

## CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

### Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention for the period to 2030

### Outcomes of CBD COP15 as context for the Bern Convention Strategic Plan: the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

*Dave Pritchard 24 January 2023*

At its 39<sup>th</sup> meeting in December 2019, the Standing Committee's proposal for the drawing up of a Strategic Plan for the Convention for 2020-2030 envisaged its being elaborated in the context of the expected adoption by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity of a post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The Covid-19 pandemic greatly delayed the development and eventual adoption of the GBF, and work to develop the Bern Convention Strategic Plan similarly assumed an extended timeframe, so that it could remain in step (where appropriate) with the global negotiations, and could be finalised at a point where it could take account of the adopted version of the global framework.

The document that eventually was given the formal title of the "Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework" was adopted by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity as the Annex to [Decision 15/4](#) at the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) in December 2022 in Montreal, Canada. The accompanying Monitoring Framework was adopted as Annex I to [Decision 15/5](#) at the same meeting.

The COP15 GBF adoption decision is also supported by additional decisions on planning, monitoring, reporting and review; on resource mobilisation; on capacity building; and on cooperation.

The tables below highlight some of the key elements of the GBF, and ways in which they relate to corresponding elements in the 8<sup>th</sup> draft of the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention, and where appropriate also to the Vision and Goals for the Convention that were adopted by the Standing Committee at its 41<sup>st</sup> meeting in December 2021. The texts of the GBF goals, targets and glossary definitions are reproduced here verbatim: other elements are paraphrased or summarised and have been slightly re-ordered for convenience.

Elements of the adopted Kunming-Montreal GBF	Corresponding elements of the Vision and 8 <sup>th</sup> draft of the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention
<b>IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY</b>	

Section A (Background) refers to the importance of biodiversity as fundamental to human well-being and a healthy planet.	<p>The adopted Bern Convention Vision (2021) includes the statement that “Healthy natural systems are vital. They support a diversity of species, and underpin the Earth’s ability to provide for people’s prosperity and well-being”.</p> <p>The draft Strategic Plan Section C (Context) includes the following: “Wildlife and natural habitats are vital for all life. They underpin human food, water and energy security, health and well-being, and they are critical to the regulation of climatic cycles and the quality of our air, water and soil”.</p> <p>Section C also refers to The Council of Europe’s Programme and Budget 2022-25 identifying a focus on protecting and expanding cultural, natural and landscape diversity, noting that this is “vital for sustainable development and the well-being of our societies”.</p>
<b>BIODIVERSITY IN CRISIS</b>	
Section A (Background) refers to ample evidence that, despite ongoing efforts, biodiversity is deteriorating worldwide at rates unprecedented in human history.	<p>The Vision states that biodiversity is in accelerating decline.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Section C (Context) notes that “Biodiversity is in serious decline. Changes in land and sea use, overexploitation, climate change, pollution, and invasive alien species have made ecosystem collapse one of the biggest threats facing humanity in the next decade”.</p>
<b>NEED FOR TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION</b>	
<p>Section A (Background) states that the GBF seeks broad-based action to bring about a transformation in our societies’ relationship with biodiversity.</p> <p>Section B (Purpose) states that the Framework aims to catalyze, enable and galvanize urgent and transformative action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss.</p>	<p>The Vision states that “There is an urgent need for a step-change in humanity’s response to biodiversity decline”.</p> <p>Strategic Plan Section C (Context) notes that goals for conserving nature and achieving sustainable use cannot be met by current trajectories, and they may only be achieved through changes at a “transformative” scale, across economic, social, political and technological fields. It refers to the need for escalated efforts in response to the global environmental crisis, and to the need for more intensified and effective action “on the ground” if current trends are to be reversed. The section further notes that The Council of Europe’s Strategic Framework for 2021-25 gives the fight against environmental degradation a new prominence as one of the key strategic priorities for this period, and states that (with the Vision and Strategic Plan) the Bern Convention Parties have committed to a “new level of ambition” for the period to 2030.</p>
<b>OWNERSHIP AND JOINT EFFORTS BY THE WHOLE OF SOCIETY AND ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT</b>	
CBD COP Decision 15/4, in adopting the GBF, refers to enabling participation at all levels of government, with a view to fostering the full and effective contributions of women, youth, indigenous peoples and local	Strategic Plan Section A (About the Bern Convention) includes the following: “The Convention promotes strong political commitment through implementation mechanisms in which all citizens are represented by politicians, NGOs, civil society organisations and scientists, collaborating to make decisions for the conservation of biodiversity at the

<p>communities, civil society organizations, the private and financial sectors, and stakeholders from all other sectors.</p> <p>Section C of the Framework itself (Considerations for implementation) states that “This is a framework for the whole of government and the whole of society. Its success requires political will and recognition at the highest level of government, and relies on action and cooperation by all levels of government and by all actors of society”.</p> <p>Section B (purpose) refers to action by Governments and subnational and local authorities, with the involvement of all of society.</p>	<p>genetic, species and ecosystem levels”; and “By engaging multiple sectors of society in nature conservation and accepting complaints from concerned citizens, it also strengthens democratic participation”.</p> <p>Section C (Context) refers to the Bern Convention’s tradition of governments, civil society and businesses working together,</p> <p>Section D (Assumptions) includes the following: “Achievement of the Strategic Plan’s overall goals will result from a combination of efforts made within national jurisdictions (at multiple levels of governance), at transboundary/international level, by non-Party stakeholders and contributors”; and “Biodiversity outcomes cannot be achieved by the “biodiversity sector” alone, and achievement of the Plan’s goals will require this agenda to be “mainstreamed” into other policy sectors and across society as a whole.</p> <p>Section G (Ownership and responsibilities for implementation) states that delivery will involve national-level action; but often will also involve action within different tiers of local government. It further states that “goals &amp; targets will be achieved through a multi-governance, multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral approach, in productive partnership with civil society, the scientific community, the private sector and other stakeholders. While governments have the formal accountability for achieving the Convention’s aims, implementation in practice occurs through a combination of efforts by them and by many other stakeholders, including non-governmental organisations, scientific institutions, private sector interests and concerned citizens of all ages. The Strategic Plan is ‘owned’ by all of these together - they all have an important role to play, and success depends on their combined contributions. Particular efforts should be made to engage Indigenous peoples, local communities, young people, women and girls in this, and to recognise their needs and support their participation”.</p>
<p><b>SYNERGIES BETWEEN CONVENTIONS</b></p>	
<p>Section B (Purpose) notes that the Framework promotes coherence, complementarity and cooperation between the Convention on Biological Diversity and other biodiversity related conventions.</p>	<p>Strategic Plan Section A (About the Convention) refers to the 30th anniversary Declaration in 2009 that reaffirmed the critical role played by the Bern Convention in facilitating the coordinated implementation of global biodiversity obligations in Europe, including relevant parts of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species and related agreements and the Ramsar Convention.</p> <p>Section C (Context) states that “The Strategic Plan has been developed in harmony with related strategies at other scales, and it makes an explicit and vital pan-European contribution to (among others) the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and efforts for synergy among biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements in general”.</p>

