

# Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity Newsletter

May 2020 – Issue 10



# Newsletter

## Headlines

- [Transforming Our Relationship with Nature – A Message from Executive Secretary General for the Convention of Biological Diversity, Elizabeth Maruma Mrema](#)
- [Nature Risk Report from WEF](#)
- [Nature is too Big to Fail](#)
- [Developing a Corporate Biodiversity Strategy: A primer for the fashion industry](#)
- [Taxonomy: Final Report of the Technical Expert Group on Sustainable Finance](#)
- [The Farmers as Guardians of the Preservation of Biodiversity and Landscape](#)
- [Value Balancing Alliance](#)
- [Non-Financial Reporting by Large Companies in the EU](#)
- [Improving the Visibility of Nature in Financial Accounting](#)
- [Natural Capital Protocol: Public Consultation of the Draft Biodiversity Guidance](#)
- [Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Revision by the System of Environmental Economic Accounting](#)
- [OECD-UNDP Virtual Global Conference on Biodiversity Finance](#)

## News from the Secretariat

- [Second Meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group – Rome](#)
- [A Message from the United Nations Secretary General: “Build Back Better”](#)
- [Thematic Workshop on Resource Mobilization for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework](#)

## News from the GPBB

- [New report on Assessment of Biodiversity Measurement Approaches for Business and Financial Institutions](#)
- [Launch of the GPBB National and Regional Initiatives Report](#)

## Mark Your Calendars

- [International Day for Biological Diversity](#)
- [UN Biodiversity Summit](#)
- [Local and Subnational Government Information Webinars](#)
- [Upcoming virtual events on biodiversity](#)
- [Local Building Business Resilience: How Collective Leadership Will Reverse Nature Loss](#)

# Headlines –

## Transforming our Relationship with Nature – A message from the Acting Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Elizabeth Maruma Mrema

While COVID-19 demands immediate action, there also needs to be a long-term vision; one that enables us to fundamentally transform our relationship with the natural world to reduce the risk of future pandemics.

Human health is intimately interconnected with the health of our planet and how we manage the life-sustaining resources that biodiversity and ecosystems provide. But human activities disturb both the structure and functioning of ecosystems.

Many of the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss also amplify disease risk: large-scale deforestation; habitat conversion and fragmentation; agricultural and livestock intensification; the unregulated trade in species used as food and medicine, and the overharvesting of species to the brink of extinction; as well as anthropogenic climate change. These interacting pressures create the conditions for potential new diseases to emerge, re-emerge and spread.

Global wildlife trade and live animal markets, where live fish, meat and wild animals are sold, are important risk factors for zoonotic – which are diseases that can be transmitted from animals to people – spillover. Accordingly, measures taken by countries to reduce the number of live animals in food markets can significantly reduce the risk of disease outbreaks. Stricter controls on the sale and consumption of wild species, and implementation of the International Health Regulations, must also be scaled up globally.



# Headlines –

## Transforming our Relationship with Nature – A message from the Acting Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Elizabeth Maruma Mrema (continued)

However, a blanket ban of the trade, farming and consumption of wild species, or a “clamp down” of wet markets, would not, altogether, eliminate the risk of future zoonotic spillover. These markets sustain the livelihoods of millions of people and many others rely on wild foods as a critical source of food security and nutrition, in particular in low-income rural areas and communities. Under some conditions, a blanket ban may even generate new opportunities for diseases to emerge. For example, it may inadvertently exacerbate risk, by driving an underground market for the illegal trade of species used as food and medicine.

Reducing biodiversity loss has long-term benefits for humans, ecosystems, and animal health. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has worked closely for many years with the World Health Organization (WHO), and a wide range of partners, to promote whole-of-government, whole-of-society integrated approaches, that prioritise prevention.

At its last conference, Parties to the CBD adopted biodiversity-inclusive “One Health” guidance to assist countries in implementing such integrated, interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral approaches to health. One Health, as described by WHO, is an approach to designing and implementing policies in which multiple sectors communicate and work together to achieve better public health outcomes.

Concerted cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary action can be embedded in the next 10-year global framework for biodiversity – currently being negotiated among countries through the CBD process – to build the resilience needed to address our inter-related environmental, health and development challenges.

The fight against COVID-19 is bringing to the forefront an unprecedented sense of collective solidarity, shared purpose and common humanity. We will need to harness these positive forces to achieve the shared and interdependent goals of healthy societies and a healthy planet.

This article was published by The Independent, and can be found [here](#).



