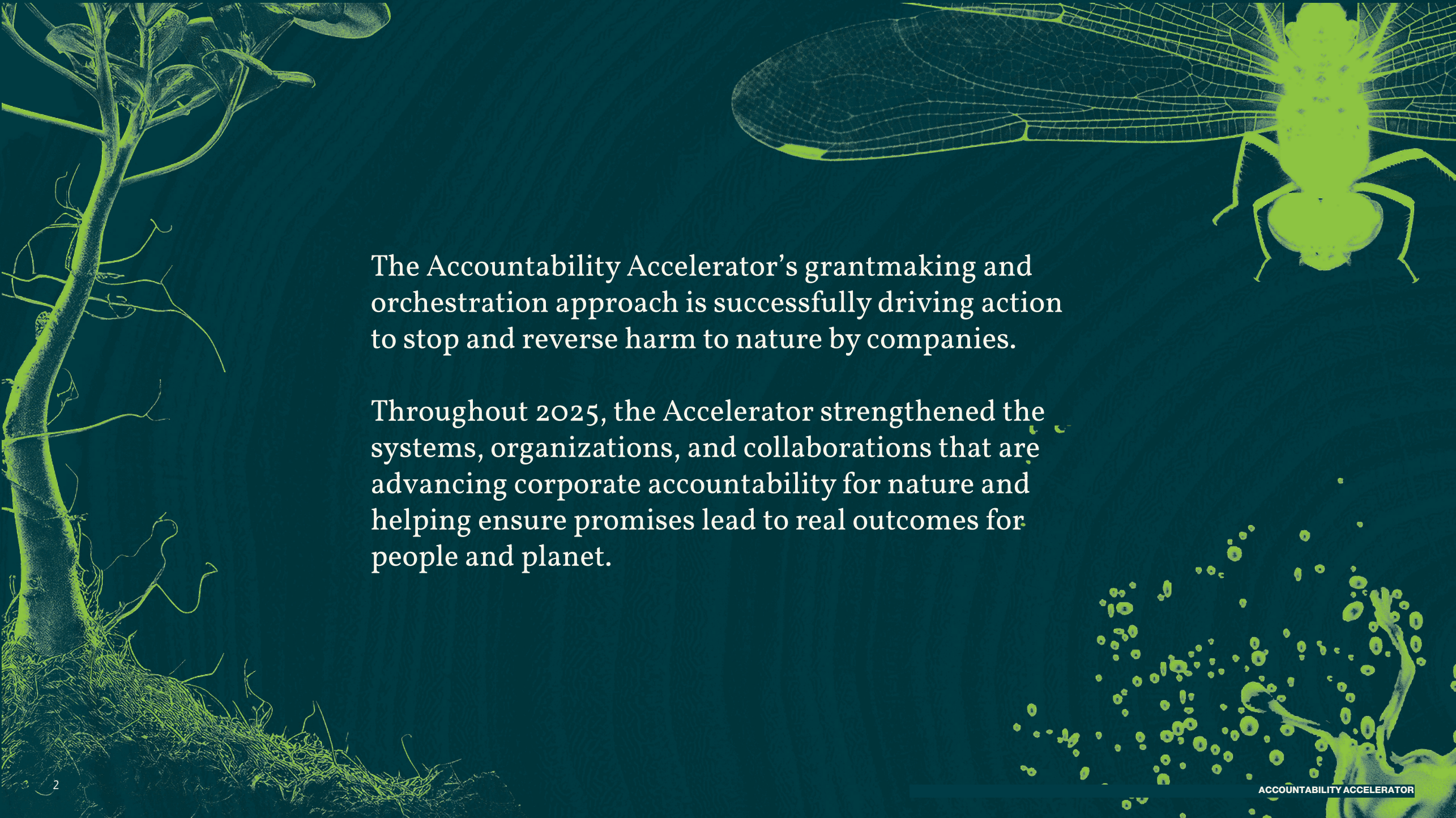


THE ACCOUNTABILITY ACCELERATOR:

BUILDING NATURE INTO BUSINESS FOUNDATIONS





The Accountability Accelerator's grantmaking and orchestration approach is successfully driving action to stop and reverse harm to nature by companies.

