

MAKE SPACE FOR LIFE: THE CASE FOR AMBITIOUS SPATIAL TARGETS IN THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

AVAAZ

Avaaz's Listening Document
for the Geneva meetings of the
Convention on Biological Diversity
(SBSTTA-24, SBI-3, and OEWG-3)
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LAST CALLS GENEVA
SPATIAL TARGETS

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A LETTER FROM AVAAZ MAKE SPACE FOR LIFE



6' READ

Excellencies,

A lot has happened since the last time you were able to all meet together physically, to engage in the crucial task of developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

We at Avaaz believe that the triple meeting of Geneva is extremely important, as we cannot afford to have a weak or half-baked post-2020 framework. There is still an important amount of work to be done on many important points, and we know you have come prepared for this. Geneva will set the tone for the remainder of the post-2020 process up until COP15, and will show us where the ambition of the international community actually is.

For biodiversity, we know from the works of IPBES and many other sources of knowledge that action is necessary on *all* drivers (both “direct” and “indirect”) that lead to its loss. The vision embedded in the successive drafts of the post-2020 framework is reflecting this: the 21 action targets constitute a diverse policy mix in which they are all crucial. While preventing harmful pressures from intensive practices in production-oriented seascapes and landscapes, we must also urgently find ways to better protect the places that harbour the richest biodiversity, as well as restore degraded ecosystems.

Since the last time you met in Rome two years ago, several international meetings have recognised the importance of protecting and restoring ecosystems, both for biodiversity and climate. In September 2021, during the World Conservation Congress, IUCN members have adopted the resolution WCC 2020 Res 125 ([Setting area-based conservation targets based on evidence of what nature and people need to thrive](#)) and called for the recognition of the science supporting that “protecting, conserving and restoring at **least half or more** of the planet is likely necessary to reverse biodiversity loss, address climate change and as a foundation for sus-

tainably managing the whole planet” (stressed by us). More recently, during the UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow, Parties emphasised “the importance of protecting, conserving and restoring nature and ecosystems to achieve the Paris Agreement temperature goal” (decision 1/CMA.3, paragraph 38). And now more than 2.5 million citizens [have called on world leaders](#) to protect half the planet. The growing impacts of climate change make this even more necessary: the latest assessment of the IPCC’s Working Group II, released February 28, 2022, reports with high confidence that “maintaining the resilience of biodiversity and ecosystem services at a global scale depends on effective and equitable conservation of approximately 30% to 50% of Earth’s land, freshwater and ocean areas, including currently near-natural ecosystems”¹.

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework is where this vision must be set in motion. Unfortunately, given the urgent, intersecting imperatives of conserving biodiversity and mitigating climate change, the initially proposed numbers for Target 3 (30% by 2030), were already too low. And they were further questioned by several Parties that asked to bring them even lower during the online discussions of OEWS-3. Geneva is where you must stop this race to the bottom, and recall in Target 3 that protected areas and other effective conservation measures (OECMs) should cover 50% of the planet’s surface by 2030. The ecological emergency demands this.

While getting the record straight on the “how much”, we also need to be clear on the “how”. Much progress is still needed, worldwide, on the equity and effectiveness of how such measures are implemented. Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities are being more and more mentioned during high-level segments by Heads of States, but we have yet to see proof that they are being considered as real partners and that their rights are being recognized and respect-

¹ Pörtner, H.-O., Roberts, D. C., et al. (2022). Climate Change 2022. Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Summary for Policymakers of Working Group II contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 27th February 2022. Available https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg2/pdf/IPCC_AR6_WGII_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf

MAKE SPACE FOR LIFE:
OPEN LETTER TO
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ed. Protected areas have also too often been established not in the places where they would be useful, but rather in places that were not very interesting for the productive sectors. And too often, with not enough human or financial resources to properly govern and manage them.

The post-2020 framework is the opportunity to do much better both on the how much and the how. In this paper we are sharing recommendations on how this could be reflected in the texts that will be negotiated in Geneva.

We know full well that implementing policies that are positive for biodiversity is extremely difficult in all of our countries. But at the CBD, you must set the global ambition where it should be in order to make enough space for life on Earth, so that biodiversity is not further lost and can be restored over the next decades. **The global goals and targets are *not* to be translated “as is” at the national level:** how to distribute the efforts effectively and equitably is what you will need to work on when developing your own national targets and when regularly reviewing where global action stands and how you could work together to do better. Discussions on implementation will surely have to occur more often and more seriously in the coming years, and address the distribution of efforts up front. Luckily, the responsibility and transparency mechanisms that you will also be discussing in Geneva can be the space to do just that. As for now: it is the time to get the ambition right.

With hope and determination,

The Avaaz Community



MARSEILLE, France.— During the 2020 IUCN Congress, Avaaz members and Indigenous leaders recreate an ecological theme in a living version of the iconic painting “La Liberté guidant le peuple” of Eugène Delacroix, calling for at least half of the planet conserved by 2030, where Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities play a leading role.

OUR CASE TO MAKE SPACE FOR LIFE, WE NEED SOLID SCIENCE- BASED TARGETS AND AN IMPLEMENTATION ROOTED IN LOCAL LEADERSHIP



12' READ

There is no one silver bullet to stop and revert biodiversity loss. It was recently estimated that none of the 21 Action Targets proposed in the First Draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (GBF) could, alone, contribute to more than 15% to achieving its Goal A². This is the hard truth: there is no easy fix to this ecological emergency. We need to work across sectors and across groups of actors to bring the necessary changes.

In other papers, Avaaz discusses the importance of rights-based approaches, especially for **Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (PLCs)**, of **the deep economic transformations that we need** to stop the drivers destroying biodiversity, of how approaches **addressing gender inequalities are key**, and of having **a robust transparency and compliance mechanism** to better work collectively.

In this paper we insist on why ambitious spatial targets are necessary for the post-2020 GBF, and why at least 50% of the Earth should benefit from a conservation status.

PROTECTION IS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE EARTH IS BEING STEAMROLLED BY INDUSTRIAL USE

Humans have always tightly interacted with their surroundings, and have likely shaped most of the terrestrial biosphere in the last 12,000 years at least³. The source of the biodiversity crisis we're in the middle of is *not* because of human interactions with other species *per se*, but is rather “the appropriation, colonisation, and intensifying use of lands already inhabited, used, and reshaped by current and prior societies”⁴. In other words, the problem is the widespread replacement (very often through different

forms of oppression) of sustainable modes of coexistence of humans and terrestrial and marine ecosystems by intensive, industrial, extractive ways to occupy the Earth. This started a few centuries ago and has accelerated throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Land – and sea – use change is thus the first driver of biodiversity loss according to IPBES⁵, and it is easy to understand why: most of these changes (conversion to intensive agriculture for example) destroy or degrade habitats. We are simply not leaving enough space and resources for our companion species, which are also subject to other threats (direct overexploitation, climate change, pollution, invasive alien species).

Providing a protection status to portions of the planet is not meant to exclude humans in principle from these places – even if this view was prevalent in early Western conservation thought, with tragic consequences,⁶ and can still be encountered – but to shield these places, their biodiversity, and the livelihoods and self-determination of peoples within them, from the rapid changes and increasing pressures that are happening elsewhere⁷ (and often right around them!). While the struggle to achieve deep transformations of productive sectors continues, there is a need to shield places that can still be protected: this is why there is a widespread recognition that protected areas play a pivotal role in preserving biodiversity⁸.