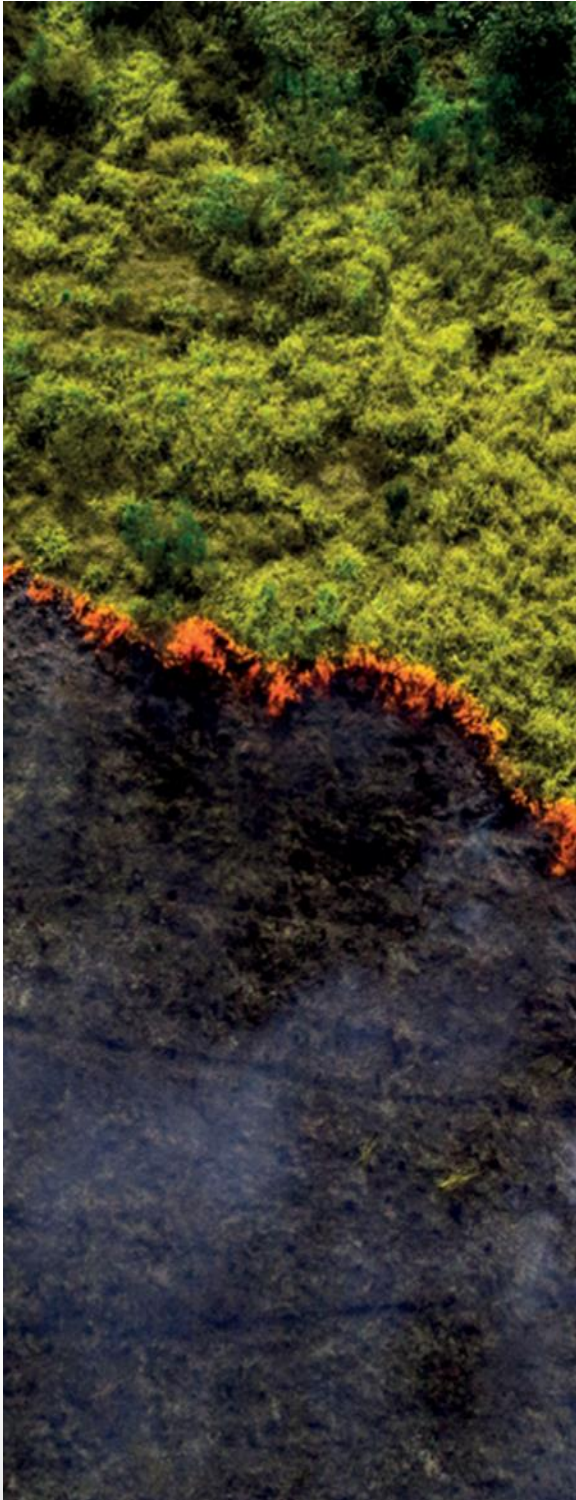
Convention on  
Biological Diversity



INDEPENDENT

# Headlines –

## Nature Risk Report from WEF



The *Nature Risk Rising: Why the Crisis Engulfing Nature matters for Business and the Economy* is the first of three reports under the New Nature Economy Series. The second report will cover the socioeconomic systems needed from business and other actors for transformation whereas the third report will focus on investment opportunities for nature-based solutions. The series is published by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in collaboration with PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Following the findings of WEF's [2020 Global Risks Report](#), biodiversity loss is ranked as one of the top five risks in terms of both likelihood and impact. However, there remains general confusion on how much nature loss has occurred and how it relates to human prosperity. The *Nature Risk Rising* report addresses this by looking into how nature loss is material to businesses in all sectors and how nature-risks should be regularly identified, assessed, and disclosed by businesses.

The report found that \$44 trillion of global economic value is in some way dependent on nature and its services and is inherently exposed to nature loss. As such, nature risks become evident for businesses when:

1. Businesses depend directly on nature for operations, supply chain performance, real estate asset values, physical security and business continuity.
2. The direct and indirect impacts of business activities on nature loss can trigger negative consequences, such as losing customers or entire markets, legal action and regulatory changes that affect financial performance.
3. Nature loss causes disruption to society and the markets within which businesses operate, which can manifest as both physical and market risks.

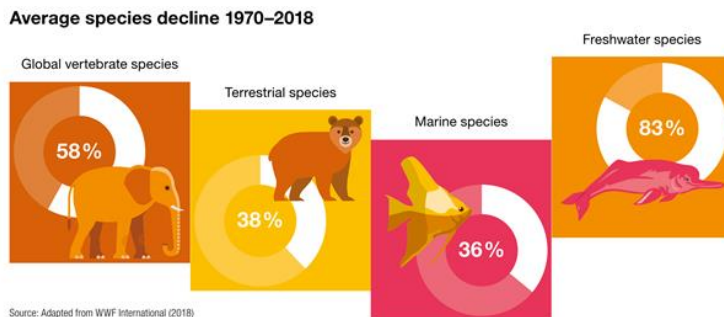
As such, this report suggests incorporating nature-based risks into existing risk-management processes. To view the *Nature Risk Rising* report, click [here](#).

# Headlines –

## Nature is too Big to Fail

PricewaterhouseCoopers Switzerland and World Wildlife Fund Switzerland found that the financial risks associated with the loss of biodiversity will become increasingly important in 2020 and beyond. As the relationship between climate change and biodiversity loss becomes more dependent, decision-makers face a huge challenge in tackling biodiversity loss and the risk of an unstable financial market.

“Biodiversity-related financial risks have not only been completely ignored by the financial sector but also by decision-makers globally. It is time to respond swiftly to the crisis from biodiversity loss and climate change. Thus, humanity is in urgent need for a New Deal for People and Nature. All market, governmental and civil society actors are needed. Nature is too big to fail,” said Thomas Vellacott, CEO of WWF Switzerland. “It is particularly dangerous for the financial sector not to account for biodiversity loss, as all economic sectors in which they invest, finance or insure depend on biodiversity,” states Andreas Staubli, CEO of PwC Switzerland.



