THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BIODIVERSITY & ZERO DEFORESTATION COMMITMENT May 2025

# THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BIODIVERSITY & ZERO DEFORESTATION COMMITMENT

True is committed to protecting biodiversity and supporting zero deforestation. This is an important issue that True has set the Biodiversity & Zero Deforestation Policy and pays attention to potential impacts of our business activities throughout the supply chain. We have a framework for risk assessment on Biodiversity & Zero Deforestation which covers our own operation and adjacent areas across our value chain including upstream and downstream activities. The process description is demonstrated as follows:



Process	Detail
<b>1.</b> Screening & Site Selection	Determine the scope of study areas and do the pre-screening of the operational sites that have potential impact
2. Assessment & prioritize	Review and prioritize the metrics
	Set the assessment criteria to classify and rate the risk areas
	•Select the potential sites and compare with the significant conservation or biodiversity areas, by applying the biodiversity programs such as the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service Trends and Conditions Assessment Tool (BESTCAT) for preliminary screening
	• Assess the high risk level conservation or biodiversity areas via Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) by using location-specific approach
	Identify relevant biodiversity risk and integrate into multi-disciplinary company-wide risk management processes
	Identify dependency-related biodiversity risks by using WWF Risk Biodiversity Filter
	Determine Impact-related biodiversity risks
3. Measure	If the operational sites are located close by the very high-risk level conservation or biodiversity, those sites must have the mitigation that hierarchy as follows:
	1. Avoidance
	2. Reduce
	3. Restore
	4. Offset
4. Monitoring	Monitor and validate the mitigation hierarchy and disclose the progress of implementation
<b>5.</b> Engagement & Communication	Engage and communicate with stakeholders to operate business without affecting any biodiversity and mitigate deforestation risks

Note: For more information, please refer to the Biodiversity and Zero Deforestation Policy at <u>https://truesustainability.info/sustainability/wp-</u> content/uploads/2025/06/Biodiversity\_Zero\_Deforestation\_Policy\_May.pdf

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#### Risk and Impact Assessment 2024

- True screens its operational sites/ base stations that are likely to impact on biodiversity. We set the criteria for pre-screening the material areas and site by excluding the urban areas and the towers installed on the building rooftop. Initially, there are 9,824 sites nationwide that may impact biodiversity.
- Then we evaluate the pre-screened operational sites by applying the BESTCAT program, which defines the indicators/metrics for assessing the impact of risks covering 5 dimensions, that are prioritized according to the significances:
  - 1. Threatened Species Richness
  - 2. Biome-based Species Richness
  - 3. Global Species Richness
  - 4. Habitat Intactness
  - 5. Small Ranging Species Richness



Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service Trends and Conditions Assessment (BESTCAT) Tool

- According to the study result, there are 195 sites of signal tower located in a very high-risk area (score 91-100) of at least 3 dimensions. Therefore, further assessment is required in order to confirm if these areas are critical biodiversity.
- A total of 195 sites, located in a high-risk area, have been assessed for biodiversity risk using IBAT (Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool)
- The assessment results using IBAT for the 195 sites indicate that
  - Within a 1 km radius of 50 sites, it has been identified that the surrounding areas are located within protected areas.
  - Within a 1 km radius of 31 sites, it has been identified that the surrounding areas are in key biodiversity areas (KBA).

In addition, the IUCN Red list of threatened species is illustrated as below figure.

