



Outcomes
Accelerator

Forests and Nature Call for Proposals

Pipeline Acceleration – Fourth Cohort

September 30, 2025

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Questions

Outcomes-based financing approaches can be a powerful tool for driving results in an era of doing more with less.

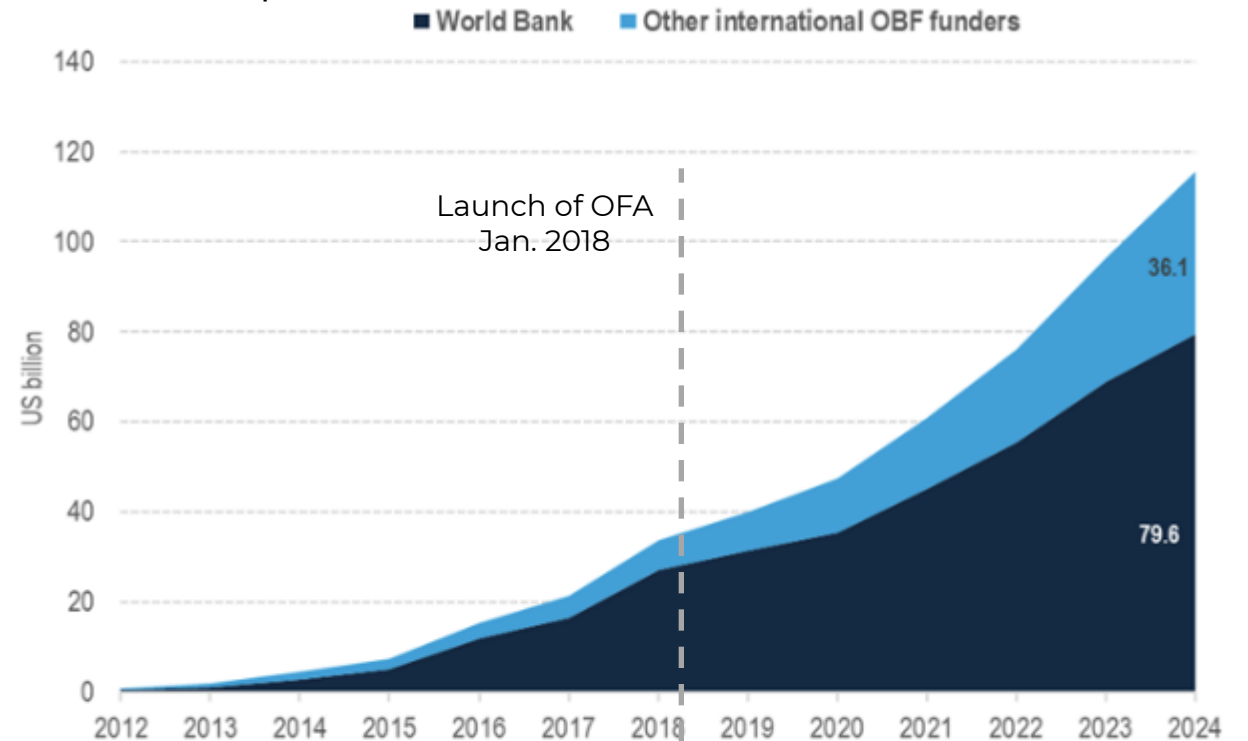
Outcomes-based financing (OBF) is defined by the OECD as approaches that link financing to the achievement of pre-defined outcomes. OBF is an umbrella term encompassing a variety of financing tools and contracting mechanisms, rather than one specific instrument or product.

