LIFE TECHNICAL GUIDE – 02

Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Action Plan (BAP) and definition of Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP)

LIFE-BB-IN-LA-TG02-1.0-EN

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Lasting Initiative for *Earth.*

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OBJECTIVE

To guide organizations/producers in the elaboration of their Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Action Plan (BAP), through a hierarchy of priority and effective for biodiversity conservation, as well as presenting the method for evaluating Biodiversity Result Indicators (BRI) and the calculation for defining Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP).

APPLICATION

This document is applicable to organizations/producers in the preparation for LIFE Certification, to LIFE Certified organizations/producers, as well as to others interested in incorporating biodiversity management into their business models.

For a complete assessment of the LIFE Business and Biodiversity Methodology, the LIFE Business and Biodiversity Standard, LIFE Technical Guide 01, and complementary documents must also be considered.

For LIFE Certified organizations in previous versions, this document becomes effective after the end of the certification cycle, that is, recertification. For other organizations/producers, this document applies automatically as of the date of its publication.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The LIFE Methodology assumes that real engagement with biodiversity conservation can be evaluated in complementary ways, considering the inclusion of biodiversity all over the organization's environmental management and the undertaking effective actions for conservation, through defining a Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Action Plan (BAP).

The BAP represents Level 1 of Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP), where the actions taken by the organization/producer for the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services are organized, described, classified and scored according to the requirements presented in this document. The total score of conservation actions, both current and additional to legal requirements, results in Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP), a metric for evaluating the organization/producer's performance in conservation.

Considering the need to guide organizations/producers on how to assess the effectiveness of their biodiversity conservation actions, the LIFE Institute defined objectives and criteria that allow for the monitoring of conservation outcomes, which is the evaluation of Level 2 of Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP). Thus, Biodiversity Result Indicators (BRI) have been established, structured into classes and indicators, ranging from species genetic diversity to the integrity of ecosystem functions. After structuring and scoring conservation projects and actions (Level 1 of the BPP), the organization/producer may voluntarily evaluate the effectiveness of their conservation projects and increase their score in Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP), by applying the Biodiversity Result Indicators (BRI).

This document presents the BAP's structure, the calculation for obtaining BPP, and the BRI evaluating method.

The information presented in this document is merely a description of the concepts and calculations of this stage of LIFE Methodology. The structuring of BAP, the attainment of BPP, and the evaluation of BRI are facilitated by using an automated calculation tool (LIFE Key software).

Organizations/producers wishing to obtain external recognition for their pro-biodiversity

actions may request a third-party assessment. In this case, LIFE Certification may be granted by a Certification Body, provided that the organization/producer:

- ✓ Attains a Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP) equal to or greater than the Biodiversity Minimum Performance (BMP). This minimum performance is obtained by calculating the Biodiversity Pressure Index (BPI), according to the Technical Guide 01 document.
- ✓ Meets the requirements of biodiversity management indicators described in the LIFE Business and Biodiversity Standard.

2. THE LIFE DIRECTIVE FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

The classification and scoring of conservation actions and/or the sustainable use of biodiversity presented in this Guide are based on the LIFE Directive:

"Maintenance of ecosystems, composition, structure and function."

The scoring hierarchy of the BAP was established with a view to prioritizing initiatives with greater potential for meeting this Directive in a shorter period.

3. BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES ACTION PLAN (BAP)

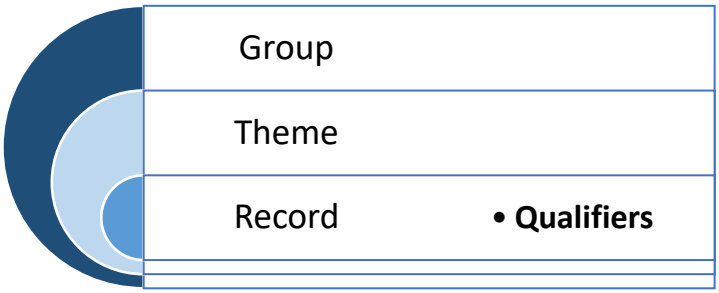
The Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Action Plan (BAP), Level 1 of Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP), represents the set of actions that are ongoing and additional to legal requirements. They also must be carried out by the organization/producer for the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services. These actions' description, classification, and score method are found in the following sections.

The BAP ranks and scores conservation projects and actions within LIFE's strategic lines, taking into account national and international biodiversity conservation priorities.

3.1 CLASSIFICATION OF ACTIONS

Each unitary action for conservation is classified and scored using a **Record**, linked to a specified Group and Theme, and associated with different qualifiers (Figure 1).

Figure 1 - Schematic representation of the Classification of Conservation Actions



Group (G): each Group in the LIFE Methodology's structure for scoring actions represents a strategic line of the LIFE Institute for the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

Theme (C, P, I): each Theme in the scoring structure represents a phase of implementation of conservation actions:

- Creation or adoption of areas (C1[1]);
- Planning of actions for biodiversity conservation (P);
- Implementation of actions for biodiversity conservation (I).

[1] The phase of Creation/Adoption of Areas only applies to Groups 1 and 2.

Record (R): this is the description of the unitary action, classified within a Group and a Theme, linked to specific conservation qualifiers.

Qualifiers (Q): information which qualifies an action's priority and/or importance for conservation, these being reflected in the score.

The following sections of the document details each of these items.

3.1.1 GROUPS

The Groups, structured in a descending hierarchy, represent the priority strategic lines for conservation, considering their potential to generate effective results:

G1 – CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS

Actions with a direct effect on conservation, associated with the creation and protection of natural areas, and officially linked to protection mechanisms. The country must search for the categories of protected areas according to the criteria of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) - UNESCO Natural Heritage Sites should be considered - ensuring a direct return for maintaining the composition, structure, and function of ecosystems.

This strategic line includes actions with a direct effect on conservation, supporting the creation or adoption of formally protected areas; preparation of management plans; operationalization of formally protected areas; and biodiversity conservation and management actions in officially recognized protected areas in the country in question.

G2 – CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NON-FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS

Actions with a direct effect on conservation associated with the voluntary creation and protection of natural areas, not linked to official protective measures, however, these areas are managed as officially protected areas.

In general, the same type of actions as the previous Group are classified in this strategic line, except that the same occurs in areas which are not recognized by the country's official protection system.

G3 – CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SPECIES AND/OR ECOSYSTEMS

Actions with a direct effect on conservation and/or management of one or more species, undertaken within or outside their natural ecosystems; or which are aimed at the conservation and management of ecosystems located outside of protected areas.

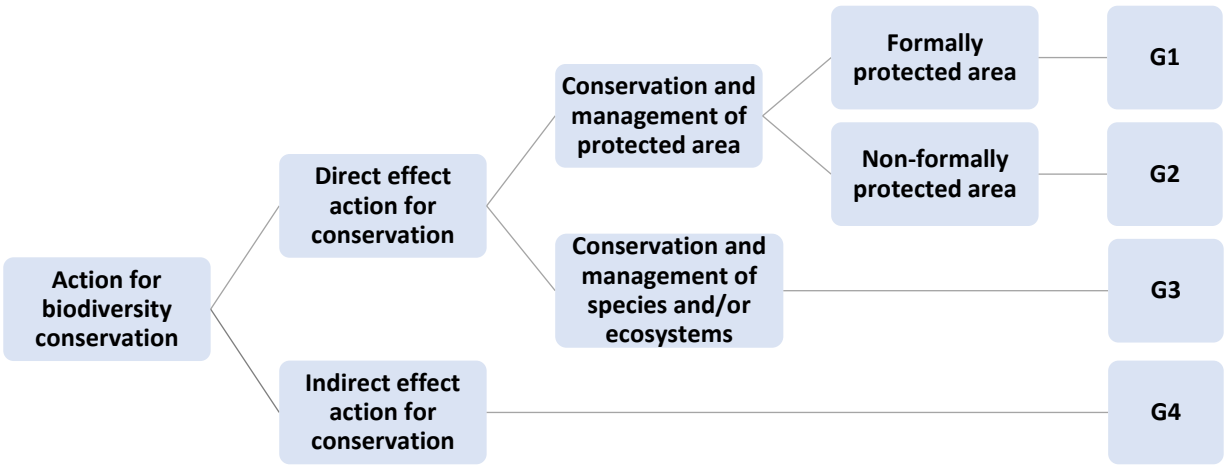
G4 – INITIATIVES ASSOCIATED WITH STRATEGIES, POLICIES AND/OR PROGRAMS FOR CONSERVATION

Actions with an indirect effect on conservation play a relevant role in generating and disseminating good practices related to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

The following are classified in this strategic line: actions encouraging public policies with benefits for conservation; educational actions for biodiversity conservation; research and monitoring projects; REDD (Reduction of Emissions by Deforestation and Degradation) and PES (Payment for Environmental/ Ecosystem Services) projects and other actions with indirect effect for biodiversity conservation.

The flowchart below (Figure 2) represents the rule for the classification of the biodiversity actions, according to the LIFE Methodology.

Figure 2 - Flowchart of strategic conservation lines



The following definitions are considered for the classification of the actions.

a) **DIRECT EFFECT ACTIONS FOR CONSERVATION**: all biodiversity conservation actions that occur in protected areas (formally or non-formally protected) or non-protected areas, meaning actions that involve the management of nature. It includes preservation, maintenance, sustainable use, environmental restoration, and recovery, to produce greater benefits on a sustainable basis for current generations, while maintaining the potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations and ensuring the survival of living beings in general. These are all actions outlined in the LIFE strategic lines G1, G2, and G3.

Examples of direct effect actions that can be scored in LIFE Methodology:

- Creation /Adoption of protected areas;
- Elaboration / Implementation of management plans;
- Infrastructure of areas (surveillance, signaling, fire protection, etc.);
- Restoration and recovery of areas;
- Control of exotic species;
- Implementation of ecological corridors;
- Landscape management;
- Rescue of fauna and flora;
- Reintroduction of species;
- Monitoring of species linked to a species management program.

b) **INDIRECT EFFECT ACTIONS FOR CONSERVATION**: strategic actions for conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity that play a relevant role in generating and disseminating good practices related to biodiversity and/or actions aimed at mitigating the impacts caused by the organization. These actions may be related to a protected or non-protected area. They include all actions outlined in the LIFE strategic line G4.

Examples of indirect effects actions that can be scored in LIFE Methodology:

- Public policies with benefits for conservation;
- Awareness actions for biodiversity conservation;
- Communication campaigns and social mobilization;

- Studies, surveys, characterizations, investigations for conservation;
- Making information available for conservation databases;
- REDD projects, PES and ecosystem valuation;
- Partnerships that contribute to conservation;
- Ex situ conservation (nursery, greenhouse, germplasm bank, conservation centers, etc.)
- Alternative production systems that minimize impacts on biodiversity;
- Mapping of areas for landscape management;
- Management and/or Sustainability Plans/Programs of the organization;
- Mitigation of impacts caused by the organization.

3.1.2 THEMES

The themes indicate the phase of actions' implantation, and are represented by the letters "C", "P" and "I", after the abbreviation of the groups in each record. For example: G1.P – planning actions in Group 1.

The theme of Creation or adoption of areas (C) is applicable to Groups 1 and 2, while that of Planning of conservation actions (P) and that of Implementation of conservation actions (I) are applicable to all Groups (1, 2, 3 and 4).

Valuing the creation and maintenance of natural areas aims to differentiate these actions from others, due to their importance and their direct effects in the ensuring of the maintenance of the ecosystems' composition, structure and function.

The differentiation between the planning and implementation phases of actions, in its turn, aims to value actions which were previously structured in the elaboration of projects/programs and which, for this very reason, present better grounding and the possibility of generating results over time. Hence, all planning of actions scores the action independently and accumulatively, if it meets the minimum content stipulated in "Guide for Evidence and Content for Verification (GECV)".

3.1.3 RECORDS

The records where the actions must be classified are listed below, along with the respective qualifiers applicable to each.

Interpretation guidance for the records is presented in the next item.

Additional information regarding qualifiers is presented later in the document.

