

Jargon Buster: COP16

COP16: The sixteenth conference of the parties to the legally binding environmental treaty, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (**CBD**). COP16 hosted by Colombia.

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF): A non legally binding framework agreed at COP15, replacing the CBD's previous plan and targets to 2020 (the Aichi Targets). As a tool and political commitment by countries to steer implementation of the CBD, the GBF cannot be directly enforced.

Targets: The GBF has **23 action-oriented global targets for 2030**, to enable achievement of the 2050 goals. Governments should immediately begin implementing these targets through policies and regulations.

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs): Sometimes referred to as the 'teeth' of the CBD, states agreed to enhance the existing system of planning, monitoring, reporting and review in order to promote responsibility and transparency towards achieving the GBF. Countries are required to update their NBSAPs – already required under the CBD – to align them with the targets set out in the GBF. They must then report and review progress against these plans and the GBF goals and targets.

Digital sequence information (DSI): whilst there is no globally agreed definition of DSI, it refers to genetic sequences of biodiversity stored in databases. Target 13 of the GBF requires measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits (both monetary and non-monetary) that arise from the utilisation of DSI and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources with applicable international access and benefit sharing instruments.

Cali fund: a fund that will then support further use of DSI and the conservation and sustainable use of nature, with a significant proportion flowing to Indigenous People and local communities.

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Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs): Technical term used in the CBD and GBF to refer to both Indigenous Peoples and local communities as they relate to biodiversity. Indigenous Peoples hold unique rights to their lands and territories under international mechanisms like the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Ecosystem integrity: Defined by the Intergovernmental Science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) as: “The ability of an ecosystem to support and maintain ecological processes and a diverse community of organisms. It is measured as the degree to which a diverse community of native organisms is maintained, and is used as a proxy for ecological resilience, intended as the capacity of an ecosystem to adapt in the face of stressors, while maintaining the functions of interest.

Target 15: This is the **first target in a multilateral agreement to explicitly address the role of business**. States will require all large and transnational companies and financial institutions to regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity along their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios. States will take measures to encourage and enable all businesses to make such disclosures.

Conservation finance: Financial mechanisms to aimed at protecting ecosystems and species while ensuring sustainable economic benefits. Examples include biodiversity trust funds, payments for ecosystem services (PES), green bonds and debt-for-nature swaps.

Biodiversity credits: Defined by the International Advisory Panel on Biodiversity Credits as “a certificate that represents a measured and evidence based unit of positive biodiversity outcome that is durable and additional to what would have otherwise occurred,” and states that they can be used amongst other for offsetting purposes.