BUILD UPON SCIENCE AND LOCAL LEADERSHIP TO REACH 50% BY 2030

Setting global conservation targets can have unintended perverse effects. One of them being that it can generate a hasty race to designate protected areas in places with rela-

² Leadley et al. (2022). *Expert Input to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Transformative actions on all drivers of biodiversity loss are urgently required to achieve the global goals by 2050*. CBD/WG2020/3/INF/11 CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/31. Available at: www.cbd.int/doc/c/16b6/e126/9d46160048cfc74cadcf46d/wg2020-03-inf-11-en.pdf

³ Ellis, E. C., Gauthier, N., Goldewijk, K. K., Bird, R. B., Boivin, N., Díaz, S., ... & Watson, J. E. (2021). People have shaped most of terrestrial nature for at least 12,000 years. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118(17).

⁴ Ellis et al. (2021), *ibid.*

⁵ IPBES (2019). *Global Assessment*.

⁶ Agrawal, A., & Redford, K. (2009). Conservation and displacement: an overview. *Conservation and society*, 7(1), 1-10.

⁷ Watson, J. E., Dudley, N., Segan, D. B., & Hockings, M. (2014). The performance and potential of protected areas. *Nature*, 515(7525), 67-73.

⁸ Watson, et al. (2014), *ibid.*

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tively low significance for biodiversity and climate, or that are not under important threats, in order to communicate flashy numbers⁹. It can also drive land grabs and human rights violations if the free, prior, and informed consent of people on the ground is not respected. Identifying the places to prioritise for conservation measures, and implementing them adequately and equitably, and with the free, prior and informed consent of the communities living there, will require both science-based identification of biodiversity and climate priorities as well as an acute awareness of the specific historical and political contexts on the ground. The proposal of a Global Safety Net, covering 50.4% of the land surface, and the reactions to the proposal, provide helpful guidance for the post-2020 GBF¹⁰.

By mapping different types of remaining terrestrial habitats, and considering both their value for biodiversity and carbon storage, Dinerstein et al. (2020), in “A ‘Global Safety Net’ to Reverse Biodiversity Loss and Stabilize Earth’s Climate”, have concluded that **protecting 35.3% of land area – in addition to 15.1% of land area currently protected – is needed to conserve sites of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, including the preservation of carbon sinks vital for limiting global warming to 1.5°C**. The analysis proposes a disaggregation of these numbers to the national level, and also identifies that indigenous lands constitute an important share of the most biodiverse and carbon-rich places in the world.

Concerning the global ocean, a recent study points that **conserving 45% of the ocean would be compatible with a scenario that optimises, at the same time, the conservation of biodiversity, food security, and climate change mitigation**¹¹. The authors also point that it could be possible to protect “as much as 71% of the ocean, obtaining 91% of the biodiversity and 48% of the carbon benefits, with no change in the future yields of fisheries”. Evidence is also mounting on the importance of preserving marine sediments, including in the high seas, as they sequester very large amounts of carbon¹². Recently, 1.5 million people have signed a petition demanding the protection of the Antarctic Ocean, as a step towards conserving half of the planet¹³.

The growing impacts of climate change make this even more necessary: the latest assessment of IPCC’s Working Group II, released on February 28, 2022, states with high confidence that “maintaining the resilience of biodiversity and ecosystem services at a global scale depends on effective and equitable conservation of approximately 30% to 50% of Earth’s land, freshwater and ocean areas, including currently near-natural ecosystems”¹⁴.

Both for terrestrial and marine ecosystems, evidence accumulates on the importance of IPLCs’ stewardship, and its benefits both for climate¹⁵ and biodiversity^{16,17}. This leads Dinerstein et al. to call for the recognition of tenure rights of IPLCs as a way to secure the conservation benefits they enable by providing a form of legal protection to their livelihoods. In a comment to this proposal, Dutta et al. made

9 Visconti, P., Butchart, S. H., Brooks, T. M., Langhammer, P. F., Marnewick, D., Vergara, S., ... & Watson, J. E. (2019). Protected area targets post-2020. *Science*, 364(6437), 239-241.

10 Dinerstein, E., Joshi, A. R., Vynne, C., Lee, A. T. L., Pharand-Deschênes, F., França, M., ... & Olson, D. (2020). A “Global Safety Net” to reverse biodiversity loss and stabilize Earth’s climate. *Science advances*, 6(36), eabb2824. www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.abb2824

11 Sala, E., Mayorga, J., Bradley, D., Cabral, R. B., Atwood, T. B., Auber, A., ... & Lubchenco, J. (2021). Protecting the global ocean for biodiversity, food and climate. *Nature*, 592(7854), 397-402.

12 See this synthesis of a vast literature review on this topic: https://ocean-climate.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Policy-Brief_MPA.pdf

13 See a press release about the petition [here](https://www.pewcharitytrusts.org/en/press-releases/2022/02/ant-arctic-southern-ocean-coalition). The petition was delivered to several world leaders during the IUCN Congress in Marseille, and was part of a joint effort by Antarctica 2020, Ocean Unite, Pew Charity Trusts, WeMove Europe, Only One, Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition, Blue Nature Alliance, Sea Legacy, and Avaaz.

14 Pörtner, H.-O., Roberts, D. C., et al. (2022). Climate Change 2022. Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Summary for Policymakers of Working Group II contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 27th February 2022. Available https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg2/pdf/IPCC_AR6_WGII_SummaryForPolicymakers.pdf

15 Noon, M. L., Goldstein, A., Ledezma, J. C., Roehrdanz, P. R., Cook-Patton, S. C., Spawn-Lee, S. A., ... & Turner, W. R. (2021). Mapping the irrecoverable carbon in Earth’s ecosystems. *Nature Sustainability*, 1-10.

