

From biodiversity commitments to concrete action

Recommendations from the Danish Biodiversity Partnership
and specific examples of biodiversity action

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and specific examples of biodiversity action

October 2024

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Driving efficient corporate biodiversity action

The biodiversity crisis is one of the most pressing challenges of our time. It threatens not only the health of the planet but also the foundation of the global economy. The biodiversity crisis is one of the most critical challenges for all governments, including Denmark's. Therefore, in June 2024 a historical agreement was adopted between seven key stakeholders in Denmark, including representatives from agriculture and environmental NGOs. The agreement includes amongst others a first-of-its kind CO₂ tax on agriculture and ambitious redesign of the landscape and planning to set aside 15% of Danish farmland for nature. This initiative will help restore wetlands, forests, and meadows and thus natural habitats for abundance of species.

However, we need the support and action from the private sector to confront the biodiversity crisis in an efficient manner – otherwise the pressure on nature will remain vigilant for centuries.

However, we need the support and action from the private sector to confront the biodiversity crisis in an efficient manner – otherwise the pressure on nature will remain vigilant for centuries.

That is why we have initiated a multistakeholder initiative called the Biodiversity Partnership, where business organisations, NGOs, knowledge institutions and trade unions alike have joined forces to develop recommendations to businesses on how to operationalise efficient biodiversity action, but also to other relevant actors on how to create an enabling environment for such initiatives.

In this brief presentation of the Danish Biodiversity Partnership's work and recommendations, we hope that businesses, business organisations, NGOs, and others will be inspired by Denmark's collaborative approach and act upon the biodiversity crisis. Our ecosystems urgently need our united action.

Enjoy the read.



Jeppe Bruus,
Minister for
Green Transition



Magnus Heunicke,
Minister for
Environment

Waiting for someone to solve the biodiversity crisis

The Earth is unique compared to all other known planets because it has life. However, many species are disappearing from the Earth forever, and it is our fault. We are usurping their habitats and the resources they need to survive. We are poisoning them with the waste we leave behind and spreading deadly diseases to them.

The rate at which species are going extinct is as great, or greater than, the rates experienced during the five great mass extinction events in life's history, during which up to ~90% of species disappeared.

Failure to stop these human-caused extinctions will lead to another global mass extinction. It would be both arrogant and naïve to believe we could survive such an event.

Everyone laments the “biodiversity crisis” and thinks “something should be done”. At the same time, however, most seem to be waiting for someone else to do that something. But we all contribute to the human pressures on biodiversity.

Businesses are uniquely positioned to make a difference when it comes to addressing the biodiversity crisis because their activities or value chains are nearly always in direct contact with biodiversity.

We survive by using the Earth's resources – land, water, biomass, minerals, etc. We also leave behind us waste and novel entities – greenhouse gases, plastic, synthetic chemicals, and much more.

When we use these resources or leave our waste behind in nature, we impact biodiversity.

Businesses are uniquely positioned to make a difference when it comes to addressing the biodiversity crisis because their activities or value chains are nearly always in direct contact with biodiversity.

Businesses can reduce the pressure from their activities on biodiversity by maximising the efficiency of their resource use and by eliminating or reducing the waste they leave behind.

The recommendations in this publication are designed in the hope of inspiring and helping businesses to become part of the solution when it comes to addressing the biodiversity crisis.



Katherine Richardson,
Professor in Biological
Oceanography, Globe
Institute & Leader
Sustainability Science
Centre, University of
Copenhagen

Adressing the biodiversity crisis

The world faces an urgent biodiversity crisis, with species disappearing at an alarming rate. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted in December 2022, sets ambitious targets to halt this decline, including protecting 30 percent of the world's land and marine areas by 2030. Achieving these targets requires active involvement from governments, businesses, civil society, and citizens.

It is increasingly recognised that the biodiversity crisis is as critical as the climate crisis, and both are closely interrelated. Therefore, integrating biodiversity with climate adaptation, renewable energy development, and other societal priorities such as social sustainability, health, and food security is essential for future land use planning.

The World Economic Forum estimates that USD 44 trillion of economic value depends moderately or highly on nature and its services. As nature and biodiversity decline, most companies face disruptions to their operations, supply chains, and markets. However, addressing biodiversity is complex, and many companies struggle to understand their impact and implement effective solutions.

This is further complicated by the growing recognition that a company's biodiversity impact extends beyond its direct operations to its entire value chain. Companies also face the challenge of evolving sustainability regulations and the fear of being accused of greenwashing, which can discourage them from communicating their efforts.

Companies and financial institutions play a key role in tackling the biodiversity crisis, driven by two factors: their impact and dependencies on nature. A company's impact refers to the effects its actions have on biodiversity, such as pollution or deforestation across its value chain. Dependencies refer to how businesses rely on ecosystems, like farmers needing healthy soil or pharmaceutical firms relying on biodiversity for new medicines.

Voluntary biodiversity actions can mitigate these risks and offer financial benefits, such as reduced resource consumption and increased consumer interest in sustainable products. These considerations are also attracting attention from financial institutions like banks and investors, who are increasingly assessing biodiversity risks as part of their long-term investment strategies. As investors, they have a vested interest in ensuring those businesses are managing biodiversity risks effectively.

Voluntary biodiversity action is driven by companies' awareness of their dependence on nature and the evolving regulatory landscape, especially in the EU, with growing demands for sustainability reporting, traceability, and due diligence.

In Denmark, the biodiversity crisis is recognised as a challenge on par with climate change. Denmark's public-private partnerships have previously proven effective in addressing complex challenges through collaboration.

USD 44 trillion

The World Economic Forum estimates that USD 44 trillion of economic value generation is moderately or highly dependent on nature and its services.

The public-private approach has been central to Denmark's climate efforts and serves as a model for tackling the biodiversity crisis. The Danish Biodiversity Partnership is an example of this collaborative approach, bringing together a broad spectrum of actors — from government bodies and businesses to NGOs and civil society – to explore how the private sector can address biodiversity.

