



## “BIODIVERSITY IN GOOD COMPANY” AND UNTERNEHMEN BIOLOGISCHE VIELFALT 2020

### Overview of Activities 2015

Including information on the German platform “Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020” (“Enterprise Biological Diversity 2020”) – Platform for Action and Dialogue between Business, Government and Nature Conservation [www.biologischevielfalt.de/UBi\\_2020.html](http://www.biologischevielfalt.de/UBi_2020.html) (German only, brief profile [in English](#))

In 2008, the company network ‘Biodiversity in Good Company’ was founded as a pioneering international business and biodiversity initiative and later on became a member in the newly established CBD Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity.

In 2013, "Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020" ("Enterprise Biological Diversity 2020"), initiated by the Federal Environment Ministry, was set up as a broader dialogue and action platform for business federations, nature conservancy organizations and authorities in Germany in order to encourage exchange, cooperation and tangible action. ‘Biodiversity in Good Company’ is both a partner and the coordination office for this roundtable and represents the platform in the CBD Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity.

[www.business-and-biodiversity.de](http://www.business-and-biodiversity.de)



## Overview main activities 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative 2015

### Committees/working meetings with members

- 6 February 2015: Conference Call Japanese members
- 24 February 2015: Board meeting
- 25 February 2015: Workshop management indicators with econsense – Forum for Sustainable Development of German Business, Berlin
- 5 May 2015: Board meeting, Berlin
- 5/6 May 2015: Members working meeting at Veolia, Berlin
- 22/23 September 2015: Members working meeting at Knauf Gips, Iphofen. New board elected
- 6 October 2015: Conference Call Japanese members

### At the heart of the initiative: Progress reports of member companies for reporting period 2013/2014

'Biodiversity in Good Company' is a forum for exchange of experience and knowhow, joint activities and creating awareness for the goal of biodiversity conservation. At the same time, by joining the network, every company expresses its individual commitment to improving its biodiversity performance. The members are frontrunners, take responsibility and want to inspire other businesses to do so, as well. Thus, signing the Leadership Declaration and reporting on its implementation is at the core of the initiative and quite unique.

See progress report of all members

<http://www.business-and-biodiversity.de/en/about-us/members/progress-reports/>

### New members

- Neumarkter Lammsbräu (spring 2015, organic brewery)
- AUDI AG (June 2015, automotive)

### Events

- **„Diskussionsforum Ökosystemleistungen“ (Discussion Forum Ecosystem Services)** is a new series of events, launched in autumn 2014 in Germany by the environmental NGO Deutsche Umwelthilfe (DUH), 'Biodiversity in Good Company' and two partners from academia, the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) and the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv). Three events in 2015:
  - 26 Jan 2015, Berlin, on bioeconomy
  - 25 May 2015, Frankfurt am Main, EU Green Week Satellite Event, on markets and financing mechanisms
  - 2 Nov 2015, Berlin, on forests
- **Participation of coordination office and members in various events and processes**

### Projects

- **Publication "Basic knowledge: companies and biodiversity": a series of short, cross-industry information modules for companies.** The modules offer guidance, suggestions and advice, which are helpful not only for large businesses, but also for smaller ones.
  - Module 1 General Introduction: "Biodiversity and ecosystem services – this is the business of business"
  - Module 2: "Greening company premises – Going into action on your own doorstep"
  - Module 3: "Biodiversity in the value and supply chains – Overview of the challenges"
  - Modules 4 on credible communications on biodiversity and avoiding greenwashing and module 5 on opportunities for involving employees currently only available in German, English translation to follow.

