



**Intergovernmental Science-Policy  
Platform on Biodiversity and  
Ecosystem Services**

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**Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy  
Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services  
Tenth session**

Bonn, Germany, 28 August–2 September 2023  
Item 12 of the provisional agenda\*

**Institutional arrangements: United Nations  
collaborative partnership arrangement for the work of  
the Platform and its secretariat**

**Progress report on the United Nations collaborative partnership  
arrangement**

**Note by the secretariat**

1. The Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), in decision IPBES-2/8 on that topic, approved the collaborative partnership arrangement to establish an institutional link between the Plenary of IPBES and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as set out in the annex to that decision.
2. In the same decision, the Plenary invited UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP to approve the collaborative partnership arrangement. In response to that invitation, approval processes were undertaken by each of those United Nations entities (see document IPBES/3/INF/14).
3. The annex to the present note, which is presented without formal editing, contains a consolidated progress report on the support provided by the four entities to the work of IPBES and its secretariat since the ninth session of the Plenary.

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\* IPBES/10/1.

**Annex\*****Progress report on the United Nations collaborative partnership arrangement for supporting the work of the Platform and its secretariat****I. Context**

1. The collaborative partnership arrangement set out in the annex to decision IPBES-2/8 acknowledges the role of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the development and establishment of the Platform, and the relevance of their respective mandates and programmes of work to the functions of the Platform. The aim of the institutional link created between the Platform and these United Nations entities was to provide a collaborative framework whereby:

- (a) The partners coordinate relevant activities and cooperate in areas related to the functions of the Platform;
- (b) Dedicated capacity and secondments or otherwise assigned staff are made available by the organizations to support the secretariat of the Platform;
- (c) Technical and programmatic support is provided by the organizations to support implementation of the work programme of the Platform;
- (d) Joint fundraising is undertaken to enable the activities of the Platform to be implemented; and
- (e) The communications activities of the Platform are supported by the communications capacity of the organizations.

2. On behalf of the Plenary, at its ninth session, the Chair of IPBES expressed appreciation to UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP for their invaluable support to IPBES in implementing its work programme.

3. Since the ninth session of the Plenary, the organizations have continued providing direct and indirect support to the secretariat of the Platform for the implementation of the six objectives of the IPBES rolling work programme up to 2030. These activities are described below.

**II. Direct support for the secretariat of the Platform****A. Secretariat staff and secondments**

4. Consistent with decision IPBES-1/4, UNEP continues to provide the Platform's secretariat, which is solely accountable to the IPBES Plenary on policy and programmatic matters. In addition, UNEP has, since 2014, provided a dedicated professional programme officer (P-4) as an in-kind contribution to the IPBES secretariat. On request, UNEP continues to provide other staff to support the meetings of IPBES, in particular to advise on legal issues.

**B. Technical support units and other recognized institutional arrangements**

5. **Technical support unit for Indigenous and local knowledge:** The technical support unit for Indigenous and local knowledge is hosted by the UNESCO LINKS programme in Paris. It provided technical support to the task force during the first IPBES work programme, and was selected again by the Bureau at its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide technical support to the task force also under the 2030 rolling work programme, until the tenth session of the Plenary. The technical support unit is funded by IPBES with a matching in-kind contribution by UNESCO.

6. **Technical support unit for policy support tools:** The technical support unit for policy tools and methodologies is provided by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), which was selected by the Bureau at its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide technical support under the 2030 rolling work programme until the tenth session of the Plenary.

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\* The annex has not been formally edited.

7. **Technical support unit for the business and biodiversity assessment:** The technical support unit for the business and biodiversity assessment is provided by the Alexander von Humboldt Biological Resources Research Institute in Colombia together with UNEP-WCMC. The technical support unit is funded by IPBES, with matching in-kind contributions from the Alexander von Humboldt Institute, and from UNEP-WCMC with co-financing from the Government of the United Kingdom.

