

Business and Biodiversity Assessment

#BizBiodiversity

www.ipbes.net



Contents

1. Background and context
2. Key messages and narrative of the assessment
3. Deep dive on actions for government, businesses and financial institutions



Background and context

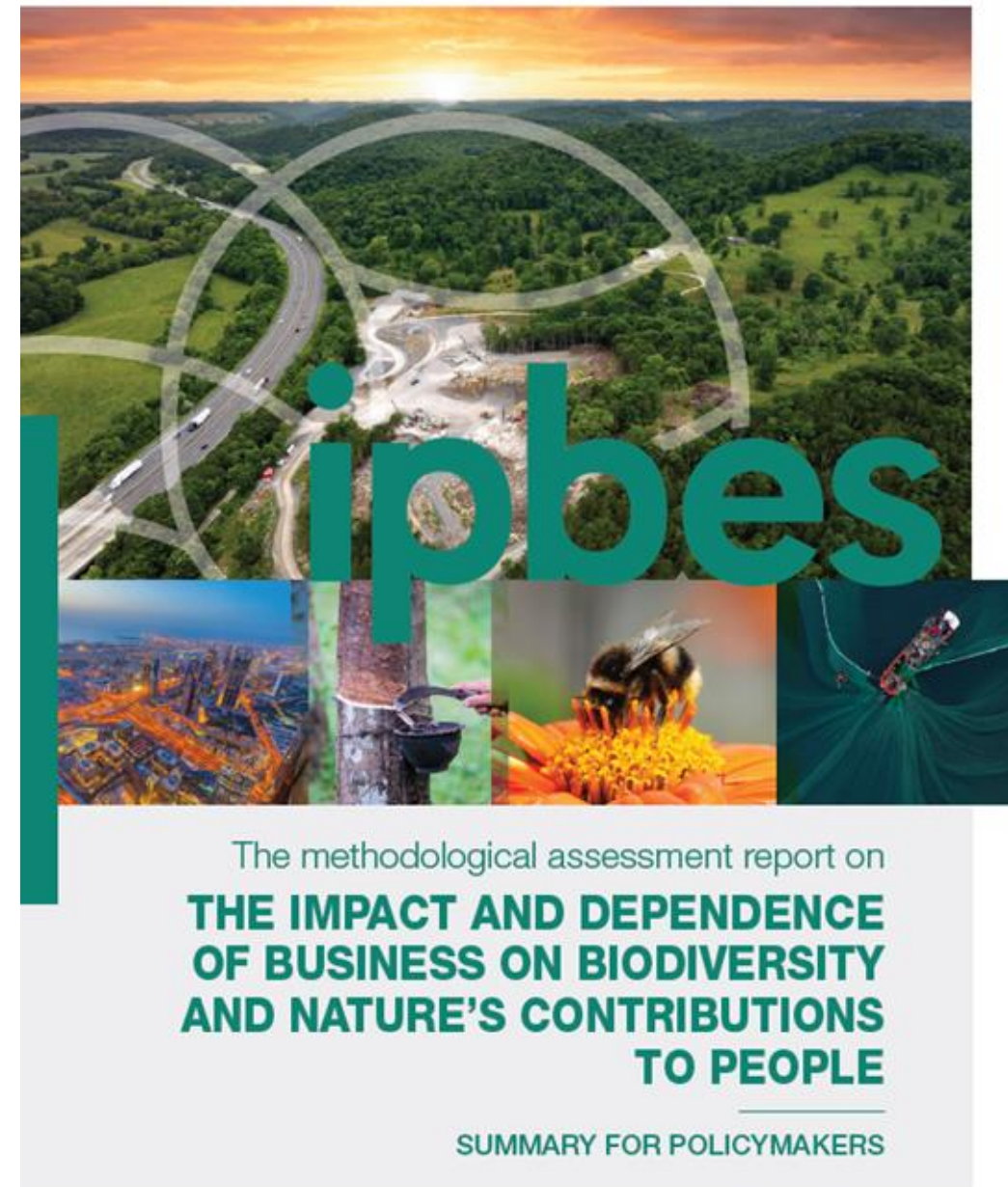


The IPBES Business and Biodiversity Assessment Summary for Policymakers was approved by the IPBES Plenary in February 2026.

