



Taskforce on Nature-related
Financial Disclosures

Glossary

Version 2.0 June 2024

TNFD Glossary of Key Terms

Term	Definition
Abiotic flows	<p>Contributions to benefits from the environment that are not underpinned by, or reliant on, ecological characteristics and processes.</p> <p>United Nations et al. (2021) System of Environmental-Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EA)</p>
Acute risk	<p>Occurrence of short-term, specific events that change the state of nature. For example, oil spills, forest fires or pests affecting a harvest.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Financial Stability Board (2022) Final report: Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks, Network for Greening the Financial System (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to Guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors</p>
Adaptation	<p>Adjustment in natural or human systems to a new or changing environment that exploits beneficial opportunities or moderates negative effects.</p> <p>Adapted from Fourth National Climate Assessment Glossary</p>
Additional conservation actions	<p>A broad range of activities intended to benefit biodiversity, where the effects or outcomes can be challenging to quantify.</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme – Finance Initiative (2021) Guidance for Banks: Biodiversity Target-Setting</p>
Additional disclosure metrics	<p>Metrics suggested by the TNFD that a company or financial institution may choose to include in their disclosures, based on their specific industry, location and/or regulatory requirements in order to provide more specific information and strengthen disclosures. The list of additional metrics is not exhaustive – but illustrative – and other metrics will likely be required to disclose against all material nature related issues.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



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Term	Definition
Affected stakeholders / affected communities	<p>People or groups that have been, or may be, affected by an organization's operations, products, services and value chains, including an organization's nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and/or opportunities, and responses to those issues.</p> <p>Affected communities can range from local communities living adjacent to the organization's operations or the site of its activities to those living at a distance but affected, for example, by nature loss, such as the loss of migratory species, or impact drivers, such as water or air pollution that the organization generates. Affected communities can include Indigenous Peoples who have internationally recognised rights related to their lands, territories, resources, cultures, traditional knowledge and the conduct of their affairs, and the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent before activities affecting their lands may proceed.</p> <p>Adapted from World Economic Forum (2022) Engaging Affected Stakeholders: The Emerging Duties of Board Members: Insight Report by the Global Future Council on Human Rights</p>
Afforestation	<p>Establishment of the forest through planting and/or deliberate seeding on land that, until then, was under a different land use, implies a transformation of land use from non-forest to forest.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2000) On Definitions of Forest and Forest Change</p>
Agri-voltaic	<p>Use of land for both agriculture and solar photovoltaic energy generation.</p> <p>US Department of Agriculture Agrivoltaics: Coming Soon to a Farm Near You?</p>
Ancillary infrastructure (mining)	<p>All infrastructure (e.g. roads, pipelines and offices) that supports core mining and processing operational infrastructure (e.g. processing plants, pits and shafts).</p> <p>Adapted from ICMM (2006) Good Practice Guidance for Mining and Biodiversity.</p>
Aquaculture	<p>Farming or culture of aquatic organisms (e.g. fish, crustaceans, molluscs, aquatic plants). This includes practices where human intervention within the rearing/culture process is used to enhance production through actions such as (but not limited to) feeding, protection from predators and stocking.</p> <p>The practice of farming/culture implies either individual or corporate ownership over the cultured stock and its scope includes development and operation of aquaculture systems, facilities and practices, facility siting, production of aquatic organisms, and their transport.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (2020) FAO Terminology Portal.</p>
Aquaculture (extensive)	<p>Extensive aquaculture encompasses non-feed ponds and enclosure systems (cages or pens) or other small-scale/non-intensive fisheries, and coastal seaweed and shellfish culture. This agricultural system utilises wetlands, making use of aquatic resources to support production. Extensive pond aquaculture production traditionally occurs in small-</p>



Term	Definition
	<p>scale farms in Asia, and in central Europe. Coastal seaweed and shellfish systems occur globally.</p> <p>Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (2022) Briefing note no. 13: Wetlands and Agriculture: Impacts of Farming Practices and Pathways to Sustainability. Gland, Switzerland: Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands.</p>
Aquaculture (intensive)	<p>Intensive aquaculture includes ponds, pen or cage systems with feeds, water replacement, aeration, pharmaceuticals and filtration or other technology to increase productivity. In intensive pond systems, nutrients accumulate in pond sediments. Cage and pen systems discharge nutrients into surface water. This system type includes intensive fish and shrimp ponds (mostly in Asia), and cage culture of salmonids (mostly in Norway, Scotland and Chile), of seabream and seabass (Mediterranean); and marine finfish species (particularly in Asia).</p> <p>Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (2022) Briefing note no. 13: Wetlands and agriculture: impacts of farming practices and pathways to sustainability. Gland, Switzerland: Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands.</p>
Aquaculture production	<p>Growing of algae and other seaweeds; culturing or farming of aquatic organisms, such as fish, molluscs and crustaceans, in captive conditions that involve regular stocking, feeding and protecting against predators; this includes both capture-based aquaculture (CBA) and hatchery-based aquaculture (HBA) systems.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (2020) FAO Terminology Portal; GRI (2022) GRI 13: Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fishing Sectors 2022</p>
Aquaculture operation	<p>A (commercially managed) venture that farms aquatic organisms and which may include production sites (i.e. farming sites), harvest sites, storage sites, slaughter or processing operations, and other activities under the responsibility of the venture, such as transport.</p> <p>Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) (2024) ASC Farm Standard; V0.4 2024.</p>



Term	Definition
Animal processing	<p>Cleaning and washing animal products; processing milk; candling eggs; slaughtering animals for meat; deboning, cutting, smoking, and freezing meat; separating fur, skins, feathers and down.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI 13: Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fishing Sectors 2022</p>
Animal protein	<p>Large molecules made of amino acids found in animal foods.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2023) Nutrition</p>
Annual revenue	<p>Revenue is the gross inflow of economic benefits during a financial year arising from the course of the ordinary activities of an entity when those inflows result in increases in equity, other than increases relating to contributions from equity participants.</p> <p>Adapted from International Financial Reporting Standards IAS 18 Revenue</p>
Area of influence	<p>The project area of influence is generally larger than the physical footprint of the project, and includes the area within which a project may potentially directly, indirectly, and cumulatively cause impacts to nature.</p> <p>International Finance Corporation (IFC) (2012) Performance Standard 6 and The Cross Sector Biodiversity Institute (2015) Good Practices for the Collection of Biodiversity Baseline Data</p>
Area of high biodiversity value outside protected areas	<p>Land with high biodiversity value as referred to in Article 7b(3) of Directive 98/70/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (5).</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288</p>
Area controlled / managed	<p>A clearly defined geographical space that an entity has the power to govern financially and operationally to obtain benefits from its activities.</p> <p>Adapted from International Financial Reporting Standard Glossary</p>
Assessment locations	<p>Assessment locations include all sensitive locations and other locations where an organization may have material dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Assessment metrics	<p>Metrics used within an integrated internal process for identification and assessment of nature-related issues, such as the LEAP approach. These are not necessarily required for disclosure.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



Term	Definition
Assets	<p>A present economic resource controlled by the entity as a result of past events and from which future economic benefits are expected to flow to the entity.</p> <p>International Financial Reporting Standard (2015) Conceptual Framework: Elements of Financial Statements – Definitions and Recognition</p>
Atmosphere	<p>Atmosphere includes the gaseous medium and its suspended particulate liquids and solids above the land realm, extending to the altitudinal limits of life.</p> <p>Keith, D et al (2020) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0: Descriptive profiles for biomes and ecosystem functional groups</p>
Baseline	<p>Starting point or benchmark against which changes in the state of nature attributed to your business activities can be compared.</p> <p>Adapted from Capitals Coalition (2016) Natural Capital Protocol</p>
Benthic	<p>Organisms living or in substrate in the bottom habitats of the marine deep ocean floor zone.</p> <p>Based on IUCN Habitats Classification Scheme (Version 3.1).</p>
Beyond value chain mitigation	<p>Mitigation action or investments that fall outside a company’s value chain, including activities that avoid or reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, or remove and store GHGs from the atmosphere.</p> <p>SBTi Beyond value chain mitigation</p>
Bio-based product	<p>A product wholly or partly derived from biomass. Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bio-based products are normally characterised by the bio-based carbon content or the bio-based content. For the determination and declaration of the bio-based content and the bio-based carbon content, see the relevant standards developed by CEN/TC 411; 2. Product can be an intermediate, material, semi-finished or final product; 3. The term ‘bio-based product’ is often also used to refer to a product that is only partly bio-based. In those cases, the claim should be accompanied by a quantification of the bio-based content. <p>CEN (2014) Bio-based products – Vocabulary, as cited in European Commission (2021) Bio-based product.</p>



Term	Definition
Biodiversity	<p>The variability among living organisms from all sources, including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) Article 2</p>
Biodiversity offsets	<p>Biodiversity offsets are measurable conservation outcomes resulting from actions designed to compensate for significant residual adverse biodiversity impacts arising from project development after appropriate prevention and mitigation measures have been taken. The goal of biodiversity offsets is to achieve no net loss and preferably a net gain of biodiversity on the ground with respect to species composition, habitat structure and ecosystem function and people's use and cultural values associated with biodiversity.</p> <p>Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme (2012) Glossary, 2nd Updated Edition, CDP (2022) Forests Reporting Guidance, European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>
Biogenic	<p>Produced by living organisms.</p> <p>Adapted from Keith, D et al. (2020) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0: Descriptive profiles for biomes and ecosystem functional groups</p>
Biogeochemical flows planetary boundary (nitrogen and phosphorous)	<p>The biogeochemical cycles of nitrogen and phosphorus have been radically changed by humans as a result of many industrial and agricultural processes. Nitrogen and phosphorus are both essential elements for plant growth, so fertiliser production and application are the main concern.</p> <p>Human activities now convert more atmospheric nitrogen into reactive forms than all of the Earth's terrestrial processes combined. Much of this new reactive nitrogen is emitted to the atmosphere in various forms rather than taken up by crops. When it is rained out, it pollutes waterways and coastal zones or accumulates in the terrestrial biosphere.</p> <p>Stockholm Resilience Centre The Nine Planetary Boundaries</p> <p>EU Platform on Sustainable Finance: Technical Working Group (2022) Supplementary: Methodology and Technical Screening Criteria</p>
Biomass	<p>Material of biological origin, excluding material embedded in geological formations and material transformed to fossilised material. Biomass includes organic material (both living and dead), such as trees, crops, grasses, tree litter, algae, animals, manure and waste of biological origin.</p> <p>ISO (2016) ISO 14021:2016, 3.1.1 as cited in ISO (2024) ISO/DIS 59004(en) Circular Economy – Terminology, Principles and Guidance for Implementation.</p>



Term	Definition
Biome	<p>Global-scale zones, generally defined by the type of plant life that they support in response to average rainfall and temperature patterns e.g. tundra, coral reefs or savannas.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</p> <p>For the purpose of metrics, biomes are defined in the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology as the component of a realm united by a few common major ecological drivers that regulate major ecological functions. Biomes are derived from the top-down by subdivision of realms (Level 1).</p> <p>See Keith A. et al. (2020) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0: Descriptive profiles for biomes and ecosystem functional groups</p>
Biosecurity	<p>A set of practices to minimise the introduction, establishment and spread of pathogens.</p> <p>Aarattuthodiyil S, and Wise D (2017) Biosecurity Practices on Fish Farms Need Beefing Up, Seafood Alliance</p>
Biosolids	<p>Biosolids are a product of the wastewater treatment process. During wastewater treatment the liquids are separated from the solids. Those solids are then treated physically and chemically to produce a semisolid, nutrient-rich product known as biosolids.</p> <p>US Environmental Protection Agency (2023) Basic Information about Biosolids</p>
Biotope	<p>Well-defined geographical area, characterised by specific ecological conditions (soil, climate, etc.), which physically supports the organisms that live there (biocoenosis).</p> <p>European Environment Agency. EEA Glossary.</p>
Blue carbon	<p>The carbon stored in coastal and marine ecosystems, including in mangroves, seagrass and tidal marshes.</p> <p>The Blue Carbon Initiative. What is blue carbon?</p>
Brackish water farming	<p>Brackish water is water that is saltier than fresh water, but not as salty as seawater. It may result from mixing of seawater with fresh water, as in estuaries, but also certain human activities can produce brackish water, in particular certain civil engineering projects such as dikes and the flooding of coastal marshland. Because brackish water is hostile to the growth of most terrestrial plant species, without appropriate management it is damaging to the environment.</p> <p>European Environment Agency. EEA Glossary</p>



<p>Brownfield</p>	<p>A brownfield site is any land or premises that has previously been used or developed and is not currently fully in use, although it may be partially occupied or utilised. It may also be vacant, derelict or contaminated. Therefore, a brownfield site is not available for immediate use without intervention.</p> <p>Alker, S. et al. (2000) The Definition of Brownfield. Journal of Environmental Planning and Management 43: 49–69</p>
<p>Term</p>	<p>Definition</p>
<p>Buffer zones/areas</p>	<p>Buffer zones/areas in ecology:</p> <p>Areas between core protected areas and the surrounding landscape or seascape which protect biodiversity from potentially damaging external influences, and particularly from those caused by inappropriate forms of land use.</p> <p>Adapted from: IUCN WCPA Best Practice Guidance on Recognising Protected Areas and Assigning Management Categories and Governance Type; and Bennett, G., & Mulongoy, K. J. (2006) Review of experience with ecological networks, corridors and buffer zones. Retrieved from Convention on Biological Diversity website.</p> <p>Buffer zones/areas in spatial analysis:</p> <p>An area of specified distance or time around one or more features e.g. Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). The buffer's distance may vary. For example, the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) allows users to set up to three buffers between 1km and 50km around the area of interest in its site reports.</p> <p>Adapted from ESRI GIS Dictionary; the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) (2022) Guidelines for using A Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas version 1.2. and IUCN and The Biodiversity Consultancy (2021) Industry guidance for early screening of biodiversity risk: Solar.</p>
<p>Business model</p>	<p>An entity's system of transforming inputs through its activities into outputs and outcomes that aims to fulfil the entity's strategic purposes and create value for the entity and hence generate cash flows over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p>International Financial Reporting Standard (2023) S1 General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information</p>
<p>Capital expenditure (CapEx)</p>	<p>Funds used by a company to acquire or upgrade physical assets.</p>
<p>Capital flow and financing</p>	<p>Access to capital markets, improved financing terms or financial products connected to the management of nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



Carrying capacity (ecological) for aquaculture	<p>The magnitude of aquaculture production that can be supported without leading to significant changes to ecological processes, services, species, populations or communities in the environment.</p> <p>Ross, L.G. et al. (2013) Carrying capacities and site selection within the ecosystem approach to aquaculture. In L.G. Ross, T.C. Telfer, L. Falconer, D. Soto & J. Aguilar-Manjarrez, eds. Site selection and carrying capacities for inland and coastal aquaculture, pp. 19–46. FAO/Institute of Aquaculture, University of Stirling, Expert Workshop, 6–8 December 2010. Stirling, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Proceedings No. 21. Rome, FAO. 282 pp.</p>
Term	Definition
Catchment management agency	<p>National or regional government agency that has the authority to make decisions on the allocation of water. This includes catchment management authorities, water resource management agencies, and catchment municipality councils.</p> <p>Adapted from Meissner, R., Stuart-Hill, S., Nakhooda, Z. (2017) The Establishment of Catchment Management Agencies in South Africa with Reference to the Flussgebietsgemeinschaft Elbe: Some Practical Considerations, in: Karar, E. (Ed.), Freshwater Governance for the 21st Century, Global Issues in Water Policy. Springer International Publishing, Cham, pp. 15–28</p>
Certification	<p>The action or process of providing a product with an official document attesting to a status or level of achievement against a certain standard.</p> <p>CDP (2022) Forests Reporting Guidance</p>
Certification programme	<p>A programme that provides procured volumes of a product with an official document attesting to a status or level of achievement against a certain standard.</p> <p>Adapted from CDP (2022) Forests Reporting Guidance</p>
Chronic risk	<p>Nature-related physical risks to an organisation that emerge from gradual changes to the state of nature (degradation of nature and consequential loss of ecosystem services). For example, pollution stemming from pesticide use or climate change.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures’ Financial Stability Board (2022) Final Report: Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks’ Network for Greening the Financial System (2023), Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to Guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2023) A Supervisory Framework for Assessing Nature-related Financial Risks: Identifying and Navigating Biodiversity Risks.</p>



Circular economy

An economic system in which the value of products, materials and other resources in the economy is maintained for as long as possible, enhancing their efficient use in production and consumption, thereby reducing the environmental impact of their use and minimising waste and the release of hazardous substances at all stages of their life cycle, including through the application of the waste hierarchy.

