

Kick-off Cities Engagement

Nature Science-Based Targets for Cities Program

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SCIENCE BASED TARGETS NETWORK
GLOBAL COMMONS ALLIANCE



Cities Program Manager

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Welcome

Program goal

Develop an overarching guideline **for cities** to set Science-Based Targets for Nature

We invite you to collaborate with us

- Align outcomes with current needs and challenges
- Integrate on the ground-perspective and validation
- Build on existing knowledge and lessons learned

Today's agenda

- 01** Introductions
- 02** Why do we need targets for nature?
- 03** Program objectives and approach
- 04** Nature Policy context
- 05** Selection of pilot themes and indicators
- 06** Next steps





Introduction

What is the SBTN, Its vision & mission?



What: [The Science Based Targets Network](#) (SBTN) is a collaboration of scientists and sustainability experts from over 80 leading organizations: global environmental non-profits, international agencies and mission-driven entities.



Vision: To enable a global economy in which companies and cities operate within environmental boundaries on a socially equitable basis, through implementing science-based targets (SBTs) that reduce and improve their impact on nature and society.



Mission: The Science Based Targets Network aims to set the bar for ambitious measurable action on nature, which includes and builds upon climate action.



Consortium



Core team



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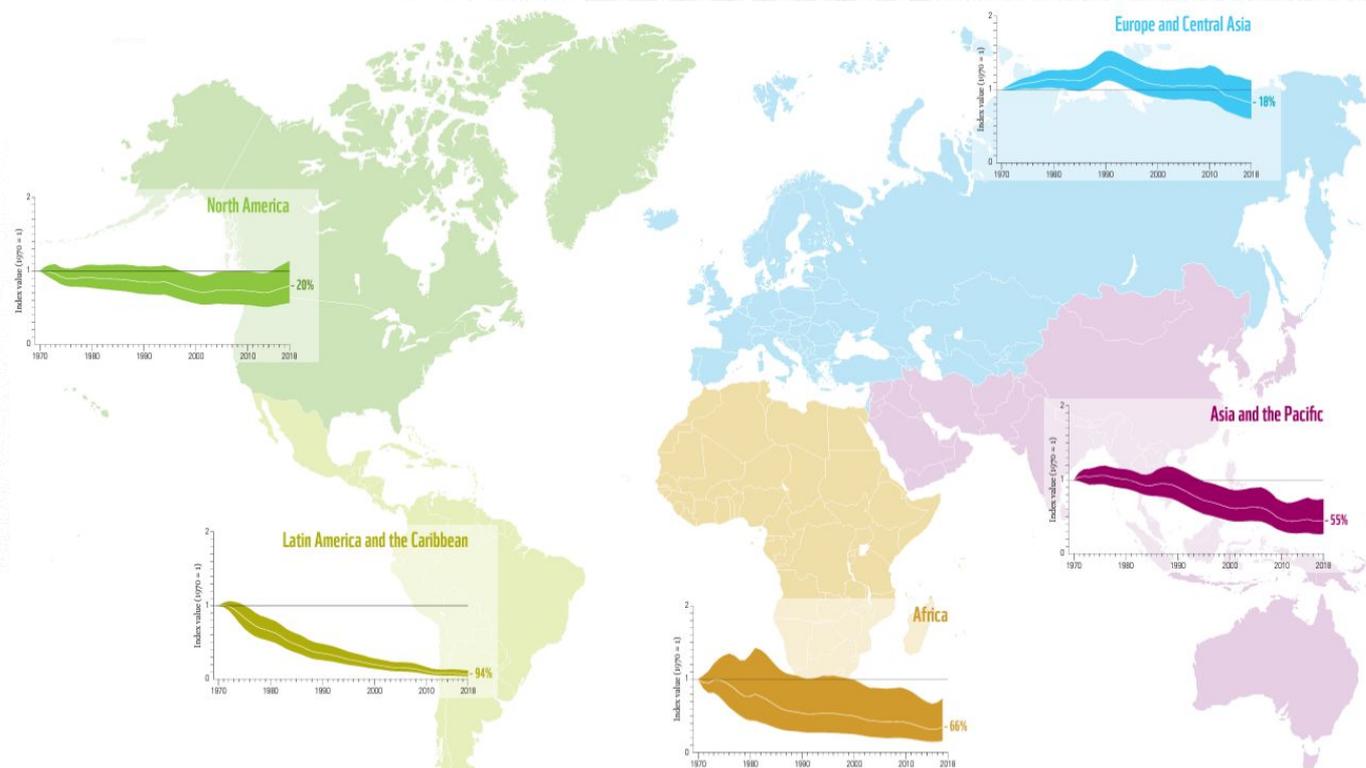
Eric Hubbard

Why do we need targets for nature?



