

Rewarding Nature: A Roadmap to Finance the Biodiversity Plan

7th Investment Case Symposium
alongside CBD COP 16 in Cali, Colombia.

25
Oct
2024

An increase of financial resources of at least \$200 billion a year is needed to tackle the biodiversity crisis — but where will it come from and how will it get where it needs to be?

The 7th GLF Investment Case Symposium will unite global stakeholders, with a focus on Africa, Asia and Latin America, to catalyze a diversity of funding sources, including private investment, for biodiversity conservation, ecosystem-based adaptation, and sustainable practices in commodity value chains.

Context

Achieving the Kunming – Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Target 19 of mobilizing at least \$200 billion per year for biodiversity is vital for closing the funding gap in conservation efforts and meeting the other GBF targets. Doing so will require a concerted effort from all sectors, stakeholders and regions on a global and local level, with comprehensive and coordinated financial strategies that harness the potential of multiple funding sources. This will include building synergies with climate finance sources and mechanisms.

Our symposium, *Rewarding Nature: A Roadmap to Finance the Biodiversity Plan*, will catalyze these efforts and foster the collaboration necessary to finance a more sustainable and biodiverse future. It will highlight a pathway to GBF Target 19 that engages all forms of financing—public, private, blended, domestic and international. Each funding stream brings unique advantages and the potential for scale, making their inclusion into conservation and integrated landscape finance strategies critical.

Significant attention will also be focused on the country level, where development cooperation can play a pivotal role. Strengthening or establishing national funding mechanisms, such as Conservation Trust Funds (CTFs) and National Forest Funds (NFFs), can help channel essential domestic resources and articulate impactful Payments for Ecosystem Services schemes. These mechanisms are

vital for countries to manage and allocate funds efficiently, ensuring that investments are aligned with national priorities and global conservation goals. They are also key to ensuring financial resources reach biodiversity stewards, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

The symposium will also address the transformation of commodity value chains, which must become more environmentally sustainable to meet the targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework and the Paris Agreement. Efforts to green these value chains are fundamental in preventing deforestation and promoting positive corporate strategies for nature. By integrating biodiversity considerations into business practices and supply chain management, industries can contribute to conservation and restoration objectives.

The 7th GLF Investment Case Symposium will also explore the synergies between the Rio Conventions (CBD, UNCCD, UNFCCC), which can play a critical role in enhancing the efficiency and impact of conservation projects. By aligning goals and pooling resources, these conventions can amplify their collective impact, reducing redundancies and maximizing the effectiveness of each dollar spent towards environmental sustainability.

These discussions will be in the context of new and innovative approaches that leverage digital transformation and AI solutions for biodiversity conservation and financing.



Objectives

- Design a roadmap to achieve GBF Target 19
- Put emphasis on the Payments for Ecosystem Services/Rewarding of Ecosystem Services approach as a fundamental rationale to mobilize the billions needed for GBF Target 19
- Discuss how national mechanisms are key to mobilizing the diversity of funding sources needed (private, public, international, domestic, etc) and channeling resources to local communities and Indigenous Peoples
- Share best examples of Conservation Trust Funds (CTFs), National Forest Funds (NFFs), Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES), etc
- Demonstrate how synergies between Multilateral Environmental Agreements/ Rio Conventions are critical to increase the efficiency of finance for nature
- Showcase successful examples of integrated landscape finance strategies
- Showcase success stories from biodiversity stewards and biodiversity investors

Themes

- National and local funding mechanisms: long-term sustainable financing instruments (CTFs, NFFs, PES, concession mechanisms, etc)
- Innovations in specific instruments: biodiversity credits, debt-for nature swaps, green bonds and beyond
- Biodiversity stewardship: incentives for private sector engagement in conservation and restoration
- Benefit-sharing to engage local communities and Indigenous Peoples
- Ensuring finance frameworks protect indigenous and local communities' rights to their land and resources
- Public finance leverage, catalyzing private finance for nature, and blended finance instruments
- Synergies between the Rio Conventions and integrated landscape finance strategies are more efficient for more impact, increasing resources for action
- Repurposing of harmful subsidies and redirecting financial flows to nature positive strategies
- Exploring innovative approaches leveraging AI and digital transformation

