How a gender-responsive Post2020 Global biodiversity Framework could look like?
While women and girls play a critical role in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, they face systemic barriers that hinder their access to, control, and ownership over land, water and other biological resources. Regardless of their unique, invaluable and irreplaceable knowledge, practices, innovations and contributions (CBD, 2022), their participation in biodiversity-related decision-making processes is ineffective and unequal (CBD, 2020). Consequently, their work is not recognised nor valued, and in some cases, they face increasing gender-based violence linked to environmental crises (IUCN, 2020).

Given that context, the UNCBD Women's Caucus has prepared this policy document with succinct text recommendations for representative parties and every delegate attending COP15 to embrace gender justice as their cause and take it forward into what will be the most important document to define biodiversity policy for the next decade. Only a gender-responsive policy can conserve biodiversity in the long term, thus fulfilling the 2050 Vision, or what is more important: saving the lives of future generations.
How to ensure Post2020 goals’ gender-responsiveness?

**Goal A**
Biodiversity is conserved, maintaining and enhancing the connectivity, restoration and integrity of all terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems and reducing the risk of ecosystem collapse, halting human-induced extinctions and reducing extinction risk to zero by 2050, supporting healthy and resilient populations of threatened and native species, and maintaining genetic diversity of populations and their adaptive potential numerical values to be added.

**Goal B**
Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature’s contributions to people, including the long-term integrity of ecosystem functions, taking into account the wide range of biodiversity values, are maintained and enhanced, inclusively and equitably, especially in the places most important for delivering these contributions supporting the achievement of the sustainable development goals for the benefit of present and future generations, the fulfilment of the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment and an equitable reduction of the ecological footprint of --% by 2030 within planetary boundaries is achieved.
Goal C

The monetary and non-monetary benefits from the utilization of genetic and biological resources, derivatives in any form including digital sequence information are shared fairly and equitably, and in particular with indigenous peoples and local communities and associated traditional knowledge is appropriately protected thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in support of the Sustainable Development Goals and in accordance with internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments.

Goal D

Secure adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building, scientific cooperation and equitable access to and transfer of appropriate environmentally sound technology and resources numerical values to be added to fully implement the post-2020 global biodiversity framework [and close the biodiversity finance gap are equitably accessible to all Parties, particularly developing countries that are most environmentally vulnerable in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, guaranteeing direct access of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women and other rightsholder groups, financing from all sources aligned with the 2050 Vision.
How to ensure Post2020 targets’ gender-responsiveness?

Target 1

Ensure that all terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems are under equitable, participatory, gender just and inclusive spatial planning or other effective management processes, addressing land and sea use change, and other areas of high biodiversity values, enhancing ecological connectivity and integrity, minimizing negative impacts on biodiversity and communities maintaining ecosystem functions while recognising the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and other rightsholders such as women and youth.

Target 2

Ensure that all degraded terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems are under active, effective and equitable ecological restoration measures, taking into account their natural state as a baseline with a focus on priority ecosystems in order to achieve ecosystems integrity, connectivity and functioning, and biocultural ecosystems managed by indigenous peoples and local communities, with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth through adequate means of implementation.
Target 3

Ensure and enable at least 30 per cent of globally areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions are conserved through effectively managed, ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, indigenous and traditional territories and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes, including the right to economic development, will not affect the right or ability of all Parties to access financial and other resources required for the effective implementation of the whole Framework, while ensuring that sustainable use of these areas, if in place, contributes to biodiversity conservation, recognizing the gender-differentiated contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities to their management and recognising their rights over their lands, territories and resources, including their Free Prior and Informed Consent.

Target 4

Ensure active and sustainable management actions to achieve the recovery and conservation of species, in particular threatened species, to maintain and restore the genetic diversity of all species and maintain their adaptive potential] including through in situ and ex situ conservation, prevent human-induced extinctions and to halt human-wildlife conflict to promote their coexistence to the benefit of both humans and wildlife while ensuring the gender-differentiated customary rights of, and access and use by indigenous peoples and local communities.
**Target 5**

Ensure that harvesting, breeding, farming, trade and use of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine and coastal, wild species is sustainable, effectively regulated and traceable, and take urgent action to address both demand for and supply of illegal wildlife products and safe for human, animal and plant health and for all living beings on Mother Earth, recognising and guaranteeing the full exercise of the rights to customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.

**Target 6**

Identify, prioritize manage, control and eradicate all the pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species preventing, and significantly reducing their rate of introduction and its establishment by at least 50 per cent, and mitigate their ecological and socio-economics impacts focusing on those that pose significant risk for threatened species or ecosystem functions and priority sites ecosystems.

**Target 7**

Reduce pollution from all sources to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and human health, considering cumulative effects, including by significantly reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half and through more efficient nutrient cycling and use, and reducing the use and risks from chemicals and synthetic pesticides by at least two thirds, including phasing out highly hazardous pesticides, and eliminating the discharge of plastic, microplastics and other toxic waste.
Target 8

Minimize the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and peoples through ecosystem-based approaches that protect and restore thus preventing negative impacts based on equity and rights-based approaches and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, through mitigation strategies, adaptation actions and enhancing social and environmental resilience.

