

Survey 2 – E4 - EFRAG SECRETARIAT ANALYSIS OF THE COMMENTS

Q54: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-1 – Transition plan in line with the targets of no net loss by 2030, net gain from 2030 and full recovery by 2050

Q54	Comment		Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
1	aligned with net loss international and EU	EU and international alignement	Yes	The Secretariat agrees that alignment with international and EU objectives is important. Global Biodiversity Framework and EU Biodiversity strategy are currently work in progress. DR 4-1 to be either phased-in or moved to sector-specific level.		No

Q54	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment		EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
2	 Doubts on sector-agnostic. Each sector has its own challenges. Reassess if standard can move under sector-specific standards; This standard should be developed on a sectorial level, with a level of granularity adapted to each sector's specificity. For all undertakings: disclose existence of a biodiversity policy or minimum qualitative info. Biodiversity transition plan should be required only for specific sectors mostly concerned like Agriculture and Forestry (as an example). Issues of comparability. Timeline, target and actions are at sector or entity level. 	Sector specific	No	The Secretariats view is that in the CSRD Biodiversity and Ecosystems is on par with other environmental and social topics and should be treated as such by EFRAG. Furthermore, SFDR covers indicators related to biodiversity and ecosystems. DR E4-1 could be phased-in or moved to the sector-specific level.	Ongoing.	No
3	 Phase in disclosure requirements over time Due to lack of reporting experience on such concepts a progressive approach would be more relevant. A provision application of 3 years could be added; Phasing in to achieve cost-benefit balance, as well as to allow for nascent standards and reporting methodologies to mature. 	Missing	Partially		To be considered (as per comment).	No
4	 Clarify certain notions and concepts Targets of no net loss by 2030, net gain from 2030 and full recovery by 2050 are for governments. Lack of clear 	Glossary	Yes	0	To be aligned (as per comment).	No.

Q54	4 Comment T	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 biodiversity target for companies: difficult to comply; No definitions: assurance/benchmarking difficult; exact KPIs for net loss and net gain must be defined. Misleading and confusing. Entities cannot disclose on "undefined" targets. With regards to the approval of transition plans, disclosure of policy, targets and actions plans in line with regulatory frameworks should suffice. AG 10 -AG 19 (Biodiversity and ecosystems-related specific application guidance on ESRS 2 Disclosure Requirements IRO 1 and IRO 2 on materiality assessment) physical and transition risks can be identified only for direct activities, with an important effort given the lack of consolidated standards and continuous evolution of the topic. AG.19 defines systemic risks. Those systemic risks e.g., ecosystem collapse, have not been defined by relevant institutions and therefore not yet included in transition risks. Not for companies but should be assessed by the relevant authorities. 		needed. Agree on adjusting definitions of target and metrics and AGs to align with governments targets and lack of definitions by authorities (not finalized). The Secretariat recommends moving DR E4-1 to the sector- specific level or apply a phase-in		

Q54	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
5	 Better define the value chain framework The inclusion of the whole value chain is very complicated. Recommended a smaller scope of the value chain (which comprises companies' activities, upstream and downstream activities where the company plays an operational role). Regarding the financial sector the value chain seems complicate. 	Value Chain	Partially	Agree with the need to provide additional guidance and specify explicitly where what level of the value chain applies. Secretariat will evaluate and amend the draft where needed (subject to feasibility).	To be aligned.	No

Q55: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-2 – Policies implemented to manage biodiversity and ecosystems

Q55	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment		EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
1	 Granularity and lack of data Current drafting of E4-2 is considered as too prescriptive. Undertakings should remain free to define the content of their policies. Suggestion the following wording for par 21 to 26¬: "The undertaking shall describe its biodiversity policy, including its general objectives which may relate to:" Paragraphs 22, 23 and 24 provide details on how to achieve the objectives listed in 		Partially	Secretariat agrees that granularity and lack of data may be operational issues. DRs are being amended for simplification but E 4-2 reporting is important starting point as underlined by many stakeholders.	Ongoing.	No

