

Gender-responsive headline indicators to operationalise the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Summary

- The loss of biodiversity is disproportionately felt by poorer communities and women in particular because of gender disparities and differentiated gender needs and roles in the use and management of biodiversity resources.
- Gender responsive indicators form a basis for grounded justification and validation in demanding accountability and performance of countries to fulfill the purpose of ensuring the full implementation of the Post2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).
- The indicators provide a stronger foothold and entry points to design broader policies, institutional measures and concrete interventions identifying women as contributors, leaders and decision makers and as agents of change in biodiversity conservation.

What is the issue?

Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) agreed that the process to develop the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) would be gender-responsive¹, indicating that “efforts should be made to advance the collection, analysis and the use of gender-sensitive data, including data disaggregated by sex.” An approach for designing and using indicators to help monitor implementation progress of the GBF was subsequently proposed through [CBD/SBSTTA/24/3](#) and subsequently there have been proposed set of

headline², component³ and complementary⁴ indicators for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework ([CBD/WG2020/3/INF/2](#)).

The importance of including relevant gender-sensitive indicators is further highlighted by the outcome of the [WG2020-3](#) and [WG2020-4](#) [CBD/WG2020/4/CRP5](#) with Parties support for a stand-alone target on gender equality (Target 22). [CBD/WG2020/3/7](#). Gender-sensitive indicators will be key for measuring progress towards commitments Parties have made in regards to gender-responsiveness and their actual implementation of the GBF.

This brief presents an updated analysis and recommendations related to the headline indicators reflecting the outcome of the Report of the Expert Workshop on the Monitoring Framework for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework ([CBD/ID/OM/2022/1/2](#)) for measuring and implementing a gender-responsive monitoring framework for the Post-2020 GBF ([CBD/CO/15/2](#)) to be adopted at the Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Part Two) ([CBD COP15](#)).

Why is it important?

To access and ensure inclusive and “whole of society” implementation of the Post-2020 GBF, indicators will play a key role in informing policies at the national level. To ensure that the contributions and roles of women are recognised, and that gender-responsive actions benefit people and the planet, planning, policies and practices need to be evidence-based and informed by gender-sensitive indicators. Collecting and understanding information and data on how gender contributes to different experiences, knowledge, impacts, contributions and opportunities for environmental and social results is essential.

In the implementation of the GBF it is relevant to

¹ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-34-en.pdf>

² Headline Indicators: A minimum set of high-level indicators which capture the overall scope of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be used for planning and tracking progress. They are nationally, regionally and globally relevant indicators. These indicators can also be used for communication purposes.

³ Component indicators: A set of optional indicators that together with the headline indicators would cover all components of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the global, regional and national levels; and

⁴ Complementary indicators: A list of optional indicators for thematic or in-depth analysis of each goal and target which may be applicable at global, regional, national levels. ([CBD/SBSTTA/REC/24/2](#))

recognise that the importance of biodiversity to individuals varies according to gender, and that the loss of biodiversity is disproportionately felt by poorer communities and women in particular because of gender disparities. For example, women's use of biodiversity resources is significant – in forest communities women can generate more than 50% of their income through forests, compared to about one-third of men and is therefore crucial for livelihoods and economic empowerment that also promotes sustainable use and conservation (WB, FAO and IFAD, 2009⁵).

Examples from around the globe show that collecting gender data and using gender-sensitive indicators can provide vital information for adjusting programmes and activities. It can facilitate progress towards gender equality and women empowerment goals at all levels and sectors and can assist in informing the National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions Plans (NBSAPs).

Women's full and effective participation in conservation action makes a difference around the globe – it is estimated that 47% of work in the fishery sector on a global scale is provided by women, but their roles are often undocumented by national statistics and databases – in Cambodia, it is estimated that women own 61.2% of the 505,134 Micro-Small-Medium Enterprises (MSME).⁶ Community Forestry Groups in Nepal with a high proportion of women in their executive committee showed greater improvements in forest regeneration and canopy growth despite receiving much smaller and degraded forests (Agarwal, 2009⁷).

What should be done?

Gender equality and women's empowerment are essential for the sustainable use and fair and equitable benefit sharing of biodiversity, and therefore must be an essential component of the GBF. To bring together the gender and environment in the sustainable development agenda, it is imperative to address the gap in data sex disaggregated data.

[Parties](#) and others, including [Women4Biodiversity](#), [UN Women](#) and UNEP-WCMC, IUCN and the CBD Secretariat ([CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/30](#)) have continued efforts to ensuring that the monitoring framework includes gender-sensitive indicators and disaggregated

by sex and other characteristics to providing information document, and is based on the review of the first draft ([CBD/WG2020/3/3](#)) of the framework.

