

# BIO DIVER SITY

## Did you know that all companies depend to some extent on biodiversity?

Sometimes this is not obvious, so here are a few examples of how companies are taking measures to help preserve biodiversity.

First of all, **do you know what biodiversity is and why it is important we take care of it?** Biodiversity refers to the diversity of species (animals, plants, bacteria), genetic diversity (DNA and the different races within a species), and the diversity of ecosystems - the immense variety of ways in which life is organised.

Biodiversity gives us food, raw materials and medicines and ensures we have services that are vital to life, including regulating air and water quality. The existence of a variety of species, genetics and ecosystems makes these species more resilient, and the more abundant the biodiversity, the more likely it is that the inhabitants of the earth will be able to survive.

Scientists are warning that biodiversity loss is occurring at an unprecedented pace and that the results of this are threatening human survival. **Are companies ready for these changes?** So far, we have always considered that biodiversity, and the services it generates such as cleaning rivers and the air, are free and available at all times, but **what if they were not there or we had to pay for them?** **Have we analysed how much our companies depend either directly or indirectly on biodiversity and the services generated by these ecosystems?**

## So, what can we do about it?



Implement business policies and practices that encourage biodiversity conservation.



Make the fight against deforestation, desertification and biodiversity loss part of business decision-making and asset management.



Guarantee the sustainable use of natural resources.



Avoid using substances and raw materials that endanger pollination and which are toxic to aquatic and terrestrial species.



Avoid any impact on protected species and natural species of high value to biodiversity.



Minimise our impact on ecosystems, species, and their genetic diversity.



Avoid buying materials that endanger animal and plant species in danger of extinction.



Purchase and source from sustainable production - for example by buying sustainably managed forest products or those with a high recycled-material content (and not from land that encourages deforestation of natural areas).



Implement certification systems for sustainable uses - e.g. in forestry the PEFC or FSC which allow the use of traceability and chain of custody systems and guarantee the sustainable origin of forest products and which control all the steps in the production, transport and distribution process.



Train employees and the supply chain in responsible terrestrial ecosystem and biodiversity practices.



Promote research, innovation and the development of new technologies and processes that contribute to avoiding and minimising the impact on species and ecosystems, combating deforestation and desertification, and preserving natural habitats.



Report on the company's biodiversity actions along with its research, conservation, education and awareness-raising activities through a specific or sustainability report.



Carry out actions that promote the restoration of ecosystems, species and or their biodiversity:

Use sites - offices or land - that encourage species connectivity - planting certain species in green areas, carrying out certain maintenance practices favouring pollination, installing nest boxes, providing insect hotels, etc.

Restoration of land and habitats.

Support for research by monitoring species and their conservation status.

Foster programmes to recover species.

Create and participate in alliances to protect biodiversity.



For more information about Iberdrola and Biodiversity see [Biodiversity of ecosystems and sustainable development - Iberdrola](#)