



COMMITMENT TO BIODIVERSITY: BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT IN ACCIONA

ACCIONA's Risk Management Policy is intended to ensure the integration of risk management within the company's strategy, establishing the framework and principles of the **Risk Management System (RMS)**. This policy covers all the risks associated with the activities carried out by the ACCIONA divisions in all the geographic areas where it operates. The RMS establishes the necessary management mechanisms to assist in achieving the objectives of the company within the agreed risk thresholds. The principles of ACCIONA's risk management policy are materialised through the RMS by means of the definition of roles and responsibilities, as well as the development of methodologies, procedures and tools.

Under this framework and with a preventive approach, ACCIONA promotes the integration in their productive activities of **risks management with regards to the impacts on the environment and biodiversity**, with the aim of improving their mitigation capacity.

Since 2011, ACCIONA has had a **Corporate Environmental Crisis Management System** in place, which sets out the measures to implement and the responsibilities and resources that are necessary to ensure the correct management of a crisis situation in their own facilities or operated by the company which causes an affection to the environment. Additionally, the **Corporate Standard of Crisis Management** allows the company to identify those risks that could cause and environmental incident and define processes, lines of action and responsibilities in the event of a crisis. ACCIONA considers essential the internal knowledge of those actions that may result in environmental damage. Therefore, this regulation sets the obligation to communicate and report immediately incidents and potential environmental crisis, as well as the prohibition of concealing or hiding environmental risks and felonies.

Over the past few years, ACCIONA has developed specific **environmental risk management** initiatives. Thus, it has performed **environmental risk audits** consisting on the identification and evaluation of the main environmental risks derived from the company's activities. This analysis, performed by an evaluation group composed of more than 100 members, enabled the prioritisation of risks by specific activities, facilitating a specific response for treating and controlling each one, establishing the most appropriate measures for prevention and mitigation.

In 2016 ACCIONA approved the Corporate Standard of Environmental Risk Management. This standard impulse and extend to all businesses an environmental risk management model with object to prevent potential damages to the environment and biodiversity in any of the phases of the design, construction, operation, management and dismantling of any facility or service. Besides, this standard unifies under a common methodology the environmental risk management, based on internal technical documents and international standards.

Along with this standard, there are **three specific procedures** regarding Environmental Risk Management related to **Climate Change, Water Resources and Environmental Responsibility**.

Concurrently, ACCIONA annually develops two documents related to **risk analysis associated to climate change and water resources**, aiming to go in depth in these aspects of great relevance in today's world and in the Company.

5. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

ACCIONA is aware that its activities can generate an impact on biodiversity. For this reason, at each of the company's activities, and especially in those locations that contains globally or nationally important biodiversity, the company identifies and assess the potential affection to biodiversity through the application of the **Mitigation Hierarchy** (avoid, minimize, restore, offset) so as to carry out their appropriate management. (See specific graphic in the Conclusions section).

Environmental impact assessment is a key tool for the minimising of the impact of project development, together with the company's integrated risk management system and the resulting mitigating elements.

In the case of the Environmental Impact Studies, once the impacts arising from the aspects considered have been identified and assessed, preventive and corrective measures are established, as well as compensatory measures to mitigate them, if necessary. The company works with experts from different areas, and the implantation of the preventive and correctives measures are controlled within Environmental Monitoring Programs.

Before a final decision is made on the location of the activities or projects, the area of the site is analysed so as to produce the smallest possible impact on the environment. This involves taking into account if the site includes a protected area, its proximity to water bodies, the presence of protected flora or fauna, etc.

