



CBD Women

SB8J-1

**Outcomes Analysis From a
Gender Perspective**

November 2025



Introduction

The Convention on Biological Diversity's first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and other provisions related to Indigenous Peoples and local communities (SB8j-01) marked a decisive step in the Convention's implementation architecture. For the CBD Women's Caucus (CBD WC), this session was particularly critical to ensure that women and girls, in all their diversity, including those from Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles, are not only recognized as knowledge holders and rights-holders, but meaningfully participate in and lead decision-making across all Convention processes.

However, several fundamental provisions remain entirely bracketed, reflecting ongoing tensions around: how the new Subsidiary Body will operate; the recognition of self-determined nomination processes; and the extent to which human-rights standards and inclusive participation will guide its work. These dynamics marked a noticeable shift from the more enabling environment previously seen under the Working Group on Article 8(j), with coordinated moves by a small group of Parties to weaken established participatory mechanisms, increase State control over representation, and dilute language on gender equality and rights.

These outcomes carry significant implications for upcoming negotiations, particularly the adoption of the modus operandi and the review of the Voluntary Glossary at COP17. Safeguarding progress under Article 8(j) will require renewed vigilance and strong collective advocacy to prevent regression and ensure that Indigenous governance systems, women-led knowledge, and community-based monitoring remain central to biodiversity policy.

This document presents a policy analysis of SB8j-01 outcomes from a gender-justice and rights-based perspective. Each agenda item is examined through four guiding questions: What is the item about? Why is it relevant for gender justice? What happened, and what remains unresolved? What's next, recommended actions toward COP17?

With this analysis, we aim to provide a concise resource for feminist and Indigenous advocates, governments, and partners committed to ensuring that the implementation of the KM-GBF fully reflects the knowledge, leadership, and rights of women and girls.

We warmly invite allies to read, use, and share this document, and to join us in advancing a CBD process that is truly just, inclusive, and transformative.



 **Item 3. In-depth dialogue: “Strategies for mobilizing resources to ensure the availability of and access to financial resources and funding, as well as other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development and technical support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to support the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework”.**

What is the item about?

This item focused on the in-depth dedicated to exploring strategies for mobilizing resources and ensuring the availability of, and access to, financial resources and other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development support, and technical assistance, for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to enable the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF). The dialogue was intended to inform the implementation of Task 8.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions, by identifying gaps, highlighting good practices, and examining options to strengthen or create policies and mechanisms that enhance access, particularly direct access, to funding for collective biodiversity actions, especially those led by women and youth. Background information was provided, and the Subsidiary Body was invited to consider the views expressed during the dialogue, along with the working document, to guide future implementation and to endorse the theme for the next in-depth dialogue.



Why is it relevant for gender justice?

It is profoundly relevant for gender justice because the existing frameworks fail to meet the needs of Women and Youth among Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. In general, women face additional and complex challenges when accessing, controlling and managing funds. Therefore, gender justice demands resource mobilization strategies like enforcing a gender-based approach to ensure funding and governance for women, establish specific targets with minimum percentages directed specifically to women and youth initiatives, and address the unique barriers women and youth face (i.e. identify and tackle bureaucratic barriers that affect women's capability to access funds directly and ensuring intergenerational equity). This relates specifically with the Caucus's commitment with gender equality.

This item was central to gender justice because existing biodiversity finance systems continued to fall short in meeting the needs and rights of women and girls in all their diversity, including those from Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles. Funding rarely reached them directly, and when it did, it was often small, short-term, and burdened with complex administrative requirements that disproportionately excluded women and youth. Ensuring gender-responsive, rights-based resource mobilization was therefore essential for enabling these groups to lead biodiversity action, exercise governance authority, and implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework on their own terms. The Caucus emphasized that mobilizing resources without addressing structural inequities would only reproduce the same exclusions that drive biodiversity loss and social injustice.

