

Transformative change in the global post-2020 Biodiversity Framework

An EKLIPSE Consultation Summary¹

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I. Introducing the Consultation

This report compiled by the Eklipse team and the European Commission (DG R&I Biodiversity Team), provides a summary of answers given during the EKLIPSE online consultation in preparation for the workshop on transformative change in the global post-2020 biodiversity framework, organized by the European Commission and the Croatian Presidency. The consultation was directed to participants of the workshop, who could give their opinion and advice from May 27th to June 10th 2020. The answers received have been bundled, brought in context, and shortened for editing purposes, whilst the ideas expressed have been kept in their original formulation where possible. The consultation questions are annexed to this summary.

The primary objective of the consultation was to inform participants on possible topics of the workshop, to ask for their advice on themes for the breakout groups, and to make them acquainted with, and request their comments on, the background document. The background document presents principles and actions for transformative change as one option on how to capture transformative change for biodiversity. These principles and actions were discussed at the workshop. The background document had been prepared by the EKLIPSE Expert Working Group on Transformative Change (part 1 of this report).

Background on the consultation given to respondents when answering the online form

An increasing amount of literature is becoming available on how to bring this transformative change into action, based on, e.g. the IPBES Global Assessment, the Planetary Boundaries concept, and the "bending the curve of biodiversity loss" discussion.

Promoting transformative change, facilitating it and incorporating actions to achieve it into pathways, goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is key. Still, there is not enough discussion on how to achieve this. Whilst various elements are discussed, there is a gap in understanding how this could be concretely undertaken.

The objective of this request by the European Commission to EKLIPSE is to initiate a Science-Policy dialogue to bring together and engage scientists and policy makers in a transparent dialogue, to recommend how to bring the post-2020 process forward on transformative change, taking up respective work of SBSTTA/the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (OEWG).

Before proceeding, it is worth noting the following disclaimer:

The Background Document provides only one way to look at transformative change in relation to the GBF. It is neither an EU position nor the only way forward;

The Background Document only provides a set of topics. It is not meant to be exhaustive;

The workshop linked to this consultation is an expert workshop, not a negotiation workshop. Participants are invited in their expertise;

The workshop aims to have an open debate on how much transformative change is needed in the GBF, and what form could it take.

(...). Please note that this document reflects the results of a quick scoping of relevant documents resulting from the 2nd OEWG, draft GBO-5, IPBES, as well as peer-reviewed and grey literature and is by no means comprehensive.

II. Use of consultation results

The answers received through the online consultation were used to:

- Final editing and formatting of background document (on errors, overall critical issues discussed during the workshop).
- Workshop structure, to define overall introduction and conclusion sessions.
- Guidance of workshop breakout sessions, including the selection of topics to be discussed.

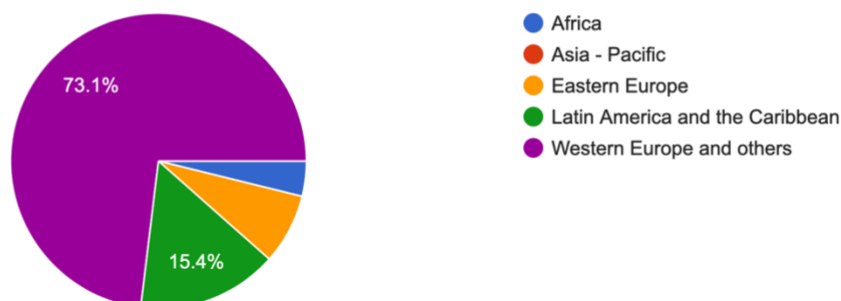
The following summary reflects the rich input given by the respondents of the consultation. Some particular, detailed remarks, for clarity of edition or due to data protection rules, have been directly used to inform the three above points, and are not repeated in the summary text below.

III. Overall information of responders

From the invited participants to the workshop, 26 members have answered the consultation. They distribute as below to regional background and the institutions represented:

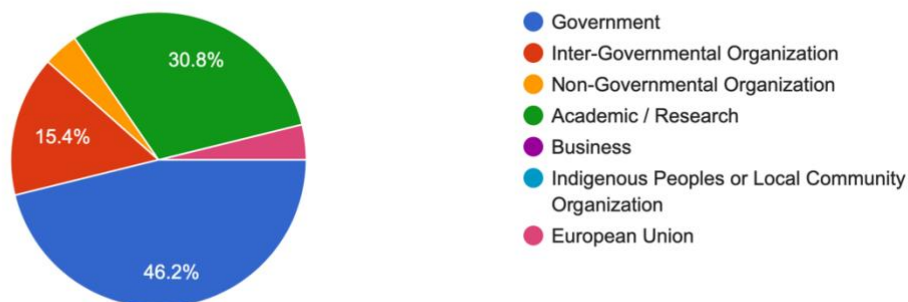
1.- In which region do you work? (if unsure, please refer to <https://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml>)

26 responses



2.- What type of institution/organisation do you work for?

26 responses



IV. General use of Background document for understanding transformative change in the discussions on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Respondents saw value in the background document:

- The background document develops a concept on transformative change, which gives the basis for useful discussions and a better understanding of what until now is rather unspecific.
- It gives an overview of definitions and possible views on the concept of transformative change in relation to the GBF.
- It delivers a key analysis that the transformative change scope of the GBF might be too narrow.
- The background document offers approaches from various perspectives to face transformative changes, providing a helpful structure and overview of multiple aspects. Setting out some clear principles for a practical approach to embedding transformative change into the post-2020 GBF, it gives a short but useful review of the large and heterogeneous body of literature on the 'transformative change' concept, and how it can be operationalised in the GBF discussions.
- It discusses how transformative change is being considered at a high policy level, and how efforts at that level could enable transformative actions at diverse levels of society.
- The background document will be useful to improve national discussions about important topics related to transformative change. It identifies concrete aspects for transformative change which makes it easy to include these elements into national positions ahead of the post-2020 GBF.
- It is a crucial question on how to move to action from the many and quite detailed policy recommendations involving citizens and sectoral policy makers to embed GBF. The document might help to answer how-to step forward, how to address sectors, how to fill gaps between communication and understanding of the implementation of the post-2020 GBF. Policy work requires such consultations to enable a more effective regional cooperation, cooperation between the actors of these regions and embed their messages to policy making in other regions to conclude consensus between regions, sectors, and as the most important actors, citizens (of the EU).
- The document goes beyond conceptual/theoretical content, putting forward an actionable framework that includes non-state actors. It favours an incremental approach and reveals the importance of not losing sight of resistance.

