



# Biodiversity in CEE countries CBD challenges and opportunities for implementation in CEE Countries



**2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE**  
**COP 15 - CP/MOP10-NP/MOP4**  
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth  
KUNMING – MONTREAL

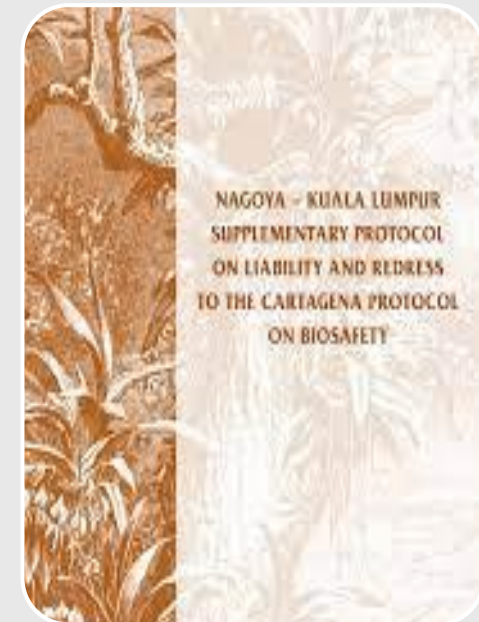
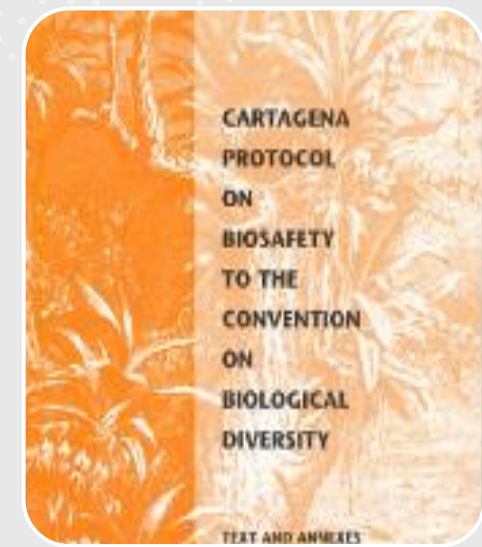
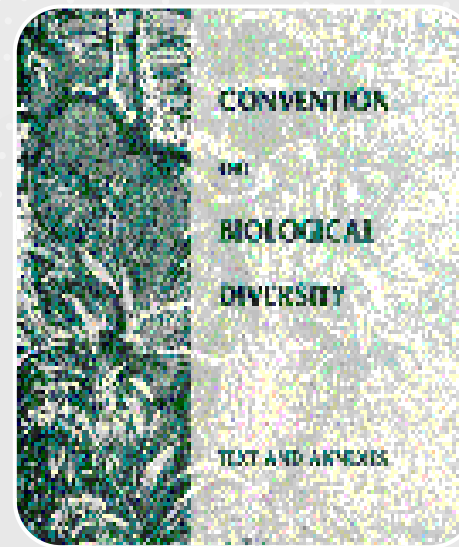
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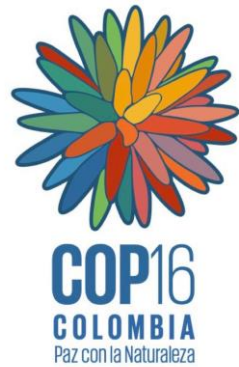
18-19 March 2024



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

# CBD and its Protocols





COP10  
AICHI-  
JAPAN





# Convention bodies

- Conference of the Parties (COP) -1 to 15 is the governing body of the Convention
- Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)
- Subsidiary Body on Implementation
- Working Group on Article 8(j) IPLC
- Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas



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# Platforms for CEE participations/science and regulation

- COP-COP/MOPs – each 2 years
- SBSTTA
- SBI
- Compliance committees
- Liaison Group
- Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing and/or Funding Biosafety Capacity-building Activities
- CEE regional group meetings under the COP/COP/MOPs/SBSTTA` /regional statements
- Contact groups, Friend of the chair
- AHTEGs
- On-line forums under the CHM: BCH on BCH forum, RA&RM, Sampling, Detection and Identification, BCH IAC.
- Country's submissions on topics
- Country National reporting, thematic reporting, recordings to CHM Portal /BCH/ABS CH