Q55	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 paragraph 21, these actions should be moved to DR E4-4. Uncertainty in the amount and availability of the needed information. High costs in collecting and reporting the information due to the high degree of granularity, which would not add value to stakeholders. Risk that the amount to information blurs the relevance. Descriptions are extensive but necessary. From an investor's point of view, available data currently is qualitative and not comparable. 					
2	 Clarify metrics and definitions Need for precise definition of the materiality and how it might be quantified (with which tools; KPIs). term "biodiversity-friendly" should be defined and framed. A notion of DNSH would be welcomed. Interactions between the impacts and risks in a global environment to be taken into account. 21 (a) and (b): The distinction is not clear and should be redefined. 21 (a): not five any possibility to postpone the metric computation, it is the very 	Glossary		Secretariat will amend DR to add clarifications and definitions, where available.	Ongoing.	No

Q55	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
3	 point of departure for any action. Avoid that every company develops its own metric. Companies could publish the flows of the products used in inputs (these data are used for diverse models that compute a biodiversity footprint). Important definitions are missing in appendix A (full recovery, biodiversity friendly, ecological threshold, net gain, raw material of concern, at risk of extinction) and the no net loss approach seems insufficiently defined in the standard. Operational aspects Technical knowledge at company level may not be available in short term. Valuation costs of the point of departure for the target-setting and policy will include a substantial part of training/awareness raising efforts for a lot of stakeholders in the company and its value chain. The benefits will be more felt in the Medium to Long Term. The DR helps companies to make their dependencies on biodiversity clear and to figure out what can be done to put the transition plan into action. 	Implementati on	Partially	Operational aspects are important and implementation readiness will improve over time. Simplification and clarifications on definitions are considered helpful. (2 and 4)	No action.	No

Q55	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
4	 Better define the value chain Information for parts of value chain is impossible (especially on downstream in the value chain: intermediate customers, customers across jurisdictions with different reporting requirements) This links to added effort regarding the assurance. First periods, consider a narrower value chain (companies' activities, upstream and downstream activities where the company plays an operational role). 	Value chain		Agree with the need to provide additional guidance. Value chain framework is pervasive to all ESRS and addressed at level of ESRS. Secretariat to evaluate and amend draft where needed (subject to feasibility). Specify explicitly where what level of the value chain applies.	comment).	No.
5		alignment		Alignment is respected but EU and international frameworks including TNFD are not yet finalized: adjustments needed, e.g. on definitions. Linkage with SDGs to be aligned with other standards. ESRS E4 should not deal with SDGs any different.	To be aligned (as per comment).	No

Q55 -	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
-	policies that are in line with these "undefined" targets. Reservation on the fact that the taxonomy still needs to be developed. Cannot assess the difficulties that preparers may face once reporting.					

Q56: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-3 – Measurable targets for biodiversity and ecosystems

Q56	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
1	 Clarify methodologies and definitions Standardization of methodologies is not advanced on this topic. Implementation expected to be challenging and time-consuming. Current drafting of E4-3 on Targets is too prescriptive. Undertakings should remain free to define the content of their targets. Suggestion of wording for par 31 to 34¬: "The undertaking shall describe its biodiversity targets, which may relate to:". Net loss is not a sector-agnostic target but is rather a global public policy target. 	Glossary	No	Secretariat agrees and will propose to add definitions and clarifications. E4-1 to either be phased-in or move to the sector-specific level. Secretariat recommends adding the breakdown of geographic location. To consider: specification on ecological thresholds taken into account, when setting targets. Mitigation Hierarchy is helpful for users to understand the impacts	Ongoing.	No

Q56 -	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	Currently there is no definitions of what exactly targets are for no net loss by 2030, net gain from 2030 and full recovery by 2050. It is difficult for undertakings to comply in a meaningful and comparable manner. Breakdown by geographic location should be added and mandatory. Flexibility in time horizon of interim targets, also considering the evolution of the current regulatory framework. On (34.c): Biosphere integrity and planetary boundaries are measured at a scale not relevant to individual organizations operating in specific locations. It is not practical to provide more than a general alignment statement, which does not add much value for data users. This requirement should be removed. On (35): The list of EU and national policies in scope of this disclosure should be provided. The detailed reporting requirement should be removed for companies which make a general statement that they comply with all related legislation. AG 37: Targets related to raw materials shall follow the mitigation			of measures against material impacts, dependencies, risks and opportunities.		

