



CHANGING COURSE TO HALT AND REVERSE BIODIVERSITY LOSS BY 2030

WWF EXPECTATIONS FOR CBD COP16



**COP16 WILL NEED TO MAKE
SURE THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE KMGBF GETS ON
TRACK, AND TO INCREASE
THE CONFIDENCE OF PARTIES,
AND ALL STAKEHOLDERS,
THAT, COLLECTIVELY, THEY
CAN HALT AND REVERSE
BIODIVERSITY LOSS BY 2030.**

COP 16 SHOULD:



1 NBSAPS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Call on Parties, who haven't done so already, to initiate or speed up the revision of their NBSAPs and support other countries to do so
- Finalise and agree on the monitoring framework and the procedures for the global review



2 RESOURCE MOBILISATION

- Create greater confidence in the delivery of financial resources for GBF implementation
- Secure adequate, timely, accessible funding to Indigenous Peoples and local communities and other rights-holder
- Encourage processes that align public, private and other Financial flows



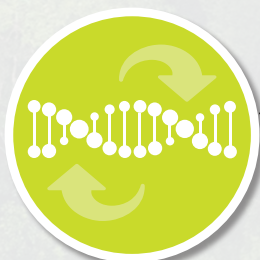
3 COMPREHENSIVE AND HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED IMPLEMENTATION

- Put in place concrete measures to mainstream biodiversity and address the drivers of biodiversity loss
- Include whole-of-society and human rights-based approaches in decisions about accountability



4 SYNERGIES

- Pave the way to further integrate nature and climate actions at the upcoming climate and future biodiversity COPs
- Recognise the links between nature, peace and conflict



5 DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION

- Finalize a multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from DSI

An underwater photograph showing a large group of seals swimming in clear blue water. In the foreground, there are large, green kelp leaves and yellowish-brown kelp bulbs. The seals are of various sizes and are swimming in different directions, some towards the camera and others away. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day at the surface.

CHANGING COURSE TO HALT AND REVERSE BIODIVERSITY LOSS BY 2030

KEY MESSAGES

With the crisis of biodiversity loss showing no sign of abatement and the world approaching dangerous, irreversible tipping points, COP16 will need to take important steps to make sure the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) gets on track, and to increase the confidence of Parties, and all stakeholders, that, collectively, they can halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. These steps cover the following areas:

REVIEW PROGRESS: REVISED NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLANS (NBSAPS) AND IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL ACTIONS

COP16 will need to be the moment when Parties agree to urgently enhance implementation. WWF urges COP16 to adopt a decision in line with the review of progress, that calls on Parties, who haven't done so already, to initiate and/or speed up the revision of their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). These must be in line with the KMGBF to make significant headway with implementation.

COP16 should facilitate accelerated and comprehensive, and human rights-based national implementation by:

- Putting in place concrete measures to address the drivers of biodiversity loss, with a focus on equitably reducing the global footprint of consumption and overconsumption to return within planetary limits and mainstreaming biodiversity across key sectors. This means that Parties should:

- Show political commitment to integrate just transformative action to address drivers, key sectors and overconsumption into the NBSAPs and their implementation,
 - Commit to scale up work to mainstream biodiversity within and across sectors and further mobilize key sectors around the KMGBF implementation, with a focus on food and agriculture (from scaling up agroecology and transforming global commodity chains to shifting diets), fisheries, forestry, infrastructure, energy, mining and extractives, health, trade and finance,
 - Adopt or agree to develop headline indicators for targets 16 (sustainable consumption), 14 (mainstreaming), and 1 (spatial planning) (See accountability p8).
- Recognizing, for example through announcements by parties, diverse and inclusive pathways for advancing equity and rights in conservation, including in the three area-based targets (target 1, spatial planning; target 2, restoration; and target 3, conservation) and committing to accelerate the implementation of these targets.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION FOR KMGBF IMPLEMENTATION

COP16 needs to create greater confidence in the delivery of financial resources. This can be achieved by:

- Adopting a clear and comprehensive KMGBF resource mobilization strategy for the period 2025 to 2030 that delivers on targets 19 (funding from all sources), 18 (harmful subsidies) and 14 (mainstreaming),
- Finding a lasting and workable solution for the financial mechanism for the CBD,
- Including concrete steps in Parties' NBSAPs on leveraging funding from all sources and mainstreaming biodiversity finance across all sectors,
- Accelerating efforts, ahead of and at COP16, to meet target 19a to provide at least US\$ 20 billion from developed to developing countries annually by 2025,
- Securing sufficient funding flows directly to Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other rights holders, who are the custodians of the world's biodiversity,
- Assessing finance-related barriers for countries to implement the KMGBF, such as their debt burden.