Ahead of SB8j-01, the CB-WC underscored the following priorities:

- Ensure direct, flexible, and long-term funding led by Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, and youth. Biodiversity finance must shift toward predictable, accessible, and community-governed mechanisms, with dedicated and permanent percentages earmarked specifically for women and youth initiatives.
- Reform financing systems to make resources accessible, equitable, and rights-based. National and international funds must simplify procedures, reduce bureaucratic barriers, and fully operationalize gender-responsive and human-rights-based approaches to ensure culturally appropriate, community-driven access to resources.
- Establish national targets and accountability frameworks for inclusive finance. By 2030, Parties should adopt measurable targets for increasing direct funding to Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and to women and girls in all their diversity, supported by transparent methodologies to track finance flows, strengthen capacities, and ensure accountability.

What happened (or didn't happen) during negotiations?

During negotiations there was broad recognition of the persistent gap between available global biodiversity funding and the very limited portion that actually reaches communities on the ground, as well as strong calls for more predictable, accessible, and culturally appropriate financing models. Many Parties supported direct-access mechanisms, while others favored nationally tailored approaches, leaving key paragraphs bracketed, particularly those related to the degree of direct access versus government-mediated channels. Discussions also addressed the need for simplified administrative procedures, dedicated funding windows, and strengthened capacity-building, all aimed at overcoming the complexity and inaccessibility of current finance systems. A preambular reference to applying a human-rights based approach was bracketed, reflecting divergence on rights language. The final recommendation encourages Parties, funders, and initiatives to establish or strengthen mechanisms to mobilize adequate, predictable, and easily accessible resources; support self-determined priorities; and explore finance solutions that facilitate direct access, including for women, youth, and persons with disabilities. While these outcomes reflect incremental progress, important commitments remain open and will require significant negotiation at COP17, particularly on rights language, direct access modalities, and mechanisms that ensure funds reach women and girls in all their diversity, including those from Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles.

What's next? What should we all do to advance women's rights?

As negotiations move toward COP17, and with critical finance discussions still ahead under SBI-06 in early 2026, it is essential that Parties strengthen coherence across CBD bodies to ensure that gender equality and the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities remain central to financial decision-making. In this line, the CBD-WC suggest the following:

- Parties should remove remaining brackets that restrict finance to government-only channels and instead establish direct-access mechanisms, with dedicated and measurable funding percentages for women, youth, and community-governed funds. Models such as the Cali Fund demonstrate that such mechanisms are feasible, accountable, and effective.
- Funding providers, including multilateral, national, and private entities, should simplify administrative requirements, reduce risk-averse procedures, and fully operationalize gender-responsive and human-rights-based approaches. All mechanisms must respect Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and be culturally appropriate, transparent, and governed with meaningful participation from Indigenous women, local women, and youth.
- Parties should adopt national targets by 2030 for the proportion of biodiversity finance reaching Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, youth, and persons with disabilities. This should be supported by harmonized methodologies for tracking, reporting, and verifying finance flows, and by building digital, technical, and institutional capacity for women and community-led monitoring.



Item 4. Modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

What is the item about?

This item focused on finalizing the modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and other provisions related to Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs). This included defining the Body's functions, operating principles, working modalities, and coordination mechanisms with other CBD subsidiary bodies. Negotiations aimed to ensure full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in Party-led decision-making, while maintaining cost-efficient meeting arrangements and avoiding duplication with SBSTTA and SBI. The agenda also covered processes for designating representatives from the seven socio-cultural regions as "friends of the Bureau," clarifying their role in supporting the Bureau and strengthening direct input from IPLCs into CBD governance. The resulting modus operandi will guide how this Body operates once formally adopted at COP17.

Why is it relevant for gender justice?

Women and girls from Indigenous Peoples and local communities are essential knowledge holders, leaders, and guardians of cultural and biological diversity. Yet their contributions remain systematically under-recognized in global biodiversity governance. Ensuring gender justice in the modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body requires that its structure and decision-making processes fully align with Section C, Target 22 and Target 23 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Gender Plan of Action (2023-2030). A gender-responsive approach must therefore guarantee that women's knowledge systems, lived experiences, and governance practices meaningfully shape scientific-technical advice and implementation under the Convention. This includes addressing persistent data gaps, safeguarding culturally appropriate participation, and ensuring that institutional arrangements do not replicate State-controlled barriers that limit women's leadership and agency.

