



22 Actions for Biodiversity

During the 2022 [Biodiversity Day](#) 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 [global biodiversity framework](#). 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 [Biodiversity Day](#) 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 [contact us](#) 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 [global biodiversity framework](#) to be adopted at the [United Nations Biodiversity Conference \(COP15\)](#). Through these actions, every person can play a role in achieving the targets set in the framework. The 22nd action is to celebrate [Biodiversity Day](#).

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22 Actions for Biodiversity

Actions by businesses

1. Take steps to preserve and create spaces for wildlife

- Promote a nature-friendly environment around your business, clean up the spaces and whenever possible create green areas. If space is available within your building or property, plant native shrubs or plants.
- If you are setting up/expanding a new site, plant, store, warehouse or building, be conscious of the space and plan it in a way that minimizes disruption to nature. And look for green building certification whenever possible to help you make informed decisions.

2. Endorse environmental causes

- Use your business space to raise funds and/or awareness for organizations and individuals who foster biodiversity conservation.
- Actively associate your business with NGOs and individuals - this will help you showcase your business policies to a diverse consumer base and support conservation.
- Ensure a representative of your business is present at sustainability drives, clean-up drives and other events that support the environment.
- Raise awareness among employees and business partners about the role of nature in our lives and the need to protect and restore natural habitats.

3. Adopt a sustainable energy management system

- Ensure your energy management is in line with [Goal 7 of the SDGs](#).
- Adopt simple measures to check whether your business is being energy efficient. Understand the patterns of your energy consumption and

identify methods to improve energy efficiency. This will not only help the planet, but it will also reduce your costs.

- Raise awareness among suppliers and business partners on how they can be more energy efficient too.
- Motivate employees to save energy in the business as well as their daily lives.
- Voluntarily abide by [ISO 50001 for SMEs](#).

4. Choose eco-friendly packaging options

- Rely less on packaging, avoid over-packaging to prevent waste generation.
- Use natural, biodegradable and certified materials for packaging.
- Use recycled materials to cut down on demand for unsustainable materials and promote a circular economy.
- Choose materials that can be reused and/or recycled by your customers.

5. Source raw materials from local and eco-friendly suppliers

- Ensure your production and consumption is in line with [Goal 12 of the SDGs](#).
- Obtain materials from local suppliers to cut down on the carbon footprint of transporting raw materials from far away.
- Pay extra attention to your supply chain from sourcing to disposal to ensure a transition to a greener way of doing business.

6. Stop invasive alien species

- Use your business space to plant native species, this will not only contribute to local biodiversity but will also decorate your space.
- Educate yourself and your employees about invasive alien species, about the ways they spread, and contribute to stopping them.
- Ensure that your company does not contribute to the spread of invasive alien species.
- Minimize your business' reliance on invasive alien species.
- Use materials that are sourced locally.
- Always choose native species on landscaping projects rather than invasive plants species.

7. Reduce and eliminate waste generation

- Assess how much waste is generated by your business and find ways to reduce it.
- Learn and implement composting.
- Reuse materials to their maximum capability.
- Ensure to clear your entire stock - either through discounted sales or by donating them to underprivileged communities.

8. Assess the carbon footprint of each of your products

- All your products have a carbon footprint, which is determined by a range of factors. Learn how to estimate this carbon footprint.
- If possible, get external help and have your products labelled for their carbon footprint.
- Minimize the common factors that may increase your product's carbon footprint - such as reliance on plastic.

9. Encourage employees to choose greener alternatives

Educate, encourage and incentivise employees to save energy, water and resources, and to choose a greener lifestyle (such as carpooling to work).

10. Choose sustainable options for storage and warehousing

- Try to minimize the requirements of a separate storage space.
- Use energy-efficient storage and warehousing.
- Reduce warehouse wastes such as excess inventory and transport waste (unnecessary moving around and transport of warehouse products).
- Reuse materials from the previous stock for storage.

11. Manage your water footprint

- Gauge the state of water resources around you to plan your water consumption in advance. Measure and minimize your water consumption.
- Understand your indirect water footprint and reduce it whenever possible.
- Ensure your water management is in line with [Goal 6 of the SDGs](#).
- Voluntarily abide by [ISO 14046 for SMEs](#).

- If you have excess water or generate non-chemical water waste, use it to water the plants and trees around you.

12. Foster urban biodiversity

- Set up bird feeders or water baths around your building to help birds, or other types of habitats for a variety of species and pollinators around your sites.
- While designing your products and business space, ensure to minimize or eliminate your impact on urban biodiversity.

13. Learn about sustainability and biodiversity

- Understand what sustainability is and how to achieve it.
- Understand the importance of biodiversity and how it benefits your business directly or indirectly.
- Understand the importance of the [Nagoya Protocol](#).

14. Choose business partners that share your sustainability goals

- Find business partners who share your sustainability and energy management goals.
- Find business partners that can make use of the waste/by-products generated by your business and vice versa.
- Get involved with the [Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity](#), the [Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures](#), and/or other similar coalitions and initiatives. Follow the business processes of organizations that are part of these initiatives.

15. Encourage other businesses and business partners to act responsibly

If you cannot find business partners that choose sustainability, try to educate and encourage your existing partners. Show them how choosing environmentally-friendly options will not only help the planet but will also help cut their costs.

16. Educate customers about greener alternatives

- Run campaigns to educate customers on choosing greener alternatives.
- Encourage customers to bring their own bags/containers.

- Incentivise customers to buy refurbished products from you to reduce waste and costs.

17. Create a healthier work environment

- Human health and the environment are interlinked. Use your business space to create a greener surrounding for your employees.
- Growing plants within your business will boost biodiversity as well as employee morale.
- If you practice composting, use the compost to increase soil fertility around your business. FAO explains that [healthy soils form the basis for healthy habitats](#) for living beings.

18. Support and follow the decisions of CBD's business engagement programme

The [CBD's business engagement programme](#) encourages businesses to be a part of the global biodiversity agenda by aligning business practices with CBD's objectives.

19. If you host events, host sustainable ones

- If you host events such as sales, fairs, competitions or if you are an event management business, do it in a sustainable manner.
- Events that increase the footfall in your business such as stock clearance sales, new product launches should also be hosted sustainably.
- Comply voluntarily with [ISO 20121 for SMEs](#) standards for sustainable event management.
- Conduct surveys and plan ahead to reduce wastage of energy, water and other resources. Generate minimum waste.

20. Raise awareness on biodiversity conservation

Use your advertising/marketing space to periodically include news or messages about the importance of biodiversity. For example, if you publish newsletters, include a footer informing your readers about the importance of biodiversity. This helps in 'mainstreaming' the subject.

21. Research and innovate

- Upgrade your existing products to make them more sustainable, durable and invent new ones that are eco-conscious.

- Stay updated on new research and reports that examine how businesses can be more sustainable and adopt new practices.

22. Celebrate Biodiversity Day

22 May is Biodiversity Day! Participate in [celebrations that are happening in your country](#) or [organize an activity](#) to get others involved. Find out more at www.cbd.int/biodiversity-day.

[Propose your own list of 22 actions for biodiversity \(guidelines\) >](#)

[#BiodiversityDay](#)

[#COP15](#)

[#ForNature](#)