European Commission

Biodiversity and its global governance

A knowledge synthesis and analysis on the importance of effective global biodiversity governance highlighting the EU's global efforts to save biodiversity

Prakash, S., Montereale Gavazzi, G., Dubois, G.

2026

The European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity

Contact information
Name: EC Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity
Address: TP124, via Enrico Fermi 2749, 21027 Ispra (VA), Italy
Email: EC-Biodiversity-KC@ec.europa.eu

JRC145099
EUR 40602

PDF ISBN 978-92-68-35353-0 ISSN 1831-9424 doi:10.2760/7299470 KJ-01-25-684-EN-N

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2026

How to cite this report: Prakash, S., Montereale Gavazzi, G. and Dubois, G., *Biodiversity and its global governance - A knowledge synthesis and analysis on the importance of effective global biodiversity governance highlighting the EU`s global efforts to save biodiversity,* Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2026, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/7299470, JRC145099.

Contents

Abstract

Biodiversity is essential for sustaining life on our planet. Yet human intervention over the last century has led to an unprecedented loss of biodiversity, threatening our very survival, and disproportionately impacting the world's most vulnerable communities. Nature does not recognise national boundaries, and neither does the main underlying cause of biodiversity loss: unsustainable global economic growth.

For instance, consumer demand in high-income countries harms nature in low-income ones where local communities are most dependent on natural capital. Biodiversity pertains to a lot more than the abundance of species or ecosystems; its complexity and global connectedness necessitate transformative global governance that extends to closely related domains such as agriculture, land and sea use, climate change, and health.

This report aims primarily to increase awareness towards galvanising concerted global action to save the world's precious biodiversity. It summarises the various available channels, as well as the EU's efforts thus far.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Bastian Bertzky[1], Christine Estreguil[2], Camino Liquete[2], Aude Neuville[2], Marine Robuchon[2], and Jorge Luis Ventocilla[3] for their feedback on an earlier draft of this report.

[1] Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD)

[2] Joint Research Centre (JRC)

[3] Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS)

Authors

Sona Prakash (Independent consultant)

Giacomo Ottaviano Andrea Montereale Gavazzi (EC JRC)

Grégoire Dubois (EC JRC)

1. Introduction

This study is part of a series initiated by the European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (KCBD) to raise awareness on the importance of embedding biodiversity concerns in all relevant policy domains. The series describes the efforts of the European Union in this direction, key to effecting transformative change and a green transition. The content targets a wide audience, prioritising accessibility for the layperson as well as interest for specialists, policymakers and researchers. All the reports in the series follow a common structure, which was originally designed as thematic pages for the website[1] (Figure 1) of the KCBD and determined collectively with other knowledge centres as part of the Knowledge for Policy (K4P) initiative of the European Commission. This report emphasises the importance of effective global governance for saving biodiversity, and highlights EU action on global biodiversity governance. Under EU action we include EU engagement in global platforms and coalitions on biodiversity governance and related topics, EU support for global biodiversity projects and initiatives, as well as the global dimension of the EU's own biodiversity-related policies and projects.

[1] https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/biodiversity_en

Figure 1. Biodiversity and its global governance infographic as displayed by the EC Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (KCBD).

Source: © Emilie Weynants.

1.1. Biodiversity, the basis of life

Biodiversity – the diversity within species, between species and between ecosystems – makes life on Earth possible. Within species biodiversity refers to the variation of genetic traits between individuals or populations of that species, which is critical for its capacity to adapt to changing conditions. Between species it refers to the Earth's estimated (depending on methodologies used) 8.7 million [1] to 1 trillion species [2] of plants, animals and microorganisms, of which about 1.75 million have been recorded [3]. Between ecosystems it refers to the variety of forest, desert & dryland, mountain, wetland, marine, river & lake, and agricultural habitats that house these species, defining their interaction with the soil, water and air. Finally, biodiversity goes beyond the taxonomic (pertaining to types and numbers of component genes, species or ecosystems): between species there is also phylogenetic diversity (diversity of species' evolutionary lineages) and functional diversity (the range of species traits that influence ecosystem functioning). When evaluating an area's species diversity, one should therefore consider not only the numbers and populations of species present (taxonomic diversity) but also how far apart these species lie on the evolutionary tree (phylogenetic diversity), as well as the range of ecological functions they serve (functional diversity).

This intricate combination of life forms, functions and interactions is the result of billions of years of evolution shaped by natural processes, making planet Earth uniquely habitable for human beings

and other species. Biodiversity underpins the three main types of ecosystem services[2] that sustain our lives: (i) Provisioning services, which cater to our daily needs such as food, water, fuel, shelter and medicine; (ii) Regulation & Maintenance services, which include pollination, decomposition, water purification, erosion and flood control, disease control, carbon storage, adaption to climate and other changes, lifecycle maintenance, and soil regulation; and (iii) Cultural services, which contribute to enhancing cultural identity & heritage, creative inspiration, and recreation.

All these complex considerations, in addition to those described in section 1.2 below, transcend national and regional boundaries and jurisdictions. For instance, it is key – for avoiding major declines in biodiversity – to understand the global hotspots of wildlife trade and other activities catering to global markets in terms of phylogenetic and functional diversity [4].

1.2. Why the urgent need for effective global biodiversity governance

Despite the indispensable role biodiversity plays in sustaining our lives, human intervention is fundamentally – and to a significant extent, irreversibly – destroying the planet's biodiversity at a pace never observed before. Unprecedented global economic growth (global economic activity increased more than 13-fold in 70 years) [5] has had an equally unprecedented impact on nature. The anthropogenic drivers of biodiversity loss are either steady or increasing in intensity. The main direct drivers [6] are changes in land- and sea-use, direct exploitation of organisms, climate change, pollution, and invasion of alien species. Underlying these five direct drivers are the indirect drivers [6] relating to production and consumption patterns, human population dynamics, trade, technology and governance. The costs of damaging nature are not reflected in market prices [5], and give rise to "externalities," which need to be factored into economic analyses [7] and decision-making. Each year from 1997 to 2011, the world lost an estimated €3.5-18.5 trillion in ecosystem services owing to land-cover change and €5.5-10.5 trillion due to land degradation [8]. These costs and benefits are unequally distributed [6] across the globe. In particular, poor and indigenous communities, which have benefited least from economic growth, often inhabit high-biodiversity areas, are more dependent on natural capital for daily sustenance, and more vulnerable to biodiversity loss.

As a result of human intervention, the Earth may already have entered a new epoch, the Anthropocene, functionally distinct from the Holocene. This is borne out by studies of biogeochemical signatures (2016) [9] and of "planetary boundaries" (2009), the quantitative boundaries within which nine critical biophysical earth-system processes operate, and beyond which irreversible environmental change is likely [10, 11]. Of the nine, "biosphere integrity" has gone farthest in transgressing its boundary, while two closely related processes (land-use change and climate change) are also in the danger zone. Changes in biodiversity were more rapid in the past 50 years [12] than at any time in human history and are projected to continue or accelerate. The planet lost 87% of its wetlands [6] between 1700 and 2000, 38% mangroves up to 2010, half its live coral cover since the 1870s, and one-third of its forests to date. Current species extinction rates are estimated at 100 to 1000 times higher [5] than over the past tens of millions of years. 30% tree species are threatened with extinction [13]. Forest fragmentation [14] has reduced biodiversity by as much as 75% [15] in some cases. The biodiversity of freshwater ecosystems (which includes one-third of all vertebrate species) is declining dramatically: globally, wetlands are

[2] https://cices.eu/cices-structure/

vanishing three times faster than forests, and freshwater vertebrate populations have fallen more than twice as steeply as terrestrial or marine populations [16]. Furthermore, biodiversity cannot be measured via species or ecosystem abundance alone. Its multiple levels (genes, species, ecosystems) and attributes (taxonomic, phylogenetic, functional) require a plethora of indicators[3] . This fact also motivated an update (2015) of the scientific underpinnings [17] of the biosphere integrity measure in the planetary boundary (PB) framework. However, this PB framework identified only safe biophysical boundaries. It lacked considerations of justice, such as preserving universal access to water, food, energy and health – especially for the most vulnerable. The inclusion of these considerations, in an extension (2023) of the PB framework quantifying boundaries that are both just and safe, led to even starker warnings for our future on this planet [18,19,20].

Nature does not recognise national borders. Moreover, given our increasingly globalised economy, neither does the main underlying driver of biodiversity loss: unsustainable economic growth. For instance, consumer demand in high-income countries entrains biodiversity loss in low-income ones where local communities are most dependent on natural capital. Globally coordinated biodiversity governance [21], including ocean governance [22, 23, 24] is thus crucial for reversing biodiversity loss and restoring ecosystems while ensuring the wellbeing of all, especially the most vulnerable. For governance purposes, biodiversity loss is defined as "the long-term or permanent qualitative or quantitative reduction in components of biodiversity and their potential to provide goods and services" [25]. Global nature conservation programmes must also take local and regional imperatives into account, such as safeguarding food security [26], livelihoods and indigenous land rights [27]. Several such programmes [21, 27, 28] have been proposed, and the overall benefit-to-cost ratio of implementing an effective programme has been estimated to be at least 100 to 1 [29].

It is now widely accepted [5, 6] that reversing biodiversity loss will entail global transformative change [6]: fundamental system-wide reorganisation across technological, economic and social factors, including paradigms, goals and values. The drivers of biodiversity loss need to be disrupted, as well as the underpinning societal values and behaviours. This in turn requires transformative governance [30], whose requisites include ensuring coherence and integration of ecological concerns in different sectors, participation of local and marginalised communities, youth engagement [31], democratic institutions, continuous adaptation to complex environmental change, and recognition of multiple legitimate perspectives on biodiversity.

[3] https://www.bipindicators.net

2. EU action on biodiversity

EU action on global biodiversity governance consists mainly of international engagement in global platforms and coalitions on biodiversity (notably CBD and IPBES) and related topics (in particular UN conventions on other environmental topics), support for global biodiversity projects, as well as the global dimension of its own biodiversity-related policies and projects.

2.1. International engagement

The EU is an active participant in several intergovernmental platforms on biodiversity governance, as well as in others focusing on closely related areas such as climate change, agriculture, land degradation and health. These include UN conventions and regional and global coalitions.

2.1.1. Global biodiversity conventions, commissions, platforms and coalitions

The global governance landscape for biodiversity includes several officially recognized biodiversity-related conventions[4] :

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) – entered into force in 1993
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) – 1979
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) – 1975
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture – 2004
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands – 1971
- World Heritage Convention (WHC) – 1972
- International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) – 1952
- International Whaling Commission (IWC) – 1946

These initiatives collaborate through the Biodiversity Liaison Group, an informal coordination mechanism, convened by the Secretariat of the United Nation's Convention on Biological Diversity, and established to enhance coherence and cooperation among their respective programmes of work.