Examples of OBF instruments and modalities

Results-based financing (RBF)	Impact bonds (DIBs and SIBs)	Results-based lending (e.g. P4R)
Results-based contracts	Outcome funds	Impact-linked finance
Results-based aid and transfers	Social Impact Guarantees	Outcome bonds

Source: OECD (2025): [Outcomes-Based Financing in the New Financing for Development Architecture](#)

Accumulated growth of outcomes-based financing over time exceeds US \$100 billion



Note: Accumulated financing from international development partners only. Amounts expressed in US billion, current.
Source: Staff estimates based on sourced data from (World Bank, 2025; World Economic Forum, 2025; University of Oxford GO-Lab, 2025; Brookings Institution, 2025; GPRBA, 2024; Interviews, 2025).

The Outcomes Accelerator was launched by the Outcomes Finance Alliance to support mainstreaming of outcomes-based finance.

A global initiative developed by the OFA to accelerate more effective testing, scaling, and mainstreaming of outcomes-based financing approaches in the delivery of SDG impact.

Governing Committee



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Eidgenössisches Departement für
Wirtschaft, Bildung und Forschung WBF
Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft SECO



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

UBS Optimus
Foundation



Policy-level objective

Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of development spending from both the public and private sectors, to ultimately achieve the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals.

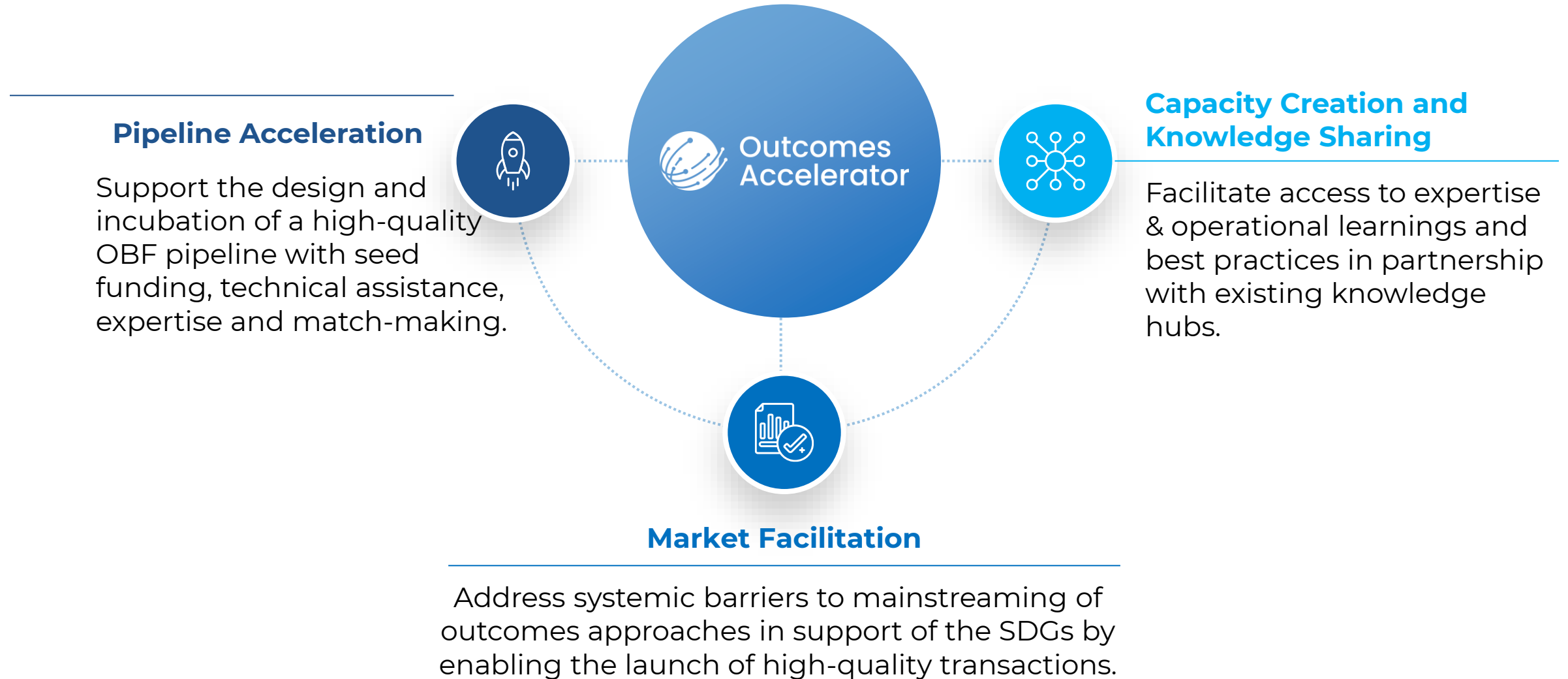
Industry-level objective

Advance a thriving global market of viable stakeholders, including Government & institutional outcomes payers, service providers, implementers, evaluators, & private investors to deliver better and more cost-effective services targeting the SDGs.

