



Catalog

of Financing and Technical Assistance Opportunities for 2023 - 2024

Programs for biodiversity projects at the subnational level



Supported by:



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Guide to Biodiversity Financing for Cities and Regions recognizes the massive investments required for biodiversity conservation, maintenance and restoration. For this reason, this catalog encourages local and regional governments to explore the use of different funding sources and instruments, also known as blended finance. The term implies the mixing of both public and private funds through a common investment scheme or deal, with each party using their expertise in a complementary way.

* – Sources that are not directly accessible to local governments. The access to these funds requires the participation of implementing entities (IE), which varies depending on the fund, as well as a national designated authorities. Such entities are also known as Operating Entities (OE).

Institute	Programs	Eligibility criteria			Type of support
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Adaptation Fund*	The Adaptation Fund's project or programme would need to be in accordance with priorities laid out in national strategies and plans or in Nationally Determined Contributions	—	Developing countries	Kyoto protocol	<p>LRGs can access the Fund only through accredited entities National, Regional or Multilateral Implementing Entities</p> <p>Readiness Grants, Innovation Facility</p> <p>Small grants of up to US \$250,000</p> <p>Large grants of up to US \$5,000,000</p>
	<p>NIE Small Grants for Innovation</p> <p>The Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) invites eligible Kyoto Protocol Parties to submit proposals for small-grant projects, using the services of accredited national implementing entities (NIEs). Proposals submitted will be considered under the Adaptation Fund (AF) Programme on Innovation.</p>	—	Developing countries	Kyoto protocol	Grants of up to US \$250,000

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African Development Bank (AfDB)	<p>African Water Facility (AWF)</p> <p>AWF focuses on the three core areas to implement innovative water projects and raise investment for water projects: Project Preparation, Water Governance, and Water Knowledge. The overall aim is to leverage all three of these areas to provide the framework and conditions necessary for sustainable projects to succeed and for the African water sector to thrive.</p>	Africa	—	AfDB	Grants between €50,000-€5,000,000 and technical assistance
	<p>Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF)</p> <p>The ACCF is seeking innovative and impactful proposals that will support African countries to transition to climate resilient, low carbon development, and scale-up access to climate finance.</p>	Africa	—	AfDB	Grants Technical assistance
	<p>Urban and Municipal Development Fund for Africa (UMDF)</p> <p>The overall objective of the Fund is specifically to support African cities and municipalities to better manage urban growth and climate-resilient development by improving governance and quality of basic services.</p>	Africa	—	AfDB	Small grants Project preparation consultancy Events sponsoring

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Agence Française de Développement (AFD)	<p>Area of action: biodiversity</p> <p>It aims to finance, accelerate and support the transition to a more just and sustainable world. AFD provides innovative and appropriate finance tools to help developing countries.</p> <p>Its main areas of action are climate, biodiversity, peace, education, urban development, health and governance.</p>	—	Developing countries	—	Loans for local authorities, public institutions and private sector
		—	Least developed countries	—	Grants to the social sector, rural and urban development initiatives, and infrastructure projects
		Africa Asia Latin America	Developing countries	—	Project preparation funds to finance feasibility studies and technical assistance in order to prepare future investment projects
	<p>Clean Oceans initiative (AFD, KfW and EIB)</p> <p>It supports projects that demonstrate efficient and effective ways of reducing plastic waste or the discharge of microplastics. Its final goal is to avoid pollution from plastics and waste in the ocean, hence protecting estuaries, coral reefs, fish and families that rely on the oceans.</p>	Africa Asia Latin America	Developing countries	—	Funds (loans and grants)
	<p>Fund for Technical Expertise and Experience Transfers (FEXTE) funds technical-cooperation programs and project-preparation studies in developing countries, including actions towards biodiversity protection.</p>	—	Developing countries	—	Funds for technical-cooperation programs (grants and loans) and project-preparation studies

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Asian Development Bank (ADB)	<p>Urban Financing Partnership Facility</p> <p>The Urban Financing Partnership Facility aims to raise and utilize development partner funds for investment co-financing in urban environmental infrastructure projects and support a wide range of technical assistance to help lay the groundwork for such projects.</p>	Asia and Pacific	Developing countries	ADB	<p>Technical assistance</p> <p>Early-stage investment</p> <p>Guarantees</p>
	<p>Urban Environmental Infrastructure Fund (UEIF)</p> <p>Supported by the government of Sweden, the fund prioritizes climate change mitigation and adaptation and aims to raise and invest co financing from development partner agencies</p>	Asia and Pacific	Developing countries	ADB	Grants for technical assistance and investments
	<p>Cities Development Initiative for Asia</p> <p>It supports the preparation of sustainable and bankable infrastructure projects, linking them with funding sources, and strengthening their capacities to develop and implement high priority investments.</p>	Asia and Pacific	Developing countries	ADB	Project preparation studies and connection with funding sources
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)	<p>Infrastructure for tomorrow</p> <p>AIIB invests in infrastructure and other productive sectors such as energy, transport, information and communications technology, water, and urban development.</p>	—	—	AIIB	<p>Loans</p> <p>Equity investments and guarantees</p>

