NATURE POSITIVE INITIATIVE

Consultation Brief: Finalising consensus on a universal state of nature metrics framework

11 February - 24 March 2026

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Draft Measurement Guidance

Executive Summary

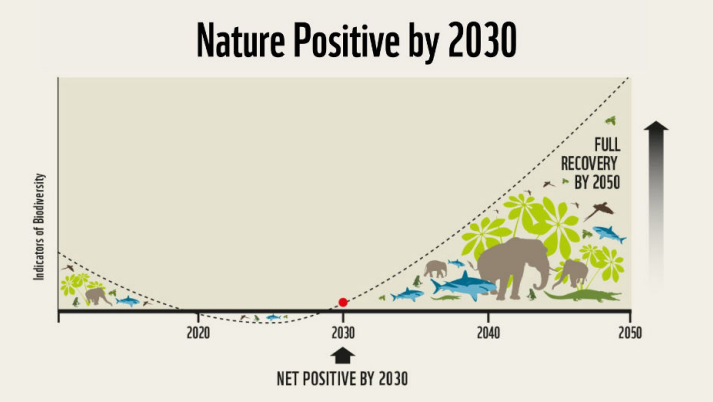
Introduction to Nature Positive

NATURE POSITIVE INITIATIVE

What is Nature Positive?

Nature Positive is a global societal goal defined as 'Halt and Reverse Nature Loss by 2030 on a 2020 baseline, and achieve full recovery by 2050'. To put this more simply, it means ensuring more nature in the world in 2030 than in 2020 and continued recovery after that. DEFINITION

Delivering the Nature Positive goal requires measurable net-positive biodiversity outcomes through the improvement in the abundance, diversity, integrity and resilience of species, ecosystems and natural processes. The Nature Positive goal is designed to drive society to deliver a measurable absolute improvement in the state of nature against a defined baseline, which will in turn improve nature's ability to contribute to human wellbeing. The definition was first published in 2020, and is summarized in the following graphic:



Global adoption of the Nature Positive definition

Inter-governmental

On 19 December 2022, **196 nations** adopted the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Nature Positive aligns with and supports this framework across its different levels:

- **2030 Mission** – "To take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and planet.."
- **Goals** – In particular, Goal A: Protect and Restore, and Goal B: Prosper with Nature
- **Targets** – Helping companies to meet Target 15 on reporting their impacts and dependencies on nature. The state of nature metrics also align with the metrics for other targets, e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 11.

At the IUCN World Conservation Congress in October 2025, **154 governments** (99% of those voting) supported the adoption of a key resolution (072) calling for Nature Positive action by business, following the described definition.

- **Resolution 072** – Defining a robust Nature Positive for Business framework, to mobilise corporate, civil society and government support for high-integrity nature positive contributions aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Corporate

- **251** companies and financial institutions have committed to the definition of Nature Positive and supporting action through joining the Nature Positive Forum
- **Business associations** including the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, World Economic Forum, Business for Nature, Finance for Biodiversity, ICMM and others, have developed sector roadmaps, tools and commitments to drive contributions to Nature Positive.

Civil society

- A further **649 civil society organisations** (96% of those voting) supported IUCN Resolution 072 described above.
- Numerous collaborative initiatives, such as GoNaturePositive!, have emerged to help accelerate nature positive change.

Introduction to consultation

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Purpose of this consultation brief

This consultation brief presents the final stage in a process to co-develop and foster broad consensus on a small set of metrics to **evaluate changes in the state of nature (SoN).** This process is now reaching its conclusion and its **outputs will sit alongside and complement the pressure and response metrics of existing nature standards providers**. The project is convened by The Nature Positive Initiative (NPI), a coalition of many of the world's largest conservation organisations, business and finance coalitions, sustainability standards and target setters, Indigenous knowledge networks, local governments and scientific institutes, with support from Ernst & Young (EY) and The Biodiversity Consultancy (TBC). The marine metrics work was conducted in partnership with the World Economic Forum and the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA).

Framework drafting → First public consultation → Piloting Programme → Final call for feedback

The Problem Statement

Measuring changes in the state of nature in an aligned way is essential to demonstrate nature-positive outcomes and track progress to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework's (GBF) mission to 'halt and reverse nature loss by 2030'. However:

- There is a lack of consensus on credible yet practical metrics to measure the state of nature and nature-positive outcomes, which hinders engagement, action, accountability, recognition, assessment, disclosure, and progress tracking.
- Nature is complex, and no single indicator and metric can fully capture the state of nature.
- More than 600 state of nature metrics are available, so it is therefore challenging for organisations to determine what to measure in a consistent way, leading to inaction.

The Mission

The project mission is to build consensus on a minimum set of measurable indicators and metrics that capture the effectiveness of efforts to halt nature loss and set it on a path to recovery, thereby delivering nature-positive outcomes. It does not aim to develop new metrics or replace those already in use. Instead, it aims to identify the most robust and credible metrics that are also practical and accessible for users to measure and track changes in the state of nature over time. These metrics can then be integrated into existing and emerging nature standards and applied widely.

A call for urgent action on nature

- Nature underpins the health of the planet and the well-being of all who inhabit it. It provides essential services such as food, medicine, clean air and water, mitigation of climate change, protection from natural disasters, and places for recreation and cultural enrichment. However, nature is in a critical state of decline.
- Nature loss has significant implications for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Recognising this, global stakeholders have acknowledged the urgent need to halt and reverse this trend.

Achieving consensus will:

- Align metrics applied by diverse groups of state and non-state actors to establish a consistent understanding on and implementation of how to measure the state of nature; and
- Ensure that strategies and actions targeted at pressures and responses are contributing to nature's recovery; and
- Provide clarity and confidence, today lacking, needed to ignite actions at the scale and speed needed, through a standardised approach; and
- Create accountability through the credible measurement of nature-positive outcomes, and establish a basis for credible assessment, reporting/disclosure and legitimate recognition of each actors' contribution.

Seeking your input

This consultation brief serves as an invitation for you to provide any final input on the proposed set of SoN metrics. Final adjustments will be informed by the consultation results and ongoing partner technical discussions. To input a response, please complete the survey here. The survey will close at **10:00AM GMT on 24 March**. Please also see the draft Measurement Guidance Executive Summary here, which is provided to give a greater insight on how the metrics can be applied to support your answers.

1. Overarching: Process

Goals and objectives

Why focus on State of Nature metrics?

State of Nature (SoN) metrics are essential for monitoring whether our efforts are contributing to nature's recovery, a fundamental aspect of any comprehensive nature strategy.

Goal

The mission is to build consensus on a set of measurable indicators and metrics that capture the effectiveness of our efforts to halt nature loss and set it on a path to recovery, thereby delivering nature-positive outcomes..

