



Capacity-building tools to foster experts' engagement in the CBD

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for Central and Eastern European CBD National Focal Points and
biodiversity experts – Budapest – 08–10 June 2026



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Our motivation



Mission

Identify, inform and engage experts in order to support more informed decision-making processes within CBD



Goal

Enhance coordination within the EU to advance the implementation of the CBD by harnessing expertise of EU funded projects and initiatives more effectively

Our objectives



Develop and implement an approach for more effectively engaging expertise within CBD processes, in informing EU and its Member States and associated countries' positions and in providing briefings in support to their negotiators..



Increase access to European expertise through enhanced mechanisms for promoting technical and scientific cooperation, and through targeted capacity-building.



Contribute to the development of an effective process for monitoring and review of the efforts of Parties to implement the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the CBD.

Capacity-building in the CBD context

- *"Process whereby people, organizations and society as a **whole unleash, strengthen, create, adapt and maintain capacity over time to achieve positive biodiversity results** at the enabling environment, organizational and individual levels"*

Long Term Strategic Framework for Capacity-Building and Development – Decision 15/8, Annex 1



Capacity-building in the CBD context

- A priority identified in order to **implement effectively**
 - the CBD
 - the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing
 - reach the KMGBF targets
- Needs: adapting the methodologies to the audience and specific geographical context ; consider the involvement of a variety of stakeholders.



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CO-OP4CBD Capacity-Building tools

I. The CBD Expert Guide

I. The CBD Expert Guide



Jointly developed by two EU-funded initiatives:



- Horizon Europe-funded project (2022-2026)
- Aims to enhance coordination and leverage existing expertise and initiatives within the EU to support the implementation of the CBD
- Technical and scientific cooperation
- Capacity-building activities



- A 20-year old network of 80+ partners from 40+ countries
- Funding excellent research with an impact on policy and society
- CBD/MEAs capacity-building events and learning materials for its funded researchers

I. The CBD Expert Guide



Why are we developing this tool ?



- Scientific knowledge is expected to **inform** CBD processes (i.e., negotiations, implementation, monitoring)



- Engagement often perceived as a **challenge** for experts, and thus **not sufficiently involved** in CBD



- “Develop [...] **training** in effective engagement” as a recommendation for improving scientific engagement (*Caroll et al., 2023*)

I. The CBD Expert Guide

Why are we developing this tool ?



CO-OP4CBD training sessions



Biodiversa+ CBD capacity-building events

- Several capacity-building events organised by both initiatives (training sessions, workshops, seminars, etc.)

→ Capitalise on the activities carried out

- **Guide designed as a sustainable resource, to be used at any convenient time**

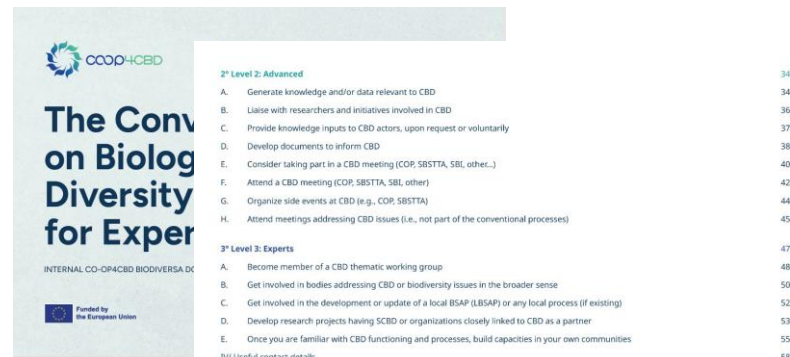
- A global resource providing a comprehensive overview of ways to engage with the CBD



I. The CBD Expert Guide

What is the content of this guide ?

- A general introduction to the CBD and what is expected from the *science-policy interface (SPI)*
- 30+ tools, including visuals and additional resources (CBD official resources, handbooks, etc...)
- Tools are organised in a step-by-step approach
 - **Beginner** / **Advanced** / **Expert**
- An extensive bibliography



I. The CBD Expert Guide

Who is it made for ?

