Committed to Biodiversity

Germany’s Cooperation with Developing Countries and Emerging Economies in Support of the Convention on Biological Diversity for Sustainable Development

2022
A decade being
“Committed to Biodiversity”

The brochure “Committed to Biodiversity”, a joint product of the 
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development 
(BMZ) and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature 
Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), was 
first published in 2012. Within the framework of the meetings of the 
Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity – 
also known as the UN Biodiversity Conference, it sought to provide an 
overview of Germany’s cooperation with developing countries and 
emerging economies in support of the Convention on Biological 
Diversity and the Aichi targets (the latter adopted in Nagoya in 2010), 
and to mobilise more partners to engage in dialogue. While the 
themetic emphasis at that time was on the designation of conserva-
tion areas, the focus in subsequent years came to be placed increas-
ingly on the sustainable use of ecosystems, primarily in the form of 
biodiversity-friendly agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The fifth 
publication in the series concludes the decade of the Aichi biodiversity 
targets (2011–2020) and looks ahead to the new post-2020 Global 
Biodiversity Framework, which will be the strategy for implementing 
the Convention in the coming years.
# Aichi Biodiversity Targets: Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020

### Strategic Goal A

**Target 1:** Awareness of biodiversity, its conservation and sustainable use

**Target 2:** Integration of biodiversity into development strategies

**Target 3:** Eliminate or reform incentives harmful to biodiversity, create and implement positive incentives

**Target 4:** Achieve sustainable production and consumption

### Strategic Goal B

**Target 5:** Reduce rate of habitat loss, deterioration and fragmentation

**Target 6:** Manage and use marine resources sustainably

**Target 7:** Manage agriculture, aquaculture and forestry sustainably

**Target 8:** Reduce environmental pollution

**Target 9:** Manage invasive alien species and their pathways

**Target 10:** Minimise anthropogenic pressures on vulnerable ecosystems

### Strategic Goal C

**Target 11:** Protect terrestrial and marine areas

**Target 12:** Prevent extinction of threatened species and improve their conservation status

**Target 13:** Maintain genetic diversity

### Strategic Goal D

**Target 14:** Safeguard and restore ecosystems providing essential services

**Target 15:** Restore and conserve (degraded) ecosystems

**Target 16:** Nagoya Protocol is in force and operational

### Strategic Goal E

**Target 17:** Develop and implement NBSAPs.

**Target 18:** Respect Indigenous and local practices and knowledge

**Target 19:** Improve, share and implement biodiversity knowledge and technologies

**Target 20:** Mobilise financial resources from sources

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**Strategic Goal**

**Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society**

**Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use**

**To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity**

**Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services**

**Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building**
UN Decade on Biodiversity

In October 2010, 193 governments adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, which sought to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity on our planet. In an effort to support and provide impetus for this pressing task, at its 65th session, the United Nations General Assembly declared the period 2011–2020 to be the UN Decade on Biodiversity. The goal was to promote implementation of the Strategic Plan, raise public awareness and encourage mainstreaming of biodiversity at different levels within society.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to the numerous organisations that were involved in creating this publication and worked hard with their teams to help produce the project examples. These include the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), KfW Development Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, Rare, the University of Bonn, the University of Greifswald, the UN Environment CMS Office, Wetlands International, and Zukunft – Umwelt – Gesellschaft (ZUG). Special thanks also go to the team of GIZ’s Sector Programme Conservation of Biodiversity on Land, who, with support from MediaCompany, coordinated the brochure’s creation on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Cooperation Economic and Development (BMZ) and the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV).

Acronyms

ABS  Access and Benefit-Sharing
BIOFIN  Biodiversity Finance Initiative
BMUV  Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection
BMZ  Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CAFI  Central African Forest Initiative
CBD  Convention on Biological Diversity
G7  Group of Seven
GBF  Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework
GEF  Global Environment Facility
GIZ  Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
IKI  International Climate Initiative
IPBES  Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IPLCs  Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
IUCN  International Union for Conservation of Nature
KAZA TFCA  Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area
KFW  KfW Development Bank
LLF  Legacy Landscapes Fund
NBSAP  National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
SADC  Southern African Development Community
SCBD  Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
SDG  Sustainable Development Goal
UNCCD  United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNESCO  United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC  United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VN  United Nations
### Content

Preface BMZ & BMUV ................................................................. 2
The road to Montreal – safeguarding the basis of our livelihood and development .... 4
Germany’s contribution to international biodiversity financing ................................ 6
Implementing the Aichi biodiversity targets in partner countries ............................. 8
    West Africa: Support for IPBES ............................................. 9
    Caucasus: A shared treasure .............................................. 9
South-East Asia: Safeguarding biodiversity and livelihoods in seagrass ecosystems ................................................................................................................ 10
Global: Biodiversity and the ABS of justice ......................................................... 10
Caribbean: Sustainable resource management from ridge to reef .......................... 11
Interview: Elizabeth Mrema – Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) .............................................................. 11
Ecuador: Participatory conservation ....................................................................... 12
Namibia: Protecting nature, creating jobs ............................................................ 12
Bangladesh: Innovative management for mangrove conservation ......................... 13
Interview: Carlos Manuel Rodríguez – CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility (GEF) ......................................................................................... 13
Indonesia: Building with nature in coastal areas ................................................. 14
Côte d’Ivoire: Innovation for conservation areas .................................................. 14
Central Asia: World Heritage nomination for cold winter deserts ......................... 15
Interview: Carlos Pozo, head of the Kallari producers’ cooperative ....................... 15
Interview: Bruno Oberle – Director General, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) .............................................................. 16
Viet Nam: Nature conservation for people and environment ................................... 16
Southern Africa: United in diversity and development .......................................... 17
Mauritania: Integrated marine and coastal management ......................................... 17
Global: Contributing to biodiversity through sustainable agriculture ..................... 18
Interview: Dr. Nyambe Nyambe – Executive Director, Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area Secretariat (KAZA TFCA) .............................. 18
Biodiversity and health ....................................................................................... 19
Flagships ................................................................................................. 20
Promoting biodiversity around the world ............................................................ 22
A new post-2020 global biodiversity framework .................................................. 24
Dear readers,

have you ever taken time to admire the Panamanian splendid poison frog? Or a baiji dolphin from China’s Yangtze river system? Or perhaps you were lucky enough to spot a western black rhinoceros while on safari in Nigeria?

