

A large teal graphic element on the left side of the page, consisting of a triangle pointing upwards at the top, a vertical rectangle below it, and a diagonal line connecting the top-left corner of the rectangle to the top-right corner of the triangle above it.

Supporting a Nature Positive Future: a process for ESA Members

September 2023

This page left intentionally blank for pagination.

Mott MacDonald
Floor 3
1 Whitehall Riverside
Leeds LS1 4BN
United Kingdom

T +44 (0)113 394 6700
mottmac.com

Environmental Services
Association
158 Buckingham Palace
Road
London
SW1W 9TR

Supporting a Nature Positive Future: a process for ESA Members

September 2023

Issue and Revision Record

Revision	Date	Originator	Checker	Approver	Description
1	June 2023	M Greenen G Peel	T Butterworth	J Baker	First issue for ESA to comment
2	September 2023	M Greenen	T Butterworth	J Baker	Final issue

Document reference: 10011290 | 01 | A |

Information class: Standard

This document is issued for the party which commissioned it and for specific purposes connected with the above-captioned project only. It should not be relied upon by any other party or used for any other purpose.

We accept no responsibility for the consequences of this document being relied upon by any other party, or being used for any other purpose, or containing any error or omission which is due to an error or omission in data supplied to us by other parties.

This document contains confidential information and proprietary intellectual property. It should not be shown to other parties without consent from us and from the party which commissioned it.

Contents

Executive summary	1
1 Supporting a Nature Positive Future	2
2 What is Nature and Nature Positive?	4
2.1 What is nature?	4
2.2 The current state of nature	5
2.2.1 Why is the loss of nature a problem?	6
2.3 What is Nature Positive?	6
3 Supporting a Nature Positive Future: ESA members	8
3.1 What is an organisation that supports a Nature Positive future?	8
3.2 Nature Positive FAQs	8
4 Why is Nature Positive important for the Waste and Recycling Industry?	11
4.1 The Overarching Business Case	11
4.2 The Nature Positive Business Case for ESA Members	12
5 A Process for ESA members to support a Nature Positive	14
5.1 How can your organisation support a Nature Positive future?	14
5.2 Supporting a Nature Positive future: a process for ESA members	15
5.2.1 Understanding	15
5.2.2 Developing the business case	17
5.2.3 Committing	18
5.2.4 Mapping	19
5.2.5 Measuring	23
5.2.6 Prioritising	27
5.2.7 Setting Targets	28
5.2.8 Taking action	30
5.2.9 Influencing	32
5.2.10 Tracking	33
5.2.11 Reporting	34
5.2.12 Reviewing and ratcheting up	35
A. Agreeing	36
B. Sharing	37
C. Engaging	38
D. Collaborating	39

A.	Appendix A – Supplementary Context	40
B.	Appendix B – Nature Positive Actions	43
C.	Appendix C – Glossary	47
D.	Appendix D – Typology for broad impacts on nature and links to SBTN/TNFD impact driver categories	48

Tables

Table 5.1:	Actions Template	30
------------	------------------	----

Figures

Figure 1.1:	Nature Positive Process document navigation.	3
Figure 2.1:	Components of Nature.	4
Figure 2.2:	The Global Living Planet Index.	5
Figure 2.3:	Abundance of UK Priority Species from 1970 to 2016.	6
Figure 2.4:	Visualisation of the UK's Nature Positive trajectory.	7
Figure 5.1:	Supporting a Nature Positive future: stages of the process for ESA members.	14

Tables – Appendices

Table B.1:	Recommended Nature Positive actions for Waste Value Chain impacts	43
Table C.2:	Glossary	47

Figures – Appendices

No table of figures entries found.

Executive summary

Nature is being degraded faster than at any other time in our history and this is having devastating consequences for our planet, economies and society. Organisations are often seen as part of the problem but, by supporting a Nature Positive future, can instead be part of the solution. This not only enables organisations to demonstrate a holistic approach to sustainability, but also safeguards their commercial future because industries depend on natural resources and the services nature provides.

The **Waste and Recycling Industry** has a key role in supporting a Nature Positive future. There are immediate opportunities to improve nature on and around sites, opportunities to positively impact nature through operations and activities, for example, the choice of transport, as well as far-reaching opportunities such as helping to prevent and reduce the production of waste.

An organisation that supports a Nature Positive future seeks to have an overall measurable net positive impact on nature that contributes towards local and national conservation targets. This covers impacts within the organisation's control, for example from its operations, offices and sites. For impacts on nature that are outside of its control, the organisation proactively encourages and promotes a Nature Positive approach to those who can control those impacts, as well as promoting Nature Positive to others.

This document sets out the step-by-step process ESA members to support a Nature Positive future. It is to be read and used in conjunction with the 'ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit'.

1 Supporting a Nature Positive Future

The world is currently facing a joint nature and climate crisis. Increased cycles of human production and consumption are putting pressure on ecosystems leading to the decline of species' populations around the world, whilst also making the climate more erratic, unpredictable and extreme. This crisis is mutually reinforcing: the effects of climate change is having devastating impacts on nature; and the on-going decline in nature is making climate change worse.

Investments are being made to tackle the climate crisis, and now it is time to expand these efforts to tackle the nature crisis.

The **Environmental Services Association** (ESA) has already started guiding ESA members on improving and restoring biodiversity (which is an element of nature), with its Biodiversity Best Practice Guide¹. To expand this, the ESA commissioned Mott MacDonald and WSP (MM-WSP) to develop a process for ESA members to support a Nature Positive future. This involved interviewing ESA members to gather their views about barriers and opportunities to support a Nature Positive future, and producing a process that ESA members can follow to set Nature Positive targets and make progress towards these. A full description of the work undertaken is detailed in a separate Nature Positive Process: Technical Note.

This document contains the process for ESA members to support a Nature Positive future.

This process is summarised in Figure 1.1 and aligns with international frameworks and methodologies including the Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures² (TNFD) and the Science-based Targets for Nature³ (SBTN)⁴.

The Nature Positive Process for ESA members starts by explaining what Nature Positive is, setting a definition of Nature Positive for ESA members and outlining the business case for ESA members to support Nature Positive future.

It then describes how ESA members can establish their baseline: this is a baseline of all impacts on nature within their control. To help with this, ESA members can use the supplementary 'ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit' as a starting point.

It then contains a step-by-step process for ESA members to follow to support a Nature Positive future.

Finally, this document contains references and links for more information.

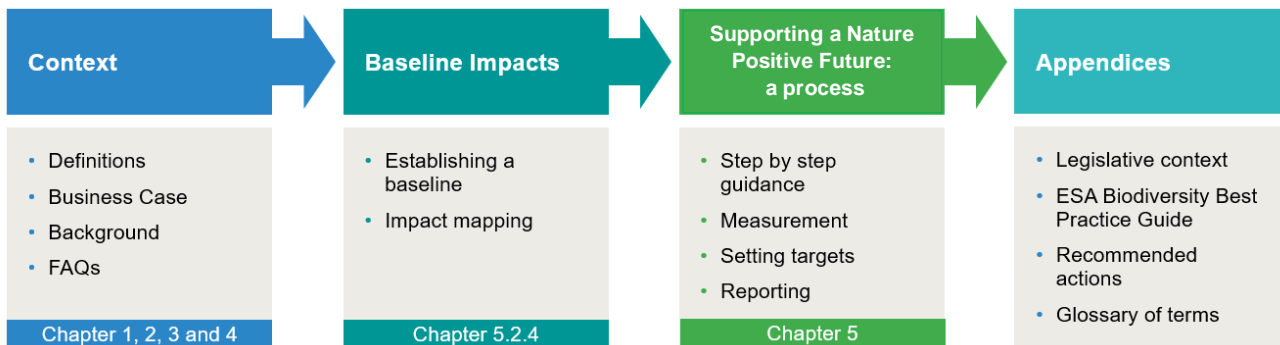
¹ ESA_Biodiversity-Best-Practice-Guide-2022_UPDATE.pdf (esauk.org)

² TNFD – Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures. Note that the TFND was not published at the time of producing this document,

³ Science Based Targets Network

⁴ Note that the Nature Positive.Org initiative launched on 6th Sept 2023

Figure 1.1: Nature Positive Process document navigation.



2 What is Nature and Nature Positive?

This section defines nature and sets the context for the rapidly-building momentum for Nature Positive.

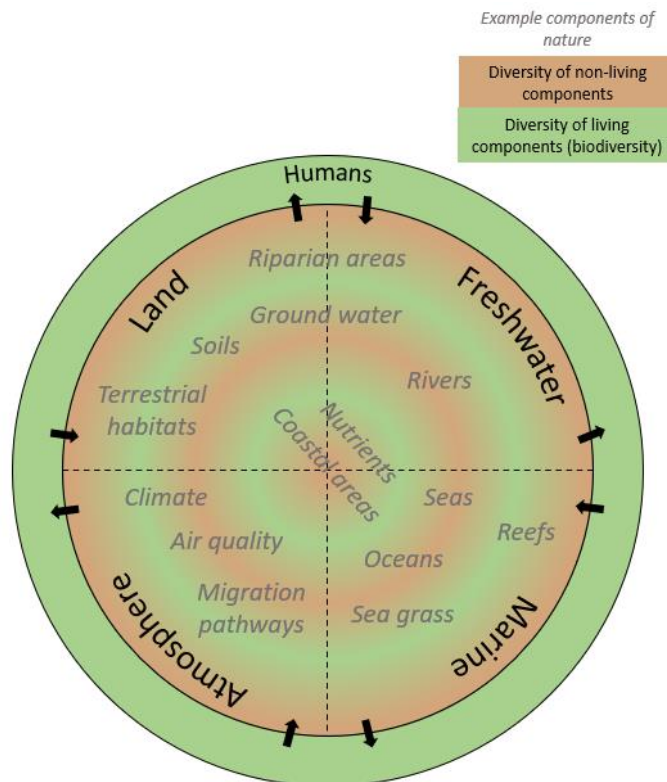
2.1 What is nature?

Nature refers to all living and non-living components of the natural world, and their interactions⁵.

Nature covers land, freshwater and marine environments, as well as components within them and the atmosphere (Figure 2.1). It also covers how people interact with the natural environment.

Biodiversity is a core part of nature. The term refers to the diversity of living organisms (plants, animals, bacteria), their interactions and the ecosystems that they form^{6,7,8}.

Figure 2.1: Components of Nature.



Source: WSP

⁵ Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services | Zenodo

⁶ cbd-en.pdf

⁷ Natural Capital Protocol – Capitals Coalition

⁸ Science-Based-Targets-for-Nature-Initial-Guidance-for-Business.pdf (sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org)

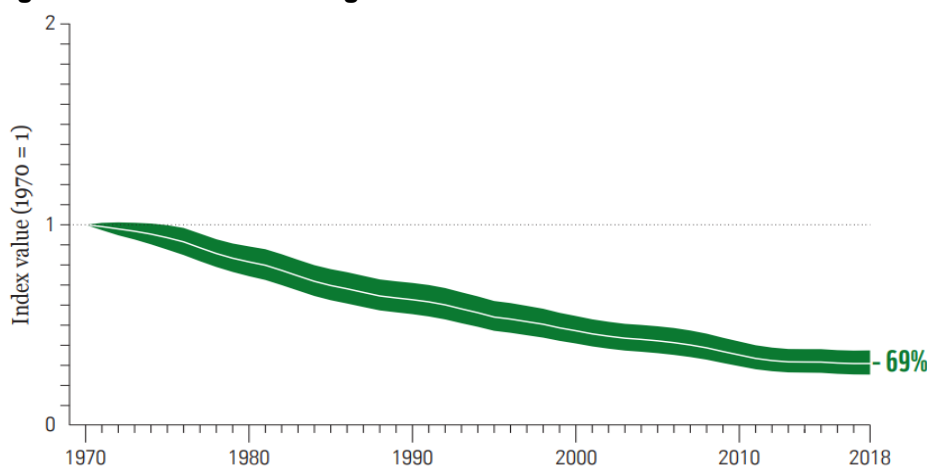
2.2 The current state of nature

Nature is being degraded faster than at any other time in human history and this loss of nature cannot be sustained.

