



Supporting Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to Prepare for Updating the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)

“Technical Support for the Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support”

Guide on undertaking rapid assessment of existing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), including undertaking gap analyses of NBSAPs with the new targets

1. Introduction

In December 2022, Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) approved the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework whose mission is “To take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and planet by conserving and sustainably using biodiversity and by ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources, while providing the necessary means of implementation.” One of the key early steps to be taken by Parties in fulfilment of this mission for the period up to 2030, is to revise or update NBSAPs, and the alignment of existing NBSAPs and their targets with the new framework.

Decision 15/6 states that “This assessment should consider, according to national circumstances, elements such as implementation gaps, existing goals, targets and indicators, the effectiveness of past actions, monitoring systems (including any data and/or knowledge systems and gaps), sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, finance and other means of implementation, and an assessment of how stakeholders, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth were involved in the revision and implementation. This exercise will allow the identification of those aspects or components of their NBSAPs that need to be revised or updated in the light of the new framework.”

This NBSAP rapid assessment guide will help Parties to answer the following three questions when revising or updating their NBSAPs:

- A. What actions to consider when revising or updating NBSAPs?
- B. How to align existing NBSAPs and targets with the new framework?
- C. How to undertake gap analyses of NBSAPs with the new targets?

This guide presents a pathway of steps and sub-steps, based on decisions of the Conference of the Parties, for each of the three primary questions above. Following each set of steps and sub-steps, a list of suggested tools is included. Each step is associated with an expected result taken from Section C of the GBF (Decision 15/4) “Considerations for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework” or from Decision 15/6, where relevant. This guide indicates how monitoring, resource mobilization, capacity development, gender and indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) can be addressed and integrated for effective implementation of the GBF.

The primary target audience for the Guide is policy makers and decision makers (including CBD and GEF Focal Points) at the national and subnational (regional, district, municipal) levels. This includes stakeholders from the government (head of state’s office, finance, planning, subnational bodies, sectoral ministries, national statistics office), private sector and other experts and practitioners in supporting national and subnational partners.

A. What actions to consider when revising or updating NBSAPs?

Decision 15/4 identifies the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention and in alignment with the Framework and its goals and targets, as the main vehicle for implementation of the Framework, including national targets communicated in a standardized format. However,

Decision 15/6 states that “Parties not in a position to submit their revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans by the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to communicate national targets reflecting, as applicable, all the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including those related to all means of implementation, in accordance with the reporting template provided in annex I, as a standalone submission, by the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in advance of the full submission of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.”

All Parties have been mandated by the Conference of the Parties in its Decision 15/6 to undertake the following actions when revising or updating NBSAPs:

- a) In accordance with Articles 3, 6, 20 and 21 of the Convention, the revision or updating of NBSAPs to align with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the corresponding national targets, should be **self-determined** by each Party in accordance with their particular conditions and capabilities.
- b) Reflect all the **goals and targets** of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including those related to all means of implementation.
- c) Parties should involve and facilitate the **engagement** of all government sectors at all levels of government, and all stakeholders, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth across society, to ensure that targets, actions and expected outcomes are coordinated, that the concerns of different actors are addressed, and that their ownership and commitment towards implementation are attained.
- d) The NBSAPs should promote **synergies** and planning across other biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).
- e) The NBSAP process should garner **high-level political support**, ensure interministerial coordination and vertical integration, and facilitate implementation.
- f) Information on **commitments from non-State actors** may be a useful source of information for revising or updating NBSAPs. Additionally, Parties may include these commitments in their national targets, or they could be maintained as separate commitments from actors beyond the national Government, as appropriate to national circumstances. Double counting of commitments from non-State actors should be avoided.

Step A1: Self-determination of country conditions and capabilities to update or revise the NBSAP. This determination involves the following sub-steps using the approach of the Paris Agreement for UNFCCC Parties to determine their national determined contributions:

A1.1 Undertake the revision or updating of your country's NBSAP on the basis of intergenerational equity, which aims to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and to ensure meaningful participation of younger generations in decision-making processes at all levels.

A1.2 Undertake the revision or updating of your country's NBSAP in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, recognizing the important linkages between biological and cultural diversity and human development.