G1 – CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS

G1.C - CREATION OR ADOPTION OF FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G1.C1	Create or adopt formally protected areas.	1, 3, 6, 10

G1.P - PLANNING OF ACTIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G1.P1	Elaborate a management plan and/or planning of actions for biodiversity conservation in the formally protected area.	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 15

G1.I - IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSERVATION ACTIONS AND MANAGEMENT IN FORMALLY PROTECTED AREA		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G1.I1	Implement actions of conservation and management for biodiversity in the formally protected area.	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, 13, 14
G1.I2	Implement actions of operationalization in the formally protected area for biodiversity conservation.	3, 10, 13, 15

G2 – CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NON-FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS

G2.C - CREATION OR ADOPTION OF NON-FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G2.C1	Create or adopt non-formally protected areas.	1, 3, 6, 10

G2.P - PLANNING OF ACTIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN NON-FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G2.P1	Elaborate a management plan and/or planning of actions for biodiversity conservation in the non-formally protected area.	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 15

G2.I - IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSERVATION ACTIONS AND MANAGEMENT IN NON-FORMALLY PROTECTED AREAS		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G2.I1	Implement actions for conservation and management of biodiversity in the non-formally protected area.	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, 13, 14
G2.I2	Implement actions of operationalization in the non-formally protected area for biodiversity conservation.	3, 10, 13, 15

G3 - CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SPECIES AND/OR ECOSYSTEMS

G3.P - PLANNING OF ACTIONS FOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SPECIES AND/OR ECOSYSTEMS		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G3.P1	Elaborate planning of actions for conservation and management of species and/or ecosystems.	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 15

G3.I - IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIONS FOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SPECIES AND/OR ECOSYSTEMS		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G3.I1	Implement actions for conservation and management of species and/or ecosystems.	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,14

G4 – INITIATIVES ASSOCIATED WITH STRATEGIES, POLICIES AND/OR PROGRAMS FOR CONSERVATION

G4.P - PLANNING OF STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL ACTIONS FOR THE CONSERVATION AND/OR SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G4.P1	Elaborate planning of strategic political initiatives for the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

G4.I - IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL ACTIONS FOR THE CONSERVATION AND/OR SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY		
Record	**Action**	**Qualifier(s)**
G4.I1	Implement/support strategic projects/programs and/or public policies which contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.[2]	2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10
G4.I2	Implement/support communication and/or social mobilization campaigns which contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.	2, 11
G4.I3	Establish/maintain partnerships, agreements and/or similar with research institutions, governmental bodies and/or NGOs which contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.	2, 11
G4.I4	Implement/support and/or make available information for databases, technical and/or scientific collections referent to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
G4.I5	Undertake/support actions involving mapping, the elaboration and updating of cartographic bases, and the registering of areas allocated for conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity.	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10
G4.I6	Implement/support conservation projects/programs *ex situ*.	2, 4, 5
G4.I7	Implement/support educational projects/programs for the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.	2, 12
G4.I8	Undertake/support studies and/or research which contribute to the conservation, sustainable use and/or mitigation of impacts on native biodiversity.	2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11
G4.I9	Implement/support alternative systems of production, which minimize impacts on biodiversity when compared to the traditional systems of production.[3]	2

3.1.3.1 Interpretation of Records

The actions that can be classified in each record are presented below. Actions that are not mentioned in this item may be classified in another register.

a) G1.C1 and G2.C1: Actions of creating and adopting protected areas; support for the creation of public conservation units (CU's); and the creation of mosaics of protected areas.

[2] Institutional and/or governmental initiatives which aim to allow the conservation actions on a larger scale. E.g. REDD projects; Payment for Environmental/ Ecosystem Services projects (PES); etc.

[3] Agro-Forestry Systems (AFSs), Regenerative analog agro-forestry system (RAAFSs), organic systems, permaculture, on-farm conservation and agro-ecological projects in general.

To calculate the score of the **actions of area adoption or creation, the size of said area must always be considered.**

b) **G1.P1 and G2.P1**: Elaboration of a management plan (MP) for the protected area or financial support for its elaboration; and planning of actions for conservation and management in the protected area[4].

c) **G1.I1 and G2.I1:** Actions of conservation and/or management of biodiversity, implemented in the protected area in its buffer zone (BZ).

These are actions stipulated in the area's management plan, or similar document (Management Plan, in the case of G2). Examples:

Reintroduction of species.

- Ecological restoration.
- Recovery of degraded areas.
- Removal and control of exotic invasive species.
- Interventions in the habitat to viabilize specie's reproduction and survival.
- Implantation of green corridors, management of countryside involving protected areas.
- Monitoring species for conservation within protected areas, considering that monitoring must be within a set of other actions that characterize a species management program.

Species monitoring actions must be part of a set of other actions that characterize such a program within protected areas. If it is a **specific monitoring action, such as surveys and species censuses, it must be classified as a study action for conservation, in G4.I8.**

To calculate the score for **flora conservation and management actions, the size of the managed area must always be considered in the calculation**. However, **for fauna conservation and management actions, the size of the area should not be considered in the calculation.**

Actions undertaken in the surroundings of protected areas are scored in G1.I1 or G2.I1 only when they are considered part of the area's buffer zone. Otherwise, they must be scored in G3.I1.

Conservation and management actions in mosaics and/or involving protected areas must be classified as G1.I1 (formal) or G2.I1 (non-formal).

[4] The approval of the plan by the official body (G1) is scored using qualifier 13 (item 3.1.4).

d) **G1.I2 and G2.I2:** Actions of operationalization of the protected area for biodiversity conservation. Examples:

- Actions of inspection/patrolling;
- Actions of protection against fire;
- Actions of delimitation and the demarcation of the area;
- Signposting of the area;
- Implementation and maintenance of trails and fire breaks;
- Actions of implementation and maintenance of infrastructure;
- Actions of contracting/training human resources.

e) **G3.P1:** Elaborate planning of actions for conservation and management of species and/or ecosystems, **outside protected area**. Examples:

- Elaboration of projects/programs for the management and conservation of threatened, endemic vulnerable taxon;
- Elaboration of projects/programs for the reduction of accidental capture during fishing activities;
- Elaboration of projects/programs for prevention and control of biological invasion;
- Elaboration of projects/programs for the ecological restoration of ecosystems;
- Elaboration of projects/programs for the implantation of green corridors and/or countryside management.

f) **G3.I1:** Implement actions for the conservation and management of species and/or ecosystems, **outside protected area**. This record also considers the actions stipulated in G1.I1 and G2.I1, but which, however, do not occur in protected areas. Examples:

- Reintroduction of species;
- Restoration of ecological interactions;
- Recovery of degraded areas;
- Interventions in the habitat, in rural or urban areas, in order to viabilize the reproduction and survival of species;
- Removal and control of exotic species;
- Fishways;

- Rescuing flora and fauna;
- Implantation of green corridors/countryside management, involving non-protected areas.
- Monitoring species for conservation.

For species monitoring actions outside protected areas, the same rule described in item c) of this section applies.

To calculate the score for **flora conservation and management actions**, **the size of the managed area** must always be considered in the calculation. However, for **fauna conservation and management actions**, **the size of the area should not be considered in the calculation.**

g) **G4.P1:** Elaborate planning of strategic or political initiatives for the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity, such as:

- Elaborate projects/programs of Payment for Environmental/Ecosystem Services (PES)/ Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD);
- Elaborate projects which may be institutionalized as public policies for biodiversity conservation;
- Elaborate/support public policies which result in biodiversity conservation;
- Elaborate research projects/programs related to biodiversity conservation;
- Elaborate environmental education projects/programs;
- Elaborate management and/or sustainability plans/programs for the organization;
- Elaborate projects/programs for the impacts mitigation on biodiversity.

Within G4.P1, one classifies all elaborations of other programs/projects, whose implementation functions as an instrument for the spreading of practices for biodiversity conservation. Only the plans/projects/programs that meet the minimum content stipulated in item “Guide for Evidence and Content for Verification (GECV)” may be scored.

Projects and/or biodiversity impact mitigation programs are those related to the organization's production process.

h) **G4.I1:** Implement/support projects/programs and/or public policies which contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity, such as:

- Implementation of REDD projects;

- Implementation of Payment for Environmental/Ecosystem Services (PES) Projects;
- Participation and support in the implementation of public policies;
- Implementation of actions to mitigate impacts on biodiversity.

The implementation of PES projects/programs is considered to include their institutionalization by the body responsible, in accordance with the evidence listed in item "Guide for Evidence and Content for Verification (GECV)", (e.g.: routine for payment of environmental/ ecosystem services implemented). Once the institutionalization of the project/program generates concrete actions in the field (e.g.: recovery of area, undertaken by the producer registered in the Payment for Environmental/ Ecosystem Services (PES), each one of these actions may be classified individually as actions of conservation and management, depending on their characteristics (in G1, G2 or G3), scoring cumulatively, besides the score for the planning of the strategic project/program which led to them.

Other strategic projects, besides those mentioned, can be scored in this record, as long as: a) the same functions as an instrument (economic; political or similar) for disseminating biodiversity conservation actions; b) it does not fit in any of the record G4.I.

i) **G4.I2:** Implement/support communication campaigns and/or social mobilization campaigns which contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

Communication campaigns differ from environmental educational programs as they are specific actions, with emphasis on specific groups, transmitting specific concepts for raising peoples' awareness. Campaigns do not measure qualitative results, as they cannot monitor the groups which the campaign was aimed at. The following are actions of communication and/or social mobilization campaigns:

- Campaigns for publicity for, and explanation of, impacts on biodiversity;
- Social mobilization campaigns for biodiversity conservation;
- Campaigns encouraging the protection of physical areas, encouraging the creation of new protected areas and the strengthening of those already existing;
- Campaigns for encouraging the reduction of pressure on natural environments and the reduction of various impacts on biodiversity, through lectures, videos, pamphlets, books, and television and Internet campaigns;

- Campaigns for education on themes relating to biodiversity conservation.

j) **G4.I3:** Establish/maintain partnerships, agreements and/or similar with research institutions, governmental bodies, or NGOs which contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity. Examples:

- Partnership with a university for conservation research;
- Agreements with NGOs for development of conservation projects.

k) **G4.I4:** Implement/support and/or make available information for databases, technical or scientific collections referent to conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity, such as:

- The collecting, researching, and systematization of general information on biodiversity (primary or secondary data related to biological and ecological information; environmental impacts and their relationship with biodiversity; data on conservation of biodiversity; instruments and initiatives related to biodiversity);
- Transference of general information on biodiversity between institutions and/or the management of this information in networks;
- Making information on biodiversity available to the public.

l) **G4.I5:** Undertake/support actions of mapping or of elaborating and updating cartographic bases, and registering areas set aside for conservation and/or the sustainable use of biodiversity.

- Mapping of natural areas for the elaboration of countryside management projects;
- Mapping of legal reserves in rural properties in order to update government records.

m) **G4.I6:** Implement/support *ex-situ* conservation programs/projects.

Ex-situ conservation is understood as any actions for the maintenance of biodiversity which occur outside the natural habitat. The following are considered *ex-situ* conservation actions:

- Maintenance of genetic resources in conservation chambers;
- Tissue cultures (conservation in vitro);
- Cryogenics;
- Conservation of microorganisms in laboratories;
- Maintenance of genetic resources in the field (conservation in vivo);

- Germoplasm banks (vegetable species);
- Conservation nuclei (animal species);
- Cultivation and conservation of resources in greenhouses and nurseries.

n) **G4.I7:** Implement/support educational actions for the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

Educational programs with technical consistency for conceptualizing, explaining and raising awareness of their target audience about the importance of biodiversity conservation are scored as actions of environmental education. They measure qualitative results. The following are considered educational actions for the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity:

- The implementation of a program of environmental education in schools, covering the formation of new social and environmental ethics related to biodiversity conservation;
- Creating a museum, or similar, aimed at education for biodiversity conservation;
- Undertake workshops and lectures for different groups, in which it is possible to monitor the results of the same.

o) **G4.I8:** Undertake/support studies and/or research contributing to conservation, sustainable use, and/or the mitigation of impacts on native biodiversity.

The objective of the study and/or research to be scored must obligatorily be related to the contribution of direct or indirect effect to the biodiversity conservation. Generic studies and/or research involving various species are scored only once. However, if the content is refined for each species, the studies/research may be scored individually.

The specific actions of species monitoring, such as surveys and censuses, are classified in this register, as they do not have the objective of conservation and management, but of study for conservation.

Even if a study or research involves protected areas and/or species, this action must be classified under this category.

p) **G4.I9:** Implement/support alternative production systems which minimize the impacts on biodiversity, in comparison with traditional production systems.

As with the previous records, the actions of this record must also contribute to the conservation of biodiversity, minimizing the impacts generated by the traditional systems of production. However, if the action's objective is only the commercialization of a specific species, the same must not be scored as a conservation action. The following projects are considered alternative systems of production:

- Agroecological;
- Organic;
- Permaculture.
- Agroforestry Systems (AFSs) and/or Regenerative analog agro-forestry system (RAAFSs);
- On-farm conservation and/or similar.