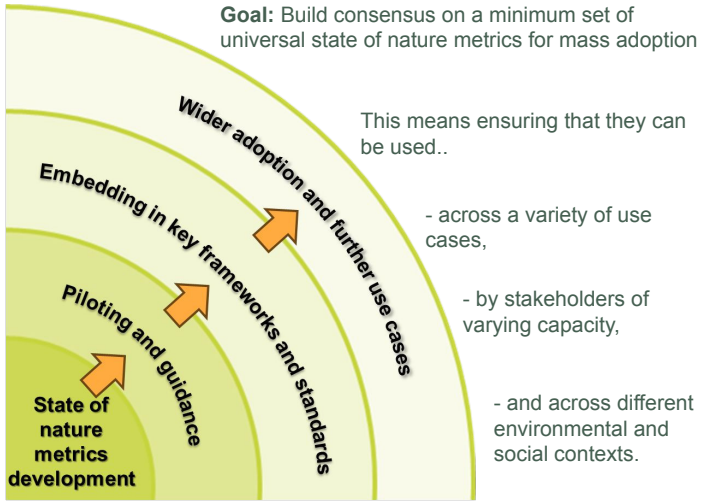

Figure 1: Project goal and rollout model

Key objectives

- **Consensus-based approach** - The metrics will be most powerful if they are used in an aligned way by users across the globe. For this to happen, it is important to build a strong, inclusive and co-developed consensus that this is the most credible and practical set of metrics.
- **Holistic minimum set of metrics** – There is no single metric that can sufficiently capture the fantastic diversity of nature in all the different ecosystems of the world. However, too many metrics can become unpractical for users to measure. This project aims to align on a *minimum* core set of aligned metrics that are a good proxy for the overall state of nature and can be supplemented as required for specific use cases.
- **Best available metrics** – Rather than developing new metrics, the aim is to identify the best and widely available existing metrics that meet the design criteria.
- **Suitable for universal, wide adoption** – The metrics should be appropriate for all user groups and relevant use cases. The initial primary focus will be ensuring that metrics and guidance are fit for purpose for corporates and financial institutions. They should be accessible to as wide a range of users within these groups as possible, not just to leading organisations or those with greater resources.
- **Aligned across realms** – The development process aims to maximise the alignment of metrics across the terrestrial, freshwater and marine realms, helping to facilitate holistic nature action. Realm-specific guidance will be used to facilitate the application of metrics.
- **To be embedded** – The metrics framework is designed to be embedded into existing frameworks and standards. These could include voluntary and mandatory disclosure standards, product certifications, project monitoring policies/guidance, corporate strategy approaches/guidance, measurement tools and services etc.

Metric design criteria

- ☑ Credible and science-based
- ☑ Responsive
- ☑ Flexible
- ☑ Aligned
- ☑ Accessible and affordable
- ☑ Auditable

"The state of nature metrics are a foundational layer upon which impact drivers and TNFD's LEAP process sit."
- Tony Goldner, Executive Director, TNFD

A key next step [for GRI] is integrating state of nature measurement, which is why we are pleased to be part of this project."
- Harold Pauwels, Standards Director, GRI

"These metrics will, we hope, fold straight into the measurement architecture already developed by SBTN for corporate target setting."
- Erin Billman, Executive Director, SBTN

"Once finalized, these metrics will be integrated into WBCSD's Nature Action Portal."
- Peter Bakker, President & CEO, WBCSD

Scope: State of nature

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The pressure-state-response model

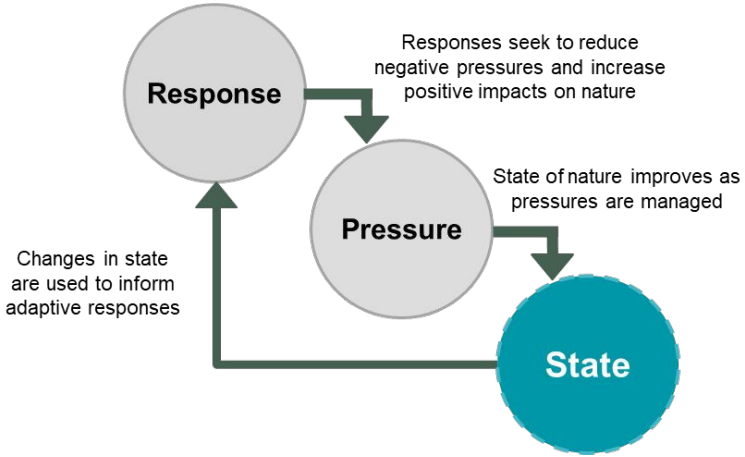

Figure 2: Completing the pressure-state-response framework

Per TNFD's LEAP approach (E3), both positive and negative impact drivers on nature should be assessed and managed.

State of nature as a key complement pressures and responses

- The pressure-state-response framework provides a useful conceptual model for how we can halt and reverse nature loss and it is utilised in nature standards/ frameworks such as TNFD and SBTN, sometimes in the expanded form "DPSIR" – driver, pressure, state, impact, response.
- Pressure and response metrics are already relatively well-established but a gap exists around measuring the state of nature. For example, a site may be able to measure its own chemical fertiliser use and reduction initiatives relatively easily, whereas measuring whether ecosystems and species are recovering is currently lacking aligned metrics and guidance.
- Measuring the state of nature is vitally important because it tells us whether our pressure and response actions are having the desired effect, i.e. are our environmental strategies resulting in improved outcomes for nature and addressing risks and opportunities for business and communities?
- This holds true even where it may be challenging to attribute changes in state of nature to specific actions or organisations. Fundamentally, if the state of nature is not improving in the area it suggests we may need to reinvest resources into a different set of pressure reduction and response actions.
- Considering the state of nature can also help identify the most cost-effective to both enhance nature and increase business reliance.
- It is important to note that state of nature metrics are not intended to replace pressure and response metrics, but rather to **complement** them.

Scope: Users and use cases

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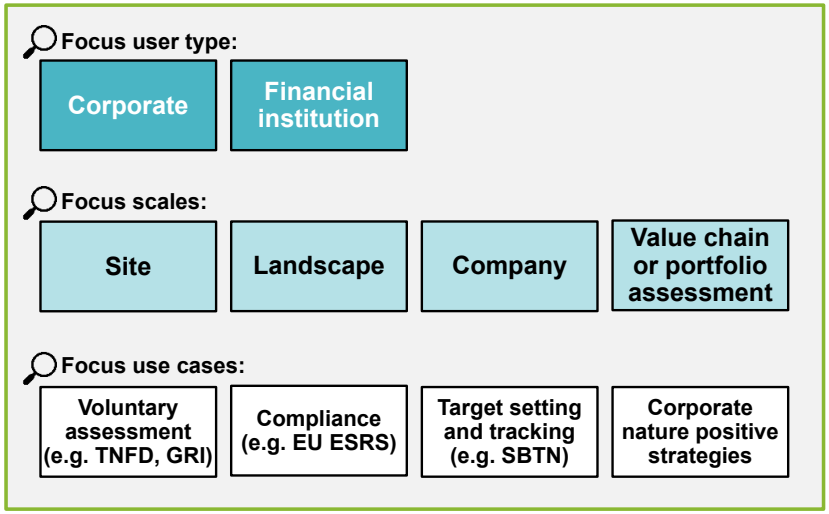
Whilst corporates and financial institutions are the initial focus users, sustained nature-positive outcomes will require collaboration across a wide range of user types, e.g. national and sub-national governments, landowners and land stewards, and thus metrics are designed such that they are not only applicable to the focus users. Metrics should be measured at the scale and granularity level appropriate for the decision-making for the particular use case.