Produced over three years by 79 experts from 35 countries

The first globally authoritative assessment of the methods to assess impact and dependence of businesses on biodiversity

<https://www.ipbes.net/business-impact>



Insight Driving Action

Engagement with the Report since Launch

- **Businesses and financial institutions acknowledge nature loss as a financial risk & adopt new strategies**

- New guides to biodiversity finance, corporate reporting, ESG and/or risk assessment created by and for businesses
- Report considered at key **private sector events**
- **Taking action:** pilot funding schemes for private sector projects on biodiversity

- **Policymakers use findings for new business-relevant approaches**

- Consideration by national and regional decision-makers to inform strategies that integrate biodiversity
- Uptake by academia, advocacy NGOs, international organizations and consultancy firms urging businesses to act

Over 1,000 news
articles, in 70
countries

SPM downloaded
24,000 times

Chapters
downloaded 3,500
times





The loss of biodiversity is one of the most serious **threats to business** and society. Yet many current economic systems are unsustainable and **drive nature's decline**.

Each year, up to **\$7.3 trillion** in global financial flows support activities that drive biodiversity loss, while only **\$220 billion** is spent on activities for nature restoration, conservation and sustainable use.



This Report provides businesses, financial actors, governments and others **with methods to measure** impacts and dependencies and **options for immediate action** to address their impacts and dependencies.

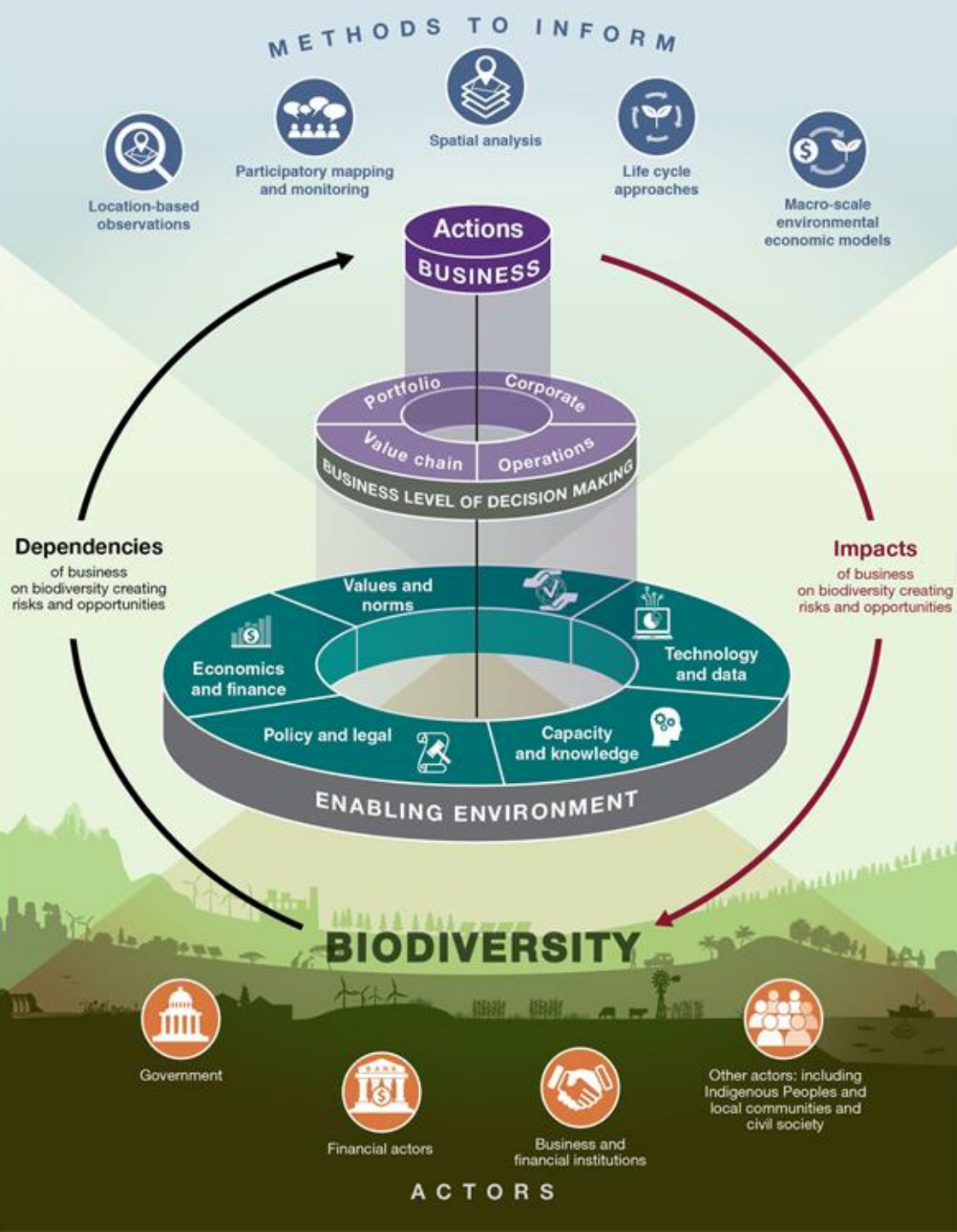
It also highlights **long-term systemic change** response options available to all of society to create an enabling environment for businesses to contribute to a just and sustainable future.