Alt.1 Minimize the impact of climate change and increase the social and environmental resilience of biodiversity and peoples through mitigation strategies, adaptation actions and other ecosystem-based approaches.

Target 9

Ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable and consistent with relevant national laws and in harmony with international commitments, thereby providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, ensuring the protection and promotion of the livelihoods and customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.
Target 10

Ensure that all ecosystems under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry and other productive and extractive uses are governed and managed equitably and sustainably, in close cooperation with custodians of biodiversity, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, women’s groups, and small-scale producers, farmers and fisherfolks through the prioritisation of biodiversity conservation, contributing to the long-term social and environmental resilience of these ecosystems, and maintaining nature’s contribution to people, including ecosystem functions.

Target 11

Restore, maintain and enhance nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions such as pollination, regulation of air, water, soil health, and climate, as well as the protection from natural hazards and disasters through ecosystem-based approaches, human rights-based approaches, biocentric and Mother-Earth centric actions for the benefit of all peoples and biodiversity.
**Target 13**

Take effective legal, policy, and administrative measures at all levels, as appropriate, in accordance with international access and benefit-sharing instruments, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources including digital sequence information on genetic resources, and biological resources, and derivatives and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, by strengthening capacity, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer, through mutually agreed terms, as well as taking into account free, prior and informed consent.

**Target 14**

Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, accounts, and strategic environmental, social, cultural, gender, and human rights impact assessments within and across all levels of government and across all economic and productive sectors, aligning all public and private activities, fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework and the Sustainable Development Goals.
Target 15

Take legal, administrative or policy measures to ensure that all business and financial institutions, particularly those with impacts on biodiversity and human rights:

(a) Through mandatory requirements regularly monitor, assess, and fully and transparently disclose their dependencies and impacts on biodiversity along their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios;

(b) Provide information needed to consumers to enable the public to make responsible consumption choices;

(c) Comply and report on access and benefit-sharing;

(d) Take legal responsibility for infractions, including through penalties, and liability and redress for damage and addressing conflicts of interest;

(e) Follow a rights-based approach, including human rights and the rights of Mother Earth.

In order to significantly reduce by half negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks from business and financial institutions, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other international obligations, together with Government regulations.

Target 16

Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices by establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education, and access to relevant accurate information and alternatives, taking into account social, economic, and cultural contexts to halve the global footprint of food systems and consumption in an equitable manner, in order for all peoples to live well in harmony with mother earth.
Target 17

Establish, strengthen capacity for, and implement legal, administrative and other measures in all countries based on the precautionary approach to regulate, prevent, manage or control potential adverse impacts of living modified organisms resulting from biotechnology including synthetic biology and other new genetic techniques and their products and components on biodiversity and, human health, and socioeconomic considerations avoiding or minimizing the risk of these impacts while establishing broad and regular horizon scanning, monitoring and assessment, ensuring liability and redress for damage, and obtaining the free, prior and informed consent of potentially affected indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to the release of any products of modern biotechnology into their lands, territories and waters as well as their rights for traditional food practices including uncultivated wild foods and associated knowledge.

Target 18

Eliminate, phase out or reform all direct and indirect subsidies and incentives harmful for biodiversity, in a just, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least US$6 trillion United States dollars per year, starting with the most harmful subsidies, in particular fisheries and agricultural subsidies prioritizing the stewardship of indigenous peoples and local communities, women’s groups, small-scale producers, farmers and fisherfolks, and ensure that all incentives are either positive or neutral for biodiversity and that positive incentives are scaled up, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations.
Target 19.1

In accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, and from a human rights-based approach, substantially and progressively increase the level of financial resources from all sources, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans, closing the global financing gap of 700 billion United States dollars per year by:

(a) Increasing new, additional, effective, timely, gender-responsive and easily accessible international public financial resources from developed-country Parties and countries with a capacity to do so [and existing instruments and institutions, including international finance institutions and multilateral development banks] in the form of international grants to developing countries reaching -- billion United States dollars per year by 2030 avoiding double counting and acknowledging common but differentiated responsibilities.

(c) Increasing domestic resource mobilization through preparation of national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments and aligning all financial flows by 2030;

(d) By 2025, establish a global biodiversity fund that is fully operational by 2027, to serve as a dedicated mechanism for the provision of financial resources to developing-country Parties as determined in Article 21 of the Convention, including Indigenous Peoples and other rightsholder groups like women and local communities that contribute to biodiversity conservation, complemented by the Global Environment Facility;

(e) Bis enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of resource use, while guaranteeing direct indigenous peoples, local communities, women’s groups and other right holders direct access to the funds;
Target 20

Ensure that the best available and relevant information and knowledge, are available and accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public, and traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities with their free, prior and informed consent, is respected and guides decision-making for effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management.

Target 21

Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting and recognising their cultures and their rights over lands, territories and resources, and traditional knowledge, in accordance with relevant national legislation and international instruments, and ensuring access to justice and the protection of environmental human rights defenders.

Target 22

Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the global biodiversity framework by ensuring that women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention including by recognising women and girls’ equal rights and access to land and natural resources, and their full, equitable, informed and effective participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.
For more information

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