

United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN CBD)

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What is the UN CBD? The CBD is a multilateral treaty with 196 Parties and three main goals: 1) the conservation of biodiversity, 2) the sustainable use of its components and 3) the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic materials. The intention of the convention is to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity called National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP). Over the last decade, the UN Decade on Biodiversity (2011 – 2020), the UN CBD created a framework and brought the world together to collectively address the biodiversity loss challenge - called the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Now, at the height of a new decade, the CBD is working to negotiate a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework which aims to replace the Aichi Targets with new targets, goals and indicators to halt loss of biodiversity with a 2050 vision and 2030 goals. The new framework aims to be cross-cutting, serving as a basis for how to measure biodiversity progress, including for nature-based solutions to climate change, across multilateral environmental agreements and international processes.

Recent progress: The [Kunming Declaration](#) was adopted in October 2021 during the first part of the CBD's Conference of Parties (COP15), which reflects a strong determination and political will for countries to act on protection of biodiversity, and called on countries to adopt a biodiversity and 30x30 target that is inclusive of "well-connect systems of [marine and coastal] protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs)."

Why is the CBD relevant to the Coastal 500 Network?

Local leaders and coastal communities, including coastal Mayors, natural resource managers, and small-scale fishers, are *absolutely critical* for the implementation of any country or subnational biodiversity goals, especially when it comes to coastal and marine biodiversity. Ensuring biodiversity efforts are inclusive of the needs of your communities and includes sustainable use for fisheries or other aquaculture is a vital component for how to ensure that global or national biodiversity efforts meet the needs of people for food security, local livelihoods, and climate resilience. Coastal 500 members have a unique opportunity to demonstrate how locally-led protected areas or sustainable use zones can be part of the solution in meeting national biodiversity goals. As we mentioned, many of the Coastal 500 communities engage in managed access and reserve approach for protection and sustainable management of coastal areas that are also important for small-scale fisheries and their families. Those Managed Access and reserve (MA+R) areas can be considered an OECM - or other effective area-based conservation measure - which demonstrates how each local area contributes to achieving global biodiversity goals - whether that's the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (GBF) under the UN CBD or the 30x30 campaign to protect 30% of the world's oceans. Bridging those global topics with local reality is key for biodiversity protection, as well as for potential financing opportunities. In the meantime, there is also momentum around 30x30 campaign efforts at the national level - which can and should include local efforts, like those discussed during the Coastal 500, whether it's through managed access areas and reserves or other sustainable use and protection approaches.

Coming Up:

- March TBD 2022, Geneva, Switzerland: 24th Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and the 3rd meeting of the open-ended working group on the post-2020 GBF
- TBD 2022, Kunming, China: 2nd phase of CBD Conference of Parties (COP15)