

India's Biodiversity Target Under CBD

For Prelims: National Biodiversity Targets, Convention on Biological Diversity, Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Invasive Alien Species, Fair and Equitable Sharing, Sustainable Development Goals, Marine Ecosystem, Coastal Ecosystem, Aichi Biodiversity Targets (2011-2020), Seagrass Meadows, Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs).

For Mains: Significance of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, India's biodiversity targets.

Source: HT

Why in News?

Recently, India plans to submit its <u>National Biodiversity Targets</u> to the <u>United Nations Convention</u> <u>on Biological Diversity (CBD)</u> aligning with the <u>Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</u> (KMGBF).

- Article 6 of CBD calls all parties to prepare national strategies, plans or programmes for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- India is expected to submit its 23 biodiversity targets at the 16th Conference of the Parties to the CBD (CBD-COP 16) at Cali, Colombia.

What is India's Biodiversity Target Under CBD?

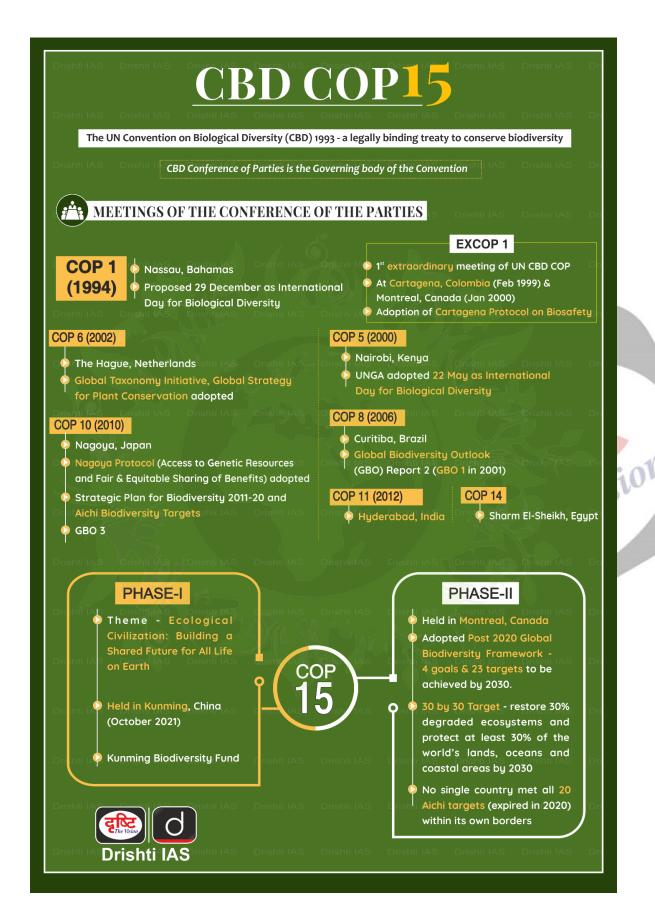
- Conservation Areas: Aiming for 30% of areas to be effectively conserved to enhance biodiversity.
- Invasive Species Management: Targeting a 50% reduction in the introduction and establishment of invasive alien species.
- **Rights and Participation**: Ensuring the participation and rights of **indigenous peoples**, local communities, women, and youth in biodiversity conservation efforts.
- Sustainable Consumption: Enabling sustainable consumption choices and reducing food waste by half.
- Benefit Sharing: Promoting <u>fair and equitable sharing</u> of benefits from genetic resources, digital sequence information, and associated <u>traditional knowledge</u>.
- Pollution Reduction: Committing to reduce pollution, halving nutrient loss and pesticide risk.
- **Biodiversity Planning**: Ensuring that all areas are managed to reduce the loss of regions of high biodiversity importance.

What is the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)?

- About: It is a multilateral treaty aimed at halting and reversing biodiversity loss globally by 2030.
 - It was adopted in **December 2022** during the **15th meeting** of the Conference of the

- Parties (CoP).
- It supports the <u>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</u> and builds upon the achievements and lessons learned from the <u>Strategic Plan for Biodiversity</u> 2011-2020.
- Purpose and Goals: It ensures that by 2030 at least 30% of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems are under effective restoration.
 - It has **23 action-oriented** global targets for urgent action over the decade to 2030 which will enable achievement towards the outcome-oriented goals for 2050.
 - It is important to note that this target refers to **collective global efforts** rather than a requirement for **each country** to allocate **30%** of its land and water areas.
- **Long-Term Vision:** The framework envisions that by **2050**, there will be a collective commitment to living in **harmony with nature**, serving as a foundational guide for current actions and policies on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.





Development of National Biodiversity Targets (NBTs)

Aichi Biodiversity Targets: In response to the CBD obligations, India has developed 12 national biodiversity targets (NBTs) that align with the previous <u>Aichi Biodiversity Targets</u> (2011-2020).

- National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP): It was originally created in 2008 and updated in 2014 to incorporate Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- Monitoring: Associated indicators and monitoring framework has also been developed by India
 to provide a roadmap for achieving the NBTs.

How India Can Achieve the New Biodiversity Goals?

- Habitat Connectivity: India needs to prioritise the conservation of neglected ecosystems such as grasslands, wetlands, and seagrass meadows.
 - Well-connected protected areas integrated into broader landscapes and seascapes can facilitate the movement of species and promote biodiversity.
- Mobilising Financial Resources: India should continue to advocate for financial support from developed nations to implement its national biodiversity action plans effectively.
 - The GBF calls for developed countries to mobilise at least USD 20 billion annually by 2025 and USD 30 billion by 2030 for biodiversity initiatives in developing countries.
- Co-Management Models: Developing co-management frameworks that involve indigenous peoples and local communities in the conservation process can enhance the effectiveness of protected areas while maintaining community livelihoods.
- Integrating OECMs: Shifting focus from traditional protected areas to other effective areabased conservation measures (OECMs) allows for the conservation of biodiversity in areas with fewer restrictions on human activity.
 - It includes supporting traditional agricultural systems and privately owned lands that contribute to conservation goals.
- **Reforming Agricultural Subsidies:** India should redirect support from harmful practices, such as **pesticide use**, to sustainable alternatives that promote ecosystem health.
- Alignment with Previous Targets: Building on the existing National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) and aligning it with the new 23 targets of the GBF will create a cohesive strategy for biodiversity conservation in India.

Conclusion

India's commitment to the **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** through its 23 biodiversity targets reflects a **strategic approach** to conserving ecosystems and enhancing community participation. By prioritising neglected habitats, mobilising resources, and reforming subsidies, India can effectively work towards achieving its biodiversity goals by 2030.

Drishti Mains Question:

Discuss the significance of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) for global biodiversity conservation.

UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

<u>Prelims</u>

- Q. With reference to 'Global Environment Facility', which of the following statements is/are correct?
- (a) It serves as financial mechanism for 'Convention on Biological Diversity' and 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change'
- (b) It undertakes scientific research on environmental issues at global level

- (c) It is an agency under OECD to facilitate the transfer of technology and funds to underdeveloped countries with specific aim to protect their environment
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

Ans: (a)

- 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)

Mains

Q. How is the Government of India protecting traditional knowledge of medicine from patenting by pharmaceutical companies? **(2019)**

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/india-s-biodiversity-target-under-cbd