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State of nature and biodiversity



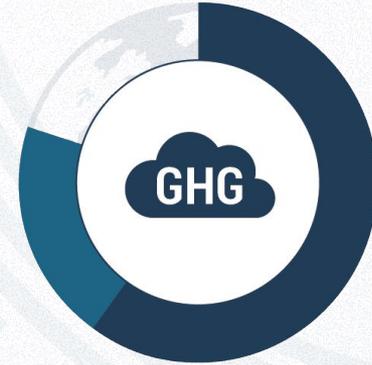
Cities as leverage points for nature



**Cities occupy 3% of global
land surface**



**But consume 75% of
global resources**



**& product 60–80% of global
greenhouse gas emissions**

Why should cities set targets for nature?



Healthy ecosystems

- Improving the state of nature and biodiversity
- Supporting ecosystem services that we depend on for our health, livelihoods and survival.



Wellbeing and quality of life

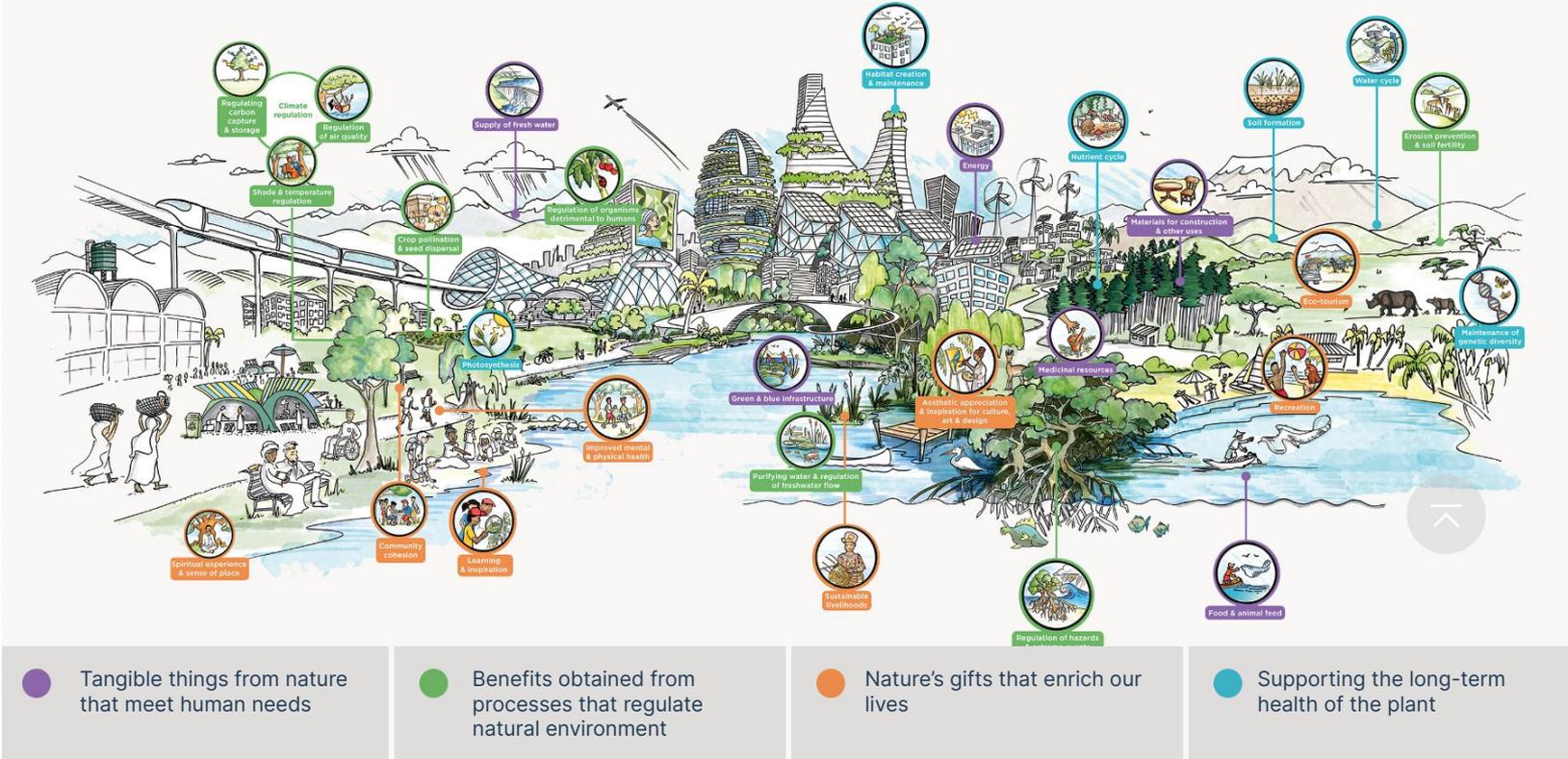
- Urban green, reduced urban heat islands and clean water and air improve the overall health and wellbeing of citizens.
- Green spaces provide opportunities for recreation and support of a high quality of life



