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7th National Report

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Other  
information

Section I Brief overview of the process of preparation of the report

General

Government

Timor-Leste

National authorities responsible for the preparation and submission of the report

Ministry of Tourism and Environment, General Directorate of Environment and National Directorate of Biodiversity.

EN

Contact person

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Briefly describe the process followed for the preparation of the present report. Responses may include the following

- Consultation and interviews with major stakeholders
- Review of available documents
- Data collected from interviews, reports, scientific literature, and global databases
- The document was compiled and provided to government for commentary
- Comments and information received were incorporated into a final draft provided to government after a validation workshop in February 2026

EN

Section II Status of the revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Has your country revised or updated its national biodiversity strategy and action plan in alignment with the Framework?

Yes

Did your country involve and engage stakeholders in revising or updating its national biodiversity strategy and action plan?

Yes

EN

Stakeholders

Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC)

Women

Youth

Local and/or subnational government

Private sector

Other (Major NGOs, Donor Agencies, National Parks and CSOs)

Has your country's revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan been adopted as a policy or a legal instrument, and/or integrated into other strategies?

In Progress

Briefly describe the national biodiversity monitoring system and how it tracks progress in the implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

There is a lack of a formal or coordinated biodiversity monitoring system in Timor-Leste.

Some data exist but is either maintained locally or is in various reports by governments and NGOs. A national monitoring system and biodiversity database is a proposed action in the revised NBSAP (as it was in the 2015 NBSAP). There is an inactive biodiversity database, the status of which is unclear.

EN

Section III Please use the following template to report on progress in the implementation of your country’s national targets and revised or updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan in alignment with the Framework. In cases where no national target is linked with one or more related global targets, it is suggested that countries report directly on progress contributing to the global targets.

NT2: Degraded areas of forests, agricultural lands, inland waters, and coastal and marine areas are mapped and 20% are restored to improve biodiversity, connectivity, and ecosystem integrity, by 2030. **(National)**

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Priority areas for recovery are not sufficiently well mapped to enable advanced planning, but river valleys where erosion is occurring are a recognized priority. Agroforestry, energy plantations, and commercial plantation forests including carbon farming are viewed as mechanisms to recover and restore forested areas. There are multiple projects completed or ongoing that have worked in specific areas to reduce degradation and assist communities to recover forests and reef areas. The government has set a target to restore 70% of forests by 2030.

Ocean degradation is largely the result of poor waste handling practices, mostly of rubber and plastics. The government has instituted a zero plastic plan and Decree Law 37/2020 for the Disposal, Import and Production of Bags, Packaging and other Plastics, and Government Resolution no. 15/2016 required a National Strategy for Sea Waste Management to address the marine pollution issues.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

UNEP is currently implementing a GEF funded project “Adapting to climate change and enabling sustainable land management through productive rural communities in Timor-Leste” that is focused on river valley restoration and agricultural land restoration, with a total restored area of about 19,000 ha. GCF has funded several projects to recover forests, primarily through agroforestry, such as the UNDP project “Safeguarding Rural Communities and their Physical Assets from Climate Induced Disasters” that restored 200 ha with agroforests. The EU “Partnership for Sustainable Agroforestry” was implemented with the support of MALFF in Timor-Leste from 2017 to 2022 to provide benefits from better employment opportunities in the agroforestry sector. This planting project used a range of high-value species and planted more than 700,000 seedlings between 2013 and 2019, with a 60% survival rate. JICA’s sustainable communities project has planted about 490,000 seedlings.

The ATSEA projects documented 14 marine pollution hotspots and indicated management solutions. Conservation International (CI) leads the RESTORE project with Kiwa aimed at mapping and restoring mangrove areas. UNDP is leading the Coastal Resilience Program, which is a large effort to conserve coastal ecosystems focussed on areas at Dili, Liquiça, Bobonaro, Covalima, Manufahi, Manatuto, and Viqueque. The project has planted and conserved more than 2000 ha of mangroves and mapped another 4,775 ha of mangroves in 11 districts. A project by the Kiwa Initiative has planted approximately 30,000 mangrove seedlings since 2022. Aside from restoration of mangroves there have been many individual efforts to remove debris from reefs and shorelines. For example, the Tangaroa Blue Foundation partner program “Ekipa Tasi Mos Atauro” on Atauro Island has removed 2,620 kg of debris and the government instituted a cleanup of the Dili waterfront in 2024. Despite some coastal areas being degraded, the off-shore marine areas are viewed as pristine over much of the Arafura and Timor Seas (Edyvane et al. 2024).

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Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Forest planting targets are well behind the targetted levels, largely the result of uncertain land tenure, no firm forest estate declared as government forest, uncertain boundaries of community forests, a lack of maps for areas restored or planted to agroforests, and minimal funding. Further, most of the arable lands are degraded with dense woody and herbaceous weed infestation and stunted annual pasture production (GoTL 2018, Fanzo and Bonis-Profumo 2019). Invasive species have so invaded some agricultural lands that recovery will be very difficult. | EN |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>Area under restoration</p> <p>&gt; various projects cover about 3600 ha of forest since 2019 plus &gt;2500 ha of mangroves</p> <p><b>Component indicators:</b></p> <p>Extent of natural ecosystems by type</p> <p>&gt; Table 4 (no detailed level available)</p> <p>Maintenance and restoration of connectivity of natural ecosystems</p> <p>&gt; no data</p> <p><b>National/complementary indicators:</b></p> <p>Area of remaining primary forest</p> <p>&gt; less than 1% (GFW data)</p> <p>Estimated area of degraded lands with map</p> <p>&gt; no data and no map; some mapping of watersheds but no area estimated</p> <p>Government reforestation at Aileu, Liquiçá, and Viqueque: <a href="https://timor-leste.gov.tl/?lang=en&amp;lang=en&amp;p=40536">https://timor-leste.gov.tl/?lang=en&amp;lang=en&amp;p=40536</a></p> <p>EU reforestation and agroforest project: <a href="https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/programming/projects/ai-ba-futuru-sustainable-forestry-timor-leste_en#:~:text=Ai%20ba%20Futuru%20(Partnership%20for,Agriculture%20and%20Fisheries%20(MAF),&amp;text=The%20project%20is%20in%20line,Musan%20lda%20and%20xpan%20Foundation.">https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/programming/projects/ai-ba-futuru-sustainable-forestry-timor-leste_en#:~:text=Ai%20ba%20Futuru%20(Partnership%20for,Agriculture%20and%20Fisheries%20(MAF),&amp;text=The%20project%20is%20in%20line,Musan%20lda%20and%20xpan%20Foundation.</a></p> <p>UNDP forest restoration and climate: <a href="https://www.undp.org/timor-leste/news/rooted-resilience-community-led-agroforestry-transforming-lives-timor-leste">https://www.undp.org/timor-leste/news/rooted-resilience-community-led-agroforestry-transforming-lives-timor-leste</a></p> <p>JICA river valley community forest management: <a href="https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=bb68ba81936b3981&amp;rlz=1C1CHBF_enCA812CA816&amp;q=JICA+timor-leste+reforestation+project&amp;spell=1&amp;sa=X&amp;ved=2ahUKEwitp6CimdWQAxVHd2wGHUCMCbAQkeECKAB6BAgPEAE">https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=bb68ba81936b3981&amp;rlz=1C1CHBF_enCA812CA816&amp;q=JICA+timor-leste+reforestation+project&amp;spell=1&amp;sa=X&amp;ved=2ahUKEwitp6CimdWQAxVHd2wGHUCMCbAQkeECKAB6BAgPEAE</a></p> <p>Kiwa mangrove restoration: <a href="https://kiwainitiative.org/en/news/projects-monitoring/timor-leste-fishing-communities-mobilised-in-the-face-of-climate-change">https://kiwainitiative.org/en/news/projects-monitoring/timor-leste-fishing-communities-mobilised-in-the-face-of-climate-change</a></p> | EN |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

|                                                                                                                                                                                  |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Supports: Goal 1 - No Poverty, Goal 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth, Goal 13 - Climate Action, Goal 15 - Life on Earth, and Goal 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Indicator Data

|                                                                                                   |          |                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| A.1 Red List of Ecosystems                                                                        | Headline | GBF-INDICATOR-A.1 |
| <p><b>Source of Data</b></p> <p>No data available</p> <p><b>Please describe the situation</b></p> |          |                   |

there is no available data

EN

Comments

1. **Ecosystem mapping:**  
2. Baseline Studies  
3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves)                 | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | −9.6       |
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

A.3 Red List Index

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

1. Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.  
2. **Baseline research:**  
3. **ommunity and in situ conservation:**  
4. Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

C.1 Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-C.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

C.2 Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-C.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

1.1 Percentage of land and sea area covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plans

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-1.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

Percent area where spatial plans have been implemented

> only Nino Konis Sanatana Park = 8% of country

Habitats with integrity mapped

> only Nino Konis Sanatana Park

EN

2.1 Area under restoration

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-2.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

Comments

Land cover categories also reflect large-scale mapping (Table 4).

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

EN

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
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| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

3.1 Coverage of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures

GBF-INDICATOR-3.1

Headline

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data

EN

Comments

- > terrestrial 20% (up from 16% in 2019)
- > Marine/coastal approx. 2%

EN

7.1 Index of coastal eutrophication

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-7.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

- > No data available; sedimentation is known as a problem

EN

7.2 Pesticide environment concentration and/or aggregated total applied toxicity

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-7.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

None

EN

10.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-10.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| > approx. 30% (FAO) | EN |
|---------------------|----|

10.2 Progress towards sustainable forest management

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-10.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data availableEN

Comments

> no data for the commercial sector, but the forests in some parks (e.g., Nino Konis Santana) are being managed sustainably (130,000 ha)EN

13.b Number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-13

13.1 Does your country have effective legal, administrative and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Under development

13.2 Does your country have capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Not applicable

13.3 Has your country taken administrative, policy or legislative measures pursuant to the operationalization of the multilateral mechanism in decision 16/2?

No

13.4 Do the measures mentioned in questions 13.1 and 13.2 include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources?

No

13.5 Does your country monitor the monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.6 Does your country monitor the non-monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.7 Does your country have measures to ensure the fair and equitable benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed in another country?

Not applicable

Comments

> No stand-alone law, but the Biodiversity Decree Law contains a strong section on sharing of benefits from genetic resources

EN

1.b Number of countries using participatory, integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance close to zero by 2030

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-1

1 Is your country landlocked?

No

1.1 Are all areas of your country under biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning or effective management processes that:

(a) Address land-use (terrestrial) change?

Partially

(b) Address land-use (inland water) change?

Partially

(c) Address sea-use (coastal and marine) change? (Will be considered not applicable to landlocked States)

No

1.2 If the answer to any of the questions in 1.1 is not “No”, were the plans created using a participatory process? (Select all that apply, noting that, if your country is a landlocked State, marine spatial planning will be considered as not relevant)

For terrestrial spatial planning  
For coastal and marine spatial planning

Comments

> consultative processes are in place for terrestrial, coastal, and marine areas

EN

NT3, Target 3: Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial, inland water, and of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into wider landscapes and

seascapes, while ensuring that sustainable uses are fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of local communities. **(National)**

**Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target**

Timor Leste had 44 terrestrial and 2 marine protected areas (MPA) as listed under Decree-Law No.5/2016 annex. The number of terrestrial protected areas did not change from 2019 to 2025, but Samba Sembilan MPA in Liquiçá Municipality was declared in 2021 (8000 ha). No MPA has an implemented management or action plan. There are, however, plans to expand significantly the number of marine protected areas. The government has a focussed programme to enhance Nino Konis Santana National Park.

Not all protected area boundaries are secure and mapped, and the government has been working towards completing mapping boundaries with formal judicial gazetting; 22 protected areas are formally mapped, an increase of six since 2019. The government had made a commitment to achieve 30% land area in protected area by 2030.

EN

**Indicate the current level of progress towards the target**

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

**Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved**

Progress towards this target has been marginal, with no new parks added, however Mt. Maurei was expended from 500 ha to 4677 ha following work by Conservation International in 2019. The country also has an arboretum and a botanical garden; both are primarily used to supplement populations of endangered species.

Most effort for protected areas over the current reporting period has been directed specifically to Nino Konis Santana National Park to elevate it to a sufficient standard to achieve UNESCO World Heritage status. These efforts include upgrades to infrastructure, a formal consultation process and management committee, research projects on some species (e.g., turtle species), a spatial management plan, training of staff (16 forest guards), and annual METT surveys. The park is seen as an important area for future ecotourism. A wildlife rescue centre is planned for the near future but they have been unable to establish a taxonomy centre of excellence as planned under the 2015 NBSAP. Conservation International received funding in 2017 to build capacity in protected area management, including rapid surveys of three protected areas and develop a management plan for the Mt. Maurei protected area. Under that project 30 local people and 10 government received training in park management; this was far fewer than planned.

The government has the intention to develop community forests as OECMs) but are still in the process of developing the policy. Nevertheless, it recognizes 8 community forests.

There are at least 9 declared marine protected areas, and Atauro MPA is nearly completed, These include Nino Koni Santana, Atauro (incomplete in 2025), Samba, Liquica, Manufahi. Lamsana, Beacou, Sanirin, and Batugede. Under the ATSEA programme, a public consultation was held in 2024 for a proposed marine protected area of 510 km<sup>2</sup> in the municipalities of Manatuto and Manufahi. The plan has a zoning map, 20-year management plan, and a 5-year action plan for coastal/marine habitats and important species. The ATSEA project through UNDP trained about 1000 people on protected areas management at Nino Konis Santana Park (mostly marine management). Conservation International has done ecological surveys around Atauro Island and assisted communities to establish 12 community-managed protected areas. There are plans for an international MPA with Indonesia.

EN

**Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation**

Limited availability of data, as a result, this target report may not be fully up-to date. The lack of funding is the main issue that is affecting the further development of protected areas. Other issues include the need to train local communities to reduce their impacts within protected areas, and the need for continued training of forest guards in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services.

EN

**Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.**

Conservation International Mt. Maurei expansion and training program: <https://www.cepf.net/grants/grantee-projects/building-capacity-management-and-monitoring-timor-lestes-protected-areas>

Marine zoning recommendations for Nino Konis NP: [https://www.coraltriangleinitiative.org/sites/default/files/resources/05\\_Marine%20Zoning%20Recommendations.pdf](https://www.coraltriangleinitiative.org/sites/default/files/resources/05_Marine%20Zoning%20Recommendations.pdf)

Baseline study of Nino Konis Santana Park: [https://jfit-for-science.asia/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Baseline-Study-NKSNP-Report\\_2021-Final.pdf](https://jfit-for-science.asia/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Baseline-Study-NKSNP-Report_2021-Final.pdf)

EN

Protected areas training by UNDP/ATSEA at Nino Konis Santana Park: [https://erc.undp.org/api/download?filePath=%2Fdocuments%2F12762%2Fmgmtresponse%2Fkeyaction%2Fdoc\\_4007282640980713114CapacityBuildingReportATSEA2.pdf](https://erc.undp.org/api/download?filePath=%2Fdocuments%2F12762%2Fmgmtresponse%2Fkeyaction%2Fdoc_4007282640980713114CapacityBuildingReportATSEA2.pdf)

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

Protected areas contribute to SDG 15

EN

## Indicator Data

B.1 Services provided by ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-B1

### Source of Data

No data available

### Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

### Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.1

### Source of Data

No data available

### Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

### Comments

1. Ecosystem mapping:
2. Baseline Studies
3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.2

### Source of Data

No data available

### Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

### Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

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EN

| Land Cover Class                        | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)          | Change (%) |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren) | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha) | -0.9       |
| Open Water                              | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha) | -0.1       |

A.3 Red List Index

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

1. Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.
2. **Baseline research:**
3. **ommunity and in situ conservation:**
4. Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

3.1 Coverage of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures

GBF-INDICATOR-3.1  
Headline

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data

EN

Comments

- > terrestrial 20% (up from 16% in 2019)
- > Marine/coastal approx. 2%

EN

9.1 Benefits from the sustainable use of wild species

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-9.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

9.2 Percentage of the population in traditional occupations

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-9.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimate > 9 million

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

Binary

KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?

Partially

B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?

Partially

B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?

No

B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?

No

Comments

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

9.b Number or countries with policies to manage the use of wild species sustainably, providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, and to protect and encourage customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities

Binary

KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-9

9.1 Does your country have legal instruments or other policy frameworks or administrative measures for the sustainable management and use of wild species?

Partially

9.2 Does your country monitor the sustainable management and use of wild species?

Partially

9.3 Does your country monitor the social, economic and environmental benefits derived from the use of wild species for people, in particular those in vulnerable situations and most dependent on biodiversity? (Select all that apply)

No

9.4 Does your country have legal instruments or other policy frameworks to protect and encourage the customary sustainable use of biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, for example, the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity or other relevant initiatives?

Fully

3.CT.1 Protected Area Connectedness Index

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-304

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

A.CT.5 Biodiversity Intactness Index

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.5

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

A.CT.6 Protected Connected Index

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.6

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

A.CT.7 Protected Area Representativeness and Connectedness Indices

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.7

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

3.CT.2 Species Protection Index

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-327

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT6: Invasive Species (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Timor-Leste already has numerous invasive species that have affected terrestrial habitat quality and agricultural production, although there are no quantitative data on the area affected. The Conservation of Biodiversity Decree Law indicates control measures, so government is aware of the issue.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

No significant change

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

The Biodiversity Conservation Law prohibits importing species and indicates control measures and Timor-Leste is a party to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments. There appears to be no monitoring of ballast water being done for Timor-Leste. Further, there is no work being done for eradication but there are active control measures as a result of a training programme by Australia for 17 officers on recognition and prevention of “pest species”. The training primarily concerned biosafety measures, but also included a component on invasive species. Multiple publications have observed invasive species, some of which such as macaques, seem to fill a vacant niche. However, the extent of invasiveness and the actual number of species is unknown. There are 22 invasive species listed as invasive species listed in the 2011-2024 NBSAP.

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

Lack of funding and a low level of public/government interest, possibly owing to an insufficient documentation of effects, have resulted in a minimal effort to control invasive species. The lack of control for the invasive weed, including the fast-growing shrubby weed, *Lantana camara*, and Siam weed (*Chromolaena odorata*) is especially concerning because of the large areas of agricultural lands affected.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

There is very little progress and not much to report for Target 6.

Westaway et al. list on invasives: <https://repository.naturalis.nl/document/666900>

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

The target assists with SDG 2, 24, 15

EN

Indicator Data

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

Comments

1. **Ecosystem mapping:**  
2. Baseline Studies  
3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves)                 | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | −9.6       |
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

A.3 Red List Index

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

1. Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.
2. **Baseline research:**
3. **ommunity and in situ conservation:**
4. Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

6.1 Rate of invasive alien species establishment

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-6.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

None

EN

6.b Number of countries adopting relevant regulations, processes and measures to reduce the impact of invasive alien species

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-6

6.1 Does your country have regulations and processes empowering relevant institutions to implement the measures necessary for a reduction in the introduction and impact of invasive alien species?

Fully

6.2 Does your country have measures in place for preventing the introduction and establishment of invasive alien species?

