Three Global Conditions for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use: An implementation framework proposed for the Post-2020 Strategic Plan



Cities and Farms Shared Lands Large Wild Areas

The Beyond the Aichi Targets Task Force of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas has been conducting global consultations on what would be meaningful spatial conservation targets for achieving the conservation of biological diversity and halting biodiversity loss.

At the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP14) in Sharm El-Sheikh, the Parties asked for assistance in developing baselines and frameworks that will support ambitious and measurable targets for the Post-2020 Strategic Plan.

In response, we have developed the Three Global Conditions for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use implementation framework. We integrated nature-centric (what remains of nature) and human-centric (human land-use) assessments of drivers and pressures on biodiversity. This led to us identifying three conditions of the world's land: farms and cities, shared landscapes, and large wild areas. The Task Force is currently working on a compatible framework for the world's ocean.

According to each terrestrial condition, suites of conservation responses and production practices are proposed to improve the state of biodiversity and to secure nature's contributions to people while allowing for ambitious global targets. This approach would achieve scale and fairness by ensuring that every Party has a program of action to address the condition of its own biodiversity domestically with like actions for similar conditions across the world. It would also provide a baseline that allows nations to consider their global role based on common but differentiated responsibilities for the health of our global ecosystem in accordance with Rio Principle 7.

Condition 1 Cities and Farms (C1) cover 18% of land, contains 75% of the population, and 6% of this condition is currently protected.

Needed actions: Increase conservation efforts to secure endangered species and protect all remaining primary ecosystem fragments. Mainstream sustainable practises such as protecting good farmland and practising productive regenerative agriculture. Maintain pollinators and increase ecological restoration. "Green" cities to reduce carbon emissions, prevent urban sprawl, and provide access to nature for urban dwellers' health and well-being.

Condition 2 Shared Lands (C2) cover 56% of land, contains 25% of the population, and 14% of this condition is currently protected.

Needed actions: Establish "ecologically representative and wellconnected systems of protected areas (PAs)" while increasing coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs); restore and maintain ecological processes and viable populations of native species (ensure area protected is in the range of 25-75% per ecoregion). Across landscapes integrate sustainable natural resource extraction and activities such as tourism, grazing and use of wildlife (where appropriate and sustainable) with indigenous knowledge and well- managed, equitable and properly funded PA networks.

Condition 3 Large Wild Areas (C3) cover 26% of land, contains 0.1% of the population, and 24% of this condition is currently protected.

Needed actions: Retain overall ecological integrity and associated global processes such as carbon storage and rainfall generation, fluvial flows and large migrations; prevent further fragmentation allowing only rare nodes of intense industrial development enveloped in a largely wild matrix. Remove and restore anomalies. Establish large PAs and indigenous and community conserved areas. Support traditional management practices and conservation measures based on indigenous knowledge and secure indigenous livelihoods.

Ecological connectivity should be secured across all three conditions for resident and migratory species and for resilience to climate change.

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