



Highlights 2016

Business and Biodiversity Programme



The designation of geographical entities in this book, and the presentation of the material, do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IUCN or other organisations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of IUCN.

Published by: IUCN, Gland, Switzerland

2017 © International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

Reproduction of this publication for educational or other non-commercial purposes is authorized without prior written permission from the copyright holder provided the source is fully acknowledged.

Reproduction of this publication for resale or other commercial purposes is prohibited without prior written permission of the copyright holder.

Citation: *Highlights 2016: Business and Biodiversity Programme*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN.

Layout design: Thomas Gianinazzi

Cover photos: Farm landscape – Deviah Aiama/IUCN; SAGCOT – Andrea Athanas/AWF; Site visit – Stephen Edwards/IUCN; Orange Gull butterfly in Thailand – Peter Prokosch.

Inside photos: Orange Gull butterfly in Thailand – Peter Prokosch; Visiting a SAGCOT farm in Tanzania – Deviah Aiama/IUCN; Mangrove restoration activity – IUCN Viet Nam; Launching the Cerrado das Águas (Waters of the Cerrado) Consortium in Brazil – IUCN Brazil; Coastal cleanup day organised by IUCN with Bhaya Cruise and Ha Long City People's Committee – IUCN Viet Nam; Farmer training on integrated mangroves and certification – IUCN Viet Nam; Natural capital mapping in Colombia – Stephen Edwards/IUCN; Strengthening value chains in SAGCOT – Andrea Athanas/AWF; Whale tail off of Sakhalin Island, Russia – David Weller; Atlantic puffin on Skomer Island off the coast of Wales – Niger Dudley; Exploring Yasuni National Park – Peter Prokosch; BBP Pavilion at IUCN Congress – IUCN; Nespresso – Leaf Chameleon (*Brookesia brygooi*), Central-South Madagascar – Peter Prokosch; Biodiversity field work – Stephen Edwards/IUCN; Mangroves in the Niger Delta – IUCN; Rehabilitation efforts in the Rio Doce watershed – Stephen Edwards/IUCN.

Available from:

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)
Business and Biodiversity Programme
Rue Mauverney 28
1196 Gland
Switzerland

Table of Contents

Foreword	3
Engaging business: IUCN's approach	4
1 Promoting the Natural Capital Protocol with business	6
2 Building inclusive green growth through SUSTAIN-Africa	7
3 Providing science-based evidence to conserve western gray whales	8
4 Developing guidance on Key Biodiversity Areas for responsible business	10
5 Sharing lessons learned with Business@Congress	12
6 Collaborating at a landscape level with Nespresso	14
7 Strengthening biodiversity conservation with Rio Tinto	15
8 Bringing science to bear in decision-making with Shell	16
9 Advancing remediation and rehabilitation in the Niger Delta	17
Looking ahead	18



Foreword

The role of business has never been as important to conservation as it is today. Global agreements on biodiversity, climate, land degradation and oceans all underscore the need for business engagement to achieve the ambitious global sustainable development agenda by 2030.

IUCN collaborates with business at the company and sector level as well as across sectors. It also works with key associations and organisations concerned with promoting good business practices. For example, IUCN has participated in the development of the Natural Capital Coalition's new Protocol for business, which was released in 2016.

Nowhere was the value of business partnerships more evident than at the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress held in Hawai'i, where more than 100 events featured business-related issues. The Business and Biodiversity Pavilion, sponsored by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and The B Team, held over 30 events during the Congress public forum.

Throughout 2016, the Business and Biodiversity Programme has continued to advance partnership activities – from preparing draft business guidelines for the new Key Biodiversity Areas Standard to promoting sustainable business in Africa's growth corridors under the SUSTAIN-Africa Initiative. In addition, IUCN has documented the progress of IUCN-led scientific advisory panels in Nigeria and Russia, and explored the benefits and challenges for governments and business in implementing a net positive impact approach for biodiversity.

These activities reflect the true global to local reach of the IUCN network, and the opportunities that partnerships at all levels can deliver for conservation and sustainable development. Following are some highlights from this past year that we feel demonstrate the potential for transformational change for a better future.



