

## Policy Brief: Post 2020 Biodiversity Framework and Finance

### Background: What is Post 2020 Biodiversity Framework?

Being the United Nations' custodian organisation for biodiversity, the United Nations Convention for Biological Diversity developed the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) through activities at the national level, with supporting actions at the subnational, regional, and global levels. The Post 2020 Biodiversity Framework is the new strategic plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) that is **being developed** and **will be adopted** at the 15<sup>th</sup> CBD Conference of the Parties (COP15). The post-2020 global biodiversity framework builds on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and sets out an ambitious plan to implement broad-based action to bring about a transformation in society's relationship with biodiversity and to ensure that, by 2050, the shared vision of humanity living in harmony with nature is realised. The framework is being designed to galvanize urgent and transformative action by Governments among other stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society, and businesses, to achieve the outcomes the framework sets out in its vision, mission, goals, and targets.

The First draft of the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, released in July 2021 building on the Zero draft (released in July 2020). To contribute to the review process, various stakeholders from across the globe have reviewed the first draft and provided policy recommendations for consideration in the framework that will be adopted at the 15<sup>th</sup> CBD Conference of the Parties (COP15) set to hold in Kunming, China. Within this context, ISNAD-Africa has reviewed the First Draft of the Framework and published a series of Policy Briefs to make suggestions for consideration in the framework that will be adopted at the 15<sup>th</sup> CBD Conference of the Parties (COP15) set to hold in China.

### Introduction

Biodiversity is essential for the health of the planet as well as critical to sustainable development as it sustains critical sectors and essential resources such as water, agriculture and food security and it increases resilience to extreme natural disasters, particularly for people living in rural areas who are often the poorest (FAO, 2019). There has been a dramatic and accelerating biodiversity loss due to anthropogenic activities resulting in an exacerbating decline in flora and fauna. According to UNEP, Flora and Fauna have reduced by 60 percent in the last four decades with projection of loss of species by 30-50 percent of all the species by the middle of the 21st century (UNEP-WCMC, 2016). The challenge results from various factors which points to the inadequate policies and inadequate finance to manage protect biodiversity on the continent especially in **protected areas**. Therefore, to tackle the substantial risks of biodiversity loss, there is a need to identify and implement innovative policy mechanisms that can rapidly mobilize substantial financial mechanism for nature conservation and reform harmful subsidies.

Globally, the financial need for biodiversity conservation and restoration as well as reversing biodiversity loss is estimated to be approximately USD 722-967 billion annually, another estimate put it at USD 711 billion annually<sup>1</sup> yet the total annual funding stands at USD 124-143 billion annually. Out of the total funding, 78% of the world's biodiversity finance is generated in developed economies, while about 22% is generated in developing economies. In terms of delivery, however, 59% of total generated biodiversity finance is spent within developed countries, while the remaining 41% is deployed to developing economies (Mori & Mader, 2021). In Africa, the available funding for managing protected and conserved area is only 10-20% of financial needs (IUCN ESARO, 2020).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.afrik21.africa/en/africa-philanthropy-to-fill-the-biodiversity-funding-gap/>



Moreover, the continent still depends on traditional funding sources for conservation such as government and donor support as well as self-generated revenue, which is needed yet inadequate to bridge this funding gap. Yet, the COVID-19 pandemic has reduced the conservation-related funding significantly due to decline of tourism across African countries. Hence, there is a crucial need to diversify and increase self-generated revenues and develop innovative financing mechanisms.

### **Biodiversity Financing Targets Between Aichi 2020 Targets and Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)**

Aichi Biodiversity Targets were set 2010 to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2020. This targets were considered a failure particularly target 20 which provided for mobilizing resources from all sources. The goal of the biodiversity strategy (2011-2020) was to increase the resources for biodiversity conservation. Indeed, there have been an increase in domestic and international resources including official development assistance for biodiversity yet the resources are insufficient to meet the financial need to reverse biodiversity loss. however, the increase is skewed among different countries across the globe. Moreover, the available resources are skewed among countries across the globe while some of the funding are from sources that cause harm biodiversity.

