

Netherlands

COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA

Today's programme

Tuesday 20 October

10:00 – 11:00	Area-based conservation futures: exploring the role of Indigenous and Traditional Territories in achieving the GBF
11:15 – 12:15	Information flows to scale finance for biodiversity
13:00 – 14:00	From principles to practice: scaling inclusive nature action through the Global Biodiversity Framework
14:15 – 15:15	From fragmentation to action: Mobilising finance for locally-led conservation
15:30 – 16:30	How can we strengthen global scientific coordination to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
16:45 – 17:45	Sizing the Cali Fund: revenue potential and the case for corporate participation
18:00 – 19:00	Five ways to finance our oceans - from global to local

Take a look
at our programme:

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Next up

10:00 – 11:00

Area-based conservation futures: exploring the role of Indigenous and Traditional Territories in achieving the GBF

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ABC Futures
Area Based Conservation Futures
Programme and objectives

Rethinking Biodiversity Conservation with Indigenous and Traditional Communities

Jelle Behagel, Project Co-lead (with Bas Verschuuren)
Forest and Nature Conservation Policy Group, Wageningen University
20 October 2026



Area Based Conservation Futures, under the Global Biodiversity Framework

Supported by:
Wageningen Global Sustainability Programme

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Area Based Conservation Futures, under the Global Biodiversity Framework

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Indigenous conservation, under the Global Biodiversity Framework

30X30 - Target 3: Protect 30% of the earth's surface by 2030

Kunming - Montreal
GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

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Kunming - Montreal

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

https://www.cbd.int/gbf/targets/3

GBF HOME // TARGET 3

Target 3

Conserve 30% of Land, Waters and Seas



Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial, inland water, and of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.

ABC FUTURES

What Are ITTs, and How Do They Relate to PAs?

- Indigenous and Traditional Territories (ITTs):

Areas recognised, governed, and managed by indigenous peoples and local communities according to customary laws and practices, they may or may not have formal legal recognition

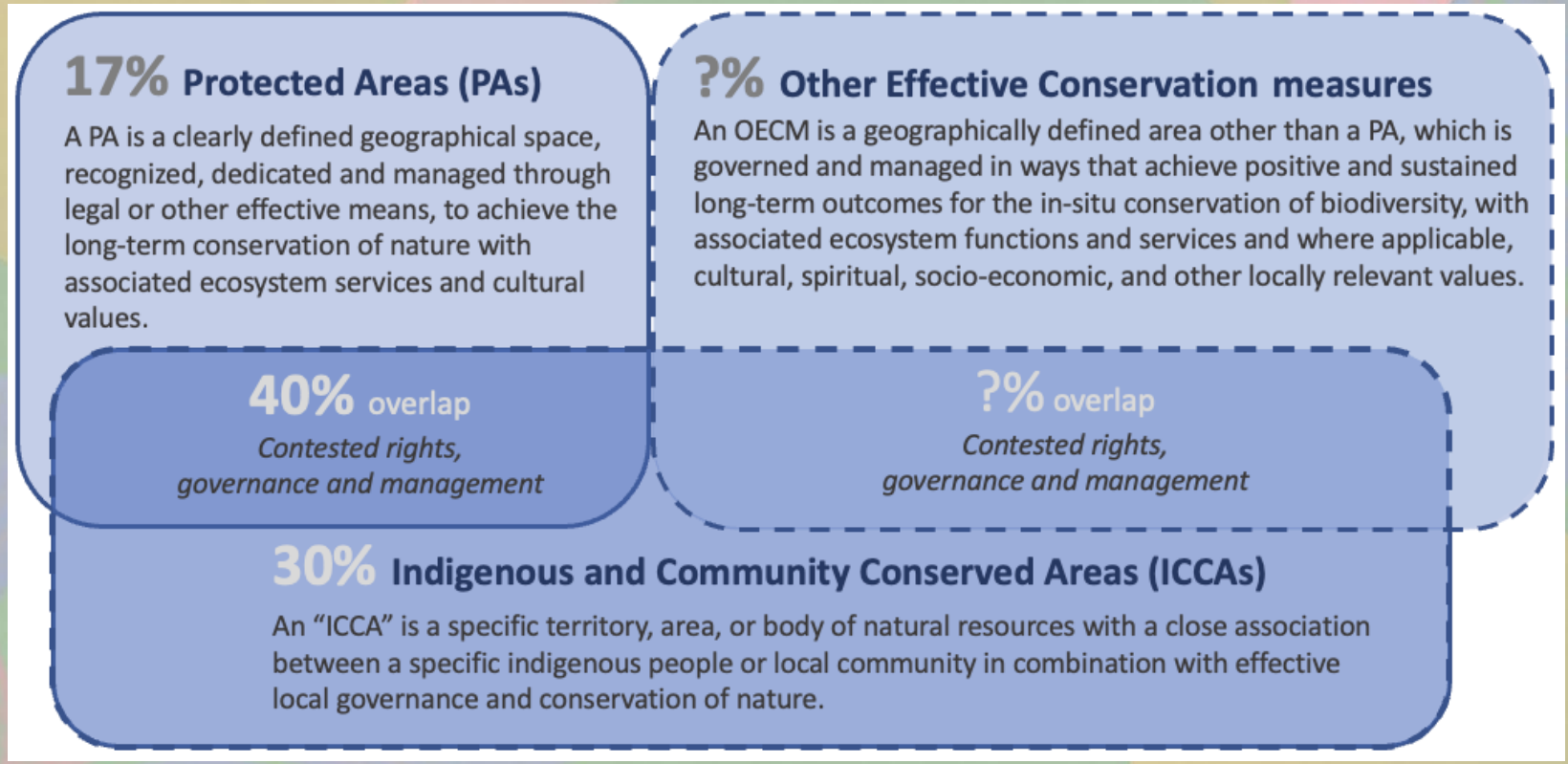
- Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs):

ITTs formally recognised by states as contributing to protected area networks, often through co-management arrangements, also IPCAs and IPAs

- Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs):

A GBF category designed to recognise conservation outcomes achieved outside formally designated PAs, increasingly used to count ITTs toward 30x30

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World Agroforestry
NaPO
PARQUE NACIONAL DA CORONGOSA
RESILIENCE

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ICCA Registry

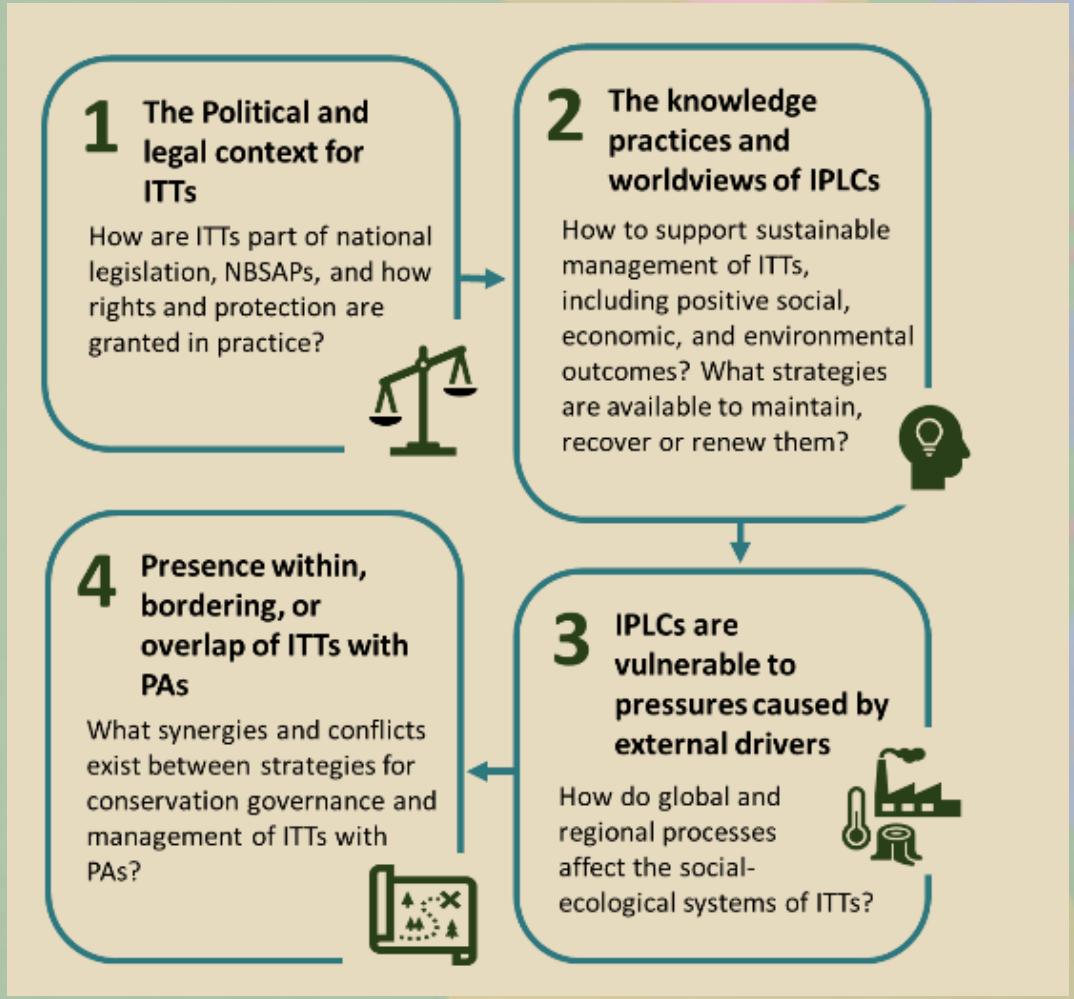


World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA)



ABC FUTURES

Four themes structure the project



How are rights granted in practice?

Formal recognition of ITTs can bring resources and legal protection, but it can also impose external governance frameworks that undermine the very indigenous institutions that made the area effective in the first place



How is local knowledge used and safeguarded?

Local knowledge has developed over long time periods within social-ecological systems, yet social and ecological change is increasing in speed and scope



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How do external pressures affect ITTs?

Extractive activities impact indigenous and traditional territories in increasing scale and depth. How can traditional practices and knowledge effectively offer resistance to machines, capital and guns?



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The protected area approach to nature conservationism is very successful in some places. But it is also built on a modernist ontology that separates nature from people.



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Suriname





Kenya



Brazil





Mozambique





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- Train local people to become PhD./MSc. researchers.

  Through co-production workshops find out what works locally.

  Build new research and learning collaboratives with all students and partner organisations.

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- **Locally grounded** research on locally relevant and perceived issues,

  Building capacity in conservation through research,

  Creating supportive partnerships in conservation and research.

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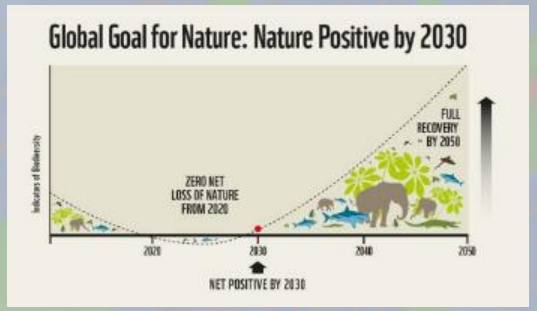
Impact



Outcome



Impact



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Thank You

Abcfutures.org



ABC Futures – Kenya

Area-Based Conservation Futures: Rethinking Biodiversity Conservation with Indigenous and Traditional Communities



Nature and People as One

Presenter: Adrian Leitoro
Institution: Nature and People as One (NaPO),
Date: 20 May 2026

ABC FUTURES

WHERE IT ALL STARTED



Herders in Marsabit, by NaPO 2025

A HERDER

who reads grass, soil, and animal behaviour across 500-2000 km of seasonal range, sounds like a conservation expert?!

ABC FUTURES

NATURE AND PEOPLE AS ONE (NAPO)

We are an NGO based in Marsabit, Northern Kenya



Community workshop in Ndoto landscape, by NaPO,2024



''NAPO is inspired by the /naabo/ which is the meeting point in a settlement where the elders congregate every evening to make decisions on any issues affecting the community. ''

*** term used by the Rendille people**

/NAABO/

ABC FUTURES

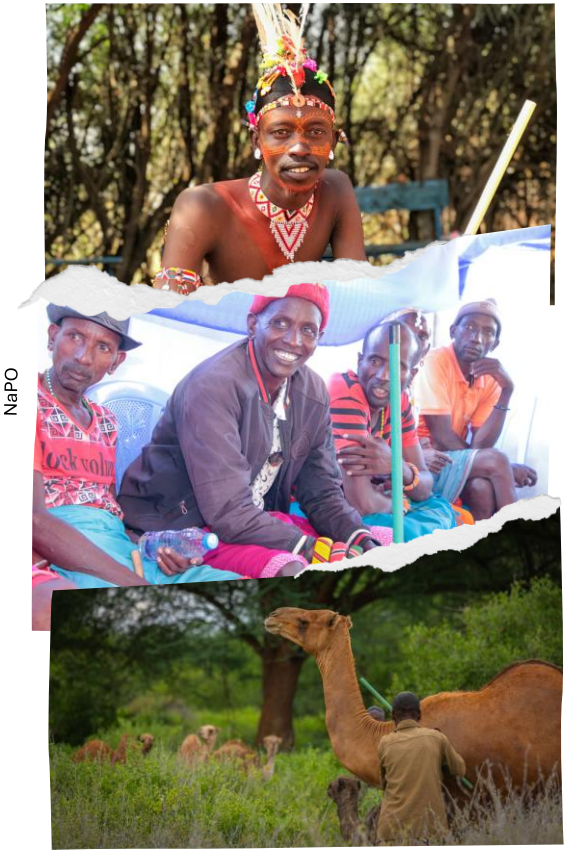


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Our work is rooted on:

Stewardship, which is fundamentally about restoring relationships between people and land, across generations, indigenous knowledge and science, and conservation goals and pastoralist life and wellbeing.

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Who is a

[redacted]?

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Pastoralism encompasses the extensive production of livestock, using pasture or browse as the main source of feed. (UNCCD, 2024)

Pastoralists refer to the individuals, households, and communities that practice pastoralism. (UNCCD, 2024)

An estimated 200 million pastoralists raise livestock, e.g. cattle, sheep, goats, and camels in rangelands, which cover around half of the Earth's land. (FAO,2026)

ABC FUTURES

Context & Background: Kenya

- Rangelands host numerous world heritage sites and protected areas and represent a third of the world's global biodiversity hotspots (UNCCD, 2024).
- In Kenya, about 65% of wildlife is found outside protected areas, mainly in pastoralist-managed rangelands (Western et al., 2009)
- Research Area: Marsabit South, northern Kenya
- Northern Kenya - seen as Kenya's last remaining space / 'frontier' for expanding conservation efforts

UNCCD. 2024. Global Land Outlook Thematic Report on Rangelands and Pastoralism.
Western D., Russell S.,Cuthill I. (2009). The status of wildlife in protected areas compared to non-protected areas of Kenya.

ABC FUTURES

Conservation Context (Marsabit South)

- Rendille and Samburu indigenous pastoralist people
- Home to endangered wildife species such as the *G. reticulate* (Reticulated Giraffe)
- Multiple area-based conservation designations
- Pastoralist governance systems play a huge role in the governance and stewardship of the area
- Both pastoralists and wildlife do not have a defined boundary and rely on mobility

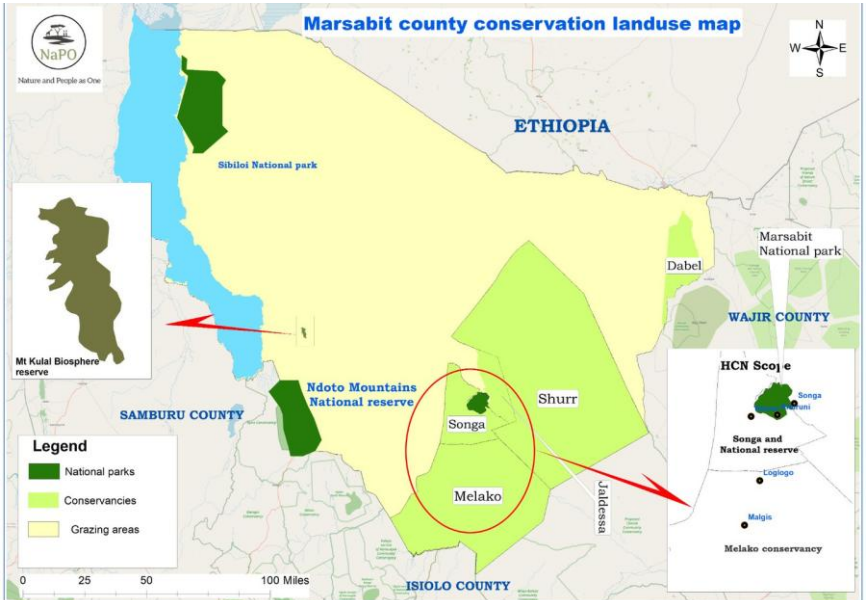


Figure 2.Marsabit county conservation landuse map.NaPO(2025).

- Park & Gazetted forest
- National Reserve
- Community Conservancies
- Unregistered Community-managed grazing areas
- Individual lands

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KEY CHALLENGES



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Overlapping land designations

Governance-related challenges in Community conservancies

Trends in degazzettement of protected areas ?

Environmental pressures

- Rangeland Degradation
- Climate change

Limited participation of pastorlist herders in conservation decision-making

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HERDER CONSERVATION NETWORK



The Herder Conservation Network (HCN) places pastoralist herders at the heart of conservation, strengthening pastoralist knowledge and practices across Marsabit's landscapes.

- **Herders → foras — herders conduct seasonal livestock movements**
- **Foras × wildlife hotspots where those routes cross biodiversity zones, monitoring happens naturally**
- **Four data streams feed into NaPO's monitoring system, combining indigenous pastoral knowledge with scientific observation**

Rethinking conservation goals & pastoralist practices

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Herder Conservation Network (HCN)
Pastoralist-led citizen science & monitoring

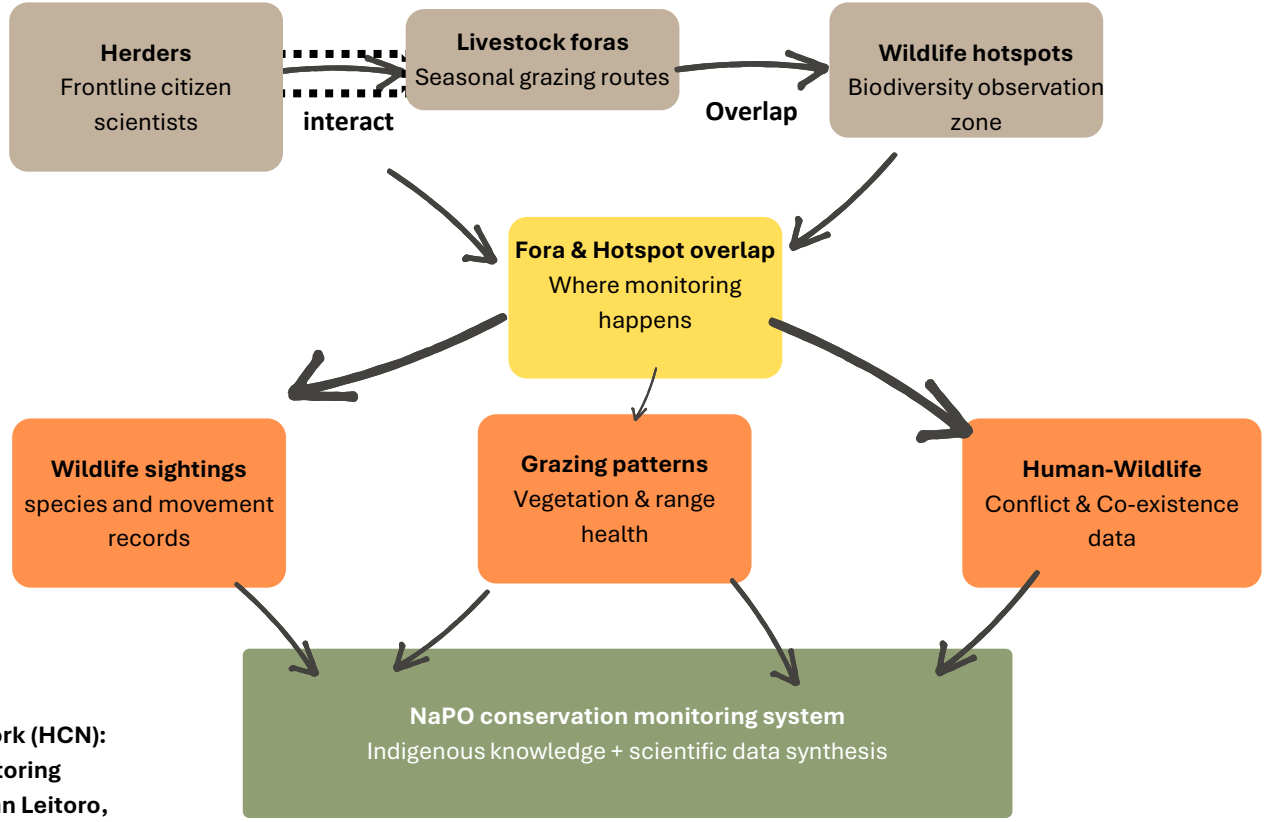


Figure 3. Herder Conservation Network (HCN): citizen science and pastoralist monitoring system. Source: Nour Mansour,Adrian Leitoro, NaPO (2026)

Herder Conservation Network

Mapping Livestock and wildlife interactions



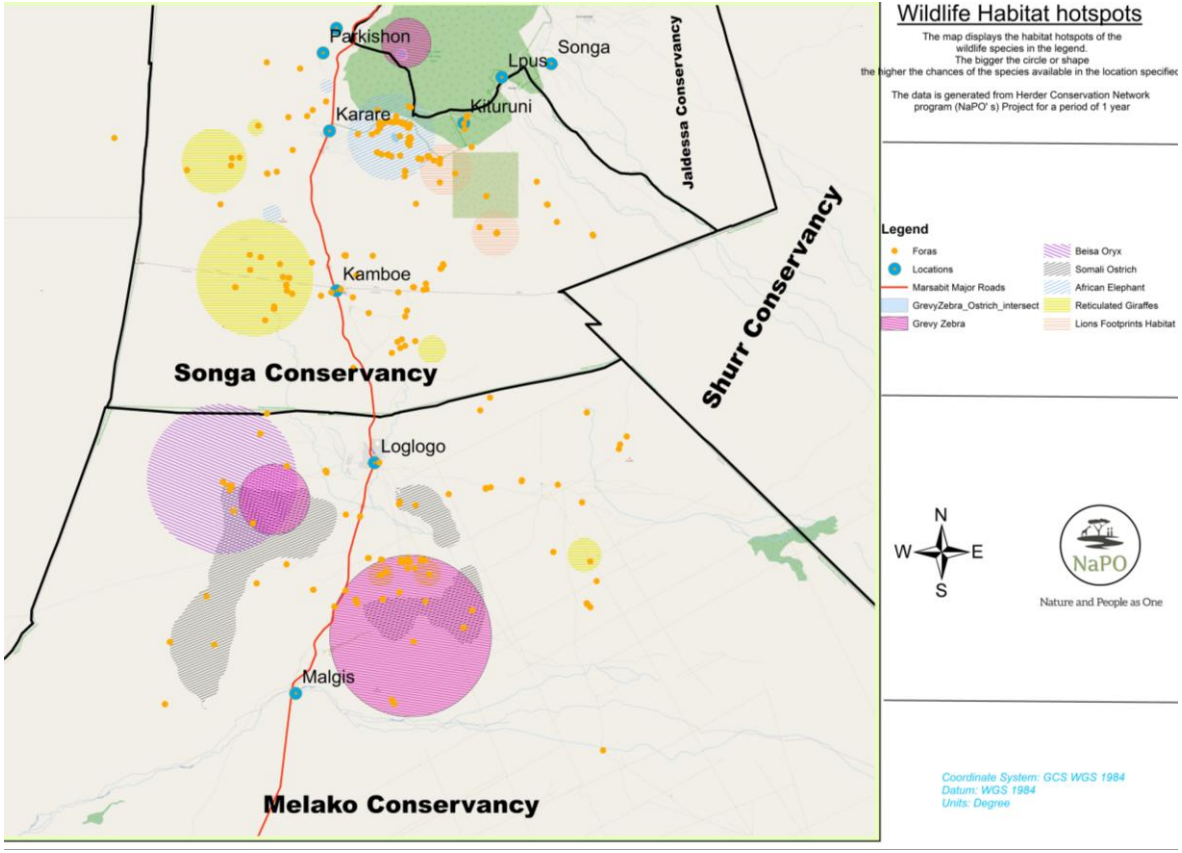


Figure 4.Mapping Livestock and wildlife interactions map.NaPO(2025).

