



Business for Nature position on the SBI Agenda Item 9

OPTIONS TO ENHANCE PLANNING, REPORTING, AND REVIEW MECHANISMS WITH A VIEW TO STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

About Business for Nature - Business for Nature is a global coalition that brings together business and conservation organizations and forward-thinking companies. Together, we demonstrate credible business leadership on nature and amplify a powerful leading business voice calling for governments to adopt policies now to reverse nature loss this decade. We work with more than 50 international and national partners and a diverse group of businesses from all sectors, sizes and geographies. We encourage companies to commit and act to reverse nature loss, and advocate for greater policy ambition.

Business for Nature greatly appreciates the efforts of Parties to develop a strong Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. However, we are concerned that due to some crucial shortcomings, the current draft Framework is still unlikely to trigger the change needed globally and the level of action necessary from the business community to transform our economic and financial systems and reverse nature loss by 2030.

We must learn from the experience of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Despite positive efforts by many, unfortunately none of the Targets have been fully met, partly because of implementation difficulties. **Closing the implementation gap must be a key priority of the Framework.** For that, a robust monitoring, reporting and reviewing mechanism, coupled with a ratchet mechanism is needed to ensure that actions are adapted to the change needed. A strong implementation mechanism is essential for businesses as we can only ensure a level playing field globally if the Framework is consistently implemented.

The Framework is an opportunity to address the shortcomings from the Aichi Targets. Building on our [policy recommendations](#) and input from over one hundred businesses headquartered in 31 countries, Business for Nature is proposing 9 suggestions to strengthen the ambition of the updated zero draft of the Post-2020 Framework (full position available [here](#)).

Here are our recommendations to improve the planning, reporting and review mechanisms to strengthen the implementation of the Framework as discussed under agenda item 9 of the SBI-3 meeting:

- **Establish an effective, comprehensive and cyclical implementation mechanism** including the three following components:
 - by 2022, translate this framework and its targets into relevant national and regional planning processes, including strengthened NBSAPs;
 - by 2024, review the progress made in implementing this framework;
 - by 2026, ramp up the delivery of plans and actions at the national and regional level.

This four-year cycle will repeat itself, with another review of progress by 2028 and another ramping up of plans and actions by 2030. Such an iterative process is essential to ensure that once Parties have collectively assessed how much progress they have made towards achieving the targets, they have the opportunity to ramp up the delivery of their biodiversity plans and commitments and to strengthen their national targets. This should be an opportunity for Parties to request additional technical and financial support to achieve their plans and commitments.

- **Adopt a ratchet mechanism informed by science to ensure that the 2050 vision is achieved.** This would enable Parties to ramp up the delivery of their biodiversity plans and commitments and strengthen their national targets if needed. Such a cycle would demonstrate to business leaders that policies to protect biodiversity will continue to increase and thereby incentivize companies to incorporate ever more stringent nature protection policies into their long-term strategy.
- **Including business plans and commitments on nature in national commitments.** Transformative change requires that all public, private and civil society actors work together to deliver on commitments for nature and to implement solutions. To empower businesses to act at the necessary scale and urgency, the Framework should promote multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral platforms and joint action plans. For that, national strategies and commitments should include business plans and commitments as part of a joint public-private approach to reverse nature loss.
- **Ensure enforcement of laws and regulations.** CBD's goals must be translated into national laws and regulations that are enforced, to ensure a level global playing field for business and therefore encourage business action for nature. This requirement should be included in the Framework through a clear target ensuring the adoption and effective enforcement of environmental laws and standards, including by providing capacity development to countries worldwide.
- **Pursue an integrated approach to deliver on the objectives of both the CBD and the UNFCCC.** Such an integrated approach is required to align the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and to recognize their synergies, co-benefits, and trade-offs should be pursued. In addition, the same approach can be taken with the National Action Programs (NAPs) of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
- **Enable meaningful and constructive business contributions in the Framework implementation.** While Parties are responsible for the implementation of the Post-2020 Framework, its objectives cannot be achieved without the meaningful and constructive contribution of businesses in implementing the Framework. This will happen only if the Framework includes targets that are relevant and actionable by businesses and explicitly foresee the role of business in achieving the Framework mission and goals. This is not yet the case.

ANNEX – Relevant amendments to the updated zero draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to address the recommendations above.

