

Weaving together SDG 16 and the human right to a healthy environment with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

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**Nexus Dialogue Biodiversity Mainstreaming
in the context of Human Security, 2nd May 2018**

Biodiversity, Healthy Ecosystems and Human Rights Law



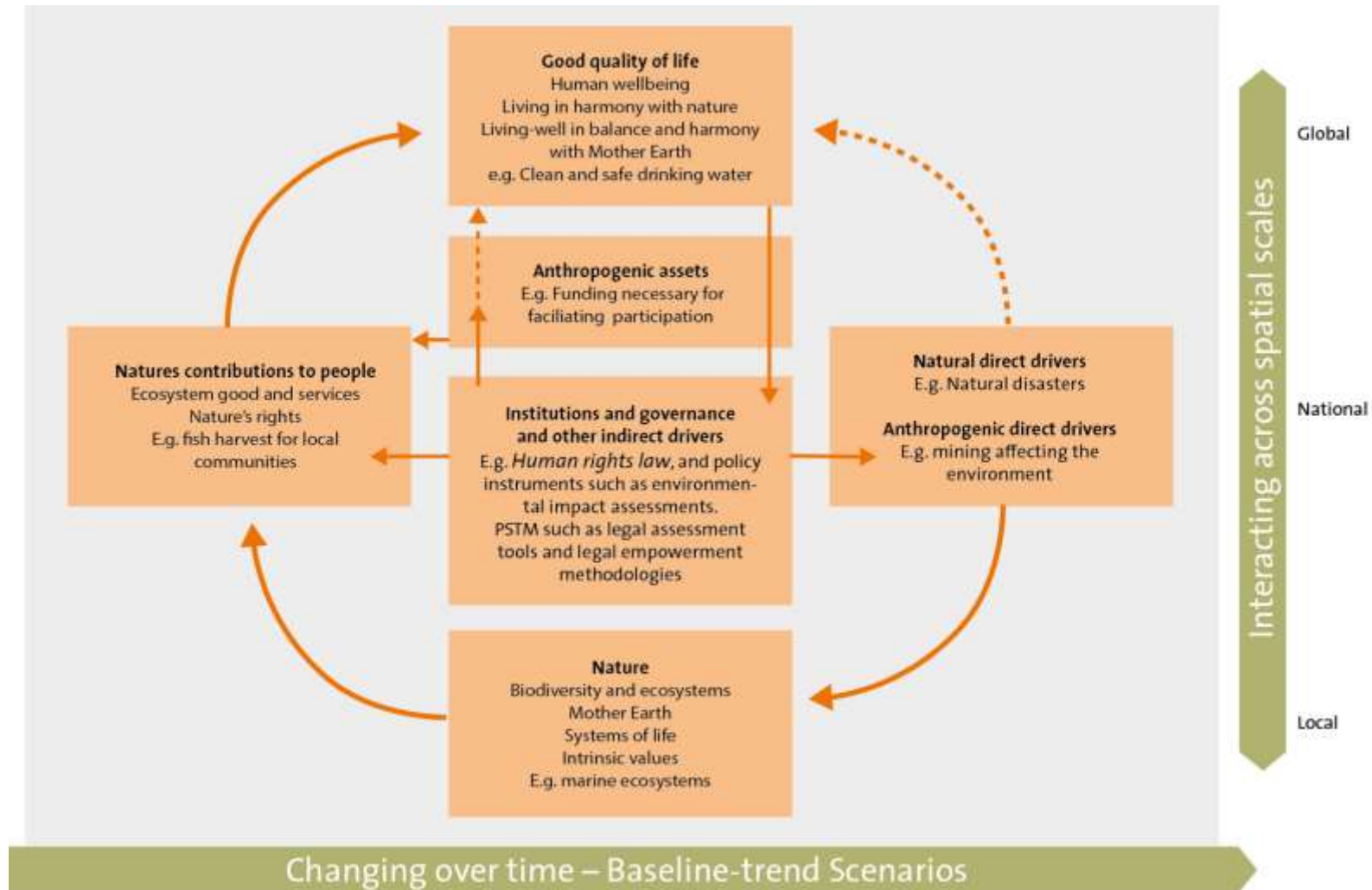
Photo: Micheline Pelletier/Corbis

Biodiversity, Healthy Ecosystems and Human Rights



Photo credit: Lisa Merton

Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Conceptual Framework and Human Rights