16 IPBES (2019). *Ibid*.

17 Ban, N. C., & Frid, A. (2018). Indigenous peoples’ rights and marine protected areas. *Marine Policy*, 87, 180-185.

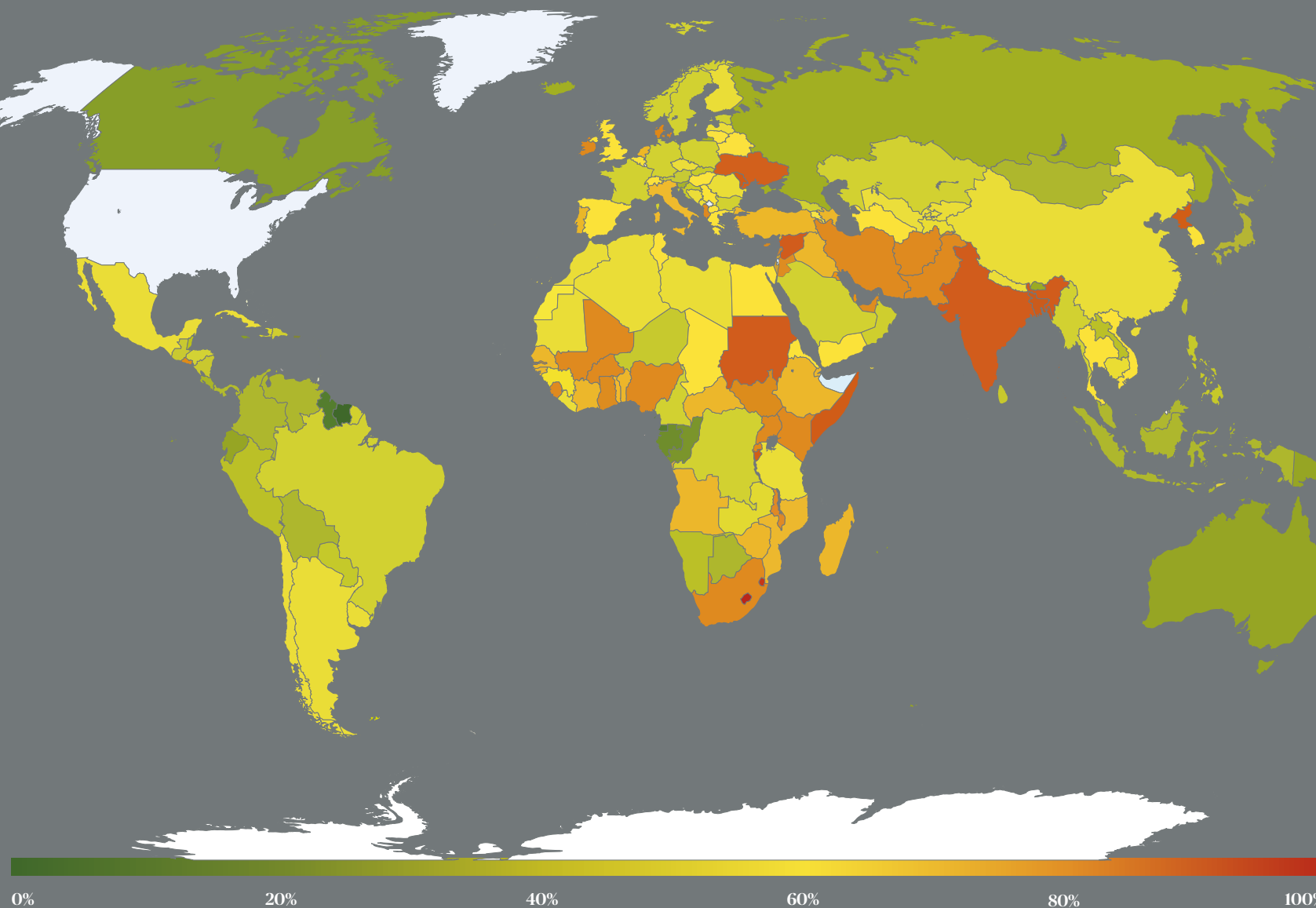
GLOBAL SAFETY NET: TARGETS BY COUNTRY

SEE TABLE OF TARGETS COUNTRY BY COUNTRY IN [PAGE 29](#)

SOURCE: [HTTPS://WWW.GLOBALSAFETYNET.APP/](https://www.globalsafetynet.app/)

Dinerstein, E. et al. (2020). A "Global Safety Net" to reverse biodiversity loss and stabilize Earth's climate. Available at: www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.abb3224

Note: the United States is not listed since it's not a Party of the CBD; while data of Greenland, Kosovo, Somaliland, the Palestinian Territories and Antarctica is not conclusive.



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several useful observations¹⁸. First of all, they recall that the recognition of tenure rights to IPLCs lacks legal basis in most of the world, and it would thus be risky to use the recognition of tenure rights as the sole strategy to protect customary use against threats. Then, they stress that the “rights” framework is often “rooted in westernised and often colonial value systems and also risks undermining collective governance and valuable local, traditional and Indigenous knowledge essential for positive biodiversity conservation and climate outcomes”.

As we mentioned above, it is the engines of productivism that are at the roots of biodiversity loss. **The peoples, with their cultures, knowledge, and languages, who have managed to escape this harm, and are still leading heroic struggles against powerful oppressors, both public and private, must be treated as equal allies.** Instead of blanket recommendations over tenure rights, the agency and self-determination of IPLCs should be first and foremost recognised, and they should be addressed as partners that are able to consider whether they want to be part, and how, of any sort of area-based conservation and sustainable use regimes. Creating this respectful space for conversation will be key for the implementation of the post-2020 GBF.

USING THE RESPONSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY MECHANISMS TO DISTRIBUTE EFFORTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES ADEQUATELY AND EQUITABLY

The post-2020 GBF is where Parties to the CBD must set the ambition where it needs to be to stop the loss of biodiversity and put it on a path to recovery in the coming decades, and ensure that this will be done in ways that will benefit people

– especially the most vulnerable, that will pay the highest price of on-going planetary changes.

The GBF goals and targets are **global**: how they will be implemented nationally, and more locally within countries, will be the central challenges *after* COP15. These conversations are of course connected, but should **not** be conflated. **We are already seeing many Parties confusing global targets and national commitments, and this is harmful.** Covering the priority areas for biodiversity and climate means that some countries will be responsible for conserving more than the number reflected in the global target, while some could conserve a smaller surface. As an illustration, we include as an addendum the national repartition of efforts that is proposed by the authors of the Global Safety Net (see page 28). We believe that this is the type of conversation that is much needed, on how to best distribute efforts to achieve global targets. **Bluntly translating global targets to local context can be inefficient for biodiversity and harmful to people¹⁹.** And while global mapping efforts can be useful to provide some initial directions, making progress on the ground will inevitably require leaving “big data” aside and confront the fine-grained realities of local contexts^{20,21}.

A reinforced international collaboration on how to distribute efforts to achieve all aspects of the GBF will be needed²², and this is true for area-based targets as well, including for the ocean²³. Luckily, a key aspect of the GBF currently being negotiated could enable everyone to do just that. The “responsibility and transparency mechanism” is supposed to precisely be this facilitative space that we so direly need to

18 Dutta et al. (2020). Re-thinking the Global Safety Net: Local leadership in global conservation: biosec.group.shef.ac.uk/2021/05/14/whats-wrong-with-the-global-safety-net-approach-to-conservation/

19 Schleicher, J., Zaehring, J. G., Fastré, C., Vira, B., Visconti, P., & Sandbrook, C. (2019). Protecting half of the planet could directly affect over one billion people. *Nature Sustainability*, 2(12), 1094-1096.

20 Obura, D. O., Katerere, Y., Mayet, M., Kaelo, D., Msweli, S., Mather, K., ... & Nantongo, P. (2021). Integrate biodiversity targets from local to global levels. *Science*, 373(6556), 746-748.

21 Wyborn, C., & Evans, M. C. (2021). Conservation needs to break free from global priority mapping. *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, 5(10), 1322-1324.

22 Leadley et al. (2022), *ibid.*

23 Sala et al. (2021), *ibid.*

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make progress on implementation²⁴.

The international community should use these mechanisms to regularly take stock of the progress met in reaching the global targets, but maybe even more importantly on *how* they are being met and with which outcomes on the ground. Are the additional area-based conservation measures covering important places for biodiversity and climate²⁵? What are the lessons on the types of protected areas and Other effective area-based conservation measure (OECMs) that bear the best results²⁶? What are the different governance arrangements on the ground that create the best partnerships, especially with IPLCs, and benefit the most to local people? What type of additional international cooperation (*e.g.*, in terms of capacity, funding, policy-learning, synergies among international treaties, etc.) could be the most helpful on the ground?

The bad news is that the negotiations on these important facilitative mechanisms appear to have stalled. The good news is that Geneva is where they can be put back on track, and there is still time to establish solid foundations for these mechanisms until COP15, so that we can hit the ground running when we start to have crucial discussions about implementation soon after the adoption of the post-2020 GBF.