OPPORTUNITIES AND THE ROLE OF ABC FUTURES

Impact pathway - IPLCs and ITTs contribute to conservation through their culture and practices and are taking the lead to do so?



Understanding

- Historical pastoralist values, belief systems and worldviews
- Current Herder-nature relations and interactions



Exploring

- Herder-led conservation models
- Future scenarios for bridging conservation outcomes & pastoralist aspirations



Research activities

- Fieldwork (ethnography, qualitative mapping, interviews, workshops)
- Stakeholder engagement

ABC FUTURES

KEY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

For Pastoralists

- How is conservation / co-existence defined locally?
- How do herder knowledge, practices and worldviews support landscape and wildlife conservation across multiple area-based conservation designations?

For Government / Institutions

- How can pastoralist herders and communities contribute to inclusive, effective and just conservation and well-being alongside conservation partners?

For Research

- How to co-produce knowledge with pastoralists?
- What is the value of the research to pastoralists?



NaPO

Nature and People as One

Thank You

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FCS

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QUESTIONS??

FIND OUT MORE

SCAN ME



Next up

11:15 – 12:15

Information flows to scale finance for biodiversity

Take a look
at our programme:

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Information flows to scale finance for biodiversity



A-Track

COP17 YEREVAN ARMENIA | TAKING ACTION FOR NATURE

Tuesday 20 October 2026 11:15 – 12:15

Speakers today



Rodrigo Cassola
Principal Specialist, Nature and Finance
UNEP WCMC



Mark van Oorschot
Senior researcher on biodiversity policies at PBL - the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency



Dorothy Maseke
Nature Finance and TNFD Lead and Head of ANCA Secretariat

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Agenda

Time	Content	Lead
11:15 – 11:20	Introduction, A-Track, and agenda	***Rodrigo Cassola, UNEP-WCMC***
11:20 – 11:30	How financial institutions can act now using existing data tools	***Rodrigo Cassola, UNEP-WCMC***
11:30 – 11:45	What should the financial sector know about the future	***Mark van Oorschot (PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency)***
11:45 – 11:55	Reflection or presentation on "information flows to scale finance for biodiversity"	***Dorothy Atieno Abade-Maseke - Nature Finance and TNFD Lead and Head of ANCA Secretariat***
11:52 – 12:12	Q&A	**Moderator:** ***Rodrigo Cassola, UNEP-WCMC***
12:12 – 12:15	Conclusion	***Neville Ash, Director, UNEP-WCMC***

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A-Track's goal is

...to consolidate and mainstream activities to accelerate transformation in organisations, such that, by end of project, we contribute to a critical mass of businesses, financial institutions, and governments, **integrate the value of natural capital in their decision-making**, helping to halt and reverse biodiversity loss.

What do we mean by nature information?

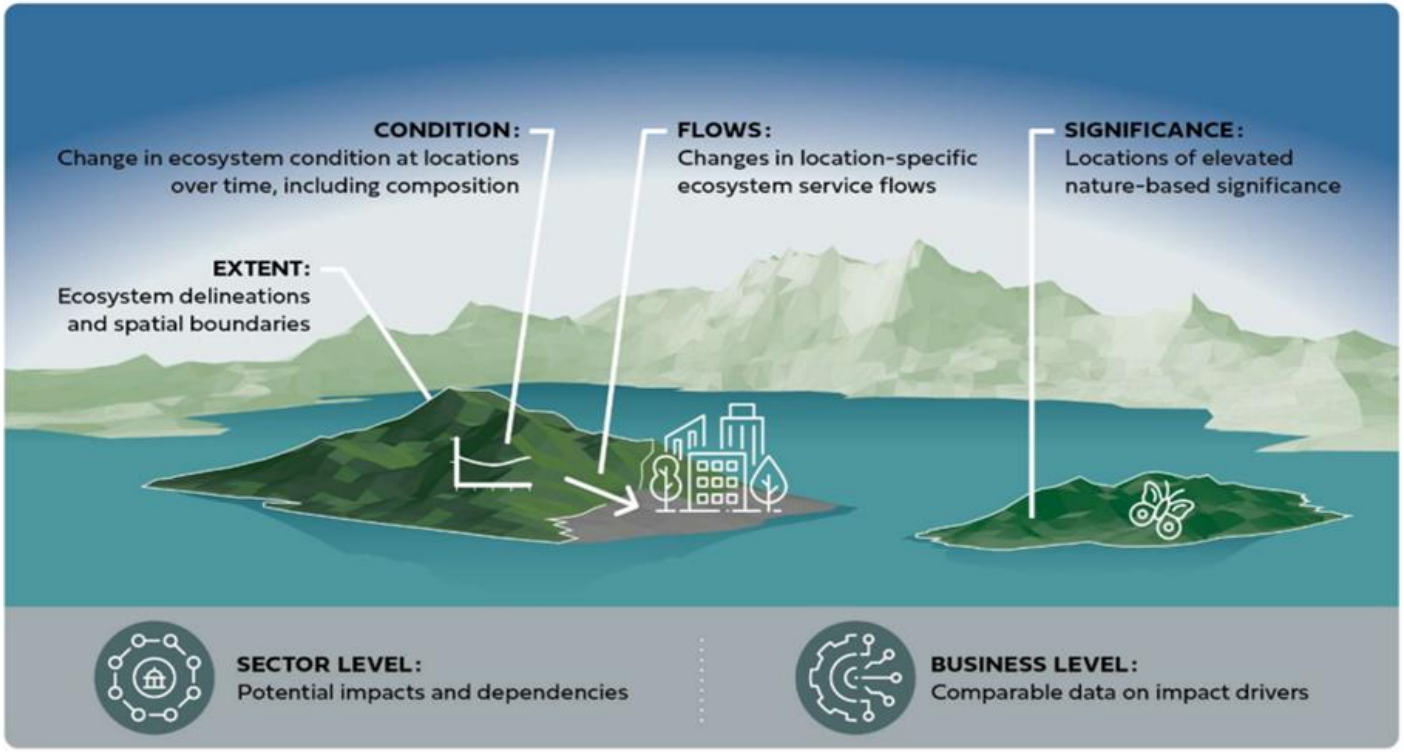
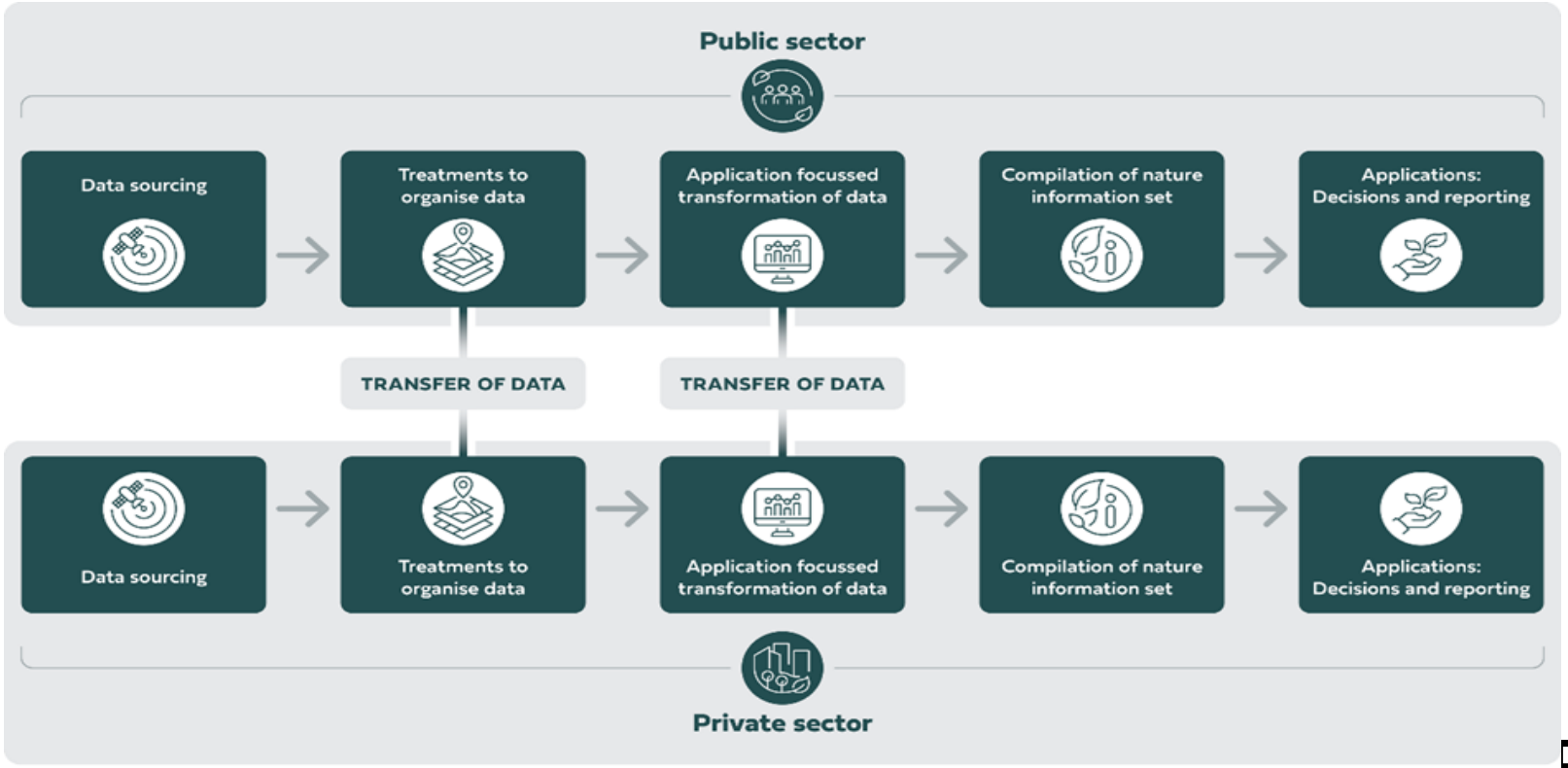


Figure 1. Common data needs identified across private and public sectors

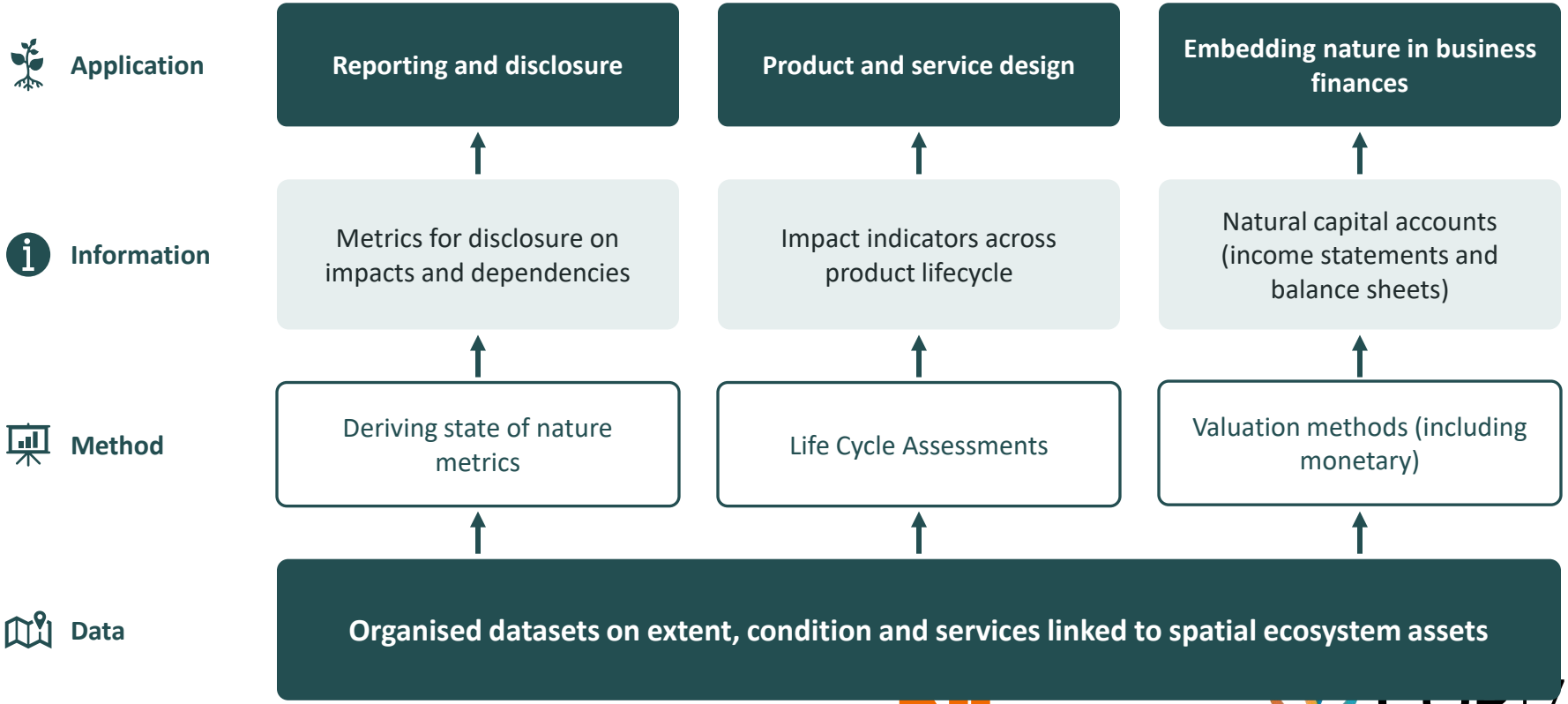
Source: A-Track- Integrating nature information into decision making: an assessment of user needs

From data to decisions: Nature Information Pathways

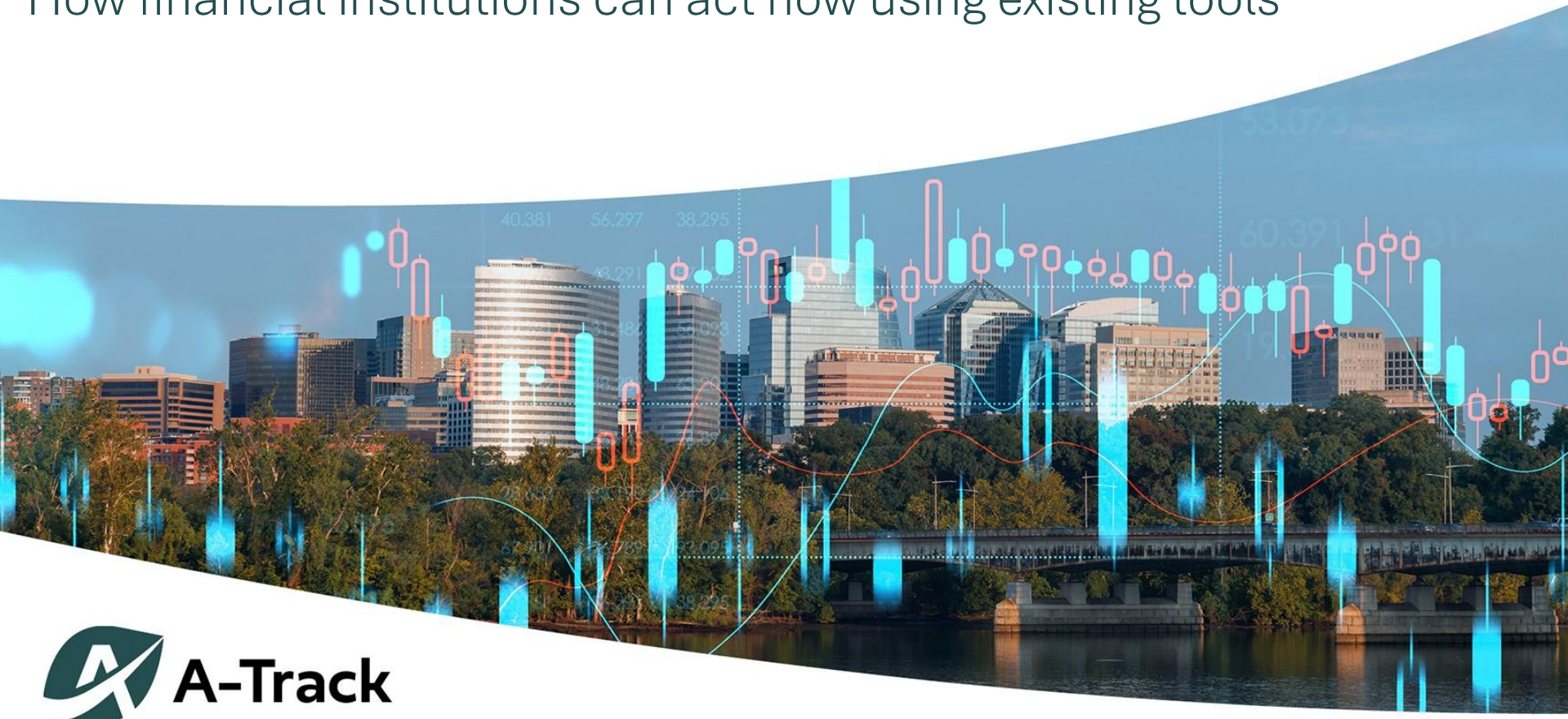


Source: Nature Information Pathway Framework (Unpublished)

Example business applications of nature information pathways



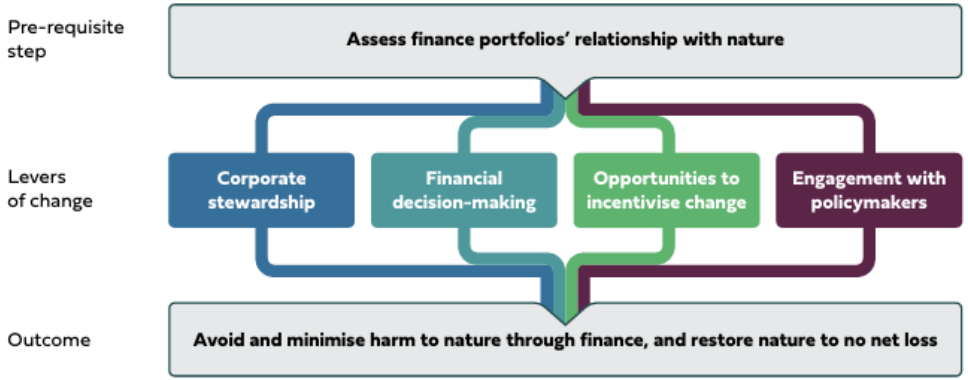
How financial institutions can act now using existing tools



A-Track

Financing Green vs Greening Finance

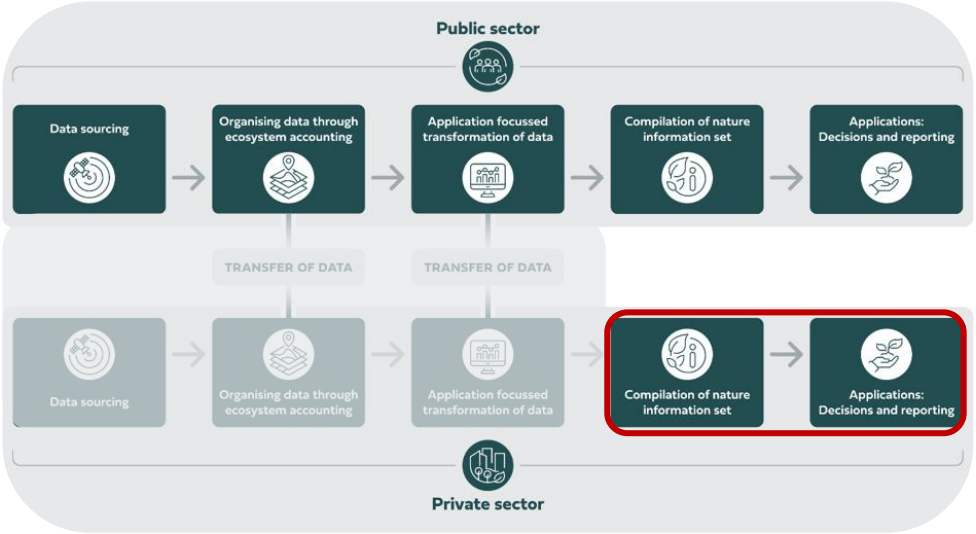
- Private finance flows harming nature **outweigh nature-positive flows by 140x** (State of Finance for Nature, 2023).
  - Scaling impact requires moving beyond niche, low-return philanthropic projects (*financing green*) to **embedding nature risks & opportunities directly into mainstream commercial lending, underwriting, and asset management** (*greening finance*).
- We already have evidence on how financial institutions are acting today to include nature into decision-making (see Scaling Finance for nature report), but embedding information available into existing processes still a challenge



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Nature Information Pathways logic for financial institutions



- <u>In general</u>, financial institutions will not source nature data by themselves or organize nature-datasets.
- Financial institutions are heavy users of data providers which often offer modelled metrics for specific use-cases (e.g., due diligence, reporting, credit risk scoring, etc)
  - Data is used in silos

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There is scope to use nature data more efficiently



Data sourcing	Organising data through ecosystem accounting	Application focussed transformation of data	Compilation of nature information set	Applications: Decisions and reporting
Use private data providers to link financial assets/financed company to physical asset location	Overlaying asset location data with metrics and databases to derive ecosystem extent, condition, and flows data.	Transform according to the applications: valuation of natural assets or interventions, cost-benefit analysis, scoring systems etc.	Compile information relevant to each application: scores for credit risk, valuation data for financial decision-making, cost-benefit analysis for financing decisions	Input on credit risk parameters (e.g., PD, EAD, LGD), valuation models (asset management), due diligence, reporting, etc.
Examples of data tools				
NatureAlpha, Earthblox	IBAT	NatureAlpha, Earthblox		IBAT
MSCI, Bloomberg	ENCORE	MSCI, Bloomberg		NatureAlpha, Earthblox
GIST Impact	NatureAlpha, Earthblox	GIST Impact		MSCI, Bloomberg
Iceberg data lab	MSCI, Bloomberg	Iceberg data lab		GIST Impact
	GIST Impact			Iceberg data lab
	Iceberg data lab			

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Illustrative case: Lloyds farming with nature



- Lloyds Banking Group mapped 5.1 million hectares of UK farmland by pairing satellite geospatial data (from a private data provider) with over 685 on-farm environmental audits to identify localized risks, such as soil degradation, water scarcity, and proximity to protected areas.
- Adoption of targeted regenerative practices yields around GBP150 per hectare in input cost savings while building long-term resilience, supported by commercial tools like Lloyds' Agriculture Transition Finance product and Soil Association Exchange carbon insetting payments
- Lloyds' example serves as a practical blueprint for NIP by taking top-down geospatial data and bottom-up farm audits

Data Sourcing	Organizing data	Transformation	Information set	Application
Combine top-down satellite geospatial data, national land/crop registries, and bottom-up farm environmental audits	Data collected and extracted can be organized into Ecosystem Asset Extent, Condition, and Flows registries	Monetary valuation of different regenerative practices (e.g., GBP150/ha savings in fertilizer, fuel, and pesticides)	Organizing information in a way that makes it relevant for each application	Credit risk integration (e.g., embed nature risks into due diligence to prevent direct liability and indirect credit default) , financial products (e.g., Clean Growth Finance Initiative and the Agriculture Transition Finance), and Third-Income Models (e.g., supply chain partners pay farmers for verified environmental outcome improvements)

Other potential application cases

- The Nature Information Pathways can be useful for financial institutions for building a nature-related data registry that can be used for multiple purposes

Corporate Stewardship

- Provides a structure for organizing data originated from engagement and reintroducing it along the pathway, reducing costs and improving efficiency
- Supports on setting verifiable engagement triggers

Financial Decision-Making

- Data collected and organized through SEEA registry can be used for valuation or credit risk analysis
- Translates biophysical stocks & flows into Natural Capital Accounting schedules (Balance Sheets & Income Statements). Integrates directly into credit risk ratings and loan covenants.

