



Call for Contributions

Financing Nature's Future: A Comprehensive Guide to Biodiversity Finance

An edited collection to be published by Palgrave Macmillan

Co-edited by:

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The John Molson School of Business and the Jacques Ménard - BMO Centre for Capital Markets at Concordia University and the Sustainable Finance Research Centre at Corvinus University of Budapest kindly invite contributions to the edited book collection, entitled *Financing Nature's Future: A Comprehensive Guide to Biodiversity Finance*, to be published by **Palgrave Macmillan**.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Financing Nature's Future offers a pioneering exploration of the financial, operational, and societal impacts stemming from biodiversity loss and associated ecosystem collapse. In addition, it examines possible venues through which corporations, financial institutions, and regulators can slow down or halt biodiversity loss. The book stands out for its comprehensive coverage, delving into the various facets of biodiversity loss, including its effects across industries, risk assessment strategies, investment opportunities, policy landscapes, corporate responses, and future outlooks. Unlike prior publications in this area, this book bridges theory and practice by grounding its content in real-world examples and case studies, illustrating how biodiversity loss directly affects industries, economies, and financial systems globally.

Structured strategically, *Financing Nature's Future* guides readers through a logical progression of topics, starting from understanding the fundamentals of biodiversity loss to exploring its implications in different sectors, assessing risks, identifying investment opportunities, navigating policy landscapes, and learning from successful case studies. Each chapter incorporates clear explanations, illustrative examples, data-driven analyses, and actionable recommendations, making the content accessible and relevant to a diverse audience including students, educators, researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and concerned citizens.

The book meets a range of needs, catering to professionals seeking to integrate biodiversity considerations into financial decision-making processes, policymakers crafting effective conservation policies, investors aligning their portfolios with sustainability goals, educators teaching about the intersections of ecology and economics, and concerned citizens eager to understand the broader implications of biodiversity loss. By combining its comprehensive coverage, real-world relevance, strategic organization, educational features, and ability to meet diverse needs, *Financing Nature's Future* serves as an indispensable resource for those committed to fostering both environmental stewardship and financial sustainability in an increasingly interconnected world.

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:

Given the global nature of our book's subject matter, the co-editors welcome contributions from scholars and industry experts around the world who work at the intersection of finance, environmental sciences, and sustainability. The contributions will provide a comprehensive overview and critical analysis of how biodiversity loss is impacting the global ecosystem. Each chapter will address the growing concern of biodiversity loss.

Due to the interconnected and intricate nature of the topic, the editors encourage contributions that take a multidisciplinary and transnational approach. Furthermore, we seek chapters that incorporate case studies or comparative studies to illustrate the evolving nature of threats. To ensure that the concerns of combating threats to biodiversity across countries and industries are adequately considered, we encourage authors to critically analyze the relevance of their contributions at different levels – temporal, geographic, and sectoral. By doing so, authors will be able to reflect upon the implications of biodiversity loss across different contexts and scales.

Submitted chapters must be original and exclusively prepared for the book, with no part of the article having been published elsewhere. Finally, although the book can be used as a reference book in academic courses, it is not explicitly organized as a textbook.

POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR CHAPTERS:**1. INTRODUCTION**

- Introduction to the book (background, objectives, and contributions)
- Understanding biodiversity loss
 - Definition of biodiversity and its importance
 - Causes and drivers of biodiversity loss
 - A literature review on biodiversity finance
 - Current trends and projections

2. THE ECONOMICS OF BIODIVERSITY

- An introduction to ecological economics
- Valuation methodologies
- Economic benefits of biodiversity
- Financial mechanisms for closing the funding gap
 - Sustainability linked bonds (green bonds, blue bonds, rhino bonds...)
 - Pay for ecosystem services
 - Biodiversity credit systems

3. FINANCIAL IMPACTS AND DEPENDENCIES IN DIFFERENT INDUSTRIES

- Agriculture and food security
- Pharmaceuticals and biotechnology

- Tourism and recreation
- Fisheries and aquaculture
- Forestry and timber
- 4. **RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT**
 - Financial risks associated with biodiversity loss
 - Integrating biodiversity into risk assessment frameworks
 - Strategies for managing biodiversity related risks
 - Case studies
- 5. **POLICY, REGULATION, AND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY**
 - ESG investing and biodiversity conservation
 - Opportunities and challenges for biodiversity-focused investments
 - International conventions and agreements on biodiversity conservation
 - Strategies and action plans
 - Regulatory frameworks and national biodiversity strategies
 - Corporate sustainability initiatives
 - Biodiversity conservation practices in business operations
 - Reporting and disclosure frameworks
- 6. **CONCLUSIONS**
 - Conclusions and lessons learned
 - Opportunities for innovation and collaboration

