

SWEN Capital Partners announces an unprecedented Nature policy to reconcile climate change and preservation of biodiversity.

SWEN Capital Partners [SWEN CP] has moved up to the next level in unveiling its ambitious Nature policy, which encompasses all climate and biodiversity challenges. To do so, SWEN CP has made Nature a hallmark of its corporate strategy and is stepping up its support for the entire ecosystem (underlying portfolio companies, funds, employees...) in promoting the adoption of best practices.

As part of its commitments to sustainable Finance, SWEN CP reaffirms its stance as a true pioneer on the market for private assets by adopting a far-reaching Nature policy.

Climate and biodiversity challenges are intertwined

While the challenges of biodiversity are beginning to be taken into consideration by financial actors, they have still been only partly integrated into investment strategies and are still not connected to climate strategies. Indeed, according to SWEN CP's 10th annual ESG data collection campaign, only 16% of management companies surveyed reported having set up a biodiversity strategy, vs. 64% for a climate strategy.

However, climate and biodiversity are intertwined. Climate imbalance has been identified by scientists of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) as one of the major causes of the depletion of biodiversity. Biodiversity is the origin of all resources we use for living, including drinking water, food and raw materials. In fact, 55% of global GDP depends on biodiversity and ecosystem services¹. Scientists have alerted us that a paradigm shift is needed, rather than proceeding with two parallel climate/biodiversity visions. Environmental challenges must be considered holistically. It will not be possible to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement without respecting those of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

One of Europe's most ambitious Nature policies

Scientists now agree that biodiversity is in great danger. According to the latest IPBES report, we are currently living through the sixth "mass species extinction" (the fifth was the dying off of the dinosaurs...).

In reaction to this reality, SWEN CP pledges:

- 1. To align itself with international frameworks and to deploy its policy at a strategic level.** The first pillar of its commitments is based on the orientation of its Nature policy, as well as all action plans flowing from it, towards alignment with international frameworks, i.e., the Kunming-Montréal global biodiversity framework and the Paris Agreement. This approach aims to guarantee that its commitments match priority environmental challenges and contribute to global objectives.
- 2. To contribute to the regeneration of ecosystems by integrating Nature challenges into all its investment decisions.** To do so, SWEN CP has adopted a holistic approach aiming to understand its impact (through annual environmental footprint and impact analyses of ecosystems and dependencies on them), then by acting to direct its investments through dedicated research and a toolbox, including a Nature score for its funds, which are integrated in its decision-making process.

¹ Source: Summary prepared by the OECD for the French Presidency of the G7 and the meeting of G7 Environment Ministers, 5 and 6 May 2019 (<https://www.oecd.org/environment/resources/biodiversity/Resume-et-Synthese-Rapport-G7-financer-la-biodiversite-agir-pour-l'economie-et%20les-entreprises.pdf>)

- 3. To assist its stakeholders in integrating Nature challenges into their activities** through awareness-raising initiatives or assistance to invested companies on a more operational level in decarbonating their activities. Aware of the importance of working with all its ecosystem to promote a better understanding and integration of these challenges, SWEN CP will also be taking part in local initiatives in France and in Nature-related methodological work.

An approach that places climate and biodiversity on an equal footing

SWEN CP has conducted an in-depth study to better understand the impact of its activities. It then measured both the impact of its investments and their dependencies. Dependencies on ecosystem services are the contributions made by nature to economic activities (in water quality, flood protection, pollination, soil quality, etc.). Assessing dependencies also helps measure the risks incurred by invested companies in the event of a depletion of ecosystem services.

SWEN CP then strived to determine the biodiversity footprint of its portfolio companies and various vehicles. As such, SWEN CP is one of the first management companies to integrate two methodologies: the Global Biodiversity Score (GBS) and the Corporate Biodiversity Footprint (CBF)..

“After working for several months on our Biodiversity policy, it became clear that we would have to completely rethink our environmental approach. Climate and biodiversity are closely interdependent and cannot be separated. And the economic world is intimately linked to Nature. That’s why we have made it our hallmark in developing an investment activity that will help limit and remedy the impacts of human activity”, said **Isabelle Combarel, Deputy CEO in charge of Development and Sustainable Finance**.

“More than ever, SWEN Capital Partners wants to make Nature one of its top priorities and to mobilise the private asset ecosystem and our partners through its investment policy. It is our responsibility to move forth, hand-in-hand, with experts from science and industry in regenerating nature on a 2050 horizon”, concluded **Jérôme Delmas, Chief Executive Officer of SWEN Capital Partners**.

About SWEN CAPITAL PARTNERS

SWEN Capital Partners is a leading player in sustainable investment in private equity, infrastructure and mezzanine debt, with more than €7.7 billion (amount of accumulated liabilities) in assets under management and advisory, and now has nearly 100 employees. The management company, owned by the Ofi Invest group (whose main shareholder are entities of the Aéma group: Macif, Abeille Assurances holding, Aésio Mutuelle) and Crédit Mutuel Arkéa, as well as its team, has always placed the ESG & impact approach at the heart of its approach and offers its clients innovative and sustainable investment solutions. SWEN CP supports entrepreneurs and its partners in their efforts to address social, societal and/or environmental issues and to create sustainable value, which it believes is essential for useful financing.

Since January 2022, SWEN Capital Partners is co-shareholder of the NEC Initiative, a company with an independent mission and developer of a methodology allowing socio-economic actors to measure their contribution to the ecological transition towards a common goal: the construction of a responsible and sustainable economy.

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