

## NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN SUSTAINABLE CORPORATE PRACTICES - Nurturing biodiversity through ecosystem restoration and water stewardship 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024, 10:30-12:00 CET

#### **CONTEXT**

In 2020, the European Union adopted a <u>Biodiversity Strategy</u> outlining a thorough set of commitments and initiatives aimed at restoring Europe's biodiversity by 2030. This approach not only contributes to biodiversity recovery but also serves as a significant catalyst for addressing Europe's overarching environmental concerns, including climate adaptation, mitigation, and disaster prevention. In fact, the **European Union's natural environment faces a concerning decline**, with **over 80% of habitats** displaying **inadequate or poor conservation status**. Particularly impacted are peatlands, grasslands, and dunes. Over the past five decades, **wetlands** in Western, Central, and Eastern Europe have **decreased by half**. Furthermore, **approximately 70% of soils across the EU are deemed unhealthy**. The severe erosion of croplands is estimated to result in an annual loss of agricultural productivity amounting to EUR 1.25 billion within the EU.

The European Parliament has endorsed <u>legislation for nature restoration</u>, committing to <u>restore 20%</u> of the European Union's land and sea. Acknowledging that most European habitats are currently in suboptimal conditions, the agreed-upon EU nature restoration law aims to revitalize degraded ecosystems across member states, aligning with climate and biodiversity objectives while securing food security. To meet these EU-wide targets, member states must <u>enhance at least 30% of habitats</u>, encompassing forests, grasslands, wetlands, rivers, lakes, and coral beds, transitioning them from poor to good condition by 2030, with further increments to 60% by 2040 and 90% by 2050. Emphasizing the prioritization of <u>Natura 2000 areas</u> until 2030, the legislation mandates the adoption of national restoration plans by member states to outline their strategies for achieving these ambitious restoration goals.

In contemporary corporate practices, recognizing the profound significance of ecosystem restoration, biodiversity management, and water resilience has become imperative. Ecosystem restoration not only contributes to the preservation of biodiversity but also aligns with corporate goals by fostering sustainable and resilient environments. Ecosystem restoration and water management are pivotal for businesses as they ensure **sustainable practices**, **mitigate environmental risks**, and **enhance resilience**, contributing to long-term corporate viability and responsible resource stewardship.

#### **ABOUT THE EVENT**

This session is a <u>Green Week partner event</u>. The <u>webinar</u> takes place on <u>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024</u>, <u>10:30-12:00 CET</u>, in the framework of the <u>Biodiversity Alliance</u>, a multi-stakeholder initiative led by <u>CSR Europe</u> with the support of the <u>Wildlife Habitat Council</u>, which gathers a group of industry leaders sharing best practices and approaches on biodiversity management.

#### WHO SHOULD JOIN:

- CSR/Environmental/Sustainability Managers
- Supply Chain analysts/specialists
- Facility and Operations Managers
- Research and Development professionals



### NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN SUSTAINABLE CORPORATE PRACTICES - Nurturing biodiversity through ecosystem restoration and water stewardship 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024, 10:30-12:00 CET

- Compliance experts
- Environmental engineers
- Biodiversity experts
- Civil Society Organisations

# **AGENDA**

TIME (CEST)	SESSION	SPEAKER(s)
10 min	Welcome & Introduction	CSR Europe
15 min	<ul> <li>Understanding the Nexus:</li> <li>Ecosystem Restoration and its         Business Relevance</li> <li>Integrating Biodiversity         Management into Corporate         Practices</li> </ul>	Wildlife Habitat Council
10 min	Policy Overview: Relevant Environmental Regulations and Standards  • The Nature Restoration Law  • Expected Commission initiative on water resilience	<ul> <li>European Commission, DG ENVIRONMENT</li> </ul>
20 min	<ul> <li>Water Resilience in a Corporate Context</li> <li>The Role of Ecosystem Restoration as a Water Management Strategy</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Global Water Partnership</li><li>European Environmental Bureau</li></ul>
25 min	Building Collaboration and Partnerships for Effective Ecosystem Restoration  • Best practice examples from companies	• 2 companies of the Biodiversity Alliance
10 min	Closing remarks	CSR Europe