A1.3 Undertake the revision or updating of your country's NBSAP taking into consideration the following provisions in Articles of the Convention: (a) the exercise of sovereign right to exploit your country's own resources (Article 3), (b) integrate as far as possible, and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programs and policies (Article 6), (c) mobilize financial resources from all sources (Article 20), and (d) ensure the effectiveness of the financial mechanism to provide adequate and predictable financial resources for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (Article 21).

Suggested tools:

- Biodiversity and environmental assessment toolkit¹
- UN backed ENCORE (Exploring Natural Capital Opportunities, Risks and Exposure) biodiversity module – aligning financial portfolios with biodiversity goals²

EXPECTED RESULT STEP A1: EACH PARTY WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO ATTAINING THE GOALS AND TARGETS OF THE FRAMEWORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, PRIORITIES AND CAPABILITIES (DECISION 15/4).

Step A2: Technical analysis of the relevance of the GBF goals and targets for the country at national and subnational levels. The analysis involves the following steps:

A2.1: Mapping of GBF goals targets against national/subnational priorities based on an analysis of the National Development Strategy and/or Plan, Sectoral Plans and Local Development Agendas, to determine which GBF targets are aligned with the environment and development priorities of a country.

A2.2: Mapping the institutional framework of the government responsible for aligned GBF goals and targets.

A2.3: Identification of interlinkages between the GBF, NBSAP and existing plans, strategies and/or policies, and determining the balance across environment and development dimensions (social, economic).

Suggested tools:

¹ <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/972141468739523098/biodiversity-and-environmental-assessment-toolkit>

² <https://www.unepfi.org/themes/ecosystems/cutting-edge-biodiversity-module/>

- Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT). Information stored in DaRT can simply be updated by mapping the information to the new goals and targets.
- Mapping essential life support areas - A dynamic partnership using spatial data to map essential life support areas for nature, climate, and sustainable development in countries around the world.³

EXPECTED RESULT STEP A2: RECOGNIZING THE 1986 UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT, THE FRAMEWORK ENABLES RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT, AT THE SAME TIME, CONTRIBUTES TO THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY (DECISION 15/4).

Step A3: Promoting and supporting effective stakeholder engagement

A3.1: Develop a stakeholder engagement plan to ensure that key groups are consulted and that the revised or updated national biodiversity targets take into account a diversity of perspectives and knowledge. The GBF is a framework for all - for the whole of government and the whole of society. Its success requires political will and recognition at the highest level of government and relies on action and cooperation by all levels of government and by all actors of society (Decision 15/4).

A3.2: Plan and hold consultations to discuss and obtain the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)⁴ 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 (Decision 15/6).

A3.3: Facilitate, as appropriate, engagement with and coordination among focal points for other relevant multilateral environment agreements and the Rio conventions (Decision 15/6).

A3.4: Enable the full and effective participation and engagement of women, indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, civil society organizations, academia, the private sector, all levels of government and stakeholders from all other relevant sectors, in all levels of development and implementation of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans (Decision 15/6).

A3.5: Identify processes or mechanisms that are in place or should be put in place to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision-making processes.

³ <https://unbiodiversitylab.org/en/maps-of-hope/>

⁴ 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”, as applicable.

A3.6: Identify how gender equality and participation of women and girls in biodiversity-related decision-making processes can be strengthened and take measures to do so.

A3.7: Identify what is needed to enable effective participation of children and youth and persons with disabilities, and take measures to ensure that their views, needs and perspectives are taken into account in decision-making.

Suggested tools:

- Stakeholder Engagement Handbook⁵

EXPECTED RESULT STEP A3: THE PARTIES WILL CATALYSE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK THROUGH MOBILIZATION OF BROAD PUBLIC SUPPORT AT ALL LEVELS (DECISION 15/4)
SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK WILL DEPEND ON ENSURING GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, AND ON REDUCING INEQUALITIES (DECISION 15/4).

Step A4: Promotion of synergies and planning across other biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral environmental agreements

A4.1: Identify and utilize for maximum efficiency and coherence synergies among NBSAPs and the planning and implementation mechanisms of the other biodiversity-related conventions, Rio conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

A4.2: Identify and optimize co-benefits and synergies in financing to address the biodiversity, pollution and climate crises.

A4.3: Identify and leverage cooperation and collaboration in building the necessary capacity and transfer of technologies to enable full implementation of the Framework.⁶

A4.4: Identify capacity needs for coherent national action across MEAs and enhancing awareness and understanding of processes and synergies between conventions. This could be through newsletters, websites, and trainings.

