



# BREAKING SILOS

Enhancing synergies across NDCs and NBSAPs

December 2023

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# SUMMARY

Tackling the ongoing climate and biodiversity crises requires concerted and coordinated efforts to decarbonize economies, reverse nature loss, adapt to climate change, ensure food security, and achieve Sustainable Development Goals. These efforts are inextricably linked and cannot be achieved independent of one another. However, international conventions addressing these crises have evolved and worked in silos. Political commitment and action at the highest level is therefore essential to synergize efforts that work towards the goals of these conventions. But the momentum is building with the Presidents of Conference of Parties of the three Rio Conventions calling for a coordinated approach at the international and national levels to tackle these crises holistically<sup>1</sup> and with the Summit of the Future set to deliberate on a path forward to transition to more cooperative approaches to global governance in 2024.

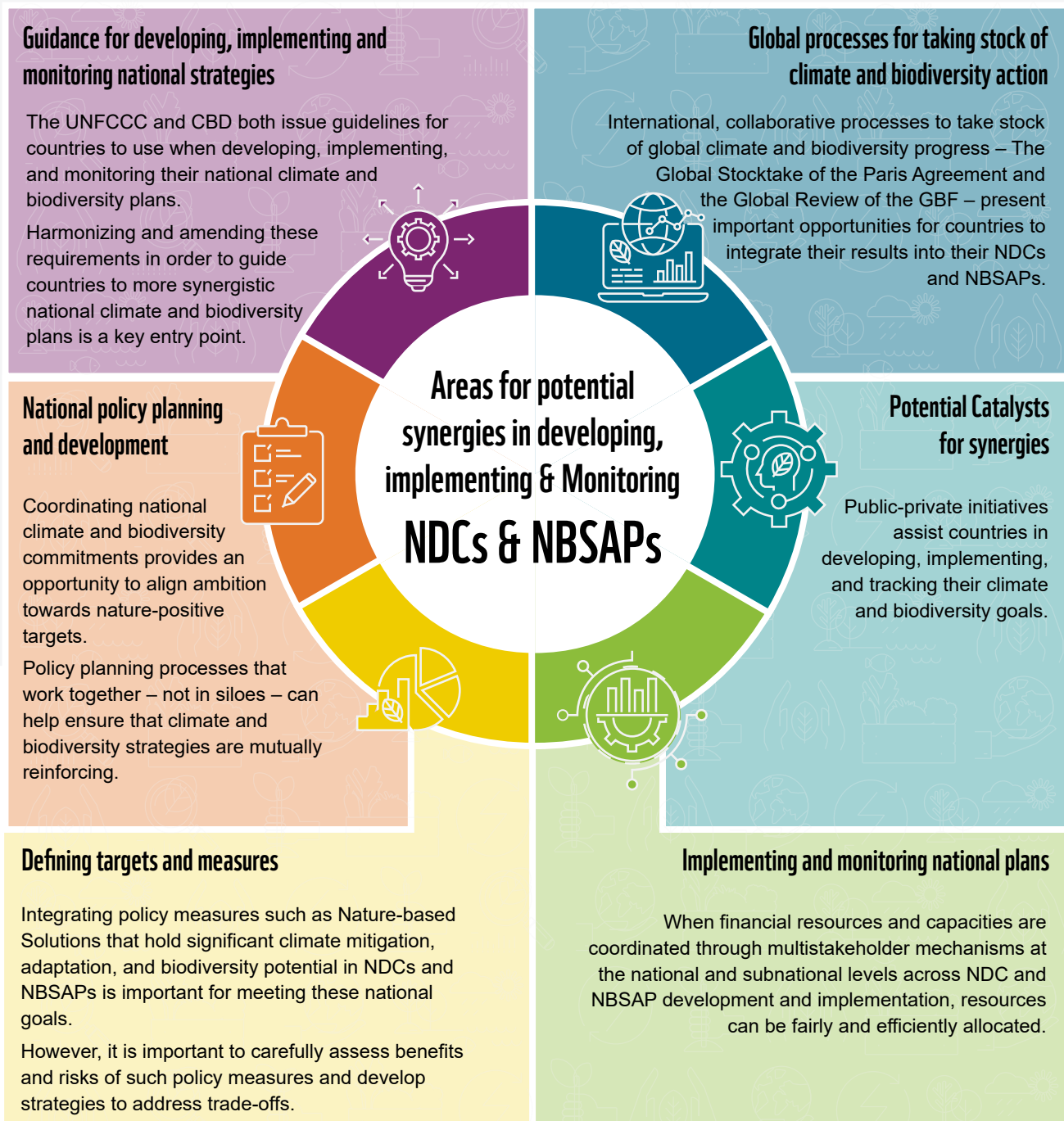
Strengthening synergies between Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) is one important step toward ensuring the integration of climate and biodiversity efforts. The design and implementation of NDCs and NBSAPs are underpinned by mechanisms for monitoring, reporting, and stocktaking, which allow these plans and strategies to continuously evolve and raise their ambition. Policy goals and measures in these strategies are linked to scientific evidence and their implementation is supported by – among a range of means – domestic and international financing mechanisms that draw from public and private sources.

At the national level, building coherence between climate and biodiversity policies is a key step in fostering unified actions that facilitate the effective implementation of climate and biodiversity strategies. This improved coherence also has the potential to significantly reduce monitoring and reporting burdens and enhance on-the-ground policy impacts. By promoting collaboration between sectors and stakeholders, integrated policy processes can help improve the allocation of resources, the alignment of budgets and capacities to national climate and biodiversity goals, and countries' access to public and private finance needed to achieve their targets.

There are many important catalysts for building synergies across NDCs and NBSAPs, including public-private partnerships, other non-state initiatives, and Indigenous Peoples and local communities that support governments in implementing and monitoring their climate and biodiversity goals. Given their collaborative nature, these partnerships and initiatives can break silos and bring together stakeholders across sectors, regions, and multiple levels of governance. They can contribute to the development and strengthening of capacities in countries and support governments and other stakeholders in resource mobilization. Further, these initiatives can promote and accelerate the enabling conditions required for the holistic implementation of strategies at both national and global levels.

Several key areas in these arenas present opportunities to develop and implement national climate and biodiversity strategies in a cohesive, synergistic manner (Figure 1). Based on these opportunities, this paper will propose recommendations for conventions, policymakers, and public-private initiatives for enhancing the cohesion between NDCs and NBSAPs.

