



## Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity: National and Regional Initiatives Report

The Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity: National and Regional Initiatives Report will serve as a guide for existing and future initiatives to refer to. It will include information from all initiatives on all the points seen below. The purpose of this report is to have the most essential and pertinent information about GPBB initiatives in one place, for easy access and visibility, as well as the up-to-date information as the annual report in each initiative's webpage. Because the makeup of each national and regional initiative is different, we hope this report highlights the key characteristics that comprise the GPBB initiatives.

### 1. General Information

<b>Profile</b>
<p><u>Description:</u> Please include a brief summary of the initiative while mentioning the date of creation, who it represents, and its main purpose.</p>
<p>Please answer here:</p> <p>The National Biodiversity and Business Network (NBBN), coordinated by the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), is an inclusive, cross-sectoral platform established in 2013 to support South African businesses in integrating biodiversity into core strategies and operations.</p> <p>Recognising that biodiversity underpins economic resilience, the NBBN brings together business, government, and civil society to reduce business impacts on nature and unlock opportunities for nature-positive development. It aligns private sector action with global frameworks like the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), Target 15, and national policy instruments such as the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).</p> <p>The NBBN helps companies measure and manage their biodiversity footprint, provides tools and guidelines to mainstream biodiversity, and hosts capacity-building events that foster collaboration and knowledge sharing for sustainable business growth.</p>

<b>Vision</b>
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Description: Please summarize the initiatives' vision in one sentence.

Please answer here:

The National Biodiversity and Business Network envisions a future where South African businesses actively contribute to a nature-positive economy by integrating biodiversity into core strategies, decisions, and operations.

## Mission

Description: Please summarize the initiatives' mission in one sentence.

Please answer here:

The mission of the National Biodiversity and Business Network is to support and enable South African businesses to mainstream biodiversity into their strategies and practices through collaboration, capacity building, biodiversity footprinting, and alignment with national and global biodiversity goals.

## Objectives

Description: In point form, please include the main objectives of the initiative.

Please answer here:

- **Mainstream biodiversity** into business strategies, operations, and decision-making processes.
- **Support companies** in assessing, reducing, and disclosing their biodiversity footprints.
- **Build capacity** through training, resources, and tools tailored to different sectors.
- **Facilitate dialogue** between business, government, and civil society on biodiversity-related issues.
- **Promote alignment** with national priorities (e.g. NBSAP) and global frameworks (e.g. Global Biodiversity Framework, Target 15).
- **Encourage corporate commitments** to measurable biodiversity actions and nature-positive outcomes.
- **Showcase best practices** and foster peer learning across sectors.
- **Drive policy engagement** by providing business perspectives to inform biodiversity policy and regulation.
- **Organise events and forums** to raise awareness, share knowledge, and build networks.
- **Enable access to science-based methodologies** for biodiversity impact measurement and reporting.

## Funding, Budget and Resources



**Description:** Briefly describe the funding aspect of the initiative, including membership fees, external funding, donations, funding through events, etc.

Please answer here:

The National Biodiversity and Business Network is funded through a combination of sources, including membership fees, external donor funding, in-kind contributions from partners, and targeted support for specific projects and events. Additional income is generated through our consultative and footprinting work, training sessions, collaborative research initiatives. This blended funding model ensures the sustainability and independence of the network while enabling broad participation across business sectors.

### Services and Activities

**Description:** In point form, please include the main services and activities that the initiative provides. These can include projects, events, workshops, information sharing, resource mobilization, capacity building, program development and implementation, case studies, policy recommendations, indicators and methodologies, etc.

