Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework: Ensuring protection and restoration of Inland Waters

Key messages

- Explicit inclusion of **inland water ecosystems** in Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) goals, targets, and indicators is required to restore and safeguard these most threatened and least protected ecosystems and biodiversity on the planet.
- Goal A must ensure that the ecological integrity, area, connectivity and resilience of natural terrestrial, **inland water**, coastal and marine ecosystems increase by 2030 and are fully restored by 2050.
- Target 1 must ensure that "all terrestrial, **inland water**, coastal and marine areas" are included within biodiversity-inclusive participatory spatial planning or other effective management processes.
- Target 2 must include numerical ecosystem-specific objectives for progress to be measured against and to avoid inland water ecosystems being neglected within an overall percentage for terrestrial ecosystems. For inland water ecosystems this should be at least 350 million hectares and 300,000 km of rivers under restoration by 2030.
- Target 3 needs to ensure that at least 30 per cent, globally, of terrestrial, **inland water,** coastal and marine areas, respectively, are conserved.
- **Inland water ecosystems** are key to climate mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction and their improved condition is necessary to provide vital connectivity between all ecosystems through their physical, chemical and ecological processes.