European Commission (2023) [Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 \(CSRD\), as regards Sustainability Reporting Standards](#)



Term	Definition
<p>Circular material use rate</p>	<p>Recirculation of materials, components and products in practice after first use employing the following strategies (in order of preference):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. maintenance/prolonged use; ii. reuse/redistribution; iii. refurbishment/remanufacturing; iv. recycling, composting, or anaerobic digestion. <p>The use rate is defined as the ratio of circular use of materials to overall use of materials.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards Sustainability Reporting Standards</p>
<p>Closure (mining)</p>	<p>Closure is the act of stabilising and restoring environments that have been affected by mining operational activities. This can start when or before mining operations have ceased and ends when all decommissioning, demolition and restoration activities have been completed. Some monitoring, management and ongoing mitigation measures for specific aspects (e.g. water treatment) may still occur after this point (i.e. during post-closure).</p> <p>Adapted from: International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) (2019) Integrated Mine Closure: Good Practice Guide (2nd edition).</p>
<p>Community (ecological)</p>	<p>A community of plants and animals characterised by a typical assemblage of species and their abundances.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2007) Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Solomon, S., D. Qin, M. Manning, Z. Chen, M. Marquis, K.B. Averyt, M. Tignor and H.L. Miller (eds.). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, 996 pp</p>
<p>Community development programme</p>	<p>Plan that details actions to minimise, mitigate, or compensate for adverse social and/or economic impacts, and/or to identify opportunities or actions to enhance positive impacts of a project on the community.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary</p>
<p>Compostable packaging (including plastic packaging)</p>	<p>A packaging or packaging component is compostable if it is in compliance with relevant international compostability standards and if its successful post-consumer collection, sorting, and composting is proven to work in practice and at scale.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation, UN Environment Programme (2022) New Plastics Economy Global Commitment</p>
<p>Condition-adjusted area</p>	<p>The extent of the ecosystem adjusted for its condition. The unit (equivalent ha or equivalent km) represents the residual condition (or ‘accumulated positive impact’ within that area).</p> <p>UNEP-WCMC, Capitals Coalition, Arcadis, ICF, WCMC Europe (2023) Measuring Ecosystem Condition – A Primer for Business, Aligning accounting approaches for nature</p>



Term	Definition
Conservation	<p>An action taken to promote the persistence of ecosystems and biodiversity.</p> <p>Adapted from Levin, S. A. ed. (2009) The Princeton Guide to Ecology Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press</p>
Conservation easements	<p>A voluntary and legally-binding agreement, similar to a deed restriction, that permanently limits a property's uses in order to protect conservation values and achieve conservation goals.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (2018). Regional Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for the Americas, Lausche, B. (2011) Guidelines for Protected Areas Legislation. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland.</p>
Context-based water targets	<p>Site water targets informed by catchment context. An expected result that describes the site's contributions to the desired catchment condition for a priority water challenge. The established target enables the site to define action(s) required to address the challenge to support the attainment of desired catchment condition.</p> <p>UN Global Compact CEO Water Mandate, Pacific Institute, CDP, The Nature Conservancy, World Resources Institute, WWF, UNEPDHI Partnership Centre for Water and Environment (2019) Setting Site Water Targets Informed by Catchment Context: A Guide for Companies.</p>
Conversion	<p>Change of a natural ecosystem to another land use or profound change in a natural ecosystem's species composition, structure, or function. Deforestation is one form of conversion (conversion of natural forests). Conversion includes severe degradation or the introduction of management practices that result in substantial and sustained change in the ecosystem's former species composition, structure, or function. Change to natural ecosystems that meets this definition is considered to be conversion regardless of whether or not it is legal.</p> <p>Accountability Framework initiative (2020) Terms and Definitions</p>
Core global disclosure metrics	<p>Metrics to be included in all disclosures following the TNFD disclosure recommendations on a comply or explain basis. Core metrics are split into 'core global metrics' which all organisations should disclose, regardless of sector, and 'core sector metrics' which are specific to the sectors that organisations operate in (see below).</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Core sector disclosure metrics	<p>Metrics relevant to most organisations in sectors, as defined by the SASB sector classification (Sustainable Industry Classification System® (SICS®)), and included in TNFD disclosures that should be disclosed by all report preparers within the sector on a comply or explain basis.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Critical habitat</p>	<p>Any area of the planet with high biodiversity conservation significance, based on the existence of habitat of significant importance to critically endangered or endangered species, restricted range or endemic species, globally significant concentrations of migratory and/or congregatory species, highly threatened and/or unique ecosystems and key evolutionary processes.</p> <p>International Finance Corporation (2012) Performance Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources</p>
<p>Critical uncertainties</p>	<p>See 'uncertainty'</p>
<p>Crop genetic diversity</p>	<p>Any variation within and between crop cultivars, including their genotypic and phenotypic characters.</p> <p>Bal, K. J. et al. (2023) Approaches and Advantages of Increased Crop Genetic Diversity in the Fields. Diversity, 15(5), 603.</p>
<p>Crop processing</p>	<p>Cleaning, grading, hulling, pounding, and milling grains; soaking, heating and drying leaves; extracting and filtering oils.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI 13: Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fishing Sectors 2022</p>
<p>Cumulative impact</p>	<p>A change in the state of nature (direct or indirect) that occurs due to the interaction of activities of different actors operating in a landscape or freshwater / marine area.</p> <p>Climate Disclosure Standards Borad (2021) Framework Application Guidance for Biodiversity-related Disclosures; Endangered Wildlife Trust (2020) The Biological Diversity Protocol; Capitals Coalition and Cambridge Conservation Initiative (2020) Integrated Biodiversity into Natural Capital Assessments; Business and Biodiversity Offset Programme (2012) Glossary</p>
<p>Cut off dates (related to no-deforestation and no-conversion commitments)</p>	<p>The date after which deforestation or conversion renders a given area or production unit non-compliant with no-deforestation or no-conversion commitments, respectively.</p> <p>Accountability Framework initiative (2020) Terms and Definitions</p>



Term	Definition
Decommissioning	<p>A structured process of planning, preparation and execution, leading to the eventual removal from service or reuse of an asset, giving due consideration to the potential impact on the environment and communities. The term ‘decommissioning’ is intended to include the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abatement: safe removal of hazards, such as asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), hydrocarbon, or hydrogen sulphide (H₂S) from an asset;• Demolition: the process and activities to remove an asset;• Remediation: a process to reduce or eliminate the impact on areas of land or water in order to restore environmental conditions to acceptable levels, with reference to regulatory or company standards as appropriate;• Reclamation: the restoration of disturbed lands to similar pre-development condition, other economically productive use, or natural or semi-natural habitat. <p>International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (2020) Sustainability Reporting Guidance for the Oil and Gas Industry</p>
Deforestation	<p>Loss of natural forest as a result of: (i) conversion to agriculture or other non-forest land use; (ii) conversion to a tree plantation; or (iii) severe and sustained degradation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This definition pertains to no-deforestation supply chains that generally focus on preventing the conversion of natural forests;• Severe and sustained degradation (scenario iii in the definition) constitutes deforestation even if the land is not subsequently used for a non-forest land use;• Loss of natural forest that meets this definition is considered to be deforestation regardless of whether or not it is legal;• The Accountability Framework’s definition of deforestation signifies ‘gross deforestation’ of natural forest where ‘gross’ is used in the sense of “total; aggregate; without deduction for reforestation or other offset.” <p>Accountability Framework initiative (Afi) (2024) Terms and Definitions</p>



Term	Definition
Deforestation-free / No deforestation	<p>‘Deforestation-free’ means:</p> <p>(a) that the relevant products contain, have been fed with or have been made using, relevant commodities that were produced on land that has not been subject to deforestation after 31 December, 2020; and</p> <p>(b) in the case of relevant products that contain or have been made using wood, that the wood has been harvested from the forest without inducing forest degradation after 31 December, 2020.</p> <p>EU Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 on deforestation-free products</p>
Degradation	<p>Changes within a natural ecosystem that significantly and negatively affect its species composition, structure, and/or function and reduce the ecosystem’s capacity to supply products, support biodiversity, and/or deliver ecosystem services. Degradation may be considered conversion if it: is large-scale and progressive or enduring; alters ecosystem composition, structure, and function to the extent that regeneration to a previous state is unlikely; or leads to a change in land use (e.g., to agriculture or other use that is not a natural forest or other natural ecosystem).</p> <p>Accountability Framework initiative (2020) Terms and Definitions</p>
Delta	<p>An area of low, flat land where a river divides into several smaller rivers before flowing into the sea.</p> <p>Adapted from Syvitski, J.P.M. (2008) Deltas at Risk. <i>Sustain Sci</i> 3, 23–32</p>
Degraded grassland	<p>Grassland where processes brought about by humans drive a persistent decline or loss in biodiversity, ecosystem functions or ecosystem service.</p> <p>Bardgett, R.D. et al. (2021) Combating Global Grassland Degradation. <i>Nature Reviews Earth & Environment</i> 2, 720–735</p>
Dependencies (on nature)	<p>Dependencies are aspects of environmental assets and ecosystem services that a person or an organization relies on to function. A company’s business model, for example, may be dependent on the ecosystem services of water flow, water quality regulation and the regulation of hazards like fires and floods; provision of suitable habitat for pollinators, who in turn provide a service directly to economies; and carbon sequestration.</p> <p>Adapted from Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
Dependency pathway	<p>A dependency pathway shows how a particular business activity depends upon specific features of natural capital. It identifies how observed or potential changes in natural capital affect the costs and/or benefits of doing business.</p> <p>Capitals Coalition (2016) Natural Capital Protocol</p>



Term	Definition
Direct impacts	<p>A change in the state of nature caused by a business activity with a direct causal link.</p> <p>Climate Disclosure Standards Board (2021) Framework Application Guidance for Biodiversity-related Disclosures, Endangered Wildlife Trust (2020) The Biological Diversity Protocol, Capitals Coalition and Cambridge Conservation Initiative (2020) Integrated Biodiversity into Natural Capital Assessments</p>
Direct operations	<p>All activities and sites (e.g. hydropower plants, buildings, mines, farms, stores) over which a company has operational or financial control.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Dissolution time (in aquaculture)	<p>The time elapsed from the tarpaulin is released until the plume is completely dissolved, i.e. the normalised concentration has fallen below the toxicity threshold everywhere</p> <p>Sævik, P.N. et al. (2022) Modelling Chemical Releases from Fish Farms: Impact Zones, Dissolution Time and Exposure Probability, ICES Journal of Marine Science, 79(1), 22–33</p>
Disclosure metrics	<p>Metrics required to be disclosed to market participants in line with the TNFD’s disclosure recommendations.</p> <p>Disclosure metrics are a sub-set of assessment metrics rather than a mutually exclusive set. Organisations may choose to disclose additional disclosure metrics or assessment metrics, beyond the suggested set of TNFD core disclosure metrics.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



Term	Definition
Disturbed area	<p>A clearly defined geographical space that has been subject to human activity that has changed the ecosystem condition relative to a reference state.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Double materiality	<p>Double materiality has two dimensions, namely: impact materiality and financial materiality.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 1 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards (ESRS E1)</p>
Downstream	<p>All activities that are linked to the sale of products and services produced by the company. This includes the use and re-use of the product and its end of life, including recovery, recycling, and final disposal.</p> <p>Adapted from Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
Downstream flow	<p>The final hydrological flow regime once e-flows and flows for other water demands, such as irrigation and hydropower generation, have been combined.</p> <p>Adapted from Niu, S.Q., Dudgeon, D., (2011) Environmental Flow Allocations in Monsoonal Hong Kong. Freshwater Biology 56, 1209–1230</p>
Drivers of nature change	<p>All external factors that affect nature, anthropogenic assets, nature’s contributions to people and good quality of life. They include institutions and governance systems and other indirect and direct drivers (both natural and anthropogenic).</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
Driving force	<p>A force driving the possible outcome of a critical uncertainty that has a relatively high level of explanatory power in relation to the situation being assessed.</p> <p>Van Der Heijden, Kees (2010) Scenarios: The Art of Strategic Conversation</p>
Durable goods	<p>Goods which have an expected lifetime of more than three years or that can be used more than once.</p> <p>CDP (2023) Technical Note: Plastics Disclosure, CDP (2023) Water Security Questionnaire</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Ecological corridor</p>	<p>A clearly defined geographical space that is governed and managed over the long term to maintain or restore effective ecological connectivity. The following terms are often used similarly: ‘linkages’, ‘safe passages’, ‘ecological connectivity areas’, ‘ecological connectivity zones’, and ‘permeability areas’.</p> <p>Hilty, J., et al. (2020) Guidelines for Conserving Connectivity through Ecological Networks and Corridors. Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 30. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN</p>
<p>Ecological / habitat connectivity</p>	<p>The degree to which the landscape facilitates the movement of organisms (animals, plant reproductive structures, pollen, pollinators, spores, etc.) and other environmentally important resources, such as nutrients and moisture, between similar habitats. Connectivity is hampered by fragmentation.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
<p>Ecological support area</p> <p>Ecological network (for conservation)</p>	<p>A system of natural and semi-natural landscape elements designed and managed to maintain or restore ecological functions, conserve biodiversity, and facilitate sustainable natural resource use. It links core habitats, such as protected areas or OECMs, with ecological connectivity areas (e.g. ecological corridors) to enhance connectivity and genetic exchange, thus increasing the chances of survival of threatened species.</p> <p>Adapted from:</p> <p>Bennett, G. and K.J. Mulongoy.(2006). Review of Experience with Ecological Networks, Corridors and Buffer Zones. Retrieved from the Convention on Biological Diversity website. Montreal: Secretariat of the CBD; and Hilty, J., et al. (2020) Guidelines for Conserving Connectivity through Ecological Networks and Corridors. Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 30. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN</p>
<p>Ecosystem</p>	<p>A dynamic complex of plant, animal and microorganism communities and the non-living environment, interacting as a functional unit.</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) Article 2; Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</p>
<p>Ecosystem assets</p>	<p>A form of environmental assets that relate to diverse ecosystems. These are contiguous spaces of a specific ecosystem type characterised by a distinct set of biotic and abiotic components and their interactions.</p> <p>Adapted from United Nations et al. (2021) System of Environmental-Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EA)</p>



Term	Definition
Ecosystem condition	<p>The quality of an ecosystem measured by its abiotic and biotic characteristics. Condition is assessed by an ecosystem's composition, structure and function which, in turn, underpins the ecological integrity of the ecosystem, and supports its capacity to supply ecosystem services on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Adapted from United Nations et al. (2021) System of Environmental-Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EA)</p>
Ecosystem connectivity	<p>The degree to which the landscape facilitates the movement of organisms (animals, plant reproductive structures, pollen, pollinators, spores, etc.) and other environmentally important resources, such as nutrients and moisture, between similar habitats. Connectivity is hampered by fragmentation.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
Ecosystem extent	<p>Area coverage of a particular ecosystem, usually measured in terms of spatial area.</p> <p>United Nations et al. (2021) System of Environmental-Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting</p>



Term	Definition
Ecosystem function	<p>The flow of energy and materials through the biotic and abiotic components of an ecosystem. This includes many processes such as biomass production, trophic transfer through plants and animals, nutrient cycling, water dynamics and heat transfer.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</p>
Ecosystem health	<p>Used to describe the condition of an ecosystem, by analogy with human health. Note that there is no universally accepted benchmark for a healthy ecosystem. Rather, the apparent health status of an ecosystem can vary, depending upon which metrics are employed to assess it and which societal aspirations are driving the assessment.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
Ecosystem protection, restoration and regeneration opportunity	<p>Activities that support the protection, regeneration or restoration of habitats and ecosystems, including areas both within and outside the organization’s direct control.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Ecosystem services	<p>The contributions of ecosystems to the benefits that are used in economic and other human activity.</p> <p>United Nations et al. (2021) System of Environmental-Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting</p>
Ecosystem stability risk	<p>Risk of an event that leads to a destabilisation of a critical natural system, so it no longer can provide ecosystem services in the same manner as before. For example, tipping points are reached, regime shifts and/or ecosystem collapses occur that generate forms of physical and/or transition risk. This is one form of nature-related systemic risk.</p> <p>Goldin, I & Mariathan, M (2014) The Butterfly Defect: How Globalisation Creates Systemic Risks and What to do about it, International Risk Governance Centre (2018) IRGC Guidelines for the Governance of Systemic Risks, Kaufmann, G & Scott, K (2003) What Is Systemic Risk, and Do Bank Regulators Retard or Contribute to It?, Network for Greening the Financial System (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2023) A Supervisory Framework for Assessing Nature-related Financial Risks: Identifying and Navigating Biodiversity Risks.</p>



