ECOGAIN BIODIVERSITY INDEX 2022

RANKING BIODIVERSITY IN BUSINESS

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ABOUT ECOGAIN

Ecogain is Sweden's leading consultant within biodiversity and ecosystem services with a focus on business development. We support societal actors to develop sustainable business models and are present through the entire chain from strategic issues on a management level to direct actions in nature. Our model is concrete solutions for businesses who recognize the value of investing in nature, with increased business benefits as a result.

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A WORD FROM THE CEO

In 2022 the world has started to move on from the pandemic. However, we are instead facing an insecure geopolitical time in Europe, with a terrible humanitarian situation. Energy, food and resource supplies are critical issues. Loss of biodiversity and climate change are becoming even more urgent to address. If we do not deal with these issues it will be far more difficult for us to prevent future pandemics and wars stemming from conflicts over access to natural resources.

Now is the time to implement sustainable business models. It is becoming increasingly clear how dependant our companies and our economies are on nature. The interdependency between climate change and biodiversity loss is evident.

The purpose of the Ecogain Biodiversity Index (EBI) is to inspire action and reporting on an issue that is crucial to humanity, but has so far been overlooked. I am therefore delighted to communicate that the scope of EBI has widened this year and now includes the largest companies in Europe. This autumn, the scope of EBI will be further expanded to include the USA.

Some great progress was made for biodiversity in 2021. Though it received some criticism, the new EU Taxonomy set a clear target for biodiversity, and the finance sector started to step up to the plate, with several large banks putting pressure on businesses regarding biodiversity. Nasdaq released its ESG Data Hub, using data from EBI we're pleased to say, along with other ESG metrics. Many initiatives such as these indicate that the conditions for biodiversity are slowly changing for the better.

However, report after report still tell us that efforts are not going far enough. This is also shown by this year's EBI results. It can't be stressed enough – the climate challenge must be tackled in tandem with threats to biodiversity. Biodiversity either directly or indirectly underpins every single one of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. Take a moment to read that again.

Even though I had higher hopes for the results of this year's EBI, I'm still optimistic about the future. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations conference on the human environment and, finally, the new post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will be released at the CBD COP 15 (Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity) later this year. Additionally, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration highlights the urgent work that needs to be done. Our aim for EBI is to provide tools, inspiration and motivation from some of the world's largest companies. I can't imagine a better platform to collectively change the path that we have been heading down until now.

We have seen repeatedly that when our existence is truly in danger, we are capable of achieving astonishing feats. We have the ability to come together, find solutions and produce remarkable results. Before this decade is over, let's prove it again.

Fredrik Höök, CEO
Ecogain

SUMMARY

The Ecogain Biodiversity Index (EBI) explores how the largest businesses in Europe report on biodiversity. We believe it's the best and most accessible indicator on how well biodiversity is integrated in companies' work.

EBI demonstrates to business leaders how biodiversity is relevant to their business. We want to inspire action and reporting on an issue that is associated with both great risks and opportunities for companies. EBI started in 2019 only covering Sweden. This year almost 400 of the largest European companies have been reviewed.

Swedish Vattenfall is at the top of the ranking list for the second year in a row. Vattenfall endeavours to achieve a net-positive impact on biodiversity by 2030 and has integrated biodiversity assessments into its business processes.

Over recent years, the trend has tended towards rising ambitions within companies, however the process of companies incorporating biodiversity in their businesses is still slow. A mere 35% of the companies reviewed assess their impact on biodiversity and only 38% set some kind of goals regarding biodiversity. Furthermore, only 14% of the companies have set time-bound, measurable and material goals in line with science. There is a strong tendency for industries that have a direct impact on biodiversity to have higher EBI scores than industries in which the impact is further away. Within Consumer Staples however, more than 50% of the companies reviewed have identified their impact on biodiversity. Companies in industries where impacts and dependencies are typically further down the value chain, such as Financial Services and Information Technology, show generally low EBI scores. This is largely to be expected since the impact and dependency is less obvious, but it illustrates a blind spot in the risk assessments of these businesses.

THE TEN HIGHEST-RATED COMPANIES IN EBI 2022 (MAXIMUM SCORE 29)

EBI RATING	RANK EUROPA	COMPANY	COUNTRY	INDUSTRY	TOTAL SCORE
GOLD	1	Vattenfall AB	Sweden	Energy	23
GOLD	2	Engie	France	Utilities	20
GOLD	2	Stora Enso Oyj	Finland	Materials	20
GOLD	4	Louis Vuitton Malletier	France	Consumer Discretionary	19
GOLD	5	BASF Se	Germany	Consumer Staples	18
GOLD	5	British American Tobacco	United kingdom	Consumer Staples	18
GOLD	5	Unilever Plc	United kingdom	Consumer Discretionary	18
SILVER	8	Bhp Group Plc	United kingdom	Materials	17
SILVER	8	Mondi Plc	United kingdom	Materials	17
SILVER	8	Rewe Group	Germany	Consumer Staples	17

If the business risks caused by biodiversity loss are to be avoided, every company must up its game regarding its biodiversity impact and dependency.

Future-proof your business model by implementing biodiversity actions. Doing so will help you manage risks, secure good financing, attract and retain staff, and more.

2022 is the year when the world finally starts to move on from the pandemic, and with the current geopolitical situation in Europe, important questions regarding the supply of energy, food and resource supply are being raised. These are just a few of the societal and economic constraints the world will face if we are not able minimise and prevent biodiversity loss, rising temperatures, and climate change. Now is the time to implement sustainable business models.

FIVE STEPS
FOR BUSINESS ACTION

1. **Build strategic business intelligence**
2. **Analyse the company's impacts and dependencies**
3. **Set measurable, timed, and relevant objectives**
4. **Create a biodiversity strategy and take action**
5. **Cooperate with others**

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WHY A BIODIVERSITY INDEX?

Biodiversity is a fundamental part of the natural capital that companies build their businesses on. Biodiversity is associated with great risks and great opportunities for companies. Addressing biodiversity therefore needs to be a natural part of the sustainability work of every company – throughout the entire value chain.

The main purpose of the Ecogain Biodiversity Index (EBI) is to provide an overview of how businesses perform in setting targets and mitigating biodiversity impact. At Ecogain we want to inspire companies to act and report on the subject in a transparent manner. Our hope is that EBI 2022 will put biodiversity on even more boardroom agendas and help create momentum towards a Nature Positive Business by 2030.

EBI is a useful tool for analysing how the largest companies report on biodiversity and we believe it's the best and most accessible indicator on how well biodiversity is integrated into companies' work. Our evaluation questions are a reflection of the latest science and most recent regulations and the requirements these place on businesses.

The 2022 EBI review is the fourth annual review of the biodiversity aspects of the sustainability reports of the largest companies.

WHY THE LARGEST COMPANIES?

In the business world there are key players who can influence the development of entire industries and sectors through their actions. These key players are the largest companies that, by virtue of their size, can set new standards for how all companies should conduct their business. In the long run, they create momentum for change in entire industries. It is therefore important to examine how the business community's key players act and what they can do even better.

Against this background, EBI is a measurement of the biodiversity impact of the business community. Which industries and companies are leading the way, and which are falling behind? What are businesses doing well, and where is there room for improvement?

METHODOLOGY

The ranking is based on a series of evaluation questions that are guided by the latest science. The 23 questions are organised in five different categories, each of which represents important steps for a company to take when implementing biodiversity into the business model and day-to-day-work. Each question can give 0.5 to 3 points. The maximum score is 29. The five subsets of EBI evaluation questions are:*

1. Identify: Does the company identify its impact and dependencies on biodiversity?
2. Prioritize: Has the company prioritized its work on biodiversity?
3. Set goals: Does the company report goals on biodiversity? Is the goal in line with the planetary boundaries and society's goal on biodiversity?
4. Act: Does the company have a plan and work for biodiversity?
5. Track: Does the company monitor and report on progress towards its goals?

**More details are provided in the appendix "Method EBI 2022".*

WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY?

Biodiversity is the variety of all the life on earth. The Convention on Biological Diversity defines biodiversity as "the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems."

We rely on nature to provide us with ecosystem services. These include food, water purification, erosion protection, timber, raw materials for textiles, pest regulation and recreation, to name but a few. Without biodiversity these processes would collapse.

Furthermore, when the climate changes we need a great variety of species to ensure resilience. A high level of biodiversity gives the world's ecosystems a better chance to adapt and help mitigate the effects of climate change. Finally, greater biodiversity enables better natural carbon storage, thus biodiversity also helps to minimise climate change.

EBI 2022 RANKING LISTS

The best performing companies amongst the largest companies in Europe are presented in the lists below.

The complete ranking lists are available on Ecogain's website. Detailed EBI data with full data sheets including scoring for each evaluation question for each reviewed company is provided via Nasdaq's ESG Data Hub. Through the EBI, Ecogain is Nasdaq's Official Biodiversity Data Provider.

Vattenfall tops all the EBI ranking lists this year, and therefore retains its leading place in the Nordics and in Sweden for the second year in a row. Consequently, the company has also maintained its leading position within the energy sector, a sector that is performing comparably well. It is however gratifying to see that five different sectors are represented at the gold level in the European EBI ranking. The forerunners within each of these sectors lead the way and are making substantial efforts in both changing best practices and inspiring others in their sectors.

EBI Gold - The company has scored 18 points or more.

EBI Silver - The company has scored 14-17.5 points.

EBI Bronze - The company has scored 10-13.5 points.

We will develop the EBI Rating further in the coming years as frameworks for working with biodiversity evolve. As standards are raised expectations on performance will be higher.

In 2022, seven of the largest European companies are rated gold, 14 have achieved the silver level and 29 are rated bronze.

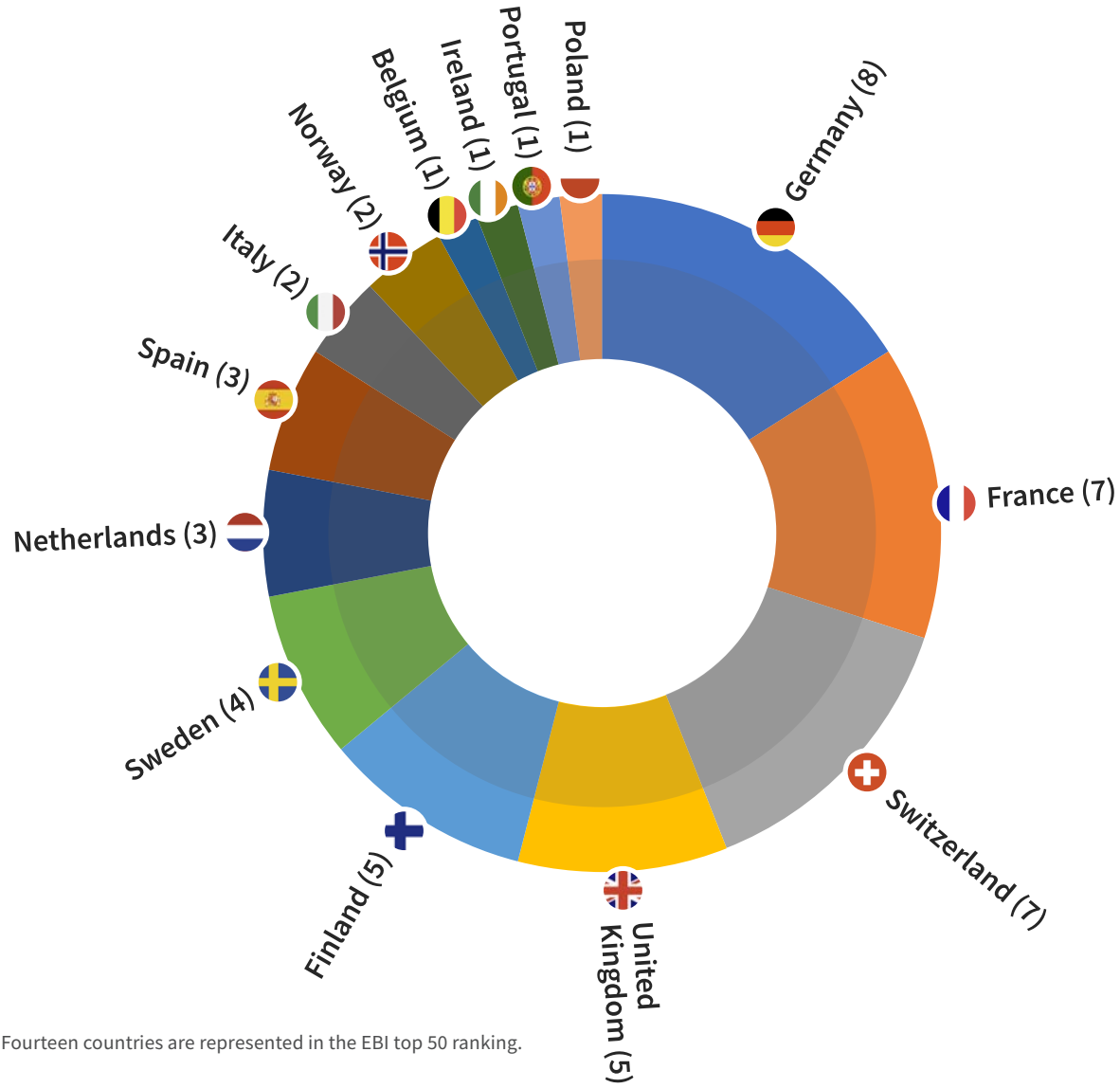
THE EUROPEAN EBI 2022 TOP 50 RANKING

The top 50 ranking of the 288 largest European companies.
Companies with a score of more than 18 points have earned a gold EBI rating.

EBI RATING	RANK EUROPE	COMPANY	COUNTRY	SECTOR	TOTAL SCORE
GOLD	1	Vattenfall AB	Sweden	Energy	23
GOLD	2	Engie	France	Utilities	20
GOLD	2	Stora Enso Oyj	Finland	Materials	20
GOLD	4	Louis Vuitton Malletier	France	Consumer Discretionary	19
GOLD	5	BASF Se	Germany	Consumer Staples	18
GOLD	5	British American Tobacco	United kingdom	Consumer Staples	18
GOLD	5	Unilever Plc	United kingdom	Consumer Discretionary	18
SILVER	8	Bhp Group Plc	United kingdom	Materials	17
SILVER	8	Mondi Plc	United kingdom	Materials	17
SILVER	8	Rewe Group	Germany	Consumer Staples	17
SILVER	11	Preem AB	Sweden	Energy	15.5
SILVER	12	Ab Inbev Holdings Limited	Belgium	Consumer Staples	15
SILVER	12	Metsä Grpup	Finland	Materials	15
SILVER	12	Neste Oyj	Finland	Energy	15
SILVER	12	Rwe AG	Germany	Utilities	15
SILVER	16	Barry Callebaut Ag	Switzerland	Consumer Staples	14
SILVER	16	Crh Public Limited Company	Ireland	Industrials	14
SILVER	16	Heidelbergcement AG	Germany	Industrials	14
SILVER	16	Hochtief AG	Germany	Industrials	14
SILVER	16	Stellantis N.V.	Netherlands	Consumer Discretionary	14
SILVER	16	Yara International Asa	Norway	Materials	14
BRONZE	22	Bouygues Telecom	France	Communication Services	13
BRONZE	22	Equinor ASA	Norway	Energy	13
BRONZE	22	Iberdrola Clientes España Sociedad Anonima.	Spain	Utilities	13
BRONZE	25	Anglo American Plc	United kingdom	Materials	12
BRONZE	25	Boliden AB	Sweden	Materials	12
BRONZE	25	Eni Suisse S.A.	Switzerland	Energy	12
BRONZE	25	FDJ Group	France	Consumer Discretionary	12
BRONZE	25	Nestlé S.A.	Switzerland	Consumer Staples	12
BRONZE	25	Syngenta AG	Switzerland	Industrials	12
BRONZE	31	Carrefour Hypermarche	France	Consumer Discretionary	11.5
BRONZE	31	Porsche AG	Germany	Consumer Discretionary	11.5
BRONZE	33	Endesa Energia Sau	spain	Utilities	11
BRONZE	33	Enel Energia Spa	Italy	Utilities	11
BRONZE	33	Essity AB (publ)	Sweden	Consumer Staples	11
BRONZE	33	Fortum Oyj	Finland	Utilities	11
BRONZE	33	Glencore Plc	Switzerland	Financials	11
BRONZE	33	Hapag-Lloyd AG	Germany	Industrials	11

Note: On average, the EBI 2022 scores are slightly lower compared to 2021. This is due to a stricter assessment being applied this year with a slightly raised bar for approval of criteria set.

EBI RATING	RANK EUROPE	COMPANY	COUNTRY	SECTOR	TOTAL SCORE
BRONZE	33	Koninklijke Dsm N.V.	Netherlands	Health Care	11
BRONZE	33	TotalEnergies SE	France	Energy	11
BRONZE	33	UPM-Kymmene Oyj	Finland	Materials	11
BRONZE	42	Bureau Verlitas Registre International De Classification De Navires Et D'Aeronefs	France	Industrials	10
BRONZE	42	Evonik Industries AG	Germany	Materials	10
BRONZE	42	Givaudan Sa	Switzerland	Consumer Discretionary	10
BRONZE	42	Holcim AG	Switzerland	Industrials	10
BRONZE	42	Jeronimo Martins Polska S A	Poland	Consumer Staples	10
BRONZE	42	Nutreco	Netherlands	Consumer Staples	10
BRONZE	42	PKN Orlen	Poland	Energy	10
BRONZE	42	Repsol Petroleo Sa	Spain	Energy	10
BRONZE	42	Richemont	Switzerland	Consumer Discretionary	10



Fourteen countries are represented in the EBI top 50 ranking.

THE NORDIC EBI 2022 TOP RANKING

The 27 highest ranked companies of the largest 100 Nordic companies.

