

Biodiversity mainstreaming at Anglo American

What is the business case for biodiversity at Anglo American?

Anglo American is a globally diversified mining business, with a portfolio spanning bulk commodities, base metals and minerals, and precious metals and minerals. Its strategy is to secure, develop and operate a portfolio of high quality and long life resource assets, from which the Group will deliver leading shareholder returns. To achieve this, Anglo American has adopted FutureSmart, a blueprint for the future in which mining, through enabling technologies and collaborative partnerships, is safer, more sustainable and efficient, and better harmonised with the needs of its host communities and society as a whole.

To that end, Anglo American has developed a sustainability strategy through extensive internal and external engagement and analysis of critical opportunities and risks, including the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Its strategy goes far beyond compliance with mining law or regulatory requirements. It's about making a more strategic and holistic impact on the ground and it comprises mutually reinforcing elements that will positively transform how stakeholders experience its business, both locally and globally. The strategy is built around three Global Sustainability Pillars:

- Trusted corporate leader;
- Thriving communities;
- Healthy environment, in which biodiversity is a critical component.

What are the biodiversity impacts and dependencies of Anglo American?

Biodiversity is recognised as a core strategic risk for Anglo American as access to land, needed to explore and mine for these mineral resources, is becoming progressively more constrained. These impacts pose a significant financial and reputational risk as society's expectations of our performance, reputation and responsibilities are increasing and so it is important for us to avoid and minimise as far as possible any implication or impacts our operations might have on biodiversity.



What strategy and action plan have Anglo American adopted towards biodiversity?

For Anglo American, it's important to build strong partnerships to ensure that the group identifies and implements opportunities to improve the conservation of biodiversity, achieve best practice in biodiversity management and identify ways to contribute to conservation in the areas where it operates.

The Group has worked with Fauna & Flora International (FFI) – an organisation that can provide strategic advice on biodiversity from an independent viewpoint and help build capacity to manage biodiversity sustainably – since 2008 on a number of different projects relating to biodiversity risk management.

What began with FFI reviewing its Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) at operations in South Africa, Brazil, Chile, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Namibia, and providing advice to the corporate headquarters in the UK has turned into an enduring strategic commitment on biodiversity and conservation.

Anglo American has also worked directly with FFI at the Sakatti project in Finland – a significant Copper-Nickel-Platinum Group Elements project which is currently in the exploration phase. Anglo American, together with its partners, are assessing whether it is feasible within this landscape to achieve at least no net loss and strive for Net Positive Impact to biodiversity as a result of this operation.

In 2018, Anglo American adopted milestones and target at a Group level:

- Milestones:
 - Net positive impact (NPI) methodology, biodiversity value assessments (BVAs) and site-specific indicators in place at all high-risk sites by 2020
 - Formalise partnerships to support NPI, which are aligned with existing regional and national biodiversity stewardship initiatives, by 2020
 - An established biodiversity framework, supporting processes, capacity and resources in place to enable rigorous application of the mitigation hierarchy across the mining lifecycle by 2020
- 2030 target: Deliver net-positive impact on biodiversity across Anglo American



Contact details:

Warwick Mostert
Principal Biodiversity
Group Technical & Sustainability
warwick.mostert@angloamerican.com