User group
Corporate
Financial institutions
Government - national, sub-national, city
Other land managers - e.g. NGOs, IP&LCs

Scale	
Site	Sector
Landscape	Region
Value chain or portfolio	Country
Company	Global



Scope: Components

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Included in scope to date

- **Terrestrial, freshwater and marine realm** metrics
- **Biotic elements** of state of nature
- **Corporate and financial institution** use cases primarily
- **Draft Measurement Guidance Executive Summary**

Rationale

- Terrestrial metrics are the most advanced and ready to use to develop a framework, these were then assessed for appropriateness and adaptations made to apply to freshwater and marine realms
- Biotic elements are used as a representative proxy for overall state of nature
- Corporate and FIs were selected as primary use cases due to gaps in existing reporting frameworks. Work to map alignment with the GBF Monitoring Framework for government use cases is ongoing
- Draft Measurement Guidance Executive Summary is provided with this consultation to help respondents understand how the metrics can be implemented, in order to inform their survey responses.

Planned for 2026+

- Freshwater and marine feasibility testing
- Guidance for making nature positive claims utilising the state of nature metrics
- Consolidating inputs to future technical guidance

Rationale

- Freshwater and marine considerations were developed with insights from the terrestrial piloting but have not been subject to realm-focussed piloting. Feasibility testing to assess with corporate users whether there are any key barriers to applying the metrics will be conducted in Feb-Mar 2026
- Guidance for demonstrating nature-positive outcomes is under development, following a similar consensus-based approach. This will incorporate and build on the final metrics
- Learnings and case studies are being consolidated for input into future technical guidance (see slide 29).

For future efforts

- Genetic diversity metrics
- Standalone metrics for natural processes and nature's contributions to people
- Sector- or issue-specific guidance
- Metrics for urban areas
- Guidance relating to Traditional Knowledge

Rationale

- Genetic diversity and state of natural processes metrics are recognised as vitally important but measurement approaches are not as ready for widespread adoption as yet. These will continue to be monitored.
- Nature's contributions to people metrics are less mature, however these considerations have been integrated into all species and ecosystems case-specific metrics triggers.
- Sector- or issue-specific guidance may be needed as the metrics are implemented by companies but is not currently planned by the NPI
- Responsibly and respectfully accessing and braiding in traditional knowledge on SoN is a gap in the current framework

Consensus-building process timeline

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Launched in May 2024 with the aim of rapidly building consensus on a set of state of nature metrics, the framework development process will complete in 2026. At this point, the final metrics will be launched for adoption and embedding into frameworks and standards. Additional information on the process and outputs so far is available at naturepositive.org/metrics/. At the completion of the project, a full and transparent Process Output Report will be published outlining the consensus-building approach followed and rationale for the final framework design.

2024

1 Scoping the project

27 Core NPI Stewardship Group members

2 Assessing metrics against the design criteria

600+ State of nature metrics identified and assessed

3 Refining a draft terrestrial metrics framework

100+ Organisations, companies and FIs involved in developing the framework

4 Launching a public consultation

130+ Organisations provided feedback in the public consultation

5 Incorporating feedback

2025

6 Piloting Programme for the terrestrial metrics

29 Piloting companies

24 Countries

Piloting partners:

GRI, TNFD, IUCN, Conservation International, BirdLife International, WBCSD

7 Applying the metrics in freshwater and marine realms

100+ Specialists involved in adapting the framework

Partners collaborated with:

orraa, World Economic Forum, CEO Water Mandate

multi-partner project

8 Updating metrics framework and guidance

2026

9 Feasibility testing for freshwater and marine metrics

Jan-Mar

10 Public consultation on integrated metrics framework

Jan-Mar

11 Publishing final outputs for embedding

- State of Nature Metrics Framework
- Process Output Report
- Measurement Guidance Executive Summary

Overview of Piloting Programme

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Piloting participants

The Piloting Programme ran from May-October 2025 and focussed on corporate and financial institution application of metrics for real projects. Participants were selected to cover a broad range of sectors and geographies. Each participant had a piloting partner from one of six core NPI organisations, to help guide their approach.

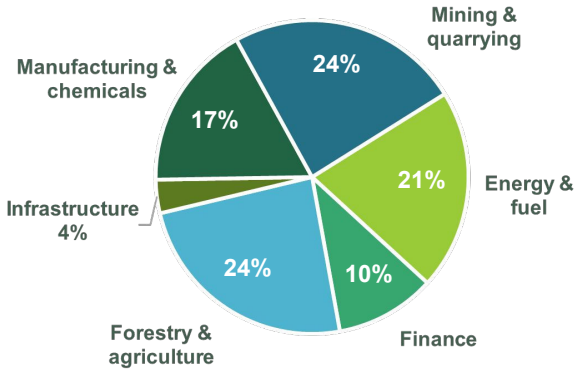
29 companies

23 countries

>50 sites

6 partners

GRI · TNFD · IUCN · WBCSD World Business Council for Sustainable Development · Conservation International · BirdLife International



acciona	Railway construction project, Norway
AngloAmerican	Mine site, Minas Gerais, Brazil
BHP	Mine site, Australia
Bracell	Landscape management, Brazil
Timberland Investment Group	Forest sites, TX, US
DOW	Ash pond remediation site, MI, US
drax	Wood fibre sourcing area, LA, US
Heidelberg Materials	Forest reserve project, Ghana
	Manufacturing site, Sri Lanka
HOLCIM	Quarry sites, Mexico and Costa Rica
Iberdrola	Solar farm, Spain
International Paper	Wood fibre procurement, SE US
KIRIN	Tea estate, Sri Lanka

LANZAJET	Biofuel supply chain, Borneo
lpc Lyttelton Port Company	Maritime port operations, New Zealand
MS&AD	Flood risk river basin, Japan
New Forests	Seven forest sites: Aus, Africa, US
OJI Dedicated to Sustainability	Forest and conservation area, Japan
Ørsted	Solar farm and energy storage site, UK
RioTinto	Mine sites in Australia and Mongolia
Schneider Electric	Three sites in France and Mexico
SIBELCO	Quarry sites, Indonesia and UK
suzano	Forest and conservation areas, Brazil
SWAROVSKI OPTIK	HQ, Austria, and project, Costa Rica
VALE	Mine site, Pará, Brazil
VOLKSWAGEN GROUP	Manufacturing in Germany and China

Overview of Piloting Programme

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Piloting process

The Piloting Programme coordination was supported by EY and The Biodiversity Consultancy provided technical input. The participants were provided with the metrics framework produced following the first public consultation and draft guidance on implementing the metrics. This was supplemented with webinars and a helpdesk to help participants progress with their pilots. Insights were collected from a range of channels, including the analysis of over 100 technical queries received by the helpdesk, responses to monthly pulse surveys, engagement with companies in calls and office hours and a piloting workbook and feedback form submission at the end of the pilot.

