



## **‘Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T’**

*Submission by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)*

21 March 2025

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the *‘Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T’* in response to the [invitation](#) from the Presidencies of the sixth and seventh sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA6 and CMA7).

We focus our inputs primarily on the first two questions indicated in the message from the CMA6 and CMA7 Presidencies:

- (a) What are your overall expectations for the ‘Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T’?
- (b) Which topics and thematic issues should be explored to inform the Roadmap, within the scope of the mandate?

### **Overall expectations for the ‘Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T’**

Finance remains central to the achievement of all climate goals and is a critical enabler of accelerated climate action. With every year that passes without adequate financing for climate change mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage, the prospect of a stable, healthy, and safe future for humanity recedes.

The [New Collective Quantified Goal \(NCQG\)](#) that was agreed to by Parties at CMA6 in Baku set a goal of mobilizing at least US\$ 300 billion per year by 2035 for developing country Parties for climate action, with developed country Parties taking the lead.<sup>1</sup> Although an important step, this still falls short of the annual estimated needs of developing countries of US\$ 455-584 billion to implement their existing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) up to 2030.<sup>2</sup> The need for adaptation financing in developing countries is particularly acute, with the adaptation finance gap currently estimated at US\$187-359 billion per year ([AGR 2024](#)).

In this context, IUCN fully supports the call made by Parties in the NCQG decision on all actors to work together to enable the scaling up of financing to developing country Parties for climate action from all public and private sources to at least US\$ 1.3 trillion per year by 2035.<sup>3</sup> Our expectation is that the ‘Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T’ launched under the guidance of the CMA6 and CMA7 Presidencies will deliver concrete and ambitious progress in this regard, in a manner that significantly increases public, concessional and grant-based financing for developing countries, especially taking into account the needs and priorities of vulnerable communities and ecosystems. Building on previous CMA decisions, the Roadmap should also aim to achieve a meaningful balance between mitigation and adaptation financing as called for in the Paris Agreement.<sup>4</sup> Such a balance should reflect the evolving needs of developing countries for adaptation and take into account the rapid increase of adverse climate impacts.

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 1/CMA.6, paragraph 8.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 1/CMA.6, paragraph 3.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 1/CMA.6, paragraph 7.

<sup>4</sup> See Article 9.4 of the Paris Agreement, Decision 1/CMA.3, paragraph 18 and Decision 1/CMA.5, paragraphs 86 and 100.

## Inclusion of financing for nature-based solutions to climate change in the Roadmap

On the topics and thematic issues to be explored as part of the Roadmap within the scope of the mandate, IUCN would also stress the importance of directing greater climate financing towards the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of the world's ecosystems on account of the multiple proven benefits that they provide for climate change mitigation and adaptation while also delivering other crucial ecosystem services and supporting biodiversity conservation and local economies and livelihoods.

Successive COP/CMA decisions have recognized the vital importance of nature and ecosystems for effective and sustainable climate action, and the urgency of addressing the interlinked climate and biodiversity crises in a comprehensive and synergetic manner.<sup>5</sup> The *Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan* adopted by the COP/CMA in 2022 explicitly encouraged Parties to consider 'nature-based solutions or ecosystem-based approaches ... for their mitigation and adaptation action while ensuring relevant social and environmental safeguards'.<sup>6</sup> The *Outcome of the First Global Stocktake* adopted by the CMA in 2023 similarly emphasized the 'importance of conserving, protecting and restoring nature and ecosystems towards achieving the Paris Agreement temperature goal, including through enhanced efforts towards halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030'.<sup>7</sup> Likewise, the *UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience* adopted by the CMA in 2023 to advance the Global Goal on Adaptation included a specific target for 2030 for 'reducing climate impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity, and accelerating the use of ecosystem-based adaptation and nature-based solutions including through their management, enhancement, restoration and conservation and the protection of terrestrial, inland water, mountain, marine and coastal ecosystems'.<sup>8</sup>

