

# **LIFE** GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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# **OBJECTIVE**

This document brings together the definition of technical and management terms applicable to LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity and LIFE Methodology on Sustainable Territorial Management, as well as the LIFE Certification System.

### **APPLICATION**

This document applies to LIFE Institute, Local Employees, National Initiatives, Certifying Bodies, LIFE Certified Organizations and all other stakeholders in LIFE Certification, in the use of LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity and LIFE Methodology on Sustainable Territorial Management Methodologies.



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### 1. INSTRUCTIONS

Below are instructions on how to interpret the LIFE Glossary.

## • General interpretation:

> **Term in bold:** definition (reference, year – *if applicable*).

I.e.: **Biodiversity:** variability of living organisms from all sources, including, among others, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems, and the ecological complexes of which they are part; including the diversity in species, between species and ecosystems (CBD, 2014).

# • Specific interpretation:

> Term and definition in italics with abbreviation at the end of the phrase "BR" or "PY" refers to a specific country:

BR: term used in Brazil

PY: term used in Paraguay

I.e.: **Permanent Preservation Area (PPA):** protected area, covered or not by native vegetation, with the environmental function of preserving water resources, the landscape, geological stability and biodiversity, facilitating the gene flow of fauna and flora, protecting the soil and ensuring the well-being of human populations. <sup>BR</sup>



#### 2. TERMS

**Abundance:** number of individuals of the same species present in a defined geographic unit.

**Access to genetic resources:** research and development on the genetic and biochemical composition of genetic resources, including through the application of biotechnology (CBD, 2014).

**Accreditation of LIFE Certifying Bodies:** process through which LIFE Institute accredits Certifying Bodies that meet all the requirements to act within the scope of LIFE Certification.

**Accreditation scope:** certification systems and respective standards for which the Certifying Body is qualified to conduct audits.

**Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Action Plan (BAP):** set of actions carried out, for the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, described, organized, classified and scored, according to Technical Guide 02 of the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity.

**Active principle:** active ingredient or active principle - chemical, physical or biological agent that confers efficacy to pesticides and the like (BRAZIL, 2002).

Adaptation based on Ecosystems (AbE): considers biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people and communities adapt to the adverse effects of climate change at the local, national, regional and global levels (CBD, 2014; UNEP, 2014). It involves any initiative that reduces human vulnerabilities and increases adaptive capacity in the context of existing or projected climate variability and change through sustainable management, conservation and restoration of ecosystems (IUCN, 2014).

**Additionality:** for LIFE Certification, it is considered as additionality any voluntary and proactive action taken by the organization for the conservation of biodiversity, not resulting from a legal requirement or that represents additional gains for biodiversity in relation to the minimum required by law.

**Adherence:** the term adherence mentioned in Principle 7 of the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity specifically refers to the consent of a State to be bound by the Nagoya Protocol.



**Agroforestry system:** land use system where woody perennial species are deliberately used in the same management unit of annual agricultural species and/or animals sequentially or simultaneously, with the objective of obtaining a greater result on a sustained basis (ITTO, 2014).

**Area recovery:** is the return of the degraded site to a form of use, according to a pre-established plan for the use of the land, aiming at obtaining a stability of the environment (BRAZIL, 2000).

**Audit scope:** physical unit of the audited organization for granting or maintaining LIFE Certification, including field units related to Biodiversity Conservation Actions carried out and/or supported by it.

**Audited organization:** organization that has a contract signed with a Certifying Body for the audit process in accordance with LIFE Certification.

**Basic infrastructure:** set of basic services essential to a city or society, including the supply and distribution of water, gas, electricity, public lighting, communication, basic sanitation services, garbage collection, public transport and mobility, parks and squares (MENENDEZ, 1991).

**Biodiversity:** variability of living organisms from all sources, including, among others, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems, and the ecological complexes of which they are part; including the diversity in species, between species and ecosystems (CBD, 2014).

**Biodiversity conservation:** managing human interactions with genes, species and ecosystems so as to provide maximum benefit to the current generation while maintaining their potential to satisfy the needs and aspirations of generations (BRAUN, 2005).

**Biodiversity Conservation Actions:** actions that contribute to the maintenance of the composition, structure and function of ecosystems, according to Technical Guide 02 of the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity.

**Biodiversity Minimum Performance (BMP):** minimum score in biodiversity conservation actions and ecosystem services to be achieved by an organization, defined according to the calculation of the Biodiversity Pressure Index (BPI) and its size (gross revenue), according to Technical Guide 01 of the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity.



**Biodiversity Positive Performance (BPP):** performance achieved, evaluated and verified by an organization in biodiversity conservation actions and ecosystem services, according to Technical Guide 02 of the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity.

**Biodiversity Pressure Index (BPI):** index that represents the pressure on biodiversity of the business unit on a scale from zero to 1,000, considering information on five environmental aspects (water, energy, greenhouse gases, waste and occupied area), according to Technical Guide 01 of the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity.

