

# **Act4nature**

A cross-cutting action commitment scheme

## 4 principles to tackle specific nature issues

<b>Issues</b>	<b>Act4nature feature</b>
Biodiversity is intrinsically local	CEO commitment to foster and legitimate bottom-up action
Biodiversity is inherently diffuse and multi-dimensional	10 common commitments to include nature in all decisions
Each company has its own specific relationship to nature	Individual SMART commitments
Diverse values of nature and no universal indicator	Collective judgment on company individual commitments (NGO, academic and business)

# A cross-cutting action commitment scheme

## Steering Committee

Review the commitments

Validate their SMART nature

## Secretariat

Guide companies in the preparation of their individual commitments

Organises Steerco meetings, commitment review and reporting process

## Committing companies

Adopt 10 common commitments

Make company-specific SMART commitments

In due time, report on progress made

**Open to all companies regardless of maturity level**

## The company CEO signs :

- company-specific **SMART** commitments
- [act4nature 10 common commitments](#)



*Act4nature launch in 2018*

## Act4nature's 10 common commitments

- 1 Integrating biodiversity into our corporate strategy, founding our action on available scientific knowledge;
- 2 Engaging in dialogue with all our stakeholders regarding their expectations and our impacts, actions and progress;
- 3 Assessing the various components of biodiversity of concern to us, using direct and indirect impact indicators, risk and performance indicators and, when relevant for decision making purposes, assessing in economic terms our impacts and our reliance on smoothly functioning ecosystems;
- 4 Promoting the progressive integration of biological diversity into decisions throughout our value chains, from the production of natural raw materials to the final stage of our products life cycle after use by consumers;
- 5 Primarily preventing, reducing and ultimately offsetting our impacts, by seeking on a case-by-case basis no net loss as a bottom line and even a net gain of biodiversity<sup>(4)</sup> in our activities and geographical areas of influence, and by factoring in the need for ecosystems to adapt to climate change;
- 6 Giving priority to the development of Nature-based Solutions<sup>(5)</sup>, ensuring that they are implemented in a science-based and biodiversity-friendly manner, and promoting a certain variety in such solutions;
- 7 Incorporating biodiversity into our dialogue with policymakers so that this issue is progressively embedded into public policies. When invited to do so, contributing to the national biodiversity strategies of countries where we operate;
- 8 Raising awareness of and train our employees in biodiversity and its relation to their jobs. Promoting and encouraging nature-friendly initiatives by them and providing due recognition to such actions and practices;
- 9 Mobilising resources and establishing appropriate partnerships to support and monitor our actions taken in the field;
- 10 Publicly reporting on the implementation of these commitments and of our individual commitments set out below.

# A multi-stakeholder Steering committee

- 13 partners for act4nature international (France)

