

**GYBN Intervention on Item 3 – 2nd Intervention**

*Montreal,  26 November 2019*

Thank you, Madam Chair. I am speaking on behalf of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network.

Many parties have mentioned that the framework should be science-based and that if we keep pushing to add to the framework issues that do not lead to transformative change, we will be perpetuating current business as usual practices that would not do enough to achieve the transformation we want for 2050. We need to think hard about the logic of the framework. We need to prioritize.

We point your attention to figure 9 or section D of the Global Assessment Summary for Policymakers where IPBES points out leverage points for transformative change. “Leverage” means that if we focus on these few aspects, we will make big changes. It also points out a set of enabling conditions or levers such as incentives and capacity-building, cross-sectoral cooperation, and environmental law and implementation. It also says implementation should be place-based, integrative, informed, inclusive, and adaptive. This is important guidance for us in designing a good post-2020 framework.

If we focus on creating fewer targets targeting these leverage points, then we will be able to focus on the things that matter in achieving transformative change, as determined by evidence. If we follow this logic, big changes in improving the state of biodiversity will follow.

In this context we believe that one of the targets focusing on the leverage point on “reducing inequalities” could be the following.

“By 2030, ensure the respect, protection, and fulfilment of the rights of present and future generations to  a clean, safe, sustainable environment with healthy and resilient ecosystems, taking into special account the vulnerabilities and key contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, and youth.”

In order to measure the success of this target, the following would need to be achieved:

1. Effective laws, policies and institutions in place
2. Full and meaningful participation in decision-making
3. Access to information
4. Access to justice
5. Compliance with international human rights laws, standards, and framework
6. Tools and mechanisms to operationalize intergenerational equity into laws and policies in place

To address the leverage point on promoting education, we propose the following target on transformative education:

“By 2030, ensure that culturally appropriate biodiversity, sustainability and heritage education are integrated into school curricula at all levels, including informal education; with a strong focus on reconnection with nature through learning-by-doing and experiencing nature.”

This said, we strongly feel that to achieve these leverage points we will need to reflect differentiated responsibilities in the means of implementation. The developing countries and vulnerable groups on the frontline should not be burdened with the responsibility of addressing the indirect drivers which they frequently have no leverage or means to address. They should be supported in their work on the ground in addressing direct drivers, with appropriate capacity and resource allocation.

Lastly, any targets that seek to address the direct drivers should importantly have social indicators and not just biological and ecological indicators. We will be submitting suggestions for indicators in writing.

Thank you Madam Chair.