



Nature Benchmark Methodology

April 2022

Nature Benchmark Methodology

Table of contents

Error! Bookmark not defined.

About WBA and the seven systems transformations	4
Benchmarking for a better world	4
Seven systems transformations	4
The Nature Benchmark	6
Rooted in a multi-stakeholder approach	6
Process and timelines	8
New metrics alongside established standards	8
A value chain approach with people at its heart	9
Approach to scoring and weighting	10
Industry and company selection	13
Indicators for the Nature Benchmark	18
A. Governance and strategy	18
A1. Sustainability strategy	18
A2. Accountability for sustainability strategy	19
A3. Stakeholder engagement	20
A4. Lobbying and advocacy	21
A5. Circular and nature-positive transition	22
B. Ecosystems and biodiversity	23
State of nature	23
B1. Assessment of impacts on nature	23
B2. Assessment of dependencies on nature's contributions to people	24
B3. Key areas important for biodiversity	25
B4. Key species	26
Land and sea use change	27
B5. Ecosystem conversion	27
B6. Ecosystem restoration	28
Direct exploitation of resources	29
B7. Resource exploitation and circularity performance	29
B8. Soil health	30
B9. Water withdrawal	31
Pollution	32



B10. Water quality	32
B11. Hazardous substances and waste	33
B12. Plastic use and waste	34
B13. Air pollutants	35
Climate change	36
B14. Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions	36
B15. Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions	37
Invasive alien species	38
B16. Invasive alien species	38
Social inclusion and community impact	39
C1. Right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment	39
C2. Indigenous peoples' rights	40
C3. Land rights	41
C4. Water and sanitation	42
Core social indicators	43
Integration of core social indicators into the benchmark	43
Respect human rights	43
Provide and promote decent work	44
Act ethically	45
Acknowledgements	46
References	47
Annexes	55
Annex I: Indicator alignment with other initiatives	55
Annex II: Glossary	56



About WBA and the seven systems transformations

The World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA) is building a movement to increase the private sector's impact towards a sustainable future for all.

In 2015, the UN set out a supremely ambitious and transformational plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) demonstrate the scale and ambition of this agenda, stimulating action in areas of critical importance to humanity and the planet.

The private sector has a crucial role to play in advancing the SDGs and contributing to the systems transformations needed, but this requires real change in the way that the impact of business is measured to boost motivation and stimulate further action. Together with Allies from the public sector, industry, business, financial institutions, and civil society, WBA is developing transformative benchmarks to measure companies' progress against the global challenges we all face.

Benchmarking for a better world

The benchmarks demonstrate to companies and their stakeholders where they stand compared to peers and where they can improve. This information provides business and stakeholders with a roadmap for the transformations ahead, showing how sectors can positively leverage their influence and where action is urgent. The benchmarks are informed by best available science and build on existing norms and standards, frameworks and initiatives.

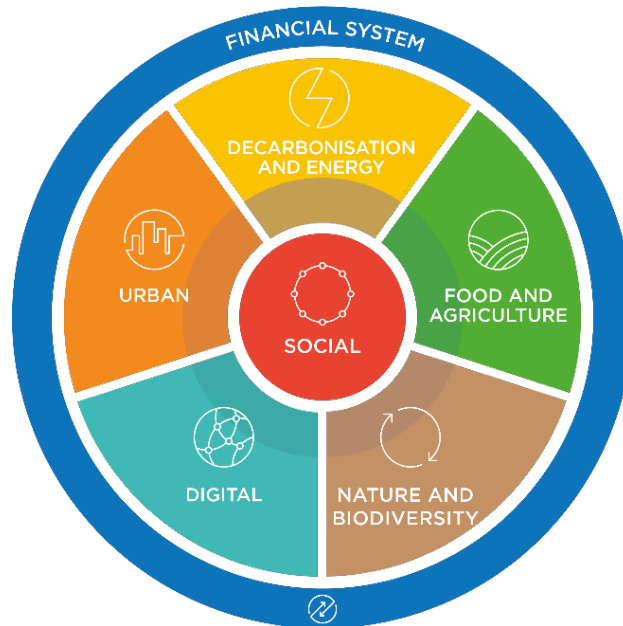
They are free for everyone to use and are continually improved through open and inclusive multi-stakeholder dialogue. By virtue of being public, the benchmarks empower all stakeholders, from consumers and investors to employees and business leaders, with key data and insights to encourage sustainable business practices across all sectors.

Seven systems transformations

WBA has identified seven systems transformations that are needed to put our society and economy on a more sustainable path (Figure 1). The transformations offer a strategic framework to develop benchmarks and identify keystone companies that are vital for achieving the SDGs.



FIGURE 1: SEVEN SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION



WBA focuses on keystone companies (the SDG2000) with the greatest potential to positively or negatively impact the systems in which they operate. The SDG2000 span public, private and state-owned companies and represent USD 46 trillion in collective revenues. The companies are spread across 80 countries and directly employ over 100 million people, with a quarter of the companies headquartered in developing, emerging or frontier markets. By 2023, WBA will assess and rank the performance of these 2,000 companies across the seven systems transformations. About half of these are included in the Nature Benchmark.



The Nature Benchmark

The urgent need for action on nature contrasts with the current landscape of corporate impacts. While standards and disclosures are established in some areas, many areas remain uncovered. The issues related to corporate impacts on nature are novel, and many companies are just starting to capture and disclose relevant information.

Nevertheless, several new initiatives and frameworks are under development. As a result, we expect to see rapid change in this space. We recognise that producing a methodology and benchmark in such a rapidly evolving environment is challenging. This methodology has sought to build on existing standards and best practice while also recognising and trying to fill in some of the gaps. The World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA) will continue to work closely with others active in this space to ensure the most up-to-date science and knowledge are reflected in the methodology, which will be updated after all 1,000 companies are benchmarked, by the end of 2023.

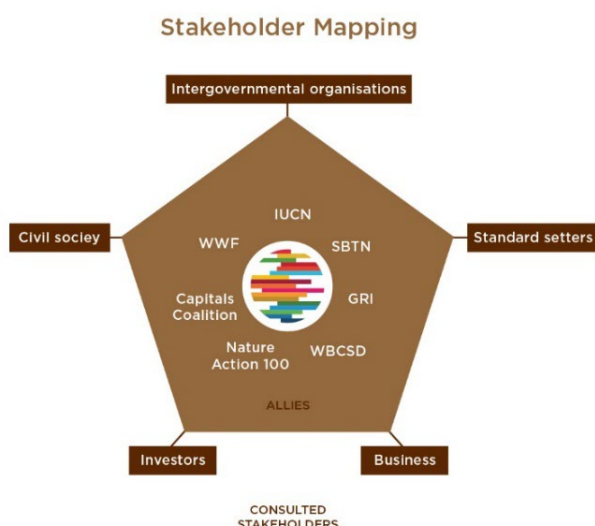
Rooted in a multi-stakeholder approach

Because alignment with expert organisations is key to all WBA work, the [Nature Benchmark](#) methodology references several organisations for each indicator. For the sake of clarity on alignment with these organisations throughout the methodology, an alignment table per indicator can be found in Annex 1.

In addition to the close 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 during the consultation phase of the methodology development between January and April 2022. These organisations included over 30 companies, 15 financial institutions and 22 specialised non-profit organisations. Further, the 30 companies that provided feedback come from diverse benchmarked industries, such as oil and gas, metals and mining, paper and forest, apparel and footwear, food and agriculture, and utilities.



FIGURE 2: STAKEHOLDER MAPPING



WBA held three online consultations on the draft methodology in three different time zones during which attendees could freely share their opinion or comment on all aspects of the methodology. In addition, over 40 members of organisations completed a detailed feedback form.

The consultation phase was wrapped up by the first convening of the independent Expert Review Committee (ERC). The Nature ERC is currently a representation of different expertise, regions and backgrounds (see Table 1). As part of WBA's mission to have a balance between regions and backgrounds, we will continue searching to complement the ERC with representations from Asia and Latin America and specific social and/or indigenous rights expertise. Discussions were held on definitions, alignment, scoring and various indicators, with a follow-up ERC meeting planned for the summer of 2022.

TABLE 1: MEMBERS OF THE NATURE EXPERT REVIEW COMMITTEE (ERC)

Expert	Organisation	Position
Elodie Chêne	Global Reporting Initiative	Manager, Standards
Erin Billman (Chair)	Science-Based Targets Network	Executive Director
Laura Clavey	Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures	Senior Technical Director
Nicolas Poolen	World Wildlife Fund (WWF Nederland)	Green Finance Advisor
Rachel Asante	International Union for Conservation of Nature	Programme Officer, Global Business and Biodiversity Programme
Tom McKenna	Capitals Coalition	Senior Manager
Tom Williams	World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD India)	Senior Director, Nature Action

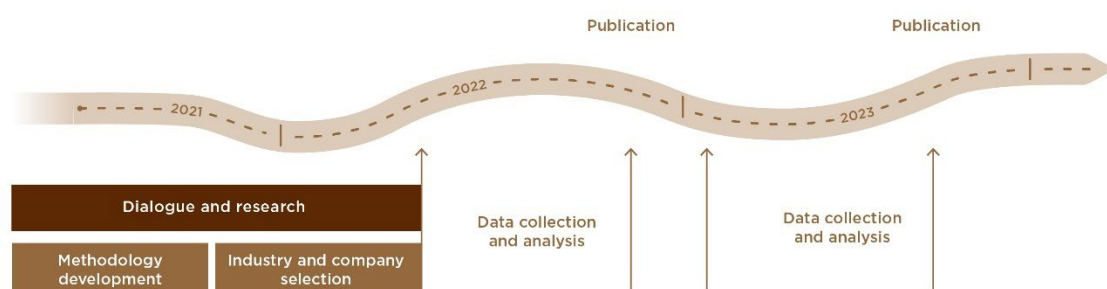


Nora Mardirossian	Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment	Senior Legal Researcher
----------------------	---	-------------------------

Process and timelines

This final methodology was published in April 2022, following the publication of the draft methodology in January 2022. The first round of research and assessment has now commenced and is based on publicly disclosed information. During the research phase, we plan to hold walk-in sessions with benchmarked companies to explain the methodology and criteria that need to be met to receive scores against the indicators.

FIGURE 3: TIMELINE



At the same time, our researchers will be analysing the data, both at an institutional and industry level, to ensure that accurate data is found for all relevant areas of the methodology and assessed in an impartial and transparent way. Scoring guidelines will be improved, if necessary, in consultation with our experts and the ERC and published with the benchmark results. In this way, all stakeholders can see not just what we assessed (the methodology) but how each score was produced (scoring guidelines).

As we finalise our assessments, we will share them with each of the benchmarked companies and request their feedback, allowing them to have a more detailed and specific conversation on their individual assessments. All companies will be repeatedly contacted and invited to comment during the research phase. Companies that do not respond or decline to participate in the research phase will not be entitled to appeal their results and will have to wait for the next benchmark cycle to input information. The first Nature Benchmark, assessing 400 companies out of the 1,000 in scope, is scheduled for publication in December 2022. WBA aims to share benchmark scorecards with all companies prior to the benchmark's publication. The remaining 600 companies in scope will be benchmarked in 2023.

New metrics alongside established standards

While new metrics take shape, this methodology is designed to incentivise companies to understand where biodiversity risks are highest and act quickly to halt damaging trends. A fundamental starting point is the need to carry out a value chain biodiversity impact and dependency assessment. Without such knowledge, strategic action cannot follow. This assessment serves as a steppingstone for companies to develop a strategy, as it allows them to understand the most impacted biodiversity



ecosystems and species, and then set ambitious site-level actions within a broader, higher level target objective such as no net loss (NNL) or biodiversity net gain (BNG).

Several topics and issues related to nature and biodiversity are relatively standardised and disclosed as part of current corporate practices. These include greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, land use and deforestation, and water withdrawal and quality. On these more established topics, stakeholders' expectations are also established and 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 withdrawal efforts are particularly effective within water-scarce contexts. These are directly reflected in the indicators in this methodology.

In other areas, existing standards and best practice do not always exist. We have tried to reference what already exists, draw on scientific evidence as well as societal expectations, and start to fill in some of the gaps. But we may not have got all the issues, phrasing and levels of ambition right. As new standards emerge and best practice evolves, this methodology will be updated and revised accordingly.

A value chain approach with people at its heart

Given that in many cases biodiversity-related impacts occur across the value chain, companies should not limit their efforts and actions to their own operations, unless they can demonstrate that the majority of the impact takes place there. Instead, it is vital to recognise that the most impactful action can be elsewhere by conducting 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. In specific cases, when a company can demonstrate that a topic and its related indicator is not fully relevant to a company's operations or value chain, it may be excluded from a company's assessment.