## Business networks



## Public authorities



## NGOs

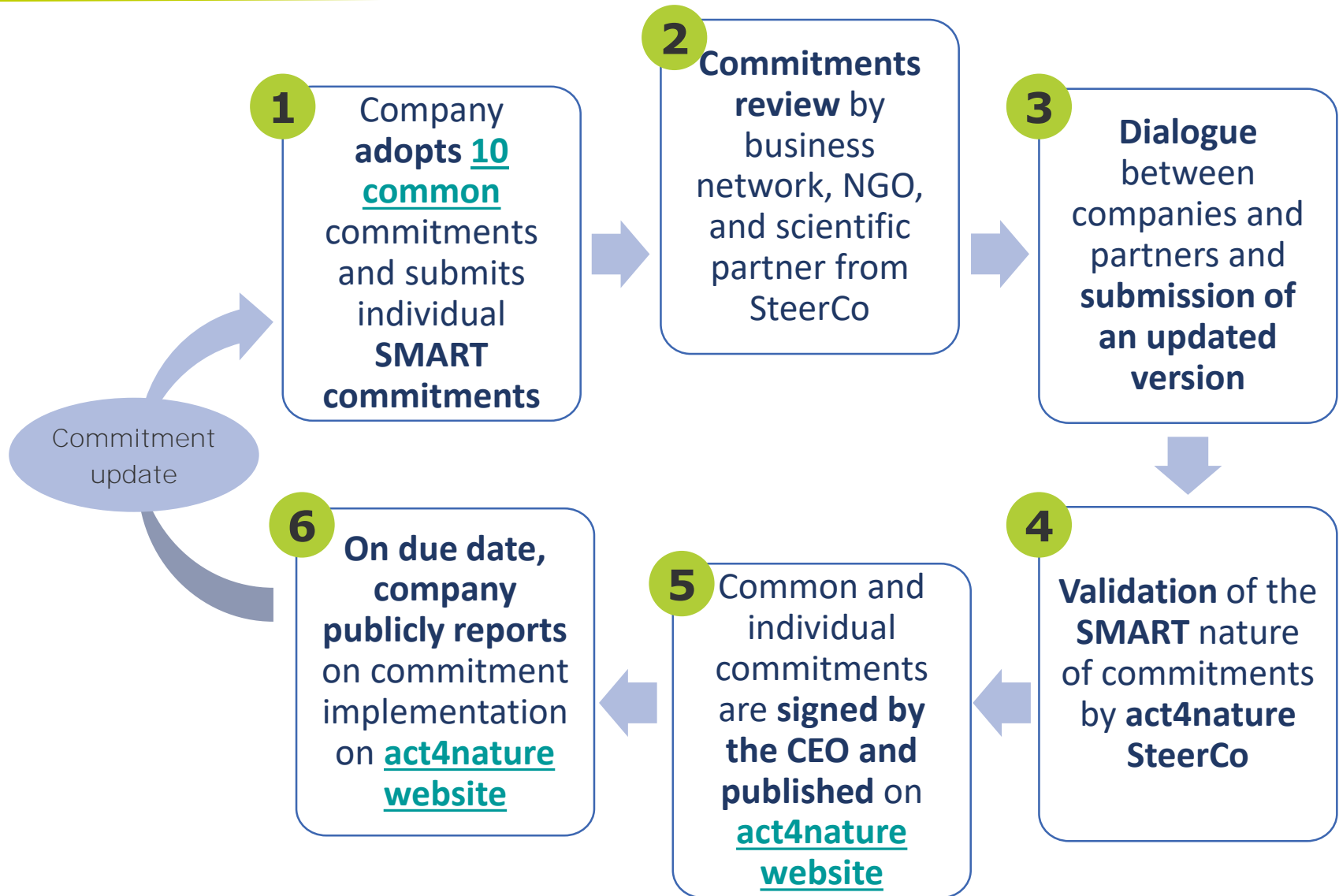


## Scientific partners



The SteerCo checks that:

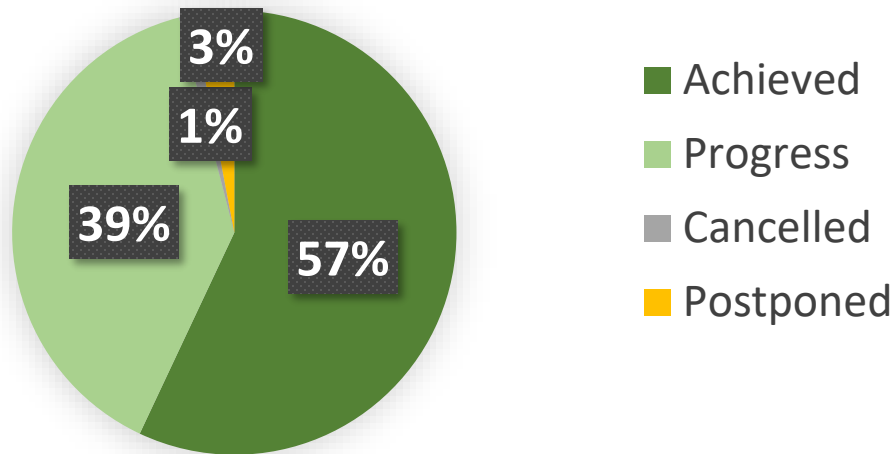
- commitments are **SMART**
- commitments are made on **core business** and **material issues** (relevant)
- actions are useful towards **nature-positive**



