



FOLUR

Food Systems • Land Use • Restoration

The Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program

SPRING 2023 UPDATE

SUPPORTED BY

LED BY

IN COOPERATION WITH



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Global Landscapes
Forum



International
Finance Corporation
WORLD BANK GROUP
Creating Markets, Creating Opportunities



The
Food and Land Use
Coalition



GOOD
GROWTH
PARTNERSHIP
led by UNDP



Kuringe waterfall in Tanzania
Photo by Ammonite/Adobe Stock

Contents

Introduction	1
Program Capacity Strengthening	4
Policy and Value Chain Engagement	6
Strategic Communications and Knowledge	9
Value Chains Week	10
Rio Conventions Conference of Parties (COP; UNFCCC, CBD)	11
Investment Case	12
Country Projects: Progress	14
Papua New Guinea: Sustainable Land Use Eases Pressure on Forests	14
Brazil: Prototype for Climate-Friendly Land Use Change	15
Mexico: Ensuring Women's Participation at the Outset	16
Uzbekistan: Solar Powers Milling Capacity in Uzbekistan	17
Annex: Progress on Country Projects	18



Introduction

“In the landscape, everything fits.”

With these words, Mr. Garo Batmanian, General Director of the Brazilian Forestry Service at the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of the Government of Brazil, opened the Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program’s Annual Meeting in São Paulo, Brazil. Meanwhile, Mrs. Renata Bueno Miranda, Secretary of Innovation, Sustainable Development, Irrigation and Cooperativism in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Brazil, outlined her vision for Brazil’s journey from climate crisis to climate prosperity, where farmers are rewarded for contributing to a healthy planet.

Her message: when governments work across departments—of agriculture, environment, and climate—and take an integrated approach, as they do in Brazil, we can restore the functions of the land. This means restoring degraded areas, protecting and conserving forests, and recognizing those areas of the land where agriculture makes sense. In a landscape, agriculture, forests, and livelihoods can all fit. A whole of landscape approach conserves landscapes that produce the world’s food—while also improving farmers’ livelihoods and reducing poverty.

The Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program is moving closer to this vision as implementation of country projects advances and the Global Platform develops a menu of tools to assist with progress. Momentum is building for change across eight major commodities (livestock, cocoa, coffee, maize, palm oil, rice, soy, and wheat), which are largely responsible for past deforestation. FOLUR seeks to improve understanding, systems, policies, and practices so that commodities are preserving and conserving land and forests and keeping carbon in the ground.

Above: Cormorants in
Madre de Dios, Peru

Photo by Snapitude/Adobe
Stock

Funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the world's largest multilateral trust fund enabling developing countries to invest in nature, and led by the World Bank, FOLUR has an unprecedented chance to turn the current food crisis into an opportunity to transform food systems and restore landscapes. FOLUR is the largest GEF investment under its seventh replenishment, the GEF-7, leveraging significant funding from other sources. The FOLUR Impact Program stimulates collective action to deliver better outcomes for people and the planet.

The spirit of collective action was evident at the Annual Meeting in São Paulo, Brazil, on April 17–20. More than a hundred participants came together around a shared vision of transformation. Participants included officials from 24 of the 27 FOLUR countries, as well as project partners, GEF, and Global Platform Core Partners. Day 1 focused on integrated land management, Day 2 on sustainable value chains and the private sector and Day 3 on restoration. The gathering included a mix of presentations, panel discussions, talks by guest speaker, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities, bringing together the FOLUR community in person for the first time.





