

SYMBIOSIS

Stakeholder Engagement Workshop Deep Dive Session – WP5

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Agenda

13:00-13:10

- **Welcome & Context Setting**

13:10-13:55

- **Framing Key Themes & exchange with Stakeholders:**
 - ✓ Social & environmental considerations in rail infrastructure projects (CERTH)
 - ✓ Regulation & Policy aspects (FFE)
 - ✓ Cumulative effects in Environmental Impact Assessment (CERTH)
 - ✓ Biodiversity considerations into procurement processes and Corporate strategies (ITALFERR)

13:55-14:00

- **Closing remarks & next steps**





Technical Task Leaders



Matina Loukea

T5.1: Assessment of societal challenges in sustainable transport development

Centre for Research & Technology Hellas (CERTH)



Manuel Luis Campos Molina

T5.2: Regulation & Policy Assessment

Fundacion de los Ferrocarriles Espanoles (FFE)



Lazaros Georgiadis

T5.3: Sustainable environmental impact assessment & corporate sustainability reporting on transport

Centre for Research & Technology Hellas (CERTH)



Almona Tani

T5.4: Integrating biodiversity into company strategies, procurement processes and supply chain

ITALFERR

Assessment of Societal Challenges in Sustainable Transport Development



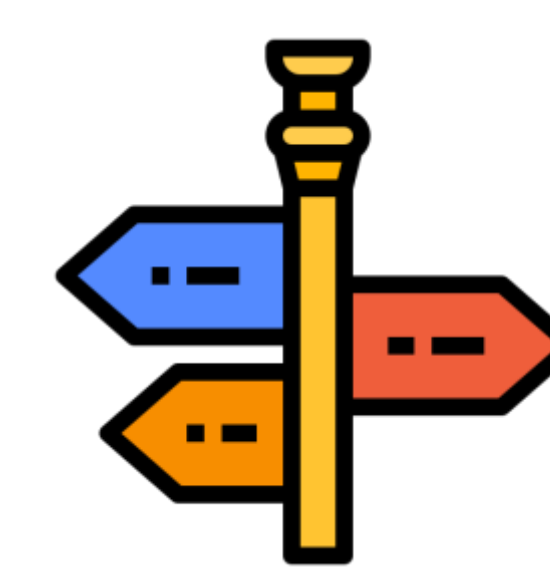
Goals



Investigate societal impacts of sustainable transportation, enhancing railway capacity and reducing infrastructure costs.



Assess alignment of Europe-wide policies with environmental goals, focusing on rail and energy impacts on biodiversity and climate change.



Establish guidance framework for seamless integration in rail and energy sectors by providing recommendations for holistic planning and inclusive land use management.



Formulate recommendations to enhance biodiversity and climate considerations in transport policies.

Scope

Address **societal challenges** from transport infrastructure and **enhance environmental policies** and **sustainability reporting**, led by the **rail sector** for improved connections.



Workshop Scope & Objectives



Welcome to our Stakeholders Engagement Workshop!

The primary goals of today are to:

1. Introduce ourselves and share an overview of the project's scope and work.
 2. Establish an open and interactive dialogue with you.
 3. Gather your initial feedback, which will inform our ongoing and future efforts.
- ✓ The discussion will be facilitated through Mentimeter questions, providing an interactive platform for your input.
 - ✓ Your responses will help us validate and enhance our preliminary findings, as well as guide us on specific aspects of our work, leveraging your expertise and experience.

We look forward to a productive engagement and valuable insights from all of you!



T5.1: Assessment of societal challenges in sustainable transport development



- **Comprehensive exploration and enhancement of societal impacts and well-being associated with the evolution of sustainable transport systems**, maximising the benefits for **society, economy and nature**.
- **Identification of Sector-Specific Challenges**, recognising and comprehending common and distinctive challenges, within transport and energy sectors.
- **Evaluating and enhancing stakeholders' involvement in decision-making** processes and transport policy formulation.



