



Resilient  
Landscapes

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# Financing landscape impact: where the magic happens...

LSFI summit | September 18<sup>th</sup> 2025

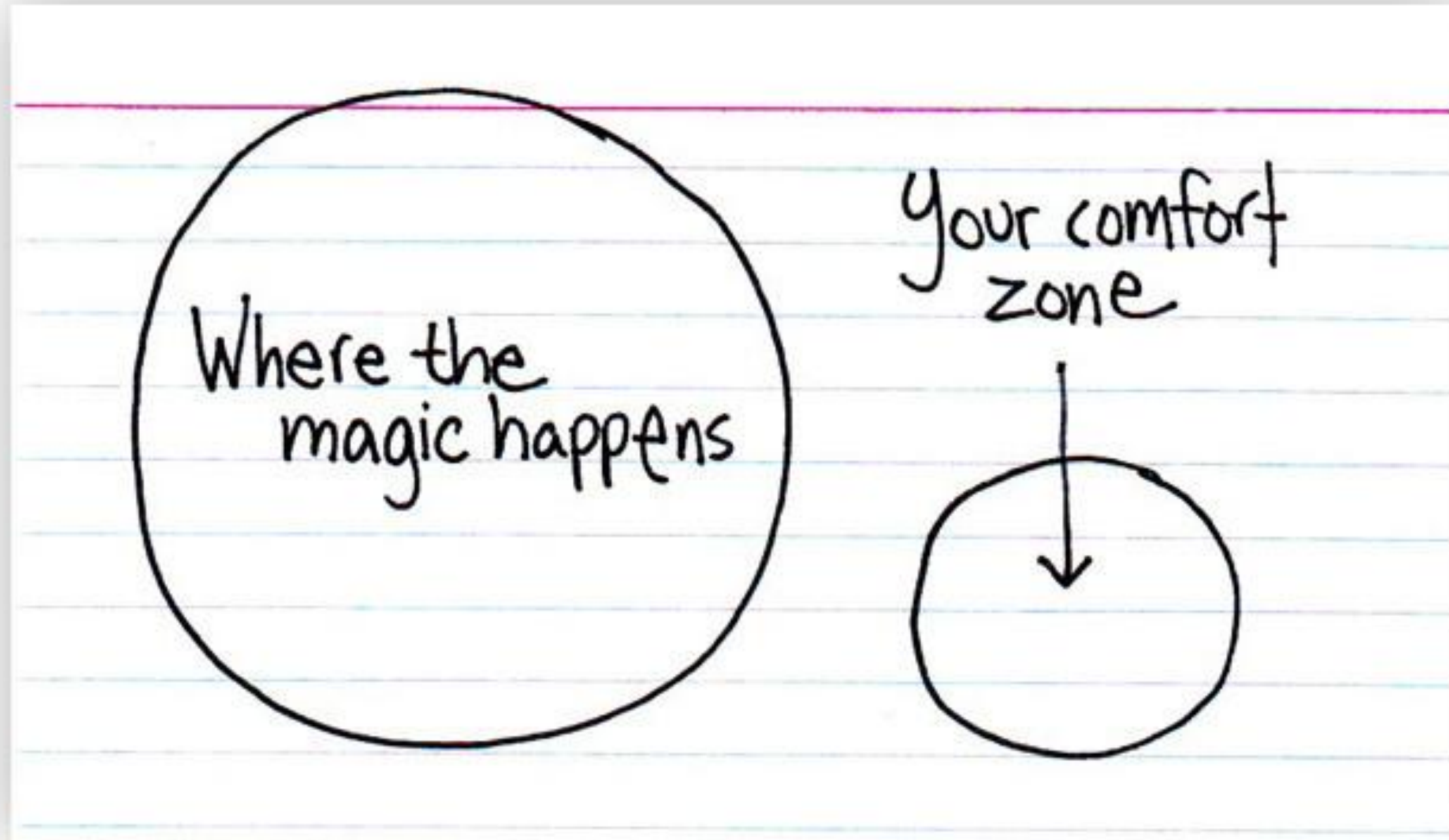
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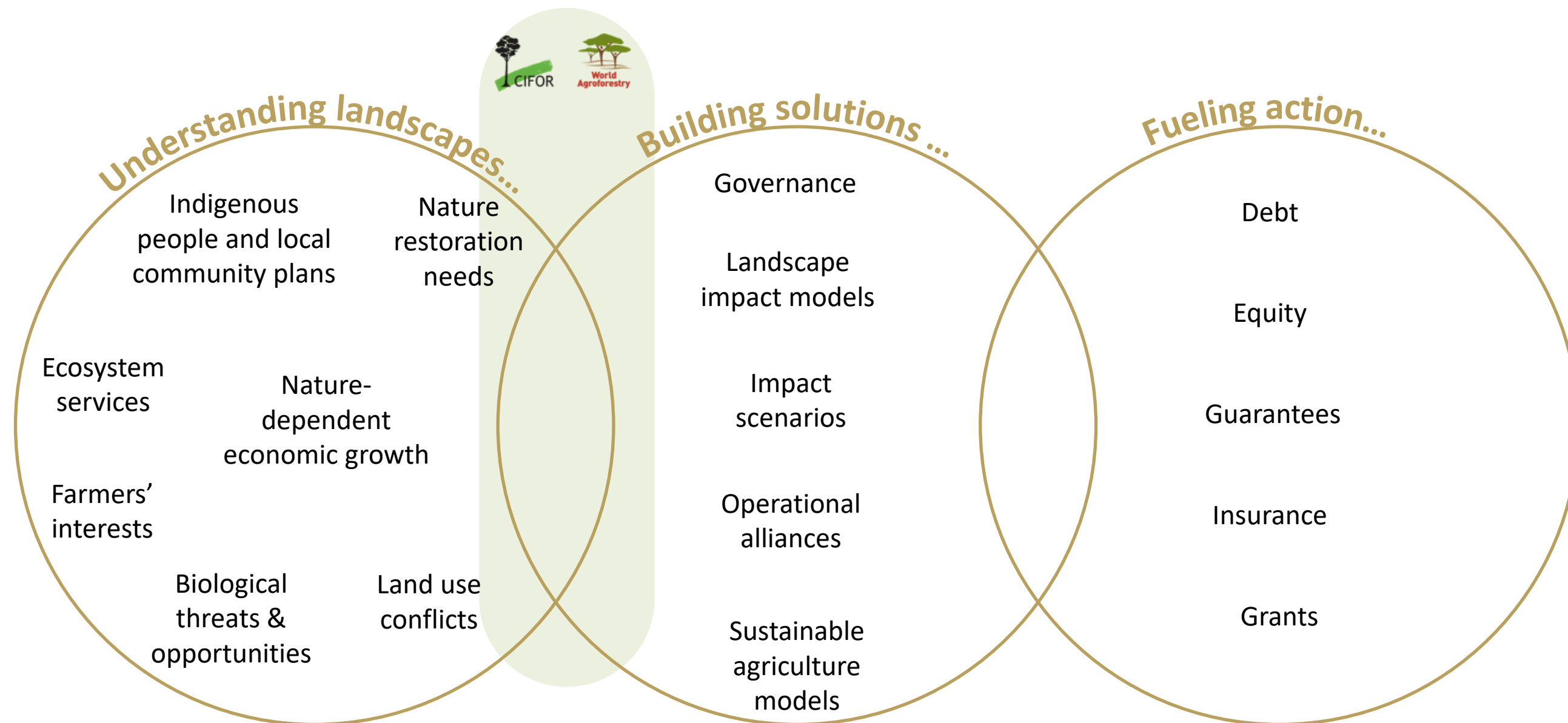


In a nutshell...