- 1.6 Earths are needed to sustain our current living standards⁹.
- More than 90% of habitat loss results from the extraction and processing of natural resources from mining to agricultural expansion¹⁰.
- Pollution of air, water and soil continues to increase¹¹
- Over 1 million species¹² are threatened by extinction and their ecosystems are at risk of collapse.
- Annual rates of deforestation¹³ persist at ~10 million hectares per year.
- In the UK, 15% of native species are threatened with extinction, and the populations of over 40% of species have decreased¹⁴.

Figure 2.2 illustrates the ongoing decline in nature measured by the Global Living Planet Index¹¹, which is a measure of the state of global biodiversity based on population trends of vertebrate species from around the world.

Figure 2.2: The Global Living Planet Index.



Source: WWF, Living Planet Report (2022)

Figure 2.3 shows the decline in the relative abundance of UK Priority Species¹⁵ between 1970 and 2016. The abundance indicator represents ~214 species.

⁹ Becoming #GenerationRestoration: Ecosystem Restoration for People, Nature and Climate | UNEP - UN Environment Programme

¹⁰ Global Resources Outlook | Resource Panel

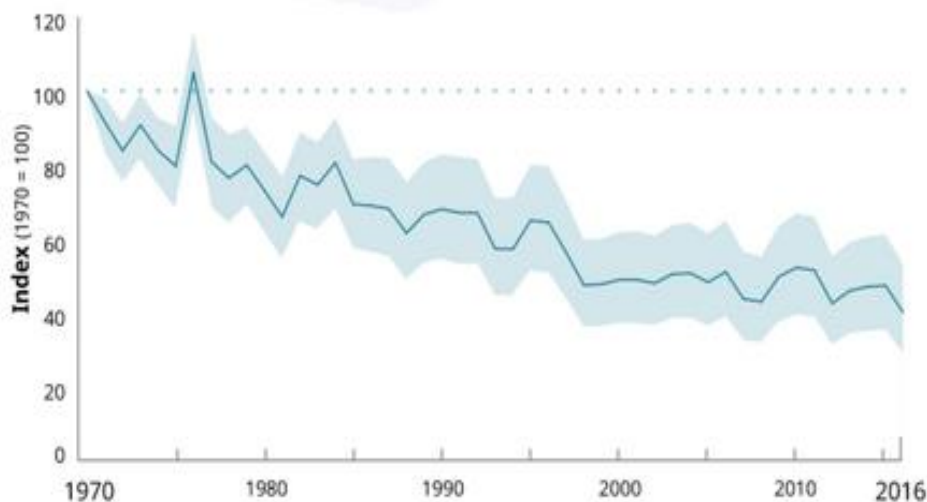
¹¹ Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services | IPBES secretariat

¹² Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services | IPBES secretariat

¹³ State of the World's Forests 2020 (fao.org)

¹⁴ State of nature report (rspb.org.uk)

¹⁵ Priority species are defined by the Secretary of State under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 as species which are of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity in England. The priority species list for England contains a total of 940 species.

Figure 2.3: Abundance of UK Priority Species from 1970 to 2016.

Source: JNCC (2016)¹⁶

2.2.1 Why is the loss of nature a problem?

The World Economic Forum (WEF)¹⁷ estimates that directly or indirectly, approximately 50% of the world's gross domestic product (GDP) is directly dependent on nature and the other 50% is indirectly dependent. This emphasises the need to protect and restore nature, particularly by integrating nature within organisational operations to safeguard future economic growth. Furthermore, the world-renowned Dasgupta Review¹⁸ clearly illustrates that economies depend on healthy and resilient ecosystems and that tackling climate change can only truly be achieved by tackling biodiversity loss. The COP15 held in Montreal, Canada in 2022 cemented a landmark commitment to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 through the Kunming-Montreal Agreement¹⁹. This is echoed in the UK through the Nature Positive 2030 initiative spearheaded by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee²⁰ alongside other stakeholders. By recognising the essential value of nature as a core part of AI and implementing strong governance for business targets on protecting and enhancing nature, the physical and commercial resilience of the organisation can be reinforced, while creating greater value for all stakeholders.

2.3 What is Nature Positive?

Supporting a Nature Positive future is fast gaining momentum by governments, financial institutions, commercial organisations and non-governmental organisations across the world. In this global context, Nature Positive is described by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature²¹ (IUCN) as being to:

¹⁶ UKBI - C4a. Species - abundance | JNCC - Adviser to Government on Nature Conservation

¹⁷ Why it's time to make your business become nature positive | World Economic Forum (weforum.org)

¹⁸ The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review (publishing.service.gov.uk)

¹⁹ COP15: Final text of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework | Convention on Biological Diversity (cbd.int)

²⁰ Nature Positive 2030 | JNCC - Adviser to Government on Nature Conservation

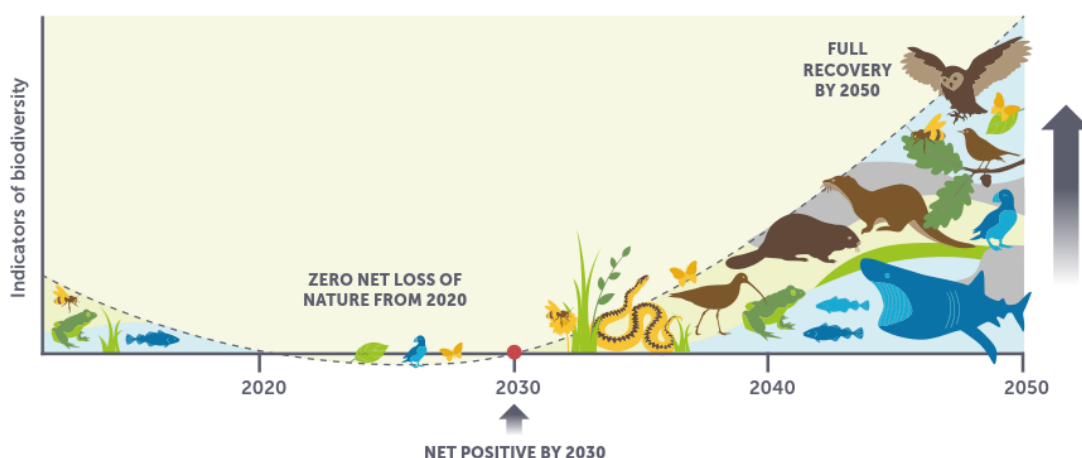
²¹ Summary - Towards an IUCN nature-positive approach: a working paper - resource | IUCN

‘Halt and reverse the loss of nature measured from its current status, reducing future negative impacts alongside restoring and renewing nature, to put both living and non-living nature measurably on the path to recovery.’

Here in the UK, the Government committed to a Nature Positive future (Figure 2.4) with the aim to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030, as set out in its 25 Year Environment Plan²².

Figure 2.4: Visualisation of the UK’s Nature Positive trajectory.

A Nature Positive UK by 2030



Source: RSPB²³

Within the UK this is supported by the Nature Positive Business Pledge, a set of principles and approach for businesses working towards supporting a Nature Positive future. The pledge has been developed by the UK Business and Biodiversity Forum (UKBBF), RSPB, IEMA, ICC and Aldersgate Group to help businesses frame and focus what Nature Positive means for them.

²² 25 Year Environment Plan - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

²³ A Nature Positive UK by 2030, adapted from the Global Goal for Nature. <https://www.naturepositive.org/>.

3 Supporting a Nature Positive Future: ESA members

This section sets out a definition of 'Supporting a Nature Positive future' for ESA members and the recommended baseline year. It also contains a list of Frequently Asked Questions including the difference between Biodiversity Net Gain and Nature Positive.

3.1 What is an organisation that supports a Nature Positive future?

The first step for an organisation to support a Nature Positive future is to define what such an organisation seeks to achieve.

A definition for ESA members is:

- 1. An organisation that seeks an overall measurable net positive impact on nature that contributes towards local and national conservation targets. The impacts are all impacts on nature within the organisation's control, for example from its operations, offices and sites.**
- 2. For impacts on nature that are outside of its control, the organisation proactively encourages and promotes a Nature Positive approach to those who can control those impacts, as well as promoting Nature Positive to others.**

This definition is based on international literature on Nature Positive and the Nature Positive Business Pledge's Nature Positive Principles²⁴.

3.2 Nature Positive FAQs

What's the difference between Biodiversity Net Gain and Nature Positive?

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is development that leaves the natural environment in a measurably better state than before. In England, the mandatory BNG requirement is to achieve a minimum 10% increase in the biodiversity value of a site, as measured in 'habitat units' by the Natural England Biodiversity Metric.

While BNG is based on direct site impacts, Nature Positive includes direct site impacts as well as indirect impacts on nature through, for example, supply chains and procurement.

BNG differs from Nature Positive in the following ways:

- BNG only covers biodiversity, whilst Nature Positive covers all aspects of nature.*
- BNG is to improve biodiversity on a site through habitat creation and enhancement, whilst supporting a Nature Positive future is to understand an organisation's impacts and dependencies on nature, incorporate nature into strategic decision-making, and work towards all activities improving the state of nature.*

²⁴ The Nature Positive Business Pledge (business-biodiversity.co.uk)

- *BNG includes establishing a baseline that is specific to an activity and a date before the activity started, whilst Nature Positive involves establishing a baseline year for an organisation that it then measures progress against. BNG can be a core part of a Nature Positive plan of action, but Nature Positive will cover wider organisational impacts on nature.*

Nature Positive involves all impacts on nature within the control of an organisation, but what does “impacts within our control” mean exactly?

Impacts on nature within the control of an organisation – this covers anything that the organisation can make a decision about within its operational control. This includes direct impacts on nature from site activities and operations, for example infrastructure built, equipment used and waste generated, as well as indirect impacts on nature through supply chains and the procurement of goods and materials, and through the type of transport used. It also includes impacts on nature from waste produced by the organisation.

Note that ESA members can have a positive effect on nature beyond impacts that are within their control. For example, some ESA members are involved with the prevention of waste, thereby preventing impacts on nature from the processing and disposal of waste.

If we are creating habitats for wildlife on our sites, does this count towards supporting a Nature Positive future?

Yes, such measures can count towards supporting a Nature Positive future. What’s critical is to first establish a baseline – which is to assess all impacts on nature within the control of your organisation. Then you can understand how creating wildlife-rich habitats can help make progress towards supporting a Nature Positive future.

For example, installation of a new storage unit requires clearance of grassland and scrub. The construction involves creating a scrub-grassland mosaic to achieve Biodiversity Net Gain on site. Then other ‘Nature Positive’ measures are needed to address negative impacts on nature that result from the type of transport used for construction and operation and the materials used to build the storage unit. Note that this Nature Positive Process goes through the details of “how”.

Is there a single metric to measure Nature Positive?

The starting point to become Nature Positive is to assess and quantify all impacts on nature within an organisation’s control. This typically involves a variety of information and data, for example impacts on nature from office-based activities are different from impacts on nature from transport.

*Currently, there is no single metric to capture the variety of direct and indirect impacts on nature that an organisation will have. First is to decide on your baseline year. Then Section **Error! Reference source not found.** describes how to establish your baseline impacts on nature using the ‘ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit’ as a starting point, and Section 5 sets out the step-by-step process to become Nature Positive.*

2020 is recommended as the baseline year but, if I don’t have good data for 2020, can I set another baseline year?

Yes, you can, just be transparent about the reason why 2020 doesn’t work for you as the baseline year and the reason for the year that you do select as your baseline.

You may find it necessary to have different baselines years for different aspects of your work, for example a baseline for a BNG assessment for a new development could be different from the baseline year for the wider site.

How do I establish a baseline to measure progress towards supporting a Nature Positive future?

