

LIFTING THE BRACKETS





Global Youth Biodiversity Network The Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN) is a network of individuals and youth organizations with over 50 national chapters worldwide standing together to safeguard biodiversity and halt its loss. It serves as the international coordination platform for youth participation in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).







Between 2017 and 2021, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network and its national and regional chapters consulted thousands of youth in over 110 countries with one purpose: designing a Post-2020 GBF reflecting the views of our generation.

In this booklet, we transcribed these priorities into policy recommendations for the OEWG4 negotiations.

### **COLOUR CODE\***

green: important

blue: also important

pink: yessss, also important

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\*The colour choices are purely aesthetic. We hope this doesn't look too much like a Christmas tree!





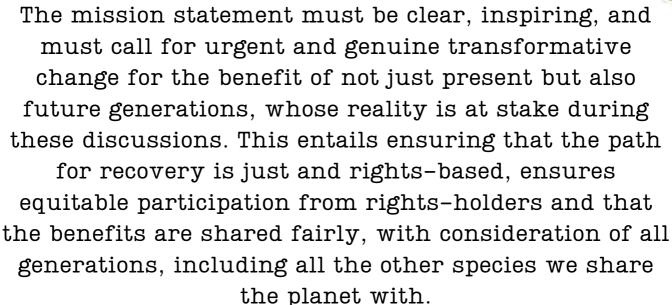


### **2030 MISSION**

By 2030, halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity and put nature on a fair and equitable path to recovery for the benefit of present and future generations and all life on Earth.







We also have concerns on net gain/no net loss & related approaches, which risk offsetting and could bring the illusion that biodiversity and ecosystem functions can be replaced once lost, which is not the case.





### **GOAL B**

Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed to ensure the long-term integrity of ecosystems, and nature's contributions to people are valued and maintained for the benefit of present and future generations, achieving the fulfilment of human rights including the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.



We believe that intergenerational equity must be integrated at the goal level, this is why this goal should include a mention of future generations. In line with this, we propose the consideration of longer-term strategies, which we believe is especially critical in a goal that talks about ensuring nature's contributions for all. Finally, we propose acknowledging the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment in this goal.

# SO YOU ARE TELLING ME THAT YOU PUT MY FUTURE IN BRACKETS?





### **B.** Purpose

transformative action by Governments and all of society, including indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society, children and youth, women, and businesses, to achieve the outcomes it sets out in its vision, mission, goals and targets, and thereby to contribute to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols, and other biodiversity related multilateral agreements, processes and instruments.



To promote ownership of the framework by all, we must leave no one behind. Children and youth as well as women are key actors in biodiversity. The Purpose section of the framework must reflect this.





### **B.bis**



SHOULD NOT REPLACE CLEAR MENTIONS OF RIGHTS-BASED APPROACHES, PARTICIPATION & SAFEGUARDS IN THE RELEVANT TARGETS & MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Principles and approaches for the implementation of the framework:

- Based on a values system aligned with the goal of living in harmony with nature
- Inclusive and integrative governance, policy coherence & well-functioning judicial and enforcement systems
- Respect for human rights, including children's rights and Indigenous peoples' rights
- Full and effective engagement of stakeholders and rights-holders in the design, implementation & review of the framework
- Applying inclusive, fair and equitable approaches
- Advancing intergenerational equity
- Using transformative education
- Based on science and other knowledge systems
- Applying the precautionary principle



Some of the elements proposed for the section B.bis are very important for our global youth community. But these need to also be reflected in the targets and indicators so we can see how implementation efforts take these principles and approaches into account.





