

Improving the Quality of Ecosystems Below Water and on Land

SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Oceans are our planet's life support and regulate the global climate system. They are the world's largest ecosystem, home to an unknown number of species, containing vast untapped potential for scientific discovery. Oceans and fisheries continue to support the global population's economic, social and environmental needs. Despite the critical importance of conserving oceans, decades of irresponsible exploitation have led to an alarming level of degradation.

Meanwhile, forest areas also continue to degrade at an alarming rate. Protected areas are not concentrated in sites known for their biological diversity, and species remain threatened with extinction. Wildlife crime surges, land use changes with deforestation and habitat encroachment as a result. Our interaction with the environment is a pathway of transmission for emerging infectious diseases, including COVID-19, threatening public health and the world economy.

Lack of Progress

Oceans and fisheries continue to support the global population's economic, social and environmental needs while suffering unsustainable depletion, environmental deterioration and carbon dioxide saturation and acidification. Current efforts to protect key marine environments and small-scale fishers and invest in ocean science are not yet meeting the urgent need to protect this vast, fragile ecosystem.

On land, only about a third of reporting parties are on track to achieve their national biodiversity targets. While the rate of loss has slowed, global forest cover continues to decline, protected areas are not concentrated in areas of key biodiversity and multiple species remain threatened with extinction.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been (preliminary) classified as a zoonotic disease, meaning that the virus is thought to be transmitted from animals to humans. Such vulnerabilities will only increase if we don't change course.



Your Challenge


What can your organization do to revert the degradation of our oceans and ecosystems on land? The global pause in human activity and the increased awareness due to COVID-19 might leverage and inspire solutions. As regions across the globe have very specific characteristics, you are asked to limit your solution to one geography. And as big goals like the SDGs cannot be achieved by a single person, an individual company or even one country or government by itself, finding the right partners within the ecosystem you are aiming to make an impact on is essential. Work on a solution (product, service or other) that your company could deliver, build the business case and prove that it will work, with impact!

SDG 14, 15 and 17 at a Glance...

Be sure to explore these goals further!

Further resources to get started: [SDG 14](#) | [SDG 15](#) | [SDG 17](#)

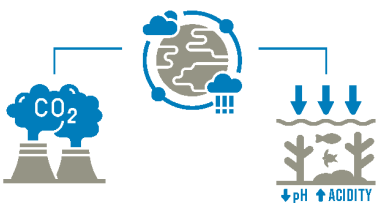
14
LIFE
BELOW WATER



CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEA AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

BEFORE COVID-19


OCEAN ACIDIFICATION CONTINUES TO THREATEN MARINE ENVIRONMENTS AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES



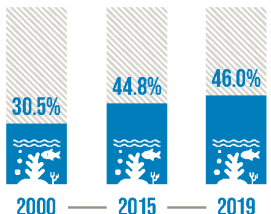
A 100-150% RISE IN OCEAN ACIDITY IS PROJECTED BY 2100, AFFECTING HALF OF ALL MARINE LIFE

COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS

THE DRASTIC REDUCTION IN HUMAN ACTIVITY BROUGHT ABOUT BY COVID-19 MAY BE A CHANCE FOR OCEANS TO RECUPERATE

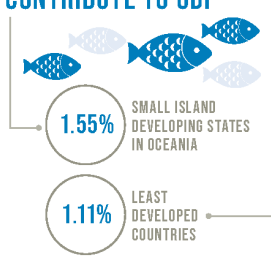


GLOBAL MARINE KEY BIODIVERSITY AREAS COVERED BY PROTECTED AREAS INCREASED



Year	Percentage
2000	30.5%
2015	44.8%
2019	46.0%


SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES CONTRIBUTE TO GDP



- 1.55% SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES IN OCEANIA
- 1.11% LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

10x THE GLOBAL AVERAGE

97 COUNTRIES SIGNED THE AGREEMENT ON PORT STATE MEASURES, THE FIRST BINDING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING

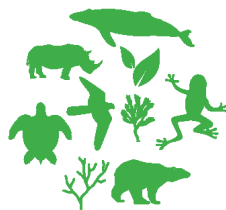




PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS

BEFORE COVID-19

THE WORLD IS FALLING SHORT ON 2020 TARGETS TO HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS



OVER 31,000 SPECIES ARE THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION

WHICH IS

27% OF OVER 116,000 ASSESSED SPECIES IN THE IUCN RED LIST

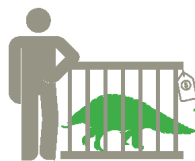


FOREST AREAS CONTINUE TO DECLINE AT AN ALARMING RATE, DRIVEN MAINLY BY AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION

EACH YEAR, 10 MILLION HECTARES OF FOREST ARE DESTROYED (2015-2020)

COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS

WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING DISRUPTS ECOSYSTEMS AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES



PANGOLINS ARE POSSIBLY THE INTERMEDIARY ANIMAL THAT TRANSFERRED THE CORONAVIRUS

THE EQUIVALENT OF 370,000 PANGOLINS WERE SEIZED GLOBALLY (2014-2018)



TWO BILLION HECTARES OF LAND ON EARTH ARE DEGRADED, AFFECTING SOME 3.2 BILLION PEOPLE, DRIVING SPECIES TO EXTINCTION AND INTENSIFYING CLIMATE CHANGE



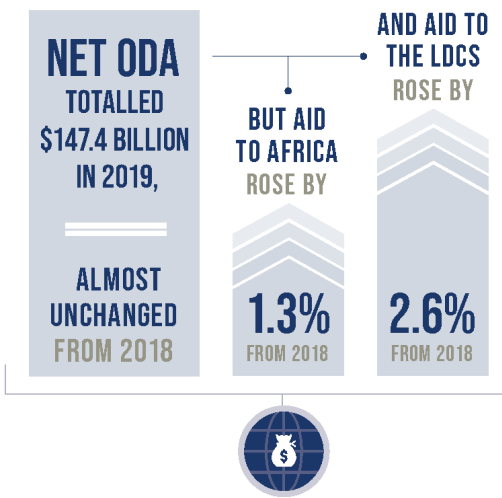
ONLY A THIRD OF 113 COUNTRIES WERE ON TRACK TO ACHIEVE THEIR NATIONAL TARGET TO INTEGRATE BIODIVERSITY INTO NATIONAL PLANNING

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



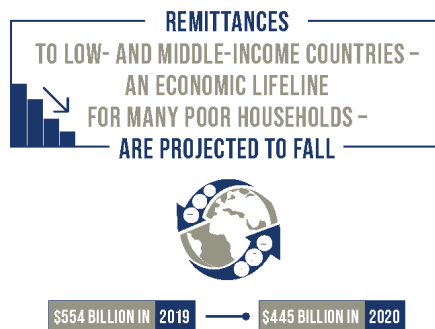
STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

BEFORE COVID-19



GLOBAL FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IS EXPECTED TO DECLINE BY UP TO 40% IN 2020

COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS



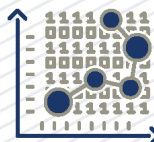
FIXED-BROADBAND SUBSCRIPTIONS

PER 100 INHABITANTS IN 2019

DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
33.6

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
11.2

INTERNATIONAL FUNDING FOR DATA AND STATISTICS WAS \$690 MILLION IN 2017



ONLY HALF THE LEVEL IT NEEDS TO BE