

Building a path to finance the biodiversity framework

Outcomes of the 7th GLF Investment
Case Symposium

In the context of the Luxembourg-GLF Finance
for Nature Platform



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Building blocks



Recognizing and rewarding the values of nature



Financing local communities and Indigenous stewards



Integrating landscape-based solutions for broader impact



Strengthening domestic financing and redirecting harmful subsidies



Mobilizing private investments and promoting blended finance and other risk-mitigation strategies



Increasing the ambition: we need more, better and faster

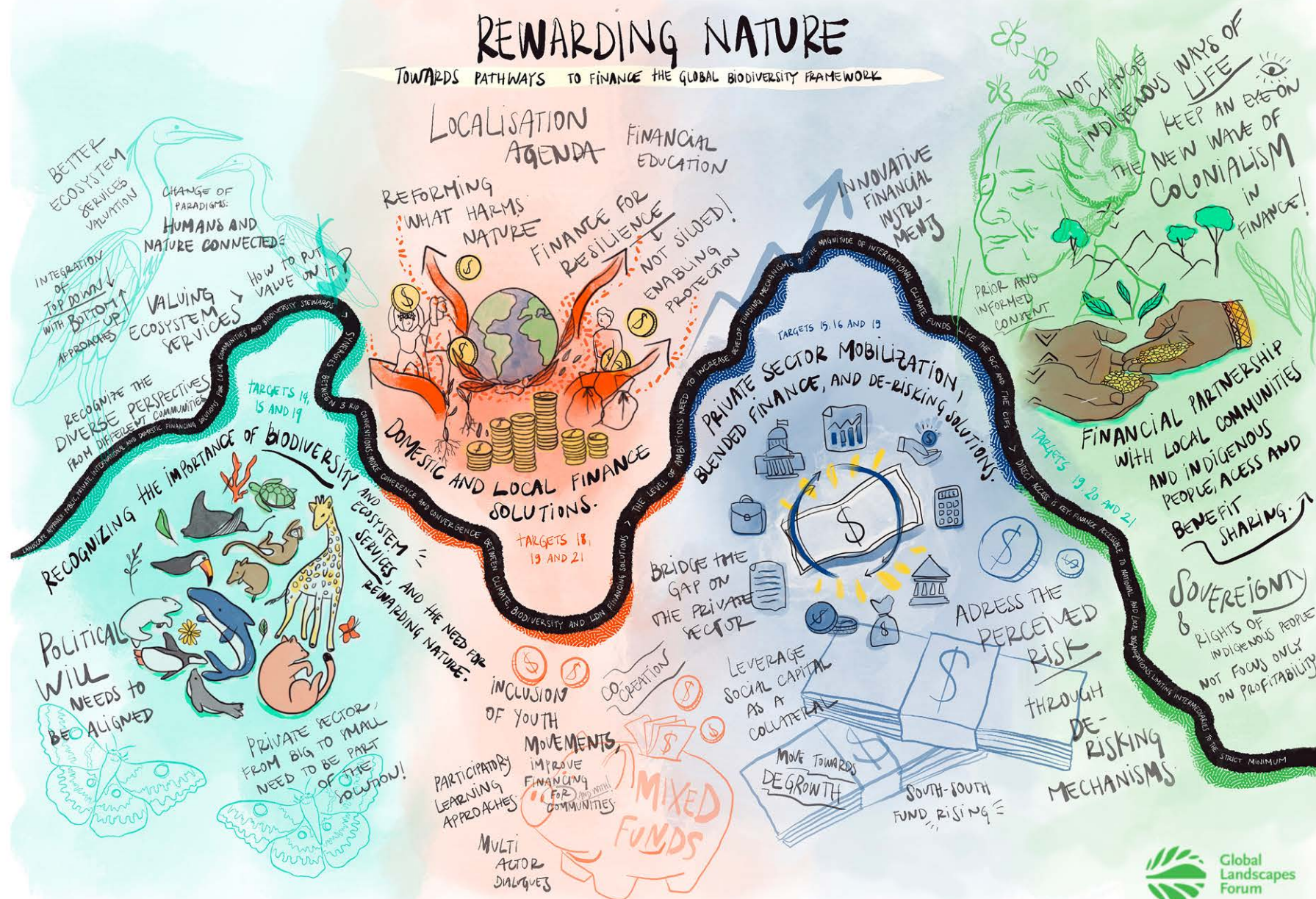
We must finance a future where nature and people thrive together, with finance that is fair, equitable and impactful. These six building blocks are key to securing long-term protection for biodiversity and the communities that depend on it.