24 Maljean-Dubois et al. (2022). Towards an enhanced transparency mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity: Legal options and possible institutional arrangements to better follow up on commitments. IDDRI, *Study N°03/22*

25 For terrestrial biodiversity, Key Biodiversity Areas can be used as guidance: www.key-biodiversityareas.org. The CBD work on Ecologically and Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) covers many crucial elements of ocean biodiversity: www.cbd.int/ebsa/

26 See: portals.iucn.org/library/node/30018; also see: www.iucn.org/commissions/world-commission-protected-areas/our-work/oecms; and see: www.protectedplanet.net/



BRASILIA, Brazil.— Young Brazilian Avaaz members delivered a document backed by a million signatures to the Brazilian Congress, demanding measures to curb the growing deforestation in the Amazon. Along with that document, in which Congress is required to adopt measures to control high levels of deforestation, Avaaz released a survey indicating that 90% of Brazilians from all ideological sides support the appeal.

CONCLUSION

LIVE AND LET LIVE: HIGHER SPATIAL TARGETS ARE POSSIBLE AND WE NEED THEM TO THRIVE



1' READ

Geneva is when we need to put the post-2020 process back on the tracks of ambition. **There is ample science stressing that area-based conservation measures are important for both biodiversity and climate, and this was recently powerfully recognized at the IUCN Congress in Marseille and at UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow.** With a combination of protected areas, OECMs, and other forms of occupying the Earth that can have beneficial outcomes for biodiversity and people²⁷, we can reach 50% of the planet contributing to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity by 2030.

We need it, and we can do it. Below, you will find language suggestions for the documents that will be negotiated in Geneva, that we believe can set us in that direction.

27 There are recognised landscape forms that favour *in situ* conservation, such as FAO's Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS), Indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs), or Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs), among others.

**TELL US WHAT YOU THINK,
GET INVOLVED!**

WRITE TO US: BIODIVERSITY@AVAAZ.ORG

- How effective do you consider natural protected areas schemes for ecosystem conservation to be? Why?
- Does your country have a formal/official system of natural protected areas?
- Do you think area-based conservation approaches should more clearly mention/include other land governance schemes?
- Do you think current area-based conservation approaches are effective in reaching their conservation objectives? Are they managed equitably?

NAPLES, Italy. – Avaaz activists, wearing masks depicting late soccer player Diego Armando Maradona, stage a protest calling for debt relief for the environment and to conserve at least half of the planet as G20 climate and environment ministers hold a meeting to agree on climate and biodiversity global goals.



ANNEX

LANGUAGE PROPOSALS

The purpose of this document is to inform negotiators, stakeholders, CBD National Focal Points, of the recommendations of Avaaz for the development of the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

New language proposed by Avaaz is in **green and bold** and deletions are in ~~red and strikethrough~~

LANGUAGE PROPOSALS FOR THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK (OEWG-3)

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
<p>Goal A</p> <p>The integrity of all ecosystems is enhanced, with an increase of at least 15 per cent in the area, connectivity and integrity of natural ecosystems, supporting healthy and resilient populations of all species, the rate of extinctions has been reduced at least tenfold, and the risk of species extinctions across all taxonomic and functional groups, is halved, and genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species is safeguarded, with at least 90 per cent of genetic diversity within all species maintained.</p>	<p>Goal A</p> <p>The integrity of all ecosystems is enhanced, with of at least 1520 per cent in the area, connectivity and integrity of natural ecosystems, supporting healthy and resilient populations of all species, the rate of extinctions has been reduced at least tenfold, and the risk of species extinctions across all taxonomic and functional groups, is halved, and genetic diversity of all wild and domesticated species is safeguarded and with at least 90 per cent of genetic diversity within all species maintained.</p>	<p>Avaaz welcomes consideration of the importance of enhancing the integrity of all ecosystems, and understands that connectivity of natural ecosystems can and will be attained by also considering managed ecosystems.</p> <p>Avaaz regrets there is no mention of further loss in the area, connectivity, and integrity of all ecosystems, or at least those with high importance for biodiversity or high ecological integrity. It is important to note the most recent science published by more than 30 authors, states no net loss of area by 2030 is crucial, and a net gain of at least 20% in area and integrity of natural ecosystems and 20% for integrity of managed ecosystems is fundamental for protecting and conserving ecosystems (Diaz et al. 2020).</p>

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
<p>Milestone A.2</p> <p>The increase in the extinction rate is halted or reversed, and the extinction risk is reduced by at least 10 per cent, with a decrease in the proportion of species that are threatened, and the abundance and distribution of populations of species is enhanced or at least maintained.</p> <p>Milestone A.3</p> <p>Genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species is safeguarded, with an increase in the proportion of species that have at least 90 per cent of their genetic diversity maintained.</p>	<p>Milestone A.2</p> <p>The increase in the extinction rate is halted or reversed, and the extinction risk is reduced by at least 20 10 per cent, with a decrease in the proportion of species that are threatened, and the abundance and distribution of populations of species is enhanced or at least maintained.</p> <p>Milestone A.3</p> <p>Genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species is safeguarded, through in situ conservation and other practices, with an increase in the proportion of species that have at least 90 per cent of their genetic diversity maintained.</p> <p>Milestone A.4</p> <p>The integrity of managed ecosystems, including ecosystems that are managed, owned or governed by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, increased by at least 20%.</p> <p>Milestone A.5</p> <p>By 2030, countries will have stopped the loss and transformation of natural lands into other uses, especially in those critical sites for the conservation of species, habitats of endemic species and where the integrity and functioning of ecosystems are compromised.</p>	<p>Furthermore, the relevance of maintaining genetic diversity within species, both wild and domesticated, is, at the very least, the cornerstone of food security, sustainable development, ecosystem services and adaptation to a changing planet, as stated by the CBD, FAO and others.</p> <p>Concerning the rate of extinction, if the 2050 outcome is a tenfold reduction, then the 2030 Milestone should be closer to 20 percent, according to Diaz et al. (2020).</p> <p>Avaaz has also repeatedly pointed out the relevance of “<i>in situ</i> conservation”. When “<i>in situ</i> conservation” is not mentioned, but “genetic diversity is to be safeguarded” is (and, further down in the First Draft, there is the explicit mentioning of “<i>ex situ</i>” conservation), the importance of IPLCs conserving genetic resources through traditional practices and knowledge, which translates to “<i>in situ</i> conservation”, is lost.</p> <p>Avaaz considers that an explicit mention of “<i>in situ</i> conservation” is necessary to ground any goal regarding genetic diversity conservation.</p> <p>The integrity of managed ecosystems should also be reflected in the milestones, either by including them in milestone A.1 or, as proposed here, by creating a dedicated milestone for the integrity of managed ecosystems.</p> <p>Recent literature supports a figure of 20% of landscapes that host intact, natural vegetation if we are to sustain biodiversity and supply benefits to people; (cf. Leadley et al., 2022: CBD/WG2020/3/INF/11 CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/31).</p>

