



# Just transitions towards a nature-positive economy

Learning from stories of change - March 2021



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## KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THIS DISCUSSION PAPER<sup>1</sup>

Just economic transitions to become nature-positive<sup>2</sup> should:

- Transform key sectors (food and agriculture, forestry, fisheries, infrastructure, tourism, energy and mining, manufacturing and processing and finance) that significantly contribute to nature loss, to make them work for people, nature and the climate;
- Be guided by a common vision for all stakeholders, with clear and long-term commitments (10 years) and targets aligned to national and global policies and frameworks;
- Be developed and implemented through inclusive participatory processes with clearly defined decision-making procedures;
- Establish a whole of government, integrated policy approach to implementation;
- Ensure that the benefits of the transition are felt widely and the costs do not unfairly burden those whose livelihoods are directly or indirectly negatively affected by the transition and the costs are not passed onto future generations;
- Mobilize funding (public and private) that can be accessed on a rolling basis;
- Encourage international collaboration for sectors that are part of global markets, to provide incentives and drive demand for sustainably produced commodities;
- Embrace innovative and adaptive approaches that are sensitive to local contexts.

<sup>1</sup> A full report version of this discussion paper is available – please contact WWF for a copy: [gpat-info@wwfint.org](mailto:gpat-info@wwfint.org).

<sup>2</sup> Nature-positive by 2030: we have more nature than we do now, through improvements in the health, abundance, diversity and resilience of species, populations and ecosystems.

## INTRODUCTION

### Transformative change to reverse nature loss

Globally natural ecosystems are being destroyed and degraded at a rate much faster than they can replenish themselves. Driving this loss is an economic development model that fails to value the services nature provides whilst incentivizing an increase in demand for energy, land and water. Human activities, in particular the way we produce food, are pushing earth's natural systems to the brink of collapse and increasing the frequency of zoonotic diseases.

Annually the benefits to humanity from nature are estimated at \$44 trillion – over half the world's total GDP – which is moderately or highly dependent on nature<sup>3</sup>. The destruction of nature disproportionately affects the world's poorest and Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) who often depend directly on nature for their food, shelter, income, fuel, and health. Reversing nature loss is no longer just an environmental issue, but a developmental, economic, social and moral issue. Restoring and protecting nature is critical to our future prosperity, to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Paris Climate Agreement.

Reversing nature loss requires transformative change across economies. As identified in the Global Biodiversity Outlook 5, this will involve a transition to more sustainable pathways in key areas: land and forests, fisheries and oceans, freshwater, sustainable agriculture, food systems, climate action, cities and infrastructure and One Health<sup>4</sup>. Such change has the potential to bring immense positive impacts for both people and nature. It is estimated that transitions towards economies that support and protect nature will present an annual business opportunity of \$4.5 trillion by 2030<sup>5</sup>. Although these changes will benefit society as a whole, they will potentially bring negative impacts for some. Transitions to reverse nature loss need to be both environmentally and socially sustainable. The benefits of transition should be felt widely, and costs should not unfairly burden the people, or future generations, who are directly or indirectly affected. They will need to be 'just transitions'.

### Just transitions

The concept of just transitions has increased in prominence in international discussions on climate change, agriculture and food systems, and is enshrined in the Paris Climate Agreement and Silesia Declaration<sup>6</sup>. There is no single definition of what 'just transition' means but within the context of climate change it is broadly understood as being 'an economy-wide process that produces the plans, policies and investments that lead to a future where jobs are green and decent, emissions are at net zero, poverty is eradicated, and communities are thriving and resilient'<sup>7</sup>. Underpinning this is the premise that an environmentally sustainable economy will benefit us all. However, change must be conditional on a fair distribution of costs; workers, individuals and communities affected should not be expected to pay disproportionately for developments that benefit society<sup>8</sup>. There is no blueprint for achieving this, but guidelines<sup>9</sup> propose a representative, negotiated process to develop just transition strategies. These should be based on integrated policy and institutional frameworks and bridge the three dimensions of sustainable development<sup>10</sup>. This approach is being used to guide just transitions to low-carbon economies but has not been widely adopted for transitions to nature-positive economies<sup>11</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> WEF [New Nature Economy Series](#).

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/gbo5>.

<sup>5</sup> FOLU. "Growing Better: Ten Critical Transitions to Transform Food and Land Use." 2019.

