

European Business & Nature Summit

Plenary 3 – Kick-starting a European business commitment for nature

4 Returns: a scalable model to restore landscapes for people and business

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#BusinessNatureSummit

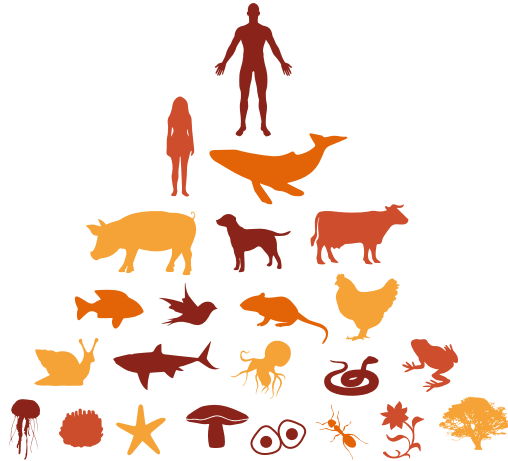


We need **a new framework**
to restore global ecosystems

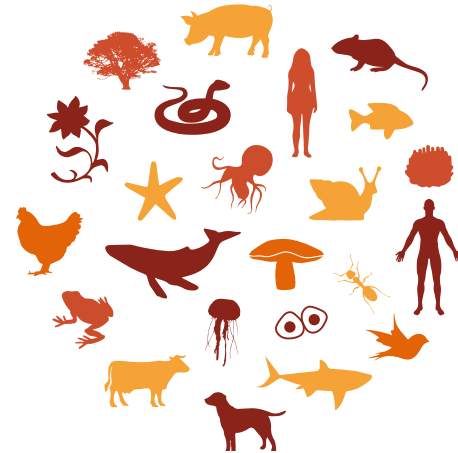


It should be inclusive, systemic and long term

EGO



ECO



Shifting away from: *Maximising Returns on Investment per Hectare*



We designed a framework that turns 4 Losses into 4 Returns

Land degradation leads to 4 Losses:

- Loss of purpose or hope
- Loss of employment and security
- Loss in biodiversity, soil & water
- Loss of economic activity



Land restoration leads to 4 Returns:



Inspiration



Social capital



Natural capital



Financial capital



3 landscape zones, deliver 4 returns in min. 20 years

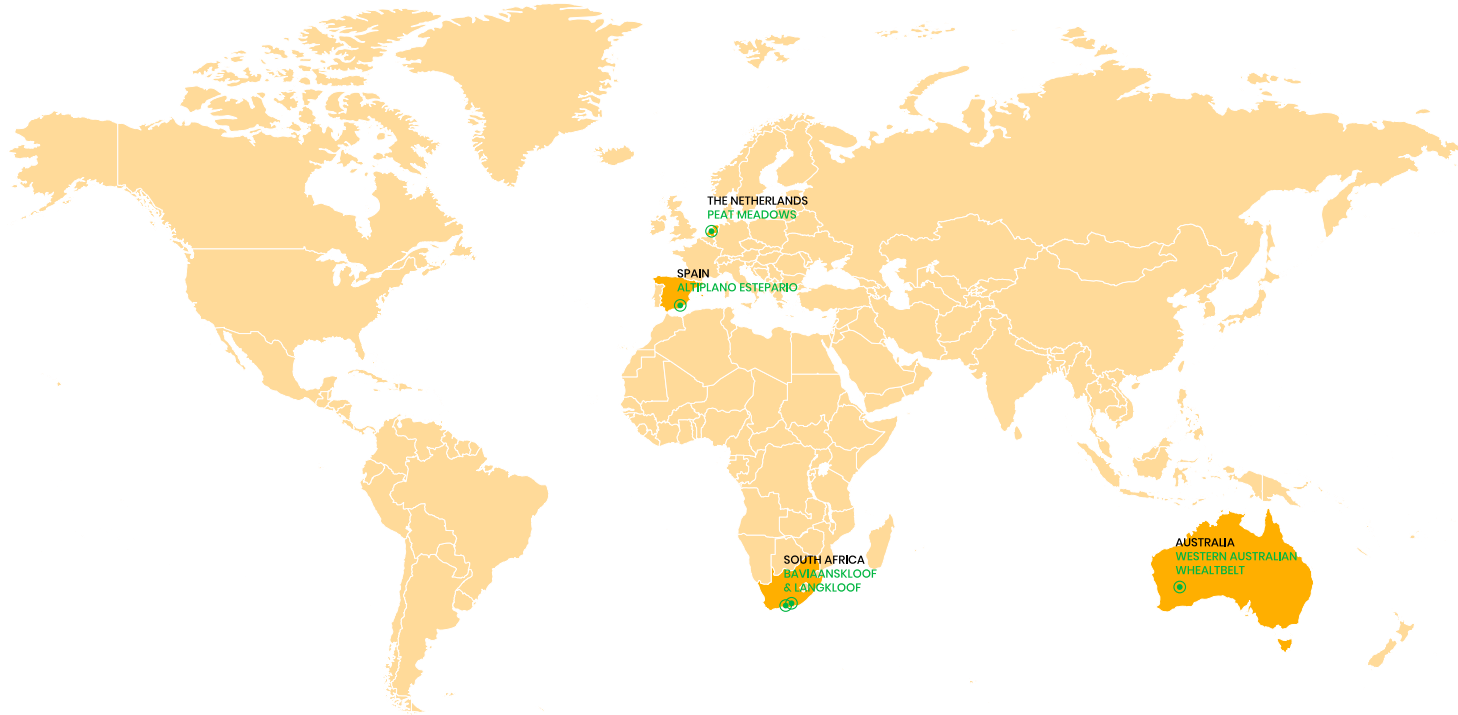
4 returns

3 zones

20 years



Since 2013 we have built a proof of concept
in four large landscapes (100k-500k ha, area size)



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4 RETURNS FROM LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

In Western Australia a first public 4 returns company was listed in 2018



Altiplano, South Spain (1m ha)



In 2014, we started developing a restoration plan to kickstart 4 returns together with farmers, conservation experts, entrepreneurs and villages.




This resulted in the establishment of a Landscape Restoration Partnership...










And are developing regenerative investable businesses



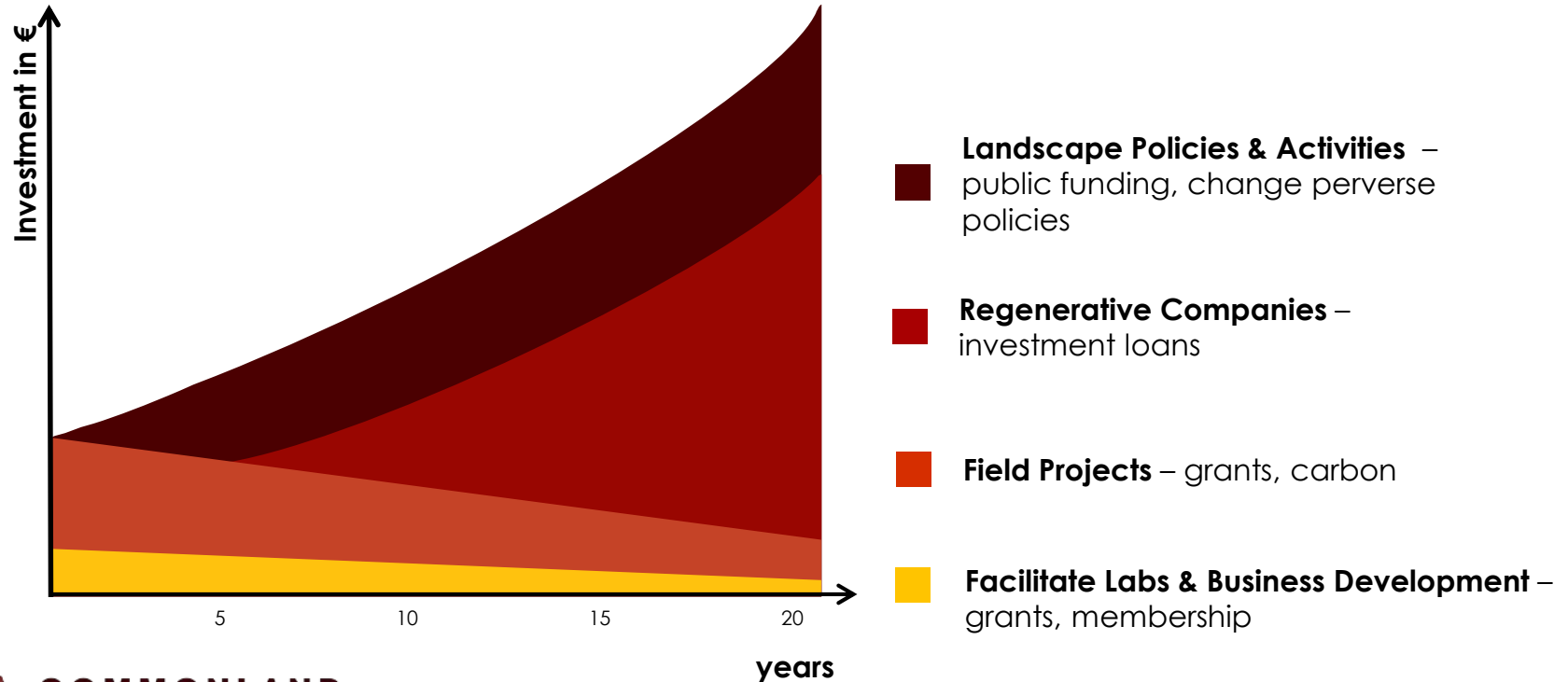
Nine key impacts converted into either cash flows or risk-reduction are included in the 4 Returns Framework