Q56	Comment		Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments		lssue paper needed ?
	 hierarchy 'avoidance' and "reduction and minimisation" before working on "biodiversity friendly production". What does biodiversity friendly production exactly mean? "Avoidance" can also lead to biodiversity friendly production. The standard would require measurable targets that are not defined. A commitment/policy should be sufficient here, as artificial targets would damage undertakings' credibility. 					
2	 Operational aspects The general difficulty in defining and presenting target in the absence of a common scientific methodology to support the identification of metrics; In short term difficult to achieve results in terms of animal species, size of protected areas. In addition, an area is impacted by multiple entities. First phase of implementation to require only qualitative information. 	Implementati on		Operational aspects are important and implementation readiness will improve over time. Clarifications and alignment of definition will reduce the uncertainty on operational aspects.		No
4	, 6,	EU and international alignment		The Secretariat concurs that alignment is important, however, the EU and international frameworks including TNFD are	0 1 1	No.

Q56	- C	comment	 Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment		Issue paper needed ?
	- T	NFD is work in progress.		not yet finalized: adjustments needed, e.g. on definitions.	

Q57: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-4 – Biodiversity and ecosystems action plans

Q57	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
1	 Add definitions The framework should be more precise on the success measurement of these actions and the timeline expected. Annual report on the evolution of timeline realized versus expected should be mandatory. Add requirements on allocated resources with a link to Taxonomy Capex & Opex. This would increase comparability. Suggest allowing companies to only disclose information on their action plans (without CAPEX) for the first year of application, and with capex from year 2. Biodiversity is an area where scenarios are too complex to set up 	Clarifications		DR is being amended to add definitions and clarifications in metrics and AGs. Compensation will be removed from the Mitigation Hierarchy, as the concept is considered controversial regarding biodiversity and ecosystems. Requirements on Capex and Opex to be aligned across the environmental standards	Ongoing.	No

Q57	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 given the number of parameters to integrate. Less mature compared to climate. Let companies report at their own maturity and provide for progressivity. Reference in paragraph 40: reference to be changed from par. 36 to 37 Par. 41. The undertaking shall describe how it has incorporated traditional knowledge and nature- based solutions into biodiversity and ecosystems-related actions and actions plan: it is not clear what is meant with traditional knowledge. Point 42 (d) could add compensation (as an action within the mitigation strategy). Every company should be able to report on this, taken into consideration that materiality can be used. 					
2	Granularity - The list of requirements in E4-4, the Par 42 seems to be quite extensive. These 9 detailed content requirements about actions should be grouped and moved to AG with a "May" rather than a "shall".	Simplification	Partially	Already taken into account.	Draft are being amended to simplify DR.	

Q57	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 Application provisions could also be considered. Too much detail of information for corporations that operate across different locations and jurisdictions where such biodiversity action plans are implemented. Need a consolidation of information and focus on material aspects. Information should be limited to a few essential elements. Risk to lose relevance and priority of the information. 					
3	 Value chain Difficulty to collect data for the whole value chain. First periods consider a narrower value chain (which comprises companies' activities, upstream and downstream activities where the company plays an operational role). Specific difficulties for financial sector. 	Value Chain		Since biodiversity and ecosystems- related impacts do generally occur across the value chain, ESRS E4 cannot focus on operations alone. Secretariat to evaluate and amend draft where needed (subject to feasibility). Specify explicitly where what level of the value chain applies.	comment).	Yes
4	Confidential info - Some of the information requested (e.g. allocation of resources), may be considered commercially sensitive and confidential. It should be exempt from disclosure. Disclosure of targets, policies, and transition plans should	Confidentialit Y		In CSRD omission is possible only if member states have adopted the option to do so. So ESRS 1 is being amended to acknowledge that where member states have included this option, the undertaking can consider it. Not	No action.	No

Q57	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	be sufficient to provide insights on commitments and performance.			appropriate for Level 2 (ESRS) to take a different approach.		
5	Operational aspects		No	Operations aspects are important and implementation readiness will improve over time.	-	No
4		EU and international alignment		Draft are being amended to ensure environmental standards and in particular ESRS E4 are aligned with v02 TNFD. ISSB is knowledge partner to TNFD. Cooperation with TNFD expected after the issuance of Set1. Similar to TCFD, it is to be expected that TNFD will be part of the emerging global baseline.	To be aligned.	No.