<sup>6</sup> Heads of State adopted the Solidarity and Just Transition Silesia Declaration at COP24, with the aim of highlighting the importance of achieving more progress on addressing the vulnerability of labor markets in carbon-intensive sectors that are facing the pressure of change towards low-carbon development.

<sup>7</sup> ITUC. "G7 Labor Summit: Just Transition principles must underpin the Future of Work." 2017.

<sup>8</sup> TUC. "A green and fair future for a just transition to a low carbon economy." 2018.

<sup>9</sup> Such as those developed by the [International Labor Organization](#).

<sup>10</sup> Examples of approaches to policy integration include those by the [OECD](#) and [UNDP](#).

<sup>11</sup> ILO. "Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all." 2015.

## LEARNING FROM STORIES OF CHANGE: NATURE-POSITIVE JUST TRANSITIONS

Across the world examples are emerging that demonstrate how investing in and/or taking account of nature in economic planning and development can support economic growth, improve people's livelihoods and reverse nature loss. This paper presents nine stories of change, covering some of the sectors that have the greatest impact on nature (food systems, fisheries, forestry and infrastructure), that demonstrate how these sectors are transitioning towards more sustainable practices that deliver positive outcomes for people and nature. With over US\$700bn invested globally in agricultural subsidies<sup>12</sup> and this being a significant driver of nature loss, four of the nine stories presented look at countries/regions' experiences of removing and/or repurposing agricultural subsidies to support more sustainable practices.

These stories of change were selected because they have embraced some of the key elements of just transitions, in particular: the use of integrated policy frameworks bridging social, environmental and economic realms, participatory processes, and the sharing of the costs and benefits of shifting to more sustainable practices across society. While some examples are more successful than others, and some have had very mixed results in achieving their policy objectives, none of these nine cases is 'perfect'. Their inclusion in this document does not mean that WWF agrees with or endorses a particular policy, approach or initiative. Nor is this document the place for an in-depth analysis of the successes and failures of these cases. They are included in this paper as examples of initiatives towards a nature-positive transformative change at scale; and because they teach us important emerging lessons.



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### Costa Rica - Transitioning to a green economy

Following an economic crisis and decades of deforestation, in the 1990s Costa Rica began investing in nature. This included the introduction of a national payment for ecosystem services program (PESP), in which the costs and benefits of forest restoration are shared across society. Targeted at medium and small landowners, participants are paid for protecting ecosystem services with funding coming from national fuel taxes, water fees and carbon credits. 30 years on, forest cover has increased from 30% to 54% and primate populations are increasing. Over 16,000 families have received payments totalling US\$340 million of which around US\$46 million has gone to indigenous communities<sup>13</sup>. Healthy forests have underpinned the growth of tourism, which in 2016 contributed 6.4%

<sup>12</sup> OECD (2020), Agricultural Policy Monitoring and Evaluation 2020, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/928181a8-en>.

<sup>13</sup> GGGI. "Bridging the Policy and Investment Gap for Payment for Ecosystem Services. Learning from Costa Rican Experiences and Roads Ahead." Global Green Growth Institute, 2016.

of GDP<sup>14</sup>. At the same time, Costa Rica's economy has grown steadily enabling the country to attain near-universal access to education and health care and low poverty rates. Key to this success has been long term political and societal support to transitioning to a green economy, an integrated participatory approach that has linked environmental, social and economic objectives and the sharing of the costs and benefits across society.

### **New Zealand's experience of removing agricultural subsidies**

Between 1960 and 1980 agriculture in New Zealand was heavily subsidized, resulting in unsustainable growth of the sector. Production outstripped demand and the government had to fund the slaughter of surplus sheep. An economic crisis in the 1980s led to economy-wide reforms, including the removal of agricultural subsidies. To ensure a just transition for farmers, financial exit packages, social welfare payments, loan restructuring and business advice were provided. Farmers responded by shifting to more efficient and market-led approaches, diversifying land use and developing new products. Forty years on, the farming sector is more profitable, producing the same output from half the number of sheep<sup>15</sup>. The reforms, while not driven by a desire to address the environmental problems agriculture was creating, also resulted in environmental improvements; the conversion of marginal land to pasture reduced, forest cover increased from 1 million to over 1.8 million hectares (1983-2004), and soil erosion and pollution of waterways reduced. However, since 1994 the dairy industry has grown significantly and these environmental gains are being lost. New Zealand's experiences show that removing perverse subsidies can restore nature but clear sustainability targets and supporting policy frameworks are needed to sustain the positive impact.