Now, I assume your answer to these questions is ‘no’. A ‘yes’ would be impossible, since all three species recently became extinct as a result of human activity: deforestation, infrastructure measures, poaching. And that list doesn’t even include species which are threatened by climate-related extinction. The list grows longer by the day. We are currently witnessing the loss of animal and plant species on a massive scale.

There are many good reasons to conserve biodiversity. First and foremost, humanity needs it to survive. We need intact ecosystems if we are to prevent people from going hungry or falling into poverty. Our ecosystems ensure fertile soil, clean drinking water and clean air. What's more, they provide the basis for climate protection and simultaneously contribute to climate adaptation.

As things stand, however, 40 per cent of the Earth's land surface is already degraded, and less than one sixth of the oceans are considered to be substantially free from human intrusion. The consequences of these activities already impact half of the world’s population. And they hit the poorest people hardest – predominantly women, children and vulnerable groups in countries in the Global South. The international community urgently needs to do more to conserve, restore and use biodiversity in a sustainable way.

The UN Biodiversity Conference (CBD COP 15), which will be held in Montreal in December 2022, offers an opportunity. The international community can, indeed must, promote new and far-reaching agreements to protect biodiversity. But for this to succeed, we need policy changes in many areas. Changes in the way agriculture, forestry and fishing are practised worldwide – these are rarely done at present in harmony with nature. There also needs to be a stronger financial commitment from all Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The German Government is campaigning, for example as part of its G7 Presidency this year, for the designation of more terrestrial and marine conservation areas and the restoration of destroyed ecosystems. In 2021, it invested more than one billion euros in biodiversity conservation measures in partner countries. By 2025, this amount will increase to EUR 1.5 billion annually, which the government will use to promote a range of initiatives across the world. This brochure provides further information on these.

For me, it is crucial that biodiversity conservation measures respect human rights and actively involve local communities and indigenous peoples. This applies in particular to women and girls, who are still too often excluded from the decision-making table. Because biodiversity conservation can only succeed with the involvement of the people on the ground. Their knowledge contributes to making projects more effective and sustainable.

Up to one million species are currently facing the threat of extinction, including polar bears, orangutans and elephants. Unless we want to see the loss of even more flora and fauna we, as the international community, must take a more proactive stance. The global challenge of conserving biodiversity can only be achieved through cooperation. This also applies to the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of ecosystems, which is why the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development is seeking to further expand its commitments in this area.

This publication serves as a welcome opportunity for me to provide an insight into our activities. It is designed to offer interested partners a basis on which to broaden the exchange and cooperation with the German Government on protecting and conserving global biodiversity. I hope you find this brochure inspiring.

Svenja Schulze
German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development
Dear readers,

Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic have had a lasting impact on the global economy and continue to impair food and energy supplies. Both crises have temporarily shifted public attention away from the global environmental crises, yet, the climate emergency, biodiversity loss and pollution of the environment and oceans with plastic waste and hazardous chemicals continue to threaten the natural resources vital to humankind.

The international community adopted a binding climate agreement in Paris in 2015. A binding accord on tackling global plastic waste pollution is set to be drafted by 2024. The UN Biodiversity Conference in Montreal in December 2022 offers a tremendous opportunity to conclude a comparable global agreement on combating biodiversity loss.

The climate crisis and biodiversity loss are two closely related issues that continue to intensify. Across the world, the effects of the climate emergency are being felt in the form of flooding, drought and devastating storms. These kinds of extreme weather events weaken ecosystems and deprive people around the world of their livelihoods. At the same time, in industrialised nations in particular, natural resources are being consumed faster than they can be replenished. Around half of global greenhouse gas emissions are generated in the extraction and processing of fossil fuels, biomass, ores and minerals. 90 per cent of biodiversity loss is now caused by the extractive and processing sectors. The Aichi biodiversity targets adopted in 2010 have largely not been achieved, owing not to their level of ambition but to a failure to implement them. This is precisely where action is needed if we are to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and improve prospects and livelihoods for future generations.

Germany has long advocated the adoption of an ambitious global agreement on biodiversity. Experience shows that, in addition to strong targets, such an agreement must above all include effective implementation mechanisms. These include assisting partner countries in strengthening their capacities and increasing financial resources for biodiversity. Germany will increase its funding for international biodiversity conservation to EUR 1.5 billion annually by 2025. Our aim in sending this strong signal is to contribute to the success of the Montreal conference.

Since 2008, the BMUV has been working via its International Climate Initiative (IKI) to enable our partner countries to harmonise their development and conservation efforts. One example is the launch of the new global initiative ‘Nature for Health’. This multi-partner trust fund is the only one of its kind in the world, promoting effective implementation of the One Health approach and thereby reducing the risk of future pandemics. We have contributed EUR 50 million to the fund’s capitalisation.

Many allies from around the world are needed to join the fight to halt biodiversity loss. The expectations of the UN Biodiversity Conference are understandably very high. I trust I can count on your support and hope you enjoy reading this brochure.

Steffi Lemke
Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection
Biodiversity is our livelihood. It is the prerequisite for economic, social and cultural development – both our own and that of future generations. However, recent decades have seen a dramatic acceleration in the loss of species and habitats. Up to one million of the world's estimated eight million animal and plant species are at acute risk of extinction, with global ecosystem services diminishing rapidly. Excessive economic exploitation of natural resources, environmental pollution, nutrient loading on land and at sea and climate change are significant factors contributing to the ongoing loss of biodiversity.

Conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity are crucial to global sustainable development. Meeting the Paris climate goals is dependent on preserving biodiversity, and many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can only be achieved by preserving global biodiversity.

In the last ten years, the parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) have achieved progress in the designation of protected areas. As a result, the global area of terrestrial protected areas has increased to approximately 17 per cent and that of marine protected areas to 8 per cent. Nevertheless, many ecosystems remain at risk. Developing countries and emerging economies are disproportionately affected by the consequences of environmental destruction, with women and poorer population groups experiencing the most severe effects.

**We must reverse the trend**

It will take a radical transformation if we are to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity. This is what the Parties to the CBD intend to initiate at the 15th meeting of the UN Biodiversity Conference. After the Aichi Targets of the CBD for the last decade have not been achieved for the most part, hopes for real change are now being pinned on the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to be adopted in Montreal.

