



# NEWSLETTER

Issue 5  
December 2018

Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity



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Paris



Sustainability Awards,  
India



Restoration Guide, Spain



10 Years of Biodiversity  
in Good Company



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We Value Nature Launch



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## Natural Capital Week, Paris, 26-30 November



The Natural Capital Week, a series of biodiversity related events took place in Paris 26-30 November. Specific events included:

### 1. Forum on Natural Capital Accounting-Governmental Dialogue

### 2. Natural Capital Coalition (NCC) Collaboration Day

### 3. EU B@B annual conference

Main highlights:

1) The Forum on Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) for Better Policy, the Government Dialogue on Natural Capital, and the Combining Forces Initiative joined together to hold a joint meeting of the Third Governmental Forum on Natural Capital Accounting (NCA). The meeting was co-organized by the Netherlands government, European Commission, UN Statistics Division, UN Environment, World Bank Group, WAVES Programme and Natural Capital Coalition. The event welcomed 140 participants representing 27 Countries from EU, Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as international organizations.

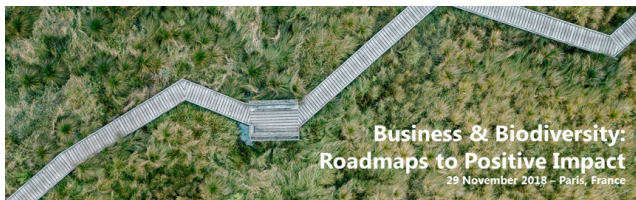
Representatives from global regions, including the German GIZ, the French AFD, OECD, World Bank as well as the EU project for the EU

ASEAN dialogue on Natural Capital underlined that Natural Capital approaches are key to drive biodiversity mainstreaming and that natural capital accounts are gaining more and more international momentum. NCA accounting drives and informs key governmental decisions on sustainable development notably with valuation approaches when difficult trade-offs between biodiversity and other land use or infrastructure projects are at stake.

A narrative on natural capital was discussed outlining why natural capital is relevant for governments and how they can act on it. Based on a report by the Combining Forces project of the Natural Capital Coalition, ways forward were identified to strengthen the collaboration between public and private actors with respect to natural capital accounting in policy and corporate contexts.

2) The NCC 2018 Collaboration Day had 155 international participants from finance and non-finance, business, consultancies, government, NGOs and science. The meeting took stock of the growing international Natural Capital and biodiversity movement and a range of related national and international projects.

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## CII-ITC Sustainability Awards 2018: Excellence in Biodiversity



Instituted in 2006, the CII Sustainability Awards recognizes and rewards excellence in businesses that are seeking ways to be more sustainable and inclusive in their activities including in Business Ethics, Employee Development, Human Rights and Biodiversity. The awards are a continuous effort to encourage sustainable practices and capacity building in businesses by measuring their performance in terms of Corporate Excellence and Domain Excellence and provide detailed feedback for opportunities to excel.

The awards adhere to a transparent and rigorous assessment process based on the Sustainability Excellence Assessment Model. The assessment is carried out by CII Certified Assessors covering 250 indicators with 15 aspects of sustainability and is reviewed by a permanent jury.

The Biodiversity award recognizes implementing measures related to conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the value chain. In the category of Biodiversity, six companies applied for Domain Excellence, out of which three companies have received awards. [Read more >](#)

BIODIVERSITY			
Excellence in Biodiversity	 Tata Steel Ltd.	 Natural Remedies Pvt Ltd.	Commendation for Significant Achievement  Asian Paints Ltd. Sriperumbudur



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## Launch of the Practical Guide on Ecological Restoration

The Biodiversity Foundation from the Spanish Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Spanish Business and Biodiversity Initiative (SBBI) launched a [Practical Guide on Ecological Restoration](#). This guide aims to be a useful tool for the mainstreaming of biodiversity in habitat restoration in Spain, especially within economic sectors with impacts on natural capital.

The Guide is supported by six member companies of the SBBI: Ferrovial, Endesa, Iberdrola, LafargeHolcim, Naturgy and OHL, who all wanted to find common solutions for better consideration of biodiversity into their restoration operations.

The objective is to help the development of the restoration practice into one that considers biodiversity at its core. In this sense, the final result of an ecological restoration project should be a functional ecosystem that is self-sustainable over time. It seeks to improve the efficiency of ecosystem recovery by restoring ecological processes and aims at the sustainability of restored ecosystems also considering the provision of ecosystem services.