### III. Support for implementation of the work programme

8. Beyond the activities described above in direct support of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030, many other activities carried out by the four UN entities are consistent with and supportive of the objectives and activities of the Platform. Some of these are described below.

#### A. Objective 1: Assessing knowledge

9. The UN partners contributed to the four deliverables under this objective by broadly circulating information relevant to the various review processes of draft assessment reports, scoping reports and other documents, and calls for the nomination of experts, providing experts through the nomination process, and reviewing and providing expert advice on draft assessment reports and scoping reports.

10. UNEP-WCMC continues to support four experts -one co-ordinating lead author, two lead authors and one fellow- for the thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health (nexus assessment). In addition, three UNEP-WCMC experts have been selected as co-chair, co-ordinating lead author and fellow for the business and biodiversity assessment. All experts serve in their individual capacity.

11. During the reporting period, FAO contributed in particular to the nexus assessment by reviewing the first draft of its chapters. A staff member of FAO is serving as lead author on the nexus assessment.

#### B. Objective 2: Building capacity

12. **Objective 2 (a) Enhanced learning and engagement:** UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and UNESCO have jointly been supporting the implementation of the IPBES capacity-building rolling plan through the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net) project as a consortium, with financial support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, through the International Climate Initiative (IKI), and SwedBio. In this regard, UNDP co-sponsored the IPBES annual fellows training workshop on 9–11 May 2023 and the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IPBES capacity-building forum on 12 May 2023, held back-to-back, in collaboration with the National Museums of Kenya.

13. UNEP-WCMC, UNDP and FAO have actively engaged in the work of the IPBES task force on capacity-building, contributing resource persons to both the task force meeting and inter-sessional activities through the task groups established by the task force.

14. **Objective 2 (b) Facilitated access to expertise and information:** The BES Solution Fund has been rolled out under the BES-Net framework as a modality to provide selected countries with catalytic seed funding to accelerate the coordinated uptake of IPBES assessments and the national ecosystem assessments produced based on the IPBES Guide on the Production of Assessments. A total of eight countries have thus far received funds and initiated, planned and implemented IPBES/national assessment uptake actions, including policy development and reform, follow-up thematic research and on-the-ground conservation projects.

15. UNESCO, through BES-Net's BES Solution Fund, supports countries in the uptake of key messages related to Indigenous and local knowledge, from IPBES thematic assessments and/or national ecosystem assessments.

16. **Objective 2 (c) Strengthened national and regional capacities:** Through its National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative (NEA Initiative), UNEP-WCMC, in collaboration with UNDP and UNESCO, is continuing to support countries either in undertaking or scoping a national ecosystem assessment based on the IPBES conceptual framework and assessment process. Each country also develops or enhances a national science-policy platform, to support the assessment process but also to provide support related to engagement with intergovernmental processes such as IPBES. The initiative is currently receiving funding from IKI, the German Government and the Norwegian Government, and

works under the umbrella of the BES-Net consortium. A range of resources are freely available at: [www.ecosystemassessments.net](http://www.ecosystemassessments.net) to assist those undertaking a national ecosystem assessment.

17. UNESCO's Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) programme that leads the BES-Net Indigenous and local knowledge support unit has also been providing support related to Indigenous and local knowledge to eight countries conducting national ecosystem assessments (four completing their scoping process and four in the evaluation stage) under the NEA Initiative, through coaching and training workshops, developing guidance materials based on the IPBES methodologies, facilitating the engagement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities throughout the assessment process, and organizing ground research on Indigenous and local knowledge to enrich the assessment.

18. BES-Net seeks to build a community of practice around the science-policy-practice interface and facilitates national engagement in the global discussion around biodiversity and ecosystem services. Against this backdrop, capacity-building support is provided to BES Solution Fund target countries to establish and/or strengthen multi-stakeholder platforms and networks under the auspices of IPBES national focal points. To this end, UNDP plans to organize a tripartite dialogue event, or Trialogue, in Hanoi in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2023 in collaboration with Vietnam's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The event will provide IPBES national focal points and other representatives from the policy, science and practice sectors in the eight -supported countries with an opportunity to mutually learn about the experiences and lessons from the IPBES/national ecosystem assessment uptake and strengthen cross-border partnership for continuous capacity-sharing and peer-to-peer support.

