



TARGET 20



What is Target 20?

Strengthen Capacity-Building, Technology Transfer, and Scientific and Technical Cooperation for Biodiversity

Strengthen **capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology**, and promote **development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation**, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the Goals and Targets of the Framework.





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Why is this Target important?

To achieve the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, Parties and other actors need to have commensurate expertise (including both technical and functional capacities), knowledge, tools, technologies and institutional capacity to effectively prioritize, plan, mobilize resources, and implement and monitor relevant strategies, programmes and activities at the national level. Capacity development, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and innovation are crucial for enhancing the abilities, resilience and effectiveness of individuals, institutions and systems at various levels for improved biodiversity-related decision-making, action and outcomes.





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How is this Target significant for a gender-responsive implementation of the KM-GBF?

Case Study: 'Barefoot Ecologists' Indigenous women from India win the *Gender Just Climate Solutions Award* at COP27

Keystone Foundation's Barefoot Ecologist program has empowered community members from the Nilgiris and Central India for over a decade. These Indigenous individuals, including women, combine traditional ecological knowledge with modern scientific methods to monitor climate impacts on their forests, rivers, and farms. Trained by ecologists, they meticulously document changes to advocate for effective conservation practices.





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Image from Keystone Foundation

Initially, the program focused primarily on men. However, recognizing the valuable ecological knowledge of women, who often manage natural resources, the program was expanded to include them. Today, 20 indigenous women (at the time the article was published) from tribes like Urali and Soliga in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve are leading the charge as barefoot ecologists. Their work has earned them the prestigious *Gender Just Climate Solutions Award* at COP27, highlighting their significant contributions to the fight against climate change.





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The Barefoot Ecology Program, launched in 2008, empowers indigenous communities in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve to contribute their traditional ecological knowledge to modern forest conservation efforts. These communities, historically at the forefront of forest management, are now actively involved in shaping conservation strategies. The program enables them to advise policymakers, participate in decision-making, and play a pivotal role in protecting the region's biodiversity.

Sources: Subramaniam, G. (2024, August 14). Uniting traditional wisdom with modern science, barefoot ecologists record climate impacts. Mongabay. <https://india.mongabay.com/2024/08/uniting-traditional-wisdom-with-modern-science-barefoot-ecologists-record-climate-impacts/>

George, B. (2022, November 14). Empowering Women Barefoot Ecologists in Biodiversity Hotspots Across India. Keystone Foundation. <https://keystone-foundation.org/women-barefoot-ecologists/>