The Caucus highlighted three key priorities:

- Guarantee gender balance and more importantly, gender expertise in the selection of co-chairs, Bureau members, and friends of the Bureau, ensuring these roles reflect the sociocultural realities of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
- Respect self-determined nomination processes led by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, free from State-imposed restrictions such as Party endorsement or national registration. This is essential to ensure safe, accessible, and enabling spaces where women and girls can participate and lead without fear of exclusion or reprisal.
- Provide sustained resources, technical support, and capacity-building to enable meaningful participation of women and girls from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, not only through focal points but throughout all stages of negotiations, implementation, monitoring, and reporting under the Convention.

What happened (or didn't happen) during negotiations?

SB8J-01 advanced work toward adopting a modus operandi for the new Subsidiary Body, but the entire text remains bracketed and will require further negotiation at COP17. Discussions , held in plenary and in a contact group , focused on ensuring complementarity with SBSTTA and SBI, maintaining a Party-led process, and clarifying roles of the Bureau, Co-Chairs, and "Friends of the Bureau."

While the CBD Women's Caucus did not have the opportunity to present text in plenary, some language aligned with our priorities was introduced by Parties, including operating principles referencing inclusiveness, gender responsiveness, equity, diverse knowledge systems, and respect for rights (with "intergenerational dialogue" still bracketed). This marks promising progress toward a gender-responsive operational framework.

However, several fundamental provisions remain unresolved, including: Whether selection of the Indigenous Peoples and local communities Co-Chair and Friends of the Bureau should follow sociocultural regions used by UNPFII or UN regional groups; Nomination modalities , whether communities can self-select or whether Party endorsement or official national registration would be required; how to ensure coordination and complementarity with other CBD bodies without duplication, and the extent to which references to gender-responsive participation, "including women and youth among them," remain reflected in final text.

These open issues are significant for gender justice because approaches requiring state sign-off risk undermining self-determined representation, potentially limiting safe and effective participation of women and girls from Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Overall, the work represents a start , but the brackets reveal that key governance elements affecting rights, participation, and gender equality still need to be secured at COP17.

What 's next? Actions needed to ensure gender justice

To ensure that the new Subsidiary Body truly delivers on the rights and leadership of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including women and girls, Parties must adopt a fully gender-responsive and self-determined modus operandi at COP17. In this line, the CBD-WC suggest the following:

- Un-bracket all language on gender-responsive participation and diverse knowledge systems. The operating principles must fully align with Section C and Targets 22 and 23 of the KM-GBF and the CBD Gender Plan of Action (2023–2030).
- Guarantee self-determined representation. The co-chair and "friends of the Bureau" must be selected through Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' own governance structures, based on the seven sociocultural regions recognized by UNPFII, without party approval or national-registration conditions that could restrict safe participation.
- Resource and operationalize effective focal points. Include clear language requiring national Indigenous Peoples and local communities focal points, alongside gender and biodiversity focal points, with adequate financial and technical support to enable continued engagement in negotiations, implementation, and monitoring , in line with Decision 15/11.



Item 5.a and 5.b Implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030: (a) Guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including on indigenous and traditional territories, to support the protection and restoration practices led by indigenous peoples and local communities (Task 1.1); AND (b) Guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments (Task 1.2);

What is the item about?

Agenda items 5.a and 5.b correspond to Task 1.1 and 1.2 under the New Programme of Work on Article 8(j). (Decision 16/4) focus on strengthening the recognition and inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in biodiversity policy and planning to 2030. Item 5(a) aims to develop guidelines that reinforce legal and policy frameworks supporting the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, on ecosystem restoration and the conservation of at least 30% of land and sea areas. These guidelines seek to ensure that Indigenous and community-led protection, conservation, and restoration efforts are recognized, respected, and integrated into national biodiversity strategies. Item 5(b) complements this by proposing guidelines to include traditional lands, territories, and customary resource use in spatial planning and environmental impact assessment processes. Together, these measures aim to safeguard rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, strengthen their role in biodiversity governance, and ensure that traditional knowledge and practices inform national approaches to conservation and sustainable development.