**Figure 1.** Overview of entry points for synergies across national climate and biodiversity plans.





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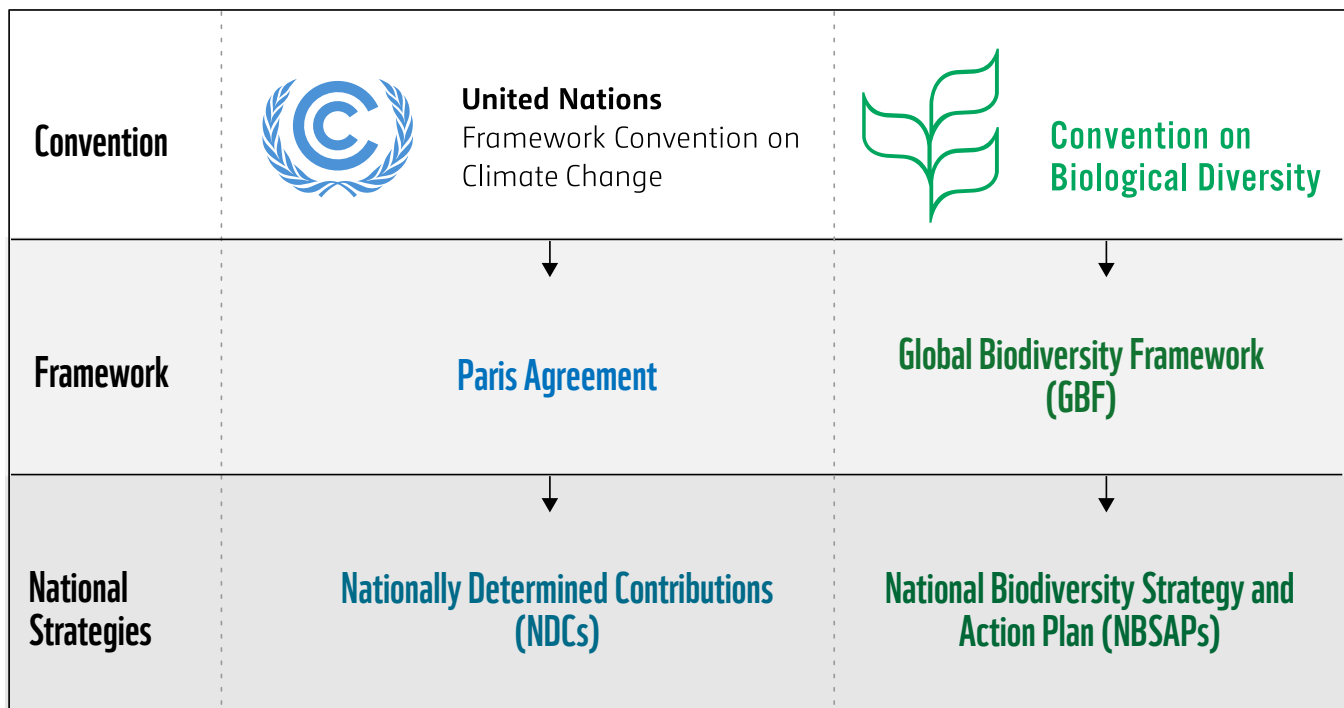
# INTRODUCTION

Humanity faces the dual crises of climate change and the loss of nature. As of 2022, global temperatures exceeded pre-industrial levels by 1.15°C.<sup>2</sup> This ongoing rise in average global temperatures poses severe threats to humans and the environment, including increased heat-related deaths, extreme weather events, water scarcity, and dire impacts on livelihoods and food security.<sup>3</sup> Simultaneously, vertebrate populations are estimated to have declined in abundance by 69% between 1970 and 2018.<sup>4,5</sup>

The climate and biodiversity crises are not only major global challenges on their own, but also compound one another. Both crises – and their societal and environmental impacts – are inextricably linked. Climate change and its associated ecosystem disruption is a key driver of biodiversity loss.<sup>6,7</sup> The loss of biodiversity, in turn, can reduce ecosystems' capacities to weather the effects of climate change and provide vital services.<sup>8</sup> Global biodiversity also plays a role in climate regulation and carbon sequestration.<sup>9</sup>

The Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the key climate and biodiversity conventions, provide countries with the frameworks to nationally plan and address these challenges. Parties to the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) under the Convention on the Biological Diversity (CBD) must each produce or update planning frameworks to set out their contributions and actions to address climate change mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity loss (See Figure 2). These documents include NDCs with an Adaptation Communication component submitted to the UNFCCC and NBSAPs. See Figure 2 and Box 1.

**Figure 2.** Overview of international policy processes for climate change mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity



## Box 1. NDCs and NBSAPs

**Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**, established under the Paris Agreement, are the frameworks in which each country outlines and communicates their post-2020 climate actions. NDCs set the dual purpose of establishing both targets and an action plan to cut emissions and adapt to climate impacts. NDCs are submitted by parties to the UNFCCC, and must provide information necessary to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU), which includes quantifiable information on baselines, timeframes for implementation, planning processes, and other methodological approaches. Parties are required to submit new NDCs in 2025. In addition to NDCs, least developed and developing countries also submit National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) – established in 2010 under the Cancún Adaptation Framework. NAPs are national frameworks that identify a country’s medium- and long-term adaptation needs and develop strategies to address these vulnerabilities. Whereas the adaptation components of a country’s NDC establish its global commitment to adapt to climate change impacts, NAPs serve as domestic planning documents to evaluate and address the country’s adaptation needs.

**National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)** – NBSAPs provide national-level strategic direction on the protection and management of biodiversity within a country and are the main tool guiding the GBF at national level. Each CBD Party is expected to review or update its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) to align it with the GBF. Parties are expected to submit their revised/updated NBSAPs ahead of the 16th meeting of the COP in the fourth quarter of 2024. In cases of capacity limitations, parties may submit revised targets in lieu of the full revised and updated NBSAP.

Given the overlapping and complementary nature of these strategic documents and the challenges they address, it is crucial that NDCs and NBSAPs are coherent, holistic, and synergistic in their design and implementation. Capitalizing on these opportunities can increase these national strategies’ coherence, reduce their duplication, and efficiently utilize the resources needed for their development, implementation, monitoring, and reporting. Ensuring that NDCs and NBSAPs complement each other can also help ensure that strategies to address the climate and biodiversity crises

avoid counterproductive measures while maximizing positive climate-biodiversity outcomes all at once.

In this context, this paper reviews synergies in developing and implementing national plans and communications under the UNFCCC Paris Agreement and the GBF of the CBD. This paper: i) overviews the guidance for formulation and implementation of these policy documents, ii) identifies key synergies and risks across climate change and biodiversity actions, and iii) sets out recommendations for conventions, policymakers, and public-private initiatives for enhancing the cohesion between NDCs and NBSAPs.





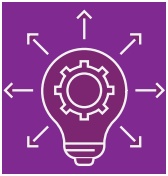
# POTENTIAL SYNERGIES IN POLICY FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION ACROSS CONVENTIONS

International climate and biodiversity policy regimes have been developed in parallel under different conventions, with different implementation levels and funding mechanisms at global and national levels.

While both the UNFCCC and the CBD acknowledge the need for policy coherence across conventions, frameworks, and Parties' national strategies, they lack strong mechanisms or guidance to ensure this coherence in practice. For example, the UNFCCC's Paris Agreement recognizes the importance of biodiversity,<sup>10</sup> but doesn't further integrate biodiversity into its text or most of its decisions for implementation. For its part, the GBF highlights climate change and its role in driving biodiversity loss while including multiple targets on climate change adaptation and mitigation. While these acknowledgements are important, the GBF mentions that the framework's implementation should *aim* to generate co-

benefits with the goals established by the Paris Agreement,<sup>11</sup> but its guidance to parties on how to review or update NBSAPs does not provide tangible, actionable guidance to move those climate-biodiversity synergies from paper to practice.

Nevertheless, there are many opportunities at the global and national level to strengthen synergies and minimize trade-offs between climate and biodiversity goals. As described in the following sections, there are several entry points where climate and biodiversity policy objectives, measures, and implementation can align.



# 1. Guidance for developing, implementing, and monitoring national strategies

Both UNFCCC and CBD lack mechanisms that explicitly consider climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity interactions that make clear how countries can ensure that NDCs and NBSAPs are mutually reinforcing. For example, NDCs submitted under the Paris Agreement are not required to specify if and how climate mitigation actions might have negative effects on biodiversity. Countries are also not required to include integrated actions around ecosystems

(e.g., NbS or ecosystem-based adaptation), although a significant number of countries did in their 2020-2021 NDCs.

