



life

Lasting Initiative For Earth

LIFE Certification
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LIFE Institute is responsible for the development and management of LIFE Certification system.

LIFE Certification recognizes organizations that develop positive and effective actions towards biodiversity conservation, contributing to the maintenance of natural areas and the supply of ecosystem services.

LIFE Certification system, with third-party audits, can be applied to organizations of any size and sector.

LIFE Certified Organizations:

- ✔ **Apply a consistent and robust Methodology;**
- ✔ **Quantify its environmental impacts;**
- ✔ **Implement voluntary biodiversity conservation actions;**
- ✔ **Promote actions based on scientific specifications and national and international biodiversity conservation priorities.**

MAINSTREAMING BUSINESS AND BIODIVERSITY

Additional private sector investment is required to prevent nature degradation by funding and implementing biodiversity conservation actions. The Convention of Biological Diversity 2011-2020 Global Strategic Plan for Biodiversity encourages businesses to incorporate pro-biodiversity practices to achieve CBD's Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Aichi Targets:

CBD's 2011-2020 Global Strategic Plan for Biodiversity includes a set of 20 Targets which aims the reduction of biodiversity loss on global level.

Aichi Target 4: Sustainable Production and Consumption

By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

LIFE Certification is an efficient and precise tool that recognizes organizations which establishes direct commitment with the global goals of biodiversity conservation.



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

LIFE Institute has the recognition of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity which believes LIFE Certification to be an innovative and pragmatic method to assess the performance of business corporations relative to the biodiversity agenda established by the CBD.

Braulio F. de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary of CBD

LIFE Certification

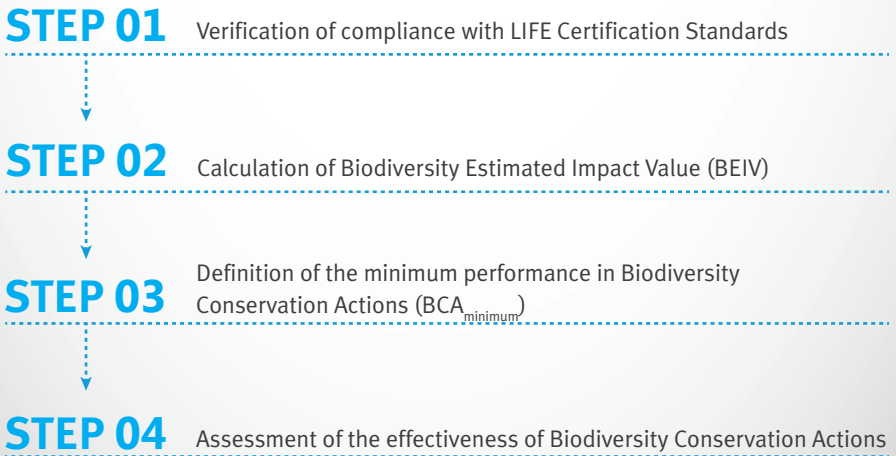
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LIFE Biodiversity Certification enables an organization to objectively quantify its environmental impacts. And also provides strategic guidance to organizations to guarantee the effectiveness of their biodiversity conservation actions.

LIFE Certification assumes that real engagement with biodiversity conservation can be assessed in two complementary ways:

- ✔ **QUALITATIVE APPROACH:** The inclusion of biodiversity across the board in environmental management.
- ✔ **QUANTITATIVE APPROACH:** Establishes the minimum performance and evaluates the effectiveness of conservation actions that are carried out.

REQUIREMENTS FOR LIFE CERTIFICATION



STEP 01

Verification of compliance with LIFE Certification Standards

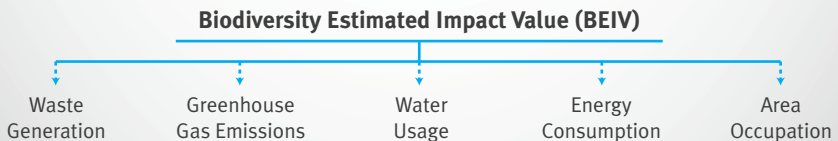
LIFE Certification Standards are derived from premises based on the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, then structured into Principles, Criteria and indicators.