Opportunities to Incentivize Change

- Support on the development of new products: structuring verifiable nature-linked loans and bonds
- Establishes auditable baselines and verified ecosystem condition KPIs. Allows interest rate margin step-downs to be tied directly to certified ecosystem improvements.

Engagement with Public sector

- Public-Private data exchange and interoperability through SEEA
- Data collection and standardization through SEEA allows private corporate accounts to align with national public environmental accounts, drastically lowering private data collection costs for both sectors

The Nature Information Pathway framing can support data and tool providers



ANNUAL REVIEWS

Annual Review of Environment and Resources

The Past, Present, and Future of Online Biodiversity Knowledge Systems

Hilary Kemp,[1] Alena Cierna,[1] Alice Hughes,[2] Antonella Arcangeli,[3] Arnout van Soesbergen,[1] Ayesha Hargey,[1] Charlie Taylor,[4] Charlotte A. Taylor,[1] M. Eugenia Degano,[5,6] Falko Buschke,[7] Felix Yi Kui Tin,[1] Heli Sihvonen,[1] Lauren Weatherdon,[8] Lera Miles,[1] Nazli Demirel,[10] Nina Bhola,[1] Osgur McDermott Long,[1] P.J. Stephenson,[11] Vincent Blanqué,[1] Yanina Sica,[5,9] Zuhail Thatey,[1] and Neil D. Burgess[1,12,13]

[1]UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), Cambridge, United Kingdom; email: neil.burgess@unep-wcmc.org

[2]School of BioSciences, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

[3]ISPRA, Roma, Italy

[4]Australian Antarctic Division, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Kingston, Tasmania, Australia

[5]Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre (SBiK-F), Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

[6]Department of Biological Sciences, Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

[7]Global Ecosystems Atlas, Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland

[8]The Biodiversity Consultancy, Cambridge, United Kingdom

[9]Ecological Informatics, Department of Animal Ecology & Systematics, Justus Liebig University, Gießen, Germany

[10]Institute of Marine Sciences and Management, Istanbul University, Istanbul, Türkiye

[11]IUCN SSC Species Monitoring Specialist Group, Laboratory for Conservation Biology, Department of Ecology & Evolution, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

[12]Center for Macroecology, Evolution and Climate, GLOBE Institute, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

[13]Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom

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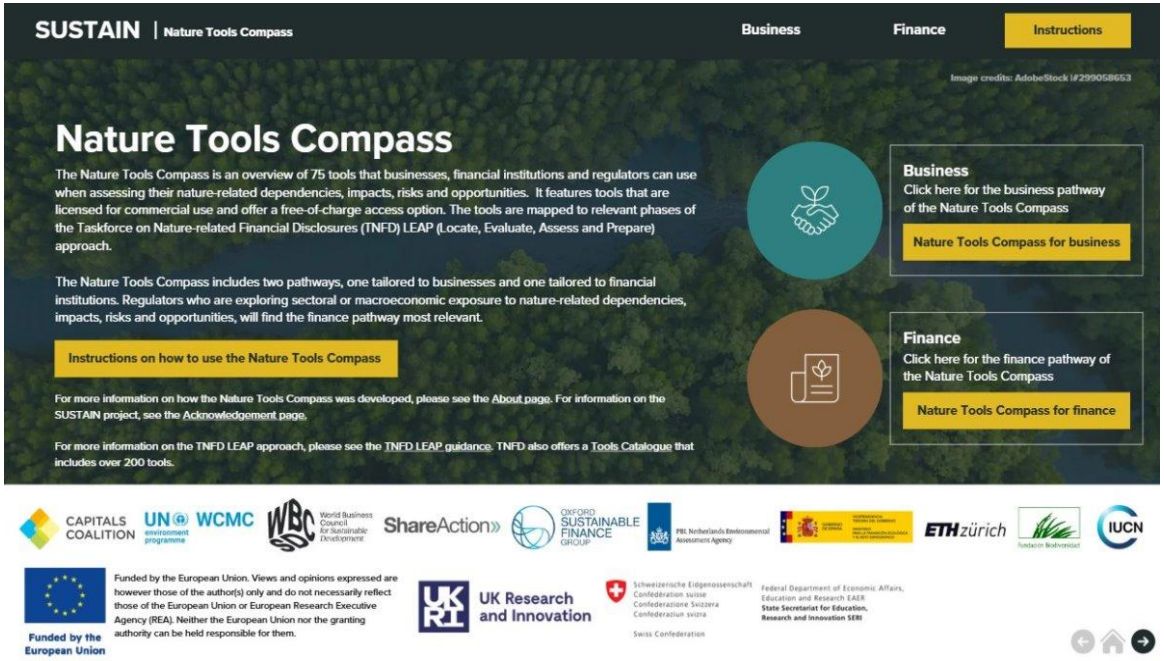
- Recent paper by UNEP-WCMC found nearly 700 global biodiversity data sources and tools, including over 100 that claim to be designed for business and finance
- Tools for business and finance often draw on key data sources originally developed for academic or policy uses

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Nature Tools Compass for business and finance

- Overview of 74 tools in an interactive PDF format
- Follows the LEAP approach
- All tools are licensed for use by business and finance
- All tools offer some form of free access
- Two pathways: business and finance



Download the Nature Tools Compass

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Biodiversity scenario risk assessment: case from the Dutch Central Bank



A-Track

PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency

PBL@COP17 Yerevan



Biodiversity scenarios for risk assessment: a finance view

Mark van Oorschot
Marcel Kok (PBL)
Alexandrea Marques (PBL, ECB)
Thomas van Huyssteen (IVM)



Planbureau voor de Leefomgeving

PBL

Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency

Independent public organization

Strategic policy analysis

Science-to-Policy bridge

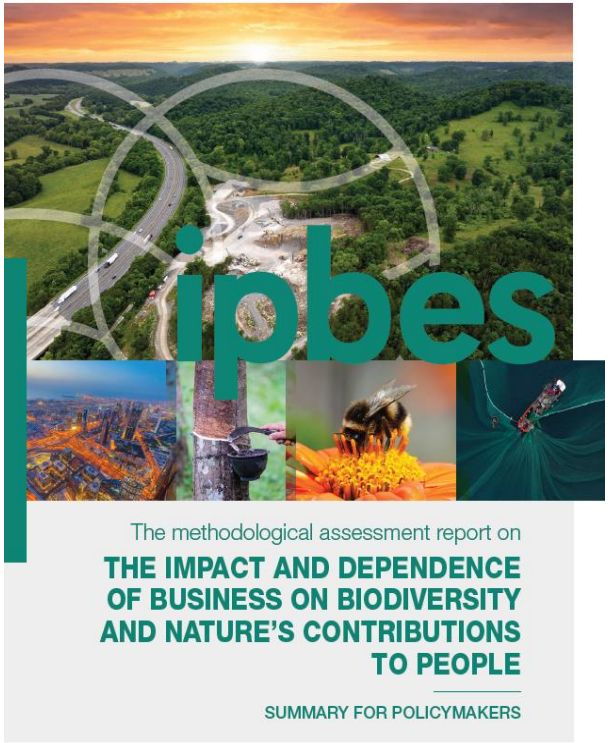
Mark van Oorschot

PBL work on Sustainable Finance



- Models and scenarios (GLOBIO, ENCORE, IPBES)
- Policy evaluation: reporting and transparency
- Cooperation with central banks: DNB & ECB
- Knowledge development: UN-WCMC, IVM Amsterdam
- Knowledge dissemination (science-policy bridge)

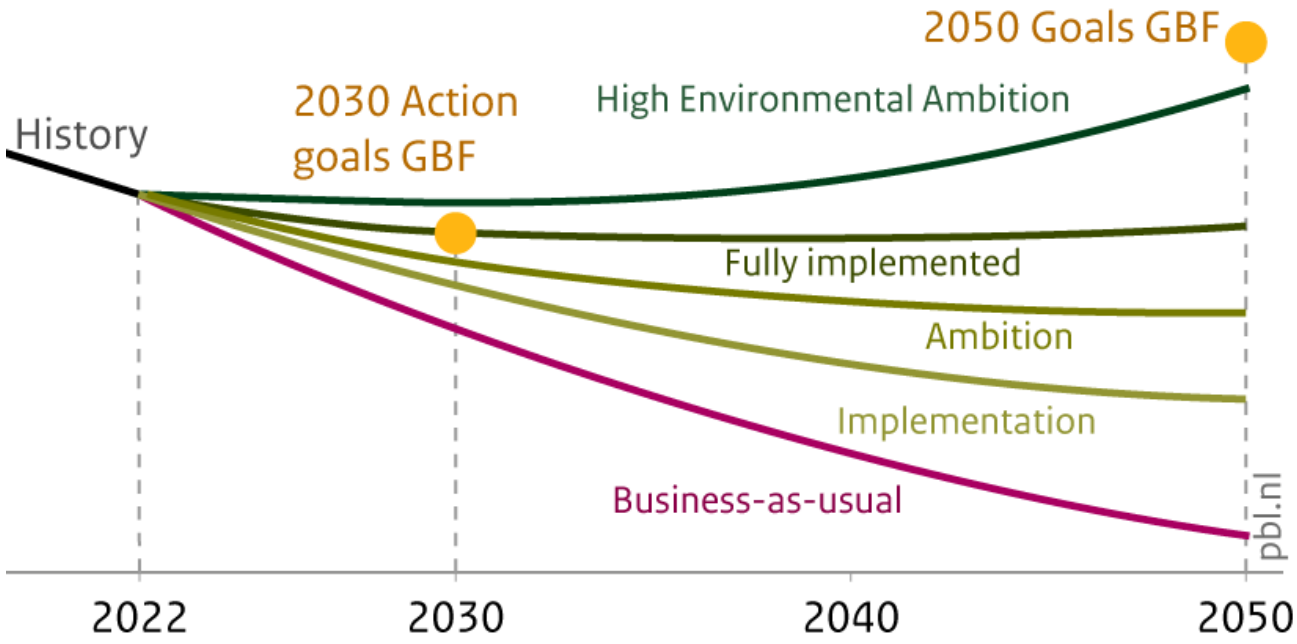
IPBES Methodological BBA Assessment



IPBES Methodological BBA Assessment

Level of business decision-making	Purpose of measurement	Method categories: Location-based observations (Involves direct measures at specific locations, such as through field observations and remote sensing)	Participatory mapping and monitoring (Involves collaboration with external stakeholders, rights holders or communities including Indigenous People and local community)	Spatial analysis (Includes overlays of spatial data layers, ecological and hydrological modeling)	Life cycle approaches (Includes full life cycle assessments and various forms of environmental footprinting)	Macro-scale environmental economic models (Includes qualitative and quantitative approaches)
Operations: Business operations that take place in sites under the direct control of the business entity		⇉	⇉	⇢	⇢	✕
		⇉	⇉	⇢	⇢	✕
		⇉	⇉	⇢	⇢	✕
		⇉	⇉	⇢	✕	✕
Value chain: Activities beyond the direct control of an individual business entity, involving suppliers, manufacturers, distributors, retailers and customers		✕⇢	✕⇢	⇢	⇉	✕
		✕⇢	✕⇢	⇢	⇢	✕
		⇢	⇢	⇢	⇢	✕
		⇢	⇢	⇢	✕	✕
Corporate: A business or group of business entities, typically within an industry, which is governed as a single organization		✕⇢	✕⇢	⇢	⇉	⇉
		✕⇢	✕⇢	⇢	⇢	⇢
		✕⇢	✕⇢	⇢	⇢	✕
		✕⇢	✕⇢	✕⇢	✕	✕
Portfolio: A group of investments owned by a financial institution or a group of business units owned by a conglomerate		✕⇢	✕⇢	⇢	⇉	⇉
		✕⇢	✕⇢	⇢	⇢	✕⇢
		✕⇢	✕⇢	✕⇢	⇢	✕
		✕⇢	✕⇢	✕⇢	✕	✕

Scenarios for KM-GBF Gap analysis



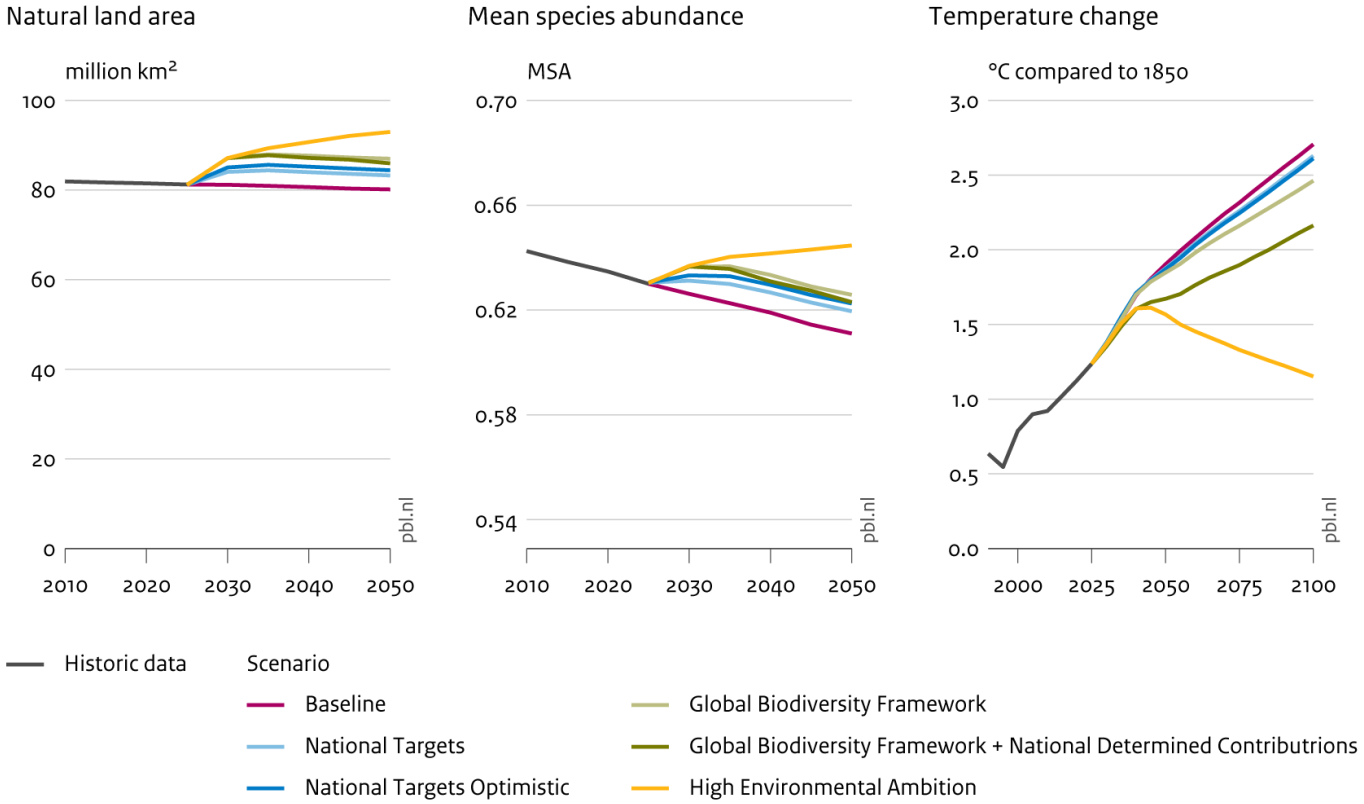
Take a look at our programme:

Source: Kok et al 2026. Play the long game.

Netherlands

COP17 YEREVAN ARMENIA

Global trends in state of biodiversity and temperature



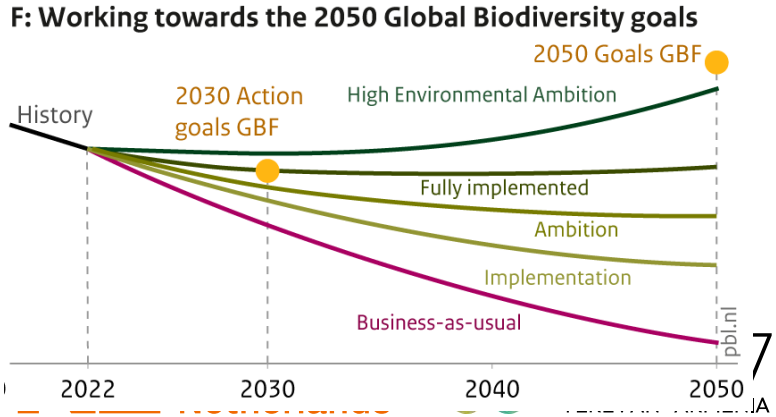
Natural area are biomes such as tundra, peatlands, and non-managed as well as managed forests.

Source: PBL IMAGE GLOBIO

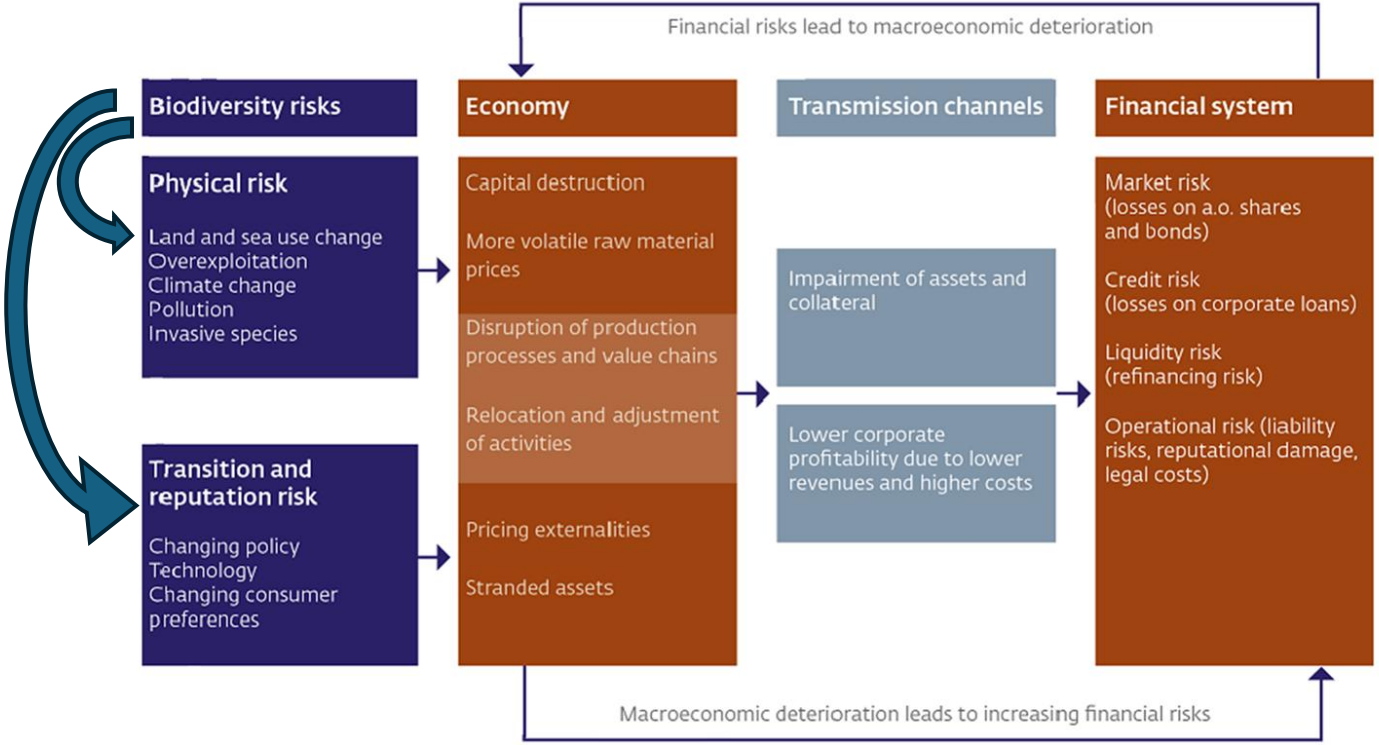
Source: Kok et al 2026. Play the long game.

Biodiversity Scenarios : a financer's view

- Usefulness of biodiversity scenarios for financial risk assessment
- Linking Risk Transmission Channels
- Short-term scenarios: stress testing
- Long-term view: transition risks and opportunities
- Public and private action needed
  - Systemic or Individual risk



Explore risk transmission channels



Take a look at our programme:

Source: DNB & PBL 2020. Indebted to nature.