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
<p>Goal B</p> <p>Nature's contributions to people are valued, maintained or enhanced through conservation and sustainable use supporting the global development agenda for the benefit of all;</p> <p>Milestone B.2</p> <p>The long-term sustainability of all categories of nature's contributions to people is ensured, with those currently in decline restored, contributing to each of the relevant Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<p>Goal B</p> <p>Nature's contributions to people are valued, maintained or enhanced through equitable and fair conservation and sustainable use supporting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals global development agenda for the benefit of all;</p> <p>Milestone B.2</p> <p>The long-term sustainability of all categories of nature's contributions to people is ensured in the short, medium and long term, with those currently in decline restored, with a gender-responsive and rights-oriented approach, contributing to each of the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and the right to a healthy, safe, equitable, clean and sustainable development.</p>	<p>If, as Avaaz understands it, the “global development agenda” referred to are synonymous with the 2030 Agenda, then they should be identified as such.</p> <p>Avaaz feels that the development of indicators for Milestone B.2 could be an excellent opportunity to design indicators that are gender-responsive. It is vital that we set up and finance permanent, interdisciplinary databases aimed at providing sex-disaggregated data, as well as gender-sensitive national and transnational data.</p> <p>This will provide fundamental knowledge necessary to better assess gender and biodiversity correlations, progress on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the full respect and promotion of women and girls' rights, and design stronger NBSAPs capable of promoting solid gender-sensitive programmes.</p> <p>If Milestones are to be used for assessing progress to 2050, sustainability of any action should be assessed along the way (not only in the long term). Furthermore, a gender-responsive and rights-oriented approach is <i>sine qua non</i> to effectively contribute to the SDGs.</p>
<p>Goal C</p> <p>Milestone C.1</p> <p>The share of monetary benefits received by providers, including holders of traditional knowledge, has increased.</p>	<p>Goal C</p> <p>[adding] Milestone C.1</p> <p>Transparency on global monetary and non-monetary benefits is achieved, and their proper assessment on a regular basis is made possible.</p>	<p>Avaaz considers it essential to the success of Goal C to include strict transparency and compliance requirements.</p> <p>The relevance of Indigenous women as vital actors in all schemes regarding biodiversity conservation and sustainable use has been commented on earlier in this document.</p>

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
<p>Milestone C.2</p> <p>Non-monetary benefits, such as the participation of providers, including holders of traditional knowledge, in research and development, has increased.</p>	<p>Milestone C.2</p> <p>The share of monetary benefits received by providers, including holders of traditional knowledge, has increased.</p> <p>Milestone C.3</p> <p>Non-monetary benefits, such as the participation of providers, including holders of traditional knowledge, in research and development, has increased.</p>	
<p>Goal D</p> <p>The gap between available financial and other means of implementation, and those necessary to achieve the 2050 Vision, is closed.</p> <p>Milestone D.1</p> <p>Adequate financial resources to implement the framework are available and deployed, progressively closing the financing gap up to at least US \$700 billion per year by 2030.</p> <p>Milestone D.2</p> <p>Adequate other means, including capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer to implement the framework to 2030 are available and deployed.</p>	<p>Goal D</p> <p>The gap between available financial and other means of implementation, and those necessary to achieve the 2050 Vision, is closed; and available financial and other means of implementation equitably distributed.</p> <p>Milestone D.1</p> <p>Adequate and gender-responsive financial resources to implement the framework are available and deployed, progressively closing the financing gap up to at least US \$700 US\$967 billion per year by 2030.</p> <p>Milestone D.2</p> <p>Adequate other means, including capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer to implement the framework to 2030 are available, equitably accessible and deployed, especially for developing countries and in particular for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.</p>	<p>Regarding Goal D and its milestones, Avaaz welcomes the reference to financial resources available and deployed (by 2030), and planned or committed for the next decade (2030-2040).</p> <p>Yet US \$700 billion per year by 2030 is still not enough. According to Deutz et al. (2020), as of 2019, current spending on biodiversity conservation is between \$124 and \$143 billion per year, against a total estimated biodiversity protection need of at least \$967 billion per year.</p> <p>Furthermore, the vision of the framework emphasizes that it has to have a gender-responsive and rights-oriented approach, including for IPLCs</p> <p>Lastly, Avaaz agrees with recommendations for the CBD's Women Caucus, strongly advocating for a human rights approach through a gender lens in order to ensure the encompassing implementation of SDG 5.</p>

NEW TEXT: AVAAZ SUGGEST ADDING A NEW GOAL (SEE NEXT COLUMN)

GOAL E

Ensure equitable, full, and effective participation in planning, implementation, review and decision-making related to biodiversity protection, conservation and sustainable use, of all stakeholders, in particular Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, women and girls, particularly that of Indigenous women, as well as the youth, while ensuring transparency and accountability in all processes and at all levels.

E. 1. By 2025, traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities are fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, subject to their free, prior and informed consent.

E.2. By 2025, responsibility and transparency mechanisms are fully developed and used to monitor and review the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Avaaz suggests an additional goal. As in previous submissions, Avaaz points out that these rights and obligations are key to achieving all goals and targets included in the Framework Draft. This would also promote synergies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Avaaz welcomes recognition of the importance of equitable participation by IPLCs and other vulnerable groups in decision-making related to biodiversity, and that it is no longer mentioned among the very last targets. Avaaz also welcomes and recognizes the importance of having IPLC rights reflected in the Kunming Declaration.

Avaaz considers that the specific mention of Indigenous women will revamp this new approach and foster their inclusion in concrete actions for Parties to take, so as not to leave these important actors out of the post-2020 GBF.

The participation of all relevant stakeholders - especially IPLCs as First Responders in the field - in the planning and implementation of the GBF is essential to achieve the desired change. And once again, Avaaz points out that safeguarding and ensuring respect for human rights, including IPLCs rights (the rights-based approach mentioned in the draft text) are achieved by extending their participation to designing, planning, negotiating, and agreeing on the GBF as stated in target 16.7 of the 2030 Agenda, which addresses the need for responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making when calling for the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.

ORIGINAL TEXT [CBD/WG2020/3/3](#)

SUGGESTED EDITS

RATIONALE

GOAL E

Today, Avaaz respectfully reminds Parties that these rights include the rights of access to environmental information, public participation in environmental decision-making processes and access to justice in environmental matters, which are essential for sustainable development (again referring to the rights-based approach upon which the framework will be implemented).

[In a listening document from February 2021](#), Avaaz proposed a model of transparency and participation that can be implemented immediately if the Parties agree. Such a model would allow a bottom-up process in which participation can be achieved at the local and national level, potentially enriching the global conversation of the GBF.

Furthermore, Avaaz considers that gender equality within the post-2020 GBF, its goals and targets, should be revamped to include concrete actions for Parties to take. The participation of women, which is critical for the successful conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, must be more than a random phrase or mere mention of their “full and effective participation”.

G. 2030 action targets, parra 12

The framework has 21 action-oriented targets for urgent action over the decade to 2030. The actions set out in each target need to be initiated immediately and completed by 2030. Together, the results will enable achievement of the 2030 milestones and of the outcome-oriented goals for 2050. Actions to reach these targets should be implemented consistently and in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions.

G. 2030 action targets, parra 12

The framework has 21 action-oriented targets for urgent action over the decade to 2030. The actions set out in each target need to be initiated immediately and completed by 2030. Together, the results will enable achievement of the 2030 milestones and of the outcome-oriented goals for 2050. Actions to reach these targets should be implemented consistently and in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and other relevant international obligations, **including human rights and equality obligations**, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions.

In the context of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, Avaaz supports a human rights-based approach through a gender lens, which ensures that biodiversity policies, governance and management do not violate human rights and that they do promote gender equality, in accordance with SDG 4.7 of the 2030 Agenda.