### **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species**

Number of IUCN Red list of threatened species* (CR, EN, VU Category)	Number of Sites
>100	3
91-100	78
81-90	114
<80	0

\*The total number of species categorized as Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) or Vulnerable (VU) found within 50 km. of each site. The detail of each site that has the total number of IUCN Red list of threatened species (CR, EN, VU Category) more than 100 species. Critically Endangered Vulnerable Site Endangered (EN) (VU) (CR) 1<sup>st</sup> 35 231 156 2<sup>nd</sup> 35 227 158 3<sup>rd</sup> 35 224 156

#### Biodiversity Risk and Impact Summary

According to the biodiversity risk and impact assessment, we have identified biodiversity-related risks associated with the telecommunication sector by using the WWF Biodiversity Filter Tool. In addition, we use the location-specific approach to assess each area. Therefore, dependency and impact-related biodiversity risks were identified as follows:

Risk Type	Risk Category	Group	Indicator name	Risk Level (No. of Site)				
чэк туре				Very low	Low	Medium	Hight	Very Hig
	1. Provisioning Services		Water Availability		146	-	-	-
		Dependency	Forest Productivity and Distance to Markets	49				
			Limited Wild Flora & Fauna Availability					
			Limited Marine Fish Availability					
			Soil Condition		-	-	-	
	2. Regulating &		Water Condition					-
	Supporting Services -	Dependency	Air Condition	195				
	Enabling		Ecosystem Condition					
-1			Pollination					
PHYSICAL		Dependency	Landslides		-	164	31	-
SYF			Wildfire Hazard					
Ы	3. Regulating Services -		Plant/Forest/Aquatic Pests and Diseases	-				
	Mitigating		Herbicide Resistance					
			Extreme Heat					
			Tropical Cyclones					
	4. Cultural Services	Dependency	Natural & Cultural Resources	195	-	-	-	-
			Land, Freshwater and Sea Use Change		-	157	38	-
	5. Pressures on Biodiversity	Impact	Forest Canopy Loss					
			Invasives	-				
			Pollution					
		Impact	Protected/Conserved Areas					-
			Key Biodiversity Areas					
	6. Environmental Factors		Other Important Delineated Areas	-	38	65	92	
			Ecosystem Condition					
Ħ			Range Rarity					
NC	7. Socioeconomic Factors	Impact	Indigenous Peoples (IPs); Local Communities		-	195	-	-
REPUTATIONAL			(LCs) Lands and Territories					
			Resource Scarcity: Food - Water - Air	-				
			Labor/Human Rights					
			Financial Inequality					
		Dependency	Media Scrutiny		-	195	-	-
	8. Additional		Political Situation					
	Reputational Factors		Sites of International Interest					
			Risk Preparation					

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#### Biodiversity risk and impact assessment for upstream and downstream of the value chain

- Upstream: Our significant upstream activities involve the construction of signal towers and electronics & semiconductor manufacturers. We are aware of the importance of biodiversity and, as a result, we have developed a screening process and biodiversity requirements for supplier selection. Our procurement team ensures that these requirements and screenings are met by suppliers, and we have found that all of our suppliers already have established biodiversity policies, management systems, and assessment approaches to demonstrate their awareness of biodiversity. Additionally, our suppliers have implemented Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) for areas located in high-risk zones. Moreover, we have implemented mitigation plans in collaboration with local communities and stakeholders to address their opinions and expectations.
- Downstream: Our significant downstream activities involve the usage of our services by customers via signal towers. Consequently, we have already assessed the biodiversity risks in the adjacent areas of these signal towers. The results of the assessment indicate that there is no high-risk level of dependency or impact on biodiversity in these areas.

