



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

for the project:

Staying within Sustainable Limits: Advancing leadership of the private sector and cities

FY22

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Executing Partners



Project Information			
Project Title:	Staying within Sustainable Limits: Advancing leadership of the private sector and cities		
Country(ies):	Global	GEF ID:	10309
GEF Agency(ies):	Conservation International	Duration In Months:	37 months
Executing Agency(ies):	RDA IUCN	Actual Implementation Start Date:	10/01/2019
GEF Focal Area(s):	MFAc	Expected Project Completion Date:	12/31/2022
GEF Grant Amount:	\$2,000,000	Expected Financial Closure Date:	06/30/2023
Expected Co-financing:	\$4,213,517	Date of Last Steering Committee Meeting:	06/9/2021
Co-financing Realized as of June 30, 2022:	\$6,188,222	Mid-Term Review-Planned Date:	N/A
Date of First Disbursement:	10/01/2019	Mid-Term Review-Actual Date:	N/A
Cumulative disbursement as of June 30, 2022:	\$1,642,019	Terminal Evaluation-Planned Date:	10/01/2022
PIR Prepared by:	Heather Grady, Elizabeth Droggitis, Nicholas Macfarlane, Kaia Boe, Randall Jimenez	Terminal Evaluation-Actual Date:	TBD
CI-GEF Project Manager:	Free de Koning	CI-GEF Finance Lead:	Susana Escudero

Minor Amendment Categories	Minor Amendment Justification
	Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5%. Please select the box that is most applicable for FY22 and include an explanation for the minor amendment request.
Results framework <input type="checkbox"/>	
Components and cost <input type="checkbox"/>	
Institutional and implementation arrangements <input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial management <input type="checkbox"/>	
Implementation schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	During the previous fiscal year, a no-cost extension of the period of performance through Sept 30, 2022 (a 13-month extension) was approved due to the impacts of COVID-19.
Executing Entity <input type="checkbox"/>	
Executing Entity Category <input type="checkbox"/>	
Minor project objective change <input type="checkbox"/>	
Safeguards <input type="checkbox"/>	
Risk analysis <input type="checkbox"/>	

Increase of GEF project financing up to 5% <input type="checkbox"/>	
Co-financing <input type="checkbox"/>	
Location of project activity <input type="checkbox"/>	
Other <input type="checkbox"/>	

MINOR AMENDMENT RESPONSE FROM CI-GEF

A no-cost extension was approved during the previous fiscal year

The CI-GEF Project Agency Project Implementation Report (PIR) is composed of six sections:

- Section I: Project Implementation Progress Status Summary:** provides a brief summary of the project as well as the implementation status and rating of the previous and current fiscal years;
- Section II: Project Results Implementation Progress Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance, when needed;
- Section III: Project Risks Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards managing and mitigating project risks, the project risks mitigation rating reassessment as needed, as well as recommendations to improve the management of project risks;
- Section IV: Project Environmental and Social Safeguards Implementation Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards complying with the Environmental & Social Safeguards and the Plans prepared during the PPG phase, the safeguard plans implementation rating, as well as recommendations to improve the project safeguards;
- Section V: Project Implementation Experiences and Lessons Learned:** describes the experiences learned by the project managers and the lessons learned through the process of implementing the project; and
- Section VI: Project Geocoding:** documents the precise and specific geographic location(s) of activities supported by GEF investments based on information available in project documentation

SECTION I: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS SUMMARY

PROJECT SUMMARY

Objective: To demonstrate a path for companies and cities to adopt robust science-based targets to sustain Earth's biodiversity, land systems, and influence all of society to safeguard our global commons.

The project consists of three key and overlapping elements.

- An Earth Commission, consisting of world-leading scientists, will synthesize current science to define boundary conditions for a stable and resilient Earth system to support and guide the establishment of science-based targets. Many important global assessments have been performed, e.g. on climate and biodiversity, but this is the first major attempt to take a full Earth systems approach, taking into account the interlinkages between different subsystems. The core objective of the Earth Commission is to provide a state-of-the-art synthesis of the quantitative boundary conditions for the processes and systems that regulate the stability and resilience of the Earth system, securing continued functioning life support systems (e.g., for water, land, oceans, and biodiversity). Importantly, the Earth Commission also integrates social sciences to integrate socio-economic aspects, to define just targets, and identify levers for transformation.
- A Science-Based Targets Network will coordinate the translation of global science into entity-specific targets for uptake by specific companies and cities. The development of these entity-specific targets will be undertaken by issue hubs that focus on target development for climate, biodiversity, land, oceans, freshwater, and cities. This project will focus on the development and early identification of these targets.
- A Global Commons Alliance (GCA) mobilization effort led primarily by Earth HQ will promote the further adoption of these targets by other sectors and cities, such that a critical mass of effort becomes focused on actions that will ensure the sustainability of Earth systems.

PRIOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

Component 1 (Earth Commission – EC):

The focus of project implementation for FY21 in Component 1 was to advance the synthesis of current science to underpin target setting cities, companies, and other actors, which would be carried out through the Science-Based Targets Network and complemented by work of other parts of the GCA. As of June 2021, the work was well underway with five working groups established (WG1: modeling; WG2: biosphere interactions; WG3: nutrients and pollution; WG4: transformations; WG5: translation and methods), in which Earth Commissioners and invited scientists and other knowledge partners were synthesizing the current science to define and identify a safe and just corridor for people and the planet to underpin the setting of science-based targets. The Commission's conceptual framework was published in a peer-reviewed journal (*Earth's Future*). The first outputs of the Biosphere WG, published in *Science*, were reported to and had a substantial impact on the Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD). During the year, the Commission strengthened its focus on justice and socio-economic dimensions and is now not only defining targets that are "safe" for the planet but also "just" for people.

Component 2 (Science Based Targets Network – SBTN):

The focus of project implementation for FY21 has been on providing initial corporate guidance on science-based targets for nature, and corresponding corporate engagement to ready companies for SBT setting and for participatory input into the design process. SBTN continues as a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors with an engaged Advisory Council and a strong network of over 45 partners. Work is underway on translating global science into entity-specific targets for uptake by specific companies and cities. Issue hubs are working on methods, cross-cutting work is proceeding, outreach to early adopter end-users (companies and to a lesser extent cities) is underway, and initial corporate guidance for science-based targets for nature has been issued. Awareness and demand for SBTN products are growing, and stakeholders are referring to SBTN as the authoritative source for corporate SBTs (e.g., references in TNFD technical scope.)

Component 3 (IUCN):

The focus of the project for FY21 in Component 3 was developing and publishing the methods paper for science-based targets for species biodiversity along with an accompanying communications campaign. Regarding the publication of papers, the main methods paper is being published in FY21, and other papers extending the method and applying it in different pilot testing contexts have been published recently in FY22. Guidance documents and workshops about science-based targets for species biodiversity for companies and organizations have been developed and it has been very well received.

Component 4 (Earth HQ):

The focus of this component is communicating to create understanding and support of the concept of global commons, with a particular focus on media. Earth HQ was established as a sponsored project of RPA, an Advisory Council is actively engaged, a website is established and evolving, communications products are in use, an Earth Dashboard is in development, and partnerships have been established with key partners to help reach crucial audiences from policymakers to the millennial (24-35 years) population.

