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ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP

**EMG**  
United Nations Environment Management Group

# Issue-based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change

**Welcome**





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The IBC on Environment and Climate Change for Europe and Central Asia

**Webinar on Incorporating global agendas at the national level: best practices and lessons learned for integrating biodiversity into the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in Europe and Central Asia**

November 27, 2024- Online 10:00 - 11:30 CET



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## Agenda

- **Magdalena Landry, IBC Co-Chair** – Welcome and opening remarks

**Moderators:** **Nicholas Bonvoisin and Marika Palosaari, IBC Core team**

### **Presentations**

- **Thierry Lucas, Regional Coordinator, Nature action, UNEP** – COP16 take aways and implications for the Europe and Central Asia region
- **Antje Grawe, Resident Coordinator, Kyrgyzstan** – Biodiversity in Europe and Central Asia  
**Lilian Kandikjan, Partnership and Development Finance Officer, RCO North Macedonia** – Q&A
- **Hossein Fadaei, Head of the EMG Secretariat, UNEP** – UN Common Approach to Biodiversity
- **Felipe Chamizo, Biodiversity Specialist** – Mainstreaming biodiversity in CCAs and UNSDCFs: preliminary key messages and guidance on actions
- **Open discussion and invitation to participate in survey**
- **Marika Palosaari, Programme Coordinator, UNEP, IBC Core Team** – Closing remarks and next steps



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## Welcome and opening remarks

**Magdalena Landry, IBC Co-Chair, UNESCO**



# CBD COP16: Main outcomes and key actions for the region

**Thierry Lucas, Regional Coordinator, Nature action, UNEP**



**COP16**  
COLOMBIA  
Paz con la Naturaleza



**Acuerdo  
de Escazú**

# UN Biodiversity Conference (COP16) take aways and implications for the Europe region

Biodiversity Coordinator for Europe, UNEP

# “LA COP DE LA GENTE”: COP16 WAS A WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY COP

- **COP16 made its mark:** A record number of delegates (around 23,000), a HL Segment attended by 6 Heads of State, more than 130 Ministers and Vice Ministers, and over 70 leaders of international organisations.
- For the first time, a Green Zone in the centre of Cali was established, constituting an open fair for biodiversity and attracting around **40,000 people daily**, making this truly a “people’s COP”.
- KMGBF implementation is in motion: 119 countries submitted **national targets**. **44 countries** submitted **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans**.
- **Unprecedented engagement across the board**, including Cities, Business and Finance.

Civil society across Europe has been increasingly active in addressing biodiversity loss through grassroots initiatives, advocacy, and influencing policy development. Public concern for nature restoration has been growing, ranking now as one of the top two environmental priorities for Europeans. Reflecting this trend, NGOs have for example actively lobbied the EU to prioritise biodiversity conservation in the upcoming budget.

# NEW ‘CALI FUND’ LAUNCHED TO SHARE THE BENEFITS FROM USES OF DIGITAL GENETIC INFORMATION (DSI) ON GENETIC RESOURCES

- Multilateral mechanism established at COP15
- Fund operationalization advanced at COP16
- Large companies and other major entities should contribute based on a % of their profits/revenues
- Beneficiaries:
  - Developing countries, mainly LDCs and SIDS
  - Indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth
  - Details in funding disbursement are to be determined: emerging sense that the allocation could be based largely on the importance of a country's biodiversity

## NEW PROGRAMME OF WORK ADOPTED TO ENSURE THE CONTRIBUTION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES TOWARDS THE CONSERVATION AND USE OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, AND BENEFIT SHARING

- **Engagement** and **participation** of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) process elevated - a new **Subsidiary Body** and permanent group under the CBD that aims to give **IPLCs** an institutional voice, while creating new ways for **IPLCs** to be part of global biodiversity decisions
- **People of African descent** recognized for their contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

# A LANDMARK DECISION ON BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WITH A REFERENCE TO THE OCEAN-CLIMATE-BIODIVERSITY NEXUS

- Calls upon the Presidents of CBD COP16 and UNFCCC COPs29/30 to strengthen **multilateral coordination**.
- Stresses the importance of CBD **national focal points** to engage with UNFCCC counterparts.
- CBD-Executive Secretariat to strengthen parties' understanding of interlinkages, i.e. impact of climate action on biodiversity and the role of biodiversity in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Parties *et al.* to submit their views on enhanced **policy coherence** by May 2025.