### **Supporting millions of smallholders to shift towards sustainable agriculture - experiences from China**

The availability of heavily subsidized fertilizer has contributed to the rapid growth of China's agriculture sector but with this has come immense levels of pollution. Between 2005 and 2015, a pilot program involving over 21 million farmers began exploring how smallholders could adopt more sustainable practices, providing them with technical and business development support. Fertilizer use decreased by 15%, yields of maize, wheat and rice increased by an average of 11% and farmers' incomes increased. Lessons from this informed China's Sustainable Agriculture Plan (2015) which includes a target to achieve zero growth in fertilizer and pesticide consumption by 2020. To help achieve this target China has established farmer demonstration centers, removed chemical fertilizer subsidies and introduced tax exemptions for bio-organic fertilizers. The result has been a national decline in chemical fertilizer use<sup>16</sup>. China's experience shows that smallholders require incentives and technical support to adopt sustainable practices. It also highlights the importance of transition strategies being informed by evidence of approaches that work.

### **Reforming agricultural subsidies to protect Switzerland's biodiversity**

In the 1990s Switzerland introduced ecological direct payments (where environmentally friendly farming practices are compensated according to specific criteria) to incentivize sustainable farming practices. These failed to deliver a reduction in habitat and biodiversity loss. In 2008 a multi-stakeholder process was initiated to revise these payments. The removal of direct payments per head of cattle to livestock farmers was proposed, as well as increasing payments to farmers able to meet biodiversity goals. This solution was extremely contentious. To build consensus the projected environmental, social and economic outcomes of the reform were modelled. This showed that previously marginal farmers, who had been protecting the environment, would benefit. It also identified negatively affected farmers, which enabled transition payments to be introduced to help this group. It is too early to see an impact on biodiversity, but participation in biodiversity direct payments has exceeded expectations. Key to gaining societal consensus for this reform was the use of robust evidence of its potential impacts and the inclusion of politically and socially acceptable compromises.

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<sup>14</sup> OECD. OECD Tourism Trends and Policies. OECD, OECD Publishing, Paris, 2018.

<sup>15</sup> Holland, John. Is the grass greener? Changes in New Zealand agriculture. 19th January 2018.

<https://www.gwct.org.uk/blogs/farmland-ecology-blog/2018/january/is-the-grass-greener-changes-in-new-zealand-agriculture/>.

<sup>16</sup> FOLU. "Growing Better: Ten Critical Transitions to Transform Food and Land Use." 2019.



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### **The European Union's experience in reforming agricultural subsidies**

Since 1992 a series of reforms have sought to green the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). This has involved: a shift from market to producer support, the introduction of direct payments aimed at encouraging more environmentally friendly practices, and financing for rural development and agri-environment initiatives. These measures have failed to deliver significant environmental improvements<sup>17</sup> and, with the majority of funding being allocated to large farms, nor have they been inclusive. This failure has in part been due to the setting of too low a bar for receiving greening payments and a lack of targets specifying environmental outcomes. Contributing to this has been governance processes that are not representative of the diversity of the EU farming community. This has allowed decision-making to be dominated by politically strong large scale farming interests/lobbies, despite the fact that small scale farms account for 85% of EU farms<sup>18</sup>.

### **Seychelles: Transitioning to a blue economy**

Seychelles' current and future prosperity is intrinsically linked to the sustainable management of its marine assets. Tourism and fisheries contribute close to 80% of GDP and are heavily reliant on healthy ocean ecosystems. Unsustainable growth of these sectors is degrading ecosystems and exhausting fish stocks, threatening to undermine the economy. Seychelles has begun transitioning to a blue economy in which the sustainable use of ocean resources can deliver economic growth, improve livelihoods, create jobs, and ensure food security. An integrated, participatory approach to planning and implementation - that cuts across ministries, sectors and society and is championed at the highest level - is underway. Working across government and with key stakeholders, a blue economy vision and roadmap along with a marine spatial plan (MSP), setting out zones for the protection and sustainable management of marine resources, has been approved. To finance the transition a debt for nature swap in 2015 has enabled the government to buy back US\$21.6million of Seychelles' debt. In 2020 the Seychelles Government announced that it had protected 410,000 km<sup>2</sup> of marine area, this represents a substantial increase in MPA from 0.04% (2012) to 30% (2020). A further US\$15 million has been secured through issuing the world's first sovereign blue bond. Proceeds from these funds are supporting sustainable management of marine resources and the establishment of blue economy industries. Seychelles' successes have been achieved through adopting a consensual process to develop the MSP and aligning marine conservation goals with the creation of economic and social opportunities, which has enabled access to new streams of finance.

