

## Proposals to Advance the Negotiations of the Post 2020 Biodiversity Framework

By Dr. Viviana Muñoz Tellez\*

This year the Parties to the CBD aim to adopt a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework<sup>1</sup> ('the Framework'), as a steppingstone towards the 2050 Vision of "Living in harmony with nature."<sup>2</sup> The Framework will establish new commitments for actions by countries to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, promote sustainable use of biodiversity and the equitable sharing of the benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge. All three objectives must be advanced in parallel. Biodiversity and ecosystems are essential for sustainable development, and thus feature prominently in the 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development and the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>3</sup> The Framework thus should be developed in alignment with the SDGs to support broader achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.<sup>4</sup> The theory of change underpinning the Framework is presented in Figure 1.

The goals, targets, indicators and baselines and the monitoring framework are to be aligned with and supported by mechanisms for implementation, including resource mobilization, capacity-building,

### Abstract

Informal consultations are ongoing in virtual format towards the adoption of a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework by the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The Fifteenth meeting of the CBD-COP is scheduled to be held on 11–24 October 2021, in Kunming, China. For negotiations to succeed, the Framework must be ambitious, balanced and achievable, building on past commitments. All three pillars of the CBD must be equally advanced. The Rio principles in particular on common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR), must be clearly reflected. This policy brief advances proposals towards advancing negotiations on the current zero-draft of the Framework towards realizing the 2050 global vision of living in harmony with nature.

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*Se están llevando a cabo consultas informales en formato virtual para la adopción de un Marco Global de Biodiversidad Post-2020 por parte de la Conferencia de las Partes (COP) del Convenio sobre la Diversidad Biológica (CDB). La decimoquinta reunión de la CDB-COP está prevista que se celebre del 11 al 24 de octubre de 2021, en Kunming, China. Para que las negociaciones tengan éxito, el Marco debe ser ambicioso, equilibrado y alcanzable, basándose en los compromisos anteriores. Los tres pilares del CDB deben avanzar por igual. Los principios de Río, en particular los relativos a las responsabilidades comunes pero diferenciadas (CBDR), deben quedar claramente reflejados. Este informe político presenta propuestas para avanzar en las negociaciones sobre el actual borrador cero del Marco para hacer realidad la visión global de 2050 de vivir en armonía con la naturaleza.*

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*Des consultations informelles sont en cours en format virtuel en vue de l'adoption d'un cadre mondial pour la biodiversité post-2020 par la Conférence des Parties (COP) à la Convention sur la diversité biologique (CDB). La quinzième réunion de la CDB-COP se tiendra du 11 au 24 octobre 2021, à Kunming, en Chine. Pour que les négociations aboutissent, le Cadre doit être ambitieux, équilibré et réalisable, en s'appuyant sur les engagements précédents. Les trois piliers de la CDB doivent être mis en avant de manière égale. Les principes de Rio, en particulier les responsabilités communes mais différenciées (CBDR), doivent être clairement reflétés. Ce Rapport sur les politiques présente des propositions visant à faire progresser les négociations sur l'actuelle version non définitive du cadre, afin de concrétiser la vision mondiale de 2050, à savoir vivre en harmonie avec la nature.*

