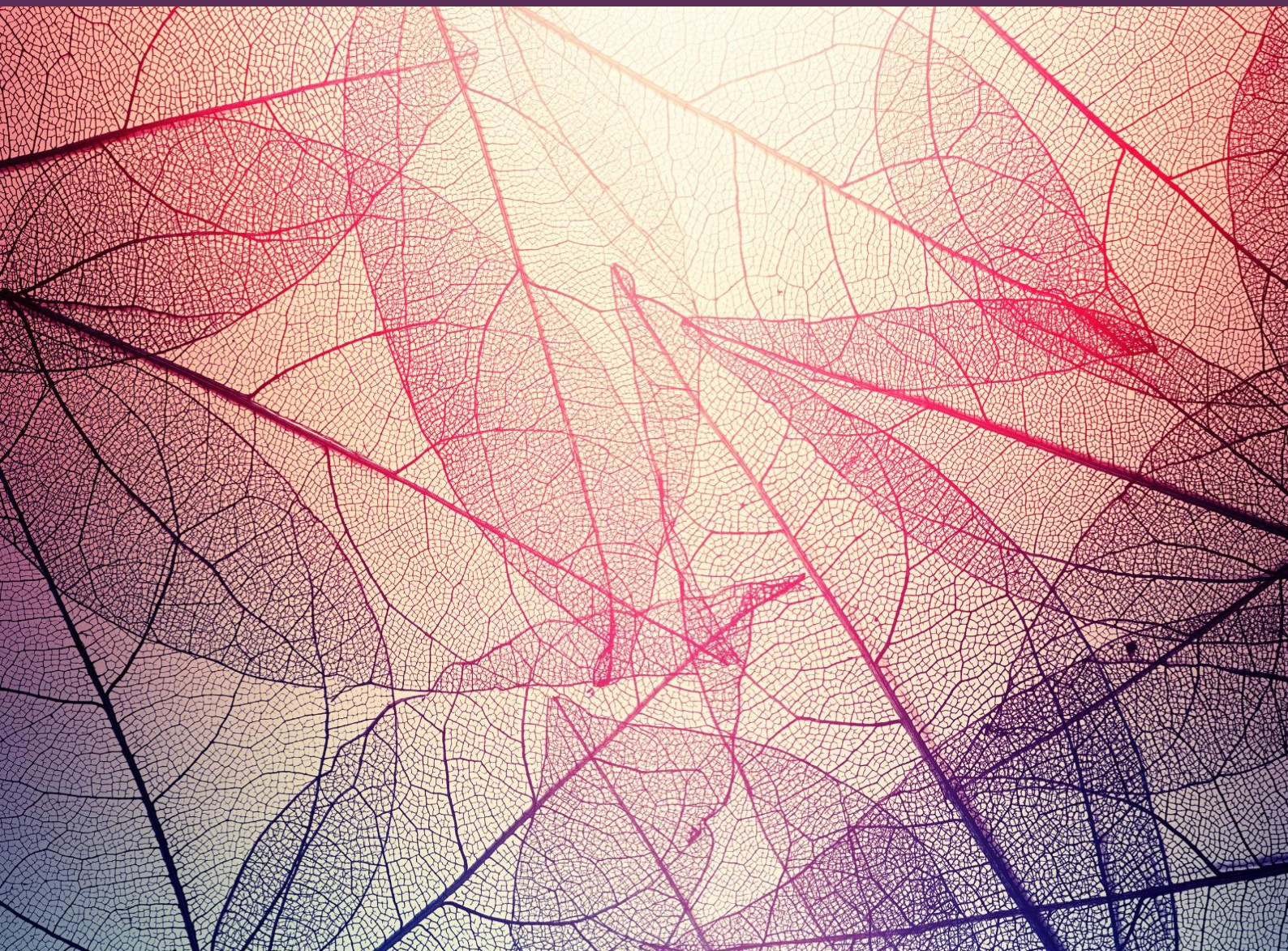


Pathways for transformative change: Applying the Global Biodiversity Framework's 'Considerations'

To accompany: Hutchinson et al 2024 (preprint). Pathways for transformative change in biodiversity politics: Examining the significance of the Global Biodiversity Framework's 'Considerations'. <https://bit.ly/GBFSectC>



The Global Biodiversity Framework's 'Considerations' introduce holistic and rights-based approaches that can pave the way for meaningful transformative changes in biodiversity governance.

