



GRI Topic Standard: Biodiversity

Exposure draft public comment questionnaire

Introduction

Thank you for taking part in this public consultation.

The GRI Biodiversity Topic Standard exposure draft (the exposure draft) is published for public comment by the [Global Sustainability Standards Board](#) (GSSB), the independent standard-setting body of GRI, in line with the [GSSB Due Process Protocol](#).

An explanatory memorandum is included in the exposure draft. It sets out the objectives of the project to revise the GRI Topic Standard *GRI 304: Biodiversity 2016* and significant proposals contained in the draft.

Please note: the exposure draft is published for public consultation only and may change before its official release.

For more information about the project, please visit the GRI Standards website.

Using this online questionnaire, any interested party can submit comments on the exposure draft until **28 February 2023**. Instructions to complete this survey are outlined below.

As required by the [GSSB Due Process Protocol](#), all comments received in English will be reviewed and considered a matter of public record. Comments will be published on the GRI website along with the name of the individual or the organization submitting the comment, country represented, and stakeholder constituency. These personal details will not be used or processed for any other purposes than informing the development of the Topic Standards. For more information on GRI's privacy policy, click [here](#).

To preview the questions before completing the questionnaire online, click [here](#). When responding to the questions, please provide wherever possible:

- the line number(s) of the text your comment concerns;
- a rationale or supporting explanation for your comment; and
- an alternative wording suggestion, where relevant.

Please provide all feedback via this survey and write comments in English. If using this survey or commenting in English is not feasible, please make alternative arrangements by emailing biodiversity@globalreporting.org.

Useful notes:

- Reading through the full exposure draft is recommended before submitting your responses.
- Questions marked with an asterisk must be answered before you can proceed.
- Where relevant, references to the page numbers from the exposure draft are included.
- It is possible to return to the earlier marked page to review or change responses.
- After completing the questionnaire, a copy of your responses will be emailed to you.
- The last question allows you to submit any additional comments.

Please email any questions about the questionnaire to biodiversity@globalreporting.org.

Questions

The exposure draft of the revised 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 word 'should' indicates a recommendation, and the word 'can' indicates a possibility or option. The organization is not required to comply with guidance.

Disclosure 304-1 Location of operational sites with the most significant impacts

Question 1.1

Are the requirements and associated guidance of Disclosure 304-1 clear and understandable? If not, please explain why not, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Question 1.2

Are there any elements of Disclosure 304-1 that you would find challenging to identify or report? If so, please explain what these are, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Disclosure 304-2 Direct drivers of biodiversity loss

Question 1.3

Are the requirements and associated guidance of Disclosure 304-2 clear and understandable? If not, please explain why not, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Question 1.4

Are there any elements of Disclosure 304-2 that you would find challenging to identify or report? If so, please explain what these are, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Disclosure 304-3 State of biodiversity

Question 1.5

Are there any elements of Disclosure 304-3 that you would find challenging to identify or report? If so, please explain what these are, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Question 1.6

Are the requirements and associated guidance of Disclosure 304-3 clear and understandable? If not, please explain why not, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Disclosure 304-4 Ecosystem services

Question 1.7

Are there any elements of Disclosure 304-4 that you would find challenging to identify or report? If so, please explain what these are, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Question 1.8

Are the requirements and associated guidance of Disclosure 304-4 clear and understandable? If not, please explain why not, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Disclosure 304-5 Management of biodiversity-related impacts

Question 1.9

Are there any elements of Disclosure 304-5 that you would find challenging to identify or report? If so, please explain what these are, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Question 1.10

Are the requirements and associated guidance of Disclosure 304-5 clear and understandable? If not, please explain why not, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Disclosure 304-6 Halting and reversing the loss of biodiversity

Question 1.11

Are there any elements of Disclosure 304-6 that you would find challenging to identify or report? If so, please explain what these are, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Question 1.12

Are the requirements and associated guidance of Disclosure 304-6 clear and understandable? If not, please explain why not, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Disclosure 304-7 Access and benefit-sharing

Question 1.13

Are there any elements of Disclosure 304-7 that you would find challenging to identify or report? If so, please explain what these are, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

Question 1.14

Are the requirements and associated guidance of Disclosure 304-7 clear and understandable? If not, please explain why not, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

The disclosures in the exposure draft of the revised Biodiversity Standard are interconnected. For instance, 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.

Question 2

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

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

Question 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.

Disclosures 304-2, 304-3 and 304-4 in the exposure draft of the revised Biodiversity Standard require information to be reported for each operational site with the most significant impacts reported under 304-1. This includes sites of the organization and of its suppliers.

Question 4

Is it feasible to report the required information for each operational site reported under 304-1? If not, please explain why, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance.

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

Question 5

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

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

Question 6.1

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

Question 6.2

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).

The disclosures of the exposure draft for the revised Biodiversity Standard draw on the content of the TNFD beta framework. The TNFD released the third beta version of its [prototype risk management and opportunity disclosure framework \(v0.3\)](#) in November 2022.

Question 7

If you use the TNFD's beta framework v0.3 to identify and assess your impacts on biodiversity, are you able to report on your impacts and the management of the impacts using the proposed GRI disclosures? If not, please explain why, provide a rationale for your comments, and suggest any wording revisions or guidance that would help aligning the contents of the GRI exposure draft with TNFD's framework.

Question 8

Is there any information missing from the exposure draft of the revised Biodiversity Standard that is essential to understand and communicate an organization's biodiversity-related impacts and how it addresses them?

Question 9

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

Thank you!

Thank you for taking part in this survey. We appreciate your time and greatly value your input. You will receive from Dotdigital an email with a copy of your responses.