Partially

6.3 Does your country have measures in place for eradicating or controlling invasive alien species?

No

4.CT.4 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk of extinction

Component GBF-INDICATOR-4.CT.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

4.CT.4 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk of extinction

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-4.CT.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT4: A formal process is developed to list threatened species, management plans are in place to prevent declines of threatened species, including through in situ and ex situ conservation and sustainable management practices; and recovery action plans are completed for priority species listed as endangered or critically endangered; and human-wildlife conflicts are managed by 2030. **(National)**

**Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| There are 30 plants, 81 birds, 33 other terrestrial species, and 14 marine species on the Timor-Leste list of protected species (Biodiversity Decree law 2020), but there are no status data. These species were selected in 2020 through a consultative process, expert opinion, and using the few data that exist at the species level. | EN |
| For human-wildlife conflicts, there are some data available on numbers of, and attacks by crocodiles. Crocodiles kill several people each year, primarily fishers wading in shallow water. A management plan for the species is under development together with an Australian university.                                                 |    |

**Indicate the current level of progress towards the target**

|                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate |
|-----------------------------------------------------|

**Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>The Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020) provided an initial list of suspected threatened species (19 birds), but no status levels were assigned and very few data exist to indicate status. There are some active research projects, for example for sea turtles at Nino Konis Santana National Park, and for dugongs and seagrass. There are 2 proposed species management plans for hammerhead shark and snake-necked turtle. The GEF-funded ATSEA projects provided an indication of general declines in the quality of marine habitats and possible effects on some species including sea turtles, sharks, and rays. That project trained 37 people (21 women) on sea turtle conservation. Important habitats for some species, including some birds (BBAs), some herpetofauna, crocodiles, sea turtles, and dugongs have been mapped (Grantham et al. 2011, Brackbane et al. 2019). The government has been cooperating with local NGOs to establish an in-situ conservation area at Fatuberlihu to conserve endangered species, and more than 200 villagers have been trained on the application of Tara Bandu (a traditional means of controlling illicit actions) as a part of an effort to improve conservation.</p> <p>Timor-Leste sustains a growing population of salt-water crocodiles (Brackhane et al. 2024). Crocodile attacks between 2015 and 2022 (latest data) have been 5 to 9 per year, with 1 to 5 deaths per year from 2007=2024, although the number of attacks has been as high as 13 per year (McVey 2022). The issue of management, however, is clouded by cultural beliefs around human ancestry held within individual crocodiles. The Hera Crocodile Centre has been established as an enclosure and research facility for the management and study of problem saltwater crocodiles, with the goal of mitigating human-crocodile conflict while respecting the animal's cultural significance. There is also a new partnership between Australia and Timor-Leste (see below) to develop a culturally sensitive management plan for crocodiles.</p> | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

**Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Funding and an apparent low priority assigned to endangered species assessments hinders advances for this target. There is no national technical committee and no formal process for indicating species additions or deletions or to determine the status of the species. There are no management plans for any listed species. | EN |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

**Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>Dugong and seagrass protection project: <a href="https://www.dugongconservation.org/project/identification-priority-sites-conservation-dugongs-seagrasses-timor-leste-tl1/?utm_source=chatgpt.com">https://www.dugongconservation.org/project/identification-priority-sites-conservation-dugongs-seagrasses-timor-leste-tl1/?utm_source=chatgpt.com</a></p> <p>Dugong and seagrass mapping project for Hare Bay: <a href="https://www.dugongseagrass.org/media/2025/02/Country-Profile-Timor-Leste.pdf">https://www.dugongseagrass.org/media/2025/02/Country-Profile-Timor-Leste.pdf</a></p> <p>Crocodile management planning project: <a href="https://dtbar.nt.gov.au/news/2025/territory-to-partner-with-timor-leste-on-crocodile-management">https://dtbar.nt.gov.au/news/2025/territory-to-partner-with-timor-leste-on-crocodile-management</a></p> <p>Crocodile habitat mapping: <a href="https://media.rufford.org/media/project_reports/Herpetological%20Review%2C%202018%2049(3)%20pages%20439-441.pdf">https://media.rufford.org/media/project_reports/Herpetological%20Review%2C%202018%2049(3)%20pages%20439-441.pdf</a></p> | EN |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

**Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements**

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Target 4 relates to SDGs 14 and 15 | EN |
|------------------------------------|----|

Indicator Data

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-A.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

Comments

1. **Ecosystem mapping:**

2. Baseline Studies

3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-A.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
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| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

A.3 Red List Index

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

1. Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.

2. **Baseline research:**

3. **ommunity and in situ conservation:**

4. Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

3.CT.2 Species Protection Index

Component GBF-INDICATOR-327

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

4.CT.4 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk of extinction

Component GBF-INDICATOR-4.CT.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

A.CT.1 Ecosystem Intactness Index

Component GBF-INDICATOR-143

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> KBAs mapped and national large-scale zonation map includes high biodiversity areas

EN

A.CT.6 Protected Connected Index

Component GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.6

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

A.CT.8 Number of extinctions averted

Component GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.8

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

3.CT.2 Species Protection Index

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-327

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

4.CT.2 Green status of species

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-176

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

4.CT.4 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk of extinction

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-4.CT.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT7: Pollution (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Recent significant effort has been undertaken to establish a high-level governance framework to help achieve this target. However, a large gap remains between policy ambition and the capacity for effective implementation.

Decree-Law 26/2012, the Basic Law on the Environment, contains a section on solid waste management and requires the State to promote measures to facilitate the adoption of alternatives to the use of fertilizers, pesticides and other agro-chemicals in agricultural production. It mandates the reduction, control, and maintenance of polluting substances within acceptable environmental limits and promotes the use of filters and devices to reduce and neutralize polluting substances. A dedicated pollution control law, currently under development, will set national standards for air, water, and soil quality and establish levels of pollution that are unacceptable.

Decree Law 38/2020, Created the National Authority for Water and Sanitation (ANAS, I.P). It establishes the responsibilities of ANAS including in relation to sanitation of urban wastewater and urban solid waste.

Decree Law 37/2020 for the Disposal, Import and Production of Bags, Packaging and other Plastics was designed to reduce plastic use in the country. Article 4 bans single use plastics that are not biodegradable and unable to be composed, such as plastic polymer-based cups and cutlery; Article 9 addresses safety requirements, for instance, that plastic objects and materials must not present a threat to human health; Articles 19 to 21 are concerned with prohibiting hazardous substances and materials; and Articles 25 and 26 are concerned with prohibiting problematic multilayers of plastics (Steenhagen et al. 2023).

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

The limited management of solid waste contributes to the deterioration of marine and coastal resources, and da Fonseca and Spiller (2021) have described marine-based pollution as being highest on the southern coast. The primary action addressing water and associated land pollution had been the Millennium Challenge Compact (MCC) Water, Sanitation, and Drainage (WSD) Project, executed in partnership with the Government of Timor-Leste. The WSD Project includes the design and construction of Timor-Leste's first central wastewater system. This comprises a new Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), an ocean outfall, wastewater collection systems, and connections to households and businesses. The primary objective of the WSD Project is to reduce fecal pathogens in piped and stored drinking water, and groundwater. During the operation of the WWTP, mitigation measures will involve establishing effluent discharge quality parameters and regularly testing effluent to measure compliance. The project is projected to benefit an estimated 301,000 Dili residents through the wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure.

A Terms of Reference for the environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the WWTP was prepared in 2024. The EIA is under preparation. Subject to government approval and funding for the WWTP, the EIA will be submitted to government for review.

However, following the US government review of all foreign assistance commitments in 2025, MCC cancelled the \$420 M grant for the WSD Project. The immediate next steps and long-term future of the project are now unclear.

A study of 150 farmers from Ermera Municipality (the country's second largest after Dili) published in 2024 found that only 13.3% applied chemical fertilizers above recommended levels, and that awareness activities led to 56.7% reducing their use of chemical fertilizers and 30% switching to organic alternatives (Gomes 2024). The study found that agricultural extension services were the main source of awareness for 40% of farmers regarding the environmental impacts of chemical fertilizers.

A 2021-22 study explored (for the first time) farmers' views on implementing agroforestry practices in Timor-Leste, focusing on its impact on soil and crop yields. Agroforestry interventions have demonstrated a positive impact, reducing soil erosion by nearly 15 times compared to traditional fallow systems. (Gusmão et al. 2025)

The World Bank Sustainable Agriculture Productivity Improvement Project (2016-2024) included: integrated watershed/sub-watershed agriculture development planning; smallholder organization, advisory support and training; sustainable watershed/sub-watershed management and support to farmer groups; and strengthening the Ministry of Agriculture Livestock, Forestry and Fisheries (MALFF)'s Services, Planning, Programming, Coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation Functions. Using a farmer field school model, trainings were delivered to local leaders and some 70,121 farmers have received training on group formation, good agricultural practices, watershed management, sustainable agriculture production and value chain management and have started applying these newly acquired skills. Through a community demand-driven mechanism, farmer groups have received a series of small grants to implement microprojects for watershed management, productivity improvement of crops and livestock and post-harvest handling. The project reported significant progress, with maize productivity rising by 18%, rice by 14%, horticulture by 25%, and livestock by 20% over 2022-23 (Mwumvaneza 2024). Over the life of the project, 9,586 famers adopted improved land management practices, although results are yet to be measured (Mwumvaneza 2025).

FAO is developing the knowledge and capacity of government extension workers in Timor-Leste to show farmers better maize cultivation and integrated pest management (IPM) practices for fall armyworm. In 2024, a 5-day training event built on a technical co-operation programme implemented in Timor-Leste through FAO and the Timor-Leste Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Fishery (MALFF).

The UNDP-GCF "Safeguarding Rural Communities and Their Physical Assets from Climate-Induced Disasters in Timor-Leste" project (2020-2026) includes agroforestry, soil and water conservation, and afforestation measures over 206 ha (including afforestation of the slope lands) to restore degraded land and soil and strive to achieve land degradation neutrality.

The government committed to eliminating plastics from the natural environment by 2023 through the ambitious 'Zero Plastic Timor-Leste' campaign. No updates on progress are available.

The Pacific – European Union (EU) Waste Management Programme, PacWastePlus, supported a gap analysis of Timor-Leste's legislation, plans and policies to assess its capacity to implement plastic pollution reduction measures. The research, published in 2023, found significant gaps in all analytical categories.

Under PacWastePlus, quantitative and qualitative waste auditing with a selection of households and businesses was undertaken in the Baucau and Covalima Districts in August and September 2021. It estimated an average household waste generation rate of 0.44kg per capita per day which was found to be in line with findings from previous studies in Dili and other Pacific locations. It found the average household waste stream comprises approximately 52% organic materials; 24% paper and cardboard; 5% metals, less than 2% hazardous waste and 8.3% plastics of which approximately 1.7% are defined as single-use plastics.

The Korean Government is supporting the 6-year Reducing Marine Plastics in the East Asian Seas Region Project (2023-2028) in Timor-Leste and the Philippines. It conducted a baseline study on plastic waste generation and composition on key coastal areas in four municipalities in Timor-Leste – Atauro, Dili, Liquiçá, and Manatuto. Consistent with the PacWastePlus audit, this estimated household waste generation rates of 0.27-0.5kg per

EN

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| capita per day, with plastic waste constituting 13% to 32% of this waste in the study sites, leading to an estimated national average of 15%.                                                                                                                                |  |
| The Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility (PRIF) estimated that approximately 20.7Mt of plastic waste was released in the waters around Timor-Leste in 2010, with the amount expected to rise to 64.2Mt by 2025 (Steenhagen 2023).                                          |  |
| The Government of Timor-Leste signed a memorandum of understanding in 2019 with Mura Technology (a joint venture between the University of Sydney’s spin-out company Licella Holdings and power supplier Armstrong Energy) for a chemical recycling plant (Steenhagen 2023). |  |

**Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>There are three key challenges associated with this target: a lack of reliable data; a lack of resources and management systems; and limited capacity and awareness amongst all stakeholder groups. However, so far public and private sectors have been unwilling to invest significantly in pollution control.</p> <p>A recent study of farmer’s perceptions of their farming practices on ecological risk in Loes watershed (which is experiencing declining river flows, high erosion, landslides, decreasing land cover, and high deforestation) showed that, despite declining crop productivity between 2018 and 2022, about 75% of farmers think soil fertility, crop productivity and grassland area have not decreased. The vast majority of these farmers engage in slash-and-burn agriculture. (da Costa 2025) A separate study found that slash-and-burn agriculture has significantly contributed to the depletion of soil nutrients in Timor-Leste (da Costa 2022).</p> <p>Timor-Leste is the second most oil dependent country in the world and the revenue from offshore oil and gas reserves dominates the economy. After oil and gas are extracted in Timor-Leste, they are used for plastics feedstocks, that is, they are exported to plastic producing countries (e.g., China) to manufacture virgin pellets, which are then imported back into the country to manufacture single-use and other plastics products. Consequently, Timor-Leste bears the environmental cost of the full life cycle of plastics from the extraction of fossil fuels used to produce plastics, importation of plastic pre-production pellets, and the manufacture of plastic products to the leakage of plastics into the environment (Steenhagen 2023).</p> <p>While Decree Law 37/2020 for the Disposal, Import and Production of Bags, Packaging and Other Plastics is progressive and addresses important components of managing plastic pollution, significant gaps remain in both its design and implementation. Generally, the emphasis is on waste management, rather than reduction. Further, no legislation yet refers to national reduction targets, import bans, nor restrictions on virgin plastic use (Steenhagen 2023).</p> <p>Data on the total quantity of plastic or recyclable materials recovered by facilities remains limited, and the national waste generation and recovery rates have yet to be calculated (PEMSEA 2025).</p> <p>Timor-Leste mainly relies on uncontrolled facilities, such as open dump sites, as its main form of waste disposal. Inconsistent waste collection results in communities resorting to environmentally unsafe practices of disposal such as burning, open dumping, and backyard burying (PEMSEA 2025).</p> | EN |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

**Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>da Costa et al (2022) "Effects of Slash-and-Burn Practices on Soil Quality at Different Landscape Positions in the Raumoco Watershed, Municipality of Lautem, Timor-Leste", <i>Open Journal of Ecology</i>, 12, pp.483-49.</p> <p>da Costa et al (2025) "Farmers’ Perception of the Current Farming Practices on Agricultural Ecological Risk in Loes Watershed, Timor-Leste", <i>American Journal of Environment and Climate</i>, Vol. 4, Issue 2, pp.84-96.</p> <p>Gomes (2024) "Timor-Leste Farmers' Perspectives on Environmental Impacts of Chemical Fertilizer Use in Agriculture", <i>International Scientific Journal of State Research</i>, Vol. 01, Issue, 01, No. 04, pp.23-27.</p> <p>Gusmão et al (2025) "Integrating farmers’ views, field soil erosion assessment, and pot experiments to evaluate different agroforestry systems in Timor-Leste", <i>Agroforestry Systems</i>, Vol. 99, No. 50, pp.1-19.</p> <p>Mwumvaneza (2024) <i>Disclosable Restructuring Paper - Sustainable Agriculture Productivity Improvement Project - P155541 (English)</i>. Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group.<br/><a href="http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/099062724133028332">http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/099062724133028332</a></p> <p>Mwumvaneza (2025) <i>Disclosable Version of the ISR - Sustainable Agriculture Productivity Improvement Project - P155541 - Sequence No : 17 (English)</i>. Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group. <a href="http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/099050725004042309">http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/099050725004042309</a>.</p> <p>PEMSEA (2025) <i>Baseline Assessment Report on Marine Plastics in the Four ODA Project Sites in Timor-Leste</i>. Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), Philippines.</p> <p>Steenhagen et al (2023) <i>Plastic Pollution Prevention in Timor Leste: Gap Analysis of Current Legislation, Policies, and Plans</i>, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP), Apia, Samoa</p> | EN |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target contributes to achieving SDGs 6, 11, 14, and 15.

EN

Indicator Data

B.1 Services provided by ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-B1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

7.1 Index of coastal eutrophication

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-7.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> No data available; sedimentation is known as a problem

EN

7.2 Pesticide environment concentration and/or aggregated total applied toxicity

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-7.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

None

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?

Partially

B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?

Partially

No

No

- > Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-287

No data available

There is no data available

EN

> 0 (This information is derived from the baseline data for the Water, Sanitation, and Drainage (WSD) Project, where the indicator "Proportion of wastewater treated (WS-22)" is defined as the percentage of the total collected sewage volume that receives at least primary wastewater treatment. As of the baseline year 2021, the measured value for this indicator was 0%)

EN

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-316

No data available

there is no data available

EN

> not yet

EN

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-142

No data available

there is no data available

EN

- > No data from SDG Stats

EN

11.CT.3 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

ComplementaryGBF-INDICATOR-200

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

7.CY.3 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities

ComplementaryGBF-INDICATOR-217

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

7.CY.4 Hazardous waste generation per capita

ComplementaryGBF-INDICATOR-183

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT8: Climate Change (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

This target was not considered under the Aichi targets, but as a signatory to the NFCCC, Timor-Leste has considered climate change in most of its policies. As a small island developing state, Timor-Leste is particularly vulnerable to several aspects of climate change, including droughts, sea level rise, and coral bleaching. The country’s contribution to greenhouse gasses is minimal (<0.01%) and the major national focus must be on adaptation to the expected changes, using nature-based solutions, such as mangrove and other forest restoration. There have been and are projects on disaster risk reduction, improving infrastructure, ecosystem restoration, and climate considerations have been incorporated into many recent policies. The country provided its second NDC in 2020 to the UNFCCC.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

The NDC was submitted in 2020 and indicated that, in 2014, the land use change sector had a negative emission rate of -1438.8 Gt CO2e, representing a significant decline from the 2010 reference year when the rate was positive. The NDC is focussed mainly on adapting to climate change, given the country’s low rate of emissions, and on developing a GHG inventory as priorities. There has been some limited work on mitigation mostly through reforestation, such as carbon farming projects, with most attention being paid to adaptation and disaster risk reduction. UNDP is supporting a GCF funded project ‘Safeguarding Rural Communities and their Physical Assets from Climate Induced Disasters in Timor-Leste’ to support the implementing 130 climate-resilient infrastructure in six municipalities, which were seen as most vulnerable to climate-related hazards. The project will improve irrigation systems and restore water catchment areas and work to support resilience of communities to climate change. A land management sustainability GEF-funded project, led by UNEP, will work to improve national and sub-national adaptation planning, restore ecosystems in water catchments, implement agricultural management systems, provide water to rural communities, and work to expand climate-smart agribusiness. An EU-led project that ended in 2022 provided a process to engage local communities and CSOs for capacity building to adopt to climate change. An IKAN project with FAO, started in 2022, is working to assist

EN

fishers and aquaculture farmers to adapt to climate changes through capacity-building, improved policies, monitoring, FAO is also assisting the calculation of the forest reference level for the NDC 3 report.

The 2023 National Oceans Policy sets ocean protection from climate change as a priority and Johnson et al. indicated that climate change will dramatically alter ocean habitats in the Arafura-Timor Seas, causing reduced fisheries. As reported under Target 2, there are several projects restoring mangrove forests to assist reef protection from siltation, and to restore coastal resilience to storms.

The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)-funded a project that produced 19 new crop varieties, such as red rice, hybrid corn, and winged beans, in Timor-Leste. The FAO supports the improvement of crop and food diversification to roots, tubers, vegetables, fruits, under-used indigenous crops to improve resilient farming systems.