PILOT COMPONENTS

Metrics

Draft guidance

Support on using on both metrics and guidance

INSIGHT COLLATION

Analysis of received queries

Monthly pulse surveys

1:1 calls with companies

End of piloting workbooks

Feedback from piloting partners

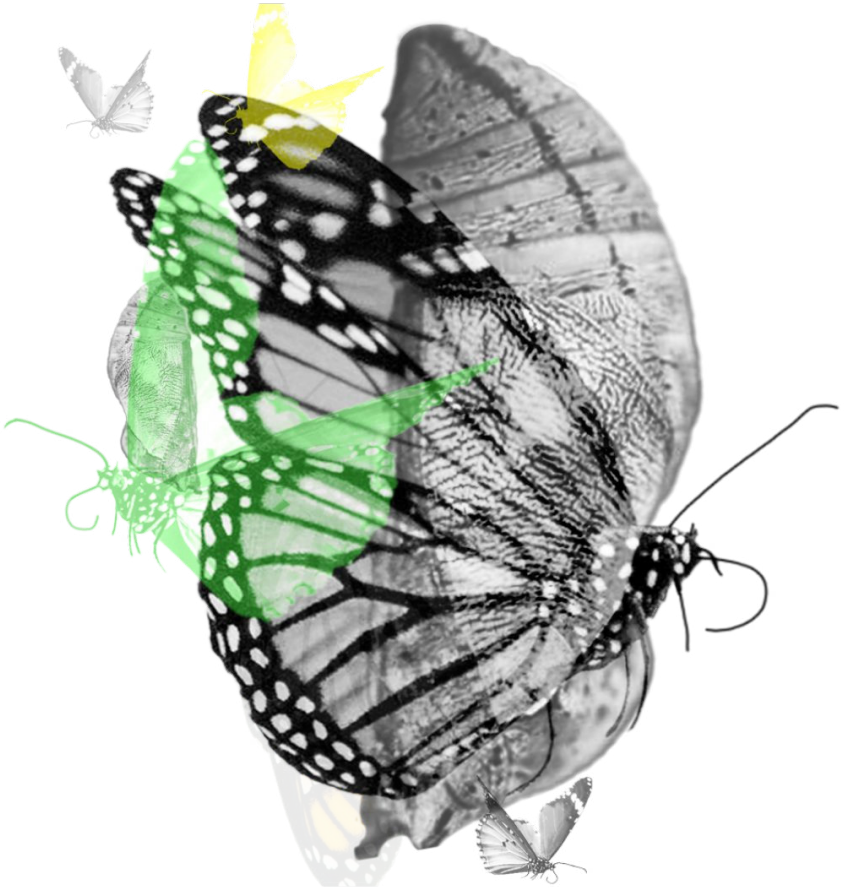
Testing solutions with companies

KEY OVERARCHING FEEDBACK THEMES

	Indicator	Key challenge/barrier to uptake
IND1	**Ecosystem Extent & Classification**	• Classifying ecosystems
IND2	**Proportion of Natural or Semi-Natural Habitat**	• Defining natural/semi-natural
IND3	**Site Condition**	• Technical expertise and access to data
IND4	**Landscape Condition**	• Technical expertise
IND5	**Condition of Natural or Semi-Natural Habitat**	• Absence of national or global datasets
IND6	**Species Extinction Risk**	• Frequency of update of datasets
IND7	**Species Population Abundance**	• Cost

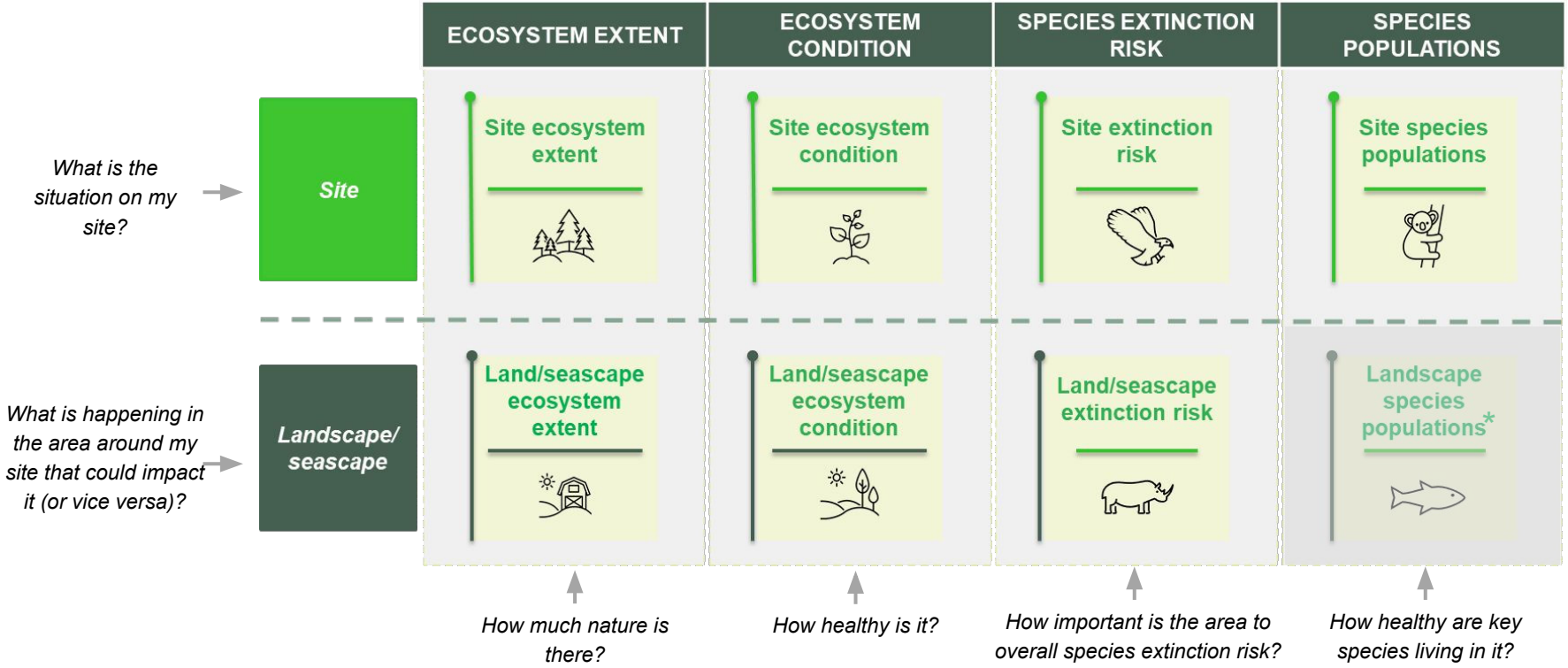
Feedback gathered was discussed and incorporated into metrics and/or draft guidance as presented in the following sections

2. Overarching: Outcomes



High-level output: Indicator framework

Indicators are defined as: “A quantitative or qualitative factor or variable that provides a simple and reliable means to measure performance. An indicator can be measured through one or multiple metrics” (as adopted by TNFD).



Core output: Metrics table

Metrics are defined as: “A system or standard of measurement” (as adopted by TNFD). The metrics are intended to remain stable for as long as possible, in order to drive the alignment of approaches and data inputs and outputs, as well as helping to secure the business case for investing in metric adoption. Underlying measurement approaches and guidance may iterate more frequently as supporting data and tools continue to develop.

	Metrics			
	Ecosystem extent	**Ecosystem condition**	**Species extinction risk**	**Species populations**
Site	Area (absolute and percentage) of loss, gain and net change in extent of natural ecosystems (ha, %)	Area and change by condition class (ha, %)	Species extinction risk measurement showing the contributions of the site to global extinction risk	Number and proportion of priority species with populations that are 1) declining, 2) slowing in decline, 3) stable, and 4) increasing.
Landscape/ Seascape	Area (absolute and percentage) of loss, gain and net change in extent of natural ecosystems (ha, %)	Values and change in structural and functional connectivity between natural ecosystems	Species extinction risk measurement showing the contributions of the landscape/seascape to global extinction risk	Number and proportion of priority species with populations that are 1) declining, 2) slowing in decline, 3) stable, and 4) increasing.*

**Important note: To be measured where possible, however it is recognised that further work on data availability needs to be undertaken to make measurement more feasible.*

Rationale for key framework updates

The draft metrics framework piloted is available here for reference. Updates were made based on piloting feedback and expert input.

