

# “EU Business @ Biodiversity”

*“Our entire economy  
is a subsidiary of nature”*

Paul Polman - former CEO Unilever



Business @  
Biodiversity

European Union



CLIMATE  
PACT AND CLIMATE  
LAW

PROMOTING  
CLEAN  
ENERGY



INVESTING IN  
SMARTER, MORE  
SUSTAINABLE  
TRANSPORT

STRIVING  
FOR GREENER  
INDUSTRY



PROTECTING  
NATURE



# The European Green Deal

FROM FARM  
TO FORK



ELIMINATING  
POLLUTION



LEADING THE  
GREEN CHANGE  
GLOBALLY



ENSURING  
A JUST TRANSITION  
FOR ALL



MAKING  
HOMES ENERGY  
EFFICIENT

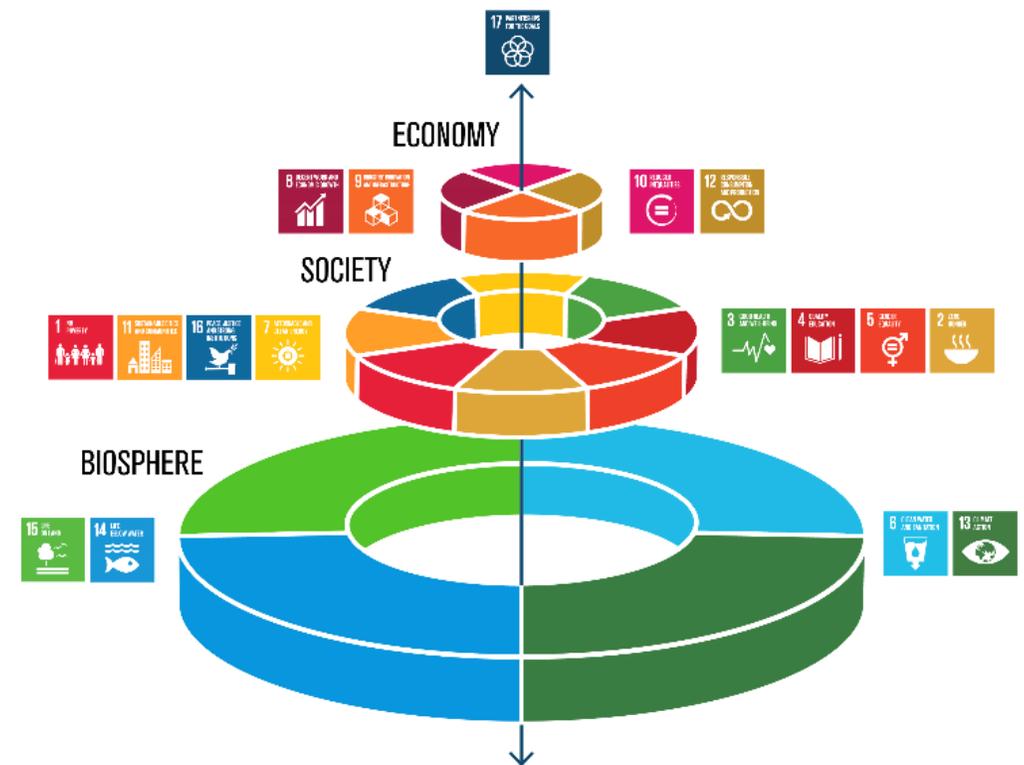


FINANCING  
GREEN  
PROJECTS

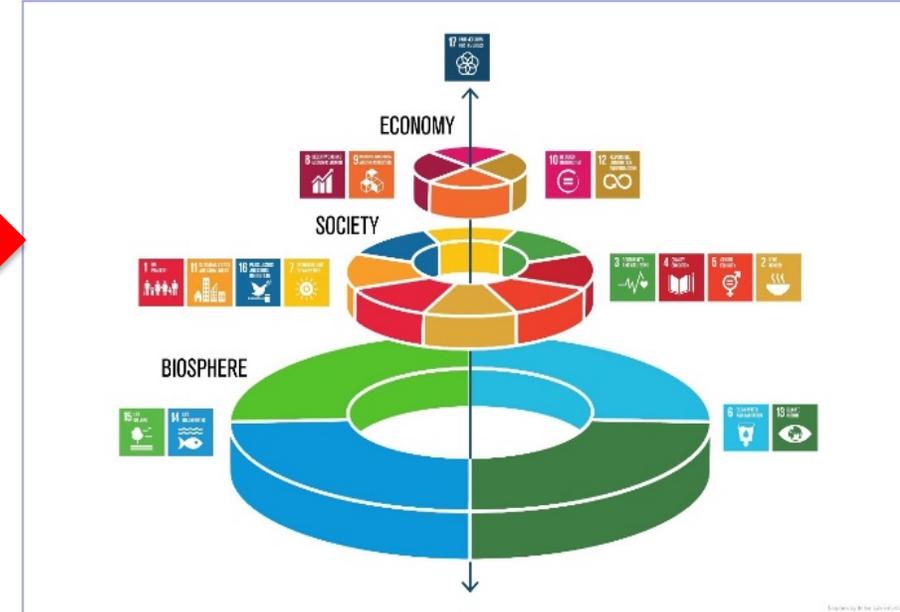


# Natural Capital underpins our economy and well-being

- The biosphere is at the basis of the Sustainability
- More than half of global GDP is linked to nature
