

A winter landscape with snow-covered evergreen trees under a starry night sky. The scene is illuminated by a soft, warm light, likely from a low sun or moon, creating a serene and magical atmosphere. The sky is filled with numerous stars, and the snow on the trees and ground is bright white, contrasting with the dark blue and purple tones of the night sky.

PROTEUS QUARTERLY UPDATE

October to December 2024

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POLICY UPDATES

- [CBD COP16](#): UNEP-WCMC and several Proteus Partners participated in biodiversity COP16, which delivered decisions around the role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in CBD processes and sharing of benefits from use of Digital Sequence Information, among many others. A summary of key business-relevant priorities and outcomes of CBD COP16 and their implications for Proteus Partners is provided in our [Proteus Horizon Scan webinar](#).
- [UNFCCC COP29](#): UNEP-WCMC and several Proteus Partners participated in climate COP29, where there was significant focus on scaling up climate finance. A targeted summary of headline outcomes and connections to nature is provided in our [Proteus Partners update](#) on Nature at UNFCCC COP 29.
- [UNCCD COP16](#): UNEP-WCMC participated in desertification and land UNCCD COP16, which reinforced the importance of business action for sustainable land management and nature-based solutions.
- [IPBES Nexus Assessment](#): UNEP-WCMC scientists lead chapters on policy options and biodiversity finance in the recently adopted IPBES Nexus assessment on the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health.

PARTNERSHIP UPDATES

- **Resource:** [Data Forum](#) on the Capitals Coalition's Beta Framework for Integrated Decision-Making. This session introduced the Beta Framework and supporting documents addressing combined consideration of natural, social and human capital by businesses. It highlighted opportunities for Proteus Partners to support piloting of the Beta Framework.
- **Training and Technical Assistance:** UNEP-WCMC has delivered 14 training sessions, over 250 hours of technical assistance and successfully resolved over 80 data queries for Proteus Partners in 2024. Please get in touch if you would like to discuss [training](#) and [technical assistance](#).
- **New Partner Announcement:** ContourGlobal has joined the Proteus Partnership. ContourGlobal is an energy generation and transmission company, operating in 18 countries in Europe, North America, South America and Africa.



DATA UPDATES

- [Protected Planet Report 2024](#): Based on the official data reported by governments to the WDPA, the global coverage of protected and conserved areas has now reached 17.6% of terrestrial and inland waters and 8.4% of marine and coastal areas. While progress has been made in increasing protected area coverage, this must be accelerated considerably if Target 3 ('30 by 30') of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is to be fully met by 2030.
- **WDPA and WD-OECM**: Twelve countries and territories were updated in the last quarter of 2024 including four Proteus Priority Countries (Kenya, Madagascar, Namibia and Peru). This saw a net increase of 67 records in Proteus Priority Countries. The OECMs data in Bhutan was updated in the Q4 2024.
- **IBAT**: A [new page](#) dedicated to Biodiversity Disclosure has been launched to help companies understand how IBAT supports effective and credible biodiversity disclosures in alignment with global frameworks, such as GRI, CSRD, TNFD and SFDR. The page offers an overview of how the Disclosure Preparation Report simplifies the process of integrating biodiversity data into sustainability reporting.
- UNEP-WCMC, alongside [OBAPAO](#), delivered a workshop in Guinea with funding support from Rio Tinto for participants from 14 West African countries on Target 3, mapping and reporting protected and conserved areas, OECMs and ICCAs as well as management effectiveness and governance.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

- [UNEP-WCMC and IUCN \(2024\)](#). Protected Planet Report 2024, reviewing global progress towards Target 3 ('30 by 30') of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
- [IPBES \(2024\)](#). Thematic assessment report on interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health: Summary for policymakers.
- [IPBES \(2024\)](#). Thematic assessment report of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and the determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 vision for biodiversity: Summary for policymakers.
- [Align 2024](#). Discussion paper exploring measurement solutions for corporate Nature Positive commitments.
- [Burgess et al. \(2024\)](#). Review paper of Global Metrics for Terrestrial Biodiversity.
- [Capitals Coalition \(2024\)](#). Framework for Integrated Decision-making considering the interconnectedness of natural, social, human and produced capital.
- [TNFD \(2024\)](#). Discussion paper on nature transition plans.
- [SBTN \(2024\)](#). Stakeholder engagement and science-based targets for nature: Integrating the perspectives of affected stakeholders into target setting and evaluation.
- [Reynolds et al. \(2024\)](#). Horizon scan paper on the potential for AI to revolutionize conservation.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Proteus Partner Events

- **25-27 March 2025** – The Proteus Annual Meeting, consisting of the two-day [Nature Action Dialogues](#) followed by a closed day for Proteus Partners.
- **Q1 2025** – Technical Brief on nature-based solutions for adaptation
- **Q1 2025** – Technical Brief contrasting different biodiversity target setting approaches
- **Q1 2025** – Technical Brief on strategic spatial prioritisation in marine offshore wind projects
- **Q1 2025** – Technical Brief on every job is a nature job: Business Development Managers

External Events

- **20-24 Jan. 2025** – World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2025
- **25-27 February 2025** – Second resumed session of the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the CBD in Rome, Italy
- **9-15 October 2025** – IUCN World Conservation Congress in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- **10-21 November 2025** – 30th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 30) to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Belém, Brazil

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