Thriving Economy

- Greener cities are more livable and attractive for tourism
- Building resilience and reducing climate risks supporting a steady economy
- Nature positive investment have great economic potential in job creation

Nature's contributions to People CitiesWithNature



Challenges for target setting

1

Cities are confronted with options for addressing negative ecological impacts, but **guidance on how to choose among them is lacking.**

2

Application of existing frameworks to the diversity of city contexts is challenging, resulting in cities commonly having to invent their own approach.

3

Cities need legitimate ways to assess their own impact areas and to **set feasible yet meaningful targets** so they are set up for success.





Program objectives and approach

Objectives and outcomes

The objective of the program is to create an **holistic science-based target framework** that covers the impact of cities on both climate and natural systems.

Providing cities with an **overarching guideline** making it easy to navigate and select the most appropriate methodologies for target setting

Building upon existing research, experience, and efforts



Developing a feasible and actionable **methodology**

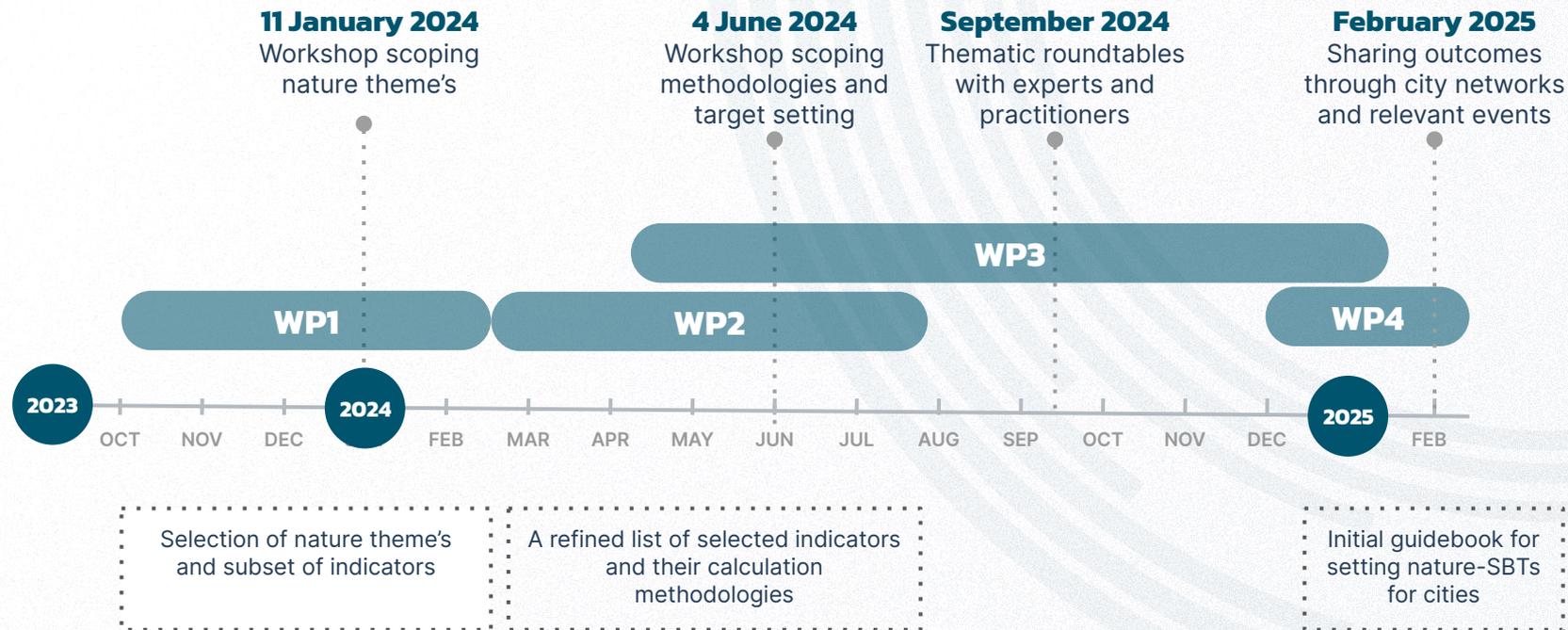
Flexible guidance aligning with cities priorities and contexts

SBTN frameworks

The Nature SBTs for Cities Program builds further on both the SBTs for Nature for businesses as well as the SBTs for Climate for Cities works.