Gerard Bos

Director
IUCN Business and Biodiversity Programme

Engaging business: IUCN's approach



Nature plays a vital function in underwriting our day to day lives. Businesses are increasingly recognising that biodiversity and ecosystem services are part of their risk management, so are taking steps to better understand how to measure and value and integrate natural capital into their business decision-making processes.

Value biodiversity

Valuing and conserving nature is critical to IUCN's mission, and measuring natural capital is a rapidly emerging area that has potential for delivering substantial benefits for the environment and business. During this past year, IUCN's Business and Biodiversity Programme has worked with partners such as the Natural Capital Coalition to help businesses make more informed decisions about their dependencies and impacts on nature.

Through IUCN's Leaders for Nature Programme in India, over 150 executives – from Tata Steel and Veolia and elsewhere – received training on the new Natural Capital Protocol, which was launched in July 2016, after being piloted by more than 50 companies. IUCN contributed to two Protocol sector guides for the food and beverage and apparel industries, and worked with its partner Nespresso and others to test how the Protocol could be applied at a country level in Colombia.

In 2016, following the approval of a new Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), IUCN's Business and Biodiversity Programme was asked to lead a project to develop a set of universal Principles and Recommendations for Responsible Business Operations in and around KBAs, on behalf of the KBA partners. This project responds to business operators' needs for a common framework, and it is expected to be finalised in late 2017.

One of IUCN's many strengths is its global-to-local reach. Whether it is working with corporate giants, such as Coca-Cola, Grant Thornton and Bhaya Cruise in Viet Nam to phase-out polystyrene and protect local fisheries, or training national parliamentarians and community members in Guinea Bissau on the impacts of mining, IUCN has an extensive network of Members, partners and experts that allow it to take a comprehensive approach.

For example, following a successful collaboration with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 2016, IUCN is now helping the international sports organisation explore how to mainstream biodiversity in the Olympic Games and across its International Federations.



Deliver biodiversity net gain

Another priority area for IUCN's business engagement is promoting a biodiversity net gain approach. This past year, IUCN published two papers with Rio Tinto, Shell and The Nature Conservancy, which helped make the business case and conservation case for adopting a net positive impact for biodiversity. In Pakistan, IUCN worked with Engro Elengy Terminal (Pvt) Ltd to restore mangrove plantations, as part of an offset proposed by the International Finance Corporation to mitigate the impacts of an LNG terminal being built by the company.

At the IUCN World Conservation Congress held in Hawai'i, IUCN Members adopted the first-ever global policy on biodiversity offsets, which provides practical and scientifically-robust advice to governments and developers alike. More than 100 business representatives participated in high-level dialogues and working sessions, where they underscored the benefits that could be gained by addressing conservation challenges together.

One such example is evidenced in the 2016 report by IUCN, WWF and the International Fund for Animal Welfare entitled, *Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel: Stories of Influence*. The report examines the impact of the IUCN-led independent panel of scientists, which

has been advising Sakhalin Energy for the past 12 years. It finds the critically endangered western gray whale population that feeds in Russia's Far East waters, where the company operates, is slowly showing signs of recovery.

Invest in nature

Investing in nature at a landscape and seascape level is a high priority for the Business and Biodiversity Programme. Through its work on SUSTAIN-Africa, for example, IUCN is facilitating collaboration and agri-business training to help build inclusive, climate resilient communities in Mozambique and Tanzania's designated growth corridors. At the global level, IUCN is working on sustainable agriculture policies that go beyond the farm and even the supply chain. Together with the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature Initiative and industry leaders, IUCN issued an Action Agenda calling for increased business participation in sustainable landscapes.

This latest issue of the *Highlights* report features some of the recent initiatives by IUCN's Business and Biodiversity Programme. Others can be found in the *IUCN Annual Report 2016*.

1 Promoting the Natural Capital Protocol with business



Key partners

Natural Capital Coalition, International Finance Corporation, the World Bank's Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES) partnership, Nespresso, EY, TruCost, the Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership and Ecovera.

Timeline

2015-2017

Snapshot

Nature – and the numerous goods and services it provides to society – are currently not sufficiently measured or valued by business. The Natural Capital Coalition's Natural Capital Protocol (NCP) is a harmonized framework that helps business value and measure their impacts and dependencies on nature to inform their decision making. IUCN led a coalition of partners, advocating for business to test the Protocol. It also supported an IFC-funded, Coalition case study with Nespresso to examine the Protocol's application in the coffee sector in Colombia, where water management is a key issue. The case study looked at the policies needed to facilitate business in implementing the Protocol.