- The document provides an overview of the development of the GBF and the most significant areas where, according to the IPBES Global Assessment, transformative change is needed, and offers specific options to be considered.

The background document is helpful in:

- 1) *Giving an insightful and wide overview of (potential) relations between TC and GBF*
- 2) *Providing a systematic set of key challenges and potential pathways in 6 key areas*
- 3) *Showing the complexity, challenges and opportunities of TC for biodiversity*
- 4) *Indicating the arena's to work in, the potential of actors and enabling mechanisms*

Respondents were critical on the background document in stating that:

- It provides interesting background but does not focus enough on what processes would be needed to make it happen at the CBD level.
- It helps to understand transformative change as a concept to address indirect drivers of biodiversity loss. How this purpose will be embedded in the GBF is an open discussion that relates to what we expect from the framework. Some expect the framework to go beyond CBD sphere of influence, and for that the transformative change concept is helpful. Others expect the framework to help to strengthen implementation; there were resources to land CBD have been scarce. The transformative change concept, as presented in the document, doesn't seem to address that problem.
- The document gives clarification/delimitation of terminology and issues and proposes concrete ideas to operationalise the concept. Nevertheless, this document seems to be quite lengthy and prolific, structured in a way that is inappropriate for easy comprehension. It seems to want to fit the Zero Draft into a structured concept of "transformative change" and not the other way around, as it should be. Disturbingly, it includes proposals that may substantially alter the draft global framework and the scope of the CBD (e.g. reporting requirements sub-national authorities and non-state actors). The purposes and expected outcomes of this document and the corresponding workshop deserve to be clearly outlined (in the introduction).

It's making me think about the issue and the ways that different people might be approaching it ... there is a range of views and approaches, all of which are valid.

On the appreciation of the various chapters of the background document, participants felt that:

- The chapters of the document give explications on the general character of transformative change. They help to approximate the concept of transformative change to concrete actions; to learn about progress and put these concepts into practice.



- The term Transformative Change itself and its definition require a lot yet to be explained for not deviating discussions in the post- 2020 GBF but to assist in coming up with a strategy that will effectively lead to achieving halting and reversing biodiversity loss.
- The introductory chapter makes some excellent points regarding the way that transformative change has been integrated into the GBF so far, and how this can be improved. The chapters give concrete ideas about how to address transformative change in the parts of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework that have already been discussed, and it presents concrete ways to address transformative change at the national level.
- The six overarching principles are looking for multiple pathways that address underlying drivers of biodiversity loss and social inequalities, linked to innovative approaches to connecting diverse societal actors.
- The establishment of principles for transformative change (2.2) provides an insightful overview; it sets out the conceptual framework with a clear distinction between two approaches - 'technical' and 'adaptive'. It takes into account certain aspects that have often been omitted, such as the way to overcoming resistance.
- The aspects in chapter 3 make things clear and tangible, the given examples are very transparent to relate to and in combination with the revision of the targets beneficial.
- Chapters 4 and 5 address the enablers, role of actors and the potential achievements, which are necessary pre-conditions for making transformative change happen. Chapter 4 deals with the governance framework and financing, which are necessary conditions for transformative changes, as these issues have not yet been addressed in the CBD negotiations (during OEWG-2). The workshop is, therefore, an opportunity to push the reflection further, but it must be adequately articulated with other work on issues of transparency and implementation elsewhere. Chapter 5 attempts to present a synthesis of concrete proposals to modify the post-2020 global framework and strengthen its operationality. Transformative changes are impossible without significant changes in the manner and intensity of implementation.
- Good analysis: Generating forms of sustainable production that also create fair and equitable development for those currently most marginalised within global economic systems will perhaps be the 'acid test' as to whether any post-2020 GBF can deliver transformative change. Useful was the specific recommended actions, such as identifying key value chains with negative impacts.
- On cities: half of Europeans live in cities, this is the topic where we can individualise changes and make it real for everybody, which is the only way of making changes transformative at a social level.
- One of the greatest's challenges is to mainstream biodiversity beyond the existing/traditional domains. We aim to drive transformative changes in productive sectors further and to tackle the potential of human agency in the face of contemporary global ecological challenges. Debates, workshops and readings linked to the adoption of a multi-sectoral framework are necessary to address key drivers of planetary turmoil and to champion the positive tendencies.

To transform is to change. Transformative change literally means a changeable change. (Can discussions provide clarity) on what kind of a change is a changeable change?

V. Specific issues on the Background document

This selection of respondents answers clarify critical issues to address transformative change in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (for clarity some of these comments have been rephrased):

General recommendations on how to address transformative change in the GBF:

- The need for a science policy monitoring, reporting and review mechanism is a central part of the post-2020 global biodiversity policy. Furthermore, if we want to have a framework, which is not only for CBD but for all ('global'), it should be enabled by transformative change. This would help streamline governance across sectors.
- Creating a positive vision/narrative of the possibilities that transformative change holds for nature & people is an excellent direction; people need options not just sanctions. However, we need a suite of fast and effective actions to be implemented quickly and effectively.
- The message comes clearly through that "getting implementation right" is not enough, and that this is not transformative. If adequately implemented, mainstreaming is, however, a strategy for delivering transformative change. Similarly, reform of our current systems of incentives and disincentives is a key part of a strategy for transformative change, as is striving for truly sustainable consumption and production.
- Transformative change is about collective actions; IPBES made it clear that transformative change will not occur if we fail to address drivers.