**CIFOR-ICRAF has a mission to catalyze the transition to more biodiverse and sustainable landscapes, as impact investment in Nature-Based solutions is growing mainstream**

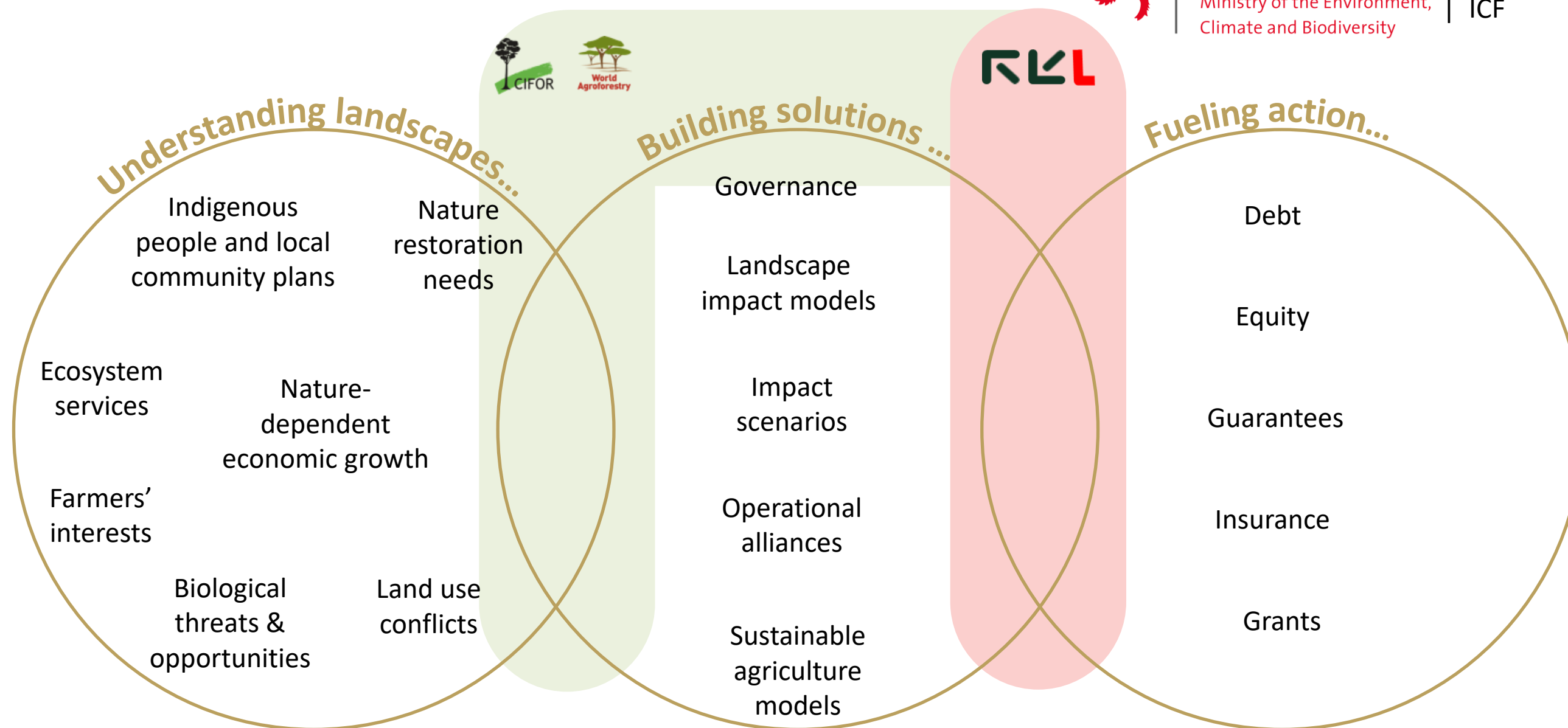




## With the government of Luxembourg, we are bridging the gap between landscape science and landscape investment for climate and biodiversity

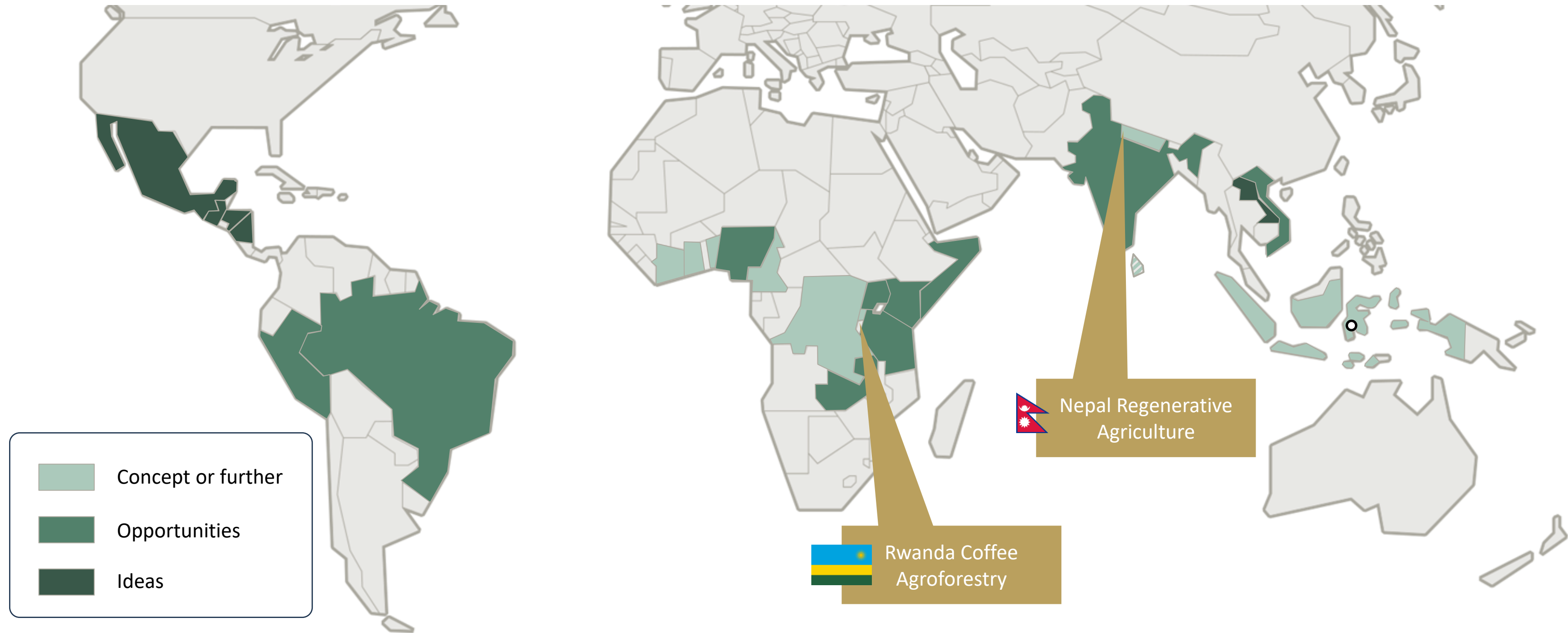


THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG  
Ministry of the Environment, | ICF  
Climate and Biodiversity





