



# UNFF Clearing House on Forest Financing

## QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHT #9 – OCTOBER 2024

This newsletter is a space to share information about recent developments, upcoming opportunities, learning materials, and other resources related to financing for forests. To contribute, please contact [nadine.souto@un.org](mailto:nadine.souto@un.org). [Subscribe](#) to receive future editions of the Quarterly Highlight. Previous issues can be found on our [website](#).

**NEW MONTHLY BULLETIN** The UNFF Secretariat has released a [new monthly newsletter](#) providing a glimpse into the activities and developments of the UNFF and the International Arrangement on Forests. [Subscribe here](#).



### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN FOREST FINANCING

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#### **Pact for the Future and UNGA79 highlight urgent need for nature and climate finance**

The Summit of the Future convened on 22 and 23 September 2024 at UNHQ in New York amid growing calls for strengthened international cooperation to address global challenges. The Summit adopted an action-oriented outcome document entitled “Pact for the Future,” designed to turbo-charge implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Expressing concern about rapid environmental degradation and the impacts of climate change, Member States agreed to accelerate efforts to “protect, conserve and restore biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife,” including forests. The Pact also contained a decision to scale up the means of implementation to developing countries to address the urgent challenge of climate change, including by accelerating the reform of the international financial architecture. At the UNGA 79<sup>th</sup> session General Debate, from 24 to 30 September, leaders from developing countries called for bold action on closing the finance gap, while tackling unsustainable debt. Several countries advocated for greater use of new and innovative financial instruments, such as debt-for-nature swaps. [Read more](#).

#### **Guyana announces launch of Global Biodiversity Alliance**

Speaking at the UNGA79 General Debate, President Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali of Guyana announced the launch of a Global Biodiversity Alliance with the aim of uniting forest and biodiversity-rich countries to develop innovative financing instruments for biodiversity conservation. The Alliance’s inaugural summit, to be convened in 2025, will focus on “creating a market for biodiversity credits, scaling biodiversity conservation debt swaps, accelerating biodiversity bonds, establishing a blueprint for biodiversity taxonomies and promoting nature-positive action.” [Read more](#).

#### **Firms agree to buy \$180 million in carbon credits from Brazilian Amazon state of Pará**

The Brazilian state of Pará, which will host the COP30 climate summit next year, has struck a deal to sell carbon credits worth \$180 million from the Amazon rainforest. Around 30 multinational corporations, including Amazon, Bayer, H&M Group, and the Walmart Foundation will purchase the credits at \$15 per tonne, while the governments of the UK, US, Norway and South Korea will provide purchase guarantees. The agreement, which was facilitated by the LEAF coalition, has been described as the largest carbon credit sale in history. A portion of the proceeds will be allocated to indigenous and local communities. [Read more](#).



### NEW LEARNING MATERIALS

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#### **Sustainable Finance Knowledge Center for Francophone Africa**

This online platform aims to equip corporates and financial institutions in Francophone Africa with knowledge and skills related to sustainable finance and business. Content is available in both English and French. [Read more](#).

#### **Pathways to Value for REDD+**

This paper by [Forest Trends](#) considers current barriers to scaling international finance for tropical forest conservation and proposes several strategies to achieve a breakthrough in REDD+. [Read more](#).

## Designing Digital Systems for Payments for Environmental Services

This UNDP publication explores the integration of digital technologies into Payment for Environmental Services (PES) schemes. It proposes a nine-step process for PES implementation using digital innovations. [Read more.](#)

## The State of the World's Forests Report 2024

This edition of FAO's flagship publication on forests explores the transformative power of evidence-based innovation in the forest sector, including new ways of getting finance to forest owners and managers. [Read more.](#)

## Sustainable Finance and Forest Biodiversity Criteria

This science-policy study by the [European Forest Institute](#) proposes a set of indicators to include forest-related biodiversity in the EU Taxonomy, with the aim of encouraging sustainable investments in forests. [Read more.](#)

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

## NEW GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

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### Bankable Nature Solutions

The WWF has published its third set of Bankable Nature Solutions case studies, as part of an ongoing effort to document lessons from financially viable projects to tackle climate change and nature loss. [Read more.](#)

### Opportunities for Restoration as a Business

This paper by the G20 Global Land Initiative provides recommendations for investing in land regeneration. It includes links to existing businesses making the most of opportunities in regenerative finance. [Read more.](#)

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

## UPCOMING FOREST-RELATED FINANCING OPPORTUNITIES

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The [Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance](#) launched its call for innovative solutions to overcome barriers to climate investments in emerging markets. The call targets interventions on adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable agriculture and food systems, as well as proposals with regional focus. Successful ideas receive in-kind support, along with conditional grants of US\$ 150-250K. Preliminary applications are due by 7 November 2024. [Read more.](#)

[Convergence](#), through its Asia Climate Solutions Design Grant, will award up to USD 200,000 per project for the design and launch of innovative blended finance solutions critical for climate transition and resilience in developing markets in Asia. Proposals should come from organizations or consortiums and target eligible sectors, including forestry and agroforestry. The deadline for submitting concept notes is 22 November 2024. [Read more.](#)

The [Endangered Landscapes & Seascapes Programme](#) is seeking to fund large-scale restoration projects across Europe. Awards will range between from US\$1.5 million to US\$5 million, over five years. Applications are invited from partnerships, which may include NGOs, government agencies, research organisations, the private sector, among others. The deadline for submitting expressions of interest is 14 January 2025. [Read more.](#)

The European Commission, as part of its [NaturAfrica](#) programme, will provide up to EUR 3.2 million in funding to improve the management of protected areas in key landscapes in Gabon. Eligible entities include non-profit private entities and NGOs, local authorities, and intergovernmental organizations. Details about the call can be found on the [EC portal](#) with the reference EuropeAid/182766/DD/ACT/Multi. Concept notes are due by 12 November 2024.

The second phase of the [Lao Ecology Small Grants Program](#), implemented by IUCN, will support local NGOs and CSOs in Lao PDR in the areas of biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management, including non-timber forest product management. Projects can apply for up to US\$ 20,000 and should be completed within 12 months. Proposals are accepted until the deadline of 17 November 2024. [Read more.](#)

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



## ABOUT THE CLEARING HOUSE

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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.