



An advisory service helping companies understand and manage biodiversity issues in complex operating environments and supply chains

The Biodiversity Health-check www.nmaenvironment.co.uk/bhc.htm

“Biodiversity is sometimes described as ‘the next climate change’. It is an issue of global environmental importance, yet it is currently difficult to measure and its relationship with the corporate sector is poorly understood. However, it has the potential to become rapidly and significantly material to business if the governing convention’s principles (the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity or CBD) start to be implemented more rigorously.”

Are extractive companies compatible with Biodiversity? Extractive Industries and Biodiversity: A Survey. ISIS Asset Management.

“Since biodiversity raises such important challenges for both sustainable development and long-term shareholder value, it is important for investors to take biodiversity into account in their evaluation of corporate practice.”

Biodiversity: towards best practice for extractive and utility companies. Insight Investment, HBOS plc.

Here Today, Where Tomorrow?

Business must be sustainable. Understanding a business’s impacts on biological resources and their use is fundamental. Stimulated by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), legislative and public recognition of the importance of conserving and protecting biological resources is growing rapidly.

Biodiversity is an increasing area of risk for all types of organization – private sector companies, governments and civil society organisations. Growing resource scarcity, increasing development pressures and rising public concern poses strategic threats. By not managing these risks well, organisations can be denied access to resources, land and markets in the future, with corresponding risks to revenues. They also face short-term risks such as liabilities and damage to reputation.

The corollary is that good practice in the management of biodiversity can confer advantages on organisations such as ease of doing business, positive public relations, staff motivation and favourable community relations. It also an effective mechanism for contributing to the responsibility that every organisation, whether private sector, government or civil society, shares with wider society for delivering sustainable development.

Regardless of your organisation’s size, you need to know your potential biodiversity liabilities and opportunities. Our Biodiversity Health-check provides this in a quick, efficient, focused and cost-effective way. After the Biodiversity Health-check, you will be in a position to plan for an informed future.

Our starting point is your business and our familiarity with biodiversity issues and trends across a range of key sectors and regions worldwide and our ability to assess preparedness and capability at different operational scales from corporate- to site-level.

Through our Biodiversity Health-check, we can provide you with a preliminary assessment of the issues that your business may be exposed to, both now and in the future; how you might address these issues proactively, rather than reactively; and the fitness for purpose of the systems you have in place and how they might be developed to fill gaps and improve performance.

Drawing on 20 years experience of biodiversity strategy and policy development, the Biodiversity Health-check offers an informed, pragmatic, and far-seeing appraisal of:

- Risk and opportunity
- Suitability or fitness for purpose of organisational approaches and processes at different levels
- Priorities for action internally and externally
- Key steps for delivering improved biodiversity management health and performance

The Biodiversity Health-check

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The Biodiversity Health-check is aimed at helping companies manage biodiversity issues in increasingly complex operating environments. It is one of a number of diagnostic 'health-checks' designed for companies seeking an effective response to the emerging Corporate Responsibility and Sustainable Development agendas. The Biodiversity Health-check is a partnership of [Niall Marriott Associates](http://www.nmaenvironment.co.uk) and the environmental consultancy [EcoText](http://www.ecotext.co.uk), both leading practitioners in corporate biodiversity risk and responsibility management.

A flexible tool, the Biodiversity Health-check is designed to be adaptable to fit different stages of a cycle and levels of resolution. At the corporate, strategic, level it can be used as the preliminary stage of a biodiversity strategy or wider corporate responsibility strategy planning exercise, or as part of a strategic review. At the operational, tactical, level it can contribute to a project feasibility exercise, form part of an environmental impact assessment or provide the preliminary baseline for a biodiversity strategy and action plan.

Depending on the requirements of the client, The Biodiversity Health-check process concludes with the presentation of a package of tools which will include a combination of the following:

- A map of key biodiversity risks and opportunities affecting your business at different levels and spheres of operation
- A road map describing key stages and milestones towards effective biodiversity risk, responsibility, impact and outcome management
- A report describing:
 - ⇒ the current position in relation to biodiversity
 - ⇒ suggestions for optimizing or improving performance
 - ⇒ an outline process for delivery of optimal or improved performance

Price

Whether applied at corporate or operational level, the Biodiversity Health-check is available at three levels of assessment, advice and support at two key levels of management:

	Assessment Level 1	Assessment Level 2	Assessment Level 3
Corporate level:	£10k + costs Desk study and senior management consultation	£20k + costs Senior management consultation and 1 detailed site-level assessment	£40k + costs Senior management consultation and 3 basic site-level assessments
Operational level:	£5k + costs Basic site-level assessment	£10k + costs Detailed site-level assessment	£20k + costs Detailed assessment and training package

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Finding out more

For more information, or to arrange an exploratory meeting, please telephone:

020 7690 6191, or email enquiries@nmaenvironment.co.uk.