

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADVANCE NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS AT UNFCCC COP 29

Twenty-ninth Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 29)

Nineteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 19)

Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 6)

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At UNFCCC COP 29, countries must find agreement to accelerate climate action to limit global warming to 1.5° Celsius, which requires urgent, transformational efforts that harness the full potential of nature-based solutions¹ to mitigate, adapt to, and address climate change. At the mid-year conference (SB 60), countries advanced important technical discussions related to developing indicators for the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, continuation of the Facilitative Working Group for the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, and ocean-climate action, among others; however, they struggled to find common ground on the new collective quantified goal on climate finance or to make substantial progress on all the remaining rules for international cooperation through market and non-market mechanisms under Article 6.

Countries must come to COP 29 ready to build political will and find areas of compromise to advance ongoing areas of work and new ones agreed within the UAE Consensus at COP 28. Several agenda items are critical for accelerating nature-based solutions, but negotiations on the climate finance goal and Article 6 are the linchpins to ensuring countries can implement their upcoming 2025 Nationally Determined Contributions and fund the transformations needed across all sectors by 2030. Countries should ensure that their discussions in Baku are underscored by the need to mobilize trillions in climate finance, shift business-as-usual practices, phase out fossil fuels, and redirect incentives toward nature-positive economies that deliver meaningful outcomes for nature, biodiversity, people, and the climate.

In this brief, Conservation International proposes detailed policy recommendations to advance critical issues related to nature-based solutions and inclusive, rights-based climate action within five key topics at COP 29.

- Cooperative mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement
- New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance
- UAE-Belem work programme on indicators for the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience
- Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform
- Ocean-Climate Nexus

¹ Per [Resolution UNEP/EA.5/Res. 5](#), nature-based solutions are defined as “actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity benefits.”

Recommendations Summary

Increase efficiency of delivering climate goals and finance through cooperative mechanisms.

- Focus on major outstanding issues for the operationalization of Article 6 and ensure the work programme on emissions avoidance (under Articles 6.2 and 6.4) and on conservation enhancement (under Article 6.4) maintains a narrow scope in line with its mandate and does not undermine the role of nature-based solutions.
- To incentivize ambitious mitigation action, all approaches under Article 6 should accelerate nature-based solutions with rigorous environmental and social integrity and broad inclusion of countries and stakeholders. For this purpose, Parties should encourage nature-based emission reductions and removals and avoid imposing any requirements that could inappropriately discourage their use under the Article 6.4 mechanism.
- Engage Indigenous peoples and local communities in discussions on the linkages between Article 6 operationalization and the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform.

Ensure the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance (NCQG) sets ambitious goals that incorporate finance needs for nature-based solutions.

- Adopt a multilayer approach consisting of quantitative targets for the mobilization and provision of climate finance and phasing out harmful subsidies, and qualitative elements for domestic resource mobilization, leveraging private finance, and promoting use of blended finance and innovative instruments. Seek alignment with the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), while streamlining implementation and reporting processes to avoid double counting.
- Consider setting indicative sub-goals related to each sector and/or mitigation pathway. For example, countries should aim to allocate 30% of their finance to nature-based solutions, as they must contribute 30% of mitigation action needed to meet the 1.5°C goal.
- Develop qualitative goals as indicators for successful NCQG delivery, such as standards for high quality, enhanced direct access, balanced delivery, cost-effectiveness, maximization of social and ecological benefits, reduced debt stress, and addressing knowledge and capacity gaps.

Integrate nature and climate vulnerable people into the metrics and indicators for the UAE Global Framework on Climate Resilience.

- Incorporate nature-based solutions and ecosystem vulnerability to climate change in both thematic and dimensional targets as a cross-cutting theme that recognizes nature as an essential adaptation solution and an asset affected by climate impacts.
- Prioritize indicators that have synergies with the UN Rio Conventions and other international frameworks, especially indicators from the GBF for the ecosystem and biodiversity target (9d). Tailor indicators where needed to be adaptation-specific and capture relevant information for the UAE Framework.
- Include financial and implementation-enabling indicators to measure the achievement of both thematic and dimensional targets, and ensure indicators acknowledge the importance and principles of locally-led adaptation.
- Ensure indicators can be disaggregated by gender and ecosystems, and where possible, other variables and different vulnerable groups such as age, ability/disability, Indigenous peoples and local communities, etc.