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

Timor-Leste requires much more capacity building, both within government and for communities to improve their adaptation to climate change. Drought is a major issue requiring much more forest restoration along river valleys to conserve water and soil, but funding is lacking. There is no regular monitoring or baseline for climate change or its impacts.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

NDC 02 (2022-2030: [https://climate-laws.org/document/timor-leste-nationally-determined-contribution-ndc1-updated-for-2022-2030\\_ecf5](https://climate-laws.org/document/timor-leste-nationally-determined-contribution-ndc1-updated-for-2022-2030_ecf5)

Climate change  
policy: <https://www.laohamutuk.org/Env/Climate/2023/220301GovRes8NationalClimateChangePolicyEn.pdf>

UNDP-GCF climate project: <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/undp-timor-leste-launch-gcf-backed-project-protect-rural-communities-against-climate-change>

UNEP-GEF climate agriculture project: <https://www.unep.org/topics/climate-action/adaptation/ecosystem-based-adaptation/ecosystem-based-adaptation-timor-leste>

EU capacity building project: [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/climate-change-adaptation-cca-project-ends-significant-progress-supporting-local-civil-society\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/timor-leste/climate-change-adaptation-cca-project-ends-significant-progress-supporting-local-civil-society_en)

FAO crop improvement: <https://www.fao.org/timor-leste/programmes-and-projects/programmes/en/>

Australia crop varieties: <https://www.aciar.gov.au/media-search/news/new-crop-varieties-boost-food-security-timor-leste>

Timor-Leste NDC 2022-2030: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-11/Timor\\_Leste%20Updated%20NDC%202022\\_2030.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-11/Timor_Leste%20Updated%20NDC%202022_2030.pdf)

FAO GEFF funded-IKAN project: <https://www.fao.org/environmental-social-safeguards/project-detail/ikan-adapt--strengthening-the-adaptive-capacity--resilience-and-biodiversity-conservation-ability-of-fisheries-and-aquaculture-dependent-livelihoods-in-timor-leste/en>

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target assists implementing SDGs 2, 13, 14, and 15

EN

Indicator Data

| 7.1 Index of coastal eutrophication                                                                      | Headline | GBF-INDICATOR-7.1 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| <div>Source of Data</div> <div>No data available</div>                                                   |          |                   |
| <div>Please describe the situation</div> <div>there is no data available</div> <div>EN</div>             |          |                   |
| <div>Comments</div> <div>&gt; No data available; sedimentation is known as a problem</div> <div>EN</div> |          |                   |

8.b Number of countries with policies to minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and to minimize negative and foster positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-8

8.1 Does your country’s national biodiversity strategy and action plan include actions to prevent or minimize the impacts of the following (select all that apply):

- Climate change
- Ocean acidification

8.2 Do your country’s climate change policies address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity?

Fully

8.3 Do your country’s other policies address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity?

Fully

8.4 Do your country’s other policies address the impacts of ocean acidification on biodiversity?

Partially

8.5 Are the impacts of climate change on biodiversity monitored and reported on?

No

8.6 Are the impact of ocean acidification on biodiversity monitored and reported on?

Partially

8.7 Do your country’s policies or action plans on the impact of climate change and ocean acidification contain the following types of actions designed to increase biodiversity resilience or reduce impacts (select all that apply):

- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Disaster risk reduction
- Nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches

8.8 Are measures included in your country’s policies or actions plans to minimize the negative impacts of climate actions on biodiversity?

Fully

8.9 Are measures included in your country’s policies or actions plans to foster positive impacts of climate actions on biodiversity?

No

8.CT.2 Bioclimatic Ecosystem Resilience Index

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-114

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

8.CY.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-294

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> yes in 6 municipalities

EN

NT10: Sustainable Resource Management (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

According to the country’s NDC, Timor-Leste has a high estimated annual deforestation rate of 1.7%, and a high estimated forest degradation rate of 5.8%. Hence, government focus in the forestry sector is on reforesting priority sites to move towards sustainability and to adapt and mitigate to climate change. For agriculture, the main efforts have been to improve crop varieties for better production, reducing soil loss, improving agroforestry, and adapting to climate change. For fisheries, efforts are focussed on improving fishery management through better monitoring using the PeskaAS monitoring system, working with communities to improve local management, developing ecotourism in reef systems, and on developing better capacity in aquaculture and fish handling.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

Forestry:

The National Forest Sector Policy (A strategic plan is being developed together with ADB) aims to have effective ecological protection for at least 70% of its forest area by 2030. To help achieve this objective, there has been an ongoing reforestation effort for more than a decade, but while the government aims to plant a million trees a year, there has generally been insufficient funding to meet the target. Nevertheless, several projects by government, NGOs, the UN, and various donor agencies continue to work on restoring priority areas, including mangroves and along 14 watersheds. A reforestation project by expand Foundation (the “WithOneSeed” programme) in the Bagaia sub-district works with about 980 farmers and has planted over 200,000 trees so far. UNEP is currently implementing a GEF-funded project focussed on river valley restoration and agricultural land restoration, with a total restored area of about 19,000 ha. GCF has funded several projects to recover forests, primarily through agroforestry, such as the UNDP project “Safeguarding Rural Communities and their Physical Assets from Climate Induced Disasters” that restored 200 ha with agroforests. The JICA (together with Fundação Carbon Offset Timor) project on sustainable land management in communities has improved forest management and agroforestry in 74 villages across the country (48,000 people, 52% women). The project has

planted more than 470,000 seedlings and trained more than 100 people (54% women) on sustainable land management. The project runs until 2027.

The EU “Partnership for Sustainable Agroforestry” was implemented, with the support of government from 2017 to 2022, to provide benefits from better employment opportunities in the agroforestry sector. This project planted a several high-value species (coffee, teak, sandalwood, etc.), with more than 700,000 seedlings between 2013 and 2019, with a 60% survival rate. The project also worked with communities in the eastern municipalities (Baucau, Lautem, Manatuto, and Viqueque), supporting over 6,000 households and planted 3.7 million trees to increase agroforestry land use by approximately 6,000 hectares. AFoCO’s ongoing Project 26 planted over 20,000 trees in 2023, with an 80% survival rate. The JICA-supported watershed-management project covers approximately 160,000 ha in two river basins. CI is working to protect transboundary watersheds together with Indonesia and is in the process of developing a management plan for the entire area.

Government reported that internal efforts vary annually based on funding allocations and have ranged between 0 and 25 ha/yr of forest restored, with another 0 to 4 ha/yr of agroforest planting between 2021 and 2025. Some of the areas planted are meant for future commercial harvesting, using species such as rosewood and nonnative species including teak and mahogany. Government planted 50,000 mangrove seedlings in each of 2023 and 2024. Similarly, budget is reflected in the number of community-run tree nurseries supported, ranging from 8 to 44. The government is revising its forest and community forestry policies and has registered 8 community forests, some of which focus mainly on NTFPs.

The Forest Department has made enforcement a priority with the creation of a directorate. Under this new directorate, enforcement is done for forests, protected areas, and wildlife by forest guards. The number of the guards depends on funding but has doubled from 150 in 2019, to 304 in 2024 and 286 in 2025, including 15 women. The government has trained 8 municipalities on resource and biodiversity regulations, including through training of trainers.

Agriculture:

The Department of Agriculture, through its National Directorate for Research, Statistics, and GIS, has collected 92 local species of cultivated crops to conserve and promote their cultivation in the future. The collections were done from six municipalities including Baucau, Lautem, Liquica, Manufahi, Maliana and Viqueque and seeds of the species are preserved at the Collection Centre of Loes and Betano for further development. Researchers at the UNTL have also promoted the use of local varieties, particularly local grain legumes, through testing adaptation to low coastal areas to be grown after rice harvest (Gusmao 2016; 2017; 2018; Gusmao et al. 2019). Further, the Department of Agronomy and Centre for Climate Change and Biodiversity of the University of Timor Leste (UNTL), in cooperation with the Agricultural Innovation for Communities, conducted a 5-year project (2017 to 2022) funded by the Australian government to research new technologies, such as use of rice husks and rice husks plus nutrients, in promoting production of various local and introduced crops and horticultures in the lowland paddy fields areas after the rice crop is harvested.

A major current initiative is the “Sustainable Management of Agro-Biodiversity in Timor-Leste” project, implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Livestock (MALFF) in partnership with GIZ, the National Directorate of Biodiversity, a national NGO (PERMATIL), and the UNTL. This programme focusses on in situ conservation of traditional crop varieties and livestock breeds while promoting biodiversity-friendly farming practices. PERMATIL and Haburas Foundation work to support and improve traditional agricultural systems to preserve soil fertility, native crops, and seed-sharing networks. These efforts help maintain genetic diversity within subsistence crops like maize, rice, beans, and root crops.

An issue that the MALFF has recognized the increased use of pesticides being imported into the country (Figure 4). In May 2025, Timor-Leste’s Council of Ministers approved a draft pesticides law that would regulate many aspects of pesticide management: licensing, import/export, production, sale, use, packaging, and disposal. The law has been designed to protect human, animal, and plant health, as well as terrestrial and marine ecosystems. However, effectiveness of the law will depend on training inspectors, an enforcement mechanism, and funding.

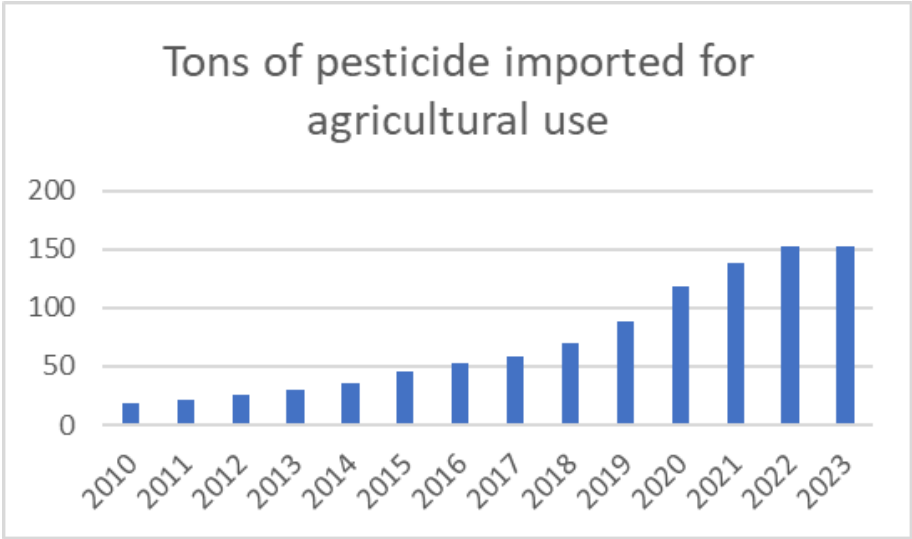


Figure 4 (repeated rom Target 7). Pesticides imported into Timor-Leste, 2010 to 2023 (data from FAOSTAT)

EN

Fisheries and aquaculture

There is a revised fishery management plan but it has yet to be completed. Much effort for fisheries has been devoted to planning and mapping of resource areas used by the 6,876 fishers in the country. Coastal habitat mapping was completed in 2012 (prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> National Report), with a classification of six marine habitat types and seven coastal habitat types (Grantham et al. 2011, Boggs et al. 2012). Mapping for much of the nearshore habitats, as an ecological baseline for management and climate change, was completed by Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC 2017). Nearshore waters along the entire coastline have complete coverage using WorldView-2 satellite imagery. These maps were developed to assist with spatial ecosystem planning for the area. A shoreline management plan has been developed to monitor and reduce shore impacts (McCue 2020).

Improved management of fisheries is primarily done through development of LMMAs, which are formed through a combination of customary law (Tara Bandu), community engagement, and with support from NGOs and government. For example, Blue Ventures is working with 8 LMMAs to monitor fish harvesting and provide data to the communities to improve their local management. Women collect fish harvest data using a mobile application twice a week and provide it to Blue Ventures for analysis. Ecological surveys for the 8 village oceanic areas were completed and a report will be issued in 2025. All of the formal LMMAs are mapped and zoned and have management plans developed for both fishing and ecotourism. Assistance in new product lines is also provided to increase added value to the fish, including dried and salted foods. LMMAs are co-managed with government (Tilley et al. 2019). Enforcement at LMMAs is through the Tara Bandu customary system. The PeskaAS fish monitoring system has been used successfully to monitor fish catch (Tilley et al. 2019, [file:///C:/Users/17052/Downloads/data\\_report.html#catch-volume-national](file:///C:/Users/17052/Downloads/data_report.html#catch-volume-national)). and World Fish and Blue Ventures are working to expand its use, especially to monitor bycatch. The PaskAAS data indicate an increasing value of the marine harvest, valued at around US\$2 million in 2025, with a catch of from 400 to 850 tons/month. The species caught most frequently are pilchards, garfish and various mackaral species, but there are no data to indicate sustainable levels of any harvest, although the PeskaAS data indicate that catch per unit effort has increased over the past 6 years from 9 to 15kg/fisher hour with a more or less constant effort. However, some authors have suggested that the nearshore fishery is unsustainable (e.g., Alonso Población 2013, Johnson et al. 2023).

The SOMACORE (Solutions for Marine and Coastal Resilience in the Coral Triangle) project is an initiative implemented by Conservation International (with other partners) and funded by the German Federal Government through the International Climate Initiative (IKI) and initiated in 2025. This is an international project involving several countries to establish the resilience of biodiversity-rich ecosystems and communities in transboundary seascapes of the Coral Triangle to climate change.

The PEMSEA project is in the process of developing an integrated marine and coastal policy and fisheries management system. WorldFish is working on developing standards for fish products in order to begin a fish exporting business for the country. Government has developed a revised “Blue Ocean Economy and Action Plan” that is currently being consulted with the public. The focus of that plan is ecological sustainability of the fishery and marine areas, including through spatial planning.

The Arafura Timor Seas Ecosystem Action (ATSEA) Program was initiated to promote collaboration and cooperation among the four littoral countries (Indonesia, Timor Leste, Australia, and Papua-New Guinea) to foster a stronger understanding of marine environmental issues, challenges and opportunities, particularly transboundary issues in the region that require collective action among the four countries. The project identified 12 marine KBAs, and mapped about 80% of the country’s coastal areas. The project identified important coral reef areas, and recorded mammal and fish species richness, including 652 fish species around Atauro Island. The programme continues to monitor fish catch and had introduced fish aggregating devices in several municipalities to improve the harvest, although the PeskaAS data suggest the harvest to be relatively constant for several years.

FAO and WorldFish are working to improve the seaweed collection industry, including by replanting damaged areas (Schut et al. 2024). Nevertheless, exports have declined from 500 tons in 2022 to just 125 tons in 2024. Seaweed farmers are primarily women who farm about 23 ha with their production increasing with time. The replanting of the weed beds are essential to sustain this industry. Most seaweed farming is concentrated on Atauro Island, while smaller operations occur in Ulmera-Liquiça, Manatuto, and Baucau. The number of farmers is increasing, although the production is mainly limited to local demand with just a small amount of product being sold abroad.

WorldFish, FAO, and New Zealand Aid are the main groups working to improve aquaculture, largely through policy development, capacity-building, and infrastructure improvements. Aquaculture production rose by 55% between 2019 and 2023 (FAOSTAT – data reported in the NBSAP). Aquaculture is done at a small-scale but continues to develop, with production by smallholder farmers with limited technology and infrastructure. However, production has steadily increased with a doubling of fish harvested between 2022 (340 tonnes) and 2024 (600 tonnes) (the 2025 data were not complete). The government recognizes that fish farming can reduce pressure on marine fisheries and has trained 1,700 people on aquaculture techniques. (Barreto et al. 2025) reported that 3364 households (29% women) were involved in aquaculture on 4515 ponds. This represented a 168% increase in farmers between 2012 and 2024. There are now 6 fish hatcheries producing breeding stock for aquaculture.

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>Greater assistance from the Fisheries Department in answering questions may have resulted in a more complete assessment of this target.</p> <p>The key challenges for improvement are insufficient funding overall in all resource sectors, insufficient staff, limited enforcement, uncertain land tenure, almost no monitoring or baseline data, low priority assigned to fisheries and coastal protection, and illegal activities. National and local policies often conflict making the move to decentralisation difficult. There is a lack of capacity available to train, educate, and empower coastal communities in the fisheries and environment sectors. Overlapping mandates and duplication of programs are spread across almost all ministries. For example, unclear administration arrangements are associated with mangrove management. The Directorate of Forestry is responsible for forests in both terrestrial and marine areas, while coastal protected areas are also under the Directorate of Fisheries (da Fonseca et al. 2023). Unsustainable fishing may have caused localised species extinctions, including of species that are under protection, such as red snapper.</p> | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>Government reforestation at Aileu, Liquiçá, and Viqueque: <a href="https://timor-leste.gov.tl/?lang=en&amp;lang=en&amp;p=40536">https://timor-leste.gov.tl/?lang=en&amp;lang=en&amp;p=40536</a></p> <p>EU reforestation and agroforest project: <a href="https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/programming/projects/ai-ba-futuru-sustainable-forestry-timor-leste_en#:~:text=Ai%20ba%20Futuru%20(Partnership%20for,Agriculture%20and%20Fisheries%20(MAF).&amp;text=The%20project%20is%20in%20line,Musan%20Ida%20and%20xpan%20Foundation.">https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/programming/projects/ai-ba-futuru-sustainable-forestry-timor-leste_en#:~:text=Ai%20ba%20Futuru%20(Partnership%20for,Agriculture%20and%20Fisheries%20(MAF).&amp;text=The%20project%20is%20in%20line,Musan%20Ida%20and%20xpan%20Foundation.</a></p> <p>UNDP forest restoration and climate: <a href="https://www.undp.org/timor-leste/news/rooted-resilience-community-led-agroforestry-transforming-lives-timor-leste">https://www.undp.org/timor-leste/news/rooted-resilience-community-led-agroforestry-transforming-lives-timor-leste</a></p> <p>JICA river valley community forest management: <a href="https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=bb68ba81936b3981&amp;rlz=1C1CHBF_enCA812CA816&amp;q=JICA+timor-leste+reforestation+project&amp;spell=1&amp;sa=X&amp;ved=2ahUKEwitp6CimdWQAxVHd2wGHUCMCbAQkeECKAB6BAGPEAE">https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=bb68ba81936b3981&amp;rlz=1C1CHBF_enCA812CA816&amp;q=JICA+timor-leste+reforestation+project&amp;spell=1&amp;sa=X&amp;ved=2ahUKEwitp6CimdWQAxVHd2wGHUCMCbAQkeECKAB6BAGPEAE</a></p> <p>Co-management of small-scale fisheries: <a href="https://digitalarchive.worldfishcenter.org/bitstreams/3dac5509-76c4-4532-b111-6119b96dd96c/download">https://digitalarchive.worldfishcenter.org/bitstreams/3dac5509-76c4-4532-b111-6119b96dd96c/download</a></p> <p>AFoCO reforestation Project 26: <a href="https://afocosec.org/newsroom/news/afoco-and-timor-lestes-green-vision-mangrove-sandalwood-and-coffee-projects-take-center-stage/">https://afocosec.org/newsroom/news/afoco-and-timor-lestes-green-vision-mangrove-sandalwood-and-coffee-projects-take-center-stage/</a></p> <p>Sustainable Agriculture Productivity Improvement Project: <a href="https://www.gafspfund.org/projects/sustainable-agriculture-productivity-improvement-project-sapip">https://www.gafspfund.org/projects/sustainable-agriculture-productivity-improvement-project-sapip</a></p> <p>Government Blue Ocean Economy policy: <a href="https://timor-leste.gov.tl/?p=45241&amp;lang=en&amp;n=1">https://timor-leste.gov.tl/?p=45241&amp;lang=en&amp;n=1</a></p> <p>WorldFish and FAO, seaweed industry:<br/>WorldFish: <a href="https://digitalarchive.worldfishcenter.org/bitstreams/3dac5509-76c4-4532-b111-6119b96dd96c/download">https://digitalarchive.worldfishcenter.org/bitstreams/3dac5509-76c4-4532-b111-6119b96dd96c/download</a></p> <p>ATSEA 2 Project Timor Leste country synthesis: <a href="https://atsea-program.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/CSR-TL_ready-to-print.pdf">https://atsea-program.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/CSR-TL_ready-to-print.pdf</a></p> <p>PeskaAS fish monitoring system: <a href="https://timor.peskas.org/home">https://timor.peskas.org/home</a></p> | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

|                                                                     |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| The targets assist in achieving SDG Goals 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 14, and 15 | EN |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Indicator Data

|                                      |  |          |                  |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------|------------------|
| B.1 Services provided by ecosystems  |  | Headline | GBF-INDICATOR-B1 |
| <b>Source of Data</b>                |  |          |                  |
| No data available                    |  |          |                  |
| <b>Please describe the situation</b> |  |          |                  |
| there is no data available           |  |          | EN               |

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-D.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimated at 90-93 million USD/year (GEF, GCF, UN agencies, WB, and ADB but excludes multi-lateral agency funding)

EN

D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-D.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 24 million/year

EN

D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-D.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 2 million/year

EN

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

Comments

- 1. Ecosystem mapping:
- 2. Baseline Studies
- 3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves)                 | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | −9.6       |
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

1.1 Percentage of land and sea area covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plans

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-1.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

Percent area where spatial plans have been implemented

> only Nino Konis Sanatana Park = 8% of country

Habitats with integrity mapped

> only Nino Konis Sanatana Park

EN

2.1 Area under restoration

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-2.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

Comments

Land cover categories also reflect large-scale mapping (Table 4).

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves)                 | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | −9.6       |
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

3.1 Coverage of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures

GBF-INDICATOR-3.1

Headline

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data

EN

Comments

> terrestrial 20% (up from 16% in 2019)

> Marine/coastal approx. 2%

EN

10.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-10.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. 30% (FAO)

EN

10.2 Progress towards sustainable forest management

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-10.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> no data for the commercial sector, but the forests in some parks (e.g., Nino Konis Santana) are being managed sustainably (130,000 ha)

EN

12.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is green or blue space for public use for all

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-12.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> Dili - 23.4 hectares, about 0.1%. However, the city also has an extensive public marine shoreline of 2.5 km and about 50-100 m wide (approx. another 1800 ha).

EN

C.1 Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-C.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

C.2 Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-C.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

**B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?**

Partially

**B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

Partially

**B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

No

**B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?**

No

**Comments**

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

1.b Number of countries using participatory, integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance close to zero by 2030

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-1

**1 Is your country landlocked?**

No

1.1 Are all areas of your country under biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning or effective management processes that:

**(a) Address land-use (terrestrial) change?**

Partially

**(b) Address land-use (inland water) change?**

Partially

**(c) Address sea-use (coastal and marine) change? (Will be considered not applicable to landlocked States)**

No

**1.2 If the answer to any of the questions in 1.1 is not “No”, were the plans created using a participatory process? (Select all that apply, noting that, if your country is a landlocked State, marine spatial planning will be considered as not relevant)**

For terrestrial spatial planning  
For coastal and marine spatial planning

**Comments**

> consultative processes are in place for terrestrial, coastal, and marine areas

EN

12.b Number of countries with biodiversity-inclusive urban planning referring to green or blue urban spaces

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-12

**12.1 Does your country have urban areas under biodiversity-inclusive urban planning that incorporates the management of green or blue spaces for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity?**

Partially

12.2 Does your country have urban areas under biodiversity-inclusive urban planning incorporating the management of green or blue spaces for ecosystem services and nature’s contributions to people?

Fully

Comments

> partially for green spaces. The term ‘biodiversity’ is specifically mentioned in the Dili master plan (not final).

EN

13.b Number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-13

13.1 Does your country have effective legal, administrative and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Under development

13.2 Does your country have capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Not applicable

13.3 Has your country taken administrative, policy or legislative measures pursuant to the operationalization of the multilateral mechanism in decision 16/2?

No

13.4 Do the measures mentioned in questions 13.1 and 13.2 include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources?

No

13.5 Does your country monitor the monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.6 Does your country monitor the non-monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.7 Does your country have measures to ensure the fair and equitable benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed in another country?

Not applicable

Comments

> No stand-alone law, but the Biodiversity Decree Law contains a strong section on sharing of benefits from genetic resources

EN

11.CT.3 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

Component GBF-INDICATOR-200

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

16.CT.3 Ecological footprint

Component GBF-INDICATOR-142

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> No data from SDG Stats

EN

B.CT.2 Living Planet Index for utilized species

Component GBF-INDICATOR-B.CT.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT11: Restore Ecosystem Services (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Efforts to restore ecosystem services also discussed under Targets 1, 7, and 10, and are related to forest restoration and reducing pollution, especially by plastics and rubber in marine systems. The latter pollution has been shown to damage reefs but also detracts from the aesthetics required for ecotourism. Timor-Leste has less than 1% of its primary forests remaining and a large area of degraded forest and agricultural lands. Recovery efforts are described in Targets 2 and 10 to restore the ecosystem services lost from forests, including mangroves through planting trees, including for agroforestry. In addition, work is progressing on restoring and improving coffee plantations. Seaweed beds are being replaced to assist in the sustainability of these ecosystems. Improvements are being done for improved sanitation and water quality.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

Much of the restoration of ecosystem services relies on reforestation of upland and mangrove habitats and this programme is being implemented among many agencies (JICA, New Zealand, national government, FAO, UNDP, EU, IKAN, etc.). Total area reforested is reported under Target 2. For fisheries, management is improving as a result of the formation of LMMAs, improved enforcement, and better monitoring since 2018 (see Target 10).

The country has a National Policy of Water Resources (2020) that focusses on protection, conservation, and improvement of surface and groundwater quality. There is also a National Authority for Water and Sanitation formed under the policy in 2020, with a mandate to produce cleaner water. So far, most of the agency’s work has been procural and in planning.

Ecotourism is a focal area for government to expand the economy, with a revised policy in 2017 and a new Tourism Strategy and Action Plan for 2023-2026. To that end, the Tourist Department trains local communities with 41 such projects completed between 2023 and 2025. Government encourages villages to achieve Community Based Tourism (CBT) certification, a qualification that trains individuals to develop and manage tourism initiatives that benefit local communities.

Government has a programme to educate communities on the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Under this programme, meetings were held in 30 villages, where part of the presentation discussed the use of tara bandu to reduce impacts on resources.

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

Issues for restoring ecosystem services include a need for capacity building in communities to manage local areas sustainably, a lack of funding, illegal activities, and a past insufficient focus on sanitation. Training is needed both within government and in communities to understand better the roles that biodiversity plays in providing ecosystem service.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

See restoration information listed under Targets 2, 7, and 10.

Recovering seaweed beds: <https://digitalarchive.worldfishcenter.org/bitstreams/3dac5509-76c4-4532-b111-6119b96dd96c/download>

National water policy: [https://www.sanitationandwaterforall.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/2022%20Country%20Overview\\_Timor%20Leste.pdf](https://www.sanitationandwaterforall.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/2022%20Country%20Overview_Timor%20Leste.pdf)

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

The targets assist in achieving SDG Goals 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 14, and 15

EN

Indicator Data

B.1 Services provided by ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-B1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

2.1 Area under restoration

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-2.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

Comments

Land cover categories also reflect large-scale mapping (Table 4).

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
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| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-A.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

Comments

1. **Ecosystem mapping:**

2. Baseline Studies

3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-A.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves) | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | −9.6       |

EN

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

1.1 Percentage of land and sea area covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plans

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-1.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

Percent area where spatial plans have been implemented

> only Nino Konis Sanatana Park = 8% of country

Habitats with integrity mapped

> only Nino Konis Sanatana Park

EN

18.1 Positive incentives in place to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

GBF-INDICATOR-18.1

Headline

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

18.2 Value of subsidies and other incentives harmful to biodiversity

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-18.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There no data available

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

Binary

KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?

Partially

B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?

Partially

B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?

No

B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?

No

Comments

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

1.b Number of countries using participatory, integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance close to zero by 2030

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-1

1 Is your country landlocked?

No

1.1 Are all areas of your country under biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning or effective management processes that:

(a) Address land-use (terrestrial) change?

Partially

(b) Address land-use (inland water) change?

Partially

(c) Address sea-use (coastal and marine) change? (Will be considered not applicable to landlocked States)

No

1.2 If the answer to any of the questions in 1.1 is not “No”, were the plans created using a participatory process? (Select all that apply, noting that, if your country is a landlocked State, marine spatial planning will be considered as not relevant)

For terrestrial spatial planning  
For coastal and marine spatial planning

Comments

> consultative processes are in place for terrestrial, coastal, and marine areas

EN

20.b Number of countries that have taken significant action to strengthen capacity-building and development and access to and transfer of technology, and to promote the development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-20

20.1 Does your country have plans, policies or instruments for addressing capacity-building and development needs for biodiversity?

Partially

20.2 Does your country have measures to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and girls, children and youth and people with disabilities in capacity-building and development for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (Select all that apply)

- Women and girls
- Children and youth
- Indigenous peoples and local communities

20.3 Has your country undertaken a national capacity self-assessment or other processes for assessing the capacity needs for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity?

Partially

20.4 Has your country undertaken a national assessment of the capacity-building and development needs of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and girls, children and youth and people with disabilities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (Select all that apply)

- Indigenous peoples and local communities
- Persons with disabilities
- Children and youth
- Women and girls

20.5 Has your country established partnerships to foster joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capabilities, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation?

Partially

17.b Number of countries that have taken action to implement biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention and measures for the handling of biotechnology and the distribution of its benefits as set out in Article 19

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-17

17.1 Has your country established biosafety-related policy, legal, administrative and other measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention?

No

17.2 Does your country implement biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention?

No

17.3 Has your country taken legislative, administrative or policy measures, as appropriate, to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Parties, especially developing countries, that provide the genetic resources for such research, as set out in paragraph 1 of Article 19 of the Convention?

No

17.4 Has your country taken practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis by Parties, especially developing countries, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based on genetic resources provided by those Parties, as set out in paragraph 2 of Article 19 of the Convention?

No

17.5 Does your country carry out scientifically sound risk assessments on the use and release of living modified organisms?

No

17.6 Does your country provide access to biosafety-related information for the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms?

No

16.CT.3 Ecological footprint

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-142

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> No data from SDG Stats

EN

18.CT.1 Revenue generated by biodiversity-relevant tradable permits (if auctioned)

GBF-INDICATOR-18.CT.1

Component

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

18.CT.2 Monetary value of payments for ecosystem services

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-18.CT.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

2.CT.1 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area

Component GBF-INDICATOR-290

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> no data and no map; some mapping of watersheds but no area estimated

EN

NT12: Urban Green and Blue Spaces (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Target 12 was absent from the 2015-2020 NBSAP, and represents a new GBF target for urban biodiversity. Nevertheless, the National Spatial / Land-Use Plan (2023) sets out planning measures and guidelines that include conserving “natural environment conservation areas” (e.g., forested areas, watersheds, riparian zones). The Dili Urban Master Plan (2016), developed by JICA, designates “lands for nature protection”, including forest reserves, watershed protection, riparian zone protection, and wildlife protection. Government has recognized the value of the Dili waterfront park and has moved to improve that area, in large part by removing garbage weekly.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

Most early efforts have focussed on the capital city Dili, with the development of an urban development plan that included green spaces. More recently, 2025, the Government approved municipal land-use plans for Baucau, Viqueque, and Lautém. These local plans set out more detailed land-use zoning, including public spaces, and green public areas.

In Dili there has been a huge improvement to the quality of the city’s extensive waterfront, which was established as a government priority in 2023. As a result, the garbage that was strewn across the waterfront has been cleaned (and is cleaned by civil servants each Friday), and improved infrastructure has been put in place to ameliorate the waterfront area. Waste bins and dedicated plastic collection bins have been installed.

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

While there is policy and planning intent in city plans that include green and blue spaces, actual implementation is at best partial, particularly in Dili and Baucau. There remains a severe littering problem in both cities (and throughout the country), in part because of the inadequate waste management process.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

Dili urban plan: <https://www.scribd.com/document/645903015/JICA-Nippon-Coei-Co-Ltd-2016-The-Project-for-Study-on-Dili-Urban-Master-Plan-in-the-Democratic-Republic-of-Timor-Leste>

Other major city plans: <https://pt.tatoli.tl/2025/03/13/aprovado-plano-de-ordenamento-territorial-de-baucau-viqueque-e-lautem/>

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

|                                              |    |
|----------------------------------------------|----|
| The target contributes to SDGs 3, 11, and 16 | EN |
|----------------------------------------------|----|

## Indicator Data

B.1 Services provided by ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-B1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimated at 90-93 million USD/year (GEF, GCF, UN agencies, WB, and ADB but excludes multi-lateral agency funding)

EN

D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 24 million/year

EN

D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| > approx. USD 2 million/year | EN |
|------------------------------|----|

7.1 Index of coastal eutrophication

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-7.1

Source of Data

|                   |
|-------------------|
| No data available |
|-------------------|

Please describe the situation

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| there is no data available | EN |
|----------------------------|----|

Comments

|                                                          |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----|
| > No data available; sedimentation is known as a problem | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----|

7.2 Pesticide environment concentration and/or aggregated total applied toxicity

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-7.2

Source of Data

|                   |
|-------------------|
| No data available |
|-------------------|

Please describe the situation

|      |    |
|------|----|
| None | EN |
|------|----|

9.1 Benefits from the sustainable use of wild species

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-9.1

Source of Data

|                   |
|-------------------|
| No data available |
|-------------------|

Please describe the situation

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| There is no data available | EN |
|----------------------------|----|

9.2 Percentage of the population in traditional occupations

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-9.2

Source of Data

|                   |
|-------------------|
| No data available |
|-------------------|

Please describe the situation

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| There is no data available | EN |
|----------------------------|----|

Comments

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| > estimate > 9 million | EN |
|------------------------|----|

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?</b> |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

Partially

B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?

Partially

B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?

No

B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?

No

Comments

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

8.b Number of countries with policies to minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and to minimize negative and foster positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-8

8.1 Does your country’s national biodiversity strategy and action plan include actions to prevent or minimize the impacts of the following (select all that apply):

Climate change  
Ocean acidification

8.2 Do your country’s climate change policies address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity?

Fully

8.3 Do your country’s other policies address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity?

Fully

8.4 Do your country’s other policies address the impacts of ocean acidification on biodiversity?

Partially

8.5 Are the impacts of climate change on biodiversity monitored and reported on?

No

8.6 Are the impact of ocean acidification on biodiversity monitored and reported on?

Partially

8.7 Do your country’s policies or action plans on the impact of climate change and ocean acidification contain the following types of actions designed to increase biodiversity resilience or reduce impacts (select all that apply):

- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Disaster risk reduction
- Nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches

8.8 Are measures included in your country’s policies or actions plans to minimize the negative impacts of climate actions on biodiversity?

Fully

8.9 Are measures included in your country’s policies or actions plans to foster positive impacts of climate actions on biodiversity?

No

9.b Number or countries with policies to manage the use of wild species sustainably, providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, and to protect and encourage customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-9

9.1 Does your country have legal instruments or other policy frameworks or administrative measures for the sustainable management and use of wild species?

Partially

9.2 Does your country monitor the sustainable management and use of wild species?

Partially

9.3 Does your country monitor the social, economic and environmental benefits derived from the use of wild species for people, in particular those in vulnerable situations and most dependent on biodiversity? (Select all that apply)

No

9.4 Does your country have legal instruments or other policy frameworks to protect and encourage the customary sustainable use of biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, for example, the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity or other relevant initiatives?

Fully

11.CT.3 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

Component GBF-INDICATOR-200

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

11.CT.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-285

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

11.CT.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-285

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

11.CT.3 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-200

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT 13: Nagoya Protocol (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

A GEF-funded UNEP project over 4 years resulted in a suite of outputs as required under the Nagoya Protocol for its implementation. That project found that the Biodiversity Decree law (2020) was a sufficient law to fully support an ABS system. However, despite policy statements, guidelines, and model agreements in place, the country has not yet acceded to the Nagoya Protocol. The government has been preparing to accede since 2023.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

On track to achieve target

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

The Nagoya Protocol focal point and competent authority have been appointed and trained. The required background support guidance including a policy framework, gap analysis, code of ethics, TK guidelines, best practices manual, legal analysis with a draft ABS law, ABS user manual, model agreements and model clauses are all in place. Training on ABS, FPIC, and TK has been provided to several villages. A traditional medicine expert signed an MoU (in lieu of an ABS agreement) to conduct research at two villages, and resulted in printed booklets of plants and their traditional uses. A research laboratory was planned but construction is still ongoing.

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

Given all the components in place and a draft law, it is uncertain why there has been a delay in accession; most likely there are other more pressing needs for government attention.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

National ABS clearing house mechanism: <https://abschm.mta.gov.tl/regulations-forms/>

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target contributes to SDGs 1, 5, 10, 14, and 15

EN

Indicator Data

B.1 Services provided by ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-B1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

A.3 Red List Index

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

1. Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.

2. **Baseline research:**

3. **ommunity and in situ conservation:**

4. Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem

functions and services

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

**B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?**

Partially

**B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

Partially

**B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

No

**B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?**

No

**Comments**

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

4.CT.1 Number of (a) plant and (b) animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities

Component    GBF-INDICATOR-259

**Source of Data**

No data available

**Please describe the situation**

There is no data available

EN

**Comments**

> none in seed bank, but species ex situ in botanical park and arboretum

EN

B.CY.3 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization culture|2030 indicators

Complementary    GBF-INDICATOR-358

**Source of Data**

No data available

**Please describe the situation**

there is no data available

EN

NT14: Mainstream biodiversity policies and EIAs **(National)**

**Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target**

Timor-Leste’s environmental framework law (Decree Law No. 26/2012) requires the mainstreaming of environmental policy into other sectoral public policies and planning processes (Article 17), which is consistent with the KMGBF. Further detail is provided on integration of environmental policy into land use planning, energy, and industrial strategy, the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors, and tourism policies (Articles 18-20).

The environmental framework law requires the State to: (a) determine the economic value of the country's environmental components and, based on this, determine the appropriate fines and compensation for environmental degradation and for the national environmental accounting system; and (b) create a national environmental accounting system incorporating the assessment of environmental components and the effect of their depreciation on GDP (Article 46).

This law also specifies the requirement for environmental assessment and licensing (Article 15), which is further elaborated in separate dedicated legislation. In recent years, the legal framework requiring EIAs for development proposals has been significantly updated.

The development of the environmental framework law was an action identified under the Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030, which also called for the integration of environment and natural resource management across the whole of government.

These approaches to mainstreaming and environmental assessment are reinforced for biodiversity conservation specifically in the legal framework for the protection and conservation of biodiversity (Decree Law No. 6/2020). This law requires: the integration of considerations regarding the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components into national planning instruments, with a view to sustainability (Article 19); the government entity responsible for the environment to ensure that potential impacts on biodiversity and its components are considered in environmental impact assessment processes (Article 9); and the government entity responsible for nature conservation and biodiversity to develop, in coordination with the government entities responsible for the environment and for finance, methods for evaluating the value of biodiversity and biological resources and their integration into national accounts (Article 10). It elaborates on the requirements for biodiversity considerations in environmental assessments in a dedicated chapter (Chapter VII).