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
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 1. Ensure that all land and sea areas globally are under integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning that takes biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into account , developed under rights-based and equitable governance principles , addressing land- and sea-use change, retaining existing intact and wilderness areas, and recognizing the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, including indigenous women, over lands, territories, waters and resources.	Avaaz welcomes emphasis of the need for better spatial planning across the entire planet, but believes some precision should be added as to how biodiversity is incorporated, that spatial planning be rooted in rights-based and equitable governance principles, and that plans developed through self-determined IPLC processes should be supported and respected.
Target 2. Ensure that at least 20 percent of degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial ecosystems are under restoration, ensuring connectivity among them and focusing on priority ecosystems.	Target 2. Ensure that at least 20 percent of degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial ecosystems are under restoration, ensuring connectivity among them and focusing on priority ecosystems, including managed and converted ecosystems, and by prioritising ecosystems providing benefits to the most vulnerable people, including Indigenous women.	Avaaz welcomes the explicit mention of restoration, especially if managed and converted ecosystems are included in such priority ecosystems.
Target 3. Ensure that at least 30 percent 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 3. Ensure that at least 30 50 per cent of land areas and of sea areas globally , especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed and governed , ecologically representative, and well-connected systems of protected areas, ICCAs and other effective area-based conservation measures and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes, subject to the free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities who own, manage or occupy any of the aforementioned areas.	While an international negotiation is a political compromise per se, we must avoid compromises that don't bring us to at least 50% of the Earth's lands and waters conserved by 2030 through different schemes. Earth will not compromise, nor should people willing to believe in the relevance of CBD negotiations. Science is increasingly clear on the need of ambitious targets: By mapping different types of remaining terrestrial habitats, and considering both their value for biodiversity and carbon storage, Dinerstein et al. (2020), in "A 'Global Safety Net' to reverse biodiversity loss and stabilize Earth's climate", have concluded that protecting 35.3% of land area –in addition to 15.1% of land area currently protected– is needed to conserve sites of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, including the preservation of carbon sinks vital for limiting global warming to 1.5°C.

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
Target 3. Ensure that at least 30 percent globally...	Target 3. Ensure that at least 30 50 per cent of land areas and of sea areas globally ,...	<p>Concerning the global ocean, another recent study (Sala et al, 2021) points that conserving 45% of the ocean would be compatible with a scenario that optimises, at the same time, the conservation of biodiversity, food security, and climate change mitigation. And authors also point that it could be possible to protect “as much as 71% of the ocean, obtaining 91% of the biodiversity and 48% of the carbon benefits, with no change in the future yields of fisheries”.</p> <p>The growing impacts of climate change make this even more necessary: the latest assessment of IPCC’s Working Group II, released on February 28, 2022, states with high confidence that “maintaining the resilience of biodiversity and ecosystem services at a global scale depends on effective and equitable conservation of approximately 30% to 50% of Earth’s land, freshwater and ocean areas, including currently near-natural ecosystems”.</p> <p>Furthemore, Avaaz also puts forth the inclusion of “Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Territories” (ICCAs) as an opportunity to align this target with scientific evidence reporting the need to conserve and protect half the planet. Over the past few decades, ICCAs have become known and recognized as essential features for the conservation of nature, sustainable livelihoods, the realization of collective rights and responsibilities, and the wellness of living beings on our planet. They include cases of continuation, revival, or modification of traditional practices, some of which are of ancient origin, and also include new initiatives, such as the restoration of ecosystems and innovative uses of resources employed by IPLCs in the face of threats and opportunities.</p>

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3**SUGGESTED EDITS****RATIONALE**

Target 3. Ensure that at least 30 per cent globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance...

Target 3. Ensure that at least ~~30~~ **50** per cent of land areas and of sea areas **globally**, especially areas of particular im...

ICCAs help conserve critical ecosystems and threatened species, maintain essential ecosystem functions, and provide corridors and linkages for animal and plant circulation, including between protected areas. Among many other local, regional, and global benefits, ICCAs play a crucial role in securing the rights of Indigenous Peoples & Local Communities to their lands and natural resources through local governance - *de jure* and *de facto*.

The global coverage of ICCAs has been conservatively estimated at 13% of the terrestrial surface of the planet. Globally, 400-800 million hectares of forest are owned/ administered by communities, and land and resources in other ecosystems are also under community control.

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
<i>New text: Avaaz suggest adding a new standalone Target (see next column)</i>	By 2025, and no later than 2030, 100 per cent of the lands and waters traditionally managed, owned, governed by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities are recognized and secured and Parties have a mechanism in place to solve land tenure disputes in protected areas and/or where traditional and customary practices have been negatively impacted, taking into account culturally appropriate land tenure processes and respecting their free, prior and informed consent.	<p>Almost 800,000 Avaaz members (and the number continues to grow) are calling for the full and effective recognition of IPLC land rights, urging governments “to ensure the community land rights of IPLCs are 100% recognised by 2025 in multilateral agreements as well as in your national legislations and land tenure processes. Recognising the community land rights of IPLCs and respecting their rights is key- not only to ensure their survival, but also as one of the most effective ways to address the massive loss of biodiversity we are facing and the climate disasters associated with it. It is time to correct the harm and injustices committed against the people who regularly put their lives on the line to protect the planet.”</p> <p>As reflected in a joint submission at the Thematic Workshop on Area-Based Conservation Measures, signed by Avaaz, CBD Alliance, Forests Peoples Programme, Friends of the Earth International, Global Youth Biodiversity Network and ICCA Consortium in December 2019: “The post-2020 area based targets under CBD must not support land grabs. If government parties claim IPLC land as part of their contribution to the CBD, without the free, prior and informed consent, and self-determined management of those areas, such lands should not be accepted under the convention.”</p>

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
<p>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.</p>	<p>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 in situ conservation and through ex situ conservation when free, prior, and informed consent has been ensured to access species and genetic resources., and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to avoid or reduce human-wildlife conflict.</p>	<p>As previously commented and suggested by Avaaz, <i>in situ</i> conservation practices, especially regarding agriculture and traditional agricultural practices, should be considered when biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and utilization is mentioned throughout this document. Excluding <i>in situ</i> conservation seriously limits IPLCs role in biodiversity conservation, including in the conservation of natural and genetic resources important for food and agriculture. The GBF must reflect the imperative strategic role played by IPLCs in <i>in situ</i> protection, conservation, and sustainable use of biodiversity which have real implications for our global food, health, and ecological security. This collaboration should be guaranteed and integrated across the entire Post-2020 Framework.</p> <p>Furthermore, “<i>ex situ</i>” conservation practices, when referring to genetic resources, should ensure that access is linked to binding benefit sharing.</p> <p>Regarding this second part of Target 4 (“... and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to avoid or reduce human-wildlife conflict”), Avaaz suggests moving it to Target 5. See next suggestion.</p>
<p>Target 5. Ensure that the harvesting, trade and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe for human health.</p>	<p>Target 5. Ensure that the harvesting, trade and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe for human health, and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to avoid or reduce human-wildlife conflict, while respecting rights to customary sustainable use.</p>	<p>To achieve as proposed a rights-oriented outcome, and for clarity purposes, Avaaz suggests the edited text for Target 5.</p> <p>Although it is worth noting that this last idea is also present in 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.”</p>