The Danish Biodiversity Partnership consists of 22 members and began its work in August 2023, with aims to inspire and guide businesses by offering specific recommendations for taking action on biodiversity.

The partnership also provides recommendations for other stakeholders, including government bodies, businesses and industry organisations, and research institutions, on how best to support companies in these efforts. The goal is for businesses to contribute more to halting biodiversity loss by mitigating negative impacts, acting on their dependencies on biodiversity, as well as actively supporting biodiversity restoration and preservation. Through cross-sector collaboration and clear guidelines, the Danish model provides valuable lessons that can be applied globally, guiding businesses and other stakeholders towards a more sustainable, biodiversity-friendly world.



The 5 main causes of biodiversity loss

1



Land use change

Converting forests to agricultural land or draining wetlands affects biodiversity negatively.

2



Direct exploitation of natural resources

Fishing and using biomass, including wood, palm oil, and soy, are draining natural resources.

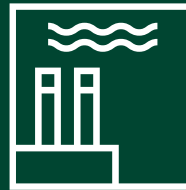
3



Climate change

Emissions of greenhouse gases and global temperature increases negatively impact biodiversity.

4



Pollution

The release of chemicals into nature, harmful air particles, and microplastic pollution affect and disrupt biodiversity.

5



Invasive species

Invasive species spread globally via international trade networks, posing a threat to local ecosystems and native species.

The task of the Biodiversity Partnership

The Danish Biodiversity Partnership aims to provide clarity and collaboration on corporate biodiversity efforts through recommendations for businesses, authorities and institutions. These recommendations outline a vision and mission to guide companies in addressing biodiversity loss and supporting global goals.

The Danish Minister of Environment established the Biodiversity Partnership in response to demand from companies, industry organisations and NGOs for greater clarity and collaboration on corporate biodiversity efforts.

The partnership has been tasked with delivering recommendations to companies, authorities, and knowledge institutions to promote and support effective voluntary corporate biodiversity initiatives.

These recommendations, including a vision and mission for corporate biodiversity actions and the framework needed to support impactful efforts, were presented to Denmark's Minister of Environment in June 2024.

Vision of the Biodiversity Partnership

The Biodiversity Partnership's vision is for companies to contribute to solving the biodiversity crisis and help fulfil the goals of the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the global Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Agreement.

The aim of the Partnership is to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and achieve global biodiversity gains by 2050. To do this, companies need the ability to act effectively, supported by a robust framework to guide their efforts.

Mission statement

The mission of the Biodiversity Partnership is for companies to contribute to halting the loss of biodiversity by 2030 and contribute to the restoration of nature and biodiversity, both at sea and on land.

This will be achieved by:

- Businesses taking actions that enhance the richness, diversity, integrity, and resilience of species, ecosystems, and natural processes.
- Companies using fewer natural resources, reducing their impact on nature both locally and globally, contributing to more land being set aside for nature and biodiversity, and increasing the nature content of areas affected by economic activity.
- Government, public authorities, industry bodies, and knowledge institutions working together to create the best possible framework to support corporate biodiversity efforts by offering knowledge and guidance, removing unnecessary barriers, and strengthening incentives for sustainable products.

To fulfil this vision and mission, the partnership has developed recommendations for companies, industry bodies, government, public authorities, and knowledge institutions. The goal is to make it easier for companies to address the biodiversity crisis and implement effective biodiversity initiatives.

The recommendations set a common direction for voluntary corporate biodiversity efforts, establishing a clear vision and mission for joint efforts. They apply to all companies operating in Denmark and cover both direct operations and value chains.

The recommendations should not be perceived as a detailed guide on how companies in different sectors should address biodiversity or on the specific incentive structures required. Rather, they serve as a crucial first step in guiding companies, industry bodies, governments, and knowledge institutions on how to act on the biodiversity crisis and what support is needed to strengthen corporate efforts.

Established by the government of Denmark, The Biodiversity Partnership is an example of a public-private partnership approach, bringing together 22 members from across government bodies and businesses to NGO's and civil society.

In the summer of 2024, the Danish government established the Ministry for the Green Tripartite Agreement. The new ministry will be responsible for biodiversity efforts and will continue to work on the recommendations from the Biodiversity Partnership.

MEMBERS

The members of the Danish Biodiversity Partnership

Minister:

Magnus Heunicke, Danish Minister of Environment

Chair of the Danish Biodiversity Partnership:

Jakob Møller Nielsen, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Danish Ministry of Environment

Business organisations:

Copenhagen Zoo, DAKOFO, Danish Chamber of Commerce, Danish Fishers PO, Danish Agriculture and Food Council, Danish Forest Association, Danish Industry, DM&T (Danish Fashion & Textile), Finance Denmark, Green Power Denmark, Insurance & Pension, Organic Denmark, UN Global Compact Denmark

Civil organisations:

CONCITO, Danish Society for Nature Conversation, WWF, Ocean Institute

Trade unions:

3F – United Federation of Danish Workers, Lederne – The Danish Association of Managers and Executives

Universities:

Aarhus University, University of Copenhagen





FACTS

Current and future regulatory requirements

EU legislation is becoming increasingly important for companies in the field of biodiversity. Among other things, companies focus on CRSD, EUDR and SFDR legislation.

The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) is an EU directive that requires large companies and listed SMEs to report on their sustainability performance. The companies must report based on the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS). The directive came into force for large, listed companies in 2024.

The EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) is an EU regulation that requires the production of soya, palm oil, coffee, cocoa, natural rubber, cattle and wood to take place without clearing or degrading forests. The requirements are met through so-called “due diligence” declarations and by ensuring traceability through the value chain before goods can be marketed in or exported from EU member states.

The Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) sets out sustainability risk and sustainability impact disclosure requirements for investment products (e.g. funds and pension products) and for the companies providing the investment products.