Key achievements

As a result of the business outreach, more than 50 leading companies participated in testing the Protocol, and another 10 took "deep dives" before it was launched in July 2016. IUCN also contributed to the development of two NCP sector guides on apparel and food and beverage. The Natural Capital Coalition plans to publish the results of the Colombian case study, which involved close collaboration with not only Nespresso, but also IUCN's local partner Ecovera as well as EY, Trucost and the Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership. The group identified barriers and enabling conditions – both financial and regulatory – that need to be addressed if the Protocol is to be adopted and scaled-up at country and regional levels.

Next steps

In 2017, IUCN plans to undertake more natural capital country pilots in Africa and Europe, and develop a more systematic way to address the challenges associated with integrating natural capital valuation into decision making, ensuring greater protection of natural capital stocks. Furthermore, the IUCN Congress supported a resolution asking the IUCN Secretariat to explore developing a global policy on natural capital.

Related links

Natural Capital Protocol

<http://naturalcapitalcoalition.org/protocol/development/>

World Bank Waves Partnership

<https://www.wavespartnership.org/https://www.iucn.org/theme/business-and-biodiversity/our-work/business-approaches-and-tools/business-and-natural-capital>

2 Building inclusive green growth through SUSTAIN-Africa

Key partners

The Southern Agriculture Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), SNV Netherlands Development Organisation, Zambezi Valley Development Agency, ADPP - Ajuda de Desenvolvimento do Povo para o Povo and Micaia Foundation.

Timeline

2014-2018

Snapshot

In an effort to accelerate development in rural areas, the governments of Mozambique and Tanzania established special economic growth corridors, which encourage new investment and business opportunities. SUSTAIN-Africa aims to build partnerships with local and global businesses operating in these corridors to help reinforce social inclusion, while improving management of water, land and ecosystems. In particular, it focuses on enhancing food security and reinforcing climate change resilience – including through climate-smart agriculture – as well as enabling new value chains and local enterprises.

Key achievements

In Tanzania, the SUSTAIN-Africa Initiative supports the establishment of the SAGCOT Centre's Private Sector Feeder Group; engages with the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania; and strengthens the Science for People and Nature Green Growth Investment Guidelines.

In Mozambique, SUSTAIN continues to build relationships with national and regional industry associations and academic institutions; and, it has trained more than 100 representatives from civil society, academia, government and business on integrating sustainability principles into agribusiness value chains in the Beira corridor.

Next steps

In 2017, IUCN will continue to build relationships with business and corridor secretariats to support inclusive green growth strategies, developing management standards for business and investors, and demonstrating good practices in business operations and supply chains for a defined positive impact on nature and people. In addition, building capacity will continue to be a key component for integrating natural capital valuation into business planning to advance sustainable landscapes and investments in these regions.



Related links

Business outreach under SUSTAIN-Africa

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/business-and-biodiversity/our-work/business-platforms/sustain-africa>

SUSTAIN-Africa Initiative website

<https://www.iucn.org/content/sustainability-and-inclusion-strategy-growth-corridors-africa-sustain-africa>

3 Providing science-based evidence to conserve western gray whales

Key partners

Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd., and the International Whaling Commission.

Timeline

2004-2021

Snapshot

In 2004, the critically endangered population of western gray whales, which feeds off Sakhalin Island every summer, was estimated to number only 115 animals in accordance with the population modelling. Environmental campaigners voiced their concern when Sakhalin Energy planned to expand their oil and gas operations in this area. As a result, the company's lenders made the establishment of an independent advisory panel one of conditions of the company's loan. WGWAP was established under the agreement between IUCN and Sakhalin Energy.

The panel's main objective is to provide independent, scientific and technical advice on the conservation of gray whales to Sakhalin Energy and other relevant parties. This includes recommendations on how to minimize the risks associated with company operations on gray whales and their habitat and advice on mitigation measures. The panel also provides opportunities for coordination and

cooperation among parties interested in the conservation of the whales and development of industry best practice.

