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ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP

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Issue-based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change

Welcome



The IBC on Environment and Climate Change for Europe and Central Asia

Webinar on Incorporating global agendas at the national level: best practices and lessons learned for integrating biodiversity into the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in Europe and Central Asia

November 27 , 2024- Online 10:00 - 11:30 CET



Agenda

- **Magdalena Landry, IBC Co-Chair** – Welcome and opening remarks

Moderators: **Nicholas Bonvoisin and Marika Palosaari, IBC Core team**

Presentations

- **Thierry Lucas, Regional Coordinator, Nature action, UNEP** – COP16 take aways and implications for the Europe and Central Asia region
- **Antje Grawe, Resident Coordinator, Kyrgyzstan** – Biodiversity in Europe and Central Asia
- **Lilian Kandikjan, Partnership and Development Finance Officer, RCO North Macedonia** – Q&A
- **Hossein Fadaei, Head of the EMG Secretariat, UNEP** – UN Common Approach to Biodiversity
- **Felipe Chamizo, Biodiversity Specialist** – Mainstreaming biodiversity in CCAs and UNSDCFs: preliminary key messages and guidance on actions
- **Open discussion and invitation to participate in survey**
- **Marika Palosaari, Programme Coordinator, UNEP, IBC Core Team** – Closing remarks and next steps



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Welcome and opening remarks

Magdalena Landry, IBC Co-Chair, UNESCO



CBD COP16: Main outcomes and key actions for the region

Thierry Lucas, Regional Coordinator, Nature action, UNEP



COP16
COLOMBIA
Paz con la Naturaleza



Acuerdo
de Escazú

UN Biodiversity Conference (COP16) take aways and implications for the Europe region

Biodiversity Coordinator for Europe, UNEP

“LA COP DE LA GENTE”: COP16 WAS A WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY COP

- **COP16 made its mark:** A record number of delegates (around 23,000), a HL Segment attended by 6 Heads of State, more than 130 Ministers and Vice Ministers, and over 70 leaders of international organisations.
- For the first time, a Green Zone in the centre of Cali was established, constituting an open fair for biodiversity and attracting around **40,000 people daily**, making this truly a “people’s COP”.
- KMGBF implementation is in motion: 119 countries submitted **national targets. 44 countries** submitted **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.**
- **Unprecedented engagement across the board**, including Cities, Business and Finance.

Civil society across Europe has been increasingly active in addressing biodiversity loss through grassroots initiatives, advocacy, and influencing policy development. Public concern for nature restoration has been growing, ranking now as one of the top two environmental priorities for Europeans. Reflecting this trend, NGOs have for example actively lobbied the EU to prioritise biodiversity conservation in the upcoming budget.

NEW 'CALI FUND' LAUNCHED TO SHARE THE BENEFITS FROM USES OF DIGITAL GENETIC INFORMATION (DSI) ON GENETIC RESOURCES

- Multilateral mechanism established at COP15
- Fund operationalization advanced at COP16
- Large companies and other major entities should contribute based on a % of their profits/revenues
- Beneficiaries:
 - Developing countries, mainly LDCs and SIDS
 - Indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth
 - Details in funding disbursement are to be determined: emerging sense that the allocation could be based largely on the importance of a country's biodiversity

NEW PROGRAMME OF WORK ADOPTED TO ENSURE THE CONTRIBUTION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES TOWARDS THE CONSERVATION AND USE OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, AND BENEFIT SHARING

- **Engagement and participation** of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) process elevated - a new **Subsidiary Body** and permanent group under the CBD that aims to give **IPLCs** an institutional voice, while creating new ways for **IPLCs** to be part of global biodiversity decisions
- **People of African descent** recognized for their contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

A LANDMARK DECISION ON BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WITH A REFERENCE TO THE OCEAN-CLIMATE-BIODIVERSITY NEXUS

- Calls upon the Presidents of CBD COP16 and UNFCCC COPs29/30 to strengthen **multilateral coordination**.
- Stresses the importance of CBD **national focal points** to engage with UNFCCC counterparts.
- CBD-Executive Secretariat to strengthen parties' understanding of interlinkages, i.e. impact of climate action on biodiversity and the role of biodiversity in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Parties *et al.* to submit their views on enhanced **policy coherence** by May 2025.