Germany is committed to ensuring that the framework includes ambitious and well-
structured goals, along with strong and transparent implementation mechanisms. Within the global sustainability architecture, the GBF must also remain coherent with the 2030 Agenda and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

**Germany's international cooperation priorities in the area of biodiversity**

Germany is advocating for at least 30 per cent of the world's land and 30 per cent of its oceans to be placed under effective protection and equitable governance structures by 2030. Respect for human rights, with particular consideration of the rights of indigenous communities in nature conservation, is a key guiding principle in this regard. The German Government is also working to encourage the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and promoting sustainable supply chains, sustainable production and consumption patterns, and better consideration of the value of biodiversity in economic and political decision-making processes. Another key objective is the restoration of destroyed or degraded ecosystems. Nature-based solutions will help to further expand synergies in general between climate change mitigation, climate adaptation and biodiversity conservation.

Financial resources for the implementation of biodiversity targets need to be increased worldwide. If the current massive financing gap is to be closed, governments, private enterprise and civil society will have to step up their efforts significantly. Additional funding must come primarily from national and private-sector sources. Another key step involves mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in sectors such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

Germany is supporting a total of 133 countries with conserving biodiversity and ecosystems, particularly forests, and is thus one of the largest governmental donors to terrestrial and marine biodiversity conservation worldwide (as at: December 2021).

The German government is engaged in the current UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and the ongoing UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration. With both decades, the United Nations is setting clear emphases and seeking to raise awareness of the enormous challenges in biodiversity conservation.

Through its activities, Germany is also addressing the growing risks posed by pandemics. Some 75 per cent of all new cases of infectious diseases, such as COVID-19, are of animal origin – facilitated by the growing trade in wildlife products and by the fact that, as natural wildlife habitats are destroyed, humans and animals are living in closer proximity. The German Government is thus opting for holistic solutions as part of the One Health approach.
In order to implement international objectives, the German Government has steadily increased its financial contribution to biodiversity conservation in developing countries and emerging economies in recent years. This contribution rose from an average of EUR 194 million per year between 2006 and 2010 to an average of EUR 527 million annually between 2011 and 2015, and again to an average of EUR 722 million per year between 2016 and 2021.

Germany has thus exceeded its previous international obligations. At the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Parties agreed to double international financial flows by 2015 at the latest, relative to average levels between 2006 and 2010, and then to maintain these flows at least at the same level until 2020. Around 80 per cent of Germany’s contribution to international biodiversity financing is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and some 20 per cent by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV).

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced in September 2022 that Germany would step up its global biodiversity finance to EUR 1.5 billion per year by 2025. This increase forms part of the country’s commitment to increase its international climate finance budget to EUR 6 billion per year by 2025 at the latest. With its development policy orientation, BMZ is focusing on supporting partner countries, for instance, through spe-

### Annual contributions to international biodiversity conservation (in EUR millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>BMZ ODA bilateral</th>
<th>BMZ ODA multilateral</th>
<th>BMUV IKI</th>
<th>Other BMUV contributions</th>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>115</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>38</td>
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<td>183</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>127</td>
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<td>122</td>
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<td>406</td>
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<td>81.3</td>
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<td>388</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>355.5</td>
<td>73</td>
<td></td>
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<td>431.5</td>
<td>38.4</td>
<td></td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>515.3</td>
<td>70.3</td>
<td>172</td>
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<td>2021</td>
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<td>197.7</td>
<td>157</td>
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<td>1,164.8</td>
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</table>
From 2019, ‘Other BMUV contributions’ includes contributions from the Funding Programme against Marine Litter ‘Marine Debris Framework – Regional hubs around the globe’ (Marine: DeFRAG).

From 2021: Contributions to combating poaching, membership fees for IUCN, as well as contributions to CITES and CMS.

Specific measures on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including the equitable distribution of benefits from the utilization of natural resources. Restoration of degraded ecosystems, One Health and nature-based solutions are becoming increasingly important in this context. Through the International Climate Initiative (IKI), BMUV has been supporting partner countries since 2008 with implementing the international agreements on climate protection and biodiversity conservation, while linking both issues with each other. The National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) of the partner countries and their resource mobilisation strategies form the basis of the support provided by BMZ and BMUV.

In addition to offering bilateral support to partner countries, Germany supports a number of multilateral organisations focused on biodiversity conservation, such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Over one third of the GEF’s four-year budget, currently 4.1 billion US dollars, is deployed to help selected Parties to the CBD to meet their international commitments for biodiversity conservation. Germany has contributed on average between 11 and 13 per cent of the GEF’s total budget since its inception, making Germany the GEF’s third largest donor. Germany also supports a number of multilateral initiatives that promote biodiversity conservation. These include the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI), the ProGreen Multi-Donor-Partnership for Sustainable Landscapes, the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN), the Nature for Health Multi-Partner Trust Fund (N4H), the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net), and the Global Support Initiative for indigenous peoples’ and community conserved areas and territories (ICCA-GSI).
Implementing the Aichi biodiversity targets in partner countries

The CBD’s Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 provided the overarching framework for its implementation so far. It comprised five strategic goals, each with different targets (Aichi targets) designed to contribute to coherent efforts by all Parties to the CBD.

It required governments to expand and improve the quality of their efforts on biodiversity conservation, and at the same time mainstream the biodiversity targets within the government, society and economy through measures at regional, national and local level. This could only be achieved by using integrated, cross-sectoral approaches involving sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, water, energy, mining and education.

Many countries around the world have taken steps to implement the Strategic Plan and have achieved a number of successes. However, these efforts were insufficient overall to achieve the

Aichi targets and tackle the numerous causes of biodiversity loss. This was confirmed by the Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) in May 2019, and by the CBD’s fifth Global Biodiversity Outlook, published in September 2020.

As a signatory to the CBD, Germany is committed to implementing the Strategic Plan through its National Biodiversity Strategy (NBS) which was adopted in 2007. Additionally, Germany supports developing countries and emerging economies with their biodiversity conservation efforts under the CBD. This assistance also contributes to implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This publication presents selected projects, programmes and approaches for supporting developing countries and emerging economies.