Timeline



Nature Policy context



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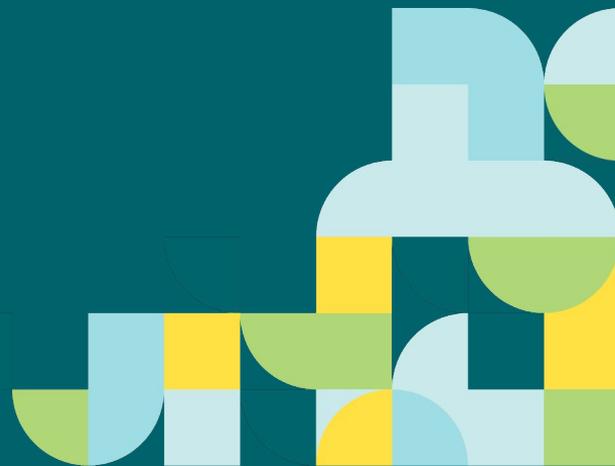
Why take action to protect nature?

(including making agreements,
and setting indicators and targets)?

- **Bottom-up goals** driven by residents, cities, & regions
- Middle space: (SBTs for Nature for Cities work)
- **Top-down goals** in international diplomacy (UN)
Can create global standards and momentum for action
- *Legally-binding agreements* from the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UN CBD)
- Conference of the Parties (COP): Signatories to the CBD meet every 2 years to make global decisions on biodiversity
- Previous: **COP15**: Dec 2022
Outcome: **Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)**
(i.e., “The Biodiversity Plan”). Parties aim to meet:
 - 4 Goals for 2050
 - 23 Targets for 2030
- Upcoming: **COP16**: Oct-Nov 2024 in Colombia
- SBTs for Nature for Cities work can help to incorporate and reach the goals and targets of the GBF (complementarity)



Convention on
Biological Diversity



COP15: 7th Summit for Subnational Governments and Cities & Pavilion

- ✓ Historic global milestone to welcome significantly strengthened contributions from subnational governments and cities to the new post-2020 global biodiversity framework (GBF)
- ✓ Co-hosted by ICLEI, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) and Regions4, along with the host Government of Québec and the City of Montréal and with the support and engagement of the Province of Yunnan and the City of Kunming
- ✓ Significant mobilization of & commitment by cities & subnational governments

1500+ registered & participating delegates
200+ subnational & local government leaders
300+ cities and regions from 70+ countries around the world
450+ global, regional & local organizations & partners
80+ speakers contributing to a rich and diverse program over two days



Overview of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

CBD/COP/DEC/15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Four long-term goals by 2050

23 action-oriented global targets to be initiated immediately and completed by 2030.

Together, the results will enable achievement towards the outcome-oriented goals for 2050.



4 GOALS

- a) Halting human-induced extinction of threatened species and reducing the rate of extinction of all species tenfold by 2050;
- (b) Sustainable use and management of biodiversity to ensure that nature's contributions to people are valued, maintained and enhanced;
- (c) Fair sharing of the benefits from the utilization of genetic resources, and digital sequence information on genetic resources; &
- (d) Adequate means of implementing the global biodiversity framework be accessible to all Parties.

Important for alignment in the SBTN work

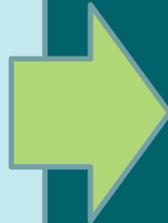
Overview of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

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23 TARGETS

- Reducing threats to biodiversity
- Targets 1 - 8
- Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing;
- Targets 9 – 13
- Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming
- Targets 14 - 23

****Important for alignment in the SBTN work****
GBF targets 1,2,3,4,10,11,12,14,19,& 22 connect to the selected pilot theme of: Land Use Development and Sprawl

Overview of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

CBD/COP/DEC/15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

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Some key Considerations for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