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Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)	<p>Project Preparation Special Fund (PPSF)</p> <p>It helps AIIB members to prepare bankable infrastructure projects that the bank may finance aiming to enhance climate resilience and adaptation in sectors such: water, agriculture development, among others.</p>	—	Least developed countries	AIIB	Grants for technical assistance
Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)	Through the Development Policy Operations Program, CABEI aims to promote economic integration and the balanced economic and social development, including climate action and biodiversity initiatives.	Central America	—	CABEI	Loans, credit lines, guarantees and equity
Climate Investment Funds (CIFs)	<p>Generally local government stakeholders are not directly eligible for support by the CIFs and need to cooperate with national government ministries to access CIFs programs.</p> <p>The CIF Programs provide technical and financial support to support the energy transition, clean technology, energy storage, renewable energy, forest investment, industry decarbonization, nature and climate resilience, and smart cities.</p>	—	72 developing and middle-income countries worldwide	—	Funding

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Climate Investment Funds (CIFs)	<p>Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR)</p> <p>It assists governments in integrating climate resilience into strategic development planning across sectors and stakeholder groups.</p>	<p>Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Asia and Pacific</p> <p>Africa</p>	<p>Developing countries, priority to LDCs</p>	—	Concessional and grant funding
Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)	<p>Climate Finance Lab</p> <p>The Lab is an investor-led initiative that annually calls for ideas for financial instruments that can unlock public and private investment to tackle some of the most difficult climate and sustainable development challenges in sectors like resilience, forest and agriculture.</p> <p>The Lab competition selects promising, early-stage ideas for sustainable investment and rapidly develops these ideas into fundable, scalable investment vehicles and business models.</p> <p>Call for Ideas opens in October 2023</p>	<p>Africa</p> <p>East/South-East Asia</p> <p>South Asia</p> <p>Latin America</p>	<p>Developing countries</p>	—	Technical assistance

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Convergence Finance	Convergence is a global network for blended finance. They generate blended finance data, intelligence, and deal flow to increase private sector investment in developing countries. Grants are used to explore the feasibility of a blended finance solution.	—	Developing countries	—	Early-stage grant funding (feasibility study and proof-of-concept) Technical assistance
	Asia Natural Capital Design Funding Window It supports blended finance solutions that find new ways to enhance and protect the world's stock of natural assets, including water, land, soil, air, plants and animals, by attracting private investment at scale.	Asia	Developing countries	—	Funding for feasibility study (grants USD \$50,000 and \$200,000) and proof of concept (repayable grants USD \$200,000 and \$500,000)
Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)	CAF promotes sustainable development by supporting projects that must be prioritised by the local authorities. It promotes environmental management, provides finance resources and catalyze investments in Latin America through an integrated approach to sustainability that incorporates economic, social and environmental components.	South America + the other members	—	CAF	Credit, non-refundable resources, loans, and support in the technical and financial structuring

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Climate Technology Center and Network	<p>It promotes accelerated, diversified and scaled-up transfer of environmentally sound technologies for climate change mitigation and adaptation, in developing countries, in line with their sustainable development priorities. Sectors such as: forestry, coastal zones, agriculture are eligible.</p> <p>CTCN National Designated Entities (NDE) can send a request through here.</p>	—	—	—	Technical assistance
Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)	<p>DBSA Green Fund (DBSA in collaboration with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment DFFE).</p> <p>A fund dedicated to facilitate the transition to a green economy through the promotion of innovative and high impact programs and projects and attracting additional resources to support South Africa's green economy development.</p>	South Africa	—	—	Repaid grants Technical support Equity Loans Guarantees
Transfrontier Conservation Areas - Southern African Development Community	<p>The purpose is to create a conducive environment for investment through financing the preparation of infrastructure projects in sectors such as water and tourism.</p>	Southern Africa	—	SA Development Community	Technical assistance Grants
European Investment Bank (EIB)	<p>EIB supports local governments by financing sustainable projects that have a positive impact on people and the planet.</p>	—	—	—	Loans, guarantees and advisory services