**Bioeconomy:** production and use of biological resources, biological processes and knowledge-based principles, with the aim of providing goods and services in a sustainable manner in all sectors of the economy. It involves three elements: (i) use of renewable biomass and efficient bioprocesses to achieve sustainable production; (ii) use of enabling and converging technologies, including biotechnology; (iii) integration between applications such as agriculture, health and industry (FAO, 2018).

**Biogas:** gas mixture produced from the anaerobic decomposition of organic materials, composed primarily of methane and carbon dioxide, with small amounts of hydrogen sulfide and ammonia (ZANETTE, 2009).

**Biogenic emission:** carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from biomass burning, soil emissions, emissions from the use of biofuels and decomposition of dead organic matter (WRI, 2016).

**Biological resources:** includes genetic resources, organisms or parts thereof, populations, or any other biotic component of the ecosystem with actual or potential use or value to humanity (CBD, 2006).

**Biome:** classification of world vegetation that corresponds to a particular climate and is characterized by the occurrence of certain plants and animals (IUCN, 2010).

**Biotic community:** set of populations that occur simultaneously in a given space and time (BEGON et al., 2006).



**Blue water**: volume of surface and ground water consumed as a result of the production of a good or service. Consumption refers to the volume of fresh water used and then evaporated or incorporated into a product. It also includes water abstracted from surface or ground in a basin that is subsequently discharged to another abstraction site or the sea (WATER FOOTPRINT NETWORK, 2015).

**Breeding stock:** set of animals used for a captive breeding process (CITES, 2014).

**Buffer zone:** surroundings of a protected area, where human activities are subject to specific rules and restrictions, with the purpose of minimizing negative impacts on the unit (CBD, 2014).

**Business unit:** physical unit of the organization for the application of the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity, from which the data for the calculation of the Biodiversity Pressure Index (BPI) and Biodiversity Minimum Performance (BMP) are reported.

**Circular economy:** industrial restorative or regenerative system by intent and design, which replaces the 'end of life' concept with restoration, shifts to the use of renewable energy, eliminates the use of toxic chemicals, which can be reused, and aims to eliminate waste through superior design of materials, products, systems, and, within that, business models (ELLEN MACARTHUR FOUNDATION, 2012).

Climate change: change in the state of the climate that can be identified (for example, using statistical tests) by changes in the average and/or variability of its properties and that persists for an extended period, usually decades or longer. Climate change may be due to natural internal processes or external forcing, or to persistent anthropogenic changes in atmospheric composition or land use (IPCC, 2007).

Communication campaign for biodiversity conservation: integrated communication actions with the objective of disseminating and spreading the concept of conservation to a specific audience. The campaign uses a variety of media and is always aligned with the identity of the institution responsible for it, different from education for the conservation of biodiversity. (See Conservation Education to understand the differences).



**Compensation:** involves measures to compensate, repair or pay for damages from loss of biodiversity caused by a project/activity (BBOP, 2012).

**Composting:** process of biological transformation of organic materials involving transformations of a biochemical nature promoted by microorganisms (BUDZIAK et al., 2004).

**Comprehensive protection:** maintenance of ecosystems free from alterations caused by human interference, admitting only the indirect use of their natural attributes (BRAZIL, 2000).

**Conservation Unit (CU):** territorial space and its environmental resources, including jurisdictional waters, with relevant natural characteristics, legally established by the Public Power, with conservation objectives and defined limits, under a special administration regime, to which adequate guarantees of protection apply (BRAZIL, 2000). BR

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): international convention under the responsibility of the United Nations that has the following objectives: conservation of biological diversity; sustainable use of components of biological diversity and fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use of genetic resources (CBD, 2006).

**Co-processing:** technique of incorporation of residues in the manufacturing process, from its use (TOCHETTO, 2005).

**Cultural activities, goods and services:** refers to activities, goods and services that, considered from the point of view of their quality, use or specific purpose, incorporate or transmit cultural expressions, regardless of their commercial value. Cultural activities can be an end in themselves, or contribute to the production of cultural goods and services (UNESCO, 2005).

**Cultural asset:** it is the good that must be protected, due to its value and its representativeness for a given society, for example: rare specimens of zoology, botany, mineralogy and anatomy, objects of paleontological interest, goods related to national history, product of excavations, elements from the dismemberment of artistic or historical monuments and places of archaeological interest, antiquities that are over 100 years old, ethnological material, goods of artistic interest, rare manuscripts, archives, including phonographic, photographic and



cinematographic ones, objects of furniture that are over 100 years old, and antique musical instruments (UNESCO, 1970).

**Cultural diversity:** it refers to the multiplicity of ways in which the cultures of groups and societies find their expression. Such expressions are transmitted between and within groups and societies. Cultural diversity is manifested not only in the different ways in which the cultural heritage of humanity is expressed, enriched and transmitted through the variety of cultural expressions, but also through the different modes of creation, production, dissemination, distribution and enjoyment of cultural expressions, whatever the means and technologies used (UNESCO, 2005).