Biodiversity underpins healthy ecosystems: vital for a thriving future for people and nature



Frontline environmental defenders are critical for Nature's Contributions to People

Environmental human rights defenders are
“risking their today for our tomorrow”

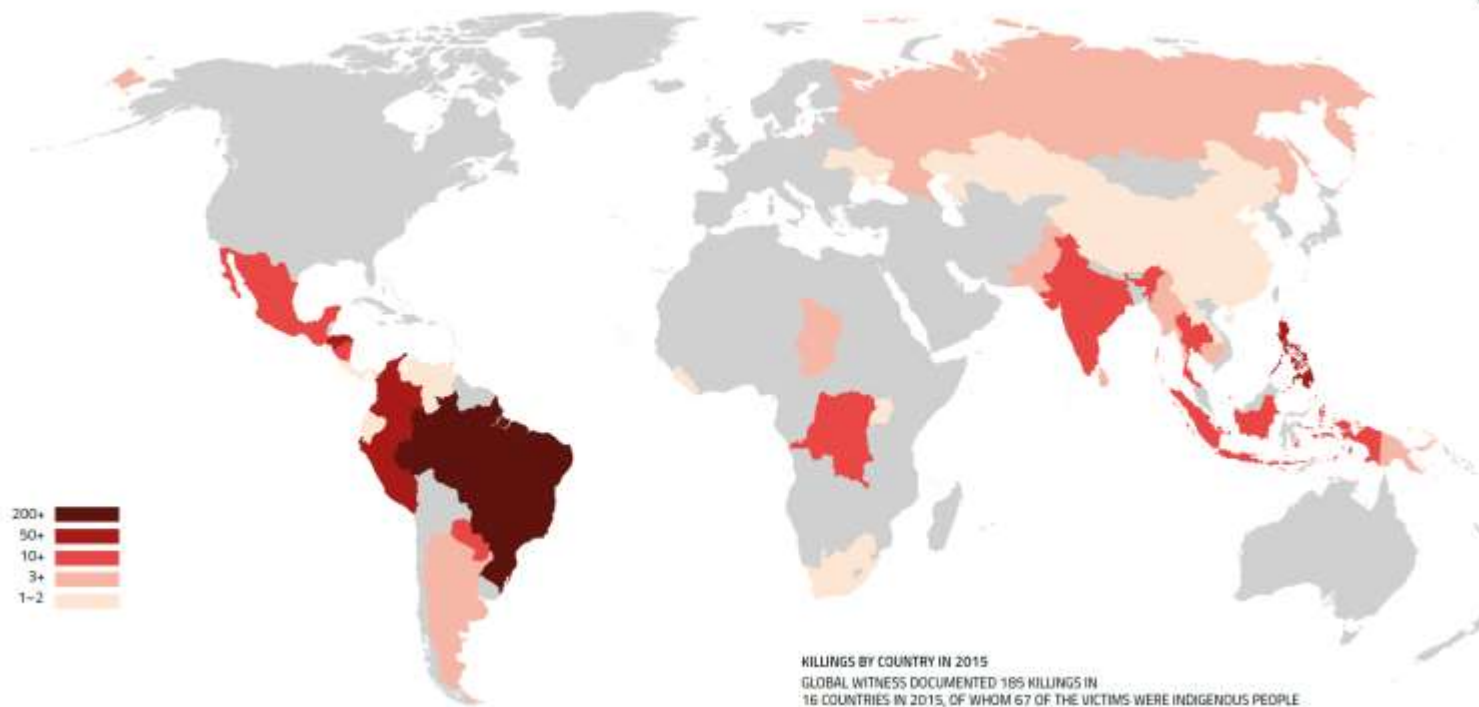
John Knox (2017), UN special rapporteur on human rights and the environment.

