

UN Biodiversity Conference 2026 (COP17, CP-MOP-12, NP-MOP-6)



Presidency Flagship Initiatives

*to accelerate the implementation of the
Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
(KMGBF)*

Yerevan, 2026



COP17 Presidency Flagship Initiative **Yerevan Tech for Biodiversity Monitoring Hub**

with the support of the Secretariat of the CBD and in collaboration with FAO and IUCN
as lead partners as well as other custodian agencies

Overview

The **Yerevan Tech for Biodiversity Monitoring Hub** is aimed at helping Parties build **stronger national biodiversity monitoring systems**, support better preparedness for the next reporting cycle and facilitate **access to innovative technologies and tools** helping generate, manage and use biodiversity data more effectively.

Coordinated by the **COP17 Presidency, the CBD Secretariat and co-led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**, the Hub will bring together custodians of KMGBF headline indicators, Technical Scientific Cooperation Support Centres (TSCCs) and other relevant partners to **facilitate access to existing knowledge and tools**, roll-out **coherent national biodiversity monitoring systems**, improving the quality of the **8th National Reports**, while ultimately supporting **implementation** of the KMGBF by 2030.

Why this initiative?

The KMGBF, adopted at the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the CBD, provides a global roadmap for halting and reversing biodiversity loss. The KMGBF **monitoring framework** supports implementation and includes **headline, binary, component, and complementary indicators** to track progress across goals and targets.

Reliable, timely and comparable biodiversity data are essential for **effective implementation, national decision-making and reporting**. However, many countries still face significant **barriers** to generating, managing, and reporting such data due to a **lack of well-coordinated, efficient monitoring systems and infrastructure**. Meanwhile, the **1st Global Report** and analysis of the **7th national reports** of Parties show a significant **data gap**, which has to be addressed by 2030 to **improve the accuracy and quality of reporting**.

Hence, the **Yerevan Tech for Biodiversity Monitoring Hub** will strengthen support available to countries in **developing and operationalising biodiversity monitoring systems**, enabling them to **monitor and report on headline indicators** through improved coordination, facilitated access to **data and knowledge tools and enhanced technical support provided by TSCCs**.

To strengthen national biodiversity monitoring systems and improve reporting under the KMGBF, the initiative will support countries in applying technologies and tools such as **Earth observation, ecosystem mapping, assessment of species extinction risk and genetic diversity, environmental DNA (eDNA), bioacoustic monitoring and AI-assisted data consolidation**.

As the principal channel for national-level technical assistance and capacity development, the flagship initiative builds on the **GEF-9 Enabling Activity**, co-led by FAO and IUCN to support GEF-eligible countries in strengthening national biodiversity monitoring systems and preparing their 8th National Reports to the CBD.

Objectives

The Initiative will aim to:

- **Convene KMGBF Monitoring Framework custodian agencies under one platform:** to coordinate support and prepare, for each indicator, a practical menu of methodologies, data sources, training elements, expertise and indicative country-level resource requirements.
- **Connect country needs with available technical expertise:** to translate the custodian menus into online webinars, enabling workshops and other training offers that enhance the readiness of TSCCs to respond to country needs and connect countries with relevant indicator experts.
- **Facilitate access to technologies, innovations and tools:** to develop a practical technology offer for countries and TSCCs, led by relevant technical partners, to help Parties identify and access existing methodologies, data standards, open-source tools, Earth observation products, Red Listing, ecosystem mapping approaches and other relevant technologies.

Key components

Component 1. Indicator custodian cooperation and support menu. Convene the custodian agencies of KMGBF headline indicators to map existing support and gaps and define a coherent and practical support offer for countries and TSCCs.

Component 2. Enabling programme for country support. Enhance readiness of TSCCs and other key regional organizations to help countries better make use of existing data and address technical, institutional and data gaps to improve production, analysis and reporting of KMGBF headline indicators, using the custodian support menu developed under Component 1.

Component 3. Leveraging technology and innovation. Support national ecosystem mapping and assessment of species extinction risk and genetic diversity as a technical foundation for headline indicators and disaggregation across the KMGBF monitoring framework. Promote the practical use of technology and innovation to strengthen national biodiversity monitoring systems, including GIS, biodiversity observation, data integration, visualization and decision support.

