



**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**

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**Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working  
Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions  
of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
Twelfth meeting  
Geneva, 12–16 November 2023  
Agenda item 5  
Knowledge management component of the  
Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

**Recommendation adopted by the Working Group on 16 November 2023**

**12/3. Updated draft knowledge management component of the  
Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

*The Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity*

1. *Takes note* of progress made in the development of the draft knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and of the comments made by Parties on the draft strategy at its twelfth meeting, which have been reflected in the draft strategy contained in the annex to the present recommendation;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, when updating the draft strategy for its further peer review by Parties and subsequent submission to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting, to add a biennial workplan to accompany the actions of the draft strategy, with timelines for implementation up to 2030;
3. *Recommends* that the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, at its fourth meeting, and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its sixteenth meeting, in their review and finalization of the draft strategy, give particular attention to issues related to the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities on the basis of the comments made by Parties at the twelfth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention, as reflected in the annex.

## Annex

# Draft knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework\*

## I. Background and context

1. Knowledge management is one of the key strategic means of implementation that will underpin the achievement of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as recognized in Target 21<sup>1</sup> and section K of the Framework.
2. The knowledge management strategy supports the effective implementation of the Framework and complements its monitoring framework, the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development, the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and the clearing-house mechanisms of the Convention.

## II. Components

3. Knowledge management encompasses a range of processes, strategies and practices through which biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge are generated and collected; organized, curated, stored and shared; and used or applied to achieve biodiversity conservation-related objectives and outcomes.
4. The strategy recognizes the four interdependent components of knowledge management, namely: (a) people, including various actors, such as knowledge holders, indigenous peoples and local communities, managers, curators and users; (b) processes, that is, the relevant procedures, standards and policies; (c) technology, including the technological tools, systems and platforms; and (d) content, that is, biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including how it is managed, for example through cataloguing, tagging and indexing, digitization and organization.

## III. Principles

5. The strategy recognizes that, to contribute to the achievement of the goals and targets of the Framework, it is important for data, information and knowledge, as well as the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities that are made available with their free, prior and informed consent,<sup>2</sup> to be available and accessible in a timely manner to decision makers, practitioners and the public and to be considered by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the development of various assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services. It is also important for knowledge to be fit for purpose in terms of content and format of transmission.
6. Furthermore, it is important for Parties, other Governments and stakeholders to foster a culture of knowledge-sharing, continuous learning from experience, and knowledge retention and re-use to improve implementation processes and practices.

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\* Further to decision 15/16 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the draft will be subject to peer review by Parties before its submission for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting.

<sup>1</sup> Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance and the integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent, in accordance with national legislation.

<sup>2</sup>All references to “free, prior and informed consent” refer to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement”.

7. The strategy also recognizes that effective knowledge management requires acknowledging and optimizing the contributions of various governmental and non-governmental institutions, regional and international organizations, researchers, practitioners, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders to promote diverse and inclusive knowledge societies.

8. The strategy promotes the principles of findability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability, with a view to promoting the open sharing of data, information and knowledge.

9. In addition, in order to ensure that access to the traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities is given with their free, prior and informed consent, the strategy also promotes the principles of collective benefit, authority to control by indigenous peoples and local communities, responsibility, reciprocity and ethics.

#### **IV. Purpose**

10. The strategy is aimed at addressing some of the challenges and needs identified by Parties in order to facilitate the effective implementation of the Framework and related decisions of the Conference of the Parties, including by achieving the following:

(a) Addressing disparities in data and information availability and accessibility across countries, and the barriers to the effective use of existing biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, taking into account the specific challenges faced by developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(b) Strengthening national and, as appropriate, subnational capacities, systems and mechanisms for biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge management to support evidence-based decision-making and action, and for the monitoring and reporting of progress towards the achievement of national targets as contributions to the goals and targets of the Framework;

(c) Increasing the level of standardization for greater harmonization and interoperability among national and regional biodiversity information systems, tools and platforms, so that data can flow seamlessly to support planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting;

(d) Developing appropriate national policies and strategies to support the generation of data and information and knowledge management;

(e) Enhancing coordination and collaboration among various biodiversity knowledge initiatives, tools and platforms to avoid their duplication and foster efficiency and sustainability;

(f) Leveraging existing biodiversity knowledge management initiatives and networks by bridging the gaps that prevent their full and effective usage, and enhancing coordination and collaboration among them, including by enhancing synergies among biodiversity-related conventions to facilitate more coordinated national reporting, in line with their respective mandates, legal authority and responsibilities;

(g) Strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the generation of biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge.