Netherlands

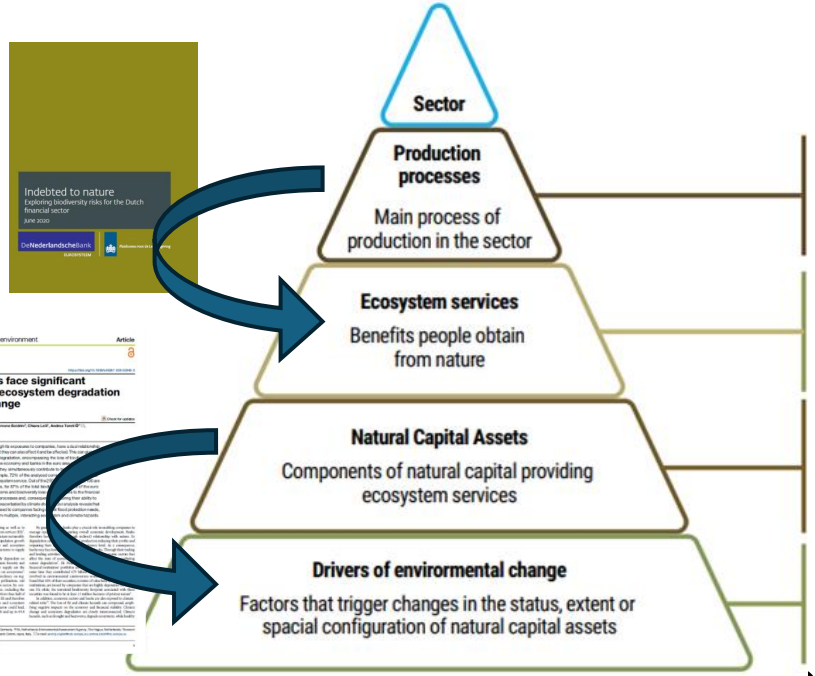
PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency

YEREVAN ARMENIA

From dependency exposure to risks

- Exposure:
  “merely” linking economic processes to ecosystem services

- Risk:
  Linking ecosystem capacity to local ecosystem status



Concluding remarks



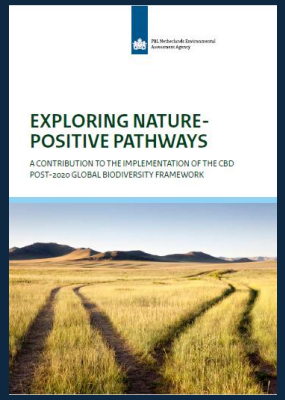
PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency

mark.vanoorschot@pbl.nl

www.pbl.nl or #PBLNL











Reflection from a nature finance expert



A-Track

Discussion with the audience on their experience in mobilising finance & availability of metrics



A-Track

Discussion questions

1 | Acting now with today's data

What is one decision your institution could improve today using nature data that already exists?

To get the conversation going:

- Which tools or datasets are you already using?
- What stops that data reaching credit, investment or disclosure processes?

2 | Looking ahead

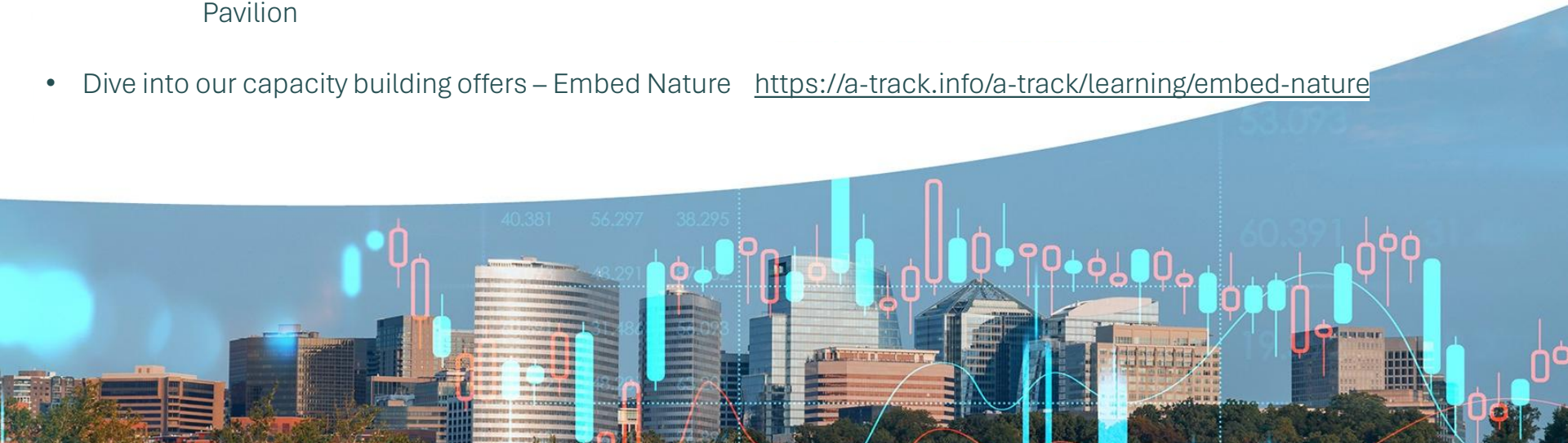
What would it take for biodiversity scenarios to sit alongside climate scenarios in financial risk assessment?

To get the conversation going:

- Which public data or standards, such as SEEA, would unlock the most?
- Who should fund and share the granular, local data that risk assessment needs?

Conclusion and call to action

- Register for A-Track newsletter: https://a-track.info/a-track/sign-up-form
- Join other COP17 A-Track events: https://a-track.info/a-track/event/cop17-armenia
  - Leveraging the power of business networks to help companies embed nature into internal decision-making.
    - **Friday, October 23, 2026**, 3 — 3:45pm in Armenia in Action Zone in the Blue Zone, Business & Finance Hub
  - Networking Reception - Scaling Transformation in Business Practices
    - **Saturday, October 24, 2026, 6:30** — 9pm in Armenia (4:30 — 7pm CEST), Main Room, Nature Positive Pavilion
- Dive into our capacity building offers – Embed Nature https://a-track.info/a-track/learning/embed-nature



A-Track

Project partners:

vito

CAPITALS COALITION

tecnalia
MEMBER OF BASQUE RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

oppla

Fraunhofer

IDEEA Group

University of Stuttgart
Institute for Acoustics and Building Physics
Life Cycle Engineering GaBi

UN environment programme WCMC

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CISL Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership

ICAEW

WBCSD World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Project funded by:

Co-funded by the European Union

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under the grant agreement number 101082268.

UK Research and Innovation

This work was funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK government's Horizon Europe funding guarantee [101082268].

Project funded by

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI

Views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or other funders. Neither the European Union nor the funders can be held responsible for them.

Next up

13:00 – 14:00

From principles to practice: scaling inclusive nature action through the Global Biodiversity Framework

Take a look
at our programme:

Netherlands

COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA

Inclusive Nature Action

From Principles to Practice

Securing equity, rights and local leadership in delivering the Global Biodiversity Framework



© Rob Small / Fauna & Flora

20 OCTOBER 2026
13:00–14:00

NETHERLANDS PAVILION
CBD COP17, Yerevan

Dilys Roe, IIED

The Inclusive Nature Action Principles provide a framework for locally led, rights-based and gender-responsive biodiversity action.

Join speakers exploring how the principles are being put into practice through local leadership, equitable finance and action on the ground.

SPEAKERS

Dilys Roe (Chair)
IIED

Gemma Harper
JNCC

Tapiwa Magaisa
Nutrition Action Zimbabwe, REDAA

Richel Cahilig
Haribon Foundation
REDAA

Rob Small
Fauna & Flora

Emily Woodhouse
UCL

Ana Di Pangracio
CBD Women's Caucus

Paul Matiku
Nature Kenya
GCBC Grantee

Learn more at inclusivenatureaction.org

Gemma Harper, UK Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)


INCLUSIVE NATURE ACTION PRINCIPLES
Decision-making and knowledge
Power, rights and equity
Systems, finance and delivery
Recognise the mutual value of scientific, and local and traditional knowledge
Recognise and respect rights
Devolve decision-making and strengthen local leadership
Recognise and address structural and intersectional inequalities
Provide direct, patient, flexible, predictable and accessible funding
Safeguard local actors, beyond 'do no harm'
Promote collaborative and coherent action and investment
Encourage flexible, adaptive biodiversity programming

Rob Small, Fauna & Flora International



Fauna & Flora

From Principles to Practice

© Bobbi Hope / Fauna & Flora



Fauna & Flora

Recognise & address structural & intersectional inequities

© Helen Anthem / Fauna & Flora



Fauna & Flora

Provide direct, patient, flexible, predictable and accessible funding

© Indra / Fauna & Flora


Fauna & Flora
Safeguard local actors, beyond ‘do no harm’
© Vanessa Evans / Fauna & Flora

REDAA – CHAMPIONING INCLUSIVE, LOCALLY-LED RESTORATION IN AFRICA AND ASIA

enquiries@redaa.org

www.redaa.org

@redaa-programme

Reversing Environmental Degradation in Africa and Asia (REDAA) is a programme that supports locally led research and action for nature restoration and climate resilience in Africa and Asia.

It is funded by the UK government's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) through its Global Research and Technology Development (GRTD) portfolio, and managed by IIED.

Global Research and Technology Development
Funded by UK Government

iied International Institute for Environment and Development

REDAA


1 Recognise and respect rights
2 Devolve decision making and strengthen local leadership
3 Recognise and address structural and intersectional inequalities
4 Encourage flexible, adaptive biodiversity programming
5 Provide direct, patient, flexible, predictable and accessible funding
6 Recognise the mutual value of scientific and local and traditional knowledge
7 Promote collaborative and coherent action and investment
8 Safeguard local actors, beyond 'do no harm'

Tapiwa Magaisa, Nutrition Action Zimbabwe

FARMING WITH ALTERNATIVE POLLINATORS

Tapiwa Magaisa, Nutrition Action Zimbabwe



Smallholder Farmer in her Demonstration plot in Gokwe North, Zimbabwe. NAZ 2026

Agroecological innovation
Flowering habitat crops support wild pollinators and provide food or income. Trees, soil and water practices reinforce FAP.

Farmer-reported benefits
Some farmers report harvests more than doubling, encouraging continued stewardship of their land.

Partners supporting local action
NAZ, University of Zimbabwe, PORET, Action Against Hunger, My Trees and government extension services.

INCLUSIVE NATURE ACTION IN PRACTICE

Principle 2 is the focus, with clear connections to Principles 3, 6 and 7

PRINCIPLE 2 - MAIN FOCUS

Devolve decision making and strengthen local leadership

Farmers choose crops and plot layouts.
They review results between cropping cycles.

Community-led monitoring
Pollinators, soil, water, harvests and income

PRINCIPLE 3 INCLUSION

Recognise and address structural and intersectional inequalities

Gender dialogues strengthen women's voice and access to productive resources.

>70%
Women participants

>60%
Women community monitors

PRINCIPLE 6 KNOWLEDGE

Recognise the mutual value of scientific, and local and traditional knowledge

Farmers and researchers combine local experience with scientific methods.

Evidence that farmers can use

PRINCIPLE 7 SCALING

Promote collaborative and coherent action and investment

AGRITEX and local authorities connect farmer learning with extension services.

Next step: extension training and policy

Scaling inclusive nature action means investing in farmers' ability to decide, experiment and lead

Ritchel Cahilig, Haribon Foundation





HARIBON FOUNDATION

AGOS
ARWFR GOVERNANCE AND SAFEGUARDS

AGOS Project: Engaging Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) in Ensuring Environmental Safeguards for the Aklan River Watershed Forest Reserve (ARWFR)

Integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP) and Involving Akeanon Bukidnon Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs) in the Aklan River Watershed Forest Reserve Governance and Safeguards (AGOS)

REVERSING ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION
REDAA
IN AFRICA AND ASIA

iied International Institute for Environment and Development

UK International Development
Partnership | Progress | Prosperity

Paul Matiku, Nature Kenya

GLOBAL CENTRE ON BIODIVERSITY FOR CLIMATE

NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF KENYA
WHERE HERITAGE LIVES ON

KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

KENYA Forest Service

KENYA FORESTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
KEFRI

NatureKenya
THE EAST AFRICA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

UNDERSTANDING CHERANGANI LINKS TO HUMAN WELLBEING



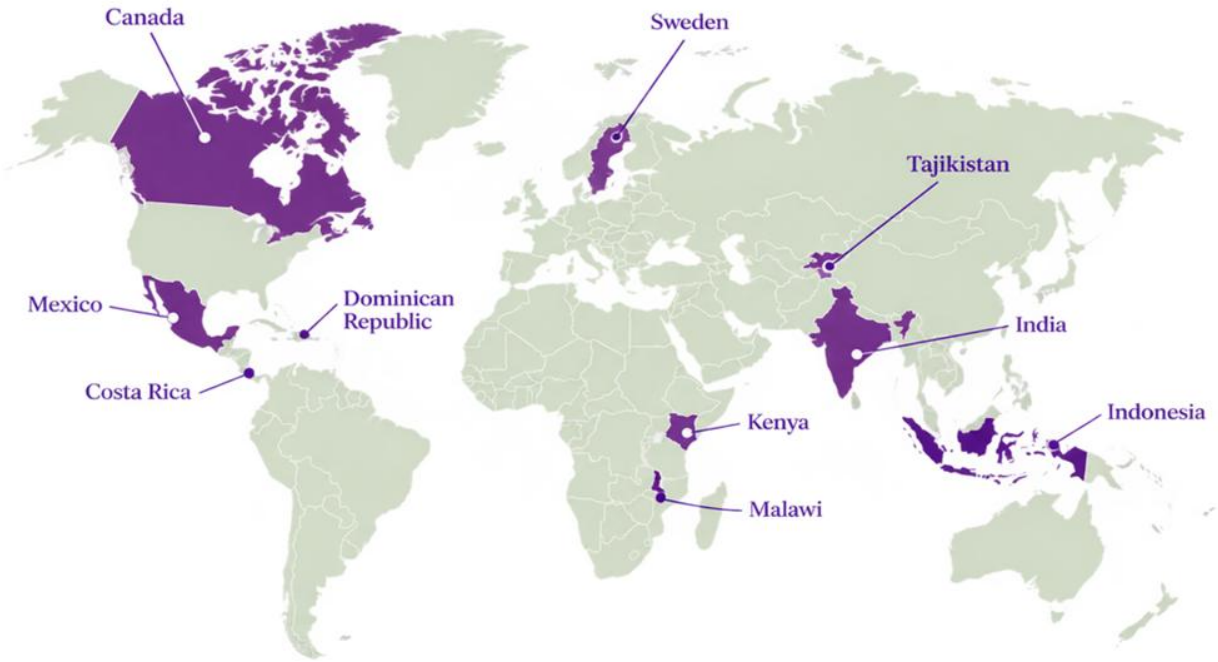
PROJECT PARTNERSHIP with IPLCs

Cherang'any Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs)

- Beneficiaries of the research packages
- Trained and work as enumerators collecting data linked to indigenous use of forest resources, adaptation and forest management
- Active participants supporting project implementation



Emily Woodhouse, University College London



Policies in Practice report: 10 country case studies of gender-responsive biodiversity policy and action

CBD Women

UCL University College London

CASCADE

Representation must be accompanied by land and resource rights, recognition of diverse knowledge and efforts to overcome structural barriers



Photo: National Center for Biodiversity and Biosafety (NCBB), Tajikistan



Formal legal and policy reforms need to be backed up with capacity, enforcement, and initiatives tackling gender norms and institutional cultures

Photo: Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association

CBD Women UCL University College London CASCADE

POLICIES IN PRACTICE

Learning from National Experiences for Gender-Responsive Implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework

Report launching on Thursday 22nd

Side event @18.15 in Women's Caucus Meeting room

Policy brief on Gender and Biodiversity Focal Points here



UCL University College London CASCADE CBD Women

POLICY BRIEF OCTOBER 2026

Strengthening the role of Gender and Biodiversity Focal Points in the implementation of Target 23 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Key points

Gender and Biodiversity Focal Points (GBFPs) play a critical role in translating Target 23 and the Gender Plan of Action into national biodiversity policy and action. Drawing on a global survey, interviews and peer exchanges, this briefing provides new evidence on the experiences, challenges and priorities of GBFPs.

Many GBFPs operate with limited time, resources and institutional support, reducing their effectiveness. Funding constraints, limited capacity, weak coordination mechanisms, and gaps in data and monitoring systems remain significant barriers to implementation.

Although the Gender Plan of Action is widely recognised as a valuable framework, its influence on implementation remains uneven in the absence of adequate financial resources and support for alignment with national policy processes.

Parties should move beyond the formal appointment of GBFPs to ensure that they are in dedicated roles with sufficient financial and technical support, access to decision-making processes, and the ability to facilitate coordination across ministries, levels of government and women's organisations.

The CBD Secretariat, Regional Technical Support Centres and partners can further support implementation by strengthening international and regional peer learning networks, co-developing practical context-relevant guidance and building the strategic leadership capacities of GBFPs.

Ana Di Pangracio, CBD Women’s Caucus

ENDORSE THE PRINCIPLES AND/OR STAY CONNECTED

SCAN THE QR CODE TO:

- ADD YOUR LOGO TO ENDORSE THE PRINCIPLES
- JOIN OUR KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE TO STAY IN TOUCH, EXPLORE THE PRINCIPLES IN MORE DEPTH, CONNECT WITH AND LEARN FROM OTHERS



Next up

14:15 – 15:15

From fragmentation to action: Mobilising finance for locally-led conservation

Take a look
at our programme:

Netherlands

COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA



FROM FRAGMENTATION TO ACTION:
MOBILISING FINANCE FOR LOCALLY-LED CONSERVATION

20 October 2026

UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
TAKING ACTION FOR NATURE

COP17 / CP-MOP 12 / NP-MOP 6
YEREVAN ARMENIA
19-30 OCTOBER 2026

NTFP-EP

Nature is our foundation

IUCN National Committee of The Netherlands

Speakers



Daryl Bosu
A ROCHA Ghana



Ivo Walsmit
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Micheal Clifford Reverse the Red



Pria Ghosh
Syncronicity Earth

- Date: 20 October 2026
- Time: 14:15-15:15
- Location: Dutch Pavilion

Hosts



Anne Alexandre
Conservation Connect



Sander van Andel
IUCN NL

Session outline

Opening

Keynote speakers

Panel interaction

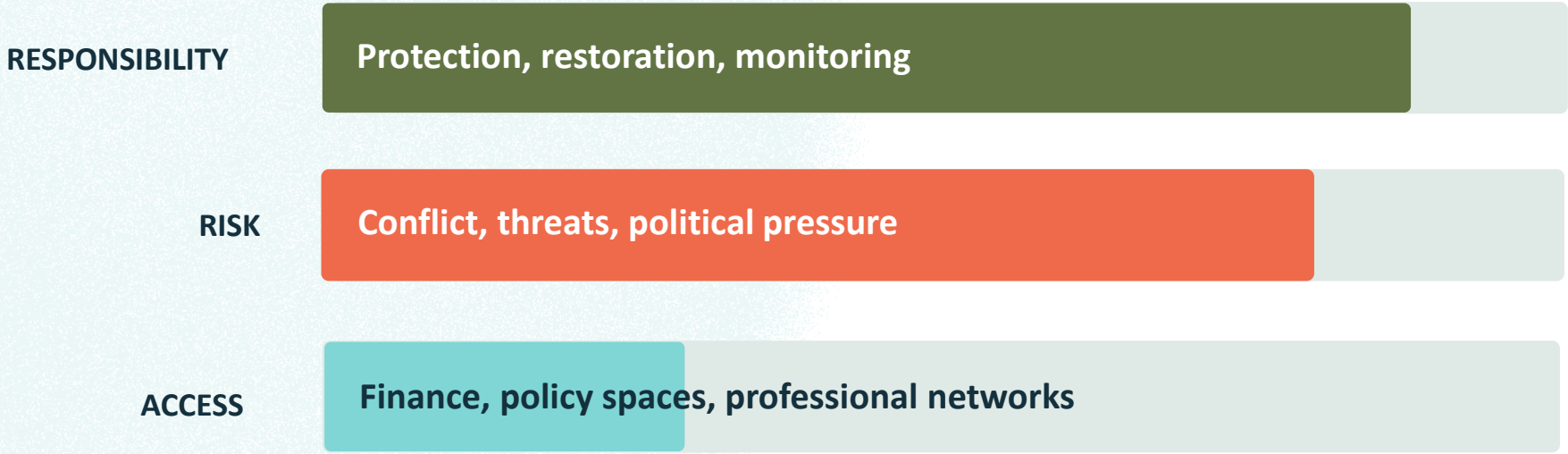
Audience dialogue

Closing


IUCN
National Committee
of The Netherlands
Who is in the room?

The persistent mismatch

High responsibility on the ground. Low access to resources and decisions.



The result: local actors carry the mission, but remain restricted.

CONCERNS ABOUT TRUST BASED FUNDING



Reduced control, as project finance simplifies the assessment



Not predetermined short-term result based



Enough accountability for recipient organisations



Can organisations can responsibly manage unearmarked funding

NATURE'S HEARTBEAT

Embedding grassroots actors in the global conservation movement

For locally led protection of Key Biodiversity Areas

LOCAL LEADERSHIP

LANDSCAPE NETWORKS

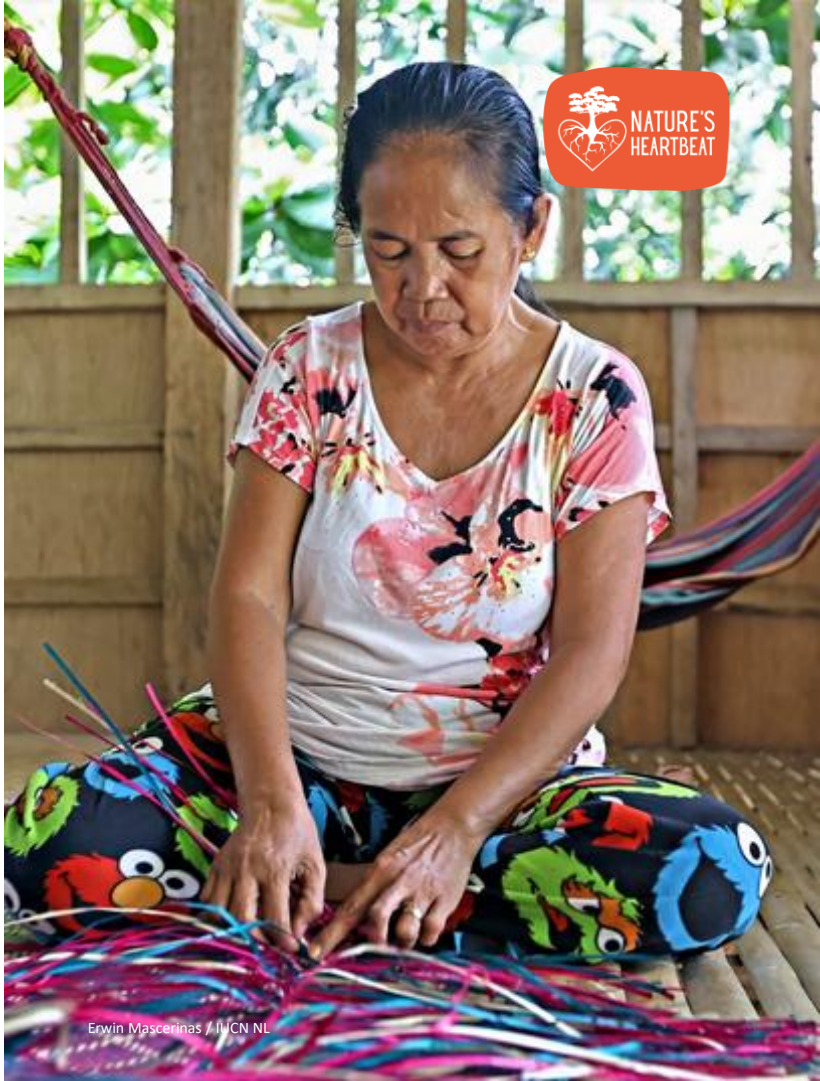
TRUSTED FINANCE



Andrew Kartende / IUCN NL

TRUST BASED FUNDING FOLLOWING THESE PRINCIPLES:

- Providing largely flexible funding
- Over multiple years
- Reducing the burden of planning and reporting
- Transparency and openness
- Welcoming feedback, and taking appropriate actions
- Go beyond just financial assistance



Erwin Mascerinas / IUCN NL

Trust-based funding for locally led action in KBAs

Reciprocal accountability. Control, learning and risk are shared differently.

