

The scientific community:

- warns us about the damage to biodiversity caused by the current global economic development model¹ and demographic trends;
- gives us notice that the assumption of a sixth mass extinction caused by human activity is proving to be true²;
- explains to us that biodiversity is under threat and, consequently, so is the functioning of the living planet;
- alerts us that ecosystem services will be affected, without us yet being able to estimate all the social and economic consequences, including impacts on our businesses.

The scientific community also specifically points out that the situation will get worse on land and in our oceans if no action is taken to address the factors behind biodiversity damage: land degradation and territorial fragmentation that reduce habitats, resource overexploitation, monocultures, pollution, expansion of alien invasive species, and lastly climate change. These high-inertia mechanisms are for the most part interlinked, indirect and diffuse.

Our companies can contribute to the development of new dynamics. As well as their corporate social responsibility, it is in their interest to do so since they depend on ecosystems working properly and a change of approach also brings with it new opportunities. We already have solutions and can develop new ones, thereby addressing changes in the mindset and expectations of a growing portion of the population. Real-world experiences in our companies and our value chains, from suppliers to customers, are driving us to change scale and create value by integrating biodiversity into our strategies.

Most of the countries in which we operate are pursuing public policies, at various levels, aimed at conserving and restoring biodiversity as well as encouraging all actors to play an active part in this process. In France, the National Biodiversity Strategy (SNB), formulated within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity³, implements initiatives along those lines and encourages companies to adopt voluntary approaches to meeting targets set by the international community. The commitments that follow are in line with those public initiatives.

Aware of the role our companies are expected to play, we are accordingly committed to integrating nature - environments, animals, plants, ecosystems, interactions and genetic heritage - into our strategies and business models, and to taking concrete steps to provide solutions for the conservation and restoration of biological diversity, while ensuring that the use of natural resources is sustainable and the benefits arising out of their utilisation are shared equitably.

¹ See latest reports from UICN and IPBES.

² Text validated by the FRB Scientific Committee and reference to “World Scientists’ Warning to Humanity: A Second Notice”, BioScience, Volume 67, Issue 12, 1 December 2017.

³ International treaty adopted at the Rio Earth Summit 1992, the parties to which adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (Aichi Targets).

Collective pledge

More specifically, we the signatory organisations undertake to:

- 1. Integrate biodiversity into our corporate strategy**, basing our action on available scientific knowledge;
- 2. Engage in dialogue with all our stakeholders** regarding their expectations and our impacts, actions and progress;
- 3. Assess the various components of biodiversity that affect us** using direct and indirect impact studies, risk analysis and performance indicators and, for decision making purposes, measure our impacts in economic terms as well as our reliance on smoothly functioning ecosystems;
- 4. Promote the gradual integration of biological diversity into decisions throughout our value chains**, from the production of natural raw materials to the final stage of our products life cycle after use by consumers;
- 5. Primarily avoid, reduce and ultimately offset our impacts**, by seeking on a case-by-case basis no net loss as a bottom line and even a net gain of biodiversity⁴ in our activities and geographical areas of influence, and by factoring in the need of ecosystems to adapt to climate change;
- 6. Prioritise the development of heterogeneous nature-based solutions⁵**, ensuring that they are implemented in a scientifically sound and biodiversity-friendly manner;
- 7. Incorporate biodiversity into our dialogue with policymakers** so that this issue becomes an integral part of public policy. When invited to do so, **contribute to the national biodiversity strategies** of countries where we operate;
- 8. Raise awareness of and train our employees** in biodiversity and its relation to their jobs. **Promote and encourage nature-friendly initiatives by them** and **offer rewards in recognition** of such actions and practices;
- 9. Mobilise resources** and establish appropriate partnerships to support and monitor our actions taken in the field;
- 10. Publicly report on the implementation of these commitments** and of the individual commitments set out below.

Moreover, we call on other organisations across all sectors to join us in making and fulfilling these commitments. The individual undertakings set out below take stock of these collective commitments based on our respective activities.

4. WCC-2016-Res-059-ENIUCN Policy on Biodiversity Offsets
https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/resrecfiles/WCC_2016_RES_059_EN.pdf

5. WCC-2016-Res-069-ENDefining Nature-based Solutions
https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/resrecfiles/WCC_2016_RES_069_EN.pdf

Individual commitments

Please insert your corporate commitment free (around 5000 signs), indicating the timing and location relevant for each action.

This part should be written along the following SMART guidelines:

- *Specific* – target a specific area for improvement of the company impact on biodiversity or dependencies to biodiversity;
- *Measurable* – quantify or at least suggest an indicator of progress, whether this progress consists of impact reduction, reduction of dependency or development of an opportunity;
- *Additional* – the program should go beyond conformity to current regulations; it should also add to previous policies and actions; it should lead to net positive effects on biodiversity;
- *Realistic* – state what results can realistically be achieved, given available resources; objectives should be proportionate to impact and dependencies, and to the size, activities and resources of the company;
- *Time-related* – specify when the result(s) can be achieved, showing as much as possible a progression in time.

Company name:

Signatory name:

Date:

Signature

act4nature

Les entreprises pour la biodiversité

Corporate networks



Network France



Public authorities



Scientific partners



FONDATION GOODPLANET



NGOs



FONDATION
POUR LA NATURE
ET L'HOMME
Créée par Nicolas Hulot