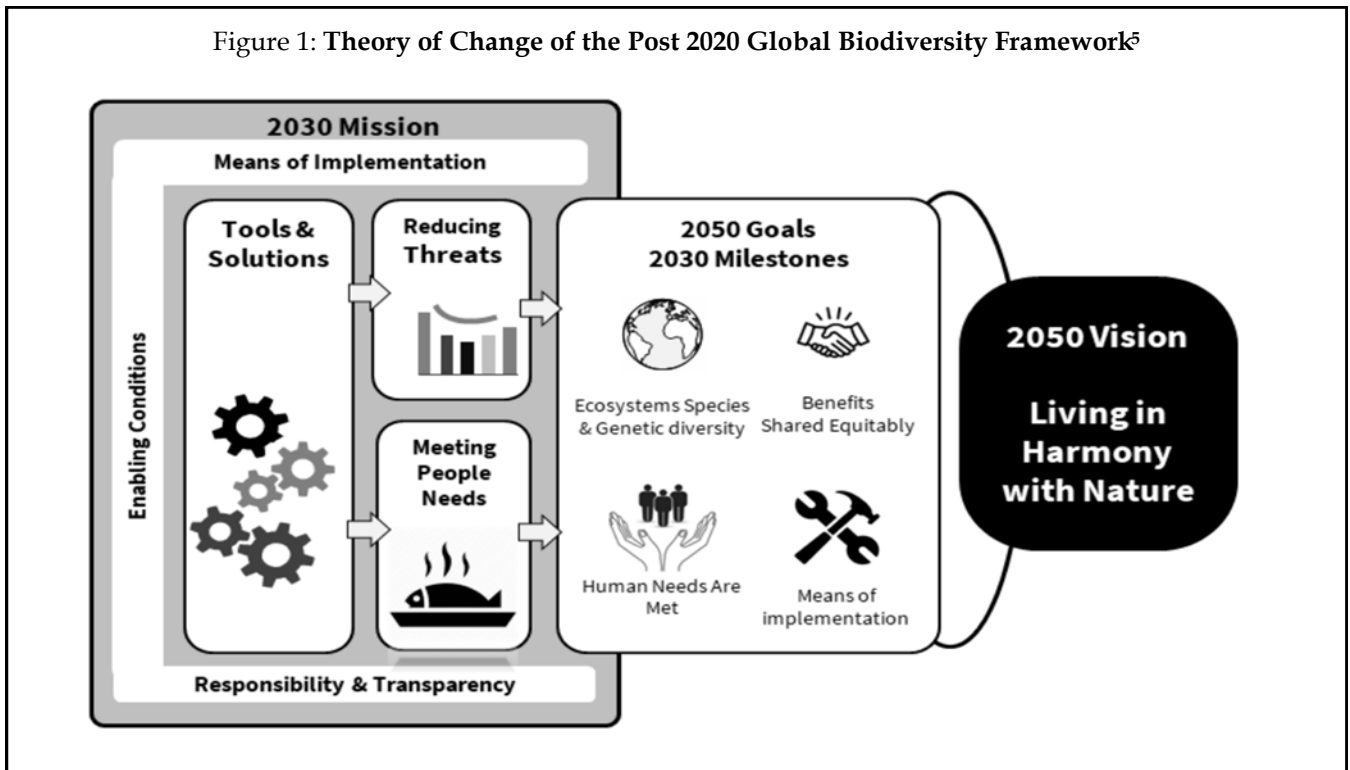
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technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer. A list of enabling conditions will also be defined that should facilitate the implementation of the Framework.

The zero-draft of the Framework<sup>6</sup> contains a set of goals and targets that are reproduced in Annex 1. Progress to date on biodiversity goals has been slow. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets for 2020 were not fully met.<sup>7</sup> This is largely attributed to insufficient

ity for the current state of global biodiversity loss. The global community has also not mobilized the resources required for supporting implementation in developing countries, including for long-term financial sustainability to support developing countries in the sustainable management of protected areas and the establishment of effective monitoring and enforcement systems.<sup>11</sup> Another stumbling block is the corporate capture of biodiversity agendas, its influence over government and weak environmental institutions.<sup>12</sup>

Figure 1: Theory of Change of the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework<sup>5</sup>



political will and concrete actions to reach the targets.<sup>8</sup> All State parties enjoyed flexibility in setting national goals and targets. This has meant that developed countries that have historically contributed the most to overall environmental degradation have not taken ambitious enough commitments on the main factors for biodiversity loss, including on subsidies and other fiscal measures and incentives that are harmful to biodiversity. Similarly, developed countries are not taking the lead in reducing the burning of fossil fuels that account for high levels of greenhouse gas emissions which also contribute to the loss of natural systems.<sup>9</sup> It is estimated that subsidies (on fossil fuels as well as in agriculture and fisheries) causing harm to biodiversity amount to some US\$ 500 billion per year, while the total resources being spent to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use amount to US\$ 78 billion to US\$ 91 billion per year.<sup>10</sup> Developed countries must take the lead because they have the greater capacity to act and given their historical responsibil-