TABLE 2: VALUE CHAIN APPROACH PER MEASUREMENT AREA AND TOPIC

M.A. Operations	Governance and Strategy	Ecosystem and Biodiversity		Social inclusion and community impact
		State of Nature	Drivers of biodiversity loss	
Own operations	✓	✓	✓	✓
Upstream		✓	✓	✓
Downstream	Indicator and industry-dependent	✓	Indicator and industry-dependent	✓

A crucial topic that this methodology seeks to address is the nexus between nature, people and corporate behaviour. While this methodology is predominantly focused on non-human nature and biodiversity, human rights and dignity are the fundamental starting point. First, WBA embeds a set of core social indicators across all its benchmarks. These indicators represent fundamental requirements on human and labour rights. While these indicators are designed to be industry-agnostic and are crucial for all sectors, some are particularly relevant to a corporate approach towards affected stakeholders and communities and therefore fit particularly well within the scope of the Nature Benchmark. Second, local communities regularly suffer from poor environmental and natural resources management practices on the part of businesses. Indigenous communities and countries



with less stringent standards and control mechanisms are at particularly high risk of this (Kumar, S. et al., 2019).

Lastly, biodiversity conservation actions must remain sensitive to local needs and should not place the burden of biodiversity-related impacts on local communities. Biodiversity loss and ecosystem destruction can be linked to both poverty and marginalisation (Miyamoto, M., 2020), especially when it comes to communities' dependency on the exploitation of resources, such as artisanal mining and smallholder-driven deforestation.

Approach to scoring and weighting

Indicators are designed to be industry-agnostic. This is due to the scale of the companies that have an impact on the system, drawn from a wide variety of industries. However, we recognise that this approach has its limits, and in some specific circumstances, companies will have the opportunity to justify why a certain indicator is not relevant to their operations and value chain. For companies that do not engage with or provide inputs to WBA, we will assume, in the absence of clear information in the public domain, that all indicators are relevant.

There are 25 transformation indicators specific to the Nature Benchmark, in addition to 18 core social indicators. Each indicator will be assigned a score according to the scoring guidelines (to be developed during the data collection phase in 2022 and published with the first results). Core social indicators will weigh 20% of the total score, and the other 80% will be equally divided among the 25 transformation indicators. For companies that are scored on all indicators, this means each indicator will weigh 3.2%. Although indicators have been designed to be industry-agnostic, it is possible that, for a few companies, a limited number of indicators will not be applicable. Therefore, the weight of each indicator will be slightly higher for these companies across the remaining indicators. This approach will be tested and confirmed after a preliminary round of scoring.

The 25 Nature indicators are spread over three different measurement areas:

TABLE 3 : MEASUREMENT AREAS

Measurement areas	Number of indicators	Typical weight
A. Governance and strategy	5	16%
B. Ecosystems and biodiversity	16	51.2%
C. Social inclusion and community impact	4 + core social indicators	32.8%

This will result in an overall score for each company, where the total score in the benchmark is out of 100.



Indicator overview

Figure 4: nature benchmark indicators

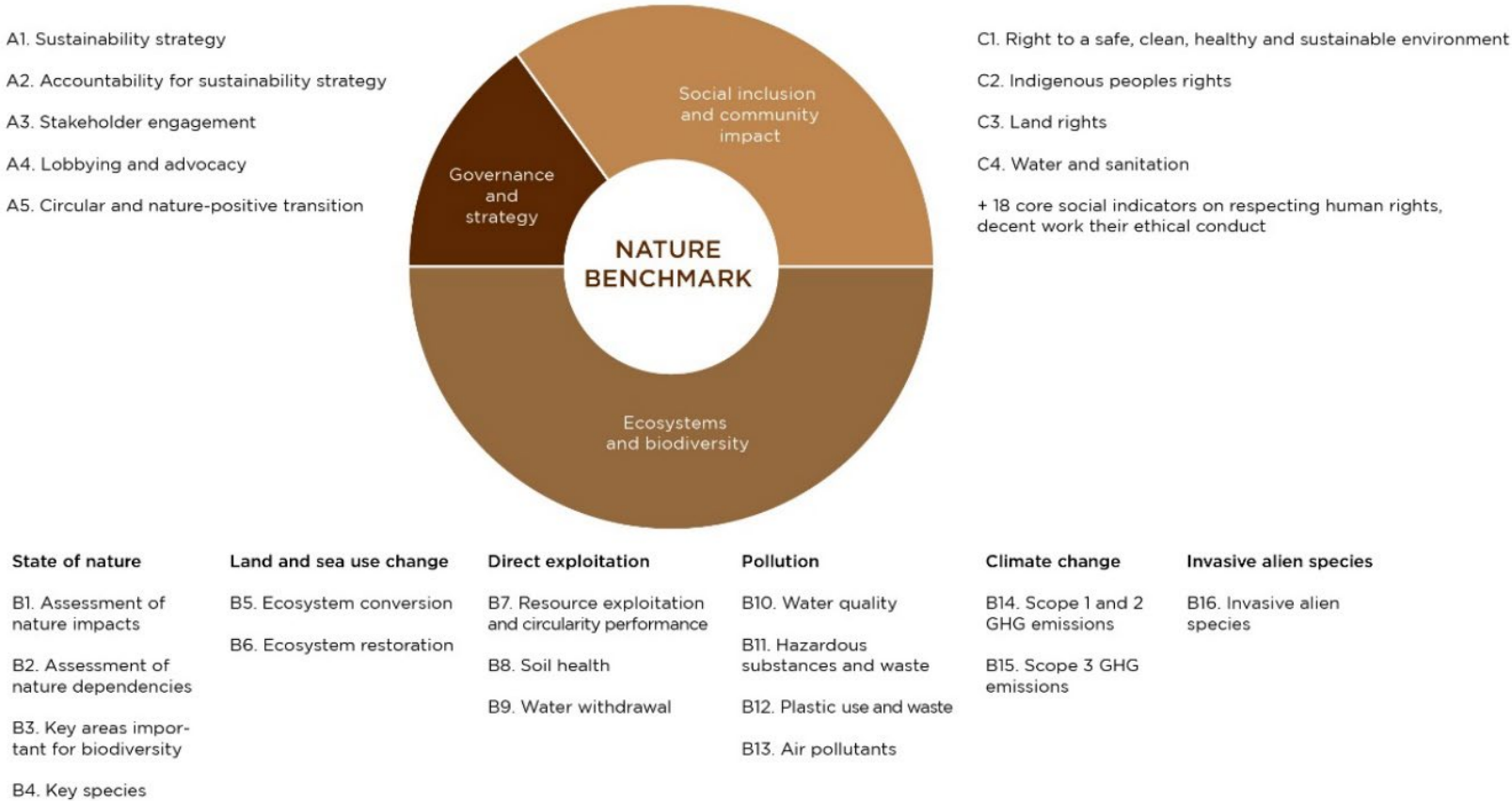
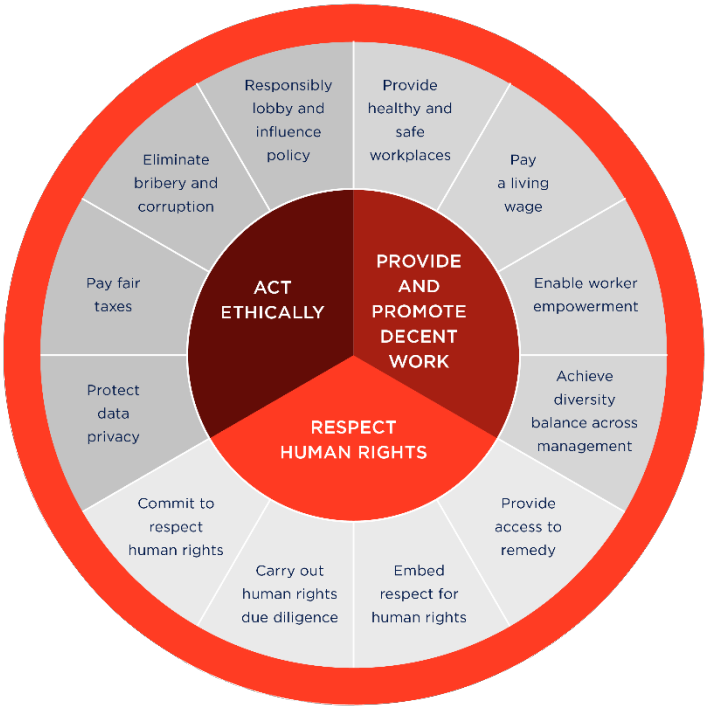


FIGURE 5: EXPECTATIONS ON BUSINESS FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION



Industry and company selection

From driving land and sea use change to the production of harmful pollutants that affect the life cycles of vulnerable ecosystems, economic activities in the private sector contribute to biodiversity loss in most major value chains.

However, the scale of the impact of a specific industry in relation to another is often difficult to understand due to the varying direct and indirect impact of companies' value chains and interlinkages between them. For example, some activities, such as farming, have a direct link to the food and agriculture value chain. Others, including most industrial production activities such as chemicals or construction materials, are part of multiple value chains where linkages tend to be more diluted. In addition, there are significant synergies between certain value chains. For example, fuel produced in the energy value chain by oil and gas companies is used to power vehicles developed in the mobility and infrastructure value chain. 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 are in scope. As such, the Nature Benchmark will assess 1,000 companies across 22 industries in two initial research cycles in 2022 and 2023.

Food and agriculture sector

The food and agriculture value chain relies heavily on ecosystems. To grow the crops required for the food we eat, food and agriculture companies rely on healthy, fertile soil as well as natural climate regulators, such as predictable amounts of rain and sun, and natural pollinators such as birds and bees. Similarly, the fishing sector depends heavily on healthy aquatic ecosystems, including healthy coral reefs and stable levels of diverse fish stocks. However, the food and agriculture sector is one of the largest drivers of biodiversity loss and change globally. This includes being the largest consumer of freshwater as well as a contributor to land use change to support agricultural crops and livestock. Indeed, the largest negative impact is through farming and fishing activities which directly involve the conversion and exploitation of natural ecosystems (BCG, 2021). Ultimately, driving positive change in the sector requires companies to take an integrated approach to their business activities, from producing food which requires smaller inputs at the farm level to presenting consumers with food products that have smaller environmental footprints, thereby shifting towards more sustainable food systems.

The selection of these companies was based on WBA's methodology for identifying its [SDG2000 'keystone companies'](#) across the seven systems that need to be transformed to put our society, planet and economy on a more sustainable and resilient path. The methodology draws upon five principles that guided the identification of companies for the SDG2000:



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

While it can be argued that all companies within WBA's SDG2000 have an impact on nature, the Nature Benchmark covers the industries it believes to be the most impactful. The selection process sampled industries based on the disproportionate impact of their business activities, both positive and negative, on nature, including biodiversity. In terms of impact, these are sectors whose production processes and value chains have potential high impacts on ecosystems, particularly through their use of land, freshwater and marine areas ([BCG, 2021](#)). Impacts on nature include resource extraction and cultivation as well as resource conversion and manufacturing. For example, industries such as port operators, metals and mining, and oil and gas have intense impacts on biodiversity through their use of terrestrial, freshwater and marine areas, emissions of atmospheric pollutants and land use changes.

Moreover, potential impacts on nature can be driven by the consumption of the services or products offered by a company. For example, the consumption of products offered by retail companies can contribute to the inappropriate disposal of plastics, synthetic rubber, batteries, electronic waste and other nonbiodegradable materials. Similarly, service activities such as health care can be significant producers of chemical and solid waste, including hazardous waste ([BCG, 2021](#)). While not all potentially impactful industries are included within the sample, such as the automotive sector, airport services or waste management, these industries' impacts on nature are still in scope through their value chains and business partners. For example, while the automotive sector is not included, the most impactful companies in the industry's supply chain are. They include extractive industries which develop the industry's products, through metals and mining, tyres and rubber, and electronics companies, as well as companies which provide fuel to power the industry's products, such as the oil and gas and utilities sectors. Moreover, while these industries are not covered by the Nature Benchmark, their broader sustainability impacts are in scope in other WBA benchmarks. For example, the automotive sector is benchmarked in WBA's [Climate and Energy Benchmark](#).





Metals and mining

The metals and mining sector has one of the largest and most intense impacts on nature and biodiversity ([UNEP, 2020](#)). Poor business practices in the sector lead to the pollution of water and soil systems as well as land use changes. This damages natural ecosystems and can contribute to the increase of invasive species in a region. Indeed, many mining companies own land the size of small countries, highlighting the adverse impact the sector has on nature and biodiversity. Moreover, mining companies often operate in remote regions where their activities can come into conflict with indigenous peoples' land, increasing the risk of human rights violations. Concurrently, the sector requires healthy ecosystems for its operations, including reliable water supplies and stable climates. Despite these challenges, the sector is crucial to tackling climate change, with many precious metals, including lithium, cobalt and copper, at the core of clean energy technologies such as electric vehicles and solar panels. Going forward, it is crucial that the sector incorporates more sustainable practices, including mitigating its negative impact on natural ecosystems and better understanding and appreciating the value of biodiversity for its long-term operations and value chain.

WBA has also sought to include companies it identified as having a disproportionately positive or negative influence on nature and biodiversity loss specifically in developing countries. For example, within the paper and forest industry, while there are companies based in Europe or North America which have much larger revenues and operations, companies were also selected if they have significant operations or activities in high-risk regions for biodiversity. The selection process also sought to bring regional balance to the company sample to ensure every region is represented, given the global scale of biodiversity impact and loss. For example, in the utilities segment, consideration was given to the number of people who are served or reliant on the company's services in high-risk regions, ensuring that companies from countries such as Brazil, India and China are also included.