These response options to create an enabling environment are highly relevant to **all four long-term goals for 2050** of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework related to the **2050 Vision for biodiversity** and to **each of the 23 targets for 2030**

Key messages

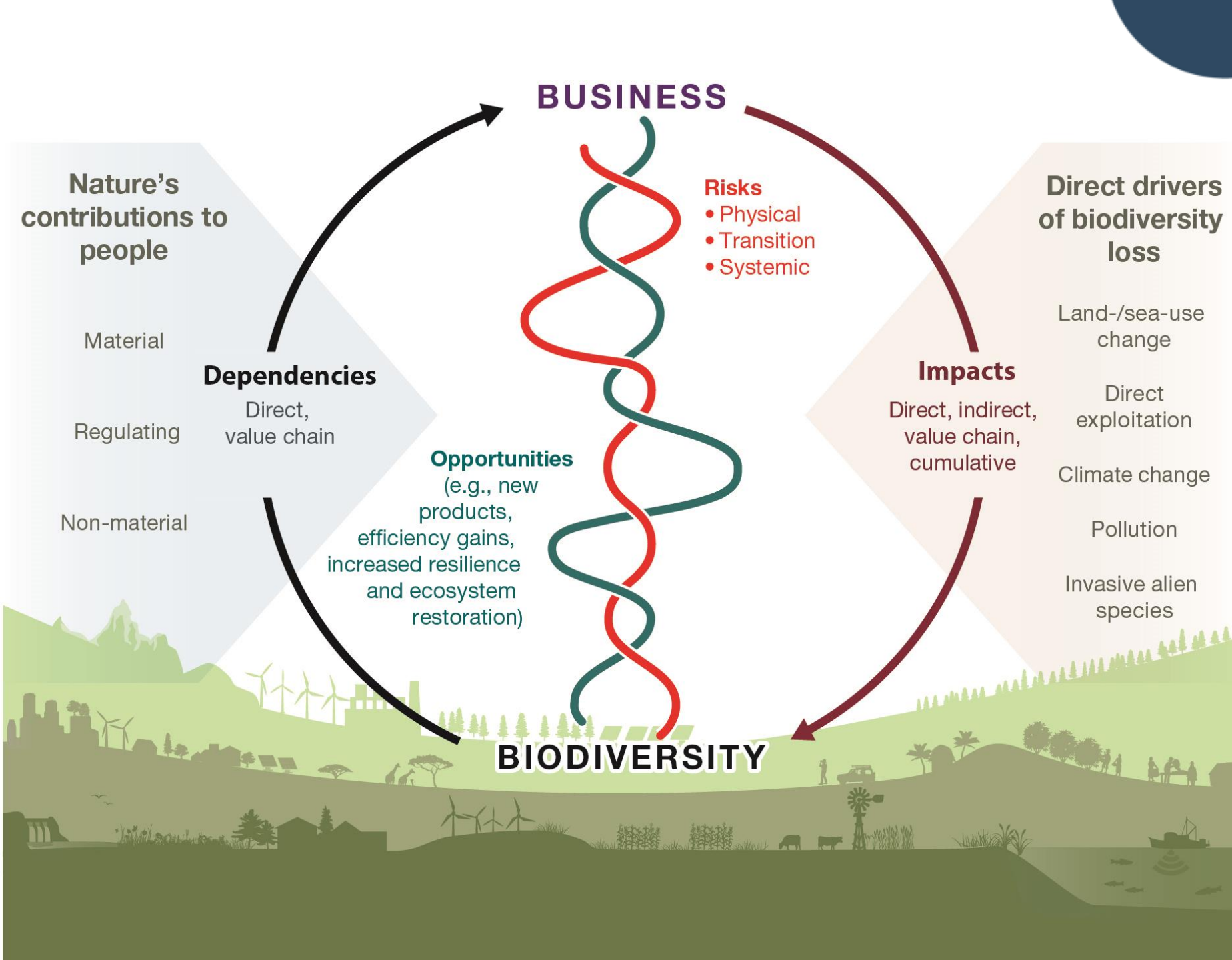




10 Key Messages

29 Background Messages

- **(A1-A8)** Understanding the relationships between businesses and biodiversity
- **(B1-B13)** Options for action
- **(C1-C8)** Measuring businesses impacts and dependencies