Governance structure

Conveners and Steering Committee: COP17 Presidency, CBD Secretariat, FAO, IUCN and GEF

Advisory panel: COP17 Presidency, CBD Secretariat, FAO, IUCN, GEF Secretariat, GEO, GBIF, UNEP-WCMC, and other headline indicator custodians

Technical exchange groups: organized around headline indicators, technologies, ecosystem mapping and earth observation, and other priority themes

Secretariat: COP17 Presidency will be interested to host the Secretariat in Yerevan in close collaboration with CBD Secretariat, FAO, IUCN and GEF Secretariat.

Timeline

During COP17	After COP17
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formal launch of the Hub and its steering committee at the High-Level Ministerial segment to present the main components of the initiative and invite Parties to join and support its implementation• Technical session: A dedicated technical session convening representatives of custodian agencies, TSCCs, technology partners, technical experts and implementing organizations to present the Hub's three components, discuss operational arrangements, and initiate collaboration on implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the Initiative to initiate a coalition of champion Parties• Steering Committee begins regular operation• Custodian and technology menus are developed and finalized• Work plans established and implementation of component activities starts• Progress tracked into the 8th National Reports cycle



COP17 Presidency Flagship Initiative **Yerevan Platform on Mountains and related Freshwater Ecosystems**

in collaboration with UNEP as a technical lead agency
with other Member States and partners*

**Confirmed key partners include inter alia: CBD Secretariat, Mountain Partnership/FAO, UNDP, IUCN, Convention on Wetlands, ICIMOD, Carpathian Convention, Alpine Convention, CONDESAN, GMBA and MRI. The Initiative is open for other partners to join.*

Overview

The **Yerevan Platform on Mountains and Related Freshwater Ecosystems** is designed to facilitate the exchange of experiences on **policy implementation, capacity-building and innovative approaches to support conservation, restoration and sustainable development in mountain and freshwater landscapes**, helping Parties meet their NBSAP targets, as well as implementation of NDCs and NAPs under the UNFCCC as well the UNCCD LDN targets and SDG-related plans, among others. The Platform can help identify **practical entry points for strengthening national policies, improving access to technical support, enabling transfer of tested innovative practices, and connecting countries with relevant partners, instruments and implementation pathways**. The initiative will build on existing relevant global and regional frameworks, conventions, mechanisms, processes & initiatives to protect and restore mountains and associated ecosystems [1].

Why this initiative?

Mountains support **the livelihoods of around 1.2 billion people**, including indigenous peoples and local communities. They are located in **25 of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots** and contain 85% of the world's species of amphibians, birds, and mammals. However, **globally only 19% of mountain areas are protected - well below Target 3 set out in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)**. Together with their freshwater ecosystems, mountains are strategic natural infrastructure, serving as water towers and providing 55-60% of global annual freshwater flows. They provide **numerous ecosystem services**, including regulation of downstream water supply, reducing drought risk, supporting a variety of livelihoods, and holding cultural and ecological values that are extremely difficult or impossible to replace once lost.

In Armenia, Lake Sevan, which sits at an elevation of 1,900 meters above sea level, is the largest freshwater body in the South Caucasus. It provides **ecosystem services economically valued at \$397 million annually** - regulating the local climate and humidity regimes, enabling irrigation and hydropower, while sustaining endangered endemic species essential to the cultural and economic lives of local custodian communities.

Conservation, restoration and sustainable use of mountain and related freshwater ecosystems is urgently needed, especially as mountains are particularly **vulnerable to the increasingly adverse impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss**. Glaciers are disappearing, permafrost is thawing, snow regimes are changing, high-elevation wetlands and grasslands are under pressure, and deforestation, forest fires and land degradation are increasing.