Q58: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-5 – Pressure metrics

Q58	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
1	 Clarify or add additional guidance The metrics of pressure regarding water use should have a reference to ESRS3 to facilitate understanding/legibility. Same for pollution and ESRS 5. Scope of metrics should follow evolution of the biodiversity footprint evaluation models. Under methodologies AG 53, it would be good to add environmental DNA as a method to replace primary data which is often costly and complex to collect. Change name of pressure metrics: not commonly used definitions. Define the concepts, measurements and more guidance for methodologies. Unlike climate-related disclosures, there is no direct and mechanical link with pressure factors. 		Partially	Agree. DR is being amended to add definitions and clarifications in metrics and AGs.	Ongoing.	No
2	 Value chain Uncertainty in the amount and availability of information with potentially high costs especially if full value chain All performance metrics should also probably cover as a priority the undertaking's own operations and 	Value chain	Yes	Since biodiversity and ecosystems- related impacts do generally occur across the value chain, ESRS E4 cannot focus on operations alone. Secretariat to evaluate and amend draft where needed (subject to feasibility).	the comment).	

Q58	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	application provisions should be applied for these metrics along the value chain.			Specify explicitly where what level of the value chain applies.		
3	 Add definitions Add information on the quantification of: Land Use Invasive species The text is too focused on adaptation and not enough on risk mitigation Both of the notions should be integrated. Propose the following addition to paragraph 47, noting that the definitions of structural and functional connectivity come from the IUCN Connectivity Guidelines:"<i>If land-use or habitat change or degradation has been assessed by the undertaking as a material impact driver of biodiversity and ecosystem services loss, the undertaking shall report pressure metrics that pertain to land-use or habitat change or degradation. Land-use or habitat change or degradation can include changes in the spatial configuration of the landscape (e.g., fragmentation of habitats, changes in ecosystem structural connectivity (i.e. habitat patches) or functional connectivity (eg how well</i> 		Partially	Agree. The draft is being amended to add definitions and metrics.	Ongoing	Yes

Q58	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	genes, gametes, propagules or individuals move through land, freshwater and seascape))."					
4	 Importance and prioritization of pressure metrics Pressure metric are essential for the identification of how the action of companies is influencing biodiversity both for entity and stakeholders decisions. It is excellent and crucial that the pressure metrics include aspects of structural connectivity. First focus for companies should be to report on the 5 pressures identified by IPBES (E45 alinea 46 – « but not limited to »). Mandatory and absolute priority. Other measures should in a first period be reported on a voluntary basis by the companies. This reporting requirement could change management behaviour and provide useful information. 	Prioritisation	No	Agree. The DR is being prioritized also in light of alignment with SFDR PAI. Simplification introduced by merging E4-5 and E4-6	No action.	No
5	- Performance measures on	Phase -in implementati on	No	Prioritise DR due to its importance (4). Metrics already available shall be covered with no-phase in. Implementation readiness will improve over time. DRE4-5 and DR E4-6 to be merged for simplification purposes.		

Q58	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
	 First phase of implementation only qualitative information. Until methodologies not available: no meaningful review of an undertaking's performance over time nor internal and peer comparison. Limitations may include incompleteness of datasets, lag in responsiveness of the indicators that can obscure performance, and difficulty in communicating complex results. The performance measurement pillar can then be included in a second set of standards (sector-specific). 					
9	framework	EU and international alignment		Draft are being amended to ensure environmental standards and in particular ESRS E4 are aligned with v02 TNFD. ISSB is knowledge partner to TNFD. Cooperation with TNFD expected after the issuance of Set1. Alignment with SFDR PAI and future EU taxonomy is factored in as a priority.	To be aligned.	No.

