

30 March 2023

To: Members of the European Parliament in the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, Committee on Fisheries and Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Business Networks' Letter on the Nature Restoration Law

We are writing to you as leading business networks to highlight our support for harnessing the EU's nature and climate agendas. This must include a robust, ambitious and coherent outcome from the EU Nature Restoration Law negotiations.

Businesses require clarity on the long-term policy signals to enable substantial investments in the transition to a truly sustainable and resilient economy. These policy signals must support the EU's nature and climate ambitions and their alignment with the Paris Agreement and CBD COP15 Kunming-Montreal Agreement on biodiversity.

The pace of nature loss globally and in Europe has become extremely damaging for the sustainability and resilience of our economy and the [risks](#) are increasing. This is adding stress on businesses who are already strongly impacted by climate change, especially in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, food processing, water supply, renewable energy and construction. Therefore, extreme weather conditions continue to impact productivity and increase operational costs.

Businesses across the EU understand the enormous risks from the twin climate and nature crises. To date, [over 1040 companies in the EU](#) have committed to or have already set science-based climate targets (SBTs), and they are collaborating closely with the Science Based Targets Network to develop science-based nature targets. Currently, [more than 1,100 companies](#) with revenues of over US\$ 5 trillion have supported the Business for Nature's call on governments to adopt sound policies without delay to reverse nature loss in this decade. According to a recent global survey of the insurance industry, half of the re/insurers surveyed believe that [nature-related risks are material for their underwriting business](#). In addition to the risks that are directly transmitted to re/insurers, it is now recognised that [nature related loss could also propel second-order effects](#) and even threaten the broader stability of the financial system.

Investors are also taking action through various initiatives: [Nature Action 100](#) is a global investor engagement initiative focused on driving greater corporate ambition and action to reduce nature and biodiversity loss. [Finance for Biodiversity Pledge](#) brings together in total 126 financial institutions representing 21 countries and over 18.8 trillion euro in assets who are committing to protect and restore biodiversity through their finance activities. Companies and investors need the EU decision makers to give clear and binding policy directions to increase the EU's resilience and mitigate the risks of the twin nature and climate crises, while delivering a more equitable, just and sustainable environment for European businesses to flourish.

The legal proposal for an EU Nature Restoration Law provides an important opportunity to fill a core gap on nature in the European Green Deal and align the EU's nature ambitions with its climate objectives. The European Parliament has so far been the only institution to declare a climate emergency and the resolution on Biodiversity commitments gathered [strong support](#) from the Members of the European Parliament. The European Parliament played a key leadership role in increasing the EU's climate ambition and strongly supported EU commitments on tackling biodiversity loss in the EU 2030 Biodiversity Strategy. We now call on you to stand as a united front in your role as

the EU's ambition setter to harness the EU's climate and nature ambitions and give clear policy direction to Europe's economic actors on your commitment to a coherent, ambitious, robust Green Deal that increases the EU's resilience.

We therefore urge you and your colleagues to ensure that the position of the European Parliament genuinely adds up to a strengthening of the Commission's EU Nature Restoration Law proposal. This should allow aligning this key legislation with the EU's own commitments under its Strategies and international protocols.

As business networks, we repeat our full confidence in the European Parliament to lead the EU on its path towards a strong European Green Deal legacy with an ambitious outcome from the EU Nature Restoration Law proposal.

We remain at your disposal to further discuss ways to deliver a sustainable and fair climate transition in Europe.

SIGNATORIES:





LIST OF SIGNATORIES:

1. [Corporate Leaders Group \(CLG\) Europe](#)
2. [We Mean Business Coalition](#)
3. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development \(WBCSD\)](#)
4. [The B Team](#)
5. [CDP](#)
6. [Business for Biodiversity Ireland](#)
7. [CER Sustainable Business Network - Slovenia](#)
8. [Ecopreneur.eu, European Sustainable Business Federation](#)
9. [Entreprendre Vert, France](#)
10. [MVO Nederland, the Netherlands](#)
11. [Responsible Business Forum in Poland](#)
12. [The Shift - Belgium](#)