## Let's look at concrete cases

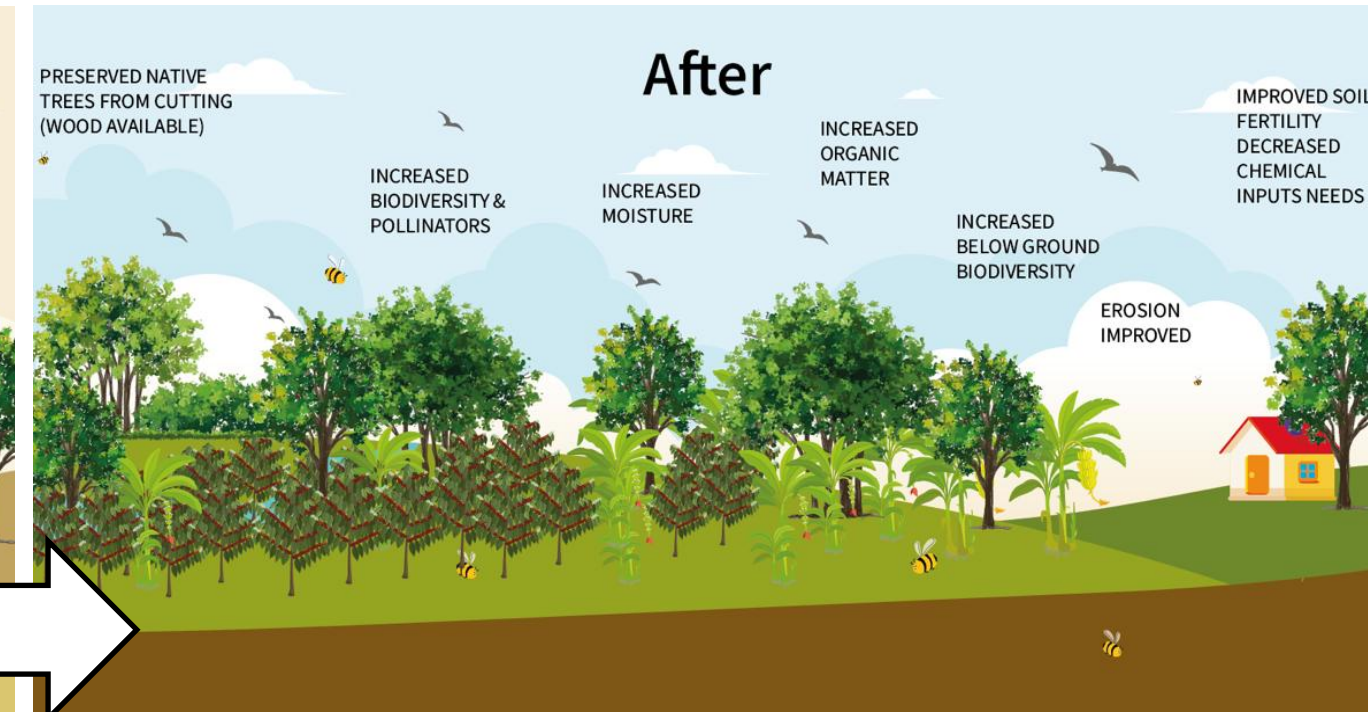
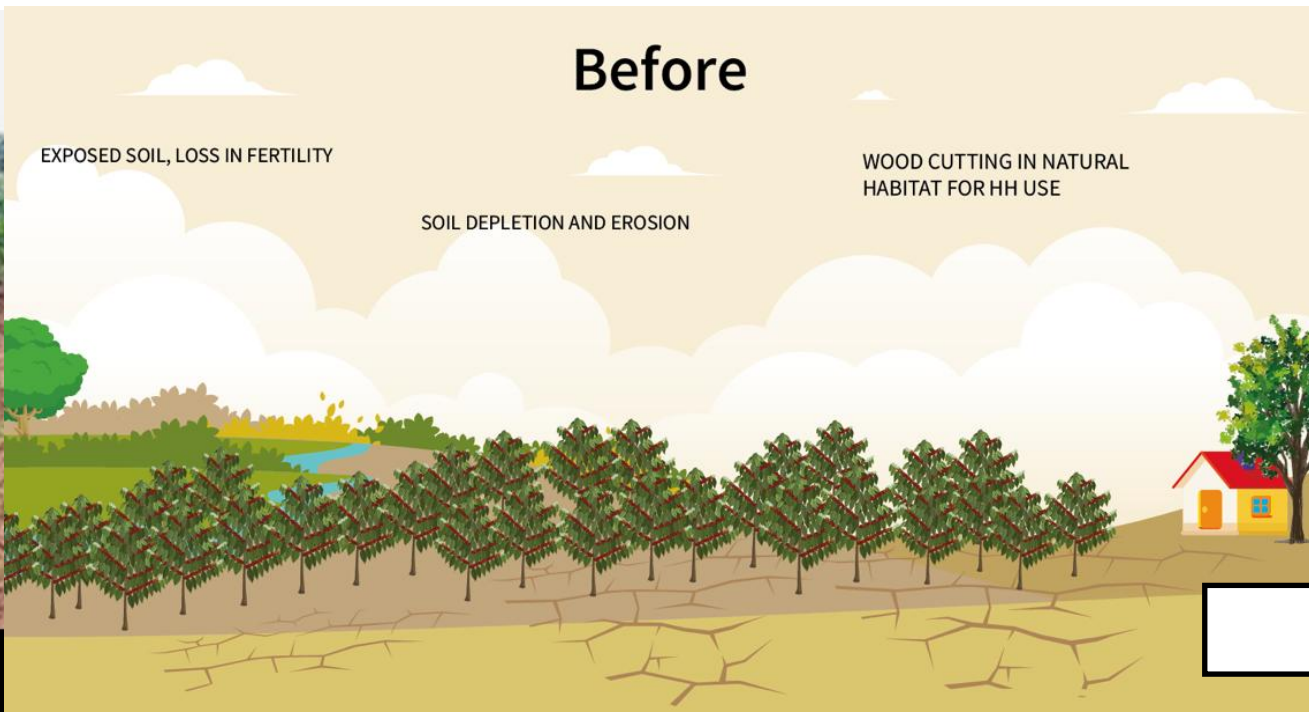




