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2024 G7 Apulia Summit Final Compliance Report

15 June 2024 to 15 May 2025

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit

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8. Environment: Forest Protection

“We are committed to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests, [and in that context welcome the launch of country packages for forests, nature, and climate at the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.]”

Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

Background

Environmental issues have been a priority for the G7 since the 1979 Tokyo Summit where leaders highlighted the need to develop alternative energy sources and limit carbon dioxide and sulphur dioxide emissions.¹⁷³⁰ By the late 1980’s, the G7 had recognized deforestation as a major issue related to the environment and began calling for forest preservation and conservation globally.¹⁷³¹ Despite declining rates of forest loss, the Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that as of 2020, 10 million hectares of forest are lost each year due to deforestation.¹⁷³² Given this, the G7’s commitment towards forest protection is necessary to conserve, protect and restore forests.

At the 1981 Ottawa Summit, G7 leaders pledged to take the environment into consideration when developing long-term economic policies.¹⁷³³

At the 1984 London Summit, G7 leaders recognized “the international dimension of environmental problems” and invited the Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment to share research priority areas to address environmental pollution.¹⁷³⁴

At the 1985 Bonn Summit, G7 leaders pledged to cooperate to address “environmental problems such as acid deposition and air pollution.”¹⁷³⁵

¹⁷³⁰ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

¹⁷³¹ Paris Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html>

¹⁷³² A fresh perspective Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://www.fao.org/interactive/forest-resources-assessment/2020/en/>

¹⁷³³ Declaration of the Ottawa Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 1981. Access Date: 3 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1981ottawa/communique/index.html>

¹⁷³⁴ The London Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 1984. Access Date: 11 September.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1984london/communique.html>

¹⁷³⁵ The Bonn Economic Declaration: Towards Sustained Growth and Higher Employment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 May 1985. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1985bonn/communique.html>

At the 1986 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to preserve the environment and emphasized the need for international cooperation in this regard.¹⁷³⁶

At the 1987 Venice Summit, G7 leaders affirmed their responsibility to preserve a healthy environment for future generations.¹⁷³⁷ G7 members stated that doing so involved taking initiative to mitigate environmental issues such as the destruction of tropical forests.

At the 1988 Toronto Summit, G7 leaders pledged to include environmental considerations in economic policymaking.¹⁷³⁸ Additionally, G7 members acknowledged that although progress was made towards several environmental areas, further action is still needed for issues of deforestation.

At the 1989 Paris Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their responsibility to preserve forests by calling for sustainable forest management.¹⁷³⁹ G7 members also called for more financial and logistical cooperation with international organizations to combat deforestation.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, G7 leaders pledged to “take action to increase forests, while protecting existing ones.”¹⁷⁴⁰ Additionally, G7 members recognized the alarming rates of destruction in tropical forests and ecologically sensitive areas around the world, committing to international cooperation for biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management.

At the 1991 London Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards the protection of forests.¹⁷⁴¹ Additionally, G7 members commended the measures taken to protect the Brazilian Tropical Forest by the Government of Brazil, the World Bank and European Commission in their pilot program.

At the 1992 Munich Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards forest protection to bolster the momentum developed from the Rio Conference.¹⁷⁴² Additionally, G7 members advocated for the development of international review processes for the forest principles. In doing so, the member states aimed to establish international agreements and further assistance on global forest protection strategies.

At the 1993 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable forest conservation, management and development.¹⁷⁴³

At the 1995 Halifax Summit, G7 leaders strengthened their commitment to forest conservation in accordance with their agreements in the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.¹⁷⁴⁴ In doing so, G7 leaders agreed to cooperate to support the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development intergovernmental panel on forests.

¹⁷³⁶ Tokyo Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 May 1986. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1986tokyo/communique.html>

¹⁷³⁷ Venezia Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/communique/index.html>

¹⁷³⁸ Toronto Economic Summit Economic Declaration, G7 information Centre (Toronto) 21 June 1988. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1988toronto/communique.html>

¹⁷³⁹ Paris Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1989. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/communique/index.html>

¹⁷⁴⁰ Houston Economic Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 11 July 1990. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/declaration.html>

¹⁷⁴¹ Economic Declaration: Building World Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 July 1991. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/communique/index.html>

¹⁷⁴² Economic Declaration: Working Together for Growth and a Safer World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 1992. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1992munich/communique/index.html>

¹⁷⁴³ Economic Declaration: A Strengthened Commitment to Jobs and Growth, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 July 1993. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

¹⁷⁴⁴ Halifax Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 June 1995. Access Date: 5 September. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/communique/index.html>

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G8 leaders pledged to implement a practical Action Program dedicated to furthering sustainable forest management globally.¹⁷⁴⁵

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders pledged to assess the progress in the G8 Action Program implemented at the 1997 Denver Summit amidst environmental, economic and political catastrophes due to the Amazonian and south-east Asian forest fires.¹⁷⁴⁶ Additionally, the G8 reaffirmed its commitment to supporting efforts to conserve forests.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders pledged to enhance forestry commitments by combating illegal logging and hosting projects to help Indigenous and local communities practice sustainable forest management.¹⁷⁴⁷

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the environment, focusing on the importance of renewable energy sources, sustainable development and the need for Export Credit Agencies to adhere to environmental regulations.¹⁷⁴⁸

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to address deforestation.¹⁷⁴⁹

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders launched a “Marine Environment and Tanker Safety” action plan with a focus on marine conservation and sustainable fisheries.¹⁷⁵⁰

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders pledged to reduce deforestation-induced carbon emissions, with a strong focus on developing countries.¹⁷⁵¹ In addition, G8 members pledged to conserve forest biodiversity and support domestic and international actions to address forest loss and implement sustainable forest management.

At the 2008 Hokkaido Summit, G8 leaders recognized the importance of biodiversity conservation and encouraged actions to reduce deforestation-related greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries.¹⁷⁵² G8 Environment Ministers also committed to promoting sustainable forest management and emphasized the importance of biological diversity and forest conservation as part of the 2008 Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity.¹⁷⁵³

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders pledged to continue reducing deforestation-induced emissions and forest degradation.¹⁷⁵⁴ G8 leaders also committed to encouraging public-private partnerships for forest-related

¹⁷⁴⁵ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

¹⁷⁴⁶ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

¹⁷⁴⁷ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 5 September 2024.

<https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

¹⁷⁴⁸ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

¹⁷⁴⁹ The Kananaskis Summit Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 11 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

¹⁷⁵⁰ Marine Environment and Tanker Safety: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 11 September 2024. https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/marine_en.html

¹⁷⁵¹ Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 June 2007. Access Date: 5 September. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-economy.html>

¹⁷⁵² G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

¹⁷⁵³ G8 Environment Ministers Meeting 2008 Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 May 2008. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/env080526-BD.html>

¹⁷⁵⁴ Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

issues, enhanced cooperation to combat illegal logging and continued efforts to conserve forests, sustainably manage forests and enhance forest carbon stocks.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders reiterated the importance of environmental sustainability and green recovery, focusing on climate change as the key issue area for the environment.¹⁷⁵⁵ G8 leaders also recognized the United Nations International Year of Biodiversity and called for international cooperation and science-policy to address biodiversity loss.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their commitment to move towards a low-carbon economy as a way of protecting the environment and to halt biodiversity loss.¹⁷⁵⁶

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders committed to the protection of the marine environment and reiterated the importance of renewable energy sources for sustainable development.¹⁷⁵⁷ Recognizing the post-2015 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G7 leaders also committed to supporting the environmental, economic and social Sustainable Development Goals.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment towards sustainable forest management and the eradication of illegal logging.¹⁷⁵⁸

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to take action towards a clean environment, including air, water and soil.¹⁷⁵⁹ G7 leaders, excluding the United States, also committed to implementing the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and establishing partnerships to address climate change.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders pledged that policies towards agriculture, forestry and other land sectors will be sustainability oriented.¹⁷⁶⁰

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, G7 leaders pledged to develop supply chains that take measures to promote sustainable development.¹⁷⁶¹ Additionally, G7 members reaffirmed their commitment to enhanced cooperation to stop and reverse forest loss by 2030.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to sustainable forest management, forest restoration and sustainable supply chains.¹⁷⁶²

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 leaders committed to creating financial solutions that allow for forest conservation and protection.¹⁷⁶³ Additionally, G7 members welcomed the country-specific plans developed at the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to address

¹⁷⁵⁵ Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

¹⁷⁵⁶ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

¹⁷⁵⁷ Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

¹⁷⁵⁸ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

¹⁷⁵⁹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 11 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

¹⁷⁶⁰ Carbis Bay G7 Summit Communiqué: Our Shared Agenda for Global Action to Build Back Better, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 13 June 2021. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021cornwall/210613-communique.html>

¹⁷⁶¹ G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html>

¹⁷⁶² G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

¹⁷⁶³ Apulia G7 Leader's Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

forests, nature and the climate. Lastly, G7 members pledged to take measures to mitigate the detrimental effects of extreme wildfires.

Commitment Features

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting and restoring forests.”¹⁷⁶⁴ This commitment presents its three key targets as 1) conserving forests 2) protecting forests and 3) restoring forests.

Definitions and Concepts

“Commit” is understood to mean “to do or perform, to pledge or bind (a person or an organization) to a certain course or policy.”¹⁷⁶⁵

“Develop” means “that a new initiative will be established in the area.”¹⁷⁶⁶ Old initiatives do not apply.

