



G20

SOUTH AFRICA 2025



Solidarity

Equality

Sustainability

BIOECONOMY FINANCE HUB

CATALYZING INVESTMENT FOR A THRIVING, NATURE-POSITIVE AFRICAN BIOECONOMY

GIB MEETING

The bioeconomy holds the key to a just and sustainable future

May 2025



Key messages

1

Launching under South Africa's G20 presidency, the African Bioeconomy Finance Hub will catalyse finance for a thriving, nature-positive bioeconomy across the continent.



2

The Hub will function as an independent, pan-African multi-stakeholder initiative amplifying ongoing efforts and bringing actionable scale to bioeconomy finance.



3

The Bioeconomy Finance Hub will focus on four critical thematic pillars:

- 1) Driving enabling policy incentives
- 2) Building capacity and leadership
- 3) Accelerating investment pipelines
- 4) Advancing KPIs, data, and standards



4

We invite feedback on the Hub's design and are seeking committed implementation and funding partners.





ANCA and NatureFinance are joining forces to set up a bioeconomy finance hub for Africa

We bring deep expertise in nature finance, the bioeconomy, a strong regional networks, and a proven track record



NatureFinance brings global Bioeconomy thought leadership and deep experience in aligning financial architecture with equitable, nature-positive outcomes

ANCA has emerged as the continent's leading platform for nature-positive finance, uniting 100+ African nature finance stakeholders across FIs, policy makers and beyond

Together, ANCA and NatureFinance are co-leading the creation of the Bioeconomy Finance Hub, as a collaborative platform that serves and complements - rather than replaces existing initiatives

Transitioning to a sustainable bioeconomy is key to securing Africa's growth and resilience

What constitutes the sustainable BIOECONOMY?

Nature Intensive Bioeconomy

Transitioning **traditional nature-dependent industries** like agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and bioenergy to sustainability

Examples

- Sustainable agriculture
- Sustainable timber for construction and paper
- Biomass for energy
- ...

Advanced Bioeconomy

Leveraging **biotechnology and innovative technologies** to develop new sustainable products and processes

- Biofuels from non-food crops
- Bioplastics
- New materials from biological sources
- ...

High-Tech Bioeconomy

Leveraging **cutting-edge technologies** like synthetic biology, genomics, and bioinformatics for sustainable innovation

- Medical biotechnology
- Industrial bioprocesses
- High value bio based products
- ...

This broad-based bioeconomy holds immense promise for **job creation, food and health security, and increased climate resilience**

The bioeconomy represents a dynamic and evolving economic paradigm, grounded in the sustainable use of natural resources, and is increasingly acknowledged globally as a key driver for sustainable development

Yet, the Africa continent's bioeconomy potential remains largely untapped due to persistent environmental degradation



>50%

of Sub-Saharan
Africa's farmland
is degraded



~80%

of rangelands in
Sub-Saharan
Africa are in
ecological decline



~45%

of the continent's
land is threatened
by desertification



~10%

of the Congo Basin's
primary rainforest has
been lost since 2001

Africa's natural capital continues to be lost at alarming rates - \$195 billion annually -
due to land degradation, deforestation, and unsustainable agriculture

These trends not only undermine and threaten livelihoods & biodiversity but also weaken Africa's competitive position

THE GLOBAL BIOECONOMY POTENTIAL

US\$ 30tr

is the potential value of the global bioeconomy by 2050, approximately >7 times higher than today's value

AFRICA'S MISSED BIOECONOMY POTENTIAL

<10%

of the final value from its biomass is captured on average by Africa's economies

By 2050, Africa will be home to 1/4 of the global population, positioning the continent at the heart of a sustainable bioeconomy transition—an essential step toward long-term economic resilience and inclusive global development

Investing in a nature-positive bioeconomy is critical, but four key challenges stand in the way of scaling financing



Financial market failures

Lack of enabling financial sector policies and incentives to internalize the value of Africa's natural capital and drive investment in its conservation, restoration, and sustainable management.



Lack of capabilities

Investors and broader stakeholders often lack sustainable bioeconomy-related technical expertise and market insights needed.



Actual and perceived investment risks

Bioeconomy investments are often seen as high-risk and uncompetitive due to, for example, lower immediate returns, small-scale projects, long gestation periods, and climate-related risks.



Data and measurement challenges

Measuring, monitoring, and verifying real environmental and social impacts of bioeconomy projects remains a persistent challenge for the financial sector.

