



Supporting a green and inclusive economy

Strategic focus 2021-2025



Our mission is to design and promote innovative market-based solutions for the benefit of the economy, the environment and people.

Unsustainable exploitation of the environment and the world’s resources presents one of humanity’s greatest challenges.

Current models of production and consumption by a growing population are incompatible with global natural resource and production limits. It is clear that new approaches are required in order to protect our planet and halt climate change.

There is a need for new thinking to be applied to public policy, legislation, and voluntary corporate initiatives in order to change the current models and help guide countries towards a more sustainable path, and a greener and more inclusive economy.

Our mission is to design and promote new approaches through the creation of innovative market-based solutions for the benefit of the economy, the environment and people.



Developing market mechanisms for worldwide adoption

Created by pioneers in carbon markets (one of our founders developed and implemented the first project funded by carbon credits worldwide, in 1991), BVRio adapts this experience to develop innovative new mechanisms to bridge environmental objectives and sources of finance.

BVRio designs new models and approaches, implements them to demonstrate proof-of-concept, and then brings them to scale through spin-offs, partnerships, or promoting their adoption by other actors in the market.

For instance, our Reverse Logistics Credit system, developed in 2012, was the first ‘plastic credit scheme’ worldwide. Initially pioneered by BVRio in Brazil, this approach was adopted by companies, NGOs and government agencies throughout the country. Subsequently, the plastic credit model was also replicated internationally, and today there are more than 30 plastic credit schemes worldwide.

This, in turn, has led BVRio to co-found the 3R Initiative, to create corporate guidelines for plastic stewardship and a plastic credits standard that is managed by Verra. And, to support this market as a whole, BVRio developed the Circular Action Hub, the first marketplace for circular economy products and services, connecting buyers, investors and projects in more than 40 countries around the world.



About BVRio

Founded in 2011, BVRio is a non-profit organisation working at the intersection of economic, environmental and social sustainability.

BVRio (Bolsa Verde do Rio de Janeiro – Environmental Exchange of Rio de Janeiro) was originally created with the objective of developing market mechanisms to facilitate compliance with Brazilian environmental laws. The models and approaches developed there have now been adapted to develop market mechanisms, economic tools, and support the development and implementation of environmental initiatives and markets in different countries and regions worldwide.

BVRio's operations are overseen by a board of directors and an audit committee made up of members from business, NGOs and academia and individuals