The report highlights a typology of four biodiversity related financial risks: physical, transition, litigation and systemic risks. The report also explores what can be learnt from climate-related financial risks and provides examples on how to integrate biodiversity losses in the classical risk framework of financial institutions. It concludes with a set of recommendations for States and international actors.

View the full report [here](#).



# Headlines –

## Developing a corporate biodiversity strategy: A primer for the fashion industry

The University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership, an organization with a global outreach in developing leadership and solutions for a sustainable economy, in collaboration with global luxury group Kering and conservation knowledge-broker Biodiversify, have developed a paper highlighting practical steps companies within the fashion industry can take in order to develop a comprehensive biodiversity strategy.

The rate in which nature is presently deteriorating is unprecedented in human history. This deterioration affects many facets of the society that we live in, most notably in businesses that rely on natural resources to produce products that we have become dependent on in our every day lives. The fashion industry is one such example that relies significantly on natural resources ranging from animal skins to cotton. The largest impacts on nature occur at the beginning of the value chain during production and harvesting of these resources. This exposes organizations to exorbitant amounts of risk regarding operations and long-term supply. It has thus become apparent that transformative changes must be made with regard to businesses and their relationship to nature.



The paper provides guidance on:

- How to engage key decision makers within a company to develop and deliver a biodiversity strategy.
- The tools available to enable the conversation, delivery and development of a biodiversity strategy.
- How to structure the decision-making processes.
- The types of data required.
- How to reach decisions about biodiversity using available data.

To view the full report click [here](#).

supported by



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

— INSTITUTE FOR —  
SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP

# Headlines –

## Taxonomy: Final Report of the Technical Expert Group on Sustainable Finance

EU Taxonomy was created to diminish adverse environmental impacts stemming from everyday business activities. The tool is meant to aid companies and investors in transitioning to a low carbon and resource-efficient economy by setting performance thresholds for economic activities which:



The six main environmental objectives established within the report are the following:

1. Climate change mitigation.
2. Climate change adaptation.
3. Sustainable and protection of water and marine resources.
4. Transition to a circular economy.
5. Pollution prevention and control.
6. Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.



The purpose is to help companies and other stakeholders to access green financing to facilitate and improve environmental performance while helping to identify activities that are already environmentally friendly and can be applied to other organizations.

The report recognises that despite objectives implemented stemming from the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change, global greenhouse emissions have continued to rise and the urgency of the environmental challenges we face has increased substantially. Thus, as part of the report, detailed screening criteria is provided in order to recognize sustainable economic activities that contribute to climate change mitigation or adaptation.

To read the full report click [here](#).



# Headlines –

## Farmers as guardians of the preservation of biodiversity and landscapes

Currently, most people are sensitized to the questions of the human relation to climate, biodiversity, water, soil, agriculture, relating to the planet. In short, the commons emerge as a source of debate, discussion, and collective awareness.

At the same time, however, there is a kind of dissociation between this understanding and the reality of our lifestyles. Transdisciplinary researchers like Peter Kahn, Cynthia Fleury and Anne Caroline Prévot are studying this "generational environmental amnesia". They try to better understand what is "the experience of nature", in the sense of : if we multiplied our personal relationship to the natural world and if it is early in our growth, if it is linked to happy moments, we are more able to put coherence between the messages heard about environment and our practices of consumption in order to make them compatible with the preservation of biodiversity.



The Yves Rocher Foundation, created in 1991 with the purpose of giving back to nature, focuses on preserving biodiversity through actions that contribute to raising public awareness, such as tree planting. These actions show the importance of trees in the essential relation of humans to their natural environment and "the experience of nature" in the sense of a satisfactory re-anchoring on their territory. The action of planting contributes to the transformation of minds, therefore to the very possibility of changing individual and collective behavior for human societies. It is a tiny instrument, but we want to emphasize its strength. Whether we are in Europe, Asia, Africa or the Americas: the Plant for the Planet program is a testament to the universality of trees. It re-anchors us to make us more able to protect biodiversity.

FONDATION  
YVES ROCHER

# Headlines –

## Value Balancing Alliance

A relatively young non-profit organization, value balancing alliance was founded in June 2019 by several international companies and partnered with the four largest accounting firms that act as consultants. The main objective of value balancing alliance is integrating business into society and nature to create a better, more sustainable future.

The organization achieves this goal by developing standardized models, used for global impact measurement and valuation of social and natural considerations relating to business activities. This allows for decision-makers to be better informed of the positive and negative value contributions corporate activities have towards society. Given the use of these models, decision-makers are equipped to steer their businesses in a direction that ultimately leads to more sustainable long-term value creation and growth.



### YOSHIHIRO IKEGAWA, Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings

We define KAITEKI as “the sustainable well-being of people, society and our planet Earth” and in order to realize KAITEKI we are working on creating sustainable Social Value through innovation and business model transformation as well as creating Economic Value. We are confident that the Value Balancing Alliance will be an important tool for KAITEKI value measurement in our value chain.