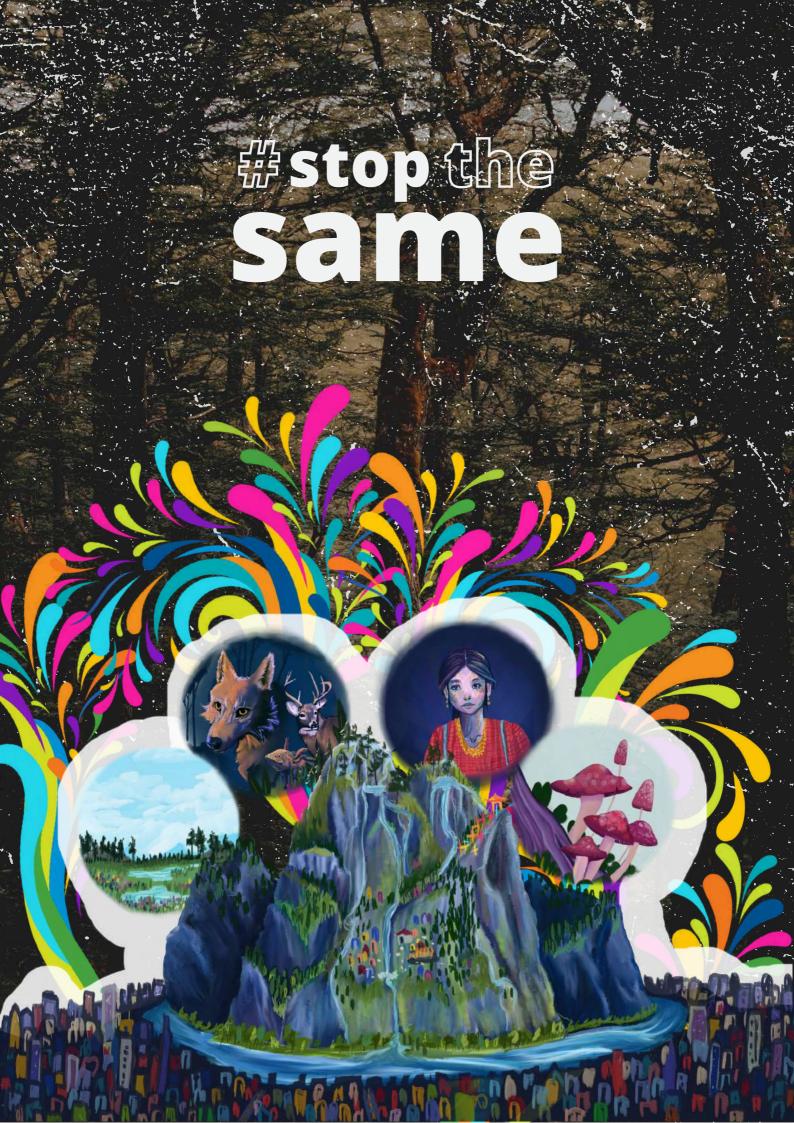
### I. Enabling Conditions

17. Further, success will depend on ensuring greater gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, reducing inequalities, greater access to education, employing rights-based approaches, respecting the principle of intergenerational equity, acknowledging the rights of nature, and addressing the full range of indirect drivers of biodiversity loss (...)



Intergenerational equity, which can also be understood as the right of future generations to a healthy environment, is crucial for long-term impacts and solutions. It articulates a concept of fairness among generations in biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and benefit-sharing. It also means ensuring the full and meaningful engagement of younger generations in decision-making processes at all levels. It is explicitly mentioned in different documents such as the preamble of the Paris Agreement, national constitutions, and is a fundamental principle of international environmental law.

In addition, we believe that acknowledging the rights of nature could aid in recognizing biodiversity's intrinsic values and capture diverse conceptualizations of nature and rightsbased approaches.