Observers participating in this process include representatives from the Russian Federation ministries and agencies; NGOs, including WWF, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Sakhalin Environmental Watch, Pacific Environment, Sakhalin-2 project lenders; and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Russia.

Key achievements

During the 2016 IUCN Congress, IUCN together with WWF and IFAW, released a report called, *Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel: Stories of Influence*. The report examines the role of the panel over the years, and captures some of the benefits for business and conservation. It is based on interviews with more than 20 experts and stakeholders engaged in the process. The report includes confirmation of population modelling assessments, which show the Sakhalin whale population had increased to 174 individuals by 2015.

Building on IUCN's and Sakhalin Energy's scientific research and the experience of WGWAP, IUCN published a detailed manual, *Effective Planning Strategies for Managing Environmental Risk Associated with Geophysical and other Imaging Surveys: A resource guide for managers*.



It provides a structured evaluation and decision making framework for businesses, regulators and scientists to help guide environmentally responsible and effective planning, understand potential impacts on whales and other marine life and plan future activities.

Another project, Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Russia's Energy Sector Policies and Operations, undertaken with UNDP, Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and the Russian Federation Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology (MNR), has developed Principles and Guidelines for the Monitoring and Mitigation of Impacts on Large Whales from Offshore Industrial Activity in Russian Waters, in partnership with IUCN. This document, which has been created as a regulatory framework for responsible oil and gas operations in marine environment, has been submitted by UNDP to the Russian authorities for their consideration.

Next steps

For the next two years, the Panel will focus on: (1) Sakhalin Energy's Monitoring and Mitigation Programme update for its next seismic survey; (2) the Sakhalin Energy's implementation of the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability in relation to the western gray whales and their habitat; (3) the Joint Western Gray Whale Annual Monitoring Programme; (4) revision of Sakhalin Energy's Marine Mammal Protection Plan; and (5) the International Whaling Commission's work on gray whale protection (including analyses of Pacific population structure, cumulative impacts of multiple threat factors assessment and whale interactions with fisheries).

Related links

Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel: Stories of Influence (English; Russian)
<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/46182>

Effective Planning Strategies for Managing Environmental Risk Associated with Geophysical and other Imaging Surveys: A resource guide for managers (including separate resource database) (English; Russian translation to be released in 2017)

<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/46291>

Principles and Guidelines for the Monitoring and Mitigation of Impacts on Large Whales from Offshore Industrial Activity in Russian Waters (English/ Russian)

https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/wgwap_17-28_final_undp_guidelines_clean_2016_en.pdf

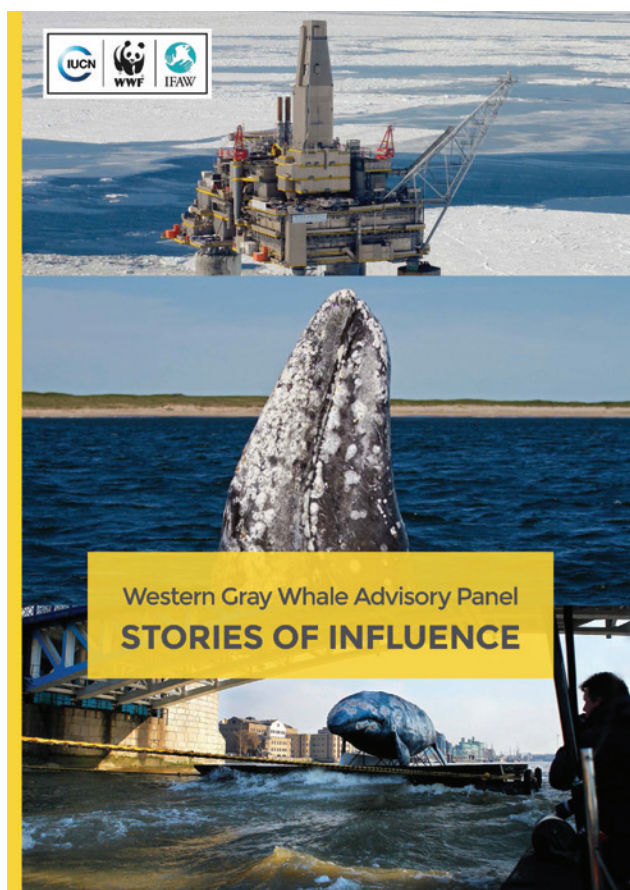
https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/wgwap_17-28_ru_final_undp_guidelines_technical_translation-revised_clean_2016.pdf