## The first cycle confirmed the relevance (2018-2020)

- Official launch in 2018 in the presence of **40** CEOs,
- 65** companies committed : **1850** bn€ turnover and **3,5M** employees
- Three years later, 57 [public reports](#) on 486 SMART commitments :

### 2018-2020 implementation review



- 96%** of commitments were achieved or showed progress
- 62%** of the information pertaining to the commitments implementation was audited

- [Implementation report](#) launched at IUCN World Conservation Congress
- Next 2020-22 implementation report to be published in fall 2023

# SMART commitments – examples



Reduce pressures on biodiversity caused by Solvay's activities by 30% by 2030



Implement ecological management plans for 100% sites by 2030



Implement the agroecological transition by supporting the adoption of regenerative agricultural practices on 1Mha by 2030



Integrate biodiversity criteria in ESG analysis and shareholder dialogue (material sectors) for 100% AuM engaged by 2023

➤ [Discover more](#)



## 67 companies committed as of 2023

+ 6 whose commitments are currently being reviewed



And others



**act4nature**  
international > 2021 > #act4nature

The preservation of biodiversity is one of the most important environmental challenges we face - and we must act now. At Solvay we've committed to reducing our pressure on biodiversity by 30% by 2030 in areas such as climate, soil acidification, water eutrophication and marine ecotoxicity. We want to be part of the solution!

**Ilham Kadri**  
CEO of Solvay



**act4nature**  
international > 2020 > #act4nature

Biodiversity loss is a major silent crisis of our century and has become an existential threat to our health and the resilience of our societies. In line with AXA's mission to protect people and businesses, we have to act now to safeguard and promote a balanced biodiversity.

**Thomas Buberl**  
CEO, AXA Group

- **A good way to start** (no judgment of maturity – iterative approach) and to act on metrics and targets set by the company
- **A way to enlist the whole company** (from CEO to local) and beyond (stakeholders)
- A framework to **integrate biodiversity in a company processes** and decisions and to build a credible internal roadmap
- A place for **constructive dialogue** with other businesses and stakeholders
- A support to the **dialogue with the financial community**
- An approach to **reduce the environmental footprint** and to anticipate future regulation

# Act4nature "swarm"

## Subsidiarity between national and sectoral schemes ~ >170 companies :

- **Act4nature international** for French companies with international presence;
- **Entreprises Engagées pour la Nature** (companies committed for nature) for French companies with national presence, led by the French Office for Biodiversity;
- **Act4nature Portugal** for Portuguese companies, led by BCSD-Portugal;
- **Transport4Nature** for network infrastructure companies based in Europe.