### K. Outreach, Awareness & Uptake

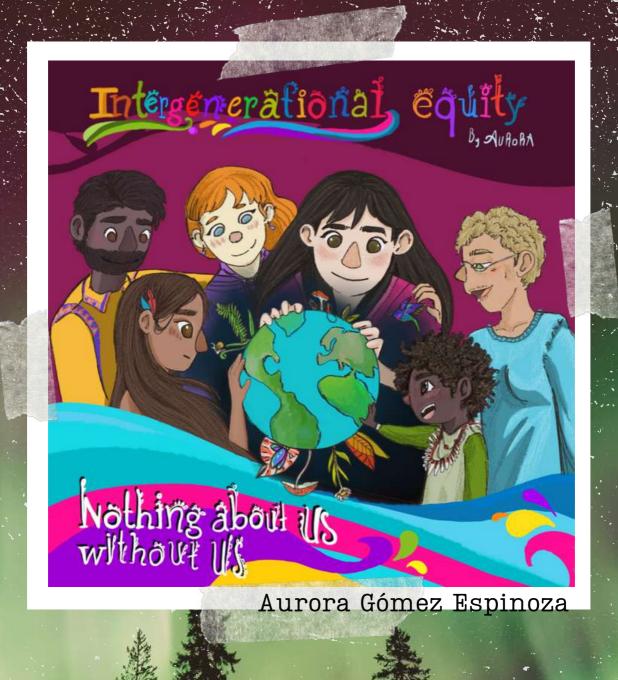
21. Outreach, awareness and uptake of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework by all stakeholders is essential to effective implementation, including by:

(d) Integrating transformative education on biodiversity and cultural diversity into formal, non-formal and informal educational programmes, promoting values and behaviours that are consistent with living in harmony with nature\*

\*alternative text as it appears in Co-Chairs' reflections document, CBD/WG2020/3/6



Education is a powerful tool to effect lasting change. Young people all over the world, as well as experts, recognize the massive potential of education in moving towards living within planetary boundaries. Young people see education as a key way forward toward living in harmony with nature and it is also listed by IPBES as a leverage point for transformative change. This issue should therefore be captured sufficiently in the post-2020 GBF to reflect the views of youth.









Ensure that land, <u>freshwater</u>, and marine ecosystems globally are under participatory and inclusive spatial planning, halting land- and sea-use change, through integrated landscape and seascape management, improving connectivity and retaining existing intact and wilderness areas, respecting traditional territories and resources governed, managed, or used by Indigenous peoples and local communities and their rights.



Only participatory approaches for spatial planning will ensure that the desired outcomes for people and nature will be achieved. It is also very important that spatial planning respects traditional territories and resources, to avoid more human rights violations and evictions of IPLC's from their lands.





Ensure that at least [30 per cent] globally of terrestrial, freshwater and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively managed and equitably governed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes, ensuring recognition and respect for the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including to their territories and to free, prior and informed consent.



Equitable governance is essential to ensure that the target not only takes into account management but also the governance of these areas. It is also imperative to clearly include recognition and respect for the rights of Indigenous peoples and including their land tenure rights and to Free Prior and Informed Consent in the designation of any areabased conservation measures.







(Alt.) Create synergies in tackling both climate change and biodiversity loss by addressing their common drivers, contributing to mitigation, adaptation and socio-ecological resilience, through ecosystem-based approaches, while prioritising reducing emissions and avoiding negative impacts of climate mitigation and adaptation efforts on biodiversity and communities.



To fight biodiversity loss and climate change, we need to start by addressing the common drivers of these two crises. Any action that delays the urgent decarbonization of our economies or is used for greenwashing/offsetting is a false solution. To ensure that mitigation and adaptation efforts don't have negative impacts on biodiversity and communities we need strong social and environment safeguards that are globally agreed. In this regard, the EbAs principles are already defined under the CBD.







Significantly increase the area and quality of, <u>public</u> access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces and infrastructure in urban and densely populated areas and ensure biodiversity-inclusive urban planning, enhancing native biodiversity, ecological connectivity and integrity, connectedness to nature, and improving human health and wellbeing, while safeguarding livelihoods of rural communities and contributing to inclusive and sustainable urbanization and the provision of ecosystem functions and services.