The Russian Arctic: On the Way to Common Ground in Biodiversity Conservation of the UNDP/GEF – MNR Project Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Russia's Energy Sector Policies and Operations (English)

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/global-policy/our-work/mainstreaming-biodiversity>

https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/the_russian_arctic_factsheet_revised.pdf

Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel website
www.iucn.org/wgwap



4 Providing guidance on Key Biodiversity Areas for responsible business

Key partners

The KBA Partners including: Amphibian Survival Alliance, Birdlife International, Conservation International, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, Global Environment Facility, Global Wildlife Conservation, NatureServe, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Wildlife Conservation Society and World Wildlife Fund.

Timeline

January 2016 – December 2017

Snapshot

Drawing on advice from hundreds of experts and decision-makers, a Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) was approved by IUCN's Council in April 2016. KBAs are defined as 'sites that contribute to the global persistence of biodiversity'.



Key achievements

Under the umbrella of the KBA Partners, composed of IUCN and 10 other conservation organisations, the Business and Biodiversity Programme has embarked on a project to develop "Guidelines to inform business activities through application of the World Database on KBAs: Towards ensuring the global persistence of biodiversity," outlining how businesses (from large multinationals to small and medium-sized enterprises) in any economic sector can operate in and around KBAs.

In 2016, the project focused on developing the initial version of the Guidelines, which were then released for public consultation.

The Guidelines have been prepared by IUCN based on the guidance and input provided by representatives of the KBA Partners. This document also builds on the input provided by the participants to the End Users Consultation workshop (held in Gland, Switzerland, from 4 to 5 July 2016) and by the organisations which submitted comments during the public consultation (from 2 December 2016 to 17 March 2017).

Next steps

In 2017, following the IUCN-led public consultation process, the Guidelines are being finalised by the KBA Partnership for release later this year. IUCN is also preparing a Handbook for the implementation of the mitigation hierarchy in Key Biodiversity Areas, which will provide further guidance and case studies on business best practice in and around KBAs.

Related links

World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas

<http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/what-are-kbas>

Business and KBAs

<http://www.iucn.org/theme/business-and-biodiversity/our-work/business-approaches-and-tools/key-biodiversity-areas>



5 Sharing lessons learned with Business@Congress

Key partners

World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), The B Team and Shell.

Timeline

1-10 September 2016



Snapshot

Under the theme, Planet at the Crossroads, the IUCN World Conservation Congress drew attention to the perilous state of the world's biodiversity and the critical role nature plays in underpinning the economy, well-being and survival. As the Congress noted, nature conservation and human progress are inextricably linked. Moving forward, business needs credible and viable alternatives for operating in a more sustainable manner, and this includes creating cross-sectoral partnerships.

Events laid out in the IUCN Business Journey at Congress demonstrated the role of business in nature conservation as articulated under the main IUCN Programme themes:

- Valuing nature
- Managing biodiversity impacts
- Contributing to effective and equitable governance of nature's use
- Investing in nature-based solutions



Key achievements

Some of the highlights from Congress include:

- Approximately 250 representatives from the private sector participated in the Congress, including 100 from 40 multi-national companies covering a diverse range of sectors, such as agri-business, banking, insurance and finance, consumer goods, extractives, energy, infrastructure, information technology, professional services, tourism and transportation.
- Of the 105 resolutions and recommendations adopted by the IUCN Members at the Congress, 30 are directly relevant to business. Some call upon business in general, while others target specific sectors.
- The public Forum hosted more than 1,300 events, from high-level dialogues to knowledge cafes, 117 of which addressed the theme of business. The Business and Biodiversity Pavilion, co-funded by WBCSD, with support from The B Team and Shell, served as a hub for business and participants interested in business-related issues.
- The urgent need to scale up business engagement was featured in the Congress outcome document known as the Hawai'i Commitments as one of the five key solutions for "Addressing the Challenges of a Planet at the Crossroads," and ultimately, delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals. Other solutions, also requiring business engagement, focused on addressing the challenges of climate change, sustaining the global food supply, preserving the health of the world ocean and ending wildlife trafficking.