On-farm conservation is one of the forms of genetic conservation *in situ* of agrobiodiversity.
Only conservation actions and/or sustainable use of biodiversity that meet the minimum content provided in the item "Guide to Evidence and Content for Verification (GECV)" are eligible for scoring in the registrations proposed in the LIFE Methodology.

Appendix A of this document provides the **"Classification Key for Life Conservation Actions"**, a scheme developed by the LIFE Institute, aimed at assisting in the classification of conservation actions according to the registrations proposed in the LIFE Methodology.

3.1.4 QUALIFIERS

Each record has specific qualifiers related to the priorities and/or importance of a conservation action, which are used to assign points to the action based on qualitative and quantitative characteristics. However, these qualifiers should only be considered when applied consistently, always considering the objective of the action.

All LIFE qualifiers are listed below, as well as their respective weights (w) and classes (j) used in the equations to score the actions.

Q01 – Coverage of native vegetation in good state of conservation[5] (Weight 2.0)

Percentage classes of re-covering with native vegetation in good state of conservation	j
>90% or ≤100%	2.0
>80% or ≤90%	1.8
>70% or ≤80%	1.6
>60% or ≤70%	1.4
>50% or ≤60%	1.2

- This qualifier refers to the conservation status of the remaining vegetation cover of the area, considering primary or secondary forests that are minimally altered and in an advanced stage of succession.

- **A document must be provided to verify the percentage of native vegetation cover in the area.**

Q02 - Coverage of the program or project (Weight 1.7)

Level at which functions	J
National (various States in more than one Region)	2.0
Regional (more than one State in the same Region)	1.8
State (more than one municipality in the same State)	1.6
Local (one municipality, or neighboring municipalities)	1.4

- This qualifier applies exclusively to the registrations of Group 4, which involve the development and implementation of strategic actions or policies for conservation.

[5] Little-altered primary or secondary in an advanced succession stage.

Q03 – Ecoregion's biodiversity importance (Weight 2.0)

LATIN AMERICA (All countries in Central and South America, except those that are colonies of countries on other continents, including islands).

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	1	Leeward Islands moist forests	1.873
	2	Caribbean shrublands	1.207
	3	Lesser Antillean dry forests	1.162
ARGENTINA	1	Rock and Ice	1.988
	2	Valdivian temperate forests	1.517
	3	Central Andean dry puna	1.388
	4	Central Andean puna	1.361
	5	Paraná flooded savanna	1.360
	6	Southern Andean steppe	1.336
	7	Magellanic subpolar forests	1.316
	8	Southern Andean Yungas	1.272
	9	Alto Paraná Atlantic forests	1.168
	10	Araucaria moist forests	1.157
	11	High Monte	1.144
	12	Humid Chaco	1.100
	13	Patagonian steppe	1.082
	14	Low Monte	1.069
	15	Dry Chaco	1.052
	16	Uruguayan savanna	1.031
	17	Humid Pampas	1.031
	18	Espinal	1.017
	19	Southern Cone Mesopotamian savanna	1.017
BARBADOS	1	Caribbean shrublands	1.018
BELIZE	1	Central American Atlantic moist forests	2.000
	2	Petén-Veracruz moist forests	1.408
	3	Belizian pine forests	1.318

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
	4	Mesoamerican Gulf-Caribbean mangroves	1.292
	5	Yucatán moist forests	1.124
BOLIVIA	1	Cerrado	1.748
	2	Bolivian Yungas	1.560
	3	Pantanal	1.551
	4	Madeira-Tapajós moist forests	1.407
	5	Dry Chaco	1.357
	6	Chiquitano dry forests	1.237
	7	Southern Andean Yungas	1.188
	8	Central Andean wet Puna	1.176
	9	Beni savanna	1.159
	10	Southwest Amazon moist forests	1.156
	11	Bolivian montane dry forests	1.142
	12	Central Andean Puna	1.104
	13	Central Andean dry Puna	1.074
	14	Monte Alegre Várzea	1.008
	15	Purus-Madeira moist forests	1.000
	16	Lake	1.000
	17	Iquitos Várzea	1.000
CHILE	1	Rock and Ice	2.000
	2	Juan Fernández Islands temperate forests	2.000
	3	San Félix-San Ambrosio Islands temperate forests	2.000
	4	Magellan subpolar forests	1.774
	5	Rapa Nui subtropical broadleaf forests	1.421
	6	Valdivian temperate forests	1.396
	7	Patagonian steppe	1.205
	8	Central Andean dry Puna	1.115
	9	Southern Andean steppe	1.053
	10	Sechura Desert	1.033
	11	Chilean matorral	1.032

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
	12	Atacama Desert	1.016
	13	Central Andean Puna	1.000
COLOMBIA	1	Malapela Island xeric scrub	2.000
	2	Santa Marta páramo	1.976
	3	Guianan piedmont and lowland moist forests	1.812
	4	Santa Marta montane forests	1.742
	5	Amazon-Orinoco-Southern Caribbean mangroves	1.685
	6	Venezuelan Andes montane forests	1.672
	7	Iquitos varzeá	1.592
	8	Central American dry forests	1.585
	9	Northern Andean páramo	1.540
	10	Eastern Panamanian montane forests	1.512
	11	Sinú Valley dry forests	1.471
	12	South American Pacific mangroves	1.466
	13	Cordillera Oriental montane forests	1.453
	14	Magdalena-Urabá moist forests	1.445
	15	Caqueta moist forests	1.424
	16	Cayos Miskitos-San Andrés and Providencia moist forests	1.344
	17	Magdalena Valley montane forests	1.309
	18	Apure-Villavicencio dry forests	1.296
	19	Purus varzeá	1.295
	20	Catatumbo moist forests	1.288
	21	Guajira-Barranquilla xeric scrub	1.266
	22	Cauca Valley montane forests	1.262
	23	Northwestern Andean montane forests	1.258
	24	Eastern Cordillera real montane forests	1.254
	25	Japurá-Solimoes-Negro moist forests	1.227
	26	Rio Negro campinarana	1.218
	27	Solimões-Japurá moist forests	1.212

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
	28	Patía Valley dry forests	1.194
	29	Llanos	1.170
	30	Napo moist forests	1.134
	31	Magdalena Valley dry forests	1.124
	32	Cauca Valley dry forests	1.093
	33	Chocó-Darién moist forests	1.085
	34	Negro-Branco moist forests	1.069
	35	Western Ecuador moist forests	1.016
	36	Southwest Amazon moist forests	1.000
COSTA RICA	1	Talamancan montane forests	2.000
	2	Cocos Island moist forests	2.000
	3	Mesoamerican Gulf-Caribbean mangroves	1.901
	4	Isthmian-Atlantic moist forests	1.757
	5	Isthmian-Pacific moist forests	1.463
	6	Costa Rican seasonal moist forests	1.422
	7	Southern Mesoamerican Pacific mangroves	1.342
	8	Central American dry forests	1.170
CUBA	1	Bahamian-Antillean mangroves	1.674
	2	Cuban wetlands	1.646
	3	Cuban cactus scrub	1.299
	4	Cuban moist forests	1.237
	4	Cuban pine forests	1.091
	6	Cuban dry forests	1.070
DOMINICA	1	Windward Islands moist forests	1.280
	2	Caribbean shrublands	1.041
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1	Enriquillo wetlands	1.930
	2	Hispaniolan pine forests	1.500
	3	Bahamian-Antillean mangroves	1.440
	4	Hispaniolan dry forests	1.343
	5	Hispaniolan moist forests	1.141

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
ECUADOR	1	Galápagos Islands scrubland mosaic	2.000
	2	Chocó-Darién moist forests	2.000
	3	Cordillera Central páramo	1.788
	4	Northern Andean páramo	1.377
	5	Napo moist forests	1.301
	6	Eastern Cordillera real montane forests	1.253
	7	South American Pacific mangroves	1.214
	8	Northwestern Andean montane forests	1.121
	9	Western Ecuador moist forests	1.045
	10	Tumbes-Piura dry forests	1.043
	11	Ecuadorian dry forests	1.027
	12	Guayaquil flooded grasslands	1.020
	13	Iquitos varzeá	1.000
EL SALVADOR	1	Southern Mesoamerican Pacific mangroves	1.966
	2	Central American montane forests	1.506
	3	Central American dry forests	1.169
	4	Central American pine-oak forests	1.147
	5	Sierra Madre de Chiapas moist forests	1.076
GRENADA	1	Caribbean shrublands	1.483
	2	Lesser Antillean dry forests	1.265
	3	Windward Islands moist forests	1.222
GUATEMALA	1	Yucatán moist forests	2.000
	2	Mesoamerican Gulf-Caribbean mangroves	1.879
	3	Petén-Veracruz moist forests	1.554
	4	Central American montane forests	1.411
	5	Central American Atlantic moist forests	1.245
	6	Motagua Valley thornscrub	1.197
	7	Southern Mesoamerican Pacific mangroves	1.155
	8	Central American pine-oak forests	1.072
	9	Central American dry forests	1.013

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
	10	Sierra Madre de Chiapas moist forests	1.008
	11	Chiapas Depression dry forests	1.003
	12	Chiapas montane forests	1.000
GUYANA	1	Amazon-Orinoco-Southern Caribbean mangroves	1.721
	2	Guianan Highlands moist forests	1.157
	3	Guianan moist forests	1.078
	4	Orinoco Delta swamp forests	1.052
	5	Uatuma-Trombetas moist forests	1.022
	6	Guianan savanna	1.005
	7	Guianan piedmont and lowland moist forests	1.000
	8	Pantepui	1.000
HAITI	1	Enriquillo wetlands	1.959
	2	Bahamian-Antillean mangroves	1.175
	3	Hispaniolan pine forests	1.100
	4	Hispaniolan moist forests	1.078
	5	Hispaniolan dry forests	1.067
HONDURAS	1	Cuban dry forests	2.000
	2	Mesoamerican Gulf-Caribbean mangroves	1.648
	3	Southern Mesoamerican Pacific mangroves	1.627
	4	Central American Atlantic moist forests	1.523
	5	Central American montane forests	1.474
	6	Miskito pine forests	1.308
	7	Central American pine-oak forests	1.153
	8	Central American dry forests	1.043
JAMAICA	1	Bahamian-Antillean mangroves	1.548
	2	Jamaican dry forests	1.289
	3	Jamaican moist forests	1.162
NICARAGUA	1	Cayos Miskitos-San Andrés and Providencia moist forests	1.933
	2	Isthmian-Atlantic moist forests	1.720
	3	Southern Mesoamerican Pacific mangroves	1.719

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
	4	Mesoamerican Gulf-Caribbean mangroves	1.683
	5	Central American montane forests	1.606
	6	Central American Atlantic moist forests	1.466
	7	Lake	1.282
	8	Costa Rican seasonal moist forests	1.211
	9	Miskito pine forests	1.204
	10	Central American pine-oak forests	1.138
	11	Central American dry forests	1.114
PANAMA	1	Eastern Panamanian montane forests	1.868
	2	Talamancan montane forests	1.825
	3	Chocó-Darién moist forests	1.512
	4	Mesoamerican Gulf-Caribbean mangroves	1.411
	5	South American Pacific mangroves	1.349
	6	Isthmian-Atlantic moist forests	1.349
	7	Southern Mesoamerican Pacific mangroves	1.317
	8	Isthmian-Pacific moist forests	1.071
	9	Panamanian dry forests	1.023
PERU	1	Lake	1.991
	2	Southwest Amazon moist forests	1.311
	3	Solimões-Japurá moist forests	1.285
	4	Bolivian Yungas	1.283
	5	Iquitos varzeá	1.255
	6	Napo moist forests	1.232
	7	Ucayali moist forests	1.210
	8	Eastern Cordillera real montane forests	1.191
	9	Peruvian Yungas	1.162
	10	Central Andean puna	1.157
	11	Central Andean wet puna	1.155
	12	Cordillera Central páramo	1.135
	13	South American Pacific mangroves	1.128

