



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# Launch of the **International Network on Soil Biodiversity**

in the framework of the  
Global Soil Biodiversity Observatory

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 | 🕒 14:00 CET  
Online meeting



## Draft Plan of Action 2020-2030

## International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity

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# Mandate

In decision [VI/5](#), the COP established the **International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity** and invited FAO and other relevant organizations to facilitate and coordinate this Initiative.

In decision [VIII/23](#), the COP adopted the Framework for Action for the **Initiative**.

In decision [14/30](#), paragraph 24 (b) the COP requested the Executive Secretary do the following:

- **Review the implementation of the International Initiative** for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity, in consultation with FAO under the framework of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) as well as other interested partners.
- Present an **updated draft plan of action** for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the COP.



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# SBSTTA-24: Item 7 – Biodiversity and Agriculture

<a href="#">CBD/SBSTTA/24/7</a> (Pre-session document)	Section I: Review of implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity
	Section II: Contributions of soil biodiversity to sustainable development and opportunities for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework
	<del>Section III: Suggested recommendations (superseded by CBD/SBSTTA/24/L.7)</del>
	Annex I: Summary for Policymakers from the Report on the State of knowledge of Soil Biodiversity: status, challenges and potentialities prepared, by FAO
	<del>Annex II: Draft plan of action 2020-2030 for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity (superseded by CBD/SBSTTA/24/L.7)</del>
<a href="#">CBD/SBSTTA/24/L.7</a> (Draft Recommendation)	Suggested recommendations
	Annex: Draft plan of action 2020-2030 for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity



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# Draft Plan of Action 2020-2030

The plan of action was available for peer review between 25 February and 15 March 2020, as per notification [2020-024](#).

The plan of action is separated into six sections:

- I. Introduction,
- II. Purpose and objectives,
- III. Scope and principles,
- IV. Global actions,
- V. Key elements and activities
- VI. Supporting guidance, tools, organizations and initiatives relating to the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity.



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# Draft Plan of Action 2020-2030

## Section I. Introduction

The plan of action was based on:

- the review of the **International Initiative**;
- the report on the **Status of the World's Soil Resources**; and
- the report on the **State of Knowledge on Soil Biodiversity - Status, Challenges and Potentialities**.

## Section II. Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the plan:

- encourage the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity, and
- support Parties, actors and stakeholders in accelerating and upscaling efforts.



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## Section II. Purpose and Objectives

The objectives of the plan of action are to help Parties, actors and stakeholders with the following:

- (a) Implementing policies for the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity at all levels, and mainstreaming their integration;
- (b) Encouraging the use of sustainable soil management practices to maintain and restore soil biodiversity and to encourage the transfer of knowledge;
- (c) Promoting education, awareness-raising, developing capacities on the multiple benefits and application of soil biodiversity;
- (d) Developing voluntary standard protocols to assess the status and trends of soil biodiversity, and monitor activities;
- (e) Recognizing and supporting the role and rights of indigenous peoples, smallholders and small-scale food producers in maintaining biodiversity through agroecological approaches.



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## Section III. Scope and Principles

The **Initiative** is implemented by:

- CBD Secretariat,
- FAO and its Global Soil Partnership,
- Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils,
- Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative,
- Science-Policy Interface of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification,
- Education, academic and research bodies,
- Donor agencies and the private sector,
- Farmers, land owners and land managers,
- Indigenous peoples and local communities,
- Women, youth and civil society.

The **plan of action** achieves multiple benefits through:

- Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework,
- United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration,
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals,
- Paris Agreement,
- Land degradation neutrality targets.

The plan of action adheres to the principles of the **ecosystem approach**.



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## Section IV. Global Actions

- (a) Develop and use tools to collect soil biodiversity data and improve mapping capabilities;
- (b) Include soil biodiversity in surveys;
- (c) Establish/strengthen a monitoring network on soil taxa and changes in soil biodiversity;
- (d) Prepare a global assessment of soil biodiversity;
- (e) Develop/identify and implement indicators of soil biodiversity;
- (f) Strengthen education and capacity-building;
- (g) Promote ecosystem-based approaches;
- (h) Engage with the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, to pursue restoration of degraded soils and their multifunctionality;
- (i) Encourage non-State actors, research bodies, subnational governments, cities and other local authorities, to become involved in the implementation of the plan;
- (j) Encourage awareness-raising on the importance of soil biodiversity;
- (k) Promote conservation, restoration and sustainable use activities and management practices.