Despite these urgencies, mountains and their related freshwater ecosystems remain **insufficiently considered and poorly integrated into policy frameworks** that shape **water management, biodiversity conservation, infrastructure planning, climate adaptation, protected-area design and management**, as well as public finance, and are often managed through **fragmented mandates**. **Within the CBD, mountain and freshwater ecosystems** sit across several KMGBF targets but are rarely, if ever, treated as a **connecting agenda, while there is a programme of work on mountain biodiversity under the CBD**. The Global Report on Collective Progress in the Implementation of the KMGBF, prepared in 2026, highlights **implementation gaps across several ecosystems, including inland freshwater ecosystems**. Armenia, as the CBD COP17 Presidency, is therefore bringing forth an initiative to position mountains and their related freshwater ecosystems as strategic, linked entry points for advancing KMGBF implementation.

Relevant KMGBF Targets: Target 2, Target 3, Target 8, Target 11, Target 14 and Target 19, Target 22

[1] Non-exhaustive list: the Freshwater Challenge, the Convention on Wetlands, the UNECE Water Convention, the UN Decade of Action for Cryospheric Science 2025-2034, the Action Platform on Source-to-Sea, the Mountain Partnership, the Global Peatlands Initiative, the Group of Friends of Mountainous Countries, the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions (2023-2027), the UNEA-7 Resolution on the preservation of glaciers and the broader cryosphere, the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership, UNDP BIOFIN, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, GEF integrated programmes, as well as regional mountain governance mechanisms such as the Alpine Convention, the Carpathian Convention, the Andean Mountain Initiative, ICIMOD, and other relevant regional cooperation platforms and initiatives.

Objectives

The Platform helps countries transition from recognizing the importance of mountains as biodiversity hotspots and water towers to practical conservation, restoration, and sustainable development measures for these ecosystems, arranged around four main objectives:

- **Supporting KMGBF Targets 2 and 3**, as well as ensuring inclusive biodiversity governance and decision-making (**Target 22**) by **prioritizing mountains and related freshwater ecosystems**.
- **Supporting KMGBF Targets 8 and 11 by assessing, enhancing and communicating the contribution of mountains and related freshwater ecosystems to people**, including with regards to water regulation, disaster-risk reduction, climate adaptation, resilient livelihoods and biodiversity values, as well as providing evidence to strengthen other area-based conservation measures, and environmental flows (e-flows) and fluvial reserves.
- **Supporting KMGBF Target 14 by integrating mountain and freshwater biodiversity safeguards into policy, law and planning**, including: NBSAPs, NAPs under the UNFCCC, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), basin plans, protected-area systems, transboundary cooperation frameworks/plans, infrastructure planning and disaster-risk strategies, and broader global frameworks including the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) and the second Global Stocktake.
- **Support KMGBF Target 19 by mobilizing finance for mountain and freshwater ecosystem protection, restoration and stewardship**, including through Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), bilateral finance, development banks, philanthropy and responsible private-sector water stewardship.

Key components

Component 1. High-Level Dialogue

Establishing a regular, high-level dialogue in the margins of CBD meetings, to raise awareness of mountain and freshwater biodiversity, and identify issues, challenges, resources and capacity needs of mountain and downstream Parties in order to provide targeted support for reaching KMGBF Targets. The first dialogue will be convened during a High-Level Presidency event at COP17.