EBI RATING	RANK NORDIC	COMPANY	COUNTRY	SECTOR	TOTAL SCORE
GOLD	1	Vattenfall AB	Sweden	Energy	23
GOLD	2	Aak AB (Publ)	Sweden	Industrials	21
GOLD	3	Stora Enso Oyj	Finland	Materials	20
GOLD	4	Ikea (Ingka Ab)	Sweden	Consumer Discretionary	19
GOLD	5	Hydro Aluminium AS	Norway	Materials	18
SILVER	6	Mowi ASA	Norway	Consumer Staples	17
SILVER	7	Preem AB	Sweden	Energy	15.5
SILVER	8	Alfa Laval AB	Sweden	Industrials	15
SILVER	8	Metsä Grpup	Finland	Materials	15
SILVER	8	Neste Oyj	Finland	Energy	15
SILVER	11	Yara International Asa	Norway	Materials	14
BRONZE	12	Equinor ASA	Norway	Energy	13
BRONZE	13	Austevoll Seafood ASA	Norway	Consumer Staples	12
BRONZE	13	Boliden AB	Sweden	Materials	12
BRONZE	15	Essity AB (publ)	Sweden	Consumer Staples	11
BRONZE	15	Fortum Oyj	Finland	Utilities	11
BRONZE	15	Kemira Oyj	Finland	Industrials	11
BRONZE	15	UPM-Kymmene Oyj	Finland	Materials	11
BRONZE	19	Elkem ASA	Norway	Materials	10.5
BRONZE	20	Billerudkorsnäs AB (Publ)	Sweden	Materials	10
BRONZE	20	Luossavaara-Kiirunavaara AB	Sweden	Materials	10
BRONZE	20	Orkla ASA	Norway	Communication Services	10
	23	Maersk	Denmark	Financials	9
	24	Axfood AB	Sweden	Consumer Staples	8
	24	ICA Gruppen AB	Sweden	Consumer Staples	8
	24	Schouw & Co.	Denmark	Industrials	8
	24	Storebrand ASA	Norway	Financials	8

THE SWEDISH EBI 2022 TOP RANKING

The 26 highest ranked companies of the largest Swedish companies.

EBI RATING	RANK SWEDEN	COMPANY	SECTOR	SCORE
GOLD	1	Vattenfall AB	Energy	23
GOLD	2	Aak AB (Publ)	Industrials	21
GOLD	3	Ikea (Ingka Ab)	Consumer Discretionary	19
SILVER	4	Preem AB	Energy	15.5
SILVER	5	Alfa Laval AB	Industrials	15
BRONZE	6	Boliden AB	Materials	12
BRONZE	7	Essity AB (publ)	Consumer Staples	11
BRONZE	8	Scandic Hotels Group AB	Consumer Discretionary	10.5
BRONZE	9	Billerudkorsnäs AB (Publ)	Materials	10
BRONZE	9	Luossavaara-Kiirunavaara AB	Materials	10
BRONZE	9	Svenska Cellulosa AB SCA	Materials	10
	12	OK-Q8 AB	Consumer Staples	9.5
	13	Axfood AB	Consumer Staples	8
	13	ICA Gruppen AB	Consumer Staples	8
	15	Lantmännen Ek För	Consumer Staples	7.5
	16	AB Tetra Pak	Industrials	7
	16	NCC AB	Industrials	7
	18	Martin & Servera AB	Consumer Staples	5
	18	PEAB AB	Industrials	5
	18	Swedish Match AB	Consumer Staples	5
	18	Systembolaget AB	Consumer Staples	5
	22	Arla Foods AB	Consumer Staples	4
	22	Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB	Financials	4
	22	Trelleborg AB	Industrials	4
	25	Swedbank AB	Financials	3.5
	25	Telia Company AB	Communication Services	3.5

SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING THAT INSPIRE

Many companies show great ambitions in understanding and managing biodiversity. To inspire others, we have highlighted a number of good examples from different industries and countries. Each example below earned points in the EBI 2022.

MATERIALITY ANALYSIS

A materiality analysis is the first step in assessing a company's impacts and dependencies on nature. It allows the company and its stakeholders to gain a quick overview of the issues associated with the business activities.

AB InBev, the brewing company, provides a materiality analysis that graphically describes the company's relevant issues and illustrates the importance of each issue, such as the environment, to external stakeholders.

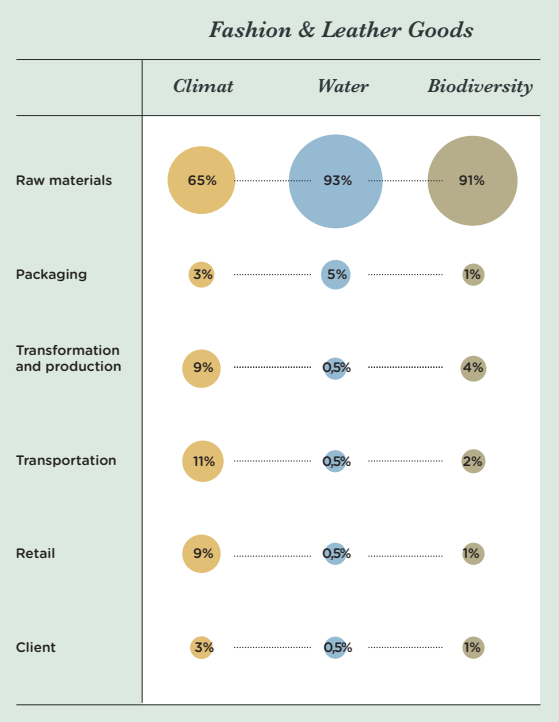
Engie, the energy company, presents a concise materiality analysis that clearly states the levers it can pull for value creation and as well as the company's strategic priorities, including the most fundamental challenges. In addition to a clear matrix, the company also reports on the method behind the analysis and states the most important findings.

VALUE CHAIN ASSESSMENT

In addition to a materiality analysis, analysing the entire value chain's impact, including those of a company's suppliers and customers, is a key step in assessing where the impact occurs and to what extent.

Deutsche Telekom AG, the telecommunication company, states that even though the telecoms industry has no direct impact on biodiversity, the company has analysed its impact on biodiversity across the value chain and identified that its largest impact occurs in the supply chain. They set requirements to their suppliers and also engage in biodiversity projects.

Louis Vuitton, the fashion company, analysed its entire value chain categorized by product, and each value chain includes these fundamental environmental aspects: climate, water and biodiversity. The assessment includes all relevant steps of the value chain and illustrates how large the impact is for each aspect in every step.



Louis Vuitton illustrates its footprint at each stage of the value chain for different business groups, e.g. Fashion & Leather goods.

GOALS FOR BIODIVERSITY

Visions and goals are needed to create change. Measurable and time-bound goals enable monitoring and create motivation. Based on the scientific venture behind the Global goals for nature, companies must aim for a net Nature-positive outcome by 2030 from a 2020 baseline.

Anglo American PLC, the mining company, has set a target to deliver net-positive impacts in biodiversity wherever they operate by 2030.

Holcim AG, the building materials company, has committed to achieving the baseline of IUCNs Biodiversity Indicator and Reporting System (BIRS) in all the company's managed lands by 2024 and having a measurable positive impact on biodiversity by 2030.

Neste, the oil-refining company, has set a target to have a net-positive impact on biodiversity by 2025.

GOALS IN LINE WITH SBTN

The Science Based Targets Network (SBTN) coalition has identified a set of interim targets which are in line with the available science and their upcoming guidance on Science Based Targets for Nature. Setting interim targets will ensure your company is on the right path.

Kerry Group, the food company, is committed to eliminating deforestation from their coffee, palm oil, soy and paper packaging supply chains, and make all volumes convertion free by 2025. The company also aims to have a 100% deforestation-free supply chain for its paper packaging by 2025.

Storebrand ASA, the financial company, aims to have an investment portfolio that does not contribute to deforestation by 2025.

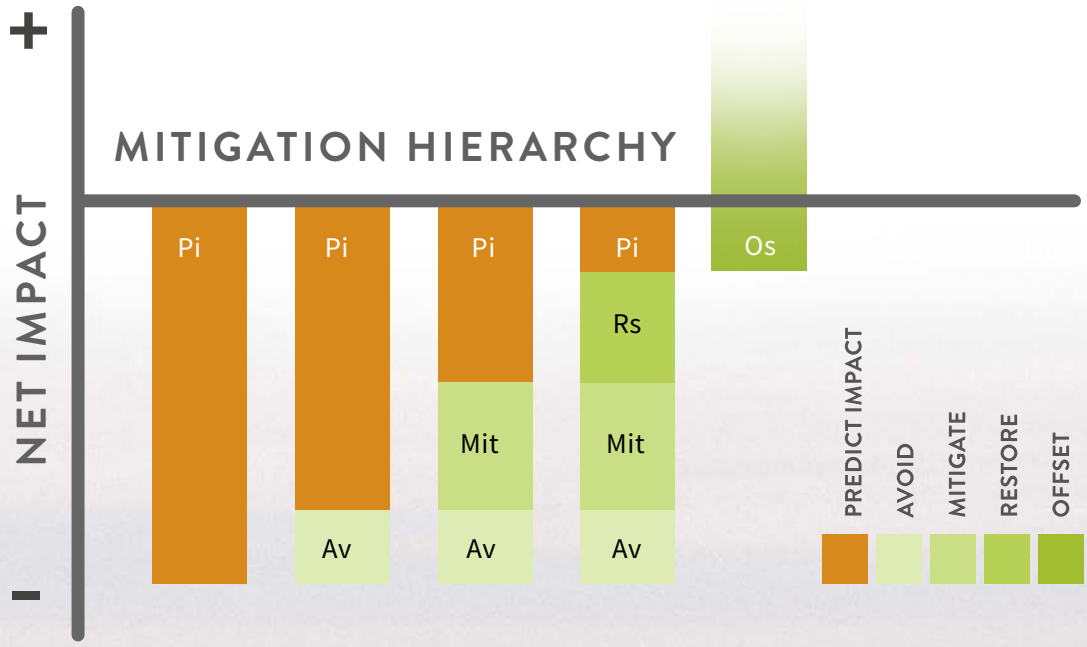
Unilever PLC, the consumer goods company, has committed to having a 100% deforestation-free primary supply chain by the end of 2022 for meat, palm oil, paper and pulp, soya and sugar, and by the end of 2025 for coffee and cocoa.