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## Section V. Key Elements and Activities

Four main **elements** and associated **activities**:

- Element 1: Policy coherence and mainstreaming;
  - 11 activities
- Element 2: Encouraging the use of sustainable soil management practices;
  - 12 activities
- Element 3: Awareness-raising, sharing of knowledge and capacity-building;
  - 10 activities
- Element 4: Research, monitoring and assessment.
  - 15 activities



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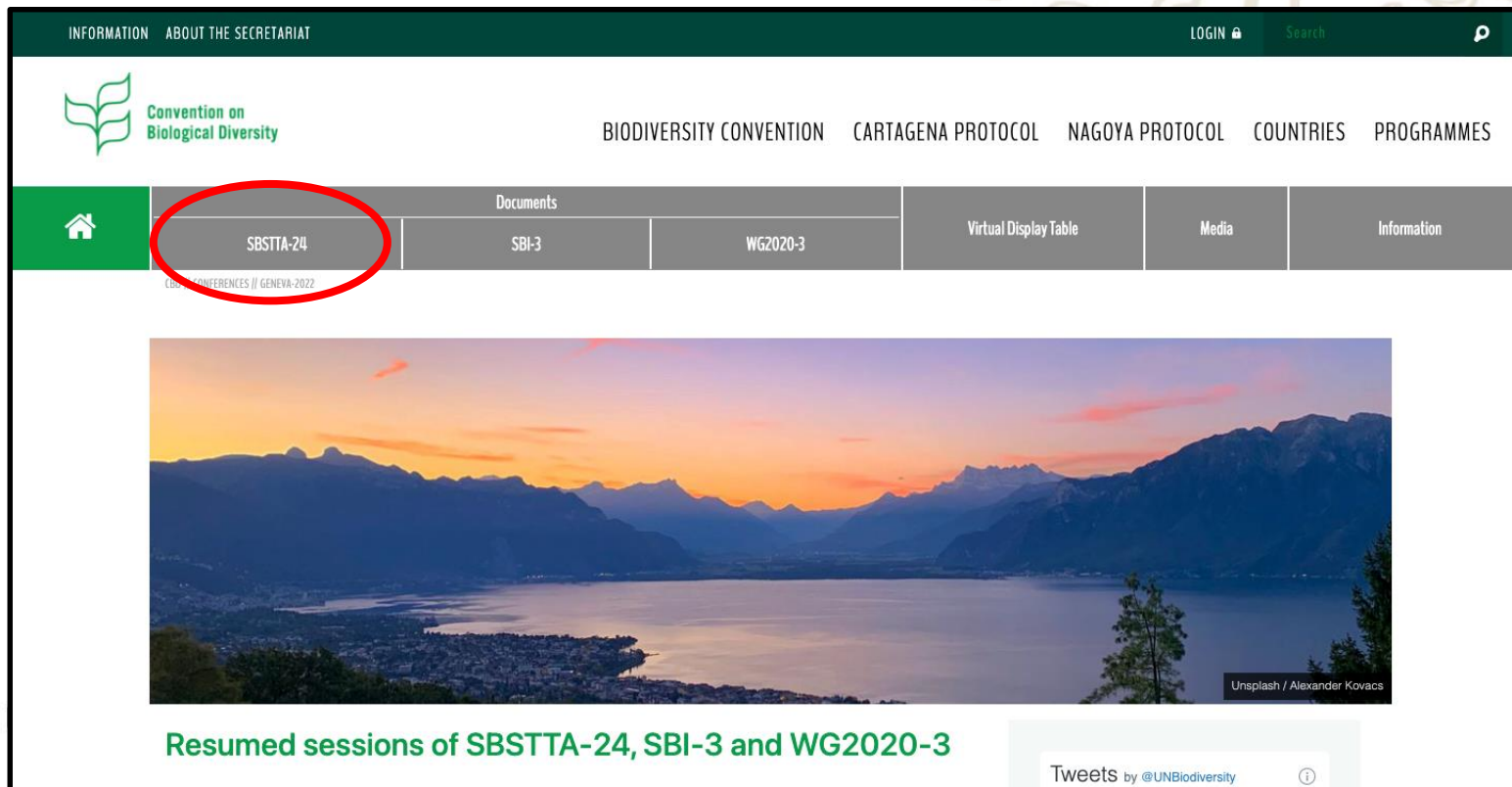


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## Section VI. Supporting Voluntary Guidance, Tools, Organizations and Initiatives Relating to the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity

- Guidance and tools will be made available in the clearing-house mechanism.

<https://www.cbd.int/conferences/geneva-2022>



The screenshot shows the website for the Convention on Biological Diversity. The top navigation bar includes 'INFORMATION' and 'ABOUT THE SECRETARIAT'. The main navigation menu lists 'BIODIVERSITY CONVENTION', 'CARTAGENA PROTOCOL', 'NAGOYA PROTOCOL', 'COUNTRIES', and 'PROGRAMMES'. A secondary menu below lists 'Home', 'SBSTTA-24', 'Documents', 'SBI-3', 'WG2020-3', 'Virtual Display Table', 'Media', and 'Information'. The 'SBSTTA-24' link is circled in red. Below the navigation is a large banner image of a lake at sunset with mountains in the background. The text 'Resumed sessions of SBSTTA-24, SBI-3 and WG2020-3' is displayed below the image. The date '3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021' is shown in the bottom right corner of the screenshot area.



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