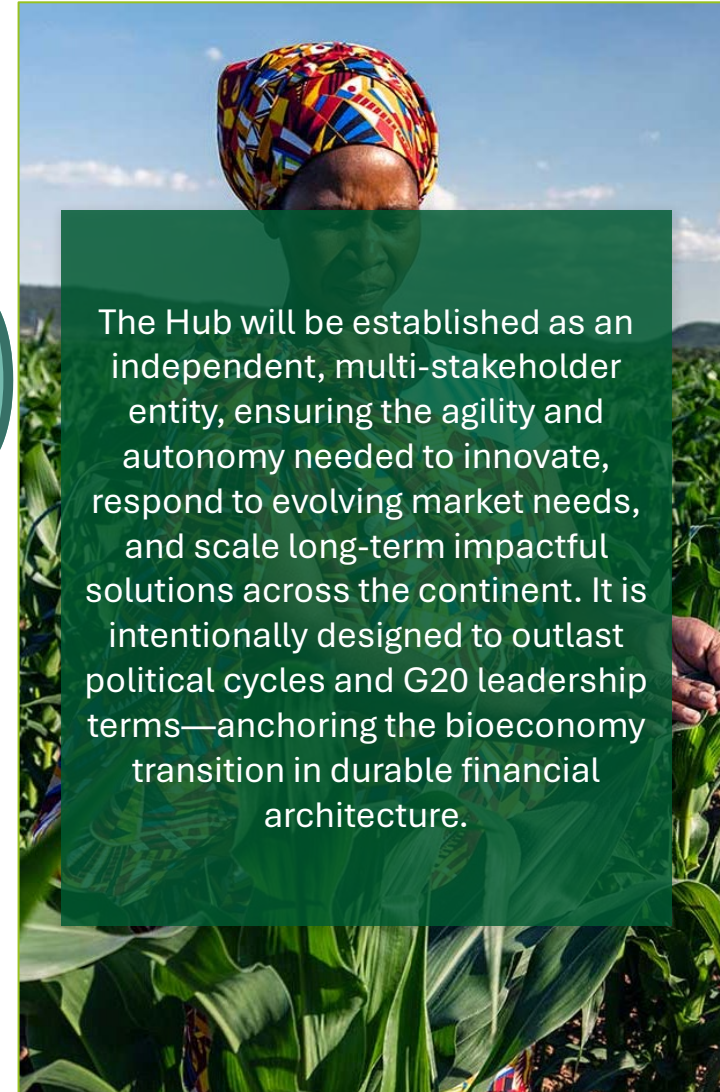
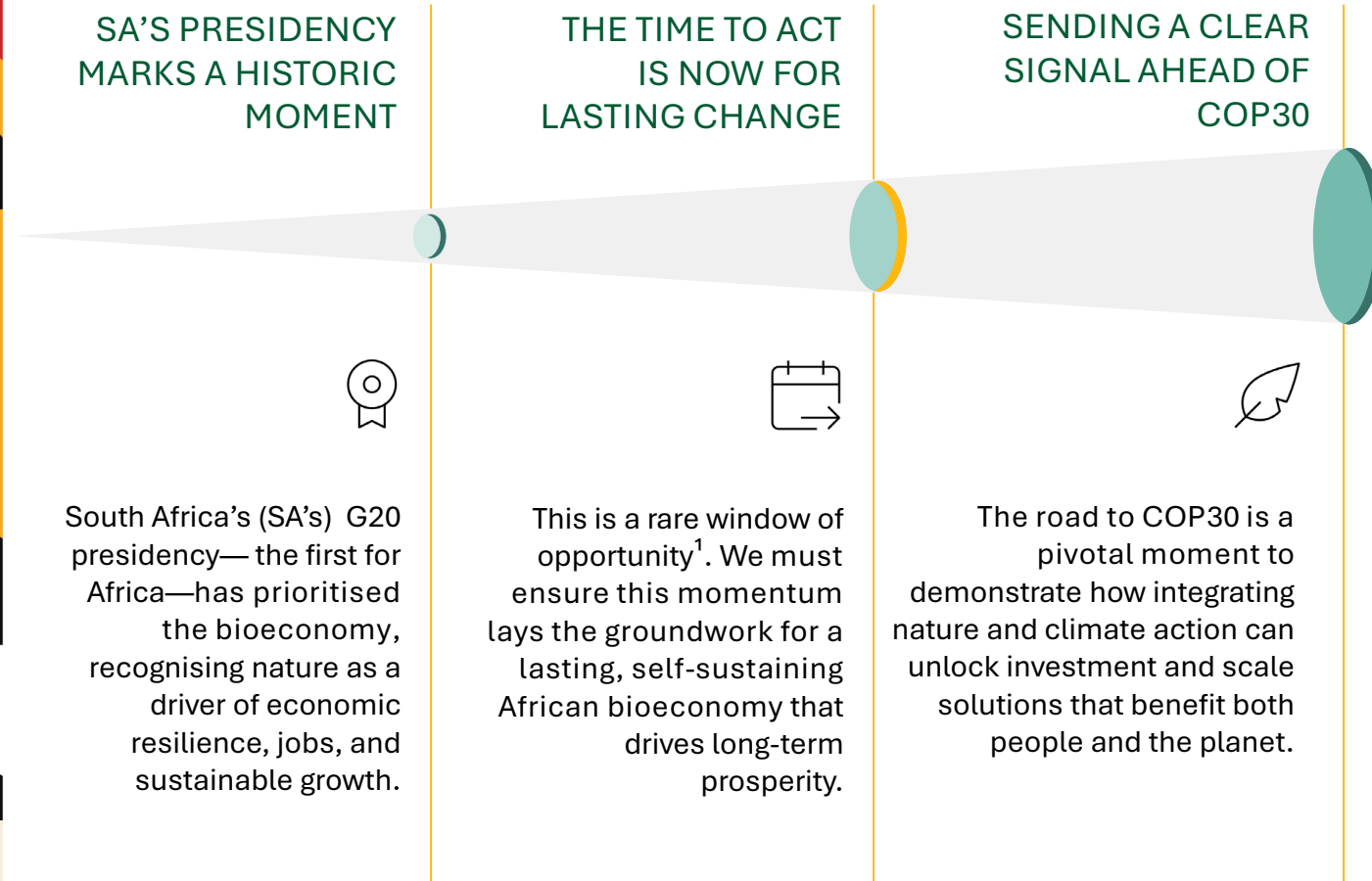
The Bioeconomy Finance Hub is designed to address these barriers, by transforming nature from an overlooked externality into a valued, investible, and protected asset while unlocking new markets and improving livelihoods