Next steps

In 2017, IUCN will continue to engage business in a number of Union-wide initiatives:

- The development of a natural capital policy for the Union.
- The implementation of a biodiversity net gain strategy with business and other stakeholders.
- The roll-out of new investment models that will scale up conservation finance under the Coalition of Private Investment in Conservation, as well as other initiatives that demonstrate the benefits of investing in nature at a landscape and seascape level.

Related links

The IUCN Congress Business Journey

https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/the_business_journey_for_the_iucn_congress_2016.pdf

Summary report on Business@Congress

https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/business_iucn_congress_highlights_1-10_sep_2016_2.pdf

"There is a palpable and urgent need to significantly increase investment in conservation action from both public and private sector sources. A precondition for attracting private investment is that conservation opportunities exist at scale... Ultimately, a collaborative approach, including government, civil society and the private sector, is essential for success."

The IUCN Hawai'i Commitments

6 Collaborating at a landscape level with Nespresso

Key partners

Nespresso, the Institute of Agricultural and Forest Management and Certification (IMAFLOA), the Institute of Ecological Research (IPÊ), the Federation of coffee producers of the Cerrado Mineiro, COOXUPÉ (Brazil's largest coffee producer), the Department of Water and Sanitation of Patrocínio (DAEPA), and the University Centre of the Cerrado (UNICERP).

Timeline

2015-2017

Snapshot

Since 2013, IUCN and Nespresso have been leading a comprehensive process that resulted in a collaborative platform between business, government and civil society organizations that work together to strengthen each other's actions to address ecosystem services provision at the landscape level.

In December 2015, a collaborative platform, called Cerrado das Águas (Waters of the Cerrado) Consortium was launched. The platform brings together local, regional and global champions committed to building a sustainable future in the Cerrado region of Minas Gerais state of Brazil, with the aim to advance sustainable landscapes for environmental and socioeconomic benefits.

In the previous phases of the project, IUCN led local partners in identifying specific conservation values and main ecosystem services in the landscape that would represent priorities for the different stakeholders, in order to define a baseline and assess future trends. This process helped confirm the common values between the Consortium's members and establish three main desired impacts (biodiversity, ecosystem services and socioeconomics) as well as targets.



Key achievements

IUCN supported a series of meetings to establish the priority themes that should be addressed in the Action Plan. The group defined four major programmes with detailed activities and strategic partners that should be involved. The Institute for Forest and Agricultural Management and Certification (IMAFLOA) has worked with IUCN staff to propose an Action Plan based on a Net Positive Impact (NPI) approach that could integrate the latest knowledge gained from previous projects, including with Nespresso, members' expectations and the legal compliance required under

the country's new Forest Code. IMAFLOA also carried out an extensive analysis of the region to identify an area for a pilot site and developed a series of indicators.

Fundraising has been a key focus in 2016. With the support of IUCN, the Federation started working with SEBRAE, an institution supporting small and micro enterprises, to explore developing the capacity building component of the Action Plan, while IMAFLOA put forward a proposal to the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund.

Next steps

In 2017, Nespresso will finance a one-year position hosted by IUCN Brazil to support the implementation of the Cerrado de Aguas workplan and strengthen the participation of local businesses. Nespresso also plans to release a video about the Consortium in the pilot site to make the case for this initiative and engage other strategic partners.

Related links

IUCN and Nespresso partnership

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/business-and-biodiversity/our-work/business-partnerships/nespresso>

7 Strengthening biodiversity conservation with Rio Tinto

Key partners

Rio Tinto

Timeline

2016-2018

Snapshot

Since 2010, Rio Tinto and IUCN began working together to identify opportunities for reciprocal learning, as well as the sharing these lessons with other stakeholders. The overall objectives of the current IUCN-Rio Tinto collaboration agreement are to build a business-focused relationship that enables Rio Tinto to improve its environmental management and delivery of conservation outcomes; increase awareness and understanding throughout IUCN of the conservation and business challenges facing the resources sector; and jointly contribute to sector-wide improvements in the mining and other related sectors. Following the company's corporate-wide commitment to a Net Positive Impact (NPI) on biodiversity in 2004, IUCN and Rio Tinto worked to develop an NPI Protocol – or assurance tool – that could be tested at several pilot sites. In addition, IUCN worked with Rio Tinto Plc, Royal Dutch Shell Ltd and The Nature Conservancy under the auspices of the NPI Alliance, to examine how companies interested in adopting NPI could take a more systematic and scientific approach to evaluate their biodiversity impacts, establish biodiversity conservation goals and implement actions to achieve a net gain for biodiversity over time.