The five main targets of the value balancing alliance are:

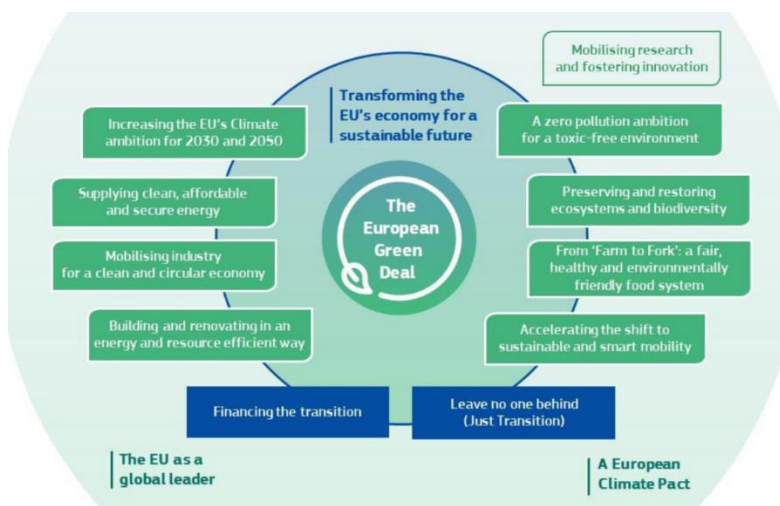
1. **Standardize** determining how to assess and monetize the value of a company and its financial and pre-financial value contributions to society (impacts and dependencies).
2. **Understand** the interdependencies of financial and pre-financial value contribution to society and their relation to enterprise value.
3. **Design** the interdependencies of financial and pre-financial value contribution to society and their relation to enterprise value.
4. **Develop** a management blueprint for multi-capital-based business steering and pilot its usage in management accounting.
5. **Scale** the uptake of impact measurement and valuation methodology by making the results of our alliance publicly available.

To learn more about value balancing alliance, click [here](#).

# Headlines –

## Non-financial reporting by large companies in the EU

In 2014 the EU established the Non-Financial Reporting Directive, that requires certain large companies to include a non-financial statement as part of their reporting requirements. This directive corresponds to organizations that have more than 500 employees, and includes a variety of public and private companies, financial institutions such as banks, and insurance agencies. The Directive highlights four specific sustainability issues which include: environment, social and employee issues, human rights, and bribery/corruption. In reference to these issues key components of the organization must be disclosed including its business model and policy, in order to assess to what degree these issues are sufficiently handled.



More recently in December 2019, the [European Green Deal](#), a strategy set in place by the European Union to increase the efficiency of resources while simultaneously restoring biodiversity and decreasing pollution, has committed to reassess the Non-Financial Reporting Directive by the end of 2020. In order to do so, several consultation activities were created to gather data and stakeholder views for consideration during the review of the Directive. The consultation period lasts from **20 February, 2020 to 11 June, 2020**. All individuals and organizations are welcome to participate, with emphasis on those who are preparers and end-users of reports containing non-financial information. This will ultimately allow for greater transparency from companies regarding social and nature-related issues.

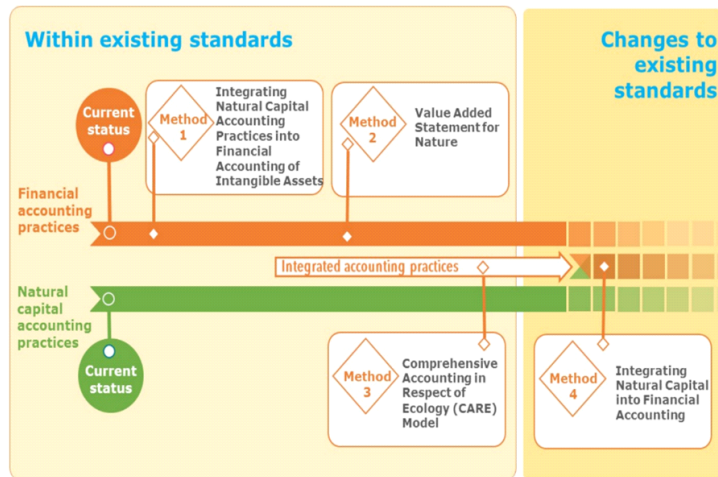
To contribute to the consultation by filling out the online questionnaire, or to learn more, click [here](#).

# Headlines –

## Improving the visibility of nature in financial accounting

Natural Capital Coalition published a report in April 2020 that identifies specific issues while raising questions about the visibility of nature in financial accounting. The rationale driving this report is that because financial accounting is a key decision-making tool, it is important to link it to natural capital data, in order to have an increasingly adaptable accounting framework that takes into consideration a wider array of issues. Thus, the objective of the report is to lay a foundation that will instigate change regarding sustainability reporting to achieve a more comprehensive accounting system that takes nature into account.

It is increasingly evident that the continued degradation of nature will have adverse consequences for business growth and sustainability. One way for businesses to shift towards a more nature-inclusive platform is through its accounting and disclosure policies. This report provides methods to integrate natural and other capitals into financial accounting, that will offer substantial improvements when it comes to including natural capital in financial accounting. These methods include:



**Method 1: Integrating Natural Capital Accounting practices into Financial Accounting of Intangible Assets:** Treating some investments to enhance natural and human capital as an “intangible asset”.

**Method 2: Value Added Statement for Nature:** Reshaping the income statement to show how much of the value generated by companies is “given back” to nature.

**Method 3: Comprehensive Accounting with Respect to Ecology Model:** Including new types of liabilities and assets that reflect debts to natural and social capital.

