



昆明生物多样性基金
Kunming Biodiversity Fund

Guidelines on the 2026 Full Size Project Application

August 2026



Introduction

Since the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2022, the KMGBF has been translated into action by Parties as well as other actors, such as indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, the private sector, civil society, national, regional and international organizations and others.

While there has been an increase in efforts globally to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, the world is still not on track to meet the ambitions of the KMGBF.

According to the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF draft report, countries have adopted national targets and increased their support through finance, capacity-building, technology transfer, and scientific cooperation. But these are not yet sufficient in scale or pace.

Key challenges remain to be addressed, including environmental governance and policy coherence, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches and biodiversity data and monitoring systems. Closing these gaps, urgently, is critical to realizing KMGBF's targets, goals, and vision. Therefore, the 2026 Kunming Biodiversity Fund (KBF) project call will be focused on actions that address the key gaps identified through the global review of the KMGBF.

The guidelines on the 2026 Full Size Project Application have been produced based on the Terms of Reference for the KBF to assist developing country Parties to the CBD in preparing their project proposals. The guidelines cover thematic areas for project funding, project budget and duration, requirement of application, and operational procedure such as application, review and selection, and project management include fund transfer, monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

A mapping of gaps in the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF draft report against the fund's goals and outcome areas is provided in the annex to these guidelines. The identified gaps were documented in the draft review report and subsequently circulated by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).



Purpose of this Call for Proposal

The purpose of this Call for Proposals is to help developing countries close the implementation gaps identified in the Global Review of Collective Progress ([latest draft](#)) in the Implementation of the KMGBF by financing specific interventions that accelerate the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

1. Programmatic Scope

The KBF aims to support developing countries to accelerate and upscale actions to strengthen and advance implementation of their NBSAPs in line with the KMGBF and to contribute to the global achievement of the KMGBF's Goals and Targets. In particular, this call aims to address gaps identified in the ongoing Global Review.

1.1 Thematic Areas

Proposed projects are required to contribute to at least one of the thematic areas below. Projects which contribute to multiple thematic areas will be viewed favourably. Details on thematic areas are described in greater detail in Annex 1.

1. Restoring and protecting ecosystems to improve biodiversity and ecosystem services
2. Mainstreaming biodiversity effectively into policies, regulations, planning and strategies
3. Strengthening resource mobilization for biodiversity conservation
4. Sharing benefits from genetic resources and digital sequence information on genetic resources

Project proposals should be tailored to national circumstances and the priorities of NBSAPs.

The engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), women, and youth is highly encouraged.

1.2 Project budget and duration

Proposed projects should focus on country-level or sub-national level



implementation of the KMGBF and NBSAPs. The project budget for each single country project is no more than \$500,000.

Regional projects with multiple countries will also be considered. The project budget for each multi-country project should not exceed \$800,000.

The project duration is between 12 – 24 months.

2. Application Procedure

2.1 Application

Phased Submission and Evaluation Process

The 2026 Call for Proposals will be conducted in two distinct stages. The deadline for Stage 1 submissions is 15 September 2026. Project proposals received by this date will be designated for priority review, and a first round of approved projects will be announced and launched during the COP 17.

A second deadline for Stage 2 submissions is 15 November 2026. All eligible proposals submitted by this date will be reviewed and processed with anticipated announcement of results by Dec 31, 2026.

All eligible applications will be received and reviewed.

All submissions must be made to the KBF Secretariat by 23:59 on the day of the respective deadline. Submissions should be emailed to kbf@un.org.

2.2 Application Requirements

1. The project should be relevant to **at least one of the Thematic Areas** (Annex 1) and respond to the findings of the Global Review
2. Projects should provide **complete project information** requested in the template of full project proposal (Annex 2).
3. Projects must fit within the **indicated duration and budget windows** and provide a **clear budget breakdown** in the template (Annex 3).
4. The proposed project should be compliant with **criteria of the Risk Management Strategy of the KBF** (Annex 4).
5. The project must be co-developed between the country and any United



Nations Participating Organization of the country's choice to implement the project. For this Call for Proposals, the **KBF will only directly fund UN agencies**. Beneficiary countries will access funding through the participating UN organization. Non-UN Organizations may be considered sub-partners in all proposals, as appropriate. The **programme support costs (PSC)** of the participating agency should be **no more than seven percent (7%)**.