CURRENT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY22)

Component 1 (Earth Commission)

The mission for FY22 has been to finalize the main reports, to underpin SBTs for the Global Commons. Despite COVID, the work has been successful and two main publications were submitted for peer-review in high impact journals in June 2022, one synthesis paper, and one more comprehensive report. Safe and just Earth System Boundaries (ESBs) have been defined for climate, biosphere (area of intact natural ecosystems and functional integrity), nutrients, freshwater, and air pollution, that create the ceiling of the safe and just corridor. In addition, minimum access levels for all people have been defined as the foundation of the corridor. Furthermore, methods to translate the ESBs to local actors have been reviewed, and the levers for transformations have been assessed. The two main publications are supported by at least five additional papers, led by the different working groups, already under review or soon to be submitted. EC and staff contributed to the Nature Newsroom at COP27 and engaged actively with policymakers to raise the ambition at the UN event Stockholm+50. The launch of the EC assessment is now being prepared, in collaboration with SBTN and other GCA components. After two years of online collaboration, the Earth Commission and staff met in the Netherlands in April 2022, an important step towards finalizing the reports.

Component 2 (Science Based Targets Network – SBTN)

The focus of project implementation for FY22 has been on continuing to provide initial corporate guidance on science-based targets for nature, and corresponding corporate engagement to ready companies for SBT setting and for participatory input into the design process. SBTN continues as a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors with an engaged Advisory Council and a strong network of over 50+ partners. Work is underway on translating global science into entity-specific targets for uptake by specific companies and cities. Issue hubs are working on methods, cross-cutting work is proceeding, outreach to early adopter end-users (companies and to a lesser extent cities) is underway. Awareness and demand for SBTN products continues to grow, and stakeholders are referring to SBTN as the authoritative source for corporate SBTs (e.g., references in TNFD technical scope.) After years of collaborating virtually due to COVID-19, the SBTN Network Hub was able to meet in April 2022 for a multi-day team workshop in Washington DC to devise a Minimum Viable Product roadmap on SBTs for nature. This MVP will be inclusive of the water hub's first methods + the land hub's MVP with biodiversity integrated therein. SBTN is aiming to deliver this by Q1 2023.

Component 3 (IUCN):

The effort of the project implementation for FY22 has been launching the science-based targets for biodiversity methods in IBAT at the World Conservation Congress(WCC) and starting pilot testing from companies and organizations. Despite the significant COVID impacts delaying WCC and CBD COP15, the demand from companies and cities is high, and there is great excitement for the continuous development of the STAR methodology. Since WCC on September 2021 STAR reports on IBAT have been generated for more than 1500 sites around the world by 374 companies and organizations. As part of the pilot testing, these companies and organizations have also provided feedback. This continued implementation has led to several publications both peer reviewed and more general. The proposed work will be complete by September 30th, 2022.

Component 4 (Earth HQ):

The focus of the implementation effort in FY22 was to create public engagement and support for the global commons, with a particular focus on media partnerships:

- 1. NowThis Earth:** Since launching September 28, 2020, [NowThis Earth](#) has reached over 550 million people (millennials and Gen XYZ) and produced over 700 original stories, with over 50% of stories featuring diverse voices, Global South perspectives, indigenous voices and disadvantaged groups.
- 2. Partnership with Climate Champions, Eurovision News and N4C to Launch the Nature Zone & Nature's Newsroom at COP26 and COP27:** Earth HQ is implementing the GCA/N4C Nature Zone partnership with leading nature-based science orgs like TNC, CI, WWF, EDF, IUCN, GEF to drive Nature Positive solutions at COP27, COP15, COP27.
- 3. Virtual Earth Dashboard, Situation Room For The Planet:** In December 2021 Earth HQ launched a new 'virtual Earth' version of the Earth Dashboard in partnership with WRI and Null School Earth, with dozens of near-real time data visualizations and daily reporting on extreme events.
- 4. Mongabay 'Planetary Boundaries' Special Reporting Project:** Mongabay's network of over 800 reporters in 80 countries are a core GCA media partner helping to implement GCA's 'mindset shift'. Through a series of 'Special Reporting Projects' with Earth HQ, Mongabay's superb in depth and investigative reporting includes:
 - conveyed the latest GCA science in their ['Planetary Boundaries' series](#).
 - featured in-depth interviews with GCA leaders in the series: ['Finding Common Ground'](#)
 - provides daily [extreme event coverage for the Earth Dashboard](#)
 - features frequent, in-depth voices and solutions from experts and activists from the Global South, indigenous leaders and disadvantaged groups who are often most impacted by the climate/nature crisis.

SUMMARY: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY21IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY22 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING ¹	RATING TREND ²
OBJECTIVE	S	S	Unchanged
COMPONENTS AND OUTCOMES	MS	S	Increasing
ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	HS	S	Decreasing

PROJECT RISK RATING³

RISKS	S	M	Decreasing
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¹ **Implementation Progress (IP) Rating:** Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). For more details about IP rating, please see the Appendix I of this report

² **Rating trend:** Improving, Unchanged, or Decreasing

³ **Risk Rating:** Low (L), Moderate (M), Substantial (S), High (H)

SECTION II: PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS AND RATING

This section describes the progress made since the start of the project towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation progress rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance. This section is composed four parts:

- Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective: this section measures the likelihood of achieving the objective of the project
- Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component)
- Overall Project Results Progress Rating, and
- Recommendations for improvement

a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective:

This section of the report assesses the progress in achieving the objective of the project.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:	To demonstrate a path for companies and cities to adopt robust science-based targets to sustain Earth's biodiversity and land systems, and influence all of society to safeguard our global commons.		
OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator a: A credible, widely respected, and diverse Global Commons Alliance consisting of an Earth Commission, a Science-Based Targets Network, Issue Hubs, and communications outreach recognized by the planetary science community are funded and functioning.	The Global Commons Alliance and its constituents are funded and functioning.	CA	Each component with funding from GEF and other matching funders has continued to thrive and deepen the work, representing an Alliance that has growing credibility and respect from a wide range of partners.
Indicator b: # of Earth Commission manuscripts to underpin the development of science-based targets submitted for peer-review.	4 manuscripts published, 7 under review (and several additional papers to be submitted shortly)	CA	<p>Published: Díaz et al. 2020, <i>Set ambitious goals for biodiversity and sustainability</i>. Science. (paper led by the Earth Commission Biosphere WG experts): https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.abe1530</p> <p>Rockström et al., 2021 – Identifying a Safe and Just Corridor for People and the Planet (Conceptual framework paper). Earth's Future. https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1029/2020EF001866</p>

⁴ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
			<p>Rockström et al., 2021, <i>Stockholm to Stockholm: Achieving a safe Earth requires goals that incorporate a just approach</i>. One Earth. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2021.08.012</p> <p>Gupta et al., 2022 <i>Reconciling safe planetary targets and planetary justice: Why should social scientists engage with planetary targets?</i> Earth System Governance. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.esg.2021.100122</p> <p>Submitted: Rockström et al., <i>Safe and just Earth system boundaries</i> (main synthesis paper, submitted to Nature)</p> <p>Gupta et al., <i>Earth system boundaries, translation and transformations for a just world on a safe planet</i> (main report, 60+ co-authors, submitted to Lancet Planetary Health)</p> <p>Gupta et al., <i>Conceptualizing Earth system justice</i> (paper outlining the justice framework underpinning “just ESBs”, led by the Transformations WG, submitted to Nature Sustainability in June 2022)</p> <p>Rammelt et al., <i>Impacts of Meeting Minimum Access on Critical Earth Systems amidst the Great Inequality</i> (submitted to Nature Sustainability April 2022, pre-print: https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/tj2d3)</p> <p>Lenton et al., <i>Quantifying the Human Cost of Global Warming</i> (submitted to Nature, pre-print https://biorxiv.org/cgi/content/short/2022.06.07.495131v1)</p> <p>Armstrong McKay et al., <i>Updated assessment suggests >1.5°C global warming could trigger multiple climate tipping points</i> (submitted to Science, pre-print: https://doi.org/10.1002/essoar.10509769.1)</p> <p>Bai et al., <i>Linking Earth system boundaries to cities and businesses</i> (Commentary, led by WG5, submitted to Nature)</p>
Indicator c: # of peer-reviewed science-based target methodologies for corporate	3 manuscripts published, one under review in a peer-reviewed journal	CA	The Earth Commission reached an important milestone in June 2022 having submitted two manuscripts for peer-review in two high-impact journals, in which the outcomes from the first assessment are presented.