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
	14	Tumbes-Piura dry forests	1.076
	15	Purus varzeá	1.071
	16	Marañón dry forests	1.067
	17	Sechura desert	1.045
	18	Central Andean dry puna	1.000
PUERTO RICO	1	Bahamian-Antillean mangroves	1.212
	2	Puerto Rican dry forests	1.141
	3	Puerto Rican moist forests	1.056
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	1	Leeward Islands moist forests	1.754
	2	Caribbean shrublands	1.259
	3	Bahamian-Antillean mangroves	1.203
SAINT LUCIA	1	Windward Islands moist forests	1.427
	2	Lesser Antillean dry forests	1.418
	3	Caribbean shrublands	1.256
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	1	Bahamian-Antillean mangroves	1.520
	2	Windward Islands moist forests	1.415
	3	Caribbean shrublands	1.059
	4	Lesser Antillean dry forests	1.005
SURINAME	1	Guianan savanna	2.000
	2	Pantepui	2.000
	3	Uatuma-Trombetas moist forests	1.776
	4	Amazon-Orinoco-Southern Caribbean mangroves	1.681
	5	Guianan Highlands moist forests	1.248
	6	Guianan moist forests	1.136
	7	Guianan freshwater swamp forests	1.119
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	1	Trinidad and Tobago moist forests	1.311
	2	Amazon-Orinoco-Southern Caribbean mangroves	1.156
	3	Lesser Antillean dry forests	1.058
URUGUAY	1	Atlantic Coast restingas	2.000
	2	Humid Pampas	1.681

Country	Ranking	Terrestrial Ecoregion	j
	3	Uruguayan savanna	1.085
	4	Southern Cone Mesopotamian savanna	1.001
	5	Espinal	1.000
VENEZUELA	1	Catatumbo moist forests	2.000
	2	Cordillera de Merida páramo	1.938
	3	Guianan savanna	1.923
	4	Northern Andean páramo	1.922
	5	Pantepui	1.921
	6	Cordillera Oriental montane forests	1.916
	7	Guianan Highlands moist forests	1.885
	8	Amazon-Orinoco-Southern Caribbean mangroves	1.849
	9	Cordillera La Costa montane forests	1.843
	10	Maracaibo dry forests	1.819
	11	Guajira-Barranquilla xeric scrub	1.798
	12	Guianan piedmont and lowland moist forests	1.765
	13	Guianan moist forests	1.704
	14	Venezuelan Andes montane forests	1.631
	15	Negro-Branco moist forests	1.627
	16	Orinoco Delta swamp forests	1.623
	17	Orinoco wetlands	1.591
	18	La Costa xeric shrublands	1.363
	19	Rio Negro campinarana	1.336
	20	Lara-Falcón dry forests	1.329
	21	Apure-Villavicencio dry forests	1.324
	22	Paraguana xeric scrub	1.322
	23	Llanos	1.228
	24	Araya and Paria xeric scrub	1.131
	25	Japurá-Solimoes-Negro moist forests	1.000

Source: LIFE Institute, 2025.

- This qualifier is considered extremely important as it considers the area size and the priority for the conservation of the ecoregion in which the action is carried out.

- Ecoregions are defined as relatively large areas of land or water containing a characteristic set of natural communities that share a large majority of their species, ecological dynamics, and environmental conditions[6].

- The Ecoregion's biodiversity importance ("j" values) was established by the LIFE Institute, through the overlapping of the shapefiles of the Ecoregions of the World, made available by WWF (WORLD WILDE FUND FOR NATURE), with the shapefiles of the World's Protected Areas, obtained from the UNEP-WCMC (UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre), which uses quantitative and qualitative information from the Protected Planet initiative. Therefore, the more protected areas covered by an ecoregion, the greater its importance and priority.

- When an action covers more than one ecoregion, the one that concentrates the greatest efforts for its implementation and/or the one most directly related to its objectives should be selected. If the action's efforts and objectives are equally distributed across more than one ecoregion, they should be registered as separate actions.

- The shapefiles of the ecoregions can be consulted on the LIFE Institute website.

- The Ecoregion's biodiversity importance for **Brazil, Mexico and Paraguay** can be found in their specific Technical Guides.

Q04 – Category of threatened species[7] (Weight 2.0)

Category	j
Extinct in the Wild (EW)	2.0
Critically Endangered (CR)	2.0

[6] Dinerstein et al.,1995.

[7] IUCN classification, or national and state lists. Use the most local information possible.

Endangered (EN)	1.8
Vulnerable (VU)	1.6
Data Deficient (DD)	1.6
Near Threatened (NT)	1.5
Least Concern (LC)	1.1

- This qualifier must be used whenever a project for an action is geared towards a particular species. For an action whose objective is not directly related to one species (e.g.: ecological restoration), but which provides a list of species used, the category of the most threatened species in the scoring process can be applied, provided that the contribution of the action to the conservation of the species in question is relevant.

- The threat category should be considered according to local, regional, national, or international lists (The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species), in that order, as available. If information is available from a state- level or more refined database, that information should be used. When no local databases are available, national information should be used. International information should be used only when there is no more regionally specific data available.

Q05 – Species according to CITES Appendices (Weight 1.5)

CITES Appendices	j
Appendix I: species threatened with extinction: international commerce in it is prohibited, except for scientific conservation.	2.0
Appendix II: species which may become extinct if their exploitation and sale is not regulated: this commerce is only permitted when it does not threaten their continued survival.	1.7
Appendix III: species living in countries which are members, which already regulate trade in said species, and to this end request the collaboration of the other members.	1.3

- This qualifier considers the classification of the CITES Appendices. The CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is a multilateral agreement, in which one country can propose environmental regulations for other countries, without prejudicing against the concept of sovereignty.
- The list of appendices can be obtained by consulting the CITES website.
- This qualifier must be applied following the same system as the previous qualifier.

Q06 – Management category of the areas making up the mosaic (Weight 1.3)

Categories	j
Only fully protected	2.0
Prioritarily fully protected	1.7
Prioritarily sustainable use	1.5

- This qualifier applies only to actions related to mosaics, considering the most prioritized management category of the protected areas that comprise them.
- In the case of actions related to mosaics of natural areas without formal protection, the equivalence of the management applied to the areas in question should be considered.
- **When this qualifier is applied, the Q10 qualifier should not be used.**

Q07 – Category of invasive potential of exotic species (Weight 2.0)

Categories of invasiveness of exotic species	j
Exotic species listed as **INVASIVE** in official national lists and/or GRIIS	2.0
Exotic species listed only as **INTRODUCED OR ESTABLISHED**, with no record of invasion, in official national lists or GRIIS	1.5

- This qualifier assesses the ecological risk associated with the use of exotic species based on their historical occurrence as invasive in the country of operation.
- The primary recommended source is the **Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS)**.[8]

  When more comprehensive **national databases or official lists are available, these should be prioritized**, as they more accurately reflect the local context.
- Using multiple reliable sources strengthens the assessment.
- When the exotic species is not listed in reliable official databases, **this qualifier must not be applied**.

Q08 – Mean distance and width of the connection (Weight 1.5)

Corridor with:	Length		
	100 to 500 m	500 to 1.000 m	Over 1.000 m
Width greater than 200 m	1.6	1.8	2.0
Width between 100 and 199 m	1.4	1.6	1.8
Width between 60 and 99 m	1.3	1.4	1.6
Width between 30 and 59 m	1.1	1.2	1.3

- This qualifier should be applied only to actions related to wildlife corridors.
- If the length and average width of the corridor are not provided, this qualifier should not be used.

[8] Recommended source: GRIIS – Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species. Available at: <https://griis.org/download>

Q09 - Stage of succession (Weight 1.1)

Stage of succession	j
Advanced stage of succession	2.0
Intermediate stage of succession	1.5
Initial stage of succession	1.1

- This qualifier is applied only in records for conservation and management of protected and non-protected areas (G1.I1, G2.I1 and G3.I1); for example, in areas of forest restoration, the qualifier must be applied only when the action has already been implemented the restoration and it is possible to analyze the stage of succession of the restored area.

- The succession stages of this qualifier were proposed based on an adaptation of the class table below (Table 1), established by the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER, 2019). To define the succession stage of the area, it is necessary, with the aid of the table below, to analyze the attributes used in the classification and thus determine whether the area is at an initial, intermediate, or advanced stage.

- The application of this qualifier depends on the presentation of a technical/scientific document by the certified organization, or organization applying for certification, which substantiates the classification of the Stage of succession of the area.

Table 1. Successional stage

Attribute	1 - Initial	2 - Intermediate	3 - Advanced
Species composition	Some colonizing native species present (e.g., ~2% - 10% of species in the reference ecosystem at their most advanced stage); Moderate onsite threat from nonnative invasive or undesirable species. Regeneration niches available.	A subset of key native species (e.g., ~25% - 80% of reference) establishing over substantial proportions of the site. Very low onsite threat from nonnative invasive or undesirable species.	Substantial diversity of characteristic native species (e.g., >80% of reference), with high similarity to reference ecosystem; improved potential for colonization of more native species over time.
Structural diversity	One or fewer biological strata are present and no spatial patterning or community trophic complexity relative to reference ecosystem.	Most strata present and some spatial patterning and trophic complexity relate to reference ecosystem.	All strata present and spatial patterning and trophic complexity high. Further complexity and spatial patterning able to self-organize to highly resemble reference ecosystem.
Ecosystem functionality	Substrates and hydrology are at a foundational stage only, capable of future development of functions like the reference.	Evidence of functions commencing (e.g., nutrient cycling, water filtration, and provision of habitat and resources for a range of species).	Considerable evidence of functions and processes on a secure trajectory toward that of the reference and evidence of resilience, tested by reinstatement of appropriate disturbance regimes.

Source: adapted from SER International Standards (2019).

Q10 – Protected area categories (Weight 2.0)

Categories for the Protected Area	IUCN Category	j
Natural World Heritage Sites (UNESCO)	II	2.0
Strict Nature Reserve	Ia	2.0
Wilderness Area	Ib	2.0
National Park	II	2.0
Natural Monument or Feature	III	1.8

Habitat/Species Management Area	IV	1.7
Protected Landscape/ Seascape	V	1.6
Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	VI	1.5

- This qualifier applies to records of actions carried out within any category of formally protected areas (G1), using as reference the **Protected Areas Categories System**, defined by the IUCN, as well as **UNESCO World Natural Heritage Sites**.
- This qualifier is also applicable to actions developed in non-formally protected areas (G2) but are managed according to one of the categories listed in the table above and have a term of commitment for the protection and management of the area.
- Protected area categories may vary according to each country. Therefore, when a country has specific categories, this qualifier must be adapted, if it is equivalent to the categories defined by the IUCN. Below is a description of each:
  - **Ia Strict Nature Reserve:** Category **Ia** are strictly protected areas set aside to protect biodiversity and possibly geological/geomorphic features, where human visitation, use and impacts are strictly controlled and limited to ensure protection of the conservation values. Such protected areas can serve as indispensable reference areas for scientific research and monitoring.
  - **Ib Wilderness Area:** Category **Ib** protected areas are usually large unmodified or slightly modified areas, retaining their natural character and influence within permanent or significant human habitation, which are protected and managed to preserve their natural condition.
  - **II National Park:** Category **II** protected areas are large natural or near natural areas set aside to protect large-scale ecological processes, along with the complement of species and ecosystems characteristic of the area, which also provide a foundation for environmentally and culturally compatible, spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational, and visitor opportunities.

- **III Natural Monument or Feature**: Category **III** protected areas are set aside to protect a specific natural monument, which can be a landform, sea mount, submarine cavern, geological feature such as a cave or even a living feature such as an ancient grove. They are generally quite small, protected areas and often have high value for visitors.

- **IV Habitat/Species Management Area:** Category **IV** protected areas aim to protect species or habitats, and management reflects this priority. Many Category IV protected areas will need regular, active interventions to address the requirements of species or to maintain habitats, but this is not a requirement of the category.

- **V Protected Landscape/ Seascape:** A protected area where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant, ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value: and where safeguarding the integrity of this interaction is vital to protecting and sustaining the area and its associated nature conservation and other values.

- **VI Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources:** Category **VI** protected areas conserve ecosystems and habitats together with associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management systems. They are generally large, with most of the area in a natural condition, where a proportion is under sustainable natural resource management and where low-level non-industrial use of natural resources compatible with nature conservation is seen as one of the main aims of the area.

➢ The list of UNESCO World Natural Heritage Sites can be accessed by consulting the UNESCO website.

➢ If the action takes place in an area with more than one protection category, **the category with the highest weight can be chosen.**

➢ **In the case of actions in mosaics, this qualifier must not be applied; instead, the Q06 qualifier should be used**.

Q11 - Duration of the actions (Weight 1.5)

Duration (years)	j
> 5	2.0
5	1.5
4	1.4
3	1.3
2	1.2
1	1.1

➢ This qualifier must be applied only when the duration of the action affects its result.

