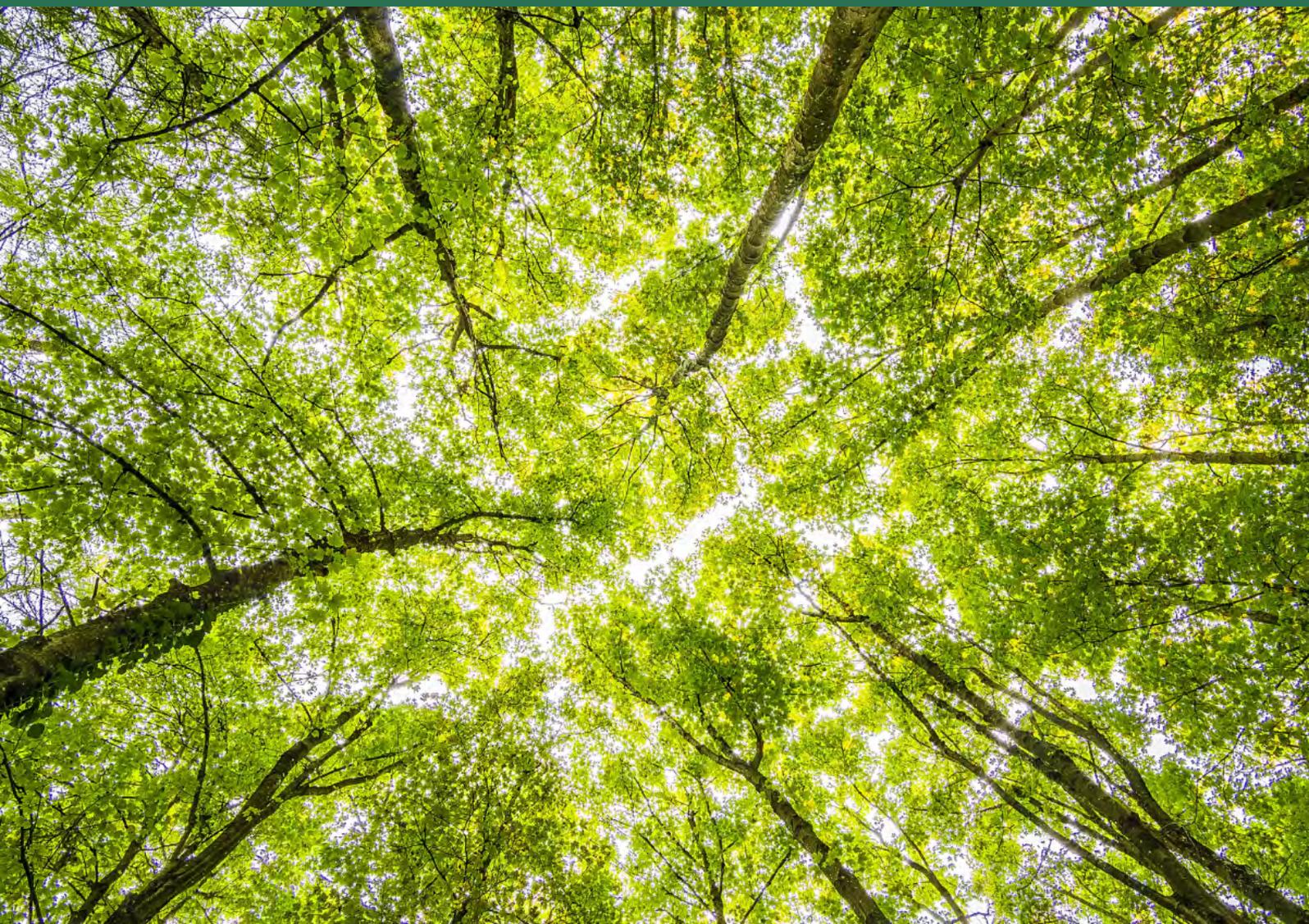


What Are Nature Strategies and Nature Transition Plans?

Developed by BfN and CDP in consultation with GFANZ, SBTN, TNFD, WBCSD, WEF and WWF

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The mission of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) – endorsed by almost 200 national governments – is to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. Delivering this requires significant changes to business practices across all sectors, incorporating nature into organisations’ strategy, planning, and decision-making.

Nature strategies and transition plans are a solid foundation to help organisations articulate how they plan to respond and contribute to the transition implied by the GBF. They also support business and financial institutions to build accountability, as well as to manage their nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.

Our society, economies and financial systems are embedded in nature, not external to it. According to the World Economic Forum, more than half of the world’s GDP is moderately or highly dependent on nature. The latest CDP data also indicates that one in four companies are already identifying nature-related risks of over US\$690 billion that pose a substantive financial or strategic impact on their business.

Several frameworks are already available or shortly anticipated for organisations to get started on developing nature strategies and transition plans.

An overview of nature strategies and nature transition plans

A nature strategy is a high-level, forward-looking roadmap that indicates how an organisation will contribute to a nature-positive world. The nature strategy can be developed as part of the overall business strategy or independently and should outline the organisation’s:

(i) overall goals and aspirations to respond to the global challenge to halt and reverse nature loss; and plans to assess and manage their nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities;

(ii) commitments to setting science-aligned SMART targets, transforming business operations and governance to support nature-positive actions, and increasing corporate disclosures on material nature-related issues; and

(iii) intentions to develop a nature transition plan, either incorporated with, or alongside, its net-zero transition plan.