SWOT Analysis: Societal Challenges in Sustainable Transport Development



Strengths

- ✓ Improved territorial cohesion via rail connectivity
- ✓ Enhanced accessibility for persons with reduced mobility
- ✓ Social inclusion through fare schemes and integration policies
- ✓ High-quality passenger services (comfort, reliability)
- ✓ Economic support via job creation and innovation
- ✓ Public health benefits from lower emissions
- ✓ Better access to essential services (healthcare, education, markets)

Opportunities

- EU Green Deal and Smart Mobility Strategy support
- Innovation in digital mobility services
- Public-private partnerships for inclusive solutions
- Just transition frameworks guiding equity
- Policy synergies (transport, health, education, employment)
- Demand for green, inclusive urban/regional planning

Weaknesses

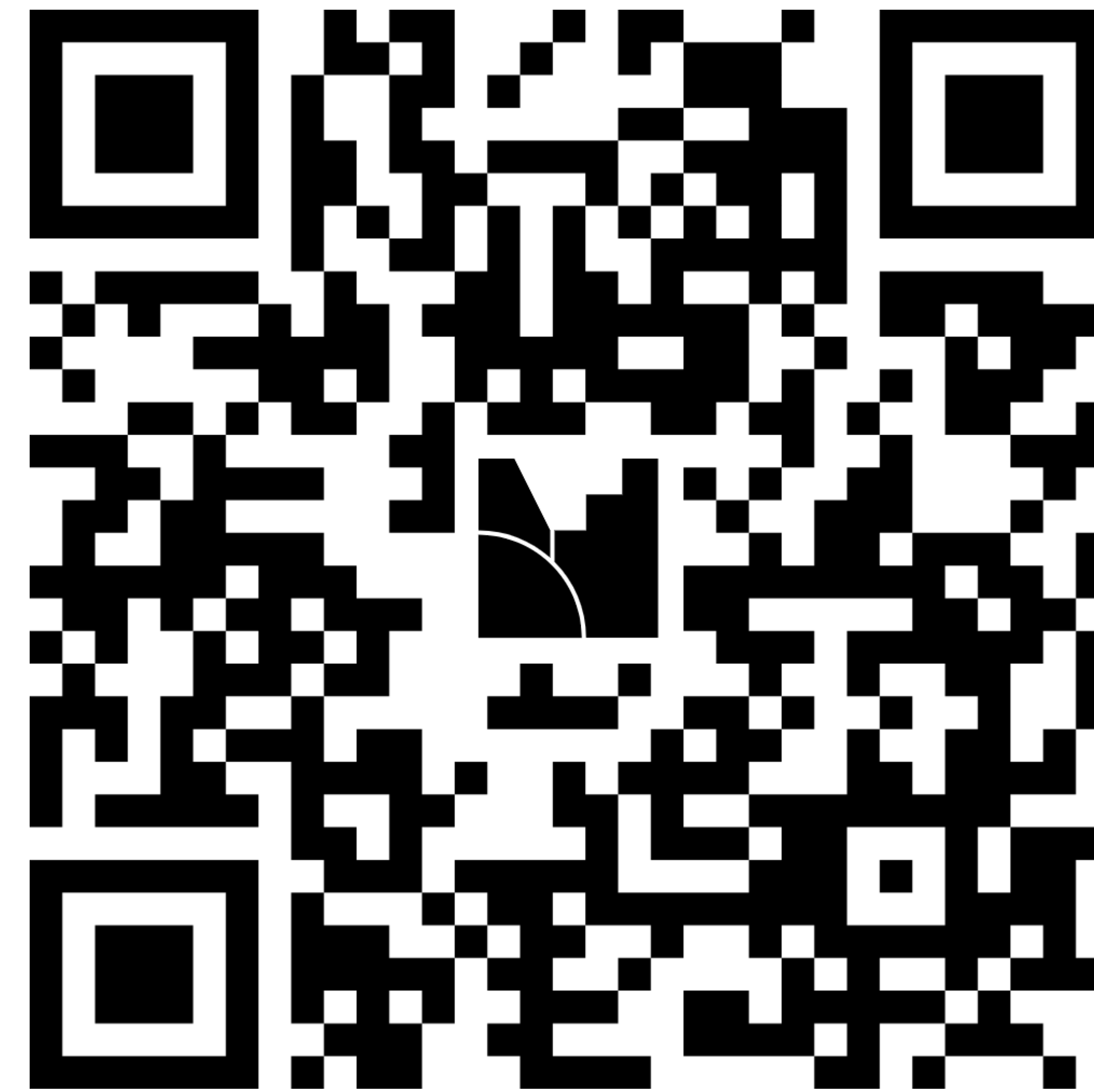
- Service and infrastructure gaps in rural or disadvantaged areas
- Limited digital literacy among vulnerable populations
- Underrepresentation in planning processes
- Accessibility gaps in legacy systems
- Affordability issues without subsidies
- Institutional fragmentation and weak coordination