3.3	Current text	Suggested amendment
	Section G – Enabling conditions	Section G – Enabling conditions
	14 - (b) The participation of all relevant stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, youth, civil society, local and subnational authorities, the private sector, academia and scientific institutions through a whole-of-society approach and through inclusive and representative multi-stakeholder and multisectoral platforms;	14 - (b) The participation of all relevant stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, youth, civil society, local and subnational authorities, the private sector, academia and scientific institutions through a whole-of-society approach that integrates business plans and commitments on nature in national commitments , and through inclusive and representative multi-stakeholder and multisectoral platforms;
<p><i>Justification: Transformative change requires that all public, private and civil society actors work together to deliver on commitments for nature and to implement solutions. To empower businesses to act at the necessary scale and urgency, the Framework should promote multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral platforms and joint action plans. For that, national strategies and commitments should include business plans and commitments as part of a joint public-private approach to reverse nature loss.</i></p>		

3.5	Current text	Suggested amendment
	Section H – Responsibility and transparency	Section H – Responsibility and transparency
	17. a. Planning: [NEW]	17. a. Planning: i. [NEW] - Should include non-State actors’ plans and commitments.
<p><i>Justification: Transformative change requires that all public, private and civil society actors work together to deliver on commitments for nature and to implement solutions. To empower businesses to act at the necessary scale and urgency, the Framework should promote multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral platforms and joint action plans. National strategies and commitments should include business plans and commitments as part of a joint public-private approach to reverse nature loss.</i></p>		

8.1	Current text	Suggested amendment
	Section E – 2030 Action Targets	Section E – 2030 Action Targets
	[NEW]	[NEW] Target xx: Ensure the adoption and effective enforcement of environmental laws and standards, including by providing capacity development to countries worldwide.
<p><i>Justification: It is essential that CBD’s goals are translated into national laws and regulations that are enforced, to ensure a level global playing field for business and therefore encourage business action for nature.</i></p>		

8.2	Current text	Suggested amendments
	<p>Section E – 2030 Action Targets</p> <p>[NEW]</p>	<p>Section E – 2030 Action Targets</p> <p>[NEW] Target xx: Establish an effective, comprehensive and cyclical implementation mechanism including the three following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by 2022, translate this framework and its targets into relevant national and regional planning processes, including strengthened NBSAPs; • by 2024, review the progress made in implementing this framework; • by 2026, ramp up the delivery of plans and actions at the national and regional level. <p>This four-year cycle will repeat itself, with another review of progress by 2028 and another ramping up of plans and actions by 2030.</p>
<p><i>Justification: Such an iterative process in the implementation of the Framework is essential to ensure that once Parties have collectively assessed how much progress they have made towards achieving the targets, they have the opportunity to ramp up the delivery of their biodiversity plans and commitments and to strengthen their national targets. This should be an opportunity for Parties to request additional technical and financial support to achieve their plans and commitments. Such a cycle would demonstrate to business leaders that policies to protect biodiversity will continue to increase and thereby incentivize companies to incorporate ever more stringent nature protection policies into their long-term strategy.</i></p>		

8.3	Current text	Suggested amendment
	<p>Section F – Implementation support mechanisms</p> <p>[NEW]</p>	<p>Section F – Implementation support mechanisms</p> <p>Article 13 (e) NEW - a ratchet mechanism informed by science to ensure that the 2050 vision and 2030 mission are achieved.</p>
<p><i>Justification: a simple and cyclical ratcheting process should be introduced, so that Parties ramp up the delivery of their biodiversity plans and commitments and strengthen their national targets if needed. Such a cycle would demonstrate to business leaders that policies to protect biodiversity will continue to increase and thereby incentivize companies to incorporate ever more stringent nature protection policies into their long-term strategy.</i></p>		

9.1	Current text	Suggested amendment
	<p>Section H – Responsibility and transparency</p> <p>16. This system minimizes the burden on Parties, the Secretariat and other entities. It is aligned with, and where appropriate integrated with other processes and other relevant multilateral conventions including Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals.</p>	<p>Section H – Responsibility and transparency</p> <p>16. This system minimizes the burden on Parties, the Secretariat and other entities. It is aligned with, and where appropriate integrated with other processes and other relevant multilateral conventions including Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals and developed in an integrated way with the UNFCCC Nationally</p>

	Determined Contributions (NDCs) to recognize their synergies, co-benefits and trade-offs.
<i>Justification: There is a mutual interdependence of solving the interconnected crises of climate change, nature loss and social inequality so they must be tackled together to achieve a just transition. While the Post-2020 Framework needs to be linked to all relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), the integration with UNFCCC and the NDCs is essential to deliver climate/nature/people synergies and is key to ensuring coherent and effective action plans that receive buy in from a range of stakeholders. Companies are increasingly reporting and aligning activities with the SDGs, so referencing the relevant SDGs would also be welcomed.</i>	