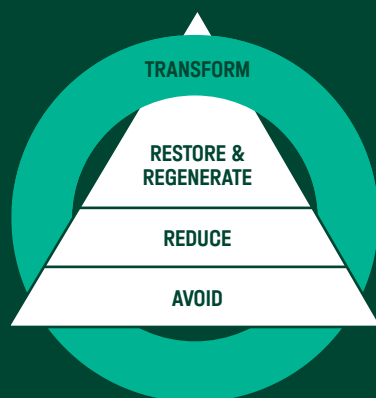
Thus, all financial products covered by the SFDR must disclose how sustainability risks are taken into account in their investment decisions and the likely impact of sustainability risks on the performance of the financial product.

Recommendations for companies on how to work on biodiversity

By reducing negative effects and supporting restoration efforts, businesses can align with national and global biodiversity goals. Presenting a number of tangible recommendations, The Biodiversity Partnership seeks to support companies and financial institutions to identify their impact on biodiversity and take action.

THE MITIGATION HIERARCHY

The mitigation hierarchy is a strategic approach within biodiversity and nature conservation



The Danish Biodiversity Partnership emphasises that all companies – both private and financial – can help reduce their own and their suppliers' negative impact on biodiversity, both marine and terrestrial, while also contributing to nature restoration locally and throughout the value chain.

Corporate biodiversity efforts are crucial to improving conditions for biodiversity and securing more space for nature. These efforts also help future-proof companies and industries that rely on biodiversity for production and economic value. In the future, effective biodiversity actions could also become a key competitive advantage.

There is no universal method to assess, measure, and account for biodiversity that covers all species, ecosystems or addresses the variety of company impacts on biodiversity. However, numerous methods and tools are available, some of which are industry-specific or national. Many others are still being developed.

Several international organisations are working on guidance tools and methodologies. The infobox on page 13 outlines three general tools and methods that companies can use to develop and enhance their biodiversity efforts.

Each link in the value chain can affect different habitats and species, leading to varied impacts on biodiversity.

The complexity of a company's impact and dependence on biodiversity can differ depending on its size, sector, value chains, and products. Similarly, the resources needed to implement biodiversity initiatives can vary – depending on industry or size, for example. Therefore, guidance and support from authorities, knowledge institutions, and industry bodies are vital to help companies advance their biodiversity efforts.

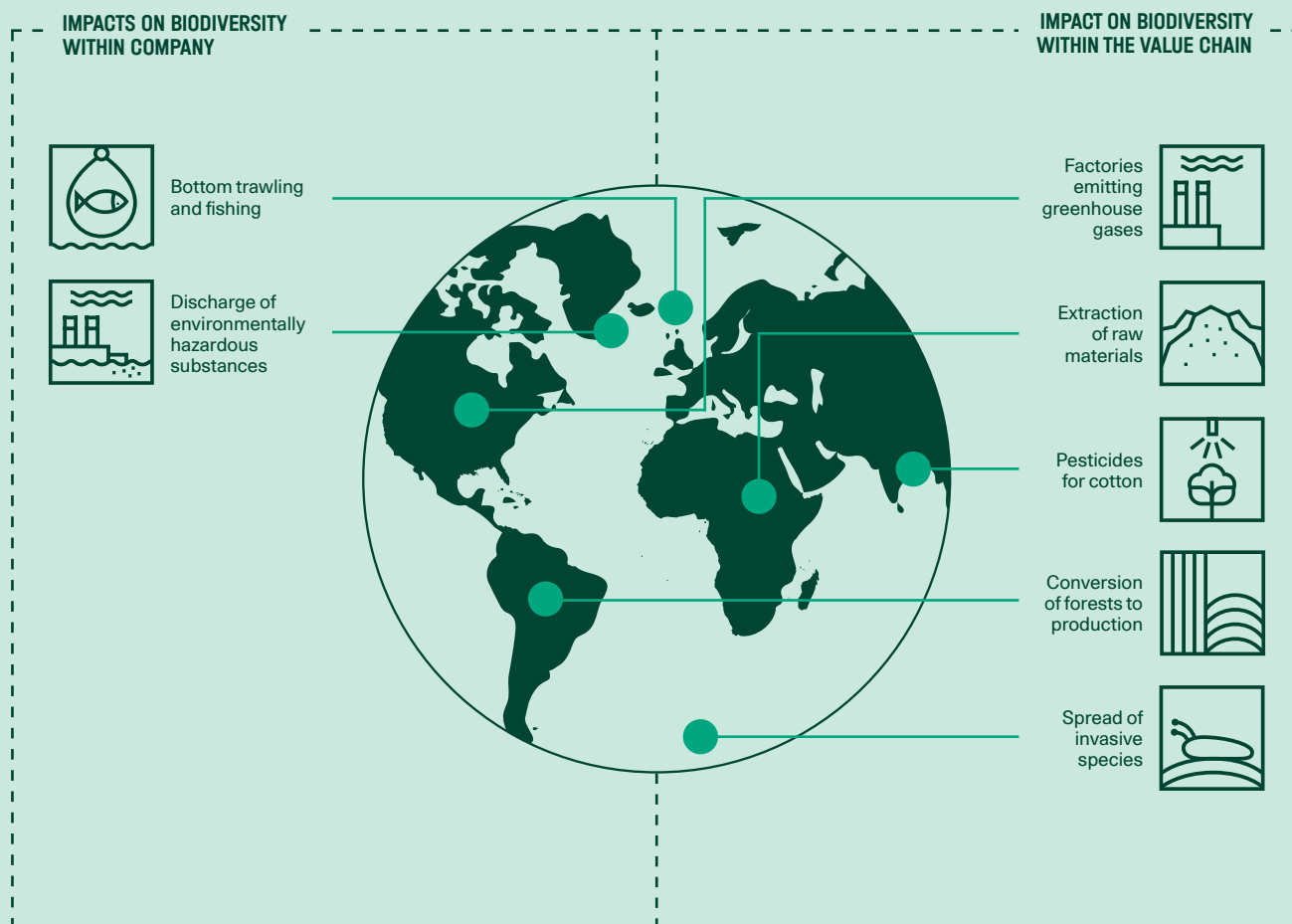
Corporate biodiversity initiatives must contribute to promoting both national and global biodiversity and support national and international objectives. Biodiversity is a new area for many companies, though some are already making significant progress with various initiatives.