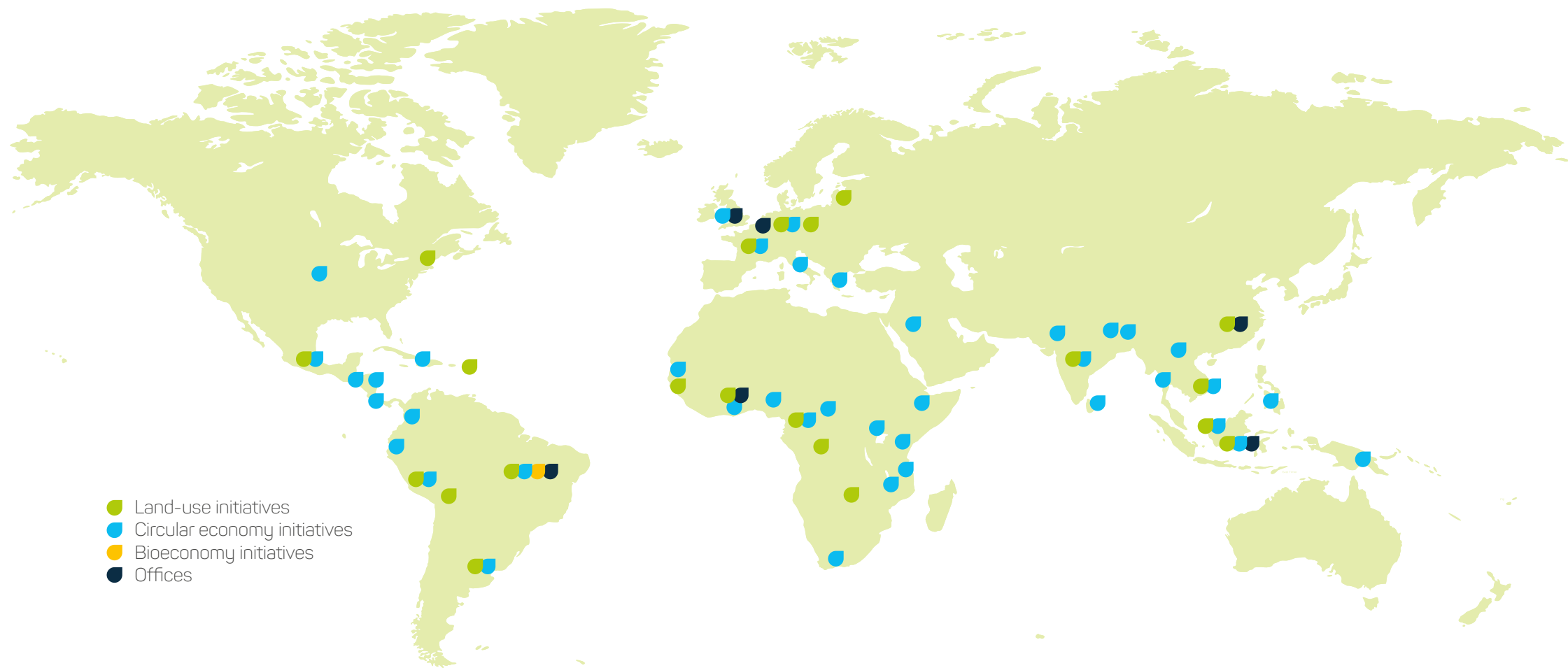
Our vision is to deliver positive impacts for the economy, environment and people through our work focusing on:



Global impact

BVRio believes in the South-South transfer of its initiatives, innovations and approaches.

Originally incorporated in Brazil, BVRio today has presence in the UK, China, Ghana, Indonesia and the Netherlands. It has supported projects and initiatives in more than 50 countries worldwide.

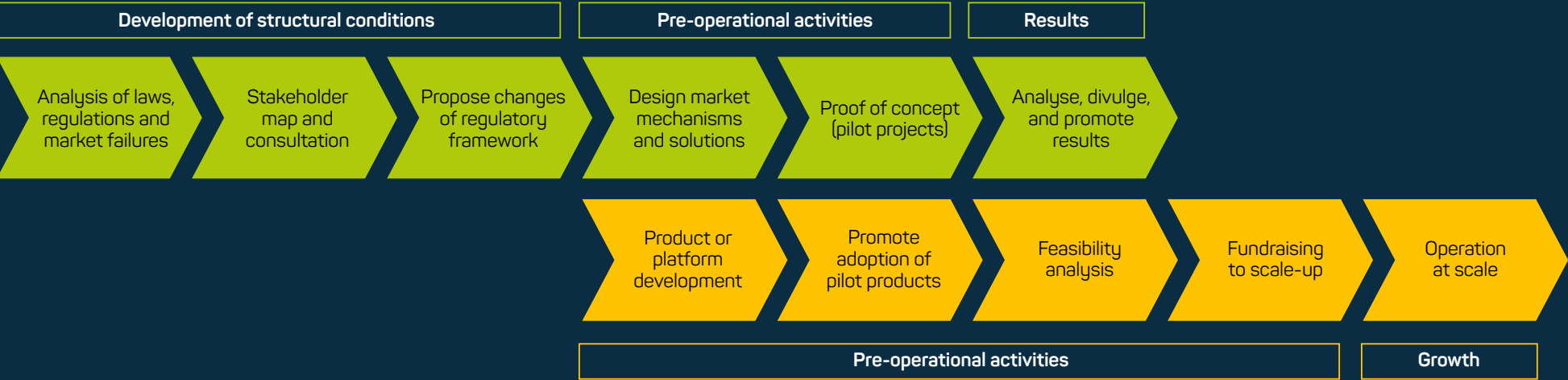


Our unique approach

BVRio is a non-profit organisation with a different purpose: to design and promote innovative market-based solutions for the benefit of the economy, the environment and people.

