



**NORDIC
NATURE
NETWORK**

Nordic network for ambitious nature municipalities and biosphere reserves

TURNING GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY GOALS INTO LOCAL ACTION

Municipalities play a central role in translating biodiversity ambitions into practice. Through land-use planning, nature restoration, citizen engagement and everyday governance, municipalities shape how biodiversity is addressed locally.

The Nordic Network for Ambitious Nature Municipalities and Biosphere Reserves brings together municipalities, UNESCO Biosphere Reserves, researchers and international organisations as IUCN to strengthen local implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF). Building on the MAB-LAB collaboration with the Nordic Council of Ministers, the network creates a shared Nordic platform for learning, experimentation and collaboration.

STRENGTHENING LOCAL AGENCY

The project focuses local agency: the ability of municipalities to understand biodiversity challenges, mobilise resources, collaborate across sectors and governance levels, and turn ambitions into action. Agency develops through knowledge, organisational capacity, political priorities, resources, collaboration and access to practical tools. The network strengthens these conditions through shared learning, local experimentation and approaches that can be used in municipal practice.

WHAT THE NETWORK DELIVERS

The network connects **15-20 ambitious municipalities and biosphere reserves** through peer learning, thematic working groups and capacity-building activities.

Together, the partners will:

- **Translate the KMGBF into local practice**
Develop practical ways of integrating global biodiversity goals into municipal planning, management and decision-making.
- **Develop a Nordic indicator framework**
Create indicators that support monitoring, learning, governance and evidence-based decision-making.
- **Test new approaches through local pilots**
Run around six pilot projects exploring biodiversity governance, participation, planning and implementation.
- **Share knowledge across the Nordic region**
Develop case studies, policy briefs, recommendations and a final Nordic conference.

The project is an iterative learning process in which approaches are developed, tested and refined together with the network partners.

PUTTING INDICATORS TO WORK

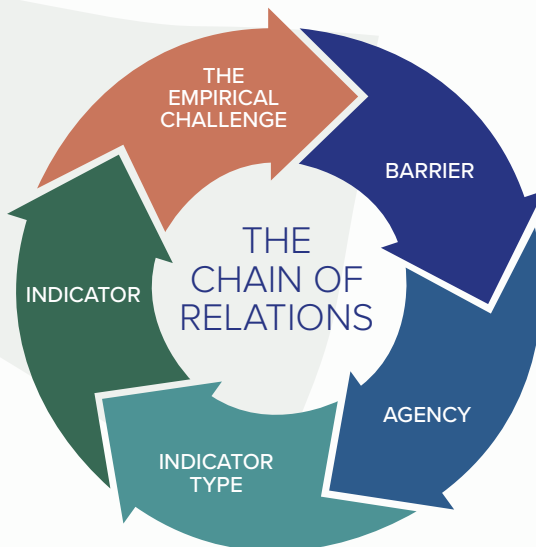
Indicators are one of the practical tools used to strengthen local biodiversity work. They help make challenges visible, create a shared knowledge base, support dialogue and provide a stronger foundation for priorities and decisions. The project works with four complementary types of indicators:

- **Outcome** Are habitats and species improving?
- **Pressure** What pressures affect biodiversity?
- **Response** What actions are being implemented?
- **Governance** How is biodiversity integrated into policies, budgets and decision-making?

The indicator framework supports learning, collaboration, monitoring and action. It will be developed and refined together with the network partners.

FROM CHALLENGES TO ACTION

The network uses a shared learning framework:



The framework connects concrete biodiversity challenges with the conditions that shape municipalities' ability to act. By identifying barriers, the agency required and the information needed, municipalities can develop more targeted approaches and strengthen learning across the network. The framework works as a learning cycle in which experience continuously informs priorities, collaboration and future action.

MEMBERS OF THE NETWORK



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**Nordic Council
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