indigenous peoples

Rights of indigenous peoples and local communities over their cultures, lands, territories, resources and traditional knowledge

Full protection of environmental and human rights defenders, by upholding all fundamental rights and freedoms.

⁶⁹ See more on Target 19 in Module 4: Financing the GBF.

⁷⁰ See more [here](#).

KEY QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTIONS AND DISCUSSION

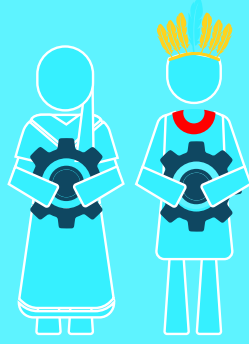
<p>Which elements/targets of the GBF are most relevant for Indigenous Peoples in your country/area?</p>	<p>What are the key opportunities and risks associated with these elements and targets for Indigenous Peoples in your country/area?</p>	<p>What are the laws and policies relating to conservation and environment, which violate or respect Indigenous Peoples' rights, e.g. on land tenure and on traditional occupations and livelihoods such as hunting, rotational agriculture, fishing etc.</p>
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REPORTING FORMAT FOR KEY QUESTIONS

Most relevant GBF element/target	Key opportunities associated with this element/target	Key risks associated with this element/target
■ ...	■ ...	■ ...

Laws and policies on conservation and environment	Elements that violate Indigenous Peoples' rights	Elements that respect Indigenous Peoples' rights
■ ...	■ ...	■ ...

IMPLEMENTATION AND SUPPORT MECHANISMS



• MODULE 4 •

IMPLEMENTATION AND SUPPORT MECHANISMS

The impact of the GBF will depend on the will and actions of governments and other stakeholders to implement it.

This section takes a deeper look at some of the **key elements for implementation**⁷¹, namely:

The general considerations for implementation outlined in Section C of the GBF.

The monitoring framework and indicators for measuring progress in the implementation of the GBF.

The financial resources necessary for the implementation of the GBF.

The enhanced mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and reviewing implementation, including National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

CONSIDERATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Section C of the GBF indicates the **general considerations** that should be understood, acted upon, implemented, reported and evaluated in the process of realizing the GBF⁷². Many of these considerations reflect key values and opportunities for Indigenous Peoples, including the need for:

⁷¹ See more about the GBF implementation [here](#).

⁷² See GBF, Section C, para. 7(a-r).

Recognition of the contribution and rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities (para. 7(a)).

Recognition and consideration of diverse value systems and concepts of nature, including those associated with rights of nature and rights of Mother Earth (para. 7(b)).

Recognition that implementation will require all elements of government and all sectors of society to contribute and cooperate (para. 7(c)).

A human rights-based approach to implementation that will respect, protect, promote and fulfill human rights, including the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (para. 7(g)).

Ensuring gender equality, empowerment of women and girls and reducing inequalities (para. 7(h)).

Implementation based on scientific evidence and traditional knowledge and practices (para. 7(i)).

Ecosystem approach (para. 7(m)).⁷³

In summary, the adequate implementation of these principles will require that Indigenous Peoples' rights are respected, protected and realized in all processes related to the implementation of the GBF at local, national and global levels, including that:

The contribution of Indigenous Peoples to the GBF (conservation, sustainable use, traditional knowledge) is fully recognized, and they are considered indispensable partners in implementation.

Indigenous Peoples' value systems and concepts of nature are fully respected and considered, including their distinctive spiritual relationships to land, territories and resources.

Indigenous Peoples are enabled to fully contribute and cooperate in the implementation processes.

⁷³ The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. It recognizes humans, with their cultural diversity, as an integral component of ecosystems. The ecosystem approach is the primary approach to action under the CBD. See more [here](#).

The contribution and participation of Indigenous women and girls are ensured.

Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge and traditional practices is considered along with scientific knowledge in the implementation.

Humans being, including Indigenous Peoples, with their cultural diversity, are considered an integral component of ecosystems.

THE HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TO IMPLEMENTATION

The **human rights-based approach**, that is considered in para.7(g) means that human rights, must be respected, protected, promoted and fulfilled throughout the implementation of the GBF.