Term	Definition
Ecosystem type	<p>TNFD refers to the IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0 that defines 25 biomes and 108 Ecosystem Functional Groups and reflects a distinct set of abiotic and biotic components and their interactions.</p> <p>Keith A. et al. (2020) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0: Descriptive Profiles for Biomes and Ecosystem Functional Groups</p>
Efficient use of nature-related resources	<p>Drawing from the Earth's limited resources in a sustainable manner while minimising impacts on nature.</p> <p>Adapted from European Commission (2017) Circular Economy</p>
Endangered species	<p>Species considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.</p> <p>Adapted from International Union for Conservation of Nature (2012) IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1</p>
Environmental assets	<p>The naturally occurring living and non-living components of the Earth, together constituting the biophysical environment, which may provide benefits to humanity.</p> <p>United Nations et al. (2021) System of Environmental-Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting</p>
Environmental flow (e-flow)	<p>Environmental flows describe the quantity, timing, and quality of water flows required to sustain freshwater and estuarine ecosystems and the human livelihoods and wellbeing that depend on these ecosystems.</p> <p>Adapted from World Meteorological Organization (2019) Guidance on Environmental Flows - Integrating E-flow with Fluvial Geomorphology to Maintain Ecosystem Services</p>
Environmental water	<p>Water managed to deliver specific ecological outcomes or benefits. It may refer to specific water allocations or releases made for ecological purposes.</p> <p>Adapted from Anderson, E.P., Jackson, S., Tharme, R.E., Douglas, M., Flotemersch, J.E., Zwarteveen, M., Lokgariwar et al. (2019) Understanding Rivers and their Social Relations: A critical Step to Advance Environmental Water Management. WIREs Water 6, e1381</p>
Eutrophic	<p>A river or stream where levels of nitrates and phosphates exceed natural thresholds.</p> <p>Adapted from McDowell, R.W., Noble, A., Pletnyakov, P., Mosley, L.M. (2021) Global Database of Diffuse Riverine Nitrogen and Phosphorus Loads and Yields. Geoscience Data Journal 8, 132–143</p>



Term	Definition
Eutrophication	<p>The pollution of waterways with nutrient-rich water, causing harmful algal blooms and low oxygen (hypoxic) water.</p> <p>US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) What is Eutrophication?</p>
Expense	<p>Decreases in assets, or increases in liabilities, that result in decreases in equity, other than those relating to distributions to holders of equity claims.</p> <p>International Financial Reporting Standard (2015) Conceptual Framework: Elements of Financial Statements – Definitions and Recognition</p>
Exploratory scenarios	<p>Scenarios that describe a diverse set of plausible future states.</p> <p>Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>
Exposure	<p>The presence of people, livelihoods, species or ecosystems, environmental functions, services and resources, infrastructure, or economic, social or cultural assets in places and settings that could be adversely affected.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2022) Annex II: Glossary in: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</p>
Extended producer responsibility (EPR)	<p>An environmental policy approach in which a producer’s responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product’s life cycle. An extended producer responsibility (EPR) policy is characterised by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The shifting of responsibility (physically and/or economically; fully or partially) upstream toward the producer and away from municipalities; and • The provision of incentives to producers to take into account environmental considerations when designing their products. <p>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2016) Extended Producer Responsibility</p>



Term	Definition
Extinction risk (species)	<p>Threat status of a species and how activities/pressures may affect the threat status. The indicator may also measure change in the available habitat for a species as a proxy for impact on local or global extinction risk.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 1 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards (ESRS E4)</p>
Facilitated dependencies and impacts	<p>Facilitated dependencies and impacts differ from financed dependencies and impacts in two respects: they are off-balance sheet (representing services rather than financing) and they can take the form of a flow activity (temporary association with transactions) rather than a stock activity (held on book). Facilitation is a separate and significant metric, and one that exerts material impact on the direction of capital towards economic activities that can enable a transition to more sustainable interfaces with nature.</p> <p>Adapted from Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (2022) Capital Market Instruments</p>
Feed conversion ratio (FCR) or feed efficiency (FE)	<p>The FCR is the feed input divided by the resulting net production; it indicates the units of feed necessary to yield one unit of biomass. The smaller the FCR, the greater is the feed use efficiency. Feed efficiency is simply the inverse of the FCR – the amount of aquaculture biomass realised per unit of feed input. The larger the FE, the greater the efficiency of feed use. The FCR is more commonly used by fish and shrimp farmers.</p> <p>The FCR is based on the air-dry or 'as is' feed weight, and the live weight of aquaculture biomass.</p> <p>Boyd, C.E. (2021) A Low Feed Conversion Ratio is the Primary Indicator of Efficient Aquaculture, Seafood Alliance</p>
Fertiliser	<p>A chemical or natural substance or material that is used to provide nutrients to plants, usually via application to the soil, but also to foliage or through water in rice systems, fertigation or hydroponics or aquaculture operations.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2019) Farmer Training Programme</p>



Term	Definition
Final ecosystem services	<p>When an ecological end-product transitions to being either an economic benefit or something that can be directly used or appreciated by people.</p> <p>Finisdore, J. et al. (2020) The 18 Benefits of Using Ecosystem Services Classification Systems, Climate Disclosure Standards Board (2021) Framework Application Guidance for Biodiversity-related Disclosures</p>
Financial exposure	<p>The amount (usually expressed in monetary terms) of exposure to the risk of suffering a loss in a particular transaction or with respect to any kind of investments.</p> <p>Corporate Finance Institute Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) - Concept of Exposure at Default (or credit exposure) for Banks</p>
Financial impact (referred to by TNFD as financial effects to avoid confusion with impacts on nature)	<p>Financial impact occurs when financial items such as physical assets, capital expenditures, operational expenditures and revenues are affected, whether positively or negatively.</p> <p>Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>
Financial stability risk	<p>Risk that a materialisation and compounding of physical and/or transition risk leads to the destabilisation of an entire financial system. It is one type of nature-related systemic risk.</p> <p>Goldin, I. & Mariathan, M. (2014) The Butterfly Defect: How Globalisation Creates Systemic Risks and What to do about it, International Risk Governance Centre (2018) IRGC Guidelines for the Governance of Systemic Risks, Kaufmann, G. & Scott, K. (2003) What Is Systemic Risk, and Do Bank Regulators Retard or Contribute to It?, Network for Greening the Financial System (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2023) A Supervisory Framework for Assessing Nature-related Financial Risks: Identifying and Navigating Biodiversity Risks.</p>
Fish or fish product	<p>Whole fish or product that is, or is derived from, any aquatic organism.</p> <p>Marine Stewardship Council (2023) MSC-MSCI Vocabulary v1.5</p>



Term	Definition
Fishmeal	<p>A commercial product made from both whole fish and the bones and offal from processed fish. It is a brown powder or cake obtained by rendering pressing the cooked whole fish or fish trimmings to remove most of the fish oil and water, and then ground. What remains is the fishmeal. Fishmeal is a nutrient-rich and high protein supplement feed ingredient used primarily in diets for domestic animals and sometimes used as a high-quality organic fertilizer.</p> <p>National Marine Sanctuaries, Fisheries Glossary</p>
Fishmeal Forage Fish Dependency Ratio (FFDRm) and Fish Oil Forage Fish Dependency Ratio (FFDRo) for grow-out	<p>The ratios, one for fishmeal (FFDRm) and another for fish oil (FFDRo), calculate the dependency on forage fisheries through an assessment of the quantity of live fish from small pelagic fisheries required to produce the amount of fishmeal or fish oil needed to produce a unit of farmed salmon.</p> <p>Aquaculture Stewardship Council (2019) Salmon Standard Version 1.2 Criterion 4.2 Use of Wild Fish for Feed</p>
Floodplain	<p>A floodplain is a flat area of land next to a river or stream. It stretches from the banks of the river to the outer edges of the valley.</p> <p>Adapted from the Freshwater Information Platform</p>
Food loss and food waste	<p>Food loss refers to the decrease in edible food mass and production, post-harvest and processing stages of the food chain (upstream).</p> <p>Food waste refers to the discard of edible foods at the retail and consumer levels (downstream).</p> <p>Food and Agriculture (2014) Food Wastage Footprinting: Full-cost Accounting.</p>
Forest	<p>Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10%, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use. Forest includes natural forests and tree plantations. For the purpose of implementing zero deforestation supply chain commitments, the focus is on preventing the conversion of natural forests.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2020) Forest Resources Assessment - Terms and Definitions, Accountability Framework Initiative (2020) Terms and Definitions</p>



Term	Definition
Forest degradation	<p>Entails a reduction or loss of the biological or economic productivity and complexity of forest ecosystems resulting in the long-term reduction of the overall supply of benefits from forest, which includes wood, biodiversity and other products or services, provided that the canopy cover stays above 10% (cf. definition of forest).</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization and United Nations Environment Programme (2020) The State of the World's Forests 2020: Forests, biodiversity and people, Food and Agriculture Organization (2000) Forest Resources Assessment - Definitions of Forest Change Processes</p>
Forest ownership	<p>Generally refers to the legal right to freely and exclusively use, control, transfer, or otherwise benefit from a forest. Ownership can be acquired through transfers such as sales, donations and inheritance.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2020) Forest Resources Assessment - Terms and Definitions</p>
Fresh water returned	<p>The fresh water discharged from a facility (directly or via a third party) into a freshwater body or aquifer.</p> <p>International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (2020) Sustainability Reporting Guidance for the Oil and Gas Industry</p>
Freshwater	<p>All permanent and temporary freshwater bodies as well as saline water bodies that are not directly connected to the oceans.</p> <p>The United States Geological Survey (USGS) (2018) Water Science Glossary of Terms, World Health Organization (WHO) (2017) Guidelines for Drinking-Water Quality</p>
Freshwater aquaculture	<p>The cultivation of aquatic organisms where the end product is raised in fresh water; earlier stages of the life cycle of these species may be spent in brackish waters or marine waters.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (2020) FAO Terminology Portal</p>
Freshwater use change	<p>The change from one freshwater use category to another.</p> <p>Adapted from Science Based Targets Initiative (2022) Forest, Land and Agriculture Guidance Science Based Target-Setting Guidance, IPBES Glossary</p>
Genetically modified organism (GMO)	<p>An organism in which the genetic material has been altered anthropogenically by means of gene or cell technologies.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2019) International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</p>
Goal	<p>A high-level statement of ambition, including a timeframe.</p> <p>Science-based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>



Term	Definition
Government or regulator green investment taxonomy	<p>A common framework or classification system, designed by authoritative bodies such as governments or financial regulators that establishes criteria for assessing whether investments can be defined as environmentally sustainable.</p> <p>Adapted from Green Finance Institute</p>
Grassland	<p>Grassland can be broadly defined as areas dominated by grasses and other similar plant families, where there is a limited amount of trees or shrubs.</p> <p>Bardgett, R.D. et al. (2021) Combatting Global Grassland Degradation. Nature Reviews Earth & Environment 2: 720–735</p>
Green finance instruments	<p>Financial products and services for green investments such as green bonds and structured green funds.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Green urban infrastructure	<p>This term relates to a network of green and blue spaces and other natural features that can provide a wide range of environmental, economic, health and wellbeing benefits for nature, the climate, and local and wider communities. Green infrastructure comprises different kinds of components (for example, parks, green roofs, urban forests and road verges) which can be classified according to several number of parameters (e.g. spatial scale, dimension, location).</p> <p>Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2021) National Planning Policy Framework</p> <p>Mollashahi, H. et al. (2021) Urban Ecosystem: An Interaction of Biological and Physical Components in: Biodiversity of Ecosystems. IntechOpen</p>
Habitat	<p>The area, characterised by its abiotic and biotic properties, that is habitable by a particular species.</p> <p>Keith, D. et al (2020) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0: Descriptive Profiles for Biomes and Ecosystem Functional Groups</p>
Habitat fragmentation	<p>A general term describing the set of processes by which habitat loss results in the division of continuous habitats into a greater number of smaller patches of lesser total and isolated from each other by a matrix of dissimilar habitats. Habitat fragmentation, which leads to a barrier effect, may occur through natural processes (e.g. forest and grassland fires, flooding) and through human activities (e.g. forestry, agriculture, urbanisation).</p> <p>Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>



Term	Definition
Habitat loss	<p>The reduction in the amount of space where a particular species, or group of species can survive and reproduce.</p> <p>UC Berkeley, Understanding Global Change</p>
Hatchery (aquaculture)	<p>The breeding and hatching of eggs and rearing of aquatic animals through the early stages of life happens here.</p> <p>Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP). BAP Website Glossary of Terms.</p>
Hazard	<p>Hazard refers to the potential occurrence of a natural or human-induced physical event that may cause loss of life, injury, or other health impacts, as well as damage and loss to property, infrastructure, livelihoods, service provision, and environmental resources. Extrapolating from this, hazards can also consist in transition hazards, e.g. specific policies or socioeconomic trends that suddenly render specific activities and assets stranded.</p> <p>Adapted from IPCC (2014) Annex II: Glossary [Mach, K.J., S. Planton and C. von Stechow (eds.)]. In: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A. Meyer (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, pp. 117-130. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.</p>
Hazardous waste	<p>Waste that possesses any of the characteristics contained in Annex III of the Basel Convention, or that is considered to be hazardous by national legislation.</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme (1989) Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary</p>
High-risk natural commodities	<p>High-risk natural commodities refer to commodities or products where production has significant negative impacts on nature.</p> <p>Organizations should refer to the SBTN High Impact Commodity List. Organizations should also indicate what proportion of these commodities represented are IUCN threatened or CITES listed species.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN High Impact Commodity List</p>
Highly hazardous pesticides	<p>Pesticides that are acknowledged to present particularly high levels of acute or chronic hazards to health or environment according to internationally accepted classification systems such as WHO or GHS or their listing in relevant binding international agreements or conventions. In addition, pesticides that appear to cause severe or irreversible harm to health or the environment under conditions of use in a country may be considered to be and treated as highly hazardous.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization (2016) International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management: Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticide</p> <p>For toxicity hazard classification, refer to the World Health Organization (2019) The WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard and Guidelines to Classification</p>



Term	Definition
Hinterland	<p>Hinterlands are a city's surrounding areas which receive high demand for resources and services from the city. The hinterland in a way is not limited by geographic proximity to the city, given the trend to procure services from an increasingly broad area. With the growth of cities and the parallel globalisations, the hinterlands are becoming international and global.</p> <p>Lee, S. E. et al. (2016) Advancing City Sustainability via Its Systems of Flows: The Urban Metabolism of Birmingham and Its Hinterland. Sustainability 8, 220</p>
Horizon year	<p>The horizon year (or time horizon) is the chosen cutoff time in the future of the scenario stories.</p> <p>Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>
Impact area (in aquaculture)	<p>The area of the impact zone. Impact area is relevant, for instance, if the sensitive species under consideration is plentiful and can reproduce relatively quickly. If the typical impact area is small compared to the species' habitat, occasional plume exposures may be of little concern.</p> <p>Sævik, P.N. et al. (2022) Modelling Chemical Releases from Fish Farms: Impact Zones, Dissolution Time, and Exposure Probability, ICES Journal of Marine Science, 79(1), 22–33</p>
Impact drivers	<p>A measurable quantity of a natural resource that is used as a natural input to production (e.g. the volume of sand and gravel used in construction) or a measurable non-product output of a business activity (e.g., a kilogram of NOx emissions released into the atmosphere by a manufacturing facility).</p> <p>Capitals Coalition (2016) Natural Capital Protocol</p> <p>See further definition of impact drivers from Impact Management Platform</p>
Impact materiality	<p>Information on the organization's most significant impacts on the economy, environment, and people, including impacts on their human rights.</p> <p>GRI (2021) GRI 3: Material Topics 2021</p>
Impact pathway	<p>An impact pathway describes how, as a result of a specific business activity, a particular impact driver results in changes in natural capital, and how these changes in natural capital affect different stakeholders.</p> <p>Capitals Coalition (2016) Natural Capital Protocol</p> <p>See further definition of impact pathway from Impact Management Platform</p>