Environmental defenders voice interests of their communities but also of others who are voiceless namely plants, animals and future generations

Ituarte-Lima 2018

Crises faced by environmental human rights defenders

Killings by Country 2010-2015



Source: Global Witness 2016

Highlighting the human face of the biodiversity and human rights nexus



Photo: Ecowatch

Human rights may be local in direct manifestations yet an outcome of multi-level complex dynamics



Photo: UNDP Surinam

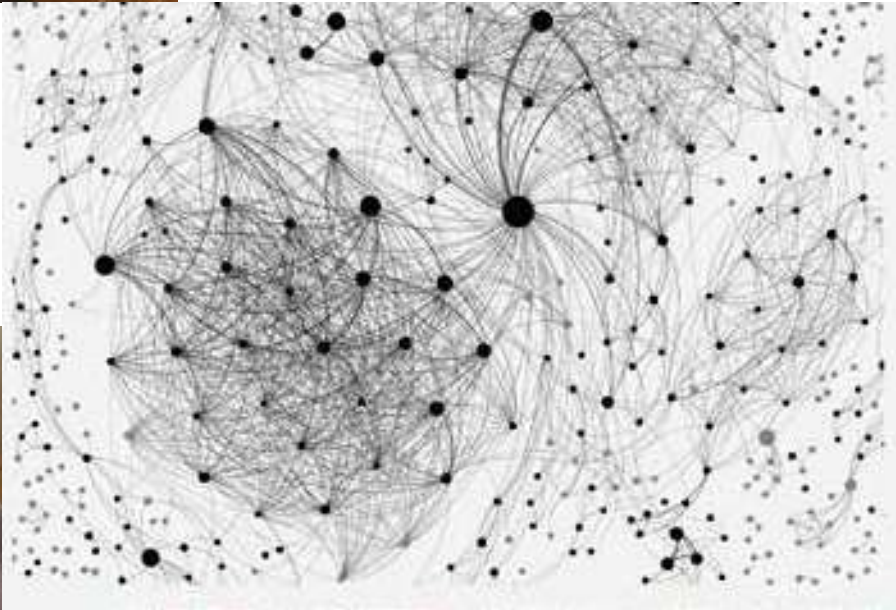


Image: Galaz et al 2015



Frontline environmental defenders are critical for Nature's Contributions to People

“This is not just about indigenous communities, the poor or the marginalized. This is about everyone...



Phyllis Omido, 2015 (Photo: Goldman Environmental Prize)

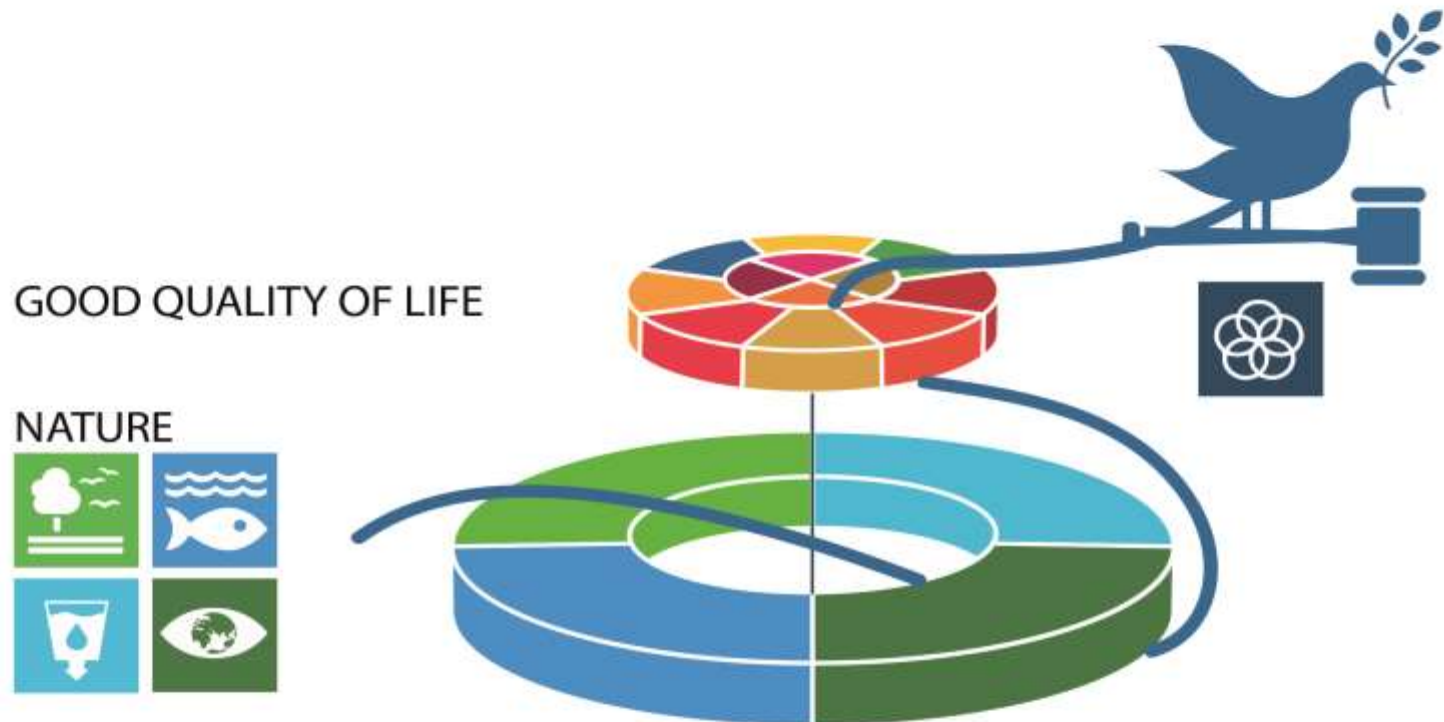
More and more people
are using the law to
challenge those who
violate environmental
rights”
Phyllis Omido