The climate-biodiversity nexus is highly relevant in the Europe region, with the Caspian sea level decline for example.

OTHER KEY OUTCOMES

- **PARTIES AGREED ON AN IMPROVED PROCESS TO IDENTIFY ECOLOGICALLY OR BIOLOGICALLY SIGNIFICANT MARINE AREAS (EBSAS)** - will help **identify** and **protect** the most critical and vulnerable parts of the ocean.
- **A NEW THEMATIC ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS INEQUITY IN THE PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY FIELD**
- **ADOPTION OF THE GLOBAL ACTION PLAN ON BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH**
- **INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES:** new **proposed guidelines** on issues such as e-commerce, multi-criteria analysis methodologies and others.

PENDING ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE RESUMED SESSION OF COP16

A resumed meeting of the COP is expected to convene in the coming months, possibly in Rome (TBC)

PARTIES ARE EXPECTED TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS TO APPROVE A NEW “STRATEGY FOR RESOURCE MOBILISATION”

- The aim is to secure **US \$200 billion annually** by 2030 (including at least **US \$30 Billion through international finance**) from all sources and address **US \$500 billion per year** in subsidies that harm biodiversity
- Possible creation of a new **dedicated global financing instrument** for biodiversity to receive, disburse, mobilize and articulate funding needs.
- Existing Mechanism for the mobilization of resources for the GBF:
- The **Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF)**, agreed at COP15 in 2022 and established by the Global Environment Facility (GEF): **11 donor countries** as well as the Government of Quebec have pledged nearly **US \$400 million** to the GBF Fund, with **US \$163 million pledged during COP16**.

PARTIES WILL CONSIDER THE DECISION ON THE MONITORING FRAMEWORK OF THE KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK (KMGBF)

- Final step in finalizing the **monitoring framework** agreed upon at COP15
- Provides the common yardsticks the world will use to measure progress in the KMGBF implementation.

MECHANISMS FOR PLANNING, MONITORING, REPORTING AND REVIEW. PARTIES WILL MAKE KEY DECISIONS ON:

- **How progress will be reviewed at COP17** as part of a global stocktake on collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF
- **How commitments** from actors other than national governments **can be included in the Mechanisms** – including from youth, women, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society, the private sector and subnational governments.
- **Finalization of the national reporting template** – which includes the headline indicators of the monitoring framework.

THANK YOU



Biodiversity in Europe and Central Asia

Biodiversity and mountain action – lessons from Kyrgyzstan

Antje Grawe, Resident Coordinator, Kyrgyzstan



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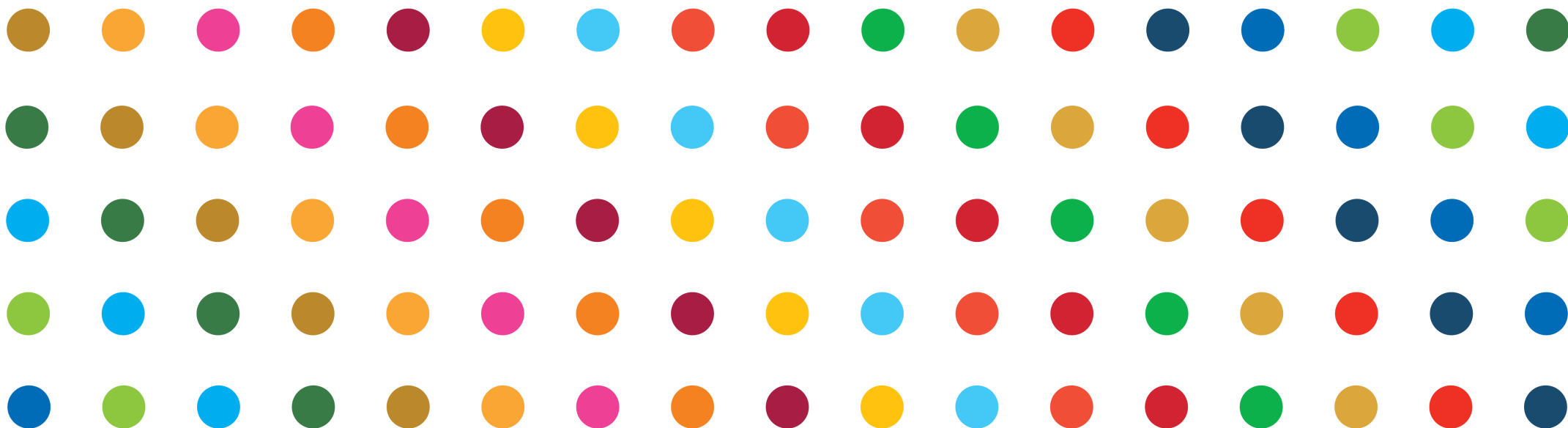
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Biodiversity in the development of the new CCA for North Macedonia