# Scientific and technical expert meetings

- Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on **Indicators** for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of **Digital Sequence Information** on Genetic Resources
- Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on **Risk Assessment**
- Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on **Synthetic Biology** to Support the Process for Broad and Regular Horizon Scanning, Monitoring and Assessment
- Informal Advisory Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources
- Informal discussions on digital sequence information on genetic resources
- Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation
- Informal Advisory Committee to the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House
- Informal Advisory Committee on Resource Mobilization
- Compliance Committee under the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing
- Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- Subregional dialogue on national biodiversity strategies and action plans
- Liaison Group on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety



# Mechanisms for Implementation



**National Biodiversity  
Strategies and Action  
Plans (NBSAPs)**



**National Reports**



**Cooperation and  
Partnerships**



**Financial Resources  
and Mechanism**



**Clearing-House  
Mechanism**



**Biosafety Clearing-  
House**



**LifeWeb for  
Financing Protected  
Areas**



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## COP 15 CBD Decisions

**Decision 15/4** Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

**Decision 15/5** Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

**Decision 15/7** Resource mobilization

**Decision 15/9** Digital sequence information on genetic resources

**Decision 15/16** Knowledge management and the clearing-house mechanism

**Decision 15/23** Sustainable wildlife management

**Decision 15/24** Conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity

**Decision 15/27** Invasive alien species

**Decision 15/28** Biodiversity and agriculture

**Decision 15/30** Biodiversity and climate change

**Decision 15/31** Synthetic biology

# COP/MOPs Decisions

## COP/MOP 10 Cartagena Protocol

**Decision 10/5** Operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House (Article 20)

**Decision 10/10** Risk assessment and risk management (Articles 15 and 16)

**Decision 10/11** Detection and identification of living modified organisms

**Decision 10/12** Socio-economic considerations (Article 26)

**Decision 10/13** Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress

## COP/MOP 4 ABS Nagoya Protocol

**Decision 4/4** Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House and information sharing (Article 14)

**Decision 4/6** Digital sequence information on genetic resources

**Decision 4/7** Measures to assist in capacity-building and development (Article 22) and awareness-raising (Article 21)

**Decision 4/10** Global multilateral benefit-sharing mechanism (Article 10)

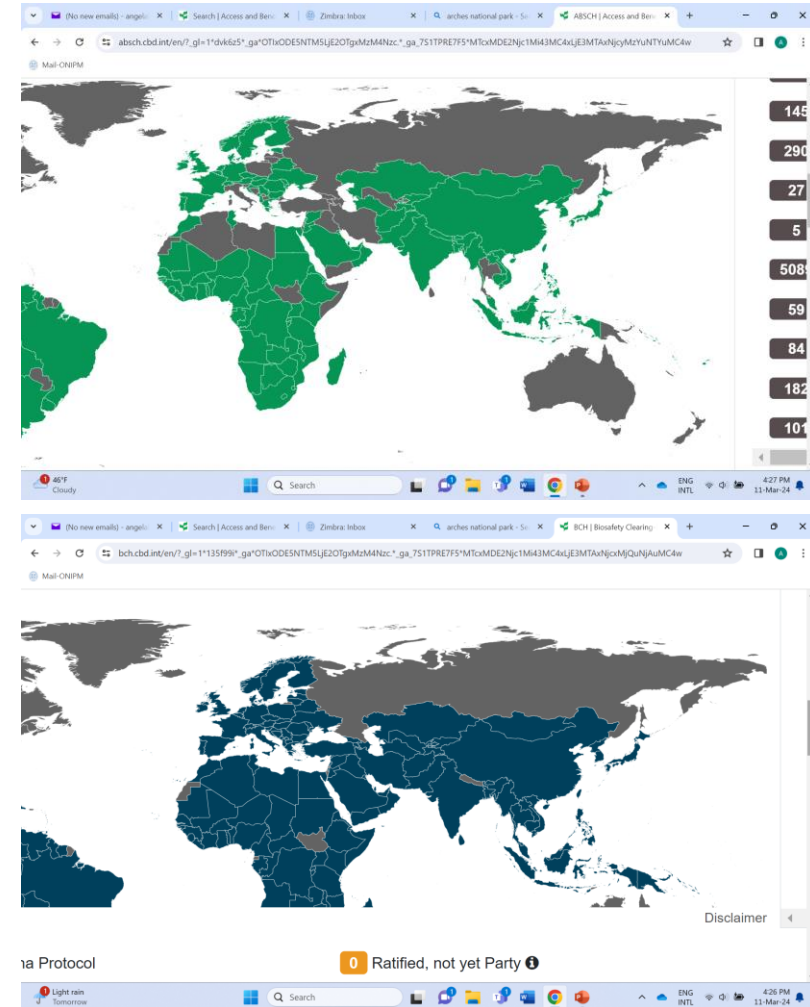
# Central and Eastern European Region -23 countries



