

Finance and Biodiversity Day

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<https://www.cbd.int/article/cop15-finance-and-biodiversity-day>



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Jessica Smith (BES, MA, MCom) leads the Nature programme at the UNEP Finance Initiative based in Geneva, promoting leadership in sustainable finance across banking, insurance and investment industries. She leads UNEP FI's involvement in the Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD), Natural Capital Finance Alliance and its Exploring Natural Capital Opportunities, Risk and Exposure (ENCORE) tool, the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Initiative, the Principles for Responsible Banking (PRB) Biodiversity Community, and other initiatives for nature-related financial opportunities, risk and disclosure. For the previous 7 years she directed a consultancy firm undertaking environmental finance project development and evaluation, and leading secretariats for the Equator Principles Association (environmental and social risk in project finance for 100+ financial institutions) and the Cross-Sector Biodiversity Initiative (applying IFC performance standard 6 on biodiversity in oil & gas, mining, and finance). Jessica aims to bridge research and practice on nature finance and was recently lead author of the first academic publication linking conservation finance, blended finance and community-led conservation [available [here](#)]. She currently leads an applied research project with the Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation and other partners to promote investment in Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities- managed landscapes.



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Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth

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