To succeed, the Framework must be ambitious, balanced and achievable, building on past commitments. These commitments include those embodied in the Rio and other biodiversity-related conventions,<sup>13</sup> as well as the global biodiversity indicators in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The main tool for the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework are the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) that will define the precise actions. Efforts should be made to align these commitments and track progress with those in related processes, including the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement and the achievement of the SDGs.

The Rio principles must serve as the backbone of the Framework,<sup>14</sup> in particular the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDs), sustainable development and intra-generational equity. The Rio principle 7 on CBDs reads “States shall cooperate in a spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem. In view of the different contributions to global

environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command.” It also recalls that there is a historical dimension to biodiversity loss. The translation of CBDR into the Framework is essential to be able to meet the global goals and vision for 2050.

An important expression of CBDR is Article 20 of the CBD that reads in Para 4 “The extent to which developing country Parties will effectively implement their commitments under this Convention will depend on the effective implementation by developed country Parties of their commitments under this Convention related to financial resources and transfer of technology and will take fully into account the fact that economic and social development and eradication of poverty are the first and overriding priorities of the developing country Parties.” Art 20 also requires developed country Parties to provide new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet the agreed full incremental costs to them of implementing measures (Para 2), and with regards to funding and transfer of technology to take into account the special needs of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (Para 5) and also the special situation of developing countries, including those that are most environmentally vulnerable, such as those with arid and semi-arid zones, coastal and mountainous areas (Para 7).

Importantly, the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) has been functioning as the financing mechanism as required under Article 21 of the CBD, however it is not sufficiently financed, it is not dedicated solely to the CBD. Developing countries, particularly LDCs and the most environmentally vulnerable countries, face challenges in obtaining financing to meet the costs of implementing measures adapted to their special circumstances. Therefore, the commitments to financing and technology transfer need to be translated into measurable actions within the Framework. In this regard, it is positive that the means for implementation and resource mobilization are considered as a central part of the post-2020 biodiversity Framework. However, the specifics need to be defined to work in practice, including concrete commitments on predictable financial flows and a comprehensive strategy for resource mobilization towards developing countries.

The post-2020 Framework must include the establishment of new financial mechanisms for the Convention, in order to fully implement Articles 20 and 21. The elements and the specific targets on resource

mobilization to be included in the Framework are yet to be defined and agreed upon. In addition to establishing a dedicated financial mechanism for the Convention, it will be critical to ensure that there are concrete targets on the matter that go beyond the mobilization of domestic public resources. New targets should be considered, such as in relation to fair tax policies. Developed countries should reduce tax exemptions in relation to fuels that are harmful to biodiversity.<sup>15</sup> Moreover, as noted by the IPES report 2019, ensuring compliance with fair tax policies—addressing illicit financial flows and tax havens—can help ensure funding for biodiversity and nature as well.<sup>16</sup> The indicators in the monitoring framework need to be more ambitious and concrete than they are now in the draft for discussion, with a view to ensuring transparency in resource mobilization obligations. Discussions on means of implementation and resource mobilization need to be advanced as a priority, rather than a side issue to be addressed late in the negotiations.