Q12 - Frequency and continuity of educational actions for conservation (Weight 1.3)

Frequency and continuity		j
Continuous programs >= 5 years	More than 50 events (visits to PAs) per year	2.0
Continuous programs >= 5 years	> 30 and < 50 events (visits to PAs) per year	1.9
Continuous programs >= 5 years	> 20 and < 30 events (visits to PAs) per year	1.8
Continuous programs >= 2 years	More than 50 events (visits to PAs) per year	1.7
Continuous programs >= 2 years	> 20 and < 30 events (visits to PAs) per year	1.6
Continuous programs >= 1 year	More than 50 events (visits to PAs) per year	1.4
Continuous programs >= 1 year	> 20 and < 30 events (visits to PAs) per year	1.3
Isolated actions	More than 4 events in 1 year (with visits to PAs)	1.2
Isolated actions	Fewer than 4 events in 1 year, or without visits to PAs	1.1

➢ This qualifier is applied only to actions related to biodiversity conservation education (G4.I7).

Q13 - Link to a management plan or equivalent (Weight 2.0)

Link	j
Action linked to an approved management plan	2.0
Action linked to a management plan or similar, or to a non-approved management plan	1.6

- The management plan does not necessarily need to be approved by the responsible authority. However, if the document is approved, it will lead to a higher score for the qualifier.

Q14 - Purpose of the recovery (Weight 1.5)

Aim	j
Ecological restoration	2.0
Recovery for other purposes	1.1

- This qualifier considers both actions of ecological restoration, and actions aimed at the ecological recovery of areas.
  - According to the Society for Ecological Restoration (2019, p. S7), **Ecological Restoration** is defined as "any activity with the goal of achieving substantial ecosystem recovery relative to an appropriate reference model, regardless of the time required to achieve recovery."
  - Additionally, the Society for Ecological Restoration (2019, p. S7) defines **Full Recovery** as "the state or condition whereby, following restoration, all key ecosystem attributes closely resemble those of the reference model. These attributes include absence of threats, species composition, community structure, physical conditions, ecosystem function, and external exchanges. Where lower levels of recovery are planned or occur due to resource, technical, environmental, or social constraints, recovery is referred to as partial recovery."

Q15 - Size of the area* (Weight 1.1)

Area (hectares)	j
> 4 millions	2.000
> 1 to 4 millions	1.500
> 500 thousand to 1 million	1.300

> 200 thousand to 500 thousand	1.180
> 100 thousand to 200 thousand	1.120
> 50 thousand to 100 thousand	1.080
> 10 thousand to 50 thousand	1.040
> 1 thousand to 10 thousand	1.020
> 200 to 1 thousand	1.006
0 to 200	1.001
*Applicable to management plans for protected areas and/or equivalent; and operationalization actions (administration, contracting/training of HR, infrastructure, inspection and demarcation of areas).	

- For cases of action planning (G1.P1; G2.P1, and G3.P1) and operationalization of protected areas (G1.I2 and G2.I2), this qualifier refers to the estimation of the area covered by the management plan and/or the action planning for biodiversity conservation and management, and, in the case of operationalization actions, when applicable.

- This qualifier does not apply to the creation/adoption of protected areas (G1.C1 and G2.C1) or the implementation of conservation and management actions (G1.I1, G2.I1, and G3.I1), as when the size of the area directly influences the outcome of the implemented action, such as in actions for the removal of exotic species and ecological restoration, this information regarding the area size will already be included in the equation used to score these types of actions.

3.2 GENERAL RULES FOR CLASSIFICATION

The general rules for classifying conservation actions are:

a) For the application of LIFE Methodology, every conservation action (registration) must be linked to a project with common objectives. **Furthermore, each project must be structured within the BAP, considering only actions carried out in the same ecoregion.**

b) The classification of each action must consider its general objective, even when the action is linked to a larger project with a different objective. One must identify only the action's main objective, even if it has different aspects, consequences, and effects.

c) **A project can include different types of actions, ranging from actions developed under strategic line G1 to those under strategic line G4**, but always considering that the actions share common **objectives with the project as a whole and are located in the same ecoregion.**

d) Whenever the characteristics of an action allow it to be classified in more than one record, one can choose the classification in the record with the highest score but **never score cumulatively**.

e) Only conservation actions that are **current and additional to legal requirements** should be considered in the **Biodiversity Positive Performance for the current year of assessment**.

f) The planning or elaboration of a project/program for biodiversity conservation which contains various actions are scored only once, in accordance with its objective, in G1.P1; G2.P1; G3.P1 or G4.P1. However, each action stipulated and undertaken is scored individually in the records for implementation (G1.I1; G2.I1; G3.I1 or G4.I1).

g) **Actions which are not undertaken in a localized way and/or localized actions which have an indirect effect for conservation are classified in G4, even when carried out in protected areas.**

h) **For actions to create or adopt areas (G1.C1 or G2.C1), the size of the area created or adopted must always be considered in the calculation.**

i) **For flora conservation and management actions (G1.I1, G2.1 or G3.I1), the size of the managed area should always be considered in the equation. However, for fauna conservation and management actions, the size of the area should not be considered.**

j) It is recommended that conservation projects and actions be structured in the BAP considering a "coding" that facilitates the organization/producer in their categorization/identification. For example, a code referring to the project can be included at the beginning of the project name.

4. BIODIVERSITY POSITIVE PERFORMANCE (BPP)

Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP) is the metric used to evaluate the organization's/producer's performance in conservation, represented by the sum of the scores of

actions that are current and additional to legal requirements, structured within the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Action Plan (BAP).

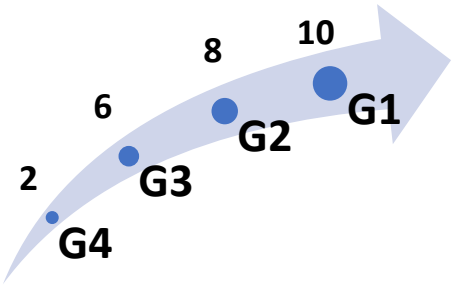
In cases where Biodiversity Result Indicators (BRI) are applied, the Biodiversity Positive Performance will be the product of the sum of the project scores multiplied by the BRI coefficient of each project.

The details of the applied calculations are provided in the following sections.

4.1 CALCULATION OF ACTION SCORES

Each Group and Theme has a weight, according to its importance (Figure 3).

Figure 3 - Schematic representation of the weight of the Groups



The weight of the Themes varies according to the contribution of the phase in which each fit:

Phase	Importance for biodiversity conservation	Weight
Creation of protected area (C)	Direct maintenance, in the short term, of the ecosystem	100
Planning of actions (P)	Increase in the chance of obtaining efficacy from the actions to be undertaken	60
Implementation of actions (I)	Guarantee that the actions for biodiversity conservation have been undertaken	40

Relationship of Group weights with the respective Theme weights:

Group 1	Weight Group	Theme	Weight Theme	Group x Theme
	10	C	100	**1000**
		P	60	**600**
		I	40	**400**

Group 2	Weight Group	Theme	Weight Theme	Group x Theme
	8	C	100	**800**
		P	60	**480**
		I	40	**320**

Group 3	Weight Group	Theme	Weight Theme	Group x Theme
	6	P	60	**360**
		I	40	**240**

Group 4	Weight Group	Theme	Weight Theme	Group x Theme
	2	P	60	**120**
		I	40	**80**

The standard equation used by the LIFE Methodology for scoring conservation actions is as follows:

$$C = G \times T \times \left(\sum_{q=1}^{n} w_q * j_q \right)$$

In which:

C = the score for the Conservation Action

G = the weight of the Group in which the action is classified

T = the weight of the Theme in which the action is classified

q = the identification of the qualifiers applicable to the action ($1 \leq q \leq 15$)

n = the number of qualifiers applicable to the action ($1 \leq n \leq 15$)

w_q = the weight of each qualifier ($1.1 \leq w \leq 2.0$)

j_q = the value of the class within the qualifier ($1.000 \leq j \leq 2.0$)

This equation has variations, because of the influence which the size of the area and its location (ecoregion) exercise in specific actions:

a) C_P/C_I Records: Planning actions and other Implementation actions, except for conservation and management actions (Records G1.I1, G2.I1 and G3.I1) present in all groups are called C_P/C_I Records, respectively. They are scored in accordance with the standard equation:

$$C_P/C_I = G \times T \times \left(\sum_{q=1}^{n} w_q * j_q \right)$$

In which:

$C_P C_I$ = scoring of the Planning and Implementation Actions

G = weight of the Group in which the action is classified

T = weight of the Theme in which the action is classified

q = identification of the Qualifier (1 ≤ q ≤ 15)

n = number of qualifiers applicable to the action (1 ≤ n ≤ 15)

w_q = weight of the Qualifier (1.1 ≤ w ≤ 2.0)

j_q = class of the Qualifier (1.000 ≤ j ≤ 2.0)

b) C_C Records: the actions of Creating or adopting areas, which are influenced directly by the ecoregion and size of the area, present in Groups 1 and 2 are called C_C Records, and are scored in accordance with the following variation of the standard equation:

$$C_C = G \times T \times \left(\sum_{q=1}^{n} w_q * j_q \right) \times \left(\frac{j_{q03}}{150} \right) \times S$$

In which:

C_C = scoring of the Action of Creation/Adoption of an area

G = weight of the Group in which the action is classified

T = weight of the Theme in which the action is classified

q = identification of the qualifiers applicable to the action (1 ≤ q ≤ 15)

n = number of qualifiers applicable to the action (1 ≤ n ≤ 15)

w_q = weight of each qualifier (1.3 ≤ w ≤ 2.0)

j_q = value of the class within the qualifier (1.5 ≤ j ≤ 2.0)

j_{q03} = value of the class in the qualifier of importance of the ecoregion

S = area created or adopted (in hectares)

c) C_I Records: the actions of conservation and management of biodiversity which are also directly influenced by the ecoregion and size of the area, present in Groups 1, 2 and 3, and called C_I Records, are scored in accordance with the following variation of the standard equation:

$$C_I = G \times T \times \left(\sum_{q=1}^{n} w_q * j_q \right) \times \left(\frac{j_{q03}}{150} \right) \times \sqrt{S}$$

In which:

C_I = scoring of the Action of Conservation and Management

G = weight of the Group in which the action is classified

T = weight of the Theme in which the action is classified

q = identification of the qualifiers applicable to the action (1 ≤ q ≤ 15)

n = number of qualifiers applicable to the action (1 ≤ n ≤ 15)

w_q = weight of each qualifier (1.1 ≤ w ≤ 2.0)

j_q = value of the class within the qualifier (1.1 ≤ j ≤ 2.0)

j_{q03} = value of the class in the qualifier of importance of the ecoregion

S = size of the area under conservation or management (in hectares)

For **flora conservation and management actions, the size of the managed area should always be considered in the equation.** However, for **fauna conservation and management actions, the size of the area should not be considered.**

After the individual scoring of each record (action), Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP) is determined by summing the scores of all classified conservation actions:

$$BPP = \sum_{k=1}^{n} C_k$$

In which:

BPP = Biodiversity Positive Performance

C_k = score for each record k ($1 \leq k \leq n$)

n = number of records scored

4.1.1 GENERAL RULES FOR LIFE SCORING AND CERTIFICATION

a) Each conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity action must be classified in only one record (Group and Theme) of this document. All records must be scored in two ways by the auditor:

- **Full score:** the total score expected for the record, considering the qualifiers considered applicable and essential for the action, due to its specific characteristics. This occurs when the action is considered complete and satisfactory by the auditor.

- **Partial score (50%):** It applies when there is a need to share points between different managers of a particular action. A 50% discount is applied to the total score of the registration, including the application of qualifiers related to the action.

b) The organization/producer must achieve a **Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP) equal to or greater than the Biodiversity Minimum Performance (BMP)**. This minimum performance is obtained through the calculation of the Biodiversity Pressure Index (BPI), in accordance with Technical Guide 01.

c) **At least 30% of the Biodiversity Minimum Performance (BMP) score must arise from actions undertaken in the same ecoregion as the one in which the organization is established.** This rule aims to ensure minimum compensation in the locality where the organization's main direct impacts occur.

d) The score obtained for conservation actions applies to the organization applying for or managing the LIFE Certification.

e) In the case of Holding, the group must define the scope of the certification for one or more business units. However, the Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP) score must be allocated to one or more business units of the Holding, according to the scope, always through a formalized document.

f) The group may choose to certify the entire holding, provided that the BPI and BMP are calculated for all units that belong to it. The sum of the unit's BMPs will represent the

total minimum score the group must achieve. Additionally, all units must comply with the LIFE Business and Biodiversity Standard. In this case, the score of the Positive Biodiversity Performance (BPP) can be applied to the group.

g) If the certified organization or the organization applying for certification supports conservation actions carried out by independent institutions (NGOs, government agencies, etc.) through the transfer of resources established by agreements or other partnership modalities:

- The certified organization or organization applying for certification must inform which of these actions will be subject to evaluation;
- The institution directly responsible for applying the resources to execute the actions must provide a document indicating which actions, as identified by the certified organization or certification candidate, may be scored as Positive Biodiversity Performance (BPP). In this case, the score for the actions associated with the document mentioned above cannot be used by another organization. This rule is intended to regulate the distribution of scores related to actions carried out or financed by foundations or other institutions.

