

WWF proposals for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework text¹, and the negotiation process during OEWG5 and COP15.2²

KEY MESSAGES

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework (post-2020 GBF) presents a unique opportunity to develop and successfully implement a global plan to reverse biodiversity loss and build a nature-positive world by 2030. In order to achieve this, the post-2020 GBF should deliver on all three objectives of the convention and, in particular, should include the following key elements:

A SUCCESSFUL POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK MUST INCLUDE:

A MISSION TO REVERSE THE LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY TO ACHIEVE A NATURE-POSITIVE WORLD BY 2030

DELIVERED THROUGH RIGHTS-BASED AND WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY APPROACHES



CONSERVE HABITATS

TARGETS TO CONSERVE 30% OF LAND, FRESHWATER AND OCEANS AND RESTORE DEGRADED ECOSYSTEMS GLOBALLY BY 2030



FOOTPRINT

A MILESTONE TO HALVE THE FOOTPRINT OF PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION BY 2030 AND TARGETS COVERING ALL SECTORS DRIVING NATURE LOSS



IMPLEMENTATION

A STRONG AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM, INCLUDING A RATCHETING UP OF ACTION OVER TIME



FINANCE

A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN RESOURCES, TOGETHER WITH MEASURES TO ALIGN FINANCIAL FLOWS TO BE NATURE POSITIVE AND TO REPURPOSE ALL HARMFUL SUBSIDIES BY 2030



NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS (NbS)

THE INCLUSION OF NbS, ALONGSIDE ECOSYSTEM-BASED APPROACHES, TO DELIVER BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE, NATURE AND CLIMATE

I. WWF REACTION TO THE INFORMAL GROUP OUTCOME DOCUMENT ON THE POST-2020 GBF AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS

The informal group outcome

- The **Informal Group** did an important job to resolve redundancies, repetitions and a number of technical issues in the OEWG4 outcome document. The purpose of this was to try and save valuable time at OEWG5 and COP15.2. WWF believes that, while not perfect, the Informal Group outcome document provides a good basis for the negotiations. We understand that many Parties are also supportive of using the outcome from the Informal

¹ Taking into account the outcomes of OEWG4 and of the Informal Group's September meeting.

² This document, together with French and Spanish versions, will shortly be available here: <https://explore.panda.org/cop15>.

Group meeting as a basis for negotiations. For these reasons, and while we recognise that the meeting of the Informal Group was not an inclusive process in which all Parties and Observers were able to participate, **we strongly encourage all Parties to build on this text as much as possible during the remaining negotiations of the GBF.**

- WWF's **key concerns with the Informal Group outcome text** are:
 - In Goal B, language about the Right to a Healthy Environment (R2HE) has been deleted: the R2HE is fundamentally important to the sustainable use of biodiversity and should be retained at the goal level, regardless of whether it is reflected in Section Bbis.
 - For Target 14 (on mainstreaming) the Informal Group has chosen options that do not contribute to improving clarity:
 - *Progressively* aligning: this describes an unclear timeline and should be deleted: all targets should be achieved by 2030;
 - *Relevant* financial flows: relevant introduces a qualifier that is unclear and can potentially be used to exclude significant flows; it should be deleted so that the phrase will read: 'all financial flows'.

WWF also notes that these two proposals by the Informal Group for target 14 are not technical but relate to the ambition of the framework. This should be left to the parties to negotiate during the OEWG5 meeting.

Suggestions for the negotiation process

The time to conclude the GBF negotiations during OEWG5 and COP15.2 is extremely limited and many issues remain to be resolved. Therefore, **WWF urges Parties to quickly agree, at the beginning of OEWG5, how exactly to use the IG outcome document** in the negotiations.

Depending on the nature of the text segment under negotiation, we propose the following approaches to help maintain the pace of the negotiations:

- When the text is already quite streamlined (i.e. with few brackets remaining), parties can go straight into text negotiation.
- When the text is still too broad or long and with too many brackets for text negotiation, parties may wish to take a step back, be strategic and clarify their main priority for the text being negotiated. Contact group co-leads may then be asked to use this 'inventory' to prepare a text proposal as a basis for a word by word negotiation.
- If there is a particularly contentious issue, contact group co-leads could consider asking a few key proponents of the different views to consult with each other in the back of the room (while negotiations continue on the rest of the text) and come back with a solution.

Adopting the 'GBF package' at COP15.2

COP15.2 must result in the agreement of a strong and ambitious GBF, ready for Parties to begin immediately implementing through the setting of national targets and updating NBSAPs in line with the new global framework. This will require the adoption at COP15.2 of a package that, as a minimum, includes, in addition to the post-2020 GBF document:

- The monitoring framework including headline indicators
- The enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review
- The strategy for resource mobilization, ready for immediate implementation and with clearly defined actions and milestones.