Throughout 2025, the Accelerator strengthened the systems, organizations, and collaborations that are advancing corporate accountability for nature and helping ensure promises lead to real outcomes for people and planet.

2025

STRENGTHENING CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR NATURE IN FRAGMENTED AND UNDERFUNDED TIMES

At a glance:

\$4M

grant portfolio across **50+**
organizations since inception

500+

key stakeholders
brought together across
12 international convenings

14

companies' **science-based**
targets for nature successfully
validated

\$1M+

in follow-on **funding**
unlocked by grantees



CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY IS THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO PROTECT NATURE AND PEOPLE

When companies operate within systems that require

TRANSPARENCY • **CREDIBLE
TARGETS** • **INDEPENDENT
VERIFICATION**

markets can distinguish real progress from empty claims.

This allows investors, regulators, and consumers to reward companies that protect nature — and hold laggards accountable.

THE ACCOUNTABILITY ACCELERATOR WORKS TO STRENGTHEN THE ACCOUNTABILITY ECOSYSTEM -

defined as the web of actors, resources, and
systems that drive corporate action for nature.

We do this by:

DIRECTING RESOURCES

ALIGNING INITIATIVES

CONNECTING ACTORS

In 2025, our mission gathered momentum.



CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR NATURE STAKEHOLDER MAP

KEY

Justice & human rights

Assurance & pressure

Policy & regulation

Capacity & incentives

Frameworks & tools

NATURE ACCOUNTABILITY FUNDERS

CHILDREN'S INVESTMENT FUND FOUNDATION

generation foundation

WILLIAM + FLORA
Hewlett Foundation

ACCOUNTABILITY ACCELERATOR

OAK FOUNDATION

Laudes Foundation

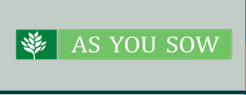
WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT / LEGAL ACTORS

ABRAMPA

accountability counsel

AFREWATCH
African Resources Watch
Observatoire Africain des Ressources Naturelles

AS YOU SOW

auriga

Fundación Avina

China 中南项目
Global South Project

IDI
Inclusive Development International

INFOAMAZONIA

International Lawyers Project

JUSTIÇA GLOBAL
Justiça localmente, compromisso globalmente

ProDESC

RAID
Holding business to account
Standing up for human rights

RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT

Rights CoLAB

SARW
Southern Africa Resource Watch

STAND
IMPACT COLLECTIVE

UNLEASH

ZELA

BENCHMARKING & RATINGS ORGS

FOREST 500

IM
InfluenceMap

World Benchmarking Alliance

FINANCE INITIATIVES

A4S

IIGCC

Finance for Biodiversity Foundation

Nature Action 100

PBAF
Partnership for Biodiversity Accounting Financially

PRI
Principles for Responsible Investment

The Shareholder Commons

DISCLOSURE STANDARDS / FRAMEWORK DEVELOPERS

GRI

ISSB

SCIENCE BASED TARGETS NETWORK
GLOBAL COMPANIES ALLIANCE

TNFD
Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures

CORPORATE MOBILIZERS & BUSINESS NETWORKS

BSR

BUSINESS FOR NATURE

CAPITALS COALITION

CDP
DISCLOSURE INSIGHT ACTION

Ceres

Climate Governance Initiative

Global Canopy

proforest

UN environment WCMC

WBCSD

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

WWF

MONITORING / DATA PLATFORMS

ENCORE

IBAT
Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool

MAPBIOMAS

Planet Tracker

trase

STORIES OF IMPACT

Our grant-making strategy is designed to support systemic, long-term change rather than isolated wins.

By funding a range of innovative projects, from data and finance to legal frameworks and civic action, we aim to shift not only corporate behaviour but the underlying systems of accountability that shape it.

The following case studies illustrate this approach in practice. They show how targeted support can create lasting impacts that extend well beyond the immediate outputs of each grant.



● CASE STUDY

Ensuring ESG compliance in Zimbabwe's mining industry

The Accountability Accelerator supported the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Organisation (ZELO) to help ensure the country's new ESG regulation was being effectively implemented.