**Cultural expressions:** are the expressions that result from the creativity of individuals, groups and societies and that have cultural content (UNESCO, 2005).

**Cultural heritage:** concerns the relationships between the community and ecosystems, the life experience inherited from past generations and transmitted by traditional knowledge giving a sense of past and history and defines the identity and sense of belonging. It can be classified into Intangible Cultural Heritage and Material Cultural Heritage (UNESCO, 2003).

**Cultural industries:** refers to industries that produce and distribute cultural goods and services (UNESCO, 2005).

**Cultural services:** non-material benefits obtained from ecosystems, such as: educational, recreational, ecotourism and ethical values (ESR, 2018).

**Dangerousness:** characteristic presented by a waste that, due to its physical, chemical or infectious-contagious properties, may present: risk to public health and risks to the environment, encompasses characteristics of: toxicity, flammability, corrosivity, pathogenicity and reactivity of a substance (ABNT NBR 10004).

**Decent work:** promote opportunities for men and women to obtain productive and quality work, in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity, being considered a fundamental condition for overcoming poverty, reducing social inequalities, guaranteeing democratic governance and sustainable development (INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION UNITED NATIONS, 1999).



**Demand Availability Balance:** ratio between withdrawal flow for consumptive uses and water availability in the hydrographic region (ANA, 2013).

**Derogation:** partial annulment of a law or rule (SANTOS, 2001).

**Direct cost:** is one that can be attributed (or identified) directly to a product, product line, cost center or department, not requiring apportionment to be attributed to the costed object.

**Direct supplier:** anyone contracted directly with the organization/producer for the supply of materials that make up the direct cost of the final products.

**Eco-efficiency:** delivery of goods and services at competitive prices that satisfy human needs and bring quality of life, progressively reducing their environmental impacts through the entire life cycle, in accordance with the Earth's carrying capacity (WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, 2014).

**Ecological corridor:** portions of natural or semi-natural ecosystems, reconnecting natural areas, which allow the flow of genes and the movement of biota between them, facilitating the dispersion of species and the recolonization of degraded areas, as well as the maintenance of populations that demand for their survival areas with extension greater than that of the individual units (INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION, 2014).

**Ecoregion:** defined as a relatively large area of land or water containing a characteristic set of natural communities that share the vast majority of their species, ecological dynamics and environmental conditions (OLSON e DINERSTEIN, 2012).

**Ecosystem:** dynamic complex of plant, animal, microorganism and abiotic communities that interact as a functional unit (CBD, 2006).

**Ecosystem services:** correspond to the many benefits that people derive from the natural environment (IUCN, 2010). They are structured in the following categories: i) provision services, ii) regulatory services, iii) cultural services and, iv) support services (ESR, 2018).

**Education for sustainability:** for LIFE Methodology it is considered as the education or training process based on the four dimensions of sustainability - environmental, social, cultural and



economic. The concept that expands the content addressed in environmental education, as it assumes that environmental preservation is possible when there is economic development, concomitantly with social justice. It is a training process based on the principles of sustainable development, a new circular and low-carbon economy.

**Education for the conservation of biodiversity:** education based on a methodology, which is characterized by well-defined conservation objectives, which provide for an ongoing process focused on a particular interest group, in addition to monitoring processes and results.

Emission factor: factor that relates activity data to greenhouse gas emissions (WRI, 2016).

**Endangered species:** technical classification referring to a species facing extinction in the foreseeable future, along all or a significant part of its range (CBD, 2014).

**Environmental aspects:** elements of an organization's activities, products or services that may interact with the environment (UNITED STATES, 2014).

**Environmental education:** education based on a methodology and with well-defined environmental objectives, which provides for an ongoing process focused on a particular interest group, in addition to monitoring processes and results (CBD, 2014).

**Environmental impact:** any modification of the environment, adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from the activities of an organization, its products or services (UNITED STATES – EPA).

**Environmental liability:** financial responsibility of the organization whose activities have resulted in environmental damage or the imminent threat of such damage, in order to induce it to take measures and practices to reduce risks (EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, 2004).

**Environmental management:** part of an organization's management used to implement and manage its environmental impacts (ISO 14001, 2014).

**Equity:** consideration of each person's right independently of positive law, taking into account what is considered fair, and a willingness to impartially recognize the right of each. It is a necessary



practice to reach the ideal of justice and full citizenship, capable of guaranteeing a situation of equal well-being for all citizens (BARROS; SOUSA, 2016; MICHAELIS, 2021).

**Equivalent Carbon Dioxide (CO2**<sub>eq</sub>): quantity of a given Greenhouse Effect Gas multiplied by its global warming potential. This is the standard unit for comparing the degree of damage that can be caused by different greenhouse gas emissions. (WRI, 2015).

