



## CSR Europe Biodiversity & Industry Platform Year 2 September 2021 – August 2022

### INTRODUCTION

CSR Europe herewith submits a project proposal for the second year of development of the [business-led collaborative platform on Biodiversity & Industry](#) (2021-2022). **The detailed proposal below outlines the key activities for year two of the platform for 2021-2022**, from September 2021 to August 2022.

CSR Europe invites companies to join this platform, and proposes to provide coordination and project management services, content expertise and capacity building support. This proposal has the following structure:

1. Overview
2. Timeline
3. Resources needed
4. CSR Europe's credentials

### 1. PLATFORM OVERVIEW

Year one of the project clearly indicated the need for collaborative action on integrating Biodiversity in companies' decision-making processes. A benchmark exercise allowed the platform members to identify their strengths and weaknesses in their biodiversity management related to governance, strategy, risk management, metrics, targets and reporting as well as the engagement with stakeholders. After this assessment, a guiding framework was developed to assist companies in the integration of their biodiversity impact in the decision-making processes, when looking at a specific project or operation. This framework combines different steps - impact analysis, ecosystem sensitivity analysis, stakeholder engagement, risk matrix and decision-making guidelines. Several stakeholder engagement sessions were organized to gain insights and feedbacks on the approach of the project. Besides, members of the platform have had several opportunities to share their challenges and actions on biodiversity on the European level, such as in the SDG Summit Roundtable and the EU Green Week Partner Event.

On the global and European level, biodiversity remains very high on the agenda with the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 included in the Green Deal, the EU Taxonomy, and with the new Corporate Sustainability Directive. Integrating biodiversity in reporting strategies now becomes a regulatory obligation.

CSR Europe invites companies to join year two (September 2021 – August 2022) of the business-led Leadership platform on Biodiversity & Industry, which will focus on two workstreams: on a high-level perspective, a Biodiversity Maturity and Integration Model will be established, whilst on the project level perspective, the guiding Framework will be improved. Several activities are planned within these workstreams such as collecting best practices, starting pilot projects, sharing and speaking opportunities, stakeholder engagement and EU regulatory updates.

<p>WHAT do we aim for?</p>	<p>To support companies in <u>integrating biodiversity in their business strategy and processes</u>. This platform aims at being a <u>sharing and learning network</u> for companies to develop best practices, different approaches and common challenges regarding biodiversity; it will also follow closely the EU agenda and its objectives .</p>
<p>WHO are the main actors?</p>	<p><u>Leaders</u>: Companies <u>Coordinator</u>: CSR Europe</p>



HOW  
do we do this?

During year two, the Biodiversity and Industry Platform will remain a platform for collaborative improvement in fostering a positive connection between biodiversity and business, with the following major workstreams:

1. **Learning and sharing network**- regular platform interaction will bring members together to collaborate, highlight best practices and facilitate peer learning.
2. **Development of tools and models** – to improve the integration of biodiversity into company processes
  - 2.a. **Corporate level** – integrate biodiversity in management processes through the development of a Biodiversity Maturity and Integration Model. This will include:
    - a. Research and development
    - b. Organisation of a stakeholder dialogue for feedback and validation of the model
    - c. Collection of best practices on the integration of biodiversity in management processes
  - 2.b. **Project level** – focus on the practical implementation of the guiding framework via:
    - a. Organisation of follow-up peer learning sessions to share and learn on the practical use of the framework
    - b. Continuous enrichment of each step of the framework with latest scientific and international developments including practical inputs from the pilot activities
    - c. Collection of best practices on the different steps in the framework
3. **EU regulatory updates** – regular follow-up will provide updates on the fast-moving EU regulatory agenda concerning biodiversity (EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, EU Taxonomy, EU Green Deal, ...).
4. **Sharing and speaking opportunities** – the participation to high-level events will give the opportunity to companies to share externally the advancements and efforts on biodiversity integration with peers and gain insights on common challenges and solutions.



## What's in it for your company?

<b>At <u>company</u> level</b> 	<b>At a <u>collective</u> level</b> 	<b>At <u>EU</u> level</b> 
<p>Learn from peers and experts on how to integrate biodiversity in the strategy and the processes both at the local / project and management level</p>	<p>Contribute towards a common maturity and integration model to comprehend biodiversity into management processes, inspire and learn from others</p>	<p>Be a leader on biodiversity at the European level and share your practices to inspire others. Opportunity to stay updated on latest regulations on biodiversity and business and to be in contact with high level policy makers.</p>

### Corporate

### level

**Biodiversity Maturity and Integration Model** – Through the learnings from the benchmark assessment done in the first year of the platform, a Biodiversity Maturity and Integration Model will allow companies to develop a corporate strategy on the integration of biodiversity into management processes in order to embed the topic structurally into the organisation and its operations across the value chain. Activities will include:

- a. Research and development of a Maturity and Integration Model on Biodiversity
- b. Organisation of a stakeholder dialogue for feedback and validation of the ideal model and involving expert speakers into platform meetings to keep learning about the latest developments in the area of biodiversity and business.
- c. Collection of best practices on the integration of biodiversity in management processes

### Project level

**Implementation of the Guiding Framework** – The practical framework developed in year one of the platform will be updated in line with latest scientific and international evolutions. Besides, useful tools will be added regularly and informed upon to upgrade its practical use in alignment with existing methodologies. With the aim of fostering the practical use of the framework we will:

- a. Organise peer learning sessions with the platform members to share and learn
- b. Enrich the content of each of the steps of the framework with scientific and general information
- c. Collect best practices on the different steps in the framework in order to exchange with each other on the practical use of the framework

### Both levels

**Learning and sharing network**- regular platform interaction will bring members together to collaborate, highlight best practices and facilitate peer learning.

