



OECMs for Achieving KMGBF 2022 Targets

For Prelims: [Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures \(OECMs\)](#), [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#), [World Commission on Protected Areas](#), [World Wildlife Fund](#), [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework \(KMGBF\)](#), [UN Environment Programme](#), [Biodiversity](#), [Protected Area](#), [Savannah](#), [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), [Invasive Alien Species](#).

For Mains: Role of other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) in achieving Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) 2022.

Source: [IUCN](#)

Why in News?

A new report titled “[Guidance on other effective area-based conservation measures \(OECMs\)](#)” has been released by the [IUCN](#), [World Commission on Protected Areas \(WCPA\)](#) and [WWF](#).

- The **guidelines, with case studies**, focus on conserving land, water, and marine areas to achieve GBF Target 3 of the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework \(KMGBF\) 2022](#) to conserve 30% of these areas by 2030.

What are OECMs?

- **About OECMs:** An **OECM** is defined as a **geographically defined area** that is not a protected area, but is governed and managed to achieve **positive, sustained, long-term outcomes** for the **in situ conservation of biodiversity**.
 - These areas conserve **ecosystem functions and services**, including cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, or other local values.
 - e.g., **Agricultural lands, forests for timber** etc.
- **Criteria for Identifying OECMs:**



▪ **Key Characteristics:**

- **Not a Protected Area:** OECMs aren't formal [protected areas \(PAs\)](#) but contribute to biodiversity conservation.
- **Governance Flexibility:** OECMs can be managed by **governments, private groups, Indigenous peoples, or local communities**.
- **Multiple Objectives:** OECMs may focus on goals like **water management or agriculture, with biodiversity conservation** as a secondary benefit.
- **Sustained Conservation:** OECMs must ensure long-term **in-situ biodiversity conservation** through effective governance and management.
- **Voluntary Identification:** Identifying a site as an OECM is **voluntary** and **requires the governing authority's agreement**.

▪ **Significance:** OECMs recognize **vital sites for biodiversity** that aren't formally protected.

- OECMs **expand the global conserved areas network**, boosting biodiversity coverage without strict formalities.

▪ **Case Studies:**

- **Los Amigos Conservation Area:** It is located in the **Los Amigos watershed, Peru** and supports **12 globally threatened species, 12 primate species, and over 550 bird species**.

- **Wits Rural Facility:** It is situated in **South Africa** and is mostly managed to maintain intact **savannah** and **river habitats**.
- **North Tyndal Protected Water Area:** It is located in **Nova Scotia, Canada** for biodiversity conservation by maintaining **native vegetation** and prohibiting **harmful land uses**.
- **OECMs in India:**



