



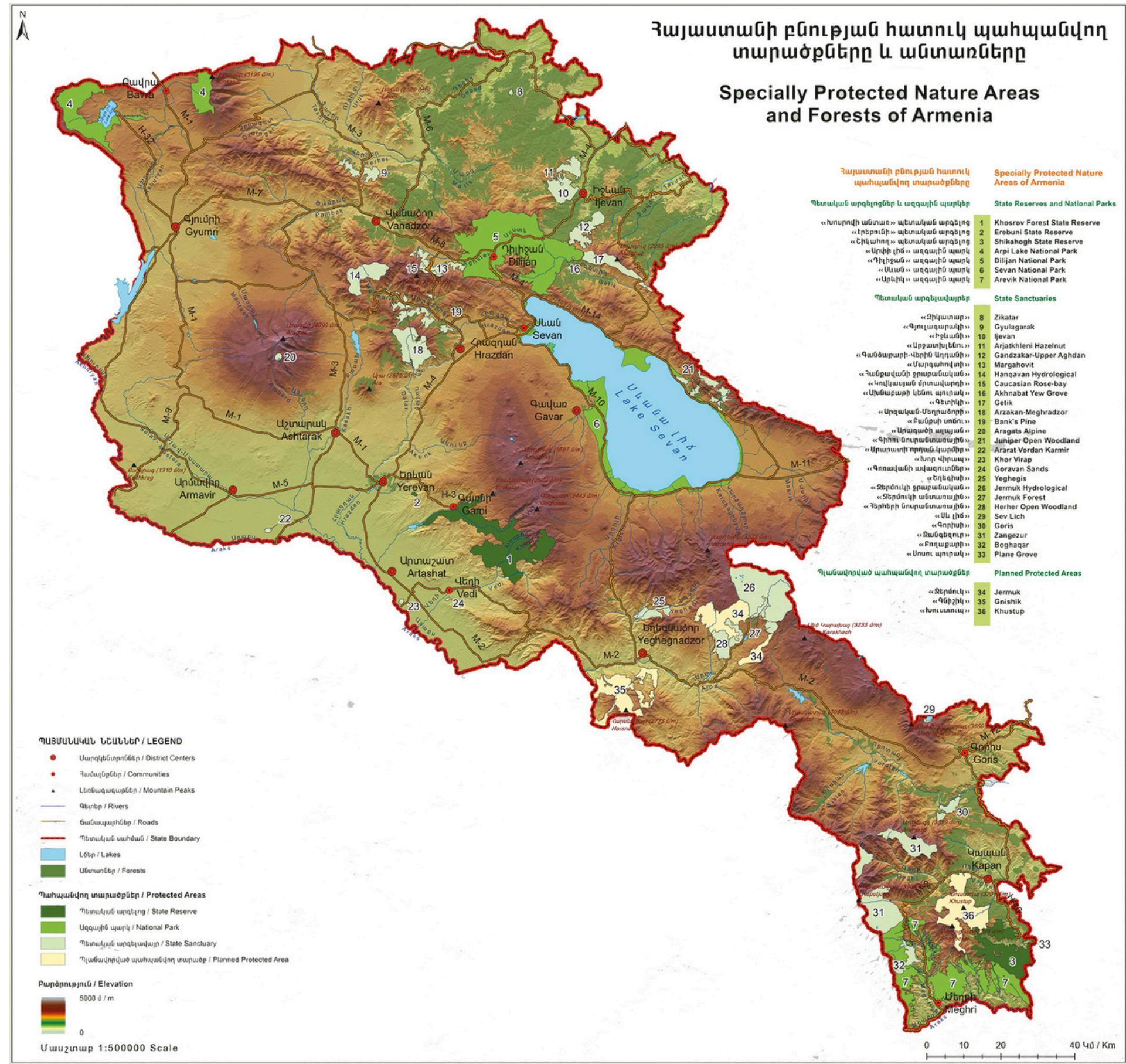
COP17 agenda items and priorities

COP17

YEREVAN ARMENIA

TAKING ACTION FOR NATURE

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Ani Kirakosyan



About Armenia

Armenia, a country located in the Caucasus region, is known for its beautiful landscapes, rich history and friendly people with warm hospitality. Although Armenia is small, it has a wide variety of natural environments and plays an important role in the environment of the regional ecosystem.

Geography and Biodiversity

Armenia is located South Caucasus and is known for its mountains, forests, rivers, and highland meadows. It is part of the Caucasus biodiversity hotspot - one of the richest and most threatened natural regions in the world. The country is home to many plant and animal species, and a large number of them are endemic (they exist only in Armenia and nearby areas).



mountain zones. Lake Sevan, one of the largest high-altitude freshwater lakes in the world, is a key ecological and economic resource. Forests cover about 10–12% of the country and play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance.





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In 2026, **from October 19 to 30**, the Republic of Armenia will host the 17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity- **COP17**

COP-17 logo and branding

The #COP17 slogan, **“Taking Action for Nature”** reflects the central pillar of current environmental policy, calling for a transition from initiatives to targeted and coordinated action.



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COP-17 logo and branding

The logo is inspired by the Yerevan Blue Butterfly, a Red Book–listed endemic species characteristic of the Armenian Highlands.

The visual identity of #COP17 is built around the concept of the butterfly’s life cycle—egg, caterpillar, chrysalis and flight—symbolizing the continuity of natural systems, biodiversity, and the capacity for renewal.

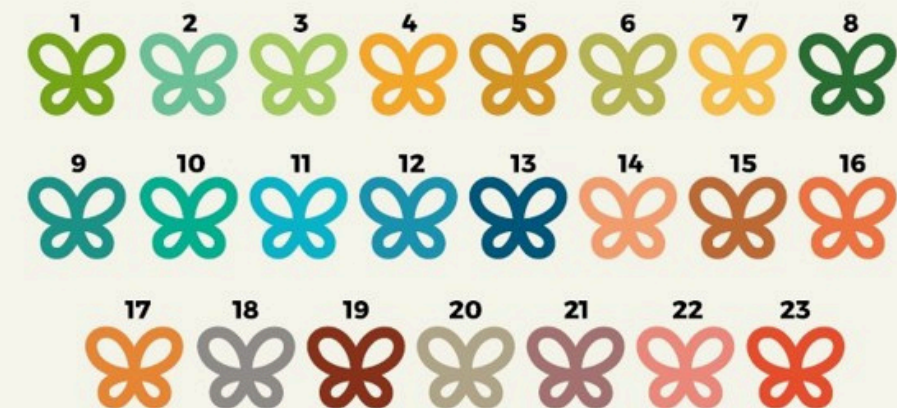


COP-17 logo and branding

- The butterfly's silhouette consists of **23 colors**, representing the goals of the Global Biodiversity Framework, along with one primary blue color that symbolizes the butterfly's identity.

23 colors = 23 KMGBF targets

Progress from early action to transformation and real impact



Logistics

The COP17 conference hosted in the Republic of Armenia will be held across two main platforms: the **Blue Zone** and the **Green Zone**.

This model fully aligns with UN international practice, ensuring both inclusivity and full participation.



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Blue Zone (Official)

The official negotiating space of COP17 where Parties, observers, experts advance the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Who it's for: Accredited Party delegations, intergovernmental organizations, accredited observers, technical experts, media with accreditation.

What happens:

- Plenary sessions and contact groups
- High-level segments and ministerials
- Thematic roundtables and briefings
- Draft decisions, reporting, and stocktaking

Access: Accreditation required; security screening in effect.



e (Public)

-facing space of COP17 showcasing innovation, community world solutions.

neral public, youth, NGOs, academia, artists, innovators,

emos, and immersive installations

ialogues, screenings, cultural programming

he Scientists/Practitioners" sessions

en-access programming (some sessions may require free to capacity).



COP17 Agenda

The provisional agenda of COP17 focuses on the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the assessment of global progress, monitoring, and financial mechanisms. It also covers issues related to indigenous peoples and local communities, digital sequence information on genetic resources, capacity-building, and public awareness.

