



KEY MESSAGES

FRONTIERS OF CHANGE

5-7
NOVEMBER
2021

#GLFClimate





The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) will meet for three days (5–7 November) on the sidelines of one of the most important climate summits in history – the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – to accelerate action on land management, meet climate goals, and tackle seemingly incompatible trade-offs. The outcomes of the GLF event will offer significant contributions to the COP 26 negotiations and aftermath.

National contributions to the Paris Agreement – as well as commitments to various conservation, restoration, and financial initiatives – remain both insufficient and unachieved. In that context, GLF Climate brings together 200+ experts to discuss three other avenues toward mitigating and adapting to climate change, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): forest conservation and restoration; food system transformation; and the expansion of sustainable finance in the global economy. Central to these topics is the fair and just inclusion of local and Indigenous communities, their health and prosperity, and their rights – as well as the recognition that there are no ‘silver bullets’ to our climatic challenges, and that all ‘solutions’ must be contextualized locally and in tailored policies.



FORESTS

- Forests and trees are critical elements to the fight against climate change, and to the shift away from fossil fuels and towards a bio-based economy. Unfortunately, their importance is not yet fully recognized. While the **Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use** and associated pledges at COP26 are a step in the right direction, the offering of USD 20 billion over four years is equivalent to one USD per year per hectare of forest – not nearly enough to implement the change that is required.
- Unfortunately, targets for halting deforestation and promoting forest restoration, such as the Bonn Challenge, the Aichi Targets and the New York Declaration on Forests, have not yet succeeded to the extent expected, and are largely off-track to meeting their goals. As deadlines approach, close examination of restoration, zero-deforestation and other forest-related commitments is required to ensure that efforts to reach these are inclusive and effective – and are being put into action.
- Forest-based economies have huge potential to reduce emissions while enhancing carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation and restoration, renewable energy and local livelihoods. But for that we need more forests and trees – and to ensure that local communities and Indigenous peoples are meaningfully involved in decisions and actions, and supported by adequate resources. The recent pledge of USD 1.7 billion to Indigenous peoples at COP 26 is a good start.



FOOD

- Global food systems must be changed: emissions from agriculture alone could be enough to warm the planet by 1.5 degrees Celsius, and despite net increases in global food production, hunger, malnutrition and obesity have increased in recent years and been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Waste, overconsumption, harmful subsidies and inequitable pricing – often generated by high-income, high-import countries – are key challenges to overcome in order to achieve SDG2 (Zero Hunger) and holistically support the rest of the SDGs. If food waste was a country, it would be the third-largest global greenhouse gas (GHG) emitter.
- Forests, biodiversity, and culture should be placed at the heart of food systems transformation and agricultural production, in order to end hunger and achieve sustainable food security.
- Nature-based solutions should be the foundation for food system transformation. This includes agroforestry, agroecology, regenerative agriculture and other forms of mixed-use landscapes.
- Components of a ‘healthy diet’ must be looked at in cultural contexts, and supply chains must be adapted accordingly. Similarly, the footprint of global commodity chains must be reduced by restructuring local and regional markets to overcome import-export imbalances and support local production of nutritious foods.
- Supply chains should prioritize resilience over efficiency – a lesson that has been hard-learned through the outside amount of supply chain disruption incurred in the COVID-19 pandemic.



FINANCE

- We must walk the talk. It is great to pledge USD 20 billion over four years for forests – but this is a drop in the ocean of perverse subsidies, such as the USD 11 million that is being spent per minute on subsidizing fossil fuels. We spend more on pet food than on fighting climate change. The USD 100 billion per year of climate finance pledged in 2009 has now been postponed to 2023. Priorities must change.
- A growing number of financial innovations are being developed to de-risk emerging landscape projects, with the potential to create 'green', respectful commodity chains that transform rural economies, restore ecologies, secure local livelihoods and create jobs.
- There are numerous existing initiatives and mechanisms that now need to be enlarged within the global economy, including the UNFCCC Standing Committee on Finance (SCF), the REDD+ mechanism, the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture, green bonds, carbon markets, microfinance schemes, and landscape funds.
- Local ownership, social justice, and human rights must be upheld and enhanced by bankable projects, to help accelerate the adoption of nature-based solutions at scale.



WHO IS THIS EVENT FOR?

- GLF Climate is expected to convene more than 5,000 people online and in person, including practitioners, farmer organizations, Indigenous Peoples, community leaders, researchers, policymakers, financial investors, global and regional media, the private sector, civil society organizations, interest groups, youth groups, activists, and individual citizens.
- The conference will build on engagement processes and key messages from **GLF Africa: Restoring Africa's Drylands** (2–3 June 2021) and **GLF Amazonia: The Tipping Point – Solutions from the Inside Out** (21–23 September 2021).

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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 livelihoods, landscape restoration, rights, finance and measuring progress. It is led by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), in collaboration with its co-founders UNEP and the World Bank and Charter Members.

Charter Members: Charter Members: CIAT, CIFOR, CIRAD, Climate Focus, Conservation International, Crop Trust, Ecoagriculture Partners, The European Forest Institute, Evergreen Agriculture, FSC, GEF, GIZ, ICIMOD, IFOAM – Organics International, The International Livestock Research Institute, INBAR, IPMG, IUFRO, Rainforest Alliance, Rare, Rights and Resources Initiative, SAN, TMG–Think Tank for Sustainability, UNEP, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation part of Wageningen Research, World Farmer Organization, World Agroforestry, World Bank Group, World Resources Institute, WWF International, Youth in Landscapes Initiative (YIL).

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