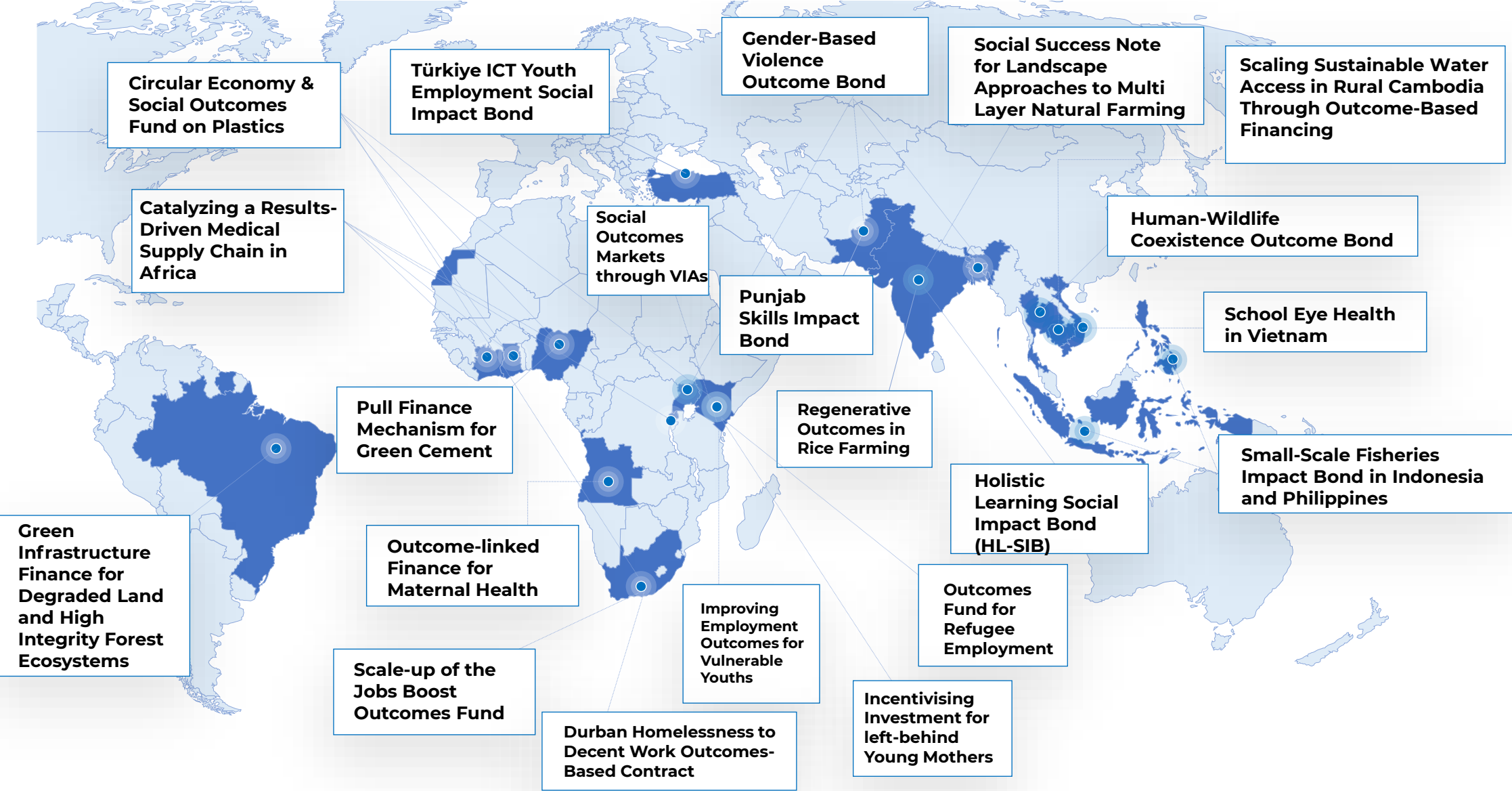


Levoca serves as the Secretariat to support day-to-day operations. UBS OF is the fiduciary host, and signs for and manages third party donor funds

The Outcomes Accelerator is organized around three core pillars to help build the market.



Across three cohorts, the OA has a portfolio of 22 projects in over 22 countries.



The Pipeline Acceleration program is accepting EOIs for its Fourth Cohort until **October 31, 2025**.

The Pipeline Acceleration program offers:



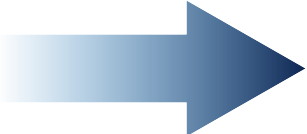
Flexible Design Funding



Expertise and Mentoring



