

Biodiversity (GRI 304)

Biodiversity is becoming the new focal point for 'E' in ESG. (GRI 103)

According to the World Economic Forum's 2020 Global Risks Report, biodiversity loss is one of the top five risks in terms of its likelihood to occur and tangible impact in the next 10 years. Biodiversity is what renders life possible. Our livelihoods depend upon it, as do our economies. It is estimated that between 15% and 45% of world GDP is directly linked to biodiversity.

AURELIUS has recognised the need to include biodiversity as an important dimension in our sustainability journey, as we understand that protecting biological diversity is crucial for the survival of plant and animal species, genetic diversity and the natural ecosystems that provide clean water and air. Deterioration of biodiversity can translate into economic and social losses that endanger our own well-being.

AURELIUS supports new biodiversity initiatives

AURELIUS supports the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the European Union biodiversity strategy for 2030 to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems.

Moreover, the EU Taxonomy Regulation established biodiversity as one of its six environmental objectives, with which AURELIUS will align. AURELIUS welcomes the recently formed Task Force on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) and has also understood the risk of biodiversity loss. As a result, we aim to create a standardised method of measuring threats to wildlife and ecosystems. AURELIUS supports a shift in global financial flows away from nature-negative towards nature-positive outcomes. AURELIUS will broadly seek to align with the proposed two global targets in the CBD's zero-draft Global Biodiversity Framework of "no net loss by 2030 and net gain by 2050."

AURELIUS will contribute to reducing the loss of biodiversity

As investor and asset owner, we intend to take action to reduce the loss of biodiversity. The Earth's biological resources are vital to our economic and social development, but human activities are taking a toll on many animal and plant species. The recorded extinction of 83% of wild mammals and 50% of plants therefore represents a significant risk to corporate and financial stability

AURELIUS notes the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including in forests, the ocean and the cryosphere, and the protection of biodiversity. We support the recent initiative of more than 130 world leaders committed to end and reverse deforestation by 2030. We integrate biodiversity topics into our ESG portfolio management system. Reducing land use and degradation, ending deforestation and habitat loss, as well as reducing the negative impacts of agriculture on biodiversity are main focus areas for AURELIUS.