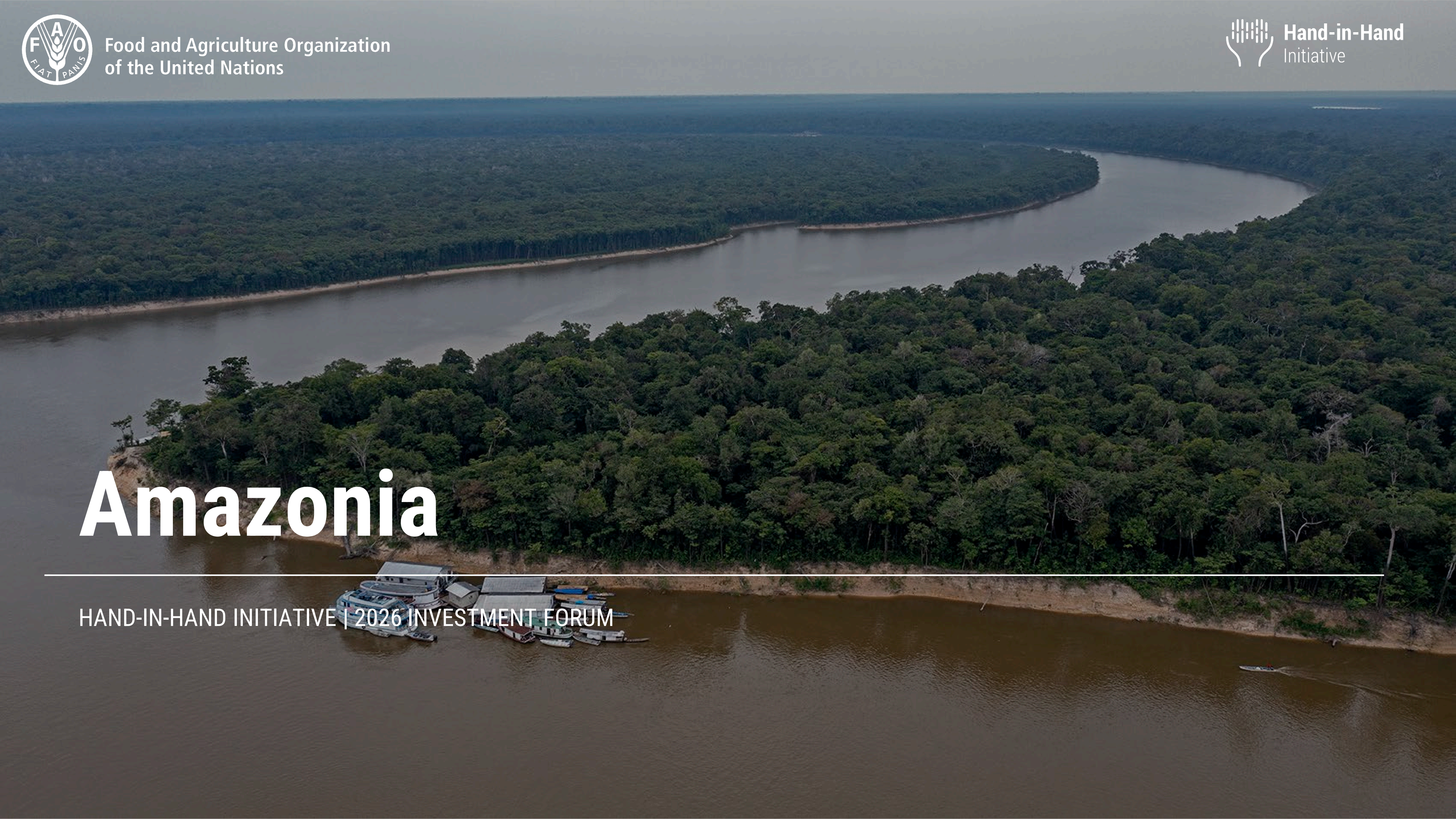


Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Hand-in-Hand Initiative

Amazonia

HAND-IN-HAND INITIATIVE | 2026 INVESTMENT FORUM

IMPORTANT NOTES

FAO'S HAND-IN-HAND INITIATIVE

The investment opportunities presented in this document derive from government-led investment plans developed under FAO's Hand-in-Hand (HIH) Initiative. The Initiative supports countries in identifying high-impact agrifood system investments through a combination of data-driven territorial analysis, value chain assessments, and close collaboration with national counterparts. Using the Hand-in-Hand Geospatial Platform, the Initiative integrates geospatial, biophysical, and socio-economic data to identify priority "green zones" where agricultural potential and poverty incidence overlap, creating strong opportunities for transformative investment. Based on these analyses, national governments lead the development of investment plans that identify priority value chains, key bottlenecks, and potential investments required to accelerate agrifood system transformation. These investment opportunities aim to raise incomes, improve nutrition, and empower poor and vulnerable populations, while strengthening resilience to climate change and supporting the sustainable management of natural resources. The Initiative focuses on territories where targeted investments can generate the greatest impact in reducing poverty and hunger, contributing to progress towards Sustainable Development Goals SDG1 (No Poverty), SDG2 (Zero Hunger), and SDG10 (Reduced Inequalities), while balancing economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability.

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATIONS

The opportunities presented in this document are derived from government investment plans and reflect national development priorities identified through the Hand-in-Hand Initiative. FAO provides analytical and technical support in the identification and assessment of these opportunities and facilitates engagement with potential partners. The concepts presented are indicative and require further structuring and discussion with the relevant governments and potential investors. This document therefore presents a pipeline of government-prioritized agrifood investment opportunities that have been pre-screened using FAO's Hand-in-Hand analytical tools. FAO can support interested partners by facilitating technical exchanges and follow-up discussions with relevant government counterparts.

IMPACT TAGS