A nature transition plan is an aspect of an organisation’s overall business strategy that lays out the organisation’s goals, targets – in a science-based approach, actions, accountability mechanisms and intended resources to respond and contribute to the transition implied by the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

Actions in such plans should prioritise real economy changes and may include: avoiding and reducing negative impacts; protecting, conserving, regenerating and restoring nature; transforming underlying systems to address the drivers of nature loss; and collaborating and engaging with Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and stakeholders.

Nature transition plans are more detailed, structured and specific than, and can build on, high-level nature strategies. In the absence of a nature transition plan, a nature strategy can provide clarity on the company’s direction of action and a framework to address the nature transition.

As organisations work with nature strategies and nature transition plans, processes, methodologies, and definitions will mature.

The need for an integrated approach to transition planning

Nature and climate are inextricably connected. Nature loss contributes towards accelerated climate change, which is also one of the key drivers of nature loss. Therefore, a transition plan that integrates nature and climate will be most effective in enabling organisations to strategically manage the synergies and trade-offs across and within these topics.

Practically, organisations may build nature considerations into existing climate plans and/or develop a separate nature plan with an intention to integrate the plans in the future. Inclusion of nature to enhance net-zero transition plans raises the profile of nature using the established focus on climate and helps to accelerate the development of nature transition plans.

Regardless, analysis of synergies and trade-offs across and within climate and nature and evaluating how a transition plan supports broader societal objectives and how to manage societal trade-offs are key.

Key available and soon-to-be available resources

Work is gathering pace on this crucial topic. There is new and evolving guidance to help businesses and financial institutions. These resources are complementary and intended to increase the growing pool of knowledge in this area.

In September 2023, the TNFD published its [recommendations](#) and guidance to help organisations to report and act on evolving nature-related issues with the ultimate aim of supporting a shift in global financial flows away from nature-negative outcomes and toward nature-positive outcomes.

In November 2023, the Business for Nature coalition with its partners launched "[It's Now for Nature](#)," a joint global campaign to scale and speed up business action through businesses developing, publishing and submitting their strategies for nature onto the platform. A Nature Strategy Handbook is available in multiple languages and is based on the high-level business actions of Assess, Commit, Transform, and Disclose (ACT-D).

At Biodiversity COP16, GFANZ and TNFD are launching consultations on their draft guidance on nature in net-zero transition plans and nature transition planning, respectively. In November 2024, WWF will publish an advocacy report on nature transition plans outlining actionable and best practice steps for structuring credible nature transition plans and preparing for EU regulation. In April 2025 a financial institution perspective on assessing clients/portfolio companies, with best practices and case studies, will be published by the World Economic Forum.

September 2023

TNFD publishes guidance for reporting on nature-related issues

October 2024

GFANZ & TNFD launch consultations at COP16 focused on nature in net-zero transition plans and nature transition planning

April 2025

WEF to publish a financial institution perspective on nature transition plans

November 2023

BfN and partners launch 'It's Now for Nature'

November 2024

WWF to publish guidance on nature transition plans

These resources will support businesses and financial institutions to navigate the development of nature strategies and nature transition plans. Disclosure is a critical step on the corporate transition journey to track progress and inform sustainable decision-making. It will be important

that organisations disclose their nature transition plans through an independent mechanism, such as CDP. The disclosure of nature transition plans will become a regulatory requirement in many jurisdictions, so early action will support companies to get prepared for future regulation.

This table provides an overview of these materials:

Organization	Resource	Objective	Audience	Status
Business for Nature	Nature Strategy Handbook	A practical guide to help companies develop and publish nature strategies based on ACT-D high-level actions	Businesses & Financial institutions	Launched Nov 2023
TNFD	Discussion Paper on Nature Transition Plans	<p>Practical guidance on nature transition planning for corporates and financial institutions. It covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What a nature transition plan should include; and • How a nature transition plan should be presented and disclosed. 	Businesses, financial institutions, investors, other users of transition plan disclosures	To be launched for consultation on 27 Oct 2024
GFANZ	Nature in net-Zero Transition Plans	To provide voluntary, supplemental guidance for financial institutions to include nature in net-zero transition plans (as outlined in the 2022 Net-zero Transition planning framework)	Financial institutions	To be launched on 27 Oct 2024

Organization	Resource	Objective	Audience	Status
WWF	Catalysing Change: The Urgent Need for Nature Transition Plans	A paper outlining recommendation to support preparers of nature transition plans, by providing actionable and best practice steps, identifying key components and tools anchored in the requirements of CSRD and CSDDD	Businesses, financial institutions, and regulators & policymakers	To be launched in Nov 2024
World Economic Forum	Financing the Nature Positive Transition	To provide perspectives on how financial institutions can get started on assessing and engaging with companies on nature, including case studies	Financial institutions	To be launched in April 2025

In light of the speed of development and the need to accelerate and scale action, halt and revert nature loss, it is important that organisations developing supporting resources continue to increase interoperability and avoid unnecessary fragmentation.

To contribute to this need, the organisations that came together to prepare this document are committed to continuing to work together to encourage businesses and financial institutions to get started now and actively respond and contribute to this urgent global transition.