

Business Principles for High-Integrity Nature-Based GHG removals

Driving Trustworthy Corporate Action for Nature and Climate

In the face of accelerating climate and biodiversity crises, businesses have an increasingly important role to play in protecting and restoring nature, not through mere promises, but through real and measurable action. Nature-based solutions to remove greenhouse gases (GHGs) from the atmosphere can help fight climate change and support biodiversity all at once, but only if they are done in a responsible and effective way. To ensure these efforts are credible and impactful, leading businesses have agreed on a set of clear principles. These principles promote integrity, alignment with science, people inclusion, and long-term financial viability. They also contribute to building trust with the policymakers who direct the enabling framework and legislation supporting these investments. By following these principles, businesses can deliver concretely on nature-positive models that generate lasting value for climate, nature, and society.

- **Additionality to mitigation first**

Direct emissions reduction remains the top priority; removals should add climate value without replacing or delaying strong mitigation efforts, to ensure they deliver to their full potential.

- **Biodiversity-positive outcomes**

It is essential to keep a holistic view when it comes to nature-positive action, and only solutions that bring benefits to climate and foster stronger biodiversity should be considered.

- **Alignment with science**

Nature-based carbon removals must be grounded in the best available science to ensure they deliver real, measurable and lasting benefits for climate and biodiversity, while preventing unintended negative impacts.

- **Lasting and resilient**

Ecosystems are dynamic and vulnerable, nature-based removals should therefore be designed to integrate uncertainty, using diverse species, local knowledge, and adaptive management to stay resilient over time.

- **Monitoring and disclosure of effective GHG impact**

Carbon removal must be regularly measured and transparently reported to build trust, ensure accountability, and drive continuous improvement of practices across the sector.

- **Ensure inclusion of local communities**

Involvement of local population from design to delivery is necessary to ensure the solutions are socially equitable, culturally appropriate, and more likely to succeed over time.

- **Accountability and clear liability chain**

Clear lines of accountability, with defined roles and responsibilities across all actors involved and transparency across the entire chain are the conditions for strong liability. If issues arise, whether underperformance or environmental harm, clarity on who is responsible and how corrective action will be taken is necessary.

- **Ensure alignment with existing legislation**

The framework that Europe already has approved, and largely implemented, provides essential boundary conditions for decisions about on nature-based removal investment (such as the Carbon Removal Certification Framework and the Nature Restoration Law).

- **Disclose long-term value and risk mitigation potential**

Businesses should clearly disclose the long-term climate and financial value of nature-based GHG removals, including the risks and how they plan to manage them. This transparency helps build confidence in the durability and reliability of these solutions over time.

- **Investments should be financially viable**

Investments in nature-based GHG removals should be financially viable to attract private capital and ensure they last on the long run; this helps deliver multiple social and environmental benefits while making smart use of public funds, by leveraging private capital efficiently.