

An aerial photograph showing a dense, vibrant green forest. In the lower portion of the image, there are terraced agricultural fields, likely for tea, which create a rhythmic, wavy pattern of green and brown. The forest above is thick with various shades of green, indicating a healthy, mature ecosystem.

# INFORMATION SESSION 2

## WALD INNOVATION FACILITY

**James McBreen**

Programme Manager | Technology and Innovation  
IUCN Centre for Conservation Action



# INFORMATION SESSION 2

## WALD INNOVATION FACILITY

Slides will be made available and  
questions will be answered in the  
**Q&A** on the website.

**James McBreen**

Programme Manager | Technology and Innovation  
IUCN Centre for Conservation Action





**Recap:**

**What is the Innovation  
Facility?**



# The WALD Innovation Facility

## **Mission:**

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



# Objectives & Key themes



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

**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)

# Expected outcomes



Mobilisation of private finance



Project validation and registration



Improved livelihoods



Environmental and Social Risk Mitigation



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. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing the title text.

# **Application process & Timeline**



# Timeline (update)





An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground is dominated by terraced rice fields, which appear as a series of wavy, parallel lines of varying shades of green. Beyond the fields, a dense, vibrant green forest stretches towards the top of the frame. The trees are thick and varied in color, ranging from bright lime green to deep forest green. The overall scene is a harmonious blend of human agriculture and natural wilderness.

# Today's Focus: **Concept Note**



# Concept Note

**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





# Concept Note

## SECTION A: Project proponent and participants



# SECTION A

## *i) Name and details of the project proponent*

**SD1:** provide articles, registration, statutes or other relevant founding documents

## *ii) Project proponent lead contact information*

## *iii) Experience and track record of the proponent*

Briefly describe **relevant experience and track record** specific to the proposed project & the **capacity** to undertake implementation of the proposed activities



# SECTION A - Consortium

If applicable:

## *iv) Name and details of consortium partner(s)*

**SD2:** If you are part of a consortium, it is expected, that the project proponent represents and acts on behalf of other partners.

→ In this case a **representation letter** needs to be submitted.

## *v) Experience and track record of the consortium partner(s)*

Describe the role of each partner in the consortium, their **relevant track records, and their capacity to undertake implementation** of the proposed project activities



# SECTION A

## ***vi) Ownership of the project site***

Do you own the land or have the right to manage and control it? If not, describe how you will obtain those rights.

## ***vii) Carbon rights***

Confirm ownership or outline agreements to secure title to carbon assets

## ***vii) Additional actors and roles***

Brief description of other project participants, relevant institutions, other state and non-state actors, and subcontractors involved in the proposed project





# **Concept Note**

## **SECTION B: Project Description and Eligibility**

### **Project Description**



# SECTION B - Project description

## *i) Name of the proposed project*

## *ii) Country(ies)*

List the ODA country(ies) in which the project will be implemented.

## *iii) Executive summary*

a summary of the proposed project, including the activities and objectives pursued both during the **grant funding period** and the **project lifetime**.



# SECTION B - Project description

## *iii) Project area: Geographical location and characteristics*

**SD3:** shape files (e.g., .shp, .kml) of the project area

## *iii) Long-term sustainability of the project*

Describe how the positive outcomes of the project can be ensured beyond the project lifetime.





# Concept Note

## SECTION B: Project Description and Eligibility

### Eligibility criteria



# SECTION B - Eligibility criteria

## *i) Project category*

Forest / Inland wetlands / Coastal wetlands

## *ii) Location in or near a KBA*

Describe KBAs in our around project area

## *iii) Land-use history*

No land-use change in the past 10 years

**SD4:** Land-use change maps, covering min 10 years

## *iii) Excluded activities*

Confirm alignment with **exclusion list** (Chapter 2.2.4.)





