



Stewards of European biodiversity overlooked in CBD national reports

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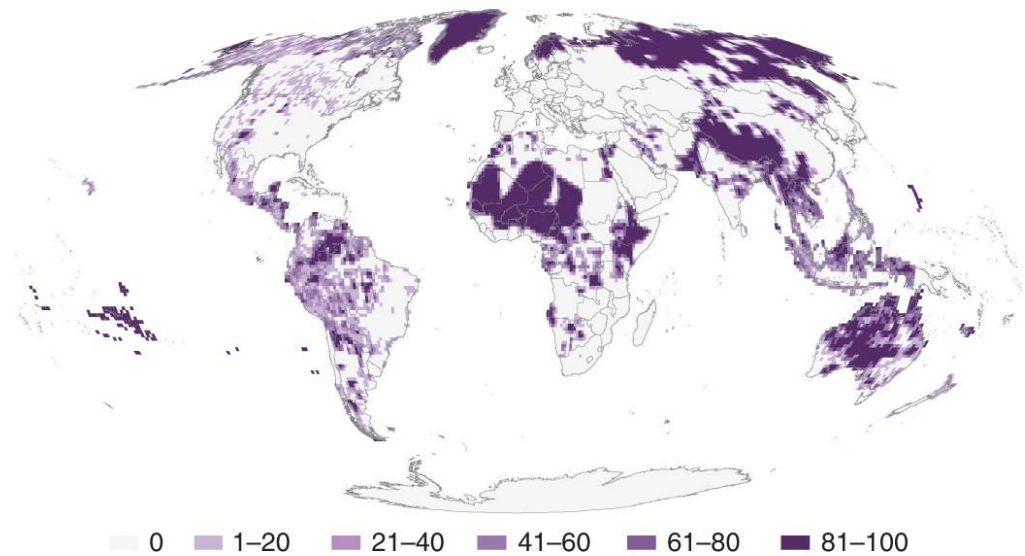
HUN-REN Centre for Ecological Research, Traditional Ecological Knowledge Research Group & Lendület Ecosystem Services Research Group (Hungary)

Institute of Biology Bucharest, Ecology, Taxonomy and Nature Conservation Department (Romania)



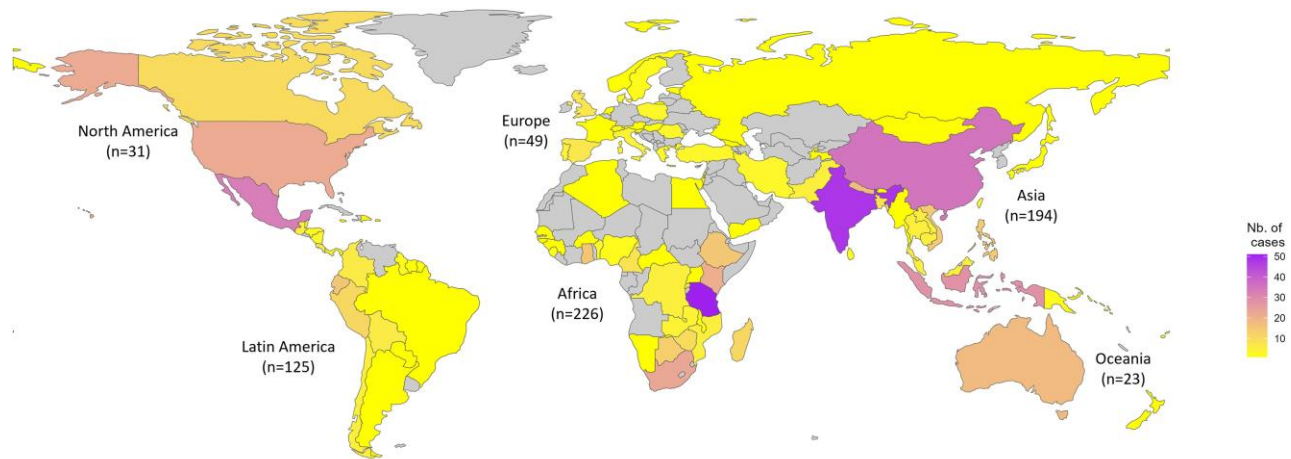
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Traditional knowledge holders play a vital role in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity



Over a quarter of the world's land surface, and about 40% of all terrestrial protected areas and ecologically intact landscapes are managed by Indigenous Peoples (Garnett et al., 2018. Nature Sustainability)

Global map of lands managed and/or controlled by Indigenous Peoples



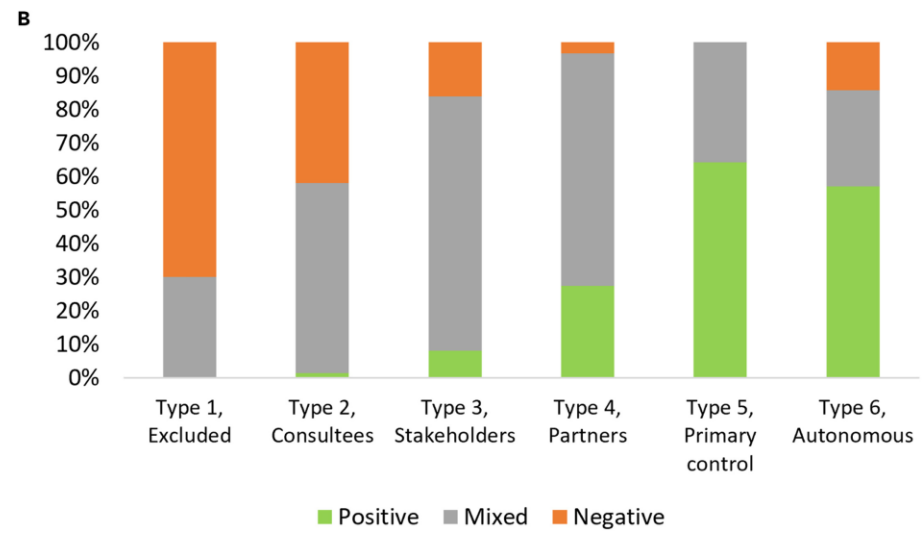
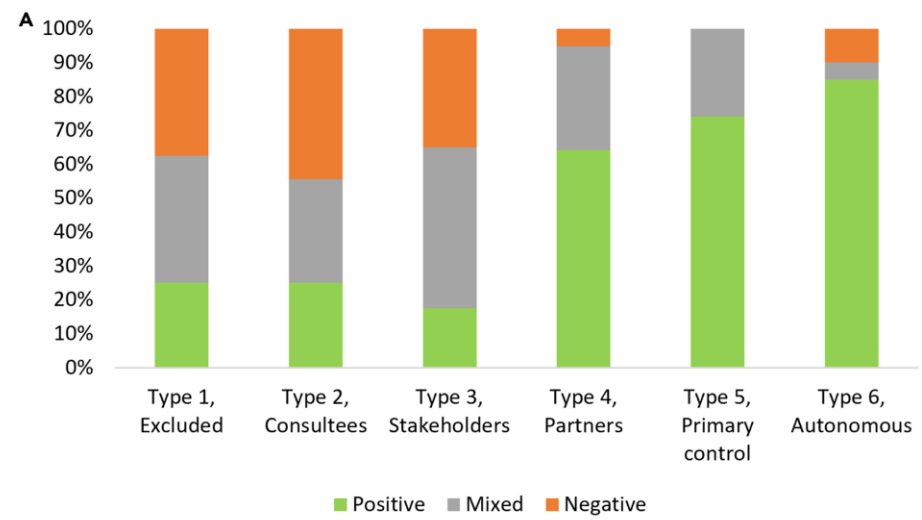
*More than 50% of Europe's most highly valued biotopes occur in **low-intensity farmlands**. (Bignal and McCracken, 1996)*

*Out of the 231 habitats listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive, **63 have been shown to be fully (23) or partly (40) dependent on agricultural practices**. (Halada et al., 2011)*

Is it just conservation? A typology of Indigenous peoples' and local communities' roles in conserving biodiversity

(Dawson et al., 2024. One Earth)

Traditional knowledge holders play a vital role in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity



(Molnár et al., 2024. TREE)

The ecological (A) and social (B) outcomes associated with six types of roles of Indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation governance

(Dawson et al., 2024. One Earth)