**Ex-situ conservation:** conservation efforts that take place in zoos, aquariums, greenhouses, or other facilities. Usually involves storing and breeding individuals or genetic material for future reintroduction (GROOM et al., 2006).

**External expert:** professional who provides knowledge or experience on specific topics as required by the audit team of a LIFE Certification Body.

**Fallow:** practice of temporary interruption of agricultural, livestock or forestry activities or uses, for a maximum of five years, to enable the recovery of the use capacity or physical structure of the soil (BRAZIL, 2012).

**Financing opportunities:** opportunity such as access to more competitive bank credits or investors positioning themselves in companies that provide products and services that contribute to the efficient use of resources or to the restoration of degraded ecosystems (ESR, 2018).

**Financing risks:** risks such as the implementation of stricter credit conditions by banks for corporate loans (ESR, 2018).

**Food safety:** physical and economic access (for all people and at all times) to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets dietary needs and food preferences for healthy living (FAO, 1996).

**Forest reserve:** forests and forest lands that constitute the private domain of the State, declared inalienable forest reserve areas, except for those lands that, for reasons of social interests and previous pertinent technical studies, are considered convenient for the execution of colonization plans (CONGRESO DE LA NACIÓN PARAGUAYA, 1973). PY

**Genetic resource:** genetic material of actual or potential value (CBD, 2006).



**Genetically Modified Organism:** any living organism that possesses a new combination of genetic material obtained through the use of biotechnology (CARTAGENA PROTOCOL, 2011).

**Global Warming Potential (GWP):** index based on the radiation properties of a mass of greenhouse gases. Measures the radiation strength of a unit mass of a given greenhouse gas well mixed and integrated into the current atmosphere over a given time horizon, in relation to the radiation strength of carbon dioxide. The GWP represents the combined effect of the different periods these gases remain in the atmosphere and their relative effectiveness in absorbing outgoing infrared thermal radiation (IPCC, 2014).

**Governance:** plays the strategic role of directing, monitoring and evaluating the management. The concept of governance encompasses the formal and informal rules, organizations and processes through which private public actors articulate their interests, list and prioritize topics of interest, develop, implement, monitor and enforce decisions. Its scope includes the special constituent processes through which rules, organization and political processes are formed, adapted, revised or eliminated. Essential governance activities include setting an agenda, prioritizing and formulating norms, rules and policies, monitoring, evaluation, enforcement and adjustments. (FAO, 2013).

**Green water:** Volume of rainwater consumed during the production process. This is particularly relevant for agricultural and forestry products, where it refers to the total evapotranspiration of rainwater (from fields and plantations), plus the water incorporated into the crop or wood harvested (WATER FOOTPRINT NETWORK, 2015).

**Greenhouse effect:** phenomenon in which gases in the atmosphere, called greenhouse gases, absorb thermal infrared radiation emitted by the earth's surface, by the atmosphere itself and by clouds. Atmospheric radiation is emitted in all directions, including the Earth's surface. Thus, greenhouse gases trap heat in the surface-troposphere system. (IPCC, 2012).

**Greenhouse effect gas (GHG):** atmospheric constituent, of natural or anthropogenic origin, that absorbs and emits radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of infrared radiation emitted by the earth's surface, atmosphere and clouds. Among the GHGs are Carbon Dioxide



(CO2), Methane (CH4), Nitrous Oxide (N2O), Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), Perfluorocarbons (PFCs), Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) and Nitrogen Trifluoride (NF3) (WRI, 2016).

Habitat: type of environment where an organism or population naturally occurs (CBD, 2014).

**Hazardous waste:** waste whose physical, chemical or infectious properties can pose risks to public health and/or risks to the environment, when the waste is improperly managed (ABNT NBR 10004).

**Human rights:** are the inherent rights of all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion or any other status. They include the right to life and liberty, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, among many others. Everyone deserves these rights, without discrimination (UNITED NATIONS, 1948).

**Human well-being:** it has multiple constituents, including the basic resources for a quality life, such as a healthy physical environment - pure air and clean water; secure access to natural resources; safety from environmental disasters; among others (MILLENNIUM ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT, 2005).

**Impact minimization:** measures taken to reduce the duration, intensity and/or extent of impacts (including direct, indirect and cumulative impacts, as appropriate), which as far as possible cannot be fully avoided (BBOP, 2012).

**Improvement Action (IA):** action identified by the team of auditors, during the Certification, Recertification or Follow-up audits, to address deviations in meeting any LIFE Certification requirement, not impeding the granting, maintenance or renewal of the LIFE Certificate, but with a defined deadline for resolution.

**Improvement Opportunity (IO):** opportunity identified by the audit team during Certification, Recertification or Follow-up audits, whose implementation by the organization is optional.