BVRio is funded through a combination of philanthropic support from its founders, foundations, and development organisations who share our values, vision and mission, complemented by revenue generated by products or services provided by BVRio to the private sector. By combining philanthropic seed funding with private sector revenue, BVRio aims at securing long term financial sustainability for the organisation.

Our development process starts with careful analysis of factors affecting the sustainability of a sector, including legal, financial, and structural barriers. We then design mechanisms, implement them to demonstrate proof-of-concept, and analyse their results. For the most promising mechanisms, we aim to scale them up through spin-offs or commercial ventures.



A decade of innovation

Over the last 10 years, BVRio has been a pioneer of market-based solutions in support of sustainable development.





Our Values

Our values guide what we do, how we do it, how we make decisions, and how we behave.



Innovation

We try to think differently and strive to create and test new solutions. We look to lead, not to follow. We push boundaries, fail fast, learn lessons and move forward.



Financial efficiency

We want to ensure the economic efficiency and financial viability of our solutions, for ourselves and our beneficiaries.



Sustainability

We seek to keep sustainability at the heart of our operations, now and for the future.



Social inclusion

We believe everyone should benefit from the green economy and seek to support the most vulnerable people working in the sectors we focus on.

Our products and services



Market Mechanisms

to increase economic efficiency and address market failures, for example:

- **BVRio's Reverse Logistics Credit system** was the first credit system for waste management worldwide. It was successfully adopted in Brazil as a market mechanism to incentivise the collection, separation and recycling of solid waste, and has now been replicated internationally
- **Forest Reserve Credits and Offsets** – BVRio was the first organisation to promote the wide-scale adoption of this mechanism for compliance with the Brazilian Forest Code, through a series of promotional activities and tools like the Forest Reserve Credit trading platform
- **Circular Credits Mechanism and Plastic Credits** – credit systems to facilitate the trans-boundary contracting of circular economy services worldwide



Tools and initiatives

to support the use of market-based approaches and create liquidity to the mechanisms created, for example:

- **BVRio's Responsible Timber Exchange** – assists users to source legal and sustainable timber products from all over the world
- **Due Diligence and Risk Assessment System** – this service, available on desktop and as an App complements the Responsible Timber Exchange and assists buyers in screening out illegal timber from their supply chains
- **AmazoniAtiva** – an online marketplace of sustainable products from the Brazilian Amazon supporting a large and growing number of producers
- **Circular Action Hub** – the first online marketplace to connect buyers and sellers of circular economy products and services (including Circular Credits) worldwide



Public Policy and Advocacy

To promote legal and regulatory frameworks that are efficient and able to generate environmental positive impacts, for example:

BVRio has been involved in the development of policy processes, including:

- **The Brazilian Forest Code** – a legislation with potential to transform the Brazilian rural landscape. Our work includes assistance to government agencies for the law regulation and implementation, creation of the Forest Reserve Credits platform nationwide, a Forest Code Monitoring Portal, to provide transparency to the government and private sector commitments, conducted roadshows for promoting compliance among farmers, and the development of a Strategic Plan to place the Forest Code at the centre of the national economic recovery agenda (PlanaFlor)
- **The National Policy on Solid Waste** – a law that introduced the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility in Brazil. BVRio promoted the adoption of tradeable credit schemes to facilitate compliance with this law, and was a co-founder of the Observatory of the Solid Waste Legislation, to provide transparency to the process of the law regulation and implementation
- **Climate and sustainable land use policies** – working with municipal and state governments (e.g., Rio de Janeiro, Rondonia and Amapa, in Brazil), as well as members of the Brazilian REDD+ Alliance, the Brazil Coalition on Climate, Forests and Agriculture, the Brazilian Forest Dialogue, the Atlantic Forest Restoration Pact, the Alliance for Restoration in the Amazonia, the Cerrado Manifesto, and others



Our initiatives, tools and products



KOLEKT App
The world's first multi-material global waste supply chain traceability app brings together solid waste producers, collectors and recyclers.
2021 - Present



Circular Credits Mechanism
A market mechanism and standard for socially-inclusive circular economy projects worldwide.
2020 - Present



Circular Action Hub
1st global platform to support a socially-responsible circular economy.
2020 - Present



AmazoniAtiva
Online marketplace of timber and non-timber products from the Brazilian Amazon
2019 - Present



3R Initiative
Promoting the recovery, recycling and circular economy of waste through a new system of Plastic Credits
2019 - 2021



Design & Sustainable Wood
A programme to promote sustainable community forest products through links with furniture designers
2017 - Present



Timber Due Diligence Guides
A series of country guides to facilitate the due diligence of tropical timber trading
2017 - Present



Responsible Timber Exchange & WoodsApp
Negotiations platform to promote the trading of legal and certified timber globally, inc live chat capability
2016 - Present



Timber Due Diligence and Risk Assessment
Real-time screening of the legality status of tropical timber, both for desktop and mobile app
2016 - Present



Oxford Climate Policy
Provides sustained capacity building for climate change negotiators, promotes a level playing field and builds trust between developed and developing country negotiators.
2021 - Present



Good Wood Expo
Roadshow of events to promote the production and trading of legal and certified tropical timber products
2018 - 2019



Forest Code Portal
Information platform to promote transparency and the implementation of the Brazilian Forest Code
2016 - Present



Forest Reserve Credits Platform
Online negotiations platform to facilitate compliance with the Brazilian Forest Code
2012 - Present



Responsible Commodity Facility
A new mechanism to finance the production of responsible soy
2019 - Present



Observatory of the Solid Waste Legislation
A multi-stakeholder information initiative to oversee implementation of the Brazilian Solid Waste Legislation
2014 - Present



GHG Emissions Trading Simulation
Developed with the Business for Climate Programme of the FGVces and involving over 40 Brazilian corporates
2014 - 2018



Greenchain
Greenchain is an energy-efficient blockchain that stores its information in a version control system's repository
2016 - Present



Climate Governance for Rondônia State
Financial and legal instruments to reduce deforestation and promote sustainable use of forests in the Rondônia state (wcbef.com)
2018 - 2020



CAPS Programme
Air travel passenger scheme to contribute to the UNFCCC Climate Adaptation Fund
2011 - 2019



Reverse Logistics Credits system
1st waste recycling credits system globally, serving as precursor to plastic credits schemes worldwide
2013 - Present

Our impact

We want to achieve measurable impact with the work that we do, across three key areas.

1

Economy

Our work uses innovative finance to create economic efficiencies and mend market failures to remove barriers that prevent the adoption of more sustainable models of production. This, in turn, could result in benefits for responsible and compliant operators, for rural communities that add value to their natural resources, or for circular economy schemes based on solid waste recovery and recycling. Our work helps create new sources of income in developing countries, with many knock-on benefits for local and national economies.



Responsible Commodities Facility – a financial mechanism to finance Zero Deforestation Soy in Brazil.

Growing demand for soy globally is resulting in a continuous expansion of the area under cultivation in Brazil, creating a major driver of deforestation, destruction of natural habitats, loss of biodiversity and greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, there is widespread consensus that agricultural production in Brazil can be achieved without the need for additional deforestation. This was the objective of the 2017 Cerrado Manifesto, signed by more than 200 NGOs and private sector organisations.

