



PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Accelerating systemic change for gender equality and biodiversity conservation through NBSAPs

BACKGROUND

Gender inequality, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation are deeply interconnected. Gendered roles and power dynamics significantly determine who accesses, manages and benefits from natural resources, as well as who bears the brunt of environmental degradation. Women in all their diversity, and particular those from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, are disproportionately affected by biodiversity loss; and despite their various roles and knowledge as stewards of the environment, they are vastly underrepresented in environmental decision-making processes at every level. Women's leadership and influence in biodiversity conservation and natural resource governance not only can improve women's empowerment, livelihoods and resilience results, but gender equality is linked to more impactful and sustainable biodiversity outcomes, too.

Funded by the Government of Canada and implemented by the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership, the project "Accelerating systemic change for gender equality and biodiversity conservation through NBSAPs" aims to support seven countries from different regions in accelerating systemic change for gender equality and biodiversity conservation through a country-driven approach.

OBJECTIVES AND KEY STRATEGIES

The objectives of the project are to:

- **enhance institutional capacity:** build technical and institutional capacity on gender equality and systems thinking for biodiversity conservation through a core country team in each partner country to integrate gender-responsive approaches into biodiversity policies and practices.
- **increase the participation and leadership of women through multi-stake holder workshops and by co-creating country specific solutions** for gender-responsive biodiversity actions. The solutions will be submitted to the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership's MatchMaking Mechanism, linking country needs with technical support and financing.
- **support global learning and share knowledge:** increase understanding of gender-responsive biodiversity actions in, between and beyond partner countries, across the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership, Parties and stakeholders to the CBD.

This project supports seven countries to apply a gender-transformative systems thinking approach to improve biodiversity and gender equality outcomes: Antigua & Barbuda, Costa Rica, Comoros, Eswatini, Tajikistan, Thailand and Togo. The objective is to increase capacity, awareness, and outreach to relevant stakeholders by identifying problems and co-creating country-led solutions. Learnings are shared in global knowledge exchanges across the seven countries and beyond, contributing to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, especially targets 22 and 23, as well as the CBD Gender Plan of Action 2023-2030.

STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS

Key stakeholders at country level are the core country team in each country, composed of the CBD (Gender) Focal Point, and key government representatives from different ministries responsible for biodiversity and/or gender policies. Participants of multi-stakeholder workshops, consultations and systems training sessions in each country include representatives of women’s groups, women’s rights groups, different state institutions (including national gender machineries), Indigenous Peoples and local communities, youth groups, academia and research institutions. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT support the implementation of the project, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the CBD.

TIMELINE

Duration of the project is 18 months (October 2024 to March 2026: inception phase: October 2024 to February 2025, implementation phase: March 2025 to March 2026).



NBSAP ACCELERATOR PARTNERSHIP

The [NBSAP Accelerator Partnership](#) is a country-led global initiative announced at COP 15, established to accelerate implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) aligned with the Global Biodiversity Framework. Its goal is to collectively achieve the targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework and ultimately achieve the global vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050. The partnership is hosted by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD).



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