**Improvement Requirement (IR):** requirement identified by the team of auditors, during the Certification, Recertification or Follow-up audits, to address non-conformities in meeting any LIFE



Certification requirement, whose implementation by the organization is mandatory for the granting, maintenance or renewal of the LIFE Certificate.

**Incineration:** high temperature oxidation process that destroys or reduces volume or recovers materials or substances (ABNT NBR 11175, 1992).

**Independent reviewer:** professional qualified to perform the technical review of LIFE Certification audit reports.

Indigenous and local traditional peoples: peoples located in independent countries who are descended from populations that inhabited the country or a geographic region to which the country belongs, at the time of conquest, colonization or the establishment of present borders and who, irrespective of their legal status, retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions (OIT, 1989).

**Influence area**: Related to the area of direct and indirect influence of the impact on a certain activity of the company.

**In-situ conservation:** concerns the conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural environment and, in the case of domesticated or cultivated species, in environments where they have developed their distinctive properties (BRUSH, 2000).

**Intangible cultural heritage:** concerns the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and techniques - together with the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural places associated with them - that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as an integral part of their cultural heritage. This intangible cultural heritage, which is transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups according to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, generating a sense of identity and continuity and thus contributing to promoting the respect for cultural diversity and human creativity (UNESCO, 2003).

**Integrated pest management:** use of pests and environmental information in conjunction with available pest control technologies to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most



cost-effective means and with the least possible risk to people and the environment (UNITED STATES – EPA, 2012).

**Integrated production system:** one in which an integrated rural producer and agribusiness associate to carry out a certain stage of the production process of final goods or raw materials of plant or animal origin, through an integrated production contract (BRAZIL, 2009).

**Invasive exotic species:** introduced species outside its normal distribution. Their establishment and dissemination modify ecosystems, habitats or species (IUCN, 2014).

Landfarming: treatment systems through the physical and chemical properties of the soil, of intense microbial activity existing in the environment that promote biodegradation, detoxification, transformation and immobilization of the constituents of treated waste, minimizing the risks of contamination. Residues are treated with controlled application, incorporated on the surface or inside the surface horizon of the soil, accompanied by constant management and monitoring practices (LIMA and FERREIRA, 2007).

**Landfill:** structure capable of minimizing the risks of contamination of the water table, with full coverage in order to avoid the formation of leachate due to the incidence of rainwater, having a double waterproofing system with a high density polyethylene blanket (HDPE) to protect the soil and groundwater sheets (LIMA and FERREIRA, 2007).

**Landscape:** characteristics, patterns and structure of a specific geographic area, including its biological composition, its physical environment, and its anthropogenic or social patterns. An area where ecosystems interact and are similarly grouped and repeated (BBOP, 2012).

**Landscape mosaic:** composition of different elements, joined to form a landscape-level grouping. The composition of the mosaic and the pattern in which its components are distributed are unique to each landscape (ITTO, 2014).

**Lead auditor:** auditor responsible for planning, managing and performing the audit.

**Leadership in sustainability:** for LIFE Methodology, it is considered the individual who adds to his leadership skills, principles and values that structure the concept of sustainability, and who



understands the interdependence between the economic, environmental, cultural and social dimensions.

**Lease:** is the agrarian contract by which a person undertakes to assign to another, for a determined period or not, the use and enjoyment of rural property, part or parts thereof, including, or not, other goods, improvements and/or facilities, with the purpose of carrying out agricultural, livestock, agro-industrial, extractive or mixed activities, through a certain remuneration or rent (BRAZIL, 1966).

**Legal reserve:** area located within a rural property, with the function of ensuring the sustainable economic use of the rural property's natural resources, assisting the conservation and rehabilitation of ecological processes and promoting the conservation of biodiversity, as well as shelter and protection of wild fauna and native flora (BRAZIL, 2012). BR

**LIFE Auditor:** professional with competence to carry out audits, qualified to audit LIFE Certification by LIFE Institute or by an entity recognized by it.

**LIFE Certification Body:** independent organization specialized in carrying out third-party audits, accredited by LIFE Institute.

**LIFE Certified Organization:** organization holding a LIFE Certification code granted by LIFE Certification Body.

**LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity:** normative set composed of management indicators, metrics and other references for the evaluation of the relationships between organizations and biodiversity and ecosystem services.

**LIFE Methodology on Sustainable Territorial Management:** normative set composed of management indicators, metrics and other references based on the four areas of sustainability (social, economic, environmental and cultural).

**LIFE Standard for Business and Biodiversity:** requirements established from Assumptions based on the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, structured in Principles, Criteria and Indicators.



**LIFE Standard on Sustainable Territorial Management:** requirements established for territorial sustainability, based on the four areas of sustainability (social, economic, environmental and cultural), structured in Principles, Criteria and Indicators.

**Management plan:** technical document through which, based on the general objectives of a conservation unit, its zoning and the rules that must govern the use of the area and the management of natural resources are established, including the implementation of the physical structures necessary for the management of the unit (BRAZIL, 2000).