Transylvania / Carpathians

maxima of vascular plant species richness ever recorded
 115 species / 10m² (Roleček et al., 2021) – near Cluj Napoca
 83 species / 16m² (Babai, pers. comm.) – Gyimes

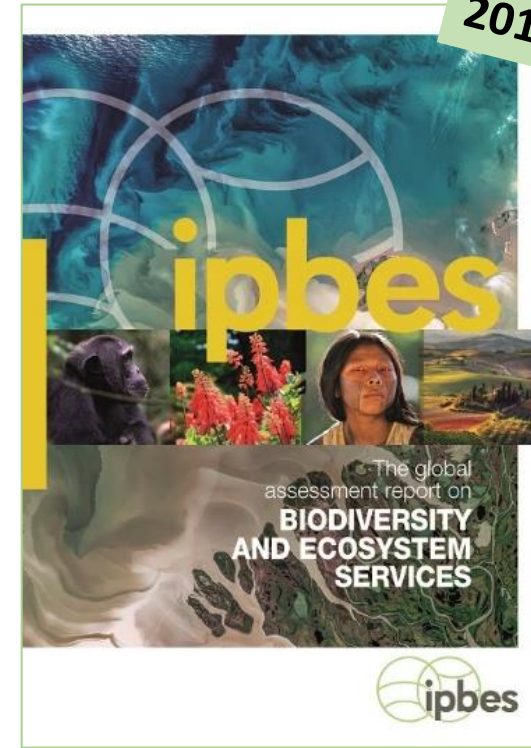


Convention on
Biological Diversity

1992

Art 8 (j) – in situ conservation

Subject to its national legislation, **respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities** embodying **traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity** and **promote their wider application** with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable **sharing of the benefits** arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices



e.g. dialogue
workshops

2024

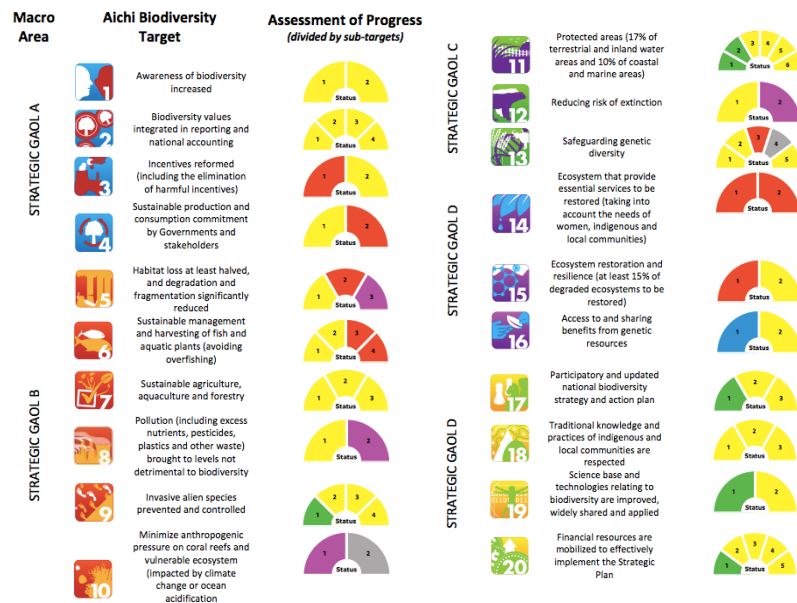


The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011



United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Aichi Biodiversity Targets



By 2020, **traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities** relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, as well as their **customary sustainable use**, are **respected**, subject to the provisions of national legislation and applicable international obligations, and are **fully integrated and taken into account** in the implementation of the Convention, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.



By 2020, the **genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals** and of wild relatives, including other **socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species**, is maintained...

2022

12 of the 23 KM-GBF Targets

THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework





How CBD Parties recognise the role of IP&LCs, their TK and practices for the maintenance of biodiversity



BIODIVERSITY CONVENTION | CARTAGENA PROTOCOL | NAGOYA PROTOCOL | COUNTRIES | PROGRAMMES



NATIONAL REPORTS

NATIONAL REPORTS

- ONLINE REPORTING TOOL
- ABOUT NATIONAL REPORTING
 - > Introduction
- REPORTS
 - > Background
 - > Search National Reports and NBSAPs
 - > Find National Targets
 - > Search National Reports by Maps
 - > Seventh National Report
 - > Sixth National Report
 - > NBSAPs
 - > Syntheses and Reporting Mechanism
 - > Harmonization of Biodiversity-related Reporting
- GUIDANCE AND TOOLS
 - > Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
 - > Decisions
 - > Analyze national reports

NATIONAL REPORTS

National Reports What's New?