Term	Definition
Impacts (on nature)	<p>Changes in the state of nature (quality or quantity), which may result in changes to the capacity of nature to provide social and economic functions. Impacts can be positive or negative. They can be the result of an organization's or another party's actions and can be direct, indirect or cumulative. A single impact driver may be associated with multiple impacts.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms, Climate Disclosure Standards Board (2021) Application guidance for Biodiversity-related Disclosures</p> <p>See further definition of impacts from Impact Management Platform</p>
Indicator	<p>A quantitative or qualitative factor or variable that provides a simple and reliable means to measure performance. An indicator can be measured through one or multiple metrics.</p> <p>OECD/DAC (2002) Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results Based Management Development Assistance Committee</p>
Indicator (for measuring performance against goals or targets)	<p>A measurable entity related to a specific information need, such as the state of nature, change in a pressure, progress toward a target, or association between two or more variables. Example: Red List Index (SDG Target 15.5; Aichi Target 12).</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>There is no formal definition adopted in international law. A strict definition is seen as unnecessary and undesirable.</p> <p>The United Nations use a working definition from the Martinez Cobo Study:</p> <p>‘Indigenous communities, peoples and nations are those which, having a historical continuity with pre-invasion and pre-colonial societies that developed on their territories, consider themselves distinct from other sectors of the societies now prevailing on those territories, or parts of them. They form at present non-dominant sectors of society and are determined to preserve, develop and transmit to future generations their ancestral territories, and their ethnic identity, as the basis of their continued existence as peoples, in accordance with their own cultural patterns, social institutions and legal system.’</p> <p>It also notes that an Indigenous person is: ‘... one who belongs to these indigenous populations through self-identification as indigenous (group consciousness) and is recognised and accepted by these populations as one of its members (acceptance by the group). This preserves for these communities the sovereign right and power to decide who belongs to them, without external interference.’</p> <p>According to ILO Convention 169, Indigenous Peoples are descendants of population ‘which inhabited a country or geographical region during its conquest or colonization or the establishment of present state boundaries’ and ‘retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions’.</p> <p>Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (August 2013) The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. A Manual for National Human Rights Institutions</p>
<p>Indigenous peoples and communities conserved areas</p>	<p>Territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities. Known as ICCAs or ‘territories of life’.</p> <p>ICCA Consortium</p>
<p>Indigenous (=native) species</p>	<p>A species or lower taxon living within its natural range (past or present) including the area which it can reach and occupy using its natural dispersal systems.</p> <p>International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (2022) Glossary of Terms</p>



Term	Definition
Indirect impact	<p>A change in the state of nature caused by a business activity with an indirect causal link (e.g., a change indirectly caused by climate change, to which an organization's greenhouse gas emissions contributed).</p> <p>Climate Disclosure Standards Board (2021) Framework Application Guidance for Biodiversity-related Disclosures, Endangered Wildlife Trust (2020) The Biological Diversity Protocol, Capitals Coalition and Cambridge Conservation Initiative (2020) Integrated Biodiversity into Natural Capital Assessments</p>
Inorganic pollutants	<p>Emissions within or lower than the emission levels associated with the best available techniques (BAT-AEL) as defined in Article 3, point (13) of Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council (14), for the Large Volume Inorganic Chemicals-Solids and Others industry.</p> <p>Adapted from European Commission (2023) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288</p>
Insurance costs due to nature-related loss and damage	<p>Financial impacts on insurance associated with nature-related risks, including underinsurance (or no insurance at all), premium loss, self-insurance, higher capital requirements for reinsurance consumption, reprice of exposed assets, negative impacts on market valuations and loss of profit and premium pools.</p> <p>Adapted from McKinsey (2020) Climate Change and P&C Insurance: The Threat and Opportunity</p>
Insurance-associated dependencies and impacts	<p>Dependencies and impacts on nature in the real economy that are associated with specific re/insurance policies aggregated in the re/insurance portfolio.</p> <p>Adapted from Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (2022) Insurance-Associated Emissions</p>
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	<p>The careful consideration of all available pest control techniques and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified and reduce or minimise risks to human and animal health and/or the environment. IPM emphasises the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization & World Health Organization (2016) International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management: Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticide</p>



Term	Definition
Invasive alien species	<p>Species whose introduction and/or spread by human action outside their natural distribution threatens biological diversity, food security, and human health and well-being. ‘Alien’ refers to the species having been introduced outside its natural distribution (‘exotic’, ‘non-native’ and ‘nonindigenous’ are synonyms for ‘alien’). ‘Invasive’ means tending to expand into and modify ecosystems to which it has been introduced. Thus, a species may be alien without being invasive, or, in the case of a species native to a region, it may increase and become invasive, without actually being an alien species.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary, European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards Sustainability Reporting Standards</p>
Ionizing radiation	<p>A type of high-energy radiation that has enough energy to remove an electron (negative particle) from an atom or molecule, causing it to become ionized. Ionizing radiation can come from natural sources, such as radon and cosmic rays. Nuclear power plant accidents also release high levels of ionizing radiation.</p> <p>National Cancer Institute, US National Institute of Health (NIH)</p>
Issue areas (for Science Based Target setting)	<p>The environmental issues which Science Based Targets will address include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystem use and use change, • Resource (over) exploitation, • Climate change, • Pollution, and • Direct impacts on biodiversity (invasive species, accidental mortality, biological alterations, short term disturbances). <p>Science Based Targets Network (2020) Science-Based Targets for Nature: Initial Guidance for Business</p>
Key Biodiversity Area	<p>A site contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity.</p> <p>International Union for Conservation of Nature (2016) A Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas: Version 1.0</p>
Land	<p>Land includes all dry land, its vegetation cover, nearby atmosphere and substrate (soils, rocks) to the rooting depth of plants, and associated animals and microbes.</p> <p>International Union for Conservation of Nature (2023) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology</p>



Term	Definition
Landfilling	<p>Landfilling: final depositing of solid waste at, below or above ground level at engineered disposal sites.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary from UN (1997) Glossary of Environment Statistics, Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 67</p>
Land footprint	<p>A corporate's land footprint, known in life cycle assessment terms as "land occupation", is defined for the land footprint target as the amount of agricultural land required per year to produce the products produced or sourced by a company, and it is reported in hectares per year. For crops, land occupation is also referred to as "harvested area" in the Food and Agriculture Organization's data portal FAOSTAT.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
Land use change	<p>Transformation from one land use category (e.g., cropland, grassland, forest/woodland, urban/industrial, wetland/tundra) to another category (e.g., transformation from natural forest to cropland).</p> <p>SBTi (2023) Forest, land and agriculture science- based target-setting guidance and IPCC (2019) Annex I: Glossary [van Diemen, R. (ed.)]. In: Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems</p>
Land use intensity	<p>Land footprint (or occupation) intensity is essentially the reciprocal of yield, referring to the amount of land needed to produce a given unit of product. The unit of product in the denominator of this calculation can vary (e.g. weight, kilocalories, protein).</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
Landscape complexity (in agriculture)	<p>Complexity of agricultural landscape composition and configuration, since more complex landscapes (for example, with a higher proportion of semi-natural habitat) are associated with higher levels of biodiversity and improved ecosystem service provision to agriculture (for example, pollination and pest control).</p> <p>Nature (2021) ABDI indicator framework</p>
Lateral connection	<p>The riparian/floodplain/terrestrial-river nexus which connects the adjacent land next to rivers to the instream part of the river.</p> <p>Adapted from Marle, P., Riquier, J., Timoner, P., Mayor, H., Slaveykova, V.I., Castella, E. (2022) Thermal Regime, Together with Lateral Connectivity, Control Aquatic Invertebrate Composition in River Floodplains</p>



Term	Definition
Leakage	<p>A collateral effect caused when an environmental policy indirectly triggers impacts that go against its aims, thus reducing the overall benefit of the intervention.</p> <p>Bastos Lima et al. (2019) Leakage and Boosting Effects in Environmental Governance: A Framework for Analysis</p>
Liability	<p>A present obligation of the entity to transfer an economic resource as a result of past events.</p> <p>International Financial Reporting Standard (2015) Conceptual Framework: Elements of Financial Statements – Definitions and Recognition</p>
Liability risk	<p>Arising directly or indirectly from legal claims. As laws, regulations and case law related to an organization's preparedness for nature action evolves, the incident or probability of contingent liabilities arising from an organization may increase.</p> <p>Adapted from TCFD Implementing the Recommendations of the TCFD, Appendix Table A1.3</p>
Light pollution	<p>Light pollution refers to artificial light that alters the natural patterns of light and dark in ecosystems. It comprises direct glare, chronically increased illumination and temporary, unexpected fluctuations in lighting. The sources of ecological light pollution include sky glow, illuminated buildings, streetlights, fishing boats, security lights, lights on vehicles, flares on offshore oil platforms, and lights on undersea research vessels. While light pollution is eminently detrimental to nocturnal and migratory animals and to animals in flight, it also produces harmful effects on plants.</p> <p>Longcore T., Rich, C. (2004) Ecological Light Pollution. <i>Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment</i>, 2[4]: 191-198</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Liquidity risk</p>	<p>Banks’ access to stable sources of funding could be reduced as market conditions change. Nature-related risks may cause banks’ counterparties to draw down deposits and credit lines.</p> <p>For example, there may be pressure to liquidate assets due to rapid nature degradation as a result of crossing a tipping point or new regulations affecting particular assets that influence cash flows and collateral values.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Financial Stability Board (2022) Final report: Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks, Network for Greening the Financial System (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (2023) A Supervisory Framework for Assessing Nature-related Financial Risks: Identifying and Navigating Biodiversity Risks.</p>
<p>Load</p>	<p>The rate at which a pollutant such as nutrients is delivered to a receiving water, specified in units of mass per time (e.g., kg P/day).</p> <p>Science Based Target Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
<p>Local Communities</p>	<p>The term ‘Local Communities’ is used based on the characteristic listed by the Convention on Biological Diversity and its article 8 (j) which refer to: ‘Local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable of biological diversity’.</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 8: In-situ Conservation</p> <p>The Convention on Biological Diversity in its decision XI/14, Article 8(j) and related provisions, ‘Takes note of the characteristics listed in section I of the annex to the report of the Expert Group Meeting as potentially useful advice in identifying local communities, within the mandate of the Convention.’</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity, Decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its Eleventh Meeting. XI/14. Article 8(j) and related provisions.</p> <p>The experts recommended that a working definition may be possible based on the following characteristics, some of which could be considered essential:</p> <p>Local Communities living in rural and urban areas of various ecosystems may exhibit some of the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Self-identification as a local community; B. Lifestyles linked to traditions associated with natural cycles (symbiotic relationships or dependence), the use of and dependence on biological resources and linked to the sustainable use of nature and biodiversity;



Term	Definition
Local Communities (cont.)	<p>C. The community occupies a definable territory¹ traditionally occupied and/or used, permanently or periodically. These territories are important for the maintenance of social, cultural, and economic aspects of the community;</p> <p>D. Traditions (often referring to common history, culture, language, rituals, symbols and customs) and are dynamic and may evolve;</p> <p>E. Technology/knowledge/innovations/practices associated with the sustainable use and conservation of biological resources;</p> <p>F. Social cohesion and willingness to be represented as a local community;</p> <p>G. Traditional knowledge transmitted from generation to generation including in oral form;</p> <p>H. A set of social rules (e.g., that regulate land conflicts/sharing of benefits) and organizational-specific community/traditional/customary laws and institutions;</p> <p>I. Expression of customary and/or collective rights;</p> <p>J. Self-regulation by their customs and traditional forms of organization and institutions;</p> <p>K. Performance and maintenance of economic activities traditionally, including for subsistence, sustainable development and/or survival;</p> <p>L. Biological (including genetic) and cultural heritage (bio-cultural heritage);</p> <p>M. Spiritual and cultural values of biodiversity and territories;</p> <p>N. Culture, including traditional cultural expressions captured through local languages, highlighting common interest and values;</p> <p>O. Sometimes marginalized from modern geopolitical systems and structures;</p> <p>P. Biodiversity often incorporated into traditional place names;</p> <p>Q. Foods and food preparation systems and traditional medicines are closely connected to biodiversity/environment;</p> <p>R. May have had little or no prior contact with other sectors of society resulting in distinctness or may choose to remain distinct;</p> <p>S. Practice of traditional occupations and livelihoods;</p> <p>T. May live in extended family, clan or tribal structures;</p> <p>U. Belief and value systems, including spirituality, are often linked to biodiversity;</p> <p>V. Shared common property over land and natural resources;</p> <p>W. Traditional right holders to natural resources;</p> <p>X. Vulnerability to outsiders and little concept of intellectual property rights.</p> <p>Report of the Expert Group Meeting of Local Community Representatives within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity</p>

¹ Territory is interpreted as lands and waters.



Term	Definitionw
Longitudinal connection	<p>The upstream-downstream nexus of a river, from the headwaters in the uplands to the mouth of the river by the ocean. Longitudinal connectivity of rivers and streams can also be considered on a various scale (sub-catchment).</p> <p>Adapted from Lasne, E., Acou, A., Vila-Gispert, A., Laffaille, P. (2008) European Eel Distribution and Body Condition in a River Floodplain: Effect of Longitudinal and Lateral connectivity. Ecology of Freshwater Fish 17, 567–576</p>
Mainstem river	<p>In hydrology, a mainstem river is the primary downstream segment of a river. Water enters the mainstem from the river’s catchment (the land area through which the mainstem and its tributaries flow).</p> <p>Adapted from Pracheil, B.M., McIntyre, P.B., Lyons, J.D. (2013) Enhancing Conservation of Large-river Biodiversity by Accounting for Tributaries. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment 11, 124–128</p>
Managed bees	<p>A kind of pollinator that is maintained by human beings through husbandry (e.g. some honeybees, some leaf cutting and orchard bees, some bumble bees). The terms can be broadened to include wild pollinators (q.v.) that flourish by human encouragement.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (2016) Assessment Report on Pollinators, Pollination and Food Production</p>
Mandatory market credit schemes	<p>Mandatory credit markets enable businesses, governments, non-profit organizations, universities, municipalities, and individuals to offset their impacts on biodiversity. In a compliance market, trading and demand is created by a regulatory mandate.</p> <p>Adapted from Carbon Offset Research and Education Program Carbon Offset Guide</p>
Marine water aquaculture	<p>The cultivation of the end product takes place in seawater; earlier stages of the life cycle of these species may be spent in freshwaters or brackish waters.</p> <p>Shehadeh, Z. (2002) Aquaculture country profile. Draft internal FAO/FI document. Rome, FAO</p>
Marine sediment	<p>Marine sediments are generally a combination of several components, most of them coming from the particles eroded from the land and the biological and chemical processes taking place in sea water.</p> <p>T. Akals (2001) Acoustics in Marine Sediments Encyclopedia of Ocean Sciences (Second Edition)</p>
Market opportunity	<p>Changing dynamics in overall markets, such as access to new markets or locations, which arise from other opportunity categories as a result of changing conditions, including consumer demands, consumer and investor sentiment and stakeholder dynamics.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



