



VALUING NATURE

Knowledge Exchange @
ICCS
Interdisciplinary Centre for
Conservation Science



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Mainstreaming Biodiversity for Business

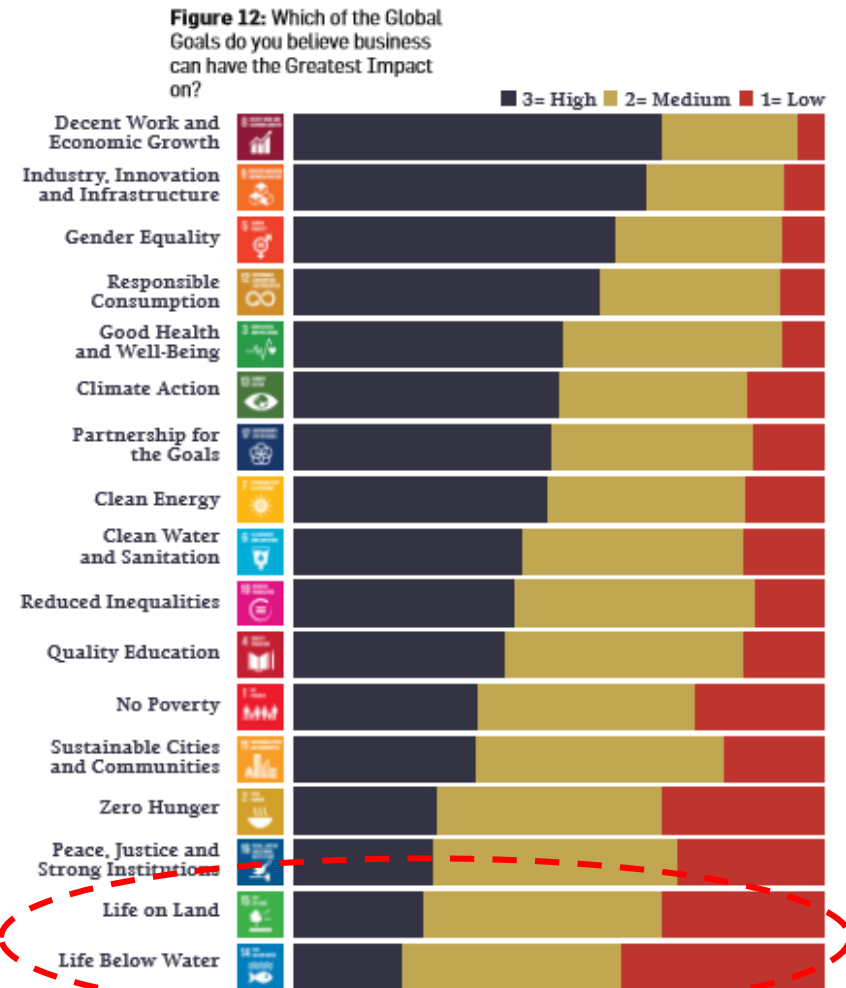
Tom Smith, *University of Leeds* and Valuing Nature Programme Secondee to JNCC, through the *Interdisciplinary Centre for Conservation Science (ICCS)*, *University of Oxford*

Host: Matt Smith, Ecosystems and Natural Capital Manager, *Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)*

Project support: Prue Addison, NERC Knowledge Exchange Fellow, *ICCS*, *University of Oxford*

Project background

- Biodiversity low on (most) corporate agendas
- Good practice exists
- Challenge: transfer across firms and sectors



Opportunities

- Understand public policy context
 - International conventions
 - UK priorities
- Business contacts
- Gauge interest in topic area

Project aims

- Translate targets into business friendly terms
- Highlight good practice
- Kickstart debate on relevance of biodiversity to business

Business awareness & engagement with SDGs



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT** GOALS



Project workstreams

- Map SDGs to 5 strategic goals for biodiversity
- Define business actions regarding biodiversity
- Identify relevant cases

Biodiversity Strategic Goals

- Multiple conventions
- Five goals



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Ramsar
Convention on Wetlands
Convention sur les zones humides
Convención sobre los Humedales



A

Mainstream Biodiversity

B

Reduce impacts

C

Safeguard biodiversity

D

Benefits for all

E

Enhance implementation

Our map

Crossovers between the SDGs and Global Strategic Goals for Biodiversity

[illegible]

Defining business actions

- Wide ranging
 - Different operational functions
 - Relate to genes, species, habitats, whole ecosystems
- Some more fundamental than others
 - Internal awareness raising (e.g. employee education campaigns, training and away days, volunteering)
 - Implementing habitat/ ecosystem restoration (e.g. investment in forest restoration, area-based conservation)

Business contributions to strategic goals



Strategic Goal

A

Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

B

Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

C

To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

D

Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

E

Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

Private sector action

Corporate biodiversity accountability & governance

- Internal biodiversity awareness raising (e.g. employee education campaigns, training and away days, conservation volunteering)
- Biodiversity accounted for against recognised standards (e.g. IFC Performance Standard 6, GRI 4)