Through [WBA's global Alliance](#), the selection process was shared with relevant external stakeholders who had the opportunity to provide input on the addition or removal of different industries. An overview of the final selection of industries that are in scope of the benchmark is presented in the table below, including the number of companies in each industry in the approximate 1,000 company sample.

TABLE 4: OVERVIEW OF THE INDUSTRIES IN SCOPE OF THE NATURE BENCHMARK

Year	Industry	Number of companies	Examples of companies
2022	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



To access the full list of companies, a dataset is available on our [website](#).



Indicators for the Nature Benchmark

A. Governance and strategy

A1. Sustainability strategy

Indicator: The company has sustainability objectives and targets embedded in its strategy and business model.

Rationale: A corporate sustainability strategy prioritises and embeds sustainability objectives and targets and helps the company to deliver on key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It facilitates the company's ability to adapt and change through forward planning, increasing its resilience, managing risks and protecting workers, the company and society at large.

Elements:

- a) The company discloses its process for identifying and prioritising its most relevant sustainability impacts as well as the outcome of this process, in relation to its sustainability strategy.
- b) The company has a sustainability strategy which (i) is based on an assessment of its impact on the state of nature, (ii) covers its contribution to the pressures on nature and (iii) considers the links between nature and people and their livelihoods.
- c) The company has group-wide targets on key sustainability topics for the most material parts of its value chain.
- d) The company reports consistently against all its targets.

Sources: CDSB (2019), Forum for the Future and WBSCD (2021), GRI 2-22, 2-23, 3-1, 3-2, 3-3 (2021), IFAC et al. (2020), IPBES (2019), SBTN (2020), UNDP (2021), WEF (2020).



A2. Accountability for sustainability strategy

Indicator: The company has a governance system that includes highest level responsibility and accountability for its sustainability objectives and targets. Senior executive members have incentives to reward the effective delivery of relevant company strategies and initiatives.

Rationale: Linking sustainable development objectives and targets to roles and remuneration is important to ensure the accountability of the company in relation to its contribution to sustainable development objectives and targets. Ensuring capability within decision-making bodies further indicates a company's commitment to transitioning to a sustainable future.

Elements:

- a) The company discloses having persons, teams or committees within the company who are responsible for the implementation of its sustainability strategy.
- b) The company provides evidence of assigning decision-making and oversight responsibility for its sustainability strategy to the highest governance body.
- c) The company provides evidence of linking performance criteria in senior executives' remuneration policies to targets and objectives which cover nature (including biodiversity) and social issues.
- d) The company provides evidence that its highest governance body has expertise with respect to the company's most material pressures on nature.

Sources : CDSB (2019), GRI 2-10, 2-12, 2-13, 2-14, 2-17 (2021), IFAC et al. (2020), UNDP (2021), WEF (2020).



A3. Stakeholder engagement

Indicator: The company engages with stakeholders on sustainable development issues and incorporates the outcomes of these activities in its strategy and operations.

Rationale: Serving the interests of all stakeholders is key to businesses' long-term success. Regularly engaging with stakeholders contributes to the company's understanding of diverse and frequently opposing perspectives, drives innovation and helps to shape robust and inclusive approaches. Companies are expected to engage in meaningful stakeholder engagement. Engagement processes are expected to produce a clear output or action and an acknowledgement of how stakeholder inputs are used.

Elements:

- a) The company discloses an overview of the issues raised during its stakeholder engagement activities.
- b) The company discloses its process for identifying relevant stakeholders across its value chain.
- c) The company discloses its process for engaging with stakeholder groups, including frequency and channels, beyond its materiality assessment or similar equivalent.
- d) The company discloses the outcomes of its stakeholder engagement activities and their integration into its sustainability strategy.
- e) The company's stakeholder engagement covers nature (including biodiversity) and social issues.

Sources: GRI 2-29 (2021), IFAC et al. (2020), SASB (2018), UNDP (2021), WEF (2020).

Stakeholders, as defined by GRI Standards: individuals or groups that have an interest that is affected or could be affected by the organisation's activities. This includes, but is not limited to, local communities, civil society, governments, workers and employees.

Meaningful stakeholder engagement is characterised by two-way communication and depends on the good faith of participants on both sides. It is also responsive and ongoing and includes in many cases engaging with relevant stakeholders before decisions are made.

Company engagement with stakeholder groups should include frequency and channels



A4. Lobbying and advocacy

Indicator: The company advocates nature-positive policies and regulations and discloses any misalignment with its lobbying activities as well as the measures it takes to address misalignment.

Rationale: Both individually and through trade associations, companies should advocate nature-positive policies and regulations. Companies should not finance trade associations that undermine nature-positive policies, including regarding the climate. Companies should conduct regular due diligence on the trade associations they support, and fully disclose the names of the associations, the alignment of their lobbying activities with policies and regulations that support nature-positive outcomes and their action plans to correct any misalignment.

Elements:

- a) The company discloses a list of trade associations of which it is a member for all geographies.
- b) The company discloses a clear and detailed framework for assessing alignment of its trade associations with nature-positive policies.
- c) The company provides evidence of annually applying the framework across all trade associations.
- d) The company reports any misalignment between the lobbying activities of its trade associations and nature-positive policies.
- e) The company discloses an action plan to address misalignment which includes clear escalation steps.
- f) The company discloses clear deadlines for each of its escalation steps and consistently reports on their application.
- g) The company discloses an annual review of all the advocacy activities it has undertaken.

Sources: GRI 2-28, 11.22 ([2021](#)), InfluenceMap ([2021](#)), IPBES ([2019](#)), UN PRI ([2018](#)), WBA ([2021b](#)), WEF ([2020](#)).



A5. Circular and nature-positive transition

Indicator: The company's business model embeds circularity and follows a pathway that aligns with nature's full recovery by 2050.

Rationale: Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse is one of the top five threats to humanity (WEF, 2020). Over half of the world's GDP is dependent on ecosystem services, and it has been estimated that nature-positive actions could generate up to USD 10 trillion. There is an urgent need to act by adopting circular and nature-positive business models with a mitigation hierarchy approach at their core. This profound change in the way business interacts with nature is required in order to stabilise biodiversity in the decade to 2030, allow for the recovery of natural ecosystems in the next 20 years and achieve net improvements by 2050 (CBD, 2021).

Elements:

- a. The company assesses the risks and opportunities related to the transition to a circular economy and determines the impacts of staying in a linear economy.
- b. The company provides evidence of integrating circularity in its strategy at the group level.
- c. The company discloses a strategy that would lead its business model to become nature positive, which includes a timeframe in line with milestones for halting biodiversity loss (no net loss) and reversing the trend (biodiversity net gain).
- d. The company applies a mitigation hierarchy approach to its biodiversity targets.

Sources: CBD (2021), Circle Economy (2021), EC and Business@Biodiversity (2021), EMF (2021), IPBES (2019), OECD (2019), SBTN (2020), IUCN (n.d B), WBSCD (2021), WBCSD et al. (2021), WEF (2020).

The use of 'nature positive' follows the definition by UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (Global Biodiversity Framework), as well as the one outlined by the WBCSD. For more information, please refer to the Glossary in the Annex section.



B. Ecosystems and biodiversity

State of nature

B1. Assessment of impacts on nature

Indicator: The company assesses its impacts on nature, including biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, both within its own operations and the upstream and downstream parts of its value chain.

Rationale: Impacts on nature can be broadly described as changes in the state of ecosystems and species, resulting from human activity, occurring because of both direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss (IPBES, 2019). The benefits provided by biodiversity are essential to human wellbeing. Yet despite past and current efforts, biodiversity continues to deteriorate and could reach a disastrous tipping point under business-as-usual conditions. This is becoming a major concern for corporate activity, and there is growing demand for companies to disclose reliable data on this topic. However, according to the Climate Disclosure Standards Board (CDSB, 2021), this is currently no common practice and only around 10% of companies (CDSB, 2020) report high-level commitments and some relevant metrics. Disclosure will play a key role in achieving global biodiversity targets and in triggering the systemic changes required to do so.

Elements:

- a. The company assesses its impacts on nature, including biodiversity, within its own operations.
- b. The company assesses its impacts on nature, including biodiversity, in the upstream activities of its value chain.
- c. The company assesses its impacts on nature, including biodiversity, in the downstream activities of its value chain.
- d. The company assesses whether its impacts on nature, including biodiversity, contribute to a cumulative effect, with other stakeholders, on the locations within its own operations.
- e. The company quantifies its impacts on nature, including biodiversity.

Sources: CBD (2021), CDSB (2021), CDSB (2020), EC and Business@Biodiversity (2021), Ecogain (2021), IPBES (2019), SBTN (2020), SDSN (forthcoming), UN et al. (2021), UNEP – WCMC (2020), UNEP – WCMC (2020b), WEF and PwC (2020).

Expectations regarding methodologies used for assessments and quantifications:

- For this indicator, the company is expected to disclose the methodology used to conduct the assessment of its impacts on nature.
- Regarding the quantification of impacts, the company must also disclose the methods used.
- In both cases, methods used are expected to be science-based.



B2. Assessment of dependencies on nature's contributions to people

Indicator: The company assesses its dependencies on nature, including biodiversity and nature's contributions to people (NCP), both within its own operations and the upstream and downstream elements of its value chain.

Rationale: Nature's contributions to people (NCP), or ecosystem services, are the benefits that humans derive from ecosystems and on which human life and activities, including corporate activities, rely. Research shows that more than 50% of global gross domestic product is directly linked to these ecosystem services (WEF and PwC, 2020), with most companies depending on nature, including biodiversity and NCP, as part of their business model. Thus, for companies to understand their relation to biodiversity, it is necessary that they assess not only their impacts but also their dependencies.

Elements:

- a. The company assesses its dependencies on nature within its own operations.
- b. The company assesses dependencies on nature of its upstream business relationships.
- c. The company assesses dependencies on nature of its downstream business relationships.
- d. The company quantifies its dependencies on nature in its own operations.

Sources: CBD (2021), CDSB (2021), EC and Business@Biodiversity (2021), Ecogain (2021), IPBES (2019), SBTN (2020), SDSN (forthcoming), UN et al. (2021), UNEP – WCMC (2020), UNEP – WCMC (2020b), WEF and PwC (2020).

Expectations regarding methodologies used for assessments and quantifications:

- For this indicator, the company is expected to disclose the methodology used to conduct the assessment of its dependencies on nature.
- Regarding the quantification of dependencies, the company must also disclose the methods used.
- In both cases, methods used are expected to be science-based.



B3. Key areas important for biodiversity

Indicator: The company discloses the locations where it operates as well as those locations' position and impact on areas important for biodiversity.

Rationale: According to the Key Biodiversity Areas Partnership ([KBA Partnership, 2018](#)), one of the main issues driving biodiversity loss is the destruction, degradation and overexploitation of nature. It is therefore a priority for companies to identify which areas of our planet where they operate – including their value chain – are critical to protect. Global goals and targets on biodiversity are currently under negotiation and should be adopted in 2022 as the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The current negotiating draft of the GBF includes a goal of 'an increase of at least 15% in the area, connectivity and integrity of natural ecosystems', and a target to conserve 'at least 30% globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people' ([CBD, 2021](#)).

Elements:

- a. The company discloses all the locations (owned and controlled) where it conducts activities.
- b. The company discloses the locations that are in or adjacent to areas important for biodiversity within its own operations.
- c. The company discloses the locations of its upstream business relationships, including suppliers, that are in or adjacent to areas important for biodiversity.
- d. The company has a management plan for locations within its own operations adjacent to areas important for biodiversity, and discloses the percentage of land, fresh water and sea use in such locations.

Sources: CBD ([2021](#)), CDSB ([2021](#)), EC and Business@Biodiversity ([2021](#)), GRI 304-1, 304-2, 304-3, 304-4 ([2021](#)), IBAT ([n.d.](#)), IFC ([2012c](#)), IPBES ([2019](#)), IUCN et al. ([2013](#)), KBA Partnership ([2018](#)), UNEP – WCMC ([2020b](#)), WBCSD et al. ([2021](#)).

Areas important for biodiversity

For the purposes of this indicator, areas important for biodiversity refers to areas of land, sea or fresh water which have been identified as important for biodiversity, such as:

- protected areas on national, regional and international lists
- areas of high biodiversity value and High Conservation Value Areas
- Key Biodiversity Areas
- biodiversity hotspots
- IUCN Protected Area Management Categories
- IUCN Green List
- UNESCO Heritage (natural criteria)
- Ramsar Convention.

The company's management plan must rely on science-based metrics that integrate biodiversity.



B4. Key species

Indicator: The company discloses the species found within its own operations' locations as well as those within its business relationships' locations. The company also discloses the status of these species, in accordance with national and international conservation lists.