THE MITIGATION HIERARCHY

Adhering to the mitigation hierarchy's guidelines will help companies minimise their impact on biodiversity and a net gain of biodiversity can thus be achieved.

British American Tobacco, the tobacco company, states that wherever the company operates, it manages its biodiversity footprint based on the principles of the mitigation hierarchy to avoid, minimize, restore or offset biodiversity loss.

Vattenfall AB, the power company, always strives to avoid and minimize its biodiversity impact from new projects. For impacts that cannot be fully avoided or mitigated, compensation measures are considered and discussed with authorities and stakeholders.



RESTORING NATURE

Ecological restoration is crucial to ensure healthy ecosystems and the livelihoods of communities across the globe. It can help improve water quality, repair habitats and provide benefits to people and the environment.

Basf, the chemicals company, illustrates in its report several ways in which it works to improve biodiversity. The company uses a biodiversity calculator to assess the impact of agricultural practices on biodiversity and based on the assessment, it issues recommendations for measures to protect biodiversity, for instance converting grassed areas into biodiversity-friendly spaces and planting nesting boxes for bird species.

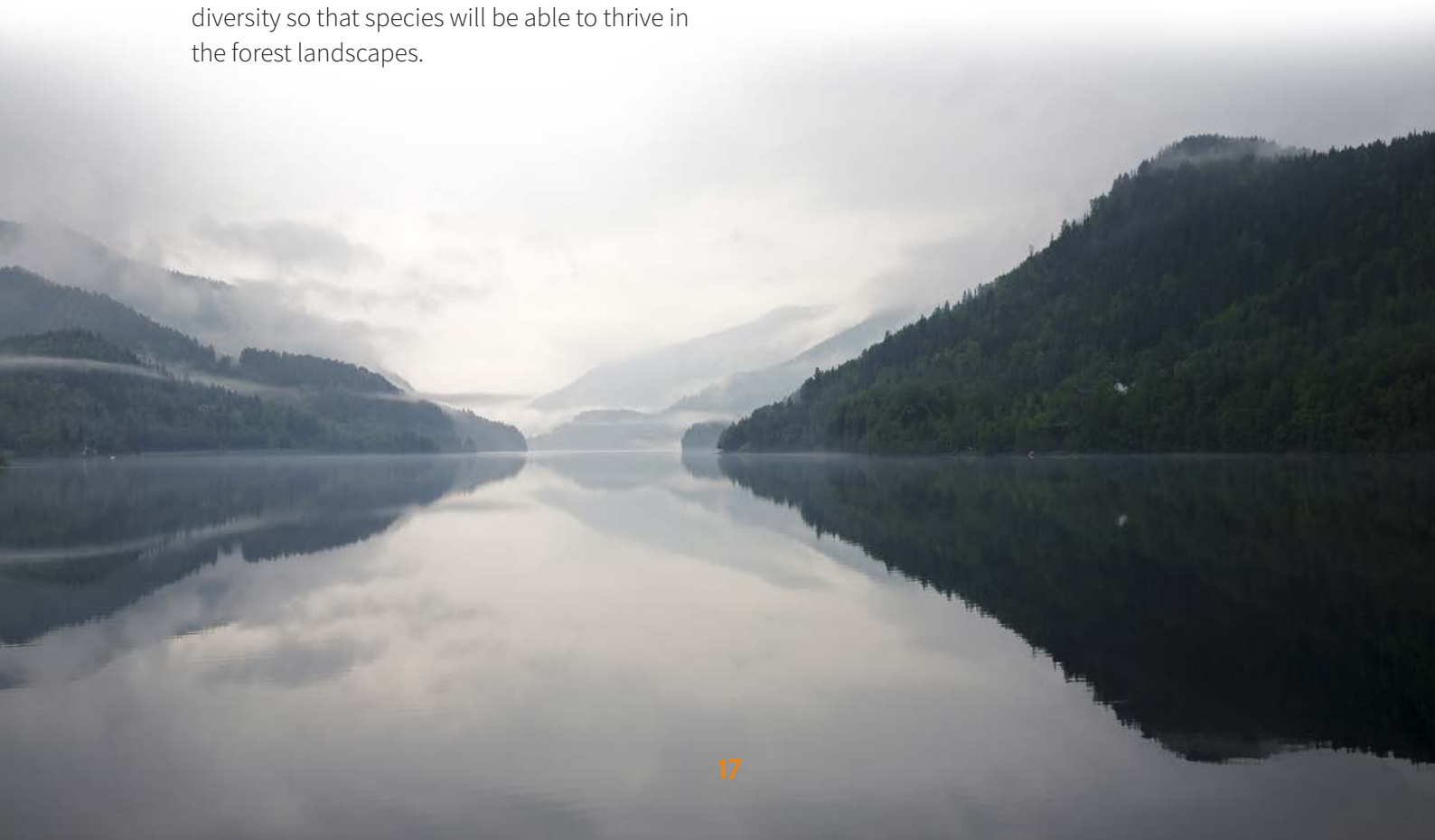
Holmen AB, the forestry company, conducts targeted initiatives to increase the availability of habitats that are in short supply, for example by restoring wetlands and performing controlled burning. In addition, the company has identified nearly 8,800 sites that it has voluntarily set aside from harvesting. At these sites, necessary actions are taken to protect and boost habitat diversity so that species will be able to thrive in the forest landscapes.

DUE DILIGENCE

Performing due diligence is a systematic way to identify, analyse and mitigate risks from a business or investment. Due diligence can ensure that delays and cost overruns, associated with poorly anticipated requirements for managing biodiversity-related risks and impacts, can be avoided.

Barclays AB, the bank, applies due diligence for clients involved in forestry and agribusiness industries to ensure the bank supports clients that promote sustainable forestry and agricultural practices.

UBS Group, the investment & financial services company, states that it will not knowingly provide financial or advisory services to clients whose primary business activity is associated with severe environmental or social damage to or through use of: UNESCO world heritage sites, wetlands, endangered species, high conservation value forests, illegal logging and illegal fire.



KPI:S AND MONITORING

Monitoring is essential to be able to track development and ensure progress is made. Implementing and monitoring KPIs ensures that business growth is steered in the desired direction.

Rwe AG, the energy company, has developed a monitoring method using sensitive indicator species and assesses the environmental status of these species through ecological mapping. The results are evaluated by specialists with reference to the specific species.

Porsche, the car company, has created an internal biodiversity index to be able to measure and follow up on the company's goals. The index is measured in percentages.

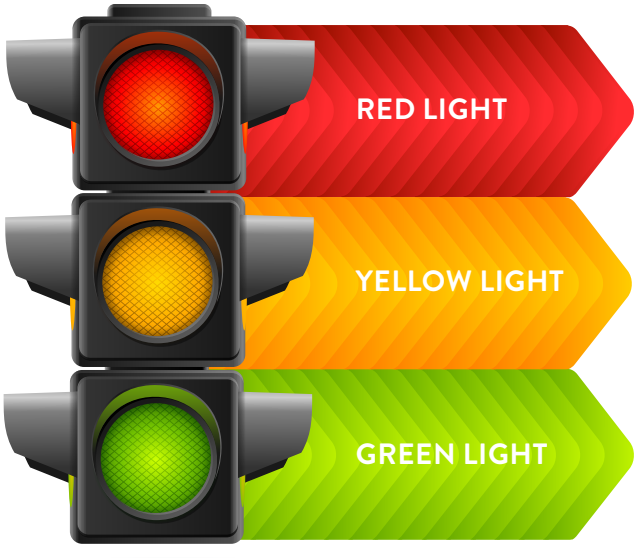
BIODIVERSITY GOALS

Even though 38% of the largest companies in Europe have a goal regarding biodiversity, only 14% of the companies have time-bound, measurable and relevant goals that are also in line with science, namely, to be on a path to restoring biodiversity by 2030.

In the Nordics, the share of companies with goals for biodiversity increases every year. However, the work on biodiversity is only just getting started.

COMPANIES STARTING TO SET GOALS FOR BIODIVERSITY

EBI 2022 categorizes the companies' level of ambition using the three colours of the traffic-light system, depending on whether each company has a goal for biodiversity and whether the goal is in line with best practice based on currently available science. The categorization remains the same as in 2020 and 2021, and this year's index can therefore be compared to these years in the Nordic countries.