Most recently, the COP30 President-designate, in his [letter](#) dated 10 March 2025, has also drawn attention to the importance of ecosystems, noting that 'forests can buy us time in climate action in our rapidly closing window of opportunity. If we reverse deforestation and recover what has been lost, we can unlock massive removals of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere while bringing ecosystems back to life'. The letter also clearly noted the need to incorporate synergies between climate, biodiversity, desertification, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Notably, the [fifth global dialogue](#) under the *Sharm el-Sheikh Mitigation Ambition and Implementation Work Programme* scheduled to be held in 2025 will also focus on the topic of 'Enabling mitigation solutions in the forest sector', thereby highlighting the continued recognition of their critical role in addressing the climate challenge – and the need for better supporting them.

However, funding for these nature-based solutions still remains inadequate to date. It is estimated that finance flows for nature-based solutions need to almost triple from current levels by 2030, and to quadruple by 2050, to meet the targets of all the three Rio Conventions ([UNEP 2023](#)). Specifically to tackle climate change, the *Independent High-Level Expert Group (IHLEG) on Climate Finance* has, in their most recent report, estimated that global investments in natural capital must increase from \$46 billion in 2022 to \$400 billion per year by 2030 and \$480–580 billion per year by 2035 ([Bhattacharya et al. 2024](#)). This is something that should be fully taken into account in the development of the Roadmap, including in terms of how their delivery in developing countries can be concretely improved through grants, concessional and

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<sup>5</sup> See, for example, Decision 1/CP.25 (paragraph 15), Decision 1/CP.26 (preamble and paragraph 21), Decision 1/CP.27 (paragraphs 1 and 18) and Decision 1/CMA.5 (preamble).

<sup>6</sup> Decision 1/COP27, paragraph 52 and Decision 1/CMA4, paragraph 81.

<sup>7</sup> Decision 1/ CMA.5, paragraph 33.

<sup>8</sup> Decision 2/ CMA.5, paragraph 9(d).

non-debt creating instruments, and innovative and ecologically and socially beneficial financing mechanisms.

### **Importance of enhanced direct funding for Indigenous and locally-led climate action**

In IUCN's view, it is particularly critical that significantly increased climate funding is made more easily and directly accessible to Indigenous peoples and local communities, noting that they are the custodians and stewards of the world's most intact ecosystems, including over a third of the world's remaining irrecoverable carbon, yet remain amongst the most vulnerable to climate change ([Noon et al 2022](#)). The Indigenous and traditional knowledge that these communities hold is also of tremendous value in addressing and building resilience to climate change. It is therefore especially important for the Roadmap to facilitate and scale up direct investments in Indigenous and locally-led climate action, including through the design of direct funding approaches; to strengthen and build the capacity of Indigenous and local organisations to access, manage and govern these investments; and to promote Indigenous peoples rights and leadership, particularly that of Indigenous women and youth. In this regard, IUCN launched, in partnership with its Indigenous Peoples Organisations (IPO) members and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) the [Podong Initiative](#) at COP28, which aims to mobilise at least US\$ 200 million of climate and nature finance for direct access by Indigenous Peoples over the next five years.

In addition, IUCN is promoting the [Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions](#) as a high integrity framework to guide both public and private sector investments, working in collaboration with bilateral development agencies and multilateral finance institutions to design robust pipelines for investments in nature-based solutions that deliver for climate, nature and people.

Finally, it is also important to enhance policy coherence for climate and nature financing across all major international processes in order to maximise efficiencies and impact, and for scaled-up financing to be directed in ways that can help build both ecosystem and community resilience simultaneously, as well as equip developing countries with the technologies and capacities needed to make national-level systemic transformations that can benefit both people and nature.

IUCN expresses its appreciation to the CMA6 and CMA7 Presidencies for this opportunity to contribute to the development of the 'Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T', and will be happy to share its experiences further in future discussions.