Strengthen the functions of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) to ensure inclusive and effective participation in climate policy processes and benefit-sharing.

- Adopt the draft COP decision on the LCIPP to continue the mandate of the Facilitative Working Group (FWG) and adopt the LCIPP 2025-2027 workplan.

Recommendations Summary (continued)

- Incorporate recommendations from the [report on the outcomes of FWG](#) into the implementation of the LCIPP work plan for 2025–2027, taking into account the progress related to the representation of local communities and considering ways of further engagement.
- Disseminate the results and lessons learned from LCIPP regional exchanges and use them to inform key UNFCCC agenda items and strengthen linkages across UN conventions.
- Apply the LCIPP side-by-side FWG collaborative model between Parties and Indigenous peoples to enhance international cooperation in areas where non-Party stakeholder participation is critical to increase climate ambition and meet the Paris Agreement goals.

Continue building and enhancing urgent action on the ocean–climate nexus.

- Increase and mobilize finance flows for coastal nature-based solutions within negotiations and processes related to climate finance, including the NCQG.
- Incorporate indicators for coastal nature-based solutions within the indicators for the UAE Framework on Global Climate Resilience.
- Build capacity and understanding of the ways in which coastal nature-based solutions, including the conservation and restoration of blue carbon habitats, can be included in new and updated Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans, in alignment with coastal wetland targets included in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.

Cooperative Mechanisms under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement

CMA Agenda item 15

SBSTA Agenda item 13

Relevant UN Document Links: [Annual report of the Article 6.4 Subsidiary Body](#); [SBSTA 60 Article 6.2 Conclusions](#); [SBSTA 60 Article 6.4 Conclusions](#); [SBSTA 60 Article 6.8 Conclusions](#)

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement establishes a broad framework for voluntary cooperation among Parties in delivering climate action. It sets out three mechanisms through which Parties may interact: 1) bilateral or regional cooperative approaches via internationally transferred mitigation outcomes (ITMOs); 2) a centrally governed UNFCCC mechanism to contribute to mitigation and support sustainable development; and 3) non-market approaches.² **Encouraging the transfer of high-quality emission reductions and removals credits generated in all sectors, including the land sector, can drive needed flows of finance to climate actions, cost-effectively addressing both sources and sinks, and generate opportunities for overall increased ambition.** Moreover, financing nature-based carbon reductions and removals is especially important for near term climate mitigation action needed to limit warming to 1.5°C, and nature-based solutions (NbS) provide mitigation co-benefits by reducing biodiversity loss, increasing water security, and providing livelihoods to forest-dependent communities. These types of emission reductions and/or removals have also been widely tested and monitored and can provide permanent benefits for climate mitigation.

Since the main Article 6 rules were decided at COP 26, Parties have been working to define the outstanding details for implementation of each cooperative approach. Parties specifically requested the Article 6.4 Supervisory Body (A6.4 SB) to prepare recommendations on activities involving removals, and guidance on methodologies. Having advanced this work over the past years, at COP 28 the A6.4 SB was tasked with further work to improve them, with the aim of submitting to CMA for approval in COP 29. As this technical work is completed, Parties must ensure that **nature-based solutions (NbS) are prioritized under market and non-market**

² Paris Agreement, Article 6, Paragraphs 2, 4, and 8, respectively.

approaches to secure financial flows to these critical climate solutions; for this purpose, Conservation International recommends:

- **Article 6 guidance remains open to nature.** Although Parties already agreed that credits from all sectors (including nature) are eligible under all Article 6 mechanisms, negotiators have recently discussed two specific alternatives for nature-based carbon reductions and removals under Article 6.4. The first option under discussion is to completely exclude REDD+ from Article 6.4, which would be inconsistent with the decisions that laid out the rules for this mechanism in Glasgow; furthermore, it would fail to acknowledge the fundamental role that nature has to play in meeting the Paris Agreement temperature goals and the significant nature funding gap. The second option under discussion is for Article 6.4 to only allow REDD+ activities from countries that meet all requirements under the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ (e.g., National REDD+ Strategy, Forest Reference Level, REDD+ Safeguards, and a National Forest Monitoring System). This option should be supported as it would allow greater transparency, alignment and environmental integrity while also ensuring that finance flows to nature. **Parties should only adopt recommendations on removals and methodologies guidance that are sector neutral and avoid imposing any requirements that could unduly or disproportionately discourage the use of nature-based reductions and/or removals under the Article 6.4 mechanism, as follows:**
 - **Risk of reversals:** Any tools or guidance agreed upon for the assessment of risks of reversals for Article 6.4 reductions and removals should be designed in a manner that does not unjustly discriminate nature-based removals or impose undue burdens on credits from nature-based removals. All activities carry a risk of reversals, and there should be no attempt to categorize activities with a given degree of risk of reversals. The design of the risk assessment tool should take this into consideration and not be used as an exclusionary tool. A well-designed and effective buffer pool, along with proper monitoring, reporting and remediation measures adopted by activity participants are consistent and tested tools to account and compensate for reversals. *For more information, see [Conservation International's Technical Note: Understanding the risk of reversals in nature-based removals](#).*
 - **Post-crediting monitoring period and requirements:** Post-crediting monitoring should be feasible and realistic to incentivize removals activities to occur, as well as consistent across all project types, including alternatives such as assigning and transferring the obligation of monitoring to the Host Party.
 - **Safeguards:** Safeguards should be aligned with and build on existing international standards and frameworks, including the Cancun Safeguards. Stringent frameworks to ensure environmental integrity and equitable benefit-sharing with local communities are fundamental to ensure that social and environmental risks are properly identified and mitigated, positive social and environmental impacts are fomented, and the rights and participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities are respected and improved.
- **Parties ensure the work programmes on emission avoidance under Article 6.2 and Article 6.4 and on conservation enhancement under Article 6.4 are limited to the scope within their mandate.** Two work programmes in relation to “emission avoidance” and one on “conservation enhancement” were established at COP 26 and further work has been undertaken in the lead up to COP 29. These terms have not been officially defined by the UNFCCC or IPCC and are leading to confusion among Parties as they are subject to different interpretations. At SB 60, Parties concluded that negotiations on these two topics will be postponed until 2028. Regardless of these discussions, **all removals and emission reductions from all sectors (including nature) are already eligible under Article 6, as long as requirements under Article 6.2 and Article 6.4 guidance are met.** Therefore, all activities should be treated either as removals or emission reductions, and there is no place for discussing new, undefined activities or mitigation types. **These two work programmes should remain limited in scope, ensuring not to discuss activities that reduce emissions or enhance removals, nor to reopen past decisions.**

- **Limit changes to authorizations and revocation of authorizations under Article 6.2 and Article 6.4.** Changes to authorizations should be limited in scope and only take place before the first transfer. In no case should changes allow for unilateral revocation from one Party, since this would create uncertainty, hinder the reliability of Article 6.2 and 6.4 transactions, and provide negative signals to the market.
- **Under the Article 6.8 work programme on the framework for non-market approaches, Parties should continue to work to deliver clear pathways for non-market cooperation through nature-based mitigation and adaptation approaches.** The spin-off groups and workshops should provide more visibility to Indigenous- and community-led initiatives, examples of NMAs strengthening the climate biodiversity nexus, readiness for REDD+, approaches to generate enabling conditions and unlock long-term climate finance, conservation agreements and integrated landscape/seascape approaches, among others, as well as contribute to the scaling up of these initiatives. *For more information see [Conservation International submission on Article 6.8](#)*
- Parties and non-state actors should **proactively engage Indigenous peoples and local community representatives in discussions on the linkages between Article 6 operationalization and the work of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform**, including equitable inclusion of Indigenous peoples and local communities in benefit sharing mechanisms resulting from Article 6 implementation, advancing land tenure rights, and identifying relevant criteria for defining, monitoring and reporting non-market approaches under Article 6.8 inclusive of NbS led by Indigenous peoples and local communities.