On issues important for transformative change which should be addressed beyond the principles and actions of the background document:

- The potential links between the critical issues brought forwards in the background document should be explored in a transformative way.
- Include a reference to organic agriculture besides agroecology or agroecological practices as it is reflected in IPBES global assessment.
- Include the generation of socio-ecological transitions towards sustainability, based on sufficiently informed social decisions, mainly from trends, models and scenarios.
- The IPBES GA goes beyond a 'structural' definition of transformative change but refers to short term and long term changes. Both structural and 'adaptive' transformational change processes seem to be necessary. Also indicates who are the actors that would be involved in the different options/areas of governance change. It is also crucial to develop harmonised climate and biodiversity conservation actions, to plan both climate and biodiversity strategies together, for searching synergies and avoiding conflicts.
- It seems that green infrastructure planning has been within the sphere of the 'environment' sector, and is not much integrated into urban sustainability, there is a need for changing schools and paradigms in urban planning (focus on climate change as an environmental problem).
- The six principles identified in the background document are not even remotely challenging the status quo. In the section on "finance", GDP growth from the IPBES Global Assessment is rightfully quoted. However, the text focuses solely on "resource mobilisation". The IPBES GA report, on the other hand, had more fundamentally questions on the whole economic system (addressing degrowth and other possible solutions). GDP growth and the impossibility to decouple this growth from resource use are not discussed in the background document – surely, this cannot be addressed through finance alone.
- On explicit inclusion of various levels of government and diverse actors in targets: we are at risk of making the targets excessively long. We need to make use of existing agreed texts such as CBD Principles and the text of Convention itself and avoid repetition.



- Voluntary actions by non-state actors and stakeholders: a strong incentive is needed to redirect the priorities and values of economic sectors towards a better consideration of environmental and biodiversity preservation issues.
- A focus on critical overlapping issues that join sectors together, and then provide more targeted thoughts about how this relates to each sector practically is needed. Issues of social equity and justice need to be highlighted if diverse actors should be engaged. A narrow initial framing based on particular values can ultimately hinder the development of pluralistic processes.
- The elaboration of some specific examples could be helpful, to make a transformative change directly applicable and make people connect to the issues and linking them to the SDGs. This would also include how these were initiated, maintained and improved (and perhaps taken over in other places, such as Building with Nature, Climate adaptation actions, Water Stewardship).

On embedding transformative change in the GBF:

- It is essential to understand that making progress in implementation of the GBF is the critical issue – the concept of TC has to be a tool, not an end in itself.
- A more in-depth analysis of how the proposed GBF and other structures of the CBD can be revised to meet the needs of a transformative change might be useful.
- The GBF needs to advance the implementation of the CBD (Strategic Plan). There is indeed no one size fits all approach to transformative change and is essential to think out of the box coming up with ideas that tackle indirect drivers of biodiversity loss. However, it is not correct to assume that addressing the "direct drivers" of biodiversity loss is something simple. For many developing countries, where CBD has not been yet fully implemented for lack of resources, capacities and technology, implementing what has already been agreed under CBD can be considered as something transformative. There is also the question about addressing climate change, chemicals, and issues that are already dealt with in other conventions. Is it correct to promote transformative changes on aspects that Parties are negotiating in other processes from CBD?
- How do the principles of transformative change relate to CBD principles? Do we need an additional set of principles?
- We need to be more realistic about what can be achieved within the scope of the CBD. CBD is not likely to have the power to address structural transformation: structures and conditions that have generated environmental harm in the first place, such as social, economic and political inequality.
- CBD is limited in what it can mandate to non-Parties. Still, it is a fair point how others could be effectively more involved, e.g. through providing funding to specific groups like Youth, IPLCs to participate meaningfully.
- Ratcheting up sounds good in principle, but it will be quite complex in practice for biodiversity. When exploring this idea, reporting requirements and accountability on implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework would need to work in preparation for non-Parties.
- The role, barriers and potential of knowledge: Integration of diverse knowledge bases is central to the IPBES approach, but has mainly been related to the incorporation of ILK. However, to mainstreaming biodiversity across sectors, there is other knowledge to take into account. Science will not provide one answer, and can often be in internal opposition. In these matters, this is often related to knowledge production being part of the very sectorial governance systems that we would attempt to integrate better by transformative change. How can we think about this when trying to incorporate sustainability goals and mainstream biodiversity across sectors? If we go beyond the understanding that science will provide one

answer or even consensus, how can we relate to different pieces of knowledge and knowledge bases that are also integrated into sectorial interests and power relations?

- Much as we would like it to, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is unlikely to have strongly worded goals or targets on reduction of indirect pressures, and in some cases not on direct forces either. This is simply because the CBD is not the forum for addressing those issues, and some Parties will insist on this. So, if that is not going to work, we need to focus on what is going to work. What steps can we take within the context of the Convention and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?
- Within the remit of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, we could focus on:
 - Building strongly on the mainstreaming agenda in the context of Article 6(b) of the Convention, including reform of subsidies and incentives.
 - Significantly raising the profile of nature-based solutions (including ecosystem restoration) as a means of addressing other agendas (climate change, land degradation, disaster risk reduction).
 - Promoting recognition of mutual interests and joint action to food security, water security, health, sustainable forestry, rights of indigenous and local peoples.
 - Increasing understanding of the multiple values of biodiversity, and what this means for human well-being and health of the planet.
 - Demonstrating how the delivery of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is essential to delivery of the SDGs.
 - Promoting increased cooperation and synergies in implementation across biodiversity-related conventions, Rio Conventions, particularly in implementation support mechanisms. We can then be using the evidence from this in multiple fora to promote recognition of the need for change.

On specific issues addressed in the background document:

- Sustainable consumption and production: the background document includes many different issues under the consumption category. A very different approach was taken in the proposed post-2020 targets where consumption was considered in terms of individuals. Public procurement, i.e. consumption of goods by governments could be included under target 13 and consumption of goods by the public sector in target 14 on reforming economic sectors and sustainable supply chains. The value in having these actors considered separately is that they have different power and can take other actions and be influenced in different ways. Similarly, sustainable use which is one of the objectives of the Convention and a used concept was categorised as consumption in the background document.
- NBSAPs: There is nothing wrong with NBSAPs being produced by Ministries of Environment, it is clear value in more actors being involved in drafting and implementing it. When drafting NBSAPs, particular attention should be paid to identifying other sectoral strategies and policies that are relevant to biodiversity issues, to ensure that they are all well-articulated and coherent. Standardisation of NBSAP: any attempts at standardisation of NBSAPs failed, and flexibility is within the text of Convention. Considering how complicated and costly they can be, it might not be realistic to make additional requirements on Parties. Guidance on NBSAPs exist, and it would be worth checking whether these points are not addressed there already.
- On monitoring and reporting: Parties will need to periodically report on their overall contribution to the realisation of international targets (initiatives, e.g. DaRT to bring linkages between different reporting requirements). Still, it is unlikely that there will be an agreed requirement under the CBD to report on other MEAs. Non-state actors and subnational and local authorities could be required to report on progress made, but could the CBD request



non-Parties to report on something that is a Party-led agreement? Also, we should not include and report on indirect drivers. Otherwise, we will have double planning and reporting. To ensure a whole-of-government approach, we advise having a part in institutional strengthening.

Reporting frequency is an essential issue in practice concerning administrative workload. The involvement of non-state actors in the CBD Action Agenda voluntarily is practice for some parties. The expected reporting would be more flexible from the one required for States, regarding the extreme diversity of organisations among each country. Voluntary and mandatory reporting have to be separated from each other. What guidelines/content for non-state actors reporting? What would reference systems be recognised? How can stakeholders be encouraged to report, although it is sometimes a time-consuming exercise? A (CBD) platform should gather information on the actions taken by non-state actors.

- Biodiversity monitoring, mobilisation of open, fair data and the strengthening of data-driven science are important gaps in the enabling conditions. These are in danger of getting overlooked in the framework, and I would argue they are an integral part of transformative change. There is already transformation in these areas, e.g. the capabilities of generating / interpreting data bigdata, and the associated potential for engaging wider society both as consumers and producers of biodiversity information, thus re-establishing connections with nature that will be essential in realising the 2050 vision. For this to be fully realised, important shifts are still required in terms of funding, academic culture and the regulatory environment.
- Capacity building has to create the foundation for transformative change, acting as the catalyst to make the systemic changes that we need to see not only in the policy space but on the ground in conservation projects, in the education systems, across monitoring & evaluation and enforcement.
- Regarding financing: we need a new approach that generates resources from 'all sources', not just traditional public funding. The background document states that integrating biodiversity concerns/risk into financing decisions will be vital. It would be useful to consider how that can be achieved and a focus on what we can do to reduce the need for resources. The reduction of harmful subsidies will be crucial. There are two key points: 1) Greater resources could be mobilised by redirecting money away from harmful subsidies and instead spend on combatting biodiversity loss. 2) Possibly, more importantly, every year, governments put more money into activities that cause harm to biodiversity (approx 500bn per year).
- On climate change: it will be imperative to make sure that climate investments are not detrimental to biodiversity outcomes, a closer linkage of the two agendas in the GBF would be one way. Closer links between the two conventions could be developed by ensuring that where possible, climate finance focused nature delivers co-benefits for biodiversity. But there is a third dimension, that anthropogenic pressures intrinsically link "climate change" and "biodiversity loss". A desirable approach should include the anthropogenic pressures, which bring these two issues together through policies to transform a society that addresses both the "climate change" issue and the "biodiversity loss" issue.
- On pollution in marine areas: the majority of pollution is of terrestrial origin (80% of plastics, chemical pollution, nutrients, etc.). The most effective measures are, therefore, those acting at the source, which can consequently be far away from the coastline.
- On governance: are there governance approaches that would encourage increased engagement? If we want to increase focus on biodiversity and health, for example, we cannot only do this within the context of the CBD where environment ministries are

represented, we need to do it at WHO where health ministries are represented, and so on. Transformative change is about building these alignments.

VI. On the six proposed principles of the transformative change

Respondents felt that the six proposed principles of transformative change:

- A valid starting point for discussions: very general, but also complete, and highlight both needs and obstacles, as well as attention towards freedom and a sense of realism.
- Addressing the root causes and how they are interconnected, identifying synergies and trade-offs is mandatory - so the six principles are very well set.

Further, they commented:

- These statements are rather attributes of transformative changes than principles.
- No principle relates to a vision of what you are trying to achieve. Indeed to actively embrace a process of transformation, you need to either know what you want to achieve or from what do you want to move away?
- Although the principles are sufficient in the GBF context, they eventually require adjustment to regional, national and sub-national contexts
- They lack the transformative character. Principles should evolve around the indirect drivers that steer transformative change and the values that they are rooted. Addressing "consumption and production patterns" is the only principle that is rightly chosen here. What do cities as a principle relate to except that values might change a little bit when people can connect to green areas? This is a very narrow approach.
- The delimitation of each principle is sometimes equivocal, and this confuses, in practice, the reading of the action tables.
- They take up the rationale and allow to capture the fundamentals for an actionable framework. However, they might be overlooking or missing to address the power of regulation, the power of cooperation and the power of cross-sectoral governance. We are being called upon to deal with a critical matter, and the key is to achieve maximum clarity, specificity and unambiguity in both principles and action guidelines.
- The emphasis on mainstreaming is important (« expand action arenas »); it will be a key to the success of the post-2020 framework. Focus on co-benefits is also interesting, especially climate mitigation/adaptation or economic co-benefits. It helps to build a holistic approach.
- The six principles seem to be put at the same level even though they deal with different aspects, but they will have more or less visible and long term effects, e.g. acting to raise awareness to overcome resistance (principle 6) vs taking measures to solve the direct causes of the problem (principle 1).
- The principles should be further developed to what can be embedded in the GBF. Maybe not in the targets, which are for Parties to implement, but in some sort of preamble or overarching concepts that the world needs to follow to tackle biodiversity loss.
- The 5th principle is too punitive. The reasons why transformative change may encounter resistance are many and very different. To say that this is because there are "vested interests" seems to ignore that countries are not in similar situations at all. The EU, for example, has just announced the intent to pursue a biodiversity strategy that will cost 20 billion euro a year. If this is the cost of transformative change, it is far from the reach of many developing countries. In this sense, transformative change needs a far-reaching program of international cooperation, a "Marshall Plan for biodiversity" to inject resources in the developing world to allow them to meet biodiversity objectives at the same time that addressing economic and social challenges post-COVID 19.



