

FIFTH EDITION OF THE *GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK 2020* PUBLISHED BY THE UN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

In September 2020, [the Secretariat of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity](#) published the fifth edition of the [Global Biodiversity Outlook \(GBO-5\)](#). The five periodic reports present the progress against the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets agreed in 2010 to be achieved by 2020. These reports provide a summary of the status of biological diversity and an analysis of the steps being taken by the global community to ensure that biodiversity is conserved and used sustainably, and that benefits arising from the use of genetic resources are shared equitably.

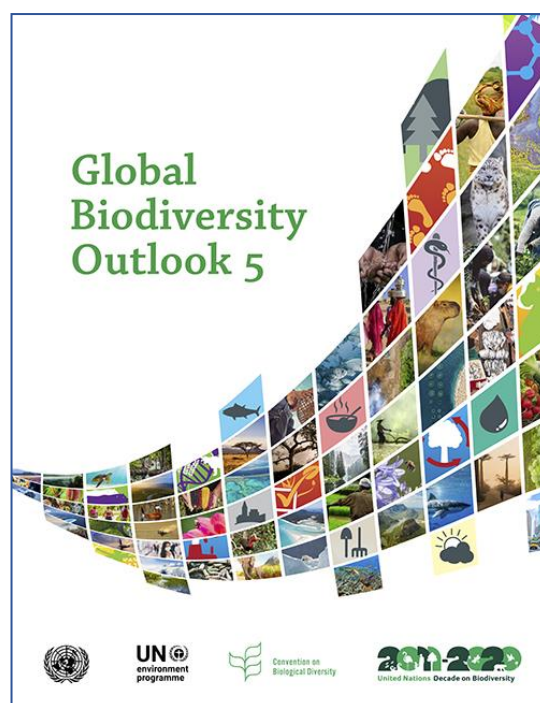
The year 2020 marks the end of the [United Nations Decade on Biodiversity](#) and the implementation of the [Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Targets 2011–2020](#). All countries are coming together to review progress towards the Plan's five Strategic Goals and the 20 Aichi Targets to shape the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

The [Global Biodiversity Outlook \(GBO-5\)](#) summarizes the latest data on the status and trends of biodiversity and provides information on the successes and challenges in implementing the Strategic Plan and in reaching the Aichi Targets. The report is based on a range of indicators, research studies and assessments, as the [IPBES Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#) and the [National reports](#) provided by countries.

During the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, countries have worked to address many of the causes of biodiversity loss. However, the analysis based on the national reports and latest scientific findings shows that those efforts have not been sufficient to meet most of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets established in 2010. Looking at the future, the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-5) highlights the need to scale up the ambitions for a new *Global Biodiversity Framework* and identifies a number of transitions that will be required to recognize biodiversity as an essential element of sustainable development. It emphasizes that countries need to bring biodiversity into the mainstream of decision making and need to be factored into policies across all economic sectors.

The Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-5) outlines the following eight interdependent transitions that recognize the value of biodiversity, the need to restore the ecosystems on which all human activity depends, and the urgency to reduce the negative impacts of such activity:

- The *land and forests* transition: conserving intact ecosystems, restoring ecosystems, combatting and reversing degradation, and employing spatial planning at landscape level to avoid, reduce and mitigate land-use change.
- The *sustainable agriculture* transition: recognizing the role of biodiversity, including pollinators, pest and disease control organisms, soil biodiversity and genetic diversity, as well as diversity in the



landscape, for productive and resilient agriculture that makes efficient use of land, water and other resources.

- The sustainable *food systems* transition: enabling sustainable and healthy diets with a greater emphasis on a diversity of foods, mostly plant-based, and more moderate consumption of meat and fish, as well as dramatic cuts in the waste of food supply and consumption.
- The sustainable *fisheries and oceans* transition: protecting and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems, rebuilding fisheries and managing aquaculture and other uses of the oceans to ensure sustainability, and to enhance food security and livelihoods.
- The *cities and infrastructure* transition: deploying “green infrastructure” and making space for nature within built landscapes to improve the health and quality of life for citizens and to reduce the environmental footprint of cities and infrastructure.
- The sustainable *freshwater* transition: an integrated approach guaranteeing the water flows required by nature and people, improving water quality, protecting critical habitats, controlling invasive species and safeguarding connectivity to allow the recovery of freshwater systems from mountains to coasts.
- The sustainable *climate action* transition: employing nature-based solutions, alongside a rapid phase-out of fossil fuel use, to reduce the scale and impacts of climate change, while providing positive benefits for biodiversity and other Sustainable Development Goals.
- The biodiversity-inclusive *One Health* transition: managing ecosystems, including agricultural and urban ecosystems, as well as the use of wildlife, through an integrated approach, to promote healthy ecosystems and healthy people.

The transitions proposed by the GBO-5 are interdependent, envisage an ecosystem approach and will require the active participation not only of international bodies and national governments, but also of communities and local governments, indigenous communities, professional and civil society associations, universities, research centers and all the actors already engaged in the implementation of innovative solutions to protect biodiversity and enhance its resources for a new sustainable development.

The [Local Biodiversity Outlook](#), for example, released during negotiations towards a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, presents the contributions of more than 50 indigenous and community authors, providing their perspectives on what should be done to bend the curve of biodiversity loss and change the direction of travel.

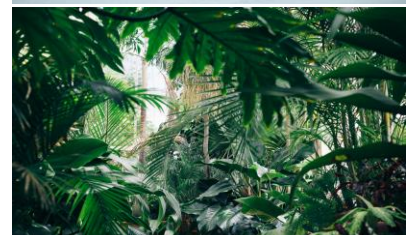
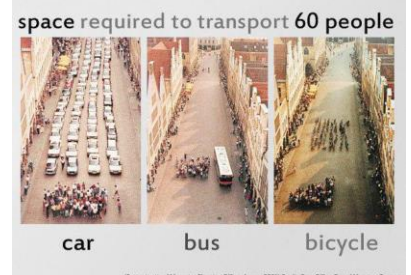
The Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-5), available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, offers an overview of the state of nature and prospects the conditions for a new path to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity. The last [United Nations Biodiversity Summit](#) held on 30 September 2020, called for an urgent action on biodiversity for sustainable development.

To know more

[Global Biodiversity Outlook \(GBO – 5\) pdf](#)

[Global Biodiversity Outlook in Convention on Biological Diversity website](#)

[National Reports in CBD.int website](#)



[IPBES Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#)

[UN Biodiversity in Facebook](#)

[United Nations Biodiversity Summit](#)

[Local Biodiversity Outlook \(GBO-4\)](#)

[Indigenous peoples and local communities in cdb.int website](#)

[United Nations Decade on Biodiversity](#)

[Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020](#)

[Global Biodiversity Outlook \(GBO-5\) in UNEnvironment website](#)

[Ecosystems and biodiversity in UNEnvironment website](#)

[Convention on Biological Diversity website](#)