The commitments on substantive areas and their implementation should also take into account the CBDR principle. This includes the selection of the goals, targets and indicators. The fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the utilization of genetic resources is one of the three core objectives of the CBD. Effective access and benefit sharing can translate into resources for developing countries to increase investments in conservation. For the Framework to be balanced, it must include specific goals, targets and indicators to measure global and national progress in this area, for all countries. A goal should be set for the implementation of a Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism as provided by Article 10 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS). The targets on ABS should include the obligation for developed countries—where many of the users of genetic material and biochemical compounds for purposes of research and development are based—to ensure that they are implementing the Nagoya Protocol. This must include the establishment of adequate mechanisms to ensure that users of genetic resources are complying with the national access and benefit rules in the Contracting Parties providing such resources, and that there is adequate monitoring and tracing mechanisms to ensure compliance with the ABS framework of parties to the Nagoya Protocol by users of regulated GRs and associated TK, even if users are based in a country that does not regulate access to their own resources.

Providing evidence of benefits being shared in accordance with national ABS rules should also be a target. The current zero draft on the post 2020 biodiversity Framework is weak on targets on benefit sharing. Currently there is a single related target (target 12), which is broadly worded to focus on benefits shared for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The related monitoring mechanism is also weak on headline indicators to track progress on benefit sharing. There is a frequent use of the word “benefits” to be “shared” that do not relate to the specific CBD obligation on ABS or the implementation of its Nagoya Protocol, but rather broaden unhelpfully the scope to benefits reaching specific populations or for specific purposes. This drives attention away from tracking progress on the ABS objective of the CBD and is also introducing new elements that are outside the scope of the CBD. While progress on biodiversity and ecosystems can bring much benefit to people, the highlight of the targets should be on the specific elements of the CBD, whereby positive spillovers, including on the related issues of climate change, could be indicated in national reporting.

Much more work is needed on the ABS elements in the post-2020 Framework, including on the related monitoring framework. It should be noted that the Aichi targets were themselves limited in the area of ABS, focusing mainly on increasing the number of ratifications of the Nagoya Protocol, whereas for 2030 milestones and the 2050 vision, there is a need to focus on operationalizing the results expected. The existing SDG targets on ABS have suffered from weak reporting. The first assessment of the Nagoya Protocol also pointed to deep gaps in implementation. This signals even further the need to focus efforts on ensuring that the ABS component is strong and forward looking in the Framework, including with respect to new technological developments. The Framework in relation to goals and targets on ABS should contain specific reference to Digital Sequence Information (DSI). DSI on genetic resources is stored online both in public and private databases and can be accessed without requiring physical access to the genetic resource. Developing countries agree that DSI is covered under the definitions provided under the CBD and Nagoya Protocol and accordingly the obligations on ABS should apply to the utilization of DSI. If the use of DSI continues to be unregulated, including to develop commercial products (such as synthetic biologic products made utilizing DSI), the CBD objective on ABS will be significantly undermined. Discussions should ensue on the appropriate ABS framework for DSI, parting from the premise that open access to DSI is not equivalent to benefit sharing. The multi-lateral benefit sharing mechanism under Article 10 could be linked to address benefit sharing in relation to DSI.

It would appear that the incorporation of the CBDR concept in the current discussions is limited to providing CBD parties with flexibility in the commitments and the scope of the monitoring and reporting requirements. It is generally agreed that

these should be in line with countries’ capabilities, means of implementation made available – as the Framework will be implemented primarily through activities at the national level-, while maintaining a high level of ambition. The flexibility will be useful for achieving consensus. Nonetheless, the flexibility provided should be mostly for developing countries.

All countries have to make efforts to halt biodiversity loss, yet a factor that must be considered in the specific monitoring framework for developed countries is their historical responsibility for biodiversity loss. Various headlines, components and complementary indicators are adopting baselines for 1970 or 2000 that disregard the historical responsibility of developed countries on global biodiversity loss and place a disproportionate burden on developing countries. At the same time, all countries must be able to advance on sustainable development in accordance with the CBD objectives and the 2030 Agenda, yet developing countries specially need to be able to have the conditions and means to do so. Scientific progress will benefit all countries, yet it is developed countries that currently have the greatest capacity in this area, and thus have a lead responsibility for ensuring that the CBD goal of sharing of benefits derived from the utilization of genetic material and biochemical compounds is realized. Baselines to be set should serve to assess progress proportional to the historical contribution of countries to the problems and require from developed countries greater responsibility for restoring ecosystem services and reversing biodiversity loss, as well as action related to current drivers of loss, including patterns of production and consumption and the policies—e.g., subsidies—that sustain them. In setting the indicators, the constraints that developing countries face in data collection, monitoring and reporting should also be considered.

