

# TO NO NET LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY AND BEYOND

3-4 June, 2014 - Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park

This gathering will be the first global conference on approaches to avoid, minimise, restore, and offset biodiversity loss. It will bring together experts and professionals from business, governments, financial institutions, NGOs, civil society and research, and intergovernmental institutions with an interest in demonstrating no net loss and preferably a net gain of biodiversity.

## OBJECTIVES

- Catalyse agreement on practical ways for business leaders, policy-makers and other decision-makers to make this generation the first to leave the world's biodiversity and ecosystem services in a better condition than that in which they inherited it
- Exchange ideas and experience from many countries and industry sectors on best practice
- Provide advice on the design and implementation of mitigation measures, offsets and conservation banks to those who need it
- Provide training on technical and policy issues involved

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## CONTEXT

Since 2012, there has been a growing commitment by governments, intergovernmental bodies, banks, export credit agencies, individual companies and non-governmental organisations to 'No Net Loss' and a 'Net Positive Impact' on biodiversity.

For instance, the EU is developing a No Net Loss Initiative for 2015. Many governments either recently announced or are developing policies to regulate biodiversity offsets - following in the footsteps of others which have already done so. Since 1 January 2012, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Equator Principles Association require clients with impacts on natural and critical habitat to demonstrate no net loss and a net gain of biodiversity, respectively. The World Bank is updating its own safeguard policies related to no net loss and IUCN – The World Conservation Union is developing a policy on biodiversity offsets by November 2014. In addition, over 40 companies have made voluntary commitments and aspirations to achieve no net loss.

In January 2012, the Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme (BBOP), now comprising over 70 members, released the Standard on Biodiversity Offsets to underpin these developments.

The year 2014 will mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of BBOP. During the development of so many initiatives related to no net loss and a net positive impact, BBOP, with its partners, will provide a forum where members of the international community working on these issues can share experience and formulate ideas.

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## FORMAT

The two-day conference will comprise

- Plenary and parallel sessions with high-level keynote speeches and panels
- Robust debates among speakers and working break-out sessions for practitioners.
- Presentations of offset projects, government offset systems and intergovernmental policy processes.
- Optional two-day training session for a small number of early registrants.

### The sessions will cover the following issues:

- Best practice examples of mitigation measures including biodiversity offsets
  - Voluntary versus regulated offsets
  - The place of offsets in the mitigation hierarchy
  - Linkages between biodiversity, carbon and watershed markets
  - Metrics, 'like for like or better' ecological equivalence rules and geographical service areas
  - The basis for costing and budgeting offset activities
  - Recent developments in practice and policy in the EU, Latin America, Australasia and other regions
  - Offsets and landscape planning
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For additional information to attend, speak, partner or sponsor this event,  
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