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Global Landscapes Forum

Investment Case Symposium

HOW CAN WE MOVE SUSTAINABLE LAND-USE FINANCING INTO THE MAINSTREAM?



30 November 2019



Luxembourg, European Convention Centre

Event Concept

How can banks and investors drive more capital to sustainable, commercially-viable agricultural production and processing models that are aligned with the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement? How can we address growing food demand and improve environmental and social outcomes? What roles can governments play to incentivize financial institutions and companies in the agricultural value chain to transition to deforestation-free production and supply chains? How do we create more “bankable projects” and move from niche to mainstream?

Global Landscapes Forum

The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) is the world’s largest knowledge-led platform on integrated land use, dedicated to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and Paris Climate Agreement. The Forum takes a holistic approach to create sustainable landscapes that are productive, prosperous, equitable and resilient and considers five cohesive themes of food and livelihood initiatives, landscape restoration, rights, finance and measuring progress. It is led by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), in collaboration with its co-founders UN Environment and the World Bank and Charter Members.

Charter Members: CIRAD, CIFOR, Climate Focus, Conservation International, Ecoagriculture Partners, EFI, Evergreen Agriculture, FSC, GEF, IPMG, CIAT, ICIMOD, IFOAM - Organics International, INBAR, IUFRO, Rainforest Alliance, Rare, RRI, UN Environment, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, part of Wageningen Research, World Agroforestry, WRI, WWF Germany, Youth in Landscapes Initiative, World Bank Group

Funding partners



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety



Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

GLF Luxembourg funding partner



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These questions are at the heart of the 4th GLF Investment Case Symposium, “**How can we move financing sustainable land-use into the mainstream?**”, which will take place on **30 November 2019 in Luxembourg** at the European Convention Centre, with support from the Government of Luxembourg. This one-day conference is scheduled to run back-to-back with the *U.N. Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) Regional Roundtable* in cooperation with Luxembourg for Finance (LFF) to enable participants from finance, business and governments to gain access to the full spectrum of developments in sustainable finance.

The conference will specifically focus on practical business cases that work, but that need to be upscaled for more widespread positive impact. It also allows participants to interact with speakers and other delegates in a variety of ways, such as by attending a Dragons’ Den, meeting other participants in smaller settings through a World Café session, or learning about new and emerging funds that are incubated by Luxembourg’s International Climate Finance Accelerator.

The challenge

Tropical deforestation and agricultural production account for around a quarter of global greenhouse gas emissions. With 2.6 billion people dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods, the shift towards more sustainable production, sourcing and trading is more challenging – and relevant – than ever. Achieving the objectives of the SDGs by 2030 will be contingent on finding ways to manage agricultural land and forests more sustainably than they are at present.

A growing number of companies – including those united under the Consumer Goods Forum such as Unilever and Nestlé – have made commitments to deforestation-free sourcing of products and raw

materials. But although these steps are positive, there is still a significant gap between commitment and implementation. Overall progress remains too slow to achieve the 2020 target to ‘zero net deforestation’ that many (downstream) consumer goods companies have committed to.

Public, private and blended finance will play a critical role in supporting new business models and mitigating unfamiliar risks. The financial sector has been slow to recognize the threat that unsustainable land-use poses for climate change, biodiversity, water use, rural poverty and (gender) inequality. These issues can lead to asset stranding, debt defaults and reduced returns across a wide range of asset classes, including corporate loans, public and private equity, and sovereign bonds.

The solution: Shifting financial flows to sustainable land-use models that are financially viable

Companies in the agricultural and financial sector, as well as governments, need to work together to achieve a transformational shift towards climate-smart production models. Recent trends in renewable energy and energy efficiency provide a potential template: in 2015, for the first time, more capital was directed towards renewable energy and energy efficiency than to investments in coal, oil and gas combined.

In order to transition towards climate-smart land use, there will – at least initially – be a need for public finance in the form of junior or subordinate capital, credit guarantees, and subsidies. To achieve scale, this public investment should be blended with senior capital from commercial investors to mitigate risk.





Blending different types of investment and investors should also reduce the cost of capital and improve the bankability of sustainable land use that avoids deforestation, rehabilitates degraded land, and involves smallholder farmers in global agricultural value chains.

There are costs and risks associated with the transition to different business models such as moving from monoculture systems to integrated crops, livestock forest systems, and agroforestry. For farmers, the need for access to financing is crucial, but it can be complex for large international investors and public agencies to provide this, because they look for large-scale loans or investments to justify their overheads. Decoupling, or separating, deforestation from the production of crops such as cocoa or palm oil will require replanting on the same arable land. However, given that it may take three to five years for farmers and producers to harvest the first crops, capital must be provided at tenors of at least 10 years. Lastly, given many smallholder farmers' issues with unclear land titling and a limited ability to service debt, public funding is needed

to adjust the cost of capital to develop "business unusual" lending or investment schemes.

Fortunately, there are a growing number of pioneering efforts in this field. These include innovative funds from impact-fund managers like Mirova Natural Capital (such as the Althelia Climate Fund), Rothschild (the Moringa Fund) or EcoEnterprise. There are also some successful examples of blended structures, such as Finance-in-Motion's EcoBusiness Fund, Sail Ventures' &Green Fund, Mirova's Land Degradation Neutrality Fund, the Tropical Landscapes Finance Facility, and the AGR13 Fund. These allow different segments of the broader financial community – from venture capital and private equity investors with higher risk appetites, to commercial banks and institutional investors with a lower appetite for risk – to become more involved than they have been to date. These kinds of pioneering activities are ideally linked to ongoing efforts by governments and regulators (such as the European Commission's effort to develop a taxonomy for agriculture, forestry and other economic sectors) to create systemic impact.