A proposal for the structure of the post-2020 GBF

Seeing the very limited time remaining to conclude the negotiations, and the importance to agree, at COP15.2, on the key elements of an ambitious and comprehensive post-2020 GBF, that is ready for implementation, **WWF recommends to deprioritise the following sections and consider removing** them from the framework.

- Current Section A: Background
- Current Section D: Theory of change, including figure 1.

These sections (including figure 1) are important for communicating the GBF. Once the framework has been adopted, they could be refined and become part of the materials that the CBD Secretariat may produce to disseminate and encourage the uptake of the GBF.

II. REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF AN AMBITIOUS POST-2020 GBF

The WWF CBD COP15.2 expectations paper ([Securing a global plan to save our life support systems](#)) *a global plan to save our life support systems*) presents an overview of WWF's proposals for the GBF. This document translates these proposals into specific suggestions for the GBF text.

An ambitious post-2020 GBF that will address the biodiversity emergency at scale and can be implemented immediately after its adoption **must include:**

1. An ambitious mission that commits governments to 'achieve a [nature-positive](#) world, by halting and reversing the loss of biodiversity by 2030' as the guiding light of the agreement.

2. Ambitious and inclusive area-based and species conservation outcomes and actions, by:

- a) Defining the right ambition for area-based conservation and species conservation (Goal A), i.e.:
 - **Increasing the integrity, area and connectivity of natural ecosystems by 2030;**
 - **Immediately halting the human-induced extinction of known threatened species;**
 - **Increasing the abundance of native species by 2030;**
- b) Ensuring that **at least 1.6 billion ha of degraded terrestrial ecosystems, 350 million hectares of inland water and coastal ecosystems, 300,000 km of rivers and 30% of marine ecosystems are under restoration**, of which a significant part under ecological restoration (Target 2). This will require:
 - Increasing ambition beyond existing commitments made in several international fora;
 - Adopting the **right metrics** to ensure **rapid implementation in all ecosystems** (terrestrial, rivers and other inland waters, coastal and marine areas);
 - Recognizing and supporting the role of **Indigenous Peoples and local communities and women's** practices in restoration;
- c) **Adopting a global target to conserve at least 30% of the earth** (Target 3) which qualifies that:
 - **Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' rights** on their land and territories and their right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent, including to withhold consent, are fully respected and upheld;
 - All Protected Areas and OECMs are **effectively managed and equitably governed;**

- The target includes land areas, **inland waters and** marine and coastal areas;
- **The quality of conservation outcomes** is ensured by prioritising ecological representativeness and connectivity, and **Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)** and **Ecologically and Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs)**;
- d) Including comprehensive and ambitious **conservation actions on species**, i.e.:
 - A target to effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to **minimize human-wildlife conflict for the benefits of both humans and wildlife** (Target 4);
 - A commitment to **take urgent action to address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products** (Target 5);
 - A target to **manage pathways for invasive alien species, eradicate invasive alien species** wherever possible, with a focus on **vulnerable places, such as islands, and areas of importance for biodiversity** (target 6).

3. A commitment to deliver a just transformation of the productive sectors currently driving biodiversity loss, tackling unsustainable production and consumption. This requires:

- *Including a 2030 outcome of halving the global footprint of production and consumption* - in a fair and equitable manner (Goal B);
- *Identifying and transforming key productive sectors, by*
 - Ensuring that **all** areas under agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably by 2030 (Target 10) and **listing all relevant sectors for mainstreaming³**, as agreed in CBD COP decisions 13/3 and 14/3.
 - Committing to **transform food systems** by **applying agroecological principles** (Target 10) and ensuring everybody has access to and adopts culturally-appropriate **sustainable and healthy diets** (target 16) while ensuring that the biodiversity basis of food productions, notably **soils biodiversity and pollinators, are restored, maintained and enhanced** (Target 11);
 - Addressing unsustainable fisheries and forestry by ensuring that **overexploitation of native wild species is prevented** and the **impact on non-target species is minimized** (Target 5) and ensuring that **ecosystem approaches are applied** (Target 10);
 - Ensuring that participatory, **biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and/or other effective management processes cover all areas** and **explicitly address infrastructure, mining and other extractive activities development** (Target 1);
 - Committing to develop and implement **sector-specific action plans** at national, regional and global levels (section B).

Furthermore, WWF calls for a **moratorium on deep seabed mining**. We therefore propose to exclude reference to deep seabed mining from Target 14 **unless it includes the commitment to this moratorium with clear and adequate language**.