Genuine engagement with the ecocentric 'Considerations' can support the CBD's vision of 'living in harmony with nature'. Here are suggestions for strengthening the incorporation of ecocentric, holistic, and collaborative approaches when implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The 'Considerations' in focus

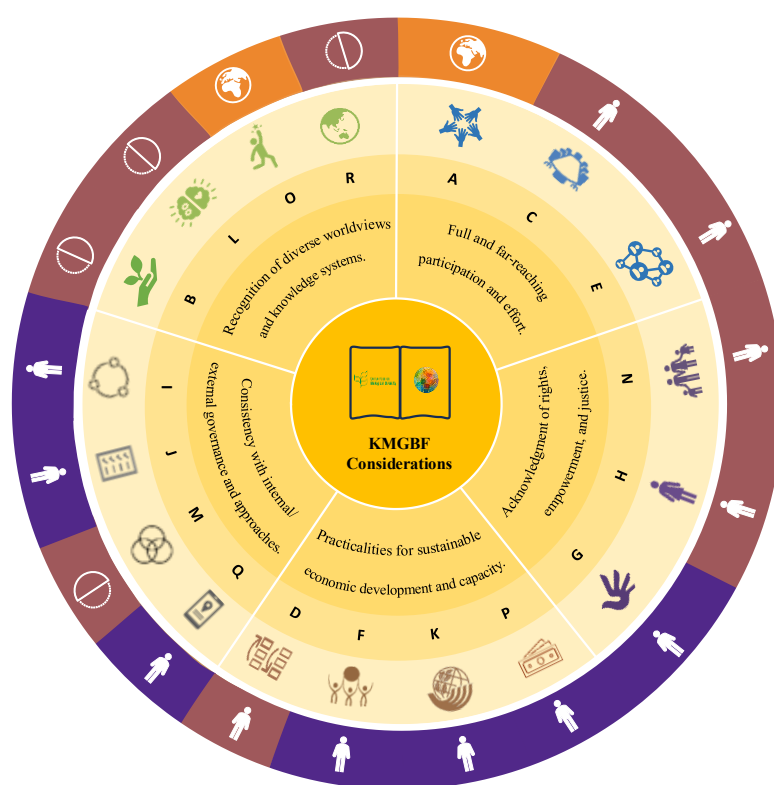
The 18 Considerations in the Global Biodiversity Framework introduce diverse values and worldviews and encourage a greater recognition of holistic and ecocentric (nature-centred) perspectives throughout the implementation and evaluation of the Framework.

Many Considerations focus on operational issues (D, F, J, I, K, M, P, Q) and are structured by Western and anthropocentric values and knowledges. Considerations with the most potential for transformative change (A, B, C, E, G, H, L, N, O, R) introduce broader values and worldviews and are attentive to issues of rights, justice, and empowerment.

How ecocentric approaches can support transformative change

Ecocentric perspectives invite a recognition that humans are interrelated with, not separate from, nature. These approaches acknowledge the Rights of Mother Earth and the Rights of Nature and encourage a move away from short-term, market-driven, and anthropocentric approaches that may compromise the vision and mission of the Framework.

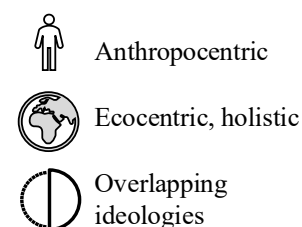
Core themes, knowledge foundations, and values underpinning the Framework's 'Considerations'



Knowledge foundations



Underpinning values



Further reading:

- For more on ecocentrism and ecojustice: 'The need for ecocentrism in biodiversity conservation', Taylor et al. 2020; 'Foregrounding ecojustice in conservation', Washington et al. 2018
- For more on the Rights of Nature: 'Harmony with Nature: towards a new deep legal pluralism', Dancer, 2020. *Eco Jurisprudence Monitor*, 2024
- For more on Indigenous knowledge, rights, and justice: 'Transforming biodiversity governance? Indigenous peoples' contributions to the Convention on Biological Diversity'. Parks & Tsioumani, 2023; 'Weaving knowledge systems in IPBES, CBD and beyond – lessons learned for sustainability', Tengö et al 2017.

Transformative changes are needed in the values held and expressed towards nature in political, economic, and social spheres.

Western and anthropocentric perspectives appear to have strongly influenced the shaping of the Framework's Goals and Targets. **More-of-the-same, business-as-usual policies, and growth-based economic systems are no longer tenable solutions for planetary crises.** The following actions can support the integration of the more ecocentric Considerations in biodiversity governance.

Recommendations



1. MOBILISE and PRIORITISE

Develop multilateral networks across government and society that embed community and Indigenous voices in both formal and informal meetings and ensure that these groups have the power to inform decision making.



2. TRANSLATE and BUILD

Target resources to support broad discussions and pluralist dialogue between state, non-state, and other interested parties to develop common understandings of ecocentric concepts and encourage reflexive learning.



3. NEGOTIATE and FACILITATE

Encourage continued dialogue between holders of different knowledge and values at international, country, and local levels to facilitate mutually respectful approaches and enable complementary perspectives to emerge.



4. SYNTHESISE and EXPAND

Co-produce a common frame of knowledge and values that encourages innovation. Develop training and knowledge sharing across the CBD and broader policy landscape to share these new common perspectives.