As cooperative mechanisms under Article 6 become fully operational and countries move toward using them, there is a growing need to accelerate financial and technical support to developing countries for capacity building, readiness and creating enabling conditions for effective implementation. Parties should consider how to provide this support to ensure equitable participation in Article 6 cooperative mechanisms, as well as deliver opportunities for increased ambition during implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance

CMA Agenda item 11a

Relevant UN Document Links: [Summary note on the 10th Technical Expert Dialogue](#); [Information on progress at the 2nd meeting under the Ad Hoc work programme and way forward](#); [Updated input paper for the 3rd meeting under the Ad Hoc work programme](#)

In 2010, developed countries committed collectively mobilize \$100 billion USD per year by 2020 to finance climate action in developing countries. This was ultimately achieved in 2023; yet in the interim, discussions around climate finance evolved, as many realized this original goal was insufficient, with at least \$6 trillion USD needed for developing countries to meet only *half* of their NDC targets by 2030.³ Thus, **countries agreed to set a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance at COP 29.** Through the NCQG ad hoc work program and Technical Expert Dialogues, governments and other stakeholders have been discussing the details of the new goal, including quantity, quality, scope, access, sources, and transparency arrangements, among others, including the structure for political negotiations for the COP 29 outcome.

An ambitious agreement on the NCQG is crucial for addressing the significant nature finance gap and increasing access to high-quality finance for the communities who steward nature and implement nature-based solutions to tackle climate change. According to UNEP: **“Annual financial flows to NbS need to more than double by 2025 (from US\$200 billion to US\$436 billion) and nearly triple to US\$542 billion by 2030 to reach climate, biodiversity and land degradation targets.”**⁴ Yet currently, NbS is particularly underfunded relative to its potential to contribute one-third of global mitigation needs: **the agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU) sector received only 3% of mitigation and dual mitigation/adaptation finance and 11% of**

³ UNCTAD: [A climate finance goal that works for developing countries](#)

⁴ UNEP: [State of Finance for Nature 2023](#)

adaptation finance in 2021 – 2022.⁵ Climate action in the AFOLU sector is not only underfunded, but most of the finance for the sector currently contradicts climate and biodiversity objectives: each year, **\$7 trillion is spent on activities that harm nature, which is 35 times more than the \$200 billion allocated to NbS.**⁶

Moreover, much of the finance flowing to the AFOLU sector – and climate action overall – is not high quality. The \$100 billion dollar goal was only achieved in the final two years⁷, which is inadequate given the speed at which decarbonization must take place: the AFOLU sector must reach net-zero by 2030⁸. Commitments need to be deployed largely within the next two years to ensure progress towards 2030 targets. More, directing finance to the people that steward the land is essential to scale up NbS; yet less than 10% of climate finance reached local levels between 2003 and 2016.⁹ While Indigenous groups manage half of the world’s lands and protect 80% of global biodiversity, they have received less than 1% of international climate finance over the last decade.¹⁰ Finally, from 2016 to 2022, developed countries’ public climate finance provided bilaterally and through multilateral channels mainly took the form of loans, with its proportion growing yearly, reaching 69% in 2022¹¹. **The NCQG must deliver more predictable finance at greater speed, while reducing debt-stress, directly reaching front-line communities, maximizing effectiveness, and respecting safeguards.**

Within the COP 29 outcome, **Parties should ensure to incorporate climate finance needs for nature, including for coastal habitats.** Conservation International urges Parties consider the following recommendations:

- Where possible, **align elements of the NCQG with the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework** (Goal D and Targets 18 and 19, in particular) **to capture synergies for climate-biodiversity action, as well as streamline implementation and reporting processes to avoid double counting between the two.** Finance under the NCQG should be additional, supporting climate and biodiversity efforts without overlapping with existing commitments. Notably, 81% of biodiversity-related finance also targets climate change, but only 21% of climate finance specifically targets biodiversity.¹² Alignment will support biodiversity conservation, climate mitigation, and adaptation efforts simultaneously, making financial investments more efficient and impactful.
- Adopt a **multilayer approach** consisting of **quantitative targets for the mobilization and provision of climate finance and phasing out harmful subsidies, and qualitative elements for domestic resource mobilization, leveraging private finance, and promoting use of blended finance and innovative instruments.** Within this approach:
 - Set an **ambitious annual target for climate finance mobilization or provision from all sources, with sub-goals for mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage.** The amounts should be based on best available science and data on global climate finance needs, ensuring to fully capture needs for NbS and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) and priorities of developing countries.
 - Under the annual target for climate finance mobilization or provision, consider setting **sub-goals related to each financing source**, including but not limited to domestic resource mobilization, international finance/ODA, private and philanthropy sector contributions, innovative finance instruments and incentive/subsidy reform. The amounts should be based on how much is currently spent, how much is needed, and national circumstances.
 - Under the mitigation goal, consider setting indicative sub-goals related to each sector and/or mitigation pathway. For example, countries should **aim to allocate 30% of their finance to NbS, as it must contribute 30% of mitigation potential to meet the 1.5C goal.**

