Biodiversity Intelligence
EXPANDING NATURE

EMFF
Environmental Markets Fairness Foundation

Methodology Executive Summary

Biodiversity Measurement Methodology for Crediting Issuance

Amid growing global concern over biodiversity loss and climate change, the **Biodiversity Intelligence Methodology (MBI)** emerges as a strategic instrument to align conservation and sustainable resource use with capital markets, driving investment toward resilient, nature-positive opportunities.

This executive summary presents the foundations, benefits, and applications of the MBI, highlighting its potential to generate environmental, social, and economic value, based on its core indicators: **the Biodiversity Performance Status (BPS) and the Nature Integrity Score (NIS).**

What is the Biodiversity Intelligence Methodology?

The MBI is a comprehensive and scientifically rigorous approach for measuring, monitoring, and managing the impact of projects on biodiversity and ecosystems. Its uniqueness lies in the use of two exclusive indicators:

- **Biodiversity Performance Status (BPS)**: This indicator assesses the state of biodiversity in a specific area, considering both species composition and habitat structure, as well as ecological functions. The BPS is calculated by comparing the project area with an optimal or well-conserved reference ecosystem, allowing for the determination of the degree of ecological integrity of the area under intervention.

- **Nature Integrity Score (NIS)**: This indicator summarizes the overall state of biodiversity in an ecosystem, integrating the BPS values for different functional groups. The NIS provides a unique and comparable measure of ecological integrity, which can be used to monitor changes over time and evaluate the success of conservation and restoration projects.

What does it enable?

- **Precisely quantify the state of biodiversity**: Through key performance indicators (BPS and NIS) that assess the ecological integrity of ecosystems in relation to a benchmark.
- **Evaluate the impact of projects:** By measuring changes in the BPS and NIS over time and comparing them with reference scenarios.
- **Generate biodiversity credits**: It provides a solid and transparent basis for the issuance of biodiversity credits, which can be used to finance conservation and restoration projects, incentivizing investment in ecosystem protection.
- **Optimize management strategies**: By identifying the most effective actions to improve the BPS and NIS, and therefore biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- **Facilitate decision-making:** By providing objective and transparent information to guide investments and policies.

Why is it relevant for financial institutions?

The increasing importance of biodiversity conservation and restoration presents a unique opportunity for financial institutions to lead innovation in biodiversity-positive investments, channeling capital toward projects that deliver measurable ecological and social returns.. By adopting the Biodiversity Intelligence Methodology (MBI):

- **Create innovative financial assets**: It provides a scientific basis for issuing biodiversity credits, an asset representing measurable improvement in biodiversity, attracting responsible investments.
- **Access new markets**: Positions institutions as leaders in the growing biodiversity credit market, driven by demand for nature-based solutions.
- **Environmental risk analysis:** Enables the identification and management of environmental risks associated with investments. By evaluating the BPS and NIS indicators, financial institutions can make informed decisions and avoid investments that may harm nature.
- **Fulfill sustainability commitments**: Facilitates compliance with sustainability goals and improves performance in **social and environmental** responsibility by investing in projects that generate biodiversity credits.
- **Enhance reputation**: Strengthens the image as a leader in sustainability and fosters trust with stakeholders by demonstrating a real commitment to protecting nature.

Which Business Models does it target?
The MBI can be applied to a wide variety of projects, including:

- **Nature Restoration Projects:** With accurate tracking of results through the BPS and NIS, and issuance of credits.
- **Productive Projects**: Regenerative agriculture, responsible forestry, with the possibility of certifying practices that improve biodiversity and generate credits or other financial mechanisms for high-integrity commodities in nature.
- **Infrastructure Projects**: Design and construction of infrastructure that minimizes the impact on biodiversity and ecosystems, with the MBI as a tool to assess and mitigate negative effects.

Safeguards as the Foundation of High-Integrity Biodiversity Credits

Verifying the fulfillment of safeguards is essential to ensure that biodiversity projects generate high-integrity credits and deliver truly sustainable outcomes. In partnership with the Environmental Markets Fairness Foundation (EMFF), the Foundation will act as a technical observer and coordinator of the verification process for projects applying the Biodiversity Intelligence Methodology (MBI). In this role, it will exercise oversight to confirm that each project fully complies with the social, governance, and environmental safeguards required for the issuance of credible biodiversity credits.

This supervision will align with ***leading international safeguard frameworks***. Special attention will be given to a territory-based approach, rooted in a rigorous analysis of local contexts and community priorities, to ensure the legitimacy, integrity, and relevance of every project.

The Biodiversity Intelligence Methodology provides a powerful pathway to embed biodiversity conservation and restoration into investment strategies, creating measurable environmental, social, and economic value.

By adopting the MBI, financial institutions can demonstrate leadership in promoting a more sustainable future for our planet and ensure a return on investment that is not only financial but also environmental and social.