For Indigenous Peoples, para. 7(g) must be read in conjunction with para. 7(a) on the contribution of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, which specifically references the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as follows:

“The Framework acknowledges the important roles and contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities as custodians of biodiversity and as partners in its conservation, restoration and sustainable use. The Framework’s implementation must ensure that the rights, knowledge, including traditional knowledge associated with biodiversity, innovations, worldviews, values and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities are respected, and documented and preserved with their free, prior and informed consent, including through their full and effective participation in decision-making, in accordance with relevant national legislation, international instruments, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and human rights law. In this regard, nothing in this framework may be construed as diminishing or extinguishing the rights that indigenous peoples currently have or may acquire in the future” (GBF, para 7(a)).

Human rights are indivisible and interdependent, as they are equal in importance, and none can be fully enjoyed without the others. Article 43 of the UNDRIP further specifies that: *“The rights recognized herein constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world”*.

This means that the full range of Indigenous Peoples' rights, as enshrined in the UNDRIP, must be considered in the human rights-based approach to implementation required in para. 7(g) of the GBF. However, some of the provisions of UNDRIP relate to the GBF in a very direct manner, and are therefore worth highlighting, as they provide concrete guidance for implementation. These include the following provisions of the UNDRIP:

Self-determination and self-governance	
<i>Article 3</i>	Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.
<i>Article 4</i>	Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.
Land, territories and resources	
<i>Article 10</i>	Indigenous peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories. No relocation shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned and after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return.
<i>Article 25</i>	Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.
<i>Article 26</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired. 2. Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired. 3. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.

<i>Article 32</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources. 2. States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources. 3. States shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impact.
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Consultation, participation in decision-making and consent

<i>Article 18</i>	<p>Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision-making institutions.</p>
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<i>Article 19</i>	<p>States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.</p>
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Conservation

<i>Article 29</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resources. States shall establish and implement assistance programmes for indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection, without discrimination.
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Traditional knowledge

Article 31

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts. They also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.
2. In conjunction with indigenous peoples, States shall take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights.

Finance

Article 39

Indigenous peoples have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from States and through international cooperation, for the enjoyment of the rights contained in this Declaration.

MONITORING FRAMEWORK AND INDICATORS

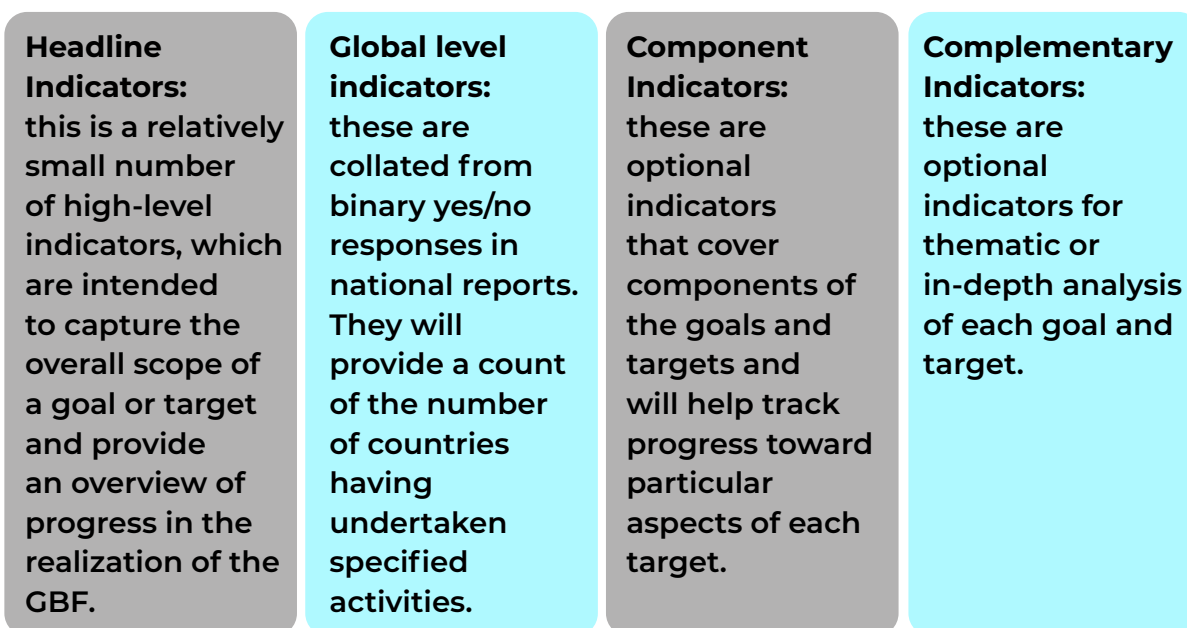
COP 15, in decision 15/5, adopted a **comprehensive monitoring framework** for the GBF, including a set of agreed indicators for tracking progress towards the Goals and Targets of the Framework.⁷⁴