- Whole of Government & Whole of Society approach
- Contribution and rights of indigenous peoples and local communities
- Right to development
- Human Rights-based Approach
- Gender equality & empowerment

****Important for alignment in the SBTN work****
Emphasis on equity and justice

COP15: Decisions adopted at COP15 and directly relevant to local & subnational gov'ts [incl. cities]



CBD/COP/DEC/15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

CBD/COP/DEC/15/5 Monitoring framework of the GBF

CBD/COP/DEC/15/6 Mechanism for planning, monitoring, reporting and reviewing

CBD/COP/DEC/15/7 Resource mobilization

CBD/COP/DEC/15/8 Capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation

CBD/COP/15/12 Engagement with subnational governments, cities and other local authorities to enhance implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity & Plan of Action (2022-2030)

CBD/COP/15/27 Invasive alien species

CBD/COP/15/24 Conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity

CBD/COP/15/28 Biodiversity and Agriculture

CBD/COP/15/29 Biodiversity and Health

All decisions from COP15 can be found on www.cbd.int/conferences/2021-2022/cop-15/documents



Decision 15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: 2030 Targets relevant to cities

CBD/COP/DEC/15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The framework's four long-term goals by 2050

The framework has **23 action-oriented global targets** to be initiated immediately and completed by 2030.

Together, the results will enable achievement towards the outcome-oriented goals for 2050.



With direct reference to urban and densely populated areas

Target 12 urges for increasing the area, quality and connectivity, and improving access to and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban areas. This can be achieved by mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at all local decision making and urban planning.

Target 14 aims to ensure that biodiversity issues are integrated into policies, regulations, planning and different strategies within and across all levels of government to make cities and regions more livable places.

****Important for the SBTN selected pilot theme: Land Use Development and Sprawl***

Decision 15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: 2030 Targets relevant to cities

CBD/COP/DEC/15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The framework's four long-term goals by 2050

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Targets where cities can make contributions based on their mandates and roles, even though this is not specifically recognized in the decisions.

Target 7: Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects

Target 11: Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as regulation of air, water, and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.

Decision 15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Framework: 2030 Targets relevant to cities



CBD/COP/DEC/15/4 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The framework's four long-term goals by 2050

The framework has **23 action-oriented global targets** to be initiated immediately and completed by 2030.

Together, the results will enable achievement towards the outcome-oriented goals for 2050.



Target 2: Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.

Target 3: Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.

How can cities & subnational governments support GBF implementation?

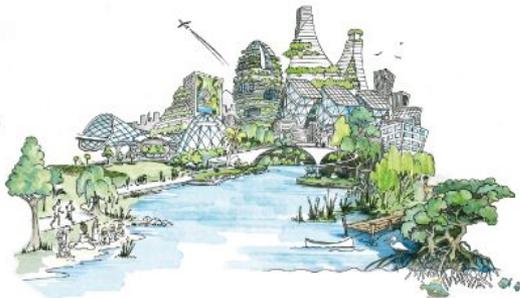


- **Align priorities & actions** on biodiversity & ecosystem restoration with National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plans
- Prioritise & **implement projects**, programmes & measures that **contribute to GBF targets**: e.g. 2, 3, 7, 11, 12 & 14
- **Mainstream biodiversity** considerations into **land use & spatial plans and decisions on infrastructure delivery** (ecological infrastructure)
- Apply **Nature-based solutions & ecosystem-based approaches** to address urban challenges
- **Collaborate with national governments** to develop action plans to implement that POA, & encourage them to identify, enhance and disseminate policy tools, guidelines, financial mechanisms or instruments, & programmes that will facilitate local action on biodiversity & build capacity of cities & subnational governments



How is your city taking action for nature?

What cities do for nature really matters. For healthier, happier and more resilient cities. For people and nature nearby and far away. On this Action Platform you can showcase your city's actions and plans, understand how they contribute to global nature goals and easily track your city's achievements.



[Join CitiesWithNature](#)

208 Total actions taken **17** Participating cities



Make a commitment

[Share your city's actions](#)



Learn more about the Action Platform

[Let's go](#)



How do cities contribute to global nature goals?

[Learn more](#)

Plans to support national governments – NBSAP implementation & Reporting

CitiesWithNature & RegionsWithNature online platforms - local & subnational governments can report on, & track progress against, their commitments to contributing to the implementation of the GBF (recognized in action area 7 of the Plan of Action)

Aligned with GBF's 2030 Action Targets – interprets the global targets to what is relevant to local governments

Cities actions can feed into National Reports to CBD

Who is taking action?