## CASE 1 - Challenges addressed: Agroforestry gains support an impact investment case in Rwanda...

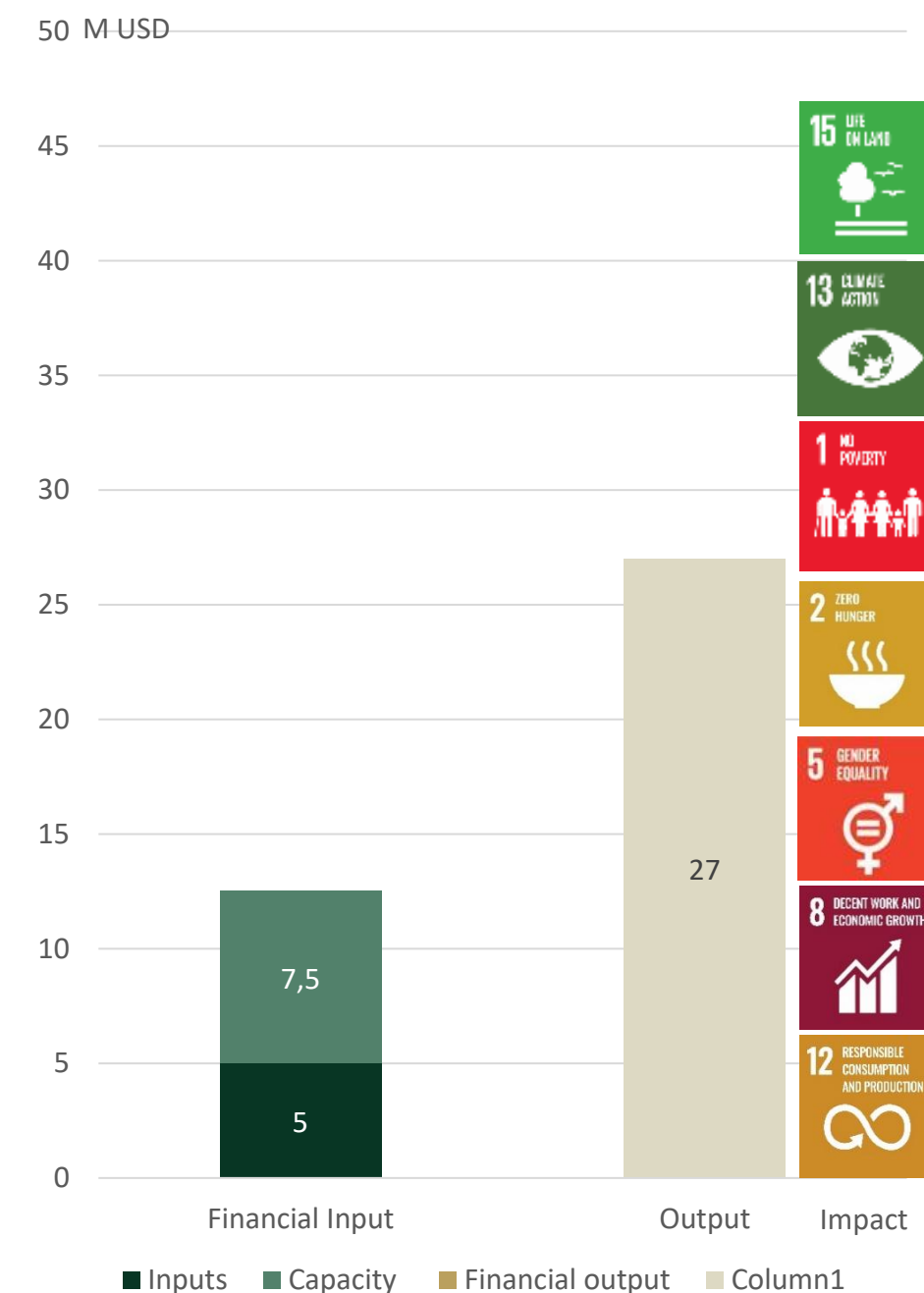
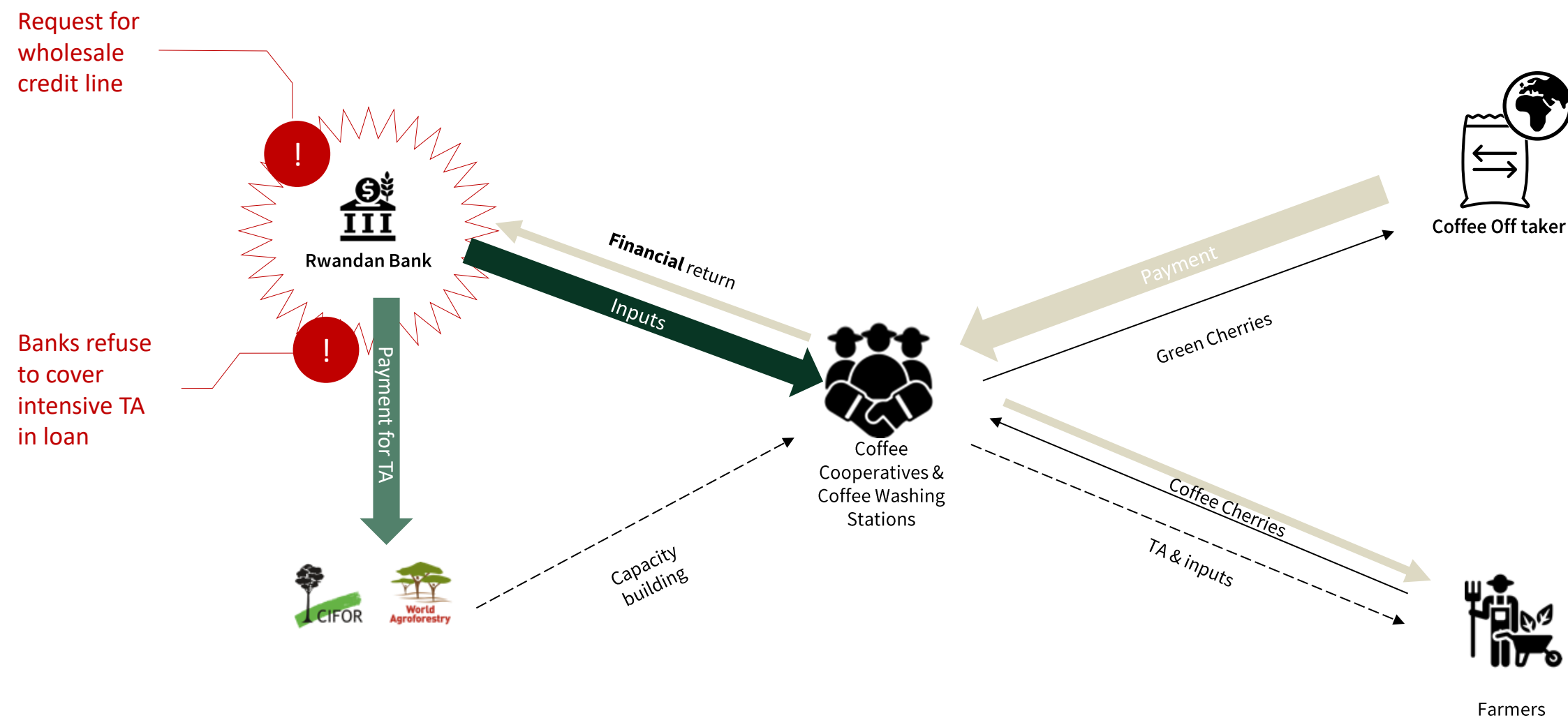
- Rwanda's premium coffee variety responds positively to both agroforestry and good agricultural practices:
  - Yield increase** by up to 55% and **quality increase**, in particular bean size
  - Demonstrated **soil biodiversity** and **pollinator biodiversity** benefit + **climate mitigation AND adaptation**
- Local institutions and implementers are ready to plant 500,000 trees and reach more than 8,000 farmers over 4,000 ha of diversified landscapes

Main impact dimension	Project year...									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Revenue increase for farmers and cooperatives			Ramp-up			Plateau				
Soil regeneration and biodiversity increase from the soil up										
Climate change mitigation and adaptation										