Threats

- ☐ Digital divide and risk of exclusion
- ☐ Environmental degradation (noise, biodiversity, emissions)
- ☐ Disruption of traditional livelihoods (e.g., fishing, foraging)
- ☐ Health risks from climate and infrastructure development
- ☐ Gentrification and displacement in newly served areas
- ☐ Unregulated activities (e.g., illegal mining) in newly accessible areas
- ☐ Urban sprawl and poor land-use planning



Interaction time!



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Coming soon!
Stakeholder Survey: Societal Challenges in Sustainable Transport Development



Task 5.2. Regulation and Policy Assessment



Fundación de los
FERROCARRILES
Españoles

Task Timeline and Status

Task Start: Month 13 (September 2025)

Months 1–13: Planning, preparation, and identification of initial documents

Current Status:

- Defining study scope and requirements

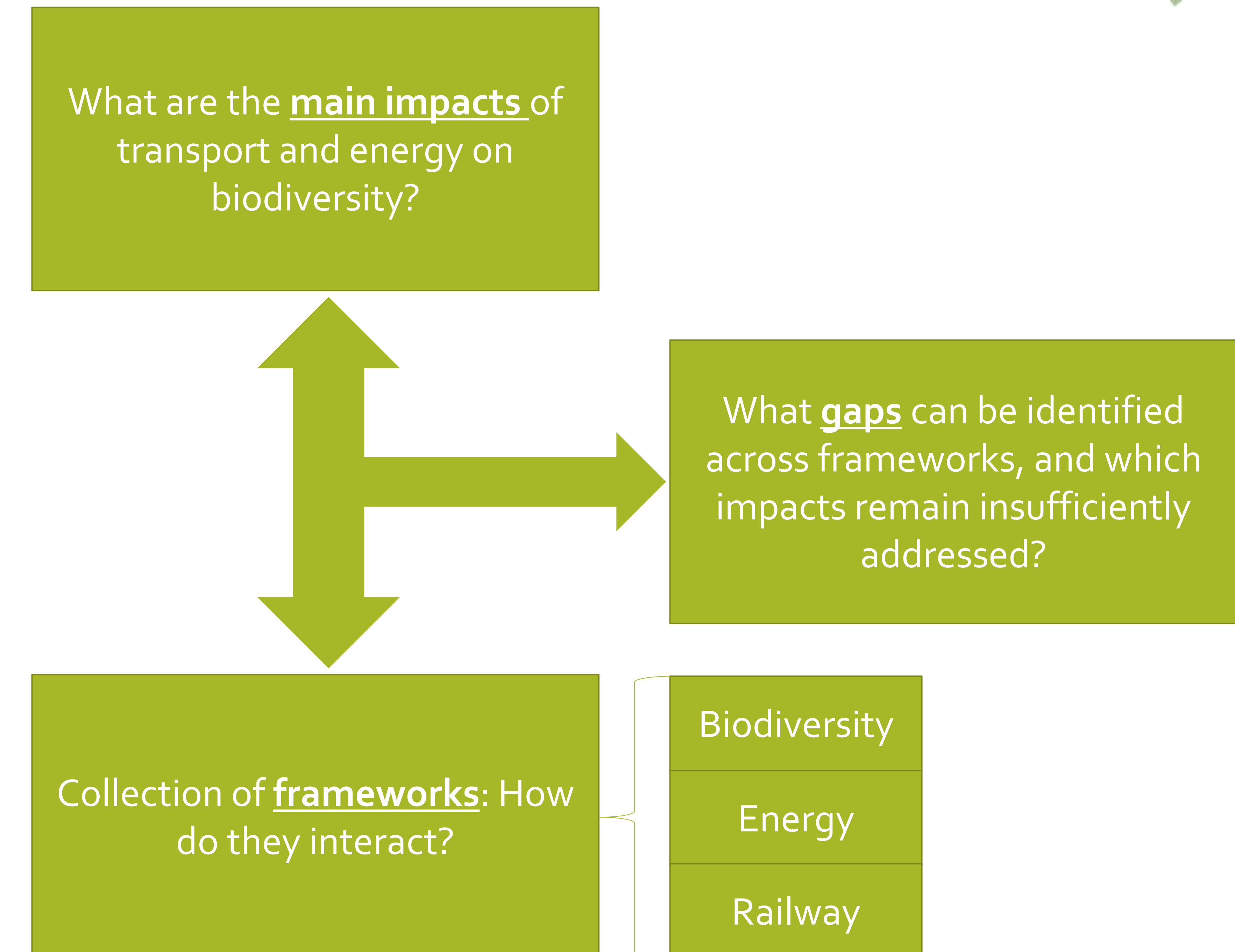
- Preparing task kick-off

- Collecting contributions from team members

Next Steps: Stakeholder survey planned for Q2 2026

Final Deliverable: *Recommendations for enhancing cross-cutting biodiversity and climate policies on railway infrastructure* (Month 30)