ALIGNMENT OF ALL FINANCIAL FLOWS

COP16 needs to discuss and kick-off processes that align public, private and other financial flows. Achievement of the KMGBF is dependent on "Greening Finance" and "Financing Green": this approach needs to be reflected throughout the implementation of the KMGBF, including the resource mobilization strategy to be agreed at COP16, and through concrete steps reflected in NBSAPs.

ACCOUNTABILITY: THE MONITORING FRAMEWORK, THE GLOBAL REVIEW AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

COP16 needs to finalise and agree on the monitoring framework and the procedures for the global review. WWF encourages Parties to adopt at COP16:

- Headline indicators for targets currently without one (targets 16, sustainable consumption, and 23, gender): existing SDG indicators can be used to fill these gaps. Furthermore, COP16 should agree on a process for developing and adopting headline indicators at COP17 to address remaining gaps, notably for targets 1 (spatial planning) and 14 (mainstreaming),

- Procedures for the global review (to be carried out at COP17 and COP19) that enables participation by non-state actors, and leads to an increase of actions and efforts by Parties, including on the provision of means of implementation, to address any gaps in the implementation of the KMGBF,
- Decisions that align the workings of the Convention with the need of urgent and ambitious KMGBF implementation, through enhanced effectiveness, efficiency and resourcing of Convention processes, programmes of work and secretariat support. This is particularly relevant for COP16 decisions about:
 - The programmes of work of the Convention and the Multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties,
 - The administration of the Convention and budget for the trust funds,
 - The review of the effectiveness of processes under the Convention and its Protocols.

SYNERGIES BETWEEN NATURE AND CLIMATE

COP16 decisions on *Biodiversity and Climate Change* and on *Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations* need to:

- Ensure climate and nature policies, strategies and actions are aligned to maximise efficiency and resource allocation and address potential trade offs. Specifically by,
 - Aligning revised NBSAPs, national climate plans (Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans and Long Term Strategies) and land degradation neutrality plans, as well as other international commitments about biodiversity and nature, for example under the CITES, Ramsar and Minamata conventions,
 - Investing in high-quality, high-integrity nature-based solutions (NbS) and/or ecosystem-based approaches (EbA), with strong social and environmental safeguards.
- Scale up joint finance for biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation, including through NbS and/or EbA,
- Enhance and support joint and aligned work under the three Rio conventions and the Sustainable Development Goals to encourage stronger synergies, for example through a joint programme of work and/or work programmes under each convention as stepping stones for the joint programme of work.

The COP16 political outcomes, including the Ministerial Declaration, should pave the way to further integrate nature and climate actions at the next climate COPs (COP29 in Azerbaijan (2024) and COP30 in Brazil (2025)) and at future biodiversity COPs. To this effect, COP16 should, for example, emphasize the key role of nature in tackling climate change, and outline a series of actions to achieve the [commitment to end deforestation by 2030](#).

THE PEOPLE'S COP: WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY AND HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACHES

At COP16, parties should reflect the whole-of-society and a human rights-based approaches (HRBA) in COP16 decisions about:

- The monitoring framework, to ensure that Section C and HRBA and relevant targets (target 22 and 23) have headline and other indicators,
- The global review, to include contributions of rights holders,
- The resource mobilisation strategy, to ensure adequate allocations and timely and direct access to resources by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, youth and other rights holder,
- Article 8(j) on traditional knowledge and Indigenous Peoples, including the new programme of work and the establishment of a new subsidiary body for the working group on article 8(j).

The Ministerial Declaration and other COP16 outcomes should recognise the importance of the CBD [Action Agenda](#) to drive ambition and implementation of the KMGBF, since this agenda also reflects the whole-of-society approach.

PEACE WITH NATURE: RECOGNISING THE LINK BETWEEN NATURE, PEACE AND CONFLICT

WWF calls on Parties and other stakeholders at COP16 to acknowledge, in high-level statements and the Ministerial Declaration, the important interconnection between nature and peace in all its dimensions. Recognition at COP16 will be an important milestone for further multilateral actions to address the connection between nature and peace.

DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION

COP16 needs to decide on the modalities for operationalizing the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use of digital sequence information (DSI) of genetic resources, including a global fund.