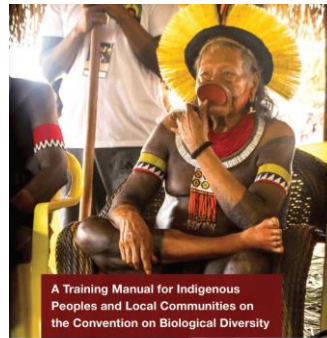
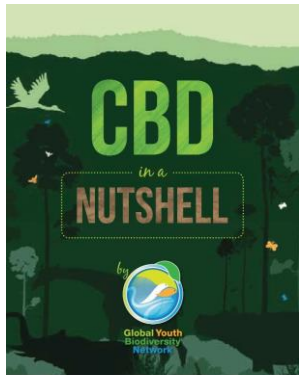
- **Biodiversity experts and researchers** - with or without expertise - in CBD issues (e.g. TEK holders, professionals, Youth, Women, etc.)
- People from **all disciplines, knowledge systems and regions**, including early career researchers and members of civil society organisations



I. The CBD Expert Guide

How has it been developed?

- A guide drafted building upon existing **literature, expertise and other CBD documents** (designed for different types of stakeholders)
- Reviewed by experts in CBD processes



Carroll et al.: Lessons from COP15 on effective scientific engagement in biodiversity policy processes (2021)



II. The CO-OP4CBD Online Course on CBD

II. The CO-OP4CBD Online Course on the CBD



Objectives

Learning,
understanding



Engaging and
taking part in
the CBD

- Understanding the **frame of the CBD action** : history, context, organisation
- Knowing the **strategic framework** in which it applies (decennial strategies, NBSAPs...)
- Learning about **concrete CBD processes and mechanisms** (functions, bodies and stakeholders engaged)
- Getting skills to **take part in CBD** processes and mechanisms (rules of procedure, terminology, tips for negotiations...)

II. The CO-OP4CBD Online Course on the CBD

Basic feature of the course

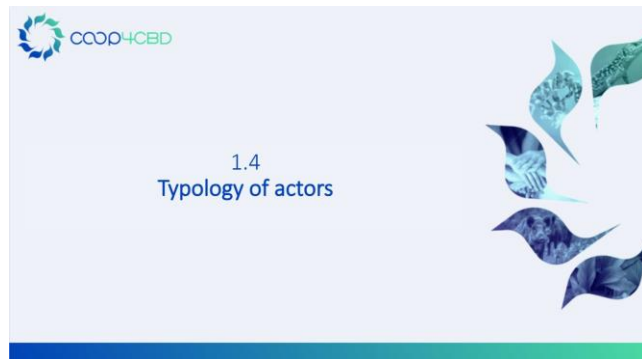
- Self-paced course
- Duration of 2h30
- Freely accessible
- In English

Teaching methods and tools

- A flexible, dynamic tool that can be adapted to suit **different profiles**
- Written content, questionnaires, videos, quizzes and factsheet to upload, per section
- One **workbook** with synthetic information regarding the course content

An interactive tool

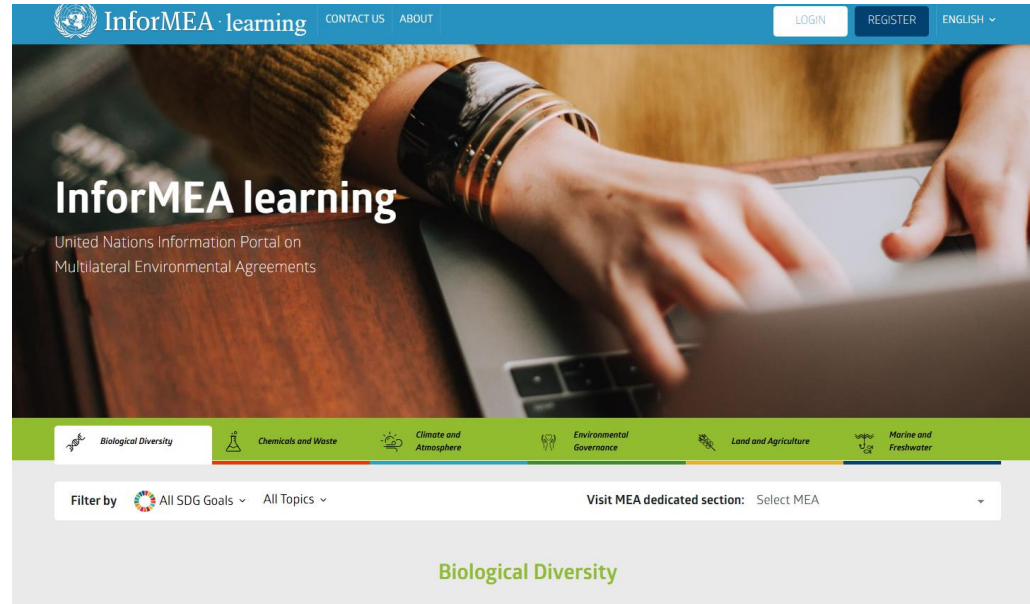
- 3 sections – 20 sequences
- Evaluation for each section



II. The CO-OP4CBD Online Course on the CBD



- Release of the self-paced course on **InforMEA platform**
- Course **supported by the CBD Secretariat**
- **Dissemination** in October and promotional events at COP17



Opening of the course in September 2026 !