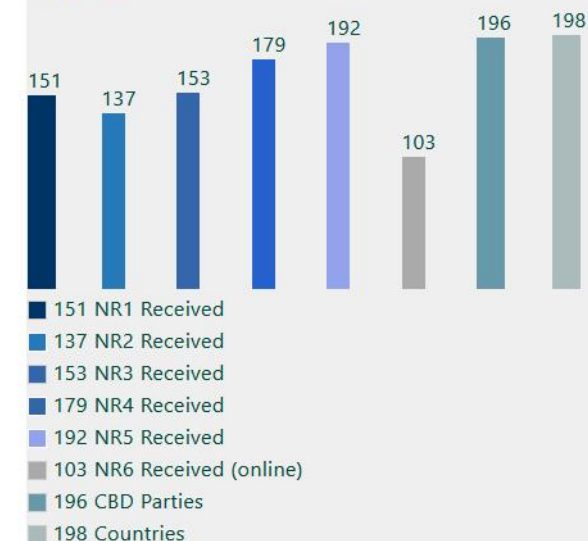
NR5: due in March 2014
NR6: due in December 2018

7NR Guidance and Template

In **decision 15/6**, Parties are requested to submit their **seventh national report by 28 February 2026** and their **eighth national report by 30 June 2029** to enable the preparation of the global reviews, as adopted in **decision 16/32**, using the **guidance and template** available on the **7th National Report page**.

Parties are also requested to use the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted in **decision 15/5**, including the technical updates agreed in **decision 16/31**, in their national reports. The headline indicators and binary indicators are a main element of the national reporting template. Parties, can, as appropriate, also use the disaggregations of the headline indicators, and the optional component and complementary indicators identified in the monitoring framework in their national reports along with any relevant national indicators.

NR Status



Methods: Rationale for scoring the acknowledgement of the contribution of IP&LCs and TK



Aichi Target **18**: By 2020, the **traditional knowledge**...



Aichi Target **13**: By 2020, the genetic diversity of **cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals** and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as **culturally valuable species**

Score

Levels of self-reporting by Parties on the contribution of IP&LCs and TK

0

no mention: section on Aichi Target 18 missing, IP&LCs and TK not mentioned in other sections either

1

IP&LCs and TK mentioned **only when quoting** either the definition of the Aichi Targets or similar phrases

Levels of self-reporting on the contribution of IP&LCs and TK to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in line with Aichi Target 18 (traditional knowledge respected)

2

contribution mentioned to a limited extent, without national context or clear examples

3

contribution mentioned only in relation to crop varieties, livestock breeds, cultivation, or medicinal plants

4

explicitly stated that IP&LC contributions and TK are beneficial for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including seminatural habitats, forests, coastal waters, etc., but without developing or arguing the idea further

5

argued how IP&LC contributions and TK are beneficial (in which habitats and through what kind of management, practices); mentioned the mechanisms of these processes (e.g., community protected areas, rules, taboos, sacred site)

Levels of self-reporting on the contribution of IP&LCs and TK to cultivation and domestication in line with Aichi Target 13 (genetic diversity maintained)

0

IP&LCs and TK **not mentioned**. Often, local breeds and varieties are mentioned, but nothing about the farmers, the people who maintain these