1. THE CONTEXT

1.1 THE IMPORTANCE OF COP16

Biodiversity sustains human life and underpins our societies. Yet every indicator that tracks the state of nature on a global scale shows a decline and dangerous tipping points are approaching. This means that we need more, and more effective, conservation efforts, while also systematically and urgently addressing the major drivers of nature loss. The world has rallied around the call to conserve 30% of nature on land and in the water. This is essential but not enough: the way we currently consume natural resources and energy is unsustainable and it is maintained by an extractive and unfair financial system. Conservation actions can only be successful if it is part of a wider effort across business, financial institutions, and all arms of government to reform damaging practices, for example harmful subsidies and consumption patterns, that incentivise nature loss, exacerbate climate change and erode the rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other rights holders. That will require nothing less than a transformation of our food, energy and finance systems. It will also require a whole-of-society approach thus achieving a fairer and more peaceful world.

THE WORLD HAS RALLIED AROUND THE CALL TO CONSERVE 30% OF NATURE ON LAND AND IN THE WATER. THIS IS ESSENTIAL BUT NOT ENOUGH.

With the crisis of biodiversity loss showing no sign of abatement, the eyes of the world are on Colombia, a megadiverse country with a long history of positive engagement in the global effort to conserve nature, as it hosts the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP16) in the beautiful city of Cali this October.

This meeting comes at a pivotal time to define our trajectory as humankind: The planet's nature and climate are in turmoil all around us. Finding a way to live in harmony with nature would offer us all greater equality, safety and prosperity. The adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF, also referred to as the Biodiversity Plan) in 2022 was, unquestionably, a historic milestone towards that future. But it was only the first hurdle on the challenging journey to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030.

COP16 will be the first opportunity for the world to assess progress in the implementation of the KMGBF. We have seen some progress since its adoption, in particular at the national level with many countries updating their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). These plans need to meet the scale of the urgent challenges and avoid the mistakes of the past. The launch of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund in August 2023, to mobilize and accelerate investment in the conservation and sustainable use of wild species and ecosystems, shows that progress can be quick. The fund aims to leverage finance by Multilateral Development Banks and is aiming to increase funding for actions by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in line with the KMGBF.

1.2 THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK: IMPLEMENTATION IS NOT ON TRACK

Less than two years on however, the overall speed and scale of action on nature remains wildly out of step with where it needs to be to meet the challenge ahead in the next six years.

• Required: an urgent increase in national action on nature

NBSAPs are the primary implementation instrument of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at the national level. At COP15, Parties committed to revise the NBSAPs ahead

of COP16, or, at a minimum, to align their national targets with the KMGBF. WWF's publication [‘The NBSAPs We Need’](#) outlines why ambitious national targets and actions aligned to the KMGBF are essential; why NBSAPs should reflect the urgency to take ambitious action, and apply a fair and effective whole-of-society approach. While many countries have started to update their NBSAPs, only a relatively small number have concluded this process and published their updates.¹ Other countries, which are not in a position to submit their revised NBSAPs by COP16, are in the process of updating national targets; nevertheless, several countries have not taken any action at all yet. Furthermore, WWF has [major concerns](#) about the ambition and quality of the revised NBSAPs being drafted, and new commitments on finance for biodiversity in the past eighteen months remain sparse.

Countries need to step up the implementation of the KMGBF in the months ahead. This has become even more pressing with [new research](#) indicating that biodiversity decline is more serious than previously thought, with the [number of species at risk of extinction possibly doubling to 2 million](#). The Living Planning Report (2024), launching on 10 October², will show a catastrophic decline in wildlife populations. The latest [flagship publication](#) (2022) reveals global wildlife populations have plummeted by 69% on average since 1970.

• Required: progress in the CBD negotiations

COP16 must make several crucial decisions to accelerate the delivery of the KMGBF. However, progress has been painstakingly slow in the intersessional negotiations: the old divisions that almost prevented the adoption of the KMGBF remain, and are getting deeper. These divisions, in particular on how and from where financial resources for addressing the biodiversity crisis should be mobilized, are connected to many agenda items of the COP and threaten to seriously slow down KMGBF implementation. As a result, the texts going forward to COP16 contain many outstanding issues of disagreement.

• Required: political leadership

Added to these challenges is the fact that geopolitical tensions are more apparent than they have been for decades, causing instability across the globe. In this context, it is important we don't lose sight of the promises Parties made just under two years ago to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030.