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020: Living in Harmony with Nature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Goal</th>
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<tr>
<td>Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society</td>
<td>Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use</td>
<td>To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity</td>
<td>Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services</td>
<td>Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building</td>
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VISION

By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.
West Africa: Support for IPBES

West Africa makes important contributions to the work programme of IPBES and to biodiversity conservation in general. In order to support sustainable development, Germany provided targeted support for cooperation between West African governments and IPBES through the project, ‘Supporting IPBES capacity building in West Africa’. Project activities focused on expanding South-South networking, improving political coherence with regard to biodiversity and raising the profile of IPBES findings.

Within the framework of the project, Germany supported the development of an online platform to translate scientific findings into applicable and sustainable political recommendations with the assistance of experts. Annual workshops were held, and the online platform was used to develop the capacities of regional experts and so enable them to participate in IPBES assessments. Through a new master’s degree course for West African students, potentials for improving national policy measures were identified and a new generation was trained in sustainable development issues. The platform was recently taken over by the project “Capacity Development for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”.

Building on this, new university teaching programmes and online courses are now being devised in order to involve young researchers, leading experts and the private sector from West, Central and East Africa in local and international IPBES activities.

Caucasus: A shared treasure

The Caucasus is one of the most environmentally diverse regions in the world. But with natural resources under intense pressure, the functioning of ecosystems is at risk. Concepts for sustainable land use and integrated development are scarce, as are the technical expertise and financial resources to implement them.

Germany is working closely with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to conserve the Caucasus ecoregion. Protected areas are being set up and their management improved, sustainable land-use strategies drafted, information systems expanded, legal and administrative requirements adapted to the unique characteristics of the individual countries, and innovative forestry, grazing and agricultural methods implemented in pilot regions.

Thanks to long-standing cooperation, it has been possible to safeguard the long-term management of some 700,000 hectares of land in the Southern Caucasus, spanning 38 protected areas and containing more than 1,650 endemic species of flora and fauna. The Caucasus Nature Fund, to which Germany is a major contributor, plays a key role in this context. Pastures and grassland have been mapped throughout Armenia and Azerbaijan. Georgia has completed its first forest inventory, established a national forest monitoring system and is currently developing the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest, which already covers 15 per cent of the nation’s territory. Support in promoting rural development has also been provided to local populations living in the vicinity of protected areas.
South-East Asia: Safeguarding biodiversity and livelihoods in seagrass ecosystems

Coastal communities in South-East Asia depend on seagrass meadows and the ecosystems they support for their livelihoods and food security. However, coastal development, pollution, non-sustainable fisheries, and the impact of climate change are leaving the seagrass meadows and their associated biodiversity in a critical condition.

Germany is supporting coastal communities and local organisations in South-East Asia to assume a leading role in seagrass conservation through the employment of integrated, innovative and evidence-based approaches. The project “Conservation of biodiversity, seagrass ecosystems and their services” delivers assessments of the state of and risks to seagrass beds in specific locations and analyses the ecosystem services they provide.

Global: Biodiversity and the ABS of justice

Plants, animals and microorganisms are used in the research for products such as medications and fragrances. Since 2014, the Nagoya Protocol has set standards governing access and benefit-sharing (ABS) for these resources. However, many developing countries and emerging economies still lack effective implementation mechanisms, particularly when it comes to incorporating Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) equitably in the sharing of benefits derived from using genetic resources.

Aided by the ABS guidelines of the African Union and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, along with an improved legal framework, numerous ABS agreements have been concluded between international enterprises and providers of traditional knowledge and resources, such as aloe producers in Koriema, Kimalel and Sabor (Kenya). Contractually agreed benefits can vary in different situations. Benefits to IPLCs include long-term payments and technological expertise acquired through knowledge transfer.

Coastal communities are being empowered to assess the distribution and health of seagrass ecosystems by drawing upon bycatch data for sea cows, drone surveys and citizen-science initiatives. Using the collected data, for example on fishery yields and carbon storage, hotspots are identified in cooperation with coastal communities. This optimises the development of conservation measures. Sustainable business models have also been devised in the fields of aquaculture and ecotourism as part of the project, in order to strengthen climate resilience of communities, reduce dependency on marine resources, and facilitate sustainable financing for seagrass bed conservation.

Germany has been supporting the multi-donor initiative “ABS Capacity Development Initiative since 2006”. Following an initial focus on the negotiation process for the Nagoya Protocol, the current emphasis lies on strengthening capacities in relation to future topics, such as the handling of genetic information. In order to implement ABS, partner countries are focusing on creating legal and administrative frameworks and developing ABS-compatible value chains.
Caribbean: Sustainable resource management from ridge to reef

The countries of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) are some of the world’s most biodiverse areas for both terrestrial and marine flora and fauna. At the same time, the region is particularly impacted by overexploitation of resources and climate change, which pose a risk to coral reefs, mangroves and tropical forest. The population suffers from the effects of extreme weather events, especially ever more frequent torrential rainfall and devastating tropical cyclones.

With a view to protecting biodiversity, boosting climate resilience and, in particular, strengthening conservation areas, Germany supports CARICOM through the provision of advisory services, training programmes and the procurement of materials and equipment. Germany is also one of the leading providers of finance for the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF), which safeguards the conservation of biodiversity and natural resources in Caribbean island states, not least through the long-term financing of initiatives in protected coastal and marine areas.

Key advances have been made in marine conservation over the past decade thanks to the work of the CBF and its partner countries. Over 66,000 square kilometres (approximately 15 per cent) of the region’s coastal zones have now been placed under protection. In four of the ten CBF partner countries, Germany assists national trust funds with establishing sustainable financing systems for protected marine areas. The goal is to create a transparent record of user fees, improve access to international climate and biodiversity funds, and approve regional policies on the management of protected marine areas at CARICOM level.

INTERVIEW

Elizabeth Mrema – Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD)

Out of your perspective, what have been the main highlights of Germany’s engagement for the implementation of the Aichi Targets in developing and emerging countries in the last 10 years? As one of the major donors worldwide, Germany is involved in various development cooperation by facilitating sustainable use of natural resources, building capacity to establish and manage conservation areas and raising awareness of partner countries to combat drivers of biodiversity loss. Germany is a member of the Global Partnership on Aichi Target 11 which supports numerous significant activities, analyses and outreach to assist Parties to the Convention. It is also the largest bilateral donor engaged in achieving Target 16 with its ABS-Initiative working at regional and global levels to operationalize the Nagoya Protocol.