# Concept Note

**SECTION B:**  
Project Description and Eligibility

**Project status & Timeline**



# SECTION B - Project status & Timeline

## *i) Status of the project*

Describe status of the project, summary of outstanding steps

**SD5:** copies of relevant studies and assessments (e.g. feasibility studies, baseline studies, agreements...)

## *ii) Indicative timeline for the grant funding period*

Main steps until validation or registration, implementation activities etc.

## *iii) Estimated start date and lifetime of the project*





# Concept Note

**SECTION C:**  
Focus of the Innovation Facility

**Biodiversity**



# SECTION C - Biodiversity

## *i) START and STARR values for the project area*

Enter estimated values & Provide preliminary assessment of threats to biodiversity

**SD6:** IBAT STAR report

## *ii) Biodiversity management plan*

Overview of a management plan to reduce biodiversity threats

## *iii) Monitoring biodiversity*

Overview of a biodiversity monitoring plan

**SD7:** Data demonstrating suitability of biodiversity monitoring system

OPTIONAL



# SECTION C - Biodiversity

## Species Threat Abatement and Restoration Metric (STAR)

Los Quetzales National Park  
World Database on Protected Areas

# STAR

About

FAQs

The Species Threat Abatement and Restoration Metric (**STAR**) allows quantification of the potential contributions that species threat abatement and restoration activities offer towards reducing extinction risk across the world.





# Concept Note

**SECTION C:**  
Focus of the Innovation Facility

**Carbon**



# SECTION C - Carbon

## *i) Status of the carbon component of the project*

GHG estimates, baselines, calculation, ongoing project activities, MRV...

## *ii) Estimated timeline till project registration*

Outstanding steps & timeline

## *iii) GHG and carbon pools*

Indicate carbon pools, activities for long-term GHG removal

## *iv) Carbon standard & methodology*



# SECTION C - Carbon

## ***v) Baseline scenario***

what would happen if the project was not implemented

## ***vi) Additionality***

Describe barriers and necessity for carbon finance

Show lack of enforcement if required by law.

## ***vii) Project scenario*** *(grant funding period + project lifetime)*

Describe project activities, species mix, and management practices



# SECTION C - Carbon

## *viii) Permanence*

Describe risks to permanence (natural & human-related)  
+ mitigation measures

## *ix) Leakage*

Describe mitigation of leakage risks



# SECTION C - Carbon

## *x) Quantification of GHG emissions and removals*

estimation of the net GHG removals per land-use and forest stratum

**SD8:** GHG calculation spreadsheet (Annex5)

Describe the procedure used to quantify GHG removals

**SD9:** Additional data on GHG emissions and removals, incl. georeferenced maps of the project area, stratification, and project activities

OPTIONAL



# SECTION C - Carbon

**x) Quantification of GHG emissions and removals**

**SD8:** GHG calculation spreadsheet (Annex5)

	A	B	C	D
1	Project details			
2				
3	Project name	[...]		
4	Project code	[...]		
5	Project developer	[...]		
6	Location	[...]		
7	Country, region/state	[...]		
8	IPCC climate zone	[...] e.g. Tropical wet	See map in tab "V4_03_Ch3_Representation"	
9	Global ecological zone	[...] e.g. Tropical rain forest	See map in tab "V4_04_Ch4_Forest_Land"	
10	Start of crediting period	2024		
11	End of crediting period	2063		
12	Length of crediting period	40		
13				
14				

< >

Instructions

Project\_description

Project\_activities

Non-permanence

Stratum\_1

Stratum\_2

Stratu ...

+

:



# SECTION C - Carbon

## *viii) Alignment with Art. 6 Paris Agreement*

Indicate government engagement and provide details or plans for obtaining authorisation of carbon assets.