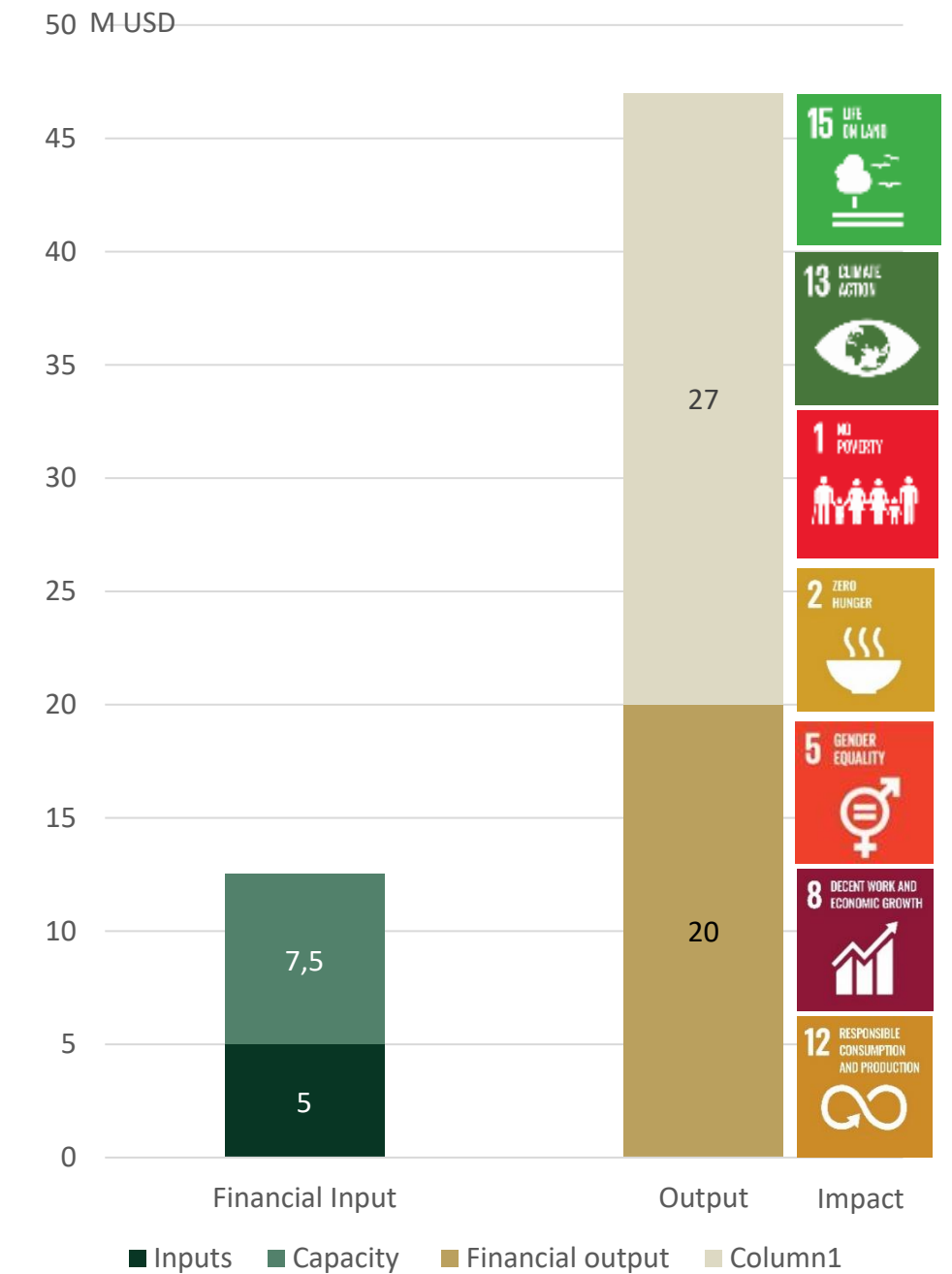
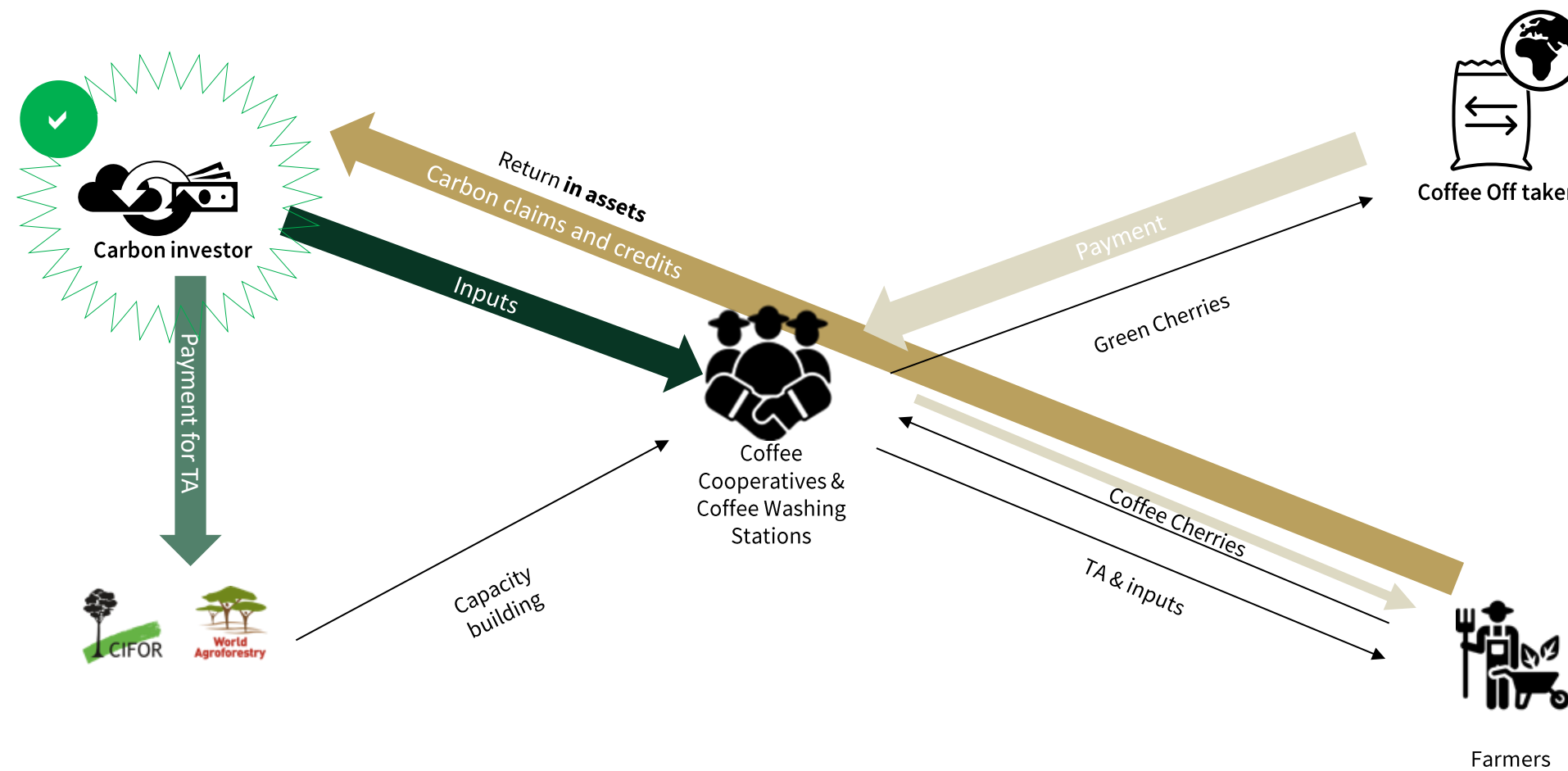