Your baseline is an assessment of all impacts on nature within the control of your organisation. These impacts might be direct impacts on site, as well as indirect impacts on nature that result from transport and procurement.

As a starting point, the 'ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit' has been developed for you to map your activities on the waste value chain and see what impacts on nature can result from these. Our toolkit has been produced to accompany this document.

4 Why is Nature Positive important for the Waste and Recycling Industry?

There is a strong business case for the Waste and Recycling Industry to support a Nature Positive future. While the business case will be specific to each ESA member, this section lists key points of the business case for ESA members to select the points that are most relevant to them.

4.1 The Overarching Business Case

- 1. Humans rely intrinsically on natural systems.** According to the World Economic Forum²⁵ (WEF), over half of global GDP generated by industries is highly or moderately dependent on nature. This could be because they extract resources from mining or oceans, or because they rely on ecosystem services like flood management or clean water. In addition, all sectors, including waste and recycling indirectly rely on nature, for example via their supply chains or worker well-being. The WEF also demonstrated significant hidden and indirect dependencies for the other half of global GDP; and then the world-renowned Dasgupta Review²⁶ demonstrated that economies depend on healthy and resilient ecosystems and that tackling climate change can only truly be achieved by tackling nature loss.
- 2. Legislation is emerging.** A new era of nature-related strategy, policy and legislation has kick-started in the past few years. This is placing corporate organisations under increasing pressure to disclose their impacts on nature and demonstrate how they are working to address them. New legislations is already beginning to impose stricter rules on the use of specific habitats and products, on reporting requirements and on subsidy reforms. For example, the Environment Act 2021 that requires developments to achieve BNG. Early preparation (such as considering Nature Positive approaches) can avoid costly change for compliance later on. Also, by engaging governments, organisations can help to develop policies that are better adapted to their needs.
- 3. Financial opportunities.** The financial sector is adopting rigorous biodiversity criteria as part of lending and investment policies, in order to get ahead of the regulatory curve and mitigate the risk of stranded assets. Failing to consider nature in corporate strategies could expose organisations, in any sector, to higher borrowing costs or, in the longer term, leave them unable to secure affordable funding. On the other hand, being able to demonstrate positive action for nature will inspire investor confidence and could unlock more favourable terms as demand grows for nature-friendly investing. For example, the financial opportunities from the market that mandatory BNG is expected to drive. Also, some companies are looking for less reliance on global resources and more self-reliance through circular economy approaches.
- 4. Reputational risk.** As awareness of biodiversity loss grows among consumers, employees, investors and policymakers, corporate action on nature will come under

²⁵ Why it's time to make your business become nature positive | World Economic Forum (weforum.org)

²⁶ Final Report - The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

increasing scrutiny. The reputational risks of failing to recognise and mitigate negative impacts (direct or indirect) on nature could become significant. At the same time, implementing genuine, validated measures that support the recovery and enhancement of nature is an essential part of an organisation's sustainability strategy. This particularly prevalent in the Waste and Recycling Industry whereby the nature of the industry is often seen to be polluting or environmentally damaging by the wider public.

- 5. Every risk can be an opportunity.** A organisation's impact on nature results in a range of operational, regulatory, investor and reputational risks. But addressing these impacts not only mitigates the risk but opens the door to new opportunities. The WEF report estimated that 395 million green jobs and £10.1 trillion could be generated by organisational opportunities from a Nature Positive transition by 2030.

4.2 The Nature Positive Business Case for ESA Members

Supporting a Nature Positive future can generate a range of benefits and opportunities for ESA members²⁷. These include:

- 1. Improving longer term profitability.** Supporting a Nature Positive future can help to identify operational and cost efficiencies and support the business to become sustainability leaders in their market, especially by fostering partnerships and collaborations that result in innovations and synergies and improving recognition and reputation.
- 2. Supporting circularity.** Supporting a Nature Positive future can provide key insights to improve the organisation's approach to circularity²⁸; these include how waste is prevented, reused and recycled in innovative and more efficient ways, resulting in both increased profits and environmental regeneration. The Waste and Recycling Industry is closely linked to the circular economy and businesses should be seeking to achieve circular solutions and incorporate circularity in organisational decisions and long-term strategies.
- 3. Developing a more agile workforce.** Incorporating nature into decision-making can improve predictions around future trends in material use, help future-proof operations and open the door to new revenue streams and contracts.
- 4. Boosting staff well-being and purpose.** Nature can greatly improve people's mental and physical health, and these benefits extend to the workplace. Enhancing the natural environment on site and in the local area can provide better places for people to work and promote productivity and help alleviate stress. Also, as people are becoming environmentally aware, people are choosing to work for companies who take positive action for the environment and who are leaders in sustainability.
- 5. Being a good neighbour.** By supporting a Nature Positive future, ESA members can actively improve the quality and quantity of nature in the surrounding area, benefiting the local community and local wildlife initiatives such as Local Nature Recovery

²⁷ These were identified during interviews with ESA members over the course of Spring 2023.

²⁸ Four lessons from nature to build a circular economy | World Economic Forum (weforum.org) and The Circular Economy's Role in Biodiversity Protection | Cutter Consortium

Strategies. This in turn can help companies to build trusting and productive relationships with individuals, organisations and local authorities.

5 A Process for ESA members to support a Nature Positive

5.1 How can your organisation support a Nature Positive future?

Figure 5.1 summarises the process to follow to support a Nature Positive future.

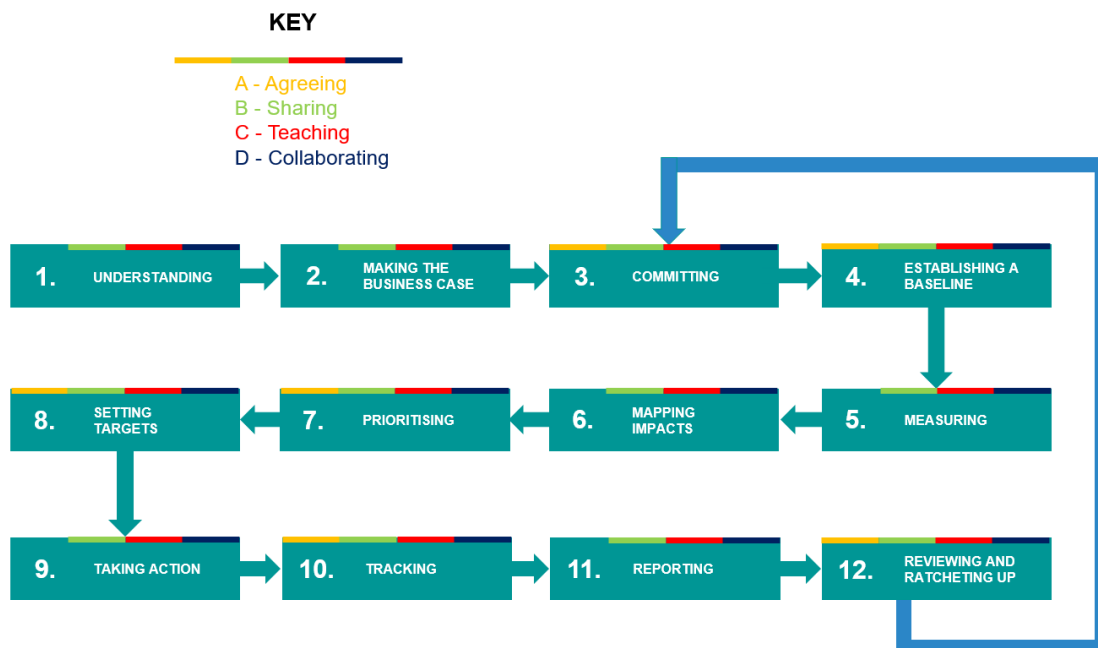
This process is specific to organisations in the Waste and Recycling Industry and aligns with TNFD²⁹, SBTN and the UKBBF Nature Positive principles.

Your organisation can declare to be following this process when you start Step 1 with a commitment to progress through all stages.

The steps can be revisited; for example, you may want to revisit the ‘Measuring’ step when setting Nature Positive targets, if the metrics first chosen are deemed to not be appropriate when the data is collated.

This process is iterative, for example, you could start by establishing your impacts on nature using the ‘ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit’ for site operations, and then progress to impacts on nature resulting from offices or other organisational activities.

Figure 5.1: Supporting a Nature Positive future: stages of the process for ESA members.



Source: WSP and Mott MacDonald

The next Section contains each stage of the process. Following this, A (Agreeing), B (Sharing), C (Teaching) and D (Collaborating), are described.

²⁹ This process was prepared before TNFD was published.

5.2 Supporting a Nature Positive future: a process for ESA members

5.2.1 Understanding

Goal:

Your core team and other relevant staff working on Nature Positive understand what Nature Positive is, what supporting a Nature Positive future involves and the benefits of doing so, and what policies and regulations exist that might affect your organisation.

Tasks:

- Review ESA's Biodiversity Best Practice Guide (key takeaways are presented in A2 of this document), and Sections 1 and 4 of this document, to understand key headlines about Nature Positive and biodiversity action in this sector.³⁰
- Encourage the core team to follow and listen to the latest webinars and podcasts on Nature Positive, to keep up to date with this fast-moving space.

Quick resources:

- Refer to Sections 2, 3 and 4, and Appendix A: sections A1 and A2 of this guide for the following information:
 - The definitions nature and biodiversity and their differences (2.1, 3.2)
 - What nature positive is (2.3, 3.1, 3.2). A reminder that:
 - Supporting a Nature Positive future means that an organisation seeks to have an overall measurable net positive impact on nature that contributes towards local and national conservation targets. This regards impacts within the organisation's control, for example from its operations, sites and offices.
 - For impacts on nature that are outside of its control, the organisation proactively encourages and promotes a Nature Positive approach to those in control of those impacts, as well as promoting Nature Positive to others.
 - The current declining state of nature and its link to human pressures (2.2).
 - The importance of nature for organisations (4.1).
 - Nature-related strategy, policy and legislation updates (Appendix A: A1).
 - Headlines from ESA's Biodiversity Best Practice Guide (Appendix A: A2).
- Sources of news, webinars and podcasts include³¹: channels on LinkedIn (e.g. TNFD, SBTN, #naturepositive, etc.); UK Business and Biodiversity Forum³² working groups (Nature Positive and TNFD), EU Business & Biodiversity Platform³³ webinars, The Nature Positive Network Podcast³⁴, COP15, Get Nature Positive³⁵ and Nature Positive Podcast³⁶, others include Get Nature Positive and Nature Positive.org.

Going one step further:

³⁰ Wider awareness raising throughout the organisation is discussed in action 'B – Sharing' later in the guidance document.

³¹ Credibility of the information in such sources must be checked.

³² UK Business & Biodiversity Forum (business-biodiversity.co.uk)

³³ Business and Biodiversity (europa.eu)

³⁴ The Nature Positive Network | Podcast on Spotify

³⁵ The Nature Handbook for the environmental services sector (getnaturepositive.com)

³⁶ Oxford Biodiversity Network | What is Nature Positive? Listen to this podcast to find out

- For more information about biodiversity, natural capital and nature positive, consult the:
 - Science-Based Targets Network³⁷ (SBTN) provides guidance on how to set measurable, actionable and time-bound nature objectives based on the best available science. They focus on five key areas – freshwater, biodiversity, land, oceans and climate change (the last of which has already been developed by the sister organisation SBT initiative). They provide resources and onboarding content for organisations that are getting started.
 - Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)³⁸ provides a framework for nature-related risk management and disclosure, designed to help organisations act and report on nature-related risks relevant to their operations across the value chain. It has a section on Concept and Definitions and a publication library with further resources.
 - Natural Capital Protocol³⁹ is an internationally standardized, decision-making framework that enables organisations to identify, measure and value their direct and indirect impacts and dependencies on natural capital. It outlines concepts and definitions.
- For sector-specific guidance, see ESA's contribution to 'Get Nature Positive'⁴⁰.