- Connections between biodiversity loss, climate change and pandemics
- Restoring biodiversity core part of recovery



# Natural Capital Degrading → Environmental risks jeopardizing Social and Economic Sustainability



Environmental (and social) risks are not (properly) managed in the board rooms due to lacking means of measuring and valuing them.



# Elements of the EU Biodiversity Strategy



Protect Nature



Enable Transformative Change



Restore Nature



EU For An Ambitious Global Agenda



# | Enable Transformative Change



- Governance framework
- Unlocking financing
- **Business engagement**
- Knowledge, education
- Promotion of Nature-Based Solutions



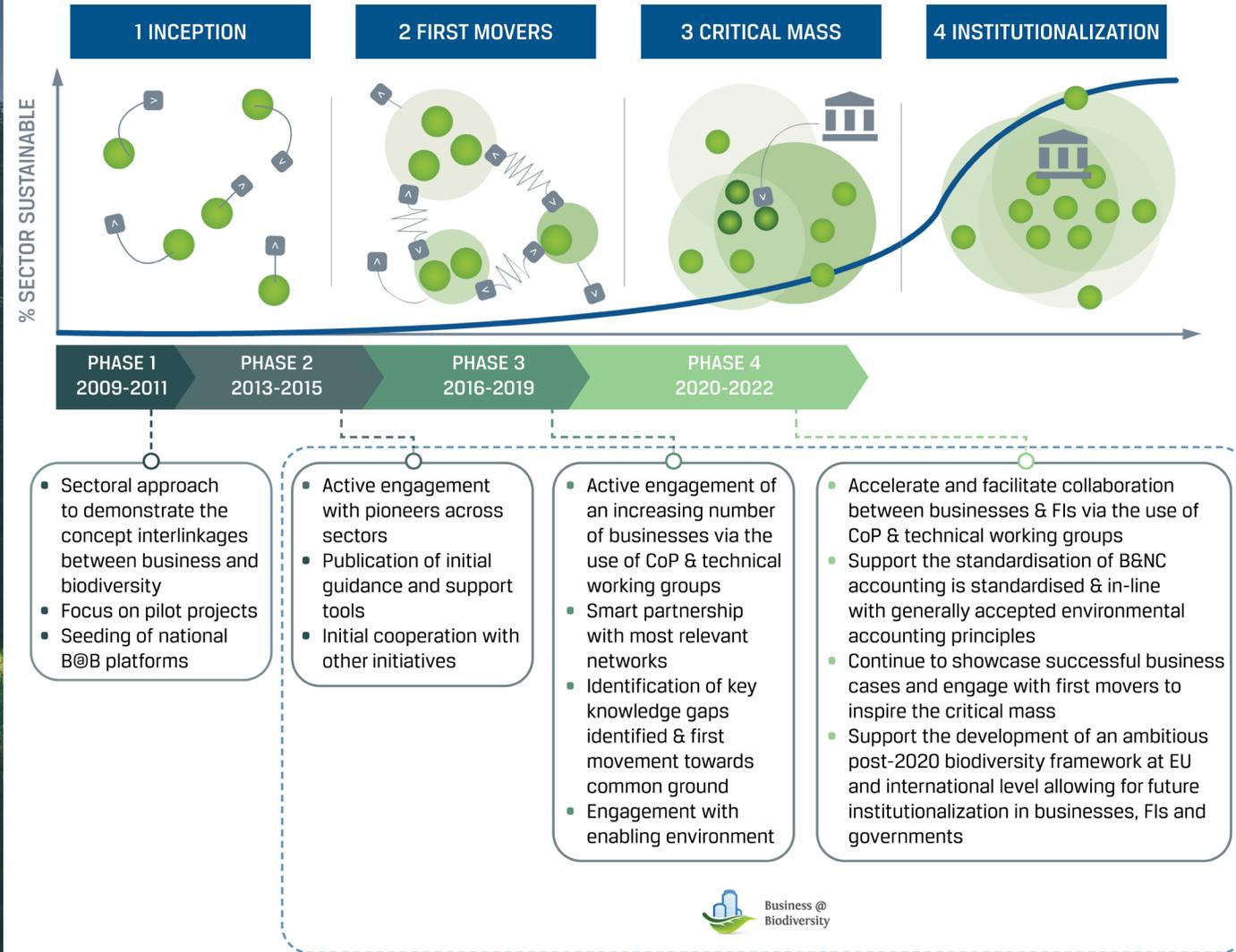
# Business in the EU Biodiversity Strategy Sect. 3.3