Albania	Estonia	Republic of Moldova
Armenia	Georgia	Romania
Azerbaijan	Hungary	Russian Federation
Belarus	Latvia	Serbia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Lithuania	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Montenegro	Slovenia
Croatia	North Macedonia	Ukraine
Czechia	Poland	

# CEE Parties to the CBD, CPB, ABS, NKSPLR

- CBD – 23 countries
- CPB – 22 countries
- ABS – 11 countries
- NKSPLR - 11 countries





# CEE and CBD statistics

- NBSAP 2020 – 100% submissions
- 6<sup>th</sup> NR – 11 countries submission, 47.8%
- 4<sup>th</sup> NR Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety – 22 submissions, 100%
- Interim National reports on ABS – 10 submissions, 90,9%
- ABS procedures implemented just in 1 CEE country



# CEE region nature capital

- The CEE region includes a wide range of **ecosystems: polar desert, tundra, forest tundra, taiga, mixed and broad-leaved forest, steppe, semi-desert and subtropical**
- Forests cover 850 million hectares, over **20% of the global area**
- The region's 230 million hectares of croplands are vital to **global food supplies**
- Peatlands cover 226 million hectares and represent one of the **world's largest carbon stocks**
- **Lakes and wetlands cover 15%** of the region and are connected by 120,000 rivers
- The **Carpathians** and the **Caucasus** are among the most biologically rich regions on Earth
- Nearly **half** the land in the ecoregion has already been transformed and is under **severe pressure from human activities**
- The CEE region primarily contains upper middle-income countries, with a few lower middle- and high-income countries
- The populations of CEE countries are expected to decrease significantly over the next 30 years, driven by low birth rates and outward migration

# Quick facts CEE

- **One sixth** of the region **degraded**. An estimated baseline of 269 million hectares of land in the CEE region experienced degradation in the period from 2000 to 2015, or 16.5% of the total area
- While **forest** cover has increased across the CEE region, satellite observations indicate **growing losses** in recent years. Between 2000 and 2019, a total of 67 million hectares of tree cover was lost
- **Primary forest** in some Eastern European countries is being lost at an **alarming rate**.
- **Semi-natural and natural grassland** is decreasing, driven by conversion to arable land and forest
- The analysis shows that, as of 2020, **the total area** covered by **ecosystem restoration** commitments in CEE countries is nearly 13.5 million hectares, equivalent **to 5% of the degraded** area in the region.

# Protected Areas - Quick data

- Between 2000-2019, coverage of **nationally protected areas** more than doubled in Republic of Moldova and Azerbaijan, increased substantially in Ukraine (75 %), and expanded to a lesser extent in Georgia (37 %), Armenia (26 %) and Belarus (17 %).
- With European Union (EU) and Council of Europe support, **561 Emerald sites** have been created, covering 12.3 % of the Eastern Partnership countries' territories.
- The **designations** used to create protected areas **vary significantly** across these countries due to different national legislative frameworks, making regional comparisons of the level of protection challenging.
- Although countries have made substantial efforts to report data under **international reporting** obligations, monitoring still **needs to be improved**.

# KMGBF 2030

- **The vision** of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is a world of **living in harmony with nature** where “by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.”
- **The mission** of the Framework for the period up to 2030, towards the 2050 vision is: To take urgent action **to halt and reverse biodiversity loss** to put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and planet by conserving and sustainably using biodiversity and by ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources, while providing the necessary means of implementation.



