**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

\* Organisation underlined under “Lead organiser & Partners” is the partner(s) in the lead of the session.

\* Session titles in **red** are high-level plenaries.

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| DAY 1 | Session | Title | Theme |
| 9.30 - 10.00 | Welcoming remarks |  | *Raising ambitions* |
| **10.00 - 11.00** | **Plenary 1** | **Towards a nature positive world: scaling up actions in a post-Covid-19 context**  *How can businesses, financiers, policymakers and civil society scale up action to achieve an equitable, carbon-neutral and nature-positive world?* | *Raising ambitions* |
| 11.15-12.45 | **Group session 1** | **Tackling climate, biodiversity & inequalities: nature-based solutions, and their role in the economic transition**  *Achieving global goals by 2050 requires climate change, biodiversity loss and inequalities to be tackled together. According to IPBES and IUCN, Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) are actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems that address societal challenges effectively and adaptatively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits. From ecosystem restoration to ecological engineering, NBS are a powerful tool to restore nature, reduce inequalities and both mitigate and adapt to climate change. Businesses across sectors have understood the opportunities NBS provide to allow our society to thrive within planetary boundaries. They are proposing innovative solutions to reduce emissions and restore biodiversity.*  *What can we learn from pioneering companies? To what extent and under which conditions can NBS be efficient to both mitigate and adapt to climate change while restoring biodiversity? How do their costs compare to that of “artificial” industry-optimised solutions? How can a wider audience be mobilised towards delivering or using NBS while allowing our society to stay within the limits of our planet?* | *Innovative solutions* |
|  | **Group session 2** | **Developing new KPIs to uncover the natural capital value for business**  *Business activities are impacting nature and are dependent on natural capital. To fully understand and manage both aspects of the double-materiality, the measurement and valuation of natural capital needs to be standardized and integrated into accounting systems. Natural capital accounting will enable business decision makers to make more sustainable decisions and report consistently on their impacts and dependencies. To measure progress a clear set of KPIs is required building on political targets (e.g. Green Deal) and reflected in agreed reporting frameworks (e.g. CSRD, Taxonomy).*  *This session will discuss the status quo and outlook on natural capital accounting, reporting, and respective KPI systems.* | *Standards and measurement* |
|  | **Group session 3** | **Pioneering SMEs reinventing their relationship with** **nature: Profitable solutions that protect nature**  *Representing 99% of European businesses, SMEs are the key agents in the European green transition towards an economy that thrives in harmony with nature. The lack of simple, practical and accessible tools and guidance on how to integrate biodiversity into corporate decision making is one of the main challenges faced by SMEs. However, pioneering SMEs across Europe and across sectors have started reinventing their business models to seize the opportunities biodiversity has to offer. This session will showcase practical solutions implemented by SMEs tackling the sustainable use of biodiversity as a core business strategy. The session will be action-oriented providing ready-made tools and case studies that can be adopted by SMEs across all sectors. It will also explore the role of intermediaries to engage with SMEs at an appropriate level to spur impactful actions.* | *Innovative solutions* |
|  | **BREAK** | |  |
| 13.30 – 15.00 | **Group session 4** | **How can we strengthen SMART corporate commitments for biodiversity? Lessons learned from the Act4nature frameworks**  *Launched in 2018 by business networks and stakeholders, NGOs, academic bodies and public institutions, Act4nature is a commitment framework initiated to accelerate concrete business action in favour of nature and biodiversity, in the absence of a universal indicator to support valuation and guide business action. The Act4nature framework has proven to be an effective tool to accelerate action and integrate nature into corporate decision making while providing a robust monitoring framework. It has led to the creation of several parallel initiatives that will be presented in the session. New commitments under Act4nature international will also be announced by companies representing different sectors. How can businesses use Act4nature methodology to strengthen their actions in favour of biodiversity preservation and restoration? What are the conditions for a corporate commitment to be recognised as SMART? Can Act4Nature and SMART commitments be used by the financial sector as a label to identify biodiversity-friendly organisations and consequently redirect financial flows? How could this complement the current methodologies being developed? A new initiative using this framework, Act4Nature Europe, could be officially launched during this session (tbc).