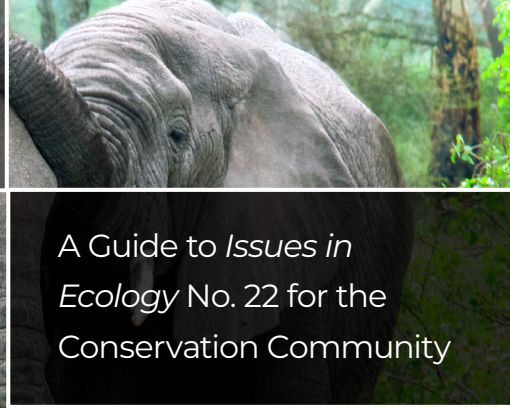


INNOVATIVE FINANCE FOR CONSERVATION: ROLES FOR ECOLOGISTS & PRACTITIONERS



A Guide to *Issues in Ecology* No. 22 for the Conservation Community

What is the focus of the report?

An interdisciplinary and international team of scientists, practitioners, finance specialists, and lawyers explore how private investments can generate financial returns while achieving positive conservation outcomes. This report examines the wide range of socio-ecological issues associated with privately financing conservation and identifies five priority actions needed to grow and develop best practices for the field.

What is being done?

The conservation community is rapidly moving beyond its traditional emphasis on establishing protected areas to promoting integrated approaches that achieve a wide range of social, economic, and ecological co-benefits for people and the environment. Conservation funding has historically come from public and philanthropic sources. However, a growing number of financial institutions, conservation organizations, asset managers, and investors have begun promoting or investing in green financial products. Many leading conservation organizations are partnering with financial institutions, commercial enterprises, and scientists to develop and test approaches to catalyze funding for global conservation efforts. Current trends suggest that conservation finance has enormous potential for growth and could represent a turning point in global approaches to biodiversity conservation.

What does the report recommend?

- Design investable projects with meaningful conservation impacts.
- Standardize the metrics that allow practitioners to compare and evaluate projects.
- Establish safeguards and ethical standards for involving local stakeholders, including Indigenous communities.
- Create project blueprints and design tools to ensure positive environmental outcomes while generating sustainable economic returns.
- Reconsider existing financial vehicles and structures of investment projects to improve flexibility, performance, and salience for stakeholders.

What can I do?

- **Share** his report with colleagues and use it as a resource on conservation finance
- **Support** further research on investment projects designed to conserve biodiversity
- **Engage** with international coalitions and professional networks that promote and develop standards for conservation finance projects



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COALITION FOR PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN CONSERVATION

A global multi-stakeholder initiative focused on enabling conditions that support a material increase in private, return-seeking investment in conservation.

cpicfinance.com



CONSERVATION FINANCE NETWORK

Advances land and resource conservation by (1) expanding the use of innovative and effective funding and financing strategies and (2) growing network of public, private and nonprofit professionals through practitioner convenings, intensive trainings, and information dissemination to increase the financial resources deployed for conservation.

conservationfinancenetwork.org



UN CLIMATE CHANGE – STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Invites Parties and observers to provide inputs on its next Forum on Finance for nature-based solutions.

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