



# TARGET 22



## What is Target 22?

**Ensure Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice and Information Related to Biodiversity for all**

Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.







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## Why is this Target important?

Indigenous peoples and local communities possess valuable traditional knowledge and practices that contribute to biodiversity conservation. Their insights are crucial for developing effective conservation strategies that integrate cultural values and sustainable practices. By involving these communities and recognizing their expertise, we can create context-specific and effective conservation strategies. This includes ensuring meaningful participation for all, including women, girls, children, youth, and persons with disabilities. Protecting environmental human rights defenders is also essential for safeguarding biodiversity and promoting sustainable practices.

Text has been shortened for brevity.







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

### Case Study: Indigenous Karen Women Document Biocultural Plant Species in Myanmar



Photo: Women's Research Group / Karen Environmental and Social Action Network

The Women Research Group (WRG), a dedicated team of Indigenous Karen women, is working to document the biocultural plant species that sustain their communities in Myanmar's Salween Peace Park.







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This 6,000 square km Indigenous conserved territory is a haven for biodiversity. As primary caretakers of their land, these women possess a deep understanding of the environment and its interconnectedness. Their work, however, is not without risk, involving challenging tasks like climbing trees and crossing bamboo bridges.

The WRG collaborates with local communities, documenting plant species and sharing their knowledge. They have not only contributed to ethnobotanical research but have also organized awareness-raising events for students, community leaders, and forestry officials. Their efforts have inspired other communities to invite the WRG to conduct research in their own forest areas, highlighting the importance of their work in biodiversity conservation.

Source: Women4Biodiversity. (2024, June 5). Through Women's Lenses: A photo story on documenting biocultural plant species in the Salween Peace Park by the Women Research Group – Women4Biodiversity <https://www.women4biodiversity.org/world-environment-day-2024-women-research-group-photo-story/>