* | *Committing for biodiversity* |
|  | **Group session 5** | **Integrating and managing the risks associated with biodiversity loss: latest development in the insurance and re-insurance sectors**  *As the rate of the 6th mass extinction accelerates, biodiversity-related risks emerge; identifying, understanding and addressing them is critical and requires the combined efforts of public institutions and the private sector. Still more than climate change, biodiversity-related risks are most often indirect and diffuse and are therefore difficult to integrate by businesses into their business model. Can the insurance sector play a role to accelerate this integration? Several insurance actors have understood the variety of risks associated with biodiversity loss both for individual actors and the economic world collectively:*   * *Operational risk: resource scarcity (overexploitation, pollution), product and service quality (tourism, food, …), increased vulnerability of assets (forest fires and parasites), increased costs (pollination), market risks, …* * *Regulatory risk: obligation to restore ecosystems affected by pollutions, compensation policies, …* * *Transition risk: as regulation and protection of biodiversity-rich areas will reduce the possibilities for exploitation of natural resources*   *This session will investigate the nature of biodiversity-related risks and the way they threaten re/insurers manage the increased risks on underwriting and investing in activities (Uninsurability, Price risks, claims ricks and liability risks, …etc.). How can Re/insurers adapt and control this emerging risk class? How can new biodiversity insurance services and products help mitigate these risks? We will debate how the new CSR Directive and other public policies can help structure this dialogue between businesses and insurance actors.* | *Awareness* |
|  | **Group session 6** | **Two years after the Green Deal: what are the most significant regulatory developments on business and biodiversity?** *This session aims to provide an overview of the different regulatory developments, i.e. EU Taxonomy, CSRD, SFDR but potentially also F2F and others impacting business and biodiversity.* | *Awareness* |
|  | **BREAK** | |  |
| **15.30-17.00** | **Plenary 2** | **International supply chains and imported biodiversity loss across sectors**  *Most negative impacts on nature are linked to the impact of raw materials (biomaterials or minerals) production in distant locations. Pioneering European businesses across sectors are starting to realise these indirect impacts on biodiversity and to enhance transparency and traceability along their supply chain, allowing them to measure impacts and take corrective actions to reduce their footprint. Given that gaps remain at the border, how can this be deployed in a more systematic manner? Can customs and port management systems be improved and connection with logistical systems in developing countries enhanced? If so, how? Moreover, biodiversity-protective production techniques also often have a higher cost than standard ones, and markets at this stage often do not value the difference unless in specific conditions (luxury goods, high-quality wine, …). How can consumers be better educated to the value of this traceability? Can European trade agreements and regulation allow for differentiated approaches depending on the environmental production conditions to acknowledge the true value of nature? This session will explore the practical solutions implemented by these businesses focusing in particular on how they addressed the challenges linked to data management, logistics and engagement with suppliers across their value chain. The session will also be used to identify the key bottlenecks to be addressed at political level to ensure a level playing field among European and international businesses.* | *Raising ambitions* |
| 17.00 - 19.00 | **NETWORKING SESSION (tbc)** | |  |