Critically, a balance must be achieved in addressing the three objectives of the CBD and the CBDR concept must be operationalized in determining which are the goals, targets and the “headline” indicators and other indicators for national reporting, and the year baselines selected for associated indicators. Benefit sharing must become more prominent in the current zero-draft if it is to reflect the necessary balance. In addition to concrete, predictable and traceable resource mobilization and capacity building commitments, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer by developed countries should be central elements of the Framework. Accordingly, the means of implementation should include concrete and measurable targets and indicators for finance mobilization, technology transfer and capacity building.

Before further discussion on indicators, agreement on the goals and targets should be reached. The ongoing informal discussion on indicators and demands by some developed countries to advance in this area is

not conducive to progress. In this regard, many developing countries in the regional groupings and individually in the informal meetings of the SBTTA in February 2020 and SBI in March 2020 have rightly called to focus on advancing the zero draft and ensuring the necessary means of implementation.

### **Proposals on the way forward**

To date, the discussions on the zero-draft of the 2020-Post Biodiversity Framework and its related monitoring framework do not reveal a balanced approach to advancing the three pillars of the CBD nor a consensus on the operationalization of the CBD principle. This agreement will be necessary for the successful adoption of the Framework.

Developing countries must lead in introducing CBD in the text of the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework and crucially, ensure that it includes mechanisms for adequate financing and building capacities and technology transfer to developing countries. Active, coordinated participation in the upcoming meetings will be fundamental.

Collectively, developing countries may consider advancing the following proposals to be incorporated in the zero-draft:

- ◆ Set goals, targets and related indicators in relation to benefit sharing of the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge
- ◆ Establishment of a multilateral system of benefit sharing for the utilization of genetic resources, including DSI, in relation to access that occur in transboundary situations or for which it is not possible to grant or obtain prior informed consent
- ◆ DSI is expressly covered in relation to commitments on access and benefit sharing
- ◆ Establish a new, dedicated fund for the CBD, under Article 21 thereof
- ◆ Establish a mechanism for technology transfer and for the support of research and development on biodiversity (terrestrial and marine) for the effective utilization of genetic resources (including derivatives) and associated traditional knowledge.

## **Annex I**

### **The Zero-Draft of the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework : Goals, Milestones and Targets**

The zero-draft of the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (circulated in May 2020) has four long-term goals for 2050 related to the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, with eight milestones for measuring progress by 2030.

Goal A:

The area, connectivity and integrity of natural ecosystems increased by at least [X%] supporting healthy and resilient populations of all species while reducing the number of species that are threatened by [X%] and maintaining genetic diversity;

Milestones 2030:

A.1 The area, connectivity and integrity of natural systems increased by at least [5%]. A.2 The number of species that are threatened is reduced by [X%] and the abundance of species has increased on average by [X%].

Goal B:

Nature's contributions to people have been valued, maintained or enhanced through conservation and sustainable use supporting global development agenda for the benefit of all people;

Milestones 2030:

B.1 Nature contributes to the sustainable diets and food security, access to safe drinking water and resilience to natural disasters for at least [X%] million people.

B.2 Nature is valued through green investments, ecosystem service valuation in national accounts, and public and private sector financial disclosures.

Goal C: The benefits, from the utilization of genetic resources are shared fairly and equitably;

Milestones 2030:

C.1 Access and benefit-sharing mechanisms are established in all countries.

C.2 Benefits shared increased by [X%].

Goal D: Means of implementation are available to achieve all goals and targets in the Framework.

Milestones 2030:

D.1 By 2022, means to implement the Framework for the period 2020 to 2030 are identified and committed.

D.2 By 2030, means to implement the Framework for the period 2030 to 2040 are identified or committed.