While the frameworks exist to support achievement of this target – for biodiversity conservation to be integrated into policy and planning, for national accounting, and for universal application of EIAs – implementation requires assistance.

EN

**Indicate the current level of progress towards the target**

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

**Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved**

The EIA system was first established in 2011 under the Environmental Licensing Law (Decree Law No. 5/2011) and the Environmental Framework Law (Decree Law No. 26/2012), but was not well implemented. In 2019, the Organic Law of the Secretary of State for the Environment (Decree Law No. 15/2019) required a dedicated, autonomous national environmental licensing agency to be established within the State administration system. This authority (known as ANLA), along with its governing statutes, was established under Decree Law 41/2022.

Decree Law 39/2022 amended the original EIA law, including establishing new rules on the submission of documents and payment of fees. The current legal regime clearly provides a framework for different types of EIA processes to be applied to different project proposals, based on the project type and size.

Limited integration of biodiversity conservation into government plans and policies has occurred. There are some mentions of environmental considerations in the National Aquaculture Development Strategy 2012–2030, but these are at a high level and there is no explicit mention of biodiversity. Other strategies remain in development or do not mention environmental integration in any substantive way.

The 2022 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) introduces a “nature-positive integrated approach” focused on enhancing the nation's natural capital. This includes identified actions in relation to: land-use planning; land tenure reform; sustainable forest management; enhancing carbon sinks; improving livelihoods and environmental resilience through carbon markets; and promoting sustainable and climate-smart agriculture.

EN

**Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation**

The Government of Timor-Leste has developed a framework for the integration of biodiversity conservation into its sectoral policies, plans, and processes *at a legislative and strategic level*. Its implementation, however, is profoundly limited. The system is subject to a "two-speed" reality: it succeeds where interests align (e.g., donor-funded projects, community-led conservation) but fails where it confronts major economic development. Developments, as directed through the Maga Projects Secretariat and the National Development Agency, need to maintain biodiversity conservation on an equal footing to developments to ensure

sustainability and no loss of biodiversity. Relying solely on EIA as a conservation tool is unwise because EIA never considers cumulative impacts, rather it only assesses impacts of each single project.

Additional support will be required to translate the legislative requirements developed to support this target into tangible action and results.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

Nationally Determined Contribution Timor-Leste 2022-2030, [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-11/Timor\\_Leste%20Updated%20NDC%202022\\_2030.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-11/Timor_Leste%20Updated%20NDC%202022_2030.pdf)

National Aquaculture Development Strategy 2012–2030: <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/tim150788.pdf>

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target provides a contribution to many of the SDGs, including 1, 2, 5, 10, 13, 14, and 15.

EN

### Indicator Data

B.1 Services provided by ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-B1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

Binary

KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?

Partially

B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?

Partially

B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?

No

B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?

No

Comments

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

14.b Number of countries integrating biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, poverty eradication strategies and, as appropriate, national accounts, within and across all levels and across all sectors, and progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of the Framework

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-14

14.1 Does your country integrate biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes and poverty eradication strategies at all levels of government?

Partially

14.2 Does your country use environmental economic accounting to quantify the monetary and non-monetary values of biodiversity?

No

14.3 Does your country integrate biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, plans and strategies across all sectors to ensure their mainstreaming?

Partially

14.4 Does your country have policies, regulations, strategies or plans in place to progressively align all relevant public and private activities with the goals and targets of the Framework?

No

14.5 Are policies, regulations, strategies or plans in place to progressively align fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of the Framework?

No

14.CT.1 Integration of biodiversity into national accounting and reporting systems, defined as implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting

Component    GBF-INDICATOR-195

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

B.CY.3 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization culture|2030 indicators

Complementary    GBF-INDICATOR-358

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT15: Work with Businesses (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

There are not yet any pilot programmes with businesses designed to mandate reporting on their biodiversity impacts by 2030. However, Timor-Leste’s legal framework, national strategies, and various donor-supported initiatives include relevant efforts concerning corporate sustainability reporting, biodiversity consultation with the private sector, and extensive consumer waste reduction campaigns.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

No significant change

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

There are several opportunities and the legal support to implement this target in Timor-Leste.

Decree-Law No. 6/2020 (Legal Framework for the Protection and Conservation of Biodiversity) promotes cooperation and consultations with public and private sector stakeholders, including universities, to ensure that biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of its components are considered in all sectors. This law also requires the government to “provide access to technical advice, share information and provide support to public and private sector stakeholders on issues related to the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of its components.” The law provides that all data and information about biodiversity and biological resources that are collected by public or private entities must be available to the public, free of charge. Awareness campaigns are also required to help increase the knowledge of the local community, especially women and the private sector on ways of biodiversity conservation. To the latter end, the Biodiversity Directorate has been conducting capacity building on conservation with communities on an ongoing basis.

Decree Law No. 37/2020 (on plastics) aims to facilitate the provision of information to consumers regarding the traceability of materials and objects. The law also aims to promote consumer awareness and the reduction of waste production, including plastic bags. The government aims to develop awareness programs focusing on the harms of using plastic, especially concerning the degradation of the seas around Timor-Leste. Campaigns have been promoted to reduce plastic bags clogging drains and damaging marine life, encouraging the use of paper or cloth bags as an alternative.

The Hamenus Lixu Plastiku (Reduce Plastic Waste) Project, implemented by Mercy Corps (December 2019 to December 2023) in Dili, was explicitly focussed on working towards a circular economy for plastic waste and to limit the generation of plastic waste. It involved social behaviour change campaigns, integration of plastic recycling awareness in primary school curricula, and providing technical training to CSOs and small business to invest in plastics circular economy business solutions, and increase the supply of alternative and upcycled products.

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

The emphasis of awareness campaigns to date has been on end users, which does not address the fundamental problems of the amount of plastic production and supply in Timor-Leste. There is a need for education and awareness raising campaigns focused on producers, suppliers and policy makers (Steenhagen et al. 2023). Working directly with businesses to report on biodiversity impacts, which is the purpose of this target has not yet been started.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

Hamenus Lixu Plastiku (Reduce Plastic Waste) Project  
report: [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/2023/Project%20Fiche\\_Hamenus%20Lixu.pdf](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/2023/Project%20Fiche_Hamenus%20Lixu.pdf)

Steenhagen et al. (2023) *Plastic Pollution Prevention in Timor Leste: Gap Analysis of Current Legislation, Policies, and Plans*, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP), Apia, Samoa

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

Target 15 can contribute towards achieving SDGs 6, 9, 11, 14, 15, and 17 and GFG 5.

Indicator Data

C.1 Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-C.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

C.2 Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-C.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-D.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimated at 90-93 million USD/year (GEF, GCF, UN agencies, WB, and ADB but excludes multi-lateral agency funding)

EN

D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-D.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 24 million/year

EN

D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-D.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 2 million/year

EN

15.1 Number of companies disclosing their biodiversity-related risks, dependencies and impacts

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-15.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

13.b Number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-13

13.1 Does your country have effective legal, administrative and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Under development

13.2 Does your country have capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Not applicable

13.3 Has your country taken administrative, policy or legislative measures pursuant to the operationalization of the multilateral mechanism in decision 16/2?

No

13.4 Do the measures mentioned in questions 13.1 and 13.2 include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources?

No

13.5 Does your country monitor the monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.6 Does your country monitor the non-monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.7 Does your country have measures to ensure the fair and equitable benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed in another country?

Not applicable

Comments

> No stand-alone law, but the Biodiversity Decree Law contains a strong section on sharing of benefits from genetic resources

EN

15.b Number of countries with legal, administrative or policy measures aimed at encouraging and enabling business and financial institutions, and in particular for large and transnational companies and financial institutions, to progressively reduce their negative impacts on biodiversity, increase their positive impacts, reduce their biodiversity-related risks and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-15

15.1 Has your country put in place legal, administrative or policy measures to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions monitor, assess and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity along their operations, supply and value chains, and portfolios?

No

15.2 Has your country put in place measures to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions provide relevant information to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns?

No

15.3 Has your country put in place measures to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations?

No

15.4 Has your country put in place measures to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions progressively reduce their negative impacts on biodiversity and increase their positive impacts?

Partially

15.5 Does your country monitor whether negative impacts from business on biodiversity have progressively decreased?

No

15.CT.1 Number of companies publishing sustainability reports

Component    GBF-INDICATOR-225

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

D.CY.15 Private funding targeted at youth within biodiversity-related activities

GBF-INDICATOR-D.CY.15

Complementary

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT16: Reduce Consumption and Waste (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Timor-Leste is addressing the target of reducing consumption and waste generation through a combination of progressive legal measures, institutional reforms focused on sanitation infrastructure, and targeted educational and public awareness campaigns. However, implementation challenges and resource limitations significantly hinder overall progress, particularly concerning plastics and centralized waste processing.

The Basic Law on the Environment (Decree-Law No. 26/2012) mandates the creation of a solid waste management system that includes reduction, reutilisation, and recycling of solid waste. The law frames environmental education and training as a strategic factor in the sustainable development of the country.

The Strategic Development Plan 2011–2030 targets improved management of urban waste, control pollution, and protect the environment. It explicitly encourages composting, plastic recycling, paper recycling, and glass recycling plants.

Decree-Law No. 37/2020 for the Disposal, Import and Production of Bags, Packaging and other Plastics bans single-use plastics that are not biodegradable or compostable and promotes an extended producer responsibility scheme. It is based on the principle of prevention, urging operators to reduce environmental impacts to preserve the quality of life of future generations.

Decree Law 2/2025 introduced fees for environmental licensing, implementing the polluter pays principle, with rates based on project impact, to fund environmental protection and ensure accountability. The fees go into general government revenue (<https://timor-leste.gov.tl/?p=41773&lang=en>).

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

Decree-Law 37/2020 for the Disposal, Import and Production of Bags, Packaging and Other Plastics has environmental standards for plastics imports and exports (e.g., taxes and traceability) and places fees on problematic imported plastic related to trade in non-hazardous, recyclable, and reusable plastics.

Article 38 states the following:

- A fee is applicable on single-use plastic bags and packaging, as primary or secondary packaging, regardless of weight and composition, imported or purchased in the national territory.
- The environmental tax on single-use plastic bags and packaging is applicable, in the national territory, at the time of their entry into the territory, when imported, or at the time of their release for consumption, when produced and sold in the national territory.

Article 40 provides further explanation:

- The taxation unit is the kilo of a plastic bag or plastic packaging for single-use, empty and recyclable.
- The environmental fee applicable to recyclable, non-biodegradable, or compostable single-use plastic bags and packaging is 30% (thirty per cent) of the net price.
- The environmental fee for recyclable, non-biodegradable, or compostable single-use plastic bags and packaging, which, in their composition, contain at least 30% recycled plastic, is equivalent to 1/5 of the fee set out in the preceding paragraph.

Article 39 states, ‘The environmental tax is liable to importers or purchasers of single-use plastic bags and packaging, with headquarters or commercial establishment in the national territory’,

A comprehensive gap analysis of Timor-Leste’s legislation, plans and policies to assess its capacity to implement plastic pollution reduction measures was published in 2023 under the Pacific – European Union (EU) Waste Management Programme, PacWastePlus. (Steenhagen et al. 2023). The government is now in the process of developing a pollution law.

Under PacWastePlus, quantitative and qualitative waste auditing with a selection of households and businesses was undertaken in the Baucau and Covalima Districts in August and September 2021. It estimated an average household waste generation rate of 0.44 kg per capita per day which was found to be in line with findings from previous studies in Dili and other Pacific locations. It found the average household waste stream comprises approximately 52% organic materials; 24% paper and cardboard; 5% metals, less than 2% hazardous waste and 8.3% plastics of which approximately 1.7% are defined as single-use plastics. The audit noted that “there is a strong awareness within the community of the risks to human health and the environment from poor waste management practices. There is also a significant expectation for Government to provide systems to manage waste.” However, in the absence of formal collection services, communities resort to incineration, pit burial and disposal at informal and uncontained dump sites. (SPREP 2022). This audit was validated and extrapolated upon to build national insights in the 2023 National Waste Audit Analysis Report, also conducted under PacWastePlus (SPREP 2023).

The Korean Government is supporting the 6-year Reducing Marine Plastics in the East Asian Seas Region Project (2023-2028) in Timor-Leste and the Philippines. It conducted a baseline study on plastic waste generation and composition on key coastal areas in four municipalities in Timor-Leste – Atauro, Dili, Liquiçá, and Manatuto. Consistent with the PacWastePlus audit, this estimated household waste generation rates of 0.27-0.5 kg per capita per day, with plastic waste constituting 13% to 32% of this waste in the study sites, leading to an estimated national average of 15%. (PEMSEA 2025). JICA found that per capita waste generation ranged from 0.66-0.75 kg. The Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility (PRIF) estimated that approximately 20.7 Mt of plastic waste was released in the waters around Timor-Leste in 2010, with the amount expected to rise to 64.2 Mt by 2025 (Steenhagen et al. 2023).

The overall challenge remains significant, as the current waste management system in Timor-Leste relies heavily on a dumping system without separation or processing. Up to 45% of waste in Dili is still improperly disposed of in rivers, the sea, or burned or buried (Ximenes and Maruono 2021).

Caltech operates a plastic recycling facility in Dili, formerly funded through US-AID. A report by JICA (2024) suggests that about 3.3% of all plastic waste is recycled. The company also accepts glass, paper, oil sludge, and metal, most of which is sent to Singapore for recycling. However, there appears to be no data on amounts of products. The government now has instituted two programmes to collect plastics: the ‘Waste Bank’ is a small grants programme given to CSO groups to collect plastic for Caltech, and strategically placed bins are now being used for people to deposit plastic bottles. In addition, the ‘My Sea, My Timor’ is an educational initiative used to inform the public about plastic waste and how to recycle it.

The Legal Regime for Protection and Conservation of Biodiversity (Decree-Law No. 6/2020) mandates that school curricula for compulsory education and non-formal education incorporate provisions on biodiversity conservation, sustainable use, and traditional protection forms like Tara Bandu. The Green School program, which incorporates practices such as upcycling and waste segregation into school curricula, launched in 2016 was initially implemented in Dili, Manatuto, Manufahi, Bobonaro, Covalima, and Liquiçá. In 2022, the program expanded to include Baucau, Lautem, and Viqueque (PEMSEA 2025). UNICEF through New Zealand Government funding supports the Ministry of Education School Gardening initiative (To’os iha Eskola), which helps students cultivate life skills, responsibility, and a deep connection to their environment (<https://www.unicef.org/timorleste/stories/how-school-gardening-transforming-students-madabeno-aileu-municipality>). As of 2024, approximately 242 schools have established active school garden programs. The long-term government target is to reach all 1,415 basic education schools. The program is embeded in the national curriculum. Starting in 2024, Permatil Global plan to create a suite of Permaculture in Schools education resources for students and teachers in Timor-Leste (<https://permatilglobal.org/school-gardens/>).

**Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation**

Despite continuously improving policies and laws, the overall waste management system remains deficient, limited by a lack of collection services and waste management infrastructure, a lack of comprehensive data, and an ongoing need to strengthen awareness and education. (SPREP 2023). While various development projects have attempted to gather data on waste rates and composition, this has led to inconsistencies in statistics (although the general trends are consistent). The effectiveness of policy and education campaigns is hampered by the failure to implement and sustain adequate solid waste services and infrastructure.

A comprehensive approach that effectively reduces plastics entering the country is lacking. The ambitious ‘Zero Plastic Timor-Leste’ goal remains unmet.

The PacWastePlus supported gap analysis noted that the consumer/community level focus of education and awareness campaign policies adopted in Timor-Leste to date “will have little effect on the prevention of plastics pollution as they do nothing to address the global scale of the problem”, i.e. the importing of plastics into the country (Steenhagen et al. 2023).

Public procurement policies do not include environmental or green growth considerations for resource efficiency, conservation, pollution abatement, or climate resilience. (<https://www.state.gov/reports/2022-investment-climate-statements/timor-leste>)

The circular economy promoted in Decree Law 37/2020 has been described as “not a safer circular economy”, partly because it contemplates incineration.

Significant increases in resources to support implementation of comprehensive waste reduction and management efforts is needed that is in line with Timor-Leste’s legal and policy waste control framework. This includes investment in infrastructure, implementation of data-guided decision making, and increased general waste management education (SPREP 2023).

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

PEMSEA (2025) *Baseline Assessment Report on Marine Plastics in the Four ODA Project Sites in Timor-Leste*. Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), Philippines.

SPREP (2022) *Waste Audit Report, Timor-Leste, October 2021*.

SPREP (2023) *Timor-Leste National Waste Audit Analysis Report August 2023*, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP), Apia, Samoa.

Steenhagen et al (2023) *Plastic Pollution Prevention in Timor Leste: Gap Analysis of Current Legislation, Policies, and Plans*, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP), Apia, Samoa

Ximenes et al. (2021) *Study of Waste Generation and Composition in the Capital of Dili, Dili Municipality, Timor-Leste*.

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target can contribute to SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 14, and 15.

EN

Indicator Data

C.1 Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-C.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

C.2 Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-C.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

13.b Number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-13

13.1 Does your country have effective legal, administrative and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Under development

13.2 Does your country have capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Not applicable

13.3 Has your country taken administrative, policy or legislative measures pursuant to the operationalization of the multilateral mechanism in decision 16/2?

No

13.4 Do the measures mentioned in questions 13.1 and 13.2 include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources?

No

13.5 Does your country monitor the monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.6 Does your country monitor the non-monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.7 Does your country have measures to ensure the fair and equitable benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed in another country?

Not applicable

Comments

> No stand-alone law, but the Biodiversity Decree Law contains a strong section on sharing of benefits from genetic resources

EN

16.b Number of countries developing, adopting or implementing policy instruments aimed at encouraging and enabling people to make sustainable consumption choices

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-16

16.1 Has your country established mechanisms, policy or legislative or regulatory frameworks aimed at supporting sustainable consumption?

Partially

16.2 Has your country adopted mechanisms to improve awareness or education with regard to the impacts of consumption on biodiversity and access to relevant and accurate information or alternatives supporting sustainable consumption?

Partially

16.3 Has your country adopted or implemented policy instruments aimed at encouraging and enabling people to make sustainable consumption choices, including by reducing food waste, over consumption and waste generation?

Partially

16.CT.3 Ecological footprint

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-142

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> No data from SDG Stats

EN

16.CY.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education and (d) student assessment

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-150

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> no data but a programme is implemented

EN

NT17: Biosafety (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Timor-Leste has not ratified the Cartagena Protocol, although Law 3233 sets a basis for biosafety. In 2023, the country enacted Law 41/2023 to govern the importing of goods that could spread disease or be invasive but it is silent on LMOs. Similarly, Decree-Law No. 36/2023 on “Phytosanitary and Quarantine Measures” is not explicit on GMOs.

Training has been provided to staff to prevent pests from entering the country. There have been several biosafety international partners such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the FAO, the Pacific Community (SPC), and the World Food Programme (WFP) that are actively supporting Timor-Leste's biosafety and biosecurity capacity through training, workshops, and strategic planning initiatives. Several training projects to increase the capacity of government for improved control on the import of unwanted pests and potentially invasive or modified organisms were conducted in 2023=2025.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

No significant change

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

The National Directorate of Quarantine and Biosecurity is responsible for controlling import and export of plants, animals, and related products. Funding provided by the European Union, as part of the Safe Agricultural Trade Facilitation through Economic Integration in the Pacific (SAFE Pacific) project, trained 17 officers (7 women) in the inspection of goods coming into the country. In 2024, the Australian Chief Plant Protection Office team trained 40 government staff on pest prevention. Other international agencies including the WHO, FAO, the Pacific Community (SPC), and the World Food Programme (WFP) are helping to build capacity for biosafety and biosecurity capacity through training, workshops, and strategic planning. Most of this training has been related to the prevention of “pest species”, and not on GMOs.