	<p>Section D (Assumptions) notes that achievement of goals will result from efforts in synergy/ complementarity with other relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements and related international processes.</p> <p>Section G (Ownership) also notes (in the context of responsibilities for implementation) that the goals and targets will be achieved in synergy with other relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements and related international processes.</p>
<b>HUMAN RIGHTS</b>	
<p>Section C (Considerations for implementation) notes that implementation should follow a human rights-based approach, respecting, protecting, promoting and fulfilling human rights; including the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.</p>	<p>Section A (about the Convention) notes that consistent with the core values of the Council of Europe, and through the protection of natural heritage, the Convention safeguards basic human rights, including rights to life, health, food, livelihood, water, housing and culture.</p> <p>Section D (Assumptions) notes that implementation will conform to principles of inclusivity, equity (socioeconomic, intergenerational, gender), participation, human rights and democratic accountability.</p>
<b>COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AWARENESS AND UPTAKE</b>	
<p>Section K notes that enhancing communication, education, and awareness on biodiversity and the uptake of the GBF by all actors is essential. It then gives descriptions of seven areas of action, including education and knowledge sharing.</p>	<p>Section D (Assumptions) notes that communication and outreach efforts to the widest audiences in support of the 2030 Vision and the goals of the Strategic Plan are an essential part of its implementation.</p> <p>Section I (Promoting awareness and use of the Plan) states that the action priorities need to be promoted to all who may affect the outcomes, whether by direct delivery or by shaping the climate of public and political opinion; and together with section J (Capacity and resources) it describes some action areas, including education and knowledge sharing.</p>
<b>VISION (for 2050 in the GBF, for 2030 in the Bern Convention Plan)</b>	
<p>A world of living in harmony with nature, where by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.</p>	<p>“Healthy nature for healthy people” - By 2030, declines in biodiversity are halted, leading to recovery of wildlife and habitats, improving the lives of people and contributing to the health of the planet.</p>
<b>MISSION (for 2030 in both the GBF and the Bern Convention Plan)</b>	
<p>To take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and planet by conserving and sustainably using biodiversity and ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources, while providing the necessary means of implementation.</p>	<p>The mission of the Bern Convention is to ensure that wild flora, fauna and habitats are maintained at, or restored to a favourable conservation status. The Convention enables cooperation and coordination across borders, building bridges between science and citizens, and uniting governments and society at large in a common endeavour. It connects environmental protection with human rights and democracy in the framework of the Council of Europe’s core values and priorities, and makes a distinctive contribution to</p>

	the UN Sustainable Development Goals and to global agreements on nature and climate change.
<b>GOALS (for 2050 in the GBF, for 2030 in the Bern Convention Plan)</b>	
<b>GOAL A</b> The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored, substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050; Human induced extinction of known threatened species is halted, and, by 2050, the extinction rate and risk of all species are reduced tenfold and the abundance of native wild species is increased to healthy and resilient levels; The genetic diversity within populations of wild and domesticated species, is maintained, safeguarding their adaptive potential.	<b>GOAL 1</b> (adopted by the Standing Committee in 2021) The area, connectivity, integrity and resilience of natural and semi-natural ecosystems is increased, including through protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures covering at least 30% of the land and of the sea areas. <b>GOAL 2</b> (adopted by the Standing Committee in 2021) The conservation status of threatened species is improved, abundance of native species has increased, and human-induced extinctions have been halted.  <i>Note:</i> The element in GBF Goal A that relates to genetic diversity is not included in the Bern Convention goals, but it could be implied in the latter's reference to "conservation status".
<b>GOAL B</b> Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued, maintained and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050.	<b>GOAL 3</b> (adopted by the Standing Committee in 2021) The contributions of wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment are valued, maintained and enhanced.  <i>Note:</i> The fact that this relates to benefits to people is more explicitly fleshed out in Targets 3.1 and 3.2 of the Plan, under this goal.
<b>GOAL C</b> The monetary and non-monetary benefits from the utilization of genetic resources, and digital sequence information on genetic resources, and of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, as applicable, are shared fairly and equitably, including, as appropriate with indigenous peoples and local communities, and substantially increased by 2050, while ensuring traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources is appropriately protected, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in accordance with internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments.	<i>Note:</i> The element in GBF Goal A that relates to access & benefit sharing in relation to genetic resources is not covered in the Bern Convention Plan.
<b>GOAL D</b> Adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and access to and transfer of technology to fully implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework are secured and equitably accessible to all Parties, especially	<b>GOAL 4</b> (adopted by the Standing Committee in 2021) Sufficient resources are available and are used efficiently to achieve all goals and targets in this Plan.

developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, progressively closing the biodiversity finance gap of 700 billion dollars per year, and aligning financial flows with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.	
<b>TARGETS (for 2030 in both the GBF and the Bern Convention Plan)</b>	
<b>TARGET 1</b> Ensure that all areas are under participatory, integrated and biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land and sea use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.	<b>Target 1.1</b> Natural and semi-natural ecosystems are maintained and where possible restored or rehabilitated, leading to an overall increase in area, connectivity, integrity and resilience of the natural habitats referred to in the Convention and in Resolution No. 4 (1996).  <i>Note:</i> The elements in GBF Target 1 that relate to spatial planning and land/sea use change are not explicitly mentioned in Bern Target 1.1, although they might be inferred. The target includes reference to restoration, which in the GBF is addressed separately in Target 2.
<b>TARGET 2</b> Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.	<b>Target 1.1</b> Natural and semi-natural ecosystems are maintained and where possible restored or rehabilitated, leading to an overall increase in area, connectivity, integrity and resilience of the natural habitats referred to in the Convention and in Resolution No. 4 (1996).
<b>TARGET 3</b> Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.	<b>Target 1.2</b> Coverage of natural [ecosystems] [habitats] by the Emerald Network meets the sufficiency targets set for 2030 in the post-2020 Work Plan for the Network. <b>Target 1.3</b> All sites included in the Emerald Network are effectively managed and subject to formal protection or other effective area-based conservation measures. <b>Target 1.4</b> The species and habitats that the Emerald Network aims to conserve are being maintained at, or progressing towards, a satisfactory conservation status.  <i>Note:</i> The element in GBF Target 3 that refers to any sustainable use of areas needing to be fully consistent with conservation outcomes is not mentioned in the targets of the Bern Convention Plan.
<b>TARGET 4</b>	<b>Target 2.1</b> Threatened species are at or are recovering towards a satisfactory conservation status.