III. The CO-OP4CBD training corner

II. The CO-OP4CBD training corner

Objectives of the training delivered

- Get to know the CBD processes and mechanisms
- Learn the negotiation processes and rules
- Learn about topics part to the CBD

Overall

- Prepare participants for upcoming CBD meetings
- Strengthen contributions to CBD work and expert input needs
- Foster networking opportunities and exchanges among participants



II. The CO-OP4CBD training corner



Training sessions focusing on different topics and targeting different audiences

Topics examples :

- UN CBD processes
- COPs and SBSTTA meetings preparation
- TSC and CHM
- Traditional ecological knowledge

Audience:

- CBD negotiators
- CBD and CHM national focal points
- Civil society organisations
- Scientists/Experts/Practitioners

Training and Networking Session on Technical and Scientific Cooperation and the Clearing-House Mechanism in the Context of the UN CBD
The event aimed to provide a forum for increasing the knowledge dissemination of TSC and CHM-related topics.
18 Nov 2025 - 20 Nov 2025
ORT TSCs CHM Bioland tool monitoring framework
[Find out more](#)

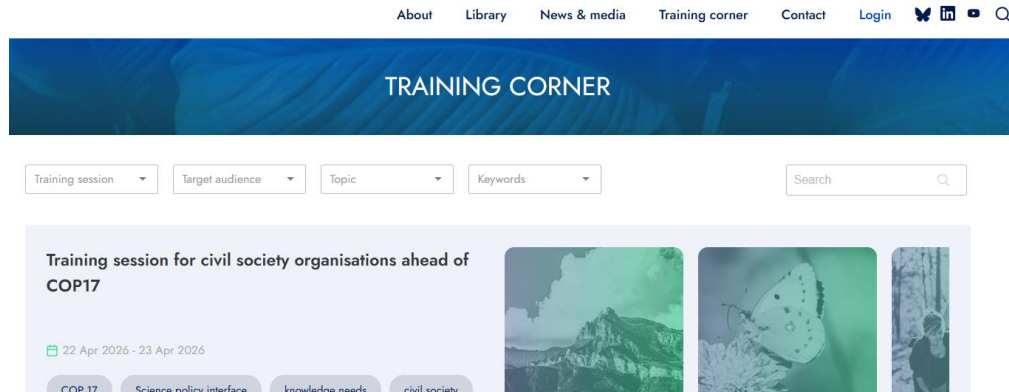
Training Session on Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the Context of the UN CBD
This training session focused on the role of holders of traditional ecological knowledge in UN CBD governance and processes.
11 Jun 2025 - 12 Jun 2025
SBSEI PICs indicators Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
UN CBD governance traditional ecological knowledge
[Find out more](#)

Training session for civil society organisations ahead of COP17
22 Apr 2026 - 23 Apr 2026
COP 17 Science policy interface knowledge needs civil society
Major Groups
[Find out more](#)

II. The CO-OP4CBD training corner

A large stock of resources and knowledge available

- Learning resources from 16 events and workshops
- More than 50 presentations on a variety of CBD-related topics freely available



To discover the resources
=> [Training corner](#) on the
project website

IV. Other activities and next steps

The CO-OP4CBD Expert database

CO-OP4CBD Expert database brings together experts, researchers having knowledge and experience with the CBD (e.g. contributing to capacity-building activities)

Objectives

- Support expert mobilization for CBD-related processes,
- Foster technical and scientific cooperation,
- Contribute to broader science-policy initiatives.

By joining, contribute to

- UN CBD-related dialogues,
- Policy consultations,
- Capacity-building workshops,
- Other collaborative research and advisory activities



Support to TSCCs

- Contribution to the TSC days (September 2025) : elaboration of the **report on the launch of the European sub-regional TSCC**
- Targeted **training sessions** :
 - One already held in November 2025
 - One planned in 2027
- Support in the development of the EU Sub-regional TSCC :
 - Support to Knowledge Hubs development and structuration



Upcoming capacity-building activities

22-26 June 2026

Online training sessions for SBSTTA-28

End 2026 / Early 2027

CBD training on Technical and Scientific Cooperation mechanisms and CHM network meeting (on site – TBD)

September 2026

CO-OP4CBD Online Course and CO-OP4CBD Expert Guide

May 2027

Project end



Thank you for your attention!

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