Rationale: Despite past multilateral policy efforts, like the Aichi Targets that expired in 2020, the rate of species extinction is approximately 1,000 times higher than ever before, and the total number of wild mammals is declining by 82% compared to historical records ([WEF and PwC, 2020](#)). As scientists have put bluntly, we are witnessing a 'biological annihilation' amounting to the sixth mass extinction. In the past, the major threats to species have been well documented. However, establishing specific targets for threat reduction is complex because there are large numbers of threatened species as well as rapid deterioration of habitats. Along with efforts to preserve key areas for biodiversity, companies can contribute to the process of halting species abundance and richness loss and extinction.

Elements:

- a. The company discloses species populations existing in or adjacent to its own locations.
- b. The company discloses species populations existing in or adjacent to the locations of its upstream business relationships, including suppliers.
- c. The company discloses status according to national and international conservation lists for species found both in its own locations.
- d. The company discloses status according to national and international conservation lists for species found in its upstream business relationships locations, including suppliers.
- e. The company has a strategy regarding the conservation of species impacted by its own operations and value chain, aiming for a net-positive impact on threatened species.

Sources: CBD ([2021](#)), CDSB ([2021](#)), EC and Business@Biodiversity ([2021](#)), GRI 304-1, 304-2, 304-3, 304-4 ([2021](#)), IBAT ([n.d.](#)), IFC ([2012c](#)), IPBES ([2019](#)), IUCN ([n.d. C](#)), IUCN et al. ([2013](#)), Mair, L. et al. ([2021](#)), UNEP – WCMC ([2020b](#)), WBCSD et al. ([2021](#)).

Species important for biodiversity

For the purposes of this indicator, species important for biodiversity refers to:

- protected species on national conservation lists
- protected species on regional conservation lists
- IUCN Red List



Land and sea use change

B5. Ecosystem conversion

Indicator: The company demonstrates that it is minimising its footprint from its business activities across all relevant ecosystems and/or looking to achieve conversion-free supply chains across relevant high-risk commodities.

Rationale: Land use change through the conversion of natural habitats is among the most significant drivers of biodiversity loss in terrestrial ecosystems. Agricultural production alone is responsible for 80% (WWF, 2020) of global deforestation. Moreover, extractive sectors including the metals and mining and oil and gas sectors have significant impact on converting ecosystems through their business activities, including land degradation or conversion of wetlands. Aligning with the SBTN interim targets to ensure zero deforestation and conversion from 2020 in all corporate supply chains, this indicator focuses on ensuring companies set targets to minimise their footprint across all relevant ecosystem realms.

Elements (AVOID):

- a. The company has a commitment to ensure zero conversion across its relevant high-risk commodities or across all material realms (land, fresh water and marine).
- b. The company provides qualitative evidence towards achieving conversion-free supply chains.
- c. The company has time-bound conversion-free targets for all of its relevant high-risk commodities or across all material realms (land, fresh water and marine).
- d. The company discloses the proportion of high-risk commodities which are conversion-free, if applicable.
- e. The company discloses the sourcing regions of its high-risk commodities and its traceability system, if applicable.
- f. The company provides evidence that it has achieved 100% conversion-free supply chains for all its relevant high-risk commodities.

Additional elements for companies without a zero-conversion commitment (MINIMISE):

- g. The company has a commitment to minimise ecosystem conversion in the most material parts of its value chain.
- h. The company discloses qualitative evidence towards minimising ecosystem conversion in areas important for biodiversity.
- i. The company discloses its system to monitor, review and improve its performance on minimising its footprint across material realms (land, fresh water and marine) affected by its activities and upstream business relationships.
- j. The company discloses quantitative targets to minimise conversion in all material realms (land, fresh water and marine).

Sources: Accountability Framework Initiative (2021), CDP F6 (2021b), Forest 500 (n.d.), SBTN (2020).



Ecosystem Conversion as defined by the Accountability Framework initiative (2020): change of a natural ecosystem to another use or profound change in a natural ecosystem's species composition, structure or function.

High-risk commodities, as defined by CDP Forests (2021b): timber products, cattle products, soya, palm oil, cocoa, coffee and rubber.

B6. Ecosystem restoration

Indicator: The company demonstrates restoration activities in its value chain across all relevant ecosystems.

Rationale: The UN has declared the ten years to 2030 the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration – a rallying call for the protection and restoration of ecosystems for the benefit of both people and nature. This indicator aligns with the SBTN interim targets on ensuring that a proportion of natural or semi-natural habitats are retained or regenerated in working lands from 2020, and areas under restoration in all ecosystems are increased.

Elements:

- a. The company has a commitment regarding the restoration of ecosystems.
- b. The company discloses details and outcomes of ecosystem restoration projects in areas affected by its own operations or upstream business relationships.
- c. The company has a time-bound target for its ecosystem restoration activities.
- d. The company meets element b. and discloses ecosystem restoration efforts beyond areas affected by its own operations or upstream business relationships (e.g. compensation or offset mechanisms).

Sources: Accountability Framework Initiative (2021), CDP F6 (2021b), FAO (2021), Forest 500 (n.d.), IUCN (2021), IUCN CEM & SER (2021), SBTN (2020).

To respect the mitigation hierarchy principle, a company's score in B6. Ecosystem restoration will be capped by its score in B5. Ecosystem conversion.



Direct exploitation of resources

B7. Resource exploitation and circularity performance

Indicator: The company demonstrates it is working towards decoupling economic prosperity from resource consumption and environmental degradation.

Rationale: The current dependence on a linear economy is largely responsible for most impacts on nature and biodiversity. Some 90% of biodiversity loss is caused by the way we extract and process materials, fuels and food (UNEP, 2019). Approximately 60 billion tons of renewable and non-renewable resources are extracted yearly, a 15% augmentation since the 1980s (IPBES, 2019). Furthermore, following land and sea use change, the largest negative impact on nature is the direct exploitation, especially overexploitation, of natural resources and organisms via harvesting, logging, hunting and fishing (IPBES, 2019). By decoupling economic prosperity from resource consumption and environmental degradation, circularity offers opportunities for new and better growth that not only help safeguard and rebuild biodiversity but also provide benefits. These include helping to tackle climate change, improving air and water quality and reducing the cost of accessing goods and services.

Elements:

- a. The company provides qualitative evidence of working towards a circular economy at distinct phases of its products' life cycle.
- b. The company discloses its inputs, including its material footprint, according to an international standard.
- c. The company discloses which organisms it directly exploits for commercial uses, including wild animal and plant species.
- d. The company discloses a management plan related to the direct exploitation of resources, to avoid overexploitation and the use of threatened species.
- e. The company reports quantitatively on its group-wide circularity performance (e.g. circular material productivity).
- f. The company meets element e. and demonstrates it is decoupling financial performance and linear resource consumption.

Sources: Circle Economy (2021), Circle Economy and PACE (2020), EMF (2021), GRI 301 (2016), IPBES (2019), OECD (2019), WBSCD (2021).

A product's life cycle is divided into phases such as material sourcing, design, manufacturing, re-use, etc.

The reporting includes materials used by weight or volume and recycled input materials.

The management plan must include science-based metrics, such as maximum sustainable yield.

Material footprint is a key indicator of SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), which includes consumption of biomass, fossil fuels, metal ores and non-metal ores.



B8. Soil health

Indicator: The company adopts practices that reduce soil degradation and improve soil health across the most material parts of its value chain.

Rationale: Over 40% of living organisms in terrestrial ecosystems associate directly with soils during their life cycle, making soils among the most important reservoirs of biodiversity ([UNEP, BRS Conventions and Minamata Convention, 2021](#)). However, current unsustainable agricultural practices and other business activities have led to the degradation of around one-third of the world's soil, resulting in significant negative impacts on biodiversity and soil health ([TEEB, 2018](#)). This indicator focuses on practices that reduce soil degradation and encourage regeneration in the system by improving soil health and agrobiodiversity.

Elements:

- a. The company provides qualitative evidence on improving soil health or agrobiodiversity in its production or sourcing practices.
- b. The company provides quantitative evidence on improving soil health or agrobiodiversity in its production or sourcing practices.
- c. The company has a target to improve soil health in its production or sourcing practices and reports progress against it.
- d. The company has a target to increase agrobiodiversity in its production or sourcing practices and reports progress against it.
- e. The company discloses quantifiable data on its impact on soil health or agrobiodiversity in its production or sourcing practices.

Sources : [FAO \(2021\)](#), [FAO et al. \(2020\)](#), [OP2B \(2021\)](#).

Improving soil health includes reducing soil pollution, soil erosion, soil salinisation or waterlogging and increasing soil fertility. Reporting can include regenerative practices on soil health parameters, such as soil organic carbon, soil pH or species diversity.

For extractive industries, element e. can include quantifiable data on the company's impact on soil health, which discloses metrics such as soil organic matter and carbon and reduction of land affected by erosion, and agrobiodiversity, such as the increase in the variety of plants, animals and microorganisms.



B9. Water withdrawal

Indicator: The company reduces water withdrawal across the most material parts of its value chain.

Rationale: One-fifth of the world's river basins are experiencing significant changes in surface water available in the last five years ([UN Water, 2021](#)). Increasing exploitation of water resources is likely to lead to disruptions in ecosystem services in terms of renewing and purifying water resources. This indicator is aligned with the SBTN interim target to reduce water withdrawal in the most material parts of the value chain in line with environmental flow needs by 2030.

Elements:

- a. The company provides quantitative evidence of reductions in water withdrawal in its own operations.
- b. The company has a time-bound target to reduce water withdrawal in its own operations and reports progress against the target.
- c. The company provides evidence of dependency on water-stressed areas in its own operations.
- d. The company discloses the proportion of withdrawals from water-stressed areas in its own operations.
- e. The company provides evidence of engaging with upstream business relationships to reduce water withdrawal.
- f. The company provides evidence of dependency on water-stressed areas in its value chain. In addition, it has a target to engage with upstream business relationships on the management of water-stressed areas and reports progress against the target.

Sources: CDP W8 ([2021e](#)), CEO Water Mandate ([2021](#)), GRI 303 ([2021](#)), SBTN ([2020](#)), Transparent ([n.d.](#)).



Pollution

B10. Water quality

Indicator: The company reduces water quality pressures across the most material parts of its value chain.

Rationale: Approximately 80% of global wastewater is untreated when released back into the environment, causing significant negative effects on both ecosystem functioning and human health (IUCN, n.d.). This indicator is aligned with the SBTN interim target to reduce water quality pressures in high-impact parts of the value chain in line with good ambient water quality by 2030.

Elements:

- a. The company provides qualitative evidence of reducing water quality pressures.
- b. The company discloses its processes for managing and monitoring discharge water quality.
- c. The company reports regularly on water quality parameters.
- d. The company has targets to reduce water quality pressures and reports progress against them.

Sources: CDP W8 (2021e), CEO Water Mandate (2021), GRI 303 (2021), SBTN (2020), Transparent (n.d.).

Water quality parameters could include biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), chemical oxygen demand (COD) and total suspended solids (TSS), mass of nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorous and mass of inorganic pollutants such as heavy metals and chemical compounds.



B11. Hazardous substances and waste

Indicator: The company reduces the production of hazardous substances and/or hazardous waste across the most material parts of its value chain.

Rationale: Pollution is among the primary drivers of biodiversity loss, with large amounts of hazardous chemicals and other pollutants affecting ecosystem function and leading to population decline ([UNEP, BRS Conventions and Minamata Convention, 2021](#)). Persistence of such hazardous substances and waste in the environment can lead to uptake by wildlife and humans resulting in reproductive and carcinogenic effects. As such, this indicator covers the production and management of hazardous substances as well as waste management.

Elements:

- a. The company provides qualitative evidence of reducing the production of hazardous substances.
- b. The company has targets to phase out the production of hazardous substances or increase the production of safer alternatives and reports progress against the targets.
- c. The company has a commitment not to develop or market new chemicals or products with SVHC (substance of very high concern) properties.
- d. The company provides qualitative evidence of reducing the production of hazardous waste.
- e. The company has targets to reduce total amounts of hazardous waste and reports progress against them.
- f. The company reports on (i) the proportion of hazardous waste treated to reduce pollution compared to total waste, (ii) hazardous waste diverted from disposal and (iii) directed to disposal.

Sources: ChemSec ([n.d. B](#)), GRI 306 ([2021](#)), Transparent ([n.d.](#)), UNCTAD ([2019](#)).



B12. Plastic use and waste

Indicator: The company reduces plastic use and waste across the most material parts of its value chain.

Rationale: Since the 1980s, plastic pollution is estimated to have increased tenfold ([IPBES, 2018](#)). Estimates suggest that global plastic production will double by 2050, of which approximately 8 million tonnes will end up as marine debris ([UNEP, BRS Conventions and Minamata Convention, 2021](#)). The debris breaks into microplastics that are then ingested by marine organisms, leading to toxic effects on their feeding, growth and reproductive patterns. Due to plastic's prolonged negative impact on ecosystems and biodiversity, this indicator focuses on reducing plastic use and waste from the private sector through globally applicable commitments and targets.