Most of the youth in the world live in urban areas, therefore their first connection with nature would come from the biodiversity in their cities. This is why biodiversity-inclusive urban planning is key to enhance our connectedness to nature, as well as to improve our health and wellbeing.









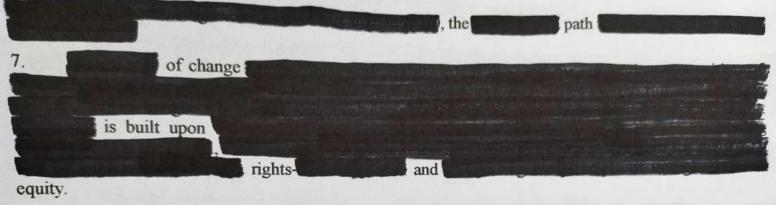
Ensure through mandatory requirements that all businesses and financial institutions assess, monitor, disclose and transparently report on their dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, human rights, and the rights of mother earth, reduce and manage negative impacts, ensuring legal responsibility and accountability through regulation of their activities, imposing penalties for infractions, ensuring liability and redress for damage and addressing conflicts of interest.



Through their activities, businesses can have a very detrimental impact on biodiversity. Transparency is needed in order to monitor and manage these impacts, as well as for accountability. Not only the impacts on biodiversity should be reported on, but also those on human rights and the rights of mother earth, in order to ensure that their actions on biodiversity do not come at the expense of rights violations.

Regulation and liability are crucial to ensure the implementation of the POST-2020 GBF, so that business transparency is made mandatory and not optional.











Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable and responsible consumption choices including by establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education, and facilitating access to alternatives and accurate and verified information, taking into account historical patterns of production and consumption, and socio-economic conditions, and progressively reduce waste, including food waste.



In many developing countries, sustainable consumption choices are not affordable for all and it will be needed to take into account the historical patterns of production and consumption, as well as the socio-economic conditions before establishing related frameworks. Furthermore, we believe that sustainable consumption is enabled through fostering values and behaviors consistent with living in harmony with nature. For this reason, we believe that facilitating access to and improving education plays a crucial role in this target.

**LUU** 

November 25, 201

Necessary ingredients for

transformative change

root causes

addressed

limiting

monoculture

environment, equality and inclusion at the center

Necessary ingredients for

ecosystemic collapse and mass extinction.

current patterns

that destroy biodiversity,

at the center.





evidence-based environmental risk assessment measures in all countries based on the precautionary approach to prevent, manage or control potential adverse impacts of biotechnology including synthetic biology and other new genetic techniques on biodiversity and human health following risk assessment procedures, taking also into account socio-economic considerations, avoiding or minimizing the risk of these impacts through implementing of horizon scanning, monitoring and assessment, ensuring liability and redress from damage.



The reflection of the precautionary principle in this target is key to avoid negative impacts for future generations. Accounting for socio-economic considerations and ensuring liability & redress will also ensure that risks in different aspects are mitigated, and to ensure accountability for any harm done.







### Target 19.1

Progressively increase annual financial resources including new, additional, innovative and effective financial resources by

(a) increasing international financial flows to developing countries, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth including through direct access modalities by 2030, acknowledging common but differentiated responsibilities,

 $(\ldots)$ 

(e) while enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of resource use and developing and implementing national biodiversity finance plans



Reference to financial resources must ensure that resources flow down to the ground, equitably and directly to key implementers of biodiversity actions—in particular to indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth whose initiatives have significant contributions to achieving biodiversity targets, but to whom only a very small percentage of financial support for conservation and climate change reaches.





### Target 19.2

Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development and access to innovation, [technology horizon scanning, monitoring, and assessment,] and technical and scientific cooperation, including through south-south, north-south and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, and for indigenous peoples and local communities, women, and youth commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the framework.



We believe that capacity-building and development should not only be accessible to countries, but also to IPLCs, women and youth, as the effective implementation of the POST-2020 GBF highly relies on the work done by these rights-holders.

