

Bioregional Financing For Planetary Regeneration



How do we change where money is flowing so that it supports life?

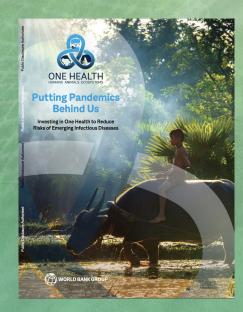














Moving beyond 'closing the nature finance gap'

"Closing the 'nature finance gap' alone is not sufficient. **Where** those resources are spent, **how** financing is structured, and **who** gets to make those decisions is as important as the quantum of capital.

In particular, how those resources support the transformation of systems, relationships, and worldviews will determine whether they are successful in addressing the ecological crisis and polycrisis."



If financial resources are to drive the high integrity biocultural regeneration needed to fend off further collapse and deliver well being for all, governance of financial resources will need to be decentralized - returning decision-making power to people living in deep relationship to place.



Bioregional Financing Facilities

J Download today: biofi.earth





We are in the midst of the Sixth Mass Extinction

Billions of dollars are earmarked to support the regeneration of Earth but they are stuck – disconnected from the mycelial web of grassroots regenerative projects around the world.

The financing approaches being applied to allocate this capital risk perpetuating – and even deepening – the same extractive processes and power structures driving the crisis.





The innovations necessary to face the changes coming are

happening at the hioregional level

Communities around the globe are building networks of bioregional collaboration and solidarity.

But important regenerative projects and initiatives are often small scale, informal, and illegible to capital sources.

Food coops

Bioregional Learning Centers

Bioregional Hubs

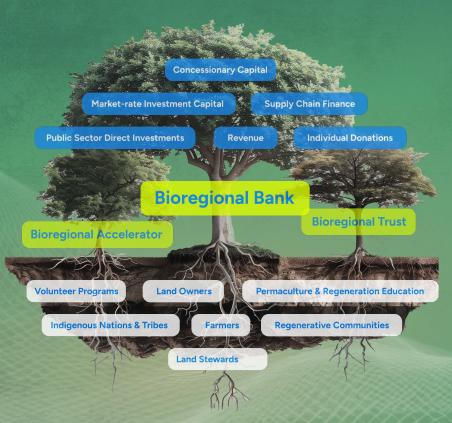
Land Trusts

Land Back

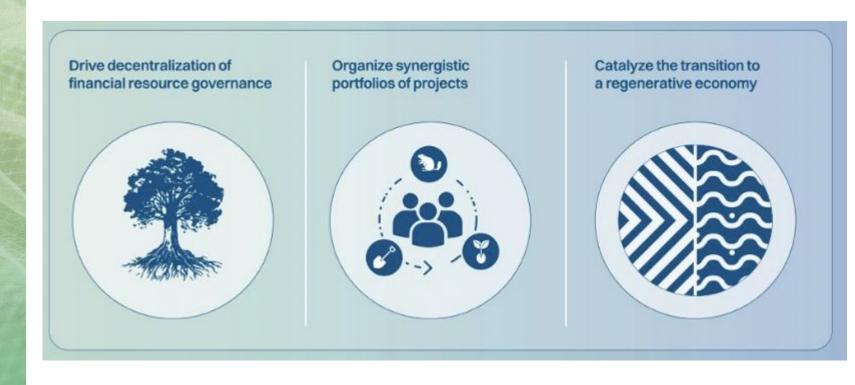


Bioregional Financing Facilities (BFFs)

Enable flows of resources from centralized pools of capital to grassroots, regenerative projects and initiatives in alignment with living systems principles and Indigenous wisdom.



BFFs have three objectives:





..and 12 attributes:

- Aim to align with living systems principles and indigenous wisdom
- Serve the realization of the Bioregional Regeneration
 Strategy
- Implement an inclusive and participatory governance structure that represents the bioregion
- 4 Work to shift power imbalances
- 5 Be transparent and enable empowered participation
- Leverage an integrated capital structure that embeds regenerative principles

- 7 Treat growth and returns as a means, not an end
- Raise from purpose aligned funders and investors
- 9 Provide aggregation and matchmaking
- 10 Apply an integrated approach to sensing and MRV
- 11 Invest in storytelling
- Engage in partnerships, place based citizen-steward, and the community of practice



There are 4 BFF templates:



Bioregional **Trust**

A charitable trust that provides grants to a range of priority organizations and initiatives in order to create a strong foundation for bioregional action in alignment with the Bioregional Regeneration Strategy.