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
and government adoption developed and published.			<p>These include 1) the identification of priority Earth system domains and quantification ‘safe’ and ‘no significant harm’ of Earth system boundaries, 2) estimations of minimum levels of ‘access’ to resources for a dignified life for all, to define a ‘safe and just corridor’ for people and planet, 3) an overview of transformations needed to bring societies into this safe and just corridor, and 4) an overview of approaches for cross-scale translation of Earth system boundaries to guide action by cities, corporations and other key actors. Additional manuscripts supporting the two main syntheses and providing more detailed analyses into specific aspects of the five working groups have also been submitted for peer review, many of them as part of a planned portfolio with the journal Nature.</p> <p>Published</p> <p>Mair et al., 2021. A metric for spatially explicit contributions to science-based species targets. <i>Nature Ecology and Evolution</i>. https://rdcu.be/cikbh</p> <p>In addition, two papers published extending the method and applying it in different pilot testing contexts:</p> <p>Irwin, A., Geschke, A., Brooks, T.M. <i>et al.</i> Quantifying and categorizing national extinction-risk footprints. <i>Sci Rep</i> 12, 5861 (2022). https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-09827-0</p> <p>Chaudhary, W., Mair, L., Strassburgh, B.B.N. <i>et al.</i> Sub-national assessment of threats to Indian biodiversity and habitat restoration opportunities. <i>Env. Res. Let.</i> 17 (2022). https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ac5d99</p> <p>IUCN guidance documents of STAR methodology (Business User Guidance and Industry Briefing Note) were prepared by following consultations and published in the IBAT repository. https://www.ibat-alliance.org/star?locale=en</p> <p>Under Review</p> <p>Mair et al., (under review). Quantifying and mapping species threat abatement opportunities to support national target-setting.</p>
Indicator d: # of globally recognized companies and/or cities of greater than 500K	Underway with the no-cost extension and expected to be complete (and overachieved) by project close. To date over 130 companies,	IS	There has been a strong interest from the private sector in applying the methods developed after the launch of the methodology in IBAT at the IUCN World Conservation Congress. Since September 2021 science-based

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
inhabitants that have adopted science-based targets for land and/or biodiversity.	consultancies and industry coalitions have joined the SBTN Corporate Engagement Program. All are engaging on land, i.e., for all these companies land is a material resource.		<p>targets for species biodiversity reports have been generated for a total of 1503 sites around the world by 374 companies and organizations. As part of the pilot testing, these companies and organizations have also completed a feedback survey, which has continued development. Methods developed under Output 3.1.1 are being incorporated into the new Contributions for Nature platform serving IUCN's membership (including the new Membership category of cities and subnational governments)</p> <p>To date over 130 companies, consultancies and industry coalitions have joined the SBTN Corporate Engagement Program. All are engaging on land, i.e., for all these companies land is a material resource.</p>

OBJECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION
S	The Global Commons Alliance is now funded and functioning. A large number (11) of Earth Commission scientific articles have been submitted, several of which are already published. This includes articles in high impact journals. Furthermore, 4 papers on science-based target methodologies for corporate and government adoption were developed and submitted, 3 of which have already been published. Engagement with companies and cities has made progress. To date, over 130 companies, consultancies, and industry coalitions have joined the SBTN Corporate Engagement Program. They are all engaging on a SBT for land.

b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component).

This part of the report assesses the progress towards achieving the outcomes of the project.

COMPONENT 1	Earth Commission
Outcome 1.1:	The Earth Commission has synthesized current science to underpin target setting for intergovernmental fora, cities, companies, and other actors through the Science-Based Targets Network.
Outcome 1.2:	Scientific and non-scientific female and male audiences are informed of the initial findings of the first synthesis report.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 1.1.1: Manuscript of synthesis reports to underpin the	1 synthesis report	Synthesis paper and report submitted for peer review by	CA	A synthesis paper and a comprehensive report have been submitted, outlining safe and just Earth system boundaries, transformations and methods for translation to companies and cities (see above). In addition,

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁵	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
development of science-based targets submitted for peer review.	submitted for peer review.	Nature and Lancet Planetary Health. Five supporting papers have been submitted for peer-review, see above.		more than 10 supporting papers led by the different working groups are planned. Five of those have already been submitted for peer-review, see above.
Outcome indicator 1.2.1: Number of communications materials produced.	At least 5 different communications materials produced, tailored for both female and male audiences.	Communications materials have been produced that include amplification of the published papers, the website earthcommission.org has been regularly updated, and several presentations have been held to partner organizations, scientific audiences and to policymakers.	CA	The ongoing Earth Commission work has been communicated to scientific and other audiences to prepare for impact and uptake when the main reports/papers are published. 7 publications have been submitted. Over a dozen articles and short videos have been published on the web (see earthcommission.org) and promoted on social media. Presentations at international venues include the UN event Stockholm +50 , the SRI2022 conference and GCA partner meetings (“situation room”). A successful discussion series on tipping points , led by the ECs modelling working group, with 9 webinars reaching hundreds of scientists each. In addition, regular online and in person meetings have been held with SBTN representatives, and EC comms professionals have contributed to GCA wide communications efforts.

COMPONENT 1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	Good progress was made with publications, overachieving the target for outcome 1.1. Extensive communication activities have taken place.	Increasing

COMPONENT 2	Science-Based Targets Network and Science-Based Targets for Land
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Outcome 2.1:	A Science-Based Targets Network balanced by expertise, gender, and geography is established and funded.
Outcome 2.2:	First of three targets for science-based targets or land developed and adopted via a “Land Hub.”
Outcome 2.3:	Globally recognized companies pledge to adopt science-based targets for land.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator 2.1.1: Number of science-based targets networks created.	1 Science-Based Targets Network	1 Science-Based Targets Network Established.	CA	SBTN up and running.
Indicator 2.2.1: Number of Land SBT.	1 land-based science-based target focused on zero-conversion natural habitat.	Completed	CA	Staff engaged in the drafting process and reviewing the Interim Guidance for SBTN including aligning with the Deforestation agenda, submissions to the transform and restore section leads.
Indicator 2.3.1: Number of companies (on land and more broadly) [that pledge to adopt specific science-based targets for land]	At least 5 globally recognized companies.	131	CA	To date over 130 companies, consultancies and industry coalitions have joined the SBTN Corporate Engagement Program. All are engaging on land (material for all).

COMPONENT 2 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	The Science-Based Targets Network has been established. The project overachieved outcome 2.3, as to date over 130 companies, consultancies and industry coalitions have joined the SBTN Corporate Engagement Program	Unchanged

This part of the report assesses the progress towards achieving the outcomes of the project.