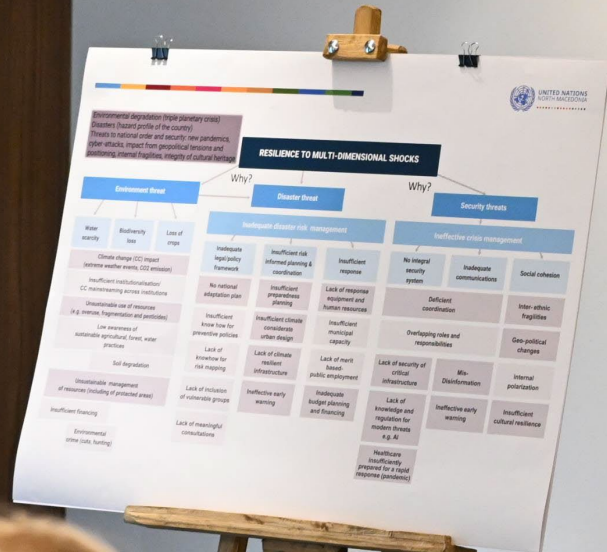
Lilian Kandikjan, Partnerships and Development Finance Officer, RCO North Macedonia

Mainstreaming Biodiversity in CCA / UNSDCF



Systemic / nexus aspects

- **Forestry, energy, air pollution and poverty**
- Biodiversity and climate change / DRR (fires)/ air pollution
- Biodiversity and economic activity (tourism, agriculture)
- Biodiversity and use of water for electricity
- Clean environment as a Human Right & Environmental Crime



Ohrid Region Natural and Cultural Heritage

intersections with heritage, urban planning, transport, tourism, agriculture, fishing, energy production
transboundary cooperation, digital tools
collaboration of three UN entities to wholistically assess and provide recommendations

New UNSDCF – potential entry points

- Forests and lakes (focus beyond simply protected areas)
- Biodiversity and economic activity (tourism, agriculture)
- Biodiversity and DRR
- Biodiversity/National Parks finance and governance (PFM, PAR)
- Clean environment as a Human Right & Environmental Crime