Indicators are information tools which summarize data on varied and complex environmental and socio-economic issues to indicate overall status and trends. They can be used to assess progress towards desired objectives at various scales and to signal key issues to be addressed through policy interventions and other actions. Indicators are, therefore, important for monitoring the status and trends of biological diversity and, in turn, feeding back information on ways to continually improve the effectiveness of biodiversity management programmes⁷⁵.

⁷⁴ See COP decision 15/5 on the Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework [here](#). The indicators are described in Annex I of decision 15/5. Indicators are also available in an online database [here](#).

⁷⁵ See more [here](#).

The indicators for monitoring the GBF are organized in four categories:



Moreover, the monitoring framework may be supplemented by additional national and subnational indicators.

Decision 15/5, in Annex I, provides an **overview of the indicators** as per COP 15 and, in Annex II, provides the terms of Reference for an **Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group** ().

The overall purpose of the AHTEG is to provide technical advice to enable the COP 16 to finalize the monitoring framework. Hence, the AHTEG will work with partners to guide the development of the indicators where an agreed up-to-date methodology does not yet exist. The AHTEG has 45 members, including one expert representing the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB)⁷⁶.

The selection of adequate indicators is of utmost importance to ensure that the most important aspects of the GBF are being measured, and that the data can guide the Parties and other actors and hold them to account in the realization of the Goals and targets of the GBF. For Indigenous Peoples, it is of particular importance to make sure that the commitments to their rights are upheld and measured through the indicators.

Some of the indicators of key importance to Indigenous Peoples pertain to traditional knowledge. While it is not possible to develop common indicators that directly measure the status and trends of Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge across the globe, the Working Group on Article 8(j) have developed 4 "proxy indicators" that can be applied universally and give an indication of the status and trends of such knowledge. These include the following indicators, adapted to the GBF:

⁷⁶ See more [here](#).

Trends in linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages;

Trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities;

Percentage of the population in traditional occupations;

Participation in decision-making of indigenous peoples and local communities in the implementation of the Kunming-Montral Global Biodiversity Framework at all levels.⁷⁷

The traditional knowledge indicators are at different stages of operationalization and data collections and have been integrated – or are suggested for integration - in different ways in the GBF indicator framework⁷⁸.

While the work on the indicator framework is still ongoing, the indicator on land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples and local communities is recommended for inclusion as a headline indicator for target 22 by SBSTTA 26⁷⁹, including through the hard work of the IIFB.⁸⁰

One of the weaknesses of the current indicators framework that have been pointed out is that Target 3 of the GBF recognizes the lands and territories of Indigenous Peoples and local communities as a distinct category of conservation area. However, this is not reflected in the proposed headline and component indicators for target 3, but only included as a “complementary indicator”.⁸¹ This weakness is to some extent addressed with the inclusion of the indicator on land-use change and land tenure as headline or component indicator for target 22, as well as the commendation to also use it as component indicator for Goals A and B and Targets 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 23. Moreover, the indicator on land-use change and land tenure can serve to disaggregate other headline indicators by territories of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Beyond indicators, para. 6 of decision 15/5 invites Parties and relevant organizations to support **community-based monitoring and information** systems (CBMIS) and their contributions to the implementation of the monitoring framework for the GBF. This is important for many Indigenous Peoples and local communities who have developed their own monitoring initiatives e.g. to assess the realization of rights as well as conservation and sustainable use of biological resources within their territories. The acknowledgement of the importance of

⁷⁷ See more [here](#).