PROJECT-CENTRED

- activities fixed early
- restricted budgets
- compliance upward
- risk transferred locally

PARTNERSHIP-CENTRED

- priorities shaped locally
- flexibility within shared purpose
- accountability as dialogue
- risk understood together

Erwin Mascerinas / IUCN NL

Key Biodiversity Areas need a network of local stewards

Sites matter. So do the communities, institutions and relationships around them.



Conservation durability depends on the surrounding social system

NATURE'S HEARTBEAT



PATHWAY 1:

STRONG GRASSROOT CONSERVATIONISTS ON THE FRONT LINE



PATHWAY 2:

A SYSTEM SHIFT TO TRUST-BASED FUNDING



OUR LANDSCAPES





Our work at a glance

7
countries

19
Key Biodiversity Areas

50+
local conservation organisations supported

6+ mln.
hectares of high-value nature

NATURE'S HEARTBEAT

Alianza Konservasi Tompotika
ATO
Alliance for Tompotika Conservation

Armonía
CONSERVACIÓN DE AVES EN BOLIVIA

A ROCHA GHANA

ECOTRUST
The Environmental Conservation Trust of Uganda

NATIVA
NATURALEZA TIERRA Y VIDA

NTFP EP

Strong Roots

Vereniging van Saamaka Gemeenschappen
wan hati

Kemitraan Konservasi Indonesia
WARSI

IUCN National Committee of The Netherlands

Scale the method, not a blueprint

Growth should preserve local choice and adapt to each landscape.

- SHARED VALUES
- FLEXIBLE FINANCE
- TAILORED SUPPORT
- NETWORKS
- SIMPLE EVIDENCE



Replicate principles. Contextualise practice.

The network grows through new hubs and donors, while decisions remain close to each KBA landscape.

Nature is Critical Infrastructure, that is rejected

For Ghana, biodiversity is the operating system for three things:

- **Food security:** pollination, soil fertility, rainfall regulation and food crops and forest commodity resilience.
- **Health:** clean water from forested watersheds, bushmeat and medicinal plants, and disease buffering.
- **Wellbeing and economy:** livelihoods, cultural identity, and flood and heat protection.
- **Safety-net - Communities and economy**





The Challenge

A ROCHA GHANA

01 Limited and unreliable public funding for biodiversity conservation.

02 No fiscal space. Debt competes with conservation. Forestry and wildlife agencies depend on thin retained revenues and project cycles.

03 Fragmented, short-cycle money: not the standing costs of protection: patrols, community institutions and legal defence.

04 Competing interests and implementation in silos. Poor integration of biodiversity and nature-based solutions into national planning agenda

05 Funding accessibility by international bodies including UN agencies crowding out local institutions and capacity



The Solution: Empower and Resource at local

01 Mobilizing Communities for collective biodiversity conservation outcomes - Organizational Development, legitimacy, and fundraising capacity

02 Identifying and amplifying the activities of local CBOs and organizations – Strengthening the roots and Natures' Heartbeat, CEPF

03 Identifying, connecting local private enterprises for investment in sustainable commodity sourcing, tied to biodiversity outcomes

04 A national fund for local activation is needed at scale,but can operate at landscape too. Eg. Conservation trust funds



Going forward – Last Mile

- **Small, fast, flexible windows at scale.** Direct grants of US$10,000-200,000 with simple reporting.
- **Core and recurrent funding.** Costs for protection, monitoring and institutions, not just activities.
- **Intermediaries accountable upwards and downwards.** Trusted national organisations that pool, de-risk and re-grant.
- **Local governance.** Community resource management areas (CREMAs), traditional authorities and women's and youth groups with real decision rights.
- **Public accountability.** Transparent tracking, so finance is not captured en route.

Conservation Connect

A centralised, trusted space where donors and conservationists connect



Picture from Aka Pacha
https://conservationconnect.earth/owner/4596

Conservation Connect

The bottleneck is infrastructure, not ideas

There are thousands of frontline conservationists making real change, but the funding they need isn't being distributed effectively. The missing piece is infrastructure that connects conservationists with funders safely, efficiently, and at scale.



Picture from Aka Packa
https://conservationconnect.earth/owner/4596



Picture from Wildtracks
https://conservationconnect.earth/owner/2548

Challenges to address

The obstacles to bringing funds to the frontline

- **Fragmentation and isolation** of conservation efforts, harder to identify high-impact, locally-driven organisations.
- Risk aversion of donors, fueled by a **lack of visibility** and credibility of locally-led efforts
- Donors also operate in silos, therefore lots of double work and **broken funding chain**,
- **Lack of overview** of who does what, where, funded by whom. Harder to identify underfunded areas of intervention.
- **Misalignment in donor sector**; over bureaucratic application processes and mix-match of frameworks

A central space for donors

Overview & insights

Increased efficiency:

- >5.500 vetted projects
- References

Exchange experiences

Align approaches & frameworks





Picture by Anoulak
https://conservationconnect.earth/owner/518

And for conservationists

Visibility

Credibility

Network

Access to funding

Targeted funding towards pressing topics

Using data-insights from our database, we can identify where need is greatest and funding can achieve the most impact. By combining literature research with indicators like urgency and potential for scalable impact, we can flag topics that are especially high leverage.









Picture by Arend de Haas from African Conservation Foundation
https://conservationconnect.earth/owner/2214

Succes story: Proving the power of connection

Five organisations in Cameroon now working together on conserving the Cross-river gorilla habitat

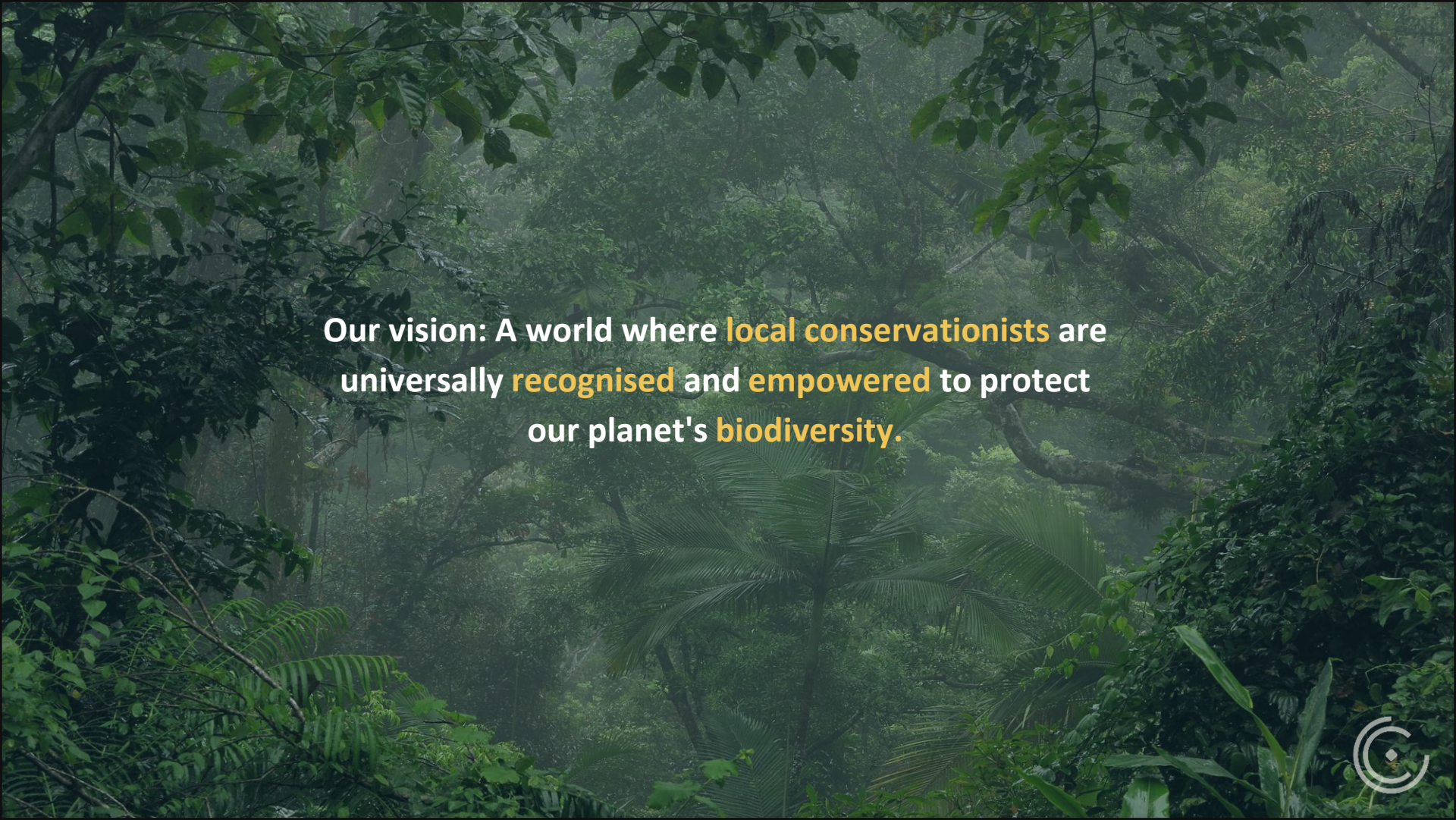


Picture from Luckango Tree Conservancy
https://conservationconnect.earth/owner/5765

Challenges Remain

What we need to overcome the obstacles for a more effective funding landscape for local conservation efforts

- Building this infrastructure and coordinating efforts requires funding and time.
- We are often stuck in business-as-usual. We need to encourage and embrace change.
- Fixed application rounds make us rigid, we need flexible funding for catalytic co-and follow-up funding
- See collective action and sectorial alignment as a priority, no nice-to-have


Our vision: A world where local conservationists are universally recognised and empowered to protect our planet's biodiversity.

Panel discussion



Pria Ghosh
Syncronicity Earth



Daryl Bosu
A ROCHA Ghana



Ivo Walsmit
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Micheal Clifford Reverse the Red

Hosts



Anne Alexandre
Conservation Connect

Credits: IUCN NL/Broekarts

Audience dialogue



Closing remarks



Sander van Andel
IUCN NL

Erwin Mascerinas / IUCN NL

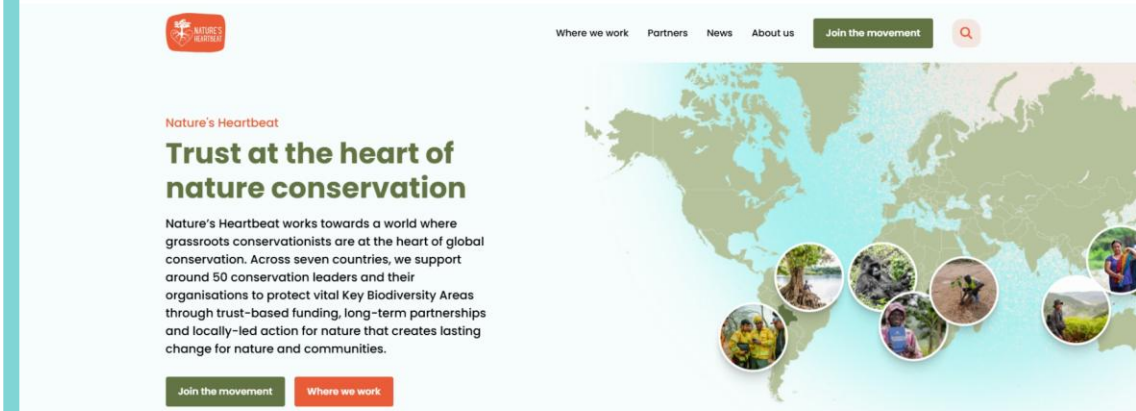
NATURE'S HEARTBEAT

Join the movement

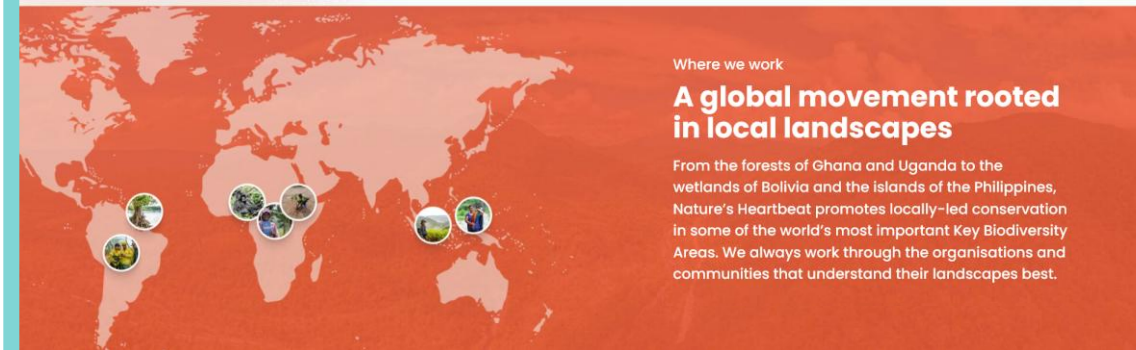
VISIT

www.naturesheartbeat.org

Scan QR code







Connect with us!

Current times show the necessity for coordinated action. Conservation Connect facilitates this need and grows the impact funders have. We hope you join us.

anne@conservationconnect.earth

www.conservationconnect.earth

/company/conservation-connect



Picture from Khamai Foundation
https://conservationconnect.earth/owner/4505

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

More information?

Sander van Andel
sander.vanandel@iucn.nl

Anne Alexandre
anne@conservationconnect.earth



Andrew Kartende / IUCN NL

What's next?


COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA
IUCN National Committee of The Netherlands
SYNCHRONICITY EARTH
COP17 | 21 October 2026
Building Trust for Biodiversity: Reimagining Funding Relationships for Higher Conservation Impact
Date: October 21 2026
Time: 12:00 - 13:00 UTC +4
Location: FPWC Blue Zone Pavilion, Meridian Exhibition Center


COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA
IUCN National Committee of The Netherlands
COP17 | 23 October 2026
Frontline conservation resilience: why trust -based rapid response funding is essential for delivering the Global Biodiversity Framework
Date: 23 October 2026
Time: 14.00 - 15.00 UTC +4
Location: IUCN Pavillion Forum Room: B

link naar natures heartbeat website

Link naar Conservation connect website

Link naar anderen?

The network in the landscape effect compounds impact for Nature

From capable organisations to a resilient landscape constituency.



1 Stronger organisations

2 collaboration

complementary roles

3 Collective influence

shared evidence + advocacy

4 Durable stewardship

organizations that remain after projects

Panel Questions

How to move from fragmented grants to lasting local stewardship?

NETWORK

Why is a diverse set of local actors crucial for KBA landscape conservation

FINANCE

How can funding strengthen organisations and networks, not only activities?

RISK

What risk should donors and re-granters share rather than transfer?

CONNECT

How can KBA local actors influence national and global systems?

Embedding grassroots actors in the global conservation movement

For locally led protection of Key Biodiversity Areas

LOCAL LEADERSHIP

LANDSCAPE NETWORKS

TRUSTED FINANCE

The persistent mismatch

High responsibility on the ground. Low access to resources and decisions.



The result: local actors carry the mission, but remain restricted.

Trust-based funding for locally led action in KBAs

Reciprocal accountability. Control, learning and risk are shared differently.

PROJECT-CENTRED

- activities fixed early
- restricted budgets
- compliance upward
- risk transferred locally

PARTNERSHIP-CENTRED

- priorities shaped locally
- flexibility within shared purpose
- accountability as dialogue
- risk understood together

Nature's HeartBeat

OUR LANDSCAPES



Nature's Heartbeat: four reinforcing investments in KBAs

Trust is the foundation. Organisational strength and networks turn it into conservation results.

TRUST

shared values, local choices

FLEXIBLE FINANCE

room to respond and invest

LOCAL AGENCY

TAILORED SUPPORT

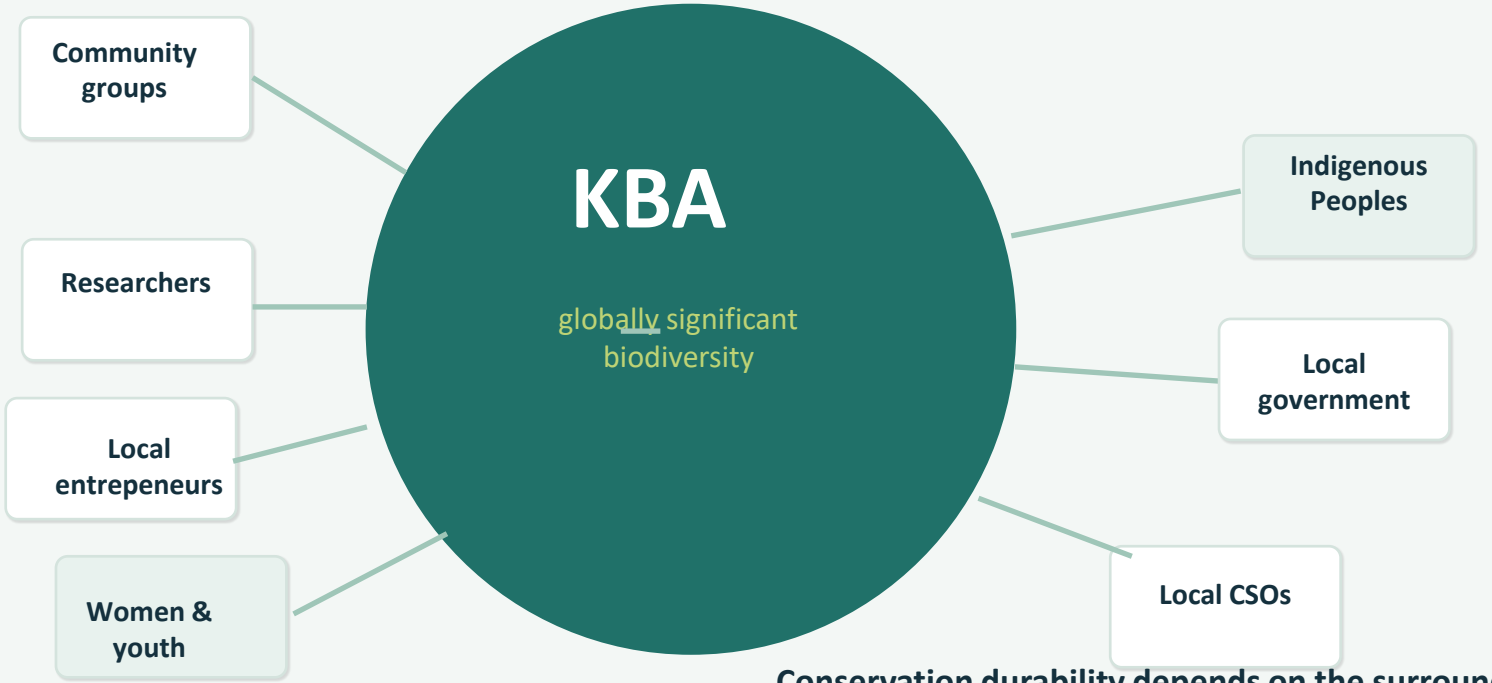
coaching based on need

LANDSCAPE NETWORK

peer learning and global connections

Key Biodiversity Areas need a network of local stewards

Sites matter. So do the communities, institutions and relationships around them.



Conservation durability depends on the surrounding social system

The network effect compounds impact

From capable organisations to a resilient landscape constituency.