There are multiple opportunities for UNFCCC and CBD to fill this gap and improve upon existing guidance – and potentially create new, tangible guidelines and mechanisms – to better lead countries towards developing and implementing their NDCs and NBSAPs in parallel.

## OPPORTUNITIES

- Parties to the Paris Agreement should review the alignment between guidance on information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) and the targets of the GBF. The UNFCCC provides guidance for including ICTU in countries' NDCs, and requires countries to include sufficient, clear, and consistent information in their NDCs. This information enables better transparency over countries' national goals within an international context. Notably, existing guidance does not require countries to include any information on biodiversity within their NDCs.
- However, there are several entry points – particularly in developing policy measures related to NbS – for governments to consider biodiversity benefits and trade-offs as part of developing and monitoring their NDCs (see Annex 1). For instance, there is an upcoming opportunity to amend ICTU guidance to better integrate biodiversity considerations as ICTU guidance comes under revision in 2026 and 2027. In recognizing the role of nature for climate goals, updated guidance can direct countries to include biodiversity-related information to facilitate transparency. The outcomes of the Global Stocktake to be discussed by Parties at COP28 can also feed into the revision of ICTU to align NDC contents with emerging transparency and accountability calls from the Global Stocktake including calls from civil society.
- Additionally, countries must use the modalities, procedures, and guidelines (MPGs) of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) to track their NDC progress. Countries must also include information about MPGs in their ETF Biennial Transparency Reports and in the Global Stocktake. Countries are not currently required to include information on biodiversity in their Biennial Transparency Reports. However, the UNFCCC's CMA<sup>1</sup> and SBSTA could give further guidance for countries to report the impacts on biodiversity (both benefits and risks) resulting from the mitigation and adaptation measures in NDCs.
- Existing guidance from the CBD for countries to develop and implement their NBSAPs does not explicitly consider potential adaptation and mitigation risks and benefits stemming from biodiversity-related policies. However, NBSAP development guidelines encourage countries to leverage commitments made under other intergovernmental processes and multilateral environmental agreements, including the Rio conventions, in their national targets. Currently, the CBD'S SBSTTA is in the process of developing and releasing recommendations for CBD COP16 (scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2024) on interlinkages between climate and biodiversity. Once released, countries should reference these recommendations, which will likely highlight existing tools that can be used for integrated climate-biodiversity policymaking.
- The Joint Liaison Group – an informal forum for exchanging information and increasing coordination, established in 2001 among the Rio Conventions – meets regularly to explore opportunities for synergistic activities and increased coordination, and to exchange information. The COPs of the Rio Conventions should formalize and revitalize the Joint Liaison Group, expanding and strengthening its mandate to facilitate coordination at the international level on proposing coherent guidance to governments in developing and updating their NDCs and NBSAPs and at the national level on developing synergistic policies.
- CBD COP14 requested the organization of a workshop to facilitate discussions among Parties to the various biodiversity-related conventions to explore ways in which they could contribute to the post-2020 framework and identify elements for inclusion. Two consultation workshops (Bern I and Bern II) were held in 2019 and 2021 on issues such as indicators and the monitoring framework, potential areas for cooperation on means of implementation and implementing synergies at the national level.<sup>12</sup> Follow up workshops including one that is planned in January 2024 could play a crucial role in further strengthening synergies across NDCs and NBSAPs and other national strategies.

<sup>1</sup> Parties to the Paris Agreement are represented at the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA). The CMA oversees the implementation of the Paris Agreement and takes decisions to promote its effective implementation.



## 2. Global processes for taking stock of climate and biodiversity action

The Global Stocktake, established by Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, is a process that takes place every five years in which countries and other stakeholders assess collective progress towards meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement. As per the Paris Agreement CMA decision 19/CMA.1, the Global Stocktake evaluates progress towards and shortcomings of global climate and mitigation and adaptation goals, in addition to assessing existing levels of climate finance and countries' means of implementation.

Similarly, CBD Decision CBD/COP/DEC/15/6 established the Global Review process to assess global progress towards the implementation of the GBF. This evaluation takes place every four years, starting in 2026, based on national reports provided by countries.

While these processes are essential for the world to better understand the required actions to stop and reverse the climate and biodiversity crises, neither of these review processes and their guidelines so far explicitly consider or clarify the types of information included in the assessments nor how links between climate and biodiversity progress should be considered within them.

### OPPORTUNITIES

#### Global Stocktake

In November and December 2023, COP28 in Dubai will see Parties discuss the Global Stocktake technical assessment findings and their implications, including opportunities and challenges for enhancing action under the Global Stocktake's thematic areas (mitigation, adaptation, means of implementation and support, response measures, and loss and damage). Considering these findings, Parties will also discuss the potential measures and international cooperation needed to move forward to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement from now until 2050. The CMA may include the Global Stocktake's findings in a decision for Parties to consider and adopt, or the CMA may include the findings in a declaration. CMA and Parties can explicitly consider the linkages between NDCs and NBSAPs and how to leverage synergies in updating NDCs and in future Global Stocktakes.

#### Global Review

The CBD's Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI) is mandated to develop the practical procedures and methods for the Global Review – including the use of indicators – for submission to COP16, scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2024. Similarly, the CBD's SBSTTA will provide guidance on the scientific technical and technological inputs needed to inform the Global Review. Here, there is an opportunity for the CBD's SBSTTA and SBI to assess interlinkages between biodiversity and climate actions and propose holistic approaches including indicators for progress assessment. The CBD's SBI and SBSTTA should give clear and concrete recommendations on what additional indicators to include in the monitoring framework and related guidance for conducting the Global Review that the parties can include in their negotiations at COP16.



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## 3. National policy planning and development

In developing sectoral strategies, policymakers must decide whether and how to integrate them with NDCs and NBSAPs, including – among many sectoral strategies – those related to land-use and urban planning, water resources planning, disaster risk management, strategic development planning, budgetary considerations, infrastructure projects, and health and social policies. Each of these domains has the potential to either directly or indirectly impact countries' mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity efforts and outcomes. While governments often have some level of national planning

that seeks to bring together sectoral plans, there is an opportunity to mainstream NDCs and NBSAPs in planning by clearly identifying actions needed in each sector to ensure policy coherence and achieve the intended co-benefits.<sup>13</sup> Close coordination is needed across sectors to develop coherent policies that mutually address climate and biodiversity goals while reducing contradictory outcomes where positive outcomes in one domain might negatively impact another.

### OPPORTUNITIES

#### Timelines for revisions and updates

The following milestones in reviewing NDCs and NBSAPs and in reporting on their progress provide opportunities to identify and integrate synergistic measures for climate change mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity including for finance and capacity management for their implementation (see Annex 2 for a complete timeline).

- Until 2025: countries are already updating or revising their NBSAPs to submit in 2024 (COP16) and they will proceed with revising their NDCs to submit in 2025.
- In 2026: countries will begin to prepare their 2nd Biennial Transparency Reports under the UNFCCC, which include their emissions inventories, NDC progress, climate change impacts, adaptation and means of implementation under the Paris Agreement. They will also prepare their 7th National Reports under the CBD and first Global Review of collective progress on the GBF targets.
- In 2028-2030: countries will take stock of progress towards the Paris Agreement and GBF targets through the Global Stocktake and Global Review. Countries will submit their 8th National Reports in 2029 and their BTRs in 2030.
- In 2030: Countries will review and update their NDCs and NBSAPs.