COLOMBIA'S PILLARS FOR COP16

The Colombian Presidency proposes an ambitious agenda that supports the implementation of the KMGBF. Colombia's agenda is built around five themes:

PEACE WITH NATURE

Colombia has underlined the importance of "Peace with Nature" as a core theme for COP16. This concept recognizes that the current unequal relationship between people and nature leads to overexploitation of nature. Extractive economies, particularly those based on fossil fuels, generate degrading practices that violate human rights, increase inequality and can exacerbate conflict. It is in this scenario that the world must begin to make "Peace with Nature", transforming our way of relating to the natural world, and degradation of nature, violate human rights, increase inequality and can exacerbate conflict. The world must promote a new economic and social development paradigm based on the ethics of care. "Peace with Nature" embraces social and environmental justice, including for rights holders and the protection of environmental defenders.

THE PEOPLE'S COP

Those on the front lines of the climate and biodiversity crises must

have a voice in the negotiations. Therefore, Colombia has underlined the importance of active participation from youth, Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant and small-scale farming communities, and women, from all countries, while emphasizing the roles, rights and contributions of these communities as custodians of biodiversity.

BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE - FROM CBD COP16 TO UNFCCC COP30 (BRAZIL, 2025)

Nature is an ally in tackling climate change and strengthening joint implementation of biodiversity and climate actions will have multiple benefits. Colombia aims to highlight that connection at COP16 and promote joint implementation. Creating synergies between CBD COP16 and UNFCCC COP30 (Brazil, 2025) forms part of this important agenda.

REGIONAL CONVERGENCE

Monitored wildlife populations in Latin America have declined by an average of 94% since 1970 and

the region is vulnerable to climate change, inequality and violence. In this context, Colombia underlines the importance of Latin American and Caribbean regional cooperation to avoid tipping points in the Amazon based on the commitments of [Belém Declaration](#), and advance the conservation of key regional landscapes such as the Caribbean and the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Conservation Corridor (CMARPacifico).

FINANCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GBF

Colombia has expressed the importance of securing comprehensive financing from all sources at COP16 to ensure effective conservation efforts on a global scale. This also includes the finalization of a multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits, derived from the use of Digital Sequenced Information (DSI) of genetic resources.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE AMAZON

COP16 will take place in the Amazon region.



This region is of global importance for biodiversity and climate. It houses at least 10% of the world's known biodiversity, including many endemic and endangered species, and its river accounts for 15-16% of the world's total river discharge into the oceans. The release of the carbon stored in the Amazon tropical forests would accelerate global warming significantly. The region is also culturally diverse and home to at least 500 indigenous ethnic groups³.

The conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity of the Amazon region is essential to avoid tipping points, as recognised in the Belem Declaration, and achieve the goals and targets of the KMGBF. Strong COP16 decisions, e.g. on cooperation with other conventions, NBSAPs and resource mobilisation, will be important to support efforts in the region.

Together with others, WWF advocates for zero deforestation in the Amazon region, the conservation and effective management of 80% of the Amazon's forests, rivers and wetlands and the phasing out of illegal production of gold and the use of mercury⁴ by 2030. See also WWF's Policy Brief: [The NBSAPs We Need for a Living Amazon](#).

2. EXPECTATIONS FOR COP16⁵

Only six years remain to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. While Parties should not wait for COP16 to implement urgent and ambitious actions, COP16 will need to take several important steps to help get KMGBF implementation on track, and to increase the confidence of Parties that collectively they can halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. These steps cover the following areas:

REVIEW OF PROGRESS: REVISED NBSAPS AND IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL ACTIONS

At COP16, Parties will review the implementation of the KMGBF. Progress on NBSAP revisions and the setting of national targets aligned with the KMGBF is key to this. WWF urges COP16 to adopt a decision, in line with the review, that calls on Parties who haven't done so already to initiate and/or speed up the NBSAP revision process. These must be in line with the KMGBF to make significant headway with implementation.

COP16 should also encourage Parties to align NBSAPs and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and, where appropriate, also with the Land Degradation Neutrality Target of UNCCD⁶ to optimize resource use and maximize benefits.

Furthermore, the KMGBF is a framework agreement and COP16 should encourage Parties to use the revision process for the NBSAPs as an important opportunity to translate commitments under other multilateral agreements, processes and declarations into concrete actions and connect them to specific KMGBF targets. This includes, for example, environmental commitments under the CITES⁷, Ramsar⁸ and the Minamata conventions, the [Glasgow Leaders Declaration on Forests and Land Use](#), the [COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action](#), and the [Freshwater Challenge](#).