The Biodiversity Partnership encourages companies to identify their impacts and dependencies on biodiversity, minimise or avoid negative impacts, contribute to protection, restoration and the overall progress of biodiversity.

As part of their work, The Biodiversity Partnership has outlined key recommendations for both non-financial companies and financial institutions to consider in their biodiversity strategies. Explore them in the following chapters.

MODEL: IMPACTS ON BIODIVERSITY WITHIN OWN BUSINESS OR VALUE CHAIN

Companies can have both biodiversity impacts and dependencies within their own operations and across their value chain



FACTS

Tools and methods for biodiversity efforts

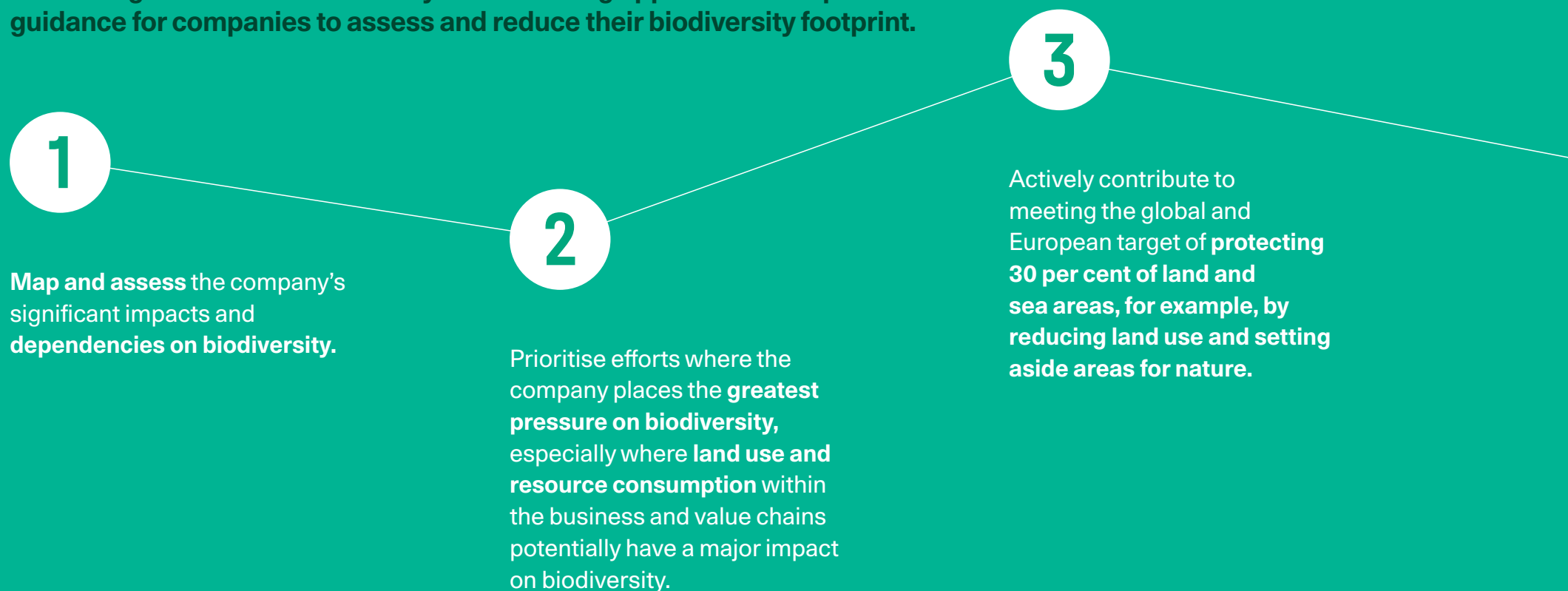
Science-based Targets for Nature (SBTN) are science-based targets that guide companies on how best to organise biodiversity efforts. SBTN focuses on both minimising negative impacts and promoting positive actions to maintain ecosystem function and biodiversity.

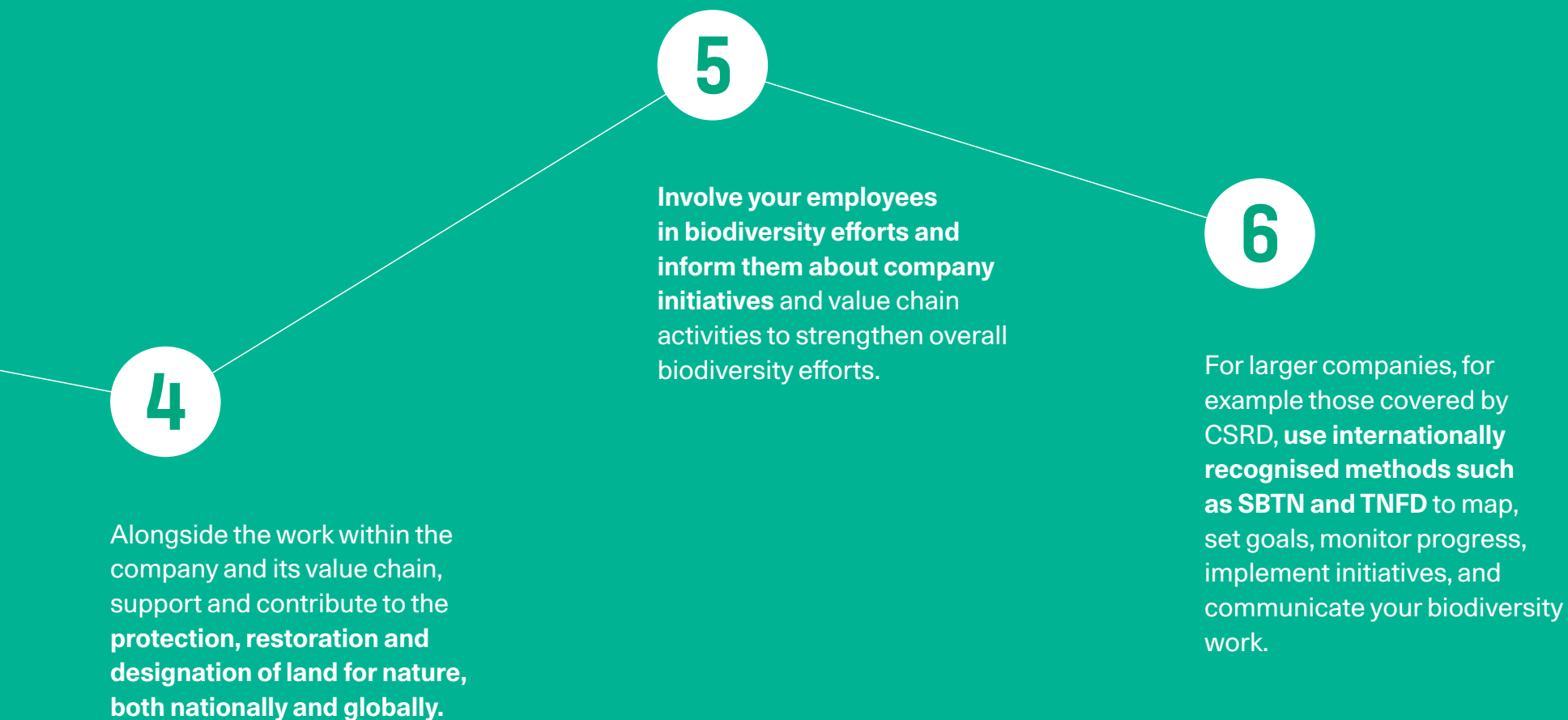
The Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) are global recommendations for corporate reporting on impacts and dependencies on nature and biodiversity. The goal is to create consistency and transparency for investors, thus clarifying whether nature and biodiversity impacts and risks are included in investment portfolios.