Sustainable Development Goal 16 and the global recognition of the human right to a healthy environment

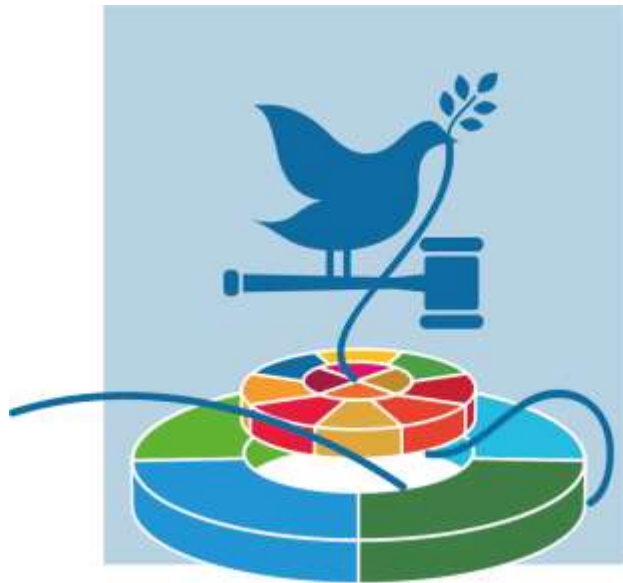
Human rights principles	Agenda 2030 & SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions
Indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness	“10. The new Agenda ...is grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights treaties...” The SDGs “seek to realize the human rights of all ...They are integrated and indivisible...”
Equality and non-discrimination	16.b Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development
Participation and inclusion	16.7 Responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels 16.10 Public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms
Accountability and the rule of law	16.3 Rule of law at the national and international levels and equal access to justice for all 16.5 Reduction of corruption and bribery in all their forms 16.6 Effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

Sustainable Development Goal 16 and the global recognition of the human right to a healthy environment



Source: ituarte-Lima et al 2018; Rocktrom et al. Illustration: Azote

Peer to peer Dialogue & policy report



Weaving SDG 16 and human rights law with the post 2020 global biodiversity framework

28-31 May 2018, KENYA

*Sharing outputs and continued dialogue in key international
legal/policy processes*

SDG 16, the right to a healthy environment and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

The global recognition of a human right to a healthy environment & a stand alone target mirroring SDG16 and cross-cutting human rights dimensions in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework could:

- empower different *right holders* to exercise rights to benefit from and contribute to biodiversity and healthy ecosystems
 - enhance capacities of *duty bearers* to respect, protect and fulfil human rights in the context of interconnected global dynamics
 - enhance the capacities of *duty bearers* and *right holders* to work together to be a positive force for safeguarding life support systems on which humanity depends.
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Thank you for your attention!

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