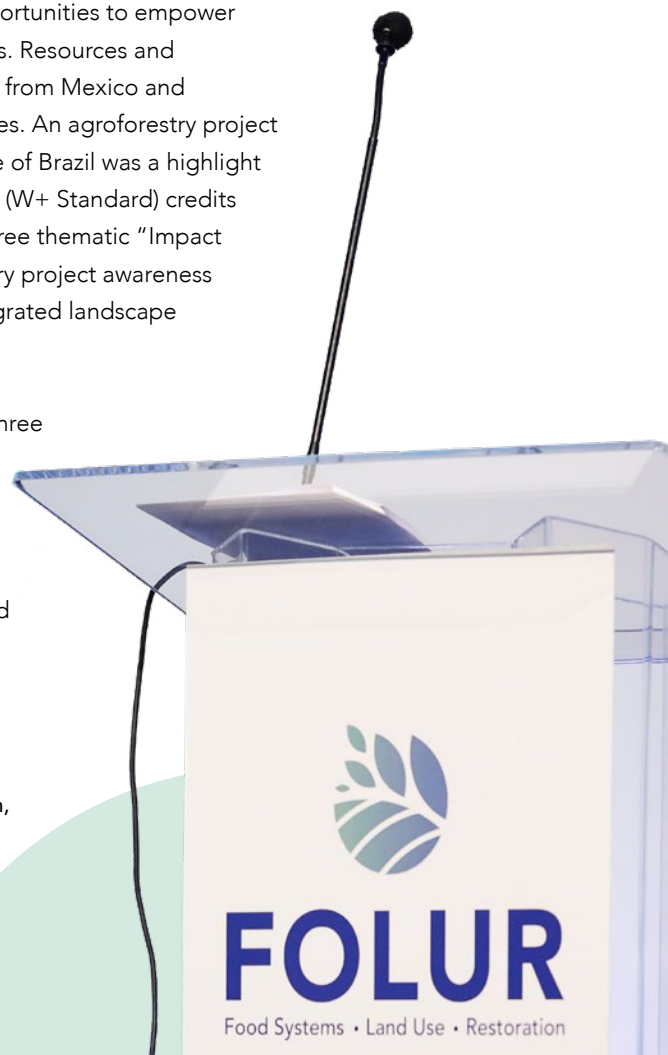
The FOLUR Gender Working Group led a session highlighting opportunities to empower women, young people, indigenous peoples, and local communities. Resources and upcoming training opportunities were introduced. Representatives from Mexico and Indonesia's country projects shared their gender-related experiences. An agroforestry project that is empowering women and young people in a nearby province of Brazil was a highlight of the session. The innovative project sells women's empowerment (W+ Standard) credits to private sector investors alongside carbon credits. Meanwhile, three thematic "Impact Sessions" featured voices from ten FOLUR countries, raising country project awareness on the Global Platform's direct support to country projects on integrated landscape management, sustainable value-chains and restoration.

The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) led an interview corner over three days. More than 20 interviews in five languages emerged from a range of Country Projects and government representatives, with the content to be shared with the global audience.

Following the milestone of our first ever Annual Meeting, the World Bank, with its core implementing partners and country projects, is delighted to provide a short update on FOLUR's progress to date.

- ◀ Opposite: Participants in the FOLUR Annual Meeting; Sophie Naudeau, World Bank Operations Manager for Brazil, (top-left); Yuli Sri Wilatiningsih, National Project Director, Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs, Indonesia (bottom-right)

Photos by Mauro Nery





Program Capacity Strengthening

Under the Program Capacity Strengthening work stream, a process for “country docking” is bringing country projects on board with key offerings from the Global Platform such as integrated land management tools and approaches. The World Bank coordinates the Global Platform’s capacity building program, sharing information and convening the Core Partners. The World Bank is developing an inventory of knowledge and capacity programs to advance the work of country projects. The country docking is offered through the [Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems Community](#) (FACS Community), the [FOLUR Impact Program](#)’s digital space for FOLUR country project teams. This will allow Global Platform Core Partners and stakeholders to share information and knowledge in line with the capacity needs assessment that is underway.

The FACS Community is gaining membership and momentum, with over 100 representatives from the Global Platform and country projects. Members can interact, exchange knowledge, build capacity, and collaborate with one another. All FACS Community members benefit from an annual timetable of curated, high-quality learning events delivered by a range of experts from international development organizations, civil society, and the private sector. Since June 2022, the FACS Community has delivered 26 events on a diverse range of topics. The newly approved, mandatory EU due diligence requirement on deforestation-free supply chains—an important new development—was quickly addressed with a series of case study sessions to discuss approaches to achieve compliance, starting with a focus on traceability systems in the beef and coffee sectors in Latin America and Africa. A dedicated group was created on the FACS Community digital platform where relevant updates and resources are shared.

Above: Piracanjuba River, Cerrado region, Brazil

Photo by Wagner/Adobe Stock

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations is rolling out instruments in direct support of the ongoing “country docking” process between the Global Knowledge to Action platform and country projects. These included:

- **Participatory Informed Landscape Approach (PILA):** The PILA is an inclusive approach that supports countries on integrated landscape assessments; rights-based land use planning development; management; and transformative governance of productive landscapes. Integrating seven FAO-FOLUR deliverables across five FAO technical divisions, the initial country-level rollout for case study development is planned for 2023 in Nicaragua, India, and Kenya.
- **Sustainability Instruments:** Complementing and enriching the landscape-level focus work of PILA, this integrated package covers normative work on the true cost of commodity production; licensing and traceability systems; codes of conduct for use of fertilizer and pesticides; and soil and livestock management, as well as exploratory work on global sustainability standards within agri-food systems. This integrated package is directly relevant to emerging trends and country needs such as the European Union Deforestation-Free Regulation (EUDR) to advance deforestation-free commodity value chains.