⁵ Climate Policy Initiative: [Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2023](#)

⁶ UNEP: [State of Finance for Nature 2023](#)

⁷ OECD: [Climate Finance Provided and Mobilised by Developed Countries in 2013-2022](#)

⁸ Conservation International. [Exponential Roadmap for Natural Climate Solutions](#)

⁹ IIED: [Delivering real change: getting international climate finance to the local level.](#)

¹⁰ UNEP: [State of Finance for Nature 2023](#)

¹¹ OECD: [Climate Finance Provided and Mobilised by Developed Countries in 2013-2022, Climate Finance and the USD 100 Billion Goal 2024](#)

¹² OECD: [Biodiversity and Development Finance, 2015-2021](#)

- **Develop ambitious targets for phasing out harmful subsidies and/or incentives that promote emissions intensive activities and non-resilient development**, including those related to fossil fuels and harmful activities within the AFOLU sector that drive nature loss, among others. Consider setting time-based targets for the identification and analysis of the most harmful subsidies, as well as when and by how much they should be reformed. This should be aligned with Target 18 of the GBF where possible.¹³
- Develop **qualitative sub-goals as indicators of success in the delivery of the NCQG**, which should be reported on along with the other goals. These should aspire to:
 - Set **clear standards for high quality, new and additional climate finance** for greater speed, long-term predictability, access, gender-responsiveness, as well as safeguards.
 - Targets to enhance and scale up the mobilization of **climate finance directly accessible to Indigenous peoples and local communities, women, and other climate vulnerable groups**
 - Guarantee a **balanced delivery of funding across thematic pillars and sectors**, ensuring to close disproportionate funding gaps for adaptation, the AFOLU sector, and NbS, among others.
 - **Maximize the cost-effectiveness of climate finance** and **encourage provision of finance to climate solutions that have multiple climate, social, and ecological benefits**, including NbS and EbA.
 - Require resource mobilization through **financial instruments that do not add to debt burdens or reduce debt stress of developing countries**, including grants, equity investments, debt-for-nature swaps, results-based payments, ecosystems value-based payments, and compensation-based payments.
 - **Build in-country capacity to effectively deliver finance** to project implementation, including support for project readiness and development.
 - **Address knowledge gaps** including the quantification of needs, priorities, and mobilization of climate finance by sector, subsector, geographical region, and timeframe.
- **Align the timeframe(s), reporting, and review cycle of the goal with already-agreed processes under the Paris Agreement** where possible, such as NDC common time frames, Enhanced Transparency Framework, and the Global Stocktake process, among others. Integrating the NCQG in this manner will allow the goal to regularly reflect the latest information, as well as reduce the reporting burden and avoid a proliferation of processes for countries already facing capacity constraints. Additional systems can be developed as needed to ensure all elements of the NCQG can be properly monitored.

UAE-Belem Work Programme on Indicators for the UAE Framework on Global Climate Resilience

CMA Agenda item 9a

SBSTA Agenda item 5a

SBI Agenda item 11a

Relevant UN Document Links: [SB 60 Conclusions on Matters relating to the global goal on adaptation](#); [Note on the compilation and mapping of indicators](#); [Compilation of existing indicators](#)

The UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience adopted at COP 28 provides strategic direction through seven thematic targets and four-dimensional targets that define how countries will achieve the adaptation goals set within the Paris Agreement. The two-year UAE-Belem work programme on indicators will develop indicators and metrics to measure and assess progress towards the UAE Framework. During SB 60, countries agreed on a

¹³ [Target 18 of the GBF](#): Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least 500 billion United States dollars per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

timeline, activities, guidelines for indicator mapping, and other processes, such as involvement of technical experts and workshops, for how the work programme will develop the expected outcomes for COP 30.

