



UNFF Clearing House on Forest Financing

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHT #8 – JUNE 2024

This newsletter is a space to share information about recent developments, upcoming opportunities, learning materials, and other updates related to financing for forests. To contribute, please contact nadine.souto@un.org. [Subscribe](#) to receive future editions of the Quarterly Highlight.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN FOREST FINANCING

UNFF19 reaffirms the need for increased financial resource mobilization for forests

At the nineteenth session of the UN Forum on Forests, convened 6-10 May 2024 at UNHQ in New York, countries adopted a high-level declaration and an omnibus resolution aimed at bolstering political commitment and decisive action in support of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and the Global Forest Goals. In the declaration, UNFF members expressed concern about the persistent gap in finance to support the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forests, and resolved to strive to strengthen the provision and mobilization of new and additional resources from all sources. The omnibus resolution, which included the outcome of the Mid Term Review of the effectiveness of the International Arrangement on Forests, put forth recommendations to increase the means of implementation for sustainable forest management, including by continuing to support and improve the work of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN). [Read more.](#)

Bonn Climate Conference discussed climate finance ahead of COP29

The Bonn Climate Change Conference met from 3-13 June to discuss issues relevant to climate finance ahead of COP29, to be held 11-22 November in Baku, Azerbaijan. The agenda included expert dialogues on the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance, which is to be set prior to 2025 above the current goal of US\$ 100 billion per year and taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries. Progress was made on key technical aspects of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, including carbon credit authorization, activity scope, the international carbon market registry and more. [Read more.](#)

Biodiversity fund approves 22 project preparation grants

The Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved two rounds of project preparation grants in March and May 2024. Together, the two rounds allocate US\$ 110 million for 22 projects in 24 countries, with 35% of funding set aside for action by Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The GBFF was launched last August during the GEF Assembly in Canada to advance implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. GBFF resources are allocated in a country-driven manner to projects through consecutive selection rounds open to all eligible countries. [Read more.](#)

ITTO becomes GCF accredited entity

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board at its 38th session meeting on 5 March 2024 in Kigali, Rwanda approved the International Tropical Timber Organization's (ITTO) application to become a GCF accredited entity (AE). As one of 128 GCF AEs, the ITTO is now eligible to develop funding proposals for GCF consideration and execute GCF-approved projects for climate mitigation and adaptation, with a focus on the sustainable management of tropical timber-producing forests. Moving forward, ITTO will consult with the GCF and ITTO member countries to identify priority areas of work in line with GCF's Strategic Plan 2024–2027 and the ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2022–2026. [Read more.](#)

NEW LEARNING MATERIALS

Re-imagining bioeconomy for Amazonia

This report by the Inter-American Development Bank and the Igarape Institute examines opportunities to generate sustainable economic alternatives for the Amazon region through investments in developing the bioeconomy. [Read more.](#)

Emerging Market Green Bonds report

This annual IFC-Amundi report finds that the issuance of green, sustainability, sustainability-linked and social (GSSS) bonds in emerging markets surged to an all-time high in 2023. [Read more.](#)

Online course on Integrated Land-Use Initiatives: Theory and Practice

This two-part course teaches practitioners how to balance economic, environmental and social considerations within a landscape. It has a module dedicated to the development of financing strategies. [Read more.](#)

Traceability and Transparency in Supply Chains for Agricultural and Forest Commodities

This report discusses success factors and enabling conditions for supply chain traceability and transparency, including tools, policies, and initiatives to improve resource use and address forest loss. [Read more.](#)

Find more such materials: [Browse our database on Learning Materials](#)

NEW GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Blueprints for Private Investment in Ecosystem Restoration

This World Bank report draws on case studies, including examples of forest restoration finance in Africa and the Amazon basin, to demonstrate opportunities for private sector investment in ecosystem restoration. [Read more.](#)

Valuing Ecosystem Services in Zimbabwe

This World Bank Agricultural Global Practice Note highlights the evidence for an integrated biodiversity and sustainable production landscapes investment project for Zimbabwe that recognizes the value of forest and other ecosystem services. [Read more.](#)

Find more such materials: [Browse our database on Good Practices and Lessons Learned](#)

UPCOMING FOREST-RELATED FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES

The [African Development Bank](#) through its Climate Action Window is accepting applications from eligible entities in 37 African Development Fund countries. Grant funding of US\$ 3 to 5 million is available for projects that advance climate change mitigation and resilience. Forestry and land use are identified as priority areas. The deadline to apply is 8 July 2024. [Read more.](#)

The [AI for Climate and Nature Grand Challenge](#) is a global \$100 million initiative from the Bezos Earth Fund. Its first round invites grant proposals from U.S. based non-profit organizations and global academic institutions to accelerate efforts to address climate change and nature loss through the use of modern AI. Successful Phase I applicants will receive seed grants worth US\$ 50,000 and the opportunity to compete in Phase 2 for funding up to US\$ 2 million. The deadline for Phase I applications is 30 July 2024. [Read more.](#)

[Convergence](#) will award early-stage grant funding for the design and launch of innovative blended finance vehicles focusing on the intersection of climate change and gender equality in emerging markets globally. Grants under the Gender-Responsive Climate Finance Window range from US\$ 40,000 to 500,000 targeting a variety of adaptation and mitigation sub-sectors, including forestry and land use. The deadline to submit concept notes is 30 August 2024. [Read more.](#)

The [International Climate Initiative](#) (IKI) is accepting proposals for grant awards between EUR 20 and 25 million under its Country Call for Colombia. Thematic area 2 of the Country Call targets landscape-scale restoration as an economic and multifunctional nature-based solution for peace. Eligible entities include NGOs, universities and research institutions, intergovernmental organizations, UN entities and private sector companies. The deadline to submit project outlines is 3 September 2024. [Read more.](#)

Find more such opportunities: [Browse our database on Financing Opportunities](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS ON FOREST FINANCING

Webinar: Building Capacity for Sustainable Land Use Finance

Date: 4 July 2024

Time: 14:00-14:45 CET

This webinar, organized by the UN Environment Programme Climate Finance Unit, aims to distill lessons learned from various initiatives to inform and refine capacity-building programs at the country level, enhancing the effectiveness and scalability of sustainable land use finance. [Register here.](#)

11th OECD Forum on Green Finance and Investment

Date: 15-16 October 2024

Time: 9:00-17:00 CET

The Forum brings together leading actors to promote effective engagement, collaboration and action on green finance and investment. It will consist of a series of high-level plenaries and parallel sessions around the theme "Shifting the financial system and strengthening enabling environments to mobilize trillions". [Register here.](#)



ABOUT THE CLEARING HOUSE

The UNFF [Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network](#) (GFFFN) [Clearing House](#) is a one-stop shop for information on forest financing. This online platform features over two hundred data entries on forest financing opportunities, learning materials and good practices. Be sure to check back frequently as the databases are regularly updated.