

NEWSLETTER



CONTENT

1. Biodiversity in G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration
2. B20 Summit India 2023
3. 18th Sustainability Summit
4. Policy Update
 - Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023
 - Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023
 - Draft Green Credit Programme Implementation Rules, 2023
5. India Wetland Coalition: Map your location with 75 Ramsar Wetland in India
6. Key Reports

Welcoming new IBBI members

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Feature Story

Biodiversity in G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration



वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्
ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE

In this G20 resolution, world leaders recognize the critical importance of global cooperation in shaping the world's future. They acknowledge ongoing challenges to economic growth and stability, which have hindered progress towards the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Issues like increasing climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, drought, and land degradation are threatening people's lives and livelihoods. Additionally, rising commodity prices, including food and energy, are adding to the cost-of-living pressures. These global challenges disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, especially women and children.

Biodiversity focus in G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration:

- G20 cooperation is essential in determining the course the world takes. Headwinds to global economic growth and stability persist. Years of cascading challenges and crises have reversed gains in the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions continue to increase, with climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, drought, land degradation and desertification threatening lives and livelihoods. Rising commodity prices, including food and energy prices are contributing to cost of living pressures. Global challenges like poverty and inequality, climate change, pandemics and conflicts disproportionately affect women and children, and the most vulnerable.
- As Leaders of G20, the premier global forum for international economic cooperation, we resolve to act in concrete ways through partnerships. We commit to pursue low-GHG/low carbon emissions, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable development pathways by championing an integrated and inclusive approach. We will urgently accelerate our actions to address development and climate challenges, promote Lifestyles for Sustainable Development (LiFE), and conserve biodiversity, forests and oceans.
- We emphasize the importance of healthy ecosystems in addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification, drought, land degradation, pollution, food insecurity and water scarcity. We commit to restoring by 2030 at least 30% of all degraded ecosystems and scaling up efforts to achieve land degradation neutrality. To achieve this, we commit to the swift, full and effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), and encourage others to do the same, and encourage actions to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. We also call for enhanced financial resources from all sources. To this end, we welcome the recent establishment of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund within the Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- Acknowledging the disproportionate impact of climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification and pollution on all women and girls, accelerating climate action must have gender equality at its core.



CII-ITC Centre of Excellence
for Sustainable Development



Confederation of Indian Industry

B20 Summit India 2023



B20 India Secretariat



Confederation of Indian Industry

Biodiversity in B20 India Statement: A Transformative Strategy for Future Businesses

- B20 firmly believes that G20 countries should focus on achieving an inclusive and just transition, ensuring affordable energy access and nature-positive transitions through biodiversity conservation.
- G20 countries should integrate ecosystem-based approaches (EbA) in national and sectoral adaptation plans and strategies to ensure that the targets under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework are met.



Policy Actions and Recommendations to the G20 with Biodiversity as a core matter

1. Financing for Global Economic Recovery

The Task Force has made four key recommendations – the first recommendation is on Global SDG Acceleration Fund for financing of ‘Global Public Goods’ (with an initial thrust on geographically fungible SDG projects in climate, energy, biodiversity, and ocean pollution). This fund would have initial focus on financing projects that are considered Geographically Fungible Global Public Goods (GFGPGs) in areas related to climate change, energy transition, biodiversity, and ocean pollution.

2. Energy, Climate Change and Resource Efficiency

The Task Force addresses four key areas that require immediate attention, the third recommendation mentions that a just transition is essential, considering the social and economic impacts on nature, individuals, and communities.

Policy action 3.3: Promote nature-positive transitions through biodiversity conservation and integrating Ecosystem-based Approaches (EbA) into adaptation planning. Countries have committed to nature-positive action under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). To ensure the GBF targets are met, there is a requirement to set country-level goals and allocate resources for large-scale ecosystem restoration. Governments should

promote Ecosystem-based Approaches (EbA) and integrate them into national and sectoral adaptation plans.

[Click here to read the B20 India 2023 Communiqué](#)

Biodiversity in focus at B20 Summit India 2023

B20 @b20 · Aug 26 ·
Resilience was the focus of conversation in this task force. It is time that we all perform better in protecting and driving resilience. ~
[@MiebachMichael](#), Chief Executive Officer, [@MastercardNews](#), USA at the session on Financial Inclusion for Economic Empowerment at... [Show more](#)



B20 @b20 · Aug 25
#ClimateChange, #Energy, #Biodiversity and Ocean Pollution are four key priority areas that need financing. ~ [@udaykotak](#), Chair, B20 India Task Force on Financing for Global Economic Recovery and Chief Executive Officer, [@KotakBankLtd](#) at the session on B20 India Priorities and... [Show more](#)



18th Sustainability Summit | 22-23 August 2023 | New Delhi



The Sustainability Summit held on 22-23 August 2023, brought to fore ideas and thought leadership on synergistic action to navigate the transition towards sustainable development. It built discussions on solutions and innovations to enable actions and reinforcing global commitments for a cleaner, greener, and inclusive future. The session on **Building Resilience through Nature Conservation** explored global practices and innovative approaches for nature conservation, measuring linkages of nature & businesses and policy frameworks required for partnership development.