COMPONENT 3	Science-Based Targets for Biodiversity
Outcome 1:	A legitimate and credible methodology for the assessment of specific science-based targets for biodiversity is established.
Outcome 2:	Globally recognized companies and/or cities pledge to adopt specific science-based targets for biodiversity

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 3.1.1.: Number of science-based target methodology peer- reviewed and published.	1 methodology	1 methods paper published in Nature Ecology and Evolution on April 8 2021. In addition, two papers were published extending the method and applying it in different pilot testing contexts. Published guidance documents and other explanatory material available through the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT). https://www.ibat-alliance.org/star	CA	Completed in FY21 Mair et al., methods paper published, methodology established and available as a resource. https://rdcu.be/cikbh In addition, two papers were just published extending the method and applying it in different pilot testing contexts: Irwin, A., Geschke, A., Brooks, T.M. <i>et al.</i> Quantifying and categorising national extinction-risk footprints. <i>Sci Rep</i> 12 , 5861 (2022). https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-09827-0 Chaudhary, W., Mair, L., Strassburgh, B.B.N. <i>et al.</i> Sub-national assessment of threats to Indian biodiversity and habitat restoration opportunities. <i>Env. Res. Let.</i> 17 (2022). https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ac5d99 Published guidance documents and other explanatory material through the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT). https://www.ibat-alliance.org/star
Outcome indicator 3.2.1: Number of globally recognized companies a/o cities of more than 500K inhabitants adopting science-based targets for biodiversity.	At least five globally recognized companies and/or cities of greater than 500K inhabitants.	Underway and anticipating superseding the project indicator target by September 30, 2022	IS	Piloting underway with private sector end-users. There has been a strong interest from private sector applying the methods developed after the launch of the methodology in IBAT at the IUCN World Conservation Congress. Since September 2021, STAR reports have been generated for a total of 1503 sites around the world by 374 companies and organizations. As part of the pilot testing, these companies and organizations have also completed a feedback survey, which has continued development. Methods developed under Output 3.1.1 are being incorporated into the new Contributions for Nature platform serving IUCN's

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁶	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				membership (including the new category of cities and subnational governments).

COMPONENT 3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	Under outcome 1, additional to the methods paper in <i>Nature Ecology and Evolution</i> , two papers were published extending the method and applying it in different pilot testing contexts. All information is available on the IBAT site.	Increasing

COMPONENT 4	Global Commons Alliance Mobilization - Earth HQ
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Outcome 4.1:	Understanding and support of Global Commons concept and related Global Commons Alliance is substantially increased across numerous audiences worldwide.
Outcome 4.2:	Demand from key influencers, companies, cities, and government to join the Global Commons Alliance as a global solution to sustaining Earth's biodiversity and life support systems substantially increased.

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ⁷	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator 4.1.1: Number of alliances established for the development and promotion of science-based targets.	1 Earth HQ	Earth HQ established and operating.	CA	Executive Director, Advisory Council, legal status, consultants and contractors in place.
Indicator 4.2.1: Number of globally recognized champions (companies/cities) promoting GCA targets.	At least 100 organizations	Target exceeded.	CA	SBTN Corporate Engagement Platform includes more than 100 companies. 12 cities deeply engaged in the SBTs for cities workshopping. These are in addition to the 50+ partner organizations which champion SBTN's work.
Indicator 4.2.2: Number of media partners	At least 10 media partners	11	CA	Now This, Vox, Mongabay, TED Countdown, Earth X, Discovery, Oprah Winfrey, Science Channel, Netflix, Eurovision, and We Don't Have Time are important media partners on board.

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supporting the Earth HQ network.				
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COMPONENT 4 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	Earth HQ is established and operating. Targets for outcome 4.2 have been exceeded,	Unchanged

c. Overall Project Results Rating

OVERALL PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION RATING

OVERALL RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND ⁸
S	During FY23, the project has made good process across all components. Several indicators in components 1 and 2 overachieve the targets, especially related to publications. Under component 3, engagement with companies for adoption of biodiversity targets is ongoing and the target for that outcome is expected to be overachieved. Component 4 achieved all of its outcomes.	Increasing

d. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
N/A	N/A	N/A

⁸ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

SECTION III: PROJECT RISKS STATUS AND RATING

a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation Plan

This section describes the activities implemented to manage and reduce high, substantial, modest, and low risks of the project. This section has three parts:

- a. Ratings for the progress towards implementing measures to mitigate project risks and a project risks annual reassessment
- b. Recommendations for improving project risks management

Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation and Plan Project Risks Annual Reassessment

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
Risk 1: Academia	<p>Academia buy-in and understanding of the target-setting process and the resulting targets will be essential for the uptake of targets. In addition to being part of the Earth Commission and the Network, academia will play a key role in the peer-review process of both entities.</p> <p>Academia is included as a part of the Earth Commission and the working groups, and playing a key role in the peer-review process. Ongoing engagement with academics in development and revision of the biodiversity methods paper.</p> <p>There will be ongoing engagement with these groups, as they will very likely</p>	<p>EC members are academic scientists; as well as working group members and staff; several academic institutions are involved in this work.</p> <p>Academia is being updated by IUCN, and input into work is being sought at all levels.</p> <p>Ongoing engagement continues on schedule.</p>	IS	<p>EC: The work of the EC has been presented at several scientific conferences and in papers published ahead of the launch of the main reports. The large number of scientists directly involved in this work, as well as the scientific peer review process decreases this risk.</p> <p>IUCN: Uptake and engagement from academia have been positive for both development and implementation. Academics extensively involved in presentations at the World Conservation Congress and follow up publications.</p> <p>Uptake and engagement from academia have been positive, leading us to decrease the risk rating.</p>	Medium	Low	Decreasing