## *ix) Monitoring carbon*

Explain monitoring system & prior experience





# Concept Note

**SECTION C:**  
Focus of the Innovation Facility

**Social**



# SECTION C - Social

## ***i) Stakeholder engagement***

summary of the main stakeholders identified and of the main stakeholder consultations carried out

**SD10:** Stakeholder analysis template (Annex 3)

**SD11:** Documentation of stakeholder consultation(Annex 4)



# SECTION C - Social

## ***i) Stakeholder engagement***

## SD10: Stakeholder analysis template (Annex 3)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	ANNEX 3: STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS TEMPLATE								
6									
7	Stakeholder Analysis								
8	Stakeholder (SH)	SH's role, main activities and capacity/ expertise in areas <u>related</u> to the project	Potential influence of the SH on the project	Potential impact of the project on the SH	Importance from 1 (low) to 5				
9									
10	Government agencies (at different levels)								
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									
17									
18	Local stakeholders								
19									
20									
21									
22									
23									
24									
25									
26									
27	Civil Society Organisations								



# SECTION C - Social

## *i) Stakeholder engagement*

**SD11:** Documentation of stakeholder consultation (Annex 4)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	<b>ANNEX 4: DOCUMENTATION OF STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION</b>							
6								
7		<b>Consultations (place and date)</b>	<b>Organisations represented and respective functions</b>	<b>Number of participants (disaggregated by gender)</b>	<b>Form/methodology of consultation</b>	<b>Issues discussed and outcomes of discussion (including how it influenced project design)</b>		
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								
21								
22								



# SECTION C - Social

## *ii) Benefit sharing arrangements*

Describe intended benefit sharing arrangements

## *iii) Assessment of gender dynamics*

Describe gender dynamics, impacts, and risks for different groups

## *iii) Proposal on addressing gender issues*





# Concept Note

**SECTION C:**  
Focus of the Innovation Facility

**Innovation**



# SECTION C - Innovation

## ***i) First-of-its-kind***

Project helps overcome implementation barriers?

## ***ii) Raised climate and biodiversity impact and contribution to SDGs***

Project raises climate and/or biodiversity ambition?

## ***iii) MRV and data collection***

Innovative features related to MRV, and data collection?

## ***iv) Other innovative features***





# Concept Note

## **SECTION D:** Grant budget and project financing



# SECTION D

## *i) Requested grant amount and secured funding*

Indicate requested funding (between 750,000-1,5 mio. €)

**SD12:** Grant Budget template (Annex 6)



# SECTION D

## i) Requested grant amount and secured funding

## SD12: Grant Budget template (Annex 6)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1		<b>ANNEX 6: INNOVATION FACILITY GRANT BUDGET TEMPLATE</b>						
21								
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		<b>Restoration activities (min 60% of total budget)</b>						
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		<b>Sub-total</b>	€ 20.000	€ -	€ 20.000	€ 55.000	€ 1.000	€ 56.000
32								
33		<b>Project preparation of the carbon project</b>						
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. ...	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -



# SECTION D

## *i) Requested grant amount and secured funding*

Indicate requested funding (between 750,000-1,5 mio. €)

**SD12:** Grant Budget template (Annex 6)

## *ii) Project financing plan*

overview of the cost projections, income and available financing and financing to be secured

**SD13:** Project financing template (Annex 7)



# SECTION D

## ***ii) Project financing plan***

## SD13: Project financing template (Annex 7)

[illegible]



# SECTION D

## *iii) Financing to scale*

Detail funding sources, amounts, timelines, and Innovation Facility's role in securing financing





# Concept Note

## **SECTION E:** Environmental and social safeguards



# SECTION E - Consultation

*i)* Consultation with communities affected by the project  
(positive/negative)



# SECTION E – Social context and risks

## ***i) Social context***

Describe the socio-economic context of the project sites

## ***ii) Social groups***

Describe social groups, livelihoods, economic activities, social issues, and natural resource dependence.

## ***iii) Vulnerable groups***

Identify vulnerable groups, their risks, and potential project impacts.

## ***iv) Conflicts, crime and fragility***

Project site prone to conflict or post-conflict, organised crime, or features of violence and fragility?

# SECTION E – Social context and risks

## ***v) Indigenous Peoples***

Describe the project's interaction with Indigenous Peoples:  
including land claims, involvement, benefits, risks, traditional knowledge, conflicts, and the status of FPIC.

