

## GUIDANCE AND TEMPLATE FOR THE SEVENTH AND EIGHTH NATIONAL REPORTS

### Guidance for the seventh and eighth national reports<sup>1</sup>

1. Parties are required by Article 26 of the Convention to submit national reports to the Conference of the Parties on measures taken for the implementation of the Convention and their effectiveness in meeting the objectives of the Convention. The seventh and eighth national reports are due by 28 February 2026 and 30 June 2029, respectively. Given the time required to prepare, approve and submit a national report, Parties are encouraged to start preparing their national reports well before the deadline.

2. The seventh and eighth national reports should provide an assessment of progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including progress towards national targets in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP) as revised or updated in the light of the Framework, and Parties' progress in the implementation of the Framework, using the most up-to-date data and information from appropriate sources, including headline indicators as well as component and complementary indicators, and other national indicators, where relevant. Other sources may include any recent reviews of national implementation or other national assessments, in particular any review of the implementation of NBSAPs, that provide a basis for developing national ambition or targets and/or revising or updating NBSAPs to implement the Framework. Parties could use information from earlier national reports as appropriate. National reports, reviews or communications submitted under relevant conventions and in connection with the Sustainable Development Goals could also be used as important information for assessing progress in the implementation of the Framework.

3. Further to decision 14/27, in which the Conference of the Parties decided that the submission of the next reports under the Convention and its Protocols would be synchronized, Parties should involve the respective national focal points for the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols (if different from the primary national focal point for the Convention) in the preparation of the national report. National focal points of the biodiversity-related conventions and Rio conventions, as well as the national focal points for the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant international and regional conventions should also be involved in the preparation of the national report.

4. Relevant stakeholders should be involved in the preparation of the national report and may include in it their contributions to the implementation of national targets, NBSAPs and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Contributions from non-State actors should, where possible, be clearly identified.

#### *Structure and format of the seventh and eighth national report and use of the reports*

5. To facilitate the preparation of the seventh and eighth national reports, each section of the report uses a standardized template that contains specific questions with a choice of possible answers or specific requests for substantive information. There is also space to provide narrative information to further substantiate the answers given in a focused and succinct manner. Links to relevant websites and publications where additional information, including metadata for indicators, may be found, should be provided, reducing the need to include this information directly in the national report.

6. The seventh and eighth national report format contains five sections:

Section I Brief overview of the process of preparation of the report;

---

<sup>1</sup> Extracted from Annex II of decision 15/6

- Section II Status of the revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP) in the light of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
- Section III Assessment of progress towards national targets;<sup>2</sup>
- Section IV Assessment of progress related to the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
- Section V Conclusions on the implementation of the Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
- Annex Information as requested in related decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

7. A resource manual will be available before the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to provide further guidance and explanations on the use of the template and links to potential sources of information for the preparation of the seventh and eighth national reports. Other supporting materials and tools will be developed or enhanced as needed before the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to support the preparation of the report.

#### *Use of indicators for monitoring and reporting*

8. The template allows for information to be provided on all headline indicators and questions related to the binary indicators as set out in the monitoring framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.<sup>3</sup> It also includes the option to include information on component and complementary indicators, as well as national indicators as referenced in the monitoring framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

#### *Enhancing synergies in reporting under the biodiversity-related conventions and the Rio conventions and in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals*

9. Parties are also encouraged to use the clearing-house mechanism/Bioland tool. The voluntary Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT) developed by the United Nations Environment Programme is also available to Parties.

#### *Submission of the report*

10. To facilitate the preparation and submission of the seventh and eighth national report, an online reporting tool is available.<sup>4</sup> The online tool will allow multiple national authorized users to draft elements of the national report and submit them for review and internal approval before formal submission by a national publishing authority. The tool will allow Parties to submit parts of the national report as they are finalized or to submit the entire report once all the sections are completed. The tool will also allow Parties to accept and verify data on relevant headline indicators from relevant regional/global data sets. For those Parties with limited Internet access or those who prefer to submit their national reports in document form, an offline version of the reporting templates will be made available. If the national report is submitted in document form, it should be accompanied by an official letter or an email message from the national focal point for the Convention or a senior Government official responsible for the implementation of the Convention. Parties not using the online reporting tool may send their seventh and eighth national report to the main email address of the Secretariat ([secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int)).

---

<sup>2</sup> Note that reporting on the implementation of Goal D and Target 19 will include detailed assessments of support provided for the implementation of the Convention. However, information on gaps in implementation can also be included in the conclusions, in section V.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 15/5.

<sup>4</sup> <https://chm.cbd.int>.