ORIGINAL TEXT CBD/WG2020/3/3	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
Target 6. Manage pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species, preventing, or reducing their rate of introduction and establishment by at least 50 per cent, and control or eradicate invasive alien species to eliminate or reduce their impacts, focusing on priority species and priority sites.	No suggestions.	Avaaz welcomes the new version of the target on invasive alien species.
Target 7. Reduce pollution from all sources to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and human health, including by reducing nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, and pesticides by at least two thirds and eliminating the discharge of plastic waste.	Target 7. Reduce pollution from all sources to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and human health, including by reducing nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, and pesticides by at least two thirds and eliminating the discharge of plastic waste, and prioritizing pollutants that have an impact on vulnerable groups, such as women, including Indigenous women, children, youth and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.	Avaaz welcomes the wording in Target 7, but considers that a prioritization of actions to reduce pollution that is impacting the most vulnerable groups is needed.
Target 8. Minimize the impact of climate change on biodiversity, contribute to mitigation and adaptation through ecosystem-based approaches, contributing at least 10 GtCO ₂ e per year to global mitigation efforts, and ensure that all mitigation and adaptation efforts avoid negative impacts on biodiversity.	Target 8. Minimize the impact of climate change on biodiversity, contribute to mitigation and adaptation through ecosystem-based approaches, contributing at least 10 GtCO ₂ e per year to global mitigation efforts through protection, sustainable use and restoration practices, particularly of key areas relevant to biodiversity and climate change mitigation, considering cultural diversity and the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and ensuring that all mitigation and adaptation efforts avoid negative impacts on biodiversity, especially in areas of particular importance for the provision of ecosystem services, including carbon storage, water provisioning, sustainable livelihoods and climate resilience.	<p>Avaaz proposes new text to focus efforts to combat climate change while protecting biodiversity under ecosystem-based and culturally appropriate approaches, and promoting synergies with other MEAs, in particular the UNFCCC and UNCCD.</p> <p>Avaaz recalls paragraph 66 of the most recent decision 1/CP.26 at the UNFCCC COP 26, which says: "66. Emphasizes the important role of indigenous peoples' and local communities' culture and knowledge in effective action on climate change, and urges Parties to actively involve Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in designing and implementing climate action and to engage with the second three-year workplan for implementing the functions of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, for 2022-2024;"</p>

ADDENDUM

NATIONAL CONSERVATION TARGETS BASED ON THE RESEARCH OF THE GLOBAL SAFETY NET

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Afghanistan	Large	12.361	19%	0
Aland	Small	19	20%	0
Albania	Medium	517	18%	9
Algeria	Large	92.632	40%	2
American Samoa	Small	2	12%	10
Andorra	Small	25	54%	6
Angola	Large	33.799	27%	3
Anguilla	Small	3	35%	2
Antigua & Barbuda	Small	28	99%	2
Argentina	Large	116.884	42%	2
Armenia	Medium	983	33%	7
Aruba	Small	7	40%	5
Australia	Large	586.207	76%	3
Austria	Medium	4.728	56%	5

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Azerbaijan	Medium	2.001	23%	4
Bahrain	Small	2	3%	7
Bangladesh	Medium	1.328	10%	5
Barbados	Small	47	99%	0
Belarus	Medium	6.820	33%	3
Belgium	Medium	1.119	37%	7
Belize	Medium	1.505	67%	6
Benin	Medium	3.284	28%	10
Bermuda	Small	<1	8%	8
Bhutan	Medium	3.066	76%	6
Bolivia	Large	71.122	65%	5
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Medium	2.253	43%	1
Botswana	Large	41.014	70%	4
Brazil	Large	430.585	51%	6
British Indian Ocean Territory	Small	4	74%	10
British Virgin Islands	Small	8	54%	1
Brunei	Small	486	84%	5
Bulgaria	Medium	5.690	50%	8
Burkina Faso	Large	4.214	15%	10
Burundi	Medium	235	9%	8
Cambodia	Medium	7.302	40%	6

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Cameroon	Large	21.067	45%	2
Canada	Large	807.285	81%	1
Cape Verde	Small	48	12%	2
Cayman Islands	Small	27	88%	1
Central African Republic	Large	17.084	27%	7
Chad	Large	42.756	34%	6
Chile	Large	29.927	40%	4
China	Large	352.061	37%	4
Colombia	Large	79.606	70%	2
Comoros	Small	203	87%	1
Cook Islands	Small	10	51%	4
Costa Rica	Medium	3.649	71%	4
Cote d'Ivoire	Large	7.716	24%	10
Croatia	Medium	3.111	56%	7
Cuba	Medium	4.098	37%	4
Curaçao	Small	6	12%	10
Czech Republic	Medium	3.022	38%	6
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Large	115.854	49%	3
Denmark	Medium	786	18%	8
Djibouti	Medium	555	25%	0
Dominica	Small	80	99%	2

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Dominican Republic	Medium	2.273	47%	6
East Timor	Medium	586	39%	3
Ecuador	Large	18.550	72%	3
Egypt	Large	33.787	34%	4
El Salvador	Medium	420	20%	4
Equatorial Guinea	Medium	2.443	91%	2
Eritrea	Medium	4.333	35%	1
Estonia	Medium	2.182	48%	4
Ethiopia	Large	28.617	25%	7
Faroe Islands	Small	2	2%	0
Federated States of Micronesia	Small	56	88%	0
Fiji	Medium	1.302	68%	1
Finland	Large	13.989	42%	4
France	Large	29.229	46%	6
French Polynesia	Small	294	87%	0
Gabon	Large	22.529	86%	3
Gambia	Medium	69	7%	6
Georgia	Medium	3.202	46%	2
Germany	Large	17.834	50%	7
Ghana	Medium	3.692	15%	10
Gibraltar	Small	<1	54%	10

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Greece	Medium	4.602	35%	10
Grenada	Small	35	99%	1
Guam	Small	57	99%	2
Guatemala	Medium	6.143	56%	4
Guinea	Medium	8.997	37%	10
Guinea Bissau	Medium	762	23%	7
Guyana	Medium	19.416	91%	1
Haiti	Medium	1.222	44%	0
Heard & McDonald Islands	Small	38	96%	10
Honduras	Medium	5.169	46%	5
Hong Kong S.A.R.	Small	93	89%	4
Hungary	Medium	2.898	31%	7
Iceland	Medium	7.282	71%	3
India	Large	39.100	12%	5
Indian Ocean Territories	Small	4	34%	1
Indonesia	Large	124.430	66%	2
Iran	Large	28.656	18%	5
Iraq	Large	11.796	27%	1
Ireland	Medium	1.144	17%	8
Islas Malvinas / Falkland Islands	Medium	7	1%	3
Isle of Man	Small	7	11%	3

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Israel & Palestine	Medium	712	25%	8
Italy	Large	8.532	28%	8
Jamaica	Medium	891	80%	2
Japan	Large	21.383	57%	5
Jersey	Small	1	10%	7
Jordan	Medium	1.589	18%	1
Kazakhstan	Large	138.905	51%	1
Kenya	Large	9.608	16%	8
Kiribati	Small	5	5%	8
Kosovo	Medium	338	31%	0
Kuwait	Medium	283	16%	10
Kyrgyzstan	Medium	8.539	43%	1
Laos	Medium	13.768	60%	3
Latvia	Medium	2.820	44%	4
Lebanon	Medium	209	21%	1
Lesotho	Medium	118	4%	1
Liberia	Medium	4.641	42%	1
Libya	Large	69.742	43%	0
Liechtenstein	Small	2	42%	2
Lithuania	Medium	2.145	33%	5
Luxembourg	Small	155	59%	7

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Macao S.A.R	Small	<1	10%	0
Macedonia	Medium	754	30%	3
Madagascar	Large	13.996	23%	2
Malawi	Medium	2.591	22%	10
Malaysia	Large	22.360	68%	3
Maldives	Small	<1	1%	10
Mali	Large	26.459	21%	4
Malta	Small	8	23%	10
Marshall Islands	Small	<1	2%	10
Mauritania	Large	39.749	38%	0
Mauritius	Small	68	33%	1
Mexico	Large	73.225	37%	4
Moldova	Medium	326	10%	4
Monaco	Small	1	27%	10
Mongolia	Large	100.833	64%	3
Montenegro	Medium	534	39%	2
Montserrat	Small	4	47%	2
Morocco	Large	25.200	42%	5
Mozambique	Large	19.979	25%	8
Myanmar	Large	30.214	45%	1
Namibia	Large	52.242	63%	6