While there is not a ‘one-size fits all’ approach, these building blocks contribute to reaching the [Target 19](#) of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which aims to mobilize \$200 billion annually for biodiversity. Any financing approach must be holistic, tackling the interconnectedness of biodiversity, climate change and land.

Overarching principles

- The landscape approach as key to financing:** It is essential to combine public, private, international and domestic solutions. We need to better coordinate these funding sources at the landscape level to ensure that resources effectively reach local communities and biodiversity stewards.
- Synergies among Rio conventions:** It is crucial to build enhanced cooperation between multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) to increase financing efficiency. This includes greater alignment between climate, biodiversity and land degradation neutrality (LDN) financing solutions.
- Local biodiversity stewards at the forefront:** Indigenous Peoples and local communities must be recognized as leaders in conservation and sustainable land use efforts, with governance and funding systems, such as community-led funds, designed to facilitate and amplify their critical role in biodiversity stewardship.
- Increasing ambition:** Current international financing for biodiversity is insufficient. It is imperative to develop funding mechanisms with the scale and impact of major funds such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Climate Investment Funds (CIFs).
- Prioritizing ‘direct access’:** A much higher portion of biodiversity, climate and LDN finance should be directly accessible to national and local organizations, minimizing reliance on intermediaries to streamline resource delivery and enhance impact.
- Complementary interactions between building blocks:** These pillars must not operate in isolation but work in synergy, with multiple interconnected interactions to maximize effectiveness and coherence.

TOWARDS PATHWAYS TO FINANCE THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK



Building block 1

Recognizing and rewarding the values of nature

A future where nature's contributions to humanity are widely acknowledged, valued and safeguarded through robust financial and policy incentives.

Goal: Recognize the diverse values of nature and establish systems that incentivize protection and sustainable use of ecosystems.

Approach:

- Mechanisms such as Payments for ecosystem services (PES), tax rebates and biodiversity certification programs are designed to encourage restoration and conservation.
- Frameworks that integrate biodiversity into national and corporate accounts support fair and better-informed decisions, fostering a culture that values ecosystem services.
- The wider adoption of PES approaches reward individuals, communities and companies that adopt biodiversity-positive practices and deliver products and services that enhance biodiversity.
- Biodiversity-friendly labels and certification schemes for sustainably produced goods also help recognize and promote sustainable practices.

To do list:

- Raise awareness on the diverse values of biodiversity and ecosystem services and support policy reforms to ensure their meaningful inclusion in decision-making.
- Establish national and corporate frameworks to value natural assets and services, enabling more comprehensive ecosystem accounting that nurtures planning and development strategies.
- Reward conservation through more ambitious PES approaches, with financial incentives like tax rebates and certification programs, and non-financial incentives like institutional support and technical assistance.
- Create education partnerships to integrate biodiversity conservation into school curricula, fostering early awareness.
- Engage Multilateral Development Banks, Public Development Banks, and International Financial Institutions to develop nature- and climate-aligned policy loan instruments for national governments to better understand and integrate risks into their public policy, related to infrastructure planning, protected areas, and broader economic development.

Key initiatives and organizations to follow, engage with and support (non-exhaustive):



Contributions to key GBF targets (non-exhaustive):

Building block 1 can contribute to achieve several GBF targets, including in following ways:

Target 3: Incentivizing conservation through PES and biodiversity certifications directly motivates landowners, businesses, and communities to preserve ecologically important areas, contributing significantly to achieving the 30% conservation target by creating economic and non-economic incentives for restoration and protection.