<sup>17</sup> ECA. "Greening: a more complex income support scheme, not yet environmentally effective." European Court of Auditors, 2017.

<sup>18</sup> Recanti, Maughan, Dembska, Antonelli. "Assessing the role of CAP for more sustainable and healthier food systems in Europe: A literature review." Science of the Total Environment, February 2019.

## **Towards sustainable shrimp farming in Viet Nam**

Shrimp farming supports more than one million peoples' livelihoods in Viet Nam and in 2016 generated over US\$3.1 billion through export sales. However, current approaches to shrimp farming are unsustainable, resulting in the degradation of the Mekong Delta's ecosystems and threatening to undermine agricultural productivity. The government has set ambitious targets to grow the sector but recognizes this requires shifting to sustainable shrimp farming. This poses a challenge since smallholders, for whom the adoption of sustainable practices can bring additional costs and risks, dominate the sector. To address this, processors, international buyers, suppliers and shrimp farmers are working together to certify the supply chain and share the costs of doing this. Processors and international buyers, who see value in being able to guarantee the continued supply of a quality safe product, are providing funds to train farmers and to cover certification costs. As a further incentive for farmers they have guaranteed a premium price for certified shrimps. As of June 2018, 3,343 households have secured contracts for certified shrimp (either Naturland or ASC) and are receiving premium prices, typically 5-10% above non-certified products<sup>19</sup>. The use of chemicals has reduced by up to 70% in some areas<sup>20</sup>; 15,600 hectares of mangrove forest has been protected from clearance, and mangrove cover is beginning to increase<sup>21</sup>. Key to the success of this approach has been sharing the costs, risks and benefits along the supply chain. Without this it is unlikely that shrimp farmers would have changed their practices.

## **Restoring China's forests**

Extensive deforestation, resulting in land degradation and contributing to floods in the Yangtze Basin in 1998, cost the economy over US\$36 billion and led China to shift to a conservation focused forest policy. Logging was banned and timber production was reduced in degraded catchments of the Yangtze and Yellow River, affecting nearly 1 million state forest workers, and 120 million peoples' livelihoods<sup>22</sup>. In 2018, this was extended to cover the whole of North-East China. Measures were employed to ensure a just transition including redeployment, cash transfers, supporting sustainable forest management and reforming forest tenure. To encourage reforestation of marginal farmland a payment for ecosystem services (PES) program was established and participating farmers were supported to improve productivity and diversify their income. Against the backdrop of rapid economic growth and through investing in excess of US\$100 billion, between 1987 and 2018 forest cover in China almost doubled to 220 million hectares<sup>23</sup>. Soil erosion and flooding have reduced, enabling hydropower generation to increase<sup>24</sup>. While much of this planting has been monocultures and has not increased biodiversity significantly, this is beginning to be addressed by encouraging the planting of native species. The transition has involved over 124 million people, the majority of whom have improved their livelihoods<sup>25</sup>.

Key to China's success has been: a long-term vision with clearly defined, financially resourced goals, integrated approaches bridging environmental and social objectives, and early identification of and support for negatively affected parties. However, with this success have come unintended impacts. Due to the rapid growth in global and domestic markets for wood products, the logging ban is reported to have contributed to an increase in unsustainable and illegal logging in countries from which China imports timber. In response, a policy framework for verifying the legality of imported forest products has been established and in 2020 the Forest Code was introduced which requires that no-one should purchase, process or transport illegally sourced timber.

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<sup>19</sup> IUCN 2019. Shrimping Horizons: How Shrimp Farmers are Saving Thousands of Hectares of Mangroves in Viet Nam.

<sup>20</sup> WWF. "Assess Institutional Value Chain Arrangements linking Small-scale Shrimp Farmers with Private Sector Companies in the Shrimp Supply Chain to Promote Responsible Shrimp Production in Viet Nam." 2017.

<sup>21</sup> IUCN. Mangroves & Markets final workshop: results and lessons learned. 05 April 2016.