- Knowledge' should be added to the list of principles.
- It would be good to discuss how the issues around data and monitoring might be brought into this general framework.

VII. Critical issues to work on during the workshop

For each critical issue as presented in the background document, respondents voted for three actions to be discussed during the breakout groups of the transformative change workshop

Critical Issue	Simplified three most voted actions
Terrestrial and Inland water ecosystems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce harmful incentives (incl. subsidies) 2. Improve the management of protected areas by better involvement of communities and connectivity 3. Land use planning for providing ecosystem services
Marine and Coastal Biodiversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mainstream protection and sust. use in economic sectors across supply chains 2. Engage in 'race to the top' on better performance of a biodiversity-friendly measure 3. Address plastic pollution
Sustainable production and consumption	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify key value chains + actions to reduce harmful impact, also through changing incentives 2. Identify, monitor, address indirect impacts of consumption 3. Engage citizens for alternative visions of good quality of life
Climate change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Role of BD for CC recognised in GBF 2. Avoid trade-offs between CC and BD 3. Improve coherent monitoring and reporting referring to both CC+BD
Cities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acknowledge, protect and restore BD in cities, also through land-use planning

2. Reconnect citizens to nature (education, awareness)

3. Assess the benefits of local BD and NBS for SDGs and climate goals

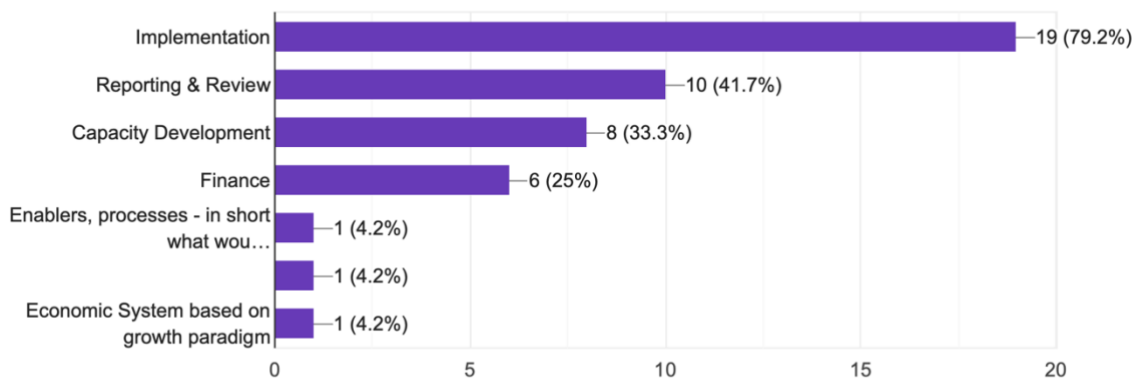
Health

1. Enhance the benefits of green spaces (NBS) for health and well-being in cities

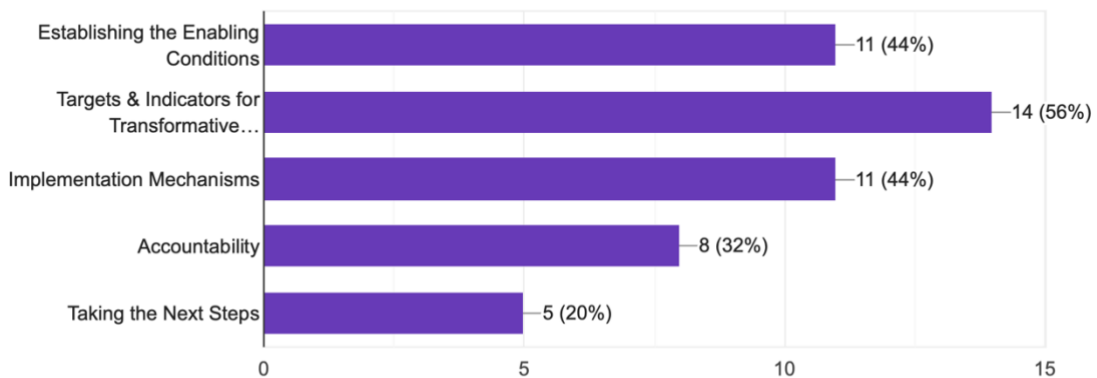
2. Assess the benefits of local BD (local plant and animal communities) to human health and well-being

3. Zoonotic diseases

13.- In your view, what would be the most useful/relevant aspects to discuss at the workshop in terms of Governance and Finance for Transforma...Change (section 4 of the background document)?
24 responses



14.- In your view, what would be the most useful/relevant aspects to discuss at the workshop in terms of Harnessing the Transformative Potentia...mework (section 5 of the background document)?
25 responses



VIII. On linking actions for transformative change to targets to the GBF

- It seems like a very sensible approach which makes sense and provides a good skeleton to test targets vs potentials of transformative change
- Indeed, we should consider how to move to action, how to support actors to reach each other and how to involve every human to support the transformation on social, economic and nature levels. Looking at what extent transformative change could be achieved through the implementation of targets and shaping them in the way that the transformative change can be achieved would be useful.
- To add there is the last phase the potential actors and their roles and challenges (and how to tackle these challenges, cf the last element in TC principles)
- This should build on target development by Earth Commission, SBTi and IRP
- It could be more effective to discuss the correlation between mission and actions that can bring about transformative change
- Discussions on goals and targets might not be the most profitable approach, as these seem to be the areas in which we are likely to have the least impact. Discussions around implementation support mechanisms, accountability, and enabling conditions are areas where there are strong interests but fewer fixed positions.
- It is not a consultation workshop, and therefore, it is not very useful to work on target formulation. What would be useful is to identify if a dedicated target, COP decision, follow-up process needed to make transformative change happen.
- The formulation of targets does not help when it is not clear what needs to be done to foster Transformative Change. Nobody questions the status quo of GDP growth – if people were asked whether the current Growth Model should be challenged, only 10% would say yes. However, the IPBES Regional Assessment for ECA clearly states that GDP growth cannot further continue in the EU. Growth is even the central part of the Green New Deal, although "Green Growth" is questioned in both the Regional Assessments and Global Assessment of IPBES.