**Method 4: Integrating Natural Capital into Financial Accounting:** Illustrating integration of financial and natural capital into a single income statement and balance sheet.

To view the full report, click [here](#).



NATURAL  
CAPITAL  
COALITION

# Headlines –

## Natural Capital Protocol: Public consultation of the draft Biodiversity Guidance

In a collaborative effort between the Cambridge Conservation Initiative and the Capitals Coalition, a draft Guidance was developed to complete a biodiversity inclusive natural capital assessment. It is meant to compliment the Natural Capital Protocol, an internationally accepted, standardized framework to help generate trusted, credible, and actionable information that business managers need to inform decisions. The main objective is to properly equip businesses with the information they need to effectively include biodiversity into natural capital assessments and decision-making.

Currently, a consultation process of the draft Biodiversity Guidance is being run through an online platform, [Collaborase](#), and is open until **29 May, 2020**. The objectives of the consultation are the following:

1. To provide an opportunity for a wide range of organizations and experts to contribute to the content and development of the Biodiversity Guidance.
2. To gather input from:
  - a. Public online consultation
  - b. Pilot testing program
3. To build momentum and increase endorsement for integrating biodiversity into natural capital assessments and decision making.



The Guidance stems from an inherent need to tackle the complex issues surrounding biodiversity and reflect the influence of nature in deriving benefits in natural capital assessments. Ultimately it will act as a form of online tool, where by answering a series of questions, a decision tree will guide the user through the Frame, Scope, Measure, and Value.

To find out more, click [here](#). For any questions or inquiries, please contact: [consultation@naturalcapitalcoalition.org](mailto:consultation@naturalcapitalcoalition.org).

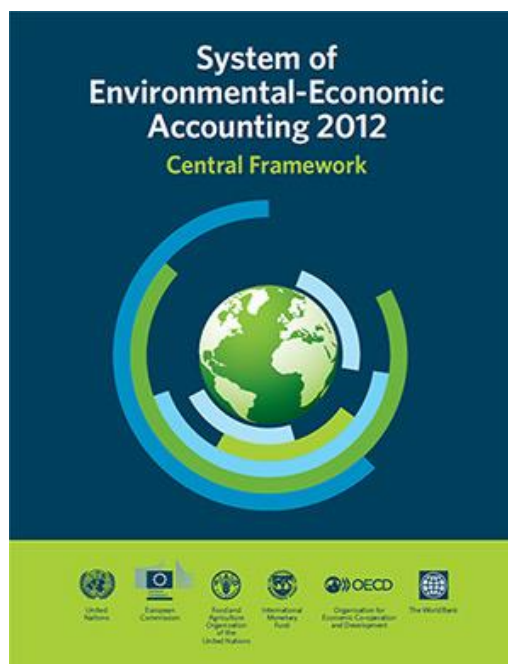


NATURAL  
CAPITAL  
COALITION

# Headlines –

## Experimental Ecosystem Accounting revision by the System of Environmental Economic Accounting

The System of Environmental Economic Accounting – Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) was officially published in 2014 as a collaborative effort between the United Nations, European Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the World Bank. The system presents initial efforts to define a measurement framework for integrating biophysical data, tracking changes in ecosystems, and linking those changes to economic and other human activity. Furthermore, it applies accounting concepts and rules to the field of ecosystem assessment and measurement in response to a wide range of demands for integrated information related to environmental sustainability, human well-being, and economic growth and development.



It was established in 2017 that a revision of the original system created in 2012 was appropriate with the purpose of reaching an agreement on as many aspects on ecosystem accounting as possible by 2020. Now nearing the end of the timeline, the final steps of the revision to be accomplished in 2020 include:

- SEEA EEA Technical Committee to oversee the drafting of the chapters.
- Drafting of the chapters and research on individual topics and cross-cutting issues.
- UNCEEA and 2020 Forum of Experts.
- Global consultation on (grouped) individual chapters and review by the SEEA EEA subgroup on accounting for biodiversity.
- SEEA EEA is finalized for discussion at UNSC.
- Global consultation on entire document.

To learn more, click [here](#). To view the original document created in 2012, click [here](#).

# Headlines –

## OECD-UNDP Virtual Global Conference on Biodiversity Finance

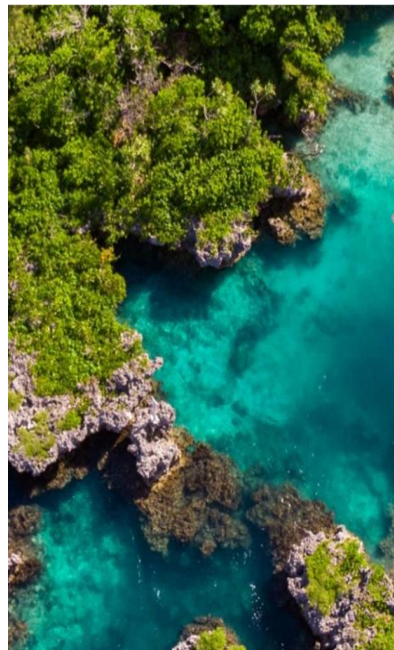
In order to effectively implement strategies in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and achieve established goals towards a more sustainable nature-driven future, it is evident that an increase in widespread implementation of biodiversity policy instruments and use of biodiversity finance is required. Biodiversity finance in this case is defined as expenditures that have or will have contributed to sustainable use and biodiversity conservation.