#### Building on existing mechanisms

- A range of stakeholders already supports different ministries in designing and implementing projects that help achieve NDC and NBSAP targets. Countries can engage and consult relevant stakeholders – including community-based, grassroots movements, Indigenous Peoples' groups, non-governmental organizations, private sector actors, consumers, and citizens associations – to stimulate cross-sector coordination and improve policy synergies. Particularly, Indigenous Peoples and local communities are uniquely placed to help governments achieve multiple benefits: the landscapes they manage can sequester more carbon,<sup>14</sup> harbor an outsized portion of global biodiversity,<sup>15</sup> and provide invaluable ecosystem services.<sup>16,17,18</sup> They already manage these areas to achieve multiple outcomes, and they possess extensive traditional knowledge that is invaluable in doing so.
- In making their climate and biodiversity targets binding by translating them into national law, countries have an opportunity to consider these targets in a holistic way by assessing their interactions, potential trade-offs, and synergies and require them to be mainstreamed across sectoral policies.

#### Enhancing coordination mechanisms

- Creating an inter-ministerial body at the national level to coordinate stakeholders both horizontally and vertically (such as through a dedicated multi-stakeholder platform, working groups, and consultations) can help countries gain a more accurate picture of the climate and biodiversity ambition that is needed, and better align biodiversity and climate programs that can be scaled up nationally. Additionally, national governments can align stakeholder consultation processes and institutions (e.g., citizens' assemblies, vertical stakeholder platforms) to give local governments, communities, the private sector, and civil society a greater role in climate and biodiversity policymaking and implementation and monitoring. Such strategic coordination between national and sub-national level stakeholders can also help efficient allocation of resources including finance and capacities for implementation, monitoring, and reporting of progress across NDCs and NBSAPs.

### Accessing international finance

- The Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Global Environment Facility are increasingly taking an integrated approach to their funding strategies by prioritizing projects that aim to deliver both climate and biodiversity outcomes. To ensure NDCs and NBSAPs each deliver on multiple climate and biodiversity outcomes, countries should develop more projects with multiple climate and biodiversity goals to access these funding streams. However, it is important that international donors avoid the double counting of international finance towards climate and biodiversity by making sure finance is counted towards the primary objective (e.g., mitigation, adaptation, or biodiversity) of a given project.



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## 4. Defining targets and measures

The Paris Agreement and the GBF set specific climate and biodiversity goals, but exactly how countries achieve these goals is largely left up to domestic policymakers.

Both the Paris Agreement (in Article 5 on carbon sinks and Article 7 on adaptation) and the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan recognize the role of nature in climate change mitigation. Additionally, the COP26 cover decision recognizes the interlinked global crises of climate change and biodiversity loss, and the critical role of protecting, conserving, and restoring nature and ecosystems in delivering benefits for climate adaptation and mitigation, while ensuring social and environmental safeguards. Similarly, the GBF includes several targets that closely relate to climate targets of the Paris Agreement, including Targets 1, 2, and 3 on management and conservation of natural ecosystems; Targets 8 and 11 on climate change mitigation, adaptation, and disaster-risk reduction from NbS and ecosystem-based approaches; Targets 7, 10 and 16 on sustainable food production and consumption; and Target 19 on increasing finance for NBSAPs. This underscores the key nature of NbS as a category of policy measures that can help achieve countries' NDCs and NBSAPs in parallel.

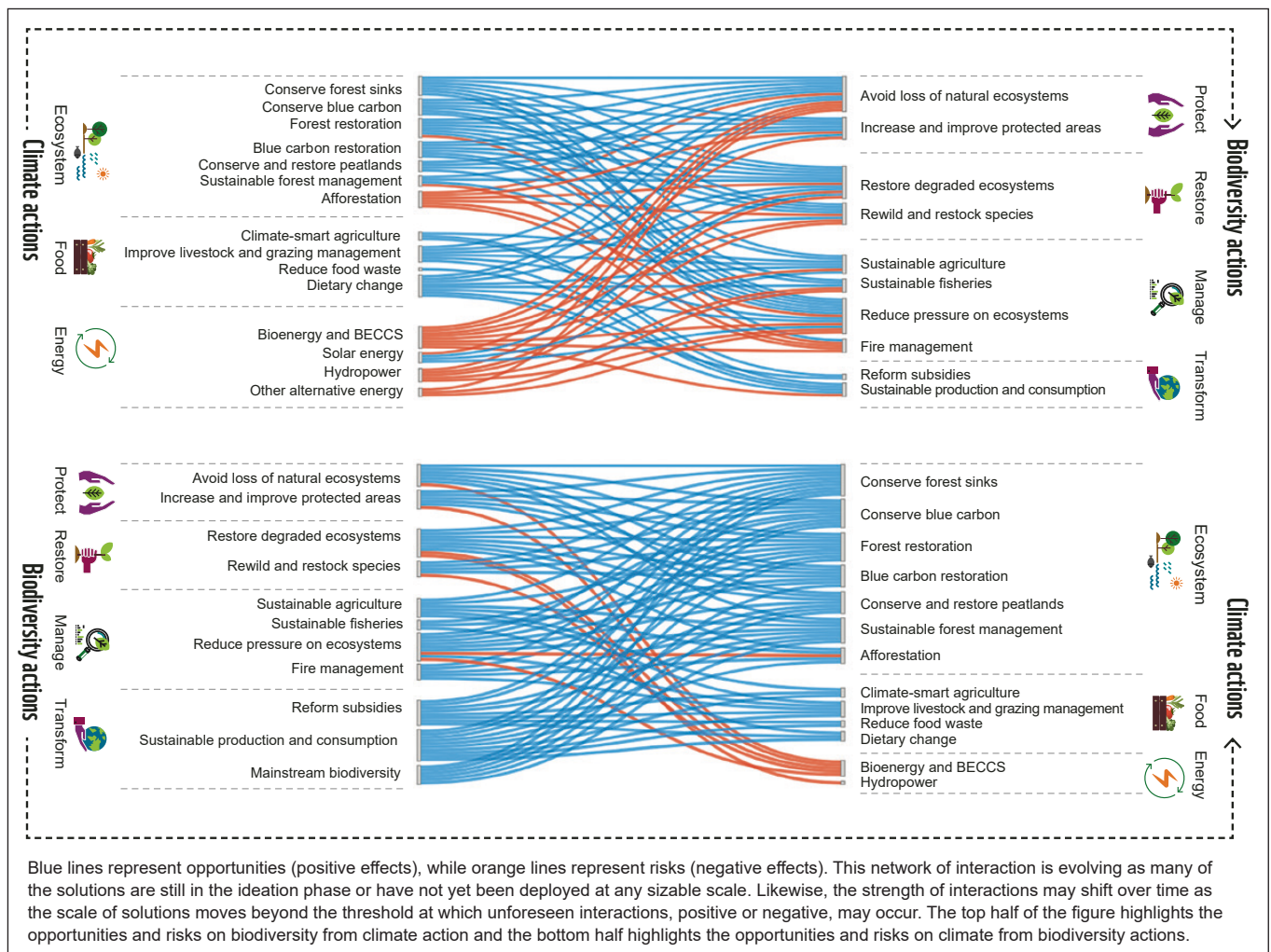
At the national level, while many countries describe biodiversity and other sustainable development benefits

of their mitigation and adaptation measures in their NDCs, these plans generally lack an explanation for how these measures are linked with each other and their potential trade-offs.<sup>19</sup> In developing climate and biodiversity measures, identifying both synergies and trade-offs in advance of policy implementation can help policy makers understand co-benefits and risks between climate actions and biodiversity measures. The primary advantage of this holistic lens is maximizing synergistic outcomes and impacts while reducing trade-offs and risks of policy failure. Additionally, policy measures designed for multiple positive outcomes can help allocate resources more efficiently.