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# 10 Years of the 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative Looking Back on Achievements Looking Forward to the Work Ahead

For ten years now, the 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative has been providing concrete ideas for companies on how to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Whether it is the first steps to biodiversity-friendly company premises, or effective measures to protect species and habitats in the value chain – the concentrated know-how of our member companies is available in our network.

We develop the necessary practicable blueprints to make biodiversity conservation “mainstream”, while we are well aware that there is still a lot to do in the face of today’s patterns of consumption and production. Our objective is to become better ourselves and to sensitize the economy as a whole to this vital topic of sustainable development. Thus, we have been able to use the current UN Decade on Biodiversity to reach this important target group.

An encouraging step forward is undoubtedly the fact that it is not just individual companies that are active, but that, for some years now, business associations have been more strongly involved through the platform “Enterprise Biological Diversity 2020” (“Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020” – UBi 2020). The dialogue with all stakeholders, including politics, environmental organisations and research institutions, needs to be further developed.

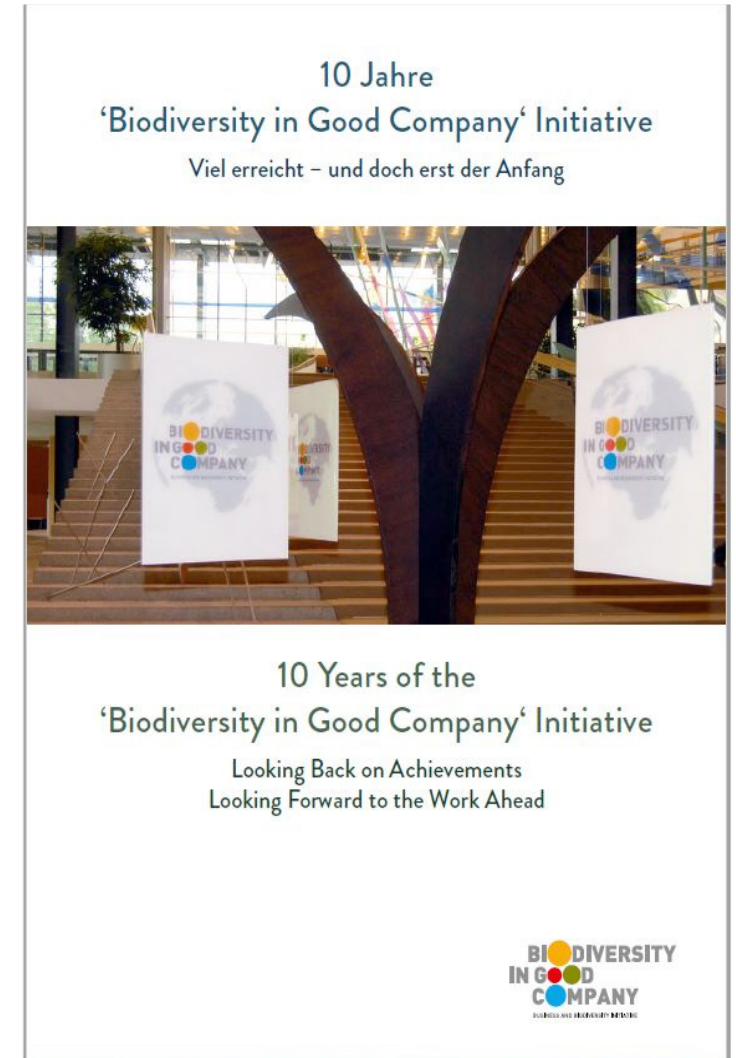
“Looking Back on Achievements – Looking Forward to the Work Ahead”: this is our motto for celebrating our 10th anniversary.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Stefanie Eichiner

Chairwoman of the Board, 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative e. V. Manager Sustainability, UPM Communication Papers

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## Biodiversity and Economy Forum: Business and Biodiversity, time for action!

The second edition of the Biodiversity and Economy Forum was held on 17 - 18 December in Paris at the Palais de la Renaissance. The Forum was organized by the French Agency for Biodiversity (AFB), with the support of the Ministry of Environment.

The Forum aimed to strengthen the mobilization and commitment of businesses toward biodiversity and its consideration in the development of activities. It was also an opportunity to discuss possible actions and solutions in preparation for the 2020 IUCN Congress in Marseille, France and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP15 in China.

The two days were dedicated to highlighting innovative initiatives, sharing feedback, capacity building, networking opportunities and the identifying of potential actions.

