

Nature Benchmark Methodology

A summary

The need for action on nature and biodiversity has never been more urgent. This is why the [World Benchmarking Alliance](#) (WBA) seeks to mobilise and incentivise over 1000 influential companies to adopt a nature-positive strategy that leaves no one behind. By doing so, we will help close the corporate accountability gap on nature, together with our partners and allies.

Novel indicators alongside established standards

The [Nature Benchmark Methodology](#) includes indicators where stakeholders' expectations are high: companies must demonstrate they are progressing towards a science-based target (for GHG emissions, for example), a net-zero deforestation objective or demonstrate how their water withdrawals efforts are effective within water-scarce contexts. The benchmark will also assess companies on more novel topics, many of which are still being developed by various organizations, such as resource decoupling, circular economy objectives, and following mitigation hierarchy principles.

At its core, this methodology is designed to encourage companies to start taking action on biodiversity as well as measure existing efforts. For

instance, a crucial step the methodology demands for companies is to understand where their biodiversity impacts and dependencies are highest and prioritize and act quickly to halt damaging trends.

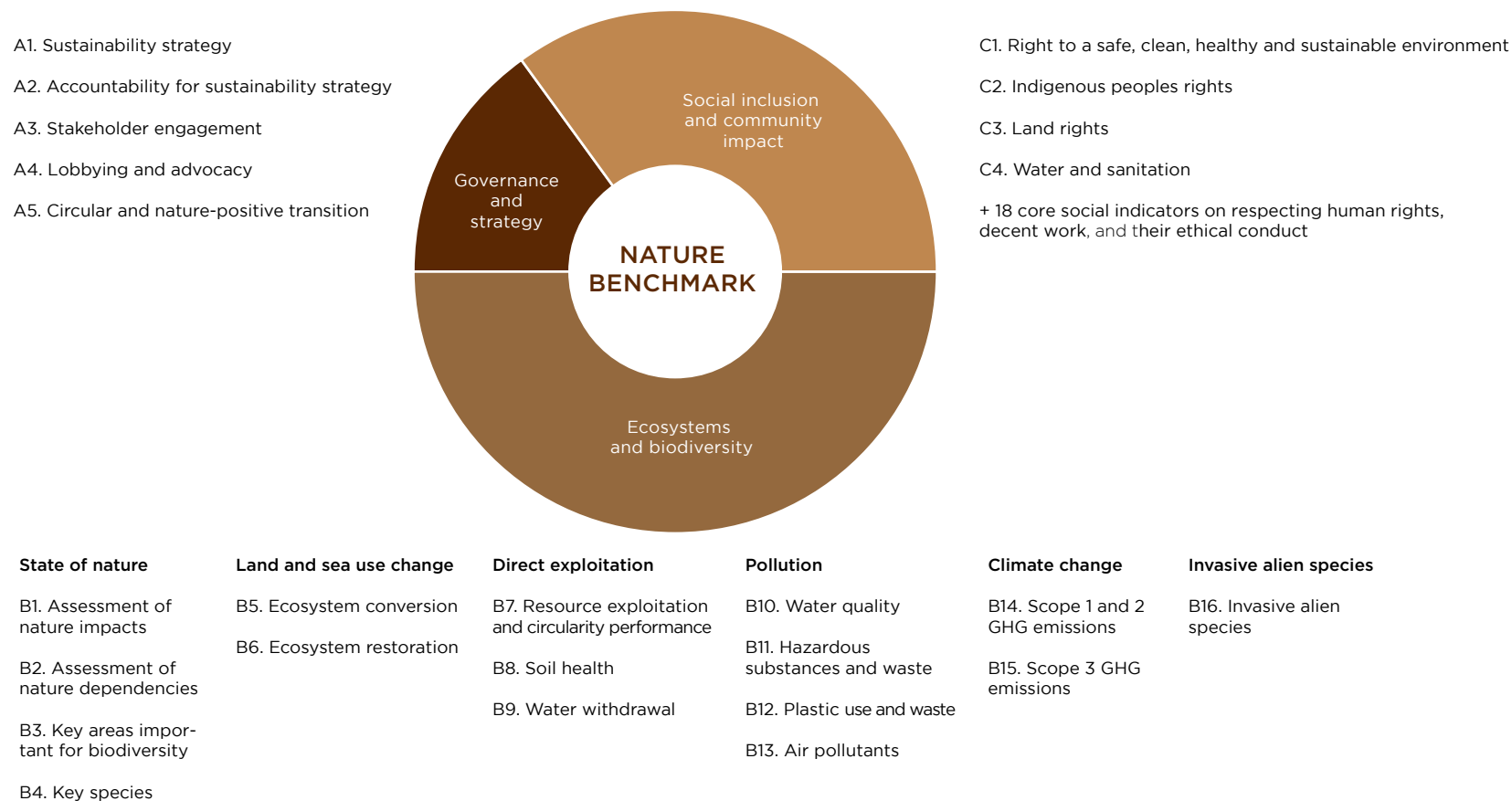
A value-chain approach with people at the heart