Meanwhile, the Good Growth Partnership led by the UN Development Program (UNDP) is developing a Resource Guide on Gender Equality that recognizes both women and men make crucial contributions in commodity value chains, agricultural landscapes, and forest conservation and restoration; but women’s roles and contribution are often not fully recognized nor reflected in decision-making and relevant development programs. The Resource Guide brings together a rich body of knowledge, tools, and examples of gender equality in the agriculture, land use, and restoration sectors that will guide FOLUR country project teams, national partners, and other actors. The Resource Guide on Gender Equality will be available in the [Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems Community](#)’s digital platform, alongside a Gender Learning Program to be piloted in the second half of 2023 and rolled out in 2024.





Policy and Value Chain Engagement

In 2023, the Global Platform is conducting analytics, developing tools, and engaging with public and private sector stakeholders to address challenges specific to FOLUR value chains and country projects. These precompetitive activities are designed to support an enabling environment and identify incentives for public-private partnerships related to sustainable solutions in priority landscapes. Working with leading sustainability platforms and private sector partnerships, the Global Platform is harvesting lessons from leading companies about how to improve sustainability across value chains.

Conservation International (CI), part of the Good Growth Partnership, continues to lead engagement and sector dialogue around coffee sustainability:

- In October 2022, the Sustainable Coffee Challenge—convened and facilitated by CI—published the [2022 Commitment Hub Report](#). This report tracks the movement of 170 Challenge partners against their sustainability commitments and shares collective progress against sector-wide 2025 targets for people, planet, coffee, and markets. Commitments to tackling key issues have increased year-on-year, but there's still room for industry improvement.
- On March 7–8, 2023, with participation from the World Bank's FOLUR Global Program, the Sustainable Coffee Challenge hosted its annual All-Partner Meeting in Tampa, Florida, USA. This event advanced awareness and momentum across the sector around precompetitive and multistakeholder landscape interventions. The CI team facilitates ongoing sector dialogue jointly through the Sustainable Coffee Challenge and the International Coffee Organization's (ICO) Coffee Public-Private Taskforce. In the future, coffee-focused FOLUR country projects will feature as best-practice examples and the dialogue will explore industry co-investment.

Above: Village in
West Java, Indonesia

Photo by Aulia Erlangga/
CIFOR

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has been working across rice, palm oil, cocoa, and wheat.



India—wheat: In India, IFC is working on wheat with Olam, leveraging lessons learned from rice. This is the second client-facing project supported by FOLUR (the first addressed coffee, working in Uganda with Nespresso), and the team is working on a new commodity in a new region. This project will help strengthen climate adaptation and mitigation measures among smallholder farmers, improving yields and income, and thus food security.



West Africa—soil health: Leveraging IFC's investment and advisory operation in Mali, the team engaged with FOLUR country projects in Guinea, Liberia, and Cote d'Ivoire and held three webinars in April to support farmer uptake of agricultural lime, which enhances productivity and hastens the restoration of degraded lands in acidic soils. The webinars were well attended by local government and implementing partners, and the team is finalizing training materials for capacity strengthening.



Rice—financing: IFC is undertaking two market studies to support the development of financing options for sustainable rice. First, the team is commissioning a benchmark analysis of the [Sustainable Rice Platform](#) and IFC's Performance Standards to inform a Global Trade Supplier Finance Facility with embedded sustainability awards, like the Bonsucro¹ scheme. Additionally, the team is supporting a Blended Finance Demand Study to inform the creation of a new Blended Finance Facility that will catalyze public and private sector investment to scale up adaptation and resilience-building in rice landscapes, including building innovative financial instruments and investment models to enhance resilience, and mainstreaming adaptation considerations into investments.



IFC Practices for Sustainable Investment in Livestock Operations: IFC's recently published its practices for Sustainable Investment in [Private Sector](#) Livestock Operations, which lay out seven fundamental practices about its approach to due diligence of both livestock and aquaculture companies, as well as the technical support that IFC provides to its clients to enable them to improve their sustainability, decrease their climate emissions intensity, and ensure excellent food safety.

The Sustainable Protein team presented the Practices at 10 international events that attracted over 500 participants. Momentum is building around the Practices, with IDB Invest, the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank (FMO), and British International Investment (BII)—the five multilateral development banks with the largest animal protein portfolios—[endorsing IFC's Practices](#).

1 Bonsucro is a global sustainability scheme related to sugarcane. See: <https://bonsucro.com/>.

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is continuing to advance precompetitive solutions to sustainability challenges in rice and soy by engaging the private sector in the development of a nature-based solutions accelerator for sustainable rice. A simplified, nature-based solutions model (based on publicly available climate, water, and rice farmer data points in Asia) has also been developed to inform initial goal setting for the accelerator platform.