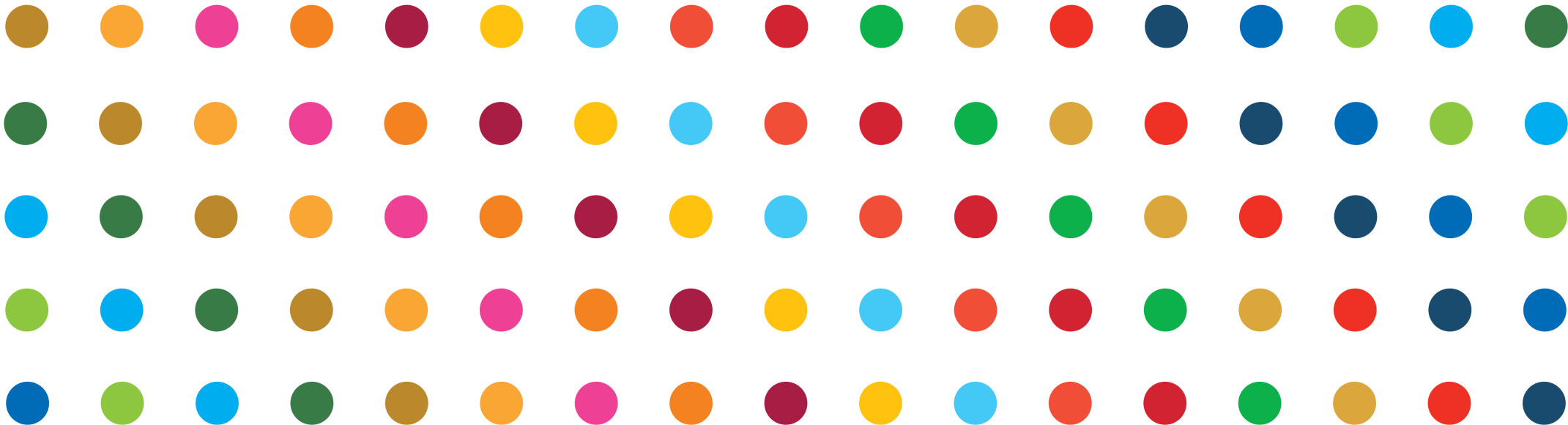
Thank you



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*Lilian Kandikjan, lilian.kandikjan@un.org, RCO Focal Point
Environment, Partnerships and Development Finance Officer*





UN Common Approach to Biodiversity

Hossein Fadaei, Head of the EMG Secretariat, UNEP

UN Common Approach to Biodiversity: Facilitating the implementation of the GBF within the UN system

Incorporating global agendas at the national level: best practices and lessons learned for integrating biodiversity into the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in Europe and Central Asia

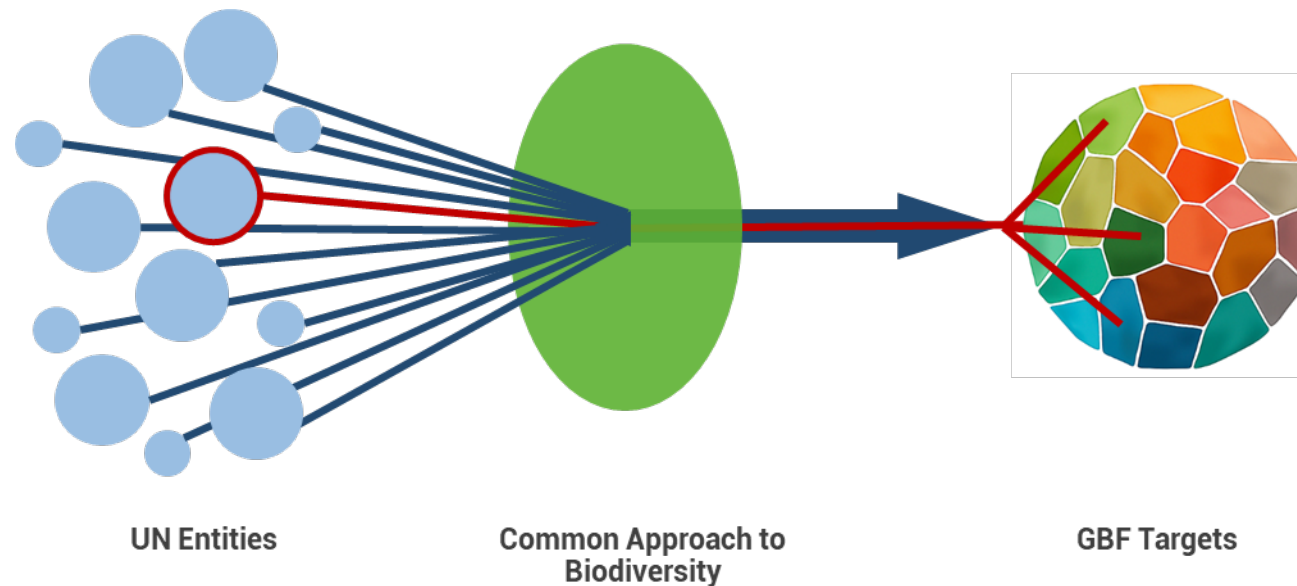
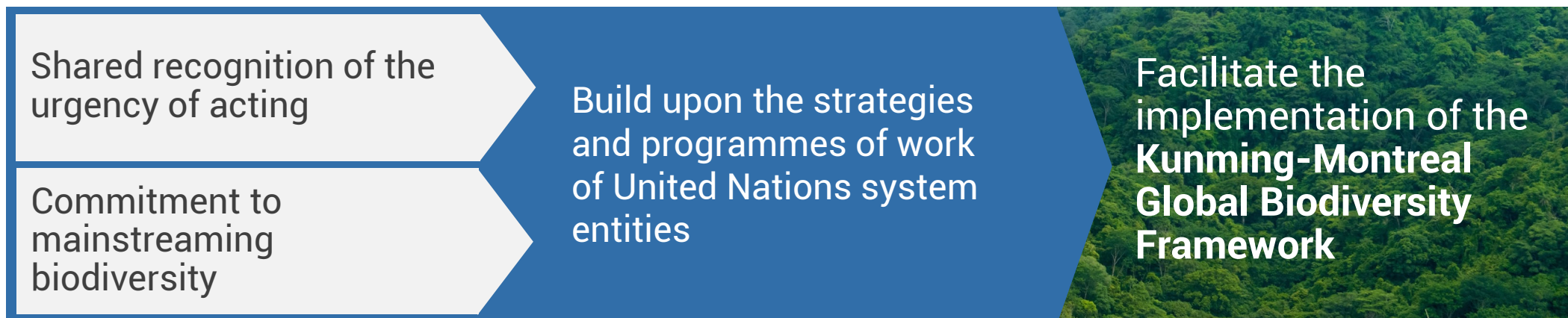
27 November

