

22 Actions for Biodiversity

During the 2022 <u>Biodiversity Day</u> campaign, lists of 22 actions for biodiversity will be released gradually for various audiences to inspire action for nature. The actions are aligned with the post-2020 <u>global biodiversity framework</u>. The public is called to:

- · Adopt any of the 22 actions or propose their own actions or lists
- Share photos/videos of their action(s) on social media with the hashtag #BiodiversityDay (available in other languages)
- · In the run-up to 22 May, the campaign will showcase these actions taking place around the world.

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Biodiversity Day 2022 is commemorated mainly through online campaigns to ensure safety of all participants. You are in the best position to know what awareness-raising campaigns and calls to action are feasible at your national level considering local conditions, the COVID context and related restrictions.

The lists of 22 actions for biodiversity are not exhaustive. Examples are given for online and in-person actions. We acknowledge that some actions may not be feasible in certain countries or communities. The actions suggested in the lists are meant to mobilize action for biodiversity and to create engagement and participation in the <u>Biodiversity Day</u> campaign. They are by no means exhaustive or fully representative of all the possible actions that can be taken around the globe. We apologize for any inconvenience or misunderstanding this could cause. We look forward to your feedback. Please <u>contact us</u> for any comments and suggestions to rectify any inconsistencies. More importantly, we invite you to create your own lists of 22 actions for biodiversity, which will be more representative of your work and adapted to your field of interest.

21 of the actions are aligned (but not identical) with the post-2020 <u>global biodiversity framework</u> to be adopted at the <u>United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP15)</u>. Through these actions, every person can play a role in achieving the targets set in the framework. The 22nd action is to celebrate <u>Biodiversity Day</u>.

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22 Actions for Biodiversity Actions by museums and libraries

Courtesy of Henry McGhie, Curating Tomorrow

1. Clean up an area around you

- Arrange a community tidy up of an area nearby, whether in your own grounds or heading out from your institution.
- · Share information from partner organisations to provide people to take part in cleaning up the local area.
- · Provide opportunities for people and groups to share how they have been and want to clean up a local area.
- · Provide information on recycling facilities nearby, and guidance on what people can recycle.
- Raise awareness of local plans and initiatives to address the local environment.

2. Restore an area, near or far

- · Provide people with information on a range of nature restoration projects, near or far, and Provide opportunities to take part in such restoration projects.
- · Organise charity events to raise funds for restoration projects near or far.
- Provide opportunities for people to learn about effective (and ineffective) restoration approaches.
- Organise community events where people can be educated on how to plant and care for trees, bushes etc., and provide free young plants through partnership with growers.
- · Provide opportunities for people to help restore your own grounds.

3. Take pictures not samples

Provide opportunities for people to share their pictures with one another, through eg. Free-to-enter competitions, use of social media, etc.

4. Help animals, big and small

- Raise awareness of the diversity of animals, provide opportunities for people to examine animals close up, either specimens in museums, or as images, etc.
- · Provide opportunities for people to learn about animals, and practical ways to look after animals, and to conserve nature at home and more widely.

5. Prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases

- Help people understand the sources of zoonotic diseases, and the human activities that drive the development and spread of zoonotic diseases.
- · Provide people with information on public health and sources of information on public health and good practices.
- Help people develop a healthy respect for nature that encourages them to view nature from a distance and to avoid disturbance, and to keep themselves safe from zoonotic diseases.

6. Plant (native) trees, shrubs and plants

- Help people understand what invasive alien species (IAS) are and the human activities that spread them.
- · Provide opportunities for people to learn about projects that are tackling IAS and opportunities nearby that they can take part in.
- Provide opportunities for citizen science projects that encourage people to record their own wildlife sightings, including IAS.

7. Consume responsibly

- \cdot $\,$ Raise awareness of the impact of mass consumption on nature.
- Encourage people to be responsible consumers through public challenges (not necessarily competitions, but badges, etc.) or other means, reducing their environmental impact and communicating their progress with the public.