Target 9: By creating mechanisms like PES and biodiversity-friendly certifications, this building block ensures that communities and individuals engaged in sustainable biodiversity management receive fair financial compensation, fostering inclusive economic benefits and reducing inequalities.

Target 14: Frameworks that integrate the valuation of natural assets into national and corporate decision-making ensure that biodiversity considerations are prioritized in urban planning, infrastructure projects, and development strategies, aligning economic growth with ecological sustainability.

Target 15: Corporate biodiversity accounting frameworks promote transparency and provide a structured approach for businesses and financial institutions to assess and disclose their biodiversity impacts, driving the adoption of nature-positive strategies and sustainable resource use.

Target 18: By introducing and scaling up positive financial incentives like PES and tax rebates, this building block replaces harmful subsidies with mechanisms that reward sustainable practices, reducing biodiversity loss and promoting economic activities aligned with ecological health.

Target 19: Engaging financial institutions and development banks to create biodiversity-focused financial instruments mobilizes substantial funding from diverse sources, ensuring adequate resources to achieve global biodiversity goals and fostering public-private collaboration.

Target 21: Education programs and awareness campaigns enhance public understanding of biodiversity's values, fostering a cultural shift toward valuing ecosystem services and empowering local and global stakeholders to actively participate in conservation and sustainable use initiatives.

Key stakeholders:

Research organizations, Academia, Business organizations, Ministries of finance, Sustainable finance initiatives, etc.



BETTER
ECOSYSTEM
SERVICES
VALUATION

CHANGE OF
PARADIGMS:

HUMANS AND
NATURE CONNECTED

INTEGRATION
OF
TOP DOWN
WITH BOTTOM
UP
APPROACHES

VALUING
ECOSYSTEM
SERVICES

How to PUT
VALUE ON IT?

RECOGNIZE THE
DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES
FROM DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES

TARGETS 14,
15 AND 19

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY

AND ECOSYSTEM
SERVICES, AND THE NEED FOR
REWARDING NATURE.

POLITICAL
WILL
NEEDS TO
BE ALIGNED

PRIVATE SECTOR,
FROM BIG TO SMALL
NEED TO BE PART
OF THE
SOLUTION!



Building block 2

Financing local communities and Indigenous stewards

Conservation, sustainable resource use and restoration depend significantly on the contributions and traditional knowledge of local communities and Indigenous Peoples. Equitable access to long-term funding and benefits needs to be ensured.

Goal: Work with local communities and Indigenous Peoples in conservation efforts, providing financial support and fair benefits for their biodiversity stewardship.

Approach:

- Frameworks that ensure communities benefit directly through fair access to resources and decision-making processes better conserve biodiversity.
- Community-managed funds, access and benefit-sharing under the Nagoya Protocol, sustainable value chains including eco-tourism opportunities and direct financial support, strengthen local initiatives.
- Financing fosters sustainable livelihoods by linking local economies to conservation, creating long-term incentives for protecting natural resources.

To do list:

- Decolonize funding by co-designing community-managed funds that enable local groups to lead biodiversity projects.
- Increase and develop further small-grant opportunities, small loans (microfinance), as well as microinsurance schemes
- Implement access and benefit-sharing policies and mechanisms that provide countries, communities and sub-national entities with fair compensation for their conservation work.
- Strengthen capacity-development and -sharing to align funding structures and mechanisms with traditional knowledge systems, values and practices.
- Promote eco-tourism and other biodiversity-based income sources and provide market access for sustainably produced goods.
- Adopt technology to facilitate governance, access and transparency to information and resource mobilisation that is locally responsive for Indigenous Peoples and local communities in their landscapes.

Key initiatives and organizations to follow, engage with and support (non-exhaustive):



Contributions to key GBF targets (non-exhaustive):

Building block 2 can contribute to achieve several GBF targets, including in following ways:

Target 1: Empowering local communities through financial and governance mechanisms enables them to sustainably manage land use and prevent biodiversity loss, supporting integrated landscape approaches.