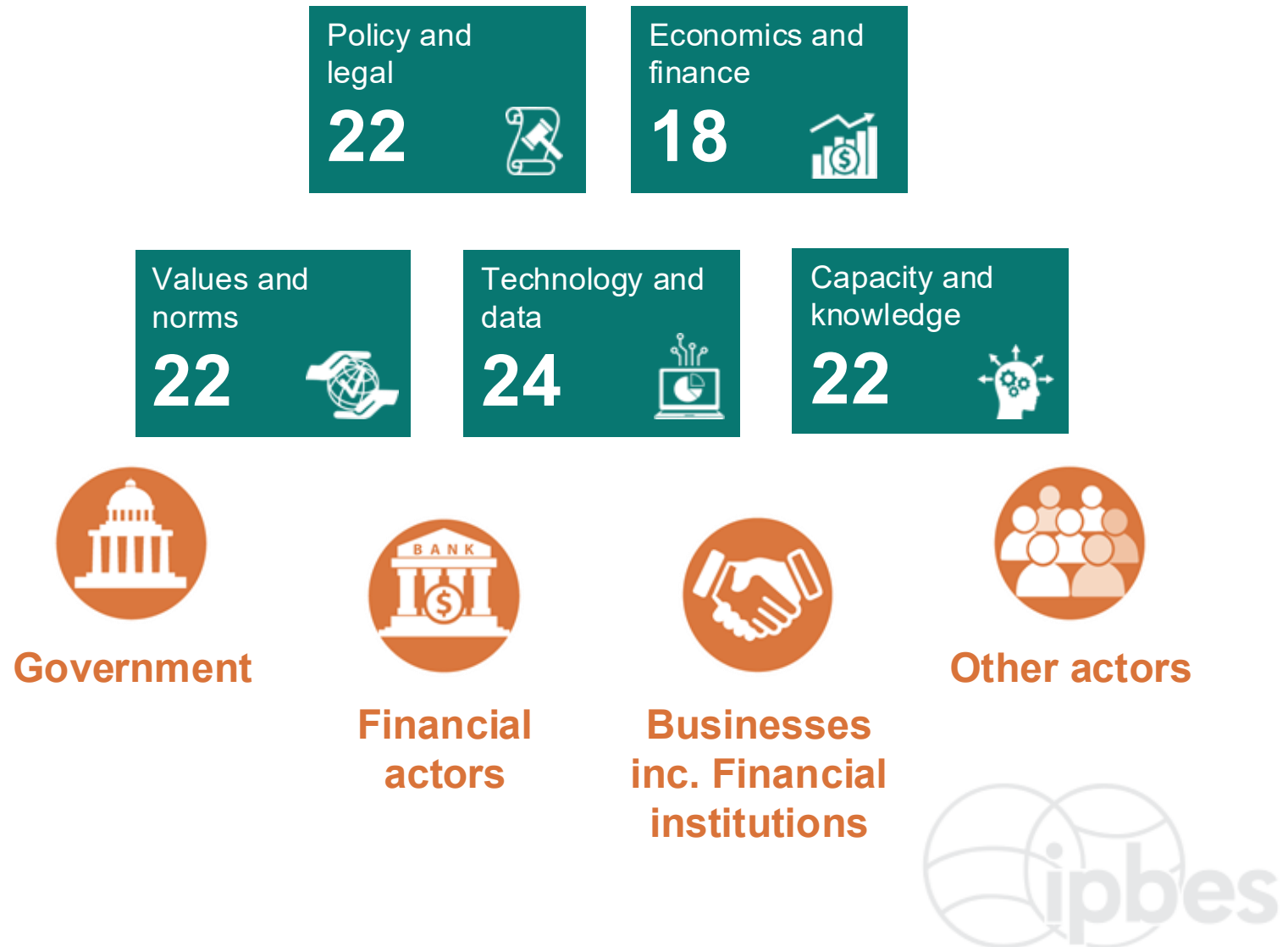


KM.1 All businesses depend on and impact biodiversity and can be agents of positive change



KM.2 The current external conditions in which businesses operate are not always compatible with achieving a just and sustainable future and perpetuate systemic risks