## ***vi) Resettlement / physical displacement***

### **EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

## ***vii) Access restrictions / economic displacement***

potential project impacts on land/resource access, affected groups, land rights, livelihood impacts, mitigation strategies, and FPIC process



# SECTION E – Environmental Risks

*i) (Adverse) Impacts on areas of high biodiversity value or critical habitats*

*ii) Invasive species*

In case of non-native species use

*iii) (Adverse) Impact on water cycle and quality*

# SECTION E – Law enforcement & Security risks

## *i) Security arrangements and law enforcement*

Need for security arrangements & diversity of security personnel

## *ii) Past tensions or incidents*

\*related to law enforcement, including discrimination, resource competition, and community recourse options.



# SECTION E – Nation laws / Environmental & social impacts assessment

## *i) Required assessment(s) or permitting procedures*

Indicate if the project requires or has undergone an ESIA or similar assessment, and explain if applicable.

**SD14:** Relevant feasibility studies and assessments, permits, and other project documents, including previous reports of environmental and social impacts assessment (ESIA)

# SECTION E – Proponent capacity / Envi. & social risk assessment

## *i) Risk management capacity*

capacity to effectively manage environmental and social risks

## *ii) Risk management experience*

Level of experience with E&S risk management





# Concept Note

## **SECTION F:** Due Diligence and Financial Capacity Questionnaire



# SECTION F

*i) Organisation information*

*ii) Governance: Governing body*

*iii) Legal aspects*

*iv) Financial aspects*

*v) Management & Personnel*

*vi) Internal controls and records keeping*

*vii) Relationships and conflict of interest*



An aerial photograph of a lush green landscape. The foreground features terraced fields with distinct, wavy, dark brown lines separating the green plots. The background is a dense, vibrant green forest with varying shades of green and some bare tree trunks visible. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is overlaid on the upper half of the image, containing the text 'Concept Note' and a green box containing 'Check list'.

# Concept Note

Check list



# Check list

## SECTION A

**SD1:** Founding document

**SD2:** Representation letter (Consortiums)

## SECTION B

**SD3:** Project location map

**SD4:** Land-use change map (min 10 years)

**SD5:** State of the project (studies & assessments)

## SECTION C

**SD6:** IBAT STAR report

**SD7:** Data on suitability of biodiv. monitoring system

**SD8:** GHG calculation spreadsheet **ANNEX 5**

OPTIONAL



# Check list

OPTIONAL

## SECTION C

**SD8:** Additional data on GHG emissions & removal

**SD8:** Stakeholder analysis Template **ANNEX 3**

**SD8:** Documentation Stakeholder engagement **ANNEX 4**

## SECTION D

**SD8:** Grant Budget template **ANNEX 6**

**SD8:** Project Financing template **ANNEX 7**

## SECTION E

**SD8:** Feasibility studies, assessments, permits etc. on environmental and social safeguards

Online

# Where to find the documents?

On the WALD Innovation Facility website:

[www.innovationfacility.org](http://www.innovationfacility.org)

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





Online

# Where to find extra information?

On the WALD Innovation Facility website:

[www.innovationfacility.org](http://www.innovationfacility.org)

Q&A

**Q&A**

YOU HAVE **QUESTIONS**.  
WE HAVE **ANSWERS**.

To ensure all applicants have access to the same information, all question asked during the information sessions or via e-mail will be gathered and answered below.

**You did not find the answer you were looking for?**

Consulte the [Guidelines for Applicants](#) [↗] or send us an email ([innovationfacility@iucn.org](mailto:innovationfacility@iucn.org)).





**Submission:**



**IUCN Grants Portal**





Concept Notes needs to be  
submitted online through the  
**IUCN Grants portal**



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 rectangular box is overlaid on the upper half of the image, containing the text "THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION" in bold, black, uppercase letters.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**

**QUESTIONS?**