



TARGET 21



What is Target 21?

Ensure That Knowledge Is Available and Accessible To Guide Biodiversity Action

Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge, are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to **strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management** and, also in this context, **traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)***, in accordance with national legislation.

*Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) refers to the tripartite terminology of "prior and informed consent" or "free, prior and informed consent" or "approval and involvement."



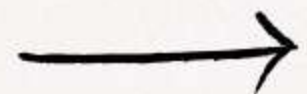


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Why is this Target important?

All countries need data, information and knowledge to identify threats to biodiversity, and determine needs and priorities, plan and take evidence-based decisions and actions, set benchmarks and monitor and report on progress for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources. Accessible biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge are critical for creating baselines, regularly assessing progress and taking necessary action. This issue is cross-cutting, with implications for all the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.





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

Case Study: Prioritizing Gender in FPIC in Papua New Guinea



Picture from UNDP

In Papua New Guinea (PNG)'s Madang Province, forests are vital to rural livelihoods, yet women often lack a voice in their governance. Despite their significant role in forest product harvesting, women are marginalized in decision-making processes dominated by male leaders.





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Picture from UNDP

To address this, UNDP integrated gender perspectives into PNG's approach to free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) within the UN-REDD Programme. This involved recognizing women as landowners and primary users, ensuring gender balance in facilitation teams, and establishing accessible grievance mechanisms.





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In response to this, gender concerns were integrated into national FPIC guidance for REDD+. The FPIC guidance provided advice on how to maintain a gender balance in the facilitation teams that will guide FPIC at the local level and to disaggregate stakeholders by gender throughout the FPIC process.

A detailed stakeholder study in Madang, East New Britain, and West New Britain Provinces of PNG highlighted the importance of including women in REDD+ processes to protect and conserve forests. By prioritizing gender equality, PNG has demonstrated a practical approach to achieving meaningful women's participation in decision-making.