Basic Key Figures and Indicators for Biodiversity

The following key figures and indicators have been discussed during the EBBC Round Table on Biodiversity Indicators on the 27th of March 2013 in Frankfurt.
This selection is a basic set of key figures and indicators applicable for companies of all economic sectors. It helps the company to implement first steps to approach the management of biodiversity with the aim to reduce the impact on biodiversity and the related ecosystem services.

Basic Key Figures and Indicators for Biodiversity

Characteristics

- This set of basic key figures/indicators is for companies of all economic sectors
- Process and key figures/indicators
- Key figures/indicators with focus on the direct and indirect impacts of the company on biodiversity including ecosystems and their ecosystem services
- Key figures/indicators do not measure the risks and opportunities nor the economic value of ecosystem services for the company
- Based on the requirements of the environmental management systems EMAS and ISO 14.001. They contribute to the integration of biodiversity into existing management systems.
- The key figures/indicators are designed for companies to track their progress. To enable a comparison between companies, many indicators should be normalised, for example by expressing the indicators per product unit.
- Environmental aspects such as energy consumption, water consumption or emissions are “traditionally” included in Environmental Management Systems. Targets and key figures/indicators have been identified to improve the environmental performance and therefore reduce the negative impact on biodiversity caused by climate change, emissions /pollution or overexploitation of natural resources such as water.
- Structured according to the main functional areas of a company and to the main drivers of biodiversity loss:

Functional areas

- Strategy /Management
- Stakeholders
- Headquarters /premises/ Real estate
- Procurement / Supply Chain /Raw Material

- Product Development and Manufacturing
- Transport and Logistics
- End product /Services
- Marketing /Communication
- Human Resources

Main drivers of biodiversity loss

- Habitat change /destruction
- Overexploitation of natural resources
- Climate Change
- Emissions /Pollution
- Invasive Alien Species (neobiota)

Applicability

Green = Application of key figure/indicator is relatively easy
Yellow = Application of key figure/indicator is still challenging (e.g. data missing, suppliers unknown, company has no /low influence)

Strategy /Management – Indications

- Are you using an Environmental Management System? Does biodiversity play a role in this management system or another management system (e.g. sustainability or quality management)?
- Do you apply the mitigation hierarchy when managing your negative biodiversity activities?
- Do you comply with all relevant environmental legislation?
- Do you monitor and evaluate your impact on biodiversity on a regular basis?
- Do you evaluate your suppliers' biodiversity engagement and/or performance?
- Does your company consider biodiversity with regard to financial investments or involvement in other companies?
- Are there any activities to compensate negative impacts on biodiversity and/or to restore affected ecosystems?
- Do you have a strategy/ programme to guarantee the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources?

Stakeholders – Key Figures / Indicators

Number of projects / collaborations with stakeholders to address biodiversity issues
Budget for projects / collaborations with stakeholders to address biodiversity issues in comparison to total budget
Procedure /instruments in place to analyse biodiversity related feedback from costumers, stakeholder, suppliers (quality indicator)
% of objectives of projects/collaborations with stakeholders to address biodiversity issues achieved

Head Quarters /Premises/ Real Estate – Key Figures/Indicators

Inventory on land or other areas, owned, leased or managed by the company in or adjacent to protected areas or areas of high biodiversity value (*1) yes /no + area size (m^2, ha)
Area of land or other areas, owned, leased or managed by the company with an implemented nature protection management plan (ha)
Plan for biodiversity friendly gardening in place for premises or other areas, owned, leased or managed by the company (yes /no)
Size of areas under biodiversity friendly management in comparison to total area of company sites (%)
Size of green roofs and/or facade greening (m2)
Total size of restored habitats and/or areas to compensate for damages to biodiversity caused by the company (ha) in comparison to land used by the company (ha)

(*1) Consequence: land in or adjacent to protected areas or areas of high biodiversity value should have an implemented nature protection management plan.

Procurement / Supply Chain /Raw material – Key Figures/Indicators

Risk assessment of mostly used and /or most important raw material and /or natural resources used by the company regarding potential impacts on biodiversity
Restoration and /or compensation: Size of restored and/or areas to compensate for damages to biodiversity in comparison to area (ha) used for sourcing
% of suppliers contacted regarding biodiversity protection
% of suppliers with certification (environmental management system, label)

Product Development and Manufacturing – Key Figures/Indicators

Direct and indirect impacts of production processes on biodiversity. Assessment framework in place? % of products analyzed?
Restoration and /or compensation: Size of the restored area and/or the area to compensate for damages to biodiversity in comparison to total area affected (ha)
Reduction of emissions, water and energy consumption: Indicators of Environmental Programme /Action Plan of Environmental Management System

Logistics and Transport – Key Figures/Indicators

% of service providers contacted regarding biodiversity protection
% of service providers with certification (environmental management system, label)
% of suppliers with programme in place to reduce risks of environmental accidents
Number of environmental incidents

End Product /Services – Key Figures/Indicators

Direct and indirect impacts on habitats /species: Assessment framework in place? Number and share (%) of products analyzed.
Initiatives to mitigate environmental impacts of products and services, and extent of impact mitigation (GRI EN26)
Energy, greenhouse gases, waste water, noise or air pollution: % of products analysed (Life-Cycle-Assessment)
Reduction of impacts: See indicators of Environmental Programme /Action Plan of Environmental Management System
% of products which can be reused or recycled compared to all products

Marketing /Communication – Key Figures/Indicators

Number of relevant GRI criteria on biodiversity fulfilled. (GRI EN11 - EN15)
Information on biodiversity for costumers /public: Number of persons reached
Information on biodiversity for costumers /public: Monitoring in place. Analysis of feedback received
Product information for final customer includes information about impact of the product on biodiversity (quantity and quality of information)

Human Resources – Key Figures/Indicators

Employee volunteering projects: Number and share of employees participating in nature conservation / biodiversity project
Capacity building on biodiversity: Number and share of employees trained
Qualification of employees responsible for company units with risks for biodiversity compared to total number of employees in this unit
Number of qualified employees responsible for company units with risks for biodiversity compared to total number of employees in this unit

Gefördert durch /supported by:

Life

Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit

Umwelt Bundes Amt
Für Mensch und Umwelt

Baden-Württemberg
MINISTERIUM FÜR UMWELT, KLIMA UND ENERGIEWIRTSCHAFT

Projektpartner /project partner:

Bodensee Stiftung
Internationale Stiftung für Natur und Kultur

Global Nature Fund

VNU

Deutsche Umwelthilfe

For more information visit our website: www.business-biodiversity.eu