Companies that lack goals or policies for biodiversity.

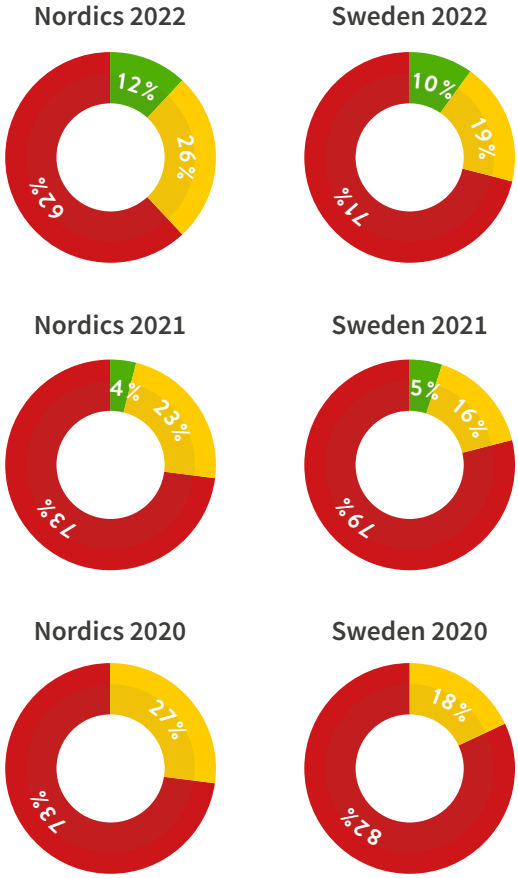
Companies that have set a goal or established a policy for biodiversity.

Companies with time-bound, measurable and relevant biodiversity goals in line with science, i.e. No Net Loss or Biodiversity Net Gain by 2030.

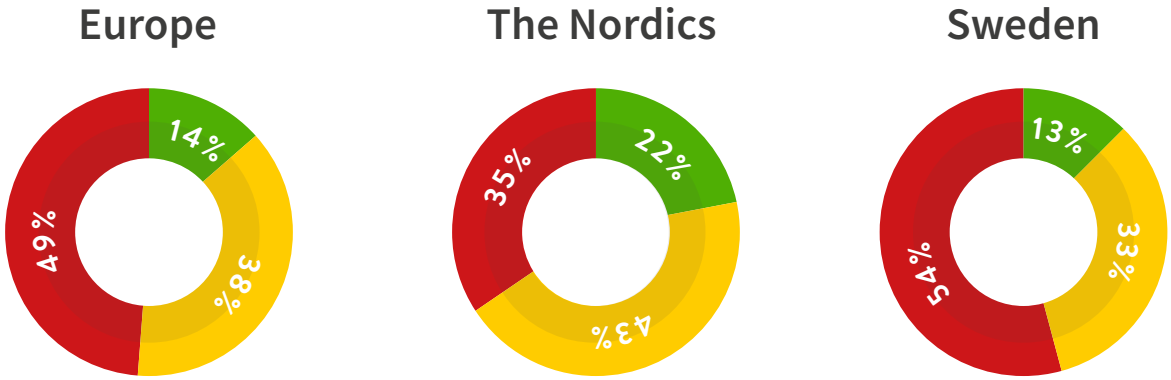
POSITIVE GOAL-SETTING TREND IN THE NORDICS

We are able to compare EBI data from previous years for companies based in the Nordic countries (including Sweden) . This shows that the number of companies that have included biodiversity goals in their business models over the last three years has increased substantially.

The proportion of Nordic companies that set goals in line with science has tripled in just one year, while the corresponding proportion for Swedish companies has doubled. At this speed every company in the Nordics will have time-bound, measurable and relevant goals for biodiversity by the end of 2027.



TREND OVER TIME IN COMPANIES' BIODIVERSITY GOALS
Traceability in EBI data from previous years allows a comparison of the 100 largest companies in the Nordics with the 100 largest companies in Sweden. The number of companies with biodiversity goals has increased in both groups from 2020 to 2022.



GEOGRAPHIC COMPARISONS OF COMPANIES' BIODIVERSITY GOALS
A comparison of the presence of goals for biodiversity across the largest companies in Europe, the Nordics and Sweden (revenue > EUR 5,000m). When compared to the 100 largest companies in the Nordics and Sweden, it's clear that the larger companies are better at setting goals for biodiversity than the smaller companies are.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SECTORS

Comparing total EBI scores across sectors shows that the assessed largest European companies do not have the same level of ambition regarding biodiversity.

The number of companies that have commenced their work for biodiversity across their entire value chain is in the minority. Furthermore, only a small share of the companies use KPIs when reporting on biodiversity and their progress towards set goals. The reason for this is probably the lack of established KPIs and this will most likely develop in the coming years as the measurability for biodiversity evolves.

The lack of a common set of rules on how the issue of biodiversity should be handled is reflected in the results. With more companies setting targets that are relevant to their business, measures will also increase and we'll see a greater impact on nature.

SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SECTORS IN EUROPE

There is a strong tendency for sectors with a direct impact on biodiversity, such as Energy and Utilities with mainly greenfield investments, to have higher scores than sectors where the impacts and dependencies are primarily further up or down the value chain, such as Financial Services, Information Technology and Health Care.

This is to be expected since the impact of the latter groups is less obvious. However, it can also imply a blind spot in the businesses risk assessments of companies in these sectors.

One sector that does seem to identify biodiversity along the value chain is Consumer Staples. This sector performs comparably well in the EBI score, roughly at the same level as the Energy and Utilities sector. This might be due to the fact that the Consumer Staples sector has direct dependencies on nature for the goods it provides, via producing companies that have a direct impact on biodiversity. End consumers' demand for sustainable products may also have an influence on this result.

THE FINANCIAL SECTOR NEEDS TO SCALE UP

The average score of the Financial Services sector is quite low, with only 8% having goals in place. At the same time, financial risks related to biodiversity loss are becoming more and more obvious, as seen in many initiatives from the Financial Services sector. There is an increasing number of tools as well as recommendations from investors/financial services providers to screen companies and assess their portfolios. Financial Services is probably the most important sector of all when it comes to action on biodiversity, as investor requirements affect how all the other sectors choose to invest. The EBI results imply that there is a strong need for the Financial Services sector to drastically scale up implementation of biodiversity efforts in their businesses.

AVERAGE EBI SCORE PER SECTOR

The chart shows the average EBI score of the 288 largest European companies. The scores in the table show the percentage (%) of the maximum score per sector in total, and in each of the five subsets of EBI evaluation questions (identify, prioritize, set goals, act, and track).

SECTOR	COMPANIES (NUMBER)	TOTAL SCORE	IDENTIFY	PRIORITIZE	SET GOALS	ACT	TRACK
ALL COMPANIES	288	15%	23%	6%	18%	10%	8%
SERVICES							
COMMUNICA-TION SERVICES	14	9%	19%	0%	8%	3%	7%
FINANCIALS	47	8%	13%	2%	9%	8%	2%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	11	2%	9%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CONSUMER GOODS							
CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY	44	12%	17%	2%	13%	10%	11%
CONSUMER STAPLES	28	23%	29%	14%	30%	17%	17%
HEALTH CARE	17	10%	16%	0%	18%	5%	0%
PRODUCERS							
ENERGY	24	26%	36%	17%	30%	21%	9%
INDUSTRIALS	55	10%	19%	2%	10%	4%	7%
MATERIALS	33	20%	32%	12%	23%	13%	7%
REAL ESTATE	1	Data is not statistically significant					
UTILITIES	14	27%	36%	7%	36%	21%	20%

The classification of companies in different sectors is based on their primary business activities. Consequently, some companies may fit into more than one sector classification. While the sector classification of the companies originates from an international taxonomy, the classification of Services, Consumer goods and Producers is an approach devised by Ecogain to illustrate where biodiversity is mainly to be found in the company's value chain. As such, Producers have a direct impact, Consumer goods have direct dependencies on nature for their goods, through producing companies which also have a direct impact on biodiversity, and Services impact biodiversity further away in their value chain.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCORES ARE LOW

In Industrials the scores are low, even though these companies have a direct footprint on nature, and often cause emissions to air and water that may affect biodiversity. This result is consistent with previous years in Sweden and in the Nordics, and the explanation might be that these sectors (on average) don't need to access large expanses of new land areas. Most factories and industries expand in brownfield areas, which means there's a higher chance that the nature there has already degenerated. However, these industrial companies often have dependencies on nature at their supplier level, which surprisingly seems to have been neglected as a business risk. Efforts to reduce emissions are also directly linked to preventing biodiversity loss, but this may not be obvious to companies.

ONLY 11% ASSESS THEIR IMPACT ON BIODIVERSITY

Of the 288 largest European companies, 38% have set a goal or established a policy on biodiversity, although these are not always in line with science. Somewhat alarmingly, a mere 11% of the companies assess their impact on biodiversity. This discrepancy might be an indication that companies are only just starting to become aware of the issue and are yet to define their way forward. This assumption is strengthe-

SHARE OF COMPANIES THAT IDENTIFY AND ACT ON BIODIVERSITY IMPACT

Percentage of the 288 largest European companies that score points on a few specific EBI evaluation questions about identifying biodiversity, setting goals for biodiversity and setting biodiversity requirements on suppliers.