⁷⁸ The indicators underwent a technical and scientific review in April 2024, which was subsequently considered by the AHTEG, which, in turn made recommendations for SBSTAA 26. See the scientific and technical review [here](#).

⁷⁹ See SBSTTA/26/L.10 [here](#).

⁸⁰ See more [here](#)

⁸¹ See indicators for target 3 [here](#). See press released by Amnesty International, [here](#).

the contribution from such monitoring and information systems provides an important entry point for Indigenous Peoples to contribute to the monitoring of the GBF. For example, the **Scientific and technical review of the traditional knowledge indicators⁸² consistently points to CBMIS and tools such as the Indigenous Navigator as data providers, among others, for “the traditional knowledge indicators”**.

The **Local Biodiversity Outlooks (LBO)⁸³** is a publication that complements the Global Biodiversity Outlooks (GBO) by presenting the perspectives and experiences of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their contributions to the CBD. It is based on accounts of local actions and case studies submitted by Indigenous Peoples and local community authors⁸⁴, which demonstrate their enormous contributions to the implementation of the CBD, through their collective and on-the-ground actions. So far there have been two editions of the LBOs, the latest in 2020. However, going forward, the LBOs provide an example of how Indigenous Peoples can contribute to the monitoring of the GBF based on their own community-based monitoring and information systems.

PLANNING, REPORTING AND REVIEW

At COP 15, the Parties adopted decision 15/6 on an **enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review⁸⁵**, which is also reflected in Section J of the GBF. This includes the following elements:

- (a) **National biodiversity strategies and action plans**, revised or updated in alignment with the Framework and its goals and targets as the main vehicle for implementation of the GBF, including national targets communicated in a standardized format;
- (b) **National reports**, including the headline and other indicators in the monitoring framework of the GBF;
- (c) **Global analysis** of information in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, including national targets to assess the contribution towards the GBF;
- (d) **Global review of collective progress** in the implementation of the GBF, including the means of implementation, based on national reports and other sources;
- (e) **Voluntary peer reviews**;

⁸² Available [here](#).

⁸³ Read more and access the LBOs [here](#).

⁸⁴ See the map of case studies [here](#).

⁸⁵ See the decision [here](#).

(f) Further development and testing of an **open-ended forum for voluntary country reviews**;

(g) **Information on non-state actor commitments** towards the Framework, as applicable.⁸⁶

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are at the core of national implementation of the GBF.

In accordance with decision 15/6 of the COP⁸⁷, countries are expected to **revise and update** their NBSAPs in alignment with the GBF and its goals and targets and to subsequently submit national reports on their implementation.

The should be submitted to COP 16 in Colombia, October-November 2024. So far (June 2024) only few countries have submitted revised NBSAPs.

The **7th and 8th national reports** should be submitted by 28 February 2026 and 30 June 2029, respectively.

All NBSAPs and reports submitted so far are available on the CBD/GBF website.⁸⁸

Those countries that for some reason cannot submit their NBSAPs at COP 16 should at least communicate national targets, reflecting all the goals and targets of the GBF, in advance of the full submission of their NBSAP. This will allow the forthcoming COP to take stock of the targets and commitments that have been set. National targets submitted previously under the CBD are available at the CBD website⁸⁹.

Decision 15/6 of the COP15 underlines the importance of **Indigenous Peoples' participation in NBSAPs**:

Para 22(c) encourages Parties to enable the full and effective participation and engagement of indigenous peoples in all levels of development and implementation of the NBSAPs, as well as in the preparation of national reports, and to:

"...ensure consultations in order to obtain the free, prior and informed consent³ of indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate, in their engagement and participation in the updating and revision of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national targets, with respect to measures that may affect them" (para. 22(d)).

⁸⁶ See GBF, section J on responsibility and transparency [here](#).

⁸⁷ Annex I of Decision 15/6 provides additional guidance on the development of NBSAPs, and Annex II provides guidance for the elaboration of national reports.