Match Making and Networking



Expression of Interests due:
October 31, 2025



Full Proposals due:
January 23, 2026
(invite only).

Applications are reviewed in a two-step process.

1. Expression of Interest

(Due **October 31, 2025**)

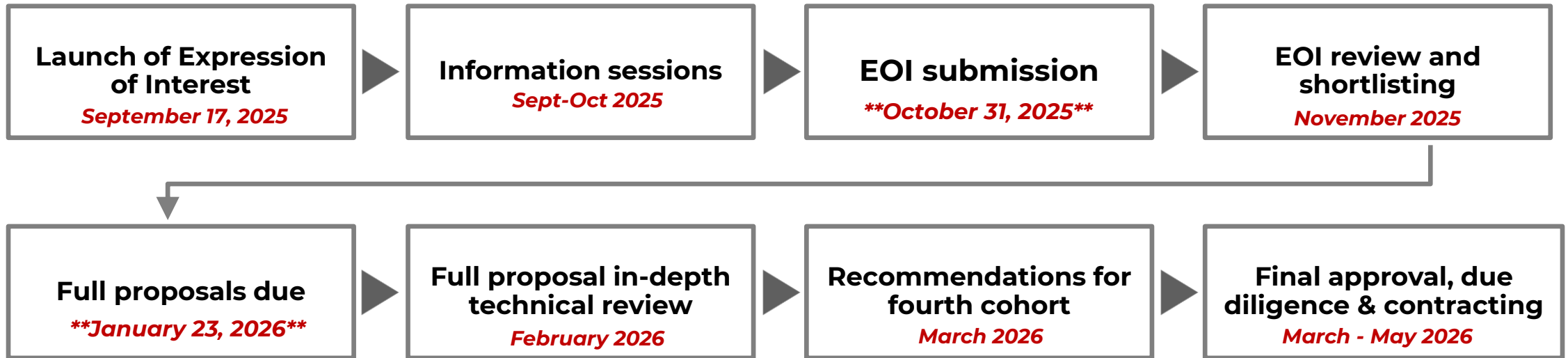
- ▶ Assessed based on evaluation criteria
- ▶ Concepts not short-listed may still apply for future funding cohorts

2. Full proposal for shortlisted applicants

(Due **January 23, 2026**) *By invite only.*

- ▶ Full proposal templates will be made available
- ▶ Applications assessed in greater detail, including budget, staffing, and KPIs