While the above-mentioned initiatives play important and complementary roles in the global biodiversity governance architecture, this report focuses specifically on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) i.e., as the primary multilateral framework guiding implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and on the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), i.e., providing the leading global science–policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services. These two bodies are highlighted here because of their central relevance to the EU's work on GBF monitoring, indicators, and reporting.

[4] https://www.cbd.int/blg

2.1.1.1. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)[5], opened for signature at the 1992 Rio "Earth Summit," and entered into force in 1993. It is the key international legal instrument for the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources. With 196 ratified Parties, it enjoys near-universal participation. The USA and the Holy Sea are the only states and/or sovereign entities that did not sign nor ratify the CBD[6]. The CBD's governing body, the Conference of Parties (COP), meets every two years to review progress, set priorities and commit to work plans. The CBD Secretariat (SCBD)[7], located in Montreal, Canada, operates under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The SCBD assists governments in the implementation of the CBD and its programmes of work. The EU has been a Party since March 1994, with the Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV) as its focal point.

The CBD's Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[8] was adopted on 29 January 2000 [37] and entered into force on 11 September 2003. It aims to ensure the safe handling, transport and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology with potentially adverse effects on biological diversity and risks for human health. EU legislation was aligned [38] to its provisions and complemented its legislative framework on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) via Regulation 1946/2003 [39] on transboundary movement of GMOs.

In 2010, CBD Parties adopted the Nagoya Protocol[9] on "Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization" [40]. The Nagoya protocol entered into force for the EU on 12 October 2014 and is reflected in the EU ABS Regulation 511/2014 [41] on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS). Its EU Implementing Regulation [42] was adopted on 13 October 2015, and the first implementation report [43] issued on 24 January 2019. A new guidance document [44] was adopted on 14 December 2020. The EC also set up an ABS Expert Group, which meets approximately four times a year to share information, best practices and lessons learnt, and to develop guidance for the users of genetic resources.

The CBD's primary framework for achieving its three objectives is the ecosystem approach [32] for integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Article 6 of the CBD requires Parties to develop national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs)[10]. At its tenth Conference of Parties (COP-10) in 2010, the CBD adopted a 10-year Strategic Plan[11] to combat global biodiversity loss, encapsulated in the 20 concrete Aichi Biodiversity Targets for 2020 [33]. Parties regularly reported on progress towards these targets, with all reports available to the public.

Unfortunately, none of the Aichi targets were fully met [34] and the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 fell short of full global implementation. The attainment of the Aichi

[5] https://www.cbd.int/

[6] https://www.cbd.int/information/parties.shtml

[7] https://www.cbd.int/secretariat/

[8] https://bch.cbd.int/protocol

[9] https://www.cbd.int/abs/

[10] https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/

[11] https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/

Targets was inadequately supported due to the lack of quantitative definitions and associated indicators. This shortcoming was corrected in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework[12], adopted at COP-15 in December 2022.

The post-2020 framework, referred to as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF), constitutes a historic milestone in global efforts to protect and restore nature. The post-2020 framework emphasises the drivers of biodiversity loss rather than their outcomes and proposes a suite of targeted and measurable actions to reconcile losses. This landmark multilateral agreement aims at fortified efforts and investments, including clear, measurable goals and targets: 4 long-term goals for 2050 and 23 targets for urgent action by 2030 [35]. To reach the goals and targets, the KM-GBF set out an ambitious Monitoring Framework[13] composed of several indicators. As such, Parties are required to report on 27 mandatory headline indicators, while also having the possibility to enforce the monitoring framework by means of component, complementary and national indicators[14] in support of the Targets.

Monitoring, reporting and review arrangements to track progress are already in place, complemented by ambitious financial resource mobilisation from all sources. Target 19 of the post-2020 framework calls for a USD 200 billion increase in international financial flows from all sources to developing countries. The EU confirmed the doubling of its international biodiversity financing to € 7 billion for the period 2021-2027 (compared to 2014-2020), for the most vulnerable countries.

Due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, COP-15 was held in two phases: phase 1 took place virtually from 11 to 15 October 2021 while phase 2 was an in-person meeting in Montreal, Canada from 11 to 19 December 2022. The EU played a key role [36] in the four-year negotiations leading up to COP-15, forming alliances and initiatives and helping partner countries strengthen their capacities and knowledge to help deliver this landmark framework. International discussions on global targets and objectives were still ongoing in 2020, when EU ambition on global biodiversity was announced (see Section 2.2.1) in the fourth pillar "The European Union for an ambitious global biodiversity agenda" of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (EU-BDS 2030) [8]. This played an integral role in developing the EU position and negotiations at COP-15.

Following COP15, COP16 was held in two phases. The first phase took place in Cali, Colombia (21 October–1 November 2024) and was marked by intense negotiations, but failed to adopt key decisions due to the loss of quorum. The resumed session in Rome, Italy (25–27 February 2025) led to the successful adoption of all outstanding items, reinforcing the KM-GBF's implementation architecture.

Overall, COP16 delivered a significant set of advances for global biodiversity conservation.

Key outcomes included a two-track decision on resource mobilisation. This confirmed the Global Environment Facility (GEF)[15] as the interim financial mechanism and launched a process for Parties to consider whether to designate a new mechanism or maintain the status quo. The EU supported a flexible approach to future funding arrangements, advocated for broadening the range of financial

[12] https://www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020

[13] https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/1e13/f20d/81cd8447744640bbd21e008f/cop-16-l-26-rev1-en.pdf

[14] https://www.gbf-indicators.org/

[15] https://www.thegef.org/

contributors, and ensured that any future funding mechanism would remain accountable to the decisions of the CBD COP, thus signalling the EU's strong commitment[16] to the full and swift implementation of the KM-GBF.

The Cali Fund[17] for Digital Sequence Information (DSI) was officially launched, inviting voluntary contributions from private sector actors benefiting from DSI. At least 50% of the proceeds are earmarked for Indigenous Peoples and local communities in developing countries[18]. This responds to long-standing demands from the Global South and aligns with the principles of fair and equitable benefit-sharing.

In terms of monitoring, technical updates to the KM-GBF monitoring framework were adopted. Flexibility was introduced in key indicators, such as allowing national discretion in pesticide-related metrics. A proposed indicator on global environmental impacts of consumption was removed, while compromises were reached on the ecological footprint component and data transparency provisions. These decisions strengthen Parties' ability to track progress while reflecting political realities amidst rising global conflicts and growing scepticism toward science.

A decision on Planning, Monitoring, Reporting and Review (PMRR)[19] set the basis for global stocktakes at COP17 (2026) and COP19 (2030), defining how national reports, headline indicators, and scientific input will feed into assessing collective progress. The EU and its Member States played a key role in brokering a final compromise that retained essential ambitions while securing broad agreement.

Capacity building, technical and scientific cooperation[20] were reinforced through the operationalisation of a global network of eighteen Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centres (TSCCs). A European subregional TSCC[21] will be hosted and coordinated by the European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (KCBD)[22]. at the Joint Research Centre, in collaboration with the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences[23] and the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature[24]. This TSCC addresses capacity building and development needs of 44[25] European Parties, structuring the provision of capacity building around a decentralised network of 23 Knowledge Hubs, one for each target of the Framework. TSCCs will maintain formal relationships with the CBD Secretariat as the host of the Global Coordination Entity (GCE)[26]. Moreover, other CBD organs will support the work of the TSCCs, such as the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation (IAG-TSC),

[16] https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/global-biodiversity_en

[17] https://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2025/pr-2025-02-25-dsi-en.pdf

[18] https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-04-en.pdf

[19] https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/46b7/e64e/625989135db496a1378f1715/cop-16-l-33-rev1-en.pdf

[20] https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-03-en.pdf

[21] https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/biodiversity/engaging-subregional-european-tsc_en

[22] https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2025/ntf-2025-016-tsc-en.pdf

[23] https://www.naturalsciences.be/en

[24] https://iucn.org/our-work/region/mediterranean

[25] https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/biodiversity/geographical-coverage-subregional-european-tsc_en

[26] https://www.cbd.int/tsc/tscm/globalentity

the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBBSTA)[27] and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI)[28].

Additional agreements were reached on biodiversity and health (endorsing a One Health approach)[29], invasive alien species[30], synthetic biology[31], marine and coastal biodiversity[32], sustainable wildlife management and plant conservation[33], and risk assessment for living modified organisms[34]. A new programme of work on Article 8(j) was adopted, enhancing the role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, alongside the establishment of a permanent subsidiary body to ensure their participation in CBD processes.

Throughout both sessions of COP16, the EU and its Member States played a pivotal role in facilitating consensus, providing technical leadership, and maintaining coherence with broader multilateral environmental goals. COP16 consolidated the KM-GBF implementation machinery and reaffirmed the CBD's central role in global biodiversity governance.

2.1.1.2. Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)[35] was established in Panama City in April 2012 by about 94 governments, in response to UNEP's 2010 Busan Outcome [45]. IPBES is an independent intergovernmental platform "established by States to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human wellbeing and sustainable development." It is not a UN body, though its Secretariat[36], located in Bonn, Germany, is supported administratively by UNEP (together with UNESCO, FAO and UNDP) while the platform itself is governed by its Member States via the Plenary. IPBES is to biodiversity and ecosystem services what the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)[37] is to climate change.

IPBES is structured as follows[38]: the Plenary or governing body consists of member State representatives and usually meets once a year. As of November 2025, it has 152 member States, including all but one EU MS (SI)[39]. In addition, there are observers to IPBES, including non-member States, the CBD3, other biodiversity-related conventions and UN bodies, and other related organisations. The EU itself has "enhanced observer" status. IPBES also has a Multidisciplinary

---

[27] https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.cbd.int/SBSTTA&ved=2ahUKEwjBuYrjrI2QAxU1gP0HHUd_CiQQFnoECB8QAQ&usg=AOvVaw1e0V4NSSX2omO8kbNtzqLn

[28] https://www.cbd.int/sbi

[29] https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-19-en.pdf

[30] https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-18-en.pdf

[31] https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-21-en.pdf

[32] https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-16-en.pdf

[33] https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-16/cop-16-dec-15-en.pdf

[34] https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/175e/90b0/89c0c71660cccc1539adf34f/cp-mop-11-09-en.pdf

[35] https://ipbes.net/

[36] https://www.ipbes.net/history-establishment

[37] https://www.ipcc.ch/

[38] https://ipbes.net/about

[39] https://files.ipbes.net/ipbes-web-prod-public-files/2025-04/em_2025_15_Iceland_membership.pdf

Expert Panel (MEP) overseeing its scientific and technical functions, "Stakeholders" who contribute to and use IPBES outputs, and "Expert Groups & Taskforces" that carry out IPBES assessments[40]. The IPBES Bureau oversees administrative functions while the Secretariat supports the Plenary, Bureau and MEP to ensure efficient functioning and implementation.

