

Biodiversity

Details regarding our approach to biodiversity



Background

At Akamai, we firmly believe that the internet presents boundless opportunities and has the power to foster greater understanding and unity across the globe. As a company deeply entrenched in the essential fabric of the internet, we take great pride in our underlying commitments to power and protect life online.

We monitor and understand the escalating global risk posed by biodiversity loss. This concerning trend has far-reaching consequences, and if left unchecked, it could disrupt our corporate environmental goals for Akamai Connected Cloud, our global supply chain, and the communities in which we operate. The repercussions of biodiversity loss are varied and could manifest in unpredictable ways on a global scale, directly affecting our operations.

Akamai is committed to nature-positive practices throughout our value chain. We actively encourage our suppliers and data center partners to adopt biodiversity-focused commitments, ensuring the responsible management of natural capital resources. By doing so, we aim to mitigate the impact of biodiversity loss while contributing to a sustainable and resilient future for all.

Policy Objectives

This policy applies to Akamai Connected Cloud and subsequent operations, encompassing data centers, offices, and our supply chain. Our ambitions are as follows:

- 1) **Protect and enhance biodiversity** by taking proactive steps to reduce and mitigate the adverse effects of our activities on ecosystems and various species. We aim to minimize our environmental footprint and contribute to preserving biodiversity.
- 2) **Promote sustainable land use** by implementing sustainable practices that minimize the environmental impact within our operations and supply chain. This approach includes initiatives to help reduce deforestation, protect biodiversity, and support conservation efforts across our operations.
- 3) **Integrate biodiversity considerations** into procurement, infrastructure development, and other business decisions.
- 4) **Engage with stakeholders** in conservation and restoration. Facilitate collaborative community engagements, foster productive partnerships with suppliers, and implement localized initiatives that actively involve and benefit stakeholders.
- 5) **Ensure transparent reporting and compliance** on biodiversity impacts, risks, and opportunities are upheld in alignment with industry best practices.

Focus Areas

Data centers

- **Site selection:** Prioritize data center locations in areas with minimal biodiversity impact whenever possible. Avoid places in or near critical habitats, protected areas, or regions of high biodiversity value.
- **Energy use:** Use renewable energy sources to power data centers to reduce the emissions footprint and associated impacts on biodiversity. Implement energy efficiency measures to minimize resource use.
- **Waste management:** Ensure the adoption of sustainable waste management practices such as e-Stewards, including the safe disposal of e-waste and the recycling of materials, to prevent pollution and habitat degradation.
- **Water use:** Implement water-efficient technologies and strategies to minimize water use in data centers, particularly in water-stressed regions.

Supply chain management

- **Supplier selection:** Partner with suppliers who demonstrate a commitment to biodiversity conservation. Evaluate suppliers based on their environmental practices, including land use, resource extraction, and waste management.
- **Sustainable procurement:** Collaborate with partners to procure materials and products that have obtained sustainability certifications, specifically emphasizing minimizing adverse effects on biodiversity, including deforestation and habitat loss.
- **Auditing and monitoring:** Regularly audit suppliers to ensure compliance with biodiversity standards and track progress on biodiversity-related goals.

Research and development

- **Innovations and efficiency:** Invest in research and development of technologies that reduce environmental impact, including energy-efficient hardware, software, and solutions that reduce the adverse effects on biodiversity.
- **Increase biodiversity:** Look for tangible ways to address the repercussions of losses and make a positive contribution to global conservation initiatives.

Internal and external community engagement

- **Community engagement:** Collaborate with local communities to create and execute on initiatives, focusing on clean-ups, restoration, species conservation, and responsible land use.
- **Corporate training:** Educate employees about Akamai's sustainability program and how they can actively participate in sustainability endeavors in their professional and personal roles.

Information Gathering

As a part of our Environmental Management System (EMS), we gather information through regular engagement with our partners. This information includes compliance activities, waste management practices, environmental incidents, and any other relevant information related to the site's operations. In addition, our broad network of global network infrastructure engineers conducts regular site visits to verify information in person.

As a part of our EMS, Akamai asks our partners detailed questions to audit their impact on biodiversity.

Sample questions for data center and supplier partners

- 1) **Biodiversity impact assessment**
 - Have you conducted a biodiversity impact assessment for your operations?
 - What steps have you taken to minimize your impact on local ecosystems?
- 2) **Sustainable practices**
 - What sustainability certifications do you hold (e.g., ISO 14001, FSC, etc.)?
 - How do you ensure that your operations do not contribute to habitat destruction or species loss?
- 3) **Resource management**
 - What measures do you have in place to manage energy, water, and waste sustainably?
 - How do you track and report on your resource use and its impact on biodiversity?
- 4) **Supply chain transparency**
 - How do you ensure that your supply chain is free from activities that harm biodiversity?
 - What criteria do you use to select and evaluate your suppliers with respect to biodiversity?
- 5) **Compliance and reporting**
 - How do you ensure compliance with local and international biodiversity regulations?
 - Are you aligned with TNFD recommendations, and how do you report on biodiversity-related risks and opportunities?

Akamai and the TNFD

Akamai recognizes the importance of integrating the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) across our business operations. Although the nature of our business limits our direct impact on biodiversity today, we understand that the TNFD-related disclosure, including monitoring risks and opportunities, is crucial to our long-term sustainability goals as a business.

Akamai's biodiversity risks and opportunities are actively tracked and managed within our ISO 14001 attested EMS ensuring we remain vigilant and proactive in addressing these critical issues. As we continue to evolve, we are committed to deepening our understanding and integration of biodiversity

considerations into our broader environmental and sustainability strategies and will continue to assess the inclusion of TNFD as an opportunity for future environmental disclosure.

TNFD alignment across Akamai's EMS

- **Governance:** Akamai has established governance to address environmental risks and opportunities, including C-suite and board-level oversight of sustainability strategies and policies related to Akamai's business.
- **Strategy:** Akamai incorporates sustainability and biodiversity considerations into the company's overall business strategy. This includes identifying and prioritizing risks and opportunities across operations as it relates to our environmental impact.
- **Risk management:** Akamai has a risk-management framework to identify, assess, and manage environmental impacts. This includes physical risks such as habitat destruction, regulatory risks, and reputational risks.
- **Metrics, targets, and disclosure:** Akamai has clear metrics and targets for environmental performance that include biodiversity and applicability to TNFD guidelines. We regularly monitor and report on our environmental progress.

Conclusion

Akamai is dedicated to taking a forward-thinking approach to biodiversity and conservation, embedding biodiversity considerations into our operations, and ensuring that our business does not harm the natural world. This policy is a compass for our endeavors to safeguard and enrich biodiversity. We are committed to consistently reviewing and enhancing this policy to align with progressive practices, our EMS, and global sustainability objectives.