1 Stronger organisations

capacity + flexible resources

2 Better collaboration

peer learning + complementary roles

3 Collective influence

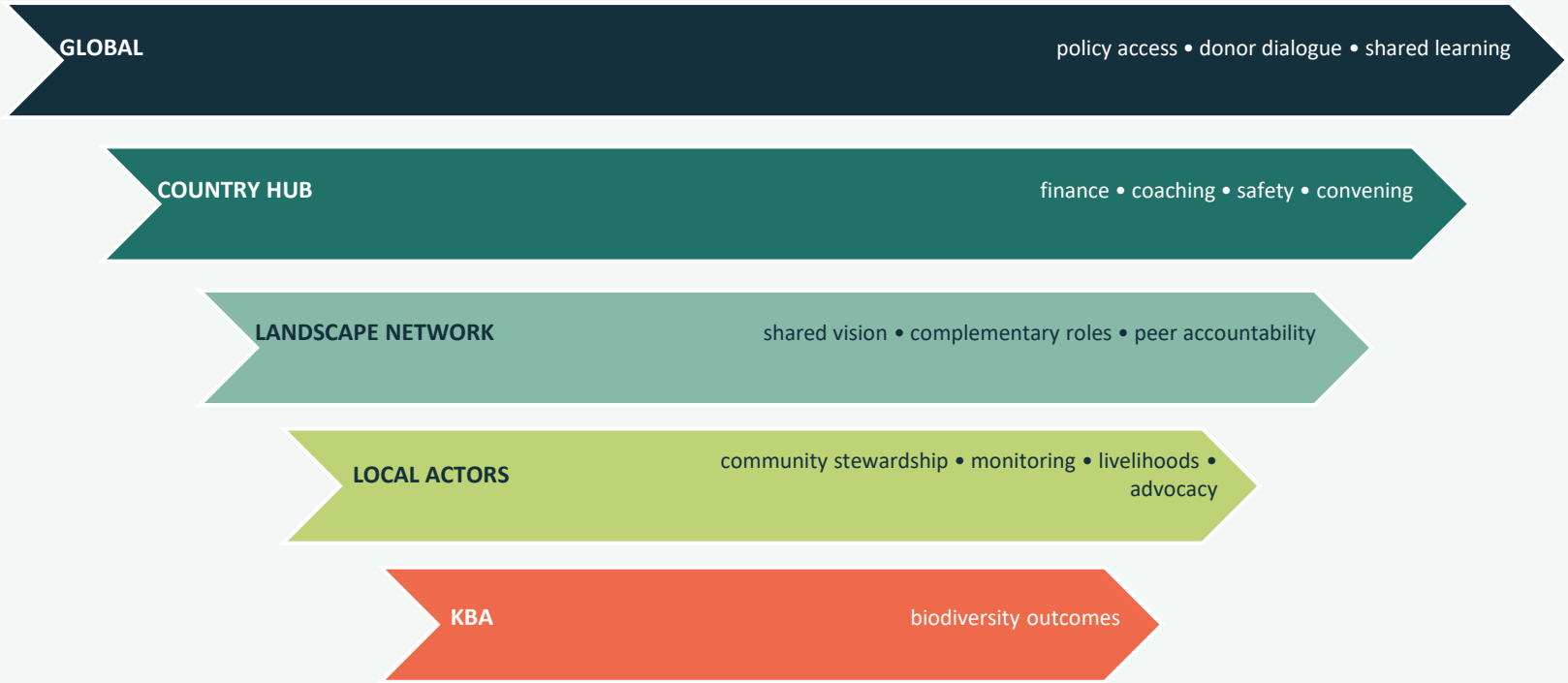
shared evidence + advocacy

4 Durable stewardship

institutions that remain after projects

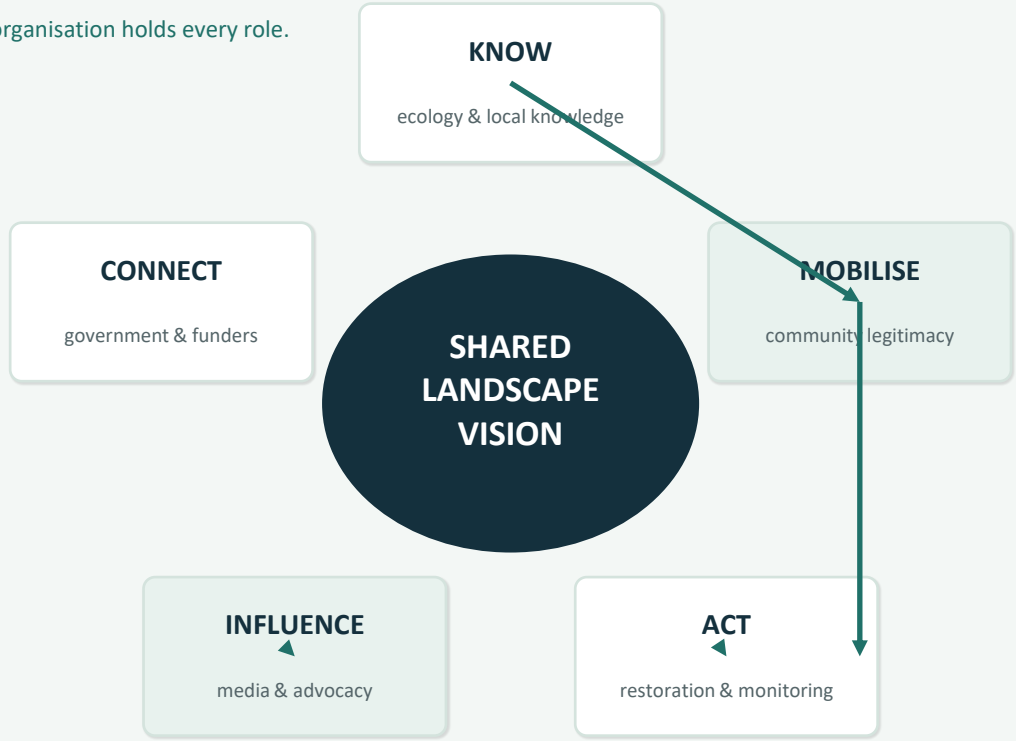
A practical landscape architecture

Local organisations lead. Hubs accompany. Global partners open doors.



Why fund a network, not only separate projects?

A landscape is a system. No single organisation holds every role.



Two pathways, one system change

Strengthen local actors and change the way conservation finance works.

PATHWAY 1

Strong local actors on the frontline

- TRUSTED SELECTION
- FLEXIBLE FINANCE
- CAPACITY AND LEARNING
- SIMPLE IMPACT EVIDENCE

PATHWAY 2

A shift towards trust-based funding

- VISIBILITY
- SHARED STANDARD
- ADVICE TO FUNDERS
- NEW COMMITMENTS

Early evidence confirms the design

Partners ask for more than larger grants. They ask for capability, flexibility and relationships.

82%

technical support or capacity building

75%

more flexible use of funds

75%

stronger relationships with funders

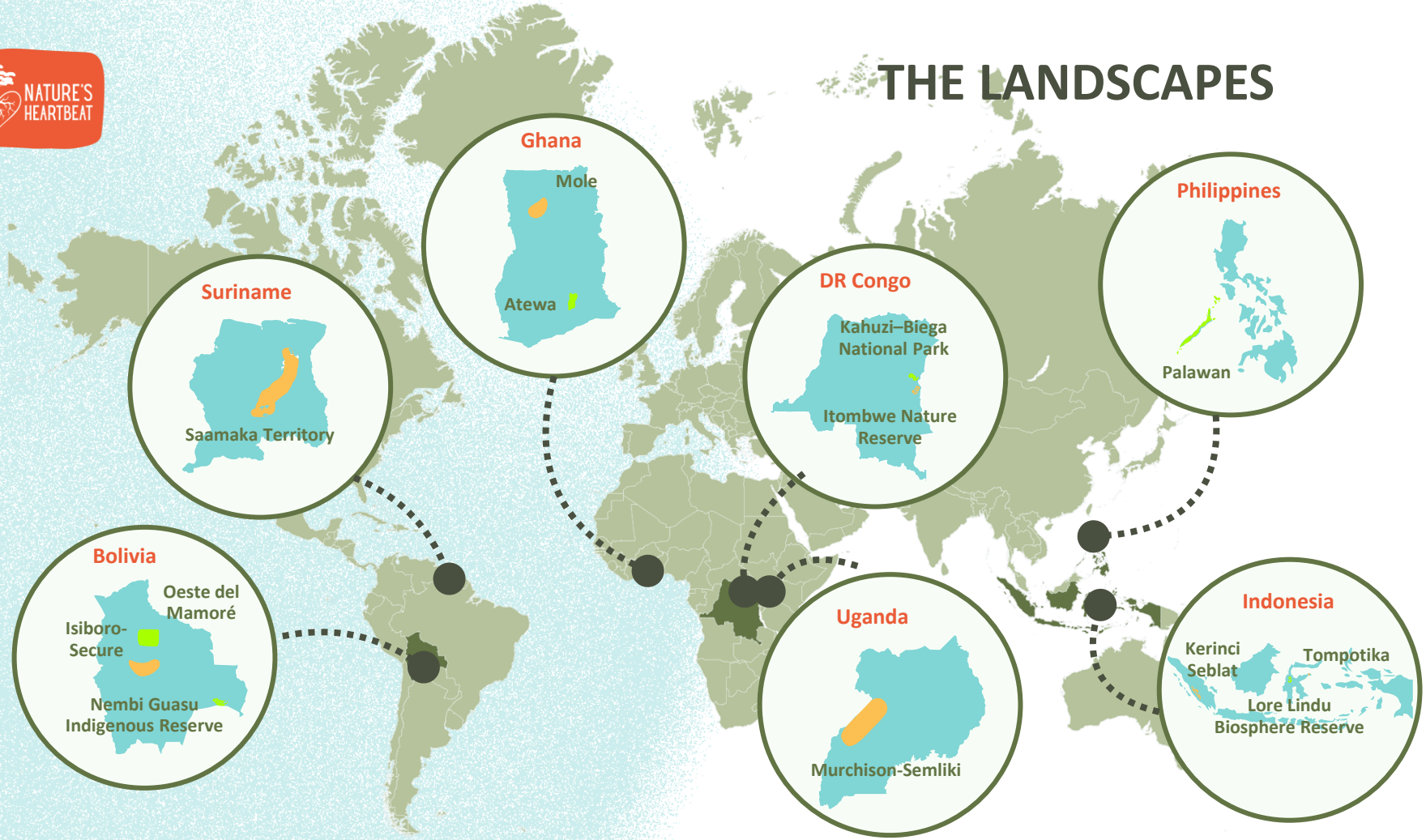
61%

more decision-making power

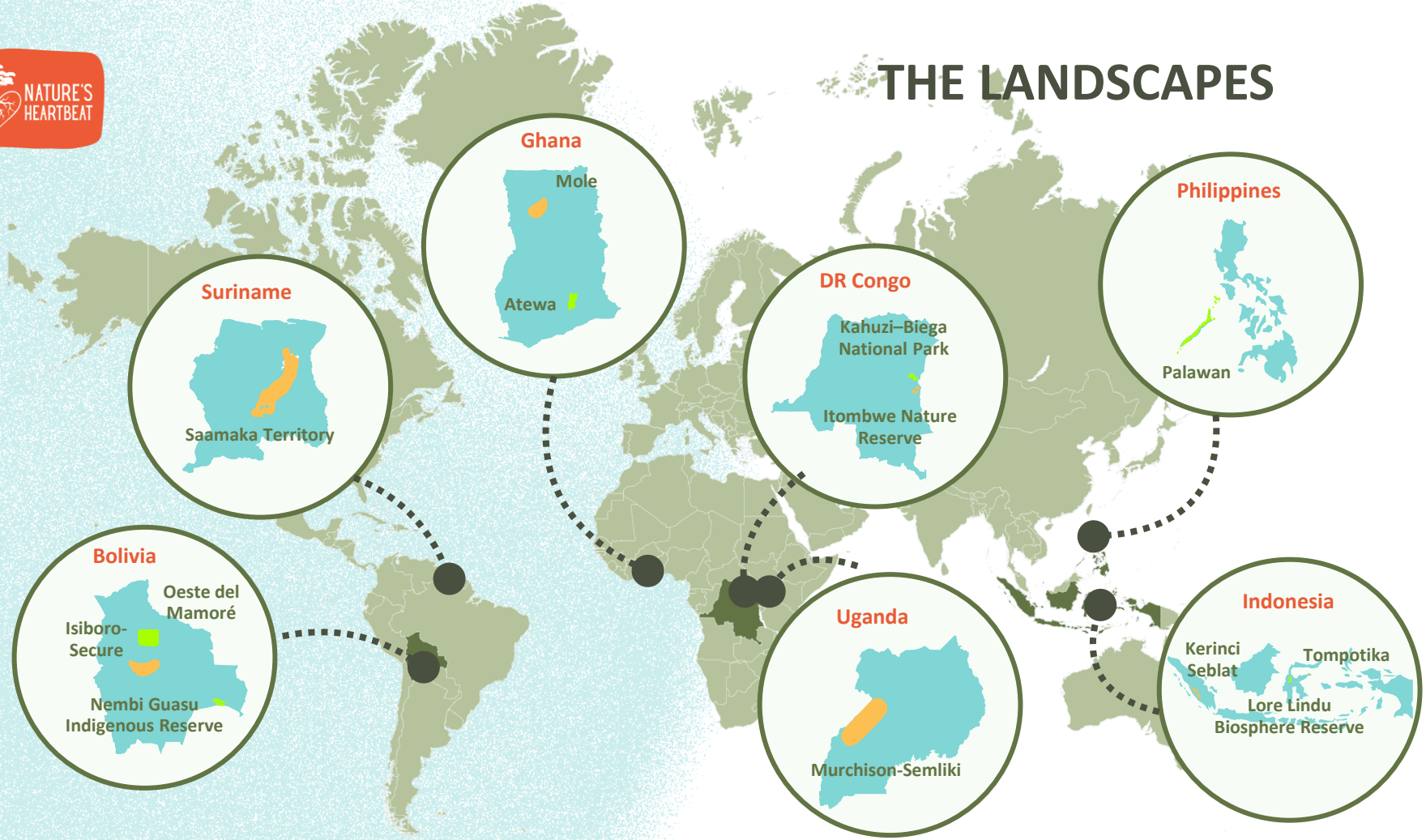
28 of 35 landscape partners responded to the baseline survey

Design implication: pair flexible finance with accompaniment and network building.

THE LANDSCAPES



THE LANDSCAPES



What networked conservation looks like

Different roles combine around a shared landscape purpose.



GHANA

Advocacy groups, media and CREMAs coordinated action against illegal mining.



INDONESIA

Community groups, government and park authorities developed shared support for Maleo conservation.

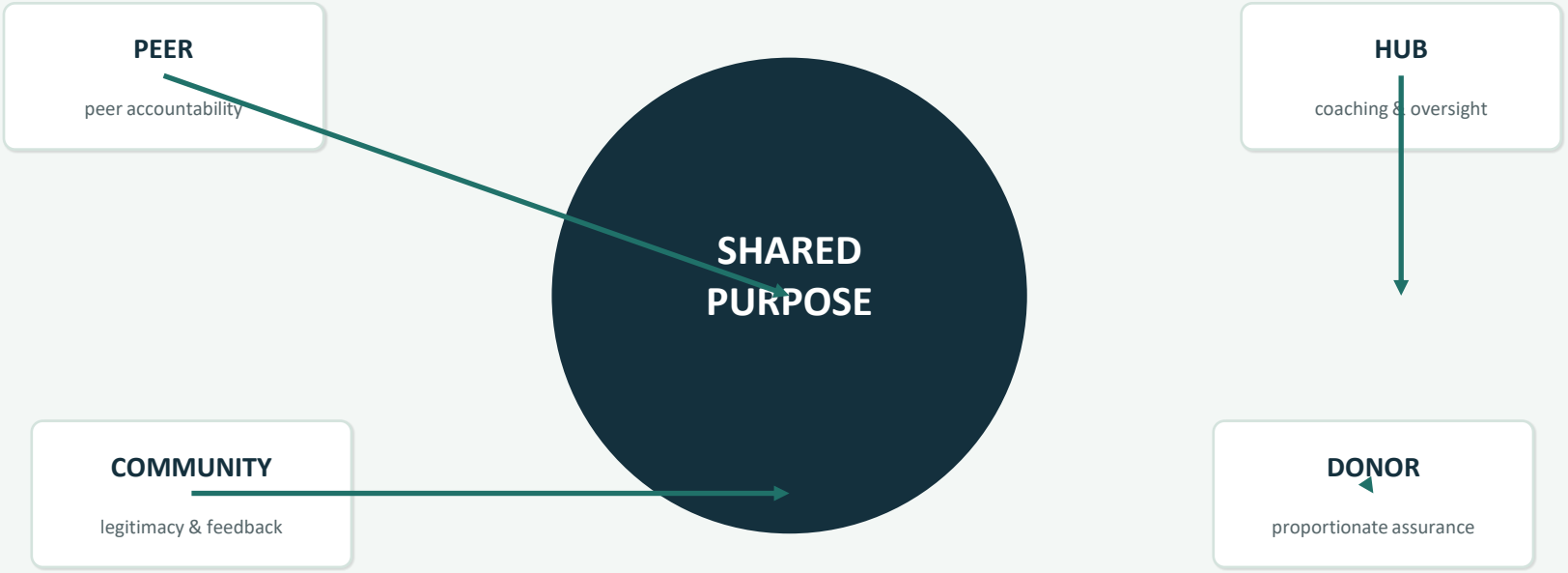


PHILIPPINES

Indigenous youth and women’s organisations are collaborating on restoration, advocacy and enterprises.

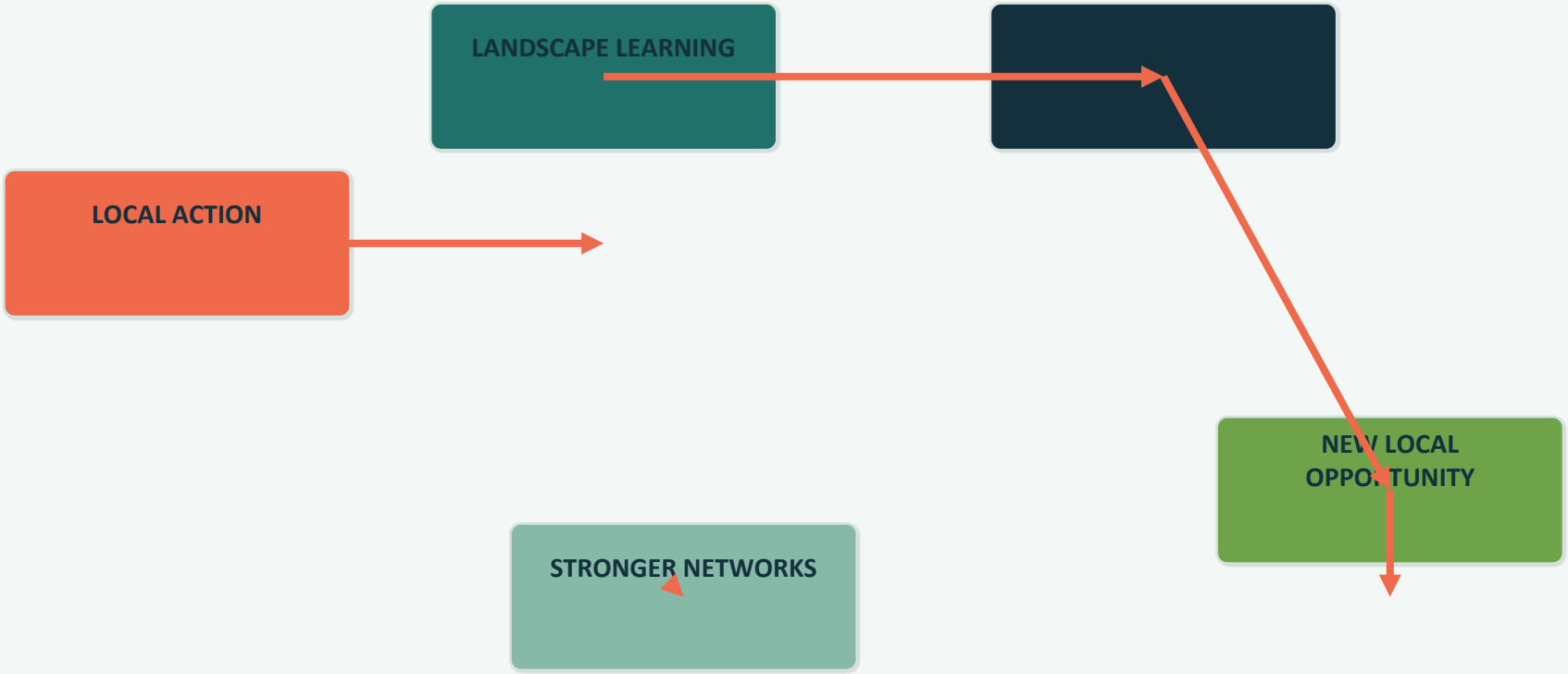
Trust requires a stronger accountability ecosystem

Vertical control becomes one part of a wider system of relationships.



Local → global → local

Evidence and influence should travel in both directions.



Stories, data and practical standards move upward. Resources, recognition and influence return.

What must change now?

DECIDE

Which decisions can move closer to local actors?

FINANCE

How can funding strengthen organisations and networks, not only activities?

RISK

What risk should donors share rather than transfer?

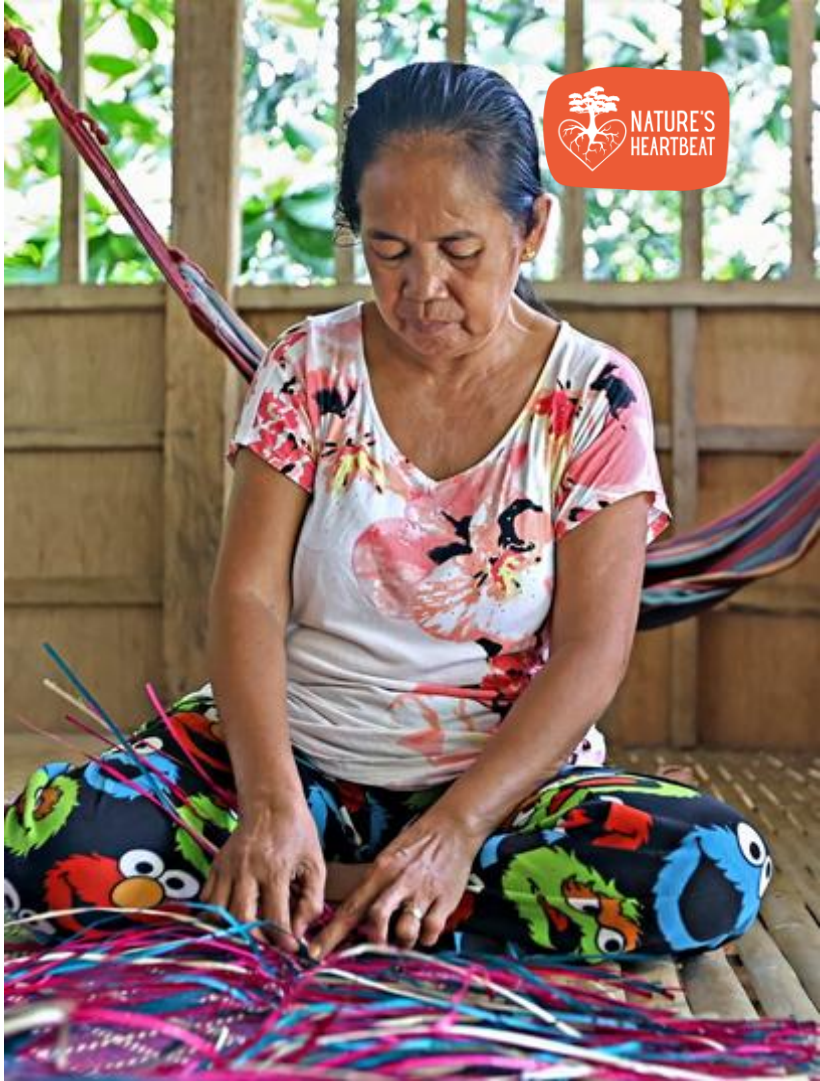
CONNECT

How can KBA actors influence national and global systems?

From fragmented grants to lasting local stewardship

TRUST BASED FUNDING FOLLOWING THESE PRINCIPLES:

- Providing largely unearmarked funding
- Over multiple years
- Reducing the burden of planning and reporting
- Transparency and openness
- Welcoming feedback, and taking appropriate actions
- Go beyond just financial assistance



NATURE'S HEARTBEAT



PATHWAY 1:

STRONG GRASSROOT CONSERVATIONISTS ON THE FRONT LINE



PATHWAY 2:

A SYSTEM SHIFT TO TRUST-BASED FUNDING



TAKE OUT ???


PATHWAY 1:
strong conservationists on the front line
PATHWAY 2:
a shift to trust-based funding

WHAT IS TRUST BASED FUNDING

TAKE OUT ???



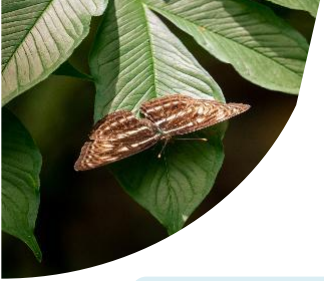
- **Collaborative approach** between funders and civil society with shared accountability.
- **Challenges traditional power dynamics**, focusing on equality and common goals.
- **Building trust**, enabling openness, mutual learning, and tackling complex social issues together.

