



Information Session 1

17 December 2024

An aerial photograph showing a dense, vibrant green forest in the upper half of the frame. Below the forest, a terraced tea plantation is visible, characterized by numerous parallel, wavy rows of tea bushes that create a rhythmic, undulating pattern across the landscape. The overall scene is a harmonious blend of natural forest and human agricultural activity.

INNOVATION FACILITY INFORMATION SESSION 1

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An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground features terraced fields with distinct, wavy, light-colored lines separating the green crops. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangular box is centered over the image, containing the text.

**All relevant information can
be found in the
Guidelines for Applicants**

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground features terraced rice fields with distinct, wavy, brownish lines separating the green paddies. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest with a variety of tree species. The overall scene is bright and natural.

What is the Innovation Facility?

Chapter 1

The Challenge:

Chapter 1



Global climate and biodiversity targets are underfunded



Private sector investment remains insufficient for nature-based solutions

Voluntary Carbon Markets (VCMs):
A critical yet underutilised tool



Limited innovation and early-stage risk-takers



Biodiversity and community benefits treated as secondary goals

The Innovation Facility

Chapter 1

Mission:

Address funding gaps by supporting innovative, nature-based carbon projects.

Objectives & Key themes

Chapter 1



Delivering nature positive impacts:
Contribution to biodiversity



Leveraging the voluntary carbon market:
Carbon components of the project



Advancing social inclusion, benefit sharing,
and gender equality



Fostering innovation for impact:
Innovativeness of the project

The Basics

Chapter 1

Total fund: €9 million from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) via KfW Development Bank.

Funding Amount: €750,000–€1.5 mio. per project.

Duration: Up to 24 months (no later than mid-2027).

Managed By: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)



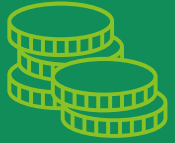
An aerial photograph showing a dense green forest in the upper half and terraced rice fields in the lower half. The forest has a mix of green and brownish-yellow trees, with some bare branches visible. The rice fields are terraced and filled with green rice, with dark brown lines separating the terraces. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

Expected outcomes

Chapter 2.1

Expected outcomes

Chapter 2.1



Mobilisation of private finance



Project validation and registration



Improved livelihoods



Positive Environmental and Social Outcomes

An aerial photograph of a lush green forest. The top half of the image shows a dense canopy of trees. The bottom half shows a series of terraced fields or agricultural plots, creating a wavy, geometric pattern. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the main title and chapter information.

Eligibility for funding

Chapter 2.2

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground features terraced fields, likely for rice cultivation, with distinct, wavy lines separating the plots. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

Eligibility for funding

Eligibility categories

Chapter 2.2.1

Eligible categories

Chapter 2.2.1



Forests



Inland wetlands



Coastal wetlands

NOTE: REDD projects are excluded

Eligible categories: Forest

Chapter 2.2.1



Forest Restoration

Natural regeneration

Assisted natural regeneration

Planting native species

Eligible categories: Forest

Chapter 2.2.1



Forest Restoration



Agroforestry

Silvo-arable systems

Silvopastoral systems

Agro-silvicultural systems

Eligible categories: Inland wetlands

Chapter 2.2.1



Carbon removal: Peatlands

Rewetting

Revegetation

Restoring hydrology

Eligible categories: Coastal wetlands

Chapter 2.2.1



Carbon removal: Blue Carbon

Mangrove restoration

Seagrass bed restoration

Kelp forest restoration

Salt marsh restoration

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground shows terraced fields with dark, winding paths or irrigation channels. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

Eligibility for funding

Eligible project proponents

Chapter 2.2.2

Eligible project proponents

Chapter 2.2.2



Project owners with on-the-ground capacity:

- Local or international NGOs;
- IPs, and LC organisations;
- Private project developers;
- Forestry and agricultural companies; including innovative start-ups;
- Cooperatives;
- Other entities with the respective expertise.