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# KMGBF 2030 - Reducing threats to biodiversity

- **loss of areas** of high biodiversity importance, close to 0, by 2030
- **effective restoration**, at least 30%, by 2030
- **protected areas** of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed at least to 30%, by 2030
- **reduce extinction** of known threatened species, recovery and conservation of species
- harvesting and **trade of wild species** is sustainable, safe and legal, **preventing overexploitation**
- reduce and or mitigate the impacts of **invasive alien species** on biodiversity
- **reduce pollution** risks and the negative impact of pollution
- minimize the impact of **climate change** on biodiversity and increase its resilience through **adaptation, ecosystem-based approaches**

# KMGBF 2030 - Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing

- **management** and use of **wild species** are **sustainable**
- areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably (**food security**)
- ecosystem functions and services, **ecosystem services**
- access to, and benefits from **green and blue** spaces in urban areas is sustainable
- ensure the fair and **equitable sharing of benefits** that arise from the utilization of **genetic resources** and from digital sequence information on genetic resources (13)

# KMGBF 2030 – Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming

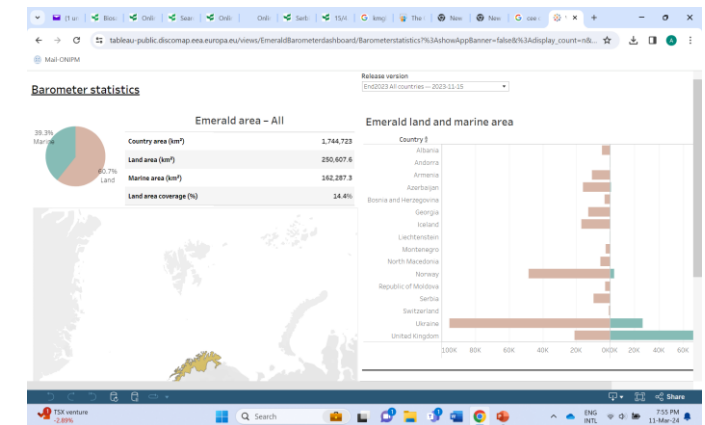
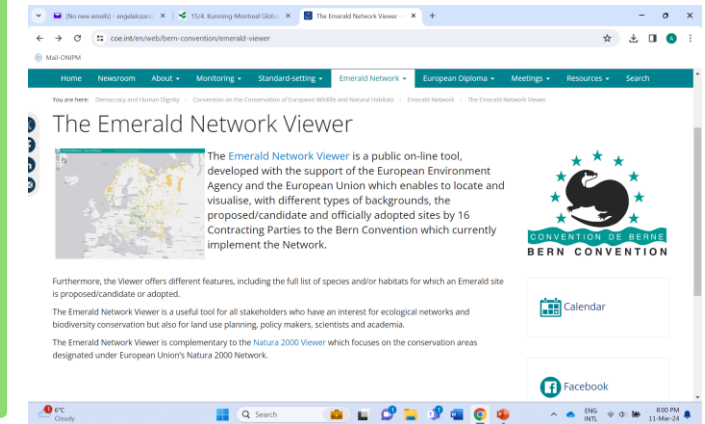
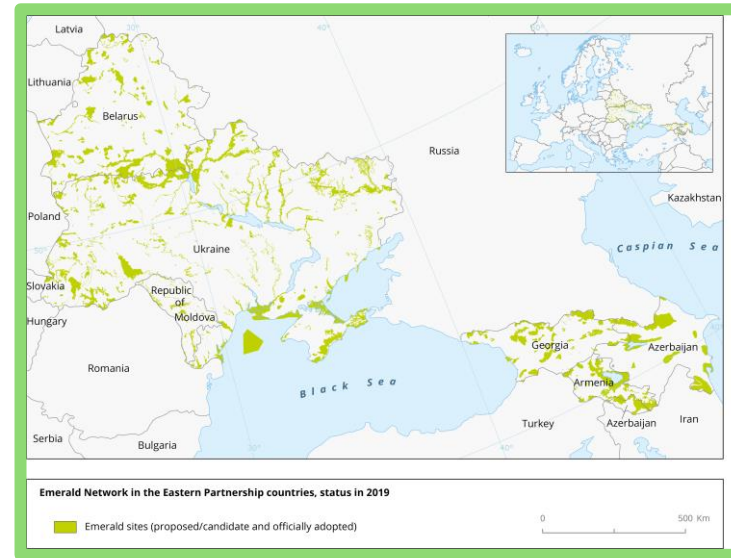
- full **integration of biodiversity** and its multiple values into policies.
- by 2030, reduce the global footprint of **consumption**, reducing overconsumption.
- strengthen capacity for **biosafety measures** and measures for the **handling of biotechnology** and distribution of its benefits
- increase **resource mobilization** to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans
- **communication, awareness**-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations
- effective and **gender-responsive** representation and participation and gender-responsive approach