Target 3: Directly financing Indigenous stewards contributes to effective management and conservation of terrestrial and marine areas by fostering stewardship of ecologically critical areas.

Target 9: Access and benefit-sharing mechanisms under the Nagoya Protocol ensure equitable distribution of benefits derived from biodiversity, recognizing and rewarding Indigenous and local communities for their contributions.

Target 13: Supporting community-managed funds and sustainable value chains helps maintain and restore genetic diversity by preserving the traditional knowledge and practices of Indigenous and local communities.

Target 14: By linking traditional knowledge with conservation funding, communities can integrate biodiversity values into national planning, strengthening their roles in decision-making processes that shape sustainable development.

Target 18: Co-designed funding structures and benefit-sharing mechanisms replace extractive or inequitable economic models with locally aligned, biodiversity-positive financial incentives, promoting conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

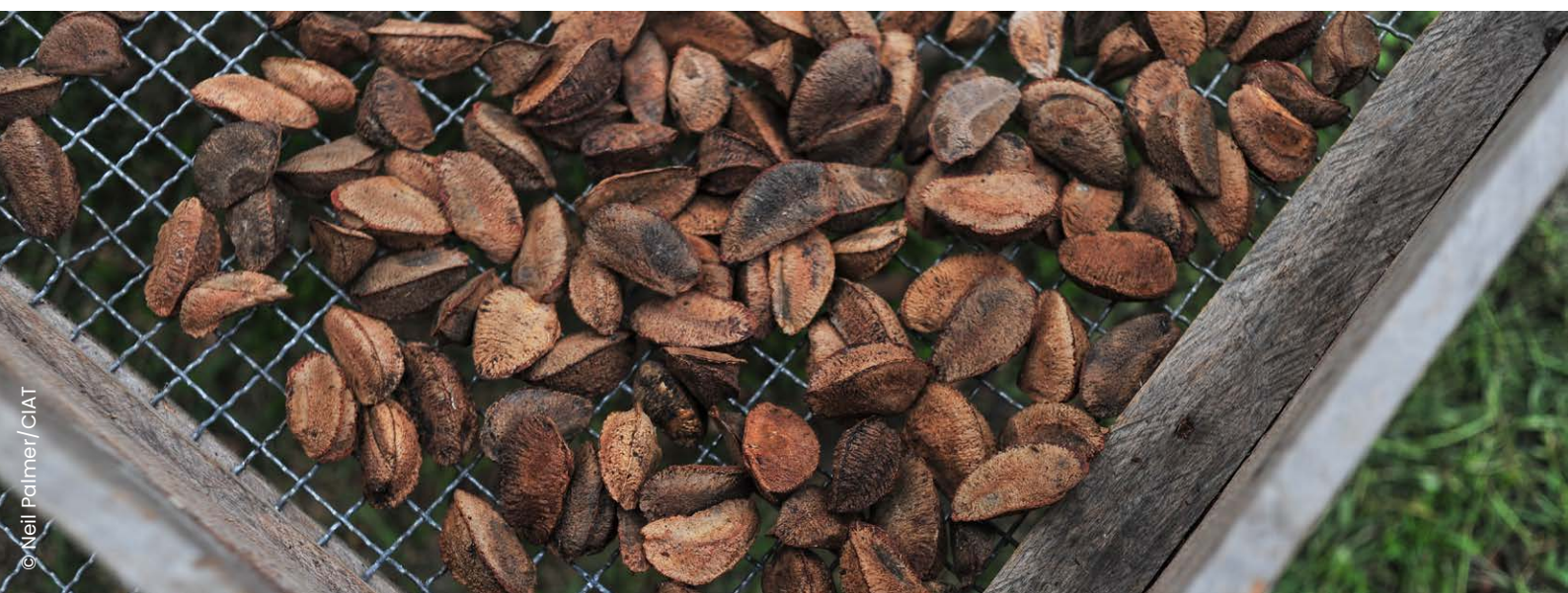
Target 19: Expanding small grants, microfinance and microinsurance, and eco-tourism opportunities mobilizes financial resources to support Indigenous-led biodiversity initiatives, ensuring stable, longer-term investments for conservation.