Elements:

- a. The company provides qualitative evidence of reducing plastic use and waste in its own operations.
- b. The company provides quantitative evidence of reducing plastic use and waste in its own operations.
- c. The company has targets regarding reduction of virgin polymer production or overall plastic use and waste, or an increase in the proportion of reusable or refillable packaging, and reports against the targets.
- d. The company reports on the proportion of reused or recycled products, or proportion of virgin polymer use, or proportion of single-use plastics.
- e. The company reports on the amount of plastic waste generated, and proportions directed from or to disposal.
- f. The company provides evidence of actions to reduce plastic use and waste in its upstream activities.
- g. The company provides evidence of actions to reduce plastic use and waste in its downstream activities.

Sources: As You Sow ([2021](#)), GRI 306 ([2021](#)), Minderoo Foundation (2021), Transparent ([n.d.](#)), UNCTAD ([2019](#)).



B13. Air pollutants

Indicator: The company reduces the production of air pollutants across the most material parts of its value chain.

Rationale: The production of air pollutants, such as nitrogen oxides and sulphur oxides, through companies' operations and business activities, has adverse effects on the climate, habitats, biodiversity, agriculture, air quality and the health of both animals and humans (GRI, 2021). Moreover, the increase in certain air pollutants can disrupt the provision of ecosystem services, for example nutrient cycling and carbon cycling, but also water supply, on which planetary and human life depends. As such, this indicator measures companies' approach to measuring and reducing harmful air pollutants across the value chain, including beyond national and international regulations.

Elements:

- a. The company provides qualitative evidence of reducing air pollutants across the most material parts of its value chain.
- b. The company discloses its management and monitoring processes to measure and reduce its air pollutants.
- c. The company reports regularly on air quality parameters of air emissions identified in relevant regulations as harmful air pollutants by international bodies for its industry.
- d. The company has time-bound targets to reduce air pollutants across the most material parts of its value chain.
- e. The company reports regularly against these targets.

Sources: Clean Air Fund (n.d.), GRI 305-6 (2021), Transparent (n.d.), WHO (2021).

Air pollutants that companies should be reporting on include nitrous oxides (NO_x), sulphur oxides (SO_x), persistent organic pollutants (POP), volatile organic compounds (VOC), hazardous air pollutants (HAP), particulate matter (PM) and other standard categories of air pollutants.



Climate change

B14. Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions

Indicator: The company reduces its scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in line with a 1.5-degree trajectory.

Rationale: Biodiversity and climate change are heavily interlinked ([CBD, 2009](#)), with conversion and degradation of ecosystems leading to increases in GHG emissions. Subsequently, the effects of climate change are driving further biodiversity loss through increased risk of extinctions and extreme weather events. As such, this indicator focuses on companies' emissions reductions in line with a 1.5-degree trajectory as recommended by the Paris Agreement. Furthermore, the indicator is aligned with the SBTi's interim target to reduce value chain GHG emissions by 50% by 2030, in accordance with sectoral ambitions, and by 90-95% by 2050, in accordance with sectoral ambitions by 2030.

Elements:

- a. The company discloses quantitative reductions in its scope 1 and 2 emissions.
- b. The company has time-bound targets to reduce its scope 1 and 2 emissions.
- c. The company reports progress against these targets.
- d. The company's scope 1 and 2 emissions targets are aligned with the 1.5-degree trajectory.

Sources: CDP C4 ([2021](#)), GRI 305 ([2021](#)), SBTi ([n.d.](#)), SBTN ([2020](#)).

The 1.5-degree trajectory includes net-zero targets.



B15. Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions

Indicator: The company reduces its scope 3 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in line with a 1.5-degree trajectory.

Rationale: Scope 3 emissions are often the largest segment of companies' GHG, with business activities leading to a change in land use or degradation of ecosystems within companies' value chains. Companies can reduce scope 3 emissions by influencing business partners across their value chains as well as through their purchases or products they sell. It is estimated that about 40% of the global GHG emissions are driven, or influenced, by companies through their purchases and the products they sell (CDP, 2018). This indicator therefore seeks to hold companies accountable for their scope 3 emissions and aligns with the SBTi's guidance on the topic (SBTi, 2021).¹

Elements:

- a. The company discloses segments of its scope 3 emissions.
- b. The company discloses quantitative reductions in its scope 3 emissions.
- c. The company has a time-bound target to reduce scope 3 emissions.
- d. The company reports progress against its scope 3 emissions target.
- e. The company's scope 3 target is aligned with the 1.5-degree trajectory.

Sources: CDP C4 (2021), GRI 305 (2021), SBTi (n.d.), SBTN (2020).

The 1.5-degree trajectory includes net-zero targets.

¹ Guidance from the SBTi states that if a company's relevant scope 3 emissions are 40% or more of total scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, a scope 3 target is required.



Invasive alien species

B16. Invasive alien species

Indicator: The company discloses how it manages the risks posed by invasive alien species (IAS) in its own operations and the most material parts of its value chain.

Rationale: The accidental or voluntary introduction of IAS is one of the most common threats to species as well as a very important factor in ecosystems' decline and deterioration. IAS can be defined as species introduced into a foreign environment which adversely impact local biodiversity through competition and predation, provoking the disruption of local ecosystems and ecosystem functions. The CBD's Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework requires that the introduction of IAS be managed and the rate of their introduction and establishment be lessened by at least 50% (CBD, 2021).

Elements:

- a. The company identifies the activities that could lead to the introduction of IAS in its own operations.
- b. The company identifies the activities that could lead to the introduction of IAS in its value chain.
- c. The company discloses any introduction of IAS resulting from its own operations or its value chain.
- d. The company discloses its processes to prevent the introduction of IAS or to manage IAS that have been introduced as a result of its own operations.

Sources: CBD (2021), CDSB (2021), EC and Business@Biodiversity (2021), GRI 304-1, 304-2, 304-3, 304-4 (2021), IBAT (n.d.), IFC (2012c), IPBES (2019), IUCN (n.d.), WBCSD et al. (2021).



C. Social inclusion and community impact

C1. Right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment

Indicator: The company respects the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

Rationale: The United Nations recently recognised access to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a universal human right ([UN, 2021b](#)). Business activities and infrastructure projects may expose local communities to increased environmental risks and adverse impacts, for example related to toxic materials or spread of diseases ([IFC, 2012](#)). At the same time, human rights defenders across the globe remain highly vulnerable and face violent and sometimes fatal assaults – in conjunction with increasing intimidation, harassment, stigmatisation and criminalisation. There is growing concern about the role of business in causing, contributing or being directly linked to attacks against human rights defenders, or in failing to take action against such attacks ([UN, UNEP, 2021](#)).

Elements:

- a. The company has a commitment to respect the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.
- b. The company demonstrates that its human rights risks and impacts identification process includes a focus on the health of local communities.
- c. The company provides evidence of tracking its actual or potential negative impacts on the health of local communities.
- d. The company provides evidence of how it prevents, mitigates or remediates its actual and potential negative impacts on the health of local communities.
- e. The company has a commitment to zero tolerance for acts of violence, threats, intimidation or judicial harassment committed against land and environmental rights defenders.

Sources: BHRRRC ([2021](#)) GW ([2020](#)), ISHR ([2020](#)), IFC ([2012](#)), UN ([2016](#), [2021](#)), UNEP ([2021](#)).

The United Nations defines 'environmental human rights defenders' as individuals and groups who, in their personal or professional capacity and in a peaceful manner, strive to protect and promote human rights relating to the environment, including water, air, land, flora and fauna. Land and environmental rights are interlinked and are often inseparable. As a result, the two broad categories of defenders advocating for the environment and for land rights are often characterised as 'land and environmental rights defenders'.



C2. Indigenous peoples' rights

Indicator: The company respects indigenous peoples' rights and obtains affected Indigenous Peoples' free, prior and informed consent regarding whether and how to carry out projects.

Rationale: Indigenous peoples may be particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts associated with project development, including risk of impoverishment and loss of identity, culture and natural resource-based livelihoods (IFC, 2012d). Protecting and securing Indigenous Peoples' rights has been recognised as crucial to advancing conservation, restoration and climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies (WRI, 2019).

Elements:

- a. The company has a commitment to respect Indigenous Peoples' rights or references the relevant part(s) of ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples or the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- b. The company discloses its processes to identify and recognise the rights of Indigenous Peoples when activities in its own operations may impact their rights, and describes how it obtains Indigenous Peoples' free, prior and informed consent regarding whether and how to carry out projects.
- c. The company requires its business relationships to identify and recognise affected Indigenous Peoples and to obtain their free, prior and informed consent regarding whether and how to carry out projects.
- d. The company describes how it works with its business relationships to improve their practices in respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Sources: CCSI (2020), FAO (2014), GRI 411 (2021), IFC (2012d), UNGP (2021).

Components of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) (CCSI, 2020)

1. Free: Community members give or withhold consent voluntarily, without coercion, intimidation or manipulation.
2. Prior: Consent is obtained well before each stage of project authorisation and is actively sought and maintained on an ongoing basis throughout the life of a project.
3. Informed: Community members access, understand and deliberate on all relevant project information before giving or withholding consent.
4. Consent: Community decisions to agree to, refuse or offer conditional consent to projects or activities that affect their land or resources are respected. FPIC is not satisfied by companies carrying out 'free, prior and informed consultation'.



C3. Land rights

Indicator: The company respects the rights of legitimate tenure holders when acquiring, leasing or using land, paying particular attention to vulnerable tenure rights holders.

Rationale: When companies seek to acquire or lease land for their business activities, this can lead to relocation and loss of shelter or livelihoods for communities or individual households ([IFC, 2012b](#)). In countries where national governance and land administration are weak, local and indigenous communities are more exposed to rights violations and displacement ([WRI, 2017](#)).

Elements:

- a. The company has a commitment to respect ownership and use of land and natural resources and related legitimate tenure rights, as set out in the relevant part(s) of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT), or the IFC Performance Standards.
- b. The company, when acquiring, leasing land or making other arrangements to use or restrict the use or access to land or natural resources, discloses its processes to (i) identify legitimate tenure rights holders, including through engagement with affected communities in the process, paying particular attention to vulnerable or marginalised tenure rights holders, and (ii) negotiate with them to provide adequate compensation.
- c. The company requires its business relationships to have a process to identify legitimate tenure rights holders when acquiring, leasing or making other arrangements to use land, paying particular attention to vulnerable or marginalised tenure rights holders, and to negotiate with them to provide adequate compensation.
- d. The company works with its business relationships to improve their practices on land use and acquisition.

Sources: FAO ([2012](#)), IFC ([2012b](#)), WBA ([2021](#)).

Adequate compensation includes both financial compensation as well as requested alternatives to financial compensation.



C4. Water and sanitation

Indicator: The company respects the right to water and does not negatively affect access to safe water.

Rationale: Water scarcity affects more than 40% of people around the world – an alarming figure that is projected to increase due to climate change (UN, 2021). Water challenges include not only water scarcity but also pollution, flooding and access to drinking water and sanitation services. Companies are expected to adopt water stewardship practices that ensure water use and treatment are socially equitable and environmentally sustainable (UNGC, 2007).

Elements:

- a. The company has a commitment to respect the right to water.
- b. The company discloses its processes to implement preventive and corrective action plans for identified specific risks to the right to water and sanitation in its own operations.
- c. The company requires access to water and sanitation, including refraining from negatively affecting access to safe water, to be included in contractual arrangements with its business relationships.
- d. The company works with its business relationships to improve their practices on access to water and sanitation.

Sources: UNGC (2007), WBA (2021).



Core social indicators

Integration of core social indicators into the benchmark

WBA's social transformation focuses on incentivising companies to meet societal expectations of responsible business conduct that leaves no one behind. By respecting human rights, providing decent work and acting ethically, companies can support the SDGs, address inequalities and contribute to a sustainable future for all. A key part of this is embedding the 'leave no one behind' principle in the WBA system transformation methodologies.

To do so, WBA benchmarks integrate a common set of core social indicators into all system transformation methodologies to assess whether companies demonstrate a sufficient commitment to responsible conduct. These indicators are used to assess companies, regardless of the sector in which they operate, based on publicly available information, in order to drive transparency about responsible business conduct. The core social indicators are supplemented by transformation-specific social indicators that are relevant to the sectors being assessed (see also Section C – Social inclusion and community impact).

Respect human rights

C5. Commitment to respect human rights

Indicator: The company publicly commits to respecting all internationally recognised human rights across its activities.

C6. Commitment to respect the human rights of workers

Indicator: The company publicly commits to respecting the principles concerning fundamental rights at work in the eight ILO core conventions as set out in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. It also has a publicly available statement of policy committing it to respect the human rights of workers in its business relationships.

C7. Identifying human rights risks and impacts

Indicator: The company proactively identifies its human rights risks and impacts.

C8. Assessing human rights risks and impacts

Indicator: Having identified its human rights risks and impacts, the company assesses them and then prioritises its salient human rights risks and impacts.

C9. Integrating and acting on human rights risks and impacts

Indicator: The company integrates the findings of its assessments of human rights risks and impacts into relevant internal functions and processes by taking appropriate actions to prevent, mitigate or remediate its salient human rights issues.