“Innovative financial solutions” are understood to mean “mechanisms and approaches that can be used to acquire, structure, govern and allocate financial resources toward adaptation priorities.”¹⁷⁶⁷ These mechanisms “can enable access to financial resources from financial institutions, private investors, institutional investors (such as pension funds), impact investors, foundations and other philanthropists and may be blended with traditional sources of financing.” Examples of innovative financial instruments, as defined by the Natural Adaptation Plan, Global Network and the International Institute for Sustainable Development, include: blue bonds, climate resilience bonds, green loans, social bonds, sustainability bonds, sustainability linked bonds, sustainability linked loans, blended finance, public-private partnerships, payment for ecosystem services, stormwater markets, tax increment financing, credit guarantees, liquidity facilities, catastrophe bonds, debt-for-nature and debt for climate and other nature swaps.¹⁷⁶⁸

In the context of forests, “conservation” is understood to mean “a range of activities, tools and approaches to achieve forest health and biodiversity objectives, including in managed forests where harvesting occurs.”¹⁷⁶⁹

In the context of forests, “protection” is understood to mean “the creation of parks and other areas to legally protect forests from industrial activity and to help preserve healthy ecosystems.”¹⁷⁷⁰

In the context of forests “restoration” is understood to mean “the process of halting and reversing degradation, resulting in improved ecosystem services and recovered biodiversity.”¹⁷⁷¹

¹⁷⁶⁴ G7 Apulia Leader’s Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Apulia) 15 June 2024. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

¹⁷⁶⁵ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

¹⁷⁶⁶ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date: 7 September 2024. https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

¹⁷⁶⁷ NAP Global Network, Inventory of Innovative Financial Instruments for Climate Change Adaptation (Winnipeg) n.d. Access date: 5 September 2024. <https://napglobalnetwork.org/innovative-financing/?category=debt-instruments#categories>

¹⁷⁶⁸ Innovative Financial Instruments and Their Potential to Finance Climate Change Adaptation in Developing Countries, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Winnipeg) May 2023. Access Date: 5 September 2024. <https://www.iisd.org/system/files/2023-06/financial-instruments-climate-change-adaptation.pdf>

¹⁷⁶⁹ Conservation and protection of Canada’s forests, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 April 2024. Access date: 7 September 2024. <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/our-natural-resources/forests/sustainable-forest-management/conservation-and-protection-canadas-forests/17501>

¹⁷⁷⁰ Conservation and protection of Canada’s forests, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 April 2024. Access date: 7 September 2024. <https://natural-resources.canada.ca/our-natural-resources/forests/sustainable-forest-management/conservation-and-protection-canadas-forests/17501>

¹⁷⁷¹ Principals for Ecosystem Restoration to Guide the United Nations Decade 2021-2030, UN Environment Program (Brussels) n.d. Access date: 8 September 2024. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/51cf/80c9/8eb4d2a18b50e61a63e2fde1/under-principles-en.pdf>

According to the Convention on Biological Diversity, a “forest” is defined by “the presence of trees and the absence of other predominant land uses.”¹⁷⁷² Forests may be “used for purposes of production, protection, multiple-use or conservation (i.e. forest in national parks, nature reserves and other protected areas), as well as forest stands on agricultural lands (e.g. windbreaks and shelterbelts of trees with a width of more than 20m) and rubberwood plantations and cork oak stands.” Trees planted for agricultural production or the agroforestry system are excluded from this definition.

General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that demonstrate strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in all three commitment dimensions: 1) conserving forests, 2) protecting forests and 3) restoring forests. Examples of strong actions include public-private partnerships to conserve forests, debt-for-nature plans that redirect a country’s debt obligations towards forest conservation and restoration and sustainability-linked bonds issued by governments for forest protection, and those listed above in the Definitions and Concepts section. Innovative financial solutions may be developed by individual members or through multilateral partnerships, including multilateral funds, where G7 members serve on boards.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in less than three of the commitment dimensions. They may also achieve partial compliance by taking weak actions in all three areas. Examples of weak actions include speeches, diplomatic meetings or other communications that advocate for the use of innovative financial solutions.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned if the G7 member does not take strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in any of the three commitment dimensions or takes weak action in only one or two of the commitment areas. Further, any action that is not financing related is excluded from this report. For instance, if a member declares a swath of land protected but this effort does not include innovative financing, this is excluded and does not count towards compliance.

Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has taken weak action towards developing innovative financial solutions in two or fewer of: to 1) conserve, 2) protect and 3) restore forests.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in one or two of the commitment dimensions or has taken weak action in all three of the commitment dimensions.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action towards developing innovative financial solutions in all three commitment dimensions: 1) conserving forests, 2) protecting forests and 3) restoring forests.

*Compliance Director: Nell Sykes
Lead Analyst: Therese Angeline Reyes*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Director General at Global Affairs Canada Cam Do and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD38.5 million.¹⁷⁷³ These projects include forest restoration for 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource

¹⁷⁷² Definitions, Convention on Biological Diversity (Montreal) n.d. Access date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.cbd.int/forest/definitions.shtml>

¹⁷⁷³ Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf

management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Ms Do and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million towards sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.¹⁷⁷⁴

On 15 July 2024, Executive Director of the Climate Finance Division at Global Affairs Canada Andrew Hurst alongside the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.¹⁷⁷⁵ These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Ms Do and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.¹⁷⁷⁶ The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 8 October 2024, Global Affairs Canada, the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and other public and private partners inaugurated the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) during the closing of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.¹⁷⁷⁷ The platform aims to provide a comprehensive, standardized framework for private and public investment to meet climate and biodiversity goals, including those pertaining to forest conservation. The HSP uses public funds to “cushion the risks” for private investors in sustainable development, a model of blended finance intended to foster increased private environmental investment.¹⁷⁷⁸

On 10 October 2024, the Department of Finance announced the re-opening of a ten-year “green bond” to raise an additional CAD2 billion for reinvestment into nature conservation and the green economy, including

¹⁷⁷⁴ Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf

¹⁷⁷⁵ Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

¹⁷⁷⁶ MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

¹⁷⁷⁷ New alliances are needed to provide blended finance at scale, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hamburg-sustainability-platform-to-provide-blended-finance-231056>

¹⁷⁷⁸ Mehr als 15 Vereinbarungen für eine nachhaltige Zukunft, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Hamburg) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/hsc-mehr-als-15-vereinbarungen-fuer-eine-nachhaltige-zukunft-230734>

low-carbon energy and infrastructure.¹⁷⁷⁹ Canada's green bond framework includes measures for reforestation, afforestation, restoration and conservation of forests.¹⁷⁸⁰

On 11 October 2024, Ms Do and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.¹⁷⁸¹

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.¹⁷⁸² The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Mr. Hurst and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.¹⁷⁸³ Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia's West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, Canada and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.¹⁷⁸⁴ REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 14 November 2024, Canada alongside other members at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.¹⁷⁸⁵ The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 20 December 2024, Director General Do and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.¹⁷⁸⁶

¹⁷⁷⁹ Canada successfully re-opens 10-year green bond to raise an additional \$2 billion, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 29 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2024/10/canada-successfully-re-opens-10-year-green-bond-to-raise-an-additional-2-billion.html>

¹⁷⁸⁰ Government of Canada Green Bond Framework, Government of Canada (Ottawa) November 2023. Access Date: 2 January 2025. <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/fin/publications/green-bond/Green%20Bond%20Framework%20Report%20EN%20v02.pdf>

¹⁷⁸¹ Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf

¹⁷⁸² Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2024-communique.html>

¹⁷⁸³ Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

¹⁷⁸⁴ Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

¹⁷⁸⁵ Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

¹⁷⁸⁶ GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Director General Do and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.¹⁷⁸⁷ The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 20 February 2025, Executive Director Hurst and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.¹⁷⁸⁸ Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.¹⁷⁸⁹

On 27 February 2025, Executive Director Hurst and the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund Trust Committee approved three key investment plans as part of the Nature, People and Climate program.¹⁷⁹⁰ The Brazil investment plan to address deforestation and support reforestation in the "Amazon and Cerrado biomes" will receive USD47 million from the Climate Investment Funds, the Kenya plan will receive USD35.66 million to protect and restore biodiversity in forests and other areas and the Zambezi Region plan will receive USD60.35 million for forest restoration and other environmental needs.¹⁷⁹¹ These investments expect to mobilize approximately USD1 billion and enable innovative financial solutions for forests.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. Canada advanced strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for the restoration, protection and conservation of forests through its support of fund disbursements by the GEF, CIF and GCF.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Oliver Dungavell

¹⁷⁸⁷ GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

¹⁷⁸⁸ Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-consideration-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

¹⁷⁸⁹ FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

¹⁷⁹⁰ Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf

¹⁷⁹¹ CIF Endorses \$143 Million for Nature in Brazil, Kenya, and Zambezi River Basin, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin>; Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Senior Advisor for Climate and Environment at the French Ministry for Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty Stephane Cieniewski and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totally in USD38.5 million.¹⁷⁹² These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.¹⁷⁹³

On 24 June 2024, France and the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.¹⁷⁹⁴ This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 5 July 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry launched the “Forest Renewal” call for projects.¹⁷⁹⁵ This initiative strives to promote forest carbon sinks, steady wood supply, the maintenance of ecosystem services and the conservation of biodiversity habitats. Financial assistance will be given to public and private forest owners to renew, enrich and improve forests to promote environmental resilience against climate change. This call for projects is in conjunction with France’s objective to reforest ten per cent of the nation’s forests by planting one billion trees in ten years.

On 15 July 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.¹⁷⁹⁶ These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

¹⁷⁹² Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf

¹⁷⁹³ Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf

¹⁷⁹⁴ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf

¹⁷⁹⁵ Planification écologique : lancement de l’appel à projets « Renouvellement forestier », Ministère de l’Agriculture de la Souveraineté alimentaire et de la Forêt (Paris) 5 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 September 2024. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/planification-ecologique-lancement-de-lappel-projets-renouvellement-forestier>

¹⁷⁹⁶ Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

On 15 August 2024, France and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.¹⁷⁹⁷ This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 15 August 2024, France and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.¹⁷⁹⁸ This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.¹⁷⁹⁹ The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 11 October 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.¹⁸⁰⁰

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.¹⁸⁰¹ The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Mr. Cieniewski and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.¹⁸⁰² Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, France and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing

¹⁷⁹⁷ Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

¹⁷⁹⁸ CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for “Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central” (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>.

¹⁷⁹⁹ MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

¹⁸⁰⁰ Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf

¹⁸⁰¹ Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/

¹⁸⁰² Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.¹⁸⁰³ REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 28 October 2024, the GEF announced USD163 million in funding for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) which supports the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through investments and financing including blended finance.¹⁸⁰⁴ Of note, France will be providing EUR50 million to the GBFF in 2024.

On 29 October 2024, Minister of Ecological Transition, Energy, Climate and Prevention Agnès Pannier-Runacher, the Country Partnership Seed Fund, the Finance for Permanence Project by Nature Conservancy, the GEF and the United Nations Development Programme in Gabon announced USD60 million through the Biodiversity Finance Initiative to support sustainable forest management and preserve biodiversity in Gabon.¹⁸⁰⁵

On 14 November 2024, Minister Pannier-Runacher launched the national biodiversity credit system.¹⁸⁰⁶ This system encourages private sector action to protect biodiversity and promote environmental restoration, including forests.

On 14 November 2024, France alongside other members at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.¹⁸⁰⁷ The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 20 December 2024, Senior Advisor Cieniewski and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.¹⁸⁰⁸ Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Senior Advisor Cieniewski and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries

¹⁸⁰³ Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

¹⁸⁰⁴ Joint statement on donors' pledge of \$163 million and confirmation of support to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/joint-statement-donors-pledge-163-million-and-confirmation-support-global>

¹⁸⁰⁵ Le Gabon, la France et plusieurs partenaires internationaux annoncent un partenariat de 60 millions de dollars pour soutenir l'ambition du Gabon en faveur de la conservation de la biodiversité et du climat, Ministère de la Transition Écologique et de la Cohésion des Territoires (Paris) 29 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

<https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/gabon-france-plusieurs-partenaires-internationaux-annoncent-partenariat-60-millions-dollars>
¹⁸⁰⁶ Agnès Pannier-Runacher annonce le lancement du dispositif français de crédits biodiversité pour mobiliser les financements privés en faveur de la biodiversité, Ministère de la Transition Écologique et de la Cohésion des Territoires (Paris) 14 November 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/presse/agnes-pannier-runacher-annonce-lancement-du-dispositif-francais-credits-biodiversite>

¹⁸⁰⁷ Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024.

<https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>
¹⁸⁰⁸ GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.¹⁸⁰⁹ The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 11 February 2025, France and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.¹⁸¹⁰ The project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 20 February 2025, Senior Advisor Cieniewski and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.¹⁸¹¹ Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.¹⁸¹²

On 28 February 2025, France and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.¹⁸¹³ This additional funding supports actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country.

France has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. France has taken strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for the restoration and conservation of forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF and GCF. France has also contributed to innovative financial solutions for forest conservation through CAFI and the Biodiversity Finance Initiative.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Oliver Dungavell

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Head of Climate Finance Division at the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Annette Windmeisser and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several

¹⁸⁰⁹ GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

¹⁸¹⁰ "Regional" - Approval of the project "PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital" implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf

¹⁸¹¹ Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-considersation-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

¹⁸¹² FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

¹⁸¹³ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the "Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture" implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf

innovative financing projects totaling in USD38.5 million.¹⁸¹⁴ These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 24 June 2024, Germany and the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.¹⁸¹⁵ This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 19 June 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.¹⁸¹⁶

On 25 June 2024, the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection allocated EUR19 million to the new Global Forest Landscape Restoration Implementation Hub of the International Union for Conservation of Nature at the 2024 Oslo Tropical Forest Forum.¹⁸¹⁷ Funding will be provided through Germany's International Climate Initiative to support forest restoration in six African and Latin American countries.

On 15 July 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.¹⁸¹⁸ These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 15 August 2024, Germany and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.¹⁸¹⁹ This action contributes to forest conservation.

¹⁸¹⁴ Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev._01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf

¹⁸¹⁵ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf

¹⁸¹⁶ Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF._SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev._01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf

¹⁸¹⁷ Oslo Tropical Forest Forum: Für den Klimaschutz die Wiederherstellung der Natur beschleunigen, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Berlin) 25 June 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 October 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/oslo-tropical-forest-forum-fuer-den-klimaschutz-die-wiederherstellung-der-natur-beschleunigen>

¹⁸¹⁸ Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

¹⁸¹⁹ Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

On 15 August 2024, Germany and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.¹⁸²⁰ This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.¹⁸²¹ The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 8 October 2024, the KfW, Germany's development financial institution unveiled the Worldwide Alliance for Landscape-based Decarbonization at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.¹⁸²² The facility, backed by EUR9 million from the Ministry of International Development and Cooperation provides financing for innovative carbon-sink projects, prioritizing new and biodiverse forests. The alliance aims to crowd in private financing and incentivize carbon market action.

On 8 October 2024, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze, the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Global Affairs Canada and other public and private partners inaugurated the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) during the closing of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.¹⁸²³ The platform aims to provide a comprehensive, standardized framework for private and public investment to meet climate and biodiversity goals, including those pertaining to forest conservation. The HSP uses public funds to "cushion the risks" for private investors in sustainable development, a model of blended finance intended to foster increased private environmental investment.¹⁸²⁴

On 10 October 2024, Vice-Chair of the Adaptation Fund Board and Senior Policy Officer at the Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection Nina Alsen and the Adaptation Fund Board approved over USD31 million for innovative environmental projects in several countries.¹⁸²⁵ Projects include promoting resilience to climate change in Benin, Azerbaijan, Somalia and Peru, as well as promoting sustainable ecosystem restoration and protection in Pakistan and Senegal. This action contributes to the conservation, protection and restoration of forests in the specified countries.

On 11 October 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.¹⁸²⁶

¹⁸²⁰ CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for "Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central" (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>.

¹⁸²¹ MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

¹⁸²² KfW presents new initiative to sequester CO2, KfW Development Bank (Frankfurt) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 6 June 2025. https://www.kfw.de/About-KfW/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_824384.html

¹⁸²³ New alliances are needed to provide blended finance at scale, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hamburg-sustainability-platform-to-provide-blended-finance-231056>

¹⁸²⁴ Mehr als 15 Vereinbarungen für eine nachhaltige Zukunft, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Hamburg) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/hsc-mehr-als-15-vereinbarungen-fuer-eine-nachhaltige-zukunft-230734>

¹⁸²⁵ Decisions of the Adaptation Fund at its forty-third meeting, Adaptation Fund (Bonn) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/FINAL-Board-Decisions-AFB43-October-2024.pdf>

¹⁸²⁶ Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.¹⁸²⁷ The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Ms Windmeisser, alongside the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board, approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.¹⁸²⁸ Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, Germany and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.¹⁸²⁹ REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 28 October 2024, the GEF announced USD163 million in funding for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) which supports the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through investments and financing including blended finance.¹⁸³⁰ Of note, Germany will be providing EUR50 million to the GBFF in 2024.

On 5 November 2024, Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection Steffi Lemke launched the Climate Wilderness Fund, a financing mechanism promoting the protection of forests and natural habitats.¹⁸³¹ The programme enables private and community partners to purchase, protect and maintain 50-hectare areas of forest and other biodiverse habitats.

On 10 November 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock, Minister Schulze, Minister Lemke and Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection Robert Habeck attended the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan.¹⁸³² The delegates reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to mobilizing private investment and climate finance for environmental purposes including conservation.

¹⁸²⁷ Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/

¹⁸²⁸ Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

¹⁸²⁹ Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

¹⁸³⁰ Joint statement on donors’ pledge of \$163 million and confirmation of support to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/joint-statement-donors-pledge-163-million-and-confirmation-support-global>

¹⁸³¹ Bundesumweltministerium startet Förderprogramm für mehr Wildnis in Deutschland, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 5 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-startet-foerderprogramm-fuer-mehr-wildnis-in-deutschland>

¹⁸³² Gemeinsame Pressemitteilung des AA, BMWK, BMZ und BMUV anlässlich der 29. Weltklimakonferenz, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 10 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/newsroom/2683868-2683868>

On 14 November 2024, Germany alongside other members at COP29 pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.¹⁸³³ The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 19 November 2024, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Protection, the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection and the Foreign Office collaboratively launched the 2024 International Climate Initiative Ideas Competition at COP29.¹⁸³⁴ This initiative will receive EUR200 million to support private sector investment for climate protection, the development and implementation of innovative financing mechanisms to enable the protection and restoration of forests and other climate-related projects.

On 19 November 2024, Minister Baerbock and Minister Lemke announced a EUR60 million contribution to the International Adaptation Fund (IAF), a multilateral financial instrument facilitating climate adaptation efforts in climate-vulnerable communities.¹⁸³⁵ The IAF supports forest conservation, ecosystem resiliency and sustainable land management initiatives through a blended finance model.

On 21 November 2024, Minister Lemke attended “Nature Day” at COP29, discussing international fund allocation and private investment in nature and biodiversity conservation.¹⁸³⁶ Minister Lemke verbally reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to developing financial solutions relating to nature and biodiversity conservation.

On 4 December 2024, Representative Laura Schmidt and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD37 million in funding for an investment plan for Ethiopia, mobilising an additional USD492 million with co-financing from the African Development Bank, the World Bank Group and other donors.¹⁸³⁷ This initiative restores 322,276 hectares of degraded landscapes, including forests, farmlands and rangelands in Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia and Somali. The plan also includes the creation of an online national forest registry to enhance forest management and conservation efforts. This action supports forest conservation, restoration and protection.

On 4 December 2024, Representative Schmidt and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD34.65 million in funding for Zambia, with USD220 million in co-financing.¹⁸³⁸ In part, this funding aims to protect forests, address deforestation and ensure the sustainable management of 110,000 hectares of forest in Zambia over a five-year period.

¹⁸³³ Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024.

¹⁸³⁴ COP29: Bundesregierung sucht internationale Vorreiterprojekte für Biodiversitäts- und Klimaschutz, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/cop29-bundesregierung-sucht-internationale-vorreiterprojekte-fuer-biodiversitaets-und-klimaschutz>

¹⁸³⁵ COP29: Deutschland investiert mit Beitrag zu internationalem Klimaanpassungsfonds in globale Resilienz und Stabilität, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 19 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/cop-29-deutschland-investiert-mit-beitrag-zu-internationalem-klimaanpassungsfonds-in-globale-resilienz-und-stabilitaet>

¹⁸³⁶ Von Cali über Baku nach Busan: Klimakrise untrennbar mit Artenaussterben und Rohstoffverbrauch verknüpft, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 21 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 November 2024. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/von-cali-ueber-baku-nach-busan-klimakrise-untrennbar-mit-artenaussterben-und-rohstoffverbrauch-verknuepft>

¹⁸³⁷ Ethiopia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is_4.02.rev02_npc_investment-plan_ethiopia_11282024.pdf

¹⁸³⁸ Zambia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2025. https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02_npc_investment-plan_zambia_12022024.pdf

On 18 December 2024, the Federal Cabinet adopted the National Strategy for Biological Diversity 2030, an action plan of 64 goals across 21 fields of action relating to the protection, maintenance and restoration of biodiverse ecosystems including forests and wooded areas.¹⁸³⁹ The policy outlines several innovative financial adaptations including a framework for the sustainable consumption of raw materials (i.e. wood), mobilization of private green investment and encouragement of corporate responsibility for biodiversity loss through economic incentives, legal requirements and public procurement.¹⁸⁴⁰ The policy reiterates Germany's commitment to combating biodiversity loss on a global scale through the provision of multilateral aid and continued contribution to international biodiversity funds.

On 20 December 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.¹⁸⁴¹ Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Ms Windmeisser and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.¹⁸⁴² The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 23 December 2024, Minister for the Environment Steffi Lemke launched "Climate-Adapted Forest Management Plus," a payment for ecosystem services program to support private and municipal forest owners.¹⁸⁴³ The initiative invites forest owners to apply for financing to strengthen the resilience, adaptability and stability of wooded areas through the preservation of species-rich, biodiverse terrestrial ecosystems with enhanced carbon storage capabilities. Through funding provided by the Natural Climate Protection Action Program, EUR10 million will be allocated annually towards this initiative for twenty years, enabling forest restoration and protection.

On 11 February 2025, Germany and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.¹⁸⁴⁴ The project will be implemented by the

¹⁸³⁹ Eine Strategie, die unsere natürlichen Lebensgrundlagen schützt, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.bmuv.de/pressemitteilung/eine-strategie-die-unsere-natuerlichen-lebensgrundlagen-schuetzt>

¹⁸⁴⁰ Nationale Strategie zur Biologischen Vielfalt 2030, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 March 2025. https://www.bmuv.de/fileadmin/Daten_BMU/Download_PDF/Naturschutz/nbs_2030_strategie_bf.pdf

¹⁸⁴¹ GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

¹⁸⁴² GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

¹⁸⁴³ Nationale Strategie zur Biologischen Vielfalt 2030, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz (Bonn) 18 December 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 17 February 2025. https://www.bmuv.de/fileadmin/Daten_BMU/Download_PDF/Naturschutz/nbs_2030_strategie_bf.pdf

¹⁸⁴⁴ "Regional" - Approval of the project "PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital" implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf

United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 20 February 2025, Ms Windmeisser and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.¹⁸⁴⁵ Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.¹⁸⁴⁶

On 27 February 2025, Representative Schmidt and the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund Trust Committee approved three key investment plans as part of the Nature, People and Climate program.¹⁸⁴⁷ The Brazil investment plan to address deforestation and support reforestation in the "Amazon and Cerrado biomes" will receive USD47 million from the Climate Investment Funds, the Kenya plan will receive USD35.66 million to protect and restore biodiversity in forests and other areas and the Zambezi Region plan will receive USD60.35 million for forest restoration and other environmental needs.¹⁸⁴⁸ These investments expect to mobilize approximately USD1 billion and enable innovative financial solutions for forests.

On 28 February 2025, Germany and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.¹⁸⁴⁹ This additional funding supports actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. Through the Hamburg Sustainability Platform, Germany has taken strong action to advance the development of private investment in forest conservation, restoration and protection at the international level. Germany has also taken strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF, GCF, CIF and CAFI.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tiya Gupta

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

¹⁸⁴⁵ Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-consideration-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

¹⁸⁴⁶ FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

¹⁸⁴⁷ Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf

¹⁸⁴⁸ CIF Endorses \$143 Million for Nature in Brazil, Kenya, and Zambezi River Basin, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin>; Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf

¹⁸⁴⁹ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the "Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture" implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf

On 17 June 2024, Deputy Director of the Global Public Goods Office in the International Financial Relations Directorate of the Ministry of the Economy and Finance Gisella Berardi and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totally in USD38.5 million.¹⁸⁵⁰ These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Ms Berardi and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.¹⁸⁵¹

On 15 July 2024, Ms Berardi and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.¹⁸⁵² These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

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¹⁸⁵⁰ Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev._01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf

¹⁸⁵¹ Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF._SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev._01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf

¹⁸⁵² Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

¹⁸⁵³ MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

¹⁸⁵⁴ Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf

¹⁸⁵⁵ Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/

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On 24 October 2024, Italy and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.¹⁸⁵⁷ REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 14 November 2024, Italy alongside other members at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.¹⁸⁵⁸ The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 14 November 2024, Director of International Development Cooperation at Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and Manager of the Italian Climate Fund Paolo Lombardo and Kenya’s Principal Secretary of the Department of State for Environment and Climate Change Festus Ng’eno signed an agreement whereby the Italian Climate Fund will loan EUR150 million for climate mitigation initiatives including “incentivizing reforestation” in Kenya.¹⁸⁵⁹ The Italian Climate Fund is an innovative financing instrument founded by the government of Italy.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Berardi and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD37 million in funding for an investment plan for Ethiopia, mobilising an additional USD492 million with co-financing from the African Development Bank, the World Bank Group and other donors.¹⁸⁶⁰ This initiative restores 322,276 hectares of degraded landscapes, including forests, farmlands and rangelands in Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia and Somali. The plan also includes the creation of an online national forest registry to enhance forest management and conservation efforts. This action supports forest conservation, restoration and protection.

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¹⁸⁵⁶ Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

¹⁸⁵⁷ Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

¹⁸⁵⁸ Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

¹⁸⁵⁹ Piano Mattei: dal Fondo Italiano per il Clima nuovo accordo da 150 milioni per la resilienza climatica del Kenya, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica (Rome) 15 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/piano-mattei-dal-fondo-italiano-il-clima-nuovo-accordo-da-150-milioni-la-resilienza>

¹⁸⁶⁰ Ethiopia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc_is_4.02.rev02_npc_investment-plan_ethiopia_11282024.pdf

financing.¹⁸⁶¹ In part, this funding aims to protect forests, address deforestation and ensure the sustainable management of 110,000 hectares of forest in Zambia over a five-year period.

On 20 December 2024, Deputy Director Berardi and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.¹⁸⁶² Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Deputy Director Berardi and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.¹⁸⁶³ The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 20 February 2025, Deputy Director Berardi and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.¹⁸⁶⁴ Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.¹⁸⁶⁵

On 11 April 2025, Italy's representative Antonio Navarra and the Adaptation Fund Board approved USD137 million in funding for sixteen new projects for climate adaptation.¹⁸⁶⁶ Several of these projects include a focus on conserving, protecting and/or restoring forests including a project for green and resilient ecosystems in Somalia. For this six-year project, the Fund will provide USD10 million to the International Fund for Agricultural Development to support "agro-pastoral and pastoral ecosystems" with a significant focus on forest restoration.¹⁸⁶⁷

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. Italy has taken strong action to support innovative financial solutions for the protection,

¹⁸⁶¹ Zambia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2025. https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02_npc_investment-plan_zambia_12022024.pdf

¹⁸⁶² GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

¹⁸⁶³ GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

¹⁸⁶⁴ Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-consideration-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

¹⁸⁶⁵ FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

¹⁸⁶⁶ DECISIONS OF THE ADAPTATION FUND BOARD AT ITS FORTY-FOURTH MEETING, Adaptation Fund Board (Bonn) 11 April 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/AFB.B.44.16.Rev._1-Decisions-of-the-44th-Meeting-of-the-Adaptation-Fund-Board-1.pdf

¹⁸⁶⁷ ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL, Adaptation Fund (Bonn) 10 November 2024. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/project/green-and-resilient-ecosystems-for-somali-livelihoods-hal-abuur/>

restoration and conservation of forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF, Adaptation Fund and GCF. Italy has also supported innovative financial solutions through the Italian Climate Fund.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tristen Ashworth

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Director for Climate Change and Environmental Issues at the Ministry of Finance Tsuyoshi Hyokai and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totaling in USD38.5 million.¹⁸⁶⁸ These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Mr. Hyokai and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.¹⁸⁶⁹

On 15 July 2024, Deputy Assistant Minister and Deputy Director General at the International Cooperation Bureau Affiliation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Hideaki Chotoku and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.¹⁸⁷⁰ These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 28 August 2024, Mr. Hyokai and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.¹⁸⁷¹ The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 11 October 2024, Mr. Hyokai and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their

¹⁸⁶⁸ Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_.01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf

¹⁸⁶⁹ Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF._SCCF_.C.36.03.Rev_.01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf

¹⁸⁷⁰ Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

¹⁸⁷¹ MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.¹⁸⁷²

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.¹⁸⁷³ The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Mr. Chotoku and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.¹⁸⁷⁴ Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, Japan and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.¹⁸⁷⁵ REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 14 November 2024, Japan alongside other members at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.¹⁸⁷⁶ The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 20 December 2024, Director Hyokai and the GCF’s Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.¹⁸⁷⁷ Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Director Hyokai and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries

¹⁸⁷² Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf

¹⁸⁷³ Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/

¹⁸⁷⁴ Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

¹⁸⁷⁵ Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

¹⁸⁷⁶ Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

¹⁸⁷⁷ GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.¹⁸⁷⁸ The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 20 February 2025, Deputy Assistant Minister Chotoku and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.¹⁸⁷⁹ Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.¹⁸⁸⁰

On 27 February 2025, Director Hyokai and the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund Trust Committee approved three key investment plans as part of the Nature, People, and Climate program.¹⁸⁸¹ The Brazil investment plan to address deforestation and support reforestation in the "Amazon and Cerrado biomes" will receive USD47 million from the Climate Investment Funds, the Kenya plan will receive USD35.66 million to protect and restore biodiversity in forests and other areas and the Zambezi Region plan will receive USD60.35 million for forest restoration and other environmental needs.¹⁸⁸² These investments expect to mobilize approximately USD1 billion and enable innovative financial solutions for forests.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. Japan has taken strong action to support innovative financial solutions for the protection, restoration and conservation of forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF, CIF, GBFF and GCF.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jack Eaton

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, the United Kingdom's Senior Responsible Officer for the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Ben Green and the GEF Council approved several innovative financing projects totaling in USD38.5

¹⁸⁷⁸ GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

¹⁸⁷⁹ Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-considersation-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

¹⁸⁸⁰ FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

¹⁸⁸¹ Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf

¹⁸⁸² CIF Endorses \$143 Million for Nature in Brazil, Kenya, and Zambezi River Basin, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. <https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin>; Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf

million.¹⁸⁸³ These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Mr. Green alongside the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.¹⁸⁸⁴

On 24 June 2024, the United Kingdom and Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.¹⁸⁸⁵ This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 15 July 2024, Head of Climate Finance and International Systems Department at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office Sarah Metcalf and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million. These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

On 19 July 2024, High Commissioner to Belize Nicole Davison announced the launch of “Resilient and Biodiverse Landscapes of Northern Mesoamerica” project for the conservation and protection of the Selva Maya Forest in Belize.¹⁸⁸⁶ The project aims to foster multi-sector collaboration, enable policy reform and build innovative financing mechanisms to incentivize the protection of the Selva Maya Forest’s biodiversity and rights for local communities and Indigenous peoples. The Biodiverse Landscapes Fund funds this project.

On 15 August 2024, the United Kingdom and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.¹⁸⁸⁷ This action contributes to forest conservation.

¹⁸⁸³ Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf

¹⁸⁸⁴ Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf

¹⁸⁸⁵ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf

¹⁸⁸⁶ Biodiverse landscapes fund launched by UK and Belize governments, British High Commission Belmopan (Belmopan) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biodiverse-landscapes-fund-launched-by-uk-and-belize-governments>

¹⁸⁸⁷ Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

On 15 August 2024, the United Kingdom and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.¹⁸⁸⁸ This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 8 August 2024, Chairperson for Projects for Nature Justin Francis announced a public-private partnership with the Scottish and Southern Electricity Network (SSEN) to restore 24 hectares of woodland in Somerset, England.¹⁸⁸⁹ SSEN will provide GBP250,000 to Heal Rewilding, a national nature recovery foundation, through Projects for Nature which is a federal initiative to facilitate ecosystem restoration by pairing private investors with pre-screened nature recovery projects.

On 28 August 2024, Mr. Green and the GEF Council allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.¹⁸⁹⁰ The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 6 September 2024, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs David Lammy affirmed ambitions to increase the funds available to Samoa and other Small Island Developing States through the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub, during an address marking 75 years of the modern Commonwealth of Nations alliance.¹⁸⁹¹ The Climate Finance Access Hub provides developing nations with financing for climate change mitigation, disaster relief and forest conservation through multilateral technical assistance and investment.

On 17 September 2024, Secretary Lammy announced ambitions to mobilize increased climate finance investment through international development banks, multilateral funds and international development programs to address the climate crisis, including efforts to protect and restore terrestrial biodiversity.¹⁸⁹² Secretary Lammy also made specific reference to an investment program that coalesced over GBP1 billion in private investments to protect and restore forests covering over nine million hectares of land and announced the intention of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office to expand this program in the Congo Basin rainforest in the future.

On 20 September 2024, Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Steve Reed affirmed the United Kingdom's focus on mobilizing finance to support the Global Biodiversity Framework ahead of the 16th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16).¹⁸⁹³ The

¹⁸⁸⁸ CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for "Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central" (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>.

¹⁸⁸⁹ Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks powers up nature recovery by backing Projects for Nature with £250,000, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://defraenvironment.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/08/scottish-and-southern-electricity-networks-powers-up-nature-recovery-by-backing-projects-for-nature-with-250000/>

¹⁸⁹⁰ MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

¹⁸⁹¹ 75 years of the modern Commonwealth: Foreign Secretary's speech, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/75-years-of-the-modern-commonwealth-foreign-secretarys-speech>

¹⁸⁹² The Kew Lecture: Foreign Secretary's speech on the climate crisis, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretarys-foreign-policy-speech-on-the-climate-crisis>

¹⁸⁹³ The Government announces new UK Special Representatives on Climate Change and Nature, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 20 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://defraenvironment.blog.gov.uk/2024/09/20/the-government-announces-new-uk-special-representatives-on-climate-change-and-nature/>

Global Biodiversity Framework agreement protects at least 30 per cent of marine and terrestrial ecosystems by 2030, emphasizing practices such as sustainable forest management.

On 27 September 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer announced a new facility within British International Investment dedicated to mobilizing pension and insurance funds for climate change mitigation and green finance in an address to the United Nations General Assembly.¹⁸⁹⁴ Prime Minister Starmer emphasized the need for both private and public investment in forest protection and nature conservation, citing forests as “vital” to biodiversity and reduced emissions.

On 1 October 2024, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Natural England launched “Natural Towns and Cities,” a collaborative financing initiative between the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the National Trust and Natural England.¹⁸⁹⁵ The initiative invites community partners, townships and city councils to apply for grants of between GBP250,000 and GBP1 million to create, preserve and improve access to urban greenspace and parks.

On 8 October 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Global Affairs Canada, the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and other public and private partners inaugurated the Hamburg Sustainability Platform (HSP) during the closing of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference.¹⁸⁹⁶ The platform aims to provide a comprehensive, standardized framework for private and public investment to meet climate and biodiversity goals, including those pertaining to forest conservation. The HSP uses public funds to “cushion the risks” for private investors in sustainable development, a model of blended finance intended to foster increased private environmental investment.¹⁸⁹⁷

On 11 October 2024, Mr. Green and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.¹⁸⁹⁸

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.¹⁸⁹⁹ The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

¹⁸⁹⁴ PM United Nations General Assembly Speech: 26 September 2024, Prime Minister’s Office (London) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-united-nations-general-assembly-speech-26-september-2024>

¹⁸⁹⁵ UK Councils invited to join and shape new initiative to improve access to nature and green space for millions of urban residents, National Lottery Heritage Fund (London) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-councils-invited-to-join-and-shape-new-initiative-to-improve-access-to-nature-and-green-space-for-millions-of-urban-residents>

¹⁸⁹⁶ New alliances are needed to provide blended finance at scale, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/en/news/press-releases/hamburg-sustainability-platform-to-provide-blended-finance-231056>

¹⁸⁹⁷ Mehr als 15 Vereinbarungen für eine nachhaltige Zukunft, Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (Hamburg) 8 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/hsc-mehr-als-15-vereinbarungen-fuer-eine-nachhaltige-zukunft-230734>

¹⁸⁹⁸ Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf

¹⁸⁹⁹ Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/

On 24 October 2024, Ms Metcalf and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.¹⁹⁰⁰ Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia's West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

On 24 October 2024, the United Kingdom and the GCF Board adopted a Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) results-based payments policy into its regular project cycle to support developing countries in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.¹⁹⁰¹ REDD+ payments will be compliant with all GCF policies.

On 26 October 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and Secretary Lammy introduced a package of multilateral climate financing contributions to promote climate mitigation, disaster relief and natural conservation efforts in developing and climate-vulnerable economies at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Samoa.¹⁹⁰² The package includes expanded investment in pre-existing programs with innovative financing and forest conservation dimensions, including the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub and the Inter-American Development Bank's One Caribbean Fund.

On 28 October 2024, the GEF announced USD163 million in funding for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) which supports the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through investments and financing including blended finance.¹⁹⁰³ Of note, the United Kingdom will be providing GBP45 million to the GBFF, in addition to its prior pledge of GBP10 million.

On 5 November 2024, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Nature Mary Creagh, Natural England Chair Tony Juniper and Secretary Reed confirmed the United Kingdom's involvement in the Cali Fund at the 16th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.¹⁹⁰⁴ The delegates reaffirmed the United Kingdom's commitment to fostering an international strategy to encourage private investment in the conservation, protection and restoration of biodiverse ecosystems.

On 12 November 2024, Secretary Lammy revealed a package of multilateral climate financing contributions to support forest restoration, protection and conservation in an address on Indigenous forest tenure at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan.¹⁹⁰⁵ The package includes a GBP50 million program to reduce illegal logging and a GBP94 million

¹⁹⁰⁰ Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

¹⁹⁰¹ Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

¹⁹⁰² UK attends Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Samoa, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 29 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-attends-commonwealth-heads-of-government-meeting-in-samoa>

¹⁹⁰³ Joint statement on donors' pledge of \$163 million and confirmation of support to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/joint-statement-donors-pledge-163-million-and-confirmation-support-global>

¹⁹⁰⁴ COP 16 concludes: UK back on the global stage urging action on nature recovery and supporting 30by30 goals, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cop-16-concludes-uk-back-on-the-global-stage-urging-action-on-nature-recovery-and-supporting-30by30-goals>

¹⁹⁰⁵ Indigenous Peoples and protecting forests: Foreign Secretary's speech at COP29, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretarys-speech-on-indigenous-peoples-and-protecting-forests>

initiative to support the forest governance rights of Indigenous and local communities in the Amazon. Secretary Lammy also confirmed that the United Kingdom will provide GBP1.5 billion in climate finance for forests overall.

On 14 November 2024, the United Kingdom alongside other members at COP29 pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.¹⁹⁰⁶ The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 22 November 2024, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Ed Miliband announced GBP239 million in funding to support forest restoration, conservation and protection efforts in forest-rich regions including Columbia and Indonesia.¹⁹⁰⁷ This commitment includes GBP188 million in funding for the Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions programme which enables forest protection through nature-based industrial carbon credits and a GBP48 million contribution to Mobilising Finance for Forests, a blended finance initiative aimed at encouraging private investment in sustainable forest management, conservation and restoration.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director at the Department for Energy and Net Zero Edward Webber and the Climate Investment Funds' Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD37 million in funding for an investment plan for Ethiopia, mobilising an additional USD492 million with co-financing from the African Development Bank, the World Bank Group and other donors.¹⁹⁰⁸ This initiative restores 322,276 hectares of degraded landscapes, including forests, farmlands and rangelands in Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia and Somali. The plan also includes the creation of an online national forest registry to enhance forest management and conservation efforts. This action supports forest conservation, restoration and protection.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Webber and the Climate Investment Funds' Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD34.65 million in funding for Zambia, with USD220 million in co-financing.¹⁹⁰⁹ In part, this funding aims to protect forests, address deforestation and ensure the sustainable management of 110,000 hectares of forest in Zambia over a five-year period.

On 20 December 2024, Senior Officer Green and the GCF's Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.¹⁹¹⁰ Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Senior Officer Green and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including

¹⁹⁰⁶ Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024.

<https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

¹⁹⁰⁷ UK unveils funding boost to help forest nations fight climate change, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (London) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-unveils-funding-boost-to-help-forest-nations-fight-climate-change>.

¹⁹⁰⁸ Ethiopia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc_is_4.02.rev02_npc_investment-plan_ethiopia_11282024.pdf

¹⁹⁰⁹ Zambia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2025. https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02_npc_investment-plan_zambia_12022024.pdf

¹⁹¹⁰ GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.¹⁹¹¹ The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 16 January 2024, Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala Juliana Correa announced USD30 million in funding for environmental objectives, including forest and biodiversity preservation.¹⁹¹² The funding, delivered in partnership with the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme, will be made available to over forty countries to advance sustainable development and climate ambitions.

On 6 February 2025, Ambassador Correa launched “Nature-based solutions for climate resilience of indigenous and local communities in Guatemala,” a three-year project in collaboration with the Global Centre on Biodiversity for Climate, the University of Greenwich and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.¹⁹¹³ The initiative will invest over USD1 million in climate resiliency development through nature-based climate solutions, including reforestation, in the local communities of Alta Verapaz and Chiquimula.

On 11 February 2025, the United Kingdom and the CFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.¹⁹¹⁴ The project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 17 February 2025, Acting High Commissioner to Belize Christine Rowland awarded a GBP99,191 grant to the non-profit organization MarAlliance for the restoration and sustainable management of local mangrove forests.¹⁹¹⁵ The Sustainable Blue Economies Program Blue Social Challenge Fund supports regional climate resilience, ecosystem restoration and conservation efforts by delivering grants through its multilateral climate finance and technical assistance vehicles.

On 20 February 2025, Head of Climate Finance Metcalf and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.¹⁹¹⁶ Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7 million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.¹⁹¹⁷

¹⁹¹¹ GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

¹⁹¹² UK will support Guatemala to increase its climate ambitions, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 17 January 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-will-support-guatemala-to-increase-its-climate-ambitions>

¹⁹¹³ UK project will improve livelihoods and climate resilience of communities in Alta Verapaz and the dry corridor, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 6 February 2025. Access Date: 15 February 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-project-will-improve-livelihoods-and-climate-resilience-of-communities-in-alta-verapaz-and-the-dry-corridor>

¹⁹¹⁴ “Regional” - Approval of the project “PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital” implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf

¹⁹¹⁵ UK Government awards grant to strengthen mangrove conservation in Belize, British High Commission Belmopan (Belmopan) 17 February 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-awards-grant-to-strengthen-mangrove-conservation-in-belize>

¹⁹¹⁶ Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-consideration-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

¹⁹¹⁷ FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

On 27 February 2025, Senior Advisor of Climate Funds and Institutions Department at the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office Jan Wimaladharma and the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund Trust Committee approved three key investment plans as part of the Nature, People and Climate program.¹⁹¹⁸ The Brazil investment plan to address deforestation and support reforestation in the “Amazon and Cerrado biomes” will receive USD47 million from the Climate Investment Funds, the Kenya plan will receive USD35.66 million to protect and restore biodiversity in forests and other areas and the Zambezi Region plan will receive USD60.35 million for forest restoration and other environmental needs.¹⁹¹⁹ These investments expect to mobilize approximately USD1 billion and enable innovative financial solutions for forests.

On 28 February 2025, the United Kingdom and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.¹⁹²⁰ This additional funding will support actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country. As part of this decision, the CAFI Board thanked the United Kingdom for its additional funding to support the CAFI Trust Fund.

On 17 March 2025, Ambassador Correa and Ambassador to El Salvador Ramin Navai travelled to the Trifinio Region of Central America to discuss sustainable land management with local authorities and community representatives including through the UK's Biodiverse Landscapes Fund.¹⁹²¹ Ambassador Correa and Ambassador Navai reaffirmed the United Kingdom's continued collaboration with Central American communities to support sustainable development, forest protection and the safeguarding of local ecosystems and livelihoods.

On 28 March 2025, Ambassador Correa reaffirmed the United Kingdom's commitment to promoting the sustainable management of forests through the Biodiverse Landscapes Fund during a visit to Petén, Guatemala.¹⁹²² During the visit, Ambassador Correa met with representatives from local communities, forest protection groups and conservation associations, facilitating dialogue about sustainable forest management, restoration and conservation.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. The United Kingdom has taken strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for the protection, restoration and conservation of forests through its support for fund disbursements by the GEF and GCF. It has also contributed to innovative financial solutions for forest conservation through CAFI and conservation and protection through the Biodiverse Landscapes Fund, the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub and the Inter-American Development Bank's One Caribbean Fund. Domestically, the United Kingdom has fostered private-public partnerships to enable forest protection

¹⁹¹⁸ Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf

¹⁹¹⁹ CIF Endorses \$143 Million for Nature in Brazil, Kenya, and Zambezi River Basin, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. [https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin;Summary of the Co-Chairs Meeting of the SCF Trust Fund Committee, Climate Investment Funds \(Washington D.C.\) 27 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/co-chair-summary/scf_tfc.19_co-chairs-summary_03122025.pdf](https://cif.org/news/cif-endorses-143-million-nature-brazil-kenya-and-zambezi-river-basin;Summary%20of%20the%20Co-Chairs%20Meeting%20of%20the%20SCF%20Trust%20Fund%20Committee%20Climate%20Investment%20Funds%20(Washington%20D.C.)%2027%20February%202025.pdf)

¹⁹²⁰ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the “Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture” implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf

¹⁹²¹ UK Strengthens Commitment to Biodiversity and Community Development in the Trifinio Region, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 17 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-strengthens-commitment-to-biodiversity-and-community-development-in-the-trifinio-region>

¹⁹²² British Ambassador visits Petén to strengthen conservation of the Mayan Forest, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 28 March 2025. Access Date: 8 April 2025. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-ambassador-visits-peten-to-strengthen-conservation-of-the-mayan-forest>

and provided financing to communities, municipalities and non-profit organizations to encourage the development, restoration and conservation of forests and green spaces.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tiya Gupta

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 17 June 2024, Deputy Director at the Department of the Treasury Abigail Demopulos and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Council approved several innovative financing projects totaling in USD38.5 million.¹⁹²³ These projects include forest restoration in 75,000 hectares of Argentinian protected areas, sustainable forest resource management in Mauritania, forest conservation in Namibia, restorative forest management in Algerian pine forests, terrestrial biodiversity conservation and restoration in Somalia and nature-based forest ecosystem recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This action contributes to both forest conservation and restoration.

On 19 June 2024, Ms Demopulos and the GEF Council allocated USD8.9 million in sustainability linked financing through the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement climate resilient and sustainable forest management practices in Angola.¹⁹²⁴

On 24 June 2024, the United States and Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.¹⁹²⁵ This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 15 July 2024, Director for Climate and Environment at the Department of Treasury Victoria Gunderson and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approved several innovative financing projects totalling USD504.9 million.¹⁹²⁶ These projects include coastal forest restoration in Vietnam, resilient agroforestry practices in Senegal, integrated forest resource management in Jordan, degraded forest management and carbon sequestration in Tajikistan, mangrove forest restoration in Equator, forest resource conservation in Mexico, afforestation, agroforestry, sustainable forest management and riparian restoration in Malawi, forest restoration and sustainable agroforestry promotion in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan and sustainable forest management in Laos. This action contributes to both forest restoration and conservation.

¹⁹²³ Work Program for GEF Trust Fund Agenda Item 03, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 17 June 2024. Access Date: 27 September 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-06/EN_GEF.C.67.03.Rev_01_Work_Program_GEF_Trust_Fund.pdf

¹⁹²⁴ Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 19 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-05/EN_GEF.LDCF_SCCF_C.36.03.Rev_01_Work%20Program_LDCF.pdf

¹⁹²⁵ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf

¹⁹²⁶ Decisions of the Board – thirty-ninth meeting of the Board, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 28 September 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/decisions-board-thirty-ninth-meeting-board-15-18-july-2024-gcf-b39-19.pdf>

On 15 August 2024, the United States and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.¹⁹²⁷ This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 15 August 2024, the United States and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.¹⁹²⁸ This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 25 July 2024, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced USD140 million in funding for government cost-share programs that provide financial support to private forest landowners to make their land more resilient to climate change and USD50 million to incentivize landowners to increase storage and sequestration of carbon on forested land.¹⁹²⁹ This action contributes to forest conservation through management practices.

On 28 August 2024, Ms Demopulos and the GEF Council announced allocated USD18.5 million in funding for Mexican conservation efforts as part of MEx30x30, a division of the global 30x30 goal to conserve 30 per cent of land and water by 2030.¹⁹³⁰ The project aims to protect ecosystems and support Indigenous communities and local governments who manage the ecosystems, supporting forest conservation and protection.

On 10 October 2024, Lead Climate Finance Negotiator Kevin Adams and the Adaptation Fund Board approved over USD31 million for innovative environmental projects in several countries.¹⁹³¹ Projects include promoting resilience to climate change in Benin, Azerbaijan, Somalia and Peru as well as promoting sustainable ecosystem restoration and protection in Pakistan and Senegal. This action will contribute to the conservation, protection and restoration of forests in these countries.

On 11 October 2024, Ms Demopulos and the GEF Council released a report to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, highlighting their projects and illustrating the importance of innovative investments to combat desertification and protect ecosystems, including forests.¹⁹³²

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers endorsed a public-private initiative for sustainable coffee production, with a focus on reducing deforestation.¹⁹³³ The initiative proposes “a pre-competitive global coffee

¹⁹²⁷ Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024.

<https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

¹⁹²⁸ CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for “Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central” (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024.

<https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>

¹⁹²⁹ USDA announces \$190M grant opportunity for payment programs that help private forest landowners address climate change, United States Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 11 November 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/newsroom/releases/usda-announces-190m-grant-opportunity-payment-programs-help-private>

¹⁹³⁰ MEx30x30 project launches with \$18.5 million for Mexico biodiversity conservation, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/mex30x30-project-launches-18-5-million-mexico-biodiversity-conservation>

¹⁹³¹ Decisions of the Adaptation Fund at its forty-third meeting, Adaptation Fund Board (Bonn) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/FINAL-Board-Decisions-AFB43-October-2024.pdf>

¹⁹³² Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Sixteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2024-10/UNCCD_COP16_GEF_report_Council.pdf

¹⁹³³ Comunicato della Riunione dei Ministri dello Sviluppo del G7 di Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 October 2024 https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/

sustainability and resilience fund” and follows a blended public-private finance model to assess and halt deforestation.

On 24 October 2024, Ms Gunderson and the GCF Board approved several innovative financing projects to enable sustainable forest management, conservation and protection internationally.¹⁹³⁴ Approved project funding includes USD65.5 million to foster climate-resilient and sustainable forest management practices within climate-vulnerable communities in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, USD35 million to enable deforestation-free income streams and supply chains, sustainable agroforestry practices and forest conservation across over 500,000 hectares of land in Vietnam and USD25 million to implement agroforestry practices in smallholder farms in Burundi. This action supports protection, restoration and conservation.

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On 14 November 2024, the United States alongside other members present at the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change pledged to raise USD300 billion annually by 2035 to support climate adaptation, increase environmental protection and mitigate climate disasters in developing countries.¹⁹³⁶ The members emphasized forest protection and conservation as a crucial financing priority.

On 17 November 2024, the Biden-Harris Administration announced new financing for innovative financial solutions supporting forest conservation, protection, and restoration.¹⁹³⁷ The Biden-Harris administration pledged an additional USD50 million for the Amazon Fund, announced USD2.6 million for the Rainforest Wealth Project and declared support for Brazil’s new USD125 billion Tropical Forests Forever Facility. The US launched the Brazil Restoration and Bioeconomy Finance Coalition with a 2030 goal to mobilize USD10 billion for restoration projects including forests. In addition, the administration announced financing and engagement from the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) including a USD37.5 million loan for native-species tree-planting and a cooperation agreement with the Brazilian Development Bank focused on conservation and restoration in the Amazon. The announced actions also include expanded support for the Indigenous Peoples Finance Access Facility and USD1.9 million to launch the Alliance of Indigenous Peoples for the Forests of the Eastern Amazon.

On 11 December 2024, the Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service announced almost USD335 million in funding to provide “financial incentives for private forest landowners to manage their forests sustainably” and

¹⁹³⁴ Consideration of Funding Proposals, Green Climate Fund (Songdo) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b40-02-consideration-funding-proposals.pdf>

¹⁹³⁵ Forests get a boost from new GCF policy on REDD+ results-based payments, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 5 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/forests-get-boost-new-gcf-policy-redd-results-based-payments>

¹⁹³⁶ Cop29 UN Climate Conference Agrees to Triple Finance to Developing Countries, Protecting Lives and Livelihoods, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. <https://unfccc.int/news/cop29-un-climate-conference-agrees-to-triple-finance-to-developing-countries-protecting-lives-and>

¹⁹³⁷ FACT SHEET: President Biden Marks Historic Climate Legacy with Trip to Brazil’s Amazon Rainforest, The White House (Washington D.C.) 17 November 2024. Access Date: 1 January 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/11/17/fact-sheet-president-biden-marks-historic-climate-legacy-with-trip-to-brazils-amazon-rainforest/>

engage in public-private forest conservation.¹⁹³⁸ These projects include a focus on innovative agroforestry markets, a biodiversity crediting framework and other innovative financial solutions.¹⁹³⁹

On 17 December 2024, the DFC, the Inter-American Development Bank, The Nature Conservancy and the Bank of America announced that USD1 billion in political risk insurance from the DFC to enable a debt conversion for terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems in the Ecuadorian Amazon.¹⁹⁴⁰ This debt conversion will help Ecuador to generate USD800 million in net fiscal savings by 2035 and USD460 million in finances for the Amazon Biocorridor Program which aims to conserve “4.6 million hectares of existing protected areas and protect an additional 1.8 million hectares of forests and wetlands.”

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Demopulos and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD37 million in funding for an investment plan for Ethiopia, mobilising an additional USD492 million with co-financing from the African Development Bank, the World Bank Group and other donors.¹⁹⁴¹ This initiative restores 322,276 hectares of degraded landscapes, including forests, farmlands and rangelands in Amhara, Oromia, South Ethiopia and Somali. The plan also includes the creation of an online national forest registry to enhance forest management and conservation efforts. This action supports forest conservation, restoration and protection.

On 4 December 2024, Deputy Director Demopulos and the Climate Investment Funds’ Global Climate Action Programs Sub-Committee approved USD34.65 million in funding for Zambia, with USD220 million in co-financing.¹⁹⁴² In part, this funding aims to protect forests, address deforestation and ensure the sustainable management of 110,000 hectares of forest in Zambia over a five-year period.

On 11 December 2024, the Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service announced almost USD335 million in funding to provide “financial incentives for private forest landowners to manage their forests sustainably” and engage in public-private forest conservation.¹⁹⁴³ These projects include a focus on innovative agroforestry markets, a biodiversity crediting framework and other innovative financial solutions.¹⁹⁴⁴

On 17 December 2024, the DFC, the Inter-American Development Bank, The Nature Conservancy and the Bank of America announced that USD1 billion in political risk insurance from the DFC to enable a debt

¹⁹³⁸ USDA announces nearly \$335M in grants to support private forestland management and conservation as part of President Biden’s Investing in America Agenda, Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/newsroom/releases/usda-announces-nearly-335m-grants-support-private-forestland>

¹⁹³⁹ Forest Landowner Support Funded Projects, Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/state-private-forestry/coop-forestry/ira-forest-landowner-support/funded-projects>

¹⁹⁴⁰ DFC Announces \$1 Billion in Political Risk Insurance for Ecuador’s First Debt Conversion, U.S. Embassy and Consulate in Ecuador (Quito) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://ec.usembassy.gov/dfc-announces-1-billion-in-political-risk-insurance-for-ecuadors-first-debt-conversion-to-support-terrestrial-and-freshwater-conservation/>

¹⁹⁴¹ Ethiopia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 18 February 2025. https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is_4.02.rev02_npc_investment-plan_ethiopia_11282024.pdf

¹⁹⁴² Zambia (NPC) Investment Plan, Climate Investment Funds (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 8 March 2025. https://cif.org/sites/cif_enc/files/meeting-documents/gcap.sc-is-4.03.rev-02_npc_investment-plan_zambia_12022024.pdf

¹⁹⁴³ USDA announces nearly \$335M in grants to support private forestland management and conservation as part of President Biden’s Investing in America Agenda, Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/newsroom/releases/usda-announces-nearly-335m-grants-support-private-forestland>

¹⁹⁴⁴ Forest Landowner Support Funded Projects, Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) n.d. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/state-private-forestry/coop-forestry/ira-forest-landowner-support/funded-projects>

conversion for terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems in the Ecuadorian Amazon.¹⁹⁴⁵ This debt conversion will help Ecuador to generate USD800 million in net fiscal savings by 2035 and USD460 million in finances for the Amazon Biocorridor Program which aims to conserve “4.6 million hectares of existing protected areas and protect an additional 1.8 million hectares of forests and wetlands.”

On 20 December 2024, Deputy Director Demopulos and the GCF’s Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund council approved eleven green financing programs with USD106.21 million in funding.¹⁹⁴⁶ Approved initiatives include biodiversity conservation and anti-land degradation efforts in Samoa, the implementation of sustainable agroforestry practices in Laos, accelerated investment in nature-based climate adaptation solutions, reforestation and sustainable urban planning in the Central African Republic, sustainable forest management practices in Togo and the enhancement of flood protection and carbon sequestration ecosystem services through forest conservation and restoration in Tanzania.

On 20 December 2024, Deputy Director Demopulos and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund approved USD2.7 million for project preparation and USD91.2 million for eighteen new projects in seventeen countries including Least Developed States and Small Island Developing States.¹⁹⁴⁷ The projects include funding for mangrove conservation and restoration in Colombia and forest ecosystem conservation in Papua New Guinea. These projects support forest conservation, preservation, and restoration while supporting targets from the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

On 20 January 2025, President Donald Trump ordered the United States’ withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, an international environmental agreement to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions.¹⁹⁴⁸ The Paris Agreement incentivizes innovative financial solutions to address climate issues, including forest management.¹⁹⁴⁹ This withdrawal significantly undermines the United States’ commitment to developing innovative financial solutions to conserve, protect and restore forests.

On 11 February 2025, the United States and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.¹⁹⁵⁰ The project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 20 February 2025, Director Gunderson and the GCF Board approved USD686 million in funding for several innovative initiatives to facilitate sustainable forest management, protection, restoration and conservation internationally.¹⁹⁵¹ Approved financing includes USD29.2 million for the development of deforestation-free agricultural value chains in Kenya, USD25 million for the promotion of sustainable, climate-adaptive forest management and governance through public-private collaboration in Serbia and USD33.7

¹⁹⁴⁵ DFC Announces \$1 Billion in Political Risk Insurance for Ecuador’s First Debt Conversion, U.S. Embassy and Consulate in Ecuador (Quito) 17 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. <https://ec.usembassy.gov/dfc-announces-1-billion-in-political-risk-insurance-for-ecuadors-first-debt-conversion-to-support-terrestrial-and-freshwater-conservation/>

¹⁹⁴⁶ GEF adaptation funds accelerate action across 20 countries, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/gef-adaptation-funds-accelerate-action-across-20-countries>

¹⁹⁴⁷ GBFF approves 18 new project preparation grants, Global Environmental Facility (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2024. Access Date: 20 February 2025. <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/press-releases/gbff-approves-18-new-project-preparation-grants>

¹⁹⁴⁸ PUTTING AMERICA FIRST IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 January 2025. Access Date: 9 March 2025. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/putting-america-first-in-international-environmental-agreements/>

¹⁹⁴⁹ The Paris Agreement, United Nations Climate Change (Bonn) n.d. Access Date: 9 March 2025. <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement>

¹⁹⁵⁰ “Regional” - Approval of the project “PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital” implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf

¹⁹⁵¹ Forty-first meeting of the GCF Board (B.41), Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 18 February 2025. Access Date: 19 February 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/11-considersation-funding-proposals-gcf-b41-02-rev02.pdf>

million for the implementation of agroforestry practices in Mali. The GCF Board also authorized the creation of the Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, a EUR78,125,000 blended-finance investment instrument offering technical and financial assistance to business owners seeking to combat deforestation and land degradation.¹⁹⁵²

On 28 February 2025, the United States and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.¹⁹⁵³ This additional funding will support actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. The United States has taken strong action to develop innovative financial solutions for the protection, restoration and conservation of forests through fund disbursements by the GEF and GCF and CAFI. The United States has also supported innovative financing through support for private forest landowners domestically. In addition, the US supported a variety of innovative financial mechanisms to protect, conserve, and restore the Amazon.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jack Eaton

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests.

On 24 June 2024, the European Union and Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) Executive Board approved USD20,512,743 in funding over the next three years to support deforestation-free agriculture in Cameroon.¹⁹⁵⁴ This initiative will be implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in partnership with the Cameroon Coffee and Cocoa Development Fund.

On 15 August 2024, the European Union and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD1,458,000 million in funding to prevent forest loss and support food security in Cameroon.¹⁹⁵⁵ This action contributes to forest conservation.

On 15 August 2024, the European Union and the CAFI Executive Board approved USD2 million in funding over an eleven-month period to address forest loss and food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.¹⁹⁵⁶ This action contributes to forest restoration and conservation.

¹⁹⁵² FP263 Mirova Sustainable Land Fund 2, Green Climate Fund (Incheon) 20 February 2025. Access Date: 8 March 2025. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp263>

¹⁹⁵³ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the “Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture” implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf

¹⁹⁵⁴ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Approval of The Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Central African Forest Initiative (Oslo) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 5 October 2024. https://cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/EB.2024.23%20-%20IFAD_Project%20Approval.pdf

¹⁹⁵⁵ Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the Preparatory Grant UNDP-MINEPAT Coordination Support Project (00140410), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.28-UNDP%20MINEPAT%20prep%20grant%20EN.pdf>

¹⁹⁵⁶ CAFI Executive Board Decision - Approval of the project document for “Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central” (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 November 2024. <https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2024-08/EB.2024.29%20-%20Approval%20of%20One%20Acre%20Fund%20project.pdf>

On 29 October 2024, the European Union announced a EUR12 million contribution to the United Nations Development Programme's Biodiversity Finance Initiative to assist developing countries in achieving national and global biodiversity targets.¹⁹⁵⁷

On 29 October 2024, Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen and the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced EUR160 million in new initiatives to support partner countries and protect biodiversity, including forest protection through rewards for nature conservation.¹⁹⁵⁸ This includes two pilot projects, one focusing on private forests in partnership with Estonia.

On 12 November 2024, the EIB announced EUR150 million in funding to protect, restore and expand forests in Côte d'Ivoire.¹⁹⁵⁹ The EIB will support capital-intensive structural investments and soft-asset investments for reforestation through this initiative.

On 11 February 2025, the European Union and CAFI Executive Board approved USD29,568,320 in funding for a project to catalyse private sector investment for the Congo Basin.¹⁹⁶⁰ The project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Capital Development Fund and support forest protection, conservation and restoration in the Congo Basin.

On 28 February 2025, the European Union and the CAFI Executive Board approved an additional USD1,937,500 for the deforestation-free agriculture project in Cameroon.¹⁹⁶¹ This additional funding will support actions to address forest loss and improve food security in the country.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to developing innovative financial solutions for conserving, protecting, and restoring forests. The European Union advanced strong action to support innovative financing to conserve, restore and protect forests through fund disbursements by CAFI and by funding initiatives through the European Investment Bank.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tristen Ashworth

¹⁹⁵⁷ EU announced 12 million support for global biodiversity conservation efforts led by UNDP's Biodiversity Finance Initiative, United Nations Development Programme (Cali) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 1 December 2024. <https://www.undp.org/news/eu-announces-eu12-million-support-global-biodiversity-conservation-efforts-led-undps-biodiversity-finance-initiative>

¹⁹⁵⁸ EU delivers on its global financing commitments to protect nature at COP 16, European Commission (Cali) 31 October 2024. Access Date: 2 December 2024. https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/eu-delivers-its-global-financing-commitments-protect-nature-cop-16-2024-10-31_en

¹⁹⁵⁹ EIB supports transformative forestry project in Côte d'Ivoire, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/eib-supports-transformative-forestry-project-in-cote-d-ivoire>

¹⁹⁶⁰ "Regional" - Approval of the project "PRO-CONGO: Catalytic Private Sector Investment in Congo Basin Natural Capital" implement by UNEP and UNCDF, Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 11 February 2025. Access Date: 17 February 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-02/EB.2025.04%20-%20Project%20Approval_PROCONGO_UNEP_UNCDF.pdf

¹⁹⁶¹ CAFI Executive Board Decision Cameroon – Extension with additional budget of the "Pilot Project to support the sustainable intensification and agroecological transition of agriculture" implemented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Project Gateway ID (00140915), Central African Forest Initiative (Geneva) 28 February 2025. Access Date: 28 April 2025. https://www.cafi.org/sites/default/files/2025-03/EB.2025.09%20-%20Approval%20Project%20Extension_IFAD_FODECC_1.pdf