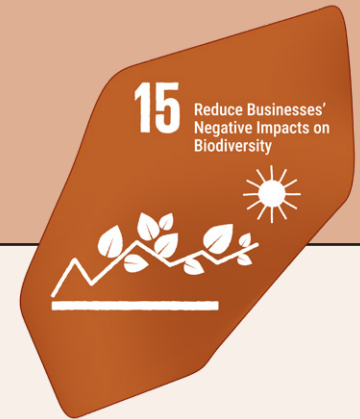


Target 15:

Businesses Assess, Disclose and Reduce Biodiversity-Related Risks and Negative Impacts



WHY THIS MATTERS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

This target aims to ensure that businesses and financial institutions are open about their impacts on nature, reduce the harm they are causing, and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights by involving them in decisions and accountability processes.

Businesses and financial institutions strongly influence economies and society, and their activities can have positive or negative impacts on both nature and on Indigenous Peoples. Because many Indigenous Peoples live in biodiverse areas and depend on nature for their livelihoods, culture and wellbeing, business impacts on nature often also directly affect Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Indigenous Peoples already play an important role by monitoring and documenting harmful business activities.

This target requires states to take measures to encourage and enable businesses and financial institutions to measure, disclose and reduce their impacts on nature. Where businesses are transparent about these impacts, it can also reveal how their activities affect Indigenous Peoples, creating opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to seek accountability, dialogue and redress. Transparency around benefit-sharing can also improve accountability related to the access and use of Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge related to biodiversity. However, the amount of information that businesses measure and publish about their impact on nature will depend on the policies of each state.

Indigenous Peoples already play an important role by monitoring and documenting harmful business activities. Their efforts contribute to this target, as they help verify business reports and fill gaps where companies and governments fail to act.

The meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples in business, environmental and social assessments can further strengthen these processes and ensure that Indigenous rights, knowledge and perspectives are properly respected.



SOME QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Are Indigenous Peoples able to access information about business impacts? How effective are laws and policies?

Are businesses integrating consideration of impacts on Indigenous Peoples into their reporting?

Are businesses considering impacts on both men and women?

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Sluicer pumping untreated water into an abandoned mine pit. Marudi Mine, South Rupununi, Guyana. Credit: Vicki Brown, FPP



OFFICIAL CBD TARGET TEXT

Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions:

- (a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios;
- (b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;
- (c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable; in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.