Event Program

The 4th Investment Case Symposium will take place on 30 November 2019 in Luxembourg at the European Convention Centre. This one-day conference is lined up back-to-back with the UNEP FI Regional Roundtable, in cooperation with Luxembourg for Finance (LFF). We anticipate an audience of around 300-400 experienced professionals from finance, business and government. The online digital edition of the event is expected to draw a further 10,000-20,000 participants.

Agenda (DRAFT) | Saturday, 30 November 2019

08:00 - 09:00	Registration (morning coffee and tea will be provided)
09:00 - 10:15	Opening Plenary
10:30 - 12:00	Interactive sessions / Landscapes Talks / Launchpad / Side Event
12:00 - 13:15	Lunch and networking
13:30 - 14:30	Interactive sessions / Landscapes Talks / Launchpad / Side Event
14:45 - 16:15	Interactive sessions / Landscapes Talks / Launchpad / Side Event
16:15 - 16:45	Coffee break and networking
16:45 - 18:15	Dragons' Den
18:15 - 19:15	Closing Plenary
19:15 - 20:30	Evening Reception

Knowledge Fair/ Exhibition

Ways to Participate

Connect, learn, share and act in Luxembourg around mobilizing capital for landscape restoration and sustainable investment. There are many ways you can participate in the symposium as an individual or an organization.

- **Interactive Sessions**

Shape the sustainability conversation by sponsoring over an hour of livestreamed and recorded interactive sessions. Engage with an audience of more than 100 - 120 people onsite and thousands more online, while GLF platforms and social media support your work.

- **Dragons' Den / ICFA announcement 3rd round incubation impact funds**

This year's event will showcase new investment opportunities. A plenary session in "Dragons' Den" style will bring together leading thinkers from finance, the corporate sector, and landscape research. Here, individuals will have the opportunity to pitch their investment opportunity to experts and receive immediate feedback. Following the Dragons' Den session, participants have the opportunity to join in-depth discussions with each presenter. These will take place in separate breakout rooms. Participants will be selected through an application process.

- **Landscape Talk**

Share a cool idea, innovation, amazing research breakthrough or critical issue that one billion people need to hear, and provide a broad overview of what sustainable investment in the land-use sector actually means, using up to three concrete examples. Your talk will be professionally filmed, moderated, produced and broadcast online to a global audience of tens of thousands. We will feature your recorded talk on the GLF communications channels, and give you a copy for your own use, too. Participants will be selected through an application process.

- **Side Event**

Want to launch a new program or project, unveil a new strategy, run thematic discussions or hold a reception, all while strengthening your outreach? Run a side event at GLF Luxembourg. This option offers more flexibility in format, while aligning with the GLF mission and objectives.

- **Landscape Launchpad**

Share your work far and wide. This is an opportunity to reach a global audience through the GLF platforms. Debut your initiative, publication launch, new technology, alliance or pledge to the world and the press at GLF – onsite and online. Follow in the footsteps of successful initiatives like the International Partnership for Blue Carbon, AFR100, 20x20, and the Indonesian National Carbon Accounting System (INCAS).

- **Exhibition Table**

Book a space where you can build and reach out to networks, and share knowledge on a specific theme. You'll have the entire day of the GLF to make the most of it. You can run interactive discussions and share your experiences and results.

Online Experience

We'll curate a day of online content in conjunction with the physical conference, where we'll share expertise, practical resources and tools, through creative and engaging content such as videos, documentaries, inspiring talks, video podcasts, interviews and poetry focused on our key themes. We'll include voices from local communities, indigenous groups, science, art, influencers, youth and activists.

- **Online Panels**

Organizations will have the opportunity to host online interactive sessions at their offices that will be streamed from <https://www.globallandscapesforum.org> to an audience of hundreds of thousands across the globe.

- **Digital Summits**

These live-streamed sessions (which are then recorded, edited and made accessible on our channels) are more than just webinars: they're your chance to connect with influencers and join various communities of practice around the latest landscape-relevant topics.

Communications and Outreach

Contribute your story, innovative social media narrative, video or infographic. The GLF platform is open for sharing solutions for a sustainable future. Get involved by simply publishing your content on the GLF platform, or join the communications committee.

Youth Involvement

Young people will be central in answering the questions posed in the 4th GLF Investment Case Symposium. An intergenerational dialogue will combine innovation with experience, technology with traditions and hopes with opportunities. Younger participants will likely ask many of the toughest questions. Young people often have creative, world-changing ideas, and it is fundamental to create more sustainable and accessible financial systems that provide opportunities to help transform their dreams into on-the-ground action for a healthier world.

Become a GLF sponsor

By sponsoring GLF, your company or organization will contribute to the world's largest forum on sustainable land use and development. Your brand will be associated with a movement that in the past six years has reached more than 231.5 million people on social media, and more than 250 million through traditional media. To learn more, contact GLF Managing Director, **John Colmey** (j.colmey@cgiar.org).

GLF Luxembourg country partner



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