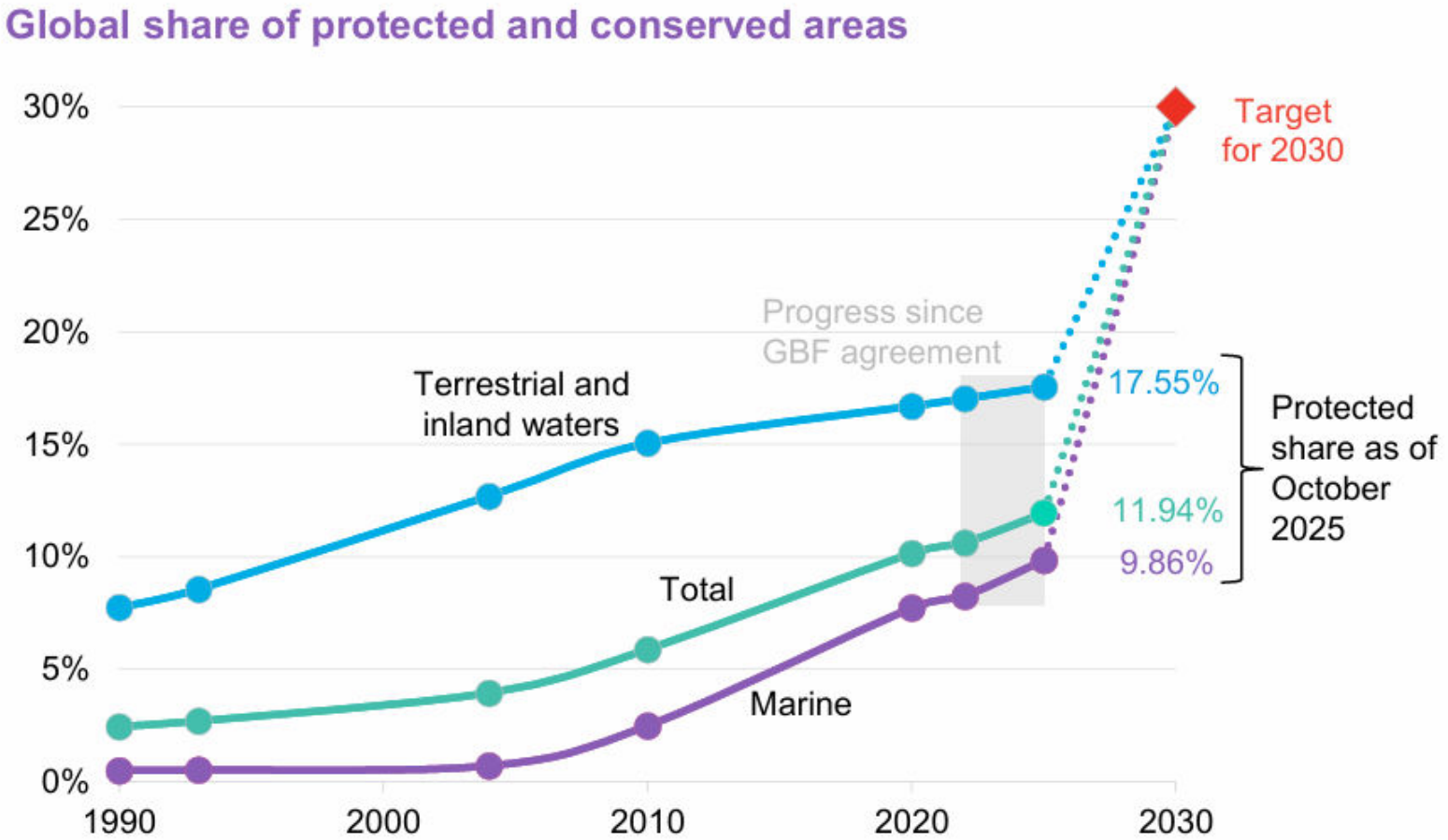
1%
of GDP
Allocate 1% GDP to the conservation of Biodiversity
1% GDP is sufficient to allow us to reduce the current shortfall and address the GBF targets effectively
Society for Conservation Biology
COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA
TAKING ACTION FOR NATURE

Insufficient progress on protected areas puts 2030 target out of reach



Source: BloombergNEF, UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (2025). Note: As of October 2025. Includes protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

To be effective -> Money € € €

- We need more financial support for enlarging protected areas, ecological restoration, creating corridors, buffer zones, management, etc.