**Market and product opportunity:** opportunities such as launching new products and services that reduce customers' impact on ecosystems, participating in emerging markets for carbon sequestration and watershed protection, obtaining new sources of revenue from the company's environmental assets, offering of new labeled and certified products (ESR, 2018).

**Market and product risks:** risks such as losing customers to other suppliers that offer products with a lesser impact on the ecosystem or governments implementing new sustainable procurement policies (ESR, 2018).

**Material cultural heritage:** set of movable and immovable cultural assets existing in the country and whose conservation is of public interest, either because of their link to memorable events in national history, or because of their exceptional archaeological or ethnographic, bibliographic or artistic value (UNESCO, 2003).

**Materiality assessment:** process that results in relevant and priority topics for the organization or project, as they reflect the economic, environmental and social impacts of the involved stakeholders (GRI adaptation, 2021).

**Minority groups:** social groups historically excluded from the process of guaranteeing basic rights due to ethnic, origin, financial, gender and sexuality issues. People who are in a situation of social vulnerability, such as the elderly and people with special needs, can also be included in the concept (UNITED NATIONS, 2010).

**Mitigation:** intervention to reduce negative or unsustainable uses of biodiversity and ecosystems (IPBES, [s.d.])



**Nagoya Protocol:** supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It provides a transparent legal framework for the effective implementation of one of the three objectives of the CBD: the fair and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the use of genetic resources (CBD, 2014).

**National initiative:** institution responsible for operationalizing the LIFE Methodology/Certification at the national level.

**National Interconnected System:** national electric energy production and transmission system, responsible for directly transporting the generated energy to large consumers, or indirectly to small consumers through distribution companies (ONS, 2014). BR

**Natural area:** area that still conserves a complete or almost complete set of native species and that is found in a naturally functional ecosystem (DUDLEY, 2008).

**Natural capital:** stock of renewable and non-renewable natural resources (such as plants, animals, air, water, soils, and minerals) and the resulting ecosystem services that sustain human life, productivity, and the global economy (NATURAL CAPITAL COALITION, 2016; WORLD FORUM ON NATURAL CAPITAL, 2017).

**Natural patrimony:** refers to natural monuments made up of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations of outstanding universal value from an aesthetic or scientific point of view; geological and physiographic formations and strictly delimited areas that constitute habitat for endangered animal and plant species, with exceptional universal value from the point of view of science or conservation; natural places of interest or strictly delimited natural areas of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty (UNESCO, 1972).

**Natural regeneration:** plant development that occurs naturally after stress or disturbance (TEMPLE and BUNGEY, 1980).

**Natural resources:** natural goods (raw materials) that occur in nature and that can be used for economic production or consumption (ABNT NBR 12235).



**Non-hazardous waste:** Non-hazardous waste can be divided into inert and non-inert, non-inert are those that may have properties such as: combustibility, biodegradability or water solubility (ABNT NBR 10004).

**On-farm conservation:** Maintenance of agricultural biodiversity present within and between populations of many species used directly in agriculture or used as sources of genes, in the habitats where such diversity has emerged and continues to grow (BRUSH, 2000).

**Operational opportunity:** opportunity such as increasing water use efficiency or building root zones as an alternative to a treatment plant (ESR, 2018).

**Operational risks:** risks related to increased costs of fresh water due to scarcity or decrease in hydroelectric production due to silting or failure of coastal companies due to floods (ESR, 2018).

**Organization:** public or private entity, legally constituted, that has its own functions and administration.

Payment for environmental and ecosystem services: voluntary transaction that occurs when beneficiaries or users of a well-defined ecosystem service make payments to providers of that service, if and only if the provider continually protects the provision of this service (i.e., depends on this element of conditionality). In practice, this can take the form of a series of payments in exchange for receiving a stream of ecosystem benefits or services (FRIPP, 2014; FAO, 2011). (See also Ecosystem Services).

**Permanent Preservation Area (PPA):** protected area, covered or not by native vegetation, with the environmental function of preserving water resources, the landscape, geological stability and biodiversity, facilitating the gene flow of fauna and flora, protecting the soil and ensuring the well-being of human populations. <sup>BR</sup>

**Pesticide:** substances intended to repel, kill or control any species designated as a "pest" (UNITED STATES – EPA, 2012). Pesticides are also known as agrochemicals or agrotoxins.

**Planning:** permanent and methodical process of rational approach that supposes a sequence of decision-making acts, ordered in defined phases and based on technical and scientific knowledge.



It also concerns the monitoring of execution, control, evaluation and redefinition of a given action, with the specific sense of systematizing and making objectives and goals compatible, seeking to optimize the use of system resources (MERIGO, 2015).

**Prerequisite:** condition detected in the Certification Audit – Phase I, with mandatory compliance for the organization to be submitted to the Certification Audit – Phase II process.