The climate-biodiversity nexus is highly relevant in the Europe region, with the Caspian sea level decline for example.

## OTHER KEY OUTCOMES

- PARTIES AGREED ON AN IMPROVED PROCESS TO IDENTIFY ECOLOGICALLY OR BIOLOGICALLY SIGNIFICANT MARINE AREAS (EBSAS) - will help **identify** and **protect** the most critical and vulnerable parts of the ocean.
- A NEW THEMATIC ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS INEQUITY IN THE PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY FIELD
- ADOPTION OF THE GLOBAL ACTION PLAN ON BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH
- INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES: new proposed guidelines on issues such as e-commerce, multi-criteria analysis methodologies and others.

# PENDING ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE RESUMED SESSION OF COP16

A resumed meeting of the COP is expected to convene in the coming months, possibly in Rome (TBC)

# PARTIES ARE EXPECTED TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS TO APPROVE A NEW “STRATEGY FOR RESOURCE MOBILISATION”

- The aim is to secure **US \$200 billion annually** by 2030 (including at least **US \$30 Billion through international finance**) from all sources and address **US \$500 billion per year** in subsidies that harm biodiversity
- Possible creation of a new **dedicated global financing instrument** for biodiversity to receive, disburse, mobilize and articulate funding needs.
- Existing Mechanism for the mobilization of resources for the GBF:
- The **Global Biodiversity Framework Fund** (GBFF), agreed at COP15 in 2022 and established by the Global Environment Facility (GEF): **11 donor countries** as well as the Government of Quebec have pledged nearly **US \$400 million** to the GBF Fund, with **US \$163 million pledged during COP16**.

## PARTIES WILL CONSIDER THE DECISION ON THE MONITORING FRAMEWORK OF THE KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK (KMGBF)

- Final step in finalizing the **monitoring framework** agreed upon at COP15
- Provides the common yardsticks the world will use to measure progress in the KMGBF implementation.

# MECHANISMS FOR PLANNING, MONITORING, REPORTING AND REVIEW. PARTIES WILL MAKE KEY DECISIONS ON:

- **How progress will be reviewed at COP17** as part of a global stocktake on collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF
- **How commitments** from actors other than national governments **can be included in the Mechanisms** – including from youth, women, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society, the private sector and subnational governments.
- **Finalization of the national reporting template** – which includes the headline indicators of the monitoring framework.

# THANK YOU



## Biodiversity in Europe and Central Asia

**Biodiversity and mountain action – lessons from Kyrgyzstan**

**Antje Grawe, Resident Coordinator, Kyrgyzstan**



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## **Biodiversity in the development of the new CCA for North Macedonia**