The work of IPBES can be broadly grouped in four categories13: Assessments, Policy Support, Building Capacity & Knowledge, and Communications & Outreach. Several avenues are available for stakeholder participation [46] across the four functions. The policy framework of the IPBES 2030 rolling work programme[41] is aligned with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the biodiversity-related conventions and other processes.

The EU supports IPBES on all its functions. The EU Focal Point for IPBES is the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), supported by DG ENV. The EU's research framework programmes Horizon 2020 and its successor Horizon Europe require many research projects to give input to IPBES [47]. IPBES assessments14, such as the 2016 IPBES assessment on pollination [48], have relied on EU research while also triggering the 2018 EU policy initiative on pollinators [49], which was revised in 2023 [50]. The conclusions of the IPBES Global Assessment Report [6], especially on the transformative change needed to halt biodiversity loss, are reflected in the EU-BDS 2030 and are crucial for underpinning the evidence base of Horizon Europe, such as the strategic planning process. IPBES assessments on the Nexus (interconnections between food, water, health, and climate) [51] Transformative Change (interconnections between food, water, health, and climate), and invasive alien species [52] have been approved at the 11th Plenary (December 2024), addressing key knowledge requested by the EC, some of which has already been addressed in Horizon 2020 (e.g. on pollination and on climate change and ecosystem services) and Horizon Europe.

As enhanced observer within IPBES, the EU negotiates the IPBES work programme[42] [53] and flags relevant issues for IPBES to investigate, often in coordination with MS that are IPBES members. It attends all IPBES plenaries, reviews IPBES products and negotiates IPBES processes and budget. Responsibilities are divided between DG RTD and DG ENV, with the former leading on the budget and IPBES rolling work programme15, and the latter on cooperation with MS in the Working Party on International Environmental Issues (WPIEI-Biodiversity) and the group of Western European and Other States (WEOG). DG RTD also informs the Council Research Working Group on IPBES. Negotiations at IPBES plenaries are managed jointly by DG RTD and DG ENV with support from other DGs and the EEA. The EU and its MS participate in plenary negotiations in collective as well as individual capacities. The Council Presidency leads on coordinating a collective position with MS via position papers, supported by the EC delegation. For non-coordinated items, "orientation lines" indicate agreed negotiation points, but the EU and its MS can speak further for themselves at the Plenary. The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)[43] takes care of the daily coverage of plenary meetings. IPBES members discuss and approve draft decisions at the closing plenary session.

[40] https://www.ipbes.net/assessing-knowledge

[41] https://ipbes.net/work-programme

[42] https://files.ipbes.net/ipbes-web-prod-public-files/decision_ipbes-7_1_en.pdf

[43] https://www.iisd.org/

2.1.1.3. UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The EU has supported and contributed to the development of the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)[44] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[45], agreed on by the UN General Assembly in September 2015. In particular, EU internal as well as external action on SDG 14 and SDG 15 [54, 55], which directly address biodiversity, are supported through a number of initiatives and enabling funds.

- SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

The same holds for many other SDGs closely linked to biodiversity, such as SDG 13 on climate action [56] and SDG 12 on responsible consumption and production [57].

2.1.1.4. Other global biodiversity coalitions and agreements

On the occasion of World Wildlife Day[46] in March 2020, the EC launched "United for Biodiversity" [58, 59], a new global coalition calling for stronger mobilisation in raising awareness on the need to protect biodiversity ahead of the CBD's crucial COP-15 meeting in October 2021. Within one year, 205 institutions (national parks, research centres, science and natural history museums, etc.) from 47 countries had joined the coalition [59], and the EC aims to increase membership to 500. The EC has also joined the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for Nature and People[47], launched at the One Planet Summit in January 2021. The HAC is an intergovernmental group of 70 countries aimed at the protection of at least 30% of land and sea by 2030, and the ratification of an ambitious science-driven global deal to this end at COP-15.

The EU implements a broad range of other multilateral environmental agreements [60] relating to biodiversity conservation such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)[48], the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)[49], the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats[50] and the Agreement on international humane trapping standards [61].

In particular, wildlife trade is a multibillion-dollar industry encompassing over 100 million plants and animals that is driving species to extinction [4]. EU activities addressing this problem include the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (2016) [62], which was revised in 2022 [63] and the EU's strategic objectives for CoP19 of CITES [64], held in 2022, as well as the earlier proposal for the EU position at CoP18 [65], and the EU strategic objectives for COP-17 of CITES [66].

---

[44] https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals

[45] https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda

[46] https://www.wildlifeday.org/en

[47] https://www.hacfornatureandpeople.org/

[48] https://cites.org/eng

[49] https://www.cms.int/

[50] https://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-convention/

2.1.2. Global conventions and platforms on other related topics

The three "Rio conventions" for international cooperation on the environment (CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD) are strongly inter-related, and collaborate closely. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)[51] was established in 1992 with the aim of preventing “dangerous” human interference with the climate system. It entered into force in 1994. The UNFCCC works closely with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)12, an independent body founded under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to assess scientific literature and provide vital scientific information for the climate change process. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)[52] was established in 1994 to specifically address drylands: the arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas that house especially vulnerable ecosystems and peoples. Other UN bodies whose mandate substantially overlaps with biodiversity protection are the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The compounding effects on nature [6] of climate change, land-/sea-use change, resource overexploitation, pollution and invasive alien species are likely to worsen, as already seen in coral reefs, Arctic systems and savannas.

2.1.2.1. Climate Change (UNFCCC, IPCC, other)

Climate change is one of the main direct drivers of biodiversity loss, and its impact on biodiversity is expected to increase [6] in the next decades. It also exacerbates the impact of other drivers, for instance via fires, floods and droughts, and sea level rise. Several scenarios predict that effects on biodiversity and ecosystem functioning could worsen exponentially [6] with incremental global warming. Yet biodiversity and ecosystem functioning are crucial for mitigating as well as adapting to climate change. The Nairobi work programme (NWP), the UNFCCC knowledge-to-action hub for climate adaptation and resilience [67], recognises the value of nature-based solutions and integrating ecosystems into adaptation strategies. Finally, while the goals of climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation are strongly synergistic, attaining them can involve trade-offs [68, 69] that reduce the efficacy of both efforts if treated separately. An integrated approach is thus of paramount importance. In December 2020, 50 of the world's leading biodiversity and climate experts, selected by a 12-person Scientific Steering Committee assembled by IPBES and IPCC, participated in a virtual workshop to examine the synergies and trade-offs between biodiversity protection and climate change mitigation and adaptation. This represents the first-ever collaboration between the two intergovernmental science-policy bodies. Its conclusions were presented in a workshop report [70].

The EU and its MS are among the 197 Parties to the UNFCCC25[53] and 192 Parties to its Paris Agreement to limit global warming below 1.5°C, adopted at the UNFCCC's COP-21 in December 2015. Apart from the UNFCCC, the EU pursues global climate action via other intergovernmental fora (IPCC, G8 & G20, OECD, MEF, IEA) and the Global Climate Action Agenda [71] as well as via bilateral relations [72] with non-EU countries and regions, policies and initiatives at EU and

[51] https://unfccc.int/

[52] https://www.unccd.int/

[53] https://unfccc.int/

international level, and via financial support [73] to developing countries for tackling climate change and technology transfer.

2.1.2.2. Land degradation and desertification (UNCCD and other)

Land degradation and desertification are issues of both global and EU concern [74]. Combating them and restoring degraded land are urgent global priorities for protecting biodiversity [75]. Land use change is the foremost direct driver of biodiversity loss with the largest relative global impact. There is great potential for cost-effective synergies [76] between targets for land degradation neutrality (LDN) and biodiversity conservation [77] in terms of design, implementation, financing and monitoring. The EU and its MS are among the 197 Parties to the UNCCD, the sole legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management. In 2017 the UNCCD adopted its 2018-2030 Strategic Framework focused on achieving the SDG target 15.3 on combating desertification and restoring degraded land and soil. The EU works with UNCCD partners towards improving living conditions of dryland populations, land and soil productivity and resilience against drought. The EU also supports the global Economics of Land Degradation (ELD) Initiative[54] established in 2011 to improve awareness of the economic dimension of land and sustainable management.

2.1.2.3. UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP)[55] has a Nature Action wing[56] dedicated to preserving and accounting for ecosystems and biodiversity, building integrated solutions, harnessing public funding, engaging business and educating for sustainability. The UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)[57] works with scientists and policymakers worldwide to place biodiversity at the heart of environment and development decision-making. It works closely with the SCBD and is recognised by the EU as a provider of support services to the Convention, as well as technical support to CBD Parties. UNEP and the European Commission have worked together [78] since UNEP's creation in 1972 and further strengthened their relationship through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2004. The MoU was renewed in 2014 and in 2021 to include a new Annex [78, 79] with common areas of interest in view of the global environmental agenda and the new European Union (EU) policy context for the cooperation period 2021-2025. It indicates that partners will explore options for developing a global component of the EC Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity. Many Parties stressed the need for national level capacity-building, and technical and scientific cooperation to enhance generation, monitoring, reporting and assessment of data and knowledge, enabling effective implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework. A proposal for a new global support service was thus recommended by Parties during the 3rd meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation of the CBD in 2022. UNEP-WCMC, with the support of the European Commission and in collaboration with a range of partners, including the CBS Secretariat has since been conducting consultations for setting up a Global Knowledge Support Service for Biodiversity (GKSSB[58]), to be proposed at COP-16.

---

[54] https://www.eld-initiative.org/en/

[55] https://www.unep.org/

[56] https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/ecosystems-and-biodiversity

[57] https://www.unep-wcmc.org/en

[58] https://gkssb.chm-cbd.net/

2.1.2.4. UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)

The EU has long been working on strengthening the international ocean governance framework [80], including the negotiation and development of an international legally binding instrument under the UNCLOS [81] on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, also known as the BBNJ-instrument or High Seas Treaty[59]. After more than a decade of work championed by the EU, the negotiations on this landmark international agreement found a positive outcome in June 2023 [24, 82]. The EU has urged all member states to ratify the treaty promptly. As of July 2025, 19 EU member states have ratified, but the EU as a bloc cannot ratify until all 27 members finalize national procedures under Article 218 TFEU. The EU has nonetheless:

- Pledged €40 million to support global BBNJ implementation (EU Council, 2024).
- Proposed 2 Southern Ocean MPAs under CCAMLR, aligning with BBNJ goals.
- Advocated for a precautionary pause on deep-sea mining until BBNJ governance is operational.