There are 20 action-oriented targets defined for 2030. In accordance with the Theory of Change, their

achievement would contribute to 2030 milestones and the outcome-oriented goals for 2050.

**Targets 2030:**

**(a) Reducing threats to biodiversity**

Target 1. By 2030, [50%] of land and sea areas globally are under spatial planning addressing land/sea use change, retaining most of the existing intact and wilderness areas, and allow to restore [X%] of degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial natural ecosystems and connectivity among them.

Target 2. By 2030, protect and conserve through well connected and effective system of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures at least 30 per cent of the planet with the focus on areas particularly important for biodiversity.

Target 3. By 2030, ensure active management actions to enable wild species of fauna and flora recovery and conservation, and reduce human-wildlife conflict by [X%].

Target 4. By 2030, ensure that the harvesting, trade and use of wild species of fauna and flora is legal, at sustainable levels and safe.

Target 5. By 2030, manage, and where possible control, pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species, achieving [50%] reduction in the rate of new introductions, and control or eradicate invasive alien species to eliminate or reduce their impacts, including in at least [50%] of priority sites.

Target 6. By 2030, reduce pollution from all sources, including reducing excess nutrients [by x%], biocides [by x%], plastic waste [by x%] to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and human health.

Target 7. By 2030, increase contributions to climate change mitigation adaption and disaster risk reduction from nature-based solutions and ecosystems-based approaches, ensuring resilience and minimizing any negative impacts on biodiversity.

**(b) Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing**

Target 8. By 2030, ensure benefits, including nutrition, food security, livelihoods, health and well-being, for people, especially for the most vulnerable through sustainable management of wild species of fauna and flora.

Target 9. By 2030, support the productivity, sustainability and resilience of biodiversity in agricultural and other managed ecosystems through conservation and sustainable use of such ecosystems, reducing productivity gaps by at least [50%].

Target 10. By 2030, ensure that, nature-based solutions and ecosystem approach contribute to regulation of air quality, hazards and extreme events and quality and quantity of water for at least [XXX million] people.

Target 11. By 2030, increase benefits from biodiversity and green/blue spaces for human health and wellbeing, including the proportion of people with access to such spaces by at least [100%], especially for urban dwellers.

Target 12. By 2030, increase by [X] benefits shared for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through ensuring access to and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.

**(c) Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming**

Target 13. By 2030, integrate biodiversity values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts at all levels, ensuring that biodiversity values are mainstreamed across all sectors and integrated into assessments of environmental impacts.

Target 14. By 2030, achieve reduction of at least [50%] in negative impacts on biodiversity by ensuring that production practices and supply chains are sustainable.

Target 15. By 2030, eliminate unsustainable consumption patterns, ensuring people everywhere understand and appreciate the value of biodiversity, and thus make responsible choices commensurate with 2050 biodiversity vision, taking into account individual and national cultural and socioeconomic conditions.

Target 16. By 2030, establish and implement measures to prevent, manage or control potential adverse impacts of biotechnology on biodiversity and human health reducing these impacts by [X].

Target 17. By 2030, redirect, repurpose, reform or eliminate incentives harmful for biodiversity, including [X] reduction in the most harmful subsidies, ensuring that incentives, including public and private economic and regulatory incentives, are either positive or neutral for biodiversity.

Target 18. By 2030, increase by [X%] financial resources from all international and domestic sources, through new, additional and effective financial resources commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the Framework and implement the strategy for capacity-building and technology transfer and scientific co-operation to meet the needs for implementing the post-2020 global biodiversity Framework.

Target 19. By 2030, ensure that quality information, including traditional knowledge, is available to decision makers and public for the effective management

of biodiversity through promoting awareness, education and research.

Target 20. By 2030, ensure equitable participation in decision-making related to biodiversity and ensure rights over relevant resources of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and girls as well as youth, in accordance with national circumstances.

