

How can insurance be an enabler to catalyse investment into nature-based projects?

Corinne Martin, Angela Small, Laura Deltenre, Nina Seega Centre for Sustainable Finance, Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL)

Naturance Webstival, 11-13 February 2025

ADVANCE FINANCE



How can insurance be an enabler to catalyse investment into nature-based projects?



Innovation lab part 1: Understanding the Landscape

- Understand the current role of insurance
- Identify where new product development is required



Innovation lab part 2: Exploring Innovative Financing Models

- Jointly with bankers and investors
- Explore a range of innovative financing models to accelerate investments into nature-based projects



Innovation lab part 3: Crafting a Roadmap for Implementation

- A roadmap for implementing innovative financing models
- A guiding structure for those working on nature-based solutions projects

Online February 2024 March 2024 June 2024

ClimateWise

- Leading insurers, reinsurers and brokers committed to reducing the impact of climate change
- A member network convened by CISL's Centre for Sustainable Finance, who produces actionable research
- A collective voice for the industry
- Transition of the insurance industry through the ClimateWise Principles disclosure requirements (since 2007)

Membership of the <i>Nature & Insurance Steering Group</i> (February 2025)				
Association of British Insurers	Inigo Insurance			
Aon	Liberty			
AXA XL	RenaissanceRe			
Beazley	QBE			
FloodRe	AVIVA – joined Feb. 2025			
Howden Group	WTW - left Jan. 2025			





















sustainable

ClimateWise



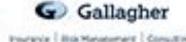














































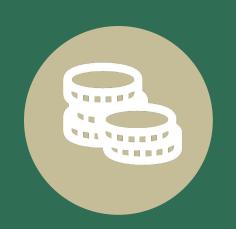


Innovation Lab #1 - Main outcome: six areas of focus



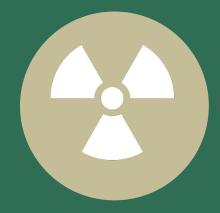
Collaborative Partnerships and Co-development

In particular with banks and investment groups, to co-develop and structure insurance products. Leverage such alliances to share development costs



Financial Innovation and Blended Finance

Innovations include de-risked bonds, insurance-linked securities, biodiversity credits. Blended finance can help mobilise public and private (commercial, philanthropic) capital



Risk Understanding and Mitigation

Need to enhance risk assessment capabilities to better understand the specific risks associated with *nature-based solutions* projects



Value Assessment and Analysis

Need for cost-benefit analyses to quantify the economic and environmental value generated by *nature-based solutions* projects, thereby incentivising investments



Data Utilisation and Integration

Data are key to improving maps and geospatial risk models. Need to develop and/or use standards as part of nature-based solutions projects



Community Engagement and Empowerment

Need to understand local decision-making processes and financial motivations, to ensure project sustainability and success. Empower Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (wealth of expertise)

Innovation Lab #2 – Jointly with bankers and investors

- Objective:
 - Explore various innovative financing models that can be employed to accelerate investments into nature-based solutions projects
- Two additional member networks, also convened by the Centre for Sustainable Finance (both private commercial capital):
 - Investment Leaders Group (asset owners and managers)
 - Banking Environment Initiative
- Lab #2 picked up discussions starting from the 6 areas of focus from Lab #1



Innovation Lab #2 - Main outcome

		What works well?	What doesn't work well?	What would you change?
	Collaborative Partnerships and Co-development	Diverse expertise and resources	Transparency, scatter information and scalability	Standardisation and common objectives
	Risk Understanding and Mitigation	Tailoring products and wider engagement	Quantifying nature and lack of examples	More landscape pilots and case studies
	Data Utilisation and Integration	Standards and open-source data	Lack of coherent and structured data	Standardisation and engage with locals
The state of the s	Financial Innovation and Blended Finance	Biodiversity initiatives and stacked benefits	Lack of measurable and clear financial returns	Enhance transparency and credibility of emerging markets
	Value Assessment and Analysis	Upfront investment by aggregating projects	Diverse views and lack of clear methodologies	Integrate nature's value into financial returns
	Community Engagement and Empowerment	Involve local communities	Lack of understanding of insurance's value	Collaborate at all levels and stages of projects

Innovation Lab #3 – Roadmap for implementing innovative financing models

Phase

Phase 1: Initial Assessment

Phase 2: Design and Strategic Planning (Assessment from Innovation labs 1 & 2)

Phase 3: Pilot Implementation and Evaluation

Phase 4: Scaling and Long-Term Support

Phase 5: Continuous Improvement

Activity

- 1. Establish a Multi-Stakeholder Task Force
- 2. Conduct Comprehensive Needs Assessment
- 3. Enhance Collaborative Partnerships and Co-development
- 4. Improve Risk Understanding and Mitigation
- 5. Standardise Data Utilisation and Integration
- 6. Foster Financial Innovation and Blended Finance
- 7. Develop Robust Value Assessment and Analysis
- 8. Strengthen Community Engagement and Empowerment
- 9. Launch Pilot Projects
- 10. Develop a Regulatory and Subsidy Framework for Support
- 11. Promote Transparency and Standardisation
- 12. Evaluate and Refine Pilot Outcomes
- 13. Scale Successful Models
- 14. Commit to Best Practices
- 15. Promote Continuous Improvement and Adaptation
- 16. Advocate and Share Knowledge Globally

Thank you

Corinne Martin <u>corinne.martin@cisl.cam.ac.uk</u>
Angela Small <u>angela.small@cisl.cam.ac.uk</u>

Naturance Webstival, 11-13 February 2025