From the panel discussion

"The oceans assimilate significant quantities of heat produced by industrial operations. The most substantial opportunity for carbon capture on a massive scale lies within the oceans. To enhance their biodiversity, it is essential to develop additional infrastructure, like mangrove forests in coastal regions."

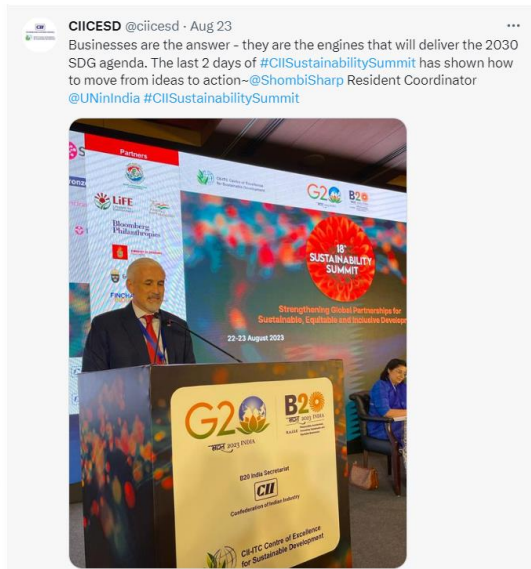
Paul Holthus, Founding President, Ocean Council

"India retains a substantial portion of its ecological infrastructure in an intact state. A profound correlation exists between the natural world and various industries. The concept of sustainability is closely interwoven with business operations; for instance, a scarcity of water could pose significant risks to industries."

Ravi Singh, Secretary General & CEO, WWF

Biodiversity and Nature in focus at 18th Sustainability Summit





Policy Update

Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023

The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023 (FCA Bill) was passed by the Parliament on 2nd August 2023 with the proposed amendments to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (FCA). The FCA Bill was referred to the Joint Committee on Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023 of the Parliament for examination, which brought out its report in July 2023.

The Preamble

The FCA Bill proposes to insert a Preamble to the FCA. It refers, inter alia, to the enhancement of forest carbon stocks, creation of carbon sinks to achieve NDC targets and the improvement of livelihoods of forest-dependent communities.

Insertion of Section 1A

The FCA Bill proposes to insert Section 1A into the Act to specify the lands covered under FCA's provisions. The FCA Bill specifically focuses on these 'recorded' forests and suggests that only lands recorded as forests as on or after October 25th, 1980, should fall within the purview of the FCA.

Amendment to Section 2

The FCA imposes restrictions on the conversion of forest land for non-forest purposes or the de-reservation of forests. It specifies certain activities that are exempt from these restrictions. The FCA Bill through an amendment to Section 2 expands this list to include activities like zoos and safaris, eco-tourism facilities, silvicultural operations, and 'any other purposes' specified by the Central Government.

Biological Diversity (Amendment) Act, 2023

The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021 was introduced in Lok Sabha in December 2021 and was subsequently referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). JPC submitted the report in August 2022. It was finally given nod by both the houses in August 2023.

Definition of Codified

The term 'codified traditional knowledge' was not defined either under the Biological Diversity Act ("BDA") or the BDA Bill.⁸⁰ However, the BDA Bill provided certain exemptions with respect to 'codified traditional knowledge only for Indians', such as exclusion from the definition of 'benefit claimers' under Section 2(aa).

Foreign Controlled Company

Under Section 3(2)(c)(ii) of the BDA, a body corporate, association, or organisation incorporated or registered in India having non-Indian participation in share capital or

management is required to take the approval of the NBA to obtain any biological resource occurring in India or knowledge associated thereto. The BDA Bill replaced these entities with body corporates or associations or organisations which are incorporated or registered in India but is a 'foreign-controlled company'. It further added that 'foreign controlled company' means a 'foreign company' within the meaning of the clause Section 2(42) Companies Act, 2013 which is under the control of a foreigner.

Exemption to Ayush practitioners

Users of codified traditional knowledge and AYUSH practitioners will be exempted from sharing benefits with local communities.

Certificate of Origin

Certificate of origin for cultivated medicinal plants shall be obtained by making an entry in the books of the concerned Panchayat Body or Biodiversity Management Committee.