While the regulation gave communities hosting mining operations an important lever to hold companies accountable, a clear gap had emerged: companies were focusing on sustainability reporting without taking meaningful action to identify and address their actual impacts.

ZELO worked with the Chamber of Mines, government ministries and regulators to drive more credible ESG practices and close that gap.

As a result:

- Increased awareness from private sector players around the need to go beyond reporting and develop robust ESG systems.
- Better understanding among policymakers and regulators of the need to tighten ESG regulations and enforce compliance.
- Improved protection for community water, environmental, and benefits rights.

● CASE STUDY

Strengthening accountability through journalism in Indonesia's nickel sector

The human and environmental costs of the energy transition are severely underreported, with the experiences of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in mining-affected areas largely absent from mainstream narratives.

Our grantee worked alongside local and national media outlets to expose the environmental and social impacts of nickel mining in Indonesia. The project trained Indigenous and local journalists and produced multilingual, multi-format stories that reached domestic and global audiences.

In a two-month period, the content generated over 3.6 million impressions, more than 70,000 engagements and 19 published articles.



The work:

- Strengthened public scrutiny of transition mineral supply chains and catalyzed public debate.
- Contributed to shifts in editorial priorities, including commitments from national outlets to expand coverage of IP&LC issues and perspectives.
- Received international recognition, including a World Press Photo award in 2025
- Strengthened local journalism ecosystems and created a platform for Indigenous journalists.

● CASE STUDY

Sector corporate engagement briefs led by Finance for Biodiversity Foundation

Investors committed to nature-positive outcomes often lack the practical, sector-specific tools needed to turn high-level ambitions into meaningful engagement with companies.

Working alongside the Finance for Biodiversity Foundation, we are bridging that gap: developing detailed sector briefing papers and targeted webinars for the 230+ investors in the Nature Action 100 initiative and the 200+ signatories of the Finance for Biodiversity Pledge.

Running until August 2026, the project gives investors the actionable guidance they need to hold companies accountable on nature impacts across high-risk sectors including food and agriculture, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals, providing a scalable model for aligning global biodiversity targets with finance.



COORDINATING COLLECTIVE ACTION

We work in diverse ways to maximize the impact of our grantmaking and strengthen the accountability ecosystem for nature.

We bring influential actors together around the table, identify opportunities for collaboration, and provide independent verification for companies looking to take concrete action.

This section provides a snapshot of the strides made in our mapping, convening, and validation activities in 2025.



MAPPING LEGAL STRATEGIES

Law is one of the most important levers for strengthening corporate accountability for nature.

In 2025, we conducted a mapping of the global accountability ecosystem. The aim: to better understand the strategic legal interventions that organizations can make to have greater systemic impact.

Through a series of consultations and questionnaires, we gathered insights from 102 participants across 92 organizations, including:

**LEGAL PRACTITIONERS**

**CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS**

**FUNDERS**

**RESEARCHERS**

The final findings and recommendations, published in 2026, serve as a resource to identify priority legal approaches and opportunities for greater collaboration and alignment across the ecosystem.

Ultimately, this will strengthen the legal architecture needed to hold corporations accountable for nature-related harms and advance justice for affected communities.





CONVENING INFLUENTIAL PLAYERS AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

At a series of events in 2025, we convened a diverse range of funders, business leaders, policymakers, experts, and civil society groups.

These events provide a space to share learnings, align standards, and coordinate action.



Davos leadership roundtable on capacity building around nature standards

With businesses overwhelmed by fragmented nature standards, closer alignment is critical for turning regulatory momentum into credible corporate action.

Alongside the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and Porticus, we brought together around 20 leaders from standards setters, business coalitions, finance, and civil society to advance coordinated capacity building.



Jakarta workshop: Transition minerals in Southeast Asia - what we can and must do

As the clean energy transition drives a surging demand for nickel, it's essential the world avoids the environmental damage, social injustice, and human rights harms associated with past extractive industries.

The workshop brought together representatives from civil society, Indigenous and local communities, finance, academia, and industry to examine how corporate accountability, environmental protection, and community rights can be better integrated into mineral supply chains.