Eligible project proponents

Chapter 2.2.2



Project owners with on-the-ground capacity



Directly responsible for preparation & implementation of the project



Have an organisation bank account



Local staff

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground shows terraced fields with dark, winding paths or irrigation channels. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

Eligibility for funding

Eligibility criteria

Chapter 2.2.3

Eligibility criteria

Chapter 2.2.3

- 1 Project categories:** Forest, inland / coastal wetland
- 2 Country:** ODA-eligible, no international sanctions
 - Applicant can be based in ineligible country
- 3 In or near Key Biodiversity Area(s) (KBAs)**
- 4 Regulatory additionality:** activities not required by law
- 5 Land-use history:** no change in the last 10 years

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground shows terraced fields with dark, winding paths or irrigation channels. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

Eligibility for funding

Exclusion list

Chapter 2.2.4

Exclusion list ☒

Chapter 2.2.4

- 1** Involuntary resettlements, forced eviction
- 2** Economic displacement
- 3** Human rights violations, incl. rights of IPs and LCs
- 4** Exploitation of IPs in isolation or initial contact
- 5** Damage to cultural heritage or resources
- 6** Reinforcing harmful norms or gender inequalities
- 7** Forced or exploitative child labour activities.

Exclusion list ☒

Chapter 2.2.4

- 8** Projects harming biodiversity near protected areas.
- 9** Goods/technology for military or dual-use purposes
- 10** Non-compliant hazardous waste projects, incl. nuclear waste
- 11** Illegal or banned pesticides/herbicides use
- 12** Activities focused solely on research purposes
- 13** Stand-alone international events or training

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground features terraced rice fields with distinct, wavy patterns. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the title text.

Grant Budget & Project financing

Chapter 2.3

An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground shows terraced fields with dark, winding paths or irrigation channels. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey rectangle.

Grant Budget & Project financing

Chapter 2.3.1.

During Grant funding period

Eligible cost criterias

Chapter 2.3.1

- 1** Necessary for project implementation
- 2** Directly related services and supplies
- 3** Reasonable, justified, and financially sound
- 4** Cost-effective, recorded, and value for money
- 5** Incurred only during grant funding period
- 6** Identifiable, verifiable, and tax compliant

Eligible cost categories



Restoration activities (min 60% of budget)



Preparation of the nature-based carbon project



Monitoring



Livelihoods / community development activities



Staff costs



Others



Indirect costs

Match funding

Chapter 2.3.1

Co-financing: Additional funding of **min 25% of the grant amount** required

Sources: private sector or government

Proof to be submitted by the end of grant funding period

Grant Funding	Match funding (25%)
750.000 €	187.000 €
1.5 Mio. €	375.000 €

Grant Budget template

ANNEX 6

Submit:

Annex 6: Grant Budget template

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1		ANNEX 6: INNOVATION FACILITY GRANT BUDGET TEMPLATE						
22		Grant Budget Expenses	Please add or delete lines below as needed					
23		TASK	YEAR 1			YEAR 2		
24			Grant funding	Match funding (25%)	Total Budget	Grant funding	Match funding (25%)	Total Budget
25		Restoration activities (min 60% of total budget)						
26		e.g. land preparation, rewetting	€ 20.000	€ -	€ 20.000	€ 20.000	€ 1.000	€ 21.000
27		e.g. seedlings	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 25.000	€ -	€ 25.000
28		e.g. planting	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 10.000	€ -	€ 10.000
29		e.g. ...	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
30		eg. ...	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
31		Sub-total	€ 20.000	€ -	€ 20.000	€ 55.000	€ 1.000	€ 56.000
32								
33		Project preparation of the carbon project						
34		Finalising PDD	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
35		Finalising feasibility studies & surveys (inc. baseline)	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
36		Audit (validation)	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 5.000	€ 1.000	€ 6.000
37		Standard costs (registration)	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
38		eg. ...	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
39		eg. ...	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
40		Sub-total	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 5.000	€ 1.000	€ 6.000
41								

Ineligible costs ☒

- 1 Debts and debt service charges (interest)
- 2 Provisions for losses or potential future liabilities
- 3 Custom duties
- 4 Costs for purchases of land and water rights
- 5 No costs for sanctioned entities or individuals
- 6 Taxes

An aerial photograph of a dense, green forest. In the foreground, there are terraced fields, likely for rice cultivation, which are separated by dark, winding paths or ditches. The forest extends into the background, showing a variety of tree species with different shades of green. The overall scene is a mix of natural forest and agricultural land.

