



The European subregional Technical and Scientific Cooperation support Centre (TSCC)

Jorge L. Ventocilla

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS)

CO-OP4CBD regional workshop and networking session / 08-10 June / Budapest



Views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the EU nor the EC can be held responsible for them.



What are the TSCCs?

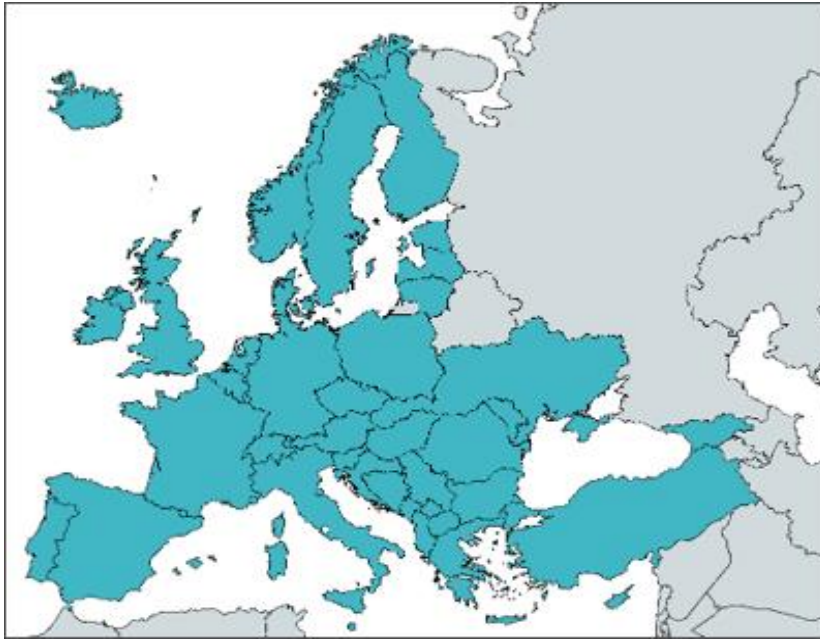
- COP15 (Dec. 2022) established a mechanism consisting of a **network of regional and/or subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres**, to be coordinated at the global level by a Global Coordination Entity, **to assist in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the work of the Convention and its Protocols.**
- The TSCCs are **part of the Technical and Scientific Cooperation (TSC) Mechanism** of the CBD, also adopted at COP15 alongside Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) .
- The overall goal of the TSC Mechanism is **to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation among Parties and relevant organizations and to enable them to effectively utilize science, technology and innovation to support the implementation of the GBF.**

What is TSC? Technical and scientific cooperation refers to a **process whereby institutions in two or more countries pursue their individual or collective biodiversity-related goals through cooperative actions.** This may include the **creation and/or exchange of scientific knowledge, data, expertise, resources, technologies, and technical know-how.** It may also include human resource development, institution building, joint training of personnel, exchange of experts, joint research programmes, joint ventures for the development and diffusion of technologies (including indigenous and traditional technologies), and transfer of technology and know-how.

The European subregional TSCC



 European CBD Parties covered by the TSCC



3 coordination partners



Technical and Scientific Cooperation support Centres (TSCCs)

AFRICA

- Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC)
- Ecological Monitoring Centre (CSE)
- Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD)
- Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS)
- South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)

ASIA

- ASIAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB)
- IUCN Asia Regional Office (IUCN Asia)
- IUCN Regional Office for West Asia (IUCN ROWA)
- Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences (NIES)

AMERICAS

- Alexander von Humboldt Biological Resources Research Institute
- Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
- Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD/ SICA)

OCEANIA

- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

CENTRAL ASIA

- IUCN Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (IUCN ECARO)
- Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)

Assisting Parties and major Stakeholder groups for **implementation of the KMGBF**

On a demand-driven basis, coordinate and facilitate scientific, technical, and capacity-building & capacity-development support, through coordination of a distributed and inclusive network of expert Knowledge hubs

Facilitate access to and utilization of knowledge products, tools, and best practices, through a **matchmaking process**

Liaise with institutions and mechanisms recognised by the CBD, acting as **facilitators** for submission of **structured support requests** and ensuring transparent processing and allocation of these requests

Promote **exchange of information and potential collaborations** with relevant international organizations & stakeholders



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

CBD/COP/DEC/15/8
19 December 2022

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Fifteenth meeting – Part II
Montreal, Canada, 7-19 December 2022
Agenda item 13A

DECISION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

15/8. Capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Articles 15.6, 16, 17, 18 and 19 of the Convention,