UN Common Approach to Biodiversity

A strategic framework for cohesive, systematic, and collaborative efforts for a stronger focus on nature across the entire United Nations system.



- **Integrate environmental considerations** into UN policies, programs, and operations.
- **Leverage the collective strength** of the UN system to enhance environmental outcomes.
- **Promote collaboration** across UN entities for sustainable development goals.
- **Ensure policy coherence** and alignment with environmental frameworks.



Collaborative efforts to support Member States

Through the collaborative efforts of relevant UN entities at the global, regional and national levels, outcomes and outputs are to be observed in the following areas:

Outcomes:



Support for Member States in implementing MEA decisions



Inclusion of biodiversity into integrated national financing frameworks



Promotion of environmental and intergenerational justice



Facilitation of inclusive multi-stakeholder partnerships

Outputs:



Internal global policy alignment and coherence



Alignment of current resources and mobilized additional joint financing



Coordinated outreach and communication efforts



Knowledge exchanged to identify prioritise, scale up and accelerate action



Activities: 50+ ways to integrate biodiversity and nature-based solutions

A [list](#) of practical interventions at all levels that the UN system can pursue jointly as a part of the Common Approach

For each impact area and objective of the CA, the document provides a non-exhaustive list of:

- I. Actions that the UN system can pursue at all levels to implement the CA
- II. Examples to operationalise each action
- III. UN entities which could be involved
- IV. Already-existing resources the actions could build on
- V. Links to the SDGs

Implementation
to date

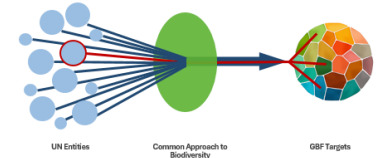


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Cross Mapping: UN Entities Mandates & CA Objectives

Potential collective action of UN entities has been mapped to the Common Approach objectives. Connections sourced from "*Biodiversity Common Approach: 50+ ways to integrate biodiversity and nature-based solutions*"

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Advocacy and Awareness Raising: UN Common Approach to Biodiversity Webinar Series