Reduce impacts & promote sustainable use in operations & along supply chain

- Prevent invasive species incursions (e.g. implement bio-hazard management system)
- Manage pressures on vulnerable ecosystems (e.g. tackling ocean acidification resulting in bleaching of coral reefs)

Positive direct & indirect impact on biodiversity

- Invest in nature-based solutions/ natural infrastructure (e.g. restoring mangroves to combat coastal flooding)
- Establish private protected areas

Positive impact on biodiversity & society

- Ensure access to and benefit sharing of natural resources, within sustainable limits (e.g. agreements with small-scale producers to share access to natural resources)
- Account for the needs of indigenous people, women, the poor, and vulnerable groups/ individuals in conservation measures

Stakeholder engagement, support & knowledge sharing

- Share biodiversity monitoring data to assist decision-making (e.g. publish data on the Global Biodiversity Information Facility)
- Support third-party conservation initiatives (e.g. supply volunteers, finance conservation efforts)




**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

Call for cases

- > 350 initial contacts
 - Multiple networks
 - Business & Policy
- Webinar
- 70+ cases



 @prueaddison @MAES_UK
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Mainstreaming biodiversity in the private sector

Call for case studies

We are calling on experts to highlight case studies demonstrating how business of all sizes are taking action regarding biodiversity

Email: Tom.Smith@jncc.gov.uk by Friday 2 Feb

More info: www.iccs.org.uk/content/current-activities



Mainstreaming Biodiversity Targets for the Private Sector



Tom Smith, Valuing Nature Placement;
Prue Addison, ICCS, University of Oxford;
Matt Smith, JNCC

Making biodiversity relevant to the private sector

Biodiversity underpins economies and society, and biodiversity loss has serious implications for the private sector. Yet businesses often struggle to identify **what actions they can and should take regarding biodiversity** or how their efforts contribute to international goals to tackle biodiversity loss.

The University of Oxford and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), with the support of the Valuing Nature Placement scheme, are undertaking a project to address this issue. We see the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a potential catalyst to drive private sector action on biodiversity and to integrate international biodiversity goals into business strategies and operations.

Producing biodiversity guidance tailored for the private sector

We're producing a series of easy to access briefing notes to support the private sector in contributing to international strategic goals to conserve biodiversity. These include a group of short business case studies to illustrate how the private sector is already contributing towards achieving these goals. Our briefing notes will explore various ways that different sectors can contribute to the strategic goals, and highlight opportunities for increased business contributions to tackling biodiversity loss.

How you can help




We have conducted an analysis of the strategic goals for biodiversity, to highlight avenues for action. We are now seeking published examples of biodiversity action taken by the private sector. Examples could be drawn from a formal report or website, either from your own business or others that you can share. We are seeking cases that detail the project aims, key activities and reforms, current or expected benefits, and the name of any key partnerships, e.g. with conservation NGOs and/ or local communities.

See overleaf for details and examples

Deadline for receiving case examples: Friday 2nd February 2018

Case studies

- Positive response
- Diverse sizes, sectors, locations
- Lesser known cases

Measures to ensure sustainable harvest of natural resources ^α	
 <p>Aichi-Target-4¶ CITES-Target-3.5α</p>	<p>¶ Through sharing the results of science-based research, the PCP has informed the discussion about how trade sustainability can be improved. It has established that breeding pythons in captivity for their skins is biologically and economically feasible, for example. This was not thought possible previously.¶</p> <p>¶ Implementing minimum size limits for snakes is designed to increase confidence in sustainability by preventing capture of small (immature) snakes. Measurements made on the sizes of traded skins is a simple and effective means to enforce these limits.¶</p> <p>α</p>
Reduce/ eliminate impacts on species/ habitats directly affected by operations/ supply chain ^α	
 <p>Aichi-Target-5α</p>	<p>¶ The measures to achieve sustainable production and consumption have also reduced the impacts on pythons. To assess the sustainability of the trade in reticulated python (Python reticulatus) skins in Indonesia for instance, researchers examined 4,200 pythons brought to processing facilities in northern and southern Sumatra, over a 20-year period. Baseline and repeat surveys conducted over this period have established that the numbers, mean body sizes, clutch sizes, sizes at maturity and proportion of giant specimens have remained steady, indicating sustainable population levels^α</p>
Engaging in multi-stakeholder dialogue to manage impacts¶ Incorporating best available scientific knowledge and expertise into biodiversity conservation measures ^α	
 <p>Aichi-Target-19¶</p>	<p>¶ The PCP integrated the IUCN SSC Boa & Python Specialist Group, and scientists from Indonesia and Malaysia. The resulting research programme provided recommendations for managing and regulating harvest and trade in wild reticulated pythons. The recommendations were founded on science-based data collection and a detailed knowledge of the biological traits and trade dynamics of reticulated pythons. They also accounted for stakeholder views and priorities, for instance through semi-structured and informal interviews with</p>

Lessons learned

- Need for sound science
- Limited interactions between relevant public bodies
 - UK, European, International
- Transparency not just a business issue

Future placements

- More like this!
- Pairing a natural scientist and a social scientist on a project
- “Sound science” corporate conservation project

Next steps

- Full report
- Input into post-2020 agenda
- Build collaborations

Contact us!

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