6. All proposals should be supported by an **endorsement letter(s)** signed by the **CBD national focal point or Designated Official in the Lead Ministry** and submitted together with Project Proposal. Endorsement letters from multiple ministries are an advantage. For multi-country projects, each country should provide an endorsement letter.
7. **Proposals that do not meet these requirements will not be evaluated.**

2.3 Review and selection

The KBF Secretariat will coordinate an assessment by the KBF Independent Technical Advisory Group (ITAG) of all project proposals submitted by the deadline and compile a shortlist of projects for the Executive Council (EC)'s consideration.

The ITAG will review each submission to ensure the project's strength, feasibility, sustainability, and alignment with the selection criteria laid out above. Applicants may be invited to present their proposals in further detail and to respond to follow-up questions about their proposal before a final selection is made.

Projects recommended for selection by the ITAG will be reviewed by the KBF secretariat and submitted to the KBF's EC for their own consideration and final decision.

The EC's decision will consist of the following three options: i) approval; ii) approval with recommendations; or iii) rejection. Projects approved with recommendations or conditions may require additional information before a final decision. The proponents or participating organization must demonstrate within fourteen (14) days how they will incorporate the recommendations in order to move forward to final decision.

The KBF Secretariat will not respond to requests for updates or feedback during the review process. Nominated project focal points will be notified of the final



decision of the EC by email.

2.4 Fund transfer

Project funding will be disbursed in tranches. The first tranche will be released after EC approval of the project document.

The KBF Secretariat will prepare a Fund Transfer Request (FTR) for each project and budget allocation approved. The Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) will carry out transfers approved based on the project documents and the decisions of the EC no later than five (5) working days after the receipt of the FTR. Upon completion of the transfer, the representative of the KBF Participating Organizations and the KBF Secretariat will be notified by email.

2.5 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The participating UN organization should strictly follow the requirement of the Technical Guidelines for Monitoring and Evaluation of KBF will be shared. The participating UN organization is expected to follow their own agency rules and procedures in alignment with fund requirements. Resource should be included to effectively carry out M&E of the project implementation, prepare required narrative and financial reports, and conduct applicable evaluations, as relevant. The Secretariat will, as necessary, conduct field visits and will monitor progress against approved workplans. Participating organizations may be asked to participate in KBF organized learning and evaluation processes to improve the effectiveness of the Fund.

Annex

Annex 1: Description of the thematic areas

Annex 2: Project proposal template

Annex 3: Budget Template

Annex 4: Operations Manual (Outlining the criteria of the Risk Management Strategy of the KBF)

Annex 5: Mapping gaps in the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF draft report against the KBF goals and outcomes.



Annex 1: Description of the thematic areas

Thematic area 1. Restoring and protecting ecosystems to improve biodiversity and ecosystem services

Thematic area 1 will support activities at regional, national, sub national and local level to strengthen the protection of inland water bodies, coastal and marine ecosystems, and conduct investigations and assessments of their threatened conditions, identifying and clarifying the types, scope and integrity of the ecosystems; increase the percentage of inland water bodies, coastal and marine areas that are protected; demonstrate pilots for the restoration of degraded ecosystems to enhance biodiversity and recover ecosystem services; strengthen monitoring and assessment, improve data management capabilities; evaluate the effectiveness of the ecological protection and restoration that has been carried out from aspects such as the results of protection and restoration, costs, adaptability, and replicability and scalability.