There are several intervention areas that require close consideration of interconnections, integration, and feedback to ensure that measures deliver on both climate and biodiversity targets and goals. The joint workshop report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) also emphasize the synergies across mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity and give policy options to maximize these synergies and minimize trade-offs of policies.<sup>20</sup> Countries can adopt and integrate these scientific findings and policy options in their NDCs and NBSAPs as appropriate and based on the country context (Figure 3).



**Figure 3.** Sankey diagram showing positive (blue) and negative (red) interactions between climate and biodiversity measures. Source: IPCC-IPBES (2021).



From a climate mitigation and adaptation perspective, there are several areas of synergies and risks between climate action and biodiversity outcomes including:

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Nature-based solutions (NbS):

Given that land and marine ecosystems absorb more than half of man-made carbon emissions, they are a central component of climate action.<sup>21</sup> At the same time, healthy biodiversity and healthy soils play a major role in building resilience to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.<sup>22</sup> Hence, harnessing the power of nature to boost natural ecosystems, biodiversity, and human well-being is central in efforts to address major societal issues, including climate change. NbS interventions have the potential to generate multiple mitigation, adaptation, biodiversity, and sustainable development benefits as they are specifically designed to address multiple societal challenges through ecosystem conservation, management, and restoration.

NbS such as reducing deforestation, reducing forest degradation, and sustainably managing forests, grasslands, and peatlands support biodiversity and ecosystem services (e.g., water regulation, soil conservation, forest foods and other non-timber forest products).<sup>23</sup> Protecting and restoring blue carbon habitats (e.g., mangroves, saltmarshes, and seagrasses) improves local-level water quality and food security, and keeps salt water from infiltrating freshwater resources by protecting against weather related impacts such as flooding and storm surges.<sup>24</sup> Further, building urban socio-ecological corridors that connect cities with strategic ecosystems improves urban resilience for healthier cities and communities, support food production, reduce urban heat-island, improve stormwater absorption, and sequester carbon.<sup>25</sup>

### Food system measures:

Sustainable agriculture and land use is a shared area of work between the UNFCCC and CBD. Therefore, integrating food systems measures (e.g., agroecological practices, addressing food waste and loss, and transitioning to sustainable, healthy, and culturally appropriate diets) in NDCs and NBSAPs can deliver multiple climate and biodiversity benefits while improving food security and societal wellbeing.<sup>26</sup> A shift to nature-positive food production and sustainable, diversified

diets, as well as addressing food waste and loss, can alleviate pressure on ecosystems and biodiversity. This contributes to delivering on GBF Targets 7, 10, and 16, and climate targets under the Paris Agreement.<sup>27</sup>

### **Biodiversity conservation and restoration:**

Actions to stem biodiversity loss predominantly have positive impacts on climate change as co-benefits. However, conservation interventions (e.g., protected area expansion) – if not holistically designed to consider food security and energy access for communities – can compromise the resilience and wellbeing of people. Further, adaptation measures may require increased energy use. For example, building infrastructure can increase aggregate energy demand and material use. Emerging tools such as Nature Map Earth can help in identifying areas with greatest synergies for conservation and restoration efforts that promote NbS for climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, and clean water.<sup>28</sup> Similarly, conservation hierarchy is an approach to proactively identify where and how impacts on biodiversity should be mitigated.<sup>29</sup> It can be used at a landscape, national, international levels to systematically consider where mitigation should occur.

## **RISKS**

### **Nature-based solutions (NbS):**

However, some NbS can also have trade-offs. For instance, afforestation and reforestation implemented to increase carbon sequestration in an arid region might increase demand for limited and diminishing water resources. This means that the adaptation potential of ecosystems may be limited unless local contexts and conditions are carefully considered in the planning and implementation process. Further, bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) may raise risks for food security and biodiversity.<sup>30</sup> Competition for land resources might also arise between mitigation and adaptation measures if they are not developed holistically.

Designing interventions for conservation, sustainable management, and restoration of natural ecosystems by considering their risks and trade-offs and managing them effectively can increase adaptive capacities of ecosystems, sequester carbon emissions, and support local livelihoods and economies.<sup>31</sup> Similarly, designing adaptation actions considering their mitigation outcomes and biodiversity impacts could ensure they are not detrimental to biodiversity and result in an increase in biodiversity and ecosystem integrity, functions, and services.

### **Clean energy transition:**

An NDC may prioritize renewable energy policies to meet its mitigation targets. However, if these measures are not designed and executed carefully, these policies might inadvertently harm biodiversity. For example, mitigation actions such as clean energy from large scale hydropower could have negative impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem resilience, and adaptive capacities if trade-offs are not comprehensively considered in policy making. Such misalignment can result in competing priorities and unintended consequences, ultimately undermining the overall efficacy of national plans in addressing climate change and biodiversity conservation in a holistic manner. To mitigate these risks and unlock the full potential of these plans, regulations are needed to ensure careful design of energy projects, including requirements for site selection, environmental impact assessments, social and environmental safeguards, and free, prior, and informed consent.

### **Other sectoral climate actions:**

Similarly, other mitigation actions in the energy, transport, waste, and industry sectors could create pressure on natural ecosystems and biodiversity if not designed by considering potential immediate and long-term impacts on nature (e.g., impact of mining for minerals for clean energy technologies). Therefore, addressing energy demand through measures that reduce consumption can help mitigate the enormous pressure on biodiversity arising from demand for the minerals needed to switch to clean energy.





## 5. Implementing and monitoring national plans

Effective implementation of actions to achieve NDCs and NBSAPs in a synergistic way is possible only when financial resources and capacities are coordinated at the national and subnational levels. In many countries – particularly in developing countries – often limited resources are available for the implementation of NDCs and NBSAPs. Additionally, line ministries tend to have limited capacities, and access to finance. Therefore, prioritizing climate change and

biodiversity in national policy frameworks with financing, and budgeting, and strengthening technological and technical capacities can help the efficient use of available resources and capacities and more efficient funding.

Below are key opportunities to enhance synergies in implementation of climate and biodiversity strategies:

### OPPORTUNITIES

#### Stakeholder engagement

Engaging all relevant stakeholders including community-based, grassroots, rights holders, Indigenous Peoples' groups, non-governmental organizations, and private sector actors is crucial for effective policy implementation. Local governance bodies (e.g., farmers associations, citizens assemblies, unions, and others) can stimulate cross-sectoral coordination and improve policy synergies and effectiveness. Integrating stakeholder voices at all levels of decision making through intentional and strategic coordination between national and sub-national actors can help the efficient allocation of resources including finance and capacities for implementation, monitoring, and reporting of progress. This also helps gain a more accurate picture of what ambition is possible and identify policies and practices that can be scaled up nationally.

#### Finance

Simultaneous progress on mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity goals is possible only when public and private sector finance is channeled to projects and programs designed to address these goals simultaneously while minimizing trade-offs between them.

The Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Global Environment Facility are increasingly taking an integrated approach to their funding strategies by prioritizing projects that aim to deliver both climate and biodiversity outcomes. For example, the Green Climate Fund encourages use of NbS or ecosystem-based approaches as critical tools to address adaptation, mitigation, biodiversity, and poverty. In their national finance plans for implementing their NDCs and NBSAPs, countries can therefore coordinate the assessment of their finance needs and gaps and develop strategies to raise and allocate finance for projects that deliver multiple climate and biodiversity benefits. These finance institutions can also more explicitly integrate the role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in ecosystem conservation and management in their funding strategies.