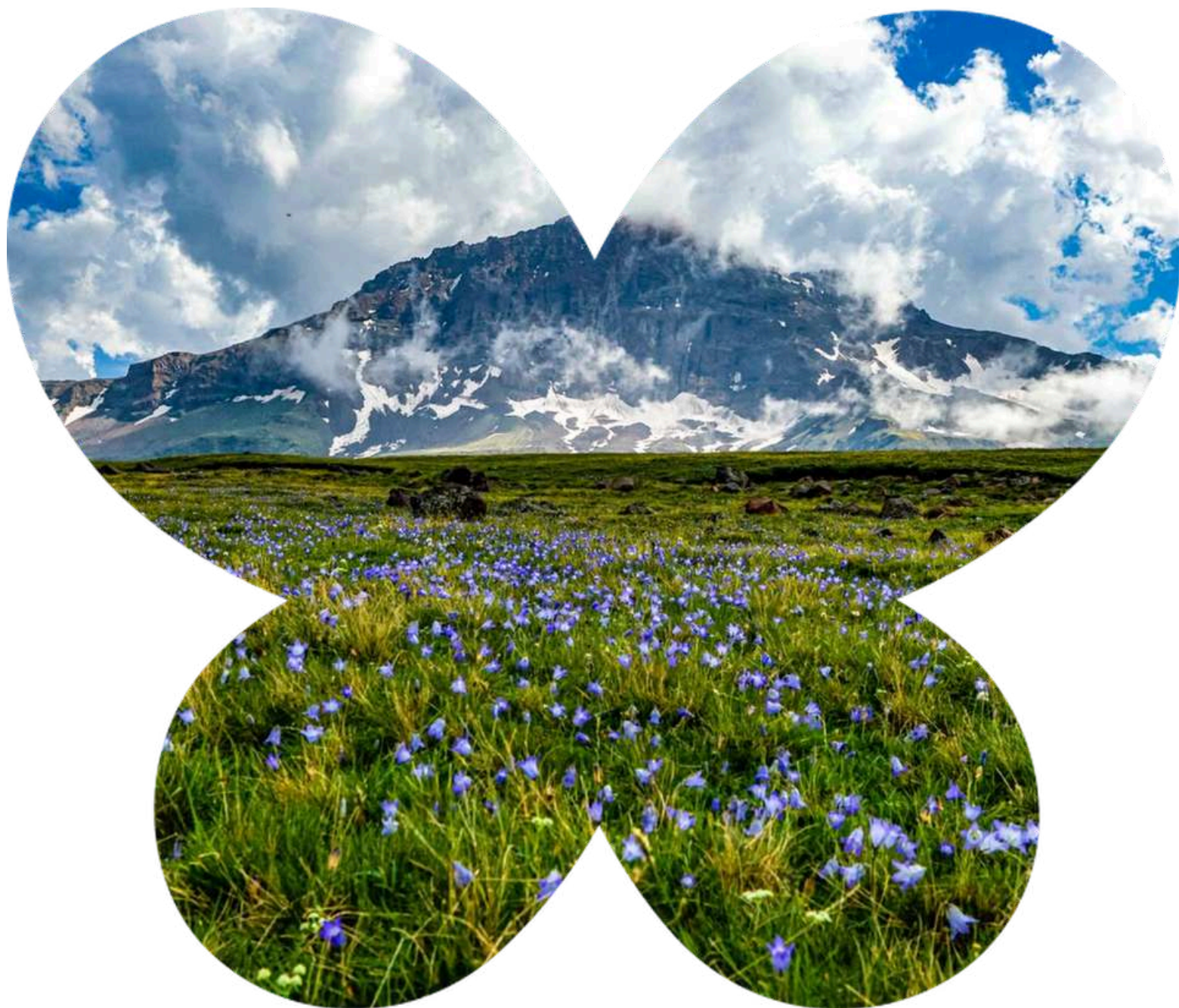
Component 2. Technical Support/ Capacity-Building Programme [1]

Providing demand-driven targeted, practical support to mountain and downstream countries to strengthen mountain and freshwater biodiversity action and implementation, providing a flexible menu of support options structured around three complementary layers: country-level technical assistance; regional and inter-regional exchange and peer learning; finance and implementation matchmaking.

[1] Necessary resources mobilization efforts to be undertaken accordingly.

Timeline

During COP17	After COP17
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COP17 Presidency together with UNEP launch the initiative through a High-Level Presidency event (27 Oct).• First Ministerial Dialogue at the same event.• Further key partners and institutional anchors are identified.• A keynote session and high-level roundtable identify implementation/ financial needs, available support and potential pathways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Platform is further consolidated and developed and supported through High-Level Dialogues.• Joint resource mobilization efforts are undertaken.• Demand-driven technical support in collaboration with partners is provided, subject to available resources, for national planning, knowledge exchange and development of finance-ready concepts.• A progress update is prepared for COP18.