Towards this, a combined guideline was developed, which highlighted various aspects of inclusion of indigenous peoples and local communities within the implementation of Target 1, 2, 3 and 14. The elements of guidelines included guiding principles and enabling conditions as well as specific action points within the implementation of the above mentioned targets.

Why is it relevant for gender justice?

Women have been integral for the restoration and conservation of biodiversity. Across the guidelines, a gender responsive approach must be embedded. This includes recognizing the critical role of women and girls rights to land tenure and governance systems, conducting gender-differentiated analysis of impacts and contributions, respect and value of women's unique knowledge and priorities, having access to resources, as well as, enabling their participation by, ensuring safe and inclusive spaces for their full participation, from planning through to implementation and monitoring.

Towards SB8j-01 the CBD WC highlighted three key priorities:

- Guidelines must align with international human-rights standards , including CEDAW GR 39, UNDRIP, and UNDROP , ensuring equal protection under customary and statutory systems and supporting women-led protection and restoration initiatives with direct and flexible finance.
- Environmental and social impact assessments must collect and apply gender differentiated impacts and contributions and value women's traditional and scientific knowledge to inform restoration, spatial planning, and benefit-sharing decisions.
- Women, especially from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, must be recognized as co-decision-makers in spatial planning, EIA processes, and co-management bodies , with access to information, tailored capacity-building, and guarantees of participation free from discrimination, harassment, and gender-based violence.

What happened (or didn't happen) during negotiations?

During SB8j, discussions focused on the development of guidelines to strengthen the implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions concerning Indigenous Peoples and local communities. SB8j-01 made only partial progress on advancing the voluntary guidelines under Tasks 1.1 and 1.2. While Parties supported the development of guidelines to strengthen the implementation of KM-GBF Targets 2 and 3, including by integrating Indigenous and traditional territories into restoration and spatial planning , many core issues remained unresolved. Discussions in the contact group revealed persistent divergences over: the title of the guidelines; the level of recognition of Indigenous and traditional territories; how to reflect international human rights obligations; and the extent of Party oversight versus self-determined governance by Indigenous Peoples and local communities. As a result, the entire guidelines remain heavily bracketed.

Gender considerations received limited attention, with no new gender-specific commitments introduced. The Caucus did not have an opportunity to present its textual recommendations in plenary and had to engage through the Contact Group discussions. Although some enabling-condition language that could support gender-responsive implementation was retained, references relevant to women's rights, leadership, and participation remain bracketed, requiring further negotiation at COP17. The final recommendation forwarded to COP therefore, lacks clarity on concrete mechanisms, accountability, and safeguards to ensure that women and girls from Indigenous Peoples and local communities meaningfully participate in and benefit from conservation and restoration efforts under Targets 1, 2 and 3.

What's next? Actions needed to ensure gender justice

As COP17 will be the moment where these guidelines are negotiated for adoption, it is crucial that gender equality and the rights of women and girls , particularly those from Indigenous Peoples and local communities , are fully operationalized in every principle, action and accountability measure. In this line, the CBD-WC suggest the following:

- Un-bracket and strengthen gender-responsive guiding principles. Recognize women and girls as rights-holders in biodiversity governance, explicitly referencing gender equality and a human-rights-based approach, including rights to land, water, tenure, knowledge, and decision-making.
- Embed gender-differentiated assessments and data in implementation and monitoring. Ensure restoration, conservation and spatial planning processes systematically collect and use gender-disaggregated data and integrate women's and girls' knowledge and priorities into indicators and evaluation systems.
- Guarantee meaningful and resourced participation of Indigenous and local women throughout decision-making. Provide direct access to financial resources, capacity-building, safe spaces, and institutional support for women's effective participation and co-leadership, including in co-management bodies, environmental impact assessments, and national planning processes.