Main outputs:

- Core team members and other relevant staff should have a good understanding of Nature Positive.
- This may be supported by a summary technical note that contains all information most relevant to your organisation for sharing among core team members and relevant staff. Note that wider engagement with staff follows an organisation commitment; this first step is for the core team to gather the information your organisation needs to proceed through this process.

³⁷ sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Science-Based-Targets-for-Nature-Initial-Guidance-for-Business.pdf and Resources – Science Based Targets Network

³⁸ TNFD – Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures

³⁹ Natural Capital Protocol – Capitals Coalition

⁴⁰ The Nature Handbook for the environmental services sector (getnaturepositive.com)

5.2.2 Developing the business case

Goal:

Develop a business case for your organisation to support a Nature Positive future. This should cover what Nature Positive is and why supporting a Nature Positive future will benefit your organisation. It should also include a high-level programme to follow all steps in this process.

Tasks:

- Use ESA's Biodiversity Best Practice Guide (key takeaways are presented in A2) and Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this document to explain the 'what is Nature Positive' and 'why supporting a Nature Positive future will benefit my organisation'. These documents define Nature and Nature Positive, and provide a list of nature-related risks, opportunities and benefits – you could use this list to select the risks, opportunities and benefits that applies to your organisation in order to develop your business case.
- Assess whether the Nature Positive approach fits into existing strategies (e.g. organisation sustainability strategies including carbon, circular economy, BNG etc as well as ESG related reporting).
- Develop a high-level programme for your organisation to follow steps in this process.
- Discuss with those involved in communications about outreach and engagement within your organisation on Nature Positive, and externally when appropriate to do so, in order to include these communication activities in your business case.
- Estimate what resources you will need (e.g. staff, materials etc) and the costs involved, and present this in the business case.
- The business case should include a core team who report to senior management. For additional governance, consider establishing an advisory or working group to provide technical input and advice.
- Present the business case to the relevant senior/board members of the organisation for review and approval.

Quick resources:

- Refer to Sections 2, 3 and 4, and Appendix A: Sections A1 and A2 of this document.
- Note: Section 4.1 contains the overarching business case and Section 4.2 provides sector-specific opportunities from supporting a Nature Positive future.

Main outputs:

- An internal business case document and/or presentation slide-deck that includes:
 - An introduction to Nature Positive;
 - Purpose and justification for supporting a Nature Positive future, including risks avoided and opportunities and benefits gained including how Nature Positive fits with your organisation's existing strategies;
 - A high-level programme of action with a timeline to follow this Process, which covers outreach and engagement elements;
 - Resourcing requirements;
 - Governance;
- Review and approval by relevant senior/board members of the organisation.

5.2.3 Committing

Goal:

Make a commitment to support a Nature Positive future.

Tasks:

- Develop an organisation-wide Nature Positive policy or similar that contains a commitment to support a Nature Positive future. This can be a high-level one-page overview outlining the importance of Nature Positive to our economies and society, and the role your organisation can play in supporting a Nature Positive future (signposting that more information will follow). Or it can be more detailed, for example with an organisation or site-specific roadmap. As a minimum, this should include:
 - The aim to support a Nature Positive future.
 - The approach that will be used: this should be based on the process described in this document.
 - A commitment to report on progress.
- Publish this internally with a clear communications strategy for both internal and external communications.
- Consider signing up the Nature Positive Business Pledge⁴¹ which sets a framework for organisations to act in a Nature Positive way and encourages them to ratchet up their ambitions. The Pledge also encourages organisations to develop a Nature Positive Plan: the process in this document could be that Plan for ESA members. Refer to Appendix A: Section A3.
- Contains a summary of the Pledge.

Quick resources:

- Refer to Appendix A: Section A3 of this guide for an overview of the Nature Positive Business Pledge.

Going one step further:

- Consider signing up to the UKBBF's Nature Positive Working Group, or similar initiatives such as Nature Positive.org.
- For organisations who have signed up or are planning to sign up to the pledge, the UKBBF group meets every other month to discuss topics surrounding the journey to Nature Positive. More detail is provided in Appendix A: Section A3.

Main outputs:

- A written commitment to support a Nature Positive future.

⁴¹ <https://www.business-biodiversity.co.uk/nature-positive-business-pledge/>

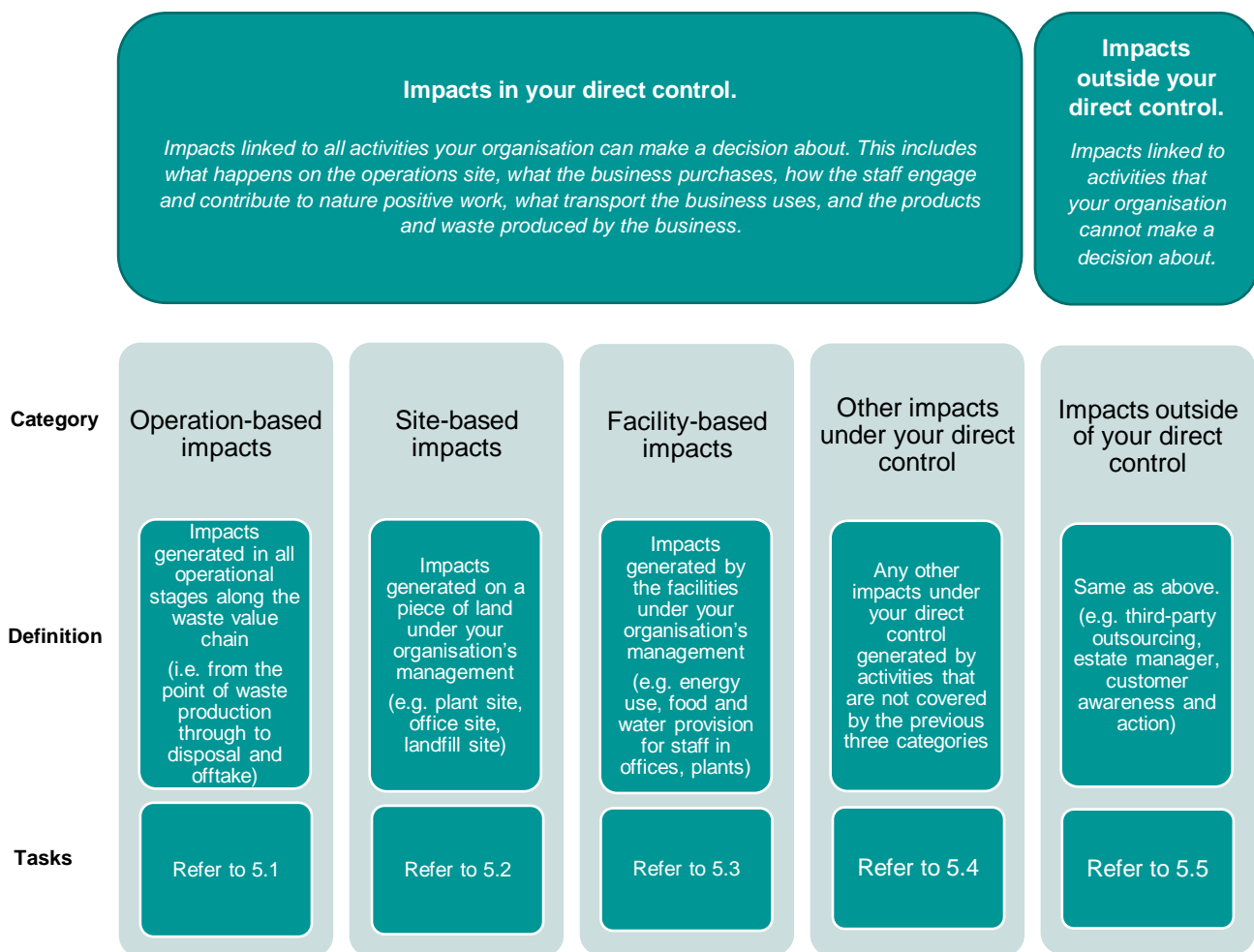
5.2.4 Mapping

Goal:

Broadly identify your organisation’s impacts on nature by mapping them onto the pathways outlined in Figure 5.2.

Note that you can decide to focus on mapping certain impact categories in the first instance and then expand your mapping exercise to other impact categories in future years, as per the ‘ratcheting up’ action at the end of this process.

Figure 5.2: Impact categories



Tasks:

For operation-based impacts:

- Complete the ‘ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit’ to identify the boundaries of your organisation’s operations and the impact of these operations on nature.
- The toolkit gives an indication of your greatest impacts on nature for an initial assessment.

For site-based impacts:

- List existing sites and estate assets owned by your organisation. Provide a GIS (Geographic Information System) boundary of these sites and estates assets whenever possible.
- Identify areas where your organisation is undertaking a new development project or is planning to undertake a new development project.

For facility-based impacts:

- Determine which of the following resources are used in your facilities:
 - Energy use (electricity, heat).
 - Fossil fuel use (plant and machinery, heat).
 - Mineral use (equipment – e.g. machinery, computers, office supplies).
 - Plant and animal use (food, office supplies – e.g. paper, stationary).
 - Water use.
- Give a pressure score to each resource as per the following:
 - 1: this resource is used very little.
 - 2: this resource is used moderately.
 - 3: this resource is used significantly.
- Determine whether any resources used are on the High Impact Commodity List⁴² (HICL). Products include aluminium, cement, cobalt, lithium, steel, banana, coffee, cocoa, tree nuts, etc. An automatic pressure score of 3 for products on this list has been recommended.

Note that these lists are only examples and you will need to review your operations, sites and facilities to capture all potential impacts on nature.

For other impacts under your direct control:

- Over the course of your work, determine whether you have direct control over any other activities with impacts on nature that do not fit in the other three categories.
- Determine whether the impact is linked to:
 - Changing land, a freshwater body, the marine space or the atmosphere.
 - Exploiting a resource (e.g. water, mineral, plant or animal).
 - Contributing to climate change.
 - Causing pollution (e.g. water, soil, solid waste, non-greenhouse-gas air pollutants).
 - Other (e.g. noise and light disturbances, invasive species, the level of awareness/understanding about biodiversity and nature positive).
- Give an initial pressure score to each impact as per the following (this is just an initial score to then re-assess when you collect more data):
 - 1: the impact is small.
 - 2: the impact is moderate.
 - 3: the impact is significant.
- This impact mapping exercise focuses on negative impacts. You should record any positive impacts you have on nature as well.

For impacts outside your direct control:

⁴² SBTNHighImpactCommodityListv1_Beta_Feb2023_CONFIDENTIAL.doc (live.com)

- Over the course of your work, determine whether there are impacts on nature that you do not have direct control over. Some examples of impacts on nature not in your direct control include transport, packaging and downstream processing, however this is dependent on the type and scale of your organisation's activities.
- For each impact, identify the party who has direct control over the impact (e.g. board members, site manager, third party site operator).

Quick resources:

- The 'ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit' was developed for ESA members to map their operation-based impacts.
- ENCORE⁴³ (Exploring Natural Capital Opportunities, Risks and Exposure) is a tool that guides users in understanding how organisations across all sectors of the economy potentially depend and impact on nature, and how these potential dependencies and impacts might represent an organisational risk. It does so by focusing on the goods and services that nature provides to enable economic production. The tool provides sector-level rankings at the level of the Global Industry Classification Standard⁴⁴. By clicking on the 'Industrials' sector and 'Environmental & Facilities Services' sub-industry in the tool, ESA members can assess the impacts and dependencies associated with nature that this sector has and then you can use this as a starting point for your research.