Output

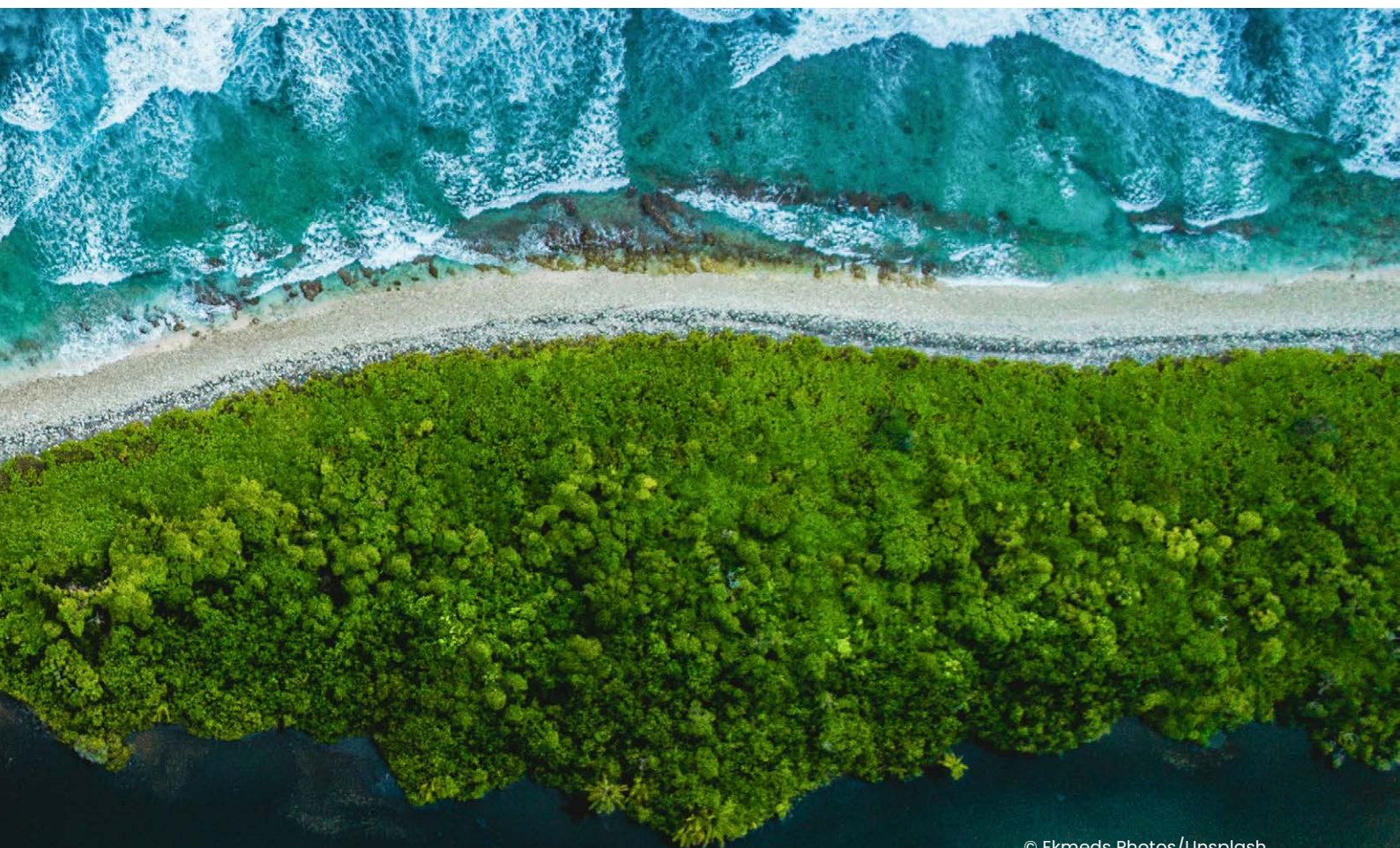
The symposium aims to outline a strategic roadmap for closing the significant funding gap in biodiversity conservation, highlighted by the urgent need for over \$200 billion annually. This roadmap will stress integrating various financial mechanisms—public, private, blended, domestic and international—to effectively mobilize the required funds and find synergies with climate funding. It will detail the pivotal roles of diverse stakeholders, including governments, the private sector, Indigenous Peoples and local entities, ensuring that all play a coordinated part in harnessing financial resources. Through collaborative discussions, the symposium will foster a comprehensive and actionable framework to achieve GBF Target 19, leveraging innovative financial instruments and multi-sectoral partnerships.

Participants

The event will serve as a platform for experts, practitioners, policymakers, Indigenous leaders, youth representatives and media from Latin America and around the world to convene and engage in constructive dialogue on the critical issues of biodiversity finance. Over 300 participants will join in-person with thousands more joining online from 150+ countries. The event aims to reach over 30 million people through social media and media coverage.

Formats

- Plenaries
- Interactive sessions
- Dragons' dens (pitch sessions of investable biodiversity and landscapes projects)





- Inspiration Hub (presentations of innovative biodiversity finance solutions)
- Training/capacity-building session on biodiversity credits
- Celebration ceremony: recognizing amazing biodiversity stewards, biodiversity investors, and biodiversity funds

What is GBF target 19?

GBF Target 19 is part of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which was adopted during the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity. This target focuses on the mobilization of financial resources to implement the framework effectively.

Specifically, Target 19 aims to increase financial resources from all sources to at least \$200 billion per year, including new, additional and effective financial resources, to achieve the goals set out in the Global Biodiversity Framework.

The target emphasizes the need to reduce or redirect resources away from activities harmful to biodiversity, substantially increase financial resources to developing countries, and effectively use these resources. It also promotes the elimination of subsidies harmful to biodiversity, aiming to reduce them by at least \$500 billion per year. Overall, GBF Target 19 is crucial for ensuring that sufficient funding is available and appropriately allocated for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use worldwide.



About 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 and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), 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)

Funding partners



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