⁹ **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

¹⁰ **Rating trend**: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
	<p>serve on advisory panels or as members of the Earth Commission and the Science-Based Targets Network. They will be engaged in the peer-review process.</p> <p>Engage with academia from the onset of the project to orient them to the project and seek their guidance for the peer review process.</p>			SBTN Issue Hubs continue to have academic input, through participation in Hubs' work and presentations to academia.			
Risk 2: Media	The GCA will engage the media as a part of its branding and outreach efforts. Once key targets are developed, media will be engaged to help disseminate and promote targets and the GCA.	Media has been engaged when the EC has published papers and in several other GCA activities.	CA	Media is increasingly important in the work of the GCA, and we are trying to garner more resources for earlier and fuller outreach, including to millennials. School children are now also included as target audiences for GCA scientific outreach and messaging, including an arts-based project on nature and the global commons.	Medium	Low	Decreasing
Risk 3: Local governments and cities	Early engagement with key actors in companies and cities for assessing the demand, raising awareness on the applicability and benefits of targets, and building support and commitment towards applying them.	Early engagement ongoing through a variety of different outreach mechanisms across the GCA.	CA	Early engagement ongoing through a variety of different outreach mechanisms across the GCA. EC has been interacting with the Swedish government as hosts of the Stockholm+50 UN Summit to raise the awareness of the need for safe and just boundaries/targets for the global commons.	Low/ Modest	Low/ Modest	Unchanged
Risk 4: Private sector –	IUCN follows its <u>Operational Guidelines on Business</u>	Implementation is ongoing for all private	IS	The IUCN operational guidelines on business	Low	Low	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
conflict of interest	<u>Engagement</u> , including a rigorous risk and opportunities assessment with mitigating actions. Conflicts of interest would be assessed in this process.	sector entities involved in component 3 during the development of science-based targets for species biodiversity		engagement are being applied and will continue to be applied. SBTN has terms of reference as guidelines for corporate sector participation in the SBTN Corporate Engagement Program.			
Risk 5: Engaging with youth, indigenous groups and faith-based communities is challenging for different, mostly practical, reasons given the relatively short timeframe of project implementation	IUCN's has in house experts on indigenous issues as well as opportunities to engage expert IUCN Commission members, including indigenous peoples. The project team, IUCN Commissions, and IUCN Members will be important in facilitating interactions around this work for various stakeholders, including youth, indigenous peoples, and faith-based communities at events such as the World Conservation Congress.	Continue to draw on IUCN's in-house experts as necessary.	IS	IUCN's in-house experts continued to be resources, particularly during the planning of the World Conservation Congress which was held in September 2021. At the Stockholm +50 event, co-chairs Johan Rockström and Joyeeta Gupta took part in a broadcast by "We Don't Have Time" together with a youth activist.	Low	Low	Unchanged
Risk 6: Social and traditional media outreach efforts may be drowned out by other events or fail to garner enough attention.	IUCN will consult with its Global Communications Unit in strategic timing and presenting of the outcomes (publications) for component 3.	Conversations undertaken after the publication of papers Guidance Documents prepared and consultations are undertaken to publish and communicate these. Media outreach around methods	IS	Mitigation measures for this risk undertaken following publications.	modest	modest	unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
		<p>publication accompanied with effective communications campaign.</p> <p>EC has hired a Communications Director and a Communications officer (funded by another grant) to ensure efficient media outreach. We are also collaborating closely with Earth HQ and the GCA communications team.</p>					
Risk 7: Engagement and ownership of the initiative remaining mainly in the "global North" and risk of drawing criticism from "global South" countries.	<p>Strive to capture diverse perspectives in the review of publications, including through engagement with IUCN Commission members from the "global South".</p>	<p>EC and WG members and staff are from all over the world. This issue is also addressed in the work on setting just boundaries – ensuring harm is avoided and access to resources are distributed to all.</p> <p>Authors of methods paper and drivers of pilot testing in Component 3 are from all over the world.</p>	IS	<p>Authors of methods paper and drivers of pilot testing in component 3 are from all over the world.</p>	Low	low	unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING ⁹	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY22 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND ¹⁰
Risk 8: COVID 19 pandemic	N/A	<p>Increased virtual meetings. Discussion with all funders and partners about the threats and opportunities posed by the COVID-19 crisis</p> <p>No-cost extension of project period of performance planned through 09/30/2022 with CI-GEF</p>	IS	<p>Despite a slight slowing in the response rate of external partners and collaborators as the world copes with the pandemic, the work around methods development has been going well. However, the impact of the postponement of CBD COP15 has been profound.</p> <p>Adaptive management implementation of a no-cost extension of the period of performance through Sept 30, 2022 has been essential</p>	N/A	high	increasing

OVERALL RATING OF PROJECT RISKS	JUSTIFICATION	RISK RATING TREND ¹¹
M	Through adaptive management, the project has adjusted to the impacts and risks of COVID-19. A no-cost extension was used, and the project is expected to achieve all its objectives.	Decreasing

Recommendations

MITIGATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
N/A	N/A	N/A

¹¹ **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

SECTION IV: PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS AND RATING

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved ESMF plans, as well as recommendations to improve the implementation of the ESMF plans, when needed. This section is divided into six parts:

- a. Progress towards complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency's ESMF
- b. Information on Progress, challenges and outcomes on stakeholder engagement
- c. Information on the progress towards achieving gender sensitive measures/targets
- d. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products developed and disseminated
- e. Overall Project ESMF Implementation Rating
- f. Recommendations

a. Progress towards complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency's ESMF

MINIMUM ESMF INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR STATUS	CUMULATIVE STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹²	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
ACCOUNTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM					
1. Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism.	0	0	0	IS	No grievances submitted. Component 1,2, and 4 leads were provided with the information about RPAs grievance mechanism in 2019 and again in 2021 but not during the 12 months covered by this PIR. IUCN grievance mechanism is publicly posted and communicated to its projects (https://www.iucn.org/resources/project-management-tools/environmental-and-social-management-system). Relevant consultants working on Component 3 were told about it at the beginning of their work.
2. Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project's Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved.	N/A				
GENDER MAINSTREAMING					

¹² **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

1. Number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g. meetings, workshops, consultations)	100 (50% men, 50% women)	EC: 97 (48 women and 49 men) (including EC, WG and staff members and experts invited to workshops) IUCN: 850 (450 women, 400 men)	1,536 (771 women, 765 men)	IS	Continuing to strive for gender balance at every opportunity.
2. Number of men and women that received benefits (e.g. employment, income generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles) from the project		NA	NA	NA	
3. Number of strategies, plans (e.g. management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations (this indicator applies to relevant projects)	1	0	0	NA	The Global Commons Alliance has one integrated strategy that has been deemed inclusive from a gender point of view, though should be more inclusive from a diversity point of view. This is an emphasis in the project's coming year.
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT					
1. Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, indigenous peoples and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis	75	647	1132	IS	IUCN, EC, and SBTN have extensive engagement with stakeholders during the development of methods for science-based targets for species biodiversity and the broader work.
2. Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	100	929 (488 women, 441 men)	1615 (809 women, 806 men)	IS	
3. Number of engagement (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)	20	40	165	IS	

b. Information on Progress, challenges and outcomes on stakeholder engagement

Component 1 (EC): Stakeholder engagement has gone well. The Earth Commissioners, WG members and supporting research staff are all academics that are committing a lot of time to the project. Academics are engaged in the peer-review of the submitted papers and can take part of the already published papers. A number of presentations have been held in various fora to engages academics and other stakeholders. An online discussion series has been launched to engage with a broader group of scientists with an interest in tipping points in the Earth system. The Earth Commission has been actively involved in the CBD process and contributed to the Nature Newsroom at UNFCCC COP 27. Earth Commissioners and staff were particularly active to bring science into the UN Meeting Stockholm+50 in June 2022. For example several EC members contributed to the Leadership Dialogues preceding Stockholm+50 and to a [“Letter to fellow citizens of Earth”](#) also featured in [Nature](#). Co-chairs Johan Rockström and Joyeeta Gupta participated with other Global Commons Alliance representatives in a broadcast by We Don’t Have Time, as well as in a roundtable discussion on “Our Common Agenda”.

Component 2 (SBTN): Stakeholder engagement has gone well. Much of this period was focused on working with the approximately 50+ direct partners, mostly environmental NGOs around issue-hub specific, cross-cutting, and work. Additionally, SBTN has focused on corporate engagement to ready companies for SBT setting and for participatory input into the design process. Awareness and demand for SBTN products are growing, and stakeholders are referring to SBTN as the authoritative source for corporate SBTs (e.g., references in TNFD technical scope.) As others are also brought in, there is great interest from organizations working in the same area, from end-user companies, and funders.

Component 3 (IUCN): IUCN has been engaging with stakeholders extensively during the publications of the different method papers on SBT. As well as, during the progress of the guidance documents and pilot testing. The IUCN World Conservation Congress allowed to better engage and strength the opportunities with stakeholders. It is expected that engagement with stakeholders in CBD-COP will be strengthened by opportunities to convene in person. Virtual stakeholder engagement seemed as though it might be an issue at the beginning of the pandemic; however, the fact that the world became accustomed to meeting virtually mitigated this challenge.