C10. Engaging with affected and potentially affected stakeholders

Indicator: As part of identifying and assessing its human rights risks and impacts, the company identifies and engages with stakeholders whose human rights have been or may be affected by its activities.

C11. Grievance mechanisms for workers

Indicator: The company has one or more channels/mechanisms (its own, third party or shared) through which workers can raise complaints or concerns, including in relation to human rights issues.

C12. Grievance mechanisms for external individuals and communities

Indicator: The company has one or more channels/mechanisms (its own, third party or shared) through which individuals and communities who may be adversely impacted by the company can raise complaints or concerns, including in relation to human rights issues.

Provide and promote decent work

C13. Health and safety fundamentals

Indicator: The company publicly commits to respecting the health and safety of workers and discloses relevant data. It also places health and safety expectations on and monitors the performance of its business relationships.

C14. Living wage fundamentals

Indicator: The company is committed to paying its workers a living wage and supports the payment of a living wage by its business relationships.

C15. Working hours fundamentals

Indicator: The company does not require workers to work more than the regular and overtime hours and places equivalent expectations on its business relationships.

C16. Collective bargaining fundamentals

Indicator: The company discloses information about collective bargaining agreements covering its workforce and its approach to supporting the practices of its business relationships in relation to freedom of association and collective bargaining.

C17. Workforce diversity disclosure fundamentals

Indicator: The company discloses the percentage of employees for each employee category by at least four indicators of diversity.

C18. Gender equality and women's empowerment fundamentals

Indicator: The company publicly commits to gender equality and women's empowerment and discloses quantitative information on gender equality and women's empowerment.



Act ethically

C19. Personal data protection fundamentals

Indicator: The company publicly commits to protecting personal data and has a global approach to data privacy.

C20. Responsible tax fundamentals

Indicator: The company has a public global tax approach and discloses its corporate income tax payments on a country-by-country basis.

C21. Anti-bribery and anti-corruption fundamentals

Indicator: The company publicly prohibits bribery and corruption and takes steps to identify and address bribery and corruption risks and incidents.

C22. Responsible lobbying and political engagement fundamentals

Indicator: The company has an approach to lobbying and political engagement and has related controls in place.



Acknowledgements

WBA is grateful for the support received at the early stages of the Nature Benchmark and enabling the publication of this methodology.

We give our thanks to the co-hosts and partners in consultations, WBCSD and WWF.

We also wish to thank 150 people coming from over 100 organisations who took part in the methodology development, generously sharing their time, experience and feedback, and more particularly to the 40+ stakeholders who took time to review and provide detailed written comments.

Moreover, we are grateful to our Expert Review Committee (ERC) for their guidance and support.

WBA is funded by a group of governments, foundations and philanthropic organisations that share our vision for the future, the full list of which is available on our website and on the last page of this report. We would like to thank them for their support, without which none of our work would be possible.

Our growing Alliance of 300 organisations represents civil society, business networks, reporting platforms, standards setters, financial institutions and multilateral organisations, with SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals) at its core. WBA would like to thank our Allies for the support and expertise they provide.



References

1. Accountability Framework Initiative (2020) Definitions Available at <https://accountability-framework.org/the-framework/contents/definitions/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
2. Accountability Framework Initiative (2021) Framework Available at <https://accountability-framework.org/the-framework/contents/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
3. Akcakaya, H. R *et al* (2018) Quantifying species recovery and conservation success to develop an IUCN Green List of Species Available at <https://conbio.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/cobi.13112> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
4. ALIGN (n.d) Align Available at https://ec.europa.eu/environment/biodiversity/business/align/index_en.htm [Accessed Nov, 2021]
5. As You Sow (2021) 2021 Corporate Plastic Pollution Scorecard Available at <https://www.asyousow.org/report-page/plastic-pollution-scorecard-2021/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
6. As You Sow (2021) Plastics: The Last Straw for Big Oil? Available at https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59a706d4f5e2319b70240ef9/t/607df360ab80385e1bbe289/1618867048106/AsYouSow2021_Petrochemical2021_v5_20210417.pdf
7. BBOP (2012) Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme - Glossary Available at https://www.forest-trends.org/wp-content/uploads/imported/bbop_updated_glossary_6-july-12_v1-pdf.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
8. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre (2022) Human rights defenders & business in 2021: Protecting the rights of people driving a just transition Available at <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/from-us/briefings/hrds-2021/> [Accessed March 2022]
9. Business Consulting Group (2021) The Biodiversity Crisis is a Business Crisis Available at: <https://web-assets.bcg.com/fb/5e/74af5531468e9c1d4dd5c9fc0bd7/bcg-the-biodiversity-crisis-is-a-business-crisis-mar-2021-rr.pdf>
10. CBD (2009) Connecting biodiversity and climate change mitigation and adaptation Available at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/ahteg-brochure-en.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
11. CBD (2020) First draft of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Available at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/abb5/591f/2e46096d3f0330b08ce87a45/wg2020-03-03-en.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
12. CBD (2021) Proposed headline indicators of the monitoring framework for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Available at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/d716/da69/5e81c8e0faca1db1dd145a59/wg2020-03-03-add1-en.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
13. CBD (n.d) What are invasive alien species? Available at <https://www.cbd.int/idb/2009/about/what/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]



14. CDP (2021) Climate Change Questionnaire Available at <https://www.cdp.net/en/guidance/guidanceforcompanies#6c84d1acb017e380e18853ad8966994a>
15. CDP (2021b) Forest Questionnaire Available at <https://www.cdp.net/en/guidance/guidance-for-companies#6c84d1acb017e380e18853ad8966994a> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
16. CDP (2021c) Signposting and Feedback Opportunity: 2022 CDP Questionnaires Available at https://cdn.cdp.net/cdp-production/comfy/cms/files/files/000/005/215/original/CDP_2022_Financial_Services_Signposting_Briefing_Document_-_Clean.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
17. CDP (2021d) Technical Note on Water Accounting Available at http://b8f65cb373b1b7b15feb70d8ead6ced550b4d987d7c03fcdd1d.r81.cf3.rackcdn.com/cms/guidance_docs/pdfs/000/001/561/original/CDP-technical-note-water-accounting-definitions.pdf?1523617481 [Accessed Nov, 2021]
18. CDP (2021e) Water Security Questionnaire Available at <https://www.cdp.net/en/guidance/guidance-forcompanies#6c84d1acb017e380e18853ad8966994a> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
19. CDSB (2019) Framework for Reporting Environmental & Climate Change Information Available at https://www.cdsb.net/sites/default/files/cdsb_framework_2019_v2.2.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
20. CDSB (2020) The State of EU environmental disclosure in 2020 Available at https://www.cdsb.net/sites/default/files/cdsb_eu_environmental_disclosure_in_2020_21_update_spreads.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
21. CDSB (2021) Application guidance for biodiversity related disclosures Available at <https://www.cdsb.net/sites/default/files/biodiversity-application-guidance-single.pdf> [Accessed Dec, 2021]
22. ChemSec (n.d B) What is the SIN List? Available at <https://sinlist.chemsec.org/what-is-the-sin-list/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
23. ChemSec (n.d) Methodology Available at <https://chemscore.chemsec.org/methodology/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
24. Circle Economy (2021) The Circularity Gap Report Available at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MP7EhRU-N8n1S3zpqlshNWxqFR2hznd/edit> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
25. Circle Economy and PACE (2020) Circular Metrics for Business Available at https://assets.websitefiles.com/5d26d80e8836af2d12ed1269/5faa4d272e1a82a1d9126772_201029%20-%20BCG%20Metrics%20-%20White%20Papers%20-%20The%20Landscape%20-%20210_x_297_mm%20-%20bleed_3_mm.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
26. Clean Air Fund (n.d.) Clean Air Fund Webpage [Available at <https://www.cleanairfund.org/>]
27. Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (2020) Government briefing: incorporating free, prior, and informed consent into investment approval process Available at <https://ccsi.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/content/docs/Briefing-FPIC-and-investment-approval-July-2020.pdf> [Accessed March 2022]



28. Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (n.d.) Respecting the Human Rights of Project-Affected Communities in Wind and Solar Energy Project Deployment Available at <https://ccsi.columbia.edu/content/respecting-human-rights-project-affected-communities-wind-and-solar-energy-project> [Accessed March, 2022]
29. EC and Business@Biodiversity (2021) Assessment of biodiversity measurement approaches for businesses and financial institutions Available at https://ec.europa.eu/environment/biodiversity/business/assets/pdf/EU%20B@B%20Platform%20Update%20Report%203_FINAL_1March2021.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
30. Ecogain (2021) The state of biodiversity and business in the Nordic and Baltic countries Available at https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ba6c49f9b8fe842619e4cf6/t/614b15e1fac8c226bd8f4386/1632310811880/EBI_21maj_210922.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
31. Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2021) The Nature Imperative: How the circular economy tackles biodiversity loss Available at <https://emf.thirdlight.com/link/bqgxl2mlprld-v7i2m6/@/preview/1?o> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
32. European Commission (2014) Ecodesign your future Available at: <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/4d42d597-4f92-4498-8e1d-857cc157e6db> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
33. FAO (2012) Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the context of national food security Available at <https://www.fao.org/3/i2801e/i2801e.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
34. FAO (2014) Respecting free, prior, and informed consent Available at <https://www.fao.org/3/i3496e/i3496e.pdf> [Accessed March, 2022]
35. FAO (2021) Guidance on core indicators for agrifood systems Available at <https://www.fao.org/family-farming/detail/en/c/1439075/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
36. FAO et al (2020) State of knowledge of soil biodiversity - Status, challenges and potentialities Available at <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb1928en> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
37. FAO, IUCN CEM & SER (2021) Principles for ecosystem restoration to guide the United Nations Decade 2021–2030 Available <https://www.fao.org/3/cb6591en/cb6591en.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
38. Forest 500 (n.d.) Forest 500 Webpage Available at <https://forest500.org/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
39. Forum for the Future and WBSCD (2021) A compass for just and regenerative business Available at <https://www.forumforthefuture.org/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=03382fe2-0bf6-42c0-9d2c-fbaa962a78f0> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
40. GRI (2021) Consolidated Set of the GRI Standards 2020 Available at <https://www.globalreporting.org/how-to-use-the-gri-standards/gri-standards-english-language/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
41. IBAT (n.d.) Interated Biodiversity Assessment Tool Available at <https://www.ibat-alliance.org/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]



42. IFAC et al (2020) Sustainable Development Goals Disclosure Recommendations Available at https://www.integratedreporting.org/wpcontent/uploads/2020/01/ICAS5045_SDGD_Recommendations_A4_22pp_AW3-1.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
43. IFC (2012) Performance Standard 4 Community Health, Safety, and Security Available at https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/sustainability-at-ifc/policies-standards/performance-standards/ps4 [Accessed Nov, 2021]
44. IFC (2012b) Performance Standard 5 Land Resettlement Available at https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/sustainability-at-ifc/policies-standards/performance-standards/ps5 [Accessed Nov, 2021]
45. IFC (2012c) Performance Standard 6 - Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources Available at https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/3baf2a6a-2bc5-4174-96c5-ee8085c455f/PS6_English_2012.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=jxNbLC0 [Accessed Nov, 2021]
46. IFC (2012d) Performance Standard 7 Indigenous Peoples Available at https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/3274df05-7597-4cd3-83d9-2aca293e69ab/PS7_English_2012.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=jiVQI.D [Accessed Nov, 2021]
47. Investor Alliance for Human Rights *et al.* (2020) Safeguarding Human Rights Defenders: Practical guidance for investors Available at <https://investorsforhumanrights.org/sites/default/files/attachments/2020-04/Safeguarding%20Human%20Rights%20Defenders%20Practical%20Guidance%20for%20Investors%20FINAL%204-28-20.pdf> [Accessed March, 2021]
48. IPBES (2018) Nature's dangerous Decline 'Unprecedented'; Species Extinction Rates 'Accelerating' Available at <https://ipbes.net/news/Media-Release-Global-Assessment> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
49. IPBES (2019) The global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services Available at <https://ipbes.net/global-assessment> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
50. IUCN (2013) Guidelines for applying protected area management categories Available at <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/30018> [Accessed March 2022]
51. IUCN (2021) Science-based ecosystem restoration for the 2020s and beyond Available at https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/iucn_think_piece_updated_060921.pdf
52. IUCN (n.d. B) Issues Brief: Measuring contributions towards biodiversity targets Available at <https://www.iucn.org/resources/issues-briefs/measuring-contributions-towards-biodiversity-targets> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
53. IUCN (n.d. C) Measuring Recovery with the IUCN Green Status of Species Available at <https://www.iucnredlist.org/assessment/measuring-recovery-green-status-species> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
54. IUCN (n.d. D) The Species Threat Abatement and Restoration Metric Available at <https://www.iucnredlist.org/assessment/star> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
55. IUCN (n.d. E) Water - Facts and Figures Available at <https://www.iucn.org/theme/water/about/facts-and-figures> [Accessed Nov, 2021]