In a lead up to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the OECD Biodiversity Land Use and Ecosystems programme and the UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative held a joint virtual Global Conference on Biodiversity Finance. The objectives of the conference were to:

1. Examine trends and lessons in scaling up biodiversity finance and policy incentives.
2. Foster exchange among governments and biodiversity finance experts, of experiences, best practices, and opportunities for mobilising, tracking, and aligning biodiversity finance.
3. Reflect on recommendations on biodiversity finance for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

The conference was split into several sections consisting of various component parts relating to effective strategy implementation and the sharing of related issues of biodiversity and finance:

- **Session 1:** The State of Biodiversity Finance in 2020
- **Session 2:** Towards a New Paradigm for Tracking Biodiversity Expenditures and Effective Budgeting
- **Session 3:** Identifying and Reforming Subsidies Harmful to Biodiversity
- **Session 4:** Estimating Finance Needs and Developing Effective Biodiversity Finance Plans
- **Session 5:** The Private and Finance Sector as Biodiversity Leaders
- **Session 6:** A New Biodiversity Finance Agenda for 2021-2030



To learn more about the conference, click [here](#).

# News from the Secretariat – Second Meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group – Rome

The Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework assembled in Rome from 24-29 February, bringing together representatives from 140 countries to discuss the future of biodiversity. The meeting started by listening to general statements on the Zero Draft, created by the CBD which can be accessed [here](#). The discussions focused on implementation, monitoring, reporting, and review, relating to the urgency of taking action and addressing ever-increasing biodiversity loss. The provisional agenda of the meeting was as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organization of work.
3. Progress since the first meeting.
4. Post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
5. Other matters.
6. Adoption of the report.
7. Closing Statements.



Beyond this agenda, delegates of the second meeting resumed discussions on the Zero Draft, providing remarks and contributions to the elements of the document. The topic of reducing threats to biodiversity was of particular significance in conversations among delegates, and the outcomes of these discussions suggested that progress had been made.

It was also agreed that enhanced review mechanisms should be developed with a view to strengthen implementation under the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

To learn more about the discussions of the second meeting of the Working Group and read other related documents, click [here](#).





# News from the Secretariat –

## A Message from the United Nations Secretary General: “Build Back Better”

The current global pandemic has taken the world by storm and it is an event unlike anything most of us have ever experienced. As countries strategize to reopen their economy while progressively and carefully bringing life back to normal, the United Nations is calling on governments to seize this opportunity to “build back better” by creating societies that are more sustainable and resilient to adverse impacts.



In his International Mother Earth Day message, UN Secretary-General António Guterres stated that the pandemic was a wake-up call and that, “We need to turn the recovery into a real opportunity to do things right for the future.” The Secretary-General proposed an initiative that encompassed six actions related to climate that would help steer the recovery in a direction that will lead to a greener, more sustainable economy:

1. The amounts of money to be spent on recovery from the coronavirus must deliver new jobs and businesses through a clean, green transition.
2. Where taxpayers’ money is used to rescue businesses, it must be tied to achieving green jobs and sustainable growth.
3. Fiscal firepower must drive a shift from the grey to green economy, empowering societies and people to be more resilient.
4. Public funds should be used to invest in the future, not the past, and flow to sustainable sectors and projects that help the environment and the climate. Fossil fuel subsidies must end, and polluters must start paying for their pollution.
5. Climate risks and opportunities must be incorporated into the financial system as well as all aspects of public policy making and infrastructure.
6. All need to work together as an international community.

To learn more about the Secretary-General’s initiative and the involvement of the UN, click [here](#).

# News from the Secretariat –

## Thematic Workshop on Resource Mobilization for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

The Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity held its thematic workshop on resource mobilization for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework from 14-16 January in Germany. The purpose of the workshop was to enable an exchange of ideas and experiences as well as to garner opinions regarding the resource mobilization component of the post-2020 framework. Experts from various groups, including initiatives, indigenous peoples, and local communities, were welcome to participate. Topics addressed during the workshop included:

- Evaluating the structure, content, and effectiveness of the Strategy of Resource Mobilization
- Estimating the resources from all sources needed for different scenarios of the implementation of the post-2020 framework
- Contributing to the draft resource mobilization component of the post-2020 biodiversity framework

One of the key points made was the importance of involving the private sector in these discussions as well as in the implementation of the new biodiversity framework. There is also an inherent need to build a proposal for the post-2020 framework that can effectively reflect the challenges of the past strategy as well as new approaches provided considering the difference in circumstances.

The ideas and contributions made during the workshop will be reflected to some capacity in future meetings such as the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which is now scheduled for 2021.

To view the full report of the workshop, click [here](#).



# News from GPBB –

## New report on Assessment of Biodiversity Measurement Approaches for Business and Financial Institutions ([Link](#))

The Assessment of Biodiversity Accounting Approaches for Businesses and Financial Institutions report, driven by the EU Business @ Biodiversity Platform and in partnership with the Aligning Biodiversity Measures for Business Initiative and support from the Boticario Group Foundation, is a response to the growing interest in natural capital accounting (NCA) and a demand for clear biodiversity metrics. The focus of the report is to identify common ground amongst biodiversity measurement approaches with the final objective to support businesses and financial institutions in selecting approaches that best fit their specific business contexts.