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European Investment Bank (EIB) World Bank	<p>The City Climate Finance Gap Fund</p> <p>The Gap Fund paves the way for cities to deliver ambitious infrastructure development for low-carbon, resilient and liveable cities. It unlocks a pipeline of financially viable urban investments that contribute to local transformation, global climate goals and green recovery.</p>	—	Developing countries	—	Technical assistance for early-stage projects
European Union (EU)	<p>External Investment Plan (EIP)</p> <p>Is designed to attract more investment, in particular from businesses and private investors and provides financial assistance through the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD+) in sectors such as green infrastructure and sustainable agriculture.</p>	—	Developing countries	—	Guarantees Blending Technical assistance
	<p>Latin America Investment Facility (LAIF)</p> <p>The purpose of LAIF is to help countries finance projects in key sectors that are essential for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, such as sustainable agriculture, environment, water, rural development, social services, and support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).</p>	Latin America	—	—	Investment grants Technical assistance Financial instruments (debt, equity and guarantees)

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European Union (EU)	Lagreen (EU, KfW and IDB) First green bond dedicated to Latin América seeking to invest in high impact projects in mitigation and adaptation to climate change. Eligible projects must include elements on biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, green buildings, among others.	Latin America and the Caribbean	—	—	Fund as a blended finance vehicle Green Loans Technical assistance
	Euroclima+ It aims to reduce the impact of climate change and its effects in Latin America by promoting climate change mitigation and adaptation. The priority sectors include forest, biodiversity and ecosystems.	Latin America and the Caribbean	—	—	Technical assistance Capacity building Pilot projects
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)	International Climate Initiative (IKI) IKI assists its partner countries to implement the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that lie at the heart of the Paris Agreement and to take an ambitious approach to their future development. Supports programmes on policy advice, capacity building, technology cooperation and investment as well as the implementation of policies and strategies. IKI offers support through different mechanisms: Country-specific selection procedure (EUR 12-15m)	—	Developing countries	—	Small Grants (EUR 60,000-200,000) Medium Grants (EUR 300,000-800,000) Thematic selection procedure (EUR 10-20m)

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Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)	KfW Development Bank (Environment) KfW offers financing, advice and support to private sector enterprises operating in developing and emerging-market countries.	—	Developing countries	—	Long term loans
Global Climate Change Alliance Plus Initiative	Climate Support Facility (CSF) It provides demand-driven, short-term technical assistance, coordination and networking and knowledge sharing on climate change. Priority areas for CSF support include climate change mainstreaming in development policies, plans, programmes and projects, replication and scaling up of successful adaptation and mitigation practices, including ecosystem-based solutions).	—	Developing countries	—	Technical assistance Capacity Building Feasibility Studies Determination of funding requirements and resource mobilization
Global Ecosystem-based Adaptation Fund (Global EbA Fund)	By providing rapid and targeted financial support to innovative and catalytic projects, the Global EbA Fund addresses specific gaps in policy and technical knowledge to maximize the impact of this vital nature-based solution on a global scale.	—	Developing countries	—	Grants range from USD 50,000 to USD 250,000,

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Global Environment Facility (GEF)*	<p>The GEF provides financial resources for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement the CBD. The goal of the GEF's biodiversity strategy is to maintain globally significant biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes.</p> <p>Support is primarily focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sustainably managing biodiversity in productive landscapes and seascapes and ensuring that the impact of productive sectors on biodiversity is avoided, or substantially reduced or minimized; • enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of protected area systems; • supporting the complete and effective implementation of the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols: and • improving biodiversity policy, planning, and review. 	—	Developing countries	—	Funds

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Global Environment Facility (GEF)*	<p>Catalysing Financing and Capacity for the Biodiversity Economy around Protected Areas (GEF - The World Bank)</p> <p>The project will involve investments in: (i) building biodiversity economy nodes for community stewardship and livelihoods; (ii) growing the wildlife economy nationally to enhance communities' stake in wildlife conservation; (iii) project management. The project is currently at the preparatory/ design stage and will be participatory and consultative.</p> <p>Africa: it aims to leverage financial resources and improve capacity to implement the South African Biodiversity Economy Programme and increase benefits from selected protected areas (PA) landscapes to local communities. More info here.</p>	South Africa	—	—	
	<p>Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)</p> <p>The LDCF works with partner agencies to bolster technical and institutional capacity at the national and local level, to create a policy environment that encourages investment in adaptation solutions, to reduce systemic barriers to progress, and to promote innovation and private sector engagement.</p>	—	Least developed countries	—	Funding