Key thematic areas include biodiversity and climate change, agriculture, marine and forest ecosystems, as well as mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors and gender-related policies.

Global Review of collective progress under the KM-GBF

COP17 will represent an important milestone in global efforts to promote biodiversity conservation and protection. Its central objective will be the first **Global Review** of the collective progress in implementing the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.



Global review of collective progress under the KM-GBF

At COP-16, countries agreed to carry out a worldwide assessment of how much progress has been made in putting the KM-GBF into action. The Global Review, outlining both - the goal and the path forwards to collective progress, will be a central focus at COP 17.

The review will be inclusive, transparent and it will draw from national reports, regional discussions on NBSAPs, the GBF monitoring framework, scientific and knowledge-based inputs. It is essential that the knowledge and data of IPLCs be incorporated, as listening to those who steward biodiversity is key to producing an accurate and meaningful global assessment.

Inclusive leadership and invitation to COP-17

Our vision for COP17 is grounded in unity of purpose, scientific integrity and collective responsibility. As we prepare to host the global biodiversity community in Yerevan, Armenia seeks to champion a vision that transforms commitments into action, ambition into implementation, and cooperation into truly systemic change.



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Inclusive leadership and invitation to COP-17

First, **we will advance a coherent and action-oriented approach to biodiversity**, ensuring that the KM-GBF inspires measurable progress on the ground. Implementation must become the common language of all Parties—reflected in national planning, budget alignment, monitoring, accountability and real improvements across ecosystems, landscapes and communities.



Inclusive leadership and invitation to COP-17

Second, **we will promote stronger synergies across multilateral environmental agreements.** Under Armenia's presidency, COP17 will help advance this agenda in a practical and inclusive way to underscore policy coherence across biodiversity, climate and land synergy in the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and Land Degradation Neutrality.



Inclusive leadership and invitation to COP-17

Third, **we are committed to an inclusive process that leaves no one behind.** IPLCs, women, youth, local authorities, civil society, academia and the private sector must all be empowered as full partners in shaping and delivering biodiversity solutions.



Leaders for Nature

The COP17 will be preceded by the Leaders' Summit on Biodiversity, on 16 October under the logo "Leaders for Nature", which will bring together Heads of State and Government, leaders of international organizations, scientists, IPLCs and prominent public figures, to reaffirm commitment to conserve, restore, and sustainably manage biodiversity and provide a strong political guidance to the first Global Review of the KMGBF.

The High-level Ministerial segment will take place on 27-28 October with the aim to scale-up political support to the negotiations.

Inclusion

Whole-of-government and whole-of-society

- For the purpose of organizing and holding COP17, a **committee** has also been established by a decree of the Prime Minister, which includes representatives of non-governmental organizations who are actively involved in all processes.



Inclusion

Whole-of-government and whole-of-society

The Ministry also places importance on active cooperation with civil society representatives and non-governmental organizations. There is a **Public Council** established under the Minister of Environment, with whose members regular discussions are held to jointly shape and coordinate organizational activities.



Inclusion

Media and Communications

As part of COP17's public awareness efforts, the “**COP17 Media School**” has been organized in cooperation with the UN Office in Armenia. This three-month program designed for Armenian journalists. It includes discussions with leading experts in the field, media visits and eco-tours, as well as exclusive information on the preparatory process of the COP17 conference.



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Media School

Parallel events

- During COP17, a number of important international events will also be held in Armenia, including **the Gender Forum and the Global Youth Summit for Biodiversity**.
- **The Gender Forum** aims to promote the implementation of the Gender Plan of Action and advance gender-responsive approaches within the Global Biodiversity Framework. It will bring together a diverse range of stakeholders to foster commitments that integrate gender equality into biodiversity policies and actions.



Parallel events

The Global Youth Summit for Biodiversity is designed to convene young people, partners, and various stakeholders to discuss, collaborate, and develop actionable recommendations for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM GBF). The summit will also serve as a platform for youth to build strong, collaborative communities through arts and advocacy, while shaping visions for the future beyond COP16.





LET'S LAUNCH COP 17 TOGETHER