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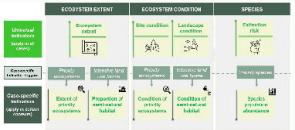
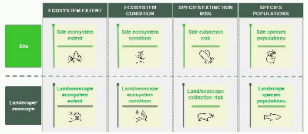
	Piloted framework	Revised approach	Rationale
1	Framework structured metrics by **universal** (apply in all situations) vs **case-specific** (apply when certain trigger criteria are met) 	Framework restructured to highlight **site** vs **landscape/seascape** metrics* 	Separating by site and landscape/seascape helps to clarify the decreased level of control companies have at the landscape scale, whilst increasing framework communicability and aligning more closely with standard corporate reporting boundaries regarding sites/areas of direct operational/financial control. Landscape metrics help to: (i) provide input to support well-designed site-level actions, (ii) encourage collaborative action at the scale most needed for achieving nature-positive outcomes, (iii) provide a starting point for applying metrics in value chains where there is not yet traceability to site, (iv) provide important context for external users of the metrics to understand the significance of site-level trends. See item 2 for rationale for separation of case-specific indicators.
2	Trigger criteria used to prioritise measurement focus and enhance robustness: - **Priority ecosystems** - requiring higher granularity measurements - **Priority species** - requiring population abundance measurement - **Intensive land use biome** - requiring additional metrics	Trigger criteria embedded in guidance as follows: - **Priority ecosystems** - referring to prioritisation and scoping approaches in the frameworks the metrics are to be embedded, as well as a principle for framework developers to ensure these are in place - **Priority species** - new Species Selection Filter guidance to help prioritise population measurement - **Intensive land use biome** - metrics separated out of core, universal framework.	Piloting highlighted that the triggers used to identify where additional or higher granularity measurements were needed were highly sensitive, resulting in them having limited value for prioritising measurement effort and also undermining the granularity level approach to metrics (i.e. getting started at a lower granularity for a fixed period of time), particularly for companies based in the tropics. It was also identified that the triggers were more difficult to embed and/or duplicated process steps in existing frameworks and standards, thus potentially adding complexity and confusion. Instead, the triggers have been embedded into the guidance for applying the metrics, keeping the core metrics framework simpler for understanding and embedding, whilst ensuring robust prioritisation of measurement resources. Specific metrics were piloted for the intensive land use biome and challenges were raised in identifying natural vs semi-natural habitats in particular. Concurrently, the application of state of nature metrics to the marine realm identified several more potentially helpful additional metrics, e.g. specific species measurements in relation to fishing pressure or ecosystem condition measurements relating to dredging or sedimentation. In order to maintain the clarity and communicability of the metrics framework, these were embedded into the guidance as supporting/supplementary information to the aligned core metrics framework.

*Note: This step largely didn't change the metrics, but reorganised them and clarified the scale of their application. A key example of this is the landscape condition metric, which covered proportion of natural habitat remaining, structural connectivity and functional connectivity in the piloted framework. In the reorganised framework, the proportion of natural habitat remaining component has moved to the landscape ecosystem extent metric and landscape condition focuses on structural and functional connectivity.

Rationale for key framework updates cont.

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	Piloted framework	Revised approach	Rationale
3	Measurement specifications were available at **granularity levels** of low, medium and high for nearly all metrics	Granularity levels are still available in the **guidance** and now also include low (now renamed as 'preparatory') and medium ecosystem condition	It was identified that nature data and measurement methodologies are evolving rapidly, and what might be good or best practice today could look different in a year or so's time. By making the measurement specifications and granularity levels (slide 21) part of the iterative guidance, they can be updated over time to reflect external developments, however keeping the metrics themselves fixed for as long as possible maintains the power of an aligned, universal framework.
4	**Species extinction risk** score and trend was calculated for the site and area of influence, and **species abundance** required for all priority species (informed by species extinction risk) using a species-specific buffer zone for each. The metric for abundance was "Change in the number and proportion of priority species with: 1) stable or increasing populations, and 2) declining populations"	Key revisions: (i) Species extinction risk and species abundance (now renamed **species populations**) metrics have been applied at **both the site and landscape** scale, (ii) **Flexibility** has been introduced for applying species populations at the landscape level only where possible, (iii) A new category of "**slowing in decline**" has been added to the breakdown of the species populations metric, (iv) Calculating the **change in species extinction risk** is recommended in the guidance but not mandated in the metric.	The species extinction risk and populations metrics have been applied at both the site and landscape scale to align with the restructure described in item 1 and to complete a holistic, future-proofed framework. This also maintains the clarity and communicability of applying four key components of the state of nature and both the site and landscape scale. However, flexibility has been maintained for the time-being for applying species populations at the landscape-level only where possible, in order to recognise current data limitations at this scale. Piloting highlighted that gaining access to areas in the wider landscape (i.e. outside of own the company's own sites) to take measurements is not always possible. The category of "slowing in decline" was added and stable and increasing separated into two categories, to increase the sensitivity of the species populations metric to change, reflecting the fact that populations may need a long time to recover. This category helps to understand and demonstrate progress in the meantime. Piloting highlighted a challenge in measuring the change in extinction risk due to frequency and comparability of data updates. The mandatory requirement to measure the change has been removed from the metric wording but the metric is maintained as it provides vital context for assessing the state of nature and the guidance recommends measuring change from a 2020 baseline wherever possible. Available tools and frameworks should be used to reduce threats and take restoration action for species informed by the extinction risk data.

Consultation

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Seeking your input

This public consultation brief is an invitation to provide final inputs on the proposed set of metrics. It serves as a platform to gather feedback from a diverse range of organisations across industries and regions, helping us understand the views and needs of different stakeholders.

To structure the feedback on key issues, 6 questions targeted at all stakeholder groups, including 3 optional focus topic questions, have been prepared. Any additional feedback that falls outside the core topics is welcomed in question 6.

How to provide feedback

Please complete our survey which can be accessed here. The survey will close at 10:00 am Tuesday, 24 March (GMT).

It would be appreciated if organisations could submit one consolidated response. Please note, all feedback received will be aggregated, summarised and anonymised.

Please email questions about the Consultation Brief to our project team at: metrics@naturepositive.org.

To help us consider your submission, please set out your response against the consultation questions. You may wish to respond to some, or all the questions raised when responding to the survey.

Next steps

Thank you for your valuable participation and feedback to this consultation process. Your input is key to building a meaningful consensus on metrics to evaluate changes in the state of nature.

Final adjustments will be informed by consultation results and ongoing partner technical discussions. The final framework will be published in a Nature Positive State of Nature Metrics Report, due for release in Q2 2026.

