

Concept Note



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Finance for Nature Digital Forum Investing in Equitable Futures *in Latin America and the Caribbean*

#LuxFinance4Nature #ThinkLandscape

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THE GOVERNMENT
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INTERNATIONAL
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Global
Landscapes
Forum

based on a decision of
the German Bundestag

Join us for a digital forum focused on sustainable finance solutions to support the self-determination of local communities and enterprises in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Region. Discover how to increase funding for those already managing the land – and how to promote equitable distribution of resources in these contexts. The forum will feature significant private sector representation; past attendees and partners of GLF events have included top corporations such as Salesforce, Citi, BNP Paribas, Calvert Impact Capital, Microsoft, Sitawi, Natura and Nestlé. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn from and connect with industry leaders.

Background

The role of nature-based solutions (NbS) in mitigating and adapting to climate change is gaining attention. But complementary funding mechanisms are crucial, and financial instruments and market-based mechanisms are not a panacea for scaling NbS. Natural capital markets for NbS face significant governance challenges and require careful design with local communities in the lead to ensure distributional and procedural equity. One approach to addressing these challenges is **stewardship economy**, which recognizes the importance of sustainable land use practices that prioritize the well-being of communities and the environment.

“ **Indigenous Peoples receive less than 1 percent of climate finance, even though many studies have demonstrated that the most effective way to protect biodiversity is by securing Indigenous lands** ”

ALDO SOTO

Managing Director and co-founder of [Amazonia Impact Ventures](#).

Placing stewards at the center of sustainable finance

Stewardship economy principles suggest that reciprocal relationships between people and nature, where diverse values are harnessed, are vital for successful nature-based solutions. Indigenous Peoples have long been recognized as leaders in NbS, yet they are often excluded from decision-making processes and portrayed simply as ‘partners’ or ‘beneficiaries’. Less than 2 percent of global climate finance reaches small farmers, local communities, Afro Descendant Peoples, and Indigenous Peoples in the Global South, despite their critical roles in achieving the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)’s vision of ‘living in harmony with nature’. By prioritizing the rights and livelihoods of these communities, and promoting community-based approaches to conservation, restoration, and development, we can achieve equitable and effective sustainable finance strategies that align with the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework targets.

“ **The big challenge as a development bank is to reach the smallholders: there are hundreds of millions of [them], and for us it is hard to have a direct relationship with these individuals with relatively small assets** ”

MAX BERKELMANS

Finance Lead for the Acorn Project at Rabobank.

A ‘landscape lens’ on investment: centering local producers and communities

The forum seeks to address the challenges that obstruct the flow of capital to on-the-ground investments within Indigenous Peoples and local producers. These challenges include a lack of legal recognition of Indigenous rights; uncertainty around the compatibility of financing mechanisms with traditional and local knowledge, values, and needs; and a shortage of investment opportunities that match the needs of many financiers.

Taking a landscape-based perspective, the event will also explore the crucial role of corporations in supporting sustainable land use practices among smallholder farmers, while putting the needs of communities front and center. It will provide a platform for corporations, banks, impact investors, and philanthropic funders to engage in discussion and explore how finance stakeholders can drive direct investment into critical ecosystems and landscapes. It will also showcase community-led projects at multiple scales, and focus on the need for finance mechanisms for biodiversity and NbS that promote environmentally sustainable pathways and equitable, fair outcomes.

“ **That’s how the impact really gets to the communities – when we build capacity, when they are managing the project, when they have the ability to develop all the processes that is required to go on with the project without us** ”

SANDRA CAROLINA SARMIENTO

Principal at Terra Bella’s Nature Based Solutions Carbon Pool.

Topics / Key questions

1. How can corporates best support sustainable agriculture among local communities in LAC, and what financial and technical resources are most effective in promoting sustainable practices?
2. What are the key challenges and opportunities in fostering collaboration between corporates, local communities, and other stakeholders to ensure effective, equitable, and culturally-appropriate sustainable agriculture practices?
3. How can regional, thematic, and impact-first funds be most effective when investing directly in key ecosystems and landscapes?
4. How can investments in nature and NBS prioritize the rights and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples, including through fair benefit-sharing agreements?
5. What is the moral responsibility of investors and key agents in accelerating the flow of capital to nature, climate, and impact, and how can they best fulfill this responsibility?



Dragons' Den

In this session, investment-ready projects presenting NbS will pitch their work to investors, who will ask questions and share feedback in a Dragons' Den format.

Green Balam

Size: Small (\$750,000)

Maturity stage: Requires incubation

Country: Guatemala

Financing mechanism: Equity, Loan, Seed Capital

Investable nature-based projects

Finding bankable nature-based and community-led projects is one of the biggest challenges raised by financiers, while financing is a key obstacle to growth raised by project developers. The GLF aims to bring these parties closer together by showcasing projects at the digital forum.

[Explore a curated catalogue of nature-based solutions and sustainable land use projects in different stages, or showcase your project with us.](#)



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Global Landscapes Forum

The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) is the world's largest knowledge-led platform on integrated land use, dedicated to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Paris Climate Agreement. The Forum takes a holistic approach to create sustainable landscapes that are productive, prosperous, equitable and resilient and considers five cohesive themes of food and livelihoods, landscape restoration, rights, finance and measuring progress. It is led by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), in collaboration with its co-founders UNEP and the World Bank and Charter Members.

Charter members: CIAT, CIFOR-ICRAF, CIRAD, Climate Focus, Conservation International, Crop Trust, Ecoagriculture Partners, The European Forest Institute, Evergreen Agriculture, FAO, FSC, GEF, GIZ, ICIMOD, IFOAM - Organics International, The International Livestock Research Institute, INBAR, IPMG, IUFRO, Rainforest Alliance, Rare, Rights and Resources Initiative, SAN, TMG-Think Tank for Sustainability, UNCCD, UNEP, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation part of Wageningen Research, World Farmer Organization, World Bank Group, World Resources Institute, WWF International, Youth in Landscapes Initiative (YIL)