19. As part of a project led by the University of Bonn, UNEP-WCMC is working with partners to upscale previous work undertaken in West Africa to establish a master's course focusing on developing capacity around the science-policy interface to support IPBES. Alongside the master's course, a network has been created to allow more frequent exchanges between West African countries on IPBES-related activities. The programme is being expanded to include Central and East Africa, with further master's programmes, national and regional platforms and professional courses being established. The Government of Germany's IKI fund continues to support this work.

### C. Objective 3: Strengthening the knowledge foundations

20. **Objective 3 (a) Advanced work on knowledge and data:** With financial support from the European Union and Switzerland, UNEP developed the Data and Reporting Tool – DaRT<sup>1</sup> in collaboration with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (decision XIV/25). DaRT is the first tool that promotes cooperation and synergies in reporting to multilateral environmental agreements. It provides Parties with private and secure national working spaces to collect, organize, store and share knowledge in order to monitor and verify their progress in national implementation and to report thereon, to conduct gap analyses of implementation actions and/or to revise or update related strategies and action plans. DaRT is the primary space for mapping between strategies from which information will be permeating into other tools. DaRT catalyses and strengthens international, regional and national networks with a focus on biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge.

21. UNEP-WCMC provides a resource person from the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership to the task force on knowledge and data.

22. BES-Net's web portal has been hosting a database of biodiversity and ecosystem services-related online resources. Currently, over 4,200 resources related to IPBES' target thematic areas – including publications, research papers, policy documents, on-the-ground good practice reports – are stored and freely accessible. As part of BES-Net's Trialogue effort, and complementing the IPBES thematic assessments, UNDP also undertook a context analysis on pollinator/pollination and land degradation/restoration at sub-regional and national levels across Eastern Europe, the Caribbean, Anglophone Africa, Central Asia and Francophone Africa regions to date. Information and data gathered through a literature review and key informant interviews were compiled as regional Trialogue background documents and are being utilized as a key reference to guide the IPBES assessment uptake planning and subsequent policy, research and on-the-ground actions.

23. UNESCO-IOC's Ocean Biodiversity Information System (OBIS) is a global data platform that acts as a data and information clearing-house on marine biodiversity. In the last year, 61 Member States, of which 16 from Africa and 21 from small island developing states, published marine species occurrence data to OBIS. On average, OBIS publishes one new dataset and 250,000 observations of

<sup>1</sup> Data and Reporting Tool – DaRT: <https://dart.informea.org/>

marine species per day and 200 scientific papers are published per year by scientists from over 70 countries. OBIS makes an important contribution to a number of international processes, including assessments of IPBES, the CBD, and the World Ocean Assessment of the UN Regular Process. In 2022, OBIS also contributed to the chapter on knowledge on and threats to marine biodiversity in the pilot edition of the UNESCO-IOC State of the Ocean Report (StOR). Of relevance, OBIS also established an open-ended working group on OBIS-based marine biodiversity indicators and information products. This will be a collaborative and interdisciplinary group of experts that will review existing and identify needs for marine biodiversity information products, perform a gap analysis, and will develop a platform for the creation, validation and publication of marine biodiversity information products to support decision-makers in government, industry, and civil society. This is part of OBIS' contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

24. UNESCO's first interdisciplinary and intersectoral database common to the World Heritage Center, Living Heritage Entity, the International Geoscience Programme and the Man and the Biosphere Programme, is under development thanks to the initial contribution of Italy (UNESCO Earth Network). The database and associated UNESCO Biodiversity Portal will enable the Member States, the scientific community and experts to better process UNESCO designated sites' information and data, and to produce synthesis and analysis material, as well as to access a selection of scientific good practices and capacity-building expertise relevant to IPBES assessments and other international processes including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

