



# Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

**For Prelims:** UNCCD, COP15, Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

**For Mains:** Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Outcomes of COP 15, Environmental Pollution & Degradation

## Why in News?

Recently, at the 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity “**Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**” (**GBF**) was adopted.

- GBF includes 4 goals and 23 targets for achievement by 2030.
- The U.N. biodiversity conference concluded in Canada's Montreal.
- The first part of **COP 15 took place in Kunming, China and reinforced the commitment to address the biodiversity crisis** and the [Kunming Declaration](#) was adopted by over 100 countries.

## // Decoding the 23 targets set at COP15

A total of 196 countries have signed a historic deal to protect 30% of the world for nature by 2030 in Montreal

### REDUCING THREATS TO BIODIVERSITY

- 1) Halting biodiversity loss:** Bringing the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance close to zero, while respecting the rights of indigenous people
- 2) Effective restoration:** At least 30% of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems are under effective restoration
- 3) Mapping linkages:** Sustainable use of above areas is consistent with conservation outcomes
- 4) Saving endangered species:** Urgent steps to halt human induced extinction of threatened species; maintain their diversity through in situ and ex situ conservation
- 5) Protecting wild species:** Sustainable, safe and legal use of wild species; preventing overexploitation
- 6) Invasive alien species:** Mitigating their impacts by reducing rates of introduction by 50%; controlling them in priority sites such as islands
- 7) Tackling pollution:** Reduce pollution risks to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions
- 8) Climate crisis:** Minimise impact of climate change and ocean acidification through nature-based solutions



Monitored wildlife populations have seen a 69% drop on average since '70, say WWF, LPF

### MEETING HUMAN REQUIREMENTS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE USE

- 9) Serving humans:** Ensure use of wild species yields benefits for humans, especially for those most dependent on biodiversity
- 10) Ecosystem productivity:** Sustainable management of areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry for resilience and long-term productivity
- 11) Handling nature's contributions:** Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people through regulation of air, water, and climate
- 12) Biodiversity in urban fabric:** Increase the area and quality and connectivity of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas
- 13) Sharing genetic resources:** Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures to ensure equal sharing of benefits of genetic resources



Indigenous rights have been included in one-third of the new framework's targets

### TOOLS AND SOLUTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINSTREAMING

- 14) Policy-making:** Integration of biodiversity and its values into policies across all levels of govt, other sectors
- 15) Legal perils for businesses:** Regular assessments by transnational firms of their risks, dependencies, impacts on biodiversity; report on compliance with regulations
- 16) Making eco-friendly choices:** Encouraging people to make sustainable consumption choices, reduce global footprint of consumption
- 17) Biosecurity measures:** Adopting such steps for handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits
- 18) Removal of harmful incentives:** Identify by 2025, and eliminate/reform incentives harmful for biodiversity; cut them by \$500 bn per year by 2030
- 19) Biodiversity finance:** Increasing financial resources, mobilising \$200 billion per year by 2030
- 20) Technical cooperation:** Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology
- 21) Sharing knowledge:** Access to information by decision makers, practitioners and public; access to technologies of indigenous peoples only with their consent
- 22) Equal representation:** Ensuring equitable representation in decision-making
- 23) Gender based review:** A gender-responsive approach by recognising women's rights and access to natural resources



Signatories aim to ensure \$200bn per year is channelled to conservation initiatives

## What are the Key Targets of the GBF?

- **30x30 Deal:**
  - **Restore 30% degraded ecosystems** globally (on land and sea) by 2030
  - **Conserve and manage 30% areas** (terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine) by 2030
- **Stop the extinction of known species, and by 2050** reduce tenfold the extinction risk and rate of all species (including unknown)
- **Reduce risk from pesticides by at least 50% by 2030**
- Reduce nutrients lost to the environment by at least 50% by 2030
- **Reduce pollution risks and negative impacts of pollution** from all sources by 2030 to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions
- **Reduce global footprint of consumption by 2030**, including through significantly reducing overconsumption and waste generation and halving food waste
- **Sustainably manage areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry** and substantially increase agroecology and other biodiversity-friendly practices
- Tackle climate change through nature-based solutions
- Reduce the rate of introduction and establishment of invasive alien species by at least 50% by 2030
- Secure the safe, legal and sustainable use and trade of wild species by 2030
- Green up urban spaces