Proposed headline indicators (C1, C.2, 2.2,3.1,9.1,9.2,10.1, 15.1, 20.1, 21.2 and 22.1⁸) and Binary (B.b.1, 14.b.1 and 22.b.1) can be disaggregated by sex.⁹

The report of the Bonn expert workshop ([CBD/ID/OM/2022/1/2](#)) on the monitoring framework for the Post-2020 GBF indicates that some reference to how binary (yes/no) indicators could be included as part of the monitoring framework be captured in national reports and should be considered. This would have implications for SBSTTA recommendations 24/2 and SBI recommendation 3/11.

In its report IUCN¹⁰ reflected support for an additional target specifically on gender equality (Target 22¹¹) that would further support realizing the GBF's Theory of Change and prompt an enabling environment for effective implementation.

A new target focused on gender will ensure the framework addresses the urgency for coherent gender considerations across the GBF, further strengthening the GBF's contributions to global gender equality goals. This will include complementary efforts at building gender indicators into the monitoring framework and ensuring the implementation of the Post-2020 GBF and its [Gender Plan of Action](#).

The headline indicators are a minimum set of high-level indicators which capture the overall scope of the goals and targets of the Post-2020 GBF. It is important for Parties to consider gender-responsive headline indicators for Target 22 and disaggregate data by sex for all indicators that relate to people.

The proposed criteria in [SBSTTA/24/2](#) recommendation 3 (a) *The date and metadata related to the indicator are publicly available*. The "Binary indicator" identified for Target 22 does fit the criteria. It is important that the said "binary indicator" qualifies as the Headline indicator for Target 22, considering that it qualifies the criteria and there is metadata readily available for it. Currently, both Target 21 and 22 share the same headline indicator.

⁵ [Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook \(World Bank, FAO and IFAD, 2009\)](#)

⁶ [Gender Analysis of Post-harvest Fisheries in Cambodia. Cambodia Programme for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in the Fisheries Sector. UNIDO, 2021.](#)

⁷ [Agarwal, B. \(2009\). Gender and forest conservation: The impact of women's participation in community forest governance.](#)

⁸ Headline indicator for 21.1 and 22.1 is the same: Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to lands (a) with legally

recognised documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to lands as secure by sex and type of tenure (SDG Indicator 1.4.2)

⁹ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/3190/c3f4/1d9fe2d2dedc8c8b97023750/id-om-2022-01-02-en.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/93f6/fcd9/4cb5a6fad7bcefe994d72e9f/wg20-03-inf-10-en.pdf>

¹¹ CBD/WG2020/4/4:

<https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/3303/d892/4fd11c27963bd3f826a961e1/wg20-04-04-en.pdf>

[Advancing Women's Rights, Gender Equality and the Future of Biodiversity in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework \(Women4Biodiversity\)](#)

[A gender-responsive post-2020 global biodiversity framework: Inputs to support negotiations on the post-2020 global biodiversity Framework, UN Women and UNEP-WCMC \(2022\)](#)

[Expert Workshop on the Monitoring Framework for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, Bonn \(29 June - 1 July, 2022\), UNCBD](#)

[Developing and Measuring a Gender-Responsive Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework: Information on Gender Considerations within the Draft Post-2020 Monitoring Framework \(CBD/WG2020/3/INF/10; CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/30; CBD/SBI/3/INF/42\)](#)

[Advancing Gender in the Environment: Gender in Fisheries - A Sea of Opportunities. IUCN and USAID. Washington, USA: USAID. 68pp.](#)

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Target	Target 22	
Headline Indicator¹²	22.1 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognised documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure (SDG Indicator 1.4.2)	"Binary" indicator: 22.b.1 Number of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control (SDG Indicator 5.a.2)
Availability	Available	Available
Time Series	Data pending	2019
Update Frequency	No fixed releases; depends on release of relevant survey data	Every 2 years
Global Indicator	Yes	Yes
National Data	Yes	Yes
Metadata	Yes¹³	Yes¹⁴

Useful tools and references

Indicators for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (<https://www.post-2020indicators.org/>). This website is being updated based on the Expert workshop on the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in Bonn. The data on this site is provided by UNEP-WCMC in collaboration with SCBD, BIP, NatureServe and GEOBON.

[Gender-based violence and Biodiversity: A briefing note on linkages to inform the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework](#) (IUCN)

¹² The metadata for each headline indicator, which contains detailed information on the methodology, entities involved in the development of the indicator, plans for future development of the indicator and national uptake of the indicator is contained at <https://www.post-2020indicators.org/>. This website is being updated based on the Expert workshop on the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global

biodiversity framework in Bonn (see <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/ID-OM-2022-01>).

¹³SDGs indicator 1.4.2 Metadata <https://www.post-2020indicators.org/pdfs/442?type=headline>

¹⁴ SDG Indicator 5.a.2 Metadata. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-05-0A-02.pdf>