LONDON CLIMATE ACTION WEEK



Accelerating corporate capacity building on nature action

Building on our meeting in Davos, we co-convened a workshop with Business for Nature, UNCCD, and Porticus to unite standard setters, capacity providers, and funders. We explored how the rapidly evolving landscape of nature-related frameworks can better support businesses in implementing credible nature strategies – and how different parts of the ecosystem can coordinate to build that capacity.

“

Today has been about how [stakeholders from different sectors] can work together to find solutions, and that is unique, particularly in the world we live in today”



MARK GOUGH

CEO, Capitals Coalition

“

Events like this bring the coordination that is very much needed for us to actually make progress on what we want to do, which is why I’m really glad to be here”



RHADIKA JAIN

Innovative Financing and Partnerships Officer, UNCCD

Mining for tomorrow: a responsible path for all

This half-day workshop with Rainforest Foundation Norway brought together representatives from across society to explore how ecological and cultural safeguards can be strengthened in the rapidly expanding transition minerals sector. The workshop reinforced the importance of placing Indigenous Peoples and local communities at the center of decision-making processes.

Putting nature on the balance sheet

Under the Nature on the Balance Sheet initiative, this workshop examined how natural capital can be more systematically integrated into financial accounting and investment decision-making. A diverse group of financial institutions, accountants, standard setters, data providers, and project developers discussed challenges and agreed on practical solutions, such as developing shared methodologies, advancing international standards and engaging regulators.

“

I'm happy to engage with different actors with different perspectives. I do believe we will always find common ground, to work together to ensure a better future for all of us”

JOAN CARLING

Executive Director,
Indigenous Peoples Rights International



DRIVING SCIENCE-BASED TARGET SETTING THROUGH INDEPENDENT VALIDATION

In 2025, the Accountability Accelerator operationalized the world's first fully independent science-based target validation service for nature.

Working with the Science Based Targets Network (SBTN), the service rigorously assesses companies' science-based targets for nature, ensuring they are scientifically sound, transparent, and comparable.

This establishes the essential credibility needed for corporate nature commitments.



In 2025, we have seen:

19 companies submit science-based milestones for validation

14 companies successfully validated

18 companies currently in the validation process



**OUR GOAL IS TO
REACH 50 VALIDATED
COMPANIES BY
DECEMBER 2026.**



LOOKING FORWARD: 2026-2028

Over the next three years, the Accountability Accelerator will drive a step-change in how companies value, protect, and act for nature. Our focus is simple: embed accountability into the systems, decisions, and incentives that shape resilient, competitive, and future-fit businesses.

We will focus on three main portfolios: Accountable Energy Transition, Food and Agriculture, and Seafood and Oceans in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the US.

THE STAKES

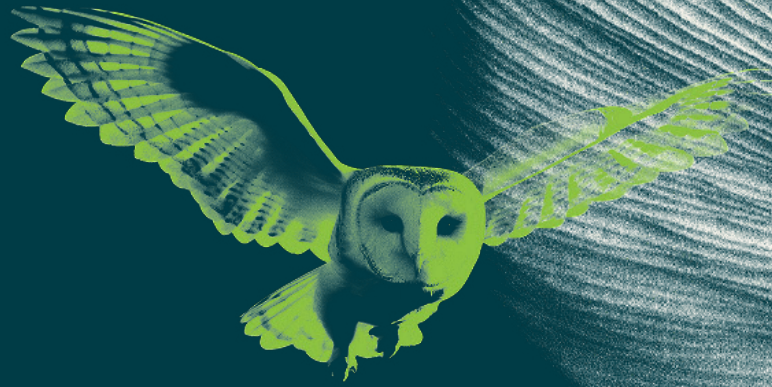
The Accountability Accelerator is facing a reduction and delay in funding.