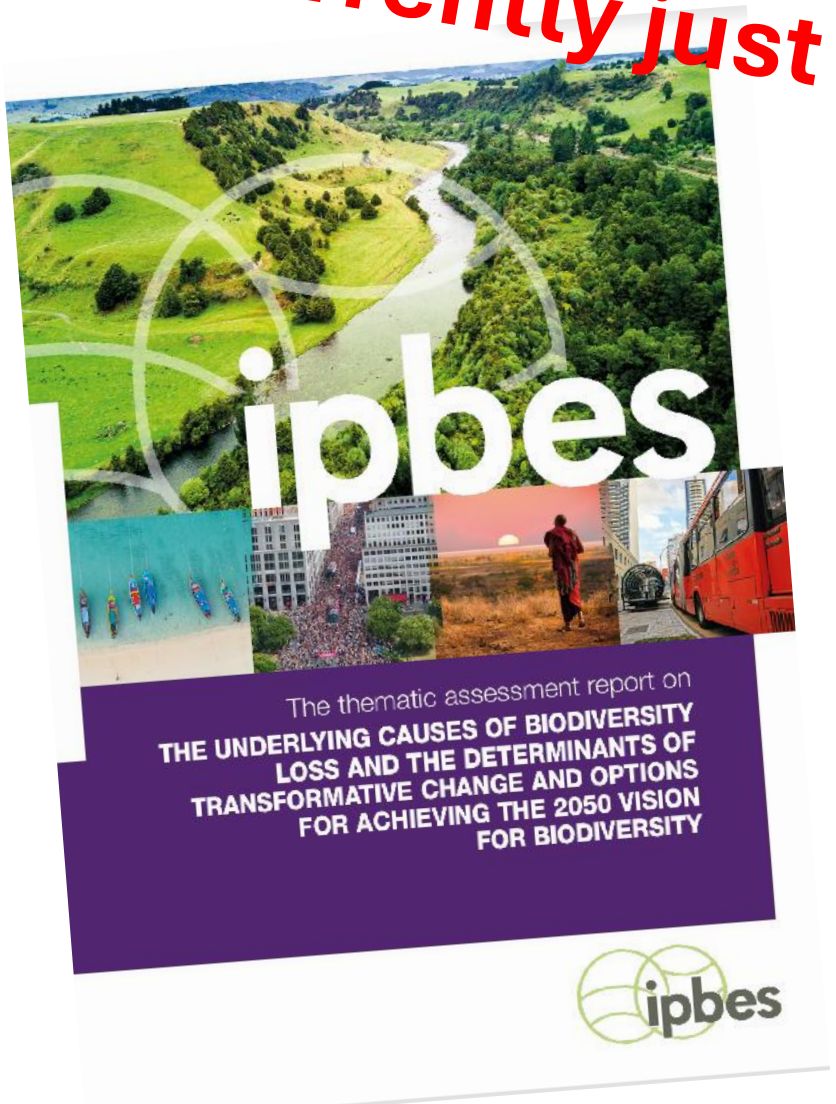
-> Funding gap for biodiversity conservation