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement establishes a broad framework for voluntary cooperation among Parties in delivering climate action. It sets out three approaches through which governments may interact: i) bilateral or regional cooperative approaches via internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs); ii) a centrally governed UNFCCC mechanism to contribute to mitigation and support sustainable development; and iii) non-market approaches. Operationalizing Article 6 at the national level and transfer of high-quality emission reductions can channel finance to measures addressing both sources and sinks (e.g., NbS) and generate opportunities for contributing to mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity.

#### Technology transfer

Along with describing how they consider the interlinkages between mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity in their plans, countries can include the related technology needs to achieve these goals when updating their NDCs and NBSAPs. Countries should include information about their strategies for technology transfer in their NDCs and NBSAPs, including information on how they are encouraging private sector activities related to technology development and technology transfer. They should also detail how such efforts will support simultaneous progress on mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity goals. Additionally, it is important for developed countries to actively promote and facilitate technology transfer to least developed countries and developing countries to facilitate “leapfrogging” (i.e., bypass some of the higher-emissions activities during the course of their development) for quicker implementation of climate and biodiversity actions.

## Capacity strengthening

Countries can assess their capacity needs across their mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity plans to understand how capacity-building plans and efforts would improve these strategies' implementation efficiently. Countries that provide capacity-building support to others must build a pool of technical resources and expertise to build bridges across NDCs and NBSAPs teams and develop and implement synergistic projects contributing to both strategies.

## Monitoring and reporting

NDCs and NBSAPs have a flexible monitoring and reporting approach, meaning that countries can select their own indicators. This flexibility provides the opportunity for countries to use diverse, multidimensional indicators to monitor progress across their mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity goals.

For example, countries may identify and select relevant qualitative or quantitative indicators to monitor and report on their NDCs.<sup>32</sup> Indicators may include net GHG emissions and removals, a percentage reduction of GHG intensity, or qualitative indicators for a specific policy or measure (e.g., areas of ecosystems under conservation). Indicators may also include mitigation co-benefits of adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans or an array of other indicators (e.g., hectares of reforestation, percentage of renewable energy use or production, carbon neutrality, share of non-fossil fuel in primary energy consumption and non-GHG related indicators).

Similarly, as part of monitoring and reporting on their national adaptation plans, least developed countries can include additional information on mitigation co-benefits and Sustainable Development Goals, including biodiversity outcomes of their adaptation measures.<sup>33</sup>

In monitoring progress on their NBSAPs, countries are expected to use headline indicators and encouraged to also use component, and complementary indicators. They can also use and link their efforts to other national reports, reviews or communications submitted under relevant conventions (e.g., NDCs, and NAPs) and in connection with the Sustainable Development Goals, which are important for assessing progress in the implementation of the NBSAPs and the GBF.<sup>34</sup>



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## 6. Potential catalysts for synergies

Public-private partnerships, along with non-state initiatives and coalitions of non-state actors, already support the mobilization of finance and the development, enhancement, and implementation of countries' national climate and biodiversity strategies. These organizations are among many resources that help promote the enabling conditions needed for countries to best implement their strategies at national and global levels. They assist governments in building capacity and institutions, thereby enhancing government confidence, resources, and the political needed to increase their ambition.

Given their unique position in climate and biodiversity governance, these partnerships and initiatives should expand and align their mandates with national climate and biodiversity targets to ensure their efforts deliver multiple mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity benefits. They should foster synergies across climate mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity efforts, achieved by taking a whole-of-society approach and by creating opportunities for policy coordination and stakeholder collaboration. This support can streamline policy implementation processes at global and national levels, enhancing policies' efficiency and efficacy.

### OPPORTUNITIES

#### The Global Climate Action Portal

The [Global Climate Action Portal](#) is an online platform where actors from around the globe – including countries, regions, cities, companies, investors and other organizations – can display their commitments to act on climate change. At COP26, the Portal launched the tracking of voluntary climate action. The tracking captures the progress made by individual actors and cooperative initiatives that are registered in the portal, including the initiatives launched at the United Nations' 2019 Climate Action Summit and COP25.

The Portal tracks progress across mitigation, adaptation, and finance commitments of actors. In revising and refining the tracking approach and methodology, the Portal should integrate indicators on biodiversity to identify and track synergistic actions and highlight gaps in progress towards the Paris Agreement and GBF goals.

#### The Marrakesh Partnership

[The Partnership](#) supports implementation of the Paris Agreement by enabling collaboration between governments and the cities, regions, businesses, and investors that must act on climate change. Stakeholders across sectors have developed several initiatives that aim to catalyze climate action by public and private sector actors across sectors including food and agriculture, water and nature, Ocean and Coastal Zones, human settlements, and infrastructure, and including enabling solutions.

The Partnership's Climate Action Pathways focus on the need for both systemic and technological changes within sectors and the synergies and interlinkages across the thematic and cross-cutting areas to assist all actors to take an integrated approach to climate change. As living documents which are updated periodically, the Pathways can continue to highlight synergies between mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity and these can be translated into concrete actions at the national and subnational levels.

#### The Action Agenda for Nature and People

[The Action Agenda](#) invites positive action in support of nature in line with the GBF. It is a platform that showcases the voluntary commitments and contributions to biodiversity, from stakeholders (e.g., private sector, organizations, municipalities, academia, indigenous peoples and local communities, individuals, etc.) across all sectors with a special emphasis on the Nature-Climate-Oceans-Water-Land nexus.

#### The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP)

[BIP](#) is a global initiative of 60 organizations to promote and coordinate the development and delivery of biodiversity indicators for use by CBD and other biodiversity-related conventions, IPBES, Sustainable Development Goals and national and regional agencies. The Partnership supports strengthening capacity at the national level for indicator development and use in implementation and reporting of NBSAPs.

BIP can expand the partnership to include organizations working on climate indicators and tools to develop methodologies and indicators considering not only biodiversity but also climate mitigation and adaptation outcomes hence supporting more aligned progress monitoring across NDCs and NBSAPs.

## **NDC Partnership**

[The NDC Partnership](#) works directly with national governments, international institutions, civil society, researchers, and the private sector to fast-track climate and development action.

In supporting governments in defining the processes, policies, and plans required to deliver NDC goals, alongside other development objectives, the Partnership can link experts with governments to develop holistic measures and plans delivering on multiple climate and biodiversity outcomes and link NDC measures with NBSAP priorities and targets. The Partnership can also promote knowledge and information sharing across sectors and ministries leveraging synergies and helping countries to learn from and support each other with knowledge tools and peer-to-peer exchanges. In supporting countries to align their NDC measures with available financial resources and investor and donor interests, the Partnership can attract finance to holistic projects and programs.

## **The NBSAPs Accelerator Partnership**

[The NBSAPs Accelerator Partnership](#) is a country-led global initiative to support the development and implementation of ambitious NBSAPs and collectively achieve the goals and targets of the GBF and, ultimately, the global vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050. Under the leadership of the governments of Colombia and Germany, the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership brings together countries with a whole-of-government and a whole-of-society approach to strengthen global, regional, and national ambition on biodiversity action.

As a dedicated platform for NBSAPs enhancement and implementation, NBSAPs Accelerator Partnership is in a unique position to coordinate and collaborate with the NDC Partnership on identifying areas for synergies between NDC and NBSAP and helping governments to maximize those synergies in the update and implementation of their climate and biodiversity strategies.