In comparison, the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework aimed at mobilising financial resources for the implementation of all new targets, and the second, of equal importance and in parallel, at removing the perverse subsidy of the drivers of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation (Mori & Mader, 2021);

- Goal D entirely focuses touches on closing the financing gap up to at least USD 700 billion per year by 2030 and ensuring adequate financial and other resources for the period 2030-2040 committed by 2030.
- Target 18, provides for reduction of public private harmful incentives in an equitable way by at least USD 500 billion per year and ensuring ensure that incentives are either positive or neutral for biodiversity
- Target 19 provide for an increased financial resource from all sources to at least USD 200 billion per year, including new, additional, and effective financial resources, increasing by at least USD 10 billion per year international financial flows to developing countries, leveraging private finance, and increasing domestic resource mobilisation

Governments across the globe who are parties to the UNCBD have started making commitments for supporting developing countries in protecting biodiversity. For instance, Government of China injected USD 233 million to the new Kunming Biodiversity funding (TNFD, 2021). The European Union, France, Japan, and the United Kingdom all made commitments to increase funding for biodiversity. Moreover, the CBD, Global Environment Facility, UNDP, and UNEP have commitment to support developing countries to implement the GBF<sup>2</sup>. This indicates a growing realisation among governments, among other stakeholders on the importance biodiversity financing and the general importance of biodiversity.

### **Recommendation**

To achieve the goal of the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, which has already started experiencing success in biodiversity financing before its implementation, is a need to;

- **include 2030 Milestones in the post 2020 GBF. These milestones need to be S.M.A.R.T, easily communicable and define the outcomes we need to achieve by 2030 to reverse biodiversity loss and put the world on track to achieve the 2050 Vision. They are crucial to improve measurability of outcomes needed by 2030. We recommend that Parties refine and complement the milestones provided in the 1st**

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<sup>2</sup> <https://tnfd.global/news/after-cop15-market-leadership-instrumental-for-global-biodiversity-agreement/>

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**draft GBF to ensure they help focus the attention and actions of key decision makers, stakeholders and sectors on what needs to be achieved by 2030. In order to avoid confusion, we need to be clear that while milestones focus on outcomes, all targets should focus on the transformative actions needed to achieve the 2030 Mission.**

- develop strategies aimed at implementing the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework should be integrated with efforts aimed at mitigating and adapt climate change. Thus, the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework targets should be linked to international climate goals for climate mitigation and adaptation through mechanisms such as nature-based solutions (NbS) to ensure nature-positive investments.
- disclosure and transparency on financial contribution and investment on the protection of biodiversity similar to the Enhanced Transparency Framework in the Paris agreement. This will be useful tool for governments to expand their investment and financing with consideration to biodiversity conservation.
- Align and link strategies for implementing post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework with green recovery strategies and net zero emissions by 2050 in order to create an opportunity for more biodiversity funding.

### About EcoKnowledge Derivatives

The reconciliation of economic, social, and environmental dimensions of development for green growth represents a new paradigm in development thinking, concept, policy, and practice. Thus, there has been an increasing publication of new knowledge products including reports, tools, and frameworks to define, facilitate, and catalyse the path to green growth. However, the low level of awareness, lengthy and technical nature of the knowledge products limit their readership and uptake for policy, practice, and advocacy.

EcoKnowledge Derivative (EKD) is a strategic mechanism that employs active and non-conventional strategies for effective dissemination of green growth knowledge using policy briefs and social media platforms to catalyse the use, uptake, and implementation of green growth knowledge as well as promote the effort of stakeholders who are generating knowledge for green growth. EKD analyses, harmonises, synthesises, and condenses knowledge products into policy briefs and enhanced social media contents (knowledge derivatives) in simple, reader-friendly, and non-technical formats that can be easily understood by specialist and non-specialist stakeholders. The knowledge derivatives are disseminated using conventional media organisations, relevant global mailing digests and social media platforms using a multimedia approach that leverage the unique and comparative advantages.

**With support from the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)**, EKD builds on ISNAD-Africa's [Africa4Nature Health Initiative \(A4NHI\)](#), a public awareness and policy advocacy initiative for a new deal with nature and people that was implemented in response to nexus of COVID-19 and nature. A4NHI, which was implemented for 19 weeks, reached about 6.2 million people in Africa while the policy recommendations it proffered were reported in [twenty \(24\) news stories](#) in leading newspapers within and outside Africa.

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