The Biodiversity Risk Filter is a tool to help screen company activities and identify where a company has the greatest impact on or dependence on biodiversity. The tool ensures that companies prioritise the most meaningful biodiversity efforts. You can read more about corporate biodiversity efforts in general as well as SBTN, TNFD and Risk Filter in Preferred by Nature's biodiversity partnership report [here](#).

Recommendations: Companies

Non-financial companies have a crucial role in protecting biodiversity. By managing their impact, they can contribute to global conservation efforts and strengthen their sustainability. The following approach offers practical guidance for companies to assess and reduce their biodiversity footprint.





Solutions: Companies

The recommendations from the Danish Biodiversity Partnership come at a time when many companies are already taking action. Numerous initiatives are in place to enhance biodiversity and help halt its loss, supporting plants, animals, and ecosystems for the future. However, the recommendations emphasise the need to approach biodiversity efforts in a more systematic way.

Explore examples of how Danish companies are engaging with biodiversity on the following pages.

DISCOVER

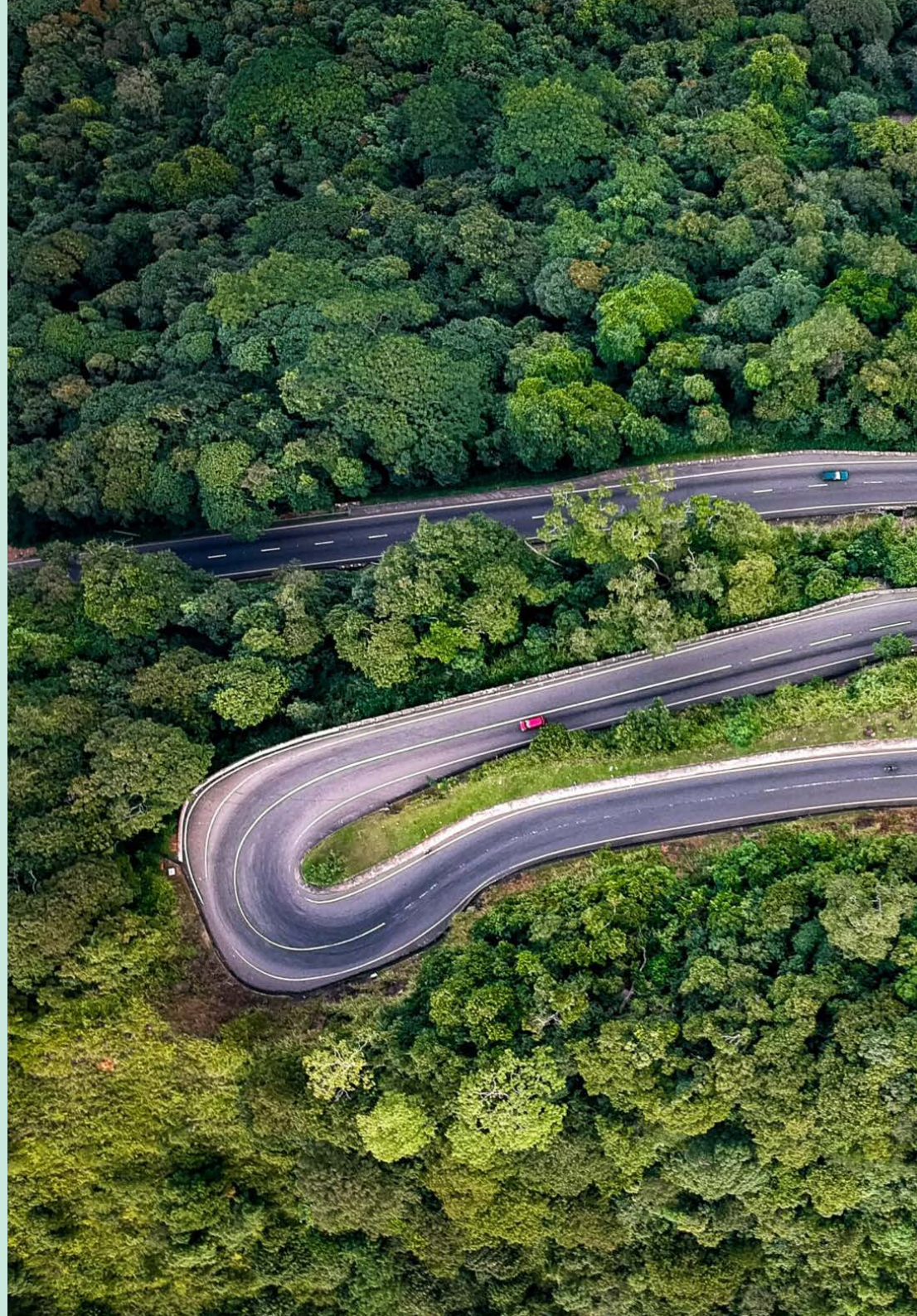
Explore initiatives on biodiversity

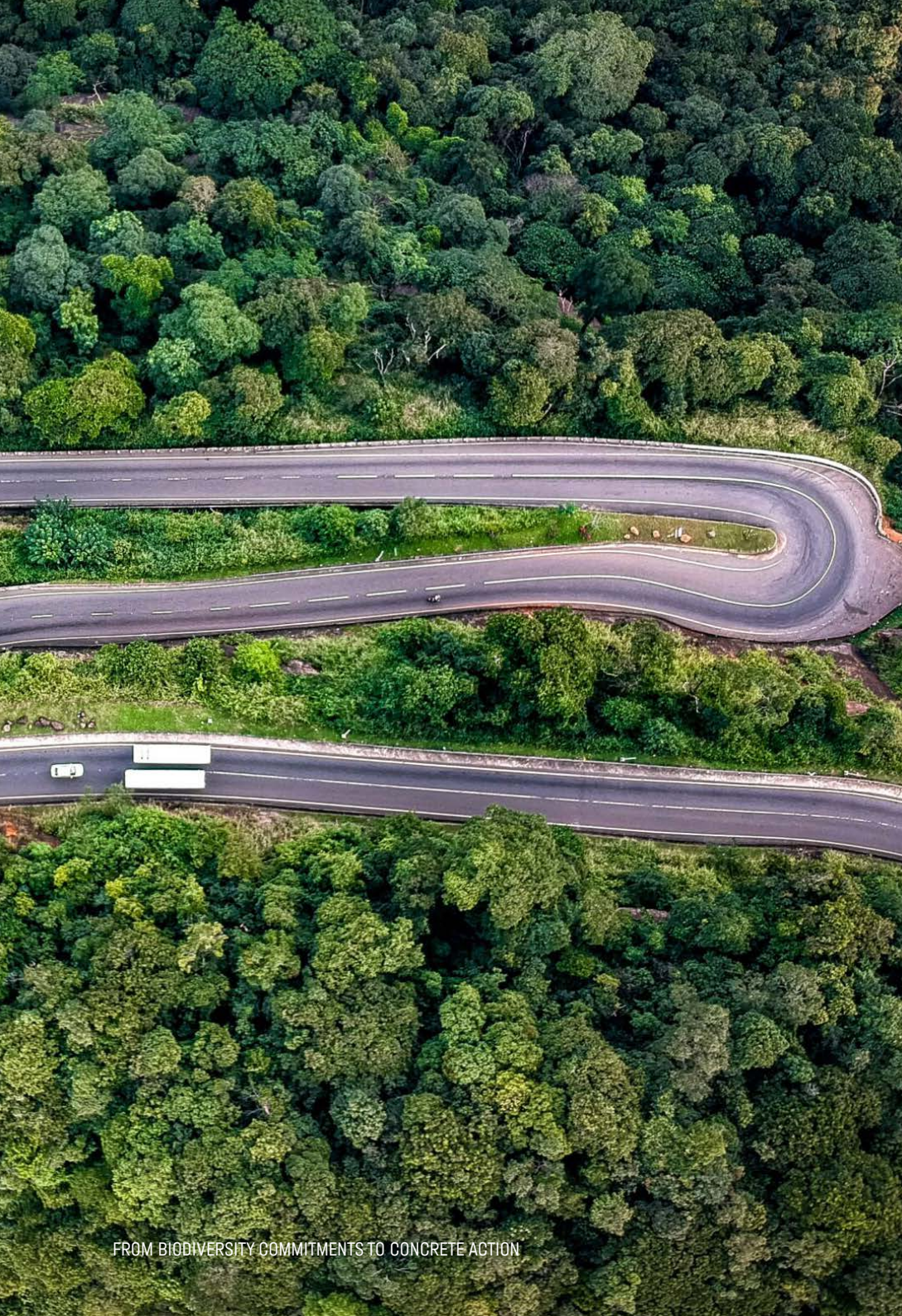


Many private companies are driving numerous biodiversity projects, essential for safeguarding ecosystems and preserving natural resources. Discover more examples from Danish solutions providers and get inspired.



Discover more cases on biodiversity
at stateofgreen.com





SOLUTION PROVIDER RAMBOLL
TYPE COMPANY
PARTNER NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
COUNTRY ENGLAND, GREAT BRITAIN, EUROPE



CASE

Highways and habitats: An innovative approach to biodiversity monitoring

Challenge: New government regulations in England require that all nationally significant infrastructure projects must deliver 10 percent biodiversity net gain. In line with this, the National Highways, a government-owned company operating and maintaining all major roads and highways in England, has committed to deliver biodiversity net gain across 30,000 hectares of verges and land that runs adjacent to their motorways and trunk roads by 2040.

Solution: Through the Intelligent Environmental Estate (IEE) project, Ramboll created a prototype system that produces network-wide digital maps of land cover and habitats using satellite imagery and machine learning. The data produced enables monitoring of biodiversity across the Strategic Road Network in an accurate, defensible, repeatable, and cost-effective manner.

Results: The monitoring system was able to map the 14 most common landcover types across the road network. This represents a significant leap forward in providing National Highways with the means to periodically track their biodiversity performance over time. IEE is furthermore able to establish what impact each route will have on biodiversity at an early stage, informing the route selection process long before boots would conventionally be on the ground.