Survey questions

SECTION A. Metrics process outputs

1 *Consider the metrics framework (Consultation Brief page 15). Please score the following:

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Partially agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Not sure

i. Clarity – I believe this framework is sufficiently clear
ii. Practicality – I believe this framework is sufficiently practical
iii. Comprehensiveness – I believe this framework is sufficiently comprehensive to provide an understanding of the state of nature
iv. Robustness – I believe this framework is sufficiently robust
v. Decision-useful - I believe this framework is sufficiently decision-useful

2 Please provide any comments to explain your scoring.

*Mandatory question

3. Supporting material: Draft iterative guidance

Overview of draft guidance materials

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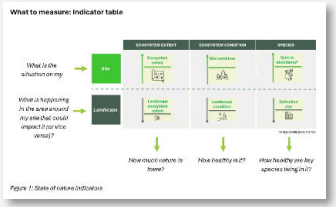
The focus of this consultation is the metrics framework, however a draft Measurement Guidance Executive Summary document has been prepared in response to comments from the 2024 public consultation, where some reviewers noted it was difficult to provide feedback on metric feasibility without more details on how the metrics would be applied. Metric guidance is intended to be iterative over time to incorporate technological and methodological developments, whereas the metrics themselves would be kept stable for as long as possible. The Measurement Guidance Executive Summary is intended to be a high-level overview of the process, more suitable for sharing with non-specialists.

Please find the draft Measurement Guidance Executive Summary here, the key sections are as follows:

1

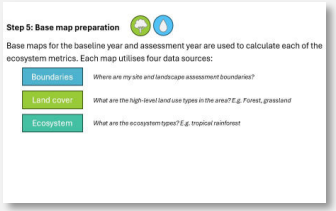
Introduction to metrics and guidance



This lays out a high-level background, the scope of the guidance, key definitions and the metrics and measurement specification guidance.

2

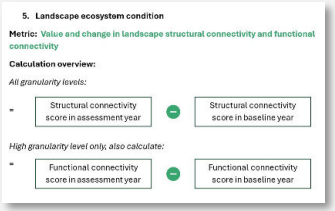
Preparing to measure



This section walks through six preparatory steps: (i) Determining an assessment scope, (ii) Determining a baseline, (iii) Selecting granularity levels, (iv) Collecting data, (v) Preparing a base map, (vi) Prioritising species measurements.

3

Metrics



An overview of the measurement approach guidance is provided for each metric, including the calculations, example data sources/ measures, and metric outputs.

4

Transparency

Disclosure guidance will be in the purview of the specific framework or standard into which the metrics are embedded. In this section, some potential guiding principles specifically for the transparent disclosure of state of nature metrics are provided.

5

Appendices

Appendix A covers potential additional biome or realm-specific state of nature metrics.

Appendix B covers some guiding principles for framework and standards developers when embedding the metrics.

Measurement specifications guidance

Measurement specifications guidance is provided at three different granularity levels, which may be selected by the user depending on their specific scope, use case, nature assessment maturity and data availability. See the draft Measurement Guidance Executive Summary for further background on granularity levels and metric measurement specifications.

Ecosystem extent and condition metrics

	Granularity	Terrestrial/freshwater	Marine
Spatial resolution	**Preparatory**	≤30m	1-10km
	Medium*	≤10m	100m-1km
	High*	≤10m	≤30m where possible or ≤1km
GET Level (or national equivalent)	**Preparatory**	Natural/non-natural	Natural/non-natural
	Medium	3 or 4	3
	High	5 or 6	3

What are the pixel sizes for assessment?

What is the level of detail of the ecosystem type classifications for metric breakdowns?

*Medium and High granularity data layers should be ground-truthed for **site-level** ecosystem metrics.

Species metrics

	Granularity	Species populations†	Site species extinction risk	Land/seascape extinction risk
Spatial resolution	**Preparatory**	≤30m (or up to ≤1km for marine)	≤5km	≤10km
	Medium	N/A	≤1km (5km for marine)	≤5km
	High	N/A	≤1km (5km for marine)	≤5km
Measurement	**Preparatory**	Area of habitat/range proxies	Sum the proportion of the global area of habitat†† of each species in scope that falls within the site. It is strongly recommended to weight each species by threat status and/or use proportion of a specified historical reference range, except when robust assessments of extinction risk are unavailable at global, regional, or national levels.	
	Medium	Species-based index of relative abundance		
	High	Estimates of absolute abundance or density		

What are the pixel sizes for assessment?

How should the metric be measured?

† Species Selection Filter guidance is available to assist companies in prioritising measurement effort, see slide 22.
†† If area of habitat is not available, species range may be used.

Additional guidance: Species Selection Filter

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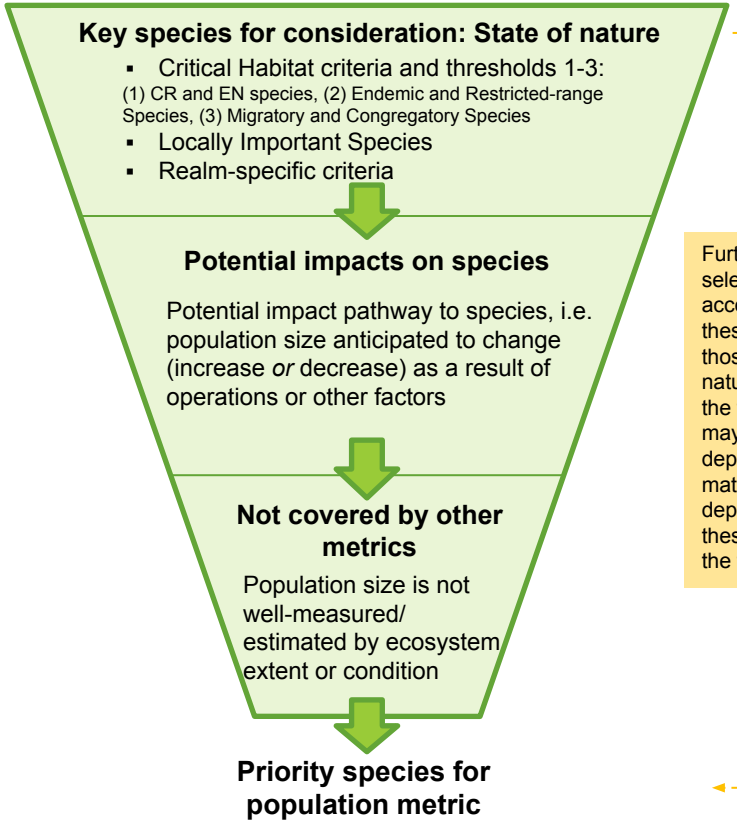


Further species may also be selected for measurement according to use case, but these must be *additional* to those needed for state of nature assessment following the filter. E.g. A company may wish to monitor depended-upon or financially material species as part of a dependency assessment, if these are not identified via the filter.