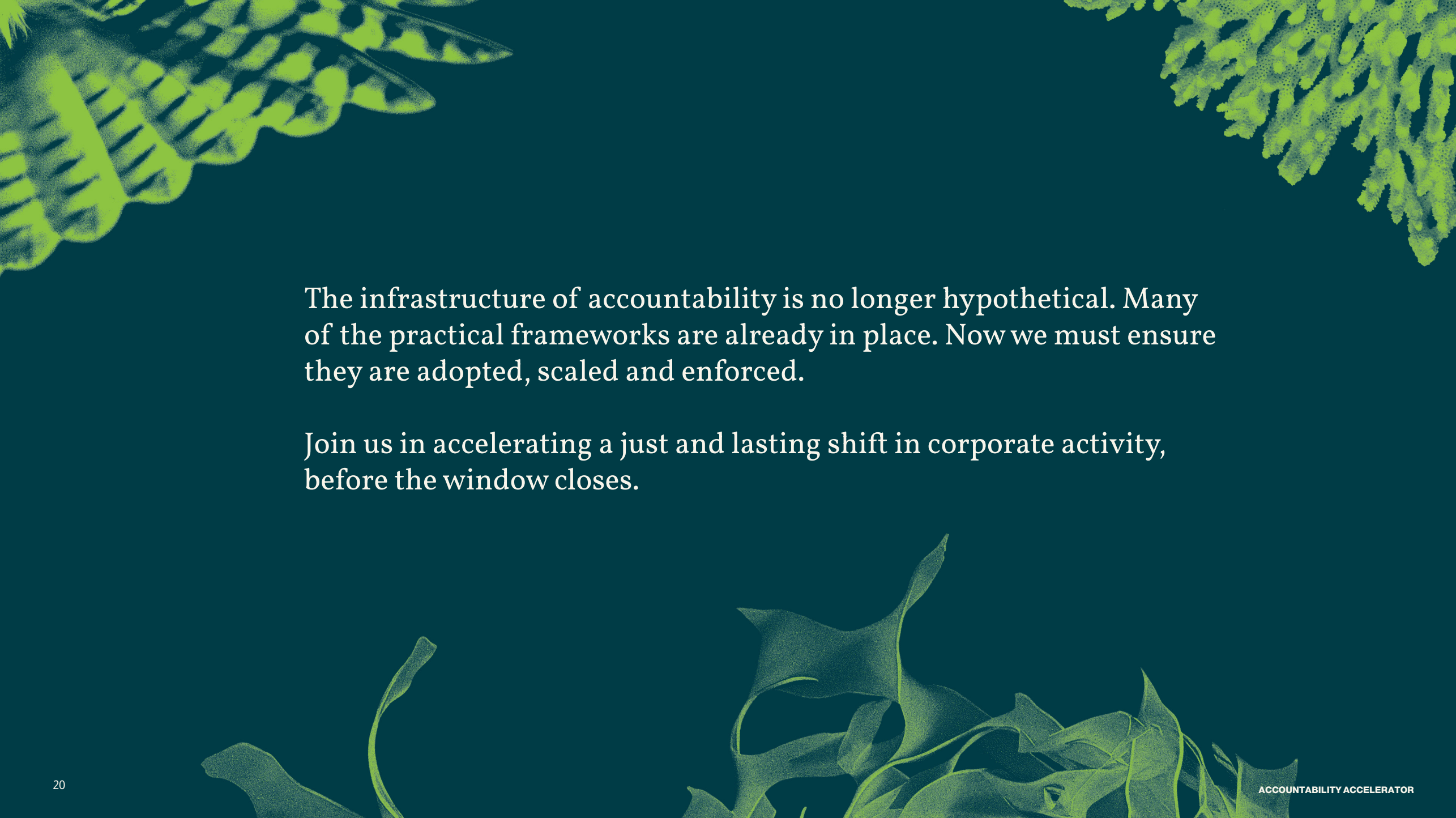
Without an additional \$10M over the next 3 years, our critical initiatives will slow, resulting in