2.1.2.5. UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Cropland expansion and intensification is a major driver of biodiversity loss. The costs and benefits are not uniformly distributed, with tropical regions predominantly affected while Europe and North America often benefit from lower world market prices [83]. At the same time, biodiversity loss eventually causes lower plant productivity and increased yield variability [84]. The FAO[60] emphasises the importance of healthy ecosystems [85] for ensuring nutritious food and productive agriculture, entailing wise management of biodiversity and ecosystem services such as soil maintenance, pollination and pest- and disease-control. The EU and FAO have collaborated since 1991 on countless joint programmes that prioritise biodiversity protection, sustainable resource use and climate change in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Near East and Latin America [86]. The cooperation tackles issues ranging from food safety and security, sustainable agriculture and disease and pest control, to land tenure, soil management, illegal fisheries, desertification and deforestation. A separate report in this series provides more details on the close connections between biodiversity and agriculture [87].

2.1.2.6. UN World Health Organization (WHO)

Healthy communities rely on well-functioning ecosystems [88] to provide clean air, fresh water, medicines and food security, and to limit disease and stabilize the climate. Recent unprecedented rates of biodiversity loss are impacting human health worldwide. Drivers of biodiversity loss such as land-use change, agricultural expansion and intensification, and wildlife trade and consumption, are also triggering pandemics [89]. The CBD and WHO[61] have jointly emphasised the strong connection between biodiversity and health [87], and the need for closer partnerships and integrated approaches. This includes mainstreaming biodiversity [90] in food-based interventions to support nutrition and health. The IPBES Nexus Assessment adopted in December 2024 [51]

[59] https://www.un.org/bbnj/

[60] https://www.fao.org/home/en

[61] https://www.who.int/

focussed on the inter-linkages between biodiversity, water, food and health. The EU is a top contributor to the WHO[62]. The EU-WHO partnership for protecting global health has grown significantly in recent years in order to adequately respond to rapid changes like biodiversity loss [91] that are presenting new, formidable challenges to health systems worldwide. Another of our reports in this series provides more details on the connections between biodiversity and health [92].

2.1.3. EU strategy with Africa (Africa-EU Partnership)

The EU's relationship with Africa is a key priority for the Commission[63]. In 2020 the Commission identified joint priorities towards a comprehensive strategy with Africa [93]. One of the proposed five partnerships addressed the green transition, including "joint action to protect and reduce pressure on forests, water and marine ecosystems while enhancing their management by tackling illegal harvesting and combating environmental crime, thereby tackling the drivers of biodiversity loss." Inter alia action on this was proposed via the 'NaturAfrica' [94] initiative (see section 2.4.3). At the 6th EU-AU summit in Brussels in February 2022, the EU and its African partners adopted a "Joint Vision for 2030" [95]. The renewed partnership includes environment and biodiversity as a common priority, the use of Special Drawing Rights to increase spending on biodiversity in Africa, and support for an ambitious global biodiversity framework.

2.2. EU policies on global biodiversity governance

The European Green Deal (EGD)[64] covers several environmental strategies and actions under eight broad categories: Climate, Environment and Oceans, Agriculture, Research & Innovation, Energy, Finance & Regional Development, Industry and Transport. Many of these relate, directly or indirectly, to global biodiversity governance.

2.2.1. Environment and Oceans: EGD and global biodiversity governance

The main EGD priorities[65] under this category are:

- Protecting our biodiversity and ecosystems
- Reducing air, water and soil pollution
- Moving towards a circular economy
- Improving waste management
- Ensuring the sustainability of our blue economy and fisheries sectors

These priorities are of course strongly inter-related, and the strategies addressing them have significant impact on each other and on biodiversity.

[62] https://www.who.int/europe/about-us

[63] https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/africa-eu-partnership_en

[64] https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

[65] https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/protecting-environment-and-oceans-green-deal_en#Actions

The EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 (EU-BDS 2030) [8] is the most directly relevant for global biodiversity governance. It underscores an ambitious global biodiversity agenda as its fourth pillar, including the mainstreaming of biodiversity throughout bilateral and multilateral engagements via the EU's 'Green Deal diplomacy,' and forthcoming green alliances. The specific objectives of the fourth pillar are:

- Raise the level of ambition and commitment worldwide in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:
    - Promote global biodiversity goals in line with the UN 2030 agenda for sustainable development and the vision of "living in harmony with nature": a world committed to giving nature more than it takes away, and global ecosystems restored, resilient and protected by 2050
    - Address drivers of biodiversity loss via ambitious, specific, measurable, actionable and time-bound 2030 global targets
    - Strengthen implementation, monitoring and review procedures; all Parties submit national commitments, revise national strategies/action plans by the end of 2021; review cycles based on independent science-based analysis
    - Enable a framework of finance, capacity, research, innovation and technology towards attaining said goals and targets
    - Ensure equitable benefit-sharing of biodiversity-related genetic resources
    - Promote an equality principle, respect for indigenous and local communities, securing their rights and participation as well as that of all other stakeholders
- Use external action to promote the EU's ambition through:
    - International Ocean Governance: the EU prioritises protecting and sustainably using marine biodiversity, including in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ, see section 2.1.2.4), and support for Small Island Developing States. It co-proposed two of three vast Marine Protected Areas in the Southern Ocean, potentially one of the biggest acts of nature protection in history. Its agenda includes combating overfishing via international negotiations, cautioning against deep-sea mining before adequate impact assessment, and advocating more transparency in relevant international bodies. In June 2025 the Commission adopted a European Ocean Pact[66] , a comprehensive strategy that brings together EU ocean policies under one single reference framework, including advancing ocean research and innovation, and strengthening EU ocean diplomacy and international ocean governance.
    - Trade policy: the EU commits to ensuring full implementation and enforcement of the biodiversity provisions in all trade agreements. It will better assess the impact of trade agreements on biodiversity, with follow-up action to strengthen the biodiversity provisions of existing and new agreements. In 2021 a legislative proposal [96] was presented for a regulation to avoid or minimise the placing of

[66] https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/european-ocean-pact_en

products associated with global deforestation or forest degradation on the EU market. The regulation was adopted [97] in 2023 and entered force in December 2024 for large companies, with Small Medium Entreprises (SMEs) to become compliant by June 2025. The first sanctions for non-compliance were issued in Q2 2025. As part of its efforts to crack down on the illegal wildlife trade, the EU launched a revised action plan against wildlife trafficking [98] in 2022. The revised Environmental Crime Directive (2024/1637), adopted in June 2024, criminalizes ecocide-level damage to ecosystems, illegal wildlife trade and timber trafficking. Notably, the Directive criminalizes satellite-monitored crimes, including illegal deforestation (in protected areas or beyond), habitat destruction (e.g., wetland drainage, illegal mining in Natura 2000 sites), and large-scale pollution (e.g., oil spills, toxic waste dumping)[67]. The EU commits to engaging with partner countries in mobilising initiatives such as Aid for Trade to ensure a smooth and fair global transition in which partners can reap the benefits of biodiversity-friendly trade

- International cooperation, neighbourhood policy and resource mobilisation: greater cooperation with partners, increased support and financing, and phasing out of subsidies harmful to biodiversity will be key. The EU commits to emphasising biodiversity conservation, restoration, sustainable use and mainstreaming in all development and partnership policies. Commitments include promoting ecosystem protection and restoration via sustainable agriculture/fisheries and water resource management. Coupled with reducing wildlife trade and consumption, this should also help prevent and build resilience against diseases and pandemics. Commitments also include developing and supporting projects for biodiversity protection worldwide, promoting global biodiversity coalitions and strengthening the links between biodiversity protection and human rights

Equipped with EU-BDS 2030 [8], the EU played a leading role in negotiating and shaping the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) at COP-15 (2022) and advanced its full adoption at COP-16 (during 2024, in Cali, Colombia and in 2025, in Rome, Italy) by:

— Securing the Cali Action Plan to accelerate NBSAPs and Indigenous participation.

— Pledging €7 billion to the GBF Biodiversity Fund by 2027.

— Endorsing mandatory corporate biodiversity disclosures (aligned with the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive - CSRD).

Progress on EU-BDS 2030 was reviewed in 2024, showing 26% land and 12% marine protection but lagging restoration targets[68].

2.2.2. Climate: EGD and global biodiversity governance

The EU's international climate action under the EGD [105] includes its participation in the UNFCCC and other formal intergovernmental bodies, as well as other forms of climate diplomacy (see Section 2.1.2). It also includes the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change [106], which

[67] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1637/oj

[68] https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity_en

prioritises stepping up EU international action for climate resilience and preparedness by providing resources, prioritising action and increasing effectiveness by scaling up international finance and enhancing global engagement. The importance of ecosystems for climate change adaptation has long been emphasised within the EC, for instance in the EC White Paper [107] on Adapting to Climate Change – Towards a European Framework for Action.

2.2.3. Agriculture: EGD and global biodiversity governance

The EU's international action on sustainable agriculture and food systems under the EGD is enshrined in its Farm to Fork strategy (F2F) [108] whose main aims include the reversal of biodiversity loss and the promotion of a global transition to sustainable food systems [109]. As the world's biggest importer and exporter of agri-food products and its largest seafood market, the EU cannot achieve this transition without the rest of the world. Commodity production can have negative environmental and social impacts in producer countries. The EU will collaborate with third countries and international actors to tighten global sustainability standards and avoid the externalisation and export of unsustainable practices, including those leading to biodiversity loss. Among the EU's prioritised international cooperation initiatives under the F2F strategy are food research and innovation enabling climate change adaptation and mitigation, agro-ecology, sustainable landscape management and land governance, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and resilience and risk preparedness. The EU has been promoting the global transition in food systems in international forums such as the CBD's COP-15 (2021-22), the Nutrition for Growth Summit, and the UN Food Systems Summit.

2.3. EU support for projects relating to global biodiversity governance

The EU and its Member States together constitute the top donor of international aid for biodiversity. In the last decade they collectively upheld their commitment to double financial flows to developing countries for biodiversity. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework [35] calls for a USD 200 billion increase in international financial flows from all sources to developing countries. In September 2021 President von der Leyen announced a further doubling of EU external support for biodiversity, prioritising the most vulnerable countries, which was confirmed at COP-15 (see section 2.1.1.1). EU support for projects and initiatives on global biodiversity governance has mainly occurred through research and innovation (DG RTD) and through development cooperation (DG INTPA), described in turn in sections 2.3.1 and 2.3.2.

2.3.1. Research & Innovation (RTD) support

A variety of RTD programmes under the FP7 (2007-13)[69] and Horizon 2020 (2014-20)[70] initiatives have supported global biodiversity-related projects. The 2019-2020 work programme of Horizon 2020 spent about € 83 million on projects directed at ensuring EU contributions to on global biodiversity research. This includes funding IPBES through three channels: (i) direct financing to IPBES to strengthen the platform's work (ii) targeted support to the EC for IPBES negotiations and uptake of IPBES products by policymakers, and (iii) funding research projects that provide relevant

[69] https://cordis.europa.eu/programme/id/FP7

[70] https://ec.europa.eu/environment/integration/research/2020_en.htm

content to IPBES. Current projects and initiatives are supported under the new Horizon Europe (2021-27)[71], which is the EU's most ambitious RTD programme yet, and emphasises a global approach [110]. Calls under the first three phases of Horizon Europe (HE) are ongoing and have been listed in the HE work programmes for 2021-2022. 2023-2024 and 2025[72].