COP17 Presidency Flagship Initiative
Global OECM Action Hub

In collaboration with IUCN and FAO as lead partners and supported by the
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Overview

The Global OECM Action Hub will help translate the ambition of **KMGBF Target 3** on OECMs into practical support for Parties for the **credible, transparent and scientifically robust identification, evaluation and reporting of OECMs**, in line with the agreed **CBD criteria and principles**, while recognizing and respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, including over **their traditional territories**. In partnership with the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** and supported by the Secretariat of the CBD, the Presidency-led initiative will facilitate the coordinated engagement of organizations, expert bodies, sectoral institutions and initiatives supporting **OECM implementation**. The Action Hub will support countries in strengthening their capacities to identify, assess and report on potential OECMs, including across productive sectors, facilitating the consistent application of the existing OECM criteria.

Why this initiative?

Target 3 of the KMGBF establishes the global ambition of ensuring and enabling that **at least 30 per cent of terrestrial, inland water, marine and of coastal areas and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and OECMs**, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the **rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs)**, including over their traditional territories.

A growing community of organizations, initiatives and expert groups has developed **guidance, methodologies and capacity-building support to advance OECM recognition and reporting**. Building on this wealth of experience and expertise, there is now a significant opportunity to **strengthen collaboration, improve coherence across approaches, and accelerate the exchange of lessons and good practices** at regional and global levels.

As Target 3 has emerged as one of the most visible and politically significant elements of the KMGBF, many countries are **actively exploring opportunities to contribute to the global 30x30 ambition**. Without sufficient support and technical coordination, there is a **tangible risk of countries developing inconsistent or incompatible OECM frameworks**.

This challenge is particularly relevant for productive sectors, notably the **agricultural sectors**, encompassing **crop, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture production systems**, where large areas are managed primarily for production objectives but may nonetheless deliver significant and lasting biodiversity conservation outcomes. **Productive landscapes and seascapes are increasingly recognized as representing one of the greatest opportunities** for future OECM recognition, but realizing this potential will require practical guidance, strengthened technical capacities and consistent application of the globally agreed OECM criteria.

Relevant KMGBF target: Target 3 (on OECMs)

Objectives

By connecting countries with technical **expertise, knowledge, and partner support**, the Action Hub will seek to:

- **Bring together OECMs partners and technical organizations under a shared platform:** facilitate the coordinated engagement of organizations, expert bodies, sectoral institutions and initiatives supporting OECM implementation, including FAO, IUCN, IPLCs, research institutions and regional organizations. The Action Hub will support countries in strengthening their capacities to identify, assess and report on potential OECMs, including across productive sectors, facilitating the consistent application of the existing OECMs criteria.

- **Connect country needs with available technical expertise:** provide and promote effective matchmaking and support mechanism(s) to help Parties access relevant expertise, technical assistance and peer networks for the identification, evaluation and reporting of OECMs.
- **Strengthen capacities for recognition and reporting of OECMs:** support Parties in building the institutional and technical capacities required for the identification, assessment and reporting of OECMs under Target 3, supporting credible, transparent and harmonized monitoring of progress.

Components

Component 1. Political leadership and Advocacy

Ensure high-level momentum under the COP17 Presidency, supported by the CBD Secretariat, FAO and IUCN to encourage accelerated national implementation through recurring high-level dialogues and ministerial engagements.

Component 2. Enhanced global coordination for OECM implementation

Strengthen coordination to promote the development and harmonization of technical guidance, standards and assessment methodologies, including particular attention to productive landscapes and seascapes that remain underrepresented in global OECM reporting.

Component 3. Enhanced technical support for OECM implementation

Ensure support to countries in the identification, evaluation and reporting of OECMs by facilitating access to capacity development, resources, tools and guidance, including sector-specific methodologies, and promoting their consistent application. In doing so, it will create a recognized space for exchanging national experience and improve the consistency of Parties' OECM frameworks and respond to nationally identified needs.

Governance structure

Conveners: COP17 Presidency (chair), CBD Secretariat, FAO and IUCN.

Advisory Board: COP17 Presidency, CBD Secretariat, FAO, IUCN, and other key partners, with the Board's exact composition to be finalized after the launch of the initiative.

Technical Thematic Working Group (organized by realm or region): Organizations, institutions, IPLCs, and stakeholder groups with mandates and technical expertise relevant to each working group; convened, as appropriate, jointly with regional bodies, including TSCCs.