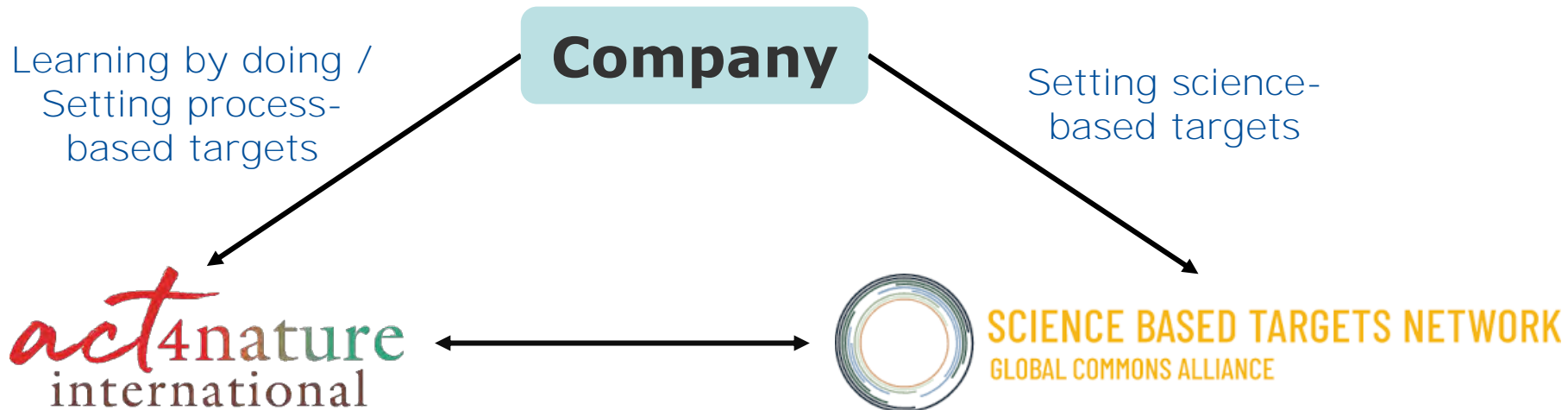


# Act4nature and TNFD

- Act4nature helps prepare several TNFD disclosure recommendations
- Act4nature strengthens the coherence of a company biodiversity approach.

TNFD Nature-related Disclosure Recommendations (v0.3)			
Governance	Strategy	Risk & Impact Management	Metrics & Targets
Disclose the organisation's governance around nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks & opportunities.	Disclose the actual and potential impacts of nature-related risks and opportunities on the organisation's businesses, strategy and financial planning where such information is material.	Disclose how the organisation identifies, assesses and manages nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.	Disclose the metrics and targets used to assess and manage relevant nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities where such information is material.
<b>Recommended Disclosures</b>	<b>Recommended Disclosures</b>	<b>Recommended Disclosures</b>	<b>Recommended Disclosures</b>
<p>A. Describe the board's oversight of nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p> <p>B. Describe management's role in assessing and managing nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p>	<p>A. Describe the nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities the organisation has identified over the short, medium, and long term.</p> <p>B. Describe the impact of nature-related risks and opportunities on the organisation's businesses, strategy, and financial planning.</p> <p>C. Describe the resilience of the organisation's strategy, taking into consideration different scenarios.</p> <p>D. Describe the organisation's interactions with low integrity ecosystems, high importance ecosystems or areas of water stress.</p>	<p>A. Describe the organisation's processes for identifying and assessing nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p> <p>B. Describe the organisation's processes for managing nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p> <p>C. Describe how processes for identifying, assessing, and managing nature-related risks are integrated into the organisation's overall risk management.</p> <p>D. Describe the organisation's approach to locate the sources of inputs used to create value that may generate nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p> <p>E. Describe how stakeholders, including rights-holders, are engaged by the organisation in its assessment and response to nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p>	<p>A. Disclose the metrics used by the organisation to assess and manage nature-related risks and opportunities in line with its strategy and risk management process.</p> <p>B. Disclose the metrics used by the organisation to assess and manage direct, upstream and, if appropriate, downstream dependencies and impacts on nature.</p> <p>C. Describe the targets used by the organisation to manage nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities and performance against targets.</p> <p>D. Describe how targets on nature and climate are aligned and contribute to each other, and any trade-offs.</p>

# Act4nature and SBTN : complementary tools



- Stakeholders **collective assessment** confirms the SMART nature of act4nature commitments.
- Complementarity confirmed by companies** involved in both schemes.
- Act4nature commitments will progressively align on SBTN** when possible.