There is a need, however, to create incentives to engage farmers in the production of responsible commodities. This is the rationale for the creation of the Responsible Commodities Facility, a fund capitalised by green bonds to provide low interest finance (crop finance loans) to farmers who commit to zero deforestation, to only expand soy cultivation into abandoned and sub-utilised pastureland, and to comply with the Brazilian Forest Code.



2



Environment

Our work encourages voluntary and compliance-driven adoption of environmental laws and objectives. This results, for instance, in protecting forests from illegal logging, reducing deforestation for intensive food production, and preventing plastic from entering the oceans. We aim at having a system-change impact at sector or landscape level.



Sustainable land use at landscape-level

The Brazilian Forest Code provides the foundation for the long-term protection of Brazil's natural ecosystems. This law has the potential to promote rural production integrated with the protection and recovery of native vegetation, generating jobs, income and positive impacts on the climate changes. If fully implemented, it could have a transformational impact on the Brazilian rural landscape and result in over 100 Gt CO2 stored and/or sequestered – equivalent to 50 years of greenhouse gas emissions of the whole European industrial sector. Since 2012, BVRio has been involved in the promotion of the Forest Code, by assisting government agencies in the regulation of the Law, developing a Forest Reserve Credits platform and a Forest Code Monitoring Portal, conducting roadshows for promoting compliance among farmers and, since 2021, developing a strategic plan for placing the Forest Code at the centre of the country's socioeconomic recovery agenda (PlanaFlor).

Additionally, BVRio has also focused on stopping the illegal exploitation of forests – more than 50% of tropical timber worldwide still comes from illegal sources. BVRio's Responsible Timber Exchange is an online negotiations and due diligence platform to source legal and sustainable timber products from all over the world, meeting the requirements of the EU Timber Regulation, the US Lacey Act and the FLEGT programme.





People

Many of our projects provide additional income and opportunity to the world’s poorest people. Our mechanisms seek to reward responsible farmers, land-owners, agricultural producers, community forest managers, formal and informal waste pickers, and women, offering tools that provide a competitive edge and opportunity.



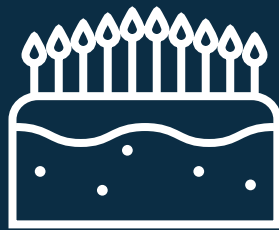
Circular Action Hub creating environmental revenue for refugee camps

The Circular Action Hub is a socially inclusive platform that connects local waste management projects with companies and investors. Informal waste pickers can also access guidance, support and a means to measure and monetise their positive environmental impact.

One of the projects hosted and supported is at the Red Cross Dadaab Refugee Camp in Kenya, which supports refugees to collect and sort waste. One of the largest refugee camps in the world, it houses some 4,000 Somalians who have fled their war-torn homeland. With no waste management, rubbish is dumped in the open, and often burned. Children play in it, animals graze it. Through the Hub buyers can support the company formed by refugees to manage waste and generate income.



Our success



10

years of operation



6

countries where BVRio has physical presence (Brazil, UK, China, Ghana, Indonesia, and the Netherlands)



£10m+

funding secured for projects and initiatives



100m m³

timber offered in the Responsible Timber Exchange



5m ha

registered on the Legal Reserve Credits platform in Brazil



2 Gt CO₂

GHG emission reduction potential of these initiatives



100+

waste recovery projects enrolled in the Circular Action Hub, from 40+ countries on 5 continents



550,000

tonnes/year of potential waste recovery from the environment



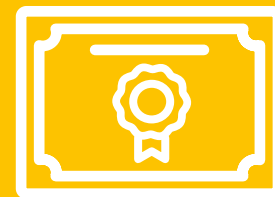
5,000+

individual waste pickers provided with an additional income



60+

bioeconomy businesses showcased on AmazoniAtiva marketplace



50+

people trained in the design and manufacture of high-value timber products.



13

renowned Brazilian designers providing mentorship to community forestry artisans

Find out more about BVRio at bvrio.org