Detailed process



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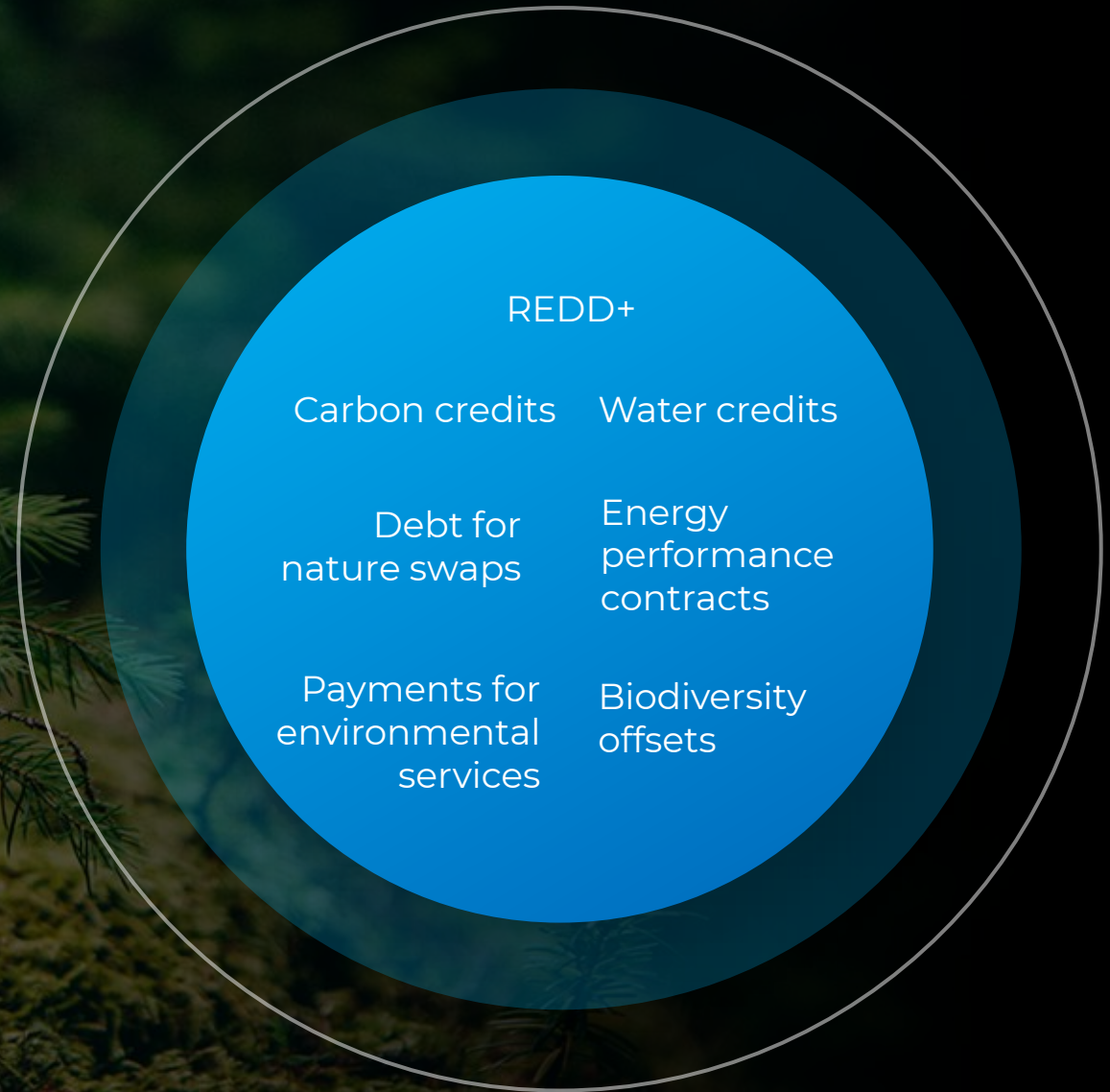
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The environmental sector has long history of using results-based and performance-based payments to promote sustainability.



