



## **Conclusions and Recommendations**

### **from the International Nature Conference,**

*held in Skopje, 28.10.2025*

#### **Introduction and Context**

The purpose of this document is to formally capture the key takeaways, consensus points, and actionable recommendations arising from the International Nature Conference held on *October 28, 2025*.

The document is aimed at the conference participants, namely Government Ministries (especially Environment, Forestry, Agriculture, Water management, Health, Economy), Parliamentarians, Scientific Institutions, Civil Society Organizations, Donor Community, and experts.

#### **Strategic Conclusions**

**Recognition of the challenge:** The challenges of pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss are deeply interconnected and must be addressed through integrated policy and programmatic interventions, rather than in isolation.

**Synchronized approach:** There is a strong consensus that all stakeholders share the goal of environmental preservation. The immediate priority is to establish a constructive, collaborative dialogue to swiftly determine and implement effective joint solutions.

**Critical Role of Legal and Financial Foundations:** The overarching goals are unachievable without two crucial pillars: the urgent adoption of a new Nature Law and a substantial increase in financial support for nature preservation activities.



## Actionable Recommendations

### A. Policy and Legislation Recommendations

**Legal Framework:** Prioritize and expedite the adoption of the Nature Law. Involve all relevant stakeholders, including institutions, experts, CSOs and protected area managers in the process of drafting. This point was identified as an urgent and necessary foundation for effective regulation and enforcement.

**Scientific Engagement:** Mandate and increase the role of science and scientific institutions (e.g., Hydrobiological Institute, national research organisations) in the drafting and creation of relevant environmental policies. This would ensure policy creation is evidence-based and informed by current conditions.

**Sectoral Integration:** Implement a mechanism for mandatory engagement from "neighboring" Ministries (Agriculture, Health, Economy, Transport, Energy) in environmental policy-making processes. This would address the recognized interconnectedness of environmental issues with human health and economic development.

### B. Institutional and Capacity Recommendations

**Institutional Capacity:** Launch a targeted national capacity building program for all institutions involved in environmental protection, focusing on technical skills, administrative efficiency, and policy implementation. This would address the urgent need for institutional strengthening mentioned by participants.

**Inter-Institutional Cooperation:** Establish formal, permanent platforms for collaboration and continuity between state institutions, scientific organisations, and CSOs to jointly plan and achieve nature conservation goals. This would operationalize the recognized need for constructive dialogue and joint solutions.

**Focus on Field Experience:** Integrate the experiences and lessons learned from National Parks and other field practitioners directly into institutional practices and policy design. This would leverage practical, on-the-ground knowledge identified as highly valuable.



### C. Future Engagement and Dialogue Recommendations

**Establish the International Nature Conference** as an annual event and conduct more frequent, focused panel discussions throughout the year on specific environmental topics. This would address the strong desire for continuity and sustained dialogue.

**Ensure future conference agendas include a variety of sessions** on the Impact of nature conservation on human health, the economy and different sectors including the analysis of the "cost of not doing." This would respond directly to strong demand for these specific, high-level discussion topics expressed by participants.

**Actively invite and secure participation** from a wide variety of experts in the areas of economic development, health, transport, energy etc. as well as specialists from previous/ongoing relevant initiatives to ensure a balanced and comprehensive perspective. This would ensure that future discussions integrate the sectoral dimensions in nature conservation and vice versa.

### Next Steps and Dissemination

- **Dissemination:** The full text of these conclusions and recommendations will be distributed to all conference participants and key government offices
- **Follow-Up:** A theme specific event will be organized in early 2026 to address the recommendation for integrating other sectors in nature conservation efforts.