INCREASED GREENWASHING

INACTION AND STALLING

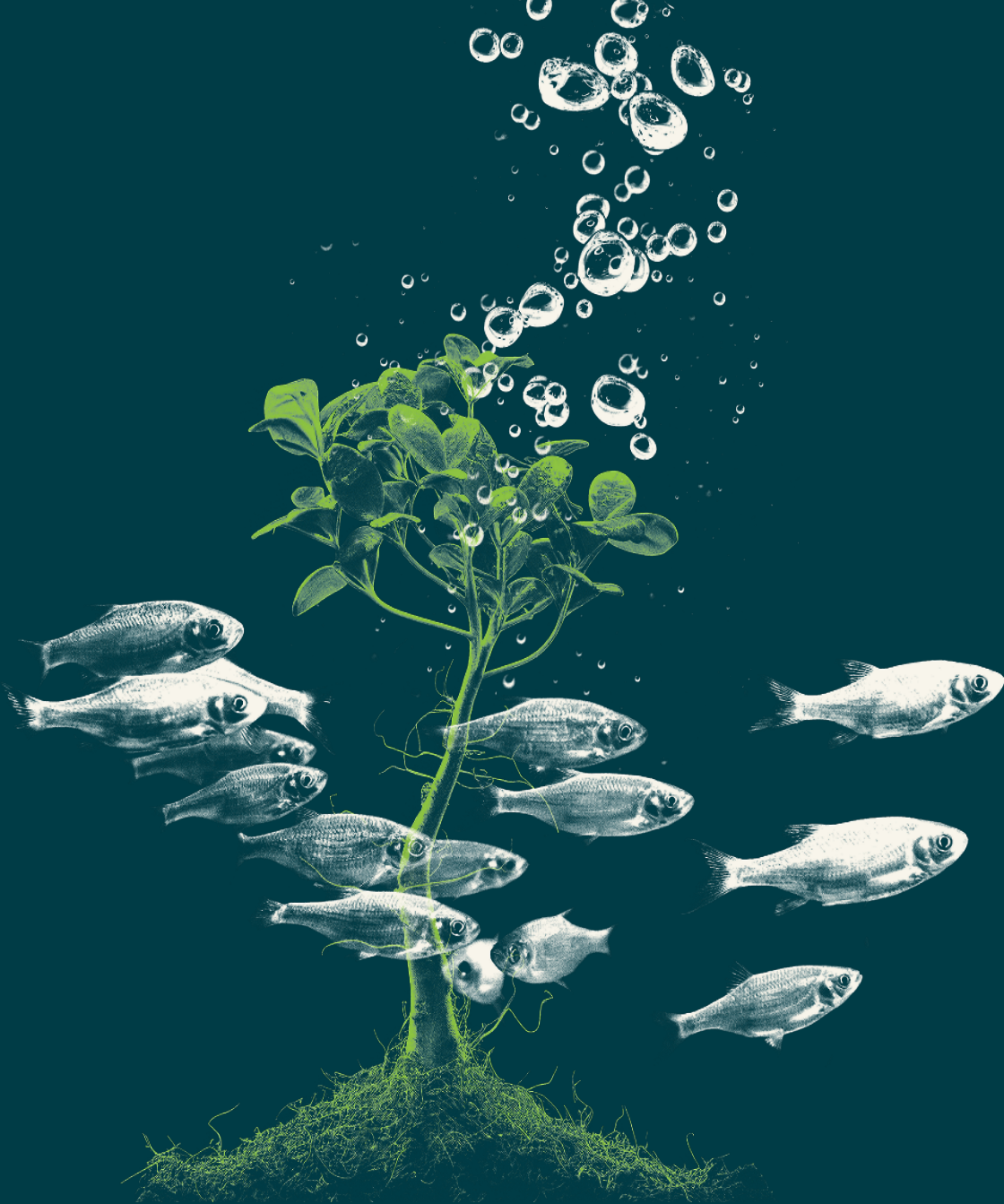
DEGRADATION OF NATURE





The infrastructure of accountability is no longer hypothetical. Many of the practical frameworks are already in place. Now we must ensure they are adopted, scaled and enforced.

Join us in accelerating a just and lasting shift in corporate activity, before the window closes.



With your partnership, we will:

- Achieve a sustainable approach to transition mineral sourcing, rooted in equity, accountability and environmental justice
- Embed accountability for nature in global food systems, with an initial focus on the U.S. Midwest
- Advance sustainable and equitable ocean stewardship in global seafood systems
- Build legal enforcement capacity and resourcing to establish real consequences for corporate harm
- Shift financial capital from passive observer to active accountability enforcer
- Make independent science-based target validation the global norm for corporate nature commitments

“

Accountability is the condition under which progress can flourish and endure. We've learned that systems survive only when actions have consequences. The sooner we design for that reality, the less expensive the correction will be.”



NATASHA MATIC

Executive Director, Accountability Accelerator