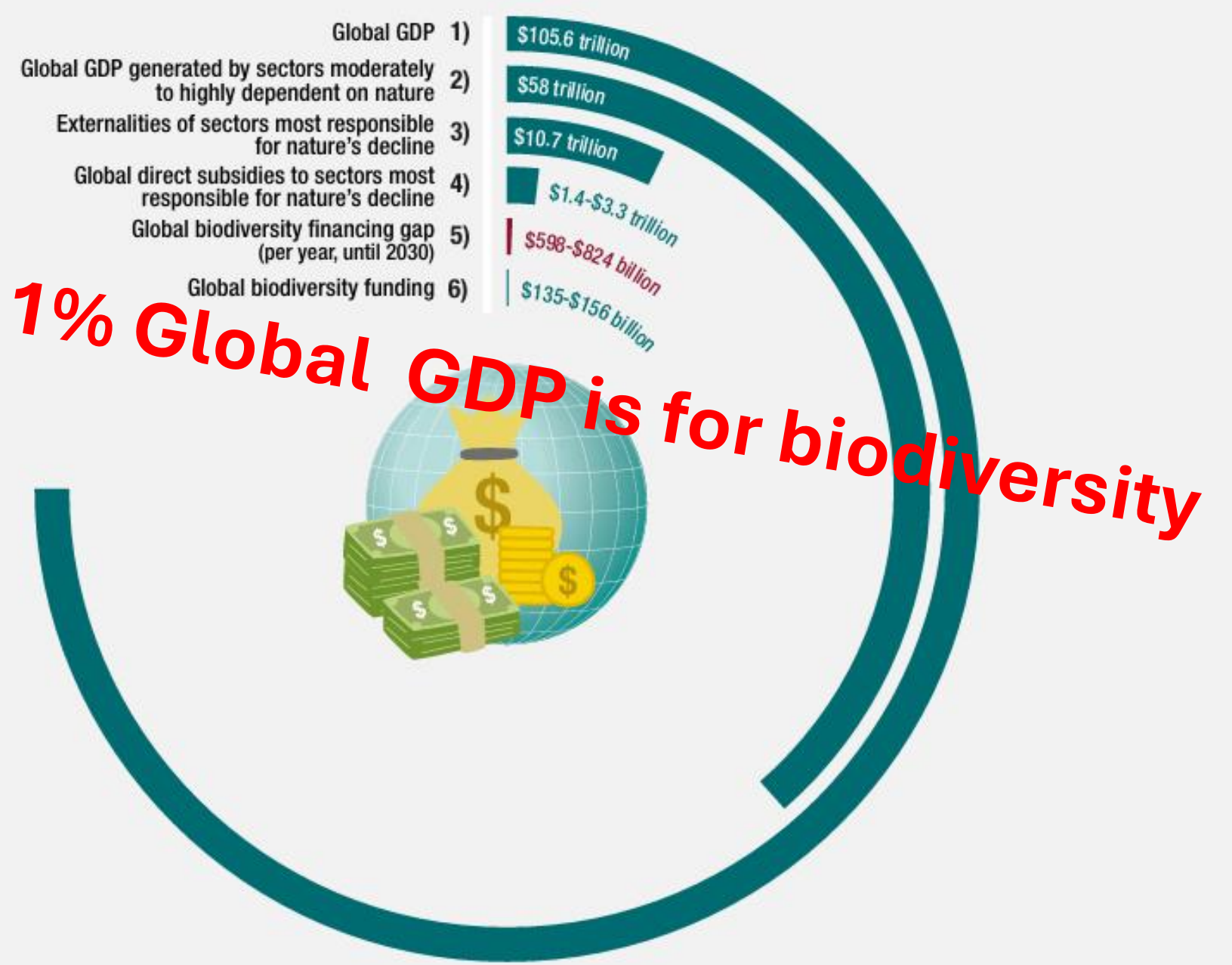
SCB Europe Region

Global situation

(IPBES 2025)