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

As with invasive species, there appears to be limited effort with respect to GMOs, possibly because the public is uninformed or there is insufficient capacity within government to deal with the issue.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

Australian training on pest species prevention: <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/about/news/three-chiefs-newsletter/biosecurity-capacity-building-timor-leste>

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target can contribute to SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 14, and 15.

EN

Indicator Data

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

Comments

1. Ecosystem mapping:

2. Baseline Studies

3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(Note: Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves) | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | −9.6       |

EN

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | -0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | -0.1       |

A.3 Red List Index

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

- Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.
- Baseline research:**
- ommunity and in situ conservation:**
- Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

17.b Number of countries that have taken action to implement biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention and measures for the handling of biotechnology and the distribution of its benefits as set out in Article 19

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-17

17.1 Has your country established biosafety-related policy, legal, administrative and other measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention?

No

17.2 Does your country implement biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention?

No

17.3 Has your country taken legislative, administrative or policy measures, as appropriate, to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities by those Parties, especially developing countries, that provide the genetic resources for such research, as set out in paragraph 1 of Article 19 of the Convention?

No

17.4 Has your country taken practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis by Parties, especially developing countries, to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies based on genetic resources provided by those Parties, as set out in paragraph 2 of Article 19 of the Convention?

No

17.5 Does your country carry out scientifically sound risk assessments on the use and release of living modified organisms?

No

17.6 Does your country provide access to biosafety-related information for the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms?

No

A.CT.7 Protected Area Representativeness and Connectedness Indices

Component GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.7

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

4.CT.1 Number of (a) plant and (b) animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-259

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> none in seed bank, but species ex situ in botanical park and arboretum

EN

A.CY.16 Mean species abundance

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-213

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is ni data available

EN

NT 18: Incentives (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| The government provides subsidies to oil, electricity, water supply, and fuel (especially for industry and fishing), as well as tax relief to investors in “special economic zones”. There is no clear indication of, or any studies of what the impacts of any of the subsidies on biodiversity might be, although in the economic zones, the subsidies could be used for roads and so harmful to biodiversity. The ADB, which provides some of the subsidies, also indicates that developments must be sustainable and environmentally sound. | EN |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

|                       |
|-----------------------|
| No significant change |
|-----------------------|

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| While there are various subsidies to industry, including in economic zones, oil industry, and electricity industry, there has been no assessments made of the non-target impacts of these subsidy programmes. | EN |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

|                                                                                                                                                                             |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Development agencies such as ADB and other banks have not assessed possible impacts of subsidies on biodiversity. This has also not been a consideration within government. | EN |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| ADB – donor publication on types of subsidies: <a href="https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/521121/cooperation-integration-indonesia-timor-leste.pdf">https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/521121/cooperation-integration-indonesia-timor-leste.pdf</a> | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

|                                               |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|
| This target is related to SDG 14, 15, and 17. | EN |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|

Indicator Data

|                                                                                                                                                 |  |          |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------|-------------------|
| D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems |  | Headline | GBF-INDICATOR-D.1 |
| Source of Data                                                                                                                                  |  |          |                   |
| No data available                                                                                                                               |  |          |                   |
| Please describe the situation                                                                                                                   |  |          |                   |
| there is no data available                                                                                                                      |  |          | EN                |
| Comments                                                                                                                                        |  |          |                   |
| > estimated at 90-93 million USD/year (GEF, GCF, UN agencies, WB, and ADB but excludes multi-lateral agency funding)                            |  |          | EN                |
| D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems                                                  |  | Headline | GBF-INDICATOR-D.2 |
| Source of Data                                                                                                                                  |  |          |                   |
| No data available                                                                                                                               |  |          |                   |
| Please describe the situation                                                                                                                   |  |          |                   |
| there is no data available                                                                                                                      |  |          | EN                |
| Comments                                                                                                                                        |  |          |                   |
| > approx. USD 24 million/year                                                                                                                   |  |          | EN                |

D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-D.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 2 million/year

EN

C.1 Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-C.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

C.2 Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-C.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

18.1 Positive incentives in place to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

GBF-INDICATOR-18.1

Headline

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

18.2 Value of subsidies and other incentives harmful to biodiversity

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-18.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There no data available

EN

13.b Number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

Binary

KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-13

13.1 Does your country have effective legal, administrative and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Under development

13.2 Does your country have capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Not applicable

13.3 Has your country taken administrative, policy or legislative measures pursuant to the operationalization of the multilateral mechanism in decision 16/2?

No

13.4 Do the measures mentioned in questions 13.1 and 13.2 include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources?

No

13.5 Does your country monitor the monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.6 Does your country monitor the non-monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.7 Does your country have measures to ensure the fair and equitable benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed in another country?

Not applicable

Comments

> No stand-alone law, but the Biodiversity Decree Law contains a strong section on sharing of benefits from genetic resources

EN

18.CT.1 Revenue generated by biodiversity-relevant tradable permits (if auctioned)

GBF-INDICATOR-18.CT.1  
Component

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

18.CT.2 Monetary value of payments for ecosystem services

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-18.CT.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

18.CT.3 Monetary value of biodiversity offsets

Component

GBF-INDICATOR-18.CT.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

C.CY.1 Number of users that have provided information relevant to the utilization of genetic resources to designated checkpoints

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-263

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT19:Increased Funding (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Funding for environmentally related work (including water infrastructure) comes from multiple sources and has varied among years. While it is not possible to assemble annual data, funding has increased since 2019 owing largely to increased funding from the GCF during the past 3 years.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

Table 5. Funding provided to Timor-Leste, including government, for climate change and environmental-related projects. The values for World Bank and for ADB include water infrastructure. Excluding water infrastructure, total is approximately US \$96 M/year. (Sources: OECD, agency associated websites, some NGOs pers. comm., government financial reporting)

| Source     | Range per year, 2019 – 2024<br>(Million USD/year) | Mean annual funding<br>(Million USD) |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| GEF        | 0.2 - 22                                          | 6.9                                  |
| GCF        | 10 - 22                                           | 14.3                                 |
| World Bank |                                                   | 25.7                                 |
| FAO        |                                                   | 5                                    |
| ADB        |                                                   | 18.5                                 |
| Government | 8 - 31                                            | 24                                   |

EN

|                 |          |                                   |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| UNDP            |          | 0.9                               |
| Donor countries | 30 - 100 | 18.5                              |
| NGOs            |          | 2.0                               |
| Total           |          | 116 (96 M for conservation alone) |

Table 5 includes major funding for water purification and other infrastructure, primarily from the development banks, donor countries, and government. An approximate annual total for biodiversity and conservation related work is closer to US \$96 million, excluding government salaries (government funding is mostly for employee salaries rather than actual work on biodiversity conservation).

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

The main challenge is limited available internal funding and the large number of priority issues that government must assess and assign their priorities.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

N/A

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target related to all resource-related SDGs, but especially for SDG 17.

EN

Indicator Data

D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-D.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimated at 90-93 million USD/year (GEF, GCF, UN agencies, WB, and ADB but excludes multi-lateral agency funding)

EN

D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-D.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 24 million/year

EN

D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-D.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 2 million/year

EN

C.1 Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-C.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

C.2 Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-C.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

13.b Number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-13

13.1 Does your country have effective legal, administrative and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Under development

13.2 Does your country have capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Not applicable

13.3 Has your country taken administrative, policy or legislative measures pursuant to the operationalization of the multilateral mechanism in decision 16/2?

No

13.4 Do the measures mentioned in questions 13.1 and 13.2 include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources?

No

**13.5 Does your country monitor the monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?**

Not applicable

**13.6 Does your country monitor the non-monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?**

Not applicable

**13.7 Does your country have measures to ensure the fair and equitable benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed in another country?**

Not applicable

**Comments**

> No stand-alone law, but the Biodiversity Decree Law contains a strong section on sharing of benefits from genetic resources

EN

20.CT.1 Total amount of funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies

ComponentGBF-INDICATOR-20.CT.1

**Source of Data**

No data available

**Please describe the situation**

there is no data available

EN

**Comments**

GEF funding

> has ranged from USD 0.2 to 22 million/year

Foreign direct investment, official development assistance and South-South cooperation as a proportion of total domestic budget

> approx. 45%

Proportion of total research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology

> uncertain, but approx. USD 3 million

EN

NT20: International Cooperation (National)

**Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target**

Timor-Leste facilitates and encourages various forms of international cooperation (North-South, South-South, and triangular) to enhance the capacity and technological skills of its government and university staff, while simultaneously working to increase the understanding of its biodiversity and ecosystem functioning. This cooperation is primarily executed through development partnerships, strategic projects targeting specific government sectors, and academic collaboration.

Timor-Leste relies heavily on multilateral and bilateral partnerships to assist with conservation, particularly with international aid agencies and developed countries, to strengthen institutional capacity and develop human

capital. Government and Conservation International are working with Indonesia to establish an international peace park marine protected area along the northern coast.

The government maintains an Aid Transparency Portal (<https://www.aidtransparency.gov.tl/portal/>), which provides information on donor programs and spending, and publishes a book on international support as part of the annual state budget package (Bertelsmann Stiftung 2024: <https://www.bertelsmann-stiftung.de/de/publikationen/publikation/did/bertelsmann-stiftung-jahresbericht-2024>).

The government conducts regular meetings with donors to discuss medium- to long-term development strategies. Development partners often follow the government's lead, reflecting a G-7+ initiative for aid responsiveness. Timor-Leste has been seen as a world leader in the international movement by fragile states (g7+ group) to make assistance more responsive to their needs (Bertelsmann Stiftung 2024), and hosts the g7+ Headquarters in Dili.

Timor-Leste officially became the 11th member of ASEAN on 26 October 2025, achieving a long-standing foreign policy goal.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

On track to achieve target

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

International research and development projects leverage funds from developed countries and expertise from international research institutes, often partnering with local Timorese institutions to enhance understanding of local ecosystems.

An example of relevant partnership projects was the Ai ba Futuru – ‘Partnership for Sustainable Agroforestry’ (PSAF) project (2019-2022), co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and implemented by GIZ. It involved adaptive research conducted by the Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD), a French research institution. CIRAD partnered with the National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL), specifically the Department of Agronomy and the Centre for Climate Change and Biodiversity, with the collective supervision of Timorese students on internships, sharing teaching tools and course materials on agroforestry concepts with UNTL teachers and students, and joint fieldwork and research on agroforestry, soil sciences, biodiversity, and carbon biomass sequestration.

UNDP completed a GEF-funded project, *Strengthening targeted national capacities to improve decision-making and mainstreaming global environmental obligations into national development priorities*, (2018-2022) that focused on four areas: enhanced institutional and technical capacities to use data and information for planning and decision-making; coordination of technical directorates; global environmental obligations mainstreamed into select sectoral policies, legislation, plans and programmes; and enhanced awareness and value of the global environment.

Decree-Law No. 6/2020 (Legal Framework for the Protection and Conservation of Biodiversity) explicitly promotes cooperation and consultations with public and private sector stakeholders, including universities, to ensure biodiversity conservation is considered across all sectors. The law governs scientific research programmes and the development of alternative technologies that are relevant to the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components. This includes requirements on licensees for scientific research to promote the participation in research and the training of national researchers and national institutions, and to seek means of transferring technology to national institutions.

Timor-Leste participates in regional forums, primarily focusing on environmental and maritime issues, which facilitates knowledge and information sharing. This includes the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI-CFF) on marine environmental issues, the Partnership in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), the Archipelagic and Island States (AIS) Forum, the TIA-GT (Timor-Leste, Indonesia, and Australia Growth Triangle) economic development group, and the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP).

Table 6. A sample of cooperative management, technology transfer, and research projects by universities, donor agencies, and NGOs in Timor-Leste

| Years               | University (country)                          | Topic                                                                           |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2015–2021           | University of Queensland (Australia) and UNTL | Coral reef surveys, bleaching impacts, local stressors (fishing, water quality) |
| 2021–2025 (ongoing) | University of Queensland                      | Land–sea conservation planning, reef monitoring, capacity building              |
| 2017–2019           | Victoria University (New Zealand)             | Coral symbiont diversity, reef biodiversity at Atauro                           |

| Years     | University (country)                                | Topic                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2019–2023 | Tulane University, National University of Singapore | Blue carbon potential, mangrove carbon stocks, national offset potential                                                                                                             |
| 2019–2023 | James Cook University (Australia)                   | Climate vulnerability mapping for reefs/seagrass, sea-level & SST impacts, small-scale fishery                                                                                       |
| 2019–2023 | UNDP, multiple universities                         | Marine/coastal ecosystem assessment, policy recommendations (ATSEA 2)                                                                                                                |
| 2018–2022 | Charles Darwin University                           | Fisheries and livelihoods                                                                                                                                                            |
| 2020–2024 | University of Queensland                            | Community-based reef management, social-ecological research on Atauro Island                                                                                                         |
| Years     | Government                                          | Topic                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Ongoing   | Australia                                           | Marine protection (ATSEA), climate change, community capacity, crocodile management                                                                                                  |
| 2019-2025 | USA (no longer in country)                          | Marine and coastal protection, recycling plastic waste                                                                                                                               |
| Ongoing   | Japan                                               | Community landscape and watershed management; fisheries management                                                                                                                   |
| Ongoing   | EU                                                  | Forestry and agroforestry, livelihoods                                                                                                                                               |
| Ongoing   | New Zealand                                         | Sustainable ecotourism, biodiversity-sensitive livelihoods, and capacity building that touch on conservation                                                                         |
| 2024-2028 | Portugal                                            | Sustainable oceans                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2020-2023 | GIZ (Germany) (No longer in Timor-Leste)            | Agrobiodiversity - completed                                                                                                                                                         |
| 2020      | Korea (KOICA)                                       | Marine Research Centre                                                                                                                                                               |
| Ongoing   | China                                               | Agriculture and DRR                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Year      | Agency                                              | Topic                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 2023-2027 | Asian Development Bank                              | Climate-resilient infrastructure, water security, climate-smart agriculture, and rural livelihoods                                                                                   |
| Ongoing   | World Bank                                          | Climate resilience and DRR                                                                                                                                                           |
| Ongoing   | UNDP                                                | Forests, agriculture livelihoods, ATSEA marine biodiversity, climate, DRR                                                                                                            |
| Ongoing   | UNEP                                                | ABS – Nagoya, early warning systems, climate adaptation                                                                                                                              |
| Ongoing   | FAO                                                 | Technical guidance and capacity building for fisheries management, climate-smart agriculture, mangrove restoration and NDC                                                           |
| Ongoing   | AFoCO (Korea)                                       | Reforestation, livelihoods                                                                                                                                                           |
| Ongoing   | Conservation International                          | Protected areas management, MPAs, peace park (an MPS with Indonesia), marine ecology, crocodile management and watershed protection including with Indonesia for transboundary areas |
| Ongoing   | Blue Ventures                                       | Fishery management, LMMAs, ecotourism, livelihoods                                                                                                                                   |

While Timor-Leste is an active participant in many international and regional forums, and actively encourages cooperation, there are some ongoing constraints that limit enhanced capacity and skills development.

The country’s dependence on development assistance is a challenge in a period of decreasing global finance and increasing competition for limited resources. Of note, Timor-Leste had been the recipient of a \$420 million grant through the Millennium Challenge Compact (MCC) for a water, sanitation, and drainage project. As part of this project, MCC had been collaborating with other donors on an integrated policy and institutional reform agenda for the National Authority for Water and Sanitation (ANAS), ranging from regulatory reforms to

institutional development and capacity strengthening. Assistance mobilized through the Water Donor Forum (which includes MCC, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, AusAID, JICA, and the Government of Portugal) was to help strengthen the institutions and build staff capacity and systems (Nicholas O’Dwyer Ltd. 2024). Following the US government review of all foreign assistance commitments in 2025, MCC cancelled this grant. The immediate next steps and long-term future of the project are now unclear, as is the additional cooperation assistance.

Further, capacity development programs are largely ad hoc and project specific. Not since the 2007 National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) was conducted to identify barriers to implementing the Rio Conventions has a broad analysis been undertaken. A structured needs assessment and capacity-building plan that covers all government agencies and research institutions involved in environmental management and biodiversity conservation would assist with the mobilisation and effective allocation of resources. While the Inter-Ministerial Economic Development Commission has been established, and is co-led by the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs and the Minister for Tourism and the Environment, a dedicated national-level whole-of-government environment committee with a mandate to consider cross-cutting issues related to development would also help strengthen these efforts.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

Aid Transparency Portal: <https://www.aidtransparency.gov.tl/portal/>

Bertelsmann Stiftung (2024) BTI 2024 Country Report — Timor-Leste. Gütersloh: Bertelsmann Stiftung.

Nicholas O’Dwyer Ltd. (2024) *Timor-Leste Water, Sanitation and Drainage Project, Terms of Reference for Environmental Impact Statement, Waste Water Treatment Plant (Phase 1)*.

The g7+: <https://www.g7plus.org/>

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target supports SDGs 3, 14, 15, and 17, and GFG 6.

EN

## Indicator Data

D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimated at 90-93 million USD/year (GEF, GCF, UN agencies, WB, and ADB but excludes multi-lateral agency funding)

EN

D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 24 million/year

EN

D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-D.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 2 million/year

EN

20.b Number of countries that have taken significant action to strengthen capacity-building and development and access to and transfer of technology, and to promote the development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation

Binary

KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-20

20.1 Does your country have plans, policies or instruments for addressing capacity-building and development needs for biodiversity?

Partially

20.2 Does your country have measures to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and girls, children and youth and people with disabilities in capacity-building and development for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (Select all that apply)

Women and girls  
Children and youth  
Indigenous peoples and local communities

20.3 Has your country undertaken a national capacity self-assessment or other processes for assessing the capacity needs for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity?

Partially

20.4 Has your country undertaken a national assessment of the capacity-building and development needs of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and girls, children and youth and people with disabilities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity? (Select all that apply)

Indigenous peoples and local communities  
Persons with disabilities  
Children and youth  
Women and girls

20.5 Has your country established partnerships to foster joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capabilities, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation?