Q59: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-6 – Impact metrics

Q59	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
1	 Add guidance and clarifications The standard should clarify how a company can align itself with regulatory requirements both at EU and international level without having a double reporting burden Clarify definitions according to Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD) at 3 levels: intraspecies diversity, interspecies diversity and diversity in the relations between species and their sites. E4-5 refers to "condition, extent, and functioning" of ecosystems as a metric, this metrics is very context/local specific, and typically this type of data is not available or likely to be available in the 5–10-year timescale for reporting. AG.46: Only recommendations, but no clear guidance results in a lack of comparability. As regards to impacts metrics, the number of sensitive locations of the undertaking could be provided rather than a long description of the impacts. This description would have already 		Partially	DR is being amended to add definitions and clarifications in metrics and AGs.	Ongoing.	No

Q59	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment		EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
	been provided under IRO materiality assessment in AG10 to 27 of ESRS E4.					
2	 Value chain Uncertainty in the amount and availability of information with potentially high costs especially if full value chain 	Value chain	Yes	Since biodiversity and ecosystems- related impacts do generally occur across the value chain, ESRS E4 cannot focus on operations alone. Secretariat to evaluate and amend draft where needed (subject to feasibility). Specify explicitly where what level of the value chain applies.	the comment).	Yes
3	 Clarify definitions and review references -Regarding AG 71 references an indicator that measures the quality of ecosystems relative to a pre- determined reference state - it would be good to know what this reference state. Clarity would be welcomed. Par.46: reference is made to paragraph 43, but should be paragraph 44; Par 47. clarify application of this clause to marine habitats and associated specifics to be considered in the Appendix B; Par 51 suggests that pressure metrics related to invasive species control and eradication shall be reported. The 	Glossary	Partially	Agree. The draft is being amended to add definitions and metrics.	Ongoing	Yes

Q59	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 current wording is more relevant to "control measures" rather than pressure metrics. This paragraph does not align with metrics recommendations provided in the AG65 (Appendix B). Recommend aligning the content and approach of these two paragraphs. Additional information in Appendix B (AG46-55) is supposed to provide further guidance about pressure drivers metrics (which are also defined in ESRS E1-3, 5 – climate change, pollution, etc.), but this is not the case. Several paragraphs in this range refer to some other numbered paragraphs but it is unclear where they sit (Example: AG 51. To align with ecological thresholds per paragraph 33(c),). This reference could not be found in this document. A critical review of included references would be beneficial. 55.a: Data on population size is generally not available for most species or locations and is unrealistic to request from companies. We 					

Q59	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
	 recommend removing this unclear metric. 55.b: Data is generally not available for most ecosystems and still under assessment by organizations like the IUNC. It is not realistic to expect companies to report on this. We recommend removing this unclear metric. 					
4	 Importance and prioritization of impact metrics Impact metrics are key in identifying if the actions taken are actually working and are leading to the proclaimed goals/results. Key point of credibility. 	Prioritisation		Agree. The DR is being prioritized also in light of alignment with SFDR PAI. Simplification introduced by merging E4-5 and E4-6.	No action.	No
5	- Performance measures on biodiversity	Phase -in implementati on		Respondents indicated need to prioritize this DR due to its importance. Metrics already available shall be covered with no phase-in. Implementation readiness will improve over time. DR-5 and DR-6 to be merged for simplification purposes.	To be aligned (as per the comment)	

Q59	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 Limitations may include incompleteness of datasets, lag in responsiveness of the indicators that can obscure performance, and difficulty in communicating complex results. The performance measurement pillar can then be included in a second set of standards (sector-specific). 					
6	 Burden High costs especially for companies with multi-countries operations. Too much info and blurred results for reporting. Not sure benefits outweigh costs From an investor's point of view, the currently available data is too granular and hence hard to use (for example the number of breeding fertile birds of a specie of interest). 			Cost-benefit analysis is being carried out and preliminary results indicate that the cost of assurance is overall reasonable but depends on the number of value-chain layers to be considered. Need to consider value chain beyond first tier is a general principle in CSRD and international frameworks.	No action.	No.
7	Alignment with EU and international framework	EU and international alignment		Draft are being amended to ensure environmental standards and in particular ESRS E4 are aligned with v02 TNFD. ISSB is knowledge partner to TNFD. Cooperation with TNFD expected after the issuance of Set1. Alignment with SFDR PAI and future EU taxonomy is factored in as a priority.	To be aligned (as per the comment).	No.

Q59	-	Comment	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	TN	e metrics must be consistent with the IFD metrics to ensure comparability and st-effectiveness.			