Going one step further:

- For impacts outside your direct control: map the type of impact the third-party organisation has on nature, by applying the methodology used for operation-based, site-based, facility-based and other impacts under your direct control. Then contact their third party to encourage them to adopt a Nature Positive approach.
- For impacts within your control, complete a full materiality assessment using recognised frameworks like the Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures⁴⁵ (Locate, Evaluate and Assess phases of the LEAP approach). Further resources are also available in the Science-based Targets Network⁴⁶ (Step 1: Assess).
 - A materiality assessment is the process that involves identifying what is (or is potentially) 'material', i.e. relevant to the overall performance, results and viability of the organisation, in relation to the impacts and dependencies the organisation has on nature. Dependencies are how operations, facilities, sites and any other aspect of the organisation rely on nature. For example, operations might rely on the provision of freshwater which is filtered by freshwater habitats; sites might rely on vegetation to prevent erosion; staff might rely on the presence of trees on site for shade and well-being during breaks.
 - Building on the findings of this impact mapping exercise, your organisation can identify its dependencies on nature and subsequently deduce its main nature-related risks and opportunities.

Main outputs:

- An impact map of the categories you have focused on:
 - For operation-based impacts: a completed 'ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit'.

⁴³ ENCORE (naturalcapital.finance)

⁴⁴ 112727-gics-mapbook_2018_v3_letter_digitalspreads.pdf (spglobal.com)

⁴⁵ Welcome to the TNFD Nature-Related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework » TNFD

⁴⁶ The Science Based Targets Network (SBTN) - Science Based Targets

- For site-based impacts: a list of existing sites and sites under development, with GIS information about the boundaries of these sites.
- For facility-based impacts: a list of resources being used with their related pressure score.
- For other impacts within your direct control: a list of impacts with their related pressure score.
- For impacts outside of your direct control: a list of impacts associated with the name of the responsible third-party organisation and your customers.

5.2.5 Measuring

Goal:

Measure the impacts of your mapped activities on nature at your chosen baseline year, and any subsequent years since then. This baseline year will be the year against which progress towards supporting a Nature Positive future will be measured in subsequent years.

Like with the 'Mapping' step, note that you can focus on measuring certain impact categories in the first instance and expand the measuring exercise to other impact categories in future years, as per the 'ratcheting up' action at the end of this process.

Tasks:

- Set your baseline year. This will establish a clear point in time that you will use to measure your impacts on nature in subsequent steps. Choose a baseline year based on:
 - Which year is representative of your operations (e.g. avoid choosing a baseline year where operations were significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; see the FAQ in this document);
 - When data of an acceptable quality and quantity is available (e.g. covering all necessary areas where nature positive action will take place, at a useful resolution);
 - A year that enables your organisation's support for a Nature Positive future to align with international and UK Nature Positive targets and approaches (e.g. the Global Biodiversity Framework was agreed in 2022 and has timebound targets aligned with 2030).

Different baselines may be chosen for different aspects of the assessment, when appropriate and justifiable (e.g. buying a new area of land where the baseline is established later than for existing areas of land; when ratcheting up your commitment later on to look at different aspects of your activities; when data becomes available and allows certain assessments to be made after initial baselining).

Your communications on Nature Positive should include transparency on your choice of your baseline year.

- For your baseline year, first establish an 'activity' baseline of your sites and operations, facilities, offices etc ⁴⁷.
- This 'activity' baseline will measure the mapped impact categories that are under your direct control (e.g. decibels for noise, kWh for energy use, etc.). This will allow you to track reductions in the causes of your impacts on nature in the future.
 - Determine the metrics you will use. See details under 'Quick Resources' for this step;
 - Gather data using these metrics;
 - Employ a professional Ecologist to assess the impact the activity baseline is likely to have on nature on-site and within the surroundings. See further detail in the next bullet.
- When you have your baseline of activities, then employ a professional Ecologist to establish a 'nature' baseline of your sites⁴⁸ targeting the great impacts initially.

⁴⁷ They should do so in priority for sites that have high pressure scores or where new developments are being undertaken, but they should look to develop a complete baseline of all sites in the long-term.

⁴⁸ They should do so in priority for sites that have high pressure scores or where new developments are being undertaken, but they should look to develop a complete baseline of all sites in the long-term.

- This ‘nature’ baseline will identify and measure key nature features that are (1) significant in terms of their nature conservation value, and/or (2) at risk from your activities (i.e. your mapped impacts under your direct control – operations, sites, offices, facilities, other).⁴⁹ The scope of works for a professional Ecologist should involve:
 - **Identifying sites in or near areas of high biodiversity importance.** This is to determine their significance in terms of nature conservation value.
 - To do this, they can use the MAGIC map⁵⁰ created by Defra to assess possible presence of priority habitats and to locate designated sites; gather data from the Local Record Centre on the biodiversity on these sites, such as records of species of interest and identification of local wildlife sites; gather data from the Local Planning Authority to identify whether the site sits within the local nature recovery priority areas.
 - **Gathering data on the condition of nature and habitats on these sites.** This is to determine how vulnerable sites are to your activities currently and will allow you to track improvements in condition in the future.
 - For all sites, they should gather data on habitat condition (land, river, marine); water and soil quality; water availability/stress; biodiversity value (e.g. using the various assessments required to complete a Natural England’s Biodiversity Metric 4.0 (or subsequent versions) calculation⁵¹).
 - At a site-specific level, they should also collect data from any other relevant assessments and/or metrics that measure the condition of nature or habitats as they relate to a specific type of impact on that site (e.g. the abundance of a specific species that is known to be impacted by light or noise disturbance, on a site that has high light/noise pressures scores). See more detail under ‘Quick Resources’ for this step.
- Collate the data in a central location (e.g. spreadsheet made accessible to all relevant staff). Include any limitations and/or assumptions made while measuring and collecting the data.
- If a year or more has passed since the baseline year, collect the most recent data using the chosen metrics as well.

Quick resources:

- As a reminder:
 - The starting point or benchmark which changes can be compared to in a measurable attribute. Examples of measurable attributes include the level of pollution or emissions, the biodiversity value of a site, the amount of water extracted etc.
 - A baseline year is specifically defined as the common year of measurement chosen to compare all subsequent measurements against.
- Guidance on what metrics to use to measure your ‘activity’ and ‘nature’ baselines is provided below for each impact category.

For operation-based impacts:

- Measuring the activity baseline: In the ‘ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit’ Impacts on Nature table, refer to the ‘Cause’ column to inform what metric should be used to measure the cause(s) of the impact.

⁴⁹ Refer to the example detailed in the ‘ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit’.

⁵⁰ MAGIC (defra.gov.uk) (note that iBAT is used internationally)

⁵¹ The Biodiversity Metric 4.0 - JP039 (naturalengland.org.uk)

- Measuring the nature baseline: In the ‘ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit’ Impacts on Nature table, refer to the ‘Direct/Indirect Impact on Nature’ column to inform what metric should be used to measure the impact(s) on nature.

For site-based impacts:

- Measuring the activity baseline: the cause of site-based impacts is likely to be development, so a metric might not be necessary.
- Measure the nature baseline: information already in ‘Tasks’. As a reminder, “habitat condition (land, river, marine); water and soil quality; water availability/stress; biodiversity value (using Natural England’s Biodiversity Metric 4.0⁵²).

For facility-based impacts:

- Measuring the activity baseline: to measure the cause(s) of the impact, a metric that looks at the quantity of extracted resource over time might be adequate.
- Measure the nature baseline: to measure the impacts on nature, a metric that looks at contribution to GHG emissions/deforestation/mining extraction/etc. could be used if the data is accessible.
- The IUCN Guidelines for planning and monitoring corporate biodiversity performance⁵³ provides a relatively up-to-date list (from 2021) of resources and tools categorised by type, sector, link and aim in Annexes 1-4 (page 73-91).
- Refer to ‘Step 3: Measure, Set & Disclose’ of the SBTN⁵⁴ and the ‘How’ Stage of the Natural Capital Protocol⁵⁵ for more detail on how to measure the impacts of your activities on nature, in a way that is aligned with international frameworks. For UK-specific resources, refer to CIEEM’s Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA)⁵⁶.

Going one step further:

- Apply the TNFD disclosure recommendations and LEAP approach⁵⁷, ‘Step 3: Measure, Set & Disclose’ of the SBTN⁵⁸ and/or the ‘How’ Stage of the Natural Capital Protocol⁵⁹ to be aligned with best-practice ways of working.
- Once you have determined your nature baseline, you could go on step further and determine your ‘natural capital’ baseline as well.
 - Nature Capital is “the stock of renewable and non-renewable natural resources (e.g., plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) that combine to yield a flow of benefits to people, called ecosystem services⁶⁰. Your ‘natural capital baseline’ would establish a quantified measurement of the benefits that nature on your sites bring to people, which includes benefits for third parties as well as your own organisation’s activities (e.g. your operations might use good quality water that was filtered by reedbeds).
 - The benefits nature brings to your organisation’s activities often closely mirror your dependencies on nature. So, like how the impact mapping exercise is complemented by your “activity” and “nature” baselines, a dependency mapping exercise (as suggested in

⁵² The Biodiversity Metric 4.0 - JP039 (naturalengland.org.uk)

⁵³ Guidelines for planning and monitoring corporate biodiversity performance - resource | IUCN

⁵⁴ Science-Based-Targets-for-Nature-Initial-Guidance-for-Business.pdf (sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org)

⁵⁵ Natural Capital Protocol – Capitals Coalition

⁵⁶ Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) | CIEEM

⁵⁷ Welcome to the TNFD Nature-Related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework » TNFD

⁵⁸ Science-Based-Targets-for-Nature-Initial-Guidance-for-Business.pdf (sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org)

⁵⁹ Natural Capital Protocol – Capitals Coalition

⁶⁰ Natural Capital Protocol.pdf (naturalcapitalcoalition.org)

the 'Going one step further' section of the 'Mapping' step) would be complemented by a "natural capital" baseline.

- A 'natural capital' baseline would allow you to quantify benefits to third-parties e.g. for marketing and engagement.
- Metrics that can help you quantify your 'natural capital' baseline include:
 - The NATURE Tool⁶¹ (Nature Assessment Tool for Urban and Rural Environments, developed by a collaborative of built environment professionals including WSP): it will help you assess the impact of land-use and management changes on natural capital performance with the aim of achieving net gains for the environment.
 - The Environmental Benefits from Nature Tool⁶² (EBN Tool, developed by Natural England): it will help understand changes in ecosystem services, specifically under Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) practices. If you are looking to achieve BNG on your sites, then this tool can be used to complement BNG with natural capital assessments.

Main outputs

- A list of metrics being used.
- Corresponding measurements by site and year, available within your organisation in an appropriate central location. This includes:
 - An 'activity' baseline which measures the causes of the impacts;
 - A 'nature' baseline which identifies the nature conservation value of sites and measures the condition of nature at sites (developed by a professional Ecologist).

⁶¹ The NATURE Tool (Nature Assessment Tool for Urban and Rural Environments) - Ecosystems Knowledge Network

⁶² The Environmental Benefits of Nature Tool - Ecosystems Knowledge Network

5.2.6 Prioritising

Goal:

Develop a priority list of the impacts on nature within your control that your organisation will address over time.

Tasks:

- Interpret the results of the ‘Mapping’ and ‘Measuring’ steps to understand which activities/assets within your direct control your organisation can tackle first, with support from a Professional Ecologist as required.
- Prioritisation criteria include:
 - Which activities/assets have the most significant impacts on nature? These could be activities with the highest pressure scores.
 - Which activities/assets will result in quick wins? (i.e. where action can be easily taken to address the impact on nature, be cost-effective, and result in significant improvements).
 - Which activities/assets are the most at risk? (e.g. upcoming legislation, change in supply or other cause will affect current operation of the activity/asset).
 - Which activities/assets present the best opportunities to enhance nature? (i.e. where nature gain can lead to synergies with other organisation objectives or local authority priorities).
- List the activities/assets you have prioritised - these are the activities with impacts on nature that will be addressed in this iteration of the Nature Positive process.
- As an immediate step: review and improve environmental housekeeping measures and procedures. Improving existing environmental housekeeping measures is often an effective way to address impacts on nature. It may also help contribute towards net zero targets and agendas. More advice on environmental housekeeping measures is contained in the toolkit.

