



September 2020

A Global Goal for Nature: Nature Positive by 2030

Establishing a goal for nature-positive societies

- *Human activity is pushing the natural world into such steep decline that we are at risk of destabilizing the very life-support systems on which we all depend*
- *We need a Global Goal for Nature that delivers a carbon neutral, nature-positive world where we give back to nature more than we take*
- *That means that by 2030, nature must be on a clear path to recovery towards a thriving planet where we are living in harmony with nature by 2050*

Restoring nature for human prosperity and equity

The COVID-19 pandemic is a warning sign that the decline of nature is destabilizing society. A continued loss of nature threatens global GDP, human lives and wellbeing, with the poorest and most vulnerable hit first and hardest. As the climate crisis is deeply linked to the nature crisis, both need to be addressed simultaneously to drive a swift transition to a nature-positive, carbon-neutral future.

Why a ‘Global Goal for Nature’?

If we continue to drive ecological destruction, we undermine the resilience of Earth's life-support systems. This pathway leads to irreversible tipping points. We need to define a nature goal so that we can map a clear, timebound pathway to halt and reverse nature loss, linked to climate action.

Stop losing, start restoring

A Global Goal for Nature will create a shared understanding of the level of action needed from governments, business and wider society to stop the decline of natural habitats and the loss of species.

- ☐ We must reset the global compass to **halt and reverse nature-loss** to avoid dangerous consequences for the stability of the planet's life support systems, and for human health.
- ☐ A “**global goal for nature**” – in parallel to the UNFCCC's “net zero” goal for climate change – would commit the world to taking action now to halt the loss and degradation of nature and ensure a *nature-positive* world by the end of this decade. That means that by 2030, we must have more nature than we do now.
- ☐ Actions for nature cannot be achieved without addressing both the **climate emergency and social justice**, and vice versa, for both current and future generations. We must strive to achieve **an equitable, carbon-neutral, nature-positive world**.
- ☐ Governments need to act **now** for nature.
- ☐ We need more nature by **2030** than there is today through recovery of the health, abundance, diversity and resilience of species, populations and ecosystems.
- ☐ By **2050**, nature must recover so that thriving ecosystems and nature-based solutions support future generations, the diversity of life and play a critical role in halting climate change.

How do we move on a global goal?

Retain and restore natural ecosystems and halt decline of diversity

- ***We must halt the loss of critical natural ecosystems.*** To achieve this we must avoid further impacts of large-scale infrastructure and resource extraction activities on natural habitats [ecosystems], and restore the ecological integrity of degraded natural ecosystems, focussing on key biodiversity areas and areas providing critical ecosystem services for people.
- ***We must effectively protect, conserve and restore*** at least 30 percent of land, inland waters, coasts and oceans of most importance for biodiversity, focussing on key biodiversity areas and areas providing critical ecosystem services for people by 2030, through equitably governed protected and conserved areas.
- ***We urgently need substantial and rapid reductions in greenhouse-gas emissions*** to keep global warming to 1.5 C since climate change is also causing the decline of nature.
- ***We must halt the decline of genetic diversity***, prevent further extinctions, reduce extinction risk to species, and start to recover wildlife populations. This must include tackling illegal and/or unsustainable wildlife exploitation, trafficking and trade and also implementing intensive species management actions.

Transition towards a nature-positive economy

- ***We must reform food, fishing and agricultural*** systems and subsidies to ensure they reflect the real costs and benefits of nature in economic systems; and dramatically reduce the footprint of our production and consumption.
- ***We must redirect*** existing financial resources to ensure they work for nature, and deploy new and additional resources from all sources to invest in nature for the future of people and planet.

Ensure a healthy environment for healthy societies

- ***We need nature-based solutions*** based on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to meet society's needs;
- ***We must recognize and support*** the rights and stewardship of indigenous people and local communities in biodiversity conservation and decision-making.
- ***We must recognize and implement*** the right to a healthy environment.

Metrics to measure

- Trends in area, connectivity and integrity of natural ecosystems
- Trends in global extinction risk to species
- Trends in population abundance of species

For more information see www.naturepositive.org