<p>Ensure urgent management actions to halt human induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and conservation of species, in particular threatened species, to significantly reduce extinction risk, as well as to maintain and restore the genetic diversity within and between populations of native, wild and domesticated species to maintain their adaptive potential, including through in situ and ex situ conservation and sustainable management practices, and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize human-wildlife conflict for coexistence.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> The elements in GBF Target 4 that relate to genetic diversity, in situ and ex situ conservation, and minimising human-wildlife conflict, are not explicitly mentioned in the Bern Plan targets.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 5</b></p> <p>Ensure that the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, preventing overexploitation, minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reducing the risk of pathogen spill-over, applying the ecosystem approach, while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.</p>	<p><b>Target 2.2</b></p> <p>Anthropogenic causes of actual or potential negative effects on the conservation status of wild species of fauna and flora are reduced as far as possible to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of those species, through targeted measures enacted in legislation, policy and/or management.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The draft Strategic Plan has a single target (2.2) that encompasses all anthropogenic threats &amp; pressures. The footnote that accompanies it provides a non-exhaustive list of examples that includes illegal killing, taking and trade, and unsustainable use.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 6</b></p> <p>Eliminate, minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services by identifying and managing pathways of the introduction of alien species, preventing the introduction and establishment of priority invasive alien species, reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of other known or potential invasive alien species by at least 50 per cent by 2030, and eradicating or controlling invasive alien species especially in priority sites, such as islands.</p>	<p><b>Target 2.2</b></p> <p>Anthropogenic causes of actual or potential negative effects on the conservation status of wild species of fauna and flora are reduced as far as possible to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of those species, through targeted measures enacted in legislation, policy and/or management.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The draft Strategic Plan has a single target (2.2) that encompasses all anthropogenic threats &amp; pressures. The footnote that accompanies it provides a non-exhaustive list of examples that includes invasive alien species.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 7</b></p> <p>Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and also preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.</p>	<p><b>Target 2.2</b></p> <p>Anthropogenic causes of actual or potential negative effects on the conservation status of wild species of fauna and flora are reduced as far as possible to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of those species, through targeted measures enacted in legislation, policy and/or management.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The draft Strategic Plan has a single target (2.2) that encompasses all anthropogenic threats &amp; pressures. The footnote that accompanies it provides a non-exhaustive list of examples that includes toxins and pollution, including micropollutants and light pollution.</p>

<p><b>TARGET 8</b></p> <p>Minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and increase its resilience through mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction actions, including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, while minimizing negative and fostering positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity.</p>	<p><b>Target 2.2</b></p> <p>Anthropogenic causes of actual or potential negative effects on the conservation status of wild species of fauna and flora are reduced as far as possible to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of those species, through targeted measures enacted in legislation, policy and/or management.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The draft Strategic Plan has a single target (2.2) that encompasses all anthropogenic threats &amp; pressures. The footnote that accompanies it provides a non-exhaustive list of examples that includes climate change.</p> <p><b>Target 3.3</b></p> <p>Nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches implemented by Bern Convention Parties contribute where appropriate to the mitigation of climate change and the adaptation to its effects.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 9</b></p> <p>Ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable, thereby providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.</p>	<p><b>Target 3.2</b></p> <p>Conservation and sustainable use of nature contributes positively to measures relating to human rights, democracy, landscape management, cultural heritage and physical and mental health, and to the prevention and mitigation of major hazards.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 10</b></p> <p>Ensure that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably, in particular through the sustainable use of biodiversity, including through a substantial increase of the application of biodiversity friendly practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches, contributing to the resilience and long-term efficiency and productivity of these production systems and to food security, conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> There is no specific Bern Convention target based on productive systems; but ensuring sustainability of them should be covered by Target 2.2, and their benefits to people should be covered by Target 3.2.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 11</b></p> <p>Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as regulation of air, water, and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.</p>	<p><b>Target 3.1</b></p> <p>The natural environment thrives, thereby benefiting people's livelihoods, food and water security, community resilience, well-being and quality of life.</p> <p><b>Target 3.2</b></p>



	<p>Conservation and sustainable use of nature contributes positively to measures relating to human rights, democracy, landscape management, cultural heritage and physical and mental health, and to the prevention and mitigation of major hazards.</p> <p><b>Target 3.3</b></p> <p>Nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches implemented by Bern Convention Parties contribute where appropriate to the mitigation of climate change and the adaptation to its effects.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> The GBF and the Bern Convention Plan each specify particular types of nature's contributions to people that are not mentioned by the other. The GBF refers to restoration and enhancement of these, which the Bern plan does not do. Both the GBF's Target 11 and the Bern Plan's Target 3.3 refer to nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches, but the Bern Plan relates these only to climate change, while the GBF puts them in a wider context.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 12</b></p> <p>Significantly increase the area and quality and connectivity of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas sustainably, by mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and ensure biodiversity-inclusive urban planning, enhancing native biodiversity, ecological connectivity and integrity, and improving human health and well-being and connection to nature and contributing to inclusive and sustainable urbanization and the provision of ecosystem functions and services.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> There is no specific equivalent provision on urban green and blue spaces in the Bern Convention Plan.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 13</b></p> <p>Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030 facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> The elements in GBF Target 13 that relate to access &amp; benefit sharing in relation to genetic resources, and digital sequence information, are not covered in the Bern Convention Plan.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 14</b></p> <p>Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> There is no specific equivalent of GBF Target 14 in the Bern Convention Strategic Plan targets; but various elements of it are picked up in other parts of the draft, as follows:</p>

<p>assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.</p>	<p>Regarding the provisions on mainstreaming, Section D of the Bern Plan (Assumptions) states that “Biodiversity outcomes cannot be achieved by the ‘biodiversity sector’ alone, and achievement of the Plan’s goals will require this agenda to be ‘mainstreamed’ into other policy sectors and across society as a whole”. Section G (Ownership and responsibilities for implementation) states that “It is vital that implementation of the Plan is not left only to the Ministries or agencies that have lead responsibility for nature conservation. To succeed, the agenda here must be ‘mainstreamed’ across all areas of sectoral responsibility, including for example agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, transport, infrastructure planning, water resources management, industry, urban development, climate change and finance, with education also playing a role. Nature conservation departments will have an important role in promoting understanding of the issues and coherent action across these sectors, but leadership and authority on this is expected to come from the highest levels of government”.</p> <p>Regarding the reference to fiscal and financial flows, Section D of the Bern Plan (Assumptions) notes that incentives (including economic incentives) play an important role, and should be considered among the tools that countries may wish to consider in promoting the implementation of the Plan. In addition, Section J (Capacity and resources) refers to reduction or redirection of spending that harms the environment.</p> <p>Regarding the references to strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment, Section A of the Bern Plan (About the Convention) notes that Contracting Parties commit to consider the environmental impact of planning and development.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 15</b></p> <p>Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios;</li> <li>(b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;</li> <li>(c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable;</li> </ul> <p>in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.</p>	<p><u>Note:</u> There is no specific equivalent of GBF Target 15 in the Bern Convention Plan; but Section C (Context) refers to governments, civil society and businesses working together.</p>