- Initiative on **sustainable corporate governance** (environmental duty of care and due diligence across economic value chains)
- **Renewed Sustainable Finance Strategy** substantially contribute to protecting and restoring biodiversity and ecosystems
- **Review of the reporting obligations of businesses** under the Non-Financial Reporting Directive - improving the quality and scope of disclosures on environmental aspects such as biodiversity
- Delegated act under **EU sustainable finance Taxonomy Regulation** → guide investment through a classification of economic activities that contribute to biodiversity and ecosystems
- **Measuring and integrating the value of nature** : develop methods, criteria and standards incl. measuring environmental footprint of products and organisations, and **natural capital accounting**





Our mission: reverse  
nature loss by  
supporting  
businesses  
throughout their  
biodiversity / Natural  
Capital journey



# Help building a Business for Biodiversity 'movement'

- **Relaunch and reinforcement the EU Business@Biodiversity Platform** (cooperating with other networks and platforms such as Business for Nature, We Value Nature, Capitals Coalition, UNEP WCMC, the Global Partnership Business and Biodiversity (GPBB under the CBD) The Shift, the WBCSD as well as national B@B EU platforms in the member states)
- **Project "Transparent"** supports a network of corporates cooperating on natural capital aiming at internationally harmonising management accounting for natural capital (with Value Balancing Alliance – Capitals Coalition - World Business Council for Sustainable Development to develop a set of environmental generally accepted accounting principles).
- **Aligning Biodiversity Metrics for Business** (new project incl. dedicated natural capital management accounting platform and an alignment process to strengthen methods and metrics for measuring the biodiversity)



# Measuring your biodiversity footprint

## 2018 and 2019 EU Business & Biodiversity Platform assessment reports

- **Assessment of biodiversity measurement approaches for businesses and FIs** which rely on quantitative indicators that provide information on the significance of impacts on biodiversity, and which are not case-specific
- Assessment elements: type of **business applications** covered by the tool, methodology and metrics, impact drivers, input data and level of detail / real data or modeling, user friendliness, which sectors, development phase and involved stakeholders, etc.
- In-depth discussions on Globio and Recipe
- Many more company specific measurement and valuation approaches, but out of scope for this assessment



**Need for common ground and independent guidance!**



## Natural capital : Move beyond measuring only impacts to also measuring dependencies

- Measuring the impacts alone often fails to lead to better decision-making - without any idea of what this means for your business
- → move from measuring only impacts to also measuring dependencies
- → move beyond measuring to also valuing
- Identifying value = what nature means to us – makes it visible in decision-making



Thank You



- Additional slides



# Protect Nature



## Protect 30% of EU land and sea

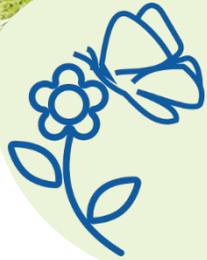
- Based on Natura 2000 and nationally designated areas
- EU wide target, take into account specific situation in MS
- Integrate ecological corridors to build coherent network

## Strictly protect a third of these areas

- Covering areas of very high biodiversity value & important for mitigation and adaptation to climate change,



# Restore Nature



## EU Restoration Plan with 2030 commitments (1):

- ✓ Legally binding targets to be proposed in 2021
- ✓ No deterioration of any protected habitats and species by 2030: trend to be positive for at least 30%
- ✓ Agroecology: Organic farming >25%
- ✓ Biodiverse landscape features >10%
- ✓ 50% reduction of use and risk of pesticides
- ✓ Reduction of pollution from fertilisers by 50% and by 20% their use
- ✓ Plant 3 billion additional trees respecting ecological principles
- ✓ Reverse decline in pollinators



# Restore Nature



## **EU Restoration Plan with 2030 commitments (2):**

- Remediate contaminated soil sites
- Restore 25,000km free flowing rivers
- New Urban Greening Platform: the Green City Accord
- Halve the number of 'red list' species threatened by Invasive Alien Species
- Reduction of damage to seabed, bycatch





## Business @ Biodiversity

### The EU Business @ Biodiversity Platform

- sharing best practice of companies
- develop business tools and approaches to integrate biodiversity into business practice.