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Global Environment Facility (GEF)*	Small Grants Programme (SGP) It provides a window for the direct participation of NGOs, local communities, and other grassroots organizations. All SGP biodiversity projects are expected to be located in geographic areas that contain globally significant biodiversity, and/or have focused on reducing threats to biodiversity.	—	Developing countries	SGP	Grants (USD 50,000 max)
	Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) It supports adaptation and technology transfer in activities dedicated to water resources management, land management, agriculture, health, infrastructure development, fragile ecosystems, including mountainous ecosystems, and integrated coastal zone management.	—	Developing countries	UNFCCC	Funds
	Sustainable cities The Sustainable Cities program takes a holistic approach of strengthening urban governance and planning, supporting investments in innovative and impactful sustainability solutions, catalyse innovative financing and business models, and facilitate global collaboration and partnerships to shift from 'business as usual' path towards urban transformation.	—	Developing countries	—	Funds Technical assistance

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Green Climate Fund (GCF)*	<p>Project Preparation Facility (PPF)</p> <p>The GCF implements projects through partnerships with Accredited Entities that develop funding proposals. Developing countries nominate National Designated Authorities (NDAs) or focal points to act as the point of communication with the GCF.</p>	—	Developing countries	—	<p>Technical assistance, grants, repayable grants or equity.</p> <p>Funding up to USD 1.5m</p>
ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability	<p>Transformative Actions Program (TAP)</p> <p>TAP helps local and regional governments make their project idea robust, transformative, and bankable. Services offered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration of financing mechanisms fitting to local demand • Capacity building and technical assistance on how to prepare a robust project concept, including planning and feasibility studies. • Exploration of possible funding opportunities and financial strategies • Connection to other PPFs and strategic global and regional initiatives that offer additional technical assistance. <p>Matchmaking with potential investors and funding institutions.</p>	—	—	—	Technical assistance

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Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)	For its sovereign borrowers, the IDB offers market based, cost-effective flexible financing products and guarantees to meet individual project needs and debt management objectives. It invests in sectors such as forest resources management, coastal zone management, biodiversity and protected areas conservation, among others.	Latin America and the Caribbean	Developing countries	IDB	Loans, grants and guarantees
	Emerging And Sustainable Cities Program It provides direct support to national and subnational governments in the development and execution of city action plans. This transversal approach is based on three pillars: environmental and climate change sustainability; urban sustainability; and fiscal sustainability and governance.	Latin America and the Caribbean	Developing countries	IDB	Technical assistance Loans
	Infrastructure Fund (Infrafund) Fund that seeks to promote climate mitigation and adaptation by facilitating investment in infrastructure and ensuring sustainable and quality access to these services.	Latin America and the Caribbean	Developing countries	IDB	Technical assistance (max USD 1,500,000)

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Nordic Development Fund (NDF)	NDF focuses on the nexus between climate change and development in lower-income countries and countries in fragile situations.	—	Least developed countries and lower income countries	—	Technical Assistance Financing (Grants, Equity, and Loans) Partnerships
New Development Bank (NDB)	NDB mobilizes resources for infrastructure and provides technical assistance for projects in key sectors such as environmental protection. More information available here .	—	Developing countries	—	Technical assistance Loans Guarantees Equity participation
Subnational Climate Finance (SCF)	SCF initiative integrates an investment fund of mid-sized infrastructure projects (SCF Fund) and a grant-funded dedicated to technical assistance facility (SCF Technical Assistance).	South Africa	42 developing countries, priority to LDCs, SIDS, and African States	—	Investment Technical assistance Private equity fund Funds USD 5-75m
UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)	International Municipal Investment Fund – Technical Assistance Facility It aims to facilitate access to financing for local government (LG) capital investment projects on national and international financial markets. Selected pilot cities will receive technical assistance to help them define their investment program and support them in all necessary matters to access financing from the Fund.	—	Developing countries, priority to LDCs	—	Technical assistance for projects of less than EUR 25m

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UNDP	<p>Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) (UNDP-GEF)</p> <p>BIOFIN supports the development of comprehensive Biodiversity Finance Plans, drawing on 150+ finance solutions, that will help secure the future for people and the planet. Its main activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Finance Policy and Institutional Review (PIR) examines the policy and institutional context for biodiversity finance in the country, determining which stakeholders to involve; • Biodiversity Expenditure Review (BER) analyses of public and private expenditures in the country designed to benefit biodiversity, establishes past, present and projected expenditures on biodiversity; • Financial Needs Assessment (FNA) estimates the financing required to deliver national biodiversity plans, targets and results; • Biodiversity Finance Plan (BFP) prioritizes financing solutions with the potential to close the finance gap by optimizing current and expanding future investments in biodiversity management, developing the business case; <p><i>(see next page)</i></p>	—	Developing countries	—	Finance tools