## ... but conventional finance will not cover this opportunity





## ... and carbon finance was instrumental in cracking the case







# CASE 2 - Nepal RegAg: funding model needs to be cracked

- Local transformation adds value at farm level
- Border trees control erosion and wildlife conflicts
- Traditional crops maintained for food safety
- High-value crops for revenue, **on top of** traditional crops



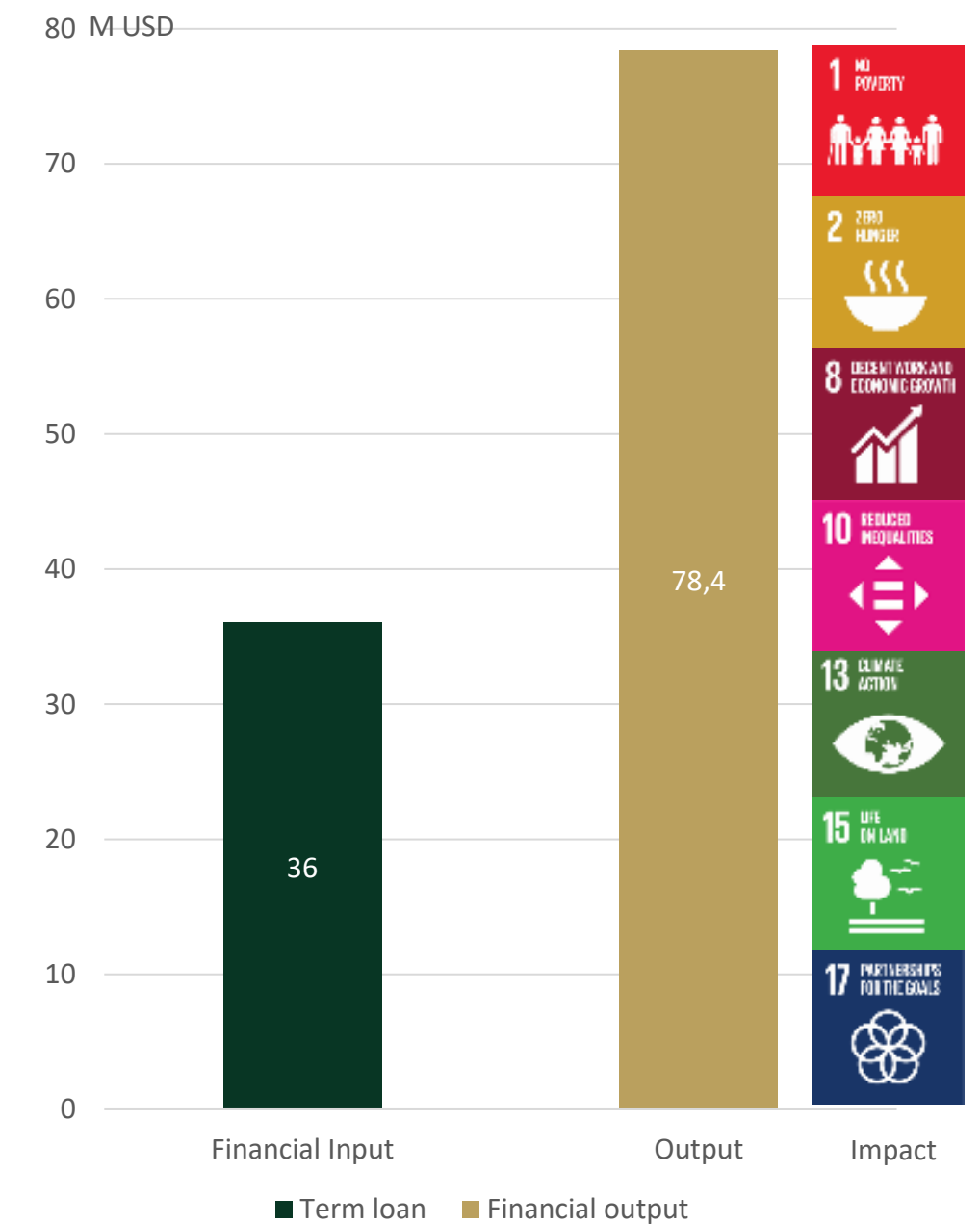
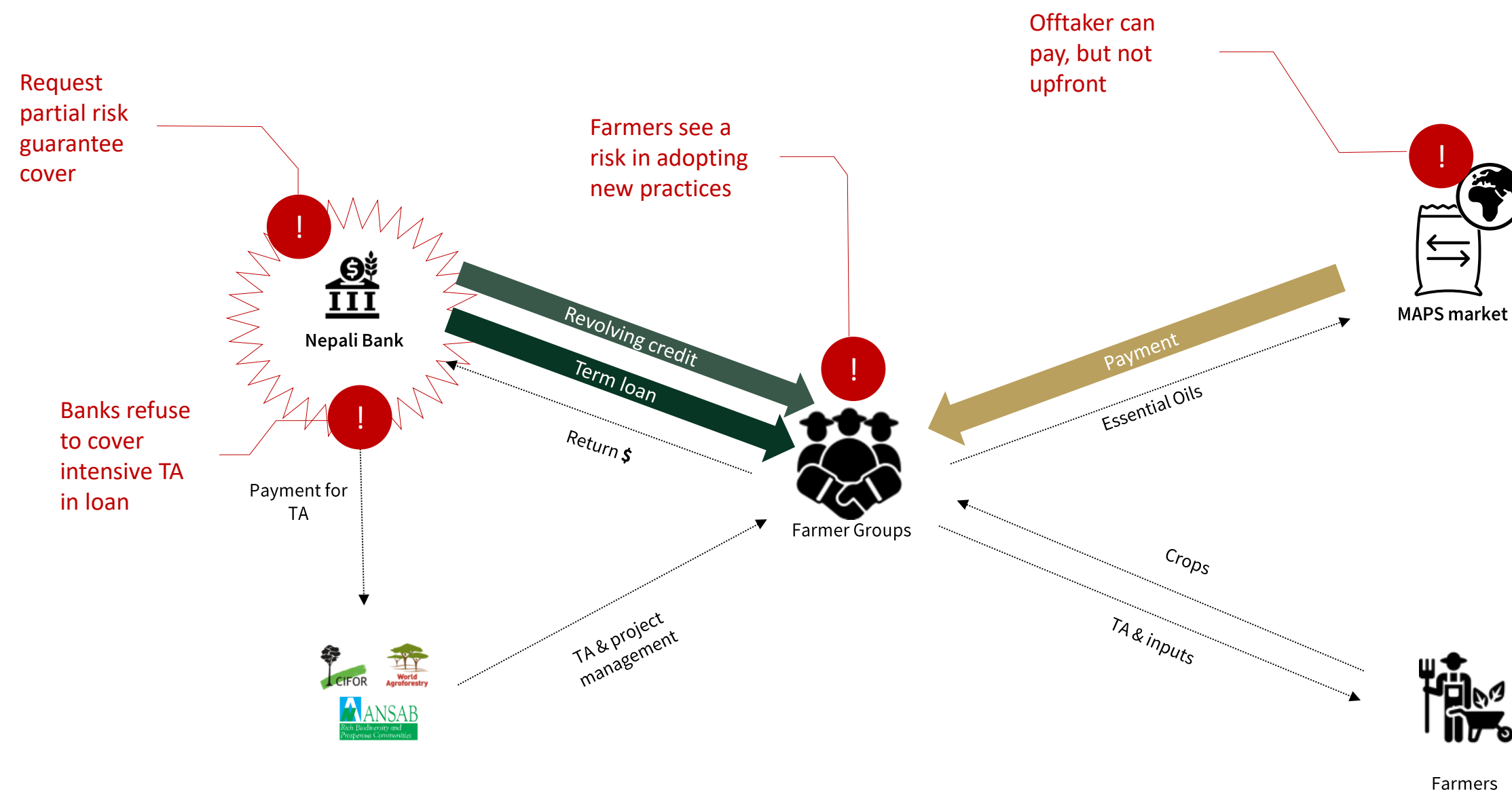
- Nepal’s agriculture is dramatically under-capitalized and under-trained
  - **Yield, quality and value aggregation gaps are large**
  - Wildlife conflicts and long-term soil regeneration are at stake
- Local experienced NGOs are organized to take **3,000 family farms** through a progressive change of farming techniques and investment in own growth