⁸⁸ See the NBSAPs [here](#). As an example, the latest NBSAP submitted by Colombia in 2017 is available [here](#).

⁸⁹ See previous national targets [here](#). As an example, see the targets set by Colombia for 2020 [here](#).

Moreover, para. 26 invites Indigenous Peoples and other sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity, to voluntarily develop commitments to contribute to NBSAPs, and to share these through a dedicated online platform⁹⁰.

The UN Environment Management Group has issued Guidance on integrating human rights in NBSAPs⁹¹, which in section 6.1 provides the following guidance to Parties for integrating the rights of Indigenous Peoples into the development and implementation of NBSAPs:

Take measures to ensure the meaningful and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples throughout the development, implementation and monitoring of NBSAPs.

Respect, protect and fulfil the rights of Indigenous Peoples when taking biodiversity action, including in the course of spatial planning and management processes, in line with Target 1 of the GBF.

Recognise the contribution of Indigenous Peoples' scientific and technical knowledge to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as their efforts to address biodiversity and habitat loss. Respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples over such knowledge in accordance with Target 21 of the GBF, including FPIC in accordance with the CBD, Nagoya Protocol and other relevant international instruments.

Promote inclusive decision-making and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic and biological resources, as well as associated scientific and technical knowledge, in line with GBF Goal C on access and benefit sharing, as well as Target 9 on sustainable use and benefit-sharing.

Guarantee the rights of Indigenous Peoples to their lands, resources and territories, including with respect to the '30 by 30' provisions in Target 3 of the GBF.

Prohibit conservation measures that forcibly displace Indigenous Peoples.

⁹⁰ See more about the voluntary commitments [here](#). As an example, see the commitments made for Colombia [here](#).

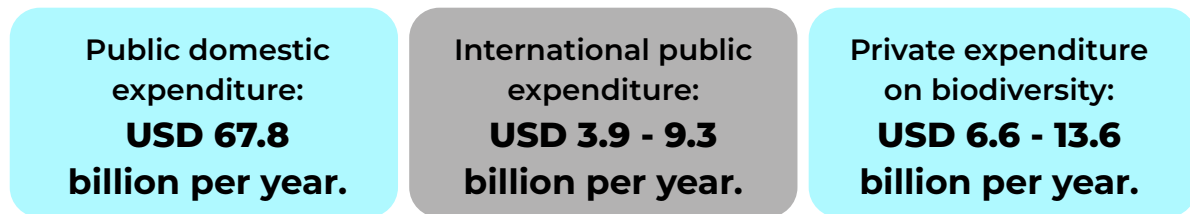
⁹¹ See the Guidance [here](#).

FINANCING THE GBF

The biodiversity crisis is closely linked to finance, in two ways:

Finance flows that have a direct negative impact on nature are estimated to almost US\$7 trillion per year from both public and private sector sources globally. This includes harmful subsidies to an amount of 1.7 trillion US\$, including fiscal support for fossil fuel consumption⁹².

In contrast, finance for biodiversity is insufficient. In 2020, the OECD⁹³ estimated that global biodiversity finance was in the range of 78 - 91 billion US\$ per year, comprising:



This means that nature-negative funding flows are at least 18 times bigger than global biodiversity finance. The biodiversity gap, which is the difference between what is spent and what is needed to protect the most important biodiversity and the services it provides, is estimated to be **between US\$ 598-824 billion per year**⁹⁴.

Within this overall funding crisis, Indigenous Peoples face additional challenges. Despite the crucial role they have in conserving and sustainably managing biodiversity, only a small fraction of international funding is allocated to support Indigenous Peoples. For example, less than 1 percent of international climate development aid from 2011-2020 was allocated for tenure rights and forest management of Indigenous Peoples and/or local communities⁹⁵. Moreover, most funds are channeled through governments, NGOs, UN agencies, multilateral banks or other so-called “intermediaries”. There is hardly any data on the transaction costs of the different funding modalities or the amount of funding that reaches Indigenous Peoples’ organizations. However, the Forest Tenure Funders Group (FTFG) which pledged 1.7 billion USD to tenure rights and forest guardianship of Indigenous Peoples and local communities has reported that only 2% of the funding disbursed so far under the Pledge was channeled directly to an organization of Indigenous Peoples or local communities.⁹⁶

Para. 7(p) of the GBF acknowledges that the “full implementation of the Framework requires adequate, predictable and easily accessible financial resources”. Further, **target 19** aims to **mobilize 200 billion US\$ per year** for biodiversity from all sources, to implement NBSAPs⁹⁷.

