

# Working Group for Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence Indicator Development

## Terms of Reference

## Background

Human-wildlife conflict (HWC) is an escalating and serious concern for species conservation, sustainable livelihoods and development worldwide. In December 2022, the Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity adopted the new Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework ([CBD/COP/15/L.25](#)) which for the first time includes HWC:

*Target 4: “Ensure urgent management actions to halt human induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and conservation of species, in particular threatened species, to significantly reduce extinction risk, as well as to maintain and restore the genetic diversity within and between populations of native, wild and domesticated species to maintain their adaptive potential, including through in situ and ex situ conservation and sustainable management practices, and **effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize human-wildlife conflict for coexistence**”*

To monitor progress towards the targets, the Parties also adopted the Monitoring Framework for the Global Biodiversity Framework which includes a set of indicators for each target. The majority of these indicators are still in development, and progress towards their preparation are to be presented at CBD COP16 in late 2024. In the Monitoring Framework, the indicator for HWC is included as a component indicator, with the following wording:

**“Trends in effective and sustainable management of human-wildlife conflict and coexistence”**

As the proposed institution for coordinating the development of the framework for the HWC indicator for Target 4, the [IUCN SSC Human-Wildlife Conflict & Coexistence Specialist Group \(HWCCSG\)](#) is establishing a Working Group that will aim to develop a framework for a global indicator that accurately reflects the multidimensional and context-specific nature of HWC and is both realistic and feasible for Parties.

## Objectives

The Working Group will have the following objectives:

- Identify existing data sources and data gaps to inform indicator framework development;
- Identify the most appropriate methodologies to ensure consistency in data collection and reporting;
- Develop a framework for national-level indicators and data collection, that captures the scale, intensity and impact of the conflict;
- Produce the first draft of a global HWC indicator framework, including the three components proposed by the IUCN SSC HWCCSG\*

\*See IUCN SSC HWCCSG (2022). *Information document and discussion summary regarding the indicator for Human-Wildlife Conflict in Target 4*. IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Human-Wildlife Conflict & Coexistence Specialist Group. Available at: [www.hwctf.org/policies](http://www.hwctf.org/policies).

## Time Commitment

The members of the Working Group will be asked to join a series of workshops dedicated to the development of the framework for the HWC Indicator. The workshops will be held online and are likely to be limited to six meetings over a period of 12 months, starting in September 2023. To contribute effectively to the process, the members of the Working Group may be requested to provide technical inputs and review of prepared drafts and joint reports.

## Roles and Responsibilities

The Working Group will be composed of technical specialists from various sectors, including governments, academia, intergovernmental organisations, and non-governmental organisations. The Working Group will consist of the following:

- **Secretariat** (HWCCSG team) to chair the Working Group, collate and map existing information, prepare background documents, convene discussions and prepare summary reports to track the progress.
- **Technical Stream**, made of up to 20 experts with diverse backgrounds including e.g. ecology, biodiversity monitoring, monitoring and evaluation, policy and governance, statistics and modeling, social sciences, and conflict studies, who will provide technical input regarding relevant methodologies for data collection and analysis.
- **Feasibility Stream**, made of up to 50 experts nominated by the Parties, including the HWCCSG Government Focal Points, who will provide the group with information about the regional and national contexts, input into the technical aspects and give feedback on the feasibility of the proposed methodologies.

## Working Group Applications

Applications to join the Working Group should be submitted [here](#) no later than August 31, 2023. Note that joining the Working Group does not constitute membership of the HWCCSG.

The Secretariat will select experts from the applications received considering the different areas of technical expertise, as well as geographical representation, and the representation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women's and youth groups, and major stakeholders.

## Resources

There is no foreseen remuneration available for the activities of the group. In case of an in-person meeting, funding options will be considered.

## Contact Information

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