Urban Spatial Planning for Biodiversity Conservation and Preservation

24 April 2024



Agrifood Systems and Biodiversity

4 June 2024



Human Rights and Biodiversity

9 July 2024



Disaster Risk Reduction and Biodiversity

Coming later in 2024



Financing Biodiversity

Coming later in 2024

Series aims include:

- Promote and support GBF implementation
- Identify opportunities to increase engagement of all actors with the GBF
- Explore how the UN system can collectively better support Member States
- Engage with UN Country Teams



Global-level Monitoring and Reporting

Development of a global monitoring and reporting framework to support the Mid-Term Report (anticipated in 2025) and the Final Report (anticipated in 2030).

This framework will provide **quantitative and qualitative** insights across a range of topics, including:



Common Approach **outputs** at global, regional and national level



UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks that contain actions to **implement NBSAPs and MEAs**



The UN systems role in **supporting the GBF**, through the Common Approach



UN development system entities that address biodiversity loss



UN entities' **strategies, frameworks and activities** that cover/integrate biodiversity



Biodiversity screening of UN locations



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Mainstreaming biodiversity in CCAs and UNSDCFs: preliminary key messages and guidance on actions

Felipe Chamizo, Biodiversity Specialist



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Mainstreaming biodiversity in CCAs and UNSDCFs

Preliminary key messages and guidance on actions

Incorporating global agendas at the national level: best practices and lessons learned for integrating biodiversity into the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in Europe and Central Asia

November 27, 2024



Why CCAs and UNSDCFs?

- While CCAs and CFs are **key entry points** for mainstreaming biodiversity at the national level, overall, they still **lack incorporating** biodiversity mainstreaming and biodiversity-related issues
- Biodiversity can be incorporated **across all pillars**, including economy, social/people)





1

Advocacy Messages

Key advocacy messages to utilize CCAs and UNDCFS as tools for addressing the biodiversity crisis

2

Practical Actions

A checklist of practical actions for mainstreaming biodiversity in UNSDCF processes

3

Webinar (November 27)

A webinar to discuss key advocacy messages and the checklist with IBC members and stakeholders, and **exchange best practices**

4

Guidance

Biodiversity-specific guidance for inclusion in the *Guidance on Integrating the Environment and Climate Change in UNSDCFs*



Three interconnected levels

Key advocacy messages

**Guidance: Biodiversity
in the CCA**

**Guidance: Biodiversity
in the UNSDCF**



Key advocacy messages

Global

Biodiversity and nature form the **basis of our existence**, providing us with products and services that directly impact our economy, society, health and wellbeing

Regulating services maintain environmental stability i.a. through regulation of climate, air and soil functions upon which our society depends. These account for 65% of the total ecosystem service value and are rarely accounted for in fiscal systems

In terms of monetary value, it is estimated that nature and biodiversity provide an economic benefit globally of \$170 - 190 trillion annually. This further illustrates the **interdependence of economic development, social well-being and environmental integrity**

The role of trees and plants in capturing and **retaining pollutants** is financially significant



Regional

Subregional platforms such as the **Regional Biodiversity Platform** and the **Biodiversity TF of the Western Balkans** can be useful and relevant for strengthening capacities; facilitating access to and transfer of knowledge and experiences, technology and innovations; and fostering development of programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

Health care costs avoided as a result of air quality regulation ecosystem services were estimated to 10.446 million EUR in the EU in 2019

+ regional examples



Key advocacy messages

Additional key advocacy messages will be developed addressing i.e. the following:

- **Scaling up** successful biodiversity action in the region, capitalizing on regional expertise (e.g. resource mobilisation for biodiversity action, cross-border action, etc.).
- The role of biodiversity in **production systems and productive landscapes** (aquaculture, agriculture, livestock, fisheries).
- **Interlinkages** between biodiversity loss, climate change, and desertification (e.g.: the role of biodiversity in climate change adaptation and mitigation)
- Biodiversity and **human rights**
- **The role of local actors**, smallholders, youth organisations, women organizations, etc. for biodiversity action.