Timeline

During COP17	After COP17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal launch of the Presidency Flagship initiative at the High-Level Segment. • Advisory Board composed. • Champion Parties and members of the Technical Thematic Working Groups identified. • Donors identified to fund the Initiative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Hub begins regular operations. • Work plans established and implementation of component activities initiated. • Technical and financial partnerships strengthened and coordinated.



**COP17 Presidency Flagship Initiative
Yerevan Call on Incentives Positive to Biodiversity
and launch of the Friends of Target 18**

in partnership with IISD, OECD and UNDP as lead partners and contributors
as well as Target 18 champion countries and organizations

Overview

As biodiversity loss accelerates at an unprecedented rate, halting and reversing this trend requires shifting the incentives that shape economic decisions and behaviours, while substantial efforts are needed to identify and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity.

Together with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and its Biodiversity Finance initiative (BIOFIN), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and with the support of champion countries, the **COP17 Presidency presents a Flagship initiative** to provide political momentum for strengthening a **robust enabling environment for accelerating and increasing the scale, effectiveness, accessibility and environmental integrity of positive incentives while advancing subsidy reform** to accelerate implementation of Target 18 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).

Why this initiative?

Nature and ecosystem services underpin food security, climate regulation, water quality, and human health. However, they are deteriorating at an unprecedented rate, driven by habitat destruction, pollution, overexploitation, invasive species and climate change. At the same time, **biodiversity-harmful financial flows** driven by current socio-economic systems continue to outpace nature protection by around 30 to 1 (UNEP, 2026). Tackling this crisis therefore requires not only changes beyond protected areas and conservation policy, but also **aligning fiscal and financial flows with the KMGBF goals.**

KMGBF Target 18 responds directly to this challenge. It calls on Parties to **eliminate, phase out, or reform incentives, including subsidies harmful to biodiversity, by at least \$500 billion per year, and to scale up positive incentives for nature.**

The biodiversity finance gap is now estimated at approximately \$942 billion annually (Paulson Institute, 2026), while the subsidies harmful to biodiversity have been estimated at between \$800 billion and \$2.6 trillion per year, equivalent to 2.5% of global GDP. Target 18 is therefore significant not only for its potential to mobilize additional resources for biodiversity, but also **for redirecting existing public support and altering the incentives shaping economic activity.** This makes implementation of Target 18 relevant to creating conditions under which **public and private finance can be deployed towards biodiversity-positive activities.**

Despite its potential, implementation is lagging. The first **Global Report on collective progress** in implementing the KMGBF identified Target 18 as one of the least advanced targets, with its **2025 milestone to identify incentives not achieved.** Self-assessments from the 7th National Reports indicate that only a quarter of highly aligned national targets are on track. Countries continue to face fundamental challenges in identifying and quantifying harmful incentives, determining which reforms are appropriate in different contexts, and designing and scaling effective positive incentives. Institutions face **policy incoherence and uncertainty, inconsistent signals, data and methodological gaps, and siloed approaches.** At the same time, insufficient progress in reforming harmful incentives can continue to drive biodiversity loss.

KMGBF implementation agenda: Target 18, with support implementation across KMGBF Targets 7, 10, 14 and 15 among others.

Objectives

Building on existing coalitions, initiatives and frameworks and working with Parties' Ministries of Environment, together with Ministers of Finance, Agriculture, Economy and Development, Central Banks, Financial Supervisors, Multilateral Development Banks, Development Finance Institutions, Private Financial Institutions, businesses, philanthropy and civil society, the incoming COP17 Presidency Flagship initiative will **seek to foster a coordinated, effective, inclusive and practical mechanism around the Target 18 accelerated implementation** by providing political leadership, supporting a Party-led Target 18 platform and contributing to accelerate concrete country pathways for fiscal transparency, reporting and implementation.

The initiative will focus in particular on:

- **Political mobilisation:** strengthening political momentum and implementation while building a lasting coalition of key champions towards accelerating KMGBF Target 18 implementation.
- **Showcasing evidence and policy coherence:** strengthening coordination, data, transparency and learning within and across different levels of government and sectors to support effective and accountable implementation.
- **Country implementation:** supporting countries in translating Target 18 into national implementation through the launch of a multi-stakeholder national platform, and development of a reform plan challenge in the next 12 months.