WBCSD also coordinates the Soft Commodities Forum (SCF), which facilitates collaboration between six agribusinesses working to eliminate soy-driven deforestation and native vegetation conversion. The SCF contributes to the preservation of high-priority Cerrado ecosystems and leads the transition to more sustainable soy production. The FOLUR and SCF teams have identified multiple layers of collaboration:

- At the landscape-level, they are mapping overlaps (geographic, solution-types, etc.) between the SCF's landscape strategy—the Farmer First Clusters initiative—and the Brazil Country Project FOLUR Impact Program to identify opportunities for joint action and co-financing.
- At the regional level there is collaboration with landscape-level investments through engagement with FOLUR Brazil, FOLUR Paraguay, and regional World Bank investments, including Argentina.

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) is preparing a white paper on the relevance and limitations of climate adaptation in food and land use systems. This paper will support the transformation to sustainable food and land use systems, based on a review of existing policy instruments and actions available to governments. Further, the team expanded analysis of the associated database of country-specific findings from the Nationally Determined Contributions to include specific aspects related to financing both broader transitions and specific policy initiatives and their implementation.

In preparation for methane reduction roadmaps, SDSN has set up an interactive methane dashboard for China on the mitigation technologies related to rice production and enteric fermentation. This online catalogue facilitates a better understanding of the role of land and agriculture in current GHG emissions, and the main, existing mitigation options for agriculture and land use. Subsequently, SDSN held a methane webinar in December 2022 dedicated to creating a more in-depth understanding on the role of methane in global warming.

To embed spatially explicit restoration scenarios in the Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land-Use, and Energy (FABLE) calculator, existing restoration maps at global and national scales have been gathered and compared. This information will be used by FOLUR country teams to test the implications of different restoration objectives/potentials on their greenhouse gas emissions, land use, food security, and biodiversity results.



Strategic Communications and Knowledge

With partner the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF), the strategic communications team is supporting the growth of a community focused on transforming food systems and restoring landscapes. By sharing knowledge and achievements with a global audience through [GLF Lives](#), [Landscape News](#), [Podcasts](#), [social media](#) and speaking at [events](#), achievements across commodity value chains are highlighted. Participation in a range of high profile events and milestone “moments” spurs dialogue about FOLUR topics, bringing with it multistakeholder problem solving approaches and increased awareness about sustainable land use and green value chains.

The FOLUR strategic communications team increased the cadence of storytelling, producing “brilliant basics” communications products such as regular stories and Q&As, video interviews, podcasts, and a newsletter, laying the foundations for future communications work. The core narrative and messaging were deployed with a primary focus on owned channels, with the intention to expand channels and audiences in FY24 and beyond: moving from owned to shared and earned channels and from our primary audience to secondary and tertiary audiences. We will continue to engage, and expand, our presence in key global fora relevant to the food systems agenda—including the GLF Nairobi, the GEF Assembly, the Conference of Parties on Climate Change or COP28 and the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture.

Above: Sacks of rice during harvest

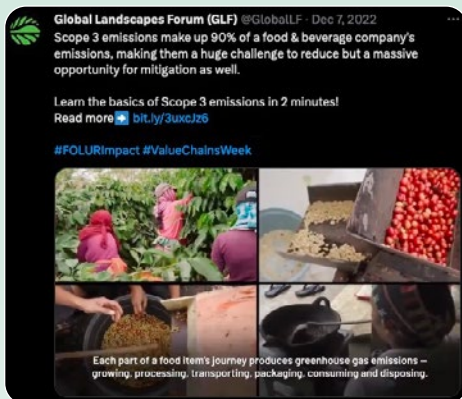
Photo by Thor Jorgen Udvang/Adobe Stock

VALUE CHAINS WEEK

Bringing together project developers and financial institutions, the first ever **GLF Value Chains Week** was an opportunity to share stories, examples, and case studies surrounding efforts to build and implement sustainable green value chains. The concept of the stewardship economy was evident throughout the week-long event, setting the foundation of sustainable land use management.

As part of Value Chains Week, the FOLUR GLF Live **"How is collective action protecting the future of coffee?"** explored the coffee value chain and the importance of sustainable investment. In a session hosted by FOLUR, titled **"How can we reshape global food systems?"**, Pascal Martinez, Senior Climate Change Specialist at the GEF Secretariat, explained the FOLUR approach to transforming food and land use systems. **"How can restoration affect value chains in Africa?"**, a GLF Live with the African Forest Landscape Initiative (AFR100), explored the bankability of restoration and how sustainable financing can contribute to the AFR100 goal of restoring 100 million hectares of degraded landscapes by 2030.