Please answer here:

The primary role of the network is to bring national stakeholders in business and biodiversity together to share ideas and engage in dialogue. In order to achieve this, the network will:

- Be involved in the development and provision of tools, resources, benchmarks/pilot-studies, and advice to businesses looking to mainstream biodiversity issues.
- Facilitate the sharing of ideas and best practices with other national and regional initiatives in the Global Partnership, adapting them to particular domestic circumstances as required.
- Facilitate and foster peer learning across businesses and sectors, showcasing best practice and case studies and raising awareness around South Africa's progress towards mainstreaming biodiversity.
- Play a key role in encouraging and enabling companies to understand and mainstream biodiversity into their core business.
- Encourage member companies (as well as those companies' suppliers, customers, and competitors) to commit to certain measurable actions that will allow them to improve their level of sustainability and reduce their footprint on biodiversity. This commitment should be in line with other sustainability activities such that companies are not subject to a burden of reporting that will undercut the desired effects or discourage smaller enterprises from participating. Ideally, this commitment should be relatively consistent amongst the various national and regional initiatives (although reflecting national issues and economic/environmental situations).



- Help to raise the level of compliance, if appropriate, of companies with respect to biodiversity/environmental laws and provide technical assistance where feasible and appropriate.
- Assist in the communication of biodiversity issues and advice on how businesses and related stakeholders can help to deal with these issues while taking into account domestic needs and circumstances.
- Conduct research work on specific topics related to business and biodiversity (i.e. payment for ecosystems services, biodiversity offsets, strategic management tools, reporting).
- Provide policy and legal inputs.
- Facilitate capacity building and training.
- Facilitate the development and showcase of national benchmark and best practices.
- Organise events and forums.
- Organise annual conferences.
- Ensure that a comprehensive and inclusive national dialogue is started around this theme.
- Set momentum in the private sector regarding the need to mainstream biodiversity into business.

### Membership and Governance

Description: Please describe the membership and governance structures of the initiative, including the executive body, types of membership, levels of engagement and any associated organizations.

Please answer here:

#### Coordinating Body:

The NBBN is coordinated by the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), which oversees the day-to-day operations, strategic direction, and facilitation of partnerships.

#### Types of Membership and levels of engagement:

- Corporate participants: Engage in disclosure training, target-setting, footprint assessments, and workshops.
- Project collaborators: Work with the NBBN on specific initiatives or pilot studies.
- Knowledge partners and supporters: NGOs, researchers, and advisors contributing tools, expertise, and policy support.

#### Global affiliations and associated organisations:

The NBBN is internationally recognised and embedded within leading global initiatives, including:



- Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity (GPBB) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Natural Capital Coalition – as a designated Regional Platform
- Business for Nature – as a formal partner
- Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) – as an active member

These affiliations place the NBBN at the forefront of biodiversity-business integration, enabling it to influence and adapt global best practices for the South African context.

## 2. Annual Updates

### Businesses your initiative represents

Description: Please indicate the businesses that your initiative represents. Please provide a **full list** of their names and the total amount of businesses that are represented.

Please answer here:

The National Biodiversity and Business Network (NBBN) collaborates with a diverse array of South African businesses across multiple sectors. These companies engage with the NBBN through various levels of participation, including founding partnerships, supporting roles, and involvement in biodiversity performance assessments.

#### Founding Partners:

- Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)
- De Beers (now part of Anglo American PLC)
- Pam Golding Properties
- Nedbank Limited
- Hatch (engineering consultancy)
- Pick n Pay (retail)
- Transnet (transport and logistics)

#### Additional Notable Corporate Partners / Participants:

- Eskom
- Sibanye-Stillwater
- Anglo American
- British American Tobacco
- Harmony Gold Mining Company Limited
- Glencore
- Sasol Limited
- Mondi Group



Companies and affiliated groups that were a part of our Business Advisory Group:

Advisory Bodies, Government & Development Institutions

1. Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) – Government
2. South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) – Government/Research
3. Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) – Development Finance Institution
4. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – UN/Development
5. International Finance Corporation (IFC) – Development Finance (World Bank Group)
6. National Business Initiative (NBI) – Business Advisory/NGO
7. Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) – Business Association
8. The Banking Association South Africa – Industry Association
9. Chapter Zero Southern Africa – Climate Governance Initiative
10. University of South Africa (UNISA) – Academic/Research
11. Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) – Global Framework

Corporates Grouped by Sector

Mining, Energy & Industrial

1. Anglo American
2. De Beers Group (not text-listed, but logo appears)
3. Glencore
4. Harmony Gold
5. Sibanye Stillwater
6. Sasol