-need to address to rootcauses of the biodiversity crisis. This includes our system of values and beliefs, that are still deeply rooted in a capitalist, racist, colonialist, vstem. HUMAN RIGHTS busi give And RIGHTS OF NATURE up o and if th have gaine e the goal and equit of guar very hum uick fixes nere. We This takes gent, and be bes Aurora Gómez Espinoza do dy or nature. turalism is the belief that our interiorities are fundamentally different from other species' but this is not a universal cosmogony. Let's reshape the way we see

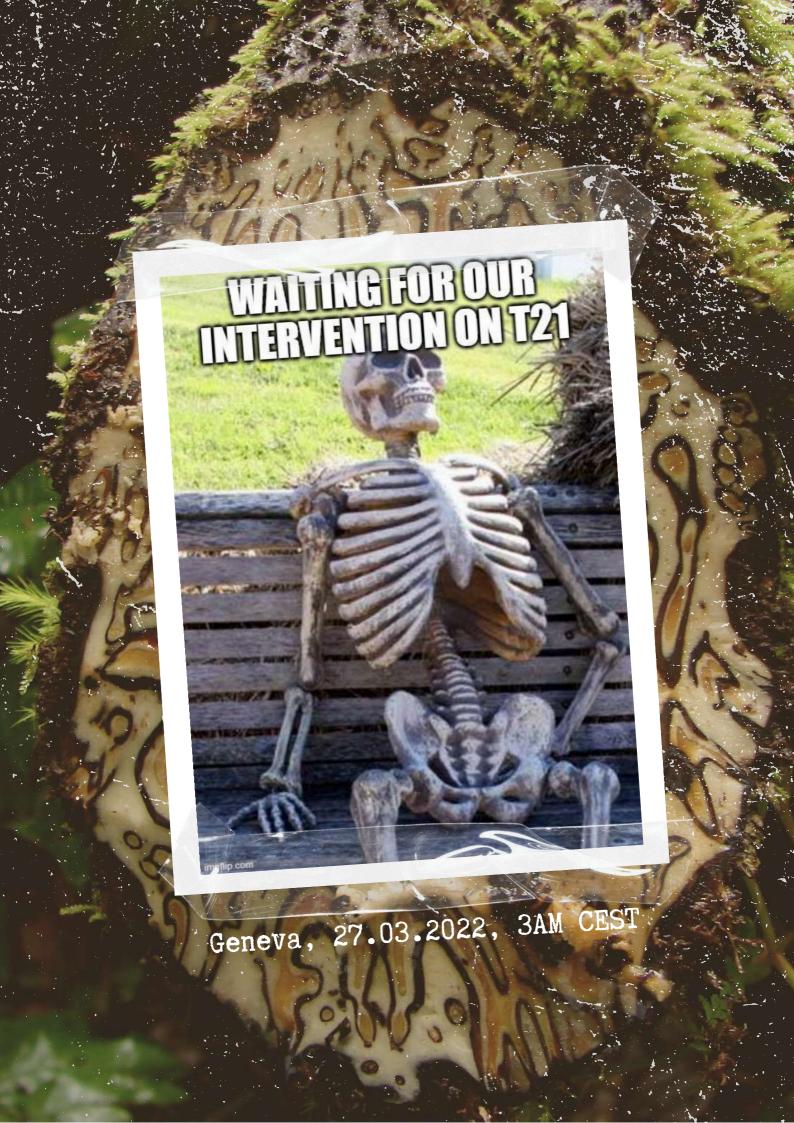




Ensure that quality environmental information and knowledge, are available and accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public, and recognize and protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities with their free, prior, and informed consent, to guide decision-making for effective governance, management and monitoring of biodiversity, and by strengthening communication, awareness-raising, education, research and knowledge management.