Item 5.c Implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030: (c) Process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention (Task 5.4).

What is the item about?

This item concerns the process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts related to Article 8(j) and other provisions of the CBD, first adopted under Decision 14/13. The Glossary is intended to serve as a living and authoritative reference to ensure that CBD decisions consistently reflect the rights, knowledge systems, and governance practices of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Following the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), its terminology now requires revision to reflect evolving standards , including human rights, land tenure and use, and participation principles. Under Task 5.4 of the new programme of work, SB8j-01 was tasked with considering a proposed process for this update. The Secretariat presented a structured approach involving sequential steps and expert participation, including an Ad Hoc Expert Group, which would guide the work and ensure alignment with Article 8(j), the KMGBF, and previous mandates.

Why is it relevant for gender justice?

Language shapes power. The definitions used under the Convention influence how rights, knowledge, territories and governance systems of Indigenous Peoples and local communities are understood and implemented in practice , including who is recognized as a knowledge holder and rights-bearer. Updating the Voluntary Glossary is therefore key to ensuring that its concepts reflect gender equality and human-rights principles embedded in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF), particularly Section C and Targets 22 and 23, as well as the Gender Plan of Action (2023–2030).

Toward SB8j-01, the CBD Women's Caucus highlighted three key priorities:

- The call for submissions and the expert group's composition must guarantee the full and effective participation of women and youth , in all their diversity, including those from Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles, as well as gender and human-rights expertise. This ensures the updated glossary reflects diverse knowledge systems and lived experiences that are gender-differentiated.
- All updated terms must explicitly integrate the principles of the KM-GBF, the CBD Gender Plan of Action (2023-2030), UNDRIP, UNDROP, and CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39. Doing so strengthens conceptual coherence and ensures consistent interpretation across CBD processes.
- Key terms related to land, territories, traditional knowledge, and participation should clearly acknowledge the roles, agency, and governance authority of women and girls. Definitions must avoid restrictive or discriminatory language that could undermine their rights, access to resources, or leadership in biodiversity governance.

What happened (or didn't happen) during negotiations?

Item 5(c) was negotiated in plenary sessions throughout the week, focusing on establishing a process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts within the context of Article 8(j) and related provisions. Broad support emerged among Parties for updating the glossary to reflect the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, while maintaining that the process should remain Party-led, voluntary, and respectful of national contexts. Several delegations also emphasized that revisions must recognize cultural and legal diversity across Parties, with strong calls to reflect the contributions of people of African descent and ensure balanced representation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the expert group.

Progress was achieved on several procedural elements: the introduction of a peer-review step before consideration by SB8j-2 was agreed, and the mandate for an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) was confirmed, subject to the availability of resources. Importantly, gender perspective and gender balance were recognized as relevant expertise to consider when selecting members of the AHTEG, reflecting support from some Parties to ensure inclusive participation. However, multiple issues remain unresolved and bracketed for COP17, including: competing options for the size and composition of the expert group (14, 29, or 35 experts), whether representation should follow the five UN regional groups or ensure additional participation from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and how to operationalize the principle that updated terms must accommodate national legal and cultural contexts. While references to women and youth did not gain consensus for explicit inclusion, they remain indirectly captured under broader language on stakeholder inclusion, meaning continued advocacy will be essential to secure gender-responsive definitions going forward.

What's next? Actions needed to ensure gender justice

As the process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary continues toward COP17, it is crucial that gender considerations and the knowledge of women and girls, particularly those from Indigenous Peoples, local communities and Afro-descendant peoples, are fully reflected in the definitions that guide the implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions. In this line, the CBD-WC suggest the following:

- Secure meaningful participation and gender expertise in the AHTEG. Ensure that the group of experts includes gender specialists and women representatives from Indigenous Peoples, local communities and people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles, nominated through their own self-determined governance structures.
- Embed a gender-responsive and rights-based approach in all revised definitions. Align glossary terms with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly Targets 22 and 23, as well as the Gender Plan of Action and international human-rights instruments such as CEDAW GR 39, UNDRIP and UNDROP.
- Ensure transparent and inclusive consultation, including direct submissions from women and youth. The call for submissions must explicitly invite and facilitate contributions from women and youth in all their diversity, ensuring that lived experiences and diverse knowledge systems shape the updated Glossary.