ick Turno	Risk Category	Group	Кеу	Indicator name	Indicator Risk Level (by Supplier Group)		
Risk Type				Indicator name	Electronics & Semiconductor Manufacturing	Offices & professional services	
	1. Provisioning Services		\$1_1	Water Availability	2.80	3.80	
		Dependency	S1_2	Forest Productivity and Distance to Markets	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
			S1_3	Limited Wild Flora & Fauna Availability	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
			S1_4	Limited Marine Fish Availability	N/A	N/A	
			S2_1	Soil Condition	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
	2. Regulating &		S2_2	Water Condition	3.25	3.00	
	Supporting Services -	Dependency	S2_3	Air Condition	4.00	3.50	
	Enabling		S2_4	Ecosystem Condition	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
7			S2_5	Pollination	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
PHYSICAL		Dependency	S3_1	Landslides	2.50	2.00	
λH			S3_2	Wildfire Hazard	3.50	3.00	
Ē	3. Regulating Services - Mitigating		S3_3	Plant/Forest/Aquatic Pests and Diseases	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
			S3_4	Herbicide Resistance	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
			S3_5	Extreme Heat	4.50	3.50	
			S3_6	Tropical Cyclones	3.00	3.00	
	4. Cultural Services	Dependency	\$4_1	Natural & Cultural Resources	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
	5. Pressures on Biodiversity	Impact	S5_1	Land, Freshwater and Sea Use Change	2.50	1.50	
			S5_2	Forest Canopy Loss	1.00	1.00	
			S5_3	Invasives	No dependency or impact	No dependency or impact	
			S5_4	Pollution	2.92	4.42	
	6. Environmental Factors	Impact	S6_1	Protected/Conserved Areas	1.00	2.00	
			S6_2	Key Biodiversity Areas	3.00	2.50	
			S6_3	Other Important Delineated Areas	1.00	1.50	
			S6_4	Ecosystem Condition	1.12	2.75	
-			S6_5	Range Rarity	No dependency or impact	2.00	
REPUTATIONAL	7. Socioeconomic Factors	Impact	\$7_1	Indigenous Peoples (IPs); Local Communities (LCs) Lands and Territories	2.00	3.00	
AT			S7_2	Resource Scarcity: Food - Water - Air	No dependency or impact	2.5	
REPU			S7_3	Labor/Human Rights	3.00	3.00	
			S7_4	Financial Inequality	2.00	2.00	
	8. Additional Reputational Factors	Dependency	S8_1	Media Scrutiny	4.00	3.00	
			S8_2	Political Situation	2.00	2.50	
			S8_3	Sites of International Interest	No dependency or impact	1.50	
			S8 4	Risk Preparation	2.00	2.00	

According to the biodiversity risk and impact assessment by using the WWF Biodiversity Filter Tool. The stakeholder's level of dependency or impact on biodiversity is summarized below.

The metrics and progress of True's operations in 2024 are as follows:

Metrics	Progress 2024
Percentage of operational sites which do not impact on biodiversity <sup>1</sup>	99.62 <b>%</b>
Percentage of number of trees planting by True Group and our partners	<b>96.4</b> 0%
compare to Target year 2024 and follow through the We Grow application <sup>2</sup>	
Notos:	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Progress on Biodiversity: evaluated from the total operational sites, excluding the critical biodiversity risk pre-screening sites. <sup>2</sup> Progress on Zero deforestation: estimated from total 33,740 trees planted as of 2024 compared to the 35,000 trees target 2024 (accumulated)



#### Progress of stakeholder engagement to protect ecosystems and restore Biodiversity

#### Biodiversity Risk and Impact Result

In 2024, TRUE conducted the biodiversity impact assessment, Implement mitigation, rehabilitation, and compensation. The result of the assessment is demonstrated as below:

				Impact (score)					
N	Signal	0	Threatened	Biome-based	Global Species	Habitat	Small Ranging	avoid and restore the	
No.	Towers	Areas	Species	Species	Richness	Intactness	Species	impact.	
			Richness	Richness			Richness		
1	BRR1607		83	66	75	5	1	The Sarus Crane	
		Mueang						Conservation and	
		District,						Restoration project in	
		Buriram						Buriram province. The	
		Province						project aims to release	
2	BRR6711		83	66	75	5	1	them into the wild and	
								promote the water	
								ecosystem as their	
								habitat and a food	
								source every year.	
3	NAN6841	Tha Wang	97	85	95	58	81	Sobkhun Model "Coffee	
		Pha						for Forest with income	
		District,						for community" aims to	
		Nan						Restore forests and	
		Province						generate income by	
								planting trees, restoring	
								watershed forests,	
								promoting biodiversity,	
								via support economy via	
								local community	
4	PCK7258	Kui Buri	98	38	88	69	85	Patcharasuthakhachanur	
		District,						ak Project, the project	
5	PCK6750	Prachuap	98	37	88	42	83	aims to monitor and	
5	1 0107 30	Khiri Khan	,0	57	00	72	00	protect wild elephants	
		Province						and provide early	
6	PCK7285		97	35	88	20	82	warning for potential	
								conflicts between	
								humans and wild	
								elephants, reducing the	
								conflicts.	