Key achievements

The NPI Alliance produced two papers – *NPI for biodiversity: The conservation case* and *NPI for biodiversity: The business case*, which were published at the beginning of 2016. The benefits of the partnership were also evident at the IUCN Congress, where Rio Tinto presented the lessons learned from applying NPI at select sites and its strategy going forward, which focuses more on site-specific biodiversity conservation efforts.



Next steps

Based on the lessons learned from the development of a NPI Protocol with Rio Tinto, IUCN has produced a Biodiversity Net Gain Review Protocol. IUCN and Rio Tinto plan to publish a scientific paper examining the challenges of implementing biodiversity offsets, which is one of the actions considered under a mitigation hierarchy process. Also, both organisations will publish a report on NPI lessons learned with case studies and interviews, which will inform IUCN's future strategy on promoting biodiversity net gain. In addition, IUCN and Rio Tinto are undertaking a new initiative to explore the conservation value of the company's non-operated land holdings.

Related links

IUCN and Rio Tinto partnership

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/business-and-biodiversity/our-work/business-partnerships/rio-tinto>

8 Bringing science to bear in decision-making with Shell

Key partners

Shell

Timeline

2014-2017

Snapshot

IUCN and Shell have collaborated since 1999, implementing more than 50 projects together. The current joint agreement is closely aligned with IUCN's Business Engagement Strategy and thematic areas of work. The two organisations have identified a set of common value drivers, which include bringing science to bear in business decision-making and encouraging other businesses and organisations to enhance their contributions to biodiversity.

Key achievements

— Incorporating natural capital in business decision-making. Shell is a member of the IUCN-supported Natural Capital Coalition and its working group that developed the Natural Capital Protocol, a technical framework designed to help companies include natural capital in their decision-making. Shell was also one of the companies that piloted the protocol with support of IUCN staff in 2016.

— Protecting the Mesopotamian Marshes in Iraq. In the Majnoon oil field in southern Iraq, Shell is working with IUCN, Wetlands International and others to help ensure that oil and gas development does not cause harm to the country's Mesopotamian Marshes and to contribute to their restoration.

— Supporting IUCN-led Independent Scientific and Technical Advisory Panels (ISTAPs). Shell has promoted this model as a way to bring various stakeholders together around challenging conservation issues. See the IUCN Niger Delta Panel and the Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel.

— Promoting a Net Positive Impact (NPI) for Biodiversity. Shell was part of the NPI Alliance, which produced two papers, *NPI for biodiversity: The conservation case* and *NPI for biodiversity: The business case*, that were published in early 2016.

— Furthermore, Shell participated in several events at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, which was held from 1-10 September in Honolulu, Hawai'i, under the theme "Planet at the Crossroads".

Next steps

IUCN and Shell continue to engage in efforts around natural capital and have also started to explore opportunities for nature-based solutions, and to deliver capacity building on protected area management to Iraqi stakeholders.

Related links

IUCN's work with Shell

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/business-and-biodiversity/our-work/business-partnerships/shell>

Shell Sustainability Report 2016

<http://reports.shell.com/sustainability-report/2016/>



9 Advancing remediation and rehabilitation in the Niger Delta

Key partners

The Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Limited (SPDC) and Nigeria Environmental Study Team (NEST)

Timeline

2012-2016

Snapshot

In 2012, SPDC engaged IUCN to establish an independent scientific advisory panel. The objectives were to assess how best to approach the remediation and rehabilitation of oil spill sites within the SPDC Joint Venture areas of operation, and to assess the company's own procedures for undertaking such work.

Since then, the Panel of international and local experts focused on improving remediation activities and identifying sustainable approaches towards rehabilitation of biodiversity in habitats affected by oil spills. This has included developing standards and good practices guidance on remediation and rehabilitation; and, encouraging the uptake of this guidance by SPDC and others.