Access to quality environmental information is crucial for environmental justice and it is in line with the Escazú Agreement and the Arhaus Convention. At the same time, traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of IPLCs should be recognized and protected to guide decision—making processes, ensuring FPIC and mitigating any risks to their ability to maintain control, manage and develop this knowledge on their own terms. Finally, education, awareness—raising, communication, research and knowledge management are also very important elements that should be reflected in the monitoring framework.



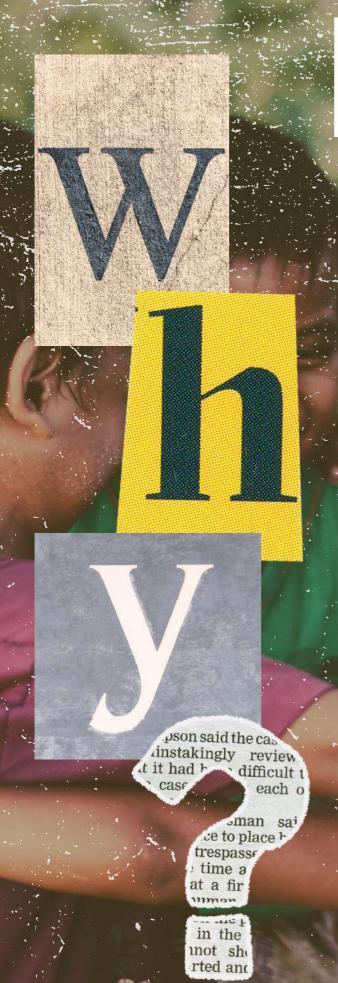
effective and gender-responsive
participation in decision-making
and access to justice and information
related to biodiversity by indigenous
peoples and local communities, respecting
their rights over lands, territories and
resources, as well as by women and girls,
and children and youth, and ensure the
safety of environmental defenders.

# RATIONALE

We welcome and support this target which has many crucial elements. To strengthen this target, in line with taking a rights-based approach, we strongly believe that access to justice and information as well as ensuring the safety of environmental defenders are important elements that should be reflected in the GBF, in addition to participation. Such elements and language would also be in line with regional agreements and conventions such as the Escazú Agreement and the Aarhus Convention on the same elements.

Furthermore, there is a need to add a reference to "children" in addition to the reference to youth to address a gap that might exclude younger persons who might not be within the definition of "youth," and to strengthen the recognition of

children's rights in the framework.



Because we are the ones who will inherit the planet, if they have bad decisions, then we are to suffer from it.

Ensuring participation needs to be implemented monitored in order to actually create change

Because this is the only way in which countries will report on how they engage youth in the implementation

Youth have been mobilising and making a change for many years, but their contributions are hardly every monitored. We need to make sure that we receive adequate support and recognition, to keep acting innovatively for our present and future!

We are a huge group that has been ignored from decision making for too long.

Because we're the future and we need to a have a more sustainable one. We don't want to remember the current generation as the one that created the problems that might lie ahead

We are right holders in the Process and cannot be left behind



## YESTO

transparency & accountability

redress

human rights

**FPIC** 

access to justice

children and youth

inclusive participation

precautionary principle

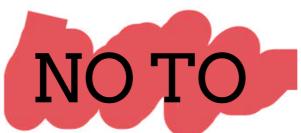
right to clean, healthy and sustainable environment

future generations

transformative education

rights of nature diverse values

intergenerational equity



regression

, consumerism

strong safeguards

business-as-usual

offsetting

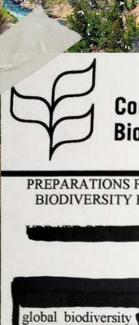
fortress conservation

false solutions corporate capture

net gain/net loss approaches

increase in production

profit-first mentalities



### Convention on Biological Diversity

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATIONS FOR THE POST-2020 BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

process for

requests

Pursuant to

2. Working

to continue

in response to outcomes

response vis Working

gybn.org