Our workstreams:

#### Methods

Helping companies identify best practice guidance and tools to support informed **business decisions related to biodiversity and natural capital.**

#### Pioneers

**Facilitating dialogue and cooperation between leading financial institutions and businesses** to gain deeper understanding from practice, and identify opportunities and solutions to scale up biodiversity considerations in corporate decision-making.

#### Mainstreaming

**Promoting the integration** of biodiversity concerns **within** the decision-making processes of a **growing number of businesses and financial institutions** across Europe.



# EU B@B: Hasten the integration of biodiversity into business decision-making



- EU B@B and UNEP WCMC - Webinar series on **Science Based Biodiversity Targets** for corporates
- EU B@B and EIB - Webinar series on **Investing in Nature** – to be continued
- **Assessment and alignment of biodiversity measurement approaches for corporates** (New project and webinar series)
- Community of Practice Finance@Biodiversity → biodiversity **commitments for financials... Pledge**
- facilitating an **EU B&B movement** : Network of Networks - engaging SMEs — Life Transparent - BfN, WeValueNatrue
- **European Business & Nature Summit** 8-9 December 2020 → virtual



# Business in the EU Biodiversity Strategy

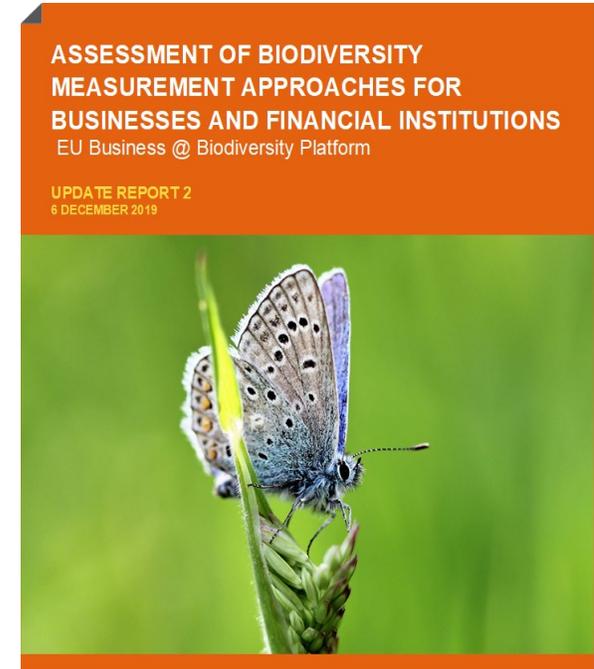
make business part of the solution on a new level

- Specific Business for Biodiversity section → help to build a **Business for Biodiversity movement**
- **Measuring and integrating the value** of nature is key
- **Develop methods, criteria** and standards to describe the essential features of biodiversity, its services, and values
  - **natural capital accounting**
  - **measuring the environmental footprint** of products and organisations on the environment
- **Renewed Sustainable Finance - Taxonomy, NFRD, Sust. Coproarate Governance**



# Growing demand for generally accepted approaches to measure and value biodiversity performance of a company

1. The ABD Index
2. The Biological Diversity Protocol
3. Biodiversity Footprint for Financial Institutions
4. Biodiversity Indicators for Extractives
5. Biodiversity Impact Metric
6. Biodiversity Monitoring System for the Food Sector
7. Biodiversity Performance Tool for Food Sector
8. Global Biodiversity Score
9. Kering's Environmental Profit & Loss approach
10. Life Key
11. Product Biodiversity Footprint
12. Species Threat Abatement and Recovery Metric



# Making business part of the solution on biodiversity

1. Promoting Natural Capital Management Accounting Standards (Measure & value nature and biodiversity footprints across global supply Chains)
2. Promoting Effective Nature and Biodiversity Strategies, Policies, and Measures (Strengthening good governance)
3. Promoting Nature & Biodiversity Investments (Closing the gap between green investment demand and supply)
4. Inviting Businesses to Join Forces and Lead by Example
5. Considering links to other initiatives (complementing action in ongoing initiatives in DG ENV, DG JUST, DG FISMA, DG GROW ...? )

