

# Target 11:

## Restore, Maintain and Enhance Nature's Contributions to People



### WHY THIS MATTERS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Nature contributes to the wellbeing of all people. States can help protect this by collaborating with Indigenous Peoples and respecting their rights and traditional knowledge, to support a balanced relationship with nature.

Nature is at the centre of the web of human and more-than-human life. It is fundamental to our wellbeing as humans, making our cultures and societies possible, regulating water, air and soil cycles, providing inspiration and supporting identities.

**Nature's contributions to people** is a term used to refer to the ways that nature makes human wellbeing possible – although for Indigenous Peoples (as well as for many other people), nature's value lies not only in its contribution to people, but also to its contribution to and relationship with the more-than-human realm.

The global crisis of declining biodiversity is reducing nature's contributions to people. For example, exhausted soil (with low soil biodiversity) reduces the yield and quality of crops; or cutting down coastal mangroves means they no longer clean our water. Under Target 11, states are committed to taking actions that restore, maintain and enhance nature and natural systems in ways that allow nature to continue sustaining life.

Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge systems recognise how people and nature rely on each other, and Indigenous ways of life often sustain and protect nature. This means Indigenous Peoples' wisdom, traditional knowledge and value systems can offer important contributions to wider efforts to restore nature and natural cycles, and to return balance to our relationship with nature.

There are opportunities for both states and Indigenous Peoples to collaborate in achieving this target, by enhancing and amplifying the contributions that Indigenous Peoples are already making. To maximise these opportunities, it is important for states to recognise, respect and make visible the diverse knowledge and values of Indigenous Peoples, as well as to respect and protect their human rights. This will safeguard and protect their existing contributions and provide space for these contributions to grow.

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### SOME QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Is the traditional knowledge of both Indigenous men and Indigenous women being considered?



### OFFICIAL CBD TARGET TEXT

Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as regulation of air, water, and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.