What do we mean by outcomes-based financing (OBF)?

Outcomes-Based Financing (OBF)

What is a minimal definition?

Source: OECD (2025): [Outcomes-Based Financing in the New Financing for Development Architecture](#)

Criteria

Outcomes are collectively defined upfront. They act as the focus point from the design stage throughout the entire project lifecycle.

Outcomes are linked to payments (partially or wholly). Payment structures are directly tied to achieving predefined outcomes, using measurable indicators to incentivise performance and drive impact. Outcomes can be mixed with output metrics.

Outcomes are verified independently. The disbursement of outcomes funding is contingent upon the independent verification of results (for integrity, accountability, learning).

Cohort 4: Forests & Nature Call for Proposal



Thematic Areas

Thematic areas include (but are not limited to):

-  **Forest conservation and restoration**
-  **Sustainable land use, regenerative agriculture, and agroforestry**
-  **Sustainable supply chains**
-  **Nature-positive recreation and tourism**
-  **Biodiversity conservation**
-  **Coastal forest ecosystems and forest–water nexus**



Geography

Projects or services must be delivered in or be provided for the benefit of countries and territories eligible to receive official development assistance according to the **OECD-DAC List of ODA Recipients**.

Priority will be given to tropical biomes in **the Amazon Basin, Congo Basin, Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea**, though high-impact proposals from other critical forest ecosystems are welcome and eligible to apply, including dry forests, savannahs and mangroves linked to tropical forests.

Applications are welcomed from individual organizations or consortia, including, but not limited to the following:



Outcome funding organizations

Includes multilateral and bilateral funding organizations, private philanthropy, and domestic governments.



Implementing organizations

Includes non-profit and for-profit organizations that implement outcomes-focused programs.



Market support providers and developers

Includes deal developers, intermediaries, advisory firms, research organizations, law firms, and evaluators.



Impact investors

Includes funds, development finance institutions, foundations, institutional and other investors, or providers of risk or working capital.

Cohort 4 Assessment Criteria

Successful applications will demonstrate:



1

Potential for Impact and Accelerator Additionality



2

Stakeholder Support and Likelihood to Launch



3

Capacity to Deliver and Staffing



4

Innovation, Demonstration Effect, and Scalability

Funding Guidance

Product	Description	Indicative Amount
Scoping study	Country-focused, looks at one or more topics. This should be done in partnership with an interested outcome funder.	Up to \$60k-100K
Early-Stage Design	High value opportunity requiring detailed design study	Up to \$300K
Late-Stage Design	Concept in late stage of design, requiring funding support to reach launch (e.g. finalization of key contracts, including outcomes contract).	Up to \$200K
Project Scale Up	Funding to support the design of a scale-up phase of an existing outcomes-based project. Can include design of outcomes fund.	Up to \$200K

Potential uses for Pipeline Acceleration Funding **for guidance purposes** only

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Questions ?

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 outcomesaccelerator.org



Outcomes Accelerator

GOVERNING COMMITTEE

UBS Optimus
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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Eidgenössisches Departement für
Wirtschaft, Bildung und Forschung WBF
Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft SECO



UK Government

Important Links



Outcomes
Accelerator

Application Guidance



Online Submission Portal



Past Winners



Additional Guidance

Decision-making

- All proposals will be assessed competitively guided by the assessment criteria
- Final selection will be made by consensus by the Governing Committee, consisting of FCDO, SECO and the UBS Optimus Foundation.
- Proposals submitted to Levoca in its role as the Outcomes Accelerator Secretariat

Contracting

- Selected Applicants will sign contracts with the UBS Optimus Foundation as the Trustee / Fiduciary Host of the Accelerator

Open Access

- The Outcomes Accelerator is committed to transparency and sharing knowledge as a public good.
- All materials and studies supported with Outcomes Accelerator funding should be able to be made public when possible
- Proposals may opt-in to be included in the Outcomes Accelerator deal database.