Where do you see the biggest challenges for the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), and what role do you see for German International Cooperation? After the adoption of the GBF, the major challenge will be ensuring its timely implementation. We count on Germany to support developing countries in their efforts to meet the obligations to the Convention. The support could be, inter alia, to help revise their NBSAPs, align their national reporting to the new framework, enhance capacity building and inter-ministerial cooperation. It will be crucial to ensure that their actions are undertaken in a concerted manner and effectively bring about the transformative changes envisaged by the 2050 Vision of living in harmony with nature.
Ecuador: Participatory conservation

Ecuador is the most biodiverse country on earth, relative to its size. Around 20 per cent of the nation is protected, and the constitution recognises nature as a subject with its own rights. Ecuador’s natural diversity secures the livelihoods of its rural and indigenous population. However, its ecosystems face serious threats through climate change and other anthropogenic pollution resulting from activities such as oil extraction and illegal logging.

Germany supports the Ecuadorian government in its efforts to reconcile economic development and resource conservation through a national bioeconomy strategy. The focus is on financing, advisory services, capacity development and research in the areas of forest, coastal and marine conservation as well as on the use of the country’s natural heritage.

The programme on conservation and sustainable use of natural resources provides support for the management of five conservation areas and for improving living conditions in 70 communities. This benefits more than 1,200 families along the coast and in the Amazon region. Integrated land-use plans that have been drafted on a participatory basis are being implemented in 17 decentralised autonomous administrations forming part of protected marine and coastal zones, as well as in the Amazon region. Regional administrations, communities and enterprises have been trained in establishing value chains for the sustainable use of biodiversity. The new BIOWIKI platform provides a space for researchers, companies and communities to share knowledge and experience.

Namibia: Protecting nature, creating jobs

Home to several unique ecosystems, Namibia is also one of Africa’s most arid countries. Its natural resources form the basis of key economic sectors, including agriculture and tourism. And yet pressure is mounting as a result of competing land use and climate change.

Germany is assisting Namibia with creating more equitable access to its natural resources and conserving these resources through sustainable management. The focus is on expanding nature-based tourism, diversifying income streams and developing municipal resource management to generate revenue for the population and nature conservation.

With Germany’s support, Namibia has expanded infrastructure in its national parks, improved park management, entered into joint ventures in the tourism sector, and strengthened communal conservancies in their self-governance. New forms of nature-based tourism and better value creation from indigenous plants, the active ingredients of which are used in the pharmaceutical and cosmetics industries, are improving income streams for the population. This generates a strong incentive for resource conservation. Some 230,000 people are benefiting directly or indirectly from these measures in communal conservancies alone. Following the collapse of tourism in the wake of COVID-19, Germany provided emergency assistance to maintain jobs and to continue conservation activities such as protecting the parks from poachers, thereby safeguarding achievements already made.
Bangladesh: Innovative management for mangrove conservation

The Sundarbans mangrove forest in the Bay of Bengal is the largest closed mangrove forest of its kind on earth and functions at the same time as a key habitat for numerous endangered species of flora and fauna. The mangroves protect the local population from storm surges, serve as a food source and they capture and store carbon. Industrial development, poaching, illegal fishing and climate change all pose a risk to the sensitive ecosystem.

For the survival of the mangrove forest, effective management involving the local population is essential. With Germany’s support, the forest authorities have established a digital information system for the Sundarbans and German experts advise the authorities on strengthening participatory approaches to forest management. In addition, a satellite-based long-term environmental monitoring system is being developed in conjunction with field monitoring activities.

The Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) can be used to monitor and implement usage and conservation measures in the enormous and densely vegetated Sundarban far more effectively. During regular boat patrols, rangers record data on the state of biodiversity, environmental damage and illegal activities. Analyses of the collected data are used to inform the management decisions of the forest authorities. The system has been so successful that it is to be used in all of Bangladesh’s protected forest and conservation areas in the future. The long-term environmental monitoring system currently under development will help to record large-scale changes, make trend forecasts and devise effective compensatory measures.

INTERVIEW

Carlos Manuel Rodríguez – CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility (GEF)

In your view, what have been the greatest successes of the GEF over the past 10 years? And what role did Germany play out of your perspective? The GEF has benefited greatly from Germany’s leadership in pursuit of a healthier planet. With Germany’s close engagement, the GEF has launched ambitious initiatives including the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program, which is working to protect biodiversity across the basin. Germany is an active partner in this effort, which builds on decades of German support for sustainable forest management. Germany has also supported several GEF initiatives related to marine conservation and has championed a close connection between biodiversity and climate investments, advancing work on nature-based solutions with an integrated approach.

What are the future priorities for the GEF in implementing the GBF? We have allocated 1.89 billion USD for biodiversity in the GEF-8 period, a 46 percent boost over the past four years. This financing will translate the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework into action and ensure globally significant biodiversity is conserved, sustainably used, and restored, alongside the private sector, NGOs, and Indigenous and local communities. Through our Early Action Grants, we are helping 139 countries get ready to implement the framework once it is approved. Our broader GEF-8 programming will also support healthier ecosystems and wildlife; sustainable forests and fisheries; and reduced pollution globally.
Indonesia: Building with nature in coastal areas

Indonesia is one of the first countries to implement the ‘building with nature’ approach in coastal areas. Coastal communities in the Demak region of northern Java are heavily affected by coastal erosion. This is the result of rising sea levels, flooding, subsidence and deforestation of mangroves in favor of fishing activities.

Germany supported this approach through the project “Ecosystem-based adaption at scale through Building with nature – Towards resilient coasts in Indonesia”. This form of adaptation uses Nature-based Solutions, such as mangrove forest restoration and the construction of semi-permeable dams from natural materials that adapt to rising sea levels. The goal is to increase security and prosperity for the local population and protect the natural environment.

The pilot project brought together engineers, ecologists and the local population to design and build semi-permeable dams along a 20-kilometre stretch of eroded coastline. These measures have served to catch sediment, expand the intertidal zone, halt or slow erosion and restore the mangrove forests. This approach has been replicated by the Indonesian Government in other regions of the country. Traditional farmers have also been trained in sustainable aquaculture techniques in mangrove forests, leading to a significant increase in shrimp harvests. Integrating these approaches into local business plans and involving the communities in political dialogue resulted in additional governmental support for these measures.