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| **DAY 2** | **Session** | Title | Theme |
| **9.30 - 10.30** | **Plenary 3** | **Nature, climate and land-use: managing risks and trade-offs in an integrated approach**  *Simultaneously addressing climate change and biodiversity loss appears challenging. There is a growing demand for bio-energy and bio-based products to replace fossil-fuel based products significantly increasing the pressure on land- and biomass use, already intensively used for food and animal feed. The quantities of available biomass compared to the fossil-fuels to be replaced raise significant concern as to the feasibility of many substitution projects or strategies, and as to the impact of this substitution on food-security of the populations (price increases, …). One direction for solution is the co-production of goods and services, such as land-sharing between food, fibres and biomaterials, feed, biomass energy, carbon sequestration, tillage and biodiversity restoration. Which actors will decide what, or what combination, should be given priority? At what level will governance be more relevant, local, national, European or world level, and for what decisions? What activities could protected areas allow when they are designed to give priority to spontaneous biodiversity preservation? The session will investigate the limits to fossil-substitution strategies and the emergence of future tensions around biomass and land-use, showcase business that are addressing these trade-offs and explore policy options to address this challenge.* | *Raising ambitions* |
| 10.30-11.30 | **Group session 7** | **Finance and business actions for nature: Aligning metrics and disclosure regulation to global targets**  *Measuring biodiversity impacts and dependencies is vital to support informed business decisions related to biodiversity and natural capital. Many different methodologies have evolved over the last years, but the lack of scientifically robust data and a generally accepted set of methods, indicators and criteria for corporate biodiversity measurement tools and approaches is posing significant challenges to the business community. Efforts are being made to move from guidance to a standardised approach for biodiversity measurement to adequately inform natural capital management accounting systems. This session will link to GS2 and highlight the link between biodiversity measurement and natural capital management accounting. It will focus on recent technical tool developments and key initiatives such as Align, Transparent and UN-SEEA.* | *Standards and measurement* |
|  | **Group session 8** | **Sustainable and regenerative agriculture: Achieving biodiversity-inclusive systems while securing food for all**  *The agriculture sector is one of the greatest contributors to climate change and biodiversity loss. Yet, there is a great potential to reverse this trend and use sustainable agriculture as a global means to restore biodiversity and sequester carbon in soils. Many agricultural systems and practices have proven their efficiency in producing safe, sustainable, nutritious and affordable food while regenerating nature. Pivotal to enabling this transformation, sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices (Agroecology, agroforestry, cover-cropping, conservation agriculture and reduced tillage, …) should be further supported and developed through public agricultural policies. This session will focus on the contribution of businesses, financiers and policymakers to support the massive adoption and spread of regenerative agriculture in Europe.* | *Innovative solutions* |
|  | **Group**   **session 9** | **Engaging finance for nature: Integrating biodiversity criteria into investments decisions**  *A growing number of central banks and supervisors have recognized the need to extend their efforts from tackling climate change to focusing on broader nature-related risks and opportunities. At this time, there is increasing interest from the finance sector in the emerging natural capital and biodiversity asset class. However, financial institutions struggle to assess biodiversity-related risks and opportunities due to limited readily available data and metrics. Additional metrics are required to accelerate the integration of biodiversity criteria into investments decisions. This session will explore how central banks can play an enabling role and contribute to the development of biodiversity risk management. It will focus on how they can support the finance sector to integrate biodiversity criteria in their investment policies and scale up finance for nature.* | *Standards and*  *measurement* |
| 12.00-13.00 | **Closing plenary** | **Collective actions to mainstream nature in economic life and align economic recovery with ecological transition**  *More and more businesses and financial institutions in Europe and beyond are taking action to integrate biodiversity into corporate and financial decision-making to reverse nature loss and move towards nature positive business models. It is a global challenge in companies as this means cultivating heterogeneity at all levels, which is opposite to the traditional industry way of thinking, standardisation and optimisation of the sole value parameter. The global biodiversity crisis cannot be addressed by businesses alone, raising policy ambition is needed to scale up business actions for nature. For instance, mainstreaming biodiversity in economic decisions will demand new policy frameworks, and the European Union is determined to progress this in view of the COP15 agreement. Raising biodiversity awareness among society at large, businesses, consumers and policymakers from local to global is needed to ensure that markets value nature and that policies allowing development within the limits of the planet are accepted. There will only be one ecological transition: the Green Deal has to embark on biodiversity as well as climate. Recovery plans are the opportunity to fully integrate the environment and sustainability in the economy and rebuild societies that value and restore nature. The EU Biodiversity Strategy emphasises the importance of effective partnerships to halt biodiversity loss. The business leaders involved in the Summit will officially deliver a common business statement describing their vision of how they can contribute more to these challenges, and what they expect from European policymakers for their efforts to be successful. The plenary will provide an outlook on the key actions that are required over the next decade to implement the EU biodiversity strategy and ensure that Europe becomes nature positive by 2030 and achieves a full recovery by 2050, including in its global footprint.* | *Raising ambitions* |

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