2.3.1.1. FP7 (2007-2013) programmes that covered global biodiversity

Specific Programme "Cooperation": Environment (including Climate Change) (FP7-Environment) aimed at improving the sustainable management of environmental resources by advancing knowledge on interactions between the climate, biosphere, ecosystems and human activities via multidisciplinary research. Among the areas addressed were biodiversity conservation and sustainable management, environmental pressures, marine environment management, earth and ocean observation and monitoring, and nature restoration.

Specific Programme "Capacities": International Cooperation (FP7-INCO) aimed at contributing to producing global public goods and helping close the gaps between countries via international research and development. Its specific actions included reinforcing research capacities of candidate countries, and cooperation with developing and emerging countries on environmental themes.

Specific programme "People" for research, technological development and demonstration activities (FP7-People) aimed at encouraging researcher careers and mobility and improving knowledge sharing and transfer between countries and sectors.

2.3.1.2. Horizon 2020 (2014-2020) programmes that covered global biodiversity

Pillar III (SOCIETAL CHALLENGES): Climate action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials (H2020-EU.3.5) aimed to achieve a resource- and water-efficient and climate change-resilient economy and society, protect and sustainably manage natural resources and ecosystems, and ensure a sustainable supply and use of raw materials. Among its actions most relevant for global biodiversity were "Protecting the environment, sustainably managing natural resources, water, biodiversity and ecosystems" (H2020-EU.3.5.2) and "Developing comprehensive and sustained global environmental observation and information systems" (H2020-EU.3.5.5). The former included, among many other projects, EU4IPBES[73] (2019-2023), an EU coordination and support action for the implementation of the IPBES work programme.

Pillar III (SOCIETAL CHALLENGES): Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime and inland water research, and the bioeconomy (H2020-EU.3.2) aimed to secure sufficient supplies of safe, healthy and high-quality food and other bio-based products by developing productive, sustainable and resource-efficient primary production systems, fostering related ecosystem services and the recovery of biological diversity. Among its actions most relevant for global biodiversity were "Sustainable agriculture and forestry" (H2020-EU.3.2.1) and "Unlocking the potential of aquatic living resources" (H2020-EU.3.2.3).

[71] https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en

[72] https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/horizon-europe-work-programmes_en

[73] https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101119387

Pillar I (EXCELLENT SCIENCE): Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (H2020-EU.1.3) aimed to ensure optimal development and dynamic use of Europe's intellectual capital to generate, develop and transfer new skills, knowledge and innovation and thus to realise its full potential across sectors and regions. It included the global action "Nurturing excellence by means of cross-border and cross-sector mobility."

Pillar I (EXCELLENT SCIENCE): Research Infrastructures (H2020-EU.1.4) aimed to endow Europe with world-class research infrastructures accessible to all researchers in Europe and beyond, which fully exploit their potential for scientific advance and innovation. It included the global action "Facilitate strategic international cooperation" (H2020-EU.1.4.3.2).

2.3.1.3. Horizon Europe (2021-2027) ongoing calls/programmes covering global biodiversity

Horizon Europe (HE) emphasises a global approach [110]. Its Pillar II on "Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness" targets "Biodiversity and ecosystem services" as one of the main destinations of Cluster 6, which covers "Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment."

The HE Work programme (2021-22) for Cluster 6, HE Work Programme (2023-24) for Cluster 6 and HE Work Programme (2025) for Cluster 6 include calls on several topics that are global in scope. In particular projects under the theme "Enabling transformative change in biodiversity" specifically call for participation from African Union member countries and those under "Interconnecting biodiversity research and supporting policies" cover support for IPBES and cooperation with the CBD. Important Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs) in this area include the RESPIN project (REinforcing Science-Policy INterfaces for integrated biodiversity and climate knowledge and policies) launched in January 2024 and the CO-OP4CBD project (Co-operation for the Convention on Biological Diversity) launched in December 2022. Another important CSA is the BioAgora project (Bio Knowledge Agora: Developing the Science Service for European Research and Biodiversity Policymaking) launched in July 2022, which is supporting the establishment of a Science Service for Biodiversity linked to the European Commission's Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (KCBD).

HE is also co-funding (with € 165 million over the HE period 2021-2028) the European Biodiversity Partnership**Error! Bookmark not defined.** (Biodiversa+) "Rescuing biodiversity to safeguard life on Earth", which targets SDGs 13, 14, 15 and 17. As of November 2025, the Partnership has 81 members from 40 countries, and among other things, helps to better align national with EU research agendas. The partnership was launched in October 2021 but builds on a 20-year history of ERA-NETs that started in 2005. Biodiversa+ implements annual transnational research calls such as "Supporting the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems across land and sea," which involved 46 funding organisations from 34 countries, supporting 36 research projects with a total budget of over € 44 million. In addition, themes relating to global biodiversity are indirectly tackled under other destinations of Cluster 6 such as sustainable food systems, bioeconomy, zero pollution and innovative governance.

Pillar I (Excellent Science) also continues under HE and includes several calls relating to global biodiversity. These include calls under the "Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions" (MSCA), listed in the MSCA Work programme (2021-22) and the MSCA Work programme (2023-24). Those under "Research Infrastructures" (RI) are listed in the RI Work programme (2021-22) and the RI Work programme (2023-24). RI includes calls (HORIZON-INFRA-2021-SERV-01) on themes pertinent to global biodiversity such as sustainable and resilient agriculture and agro-ecological transitions,

climate-related risks to the environment, developing materials for a circular economy, and sustainable and inclusive global value chains.

Additionally, under the Horizon Europe programme, the second phase of the European Union's Support to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (EU4IPBES) project has been agreed, thereby extending EU support for the period 2023–2028

2.3.2. Development cooperation (INTPA) support

Developing countries contain a large share of the world's biodiversity and are adversely affected by its loss. They are also more likely to house low-income and indigenous communities who depend the most on natural capital for their daily needs, are based in high biodiversity areas, and lack the capacity to sufficiently abate impacts or address underlying global consumption patterns. A large part of EU support for global biodiversity therefore occurs via development cooperation, or international partnerships (INTPA)[74].

EU total funding for biodiversity through international development cooperation [111, 112] reached €1.67 billion in the decade up to 2016, including a boost in 2012 with the Hyderabad commitment. For the funding period 2014-2020, up to €1 billion was earmarked for biodiversity and ecosystems, including wildlife conservation. These figures don't include the biodiversity component of development projects in other sectors such as agriculture and food, security, energy, and climate.

The EU funds biodiversity-related development cooperation activities mainly via 2 types of financial instruments:

- **Geographical instruments**, such as the European Development Fund (EDF), the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) or the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) help implement EU biodiversity strategy at national and regional level
- **The thematic programme** 'Global Public Goods and Challenges' (GPGC) addresses biodiversity and ecosystems issues that are not prioritised by geographical instruments, or that are common to groups of countries not belonging to a single region

The largest share of EU investments in biodiversity is used to support protected areas. These funds are provided through bilateral cooperation with partner countries or through grants to international and local NGOs managing protected areas. The EC also funds a large number of projects directly and indirectly targeting the issue of desertification, land degradation and sustainable land management, often with the joint aim of addressing biodiversity loss and climate adaptation, as well as funding research projects on monitoring and assessing soil quality and drought. Among the main recipients [112] of EU development cooperation support for global biodiversity are:

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)[75]

The EU is one of the CEPF's seven major donors. The CEPF provides grants to NGOs, civil society organisations and the private sector for the conservation and management of globally significant biodiversity hotspots. The 36 hotspots are home to around 2 billion people, including some of the world's poorest, who rely directly on healthy ecosystems for their livelihood and wellbeing. A 2009

[74] https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/index_en

[75] https://www.cepf.net/

study found that more than 80% of armed conflicts in 1950-2000 had occurred in these hotspots. Many were caused or exacerbated by natural resource scarcity.

Minimising the Illegal Killing of Elephants and other Endangered Species (MIKES)[76]

This project aimed at generating reliable and impartial data on the status and threats to elephants and other key endangered species (great apes and rhinos in Africa; marine turtles in the Caribbean and Pacific), help improve law enforcement to combat wildlife poaching and trafficking and establish an emergency response system for sudden increases in illegal killing and trade. The programme was implemented by the CITES secretariat and funded by the European Union's 10th European Development Fund through EuropeAid and with the support of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP).

Partners against Wildlife Crime

This EU-funded Action [113], implemented through a consortium of 12 partner organizations, aims to disrupt illicit supply chains from source to market for tiger, Asian elephant, Siamese rosewood and freshwater turtles.

Other relevant projects

Other projects [112, 114] related to biodiversity conservation that are supported by EU international development cooperation include:

- Virunga National Park, DR Congo
- Preserving the Paramos, Northern Andes
- Leuser ecosystem, Indonesia
- The Best Initiative in ORs and OCTs (see also section 2.4.4)
- Combating alien invasive species in the Pacific
- Getting tough on wildlife traffickers in Asia
- PROMISE - Prevention Of Marine Litter In The Lakshadweep Sea
- Regreening Africa: Restoring land and livelihoods in the Sahel
- STREAM - Sustainable Resilient Ecosystem and Agriculture Management in Mongolia
- Protecting the greater Kilimanjaro trans-frontier area

[76] https://cites.org/eng/node/17873

2.4. The EU's own projects and initiatives on global biodiversity governance

2.4.1. Biodiversity for Life (B4Life)

The EU B4Life flagship initiative[77], launched in 2014, fully integrates biodiversity and ecosystem conservation with socioeconomic development and poverty eradication through an innovative crosscutting approach. B4Life operates in 3 priority areas:

- Promoting good governance of natural resources
- Securing healthy ecosystems for food security.
- Developing nature-based solutions towards a green economy

B4Life also specifically addresses the wildlife crises linked to increasing illegal trafficking. Some region-specific B4Life initiatives include "Larger than Elephants" [115] focused on Africa, "Larger than Tigers" [116] focused on Asia and "Larger than Jaguars" [117] focused on Latin America and the Caribbean. As the titles of these three initiatives suggest, the problem extends far beyond the survival of iconic animals such as elephants, tigers or jaguars. Vanishing species are important components of complex natural ecosystems that provide water and food, regulate climate, process waste products, pollinate crops, and support a growing tourism industry. Some of these services can only be replaced at a significant cost, while others are irreplaceable.

The Africa report "Larger than Elephants: Inputs for an EU strategic approach to wildlife conservation in Africa" [115] was published by EU B4Life in 2015, in response to the African wildlife crisis. It identified the principal threats to African wildlife and the most appropriate responses for tackling broad wildlife conservation needs and the growing problem of illegal wildlife trade, as well as improving local rural livelihoods to reduce reliance on unsustainable use of wild resources and wildlife. Following the success of the Africa report, B4LIfe launched its Asia report "Larger than Tigers: Inputs for a strategic approach to biodiversity conservation in Asia" [116] in May 2018. Home to over half the world's population and almost one fifth its land mass, Asia's richly diverse ecosystems have witnessed rapid population and economic growth, pushing many species to the brink of extinction, with thousands more dramatically declining, along with their natural habitat. Lastly, in 2021, B4Life published the report "Larger than Jaguars: Inputs for a strategic approach to biodiversity conservation in Latin America and the Caribbean." [117] The reports are a valuable basis for decision-making that aligns biodiversity with human development. They provide guidance to EU delegations and other development partners, towards feeding EU strategy in establishing strong partnerships in the respective regions based on shared values and interests, and for contributing to converging stakeholder actions in favour of ecosystem conservation.

2.4.2. Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA)

The African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries house nearly half the world's biodiversity hotspots. The BIOPAMA Programme[78] assists ACP countries in enabling improved management and

[77] https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/groups/b4life

[78] https://biopama.org/

governance of biodiversity and natural resources through technical and financial support. The programme is jointly implemented by the EC's JRC and the IUCN. In its second phase (2017-2023), for which the EU and ACP countries have invested €60 million through the 11th European Development Fund (EDF), it aims to enhance the policy and decision-making capacities of institutions responsible for biodiversity conservation and protected area management by making available the best possible scientific information and knowledge.

2.4.3. NaturAfrica

NaturAfrica [94, 118] is an EU International Partnerships (INTPA) initiative to support biodiversity conservation in Africa by taking an innovative people-centred approach that includes job creation and sustainable livelihoods. It prioritises development actions in key landscapes identified in "Larger than Elephants" [115]. With a budget of € 310 million (2021-2027), NaturAfrica is being developed in two phases: (1) Short term: developing actions in key landscapes for conservation and development, building on positive benefits of protected areas for society and the economy, encouraging protected area networks and knowledge-sharing; and (2) Medium term: extending support beyond key landscapes to address the root causes of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation and integrate these concerns into other sectors ('mainstreaming biodiversity').

2.4.4. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European overseas (BEST)

BEST is a voluntary scheme [119] aimed at supporting the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of ecosystem services in the EU Outermost Regions (ORs) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs). ORs and OCTs include 34 political entities comprising over 150 islands that collectively cover a land area equivalent to the EU area and a marine territory that is the largest in the world. They harbour very rich biodiversity that is particularly vulnerable to invasive species, development, and climate change impacts. ORs and OCTs together also host more than 20% of the world's coral reefs and lagoons. ORs and OCTs are often not eligible for funding that their neighbours get and thus miss out on funds specifically targeted at their regional ecosystems and threats. At the EU level, funding mechanisms are often not adapted to meet their particular needs. To address this problem, seven critical regions were identified for prioritisation via regional ecosystem profiles [119], a tool developed and used by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF). BEST projects in the seven critical regions (Amazonia, Caribbean, Indian Ocean, Macaronesia, Pacific, Polar & Sub-polar, South Atlantic) treat a variety of topics ranging from the quantification of ecosystem service value to monitoring and saving threatened species, restoring and conserving key ecosystems like coral reefs and wetlands, and eradicating invasive alien species. Global projects focused on joint activities and building partnerships were also included. BEST 2.0 extended the mandate of BEST from 2015 onwards as part of EU B4Life, covering 50 small-scale and 5 medium-scale field activities in OCTs. It was complemented by the BEST RUP project covering the French Outermost Regions (ORs). From 2011 to 2018, BEST financed 90 projects worth a total of € 18 million.

In 2020, Life4BEST[79] and BEST 2.0+ programmes[80] took over from BEST RUP and BEST 2.0, respectively covering the ORs and the OCTs. BEST 2.0+ is a direct follow-up of the BEST 2.0 Programme, complemented by Life4BEST. It aims to attain BEST objectives by enabling, empowering and strengthening local authorities and civil society organisations committed to local development, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of ecosystem services in OCTs – in order to ensure that the scheme reflects actual local needs and demand, and provides more support to local stakeholders for unlocking their potential. BEST 2.0+ also aims47 to increase the visibility of the OCTs as demonstrators of ecosystem-based approaches and key contributors to the achievement of EU and international biodiversity targets.

2.4.5. Preserving Biodiversity and Fragile Ecosystems in Central Africa (ECOFAC6)

Under its ECOFAC6 programme[81], the EU assigned [120] a budget of € 80.5 million over the period 2017–2023 for direct support to 17 protected areas spread over 7 countries (Cameroon, DR Congo, Congo Republic, Central African Republic, Chad, and Sao Tomé & Principe) and 8 priority landscapes for conservation, while contributing to a green economy, sustainable and inclusive economic development, and the fight against climate change.

Some projects [121] under ECOFAC6:

- Conserving nature and beating the virus together (Central African Republic)
- Artificial intelligence to the rescue of biodiversity (Central Africa)
- Pangolin: helping to save the most endangered species of the planet (Gabon)

2.4.6. The EU SWITCH to Green Flagship Initiative (S2G)

The S2G initiative[82] aims at facilitating the transition to an inclusive green economy while generating growth, creating decent jobs, and reducing poverty. It supports EU international partnerships of DG NEAR, DG INTPA and EU Delegations by providing technical assistance.

2.4.7. EU Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (EU FLEGT)

The EU FLEGT initiative[83] contributes to combating illegal logging and strengthening forest governance while encouraging sustainable economic development in countries that produce or process timber and export to the EU. Its Action Plan [122] was established in 2003. As part of this action plan, the EU Timber Regulation [123], which came into force in 2013, prohibits operators in Europe from placing illegally harvested timber and products derived from illegal timber on the EU market.

[79] https://www.life4best.org/en/about

[80] https://www.best2plus.org/

[81] https://www.ecofac6.eu/fr

[82] https://www.switchtogreen.eu/home/

[83] https://flegtvpafacility.org/flegt/

2.4.8. Biodiversity Financing Initiative (BIOFIN)

BIOFIN[84] is a global partnership launched by UNDP and the European Commission at the CBD COP 11, in response to the urgent global need to divert more finance from all possible sources towards global and national biodiversity goals. Now present in 41 countries, BIOFIN is working with governments, civil-society, vulnerable communities, and the private sector to catalyse investments in nature.

[84] https://www.biofin.org/

3. Conclusions

In this report we have highlighted the urgent need for enhanced and transformative global governance of biodiversity and outlined the main channels for strengthening efforts to save global biodiversity while highlighting the EU's actions through these channels.

The complex and globally connected nature of biodiversity, and the urgency in combating its loss, call for redoubled concerted action on global governance. Achieving the transformative change required to address underlying drivers of biodiversity loss necessitates transformative global governance. Apart from international engagement in coalitions and conventions addressing biodiversity directly, such as the CBD and IPBES, action on other platforms devoted to closely related issues such as climate change, agriculture, land degradation and health, are essential as part of the agenda for transformative change. We have summarised the close links between biodiversity and these other areas, and the global actions in these areas that are particularly relevant for biodiversity.

The EU has played an integral role in global conventions, platforms and coalitions on biodiversity, in particular the CBD and IPBES – in terms of raising global ambition as well as providing various forms of support for less developed countries to conserve their biodiversity. The fourth pillar of the EU-BDS 2030 focuses on the urgent need to step up the EU's global action on biodiversity. It aimed at several legislations and actions in specific areas ranging from an ambitious binding agreement on protecting global marine biodiversity to trade-related measures such as curbing wildlife trafficking and avoiding deforestation, many of which were already in force by the beginning of 2023. In particular the objectives of EU-BDS 2030 have provided an important foundation for raising global ambition at the recently concluded COP-15 of the CBD. As part of its global agenda on biodiversity the EU is supporting many conservation projects across the world, in particular in Africa. The EU is also a key member of global conventions on other closely linked issues such as climate, agriculture, land degradation and health. The biodiversity-related aspects of these areas may need further attention at the global level over the coming years.

But a lot remains to be done in terms of reinforcing implementation at the global level, as well as the European, The CBD's Aichi targets for 2020 were not attained, and the EU did not attain its own headline target [124] to halt and reverse overall biodiversity loss by 2020, The real challenge has therefore just begun. With this overview we have outlined global actions being taken currently, with a view to improving awareness and indicating the available channels for further action. It may also provide a basis for developing new channels to optimise impact, including by enhancing the biodiversity component of global and EU action in numerous other closely related domains.

References

[1] Sweetlove, L. 'Number of species on Earth tagged at 8.7 million.' *Nature* (2011). https://doi.org/10.1038/news.2011.498

[2] Locey K.J. and Lennon J.T. 'Scaling laws predict global microbial diversity.' *PNAS* Vol. 113, No 21, 2016, pp 5970-5975. https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1521291113

[3] Sustaining Life on Earth: How the Convention on Biological Diversity promotes nature and human wellbeing. Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, April 2000. ISBN 92-807-1904-1. https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-sustain-en.pdf

[4] (a) Hughes, L.J., Massam, M.R., Morton, O. et al. 'Global hotspots of traded phylogenetic and functional diversity.' *Nature* (2023). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06371-3

(b) Brett R. Scheffers et al. 'Global wildlife trade across the tree of life.' *Science* Vol. 366, 2019, pp 71-76. DOI:10.1126/science.aav5327

[5] Dasgupta, P. (2021), The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review. (London: HM Treasury).

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/final-report-the-economics-of-biodiversity-the-dasgupta-review

[6] IPBES (2019), Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3831673

[7] TEEB (2010), The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity: Mainstreaming the Economics of Nature: A Synthesis of the Approach, Conclusions and Recommendations of TEEB.

https://teebweb.org/publications/teeb-for/synthesis/

[8] European Commission (2020). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: Bringing nature back into our lives (COM/2020/380 final). https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2020:380:FIN

[9] Colin N. Waters et al. 'The Anthropocene is functionally and stratigraphically distinct from the Holocene.' *Science* Vol. 351, aad2622, 2016. DOI:10.1126/science.aad2622

[10] Rockström, J., Steffen, W., Noone, K. et al. 'A safe operating space for humanity.' *Nature*, Vol. 461, 2009, pp 472–475. https://doi.org/10.1038/461472a

[11] Website "Planetary boundaries" of the Stockholm Resilience Centre, including many references on the subject.

https://www.stockholmresilience.org/research/planetary-boundaries.html

[12] Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005. *Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Biodiversity Synthesis*. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC.