Partially

NT21: Monitoring and Data Collection (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>Timor-Leste does not have a biodiversity monitoring programme. The main actions for monitoring over the reporting period have been taken to improve the monitoring of marine fish harvest, including through working with communities, to improve the data used for management. WorldFish developed the PeskAAS digital monitoring system (Tilley et al. 2020) that has been used, but inconsistently, between 2018 and 2025. The system is currently being applied at 8 LMMAs by Blue Ventures to assist the management of fish harvests. The only other species with some local monitoring are dugongs and crocodiles. However, for both species, there are no population estimate for the country and most work has identified habitat. There is little recent monitoring of terrestrial species or ecosystems, except in some of the national parks, for example at Nino Konis Santana Park for sea turtles.</p> <p>There are 1304 species recorded in OBIS. There is apparently a national biodiversity databank, however, the web link was not functional in November 2025.</p> | EN |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

|                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate |
|-----------------------------------------------------|

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>The monitoring of fish harvest, using the PeskAAS system has improved cooperation between government and communities, but there has been little improvement in management and no measures of sustainability (Tilley et al. 2024). However, Blue Ventures is continuing to work closely with 8 LMMAs to gather sufficient fishery data to enable better management. They (Blue Ventures) are accumulating data from the villages and intend to provide the information on species and harvests back to communities once sufficient data has accumulated to indicate trends and suggest management direction.</p> <p>For dugongs and crocodiles, there have been projects that have mapped some of the habitats, but there are no national census data. There are no other wildlife surveys are being conducted.</p> <p>There are only few data on forests (inventory), and only limited within-project monitoring of out-planted seedling survival.</p> | EN |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>Management of fisheries overall has improved little largely owing to an inadequate fisheries legal framework and capacity gaps (Tilley et al. 2024), as well as insufficient funding for a wider application of the available digital technology. Almost no attention has been given to forest or landscape monitoring, despite declining forests, damage by invasive species, and multiple pressures on the landscape. There is no national biodiversity monitoring programme or database.</p> | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>Project to identify key areas for dugongs: <a href="https://www.dugongconservation.org/project/identification-priority-sites-conservation-dugongs-seagrasses-timor-leste-tl1">https://www.dugongconservation.org/project/identification-priority-sites-conservation-dugongs-seagrasses-timor-leste-tl1</a></p> <p>WorldFish fisheries programme: <a href="https://worldfishcenter.org/where-we-work/pacific/timor-leste">https://worldfishcenter.org/where-we-work/pacific/timor-leste</a> and <a href="https://digitalarchive.worldfishcenter.org/items/8537517b-627a-4936-ab5b-ae6a4c14c6f6">https://digitalarchive.worldfishcenter.org/items/8537517b-627a-4936-ab5b-ae6a4c14c6f6</a></p> <p>Blue Ventures community fisheries programme: <a href="https://blueventures.org/who-we-are/timor-leste/">https://blueventures.org/who-we-are/timor-leste/</a></p> <p>PeskAAS fish monitoring system: <a href="https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0234760">https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0234760</a></p> | EN |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

|                                                  |    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|
| This target assists in achieving SDGs 14 and 15. | EN |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|

Indicator Data

|                                     |          |                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| B.1 Services provided by ecosystems | Headline | GBF-INDICATOR-B1 |
| Source of Data                      |          |                  |

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

21.1 Indicator on biodiversity information for monitoring the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-21.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> many indicators, but few data

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?

Partially

B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?

Partially

B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?

No

B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?

No

Comments

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

21.CT.2 Participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision-making related to the implementation of the Convention at all levels

ComponentGBF-INDICATOR-21.CT.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

None

EN

B.CT.3 Total value of ecosystems services in monetary units

Component GBF-INDICATOR-B.CT.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

21.CY.2 Growth in species occurrence records accessible through the Global Biodiversity Information Facility

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-179

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> no species population data; but shows 634 records in 2025; total records 23,306 records of 1304 species

EN

NT 22&23: Gender and Disadvantaged Persons (National)

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Timor-Leste employs a combination of constitutional rights, specific legislative mandates, international safeguard standards, and targeted inclusion strategies within major development projects to help ensure that women, disabled people, youth, and other vulnerable groups are represented in decision-making related to biodiversity and land management, and have equal rights and access to resources.

The national legal framework establishes fundamental equality and rights for all citizens regarding access to resources and the environment. Under the Constitution, everyone has the right to a humane, healthy, and ecologically balanced environment and the duty to protect it for the benefit of future generations. The state's objectives include protecting the environment and preserving natural resources. The Constitution also guarantees protection against discrimination based on sex and equality of rights and obligations in familial, political, economic, social, and cultural life.

While the government of Timor-Leste has a strong commitment to tackling gender issues and challenges, and has made significant progress in legislative and policy reform to address inequalities, gender inequality has deep socio-cultural roots that mean there is an ongoing gap between ambition and reality (da Fonseca et al. 2023). Most government departments have a gender action plan.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

On track to achieve target

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

Timor-Leste has a National Action Plan 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, as well as a National Action Plan against Gender-Based Violence.

Decree Law No. 27/2011, Regime to Regulate Ownership of Real Estate in Undisputed Cases, establishes the equality of rights of ownership equally to men and women. The Special Regime for the Determination of Ownership of Immovable Property (Law No. 13/2017), commonly referred to as the Land Law, recognizes "community property," which provides a legal status for communal lands often managed through customary systems.

The Basic Law on the Environment defines vulnerable groups to include women, youth, people with disabilities, displaced persons, ethnic and religious minorities, and people relying on subsistence agriculture and fishing.

The Environmental Licensing Law (Decree-Law No. 5/2011, as amended by Decree-Law No. 39/2022) explicitly requires the Environmental Authority to promote the participation of women and people with disabilities in public consultation regarding environmental impact assessment.

Decree-Law No. 6/2020, Legal Framework for the Protection and Conservation of Biodiversity, promotes the active participation of all sectors of society, including municipalities, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and communities, in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components. requires the government entity responsible for the environment to encourage and support public consultation and participation in decisions impacting biodiversity. Consultation must involve local government services and the Sucos (villages) when developing relevant legislation, programs, plans, or projects. Local administration services are tasked with actively promoting consultation processes regarding decision-making on conservation.

This law also requires the State to recognize, respect, and maintain the traditional knowledge and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant to conservation. Access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources is specifically subject to the prior and informed consent of the community where the knowledge belongs, obtained in accordance with customary law.

The principle of equity in the biodiversity law dictates that costs and benefits arising from conservation and sustainable use must be shared among all stakeholders in an equitable and fair manner. The law also aims for the fair and equitable sharing of monetary and non-monetary benefits derived from access to genetic resources, which requires a formal agreement.

More generally, formal state mechanisms for local authorities (Suco councils) require female and youth members. At the national level, the requirement that every third candidate for parliamentary elections be a woman has resulted in significant representation in the National Parliament (23 out of 65 members).

The State recognizes the importance of Tara Bandu, a traditional custom that regulates the relationship between humans and the environment, and supports its application for conservation and sustainable preservation and use of natural resources. Many farmers rely more heavily on Tara Bandu than national conservation policies.

In 2022, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was ratified, transforming the state's obligation toward persons with disabilities from a welfare-based model to a rights-based model. The National Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities (2021-2030) mainstreams disability inclusion across government. It guides inclusive budgeting and involves the appointment of "Disability Ambassadors" in each ministry to support implementation.

In 2024, Timor-Leste adopted the second National Action Plan to implement the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security (2024-2028), which includes Output 4.1: "Women have access to natural resources including land, clean water and other basic needs to allow them to build sustainable livelihoods and contribute to a stable and peaceful society."

Recognizing the gap between legal mandates and local capacity, the government and its development partners have undertaken targetted projects to model inclusive biodiversity management. These include: UNDP support for *Strengthened Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, and Leadership through Community-Based Resilience Building (2025-26)*, which includes small grants in the area of ecosystem-based management; the FAO-implemented *Green Jobs for Rural Youth Employment* project (2019-2024), which provided specialized training in agroecology, climate-smart agriculture, and green entrepreneurship to rural youth; and the *Strengthening Tarabandu Advocacy to Enhance Women's Participation in Tarabandu Processes* project under the Strengthening Social Cohesion Program (2023–2025), which had the dual aim of revitalizing Tarabandu as a traditional customary law system used to prevent conflict, guide social behaviour, and protect the environment, while strengthening the leadership and participation of women and youth in local governance.

In the coastal village of Ma'abat, the *Promoting Sustainable Coastal Management* project established an all-female community fisheries monitoring group. Six women were trained to collect scientific data on fish stocks and catch rates. This data is used to inform the community's management plan for marine resources.

Women comprise about 35% of elected politicians, and have been appointed as director or above in about 35% of the civil service positions (Table 7). At the local level, however, men still dominate by a wide margin.

Table 7. Summary of gender participation in governments.

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>While the legal framework for inclusive decision-making and equality of access has been strengthened, change will take time and requires efforts to shift attitudes. Gender relations are governed by a dual system of formal state law, which guarantees equality, and customary law, which is often patrilineal and patriarchal. Furthermore, persons with disabilities—estimated by the World Health Organization to comprise 15% of any population, though deeply undercounted in Timorese census data—face systemic invisibility.</p> <p>Women are the primary managers of water, seed selection, and household food security, yet they are frequently excluded from the high-level forums where land use zoning and resource allocation are decided. Traditionally, participation in civic life was limited, and there was clear discrimination against women and young people. Women are still rare in local leadership positions and hold about 23% of the director positions in the civil service.</p> <p>In some areas, customary law does not allow women to inherit land. A few matrilineal communities are the exception, where women can own and inherit land and property. The Land Law lacks legal protection for families without land titles including customary landholders. The Expropriation Law for Public Utility 08/2017 allows the state to forcibly acquire private land for public purposes, without adequate compensation (Hennings 2021).</p> <p>The fourth periodic report submitted by Timor-Leste under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women notes that, while the Land Law determines that land ownership should guarantee equal land rights between men and women and forbid any form of discrimination in land ownership, access, management, administration, enjoyment, transfer or disposition, gender, disparities in land access are still prevalent and reflect sociocultural norms and practices. Women face barriers in the process of registering joint ownership of land by couples due, inter alia, to their literacy level (generally lower than men) and a lack of information on the process, challenging their formal rights to land ownership. The issue is exacerbated for vulnerable women (<a href="https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3958882?ln=en&amp;v=pdf">https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3958882?ln=en&amp;v=pdf</a>).</p> | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p><i>Fourth periodic report submitted by Timor-Leste under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.</i> <a href="https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3958882?ln=en&amp;v=pdf">https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3958882?ln=en&amp;v=pdf</a>.</p> <p>Hennings (2021) <i>Timor-Leste: Context and Land Governance</i>. <a href="https://landportal.org/book/narratives/2021/timor-leste">https://landportal.org/book/narratives/2021/timor-leste</a></p> <p><i>Promoting Sustainable Coastal Management</i> project. <a href="https://lighthouse-foundation.org/en/Timor-Leste-Promoting-sustainable-coastal-management.html">https://lighthouse-foundation.org/en/Timor-Leste-Promoting-sustainable-coastal-management.html</a></p> | EN |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

|                                                           |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <p>This target contributes to SDGs 5, 10, 14, and 15.</p> | EN |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----|

Indicator Data

|                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>C.1 Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments</p> <p>Headline GBF-INDICATOR-C.1</p> |
| <p>Source of Data</p> <p>No data available</p>                                                                                                                      |
| <p>Please describe the situation</p> <p>There is no data available</p> <p>EN</p>                                                                                    |
| <p>C.2 Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments</p> <p>Headline GBF-INDICATOR-C.2</p>                     |
| <p>Source of Data</p> <p>No data available</p>                                                                                                                      |
| <p>Please describe the situation</p>                                                                                                                                |

there no data available

EN

D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimated at 90-93 million USD/year (GEF, GCF, UN agencies, WB, and ADB but excludes multi-lateral agency funding)

EN

D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 24 million/year

EN

D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 2 million/year

EN

22.1 Land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-22.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

13.b Number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic

resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-13

13.1 Does your country have effective legal, administrative and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Under development

13.2 Does your country have capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Not applicable

13.3 Has your country taken administrative, policy or legislative measures pursuant to the operationalization of the multilateral mechanism in decision 16/2?

No

13.4 Do the measures mentioned in questions 13.1 and 13.2 include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources?

No

13.5 Does your country monitor the monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.6 Does your country monitor the non-monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.7 Does your country have measures to ensure the fair and equitable benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed in another country?

Not applicable

Comments

> No stand-alone law, but the Biodiversity Decree Law contains a strong section on sharing of benefits from genetic resources

EN

22.b Number of countries taking action towards the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities, and the full protection of environmental human rights defenders

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-22

22.1 Does your country have policy, legislative and administrative frameworks at the national and subnational levels that:

(a) Ensure full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in biodiversity decision-making related to biodiversity of the following (select all that apply):

- Indigenous peoples and local communities
- Women and girls
- Children and youth
- Persons with disabilities

(b) Respect the following rights and cultures of indigenous peoples and local communities (select all that apply):

- Culture and practices
- Rights over lands and territories
- Rights over resources
- Rights over traditional knowledge

(c) Ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders?

Yes

(d) Ensure public access to information related to biodiversity for the following (select all that apply):

- Indigenous peoples and local communities
- Women and girls
- Children and youth
- Persons with disabilities

(e) Provide access to justice for one or more of the following categories (select all that apply):

- Indigenous peoples and local communities
- Women and girls
- Children and youth
- Persons with disabilities

22.2 Does your country have operational frameworks and mechanisms related to the policy, legislative and administrative frameworks listed under question 22.1?

Partially

22.3 Does your country monitor the following:

(a) The full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in biodiversity decision-making of the following (select all that apply):

None of the above

(b) The following culture and rights of indigenous peoples and local communities (select all that apply):

Not applicable

(c) The full protection of environmental human rights defenders?

Yes

23.b Number of countries with legal, administrative or policy frameworks, inter alia, to implement the Gender Plan of Action (2023–2030), to ensure that all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by ensuring women’s equal rights and access to land and natural resources

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-23

23.1 Does your country have mechanisms for facilitating the full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership of all women and girls at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity?

Partially

23.2 Has your country adopted legal, administrative or policy measures that explicitly recognize and protect the rights and access of all women and girls to land and natural resources?

Partially

23.3 Does your country explicitly apply a gender-responsive approach and recognize the contributions and roles of women and girls in its implementation of the Framework through its national reports or its national biodiversity strategy and action plan?

Partially

23.4 Does your country conduct sex-disaggregated data collection and analyses to assess the differential impacts of biodiversity policies and programmes?

Under development

22.CT.1 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognized documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure

Component    GBF-INDICATOR-22.CT.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

> no accurate data available – reports suggest men own more land than women and that rates of secure tenure are lower than perceived ownership.

EN

23.CT.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments

Component    GBF-INDICATOR-297

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> Parliament: 23 women (35.4%) and 42 men (64.6%)

EN

22.CY.1 Proportions of positions in national and local institutions, including (a) the legislatures; (b) the public service; and (c) the judiciary, compared to national distributions, by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-275

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there si no data available

EN

Comments

Percentage of positions in national and local institutions, including the legislatures, public service; and judiciary, compared to national distributions, by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups

> See table below

Protected areas with a completed site-level assessment of governance and equity (SAGE)

> 0 (METT Assessments completed at 3 parks)

Land-use change and land tenure in local communities

> unclear

EN

22.CY.2 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-248

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

NT1: By 2030, ensure that all areas are under integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and effective management to address land and sea use changes, in particular reducing the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance and ecosystems with high ecological integrity, while respecting the rights of local communities. **(National)**

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

Timor-Leste is a small island developing nation that has ocean, coastal, and upland areas requiring planning to support sustainable development. There has been extensive mapping and planning done of marine and coastal areas by several past and ongoing programmes (e.g., ATSEA, PEMSEA, etc.). However, following through with implementation of the plans requires much greater further effort, funding, capacity building, and working with coastal communities. This work is ongoing among several NGOs, UN and government.

Much of the arable lands and forests are degraded owing to unsustainable and unplanned agricultural expansion and the effects of invasive species. Lack of small-scale landscape spatial planning, in part owing to lack of data and funding, hinders the future sustainability of forests and agricultural areas. However, as a first step, Timor-Leste has produced a series of large-scale national maps (1:125,000) and plans at the municipal level that indicates areas of high biodiversity, protected areas, and corridors along the coast (Figure 1). The scale of mapping is meant to provide a strategic framework for future finer scale planning at the level of municipality (note: in Timor-Leste ‘municipal’ is equivalent to state or province in other jurisdictions). Much of the

EN

underlying background was provided in the Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030 (ADB 2011) and supported by Decree Law 7/2023 approving the National Spatial Plan.

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

The Basic Law on Land Use Planning (Decree Law No. 6/2017) establishes a legal framework for land-use planning in Timor-Leste and this law was updated in 2023. Timor-Leste has a large-scale strategic spatial plan with mapping that provides a basis for further development of landscape plans at finer scales (Figure 1).

Coastal habitat mapping was completed in 2012, with a classification of six marine habitat types and seven coastal habitat types (Grantham et al. 2011, Boggs et al. 2012). Further mapping for much of the nearshore habitats as an ecological baseline for management and climate change was completed by Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Centre (PIFSC 2017). Nearshore waters along the entire coastline of Timor-Leste have complete coverage using WorldView-2 satellite imagery. These maps were developed to assist with spatial ecosystem planning for coastal areas. For example, recommendations have been developed for inshore and coastal marine areas at Nino Konis Santana National Park by the Coral Triangle Initiative in 2013. A shoreline management plan has been developed to monitor and reduce shore impacts (McCue 2020). Marine protected areas at Samba Sembilan in Liquiçá (2023), Batugadé, Manufahi (2024), and Atauro Island (2023) have spatial management plans that include zoning for conservation, but the plans have not been implemented to a significant degree.

For terrestrial areas, there is the large-scale national plan (Figure 1) and at the level of municipalities, but little else other than a baseline study with zonation and mapping for Nino Konis Santana Park (da Silva 2021). Land cover categories also reflect large-scale mapping (Table 4).

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(Note: Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves)                 | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | –9.6       |
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | –0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | –0.1       |

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

The key challenges are lack of funding and the need for capacity building of staff.

EN

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

National land cover map  
(2024): <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/467eaafb0bf342be89e6b01842b062bc>

Nino Konis Santana National Park Baseline Study: [https://jfit-for-science.asia/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Baseline-Study-NKSNP-Report\\_2021-Final.pdf](https://jfit-for-science.asia/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Baseline-Study-NKSNP-Report_2021-Final.pdf)

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

Supports: SDGs 13 - Climate Action, Goal 15 - Life on Earth, and Goal 14 – Life Below Water.

EN

Indicator Data

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

Comments

- 1. **Ecosystem mapping:**
- 2. Baseline Studies
- 3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves)                 | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | −9.6       |
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

A.3 Red List Index

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

- 1. Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.
- 2. **Baseline research:**
- 3. **ommunity and in situ conservation:**
- 4. Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

B.1 Services provided by ecosystemsHeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-B1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

1.1 Percentage of land and sea area covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plansHeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-1.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

Percent area where spatial plans have been implemented

> only Nino Konis Sanatana Park = 8% of country

Habitats with integrity mapped

> only Nino Konis Sanatana Park

EN

2.1 Area under restorationHeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-2.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

Comments

Land cover categories also reflect large-scale mapping (Table 4).

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

| Land Cover Class         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Forest (incl. mangroves) | 68.8 %   | 59.2 % (880,541 ha) | −9.6       |

EN

| Land Cover Class                         | 2016 (%) | 2021 (%)            | Change (%) |
|------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | -0.9       |
|                                          | 1.0 %    |                     | 0.1        |

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

**B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?**

Partially

**B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

Partially

**B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

No

**B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?**

No

**Comments**

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

1.b Number of countries using participatory, integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance close to zero by 2030

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-1

**1 Is your country landlocked?**

No

1.1 Are all areas of your country under biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning or effective management processes that:

**(a) Address land-use (terrestrial) change?**

Partially

**(b) Address land-use (inland water) change?**

Partially

(c) Address sea-use (coastal and marine) change? (Will be considered not applicable to landlocked States)

No

1.2 If the answer to any of the questions in 1.1 is not “No”, were the plans created using a participatory process? (Select all that apply, noting that, if your country is a landlocked State, marine spatial planning will be considered as not relevant)

For terrestrial spatial planning

For coastal and marine spatial planning

Comments

> consultative processes are in place for terrestrial, coastal, and marine areas

EN

NT5 (rep Target 5 and 9): Management plans are completed and under implementation for the commonly harvested wildlife (marine and terrestrial) species, especially for those species that are being over-exploited and in commercial trade, through direct consultation with local communities by 2030. **(National)**

Briefly describe the main actions taken to implement the target

The country adopted the Conservation of Biodiversity Decree Law 6/2020, which provides the legal basis for wildlife protection and use, including hunting. For fisheries, a new law is under development, but Decree Law 6/2004 regulates marine and freshwater fisheries. Hunting of protected species is unlawful, except for subsistence.

