

How to apply for project financing under the Everland-BNP Paribas Outcome Bond initiative

Background

The world is confronting an intensifying crisis of climate change and biodiversity loss fueled by widespread deforestation and the destruction of vital ecosystems. Addressing this urgent challenge is hindered by two major obstacles: a lack of early-stage funding for conservation and restoration initiatives, and the chronic underfunding of Indigenous Peoples and traditional communities who have served as the planet's foremost guardians of forests for millennia. Despite their essential role in conservation, these communities receive only a small fraction of the financial resources necessary to sustain and expand their stewardship.

In response, Everland and BNP Paribas are launching a groundbreaking outcome bond partnership that aims to provide \$50 million in upfront capital/direct project financing to Indigenous and traditional community-led projects that have high conservation, climate and social impact, certifiable under the Equitable Earth standard.

This innovative bond initiative leverages the strengths of both partner organizations: BNP Paribas is structuring the financing, and Everland is ensuring that projects are high-impact, community-led and positioned for success. This includes identifying and vetting projects, and conducting on-the-ground due diligence. Everland will also market the carbon credits generated by the projects' forest conservation.

In summary, the initiative will provide financing, diligence and offtake support - key to ensuring that projects have the best chance of long-term success.

Expression of Interest Process

Everland will soon launch and oversee an Expression of Interest process to select initial projects that will be considered for financing by the bond initiative.

For this first phase, we are interested in supporting projects that:

- Have completed at least a pre-feasibility study, with a strong preference for those that have completed a feasibility study;
- Are located in the Amazon, specifically in Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, or French Guiana;
- Are focused on forest conservation (and can include restoration) in their landscapes, and partner equitably with communities to meet their self-determined aspirations;
- Are managed by credible and competent project proponents. We are open to applications from a single or group of project proponents from the public, private or non-profit sectors. Proponents must demonstrate capability to implement projects;
- Have a project development approach that is consistent with the high-integrity conservation and community indicators of the Equitable Earth standard. Crucially, projects must demonstrate fair and equitable benefit-sharing plans for communities developed in full partnership with communities.



Next steps

If what we have to offer is exciting and your project aligns with what we're looking for, the next steps are:

- Sign up to register your interest in participating in the process.
- Join the informational webinars we'll be hosting soon after the process goes live. Dates will be confirmed shortly.

When the application process goes live, we expect to keep the application window open for six weeks but will assess applications on a rolling basis, as soon as they come in. Therefore, we encourage applicants to submit their applications as early in the process as possible.

Resources

- More information about the **Equitable Earth** standard
- Our press release regarding the Outcome Bond
- The Everland <u>webpage</u> on the Outcome Bond

Questions? Send us a message.

Interested? Sign up for updates.