Investment cases are classified across four impact areas to highlight their primary development contributions and ensure comparability across countries and value chains.

Livelihoods	Income, productivity, jobs, and market access
Gender & Youth	Inclusion and opportunities for women and young people
Planet & Environment	Climate resilience and sustainable resource management
Digital	Use of technology to improve efficiency and access

AMAZONIA

A shared biome, an underdeveloped bioeconomy: eight countries positioned to scale sustainable investment

KEY INVESTMENT SIGNALS

POPULATION

50.0M

(MILLION)

POVERTY RATE

48.8%

(%)

FRESHWATER SHARE

20%

(OF WORLD'S FRESH WATER)

INVESTMENT CASE

UNTAPPED MARKET POTENTIAL

- Global bioeconomy market projected to reach $7.7 trillion by 2030
- Clear runway to scale value capture from a very low current base
- MACA mechanism targets $250M mobilized over a 10-year period
- Aligned with 2025 Bogota Declaration wealth-generation strategy

RICH NATURAL CAPITAL

- Holds over 10% of the world's terrestrial biodiversity
- Absorbs roughly a quarter of globally emitted CO2
- Facing a land-use "tipping point" from deforestation and savannization
- Driving forces: unsustainable agriculture, mining, illicit activity, urban sprawl

COORDINATED REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

- ACTO unites 8 countries under a single 1978 treaty framework
- Belem (2023) and Bogota (2025) declarations set shared agrifood priorities
- Standing secretariat based in Brasilia since 2002
- Regional coordination reduces duplication, builds shared bioeconomy standards

DIGITAL ECOSYSTEMS INITIATIVE

Hand-in-Hand Initiative

Building the digital backbone for a connected, traceable Amazon bioeconomy

INVESTMENT PROFILE (INDICATIVE)

INVESTMENT

USD 29.3M
(MILLION)

NPV

USD 25.5M
(MILLION)

IRR

12.0%
(%)

RATIONALE

- Addresses a measurable gap: 51% internet penetration in the Amazon vs. 77% national average
- Model scales to 100 territorial digital ecosystems across the basin
- Digital investment carries an estimated 1:20 multiplier effect on GDP
- Can lift agricultural productivity 20–30% and cut operating costs up to 15%

COMPONENT	PROPOSED INVESTMENTS(*)
1. Infrastructure gap	Connectivity systems, solar panels, storage facilities (USD 18.9 million)
2. Digital literacy gap	Alphabetization, capacity building, technology adoption (USD 10.1 million)
3. Productivity/traceability gap	Digital banking, production monitoring apps (USD 0.15 million)
4. Market access gap	E-commerce, marketing, social media infrastructure (USD 0.15 million)