25. FAO is responsible for the compilation, analysis and dissemination of a comprehensive variety of statistical data on food, agriculture and the sustainable management of natural resources. The Organization provides free and unrestricted access to 22 major databases and produces publications with key statistical content covering different topics under FAO's mandate and strategic goals. A key database is FAOSTAT,<sup>2</sup> the world's most comprehensive statistical database on food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, natural resources management and nutrition for over 245 countries and territories starting from 1961 to date. These data are used in the Global Biodiversity Outlooks, in biodiversity assessments such as those from IPBES, and in monitoring frameworks, e.g., for the Aichi Targets and Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). Other databases include those dedicated to genetic resources for food and agriculture such as DAD-IS,<sup>3</sup> WIEWS<sup>4</sup> and AquaGRIS<sup>5</sup> for animal, plant and aquatic genetic resources, and an information systems for forest genetic resources<sup>6</sup> is currently under development. FAO is a UN custodian agency for 21 SDG indicators across SDGs 2, 5, 6, 12, 14 and 15 and a contributing agency for a further four.<sup>7</sup>

26. **UN Biodiversity Lab 2.0** (UNBL) is a free, open-source platform that provides access to state-of-the-art maps and data on nature, climate change and human development in new ways to generate insights for nature and sustainable development. It is freely available online to governments and other non-commercial stakeholders as a digital public good. Developed jointly by UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and the CBD secretariat, UNBL was first launched in 2018 to support governments in their commitments to the CBD, leading to a two-fold increase in the number of maps used in countries' national reports on the state of biodiversity. UNBL 2.0 is now available in English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. The UNBL 2.0 release responds to a known global gap in the types of spatial data and tools, providing an invaluable resource to nations around the world to take transformative action. Users can, among others, now access over 400 of the world's best available global spatial data layers, create secure workspaces to incorporate national data alongside global data, and use curated data collections to generate insight for action. Without specialized tools or training, decision-makers can leverage the power of spatial data to support priority-setting and the implementation of nature-based solutions. Dynamic metrics and indicators on the state of our planet are also available.

27. **Objective 3 (b) Enhanced recognition of and work with Indigenous and local knowledge systems:** Between the ninth and tenth sessions of the IPBES Plenary, the technical support unit for Indigenous and local knowledge based at UNESCO supported the task force and assessments on the work on Indigenous and local knowledge described in documents IPBES/10/8 and IPBES/10/INF/11, including dialogue workshops on the nexus and transformative change assessments, a call for contributions for the nexus, transformative change and business and biodiversity assessments, and

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.fao.org/dad-is/en/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.fao.org/wiews/en/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.fao.org/fishery/aquagris/home>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.fao.org/3/ng871en/ng871en.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> see <http://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/indicators/en/>

webinars presenting key messages and findings of particular relevance to Indigenous Peoples and local communities from the Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species and the Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature. The technical support unit has also worked on further development of methodological guidance, a review of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES, and ongoing support to the Indigenous and local knowledge liaison groups of the on-going assessments.

#### D. Objective 4: Supporting policy

28. **Objective 4 (a) Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies:** UNESCO has developed a series of methodological guides on working with Indigenous and local knowledge in national ecosystem assessments, that draw from and reference the IPBES approach and methodological guidance on working with Indigenous and local knowledge. In pursuit of strengthening the policy-science-practice interface, the BES-Net consortium of UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and UNESCO is committed to promoting the participation of IPLCs in the knowledge co-generation process.

29. FAO provides a resource person to the task force on policy tools and methodologies.

#### E. Objective 5: Communicating and engaging

30. The four UN partners coordinate inputs to IPBES communication products such as press releases, social media content and traditional media on a regular basis.

