

Biodiversity targets, ecological integrity, and resilience: WCS priorities for CBD CoP17



The Wildlife Conservation Society ([WCS](http://www.wcs.org)) is an international, non-governmental organization with active conservation programs in more than 55 countries. We work with governments and other partners to develop and implement National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans aligned with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF). For more information on WCS, please visit www.wcs.org/cbd.

Goal A of the KM-GBF sets an ambitious objective to maintain and enhance the integrity, connectivity and resilience of the planet's ecosystems. **Goal A creates a shared goal for conservation actors, as well as those seeking the resilience of communities, economies, and international supply chains for biodiversity-related commodities.** Unfortunately, connections between specific conservation actions and outcomes for ecological integrity are not well articulated or sufficiently prioritized.

Therefore, CoP17 will be a success if we:

Adopt high-ambition 'Yerevan Pathways,' with political and procedural dimensions.

Where in the CoP17 agenda? Agenda items 9(a) and 9(b), as well as the Leaders' Declaration.

What is the opportunity? CoP17 decisions must chart a path forward, including: (i) specific pathways for engaging other sectors and ministries to address perverse incentives; and (ii) options to improve monitoring and reporting on ecosystem integrity and resilience, especially in coastal and marine areas.

Build ecosystem integrity into the work programmes and guidance of the CBD.

Where in the CoP17 agenda? Agenda item 17(c) and 18(b), among others.

What is the opportunity? Updated programmes of work, including on protected areas and forests, as well as new voluntary guidance on topics like sustainable wildlife management should be consistent with long-term objectives of the KM-GBF around ecosystem integrity and resilience

Sustain momentum and create more structure for MEA and 'Rio' synergies.

Where in the CoP17 agenda? Agenda items 13 and 17(a).

What is the opportunity? CoP17 should explicitly request a stronger, more transparent Joint Liaison Group (JLG) of the Rio Conventions. However, a major obstacle to JLG synergies lies within the UNFCCC, making it essential for CBD focal points to engage in increased intra-governmental outreach.

Biodiversity targets, ecological integrity, and resilience: WCS delegation to CBD CoP17



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The WCS delegation will include:

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