As impacts on biodiversity often occur in the value chain, companies should not limit their efforts and actions to their own operations, but conduct assessments to determine the most material elements of the value chain. Impactful strategies must therefore consider key business partners, including direct and indirect suppliers, franchisees, and subsidiaries, unless it can be demonstrated that the majority of biodiversity impacts takes place within the companies' own operations.

Because corporate impact on nature is significant for people and communities, the methodology also focuses on the role companies should play in being socially inclusive actors, mindful of land and indigenous rights, among other locally affected stakeholders. Beyond this, WBA's core social indicators also cover well-established topics such as human rights and adherence to labour laws.

The 1000 companies in scope for the Nature Benchmark will be assessed on the following 25 nature indicators, in addition to the 18 core social indicators.

All indicators are designed to apply to all industries, although it is possible that for a limited set of companies, certain indicators will be non-applicable and therefore not scored.



From driving land and sea use change to the production of harmful pollutants, economic activities from the private sector contribute to biodiversity loss in most major value chains in the global economy. It is often difficult to measure impact between industries due to the varying connections between companies' value chains. Therefore, to truly measure the impact of the private sector on biodiversity loss, a holistic approach must be taken when selecting which industries and companies will be in scope.

As such, the [Nature Benchmark](#) will measure 1,000 companies across 22 industries between two initial research cycles, in 2022 and 2023. In addition to their ecological footprint, these companies were selected based on five principles:

- The company dominates global production revenues and/or volumes within a particular sector.
- The company controls globally relevant segments of production and/or service provision.
- The company connects (eco)systems globally through subsidiaries and their supply chains.
- The company influences global governance processes and institutions.
- The company has a global footprint, particularly in developing countries

2022

Industry	Number of companies	Examples of companies
Apparel & footwear	68	Adidas, H&M, Kering, LVMH
Chemicals	50	Eastman Chemical, SABIC, Umicore
Construction & engineering	62	ACCIONA, BAM, CCCC, STRABAG
Construction materials & supplies	48	Cemex, LafargeHolcim
Containers & packaging	26	Amcor, Berry Global, Sealed Air
Metals & mining	101	Anglo American, BHP, Glencore
Pharmaceuticals & biotechnology	28	GSK, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche
Tyres & rubber	14	Bridgestone, Goodyear, Michelin