Draft Green Credit Programme Implementation Rules, 2023

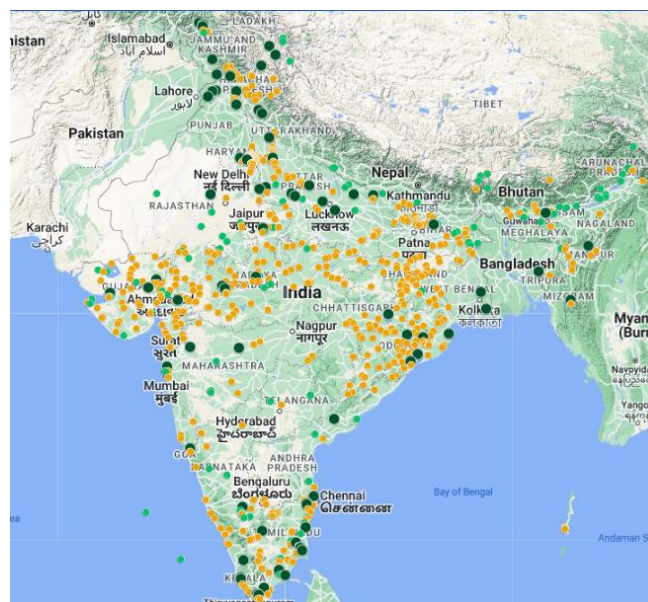
The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) on June 27, 2023, issued notification for draft Green Credit Programme Implementation Rules 2023. The following has been stated- A Green Credit Programme is proposed to be launched at the national level to leverage a competitive market-based approach for Green Credits thereby incentivizing voluntary environmental actions of various stakeholders. Green Credits will arise from a range of sectors and entities, ranging from small-scale ones— such as individuals, Farmer Producer Organisations, cooperatives, forestry enterprises, and sustainable agriculture enterprises; to those being developed at the level of Urban and Rural Local Bodies, private sectors, industries, and organizations. Green Credits will be tradable outcomes and will act as incentives. In the beginning, Green Credits will be made available to individuals and entities, engaged in selected activities and who undertake environmental interventions. These Green Credits will be made available for trading on a domestic market platform. An activity generating Green Credits under Green Credit Programme may also get Carbon Credits from the same activity under the carbon market.

India Wetland Coalition: Map your location with 75 Ramsar Wetland in India



Wetlands near urban centres or industrial clusters face potential threat in the form of reduction in area, water pollution, invasive species etc. Society is dependent on wetlands for services such as fresh water supply, pollution mitigation, biodiversity enhancement and climate change mitigation. Businesses operating near wetlands are also

dependent on them for their fresh water supply to operate with maximum efficiency. To help in wetland restoration, the first step is to identify the operations located near significant wetlands or Ramsar Wetlands and then formulate restoration plans. Businesses can map their operations around significant wetlands or Ramsar Wetlands with the help of an easy-to-use online tool: [Interactive Wetland Map of India](#) hosted on the Wetlands of India Portal. The Portal has been developed under the Indo-German project on "Wetlands Management for Biodiversity and Climate Protection" (2018-2023).

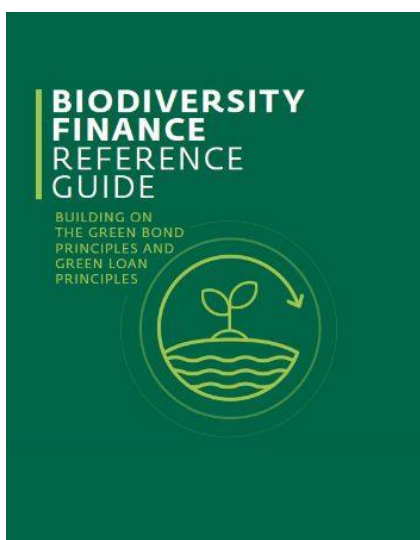


Key Reports



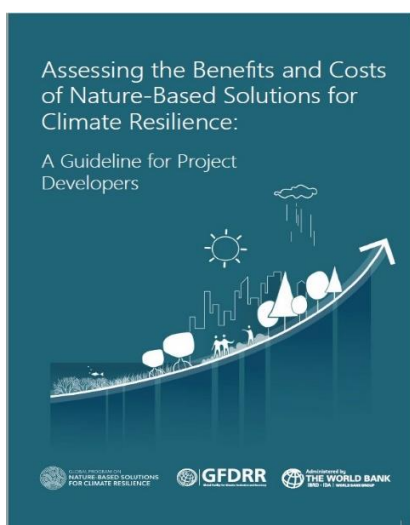
This paper responds to questions from number of G20-member governments about how addressing nature-related data challenges could enable and accelerate the uptake of corporate reporting and target-setting by business and finance, in line with Target 15 of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

[Read More](#)



Biodiversity Finance Reference Guide builds the Green Bond Principles and the Green Loan Principles and provides an indicative list of investment projects, activities, and components that help protect, maintain, or enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as promote the sustainable management of natural resources. Recent updates to the guide also map indicative investment activities to the targets in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

[Read More](#)



This document aims to guide the design, implementation, and use of studies to value the benefits and costs of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) for climate resilience projects. This report provides an overview of methods and approaches, along with a decision framework to guide the design of NBS cost and benefit assessment. The decision framework presented should enable project developers to come up with a cost-effective approach for quantifying the benefits and costs of NBS that is effective and convincing in the context of climate resilience projects.

[Read More](#)