FOOTPRINT OF CONSUMPTION, FOOD SYSTEMS & MAINSTREAMING

WWF calls on Parties and stakeholders to implement concrete measures to address key drivers of biodiversity loss. The focus should be on equitably reducing the global footprint of consumption and overconsumption to return within planetary limits and mainstreaming biodiversity across key sectors. This means that Parties at COP16 should:

- Show political commitment and maintain the need to address the drivers of biodiversity loss, equitably reduce the global footprint of consumption and mainstream biodiversity in key sectors, high on the agenda. This should be shown by integrating transformative action on consumption into NBSAPs and their implementation and prioritising a just nature positive transformation of key sectors, notably food and agriculture (from scaling up agroecology to shifting diets), fisheries, forestry, infrastructure, energy, mining and extractives, health, trade and finance,
- Commit to scale up action to mainstream biodiversity within and across sectors and ensure key sectors are getting adequate attention and are further mobilized around KMGBF implementation,

- Agree to adequately monitor progress on target 16 (sustainable consumption), through the adoption of headline indicators and adequate binary indicators for these targets, and rapidly develop a robust headline indicator for targets 1 (biodiversity inclusive spatial planning) and 14 (mainstreaming),
- Ensure the adoption of a robust voluntary Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health.

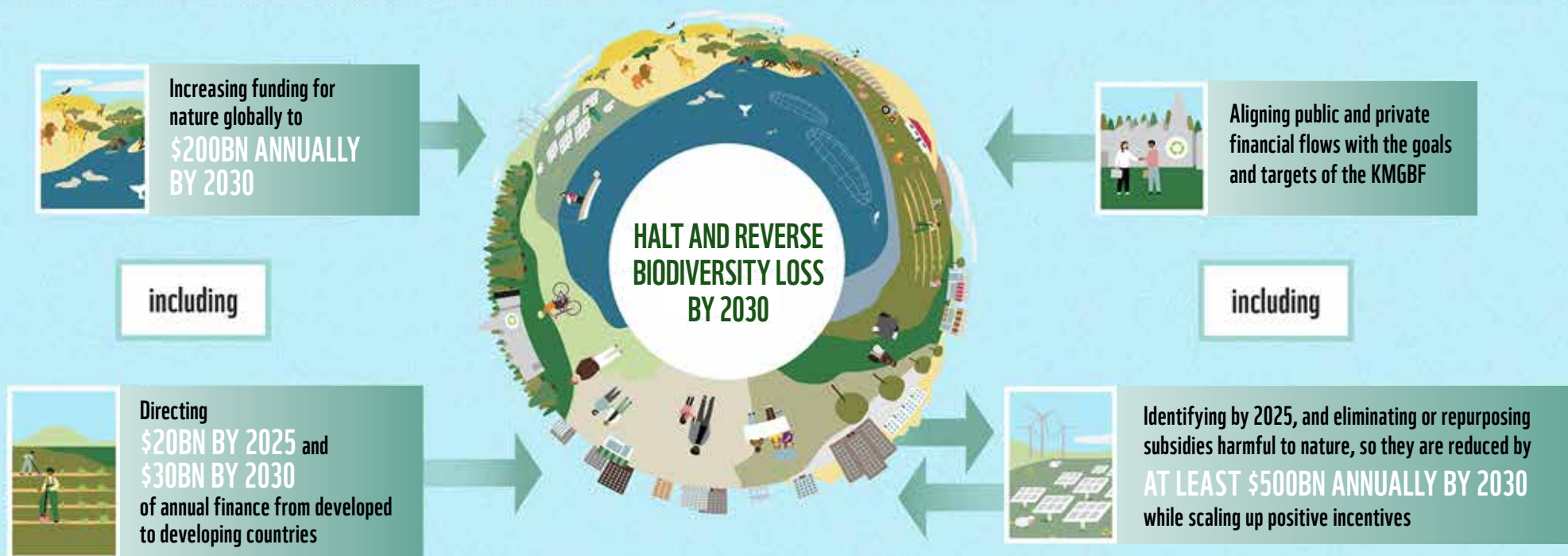
COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION ACTION

COP16 should serve as a milestone to accelerate the delivery of area-based conservation, that is integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, ensuring:

- That the three spatial targets: targets 1, 2 and 3 (biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning, restoration, and protected and conserved areas (PCAs) respectively) are addressed jointly. These targets intersect; addressing them in isolation will only lead to failure across all three,
- That ecological connectivity between PCAs is guaranteed to so that they are not isolated islands of biodiversity,
- That adequate and long term finance for PCAs is secured,
- Effective, equitable, inclusive and human rights-based governance of PCAs,
- That COP16 adopts the modalities for the modification of descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) and the description of new areas contained in the annex of SBSTTA recommendation 26/8. The scientific update of EBSA descriptions is a critical prerequisite for the implementation of the KMGBF including through the establishment of effective conservation and sustainable management measures for these important biodiversity areas by States and competent organisations.