# Protected areas – Natura 2000/Emerald network

Decision 15/23 Sustainable wildlife  
management

Decision 15/24 Conservation and sustainable  
use of marine and coastal biodiversity

- Natura 2000 datahub
- Natura 2000 viewer
- Emerald Barometer
- Emerald Viewer
- EU Habitat and Birds Directives
- Laws on wild animals, plant conservation, protected areas, Red books, forestry codes



# Decision 15/27 Invasive alien species

- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in its 2019 Global Assessment Report
- **Invasive alien species** are a major threat to nature, nature's contributions to people, and good quality of life
- *Alien species* are being introduced by human activities to all regions and biomes of the world at unprecedented rates. Some **become invasive**, causing negative and in some **cases irreversible impacts** on nature, including **loss of uniqueness** of biological communities
- **Policies** and their implementation have been **insufficient** in **managing biological invasions** and preventing and controlling invasive alien species
- **Prevention and preparedness** are the most **cost-effective options** and thus crucial for managing the threats from invasive alien species
- **Eradication** has been successful, especially for small and slow-spreading populations of invasive alien species in isolated ecosystems
- **Containment and control** can be an effective option
- The **recovery of ecosystem functions** can be achieved through **adaptive management**, including **ecosystem restoration** in terrestrial and closed water systems
- DRAFT METHODS FOR COST-BENEFIT AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS WHICH BEST APPLY TO THE MANAGEMENT OF INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES
- Risk assessment and risk management/Multi-criteria decision-making
- **Capacity building needs for CEE: Policy framework/List of IAS/Early detection/ Identification (DSI)/ adaptive management, including prevention/eradication/containment and control/ecosystem restoration/public information and gender**



# Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

- **Number of countries** that have in place national biosafety legislation and implementing guidelines – **CEE 81%**
- **How many people** in your country have been trained in risk assessment, risk management and monitoring of LMOs? Is this number adequate – **0**
- **Decision 10/10** Risk assessment and risk management (Articles 15 and 16)
  - Voluntary Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms (stacked genes/abiotic/trees/mosquitos/gene drives)
  - Training Manual on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms in the context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- **Decision 10/11** Detection and identification of living modified organisms
  - Training Manual on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms
  - Online Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms
- **Decision 10/12** Socio-economic considerations (Article 26)
  - voluntary Guidance on the Assessment of Socio-Economic Considerations in the Context of Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- **Decision 10/13** Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress
  - Response measures' as reasonable actions to prevent, minimize, contain, mitigate or otherwise avoid damage, as appropriate, or reasonable actions to restore biological diversity.

# Digital sequence information on genetic resources (DSI)

- **Decision 15/9** Digital sequence information on genetic resources  
**Decision 4/6** Digital sequence information on genetic resources
- Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of DSI on Genetic Resources
- PROPOSED POLICY OPTIONS ON BENEFIT-SHARING FROM THE USE OF DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION ON GENETIC RESOURCES
- Proposal for the establishment of a multilateral benefit-sharing mechanism

# Decision 15/31    Synthetic biology

- Broad and regular horizon scanning, monitoring and assessing of the most recent technological developments is needed for reviewing new information regarding the **potential positive and potential negative impacts of synthetic biology** vis-à-vis the **three objectives** of the Convention and those of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing
- Establishes a process for broad and regular **horizon scanning, monitoring and assessment** of the most recent technological developments in synthetic biology
- Establishes a multidisciplinary ad hoc technical expert group on synthetic biology to support the process for broad and regular horizon scanning, monitoring and assessment