Component 4 (Earth HQ): Stakeholder engagement in the last year has intensified, particularly through Earth HQ’s and GCA’s stronger collaboration in a few spaces. One is the Nature’s Newsroom work at the UNFCCC COP 26, which is set to continue at COP27 and beyond. Another is working more with partners like *We Don’t Have Time* who, in turn, interact with a whole range of movement leadership. There is continued engagement with stakeholders from and through Earth Dashboard, NowThis Earth (whose parent NowThis has merged with Vox), and Mongabay. Mongabay includes 500 reporters, several of whom represent historically marginalized groups. There were not sufficient resources to monitor specific readership, however.

c. Information on the progress towards achieving gender sensitive measures/targets

Component 1 (EC): Women make up a third of the Commission, including one female co-chair, and the 5 Working Groups of the EC have active engagement of female scientists. Especially three distinguished female scientists lead the Transformations Working Group (Prof. Joyeeta Gupta and Prof. Diana Liverman) and the Translation Working Group (Prof. Xuemei Bai). These three are also lead authors of the comprehensive report submitted to Lancet Planetary Health – where 29 out of 66 co-authors are women. Additionally, the content of this report brings up the importance of increased gender equality to achieve the necessary transformations to stay within safe and just Earth system boundaries, especially in terms of women’s roles in safeguarding natural resources. Women have a strong position in the Earth Commission secretariat, for

example, the executive director and the communications director are female. Gender balance among reviewers have been suggested. A) all activities were implemented B) no particular challenges C) no particular adaptive management was needed to promote participation of women D) no particular unintended outcomes were observed C) for coming projects of the EC we will continue to strive for gender balance, both within the Earth Commission, its working groups, and secretariat.

Component 2 (SBTN): SBTN's core team, the Issue Hub teams, and the Advisory Council are all well-balanced by gender or have a predominance of women. Looking forward, SBTN will continue to strive for gender balance at every opportunity, both within its core team, the issue hubs and among other collaborators within partner organizations.

Component 3 (IUCN): The primary relevant piece of work to report on has been the development and publication of the methods manuscript for setting science-based targets for species biodiversity, and the follow up papers. The intellectual leadership was led by Louise Mair. The other published papers extending the method and applying it in different pilot testing contexts also showed a participation of women, with one of them led by Amanda Irwin. The virtual session on science-based target setting for species in the post-2020 biodiversity framework organized and held at the WCC had a participation of 5 women and 4 men. This group was selected based on their excellent expertise and extensive knowledge in the field. Gender balance has been highlighted to journal publications and activities related to SBT. a) All activities anticipated were implemented b) no significant challenges encountered. C) the indirect adaptive management was through the no-cost extension, which allowed increased time for improved engagement. D) no particular unintended outcomes observed. E) continue implementing as planned.

d. Lessons learned and Knowledge Management products¹³ developed and disseminated

Component 1 (EC):

The main Earth Commission work is to synthesize scientific knowledge, to underpin target setting by SBTN. During FY22, a number of papers have been submitted to scientific journals, as mentioned above, but are not yet published. Upon publication, they will be launched to provide knowledge to broader audiences via media and directly to various stakeholders. A communications plan is being developed.

In March 2022, partners and funders of the Global Commons Alliance were invited to a Situation Room where the Earth Commission work and initial findings were presented. The results have also been presented at various conferences, notably at Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress 2022, and in presentations in connection to the UN meeting Stockholm+50, in June 2022, for example in a broadcast by [We Don't Have Time](#) together with other GCA partners. The engagement at Stockholm +50 was also covered at the websites of the [Earth Commission](#) and [Future Earth](#).

Furthermore, the discussion series on tipping points was widely disseminated on the websites and social media of the partner organizations (i.e. IIASA, WCRP), and a specific [event site](#) was build up for this purpose.

For the next phase of the Earth Commission work, we are gathering input from all involved on a Miro board, to learn from previous experiences.

Component 2 (SBTN): SBTN has produced a number of documents for events and constituencies throughout the year, which are featured in the [Resources section](#) on their website.

¹³ Knowledge Products are those that are both intended to transmit knowledge but at the same time enable action by their audiences. For example, a lessons learned report, compilation of good practices and recommendations, etc.

Component 3 (IUCN): In general, knowledge-related activities continue to mark the principal theme of component three's project implementation during FY22. As the methods for developing science-based targets for species biodiversity and ways of extending those methods have been published in the literature it has led to significant increases in knowledge products including:

- Mair et al., methods paper published, methodology established and available as a resource, including significant press release, interviews, communications launches, and media attention. <https://rdcu.be/cikbh>

- Irwin, A., Geschke, A., Brooks, T.M. et al. Quantifying and categorizing national extinction-risk footprints. Significant media launch and attention. Sci Rep 12, 5861 (2022). <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-09827-0>

- Chaudhary, W., Mair, L., Strassburgh, B.B.N. et al. Sub-national assessment of threats to Indian biodiversity and habitat restoration opportunities. Env. Res. Let. 17 (2022). <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ac5d99>

- STAR industry briefing note, business guidance and related explanatory material published for IBAT companies and accompanied by significant communications including many webinars. Content maintained as a resource for the private sector <https://www.ibat-alliance.org/star>

- Multiple workshops, discussions, and presentations regarding the project's outputs held throughout the year and at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, where they are maintained as a recorded resource. www.iucncongress2020.org.

Overall, Knowledge Management has worked well. The development of infographics has been especially important for communication technical information about methods for science-based targets. The follow up manuscripts and frequently asked questions have taken the form of knowledge products that describe adjustments and lessons learned as guidance continues to be developed and improved.

Earth HQ (4): As mentioned in the sections above there have been many products disseminated. They are featured on the [Earth HQ](#) website. While it is not possible to track to what extent indigenous peoples or other marginalized groups are accessing this website, Earth HQ has engaged with them at in-person events, for example at COP26.

e. Overall Project ESMF Implementation Rating

SUMMARY: PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING BY TYPE OF PLAN

ESMF PLAN REQUIRED BY THE PROJECT (delete those not applicable)	CURRENT FY22 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	S	Decreasing
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	HS	Unchanged
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	HS	Unchanged

OVERALL PROJECT ESMF IMPLEMENTATION RATING

RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
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S	the AGM, the project did not receive any grievances during FY22. However, the project did not socialize the AGM during FY22. The project achieved its gender target of 50% men and 50% women and surpassed the target of 100 men and women participating in project activities. However, the project is not reporting on Indicator #3 as committed to in the GMP. The project surpassed its target for stakeholder engagement.	Decreasing
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f. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
<p>The project should continuously socialize the AGM with all stakeholders during every FY, especially if there were new engagements/stakeholders. Please socialize the AGM during FY23.</p> <p>For future reporting, make sure to include all indicators proposed in the Gender Mainstreaming Plan (Number of men and women serving as Earth Commissioners, Number of men and women serving in the Science Based Target Network hub (board and core team)).</p> <p>Also, the project set a target of 1 for the indicator “Number of strategies, plans (e.g. management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations (this indicator applies to relevant projects)” in the approved GMP but it is currently reporting as if it does not apply. Please report on this for the next PIR and quarterly reports.</p>	Project Lead	June 30, 2023

SECTION V: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES, KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND LESSONS LEARNED

Required topics

1. Knowledge activities/products (when applicable), as outlined in the knowledge management plan approved at CEO endorsement/approval.

Component 1 (EC): The Earth Commission is hosted by Future Earth, the world's largest network of sustainability scientists. It is the science component of the Global Commons Alliance and includes more than 60 scientists at various career stages, with different expertise and from countries all over the globe. The Earth Commission is synthesizing scientific knowledge required to define safe and just Earth system boundaries (at global and/or regional scales) that will underpin science-based targets for companies and cities. When published in peer-reviewed journals, this scientific basis will be crucial for the credibility and legitimacy of the science-based targets. The EC is also assessing methods for translating global boundaries to local scale actors such as business and cities. Furthermore, the EC assesses the safe and just transformations needed to stay within the boundaries and at the same time providing access to a dignified life for all. The EC is anchoring the work in academia by the peer-review process and by participating in and presenting the EC and GCA in international scientific conferences. The new knowledge will also be widely communicated via websites, social media, and international media.