Term	Definition
Market risk	<p>Changing dynamics in overall markets, including changes in consumer preferences, which arise from other risk categories as a result of changing physical, regulatory, technological and reputational conditions and stakeholder dynamics.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Financial Stability Board (2022) Final report: Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks, Network for Greening the Financial System (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors</p>
Materiality	<p>Report preparers should use the definitional guidance regarding materiality provided by the regulatory authorities for their reporting jurisdiction(s).</p> <p>In the absence of any such guidance, the TNFD recommends that organisations apply the ISSB’s approach to identifying information that is material for users of general financial reports as a baseline. Report preparers who want or need to report to a different materiality approach may apply an impact materiality approach to identify information in addition to the ISSB’s baseline. With respect to impact materiality, the TNFD has aligned its recommendations (and supporting additional guidance) with the language and approach of the GRI’s Sustainability Reporting Standards.</p> <p>Organisations seeking to align with Target 15 of the GBF will want to consider the application of an impact materiality lens to identify information that is incremental to the global baseline.</p> <p>International Financial Reporting Standards (2023) S1 General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information, GRI (2021) GRI 1: Foundation 2021, Section 2.2</p>
Material locations	<p>Locations where an organisation has identified material nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities in its direct operations and upstream and downstream value chain(s).</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Measurement (science-based targets)	<p>The process of collecting data for baseline setting, monitoring and reporting of science-based targets.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Medically important antimicrobials</p>	<p>Antimicrobial classes used in human medicine, and therefore listed on the WHO CIA List where they are categorised according to specified criteria, as “important”, “highly important” or “critically important” for human medicine.</p> <p>Categorisation criteria, definitions for the categories and a complete list of medically important antimicrobials are available on the WHO website.</p> <p>World Health Organization (2017) WHO Guidelines on Use of Medically Important Antimicrobials in Food-Producing Animals</p>
<p>Mesotrophic</p>	<p>A river or stream with a moderate amount of nutrients (nitrate and phosphates).</p> <p>Adapted from Carlson, R.E. (1977) A Trophic State Index for Lakes. Limnology and Oceanography 22, 361–369</p>
<p>Metric</p>	<p>A system or standard of measurement.</p> <p>Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (2011) Guidance for National Biodiversity Indicator Development and Use</p>
<p>Microplastics</p>	<p>Microplastics are small pieces (typically smaller than 5mm) of solid plastic particles composed of mixtures of polymers and functional additives. They may also contain residual impurities.</p> <p>European Chemicals Agency (2022) Microplastics</p>
<p>Minimum flow</p>	<p>A general term used to describe a flow that must be maintained without further reduction over a specified period, either during the dry season or over the entire year. It implies that ecosystem functioning can be protected through the delivery of a minimum and constant flow, whereas evidence shows within- and between-year-flow variability is essential to maintaining healthy rivers.</p> <p>Adapted from Hayes, D.S., Brändle, J.M., Seliger, C., Zeiringer, B., Ferreira, T., Schmutz, S. (2018) Advancing Towards Functional Environmental Flows for Temperate Floodplain Rivers. Science of The Total Environment 633, 1089–1104</p>
<p>Mitigation</p>	<p>Action(s) taken to reduce the extent of a negative impact.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary from UN (2012) The Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights: An Interpretive Guide</p>



Term	Definition
Mitigation hierarchy (and conservation hierarchy)	<p>The mitigation hierarchy is the sequence of actions to anticipate and avoid, and where avoidance is not possible, minimise, and, when impacts occur, restore, and where significant residual impacts remain, offset for biodiversity-related risks and impacts on affected communities and the environment.</p> <p>The conservation hierarchy goes beyond mitigating impacts, to encompass any activities affecting nature. This means that conservation actions to address historical, systemic and non-attributable biodiversity loss can be accounted for in the same framework as actions to mitigate specific impacts.</p> <p>The TNFD aligns to the SBTN AR3T Framework that covers actions to avoid future impacts, reduce current impacts, regenerate and restore ecosystems, and transform the systems in which companies are embedded. It is built on the mitigation hierarchy set out in the International Financial Corporation's (IFC) Performance Standard 6 and the Conservation Hierarchy.</p> <p>Adapted from Cross Sector Biodiversity Initiative (2015) A Cross Sector Guide for Implementing the Mitigation Hierarchy: Executive Summary and Overview, Conservation Hierarchy, Science Based Targets Network (2023) Step 4. Act</p>
Monitoring (science-based targets)	<p>Tracking progress towards targets.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
Narratives	<p>Qualitative descriptions of plausible future world evolution, describing the characteristics, general logic and developments underlying a particular quantitative set of scenarios. Narratives are also referred to in the literature as 'storylines'.</p> <p>Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>
Natural capital	<p>The stock of renewable and non-renewable natural resources (e.g., plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) that combine to yield a flow of benefits to people.</p> <p>Capitals Coalition (2016) Natural Capital Protocol</p>
Natural commodities (resources)	<p>Natural assets (raw materials) occurring in nature that can be used for economic production or consumption.</p> <p>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2008) OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms</p>



Term	Definition
Natural ecosystem	<p>An ecosystem that substantially resembles – in terms of species composition, structure, and ecological function – one that is or would be found in a given area in the absence of major human impacts. This includes human-managed ecosystems where much of the natural species composition, structure, and ecological function is present.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) Step 3: Measure, Set, Disclose: Land (Version 0.3)</p>
Natural features	<p>A habitat, habitat matrix, species or a species assemblage occurring on a site.</p> <p>Earthwatch Institute (2006) A Review of Biodiversity Conservation Performance Measures.</p>
Natural habitat	<p>Areas composed of viable assemblages of plants and/or animal species of largely native origin, and/or where human activity has not essentially modified the area's primary ecological function and species composition.</p> <p>IFC (2016) Performance Standard 6 – Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources.</p>
Naturally regenerating forest	<p>Forest predominantly composed of trees established through natural regeneration.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2020) Forest Resources Assessment - Terms and Definitions</p>
Natural-climate solutions	<p>A subset of nature-based solutions, natural-climate solutions include conservation, restoration, and improved land and sea management that increase carbon storage and/or avoid greenhouse gas emissions, enhance resilience, and assist climate adaptation across global forests, wetlands, mangroves, grasslands, and agricultural lands and other habitats.</p> <p>Girardin, C et al. (2021) Nature Based Solutions Can Help Cool the Planet — If We Act Now, Griscom, B et al. (2017) Natural Climate Solutions</p>
Nature	<p>The natural world, with an emphasis on the diversity of living organisms (including people) and their interactions among themselves and with their environment.</p> <p>Adapted from Díaz, S et al. (2015) The IPBES Conceptual Framework – Connecting Nature and People</p>
Nature action plan	<p>A programme developed by an organization that sets out the actions needed to achieve an agreed goal, accompanied by a schedule and budget, with the aim of helping nature's recovery by protecting and restoring the biodiversity of environments that they have control over. A nature action plan should include mechanisms to monitor and create accountability for progress, as well as schedule and budget.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



Term	Definition
Nature loss	<p>The loss and/or decline of the state of nature. This includes, but is not limited to, the reduction of any aspect of biological diversity e.g., diversity at the genetic, species and ecosystem levels in a particular area through death (including extinction), destruction or manual removal.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</p>



Term	Definition
Nature's contribution to people	<p>All the contributions, both positive and negative, to people's quality of life.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
Nature-based solutions	<p>Actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems that address societal, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity benefits.</p> <p>Adapted from International Union for Conservation of Nature (2020) The IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions</p>
Nature positive	<p>Nature positive is a global societal goal defined as 'halt and reverse nature loss by 2030 on a 2020 baseline, and achieve full recovery by 2050'.</p> <p>Nature positive is a global and societal goal. Individual entities, geographies and countries can and must demonstrate their sufficient contribution to a global nature-positive outcome. In operationalizing nature positive, tackling drivers and the negative and positive impacts is central.</p> <p>Companies and financial institutions can contribute to the Nature Positive goal by taking these high-level actions: Assess their material impacts, dependencies, risks and opportunities; shift their business strategy and models; commit to science-based targets for nature; report their nature-related issues to investors and other stakeholders; transform by avoiding and reducing negative impacts, restoring, and regenerating nature; collaborate across land, seascapes and river basins; and advocate to governments for policy ambition.</p> <p>Nature Positive Initiative (2023) The definition of nature positive</p>
Nature-related community development programs	<p>Plan that details actions to minimise, mitigate, or compensate for adverse social and/or economic impacts, and/or to identify opportunities or actions to enhance positive impacts of a project on the community.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary</p>
Nature-related opportunities	<p>Activities that create positive outcomes for organizations and nature by creating positive impacts on nature or mitigating negative impacts on nature.</p> <p>Nature-related opportunities are generated through impacts and dependencies on nature, and can occur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When organizations avoid, reduce, mitigate or manage nature-related risks, for example, connected to the loss of nature and ecosystem services that the organization and society depend on; • Through the strategic transformation of business models, products, services, markets and investments that actively work to reverse the loss of nature, including by restoration, regeneration of nature and implementation of nature-based solutions. <p>Adapted from WWF (2022) A Biodiversity Guide for Business</p>



Term	Definition
Nature-related physical risks	<p>Nature-related physical risks are risks resulting from the degradation of nature (such as changes in ecosystem equilibria, including soil quality and species composition) and consequential loss of ecosystem services that economic activity depends upon. These risks can be chronic (e.g. a gradual decline of species diversity of pollinators resulting in reduced crop yields, or water scarcity) or acute (e.g. natural disasters or forest spills). Nature-related physical risks arise as a result of changes in the biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) conditions that support healthy, functioning ecosystems. These risks are usually location-specific.</p> <p>Network for Greening the Financial System (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2023) A Supervisory Framework for Assessing Nature-related Financial Risks: Identifying and Navigating Biodiversity Risks, Financial Stability Board (2022) Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks Final report, International Association of Insurance Supervisors (2021) Application Paper on the Supervision of Climate-related Risks in the Insurance Sector, Network for Greening the Financial System (2019) A Call for Action: Climate Change as a Source of Financial Risk</p>
Nature-related risks	<p>In line with ISO, the TNFD defines nature-related risks as potential threats (effects of uncertainty) posed to an organization that arise from its and wider society’s dependencies and impacts on nature.</p> <p>Climate Disclosure Standards Board (2021) Framework application guidance for biodiversity-related disclosures, International Organization for Standardisation (2018) ISO 31000, Risk Management – Guidelines, Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures</p>
Nature-related scenario analysis	<p>Allows organizations to explore the possible consequences of nature loss and climate change, the ways in which governments, markets and society might respond, and the implications of these uncertainties for business strategy and financial planning.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Nature-related systemic risks</p>	<p>Nature-related systemic risks are risks arising from the breakdown of the entire system, rather than the failure of individual parts. Nature-related systemic risks are characterised by modest tipping points combining indirectly to produce large failures and cascading interactions of physical and transition risks. One loss triggers a chain of others and stops systems from recovering their equilibrium after a shock.</p> <p>Nature-related systemic risk covers more than only risk to a financial system (i.e. financial stability risk) It also covers the risks from the breakdown of natural systems (i.e. ecosystems).</p> <p>Goldin, I & Mariathan, M (2014) The Butterfly Defect: How Globalisation Creates Systemic Risks and What to Do About It; International Risk Governance Centre (2018) IRGC Guidelines for the Governance of Systemic Risks; Kaufmann, G & Scott, K (2003) What Is Systemic Risk, and Do Bank Regulators Retard or Contribute to It?</p>
<p>Nature-related transition risks</p>	<p>Nature-related transition risks are risks to an organization that stem from a misalignment of economic actors with actions aimed at protecting, restoring, and/or reducing negative impacts on nature. These risks can be prompted, for example, by changes in regulation and policy, legal precedent, technology, or investor sentiment and consumer preferences. They can also arise from activities aimed at restoring nature that no longer align with, for example, revised policies.</p> <p>Network for Greening the Financial System (2019) A Call for Action: Climate Change as a Source of Financial Risk, Network for Greening the Financial System (2021) Climate-related Litigation: Raising Awareness About a Growing Source of Risk, Financial Stability Board (2022) Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks Final report, Network for Greening the Financial System (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to Guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2023) A Supervisory Framework for Assessing Nature-related Financial Risks: Identifying and Navigating Biodiversity Risks</p>
<p>Net gain</p>	<p>The point at which project-related impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services are outweighed by measures taken according to the mitigation hierarchy, so that a net gain results. May also be referred to as net positive impact.</p> <p>Cross-Sector Biodiversity Initiative (2015) A Cross-sector Guide for Implementing the Mitigation Hierarchy.</p>
<p>Negatively impacted ecosystems</p>	<p>Ecosystems which have been disturbed or disrupted as a result of human activity or natural occurrences, creating changes to the state of the ecosystem, such as degradation, habitat loss or species loss.</p> <p>TNFD</p>



Term	Definition
Nitrogen use efficiency	<p>Nitrogen use efficiency (NUE) can be defined as the ratio between the amount of fertiliser (nitrogen) applied and the amount of nitrogen removed with the harvest (OECD). Note that NUE is not easily comparable across regions and the scale (temporal and spatial) at which NUE analysis is carried out should be specified.</p> <p>Organisation for Economic Co-operation Development (2010) Nitrogen Use Efficiency as an Agro-Environmental Indicator</p>



Term	Definition
Nitrogen planetary boundary	<p>Human activities now convert more atmospheric nitrogen into reactive forms than all of the Earth's terrestrial processes combined. Much of this new reactive nitrogen is emitted to the atmosphere in various forms rather than taken up by crops. When it is rained out, it pollutes waterways and coastal zones or accumulates in the terrestrial biosphere.</p> <p>Stockholm Resilience Centre The Nine Planetary Boundaries</p> <p>Farming's contribution to the exceedance of the planetary N boundary is largely caused by high volumes of "new" reactive nitrogen being fixed for mineral fertiliser and its over-application and inefficient uptake (i.e. low nitrogen efficiency).</p> <p>Townsend and Palm (2009) The Nitrogen Challenge</p>
Noise pollution	<p>Harmful or unwanted sounds in the environment, which in specific local areas, can be measured and averaged over a period of time.</p> <p>European Environment Agency (2000) EEA Glossary ETC/CDS. General Environmental Multilingual Thesaurus (GEMET)</p>
No net loss	<p>No net loss is defined as the point at which project-related impacts are balanced by measures taken through application of the mitigation hierarchy, so that no loss remains.</p> <p>Cross-Sector Biodiversity Initiative (2015) A Cross-sector Guide for Implementing the Mitigation Hierarchy.</p>
Non-hazardous waste	See definition of waste
Non-point source	<p>Sources of pollution that are delivered to the receiving water in a diffuse manner, i.e., not through a confined channel or discharge pipe.</p> <p>Science Based Target Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
Non-purposefully introduced species	See definition of 'unintentional / intentional introduction of invasive alien species'
Non-recycled waste	<p>'Non-recycled waste' means any waste not recycled within the meaning of 'recycling' in Article 3(17) of Directive 2008/98/EC.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288</p>
Non-virgin materials	<p>Materials that have been previously used. This includes: materials in products that have been reused, refurbished or repaired; components that have been remanufactured; materials that have been recycled. Also referred to as secondary materials.</p> <p>EMF (2021) The Circular Economy Glossary. Ellen MacArthur Foundation.</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Nutrient balance</p>	<p>The nutrient balance is defined as the difference between the nutrient inputs entering a farming system (mainly livestock manure and fertilisers) and the nutrient outputs leaving the system (the uptake of nutrients for crop and pasture production). A nutrient deficit (negative value) indicates declining soil fertility. A nutrient surplus (positive data) indicates a risk of polluting soil, water and air.</p> <p>Organisation for Economic Co-operation Development (2018) OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms</p>
<p>Ocean</p>	<p>All connected saline ocean waters characterised by waves, tides and currents.</p>
<p>Ocean use change</p>	<p>The change from one ocean use category to another.</p> <p>Adapted from Science Based Targets Initiative (2022) Forest, Land and Agriculture Guidance Science Based Target-Setting Guidance</p>
<p>Oligotrophic</p>	<p>A river or stream relatively poor in nutrients (nitrate and phosphates) and containing abundant oxygen.</p> <p>Adapted from Carlson, R.E. (1977) A Trophic State Index for Lakes. Limnology and Oceanography 22, 361–369</p>
<p>Operational risk</p>	<p>Increasing legal and regulatory compliance costs associated with investments and businesses.</p> <p>For example, a financial institution may face regulatory, reputational, or liability risks as a result of financing a company engaged in activities that contribute to deforestation. Facilities/suppliers of the financial institution may be affected by flooding or landslides.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Financial Stability Board (2022) Final report: Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks, Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2023) A Supervisory Framework for Assessing Nature-related Financial Risks: Identifying and Navigating Biodiversity Risks</p>
<p>Operational water (mining)</p>	<p>Operational water relates to water that enters the operational water system used to meet the operational water demand; and is therefore available for use by the mining site within an operational task or activity.</p> <p>International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) (2021) ICMM Water Reporting: Good Practice Guide (2nd Edition).</p>



Term	Definition
Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)	<p>A geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the <i>in situ</i> conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values.</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) (2018) Protected Areas and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures.</p>
Other managed water (mining)	<p>Other managed water relates to water that is actively managed (e.g. physically pumped, actively treated or has material consumptive losses) without intent to supply the operational water demand (i.e. is not used by the site within an operational task or activity).</p> <p>International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) (2021) ICMM Water Reporting: Good Practice Guide (2nd Edition).</p>
Ozone-depleting substances	<p>‘Ozone depletion substances’ mean substances listed in the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288</p>