City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality
Western Cape - South Africa



City of San Antonio, TX
Texas - United States

Commitments per action area



208

Total actions taken



How can the SBTs for Nature for Cities process align with the UN CBD & GBF?



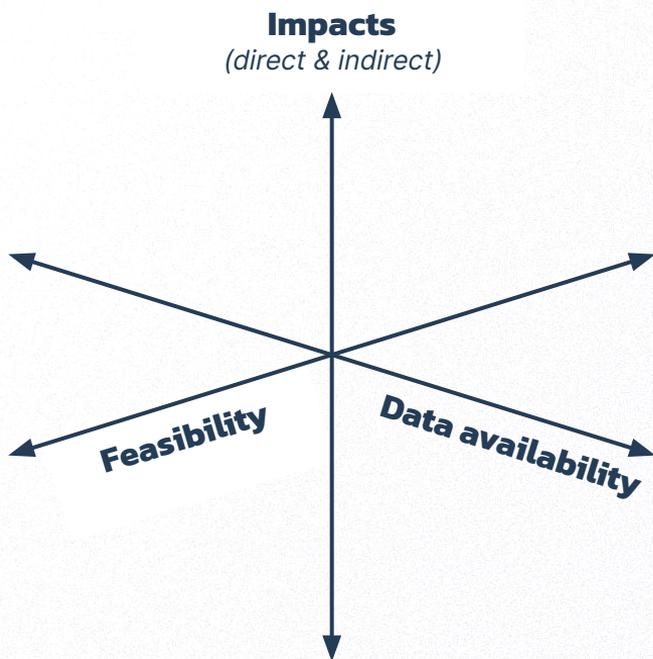
- Reflect and consider the **GBF goals & targets**
- Align with **National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plans (NBSAPs)**
- Pay attention to and incorporate the ongoing development of **headline, component, and complementary indicators** that signatory Parties must meet (UN CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) process)





Selection of pilot theme and indicators

Methodology: Core Principles

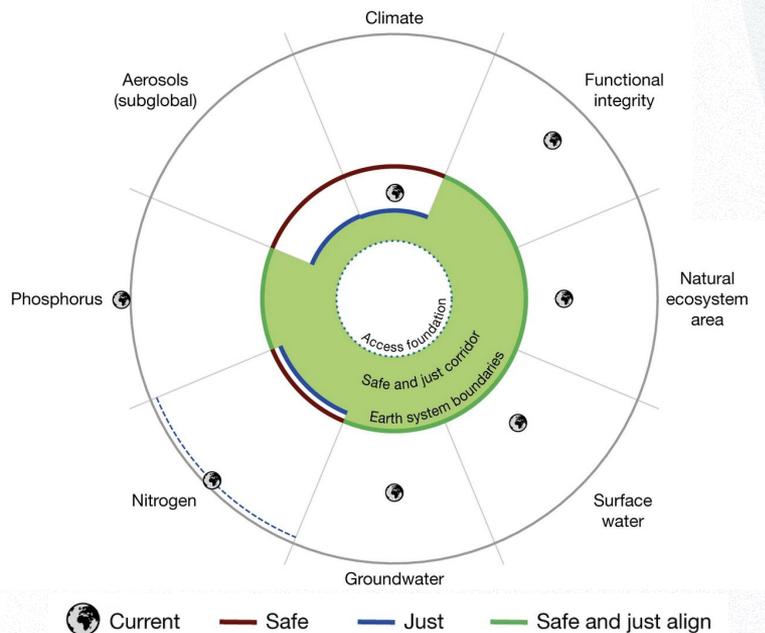


The framework will be built at the conjunction of three key considerations:

- **Impacts:** cities can define what their impact areas are, allowing them to transparently focus on areas of their choice while remaining aware of other impact areas.
- **Data availability:** existing data is expected to fall short of a full assessment of the bioshed, but acknowledging all impact areas of cities is key to expanding awareness of urban influence on global ecological health.
- **Feasibility:** the guidance output is limited by real-world considerations and is expected to provide an initial indication towards the state of a city's directly- and indirectly-impacted bioshed.

Target-setting

Safe and Just Earth System Boundaries



[Rockstrom et al., 2023](#)

In the Safe and Just Earth System Boundaries (previously the Planetary Boundaries), local targets for biosphere integrity are:

- **For Natural ecosystem area:** critical natural ecosystems need to be preserved or restored (set at 50-60% globally)
- **For functional integrity:** >20-25% of each 1 km² must be under (semi-)natural vegetation; >50% in vulnerable landscapes; at <10%, few nature's contributions to people (NCP) remain.