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Nepal	Medium	5.960	40%	6
Netherlands	Medium	984	26%	8
New Caledonia	Medium	1.559	82%	7
New Zealand	Large	13.523	50%	7
Nicaragua	Medium	6.874	53%	7
Niger	Large	63.802	54%	3
Nigeria	Large	13.337	15%	10
Niue	Small	4	17%	10
Norfolk Island	Small	4	99%	3
Northern Cyprus	Small	90	27%	0
Northern Mariana Islands	Small	32	54%	1
North Korea	Medium	1.519	12%	2
Norway	Large	17.638	46%	3
Oman	Large	16.393	52%	0
Pakistan	Large	13.538	15%	7
Palau	Small	48	99%	2
Panama	Medium	5.126	68%	3
Papua New Guinea	Large	38.550	82%	0
Paraguay	Large	22.560	56%	3
Peru	Large	82.214	63%	3
Philippines	Large	15.780	53%	3

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Pitcairn Islands	Small	4	98%	8
Poland	Large	14.733	47%	8
Portugal	Medium	2.205	24%	9
Puerto Rico	Small	644	71%	1
Qatar	Medium	175	16%	7
Republic of Congo	Large	29.046	84%	5
Republic of Cyprus	Small	183	20%	9
Republic of Serbia	Medium	2.372	31%	3
Romania	Medium	9.618	41%	6
Russia	Large	1.210.378	72%	1
Rwanda	Medium	429	17%	6
Saint Barthelemy	Small	<1	17%	10
Saint Helena	Small	31	84%	4
Saint Kitts & Nevis	Small	17	63%	1
Saint Lucia	Small	59	97%	2
Saint Martin	Small	2	30%	5
Saint Pierre & Miquelon	Small	<1	2%	10
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	Small	36	96%	2
Samoa	Small	156	56%	1
Sao Tome & Principe	Small	104	99%	3
Saudi Arabia	Large	100.374	52%	1

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Senegal	Medium	5.178	26%	10
Seychelles	Small	27	64%	5
Sierra Leone	Medium	1.026	14%	7
Singapore	Small	37	53%	1
Sint Maarten	Small	<1	20%	0
Slovakia	Medium	2.646	55%	7
Slovenia	Medium	1.520	75%	7
Solomon Islands	Medium	2.387	87%	0
Somalia	Large	5.640	12%	0
Somaliland	Medium	3.140	19%	0
South Africa	Large	25.582	21%	4
South Korea	Medium	3.032	31%	6
South Sudan	Large	13.361	21%	8
Spain	Large	16.475	32%	9
Sri Lanka	Medium	3.884	58%	5
Sudan	Large	25.008	13%	2
Suriname	Medium	13.929	95%	2
Swaziland	Medium	116	7%	6
Sweden	Large	22.538	51%	3
Switzerland	Medium	1.509	36%	3
Syria	Medium	2.196	12%	1

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Taiwan	Medium	2.149	59%	3
Tajikistan	Medium	5.523	39%	6
Thailand	Large	15.048	29%	6
The Bahamas	Medium	710	56%	7
Togo	Medium	1.594	28%	10
Tonga	Small	16	26%	3
Trinidad & Tobago	Small	376	73%	4
Tunisia	Medium	4.517	29%	3
Turkey	Large	19.726	25%	0
Turkmenistan	Large	14.246	30%	1
Turks and Caicos Islands	Small	12	26%	7
Tuvalu	Small	<1	0%	NA
Uganda	Medium	4.409	18%	9
Ukraine	Large	8.229	14%	3
United Arab Emirates	Medium	1.324	19%	10
United Kingdom	Medium	7.926	33%	9
United Republic of Tanzania	Large	38.648	41%	9
Uruguay	Medium	7.196	40%	1
U.S. Minor Outlying Islands	Small	1	54%	10
U.S. Virgin Islands	Small	25	69%	2
Uzbekistan	Large	17.509	39%	1

COUNTRY	SIZE	GSN AREA (1000 HA)	GSN TARGET	PROTECTION LEVEL (0-10)
Vanuatu	Medium	963	78%	1
Venezuela	Large	64.486	70%	8
Vietnam	Large	11.171	34%	2
Wallis & Futuna	Small	<1	0%	NA
Western Sahara	Medium	3.479	38%	0
Yemen	Large	16.466	36%	0
Zambia	Large	33.196	44%	9
Zimbabwe	Large	10.789	28%	10



ABOUT US

Avaaz – meaning "voice" in several European, Middle Eastern and Asian languages– launched in 2007 with a simple democratic mission: organize citizens of all nations to close the gap between the world we have and the world most people everywhere want. Currently, Avaaz has a membership of almost 70 million people from all countries and territories.

Avaaz empowers millions of people from all walks of life to take action on pressing global, regional and national issues, from corruption and poverty to conflict and the environment. Our model of internet organising allows thousands of individual efforts, however small, to be rapidly combined into a collective force.

Each year, Avaaz sets overall priorities through all-member polls. For the 2021-2022 period, our membership have chosen the following top five priorities: climate change (54.94%), defending human rights (33.43%), protecting biodiversity and ending the extinction crisis (31.14%), fighting polarisation, extremism and defending democracy (27.82%), and tackling poverty (25.56%).

In other words, the Avaaz staff doesn't set an agenda in advance to try and convince members to go along with. It's quite the opposite: Avaaz staff create actions that are in line with priorities chosen by members. Because Avaaz is wholly member-funded, democratic accountability is in our DNA: we don't accept funds from governments, corporations, political parties, or foundations, and have policies in place to limit disproportionate influence of high net worth individuals: we thus only receive small individual donations, and the highest amount we can accept is US\$ 5,000.

Our community runs campaigns in 17 languages, served by a core team on 6 continents and thousands of volunteers. We take action –delivering petitions, researching, emailing, lobbying governments, organizing "offline" protests and events, and funding grassroots campaigns, litigation, or direct actions on the ground– to ensure that the views and values of the world's people inform the decisions that affect us all.

Avaaz is mobilized on all three Rio conventions through engaging with civil society at the national and global level, and with officials from Parties and international organizations to connect each sector of society in the common goal towards a sustainable future.

At the Convention of Biological Diversity, among many other contributions, Avaaz has provided suggestions and comments for the following documents:

- [Zero Draft of the global biodiversity framework](#)
- [SBSTTA-24 documents on the updated plan of action 2020-2030 for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity](#)
- [SBSTTA-24 Draft monitoring framework](#)
- [SBSTTA-24 Review on linkages between the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)
- [SBI-3 contribution on transparency and participation](#)
- [SBI-3 contribution with a proposal to revamp resource mobilization and financial mechanism response to implement a strong and inclusive global biodiversity framework](#)

- [OEWG-3 comments and suggestions on the First Draft of the global biodiversity framework](#)
- [COP 15 \(Part 1\) and comments on the First Draft of the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework \(Avaaz's Listening Document\)](#)

Avaaz has also been active in the civil society space of the CBD, and has shared positions with other progressive movements. Some examples:

- [Joint statement on the 23rd Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, in which Avaaz is a co-signatory.](#)
- [Joint statement on ABCMs workshop, in which Avaaz is a co-signatory.](#)
- [Joint statement over the High-Level Summit on Biodiversity, in which Avaaz is co-signatory.](#)
- [Joint position statement over the Global Biodiversity Framework, in which Avaaz is a co-signatory.](#)
- [Joint statement on the outcomes of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, in reference to the CBD COP15, in which Avaaz is co-signatory.](#)
- [Open letter from civil society to world leaders ahead of the COP-15 \(part 1\): Put human rights at the centre of environmental policy, in which Avaaz is co-signatory](#)

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