**Sharing and speaking** – Several opportunities will be presented for companies to share their expertise, best practices and activities of the platform at international conferences or EU events:

- a. **CSR Europe's European SDG Summit** (Brussels, 11- 12 -14 October 2021)
- b. **European Business and Nature Summit** (Paris, 30 Nov and 1 Dec 2021)
- c. **EU Green Week 2022** (Brussels, date TBC)

**EU regulatory updates** – regular follow-up will ensure updates on the fast-moving EU regulatory agenda concerning biodiversity (EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, EU Taxonomy, EU Green Deal, ...)



**2. TIMELINE: 2021-2022**

	2020	2021	2022
<b>Corporate level</b>	Benchmark	Maturity and Integration Model	
<b>Project level</b>	Guiding Framework		

ACTIVITY	2021				2022							
	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
<b>1 Biodiversity Maturity and Integration Model</b>												
1,1 Research and development of the Biodiversity maturity and integration model	█											
1,2 First draft of the model (platform meeting)			█									
1,3 Organization of 1-2-1 interview calls to gain feedback of the draft model and collect best practices				█	█							
1,4 Organization of a stakeholder dialogue to gain feedback on the model and to validate the approach of Biodiversity and Industry Platform						█						
1,5 Finalization the Biodiversity maturity and integration model in a Platform Meeting							█					
1,6 Research on best practices					█							
1,7 Consolidation of the model with best practices in a final publication												█
<b>2 Implementation of the guiding framework</b>												
2,1 Follow-up peer learning session on the pilot projects in platform meetings	█											
2,2 Updates of the practical framework with latest scientific tools and developments	█											
2,3 Collection of best practices in the practical use of the framework for internal distribution amongst the members					█							
<b>3 Learning and sharing network</b>												
3,1 Regular platform interaction will bring members together to collaborate, highlight best practices and facilitate peer learning	█			█				█		█		
3,2 Stakeholder dialogue to gain feedback on the model from different kinds of stakeholders						█						
3,3 Continuous exchange between members	█											
<b>4 Speaking opportunities</b>												
4,1 Participation in high level events	EU SDG ★		★	EU Business & Nature Summit			★	EU Green Week 2022 (TBC)				
<b>5 EU Regulatory Updates</b>												
5,1 Follow up on EU regulations	█											



### 3. RESOURCES NEEDED

1 CORPORATE INTELLIGENCE	2. HR ESTIMATION	3. FINANCIAL SUPPORT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental/ Biodiversity Managers</li> <li>• Sustainability/ CSR Managers</li> <li>• Project Managers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commitment of 7 Days FTE</b> (peer to peer + CSR Europe. Not including internal consultations)</li> <li>• ROI estimation: the value is x3 more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>10,000 euros</b> per company to join</li> </ul>

#### HR RESOURCES NEEDED PER COMPANY

ACTIONS	DELIVERABLES	HR ESTIMATION per company
<b>1. Biodiversity Maturity and Integration Model</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and development of the Biodiversity maturity and integration model</li> <li>• First draft of the model (platform meeting)</li> <li>• Organization of 1-2-1 interview calls to gain feedback of the draft model and collect best practices</li> <li>• Organization of a stakeholder dialogue to gain feedback on the model and to validate the approach of Biodiversity and Industry Platform</li> <li>• Finalization the Biodiversity maturity and integration model in a Platform Meeting</li> <li>• Research on best practices</li> <li>• Best practice consolidation and publication</li> </ul>	3 days
<b>2. Implementation of the guiding framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up peer learning session on the pilot projects in platform meetings</li> <li>• Updates of the practical framework with latest scientific tools and developments</li> <li>• Collection of best practices in the practical use of the framework for internal distribution amongst the members</li> </ul>	2 days
<b>3. Learning and sharing network</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular platform interaction will bring members together to collaborate, highlight best practices and facilitate peer learning</li> <li>• Stakeholder dialogue to gain feedback on the model from different kinds of stakeholders</li> <li>• Continuous exchange between members</li> </ul>	1 day



<b>4. Speaking opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in high level events               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>CSR Europe’s European SDG Summit</b> (Brussels, 11- 12 -14 October 2021)</li> <li>○ <b>European Business and Nature Summit</b> (Paris, 30 Nov and 1 Dec 2021)</li> <li>○ <b>EU Green Week 2022</b> (Brussels, date TBC)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	N/A
<b>5. EU Regulatory Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up on EU regulations</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>Min 6 DAYS</b>

## 5. CSR EUROPE’S CREDENTIALS

In 1998, the European Business Network for Social Cohesion (later renamed CSR Europe) was formed to create a space for men and women in business to share experiences, develop solutions and engage in a smart policy dialogue with the EU with a view to enhancing corporate social responsibility within their organizations and beyond.

Since its creation, CSR Europe has worked together with thousands of companies and variety of stakeholders and policy makers in paving the way for a sustainable Europe and in implementing sustainability tools and instruments worldwide. CSR Europe is the leading European business network for Corporate Social Responsibility.

Through its network of 31 corporate members and 41 National CSR organizations, it gathers over 10,000 companies, and acts as a platform for those businesses looking to enhance sustainable growth and positively contribute to society. In its mission to bring the sustainability agenda forward, CSR Europe goes beyond European borders and cooperates with CSR organizations in other regions across the world.

It is CSR Europe’s mission to:

- Increase the integration of sustainability into business models and management of companies
- Be a platform for collaboration with stakeholders and a catalyst for innovation to build a sustainable and inclusive society in Europe and beyond
- Engage with the European institutions about policy to drive the global sustainability agenda

As a general direction, CSR Europe brings companies together to:

1. Share and learn to increase maturity of understanding
2. Act together for larger impact
3. Engage in policy dialogue for systemic change
4. Communicate to raise awareness on sustainability