

# The Global Biodiversity Convention

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# 2020 CBD Aichi Targets



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Why global targets to save the natural world will be missed

- A: mainstream biodiversity,
- B: reduce pressure and promote sustainable use
- C: safeguard ecosystems,
- D: enhance benefits from biodiversity and ecosystem services,
- E: participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building.
- **Target 5** *By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.*
- **SDG 15** includes: *'halt deforestation', 'promote sustainable forest management' etc.*
- **New targets:** *By 2030, [50%] of land...areas globally are under spatial planning*
- **Key questions: for the post-2020 CBD targets - what was missing?**
- **Who are the stakeholders and how might their behaviour be influenced?**

# Recent SSRP research (in development) on the link between food production and habitat loss.

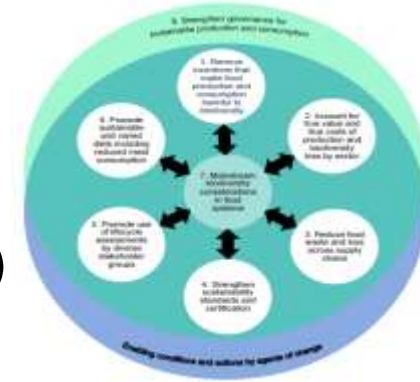
- Delphi study from expert policy meetings on proposed actions
- Exploration of national policy implementations of these (in the UK and in Peru)
- Aim: To achieve '*net zero habitat loss*' and '*sustainable yields based on species' biological limits*'
- ***Increase in global food demand and a plateau in productivity gains since the 1990s fuels the conversion of wild areas to agriculture.***



**Grassini, P., Eskridge, K. M., & Cassman, K. G. (2013).** Distinguishing between yield advances and yield plateaus in historical crop production trends. *Nature communications*, 4(1), 1-11.

# To achieve 'net zero habitat loss' and 'sustainable yields' address enabling conditions:

- 1: Reform subsidies promoting unsustainable food production
- 2: Better valuation (e.g. natural capital)
- 3: Reduce food waste and loss
- 4: Sustainability standards e.g. supply chain certificates)
- 5: Life cycle assessments: map supply chain impacts
- 6: Sustainable diets, e.g. reduce meat consumption
- 7: Mainstreaming biodiversity in public debate and policy
- 8: Transparent governance: incl. better reporting and enforcement



Actors include government, businesses, civil society...



# Bridging macro and micro (Peru: impact of pandemic)

Protected Areas and Governance voids during lockdown:

- Some Park Guards stationed around formal protected area abandoned their posts and returned to nearby towns. Some contracted covid and died.
- After rainy season ended (May-June) and lockdown relaxed, people started coming to slash and burn nearer the border of the PNCAZ protected area, clearing forest to grow crops
- Around 100 new chacras areas around PNCAZ detected in late August (when cloud cover lifted).



*Mapa:  
APERTURA DE  
CHACRAS EN  
LOS MESES  
JULIO Y AGOSTO  
2020*

# Conclusion

- Policy at macro scale needs to connect to action at the micro scale (ground-truth) otherwise it is just hot air.
- Political will at national scale is essential, and has to link to local action.
- To make a difference action needs to happen across many different levels, including addressing rural poverty alongside responsible sourcing by international buyers.

## References

- Sakiko Fukuda-Parr & Desmond McNeill (eds.) (2019) Knowledge and Politics in Setting and Measuring the SDGs, Special Issue of *Global Policy*.
- <https://www.globalpolicyjournal.com/journal-issue/special-issue-knowledge-and-politics-setting-and-measuring-sdgs>
- Butchart, Di Marco and Watson (2016) Formulating smart commitments on Biodiversity: Lessons from the Aichi Targets, *Conservation Letters* vol 9, Issue 6.