Suggested tools:

- The clearing-house mechanism/Bioland tool.⁷
- The voluntary Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT) developed by the United Nations Environment Program.

⁵ <https://www.unep.org/resources/publication/stakeholder-engagement-handbook>

⁶ Refer to paragraphs 22 to 26 of Decision 15/6.

⁷ <https://www.cbd.int/kb/record/notification/2942?Subject=CHM>

EXPECTED RESULT STEP A4: ENHANCED COLLABORATION, COOPERATION AND SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND ITS PROTOCOLS, OTHER BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS, OTHER RELEVANT MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROCESSES, IN LINE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE MANDATES, INCLUDING AT THE GLOBAL, REGIONAL, SUBREGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS, WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO AND PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK IN A MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE MANNER (DECISION 15/4).

Step A5: Garner high-level political support, ensure interministerial coordination and vertical integration, and facilitate implementation.

A5.1: Develop and implement a strategy to adopt your country's revised or updated NBSAPs as a policy or legal instrument taking note that as a policy instrument, the NBSAP process necessitates political endorsement and engagement by civil society and the private sector. The NBSAP process is considered successful if it adopts a participatory, bottom-up approach.

A5.2: Determine the type of policy instrument for the adoption of your country's revised or updated NBSAP.⁸

A5.3: Obtain high political commitment from the outset. It is needed to build stakeholders' capacity through the leveraging of predictable and adequate financial resources.

EXPECTED RESULT STEP A5: THE SUCCESS OF THE FRAMEWORK REQUIRES POLITICAL WILL AND RECOGNITION AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT AND RELIES ON ACTION AND COOPERATION BY ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND BY ALL ACTORS OF SOCIETY (DECISION 15/4). THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK REQUIRES ADEQUATE, PREDICTABLE AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES (DECISION 15/4).

Step A6: Coordinate and use commitments from non-State actors

A6.1: Information on commitments from non-State actors may be a useful source of information for revising or updating NBSAPs. Additionally, your country may include these commitments in its national targets, or they could be maintained as separate commitments

⁸ Decision 15/6 proposes the following options: (i) Adopted through legislation or otherwise by parliament; (ii) Adopted by Council of Ministers, Office of the President/Prime Minister or equivalent whole-of-government body; (iii) Adopted by Ministry of Environment or other sectoral ministry; (iv) Integrated into the poverty reduction strategy, sustainable development strategy, national development plan, and other related strategies or plans.

from actors beyond the national Government, as appropriate to national circumstances. Double counting of commitments from non-State actors should be avoided (Decision 15/6).

EXPECTED RESULT STEP A6: THE PARTIES WILL CATALYZE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK THROUGH MOBILIZATION OF BROAD PUBLIC SUPPORT AT ALL LEVELS (DECISION 15/4).

B. How to align existing NBSAPs and targets with the new framework?

Annex I of Decision 15/6 "Mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review" includes guidance for revising or updating NBSAPs to align with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. It states that "...in order to minimize the time and resources required to revise or update NBSAPs, the alignment of existing NBSAPs and their targets with the new framework could be assessed. This assessment should consider, according to national circumstances, elements such as **implementation gaps, existing goals, targets, and indicators, the effectiveness of past actions, monitoring systems (including any data and/or knowledge systems and gaps), sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, finance and other means of implementation, and an assessment of how stakeholders, indigenous peoples, local communities, women, and youth were involved in the revision and implementation.** This exercise will allow the identification of those aspects or components of their NBSAPs that need to be revised or updated in the light of the new framework."

Step B1: Identification of implementation gaps⁹

B1.1: Review the relevant achievements and gaps of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, and the relevant experience and achievements of other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, and apply the relevant lessons learned to the NBSAP alignment process.

B1.2: Assess the status of current national biodiversity targets and related non-State actor commitments to determine implementation gaps. This will help ensure that targets that are potentially aligned on paper are also aligned in implementation.

Suggested tools:

- Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT)
- CBD COP Decision 15/3 Review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

⁹ See Section C for guidance on how to analyze the implementation gaps identified.

- Fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook¹⁰
- Second edition of the Local Biodiversity Outlooks¹¹
- Review of implementation of the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action¹²

EXPECTED RESULT STEP B1: NATIONAL TARGETS ADDRESSING OR CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS EACH OF THE GOALS AND TARGETS OF THE KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK AND ENSURING CLOSE ALIGNMENT WHERE POSSIBLE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION. NATIONAL TARGETS MAY LEVERAGE COMMITMENTS MADE UNDER OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES AND RELEVANT MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING THE RIO CONVENTIONS (DECISION 15/6).

Step B2: Existing goals, targets and indicators

B2.1: Carry out a desk review or policy analysis, of existing national biodiversity goals and targets for alignment with the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Annex I from Decision 15/6 “Mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review”, calls on Parties to consider the degree of alignment of existing NBSAPs and their targets with the new framework, using the following definitions:

- ✓ High alignment: covers all elements of the global target.
- ✓ Medium alignment: covers most elements of the global target.
- ✓ Low: covers at least one element of the global target.

B2.2: Assess coherence between existing national biodiversity goals and targets and those in the GBF.

B2.3: Revise existing national targets or develop new targets as needed to ensure better alignment with the Global Biodiversity Framework goals and targets and ensure targets are operational.

B2.4: Use the headline indicators, supplemented by component and complementary indicators and other national indicators, in relevant national planning processes, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans, according to their national circumstances. NBSAPs may indicate the relevant agencies responsible for collecting the data and compiling these indicators, any need for further development of such indicators, and any capacity development needs.

Suggested tool:

¹⁰ <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/global-biodiversity-outlook-5-gbo-5>

¹¹ <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/2nd-edition-local-biodiversity-outlooks>

¹² <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/2a29/307a/3235fdabd9edd01b9576e42b/sbi-03-02-add3-en.pdf>

- Decision 15/6 Template for submission of national targets as part of national biodiversity strategies and action plans towards the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

EXPECTED RESULT B2: NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS, REVISED OR UPDATED IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK AND ITS GOALS AND TARGETS AS THE MAIN VEHICLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK.

Step B3: Whole of government and whole of society approach

B3.1: Involve all levels of government and all actors of society in a coordinated and coherent manner with a view of fostering with a view to fostering the full and effective contributions of women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society organizations, the private and financial sectors, and stakeholders from all other sectors. Whole of government and whole of society approaches can help pave the way for holistic approaches to biodiversity governance and contribute effectively to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which are “integrated and indivisible”.

In assessing the overall progress of implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2022, Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 concluded that NBSAPs were limited in their effectiveness because “few countries have adopted NBSAPs as whole-of-government policy instruments” and because there was “insufficient involvement of women, indigenous peoples and local communities, and a broad set of stakeholders in the design and implementation of NBSAPs”.

Suggested tools:

- Integrated environment assessment guidelines¹³
- Species Threat Abatement and Restoration (STAR) metric¹⁴
- Policy instruments for biodiversity¹⁵
- Global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services¹⁶
- Gender Plan of Action¹⁷

¹³https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/33498/IEA_2017_02_17.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

¹⁴<https://www.iucn.org/resources/conservation-tool/species-threat-abatement-and-restoration-star-metric>

¹⁵<https://www.oecd.org/environment/resources/policy-instruments-biodiversity.htm>

¹⁶<https://www.ipbes.net/global-assessment>

¹⁷<https://www.cbd.int/gender/action-plan>

EXPECTED RESULT B3: BUILDING ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011–2020, ITS ACHIEVEMENTS, GAPS, AND LESSONS LEARNED, AND THE EXPERIENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS (DECISION 15/4).

THIS IS A FRAMEWORK FOR ALL - FOR THE WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT AND THE WHOLE OF SOCIETY. ITS SUCCESS REQUIRES POLITICAL WILL AND RECOGNITION AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT AND RELIES ON ACTION AND COOPERATION BY ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND BY ALL ACTORS OF SOCIETY (DECISION 15/4).

Step B4: Set up and implement effective monitoring systems

B4.1: National monitoring, reviewing and assessment. While revising or updating NBSAPs, headline indicators as well as component, complementary and other national indicators, where relevant, should be used, including to track contributions towards the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, taking into account national circumstances (Decision 15/6).

B4.2: NBSAPs may indicate the relevant agencies responsible for collecting the data and compiling these indicators, any need for further development of such indicators, and any capacity development needs (Decision 15/6).