Bioregional Venture Studio

A Venture Studio that incubates or accelerates cohorts of various types of organizations focused on key opportunities for regeneration in the bioregion and key needs to build resilience according to the Bioregional Regeneration Strategy



Bioregional Investment Co

A public benefit corporation, co-operative, steward-owned entity, or Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO) that invests in Systemic Investment Funds or issues Bioregional Regeneration Bonds. Integrated capital approach, aggregating high impact portfolios.



Bioregional **Bank**

Providing low-interest loans, microloans, and technical assistance to aligned organizations (including corporations, for-purpose businesses, non-profits, and co-ops). The Bioregional Bank can also develop and issue alternative currency.



BFFs fund a range of regenerative actions and generate four returns

Table I. Illustrative regenerative actions and returns (inspired by the 4 Returns Framework⁷)

INSPIRATION

Actions:

- Connecting people to place and ecology
- > Revitalizing a sense of beauty
- Experiencing positive changeCollective visioning through art

Returns:

- Sense of purpose
- Sense of connection to place & ecology, identity, and belonging
- > Return of hope

ECOLOGICAL

Actions:

- > Rewilding
- > Restoring water cycles
- > Wildlife corridors
- > Ecological conservation
- Carbon sequestering and emission reduction
- > Regenerative agriculture & forestry

Returns:

- Soil health improvement
- Increased biodiversity
- Restored water cycles and improved water quality
- > Resilience against extreme weather
- Mitigation of natural hazards
- Increased food security and sovereignty

SOCIAL

Actions:

- Revitalization of spiritual practices, healing rituals and language
- Youth engagement and empowerment
- > Education
- Food, music, storytelling, arts & culture
- > Bioregional and watershed identity
- Connecting interrelated social issues within a bioregional lens
- > Bioregional learning

Returns:

- Social connections
- Human health (physical, mental, spiritual, etc.)
- Knowledge
- > Skills
- > Safety

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL

Actions:

- Building regenerative food industries
- Establishing local, community-owned renewable energy production
- Empowering local entrepreneurship >
- Promoting social entrepreneurship
- > Establishing ecotourism
- Bioregional frameworks and placebased economy
- Supporting the transition
- > to relational economies

Returns:

- Direct & indirect local job creation
- Land value uplift
- > Profit and economic prosperity
- Local investment opportunities
- > Financial return on investment
- Lower value-at-risk



They can take in a variety of sources of capital

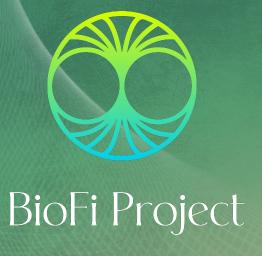
- Public grant capital (Overseas Development Assistance)
- Public grant capital (domestic)
- Philanthropic grant capital
- Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs)
- Individual donations (crowdfunding, Bioregional Tithing, access fees for lands held as commons, etc.)
- Revenue generated through an Earth fee
- Market-rate investment capital
- Concessionary investment capital
- Insurance company balance sheets
- Central bank balance sheets
- Supply chain finance
- Revenue generated through eco-credits



Including ODA allocated under the Global Biodiversity Framework

"One near-term, high-impact way BFFs can support the flow of financial resources at scale to regeneration is through being set up to receive the \$20 billion in ODA countries in the Global North have pledged to provide to countries in the Global South by 2025 (under Target 19), in support of achieving the ecological and social targets set in the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Bioregional Trusts designed to receive and allocate this funding can be built in key biodiversity areas and Indigenous territories. Allocating funds through BFFs can reduce overhead costs, bureaucracy, time lags, and corruption and can also help to address problematic power dynamics often at play between governments and multilaterals and the grassroots efforts they are seeking to resource."



We are a collective supporting bioregions to design, build, and implement Bioregional Financing Facilities that connect financial resources and regenerators.



What we're up to:

- Spreading the "BioFi" Meme and hosting events to catalyze a global movement
- 2 Stewarding the BioFi Community of Practice
- Supporting bioregional partners to design, build, and implement BFFs
- Connecting bioregions with technical partners & funders
- 5 Providing strategic advisory
- 6 Hosting a BioFi Venture Studio

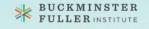
Our partners

The BioFi Project partners with organizations at the leading edge of regenerative economics and finance, Earth law, systems change, bioregional organizing, Indigenous rights, local regeneration, technology, and MRV.































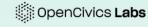




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A call to bioregional action

"There's a time for certain ideas to arrive and they find a way to express themselves through us."

- Rick Rubin

We invite stakeholders from around the world to engage with us and each other to support the decentralization of financial resource governance, the design of project portfolios for systemic change, and the transition to regenerative economies. We believe that through shared learning and prototyping we can rapidly advance the field of Bioregional Finance in an evolutionary, emergent way.