IMPORTANT DATES:

We currently anticipate the following timeline for the project:

- Abstract and CV submission deadline – **July 31, 2024**
- Selection of abstracts and notification to successful contributors – **August 31, 2024**
- After August 2024, the publisher's release forms will be forwarded to successful contributors
- Full chapter submission – **October 31, 2024**
- Revised chapter submission – **January 10, 2025**
- Manuscript delivery – **February 28, 2025**
- Publication (tentative date) – **Summer 2025** (tentative)

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS:

Submissions should be written in English using a non-technical writing style. The contributions may include diagrams/illustrations in order to present data, or photographs/figures (all in black & white) to better illustrate the topic of discussion. Submitted chapters should be original and exclusively prepared for the present book. No

part of the article should be published elsewhere. Chapters must not exceed 7,000 words (including all references, appendices, biographies, etc.), must use 1.5-line spacing and 12 pt. Times New Roman font, and must use the APA 7th edition reference style.

Researchers and practitioners are invited to submit abstracts of no more than 500 words, a bibliography for their proposed chapter, and a CV. Abstract submissions are expected by **July 31, 2024**. Submissions should be sent via email to: biodiversity.finance@concordia.ca

Authors will be notified about the status of their proposals and will be sent complete chapter guidelines. Full chapters are expected to be submitted by **October 31, 2024**.

Please note that there are no submission or acceptance fees for the manuscripts.

ABOUT THE EDITORS:

Thomas Walker¹

Thomas Walker holds a BSc in Management Information Systems from the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany, and an MBA and PhD degree in Finance from Washington State University. Prior to his academic career, he worked for several years in the German consulting and industrial sector at such firms as Mercedes Benz, Utility Consultants International, Lahmeyer International, Telenet, and KPMG Peat Marwick. His research interests are in emerging risk management, corporate finance, venture capital, sustainability & climate change, Fintech, corporate governance, securities regulation and litigation, insider trading, and institutional ownership, and he has published over 70 articles, book chapters, and edited books in these areas. He is the lead editor of ten books on sustainable financial systems, sustainable real estate, sustainable aviation, environmental policy, emerging risk management, innovations in social finance, and water risk management. Dr. Walker currently serves as the principal investigator on research grants by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), the Autorité des marchés financiers, and the Global Risk Institute. In 2018, he founded the Emerging Risks Information Center (ERIC, <https://emerging-risks.com>) which conducts targeted research on environmental, technological, and societal risks that affect our world today. In 2021, he became the inaugural director of the Jacques Ménard - BMO Centre for Capital Markets at Concordia University and the Concordia University Research Chair in Emerging Risk Management (Tier 1).

Helena Naffa²

Helena Naffa is an associate professor of sustainable finance at Corvinus University of Budapest. She founded and heads the Sustainable Finance Research Centre at Corvinus (www.sustainablefinanceresearch.com) that focuses on empirical research in the field of climate finance, ESG investing, and nature as an investment asset class. Helena worked as a sell-side equity analyst covering the energy sector at UniCredit Bank and Peko Investment Banking, advised tech startups, and was an equity fund manager at Aegon

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Asset Management, where she later assumed the role of ESG officer. She combines 16 years of investing and financial market experience with academic research, and university teaching and curriculum development. She was awarded the Green Finance Scientific Grand Award by the Central Bank of Hungary in 2021, and won the ESG Asset Manager of the year award in Hungary in 2022 and 2023.

Rajesh Kumar Tharumar³

Rajesh Kumar Tharumar is an MSc candidate at the John Molson School of Business, Concordia University where she studies Finance. He currently serves as a research associate in the Department of Finance at Concordia University. His research interests include risk management, emerging risks, corporate finance, and sustainable finance.

Simone Donders⁴

Simone Donders is an MA candidate in the Department of History at Concordia University, Montreal. Her research interests include Irish country house architecture and Napoleonic Era cavalry. She has a passion for sustainability studies and supports the team at the Emerging Risks Information Centre (ERIC) as both an editor and research associate.

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