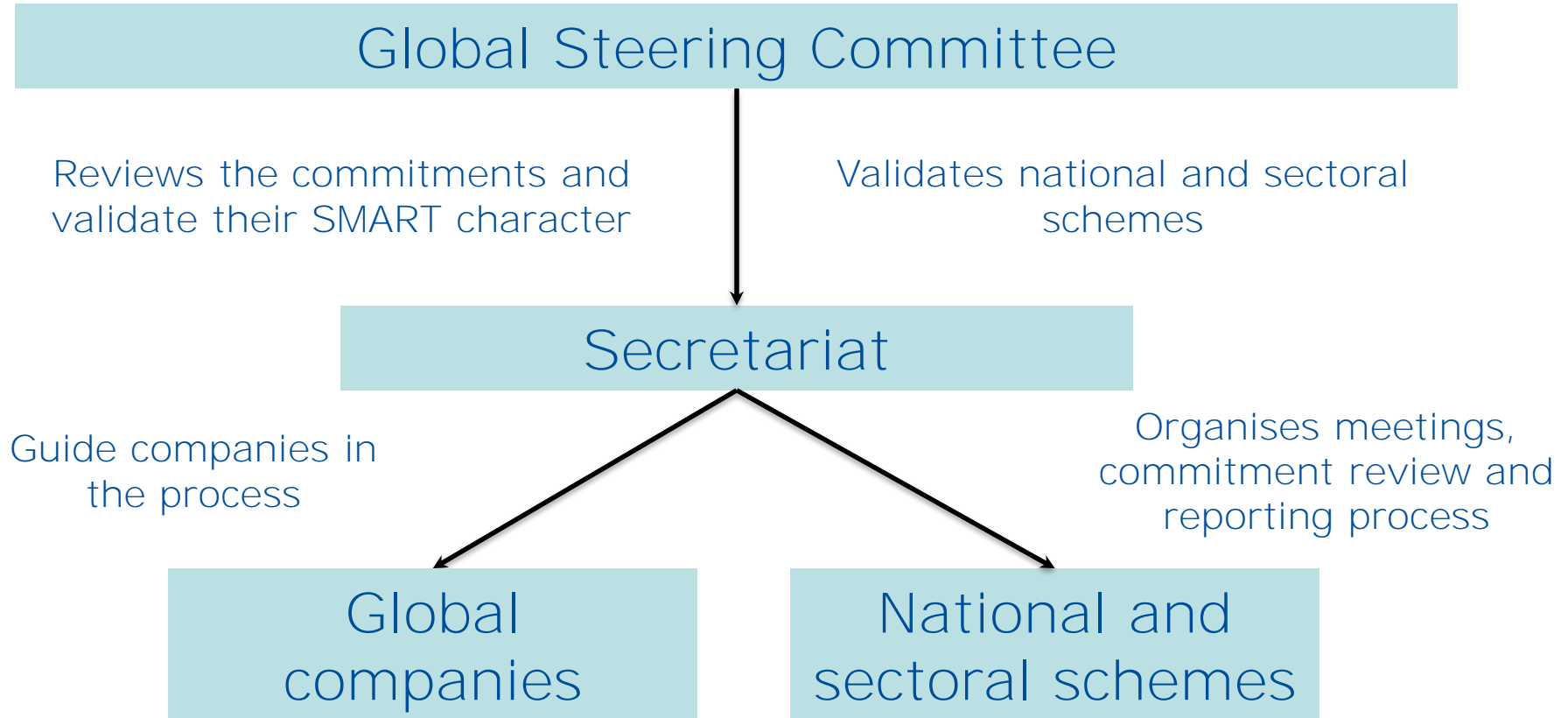
- An attractive, robust and proven concept used by many large corporates
- A CEO-level commitment, encouraging further appropriation of the topic at all levels
- **A response to today's needs:**
  - Pragmatic: company-driven, adapted to all maturity levels
  - Ambitious: addresses core business impacts
  - In line with nature-positive aspirations, thanks to collective Steerco judgement
- A complement or introduction to other approaches being prepared

**A tool to massify business action**

## Why and how evolve towards “global”?

- Increased pressure from civil society
  - Financial institutions need information
  - Increasing regulation
  - New standards
  - Need to scale-up pragmatic actions
- How to foster massive business action?

