

## New Proposed Goal E: Effective Implementation

In addition to a decision on an improved implementation framework, as outlined in Section J, there must be a goal to improve implementation. Experience from the Aichi targets shows that only the goals and targets will be respected and followed up in the long term. The implementation mechanism must ensure the full implementation of the Convention with all its obligations, including enabling all means for implementation. This includes the implementation of the GBF itself, which must be an expression of all the obligations of the CBD.

### Main elements that should be part of the target

- Alignment in the structure and timing of NBSAPs and National Reports

NBSAPs need to be updated within two years of the adoption of the GBF. Any use of NBSAP, national reporting or other means of CBD implementation has to take into account all obligations of the CBD and fully comply with them, including any of those not dealt with in the GBF. Two years are needed to ensure sufficient time for fully participatory processes.

- A country-by-country peer review mechanism that enables discussion and sparks targeted additional action.

The main tool is a standardised country-by-country peer review mechanism under the open-ended forum. It must include a data collection and report phase, one in which the results will be discussed with peers (scientists, NGOs and other CBD Parties) and a ratcheting-up phase which decides upon additional measures to ensure implementation of the targets.

- Addressing compliance

The Convention should have a compliance mechanism that makes it possible for Parties and civil society organisations to trigger actions in response to non-compliance with the Convention and hold parties accountable in an equitable manner and based on the types of national challenges encountered. Compliance must also address developed country Parties' compliance with their financing obligations to developing country Parties. If Parties do not comply, there should be appropriate sanctions.

CITES, the Aarhus Convention and the Bern Convention have proven that such mechanisms can work well and help to implement the agreements.

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- Equity and equitable participation

Any proposal for effective implementation must operationalise equity by providing the resources to developing country Parties to implement their CBD obligations and for them to also meet additional planning, monitoring, reporting and review requirements. A peer review mechanism could help identify additional needs and enable donors to direct resources accordingly. Implementation measures should be differentiated in an equitable and gender-just manner and based on the national challenges encountered.

## Elements that should not be part of the goal

- NBSAPs should not rely on the commitments of business actors.

Any self-reporting by businesses about their activities should be independently verified and not form part of official reporting (National reports), as it is the Parties that are responsible for implementing the CBD.

The proposed 'voluntary commitments' should not be part of the enhanced mechanism for planning, review and reporting for the same reason.

## Further reading on goal

*CBDA submission at the virtual session of SBI-9 (March 2021): <http://www.cbd-alliance.org/sites/default/files/documents/Agenda%20item%209.%20Mechanism%20Review.pdf>*

Joint NGO reactions by RSPB, ClientEarth, Friends of the Earth Europe, BirdLife International, WWF to online consultation (Feb. 2022): <https://www.cbd.int/sbi/review/submissions.shtml>