11. Ultimately, the strategy is aimed at enhancing the accessibility and use of relevant data, information and knowledge, including traditional knowledge given access to with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities, for informed policy development, planning, decision-making and action to support the implementation and monitoring of the Framework at all levels. It is also aimed at strengthening communication, awareness-raising, education, capacity development, knowledge-sharing and organizational learning.

## V. Outcomes

12. The implementation of the strategy is expected to result in: the increased capacity of Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders to capture, manage and use biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge; an expanded knowledge base; and the increased availability, accessibility and uptake of relevant data, information and knowledge at all levels, with a view to facilitating evidence-based programming and policy design, informed decision-making and the effective implementation and monitoring of the Framework.

13. The strategic objectives, component actions and main actors to achieve those outcomes are listed in the table below.

## VI. Implementation

14. The strategy will be implemented, as appropriate, by Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders, including subnational governments, cities, other local authorities and the private sector, with support from the Secretariat, in line with the priorities outlined in the national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the Framework and relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties by making full use of existing resources and cooperation with relevant organizations and processes, noting that any new and additional activities will be conducted subject to the availability of resources. The strategy will consider the capacity, technical, technological and financial gaps that undermine the capabilities of countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to produce and gain access to biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge. The strategy will also consider the need to engage indigenous peoples, local communities, women, youth and groups in vulnerable situations in research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

## VII. Monitoring

15. The implementation of the strategy will be monitored using the information provided by Parties in their national reports and the indicators included in the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Governmental and non-governmental actors may adapt and use the indicators to monitor, assess and report on the outcomes and impact of their knowledge management efforts at the national, regional and global levels. The information generated from the monitoring process will be used to inform the review and update of the strategy, as appropriate, in 2030.

### Strategic objectives, actions and actors

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
A. Scoping and framing of the situation and the needs	(a) Map existing knowledge, knowledge holders, curators and sources <sup>a</sup> relevant to the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and national biodiversity strategies and action plans	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, Secretariat
	(b) Identify knowledge needs and priorities	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(c) Identify options for addressing knowledge gaps	Parties, organizations
	(d) Develop knowledge management strategies and plans	Parties

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
	(e) Map existing knowledge management systems and platforms at the global, regional, national and subnational levels	Parties, subnational governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, Secretariat, as relevant
B. Promoting knowledge generation and synthesis	(a) Establish processes for knowledge co-creation	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(b) Enhance collaboration among organizations, initiatives and processes to promote knowledge generation	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(c) Enhance outreach to relevant research and academic communities and other institutions and communities to encourage them to undertake relevant research and share relevant research data, information and knowledge	Parties
	(d) Develop national capacity for knowledge generation and promote the collection of data, information and knowledge by private citizens at the subnational and local levels	Parties
	(e) Promote the use of digital technology, including remote sensing, to collect data and information	Parties, organizations
	(f) Identify and collect, where authorized, the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, with particular attention to the knowledge of indigenous women, with their free, prior and informed consent, and with clear acknowledgement of the source	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities
	(g) Establish and convene communities of practice on knowledge management, including knowledge generation, storage, dissemination and application	Parties
C. Facilitating knowledge discovery and collection	(a) Develop, enhance and use web-based tools to discover and collect data, information and knowledge from various sources	Secretariat, organizations
	(b) Promote the use of tools and technology for knowledge discovery, such as data mining and machine learning	Parties, organizations
	(c) Engage relevant stakeholders, including knowledge creators, brokers and private citizens, in the creation and collation of knowledge	Parties, organizations

