



INITIATIVE

LAZARUS

EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY



THE SIXTH ANTHROPOGENIC EXTINCTION: CRITICAL FACTS

- **99.9% OF SPECIES HAVE GONE EXTINCT THROUGHOUT EARTH'S NATURAL HISTORY (3.5 BILLION YEARS)**
- **1,000 TIMES FASTER IS THE CURRENT EXTINCTION RATE, ACCELERATED BY HUMAN ACTIVITY**
- **1 MILLION SPECIES ARE CURRENTLY AT IMMINENT RISK OF EXTINCTION**

CONTEXT: FINANCIAL INNOVATION FOR NATURE

1. Market Context:

- Financial systems face significant material exposure: \$44 trillion in assets are at risk due to natural capital degradation (TNFD, 2024).
- Financing for nature requires structural innovation capable of mobilising institutional capital at the scale necessary to close financing gaps.

2. Institutional Response:

- Assets for Restoring Biodiversity (ARBs) represent an emerging category of verifiable financial instruments, indexed to ecosystem regeneration metrics.
 - Non-debt structure for custodian communities.
 - Preservation of local territorial sovereignty without resource privatisation.
 - Design aligned with international frameworks (GBF Kunming-Montreal) and institutional standards (PRI).

3. Value Proposition:

- These instruments are designed to transform environmental liabilities into assets with appreciation potential, capturing multi-dimensional value (natural, social, economic, human, intellectual) through independent verification.

Why Now: Binding Regulation & Exponential Demand

1. Systemic Asset Exposure:

- Private financing for nature reached \$102 billion in 2024, evidencing growing demand for verifiable instruments (UNEP-FI, 2024).
- Critical dependence on ecosystem services: 75% of global agricultural systems depend on threatened pollinators, representing \$577 billion annually in economic value.

2. Regulatory and Disclosure Drivers:

- Accelerated adoption of disclosure frameworks (TNFD) and binding regulatory mandates (EU Nature Restoration Law with 30% target by 2030) generate structural demand.
- Financial institutions face increasing requirements for verifiable instruments that enable management and disclosure of biodiversity impacts.

3. Issuance Characteristics:

- ARBs follow issuance protocols linked to verification of restoration milestones, designed to reflect measurable progress in ecosystem regeneration over time.

ARB INSTRUMENT: FINANCIAL ASSET

1. Structural Foundation:

- An ARB is an intangible financial asset under international accounting standards (IFRS 9), backed by economic rights over measurable natural capital appreciation through standardised methodologies and independent third-party verification.
- Classified as a securitised instrument and identified by ISIN, ensuring eligibility for institutional capital markets.

2. Instrument Characteristics:

- Investors acquire economic rights over verified appreciation of multiple capital dimensions, without acquiring territorial or property rights.
- Investment horizon of up to 30 years, aligned with ecosystem regeneration cycles.

3. Financing Structure:

- The non-debt design mitigates default risks for custodian communities and preserves territorial sovereignty of natural assets.

4. Verification Protocols:

- Verification integrates natural biodiversity and socioeconomic dimensions, applying internationally recognised standards (GRI/IUCN/TEEB) through validated science and technology.
- The valuation of non-commercial benefits is negotiated jointly between the Parties to ensure equitable distribution, verifiable integrity, and asset preservation throughout its entire life cycle.

ROLES AND SAFEGUARDS: LEGAL SEPARATION

1. Natural Capital Custodians:

- Maintain full ownership and territorial sovereignty.
- Direct beneficiaries of ecosystem restoration and generated co-benefits.
- Responsible for executing monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems.

2. Fiduciary Administrator:

- Green Cross United Kingdom performs independent administration functions, subject to approval by the Parties.
- Oversees milestone verification and compliance with established safeguards.
- Operates without acquiring rights over territory or instruments.

3. Institutional Investors:

- Acquire economic rights over the ARB instrument.
- Participate in verified appreciation without territorial or control rights.
- Access structured liquidity through periodic redemptions.

4. Legal Protection Architecture:

- Legal separation between territorial ownership, fiduciary administration, and economic rights.
- Structure designed to mitigate conflicts and preserve local sovereignty..

INTEGRITY GUARANTEED: GOVERNANCE AND MRV

1. Governance Structure:

- Governance is articulated through an independent non-profit trust*¹ (or equivalent structure) that acts as sole custodian of capital.
- This vehicle ensures:
 - That funds are exclusively destined for verified restoration, and
 - Integrated compliance with financial standards (IFRS) and social-environmental safeguards (FPIC, DNSH).

2. Traceability Infrastructure:

- Distributed ledger systems guarantee end-to-end traceability of transactions and verification of restoration milestones.
- Transparency protocols designed to mitigate governance risks and ensure operational integrity through independent auditing.

3. MRV Systems and Carbon-Biodiversity Separation:

- Integrated technologies include artificial intelligence, eDNA, satellite imagery, IoT sensors, digital modelling, field audits, and citizen science platforms.
- The ARB is backed exclusively by the valuation and verification of biodiversity, without including carbon. Independently, a world-class third party will establish a pilot programme for voluntary carbon credits (VCM) under recognised standards, managing both dimensions through separate protocols, avoiding double counting and ensuring maximum precision.

*¹: Trust or SPV or Escrow according to jurisdiction

VALUE HORIZON: PHASES AND PIPELINE

1. Projected Development Phases:

- Initial Phase (Years 0-5):
 - Establishment of verified baseline.
 - Active implementation risk management.
- Development Phase (Years 6-15):
 - Materialisation of measurable co-benefits.
 - Potential emergence of secondary market.
- Consolidation Phase (Years 16-30):
 - Consolidation of restored ecosystem value.
 - Optionality of realisation mechanisms.