# Access to genetic resources and benefit sharing

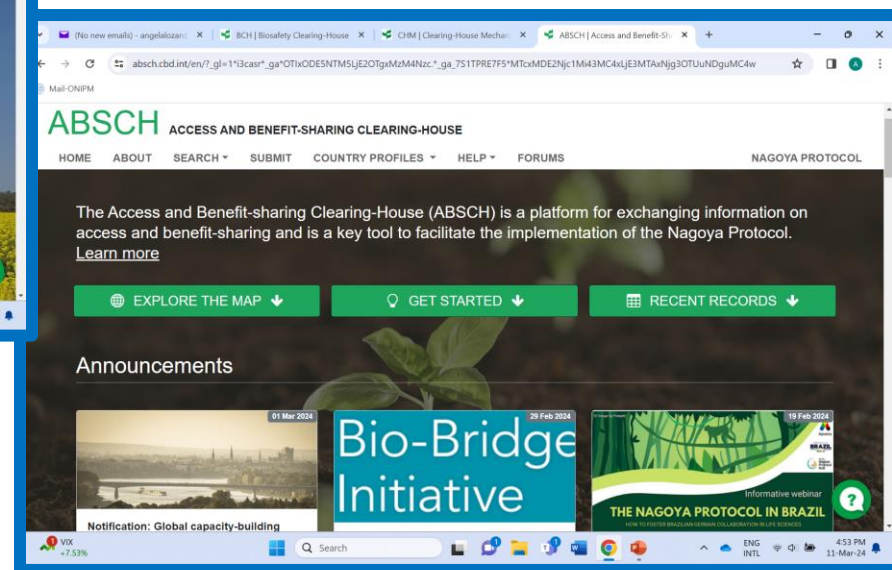
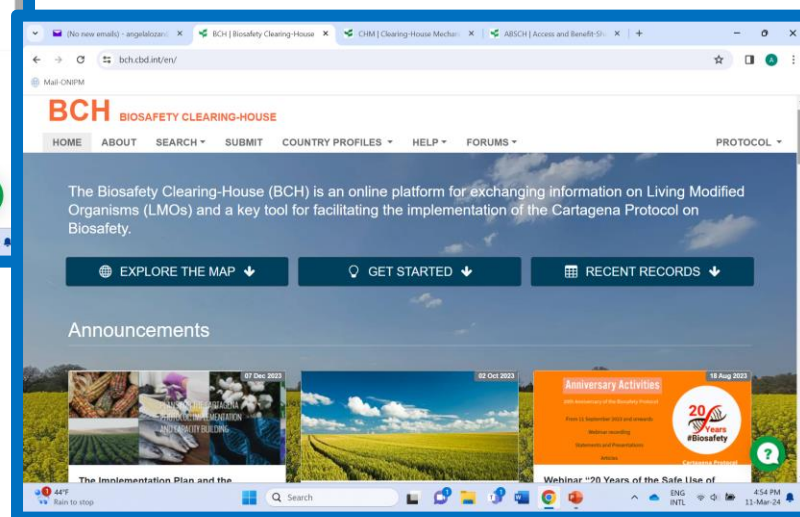
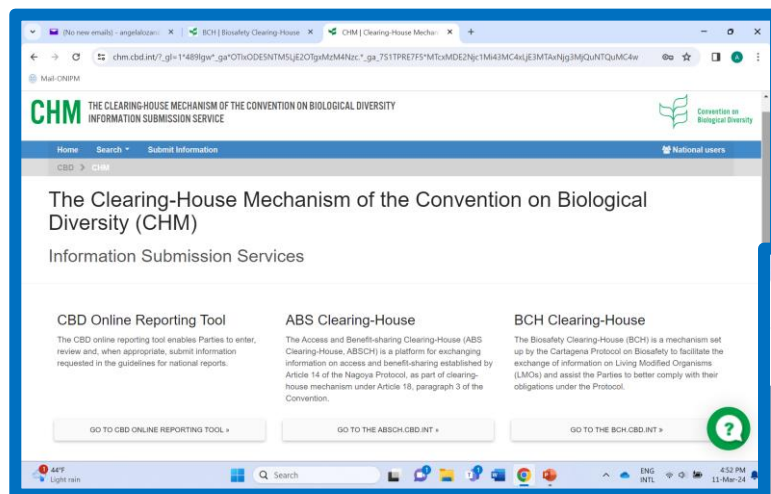
- Only 1 country in the CEE – Belarus – reported the establishment of procedures
- National Authority
- Check points
- MAT- COMPLIANCE WITH MUTUALLY AGREED TERMS
- Registers
- Internationally recognized certificates
- MONETARY AND NON-MONETARY BENEFITS
- Access and Benefit-sharing ClearingHouse,

