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### Biodiversity & Conservation:

#### Recent Developments in Biodiversity & Conservation

Recent developments in biodiversity and conservation on September 11, 2025, focus on international collaboration, new funding mechanisms, and the increasing role of technology. A key theme is the ongoing implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

#### Key Highlights

**Global Funding:** The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has opened a new tranche of funding, making an additional \$161.8 million available through the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF). This funding is specifically aimed at helping countries, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), implement their national biodiversity strategies. The first selection round for this tranche closes on September 12, 2025.

**Research & Restoration:** The European partnership Biodiversa+ has launched a new research call called "BiodivConnect" with a budget of approximately EUR 40 million. This initiative will support research focused on restoring the functioning, integrity, and connectivity of ecosystems, aligning with the EU's Nature Restoration Law.

**International Events:** The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is currently holding a meeting of the Ad Hoc Scientific and Technical Advisory Group to prepare a report on collective progress in implementing the

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. This meeting runs from September 9 to September 23, 2025. Additionally, the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme is hosting a symposium on September 11, 2025, to discuss how research from biosphere reserves can help catalyze biodiversity conservation and social transformation.

**Ethical Conservation:** A recent commentary highlights a critical discussion within the conservation community, arguing that traditional approaches often fail to include and empower African communities. The piece emphasizes the need to invest in reconciliation and to build new conservation visions anchored in the diversity and knowledge of local populations, rather than relying on a militarized approach. This aligns with a broader trend of giving indigenous and local communities a more prominent role in biodiversity policy.

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particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), implement their national biodiversity strategies."

**2: What is the main objective of the new research call, "BiodivConnect," launched by the European partnership Biodiversa+?**

- A) To develop new methods for tracking endangered species.
- B) To support research on ecosystem restoration, functioning, integrity, and connectivity.
- C) To fund ethical conservation projects in Africa.
- D) To promote sustainable tourism in natural reserves.

**Answer: B)**

The passage indicates that the "BiodivConnect" research call will "support research focused on restoring the functioning, integrity, and connectivity of ecosystems."

## MCQS

**1.The Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) has made a new tranche of funding available. What is the primary purpose of this funding?**

- A) To establish new wildlife sanctuaries.
- B) To assist Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in implementing their national biodiversity strategies.
- C) To support research on new conservation technologies.
- D) To fund international conferences on biodiversity.

**Answer: B)**

The passage states that the funding from the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) "is specifically aimed at helping countries,

**3: What is the purpose of the ongoing meeting of the Ad Hoc Scientific and Technical Advisory Group of the Convention on Biological Diversity?**

- A) To secure new funding for biodiversity projects.
- B) To prepare a report on collective progress in implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
- C) To discuss the role of indigenous communities in conservation.
- D) To launch a new biodiversity research initiative.

**Answer: B)**

The text specifies that the group is meeting "to prepare a report on collective progress in implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework."







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**4: What is a key argument made in a recent commentary regarding traditional conservation approaches?**

- A) They are too reliant on advanced technology.
- B) They often fail to include and empower African communities.
- C) They prioritize research over practical implementation.
- D) They are not aligned with the goals of the EU Nature Restoration Law.

**Answer: B)**

The passage highlights a commentary that "arguing that traditional approaches often fail to include and empower African communities." The commentary advocates for new conservation visions anchored in the knowledge of local populations.

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