During the Value Chains Week 2022 promotional campaign, the **#FOLURImpact** hashtag reached over 470,000 people, and received over 69,000 engagements.

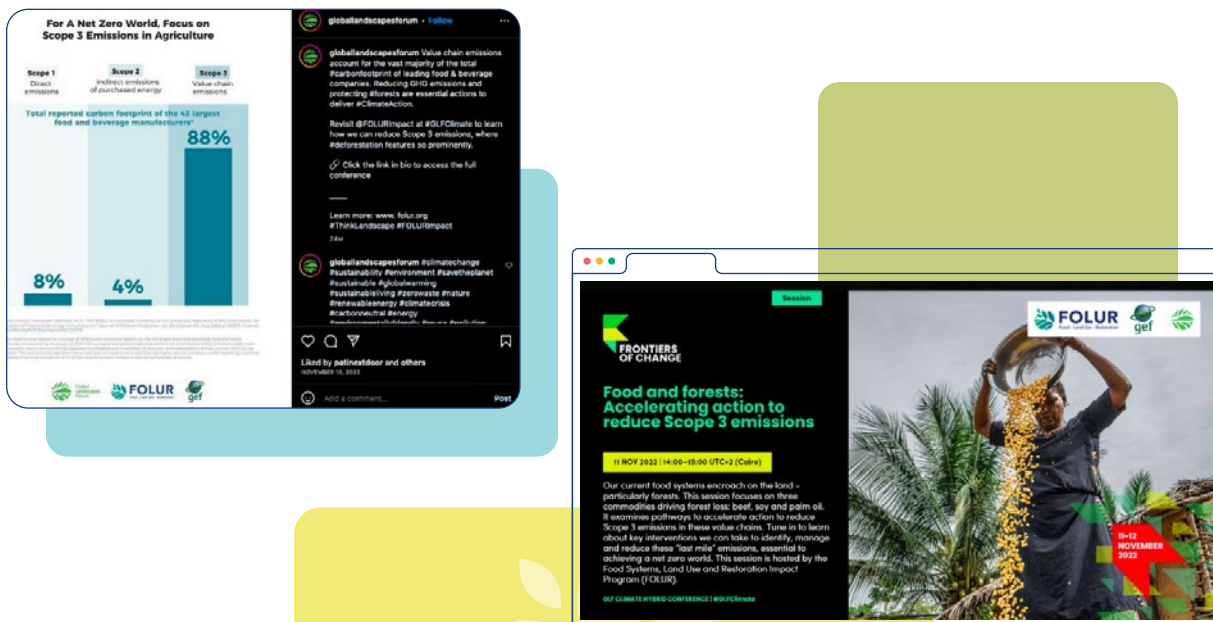


#indigenouspeoples #landscapes
 #coffee #deforestation #cop15
 #thinklandscape #finance
 #land #cop27 #valuechains #biodiversity
 #climate #valuechainsweek
 #biodiversityloss #glflive #nature
 #restoration #climatechange
 #luxfinance4nature

RIO CONVENTIONS CONFERENCE OF PARTIES (COP; UNFCCC, CBD)

In line with mainstreaming the topic of biodiversity and addressing the direct drivers of deforestation, GLF represented FOLUR on the global stage and across all major platforms surrounding two Rio Conventions Conferences of the Parties (COPs). During the Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC), a FOLUR session at GLF Climate titled **“Food and forests: Accelerating action to reduce Scope 3 emissions”** was delivered. This session focused on three FOLUR commodities and how the Scope 3 emissions surrounding these commodities can be minimized by greening value chains. The session accrued more than 1.5 million social media impressions and was watched by people in 164 countries.

The FOLUR Impact Program was also represented by GLF at the 2022 United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) in Montreal. Through an [informational video](#), the background of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) was explained and how this will influence the greening of value chains was discussed—noting the regenerative practices needed within various commodities, including, for example, sustainable beef production through rotational pasture management approaches. The necessity of businesses acknowledging biodiversity risks and opportunities was noted, along with the need to increase resilience and invest in sustainable nature practices.



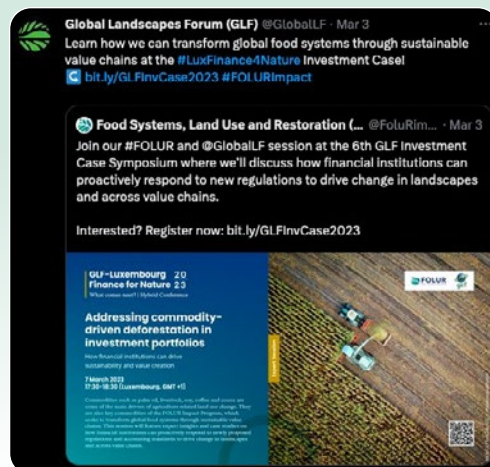
INVESTMENT CASE

The GLF 6th Investment Case Symposium investigated the role of financial institutions as both climate change contributor and change-maker. The FOLUR session brought together representatives from national banks, global development institutions, and international investment banks to share thoughts and answer poignant questions.