Alignment with Global Agreements

The Nature SBTs for Cities program will:

Link targets with major related global agreements

Global Biodiversity Framework

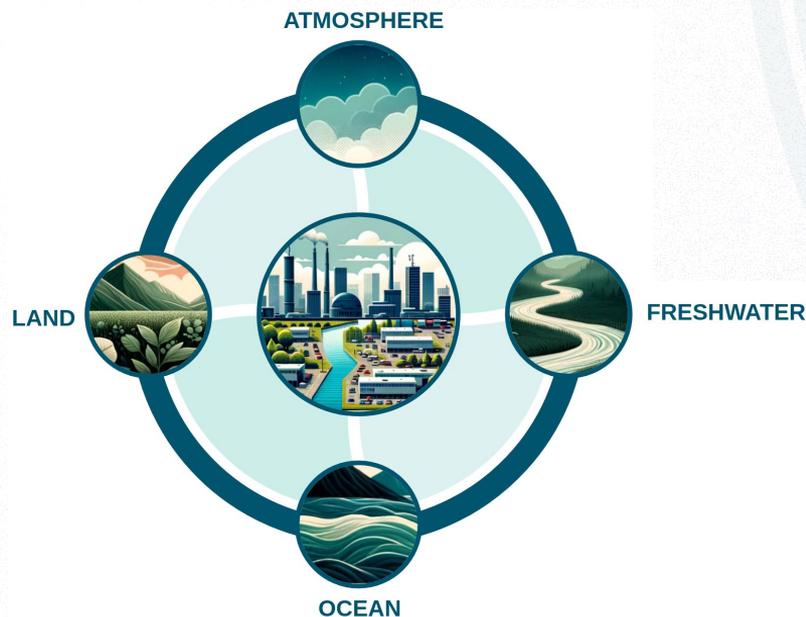


THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN
For Life on Earth

SDGs

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

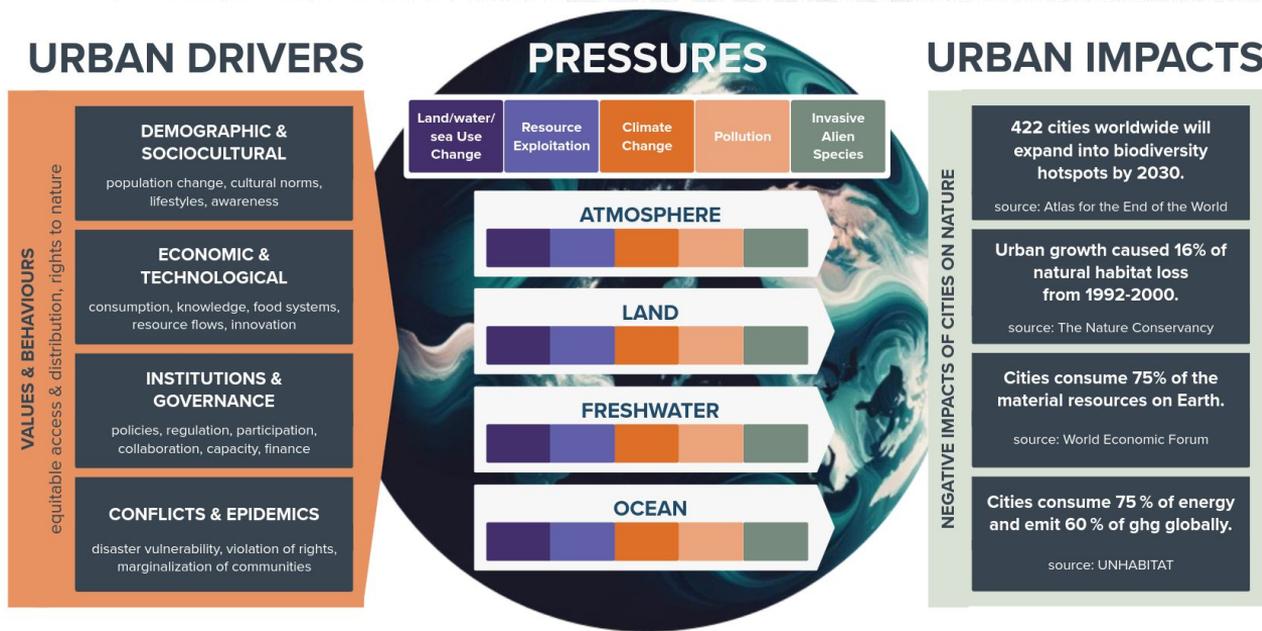
Realms of Nature



Informed by existing frameworks 4 realms of nature were identified.