Target 22: Strengthening partnerships and aligning funding mechanisms with Indigenous governance systems ensures their rights are respected, their knowledge is integrated, and their stewardship is recognized in decision-making processes.

Target 23: Promoting Indigenous-led approaches and respecting traditional knowledge through fair financing mechanisms reinforces cultural and biodiversity values, securing long-term stewardship of critical ecosystems.

Key stakeholders:

Indigenous leaders, IPLC organizations, womens' associations and organizations, etc.





TARGETS 18,
19 AND 21

BRIDGE THE
GAP ON
THE PRIVATE
SECTOR



Building block 3

Integrating landscape-based solutions for broader impact

Effective biodiversity finance addresses conservation challenges holistically, bridging agriculture, forestry, water management and urban development to create integrated, large-scale solutions for nature and people.

Goal: Build landscape-level finance solutions for biodiversity and foster cross-sectoral cooperation across all levels, including international, regional, national and sub-national.

Approach:

- Landscape-based financing strategies encourage collaboration across different sectors and align with international agreements while increasing efficiency of financing solutions. Involving agriculture, forestry, tourism, water and urban planning, can embed biodiversity-friendly practices in land use planning and resource management.
- Landscape-level platforms and partnerships can enable the sharing of resources, knowledge and policy support to maximize conservation and climate impact. Cross-sectoral synergy creates efficient pathways to holistically address pollution, promote sustainable practices and restore fragmented ecosystems.

To do list:

- Establish multi-sector collaborations and governance processes to integrate conservation into agriculture, forestry and urban areas.
- Create frameworks that unify multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and support cross-sectoral funding.
- Implement landscape-level monitoring to assess investment impacts on biodiversity, land and climate, adapting strategies and portfolios as needed.
- Host landscape-level dialogues and exchanges at the national and regional-levels that bring together finance stakeholders and various sectors and countries for unified planning and action.

Key initiatives and organizations to follow, engage with and support (non-exhaustive):



Resilient
Landscapes



International
Model Forest
Network



By Global Landscapes Forum



United Nations
Climate Change

Rio Conventions Joint
Capacity-building Programme



Convention on
Biological Diversity



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



Contributions to key GBF targets (non-exhaustive):

Building block 3 can contribute to achieve several GBF targets, including in following ways:

Target 1: Integrating landscape-based solutions helps address pollution and restore fragmented ecosystems, ensuring sustainable land-use planning that reduces biodiversity loss.

Target 2: Landscape-level collaborations promote large-scale ecosystem restoration by involving agriculture, forestry, and urban sectors, which are critical to reversing degradation trends.

Target 3: By aligning land-use planning across sectors, landscape-based solutions strengthen area-based conservation efforts, contributing to the goal of protecting 30% of land and seas by 2030.

Target 7: Landscape-level finance promotes sustainable agriculture by incorporating biodiversity-friendly practices, reducing pesticide use, and improving ecosystem services like pollination and soil health.

Target 8: Cross-sectoral strategies help address pollution holistically, reducing its impact on ecosystems and species through integrated governance of agriculture, forestry, and urban systems.

Target 13: Large-scale landscape-level approaches safeguard genetic diversity by connecting fragmented habitats and ensuring sustainable management of biodiversity in agriculture and forestry.