Grant Budget & Project financing

Chapter 2.3.2

During entire project lifetime

Eligible cost criterias

Chapter 2.3.1

- 1** Necessary for project implementation
- 2** Directly related services and supplies
- 3** Reasonable, justified, and financially sound
- 4** Cost-effective, recorded, and value for money
- 5** Incurred only during grant funding period
- 6** Identifiable, verifiable, and tax compliant

ANNEX 7

Annex 7: Project Financing template

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1		ANNEX 7: PROJECT FINANCING TEMPLATE													
25															
26															
27		COSTS	Please add or delete lines below as needed												
28		TASK	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
29		FIXED COSTS													
30		e.g. office rent	\$ 20.000	\$ 20.400	\$ 20.808	\$ 21.224	\$ 21.649	\$ 22.082	\$ 22.523	\$ 22.974	\$ 23.433	\$ 23.902	\$ 24.380	\$ 24.867	\$ 25.367
31		e.g. permanent employees	\$ 100.000	\$ 102.000	\$ 104.040	\$ 106.121	\$ 108.243	\$ 110.408	\$ 112.616	\$ 114.869	\$ 117.166	\$ 119.509	\$ 121.899	\$ 124.337	\$ 126.833
32		e.g. PDD development	\$ -	\$ 100.000	\$ 100.000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
33		e.g. external carbon audits (validation / verification)	\$ -	\$ 100.000	\$ 100.000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
34		e.g. monitoring	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.000	\$ -	\$ 50.000	\$ -	\$ 50.000	\$ -	\$ 50.000	\$ -	\$ 50.000	\$ -
35		Cost item	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
36		Sub-total	\$ 120.000	\$ 322.400	\$ 324.848	\$ 177.345	\$ 129.892	\$ 182.490	\$ 135.139	\$ 187.842	\$ 140.599	\$ 193.411	\$ 146.279	\$ 199.205	\$ 152.082
37															
38		VARIABLE COSTS													
39		e.g. land preparation	\$ 1.000	\$ 2.000	\$ -	\$ 5.000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
40		e.g. planting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
41		e.g. maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
42		e.g. harvesting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
43		Cost item	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
44		Sub-total	\$ 1.000	\$ 2.000	\$ -	\$ 5.000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		Financial Template													

An aerial photograph of a lush green forest. The lower portion of the image shows terraced fields, while the upper portion is dense forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the main title and chapter information.

Application process

Chapter 3

Application process

- 1** Preparation of Concept Note
- 2** Submission of Concept Note
- 3** Eligibility check
- 4** Technical and financial reviews & selection criteria
- 5** Selection result announcement for Concept Note
- 6** Full Proposal development and submission

Application process

- 1** Preparation of Concept Note
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Preparation & Submission

Chapter 3.1 & 3.2

Concept Note template

ANNEX 2

Annex 2: Concept Note needs to be submitted online through the **IUCN Grants portal**

Section A: PROJECT PROPONENT AND PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

i) Name and details of the project proponent

Indicate the full name, contact and legal details of the entity making this application, its legal form (e.g. for-profit company / NGO / government agency / community-based organisation / cooperative / others), registration number, and name of the lead representative.

It is expected that the project proponent is the grant receiving entity and responsible for the project implementation. Please provide articles, registration, statutes or other relevant founding documents as annexes to your application (**SDI**)

Legal name:	Acronym:
Legal form:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Concept Note template

ANNEX 2

Annex 2: Concept Note template

SECTION A: Project proponent and project participants

SECTION B: Project description & eligibility

Description

Eligibility criteria

Status & Timeline

SECTION C: Focus of the Innovation Facility

Biodiversity

Carbon

Social

Innovation

SECTION D: Grant budget & project financing

SECTION E: Environmental & social safeguards

SECTION F: Due Diligence & Financial Capacity Questionnaire

Preparation & Submission: Check list

Chapter 3.2

SECTION A

Founding document

Representation letter (Consortiums)

SECTION B

Project location map

Land-use change map (min. 10 years)

State of the project (studies & assessments)