#### Collaboration with Stakeholders as of 2024

#### Forum on Finance for Biodiversity

"True Corporation Announces Its Stance as a Leading Thai Tech Company, Conserving Ecosystems and Biodiversity for a Sustainable World Together". True affirms its commitment as a Thai tech company that integrates biodiversity considerations into the planning of True-dtac signal tower installations nationwide, aiming for a net positive impact (NPI) on biodiversity and zero deforestation by 2030, in line with UN Sustainable Development Goal 15.





Sarus Crane Conservation and the Doo Nok Application



True supported the Sarus Crane Reintroduction Project Thailand in Buriram to develop and conserve the Huai Jorakae Mak freshwater reservoir for sarus cranes. The Company in collaboration with The Zoological Park Organization of Thailand and other partners in 2019 signed the MOU to support the Wetland and Eastern Sarus Crane Conservation Center in Buriram province as a learning center and

conservation of sarus cranes in order to promote biodiversity and ecosystem in the province.

We have Doo Nok (birdwatching) application for reporting sarus crane and other bird species to support biodiversity awareness and plan to promote this application to cover the overall areas of our operation across the country. In 2024, a total of 15 sarus cranes were freed to nature. To date, there are more than 163 sarus cranes.

Our aim is to increase sarus cranes in the wild every year, then we also encourage farmers to **change their farming style to organic farming and utilize the Company's digital; platforms such as** True Money Wallet to expand their farming product online distribution channels. This allows farmers to earn more income from selling organic rice as the result to expanding food sources for sarus crane. The number of farmers who benefited from this project is 10,600 people living nearby. In addition, The Company supported the Sarus Crane Reintroduction Project Thailand in Buriram to develop and conserve the Huai Jorakae Mak freshwater reservoir for sarus cranes.

#### Patcharasuthakhachanurak Project

True co-ordinated with the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology of Rambhai Barni Rajabhat University developed AI technology by applying the smart early warning system for wild elephants and creating Khachanurak application to monitor and identify only wild elephants together with location data, to send to a cloud storage, and then notify officers or responsible people in the communities. In 2024, this project successfully captured 100% of wild elephant images and could be able the push the wild elephants back to the forest by 5,754 times. This elephant surveillance project could also help to reduce conflict and confrontation between the wild elephants and nearby farming communities.

The project for wildlife monitoring with an early warning system has been expanded and applied to address human-



elephant conflict in various areas, including the Kui Buri National Park in Prachuap Khiri Khan Province, and areas under the Bajrasudha Kajanurak Project, covering forested areas across five provinces in the eastern region: Chachoengsao, Chanthaburi, Rayong, Chonburi, and Sa Kaeo.



#### We Grow Together Project



We Grow Together Project is one of True's flagship environmental initiatives, leveraging digital technology to engage individuals, communities, and organizations in large-scale reforestation efforts. The app enables users to participate in tree planting campaigns, track their contributions in real time, and visualize the environmental impact of their actions—

particularly in terms of carbon sequestration and biodiversity enhancement.

True continues to promote tree planting through the WE GROW app to restore ecosystems, provide habitats for various species, increase green spaces, and absorb carbon dioxide. In 2024, the app recorded a total of 6,266,127 trees, which have absorbed approximately 332,132 tons of  $CO_2$ .