Term	Definition
Particulate matter	<p>A mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets (dust, dirt, soot, or smoke).</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
Peri-urban	<p>The landscape interface between town and countryside, or the rural-urban transition zone, and which connect the urban and rural areas in functional ways. According to some authors, proximity to a town or city in itself does not define peri-urban – rather, it is the existence of both rural and urban characteristics and the linkages and flows of goods and services between rural areas and urban centres.</p> <p>Iaquinta, D. and Drescher, A. W. (2000) Defining the peri-urban: Rural-urban linkages and institutional connections. <i>Land Reform, Land Settlement and Cooperatives</i> 8–27</p> <p>Narain, V. (2009) Growing city, shrinking hinterland: land acquisition, transition and conflict in peri-urban Gurgaon, India. <i>Environment and Urbanization</i> 21, 501–512</p>
Peri-urban interface	<p>This is a concept referring to a social, economic and environmental space where the agricultural system, the urban system and the natural resource system are in constant interaction.</p> <p>Allen, A. (2003) Environmental Planning and Management of the Peri-urban Interface: Perspectives on an Emerging Field. <i>Environment and Urbanization</i> 15, 135–148</p>
Plastic	<p>Material containing a polymer (a large chain molecule with repeating molecular units) that can be moulded into a finished product. Examples include thermoplastics, polyurethanes, elastomers, thermosets, adhesives, coatings and sealants, and PP fibres.</p> <p>CDP (2023) Technical Note- Plastics Disclosure. <i>CDP Water Security 2023</i></p>
Plastic packaging	<p>Plastic means a polymer material to which additives or substances may have been added. When assessing the amount of plastic in a packaging component, the additives are classed as part of the plastic.</p> <p>Plastics include polymers which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • biodegradable • compostable • oxo-degradable <p>If a plastic packaging component is made from multiple materials but contains more plastic by weight (including additives which form part of the plastic) than any other substance, it will be classed as a plastic packaging component.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2022) New Plastics Economy Global Commitment</p>



Term	Definition
Pesticide	<p>Any substance intended for preventing, destroying, attracting, repelling, or controlling any pest including unwanted species of plants or animals during the production, storage, transport, distribution and processing of food, agricultural commodities, or animal feeds or which may be administered to animals for the control of ectoparasites. The term includes substances applied to crops either before or after harvest to protect the commodity from deterioration during storage and transport. The term normally excludes fertilisers, plant and animal nutrients, food additives, and animal drugs.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization & World Health Organization (2019) Codex Alimentarius Commission Procedural Manual</p>
Pesticide hazard level	<p>The World Health Organization classification uses the Acute Toxicity Hazard Categories from the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) as the starting point for classification: Ia) Extremely hazardous, Ib) Highly hazardous II) Moderately hazardous III) Slightly hazardous U) Unlikely to present acute hazard.</p> <p>World Health Organization (2019) Classification of Pesticides by Hazard</p>
Photo-limited	<p>Used to describe organisms/ecosystems that are limited by light availability.</p> <p>Adapted from Keith, D et al. (2020) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0: Descriptive profiles for biomes and ecosystem functional groups</p>
Physical water risk	<p>Area of high physical water risk include limited water availability, flooding and poor quality of water. This also includes marine areas with high levels of land-based pollution.</p>
Plantation forest	<p>Planted forest that is intensively managed and meets all the following criteria at planting and stand maturity: one or two species, even age class and regular spacing.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2020) Forest Resources Assessment - Terms and Definitions</p>
Planted forest	<p>Forest predominantly composed of trees established through planting and/or deliberate seeding.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2020) Forest Resources Assessment - Terms and Definitions</p>
Policy risk	<p>Changes in the policy context due to new (or enforcement of existing) policies associated with creating positive impacts on nature or mitigating negative impacts on nature.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Financial Stability Board (2022) Final report: Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks, Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to Guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors</p>



Term	Definition
Pollution	<p>Presence of substances and heat in air, water and/or land whose nature, location, or quantity produce harmful and undesirable environmental effects.</p> <p>United Nations (1997) Glossary of Environment Statistics</p>
Pollutants	<p>Substances and heat in air, water and/or land whose nature, location, or quantity produce harmful and undesirable environmental effects.</p> <p>United Nations (1997) Glossary of Environment Statistics</p>
Pollutants removed from land, atmosphere, ocean and freshwater	<p>Pollution removal (or remediation) is the removal of pollutants, including chemical substances and/or energy, that are judged to be having a negative impact on the environment, specifically soils, sediments and watercourses.</p> <p>Pollution remediation articles from across Nature Portfolio</p>
Polymers	<p>A large chain molecule with repeating molecular units.</p> <p>CDP (2023) Technical Note - Plastics Disclosure. CDP Water Security 2023</p>
Post-consumer recycled content	<p>Proportion, by mass, of post-consumer recycled material in a product or packaging. Post-consumer material is material generated by households or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end users of the product which can no longer be used for its intended purpose.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2022) New Plastics Economy Global Commitment</p>
Precision agriculture technologies	<p>Precision agriculture technologies: Precision technologies — such as tractor guidance systems using a global positioning system (GPS), GPS soil and yield mapping, and variable-rate input applications (VRT) — help farms gather information on changing field conditions to adjust production practices.</p> <p>USDA (2016) Precision Agriculture Technologies and Factors Affecting Their Adoption</p>
Pressures	<p>Human activities that directly or indirectly change the state of the environment and ecosystem. Following the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), five key pressures or ‘drivers of nature change’ contribute most to the loss of nature globally: land and sea use change; direct exploitation of organisms; climate change; pollution; and invasion of alien species. In the SBTN methods, the following categories are used to describe these pressures: Ecosystem use and ecosystem use change; resource exploitation; climate change; pollution; and invasives and others.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) Glossary of Terms</p>



Term	Definition
Primary forest	<p>Naturally regenerated forest of native tree species, where there are no clearly visible indications of human activities, and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed.</p> <p>Explanatory notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Includes both pristine and managed forests that meet the definition.2. Includes forests where Indigenous Peoples engage in traditional forest stewardship activities that meet the definition.3. Includes forests with visible signs of abiotic damages (such as storm, snow, drought and fire) and biotic damages (such as insects, pests and diseases).4. Excludes forests where hunting, poaching, trapping or gathering have caused significant native species loss or disturbance to ecological processes.5. Examples of key characteristics of primary forests:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• they show natural forest dynamics, such as natural tree species composition, occurrence of dead wood, natural age structure and natural regeneration processes;• the area is large enough to maintain its natural ecological processes;• there has been no known significant human intervention, or the last significant human intervention was long enough ago to have re-established natural species composition and processes. <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2020) Forest Resources Assessment - Terms and Definitions</p>
Primary, secondary and tertiary plastic packaging	<p>Primary packaging is the packaging that contains the product. Secondary packaging includes boxes or containers containing specific quantities of primary packages. Tertiary packaging includes pallets and large shipping containers for storing and warehousing.</p> <p>All three types are used to ship products from the production line to the consumer; each level represents a different scale.</p> <p>Air Sea Containers (2021) Guide to the Three Levels of Packaging</p>



Term	Definition
<p>“Prior and informed consent” or “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement”</p>	<p>Free implies that indigenous peoples and local communities are not pressured, intimidated, manipulated or unduly influenced and that their consent is given, without coercion; Prior implies seeking consent or approval sufficiently in advance of any authorization to access traditional knowledge respecting the customary decision-making processes in accordance with national legislation and time requirements of indigenous peoples and local communities; Informed implies that information is provided that covers relevant aspects, such as: the intended purpose of the access; its duration and scope; a preliminary assessment of the likely economic, social, cultural and environmental impacts, including potential risks; personnel likely to be involved in the execution of the access; procedures the access may entail and benefit-sharing arrangements; Consent or approval is the agreement of the indigenous peoples and local communities who are holders of traditional knowledge or the competent authorities of those indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate, to grant access to their traditional knowledge to a potential user and includes the right not to grant consent or approval; Involvement refers to the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, in decision-making processes related to access to their traditional knowledge. Consultation and full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities are crucial components of a consent or approval process.</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity (2018) Glossary of Relevant Terms</p>
<p>Priority locations</p>	<p>Priority locations are locations that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material locations: Locations where an organization has identified material nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities in its direct operations and upstream and downstream value chain(s); and/or • Sensitive locations: Locations where the assets and/or activities in its direct operations – and, where possible upstream and downstream value chain(s) – interface with nature in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas important for biodiversity; and/or • Areas of high ecosystem integrity; and/or • Areas of rapid decline in ecosystem integrity; and/or • Areas of high physical water risks; and/or • Areas of importance for ecosystem service provision, including benefits to Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and stakeholders. <p>TNFD</p>
<p>Probabilistic forecasts</p>	<p>Rely on statistical probabilities and are often used as different starting points for econometric and statistical forecasts.</p> <p>Millett, Stephen M (2009) Should Probabilities Be Used With Scenarios?, Journal of Future Studies 13.4</p>



Term	Definition
Product and services opportunity	<p>Value proposition related to the creation or delivery of products and services that protect, manage or restore nature, including technological innovations.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Product dry matter	<p>Dry matter is what remains after all of the water is evaporated out of a feed: grain and fresh or dried forages. Fresh pasture has high water content and will have a lower percentage of dry matter than an equivalent weight of dryer feed, such as hay or grain. Dry matter is an indicator of the amount of nutrients that are available to the animal in a particular feed.</p> <p>California Certified Organic Farmers (2020) What is dry matter and why is this important?</p>
Protected area	<p>A clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.</p> <p>International Union for Conservation of Nature (2018) Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories</p>
Qualitative scenario analysis	<p>Analysis that focuses on the identification of trends and on the overarching narratives of the scenarios, often providing insight into less quantifiable characteristics of an organization such as strategy, agility, philosophy, vision, and culture. This kind of analysis can weave together multiple trends of various scales and complexity into a narrative to provide context relevant to an organization's strategy.</p> <p>Office of the Vice President for Research, Cambridge, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2019) Climate-related Financial Disclosures: Use of Scenarios</p>
Quantitative scenario analysis	<p>Analysis that refers to the use of quantified information within a scenario. It can take many forms, from numerical descriptions of trends and other factors, to the use of techniques such as trend analysis, sensitivity analysis and modeling of an organization's climate and nature-related risks.</p> <p>Office of the Vice President for Research, Cambridge, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2019) Climate-related Financial Disclosures: Use of Scenarios</p>
Radioactive waste	<p>Radioactive waste as defined in Article 3(7) of Council Directive 2011/70/Euratom.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Adapted from Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288</p>
Rate of reuse and recycling	<p>The ratio between total waste generated excluding major mineral wastes and the quantities that were managed through reuse and recycling.</p> <p>European Environment Agency (2022) Waste and Recycling in Europe</p>



Term	Definition
Raw material content	<p>Primary or secondary material that is used to produce a product.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>
Realm	<p>Major components of the living, natural world that differ fundamentally in ecosystem organization and function: terrestrial (land), freshwater, marine (ocean), subterranean and atmospheric. The TNFD's framework is based on four realms - land, freshwater, ocean and atmosphere. The subterranean realm is included within the land, freshwater and ocean realms.</p> <p>Adapted from Keith A. et al. (2020) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0: Descriptive Profiles for Biomes and Ecosystem Functional Groups</p>
Recyclability	<p>The ease with which a material can be recycled in practice and at scale.</p> <p>EMF (2021) The Circular Economy Glossary. Ellen MacArthur Foundation</p>
Recyclable packaging	<p>A packaging or packaging component is recyclable if its successful post-consumer collection, sorting and recycling is proven to work in practice and at scale.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2022) New Plastics Economy Global Commitment</p>
Recyclable plastic	<p>A packaging or packaging component is recyclable if its successful post-consumer collection, sorting, and recycling is proven to work in practice and at scale.</p> <p>A package can be considered recyclable if its main packaging components, together representing >95% of the entire packaging weight, are recyclable according to the above definition, and if the remaining minor components are compatible with the recycling process and do not hinder the recyclability of the main components. 'At scale' is considered a 30% recycling rate.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2022) New Plastics Economy Global Commitment</p>
Recycle	<p>Transform a product or component into its basic materials or substances and reprocessing them into new materials.</p> <p>Embedded energy and value are lost in the process. In a circular economy, recycling is the last resort action.</p> <p>EMF (2021) The Circular Economy Glossary. Ellen MacArthur Foundation</p>
Reference condition	<p>The condition against which past, present and future ecosystem condition (or other aspect of the state of nature) is compared in order to measure relative change over time.</p>



Term	Definition
Reforestation	<p>Conversion to forest of land that has previously contained forests but that has been converted to some other use.</p> <p>Adapted from the IPCC, 2019: Annex I: Glossary [van Diemen, R. (ed.)]. In: Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems [P.R. Shukla, J. Skea, E. Calvo Buendia, V. Masson-Delmotte, H.-O. Pörtner, D. C. Roberts, P. Zhai, R. Slade, S. Connors, R. van Diemen, M. Ferrat, E. Haughey, S. Luz, S. Neogi, M. Pathak, J. Petzold, J. Portugal Pereira, P. Vyas, E. Huntley, K. Kissick, M. Belkacemi, J. Malley, (eds.)]. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009157988.010</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Regenerated second-growth forests</p>	<p>Regenerated (second-growth) forests were subject to major impacts in the past (for instance by agriculture, livestock raising, tree plantations, or intensive logging) but where the main causes of impact have ceased or greatly diminished and the ecosystem has attained much of the species composition, structure, and ecological function of prior or other contemporary natural ecosystems.</p> <p>Accountability Framework Initiative (2019) Terms and Definitions</p>
<p>Regenerative agriculture</p>	<p>There is no scientific consensus definition of regenerative agriculture; rather there are process (use of cover crops, reduced tillage, etc.), principle and outcome-based definitions (improved soil health, etc.). As TNFD adopts an outcome-based opportunity definition, based on business activities that deliver nature positive outcomes, a business should as a minimum use a definition of regenerative agriculture that allows it to capture the nature-positive outcomes in terms of improvements to environmental assets and flows in ecosystem services based on producing or sourcing from the regenerative farm practices. The most cited outcomes as part of a definition of regenerative agriculture in scientific literature include improved soil health, increased carbon sequestration and increase in biodiversity.</p> <p>Newton et al. (2020) What is Regenerative Agriculture? A Review of Scholar and Practitioner Definitions Based on Processes and Outcomes, Front Sust. Food Syst</p>
<p>Rehabilitation</p>	<p>Rehabilitation refers to restoration activities that move a site towards a natural state baseline in a limited number of components (i.e. soil, water, and/or biodiversity), including natural regeneration, conservation agriculture, and emergent ecosystems.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
<p>Renewable</p>	<p>Material that is composed of biomass from a living source and that can be continually replenished. When claims of renewability are made for virgin materials, those materials shall come from sources that are replenished at a rate equal to or greater than the rate of depletion.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2022) New Plastics Economy Global Commitment</p>
<p>Reputation risk</p>	<p>Changes in perception concerning a company’s actual or perceived nature impacts, including at a local, economic and societal level, that can result from direct company impacts, industry impacts, and/or impacts of upstream / downstream operations.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Financial Stability Board (2022) Final report: Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks, Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks: A Conceptual Framework to guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2023 forthcoming) A Supervisory Framework for Assessing Nature-related Financial Risks: Identifying and Navigating Biodiversity Risks</p>