- *Addressing the role of business and financial institutions by:*
 - Ensuring that businesses and financial institutions **avoid negative impacts on biodiversity and halve their footprint on biodiversity, and that they become nature positive by 2030** (Target 15);

³ Agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, health, manufacturing and processing, infrastructure, energy and mining as agreed in decisions COP13/3 and COP14/3. In addition, WWF suggests, given its major importance, to also include finance.

- Ensuring business implement immediately **deforestation and conversion free supply chains** as well as regularly monitor, assess, and fully and transparently **disclose their dependencies and impacts on biodiversity and set science-based biodiversity relevant targets** (Target 15);
- *Addressing consumption and pollution by:*
 - Committing to **eliminate overconsumption of all materials** (Target 16);
 - Ensuring that **plastic pollution is eliminated, nutrients lost to the environment are reduced by 50%, pesticides use and risks are reduced by 50% and highly hazardous pesticides are eliminated** (Target 7).

4. A strong and effective implementation mechanism with adequate detail. To avoid a repetition of the failure to meet the Aichi targets, it is essential that a strong implementation mechanism is fully integrated in the framework. At a minimum, the following elements should be included in Section J:

- a) **NBSAPs** that are aligned with all the goals and targets of the post-2020 GBF;
- b) **National targets** that are to be communicated within one year of COP15.2 and then fully integrated into the revised NBSAPs as soon as possible;
- c) **National reports** covering all global goals and targets of the post-2020 GBF, using all the headline indicators, all means of implementation and enabling conditions;
- d) **Periodic reviews of implementation** to aggregate national actions at the global level, and assess the extent to which Parties are collectively on track for implementing the post-2020 GBF in a timely manner (a ‘**global stocktake**’);
- e) **An action-oriented mechanism to “ratchet up” implementation**, as needed to achieve the goals and targets of the post-2020 GBF in a timely manner.

Section J must be accompanied by a **COP15.2 decision on the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review.**

5. A comprehensive approach to finance and resource mobilization with the aims to “finance green and green finance”, and to generate new, additional, effective, innovative, timely and easily accessible financial resources to close the biodiversity finance gap, including by:

- a) **Aligning public and private financial flows with the goals and targets** of the framework (Goal D, target 14);
- b) **Urgently identifying and repurposing of all harmful incentives, including subsidies,** in a just and equitable way (target 18);
- c) **Upscaling of biodiversity-positive incentives** (target 18);
- d) **Substantially increasing financial resources from all sources** (including increased international biodiversity finance, e.g. through ODA, and domestic biodiversity finance, and public and private finance) commensurate with closing the biodiversity finance gap (Goal D, target 19.1);
- e) **Enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of resource use**, including through developing and implementing **National Biodiversity Finance Plans by 2025** (target 19.1);

The GBF must be accompanied by a COP15.2 decision on a **comprehensive resource mobilization strategy**, ready for immediate implementation and with clearly defined actions and milestones.

6. Key elements to ensure its relevance to address other societal challenges, by including:

- a) A (new) target (23) to scale up implementation of the **One Health approach** and to undertake actions to **address the nature-related drivers of** the emergence and transmission of zoonotic diseases (that are also significant drivers of biodiversity loss);
- b) **Equitable and rights-based nature-based solutions** (NbS) alongside ecosystem-based approaches (EbA) (Targets 8 and 11).

7. Strong and consistent integration of a human rights-based approach and a whole of society approach across the GBF, by:

- a) Ensuring that if a section (Bbis), with the fundamental premises or principles for implementation of the framework, is included, **key elements relating to a rights-based approach are also reflected** (explicitly or implicitly) **in other sections of the framework, especially goals and targets**;
- b) Including the commitment to **fulfill human rights obligations**, including the **right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment** at the goal level (Goal B);
- c) Ensuring **Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' rights** to land, water and territories and their **right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent** are respected (Targets 1, 2, 3 and 21), and their **customary sustainable use** is safeguarded (Targets 5 and 9);
- d) Ensuring the full, equitable, effective and gender-responsive **participation in decision-making, access to justice** related to biodiversity of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and rights-holders and the **protection of environmental human rights defenders** (Target 21);
- e) Ensuring gender equality and equitable access to and benefits from biodiversity for **women and girls**, as well as their informed and effective participation at all levels (new Target 22);
- f) Setting up or strengthening representative and inclusive **multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral processes** on biodiversity (Section B, Bbis or Section I).

In addition, a commitment to **increasing benefits from the use of genetic resources** and **fair and equitable Access and Benefits Sharing** should also be included in the GBF, prioritizing **Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including women, as recipients of benefit sharing** while ensuring that **they provide their Free, Prior and Informed Consent and agree on Mutually Agreed Terms** (Goal C and Target 13).

Detailed observations and text proposals for the GBF document can be found in the attached annex.

For more information

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