Thematic area 2. Mainstreaming biodiversity effectively into policies, regulations, planning and strategies

Thematic area 2 will promote the integration of biodiversity into policies, regulations, planning (include spatial planning) and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments, national accounting, and etc., within the relevant departments of the country, such as agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, forestry, energy, chemicals, mining, medicine and health, tourism, etc.; jointly implement regional fishing moratoriums and protection and restoration of coastal wetlands, and demonstrate pilots for marine fishing quotas; conduct monitoring and reduction actions for the usage of fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture and forestry departments, promote efficient use of fertilizers and pesticides, develop bio-diversity-friendly practices such as ecological intensive agriculture and agroforestry, and carry out monitoring and evaluation of soil health and pollinator populations.

Thematic area 3. Strengthening resource mobilization for biodiversity conservation

Thematic area 3 will support in identifying and gradually eliminating, phasing out or reforming incentives, including subsidies that are detrimental to biodiversity; developing policies to encourage enterprises to disclose information on biodiversity, and take measures to reduce the impact of production and operation on biodiversity; developing and implementing a national biodiversity



financing plan; implementing approaches such as ecosystem service payment, green bonds, biodiversity compensation, biodiversity credits, and benefit sharing; mobilizing financial resources from all sources, including domestic, international, public and private resources, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

Thematic area 4. Sharing benefits from genetic resources and digital sequence information on genetic resources

Thematic area 4 will support national, subnational and local governments in adopting effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and genetic resource digital sequence information, as well as traditional knowledge related to genetic resources; developing pilots for the accessing and sharing of benefits from genetic resources, digital sequences information on genetic resources, and traditional knowledge.

Assessing KBF Priority Areas Against KMGBF Global Review Gaps

Through the global review, critical gaps and barriers have been identified, so proposals should address those gaps and barriers, focusing on their root causes, such as limited ambitions, implementation bottlenecks, insufficient means of implementation, weak environmental governance and policy coherence, insufficient participation across society, and persistent gaps in knowledge and data.

To strengthen coherence, prioritize interventions, and direct investments towards areas that require progress, gaps identified from the global review have been mapped against KBF thematic areas to support project proposals. This mapping is reflected in the table below.

Annex 5.

Mapping collective review process for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)

<i>KBF Thematic Area</i>	<i>Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)</i>	<i>Targets - Gaps in the KMGBF Global review</i>
1. Restoring and protecting ecosystems to improve biodiversity and ecosystem services	Goal A – Integrity, connectivity and resilience of ecosystems restored and maintained	Target 2 (Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity. Target 3 Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories. Target 11 Restore, maintain and enhance nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural



**2.. Mainstreaming
biodiversity
effectively into
policies,
regulations,
planning and
strategies**

Supports all goals, particularly transformative change for implementation

hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.

Target 14 Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.

Target 15 Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:

(a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts

on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial

institutions along their operations, supply and value chains, and portfolios;

(b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;

(c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable;



**3. Strengthening
resource
mobilization for
biodiversity
conservation**

Goal D – Adequate means of implementation and financial resources

in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.

Target 18 Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least \$500 billion per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Target 19 Substantially and progressively increase the level of financial resources from all sources, in an effective, timely and easily accessible manner, including domestic, international, public and private resources, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans, mobilizing at least \$200 billion per year by 2030, including by:

- (a) Increasing total biodiversity related international financial resources from developed countries, including official development assistance, and from countries that voluntarily assume obligations of developed country Parties, to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to at least \$20 billion per year by 2025, and to at least \$30 billion per year by 2030;
- (b) Significantly increasing domestic resource mobilization, facilitated by the preparation and



implementation of national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments according to national needs,
priorities and circumstances;
(c) Leveraging private finance, promoting blended finance, implementing strategies for raising new and additional resources, and encouraging the private sector to invest in biodiversity, including through impact funds and other instruments;
(d) Stimulating innovative schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, and benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards;
(e) Optimizing co-benefits and synergies of finance targeting the biodiversity and climate crises;
(f) Enhancing the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions¹³ and non-market-based approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity;
(g) Enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of resource provision and use.

Target 20 Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening



**4. Sharing benefits
from genetic
resources and
digital sequence
information (DSI)**

		scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the Framework Target 23 Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the Framework through a gender-responsive approach, where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.
	Goal C – Fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources	Target 13 Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030, facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.