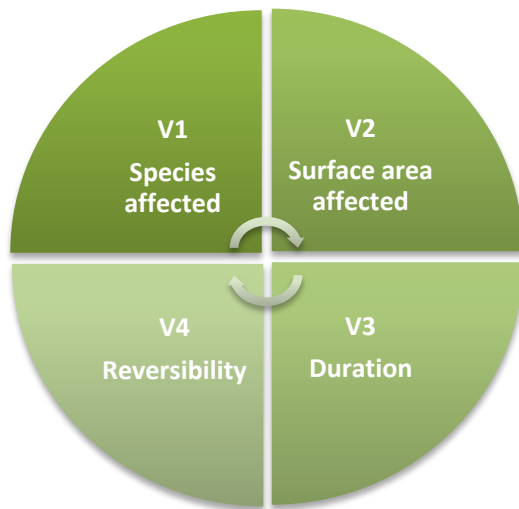
5.1 Periodic identification and evaluation of impacts

In addition to the control of impacts carried out from the business lines, the corporate area performs an identification and assessment of the most significant impacts of each of the company's facilities that are adjacent to or are located within legally protected areas, or in areas that are not protected but which are of great value to biodiversity. This analysis is compiled annually.

The impacts are quantified on the basis of the following criteria:

- Species affected.
- Surface area affected.
- Intensity of the impacts.
- Duration of the impacts.
- Reversibility or irreversibility of the impacts.

The final impact evaluation takes into account the combination of the following indicators as shown on the chart:



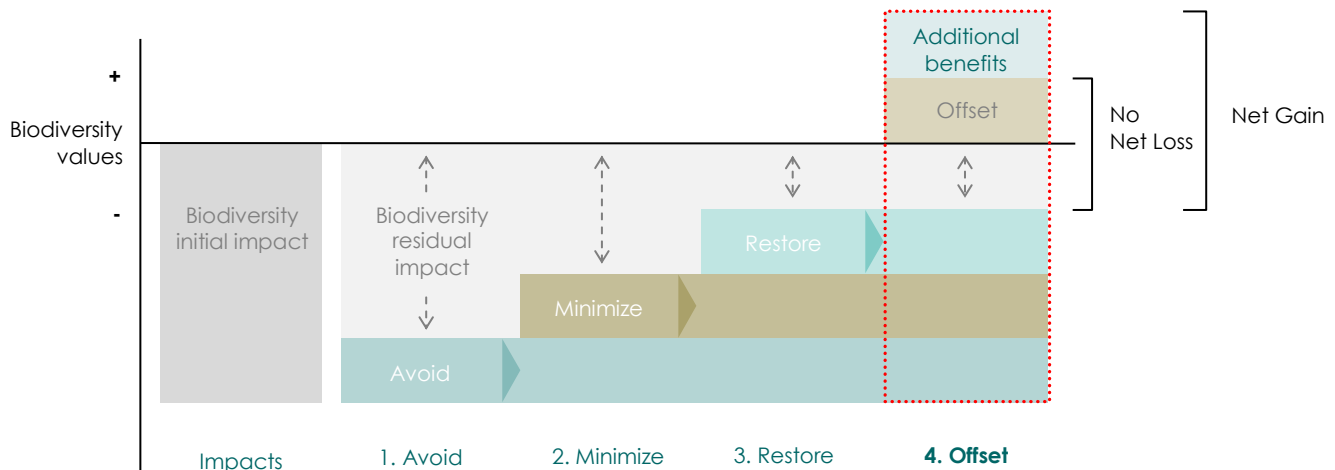
Therefore a process of evaluation of the impacts of the different activities of the company is done, which make it possible to follow up on the company's activities and their effects on biodiversity over the years and also to establish improvement and learning mechanisms across its various lines of business.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The main objective of ACCIONA’s biodiversity management is to determine the real impact on biodiversity derived from its activities, to improve prevention and mitigation measures and establish a continuous improvement mechanism in order to diminish the impacts generated and identify those measures successfully implemented that could be replicated in other areas or projects.

Additionally, ACCIONA voluntarily carries out environmental and biodiversity compensation plans with the target of No Net Loss of biodiversity or even global positive impact for species and ecosystems.

Mitigation Hierarchy strategy



Source: modified from IUCN 2015