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
D. Enhancing knowledge organization and sharing	(a) Review metadata and enhance the tagging and mapping of knowledge objects from various sources to increase findability	Parties, organizations
	(b) Develop and promote data, information and knowledge-sharing standards and protocols to ensure good quality data, compatibility and interoperability across biodiversity information systems, tools and platforms <sup>b</sup>	Parties, organizations
	(c) Improve data harmonization and interoperability among biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge systems	Secretariat, Parties, organizations
	(d) Strengthen the capacity of Governments to manage and share data, information and knowledge efficiently across conventions <sup>c</sup>	Parties
	(e) Promote a culture of sharing data, information and knowledge and their application	Parties
	(f) Develop, showcase and disseminate tailored knowledge products, including at workshops, webinars and knowledge fairs	Secretariat, Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(g) Ensure compliance of data users and databases with relevant access and benefit-sharing legislation related to access to traditional knowledge to prevent the misuse and misappropriation of traditional knowledge	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(h) Develop a single national repository or portal for biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge to promote access and use as part of or linked to the national clearing-house mechanism	Parties
E. Promoting the uptake and effective use and application of knowledge	(a) Develop and implement strategies to increase the uptake, use and application of existing biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge to inform biodiversity programming and policy and decision-making	Parties
	(b) Promote and facilitate the sharing, replication, scale-up, adaptation and systematization of data, information and knowledge, including documented good practices and lessons learned, to improve processes and practices	Parties, organizations

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
	(c) Create and utilize mechanisms to facilitate interactions and dialogue between policymakers and decision makers and the research community, practitioners, indigenous peoples and local communities	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities
	(d) Establish linkages between scientific networks and communication experts to enable the translation of scientific research outcomes into knowledge products	Parties
F. Conducting knowledge audits and reviews	(a) Undertake periodic surveys to assess, inter alia, the types of information and knowledge most frequently sought, the ease of access to the information needed, existing knowledge gaps, the level of knowledge-sharing and preferred channels	Parties
	(b) Analyse major knowledge gaps and identify options to address them	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities
	(c) Conduct a comprehensive review of the knowledge management strategy	Parties
G. Developing capacity in data, information and knowledge management	(a) Undertake gap and need analyses of national knowledge management capacities in the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans	Parties
	(b) Develop or strengthen the policies and programmes for biodiversity knowledge management, including for traditional knowledge	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities
	(c) Strengthen the institutional capacity of relevant national agencies in biodiversity informatics and knowledge management, including to support efforts by indigenous peoples and local communities to strengthen their secure indigenous knowledge systems of knowledge management	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(d) Strengthen national knowledge management systems and mechanisms for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	Parties
	(e) Provide guidance on national database development and the sharing of experience in data access and use	Parties
	(f) Strengthen the capacities of decision makers, practitioners, the public, relevant stakeholders and knowledge holders to gain access to and use biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including traditional knowledge	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations, Secretariat

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Component actions</i>	<i>Main actors</i>
	provided with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities	
H. Strengthening knowledge networks and partnerships	(a) Strengthen networks on biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge management	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(b) Link centres of expertise, communities of practice, indigenous peoples and local communities and other knowledge sources	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(c) Enhance collaboration among scientific institutions, public institutions and indigenous peoples and local communities in their work on traditional knowledge related to sustainable practices	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations
	(d) Enhance coordination and collaboration among various biodiversity knowledge initiatives, tools and platforms	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations, Secretariat
	(e) Substantially increase the exchange of results of technical, scientific and socioeconomic research, as well as information on training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, indigenous and traditional knowledge, as such and in combination with the technologies referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 16 of the Convention	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations, Secretariat
I. Addressing capacity and technical gaps	(a) Develop targeted capacity-building initiatives to support the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in the production and generation of biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations, Secretariat
	(b) Establish partnerships between universities and scientific institutions and indigenous peoples and local communities to enhance the contributions of traditional knowledge to conservation and sustainable use research programmes, in line with the principle of free, prior and informed consent	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, organizations, Secretariat

<sup>a</sup> Including tools identified in the *Compendium of Guidance on Key Global Databases Related to Biodiversity-related Conventions* of the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre.

<sup>b</sup> In the context of traditional knowledge, this involves the development and promotion of community protocols and biocultural community protocols for gaining access to and using traditional knowledge.

<sup>c</sup> An example of an applicable tool to manage data, information and knowledge at the national level is the Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (available at <https://dart.informea.org>).