B4.3: Enable the active engagement of all actors in the implementation and monitoring of progress towards the achievement of its goals and targets (Decision 15/4).

B4.4: While revising or updating NBSAPs, headline indicators as well as component, complementary and other national indicators, where relevant, should be used, including to track contributions towards the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, taking into account national circumstances (Decision 15/5).

B4.5: NBSAPs may identify the relevant agencies responsible for collecting the data and compiling these indicators, any need for further development of such indicators, and any capacity development needs. (Decision 15/5).

EXPECTED RESULT B4: PARTIES WOULD EFFECTIVELY USE THE HEADLINE INDICATORS, AS WELL AS COMPONENT AND COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS, SUPPORTED BY ADEQUATE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION, INCLUDING CAPACITY-BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION TO FILL MONITORING GAPS, ESPECIALLY FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (DECISION 15/5).

Suggested tools

- Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT)

- Red List Index¹⁸

Step B5: Assessment of sectoral and cross-sectoral policies

B5.1: National biodiversity strategies and action plans should be seen as an umbrella process under which all national targets and actions relevant to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework can be planned, implemented, monitored, reviewed and enhanced. They should involve and facilitate the engagement of all government sectors at all levels of government, and all stakeholders, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, to ensure that targets, actions and expected outcomes are coordinated, that the concerns of different actors are addressed, and that their ownership and commitment towards implementation are attained.

B5.2: Raise awareness among all sectors and actors of the need for urgent action to implement the Framework, while enabling their active engagement in the implementation and monitoring of progress towards the achievement of its goals and targets.

B5.3: Engage the private sector, proactively and as appropriate, in the development of national capacities, as many technical and financial resources and relevant expertise and technologies lie in the hands of private entities.

B5.4: Align biodiversity capacity-building and development with broader cross-sectoral plans and programs.

EXPECTED RESULT B5: THE PARTIES WILL CATALYSE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK THROUGH MOBILIZATION OF BROAD PUBLIC (AND PRIVATE) SUPPORT AT ALL LEVELS (DECISION 15/4).

Suggested tools:

- Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT)
- Policy instruments for biodiversity
- Gender Plan of Action

Step B6: Mobilize adequate finance and other means of implementation

B6.1: Develop, update, and implement national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments, based on an assessment of biodiversity expenditures and finance needs, and based on national biodiversity strategies and action plans, to support adequate and timely

¹⁸ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/assessment/red-list-index>

mobilization of international and domestic, public and private financial resources for the effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

B6.2: Reflect in the national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments: (i) their financial contribution to the implementation of the Convention, in developing country Parties; (ii) financial, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building support needed, received, and used, to implement their national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

B6.3: Actively participate in the agreed processes to increase international biodiversity finance, and pursue opportunities to receive new and additional resources from all sources, including from the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund .

EXPECTED RESULT B6: THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK REQUIRES ADEQUATE, PREDICTABLE AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES (DECISION 15/4).

Suggested tools:

- ENCORE tool
- Human Rights tool¹⁹

Step B7: Assessment of how stakeholders, indigenous peoples, local communities, women, and youth are involved in the alignment of NBSAPs with the GBF.

B7.1: Identify the legislative, regulatory and policy measures that can be put in place to protect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities over their lands, territories, and resources.

B7.2: Mobilize indigenous peoples and local communities, subnational governments, cities and other local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, other multilateral environmental agreements, non governmental organizations, women, youth, research organizations, the business and finance community and representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity, to develop, on a voluntary basis, commitments contributing to national biodiversity strategies and action plans and to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and to share them through the online platform for the Sharm El Sheikh to Kunming and Montreal Action Agenda for Nature and People.

B7.3: When fostering an effective enabling environment and strengthening the ability of individuals and institutions to contribute successfully to realizing the mission of halting and reversing biodiversity loss, it is important to take into consideration the special situation of those that are most vulnerable to environmental degradation and stresses, such as those

¹⁹ <https://www.unepfi.org/tools/human-rights-tool/>

living within arid and semi-arid zones, coastal and mountainous areas, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth.

B7.4: Assess how to foster the full and effective contributions of women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society organizations, the private and financial sectors, and stakeholders from all other sectors in the alignment of NBSAPs with the GBF.

B7.5: In keeping with Decision 15/11, assess and take measures to incorporate the expected outcomes, objectives and actions of the Gender Plan of Action in plans to achieve the national biodiversity targets, recognizing that effective action on biodiversity requires all members of society to be fully engaged.