<p><b>TARGET 16</b></p> <p>Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices, including by establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education and access to relevant and accurate information and alternatives, and by 2030 reduce the global footprint of consumption in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, significantly reducing overconsumption and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> There is no specific equivalent provision on consumer choices or consumption footprint in the Bern Convention Plan.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 17</b></p> <p>Establish, strengthen capacity for, and implement in all countries, biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention on Biological Diversity and measures for the handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits as set out in Article 19 of the Convention.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> There is no specific equivalent provision on biosafety or biotechnology in the Bern Convention Plan.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 18</b></p> <p>Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least 500 billion United States dollars per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> There is no specific equivalent of GBF Target 18 in the Bern Convention Plan, but Section D (Assumptions) notes that incentives (including economic incentives) play an important role, and should be considered among the tools that countries may wish to consider in promoting the implementation of the Plan. In addition, Section J (Capacity and resources) refers to reduction or redirection of spending that harms the environment.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 19</b></p> <p>Substantially and progressively increase the level of financial resources from all sources, in an effective, timely and easily accessible manner, including domestic, international, public and private resources, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans, by 2030 mobilizing at least 200 billion United States dollars per year, including by:</p> <p>(a) Increasing total biodiversity related international financial resources from developed countries, including official development assistance, and from countries that voluntarily assume obligations of developed country Parties, to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to at least US\$ 20 billion per year by 2025, and to at least US\$ 30 billion per year by 2030;</p>	<p><b>Target 4.1</b></p> <p>Sufficient resources and capacity, including scientific and technical cooperation, are available to achieve all the goals and targets in the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention</p> <p>Section J (Capacity and resources) also includes the following:</p> <p>This Strategic Plan helps to guide the mobilisation and effective deployment of adequate resources at a variety of levels within and between countries, to address each of the listed targets, to undertake the requisite monitoring and evaluation, and to promote awareness and use of the Plan. “Resources” in this sense includes not only finance but also institutional and human capacity, information and knowledge.</p> <p>Current levels of funding for biodiversity conservation are insufficient and need to be increased. This includes international and domestic funding from public, private and other sources. Efforts will be required to enhance the necessary flows to achieve the goals and targets in the Strategic Plan, including assistance for low and middle income countries</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) Significantly increasing domestic resource mobilization, facilitated by the preparation and implementation of national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments according to national needs, priorities and circumstances;</li> <li>(c) Leveraging private finance, promoting blended finance, implementing strategies for raising new and additional resources, and encouraging the private sector to invest in biodiversity, including through impact funds and other instruments;</li> <li>(d) Stimulating innovative schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, and benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards;</li> <li>(e) Optimizing co-benefits and synergies of finance targeting the biodiversity and climate crises;</li> <li>(f) Enhancing the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions and non-market-based approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity;</li> <li>(g) Enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of resource provision and use.</li> </ul>	<p>and countries with economies in transition. Parties are encouraged also to specify their own national actions in this regard.</p> <p>Financial resourcing in the present context does not only involve the generation of new funds, but also enhanced effectiveness and efficiency of resource use, “in kind” support, and the reduction or redirection of spending that harms the environment. Policy choices that reduce pressures on biodiversity will reduce the costs of protecting and restoring it. Section C (Context) also notes that the costs of inaction will be more severe than anything seen to date, and will far outweigh the costs of implementing the actions required.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 20</b></p> <p>Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the framework.</p>	<p><b>Target 4.1</b></p> <p>Sufficient resources and capacity, including scientific and technical cooperation, are available to achieve all the goals and targets in the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention.</p> <p>Section D (Assumptions) also states that: “All technical processes operated through the mechanisms of the Convention in support of the implementation of this Plan will be evidence-led and based on appropriate scientific and technical knowledge, making good use of existing systems, the Bern Convention’s Groups of Experts and other qualified networks as appropriate, and adding no unnecessary reporting burdens on Parties”.</p> <p>Section J (Capacity &amp; resources) further states that: “‘Resources’ includes not only finance but also institutional and human capacity, information and knowledge. Institutional and human capacity can be strengthened by various forms of support by, and for, government and non-government actors at all levels, including enhancing understanding about biodiversity conservation in non-biodiversity sectors. Guidance documents, manuals, training programmes and events, advice mechanisms and other tools may all have a role to play. Bern Convention mechanisms including Action Plans, Strategies, Codes of Conduct, Groups of Experts, the Emerald Network, Case Files, On</p>

	the Spot Appraisals and the European Diploma all offer structured forms of contribution to the efforts required. Cooperative partnerships are important for enabling institutions and networks to support each other”.
<p><b>TARGET 21</b></p> <p>Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge, are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent, in accordance with national legislation.</p>	<p><b>Target 4.1</b></p> <p>Sufficient resources and capacity, including scientific and technical cooperation, are available to achieve all the goals and targets in the Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention.</p> <p>Section D (Assumptions) also states that “All technical processes operated through the mechanisms of the Convention in support of the implementation of this Plan will be evidence-led and based on appropriate scientific and technical knowledge, making good use of existing systems, the Bern Convention’s Groups of Experts and other qualified networks as appropriate, and adding no unnecessary reporting burdens on Parties”.</p> <p>Section J (Capacity &amp; resources) further states that “Knowledge and information are resources too, and sharing, critical review and lesson-learning are important forms of capacity. The Bern Convention promotes an open and collaborative approach to the development of research (including ‘citizen science’), education, innovation, information technology, monitoring, documentation and community-based knowledge to this end”.</p>
<p><b>TARGET 22</b></p> <p>Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.</p>	<p><i>Note:</i> There is no specific equivalent of GBF Target 22 in the Bern Convention Strategic Plan targets, and access to justice is not explicitly addressed in the Plan; but participation in decision-making is picked up in other parts of the draft, as follows:</p> <p>Section A (About the Convention) states that: “The Convention promotes strong political commitment through implementation mechanisms in which all citizens are represented”; and “By engaging multiple sectors of society in nature conservation and accepting complaints from concerned citizens, it also strengthens democratic participation”.</p> <p>Section C (Context) refers to the Convention’s tradition of governments, civil society and businesses working together.</p> <p>Section D (Assumptions) states that: “Achievement of the Strategic Plan’s overall goals will result from a combination of efforts made within national jurisdictions (at multiple levels of governance), at transboundary/international level, by non-Party stakeholders and contributors”, and affirms that implementation will conform to principles of inclusivity, equity (socioeconomic, intergenerational, gender), participation, human rights and democratic accountability.</p> <p>Section G (Ownership and responsibilities for implementation) notes that the Plan’s goals and targets will be achieved in productive partnership with civil society, the scientific community, the private sector and other stakeholders, stating further that “While</p>

