



UNFF Clearing House on Forest Financing

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHT #5

This newsletter is a space for the UNFF community to share information about financing opportunities, good practices, achievements, upcoming events and more about financing for forests. To contribute to future issues, please contact nadine.souto@un.org. [Subscribe](#) to receive the upcoming editions of the Quarterly Highlight.

DEVELOPMENTS IN FOREST FINANCING

Forest financing highlighted at UNFF18

Delegates at the 18th session of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF18) held from 8 to 12 May at UNHQ in New York, emphasized the importance of the means of implementation for achieving the Global Forest Goals (GFGs). In particular, discussions highlighted the importance of providing new resources, capacity building, and technology transfer to developing countries, as well as the need to harness existing resources from all sources. Several representatives called for predictable and accessible funding for forests, including from carbon markets and payments for ecosystem services. The [Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network](#) (GFFFN) received wide recognition for supporting countries in enhancing their access to financial resources for forests from all sources. Added emphasis was placed on the need to optimize the use of existing resources and leverage new funding to scale up the activities of the GFFFN, particularly in the context of the Global Biodiversity Framework. In this connection, the recent membership of the [Green Climate Fund](#) (GCF) in the [Collaborative Partnership on Forests](#) (CPF) was welcomed and considered an asset for the GFFFN's future work. [Read more](#)

New platform to boost environmental impact financing in Africa

The Green and Resilience Debt Platform, led by the [UN Development Programme \(UNDP\)](#), is a new tool to unlock climate financing at scale, delivered in partnership with the [UN Capital Development Fund \(UNCDF\)](#), [European Investment Bank \(EIB\)](#), [Green Climate Fund \(GCF\)](#), and the European Union's Global Green Bond Initiative (GGBI). It aims to provide technical assistance to countries, creating a pipeline of bankable green investments, and strengthening domestic and regional green debt ecosystems and financial institutions. [Read more.](#)

Regional forums to catalyze climate finance

Last year, the COP27 Presidency and the five UN Regional Commissions, together with the [UN Climate Change High-Level Champions](#), jointly convened a series of five Regional Finance Forums to demonstrate that a promising pipeline of projects exists across developing countries and to bring them to the attention of prospective financiers with capital to deploy. These regional Forums identified a significant number of climate-related project ideas. Building on this successful outcome, this year's Regional Finance Forums will convene project proponents with prospective financiers and investors to advance these projects. The first regional Forum was held in Thailand on 17 May. The upcoming Forum will take place in Frankfurt, Germany on 4 July, with further regional events pending confirmation. [Read more](#)

Apple doubles investment in carbon removal fund

Apple announced an expansion of its Restore Fund, doubling the company's total commitment to nature-based carbon removal projects. First launched in 2021, the Restore Fund is now set to grow with an additional US\$ 200 million in funding, which will be managed by Climate Asset Management, a joint venture of HSBC Bank Asset Management and Pollination Group. The new fund promotes global investments to protect and restore critical ecosystems and scale natural carbon removal solutions. [Read more.](#)

Ghana begins receiving payments for reducing carbon emissions in forest landscapes

Ghana became the second country in Africa after Mozambique to receive payments for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, commonly known as REDD+. The World Bank's [Forest Carbon Partnership Facility](#) (FCPF) paid Ghana US\$ 4,862,280 for reducing 972,456 tons of carbon emissions for the first monitoring period under the program. This payment is the first of four under the country's Emission Reductions Payment Agreement (ERPA) with the World Bank. [Read more.](#)



NEW LEARNING RESOURCES

Innovative Finance for Nature and People

The report launched by the [Global Environment Facility \(GEF\)](#) and the [International Institute for Environment and Development \(IIED\)](#) presents lessons learned and recommendations for unlocking new financial resources for biodiversity, with a focus on two emerging instruments: biodiversity-positive carbon credits and nature certificates. [Read more.](#)

Note on Climate Change Financial Instruments for Sub-Saharan Africa

This publication from the [International Monetary Fund](#) analyses financial instruments for climate adaptation and mitigation that may not have been substantially used in the past. It discusses opportunities and challenges, and provides policy recommendations, as well as country cases. [Read more.](#)

Practical Solutions to Mobilize Private Investment for Landscape Restoration

Presented by the [Restoration Seed Capital Facility](#) at the 6th Global Landscapes Forum Investment Case Symposium, this white paper provides guidance on how to bridge the gap between investors and local nature-based solution (NbS) projects for landscape restoration. [Read more.](#)

GCF Readiness Knowledge Bank

The newly launched [Green Climate Fund \(GCF\)](#) online portal features extensive information for developing countries, accredited entities, and partners on GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, including case studies and lessons learned from partners that have increased their capacity to access climate finance. [Read more.](#)

Forest 500 Annual Report 2023

[Global Canopy's](#) Forest 500 tracks the policies and performance of the most influential companies and financial institutions linked to deforestation in their supply chains and investments. The 2023 Annual Report includes updated findings, recommendations, and case studies of those taking action to end deforestation. [Read more.](#)

Making Blended Finance Work for Nature-Based Solutions

This [Green Climate Fund \(GCF\)](#) white paper provides an overview of various financial instruments available for climate action and nature conservation. It discusses five categories of instruments to catalyze finance for NbS and how instruments can be combined for maximum impact, such as blended finance mechanisms. [Read more.](#)

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UPCOMING FOREST-RELATED FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES

As part of Generation Restoration, the [UN Environment Programme \(UNEP\)](#) will award grants between EUR 50,000 and 100,000 for ecosystem restoration and nature-based solutions in urban and peri-urban areas. The call is open to local governments, municipalities, and implementation partners for cities in ODA-eligible countries. Applications are accepted until 30 June 2023. [Read more.](#)

The [Lowering Emissions by Accelerating Forest Finance \(LEAF\) Coalition](#) has opened a new window for forest governments to submit proposals to supply high integrity forest carbon credits. All eligible national and subnational jurisdictions, tropical and subtropical, which meet ART/TREES requirements for forest area are invited to submit proposals until 1 May 2024. [Read more.](#)

The European Commission (EC) [LIFE programme](#) has opened its 2023 call for proposals. Submission deadlines vary by subprogramme and project type. [Read more.](#)

The [Tinker Foundation's](#) Institutional Grants Program is accepting applications from organizations addressing the links between effective resource management and communities in Latin America, with grants between \$50,000 and 150,000 per year, for up to three years. Letters of inquiry are accepted before 26 July 2023. [Read more.](#)

The [Papua New Guinea Biodiversity and Climate Fund](#) has launched a new funding call to support the creation and expansion of Protected Areas in Papua New Guinea. Only locally registered non-governmental or community-based organizations are eligible to apply. Full project grants range between \$250,000 and \$3 million over 1-6 years and must lead to legal land or sea protection. Expressions of Interest are due by 9 June 2023. [Read more.](#)

The [United States Agency for International Development](#) in Brazil (USAID/Brazil) is seeking applications from a wide range of stakeholders to participate in the Partnership to Conserve Amazon Biodiversity (PCAB). Proposals should address biodiversity and forest conservation while promoting long-term community well-being in the Brazilian Amazon. Each award will have a minimum value of \$2.5 million of USAID funding. The closing date for applications is 14 July 2023. [Read more.](#)

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



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 web-based platform launched in April 2021 and provides access to nearly 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.