31. **Objective 5 (a) Strengthened communication:** FAO contributed in many ways to the uptake of messages from IPBES assessments, and in particular in the last year those from the Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species and the Assessment report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature, by a wide range of constituencies, including its governing bodies, its member countries, its staff and the public in general. In May 2023, FAO hosted for its staff a webinar featuring experts from the IPBES-IPCC co-sponsored Workshop on the interactions between biodiversity and climate change, with a focus on marine systems and fisheries, food and agriculture, and forestry.

32. In support of the IPBES communications and outreach strategy, BES-Net issues monthly e-newsletters, with dedicated sections for the latest updates on IPBES activities and other BES-focused partners' works in the Platform's thematic focus areas. Dedicated support is also provided to help disseminate IPBES-related news and announcements regularly through BES-Net's website and social media channels.

33. UNESCO and UNDP, through the BES-Net consortium, also developed two posters on Indigenous and local knowledge primarily from the IPBES Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration to showcase the impacts of land degradation on IPLCs and the role of IPLCs in land restoration. The posters are available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). BES-Net is developing similar posters from the Assessment Report of the Sustainable Use of Wild Species and the Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature.

34. In 2022, UNESCO contributed to the communication of messages from the IPBES Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species and the Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature through online web stories published after IPBES 9 and particularly focused on biosphere reserves as collaborative governance arrangements, and side-events and infographics during the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.

35. **Objective 5 (b) Strengthened engagement of Governments:** Within the context of the CBD, the work that UNEP-WCMC's NEA initiative is undertaking supports the implementation of decision CBD/COP/DEC/15/19, in working with governments to undertake national assessments and to utilise their findings. Further details and case studies from countries undertaking assessments at the national level following the IPBES conceptual framework and assessment process and how this is supporting national level CBD-related activities can be found at: [www.ecosystemassessments.net](http://www.ecosystemassessments.net).

#### F. Objective 6: Improving the effectiveness of the Platform

36. **Objective 6 (c) Improving the effectiveness of the assessment process:** UNEP and IPBES continue to engage with representatives from other major global assessments as part of the Ad hoc Global Assessment Dialogue (AGAD).<sup>8</sup> AGAD is a participant-led informal forum for exchange of

<sup>8</sup> More information on the AGAD can be found at: <https://www.unep.org/global-environment-outlook/adhoc-global-assessments-dialogue>

information on global assessments within the UN system. It is coordinated by UNEP's Science Division under the auspices of the UNEP Chief Scientist. Its main purpose is to identify areas of synergy across different assessment processes to maximize the usefulness of these scientific assessments for policymakers. Participants include representatives from UNEP's International Resource Panel (IRP), UNCCD, IPCC, IPBES, CBD, the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR), the Human Development Report (HDR) and a number of UNEP-led assessments, including the Global Environment Outlook, the Global Waste Management Outlook and the Global Chemical Outlook.

37. The Ad hoc Global Assessment Dialogue (AGAD) meets quarterly to informally discuss issues related to coherence and collaboration among major assessments. The latest discussions included: 1) The creation of a subgroup on modelling and scenario development to discuss potential pathways for collaboration and compare models used; 2) The creation of a subgroup on glossary development. A collaboration among IPCC and UNEP on creating a glossary tool has already started and the tool is about to be launched to be used by GEO-7; 3) The potential of harmonizing peer-review processes. This included a presentation of the Review Editor Analytical Database (READ) tool, built to facilitate the review process for GEO. This effort is linked to the general digitalization process of global assessment processes. The IRP will also use this platform for the Global Resources Outlook (GRO) peer-review process. The AGAD remains successful in providing a platform for environmental assessments to learn more about the work of others and explore possible synergy on different topics. In addition, new members have joined the dialogue, including: the Secretariat of the European State of the Environment Outlook, European Environment Agency; the Secretariat and co-chairs of the Montreal Protocol Assessments; the Secretariat of the OECD Environmental Outlook. More info on the AGAD and the full list of participants can be found [here](#).

