COP17 2026:

(THE 17TH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY)

Key discussions, voices, and priorities from the UN Biodiversity Conference.



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1 COP17 at a glance

Conference:
UN Biodiversity Conference (COP17)

Host city:
Yerevan, Armenia

Dates:
19–30 October 2026

Purpose:
To advance implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and address the causes of biodiversity loss.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres warned that biodiversity loss, pollution, and climate change are threatening the planet, with more than one million species at risk of extinction.

António Guterres, also called the governments to turn their commitments under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework into concrete action, accelerate conservation efforts, and increase funding to protect nature.

2 Key issues discussed

- **Biodiversity protection and species recovery**
- **Recognizing rights, respecting traditional knowledge, and ensuring land and resource tenure.**
- **Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' rights**
- **Protecting ecosystems that support people's well-being and resilience.**
- **Biodiversity financing and responsible investment**
- **Conservation, ecosystems, and biodiversity's relationship to human health**

3 Voices from COP17

- **Indigenous leaders highlighted rights, traditional knowledge, and stewardship of nature.**
- **Government ministers and environment officials from Parties shared national priorities and negotiating positions.**
- **NGOs and community organizations underscored urgency, social and environmental justice.**
- **Scientists and experts presented evidence on biodiversity loss, solutions and best practices.**
- **Youth delegates and networks called for ambitious action and meaningful inclusion in decisions.**
- **UN agencies and partners supported collaboration and implementation at all levels.**

4 What is at stake?

- **Continued biodiversity loss, habitat destruction, pollution, climate change, unsustainable use that threatens ecosystems, species, and the well-being of people.**
- **Parties negotiated text and considered options across agenda items. Final decisions were taken by the COP in official adoption procedures.**
- **Calls for stronger conservation measures, rights recognition, adequate finance, capacity support, inclusive participation, and science-based action.**

5 From discussion to action.

- **Advance the policy frameworks and agreements**
- **Strengthen cooperation and ecosystem degradation.**
- **Mobilize resources for effective implementation.**
- **Improve implementation with practical commitment**
- **Tracking and reporting: monitor and assess out comes**

Protecting biodiversity calls for action, cooperation and accountability.

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UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
TAKING ACTION FOR NATURE

COP 17 - CP/MOP12 - NP/MOP6
YEREVAN, ARMENIA, 2026

KEY TAKEAWAY

Biodiversity protection is essential for healthy ecosystems, human well-being, climate resilience, and sustainable development. Global commitments must translate into concrete action at local, national, and international levels.

WHAT MUST HAPPEN NEXT?

1. PROTECT NATURE:
Conserve ecosystems and halt biodiversity loss.

2. RESPECT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES:
Recognize traditional knowledge, rights, and leadership.

3. MOBILIZE RESOURCES:
Strengthen financing and international cooperation.

4. IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS:
Turn biodiversity goals into effective policies and action.

5. MONITOR PROGRESS:
Improve accountability, transparency, and reporting.

A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Governments, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, scientists, youth, civil society, and international organizations all have a role in protecting biodiversity. Meaningful participation and collaboration are essential to lasting change.

Protecting biodiversity is not only an environmental priority; it is a responsibility we share for present and future generations.

FROM COMMITMENTS TO ACTION. FROM ACTION TO LASTING CHANGE.

13 CLIMATE ACTION

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COP17 2026: THE GLOBAL CONVERSATION ON BIODIVERSITY

YEREVAN, ARMENIA • OCTOBER 2026

UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
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1. KUNMING-MONTREAL TARGETS: MIDWAY ASSESSMENT



At the midpoint toward the 2030 Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), urgent action is required to close the implementation gap across 23 global targets.

2. PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR ACCELERATION



30x30 CONSERVATION

Protect at least 30% of global lands, inland waters, and coastal/marine ecosystems by 2030.



ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

Restore degraded habitats and critical wetlands to revive ecological functionality and carbon storage.



HARMFUL SUBSIDY REFORM

Identify and redirect $500 billion annually in subsidies harmful to biodiversity toward positive incentives.



DSI & BENEFIT SHARING

Operationalize fair multilateral mechanisms for Digital Sequence Information (DSI) on genetic resources.

3. SPOTLIGHT: INDIGENOUS-LED STEWARDSHIP



Recognizing territorial tenure and integrating traditional ecological knowledge is fundamental. Indigenous peoples safeguard 80% of remaining biodiversity; legal recognition and direct access to conservation finance remain urgent priorities.

ACCELERATING ACTION: FROM PLEDGES TO MEASURABLE PROGRESS ON THE GROUND.

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CLOSING THE BIODIVERSITY FINANCE GAP



Mobilizing $200 billion per year from public and private streams by 2030. Increased official development assistance must reach frontline communities directly.

4 FOUR PILLARS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY & YOUTH

1



ADVOCACY

Hold national governments accountable for submitting robust National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).

2



EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Bridge science, ethics, and youth movements through ecological literacy and local field research.

3



PARTNERSHIP

Foster multi-sector coalitions linking faith-based organizations, indigenous leaders, and municipalities.

4



MONITORING

Engage in community-led citizen science and local tracking of biodiversity indicators.



Every local ecosystem preserved is a global victory. Nature recovery is intertwined with climate resilience, poverty eradication, and human dignity.

OUR COMMON HOME

TOGETHER FOR NATURE: EQUITABLE, ACCOUNTABLE, AND IMMEDIATE ACTION FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.