⁹² UN Environment Programme 2023: State of Finance for Nature, available [here](#).

⁹³ OECD: A Comprehensive Overview of Global Biodiversity Finance, available [here](#).

⁹⁴ As estimated by the Paulson Institute, The Nature Conservancy, and the Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability at Cornell University. See more [here](#).

⁹⁵ See Rainforest Foundation Norway: Falling short, available [here](#).

⁹⁶ See the FTFG annual report 2022-23, available [here](#).

⁹⁷ See more about target 19 [here](#).

Measures to reach the target include⁹⁸:

International financial resources from developed countries, including official development assistance.

Domestic resource mobilization (i.e. taxation).

Private sector finance by promoting blended finance and investments, including through impact funds.

Innovative finance schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards.

Optimizing co-benefits and synergies of finance targeting the biodiversity and climate crises, which are potentially synergistic (e.g. the conservation of natural forests is important for both biodiversity and for climate).

Enhancing the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions^[1] and non-market-based approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity.

Recognizing the urgency to increase international biodiversity finance, one of the key decisions of COP 15 was to establish the **Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF)**, dedicated exclusively to support the implementation of the GBF⁹⁹. The COP further requested the Global Environment Facility to establish the Fund. The GBFF is expected to support the human rights-based and gender-responsive implementation of the GBF, complementing existing support and scaling up financing additional resources from all sources, commensurate with the ambition of the GBF¹⁰⁰.

The GBFF Council will be composed of 32 members, representing developed and developing countries. Moreover, two representatives of particular groups, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities, will be invited to attend the GBFF Council meetings as observers.

The GBFF aims to allocate 20% of its funding to Indigenous Peoples and local communities, a fact that was welcomed and celebrated by the IIFB as a historic opportunity to support the work of Indigenous Peoples¹⁰¹. However, the aim still needs to be translated into reality, and could be strengthened if it was made an official policy and not just an “aspirational target”¹⁰².

⁹⁸ See target 19(a-f).

⁹⁹ See COP decisions 15/7 and 15/15.

¹⁰⁰ See more [here](#).

¹⁰¹ See IIFB press released [here](#).

¹⁰² See more [here](#).

The strategies to reach target 19 are not yet fleshed out. However, recognizing the urgency to increase biodiversity finance, **COP 15** adopted building blocks for an overall **resource mobilization strategy**¹⁰³, with a first intermediate phase (2023-24) and a subsequent medium-term phase (2025-30). The strategy will be further reviewed and strengthened at COP 16. In parallel, the COP encouraged Parties to develop, update and implement **national biodiversity finance plans**.

While the process towards more clarity of the GBF resource mobilization has been set, target 19 comprise many elements that require further analysis and discussion, including from Indigenous Peoples' perspectives.

The **funding sources** indicated in Target 19 include traditional sources such as:

Domestic resource mobilization (Target 19(b)), which should be increased significantly.

Official development assistance provided by developed countries to developing countries (Target 19(a)). This latter should reach 30 billion US\$ per year by 2030.

However, the target also points to private finance as well as “innovative schemes” such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits as critical sources of funding (19(d)). Many of these “market-based approaches” are also known from the financing mechanisms established to mitigate climate change.

The Forest Peoples Programme (FPP) notes that

“the rapid emergence of biodiversity credits, biodiversity offset schemes and other market-based investment vehicles seeks to attract private finance, sometimes linked to the carbon market in combined ‘nature credits’ and sometimes as a specifically biodiversity focused market. The focus on these market mechanisms has been highly criticised, as has their ability to deliver on biodiversity outcomes”.