# CHM, BCH, ABS CH

**Decision 15/16** Knowledge management and the clearing-house mechanism

**Decision 10/5** Operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House (Article 20)

**Decision 4/4** Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House and information sharing (Article 14)



# Capacity building

- EU4ENV – Biodiversity and Emerald Network (CEE)
- UNDP global ABS project (Belarus)
- UNEP/GBFs Enabling activity (NBSAPs 2030) (CEE)
- UNEP/ national reporting to CBD/CBP/ABS
- CoE Emerald Network project (Phase I and II) (CEE)
- UNEP Global NBF Biosafety implementation
- Swedish CEE project Green Agenda for Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine
- WCMC project Establish Biodiversity Informational System to implement KMGBFs
- BBI project CEE on DSI (Belarus), EbA (Moldova), Detection of LMOs and invasive species (Belarus)
- EU Life project on Emerald Network (2024) MD\_UKR
- EU project Protected areas in the Eastern Partnership countries
- One Health Agenda (WHO)

# Future policy needs

- The **EU's biodiversity strategy for 2030** is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse [the degradation of ecosystems](#).
- The **European Green Deal** was designed as the EU's compass to achieve a clean, resource-efficient, and competitive economy goals. It aims to restoring and protecting ecosystems.
- Updated **NBSAPs** under the KMGBF 2030
- **EU acquisition** under EU Association or Candidate status (Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia)
- **Mainstreaming Biodiversity** into sectorial policies – Agriculture, Fishery, Aquaculture, Energy, Transportation, Mining, Trade, Health Care etc.



# Available resources/reports/analyzers/links -CBD

## CBD:

- **The 6<sup>th</sup> national reports** available at: [https://chm.cbd.int/database?schema\\_s=nationalReport6](https://chm.cbd.int/database?schema_s=nationalReport6)
- Documents prepared for the latest COP-15 available at: <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/COP-15>
- **GBO 5** accessible here: <https://www.cbd.int/gbo5>

## CPB:

- **BCH: Country Profiles page** and use **CEE regional filter** or go to **Search** and select the CEE region filter.
- **Matrix view** in the Search ,generate graphs and charts (this [video](#) explains how the Matrix works)
- **Report Analyzer tool** (<https://bch.cbd.int/en/reports>) for the **4th national report**.
- Analysis for the latest assessment and review and final evaluation of the **Strategic Plan 2011-2020** ([CBD/SBI/3/3](#) and [CBD/SBI/3/3/Add.1](#)), [CBD/CP/MOP/10/INF/2](#)).

## ABS:

- **ABSCH: Country Profiles page** and the **Matrix**.
- **Report Analyzer tool. Interim National Report** of the Nagoya Protocol, all CEE countries can be filtered (<https://absch.cbd.int/en/reports>). Interim national reports was made available for COP-MOP-3 (including graphs) : <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/767b/a3b0/e4934613a1a3fd1116b1c89a/sbi-02-inf-03-en.pdf>.
- **Meeting of the compliance committee** <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/b9f8/21d7/4bfb7e2798f970482a7ab776/np-cc-04-03-add1-en.pdf> (all meeting **Documents** are available here: <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/NP-CC-04>).
- **Capacity-building and development** by region: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/bea3/e23e/aaa5af5559f4107ef3e130ba/np-mop-04-05-en.pdf> (including graphs).





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