

Vision

To afford all of the earth's poor the opportunity to build lives and escape poverty within a framework of economic justice, dignity, and environmental sustainability.

Mission

To provide capital for poverty alleviation using financially sound market mechanisms in a way that increases the sustainability of the earth's natural resources and protects biodiversity.

The Natural Step System Conditions

In the sustainable society, nature is not subject to:

- 1. Systematically increasing concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust.*
- 2. Systematically increasing concentrations of substances produced by society.*
- 3. Systematically increasing degradation by physical means.*
- 4. And in that society, human needs are met worldwide.*

Natural Step Guiding Objectives

Eliminate our community's contribution to:

- 1. Fossil fuel dependence and to wasteful use of scarce metals and minerals.*
- 2. Dependence upon persistent chemicals and wasteful use of synthetic substances.*
- 3. Encroachment upon nature (e.g., land, water, wildlife, forests, soil, ecosystems)*
- 4. Meet human needs fairly and efficiently.*

The following criteria are to determine whether a specific loan follows the values of Envest and principles of the Natural Step.

Any projects that fall under the "Acceptable" category are eligible for purchase by Envest, unless that project also has one or more characteristics mentioned within the "Ineligible" category.

Acceptable Project Examples:

Renewable energy source development

- Solar panels
- Geothermal source development
- Hydroelectric

Provides locally produced goods and services

- Traditional handicrafts
- Woodworking
- Produce stands
- Beauty salons
- Repair shops
- Sewing shops

Provides education within community

- uniforms or school supplies
- school improvement
- educational materials

Ineligible Projects for Envest Fund:

Requires deforestation of property

- Agriculture
- Cattle ranching
- Mining

or

Depletes any natural resource beyond its natural rate of replenishment