Currently just 0.1% Global GDP is for biodiversity



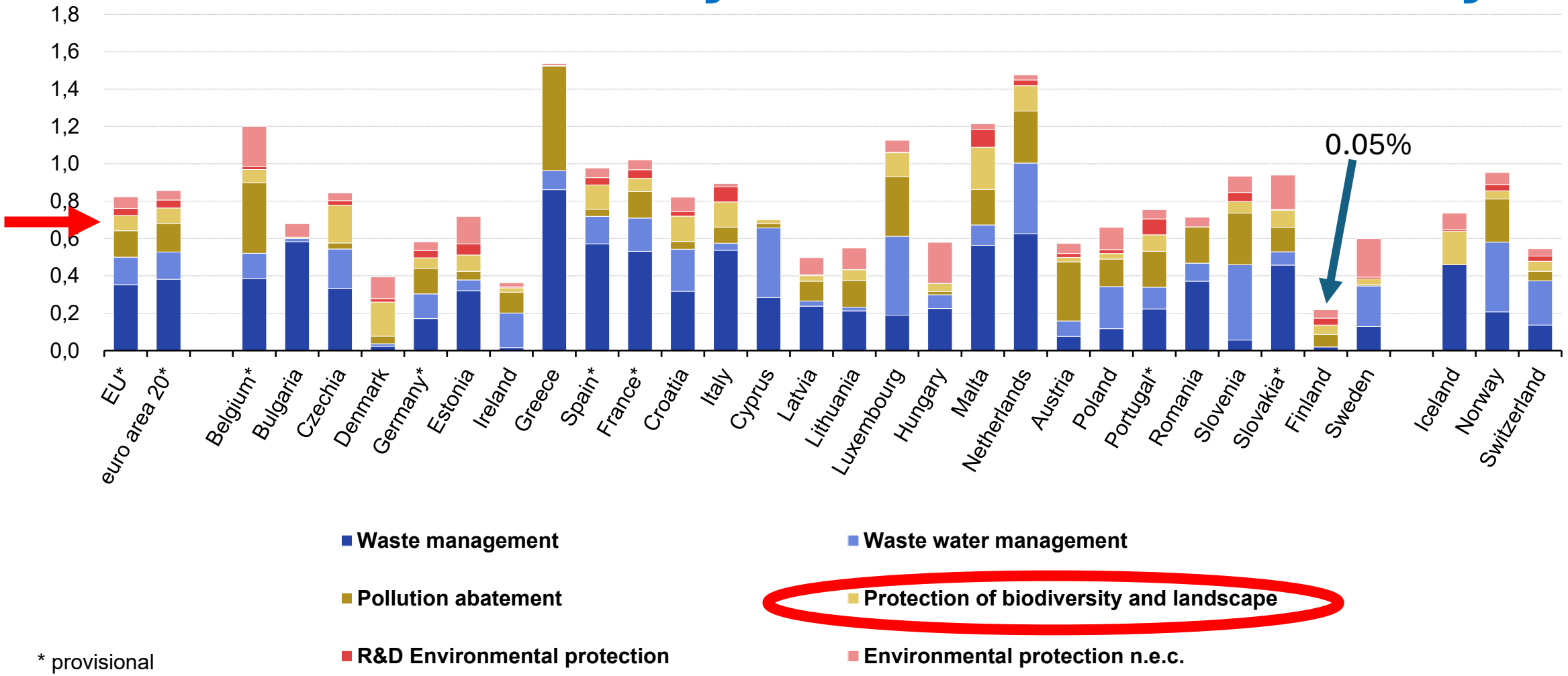


The economic landscape of global sustainability: interdependencies and funding gaps.

ECCB'26
Leiden, The Netherlands

General government total expenditure on environmental protection, 2023
% of GDP

0.1% EU GDP currently allocated to biodiversity



* provisional

Source: Eurostat (gov_10a_exp)

Geert de Snoo, Leiden, July 2026

Current situation ('best guess', 2023)

	GDP	Biodiversity (government)	% of GDP
World (dollars, IPBES)	105.6 trillion	135-156 billion	0.13-0.15%
EU (euros, eurostat/EU)	17.2 trillion	18 billion	0.10 %
Netherlands (euros, CBS)	1.0 trillion	1.2 billion	0.12%

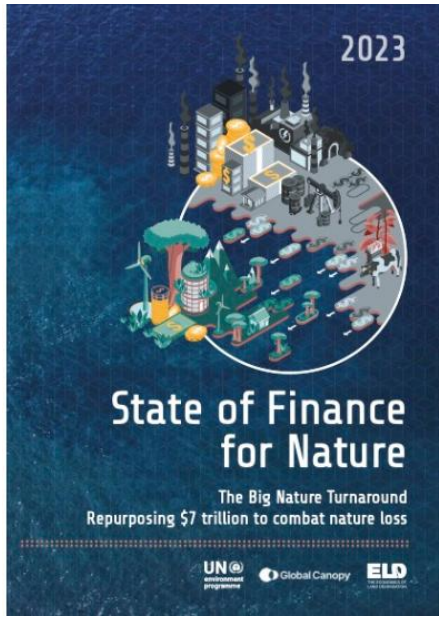
Our proposal:

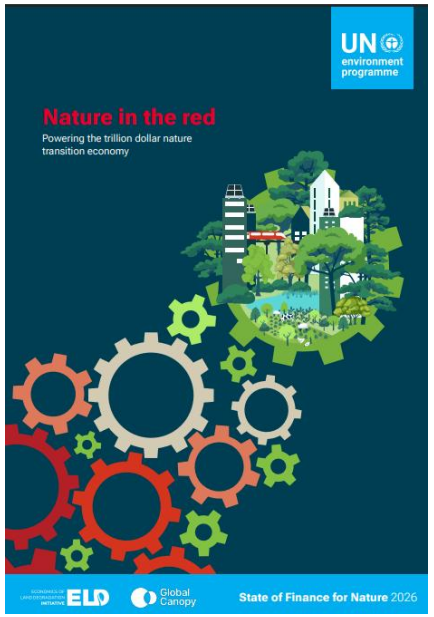
To safeguard biodiversity, we need to aim for 1% of GDP!

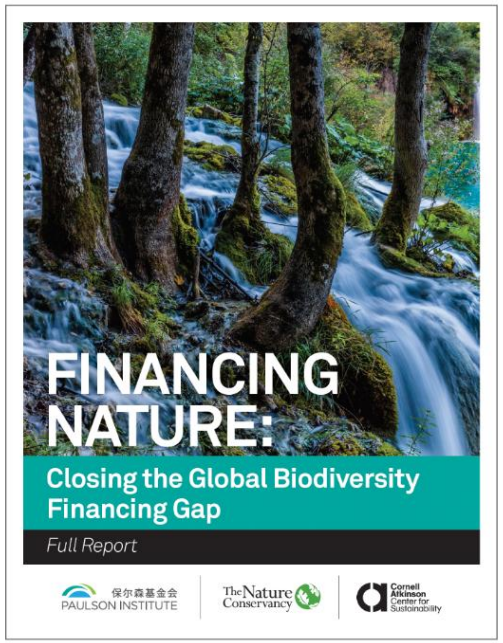
ECCB'26
Leiden, The Netherlands

Geert de Snoo, Leiden, July 2026

What is needed globally?



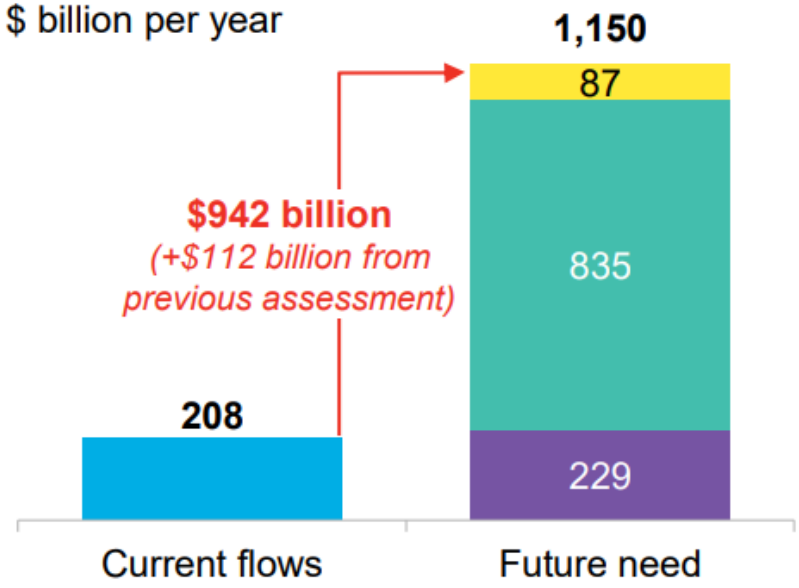




The Funding Gap: Experts estimate that addressing the biodiversity and climate crises requires roughly $598 billion to $824 billion annually: 0.5% to 0.9% of global GDP

(o.a. Paulson Institute, 2020)

Current annual biodiversity finance flows vs biodiversity conservation funding needs by 2030



Source: BloombergNEF, UNEP State of Nature Finance 2023 (current spend); Paulson Institute, Nature Conservancy, and Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability, 2020 (future need), CPI Inflation Calculator.
Note: Figure uses upper range of estimates.