Guidance: Biodiversity in the CCA

The inclusion of biodiversity-related data (national, regional, sub-regional and transboundary dynamics) in the description of the **country situation and development context** will contribute to a clearer understanding of the country's sustainable development trajectory and to the setting of UNCT priorities

Relevant data includes: number of species and species richness in a particular area/ecosystem, species diversity between different ecosystems, overall diversity for the different ecosystems within larger geographic areas

The situational analysis of the legal, institutional, policy and financial landscape in the CCA should integrate information on environmental and **biodiversity-related policies and regulations**:

- ✓ The governance and political analysis should consider an up-to-date list of key national biodiversity related policies and commitments as well as relevant obligations under biodiversity-related international commitments and multilateral agreements
- ✓ Elements linked to the enabling of biodiversity mainstreaming, including capacity-building needs; and public and private financing in support of biodiversity action

+ regional examples



Guidance: Biodiversity in the CCA

Additional region-specific biodiversity guidance to consider in CCAs will be developed including on:

- **Policy coherence**
- National **biodiversity-specific and biodiversity-related policies**, including NBSAPs, as well as identification and analysis of policy gaps
- **Alignment** of national policies with international frameworks and commitments (GBF targets, NDCs, NAPs, SDGs, etc.)
- Challenges and gaps for **institutional coordination and governance**



Guidance: Biodiversity in the UNSDCF

Biodiversity action should address the different drivers of biodiversity loss. Holistic approaches to biodiversity action may be incorporated in the Theory of Change and included in the Strategic priorities and outcomes in the context of addressing national priorities and identified gaps

The CF may take into consideration **National Targets** submitted by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

CFs should also promote the **sustainable use of biodiversity**, ensuring that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed in a sustainable manner. This includes:

- An increase in the application of practices that are already taking place in the region, such as sustainable intensification, innovative agroecological practices, and other nation-positive actions that contribute to the efficiency and productivity of production systems, while conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining its contribution to people and livelihoods
- Recognizing the intrinsic interlinkages between biodiversity, food and agriculture. Biodiversity loss poses a significant threat to the availability and access to healthy, nutritious and diverse diets, particularly among vulnerable and marginalized groups in the region

+ regional examples



Guidance: Biodiversity in the UNSDCF

Additional region-specific, practical guidance will be developed, including on:

- **Ecosystem and landscape restoration actions**, including ecological restoration strategies and actions for productive landscapes
- **Sustainable forest management practices**, including forest conservation and use actions, protected areas, community-based forest management and practices and other effective area-based conservations measures (OECMs); as well as agroforestry, silvopasture, and other integrated actions
- Communications, education and **advocacy** on biodiversity
- The incorporation of **Nature-based solutions** for biodiversity conservation (e.g.: ADAPT project in the Western Balkans)



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Open discussion



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- **How can biodiversity considerations be integrated into the non-environmental sections of CCAs? What are the obstacles to such integration (such as a lack of data) and what setbacks have you encountered?**
- **How can inter-agency collaboration strengthen consideration of biodiversity in country-level planning? What challenges and difficulties have you encountered in such collaboration?**
- **How have less successful experiences in integrating these issues shaped your approach in subsequent efforts?**