Q60: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-7 – Response metrics

Q60	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
1	,	international alignment	Yes	Alignment is considered and is essential. The EFRAG Secretariat recommends deleting the DR and add provision in E4-2 to E4-4 to measure progress.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No

Q60	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
	 existing biodiversity footprint models; this topic should be aligned to the impact measurement part. Alignment with EU taxonomy not yet developed. 					
2	 Granularity Information required has a high level of granularity, for each site. Collecting information is expensive and of little use to investors who will find it difficult to use. 	Granularity	Yes	The EFRAG Secretariat recommends deleting the DR and add provision in E4-2 to E4-4 to measure progress.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No
3	 Missing Definitions. Lack of methodologies and metrics. The definition of relevant indicators for biodiversity is not stabilised as this notion depends on very complex notions following the definition of biodiversity in Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD). Long way to go before ensuring a science-based approach on this subject. The amount of data required is impossible to sustain for an annual reporting as it is an extensive and sitespecific information. This type of performance disclosure makes sense if it is based on common metrics that make performance 		Partially	The EFRAG Secretariat recommends deleting the DR and add provision in E4-2 to E4-4 to measure progress.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No

Q60	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	comparable to each other. To date, there is no methodology acquired to aggregate site-based impact\performance data at corporate level.					
4	 Lack of clarity and additional Guidance needed. Performance measures on Biodiversity and ecosystems are currently the object of ongoing collective work at the time of the drafting of this Standard. That is why the disclosure requirements proposed are mostly principles-based. This results in recommendations, but no clear guidance that means lack of comparability. Clarify how a company can align itself with regulatory requirements both at EU and international level without having a double reporting burden. 4-7 on response metrics should be located under E4-4 on actions as it requires the list of actions undertaken or planned. 		Partially	The EFRAG Secretariat recommends deleting the DR and add provision in E4-2 to E4-4 to measure progress.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No
5	Postpone - Suggestion of postponement in the issue of the standard. Disclosure similar to climate- related disclosures, but subject is not as mature			The EFRAG Secretariat recommends deleting the DR and add provision in E4-2 to E4-4 to measure progress.	To be aligned (as per comment)	

Q60	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	in terms of concept, methodology and data availability. - As DR is referring to a regulatory framework not yet defined, recommend a postponement in the issue of the standard.					
6	Should be addressed at sector level	Sector Specific		The EFRAG Secretariat recommends deleting the DR and add provision in E4-2 to E4-4 to measure progress.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No

Q61: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-8 – Biodiversity-friendly consumption and production metrics

Q61	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
1	 Lack of definitions and need of clarifications The term « biodiversity-friendly consumption » should be defined and framed. Linkage to EU taxonomy not (yet) defined – clarification/definition necessary. Better located with other requirements on sustainable products and responsible supply chains. This raises 	Missing	Yes	Definitions are not available and have limited applications only for few sectors. The Secretariat recommends moving to sector-specific standards.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No

Template 1.2 ESRS E4

Q61	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 the question of the structure of the ESRS and the lack of a standard on these 2 topics. Clarify that DR should not be optional in case the undertaking is connected to material impacts on biodiversity. 					
2	 Issues with third party certifications Reservations on exercise of verification /assurance subject to the development of a proper methodology, the knowledge of the reviewers. Third party certification schemes are not available for all raw materials. Review the requirements regarding third-party certifications in general: entities should have standards in place that align with external frameworks and are therefore of certifiable quality. The verification should be based on the currently recognised bio labels. Certification systems do not have the same level of recognition at international level. Third-party certification schemes are widely used and accepted, so in 		Yes	The issues of third-party certifications are noted. To be considered when developing the sector-specific standards. The Secretariat recommends moving to sector-specific standards.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No

Q61	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment		EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
	 principle there should be no additional cost from disclosing this information For the sake of costs and effort, a pressure to externally certify activities via audits would have significant impact on businesses. 					
3	Competition sensitive - 60 (a) and (b) on the volume and percentage production and supply of raw material, it can be competition sensitive business information which should not be disclosed.	Confidentialit Y	Partially	In CSRD omission is possible only if member states have adopted the option to do so. So ESRS 1 is being amended to acknowledge that where member states have included this option, the undertaking can consider it. Not appropriate for Level 2 (ESRS) to take a different approach.	No action	No
4	•	specific	Partially	The Secretariat recommends moving to sector-specific standards.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No
	Burden - Difficulty to find certified raw material worldwide. Any additional data to be collected under challenging conditions which are out of the control of the entity and, on top, need to be assured, add significant reporting burden.	Burden	No	Noted. The Secretariat recommends moving to sector-specific standards.	To be aligned (as per comment)	