2. Pipeline Under Development:

- Natural capital restoration projects in process of structuring and eligibility assessment for financial instrumentalisation.
- Detailed pipeline information available under confidentiality agreements for qualified institutional investors.

SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE: YELLOWSTONE CASE

1. Documented Ecosystem Regeneration:

- The reintroduction of the grey wolf (1995) demonstrated verifiable regeneration processes through trophic cascades that restored ecosystem equilibrium. This case evidences how the recovery of a keystone species triggers measurable benefits across multiple dimensions—biodiversity, landscape health, and water services—that materialise and valorise over time.
- Estimated economic valuation increased from €3.4M to €4.8M per wolf between 2021-2022 (+41% year-on-year), with tourism benefits exceeding \$35M annually. This increase reflects the accumulated natural capital appreciation as restoration results became evident and quantifiable.

2. Results-Based Financial Instruments:

- Yellowstone illustrates the principle that instruments backed by natural regeneration can capture multidimensional appreciation. However, it highlights a critical condition: this appreciation is financially relevant only when linked to verifiable metrics of biodiversity restoration (natural and socioeconomic), ecosystem services, and non-commercial values, under robust measurement protocols.
- Yellowstone underscores the importance of an investment model that structures capital allocation and value realisation based on ecosystem recovery milestones independently verified, as the ARB architecture does.
- This verification model is replicable in other critical ecosystems globally.

LIQUIDITY AND EXIT

1. Liquidity Structure:

- Fractional divisibility and annual redemption windows for institutional access.
- Potential for secondary markets between impact funds and pensions.

2. Corporate Applications and Accounting Treatment:

- Designed to meet recognition criteria as a financial asset in investors' financial statements, under international accounting standards (IFRS/IFRS 9 or equivalents), subject to its verifiable structure and contractual rights.
- Can serve as verifiable evidence in nature-positive corporate strategies, targeted at organisations with disclosure requirements.
- Applicable for entities requiring tangible impact demonstration under emerging frameworks (TNFD, CSRD) beyond voluntary carbon markets.
- To preserve instrument integrity and prevent greenwashing, any use in corporate communications requires independent validation by accredited third parties.

3. Options at Maturity:

- At the end of the 30-year horizon, ARBs offer flexibility in realisation mechanisms: from complete project transaction with possibility of market listing, to perpetual flow structures, enabling optimisation according to investor preferences for financial return and impact.

COMPREHENSIVE POSITIVE IMPACT VALUATION

1. Integrated Measurement Dimensions:

- Natural Capital: Biodiversity metrics and verified provision of ecosystem services.
- Social Capital: Community development including employment generation, public health benefits, and strengthening of governance structures.
- Economic Capital: Direct and indirect economic benefits, including tourism activity, territorial valorisation, revenue optimisation, and operational efficiencies.
- Human and Intellectual Capital: Capacity development in custodian communities and generation of transferable methodological knowledge.

2. Alignment with Normative Frameworks:

- Designed for compatibility with recognised sustainability frameworks: ENVISION, TNFD, CSRD, EUDR, GBF (Kunming-Montreal), GRI, and ISSB, with case-specific assessment.
 - ENVISION: Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure
 - TNFD: Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures
 - CSRD: Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
 - EUDR: European Union Deforestation Regulation
 - GBF: Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
 - GRI: Global Reporting Initiative
 - ISSB: International Sustainability Standards Board

SACRED LAKE - VITALES PIONEER PROJECT

SANITATION TECHNOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY RESTORATION

1. UNESCO Heritage – tentative list :-

- 70% reduction in biodiversity over 40 years.
- Direct dependence of > 2 million people.
- Pollution levels > 300% WHO baseline.

2. Project Under Development:

- Biodiversity restoration across 1,750 hectares.
- Sanitation Barge (USA) + Biodiversity Regeneration Services (local) + Community Management.
- JetLife Tech, MRV, eDNA, web3, others.

3. Investment & Projections^{*1}:

- CAPEX: \$12M | Annual OPEX: \$0.64M.
- Period: 30 years | ROI: 5 years | IRR: > 25%.
- Direct revenues: >\$150M.
- Additional non-accounted value: > \$190M.

4. Technical Guarantees:

- Methodologies: TEEB + Volumetric Vol. + ENVISION.
- Intl. Certifications and External Audits.

^{*1}: Figures obtained from conservative analysis; parameters shared with investor to customise financial model.

NEXT STEPS!

1. For Institutional Investors:

- Access to extended technical documentation and due diligence analysis.
- Confidential evaluation sessions with financial structuring teams.

2. Natural Asset Custodians:

- Preliminary assessment of eligibility criteria for ecosystem restoration projects.
- Technical and financial viability analysis under confidentiality agreements.

3. About Green Cross United Kingdom:

- Organisation founded in 1993 by Mikhail Gorbachev, Nobel Peace Prize laureate.
- Non-profit entity with Special Consultative and Observer status at the United Nations.
- Over 30 years driving solutions for environmental security and sustainable development.

4. Contact Information:

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**LET'S DO SOMETHING INCREDIBLE TOGETHER FOR THE SOCIETY
AND THE PLANET, STARTING BY STAYING IN TOUCH:**

[JOINUS@green-cross.org.uk](mailto:joinus@green-cross.org.uk)

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