



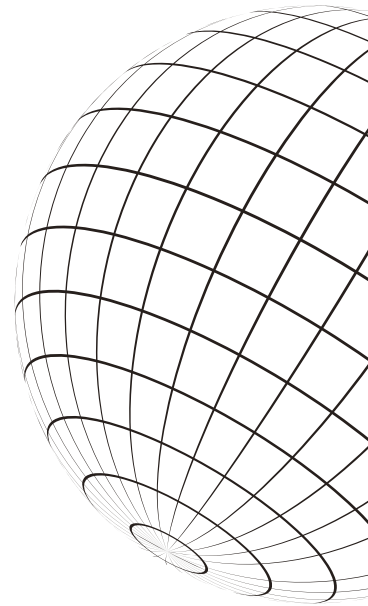
**SUSTAINABLE USE AS IT
RELATES TO THE IPBES
SUSTAINABLE USE
ASSESSMENT AND THE CBD
GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY
FRAMEWORK**

2023



WHAT IS IPBES?

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is an independent body established in 2012 to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services. As of 2023, 139 governments are members. The work of IPBES falls into four broad categories: assessments, building capacity and knowledge, policy support, and outreach and communication.



The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services' (IPBES) "Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species" and the "Summary for policymakers of the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species" (report) were approved in July 2022. They took 4 years and the input of hundreds of experts and contributing authors to complete.

Billions of people worldwide rely on the use of wild species for reasons such as ceremony, energy, food, materials, medicine, and recreation. The report finds that about 50,000 wild species are used through fishing, gathering, logging and terrestrial animal harvesting globally. It states that the sustainable use of wild species is linked to well-being, income, culture, food, sustainable development, medicines and more. For example, the sustainable use of wild species has the potential to contribute to the achievement of 15 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and is critical in achieving Targets 5 and 9 of the Global Diversity Framework (GBF). The report also emphasizes the essential role that wild species play in the well-being of many indigenous peoples and local communities. Ensuring that use of wild species is sustainable by promoting sustainable use and ending overexploitation is a key message in the report.



The report acknowledges that the status and trends in the use of wild species varies; that sustainable use is influenced by environmental (e.g., climate, invasive species), economic (e.g., a shift from wild sourced to farmed source), cultural, and political drivers that can have negative and positive impacts; and that overexploitation is a threat to biodiversity. The direct and indirect drivers that impact sustainable use are varied and unique to specific situations. Therefore, they require policy instruments and tools that are “tailored to the social and ecological contexts of the use of wild species and support fairness, rights and equity.” The report identifies seven key elements that support success and could be used to “promote sustainable use and enhance the sustainability of the use of wild species in the future if they are scaled-up.” Those include:

- inclusive and participatory decision-making;
- inclusion of multiple forms of knowledge and recognition of rights;
- equitable distribution of costs and benefits;
- policies tailored to local social and ecological context;
- monitoring of social and ecological conditions and practices;
- coordinated and aligned policies; and
- robust institutions, from customary to statutory.

“It is critical to ensure sustainable use, and fair and equitable sharing of its benefits – particularly to the most vulnerable populations and the communities that are the stewards of nature. Sustainable use can provide a strong incentive for conservation and living in harmony with nature.”

~ Ivonne Higuero, Secretary-General, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

Sustainable use is also integral to achieving the GBF as it is the basis for Goal B and Targets 5 and 9 and is indirectly incorporated into other goals and targets (e.g., Targets 1, 10, 14, and 15). This reflects the Convention on Biological Diversity’s (CBD) intent to include all three objectives of the CBD into the GBF, one of which is the sustainable use of biodiversity. The information and recommendations from the IPBES report should influence implementation of Targets 5 and 9. Figure 1 shows the relationship of the GBF targets as they pertain to sustainable use.

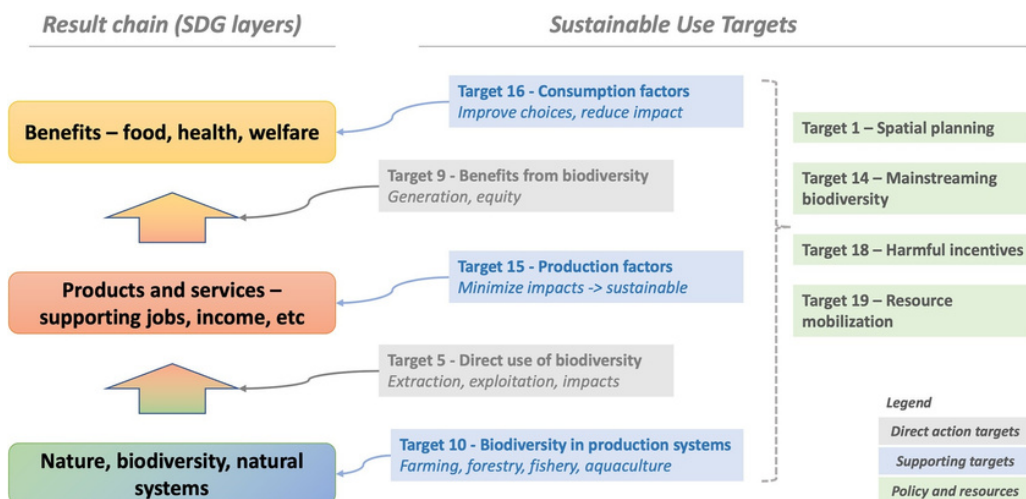


Figure 1: A schematic showing the relationship of targets of the Global Diversity Framework (Obura et al., 2023)