The objective of the activity is to link the main impacts of the railway infrastructure life cycle with regulatory frameworks, identifying which of these can be addressed through policies and regulations, how this coverage is achieved, and what gaps or conflicts remain in the process.



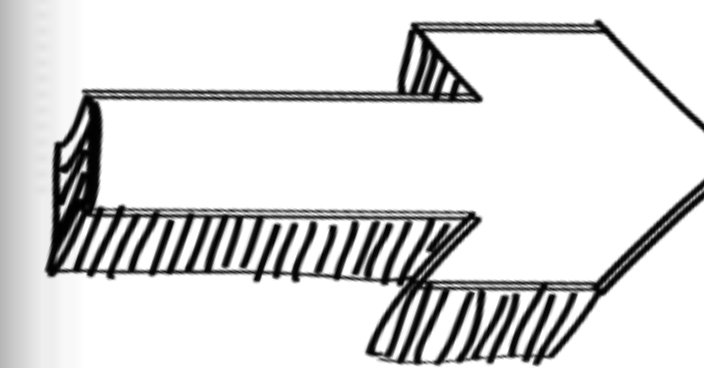
Task 5.2. Regulation and Policy Assessment



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DATA INPUTS

- **Partners:** contribute to the initial definition of regulatory frameworks, as well as provide expertise in their respective sectoral activities.
- **State of the art:** analysis of the results of projects and initiatives in the subject area.
- **Stakeholders:** collaboration and information exchange with stakeholders through surveys and workshops to enable us to incorporate their experience into our approach to the task in order to identify frameworks, gaps and impacts.
- **Interaction between tasks:** Coordination information exchange with the linked tasks to identify standards or gaps.



Objective:

Align our study with your expertise and experience.

We will ask for your input on:

Regulatory frameworks

Which aspects are most important to you

How you integrate them

What we should focus on (e.g., metrics, EU-level approach, national transpositions, areas lacking regulation)