4.1.2 TEMPORALITY OF SCORING

LIFE Certification is valid for five years from the date the certificate is issued. Since actions with different characteristics may be scored, the evaluation methodology establishes duration criteria, meaning the validity of the score attributed to each action during the certification cycle, as shown in Table 2.

The temporality of the action aims to link the maintenance of the score to the period of its implementation. However, some actions are more strongly influenced by the continuity and durability of the action. In these cases, qualifier 11 applies.

Table 2 - Duration of the validity of the score

Actions Characteristics	Duration of Validity of the Score
Creation/adoption of protected areas	The score is given for the creation or adoption of the PA. The score is maintained from one auditing to the next, without an expiration date, if the area is maintained under conservation.
Donation of area	The score is given to the donator, regardless of when the donation was made, if the conservation of the natural area is proven, at the time of the audit. The score is maintained from one audit to the next, without an expiration date, if the area is maintained under conservation.
Plans for management and/or equivalent; Planning actions	The score is given regardless of when the documents are prepared, if the same are approved by a competent environmental body, when applicable. The score is maintained from one audit to the next while the documents are valid. The planning keeps its score if the same is implemented or in an implementation phase. Only in their first evaluation can the planning actions be scored without the actions stipulated being implemented. In the case of the implementation of the action(s) stipulated not having been initiated within the period of one year, the score is discounted.
Conservation and management actions	The score is given regardless of when the actions occurred (they may be finalized or in progress), if the state of conservation of the area and/or species in question is substantiated. The score is maintained from one audit to the next, without an expiration date, if the quality of the actions is substantiated.
Infrastructure and inspection of the protected area	The score is given regardless of when the protected area's infrastructure was installed, or when the inspection actions were initiated, if it can be proven that they are being maintained in a functioning condition. The score can be maintained from one audit to the next. However, should the infrastructure or inspection actions change (quality, quantity, etc.), the score must be revised.
Human resources for management and maintenance of the protected area	The score is given for the existence of human resources for management and maintenance of the protected area. The score can be maintained from one audit to the next. However, should changes be detected in the human resources (quantity, level of training, etc.), the score must be reviewed.

Actions Characteristics	Duration of Validity of the Score
Operationalization of protected area	The score is given for the existence of the actions of operationalization in general of the protected area, regardless of when the same were initiated. The score may be maintained from one audit to the next. However, should changes be detected in the actions (quantity, quality, adequacy, etc.) between one audit and the next, the score must be reviewed.
Studies and research projects	The score is given for ongoing actions or actions which are finalized in a period of up to one year prior to the audit. The score may be maintained from one audit to the next, as long as it is proven that the action is ongoing. In this case, it is necessary to prove the progress of the works during the intervals between audits. If a change in the status and/or quality of the action is detected, the score must be reviewed.
Integration; environmental education; actions with communities	
Strategic programs and projects	
Support for the development and implementation of public policies	
Databases; technical and/or scientific collections	
Mapping; Cartographic bases; Registering of areas	
Ex-situ conservation programs and projects	
Alternative systems of production for minimizing impacts	The score is given for the implementation and maintenance of the system. The score can be maintained from one audit to the next. However, should changes be detected, the score must be reviewed.
Partnership, agreements and/or similar with research institutions, governmental bodies and/or NGOs	The score is given for the existence of a formal agreement between the certified organization or candidate for certification and the NGO(s), governmental bodies and research institutions regardless of when the action was undertaken. The score can be maintained as long as the agreement exists, as long as the results of the agreement can be demonstrated and proven, considering its specific objectives over time.

5. GUIDE FOR EVIDENCE AND CONTENT FOR VERIFICATION (GECV)

This part of the document lists the evidence of action and the content for verification and scoring of each Record by the auditor. The **evidence** are the records and other documents which validate the undertaking of the conservation action, while the ***content for verification*** lists the information which can validate its quality.

The full score does not depend on the presentation of all the evidence and content listed, as not all are applicable in all situations. It is necessary to evaluate and justify which qualifiers are applicable and/or essential for scoring each action based on its particularities.

Records	Actions
G1.C1	Create or adopt protected areas.
G2.C1	

Creation of areas:

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Deeds of the area, or registering of the building;
- ✓ Legal proof referent to the creation of areas which are officially instituted;
- ✓ Covenant or equivalent in the case of areas which are not officially instituted;
- ✓ Note of transfer of funds for the creation of the area;
- ✓ Publication in the Union Official Journal (DOU) or the Official Press of the State in question (for Private Reserves);
- ✓ Verification in loco of the area, or by remote sensing, comparing these with information from official documentation.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Date of the documents;
- ✓ Commitments undertaken;
- ✓ Legal validity;
- ✓ Size of the area;
- ✓ Specific indicators of the preliminary works referent to the creation of protected areas;
- ✓ Objectives and functionality of the area, in order to confirm the equivalency with the IUCN category scored in qualifier 10;
- ✓ Financial report, financial audit report and similar documents which evidence the application of the resource to the purpose to which it it is destined;

- ✓ Information on the contribution to the increasing of protected area in the country.

Area Adoption:

a) Evidence of the action:

- ✓ Terms of Adoption, contract or equivalent;
- ✓ Protection and maintenance of the protected area in the field;
- ✓ Legal proof referent to the status of the area, in the case of an area which is officially instituted.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Objectives and functionality of the area in order to confirm the equivalence with the IUCN category scored for in qualifier 10;
- ✓ Meeting of the obligations taken on by both parties, documental and in the field;
- ✓ Period of validity of the adoption contract;
- ✓ Legality and validity of the Terms of Adoption or similar and their period of validity.

Records	Actions
G1.P1	Elaborate management plan and/or planning and conservation actions in the protected area.
G2.P1	
G3.P1	Elaborate the planning of actions for conservation and management of species and/or ecosystems.
G4.P1	Elaborate a strategic or political initiative project for the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

Elaboration of Management Plans (G1) and/or equivalents (G2):

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Management Plan (G1) or equivalent (G2) concluded;
- ✓ Management Plan approved by the competent body.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Characterization of the area;
- ✓ Diagnosis of protected area considering abiotic, biotic and socio-economic environments;
- ✓ Management objectives for the protected area, so as to guide and support its management, based on a preliminary diagnosis;
- ✓ Actions stipulated which contribute to meeting the objectives established in the creation of the area, in accordance with its conservation category;
- ✓ Differentiation and intensity of use defined through zoning, with a view to the protection of its natural and cultural resources;
- ✓ Emphasis on the representativeness of the protected area in the national scenario;
- ✓ Declaration of the significance of the protected area, based on the diagnosis;

- ✓ Guideline for the application of resources in the protected area;
- ✓ Schedule of activities and costs, considering the results expected;
- ✓ Analysis of connectivity with the other protected areas and remaining areas;
- ✓ Information in accordance with guidance from the environmental body responsible (e.g.: Methodological Procedure);
- ✓ Management programs structured based in planning for results.

General content of G1.P1, G2.P1 and G3.P1:

- ✓ Clear definition of the objective;
- ✓ Definition of target species or taxonomic group(s);
- ✓ Description of the interventions stipulated with references;
- ✓ Monitoring stages;
- ✓ Definition of the indicators to be monitored;
- ✓ Definition of the expected results;
- ✓ Rationale for the intervention technique used;
- ✓ Consistency between the technique used and the results expected;
- ✓ Meeting the legislation currently in force;
- ✓ Action Plan (activities stipulated, time periods, persons responsible).

Content of G3.P1, specific for:

Management programs/projects for the conservation of threatened, endemic or vulnerable taxa:

- ✓ Pre-adaptation/adaptation techniques;
- ✓ Monitoring of adaptation;
- ✓ Evaluation of risks prior to release in the case of reintroduction;
- ✓ Record of veterinary support;
- ✓ Area managed, planted or recovered (ha);
- ✓ Phytosociological analysis;
- ✓ Regeneration rates.

Programs/projects for reducing accidental capture during fishing activities (bycatch):

- ✓ Landing surveys;
- ✓ Definition and rationale for indicator taxa;
- ✓ Rates of accidental capture v. taxa captured v. fishing technique

Programs/projects for prevention and control of biological invasion:

- ✓ Identification of potentially invasive species in the environment, and threatened native species;
- ✓ Identification of the species' level of invasiveness;
- ✓ Biological control techniques and their rationale;

- ✓ Observation of legal restrictions in the choice and implementation of control methods;
- ✓ Legal permission;
- ✓ Controlled area (ha) and area eradicated (ha);
- ✓ Appropriate scale of application of the prevention techniques applied.

Ecological restoration programs/projects:

- ✓ Species selected, and the rationale behind this;
- ✓ Mapping of the size of the area being restored.
- ✓ Degraded area; restored area (ha); recovered area;
- ✓ Land/flora environment: number of saplings planted and spacing compatible with the effectiveness of the restoration; appropriate cultural and silvicultural treaties; rates of survival, adaptation and recruitment.
- ✓ Fauna: rates of survival and adaptation;
- ✓ Marine environment: artificial reefs; anti-trawl fishing devices;
- ✓ Techniques' compatibility with the natural ecosystem;
- ✓ Frequency and effectiveness of the actions of maintenance and monitoring of the area;
- ✓ Report from a qualified professional.

Programs/projects for Management of Impacts on Biodiversity:

- ✓ Delimitation of the area;
- ✓ Mapping;
- ✓ Identification of impacts and risks;
- ✓ Identification of emergencies and priorities for conservation;
- ✓ Definition of restrictions on activities, or use by zoning;
- ✓ Definition of strategies for mitigation and remediation of impacts;
- ✓ Definition of strategy for monitoring the main elements impacting the local biodiversity;
- ✓ Definition of strategies for monitoring the local biodiversity associated with monitoring of impacting elements;
- ✓ Being based in relevant previous references or studies (e.g.: Environmental Impact Study (EIS) – Environmental Impact Report (EIR);
- ✓ Present indicators of the actions and of the results of these on biodiversity, through plans for monitoring biodiversity.

Programs/projects for wildlife corridors and/or countryside management:

- ✓ Mapping of the natural environments;
- ✓ Mapping of areas with potential for connectivity;
- ✓ Rural properties registered;
- ✓ Satellite images or aerial photographs;

- ✓ Evaluation of the effects of fragmentation on the area;
- ✓ Evaluation of the area in the context and structure of the countryside;
- ✓ Corridor or mosaic planned in accordance with the principles of Landscape Ecology;
- ✓ Official documents;
- ✓ Methodological procedure and the relevant scientific bibliography for its planning and management;
- ✓ Border effects, presence of invasive species, etc.;
- ✓ Appropriate indices/metrics to assess composition and disposition.

Records	Actions
G1.I1	Implement actions for conservation and management of biodiversity in the protected área.
G2.I1	
G3.I1	Implement actions of conservation and management of species and/or ecosystems.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Technical Reports;
- ✓ Photographic records;
- ✓ Reports of the actions and monitoring undertaken;
- ✓ Result reports;
- ✓ Legal permission required;
- ✓ Reports of independent audits;
- ✓ Invoices referent to the interventions in the field, when tertiarized;
- ✓ Technical and scientific articles and publications;
- ✓ Contract(s) with specialized consultancies or teaching and research institutions or with service companies.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Localization and classification of the ecoregion;
- ✓ Size of the area;
- ✓ Data from the documents and reports;
- ✓ Quality of the interventions evaluated in the field;
- ✓ Consistence with what was planned under the program/project (G.P1), when this has been scored;
- ✓ Rationale for the choice of the species, ecosystems and management techniques adopted.

Specific content for:

Restoration of fragments and implementation of buffer zone around protected areas:

a) Evidence:

- ✓ Mapping of natural vegetation;
- ✓ Planning of the restoration of buffer zones;
- ✓ Mapping of areas with potential for connectivity;
- ✓ Rural properties registered;
- ✓ Evaluation, Monitoring and/or Result reports.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Successional stage over time;
- ✓ Distance of the protected areas from the buffer zone;
- ✓ Legal requirements applicable.

Conserve natural areas beyond the legal requirements:

a) Evidence:

- ✓ Mapping;
- ✓ Measuring of the additional area extending beyond the limits required by law.

b) Content for Verification:

- ✓ Size of the area;
- ✓ Updated official data;
- ✓ Successional stage of the additional area under conservation;
- ✓ Species and type of intervention used, in the case of restoration;
- ✓ Rates of development and survival of saplings, in the case of restoration;
- ✓ Minimum limits established by the applicable legislation.

Implementation of green corridors and/or mosaics:

a) Evidence:

- ✓ Diagnosis of the area;
- ✓ Evaluation of the corridor in the field;
- ✓ Maps/satellite images;
- ✓ Monitoring and progress reports.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Connection area restored (ha);
- ✓ Indicator species, defined and monitored;
- ✓ Maintenance of the connectivity restored;
- ✓ Presence of flow of target species and/or analysis of gene flow;
- ✓ Exclusive use of native species of that ecosystem in the restoration;

- ✓ Rates of fragmentation through analysis of the countryside, comparing the scenarios of the countryside over the historical record available at frequent intervals.

Records	Actions
G1.I2	Implement actions operationalizing the area for biodiversity conservation.
G2.I2	

Operationalize the protected area:

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Appropriate infrastructure: office, accommodation, equipment, communication, vehicles;
- ✓ Access: access routes, trails, in a good state of conservation;
- ✓ Records of contracting staff in sufficient numbers;
- ✓ Records of training staff;
- ✓ Management System implemented;
- ✓ Reports of activities and results;
- ✓ Reports produced by the manager of the protected area;
- ✓ Records of contact and communication with the surrounding area;
- ✓ Records of visiting;
- ✓ Interviews with the surrounding population.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Implementation of routines: training, protection/inspection plan, planning of research/monitoring, rules for public use, budget planning;
- ✓ Management System: strategic planning, information management, periodical evaluation of the system;
- ✓ Minutes and reports of meetings with the community;
- ✓ Social integration: relationship with the surrounding area, mobilization capacity, generation of income, visiting data.

Inspection:

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Routine of inspection/patrolling in operation;
- ✓ Records of contracting and training of personnel;
- ✓ Minimum equipment for inspection: vehicles, cameras, Personal Protective Equipment, portable communication devices etc.;
- ✓ Record of occurrences detected during the inspection;
- ✓ Physical evidence verified in loco;
- ✓ Reports of activities and results;

- ✓ Financial report: evaluate whether resources received for the inspection were used effectively in the inspection and control of the area.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Trained staff in sufficient numbers for adequate inspection;
- ✓ Routine of inspection: definition of strategic routes, points and areas for inspection, frequency of the rounds, as well as the efficient communication with public inspection and security bodies;
- ✓ Results indicators stipulated in the management plan;
- ✓ Sufficient frequency and territorial coverage of the inspection actions;
- ✓ Compatibility between the infrastructure and equipment available and the size of the area to be inspected;
- ✓ Integration of the inspection actions with actions of other bodies (e.g.: Federal Police, Army, etc.).

Fire prevention and combat programs:

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Records of volunteer firemen active;
- ✓ Records of firemen contracted and trained.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Number of man-made and non-man-made fires recorded;
- ✓ Reports of activities and results;
- ✓ Appropriate infrastructure for the prevention, control and combating of fires, in accordance with the size of the area;
- ✓ State of conservation of the relevant infrastructure.

Environmental sanitation:

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Basic sanitation infrastructure in the protected area;
- ✓ Routine of appropriate destination of solid waste;
- ✓ System of control and environmental sanitation in the Buffer Zone (BZ) implemented;
- ✓ Program of standardization of the productive activities existent in the BZ, in the ambit of environmental sanitation.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Results indicators stipulated in the management plan;
- ✓ Efficacy of the waste and effluent destination system within the protected area;
- ✓ Quality of the sanitation, measured through bio-indicators (e.g.: bivalves; micro-crustaceans; etc.);
- ✓ Frequency and results of analyses with bio-indicators;

- ✓ Information on pollution, polluting agents, political actions for industries and agricultural enterprises, among others, in the BZ.

Records	Actions
G4.I1	Implement/support strategic projects and/or public policies which contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Legal approval of the instrument (political; economic or similar);
- ✓ Records or reports which substantiate the participation in meetings and discussion events for the elaborating of the norms to be applicable;
- ✓ Project containing the proposal of the political or economic instrument, or similar;
- ✓ Reports of activities and results;
- ✓ Reports of transfer of resources;
- ✓ Routine of payments instituted (e.g.: Payment for Environmental/ Ecosystem Services);
- ✓ Contracts and invoices;
- ✓ Official opinions regarding the eligibility of the areas considered in the projects;
- ✓ Technical and scientific articles and publications;
- ✓ Independent evaluations and audits;
- ✓ Reports from specialized consultancies.

b) Content for verification (in accordance with the project). Examples:

- ✓ Validity and time period of the project;
- ✓ Frequency of monitoring and critical analysis of the project;
- ✓ Expected results for biodiversity;
- ✓ Results achieved for biodiversity.

Records	Actions
G4.I2	Implement/support communication and/or social mobilization campaigns which contribute to conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Contracts and work plans with communication companies;
- ✓ Books, leaflets, videos and other publicity materials produced;
- ✓ Reports on the distribution of the materials;
- ✓ Reports on the receiving and/or visualization of the media disseminated;
- ✓ Reports on the mobilization meetings held;

- ✓ List of participants in lectures, meetings and/or mobilization events (network of actors consolidated);
- ✓ Advisory Council formed and active.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Objectives and goals of the campaign;
- ✓ Emphasis on conservation in the media produced;
- ✓ Method defined and applied for evaluating whether the information passed on was assimilated;
- ✓ Public reached (quantity of material provenly distributed);
- ✓ Results expected and achieved;
- ✓ Program content;
- ✓ Reduction/elimination of the history of conflicts with the protected area's surrounding area;
- ✓ Reduction/elimination of occurrences of invasions in the protected area;
- ✓ Engagement of community leaders;
- ✓ Evaluation of the program elaborated.

Records	Actions
G4.I3	Establish/maintain partnerships, agreements and/or similar with research institutions, governmental bodies, and/or NGOs, which contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Contract signed between the parties (e.g.: National/Regional Centers for Conservation and Management of Wildlife; NGOs; Research Center; Universities; etc.);
- ✓ Records of financial support;
- ✓ Reports of the activities undertaken in the ambit of the partnership.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Duration of the agreement sufficient to achieve the expected results;
- ✓ Transfer and appropriate application of the financial resources;
- ✓ Financial audit reports;
- ✓ Mission, objectives or history of the functioning of the partner-institution related to biodiversity conservation;
- ✓ Objectives of the agreement compatible with the results obtained.

Records	Actions

G4.I4	Implement/support and/or make available information for databases or technical and/or scientific collections referent to conservation and/or the sustainable use of biodiversity.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Spreadsheets containing systematized information on biodiversity;
- ✓ Production of software with information related to biodiversity;
- ✓ Contracts for exchanging information between institutions;
- ✓ Information available on the Internet;
- ✓ History of data publicized;
- ✓ Reports of results of the systems made available by the maintainers;
- ✓ Agreement signed for the maintenance of the holdings of technical and scientific collections of biological materials;
- ✓ Technical and scientific holdings and collections of material maintained in an appropriate state for conservation, with the possibility of use, and available for consultation;
- ✓ Data on the monitoring of biodiversity and indicators of environmental impacts, organized in databases (GIS, ACCESS, Excel, or similar);
- ✓ Scientific publications, technical guides, and other publications resulting from monitoring data.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Extent of publicity
- ✓ Free character of the information;
- ✓ Technical and/or scientific quality of the information made available;
- ✓ User interface;
- ✓ Updating of the database;
- ✓ Number of accesses to the system;
- ✓ Number of feedings of the system;
- ✓ Percentage of institutions/actors covered by the systems;
- ✓ Reports elaborated by the curators of the collections.

Records	**Actions**
G4.I5	Undertake/support actions of mapping, elaboration and updating of cartographic bases, and the recording of areas destined for conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Fences and fire breaks implemented in accordance with measurements and documentation;
- ✓ Number of signs and/or boundary marks on the perimeter demarcated;

- ✓ Recording of the area with the responsible Governmental Bodies;
- ✓ Use of software for spatial planning of the area/countryside, with a view to conciliating the conservation objectives;
- ✓ Maps, GIS base map and associated database;
- ✓ Reports of activities and results;
- ✓ Technical reports;
- ✓ Zoning for the spatial planning and use of the area, as well as for possible green corridors and mosaics, adopting benchmarks from the areas of Conservation Biology and Landscape Ecology.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Quality of the demarcation;
- ✓ Consistency between the layout plans, map, project description and legal records;
- ✓ Boundary markers and signs on all the corners;
- ✓ At least one sign in each segment of the division between two corners;
- ✓ State of conservation and functionality of the demarcatory elements;
- ✓ Identification of key points for the creation of green corridors and mosaics;
- ✓ Identification of areas at risk of invasion by domestic animals (cows, horses, goats, sheep) or at higher risk of invasion by humans (invasion for hunting, fishing and extraction);
- ✓ Provision for fire breaks on the borders where there is a risk of fire.

Records	Actions
G4.I6	Implement/support conservation programs *ex situ*.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Conservation chambers for genetic material;
- ✓ Structure for in vitro cultivation or cryogenics;
- ✓ Cultivation in laboratories;
- ✓ Greenhouses and/or nurseries;
- ✓ Nuclei of conservation of animal species;
- ✓ Germoplasm banks of vegetable species;
- ✓ Reports.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Relevance of the action to the species under conservation;
- ✓ Consistency between the rationale, objectives and methods.

Records	Actions

G4.I7	Implement/support programs/projects of education for conservation and/or the sustainable use of biodiversity.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Records of activities undertaken;
- ✓ Support material for the activities (booklets; multimedia material);
- ✓ Participation lists;
- ✓ Evaluations applied;
- ✓ Technical reports.

b) Content for verification (Tables A and B)[9]:

- ✓ Initial diagnosis;
- ✓ Focus on the educational strategy;
- ✓ Repercussions of the Program;
- ✓ Participative processes;
- ✓ Critical analysis.

Table A – Content for verification

Item	Content for verification
Initial diagnosis	Proposal of the program for Environmental Education starts with an environmental and social diagnosis in which the group is inserted.
Strategy focus	Multidisciplinary; inter/transdisciplinary.
Repercussions of the program	Has repercussions for the group, the family members, and the community.
Participative processes	The project encourages the participation of the target groups in discussions and seeking joint solutions for meeting the project's objective.
Critical analysis	Stipulates a continued methodology of evaluation which must monitor changes of awareness, behavior, development of skills and participation.

Table B – Critical Analysis - Parameter

Critical Analysis - Parameter	Evidence
Awareness	The group developed a critical perspective regarding the issue of biodiversity: it recognizes the local problems and relates them to global problems, and perceives the relationship between man and nature conservation.
Knowledge	Concepts acquired after experiencing the processes of environmental education for biodiversity conservation: improvement in the formulating of concepts relating to the issue of biodiversity.

[9] Adapted from: SILVA, L.B. 2009. Access on May 15. 2023: <http://dspace.c3sl.ufpr.br/dspace/bitstream/handle/1884/21170/Dissertacao_LizBuckSilva%20.pdf?sequence=1>

Behavior	Changes in values/construction of new ethics or value for biodiversity conservation, observed during and after the Environmental Education program (project).
Skill	Development of the potential to resolve conflicts in place related to biodiversity conservation.

Records	Actions
G4.I8	Undertake/support studies and/or research contributing to conservation, sustainable use and/or mitigation of impacts on native biodiversity.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Research projects and/or monitoring programs;
- ✓ Mapping of the areas studied;
- ✓ Monitoring and research protocols;
- ✓ Reports on research and/or monitoring;
- ✓ Reports from the community involved in the projects and programs;
- ✓ Authorizations for collection and research from the responsible environmental body;
- ✓ Database;
- ✓ Publications.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Rationale;
- ✓ Consistency and sufficiency of the indicators of the research projects, for evaluating the results expected;
- ✓ Sufficiency of duration or continuity of the projects, in accordance with the objectives expected;
- ✓ Relevance of the species selected as indicators and/or biotic communities evaluated.

Records	Actions
G4.I9	Implement/support alternative production systems which minimize the impacts on biodiversity, in comparison with traditional production systems.

a) Evidence of action:

- ✓ Evaluation of the system in the field;
- ✓ Reports;
- ✓ Photographic records.

b) Content for verification:

- ✓ Rationale for the production system adopted, and its relationship with biodiversity;

- ✓ Management adopted;
- ✓ Reduction of the pressure on biodiversity;
- ✓ Percentage of reduction in the use of the natural resource;
- ✓ Species used;
- ✓ Reduction in the use of herbicides and pesticides;
- ✓ Use of native seeds (on-farm conservation);
- ✓ Increasing diversity in the system of production at the genetic, species, and countryside levels.