Key components

Component 1. Yerevan Call on Incentives Positive for Biodiversity

A high-level political declaration, supported by Champion Parties and organizations, to be launched at COP17, reaffirming the importance of both elements of Target 18 and calling for accelerated and coordinated action across relevant levels of government and sectors to better align fiscal and financial flows toward KMGBF goals.

Component 2. The Friends of Target 18

Establishment of a coalition of the ambitious Parties and stakeholders as Friends of Target 18 providing a mechanism for sustained political and technical cooperation, knowledge exchange and peer learning on Target 18.

Component 3. The Yerevan Biodiversity Finance Challenge

Country-level implementation vehicle to help translate the political ambition of the Yerevan Call into concrete action, including by identifying and designing positive incentives, strengthening biodiversity finance planning and mobilising resources to support their implementation.

Timeline

During COP17	After COP17
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Official launch of FoT18 during a Presidency official side-event.• Adoption of the Yerevan Call at the High-Level Segment.• Convening of the first FoT18 ministerial meeting.• Public announcement of FoT18's governance structure and initial membership.• Announcement of the Yerevan Biodiversity Finance Challenge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roll-out of FoT18 thematic political and technical dialogues and webinar series (2026–2028) and regular meetings of FoT18 at different levels to sustain political momentum .• Progress tracking against Target 18 indicators, feeding into national reporting .• High-level knowledge-exchange as part of the BIOFIN Global Conference (May 2027, Berlin).• Compilation of the Yerevan Biodiversity Finance Challenge Report (September 2028).• Preparation of FoT18 and Biodiversity Finance Challenge outcomes to showcase at COP18 (October 2028).



Yerevan Call on Incentives Positive to Biodiversity

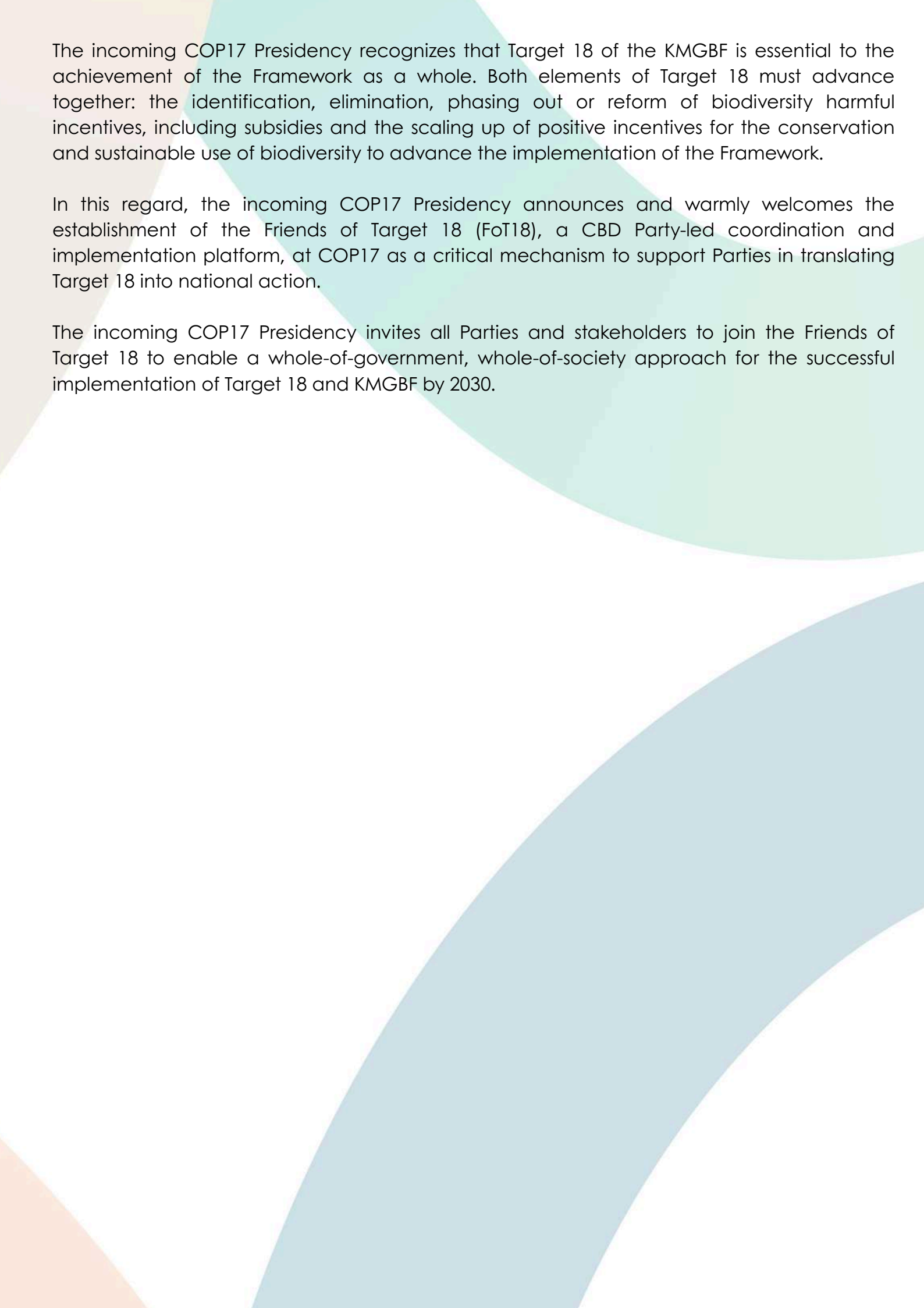
Recognizing that biodiversity underpins human well-being, resilient economies, food and water security, climate stability, sustainable livelihoods, and the rights and stewardship of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities;