The report is based on an analysis of 12 biodiversity measurement approaches technical workshops by the [Aligning Biodiversity Measures for Business](#) initiative and feedback from discussions held during the European Business and Nature Summit.

The key output of the report is a classification of measurement approaches according to the type of business applications they can support. This will allow businesses to select the most suitable biodiversity loss and metrics for their specific needs and management decisions they wish to inform.

You can view Update 1 of the report [here](#), and Update 2 [here](#). Update 3 will be released later this year and will focus on the assessment of case studies resulting from these biodiversity measurement approaches.



Business @  
Biodiversity

# News from GPBB –

## Launch of the GPBB National and Regional Initiatives Report

The CBD recently launched a report focussing on the various national and regional initiatives that comprise the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity. The partnership acts as a way of facilitating communication, cooperation on projects and sharing of relevant valuable information. The ultimate goal is to establish an international network of initiatives that are represented by companies from different sectors and industries, that are working unanimously to tackle biodiversity issues.

Each country manages their own initiative as they see fit, concentrating on issues and objectives surrounding biodiversity which are pertinent to their specific circumstances. All companies within the initiatives set to strive for reduced harmful impact to biodiversity by implementing new creative and innovative ways which can then be shared through the platform of the GPBB.



The report includes an overview of the active initiatives including main objectives, vision and mission statements, governance, and structure. Beyond this, financial information regarding the sources of funding and the budget of each initiative is also provided. The report also allows for a better understanding of the services and activities each initiative is involved in as well as the membership and reach of each national and regional chapter. The end result is a larger degree of transparency and cohesiveness within the GPBB.

To view the report, click [here](#).



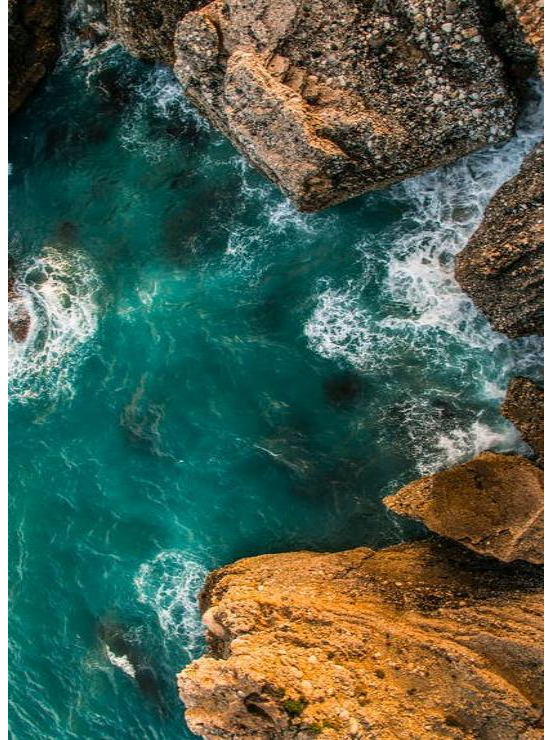
# Mark Your Calendars –

## International Day for Biological Diversity

This year's theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB), "Our solutions are in nature", emphasizes the importance of working together at all levels to build a future of life in harmony with nature. 2020 is a year of reflection, opportunity and solutions. All of us have the opportunity to reflect on how we can "Build back better" to increase the resilience of nations and communities as we recover from this pandemic.

The week leading up to the International Day for Biological Diversity will cover a variety of themes:

- **18 May:** Science and Knowledge
- **19 May:** Conservation of Biodiversity
- **20 May:** Health and Food
- **21 May:** People and Culture
- **22 May:** "Our Solutions are in Nature"



Due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, IDB will have its first ever virtual-only campaign.

To learn more about the International Day for Biodiversity and get a better understanding of biodiversity issues, visit our [website](#).



# Mark Your Calendars –

## UN Biodiversity Summit

The UN General Assembly has decided that the Summit on Biological Diversity will be held on the first day of the general debate of the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, **22 September, 2020** from **3 p.m. to 6 p.m.** and on the second day of the general debate, **23 September, 2020** from **10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** The event will be held at the UN headquarters in New York city.

The theme for the Summit on Biodiversity is “Urgent Action on Biodiversity for Sustainable Development” and will consist of:

- Opening segment
- Plenary segment for general discussion
- Two Leaders’ Dialogues
- Closing segment



Themes to be discussed during the Leaders’ Dialogues include “Addressing biodiversity loss and mainstreaming biodiversity for sustainable development” and “Harnessing science, technology and innovation capacity-building, access and benefit-sharing, financing and partnerships for biodiversity”.



A wide range of Parties as well as NGO’s, local governments, youth and private sector organizations will take part. The summit on Biodiversity is a unique opportunity to accelerate action on biodiversity for sustainable development. It will also help provide momentum to the development of an effective post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

For further details, click [here](#).