SECTOR	MENTION BIODIVERSITY	IDENTIFY ITS IMPACT ON BIODIVERSITY	HAVE A GOAL OR POLICY FOR BIODIVERSITY	HAVE A GOAL IN LINE WITH SCIENCE	SET BIODIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPPLIERS
TOTAL	69%	11%	38%	14%	8%
SERVICES					
COMMUNICATION SERVICES	64%	29%	21%	7%	7%
FINANCIALS	70%	4%	23%	6%	6%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	55%	0%	0%	0%	0%
CONSUMER GOODS					
CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY	57%	9%	30%	11%	14%
CONSUMER STAPLES	79%	18%	54%	18%	21%
HEALTH CARE	53%	6%	35%	18%	0%
PRODUCERS					
ENERGY	96%	13%	83%	17%	13%
INDUSTRIALS	56%	9%	25%	9%	0%
MATERIALS	82%	9%	48%	24%	9%
REAL ESTATE	Data is not statistically significant				
UTILITIES	86%	29%	71%	50%	14%

ned by the fact that most companies don't have time-bound, measurable and relevant goals.

Our guess is that, in the next few years, companies will refine their goals to make them specifically relevant to their businesses. We believe that as business frameworks regarding biodiversity develop, more companies will specify their approaches in the area. This will probably also affect the companies' actions, for instance, the number of companies setting requirements for suppliers is expected to increase. Today, Consumer Staples demonstrates the best performance when it comes to placing requirements on suppliers, which is encouraging although not very surprising considering their dependency and impact on biodiversity rests with their suppliers. In the next few years, we expect to see an increase in cooperation on biodiversity between companies within value chains.

According to the index, the sectors in which biodiversity impact and dependencies occur in the immediate value chain are best at setting goals. However, there is no significant difference between the Consumer goods and Producers sectors when it comes to setting goals in line with science, with the exception of Utilities. Companies in the Utilities sector score significantly higher than any other industry for setting goals in line with science. A closer look at the specific companies within this selection of utilities sector companies shows that they are mainly large energy companies. This strengthens the theory that sectors and companies with a large, direct dependency on nature, and hence an obvious and possibly substantial impact on nature, have come the furthest regarding biodiversity. Hopefully more sectors will soon follow.

MANY COMPANIES DON'T MENTION BIODIVERSITY

While more and more companies have started to address biodiversity, a surprisingly high proportion, 31%, of the largest European companies don't even mention biodiversity in their reports. This means that almost a third of major European businesses have still not identified biodiversity as a relevant business risk or opportunity. There is a striking difference between sectors, with 96% of Energy companies mentioning biodiversity, but only 53% within Health Care and 55% within Information Technology mentioning it. If the global goals on biodiversity are to be met, a much higher proportion of companies must engage in biodiversity and every company must up their game.

FIVE BUSINESS BENEFITS OF BIODIVERSITY

Ecogain believes that the corporate world stands to gain from adopting a foresighted approach to business that includes the planet we depend on.

Future-proof your business by embedding planetary sustainability into the core of your company's business model. Here are five business reasons for doing so:

1. MANAGE RISK IN TIME

All companies' value chains depend on and impact biodiversity. An inability to identify and manage sustainability risks in general, and biodiversity risks in particular, can expose a business to shortages of raw material, energy and products. Companies may also face transformational risks, reputational risks or even the risk of stranded assets. Make sure you analyse your company's planetary impacts and dependencies before it's too late.

2. SECURE GOOD FINANCING

There is currently a strong movement towards defining and applying sustainable financing. As an example, the EU Taxonomy for sustainable finance is the first regulation that establishes a standard for corporate biodiversity performance. Adjust your business to gain access to sustainable financing.

3. ATTRACT AND RETAIN STAFF

"The main motivation for setting a bold corporate target on biodiversity is to attract and retain staff." This statement was made by British construction company Balfour Beatty in 2018 to the members of the corporate network Business@Biodiversity Sweden. The next generation of employees is acutely aware of, and concerned about, the climate crisis and the loss of biodiversity. Being part of a higher purpose is therefore becoming a top priority for young jobseekers in their choice of employer.

4. MEET CUSTOMER REQUIREMENTS

As the focus on the state of biodiversity grows, customers will place tougher demands on companies to make adaptations to protect nature. Companies therefore need to be proactive and position themselves on the issue of biodiversity to secure a license to operate.

5. PROMOTE INNOVATIVE COOPERATION

Innovative thinking is crucial for businesses to predict the market and keep up with customer needs. Customers and politicians alike are increasingly searching for biodiversity solutions. These can only be created through innovation and new ways of working at the intersection of competencies, for instance between ecologists and engineers. This presents an opportunity to grow your business. Capture the interest of your staff and build internal storytelling about nature. Make room for biodiversity innovation.

FIVE ACTIONS FOR YOUR BUSINESS NOW

Many organisations ask "where do we start?" It's not always easy to address a new issue, or to see how your current sustainability work relates to biodiversity. Here is some advice to get you going.

1. BUILD STRATEGIC BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

All organisations need to take ownership for their impact on biodiversity. However, knowledge about biodiversity is still generally low within businesses, so the first step towards well-informed decisions is to build a knowledge base within your organisation.

- Ensure that senior executives can make informed decisions throughout the transition by holding a condensed executive course on biodiversity and its business relevance for the entire management and board to go through.
- Make sure you're aware of upcoming business risks and opportunities that may arise from events, changes in laws etc. One way to do this is by joining a business and biodiversity network.

BUSINESS FOR NATURE

Business for nature is a global coalition for *"business and conservation organizations and forward-thinking companies"* with the aim of reversing nature loss and fostering greater policy ambitions.

Business @ Biodiversity

Businesses in Europe can join the EU Business @ Biodiversity Platform to discuss the links between business and biodiversity at an EU level.

BUSINESS@BIODIVERSITY SWEDEN

In many European countries there are national business and biodiversity networks for cooperation between businesses. Business@Biodiversity Sweden is a leading national sustainability network for large corporations and trade organisations that aim to be at the forefront in terms of their sustainability work, drive progress and work with biodiversity as part of their business model. Find your national network!

2. ANALYSE THE COMPANY'S IMPACT AND DEPENDENCIES

All companies have an impact on and are dependent on biodiversity. Sometimes this is obvious, such as when new land is used or when the business reaps the benefits of the free services provided by ecosystems. Sometimes it takes place far away, a long way down the supply chain or in the production of energy. But somewhere beneath it all, there is always nature. Start by analysing where the company's impact and dependencies on nature are greatest. Is it in the purchasing, in the company's direct land use, in nearby nature or through customers?

3. SET MEASURABLE, TIMED AND RELEVANT OBJECTIVES

Once you have identified the company's impact and dependencies on nature, you can prioritise your efforts and define your desired market position. Secure the future of your company by setting measurable, time-bound and relevant biodiversity goals. As an example, one goal that benefits the business as well as nature is for the materials or goods you depend on to be produced in a long-term sustainable manner. The scientific venture behind the Global Goal for Nature calls for net Nature positive outcomes by 2030, from a 2020 baseline.

4. CREATE A BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND TAKE ACTION

Create a biodiversity strategy, build capacity, and start implementing measures to reach your goals. Start by identifying the measures that are most relevant, achieve the biggest effect and/or where you have the best possibilities to act. Remember that it’s more important to act and start somewhere, than to wait for the perfect solution. Be prepared to reconsider the strategy during the process as you gain new insights. Through concrete measures, you can create momentum and a learning process within the organisation. It’s time for action.

5. COOPERATE WITH OTHERS

We are in the midst of a systemic change towards a society where every company must be sustainable throughout its entire value chain. This change demands cooperation, both within the value chain and within industries.

Cooperation within the value chain creates supply and demand of sustainably produced goods and services. Smaller companies gain traction from larger companies, which in turn ensures that the materials they depend on can continuously be delivered.

There are two good reasons for sector-specific cooperation. Firstly, the profitable transformation of an industry requires new rules of the game, which requires engagement, which is achieved through joint agreements. An industry roadmap sets a bar that everyone should reach, mutually. Secondly, solitude is not strength. By joining forces, an entire industry can build knowledge, new structures and solutions together and thus reach further at a faster pace. The industry roadmaps within Fossil-Free Sweden and Svemin's Mining with Nature can provide inspiration.

EIGHT INITIATIVES WITH THE POWER TO CHANGE

2022 is the year when the world can finally start to move on from the pandemic and see businesses bouncing back with visions to "build back better". However, the current geo-political situation in Europe has brought important questions concerning energy, food and resource supply to the fore. These are just a few of the societal and economic constraints the world will face if we are not able minimise and prevent biodiversity loss and climate change.

Now is the time to implement sustainable business models. This is "the Decade of Action", as representatives of the Convention on Biological Diversity put it. The fundamental role of the business world in achieving global sustainability goals is being highlighted by more and more actors. At the same time, the dependency of companies and our economies on nature is becoming increasingly clear. The loss of biodiversity is starting to affect business. Scientific reports, such as the latest report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Synthesis Report of the Sixth Assessment Report, also provide a clear indication that momentum for biodiversity is culminating. The interdependency between climate change and biodiversity loss is becoming evident, as they are both part of the challenge and part of the solution.

1. THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

World leaders have decided that the global goals for biodiversity should be set by the UN within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). New global goals post-2020 are to be decided at COP 15, i.e. the 15th Meeting of the Parties, which is due to take place in Kunming, China in the third quarter of 2022. New global goals on biodiversity are also to be set during the meeting. Discussions proceeding COP 15 will focus on the monitoring approach, the mobilization and scaling up of finance for biodiversity, as well as the actions necessary to reach the 2050 Vision of living in harmony with nature.

The difference compared to previous global goals for biodiversity is that companies are now stepping forward, aiming to position themselves as clearly in their work of preserving and strengthening biodiversity as in climate change. The CBD will also place a much greater focus on measurability than before.

Expectations are high for the Global Biodiversity Framework, as the new goals are predicted to be as unifying as the 1.5-degree goal for the climate.

2. UPCOMING REGULATIONS ON BIODIVERSITY IN THE EU

The legislative field within the EU is changing rapidly. Below are the most relevant initiatives for businesses with regards to biodiversity.

EU Biodiversity Strategy

The European Commission has had a specific biodiversity strategy in place since 2020. This strategy is a key part of the EU's New Green Deal, and it describes the EU's position on the global negotiations within the Convention on Biological Diversity. One of the desired results of the different commitments is to fully integrate biodiversity considerations into other EU policies and address the EU's impact on global biodiversity. In doing this, the EU aims to take a leading position in tackling the global biodiversity crisis.

One proposal that is still under negotiation is that of a legally binding EU Nature Restoration Target. In the event that this target is implemented by the European Commission, it would be one of the key metrics in the EU biodiversity strategy.

EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Activities

On 21 April 2021, the European Commission adopted the "EU Taxonomy Climate Delegated Act" containing technical review criteria for the EU climate economy. The EU taxonomy for sustainable activities aims to increase investments in sustainable business operations and is expected to have a major effect on capital flows. An investment will not be considered sustainable if it causes significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives, of which protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems is one.

The first delegated act, including the first two environmental objectives, climate change mitigation and adaptation, entered into force on January 1st 2022. The delegated act containing technical criteria for the remaining four environmental objectives is currently under construction. It is planned that this delegated act will be adopted during 2022, for it to enter into force in January 2023. The taxonomy has received much criticism and its content has been widely debated. However, the EU has clarified that the taxonomy is a living document that will change as development and technological progress are made.

EU Directive on Sustainability Reporting

In 2021, the European Commission adopted a new directive for sustainability reporting, the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). One of the major updates compared to the current Non-Financial Reporting Directive is that companies will have to report on biodiversity and ecosystems.

The proposal may enter into force at the end of 2022, which would mean that company reporting will be covered by the new directive from the 2023 financial year onwards. At the time of writing, the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group is working on the first set of drafts for the standards. Thanks to the CSRD, we can expect the sustainability reports to be more comparable between companies over time.

3. BUSINESS COMMUNITY INITIATIVES ON BIODIVERSITY

The business community is taking an increasingly proactive approach to biodiversity. One important reason is that the loss of biodiversity is already affecting many businesses today, and the upcoming risks of further impact are gaining more and more attention.

World Economic Forum - Global Risks Report

The World Economic Forum releases its global risks report annually, and in January 2022, the report concluded that environmental risks dominate in both the short and long term. In the additional Global Risks Perception Survey, climate action failure, extreme weather events and biodiversity loss and ecosystems are considered the top three global risks by severity over the next ten years. This outcome further speeds up the momentum for businesses to address biodiversity.

Business leaders urging policy-makers to reach a transformative CBD agreement

In the summer of 2021, leading companies became engaged in the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) process through the coalition Business for Nature, the Capitals Coalition, the World Conservation Monitoring Center (UNEP-WCMC) and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). They spoke up in the media and addressed policy-makers directly to encourage them to adopt a meaningful Global Biodiversity Framework that includes a clear mission to reverse nature loss by 2030, a clear target for businesses to embed the value of nature in decision-making, and to eliminate or redirect environmentally harmful subsidies.

4. FINANCIAL SECTOR MOBILIZATION

There is an increasing mobilization within the financial sector to counter the loss of biodiversity. The Finance for Biodiversity Pledge is one of the most ambitious initiatives. Since September 2020, 89 global financial actors, with combined assets of €13 trillion, have signed a pledge to work towards reversing biodiversity loss by 2030. The pledge is operated through three work-groups: engagement with companies, impact assessment (auditing and data) and public policy advocacy. During 2021, the impact assessment group released two publications, *Finance for Biodiversity – Guide on measurement approaches and Finance and Biodiversity – Overview of initiatives for financial institutions*.

Another initiative is the Partnership for Biodiversity Accounting Financials (PBAF), which facilitates the financial industry to transparently assess and disclose its impact and dependency on biodiversity through the PBAF Standard. The development of the Standard started in 2019 and is now supported by 30 financial institutions from seven countries.

Major investors such as Blackrock and the Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global have recently released their approach and a document detailing their expectations on businesses with regards to biodiversity and ecosystems. Blackrock states that “how well companies navigate and adapt to long-term business dynamics like natural capital dependency and scarcity will have a direct impact on our clients’ investment outcomes and financial well-being”.

5. TNFD – TASK FORCE ON NATURE-RELATED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

The Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) provides a framework for understanding and reporting on the nature-related risk associated with climate change. The framework, which was conceived by the business world, has had a major impact and is used today by thousands of large companies and financial investors.

There is a growing realisation that a one-sided focus on climate risk jeopardizes missing other significant nature-related risks. This has led to the development of the Task Force on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD). The goal of the TNFD is to translate nature-related risks into financial terms and thereby contribute to redirecting flows of financing towards nature-positive activities by 2030. In March 2022, the beta version of the TNFD framework was released. The TNFD builds on the TCFD, thus the recommendations for disclosure of nature-related risks and opportunities in the draft are based on the four pillars on which the TCFD rests: 1) governance, 2) strategy, 3) risk management, 4) metrics and targets.

6. INITIATIVES SUPPORTING MEASURABILITY FOR BIODIVERSITY

Tracking and reporting on biodiversity goals requires some form of measurability. There are rapid developments globally in this area, with many parallel projects underway to create metrics for biodiversity for business actors and financiers, as well as initiatives to align these metrics to create comparability between different methods. Many measurement projects are in the testing phase. One example is the CLImB project, initiated by large companies in Sweden.

Another initiative that may have a major impact is the Align project, which aims to provide counselling on how to measure and report on biodiversity. The Align project is currently working on preparing standard recommendations for businesses for valuation and measurement, which will be accessible for public consultation in June 2022.

Additionally, the emerging field of Spatial finance is developing rapidly and aims to help businesses, industries and the financial sector to assess their impacts and risks using reliable geospatial data, often received from satellites. The Spatial Finance Initiative is at the forefront of this field and has an explicit aim to create open, asset-level datasets for the world of finance.

Amongst financial institutions in Sweden, as well as others, the Ecogain Biodiversity Index (EBI) is already used as a proxy for taking the pulse of and developing a company's work with biodiversity. Until there are methods for quantifying the actual impact, quantifying companies' actions and reports will remain the most usable approach. As the prevailing wisdom says; don't wait for the perfect solution. Start with what you know and can access today.

7. IPBES AND IPCC HIGHLIGHT CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY SYNERGIES

In 2021, the IPBES (Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystems) and IPCC came together to collaborate for the first time, which resulted in a workshop report highlighting the complex and multiple connections between the climate and biodiversity. The report states that "only by considering climate and biodiversity as parts of the same complex problem, which also includes the actions and motivations and aspirations of people, can solutions be developed that avoid maladaptation and maximize the beneficial outcomes."

The interconnections between the climate and biodiversity were further highlighted in the sixth Assessment Report of the IPCC; Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, released in February 2022.

IPBES is planning for an Assessment on Business and biodiversity: Methodological Assessment of the Impact and Dependence of Business on Biodiversity and Nature's Contributions to People. The first step, defining the scope of the assessment, is underway and is scheduled for completion during 2022.

8. SCIENCE BASED TARGETS FOR NATURE

Science-based targets are becoming the norm for global companies that want to set climate goals based on science. The Science Based Target Network (SBTN) is at the forefront of this development, and the framework *Science Based Targets for Nature: Initial Guidance for Business* presents a process for how companies can set, work towards and follow up on science-based targets for nature. The framework focuses on the aspects that IPBES highlights as the main drivers of biodiversity loss. SBTN intends to launch the completed framework in 2022. This is also the year that companies will be able to apply for a validated SBTN.

APPENDIX

METHODOLOGY - EBI 2022

REVIEW

This year's review was carried out during March and April 2022. Reviews were performed of the sustainability reports of companies that had published their reports on the company's website by April 7th. For companies that release their reports after April 7th, the sustainability report from 2021 was reviewed.