SOLUTION PROVIDER SLOW
TYPE COMPANY
PARTNER WWF
COUNTRY VIETNAM, ASIA



CASE

Producing coffee while creating prosperous forests

Challenge: Coffee production, which is often associated with deforestation and habitat loss, has significant implications for biodiversity. This disruption to ecosystems threatens the diverse range of species inhabiting coffee-growing regions. In response to this challenge, Slow and WWF have formed the "Prosperous Forests" partnership.

Solution: The initiative aims to support smallholder farmers in transitioning to organic agroforestry practices within buffer zones of WWF priority conservation areas. By integrating coffee production with forest conservation, the project aims to improve biodiversity through the restoring of ecosystems.

Vietnam was identified as a key location for immediate implementation due to its significant potential for both biodiversity impact and coffee production. The project will focus on creating a biodiversity corridor between two nature reserves in Quang Tri province, benefiting around 81,000 Arabica coffee farmers.

Results: By 2030, the model strives to be a landmark example of sustainable commodity production that utilises private finance to scale up nature-based solutions to address ecological, social and climate challenges.



SOLUTION PROVIDER ØRSTED
TYPE COMPANY
PARTNER PENGHU MARINE BIOLOGY RESEARCH CENTRE
COUNTRY TAIWAN, ASIA



CASE

ReCoral: Turning turbines into reefs

Challenge: Renewable energy development is critical to address the climate crisis and subsequent impacts on global biodiversity. But, as offshore wind farms continue to expand globally, there is increasing concern about their potential impact on marine biodiversity. Unmitigated, the construction and operation of these farms can potentially disrupt marine habitats, posing risks to the delicate balance of ocean ecosystems.

Solution: As a response to this challenge, Ørsted, a global leader in renewable energy, has started the ReCoral initiative, a project designed to cultivate coral growth on the foundations of offshore wind turbines at the Greater Changhua Offshore wind farms off the coast of Taiwan. The project involves carefully transplanting coral fragments onto the bases of the turbines, creating new habitats for marine life. By selecting optimal sites with the right environmental conditions and leveraging advanced techniques, the aim is to encourage coral growth in new settings.

The ReCoral initiative is a collaborative effort together with Penghu Marine Biology Research Centre, drawing on the expertise of marine biologists and environmental specialists to ensure the health and sustainability of the transplanted corals. This project is part of Ørsted's broader commitment to making a net-positive impact on biodiversity by 2030, showcasing how renewable energy infrastructure can coexist harmoniously with nature.

Results: The ReCoral initiative is a pilot project still in the initial stages, with the ultimate goal of refining a method that can be scaled beyond the current trial at the Greater Changhua offshore wind farms. With further studies and lessons from these early tests, the aim is to develop a coral restoration technique that can be applied to the foundations of offshore wind turbines in tropical waters worldwide, enhancing ocean biodiversity and transforming offshore wind farms into vital ecosystems.

Recommendations: Financial institutions

Financial institutions are key players in driving biodiversity protection. By integrating biodiversity considerations into their operations and investments, they can influence positive change across industries. The following steps outline how financial institutions can support global conservation efforts and promote sustainable practices.





Solutions: Financial Institutions

Financial institutions play a key role in promoting biodiversity by integrating nature-positive practices into their investment and lending strategies. These efforts help protect ecosystems and support global biodiversity goals. While many financial companies are already making progress in this area, the recommendations from the Danish Biodiversity Partnership emphasise the need for a more systematic approach to further enhance impact.

Explore examples of how Danish financial companies are driving global biodiversity efforts on the following pages.

DISCOVER

Explore initiatives on biodiversity



Financial institutions are increasingly supporting biodiversity initiatives through sustainable investments and funding projects that protect ecosystems. Discover more examples from Danish solution providers and get inspired.



Discover more cases on biodiversity
at stateofgreen.com





SOLUTION PROVIDER DANSKE BANK
TYPE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION
PARTNER NATURAL CAPITAL FINANCE ALLIANCE
COUNTRY DENMARK



CASE

Balancing returns and nature: Mapping biodiversity impact in investments

Challenge: As awareness of biodiversity loss grows, financial institutions are under increasing pressure to consider the environmental impact of their activities. For Danske Bank, Denmark's leading bank, the challenge was to understand the nature-related financial risks and impacts on biodiversity within its lending and investment portfolios.

Solution: As one of the first of its kind in the Danish financial sector, Danske Bank has conducted a comprehensive analysis to map the potential biodiversity impact of their lending and investment portfolios. The analysis focused on how companies impact biodiversity, examining factors like energy use, land consumption, and resource management. This mapping exercise allows Danske Bank to assess the nature-related risks and dependencies within their lending and investment portfolio. By integrating these insights into their strategy, they can engage more effectively with companies and stakeholders on crucial biodiversity issues and emphasises the importance of sustainable practices, such as increasing recycling and reducing resource consumption.

Results: The analysis identified three sectors in the lending portfolio with the highest potential negative impact on nature and biodiversity which are 1) agriculture including food products and fisheries, 2) forestry, pulp and paper and 3) shipping. For investments, around two-thirds of the investments have a high potential impact on ecosystems and biodiversity, mainly due to CO₂ emissions, pollution, and resource overexploitation. Additionally, one-third of the investments depend on natural resources like water, plants, and animals, as well as ecosystem services such as protection against storms and floods.

Insights from the analysis will guide Danske Bank's engagements with customers and investee companies, supporting activities that benefit nature and helping manage nature-related impacts and dependencies.



SOLUTION PROVIDER	FINANCE DENMARK
TYPE	FINANCIAL INSTITUTION
PARTNER	UN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK DENMARK, TASKFORCE ON NATURE-RELATED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES (TNFD)
COUNTRY	THE NORDIC REGION



CASE

Nordic network to bridge the gaps in biodiversity measurement

Challenge: As companies and financial institutions increasingly recognise the importance of biodiversity, the need for consistent measurement and reporting standards becomes crucial. However, varying approaches to biodiversity impact assessment can lead to confusion and inconsistency, hindering meaningful progress. A Fragmented landscape of measurement tools, data and reporting frameworks can make it difficult for companies and banks to effectively measure and manage their biodiversity impact.