	governments have the formal accountability for achieving the Convention's aims, implementation in practice occurs through a combination of efforts by them and by many other stakeholders, including non-governmental organisations, scientific institutions, private sector interests and concerned citizens of all ages. The Strategic Plan is 'owned' by all of these together - they all have an important role to play, and success depends on their combined contributions. Particular efforts should be made to engage Indigenous peoples, local communities, young people, women and girls in this, and to recognise their needs and support their participation".
<b>TARGET 23</b> Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the framework through a gender-responsive approach where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.	<i>Note:</i> There is no specific equivalent of GBF Target 23 in the Bern Convention Plan, but Section G (Ownership and responsibilities for implementation) notes that particular efforts should be made to engage [inter alia] women and girls; while Section D (Assumptions) affirms that implementation will conform to principles of [inter alia] gender equity.
[No GBF equivalent].	<b>Target 1.5</b> Specific recommendations arising from individual Case Files are followed up and acted upon; and cases are resolved and closed within a reasonable timeframe, taking account of any advice provided by the Standing Committee.
<b>NATIONAL TARGETS</b>	
Section C (Considerations for implementation) states that "Each Party would contribute to attaining the goals and targets in accordance with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities". Section J (Responsibility and transparency) refers to National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans as the main vehicle for implementation of the GBF, including national targets communicated in a standardized format.	Section D (Assumptions) notes that Parties are free to exercise their discretion as to the manner in which they contribute to the objectives in the Strategic Plan according to their own national circumstances and capabilities, providing that the objectives are achieved. Section G (Ownership and responsibilities for implementation) states that "Parties may find it valuable on a voluntary basis to set national targets and milestones, which express (in a quantified way where possible) the specific contribution the country will make to each of the targets in the Strategic Plan. National strategies and action plans are likely to be helpful tools to use"; and "In relation to the 'increase in habitat area, connectivity, integrity and resilience' Target 1.1, each Party is expected to set a target for this at national level that will be defined according to the particular scale of opportunity available in the country".

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

It has been proposed that the draft Strategic Plan for the Bern Convention should include a Glossary of Terms, as an annex. A provisional list of terms has been put forward, but definitions/ explanations remain to be drafted. The list will include only terms that appear in the text of the Plan, hence any changes made to the text during 2023 may result in changes to the list. In the meantime, the terms from the current list that correspond to terms defined/ explained in the glossary accompanying the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework are identified in the table below.

Initial list of terms suggested for definition in an Annex to the Bern Convention Strategic Plan	Corresponding terms/concepts and annotations in the Glossary for the GBF, developed by the Open-Ended Working Group and updated for its Fifth meeting, Montreal, 3-5 December 2022, as Document CBD/WG2020/5/4 (not formally adopted by the CBD COP)
Alien species	(Provides annotations in relation to “Pathways for introduction of invasive alien species” and “Priority sites in relation to impacts from invasive alien species”, but no annotation or definition of the term alien species itself.
Case File	(Not mentioned – term is specific to the Bern Convention).
Degraded ecosystems	<p>Land degradation can occur either through a loss of biodiversity, ecosystem functions or services. From an ecological perspective, land degradation may include complete transformation in the class or use of the ecosystem, such as the conversion of natural grassland to a crop field, delivering a different spectrum of benefits, but also degradation of the “natural” or “transformed” system. Natural ecosystems are often degraded prior to being transformed. The transformed ecosystem that results from this conversion can, in turn, be degraded and see a reduction in the delivery of its new functions (e.g. an agricultural field where soil degradation and reduced soil fertility leads to reduced crops).</p> <p>The same concepts are applicable to the degradation of marine and freshwater ecosystems. It may take the form of changed trophic structures in a marine community (through fishing pressure and selective removal of species, transformation of the soft and hard benthos (through repetitive sweeps of contacting gears, such as trawls) or artificial reef construction, to cite only a few examples. In the case of aquatic freshwater ecosystems, the construction of dams and reservoirs over river courses or the conversion of natural wetlands into rice paddies are examples of ecosystem transformation.</p> <p>(CBD/POST2020/WS/2019/11/3).</p>
(Ecological) connectivity	<p>Includes an entry for “ecosystem connectivity” but annotation describes it more correctly as “Connectivity (i.e. ecological connectivity) is the unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes that sustain life on Earth. It may thus also refer to continuous ecosystems often connected through ecological corridors. There are two types of connectivity: structural (in which the continuity between ecosystems is identified) and functional (in which the movement of species or processes is verified).</p> <p>(UNEP/CMS/Resolution 12.26 (Rev.COP13)).</p>
(Ecological) integrity	<p>Includes an entry for “ecosystem integrity” as follows: “An ecosystem is generally understood to have integrity when its dominant ecological characteristics (e.g. elements of composition, structure, function, and ecological processes) occur within their natural</p>

	<p>ranges of variation and can withstand and recover from most perturbations”. (CBD/SBSTTA/24/3/Add.2/Rev.1, para. 18). Moreover, Add.2 refers to “including species diversity and abundance and communities of interacting species within ecosystems” (para. 21). Indicators of ecosystem integrity may include the “structure, function and composition of an ecosystem relative to the pre-industrial range of variation of these characteristics”.</p> <p>(Hansen et al (2021). Towards monitoring ecosystem integrity within the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, <a href="https://doi.org/10.32942/osf.io/eyqw5">https://doi.org/10.32942/osf.io/eyqw5</a>).</p>
(Ecological) resilience	<p>Includes an entry for “resilience” as follows: The capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and reorganize while undergoing change so as to still retain essentially the same function, structure, identity, and feedbacks (Walker et al., 2004).</p> <p>A concept initially developed and applied in ecology, which progressively gained usage in the social and environmental sciences. (IPBES, <a href="https://zenodo.org/record/5657079#.Y2p22nbMI2w">https://zenodo.org/record/5657079#.Y2p22nbMI2w</a>).</p>
Ecosystem-based approaches	<p>Includes an entry for “ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation (EbA)” as follows: Defined as the use of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. This term may refer to a wide range of ecosystem management activities to increase the resilience and reduce the vulnerability of people and the environment, including to climate change and disasters.</p> <p>(CBD, Technical Series No. 41, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2009). Connecting Biodiversity and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation: Report of the Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change. Montreal, p. 41.)</p> <p>Paragraph 8(j) of COP decision X/33 invites Parties and other Governments to “implement where appropriate, ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation, that may include sustainable management, conservation and restoration of ecosystems, as part of an overall adaptation strategy that takes into account the multiple social, economic and cultural co-benefits for local communities”.</p>
Emerald Network	(Not mentioned – term is specific to the Bern Convention).
Invasive species	(Provides annotations in relation to “Pathways for introduction of invasive alien species” and “Priority sites in relation to impacts from invasive alien species”, but no annotation or definition of the term invasive species itself.
Major hazards	(Hazards are mentioned in the annotations for some other terms, but the term itself is not a Glossary entry).
Nationally Determined Contribution	(Not included).
Native species	(Not included).
Natura 2000	(Not mentioned – term is specific to the European Union).
Natural habitats/ ecosystems	<p>Includes an entry for “natural ecosystems (habitats)” as follows: Areas composed of viable assemblages of plant and/or animal species of largely native origin and/or where human activity had not essentially modified an area's primary ecological functions and species composition.</p> <p>(Based on UNEP-WCMC definition of natural habitats, <a href="https://www.biodiversitya-z.org/content/natural-habitats">https://www.biodiversitya-z.org/content/natural-habitats</a>).</p>