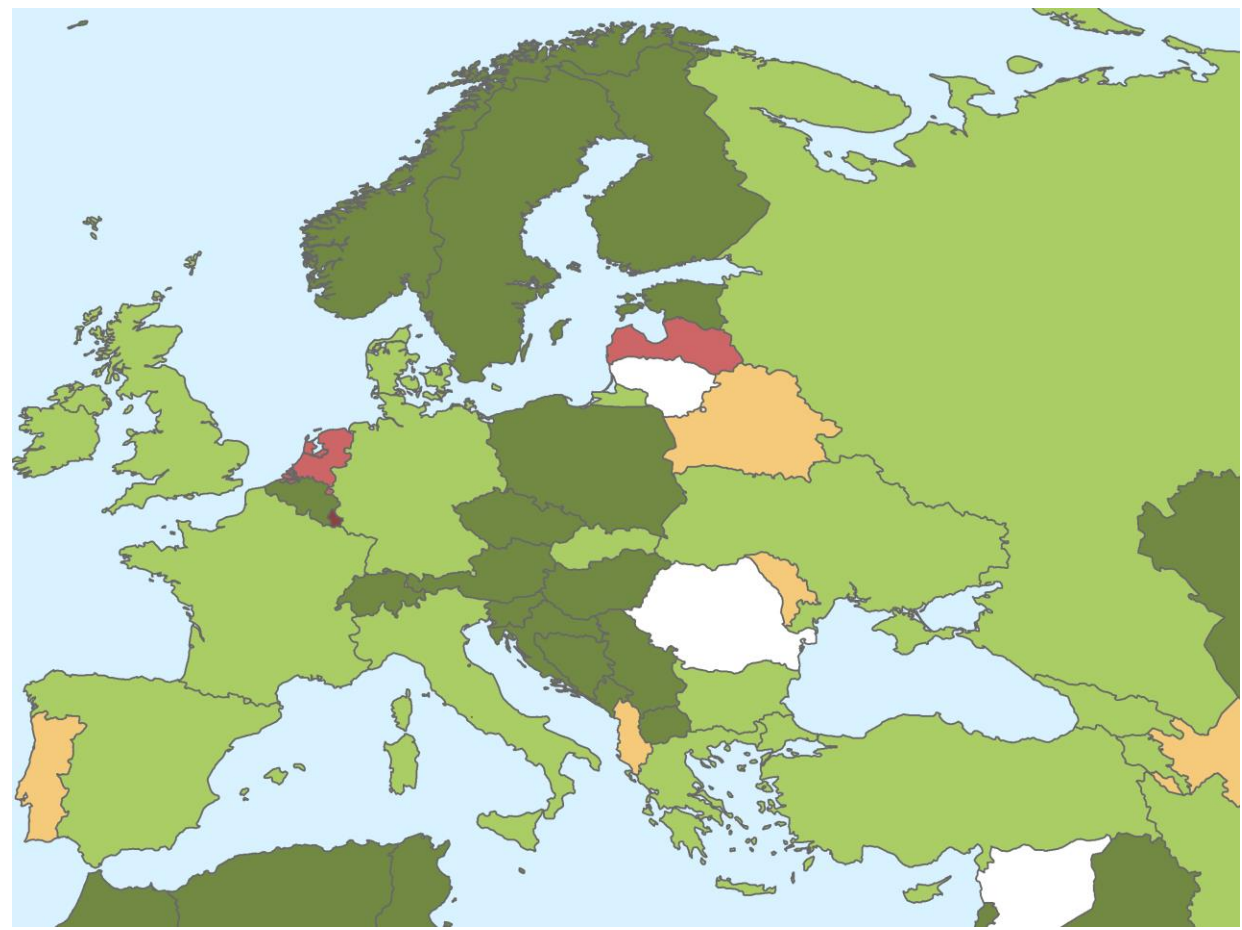
1

IP&LCs and TK **mentioned only in relation to uses**, incl. medicinal uses

2

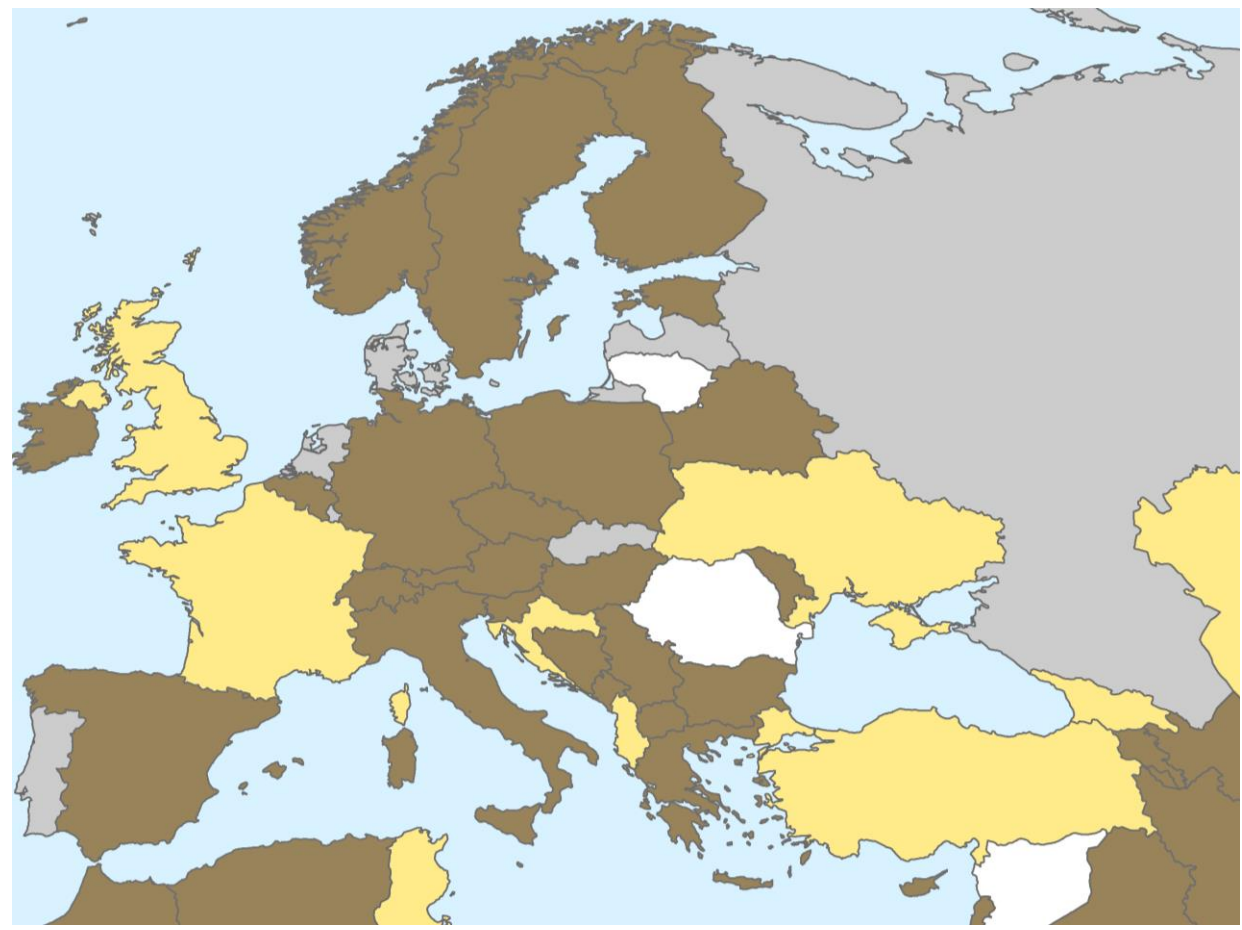
explicit mention of IP&LC and TK contribution (i.e., domestication, seed collection)

Aichi Target 18 (traditional knowledge respected)





- 2 Limited extent
- 3 Only in the context of crops, breeds, etc.
- 4 Contribution to biodiversity – statement
- 5 Contribution to biodiversity – detailed

Aichi Target 13 (genetic diversity maintained)



- 0 No mention
- 1 Use only
- 2 Contribution

 importance of **indigenous breeds and varieties for national food security**

 result of the sometimes millennial **work of IP&LCs and other TK holders** mentioned by **only about a quarter** of the Parties.

