



BEE BOLD ALLIANCE
THANKSGIVING COFFEE COMPANY

Proposal to B Lab for new BIA Question
Environment/Land & Life

In its [Future We Want](#) Outcome document, United Nations' Member States identified biological diversity as critical to human well-being: the "intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its critical role in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human well-being." Member States also recognized "the severity of global biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystems" and stress the negative impact that this situation has on food security, nutrition, access to water, health of the rural poor and people worldwide.

On World Bee Day, May 20th, the UN's General Assembly President Tijjani Muhammad-Bande addressed the role of bees for food security and biodiversity. "Although diminutive, bees underpin our food systems: close to three-quarters of the world's crops depend, at least in part, on bees and other pollinators. In economic terms, natural pollinators contribute up to \$577 billion to the global economy." He then concluded, "I am confident that by working together to save the bees we will succeed in ending hunger and eradicating poverty for everyone, everywhere."

Given the importance of a healthy global bee population to food security and human, economic and natural systems' well-being, we propose adding the following question to the next version of the BIA:

Environment/Land & Life / Protecting Biodiversity/Pollinators

Which of the following practices do you implement within your company and/or on your company's campus to protect your region's pollinators?

- We do not use harmful pesticides (including insecticides and acaricides, herbicides and fungicides) on the landscaping
- Pollinator-friendly plants are included in our landscaping to provide forage for pollinators
- A clean water source is available to pollinators
- Habitats are provided for pollinator protection (such as beehives, "insect hotels," and undisturbed natural habitats such as a log or wood chips)
- We offer education or educational material to our employees about the importance of pollinator protection for food security and biodiversity
- We have created and/or shared with our employees a toolkit or list of opportunities to engage in pollinator protector opportunities/activities outside of work
- We reward employees for adopting pollinator conservation activities at home
- Other:



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Learn Resources:

Pollinators are our front-line facilitators for biodiversity. Reference: UN SDG 15 to halt biodiversity loss <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal15>

Harmful pesticides (definition): Examples include neonicotinoids, glyphosate, and other toxic substances. Helpful source material: *Understanding Pesticides*, <https://www.xerces.org/pesticides/understanding-pesticides>; *Reducing Pesticide Use & Impacts* <https://www.xerces.org/pesticides>.

Pollinator-friendly plants (definition): A variety of multi-seasonal blooms throughout the “Bee Year”, with flowers that collectively provide both pollen and nectar. Helpful resources: <https://beeboldalliance.org/propollinator-planting>
<http://www.helpabee.org/best-bee-plants-for-california.html>

Clean water source (definition): Can be as small as a dish of water, or a bird-bath, or as large as a pond, stream, or river flowing through the site. <https://ento.psu.edu/pollinators/public-outreach/cert/cert-steps-step2>

Habitat for Bees: <http://www.helpabee.org/building-bee-condos.html>
<https://xerces.org/blog/5-ways-to-increase-nesting-habitat-for-bees>

Educational resources for employees might include: Bee Bold Alliance toolkit <https://beeboldalliance.org/start-with-native-plants>. Incentives for employees to engage in pollinator protection activities at home and/or regionally might include: matching donations to pollinator-protector organizations; offering paid volunteer time off to work with bee-centric nonprofit organizations; highlighting employees’ photos of pollinator gardens in company newsletters...

A company may choose to celebrate [May 22 is International Biodiversity Day](#) .

Environment/Land & Life / Supply Chain Management / Protecting Biodiversity/Pollinators

We hold our suppliers accountable for implementing the following pollinator protection practices:

- Prohibition of the use of harmful pesticides (including insecticides and acaricides, herbicides and fungicides) on their landscaping



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- Pollinator-friendly plants are included in their landscaping to provide forage for pollinators
- They maintain a clean water source that is available to pollinators
- They provide habitats for pollinator protection (such as beehives, “insect hotels,” and undisturbed natural habitats such as a log or wood chips)
- They offer education or educational material to their employees on the importance of pollinator protection for food security and biodiversity
- They have created and shared with their employees a list of opportunities to engage in pollinator protector opportunities/activities
- They reward employees for adopting pollinator conservation activities at home
- Other: