

Gaps and Needs Pager

Rights-based Finance for Climate and Biodiversity: Enabling Just Transition and Transformative Change

Swedbio, Climate and Development Knowledge Network, Global Youth Biodiversity Network, Soka Gakkai International

Key gaps & needs identified and addressed during the session

Theme	Description	Stakeholders addressed	Sector
1. Implementation	Biodiversity and climate crises are undermining human rights.	National governments, local governments, public institutions, civil society, marginalised groups	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
2. Policy and Legislative	Structural inequities in financial systems	National governments, local governments, public institutions, civil society, marginalised groups	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
3. Policy and Legislative	Public resources for climate and biodiversity are shrinking.	National governments, local governments, public institutions	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
4. Policy and Legislative	Overreliance on private and market-based finance	National governments, local governments, public institutions, international financial institutions (IFIs), multilateral development banks (MDBs), private sector.	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
5. Policy and Legislative	Harmful Subsidies & Incentives	National governments, local governments, public institutions, international financial institutions (IFIs), multilateral development banks (MDBs), private sector.	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
6. Implementation	Weak accountability & safeguards	National governments, local governments, public institutions, international financial institutions (IFIs), multilateral development banks (MDBs), the private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
7. Access to climate finance	Underfunding of IP&LC-led initiatives	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).



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8. Implementation	Governance Gaps	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
9. Implementation	Challenges involving intermediary agencies	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
10. Policy and Legislative	Finance in multilateral environmental agreements lacks ambition.	National governments, public institutions, IFIs	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).

Key solutions and best practices identified during the session

Theme	Description	Stakeholders addressed	Capacity-building level	Sector
1. Policy and Legislative	Rights-based finance	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Systemic	Cross-sectoral as this goes beyond a specific sector in the climate field, although the examples were from the adaptation/resilience world
2. Access to Climate Finance	International solidarity and historical reparation.	National governments, local governments, public institutions and IFIs.	Systemic	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
3. Policy and Legislative	Increase regulation of environmentally harmful sectors.	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Institutional	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
4. Implementation	Non-market-based approaches.	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Institutional	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
5. Policy and Legislative	Public finance reform.	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Systemic	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).



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6. Access to climate finance	Increase and improve the quality of allocation for IP&LC.	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Systemic	Cross-sectoral as this goes beyond a specific sector in the climate field, although the examples were from the adaptation/resilience world
7. Implementation	Strengthen capacities for inclusive governance.	National governments, local governments, public institutions, IFIs, MDBs, private sector, civil society, and marginalised groups	Institutional	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).
8. Policy and Legislative	Alignment of biodiversity and climate financing global agendas with human rights	National governments, local governments, public institutions and IFIs.	Systemic	Cross-sector (biodiversity, climate, finance, development).

Key Takeaways



Finance is political, not just technical: Addressing biodiversity loss and climate change requires tackling structural inequalities and harmful financial flows, not just adding more funds.



Human rights-based approaches strengthen outcomes, and embedding human rights considerations into finance can enhance equity, prevent harm, and create more durable/sustainable and just climate and biodiversity solutions



Transformative change is urgent: Incremental improvements won't suffice; systemic reorganisation of economic, financial, and governance systems is needed.



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Indigenous Peoples and local communities are as central as rightsholders and partners, not stakeholders or beneficiaries, and should have decisive roles in shaping finance and policies that affect their territories and futures



Redirecting existing harmful subsidies and financial flows is as important as mobilising new resources



Accountability and inclusion matter and are not optional. Transparent, rights-based, and participatory finance built on trust can ensure no one is left behind and prevent deepening inequalities

Related Links

Organizations and speakers' links:

Global Youth Biodiversity Network: [Website](#)

Swedbio: [Website](#)

Climate and Development Knowledge Network: [Website](#)

Soka Gakkai International: [Website](#)

Synchronicity Earth: [Website](#) [Annual review](#)

References from the discussions

IPBES

- [Transformative Change SPM](#)
- [Nexus SPM](#)
- [Diverse values of nature and valuation methodologies SPM](#)



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OHCR

- Human rights-based finance for the environment
- Keeping global financing promises while advancing development, human rights and international cooperation
- Mobilizing Trillions for the Global South. The imperative of human rights-based climate finance
- Promoting rights-based climate finance for people and planet

Philanthropy

- Movements as Forests. A Radical Grantmaking Model
- Valuing allyship
- Cali Roundtable

Business and Private Donors

- Core Human Rights Principles for Private Conservation Organizations and Funders
- Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- Human Rights Toolkit for Financial Institutions

Alternative and Critical Finance Perspectives

- Mind the mission, not the gap
- Beyond the gap. Placing biodiversity finance in the global economy
- Advancing gender responsive synergies across conventions
- Human rights-based approach to biodiversity and climate action