Titled “Addressing commodity-driven deforestation in investment portfolios: How financial institutions can drive sustainability and value creation,” the FOLUR session included audience interaction, both in-person and digitally, as well as a call to join the FOLUR Forest Positive Finance expert working group to establish a pathway towards forest positive, or deforestation-free, finance. In addition to the event platform, this session was livestreamed on GLF’s main social media channels, receiving over 12,675 online views.

The GLF 6th Investment Case Symposium was attended by 4,657 participants from 162 countries with 15 million reached on social media and 100 partners. The **#FOLURImpact** hashtag reached over 394,200 people and received over 2,800 engagements.

#womeninag #glflive #womenled
#foodsystems #forestday
#carbonmarkets #iwd #intlforestday #womensday
#climatefinance
#climatecrisis #finan
#internationalwomensday #wplus
#thinklandscape #iwd2023
#forests #luxfinance4nature
#womenempowerment



As secretariat of the Initiative 20x20 partnership in Latin America, the World Resources Institute co-hosted the 2023 Annual Partners Meeting on February 8 and 9, 2023 in San Pedro, Belize. This year’s meeting was a joint effort with the Bonn Challenge and Agriculture, Forest, and Other Land Uses (AFOLU) 2040, with support from the Belizean Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Management and the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre. The meeting aimed to strengthen the dialogue between stakeholders working on food, land use, and restoration, and included a specific session on the FOLUR Impact program. Over 150 technical partners and 14 Ministers of Agriculture and Environment attended the meeting to discuss landscape restoration in the region, including participants from the FOLUR countries of Mexico, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Peru.

Evidensia, led by the International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling Alliance (ISEAL) Alliance under the Good Growth Partnership and offering high-quality, curated sustainability resources ranging from reports to podcasts, webinars, blogs, and infographics to over 10,000 decision makers in FOLUR countries and beyond, created content relevant to FOLUR countries. This included:

- **Sustainable agriculture:** An online session, “[Deforestation due diligence regulations: What does effective implementation look like?](#)”, is now available as a video. Delivered to 134 attendees shortly after the confirmation of the new EU deforestation regulations, it included voices from European academia and a representative from [Kaleka](#), who work with local and indigenous communities in Indonesia.
- **Private sector engagement:** 90 attendees on six continents benefited from “[Adopting sustainability standards: How do businesses benefit?](#)”—now available as a video. Speakers from [ASC](#), [Proforest](#), and [Migros](#) showcased the business case for sustainability standards.
- **Restoration:** A report, “[Embedding indigenous knowledge in the conservation and restoration of landscapes](#),” features in an increasingly important section on Evidensia, which will deliver a learning event on restoration later in 2023.
- **Gender inclusion:** A blog on “[Women’s economic empowerment in agriculture](#)” was written by Rupal Verma of UNCTAD for International Women’s Day. Verma co-authored a [report](#) on Evidensia on the same topic.

Farmers planting rice in Bantaeng, Indonesia.

Photo by Tri Saputro/CIFOR



Country Projects: Progress

Implementation of country projects is progressing. Country project representatives were able to share their challenges and early learnings at the FOLUR Annual Meeting. A few FOLUR Country Projects are featured here.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: SUSTAINABLE LAND USE EASES PRESSURE ON FORESTS

In Papua New Guinea, where palm oil, coffee, and cocoa production are significant contributors to deforestation and land degradation, agriculture plays a key role in the livelihoods of 85 percent of the population. The economic potential of these crops, which are major export commodities, is curtailed by fragmented production and unresponsive value chains. The encroachment of invasive species, soil erosion, and disease are also factors affecting agriculture-driven deforestation and putting pressure on productivity.

Under the FOLUR project, which covers a total of 3.65 million hectares of land on the island of New Britain and is led by the UNDP, a sustainable land management approach is strengthening land and forest governance and livelihoods, transforming value chains and business practices while ensuring inclusiveness and participatory learning. Collaborative exchanges with FOLUR projects in Indonesia and Malaysia in the Asia-Pacific Region, supplemented by technical support from UNDP's Food & Agricultural Commodity Systems (FACS) team, will support the transformation of commodity production across landscapes.

Private sector partnerships will link with multinational and domestic companies for sustainable production and sourcing of commodity crops. The plan includes strengthening and building on existing work with strong private sector partners to increase sustainable production. The country already supports the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), one of the largest global certification groups for smallholders.