56. IUCN (n.d.) Invasive Species Website Available at <https://www.iucn.org/theme/species/our-work/invasive-species> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
57. IUCN et al (2013) Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories Available at <https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/pag-021.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
58. IUCN, Stephenson, P.J, and Carbone, G (2021) Guidelines for planning and monitoring corporate biodiversity performance Available at <https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2021-009-En.pdf> [Accessed March 2022]
59. IUCN, UNEP, WWF (1980) World Conservation Strategy Available at <https://portals.iucn.org/library/efiles/documents/wcs-004.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
60. IWGIA and IPRI (2021) The UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples Available at https://iwgia.org/doclink/iwgia-report-ungp-10-2021-final-eng/eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJzdWUiOiJpd2dpYS1yZXBvcnQtdW5ncC0xMC0yMDIxLWZpbmFsLWVuZyIsImh0bGl6MTYyODQzNTY5NiwiZXhwIjoxNjI4NTIyMDk2fQ.6cGqFuZlXjpt9FYy7QuSZA21dsnLxzn7Wjo1TrDx9co%22%20rel=%22nofollow%20noopener%20noreferer%22%20target=%22_blank%22%3Ehttps://iwgia.org/doclink/iwgia-report-ungp-10-2021-finaleng/eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJzdWUiOiJpd2dpYS1yZXBvcnQtdW5ncC0xMC0yMDIxLWZpbmFsLWVuZyIsImh0bGl6MTYyODQzNTY5NiwiZXhwIjoxNjI4NTIyMDk2fQ.6cGqFuZlXjpt9FYy7QuSZA21dsnLxzn7Wjo1TrDx9co?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=here_are_three_business_people_and_planet_updates_for_you&utm_term=2022-04-11 [Accessed March, 2022]
61. Kumar, S., Ugrashebuja, E., Carnwath, L., Tamminen, T., & Boyd, D. (2019). Environmental rule of law: First global report Available at <https://stg-wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/27279>. [Accessed Nov, 2021].
62. Mair, L. et al (2021) A metric for spatially explicit contributions to science-based species targets Available at https://www.nature.com/articles/s41559-021-01432-0.epdfsharing_token=VtiBRXWsDKWppqvQnEHstNRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0MQPnY05OFo3jMj7mH0kelsuD_DN4rlrXuzkUWgDeiLYuPSZseJ4ldoOS5Gj9fEF34CAjgTt004NmbO2HGxqIALCPAjqBPYTq9ilGB1k2epmm0LGj43vxEmBc6zqSLg3DVtiBRXWsDKWppqvQnEHstNRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0MQPnY05OFo3jMj7mH0kelsuD_DN4rlrXuzkUWgDeiLYuPSZseJ4ldoOS5Gj9fEF34CAjgTt004NmbO2HGxqIALCPAjqBPYTq9ilGB1k2 [Accessed Nov, 2021]
63. Minderoo Foundation (2021) The Plastic Waste Makers Index Available at <https://cdn.minderoo.org/content/uploads/2021/05/27094234/20211105-Plastic-Waste-Makers-Index.pdf>.
64. Miyamoto, M. (2020) Poverty reduction saves forests sustainably: Lessons for deforestation policies Available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X1930395X>. [Accessed Nov, 2021].
65. OECD (2019) Business Models for the Circular Economy: Opportunities and Challenges for Policy Available at <https://doi.org/10.1787/g2g9dd62-en> [Accessed Nov, 2021]



66. OP2B (2021) Scaling up Regenerative Agriculture Available at https://op2b.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/OP2B-Regenerative-Agriculture-Leaflet_FINAL.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
67. REACH (n.d.) Understanding REACH Available at <https://echa.europa.eu/regulations/reach/understanding-reach> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
68. SASB (n.d.) SASB Webpage Available at <https://www.sasb.org/standards/download/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
69. SBTi (n.d.) Science Based Targets Website Available at <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
70. SBTN (2020) Science-Based Targets for Nature - Initial Guidance for Business Available at <https://sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Science-Based-Targets-for-Nature-Initial-Guidance-for-Business.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
71. SBTN (2021) Interim Targets Available at <https://sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org/take-action-now/take-action-as-a-company/what-you-can-do-now/interim-targets/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
72. Seddon, N., Chausson, A., Berry, P., Girardin, C. A., Smith, A., & Turner, B. (2020). Understanding the value and limits of nature-based solutions to climate change and other global challenges Available at <https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rstb.2019.0120>. [Accessed Nov, 2021]
73. The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (2018) Measuring what matters in agriculture and food systems Available at <http://teebweb.org/our-work/agrifood/reports/measuring-what-matters-synthesis/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
74. The KBA Partnership (2018) Guidelines on Business and KBAs Available at <https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2018-005-En.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
75. TNFD (2022) The TNFD Nature-related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework Beta v0.1 Release Available at <https://tnfd.global/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/220315-TNFD-beta-v0.1-full-report-FINAL.pdf> [Accessed April, 2022]
76. Transparent (n.d) Transparent Webpage Available at <https://capitalscoalition.org/project/transparent/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
77. UN (2007) Declaration of The Rights of Indigenous People Available at https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wpcontent/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
78. UN (2018) Report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment Available at <https://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/37/59> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
79. UN (2021) Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation Available at https://www1.undp.org/content/seoul_policy_center/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-6-clean-water-and-sanitation.html [Accessed Nov, 2021]



80. UN (2021b) The right to a clean and healthy environment: 6 things you need to know Available at <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/10/1103082> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
81. UN (n.d.) Decade on System Restoration Available at <https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/about-un-decade> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
82. UN et al (2021) System for Environmental Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting - White Cover Publication Available at https://seea.un.org/sites/seea.un.org/files/documents/EA/seea_ea_white_cover_final.pdf [Accessed Dec, 2021]
83. UN PRI (2018) Converging on Climate Lobbying Available at <https://www.unpri.org/download?ac=4707> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
84. UN Water (2021) Summary Progress Update 2021: SDG 6 Available at <https://www.unwater.org/publications/summary-progress-update-2021-sdg-6-water-and-sanitation-for-all/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
85. UNCTAD (2019) Guidance on core indicators for entity reporting on contribution towards implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals Available at https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/diae2019d1_en.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
86. UNDP (2021) SDG Impact Standards for Enterprises version 1.0 Available at <https://sdgimpact.undp.org/assets/SDG-Impact-Standards-for-Enterprises-Version1-EN.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
87. UNEP (2019) Global Resources Outlook Available at: <https://www.resourcepanel.org/reports/global-resources-outlook> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
88. UNEP (n.d.) Who are environmental defenders? Available at <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/environmental-rights-and-governance/what-we-do/advancing-environmental-rights/who> [Accessed March 2022]
89. UNEP, BRS Conventions and Minamata Convention (2021) Interlinkages between the chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements and biodiversity Available at https://www.mercuryconvention.org/sites/default/files/documents/2021-07/Biodiversity_Interlinkages_Key_Insights.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
90. UNEP-WCMC (2019) Biodiversity A-Z Available at <https://www.biodiversitya-z.org/content/biodiversity.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
91. UNEP-WCMC (2020) Beyond business-as-usual <https://globalcanopy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Beyond-Business-As-Usual-Full-Report.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
92. UNEP-WCMC (2020b) Biodiversity Measures for Business Available at https://www.unepwcmc.org/system/comfy/cms/files/files/000/001/845/original/aligning_measures_corporate_reporting_disclosure_dec2020.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
93. UNGC (2007) CEO Water Mandate Available at <https://university.ceowatermandate.org/university/101-the-basics/lessons/global-water-crisis-and-its-connections-to-climate/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
94. WBA (2021) Corporate Human Rights Benchmark Available at <https://www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org/publication/chrb/> [Accessed Nov, 2021]



95. WBA (2021b) Just Transition Methodology Available at <https://assets.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org/app/uploads/2021/07/Just-Transition-Methodology.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
96. WBCSD (2021) Circular Transition Indicators v2.0 – Metrics for business, by business Available at <https://www.wbcds.org/contentwbc/download/11256/166026/1> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
97. WBCSD et al (2021) A Nature-Positive World: The Global Goal for Nature Available at <https://www.wbcds.org/download/file/11960> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
98. WEF (2020) The Global Risks Report 2020 Available at https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Global_Risk_Report_2020.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
99. WEF (2020b) Towards Common Metrics and Consistent Reporting of Sustainable Value Creation Available at https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_IBC_ESG_Metrics_Discussion_Paper.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
100. WEF and PwC (2020) Nature Risk Rising Available at https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_New_Nature_Economy_Report_2020.pdf [Accessed Nov, 2021]
101. World Health Organization (2021) WHO Global Air Quality Guidelines Available at <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/345329/9789240034228-eng.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
102. WRI (2017) By the numbers: indigenous and community land rights Available at <https://www.wri.org/blog/2017/03/numbers-indigenous-and-community-land-rights> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
103. WRI (2019) The IPCC Calls for Securing Community Land Rights to Fight Climate Change Available at <https://www.wri.org/insights/ipcc-calls-securing-community-land-rights-fight-climate-change> [Accessed Nov, 2021]
104. WWF (2020) Living Planet Report 2020 Available at <https://f.hubspotusercontent20.net/hubfs/4783129/LPR/PDFs/ENGLISH-FULL.pdf> [Accessed Nov, 2021]



Annexes

Annex I: Indicator alignment with other initiatives

Topics	Indicators	TNFD	CBD	IPBES	SBTN	IUCN	GRI
Governance and Strategy	A1	✓	✓			✓	✓
	A2	✓	✓			✓	✓
	A3					✓	✓
	A4					✓	✓
	A5	✓	✓		✓		
State of nature	B1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	B2	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
	B3	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	B4		✓	✓	✓		✓
Land and sea use and change	B5			✓	✓		
	B6		✓	✓	✓		
Direct exploitation of resources	B7		✓	✓	✓		
	B8			✓	✓		
	B9			✓	✓		✓
Pollution	B10		✓	✓	✓		✓
	B11		✓	✓	✓		✓
	B12		✓	✓	✓		
	B13			✓	✓		✓
Climate change	B14	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	B15	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Invasive alien species	B16		✓	✓	✓		
Social inclusion and community impact	C1		✓			✓	✓
	C2		✓	✓			✓
	C3		✓				✓
	C4						✓



Annex II: Glossary

Abundance	The size of a population of a particular life form. (IPBES, 2019)
Area of high biodiversity value	Area not subject to legal protection but recognised for important biodiversity features by a number of governmental and non-governmental organisations. Areas of high biodiversity value include habitats that are a priority for conservation, which are often defined in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans prepared under the United Nations' 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity. (IPBES, 2019)
Biodiversity hotspot	A generic term for an area high in such biodiversity attributes as species richness or endemism. It may also be used in assessments as a precise term applied to geographic areas defined according to two criteria (Myers et al., 2000): (i) containing at least 1,500 species of the world's 300,000 vascular plant species as endemics and (ii) being under threat, in having lost 70% of its primary vegetation. (IPBES, 2019)
Biodiversity loss	Usually observed as one or all of: (i) reduced area occupied by populations, species and community types, (ii) loss of populations and the genetic diversity they contribute to the whole species and (iii) reduced abundance (of populations and species) or condition (of communities and ecosystems). The likelihood of any biodiversity component persisting (the persistence probability) in the long-term declines with lower abundance and genetic diversity and reduced habitat area. (IPBES, 2019)
Biodiversity strategy	A biodiversity strategy can contain a combination of elements related to the prevention, management and remediation of damage to natural habitats resulting from an organisation's activities. An example of this is the integration of biodiversity considerations into analytical tools, such as environmental site impact assessments. (IPBES, 2019)
Commitment	A commitment is approved at the highest levels of the business, or by a formalised group of persons charged with ultimate authority in an organisation, e.g. the board. A commitment can span entire documents or a few paragraphs on the organisation's website. Examples of accepted wording are (this is not an exhaustive list – other examples can be found): We commit to/are committed to XX, We fully support XX, Commits to respect XX convention, We follow the principles of the XX convention, The company is committed to implementing the UNGPs, We adhere to the XX convention, We uphold the XX right/convention etc., We support the right to XX, We are committed to respecting the rights under the XX convention, We fully endorse and support the principles enshrined in the XX convention, We recognise our obligation to respect XX, We abide by XX (WBA definitions).
Critical habitat	Critical habitats are areas with high biodiversity value, including (i) habitat of significant importance to critically endangered and/or endangered species; (ii) habitat of significant importance to endemic and/or restricted-range species; (iii) habitat supporting globally significant concentrations of migratory species and/or congregator species; (iv) highly threatened and/or unique ecosystems; and/or (v) areas associated with key evolutionary processes. Critically endangered and/or endangered species are those listed on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. The determination of critical habitat is based on other listings such as lists of nationally/regionally as critically endangered or endangered species, on a case-by-case basis. (IPBES, 2019)