- Nature SBTs for Business and Climate SBTs for Cities
- Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) recommendations
- International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Nature Positive for Business guidelines
- World Economic Forum upcoming Nature-Positive Cities Guidelines

Guiding Structure



Guiding structure is similar to the Nature SBTs for Businesses diagram (adapted from IPBES) of drivers, pressures, and impacts, but tailored towards urban drivers and impacts.

Urban Pressures

Urban Pressures - thematic areas by pressure type (direct and indirect) and realm of nature.

Direct Pressures from Urban Activities

Indirect Pressures through Climate Change



Urban responses and potential outcomes

This figure illustrates how responses by cities to the pressures and drivers from the previous two figures can improve outcomes.

Local responses

Governance

- Reporting
- Training
- Management
- Information sharing
- Decision-making processes

Policy & Regulations

- Policy framework
- Regulatory framework
- Compliance
- Incentives & subsidies
- Stakeholder consultation
- Procurement
- Advocacy

Risk & Impact Management

- Target-setting
- Monitoring
- External review
- Assess risks and impacts
- Assess local status of nature

Financing

- Budget commitment
- Funding leveraging
- Financial incentives
- Payment schemes

Communications & Engagement

- Public reporting
- Education campaigns
- Communication strategy
- Engagement
- Behavioral shifts
- City and citizen identity
- External partnerships
- Consensus-building

Human Capital

- Training
- Internal culture
- Events
- Knowledge transfer
- Access to expertise

Possible outcomes

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF NATURE FOR CITIES

strive for benefits across society

INCLUSIVE WELL-BEING

biophilia, mental and physical health, support for livelihoods, spiritual fulfillment

RESILIENCE & REDUCED RISK

disaster risk reduction, food security, improved stability and capacity

ECOSYSTEM & BIOSPHERE HEALTH

abundance of resources and biodiversity at the local, regional, and global scale

NATURE'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEOPLE

growth of ecosystem services and tourism, economic opportunities

Assessment Criteria

To guide the selection of the pilot theme, we **assessed the urban pressures according to 13 criteria** compiled from the workshop, SBTN standards, and other important factors.

Criteria	Subtitle	Description
Applicability	LBSAPs	How many of the 13 cities in the assessment include this theme in their local biodiversity plan?
	Capacity	Do cities have the local expertise and capacity to address this theme?
	LG Role	Do local governments have authority and/or responsibility in this theme?
Impact	IPBES	What does the IPBES Global Assessment say about the role of this theme on biodiversity loss?
	GBF	Does the Global Biodiversity Framework include this theme?
	EF	Does the ecological footprint account for this theme?
Data	Internal	Do cities have access to this data internally?
	External	Do cities have access to this data from external organizations?
	Primary	Could this data be collected first hand if needed?
SBTN Principles	Science	Can the targets for this theme, as used in practice, be linked to the Planetary Boundaries directly?
	Equity	Does existing practice consider equity in target-setting related to this theme? If not, is there an opportunity to do so?
	Completeness	The holistic nature of this domain and its correlation with other pressures
Climate Change	Climate	Possibilities for alignment with the Climate SBTs for Cities product.

Selected pilot theme

Out-of-scope:

invasive species, resource exploitation (such as ecological footprint), consumption, climate change, education and awareness, and pollution.

Land Use Development and Sprawl

In Scope:

Spatial planning, transportation, buildings and infrastructure, open spaces, urban agriculture, vegetation, protected areas, connectivity, species status, and related governance and equity issues.

Indicators for this theme are found in:

- GBF Targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 14, 19, 22
- **146 indicators** across 12 frameworks in this theme
- **10** example cities have indicators in this theme

Experts & Practitioners Survey results:

This was the top selected theme by a large margin; listed as an important component by 67% of local government respondents

Next steps



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Looking ahead

- **Workshop June 4th + June 10th**
 - What approach or actions have already been taken in setting targets for nature and what are the lessons learned so far?
 - What would benefit you most as a practitioner to move forward with target setting for nature?
 - What are the main obstacles in target setting for nature?
- **September 2024:** Roundtable discussions with cities and experts
- **November 2024:** First draft of Nature pilot guideline for cities
- **December 2024:** Feedback round and review of the draft
- **February 2025:** Nature pilot guideline for cities



Questions

Thank you



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