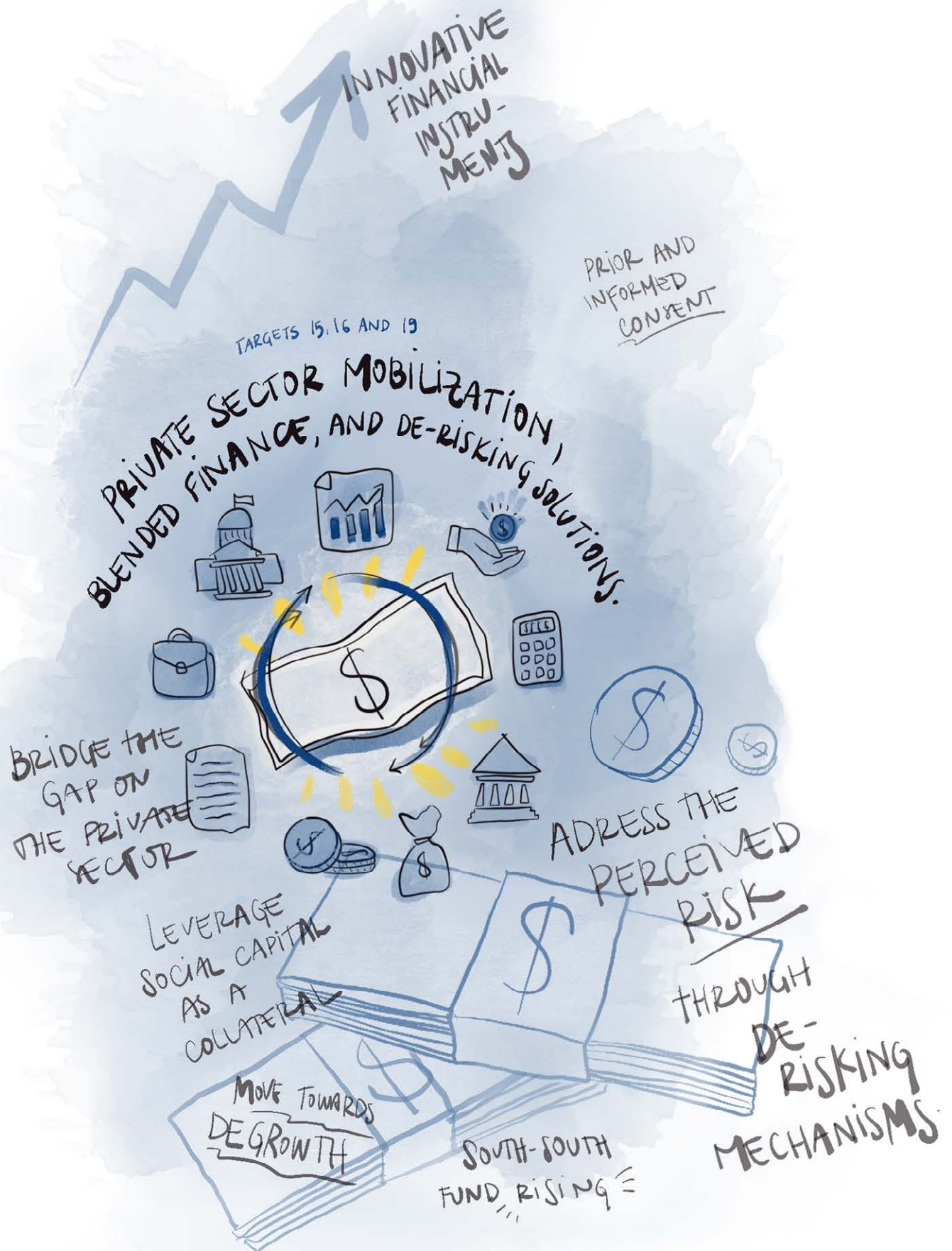
Target 14: Embedding biodiversity-friendly practices in land-use planning aligns local, national, and international strategies with biodiversity values, enhancing holistic decision-making frameworks.

Target 19: Landscape-based finance strategies unlock cross-sectoral funding opportunities, ensuring resources are mobilized efficiently to achieve biodiversity and climate outcomes.

Key stakeholders:

Multiple sectors, Rural development agencies, National Protected Areas Agencies, watershed management bodies, etc.





Building block 4

Strengthening domestic financing and redirecting harmful subsidies

A financial system that prioritizes biodiversity by eliminating harmful subsidies and creating funding mechanisms for local conservation.

Goal: Develop robust domestic financing mechanisms and repurpose harmful subsidies to support biodiversity conservation, restoration and sustainable use.