FPP also points out that

“there is only a shallow understanding among many about how biodiversity offsets and credits would work in practice, and there are concerns about governments depending too much on private financing that may not provide the rigour needed to ensure rates of biodiversity loss are reduced and reversed at the speed we need”¹⁰⁴.

¹⁰³ See COP decision 15/7 [here](#).

¹⁰⁴ See FPP website [here](#). See also FPP: From Agreements to Actions: A guide to applying a human rights-based approach to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, available [here](#).

Drawing on experiences from carbon markets, FPP, Fern and Rainforest Foundation UK¹⁰⁵ provide a solid critique of market-based approaches and point to the need for holistic solutions and non-market approaches in response to climate, biodiversity and community needs.

FPP further highlights that:

“Where market mechanisms are being proposed or promoted, careful consideration will need to be paid to the potential negative impacts of these mechanisms on rights holders, including those with tenures that are insufficiently protected under national laws. Where market mechanisms are to be used, due diligence, high integrity certification and grievance and redress mechanisms for market harms are all essential parts of an appropriate regulatory framework at the national level”¹⁰⁶.

Emil Gualinga Sirén, stresses that Target 19(d) does not dictate that biodiversity credits and off-set schemes must be included in national strategies, but rather mentions those mechanisms as examples of innovative schemes. He points out that “innovative schemes could also include Indigenous Peoples’ own initiatives, which may comprise totally different mechanisms than those explicitly laid out in Target 19 (d). Indigenous Peoples’ participation in the implementation of Target 1 (d) must include the possibility of Indigenous Peoples to develop their own initiatives, and the possibility to determine how the Global Biodiversity Framework Target 19 (d) should be implemented on their territories, under what conditions, and in which parts of their territories”¹⁰⁷.

In contrast to the focus on market-based approaches in Target 19(d), Target 19(f) focuses inter alia on Indigenous Peoples and on non-market-based approaches. It calls for:

“Enhancing the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions and non-market-based approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity”.

¹⁰⁵ David Young: Beyond Offsets: People and Planet-Centred Responses to the Climate and Biodiversity Crisis, available [here](#).

¹⁰⁶ See FPP: From Agreements to Actions: A guide to applying a human rights-based approach to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, p. 44. available [here](#).

¹⁰⁷ Emil Gualinga Sirén: Indigenous Participation in the Implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework Target 19, available [here](#).

The accompanying CBD Guidance Note explains that:

“collective action refers to actions taken by groups of people towards a common goal or objective. Many groups, including indigenous peoples and local communities, act for biodiversity. While these actions do not necessarily generate resources, they do have value, which should be accounted for as part of this target. This also applies to Mother Earth-centric actions and other non-market-based approaches to biodiversity”¹⁰⁸.

It is indeed crucial to recognize and value the contributions of Indigenous Peoples to biodiversity. However, the Guidance Note seems to focus on how to account for Indigenous Peoples’ collective action and other non-market-based approaches towards the overall target of mobilizing 200 billion US\$/year. However, from the perspective of many Indigenous Peoples, it would be more important to focus on mobilizing funds through non-market-based approaches to support and sustain their collective action for biodiversity.

KEY QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTIONS AND DISCUSSION

What should be the key elements of a human rights-based approach to implementation of the GBF in your country/area?

What would be the key obstacles and opportunities for pursuing such a human rights-based approach to implementation of the GBF in your country/area?

Which are the GBF indicators that are of particular importance for Indigenous Peoples in your country/area?

Which are the GBF indicators that are of particular importance for Indigenous Peoples in your country/area?

Does Indigenous Peoples in your country/area participate in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of NBSAPs? What can be done to strengthen their participation going forward?

¹⁰⁸ See more [here](#).