Item 6. Provision of advice on traditional knowledge for the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

What is the item about?

This agenda item concerns how the Subsidiary Body will provide advice on the inclusion of traditional knowledge, innovations, practices, and technologies of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the Global Report on Collective Progress in the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. In line with COP decision 16/32, the global review to be undertaken at COP17 must draw upon national reports, Local Biodiversity Outlooks, and, critically, relevant traditional knowledge that is accessed with Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). To support this task, the Secretariat provided analysis on the extent to which updated NBSAPs and national targets reflect traditional knowledge and the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The Subsidiary Body was invited to consider this information and generate recommendations to inform the intersessional preparation of the global report ahead of COP17.

Why is it relevant for gender justice?

Women from Indigenous Peoples and local communities are key holders and transmitters of traditional knowledge related to biodiversity, community health, food systems, sustainable resource management, and resilience. Yet, their knowledge systems remain under-recognized and under-resourced in national reporting and global assessments. If the Global Report fails to meaningfully reflect these contributions, it risks reinforcing structural inequalities in how biodiversity governance is understood and valued.

To ensure gender justice, the CBD Women's Caucus underscored three priorities:

- Document and integrate traditional knowledge, including that of women and youth, on equal footing with scientific data. The Global Report on Collective Progress must systematically include diverse knowledge systems so that biodiversity governance reflects lived experiences and collective actions essential for the full implementation of the KM-GBF.
- Dedicated and timely calls for submissions, including dialogue spaces before SBSTTA-28, are needed so that women's expertise and priorities inform the Global Report, NBSAPs, monitoring, and national reports.
- A rights-based approach must guide how information is accessed, shared, and used, recognising women-led and community-based initiatives as essential to the legitimacy and ethical integrity of the global review process.

What happened (or didn't happen) during negotiations?

Discussions under this item focused on how contributions from Indigenous Peoples and local communities to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including traditional knowledge, should inform the Global Progress Report. The Women's Caucus delivered a statement highlighting the essential role of women and youth in knowledge transmission, and calling for their perspectives to be systematically integrated in national reporting and the global review process.

Negotiations reflected broad recognition of the need to incorporate traditional knowledge into the Global Report with Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), and to facilitate submissions from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, both independently and through national reporting processes. There was also acknowledgement that technical and financial support is needed to enable meaningful participation and data provision.

While explicit references to women and youth were retained in the final agreed text, an important development, the inclusion of their knowledge contributions and safeguard measures remains largely contingent on resources, which could limit implementation in practice. Overall, SB8j-01 achieved progress in ensuring traditional knowledge is visible and valued in the global review of the KM-GBF, but gaps persist in securing the necessary support systems that enable gender-responsive, rights-affirming participation in monitoring and knowledge-generation.

What's next? Actions needed to ensure gender justice

To ensure that the Global Report on collective GBF progress meaningfully reflects the traditional knowledge, priorities, and leadership of women and youth from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, the CBD-WC suggest the following:

- Ensure full and safe participation of women and youth from Indigenous Peoples and local communities in Traditional Knowledge data collection, validation, and reporting, including through dedicated calls for submissions and dialogue ahead of SBSTTA-28.
- Apply a rights-based approach, fully upholding Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and data sovereignty in all TK-related processes, preventing extraction and guaranteeing community control and equitable benefit-sharing.
- Secure financial and technical support to enable women-led and youth-led Indigenous and community organisations to contribute their knowledge to NBSAPs, national reporting, and the Global Report, ensuring their expertise shapes monitoring and implementation of the KM-GBF.

This is a collective publication on behalf of the CBD Women's Caucus.

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The CBD Women's Caucus (CBD WC) is the women's constituency within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). It stands as a self-organised global platform, supporting women and girls worldwide to advocate for their rights within biodiversity-related decision-making processes across all levels.

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