Results: examples of TK-based management practices

Topic	Quote
Floodplain management	“ reduction or cessation of the traditional use of lowland bogs and floodplain meadows for haymaking and grazing (...) overgrowth of open swamps and meadows” (Belarus, NR5)
Grazing management	“use of mountain pastures through seasonal grazing (...) This activity requires the knowledge on community dynamics of upland meadows and pastures ” (Montenegro, NR6)
Hay meadows	“Many bogs and mires were traditionally used (...) for haymaking (...) forms of use have largely been discontinued , such areas are often being invaded by shrubs and trees ” (Norway, NR5)
Wood-pastures	“Traditional rural biotopes such as dry meadows and wooded pastures are the most species rich and, at the same time, most threatened types of farmland habitats” (Finland, NR5)



CBD NR5 – 16 countries out of 195 (14 Europe, incl. 10 EU MS)

CBD NR6 – 24 countries out of 189 (17 Europe, incl. 10 EU MS)

*Austria: “Austria has **no indigenous and local communities as understood by the Convention**. Traditional knowledge (although no accepted definition is available) within the meaning of cultural heritage and agricultural knowledge is important for biodiversity in Austria)”*

*Croatia: “There are **no local communities in Croatia that depend exclusively on the ecosystems capacity to support livelihood**.”*

*United Kingdom: “**Although** traditional knowledge is used by **some members of local communities** in the UK, it is **not a focus** for government action to preserve its use and it is therefore not assessed.”*

*The Netherlands: “The Netherlands has no indigenous peoples **or local communities** as defined by the CBD **within its borders**. It can, however, substantially affect indigenous and local communities beyond its borders through international cooperation”*

*Czech Republic: “According to the working documents of the Convention one of the indicators of the presence of **traditional communities** is the **number of traditional languages used** and the number of their speakers”*

*“The status of numerous species, particularly of those dependent on sites formed and managed by man in the past, is getting worse. This is due to the **lack of traditional management and abandonment** of the previously utilised land.”*

A8(j): respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying **traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity**



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Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 17-29 November 2018
Agenda item 19

**GLOSSARY OF RELEVANT KEY TERMS AND CONCEPTS WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF
ARTICLE 8(J) AND RELATED PROVISIONS**

Section I	
Terms and concepts derived from the text of the Convention on Biological Diversity or decisions made under the Convention	
Term or concept	Understanding of the term or concept within the context of the Convention
Traditional knowledge	The knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. ²
Customary sustainable use	Uses of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements. ³
Indigenous and local communities or Indigenous peoples and local communities ⁴	The Convention on Biological Diversity does not define the terms “indigenous and local communities” or “indigenous peoples and local communities.” The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples does not adopt a universal definition for “indigenous peoples”, and a definition is not recommended. ^{5,6}

² Derived from Article 8(j) and endorsed in paragraph 6(h) of the annex to [decision VII/16 F](#) on the Akwe: Kon Guidelines.

³ Derived from Article 10(c).

⁴ In [decision XII/12 F](#), the Conference of the Parties decided to use the term “indigenous peoples and local communities” in future decisions under the Convention, without affecting in any way the legal meaning of Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention. Similar decisions were subsequently made by the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, in December 2016, in decisions [BS-VIII/19](#), and [NP-2/7](#), respectively.

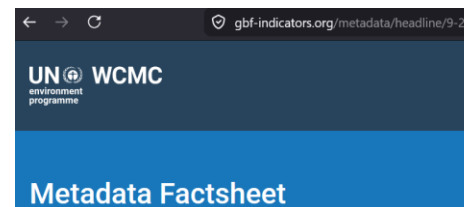


9.2 Percentage of the population in traditional occupations

No data available / This indicator is not relevant

GBF HOME // TARGET 9

Target 9



No mention of local communities

Armenia, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Republic of Moldova (No data available): *does not have disaggregated national statistics*

Austria, EU, France (No data available): *This indicator's methodology is currently under development at the global level*

Estonia (Not relevant) – ***No traditional occupations***

Germany, The Netherlands, Spain (Not relevant) *no indigenous peoples and local communities and therefore no population in traditional occupations*

Ireland, Malta, Switzerland: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing share of total employment (%)



22.1 Land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities

This indicator is **not relevant**

Armenia *does not have legally recognized Indigenous Peoples' territories and traditional occupations related to the use of wild species are **not spatially delineated** or tenure-based within distinct traditional lands.*

Estonia: *No traditional territories of indigenous peoples*

Germany *does not have indigenous peoples and local communities.*

Hungary *does not have any Indigenous Peoples **recognized by the United Nations** within its borders. While **there are local communities** in Hungary, including long-established historical communities, these ethnic and cultural minorities are **not officially recognized or registered as indigenous or local community groups**, even though they **often possess a strong and distinct cultural identity and associated traditional knowledge and practices relevant from the perspective of the CBD.***