Map of OECMs in India



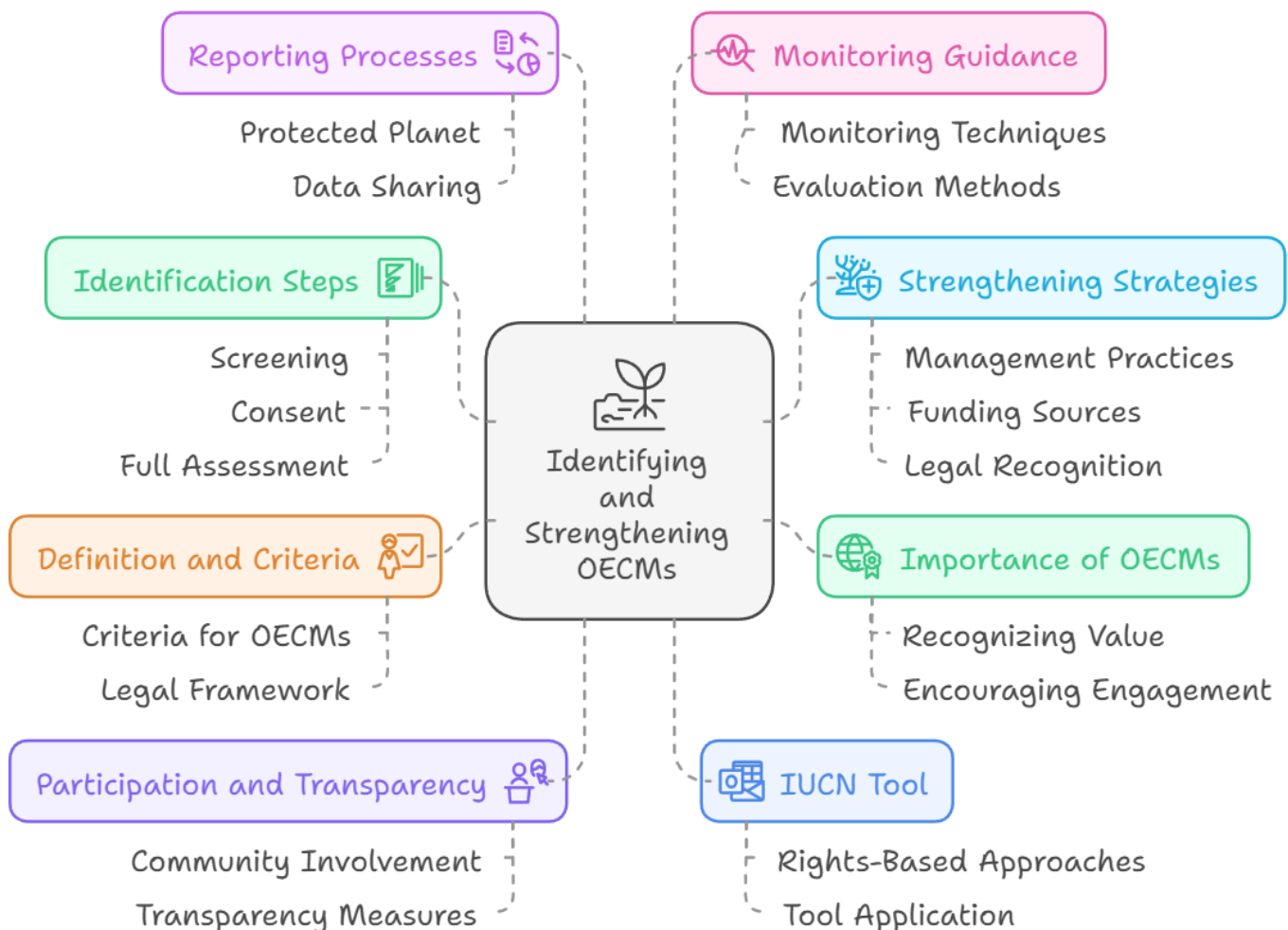
▪ Difference Between OECMs from PAs:

Aspect	Protected Areas (PAs)	Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures
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		(OECMs)
Definition	Area dedicated to long-term conservation of nature.	Site conserving biodiversity, but not necessarily as the primary goal.
Primary Objective	Focus on biodiversity , ecosystem services, and cultural values.	Biodiversity as a secondary or incidental outcome.
Legal Recognition	Formally recognized and legally protected.	Voluntary, may lack formal protection.
Role in Conservation Networks	Core of conservation networks , vital for long-term protection.	Complements PAs , enhancing ecological connectivity.
Conservation Outcome	Strict regulations for biodiversity protection.	May support biodiversity , but not focused on conservation.
Complementary Role	Central to achieving conservation targets (e.g., 30% by 2030).	Enhances ecological representation and connectivity.

What are Eight Sections Containing Guidelines for OECMs?

Framework for Identifying and Strengthening OECMs



What is KMGBF 2022?

- **About:** Adopted at **CoP 15 (Montreal, Canada)** in December 2022, it aims to **halt and reverse global biodiversity loss by 2030**.

- It supports the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) and builds upon the **achievements and lessons** learned from the **Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**.
- **Objectives:** It includes **23 action-oriented global targets** for urgent action by 2030, aiming to **restore at least 30%** of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and marine **ecosystems**.
 - This target refers to **global efforts, not** a requirement for **each country** to **allocate 30% of its land and water**.
- **Future Outlook:** The framework envisions a **collective commitment** to **living in harmony with nature by 2050**, guiding current actions and policies on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.