**KM.3 Collaboration,
collective and
individual actions
are essential to
create an enabling
environment where
businesses
contribute to a just
and sustainable
future**





KM.4 All businesses have a responsibility to address their impacts and dependencies





KM.5 Existing methods, knowledge and data for measuring impacts and dependencies already and can further inform decisions and actions, directly and in the value chain



KM.6 Different methods to measure and manage impacts and dependencies are needed for different sectors, levels of decision-making and business purposes

Level of business decision-making	Purpose of measurement	Method categories				
		Location-based observations  Involves direct measures at specific locations, such as through field observations and remote sensing	Participatory mapping and monitoring  Involves collaboration with external stakeholders, rights holders or communities including Indigenous People and local community	Spatial analysis  Includes overlays of spatial data layers, ecological and hydrological modeling	Life cycle approaches  Includes full life cycle assessments and various forms of environmental footprinting	Macro-scale environmental economic models  Includes qualitative and quantitative approaches
Operations  Business operations that take place in sites under the direct control of the business entity		➡➡	➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	✕
		➡➡	➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	✕
		➡➡	➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	✕
		➡➡	➡➡	➡➡➡	✕	✕
Value chain  Activities beyond the direct control of an individual business entity, involving suppliers, manufacturers, distributors, retailers and customers		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡	✕
		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	✕
		➡➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	✕
		➡➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	✕	✕
Corporate  A business or group of business entities, typically within an industry, which is governed as a single organization		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡	➡➡
		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡
		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	✕
		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	✕➡➡	✕	✕
Portfolio  A group of investments owned by a financial institution or a group of business units owned by a conglomerate		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡	➡➡
		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	➡➡➡	➡➡➡	✕➡➡
		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	✕➡➡	➡➡➡	✕
		✕➡➡	✕➡➡	✕➡➡	✕	✕

Purpose of measurement



Screening: identifying priorities requiring further analysis or action



Comparing options: evaluating potential impacts and dependencies of business activities relative to alternatives



Tracking potential changes in impacts/dependencies: measuring change in pressures over time as part of an impact assessment, or the change in reliance of business activities on nature's contributions to people over time as part of a dependency assessment



Observing change in nature: showing positive or negative changes in biodiversity and nature's contributions to people that can be attributed or linked to the business activities or action on biodiversity

Level of applicability



Available and applicable



Proceed with caution: methods can be applied provided sufficient accuracy, coverage and responsiveness



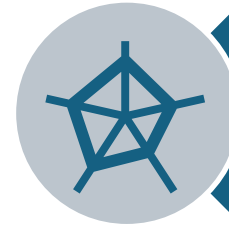
Not currently feasible



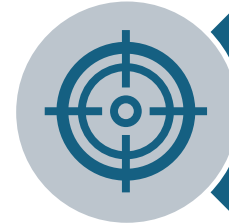
Not applicable



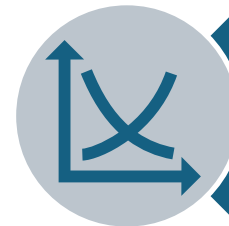
KM.7 Appropriate methods to measure and manage business impacts and dependencies can be selected based on coverage, accuracy and responsiveness



Geographic and temporal scale, extent of impacts and dependencies



Degree to which results describe what is being measured



Ability to detect change attributable to actions and activities of the business



KM.8 Businesses could better measure and manage their impacts and dependencies by appropriately engaging with science and Indigenous and local knowledge, methods and practice



KM.9 The existing knowledge base needs to be strengthened by addressing important gaps in knowledge and its application