[13] BGCI (2021). State of the World's Trees. BGCI, Richmond, UK. https://www.bgci.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/FINAL-GTAReportMedRes-1.pdf

[14] Haddad et al., 'Habitat fragmentation and its lasting impact on Earth's ecosystems,' *Science Advances* Vol. 1, No 2, 2015. https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.1500052

[15] Convention on Biological Diversity (2018), Protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures. Decision CBD/COP/DEC/14/8.

https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-08-en.pdf

[16] Tickner et al., 'Bending the Curve of Global Freshwater Biodiversity Loss: An Emergency Recovery Plan,' *BioScience,* Vol. 70, No 4, 2020, pp 330–342. https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biaa002

[17] Steffen W. et al. Planetary boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet.' *Science*, Vol. 347, No 6223, 2015. https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.1259855

[18] Editorial, 'Why ideas of 'planetary boundaries' must uphold environmental justice,' Nature Vol. 618, No 7, 2023. doi: https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-023-01749-9

[19] upta J. et al. 'Earth system justice needed to identify and live within Earth system boundaries,' Nat Sustain, Vol. 6, 2023, pp 630–638.

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-023-01064-1

[20] Rockström, J. et al. 'Safe and just Earth system boundaries,' Nature, Vol. 619, 2023, pp 102–111. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-06083-8

[21] Catherine Corson, Lisa M. Campbell, Peter Wilshusen, Noella J. Gray, 'Assembling global conservation governance,' *Geoforum*, Vol. 103, 2019, pp 56-65. ISSN 0016-7185,

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2019.03.012.

[22] Johnson, D, Barrio Froján, C, Bax, N, et al. 'The Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative: Promoting scientific support for global ocean governance.' *Aquatic Conserv: Mar Freshw Ecosyst.* Vol. 29 (S2), 2019, pp 162– 169. https://doi.org/10.1002/aqc.3024

[23] Robin Mahon, Lucia Fanning, 'Regional ocean governance: Polycentric arrangements and their role in global ocean governance,' *Marine Policy*, Vol. 107, 2019, 103590. ISSN 0308-597X.

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2019.103590.

[24] Editorial, 'Ocean governance milestone,' *Nat Sustain* Vol. 6, 2023, p 348.

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-023-01114-8

[25] Convention on Biological Diversity (2004). Strategic Plan: future evaluation of progress. Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/VII/30.

https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-07/cop-07-dec-30-en.pdf

[26] Jefferson Tamlin, Palomares Maria L. D., Lundquist Carolyn J. 'Safeguarding Seafood Security, Marine Biodiversity and Threatened Species: Can We Have Our Fish and Eat It too?' *Frontiers in Marine Science* Vol. 9, 2022. DOI=10.3389/fmars.2022.826587, ISSN=2296-7745

https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2022.826587

[27] Eric Dinerstein and others, An Ecoregion-Based Approach to Protecting Half the Terrestrial Realm, *BioScience,* Volume 67, Issue 6, June 2017, Pages 534–545, https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/bix014

[28] Watson, J., Venter, O. 'A global plan for nature conservation.' *Nature* Vol. 550, 2017, pp 48–49. https://doi.org/10.1038/nature24144

[29] Andrew Balmford et al. 'Economic Reasons for Conserving Wild Nature.' Science, Vol. 297, 2002, pp 950-953. DOI:10.1126/science.1073947

[30] Ingrid J. Visseren-Hamakers et al. 'Transformative governance of biodiversity: insights for sustainable development,' *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability,* Vol. 53, 2021, pp 20-28. ISSN 1877-3435. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2021.06.002.

[31] Zurba M. et al. 'Intergenerational Dialogue, Collaboration, Learning, and Decision-Making in Global Environmental Governance: The Case of the IUCN Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability,' *Sustainability* Vol. 12, No 2, 2020, p 498. https://doi.org/10.3390/su12020498

[32] Convention on Biological Diversity (2004), Ecosystem approach: Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/VII/11.

https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-07/cop-07-dec-11-en.pdf

[33] Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Targets "Living in Harmony with Nature." CBD–UNEP. https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/2011-2020/Aichi-Targets-EN.pdf

[34] Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2020) Global Biodiversity Outlook 5 – Summary for Policy Makers. Montréal. ISBN-9789292256883.

https://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo5/publication/gbo-5-spm-en.pdf

[35] The final text of the historic Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, agreed at the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. CBD, Montreal, 22 December 2022.

https://prod.drupal.www.infra.cbd.int/sites/default/files/2022-12/221222-CBD-PressRelease-COP15-Final.pdf

[36] Commission web page "EU at COP15 global biodiversity conference."

https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/eu-cop15-global-.biodiversity-conference_en

[37] Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (2000). Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity: text and annexes. Montreal: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. ISBN: 92-807-1924-6

https://www.cbd.int/doc/legal/cartagena-protocol-en.pdf

[38] Commission website on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

https://food.ec.europa.eu/plants/genetically-modified-organisms/international-affairs_en

[39] Regulation (EC) No 1946/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2003 on transboundary movements of genetically modified organisms. OJ L 287, 5.11.2003, p. 1–10. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=celex%3A32003R1946

[40] Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity: text and annex / Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. ISBN 92-9225-306-9

https://www.cbd.int/abs/doc/protocol/nagoya-protocol-en.pdf

[41] Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization in the Union. OJ L 150, 20.5.2014, p. 59–71.

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32014R0511

[42] Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1866 of 13 October 2015 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the register of collections, monitoring user compliance and best practices. OJ L 275, 20.10.2015, p. 4–19.

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32015R1866

[43] Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization in the Union (COM/2019/13 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2019:13:FIN

[44] Guidance document on the scope of application and core obligations of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation in the Union (C/2020/8759). OJ C 13, 12.1.2021, p. 1–68.

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52021XC0112(02)

[45] Report of the third ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Busan, Republic of Korea, 7–11 June 2010. UNEP/IPBES/3/3.

https://www.ipbes.net/sites/default/files/downloads/UNEP_IPBES_3_3_EN.pdf

[46] Cornelia B. Krug et al. 'Stakeholder participation in IPBES: connecting local environmental work with global decision making,' *Ecosystems and People*, Vol. 16, No 1, 2020, pp 197-211.

DOI: 10.1080/26395916.2020.1788643

[47] European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, *The EU and IPBES: science cooperation for biodiversity*, Publications Office, 2021.
https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/139985

[48] IPBES (2016). The assessment report of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on pollinators, pollination and food production. S.G. Potts, V. L. Imperatriz-Fonseca, and H. T. Ngo (eds). Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Bonn, Germany. 552 pages.

https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3402856

[49] European Commission (2018). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – EU Pollinators Initiative (COM/2018/395 final).

[50] European Commission (2023). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – Revision of the EU Pollinators Initiative: A new deal for pollinators (COM/2023/35 final).

[51] Nexus assessment: Thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health. (IPBES, 2024).

https://www.ipbes.net/nexus

[52] Transformative change assessment: Thematic assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss, determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 vision for biodiversity. (IPBES, in preparation 2023).

https://www.ipbes.net/transformative-change

[53] European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, *The EU and IPBES: science cooperation for biodiversity*, Publications Office, 2021.

https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/139985

[54] European Commission (2023). Report on progress in the implementation of the SDGs: SDG 14. https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/SDG-Report-14-MD.pdf

[55] European Commission (2023). Report on progress in the implementation of the SDGs: SDG 15. https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/SDG-Report-15-MD.pdf

[56] European Commission (2023). Report on progress in the implementation of the SDGs: SDG 13. https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/SDG-Report-13-MD.pdf

[57] European Commission (2023). Report on progress in the implementation of the SDGs: SDG 12. https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2023-07/SDG-Report-12-MD.pdf

[58] #United for Biodiversity, International Council of Museums

https://icom.museum/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/UnitedforBiodiversity-kit.pdf

[59] European Commission launches global coalition for biodiversity. Press release 3 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_891

[60] Mauerhofer, Volker. "Activities of Environmental Convention-Secretariats: Laws, Functions and Discretions" *Sustainability* Vol. 11, No 11, 2019, 3116. https://doi.org/10.3390/su11113116

[61] Agreement on international humane trapping standards between the European Community, Canada and the Russian Federation. OJ L 42, 14.2.1998, p. 43–57

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:21998A0214(02)

[62] European Commission (2016). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - EU action plan against wildlife trafficking (COM/2016/087 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2016:87:FIN

[63] European Commission (2022). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Revision of the EU action plan against wildlife trafficking (COM/2022/581 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2022%3A581%3AFIN

[64] European Parliament resolution of 5 October 2022 on the EU strategic objectives for the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), to be held in Panama from 14 to 25 November 2022 (2022/2681(RSP)).

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0344_EN.html

[65] European Commission (2019). Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES CoP18). (COM/2019/146 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52019PC0146

[66] European Parliament resolution of 15 September 2016 on the EU strategic objectives for the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), to be held in Johannesburg (South Africa) from 24 September to 5 October 2016 (2016/2664(RSP)). OJ C 204, 13.6.2018, p. 136–144.

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52016IP0356&qid=1653885151553

[67] The Nairobi work programme. The UNFCCC's Knowledge-To-Action Hub: Closing Knowledge Gaps to Advance Transformative Adaptation and Resilience in a Changing Climate.

https://express.adobe.com/page/TpuJ4xeNwFEeY/

[68] Rehbein, JA, Watson, JEM, Lane, JL, et al. 'Renewable energy development threatens many globally important biodiversity areas.' *Glob Change Biol.* Vol. 26, No 5, 2020, pp 3040–3051. https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.15067

[69] Prakash S. and Neuville A., *Biodiversity, climate change and energy: A knowledge synthesis and analysis of the links between biodiversity, climate change and energy, and the relevant EU policies, projects and initiatives*, JRC Technical Report (to be published). Related web content available at:

https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/biodiversity/topic/biodiversity-climate-change-energy_en

[70] Scientific outcome of the IPBES-IPCC co-sponsored workshop on biodiversity and climate change (Version 5, 2021). https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5101125

[71] Commission web page 'Global climate action agenda.'

https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/international-action-climate-change/climate-negotiations/global-climate-action-agenda_en

[72] Commission web page 'Cooperation with non-EU countries & regions.'

https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/international-action-climate-change/cooperation-non-eu-countries-regions_en

[73] Commission web page 'International climate finance: How the EU supports climate action in developing economies across the world.'

https://ec.europa.eu/clima/eu-action/international-action-climate-change/international-climate-finance_en

[74] Commission web page 'International action: the EU works with partners worldwide to combat land and soil degradation and desertification.'

https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/soil-and-land/international-action_en

[75] IPBES (2018): The IPBES assessment report on land degradation and restoration. Montanarella, L., Scholes, R., and Brainich, A. (eds.). Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Bonn, Germany. 744 pages.

https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3237392

[76] CBD web page 'A world in which we achieve land degradation neutrality will also be a world with improved biodiversity.' https://www.unccd.int/land-and-life/biodiversity/overview

[77] Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and CBD. 2019. Land Degradation Neutrality for Biodiversity Conservation: How healthy land safeguards nature. Technical Report. Bonn, Germany. https://catalogue.unccd.int/1340_LDN_BiodiversityGM_Report.pdf

[78] UNEP web page 'European Union and UNEP.'

https://www.unep.org/about-un-environment/funding-and-partnerships/european-commission

See also: UNEP Factsheet 'UNEP and the European Commission.'

https://wedocs.unep.org/xmlui/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/38497/EC_UNEP_1March_draft4.pdf

[79] Annex to the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme for the cooperation period 2021-2025.

https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/node/41000_hr

[80] Commission web page 'Strengthening the international ocean governance framework.'

https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/ocean/international-ocean-governance/strengthening-international-ocean-governance-framework_en

[81] United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos_e.pdf

[82] 'Ocean biodiversity: global agreement on protection and sustainable use of resources and biodiversity in high seas.' Commission press release, 4 March 2023.