## **G. Additional supportive actions directly related to work programme implementation**

38. FAO adopted in 2019 its Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors,<sup>9</sup> which refers in its preamble to the work of IPBES. The Strategy aims to mainstream biodiversity across agricultural sectors at national, regional and international levels in a structured and coherent manner, considering national priorities, needs, regulations and policies and country programming frameworks. Expected results of the application of the Strategy would be to reduce the negative impacts of agricultural practices on biodiversity, to promote sustainable agricultural practices and to conserve, enhance, preserve, restore and sustainably use biodiversity across agricultural sectors.<sup>10</sup>

39. The 2021-2023 Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Strategy was approved in 2021.<sup>11</sup> It contains around 60 key actions to be taken to implement the activities foreseen in the Strategy with the objective of mainstreaming biodiversity into the agriculture sectors, taking into account ongoing work by FAO and its partners, and specifies over 180 deliverables. One action is about 'contributing to the work of the IPBES' and includes as deliverable that 'Contributions to IPBES's programme of work provided and relevant FAO Governing Bodies and statutory bodies regularly informed of developments in the implementation of the programme of work.'

40. FAO facilitates the implementation of the International Pollinators Initiative 2.0, developed based on experience from the first International Pollinators Initiative and the findings of the IPBES Assessment Report on Pollinators, Pollination, and Food Production.

41. Several decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, taken at its 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, refer to FAO and to agriculture sectors. FAO is supporting Members in their implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, leading international efforts to develop indicators for the monitoring framework (e.g., target 2 and 7), and implementing the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity, among

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.fao.org/3/ca7722en/CA7722en.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> More information can be found in document CGRFA-19/23/6.2 *Progress report on the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan* [link to the document will be available shortly]

<sup>11</sup> <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb5515en>

other activities. Further information on FAO's work on biodiversity can be found in progress reports submitted to the Conference of the Parties to the CBD at its 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.<sup>12</sup>

42. The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 is a global rallying call to 'prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide, for the benefit of present and future generations'. It addresses the twin challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss, in support of the SDGs. FAO and UNEP are the lead organizations for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030), launched on World Environment Day (5 June) 2021. The UN Decade positions the restoration of ecosystems as a major nature-based solution for meeting a wide range of global development goals and national priorities pertaining to all terrestrial and marine ecosystems. It builds on existing commitments such as the Paris Agreement and the Bonn Challenge and is implemented in collaboration with the Rio Conventions and other partners. Stronger linkages with IPBES are sought to inform the UN Decade movement, particularly from the Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration. To date, 230 partner organizations across 7 partner categories have joined the UN Decade, from large organizations like WHO, the World Bank or IUCN to over 170 local NGOs and private sector entities. In 2022, UNEP and FAO have asked all UN Member States to nominate 'World Restoration Flagships'. Building on the spirit of World Heritage Sites, these large, ambitious restoration areas will create further inspiration and momentum for the restoration movement and create measurable action on the ground. 78 Nominations have been received, including 19 multi-national/cross-boarder Flagship Initiatives. Together, they cover 61 countries and expect to have a total of 260 million ha under restoration by 2030. The first ten Flagships have been announced at the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in December 2023. The next batch will be announced in 2023 alongside a new call for nominations. A UN Decade Multi-Partner Trust Fund has been established as core financial engine behind the global coordinated restoration movement and the UN Decade. It has a fundraising target of at least 100 million USD by 2030 to build the global movement, implement World Restoration Flagships, and monitor and report on global restoration.

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<sup>12</sup> Report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations ([CBD/COP/15/INF/23](#)); Progress report on the implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators ([CBD/COP/15/INF/24](#)); Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management: progress report 2019–2022 ([CBD/COP/15/INF/25](#)); Update on recent developments under the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of Relevance to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization ([CBD/COP/15/INF/15](#)).