IX. On further important topics for transformational change

Health was the most popular another topic, which was thus added as a breakout session of its own.

Further topics:

Tackled mainly in breakout session 1 (morning)

- Gender issues, youth, indigenous people
- Food system
- Agriculture, freshwater management and land-use change
- Business opportunities, corporate action

Tackled mainly in breakout session 2 (afternoon)

- Means of implementation and mainstreaming
- Synergies with other processes (including climate and SDGs)
- Multilateral environment agreements and international cooperation

- Reform of subsidies/incentives
- Deliberate spaces for participatory action and conflict resolving mechanisms

IPBES indirect drivers for biodiversity loss: population growth, technologies, trade

Other direct drivers and how to address them

- Invasive alien species
- Infrastructure planning/development
- Protected areas

Society factors

- Alternative financial mechanisms
- Unpacking Art. 20 of the Convention (financial resources developing countries)
- Cultural paradigms
- Media

Cross-topical approaches

- Strategies for delivering transformative change instead of principles and actions for transformative change
- Give positive examples for each of the six critical issues

X. On further considerations regarding transformative change for the GBF

- There is a risk to continue keeping aside scientific workshops with anecdotal outcomes instead of having them embedded in the policy-making process.
- The long term approach on mainstreaming should be designed in such a way, that it could be a key pillar of transformational change and the post-2020 GBF.
- Acceptance of change and uncertainty
- To develop a presentation/ discussion/ paper on how to build a whole-of-society approach (at least to discuss a whole-of-government approach).
- The background document is quite a heavy academic read, and it seems to be addressing transformative change more generally without consideration of the limitations of what CBD can achieve as in the Convention's text. However, it provides useful food for thought. One of the key questions is the involvement of non-Parties and whether the CBD can make any of the requirements on non-Parties stakeholders. We would certainly be happy to encourage efforts to involve non-Party stakeholders more to participate meaningfully but it is unclear how could, e.g. reporting become mandatory for non-Parties.
- Although acknowledged as part of the background, it will be good to confront openly the implications of COVID-19 and what the 'new normal' is likely to mean for the agenda of transformative change.

XI. Advice on further resources

Respondents recommended the following further reading:

- Background note on Synergies (Bern-2 workshop) to be released asap.
- Interim Dasgupta report: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/interim-report-the-dasgupta-review-independent-review-on-the-economics-of-biodiversity>
- Socio-ecological transitions towards sustainability, as an approximation of transformative changes under context-dependent territories
- EEA reports <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/sustainability-transitions-policy-and-practice>, <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/perspectives-on-transitions-to-sustainability> and <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/is-europe-living-within-the-planets-limits>. Additionally, respective chapters in the State of Environment Report (SOER) 2020 report <https://www.eea.europa.eu/soer>
- IRP GRO, Bending the curve paper on biodiversity paper soon to appear in Nature!
- Listen to Act#ForNature Global Online Forum presentations for some ideas what may mean transformative change!
- IPBES Global assessment

Appendix Consultation Form

1. In which region do you work?
 - Africa
 - Asia-Pacific
 - Eastern Europe
 - Latin America & the Caribbean
 - Western Europe and others
2. What type of institution/organisation do you work for?
 - Government
 - Inter-Governmental Organisation
 - Non-Governmental Organisation
 - Academic / Research
 - Business
 - Indigenous Peoples of Local Community Organisation
 - European Union
3. How is this background document helping you better linking transformative change with the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) discussions?
4. Which parts of the document do you think are especially useful for your work on the GBF?

- Executive Summary
- 1. Introduction
- 2.2 Principles of Transformative Change for the Post-2020 GBF `
- 3.1 Sustainable Production and Consumption
- 3.2 Climate Change
- 3.3 Cities Marine
- 3.4 Terrestrial and Inland waters
- 3.4 Sustainable Oceans and Coasts
- 4. Governance & Finance
- 5. Harnessing the Transformative Potential of the GBF
- References

5. Why do you think these parts are the most useful? Please explain below

6. The background document addresses a non-exhaustive set of potential critical issues (sustainable production and consumption, climate change, cities, terrestrial and inland waters, coastal and marine areas), of governance and finance and of harnessing the transformative potential of the GBF. What would be in your opinion some other important topics that could be looked at for better integrating transformative change?

7. Which sections of the document do you have comments on?

- Executive Summary
- 1. Introduction
- 2.2 Principles of Transformative Change for the Post-2020 GBF `
- 3.1 Sustainable Production and Consumption
- 3.2 Climate Change
- 3.3 Cities Marine
- 3.4 Terrestrial and Inland waters
- 3.4 Sustainable Oceans and Coasts
- 4. Governance & Finance
- 5. Harnessing the Transformative Potential of the GBF
- References

7a.- Please specify your comments and any additional information on these sections below.



