



Dear Ms. Hammarskjöld,


Reference is made to your letter dated 21 November 2025, inviting the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to provide input to the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea at its twenty-sixth meeting, to be held from 22 to 26 June 2026.

Appended herewith is the contribution of the CBD Secretariat outlining various activities undertaken in the context of the Convention relating to marine ecosystem restoration.

The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea is invited to post the full text of this contribution on its website.

I take this opportunity to reiterate my warmest congratulations on the imminent entry into force of the BBNJ Agreement and to send you my best wishes for a rewarding and successful 2026.

Yours sincerely,



Astrid Schomaker
Executive Secretary

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Annex

Information on the work of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity on ecosystem restoration.

This note summarizes recent work under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) related to ecosystem restoration. It refers to Target 2 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), the Target 2 Roadmap, the Framework on Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring (FERM) and capacity-building activities, and reporting on collective progress in the implementation of Target 2.

With the adoption of the KMGBF (decision [15/4](#)) and its Target 2 by the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, Parties agreed to ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.

Target 2 Roadmap

To address the needs of Parties and non-state actors, the Target 2 Roadmap was developed in 2023. The Target 2 Roadmap is a global partnership, co-led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the CBD Secretariat, under the umbrella of the United Nations Decade for Ecosystem Restoration, designed to monitor and accelerate progress towards restoring 30 per cent of degraded ecosystems by 2030, in line with the KMGBF.

The Roadmap's vision and tasks are based on information from a global workshop¹ held in November 2023, which brought together more than 100 restoration experts from governments, scientific and technical agencies, major groups, multilateral environmental agreements, and United Nations agencies. The in-depth consultation on the challenges, needs and experiences of countries regarding the setting of targets, implementation and monitoring of restoration in terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems revealed, among other findings, a gap and need for more scientific and technical advice on marine ecosystem restoration.

Based on the outcomes of the global workshop, the Target 2 Roadmap partners developed and launched, in 2024, the Resource Guide for Target 2 of the KMGBF.² The Resource Guide provides further insights into existing knowledge on the restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems, including case studies, further showcasing the gaps in knowledge, consideration for restoration, and monitoring and measuring coastal and marine ecosystems.

To address specific thematic or technical areas of work, dedicated working groups were established under the Target 2 Roadmap. The working group on indicator development and monitoring guidance by ecosystem type includes the subgroup on marine and coastal ecosystems, which will respond to the scientific and technical needs of Parties and non-state actors in monitoring of restoration of marine ecosystems.

Framework on Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring

During the period 2024 to 2025, the further alignment of the FERM, the official monitoring platform of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, developed by the FAO to track global progress of ecosystem restoration efforts, with the requirements of the reporting process under the Convention was carried out, to avoid duplication of effort and ensure alignment between the monitoring of the UN Decade and Target 2. Data disaggregation, data flow and validation, reporting template and other requirements were addressed.³ As a global registry for ecosystem restoration, FERM is collecting restoration commitments across all ecosystems, including marine, and will be used as a global source of data for reporting on Target 2 under the Convention.

¹ Meeting summary is available at: <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/006412>.

² The publication is available at: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/313fe830-b3f7-4f37-982b-715d2dcd55a5>.

³ More information on data compilation through the FERM available at: <https://www.fao.org/ecosystem-restoration-monitoring/about/gbf-target-2/default-data-for-restoration/en>.

Capacity-building

Alongside the adoption of the KMGBF in 2022, the CBD COP also adopted the Long-Term Strategic Framework for Capacity-Building and Development and created a Technical and Scientific Cooperation Mechanism (TSCM).⁴ This mechanism is composed of a global coordination entity hosted by the CBD Secretariat and 15 Subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centers around the world. Collaboration with these TSC support centres is a central element for capacity development carried out under the Target 2 Roadmap as part of the regional capacity development programme. Regionally customized capacity development based on local expertise and the proximity to countries is essential in facilitating the timely delivery of high-quality restoration data, knowledge and experience exchange among countries in the subregions and inter-regionally. The capacity-development programme under the Target 2 Roadmap offers methodological and technical support for the TSC support centres, including the possibility to engage in peer-to-peer learning, subregional and inter-regional knowledge and technology transfer.