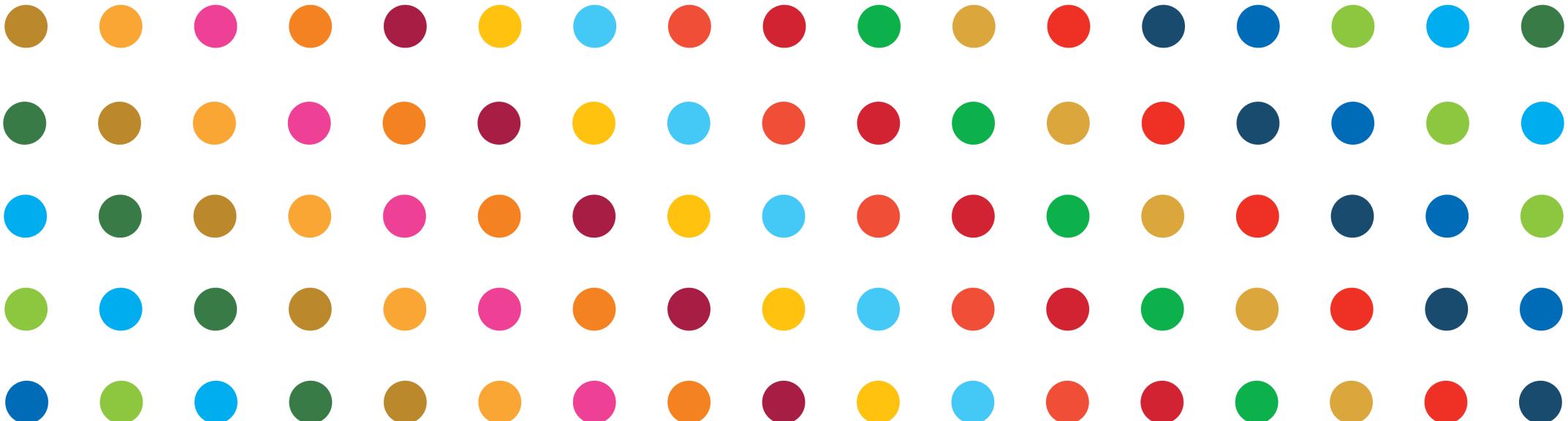
**Lilian Kandikjan, Partnerships and Development Finance Officer, RCO North Macedonia**



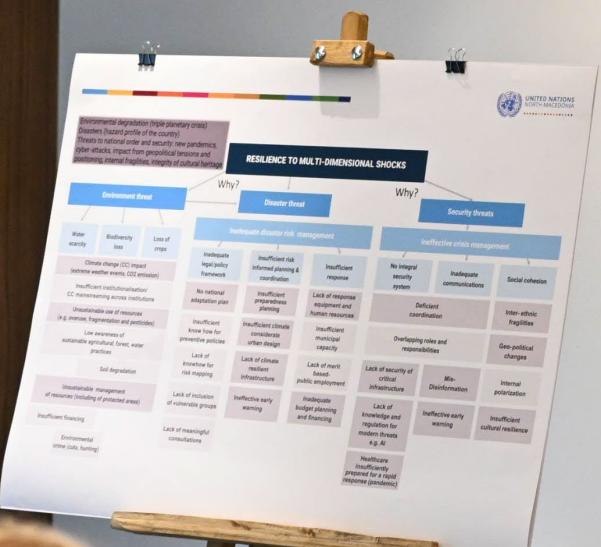
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# Mainstreaming Biodiversity in CCA / UNSDCF



# Systemic / nexus aspects



- **Forestry, energy, air pollution and poverty**
- Biodiversity and climate change / DRR (fires)/ air pollution
- Biodiversity and economic activity (tourism, agriculture)
- Biodiversity and use of water for electricity
- Clean environment as a Human Right & Environmental Crime

## Ohrid Region Natural and Cultural Heritage

intersections with heritage, urban planning, transport, tourism, agriculture, fishing, energy production  
transboundary cooperation, digital tools  
collaboration of three UN entities to holistically assess and provide recommendations

# New UNSDCF – potential entry points

- Forests and lakes (focus beyond simply protected areas)
- Biodiversity and economic activity (tourism, agriculture)
- Biodiversity and DRR
- Biodiversity/National Parks finance and governance (PFM, PAR)
- Clean environment as a Human Right & Environmental Crime