The cocoa sector supports the livelihoods of 20 percent of the rural population, but challenges to production are exacerbated by damage from the cocoa pod borer, and trade profitability is limited by supply chains. Both cocoa and coffee are characterized by fragmented production and marketing systems. Gender imbalance is also a key consideration, and support will be targeted to increase women's share of revenue from production systems.



Ripe cocoa pods

Photo by Leungchopan/Adobe Stock





BRAZIL: PROTOTYPE FOR CLIMATE-FRIENDLY LAND USE CHANGE

Beef cattle farm in Brazil

Photo by AlfRibeiro/Adobe Stock

In Brazil, the FOLUR Vertentes Project is exploring how to increase sustainable landscape management and restoration for beef cattle and soybean value chains in the Cerrado savanna. For more than 15 years, policies designed to conserve the Amazon have led to increasing agricultural activity in the region, putting biodiversity at risk. The government is taking the innovative step of creating a synergistic relationship between the ministries of Agriculture and Environment to fully integrate efforts as part of a belief that greater economic growth is dependent upon a combination of low-carbon, green energy potential, and natural resource wealth.

By building resilient development through a productivity-driven and diversified growth model, scaling up renewable energy and curbing deforestation, Brazil could meet its goal of stopping illegal deforestation by 2028, slash greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030, and reach net-zero emissions by 2050. Brazil's groundbreaking activities will be shared through a knowledge bank designed as a resource for FOLUR countries and partner organizations. The roadmap is designed to support the transition from climate crisis to climate prosperity, with greater food security as a key outcome.

MEXICO: ENSURING WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION AT THE OUTSET

Mexico's Connecting Watershed Health with Sustainable Livestock and Agroforestry Production (CONECTA) project embedded gender equality from the very beginning, conducting a gender action plan and gender analysis at the start of the project, and undertaking gender diagnostics of executing units and producer organizations. The gender analysis was included as part of an environmental and social analysis undertaken in the targeted states and watersheds. It looked at the participation of women in livestock value chains and identified business opportunities with extensive participation of women. The gender action plan includes:

- At least eight strategies/approaches to strengthen the role and participation of women in livestock and agroforestry value chains;
- Budgeted activities and indicators for each project component to address project-relevant gender gaps;
- A gender focal point responsible for mainstreaming gender activities; and
- Actions aimed at limiting gender-based violence, and efforts to ensure impact programs can participate and benefit.



Gender diagnosis workshop in the Jamapa Watershed, Veracruz State, with the local organization (Gente Sustentable) and its beneficiaries

Photo by Jesús Paez

The gender action plan and diagnostics at the local level resulted in an agenda of training and capacity building for different groups. The project soon found that women's participation in workshops was extremely challenging because women farmers were also primary caretakers of children and the elderly. They embarked upon a trial program that provided childcare in the same physical space as the workshops, but encountered some additional difficulties here: often, the right space for the workshop might not be the right space for childcare; while legal implications, the need for trained staff, and insurance issues complicated provision of childcare. Another key lesson at this stage was around gender-based violence, which surfaced as an issue for women participating in workshops. The project team learned that there can be significant complexity in household and community dynamics. There is a need for sensitivity and provision of contextual recommendations around gender-based violence.

Planning and integration workshop 2023, FMCN and Regional Funds, the CONECTA team

Photo by Amantina Lavalle



UZBEKISTAN: SOLAR POWERS MILLING CAPACITY IN UZBEKISTAN

FOLUR projects dovetail with Uzbekistan's 2020-30 Agriculture Development Strategy to modernize, developing a more sustainable agri-food sector while boosting nutritional self-sufficiency. Support for 5,000 wheat farmers cultivating an average land area of half a hectare or less in the autonomous Republic of Karakalpakstan and the province of Khorazm in the northwest of the country will help address soil salinity and biodiversity in protected areas. In Qashqadaryo, in the southeast rainfed and irrigated areas, the focus is on drought and biodiversity. Smallholder farmers will accelerate production of landraces and wild species.

In some remote areas, there is a lack of electricity to drive the mills, so the project involves improving milling capacity by providing renewable energy using wind, water, and solar. The stones that grind the grain are driven by water, which freezes in winter. Solar energy will help thwart those frigid temperatures. Without electricity, farmers must journey from the mountains, which are sometimes impassable for months in winter, to take their grain to the mill. Increased grinding capacity will support income generation through flour sales.