Survey

Participation link

<https://www.menti.com/alkebgh5zuj7>

QR code





Closing remarks and next steps

Marika Palosaari, Programme Coordinator, UNEP, IBC Core team



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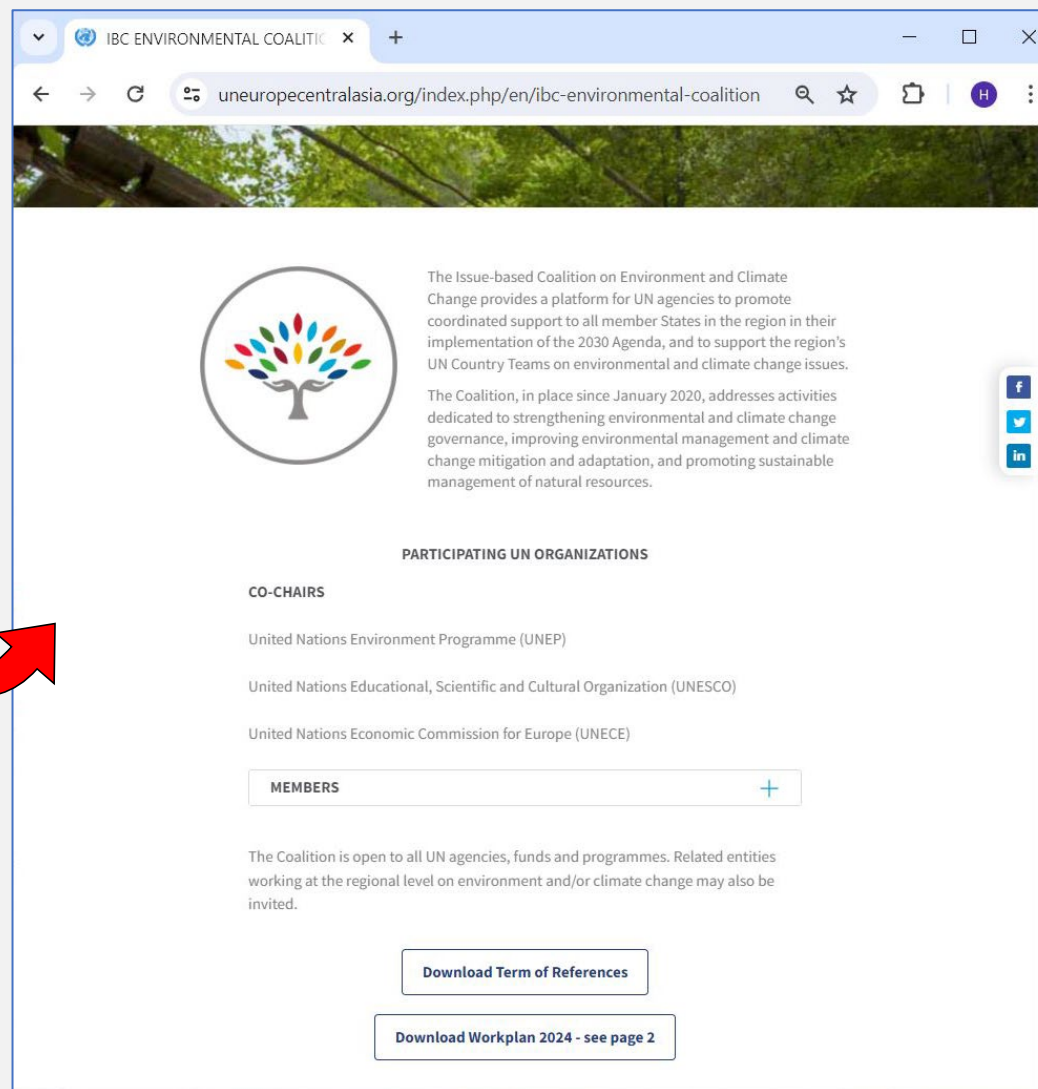
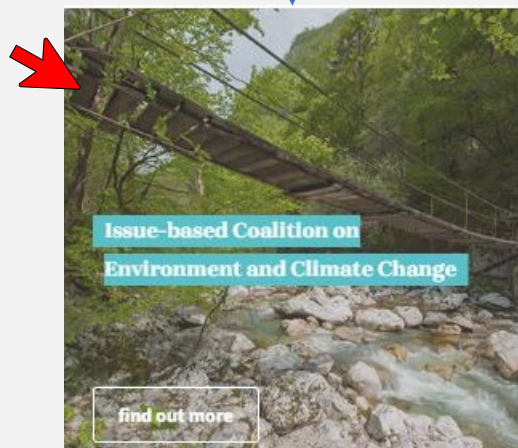
To learn more about the IBC and its resources



<https://uneuropecentralasia.org/>



Issue-Based Coalitions & Groups



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