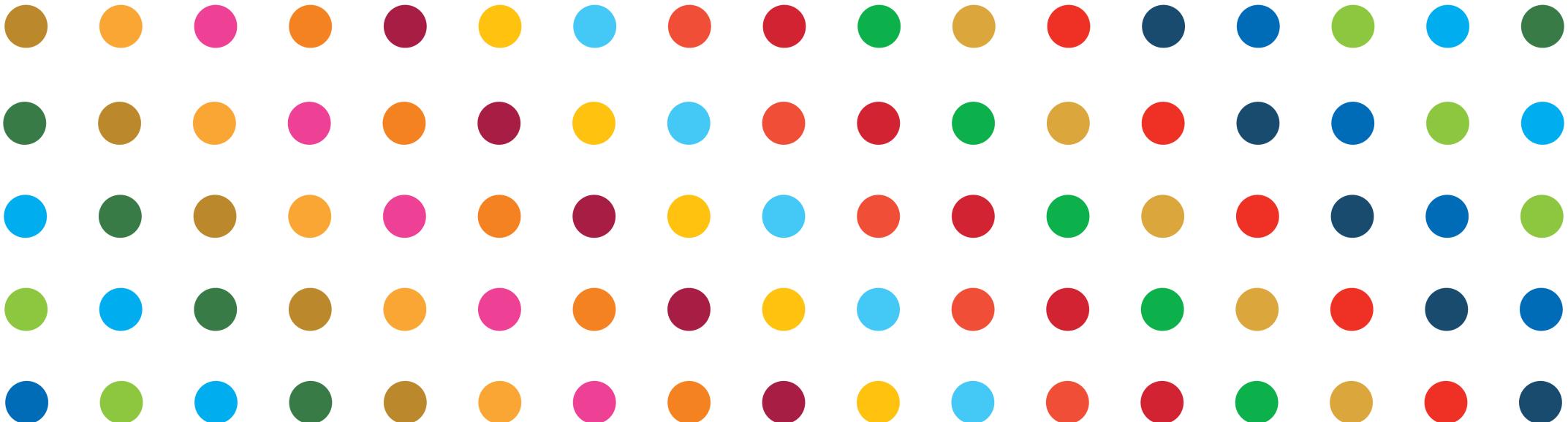
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# Thank you

*Lilian Kandikjan, [lilian.kandikjan@un.org](mailto:lilian.kandikjan@un.org), RCO Focal Point*

*Environment, Partnerships and Development Finance Officer*



## UN Common Approach to Biodiversity

**Hossein Fadaei, Head of the EMG Secretariat, UNEP**



# UN Common Approach to Biodiversity: Facilitating the implementation of the GBF within the UN system

Incorporating global agendas at the national level: best practices and lessons learned for integrating biodiversity into the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in Europe and Central Asia

27 November

# UN Common Approach to Biodiversity

A strategic framework for cohesive, systematic, and collaborative efforts for a stronger focus on nature across the entire United Nations system.