Impacts

Which impacts are most relevant for regulatory needs

Gaps and barriers

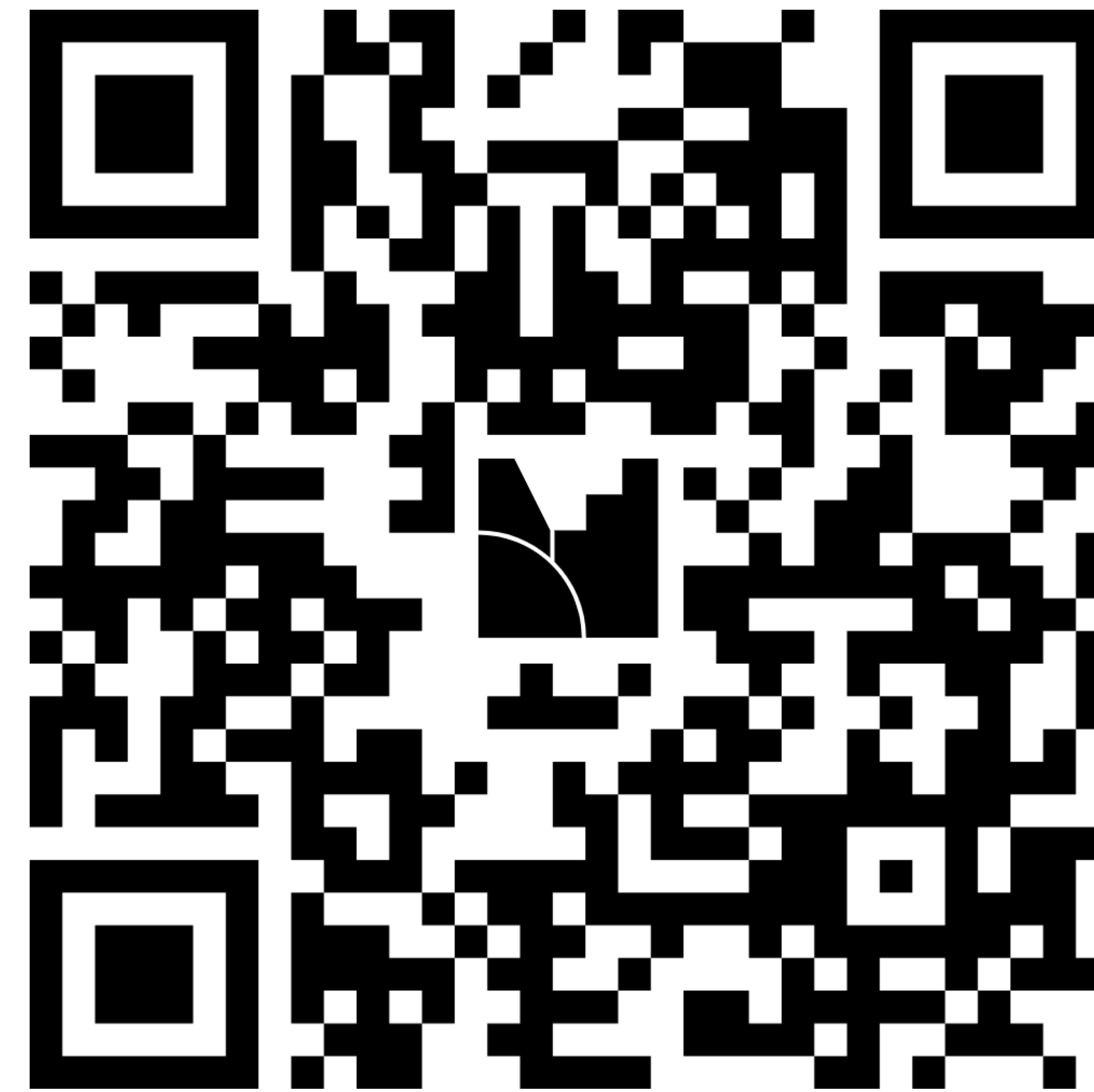
Difficulties you face in implementation or compliance

How?

- Today: mentimeter and brainstorming
- Q2 2026: survey



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Stakeholder Survey: Societal Challenges in Sustainable Transport Development



Task 5.3. Sustainable environmental impact assessment and corporate sustainability reporting on transport



First draft results from questionnaire for Subtask B in groups of answers

Question 1: Description of the more critical gaps and barriers for mainstreaming biodiversity in corporate sustainability reporting

1) Lack of interest, awareness & expertise

These responses highlight the limited interest, knowledge, skills, and awareness within organizations about the importance and methods for biodiversity reporting.

2) Regulatory challenges with lack of standardization & metrics

This group captures the regulatory challenges in relation to the lack of clear, consistent, and standardized processes for navigating biodiversity disclosure standards.

3) Specificity of biodiversity withing the sector-specific challenges

This category deals with the inherent complexity of biodiversity and lack of its understanding, which makes it harder to mainstream it in reporting into the sectors' operations.