Solution: To address this challenge, Finance Denmark and UN Global Compact Network Denmark have launched a Nordic knowledge-sharing network group in collaboration with the global initiative Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD).

The network group aims to foster collaboration among Nordic companies and banks, focusing on identifying and building knowledge about standardised measurement methods for biodiversity impact available. Through regular Nordic webinars, the initiative seeks to promote consistent expectations and frameworks for companies and financial institutions.

Results: This project facilitates the exchange of best practices, enabling participants to align efforts and contribute to the broader goal of protecting biodiversity. The initiative supports companies, banks and asset managers in integrating biodiversity considerations into operations, improving the ability to manage risks and opportunities related to nature.

The network has established a strong foundation for consistent biodiversity measurement and reporting across the Nordic region, promoting a more cohesive approach to biodiversity management.



SOLUTION PROVIDER PENSIONDANMARK
TYPE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION
PARTNER SLA, ANDEL, AAEN ENGINEERING
COUNTRY DENMARK



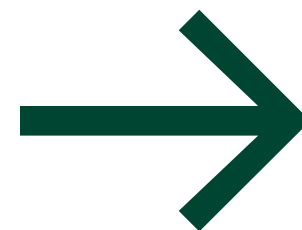
CASE

Creating metrics to foster urban growth while enhancing biodiversity

Challenge: As urbanisation expands, the natural habitats of countless species are disrupted or destroyed, leading to a sharp decline in biodiversity. Financial institutions, particularly those with substantial investments in urban development, are under increasing pressure to address these environmental impacts.

Solution: As one of Denmark's leading pension funds, PensionDanmark launched a biodiversity strategy in 2022 with commitments to ensure that all urban and new construction investments contribute positively to biodiversity by 2030. The strategy mandates project-specific biodiversity plans for new development and builds on a rigorous methodology to measure biodiversity impacts. This includes developing a detailed framework for assessing six key biodiversity indicators. These indicators include measures of green and blue areas (vegetation and water bodies), canopy cover, and the presence of habitats with high biodiversity value. By employing these metrics, PensionDanmark can document the effects of its investments and ensure alignment with the strategic goals of becoming nature-positive.

Results: In 2022, PensionDanmark assessed six projects, including urban and residential areas in Aarhus and Copenhagen, along with 77 fully owned properties in 2023, for baseline biodiversity status, and the potential for increasing biodiversity through design and landscape management. These assessments are detailed in annual biodiversity reports, serving as tools to keep the organisation accountable and on track with biodiversity goals. Despite some losses in green and blue areas during the construction phase, quantitative indicators showed a general increase in canopy cover, while qualitative indicators demonstrated habitats of high biodiversity value. For existing properties, the results in 2023 showed a large potential in improving the quality of existing green areas, which accounts for one-third of the entire property area.



The objective of the Biodiversity Partnership is to enhance the effectiveness of companies' biodiversity efforts in addressing the biodiversity crisis. However, other stakeholders also play a key role in ensuring the right framework conditions are in place to help companies make informed decisions on their biodiversity initiatives.

The Biodiversity Partnership has therefore put forward several recommendations for other relevant stakeholders on how they can support these efforts. The following page provides a summary of the key messages.

Better framework conditions and support measures needed

RECOMMENDATIONS

To governments and public authorities

Governments and public authorities are crucial in promoting and supporting companies' biodiversity efforts. They can regulate, incentivise, guide, and provide companies with access to relevant biodiversity data and knowledge.

It is recommended that governments and authorities support the development and improvement of corporate biodiversity initiatives by:

- Creating incentives for voluntary biodiversity efforts.
- Sharing knowledge and guidance on methodologies and reporting.
- Leading by example in reducing their own biodiversity impact and contributing to overall biodiversity progress, in line with current and upcoming regulations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To business and industry organisations

Industry and business organisations play a vital role in the green transition, including addressing the biodiversity crisis. Their industry-specific knowledge is essential for rolling out effective biodiversity initiatives across companies.

It is recommended that industry and business organisations:

- Help companies avoid or reduce their negative biodiversity footprint.
- Contribute to nature restoration and an overall increase in biodiversity.
- Implement industry and value chain-specific efforts, promoting consistent biodiversity approaches that support both SMEs and larger companies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To research and knowledge institutions

Independent and consolidated research is essential for businesses' current and future capacity to act on biodiversity. Researchers' contributions to understanding the fundamental challenges of biodiversity will greatly influence future biodiversity efforts.

Knowledge institutions can enhance and refine companies' efforts by consolidating documentation and valuing biodiversity both within and beyond areas directly affected by economic activities.

It is recommended that knowledge institutions focus on improving data and knowledge building to guide effective private sector biodiversity actions.

About the Biodiversity Partnership

The Biodiversity Partnership is a partnership aiming to strengthen companies' voluntary efforts to protect nature. The partnership was established by The Ministry of Environment and consists of 22 members covering a wide range of public and private stakeholders. The partnership has been tasked with delivering recommendations to companies, authorities and knowledge institutions to promote and support effective voluntary corporate biodiversity initiatives.



About the Ministry of Environment

The Danish Ministry of the Environment is responsible for administrative and research tasks in the areas of environmental protection. In Denmark, the administration at the state level is managed by the Ministry of Environment. At the regional and local levels, much of the administrative responsibility has been delegated to the municipalities.

About State of Green

State of Green is a not-for-profit, public-private partnership between the Danish Government and Denmark's three leading business associations (Danish Industry, Green Power Denmark, and the Danish Agriculture and Food Council). State of Green connects you with leading Danish players working to drive the global transition to a sustainable, low-carbon, resource-efficient society.

Learn more about biodiversity efforts, find cases from around the world and connect with Danish expertise at stateofgreen.com



Ministry of Environment
and Gender Equality