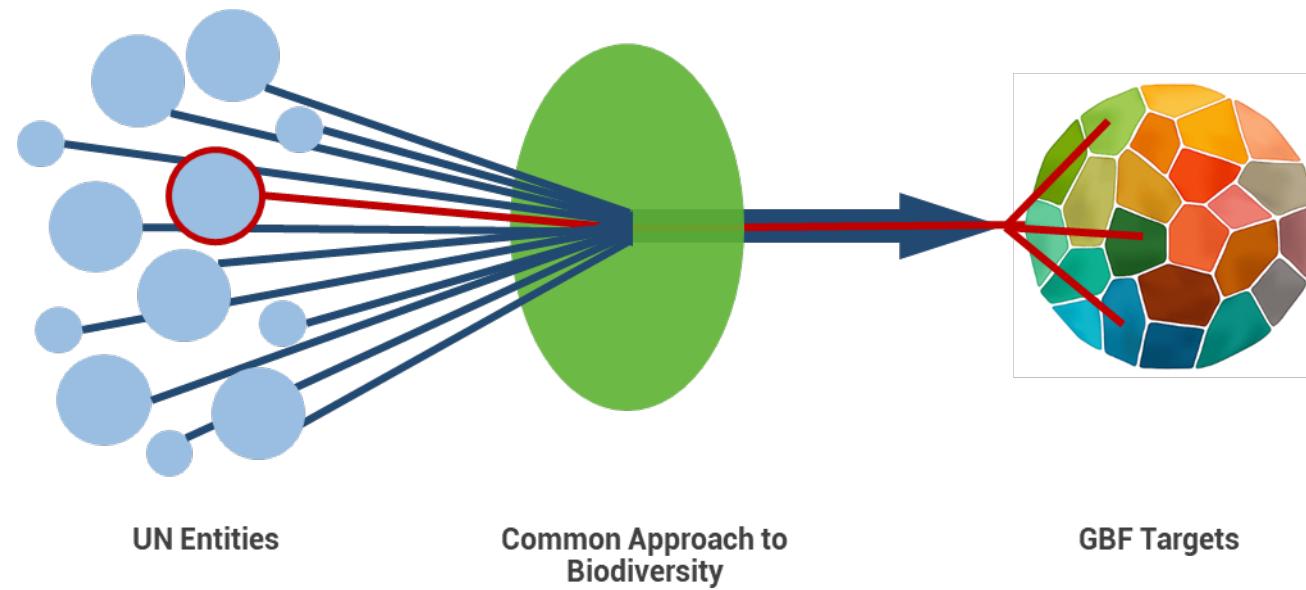
- **Integrate environmental considerations into UN policies, programs, and operations.**
- **Leverage the collective strength of the UN system to enhance environmental outcomes.**
- **Promote collaboration across UN entities for sustainable development goals.**
- **Ensure policy coherence and alignment with environmental frameworks.**

Shared recognition of the urgency of acting

Commitment to mainstreaming biodiversity

Build upon the strategies and programmes of work of United Nations system entities

Facilitate the implementation of the **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**



# Collaborative efforts to support Member States

Through the collaborative efforts of relevant UN entities at the global, regional and national levels, outcomes and outputs are to be observed in the following areas:

## Outcomes:



Support for Member States in implementing MEA decisions



Inclusion of biodiversity into integrated national financing frameworks



Promotion of environmental and intergenerational justice



Facilitation of inclusive multi-stakeholder partnerships

## Outputs:



Internal global policy alignment and coherence



Alignment of current resources and mobilized additional joint financing



Coordinated outreach and communication efforts



Knowledge exchanged to identify, prioritise, scale up and accelerate action

# Activities: 50+ ways to integrate biodiversity and nature-based solutions

A [list](#) of practical interventions at all levels that the UN system can pursue jointly as a part of the Common Approach

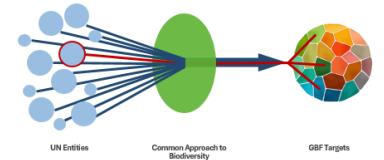
For each impact area and objective of the CA, the document provides a non-exhaustive list of:

- I. Actions that the UN system can pursue at all levels to implement the CA
- II. Examples to operationalise each action
- III. UN entities which could be involved
- IV. Already-existing resources the actions could build on
- V. Links to the SDGs

# Implementation to date

# Cross Mapping: UN Entities Mandates & CA Objectives

Potential collective action of UN entities has been mapped to the Common Approach objectives. Connections sourced from "Biodiversity Common Approach: 50+ ways to integrate biodiversity and nature-based so



# Advocacy and Awareness Raising: UN Common Approach to Biodiversity Webinar Series



## Urban Spatial Planning for Biodiversity Conservation and Preservation

24 April 2024



## Agrifood Systems and Biodiversity

4 June 2024



## Human Rights and Biodiversity

9 July 2024



## Disaster Risk Reduction and Biodiversity

Coming later in 2024



## Financing Biodiversity

Coming later in 2024

### Series aims include:

- Promote and support GBF implementation
- Identify opportunities to increase engagement of all actors with the GBF
- Explore how the UN system can collectively better support Member States
- Engage with UN Country Teams



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IFAD



INTERNATIONAL  
MONETARY FUND



UNDRR  
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



UNITED NATIONS  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



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# Global-level Monitoring and Reporting

Development of a global monitoring and reporting framework to support the Mid-Term Report (anticipated in 2025) and the Final Report (anticipated in 2030).