Q61	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment		EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
6	 Deprioritise Not a priority. Open door to greenwashing: a company reporting on small-scale actions instead of implementing a serious action plan. 	Phase-in	No	Noted. The Secretariat recommends moving to sector-specific standards. It is recommended to move the DR to set 2, sector specific.		
7		Sector Specific	No	Noted. The Secretariat recommends moving to sector-specific standards. It is recommended to move the DR to set 2, sector specific.	per comment)	No

Q62: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-9 – Biodiversity offsets

Q62	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
1	 Conceptual problems, missing definitions and immature framework (certification) Offsetting should not be possible regarding biodiversity. Differently from carbon, when ecosystems are destroyed this is location specific. No definition of net-zero for biodiversity as opposed to carbon. Clarify purpose of reporting: is offset considered a performance indicator? How the comparability between companies will be applied? Off-set is the last option to be considered (only when avoidance, minimization and restorations fail to be applied). The interpretation of figures varies significantly with the size companies and with the sensitivity of the areas where they operate. Risk of green washing e certifications in absence of certification like systems. Complicated to verify and establish the real impact of the actions implemented. 	Missing	No	Agree that DR requires definitions and concepts that are currently not mature. The Secretariat recommends deleting E4-9.	To be aligned (as per the comment).	No
2	 Deprioritise It is important to incentivise companies to invest in off-sets but it should not be prioritised given immature framework. 	Postpone	No	Agree that DR requires definitions and concepts that are currently not mature.	To be aligned (as per the comment).	No

Q62	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 Prioritization would not be possible in first years but only when information is available (i.e permit requirements) DR to be deprioritised (not mature as climate off-sets) E4-9 could be covered by an application provision and/or could be considered as sector-specific as market practice is still limited. No optionality of DR, if prioritized it shall be mandatory. 			The Secretariat recommends deleting E4-9.		
3	 Alignment with TNFD is questioned Metric shall align with TNFD that is not yet finalised and does not provide guidance on off-sets. 	Missing	Partially	Agree that alignment with international and EU objectives is a must. As TNFD does not provide guidance on offsets. The Secretariat recommends deleting E4-9.	To be aligned (as per the comment).	No
4	 Clarify certain notions identify the characteristics that qualify "ecosystem mitigation projects" as relevant in order to compensate for a company's negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems; Explicitly require that negative impacts and compensation projects are presented gross. 	Glossary	Yes	Agree on adjusting definitions of target and metrics. As requires definitions and concepts that are currently not mature. The Secretariat recommends deleting E4-9.	To be aligned (as per the comment).	No.

Q63		Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment		EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
1	 Potential financial impacts might not be available/feasible for all material aspects. Risk and opportunities should be assessed, but the monetary quantification should be a secondary step in the requirement hierarchy and bear the possibility to provide insight into nonfinancial effects. On (67), the disclosure requirement is broad and generic while effects are not well known or established: scenarios have not yet been developed for biodiversity and nature loss as is the case for climate. The scope is too broad, and it should be removed until better external alignment on scenarios is available or more detailed guidance and standardization of methodology is provided. DR similar to climate-related disclosures, but not as mature in terms of concept, methodology and data availability. E4-10 is not clear (no Application Guidelines), probably because it is not mature enough as market practice. Projection models and methods should be listed. 	Missing		Agree that methodologies and definitions are not yet available and to improve quality characteristics the DR could be moved to set 2. As per the issues paper, this would allow for maturity of reporting practices to emerge before specifying what is needed in the sector-specific standards.	To be aligned (as per comment)	Yes

Q63: Please, rate to what extent do you think DR E4-10 – Financial effects from biodiversity-related impacts, risks and opportunities