## Vision: making Act4nature global



- Subsidiarity principle
- Self-sustained business model funded by committing companies
- Dissensus within Steerco : tbd



➤ **Business networks**

- Biodiversity in Good Company
- Business for Nature
- Capitals Coalition
- EpE
- Finance for Biodiversity Pledge
- GPBB
- Institut de la Finance Durable
- TNFD
- UN Global Compact
- UNGC
- WBCSD
- We Mean Business
- ...

➤ **Public authorities**

- CBD ?
- ...

➤ **NGOs**

- CDP
- Conservation International
- Global Canopy
- IUCN
- The Nature Conservancy
- Wetlands International
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- World Economic Forum
- WWF
- ...

➤ **Scientific bodies**

- CISL-CLG Europe
- Future Earth
- iDiv
- IPBES/FRB
- UFZ
- WRI
- ...

# APPENDIX

- **Specific:** range of actions that are directly or indirectly linked with biodiversity.
- **Measurable:** possibility to monitor their implementation through indicators of direct and indirect impacts, risks and progress and to identify, monitor and evaluate the effects on the state of biodiversity and on the evolutions of stakeholder's behaviors.
- **Additional:** that goes beyond mere compliance with current legislation or regulation, but also beyond current and past actions of the company, and results in positive, significant, tangible, direct or indirect impacts on biodiversity without negative impacts.
- **Realistic:** consistent with the **company's** activities as a whole, be it in terms of avoiding and reducing negative impacts or implementing measures beneficial to biodiversity. The objectives are defined proportionally to the **company's** size, means and activities.
- **Time-bound:** the objectives and planned actions evolve and are incorporated in an ambition that is ratcheted up regularly, in order to improve the ecological performance of the company. It is a true program with an explicit duration and implementation dates.

## **What act4nature is not :**

- A definitive judgement on ambition
- A label or a certification
- A blind scoring and assessment tool
- An exhaustive materiality analysis
- A competitor to consultancies

# How to commit for the first time?

- 1) Send your commitments to [engagement@act4nature.com](mailto:engagement@act4nature.com) by **May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023**. They should :
  - Not exceed 2,500 characters, including spaces. Find many examples [HERE](#)
  - Meet the **SMART** criteria
  - Present the lessons learned from a **materiality analysis** to explain the commitments overall relevance
  - Respect the **comply or explain principle** : unless an explanation is provided, all common commitments should be covered in the individual commitments.
- 2) Plan to be able to **discuss your commitments** with act4nature partners and **update them** consequently
- 3) Once validated by the Steerco, plan to have your **CEO sign the common commitments and your individual commitments**
  - Participation to act4nature funding: **3k€ (excl. tax)** for a first commitment

# How to update your commitments?

- 1) Send your new commitments to [engagement@act4nature.com](mailto:engagement@act4nature.com) by **May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023**. They should :
  - Not exceed 2,500 characters, including spaces. Find many examples [HERE](#)
  - Meet the **SMART** criteria
  - Present the lessons learned from a **materiality analysis** to explain the commitments overall relevance
  - Respect the **comply or explain principle** : unless an explanation is provided, all common commitments should be covered in the individual commitments.
  - Explain the **articulation/progress** compared to former commitments
- 2) Plan to be able to **discuss your commitments** with act4nature partners and **update them** consequently
- 3) Once validated by the Steerco, plan to have your **CEO sign the common commitments and your individual commitments**
  - Participation to act4nature funding: **2k€ (excl. tax)** for a commitment update

## CONTACT

[engagement@act4nature.com](mailto:engagement@act4nature.com)