



*Genetic Nature
Observation & Action*

GENOA News & Views

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Dear GENOA community members,

this edition of the News & Views brings you:

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The new episode of the GENOA comic series

Gene-Force is back!

In *The Boat Without a Compass*, our heroes face a challenging question: how can we protect nature if we do not know which populations are best equipped to survive future environmental changes? Join the Gene-Force team as they uncover how genetic information can guide conservation efforts and help safeguard biodiversity for generations to come.

The new episode is the results of a VMG grant awarded to WG5 member, Adi Habul.

[Click here](#) to read the new episode.

GENOA's WG2/WG3 joint workshop

GENOA's WG2/WG3 joint workshop on Ne/Nc ratios and genetic indicators in the wild-to-domesticated continuum took place on July 23 and 24 in the Herman Teirlinck Building Brussels. Thirty participants, led by Joachim Mergeay and Ivan Paz Vinas (WG2) and Alicia Mastretta-Yanes and Ana Wegier (WG3) worked in two groups and held short plenary sessions to inform on reciprocal progress.

[Click here](#) to read more about the outcomes of this workshop.

GENOA co-organizes the art exhibition

This week, GENOA is co-organizing the art exhibition **Evolving Narratives** at the **7th European Conservation Genetics Meeting** at ZOO Antwerp, Belgium.



The exhibition will feature works by **nine artists**, accompanied by artist talks that bring artistic perspectives into conversation with conservation genetics.

Evolving Narratives aims to create an intersection between science and art—reminding us that discussions of genetic diversity and conservation are not only about models, data, and measurements, but also about **how people understand, experience, and respond to change and adaptation**.

Looking forward to seeing these different perspectives meet in Antwerp.

Click [here](#) to view the exhibition.

Summary report from SBSTTA 28 and SBI 7

The 28th Meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 28) and 7th Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 7) convened from 27 July – 1 August and 4–12 August 2026, respectively, at the UN Office in Nairobi, attracting more than 1,000 delegates and observers.

As published in Earth Negotiations Bulletin, SBSTTA 28 outcomes included recommendations on:

- Marine and coastal biodiversity, including ecologically or biologically significant marine areas;
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) assessments and biodiversity and business;
- Sustainable wildlife management;
- Programme of Work on Protected Areas and ecological connectivity; and
- Synthetic biology thematic action plan.

SBI 7 outcomes included recommendations on:

- Review of implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
- Synthetic biology;

- Communication, education and public awareness;
- Capacity-building and development, including the long-term strategic framework;
- Technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer;
- Biodiversity mainstreaming;
- Resource mobilization;
- Financial mechanism;
- Subnational governments, cities, and local authorities;
- Multilateral Mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information, including the Cali Fund; and
- Review of implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

To read full summary report and to see other coverage from SBSTTA 28 and SBI 7 published in Earth Negotiations Bulletin, click [here](#).

DECODING THE CBD

Learn your CBD ABCs

We're counting down the days until CBD COP17 in Yerevan, Armenia, and it's time to crack the CBD code! New to biodiversity policy? We'll help you decode the jargon. Already fluent in CBD-speak? Put your knowledge to the test. In this section, we explain some of the most common acronyms found in CBD documents.

- **MOP - Meeting of the Parties**

The **Meeting of the Parties (MOP)** is a governing body that meets annually for negotiations, particularly in the context of environmental agreements. It is equivalent to the Conference of the Parties (COP) and is responsible for reviewing the implementation of protocols and making necessary decisions to promote effective implementation. In practice, there is a tendency within environment negotiating fora to use "Conference of the Parties" for the conventions and "Meeting of the Parties" for the protocols (e.g., Nagoya Protocol MOP - NP-MOP). The MOP comprises all parties to the relevant agreement and may include other states and organizations as observers.

- **MEAs - Multilateral Environmental Agreements**

Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) are agreements (treaties, conventions, or protocols) between three or more states that assist with addressing specific environmental problems at national, regional and global levels. According to the [United Nations Environment Programme \(UNEP\)](#), which administers many of these treaties, MEAs are the main legal tools that nations use to regulate shared environmental challenges under international law.

These kinds of environmental issues require multilateral action in order to be effective, and MEAs set out the rules describing what each country is expected to do. There are more than 250 such

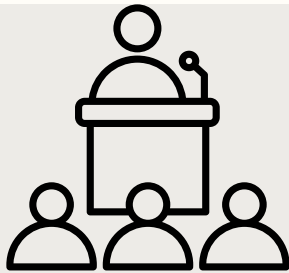
agreements in force today. The best known MEAs are those that deal with global problems, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Kyoto Protocol and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

- **CRP - Conference Room Paper**

Before the meetings, official pre-session document, prepared by the SBSTTA bureau or the Convention secretariat for the Parties, is available in all six official UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish). This document becomes a plenary document in several successive formats, first of which is CRP.

CRP is a category of in-session documents (documents distributed during a meeting) containing new proposals or outcomes of in-session work for use only during the session. These are versions amended by the Parties, possibly with sticking points marked by square brackets in the text. This type of document is usually available on the Secretariat website and is available only in the original language of issue (i.e., it is not translated in all six UN languages).

UPCOMING EVENTS



[7th European Conservation Genetics Meeting](#)

August 26-28, 2026

Antwerp, Belgium



[7th World Conference on Marine Biodiversity](#)

November 17-20, 2026

Bruges, Belgium

Questions?

Reach out to us at genoa.costaction@gmail.com

Are you organizing an event? Did you receive an award? Are you looking for collaborators on a publication? If you have any news or information you'd like to share with the GENOA community, write to us and we will share it.

Email us



GENOA COST ACTION

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