

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
39th Meeting of the CEPF Donor Council
Virtual Meeting
Wednesday 15 December 2021
8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST)**

**How CEPF Can Take Advantage of the CBD COP 15
and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework**

Recommended Action Item:

The Donor Council is asked to approve the plan for CEPF to promote itself as a relevant delivery mechanism in the context of the new post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework that will be adopted at COP 15 in Kunming.

Background

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is negotiating a new post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework that will set the global agenda for biodiversity conservation for the next decade. COP 15 is taking place in two parts: a hybrid in-person and virtual opening that occurred in October 2021; and an in-person conference in Kunming, China in late April 2022, where negotiations will be completed, and the Framework adopted. The first part of COP 15 focused on raising the political profile and building momentum.

The highlights of the first part of COP 15 included:

- Kunming Declaration: The Government of China held a **High-Level Segment**, where heads of state gathered to discuss the need for an ambitious response to the biodiversity crisis. The major political outcome of this event was the [Kunming Declaration](#), which demonstrated political momentum and existing points of commitment towards the framework. Among other things, the declaration included a commitment to “enable the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, civil society, local governments and authorities, academia, the business and financial sectors, and other relevant stakeholders [...] to build the momentum for the implementation of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework.”
- Commitments: President Xi Jinping announced a ¥1.5 billion (US\$230 million) fund to protect biodiversity in developing countries, as well as an expansion of China’s national parks and renewable energy systems.

What is next for the new Global Biodiversity Framework?

- The final round of preparatory negotiations will take place in Geneva in January 2022. This will be the most important opportunity that NGOs will have to advance their objectives before the final negotiations.
- The final agreement will be made in Kunming in April 2022.
- The position of big conservation NGOs, including Conservation International, is that a strong framework needs to have nature's role in meeting people's needs clearly articulated in the goals, targets and monitoring components, with a specific focus on maintaining the places most essential for human well-being.

Proposed Future Direction

CEPF does not have the mandate, nor the capacity, to engage in the negotiations related to the new post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Conservation International has a team that is fully dedicated to this task and can assist CEPF in positioning itself as a solution that can be delivered rapidly and effectively.

During the first part of COP 15 in Kunming, as was the case at the UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow, important pledges have been made by governments, private sector partners and philanthropic foundations. In Kunming, as in Glasgow, the international community has clearly expressed its desire to see funding supporting Indigenous people, local communities and national NGOs to protect nature and make it a key element of the fight against climate change. CEPF is a delivery mechanism that has 20 years of experience in supporting the development of civil society organizations, local communities and Indigenous people to protect biodiversity in over 100 countries worldwide. It is a mechanism that can rapidly be scaled up to cover more biodiversity hotspots should funding from new sources become available.

During the second part of COP 15, a major concern of donors pledging new funding will be to find effective delivery mechanisms. CEPF proposes to attract the attention of various donors who support biodiversity conservation by highlighting its capacity to deliver results rapidly on the ground through the empowerment of local civil society organizations, local communities and Indigenous people.

The members of the CEPF Donor Council can play a key role in making donor countries, agencies, and foundations aware of CEPF's track record and ability to rapidly deploy new funding towards impact through the work of local and national civil society organizations.

Of the 21 targets that are part of the draft post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, CEPF could be considered a delivery mechanism fully or partially relevant to 17 of them:

Target 1

Ensure that all land and sea areas globally are under integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning addressing land- and sea-use change, retaining existing intact and wilderness areas.

Target 2

Ensure that at least 20% of degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial ecosystems are

under restoration, ensuring connectivity among them and focusing on priority ecosystems.

Target 3

Ensure that at least 30% globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative, and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.

Target 4

Ensure active management actions to enable the recovery and conservation of species and the genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species, including through ex situ conservation, and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to avoid or reduce human-wildlife conflict.

Target 5

Ensure that the harvesting, trade and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe for human health.

Target 6

Manage pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species, preventing, or reducing, their rate of introduction and establishment by at least 50%, and control or eradicate invasive alien species to eliminate or reduce their impacts, focusing on priority species and priority sites.

Target 8

Minimize the impact of climate change on biodiversity, contribute to mitigation and adaptation through ecosystem-based approaches, contributing at least 10 GtCO_{2e} per year to global mitigation efforts, and ensure that all mitigation and adaptation efforts avoid negative impacts on biodiversity.

Target 9

Ensure benefits, including nutrition, food security, medicines, and livelihoods for people, especially for the most vulnerable, through sustainable management of wild terrestrial, freshwater and marine species and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.

Target 10

Ensure all areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, in particular through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, increasing the productivity and resilience of these production systems.

Target 11

Maintain and enhance nature's contributions to the regulation of air quality, quality and quantity of water, and protection from hazards and extreme events for all people.

Target 12

Increase the area of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces, for human health and well-being in urban areas and other densely populated areas.

Target 13

Implement measures at a global level and in all countries to facilitate access to genetic resources and to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, and as relevant, of associated traditional knowledge, including through mutually agreed terms and prior and informed consent.

Target 14

Fully integrate biodiversity values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies, accounts, and assessments of environmental impacts at all levels of government and across all sectors of the economy, ensuring that all activities and financial flows are aligned with biodiversity values.

Target 15

All businesses (public and private, large, medium, and small) assess and report on their dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, from local to global, and progressively reduce negative impacts by at least half and increase positive impacts, reducing biodiversity-related risks to businesses and moving towards the full sustainability of extraction and production practices, sourcing and supply chains, and use and disposal.

Target 19

Increase financial resources from all sources to at least US\$200 billion per year, including new, additional and effective financial resources, increasing by at least US\$10 billion per year international financial flows to developing countries, leveraging private finance, and increasing domestic resource mobilization, taking into account national biodiversity finance planning, and strengthen capacity-building and technology transfer and scientific cooperation, to meet the needs for implementation, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the framework.

Target 20

Ensure that relevant knowledge, including the traditional knowledge, innovations, and practices of indigenous and local communities with their free, prior, and informed consent, guides decision-making for the effective management of biodiversity, enabling monitoring, and by promoting awareness, education, and research.

Target 21

Ensure equitable and effective participation in decision-making related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, and respect their rights over lands, territories, and resources, as well as by women and girls, and youth.