Nature-based solutions	Actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services and resilience and biodiversity benefits. (UNEP/EA.5/Res.5, <a href="https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/39864/NATURE-BASED%20SOLUTIONS%20FOR%20SUPPORTING%20SUSTAINABLE%20DEVELOPMENT.%20English.pdf?sequence=1&amp;isAllowed=y">https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/39864/NATURE-BASED%20SOLUTIONS%20FOR%20SUPPORTING%20SUSTAINABLE%20DEVELOPMENT.%20English.pdf?sequence=1&amp;isAllowed=y</a> )
Other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs)	A geographically defined area other than a protected area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for in situ conservation of biodiversity with associated ecosystem functions and services and, where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socioeconomic and other locally relevant values are also conserved. (CBD/COP/DEC/14/8).
(Post-2020) Global Biodiversity Framework	(Self-evident from the context, so not included. Now re-named as the “Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework” – and this entry will be amended accordingly in the Bern Plan glossary).
Protected area	Protected area means a geographically defined area which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives. (CBD text, Article 2). A protected area is a clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values. (Dudley, N. (Editor) (2008). Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. x + 86pp. WITH Stolton, S., P. Shadie and N. Dudley (2013). IUCN WCPA Best Practice Guidance on Recognising Protected Areas and Assigning Management Categories and Governance Types, Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No.21, Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. xx pp., <a href="https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/pag-021.pdf">https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/pag-021.pdf</a> ).
Recovery	The restoration of natural processes and genetic, demographic, or ecological parameters of a population or species, with regard to its state at the initiation of the recovery activities. It also refers to its past local abundance, structure and dynamics, to resume its ecological and evolutionary role, and the consequent improvement regarding habitat quality. The Green Status assesses species against three essential facets of recovery: A species is fully recovered if it is present in all parts of its range, even those that are no longer occupied but were occupied prior to major human impacts/disruption; It is viable (i.e., not threatened with extinction) in all parts of the range; It is performing its ecological functions in all parts of the range. (IUCN, <a href="https://www.iucn.org/downloads/en_iucn_glossary_definitions.pdf">https://www.iucn.org/downloads/en_iucn_glossary_definitions.pdf</a> ; Akçakaya HR, Ferson S, Burgman MA, Keith DA, Mace GM, Todd CR. 2000. Making consistent IUCN classifications under uncertainty. Conservation Biology 14:1001–1013.).
Rehabilitation	(Not included).
Restoration	IPBES has defined restoration as “any intentional activity that initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem from a degraded state” (2019). This definition covers all forms and intensities of the degradation state and, in this sense, is inclusive of the definition adopted by the Society for Ecological Restoration.

	<p>(<a href="https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/fcd6/bfba/38ebc826221543e322173507/post2020-ws-2019-11-03-en.pdf">https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/fcd6/bfba/38ebc826221543e322173507/post2020-ws-2019-11-03-en.pdf</a>, also see the Ecosystem restoration: short term action plan - CBD/COP/DEC/XIII/5).</p> <p>Ecosystem restoration means “assisting in the recovery of ecosystems that have been degraded or destroyed, as well as conserving the ecosystems that are still intact”. Restoration can happen in many ways – for example, through actively planting or by removing pressures so that nature can recover on its own. It is not always possible – or desirable – to return an ecosystem to its original state. (United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, <a href="https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/what-ecosystem-restoration">https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/what-ecosystem-restoration</a>).</p>
Satisfactory conservation status	(Not mentioned – term is specific to the Bern Convention).
Semi-natural habitats/ ecosystems	(Not included).
Sustainable Development Goals	(Not included).
Sustainable use	<p>Not included in that way, but the glossary includes the following four terms:</p> <p>Sustainable agriculture and aquaculture: The vision of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for sustainable food and agriculture is one in which food is nutritious and accessible for everyone, and where natural resources are managed in a way that maintains ecosystem functions to support current, as well as future human needs. (FAO, <a href="http://www.fao.org/sustainability/background/en/">http://www.fao.org/sustainability/background/en/</a>).</p> <p>Sustainable forestry (management): In its broadest sense, sustainable forest management encompasses the administrative, legal, technical, economic, social and environmental aspects of the conservation and use of forests. It implies various degrees of human intervention, ranging from actions aimed at safeguarding and maintaining forest ecosystems and their functions to those favouring specific socially or economically valuable species or groups of species for the improved production of goods and services. In addition to forest products (comprising both wood and non-wood forest products), sustainably managed forests provide important ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, and the protection of water resources. (FAO, <a href="https://www.fao.org/sustainable-forests-management/en/">https://www.fao.org/sustainable-forests-management/en/</a>).</p> <p>Customary sustainable use: The uses of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements. (CBD, <a href="https://www.cbd.int/traditional/what.shtml">https://www.cbd.int/traditional/what.shtml</a>).</p> <p>Sustainable, legal, and safe for human health: Implies the harvesting, trade and use in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining the potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations (Convention, Article 2), respects international and national laws, is safe for human health, animal health and the environment (e.g. does not contribute to the spread of pathogens or invasive species).</p>
Threatened species	(Not included).

## MONITORING FRAMEWORK AND INDICATORS

The Monitoring Framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is a 26-page document, containing the COP adoption Decision (CBD/COP/DEC/15/5) and an introduction, followed by a list of over 300 indicators covering the different goals and targets in the Framework, categorised as “headline indicators”, “component indicators” or “complementary indicators”. A further list of global level “binary indicators” is included, to be considered for possible development during 2023.

Section F of the draft Bern Convention Strategic Plan (on Monitoring & Evaluation) notes that “a monitoring and evaluation regime is essential for reviewing progress, assessing whether the Strategic Plan is achieving what it set out to do and demonstrating its impact”; and that results at interim stages will inform a process of learning and adaptive management, to keep the Plan “on course” for the achievement of its targets and goals. The GBF Monitoring Framework refers to indicators allowing for “consistent, standardized and scalable tracking” of goals and targets, and notes that the data sources and indicators should be compiled and regularly updated with a time lag of less than five years between updates, if possible.