## What are the Other Major Outcomes of COP15?

- **Money for Nature:**
  - Signatories aim to **ensure USD200 billion per year is channelled to conservation initiatives, from public and private sources.**
  - Wealthier countries should contribute at least USD20 billions of this every year by 2025, and at least USD30 billion a year by 2030.
- **Big Companies Report Impacts on Biodiversity:**
  - Companies should analyse and report how their operations affect and are affected by biodiversity issues.
  - The parties agreed to large companies and financial institutions being subject to “requirements” to make disclosures regarding their operations, supply chains and portfolios.
- **Harmful Subsidies:**
  - **Countries committed to identify subsidies that deplete biodiversity by 2025**, and then eliminate, phase out or reform them.
  - They agreed to slash those incentives by at least USD500 billion a year by 2030 and increase incentives that are positive for conservation.
- **Monitoring and reporting progress:**
  - All the agreed aims will be supported by processes to monitor progress in the future, in a bid to prevent this agreement meeting the same fate as similar targets that were agreed in Aichi, Japan, in 2010, and never met.
  - **National action plans will be set and reviewed**, following a similar format used for greenhouse gas emissions under U.N.-led efforts to curb climate change. Some observers objected to the lack of a deadline for countries to submit these plans.

## How India Presented its Demands at the Conference?

- India called for an **urgent need to create a new and dedicated fund to help developing countries successfully implement a [post-2020 global framework](#)** to halt and reverse biodiversity loss.
  - So far, the **[Global Environment Facility](#)** which caters to multiple conventions, including the **[UNFCCC](#)** and **[UN Convention to Combat Desertification](#)**, remains the only source of funding for biodiversity conservation.
- India also said that **conservation of biodiversity must also be based on 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities' (CBDR)** as climate change also

impacts nature.

- According to India, **developing countries bear most of the burden of implementing the targets for conserving biodiversity** and, therefore, require adequate funding and technology transfer.

## What is the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)?

- CBD is a legally binding treaty to conserve biodiversity that **has been in force since 1993** and has been ratified by 196 nations.
- It **sets out guidelines for countries to protect biodiversity**, ensure sustainable use, and promote fair and equitable benefit sharing.
- It aims at achieving a **historic deal to halt and reverse biodiversity loss on par with the [2015 Paris Agreement](#) on climate change.**
- The **CBD Secretariat is based in Montreal, Canada.**
- The Parties (Countries) under CBD, **meet at regular intervals and these meetings are called Conference of Parties (COP).**
- In 2000, a supplementary agreement to the **Convention known as the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety** was adopted. It came into force on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2003.
  - The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology.
- The **Nagoya Protocol** on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ABS) was adopted in 2010 in **Nagoya, Japan at COP10**. It entered into force on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2014.
  - It not only applies to genetic resources that are covered by the CBD, and to the benefits arising from their utilization but also covers traditional knowledge (TK) associated with genetic resources that are covered by the CBD and the benefits arising from its utilization.
- **The COP-10 also adopted a ten-year framework for action** by all countries to save biodiversity. Officially known as **“Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020”**, it provided a set of 20 ambitious yet achievable targets collectively known as the **Aichi Targets for biodiversity.**
- India enacted **[Biological Diversity Act in 2002](#)** for giving effect to the provisions of the CBD.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

**Q. “Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now” is an initiative launched by (2018)**

- (a) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- (b) The UNEP Secretariat
- (c) The UNFCCC Secretariat
- (d) The World Meteorological Organisation

**Ans: (c)**

- “Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now”, is an initiative launched by the UNFCCC secretariat in 2015.
- The initiative is a pillar under Momentum for Change which seeks to achieve climate neutrality.
- Climate neutrality is a three step process, which requires individuals, companies and governments to measure their climate footprint; reduce their emissions as much as possible and offset what they cannot reduce with UN certified emission reductions. Therefore, option (c) is the correct answer.

**Source: TH**