Cumulative impact	The total impact arising from the project (under the control of the developer); other activities (that may be under the control of others, including other developers, local communities, government) and other background pressures and trends which may be unregulated. The project's impact is therefore one part of the total cumulative impact on the environment. The analysis of a project's incremental impacts combined with the effects of other projects can often give a more accurate understanding of the likely results of the project's presence than just considering its impacts in isolation. (IPBES, 2019)
Drivers of change	This refers to all those external factors that affect nature and, as a consequence, also affect the supply of nature's contributions to people. The IPBES conceptual framework includes drivers of change as two of its main elements: indirect drivers, which are all anthropogenic, and direct drivers, both natural and anthropogenic. See Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 (Drivers) for a detailed typology of drivers. (IPBES, 2019)
Ecosystem	A dynamic complex of plant, animal and microorganism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit. From CBD, 2012. (IPBES, 2019)
Ecosystem integrity	The ability of an ecosystem to support and maintain ecological processes and a diverse community of organisms. It is measured as the degree to which a diverse community of native organisms is maintained. It is used as a proxy for ecological resilience, intended as the capacity of an ecosystem to adapt in the face of stressors, while maintaining the functions of interest. From Ocean Health Index. (IPBES, 2019)
Ecosystem services	The benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include provisioning services such as food, water, timber and fibre; regulating services that affect climate, floods, disease, wastes and water quality; cultural services 16 – BBOP – Glossary (updated ed.) that provide recreational, aesthetic and spiritual benefits; and supporting services such as soil formation, photosynthesis and nutrient cycling. (IPBES, 2019)
Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)	Free implies that Indigenous Peoples and local communities are not pressured, intimidated, manipulated or unduly influenced and that their consent is given without coercion; prior implies seeking consent or approval sufficiently in advance of any authorisation to access traditional knowledge, respecting the customary decision-making processes in accordance with national legislation and time requirements of Indigenous Peoples and local communities; informed implies that information is provided that covers relevant aspects such as: the intended purpose of the access; its duration and scope; a preliminary assessment of the likely economic, social, cultural and environmental impacts, including potential risks; personnel likely to be involved in the execution of the access; procedures the access may entail and benefit-sharing arrangements; consent or approval is the agreement of the Indigenous Peoples and local communities who are holders of traditional knowledge or the competent authorities of those indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate, to grant access to their traditional knowledge to a potential user and includes the right not to grant consent or approval (derived from CBD). (IPBES, 2019)
Global commons	Those parts of the planet that fall outside national jurisdictions and to which all nations have access. International law identifies four global commons, namely the high seas, the atmosphere, Antarctica and outer space. (IUCN, UNEP and WWF, 1980)



Habitat	The place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs. Also used to mean the environmental attributes required by a particular species or its ecological niche. (IPBES, 2019)
Habitat connectivity	The degree to which the landscape or waterscape facilitates the movement of organisms (animals, plant reproductive structures, pollen, pollinators, spores etc.) and other environmentally important resources (e.g. nutrients and moisture) between similar habitats. Connectivity is hampered by fragmentation (q.v.). (IPBES, 2019)
Habitat degradation	A general term describing the set of processes by which habitat quality is reduced. Habitat degradation may occur through natural processes (e.g. drought, heat, cold) and through human activities (forestry, agriculture, urbanisation). It is sometimes used as a synonym for habitat deterioration or nature deterioration. (BBOP, 2012)
Highest governance body	Formalised group of individuals responsible for the strategic guidance of an organisation, the effective monitoring of management and the accountability of management to the broader organisation and its stakeholders with the highest authority in the organisation. In some jurisdictions, governance systems consist of two tiers, where supervision and management are separated or where local law provides for a supervisory board drawn from non-executives to oversee an executive management board. In such cases, both tiers are included under the definition of highest governance body. (GRI, 2021)
Indigenous peoples	Given the diversity of indigenous peoples, an official definition of 'indigenous' has not been adopted by any UN-system body. Instead, the system has developed a modern understanding of this term based on a number of factors: self-identification as indigenous peoples at the individual level and accepted by the community as their member; historical continuity with pre-colonial and/or pre-settler societies; strong link to territories and surrounding natural resources; distinct social, economic or political systems; distinct language, culture and beliefs; from non-dominant groups of society; resolve to maintain and reproduce their ancestral environments and systems as distinctive peoples and communities. (UN, 2007)
Invasive alien species (IAS)	Invasive alien species are plants, animals, pathogens and other organisms that are non-native to an ecosystem, and which may cause economic or environmental harm or adversely affect human health. In particular, they impact adversely upon biodiversity, including decline or elimination of native species – through competition, predation or transmission of pathogens – and the disruption of local ecosystems and ecosystem functions. (CBD, n.d.)
Key Biodiversity Areas	Sites, including both protected and unprotected sites, mapped at a national scale by local partners using a globally standardised framework drawn from IUCN's Best Practice Protected Areas guidelines series. Sites are considered globally important if they are known to hold one or more globally threatened species, endemic species, globally significant concentrations or populations, significant examples of biological communities or any combination of these features. These sites, known as Key Biodiversity Areas, build upon the work of other initiatives – such as BirdLife International's Important Bird Areas, PlantLife International's Important Plant Areas, IUCN's Important Sites for Freshwater Biodiversity and sites identified by the Alliance for Zero Extinction – to map important sites for a wide range of critical biodiversity in marine, freshwater and terrestrial biomes. These datasets are drawn from the World



Biodiversity Database (WBDB), managed by BirdLife International and Conservation International, which is informed by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. (BBOP, 2012)

Local communities	Individuals or groups of individuals living or working in areas that are affected or that could be affected by an organisation's activities. The local community can range from those living adjacent to the organisation's operations to those living at a distance and includes those that have a long association with the lands and waters that they have traditionally lived on or used. Many communities may be considered local and may also be described as traditional communities. Some local communities may include peoples of indigenous descent. They are culturally diverse and occur on all inhabited continents. (CBD, 2006)
Mitigation hierarchy	The mitigation hierarchy is defined as: a. Avoidance: measures taken to avoid creating impacts from the outset, such as careful spatial or temporal placement of elements of infrastructure, in order to completely avoid impacts on certain components of biodiversity. b. Minimisation: measures taken to reduce the duration, intensity and/or extent of impacts (including direct, indirect and cumulative impacts, as appropriate) that cannot be completely avoided, as far as is practically feasible. BBOP – Glossary (updated ed.) – 29. c. Rehabilitation/restoration: measures taken to rehabilitate degraded ecosystems or restore cleared ecosystems following exposure to impacts that cannot be completely avoided and/or minimised. d. Offset: measures taken to compensate for any residual significant, adverse impacts that cannot be avoided, minimised and/or rehabilitated or restored, in order to achieve no net loss or a net gain of biodiversity. Offsets can take the form of positive management interventions such as restoration of degraded habitat, arrested degradation or averted risk, protecting areas where there is imminent or projected loss of biodiversity. (BBOP, 2012)
Nature's contributions to people (NCP)	All the contributions, both positive and negative, of living nature (i.e. all organisms, ecosystems and their associated ecological and evolutionary processes) to people's quality of life. Beneficial contributions include e.g. food provision, water purification, flood control and artistic inspiration, whereas detrimental contributions include e.g. disease transmission and predation that damages people or their assets. NCP may be perceived as benefits or detriments depending on the cultural, temporal or spatial context (Díaz et al., 2018) (KBA Partnership, 2018)
Nature-positive	In this methodology, nature-positive is in line with the vision of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, which is 'a world of living in harmony with nature where by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people'. (CBD, 2020 p.4). It also reflects WBCSD's Global Goal for Nature, which considers zero net loss of nature



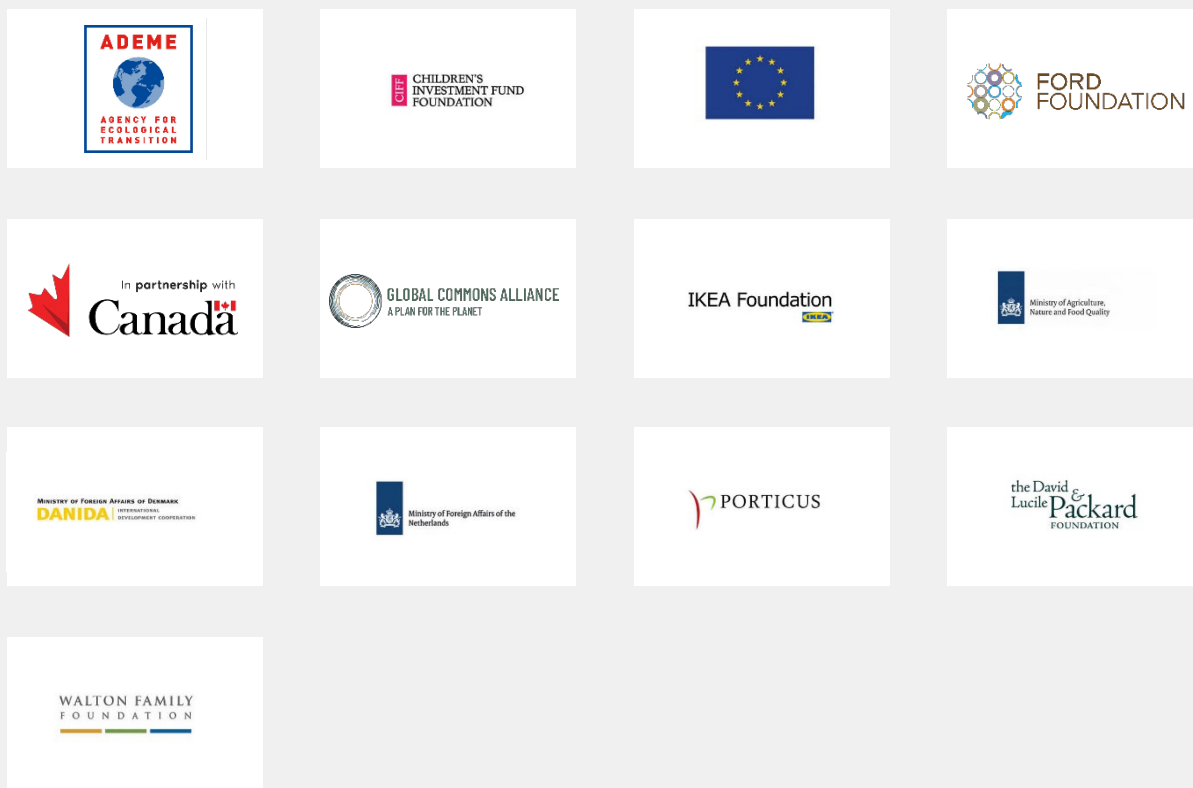
from 2020, net positive by 2030 (from a 2020 baseline) and full recovery of nature by 2050. (WBCSD et al, 2021)

No net loss/net gain	A target for a development project in which the impacts on biodiversity caused by the project are balanced or outweighed by measures taken to avoid and minimise the project's impacts, to undertake on-site restoration and finally to offset the residual impacts, so that no loss remains. Where the gain exceeds the loss, the term 'net gain' may be used instead of no net loss. No net loss (or net gain) of biodiversity is a policy goal in several countries and is also the goal of voluntary biodiversity offsets. (BBOP, 2012)
Policy	Policies are the guidelines developed by an organisation to govern its actions on specific topics. Policies are usually called policies and should thus be 'formal' and signed off by the board and found in the policy and governance sections of corporate website. (WBA definition)
Protected area	A protected area is a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated values to people. There are multiple categories of protected areas, including and excluding people from within their boundaries. (GRI, 2021)
Stakeholder	Individual or group that has an interest that is affected or could be affected by an organisation's activities. Examples are business partners, civil society organisations, consumers, customers, employees and other workers, governments, local communities, non-governmental organisations, shareholders and other investors, suppliers, trade unions and vulnerable groups. (GRI, 2021)
Statement	The term statement is used to describe a range of forms a company may use to set out publicly its responsibilities, commitments and expectations. This may be a separate policy or commitment within other formal policies, or provisions within other documents that govern the company's approach such as a company code, business principles etc. (WBA definition)
Supplier	Entity upstream from an organisation (i.e. in the organisation's supply chain), which provides a product or service that is used in the development of the organisation's own products or services. A supplier can have a direct business relationship with the organisation (often referred to as a first-tier supplier) or an indirect business relationship. (GRI, 2021)
Value chain	The range of activities carried out by an organisation, and by entities upstream and downstream from the organisation, to bring the organisation's products or services from their conception to their end use. Entities upstream from the organisation (e.g. suppliers) provide products or services that are used in the development of the organisation's own products or services. Entities downstream from the organisation (e.g. distributors, customers) receive products or services from the organisation. The value chain includes the supply chain. (GRI, 2021)



Vulnerable groups Group of individuals with a specific condition or characteristic (e.g., economic, physical, political, social) that could experience negative impacts as a result of an organisation's activities more severely than the general population. For example: children and youth; elderly persons; ex-combatants; HIV/AIDS-affected households; human rights defenders; indigenous peoples; internally displaced persons; migrant workers and their families; national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities; persons who might be discriminated against based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or sex characteristics (e.g. lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex); persons with disabilities; refugees or returning refugees; women. (GRI, 2021)





COPYRIGHT

This work is the product of the World Benchmarking Alliance. Our work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

DISCLAIMER

Information available on our website, visit: www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org/disclaimer

WORLD BENCHMARKING ALLIANCE

Prins Hendrikkade 25, 1012 TM Amsterdam The Netherlands. www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org