Item 02 – Proposed public comment questions for the exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard

For GSSB information

Date 3 November 2022
Meeting 17 November 2022
Project GRI Topic Standard Project for Biodiversity

Description This document contains draft public comment questions for the exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard that has been submitted to the GSSB for information at the upcoming meeting.

Subject to approval, a public comment period will commence early December 2022 and an open questionnaire will be set up online to collect public feedback.

This document sets out the proposed questions to be included in the feedback form. GSSB members are welcome to provide any feedback by 24 November 2022.
Questions for the Biodiversity Standard exposure draft

Question 1

The exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard includes seven disclosures about the organization’s biodiversity-related impacts, and how it manages these impacts.

Each disclosure contains requirements accompanied by guidance. Guidance includes background information, explanations, and examples to help the organization better understand the requirements. Guidance also includes recommendations. These are cases where a particular course of action is encouraged but not required. The use of the word ’should’ indicates a recommendation, and the word ‘can’ indicates a possibility or option. The organization is not required to comply with guidance.

1.1 Are the requirements and associated guidance clear and understandable? If not, please explain why not, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance. Please provide the disclosure number that your comment relates to.

1.2 Are there any elements in the disclosures that you would find challenging to report? If so, please explain what these are, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance. Please provide the disclosure number that your comment relates to.

Question 2

The disclosures in the exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard are interconnected. For example, the operational sites with the most significant impacts on biodiversity reported under Disclosure 304-1 are the focus of Disclosures 304-1 to 304-5. Disclosure 304-5 requires a description of the actions taken to manage the direct drivers of biodiversity loss reported under Disclosure 304-2.

2. Is the connection between the disclosures clear? If not, please explain what could be improved.

Question 3

The disclosures in the exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard require information on the most significant impacts on biodiversity that occur in the organization’s supply chain.

3. Is it feasible to report information on the organization’s suppliers? If not, please explain why, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Question 4

The exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard includes three tables to support organizations to report the information required under Disclosures 304-1 to 304-3.

4. Are the tables clear? If not, please explain what could be improved.

Question 5

The exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard introduces the term ‘ecosystem conversion’ and its definition in the Glossary.

5.1 Do you have any comments on the proposed new term and its definition?

5.2 Are there any additional terms in the draft Standard that need to be defined? If so, please provide a suggested definition or reference to an appropriate existing definition for the term(s).
Question 6
6. Is there any information missing from the exposure draft of revised GRI Biodiversity Standard that is essential for understanding and communicating an organization’s biodiversity-related impacts and how it addresses them?

Question 7
7. Do you have any other comments or suggestions related to the exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard?
For any additional comments on a specific section of the exposure draft of the revised GRI Biodiversity Standard, use the form below, indicating the disclosure number and line numbers. Consider feedback on clarity, feasibility, and relevance of specific disclosures.