



Biodiversity Policy

I. Overview and Purpose of Policy

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is committed to sustainable development and environmental stewardship. This policy outlines ONGC's commitment to biodiversity, setting clear goals and actions to preserve and enhance biodiversity in its operational areas. This policy complements ONGC's environment policy, to ensure a unified strategy for environmental conservation.

The scope of the policy includes how ONGC manages its risks and impacts on its ecosystem, natural resources and enables protection of biodiversity in light of climate change, and its resource use of water, waste, among others. The company is dedicated to integrate biodiversity conservation into its operational decision-making processes and taking measures to minimize impacts, reflecting our vision of a "Nature Positive" future.

II. Applicability

This policy applies to all operations of ONGC Ltd, its employees, contractual workers, business partners, suppliers, and others with whom ONGC does business. In addition, this policy is applicable throughout the operational lifecycle of the projects, covering stages from exploration and planning to evaluation, operation, and closure.

III. Policy Commitment

Adhering to Biodiversity Policy, ONGC shall:

- Maintain legal compliance to biodiversity-related laws and regulations;
- Assess risks to biodiversity and associated ecosystem services from existing and planned activities;
- Strive for no net loss of biodiversity at our operated/ owned sites having biodiversity risks;
- Implement the mitigation hierarchy by avoiding, minimizing, restoring and if necessary offsetting residual impacts on biodiversity of the areas in which the company operates;
- Develop and implement Biodiversity Management Plans with clear targets and initiatives, to support the conservation of species, habitats and ecosystems in our areas of operation;
- Identify, engage and collaborate with key biodiversity stakeholders to integrate their knowledge, perceptions and guidance to ensure inclusive biodiversity management;
- Contribute to the enhancement of biodiversity knowledge in collaboration with experts;
- Provide appropriate resources to adequately manage biodiversity at our sites; and
- Monitor, review and assess biodiversity performance against measurable biodiversity targets to drive continuous improvement, and openly communicate the results.
- Commit to responsible site restoration and rehabilitation practices during site
 closure and well abandonment, including appropriate utilization of Site Restoration
 Fund, adhering to guidelines set by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
 (MoPNG) and the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH).

IV. Compliance and Assurance

ONGC is committed to adhering to all pertinent regulations regarding biodiversity management and conservation, standards, and industry best practices. This involves operating and maintaining assets within the boundaries defined by permits, consents, and licenses. Additionally, ONGC ensures compliance with the requirements specified in all obtained environmental clearances, even for new establishments and expansions.

V. Stakeholder Engagement

ONGC is committed to identifying and engaging with key internal and external stakeholders at relevant operational levels regarding biodiversity aspects. This engagement facilitates the exchange of views on biodiversity related concerns and the corresponding mitigation measures.

Collaboration with stakeholders, particularly State Government departments, is essential for significant conservation initiatives in and around the business area of project operations.

VI. Capacity Building

ONGC shall ensure regular trainings and awareness workshops for all its employees and business partners on biodiversity related aspects and apprise them on the Company's biodiversity commitments and performance.

VII. Governance Framework

- The responsibility of implementation of this policy resides with the HSE Department at Work Centers and Assets,
- The Board-level HSE Committee, under the guidance of the Chairman, shall be responsible for Board-level oversight over the Company's environmental performance,
- The Risk Management Committee will set up systems to report biodiversity related parameters, deviations, and constraints to manage risks. Potential biodiversity risks will be assessed through a risk management mechanism for necessary action,
- The policy will be reviewed annually in accordance with ONGC's commitments to environmental conservation and protection.

Arun Kumar Singh Chairman & CEO, ONGC

Dated: 25th October, 2024