6. BIODIVERSITY RESULT INDICATORS (BRI)

Faced with the need to guide organizations/producers on how to evaluate the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation actions and projects, The LIFE Institute identified objective criteria that allow monitoring conservation outcomes. Thus, Biodiversity Result Indicators (BRI) classes have been refined to assess information ranging from species genetic diversity to the integrity of ecosystem functions. In each class, minimum measurable variables are suggested, which can generate clear outcome indicators in the medium and long term.

The BRI established by LIFE Institute were defined based on Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBVs), presented by Pereira et al. (2013). The Essential Biodiversity Variables were inspired by the Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) that guide the implementation of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). The Essential Biodiversity Variables aim to create a consensus on what should be monitored by different biodiversity conservation programs worldwide. These variables were organized by Instituto LIFE according to their importance and later divided into classes based on common characteristics to allow analyses in terrestrial, marine, and freshwater ecosystems.

In 2014, LIFE Institute conducted the first methodological assessments to evaluate and score effort (monitoring) and success (conservation outcomes) through the creation of a Temporary Technical Conservation Committee (CTT). In 2015, in partnership with Petrobras, workshops were held to apply and validate the classes and outcome indicators in 12 projects of the Petrobras Socioenvironmental Program (PPSA). After the workshops, the proposed BRI were also evaluated

by the CTT - Conservation and validated by the Permanent Technical Committee of LIFE Institute in 2016.

Aiming to contribute to the construction of an international database and guide the search for indicators that consider the LIFE Directive in conservation (Maintenance of Ecosystem Composition, Structure, and Function), LIFE Institute synthesizes, simplifies, and disseminates these indicators as medium and long-term goals to evaluate monitoring and conservation outcomes.

Below is Table 3, which presents the classes, indicators, and expected outcomes for biodiversity.

Table 3 - Biodiversity Result Indicators (BRI)

MAINTENANCE OF ECOSYSTEM STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION		
INDICATOR CLASS	**INDICATOR**	**EXPECTED OUTCOME FOR BIODIVERSITY**
A. Ecosystem Structures	**1. Landscape structure**	Maintenance or reduction of habitat fragmentation; increase in functional connectivity.
	2. Trophic structure	Presence of top predators.
	3. Habitat structure	Maintenance or increase of habitat cover; maintenance of vertical stratification (habitat structural complexity); maintenance of aquatic ecosystems (coral reef structural complexity); maintenance or improvement of soil structure (maintenance or increase of A horizon, leaf litter, and/or organic matter; soil permeability and moisture).
B. Ecosystem Functions	**4. Decomposition and nutrient cycling**	Maintenance or increase of the area's capacity to store, fix, or regulate nutrients; maintenance/increase of abundance and diversity of decomposer groups (earthworms, dung beetles, algae, and other organisms in terrestrial and aquatic environments with this function).
	5. CO_2 capture	Maintenance or increase of biomass/organic matter/CO_2 fixation.
	6. Water resource quality/availability	Improvement in water quality/availability (physical-chemical properties, flow, sediments, siltation, reduction of waste/pollutants).
	7. Soil-associated functions	Root fixation; water availability; nutrient availability.
MAINTENANCE OF ECOSYSTEM COMPOSITION		
INDICATOR CLASS	**INDICATOR**	**EXPECTED OUTCOME FOR BIODIVERSITY**

C. Genetic Composition	**8. Allelic richness**	Maintenance or increase of allelic richness.
	9. Genetic diversity	Maintenance or increase of heterozygosity frequency in the studied population(s).
	10. Frequency of genetic differentiation	Maintenance or increase in frequency of differentiation in the studied population(s).
	11. Effective population size	Maintenance of effective population size.
D. Populations	**12. Abundance**	Increase in abundance (population density in number of individuals or biomass); recovery of declining populations; reduction in extinction risk of the population(s).
	13. Age structure	Maintenance of age structure/size classes of the population(s).
	14. Sex ratio	Maintenance of natural sex ratio of the population(s).
	15. Organism movement	Occurrence of migratory species; maintenance/recovery of migration routes and paths; maintenance/recovery of occurrence/distribution patterns; establishment of new ecologically viable occurrence/distribution patterns; flow of individuals between populations of a metapopulation; maintenance of habitat structure in landscape elements, such as corridors and steppingstones.
E. Composition and structure of communities	**16. Functional diversity**	Maintenance/recovery of interaction patterns between populations: Frequency and diversity of dispersed seeds; frequency and diversity of floral visitors; diversity of mycorrhizal associations; diversity of reef-building corals; diversity of parasitism and epiphytism; occurrence and diversity of specialists; maintenance or recovery of trophic relationships.
	17. Species diversity	Demonstrated trends of maintaining or increasing the richness and/or diversity of native species; reduction/elimination of invasive species.

To include such outcome indicators in the Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP), two scoring levels are established in the LIFE Methodology:

- **Level 1:** refers to the scoring of projects and conservation actions based on their classification and qualification in the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Action Plan (BAP).
- **Level 2:** evaluates the conservation outcomes (Biodiversity Result Indicators - BRI) by project.

The Level 1 evaluation is mandatory for determining the BPP, while the Level 2 evaluation is optional/voluntary. It can only be applied if there is continuous monitoring of one or more recommended indicators, with the clear objective of assessing the intentional outcome of a project.

The Level 2 evaluation can be based on:

- **Monitoring:** related to the effort made to assess the outcome.
- **Outcome:** related to the success of the actions demonstrated through monitoring.

The score obtained in Level 1 will be multiplied by a coefficient reflecting the monitoring effort and/or the success of the results. This coefficient can range from 1.2 to 3.0, depending on the BRI assessment in Level 2.

This allows organizations or producers to be rewarded both for their monitoring efforts and the success of their conservation actions.

6.1 BRI SCORING LOGIC

It is understood that the decision to evaluate conservation outcomes is inherently a clear demonstration of the organizations or rural producer's concern for the quality and success of their actions, and that such a decision implies an investment on their part.

Therefore, the organization or rural producer receives extra points for choosing to evaluate their efforts and demonstrate success in conservation, as expressed by the coefficients in Table 4. If the organization or rural producer decides to monitor one of the indicators suggested in Table 3, they will receive a 20% bonus to their score just for the effort (i.e., their Level 1 score will be multiplied by the effort coefficient of 1.2). However, the organization or rural producer may decide to monitor more than one indicator. In this case, they will receive a 10% increase in their score per monitored indicator, up to a maximum of 50% (multiplying their Level 1 score by the effort coefficient of 1.5). The limit on the number of indicators is intended to encourage the

organization or producer to invest in monitoring indicators from different classes, rather than numerous indicators within the same class.

The same logic applies when the organization or rural producer demonstrates the conservation outcome of their project. Thus, if the organization or rural producer, in addition to monitoring species richness, for example, demonstrates that over time there is a trend of maintaining or increasing species richness in the studied area, they will receive a 50% increase in their Level 1 score, multiplying it by the success coefficient of 1.5. If success (conservation outcome) is demonstrated through more than one indicator, the organization or rural producer will receive a 20% increase per indicator, up to a maximum of 50%. The restriction logic is the same as presented for the effort coefficient. The score increase can range from 80% if one indicator is monitored and the project's conservation success is demonstrated through it, to 200% if more than three indicators are monitored and results are demonstrated through them (multiplying the Level 1 score by a global coefficient of 1.8 or 3.0, respectively).

Table 4 – Conservation Outcome Indicators Coefficients

No. of indicators evaluated	Effort coefficient (monitoring)	Success coefficient (outcome)	GLOBAL COEFFICIENT
01	1,2	1,5	1,8
02	1,3	1,7	2,2
03	1,4	1,9	2,7
04	1,5	2,0	3,0

6.2 GENERAL RULES FOR THE APPLICATION OF BRI

a) **The Level 1 assessment (BAP) is a mandatory requirement for determining the BPP within the LIFE Methodology. In contrast, the Level 2 assessment (BRI) is optional, as it can only be implemented if there is an ongoing effort to monitor one or more of the recommended indicators over time.**

b) However, for the analysis and determination of LIFE Biodiversity Credits (LBC), the assessment of Biodiversity Result Indicators (BRI) will be mandatory from the second credit certification cycle (year 5 - 10).

c) The **evaluation of conservation outcomes is done per project**; therefore, the effort and/or success coefficient resulting from the application of BRI should be multiplied by the total score of the assessed project, **provided that all actions within the project share a common goal and are conducted in the same ecoregion.**

d) Only the additional and current actions of the project should be considered in the BRI evaluation, which may be developed within the 04 LIFE strategic lines of conservation (G1, G2, G3, and G4), if they align with the common goal of the project.

e) **Biodiversity conservation actions cannot be scored cumulatively in both the Level 1 assessment (BAP) and the Level 2 assessment (BRI):**

- **Monitoring actions**, for instance, are eligible for scoring in Level 1, **but they can also be scored in Level 2 when their purpose is to evaluate the outcomes/trends of actions or projects** through a report comparing annual monitoring data.
- However, if the monitoring is **sporadic** and **does not aim to evaluate the outcomes of an action**, such as **species censuses and surveys, it should only be scored in Level 1** of the Biodiversity Positive Performance (through the **G4.I8 register, related to studies and research**).
- **If a monitoring action is applicable to both Level 1 and Level 2, the organization/producer must choose to score in only one of the two levels.**

f) Proof of conservation results is only possible after monitoring the indicators, that is, **results can only be obtained when monitoring has been carried out.**

g) **The BRI score (Level 2) is part of the Positive Biodiversity Performance, and can up to triple a project's score (BRI coefficients range from 1.2 to 3.0).**

h) **To apply for BRI, the organization/producer applying for Certification must also present evidence.**

7. GLOSSARY

The terms used in this document are available in the LIFE Glossary.

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APPENDIX A – CLASSIFICATION KEY FOR LIFE CONSERVATION ACTIONS

1
- **a)** Actions with DIRECT EFFECT on biodiversity conservation → 2
- **b)** Actions with INDIRECT EFFECT on biodiversity conservation → 6

2
- **a)** Conservation actions in FORMALLY PROTECTED area (G1) → 3
- **b)** Conservation actions in NON-FORMALLY PROTECTED area (G2) → 4
- **c)** Conservation actions in UNPROTECTED AREA (G3) → 5

3
- **a)** Create or adopt FORMALLY protected areas — **G1.C1**
- **b)** Develop a management plan and/or planning of biodiversity conservation actions in the FORMALLY protected area — **G1.P1**
- **c)** Implement conservation and biodiversity management actions in the FORMALLY protected area — **G1.I1**
- **d)** Implement operational actions for the FORMALLY protected area for biodiversity conservation — **G1.I2**

4
- **a)** Create or adopt NON-FORMALLY protected areas — **G2.C1**
- **b)** Develop a management plan and/or planning of biodiversity conservation actions in the NON - FORMALLY protected area — **G2.P1**
- **c)** Implement conservation and biodiversity management actions in the NON-FORMALLY protected area — **G2.I1**
- **d))** Implement operational actions for the NON - FORMALLY protected area for biodiversity conservation — **G2.I2**

5
- a) Develop a planning of actions for the conservation and management of species and/or ecosystems — **G3.P1**
- **b)** Implement conservation and management actions for species and/or ecosystems — **G3.I1**

6
- **a)** Develop a planning for strategic initiatives or policies for the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity — **G4.P1**
- **b)** Implement INDIRECT actions that contribute to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity → 7

7
- **a)** Implement/support strategic projects/programs and/or public policies — **G4.I1**
- **b)** Implement/support communication and/or social mobilization campaigns — **G4.I2**
- **c)** Establish/maintain partnerships, agreements, and/or similar arrangements with research institutions, government agencies, and/or non-governmental organizations (NGOs) — **G4.I3**
- **d)** Implement/support and/or provide information for databases, technical collections, and/or scientific repositories — **G4.I4**
- **e)** Conduct/support mapping, development, and updating of cartographic databases and area registries — **G4.I5**
- **f)** Implement/support ex situ conservation projects/programs — **G4.I6**
- **g)** Implement/support environmental education projects/programs — **G4.I7**
- **h)** Conduct/support studies and/or research that contribute to the conservation, sustainable use, and/or mitigation of impacts on biodiversity — **G4.I8**
- **i)** Implement/support alternative production systems that minimize impacts on biodiversity compared to traditional production systems — **G4.I9**

NOTES ON DEVELOPMENT OF THIS DOCUMENT

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