Côte d’Ivoire: Innovation for conservation areas

The Ivorian national parks of Taï and Comoé are UNESCO Natural World Heritage sites and are some of the last remaining unspoiled rainforest areas in West Africa. Their ecosystems also form the basis for agriculture, the country’s main source of income. The resources in and around the parks are threatened by population growth, competition over land use, poaching and unsustainable agriculture. At the same time, park management structures are inadequate for tackling these threats.

Germany is working to conserve the unique biodiversity and ecosystem services and to improve people’s living conditions. The goal is to manage the parks more effectively and disseminate innovative, sustainable and income-generating approaches to agricultural production, processing and marketing in and around the parks.

The improvement of park management has resulted in better monitoring of and clear usage agreements for the conservation areas. Comoé National Park has been removed from the list of endangered World Heritage sites. Innovations in agricultural value chains have boosted productivity, particularly for cocoa, cassava, onions, cashews and rice. Over 50,000 people living in the vicinity of the park have improved their incomes. In order to maintain ecosystems across borders, a biodiversity corridor is currently being established between Taï National Park in Côte d’Ivoire and Grebo-Krahn National Park and Sapo National Park in Liberia.
Central Asia: World Heritage nomination for cold winter deserts

The cold winter deserts of Central Asia are globally significant natural habitats. Rich in highly specialised and often endemic species, they provide key migration corridors for birds and hoofed animals, including the saiga antelope, the Asiatic wild ass and the goitered gazelle. The ecosystem services provided by these deserts, for instance carbon sequestration in desert forests, provide great economic, social and cultural value at local and global level. Cold winter deserts are currently at risk from non-sustainable land use, large-scale infrastructure initiatives and poaching.

Germany supported the Central Asian Desert Initiative (CADI) in its efforts to designate new protected desert areas and improve management of existing ones.

To this end, biodiversity data, such as evidence of the Persian leopard on the Ustyurt Plateau in Kazakhstan, was used. Based on studies conducted by the project, an action plan was drawn up to protect the leopard in the country. The Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) method was used to assess the effectiveness of conservation areas in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, with management plans being adapted accordingly and improvements implemented. Covering an area of almost four million hectares, the desert biome has recently been nominated for the UNESCO World Heritage List as the Cold Winter Deserts of Turan.

INTERVIEW

Carlos Pozo, head of the Kallari producers’ cooperative

What have been the key contributions made by German international cooperation to the rights of indigenous peoples over the past decade?

In its international cooperation work, Germany has sought to harmonise effectively the interests of natural resource conservation with those of income creation. This strategy has been implemented in a number of areas within the Ecuadorian Amazon region, delivering better incomes and greater prosperity for families thanks to improvements in the cultivation and sale of products from traditional chakras*.

The value chain approach has also helped to forge links with the private sector, encouraging growth in the value chains and their integration in markets.

What are the greatest challenges facing indigenous peoples in terms of conservation in the Amazon region, and what kind of support do they need?

The main concern for indigenous peoples in the Amazon region is deforestation and the associated biodiversity loss, illegal activities and the expansion of agricultural land.

When it comes to the sustainable use of natural resources, there is a need to step up research activities and more effectively leverage the enormous biodiversity in communities in order to create prosperity and opportunities for local populations. We hope that Germany will expand its international cooperation work in areas with great biodiversity and rich cultural heritage in order to provide holistic support for developing the capacities and initiatives of indigenous peoples.

*forest gardens
Viet Nam: Nature conservation for people and environment

Viet Nam is one of our planet’s unique biodiversity hotspots. Over 40 per cent of the country is covered by forest. Some 25 million people live in the vicinity of forests and generate 20 per cent of their livelihood from forest use. However, undisturbed ecosystems are threatened by deforestation, agriculture and poaching. This also creates a heightened risk of disease transmission from wild animals to people.

Germany is advising the Vietnamese authorities on integrating ecosystem services into their policies and land-use plans. Communities are receiving support with establishing and making sustainable use of communal forests. Assistance is being provided to conservation area administrations to assist with the formulation and implementation of management plans. Encouraging greater participation and more equitable sharing of benefits for the local community are of particular importance. The goal is to safeguard ecosystems in the long term.

Biodiversity conservation and protected area management are now mainstreamed in the new Viet Nam Forestry Development Strategy for 2021 to 2030. Conservation areas as well as the people living in those areas are benefiting from additional funding in the form of payments for ecosystem services, which also helps to prevent zoonoses. One example is Yên Bái province, which was awarded around EUR 70,000 in 2021 and is set to receive further annual payments. A campaign to raise awareness of the ban on illegal trading in wildlife reached 20 million people, generating greater acceptance of the ban among the population.

INTERVIEW

Bruno Oberle – Director General, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

In your opinion, what role has German international cooperation work played in implementing global measures to conserve biodiversity in the past ten years? Germany has been a member of IUCN since 1958 and has been making important financial contributions for international nature conservation for many years, with a particular focus most recently on promoting nature-based solutions to climate change. As part of the Bonn Challenge, a global forest landscape restoration initiative launched by Germany and IUCN, pledges have been made to restore over 200 million hectares of forests so far. We have been working with GIZ and KfW for many years, for example as part of the PANORAMA partnership, which documents more than 1,000 exemplary nature conservation solutions, and as part of regional nature conservation projects in Central America and the SADC region.

What role do you see German international cooperation playing when it comes to implementation of the new Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and future conservation of biodiversity? The biodiversity crisis requires just as much attention as the climate crisis, and in future it must be included in global development measures accordingly. Germany can be a global pioneer in this process. It includes working to increase funds for biodiversity conservation, for example in the scope of the G7 Presidency, or in negotiations on the new global framework for Biodiversity in the course of 2022. IUCN supports the German Government’s priorities of effectively protecting 30 per cent of the planet’s land and sea areas by 2030 and restoring degraded ecosystems.
Southern Africa: United in diversity and development

The territory of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is rich in natural resources. Over 50 per cent of its economic output comes from the agricultural, forestry, mining and tourism sectors, yet climate change, deforestation and poaching are placing a strain on the environment and threatening the livelihoods of the rural population.

Consequently, one focus of Germany’s cooperation with SADC is on improving resource management in trans-frontier conservation areas (TFCAs), with the goal of protecting ecosystems and wildlife populations, promoting sustainable use of biodiversity, boosting climate resilience and improving living conditions for local people.