B.7.6: Access the “one-stop service centre”²⁰ for Parties to biodiversity-related conventions, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to access technical and scientific knowledge, expertise, tools and other resources, taking into account the science, technology and innovation capability gaps identified by Parties, especially developing country Parties. Decision 15/8.

B.7.7: Identify what measures are in place to ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders. How do the existing mechanisms address and respond to threats and attacks against human rights defenders? How could their effectiveness be improved?

B.7.8: Indicate what processes or mechanisms are in place to ensure gender equality and a gender-responsive approach to biodiversity. How do these address access to land and resources? How do they affect decision-making processes? How effective have these been? What additional processes or mechanisms may be needed?

EXPECTED RESULTS B7: THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK SHOULD FOLLOW A HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH, RESPECTING, PROTECTING, PROMOTING AND FULFILLING HUMAN RIGHTS. THE FRAMEWORK ACKNOWLEDGES THE HUMAN RIGHT TO A CLEAN, HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT (DECISION 15/4).

SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK WILL DEPEND ON ENSURING GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, AND ON REDUCING INEQUALITIES (DECISION 15/4). THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK SHOULD BE GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLE OF INTERGENERATIONAL EQUITY WHICH AIMS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE PRESENT WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE ABILITY OF FUTURE GENERATIONS TO MEET THEIR OWN NEEDS AND TO ENSURE

²⁰ A regional or sub-regional support centre that provides access to technical and scientific knowledge, expertise, tools and other resources. <https://www.cbd.int/tsc/documents/tsc-background%20information.pdf>

MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION OF YOUNGER GENERATIONS IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES AT ALL LEVELS (DECISION 15/4).

Suggested tools:

- Gender and biodiversity tools²¹
- Gender Plan of Action²²
- The state of Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' lands and territories²³
- Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool²⁴

C.How to undertake gap analyses of NBSAPs with the new targets?

Decision 15/6 calls for "...the identification of financing and capacity gaps and the development of national finance plans, or similar instruments, as well as capacity-building and development plans." Among the purposes of the proposed Ad-hoc Informal Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation (Decision 15/8) is a call for "Measures to address the technological, technical and institutional capability gaps identified in particular by developing countries." In Decision 15/7, it is proposed that the Expert Group on Financial Reporting work to, inter-alia: (i) To provide guidance to Parties on ways to fill data gaps in an efficient manner, recognizing the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties to develop and access information tools; (ii) To provide advice on the existing capacity, gaps and needs in terms of capacity development, technology transfer and financing needs related to the financial monitoring and reporting."

Step C1: National capacity self-assessment

C1.1 Carry out a national capacity self-assessment with regard to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

C1.2: Map the top priority capacity needs and gaps, at the individual, institutional and enabling environment levels, for national implementation.

C1.3: Assess whether your country has a capacity-development plan for biodiversity or a specific component on capacity in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

²¹ <https://www.cbd.int/gender/tools/>

²² <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-11-en.pdf>

²³ https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/report_the_state_of_the_indigenous_peoples_and_local_communities_lands_and_territor.pdf

²⁴ <https://www.ibat-alliance.org/>

Step C2: Increase mobilization of financial resources from all sources, domestic and international, public, and private.

C2.1: Take the strategy for resource mobilization into consideration as a flexible framework guiding implementation of the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework related to resource mobilization, in accordance with national circumstances.

C2.2: Pursue all efforts to mainstream biodiversity and increase direct funding to biodiversity, as well as through instruments for the mobilization of private investment for biodiversity. Those efforts should be documented in the national finance plan.

Step C3: Develop, update, and implement national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments.

C3.1: Assess biodiversity expenditures and finance needs and support adequate and timely mobilization of international and domestic, public and private financial resources for the effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

C3.2: Assess the current amount of biodiversity financing available in your country? What percentage of this funding comes from national budgets? What percentage comes from other sources?

C3.3: Provide information in national biodiversity finance plans, on financial, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building support needed, received, and used, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

Step C4: Enhance cooperation to have the necessary capacities to fully implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and related decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

C4.1: Ensure that capacity-building and development interventions are planned and delivered as an integral part of the national biodiversity/environmental institutions' broader corporate strategic plans, ongoing human resources and organizational development and knowledge management, organizational learning, mentorship and peer-to-peer support, nurturing of communities of practice, and systematic sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned.