Slovakia *does not have IPLCs in terms of the CBD convention, so the indicator is not applicable.*

Contributions not acknowledged due to terminology confusion

misinterpretation of Article 8(j) & **questioning its relevance**

*“respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities **embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity**”.*

contemporary industrialised societies where **TK is upheld mainly by individuals** / organized in networks

inconsideration of many TK holders

(= injustice, undermine their work, triggers further **biodiversity loss**)



Involvement of IP&LCs in national reporting

NGOs or other civil society representatives were much more likely to be included than IP&LC representatives in the reporting process, and for both categories, this occurred primarily in developing countries

Conclusions and recommendations

- Parties must **reevaluate the relevance of Article 8(j)** in their case and recognise the contribution of all TK holders
- Parties need to rely more on the expertise of **shadow and complementary reporting**, for a better **triangulation of knowledge**



LOCAL
BIODIVERSITY
OUTLOOKS



**INDIGENOUS
NAVIGATOR**
Data by and for Indigenous Peoples



The ICCA
Consortium



- Parties should ensure **inclusive representation** of IP&LCs and other TK holders
- Parties should review and **learn from other Parties' submissions**
- Parties should give greater attention to IP&LCs and TK **content placement throughout the report sections**

To improve the reporting process and the subsequent engagement with IP&LCs and TK on the longer term

- Parties need to encourage **full TK holder engagement throughout planning, monitoring, reporting and review phases**
- Parties should be supported to designate a **national focal point for Article 8(j)**

Technical Brief – Indigenous and Traditional Territories (ITTs) in Target 3

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Unrecognised governance systems: the European context

The European context illustrates some of the challenges associated with applying global categories to highly diverse territorial realities.

In Europe, the Sámi — whose traditional territories (Sápmi) span northern Norway, Sweden, Finland and parts of Russia — are the most widely recognised Indigenous people in the region. However, formal recognition of their territorial rights remains limited and uneven across states.

However, traditional knowledge systems and long-standing territorial governance practices exist across Europe beyond formally recognised Indigenous contexts.

These include commons-based governance arrangements, customary fisheries institutions, pastoral systems and cultural landscapes that may contribute to biodiversity conservation while remaining outside formal conservation categories.

As a result, the implementation of Target 3 in Europe is likely to rely primarily on protected areas and OECMs. European overseas territories may introduce additional complexity where Indigenous populations and customary governance systems exist under highly variable legal arrangements. This



Experts & Negotiators Dialogue on CBD Agenda Items 22 June, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels



Home » Slow Food Presidia » Mediterranean Prud'homies

Mediterranean Prud'homies

Slow Food Presidium / France / Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur / Fish, sea food and fish



There are 33 *prud'homies* (fishing collectives) along France's Mediterranean coast. These collective organizations, tied to specific geographic areas, evolved out of medieval trade guilds and have been used to manage French marine resources for over ten centuries. The *prud'homies* play an essential control and conservation role in marine zones, preserving a historic cultural model and participating in everyday port life.

Review

Is it just conservation? A typology of Indigenous peoples' and local communities' roles in conserving biodiversity

Neil M. Dawson,^{1,2,*} Brendan Coolsaet,^{3,4,*} Aditi Bhardwaj,⁵ Francesca Booker,⁶ David Brown,^{1,7} Bosco Liiso,^{8,9} Jacqueline Loos,^{10,11} Adrian Martin,¹ Malena Oliva,¹² Unai Pascual,^{9,15} Pasang Sherpa,¹³ and Thomas Worsdell¹⁴



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Transforming biodiversity governance? Indigenous peoples' contributions to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Louisa Parks , Elsa Tsioumani

Conservation Biology

CONTRIBUTED PAPER | Open Access |

Global overview of progress in respecting the contributions of traditional knowledge in biodiversity governance

[Kinga Öllerer](#) , [Pernilla Malmer](#), [Marianna Biró](#), [Noor Noor](#), [Polina Shulbaeva](#), [Maurizio Farhan Ferrari](#), [Suneetha M. Subramanian](#), [András Báldi](#), [Zsolt Molnár](#)



Thank you for your attention!

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