Species Selection Filter for populations metrics

- *Purpose:*
  - (i) To embed the priority species triggers from the original draft framework into the guidance (see slide 16), and
  - (ii) To address the feedback that too many species are being triggered for measurement to be practical for companies.
- Species selection guidance does not currently exist in a widely-adopted way for companies, therefore the intention is to **draft and consult upon** some core components to include in the guidance supporting the metrics, whilst noting that this may evolve over time.
- ***Please see draft Measurement Guidance Executive Summary pp. 12-13*** and provide any input you might have in question 3 of the consultation survey.
- Rationale for each filter layer:
  - **Key species for consideration** – This helps to create a longlist of potential priority species, building on the well-established Critical Habitat criteria. Locally important species recognises the fact that there may be species important for, for example, local cultural and provisioning services. Realm-specific criteria help address key challenges when applying metrics to the freshwater and marine realms.
  - **Potential impacts on species** – This builds on application approaches for Performance Standard 6 and at the Preparatory granularity level companies are able to focus only on species they are impacting.
  - **Not covered by other metrics** – This helps to prioritise measurement resources by de-prioritising species that are already well-measured by other metrics, for example sedentary species such as trees may be well-captured by ecosystem extent and condition metrics.
- Filter application guidance includes some safeguards to ensure critically endangered species are not excluded and that the outputs are appropriate for the granularity level. See draft Measurement Guidance Executive Summary page 13.

Rationale for key guidance developments

Draft metric application guidance was developed for the Piloting Programme and is available in the archived files here. Based on piloting feedback and expert input, a number of key revisions have been incorporated and more detail will be consolidated for input into future technical guidance.

1. Measurement Guidance Executive Summary

Piloting highlighted that a more high-level overview guidance was needed to support with planning metric adoption and for engaging key non-specialist stakeholders in the business. See document here.

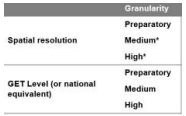
2. Incorporation of freshwater and marine

Following the workstreams to apply the metrics to freshwater and marine realms, specific guidance has been incorporated to address important nuances for each realm. See slides 25 and 26 for more details.

3. Granularity: Preparatory level

Low granularity measurement specifications were found to be a significant stretch for some companies. The low level has been reconfigured as a simplfied “Preparatory” step to help organisations begin to engage with measurement. See guidance page 9.

4. Key specifications updates



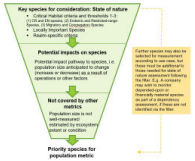
	Granularity
Spatial resolution	Preparatory Medium* High*
GET Level (or national equivalent)	Preparatory Medium High

Key updates included strengthening specification alignment across metrics at the same granularity level, revising the species measurement descriptors to improve clarity and accuracy, simplifying buffer/boundary setting and revising GET Levels to align with the Preparatory step. See slide 21.

5. Base map approach

Aligning specifications as described in point 4 facilitated the streamlining of measurement approaches by creating a single basemap to be used for calculating multiple metrics, thus increasing efficiency. See draft guidance page 11.

6. Species Selection Filter



The Species Selection Filter is a key addition to the guidance following piloting feedback that so many species were being triggered that population measurement for all was unfeasible. See draft guidance pages 12-13.

7. Output clarifications

Further clarity was provided on what metrics would look like when reported, an example high-level dashboard and guiding principles for the transparent disclosure of state of nature metric measurement methodologies. E.g. see draft guidance page 15.

8. Examples

A small number of potential example data sources or measurement approaches were included to help illustrate what metric measurement could look like. A more comprehensive list of these will be required in future. E.g. see draft guidance page 19.

9. Appendices

Appendices were added to cover potential additional biome or realm-specific state of nature metrics and guiding principles for framework and standards developers when embedding the metrics. See draft guidance pages 28-30.

4. Supporting material: Realm summaries

Application to freshwater realm

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Development process

1. Gap analysis and draft integration approach

- Identified key gaps and challenges unique to freshwater, particularly relating to flowing ecosystems
- Drafted proposed adaptations to terrestrial framework to aid applying to marine

2. Testing and refining with stakeholders

- Conducted 3 focus groups to test proposals, attended by representatives from 30 corporate, NGO and specialist organizations
- Provided follow-up survey for stakeholders to provide further insight
- Incorporated relevant learnings from the terrestrial piloting programme and freshwater Biodiversity Benefit Accounting (BioBA) project.

3. Public consultation and feasibility testing — Ongoing

- Public consultation survey
- Feasibility assessment being conducted with companies, applying a desk-based approach for understanding key research questions

Objectives and scope: Freshwater

The approach to applying the metrics framework prepared in January 2025 to freshwater followed the below objectives:

1. Utilize the existing terrestrial metrics framework, making updates as needed where the metrics or additional guidance may be required to further capture the freshwater realm, facilitating a holistic approach.
2. Identify any unique challenges when applying the draft terrestrial metrics in landscapes where freshwater is present/a dominant feature, then build consensus around any additions needed to address these.

It is important to note the scope described on slides 7-9, in particular the focus on biotic measurements and on the state of nature.

Unique characteristics identified and how addressed

Key particularities for the freshwater realm were identified and tested with focus groups to understand their significance and potential solutions.

	Characteristic	How addressed
1	**Data availability** (i) Ecosystem extent: Smaller water bodies (ii) Ecosystem condition (iii) Species populations	Across all three challenge areas, relevant examples of data sources (e.g. Fishbase), metrics (e.g. the Population Connectivity Index) and external guidance (e.g. the CEO Water Mandate Biodiversity Benefit Accounting guidance) are included in the measurement guidance to support users. This can be expanded further in future technical guidance and key data gaps identified for developers. It was identified that smaller water bodies may not be visible in spatial layers for ecosystem extent and condition as they can be of much smaller width than the minimum resolution (30m). To ensure that the state of these systems is assessed where relevant, a realm-specific criteria to incorporate an indicator species is included in the Species Selection Filter. See Question 4 in the Consultation Survey to input on this.
2	**Volume** The depth and flow of freshwater systems are a key aspect of state	A volumetric measurement component for determining the condition class was added into the measurement specifications for the site ecosystem condition metric at medium and high granularity, accompanying the existing area-based measures. While arguably abiotic, this was seen as essential for capturing the state of these systems where area-based measurements alone are insufficient. See draft guidance page.13.
3	**Connectedness** (i) Migratory species (ii) Diffuse and downstream impacts	Migratory species were included in the Species Selection Filter prioritisation guidance and data sources such as Global Swimways may be helpful for companies in understanding the significance of systems in their assessment area for freshwater migrations. Boundary-setting guidance was clarified to specify the role of watersheds and areas of influence in the analysis. Note that the attribution of impact is not mandated for state of nature measurement, hence the importance of also measuring pressure and response metrics. See draft guidance pages 13 and 7.
4	**Seasonality** Larger natural fluctuations may be present	While such fluctuations may be more visible in freshwater systems, they can be important in all realms and future technical guidance will cover this topic. Measuring average population sizes or using dynamic baselines may be appropriate, however care is needed not to mask trends driven by e.g. climate change when managing natural fluctuations.

Application to marine realm

NATURE POSITIVE INITIATIVE

Development process

1. Foundational engagement

UN Ocean Conference (UNOC), France – early consensus building. Outputs: Development roadmap and participant database.

2. ORRAA & WEF partner engagement

Mobilized ocean resilience partners and broadened participation across finance and policy sectors.

3. Technical & co-design phase

Workshops, seascape validation, and Marine Metrics Webinar (140+ participants). Focused on credibility, scalability, and equity.

4. Drafting & alignment

Additional Core Partner Group (TNFD, SBTN, WWF, BirdLife, Inter-American Development Bank, UBS Optimus Foundation, Oceanographic Institute of Monaco, Ocean Azul) created draft framework.