Q63	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
	 Unlike the climate standard, in this DR the financial indicators are not defined, and any application guidance is provided. Timelines may not always coincide with the time frames of the financial planning of companies, since this is a forecast information. Risk to jeopardize the quality of financial information provided over different time horizons. 					
2	Clarify metrics and definitions - The market size of products at risk may not be a relevant metric, as products at risk generate risks on the undertaking's turnover, not directly on market size. It should be replaced by turnover based on products at risk if relevant.	Glossary	No	Agree	Ongoing.	No
3	 Operational aspects and verification Due to lack of info, companies would rely on approximation and estimation procedures, which makes these data difficult to be verified by auditors. Investors will also have a hard time using this data to its fullest potential since they are not comparable between sectors. 	Implementati on		Agree that DR would be more pertinent at sector specific level to allow for adapted methodologies. Recommend moving to sector specific Set 2. Feasible to be more precise in providing guidance on how to disclose and apply disclosure without phase-in.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No

Q63	Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment		EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
4		Sector specific	No	Recommend moving to sector specific Set 2. Feasible to be more precise in providing guidance on how to disclose and apply disclosure without phase-in.	0	No.
5		EU and international alignement	Yes	Alignment is respected but EU and international frameworks including TNFD are not yet finalized. Recommend moving to sector specific Set 2 to be more precise in providing guidance on how to disclose and apply disclosure without phase-in.	To be aligned (as per comment)	No
6		Phase-in		-	To be aligned (as per comment).	No

Q63	- Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
	 As the main international regulatory framework on this field is not yet defined, strongly recommended a postponement. The standard should clarify how a company can align itself with regulatory requirements both at EU (Taxonomy) and international level (TNFD) without having a double reporting burden. Due to lack of methodology and issue with timer horizons (in 1), introduce a phase-in solution on qualitative information. climate standard. 			disclose and apply disclosure without phase-in.		

Other comments related to Annex A and B across Q 54-63

	Comment		Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments		Issue paper needed ?
1	Clarification and Glossary Appendix A: defined terms - Deforestation – It would be advisable to use FAO definition for deforestation https://www.fao.org/3/I8661EN/i8661en.pdf page 6.	,		DRs are being amended to add definitions and clarifications in metrics and AGs (covering all E4 DRs).	the comment).	No

Comment T	ӯре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	lssue paper needed ?
 Key Biodiversity Areas – The Key Biodiversity areas should be defined by national legislation not by NGO Appendix B: Application guidance AG 11.C – As biodiversity is local it should be possible to use national databases which in many case are more relevant than global databases AG.19 The risks mentioned in this point (physical and transition) are extremely wide and could be difficult even for large companies to disclose, impossible for small and medium sized enterprises. AG 10-30 covering "Biodiversity and ecosystems-related specific application guidance on ESRS 2 Disclosure Requirements IRO 1 and IRO 2 on materiality assessment" under tools it should be added IUCN STAR - Species Threat Abatement and Recovery (STAR) Metric IUCN, IBAT -Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) (ibat- alliance.org, and under freshwater - Aqueduct World Resources Institute (wri.org) For all tools their effectiveness 					
 depends on local level data that feeds through the model, which needs to be maintained and linked. In AG 15 names the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, this list also contains 					

Comment	Туре	Already in TEG survey or ISSB/ GRI/TNFD alignment	EFRAG Secretariat comments	EFRAG Secretariat conclusion	Issue paper needed ?
 species that are not threatened (listed as least concern). It could be added in the category of vulnerable, endangered etc. Others will be data deficient (but possible very threatened). AG 26. The timescale used (< 1 year 1-3 years, > 3 years) for speed of impact is too short at least for boreal forest, in order to notice effect change in bio-diversity the reasonable scale is 10 years. AG44-75 – Overall, and reporting against these metrics will require major cost additional resource and capacity needs to both collect the necessary data and also to then report the data consistently, accuratel and reliably. The focus of the reporting needs to be on the actions businesses are taking and not back-facing metrics. AG44-75 – refer to material impact drivers without (i.) providing clarification on what is materials and (ii.) at what level are the material impact driver metrics to be applied (i.e. at each and every location where the impact may occur or at a higher corporate level where the impact has been identified as material by the company. Risk that the amount to information blurs the relevance. 	5				