Commitments related to resource mobilisation and finance in the KMGBF:



Fulfilling these financial commitments is essential to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030, but they must be matched with ambitious and urgent action across all targets.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION FOR KMGBF IMPLEMENTATION

COP16 needs to create greater confidence in the delivery of financial resources, in particular from public sources, as well as the alignment of public and private financial flows (see below). Otherwise the momentum for national KMGBF implementation will be at great risk. This can be achieved by:

- Adopting a clear and comprehensive KMGBF resource mobilization strategy for the period 2025 to 2030 that includes:
 - Funding from all sources, including the private sector,
 - Reducing, eliminating and redirecting financial flows (including subsidies) harmful to biodiversity, and
 - Increasing policy coherence to use existing financial flows more effectively and efficiently.
- Finding a lasting solution for the financial mechanism for the CBD that meets all Parties' needs. Establishing a working group or similar to interrogate all options on how to take this forward could be one important first step,
- Including concrete steps in Parties' NBSAPs on leveraging funding from all sources and mainstreaming biodiversity finance across all sectors,
- Developed countries and "countries that voluntarily assume obligations of developed country Parties"

accelerating efforts, ahead of and at COP16, to meet target 19a to provide at least US\$ 20 billion of biodiversity finance to developing countries annually by 2025,

- Securing adequate, timely, accessible funding flows directly to Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other rights holders as custodians of the world's biodiversity,
- Assessing finance-related barriers for countries to implement the KMGBF, such as their debt burden.

ALIGNMENT OF ALL FINANCIAL FLOWS

Achievement of the KMGBF is dependent on:

- The integration of nature and climate considerations into financial decision-making and regulation ("greening finance"), as mentioned in targets 14 (mainstreaming), 15 (disclosure) and 18 (subsidies), and
- The mobilization of finance from all sources ("financing green"), as per target 19 (resources mobilization).

This approach needs to be reflected throughout all levels and stages of KMGBF implementation, including the KMGBF resource mobilisation strategy to be agreed at COP16 and through concrete steps reflected in the revised NBSAPs.

SECURING ADEQUATE, TIMELY, ACCESSIBLE FUNDING FLOWS DIRECTLY TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND OTHER RIGHTS HOLDERS AS CUSTODIANS OF THE WORLD'S BIODIVERSITY.

Further, Parties need to encourage reforms towards a sustainable financial system aligned with the KMGBF, in particular through:

- The integration of nature into central banks' and financial supervisors' decision-making, mandates and operations,
- The alignment of policies of governments, multilateral organizations (including Multilateral Development Banks) and intergovernmental fora (including the G20) with a nature-positive and climate resilient agenda.

ACCOUNTABILITY

While the KMGBF package that was adopted at COP15 allowed Parties to quickly move forward with implementation, several important issues required further work and will now need to be agreed at COP16:

• The monitoring framework

COP15 adopted a partially complete [Global Monitoring Framework](#), setting out indicators to measure progress towards achievement of the KMGBF.

COP15 mandated further work, intending to fill the gaps in the monitoring framework at COP16. Unfortunately, the document going forward to the COP16 still contains many key gaps, in particular with regards to the headline indicators⁹, on which all countries are expected to report. For example, target 16, on over-consumption, which is a critical target, still lacks a headline indicator. Failure to fill these gaps will make it very difficult to measure progress towards halting and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030, mobilise additional resources if delivery is not on track, and hold governments to account.

WWF encourages Parties to adopt headline indicators for targets currently without one (targets 16 and 23). Existing SDG indicators can be used to fill some of these gaps.¹⁰ Furthermore, COP16 should agree on a process for developing and adopting headline indicators at COP17 for the remaining gaps, in particular for targets 1 (spatial planning) and 14 (mainstreaming). Key gaps in component and complementary indicators, which are optional for Parties to use, should also be filled.