[83] Zabel, F., Delzeit, R., Schneider, J. et al. Global impacts of future cropland expansion and intensification on agricultural markets and biodiversity. *Nat Comm.* Vol. 10, 2844 (2019).

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-10775-z

[84] Bruno Lanz, Simon Dietz, Tim Swanson, 'The Expansion of Modern Agriculture and Global Biodiversity Decline: An Integrated Assessment,' *Ecological Economics*, Vol. 144, 2018, pp 260-277. ISSN 0921-8009. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2017.07.018.

[85] FAO web page 'Ecosystem Services & Biodiversity.'

https://www.fao.org/ecosystem-services-biodiversity/background/en/

[86] FAO web page 'FAO and the EU highlight the vital role of biodiversity in building sustainable food systems.' https://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1295173/icode/

[87] Prakash S. et al., *Biodiversity and agriculture: A knowledge synthesis and analysis of the close links between biodiversity and agriculture highlighting the relevant EU policies, projects and initiatives*, JRC Technical Report (to be published).

[88] Connecting Global Priorities: Biodiversity and Human Health. A state of knowledge review. UNEP-CBD-WHO, 2015. ISBN: 9789241508537.

https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/connecting-global-priorities-biodiversity-and-human-health

[89] IPBES (2020) Workshop Report on Biodiversity and Pandemics of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany.

DOI:10.5281/zenodo.4147317

[90] Guidance on mainstreaming biodiversity for nutrition and health. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO. ISBN 978-92-4-000670-6.

https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/guidance-mainstreaming-biodiversity-for-nutrition-and-health

[91] WHO-Europe web page 'Nature, biodiversity and health.'

https://www.who.int/europe/news-room/fact-sheets/item/nature--biodiversity-and-health

[92] Prakash S., Estreguil C. and Neuville A., *Biodiversity and health: A knowledge synthesis and analysis of the complex connections between biodiversity and health highlighting the relevant EU policies, projects and initiatives*, JRC Technical Report (to be published). Related web content available at: https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/biodiversity/topic/biodiversity-health_en

[93] European Commission (2020). Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council – Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa (JOIN/2020/4 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=JOIN:2020:4:FIN

[94] European Commission, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, *NaturAfrica : the Green Deal approach for EU support to biodiversity conservation in Africa*, Publications Office of the European Union, 2021, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2841/09962

[95] 6th European Union - African Union Summit: A Joint Vision for 2030. Final declaration.

https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/54412/final_declaration-en.pdf

[96] European Commission (2021). Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the making available on the Union market as well as export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation and repealing Regulation (EU) No 995/2010. (COM/2021/706 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2021:706:FIN

[97] Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 2023 on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation and repealing Regulation (EU) No 995/2010. OJ L 150, 9.6.2023, p. 206–247

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32023R1115

[98] European Commission (2022). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – Revision of the EU action plan against wildlife trafficking (COM/2022/581 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2022:581:FIN

[99] European Commission (2021). Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of the environment through criminal law and replacing Directive 2008/99/EC (COM/2021/851 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2021:851:FIN

[100] European Commission (2020). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A new Circular Economy Action Plan - For a cleaner and more competitive Europe (COM/2020/98 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2020:98:FIN

[101] European Commission, Directorate-General for Environment, *Leading the way to a global circular economy : state of play and outlook*, Publications Office, 2020.

https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2779/013167

[102] Commission web page 'Circular economy: Leading the way to a resource-efficient and circular economy at the global level.'

https://environment.ec.europa.eu/international-cooperation/circular-economy_en

[103] Concept Note 'Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE): Towards Just Transitions (UNEP, Nairobi, 2021).

https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/40298/GACERE_ConceptNote.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

[104] European Commission (2020). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability – Towards a Toxic-Free Environment (COM/2020/667 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2020:667:FIN

[105] Commission web page 'International action on climate change.'

https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/international-action-climate-change_en

[106] European Commission (2021). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the

Regions. Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2021:82:FIN

[107] European Commission (2009). White paper - Adapting to climate change: towards a European framework for action (COM/2009/0147 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2009:147:FIN

[108] European Commission (2020). Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions – A Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system (COM/2020/381 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2020:381:FIN

[109] European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Delelegne, A., Maes, O., Rembold, F., *Analysis and synthesis of priority actions for the transition towards sustainable food systems in developing countries . Volume 1*, Publications Office of the European Union, 2023.

https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/879474

[110] European Commission (2023). Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament – First biennial report on the implementation of the Global Approach to research and innovation (COM/2023/356 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2023:356:FIN

[111] Commission web page 'International Partnerships: Biodiversity and ecosystems.'

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/climate-environment-and-energy/biodiversity-and-ecosystems_en#header-1895

[112] 'European Union support for sustainable use and conservation of nature in developing countries. ' EU Development & Cooperation 'Biodiversity for Life.'

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2019-12/publication-eu-nature-conservation-for-development-b4life-20160901_en.pdf

[113] Biodiversity for Life "Partners against Wildlife Crime" project (EU-CWT) Highlights 2019-2020.

https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/library/eu-cwt-highlights-2019-2020-0

[114] Commission web page 'International Partnerships: Projects.'

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/programming/projects_en

[115] European Commission, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, MacKinnon, J., Aveling, C., Olivier, R., et al., Larger than elephants: inputs for an EU strategic approach to wildlife conservation in Africa: synthesis. Publications Office of the European Union, 2017, https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2841/909032

[116] European Commission, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development, Larger than tigers: inputs for a strategic approach to biodiversity conservation in Asia: synthesis report, Publications Office of the European Union, 2018. https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2841/131986

[117] European Commission, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, Aragón, R., Arguedas, S., Blumetto, O., et al., Larger than jaguars : inputs for a strategic approach to biodiversity conservation in Latin America and the Caribbean : synthesis report, Mayaux, P.(editor), Villanueva Hullebroeck, P.(editor), Van Houtte, F.(editor), Marijnissen, C.(editor), Chatelus, S.(editor), Saracco, F.(editor), Publications Office of the European Union, 2021. https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2841/760354

[118] NaturAfrica: a new structure to support biodiversity and development in Africa. Commission Newsroom (31/05/2022).

[119] Commission website 'BEST initiative - supporting biodiversity in the Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories.'

https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/best-initiative-supporting-biodiversity-outermost-regions-and-overseas-countries-and-territories_en

[120] Commission website 'ECOFAC6: Preserving biodiversity and fragile ecosystems in Central Africa.'

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/programming/programmes/ecofac6-preserving-biodiversity-and-fragile-ecosystems-central-africa_en

[121] Commission web pages on some specific ECOFAC6 projects in Central Africa and Gabon:

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/stories/central-african-republic-conserving-nature-and-beating-virus-together_en

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/stories/afrique-centrale-lintelligence-artificielle-la-rescousse-de-la-biodiversite_en

https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/stories/pangolin-helping-save-most-endangered-species-planet_en

[122] European Commission (2003). Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament - Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) - Proposal for an EU Action Plan (COM/2003/0251 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2003:0251:FIN

[123] Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market. OJ L 295, 12.11.2010, p. 23–34

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32010R0995

[124] European Commission (2021). Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on nature restoration (COM/2022/304 final).

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2022:304:FIN

List of abbreviations and definitions

Abbreviations	Definitions
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific countries
B4Life	Biodiversity for Life (EU flagship initiative)
BEST	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European Overseas
BIOFIN	Biodiversity Financing Initiative
BIOPAMA	Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
CO-OP4CBD	Cooperation for the Convention on Biological Diversity (Horizon Europe CSA)
COP15	15th Conference of the Parties (to the CBD)
CSA	Coordination and Support Action (EU research funding instrument)
ECOFAC6	Preserving Biodiversity and Fragile Ecosystems in Central Africa (Phase 6)
EC	European Commission
EDF	European Development Fund
EGD	European Green Deal
EU	European Union (implicitly defined throughout the text)
EU-BDS 2030	EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
EU FLEGT	EU Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
EU-CWT	EU – Partners Against Wildlife Crime Project

Abbreviations	Definitions
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FP7	EU Framework Programme 7 (2007–2013)
HE / Horizon Europe	EU Framework Programme for Research (2021–2027)
H2020	Horizon 2020 EU Research Programme (2014–2020)
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
INTPA	Directorate-General for International Partnerships (formerly DEVCO)
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KCBD	Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity (EC)
K4P	Knowledge for Policy initiative (European Commission)
OCTs	Overseas Countries and Territories
ORs	Outermost Regions (of the European Union)
RTD	Research & Innovation (abbrev. for EC Directorate-General or support area)
SDGs	UN Sustainable Development Goals
S2G	EU SWITCH to Green Flagship Initiative
TEEB	The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (global initiative)
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

Abbreviations	Definitions
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WHO	World Health Organization

List of figures

Getting in touch with the EU

In person

All over the European Union there are hundreds of Europe Direct centres. You can find the address of the centre nearest you online (european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en).

On the phone or in writing

Europe Direct is a service that answers your questions about the European Union. You can contact this service:

— by freephone: 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 (certain operators may charge for these calls),
— at the following standard number: +32 22999696,
— via the following form: european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/write-us_en.

Finding information about the EU

Online

Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website (european-union.europa.eu).

EU publications

You can view or order EU publications at op.europa.eu/en/publications. Multiple copies of free publications can be obtained by contacting Europe Direct or your local documentation centre (european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en).

EU law and related documents

For access to legal information from the EU, including all EU law since 1951 in all the official language versions, go to EUR-Lex (eur-lex.europa.eu).

EU open data

The portal data.europa.eu provides access to open datasets from the EU institutions, bodies and agencies. These can be downloaded and reused for free, for both commercial and non-commercial purposes. The portal also provides access to a wealth of datasets from European countries.

Publications Office
of the European Union