C4.2: Integrate capacity-building and development components into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and similar strategic documents.

C.4.3: Develop dedicated national capacity-building and development action plans, as appropriate, to identify the core capacity-building and development needs, goals, targets and milestones.

C4.4: Apply the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to national implementation proposed in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to galvanize capacity-building and development for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the global biodiversity goals and targets. Focal points of the Rio conventions, biodiversity-related conventions and the Sustainable Development Goals, and representatives of line ministries and sectors should adopt a road map for alignment and coordinated action.

C4.5: Undertake context-specific assessments and stocktaking processes to identify existing capacity, and the obstacles preventing its utilization and retention. Likewise, identify and promote incentives that will help retain and fully utilize existing capacity and minimize not only loss of expertise and institutional memory, but also discontinuity of partnerships/relationships built.

C4.6: Establish and strengthen partnerships for effective mobilization of capacities and resources; the sharing of existing knowledge, expertise, and technologies; and implementation of medium to long-term capacity-building and development programmes on specific issues related to the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in line with national priorities.

C4.7: Enhance synergies with the capacity-building and development initiatives and the implementation processes of the biodiversity-related conventions, the Rio conventions and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, at the global, regional, and national levels. At the national level, the focal points of relevant conventions and processes, and of funding mechanisms, such as the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund, should consider establishing a mechanism to foster integrated and/or coordinated planning, programming, monitoring and evaluation, as appropriate.

C4.8: Engage the private sector, proactively and as appropriate, in the development of national capacities, as many technical and financial resources and relevant expertise and technologies lie in the hands of private entities. In doing so, ensure transparency and accountability. Also strengthen the capacity of small and medium enterprises to address biodiversity-related issues.

C4.9: Develop and implement adaptive management systems for monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity capacity-building and development efforts, to assess whether the intended capacity results are achieved in an impactful and sustainable manner, to identify and correct mistakes, and to capture and share good practices and lessons.

EXPECTED RESULTS C3: THE GOALS AND TARGETS OF THE FRAMEWORK ARE GLOBAL IN NATURE. EACH PARTY WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO ATTAINING THE GOALS AND TARGETS OF THE FRAMEWORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, PRIORITIES AND CAPABILITIES (DECISION 15/4). IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK REQUIRES TRANSFORMATIVE, INNOVATIVE AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION, FORMAL AND INFORMAL, AT ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACE STUDIES AND LIFELONG LEARNING PROCESSES, RECOGNIZING DIVERSE WORLD VIEWS, VALUES AND KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES (DECISION 15/4).

THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK REQUIRES ADEQUATE, PREDICTABLE AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES (DECISION 15/4).

Suggested tools:

- UNEP ENCORE tool
- GBIF Capacity Self-assessment tool²⁵
- Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT)
- UNDP Capacity Assessment Supporting Tool²⁶

Conclusions

The Guide on undertaking rapid assessment of existing national biodiversity strategies and action plans provides Parties with a structured and easy to follow set of actions to consider when revising or updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, it assists the process to align existing national biodiversity strategies and action plans and targets with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity framework and shows how to undertake gap analyses of national biodiversity strategies and action plans with the new targets. The use of the Guide will allow Parties to identify those aspects or components of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans that need to be revised or updated in the light of the new framework. By following the suggested steps and sub-steps and consulting the list of suggested tools included in the Guide, Parties would be able to minimize time and resources required to revise or update national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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²⁵ <https://www.gbif.org/tool/6Y2SqK8XokHUqIFUn6TLxX/online-capacity-self-assessment-tool-for-national-biodiversity-information-facilities>

²⁶ <https://www.undp.org/publications/undp-capacity-assessment-supporting-tool>

Sources of primary information for this guide

CBD COP 15 Decisions

<https://www.cbd.int/decisions/cop/?m=cop-15>

IPBES Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

<https://www.ipbes.net/global-assessment>

UNEP Biodiversity Assessment Tools

<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/dart-data-tool-helps-bring-biodiversity-back-brink> ; <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/green-economy/what-we-do/finance-initiative>

UNDP Rapid Integrated Assessment

<https://www.undp.org/publications/rapid-integrated-assessment>