BloombergNEF

1% idea was launched by Geert de Snoo at ECCB'26 Leiden, The Netherlands

- 900 scientists & professionals in the field of Conservation Biology
- Solid support for the 1% target

Main outcome: Solid support for the 1% approach!

- Benefits of the 1% approach for Europe / globally:
  - Clear simple message, can create momentum
  - 1% will be a gamechanger
- Drawbacks of the 1% approach:
  - Too ambitious, not ambitious enough, not feasible
  - We need systematic change (of drivers etc.)

-> Conclusion: proceed & make statement to

COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA

1. Objectives

1. What should the 1% be spent on?

   Fully dedicated to biodiversity!

   Protected areas: expand, connect & management

2. Not for greening the economy (incl. agriculture)
3. Not for greenwashing

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The full cost of nature-harming subsidies dwarfs public spending to protect nature

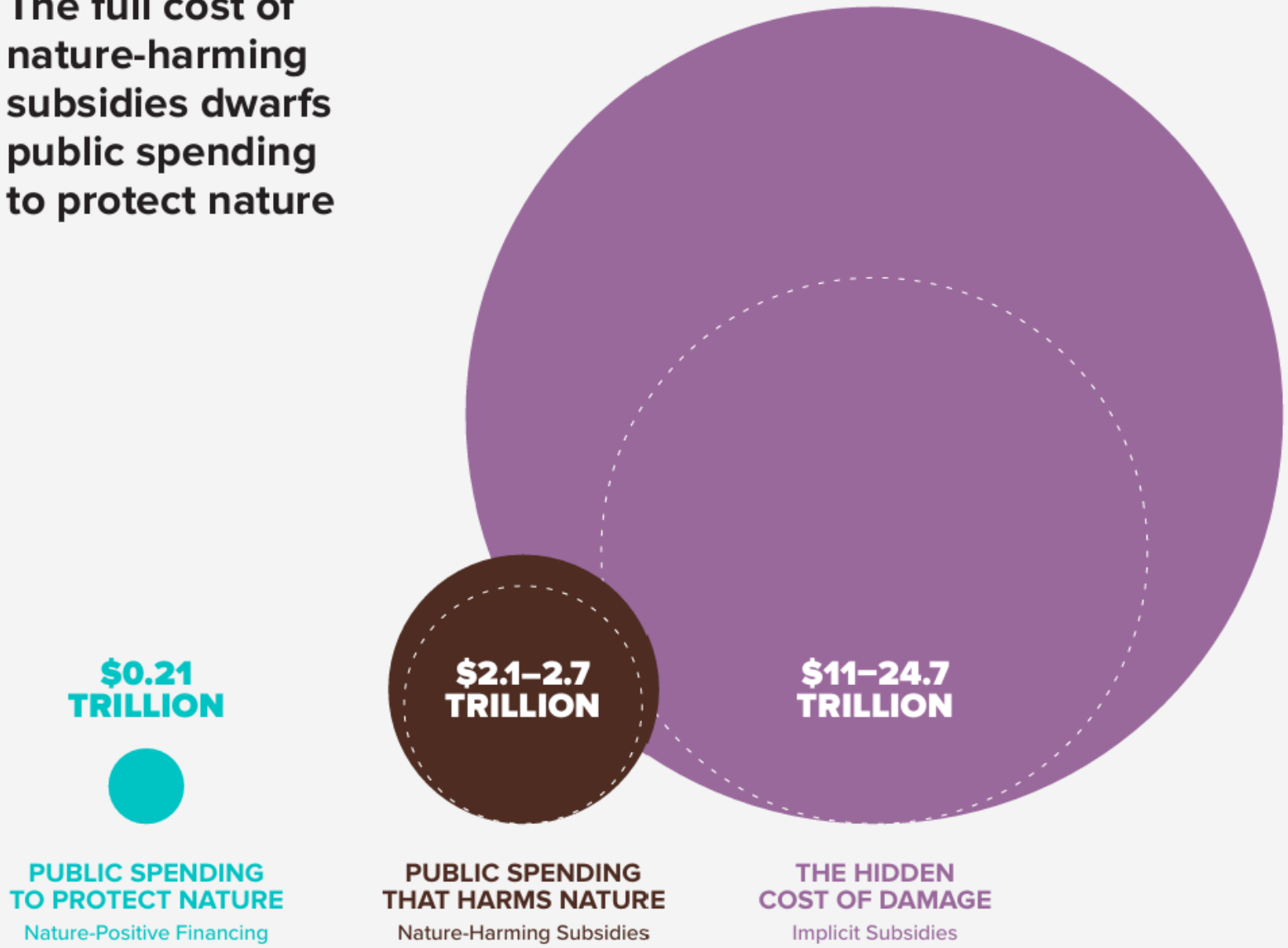


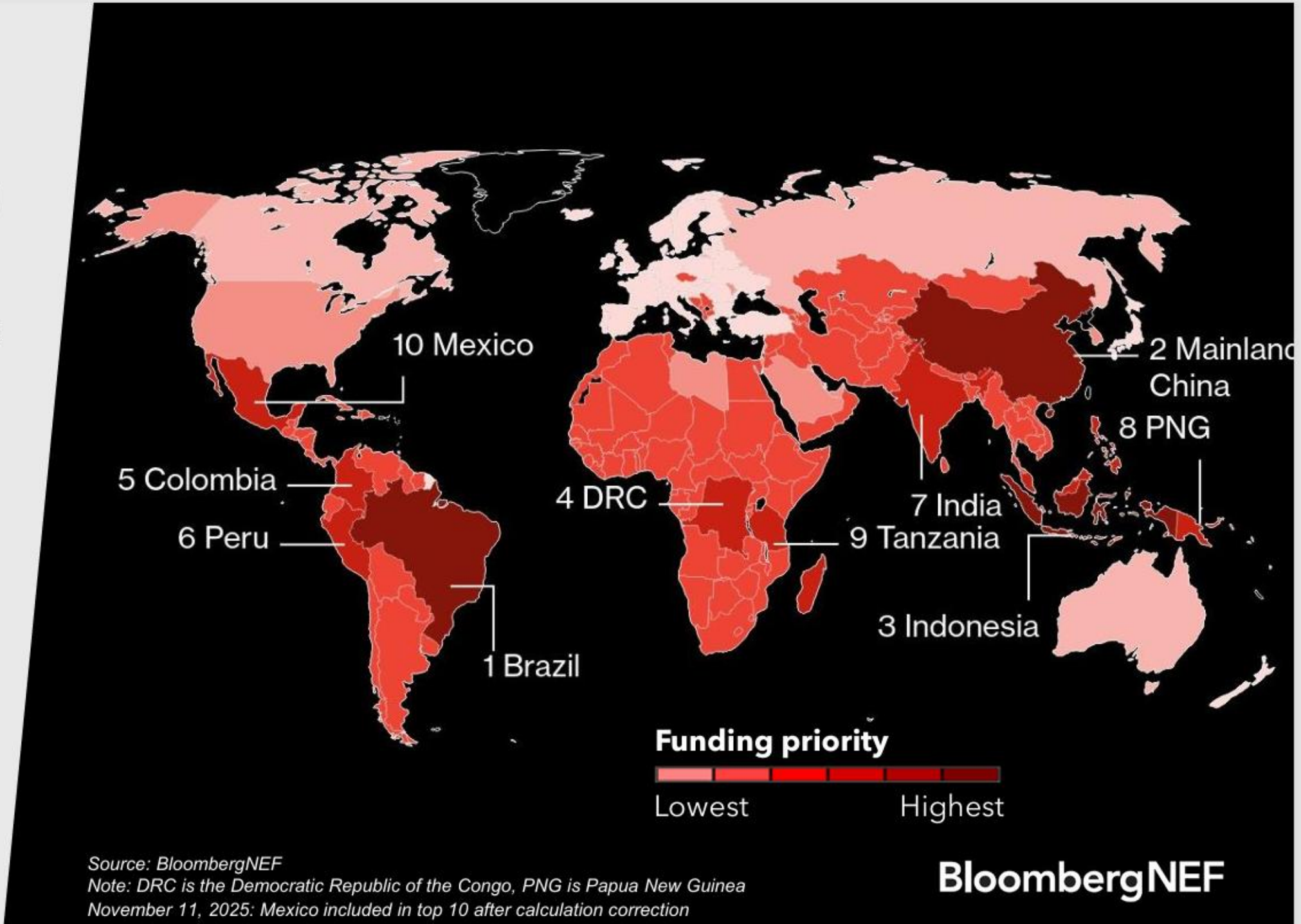
Figure ES-1: Nature-harming subsidies vs nature-positive finance (Trillions USD) 2025
Source: Author's calculations based on published estimates. See endnotes 9 and 12

BloombergNEF biodiversity funding priority regions, 2025

Funding should be prioritized toward the most biodiverse, valuable and threatened biomes across the developing world.

Brazil retains the top spot, which it has held since the factbook's inception.

Clients can view the full results and methodology on bnef.com.



2 *How to get* the 1% money?

‘biodiversity (restoration) justice’

1. End subsidies that harm biodiversity -> ‘biodiversity fund’

2. Level playing field - All parties should contribute equally: 1% of GDP (flat rate)

-> Those parties responsible for more biodiversity decline would not contribute more, but need for solidarity mechanism so support hotspot countries

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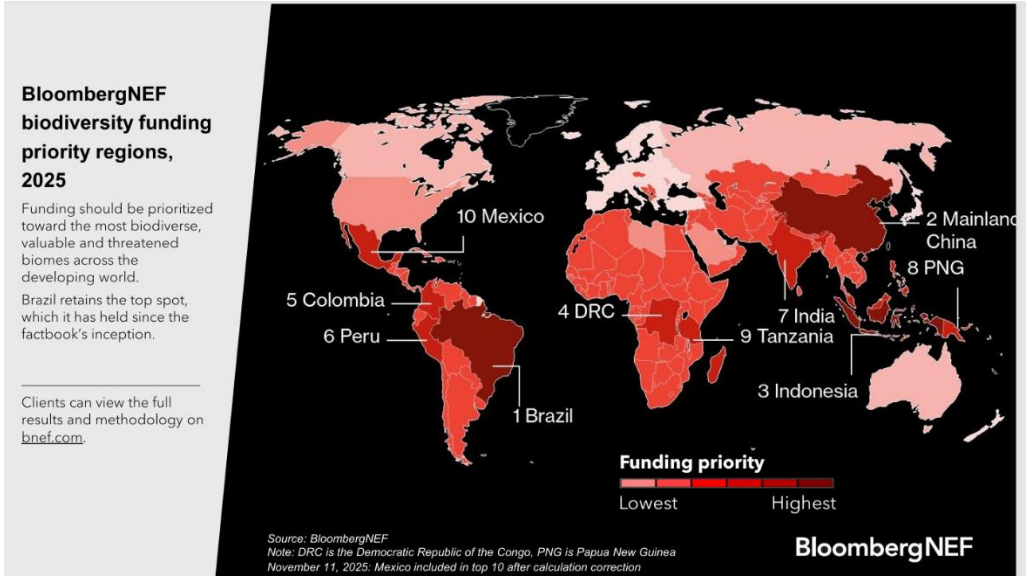
3 *Where* to spend the money?

1. Spend public money within own country

   Needed for political support of the parties

2. But: think also about biodiversity hotspots: solidarity & global world



All human endeavour is directly or independently dependent on biodiversity.

Targets don't help until the funding can be allocated to fulfil them!

1%
It's a small price for conserving the biodiversity that we depend upon!

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