## **The Data Reporting Tool for MEAs (DaRT)**

[DaRT](#) is a tool that supports countries to effectively use synergies in the field of knowledge and information management for national reporting to biodiversity-related conventions. It provides a private and secure working space to organize, share, and maintain information, data, and knowledge across conventions and across reporting purposes. It aims at providing an entry point to other biodiversity related monitoring and reporting tools and it aims to develop interoperability with these tools.

DaRT can explore interoperability of climate and biodiversity monitoring and reporting tools and identify opportunities for countries to use synergistic indicators by linking NDCs and NBSAPs targets and measures.

## **The Freshwater Challenge**

[The Freshwater Challenge](#) is a country-led initiative that aims to conserve the intact freshwater ecosystems and bring 300,000 kilometers of rivers and 350 million hectares of wetlands under restoration by 2030. The Challenge aims to enhance synergies across climate and biodiversity targets at the national and global levels by:

1. Ensuring that restoration and conservation of freshwater ecosystems is integrated and properly addressed in the relevant global, regional, and national processes to tackle the climate and nature crisis and achieve sustainable development.
2. Quantifying existing global ambitions and account for the contributions of the different stakeholders to restore and conserve freshwater ecosystems by supporting countries to define quantitative, geographically specific, and coherent targets across sectors and connecting targeted interventions from non-state actors with national plans and strategies.
3. Accelerating implementation of freshwater commitments by increasing the overall investment into restoration and conservation of freshwater ecosystems, mobilizing resources through existing funds and initiatives, and leveraging investments.

## **The Essential Life Support Areas (ELSA) Methodology**

[The ELSA methodology](#) uses Systematic Conservation Planning (SCP) to identify where nature-based actions to protect, manage, and restore nature can achieve maximum impact across multiple, often competing, priorities including biodiversity, and climate mitigation and adaptation in a study area, region of interest, or country. Analysis using the ELSA methodology enables stakeholders to weigh the relative importance of the various planning features associated with the priority policy targets, view trade-offs that result from conflicting priorities, and foster dialogue around cross-sectoral collaboration and implementation.

## **NBSAPs Forum**

The [NBSAP Forum](#) is a global partnership aiming to support countries in finding the information they need to develop and implement effective NBSAPs and prepare their national reports under the GBF. The Forum helps to connect practitioners and technical experts on issues related to the alignment and implementation of NBSAPs. The Forum could expand the pool of experts and resources to include experts from other fields including climate, energy, food, and agriculture to identify areas for synergistic policy making and implementation across sectors.



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# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WAY FORWARD

Several opportunities exist for policymakers and other stakeholders to further build coherence across the development and implementation of NDCs and NBSAPs. Below recommendations can help UNFCCC and CBD convention bodies – including the conventions’ respective Conferences of the Parties (COPs) and subsidiary bodies for scientific and technological advice – and national policymakers and other stakeholders to leverage synergies across policies and minimize the risks of policy failure.



## CONVENTION BODIES

1. The Global Review of progress toward the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to be conducted in 2026 and related CBD COP decisions should explicitly consider the links (including potential trade-offs) between the GBF targets and the Paris Agreement objectives.
2. The revision of the information to facilitate clarity and transparency and understanding (ICTU) of NDCs in 2026 should explicitly recognize the role of nature for achieving climate goals (e.g., through NbS interventions) and include guidance on aligning metrics and methodologies for developing policy measures, monitoring progress, and reporting on climate mitigation and adaptation with biodiversity targets under GBF in tandem (i.e., directing countries to consider benefits and trade-offs across mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity).
3. The UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) should ensure their recommended approaches, metrics, and methodologies for monitoring and reporting on mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity are holistic (i.e., consider benefits and trade-offs across mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity) and embed safeguards to mitigate negative impacts.
4. The UNFCCC COPs should mainstream nature and climate convergence in the negotiations by adopting a workstream focusing on the implementation of NDCs and NBSAPs and assessing of the progress of such plans and foster their connection with other international pledges and initiatives.



## NATIONAL POLICYMAKERS

1. Strengthen political commitment and action at the highest level for identifying synergistic interventions (e.g., NbS and food systems measures) that can deliver mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity outcomes through multi-stakeholder partnerships.
2. Set up a national coordination body – such as an inter-ministerial committee with a cross sectoral coordination mandate – to oversee the planning process across sectors including the upcoming revision and update of NDCs and NBSAPs and involve all other ministries, departments, and agencies responsible for economic sectors that drive unsustainable production and consumption.
3. Cross-reference targets and measures in NDCs and NBSAPs and align quantitative and qualitative indicators for monitoring progress towards mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity to facilitate reporting to the Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement and the Global Review of the GBF.
4. Integrate and mainstream mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity into existing sectoral policy frameworks and into domestic budgets and resource allocation, including those related to urban planning, energy, transport, infrastructure, and agricultural development to raise the profile of adaptation and biodiversity to ensure a more efficient use of resources.
5. Recognize and provide resources to empower Indigenous Peoples, local communities, local governments, the private sector, and civil society to act on climate change and biodiversity through holistic approaches to policy implementation. Indigenous Peoples and local communities are uniquely placed to help governments address climate mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity loss: the lands they manage tend to sequester more carbon, harbor more biodiversity, and be more resilient than other lands. These groups possess extensive traditional knowledge that is invaluable in managing these lands to help to achieve these simultaneous positive outcomes.



## PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND NON-STATE INITIATIVES

1. Considering the opportunities in the upcoming timelines for updating NDCs and NBSAPs, platforms (like the NDC Partnership and NBSAPs Accelerator Partnership) should strengthen collaboration between their efforts to support governments in enhancing climate and nature synergies under these policy instruments.
2. Organizations and platforms such as the NDC Partnership, NBSAPs Accelerator Partnership, Global Environmental Facility, Green Climate Fund, and Adaptation Fund should improve information sharing through regular collaboration, exchange on support requests from countries and capitalize on opportunities for building synergies across NDCs and NBSAPs planning and implementation within their support for countries.
3. Investors and donors should work with local businesses, subnational governments, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and financial institutions committed to climate and biodiversity action to find investment opportunities that can maximize synergies in implementing NDCs and NBSAPs.

# ANNEX 1. OVERVIEW OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SYNERGIES IN REPORTING FRAMEWORKS

The Paris Agreement (Decision 1/CP.21) and the Katowice Climate Package of 2018 (Decision 1/CP.24 and Decision 3/CMA.1) outline elements to include in an NDC and modalities, procedures, and guidelines as part of the information necessary to track the progress of implementation and achievement of the NDC and adaptation actions:

- **Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU).** While currently optional, countries must follow ICTU guidance when preparing their second NDC, expected by 2025. Considering ICTU guidance will help countries include sufficient and consistent information in their NDCs, enabling others to understand their national goals in the international context. The guidance requires NDCs to include:
  - 1 Quantifiable information on the reference point
  - 2 Time frames and/or periods for implementation
  - 3 Scope and coverage
  - 4 Planning processes
  - 5 Assumptions and methodological approaches
  - 6 How the NDC is fair and ambitious considering national circumstances
  - 7 How the NDC contributes towards achieving UNFCCC and Paris Agreement objectives.