# Mark Your Calendars –

## Local and Subnational Government Information Webinars

The Local and Subnational Government Webinars is a series of virtual meetings held monthly to keep the local and subnational government constituency, networks and partners up to date on key milestones and the participatory preparation process of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework on the road to COP 15. The most recent webinar was held on 16 April, focused on recommendations for a new action plan as well as an overview of the Edinburgh Process and Declaration. In these trying times, the webinars act as a manner for continuing the advancement for the Action Agenda for Nature and People, and stimulate progression towards achieving biodiversity objectives.

The schedule for the upcoming webinars is the following:

- 14 May 2020 at 10am CAT and at 3pm CAT
- 4 June 2020 at 10am CAT and 3pm at CAT
- 23 July 2020 at 10am CAT and 3pm at CAT
- 20 August 2020 at 10am CAT and 3pm at CAT
- 17th September 2020 at 10am CAT and 3pm at CAT
- 8 October 2020 at 10am CAT and 3pm at CAT
- 5 November 2020 at 10am CAT and 3pm CAT
- 3 December 2020 at: 10am CAT and 3pm CAT



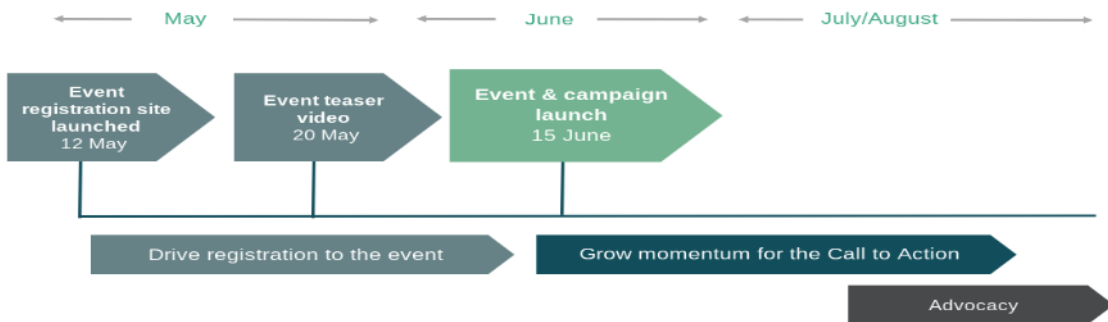
To register or find out more information about the webinars, click [here](#).

# Mark Your Calendars –

## Building business resilience: How collective leadership will reverse nature loss

In this time of crisis, where many are subject to significant change in their everyday lives, it is now more important than ever to discuss the links between nature, health, and people. This is why Business for Nature is hosting a virtual event titled “Building Business Resilience: How collective leadership will reverse nature loss”. The event will act as an online forum and focus on how businesses can act to strengthen the resilience of our systems and support collective action to accelerate progress towards a more sustainable future. The main objectives of the event are to:

- Encourage business leaders to reflect on the current COVID-19 crisis and the lessons learnt in the context of the planetary crisis
- Build momentum on nature and show how collective action is the answer to greater resilience
- Inspire action on nature and show how businesses are taking action/calling ambitious policies
- Launch an ambitious call to action on nature for companies to support



The CBD Acting Executive Secretary, Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, has been invited to speak at this event which will take place on **15 June, 2020 from 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm CEST**.

To find out more about the event and its agenda, please visit [here](#). To view a list of the event partners, visit [here](#).





# Mark Your Calendars –

## Upcoming virtual events focusing on B&B

### We Value Nature (IUCN)

- **Tue 26 May:** Virtual Office Hour – How to align biodiversity goals with company’s vision and objectives
- Information and registration are available [here](#).

### Kering and the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership

- **Wed 27 May:** Masterclass: How To Take Action On Biodiversity In Fashion
- Information and registration are available [here](#).

### UNEP FI

- **Tue 26 – 29 May:** Training workshop on Sustainable Finance and Climate Change Risks and Opportunities
- Information and registration available [here](#).

### WBCSD Virtual Series

- **Wed 27 May:** Creating value, mitigating risk & tackling food system externalities
- **Thu 28 May:** Business & nutrition – all sectors unite to achieve SDG2
- **Wed 3 June:** Shaping the future work by putting people first
- **Mon 8 June:** Business leadership on #climate action & building resilience
- **Wed 10 June:** Human Rights in the agriculture sector & food value chains
- **Mon 15 June:** Making the SDGs actionable for business: insights from sector roadmaps
- Consult the rest of our meeting calendar for June [here](#).
- Previous sessions can also be accessed [here](#).



# Mark Your Calendars –

## Upcoming virtual events focusing on B&B (continued)

### Africa Natural Capital Accounting Community of Practice

- **Thu 28 May:** Linking natural capital accounting to policy in Africa
- Information and registration details can be accessed [here](#).

### World Economic Forum

- **1 – 5 June:** Virtual Ocean Dialogues
- Information and registration is available [here](#).

### Biodiversity Sri Lanka

- **Tue 9 Jun:** Dialogue on Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and the role of Business
- For registration details please contact [asanka@dilmahconservation.org](mailto:asanka@dilmahconservation.org) and/or [harshini@biodiversitysrilanka.org](mailto:harshini@biodiversitysrilanka.org)

### UN and Global Compact

- **Mon 15 and Tue 16 June:** UN Global Compact Leaders Summit (virtual)
- Details and registration [here](#).





## **Global Partnership**

---

for Business and Biodiversity