Term	Definition
Reputational capital opportunity	<p>Changes in perception concerning a company’s actual or perceived nature impacts, including the consequent impacts on society and engagement of stakeholders.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Resilience	<p>Resilience is defined as having the capacity to live and develop with change and uncertainty. It provides capacities for turning risks into opportunities. This includes: (1) adaptive capacities to absorb shocks and turbulence and avoid unpleasant tipping points, thresholds, and regime shifts; (2) capacities to prepare for, learn from, and navigate uncertainty and surprise; (3) capacities for keeping options alive and creating space for innovation; and (4) capacities for systemic transformation in the face of crises and unsustainable development pathways and traps.</p> <p>Folke, C. et al. (2016) Social-Ecological Resilience and Biosphere-Based Sustainability Science, Ecology and Society 21(3):41,</p> <p>Rockström, J.et al. Krishnan, L. Warszawski, and D. Nel. (2023) Shaping a Resilient Future in Response to COVID-19, Nature Sustainability</p>
Resource efficiency opportunity	<p>Actions an organization can take within its own operations or value chain in order to avoid or reduce impacts and dependencies on nature (for example, by utilising less natural resources), while achieving co-benefits such as improved operational efficiency or reduced costs (for example, micro irrigation which maximises plant health, reduces water use and reduces costs).</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Restoration	<p>Any intentional activity that initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem from a degraded state. Active restoration includes a range of human interventions aimed at influencing and accelerating natural successional processes to recover biodiversity ecosystem service provision. Passive restoration includes reliance primarily on natural process of ecological succession to restore degraded ecosystems, but may include measures to protect a site from processes that currently prevent natural recovery (e.g. protection of degraded forests from overgrazing by livestock or unintentional human-induced fire).</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Restoration status</p>	<p>Restoration status is characterised by three phases described as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In preparation: [resources], funds committed, area [designated] for restoration, activities have not yet begun, and impacts of restoration may not yet be measurable. • In progress: ongoing restoration activities and depending on the time that the activities have been ongoing, impacts may start to be measurable. • Post-completion monitoring: restoration activities completed and efforts in place to monitor the restoration results. <p>CBD (2024) Guidance on using the indicators of the monitoring framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/14</p>
<p>Reusable packaging</p>	<p>Packaging which has been designed to accomplish or proves its ability to accomplish a minimum number of trips or rotations in a system for reuse.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2022) New Plastics Economy Global Commitment</p>
<p>Re-usable plastics</p>	<p>An item of packaging can be defined as reusable if it is conceived, designed and marketed to carry out multiple trips in its lifetime by being refilled or reused for the same purpose for which it was conceived. Reusable packaging should be designed to be recyclable as far as possible, as it will inevitably reach the maximum number of reuse cycles at some point, after which recycling ensures the material is kept in the economy.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation (2022) New Plastics Economy Global Commitment</p>
<p>Revenue</p>	<p>Revenue is the gross inflow of economic benefits during a financial year arising from the course of the ordinary activities of an entity when those inflows result in increases in equity, other than increases relating to contributions from equity participants.</p> <p>Adapted from International Financial Reporting Standards IAS 18 Revenue</p>
<p>Rewetted</p>	<p>All deliberate actions that aim to bring the water table of a drained peatland (i.e. the position relative to the surface) back to that of the original, peat-forming peatland. When this goal has been reached, the peatland is ‘rewetted’.</p> <p>Ramsar Convention (2021) Global Guidelines for Peatland Rewetting and Restoration</p>
<p>Rewilding</p>	<p>Rewilding aims to restore ecosystems and reverse biodiversity declines by allowing wildlife and natural processes to reclaim areas no longer under human management. Well-applied rewilding can restore ecosystems at a landscape scale, help mitigate climate change, and provide socio-economic opportunities for communities. Evidence-based rewilding principles will guide practitioners to rewild safely, help assess the effectiveness of projects, and incorporate rewilding into global conservation targets.</p> <p>International Union for Conservation of Nature (2021) Issue Brief: The Benefits and Risks of Rewilding</p>



Term	Definition
Rights-holders	<p>Under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all human beings are 'rights-holders'. However, not all individuals will have their human rights put at risk or impacted by a project or its associated activities. It is important to identify human rights risks related to project activities among stakeholders and recognise such stakeholders as 'rights-holders' in the context of engagement.</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities are recognised as holders of particular rights that should be respected in accordance with relevant national legislation, international instruments, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and human rights law. (See Annex 1 on Indigenous Peoples' rights).</p> <p>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</p>
Risk management	<p>The process of identifying potential threats, assessing organizational vulnerabilities, determining risks and implementing appropriate risk management techniques to minimise the negative impact they may have on an organization. The most common types of risk management techniques include avoidance, mitigation, transfer and acceptance.</p> <p>Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>



Term	Definition
River catchments and watersheds	<p>A water catchment (also known as a watershed or basin) is an area of land where all water flows and is directed into a single stream or river. Natural boundaries of water catchments can vary in scale and can be very small for a single stream or river, or very broad for a large river such as the Amazon or Congo Rivers. Land and freshwater use in a watershed can affect the entire length of river depending on the intensity of the use and impact.</p> <p>Adapted from Freshwater Information Platform</p>
Scenarios	<p>A scenario is a logically consistent story that describes a plausible future. It identifies some significant events, the main actors and their motivations, and how the world functions in this plausible future. It is intended to challenge thinking about what the future might be like and how they might respond under circumstances different from those they face today.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>
Scenario pathways	<p>Refer to the political, technological and economic developments and associated risk drivers (e.g. which sectors and regions bear the most emissions reductions, or which energy technologies win out in different economies) that lead to a particular scenario outcome. Distinctively different pathways can lead to the same outcome.</p> <p>Office of the Vice President for Research, Cambridge, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2019) Climate-related Financial Disclosures: Use of Scenarios</p>
Scenario storyline	<p>A narrative description of a scenario (or family of scenarios), highlighting the main scenario characteristics, relationships between key driving forces, and the dynamics of their evolution. Also referred to as ‘narratives’ in the scenario literature.</p> <p>Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>
Science-based targets for nature (or SBTs)	<p>Measurable, actionable and time-bound objectives based, on the best available science, that allow actors to align with Earth’s limits and societal sustainability goals.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions	<p>Refer to TCFD Glossary and/or GHG Protocol for climate-related definitions.</p>



Term	Definition
Seafood	<p>Whole or part of organisms (e.g. fish, molluscs, crustaceans, algae) derived from aquatic environments (i.e. caught or cultured in marine and freshwater habitats) that are consumed by humans.</p> <p>Ocean Wise Seafood (2023) Ocean Wise Seafood Scoring Methodology and Rating System</p>
Seafood protein	<p>Large molecules made of amino acids found in seafood.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2023) Nutrition</p>
Seabed/Sea floor	<p>The bottom of the ocean. Also known as sea floor; sea bottom. The ocean floor is defined as the near-horizontal surface of the ocean basin.</p> <p>European Environment and Observation Network (2021) Seabed</p>
Sea lice	<p>A term used to describe many species of ectoparasitic copepods of the genera <i>Lepeophtheirus</i> and <i>Caligus</i>. The common name ‘salmon lice’ is frequently used to refer to <i>L. salmonis</i>, which has become an economically important parasite in salmon farming. Another important salmon louse in salmonid and marine fish farming is <i>Caligus elongatus</i>. In Scotland there are two other species of lice that may be a problem for cultured fish, <i>Caligus curtis</i> and <i>Lepeophtheirus hippoglossi</i>.</p> <p>The Fish Site (2023) Disease Guide</p>
Semi-natural forest	<p>Forest of native species, established through planting, seeding or assisted natural regeneration.</p> <p>Explanatory notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Includes areas under intensive management where native species are used and deliberate efforts are made to increase/optimize the proportion of desirable species, leading to changes in the structure and composition of the forest. 2. Naturally regenerated trees from species other than those planted or seeded may be present. 3. May include areas with naturally regenerated trees of introduced species. 4. Includes areas under intensive management where deliberate efforts, such as thinning or fertilising, are made to improve or optimize desirable functions of the forest. These efforts may lead to changes in the structure and composition of the forest. <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2005) Global Forest Resources Assessment Update</p>



Term	Definition
Sensitivity analyses	<p>Assess how a planning model's outputs change when important inputs vary within expected ranges (e.g. +10%, -10%).</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Sensitive locations	<p>Locations where the assets and/or activities in an organisation's direct operations – and, where possible upstream and downstream value chain(s) – interface with nature in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas important for biodiversity; and/or • Areas of high ecosystem integrity; and/or • Areas of rapid decline in ecosystem integrity; and/or • Areas of high physical water risks; and/or • Areas of importance for ecosystem service provision, including benefits to Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and stakeholders. <p>TNFD</p>
Significant incident (metals and mining)	<p>A significant incident is defined as a release of hazardous waste to the environment that: exceeds the volume and concentration limits of local regulatory requirements or industry-accepted codes; is included in the entity's financial statements (for example, because of resulting liabilities); is recorded by the entity as an incident required to be reported to applicable local jurisdictions; or does not meet any of these criteria but is judged as significant by the operator.</p> <p>SASB Standards (2023) Sustainable Industry Classification System® (SICS®) EM-MM Metals and Mining</p>
Single use plastics	<p>Single-use plastic products (SUPs) are used once, or for a short period of time, before being thrown away. Refer to EU's Directive on Single-use plastics for additional details such as the products included and the measures being applied.</p> <p>European Commission (n.d.) Single-use plastics.</p>
Sludge	<p>Sludge is a solid type of aquaculture waste which contains nitrogenous compound, phosphorus and other dissolved organic carbon that could affect the environment negatively when the concentration present is higher than usual. Sludge is formed due to large quantities of excessive feed and organic degradation matters.</p> <p>Jasmin, M. Y. et al. (2020) Potential of bioremediation in treating aquaculture sludge: Review article. Aquaculture 519.</p>



Term	Definition
Social impact assessment	<p>A process of evaluating the likely impacts, both beneficial and adverse, of a proposed development that may affect the rights, which have an economic, social, cultural, civic and political dimension, as well as the well-being, vitality and viability, of an affected community – that is, the quality of life of a community as measured in terms of various socio-economic indicators, such as income distribution, physical and social integrity and protection of individuals and communities, employment levels and opportunities, health and welfare, education, and availability and standards of housing and accommodation, infrastructure, services.</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity Glossary of Relevant Terms</p>
Soil degradation	<p>A change in soil health status, resulting in a diminishing capacity of the ecosystem to provide goods and services for its beneficiaries. The main types of soil degradation are defined by four categories: 1) soil erosion 2) soil fertility reduction 3) soil fertility reduction 4) soil salinisation 5) waterlogging.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2021) Guidance on Core Indicators for Agrifood Systems: Measuring the Private Sector's Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals</p>



Term	Definition
Soil fertility	<p>The ability of a soil to sustain plant growth by providing essential plant nutrients and favourable chemical, physical and biological characteristics as a habitat for plant growth.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization, Global Soils Partnership</p>
Soil organic carbon stock	<p>Soil carbon stocks express a balance between organic inputs and their stepwise decomposition by soil biota. The stock (tC ha⁻¹) can be estimated as the sum over annual inputs (tC ha⁻¹ year⁻¹) multiplied with mean residence time (year) similar to tree cover transition.</p> <p>Van Noordwijk M (2014) Climate Change: Agricultural Mitigation, Encyclopedia of Agriculture and Food Systems</p>
Soil salinisation	<p>An increase in the salt content of the soil, often as a result of irrigation practices. Excess salt uptake hinders crop growth by obstructing the ability to uptake water, causing loss of soil fertility and desertification.</p> <p>Kumar and Droby (2021) Microbial Management of Plant Stresses</p>
Species	<p>A fundamental category for the classification and description of organisms, defined in various ways but typically on the basis of reproductive capacity; i.e. the members of a species can reproduce with each other to produce fertile offspring but cannot do so with individuals outside the species.</p> <p>Levin, S. A. ed. (2009) The Princeton Guide to Ecology (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press)</p>
Species composition	<p>The array of species in a specific sample, community, or area.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019) The Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</p>
Species extinction risk	<p>Threat status of a species and how activities/pressures may affect the threat status. The indicator may also measure change in the available habitat for a species as a proxy for impact on local or global extinction risk.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 1 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards (ESRS E4).</p>
Species richness	<p>The number of species within a given sample, community or area.</p> <p>Hassan R, Scholes R, Ash N (eds) (2005) Millenium Ecosystem Assessment: Ecosystems and Human Wellbeing, Volume 1, Current State and Trends. Island Press, Washington</p>



Term	Definition
Spill to the environment	<p>Any unintended release of liquids or solids associated with current operation, from primary containment or secondary containment, into the environment.</p> <p>International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (2020) Sustainability Reporting Guidance for the Oil and Gas Industry</p>



Term	Definition
Stakeholder engagement	<p>Stakeholder engagement involves interactive processes of engagement with relevant stakeholders, through, for example, meetings, hearings or consultation proceedings. Effective stakeholder engagement is characterised by a two-way communication and depends on the good faith of the participants on both sides.</p> <p>Adapted from UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework</p>
Stakeholders	<p>Stakeholders are persons or groups who are directly or indirectly affected by a project, as well as those who may have interests in a project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively.</p> <p>Adapted from UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework</p>
State of nature	<p>The condition and extent of ecosystems, and species population size and extinction risk, including positive or negative changes.</p> <p>Adapted from United Nations et al. (2021) System of Environmental-Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EA)</p>
Stress tests	<p>Stress tests represent difficult 'edge cases' that are developed by putting extreme values of a relevant variable or small number of variables into existing planning models. The objective of stress testing is to assess how the results of those models change in response.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>
Stressed watersheds	<p>Watersheds, where the demand for water exceeds the available amount during a certain period, or when poor quality restricts its use. Water stress freshwater resources to deteriorate in quantity (aquifer over-exploitation, dry rivers, etc.) and quality (eutrophication, organic matter pollution, saline intrusion, etc.).</p> <p>Adapted from European Environment Agency (1999) Environment in the European Union at the Turn of the Century. Page 155. Environmental Assessment Report No 2</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Structural connectivity for species</p>	<p>A measure of habitat permeability based on the physical features and arrangements of habitat patches, disturbances and other land, freshwater or seascape elements presumed to be important for organisms to move through their environment. Structural connectivity is used in efforts to restore or estimate functional connectivity where measures of it are lacking.</p> <p>Hilty, J. et al. (2019) Corridor Ecology: Linking Landscapes for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Adaptation. 2nd ed. Washington, DC: Island Press; as cited in Hilty, J. et al. (2020) Guidelines for Conserving Connectivity through Ecological Networks and Corridors. Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 30. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN</p>
<p>Subtidal</p>	<p>The area below low tide that is always underwater, typically referring to depths <100 m.</p> <p>Adapted from Kain (Jones), J.M. (1989) The Seasons in the Subtidal. British Phycological Journal 24, 203–215</p>
<p>Supply chain</p>	<p>The linear sequence of processes, actors, and locations involved in the production, distribution, and sale of a commodity from start to finish.</p> <p>Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p>
<p>Sustainable forest management</p>	<p>A dynamic and evolving concept, intended to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental value of all types of forests for the benefit of present and future generations, considering the following seven thematic elements as a reference framework:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. extent of forest resources; 2. forest biodiversity; 3. forest health and vitality; 4. productive functions of forest resources; 5. protective functions of forest resources; 6. socio-economic functions of forests; and 7. legal, policy and institutional framework. <p>Food and Agriculture Organization Sustainable Forest Management</p>
<p>Sustainably managed (used)</p>	<p>The use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Sustainable production / sustainable-consumption and production</p>	<p>The use of services and related products, which respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimising the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle of the service or product so as not to jeopardise the needs of future generations.</p> <p><i>Note – this definition in UN Environment Programme defines sustainable-consumption and production, known as ‘SCP’.</i></p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme Sustainable Consumption and Production Policies</p>
<p>Sustainable use of natural resources opportunity</p>	<p>Substitution of natural resources by recycled, regenerative, renewable and/or ethically responsibly sourced organic inputs.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
<p>Target</p>	<p>Specific quantitative and time-bound objective, preferably with a defined means of measurement.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2020) Science Based Targets for Nature: Initial Guidance for Business</p>
<p>Target boundary (science-based targets)</p>	<p>The corporate scope of the target, specific to each issue area. The target boundary may be defined in terms of the value chain aspect covered, as well as the specific locations, products, brands, etc. that will be in focus in a given time period.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
<p>Technology risk</p>	<p>Substitution of products or services with a reduced impact on nature and/or reduced dependency on nature.</p> <p>For example, loss of pollinators may be replaced by mechanical pollination technologies.</p> <p>Adapted from Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2017) Final Report: Recommendations on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, Financial Stability Board (2022) Final report: Supervisory and Regulatory Approaches to Climate-related Risks; Network for Greening the Financial System (2023) Nature-related Financial Risks, A Conceptual Framework to guide Action by Central Banks and Supervisors</p>
<p>Telecoupling</p>	<p>The interactions or linkages in socioeconomic and environmental issues between two or more geographic areas, e.g., in agricultural expansion, due to shared drivers and economic globalization.</p> <p>Liu et al. (2015) Multiple Telecouplings and Their Complex Interrelationships</p>