Despite no explicit reference to nature or biodiversity in guidance related to ICTU, several possible opportunities exist for countries to consider biodiversity benefits and risks of mitigation and adaptation measures in their NDCs. These are:

- **Scope and coverage:** When providing information about co-benefits and consequences of adaptation measures and projects across key sectors including energy, water resources, coastal resources, human settlements and urban planning, agriculture and forestry, countries should consider the linkages between these measures and biodiversity targets under NBSAPs to ensure alignment across national targets and plans.
- **Information about planning process:** In information about the planning process for NDCs, countries should consider all relevant institutional arrangements, national context and circumstances including relevant national priorities (e.g., biodiversity conservation, and sustainable development). Considering the links

between mitigation measures - particularly NBS interventions - and biodiversity and adaptation plans, countries should explain how they considered other national commitments and targets (e.g., NBSAPs) in developing their NDCs.

- **Greenhouse Gas accounting:** In their methodological approaches and assumptions in accounting for their emissions and removals (e.g., in natural ecosystems), countries should follow IPCC guidelines including for considering co-benefits and risks for biodiversity and adaptation and how they link and support their NBSAPs.
- **The modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF).** Applying the MPGs will be mandatory from 2024 as countries report progress in implementing their NDC. After that, countries must report every two years on progress towards implementing and achieving NDC targets, in accordance with the MPGs.<sup>35,36</sup> The MPGs include guidance on:
  - 1 National inventory report\* of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHGs
  - 2 Information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving its NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement
  - 3 Information on climate change impacts and adaptation under Article - of the Paris Agreement
  - 4 Developed countries shall provide information about financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided and mobilized
  - 5 Developing country Parties should provide information on financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support needed and received
- **Guidance on adaptation communication as a component of NDCs.** While this is optional, any country planning to include adaptation measures in their NDC is encouraged to consider information elements including:
  - 1 National circumstances, institutional arrangements, legal frameworks
  - 2 Impacts, risks, vulnerabilities
  - 3 Adaptation priorities, strategies, policies, plans, goals, actions

- 4 Implementation and support needs, provision of support
- 5 Implementation of adaptation (progress, results, cooperation, barriers, gaps, good practices, monitoring and evaluation)
- 6 Adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans, including those resulting in mitigation co-benefits
- 7 How adaptation actions contribute to other international frameworks and/or conventions
- 8 Gender-responsive adaptation and traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems
- 9 Any other information related to adaptation

The MPGs include several elements of the ICTU guidance, so applying both and understanding how they overlap can help countries to meet NDC reporting requirements mandated by the ETF. Countries can benefit from defining clear targets and selecting suitable indicators and methodologies to track progress, as this information will inform their ETF biannual reporting. This preparatory approach can help identify technical challenges and boost a country's institutional arrangements in response to the Paris Agreement's ambitious cycle of updating, implementing and reporting on NDCs.

#### **Mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review of NBSAPs:**

Guidance provides elements to include in NBSAPs and encourages engagement with and coordination among focal points for other relevant multilateral environmental agreements and the Rio conventions.<sup>37</sup> Elements include:

- 1 National targets addressing or contributing towards each of the goals and targets of the global biodiversity framework.
- 2 Concrete actions, policies and programs designed to meet the national targets and contribute to the global goals and targets.
- 3 National monitoring, reviewing and assessment: While revising or updating NBSAPs, headline indicators as well as components, complementary and other national indicators where relevant should be used, including to track contributions towards the global? goals and targets.

Several headlines, components, and complementary indicators in the GBF Monitoring Framework overlap with ICTU elements, providing an opportunity for countries to align their NDCs and NBSAPs. In developing and tracking national indicators under the following global indicators, countries can use their NDC targets and measures and align them with their biodiversity targets:

**Target 8:** Minimize impacts of climate change and ocean acidification including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches.

#### **Indicators:**

- Total climate regulation services provided by ecosystems by ecosystem type
- Adoption national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 that include biodiversity.
- National greenhouse inventories from land use and land use change
- Above-ground biomass stock in forests (tonnes/ha)

**Target 10:** Areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry are managed sustainably.

- Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture
- Progress towards sustainable forest management
- Area of forest under sustainable management
- Changes in soil organic carbon stocks
- Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area

**Target 11:** Nature's contributions to people are restored, maintained and enhanced.

- Ecosystem services
- Air emission accounts
- Water stress levels
- Water quality

**Target 13:** Urban green and blue spaces enhanced for human wellbeing.

- Average share of the built-up area of cities that is green/blue space for public use for all.

Furthermore, the guidance for developing and updating NBSAPs encourages using synergies in reporting on biodiversity related conventions and commitments of countries by using existing tools like the voluntary Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT) developed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to identify synergies.

Similarly, in preparing their National Reports on progress towards their targets, governments are encouraged to include information about how the implementation of their national targets relates to progress in achieving related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets and implementation of other related agreements. This is an entry point and opportunity for governments to assess synergies and trade-offs between their climate and biodiversity targets and measures and how the implementation of their NDCs and NAPs support progress on their NBSAPs.



# ANNEX 2. OVERVIEW OF RELEVANT TIMELINES

Below is an overview of timelines for UNFCCC and CBD processes related to NDCs and NBSAPs up to 2030. Highlighted milestones offer opportunities for countries to enhance alignment between their NDCs and NBSAPs.

|             |  |  |  |                         |  |  |                                    |                          |  |
|-------------|--|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| UNFCCC      | COPs   | COP28 - Dubai  | COP29 - TBD  | COP30 - Brazil (TBD)    | COP31 - Australia (TBD)                    | COP32 - TBD  | COP33 - TBD                        | COP34 - TBD              | COP35 - TBD  |
|             | Global Stocktake - GST   | First GST results  |  |                         |  |  | Second GST                         |                          |  |
|             | Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and Understanding - ICTU |  | Further guidance on features on NDCs   |                         |  | Review and update of ICTU and guidance for accounting              |                                    |                          |  |
|             | Enhanced Transparency Framework - ETF                                    |  | First Biennial Transparency Reports -BTR1 (GHG inventories, NDC progress, CC impacts & adaptation -optional-, means of implementation) | Technical expert review | BTR2 + NC (National Communication)         | Technical expert review  | BTR3                               | Technical expert review  | BTR4 + NC  |
|             | LT LEDES - Voluntary   | *68 LT-LEDS submitted - 42% intended to update the LT-LEDS every 5 years |  |                         |  |  |                                    |                          |  |
|             | NAPs   | *45 NAPs submitted   |  |                         |  |  |                                    |                          |  |
|             | NDCs   | *166 NDCs submitted  | Revision of current NDCs   | Revised or updated NDCs |  |  |                                    | Revision of current NDCs | New NDCs   |
| <b>YEAR</b> | <b>2023</b>  | <b>2024</b>  | <b>2025</b>  | <b>2026</b>             | <b>2027</b>                                | <b>2028</b>  | <b>2029</b>                        | <b>2030</b>              |  |
| CBD         | NBSAPs   | *3 post COP-15 NBSAPs submitted<br>Revision of current NBSAPs            | Revised or updated NBSAPs (or only updated targets)<br>Analysis of ambition in the NBSAPs  |                         |  | Possibility for Parties to revise their NBSAPs and increase action | Analysis of ambition in the NBSAPs |                          | Possibility for Parties to revise their NBSAPs and increase action |
|             | National reports   |  |  |                         | 7th National Report                        |  |                                    | 8th National Report      |  |
|             | Global report  |  |  |                         | First global review of collective progress |  |                                    |                          | Second global review of collective progress                        |
|             | COPs   |  | COP16 - TBD  |                         |  | COP17 - TBD  |                                    | COP18 - TBD              | COP19 - TBD<br>Adoption of the next 10-year framework              |

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