The Bern Plan further notes that “A key principle is to make as much use as possible of information from existing processes in the Bern Convention and in other related biodiversity monitoring systems, mindful that reporting can involve significant work for Parties and that no unnecessary burdens should be created”. It continues: “The alignment of the goals and targets in this Plan with the [Kunming-Montreal] Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) allows a close correspondence to be made with the Monitoring Framework for the GBF and the indicators defined there. This in turn reflects connections with the work of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and with indicators used for monitoring the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Duplication across these processes has thus been avoided”. In a similar spirit, the GBF Monitoring Framework notes that “when possible, indicators are aligned with existing intergovernmental processes under the Statistical Commission, such as the Sustainable Development Goals, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics or the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting”. In Decision 15/5, the CBD Parties have requested the CBD Secretariat to facilitate the use of relevant tools, including the Data Reporting Tool (DaRT), to facilitate national reporting and the sharing of information between multilateral environment agreements.

Behind both the Bern Convention Strategic Plan’s list of suggested indicators and the GBF Monitoring Framework lie other documents providing more detailed “metadata” on each of the indicators concerned; and both processes foresee the development of guidance materials to assist with implementation. Work is also planned to develop further options for monitoring those components of the goals and targets in both frameworks for which operational indicators are not yet in place. In the meantime, the table beginning on the next page (working simply with the short *titles* of the indicators concerned) signposts the main correspondences between the two frameworks.

