

DATE: 23 OCTOBER 2026

1 Global Action Plan (GAP) on Biodiversity and Health at COP 17 of UNCBD (Source: Down To Earth)

Global Action Plan (GAP) on Biodiversity and Health
CBD COP17 Update

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

What is GAP on Biodiversity and Health?

A global framework to strengthen the links between **biodiversity, ecosystem health and human health** through coordinated and inclusive action across sectors.

Adoption and COP17 Update

ADOPTED
COP16, Cali, Colombia (2024)
Decision 16/19

DISCUSSED
COP17, Yerevan, Armenia
(19–30 October 2026)
Implementation progress, sharing experiences and support for further action.

Objective

To promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and to **integrate biodiversity and health considerations into national and subnational policies, plans and programmes** for improved human, animal and ecosystem well-being.

The One Health Approach

Recognises the interconnectedness of human, animal, plant and ecosystem health and promotes a holistic and integrated approach.

Key Priorities / Areas of Action

- Prevent and control zoonotic diseases** by reducing wildlife–human interactions and habitat loss.
- Maintain healthy and resilient ecosystems** that provide essential services such as clean air, clean water, nutritious food and climate regulation.
- Protect food and water security** through sustainable biodiversity management.
- Strengthen research, monitoring and evidence sharing** on biodiversity–health linkages.
- Ensure inclusion of Indigenous peoples and local communities** and respect for their traditional knowledge.

Implementation

- Voluntary, country-led implementation** through National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
- Cross-sector collaboration** involving health, environment, agriculture, wildlife, water, climate and other sectors.
- Support through finance, capacity-building and technical cooperation** from governments, UN agencies, research institutions and other stakeholders.

Significance

- Helps prevent and control emerging infectious diseases.
- Contributes to healthy ecosystems and resilient societies.
- Supports climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development.
- Promotes human well-being and sustainable livelihoods through nature-positive action.



DATE: 23 OCTOBER 2026

2 European Union (EU) (Source: The Hindu)

- The European Union was established in 1993 and comprises 27 European nations.
- Following the Maastricht Treaty, also known as the Treaty of the European Union (TEU), the EU came into force.
 - 28 nations ratified the treaty, and it entered into force in 1992. Recently, Britain exited the treaty.
- *It is an economic and political bloc of 27 countries; 19 countries use the EURO as their official currency.*
- The EU has developed an internal single market through a standardized system of laws that apply in all member states in matters where members have agreed to act as one.

3 Poland (Source: The Hindu)

- **Location:** Country in Central Europe.
- **Capital:** Warsaw
- **Border Countries:** Lithuania, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Slovakia, Czech Republic, and Germany
- **Bordering Water Bodies:** Adjoins the Baltic Sea.
- **Climate:** Transitional Temperate Climate.
- **International Grouping:** European Union, NATO