Approach: Conservation trust funds, payments for ecosystem services (PES) and biodiversity-positive green fiscal reforms can strengthen domestic finance for biodiversity.

Governments play a central role by allocating budgets, creating policies that promote biodiversity-friendly initiatives, and redirecting harmful subsidies toward sustainable practices.

To do list:

- Create or enhance conservation trust funds to support long-term biodiversity financing.
- Develop PES schemes that reward communities and landowners for conserving biodiversity.
- Implement green fiscal reforms, such as biodiversity-positive taxes and fees, to fund conservation efforts while discouraging harmful practices.
- Redirect harmful subsidies, such as those for unsustainable agriculture or fossil fuels, toward conservation and restoration programs.
- Promote biodiversity budget tagging to ensure governments allocate specific resources for conservation.
- Introduce biodiversity offsets aligned with the “avoid-reduce-offset” mitigation hierarchy to finance restoration and conservation projects.

Key initiatives and organizations to follow, engage with and support (non-exhaustive):



REDLAC
Red de Fondos Ambientales de
Latinoamérica y el Caribe



CONSERVATION
FINANCE ALLIANCE

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for good



Contributions to key GBF targets (non-exhaustive):

Building block 4 can contribute to achieve several GBF targets, including in following ways:

Target 3: Conservation trust funds and PES schemes directly finance area-based conservation efforts, helping to protect 30% of land and sea areas by 2030.

Target 14: Green fiscal reforms and biodiversity budget tagging integrate biodiversity values into national budgets and planning, ensuring sustainable use and restoration align with policy priorities.

Target 15: Encouraging businesses to adopt biodiversity-positive offsets and fiscal practices ensures corporate accountability and supports biodiversity-friendly economic activities.

Target 18: Redirecting harmful subsidies toward conservation and sustainable use replaces incentives that damage biodiversity with financial mechanisms that promote restoration and sustainability.

Target 19: Domestic financing mechanisms, such as conservation trust funds and biodiversity-positive taxes, mobilize critical resources from national budgets to address biodiversity challenges effectively.

Target 20: Strengthening domestic financial systems and redirecting subsidies enhances the capacity-building and technology transfer needed for effective biodiversity management at all levels.

Target 21: Transparency in subsidy redirection and biodiversity budgeting increases public access to financial information, fostering equitable participation in biodiversity conservation initiatives.

Key stakeholders:

Ministries of finance, National development banks, Conservation Trust Funds, National Forest Funds, PES funds, etc.





Building block 5

Mobilizing private investments and promoting blended finance and other risk-mitigation strategies

A dynamic financial landscape where private investment supports biodiversity conservation and restoration at scale.

Goal: Engage the private sector to drive biodiversity financing through innovative financial instruments, blended finance and de-risking mechanisms.

Approach: Blended finance combines public and private resources to create attractive investment opportunities while minimizing risk. Biodiversity bonds, impact funds and credit enhancements incentivize private capital for biodiversity. Corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs can promote biodiversity-positive practices in private companies.

To do list:

- Create de-risking mechanisms, including guarantees, insurance and credit enhancements, to make biodiversity projects more appealing to financial institutions and investors.
- Improve and develop biodiversity-friendly financial instruments such as impact funds, to attract private investors for biodiversity-positive investments.
- Establish partnerships between governments, businesses and financial institutions to co-fund conservation initiatives.
- Develop guidelines and institutionalize examples to encourage financial institutions to integrate biodiversity into lending and investment products.
- Accelerate greening of the financial sector, supporting alignment of green financial products with biodiversity objectives.
- Promote CSR programs and impact marketing focused on local biodiversity conservation.
- Carefully assess and define conditions for locally-relevant and -inclusive biodiversity credit approaches as one form of nature-stewardship credits, and offset credits with strict application of the mitigation hierarchy.

Key initiatives and organizations to follow, engage with and support (non-exhaustive):



Contributions to key GBF targets (non-exhaustive):

Building block 5 can contribute to achieve several GBF targets, including in following ways:

Target 14: Blended finance and biodiversity-friendly financial instruments integrate biodiversity considerations into private and public sector planning and investments, enhancing resource mobilization for sustainable development.

