



PRESS RELEASE

EarthAcre and the African Natural Capital Alliance Pioneer First-in-Africa Model to Pay Communities Directly for Nature Stewardship

APRIL 28, 2025 — EarthAcre, in partnership with the African Natural Capital Alliance (ANCA), today announced a new model for nature stewardship in Africa, introducing a way for community landowners to get paid directly, transparently, and with multiple revenue streams for nature.

EarthAcre is a leading nature technology company focused on quantifying nature outcomes scalably and enabling traceable, direct cash payments to individual landowners, regardless of complexity in land tenure or community structure. EarthAcre's platform is currently delivering payments for nature to hundreds of indigenous households across 35,000 acres, with funding from the Klarna/Milkywire Nature Transformation Fund, with agreements in place to scale to 1M acres. ANCA, a member organization that promotes African private and public sector awareness for nature-based solutions and transactions and counts 100+ leading African corporations among its members, is providing technical and fundraising support.

Together, they are introducing a new model aimed at getting community landowners paid directly, transparently and with multiple revenue streams for nature. Indigenous communities safeguard the majority of Earth's remaining biodiversity, but rarely get paid directly or sufficiently due to data and transparency gaps. EarthAcre's model enables traceable payments to individuals paired with rigorous nature monitoring at scale. This improves existing capital flow, while creating additional revenue opportunities for indigenous communities.

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At the heart of this model is EarthAcre's digital platform that transforms nature-based project development by addressing critical challenges in participant onboarding, project maintenance, and impact measurement. "Current projects in nature finance, from carbon markets to tourism to payments for ecosystem services, typically face challenges with effectively reaching and incentivizing the individuals who live with and among biodiversity every day," said Viraj Sikand, CEO of EarthAcre.

The platform addresses the most persistent challenges facing nature finance by introducing:

- Simplified processes for onboarding participants in nature-related projects in line with the principle that indigenous peoples must consent to actions which impact their lands, territories or rights



- End-to-end transparency with direct payments to individuals, no matter the community or landholding structures
- Quantifiable measurement of nature outcomes, using rigorous scientific methods developed in partnership with Harvard University's Davies Lab

Sikand added: "Conventional incentives have focused on the representatives of these communities, such as management committees or trusts, with low visibility on how those funds are actually used and distributed. Our platform creates a scalable pathway for nature-based projects to directly and transparently pay communities and their constituents for their essential role as stewards of nature, and ensure long-term resilience of their culture."

Payments are paired with rigorous and scalable measurements of nature outcomes, which create the opportunity for new, additional nature-based revenues for indigenous communities. For example, EarthAcre is among the first in the world to pilot Verra's SD Vista Nature Framework to generate Nature Assets, which provide a structured way for private sector entities to invest in nature. EarthAcre is now partnering with ANCA to bring Nature Assets to ANCA's network of leading African corporations.

"This partnership represents a significant step forward in ensuring that African communities are properly recognized and compensated for their critical conservation efforts," said Dorothy Maseke, Head of ANCA Secretariat. "Through this collaboration, we aim to create sustainable pathways for communities to thrive while preserving biodiversity, and to bring unprecedented confidence to nature finance."

"Indigenous communities are the true guardians of our natural ecosystems, yet they've historically received little financial recognition for this critical role," added Patita Nkamunu, Co-founder and Head of Projects at EarthAcre. "Our new model delivers income transparently, directly and scalably, to these communities. By stacking nature based revenues from different projects, we can make nature stewardship a financially feasible choice for landowners on the ground."

About EarthAcre

EarthAcre redefines how capital reaches local communities, bringing transparency and confidence to nature finance and elevating ecosystem health. EarthAcre's technology and processes enable seamless onboarding of individual community beneficiaries through Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), and pairs financial flows with rigorous measurement of nature outcomes.

EarthAcre has been nominated to the 2025 EarthShot Prize by UBS Optimus Foundation, Mulago Foundation, and the Sustainable Markets Initiative. The company is backed by Terra Labs, an investment platform created by the founding and executive team at BioCarbon



Partners, one of the leading carbon developers in Africa, Flourish Ventures, a global fintech fund, and Enza Capital, a pan-African technology fund.

Find out more at: www.earthacre.com

About EarthAcre

EarthAcre currently serves as a project development partner to ecotourism operators, carbon project developers, and conservation organizations, enabling greater impact with existing revenues through digitized community stakeholder management. EarthAcre's solution also creates the opportunity for new, additional nature-based revenues. Additionally, EarthAcre is among the first in the world to pilot Verra's SD Vista Nature Framework, and will soon be issuing Nature Assets using this standard. EarthAcre is now partnering with ANCA to bring Nature Assets to ANCA's network of leading African corporations.

About African Natural Capital Alliance (ANCA)

ANCA is an African-led collaborative multi-stakeholder initiative, acting as the vehicle to drive coordinated advocacy and action on nature across the African continent. ANCA was established in 2022 by FSD Africa out of a need to ensure an African Voice on the global nature agenda. With growing global interest in nature, including in the development of nature-related risk frameworks and standards, there is an urgent need to ensure these emerging approaches can be applied to an African context.

ANCA recognizes the need for African private and public sector awareness and capability-building for the successful integration of not only future nature-related risk frameworks and standards, but also broader nature-related capabilities including development of nature-based solutions (NbS) and transactions. Without engagement on these topics, there is a danger of creating additional transition risks and barriers to investment in the African continent.

Find out more at: www.africannaturalcapitalalliance.com

Contact:

Vsikand@earthacre.com

Hosborn@fsdafrica.org