Return	Impact	Description of impacts
	Financial return	Direct financial returns for all stakeholders , including increased earnings of regenerative farmers and additional local earnings from cluster companies (traders), and tourism.
	Sense of purpose	Inspiration and education activities around landscape restoration give local communities a sense of purpose, lowering future risk .
	Job creation	Newly created companies and regenerative agriculture practices create local jobs and therefore income for the people .
	Income tax (jobs)	Income tax generated through newly created jobs.
	Business tax	Additional local tax arising from more business activities (agriculture and other businesses).
	Water retention	Regenerative agriculture practices in the combined zone and restoration of the natural zone improve water retention and local water availability .
	Carbon sequestration	Regenerative agriculture and natural zone restoration practices result in carbon sequestration, which was valued through a CO₂ market price projection
	Biodiversity	Regenerative agriculture practices and natural zone restoration improve biodiversity, increasing pollination which positively influences agricultural yields for both regenerative farmers and its surrounding farmers.
	Erosion prevention	Regenerative agriculture practices and natural zone restoration prevent land erosion, lowering future risk .

By building a value bridge we show the benefits for other funders

FUNDER	EXAMPLE	BENEFITS						
								
		Stable and long term financial return	De-risking	Increase in tax income	Retention and return of inhabitants	Growth of local economy and job creation	Contribution to SDG's	Restored natural capital
Farmer	Almond farmer	✓	✓		✓			✓
Local communities	Farmer families in the region		✓		✓	✓		✓
Local, regional and national governments	Murcian, Andalusian, Spanish government		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pension funds	APG	✓	✓				✓	✓
Private investors		✓	✓				✓	
Impact investors	Meraki Impact	✓	✓				✓	✓
Foundations	TUI Care Foundation				✓	✓	✓	✓
Insurers	Santam	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Water intense industries	Beverage companies		✓				✓	✓
CO ₂ intense industries	Chemical companies		✓				✓	✓

Financial leverage over the years can be done through a Regional Landscape Finance Governance Structure



Our learnings

- The 4 Returns framework works in all landscapes
- Building a value bridge gives insights of risks/returns to investors, governments, business and land users
- Using 4 Returns in Regional Financial Governance Structures will catalyze restoration
- Per landscape the costs to cover facilitation and business development is < 1% of total landscape investment. This is max. EUR 500k/year per landscape
- When investors & governments cover those costs, landscape restoration will be accelerated.

Source: Commonland



Thank you

www.commonland.com
www.4returns.earth



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4 RETURNS FROM LANDSCAPE RESTORATION