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UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation stage enables countries to implement finance solutions that result in tangible finance results and positive outcomes for biodiversity and society, using context-specific finance and economic instruments. 	—	Developing countries	—	Finance tools
	<p>Biodiversity Sector Investment Portal</p> <p>This Biodiversity Sector Investment Portal showcases a wide range of investors with diverse investment capabilities via various financial instruments and financing mechanisms.</p>	South Africa	—	—	Finance tools Connection with investors Funding
UN-Habitat	<p>Climate Investment Facility (CIF)</p> <p>It is an online platform that connects UN-Habitat certified city development projects with investors seeking to finance projects that are economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable. It focuses on preparing upstream projects at the (pre) feasibility stage to unlock greater capital flows to finance sustainable urbanization.</p>	—	Developing countries	—	Matchmaking

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United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)	<p>Making Cities Resilient Campaign and MCR2030: —</p> <p>The MCR offers solutions and tools for local governments and actors to identify gaps in resilience and to increase financial, technical, and knowledge-based capacity for development planning and risk management.</p>	—	—	—	<p>Matchmaking</p> <p>Technical assistance</p>
World Bank Group (WBG)	<p>City Creditworthiness Initiative (CCI) —</p> <p>Supports local authorities in improving their financial performance and prepare them to tap domestic or regional markets.</p> <p>The City Creditworthiness Initiative is comprised of two primary components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCI Academies which are hands-on learning programs that teach city leaders the fundamentals of creditworthiness and municipal finance; • And CCI Implementation Programs which are in-depth, multi-year, on-the-job, customized technical assistance programs to help them prepare for, structure, and close market-based financing transactions for climate-smart infrastructure projects, using local currency markets whenever possible. 	—	Developing countries	—	Technical assistance

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World Bank Group (WBG)	Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) It supports disaster risk management projects worldwide. GFDRR helps countries to integrate disaster risk management and climate change adaptation into development strategies and investment programs and recover from disasters quickly and effectively.	—	Developing countries	—	Grants
	City Resilience Program (CRP) Aims to empower cities to pursue comprehensive investment programs to strengthen resilience, and to access a broad range of financing options.	—	Developing countries	—	Access to multiple sources of financing Grants Technical assistance Capacity building
World Bank Group (WBG) Cities Alliance	Eco2 Cities It provides cities with a bottom-up analytical and operational framework that can be adapted to each city's local conditions and needs. It also helps cities gain access to financial resources for strategic infrastructure investment.	—	Developing countries	—	Technical assistance

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World Resources Institute (WRI) Ross Center	<p>Cities4Forests</p> <p>It helps cities accelerate and scale-up investments in forest by increasing literacy of conservation finance approaches, enhancing bankability of projects and replicating and scaling novel financing approaches.</p>	—	—	—	Connection between projects, PPFs and investors
World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)	<p>Sustainable Landscape Finance Coalition</p> <p>It drives the development of finance solutions for effective and enduring landscape conservation and environmental work across South Africa, Through a 16-member council, strategic partners and the Innovation Hub, the coalition brings together a national knowledge base of thought leaders, experts and stakeholders in the finance sector. The coalition relies on strategic partners to ensure effective implementation in the coalition's incubators and relies on a group of voluntary specialist contributors who provide expertise to support the work of the coalition.</p>	South Africa	—	—	Advisory Diverse financing models

Annual and periodic funding opportunities

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Restor platform	Restor's compilation of opportunities Recognizing the wide range of funds that exist worldwide, the Restor foundation in collaboration with Google developed a compendium of periodic calls for proposals identified per country.	—	—	—	Grants Crowdfunding opportunities Monetary awards

ABOUT INTERACT-BIO

The INTERACT-Bio project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) through the International Climate Initiative (IKI). INTERACT-Bio, led by ICLEI, is designed to improve the utilization and management of nature within fast-growing cities and the regions surrounding them. It aims to provide expanding urban communities in the Global South with nature-based solutions and associated benefits.

ABOUT TRANSFORMATIVE ACTIONS PROGRAM (TAP)

The Transformative Actions Program (TAP) is a global initiative led by ICLEI to support local and regional governments transform their low-emission and resilient development infrastructure concepts into mature, robust and bankable projects ready for financing and implementation.

ABOUT ICLEI – LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network working with more than 2,500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 125+ countries, ICLEI influences sustainability policy and drives local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development. ICLEI's Members and team of experts work together through peer exchange, partnerships and capacity building to create systemic change for urban sustainability.

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