Provide case studies on how people identified their main impacts and how they addressed them.

8. Save energy

- Raise awareness of the sources of carbon emissions, energy use and wastage. Help people understand their personal footprint.
- · Set public challenges that help people reduce energy use.
- · Switch to renewables and communicate your progress to the public.
- · Move towards climate-friendly menus in cafes, and combine these with information (e.g. carbon footprint of dishes).

9. Share

- Provide opportunities for people to share unwanted items with one another and with others who could make use of them.
- · Organise charity events and empower people to decide on which events should receive funding.
- · Share knowledge, encouragement and experiences of successful activities for nature conservation.
- · Help people meet with like-minded individuals and groups active in nature conservation.

10. Buy biodiversity-friendly products

- Stock shops and cafes with biodiversity-friendly products, with little or no packaging, made of renewable or non-plastic materials, and/or that empower people to learn, care and act to support biodiversity.
- Educate people, of all ages, on biodiversity-friendly products and certification schemes.
- Ensure that all procurement, whether for goods or services, is made with biodiversity in mind.

11. Help someone stop smoking

- Provide information and activities on the ways that nature can be good for your health.
- Organise community walks, jogs and other activities that meet up and head out from the institution to take advantage of local green spaces.

12. Enjoy urban biodiversity

- Organise local nature exploration events. Help people explore the nature on their doorstep.
- Use collections to show how local nature has changed over time, and explore the reasons why.
- Empower people to contribute to nature restoration though their own activities whether advice on gardening, reducing use of chemicals, feeding birds or many more activities, and to take time to notice and enjoy their surroundings and the changing seasons.

13. Support companies committed to ethical standards

- · Museums with natural history collections can ensure that they are compliant with the Nagoya Protocol.
- Empower people to understand how their consumer choices relate to the working conditions of producers.
- · Support and promote small producers through your procurement, notably in terms of cafes, coffee and tea, and shop merchandise.

14. Change one habit, which is negative for biodiversity

- · Help people understand the implications of their choices on biodiversity.
- · Promote information on biodiversity-friendly actions.
- Provide opportunities and encourage people to share what they are doing with one another. Don't assume people are not doing anything and they need to be told: create opportunities for people to share their actions, and build collective action.

15. Ask from businesses to source responsibly

- · Adopt or enhance sustainable procurement practices.
- · Stock shops, cafes with biodiversity-friendly products and provide information on these to the public.
- Eliminate harmful products and waste-generating product and practices from the supply chain.
- Encourage small-scale suppliers working on sustainable development topics, goods and services.

16. Minimize waste

· Measure produced waste and commit to eliminating it (rather than simply reducing it). Use less, waste less, share more.

17. Learn about biosafety

• Empower people to understand biosafety and the threats GMOs can create in ecosystems.

18. Support biodiversity-friendly companies

- · Support small-scale suppliers working on biodiversity-friendly practices, goods and services.
- Disinvest in companies that are responsible for harming nature, such as those producing large volumes of waste, chemicals, harming human rights, or causing declines in wildlife and nature through their activities.
- · Share information on activities openly and honestly.

19. Support environmental organizations

- · Provide people with information on environmental organisations and initiatives, locally and more widely.
- Proactively contribute to partnerships that support positive social and environmental outcomes, by sharing resources and creating synergies that are positive for nature.

20. Raise biodiversity awareness

- · Create opportunities for people to understand, care for and be able to act to support biodiversity locally and more widely.
- · Empower people to play a part in supporting the nature they care about.
- Draw on constructive approaches that are not just doom-and-gloom messages of loss, but options for action, hope and collaboration.

21. Empower someone

 Create opportunities for people to express what it is they care about, and share their hopes, responses and practical tips for creating a better future.

22. Celebrate Biodiversity Day

Run events – whether physical or on social media – that celebrate Biodiversity Day, and that build momentum to care for nature 365 days a year.

#BiodiversityDay #COP15 #ForNature