5. Refinement

Conducted two focus groups to test the draft approaches, attended by corporates and impact investors (20 organisations)

6. Public consultation and feasibility testing — Ongoing

Public consultation survey

Feasibility assessment being conducted with companies, applying a desk-based approach for understanding key research questions

In partnership with: orraa Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance; World Economic Forum

Unique characteristics identified and how addressed

	Characteristic	How addressed
1	**Data availability**	The more limited accessibility/availability of relevant data for the marine realm was addressed via: i. The marine measurement specifications allow for the use of coarser data across space and time (e.g. lower minimum spatial resolutions and GET classifications), focusing on ecosystems for which datasets are readily available, using proxy indicators in some cases, and recommending use of emerging technologies. ii. The guidance also provides more flexibility around measuring ecosystem connectivity, suggesting that this is pursued only where feasible given the available data and significance of drivers of change in the state of nature. In the case of site ecosystem condition, incorporating a relevant abiotic proxy that *may* be easier to measure is also advised for high granularity approaches. See draft guidance pages 18 and 19.
2	**Depth-structure**	Area-based metrics are maintained to allow for alignment and comparability with the other realms, however incorporating proxies as described above can help address the unique impacts on the state of nature in a volumetric and depth-structured space. Volumetric considerations were added as additional guidance for marine habitats, in particular relating to species measurements where habitat-derived or remote-sensed measurements may not be able to estimate population sizes effectively. See draft guidance page 28.
3	**Connectedness and diffuse impacts**	As the state of nature in the marine realm can be impacted by diverse and diffuse impacts, a set of additional metrics and considerations has been prepared to accompany the core framework to account for changes in the state of marine nature due to diffuse pressures (e.g., exploitation, intensively used ecosystems, pollution). These are included in the guidance appendix and cover additional metrics. See draft guidance page 28.

Consultation

NATURE POSITIVE INITIATIVE

Optional additional questions

Survey questions

Access the survey

SECTION B. Optional questions on iterative guidance

3 Optional focus question: Species populations only. Please review the Species Selection Filter for prioritising species populations measurements on pages 12-13 of the Measurement Guidance Executive Summary or slide 22 of the Consultation Brief. Please provide any recommendations to improve the credibility or practicality of the Filter.

4 Optional focus question: Freshwater only. Smaller freshwater systems (e.g. small rivers and streams) may not be captured in spatial datasets, requiring the use of indicator species as proxies. In practice, this means using the species populations metric as a proxy for ecosystem health for these systems. See Consultation Brief slide 25 for further background. Is this proxy approach credible and practical for application?

Yes	Partially	No	Not sure

Please explain your response.

5 Optional focus question: Marine only. In testing the marine metrics, challenges were identified including that the ocean lacks data availability and is subject to diffuse impacts, particularly across offshore and data-poor regions. To what extent do you agree that the proposed marine metrics sufficiently address the following concerns:

Yes – addresses concern	Partially addresses	No – does not address	Not sure

i. Lacking data availability: A lower maximum Global Ecosystem Typology level has been proposed for marine systems, with a flexible spatial resolution range that depends on ecosystem type and data availability. See Measurement Guidance Executive Summary page 5.

ii. Subject to diffuse impacts: Pressure-specific additional metric and measurement options are added to account for diffuse pressures from activities impacting priority ecosystems, activities in intensively used marine ecosystems, and activities that exploit populations or cause indirect mortality. See Measurement Guidance Executive Summary page 28.

Please explain your response.

6 Optional additional question: Is there any other input you would like to provide?

5. Looking forward

Looking forward

Ongoing workstreams

Consolidation of inputs to technical guidance design

Insights from the piloting and metrics development, including learnings, challenges, case studies and data sources, will be consolidated to inform the development of future technical metrics guidance.

Potential for piloting freshwater and marine guidance

After analysing the results of the freshwater and marine feasibility testing, a decision will be made on whether further piloting is needed to test and enhance the guidance for applying the metrics in the freshwater and marine realms.

Developing guidance on demonstrating and communicating nature-positive outcomes

A consensus-building process is underway to develop guidance on how to credibly communicate nature-positive outcomes. Due to complete this year.

Get involved: Join the Nature Positive Forum

To stay up to date, register for the Nature Positive Initiative newsletter here: naturepositive.org/news/

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Available now: Get your free copy of the e-book 'Becoming Nature Positive'

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July 2026: Join us for the second Global Nature Positive Summit

naturepositive.org/events/summit

6. Appendix

Appendix A: Glossary

NATURE POSITIVE INITIATIVE

Term	Definition
State of nature	The condition and extent of ecosystems, and species population size and extinction risk, including positive or negative changes (TNFD).
Indicator	A quantitative or qualitative factor or variable that provides a simple and reliable means to measure performance. An indicator can be measured through one or multiple metrics. Can be measured through one or multiple metrics (as adopted by TNFD).
Metric	A system or standard of measurement (as adopted by TNFD).
Granularity level	The scale or level of detail/precision. The granularity levels in the metrics framework include considerations around spatial resolution, scale of classification categories and preciseness of measurement approaches/proxies. In the State of Nature Metrics Framework there are three granularity levels: preparatory, medium, and high.
Baseline	Starting point or benchmark against which changes in the state of nature attributed to your business activities can be compared (TNFD).
Base map	A foundational layer on a map that is the basis of GIS visual and geographic context. (ESRI) In this guidance, the base map is used as the basis of ecosystem metric calculations.
Site	Area of direct operations or influence, e.g. farm, ranch, mine site, infrastructure development, factory, office.
Landscape/ seascape	Defined geographic areas with common ecological and socioeconomic characteristics. They may be delineated based on watersheds, ecosystems, jurisdictional boundaries, company sourcing areas, or in other ways (Accountability Framework Initiative)
Connectivity	The degree to which the landscape facilitates the movement of organisms (animals, plant reproductive structures, pollen, pollinators, spores etc.) and other environmentally important resources, such as nutrients and moisture, between similar habitats. Connectivity is hampered by fragmentation. (IPBES)
Ecosystem assets (for condition measurements)	Contiguous spaces of a specific ecosystem type characterized by a distinct set of biotic and abiotic components and their interactions (UN-SEEA-EA). This breakdown is used for some high granularity measurements in the metrics framework.
Ecosystem condition class	Ecosystem condition describes the quality of an ecosystem, measured in terms of its abiotic (non-living) and biotic (living) characteristics across a range of temporal and spatial scales (UN-SEEA-EA). An ecosystem condition class is a particular quality category, e.g. composed of a range of condition scores from X-Y.

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Core Stewardship Group

AFRICAN NATURAL CAPITAL ALLIANCE
BirdLife INTERNATIONAL
BUSINESS FOR NATURE
Campaign for Nature
CAPITALS COALITION
CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL
GLOBAL COMMONS ALLIANCE
GRI
ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability
INDIGENOUS INFORMATION NETWORK "with special ECOSOC status"
InTent
IUCN
Nature 4Climate
NATURE FINANCE
NATURE POSITIVE UNIVERSITIES — UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
Pew
PIK
PRI Principles for Responsible Investment
RACE TO RESILIENCE
RACE TO ZERO
SCIENCE BASED TARGETS NETWORK GLOBAL COMMONS ALLIANCE
The Nature Conservancy
TNFD
WBCSD World Business Council for Sustainable Development
WCS
IUCN
WCPA WORLD COMMISSION ON PROTECTED AREAS
WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE
WWF