SELECTION AND DATA

EBI 2022 analyses the largest companies in Europe, the Nordics and Sweden. The selection includes the 300 largest companies in Europe, the 100 largest companies in the Nordics and the 100 largest in Sweden. The total number of companies reviewed is 398. The European selection covers companies with a revenue of approximately EUR 5,000m and upwards. The Nordic and Swedish selections covers companies with a revenue from approximately EUR 2,300m and 1,000m respectively.

EBI only evaluates listed companies in Europe and the Nordics that have their headquarters in Europe/the Nordics. In Sweden, non-listed companies are also included. Subsidiaries are removed if their parent company has been reviewed. This also means that business groups are not included in their entirety, only the parent company. Only sustainability reports or integrated reports written in English (Swedish companies excluded) have been included in the review.

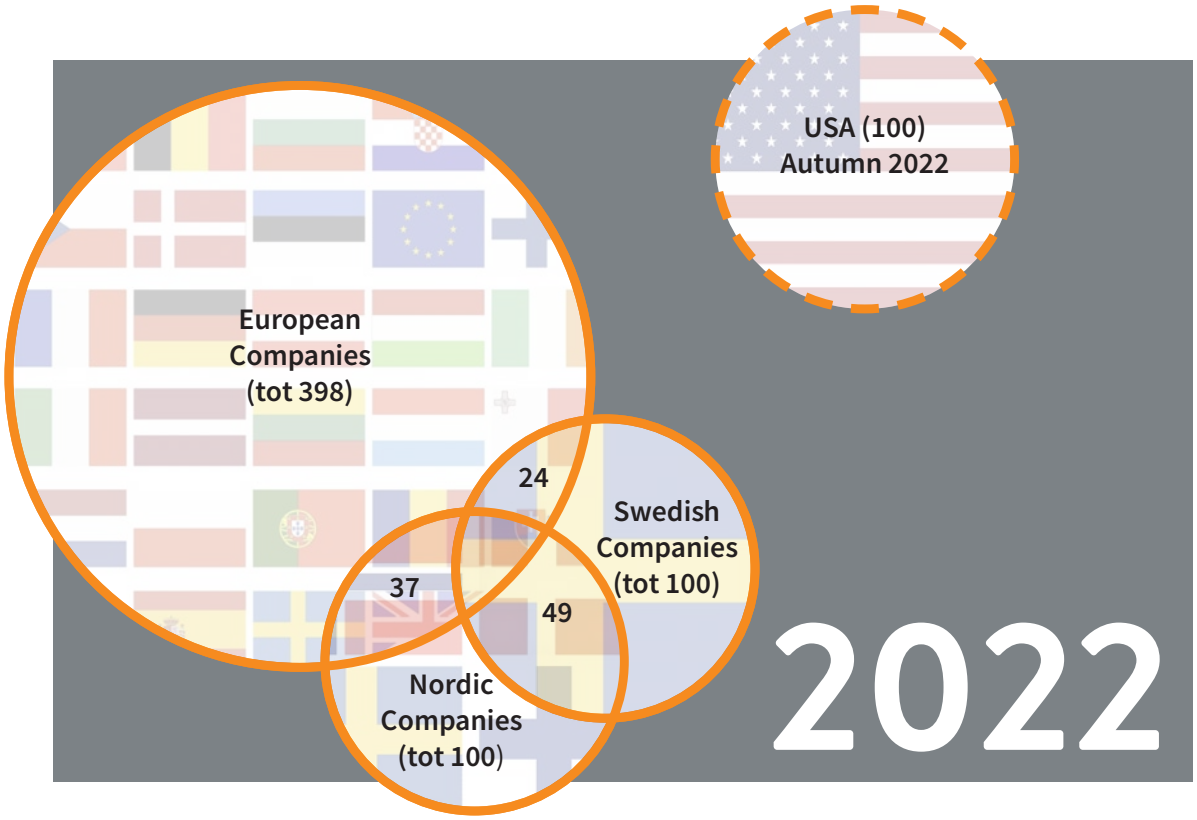
Selection EBI 2022

Some of the companies on the European list are Swedish and Nordic, and some of the companies on the Nordic list are Swedish. Therefore, the total amount of companies does not add up to 398.

LISTS	NO. OF COMPANIES IN DATA SELECTION	NO. OF COMPANIES ACTUALLY REVIEWED	LISTED/NON-LISTED	SOURCE
EUROPE 300*	300	288	Only listed	Bolddata.nl
NORDIC 100*	100	100	Only listed	Bolddata.nl
SWEDEN 100	100	100	Listed and non-listed	Bolddata.nl

SCALING UP EBI

The Ecogain Biodiversity Index (EBI) is growing. In 2019, the index started out by covering only 100 companies in Sweden, this year it includes almost 400 companies in Europe, and it will continue to grow. To power our growth, we are developing a machine-learning tool in collaboration with Knowit.

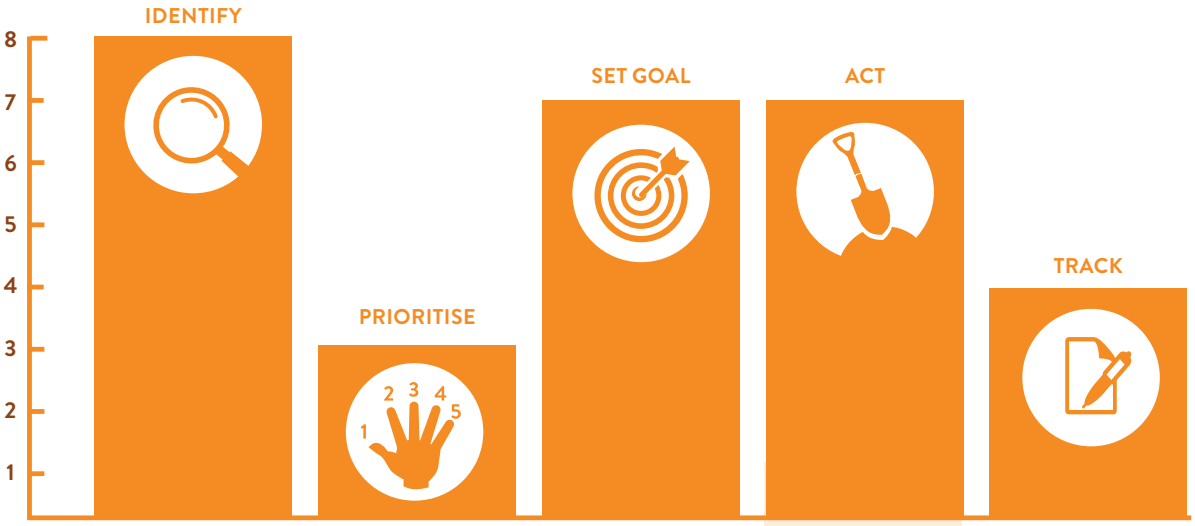


EBI EVALUATION QUESTIONS

The EBI ranking is based on a series of evaluation questions that reflect the latest science. The 23 questions are grouped into five different categories, each of which represents an important step for companies when implementing biodiversity into their business models and day-to-day-work. Each question has a score of 0.5 to 3 points. Certain questions are interdependent, i.e. points on one question will mean that points can't be scored on another question. The maximum score is 29.

1. Identify: Does the company identify its impact and dependencies on biodiversity?
2. Prioritise: Has the company prioritised its work on biodiversity?
3. Set goals: Does the company report goals for biodiversity? Are the goals in line with the planetary boundaries and society's goal for biodiversity?
4. Act: Does the company have a plan and activities for biodiversity?
5. Track: Does the company monitor and report on progress towards its goals?

EVALUATION QUESTIONS IN BIODIVERSITY INDEX



TOTAL 8 POINTS

Mention the relevance of SDG 14?
0,5 POINTS

Mention the relevance of SDG 15?
0,5 POINTS

Mention the relevance of other biodiversity policy goals?
0,5 POINTS

Mention biodiversity?
0,5 POINTS

Include biodiversity in its materiality analysis?
2 POINTS

Have a value chain assessment that includes biodiversity?
3 POINTS

Assess operations using primary data on biodiversity?
2 POINTS

Assess and disclose material upstream impact?
2 POINTS

Assess and disclose material downstream impact?
1 POINTS

TOTAL 3 POINTS

Prioritise biodiversity impacts?
3 POINTS

TOTAL 7 POINTS

Have a biodiversity goal?
1 POINTS

Have a business-relevant biodiversity goal?
1 POINTS

Have a time-bound, measurable and relevant biodiversity goal?
2 POINTS

Have an NNL* or BNG* by 2030 goal?
1 POINTS

Implement a subset of goals from SBTN**?
3 POINTS

TOTAL 7 POINTS

Apply the mitigation hierarchy (or comparable) approach?
1 POINTS

Engage in restoration and regeneration activities?
1 POINTS

Apply biodiversity due diligence in finance and M&A?
1 POINTS

Have demands for biodiversity in purchasing?
2 POINTS

Participate in multi-stakeholder platforms
1 POINTS

Support efforts to improve environmental data?
1 POINTS

TOTAL 4 POINTS

Describe how biodiversity goals are monitored?
1 POINTS

Report progress on biodiversity with KPIs?
3 POINTS

*NNL – No Net Loss, BNG – Biodiversity Net Gain
**SBTN – Science-Based Targets Network

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