Component 2 (SBTN): Knowledge building and sharing between the Alliance components and beyond has continued to be a core focus for SBTN in FY22. The information generated through SBTN is made widely available via 1) a newsletter to all SBTN partner organizations, 2) SBTN partner updates, 3) Updates at various working comms, technical development, corporate engagement, financial sector engagement working group sessions, 4) Corporate Engagement Program update sessions, 5) Empowering SBTN partner network to build awareness in private sector and help get companies ready to set SBTs for nature according to company interest and maturity level, 6) SBTN's website www.sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org, and 3) a newsletter to a newsletter to all those who subscribe to learn more via SBTN's website.

Component 3 (IUCN): In general, knowledge-related activities continue to be the main theme of component three's project implementation during FY22. Despite COVID-19 pandemic, there has been development to apply the methods for developing science-based targets for species biodiversity and pilot testing. The IUCN World Conservation Congress allowed knowledge work in virtual/presential (launch of STAR metric and SBT virtual session) way that strengthened participation in the development and implementation moving. The pilot testing with companies has supported uptake of the developed methods as a means for companies to understand their biodiversity-related risks and opportunities (e.g., case studies and deep-dive analyses). Working with a broad range of different users has been helpful for understanding requirements for communications and interpreting the targets.

Component 4 (Earth HQ): Earth HQ has created significant knowledge activities and products. As mentioned above, [NowThis Earth](#) has produced over 700 original stories, with over 50% of stories featuring diverse voices, Global South perspectives, indigenous voices and disadvantaged groups. The partnership with Climate Champions, Eurovision News and N4C launched the Nature Zone and Nature's Newsroom at COP26 and COP27 and promoted perspectives and information created by leading organizations like TNC, CI, WWF, EDF, IUCN, and GEF itself. The Virtual Earth Dashboard includes dozens of near-real time data visualizations and daily reporting on extreme events. With GCA support, Mongabay conveyed the latest GCA science in their '[Planetary Boundaries](#)' series, featured in-depth interviews with GCA leaders in the series '[Finding Common Ground](#)', provides daily [extreme event coverage for the Earth Dashboard](#), and features frequent, in-depth voices and solutions from experts and activists from the Global South, indigenous leaders and disadvantaged groups who are often most impacted by the climate/nature crisis.

Additional topics (please choose two)

2. Engagement of the private sector

Component 3: There has been a strong interest from private sector applying the methods developed after the launch of the methodology in IBAT at the IUCN World Conservation Congress. Since September 2021, STAR reports have been generated for a total of 1503 sites around the world by 374 companies and organizations. As part of the pilot testing, these companies and organizations have also completed a feedback survey, which has continued development. Methods developed under Output 3.1.1 are being incorporated into the new Contributions for Nature platform serving IUCN's membership (including the new category of cities and subnational governments) Continuous and early engagement with the private sector, has enabled more comprehensive pilot testing as we continue into FY23. Since participation in setting science-based targets is voluntary, extensive and early discussions with the private sector have been essential. Moreover, extremely clear illustrations and methods descriptions have been paramount, particularly for companies with less technical expertise.

3. Scientific and technological issues

Component 1. Developing new scientific concepts and transdisciplinary science with such a large and distributed group of scientists has been challenging, especially during COVID-19. However, we have managed with a unique integration of natural and social sciences, addressing both safety (planetary stability) and justice in the assessment. During FY22 we continued to develop the online collaboration skills and we were also able to carry out one hybrid meeting with 12 participants in Potsdam, and one in-person meeting for the full commission and staff with 27 people in Amsterdam, which was important for advancing the work.

Component 3: The publication of the manuscript, Mair et al., 2021. Developing the methods for setting science-based targets for species biodiversity was only the beginning, and a variety of scientific and technical issues needed to be resolved in order to take those methods and extend them to sub-national boundaries, or link them to economic data in global trade models or increase the taxonomic scope beyond terrestrial birds, mammals, and amphibians. Each new advance has required significant discussion with academics both at the scientific theoretical level, and also in the applications of the technical implementation and improved computations simplicity. It's been reassuring to discover that as these problems arise it has been possible to navigate them, as well as that the work continues easily virtually in the context of COVID-19.

SECTION VI: PROJECT GEOCODING

This section of the PIR documents the precise and specific geographic location(s) of activities supported by GEF investments based on information provided in the Project Document. The following information should be contained in this section:

- a. Geo Location Information of Project Location(s) for the current fiscal year
- b. Project Map and Coordinates from Project Document

Geo Location Information of Project Location(s) for the current fiscal year (add additional columns as needed)

Geo Location Information	Location No. 1	Location No. 2	Location No. 3
CLASSIFICATION <i>Indicate whether the site is new or already existing in the previous PIR or indicate whether the site is included at CEO Endorsement/Approval or not. Please add more columns for projects with more than 3 locations.</i>			
Note: Provide justification if the location is a new site in this line			
GEO NAME ID <i>Provide the location's Geo Name ID in a numerical format. IDs are available in the GeoNames' geographical database covering all countries and containing millions of placenames with free access at: http://www.geonames.org.</i>			
LOCATION NAME <i>Name of the geographic locations in which the activity is taking place. In instance when a GeoNames ID is provided above, the name of the said ID should be reflected. Otherwise, the location name provided will be considered as an exact location.</i>			
LATITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>			
LONGITUDE <i>Provide locations in Decimal Degrees WGS84 format, a notation expressing geographic coordinates as decimal fractions of a degree. Include at least four decimal points.</i>			
LOCATION DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the location in which an activity is taking place, such as for example "mini-grid energy system" or "park ranger site".</i>			
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION <i>(Optional field) Text description that qualifies in a sentence or so the activity taking place at the location, for example, "Installing a mini-grid energy system".</i>			

Please provide a justification regarding changes in location during implementation. Justifications should also be provided in the event the geographic location of key project activities cannot be provided at CEO Endorsement/Approval stage.

(Geo Name ID: Location Name)

Justification:

Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and image map where the project interventions took place. If available, please provide attachments as appropriate such as in the case of locations presented along geometric shapes in popular formats like shapefiles, KML and GeoJSON.

(Geo Name ID: Location Name)

Map:

APPENDIX I: PROJECT ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING

Rating		Overdue (O)	Delayed (D)	Not started on schedule (NS)	Under implementation on schedule (IS)	Completed/Achieved (CA)
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	HS	0%		100%		
Satisfactory (S)	S	20%		80%		
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	MS	40%		60%		
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	MU	60%		40%		
Unsatisfactory (U)	U	80%		20%		
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	HU	100%		0%		

- **Highly Satisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project. The project can be presented as an example of “good practice” project,
- **Satisfactory:** 80% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; except for only 20% that are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Satisfactory:** 60% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 40% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Unsatisfactory:** 40% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 60% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Unsatisfactory:** only 20% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 80% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action, and
- **Highly Unsatisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) are overdue, and/or b) delayed in their implementation, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project.