<https://www.iucn.org/content/mangroves-markets-final-workshop-results-and-lessons-learned>.

<sup>22</sup> ILO. "World Employment Social Outlook 2018. Greening with jobs." 2018.

<sup>23</sup> NFGA. "Forest Resources in China. The 9th Forest Inventory." National Forestry and Grassland Administration, 2019.

<sup>24</sup> WWF. "Avoiding Triple Jeopardy: Developing a joined up future for climate, food and nature." WWF, 2018.

<sup>25</sup> RTA. Story of Change: How China brought its forests back to life in a decade. 2 December 2018.

<https://www.rapidtransition.org/stories/how-china-brought-its-forests-back-to-life-in-a-decade/>.



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### **Taking vital ecosystems into account in infrastructure development planning in Kenya**

All too often, infrastructure planning fails to take into account ecosystem services and communities' concerns. In Kenya, civil society organizations (CSOs) and Lamu County local government have positively influenced the planning of a regional development corridor<sup>26</sup> where several infrastructure projects will be situated within the county, including Lamu Port and Lamu Coal Plant. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the Lamu Coal Plant provided an opportunity for communities to engage. However, their concerns over pollution and the investment contradicting climate change targets were not taken on board, and the plant's owner, Amu Power, was issued an environmental license. A coalition of CSOs subsequently took the government and Amu Power to court, and the court revoked the license, citing that a proper EIA had not been conducted.

Alongside the efforts of CSOs, Lamu County used its county spatial plan to show decision makers the position of vital ecosystems. This improved understanding of the impact of the proposed developments resulting in the port's location being changed and designating some areas as off-limits for construction. Decision makers valued this knowledge and will now also use other county spatial plans to inform the development of the regional corridor's master plan. These achievements were possible because of the existence of a clear policy and regulatory framework, which provides for an approach to development planning that enabled key stakeholders to advocate for more sustainable infrastructure.

### **Discussion and conclusions**

These stories of change provide lessons about transformative change and the importance of having long-term ambition for sustainability and ensuring inclusive stakeholder engagement processes. Across the stories, economic crises or impending economic/environmental crises have stimulated governments to consider more sustainable approaches to economic development. As governments develop economic recovery plans to the COVID-19 pandemic, investments in nature and the green/blue economy can address the short term needs of creating jobs and stimulating the economy but also support longer-term goals such as the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement.

For example, investments in the protection and restoration of forests and marine ecosystems can enable nature-based economic sectors, such as eco-tourism, to grow<sup>27</sup>, creating jobs and contributing to the national economy. Directing those investments through approaches such as PES and the repurposing of subsidies, supported by an integrated, enabling policy environment can encourage rural development and address inequalities in societies and global farming systems.

<sup>26</sup> Lamu Port, South Sudan, Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) corridor.

<sup>27</sup> Although COVID-19 has shown the vulnerability of tourism to global pandemics.

Investing in nature also makes good business sense. It can help businesses secure their supply chain and leverage a growing awareness and demand from consumers for products with sustainability credentials. Integrating an understanding of environmental and social concerns into investment planning can reduce financial, social and environmental risks. And, through directly aligning conservation goals with social and economic objectives, capital from financial institutions can be released to support conservation.

In the stories highlighted in this paper, success has been dependent on the actions of many of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. In Costa Rica, IPLCs' role as custodians of nature has been recognized and they are being supported in this role. Whilst in Viet Nam and China, smallholders have been supported to adopt more sustainable practices. The key to success has been ensuring that the risks and costs of transformational change have not unfairly burdened smallholders and poor and vulnerable people, but have been shared across society, and that improvements in peoples' livelihoods have been secured.

2021 will provide an opportunity to renew and increase global commitments to reverse the loss of nature, with the agreement of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Targets supporting a transformational change of key sectors responsible for nature loss (e.g. food systems, infrastructure, extractives, fisheries, forestry and finance) will be key if nature loss is to be halted and reversed by 2030. Transforming these sectors will require just transitions. Drawing on lessons from just transitions in the energy sector<sup>28</sup>, the stories of change examined in this paper, plus scientific evidence on the urgency of these transformations and sectors that need to transform<sup>29</sup>, the following lessons may help guide just transitions towards a nature-positive economy.

## LESSONS TO HELP GUIDE THE TRANSITIONS TOWARDS A NATURE-POSITIVE ECONOMY



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Just transitions to become nature positive should:

**1. Transform key sectors (food and agriculture, forestry, fisheries, infrastructure, tourism, energy and mining, manufacturing and processing and finance) that significantly contribute to nature loss, to make them work for people, nature and the climate.**

<sup>28</sup> For example, [The Green Initiative](#) by the ILO provides guidelines and policy briefs on just transitions.

<sup>29</sup> See [Global Biodiversity Outlook 5](#).



Transitions should deliver equitable solutions for people and nature that contribute to halving the negative footprint of production and consumption, achieving the SDGs, and transitioning to an equitable, carbon-neutral, and nature-positive world by 2030.

**2. Be guided by a common vision for all stakeholders with clear and long-term commitments (10 years) and targets aligned to national and global policies and frameworks.**

Given the rate of nature loss, just transitions are urgently needed. Periods of economic crisis may provide a window of opportunity for action. Visions and strategies should be shaped by broad societal consensus, include ambitious targets and a clear timeline providing certainty for those affected. These targets should be aligned with national economic, social and environmental goals and global policies, frameworks and commitments such as the CBD, the SDGs and NDCs.

**3. Be developed and implemented through inclusive participatory processes with clearly defined decision-making procedures. This should include the full and effective participation of IPLCs, women, youth, and other marginalized groups.**

Participatory, accountable, transparent, equitable and inclusive processes should be employed throughout the transition. Particular attention should be given to marginalized groups who often live in biodiversity rich places, can be unrecognized guardians of nature, and tend to be politically marginalized. The rights to the lands and waters traditionally and collectively governed by IPLCs need to be recognized and upheld, and they may need support to continue their customary governance and/ or to make changes to how they manage and access natural resources.

**4. Establish integrated institutional mechanisms to facilitate implementation.**

A whole-of-government approach alongside on-going engagement and consultation with key stakeholders<sup>30</sup> is required to ensure integrated approaches across sectors and stakeholders. This approach also helps identify and address the inevitable trade-offs that will arise.

**5. Establish coherent and integrated policies and approaches across economic, environmental and social realms to enable the transition.**

This requires a country-specific mix where national and local development plans, macroeconomic, sectoral and corporate policies work together to incentivize changes in key sectors towards sustainable practices but also protect and maximize opportunities for those adversely affected.

**6. Be informed by quality quantitative, transparent and objective analysis.**

An analysis of the likely economic, social and ecological impacts and opportunities the transition presents should be undertaken, shared with key stakeholders, and inform strategy development. and continue to monitor progress and unintended effects

**7. Ensure that the benefits of the transition are felt widely and the costs do not unfairly burden those whose livelihoods are directly or indirectly negatively affected by the transition and the costs are not passed onto future generations.**

Poor people, IPLCs, women and youth are disproportionately affected by the loss of nature. It is important to ensure that just transitions to reverse nature loss do not further exacerbate this inequality by unfairly burdening them with the costs and risks of transitions. A just transition is about protecting the workers, producers and communities dependent on jobs in high-impact sectors for nature loss, so investing in skills development such as training for workers and sustainability certification for smallholders is essential.

**8. Mobilise funding (public and private) that can be accessed on a rolling basis.**

Resources (financial and technical) are required throughout the transition to cover planning, ongoing engagement of key stakeholders, supporting the adoption of sustainable practices, and to provide social protection. In many

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<sup>30</sup> Stakeholders should be identified early on in the planning process, key stakeholders are those who can positively or negatively affect the achievement of the transition and/ or will be affected by the transition.

contexts public funding alone will be insufficient. Funds can be mobilized through for example repurposing harmful subsidies and leveraging funding from private sector actors that see a benefit in investing in protecting nature.

### **9. Where relevant encourage international collaboration**

For sectors that are part of global markets, transition strategies need to also involve global stakeholders who can provide incentives and drive demand for sustainably produced commodities.

### **10. Embrace innovative and adaptive approaches**

Successful change has often come from policymakers and implementers adopting innovative and adaptive approaches. This requires those involved in the change process not being afraid to take risks, regularly monitoring progress, learning from what has worked well and what hasn't, and adapting policies and approaches accordingly.

### **11. Be relevant and responsive to national and local contexts.**

There is no blueprint; every country, region, and community is different and will face different challenges. This requires not only national responses but regional and community led strategies that are responsive to local socio-economic and environmental conditions to ensure that no one is left behind.

#### **For more information and full paper**

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