business-relevant
data

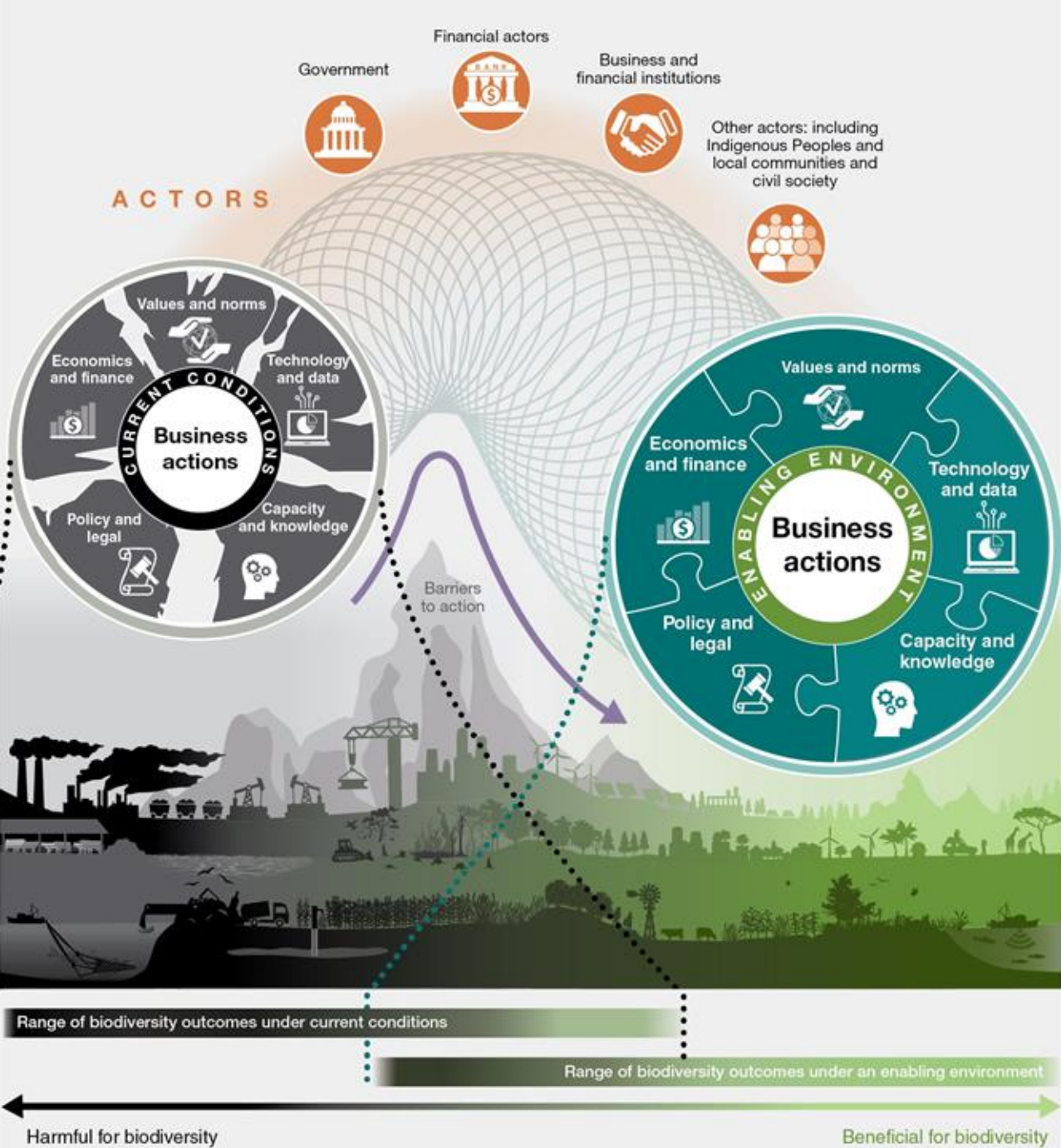
completeness of
evidence

applicability of
methods

data accessibility and
transparency

adoption of methods





KM.10 Creating an enabling environment can incentivise actions that are beneficial for businesses, biodiversity and society for a just and sustainable future

Deep dive on actions





Policy and Legal



A.1.1

Set and enforce policy, legal and regulatory frameworks that incentivize or mandate actions by businesses and financial institutions for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use {B2}

A.1.2

Ensure that policies are equitable, inclusive and aligned with international obligations and national capabilities {B2}

A.1.3

Integrate biodiversity criteria into land/marine spatial planning, permit issuance, public procurement and corporate governance {B2}

A.1.4

Develop and enforce environmental impact assessments, strategic environmental assessments and biodiversity strategies {B2}

A.1.5

Engage in international and regional policy coordination to integrate biodiversity considerations into trade policies and value chains {B2}

A.1.6

Incentivize or mandate corporate disclosure and reporting on biodiversity-related risks, dependencies and impacts {B2}

A.1.7

Ensure regulatory coherence across government agencies, ministries and levels of governance, as well as across timelines, to mainstream biodiversity {B2}

A.1.8

Implement controls on advertising to prevent greenwashing and combat misinformation {B2}

A.1.9

Ensure fair and equitable benefit-sharing, particularly with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, in accordance with national legislation (...) {B2}



Economics and Finance



Government

A.2.1

Align fiscal policies and financial flows with biodiversity and sustainability goals {B3}