- [Sectoral dialogue and new German brochure: What water sector companies can do to protect biodiversity](#): Mainstreaming biodiversity means providing tailor-made information for business sectors or value chains. One ideal way of doing so is by creating collaborations with important stakeholders in the sector. This is what 'Biodiversity in Good Company' did in a project funded by the German Ministry for the Environment. Together with six partners from business, technical-scientific associations and nature conservation we released a brochure addressing water suppliers and wastewater treatment companies as important "ambassadors" for biodiversity and ecosystem services. Presenting some 20 best practice examples, the brochure highlights five fields of action: company sites as valuable habitats, drinking water production sites as special areas, cooperation with agriculture, renaturation of water bodies and community involvement through the support/sponsoring of projects.
- Sectoral dialogue with DIY sector (responsible: Global Nature Fund), in progress.
- As a contribution to "Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020": Planning and organisation of **German Annual Business Dialogue Forum 2016 on Biological Diversity (15 March 2016, Berlin)**: 'Biodiversity in Good Company' supports the Federal Environment Ministry and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation in organising the event. The German event website can be found at: [www.ubi2020-dialogforum.de](http://www.ubi2020-dialogforum.de)
- Finalisation of Project NATURWERT - Biodiversity at Companies' Sites: In November 2012, the Institute for Ecological Economy Research (IÖW) launched a new project on the role of costs related to nature conservation with regards to company premises, a joint project undertaken together with the 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative, the Lake Constance Foundation, and the Global Nature Fund, funded by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) and the Federal Ministry for the Environment. Outcome: [German brochure](#)
- Strategic dialogue with NeFo, the German science-policy interface for biodiversity research, with a focus on IPBES
- Overall coordination of "Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020"

#### Participation in national and international networks

- Germany: „Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020“ (UBi 2020) – partner, coordination office
- Europe: EU Business@Biodiversity Platform – member, participation in annual meeting 27 October 2015, Brussels, Belgium
- Global: CBD Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity – member of the Executive Committee, participation in CBD Business Forum/5th Meeting of the Global Partnership, November 2015, Helsinki, Finland

#### General communications

- App. 100 Mailings to Members with information on business and biodiversity
- Website in German, limited version English, basic information Japanese
- 7 newsletters (German and English edition) with member company portraits and further news

#### Other/representation in committees

- Carolin Boßmeyer is member of the [stakeholder committee for German TEEB project "Naturkapital Deutschland – TEEB DE"](#)
- Carolin Boßmeyer is member of the of stakeholder committee of German agricultural project „Firmen fördern Vielfalt“ – Projekt von AöL e. V. (Neumarkter Lammsbräu, Märkisches Landbrot, Hipp und Bionade), Leibniz Universität Hannover
- Carolin Boßmeyer is member of the of the Science-Policy Advisory Board of German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig

## **Brief overview “Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020” 2015**

*Information is only available in German, except for a [brief English description](#) of the platform*

Please note, in addition to the information below, that several of the partners of the stakeholder platform “Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt 2020” have individual and broad activities. One of the partners especially focused on business and biodiversity projects is the Global Nature Fund who in the past initiated [the European Business and Biodiversity Campaign](#).

### Committee meetings

*Committee members are a sub-group of all supporting partners.*

- 14 January 2015, Bonn
- 24 April 2015, Berlin
- 20 August 2015, Berlin
- 23 November 2015, Berlin

### Supporters

- 4 new supporters acquired in 2015
- Now 22 partners on board (2013: 15)

### Action platform: Showcasing good practices

- 7 new projects on the platform in 2015
- Now 29 projects featured (2013: 12)
- The activities comprise research and awareness raising projects, communication, but also strategic dialogues on selected issues like “biodiversity and regulation”.

### Network of chambers of industry and trade (IHK)/chambers of craft (HWK)/ local and regional industry federations/Länder ministries (ministries of the Federal States)

*The aim of the network is to create an infrastructure for exchange of information and mainstreaming on the regional and local level. Participants meet once or twice a year.*

- 22 further IHKs, 2 HWKs, 1 business federation joined the network in 2015
- Now a total of 30 IHKs, 10 HWKs, 2 business federations, 8 Länder participating (2014: 8 IHKs, 8 HWKs, 1 business federation, 8 Länder)
- Further 11 IHKs, 9 HWKs, 1 business association has shown interest in joining
- 8 December 2015: Third meeting of the network, Frankfurt am Main

### Further events

- 11 February 2015, Bonn: Workshop on communication of biodiversity
- 26 March 2015, Frankfurt: Annual dialogue forum 2015, documentation in German
- Under preparation: Dialogue forum 15 March 2016, Berlin