

CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

## Summary of key points regarding the inclusion of human-wildlife conflict in the framework

IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict Task Force

[www.hwctf.org/policies](http://www.hwctf.org/policies)

14 March 2022

[Human-wildlife conflict](#) (HWC) is a rapidly growing, serious, and widespread concern for species conservation, sustainable livelihoods and development worldwide. HWC is included in the First Draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework ([CBD/WG2020/3/3](#)), under **Target 4**. *Ensure active management actions to enable the recovery and conservation of species and the genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species, including through ex situ conservation, and **effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to avoid or reduce human-wildlife conflict.***

### TARGET

There has been much discussion about the placement of HWC in the framework text, specifically whether it should appear under Target 4, or be moved to Target 9, or even be given a separate, new Target. The [IUCN Position Paper](#) (March 2022) states that “IUCN supports the inclusion of human-wildlife conflict in the Framework, which is an increasingly critical and complex ecological and social global issue. However, we consider that it requires a separate target [with the] following formulation...: *Ensure that human-wildlife conflicts and coexistence are managed effectively through inclusive, holistic and collaborative processes that benefit both people and wildlife.*

Further to this, and as noted in our [Information document on the inclusion of a target on human-wildlife conflict in the framework](#) (July 2021) the [IUCN SSC HWC Task Force](#) **re-emphasises that HWC must be explicitly mentioned and included in the Post 2020 GBF**. This we consider more important than the target placement, i.e. whether parties decide to include it under T4, T9, or elsewhere, the HWCTF is ready and able to support parties in the next steps of implementation and monitoring.

### INDICATORS

Crucial to this is the development of indicators, which has been another area of discussion on the topic of HWC in the Framework. As outlined in our [Information Document on developing indicators for a target on human-wildlife conflict in the framework](#) (January 2022), we recommend a focus on *mitigating, managing and preventing* HWC effectively and sustainably, using a combination of quantitative and qualitative measures to demonstrate progress to this aim. Methods to measure and monitor HWC do exist and have been carried out by many researchers at local, community, regional and sub-national scales. **Indicators are difficult to define but are underway and their development under coordination by the IUCN SSC HWC Task Force.**

In developing a monitoring approach and indicators, we urge the consideration of several key points, summarised here and also explained in more detailed in the above-mentioned document:

- 1) The indicator needs to focus on the long-term aim of the drivers HWC resolution, not symptomatic components thereof.
- 2) Developing monitoring methods for HWC needs to be a highly participatory, co-designed process involving many stakeholders.
- 3) The human, social and the intangible aspects of HWCs are the most important components to measure, as they are most reflective of the root and nature of the problem.
- 4) HWC situations and management capacities are relative and highly variable, and reporting needs to be feasible and appropriate for each party.

The current wording in the [Proposed Headline Indicators of the Monitoring Framework for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework](#) proposes the indicator for Target 4.0.1 as “Proportion of species populations that are affected by human wildlife conflict”. NOTE that this is a remnant of very old input which included several more lines but was truncated during the evolution of drafts. This is not what the HWCTF proposes, as HWC is not solely a species issue. We are in the process of fine-tuning this for a more accurate indicator wording, and will likely propose text along the lines of:

#### **4.0.1 Trends in effective and sustainable management of human-wildlife conflicts and coexistence.**

This can be disaggregated into: Trends in human-wildlife conflicts, focussing on incidents, tolerance, process, and capacity: a) incidences of negative impacts or encounters on people and/or wildlife; b) willingness to coexist with wildlife (tolerance, perceptions); b) processes of engagement and capacity for efficient management.

**The development of the indicators and accompanying components is being facilitated and convened by the IUCN SSC HWC Task Force and collaborators and will continue in follow-up to the Geneva CBD meetings of March 2022.**

#### **About the IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict Task Force**

The [IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict Task Force](#) is an interdisciplinary global advisory group that support organisations, governments and professionals working to resolve conflicts in biodiversity conservation. It was created to foster links between policy, science, and communities, and assimilating knowledge and capacity for this human-wildlife conflict management. The Task Force is working to help enable the following outcomes: 1) **increase understanding** and awareness of the complexities of conflict; 2) **facilitate more collaboration** between practitioners and policy, science and community 3) **catalyse more resources** and effort committed to good human-wildlife conflict management; 4) **encourage preventive mitigation** of emerging human-wildlife conflicts; 5) **integrate effective policies** into global biodiversity and development agendas

#### **Key resources:**

[IUCN Human-Wildlife Conflict Resource Library](#)  
[IUCN SSC Position Statement on the Management of Human-Wildlife Conflict](#)  
[IUCN SSC Guidelines on the Management of Human-Wildlife Conflict](#)  
[International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence](#)

#### **For further information, please contact:**

Dr Alexandra Zimmermann (Chair) [alexandra.zimmermann@ssc.iucn.org](mailto:alexandra.zimmermann@ssc.iucn.org);  
 Dr James Stevens (Programme Officer) [info@hwctf.org](mailto:info@hwctf.org)