A regional anti-poaching strategy is curbing illegal hunting, conservation of the area’s unique flora and fauna is encouraging tourism, training courses and pilot projects are helping to boost and adapt agricultural production to climate change. These measures serve to create alternative income streams to poaching. Neighbouring communities also receive payments for reduced emissions from deforestation. For the protection of wild animals, an integrated development plan is implemented in the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area, the largest cross-border conservation area in the world. German cooperation has also set up the SADC TFCA Financing Facility, an international donor fund, and endowed it with EUR 23 million to date.

Mauritania: Integrated marine and coastal management

The coast of Mauritania with its abundant biodiversity is one of the most productive regions in the world. One third of its coastal waters are protected under conservation laws, and yet a rise in overfishing, urbanisation and industrial activities, inadequate resource management and climate change are posing a threat to coastal ecosystems and to many people’s livelihoods and food sources.

Germany is supporting the Mauritanian Government by investing in fishery surveillance to reduce illegal, unregulated and unregistered fishing activity, and by providing technical, political and legal advice on the integrated management of marine and coastal resources. Financial contributions have also been made to the Banc d’Arguin Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Trust Fund Limited (BACoMaB).

Satellites, patrol boats and radar stations have been provided in order to strengthen marine surveillance and thus ensure compliance with closed seasons and fishing quotas. The BACoMaB fund supports the administration of coastal national parks. A competence centre monitors the quality of the marine and coastal environment and disseminates its expertise to the sub-region. A platform facilitates dialogue between representatives of marine stakeholders, and online databases are being established to provide the public with up-to-date information on ecosystems. Thanks to these initiatives, Mauritania is positioning itself as a pioneer in developing policies for sustainable marine and coastal resource management.
Global: Contributing to biodiversity through sustainable agriculture

Agriculture is one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss, and yet farming and biodiversity could work hand-in-hand.

As part of the global project “Farming for Biodiversity”, Germany provided support for practical solutions that benefited both agriculture and biodiversity equally. The project focused on conserving biodiversity in the smallholder sector by introducing biodiversity-friendly farming techniques.

A total of 338 proposed solutions were submitted as part of an international competition, with prizes awarded for the 10 most promising ideas. These included the establishment of dynamic agroforestry systems in Bolivia to combat deforestation, and the production of organic honey in Ethiopia to provide unemployed young people with sustainable incomes.

The prize-winning approaches have also been publicised in other countries thanks to awareness-raising training courses and the use of a digital dialogue platform. The project conducted behavioural-change campaigns in nine countries to increase general acceptance of biodiversity-friendly agricultural practices among producers and consumers. Two policy and recommendation reports were published in cooperation with the CBD Secretariat in order to share the overarching findings with political decision-makers around the world.

INTERVIEW

Dr. Nyambe Nyambe – Executive Director, Kavango Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area Secretariat (KAZA TFCA)

How important is German International Cooperation (GIC) for the conservation of biodiversity in your region for the Southern African Development Community (SADC)? What did you achieve together during the last 10 years? Extremely important – the support has been foundational, catalytic, transformative and at scale. Various priority areas, including infrastructure development and equipment for protected areas management, strengthening transboundary collaboration in the region, articulating shared priorities and opportunities as well as addressing priority interventions in the realm of natural resource management, community development, human wildlife conflict, and tourism development. GIC support has promoted coordination of conservation and development goals by leveraging regional integration and is progressively unlocking support from other cooperating partners.

What are the most important challenges for biodiversity conservation in the SADC region in the coming years and how does GIC support you on that? The most important challenges to biodiversity conservation in the SADC region include loss of habitat, over-exploitation of resources, climatic changes, pollution in aquatic environments, invasive exotic species, diseases, and disruption of natural water flows. GIC has provided scope for integration and collaboration at regional scale. Within Transfrontier Conservation Areas, German international support has gone towards enhancement of protected areas management through operational support, equipment, capacity building and law enforcement as well as protection of wildlife connectivity to secure critical wildlife corridors and community livelihoods.
Biodiversity and health

The health of people, animals and the environment is inextricably linked. Some 75 per cent of all new infectious diseases are of animal origin. These zoonotic infections are on the rise due to the destruction of wild animal habitats, human intrusion into natural habitats and the growing trade in wildlife products.

At the same time, we have become reliant on biodiversity to fight diseases. The health care provided to around 80 per cent of the world’s population is dependent on traditional medicine, which is itself largely based on natural ingredients. Numerous modern medicines and diagnostic tools are also natural in origin.

The German Government’s international commitment to One Health

The German Government has responded to the current COVID-19 pandemic by expanding its international work to develop holistic solutions for human, animal and environmental health, based on the One Health approach. BMZ and BMUV worked with partners from civil society and the research sector to establish the International Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade, which now includes over 100 partners. Another example is the Nature for Health Multi-Partner Trust Fund, which was set up in late 2021 with the support of the German Government.

The German Government has strengthened its global approaches for preventing and controlling pandemics, expanding its portfolio for implementing One Health and for sustainable post-pandemic recovery work in many partner countries. The International Climate Initiative (IKI) provided a Corona Response Package worth around EUR 70 million to support partner countries in combating the COVID-19 crisis and establishing a climate- and biodiversity-friendly economy for the long term. The measures tackle three priority areas: ‘emergency measures for nature reserves and biodiversity hotspots’, ‘support for green economic recovery’ and ‘prevention of pandemics’.
Flagships

With a focus on the new GBF, the German Government will continue to assist its partner countries with implementing the CBD. BMZ and BMUV are setting policy priorities with a number of global initiatives and regional projects.

### Expansion, networking and management of conservation areas
- Founded by Germany in cooperation with a number of international partners and philanthropists, the Legacy Landscapes Fund (LLF) secures long-term base funding for particularly biodiversity-rich protected areas in the Global South. The foundation uses an innovative funding approach, leveraging private and public investments.

- Germany set up the Blue Action Fund (BAF) in 2016 to promote conservation of the world’s oceans. The BAF also receives contributions from Sweden, France and the international Green Climate Fund. The goal is to strengthen marine and coastal conservation by establishing new conservation areas as well as expanding and better managing existing ones.