A.2.2

Through government agencies and central banks, coordinate with other financial actors to align incentives with positive biodiversity outcomes {B3}

A.2.3

Design and implement economic and financial instruments that incentivize conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity {B3}

A.2.4

Eliminate, phase out or reform harmful subsidies {B3}

A.2.5

Support and enhance capacity in research, monitoring, education and nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches {B3}

A.2.6

Establish and support financial instruments such as green and blue bonds, conservation funds and public-private partnerships {B3}

A.2.7

Collaborate with financial institutions and actors and with civil society to promote innovative and blended finance for biodiversity {B3}





Values and Norms



A.3.1

Foster inclusive and equitable decision-making frameworks that respect free, prior and informed consent {B4}

A.3.2

Promote ethical and sustainable business practices through the regulation of sustainability reporting, standards and incentives for sustainability adoption {B4}

A.3.3

Support awareness and education initiatives that encourage cultural shifts towards sustainability, including sustainable consumption choices {B4}

A.3.4

Promote the use of methods and metrics that allow the representation of nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem services {C1, C2}

Government



Technology and data



A.4.1

Generate and provide robust biodiversity data using advanced technologies and other data-collection methods {B5}

A.4.2

Develop and maintain decision-support systems (e.g., forecasting toolkits and national information systems) to help businesses assess their impacts and dependencies on biodiversity {B5}

A.4.3

Facilitate biodiversity monitoring systems and provide regulatory incentives to encourage data-sharing frameworks that strengthen evidence-based decision-making {B5}

A.4.4

Collaborate with businesses, financial institutions and civil society to develop business-relevant, trusted and streamlined data infrastructure and governance systems for biodiversity information {B5}

A.4.5

Link biodiversity data to national economic accounts, through frameworks such as the United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, to integrate biodiversity considerations into policy and planning {B5}

A.4.6

Promote the generation of practical and actionable information through standardized, transparent and interoperable approaches, including the need for common data standards and interoperability of data sets {B5}

Government





Capacity and knowledge



A.4.1

Encourage national institutions and government agencies to coordinate intercultural education programmes to strengthen understanding between stakeholders {B3}

A.4.2

Lead capacity-building efforts through education, training and public awareness campaigns focused on measuring business impacts and dependencies on biodiversity {B6}

A.4.3

Support mutual learning and collaboration among actors, including businesses, financial institutions and civil society {B6}

A.4.4

Foster research to address gaps in knowledge and its application at the intersection of business and biodiversity {B6}

A.4.5

Develop sector-specific and landscape-/seascape-level training programmes to engage multiple sectors in biodiversity management {B6}