Indicators proposed in the 8th draft Bern Convention Strategic Plan	Main corresponding or potentially related indicators in the GBF Monitoring Framework
<p><b>Indicators for Target 1.1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.1.a Trends in extent and condition of selected habitat and ecosystem types.</li> <li>• 1.1.b Extent of degraded ecosystems under restoration (by ecosystem type).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Headline indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A.1 Red List of Ecosystems</li> <li>• A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems</li> <li>• 2.2 Area under restoration</li> </ul> <p><b>Component/ complementary/ binary indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecosystem Intactness Index</li> <li>• Ecosystem Integrity Index</li> <li>• Protected Connected (Protconn) index</li> <li>• Parc connectedness</li> <li>• Maintenance and restoration of connectivity of natural ecosystems</li> <li>• Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time</li> <li>• Change in the quality of inland water ecosystems over time</li> <li>• Change in the quality of coastal water ecosystems over time</li> <li>• Priority retention of intact / wilderness areas</li> <li>• Extent of natural ecosystems by type</li> <li>• Habitat distributional range</li> <li>• Forest area as a proportion of total land area</li> <li>• Forest distribution</li> <li>• Tree cover loss</li> <li>• Increase in secondary natural forest cover</li> <li>• Wetland Extent Trends Index</li> <li>• Change in the extent of inland water ecosystems over time</li> <li>• Peatland extent and condition</li> <li>• Mountain Green Cover Index</li> <li>• Permafrost thickness, depth and extent</li> <li>• Global Seagrass Extent (Seagrass Cover and composition)</li> <li>• Global saltmarsh extent</li> <li>• Kelp canopy extent</li> <li>• Macroalgal Canopy Cover and Composition</li> <li>• Cover of key benthic groups</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fleshy algae cover</li> <li>• Forest Fragmentation Index</li> <li>• Forest Landscape Integrity Index</li> <li>• Relative Magnitude of Fragmentation (RMF)</li> <li>• Ecosystem Intactness Index</li> <li>• Biodiversity Intactness Index</li> <li>• Ocean Health Index</li> <li>• Extent of physical damage indicator to predominant seafloor habitats physical damage</li> <li>• River Fragmentation Index</li> <li>• Dendritic Connectivity Index</li> <li>• CMS Connectivity Indicator</li> <li>• Intact Wilderness</li> <li>• Free flowing rivers</li> <li>• Global Ecosystem Restoration Index</li> <li>• Priority retention of intact / wilderness areas</li> <li>• Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality</li> <li>• Level of water stress</li> </ul>
<b>Indicator for Target 1.2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.2 Emerald Network Sufficiency Index.</li> </ul>	[No equivalent – this is specific to Bern].
<b>Indicator for Target 1.3:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.3 Extent to which protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) cover Emerald Network sites.</li> </ul>	<b>Headline indicator:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.1 Coverage of protected areas and OECMs</li> </ul> <b>Component/ complementary/ binary indicators:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of Key Biodiversity Areas</li> <li>• Protected area coverage of key biodiversity areas</li> <li>• Proportion of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecological regions which are conserved by protected areas or other effective area-based conservation measures</li> <li>• Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME)</li> <li>• ProtConn</li> <li>• Protected Area Connectedness Index (PARC-Connectedness)</li> <li>• Red List of Ecosystems</li> <li>• Connectivity Indicator (in development)</li> <li>• Habitat patches located within marine protected areas or integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of protected areas that have completed a site-level assessment of governance and equity (SAGE)</li> <li>• Protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PD)</li> <li>• IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas</li> <li>• Protected area and OECM management effectiveness (MEPCA) indicator</li> <li>• Protected Area Isolation Index (PAI)</li> <li>• Protected Areas Network metric (ProNet)</li> <li>• Extent to which protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) cover Key Biodiversity Areas that are important for migratory species</li> <li>• Species Protection Index</li> </ul>
<b>Indicator for Target 1.4:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.4 Contribution of the Emerald Network to the conservation status of species and habitats.</li> </ul>	[No equivalent – this is specific to Bern].
<b>Indicators for Target 1.5:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.5.a [Indicator based on statistics concerning Case File recommendations (e.g. proportion implemented, partially implemented, not yet implemented)].</li> <li>• 1.5.b [Indicator based on statistics concerning numbers of Case Files (e.g. numbers per country; number of years each case has been on Standing Committee agendas)].</li> </ul>	[No equivalent – this is specific to Bern].
<b>Indicators for Target 2.1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.1.a Conservation status of species, as reported under Resolution No. 8 (2012).</li> <li>• 2.1.b Red List Index for selected species in the Bern Convention area.</li> <li>• 2.1.c Living Planet Index for selected species in the Bern Convention area.</li> <li>• 2.1.d Wild Bird Index for selected species in the Bern Convention area.</li> </ul>	<b>Headline indicators:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A.3 Red List Index</li> <li>• A.4 The proportion of populations within species with an effective population size &gt; 500</li> </ul> <b>Component/ complementary/ binary indicators:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living Planet Index</li> <li>• Percentage of threatened species that are improving in status according to the Red List</li> <li>• Wild bird index</li> <li>• Red List Index (wild relatives of domesticated animals)</li> <li>• Red List Index (pollinating species)</li> <li>• Species Status Index</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of threatened species by species group</li> <li>• Mean Species Abundance (MSA)</li> <li>• Species Protection Index</li> <li>• Fish abundance and biomass</li> <li>• Species richness/Changes in local terrestrial diversity (PREDICTS)</li> <li>• Marine species richness</li> <li>• Expected Loss of Phylogenetic diversity</li> <li>• Proportion of populations maintained within species</li> <li>• Species threat abatement and restoration metric</li> <li>• Changing status of evolutionary distinct and globally endangered species (EDGE Index)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicator for Target 2.2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.2 Trends in frequency and intensity of key anthropogenic pressures impacting on wild species of fauna and flora, including as reported under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and the EU nature Directives.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Headline indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels</li> <li>• 6.1 Rate of invasive alien species establishment</li> <li>• 7.1 Index of coastal eutrophication potential</li> <li>• 7.2 Pesticide environment concentration</li> <li>• 18.2 Value of subsidies and other incentives harmful to biodiversity that have been eliminated, phased out or reformed</li> </ul> <p><b>Component/ complementary/ binary indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation status of species listed in the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved</li> <li>• Red List Index for used species</li> <li>• Red List Index (for internationally traded species)</li> <li>• Living Planet Index for used species</li> <li>• Sustainable use of Wild Species</li> <li>• Rate of invasive species impact and rate of impact</li> <li>• Rate of invasive alien species spread</li> <li>• Number of invasive alien species introduction events</li> <li>• Red List Index (impacts of invasive alien species)</li> <li>• Number of invasive alien species in national lists as per the Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species</li> <li>• Number of countries adopting relevant national legislation and adequately resourcing the prevention or control of invasive alien species</li> <li>• Rate of invasive alien species establishment</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trends in abundance, temporal occurrence, and spatial distribution of non-indigenous species, particularly invasive, non-indigenous species, notably in risk areas (in relation to the main vectors and pathways of spreading of such species)</li> <li>• Fertilizer use</li> <li>• Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flow safely treated</li> <li>• Floating plastic debris density [by micro and macro plastics]</li> <li>• Red List Index (impact of pollution)</li> <li>• Bioclimatic Ecosystem Resilience Index (BERI)</li> <li>• Sustainable watershed and inland fisheries index</li> <li>• Red List Index (for internationally traded species and for migratory species)</li> <li>• Marine Stewardship Council Fish catch</li> <li>• Total catch of cetaceans under International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling</li> <li>• By catch of vulnerable and non-target species</li> <li>• Degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing</li> <li>• Proportion of legal and illegal wildlife trade consisting of species threatened with extinction</li> <li>• Illegal trade by CITES species classification</li> <li>• Implementation of measures designed to minimize the impacts of fisheries and hunting on migratory species and their habitats</li> <li>• Number of MSC Chain of Custody Certification holders by distribution country</li> <li>• Trends of trade and commercialization in biodiversity-based products that is sustainable and legal (in line with BioTrade Principles and/or CITES requirements)</li> <li>• Trends in Loss of Reactive Nitrogen to the Environment.</li> <li>• Trends in Nitrogen Deposition</li> <li>• Hazardous waste generation</li> <li>• Trends in the amount of litter in the water column including microplastics and on the seafloor</li> <li>• Index of coastal eutrophication; (b) plastic debris density</li> <li>• Air pollution emissions account</li> <li>• Zoonotic disease in wildlife</li> <li>• Climatic impact index</li> <li>• Ocean acidification</li> <li>• Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources</li> <li>• Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality</li> <li>• Red List of Ecosystems</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Underwater noise pollution</li> <li>• Name, amount/ volume/ concentration of highly hazardous pesticides by type (per land/marine area)</li> <li>• Pesticide use per area of cropland</li> <li>• Degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing</li> <li>• Ecological Footprint</li> <li>• Level of erosion</li> <li>• Value of subsidies and other incentives harmful to biodiversity, that are redirected, repurposed or eliminated</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators for Target 3.1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.1.a Nature-based quality of life assessment (qualitative summary overview).</li> <li>• 3.1.b Trends in air quality.</li> <li>• 3.1.c Trends in water quality.</li> </ul>	<b>Headline indicators:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• B.1 Services provided by ecosystems</li> <li>• 9.1 Benefits from the sustainable use of wild species</li> <li>• 12.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is green/blue space for public use for all</li> </ul> <b>Component/ complementary/ binary indicators:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of people using wild resources for energy, food or culture (including firewood collection, hunting and fishing, gathering, medicinal use, craft making, etc.)</li> <li>• Green status index (pollinators)</li> <li>• Maximum fish catch potential</li> <li>• Spawning stock biomass (related to commercially exploited species)</li> <li>• Forestry Production &amp; Trade (Wood Fuel)</li> <li>• Number of countries using natural capital accounts in planning processes</li> <li>• Recreation and cultural ecosystem services provided</li> <li>• Air quality index</li> <li>• Air emission accounts</li> <li>• Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution (SDG indicator 3.9.1)</li> </ul>
<b>Indicator for Target 3.2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.2 Single review assessment of the contribution made by the conservation and sustainable use of nature under the Bern Convention to other fields of action under the Council of Europe.</li> </ul>	<p>[Correspondence not generally expected, as Target 3.2 is specific to the Bern Convention].</p> <b>Component/ complementary/ binary indicators:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of countries with national targets for integrating biodiversity values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts at all levels, ensuring that biodiversity values are mainstreamed across all sectors and integrated into assessments of environmental impacts</li> </ul>
<b>Indicator for Target 3.3:</b>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.3 Number of initiatives involving nature-based solutions or ecosystem-based approaches as reported in Nationally Determined Contributions under the UNFCCC, with ecosystem extent data where available.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Component/ complementary/ binary indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of countries with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications that reflect biodiversity</li> </ul>
<p><b>Indicator for Target 4.1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.1 Resources and capacity available at international level for implementing the Strategic Plan, as assessed for each financial planning period by the Standing Committee.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Headline indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance (ODA) for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems</li> <li>D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems</li> <li>D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems</li> <li>18.1 Positive incentives in place to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use</li> </ul> <p><b>Component/ complementary/ binary indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amount and composition of biodiversity-related finance reported to the OECD Creditor reporting system</li> <li>Amount of biodiversity-related philanthropic funding</li> <li>Number of countries (and number of instruments) with payments for ecosystem services (PES) programmes</li> <li>Number of countries that have (a) Assessed values of biodiversity, in accordance with the Convention, (b) Identified and reported funding needs, gaps and priorities (c) Developed national financial plans for biodiversity; (d) Been provided with the necessary funding and capacity-building to undertake the above activities</li> <li>Number of countries with biodiversity-relevant taxes</li> <li>Number of countries with biodiversity-relevant charges and fees</li> <li>Finance mobilized for capacity-building</li> </ul>