



PROTEUS QUARTERLY UPDATE

April to June 2025

CONTENTS

- Partnership Updates
- New Resources
- Data Updates
- New Publications
- Upcoming Events and Opportunities



PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

- **Proteus 2026-2030 Strategy:** UNEP-WCMC is finalising the strategy for the next strategic phase of the Proteus Partnership. We are grateful for extensive input and feedback received from Proteus partners and selected other businesses. The final strategy summary document will be shared in the coming weeks.
- [UNEP-WCMC Impact Report 2023-2024](#): Our latest impact report showcases how UNEP-WCMC has brought about nature action by providing world-leading data and tools, and offering vital guidance and support through our work with governments, businesses, the scientific community, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and civil society.
- **Direct support to Proteus partners:** UNEP-WCMC has delivered six training sessions, over 85 hours of technical assistance, and successfully resolved 23 data queries for Proteus partners in Q2 2025. Please get in touch if you would like to discuss [training](#) and [technical assistance](#). Some examples of how Proteus partners have previously used their training and technical assistance allowances are provided [here](#).

NEW RESOURCES

- [Proteus Horizon Scan webinar](#) on *Scaling Nature Action*: In this session during the Proteus Annual Meeting (March 2025), three Proteus partners provided case studies illustrating how nature action is being scaled across their businesses, from site-level considerations to decisions at the corporate level.
- [Proteus Horizon Scan](#) on *AI in conservation*: UNEP-WCMC provided an overview of existing and upcoming opportunities to use AI within conservation, plus three case studies of AI support to UNEP-WCMC's work.
- [Proteus Horizon Scan](#) on *Landscape Level Approaches in Action*: This session saw presentations from Proforest and Teck, then reflections as a group on the benefits, opportunities and challenges businesses face in engaging with Landscape Level Approaches.
- [Proteus Data Forum](#) on *Biodiversity Commitments Across Sectors*: This session saw presentations from Metsä Group, Shell and Newmont on biodiversity targets, then reflections as a group on lessons learned, challenges and opportunities associated with making ambitious corporate nature commitments.
- [Align project outputs](#): Including recommendations for corporate biodiversity measurement and valuation, implementation guidance, technical deep-dives, discussion papers, and training materials.
- [Summary Report](#) on the *Proteus Annual Meeting*: A succinct summary from the Proteus Annual Meeting 2025 (two-day Nature Action Dialogues and third partners only closed day), with recordings of presentations and other materials available on the [Proteus website](#).

DATA UPDATES

- **World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA):** 34 countries were updated in the second quarter of 2025 including 11 Proteus Priority Countries (Bulgaria, Colombia, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Peru, Netherlands, Spain, and Sweden). These updates included 30,900 records with updated and verified data, 240 records added to the WDPA, and 179 records removed from the WDPA.
- **World Database on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (WD-OECM):** The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) contributed 18 new Area Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) sites in May; the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) partially updated all their existing 20 ABNJ sites in June, and one OECM was also added for Peru in June.
- **WDPA and WD-OECM merge:** From 1st August 2025 the WDPA and WD-OECM will be merged into one database. This is to streamline data management processes and simplify how external users access the two datasets, allowing users to identify all protected and conserved areas with one dataset. For more details on these changes, please refer to [this document](#).
- **IBAT:** The IUCN Red List spatial data was updated in April 2025 to include the first 1,000 of the world's 155,000 known fungal species threatened by deforestation, agricultural expansion and urban development. The World Database on Key Biodiversity Areas was updated in May 2025 to include 113 new Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas in Italy.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

- [UNEP-WCMC \(2025\)](#). 2023-2024 Impact Report. UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Cambridge UK.
- [UNEP-WCMC \(2025\)](#). Mobilizing Finance for Biodiversity: The Private Finance Sector and the Implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
- UNEP-WCMC (2025). NBSAPs and Private Finance Outlook: [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#) and [Indonesia](#).
- [UNEP-WCMC, WBCSD, Capitals Coalition \(2025\)](#). Building narratives through nature data: Handbook for applying spatial datasets and metrics to assess locations and tailor nature strategies.
- [Reynolds et al. \(2025\)](#). The potential for AI to revolutionize conservation: a horizon scan.
- [Butt \(2025\)](#). Data-driven sustainable finance for infrastructure development: the need for sustainable infrastructure.
- [UNEP-WCMC and ICPC \(2025\)](#). Submarine cables and marine biodiversity.
- [Ockendon et al. \(2025\)](#). Overcoming barriers and leveraging opportunities to scale up landscape-scale restoration in Europe.
- [Ascenzi et al. \(2025\)](#). Restoration Project Developers' Playbook on Private Finance (Europe).
- [REXUS Consortium \(2025\)](#). NbS in the WEF E Nexus: A framework for integrating Nature-based Solutions into strategies to address interconnected Water, Energy, Food and Ecosystem challenges.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Proteus Partner Events

- **Q3 2025** – Technical Brief on strategic spatial prioritisation in marine offshore wind projects
- **Q3 2025** – Horizon Scan on business contributions to protected and conserved area coverage
- **Q4 2025** – Data Forum on State of Nature metrics
- **Q4 2025** – Data Forum on new developments in IBAT
- **Q4 2025** – Data Forum on Restoration Opportunities

External Events

- **9-15 October 2025** – IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025 in Abu Dhabi
- **23-24 October 2025** – European Business and Nature Summit (EBNS) in Helsinki
- **10-21 November 2025** – 30th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 30) to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Belém
- **8-12 December 2025** – 7th session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) in Nairobi
- **18-30 October 2026** – 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Yerevan

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