During the period leading to the seventh national report, due by 28 February 2026, the CBD Secretariat has organized three subregional workshops on monitoring and reporting related to Target 2 in partnership with TSC support centres, as follows:

(a) Subregional dialogue on biodiversity monitoring and reporting with a focus on ecosystem restoration (Target 2 of the KMGBF) from 2 to 5 September 2025 in Bangkok, hosted by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, for selected countries in Asia;⁵

(b) Subregional dialogue for Latin American countries on biodiversity monitoring and reporting with a focus on ecosystem restoration (Target 2 of the KMGBF) from 17 to 20 November 2025 in Bogotá, , hosted by the Alexander von Humboldt Institute;⁶ and

(c) Subregional workshop on biodiversity monitoring and reporting in relation to Target 2 of the KMGBF, 27-30 January 2026 in Nairobi, hosted by the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development, for selected countries in Eastern and Southern Africa⁷.

Among the needs for implementation communicated by Parties in their national targets, the needs for strengthened monitoring systems were prominent, including the development of baseline data, mapping, tools and technologies for surveying and monitoring, research, artificial intelligence, information and databases. The capacity-building needs included a broad range covering stakeholder mobilization, strengthening institutions, developing and updating guidelines, protocols and best practices for effective restoration. Limited human resources and capacity in ecosystem restoration remain a challenge, especially expertise related to wetland and coastal and marine ecosystem restoration.

Various elements related to marine ecosystem restoration have also been integrated into various activities under the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI), a global capacity-development initiative coordinated by the CBD Secretariat.

Reporting on collective progress in implementation of Target 2

To accelerate the implementation of Target 2, the Roadmap partners launched the regional support capacity development programme⁸ aimed at fast-tracking data compilation and enabling reporting on progress in ecosystem restoration in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The programme receives financial support from FAO through the Accelerating Innovative Monitoring for Nature Restoration (AIM4NatuRe) initiative, funded by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the CBD Secretariat through the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI), funded by the Korea Forest Service of the Republic of Korea.

⁴ <https://www.cbd.int/tsc/tscm>

⁵ <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/ECR-OM-2025-01>.

⁶ <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/NBSAP-OM-2025-06>.

⁷ <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/ECR-WS-2026-01>.

⁸ More information available at: <https://www.fao.org/ecosystem-restoration-monitoring/news/news-detail/new-regional-programme-sets-out-to-boost-ecosystem-restoration/en>.

According to an analysis of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national targets made available for the twenty-seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,⁹ 125 Parties have submitted 371 national targets related to Target 2. Among them, 83 per cent of Parties have set national restoration targets for terrestrial areas, 70 per cent for inland waters and 75 per cent of non-landlocked countries set targets for degraded marine and coastal areas. This data demonstrates a balanced approach to restoration across major biomes, as specified in Target 2.

The year 2026 will be an important milestone for the Target 2 Roadmap partners to capitalize on the experiences gained from the subregional capacity-building programme for Target 2 implementation and on the outcomes of the global review of the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The global review on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework will be conducted at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, scheduled to take place from 19 to 30 October 2026 in Armenia. The analysis of collective progress in implementing Target 2, along with other relevant information in the global report, will help identify the restoration gap towards the global ambition of setting up restoration of thirty per cent of degraded ecosystems by 2030. To further advance progress on Target 2 globally, the Target 2 Roadmap partners will address the challenges identified in the global report as related to the implementation of Target 2.

Outputs under the Target 2 Roadmap, including capacity development, FERM alignment and reporting support, will be highlighted in the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly at its eighty-first session on the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration implementation.

⁹ Document [CBD/SBSTTA/17/INF/4/Rev.1](#).