This framework will provide **quantitative and qualitative** insights across a range of topics, including:



Common Approach **outputs** at global, regional and national level



UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks that contain actions to **implement NBSAPs and MEAs**



The UN systems role in **supporting the GBF**, through the Common Approach



**UN development system** entities that address biodiversity loss



UN entities' **strategies, frameworks and activities** that cover/integrate biodiversity



Biodiversity screening of UN locations

# Thank You

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# Mainstreaming biodiversity in CCAs and UNSDCFs: preliminary key messages and guidance on actions

**Felipe Chamizo, Biodiversity Specialist**



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Environment and  
Climate Change  
for Europe and  
Central Asia



# Mainstreaming biodiversity in CCAs and UNSDCF

## Preliminary key messages and guidance on actions

Incorporating global agendas at the national level: best practices and lessons learned for integrating biodiversity into the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in Europe and Central Asia

November 27, 2024



## Why CCAs and UNSDCF's?

- While CCAs and CFs are **key entry points** for mainstreaming biodiversity at the national level, overall, they still **lack incorporating** biodiversity mainstreaming and biodiversity-related issues
- Biodiversity can be incorporated **across all pillars**, including economy, social/people)





1

## Advocacy Messages

**Key advocacy messages** to utilize CCAs and UNDCFS as tools for addressing the biodiversity crisis

2

## Practical Actions

**A checklist of practical actions** for mainstreaming biodiversity in UNSDCF processes

3

## Webinar (November 27)

**A webinar to discuss** key advocacy messages and the checklist with IBC members and stakeholders, and **exchange best practices**

4

## Guidance

**Biodiversity-specific guidance** for inclusion in the *Guidance on Integrating the Environment and Climate Change in UNSDCFs*



## Three interconnected levels

**Key advocacy messages**

**Guidance: Biodiversity  
in the CCA**

**Guidance: Biodiversity  
in the UNSDCF**



# Key advocacy messages

## Global

Biodiversity and nature form the **basis of our existence**, providing us with products and services that directly impact our economy, society, health and wellbeing

**Regulating services** maintain environmental stability i.a. through regulation of climate, air and soil functions upon which our society depends. These account for 65% of the total ecosystem service value and are rarely accounted for in fiscal systems

In terms of monetary value, it is estimated that nature and biodiversity provide an economic benefit globally of \$170 - 190 trillion annually. This further illustrates the **interdependence of economic development, social well-being and environmental integrity**

The role of trees and plants in capturing and **retaining pollutants** is financially significant

## Regional

Subregional platforms such as the **Regional Biodiversity Platform** and the **Biodiversity TF of the Western Balkans** can be useful and relevant for strengthening capacities; facilitating access to and transfer of knowledge and experiences, technology and innovations; and fostering development of programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

Health care costs avoided as a result of air quality regulation ecosystem services were estimated to 10.446 million EUR in the EU in 2019



+ regional examples



## Key advocacy messages

Additional key advocacy messages will be developed addressing i.e. the following:

- *Scaling up successful biodiversity action in the region, capitalizing on regional expertise (e.g. resource mobilisation for biodiversity action, cross-border action, etc.).*
- *The role of biodiversity in production systems and productive landscapes (aquaculture, agriculture, livestock, fisheries).*
- *Interlinkages between biodiversity loss, climate change, and desertification (e.g.: the role of biodiversity in climate change adaptation and mitigation)*
- *Biodiversity and human rights*
- *The role of local actors, smallholders, youth organisations, women organizations, etc. for biodiversity action.*



# Guidance: Biodiversity in the CCA

The inclusion of biodiversity-related data (national, regional, sub-regional and transboundary dynamics) in the description of the **country situation and development context** will contribute to a clearer understanding of the country's sustainable development trajectory and to the setting of UNCT priorities