4) Stakeholder engagement & perception

These responses focus on the external and internal perceptions and lack of stakeholder engagement on biodiversity issues.

5) Resource constraints

These responses emphasize financial and resource limitations that companies face when trying to integrate biodiversity into their sustainability reports.



Task 5.3. Sustainable environmental impact assessment and corporate sustainability reporting on transport



TASK 5.3 - Subtask B. Mainstreaming biodiversity in corporate sustainability reporting

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Task 5.3. Sustainable environmental impact assessment and corporate sustainability reporting on transport



TASK 5.3 - Subtask B. Mainstreaming biodiversity in corporate sustainability reporting

First draft results from questionnaire for Subtask B in groups of answers

Question 2: Description of the possible opportunities for mainstreaming biodiversity in corporate sustainability reporting

1) Regulatory and policy opportunities in connection with society needs

These responses focus on emerging regulations and evolving regulatory framework creating opportunities for companies to integrate biodiversity into their reporting.

2) Financial and economic incentives

This category highlights opportunities related to financial drivers, including incentives, integration of nature-related financial risks, and financial performance improvements.

3) Operational and efficiency improvements connected with safety

This group covers opportunities to enhance operational efficiencies by integrating biodiversity-related improved and innovative technical practices, such as wildlife-related incidents and operational risks related to animals.

4) Innovation and capacity building

This category encompasses opportunities for innovation, R&D, and the development of internal capacities, such as training and creating new roles related to biodiversity.



Task 5.3. Sustainable environmental impact assessment and corporate sustainability reporting on transport



TASK 5.3 - Subtask B. Mainstreaming biodiversity in corporate sustainability reporting

First draft results from questionnaire for Subtask B in groups of answers

Question 3: Proposals for the tools and solutions for mainstreaming biodiversity in corporate sustainability reporting

1) Frameworks, Standards, and Policy Alignment

These answers refer to using established reporting frameworks and aligning with international and regulatory commitments to ensure strategic coherence.

2) Measurement tools, indicators, and data standardization

Focused on quantitative tools, KPIs, metrics, benchmarks, and the need for standardized data collection and monitoring to support the operational effectiveness and traceability of the reporting framework.

3) Innovative and responsible risk management and impact reduction

Solutions on emphasizing the treatment of biodiversity as a risk factor and implementing concrete measures to reduce impacts.

4) Communication, collaboration, and capacity building

This theme includes directions of actions towards better communication and understanding of biodiversity matters between sectors, collaboration with experts, NGOs, and stakeholders, and investing on capacity building.



Task 5.3. Sustainable environmental impact assessment and corporate sustainability reporting on transport



TASK 5.3 - Subtask B. Mainstreaming biodiversity in corporate sustainability reporting

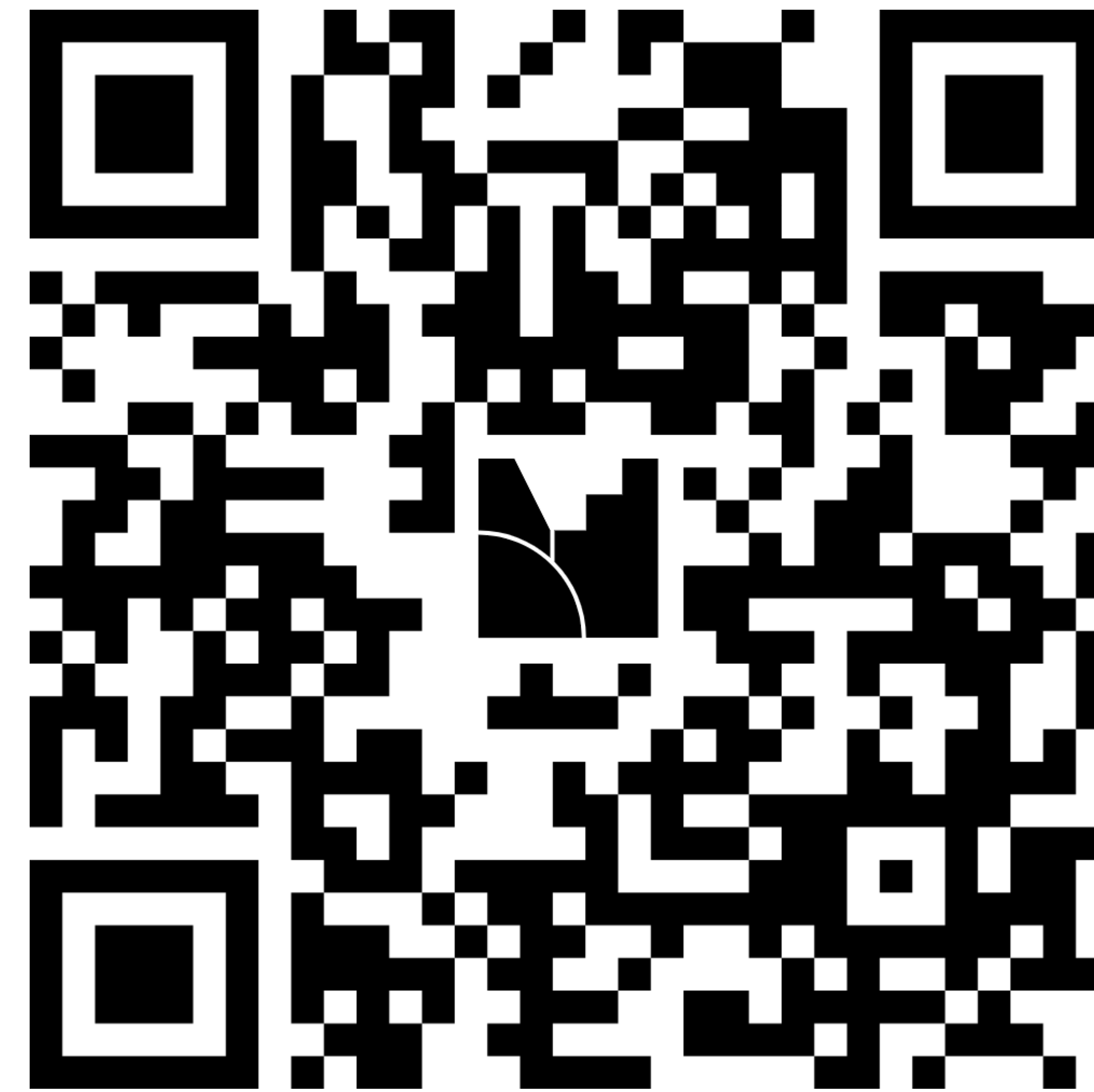
First draft results from questionnaire for Subtask B in groups of answers

Question 4: **Proposals for Proposed case studies of best practices for mainstreaming biodiversity in corporate sustainability reporting**