CBD COP15

The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 1993 - a legally binding treaty to conserve biodiversity

CBD Conference of Parties is the Governing body of the Convention



MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

COP 1 (1994)

- ▶ Nassau, Bahamas
- ▶ Proposed 29 December as International Day for Biological Diversity

EXCOP 1

- ▶ 1st extraordinary meeting of UN CBD COP
- ▶ At Cartagena, Colombia (Feb 1999) & Montreal, Canada (Jan 2000)
- ▶ Adoption of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

COP 6 (2002)

- ▶ The Hague, Netherlands
- ▶ Global Taxonomy Initiative, Global Strategy for Plant Conservation adopted

COP 5 (2000)

- ▶ Nairobi, Kenya
- ▶ UNGA adopted 22 May as International Day for Biological Diversity

COP 10 (2010)

- ▶ Nagoya, Japan
- ▶ Nagoya Protocol (Access to Genetic Resources and Fair & Equitable Sharing of Benefits) adopted
- ▶ Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-20 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- ▶ GBO 3

COP 8 (2006)

- ▶ Curitiba, Brazil
- ▶ Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO) Report 2 (GBO 1 in 2001)

COP 11 (2012)

- ▶ Hyderabad, India

COP 14

- ▶ Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt

PHASE-I

- ▶ Theme - Ecological Civilization: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth

- ▶ Held in Kunming, China (October 2021)

- ▶ Kunming Biodiversity Fund

COP
15

PHASE-II

- ▶ Held in Montreal, Canada

- ▶ Adopted Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework - 4 goals & 23 targets to be achieved by 2030.

- ▶ 30 by 30 Target - restore 30% degraded ecosystems and protect at least 30% of the world's lands, oceans and coastal areas by 2030

- ▶ No single country met all 20 Aichi targets (expired in 2020) within its own borders



Drishti IAS

Note: CBD COP-16 took place in **Cali, Colombia** in 2024 with the theme "**Peace with Nature**".

- India launched the **updated [National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan \(NBSAP\)](#)** at **COP 16** to the CBD aligning with the KMGBF.
- **Cali Fund** was established to ensure **[fair and equitable sharing of benefits](#)** from the use of **[digital sequence information \(DSI\)](#)** on genetic resources.

What is India's Biodiversity Target Under KMGBF?

- **Conservation Areas:** Aim to **conserve 30%** of areas to enhance biodiversity.
- **Invasive Species:** Target a **50% reduction** in **[invasive alien species](#)**.
- **Rights and Participation:** Ensure the involvement of **indigenous peoples, local communities, women, and youth** in conservation.
- **Sustainable Consumption:** Promote sustainable consumption and **cut food waste by half**.
- **Benefit Sharing:** Encourage **fair sharing of benefits from genetic resources** and **[traditional knowledge](#)**.
- **Pollution Reduction:** Reduce pollution, **halving nutrient loss** and pesticide risk.
- **Biodiversity Planning:** Manage areas to **prevent loss of high biodiversity regions**.

IUCN

- Created in **1948**, IUCN is the **world's largest and most diverse environmental network**.
- IUCN is a membership union composed of over **1,400 organizations**, including both **government and civil society** groups.
- IUCN is a **leading provider of conservation data, assessments, and analysis**, offering tools and knowledge to support global environmental efforts.
- It prepares the **[IUCN Red Data Book](#)** (now known as the **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species**) in which species are classified into categories based on their risk of extinction e.g., Critically Endangered, Endangered etc.

IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

- It is the world's leading network of expertise on protected and conserved areas, with over **2,500 members** across **140 countries**.
- It offers strategic advice to policymakers on **establishing, managing, and strengthening protected areas**.

WWF

- **WWF**, founded in **1961**, is an **international NGO** focused on environmental conservation and protecting **vulnerable species and ecosystems**.
- Its mission is to **halt environmental degradation** and create a future where humans live in harmony with nature.

Conclusion

The release of the **OECD** guidelines by **IUCN and WWF** supports the **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**, aiming to **conserve 30% of land, waters, and marine areas** by 2030. India's biodiversity targets align with global goals to **enhance conservation, reduce invasive species, and promote sustainable consumption**.

Drishti Mains Question:

What are Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs). How are they different from Protected Areas?

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

Prelims

Q. “Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now” is an initiative launched by (2018)

- (a) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- (b) The UNEP Secretariat
- (c) The UNFCCC Secretariat
- (d) The World Meteorological Organisation

Ans: (c)

Mains

Q. Define the concept of carrying capacity of an ecosystem as relevant to an environment. Explain how understanding this concept is vital while planning for sustainable development of a region. (2019)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/oecms-for-achieving-kmgbf-2022-targets>