Key achievements

The IUCN Niger Delta Panel's report in 2013 included recommendations to improve the company's internal environmental management protocols with specific focus on its oil spill response and remediation procedures. Based on recommendations made by the Panel, SPDC has made a number of changes in their approach to remediation. They have developed Conceptual Site Models for the Niger Delta Ecozones and a Mangrove Habitat Guidance Document. Together with the Panel, they have carried out remediation trials using biosurfactants, enzymes and sorbent products to test their potential to enhance bioremediation of oil-impacted soil. The trial results, which have been peer reviewed and published, recommend fertilizer as the preferred remediation treatment of contaminated soils. Following advice by the Panel, SPDC



is working with Nigerian regulators to develop a Risk Based Framework for management of land contamination, based on international best practice.

A biodiversity conservation report has been prepared by the Panel and will be issued in 2017. The report is focused on effective integration of biodiversity considerations in the Niger Delta.

Next steps

IUCN and SPDC plan to continue collaborating on the company's remediation and rehabilitation processes, including monitoring the biodiversity recovery in areas where SPDC's remediation standard is being applied. IUCN and SPDC aim to share the findings from this work with relevant stakeholders as the work progresses.

Related links

IUCN Niger Delta Panel webpage

<https://www.iucn.org/theme/business-and-biodiversity/our-work/business-partnerships/shell/iucn-niger-delta-panel>

The Niger Delta Panel main report

https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/content/documents/sustainable_remediation_and_rehabilitation_report_by_ndp.pdf

Looking ahead



Business as usual is no longer an option. In fact, business engagement is an integral link for meeting the challenges of the 21st century.

Business participation is underscored in recent global agreements on sustainable development and climate change, and this message was also echoed at the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

IUCN's Business and Biodiversity Programme is committed to working with strategic partners and coalitions that draw on the latest knowledge, models and tools to accelerate nature-based solutions that will allow all of us to thrive. To enable this transformational change, IUCN is pursuing a three-point strategy that is focused on valuing biodiversity, promoting biodiversity net gain and investing in nature.

Making the business case for valuing biodiversity is vital for ensuring companies' engagement goes beyond corporate social responsibility and is embedded in their actual decision-making. Furthermore, IUCN, along with the Natural Capital Coalition, is bringing these elements together by providing opportunities to promote natural capital at a country level with the public and private sectors as well as civil society.

Establishing independent, scientific and technical advisory panels is another model that IUCN uses to address controversial conservation and development issues.

Following the 2015 dam collapse at the Samarco iron ore mine in Brazil, IUCN is establishing an expert panel to provide independent scientific and technical advice on the restoration of the Rio Doce watershed.

Other projects with South Africa's Black Mountain Mining Company and the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals and Metals and Development are promoting a biodiversity net gain approach. This work builds on lessons learned with Rio Tinto's commitment to Net Positive Impact approach, and a joint IUCN-Rio Tinto report that explores the benefits and limits of such commitments will be released in 2017.

Another stream of work for IUCN's business engagement is focused on investing in nature. This work includes the Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation, a multi-party initiative that aims to create new financial packages to deliver conservation at scale. It also entails a Dutch Government initiative called "Shared Resources, Joint Solutions," which is bringing together experts in academia, civil society and government to develop new strategies and capacity for engaging business in protecting public goods at a landscape level.

Through our global network, collaborative partnerships and strong track-record, IUCN is well-positioned to respond to not only the challenges, but the opportunities to identify nature-based solutions. Through our Business and Biodiversity Programme, we are demonstrating that sustainable development is within reach and engaging economic actors is key for achieving these goals.

As the 2016 IUCN Congress outcome document clearly states, engaging the private sector is an urgent priority for addressing the global challenges facing us today.

About IUCN

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Created in 1948, IUCN is now the world's largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of 1,300 Member organisations and some 16,000 experts. It is a leading provider of conservation data, assessments and analysis. Its broad membership enables IUCN to fill the role of incubator and trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards.

IUCN provides a neutral space in which diverse stakeholders including governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development.

Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being.

www.iucn.org



INTERNATIONAL UNION
FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

Rue Mauverney 28
1196 Gland, Switzerland
Tel. +41 22 999 0001
Fax. +41 22 999 0020
Email: biobiz@iucn.org
www.iucn.org/business
https://twitter.com/IUCN_business