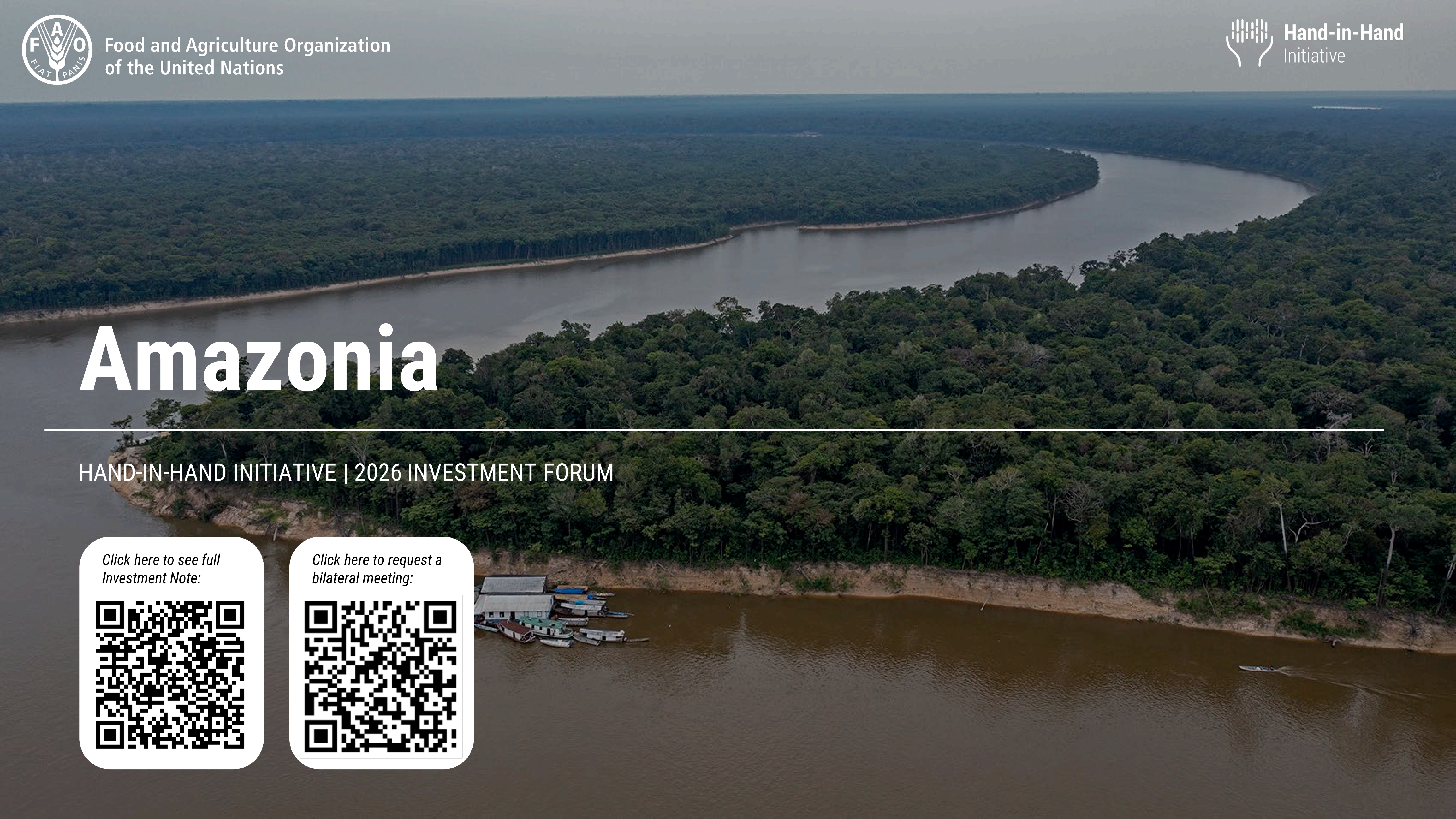
SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES
5.0K
(THOUSAND)

INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES
45.0K
(THOUSAND)

GHG IMPACT
FAO EXACT CARBON TOOL
-26,991
(tCO2-e)

Note: (*) Opportunities reflect government priorities identified through the FAO Hand-in-Hand Initiative and require further structuring with relevant public and private stakeholders.



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Click here to see full Investment Note:

Click here to request a bilateral meeting: