



BRAND: VOLKSWAGEN

Date: 25 July 2024

Based on the detailed review of the "Volkswagen 2023 Group Sustainability Report," here is an evaluation of Volkswagen's corporate biodiversity performance using the specified DeTrust Lab Biodiversity Methodology:

Stage 1: Biodiversity Pressures and Priority Areas (30%)

1. Summary of Biodiversity Pressures (15%)

- **Score: 3**
- **Justification:** The report acknowledges various environmental impacts associated with Volkswagen's operations, such as CO₂ emissions, energy consumption, and resource usage. However, specific details regarding direct biodiversity pressures caused by their operations are limited. The emphasis is more on general environmental sustainability than specific biodiversity impacts.

2. Priority Species, Habitats, and Ecosystem Services (15%)

- **Score: 2**
- **Justification:** While Volkswagen engages in various environmental initiatives, the report lacks detailed information on specific priority species, habitats, or ecosystem services directly targeted by their efforts. The focus remains broad, covering overall environmental sustainability without detailed attention to specific biodiversity targets.

Stage 2: Vision, Goals, and Strategies (40%)

1. Corporate Biodiversity Vision (10%)

- **Score: 3**
- **Justification:** Volkswagen's sustainability vision includes aspects of biodiversity, particularly through its commitment to reducing environmental impacts and promoting sustainable practices. However, the vision is not explicitly focused on biodiversity and often blends with broader environmental goals.

2. Scalable Biodiversity Goals and Objectives (15%)

- **Score: 3**
- **Justification:** The report outlines goals related to reducing CO₂ emissions and increasing the use of sustainable materials, which indirectly benefit biodiversity. However, these goals are not specifically tailored to measurable biodiversity outcomes.

3. Key Strategies to Deliver Goals and Objectives (15%)

- **Score: 3**



- **Justification:** Volkswagen employs strategies such as promoting the circular economy, enhancing resource efficiency, and engaging in partnerships for environmental protection. These strategies support the overall environmental agenda but lack specificity regarding direct biodiversity conservation actions.

Stage 3: Indicator Framework and Strategic Plan (20%)

1. Framework of Core Indicators (10%)

- **Score: 2**
- **Justification:** The report includes indicators related to environmental performance, such as CO₂ emissions and energy consumption. However, a comprehensive framework specifically for biodiversity indicators is lacking, making it challenging to assess progress in this area.

2. Elements of a Biodiversity Strategic Plan (10%)

- **Score: 2**
- **Justification:** While Volkswagen has a strategic plan for sustainability, it does not provide a detailed biodiversity-specific strategic plan. The current plan includes general environmental strategies, but more explicit actions, timelines, and responsibilities related to biodiversity are needed.

Stage 4: Monitoring and Reporting (10%)

1. Monitoring Plan (5%)

- **Score: 2**
- **Justification:** The report indicates some monitoring activities related to sustainability, such as tracking CO₂ emissions and resource use. However, a detailed biodiversity monitoring plan is not provided. Specific biodiversity indicators and methodologies would strengthen this section.

2. Database of Relevant Data (2.5%)

- **Score: 2**
- **Justification:** Volkswagen uses various databases to track sustainability metrics but does not mention a dedicated biodiversity database. Integrating relevant biodiversity data sources would enhance their ability to manage biodiversity impacts comprehensively.

3. Monitoring and Reporting Systems (2.5%)

- **Score: 2**
- **Justification:** The report mentions systems for environmental monitoring and reporting but lacks detailed information on standardized biodiversity monitoring and reporting systems. Developing systems to visualize and analyze biodiversity data would be beneficial.



Summary of Scores

| Stage | Sub-element | Weight | Score (0-5) | Weighted Score |
|--------------|---|--------|-------------|----------------|
| Stage 1 | Biodiversity Pressures and Priority Areas | 30% | | |
| | Summary of biodiversity pressures | 15% | 3 | 0.45 |
| | Priority species and habitats | 15% | 2 | 0.30 |
| Stage 2 | Vision, Goals, and Strategies | 40% | | |
| | Corporate biodiversity vision | 10% | 3 | 0.30 |
| | Scalable goals and objectives | 15% | 3 | 0.45 |
| | Key strategies | 15% | 3 | 0.45 |
| Stage 3 | Indicator Framework and Strategic Plan | 20% | | |
| | Framework of core indicators | 10% | 2 | 0.20 |
| | Elements of a strategic plan | 10% | 2 | 0.20 |
| Stage 4 | Monitoring and Reporting | 10% | | |
| | Monitoring plan | 5% | 2 | 0.10 |
| | Database of relevant data | 2.5% | 2 | 0.05 |
| | Monitoring and reporting systems | 2.5% | 2 | 0.05 |
| Total | 100% | | | 2.55 |

Concluding Summary

- **Total Weighted Score: 2.55 out of 5**
- **Overall Justification:** Volkswagen demonstrates a commitment to environmental sustainability, with several initiatives and strategies that indirectly support biodiversity. The company's efforts in promoting the circular economy, enhancing resource efficiency, and engaging in environmental partnerships are commendable. However, the report lacks detailed information on specific biodiversity pressures, priority species, habitats, and a comprehensive biodiversity strategy. Enhancing the specificity of biodiversity goals, strategies, and monitoring systems would significantly improve Volkswagen's performance in this area.