5. APPLY and EVALUATE

Develop reporting and evaluating mechanisms that set benchmarks for how biodiversity plans incorporate these new, holistic, and ecocentric perspectives into policy and action. These tools and mechanisms can support the CBD and wider community to generate pools of practical knowledge, reconcile tensions, and share successes on the integration of new perspectives.

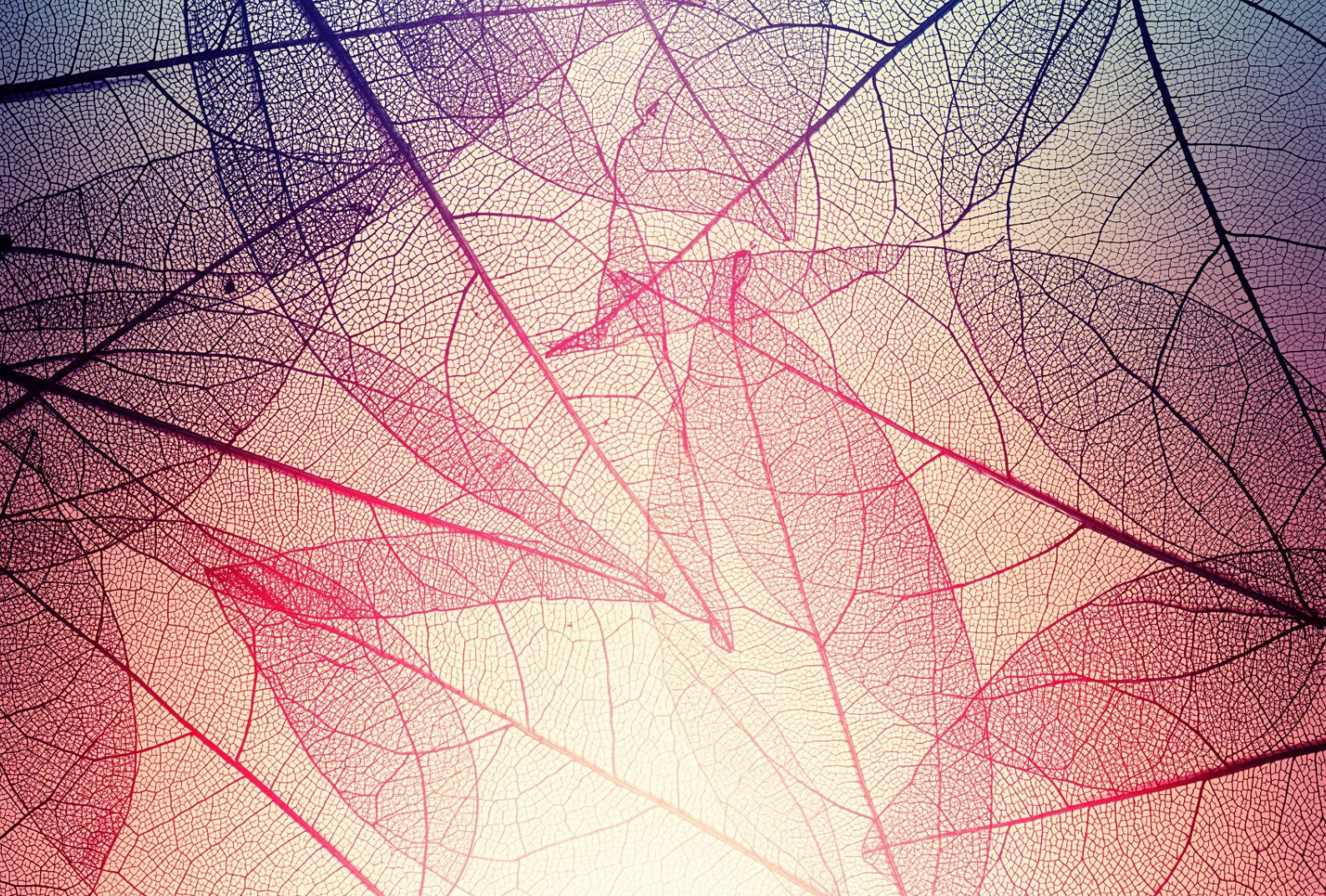
See our publication for a more complete overview of the opportunities presented in the Considerations and our thoughts on implementation tools – follow the QR code on the cover page.

Have your say:

Please share your views on the incorporation of diverse values, worldviews, perspectives by completing this short survey:

<https://bit.ly/GBFCConsiderations>





This briefing document summarises an upcoming publication authored by Dr Alison Hutchinson, Professor Anthony Zito, and Professor Philip McGowan (Newcastle University, UK)



About the authors



Dr Alison Hutchinson is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Newcastle University where she works with the IUCN Species Survival Commission Global Biodiversity Framework Task Force to support the implementation of the species-related goals and targets (specifically Goal A and Target 4). Her research interests include green criminology, political ecology, and species conservation.



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