Timor-Leste lacks sufficient data for proactive management of hunted species. However, several programs conducted by the government, WorldFish, and Blue Ventures are developing data for marine harvests by species.

EN

Indicate the current level of progress towards the target

Progress towards target but at an insufficient rate

Provide a summary of progress towards the target, including the main outcomes achieved

The main progress over the past decade for terrestrial wildlife has been through training of villagers that live in or near national parks on endangered species and working to establish no-hunting zones. Government has trained 200 villagers on the use of Tara Bandu (see Target 4). NGOs (CI, Blue Ventures) and other agencies (JICA) have worked with individual communities especially on the use of Tara Bandu to reduce wildlife harvests of threatened species. There are no species-specific management plans for terrestrial wildlife butn16 critical habitat areas have been mapped.

For fisheries, improved data collection (see Target 10) has begun to provide information on species, locations fished, and estimated of fishing pressure. The PeskaAS system, originally established by WorldFish (Tilley et al. 2019, 2020), is being used by government and Blue Ventures to monitor fish harvests in some areas. Timor-Leste has established about 32 local marine management areas (LMMAs), including 13 on Atauro Island. Among these, 8 were established by Blue Ventures, with training on data collection on harvesting starting in 2023, through local women who manage the data collected using a smart phone application. These data are compiled and shared back to the communities to assist with local community management.

EN

Provide a summary of key challenges encountered and different approaches that may be taken for further implementation

The main challenges for improving wildlife management include insufficient funding for enforcement and collection of baseline and monitoring data for proper management. Other factors include habitat loss from

EN

https://ort.cbd.int/national-reports/nr7/14EA405E-98D0-21D5-E91B-646332394F7B

93/110

deforestation, agriculture, and burning, unsustainable fishing, and illegal hunting, with some of it for illegal trade.

Provide examples or cases to illustrate the effectiveness of the actions taken to implement the target. Provide relevant hyperlinks or attach related materials or publications, as needed.

Digital fishery data collections (Tilley et al. 2024): <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1462901124000182>

Women fishery monitoring (Blue Ventures): <https://blueventures.org/publications/womens-experiences-of-participatory-small-scale-fisheries-monitoring-in-timor-leste/> and <https://blueventures.org/publications/womens-empowerment-and-participatory-monitoring-of-in-timor-leste/>

Tara Bandu on Atauro Island: <https://www.gstc.org/atauro-island-revives-a-conservation-tradition/>

EN

Briefly describe how the implementation of the target relates to progress in achieving the related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and the implementation of other related agreements

This target contributed to SDGs 1, 2, 14, and 15

EN

## Indicator Data

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.1

### Source of Data

No data available

### Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

### Comments

- 1. Ecosystem mapping:
- 2. Baseline Studies
- 3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.2

### Source of Data

No data available

### Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

### Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(**Note:** Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

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| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

A.3 Red List Index

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

1. Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.  
2. **Baseline research:**  
3. **ommunity and in situ conservation:**  
4. Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

B.1 Services provided by ecosystems

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-B1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

9.1 Benefits from the sustainable use of wild species

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-9.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

9.2 Percentage of the population in traditional occupations

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-9.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimate > 9 million

EN

5.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-5.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

**B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?**

Partially

**B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

Partially

**B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

No

**B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?**

No

Comments

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

9.b Number or countries with policies to manage the use of wild species sustainably, providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, and to protect and encourage customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities

Binary KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-9

**9.1 Does your country have legal instruments or other policy frameworks or administrative measures for the sustainable management and use of wild species?**

Partially

9.2 Does your country monitor the sustainable management and use of wild species?

Partially

9.3 Does your country monitor the social, economic and environmental benefits derived from the use of wild species for people, in particular those in vulnerable situations and most dependent on biodiversity? (Select all that apply)

No

9.4 Does your country have legal instruments or other policy frameworks to protect and encourage the customary sustainable use of biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, for example, the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity or other relevant initiatives?

Fully

5.b Number of countries with legal instruments or other policy frameworks for regulating trade in wild species

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-5

5.1 Does your country have legal instruments or other policy frameworks to regulate trade in wild species? (Select all that apply)

For terrestrial species

For freshwater species

For marine species

For international trade

11.CT.3 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

ComponentGBF-INDICATOR-200

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

4.CT.1 Number of (a) plant and (b) animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities

ComponentGBF-INDICATOR-259

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> none in seed bank, but species ex situ in botanical park and arboretum

EN

Section IV Assessment of national progress contributing to the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

GBF-G-A. Ecosystems are conserved, extinctions are halted and genetic diversity is maintained

Summary of national progress contributing to the global goals

Timor-Leste has made progress for goal A with its comprehensive Conservation of Biodiversity law adequately covers the protection of ecosystems, species and genetic resources

The country does not have a sufficient ecosystem classification system to enable a red list. It also has insufficient data to enable a red list index or to determine populations sizes of species.

EN

Indicator Data

A.1 Red List of Ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no available data

EN

Comments

- 1. Ecosystem mapping:
- 2. Baseline Studies
- 3. partnership, etc

EN

A.2 Extent of natural ecosystems

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> See Table 4: data from Cho and Lim 2023)

Table 4. Land covers of Timor-Leste in 2021. (Source: Sentinel=2 data, Cho and Lim 2023)

(Note: Global Forest Watch data shows forest cover of 1,010,000 ha or 67% in 2024 vs 63% in 2017)

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| Other Vegetation (shrubland + grassland) | 26.8 %   | 37.4 % (556,287 ha) | +10.6      |
| Non-forest (cropland, built-up, barren)  | 3.4 %    | 2.5 % (37,185 ha)   | −0.9       |
| Open Water                               | 1.0 %    | 0.9 % (13,386 ha)   | −0.1       |

EN

A.3 Red List Index

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availbale

EN

Comments

1. Timor-Leste is initiating steps to establish a **formal Red List assessment framework**, building on the species lists already recognized under the **Biodiversity Conservation Decree Law (2020)**.
2. **Baseline research:**
3. **ommunity and in situ conservation:**
4. Capacity Building and Partnership

EN

A.4 Proportion of populations within species with an effective population size greater than 500

Headline GBF-INDICATOR-A.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

8.CT.2 Bioclimatic Ecosystem Resilience Index

Component GBF-INDICATOR-114

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

A.CT.1 Ecosystem Intactness Index

Component GBF-INDICATOR-143

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> KBAs mapped and national large-scale zonation map includes high biodiversity areas

EN

4.CT.1 Number of (a) plant and (b) animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities

Component GBF-INDICATOR-259

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> none in seed bank, but species ex situ in botanical park and arboretum

|  |    |
|--|----|
|  | EN |
|--|----|

|                                 |           |                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 3.CT.2 Species Protection Index | Component | GBF-INDICATOR-327 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Source of Data</b>                |    |
| No data available                    |    |
| <b>Please describe the situation</b> |    |
| there is no data available           | EN |

|                                      |           |                      |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| A.CT.5 Biodiversity Intactness Index | Component | GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.5 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Source of Data</b>                |    |
| No data available                    |    |
| <b>Please describe the situation</b> |    |
| there is no data available           | EN |

|                                  |           |                      |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| A.CT.6 Protected Connected Index | Component | GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.6 |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Source of Data</b>                |    |
| No data available                    |    |
| <b>Please describe the situation</b> |    |
| there is no data available           | EN |

|                                                                    |           |                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| A.CT.7 Protected Area Representativeness and Connectedness Indices | Component | GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.7 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Source of Data</b>                |    |
| No data available                    |    |
| <b>Please describe the situation</b> |    |
| there is no data available           | EN |

|                                      |           |                      |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| A.CT.8 Number of extinctions averted | Component | GBF-INDICATOR-A.CT.8 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Source of Data</b>                |    |
| No data available                    |    |
| <b>Please describe the situation</b> |    |
| there is no data available           | EN |

|                                                                             |           |                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| 4.CT.4 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk of extinction | Component | GBF-INDICATOR-4.CT.4 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Source of Data</b>                |    |
| No data available                    |    |
| <b>Please describe the situation</b> |    |
| there is no data available           | EN |

A.CY.16 Mean species abundance

ComplementaryGBF-INDICATOR-213

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is ni data availableEN

4.CT.1 Number of (a) plant and (b) animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities

ComplementaryGBF-INDICATOR-259

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data availableEN

Comments

> none in seed bank, but species ex situ in botanical park and arboretumEN

3.CT.2 Species Protection Index

ComplementaryGBF-INDICATOR-327

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data availableEN

4.CT.4 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk of extinction

ComplementaryGBF-INDICATOR-4.CT.4

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data availableEN

GBF-G-B. Biodiversity is sustainably used and its contributions to people are maintained, enhanced or restored

Summary of national progress contributing to the global goals

Timor-Leste passed its Conservation of Biodiversity Decree Law to bolster ecosystem protection and has an active reforestation programme to restore ecosystem services in priority rover valleys.EN

## Indicator Data

B.1 Services provided by ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-B1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 38 billion/yr (calculated from data in: Capitani et al. 2023)

EN

B.b Number of countries with policies or actions for implementing and monitoring the sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance and enhancement of nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services

Binary    KMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-B

**B.1 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of nature's contributions to people, including of ecosystem functions and services?**

Partially

**B.2 Does your country have policies and/or action plans aimed at ensuring the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

Partially

**B.3 Does your country monitor the sustainable use of biodiversity?**

No

**B.4 Does your country monitor the maintenance, restoration and enhancement of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services for the benefit of present and future generations?**

No

Comments

> Timor-Leste has its Biodiversity Decree Law (2020)

EN

16.CT.3 Ecological footprint

Component    GBF-INDICATOR-142

**Source of Data**

No data available

**Please describe the situation**

there is no data available

EN

**Comments**

> No data from SDG Stats

EN

11.CT.3 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

Component    GBF-INDICATOR-200

**Source of Data**

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

11.CT.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality

Component GBF-INDICATOR-285

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

B.CT.2 Living Planet Index for utilized species

Component GBF-INDICATOR-B.CT.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

B.CT.3 Total value of ecosystems services in monetary units

Component GBF-INDICATOR-B.CT.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

16.CT.3 Ecological footprint

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-142

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> No data from SDG Stats

EN

11.CT.3 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-200

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

11.CT.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality

Complementary GBF-INDICATOR-285

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

B.CY.3 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization culture|2030 indicators

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-358

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

4.CT.2 Green status of species

Complementary

GBF-INDICATOR-176

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

GBF-G-C. Benefits from the use of genetic resources are shared and substantially increased

Summary of national progress contributing to the global goals

Timor-Leste has an ABDS policy framework and associated documents such as TK guidelines, an FPIC process, and model clauses. Some early exploratory work on possible medicinal resources was accomplished under an MOU prior to the ABS agreement process being implemented. As yet no formal ABS agreements are in place.

EN

Indicator Data

C.1 Monetary benefits received in accordance with applicable internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-C.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

C.2 Non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments

Headline

GBF-INDICATOR-C.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there no data available

EN

13.b Number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic

resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

BinaryKMGBF-INDICATOR-BIN-C-13

13.1 Does your country have effective legal, administrative and policy measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Under development

13.2 Does your country have capacity-building measures to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources?

Not applicable

13.3 Has your country taken administrative, policy or legislative measures pursuant to the operationalization of the multilateral mechanism in decision 16/2?

No

13.4 Do the measures mentioned in questions 13.1 and 13.2 include the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources?

No

13.5 Does your country monitor the monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.6 Does your country monitor the non-monetary benefits received from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed from your country?

Not applicable

13.7 Does your country have measures to ensure the fair and equitable benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that were accessed in another country?

Not applicable

Comments

> No stand-alone law, but the Biodiversity Decree Law contains a strong section on sharing of benefits from genetic resources

EN

C.CY.1 Number of users that have provided information relevant to the utilization of genetic resources to designated checkpoints

ComplementaryGBF-INDICATOR-263

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

GBF-G-D. The biodiversity funding gap of 700 billion USD is progressively closed by ensuring adequate means of implementation are available.

Summary of national progress contributing to the global goals

Timor-Leste has been highly successful in attracting funding, especially for the biodiversity rich marine areas. The country, however, is several million dollars short of being able to implement fully its NBSAP.

EN

Indicator Data

D.1 International public funding, including official development assistance for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> estimated at 90-93 million USD/year (GEF, GCF, UN agencies, WB, and ADB but excludes multi-lateral agency funding)

EN

D.2 Domestic public funding on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.2

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 24 million/year

EN

D.3 Private funding (domestic and international) on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems

HeadlineGBF-INDICATOR-D.3

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

There is no data available

EN

Comments

> approx. USD 2 million/year

EN

20.CT.1 Total amount of funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies

ComponentGBF-INDICATOR-20.CT.1

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Comments

GEF funding

> has ranged from USD 0.2 to 22 million/year

Foreign direct investment, official development assistance and South-South cooperation as a proportion of total domestic budget

> approx. 45%

Proportion of total research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology

> uncertain, but approx. USD 3 million

EN

D.CY.15 Private funding targeted at youth within biodiversity-related activities

GBF-INDICATOR-D.CY.15  
Complementary

Source of Data

No data available

Please describe the situation

there is no data available

EN

Section V Conclusions on the national implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Provide a summary assessment of the implementation of the Convention and the Framework, including all its sections, and the main achievements and the major challenges encountered and, where applicable, resolved, in particular those related to capacity, technical, technological, institutional and financial gaps and constraints, and support provided for implementation.

This assessment was largely based on the Aichi Targets and the Strategic Framework, with the previous NBSAP 2015-2020. Nevertheless, a crosswalk between the previous NBSAP and the Targets of the GBF indicated a high level of overlap, such that most actions and the earlier targets could be discussed against the current 23 GBF targets and the revised NBSAP (2026 – 2030).

For Timor-Leste, there has been some progress for biodiversity conservation in certain areas but much work remains to be done, especially for individual wildlife species, ecosystem classification, a monitoring system, and the need for much better enforcement of the many new laws that have been enacted to improve conservation and sustainable use biodiversity. The work done in Timor-Leste between 2019 and 2025 was reviewed and indicated that, of the 23 GBF targets, the country has made some partial progress for 17, two are on track to be completed by 2030, and four have had no progress yet.

The main achievements during this review period were the establishment of several new laws or revisions of older laws to more carefully consider the conservation of biodiversity. Chief among the new laws is the 2020 law for the Protection and Conservation of Biodiversity. This comprehensive law was constructed based on the CBD and includes a section on consideration of genetic resources and access and benefits sharing. The law covers protected areas, hunting, endangered species and management. Unfortunately, as was noted throughout the revised NBSAP, illegal activities are still reducing biodiversity across the country, primarily because of the lack of enforcement, rather than the available laws. Notably, the absence of a monitoring system for most aspects of conservation hampers the capacity of resource agencies to properly manage natural resources and to assess its progress.

Among the protected areas, the country has invested most effort for protected areas into one park - Nino Konis Santana - in an effort to have it recognized under UNESCO. This park is seen as a key to increase the level of ecotourism in the country and so is a priority for investment in management and infrastructure. There has also been an effort to expand marine protected areas, in part through the LMMA system, and work has continued on an

international Marine protected area together with Indonesia. No new terrestrial parks were created during the review period, although one protected area was increased by 4000 ha (according to Conservation International), and the current area covered by PAs is about 20%.

With respect to actual on-the-ground management, the use of the PeskAAS system to monitor fish harvesting should eventually lead to improved conservation of marine stocks, along with the implementation and capacity-building of the LMMAs and the local control on marine management. The data collection capacity of this catch monitoring system is impressive, easy to use, but what is lacking is consistent application.

While waste management remains a concern, there has been recent improvements in the amounts of plastic, metal and oil sludge recycling. Interest in waste management control for Timor-Leste through JICA, ADB, World Bank, and KOICA may result in improvements over the next few years. The EIA process has been greatly improved, with 22 class A assessments conducted over the past several years.

The country has been very successful in working with foreign universities, particularly those from Australia, to build datasets and to develop management plans based on the information generated. For example, management planning for crocodiles is now being developed in association with Australian assistance.

Aside from new laws, well-run projects have restored several thousand hectares of mangrove forests and have contributed to the partial reforestation of several river valleys. Nevertheless, much less area than anticipated have been reforested owing to budget constraints, and the largest areas were recovered by donor agencies rather than government.

Timor-Leste has a fully developed ABS programme, resulting from a UNEP project. An ABS law has been drafted and a laboratory is under construction. The project developed all of the associated documents, including a traditional knowledge guideline and an FPIC process. As a result, Target 13 will be achieved easily by 2030.

The country lacks small-scale spatial planning, but has municipal (provincial) maps at large scales that indicate areas of high biodiversity. A detailed spatial plan was completed for Nino Konis Santana Park, but many parks (ca.24) still do not have firmly described boundaries.

Obstacles to implementation of the NBSAP and towards meeting the KMGBF and national targets include 1.) insufficient governance: the need for a commitment by government to reconcile conflicts between resource development (hydro, mines, infrastructure, agriculture) and conservation of biodiversity, by elevating conservation as a fundamental requirement, 2.) the lack of baseline data by which to measure progress against targets, 3.) low appreciation of the true value of ecosystem services by government staff and communities, 4.) often poor coordination among departments for resources management, 5.) the inability to control illegal activities, including wildlife trade and logging in primary forests, 6.) insufficient funding: despite millions of dollars coming into the country each year, some basic necessities for conservation are lacking including baseline data, a monitoring system, improved enforcement, an ecosystem classification system, and the excessive plastic pollution (despite ongoing efforts at reduction). An ‘environmental protection fund’ or a ‘conservation of biodiversity’ fund dedicated to conservation is needed in the country to enable the many actions required to protect biodiversity. Finally, the country would clearly benefit from the presence and work done by one or more of the major international NGOs, including IUCN, WWF, and/or WCS. A final consideration is the need for improved coordination among the many agencies (government, donors, UN, NGOs) that are attempting to improve conservation of biodiversity in the country.

EN

Section other information: Information as requested in related decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

Additional Information

Annex 1. Information as requested in related decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

i.) Information on implementing the CBD Gender Plan of Action

There is no reference made in any available documents about the CBD Gender Plan of Action.

ii.) Work on implementing Article 8j

Timor-Leste does not have indigenous people; it does, however have many local communities with about 67% of the population living in rural areas. In 2024, the country finalized it’s background documents for an ABS regime, including a Guidelines for traditional knowledge and a researcher code of ethics. The policy framework document clearly notes the importance of both FPIC and the consideration of traditional knowledge. In addition, the country has a formal process for consulting LCs for any development project.

iii.) Engagement with subnational governments and cities

The Biodiversity Directorate maintains an outreach programme to inform municipal and city governments of changes to biodiversity laws and regulations. The national government has set priorities for better and improved green and blue spaces in the major cities. The revised NBSAP was widelu consulted including with other levels of government.

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iv.) Government communication strategy for implementation

As a component of its outreach strategy for conservation, the Biodiversity Directorate will engage with partners and communities to assist in implementation of the NBSAP.

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