**Primary sector:** sector involving the extraction and/or production of raw materials (KENESSEY, 2015).

Priority areas for conservation: the areas of highest conservation priority are those that may include: (i) the presence of endangered and locally endemic species, considering in particular the species included in Annexes I and II of the SPAW Protocol; (ii) presence of unique or rare national, regional or international landscapes or ecosystems; (iii) special sites of high importance to support the nesting, feeding, wintering and reproduction of migratory species; (iv) areas of high biodiversity within each biogeographic province, especially important for maintaining genetic evolution and the resources within them; (v) areas with biological or geographic characteristics that confer and sustain high economic and social value, especially those that are particularly important in ensuring the long-term survival and well-being of the population; and (vi) presence of populations of species considered rare at the local level (UNEP, 1996).

**Program:** it basically consists of in-depth planning: the sectoral objectives of the plan will constitute the general objectives of the program. It is a document that details the policy, guidelines, goals and instrumental measures, and establishes the project's frame of reference (MERIGO, 2015).

**Project:** document that systematizes and establishes the previous outline of the operation of an action unit, that is, it accompanies a predetermined roadmap, which must be defined according to the needs and requirements of the executing and/or financing body. It is, therefore, the elementary unit of the systematic process of rationalization of decisions (MERIGO, 2015).



**Protected area:** land or marine area especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity and associated natural resources, managed through legal means or other effective means (DUDLEY, 2008).

**Protective forests:** Forests or protective forest areas are those that, due to their location, fulfill the purpose of: regulating the water regime, protecting the soil, agricultural crops, livestock farming, roads, river banks, streams, lakes, islands, channels and reservoirs. As well as preventing erosion and the action of avalanches and floods and avoiding the drying effects of winds, sheltering and protecting species of flora and fauna, whose existence is declared necessary, protecting public health and, finally, guaranteeing national defense (CONGRESO DE LA NACIÓN PARAGUAYA, 1973).

**Provisioning services:** goods or products obtained from ecosystems, such as: water, food, biological materials (e.g. wood, fibers and resins), biofuels, genetic, biochemical and medicinal resources (ESR, 2018).

**Public consultation:** period in which LIFE Institute makes questions related to normative documents available to any interested party to obtain comments, criticisms and suggestions.

**Recycling:** based on the reuse of materials that make up the waste. The recycling technique consists of transforming these materials, by changing their physical-chemical characteristics, into new products, which differentiates it from reuse. Considering its characteristics and composition, the waste can be recycled to be later used in the manufacture of new products, designed with the same purpose or with a purpose different from the original (MANSOR et al., 2010).

**Regulatory and legal opportunity:** opportunity with government authorities to protect or restore ecosystems that provide necessary services to the company (ESR, 2018).

**Regulatory and legal risks:** risks such as new fines, new usage fees, government regulations or lawsuits brought by local communities that lose ecosystem services due to business activities (ESR, 2018).



**Regulatory services:** benefits obtained from an ecosystem's control over natural processes, such as: global/regional/local climate regulation, water, pollination, erosion, diseases, pests, natural hazards, water purification and waste treatment, and air and soil quality (ESR, 2018).

**Reputation opportunity:** opportunity such as the implementation and dissemination of sustainable purchasing, operation and investment practices in order to differentiate corporate brands (ESR, 2018).

**Reputational risks:** risks such as retail companies targeted by campaigns by non-governmental organizations for buying wood or paper from fragile areas or banks facing similar protests over investments that contribute to the degradation of pristine areas (ESR, 2018).

**Restoration:** refers to the obligation to return the area to its original state, before degradation. For the return to the original state, it is understood that all aspects related to topography, vegetation, fauna, soil, hydrology, etc., present the same characteristics as before degradation. The objective of this process is to mimic the structure, function, diversity and dynamics of the specific ecosystem (BRAZIL, 2000).

**Reuse:** direct use of a waste with the same purpose for which it was originally conceived, without the need for treatment that changes its physical or chemical characteristics.

**Rural partnership:** agrarian contract by which one person undertakes to assign to another, for a determined period or not, the specific use of rural property, part or parts thereof, including, or not, improvements, other goods and/or facilities, with the aim of carrying out agricultural, livestock, agro-industrial, vegetable or mixed extractive activities; and/or delivers animals for breeding, wintering, fattening or extraction of raw materials of animal origin, by sharing the risks of unforeseeable circumstances and force majeure of the rural enterprise, and of the fruits, products or profits made in the proportions they stipulate (BRASIL, 1966).

**Secondary sector:** sector that involves the transformation of raw materials into consumer goods (KENESSEY, 2015).

**Severity:** severity of the potential environmental impact related to an aspect.



**Shared governance:** it occurs when the actors that make up the network work collectively in making strategic decisions about operations and future directions of actions. Interactions are made between the members themselves in a collaborative way. The main attributes and processes that characterize good governance include stakeholder participation, transparency in decision-making, stakeholder accountability, rule of law and predictability. Good governance is also associated with efficient and effective management of natural, human and financial resources, and the fair and equitable allocation of resources and benefits (FAO, 2013).