Main impact dimension	Project year...									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Reduced agriculture-wildlife frictions										
Revenue inflow, farmer and coop growth	Yield increase					Price premium				
Soil regeneration										
Capital accumulation in trees										





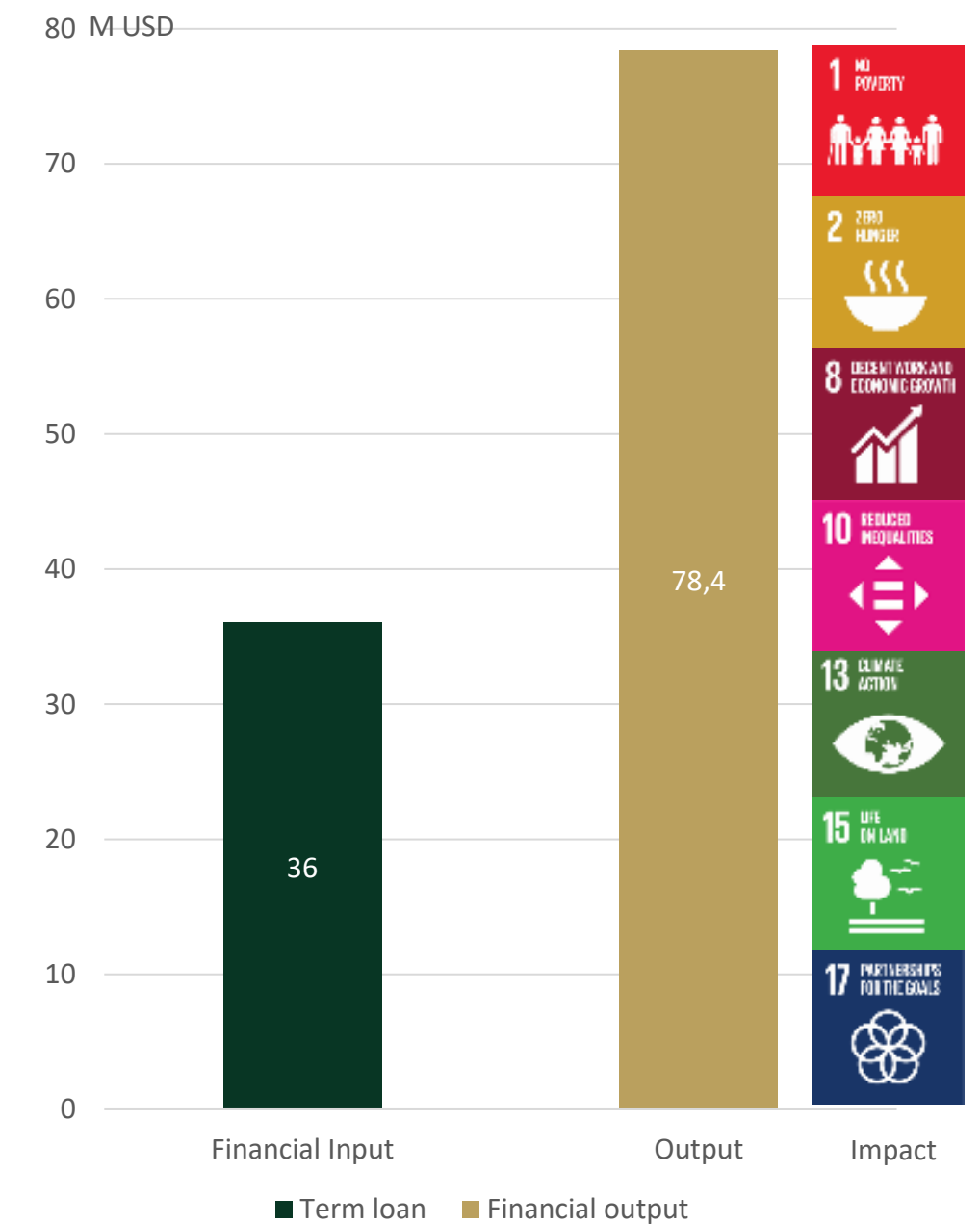
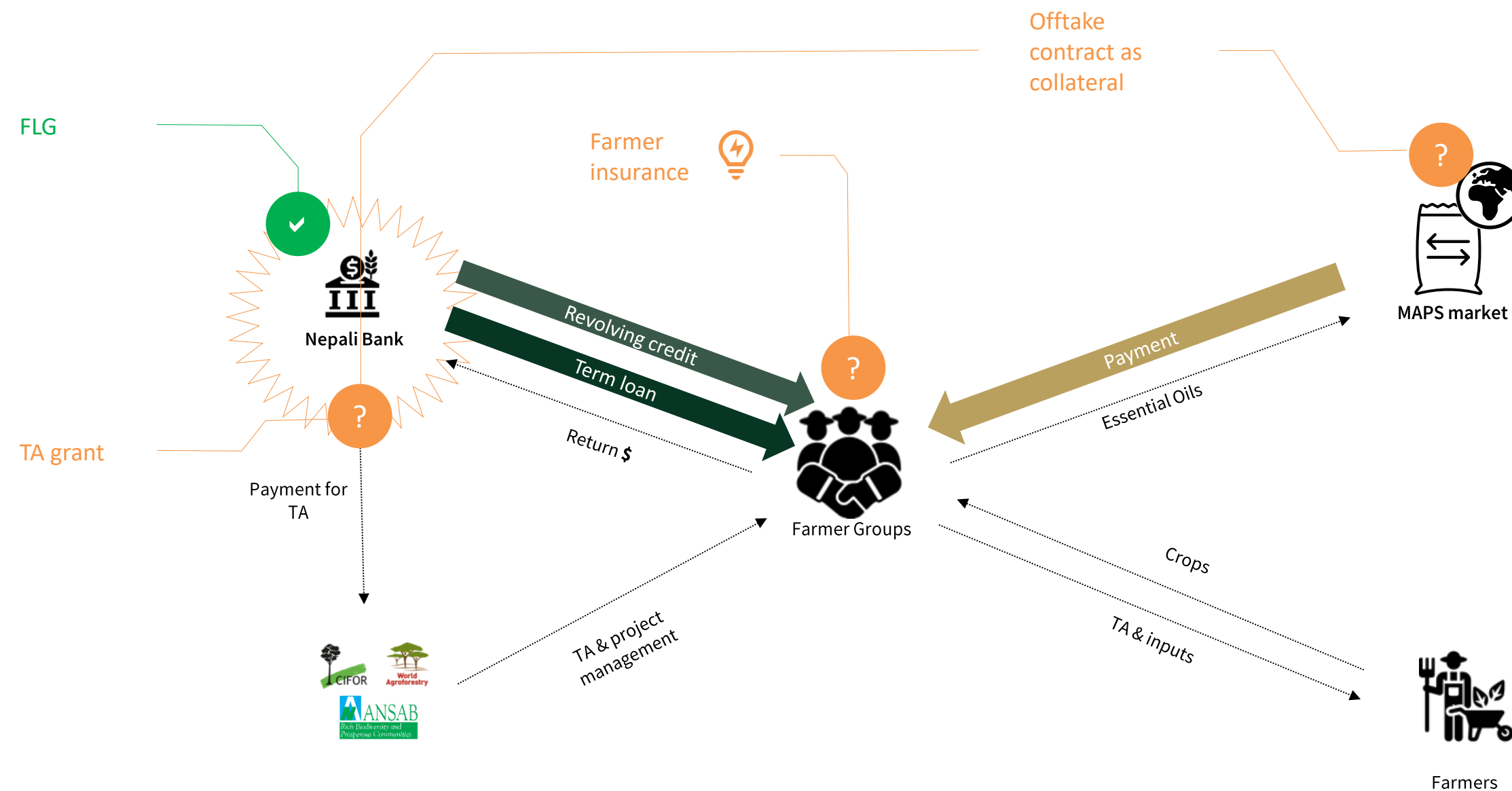
## Regenerative MAPS agriculture in Nepal: Enabling skill transfer for value creation