SECTION C

IBAT STAR report

Data on suitability of biodiv. monitoring system

GHG calculation spreadsheet **ANNEX 5**

OPTIONAL

Preparation & Submission: Check list

Chapter 3.2

OPTIONAL

SECTION C

Additional data on GHG emissions & removal

Stakeholder analysis Template **ANNEX 3**

Documentation Stakeholder engagement **ANNEX 4**

SECTION D

Grant Budget template **ANNEX 6**

Project Financing template **ANNEX 7**

SECTION E

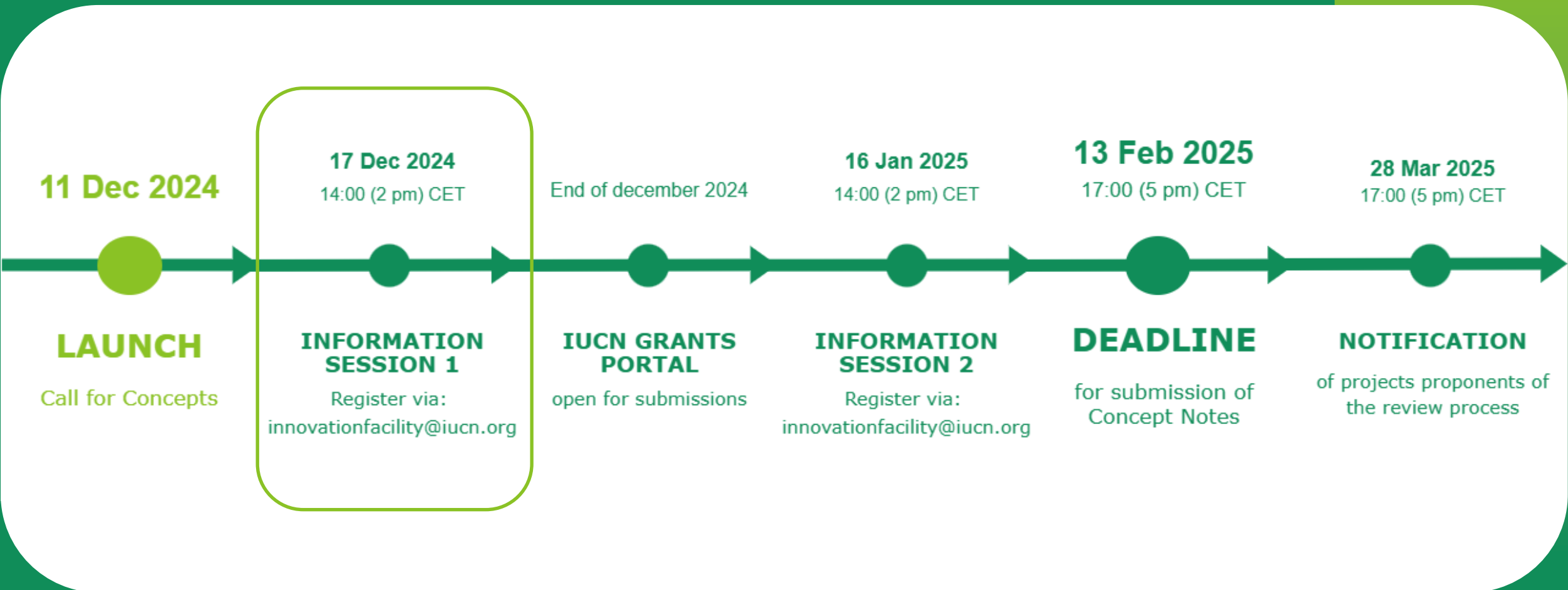
Feasibility studies, assessments, permits, etc. on environmental and social safeguards

An aerial photograph of a lush green forest. In the lower portion of the image, there are terraced fields or agricultural plots, creating a wavy, patterned appearance. A semi-transparent rectangular overlay is positioned in the center of the image, containing the text 'Timeline' and 'Chapter 3.7'.

Timeline

Chapter 3.7

Timeline



An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground shows terraced fields with dark, winding paths or irrigation channels. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

**All this information can be
found in the**

Guidelines for Applicants

Online

Where to find the documents?

On the Innnovation Facility website:

www.innovationfacility.org

Under Call
for Proposals



Applying

Application Documents

Below applicants can find documents to support them navigate and complete the application process, including:

- **Guidelines for Applicants** : provides essential information to evaluate applicant's eligibility for funding, and outline the steps necessary to complete and submit a strong application to the Innovation Facility's Call for Concept Notes. Please read them carefully before applying.
- **Concept Note Template**: This template mirrors the structure and content of the application form on the IUCN Grants Portal, in which project proponents are asked to provide information about their project to assess the eligibility of the project for Innovation Facility funding. Please note that the Concept Note template enables offline access to the application form for preparatory purposes only.
- **Documents to be submitted online with the Concept Note:**
 - Stakeholder Analysis template
 - Documentation Stakeholder Consultation template
 - GHG accounting template
 - Grant budget template
 - Project financing template



An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground features terraced fields with distinct, wavy, brownish lines separating the green crops. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the text.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

QUESTIONS?



Innovation Facility

Thank you for your attention.

For more information:

Learn more



<https://www.innovationfacility.org>

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