Term	Definition
Thermal pollution	<p>Deviation from the natural temperature in a habitat. Can range from elevated temperatures associated with industrial cooling activities to discharges of cold water into streams below large impoundments.</p> <p>Kennedy (2004) Thermal Pollution, Encyclopaedia of Energy</p>
Third party certification standards	<p>A third party with no stake in the business has determined that the final product complies with specific standards for safety, quality or performance.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization (2003) Environmental and Social Standards, Certification and Labelling for Cash Crops</p>
Threatened ecosystem	<p>Ecosystem assessed as facing a high risk of collapse in the medium-term.</p> <p>International Union for Conservation of Nature (2017) Guidelines for the application of IUCN Red List of Ecosystems Categories and Criteria</p>
Threatened species	<p>Species assessed as facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term. This includes flora and fauna listed in the IUCN Red List.</p> <p>International Union for Conservation of Nature (2012) IUCN Red List categories and criteria</p>
Threshold (ecological)	<p>The point at which a relatively small change in external conditions causes a rapid change in an ecosystem. When an ecological threshold has been passed, the ecosystem may no longer be able to return to its state by means of its inherent resilience.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
Threshold effect	<p>Harmful or fatal effect of a small change in environmental conditions that exceeds the limit of tolerance of an organism or population of a species.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>
Tipping point	<p>A level of change in system properties beyond which a system reorganises, often abruptly, and does not return to the initial state even if the drivers of the change are abated.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary</p>



Term	Definition
Total surface area owned or leased	<p>A clearly defined geographical space which an entity has the power to govern financially and operationally so as to obtain benefits from its activities.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Traceable	<p>The ability to follow a product or its components through stages of the supply chain (e.g. production, processing, manufacturing, and distribution).</p> <p>Accountability Framework Initiative (2019) Terms and Definitions</p>
Traditional knowledge	<p>The knowledge, innovations and practices of Indigenous and Local Communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.</p> <p>Convention on Biological Diversity (2018) Glossary of Relevant Terms</p>
Transition pathway	<p>Transition pathways set out the different ways in which a specific target can be achieved (e.g. different pathways to the same temperature rise outcome of 1.5°C).</p> <p>MIT Climate Action (2019) Climate-related Financial Disclosures: Use of Scenarios</p>
Tree cover loss	<p>Conversion of a tree-dominated land use type to a non-tree-dominated land use type. Note that deforestation is included in this, but that not all tree cover loss is deforestation, as it could also include tree cover loss within commercial forest plantations.</p>
Tributary	<p>A tributary is a stream or river that flows into a larger stream or mainstem river. A tributary does not flow directly into a sea or ocean.</p> <p>Adapted from Freshwater Information Platform</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Unintentional / intentional introduction of invasive alien species</p>	<p>Species whose intentional or unintentional introduction and/or spread by human action outside their natural distribution threatens biological diversity, food security, and human health and well-being. ‘Alien’ refers to the species having been introduced outside its natural distribution (‘exotic’, ‘non-native’ and ‘nonindigenous’ are synonyms for ‘alien’). ‘Invasive’ means tending to expand into and modify ecosystems to which it has been introduced. Thus, a species may be alien without being invasive, or, in the case of a species native to a region, it may increase and become invasive, without actually being an alien species.</p> <p>Adapted from Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES Glossary, European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>
<p>Uncertainty</p>	<p>A state of incomplete knowledge that can result from a lack of information or from disagreement about what is known or even knowable. It may have many types of sources, from imprecision in the data to ambiguously defined concepts or terminology, incomplete understanding of critical processes, or uncertain projections of human behaviour. Uncertainty can therefore be represented by quantitative measures (e.g. a probability density function) or by qualitative statements (e.g. reflecting the judgment of a team of experts).</p> <p>Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (2020) Guidance on Scenario Analysis for Non-Financial Companies</p> <p>‘Critical uncertainties’ define risk measures, creating a tractable approach that can be customised to an organization’s specific context, but still create a common approach to aggregate data.</p>
<p>Upstream</p>	<p>All activities associated with suppliers, such as production or cultivation, sourcing of commodities or goods, and the transportation of commodities to manufacturing facilities.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
<p>Upwelling</p>	<p>A process in which deep, cold water rises toward the surface.</p> <p>Adapted from Keith, D et al. (2020) IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology 2.0: Descriptive profiles for biomes and ecosystem functional groups</p>



Term	Definition
Urban and industrial ecosystems	<p>Structurally complex ecosystems of cities, smaller settlements and industrial areas. Defined by high patchiness, change through time and dense human population.</p> <p>Keith, D.A. et al. (2022) A Function-based Typology for Earth's Ecosystems. Nature 610, 513–518</p>
Urban land teleconnections (ULT)	<p>ULT conceptualises how urbanisation and land use intertwine, to show how places are linked through processes. Examples of ULTs include the extraction of raw materials for construction of the built environment, and the unique patterns of residential development and land use that occur when tourists become residents with permanent or second homes.</p> <p>Güneralp, B., Seto, K.C. & Ramachandran, M. (2013) Evidence of Urban Land Teleconnections and Impacts on Hinterlands, Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability, Volume 5(5), 445–451</p>
Urban metabolism	<p>A useful tool to study urban ecosystems is urban metabolism analysis. It can be approached from two points of view, either in terms of energy or in terms of flows of water, material and nutrients of the city, in terms of the rate of mass flow per unit area (called mass fluxes). These approaches are used to address, for example, the urban sustainability indicators.</p> <p>Zhang, Y. (2013) Urban Metabolism: A Review of Research Methodologies, Environmental Pollution, Volume 178, 463–473</p> <p>Kennedy, C., Pincetl, S. & Bunje, P. (2011) The Study of Urban Metabolism and its Applications to Urban Planning and Design, Environmental Pollution, Volume 159, 1965–1973</p>
Urban and peri-urban agriculture	<p>Practices that yield food and other outputs through agricultural production and related processes (transformation, distribution, marketing, recycling...), taking place on land and other spaces within cities and surrounding regions. It involves urban and peri-urban actors, communities, methods, places, policies, institutions, systems, ecologies and economies, largely using and regenerating local resources to meet changing needs of local populations while serving multiple goals and functions.</p> <p>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture</p>
Validation (science-based targets)	<p>An independent process involving expert review to ensure target meets required criteria and methods of science-based targets.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>



Term	Definition
Valuation	<p>The process of estimating the relative importance, worth, or usefulness of natural capital to people (or to a business), in a particular context. Valuation may involve qualitative, quantitative, or monetary approaches, or a combination of these.</p> <p>Capitals Coalition (2016) Natural Capital Protocol</p>
Valuation technique	<p>The specific method used to determine the importance, worth, or usefulness of something in a particular context.</p> <p>Capitals Coalition (2016) Natural Capital Protocol</p>
Value at Risk	<p>Value at Risk is a measure of a potential loss in a portfolio, which estimates how much a set of investments might lose at a maximum, with a given probability (e.g. 99.5%, 99.9%), in a set time period. It requires estimation of the probability distribution for the changes in the value of the portfolio.</p> <p>Task Force on Climate- Related Financial Disclosures (2020) Forward-Looking Financial Sector Metrics</p>
Value chain	<p>The full range of interactions, resources and relationships related to a reporting entity's business model and the external environment in which it operates.</p> <p>A value chain encompasses the interactions, resources and relationships an entity uses and depends on to create its products or services from conception to delivery, consumption and end-of-life, including interactions, resources and relationships in the entity's operations, such as human resources; those along its supply, marketing and distribution channels, such as materials and service sourcing, and product and service sale and delivery; and the financing, geographical, geopolitical and regulatory environments in which the entity operates.</p> <p>International Financial Reporting Standard (2023) S1 General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information</p>
Verification (science-based targets)	<p>An independent third-party confirmation of either or both: a) baseline values of a target indicator (e.g. a company's water or GHG inventory) and b) progress made toward achieving the target.</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>
Vertical connection/ groundwater connection/vadose zone	<p>The terrestrial sub-surface water that has a connection to surface water and to the regional groundwater table.</p> <p>Adapted from Marle, P., Riquier, J., Timoner, P., Mayor, H., Slaveykova, V.I., Castella, E. (2022) Thermal Regime, Together with Lateral Connectivity, Control Aquatic Invertebrate Composition in River Floodplains. <i>Freshwater Biology</i> 67, 1774–1788</p>



Term	Definition
Virgin materials	<p>Materials that have not yet been used in the economy.</p> <p>These include both finite materials (e.g. iron ore mined from the ground) and renewable resources (e.g. newly produced cotton).</p> <p>EMF (2021) The Circular Economy Glossary. Ellen MacArthur Foundation</p>



Term	Definition
Voluntary conservation / voluntary restoration	<p>Voluntary conservation and restoration refer to conservation and restoration activities that are not required by statutes or regulations.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Voluntary credit market schemes	<p>Voluntary credit markets enable businesses, governments, non-profit organizations, universities, municipalities, and individuals to offset their impacts on biodiversity outside a regulatory regime. Trading and demand in the voluntary market are created only by voluntary buyers (corporations, institutions, and individuals).</p> <p>Adapted from Carbon Offset Research and Education Program Carbon Offset Guide</p>
Vulnerability	<p>The propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected. Vulnerability encompasses a variety of concepts and elements, including sensitivity or susceptibility to harm and lack of capacity to cope and adapt.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2022) Annex II: Glossary in: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</p>
Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems	<p>Habitats that have been designated as 'vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs)' by a competent authority, based on the VME criteria as defined in the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas.</p> <p>A marine ecosystem should be classified as vulnerable based on the characteristics that it possesses. The following list of characteristics should be used as criteria in the identification of VMEs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniqueness or rarity; • Functional significance of the habitat; • Fragility; • Life-history traits of component species that make recovery difficult; and • Structural complexity.” (Paragraph 42, FAO DSF Guidelines). <p>Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (2009) VME Criteria.</p>
Wastewater discharge	<p>Sum of effluents, used water, or other water leaving the boundaries of the organization and released to surface water, groundwater, seawater, or a third party, for which the organization has no further use, over the course of the reporting period.</p> <p>Adapted from GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>



Term	Definition
Waste	<p>Any substance or object that the holder discards, intends to discard, or is required to discard. Waste can be defined according to the national legislation at the point of generation.</p> <p>Adapted from United Nations Environment Programme (1989) Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary</p>



Term	Definition
<p>Waste disposal</p>	<p>Disposal is any operation which is not recovery, even where the operation has as a secondary consequence the recovery of energy.</p> <p>Note: Disposal is the end-of-life management of discarded products, materials, and resources in a sink or through a chemical or thermal transformation that makes these products, materials, and resources unavailable for further use.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary from EU (2008) Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC)</p>
<p>Waste disposal methods</p>	<p>Methods by which waste is treated or disposed of. Examples include composting, deep well injection, incineration, landfill, on-site storage, recovery, recycling and reuse.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary from UN (1997) Glossary of Environment Statistics, Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 67</p>
<p>Waste incineration</p>	<p>Controlled burning of waste at high temperatures.</p> <p>GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary from UN (1997) Glossary of Environment Statistics, Studies in Methods, Series F, No. 67</p>
<p>Waste recovered</p>	<p>Components of products, or materials that have become waste that are prepared to fulfill a purpose in place of new products, components, or materials that would otherwise have been used for that purpose.</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme (1989) Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal</p>
<p>Waste recycled</p>	<p>Reprocessing of products or components of products that have become waste, to make new materials.</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme (1989) Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal</p>
<p>Waste reused</p>	<p>Reprocessing of products or components of products that have become waste, to make new materials.</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme (1989) Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal</p>
<p>Wastewater temperature</p>	<p>Products or components of products that have become waste are prepared to be put to use for the same purpose for which they were conceived.</p> <p>Adapted from European Union (2008) Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC)</p>



Term	Definition
Water column	<p>A concept used in oceanography to describe the physical (temperature, salinity, light penetration) and chemical (pH, dissolved oxygen, nutrient salts) characteristics of seawater at different depths for a defined geographical point. The water column extends from the surface to the bottom of the ocean and may reach 11 km in depth (Mariana trench in the Pacific). The physical and chemical characteristics determine the distribution of living organisms in the ocean. At the surface, sunlight provides photosynthesis and the deeper we go, the darker and colder the environment becomes (2°C at great depths). Only organisms capable of resisting the increase in pressure (1 bar per 10 m) may survive and develop here.</p> <p>Geo-Ocean (2021) The Water Column</p>
Water consumption	<p>The amount of water drawn into the boundaries of the undertaking (or facility) and not discharged back to the water environment or a third party over the course of the reporting period. Water consumption is equal to water withdrawal less water discharge.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>
Water produced	<p>Water that enters the organization's boundary as a result of extraction (e.g. crude oil), processing (e.g. sugar cane crushing), or use of any raw material, and has to consequently be managed by the organization.</p> <p>CDP (2023) Water Security Questionnaire, GRI (2022) GRI Standards Glossary</p>
Water quality	<p>The biological, chemical and physical properties of water, often assessed against a usage standard, such as whether its quality can support freshwater biodiversity, be used for drinking water for people, or irrigation. Note that standards and definitions of water quality vary across use cases.</p> <p>United Nations Environment Programme (2008) Water Quality Index for Biodiversity Technical Development Document</p>
Water reused/ recycled	<p>Water and wastewater (treated or untreated) that has been used more than once before being discharged from the undertaking's or shared facilities' boundary, so that water demand is reduced. This may be in the same process (recycled), or used in a different process within the same facility (own or shared with other undertakings) or another of the undertaking's facilities (reused).</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>



SSS

Term	Definition
Water reduced	<p>An organization can reduce its water withdrawal and consumption and associated impacts through efficiency measures, such as water recycling and reuse, and process redesign.</p> <p>TNFD</p>
Water scarcity	<p>Refers to the volumetric abundance, or lack thereof, of freshwater resources. Scarcity is human driven; it is a function of the volume of human water consumption relative to the volume of water resources in a given area. As such, an arid region with very little water, but no human water consumption would not be considered scarce, but rather arid. Water scarcity is a physical, objective reality that can be measured consistently across regions and over time. Water scarcity reflects the physical abundance of freshwater rather than whether that water is suitable for use. For instance, a region may have abundant water resources (and thus not be considered water scarce), but have such severe pollution that those supplies are unfit for human or ecological uses.</p> <p>The CEO Water Mandate (2014) Corporate Water Disclosure Guidelines, European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>
Water sources	<p>Water sources include water withdrawn from surface water, groundwater, seawater, produced water and third-party water.</p> <p>GRI (2018) GRI 303: Water and Effluents</p>
Water stress (areas of)	<p>Water stress is formally defined as the ability, or lack thereof, to meet human and ecological demands for water.</p> <p>Water stressed (region): defined in three levels: 25%, below which no water scarcity exists; 60%, indicating approaching scarcity; 75%, above which strong water scarcity is identified. Anything above the 60% figure, approaching scarcity, is considered ‘water stressed’.</p> <p>Adapted from UN Water (2021) Summary Progress Update 2021: SDG 6 — water and sanitation for all and WWF (2021) Contextual Water Targets: A Practical Guide to Setting Contextual Corporate- and Site-level Water Targets</p>
Water withdrawal	<p>The sum of all water drawn into the boundaries of the undertaking from all sources for any use over the course of the reporting period.</p> <p>European Commission (2023) Annex 2 to the Commission Delegated Regulation, supplementing Directive 2013/34/EU as amended by Directive 2022/2464 (CSRD), as regards sustainability reporting standards</p>



Term	Definition
Wild species	<p>Refers to populations of any native species that have not been domesticated through multigenerational selection for particular traits, and which can survive independently of human intervention that may occur in any environment. This does not imply a complete absence of human management and recognises various intermediate states between wild and domesticated.</p> <p>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2022) IPBES Sustainable Use of Wild Species Assessment, Chapter 1</p>
Yield (in agriculture)	<p>Intensity of production per unit of land area. It is defined as the amount of product produced in a year divided by the amount of land occupied by that product. For crops, it refers to the amount produced divided by the harvested area. For livestock products, it refers to the amount produced divided by the total area needed for livestock production (both to house the animals and to produce the crop- and/or pasture-based animal feeds).</p> <p>Science Based Targets Network (2023) SBTN Glossary of Terms</p>



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