APPENDIX II: RISK RATINGS

Rating	
Low (L)	L
Moderate (M)	M
Substantial (S)	S
High (H)	H

- **Low Risk (L):** There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Moderate Risk (M):** There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Substantial Risk (S):** There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
- **High Risk:** There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

APPENDIX III: PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING ¹⁴	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome 1.1: The EC has synthesized current science to underpin target setting for intergovernmental for a, cities, companies, and other actors through the SBTN.				
Output Indicator 1.1.1.1: Call for nominations of EC members with an eye on balance of gender, geography, and expertise has been successfully launched.	Target: Call for nominations launched within 2 months of start of project.	Successfully completed.	CA	The process required coordination and planning amongst different parties but went smoothly.
Output Indicator 1.1.1.2: EC balanced by expertise, gender, and geography is appointed and publicly announced.	At least 10 commissioners with balance are publicly announced, up to 20 Commissioners announced over time.	Balanced EC comprised of 19 members appointed and announced. At the end of 2020, 2 commissioners resigned.	CA	19 Commissioners were appointed in 2019. The Earth Commission includes both female and male Commissioners, from the Global North and Global South, with a broad range of expertise. The Commission was publicly announced with a press release that was quoted in over 70 media outlets in 31 countries.
Output Indicator 1.1.1.3: Number of EC in person and online meetings.	First in-person meeting in 6 months; at least 1 additional in 24 months. At least 4 online meetings.	During FY22 we held several EC meetings online (one workshop over several days and several shorter calls), one hybrid meeting and one in-person meeting.	CA	Apart from the online meetings, one hybrid meeting was held in February with a smaller group in-person in Potsdam and most Earth Commission members online. In April 27 EC members and staff met in Amsterdam, and many additional participated via Zoom.
Output indicator 1.1.2.1: Number of chapters for synthesis report that have been finalized, agreed upon by the Commissioners and under peer review.	At least 4 chapters.	A comprehensive report with 7 chapter has been submitted for peer-review, as well as a shorter synthesis paper.	CA	In addition to the primary outputs of the EC, submitted in June 2022, 4 papers have been published and 5 WG led papers have been submitted for peer review.
Output 1.1.2.2: A manuscript for the first synthesis report is submitted for peer review to a journal.	1 manuscript submitted.	See above.	CA	See above.
Outcome 1.2: Scientific and non-scientific female and male audiences are informed of the initial findings of the first synthesis report.				

Output Indicator 1.2.1 1: # of presentations carried out.	At least 3 presentations per project year.	In FY22, the Earth Commission work was presented more than 3 times.	CA	The work of the EC was presented to partners and funders at a Global Commons Alliance “Situation room”- a well-attended online meeting. Several presentations have been given to update the SBTN. The modelling working group launched a successful discussion series on tipping elements with 9 webinars in Q3, attracting hundreds of participants. Preliminary results were also presented at the Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress in June 2022, at Stockholm Resilience Centre and at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting. The co-chairs of the Earth Commission participated in presentations at Stockholm+50.
Output Indicator 1.2.2 1: # communications materials produced.	At least 5.	This was fulfilled in FY21, but the communications work is ongoing.	CA	While the main EC reports/papers are not yet published, the EC is communicating its work widely. A website was developed early on, presenting the Earth Commission in texts, visuals and short videos. Blogs and articles have been published continuously. During FY22 a Communications Director and a Communications officer were hired (paid by another co-funders) to develop and implement the communications strategy for the upcoming launch of the main reports.
Outcome 2.2: First of three targets for SBTs for land developed and adopted via a Land Hub.				
Output Indicator 2.2.1: A formally established land hub representing diversity across geography and gender is formally established with regular meetings.	A viable land hub.	Process launched.	CA	Work on the Land Hub envisaged to be completed in the last year with GEF funding was concluded.
Output Indicator 2.2.2: A peer reviewed corporate guidance document is published for companies to set targets within their supply chains, including definitions, methods for establishing a baseline or reference for their supply chain state, and guidance on	1 guidance document.	Expected progress during FY22 achieved.	CA	Completed

¹⁴ O= Overdue; D= Delayed; NS= Not started on schedule; IS= Under implementation on schedule; and CA= Completed/Achieved

interventions or actions to deliver on this target. Given alignment on combined terrestrial ecosystem-level biodiversity and land degradation target, this will now be part of the Interim Guidance on SBTs for Nature (Part 1 and Part 2), including at least one specific case study from agriculture/forestry exploring land degradation and terrestrial ecosystem-level biodiversity, rather than a standalone document on zero conversion.				
Output Indicator 2.2.3: # of corporate zero-conversion MRV documents published.	1 guidance document.	Expected progress during FY22 achieved.	CA	Completed
Outcome 2.3: Globally recognized companies pledge to adopt SBTs for land.				
Output Indicator 2.3.1: # of globally recognized companies approached for adopting land-based targets.	5 globally recognized companies.	Expected progress during FY22 achieved.	CA	Several companies with relevant supply chains are actively engaging with SBTN.

Outcome 3.1: A legitimate and credible methodology for the assessment of specific science-based targets for biodiversity is established.				
Output Indicator 3.1.1: Number of structures established, and number of draft papers developed.	1 organizational hub structure 1 draft methods paper	Organizational hub structure in place. Methods paper published.	CA	Hub organizational structure has been developed with ToRs and defined roles. Biodiversity hub lead orgs: IUCN, UNEP WCMC, The Biodiversity Consultancy (TBC) Methods paper published.
Output Indicator 3.1.2: Number of manuscripts submitted for peer review.	1 manuscript	1 paper published	CA	Published April 8, 2021, in <i>Nature Ecology and Evolution</i> .
Output Indicator 3.1.3: Number of guidance documents developed.	1 guidance document	2 Guidance documents completed	CA	IUCN guidance documents of STAR methodology (Business User Guidance and Industry Briefing Note) were completed and disseminated. The guidance documents were uploaded in the IBAT repository.
Outcome 3.2: Globally recognized companies and/or cities pledge to adopt specific science-based targets for biodiversity.				
Output Indicator 3.2.1: Number of companies and cities engaged	5 globally recognized companies and cities of 500K+ inhabitants.	Conversations continuing with private sector end-users.	IS	There has been a strong interest from private sector applying the methods developed after the launch of the STAR methodology in IBAT at the World Conservation Congress. Since September STAR reports have been generated for a total of 1503 sites around the world by 374 companies and organizations. As part of the pilot testing, these companies and organizations have also completed a feedback survey. There has been a continuous connection with PANORAMA, IUCN Urban Nature Index, ICLEI Cities with Nature and Regions with Nature platforms, and TNC urbanization data

Output Indicator 3.2.2: Number of publications.	1 publication on pilot testing	Two papers published extending the method and applying it in different pilot testing contexts	CA	<p>Manuscripts published:</p> <p>Irwin, A., Geschke, A., Brooks, T.M. <i>et al.</i> Quantifying and categorizing national extinction-risk footprints. <i>Sci Rep</i> 12, 5861 (2022). https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-09827-0</p> <p>Chaudhary, W., Mair, L., Strassburgh, B.B.N. <i>et al.</i> Sub-national assessment of threats to Indian biodiversity and habitat restoration opportunities. <i>Env. Res. Let.</i> (in press). https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ac5d99</p>
Outcome 4.2: Demand from key influencers, companies, cities, and government to join the GCA as a global solution to sustaining Earth’s biodiversity and life support systems substantially increased.				
Output Indicator 4.2.1: Number of media materials delivered.	At least 5 GCA media materials.	Expected FY22 progress completed.	CA	More than 100 media materials created in the last year.
Output Indicator 4.2.2: # of events held in conjunction with other major meetings.	2 events.	Substantial events completed with partners at major meetings.	CA	Earth HQ and partners delivered a number of virtual meetings and live events, most important Nature’s Newsroom over the course of several days during COP26.