Going one step further:

- Apply the TNFD disclosure recommendations and LEAP approach⁶³ and/or ‘Step 2: Interpret and Prioritize’ of the SBTN⁶⁴ to align with best-practice ways of working.

Main outputs

- A list of prioritised activities/assets accompanied by a justification of the prioritisation.
- An immediate step to review and up-to-date environmental housekeeping measures (with this recorded).

⁶³ Welcome to the TNFD Nature-Related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework » TNFD

⁶⁴ Science-Based-Targets-for-Nature-Initial-Guidance-for-Business.pdf (sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org)

5.2.7 Setting Targets

Goal:

Set targets with Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for your organisation, in line with your organisation's commitment to support a Nature Positive future.

Tasks:

- Develop targets and KPIs that are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-bound) and costed, and that:
 - Address negative impacts on nature and then enhance nature for the prioritised activities/assets at this initial phase of your organisation's long-term commitment to support a Nature Positive future.
 - Targets and KPIs should preferably be outcome-based. The metrics used in the 'Measuring' step can help inform the type of target and KPI (e.g. outcome-based targets such as "reducing water use by X% (or X litres) by X date" and "achieving X% Biodiversity Net Gain on all sites by X date").
 - Integrate a Nature Positive approach into your organisation's governance systems, overarching strategy, management processes and risk management frameworks, and awareness raising. This is so that nature is a key and central consideration for the organisation in the long-term.
 - Targets and KPIs can be outcome-based or activity-based (e.g. outcome-based targets such as "have 1 board member with academic or professional experience in nature-related topics by X date" or activity-based targets such as "X number of staff Nature Positive awareness and engagement sessions to be run each year by X date").
- Develop a clear programme and/or timeline within which all targets sit.
- If possible, publish (or plan to publish) these targets externally.

Quick resources:

- For inspiration of targets to reduce negative impacts on nature and enhance nature, refer to:
 - The SBTN's interim targets⁶⁵ or phase 3 (under development at time of writing);
 - Appendix 1 of ESA's Biodiversity Best Practice Guide⁶⁶;
 - The TNFD's⁶⁷ recommended disclosures, especially the 'Metrics & Targets' pillar.
- For inspiration of targets that aim to integrate nature into governance systems, etc., refer to:
 - The TNFD's⁶⁸ recommended disclosures, especially the 'Governance' pillar and B, C and D of the 'Risk & Impact Management' Pillar.
 - The Transition Plan Taskforce (TPT)⁶⁹ guidance. Although at the moment this focuses on climate transition planning, many of the concepts can be adapted to nature. At time of writing this document, the TPT was working on integrating nature into their guidance.

Going one step further:

⁶⁵ Interim targets – Science Based Targets Network

⁶⁶ ESA-biodiversity-best-practice-guide.pdf (letsrecycle.com)

⁶⁷ Welcome to the TNFD Nature-Related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework » TNFD

⁶⁸ Welcome to the TNFD Nature-Related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework » TNFD

⁶⁹ NEW_Homepage - Transition Taskforce

- Apply the TNFD disclosure recommendations and LEAP approach⁷⁰, ‘Step 3: Measure, Set & Disclose’ of the SBTN⁷¹ and/or the ‘How’ Stage of the Natural Capital Protocol⁷² to align with best-practice ways of working.

Main outputs:

- A set of SMART and costed targets, organised within a clear programme and/or timeline.

⁷⁰ Welcome to the TNFD Nature-Related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework » TNFD

⁷¹ Science-Based-Targets-for-Nature-Initial-Guidance-for-Business.pdf (sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org)

⁷² Natural Capital Protocol – Capitals Coalition

5.2.8 Taking action

Goal:

Identify, select and roll out actions to address your impacts on nature, and ultimately meet your targets to support a Nature Positive future.

Tasks:

- Organise workshops with key staff associated with each prioritised activity to identify workable actions and efficient ways forward, and with this information, develop action plans.
- The resulting action plans should consider short, medium and long-term targets, KPIs, deadlines, reporting and responsibilities.
- List the actions needed to deliver each target. These can be set out as illustrated in Table 5.1.
- Take action.

Table 5.1: Actions Template

Target	Action	Measure of change (KPI)	Delivery date	Action lead (named person)
Target 1	Action 1.1			
Target 1	Action 1.2			
Target 2	Action 2.1			

Quick resources:

- For inspiration on actions to take, refer to:
 - For operation-based impacts: the ‘ESA Mapping Impacts on Nature Toolkit’ recommended actions section;
 - For other examples of nature positive actions, refer to the Get Nature Positive initiative, actions for nature⁷³ and case studies⁷⁴.
- Use the following nature positive principles as inspiration to guide your actions:
 - **Making a contribution:** supporting a Nature Positive future in way that contribute towards local, national and international nature conservation targets and goals.
 - **Additionality:** seeking to achieve net gain or net positive impacts on nature with actions that have an additional impact to what would have happened without these actions.
 - **Precautionary Approach:** where there is a lack of evidence or information regarding the impact and/or magnitude of the impact on nature (rendering it uncertain), a realistic ‘worst case’ scenario is assumed.
 - **Mitigation Hierarchy:** activities follow the sequential four steps to address negative impacts on nature: avoiding impacts, reducing impacts, restoring the impacted

⁷³ Actions for nature in the environmental services sector - GNP (getnaturepositive.com)

⁷⁴ Nature Positive in action in the environmental services sector (getnaturepositive.com)

environment, compensating for/offsetting any residual impacts. To then be followed by activities to enhance nature.

- **Nature-based Solutions:** throughout organisation activities, using nature-based solutions instead of classic grey solutions in activities and processes, making sure that when nature is a solution, this also enhances nature.
- **Sustainable use and shared benefits:** using resources sustainably and sharing the benefits (from the use of natural resources or improvement of the natural environment) in an equitable way that respects people's rights.
- **Long term benefits:** securing long-term benefits for nature.

Going one step further:

- Apply “Step 4: Act” of the SBTN⁷⁵ (under development at the time of writing) and its ARRRT framework (Avoid, Reduce, Regenerate, Restore, Transform) to align with best-practice ways of working.

Main outputs:

- A completed table 4.1.
- Action being taken.

⁷⁵ Science-Based-Targets-for-Nature-Initial-Guidance-for-Business.pdf (sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org)

5.2.9 Influencing

Goal:

Promote a Nature Positive approach to those who control the impacts on nature outside of your organisation's control.

Tasks:

- Use the data collected in the 'Mapping' step in the 'Impacts outside of your direct control' category to target third-party organisations with whom you want to encourage and promote a Nature Positive Approach.
- Engage them by sharing, engaging and collaborating with them (see steps B, C and D of this guide respectively).
- Influence them e.g. by sharing your Nature Positive actions such as setting criteria within your procurement policies and changing to more sustainable suppliers/suppliers.

Main outputs:

- A list of targeted third-party organisations and associated engagement and influencing mechanisms for each.

5.2.10 Tracking

Goal:

Measure and monitor progress towards your targets.

Tasks:

- Have the Action Lead track delivery of the actions and report back to you (or your core Nature Positive team). Tracking delivery of the actions can be done at a regularity that is suitable for the organisation. Quarterly is often a useful timeframe for most actions.
- Monitor progress against the 'activity' and 'nature' baselines that has been established (with support from a professional Ecologist for example, if they were involved with establishing the baselines), to check if actions are having their desired effect. If not, they will need to be changed or adapted in light of the findings; this will be done at the 'Reviewing and Ratcheting-up' step.

Main outputs:

- Action monitoring reports to track progress against targets and KPIs.
- An associated report that interprets progress against the baseline with evidence.

5.2.11 Reporting

Goal:

Plan and publish a report on your progress towards supporting a Nature Positive future.

Tasks:

- Produce a report on your progress in a format that allow for easy interpretation by decision-makers and stakeholders (e.g. senior management, shareholders, general public) internally and, if appropriate, externally.
- Publish progress externally. Progress can be disclosed in a standalone report or in your annual ESG report. This should be accompanied by the action plan and a report on progress for each action.

Going one step further:

- Use the TNFD⁷⁶ as your disclosure framework.

Main outputs:

- Published progress report.

⁷⁶ Welcome to the TNFD Nature-Related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework » TNFD

5.2.12 Reviewing and ratcheting up

Goal:

Review your targets annually and increase their ambition every three years as a minimum.

Tasks:

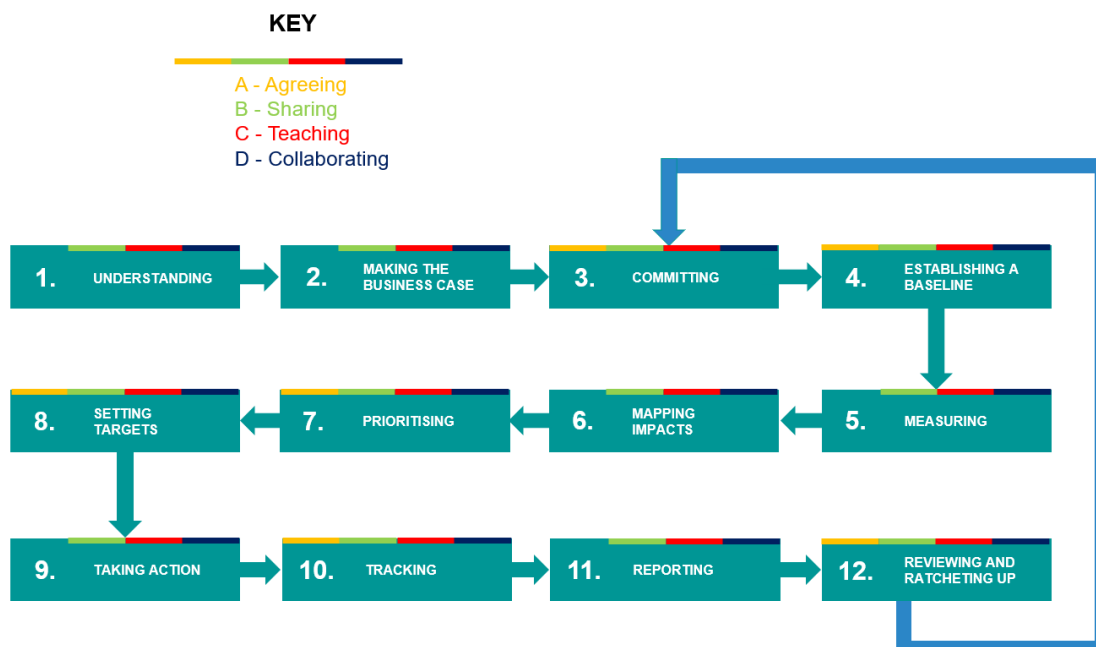
- Review whether current actions are making progress towards and meeting targets; if they are not, look to understand the reason and subsequently modify or replace the action.
- Increase the organisation’s current targets to support a Nature Positive future. Within this process, this can be done by increasing the organisational boundary or increasing the number of prioritised activities. Your organisation could also look to more formally complete international frameworks like the SBTN⁷⁷ or TNFD⁷⁸.

Main outputs:

- Updated list of targets and KPIs.

As a reminder, Figure 5.1 summarises the stages of the Nature Positive process. Following this, A (Agreeing), B (Sharing), C (Teaching) and D (Collaborating), are described.

Figure 5.1: Supporting a Nature Positive future: stages of the process for ESA members.



Source: WSP and Mott MacDonald

⁷⁷ The Science Based Targets Network (SBTN) - Science Based Targets

⁷⁸ Welcome to the TNFD Nature-Related Risk & Opportunity Management and Disclosure Framework » TNFD

A. Agreeing

Goal:

Organise strategic meetings to present findings, validate decisions and agree on the way forward.