Recalling also decisions XIII/23 and 14/24,

Noting with appreciation the support provided by Parties, other Governments, the Global Environment Facility, relevant organizations and other stakeholders for capacity-building and development, and technical and scientific cooperation activities to assist developing country Parties, Parties with economies in transition, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth,

Reaffirming the need to promote strategic and coherent approaches to capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation in supporting the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols,

Underscoring the critical importance of capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer for the effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,

Recognizing that many Parties, in particular developing country Parties, might not yet have the necessary capacities to fully implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and related decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting, and highlighting the need for enhanced cooperation to address these capacity gaps,

Noting that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and related decisions are to be implemented in accordance with national priorities and capabilities,

Taking into account the specific needs of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, also taking into consideration the special situation of those that are most environmentally vulnerable, such as those with arid and semi-arid zones, coastal and mountainous areas, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth,

26. *Further decides* that the core functions of the regional and/or subregional centres will include the following:

(a) To promote and facilitate, on a demand-driven basis, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer among Parties, especially from developed country Parties to developing country Parties, to support the implementation of the Convention and of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including through joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of the Convention;

(b) To provide a “one-stop service centre” for Parties to biodiversity-related conventions, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to access technical and scientific knowledge, expertise, tools and other resources, taking into account the science, technology and innovation capability gaps identified by Parties, especially developing country Parties;

(c) To provide Parties, especially developing country Parties, with access to information on opportunities for technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and innovations, including biotechnology¹² research;

(d) To mobilize resources to provide timely and targeted support for projects and activities that address specific identified technical and scientific needs;

(e) To facilitate matchmaking between Parties with specific needs and Parties or organizations in a position to provide assistance in response to the priority needs identified;

(f) To catalyse and support the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of technical and scientific cooperation projects and programmes that:

- (i) Promote and incubate international and regional cooperation and partnerships using a programmatic approach;
- (ii) Facilitate the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies and innovative national, regional and local solutions, including those of indigenous peoples and

¹¹ See CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/28.

¹² Biotechnology means any technological application that uses biological systems, living organisms, or derivatives thereof, to make or modify products or processes for specific uses (Article 2 of the Convention).

local communities, with their free, prior and informed consent, through scalable initiatives;

(iii) Facilitate access to, and utilization of, available scientific knowledge, information and data;

(g) To strengthen capacities of regional, subregional and national institutions to facilitate technical and scientific cooperation with an emphasis on science, technology and innovation;

(h) To facilitate knowledge sharing and organizational learning;

(i) To identify, collate and disseminate good practices and lessons learned regarding biodiversity-related technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and innovation, including biotechnology research;

(j) To maximize synergies and collaborate with other technology transfer initiatives and mechanisms;

(k) To perform such other activities related to science, technology and innovation as may be determined by the Conference of the Parties;

Governance

EUROPEAN
TSCC

Inclusive Advisory board



Global
Coordination
Entity

Coordination Group



45 CBD Parties in
Europe,
and/or major
Stakeholder
groups (youth,
women, IPLC, ...)

Requests for KMGBF TSC support

Demand-driven
interaction
framework



Technical and science support

Coordinated network of
decentralised Knowledge hubs
for each KMGBF target





The CBD TSC Landscape

Central Portal



Technical and Scientific Cooperation Mechanism

IAG TSC

Global Coordination Entity

Regional TSC Centres

- Africa
- Americas
- Asia
- Europe
- Central Asia
- Oceania

Governance

EUROPEAN
TSCC

Inclusive Advisory board



Global
Coordination
Entity

Coordination Group



45 CBD Parties in Europe, and/or major Stakeholder groups (youth, women, IPLC, ...)

Requests for KMGBF TSCC support

Demand-driven interaction framework



Technical and science support

Coordinated network of decentralised Knowledge hubs for each KMGBF target





Provides advice and helps with awareness raising & capturing capacity needs and feedback

Advisory role

Annual meetings

2-year mandates

English as working language

Composition

- **6 Parties to the CBD, including both EU and non-EU members**
- **Major Stakeholder groups** (indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth) and other relevant stakeholders
- **Funding agencies** (development cooperation agencies, foundations, ...)
- **Representatives from other organisations, including from the private sector** (depending on expressed interest)
- On an ad hoc basis, up to 2 invitations extended to representatives from non-European TSCC to foster cross TSCC collaboration



Demand-driven

Requests must be demand-driven to support the implementation of the Convention and GBF.