PRINCIPLE 1	Biodiversity conservation as common responsibility between the certified organization, suppliers and clients
PRINCIPLE 2	Compliance with legislation, agreements, treaties and international programs
PRINCIPLE 3	Commitment with voluntary biodiversity conservation actions
PRINCIPLE 4	Recognition and mapping of interactions between biodiversity, human well-being and businesses
PRINCIPLE 5	Identification of biodiversity impacts and implementation of operational control aiming its reduction
PRINCIPLE 6	Promotion of biodiversity conservation actions based on science and traditional knowledge where applicable
PRINCIPLE 7	Benefit sharing derived from the access to biodiversity genetic resources and/or the traditional knowledge associated
PRINCIPLE 8	Monitoring and continuous improvement of biodiversity impacts and the conservation performance

STEP 02

Calculation of Biodiversity Estimated Impact Value (BEIV)

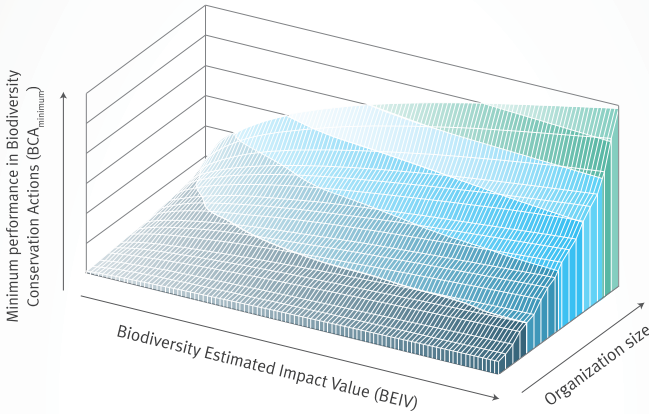
Using a LIFE Biodiversity Estimated Impact Value (BEIV) an organization calculates and evaluates its impact based on five environmental aspects taking into account quantity and severity criteria.



STEP 03

Definition of the minimum performance in Biodiversity Conservation Actions (BCA_{minimum})

Based on the business Biodiversity Estimated Impact Value (BEIV) a minimum performance in Biodiversity Conservation Actions is calculated for each organization. This minimum performance is adjusted according to the organization size.



STEP 04

Assessment of the effectiveness of Biodiversity Conservation Actions

LIFE Certification Methodology provides a technical document which lists all the actions that can be scored. The scoring system is based on: (1) international and national conservation priorities and (2) effectiveness of biodiversity conservation actions.

Hierarchy for Scoring Conservation Actions

+	GROUP 1	Protected areas officially implemented
↑	GROUP 2	Protected areas non-officially implemented
	GROUP 3	Initiatives for species and ecosystems management and conservation
-	GROUP 4	Strategic, political and/or educational initiatives for biodiversity conservation

The score actually held by the organization is compared to the minimum required score. If the score is performed at or above the minimum, and the environmental management of the organization is in accordance with LIFE Standards, the organization obtains LIFE Certification. The Certificate is valid for five years with annual monitoring audits.

LIFE compliant businesses are able to decode, quantify and track their environmental impact. And to implement concrete and effective actions to natural capital maintenance.

Third-party certification: Independent Certifying Bodies accredited by LIFE Institute are responsible for official audits for LIFE Certification.

With third-party audits, a LIFE Certified Organization can communicate the effectiveness of its voluntary biodiversity conservation programme. This enables a business to competitively differentiate due to a “Net Positive Biodiversity Journey” strategy that promotes the organizations’ overall pro-biodiversity reputation.

For more information visit
www.institutolife.org

AGREEMENT



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Why LIFE Certification?

LIFE Certification is a tool that recognizes organizations efforts towards net positive biodiversity operational strategies.

It is applied to those businesses concerned with the increasing risks of global environmental thresholds and that in response aim to implement robust and measurable Biodiversity Action Plans.



- ✓ Recognizes voluntary and effective actions for biodiversity conservation undertaken by organizations
- ✓ Evaluates the impact from businesses
- ✓ Improves relations with Stakeholders
- ✓ Systematizes information for decision-taking process
- ✓ Differentiates brand from competitors
- ✓ Prepares organizations for new regulatory framework related to biodiversity

Photos: Shutterstock



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