TAKE OUT ???

TRUST BASED FUNDING FOLLOWING THESE PRINCIPLES:

- **Providing largely unearmarked funding**
- **Over multiple years**
- **Reducing the burden of planning and reporting**
- **Transparency and openness**
- **Welcoming feedback, and taking appropriate actions**
- **Go beyond just financial assistance**





CONCERNS ABOUT TRUST BASED funding

TAKE OUT ???

- **Reduced control, as project finance simplifies the assessment**
- **Not short-term performance based but long-term impact based**
- **Enough accountability for recipient organizations**
- **Can organizations can responsibly manage unearmarked funding**

Trust-based funding for locally led action in KBAs

Reciprocal accountability. Control, learning and risk are shared differently.

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PARTNERSHIP-CENTRED

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- risk understood together

Next up

15:30 – 16:30

How can we strengthen global scientific coordination to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Take a look
at our programme:

Netherlands

COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA

Strengthening the biodiversity research–policy interface

Improving global coordination of biodiversity research

Damaris Zurell (damaris.zurell@uni-potsdam.de)
Nick Isaac
Alejandro Ordnonez

GEO BON

Download the Background brief

People and organizations involved …









SBSTTA TSC









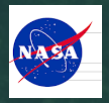


























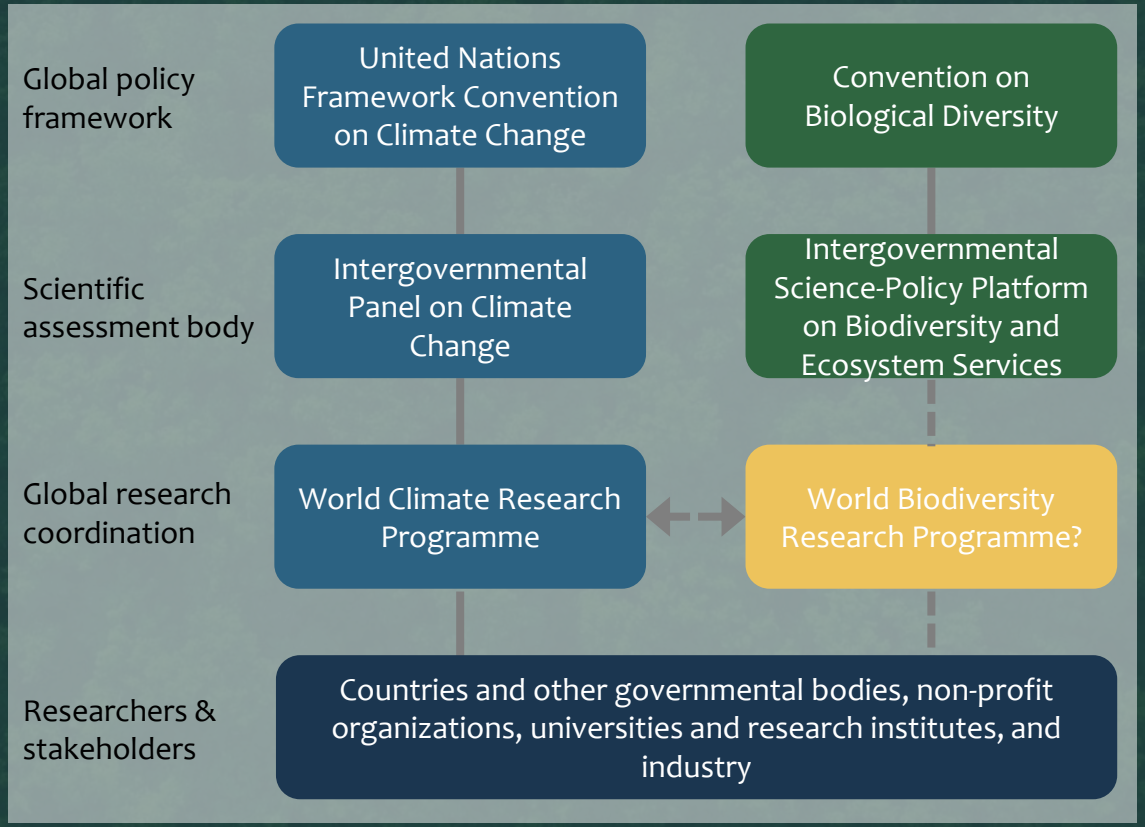




Researchers from:

Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Mexico, New Zealand, Phillipines, South Africa, Spain, UK, US...

Nature needs coordinated biodiversity research



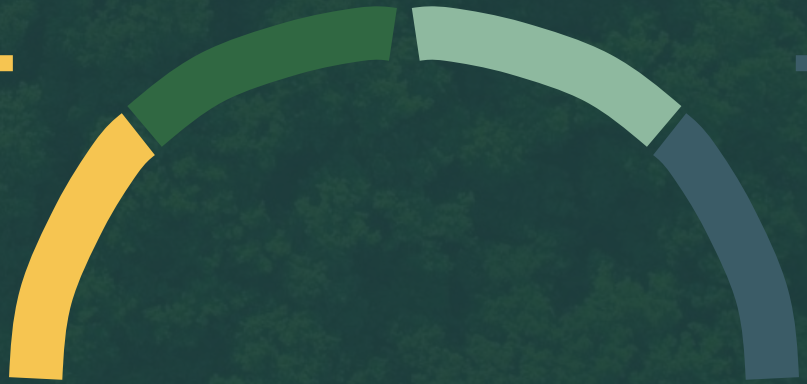
Climate science has the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP).

There is currently no equivalent mechanism to coordinate global research in biodiversity.

Introducing the World Biodiversity Research Programme

SCIENCE-POLICY SUPPORT
- Scientific support for CBD processes
- Support NBSAP implementation and reporting
- Develop briefs and guidance

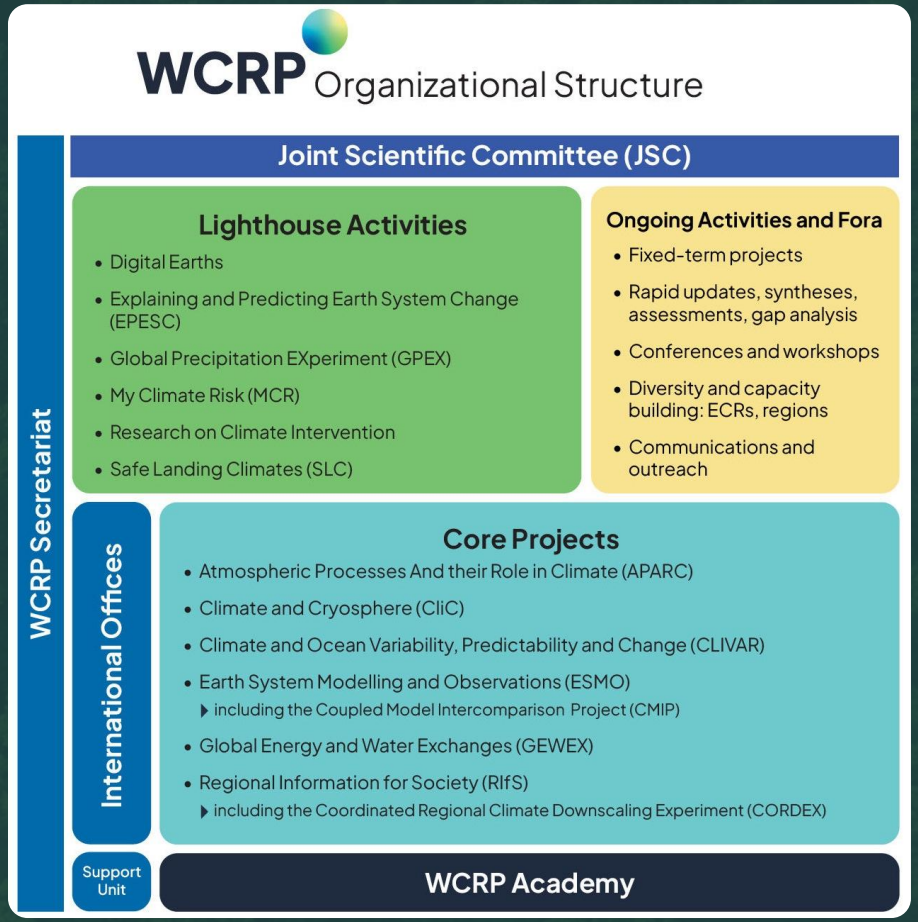
INTEGRATION & CAPACITY-BUILDING
- Integrate science disciplines
- Build capacity and support Global South leadership
- Engage knowledge holders, Indigenous Peoples and society



RESEARCH COORDINATION
- Set global research priorities
- Catalyse international collaborations
- Align and leverage research funding

SHARED SCIENTIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE
- Models and scenarios
- Build and connect biodiversity data infrastructure
- Align data and modelling flows with assessment cycles

An analogy from climate science

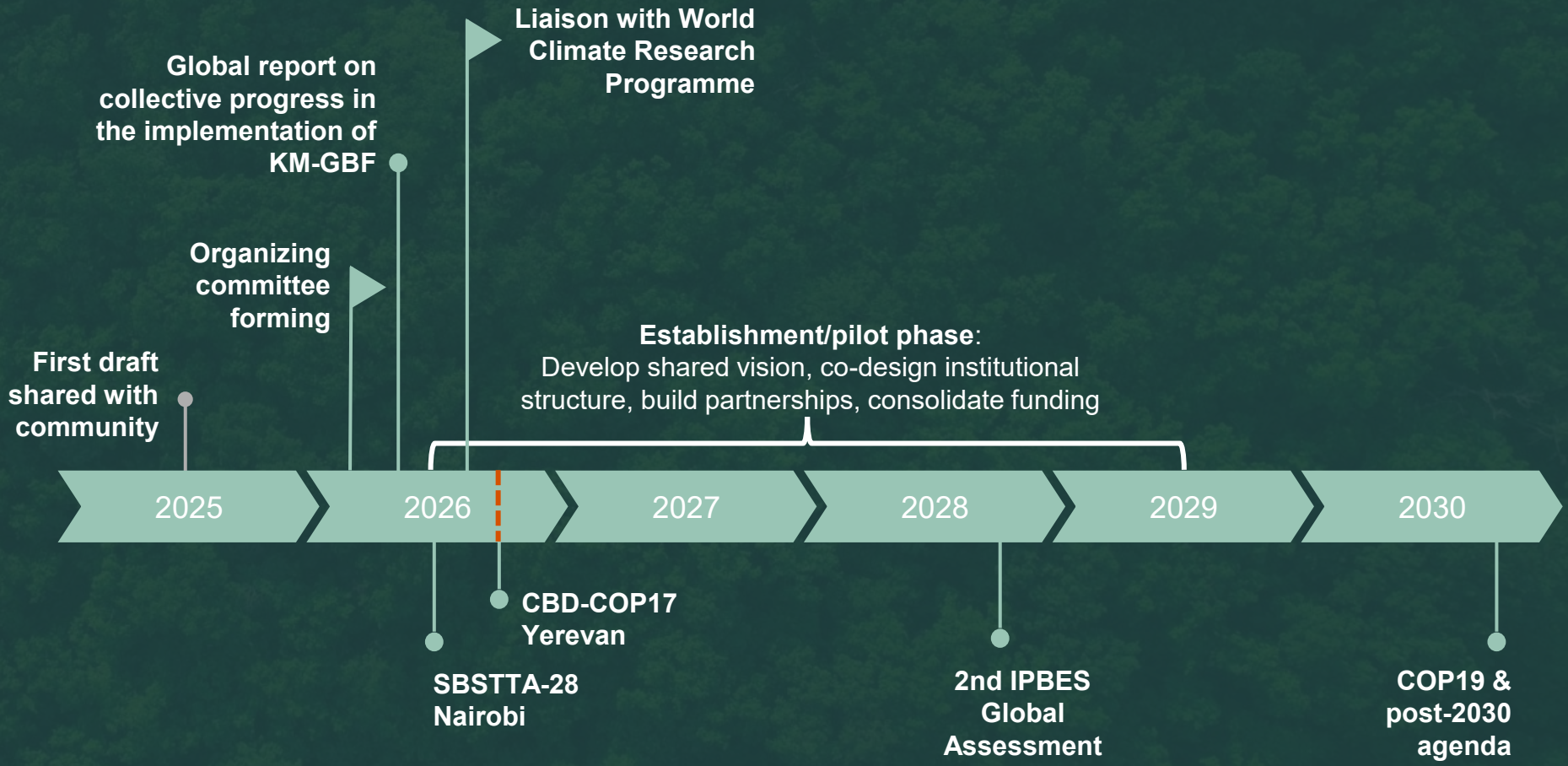


An equivalent to the **World Climate Research Programme** is missing for biodiversity science

Possible examples of research priorities

- Closing biodiversity knowledge shortfalls – closing data and knowledge gaps on extinction risks, population trends, genetic diversity …
- Understudied ecosystems
- Linking biodiversity to ecosystem functions and Nature Contribution's to People and finance
- Understanding interactive effects of and feedback with drivers of global change
- Understanding trade-offs between goals and targets (KM-GBF, SDG)
- Integrated scenarios and models

Timeline


Liaison with World Climate Research Programme
Global report on collective progress in the implementation of KM-GBF
Organizing committee forming
First draft shared with community
Establishment/pilot phase: Develop shared vision, co-design institutional structure, build partnerships, consolidate funding
2025
2026
2027
2028
2029
2030
CBD-COP17 Yerevan
SBSTTA-28 Nairobi
2nd IPBES Global Assessment
COP19 & post-2030 agenda

Next steps: 3-year pilot phase & expert consultation

Deliverables by end of Year 3

1. A model governance and institutional structure. A tested design for the Joint Scientific Committee (composition, mandate, decision rules)
2. Formal partnership agreements with existing bodies
3. One demonstrated research coordination activity
4. A funders aligning outcome

Long-term institutional support….

Resourcing

- Founding WBRP secretariat

  to convene the Joint Scientific Committee and working groups

- Ring-fenced funding

  for participation costs from underrepresented regions, particularly the Global South, in all pilot activities

- Scientific demonstrators

  to incubate core projects

Discussion forum

- What are the potential synergies with existing organizations?
- How do we encourage dialogue at the institutional level?
- What would be the organizational and funding structure for this proposed organization?
- What is the best way to involve the global research and policy community in this effort?

Background Brief:



Commentary:



Mailing list:



Next up

16:45 – 17:45

Sizing the Cali Fund: revenue potential and the case for corporate participation

Take a look
at our programme:

Netherlands

COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA

Incentivising Multilateral Fund Contributions

Private sector payments to protect biodiversity

Camila Cristancho Duarte, Co-Principal Investigator
m.c.cristancho-duarte@lse.ac.uk
Agata Makowska-Curran, PhD candidate
a.b.makowska@lse.ac.uk

LSE The London School of Economics and Political Science

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment

LSE Global School of Sustainability

Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment

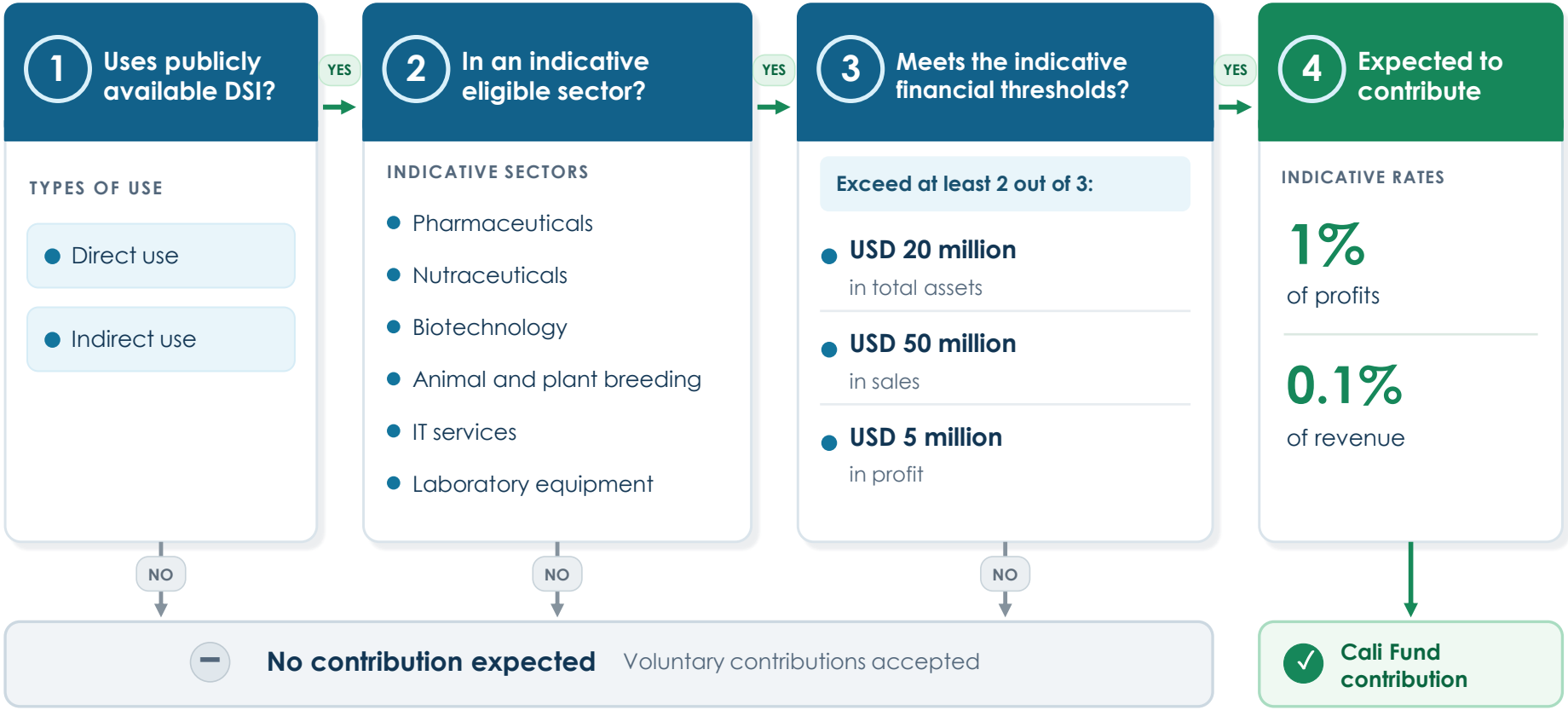
Today's focus

1. Decision 16/2 uncertainties and revenue potential
2. National measures to incentivise Cali Fund contributions
3. Recommendations

1. Decision 16/2, uncertainties and revenue potential

Who is expected to pay?

An entity is expected to contribute to the Cali Fund only if it meets all four conditions in sequence



How much revenue can be raised?

Scenario	Annual (central estimates)				NPV at 3% ($bn)	
	Mean ($mn)	P5	P95	% of S0	To 2030	To 2035
S0 Full compliance	3,646	—	—	100.0	17.2	32.0
S1 Sector heterogeneity	1,162	810	1,533	31.9	5.5	10.2
S2 Sector and ownership	1,203	830	1,602	33.0	5.7	10.6
S3 Sector, ownership, and DSI intensity	929	591	1,296	25.5	4.4	8.2
S4 Gradual uptake (S3 + maturation)	—	—	—	—	1.3	4.3

Notes: P5 and P95 reflect uncertainty in sector-level participation rates across 10,000 Monte Carlo draws. NPV for S1–S3 assumes static participation ($c_t = 1$); S4 applies a maturation scalar rising linearly from 10% in 2026 to 100% by 2035, applied to the S3 central estimate (Section 5.1.3). S3 is the central scenario for annual revenue analysis; S4 is the central scenario for NPV projections. Discount rate sensitivity is reported in Table 20. Reference year 2023.

- Firm-level estimates for 21,690 companies across 100 countries, applying the Decision 16/2 contribution rule under full compliance and Monte Carlo-calibrated voluntary uptake scenarios

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Source: Makowska-Curran (2026)
https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/publication/from-global-biodiversity-commitments-to-local-action-revenue-potential-and-allocation-dynamics-of-the-cali-fund/

Beyond the headline figures



- **Revenue base is concentrated**

a) Across firms: **Top 100 firms: ~30%**

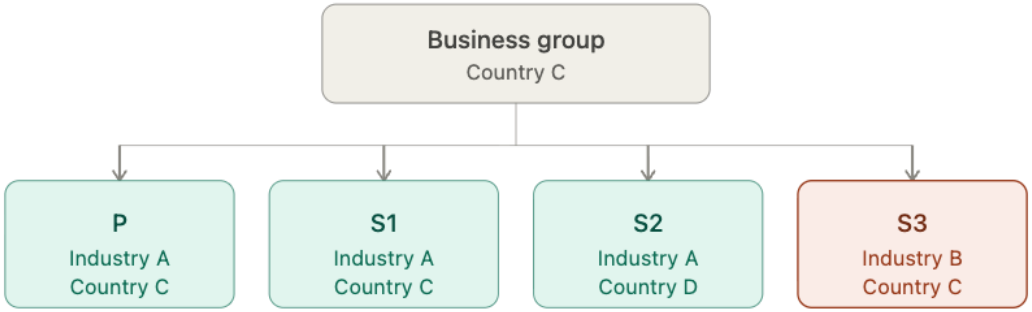
b) Across sectors: **Pharma: ~50%**

c) Across countries: **Top 10 comprise ~ 73% of the total revenue**

- **Eligible population is highly threshold-sensitive; contributions are not**
    - Doubling 2/3 thresholds cuts the eligible population by 43.5% but reduces contributions only by 7.4%;
    - Halving thresholds grows the population by 66% but adds only 5.5%

Ambiguity 1: What counts as an "entity"?

- **Decision 16/2 gives no definition.**
  - Working assumption: an individual legal entity; typically an operating, for-profit company
  - Could be linked to IFRS *reporting entity*
- **The open question**
  - Subsidiary* or consolidated corporate group**? It changes who actually pays and how much.



Illustrative example of a multinational corporate group structure
Source: Based on **Bajgar et al. (2019)**

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P = parent company = upstream company (EC)
S = subsidiary = downstream company (EC)

"linked enterprises"

One company, two very different pictures

Category	Group level	Subsidiary level
Number of contributions	• One contribution per group	• Multiple contribution points
Number of jurisdictions	• One jurisdiction	• Multiple jurisdictions possible
Potential for contribution minimization	• Eliminates intra-group profit shifting	• Revenue and profit shifting between subsidiaries to shrink contribution base
	• Restructuring risk shifts to group boundary (e.g. through spin-offs)	• Restructuring risk: DSI activity moved into below-threshold entities
Proportionality	• Fairness concern if not all subsidiaries use DSI	• More targeted: only DSI-relevant entities contribute
Meeting thresholds	• Easier to meet thresholds	• Harder to meet thresholds

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No solution is perfect, but we want it to be fair while keeping the contributions high

What if we mix and match?

Category	Group level	Subsidiary level
Number of contributions	• One contribution per group	• Multiple contribution points
Number of jurisdictions	• One jurisdiction	• Multiple jurisdictions possible
Potential for contribution minimization	• Eliminates intra-group profit shifting	• Revenue and profit shifting between subsidiaries to shrink contribution base
	• Restructuring risk shifts to group boundary (e.g. through spin-offs)	• Restructuring risk: DSI activity moved into below-threshold entities
Proportionality	• Fairness concern if not all subsidiaries use DSI	• **More targeted: only DSI-relevant entities contribute**
Meeting thresholds	• **Easier to meet thresholds**	• Harder to meet thresholds

Thresholds at corporate group-level, contributions at a subsidiary level

- **Captures large multinationals** (incl. US-headquartered firms operating across CBD Parties)
- **Enables (improved) proportionality**: payment limited to a subsidiary actually using DSI

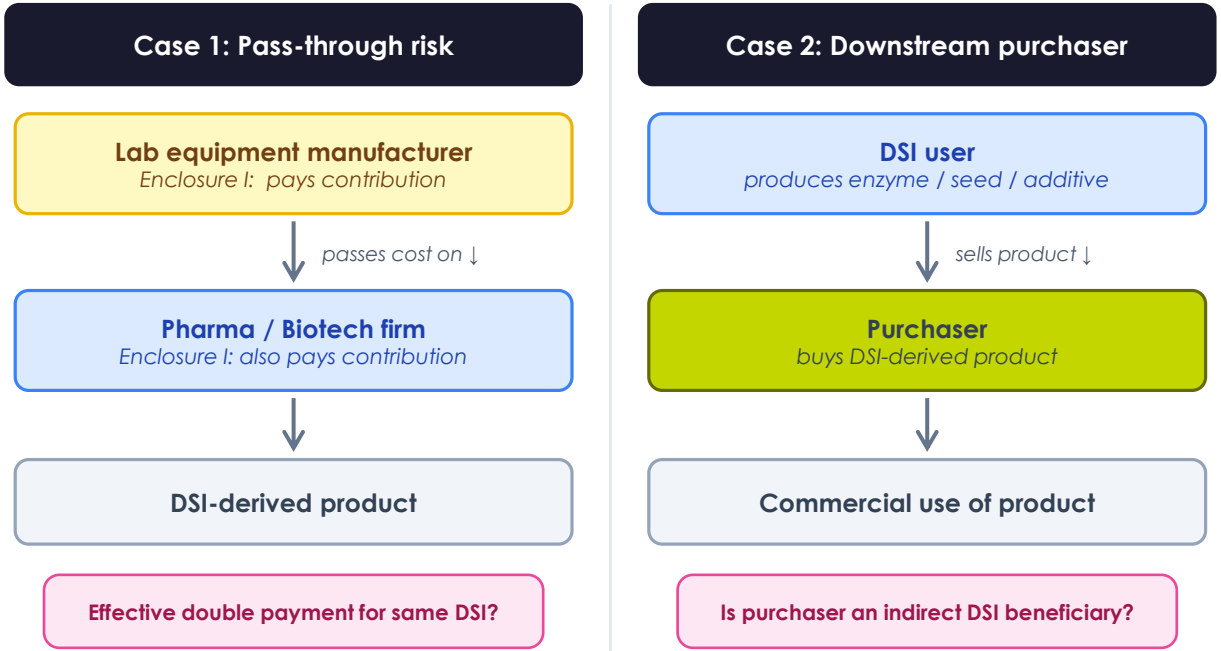
Anchors:

- EC Recommendation on SME definition*
    - where **a parent company holds 25% or more of a subsidiary's capital or voting rights, the subsidiary's financials are combined with the parent's** (in part or in full, depending on the size of the stake or control established) when assessing SME status, so the subsidiary cannot qualify as an SME on its own figures alone.
- US affiliation rule**:
    - a business is assessed together with any entity that controls it or that it controls, where control can be established through majority ownership (50%+) or through other means such as management overlap or a disproportionately large minority stake.

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* 2003/361/EC, Annex, Article 3
** 13 CFR § 121.103

Ambiguity 2: direct and indirect uses



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How to limit obligation stacking along the value chain?

Option 1: Remove or narrow "indirect"

- Lab equipment already listed explicitly in Enclosure I - stays in scope regardless
- Narrows scope without losing cases Parties likely had in mind
- Risk: may exclude some intended beneficiaries

Option 2: Trigger at first commercial use

- Liability attaches to the first entity that commercialises a product or service incorporating DSI
- A single trigger point may undercount cases where value is captured well downstream of first commercialisation (e.g. licensing)

Option 3: VAT-style deduction mechanism

- Each entity declares whether inputs already incorporate DSI that's been contributed on
- Downstream entities rely on the declaration rather than re-tracing the chain
- Exemption or deduction?

Option 4: Clearer sector definitions

- Can help limit who is in scope
- Do not resolve where along the value chain liability attaches

Ambiguity 3: indicative sectors, indicative contribution rates

- **Indicative sectors in Enclosure I**
  - The list helps identify sectors in scope but may require a review:
    - Cosmetics? Chemicals?
  - More precise scope could use standard industrial classification systems such as ISIC or NACE (see Oldham (2025)*)
    - Caveat: mapping challenging for some sectors e.g. Nutraceuticals

* Oldham, Paul, The Cali Fund: Sectors, Products and Services (March 26, 2025). Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=5195031 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5195031

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    - Caveat: mapping challenging for some sectors e.g. Nutraceuticals
- **Indicative contribution rates**
  - Indicative = interim? Payments below the indicative rate allowed?
  - The CBD study on contribution rates finds the current rates appropriate
  - Proportionality problem can be addressed via the contribution base

$$Contribution = contribution\ rate\ x\ contribution\ base$$

1% x **total** profit
0.1% x **total** revenue

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* Oldham, Paul, The Cali Fund: Sectors, Products and Services (March 26, 2025). Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=5195031 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5195031

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$$Contribution = contribution\ rate\ x\ contribution\ base$$

1% x ~~**total** profit~~
0.1% x ~~**total** revenue~~

% of total profit / revenue corresponding to DSI use?

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment

* Oldham, Paul, The Cali Fund: Sectors, Products and Services (March 26, 2025). Available at SSRN: https://ssrn.com/abstract=5195031 or http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5195031

Ambiguity 4: 2 out of 3 thresholds

- **Thresholds are not indicative but:**
  - They capture some EU companies classified as medium
    - Revenue threshold of USD 50 million is similar to the EU's EUR 50 million (~$58.1M).
    - Assets threshold of USD 20 million is considerably below the balance sheet ceiling of EUR 43 million (~$50.0M)
  - No explicit protection of SMEs
  - No planned adjustment for inflation
    - Directive 2013/34/EU article 3(13) supports an indexed approach every 5 years

2. National Measures to incentivise contributions

What makes the case for corporate action on biodiversity?

Motivations

Protect business value

Reduce risk exposure and increase resilience by protecting supply chains and assets.

Strengthen commercial positioning

Gain market access by securing biological assets via ABS, research, partnerships and capacity-building

Maintain stakeholder support

Keep social license to operate and shareholder expectations that motivate investment.

Constraints

Free riding in DSI

Open-access sequences remain available without contributing. Cali has no access conditionality.

Separate compliance obligations

Cali payments do not replace national ABS or Nagoya Protocol obligations.

Public benefits, private costs

Companies bear conservation costs while benefits extend to non-contributors.

Options to Incentivise Cali Fund Contributions

Four complementary levers translate biodiversity value into incentives that shape corporate decisions.

POLICY LEVER	INCENTIVE EFFECT	ILLUSTRATIVE MECHANISMS
01 **Make contributions commercially visible**	Makes payment a reportable, credible corporate action.	Disclosure recognition · Certification · Assurance · Branding
02 **Increase the cost of non-contribution**	Raises investor, reputational or regulatory pressure on non-participants.	Stewardship · Public benchmarks · Comply-or-explain · Regulatory hardening
03 **Increase the value of contributing**	Provides benefits that non-contributors cannot obtain.	Contributor clubs · Convening access · Regulatory credit · Legal certainty
04 **Reduce the cost of contributing**	Lowers after-tax or administrative costs while retaining the company's financial stake.	Sustainable finance instruments (e.g., green bonds) · Business-expense treatment · Targeted tax incentives · Streamlined procedures

Lever 1: Making contributions commercially visible

Disclosure frameworks and reporting

DSI dependence is rarely visible in corporate reporting, making a contribution harder to communicate as a credible nature-related action.

EVIDENCE FROM THE REVIEW

Only one sustainability-related document among the companies reviewed mentioned DSI.

Even then, it did not disclose or quantify the company's reliance on DSI.

WHY THE REPORTING GAP PERSISTS

01	**Location-first frameworks**	TNFD, ESRS E4 and GRI 101 focus on in-situ nature impacts; DSI use may occur without physical activity in the source location.
02	**No explicit DSI metrics**	The reviewed frameworks do not expressly cover DSI, although existing ABS and R&D disclosures offer partial entry points.
03	**Private R&D blind spot**	Public sequence records can be followed, but traceability becomes difficult once data enters private R&D pipelines.

POTENTIAL POLICY OPTION

Recognise verified Cali Fund contributions within existing reporting frameworks; use qualified proxies such as genetic-resource R&D spending, sequence-linked patents and INSDC references, without claiming complete DSI traceability.

Lever 1: Making contributions commercially visible

Disclosure frameworks and reporting

Proxies for reporting DSI-related R&D, compliance, patents and sequence references.

	METRIC/DATA POINT	WHAT IT CAPTURES
1	**Genetic-resource R&D expenditure**	Share of R&D spending linked to genetic-resource use
2	**Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance**	Number of IRCCs referenced in the reporting period
3	**Patents citing sequences (claimed vs cited)**	Distinguishes sequences central to an invention from supporting references
4	**Keystone or ecologically significant species with DSI sourced**	Flags reliance on species with ecologically pivotal roles.
5	**Sequences accessed or downloaded from public DSI databases**	DSI informing R&D, even without a sequence in the final product.
6	**Sequencing instruments and related equipment expenditure**	Indirect proxy for in-house DSI generation and use where sequence-level reporting is unavailable

Lever 1: Making contributions commercially visible

Certificates and verification

Decision 16/2 provides for an annual certificate for a contribution to the Cali Fund. Its broader value depends on its design, verification and recognition.



WHAT DECISION 16/2 PROVIDES

Annual certificate for contributing entities

For that year, contributors are excluded from further monetary benefit-sharing obligations **under this mechanism.**

ELEMENTS TO OPERATIONALISE THE CALI FUND CERTIFICATE

01 REPUTATIONAL

The certificate: differentiates between high and low performers, is independently verified and assured, and is simple to communicate.

02 TRANSPARENCY

Verified certificates can be recognised in existing frameworks, including GRI 101-3, ESRS E4, and TNFD reporting.

03 LEGAL

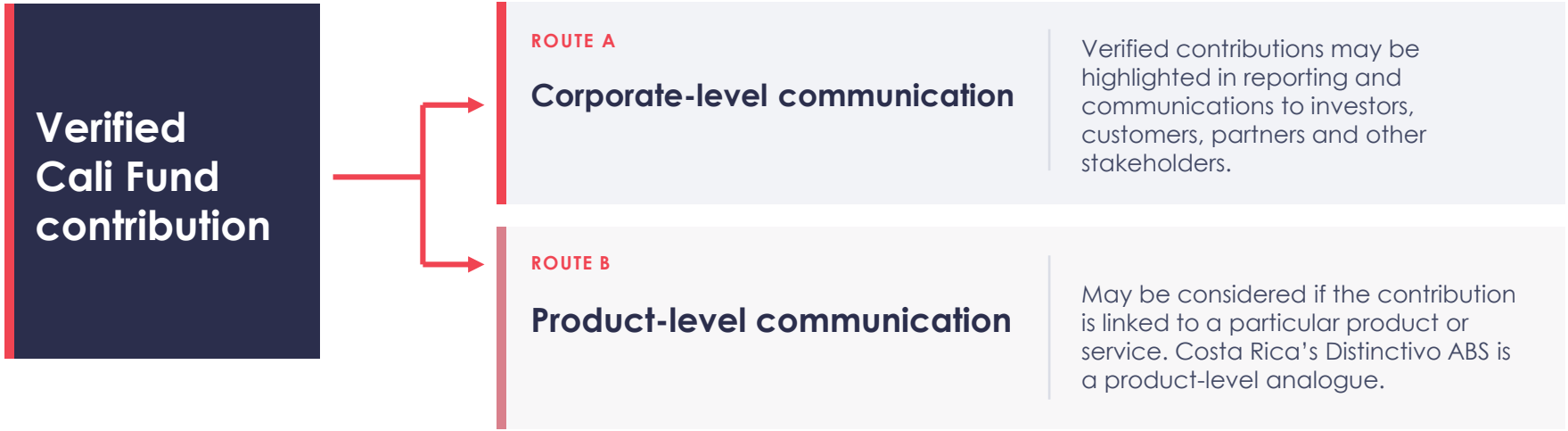
Countries clarify how it interacts with national legislation and defines interaction with other international mechanisms.

Lever 1: Making contributions commercially visible

Branding

Use of a verified contribution as part of a company's corporate or product-level communications.

Particularly relevant in consumer-facing sectors, where biodiversity, natural ingredients or genetic resources can be more readily connected to the products being sold.



Lever 2: Increasing the cost of non-contribution

Investor stewardship and engagement

Voluntary contributions can still attract shareholder scrutiny

HOW PRESSURE COULD DEVELOP

01 **Investor engagement**
Shareholders bring biodiversity-related expectations into engagement and voting.

02 **Comply or explain**
Companies may be asked to explain whether and why they contribute to the Cali Fund.

03 **Disclosure and benchmarks**
Non-contribution becomes more visible, increasing reputational scrutiny.

The cost is reputational, not a legal penalty.

Lever 2: Increasing the cost of non-contribution

Shift from voluntary expectations to mandatory compliance over time

01

CURRENT POSITION

Decision 16/2 says companies "should" contribute.

Payment remains voluntary.

02

POSSIBLE EVOLUTION

Disclosure or explain requirements could become more formal.

Future payment obligations remain uncertain.

03

COMPANY RESPONSE

If stronger rules seem plausible, firms may prepare to identify DSI use,

calculate contributions and document payments.

Lever 3: Increasing the value of contributing

Contributor clubs and membership benefits

DSI would remain available to all, while verified contributors could receive additional, selective benefits.

THE FREE-RIDER PROBLEM

Access to DSI does not depend on contributing

Participants and non-participants benefit from continued DSI availability.

POSSIBLE DESIGN: CONTRIBUTORS' CLUB

Entry: verified contribution | Decision 16/2 certificate as evidence

POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO MEMBERS OF THE CONTRIBUTORS CLUB

01 Recognition
A visible link to Fund participation

02 Access to information
Updates on allocations and results

03 Dedicated briefings
Access to focused Fund briefings

Membership must not confer privileged influence over Fund governance or resource allocation.

Industry examples

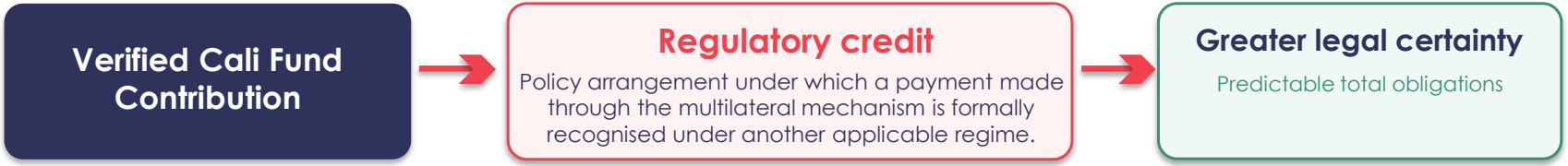
Responsible Minerals Initiative provides members with unique due-diligence tools and sourcing network.
Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO): certification demonstrates compliance and grants access to markets

Lever 3: Increasing the value of contributing

Regulatory credit and legal certainty

Potential to reduce the legal or regulatory uncertainty that companies face when complying with benefit-sharing requirements.

POLICY OPTION



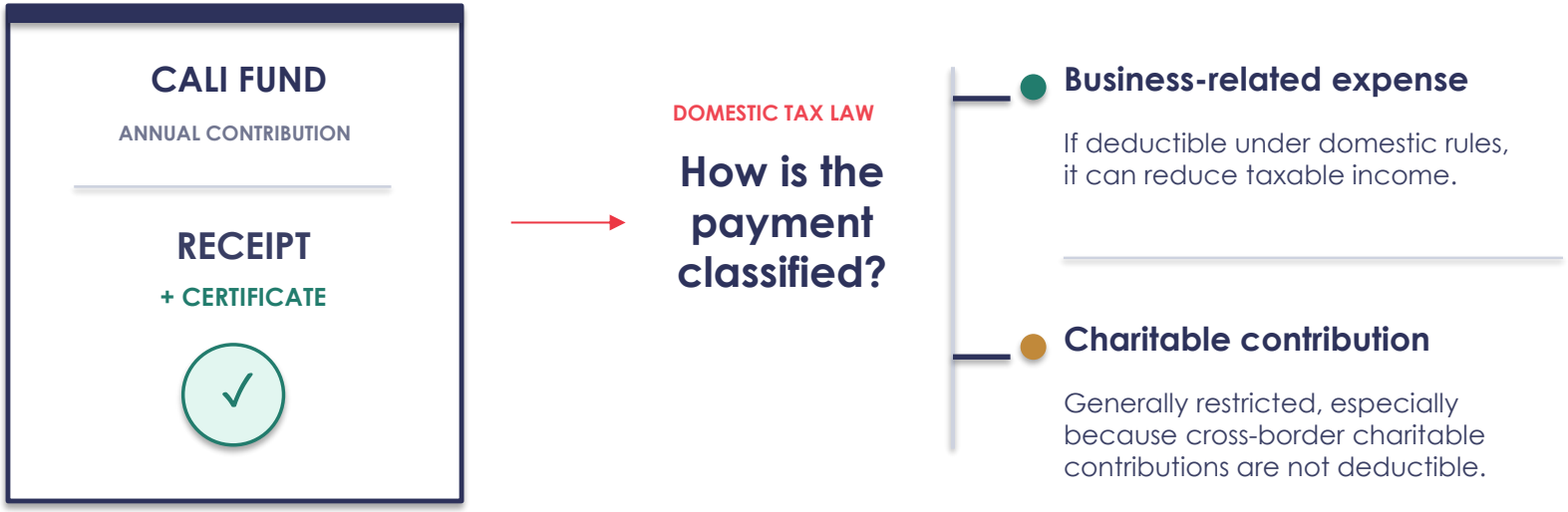
APPROACHES

- Mutual recognition arrangements between the multilateral and national systems
- Defined safe harbour provisions (certain conduct will be deemed not to violate a given law)

Lever 4: Reducing the cost of contributing

Business-expense treatment

The same payment can carry a different after-tax cost. Clarifying existing tax treatment is different from creating a new tax incentive and it is up to every country.



Policy option: domestic tax authorities could clarify the treatment of verified contributions.

Lever 4: Reducing the cost of contributing

Targeted fiscal incentives

A tax credit or deduction can make participation more attractive.
It lowers companies' costs but uses public resources.

Considerations

Eligibility gateways	Only documented payments qualify.
Additionality	Avoid subsidising payments that would happen anyway.
Jurisdiction	Consider where companies using DSI are located and taxed. Avoid leaving countries with both conservation costs and the fiscal cost of incentives when firms are headquartered elsewhere.

Lever 4: Reducing the cost of contributing

Sustainable finance as a cost-reduction channel

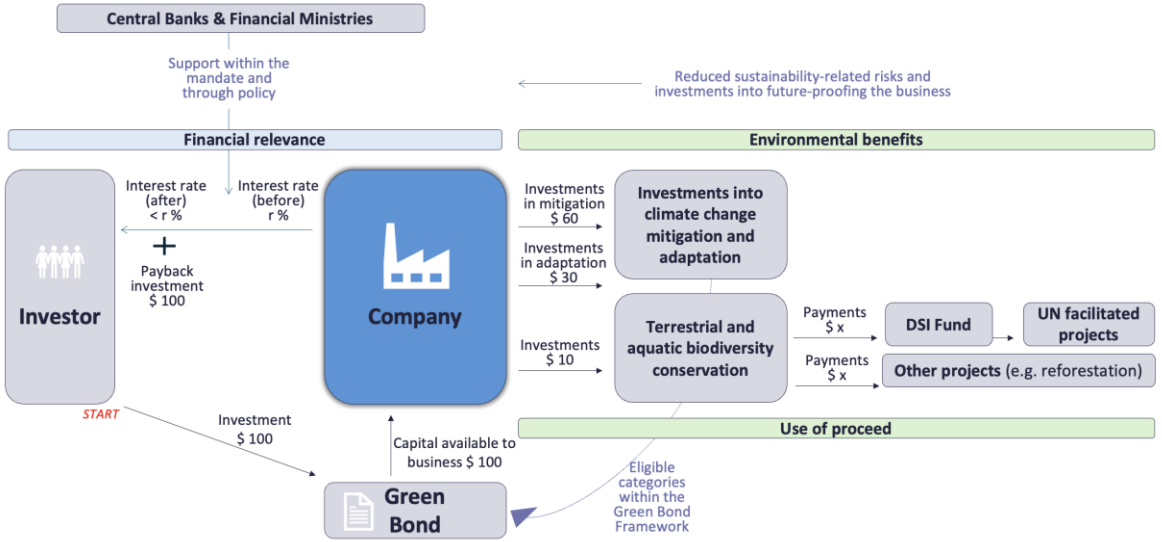
Green bonds could help finance contributions to the Cali Fund. Green bonds are better suited than sustainability-linked bonds because they can earmark proceeds for a defined use.

THREE CREDIBILITY CONDITIONS

01 Defined and ring-fenced use of proceeds

02 Independent external review

03 Recurring public allocation reporting



Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment

Recommendations

to embed Cali Fund contributions in core business decisions.

01	**Make contributions commercially visible**	• **Disclosure:** Add DSI-use proxies to GRI/TNFD. • **Certificates and branding:** contribution levels are independently verified; certificates must be clearly defined and within a specific reporting period; define a controlled-use mark and communication guidance.
02	**Increase the cost of non-contribution**	• **Investor engagement:** Investor coalitions ask firms about DSI reliance and Cali Fund participation. • **Policy clarity:** The CoP could signal possible future expectations without assuming mandatory payments in the short term.
03	**Increase the value of contributing**	• **Contributor clubs:** Offer membership benefits to contributors, such as Fund briefings and exclusive dialogue with stakeholders. • **Legal certainty:** Explore regulatory credit, mutual recognition and safe harbours.
04	**Reduce the cost of contributing**	• **Sustainable finance:** Explore traceable, ring-fenced sovereign green-bond pathways. • **Tax treatment:** Clarify domestic tax rules; safeguard any targeted fiscal incentives.

Thank you!



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Next up

18:00 – 19:00

Five ways to finance our oceans - from global to local

Take a look
at our programme:

Netherlands

COP17
YEREVAN ARMENIA