2023

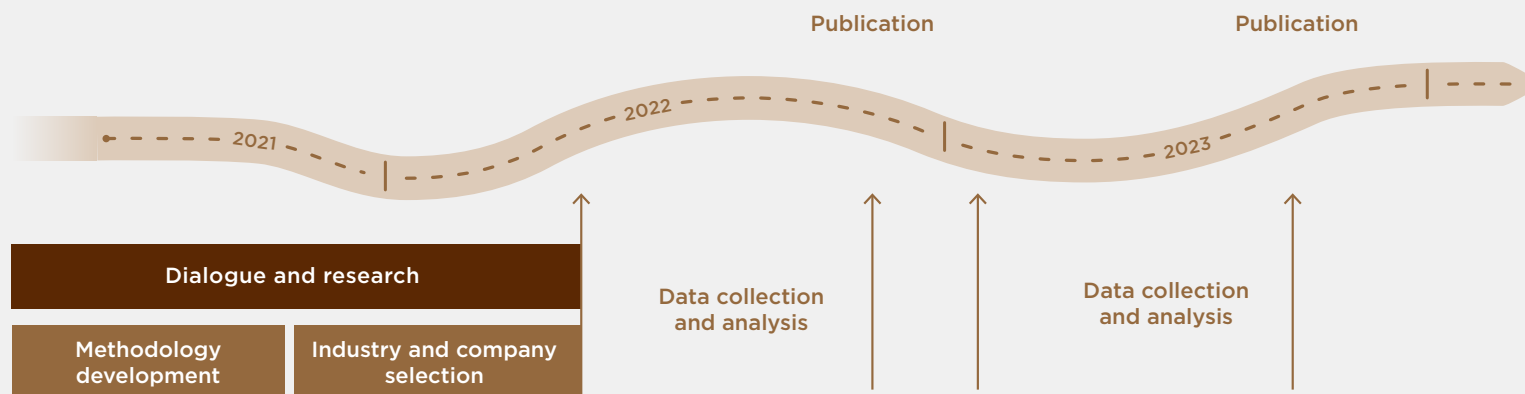
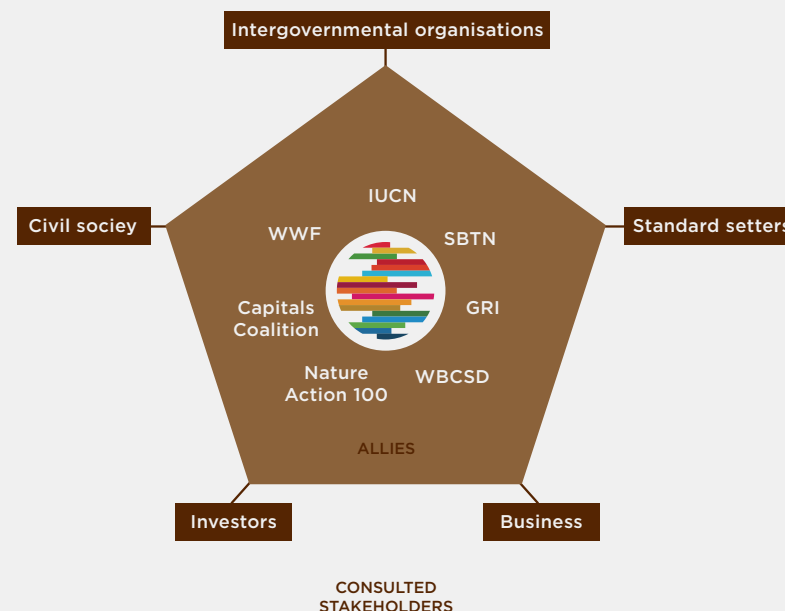
Agricultural products	76	ADM, Cargill, Charoen Pokphand
Automobiles & components	2	BYD, Mahindra and Mahindra
Capital goods	13	Claas, JCB, TE Connectivity
Chemicals	8	DSM, EuroChem, Mosaic, Yara
Conglomerates	14	DL Holdings, Mitsui, Wesfarmers
Electronics	68	AMD, Apple, Samsung
Food & beverage	172	Kraft Heinz, Mondelez, Tyson Foods
IT software & services	2	Amazon, Ebay
Logistics	28	A.P. Moller-Maersk, Hapag Lloyd
Oil & gas	96	BP, Shell, Gazprom, Exxon Mobil
Paper & forest products	30	APP, Sappi, Sumitomo Forestry
Passenger transport	6	Carnival, Royal Caribbean Group
Personal & household products	29	Kimberley-Clark, Procter & Gamble
Retail	70	McDonald's, Sodexo, Walmart
Utilities	29	Enel, Iberdrola, Severn Trent

A multi-stakeholder approach

The Nature Benchmark methodology is built on existing standards and best practices while also recognising developing concepts. WBA will continue to be closely involved with other organisations active in this space to ensure the most up-to-date science and knowledge is reflected in this methodology. We therefore expect rapid changes, and the methodology will be updated after all 1000 companies are benchmarked, by the end of 2023.

In addition to our benchmark partners such as the Science Based Targets Network (SBTN), Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD), close to 100 organisations provided feedback for the development of the methodology. These organisations included over 30 companies, 15 financial institutions and 22 specialised non-profit organisations.

Stakeholder Mapping



The World Benchmarking Alliance is funded by



About the World Benchmarking Alliance:

The World Benchmarking Alliance's mission is to build a movement to measure and incentivise business impact towards a future that works for everyone. We develop publicly available and free benchmarks that compare the private sector's contribution to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The benchmarks show where 2000 of the world's most influential companies (the SDG2000) and industries stand on the transformational roadmaps, where they can improve and where urgent action is needed, accelerating sustainable development. www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org

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