Recalling further Target 18 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework calls for identifying and reforming incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity, while scaling up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;

Noting that the first Global Report on collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF further highlights limited progress on Target 18, with the 2025 identification milestone not achieved;

The COP17 Presidency together with the partners and contributors, including IISD, OECD, UNDP and Friends of the Target 18 introduces the call on incentives positive for biodiversity to provide momentum and strategic direction to accelerate the implementation of Target 18 by 2030 through:

- increasing the scale, effectiveness, accessibility and environmental integrity of positive incentives, while rapidly advancing fiscal and financial reforms of incentives harmful to biodiversity to shift public and private actions, finance and investment flows towards biodiversity-positive outcome;
- increasing the use, scale and effectiveness of biodiversity-positive incentives - including taxes, fees and other biodiversity-positive fiscal instruments, recognizing their critical role in aligning public and private financial flows with KMGBF.
- adopting a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, including measures to strengthen co-ordination across Ministries and sectors, to scale up the implementation and effectiveness of biodiversity-positive incentives.
- undertaking regular reviews of existing biodiversity-positive incentives and their contribution to biodiversity outcomes, to strengthen their effectiveness, close policy gaps, and ensure a coherent policy mix, and to work with international organizations, research institutions and other relevant actors to further strengthen the evidence base and support in accelerated implementation.
- strengthening national data collection and reporting to support information and knowledge-sharing and to strengthen the tracking of progress towards Target 18, drawing on existing initiatives and frameworks, including the OECD Policy Instruments for Environment (PINE) database on positive incentives and UNDP BIOFIN Public Expenditure Review.



The incoming COP17 Presidency recognizes that Target 18 of the KMGBF is essential to the achievement of the Framework as a whole. Both elements of Target 18 must advance together: the identification, elimination, phasing out or reform of biodiversity harmful incentives, including subsidies and the scaling up of positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to advance the implementation of the Framework.

In this regard, the incoming COP17 Presidency announces and warmly welcomes the establishment of the Friends of Target 18 (FoT18), a CBD Party-led coordination and implementation platform, at COP17 as a critical mechanism to support Parties in translating Target 18 into national action.

The incoming COP17 Presidency invites all Parties and stakeholders to join the Friends of Target 18 to enable a whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach for the successful implementation of Target 18 and KMGBF by 2030.



COP17

YEREVAN ARMENIA

**TAKING ACTION
FOR NATURE**