The work programme should lead to a set of robust metrics, indicators, and potential quantified elements for the Framework that countries can use to report adaptation achievements and ensure a collective assessment of progress towards its targets. In short, “what gets measured gets managed,” and this principle will be critical to ensuring that countries prioritize ecosystem resilience and adopt ecosystem-based adaptation approaches where appropriate. Similarly, the inclusion of indicators related to finance and implementation can help close the adaptation funding gap. Adaptation has traditionally been underfunded, having only received 10% of global climate finance, of which nature-based adaptation comprised only a fifth of the total. Conservation International recommends the following at COP 29 to inform the UAE-Belem work programme:

- **Negotiations on remaining issues related to the modalities and procedures of the UAE-Belem work programme should focus on strengthening the SB 60 outcome** to ensure that the large amount of needed technical work can be completed on time through an inclusive and participatory process, which should build upon and complement the existing adaptation-related bodies under the UNFCCC.
- **Nature-based solutions and ecosystem vulnerability to climate change should be incorporated in both thematic and dimensional targets as a cross-cutting theme** that recognizes nature as an essential adaptation solution and an asset vulnerable to climate impacts. Metrics and indicators related to ecosystems and EbA approaches need to be clearly identified in the thematic target 9d but also be connected to other thematic targets (9 a-g) and dimensional targets around the adaptation cycle (10 a-d).
- Indicators that have synergies with the UN Rio Conventions and other international frameworks, such as the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, should be prioritized to reduce the burden of data collection and facilitate synergistic action across the climate-biodiversity-development nexus. **Special attention should be given to integrating pertinent indicators from the Global Biodiversity Framework for the ecosystem and biodiversity target (9d).** However, many existing indicators are not specific to climate adaptation and climate risk and should be tailored where possible to capture relevant information for the UAE Framework.
- Indicators and metrics should **be based on the best scientific research, Indigenous and traditional knowledge, and practitioners’ implementation experiences**, with the understanding that some level of uncertainty is likely to always exist, and no-regret options should thus be prioritized.
- **Financial and implementation-enabling indicators should be included as they are important to measure the achievement of both thematic and dimensional targets.** Indicators should include dimensions of technical support, capacity building and development of appropriate investment plans, e.g., NAP costing tools and estimated financial need to execute adaptation resilience.
- **Indicators should acknowledge the importance and principles of locally-led adaptation.** Incorporating locally led principles into adaptation indicators involves planning at the appropriate scales (e.g., catchments, landscapes, seascapes) and across interlinked ecosystems, meaningful engagement with community stakeholders, respecting Indigenous and traditional knowledge systems, and fostering collaborative decision-making processes to empower local communities and institutions to lead sustainable and effective adaptation action at the local level.
- Under **target 9d on ecosystems and biodiversity, Parties should consider adopting a quantified element, such as to “effectively conserve, restore and manage nature for climate resilience and adaptation and restore, conserve and effectively manage at least 30% of terrestrial, inland water, mountain, marine and coastal ecosystems, with special attention to those ecosystems already suffering from or known to be at heightened risk from climate change impacts and those that are important for providing adaptation benefits to people and nature.”**

- **Any quantified element, indicators, and metrics for target 9g on cultural heritage should reflect Indigenous and traditional knowledge related to climate change observations, risks and local adaptation strategies that have helped design, implement, and monitor adaptation.** Indigenous peoples and local communities' strong relationship with nature allows them to detect and experience nuanced changes to their environment and respond with autonomous adaptation initiatives based on those changes. The target should also include preservation of cultural practices and knowledge systems to ensure long term sustainability of cultural heritage sites through strengthening or revitalization of knowledge and practices based on Indigenous and traditional peoples' priorities.
- **All indicators and metrics related to nature should be disaggregated by ecosystem**, such as terrestrial, inland water, mountain, marine and coastal ecosystems. These indicators should measure both the health and vulnerability of these ecosystems due to climate change and the adaptation benefits they provide.
- **All indicators and metrics related to people and population should be disaggregated by gender** and where possible, other variables and different vulnerable groups. This can include age, ability/disability, IPLC status, etc. Disaggregation serves as a crucial tool in discerning whether existing inequities are diminishing, such as gender-based violence stemming from climate stress, or if inadvertent harm arises from the implementation of certain actions.