7b.- In particular, what do you think about the six proposed principles of transformative change in section 2.2? (p.6 of the background document)

8. Critical issue Sustainable Production and Consumption: please choose five actions from table 2 "Transformative Change for Biodiversity through Sustainable Production & Consumption" (p.13-14)

- Require governments at all levels to identify those key value chains with a significant impact on biodiversity and to develop action plans together with relevant stakeholders through which to reduce their harmful impact on biodiversity by 50% by 2030.
- Encourage governments at all levels to develop strategies, incentives and support mechanisms through which businesses and households can monitor and reduce consumption practices that have adverse impacts on biodiversity.
- Foster experimentation with alternative production processes and consumption practices that reduce harmful impacts on biodiversity through the provision of incentives, capacity-building and recognition for businesses, civil society and community organisation pioneers.
- Ensure that the indirect impacts of consumption on biodiversity are acknowledged, monitored and addressed through strategies and measures undertaken by governments in partnership with business and civil society.
- Support businesses to invest in alternative products and production processes using nature's innovation potential and that minimise the use of resources and the generation of waste through building capacity, incentivising innovation, and requiring transparent reporting of their impact on biodiversity.
- Encourage all levels of government to engage citizens and communities in building alternative visions of a good quality of life and taking individual and collective steps towards them through education programmes, demonstration projects and community action.
- Require governments at all levels to 'biodiversity proof' procurement policies, contracting processes, infrastructure provision, and investment portfolios in order to align with the goals of the GBF.
- Reform economic and regulatory incentives in order to encourage forms of economic production and consumption that foster the sustainable use of biodiversity and to mainstream biodiversity considerations across the economy as a whole.
- Enable transparent reporting systems for business and the financial sector on their impact on biodiversity and provide mechanisms for learning and recognising best practice to become 'net positive' by 2030.
- Require governments to include reports on progress made under SDG12 within national reporting for the CBD and to demonstrate how those actions taken have generated biodiversity benefits.
- Enable governments to foster capacity building for nature-inclusive production processes across diverse economic sectors that meet goals for biodiversity alongside those for sustainable development.
- Encourage all levels of government to develop citizen juries or other deliberative forum through which the impacts of production and consumption on biodiversity can be debated. And the potential advantages and limitations of different mechanisms and policies for addressing these impacts considered.
- Ensure that the relevant knowledge, practices and diverse values of local communities and indigenous peoples are recognised in the development of relevant policies and measures to promote sustainable consumption and production.

- Identify sector champions to promote strategies and measures for enhancing sustainable production in key parts of the economy.
- Support transnational 'coalitions of the willing' through providing a robust and legitimate reporting and accountability mechanism through which business & finance sector actors can demonstrate the potential for reducing the impact of production & consumption on nature.

9. Critical issue Climate Change: please choose five actions from table 3 "Transformative Change for Biodiversity through Climate action" (p.17-19)

- Ensure that the role of biodiversity protection and restoration in reducing the causes of climate change is embedded within the CBD.
- Require that any measures that seek to use ecosystems and nature-based solutions to address climate change do so with no detriment to the pursuit of biodiversity policy goals.
- Create nature compatible development pathways that are aligned with national, regional and local climate and biodiversity goals & strategies.
- Encourage experimentation with diverse nature-based solutions that meet climate, biodiversity and sustainable development goals and which are appropriate to national & local contexts and values.
- Include safeguards to ensure that nature-based solutions are designed to provide climate mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction which incorporate the diverse values that citizens (i.e. indigenous, youth, women, socially or economically marginalised groups) hold for nature.
- Ensure that national strategies for biodiversity are required to have endorsement from the Ministry that leads the development and implementation of climate strategies and vice versa.
- Require climate change strategies and action plans at all levels of government to report on any adverse implications that their implementation may have for biodiversity goals.
- Encourage private sectors to report on the potential benefits of actions and investments being taken towards climate change for biodiversity and vice versa.
- Recognise the contribution that climate change strategies can make towards biodiversity goals and vice versa through reporting and monitoring requirements that require a 'whole of government' approach.
- Develop monitoring and reporting frameworks that enable all levels of government to assess the benefits of biodiversity action & NBS for SDGs and climate goals.
- Include the contributions made by subnational and local authorities through their climate action plans and the use of nature-based solutions in assessments of progress towards national and global biodiversity goals.
- Encourage the use of participatory and deliberative processes in the design and management of nature-based solutions, taking account of the views of those often marginalised from decision-making, and to use participatory methods where appropriate.
- Build capacity amongst all level of government to evaluate and deliberate the multiple benefits of nature-based solutions for climate and biodiversity and to determine how to resolve trade-offs.
- Support biodiversity sound processes around building 'coalitions of the willing' for action at the local level.
- Encourage evaluation mechanisms around trade-offs between development objectives and biodiversity plans and include these in reporting mechanisms.



10. Critical issue Cities: please choose five actions from table 4 "Transformative Change for Biodiversity through Urban action" (p.20-21)

- Acknowledge, safeguard and restore biodiversity within cities (e.g. green-blue infrastructure, gardens, protected areas) and their surrounding areas through inclusive spatial and land-use planning.
- Enable local government and their partners to work towards reconnecting citizens to nature (through education, awareness, experience) for creating stewardship.
- Ensure that the indirect impacts of urbanisation and urban consumption on biodiversity are acknowledged, monitored and addressed through strategies and measures undertaken by local government in partnership with business and civil society.
- Foster urban pro-biodiversity experimentation through inclusive participatory planning processes, demonstration projects, living laboratories and partnerships across diverse sectors.
- Require local authority plans and reports to identify diverse values that citizens hold for nature, including from indigenous, youth, women, and socially or economically marginalised groups, and ensure that these forms of nature are also safeguarded and given appropriate status.
- Ensure that local authority plans and reports demonstrate the value of biodiversity action in relation to key SDGs at the urban level and that biodiversity reporting is mandated in key policy areas locally (e.g. economic development plans, climate change action plans).
- Recognise the contribution that cities can make to key targets within the GBF for waste, production, consumption and NBS by explicitly including 'all levels of government' as responsible actors for their delivery and incentivising/building capacity for local authorities to use the full range of their powers and competencies.
- Develop targets which demonstrate how biodiversity action provides benefits for cities through high quality and accessible green spaces, as well as through providing NBS that can support urban sustainable development goals and protect cities from climate change/risks.
- Require local authority plans and initiatives to be undertaken in consultation/partnership with local communities and businesses to ensure benefits of biodiversity action are widely recognised and shared equitably.
- Develop monitoring and reporting frameworks nationally and internationally that enable local authorities and their partners to assess the benefits of biodiversity action & NBS for SDGs and climate goals.
- Stimulate local initiatives and community building with regard to livelihoods and provide resources for these initiatives
- Require local plans and reports to be inclusive, taking account of the views of those often marginalised from decision-making, and to use participatory methods where appropriate.

