

Global Summit on “Advancing Sustainable Forest-based Bioeconomy Approaches”

23–25 February 2026, Vienna, Austria

Guidance Note

Item 5.2 - Sourcing wealth and financing opportunities

1. Date & Time

Monday, 23 February 2026, from 15:00 to 18:30 CET

2. Context

Sustainably managed forests provide wood as well as non-wood forest products and act as carbon sinks. Harvested wood products can store carbon and replace fossil fuel-intensive materials. Countries across the globe are starting to develop national bioeconomy-related funds or specific wood programmes.

However, efforts are often fragmented and duplicated, while the potential for greater harmonization, knowledge exchange, and collaboration among key stakeholders remains significant. The building sector accounts for approximately 21% of global greenhouse gas emissions, and wood has been recognized by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as an important mitigation pathway. Advances in engineered wood products and material recycling are expanding low-carbon construction options, strengthening local economies, and supporting the creation of sustainable jobs. Despite this progress, important challenges persist — including methodological uncertainties in carbon accounting, limited integration of wood-based solutions into broader climate and construction policies, and insufficient alignment of fiscal measures, finance, and investment frameworks to scale up forest-based bioeconomy practices.

Taking into account the outcomes of [COLI Webinar 2 “Financing the future: Unlocking investments for a thriving forest-based bioeconomy”](#), the session will explore diverse financial mechanisms—from innovative investment approaches to expanding climate finance and market-based solutions. Unlocking these opportunities will be key to building a resilient and thriving forest-based bioeconomy that balances economic growth with sustainability.

3. Objectives

This thematic session aims to identify:

- i. Key finance-related factors that support or hinder the global development of a forest-based bioeconomy.
- ii. Development strategies and instruments, including policy and infrastructure measures, to improve financial access, promote sustainable growth and leverage the benefits of forest-based bioeconomy across regions.



4. Guiding questions

- i. Which **finance-related factors** support the global development of a forest-based bioeconomy?
- ii. What are the main **financial challenges** hindering the development of a forest-based bioeconomy, both globally and regionally?
- iii. Which **financial measures** could best leverage the benefits offered by the development of sustainable forest-based bioeconomy approaches?
e.g. sources of finance, financial instruments, markets and mitigation measures
- iv. Which actions could be established to improve financial access and support the development of sustainable forest-based bioeconomy approaches across regions? (e.g. **fiscal policy-, trade policy-, and infrastructure**)

5. Format and modalities

The thematic session will be hosted by a session lead and will begin with a keynote presentation, followed by stakeholder perspectives and facilitated discussions in breakout groups (World café), both on site and online. During these discussions, participants will have the opportunity to reflect on and respond to the four guiding questions outlined above. The key messages emerging from the parallel discussions will then be presented in plenary, followed by an open exchange of views, allowing all participants to engage with and contribute to the full range of topics.

6. Programme

Item 5.2 Sourcing wealth and financing opportunities	
Time	15:00-17:00 CET
Thematic Session	Sourcing wealth and financing opportunities
Location	Room 1 “Maria Theresia”
Session Lead	Daniel Boeira Lodetti (BRA)
Moderator	<i>Ewald Rametsteiner (FAO)</i>
Opening by session lead	Eliška Trnková Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic
Keynote	Klas Sander World Bank
Stakeholder views	Herrick Fox University of California, Berkeley, US



	Peter Graham Forest & Climate Leaders Partnership
	Danièle Ramiarmanana UNFF Major Group Women
World café	<i>Breakout group discussion on guiding questions</i> Facilitated on-site: Lisa Lehner (AT), Thaís Linhares-Juvenal (FAO), Nelson Grima (IUFRO), Peter Mayer (BFW) Facilitated online: Martin Hosner (Bioeconomy Austria)
	Summary by facilitators & Closing by session lead
Coffee break (17:00-17:30) Reconvene in Room 10 “Orangerie”	
Time	17:30-18:30 CET
Plenary	Policy meets practice & Sourcing wealth and financing opportunities
Location	Room 10 “Orangerie”
Co-Chairs	Georg Rappold (AT) Pumeza Nodada (ZA)
Moderator	<i>Tiina Ryttilä (FIN)</i>
Discussion & Exchange	<i>Pitch of key points from Item 5.1 and 5.2 by session leads</i>
	<i>Exchange of views</i>
	<i>Conclusion by Co-Chairs</i>



7. References

- i. **FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)**. 2025. *Summary report of Webinar 2. Financing the future: Unlocking investments for a thriving forest-based bioeconomy*. Rome, FAO. <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd6687en>
- ii. **FAO**. 2025. *Background paper of Webinar 2. Financing the future: Unlocking investments for a thriving forest-based bioeconomy*. Rome, FAO. <https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd5568en>
- iii. **IUFRO (International Union of Forest Research Organizations)**. 2026. Policy Paper: https://www.bmluk.gv.at/dam/jcr:7c0a8a8f-58ae-4e55-9f87-85aa14e499b2/COLI_02_Sourcing_Wealth_FINAL.pdf
- iv. **Nature Finance**. 2024. Financing a Sustainable Global Bioeconomy. <https://www.naturefinance.net/resources-tools/financing-sustainable-global-bioeconomy/>