Expected requests include:

- Access to methods, tools, technologies and data
- Capacity building and resources
- TSC for policy implementation, incl. technical guidance and methodology alignment



Structuring Requests

Parties and major Stakeholders groups submit requests using a **standardised template to ensure clarity and actionable support.**



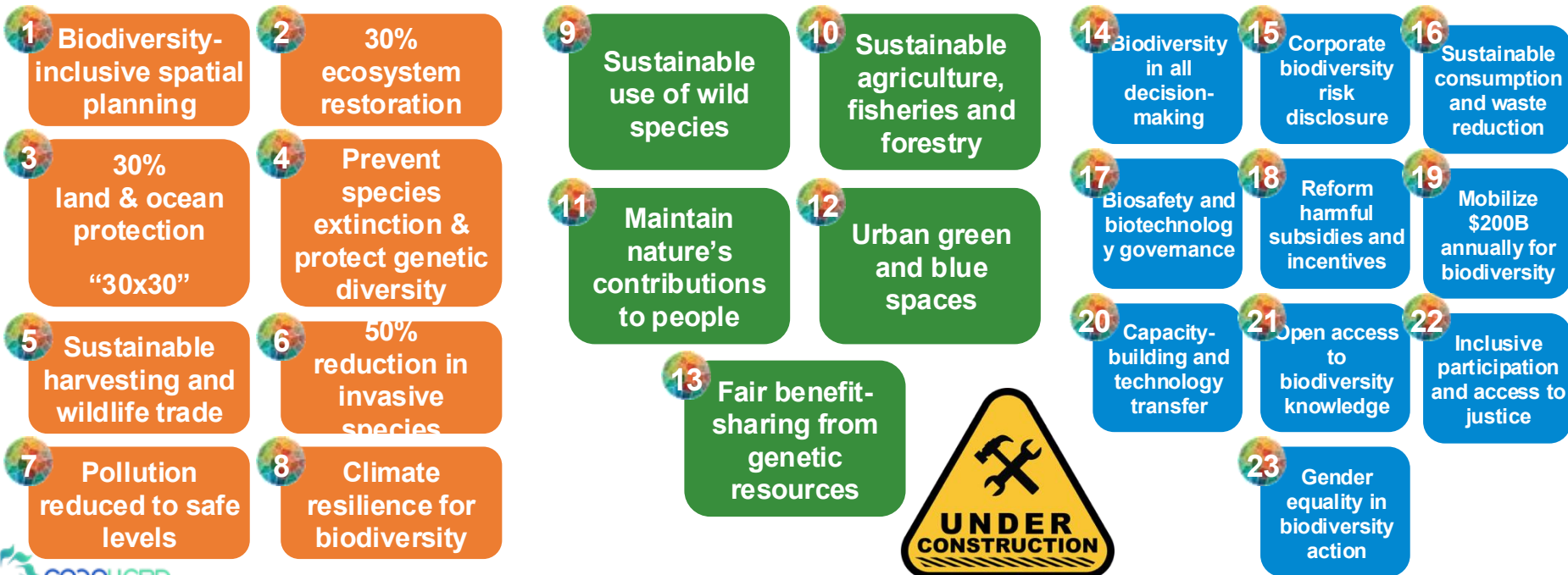
Supply-side: 1 stop stop - Network of Knowledge hubs

Technical and science support



CORE PRINCIPLE:

capitalising on existing knowledge, data, tools, networks, workflows



HOW CAN YOU HELP to shape the European TSCC?



On the Demand side

Parties and major Stakeholder groups

- Carry out **capacity needs assessments**, to identify **your capacity needs**.
- **Participate in** exercises such as the **7NR and provide as much information as available**, also indicating which information you do not have available.
- **Update your NBSAPs** to align it with the GBF goals.



On the Supply side

Support providers (Knowledge hubs)

Help us **identify capacity for support provision**, by

- **Identifying your strengths and where you could help other Parties** to share your relevant expertise
- **Mapping existing assets** that could be fed into the TSCC with minimal effort (data, methods, reports, knowledge, videos, training materials, ongoing activities...)
- **Apply to join 1 or more Knowledge hubs**
- **Have an operational national CHM** to serve as national TSC and data node.



Bridging Demand & Supply with a two-way interaction framework

Ensure the request submission structure is **compatible** with real capacity needs & what can realistically be supplied



Request



Request structure



Feasibility check



KMGFB delivery



Technical and scientific support



Expertise



Ensure support supplied by Knowledge hubs meets requests for support by Parties and/or major Stakeholder groups



Thank you for your attention!

Questions for the European TSCC?
EU-SUBREGIONAL-TSC@ec.europa.eu