- Build capacity amongst local authorities to undertake deliberative decision- making, particularly with respect to controversial issues or where competing demands for land and water may risk biodiversity goals/targets being achieved.
- Build capacity amongst local authorities and their partners to evaluate trade- offs between biodiversity goals and other development objectives and include these within biodiversity plans and reporting mechanisms.
- Build capacity for partnership working at the local level between public and private sector organisations, as well as with civil society, local communities and indigenous people to build 'coalitions of the willing' for action at the local level.

11. Critical issue Terrestrial and Inland water ecosystems: please choose five actions from table 5 "Transformative Change for Biodiversity through Terrestrial landscapes and Inland Waters" (p.23-24)

- Require measures that enable agricultural producers to shift to agroecology (e.g. agricultural finance, knowledge exchange) are included within policy and reporting
- Reduce (economic) incentives that are harmful to biodiversity and their habitats, including subsidies.
- Foster experimentation and building more resilient agricultural communities through inclusive participatory planning processes, demonstration projects, living laboratories and partnerships across diverse sectors
- Rethink conservation areas and protected area management to further increase the involvement of local communities, to increase connectivity in the wider landscape, restore areas highly relevant for ecosystem functions and services supply as well as fair access to them.
- Develop targets which demonstrate how biodiversity action in land use planning and protected areas provide benefits regarding the provision of regulating and cultural services.
- Provide resources and incentives to support restoration and develop monitoring systems that account for the diverse benefits that such schemes produce for nature and society
- Include incentives for planning and development processes which prioritise land conservation and restoration.
- Develop local action plans and reporting mechanisms, taking account of the views of those often marginalised from decision-making and using participatory methods where appropriate, particularly with respect to smallholder agricultural producers.
- Build capacity amongst local authorities to undertake deliberative decision- making, particularly with respect to controversial issues or where competing demands for land and water may risk biodiversity goals/targets being achieved.
- Build capacity amongst regional and local authorities and their partners to evaluate trade-offs between biodiversity goals and other development objectives and include these within biodiversity plans and reporting mechanisms.

- Build capacity for partnership working at the local level between public and private sectors, as well as with civil society, local communities and indigenous people to form 'coalitions of the willing' for action at the local level.
- Generate strategic partnerships amongst key financial actors, land owners, and retailers along the supply chain as a means through which to encourage proactive approaches to reducing the impact of economic activities on biodiversity and enable the sustainable use of resources.

12. Critical issue Coastal and Marine areas: please choose five actions from table 6 "Transformative Change for Biodiversity through Coastal and Marine areas" (p.26-28)

- Require all levels of government to consider issues of marine and coastal biodiversity protection across their policy portfolios (e.g. infrastructure development, waste strategies, energy policy) and report on progress to the CBD periodically.
- Support the development of measures to mainstream marine and coastal biodiversity protection and sustainable use in the strategies and actions of business and finance actors in relevant economic sectors through inclusion of measures across key supply chains.
- Ensure that governments at all levels implement long-term and robust strategies addressing waste issues (e.g. bi-catch, spills of production processes, ballast) working partnership with local producers and communities.
- Develop robust waste management strategies that effectively reduce the use of plastics and remove existing plastic waste from the environment, including by partnering with stakeholders at relevant levels to address the production, of plastics and to implement producer responsibility principles to accelerate the removal of plastics from waste streams, waterways and the ocean.
- Require governments at all levels to work together to develop coastal management plans that enable climate resilient and nature inclusive development pathways, especially in critical biodiversity hotspots or where coastal ecosystems are under significant threat.
- Ensure that issues of equity and environmental quality are paramount when designing and designating marine protected areas, clearly identifying rights and responsibilities for marine protection and addressing past inequalities in terms of access to marine resources.
- Involve actors across the value chain in taking responsibility for the management of global fishing such that marine and inland water ecosystems are protected and restored, food security is maintained and profits from fishing are protected into the long term.
- Develop and implement effective adaptation and mitigation measures that contribute to increasing and supporting resilience to ocean and coastal acidification, sea-level rise, and increase in ocean temperatures, and address other harmful impacts of climate change on the ocean, coastal and blue carbon systems
- Ensure that the relevant knowledge on the importance of coastal and marine biodiversity, practices and diverse values of local communities and indigenous people are recognised and transferred through fostering of networking and capacity building initiatives.

- Ensure the inclusion of local producers, communities and indigenous peoples in the design and implementation of coastal management plans that can encompass diverse visions of a good quality of life and which account for the multiple stressors affecting coastal areas.
- Develop 'coalitions of the willing' for action at the local level, including local communities, indigenous people, and different actors along the supply chain as a means through which to encourage positive action for coastal and ocean biodiversity protection as the enhancement of increased livelihoods.
- Ensure that proactive measures taken by non-state actors and subnational and local authorities are recognised and rewarded as a means of fostering learning and encouraging a 'race to the top' in terms of performance.

13. In your view what would be the most useful/relevant aspects to discuss at the workshop in terms of Governance and Finance for Transformative Change (section 4 of the Background document)?

- Implementation
- Reporting & Review
- Capacity Development
- Finance

14. In your view what would be the most useful/relevant aspects to discuss at the workshop in terms of Harnessing the Transformative potential of the Global Biodiversity Framework? (section 4 of the Background document)?

- Establishing the Enabling Conditions
- Targets & Indicators for Transformative Action
- Implementation Mechanisms
- Accountability
- Taking the Next Steps

15. In your view what would be the most useful/relevant aspects to discuss at the workshop in terms of Governance and Finance for Transformative Change (section 4 of the Background document)?

16. What are your expectations of the workshop?

17. Do you have any additional comments?

18. What other resources would you recommend to be considered on transformative change and the GBF? You can also send documents you consider relevant (Word and PDF only) to: secretariat@eklipse-mechanism.eu