...in progress... with very interesting proposals to be reviewed and evaluated



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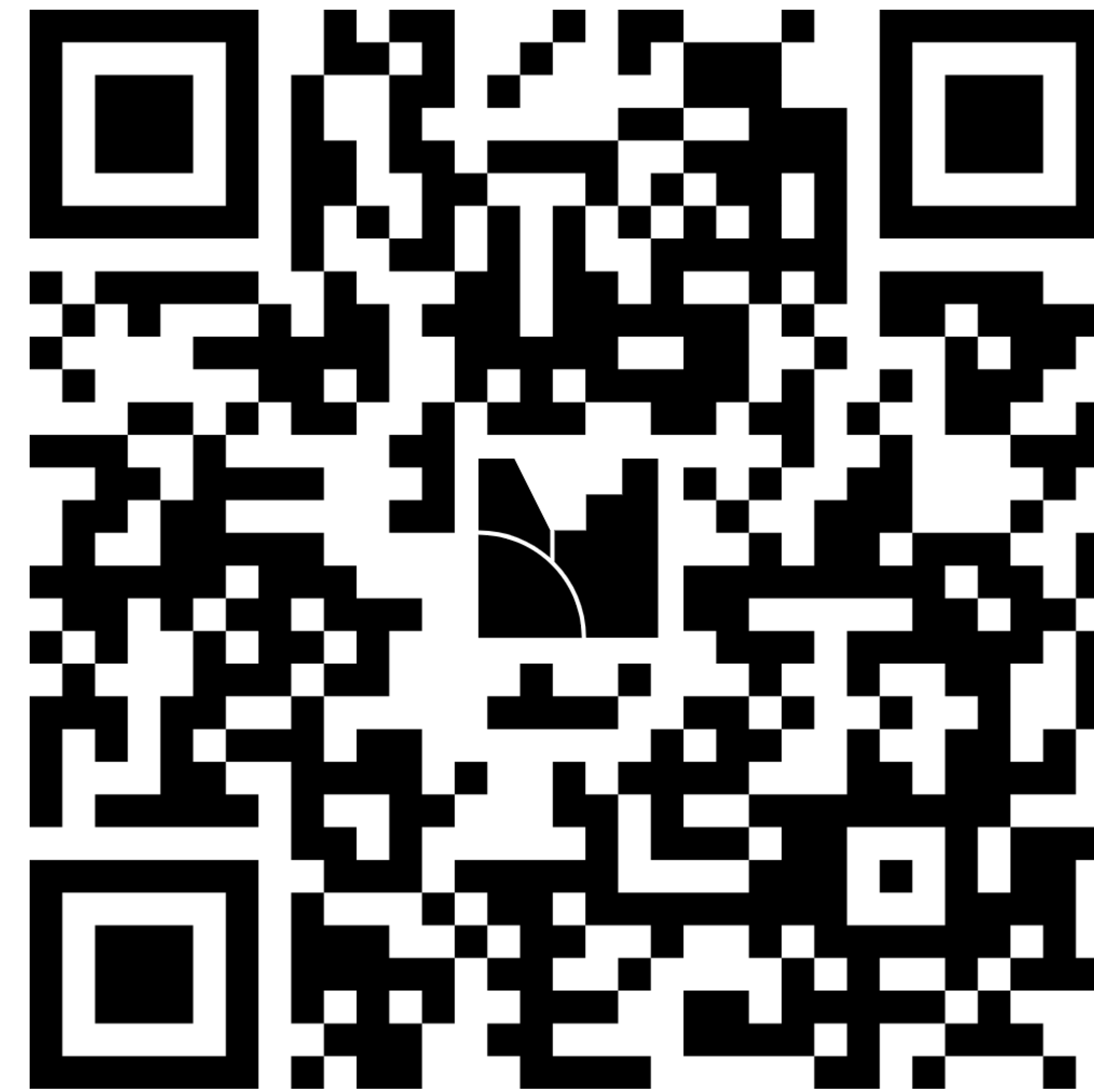
Task 5.4. Integrating biodiversity into company strategies, procurement processes and supply chain



Key activities and goals	Stakeholders	Contribution
Analyse the state of the art in order to identify biodiversity data gaps in procurement activities and sustainability reporting in the supply chain	Corporate stakeholders (rail, energy and other transport infrastructure) Associations and consulting bodies	Provide insights and feedbacks on companies' practices related to biodiversity monitoring and disclosure
Identify good practices, existing indicators and criteria, for the inclusion of biodiversity in sustainability reporting and procurement contracts	Corporate stakeholders (rail, energy and other transport infrastructure) Scientific & research organisations	Provide best practices and data used to measure and monitor biodiversity in the supply chain
Define recommendations on how to seamlessly integrate biodiversity considerations into procurement processes and overarching corporate strategies.	Regulatory & policy bodies Corporate stakeholders Financial institutions & investors	Suggest actions to comply to norms and regulations at national and international level and provide feedbacks on the efficiency and feasibility of identified recommendations



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Stakeholder Survey: Societal Challenges in Sustainable Transport Development



Stakeholders engagement

- **Monthly WP5 meeting:**

- ☐ Held on the **last Tuesday of each month**, from **09:00–10:30 CET**

- Complemented by **dedicated stakeholder interactions**, organized as needed according to WP5 task requirements and progress.





Technical Task Leaders



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T5.4: Integrating biodiversity into company strategies, procurement processes and supply chain

ITALFERR

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Thank You

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