



IUCN s Position on support mechanisms

Convention on Biological Diversity

Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15)

Montreal, Canada, 7 – 19 December 2022

Gender Plan of Action

(Agenda item 9 D)

IUCN welcomes the draft decision which acknowledges that a new gender plan of action is needed to support and promote the implementation of a gender-responsive post 2020 global biodiversity framework. The plan will also support a gender responsive approach to applying the implementation mechanisms associated with the framework. Further, **IUCN supports the adoption of the gender plan of action and encourages Parties to do so.**

IUCN has been contributing in the development of the GPA which is a key strategy document, that provides clear guidance on how to ensure the rights of women and girls, in their diversity of identities, are upheld in decision making and implementation of the GBF but also make visible the importance of identify and eliminate, prevent and respond, to all forms of gender-based discrimination and violence in particular in relation to control, ownership and access to sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity, including protecting women environmental human rights defenders and park to 4 468.5F3 9.(the)4(Tf3v)-8.96b(s)-564 50vow0v protecting v

Second, increased finance from countries whose consumption generates negative impacts on biodiversity in other countries to reflect their shared responsibility in managing such impacts. Bilateral aid to this end should in particular support transition of agriculture to net zero or positive impact on biodiversity.

Third, financial institutions should identify and disclose their impacts and dependencies on nature. Proposed regulatory frameworks such as the *Task Force on Nature-related Financial Disclosure* should be made a priority in order that financial flows are moved away from negative impacts on nature and towards positive impact. Measures of the change in these financial flows will be essential for the development of targets for the financial sector to deliver.

Fourth, to ensure that finance flows move to nature-positive impacts, substantially increased knowledge of the specific spatial impacts of pressures on biodiversity caused by commodity production, infrastructure development, unsustainable use and invasive species will be essential. This can be facilitated by the use of artificial intelligence, remotely-sensed data, and knowledge from local scientists, communities and Indigenous Peoples. In particular, increased knowledge of the geographical production of certain key agricultural products is necessary and should be driven by demand from financial institutions looking to make accurate assessments of financial risk.

Fifth, IUCN welcomes proposed requests for improved financial reporting frameworks on biodiversity impacts of biodiversity-related expenditures of public and private financial institutions. However, it is essential that such reporting frameworks c

IUCN notes that while the draft decision recognizes that mainstreaming of biodiversity is a fundamental part of sustainable development and critical to achieve the 2050 Vision of Living in Harmony with Nature, **the text could benefit from identifying the specific 2030 targets to which the LTAM would be contributing to, in order to incentivize its implementation as a contribution to the GBF.** Further, in order to avoid duplication in reporting, the targets and indicators used to measure progress on LTAM should as much as possible build on the arrangements in place for reporting, monitoring and review of targets 14, 15, 16, 18 and 19 of the post-2020 GBF.

IUCN highlights the importance of breaking down silos between stakeholders and fostering collaboration for systemic change as demonstrated by [BIODEV2030](#), a joint project by IUCN, WWF and Expertise France to operationalize biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors in 16 developing countries. Therefore, IUCN:

recommends involving representatives of the business sector in the mainstreaming discussions;

encourages Governments at all levels, businesses, civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities and all relevant stakeholders to engage in the activities set out in the action plan.

encourages greater outreach and engagement with stakeholders through multi-stakeholder platforms, to facilitate dialogue and collaboration to solve biodiversity problems in a systemic way, for a successful mainstreaming approach. Such multi-stakeholder platforms should be fit-for-purpose, inclusive and based on a robust stakeholder mapping. They must engage representatives of governments at all levels, the private sector, civil society organisations and indigenous peoples and local communities into regular discussions informed by scientific data and evidence-based studies to support decision-making.

In light of the above, IUCN suggest the following amendments to the draft decision, for consideration of Parties:

2. ~~{Adopts}~~~~{Takes note of}~~~~{Welcomes}~~ the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity contained in the annex to the present decision as an important contribution to the development **and implementation** of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework **and in particular targets 14, 15, 16, 18 and 19 related to mainstreaming but also targets**

5, 6, 7, 8 and 10 which depend on sustainably-led economic activities ;

4. ~~[Welcomes]~~ ~~[Takes note of]~~ ~~[Takes note with appreciation of]~~ the voluntary action plan for the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity, and encourages Parties and other Governments, at all levels, in order to support the global biodiversity framework and its implementation,...

Finally, in relation to mainstreaming guidance, tools, and good practice cases mentioned in the LTAM, **IUCN brings to the attention of the Parties the methodology and knowledge products of the [BIODEV2030](#) project**, that can be shared by the 16 Parties involved in the project.

Based on 3 key steps: i) a national biodiversity threat assessment; ii) a deep sectoral analysis (context analysis, stakeholders mapping, existing practices analysis); and iii) a multi-stakeholder dialogue, to foster private sector commitments, and integrate them into national strategies and action plans (including NBSAPs), the BIODEV2030 methodology highlights the importance of collaboration and dialogue among stakeholders as a crucial step for buy-in and ownership, something that is currently lacking from the proposed strategy and action areas for transformative systemic change.

IUCN invites Parties to consider adding an additional Headline Action 6 under Strategy Area III: Mainstreaming biodiversity across society in the Annex of the draft decision as follows:

Headline Action 6: Governments at all

ensuring coherence between the national strategy for sustainable development and the development strategies centred on the sectors. Such a multi-stakeholder platform would promote cross-sectoral cooperation, which is necessary at national level but also where several sectors operate in a given territory and cause cumulative pressures. Such a platform offers a space for periodic and transparent monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Action Plan by the different actors, in order to ensure

accountability of all for their contributions. It also helps actors and stakeholders to take ownership of the issues, take part in the debates and be made accountable for the actions and impacts.