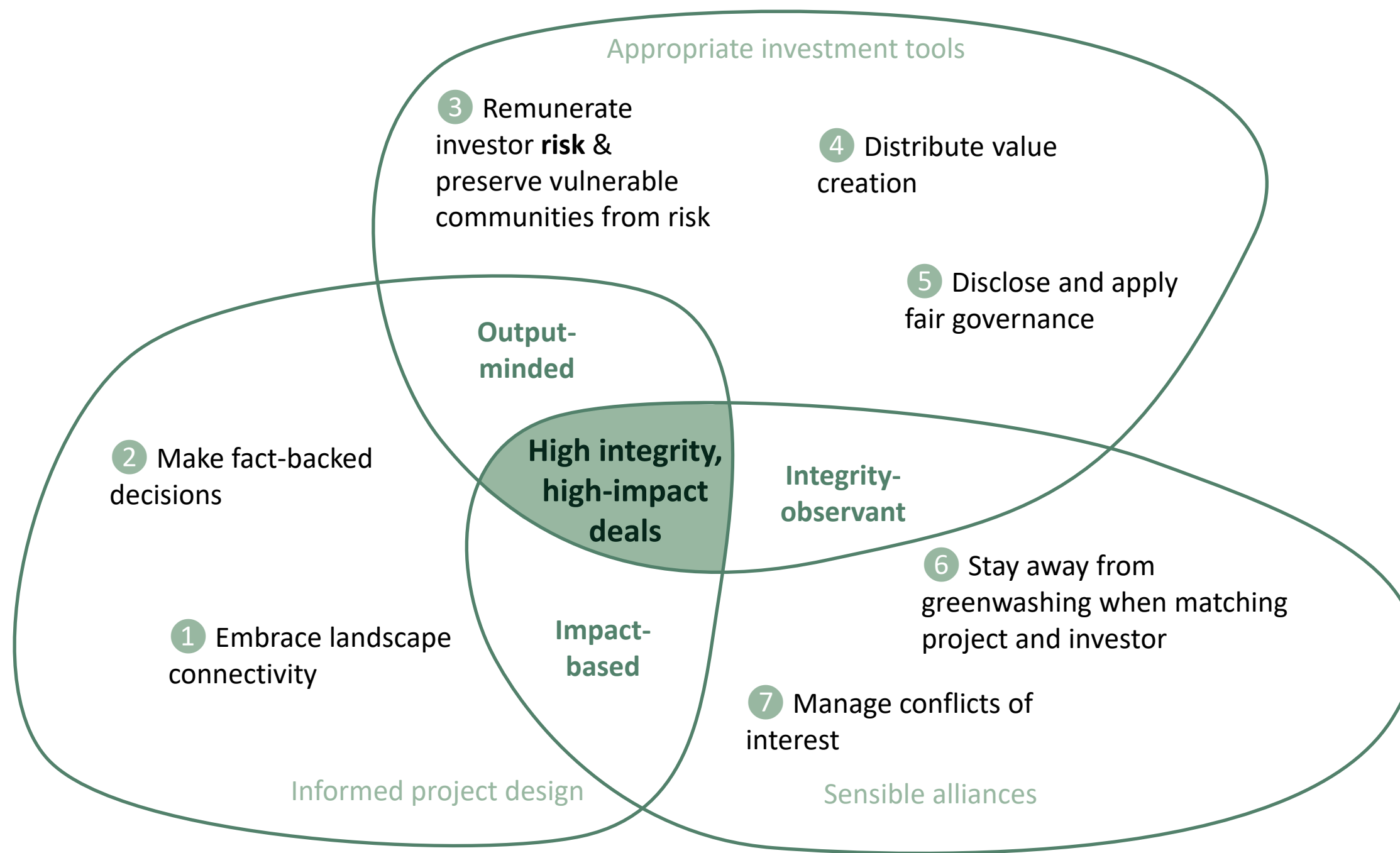


## Regenerative MAPS agriculture in Nepal: Enabling skill transfer for value creation





## Getting blended landscape finance right for impact at the bottom of the pyramid: basic principles







## Gaps we see ...

### Volume gap

*Although more private capital is needed for nature, the existing capital struggles to be allocated*

**Kinetics** for capital mobilization are faster than those for project maturation

Transaction and certification **costs** disqualify smaller projects, that are nurseries for bigger initiatives

**Untapped pools** of opportunity, like scientific organizations and grassroot organizations

### Opportunity gap

*Finance misses adequate tools to seize real opportunities*

Certain profitable activities **lack instruments** for investment

Certain activities generate large but **atomized monetary value** across many stakeholders and require a public scheme for consolidation.

Certain profitable activities are **too risky for local communities**

**Risk assessment** by investors is poorly informed in landscapes and reduces the number of deals

### Coverage gap

*Investment cannot (yet?) cover all grounds*

A large part of “impact finance” **misses out on real impact** (greenwashing is just around the corner)

**Unmonetized** impact: Biodiversity, water regulation lack a market value

Profitability may happen over unconventionally **long time** periods



## Solutions we see ... impact as an asset, the case of carbon under strong standards

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## Solutions we see ... incubation as a necessary enabler of innovation and scale

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## Solutions we see ... public sector as an aggregator of private funds in bonds and jurisdictional approaches

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## Gaps that most require breakthrough innovation...

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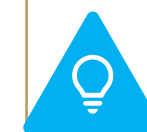


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## New possibilities

- Insurance, informed by data, in particular for local communities
- Diversify impact monetization instruments: legal instruments and science-based models connecting impact and profit
- Better impact accountability, through standards and watchdogs in impact funds





QUESTIONS?

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## Thank you



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Landscapes, CIFOR-ICRAF



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