• The procedures for the global review

A global review of progress on the implementation of the KMGBF, to be carried out at COP17 and COP19, is a new and essential mechanism for the CBD. While some progress has been made to design this global review process through intersessional negotiations, many issues remain to be resolved, including the governance structure of the process, how inclusive the process will be to non-state actors, and what kind of response COP should provide to outcomes from the global reviews.

WWF encourages Parties to adopt at COP16 a global review process that:

- Is robust and includes a series of steps, both technical and political, to analyze progress being made on KMGBF implementation and assess whether aggregated national, regional and global actions are indeed leading to the achievement of the mission, global goals and targets of the KMGBF,
- Takes a whole-of-society approach, allowing all voices to be heard and practical solutions to be developed,
- Enables appropriate action by Parties, including on the provision of means of implementation, if any gaps in the implementation of the KMGBF are identified, through COP recommendations or guidance to Parties on ways to improve actions and efforts, including through the revision and strengthened implementation of NBSAPs and national targets,
- Includes the participation and engagement of government leaders (heads of state and heads of government) at COP17 and COP19. High-level political oversight will be essential to ensuring that the reviews lead to necessary action.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

The implementation of the KMGBF requires effective, efficient and adequately resourced Convention processes and secretariat support. WWF encourages Parties to make decisions at COP16 that align the workings of the Convention with the need of urgent and ambitious KMGBF implementation, focusing on the targets where action is most lagging, while supporting a whole-of-society approach. This is particularly relevant for COP16 decisions about:

- The programmes of work of the Convention, and the Multi-year programme of work of the COP, making sure that essential issues are being addressed through such programmes, including mainstreaming, over-consumption, marine and coastal biodiversity and island biodiversity,
- The administration of the Convention and budget for the trust funds,
- The review of the effectiveness of processes under the Convention and its Protocols, to enable efficient and effective negotiations and decision making.

SYNERGIES BETWEEN NATURE AND CLIMATE ACTIONS

Jointly addressing the climate and biodiversity crises is vital to build nature-positive, net-zero, resilient and equitable societies; and the achievement of the KMGBF and the Paris agreement are intimately intertwined.

Recognition of the role of nature and nature-based solutions (NbS) and/or ecosystem-based approaches (EbA) in achieving Paris Agreement goals gained momentum between UNFCCC COP25 (2019) and COP28 (2023), including through the UNFCCC [COP28, COP29 and COP30 troika](#) and the [COP28 Joint Statement on Climate, Nature and People](#).¹¹ Building on this momentum, COP16 can create a solid basis for strong synergies and cooperation between all three Rio Conventions.

At COP16, Parties will negotiate decisions on Biodiversity and Climate Change -covering NbS and more synergistic planning and implementation of NBSAPs and NDCs-, and on Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations. In these decisions, WWF calls on Parties, to:

- Ensure climate and nature policies and strategies are aligned, to maximise efficiency and resource allocation and address potential trade-offs. This is especially important when addressing food systems, a key driver of biodiversity loss and one of the largest contributors to GHG emissions. Specific actions to include are:
 - Alignment of revised NBSAPs, national climate plans (Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans and Long Term Strategies) and land degradation neutrality plans,
 - Investment in high-quality, high-integrity NbS and/or EbA, with strong social and environmental safeguards, that directly benefit human wellbeing and ecosystems, emphasizing actions on deforestation and conversion-free supply chains, and food systems transformation.
- Scale up joint finance for biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation, including

through NbS, and facilitate capacity building, particularly for developing countries, to implement NbS and/or EbA,

- Enhance and support joint and aligned work under the three Rio Conventions and other UN Conventions of high relevance to biodiversity, such as CITES, CMS and Minamata to encourage stronger synergies and to jointly assess progress on the implementation of nature and climate commitments, for example through a joint programme of work and/or work programmes under each convention, as stepping stones for the joint programme of work.

Furthermore, the COP16 political outcomes, including the Ministerial Declaration, should pave the way to further integrate nature and into climate actions at the next climate COPs (COP29 in Azerbaijan, (2024) and COP30 in Brazil (2025)) and at future biodiversity COPs, to avoid reaching catastrophic tipping points which could trigger irreversible ecological transformations that would hinder the achievement of both biodiversity and climate global goals. To this effect, COP16 should, for example, emphasize the key role of nature in tackling climate change, and outline a series of actions to achieve the [commitment to end deforestation by 2030](#).

THE PEOPLE'S COP: WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY AND HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACHES

COP16 should be the People's COP, ensuring equal access to decision-making and information by all stakeholders, especially on matters relating to benefits and finance.