**Relevant data** includes: number of species and species richness in a particular area/ecosystem, species diversity between different ecosystems, overall diversity for the different ecosystems within larger geographic areas

The situational analysis of the legal, institutional, policy and financial landscape in the CCA should integrate information on environmental and **biodiversity-related policies and regulations**:

- ✓ The governance and political analysis should consider an up-to-date list of key national biodiversity related policies and commitments as well as relevant obligations under biodiversity-related international commitments and multilateral agreements
- ✓ Elements linked to the enabling of biodiversity mainstreaming, including capacity-building needs; and public and private financing in support of biodiversity action

## + regional examples



## Guidance: Biodiversity in the CCA

Additional region-specific biodiversity guidance to consider in CCAs will be developed including on:

- ***Policy coherence***
- ***National biodiversity-specific and biodiversity-related policies, including NBSAPs, as well as identification and analysis of policy gaps***
- ***Alignment of national policies with international frameworks and commitments (GBF targets, NDCs, NAPs, SDGs, etc.)***
- ***Challenges and gaps for institutional coordination and governance***



# Guidance: Biodiversity in the UNSDCF

Biodiversity action should address the different drivers of biodiversity loss. **Holistic approaches** to biodiversity action may be incorporated in the Theory of Change and included in the Strategic priorities and outcomes in the context of addressing national priorities and identified gaps

The CF may take into consideration **National Targets** submitted by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

CFs should also promote the **sustainable use of biodiversity**, ensuring that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed in a sustainable manner. This includes:

- An increase in the application of practices that are already taking place in the region, such as sustainable intensification, innovative agroecological practices, and other nation-positive actions that contribute to the efficiency and productivity of production systems, while conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining its contribution to people and livelihoods
- Recognizing the intrinsic interlinkages between biodiversity, food and agriculture. Biodiversity loss poses a significant threat to the availability and access to healthy, nutritious and diverse diets, particularly among vulnerable and marginalized groups in the region

## + regional examples



## Guidance: Biodiversity in the UNSDCF

Additional region-specific, practical guidance will be developed, including on:

- *Ecosystem and landscape restoration actions, including ecological restoration strategies and actions for productive landscapes*
- *Sustainable forest management practices, including forest conservation and use actions, protected areas, community-based forest management and practices and other effective area-based conservations measures (OECMs); as well as agroforestry, silvopasture, and other integrated actions*
- *Communications, education and advocacy on biodiversity*
- *The incorporation of Nature-based solutions for biodiversity conservation (e.g.: ADAPT project in the Western Balkans)*



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# Thank you

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# Open discussion



- **How can biodiversity considerations be integrated into the non-environmental sections of CCAs? What are the obstacles to such integration (such as a lack of data) and what setbacks have you encountered?**
- **How can inter-agency collaboration strengthen consideration of biodiversity in country-level planning? What challenges and difficulties have you encountered in such collaboration?**
- **How have less successful experiences in integrating these issues shaped your approach in subsequent efforts?**



# Survey

Participation link

<https://www.menti.com/alkebgh5zuj7>

QR code





## Closing remarks and next steps

**Marika Palosaari, Programme Coordinator, UNEP, IBC Core team**



## Issue-based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change

Thank you



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## To learn more about the IBC and its resources



<https://uneuropecentralasia.org/>



The Issue-based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change provides a platform for UN agencies to promote coordinated support to all member States in the region in their implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and to support the region's UN Country Teams on environmental and climate change issues.

The Coalition, in place since January 2020, addresses activities dedicated to strengthening environmental and climate change governance, improving environmental management and climate change mitigation and adaptation, and promoting sustainable management of natural resources.

**PARTICIPATING UN ORGANIZATIONS**

**CO-CHAIRS**

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

**MEMBERS**

The Coalition is open to all UN agencies, funds and programmes. Related entities working at the regional level on environment and/or climate change may also be invited.

[Download Term of References](#)

[Download Workplan 2024 - see page 2](#)



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