The time to act is now to launch the independent Bioeconomy Finance Hub during South Africa's historic G20 presidency

The time to act is now – seizing the G20 opportunity



The Hub will be established as an independent, multi-stakeholder entity, ensuring the agility and autonomy needed to innovate, respond to evolving market needs, and scale long-term impactful solutions across the continent. It is intentionally designed to outlast political cycles and G20 leadership terms—anchoring the bioeconomy transition in durable financial architecture.

The Bioeconomy Finance Hub will foster inclusive, multi-stakeholder collaboration and drive progress across 4 objectives

The Hub will collaborate with financial institutions, project developers, governments, and research organizations to tackle critical barriers to investment and foster a vibrant, enabling ecosystem for Africa's bioeconomy



Policy and Financial Transition Planning

Supporting a finance-enabling policy environment for the bioeconomy, converting policy strategies¹ into investment roadmaps, financial plans, and sustainable finance regulations, while fostering public-private dialogue.



Capacity Building

Developing African financial leadership in the bioeconomy through targeted capacity building and advisory, enabling institutions to integrate financial mgmt. with resilience and green transition strategies.



Investment Pipeline Generation


Strengthening sustainable bioeconomy investment pipelines through acceleration, blended finance, de-risking, and exploration of innovative financing mechanisms for investment.



Data, Metrics, and Standards

Promoting bioeconomy metrics, KPIs, and standards in the financial sector², alongside data and MRV solutions, to drive impactful investment, while integrating market feedback to refine and enhance these tools.

Notes: 1) Incl. NDCs and NBSAPs, 2) Amongst others those developed by the GIB FAO working group

 Deep dives on next pages



The Bioeconomy Finance Hub aims to deliver transformative, measurable impact

By 2035, the Hub will aim to catalyze bold, system-wide outcomes that reflect the scale of Africa's bioeconomy opportunity and the urgency of global environmental challenges

10 MM+

Farmers enabled to benefit from bioeconomy innovations that improve productivity, climate resilience, and livelihoods

>50 Bn+

USD mobilized in private and public investments into bioeconomy sectors across low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)

30%

Reduction achieved in agricultural waste through circular bioeconomy models that regenerate ecosystems and reduce emissions

10-12

High-impact bioeconomy projects supported per year, including in frontier markets

50%

of the final value captured from Africa's biomass by 2035—up from less than 10% today—as a stretch ambition



Foster robust collaboration and knowledge transfer between the private sector, governments, and research institutions



Next Steps: Partner with us to scale finance for a sustainable bioeconomy across Africa

We are seeking committed implementation and funding partners to help drive some or all of the four strategic objectives of the Bioeconomy Finance Hub.



JOIN US in shaping the future of the sustainable bioeconomy across Africa!

For inquiries and partnership discussions, contact:

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Thank you