

Examples of technical support and training provided by Proteus in 2024

Proteus Partners can access seven days of technical support and/or training per year from UNEP-WCMC's biodiversity experts. This document provides examples of how Proteus Partners used their technical support and training hours in 2024. It is intended to provide inspiration for Partners considering how to use this support.

The examples are all anonymised, and to an extent generalised. They are structured under four categories covering how the Proteus technical support hours can help facilitate uptake of biodiversity knowledge in Proteus Partner companies – 1) embedding biodiversity data and knowledge into organisational processes, 2) innovating and piloting new approaches, 3) advancing nature policies and strategies, and 4) building capacity across the business.

Embedding data and knowledge into organisational processes:

- We held a full day in-person workshop to review use of biodiversity spatial datasets in A) a Partner's internal GIS platform and B) a new tool the Partner was developing to support reporting under EU CSRD.
- We produced an Excel-based tool to support a Partner's biodiversity assessment workflows, based on the Biodiversity Indicators for Site-based Impacts (BISI) methodology.
- We identified new biodiversity spatial datasets released in 2024 for an update to a Partner's internal environmental data register.
- We had a series of technical calls to support a Partner's GIS team with integration and display of global spatial datasets in their internal GIS platform.
- We provided technical recommendations around how a biodiversity indicator is incorporated in a Partner's natural capital assessment method.
- We calculated a set of biodiversity metrics to include in a country profile being created by a Partner.

Innovating and piloting new approaches:

- We piloted using the updated 2024 version of the ENCORE tool for a screening-level assessment of impacts and dependencies on nature across a Partner's portfolio.
- We piloted applying the Calibrated STAR Threat Abatement workflow at a Partner's site to explore the feasibility and kind of insights it would provide.
- We applied a method under development for ranking sites in a Partner's portfolio based on their relative level of biodiversity significance.
- We carried out technology scans around eDNA and soil quality assessment methods to inform a Partner's uptake of emerging tools and approaches.
- We provided insights into the significance of new scientific papers of interest to a Partner company.

Advancing nature policies and strategies

- We reviewed and provided technical feedback on draft versions of several biodiversity strategy and technical guidance documents being developed by Partners, including documents addressing nature-positive, site-based BES assessment and management, Net Positive Impact, and deforestation.
- We wrote a technical memo synthesising the latest science and policy developments around deep-sea mining, to support understanding of the topic by senior decision makers in a Partner company.
- We held an online workshop to explore approaches to ecosystem services risk assessments in a Partner's context.
- We reviewed the landscape of biodiversity funds in a selection of companies to support identification of opportunities for a Partner to contribute to them.
- We produced a map of new protected areas added to the WDPA in the past year aligned with the commitments in a Partner's biodiversity position.

Building capacity across the business (and beyond)

- We held several online training sessions, between 1-2 hours long, to introduce Partner's teams to the breadth of resources that Proteus makes available.
- We held several online training sessions, ranging from introductory big-audience presentations to small-group technical Q&A sessions, on the use of specific biodiversity datasets or tools such as IBAT and ENCORE.
- We held a 3hr biodiversity management fundamentals workshop with teams from a Partner's newly acquired assets, covering the business case for nature, key biodiversity and conservation concepts, and site-based biodiversity management best practices.
- We presented to a Partner's site team on the TNFD and how the LEAP process could support their understanding of risks and opportunities.
- We presented at an industry conference on the opportunity to share biodiversity data through GBIF, and as a follow-up to site teams in a Partner company with more detail on how to go about doing this.

The list of examples above illustrates how Partners have been using their Proteus technical assistance and training hours in 2024, but it is not an exhaustive list nor intended to capture everything that could be done with these hours. Use the hours is bespoke to Partner needs, designed for Partners to be able to benefit from UNEP-WCMC's expertise to enhance uptake of biodiversity knowledge in their company.

To discuss ideas for your technical support and training please get in touch with Alex (alex.ross@unep-wcmc.org), Bálint (balint.ternyik@unep-wcmc.org), or anyone in the Proteus team (proteus@unep-wcmc.org).