A.4.6

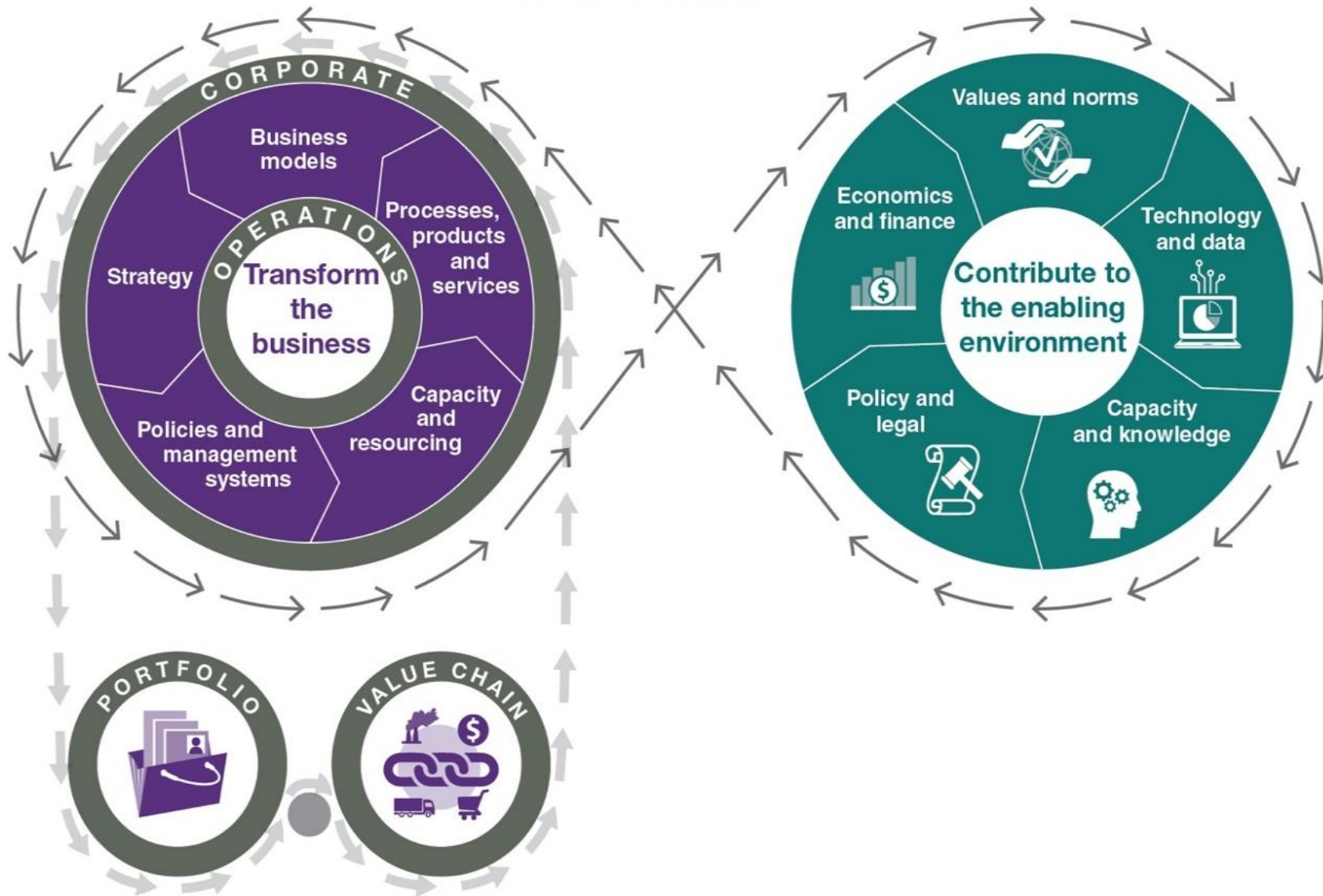
Weave Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' knowledge into capacity-building frameworks, with due respect for their free, prior and informed consent, in accordance with national legislation {B6}

Government





BUSINESS ACTIONS





Comply with biodiversity-related policies, laws and regulations

Set ambitious commitments and targets and integrate biodiversity into corporate strategy

Integrate biodiversity-related risks, opportunities, costs and benefits into business decision-making and financial planning

Create policies, develop management systems and clarify requirements for engagement, measurement, monitoring, reporting, disclosures and assurance

Establish mechanisms for the participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in decision-making

Establish policies and standards to comply with access and benefit-sharing and consent mechanisms, including free, prior and informed consent, in accordance with national legislation

Weave Indigenous and local knowledge into operations, resource management and sustainability strategies

Corporate



**Businesses
inc. Financial
institutions**





Build staff capacity and board-level environmental leadership

Establish auditing, monitoring and performance assessment

Transition the business, build capacity and ensure adequate resourcing to implement policies and achieve targets

Introduce innovative processes, products and services

Explore and adopt alternative business models

Set requirements for clients to address impacts and dependencies (Finance Institutions only)

Commit resources to the use of instruments such as blended finance, green or sustainability-linked bonds, and impact investing (Finance Institutions only)

Corporate



**Businesses
inc. Financial
institutions**





Operations

Conduct environmental and social impact assessments and develop management plans

Develop baselines and monitoring that recognize the multiple values of nature

Apply the mitigation hierarchy to achieve no net loss of biodiversity (or better)

Measure and monitor biodiversity impacts and outcomes of actions

Identify and meaningfully engage with stakeholders

Seek free, prior and informed consent, particularly from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, in accordance with national legislation

Go beyond impact mitigation to engage in landscape conservation, restoration and sustainable management



**Businesses
inc. Financial
institutions**





Map value chain actors and ensure traceability to prioritize and inform action

Use supplier management systems to set expectations, monitor performance and address non-compliance

Build relationships and partnerships to improve capacity and drive performance through training, knowledge exchange and innovation

Integrate communities into value creation activities, such as sourcing, production and distribution

Engage, educate and incentivize downstream customers, clients and consumers

Value Chain



**Businesses
inc. Financial
institutions**





Portfolio



Assess biodiversity impacts and dependencies

Engage with businesses within the portfolio to foster actions that improve performance in terms of biodiversity impacts and dependencies

Manage biodiversity risks and impacts, for example through stewardship, divestment and/or exclusion

**Businesses
inc. Financial
institutions**

Questions