[See Conservation International's submission on the UAE-Belem work programme for our full recommendations.](#)

Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform

12th Meeting of the Facilitative Working Group (FWG)

Relevant UN Document Links: [SBSTA 60 Conclusions on the LCIPP](#); [Summary Note of Decisions from the 11th Meeting of the FWG](#)

The Paris Agreement explicitly recognizes the rights of Indigenous peoples (IPs) and local communities (LCs) in the context of climate action. Through the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) and its Facilitative Working Group, Parties and Indigenous peoples work to exchange knowledge and build capacities to strengthen inclusive participation of IPs and LCs, as well as recognize their contributions to addressing climate change. The LCIPP is implementing its three functions related to (i) knowledge, (ii) capacity for engagement, and (iii) climate change policies and actions, through its second, three-year work plan, which stipulates several activities through 2024. The [LCIPP mandated events at COP29](#) include Gatherings of Knowledge Holders, Youth Roundtables, and a Multistakeholder dialogue. In addition to participating in these activities, **Party and non-Party stakeholders should aim for the following at COP 29:**

- **Adopt the draft COP decision on the LCIPP to continue the mandate of the FWG, adopt the LCIPP 2025-2027 workplan**, and enable efforts that contribute to the full and meaningful engagement of IPs and LCs under the convention and the Paris Agreement.
- Ensure the full **operationalization of LCIPP functions and promote spaces for FWG representatives to participate and contribute to relevant negotiation agenda items**, including the Article 6.8 work programme, the UAE-Belem work programme on indicators, loss and damage, and the UAE just transition work programme.
- **Incorporate recommendations from the [report on the outcomes of FWG](#)** into the implementation of the LCIPP work plan for 2025–2027, taking into account the progress related to the representation of local communities and considering ways of further engagement.
- **Disseminate the results and lessons learned from LCIPP regional exchanges and use them to inform key UNFCCC agenda items** and strengthen linkages across UN conventions, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity.

- **Apply the LCIPP side-by-side FWG collaborative model** between Parties and Indigenous peoples to enhance international cooperation in areas where non-Party stakeholder participation is critical to increase climate ambition and meet the Paris Agreement goals.
- **Increase meaningful engagement of governments in the LCIPP activities**, especially in those aimed at improving the participation of IPs and LCs in national climate policy planning. Parties should collaborate with IPs and LCs to strengthen the connection between local-national and regional-global climate actions of IPs and LCs.

Ocean–Climate Nexus

Relevant UN Document Links: [Informal Summary Report of the 2024 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue](#)

Recent COP outcomes illustrate a growing recognition of the essential role of coastal and marine nature-based solutions in ambitious climate mitigation and adaptation action. The UAE Consensus signaled **the importance of ocean-based adaptation and mitigation actions, including preserving and restoring coastal and marine ecosystems, and encouraged further strengthening of ocean-based action**. The June 2024 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue included discussions on coastal resilience, emerging marine technologies and how to finance them, and called for the need to strengthen biodiversity-climate linkages across national policies, UNFCCC, and GBF targets. Numerous opportunities remain to advance this work. Therefore, **at COP 29 Conservation International encourages Parties to:**

- **Scale climate finance and mobilize increased financial flows for coastal and marine nature-based solutions.** In ongoing negotiations related to finance, including the **New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance**, the Standing Committee on Finance, and the Loss & Damage Fund, countries should ensure that the processes and structures being established enable and support robust financing to coastal and marine NbS.
- **Incorporate indicators for coastal nature-based solutions within the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience.** Parties should call for explicit inclusion of coastal and marine NbS as a cross-cutting element of both thematic and dimensional targets of the UAE Framework to increase coastal resilience and enhance livelihoods. For example, a potential indicator such as, “damages to infrastructure and human settlements at high risk of climate change (% reduction compared to baseline)” could be measured with a coastal NbS-centered indicator (e.g., avoided loss).
- **Raise and align ambition for coastal NbS within national climate planning.** Parties can use dialogues and events COP 29 to build capacity and understanding of the ways in which coastal NbS, including the conservation and restoration of blue carbon habitats, can be included in new and updated NDCs and National Adaptation Plans. They should aim to incorporate findings from the informal summary report from the June 2024 Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue’s coastal resilience topic. Furthermore, Parties should enhance biodiversity-climate linkages for coastal and ocean habitats by aligning targets in NDC updates with National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans under the GBF. Creating cohesive goals for coastal NbS across national commitments helps ensure that blue carbon habitat conservation and restoration addresses both biodiversity loss and climatic impacts. Additional resources to support countries NDC updates include [Blue Carbon and National Determined Contributions: Second Edition](#) and [Guidance for Including Coastal Green-Gray Infrastructure in NDCs](#).