Different themes were discussed: soil degradation, biodiversity offset, biodiversity in supply chains, agriculture transition, natural resources sustainability, and life cycle Analysis (LCA).

Oree, The French Platform for business and biodiversity supported this event, and took the opportunity to share the CBD & Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity vision about biodiversity and the private sector. This meeting was also a chance to engage new members.

[Read more \(in French\) >](#)



**AGENCE FRANÇAISE  
POUR LA BIODIVERSITÉ**

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## Forging a Bold Partnership with the Government of Sri Lanka

Taking a bold step forward in the direction of increased collaboration between the State and the private sector, Biodiversity Sri Lanka (BSL) signed a joint Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in September 2018, with the Government of Sri Lanka, through the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, to use the combined comparative advantages of the two organizations to enhance biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in Sri Lanka. While Mr. Anura Dissanayake – Secretary of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment signed the MoU on behalf of the State, Mr. Dilhan C. Fernando – Chairman of the BSL Board of Directors, signed the document on behalf of the entire membership of BSL.

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## New Campaign will Inspire Business to Value Nature

A new campaign, We Value Nature, has been launched. The European Commission has provided over €2 million over the next three years to support the campaign which seeks to change business perceptions and make valuing nature the new normal for businesses across Europe.

We Value Nature will encourage businesses to embed the value of nature into their decision making through approaches such as: Natural Capital Assessment, Natural Capital Accounting, Nature Based Solutions, green infrastructure and related ecosystem-based solutions.

The campaign was launched during natural capital week in Paris by: The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Oppla.

We Value Nature will work with the Natural Capital Coalition to ensure that leading organizations, practitioners, academics and experts avoid the duplication of activities, benefit from one another's best practice, plug knowledge gaps, share data and IP where possible, and work collaboratively to achieve a shared vision.

Guy Duke, Project Director, said: "This is a hugely exciting and timely initiative with significant financial backing from the EU. Scaling integration of natural capital into business decision-making is vital if we are to meet sustainable development goals. We look forward to working with existing networks and platforms and above all with businesses, both large and small, and across all sectors, to make a real difference over the next 3 years."

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## 2018 Business and Biodiversity Forum

The Business and Biodiversity Forum (the Forum) was held in advance of the opening of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Conference of the Parties) at the Sharm El Sheikh International Congress Center from 14-15 November 2018. The event provided an important opportunity for businesses leaders to engage with businesses, governments, non-governmental organizations and leaders from civil society which were mainstreaming biodiversity and capitalizing on the opportunities that effective mainstreaming could attract. The Forum also provided an opportunity to intensify business engagement in the broader work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, including on issues related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.



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### **Corporate Conservation Leaders Urged to Lead on Both Climate and Biodiversity at Wildlife Habitat Council Conservation Conference**

During last month's 2018 Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) Conservation Conference in Baltimore, MD, WHC President Margaret O'Gorman ended her opening remarks by asking the audience: "What will your role be?"

[Read more >](#)

### **The Sustainable Innovation Expo**

The Sustainable Innovation Expo of the UN Environment Assembly, the United Nations highest-level decision-making body on the environment, will take place in Nairobi, Kenya, from 11 to 15 March 2019. With a focus on "Eco-Innovation and Sustainable Finance", the Expo will host an exhibition space to showcase innovative solutions addressing environmental challenges as well as several panel discussions and solutions roundtables. Please apply for an exhibition booth [here](#).

[Read more >](#)

### **Report Publication: "Using conservation science to advance corporate biodiversity accountability"**

[Read more >](#)

### **Biodiversity Largely Ignored by Green Finance (in French)**

[Read more >](#)

### **Sustainable Development in the Food & Beverage Industry**

15-16 January 2019, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

### **World Economic Forum**

22-25 January 2019, Davos, Switzerland

### **Good Food for People and the Planet - Working together towards 2030**

5-7 February 2019, San José, Costa Rica

### **Raw Materials & Environment 2019**

19-20 February 2019, Berlin, Germany

### **The National Biodiversity Conference**

20-21 February 2019, Dublin, Ireland

### **Natural Capital Investment Conference**

28 February 2019, London, UK

### **UN Environment Assembly**

11-15 March 2019, Nairobi, Kenya

### **Sustainability Summit 2019: Facing the facts**

21 March 2018, London

### **World Ocean Summit**

5-7 March 5 2019, Abu Dhabi, UAE



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