Section C of the KMGBF sets out considerations for its implementation, monitoring and reporting. It includes key principles and approaches such as the whole-of-society approach, the human rights-based approach (HRBA), contributions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, gender, inter-generational equity and the right to a healthy environment. Moreover, several targets have rights and equity elements embedded. These elements need to be reflected in COP16 decisions that will support KMGBF implementation, including decisions about:

- The monitoring framework, to ensure that key principles and approaches in section C and relevant targets (target 22, participation and rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and target 23, gender) have headline and other indicators,
- The global review and the national reporting template, to include the contributions of rights holders,
- The resource mobilisation strategy, to ensure adequate allocations and timely and direct access to resources by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, youth and other rights holders,
- Article 8(j) and related provisions, including the new programme of work and the establishment of a new subsidiary body for the working group on article 8(j),
- Scientific and technical needs to support KMGBF implementation, to include needs about gender equality, equity and the HRBA.

The whole-of-society approach is also reflected in the CBD [Action Agenda](#). COP16 should recognize, for example in the Ministerial Declaration, the importance of the CBD Nature Action Agenda to drive ambition and implementation of the KMGBF. The Action Agenda can be strengthened through a COP16 decision that recognizes the Action Agenda Champions.

PEACE WITH NATURE: RECOGNISING THE LINK BETWEEN NATURE, PEACE AND CONFLICT

WWF calls on parties and other stakeholders at COP16 to acknowledge, in high-level statements and the Ministerial Declaration, the important interconnection between nature and peace in all its dimensions. The political recognition of this relationship is particularly important for Indigenous Peoples, local communities, other rights holders, women and youth. Recognition at COP16 will be an important milestone for further multilateral actions to address, amongst others:

- Humanity's exploitation of nature and its impact on peace and stability,
- Biodiversity loss and the resulting livelihood insecurity,
- The exploitation of and competition over natural resources as drivers of inequality and conflicts,

- The impact of instability and conflict on conservation,
- Environmental conservation and inclusive and equitable management as a means to peace building, and
- Environmental crime and justice, including the protection of environmental defenders.

A human rights-based implementation of the KMGBF, including through NbS and/or EbA, and its co-benefits for addressing climate change and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, can be important enablers for environmental peacebuilding and stability. At the same time, KMGBF implementation depends on peace among people. It necessitates robust and transparent democratic institutions that ensure the participation of all relevant stakeholders and rights holders in decision-making processes.

DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION

WWF urges Parties at COP16 to build consensus and decide on the modalities for operationalizing the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information (DSI) on genetic resources, including a global fund.

The mechanism must ensure that:

- All entities who use DSI on genetic resources in their commercial activities shall provide a percentage of their revenue or profit to the global fund,
- Any active user of DSI on genetic resources should also contribute to the global fund.

In addition, Parties and all stakeholders must urge that all users of DSI on genetic resources also provide non-monetary benefits in a fair and equitable manner, in addition to their contribution to monetary benefits through the global fund.

The funding allocation from the global fund should be carried out in an open and transparent manner. The funds should be used to support the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and for capacity building and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms to generate, access, use, analyse and store DSI on genetic resources in developing countries. The fund should also support the self-identified needs of Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other rights holders.

COP16 SHOULD BE THE PEOPLE'S COP, ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO DECISION-MAKING AND INFORMATION BY ALL STAKEHOLDERS, ESPECIALLY ON MATTERS RELATING TO BENEFITS AND FINANCE.



ENDNOTES

1. At the time of writing this paper, 19 revised NBSAPs have been submitted.
2. On panda.org
3. For more information on the Amazon region, see [this article](#).
4. Mercury, a highly poisonous metal, is being used and released in the process of gold mining. **The Minamata Convention on Mercury** aims to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.
5. WWF will publish detailed recommendations for specific COP16 agenda items closer to the meeting.
6. **The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.**
7. **The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna.**
8. **The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.**
9. The monitoring framework (**decision 15/5**) includes headline indicators which are recommended for national, regional and global monitoring, and more detailed component and complementary indicators, which are optional for Parties to use. COP16 may decide to add another category of binary (yes/no) indicators.
10. See for details: **WWF Position Paper. Monitoring framework for the KMGBF.**
11. For example, the UNFCCC COP28 **Decision CMA.5 (para 33) on the outcome of the first global stocktake** highlighted the importance of nature conservation, forest protection, ecosystem restoration and halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030, ensuring social and environmental safeguards, in line with the KMGBF.



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