## Endnotes:

<sup>1</sup> The Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP 15), Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 10), and Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (COP-MOP 4) are scheduled to be held in the second quarter of 2021 in Kunming, China, after being postponed in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

<sup>2</sup> Where “biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.” <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/2011-2020/Aichi-Targets-EN.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> See Technical Note, Biodiversity and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the CBD, FAO, UNEP, UNDP and World Bank, <https://www.cbd.int/development/doc/biodiversity-2030-agenda-technical-note-en.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> The CBD Secretariat has produced an information document on the linkages between the post-2020 global biodiversity Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, see <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/8221/82b3/46f7213f305e091b5c07a452/sbstta-24-inf-12-en.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> See CBD/POST2020/PREP/2/1, Update of the Zero draft of the post-biodiversity Framework, dated 17 August 2020, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/3064/749a/0f65ac7f9def86707f4eafa/post2020-prep-02-01-en.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> The Zero draft will be updated to take into account the outcomes of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation as well as the advice from thematic consultations and issued as Draft One, six weeks prior to the third meeting of the Working Group of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (OEWG-2), <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/sbstta24-sbi3>.

<sup>7</sup> The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Target, Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/X/2, 29 October 2020.

<sup>8</sup> Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2020) Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 – Summary for Policy Makers. Montréal, p.2. <https://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo5/publication/gbo5-spm-en.pdf>.

<sup>9</sup> See Leadley, P.W et al (2014): *Progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets: An Assessment of Biodiversity Trends, Policy Scenarios and Key Actions*. Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montreal, Canada., p. 110.

<sup>10</sup> See Third report of Panel of Experts on Resource Mobilization, CBD/SBI/3/5/Add.3, 18. March 2020, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/5c03/865b/7332bd747198f8256e9e555b/sbi-03-05-add3-en.pdf>, para. 7.

<sup>11</sup> A recent study finds that to expand Protected Areas (terrestrial and marine) there is a need of USD 103-178 billion per year by 2030, and these costs will be offset by the financial and economic benefits within the nature and conservation sector alone, see Dasgupta, P. (2021), *The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review*. (London: HM Treasury), pg. 438 quoting Waldron et al (2020), *Protecting 30% of the Planet for Nature: Costs, Benefits and Economic Implications*, see. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/962785/The\\_Economics\\_of\\_Biodiversity\\_The\\_Dasgupta\\_Review\\_Full\\_Report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/962785/The_Economics_of_Biodiversity_The_Dasgupta_Review_Full_Report.pdf) p. 438.

<sup>12</sup> See Lovera, S. Trends in the privatization and corporate capture of biodiversity, p. 136 – 138 in *Spotlight on Sustainable Development 2017, Reclaiming policies for the public, Privatization, partnerships, corporate capture and their impact on sustainability and inequality – assessments and alternatives*, Report by. Civil Society Reflection Group on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, <https://www.2030spotlight.org/en/book/1165/chapter/15-trends-privatization-and-corporate-capture-biodiversity>.

<sup>13</sup> The Rio conventions are: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its protocols (see footnote 1), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Other biodiversity-related conventions include the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention (WHC), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention on Wetlands), International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and International Whaling Commission (IWC).

<sup>14</sup> The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, adopted by 178 Member States in 1992 at the Earth Summit, included 27 principles. See [https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A\\_CONF.151\\_26\\_Vol.I\\_Declaration.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_CONF.151_26_Vol.I_Declaration.pdf).

<sup>15</sup> In OECD countries, tax exemptions for fossil fuels, as a mechanism to transfer government resources, represent 77% of total the support identified; the rest of support is provided through direct budgetary transfers. See [http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=COM/ENV/EPOC/CTPA/CFA\(2019\)4/FINAL&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=COM/ENV/EPOC/CTPA/CFA(2019)4/FINAL&docLanguage=En).

<sup>16</sup> IPBES (2019): *Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*. E. S. Brondizio, J. Settele, S. Díaz, and H. T. Ngo (editors). IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany, Chapter 6, p. 131.

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