Mountains in the south of Uzbekistan

Photo by Poliorketes/Adobe Stock



ANNEX**Progress on Country Projects**

Agency	Project Name	Country	Status	GEF Grant (US Dollar)	Co-Finance (US Dollar)
WB	Sustainable Multiple Use Landscape Consortia— Vertentes Project	Brazil	Not yet effective	24,577,982	172,000,000
WB	Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project	Burundi	Under implementation	6,000,000	31,000,000
FAO/WB	Innovative Transformation of China's Food Production Systems and Agroecological Landscapes	China	Under implementation	13,461,468	402,190,000
UNDP/ UNIDO/FAO	Scaling Up Cocoa-based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration/Transformative Innovations in Côte d'Ivoire (SCOLUR-CI)	Cote D'Ivoire	Not yet effective	5,354,587	65,231,987
UNDP	Preventing Forest Loss, Promoting Restoration, and Integrating Sustainability into Ethiopia's Coffee Supply Chains and Food Systems	Ethiopia	Not yet effective	20,342,202	208,478,969
WB	Landscape Restoration and Ecosystem Management for Sustainable Food Systems	Ghana	Under implementation	12,756,881	129,500,000
UNDP	Promoting Sustainable Landscapes in the Motagua River Watershed	Guatemala	Not yet effective	11,162,802	60,017,006
FAO	Integrated Management of Degraded Landscapes for Sustainable Food Systems and Livelihoods in Guinea Forest Region and Upper Guinea	Guinea	Not yet effective	9,498,165	43,395,420
FAO	Transforming Rice and Wheat Systems in India	India	Under implementation	20,366,973	342,427,048

Agency	Project Name	Country	Status	GEF Grant (US Dollar)	Co-Finance (US Dollar)
UNDP/FAO	Strengthening Sustainability in Commodity and Food Crop Value Chains, Land Restoration, and Land Use Governance through Integrated Landscape Management for Multiple Benefits in Indonesia	Indonesia	Under implementation	16,213,762	132,510,462
UNDP	Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems and Improved Ecosystems Services in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape	Kazakhstan	Not yet effective	10,467,000	132,307,166
FAO	Integrated Landscape Management for Conservation and Restoration of the Mt. Elgon Ecosystem in Western Kenya	Kenya	Not yet effective	5,354,587	46,506,320
Conservation International	Reducing Deforestation from Palm Oil and Cocoa Value Chains	Liberia	Under implementation	7,139,450	66,999,065
FAO	Integrated Landscape Management for a Zero-Deforestation Coffee Value Chain in the Central South and Eastern coast of Madagascar	Madagascar	Not yet effective	10,980,788	
UNDP	Integrated Landscape Management of the Heart of Borneo Landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak	Malaysia	Not yet effective	7,368,807	90,000,000
WB	Connecting Watershed Health with Beef Production (CONNECTA)	Mexico	Under implementation	13,761,468	99,013,829
FAO	Transforming Food Systems and Reducing Deforestation in the Protected Areas and Biological Corridors Landscapes from the Southern Caribbean Coast and San Juan River Autonomous Region	Nicaragua	Not yet effective	5,354,587	48,000,000

Agency	Project Name	Country	Status	GEF Grant (US Dollar)	Co-Finance (US Dollar)
FAO	Promoting Integrated Landscape Management and Sustainable Food Systems in the Niger Delta Region in Nigeria	Nigeria	Under implementation	5,354,590	67,739,549
UNDP	Establishing System for Sustainable Integrated Land Use Planning Across New Britain Island in Papua New Guinea Establishing System for Across New Britain Island in Papua New Guinea	Papua New Guinea	Under implementation	10,709,174	50,566,514
UNEP	Promote Landscape Integrity and Sustainable Beef and Soy Value Chains in Two Key Biomes in Paraguay	Paraguay	Under implementation	8,189,450	47,568,002
UNDP/FAO/ IFAD	Deforestation Free Commodity Supply Chains in the Peruvian Amazon	Peru	Not yet effective	13,561,467	112,149,960
World Wildlife Fund/US	Food Systems, Land Use, and Restoration in Tanzania's Forest Landscapes	Tanzania	Not yet effective	7,368,808	72,686,863
UNEP	Inclusive Sustainable Rice Landscapes in Thailand	Thailand	Under implementation	5,535,963	67,300,000
UNEP	Promoting Integrated Landscape Management Approach for Conservation of the Mount Elgon Ecosystem in Eastern Uganda	Uganda	Under implementation	9,433,027	82,014,000
UNDP	Promoting Sustainable Livestock Management and Ecosystem Conservation in Northern Ukraine	Ukraine	Under implementation	6,756,000	67,385,366
FAO	Food System, Land Use, and Restoration Impact Program in Uzbekistan.	Uzbekistan	Under implementation	5,992,661	72,754,400
FAO	Food System, Land Use, and Restoration Impact Program in Vietnam	Vietnam	Not yet effective	5,354,587	77,950,000



SPRING 2023 UPDATE