Tasks:

- Hold meetings with key staff and senior management at key milestones throughout the process. Recommended steps include:
- **After Step 2: Making the Business Case.** Communicate the benefits for your organisation of supporting a Nature Positive future and agree on the Nature Positive commitment to be communicated.
- **During Step 4: Establishing a Baseline.** Communicate the reasoning behind the chosen baseline year to strategic heads and senior management and agree on the baseline year.
- **After Step 6: Prioritising.** Present findings from the mapping and prioritising steps and agree on the prioritised activities/assets that will be addressed in this iteration of the Nature Positive Process.
- **During and after Step 8: Setting Targets.** Engage key staff in the formulation of Nature Positive targets and communicate and agree these with strategic leads and senior management once they have been developed.
- **After Step 10: Tracking or Step 11: Reporting.** Present actions and progress towards the Nature Positive targets to relevant staff, senior management, shareholders and/or stakeholders.
- **During and after Step 12: Reviewing and Ratcheting Up.** Collect feedback from relevant staff, senior management, shareholders and/or stakeholders to help inform the Nature Positive process review. Communicate the outputs of the review (and ratcheting up) and agree on these with strategic heads and senior management.

B. Sharing

Goal:

Be transparent and share your Nature Positive journey throughout the process.

Tasks:

- Share your journey internally, sending out regular communications to relevant representatives across the organisation. Content can describe progress and promote awareness raising, so that staff can better understand what Nature Positive is and how Nature Positive can be tailored to their work (e.g. creating staff training content around biodiversity and nature positive and how best to integrate them into day-to-day activities).
- Share your journey externally. For example, your organisation could regularly host webinars and publish articles on your website and/or social media (or Forums, describing where you are at in the journey, the challenges you are facing and how you are overcoming those challenges).

C. Engaging

Goal:

Undertake information sharing activities that promote, support and demonstrate Nature Positive action.

Tasks:

- Undertake one or several information sharing activities. Some examples include:
 - Publishing case studies or articles about your organisation’s Nature Positive work.
 - Presenting the concept of Nature Positive to organisations you work with and who might not be familiar with the concept.
 - Participating in a sectoral or topical conferences or webinars (such as RWM or Resourcing the Future).

D. Collaborating

Goal:

Collaborate with national/local governments, NGOs, other organisations and stakeholders to share ideas lessons learnt and experiences.

Tasks:

- Identify which organisations you currently or would like to partner with. These collaborations will create opportunities to develop synergies between different organisation's agendas.
- Reach out to existing groups or forums (e.g. ESA⁷⁹, UK Business and Biodiversity Forum⁸⁰ and its Nature Positive Working Group, see Appendix A: Section A3).
- Attend or participate in conferences.

⁷⁹ Home: ESA (esauk.org)

⁸⁰ Nature Positive Business Pledge - UK Business and Biodiversity Forum (business-biodiversity.co.uk)

A. Appendix A – Supplementary Context

A1: Strategy, Policy and Legislation updates

Global Regulatory Context

The Global Biodiversity Framework was agreed by almost 200 countries at COP15 in Montreal, in December 2022. It sets a common vision for a world living in harmony with nature:

“By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people”.

It also sets a 2030 mission to *“take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery”.*

The Framework contains 23 targets. This includes targets specifically for businesses, calling for them to *“regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity”* in order to reduce negative impacts and increase positive impacts. Although not legally binding, the UK Government has committed to reflecting the goals at the national level.

Supporting a Nature Positive future will ensure ESA members are moving in the right direction.

UK Regulatory Context

In 2023, the UK Government set legally binding environment targets in the Environment Act, which include:

- Halting the decline in species populations by 2030, and increasing populations by at least 10% to exceed current levels by 2042;
- Restoring precious water bodies to their natural state by cracking down on harmful pollution from sewers and abandoned mines and improving water usage in households;
- Delivering net zero ambitions and boosting nature recovery by increasing tree and woodland cover to 16.5% of total land area in England by 2050;
- Halving waste per person that is sent to residual treatment by 2042;
- Cutting exposure to the most harmful air pollutant to human health (PM2.5);
- Restoring 70% of designated features in Marine Protected Areas to a favourable condition by 2042, with the rest in a recovering condition.

These build on the UK Government’s 25 Year Environment Plan.

EU Regulatory Context

The EU published a Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, a new Nature Restoration Law, a Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive and Regulation on Deforestation-free products.

These policies might impact ESA members or businesses that ESA members work with. Furthermore, adoption by the EU means that similar pieces of legislation are more likely to be implemented in the UK.

Technical Context

The Science-Based Targets Network (SBTN) and the Taskforce for Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) enable companies to act on the Global Biodiversity Framework’s 2030 targets.

The SBTN is an initiative that provides guidance on setting science-based targets to reduce and reverse nature loss for all of Earth’s systems, covering five key areas – freshwater, land, oceans, biodiversity and climate. The TNFD is a risk management and disclosure framework for organisations to report and act on nature-related risks, based on best-practice tools and materials.

Both frameworks have greatly advanced in their development. The final version of the TNFD will be published late 2023 and an advanced version of the SBTN guidance will be available beginning of 2024. Furthermore, it is likely that the UK government mandates the use of the TNFD as it has in the past for the TCFD.

Financial Context

The financial sector is adopting rigorous biodiversity criteria as part of lending and investment policies. Since 2020, 126 financial institutions representing 21 countries and over €18.8 trillion have signed the Finance for Biodiversity Pledge to protect and restore biodiversity through their activities and investments, and to set targets and to report publicly before 2025. This is reflected in the UK's own green finance goals, aiming to mobilise £500 million/year of private finance by 2027, rising to more than £1 billion per year by 2030.

Starting their Nature Positive journey will demonstrate that ESA members are taking nature risks, opportunities, dependencies and impacts seriously, and help them retain investor and shareholder confidence.

Market Context

Nature markets are rapidly being established globally and in the UK. Nature markets involve the creation of units or credits that can be bought or sold, enabling land owners to buy or sell nature goods and services.

In the UK, nature markets include compliance biodiversity and nutrient credit markets driven by legislation (possible expanding to marine credits in the future). This presents an opportunity for land owners to create areas of high biodiversity and/or nutrient mitigation value, from which credits can be sold or used by the land owner to meet their own regulatory requirements. Other voluntary markets exist or are emerging (e.g. woodland and peatland carbon, water quality, flood risk management) that can be utilised by stakeholders to meet their targets.

By starting the Nature Positive journey now, ESA members to understand if and how they should partake in nature markets to help meet their targets or generate green profit from their current land-holdings.

A2: Key Takeaways from ESA's Biodiversity Best Practice Guide

ESA's Biodiversity Best Practice Guide, published in December 2022, provides specific information on the importance of biodiversity for ESA members.

The best practice guide sets out:

- What biodiversity is and its connection to the resources and waste management industry;
- Relevant policy and legislation at the global and UK level, and how it affects the resources and waste management industry. This includes the Environment Act 2021, which requires most developments under the Town and Country Planning Act to achieve a 10% Biodiversity Net Gain for a minimum 30 year period;
- The current pathways for measuring and reporting biodiversity performance;
- Appendices that cover:
 - List of biodiversity reporting metrics,
 - Partnerships and affiliations,
 - Case studies

The main takeaways are:

- The waste and resource management industry have a clear role to play in reversing biodiversity loss – including adopting circular economy activities that limit the extraction of new material, managing pollution and the impact of waste, and protecting or restoring biodiversity on landholdings.
- UK policy and legislation will require businesses to take action to reduce their negative impacts and improve their positive impacts on biodiversity.
- There is no one-size-fits-all tool for organisations to measure their biodiversity impacts or performance. However, a suite of well-established tools and metrics already exist that, when used appropriately, can provide a comprehensive idea of the impact of an organisation on biodiversity.
- Partnerships can be key in accomplishing long lasting and positive impacts on biodiversity.
- Positive impacts have already been achieved by companies in the resources and waste management sector.

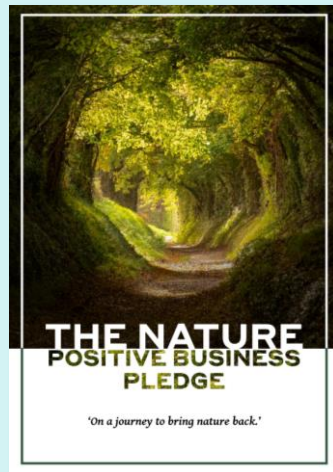
A3: The Nature Positive Business Pledge

The Nature Positive Business Pledge was co-developed by the UK Business and Biodiversity Forum (UKBBF), the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the Aldersgate Group and WSP, and was officially released in March 2023.

- The pledge guides businesses on how they can start acting in a Nature Positive way and achieve better outcomes for nature in their business-as-usual.
- It provides a set of principles that help deliver Nature Positive as a robust approach and achieve real benefits for nature whilst contributing to wider societal and environmental goals;
- It establishes a clear process for businesses to become Nature Positive using the range of valuable guidance documents, advice and approaches already produced for businesses; and
- It provides an opportunity to showcase and celebrate success.

Crucially, the Pledge recognises that Nature Positive will not be exactly the same for each business. Instead of setting a specific approach, it encourages business to commit to evidence-based SMART goals and targets, report and track their progress as it is being made, and progressively update to more ambitious targets through a ratcheted commitment system.

Since the release of the pledge, the UKBBF has set up a Nature Positive Working Group with the aim of supporting businesses who have signed up or are planning to sign up to the pledge. The monthly meetings cover pathways, examples, challenges and successes around the journey to supporting a Nature Positive future – e.g., how to make the business case, map impacts on nature, or decide what actions to take. Contact info@business-biodiversity.co.uk for more information.



B. Appendix B – Nature Positive Actions

Table B.1: Recommended Nature Positive actions for Waste Value Chain impacts

Impact	Recommended actions to reduce and eliminate the impact
Litter	<p>A high boundary fence (e.g. 2m high) installed on the boundaries of sites and waste facilities can help to mitigate the impacts of litter on the local environment. Standard and roller shutter doors within internal buildings should be closed at all times when not in use to prevent the escape of litter and debris into the wider site and beyond.</p> <p>Physical site boundary checks should be undertaken frequently (daily is recommended) where the responsible personnel walk around the site facility perimeter to determine if litter has escaped the boundary into the local surroundings. Upon identification of any area with litter, mitigation and rectification steps should be applied. This may include litter picking on the other side of the boundary using site staff or hiring a local third party contractor. These checks should be documented using a checklist of similar and retained on-site.</p> <p>Specific training should be provided to all relevant site staff on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). All SOPs should be included as part of an environmental management system e.g. certified to ISO 14001 and/or a site environmental plan/working plan. The Site Manager and/or other relevant staff should be identified as the key point of contact, and the messaging within the SOP should be disseminated to all site staff. Frequent communication should be maintained on the importance of litter prevention. This may be during staff meetings and internal organisation publications.</p> <p>Relevant legislation such as the Environmental Permitting Regulations England and Wales (2016) should be met in regard to all material storage.</p>
Fire	<p>A designated smoking area for operators and site staff should be available on-site away from waste storage and other site activities. Alternatively, the smoking area may be off-site. Designated smoking areas should be marked and clearly signposted and should have strict controls on disposal of cigarette butts.</p> <p>Appropriate fire detection and suppression systems should be in place and should include fire extinguishers and water sprinklers as a general approach. Flammable materials e.g. chemicals, WEEE and gas cylinders should not be stored together. WEEE should not be stored without a weatherproof covering and should be stored inside where possible. Regular checks of the fire detection, suppression and emergency equipment should be undertaken and documented using a checklist or similar. The checklists should be retained on-site.</p> <p>Specific training should be provided to all relevant site staff on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The SOPs should be included as part of an environmental management system e.g. ISO 14001 Certified Environmental Management System (EMS) and/or a local site environmental plan/working plan. The Site Manager and/or other relevant staff should be identified as the key point of contact and the importance of the effects identified within the SOP should be disseminated to all staff. Frequent communication should be maintained on the importance of fire prevention through staff meetings, internal organisation publications etc.</p> <p>Relevant legislation such as the Environmental Permitting Regulations England and Wales (2016) should be met in regard to all material storage.</p>
Dust	<p>Doors and windows in the internal site facilities should be closed at all times when not in use to prevent the escape of dust into the wider site areas. All activities that produce dust should be confined internally.</p> <p>Dust suppression systems should be in place where site activities and process create dust e.g. wet dust suppression systems, airborne dust capture systems and extraction systems</p>