Obura et al. provide a few key messages relevant to the GBF targets. First, assuring that the use of nature is sustainable is foundational to human security and welfare because nature provides essential benefits to all people and all parts of global society. Second, sustainable use is an equity and conservation priority. Lastly, production systems must transform to ensure their demand and reliance on natural functions and services are sustainable (Targets 10, 15, 16).

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

The 15th Conference of Parties to the CBD adopted the GBF. It includes four goals and 23 targets for achievement by 2030. They are ambitious targets committing governments to address land conservation and protection, biodiversity loss, ecosystem connectivity, subsidies, sustainable use and more.

Sustainable use is defined by the CBD as “the use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.”

The use of biodiversity is critical for the whole human population and is a substantial part of economies and markets from local to global levels. Some additional key message for the GBF targets include the following (Future Earth and GEO BON, 2022).

1. People, particularly those in poor and vulnerable situations, benefit from the use of biodiversity for food, medicine, energy, income, and many other purposes, contributing significantly to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Achieving sustainable use is essential for human well-being; it is also a foundational equity and conservation priority. (Target 9)
2. Regulation of the use of biodiversity should minimize damaging, unsafe, and illegal practices; it must also promote sustainable use that equitably delivers benefits to people. (Target 5)
3. The roles, rights, and agency of indigenous peoples, local communities, and of women, are foundational in particular for customary sustainable use, and are foundational to sustainable use. (Targets 21, 22)
4. To support sustainable use of biodiversity, policy tools and processes must be context-specific, inclusive, and participatory, supported by resilient and adaptive institutions that are aligned across multiple scales, levels of government, sectors, and cultures, and recognize diverse conceptualizations and knowledge systems. Promoting tenure and resource rights contributes to sustainable use. (Targets 1, 14)
5. Production systems must transform to ensure their demands and reliance on natural functions and services and impacts on biodiversity are sustainable. Reduction in demand to sustainable levels is essential for the resilience of production and natural ecosystems. (Targets 10, 15, 16)

The IPBES report and the GBF provide messages and information to support the conservation of wildlife and their habitats and to promote and improve, where needed, the sustainable use of wild species. Sustainable use is a key component of biodiversity conservation and achieving the GBF targets.

KEY MESSAGES

Key messages from the Summary for policymakers of the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species (IPBES (2022)).

A

Sustainable use of wild species is critical for people and nature

A.1 Billions of people in all regions of the world rely on and benefit from the use of wild species for food, medicine, energy, income and many other purposes.

A.2 Sustainable use of wild species is central to the identity and existence of many indigenous peoples and local communities.

A.3 Ensuring sustainability of the use of wild species, including inter alia by promoting the sustainable use and halting overexploitation, is critical to reverse the global trend in biodiversity decline.

B

Status and trends in the use of wild species

B.1 Status and trends in the uses of wild species vary depending on types and scales of use, and social-ecological contexts.

B.2 The sustainability of the use of wild species is influenced negatively or positively by multiple drivers.

B.3 Key elements of sustainable use of wild species have been identified in relevant international and regional standards, agreements and certification schemes but indicators are incomplete, most notably for social components.

C

Key elements and conditions for the sustainable use of wild species

C.1 Policy instruments and tools are most successful when tailored to the social and ecological contexts of the use of wild species and support fairness, rights and equity.

C.2 Policy instruments and tools are more effective when they are supported by robust and adaptive institutions and are aligned across sectors and scales. Inclusive, participatory mechanisms enhance the adaptive capacity of policy instruments.

C.3 Effective monitoring of social, including economic, and ecological outcomes supports better decision-making. Scientific evidence is often limited, and indigenous and local knowledge is underutilized and undervalued.

D

Pathways and levers to promote sustainable use and enhance the sustainability of the use of wild species in a dynamic future

D.1 The sustainability of the use of wild species in the future is likely to be challenged by climate change, increasing demand and technological advances. Addressing and meeting these challenges will require transformative changes.

D.2 To address current and projected future pressures, concerted interventions will be needed to implement and scale-up policy actions that have been shown to support the sustainable use of wild species.

D.3 The world is dynamic and to remain sustainable, use of wild species requires constant negotiation and adaptive management. It also requires a common vision of sustainable use and transformative change in the human-nature relationship.

Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Goal B and Targets 5 and 9



GOAL B

Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued, maintained, and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development, for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050.

TARGET 5

Ensure that the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, preventing overexploitation, minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reducing the risk of pathogen spill-over, applying the ecosystem approach, while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.



TARGET 9

Ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable, thereby providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.

International Relations Committee Briefing Paper: Sustainable Use as It Relates to the IPBES Sustainable Use Assessment and the CBD Global Biodiversity Framework

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