### Capacity development
- Germany’s contribution to the new Global Partnership for the Accelerated Implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP-Accelerator Partnership) is used to build capacity among ambitious developing countries and emerging economies, enabling them to implement the Global Biodiversity Framework swiftly and on a participatory basis.

- Launched by Germany, the initiative MeerWissen strengthens partnerships between marine research institutions in Africa and Germany. The initiative helps to provide better information to inform policy decisions.

### Biodiversity financing
- As a member of the global Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN), Germany supports over 35 countries with the aim of closing gaps in knowledge relating to the cost of achieving national biodiversity strategies and developing and implementing corresponding financing solutions.

### Combating poaching
- With the global Partnership against Wildlife Crime in Africa and Asia, Germany is pursuing a holistic and intercontinental approach along the entire supply chain for illegal wildlife products, from the countries of origin and transit countries in Africa and Asia to the (primarily) Asian consumer nations.

### Sustainable use
- The global programme Sustainability and Value Added in Agricultural Supply Chains works with 11 partner countries, including Ethiopia, Ecuador and Indonesia, to create fair, sustainable and deforestation-free supply chains and thus improve living conditions and conserve local biodiversity.
Operating through the Support to Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) project, Germany provides support to indigenous and local groups in 45 countries to conserve their traditional living environment and biodiversity across eight million hectares of land. The project is working to see the ICCAs and their knowledge incorporated and recognised in state planning processes. Future support will also contribute to the implementation of target 3 on protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures of the new global biodiversity framework.

Through the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) and the Large-scale Forest Landscape Restoration in Africa and Forests4Future projects, Germany is assisting its partner countries with restoring productive forest landscapes and relieving land-use pressure on remaining primary forest.

Germany is supporting pandemic prevention efforts with initiatives such as the Nature for Health Multi-Partner Trust Fund and the International Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade.

As part of the REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) Early Movers Programme, Germany and other donors have so far reduced carbon emissions by 74 million tonnes and helped to protect biodiversity through forest conservation in Colombia, Brazil and Ecuador.

Germany was involved in setting up the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) in 2015 in order to support forest and climate change mitigation policy in the Congo Basin. For CAFI, forest conservation is primarily a means of combating poverty. Funded measures include agroforestry, improved agricultural practices, participatory land use planning, family planning and good governance reforms.

Germany is working through the ABS (Access and Benefit-Sharing) Capacity Development Initiative and the project BioInnovation Africa to promote the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources in Africa. European-African business partnerships are being established to create fair and sustainable value chains for biodiversity-based products.

With the Funding Programme against Marine Litter “Marine Debris Framework – Regional hubs around the globe” (Marine:DeFRAG) and the global project Go-Circular, Germany is supporting long-term approaches to creating properly functioning waste and recycling management systems in developing countries and emerging economies, thereby tackling the prevention of marine litter at source.
Promoting biodiversity around the world – contributions by BMZ and BMUV to global biodiversity conservation.

Countries with current projects funded by BMZ and BMUV (as at: 31 December 2021)

Cooperation with individual countries is implemented by different partners/levels (bilateral, regional or non-governmental). The designations and maps used do not constitute legal recognition of boundaries and territories.

As at: October 2022, map produced using Natural Earth.

Funding volume of current projects (as at: 31 December 2021)

- Asia & Pacific: 678.0 Mio. €
- Latin America & Caribbean: 1,076.7 Mio. €
- Africa: 1,401.9 Mio. €
- South East Europe & Caucasus: 325.0 Mio. €
- Supra-Regional & Other Regions: 986.6 Mio. €
A new post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Germany actively contributes to biodiversity conservation and is working within the EU and globally to secure a successful outcome at the 15th UN Biodiversity Conference. We need an ambitious global biodiversity framework, with strong goals and targets and effective and transparent implementation mechanisms. In particular, this includes:

- Closing the gaps in global financing and increasing global resources for biodiversity conservation. This can be achieved by all countries stepping up their individual efforts, by cutting harmful subsidies, through greater involvement of the private sector and civil society, as well as through international cooperation for biodiversity.

- Providing effective conservation and protection of at least 30 per cent of the world’s land and 30 per cent of its oceans by 2030. This can be achieved through effective management and equitable governance structures, especially with and for indigenous peoples and local communities. This will also contribute to raising the profile of ocean health.

- Respecting human rights in conservation activities, in particular those of indigenous peoples and local communities. Including implementation of the principle of free, prior and informed consent on a binding basis.

- Addressing drivers of biodiversity loss, such as agriculture, fisheries and forestry, adjusting our consumption patterns towards sustainability and shaping sustainable global supply chains.

- Integrating biodiversity aspects into official policies, plans and programmes, leveraging financing instruments for ambitious governmental and entrepreneurial action, taking greater account of their dependencies on
biodiversity in the private sector, and driving transparency concerning the impact financial institutions and companies have on biodiversity.

- Significantly reduce emissions and inputs of nutrients and pollutants such as nitrogen, pesticides, and plastic waste into the environment, with well-defined metrics.

- Expanding and leveraging synergies between climate change mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity conservation, primarily through Nature-based Solutions that provide a wide multiple benefits with robust social and environmental safeguards. Boosting the resilience of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, mainly by means of protecting and restoring degraded ecosystems.

- Adopting an integrated approach to human, animal and environmental health. Systematically mainstreaming the One Health approach within the biodiversity framework and anchoring the approach’s implementation at multilateral, regional and bilateral level.

- Ensuring that all wild species on land, in freshwater and at sea are traded legally and used sustainably, while safeguarding and respecting the customary rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

- Helping to ensure that the benefits derived from using genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge are shared in a balanced and equitable manner.

- Revising national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) to ensure that they contribute to effectively implementing the targets and goals of the new global biodiversity framework.

- Establishing effective monitoring, reporting and review mechanisms, so that implementation of the biodiversity framework can be monitored and adjusted as required.
The new Global Biodiversity Framework is set to be adopted at the 15th UN Biodiversity Conference. By placing a stronger focus on implementation, it will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda. Biodiversity conservation is firmly mainstreamed in SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 15 (Life on Land), and, as a cross-cutting topic, in SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Healthy ecosystems also provide vital services for health and well-being (SDG 3) and prevent the spread of zoonoses. Achievement of 80 per cent of the SDGs is dependent upon our commitment to biodiversity conservation. The following SDGs will only be achieved if we work to preserve our natural environment.