	<p>(directly from the process) for activities such as shredding, grinding and sorting, where applicable.</p> <p>General housekeeping should be followed e.g. daily sweeping for internal and external surfaces, wheel washers for vehicles prior to leaving the facility, daily hosing down of the external site. All general housekeeping measures undertaken should be documented using a checklist of or similar and retained on site. The checklist should be retained on-site.</p> <p>Specific training should be provided to all relevant site staff on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The SOPs should be included as part of an environmental management system e.g. certified to ISO 14001 and/or a site environmental plan/working plan. The Site Manager and/or other relevant staff should be identified as the key point of contact, and the messaging within the SOP should be disseminated to all site staff. Frequent communication should be maintained on the importance of dust prevention. This may be during staff meetings and internal organisation publications.</p> <p>Relevant legislation such as the Environmental Permitting Regulations England and Wales (2016) should be met in regard to all material storage.</p>
<p>Vermin</p>	<p>General housekeeping should be followed e.g. daily sweeping for internal and external surfaces, wheel washers for vehicles that leave the facility, safe and appropriate storage of materials and waste. This may include covering skips and containers to prevent egress. Particular focus should be given to controlling waste/debris that could attract vermin.</p> <p>Regular pest control should be in place, including the presence of rat traps. Pest control may be undertaken in-house, although this is typically contracted to a third party who will conduct regular site checks. At landfill, vermin is likely to include birds, of which management may include bird scaring techniques such as the use of hawks as deterrence. This activity would need to be undertaken by a specialist third party contractor. These measures should be documented using a checklist or similar and the documents retained on-site.</p> <p>Waste should be removed from the site in an appropriate time frame to avoid vermin.</p> <p>Specific training should be provided to all relevant site staff on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). All the SOPs should be included as part of an environmental management system e.g. certified to ISO 14001 and/or a site environmental plan/working plan. The Site Manager and/or other relevant staff should be identified as the key point of contact, and the messaging within the SOP should be disseminated to all site staff. Frequent communication should be maintained on the importance of vermin prevention. This may be during staff meetings and internal organisation publications.</p> <p>Relevant legislation such as the Environmental Permitting Regulations England and Wales (2016) should be met in regard to all material storage.</p>
<p>Odour</p>	<p>Standard and roller shutter doors on internal buildings should be closed at all times when not in use to prevent the escape of odour into the wider site, which could arise from various sources including processing activities and debris. All activities that produce odour should be confined internally. Storage of odorous materials should be kept away from the site boundary fencing where possible, especially if the site is located near to natural habitats.</p> <p>Environmental housekeeping should be followed to avoid and minimise odours e.g. daily sweeping of internal and external surfaces, wheel washers for vehicles before leaving the facility, and daily hosing down of the external site to minimise the number of potential odour sources.</p> <p>Physical olfactory checks should be undertaken frequently (daily or weekly dependent on the site risk) where identified staff members walk around the site facility perimeter to determine if odour is present at the site boundary, which may be also present in the local environment. Upon identification of areas with odours, mitigation and rectification steps should be applied. This may include installing odour management equipment that extract odour using carbon filters and wet scrubber technology. This could also include chemical odour control systems (the release of synthetic odours) to improve the odour detected where applicable. The</p>

olfactory checks should be undertaken and documented using a checklist or similar. These checklists should be retained on-site.

Specific training should be provided to all relevant site staff on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). All the SOPs should be included as part of an environmental management system e.g. certified to ISO 14001 and/or a site environmental plan/working plan. The Site Manager and/or other relevant staff should be identified as the key point of contact, and the messaging within the SOP should be disseminated to all site staff. Frequent communication should be maintained on the importance of odour prevention and management. This may be during staff meetings and internal organisation publications.

Relevant legislation such as the Environmental Permitting Regulations England and Wales (2016) should be met in regard to all material storage.

Liquids and leachate

Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 should be met in regard to draining and bunding. Areas of material storage should have draining lines to ensure there is no escape of liquids and leachate outside the site boundary.

Spill kits should be present on site. These may be wheelie bins filled with absorbent socks, absorbent cushions, absorbent pads and sawdust for oil-related spillages. The spill kits should be stored close to material storage areas and key process areas and should be easily accessible. It is important that spill kits are not blocked by doors, furniture or vehicles or other items.

Specific training should be provided to all relevant site staff on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and all the SOPs should be included as part of a good environmental management system e.g. certified to ISO 14001 and/or a site environmental plan/working plan. The Site Manager and/or any other relevant staff should be identified as the key point of contact, and the messaging within the SOP should be disseminated across ALL site staff. Frequent communication should be maintained on the importance of liquid and leachate management. This may be during staff meetings and internal organisation publications.

All facilities should have an appropriate drainage system which complied with the Environmental Permitting Regulations (2016). This is likely to include bunding which surround waste storage areas and a drainage system which can be sealed in the event of an emergency, accident or spillage.

All landfill sites should have a Leachate Management System which captures leachate from all landfill cells to ensure it is safely collected and discharged.

Chemical usage

Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Substances Regulations (CLP) 2016 should be met.

Spill kits should be present on site. These may be wheelie bins filled with absorbent socks, absorbent cushions, absorbent pads and sawdust for oil-related spillages. The spill kits should be stored close to material storage areas and key process areas and should be easily accessible. It is important that spill kits are not blocked by doors, furniture or vehicles or other items.

Specific training should be provided to all relevant site staff on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and all the SOPs should be included as part of a good environmental management system e.g. certified to ISO 14001 and/or a site environmental plan/working plan. The Site Manager and/or any other relevant staff should be identified as the key point of contact, and the messaging within the SOP should be disseminated across ALL site staff. Frequent communication should be maintained on the importance of chemical management. This may be during staff meetings and internal organisation publications.

An appropriate off taker route should be used. Any off-taker should be appropriately permitted and licenced to accept the waste material. Waste should be managed and transported in line with the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations (2009) and comply with ADR where applicable.

<p>Vehicle transport emissions</p>	<p>Vehicles should strive to use alternative fuels e.g. biofuels, biomethane (that can be produced from the raw landfill gas or is a by-product of waste treatment processes such as Anaerobic Digestion). Consideration should be given towards the use of electric vehicles (EVs).</p> <p>Route planning software and other digital software should be used to plan vehicles routes and ensure transport of waste is undertaken on the most efficient and economical routes.</p> <p>Vehicles should be loaded to full capacity or as close to full capacity as possible to minimise the number of journeys required. Vehicles should be turned off when not in use.</p> <p>Vehicles side/type should be selected which is appropriate to the waste type and volume which needs to be moved.</p> <p>The use of electric forklift trucks for on-site transport and waste movements should be considered and implemented where possible.</p> <p>Material off-takers should be selected based on the proximity principle to prevent unnecessary transportation.</p>
<p>Landfill</p>	<p>All landfill gas should be managed and contained in accordance with the relevant legislation and regulatory framework. This could be through the use of liners and pipework which is considered during landfill design or redevelopment.</p> <p>All landfill sites should have a Leachate Management System that captures leachate from all landfill cells and sets out its safe collection and discharge.</p> <p>Specific training should be provided to all relevant site staff on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and all the SOPs should be included as part of a good environmental management system e.g. certified to ISO 14001 and/or a site environmental plan/working plan. The Site Manager and/or any other relevant staff should be identified as the key point of contact, and the messaging within the SOP should be disseminated across all site staff.</p> <p>Relevant legislation such as The Landfill Regulations (2002) should be met in regard to landfill construction and management.</p> <p>Consider the use of landfill gas upgrading technologies to convert waste raw biogas into a source of fuel or energy.</p>

C. Appendix C – Glossary

Table C.2: Glossary

Term	Definition
Additionality	When an activity would not have taken place in the absence of the specific incentive that resulted in that activity or project.
Baseline	The starting point or benchmark against which change in a measurable attribute can be compared. Examples of measurable attributes include the level of pollutant produced, the biodiversity value of a site, the amount of water extracted etc. A baseline year is specifically defined as the common year of measurement chosen to compare all subsequent measurements against.
Biodiversity	Described by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity as the variability among living organisms from all sources, including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.
Biodiversity metric	A tool that enables biodiversity losses, compensation and net gains to be quantitatively measured. An example of a biodiversity metric is the Biodiversity Metric tool (currently in version 4.0) produced by Defra and Natural England, which is a specific biodiversity accounting tool that can be used for the purposes of calculating Biodiversity Net Gain in England.
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	As defined by the BNG Good Practice Principles ⁸¹ , “development that leaves biodiversity in a better state than before” and “an approach where developers work with local governments, wildlife groups, land owners and other stakeholders to support their priorities for nature conservation”. BNG outcomes are relative to an appropriate reference scenario (e.g. a net gain compared to the baseline).
Mitigation Hierarchy	The sequential process to be followed to ensure the best outcome for nature, which follows the sequence of avoidance, minimisation, restoration and offsetting (in this order). The ecological mitigation hierarchy is a core principle for a BNG approach. It has been variously defined by different bodies (e.g. the International Finance Corporation within performance standard 6, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development within performance requirement 6 and the Business and Biodiversity Offset Programme).
Natural Capital	According to the Natural Capital Protocol ⁸² , “the stock of renewable and non-renewable natural resources (e.g., plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) that combine to yield a flow of benefits to people (adapted from Atkinson and Pearce 1995; Jansson et al. 1994).”
Nature	All living and non-living components of the natural world, and the interactions between the two.
Nature Positive (general definition)	Described by the International Union on the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as follows: ‘A nature-positive future means that we, as a global society, halt and reverse the loss of nature measured from its current status, reducing future negative impacts alongside restoring and renewing nature, to put both living and non-living nature measurably on the path to recovery.’ Note: refer to this Nature Positive process in this document for the definition for ESA members of supporting a Nature Positive future.

⁸¹ Biodiversity net gain. Good practice principles for development. A practical guide (cieem.net)

⁸² Natural Capital Protocol – Capitals Coalition

D. Appendix D – Typology for broad impacts on nature and links to SBTN/TNFD impact driver categories⁸³

Table D.1: Typology for broad impacts on nature and links to SBTN/TNFD impact driver categories

Potential Environmental Impact		Links to the SBTN framework pressure categories
Litter	Contamination of terrestrial & aquatic environments	Pollution – Solid waste
Dust	Air Pollution	Pollution – Non-GHG air pollutants
Odour	Air Pollution	Pollution – Non-GHG air pollutants
Vermin	Decline/Loss of native species	Invasives and other – Disturbances; Biological alterations/interferences
Fire	Fire and the Air Pollution it causes release of toxic chemicals, harmful gases and particulates in the fire plume zone	Pollution – Non-GHG air pollutants
Liquids and Leachate	Pollution of the environment (e.g. release of lead and mercury)	Pollution – Water pollutants ; Soil pollutants
Chemical Usage	Pollution of the environment (e.g. release of lead and mercury)	Pollution – Water pollutants ; Soil pollutants
Vehicle / transport emissions	Air Pollution	Climate Change – GHG emissions Pollution - Non-GHG air pollutants
Air Pollution	Release of biogas and methane in the atmosphere and dioxin emissions from spontaneous uncontrolled fires in the landfills	Climate Change – GHG emissions Pollution - Non-GHG air pollutants

⁸³ TechnicalSupplement _Step1_Public_ConsultationFINAL.docx (sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org)

Potential Environmental Impact

**Links to the SBTN framework
pressure categories**

Potential Environmental Impact	Links to the SBTN framework pressure categories
--------------------------------	---