Target 15: Developing guidelines for financial institutions to include biodiversity in lending and investments drives businesses to adopt biodiversity-positive practices, ensuring their activities align with conservation goals.

Target 18: Biodiversity bonds and credit enhancements can redirect private investment from harmful practices to restoration and conservation projects, reducing economic drivers of biodiversity loss.

Target 19: Mobilizing private investment through innovative financial instruments and de-risking mechanisms significantly increases financial resources available for biodiversity conservation and restoration.

Target 20: Partnerships and capacity-building initiatives between governments, businesses, and financial institutions can create the necessary technical and institutional frameworks to support biodiversity-focused finance.

Target 21: Promoting CSR programs and inclusive biodiversity credit approaches fosters transparency and equitable engagement with local communities in biodiversity conservation projects.

Target 22: Encouraging financial sector alignment with biodiversity objectives through green products and impact funds strengthens synergies between biodiversity conservation and global development goals.

Key stakeholders:

Asset managers, banks, private investors, bonds issuers, impact funds, corporates, SMEs, insurance companies, trade chambers, etc.



Building block 6

Increasing the ambition: we need more, better and faster

Development cooperation policies and a financial system that prioritize biodiversity by increasing funding for conservation initiatives.

Goal: Strengthen funding commitments that provide timely and direct support to landscape-level conservation and restoration finance solutions, especially in the Global South, and amplify their impact by bridging the Rio Conventions and adopting human-rights based approaches.

Approach: Global biodiversity funding commitments should be expanded to match the scale of international climate finance. Leveraging the synergies between the Rio Conventions — biodiversity, climate change and desertification — can make financing across all three more impactful. Simplifying funding processes can ensure easier direct access for Indigenous Peoples, local communities and developing regions.

To do list:

- Advocate for greater funding commitments from global organizations, development banks and donor countries.
- Support the ambition-raising of newly established mechanisms such as the [Global Biodiversity Framework Fund \(GBFF\)](#) and the [Cali Fund](#) capitalizing on DSI revenues.
- Simplify funding processes, reduce intermediaries and promote human-rights approaches to ensure efficient and direct resource allocation to national entities with direct access, as well as local communities and conservation projects.
- Establish training programs to help both donors and recipients design, navigate and utilize international and domestic funding mechanisms.
- Channel funds to finance solutions and large-scale ecosystem restoration projects in biodiversity hotspots.

Key initiatives and organizations to follow, engage with and support (non-exhaustive):



UN Multi-Partner
Trust Fund Office



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for good

Contributions to key GBF targets (non-exhaustive):

Building block 6 can contribute to achieve several GBF targets, including in following ways:

Target 3: Increasing global funding commitments enables large-scale ecosystem restoration and area-based conservation efforts, directly contributing to protecting 30% of the planet by 2030.

Target 9: Simplified funding processes and direct resource allocation are key for Indigenous Peoples and local communities to equitably benefit from conservation initiatives, amplifying their role in sustainable biodiversity management.

Target 13: Funding large-scale ecosystem restoration projects in biodiversity hotspots preserves genetic diversity and supports sustainable management of species and ecosystems.

Target 14: Aligning biodiversity finance with the Rio Conventions integrates biodiversity values into international, national, and local planning processes, fostering holistic development strategies.

Target 18: Advocacy for redirecting resources toward biodiversity-positive initiatives enhances ambition and scales up financial mechanisms that reduce harmful economic practices.

Target 19: Strengthening mechanisms like the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) ensures significantly increased financial resources to meet the ambitious goals of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Target 20: Training programs for communities and recipient agencies build institutional capacity to design, manage, and deploy funding effectively, ensuring timely support for biodiversity conservation and restoration projects.

Key stakeholders:

Global funds (GEF, GBFF, GCF, Adaptation Fund, etc), UN agencies, DFIs, OECD DAC, etc.





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)

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