

Mission

Elements that should be part of the target

- **“Halt”** biodiversity loss, in addition to and **before recovery**

Halting biodiversity loss is paramount, not just to slow down its rate. It must be given precedence over restoration and recovery because extinct species cannot be restored. So, preserving existing biodiversity needs to be the top priority and is not automatically included in “recovery”. A distinction between loss and recovery is also necessary in order to avoid offsetting.

This language also needs to be included to avoid regression from the strategic plan 2011-2020 and its mission and to ensure coherence.

- In fair and equitable, and gender-just ways

Ensure that measures taken to halt biodiversity loss and to ensure its recovery respect human rights, including women’s rights and provide benefits for all, especially those whose livelihoods most depend on biodiversity

Elements that should NOT be part of the mission

- Net Gain/No Net Loss/ Nature positive

These concepts are not defined in the Convention text. They are based upon the assumption that biodiversity loss in one area can be compensated by restoration or even conservation of other areas, which has no scientific basis and has proven to lead to further biodiversity decline. It also denies the rights and livelihood dependency of Indigenous Peoples and local communities on the ecosystems they live in and near, which cannot be compensated for by restoration or conservation of other sites.

Elements to be replaced

- “Put biodiversity on a path to recovery” by “ensuring biodiversity and ecosystem long-term recovery and integrity”

“To put biodiversity on a path to recovery” is not measurable and is weak.

Further reading:

- “Net gain is a lose-lose option for rights, gender justice and social equity in biodiversity policy”, Global Forest Coalition, 2022, <https://globalforestcoalition.org/biodiversity-offsets/>