## Template for the seventh and eighth national reports<sup>5</sup>

### I. Brief overview of the process of preparation of the report

<b>Country name</b>	
<b>National authorities responsible for the preparation and submission of the report</b>	
<b>Contact person</b>	
<b>Contact details</b>	
<p><b>Briefly describe the process followed for the preparation of the present report. Responses may include the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination mechanisms and methodology for data collection and validation employed, if applicable, as well as key challenges encountered.</li> <li>• Consultations undertaken at various levels for preparing the present report, involving and engaging various stakeholders and taking into account national circumstances, including by using a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach.</li> </ul>	

### II. Status of the revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

<b>1.</b>	<b>Has your country revised or updated its national biodiversity strategy and action plan in alignment with the Framework?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> In progress If the answer is “no” or “in progress”, please indicate the expected date of completion of the revision or updating of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan: _____
<b>2.</b>	<b>Did your country involve and engage stakeholders in revising or updating its national biodiversity strategy and action plan?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If the answer is “yes”, please select among the following (drop-down menu): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Indigenous peoples and local communities</li> <li>○ Women</li> <li>○ Youth</li> <li>○ Local and/or subnational government</li> <li>○ Private sector</li> <li>○ Other stakeholders</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> Extracted from Annex I of decision 16/32

3.	<p><b>Has your country’s revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan been adopted as a policy or a legal instrument, and/or integrated into other strategies?</b></p> <p>_____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> In progress  <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>If the answer is “no” or “other”, please specify and indicate the expected date of adoption:</p> <p>_____</p>
4.	<p><b>If the answer to question 3 is “yes”, indicate how your country’s revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan has been adopted.</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Adopted through legislation or otherwise by parliament  <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted by the Council of Ministers, the Office of the President or of the Prime Minister, or an equivalent body  <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted by the Ministry of the Environment or another sectoral ministry  <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated into the poverty reduction strategy, sustainable development strategy, national development plan or another related strategy or plan  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)</p> <p>_____</p>
5.	<p><b>Briefly describe the national biodiversity monitoring system and how it tracks progress in the implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.</b></p>	

**III. Assessment of progress towards national targets**

Please use the following template to report on progress in the implementation of your country’s national targets and revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan in alignment with the Framework. In cases where no national target is linked with one or more related global targets, it is suggested that countries report directly on progress contributing to the global targets.

<p><b>National target</b> (pre-populated from the submission of national targets or from the text of the global target when a national target does not exist for that global target)</p>		
1.	<p><b>Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target</b></p>	
2.	<p><b>Indicate the current level of progress towards the target</b></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> On track to achieve target  <input type="checkbox"/> Progress made but at an insufficient rate  <input type="checkbox"/> No significant progress  <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable  <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown  <input type="checkbox"/> Achieved</p>
3.	<p><b>Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved</b></p> <p><b>Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation</b></p>	

4.	<p><b>Provide data on headline indicators used for assessing progress towards the target</b> (pre-populated from the submission of national targets)<sup>6</sup></p> <p><i>This section can be completed for targets with a headline indicator.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Use national data sets</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Use the data available from relevant global data sources provided</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No data available. Please explain why:</p> <hr/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not relevant. Please explain why:</p> <hr/> <p><i>Parties that choose to use national data sets are requested to submit them in a tabular format and to specify the sources of data. Parties will submit data for each indicator once, even if the indicator is used for multiple goals and targets.</i></p> <p><i>Parties that choose to use globally or regionally available data sets will be provided with a tabular view of the data for the indicator.</i></p> <p><i>Parties that answer “no data available” are requested to briefly describe efforts under way to develop relevant indicators and data sets.</i></p> <p>Comments (optional):</p> <hr/>
5.	<p><b>Respond to the questions for the binary indicator<sup>7</sup></b></p> <p><i>This section applies to targets with a binary indicator only</i></p>	<p><i>The binary indicators and questions will be included on the basis of the list adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Parties will submit data for each binary indicator only once, even if the indicator is used for multiple goals and targets.</i></p> <p>Comments (optional):</p> <hr/>
6.	<p><b>Provide data on component, complementary or other national indicators used for assessing progress towards the target</b> (optional) (pre-populated from the submission of national targets)</p>	<p><i>Parties may wish to provide data and sources of information in a tabular format.</i></p> <p>Comments (optional):</p> <hr/>
7.	<p><b>Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.</b></p>	
8.	<p><b>Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements</b> (optional)</p>	

<sup>6</sup> See the online reporting tool for an example of how the submission of data has been included in the tool.

<sup>7</sup> See annexes I and III to decision 16/31 for the list of binary indicators.

**IV. Assessment of national progress contributing to the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

<i>2050 goals</i>	<i>Summary of national progress contributing to the global goals</i>	<i>Headline and binary indicators (pre-populated from the submission of national targets)</i>	<i>Component, complementary or other national indicators (pre-populated from the submission of national targets)</i>	<i>Source of data for indicators</i>
<b>Goal ____</b>		<i>(Relevant indicators will be provided for selection, as described in section III above)</i>	<i>(Relevant indicators will be provided for selection, as described in section III above)  For national indicators, countries may need to submit relevant national indicators in a tabular format.</i>	

**V. Conclusions on the national implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

In the present section, Parties are encouraged to provide a summary of the national implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework, including their main achievements and the major challenges encountered, in particular those related to capacity, technical, technological, institutional and financial gaps and constraints, and support provided for implementation. Parties may refer to cross-cutting challenges affecting the implementation of the Convention and the Framework or specific obstacles that have hindered progress. The challenges and obstacles may include lack of adequate financial, human and technical resources; difficulties regarding interministerial or inter-agency cooperation and coordination; lack of timely and reliable access to knowledge, information and data; lack of the scientific expertise needed to support project development and management; and lack of access to relevant technology for implementation. Parties should try to avoid duplication if such information is covered in the sections above.

<p><b>Provide a summary assessment of the implementation of the Convention and the Framework, including all its sections, and the main achievements and the major challenges encountered and, where applicable, resolved, in particular those related to capacity, technical, technological, institutional and financial gaps and constraints, and support provided for implementation.</b></p>