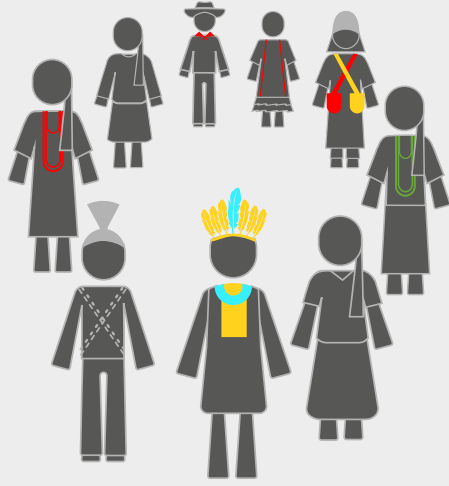
REPORTING FORMAT FOR KEY QUESTIONS

Key elements of a human rights-based approach to implementation of the GBF	Key obstacles for pursuing a human rights-based approach	Key opportunities for pursuing a human rights-based approach
▪ ...	▪ ...	▪ ...

QUESTION	RESPONSE
What GBF indicators are of particular importance for Indigenous Peoples	▪ ...
What data from community-based monitoring and information systems are available?	▪ ...

PARTICIPATION IN NBSAP	PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES OF PARTICIPATION	WAYS TO STRENGTHEN PARTICIPATION
Formulation	▪ ...	
Implementation	▪ ...	
Monitoring	▪ ...	

DEVELOPING A STRATEGY FOR **ENGAGEMENT**



DEVELOPING A STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT

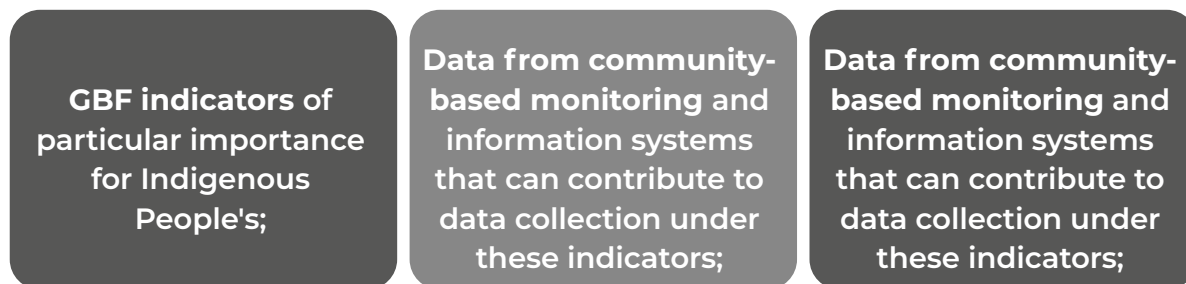
Going forward, it is crucial that Indigenous Peoples actively participate in the implementation of the GBF and have the knowledge, advocacy skills, and partnerships that allow them to integrate their rights and perspectives into NBSAPs and other GBF-related measures and processes. A starting point could be the formulation of a longer-term strategy for awareness, capacity-building, advocacy and engagement, which address the most important needs, rights and priorities of Indigenous Peoples, and which can be pursued in a collaborative manner by Indigenous Peoples and their allies.

The answers provided to the key questions in Modules 1-4 will help identify a range of elements, opportunities and risks that you can build an awareness, capacity-building, advocacy and engagement strategy around. Such as strategy could include the considerations and elements outlined below:

The focus of your strategy:

The ecosystems, species and variations of individual species that are of particular importance for Indigenous Peoples;	The ecosystems, species and variations of individual species that are of particular importance for Indigenous Peoples;
The ecosystems, species and variations of individual species that are deteriorating, and the drivers of change that affect them negatively;	The ecosystems, species and variations of individual species that are deteriorating, and the drivers of change that affect them negatively;
The opportunities and risks for Indigenous Peoples associated with conservation of biodiversity;	The opportunities and risks for Indigenous Peoples associated with sustainable use of biodiversity;
The opportunities and risks for Indigenous Peoples associated with fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from genetic resources;	The opportunities and barriers for Indigenous Peoples in accessing finance

Monitoring the implementation of the GBF:



The opportunities for engagement and action:



Building awareness and capacity:



Based on the above, a clear and targeted policy advocacy plan can be developed, with specific targets on the recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights, protection of environmental and human rights defenders, access to justice and other priorities relevant to the country context. Such advocacy plan and targets should be collectively formulated and presented as key demands of Indigenous Peoples to be integrated and addressed in the NBSAPs.