Construction & Engineering

1. Hatch
2. Concor

Finance & Investment

1. Nedbank
2. Investec
3. FirstRand
4. Emira Property Fund

Retail & Consumer Goods

1. Shoprite Holdings Ltd
2. Woolworths
3. Food Lover's Market
4. Sea Harvest
5. Spier Wine Farm



#### Logistics & Transport

1. Transnet
2. Volkswagen Group South Africa

#### Property Development

1. Balwin Properties

#### Agriculture & Agri-Business

1. ZZ2

### Highlights of Work in 2024

Description: Please highlight outstanding works in 2024.

Please answer here:

Completed biodiversity footprint assessments for:

- Anglo American's global operations, used for long-term rehabilitation planning.
- Mondi's South African landholdings, covering 250,000 ha.
- Sasol, including capacity-building workshops and target-setting sessions.
- Harmony Gold, mapping 80,000 ha of operational boundaries across three continents.

Tools, training & disclosure Innovation

- Published a disclosure frameworks tracker tool to guide companies through emerging nature-related reporting systems and prevent greenwashing.
- Online Biodiversity target setting training course for Glencore.

Hosted a high-impact International Biodiversity Day 2024 business workshop with:

- 40 delegates from 16 companies.
- Representation from national advisory groups (e.g. NBI, BUSA, DBSA).
- Representation from the Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)

Business Action and Advocacy for the Planet (BAAP) project

- The NBBN led the global Business Action and Advocacy for the Planet Project, in partnership with Business for Nature and funded by GEF–Conservation International. The project convened Business Advisory Groups (BAG) to support the private sector's role in delivering the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and national targets.
- Advanced the Biodiversity and Business Action Plan (BBAP) as a practical tool for corporate biodiversity integration.



- Developed Target 15 indicators to guide biodiversity measurement and disclosure.
- Launched a Strategic Roadmap to support nature-positive business action aligned with the NBSAP.

#### Reports, Platforms, or Publications Launched in 2024

Description: Please indicate reports, platforms, or publications launched by the initiative in 2024, if any.

Please answer here:

[Corporate Disclosure Frameworks Tracker](#)

[Biodiversity Disclosure Project | Position Paper: Quality Biodiversity Footprints](#)

[Biodiversity and Business Action Plan – South Africa](#)

[Business-Advisory-Group-BAG-meeting-1-Report](#)

[Business-Advisory-Group-BAG-meeting-2-Report](#)

[Business-Advisory-Group-BAG-meeting-3-Report](#)

[Business-Advisory-Group-BAG-meeting-4-Report](#)

[EWT INTEGRATED-REPORT 2023-2024 \(NBBN info on pages 75 - 79\)](#)

#### Planning of Work in 2025

Description: Please indicate the initiative's remarkable work in 2025.

Please answer here:

- We will be releasing the 2023–2024 Biodiversity Disclosure Ratings Report, showcasing company progress on biodiversity integration and transparency.
- Building on our collaboration with Business for Nature and the development of the Biodiversity and Business Action Plan, we continue to work closely with the National Business Initiative (NBI) to align corporate action with national and global biodiversity goals.
- Our biodiversity footprinting work with corporates is ongoing, and we are expanding the rollout of TNFD-aligned assessments, helping businesses identify, assess, and disclose nature-related risks and dependencies.
- We have also strengthened our engagement with global platforms, including Business for Nature, the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD), and the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity, and the Capitals Coalition, further embedding our work within international efforts to mainstream nature into business and finance.
- Refocusing our work at the landscape level, in alignment with the Endangered Wildlife Trust's Future Fit Strategy, to ensure measurable, positive biodiversity outcomes in





East and Southern Africa. This marks a shift from reactive engagement to a more proactive, targeted approach, prioritising businesses operating in high-impact geographies and aligning our business support with EWT's strategic conservation priorities.

**Please provide the information below:**

Website: <https://nbbnbdp.org/>

<https://ewt.org/what-we-do/benefitting-people/bbn-programme/>

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