**Social technologies:** set of transforming techniques and methodologies, developed and/or applied in interaction with the population and appropriated by it, which represent solutions for social inclusion and improvement of living conditions (ITS, 2004).

**Solid waste:** waste in solid and semi-solid states, which result from activities of industrial, domestic, hospital, commercial, agricultural, service and sweeping origin (ABNT NBR 10004).

**Solutions based on Nature (SbN):** actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively while providing benefits to human well-being and biodiversity. The purpose of Solutions based on Nature is to support the achievement of society's development goals and safeguard human well-being in ways that reflect cultural and social values and enhance the resilience of ecosystems, their ability to renew and deliver services. Solutions based on Nature are designed to address major societal challenges such as food security, climate change, water security, human health, disaster risk, social and economic development (IUCN, 2012).

**Species richness:** number of species present in a defined geographic unit (BEGON et al., 2006).

**Stakeholder engagement:** the organization's commitment to engaging stakeholders in its activities in a positive and collaborative way (FOO e GREENWOOD, 2007).

**Stakeholders:** individuals or groups of individuals who have a legitimate demand on a particular organization (FREEMAN, 1984). Individuals, groups or organizations that may be interested in the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity and LIFE Methodology on Sustainable Territorial



Management. These parties may also be directly or indirectly affected by the activities of organizations that use the standards or by LIFE Institute itself.

**Storage:** temporary containment of waste, in an area authorized by the environmental control body, awaiting recycling, recovery, treatment or adequate final disposal, provided that it meets the basic safety conditions (ABNT NBR 12235, 1992).

**Support services:** natural processes that maintain other ecosystem services, such as: water cycle, nutrient cycling, primary production and habitats (ESR, 2018).

**Supported organization:** organization that receives funds from the LIFE Certified Organization to carry out biodiversity conservation actions and that is part of the audit/certification scope.

**Sustainability:** concept related to the promotion of the quality of life of present and future generations. The main sustainability goals are to live within the planet's ecological limits, achieve social justice and promote economic progress (CBD, 2014).

**Sustainable use:** using components of biological diversity in a way and at a pace that does not lead to a long-term decline in biological diversity (CBD, 2014).

**Taxon:** any group to which organisms are assigned according to the principles of taxonomy, including subspecies, species, genus, family, order, class, and phylum (IUCN, 2014).

**Tertiary sector:** sector involving the provision of services to consumers and/or companies (KENESSEY, 2015).

**Traditional knowledge:** it concerns the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous, traditional and local communities around the world. It is experience acquired over centuries, passed down orally from generation to generation, in the form of stories, songs, proverbs, beliefs and culture most often related to agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, health, horticulture, forestry and nature in general (CBD, 2010).

**Universal health coverage:** it means that all individuals and communities have access to the health services they need without being exposed to financial hardship. This includes the full range of



essential and quality health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care (WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, 2019).

**Use of genetic resources:** research and development on the genetic and biochemical composition of genetic resources, including through the application of biotechnology (NAGOYA PROTOCOL, 2016).

**Value chain:** range of activities necessary for a product or service to be delivered to the final consumer, from its conception, through the different stages of production (involving a combination of physical transformation and the input of various production services), to delivery to the final consumer, and final destination after use (KAPLINSKI and MORRIS, 2000).

Water-energy-food nexus: approach to better understand and systematically analyze interactions between the natural environment and human activities, and work towards more coordinated management and use of natural resources across sectors and scales, with the aim of identifying and managing tradeoffs and building synergies through of our responses, allowing for a more integrated and cost-effective approach to planning, decision making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The water-energy-food nexus describes the complex and interrelated nature of our global resource systems (FAO, 2014).

**Zero Deforestation:** absence of loss of natural forest. Regarding the commitment of organizations, governments and financial institutions to reduce deforestation by half by 2020, and its total end by 2030, signed at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in 2014 (UNITED NATIONS, 2014).



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#### NOTES ON DEVELOPMENT OF THIS DOCUMENT

Version 1.1: approved on 05/10/2018, by the LIFE Institute Board of Directors. Change of layout and formatting, as well as inclusion of new terms and definitions. Unification for an International Glossary, indicating the specific terms applicable to a particular country (Brazil and Paraguay). With this, the numbering of previous versions is no longer applicable, becoming 1.1.

Version 2.0: approved on 10/01/2021, by the LIFE Institute Board of Directors. Inclusion of terms applicable to the LIFE Methodology on Sustainable Territorial Management, revision of the terms applicable to the LIFE Methodology for Business and Biodiversity and the LIFE Certification System, and adjustment of the document formatting.

Version 2.0-R1: approved on 08/31/2023, by the LIFE Institute Board of Directors. Change of document layout and insertion of the new LIFE Institute logo.