



FOLUR

Food Systems • Land Use • Restoration

Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Growing networks for change across borders

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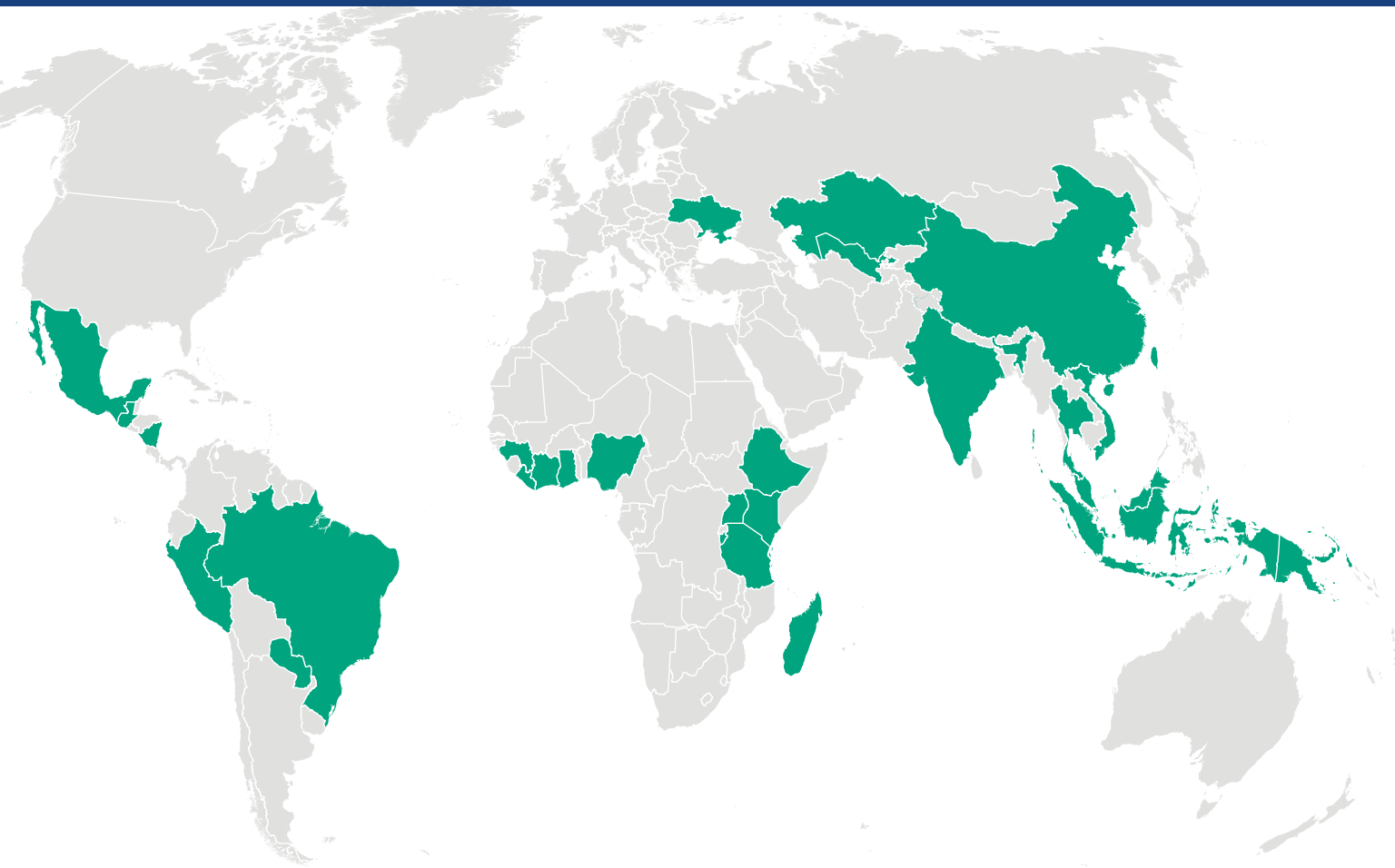
IN COOPERATION WITH



The FOLUR Impact Program consists of the Global Platform Project, led by the World Bank with



And 27 country projects shown on the map below, working with the following implementing agencies



This annual report, which covers the period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, was prepared by the Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program with contributions from the following implementing agencies: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU), Global Landscapes Forum (GLF), Good Growth Partnership (GGP) led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and International Finance Corporation (IFC). It includes information previously published in a requisite annual spring update. All currency references in this report are US dollars unless otherwise specified.

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Wheat field.

Photo by chinaface/iStock

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List of Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use
ALP	Agribusiness Leadership Program
ANADER	National Agency for Rural Development (Côte d'Ivoire)
APAD	Agua Dulce Agricultural Association (Paraguay)
B4ICA	Banking for Impact on Climate in Agriculture
BII	British International Investment
CAP	Climate Advisory Partnership
CBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
CIAT	International Center for Tropical Agriculture
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CPAM	Country Project Activity Matrix
CPPTF	Coffee Public Private Task Force
CSO	civil society organization
DCF	Deforestation and Conversion-Free
DFI	Development Finance Institution
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ECA	Effective Collaborative Action
ESG	environmental, social, and governance
EU	European Union
EUDR	European Union Deforestation Regulation
FACS	Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems
FABLE	Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land-Use and Energy (Consortium)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMO	Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank
FSS	Farmer Support Systems
FOLU	Food and Land Use Coalition
FOLUR	Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program
GEB	Global Environmental Benefit
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGP	Good Growth Partnership

GHG	Greenhouse gas
GLF	Global Landscapes Forum
ICO	International Coffee Organization
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IIASA	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
ILM	Integrated Landscape Management
INDI	Paraguayan Indigenous Institute
IP	Impact Program
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISEAL	Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling Alliance
ISSB	International Sustainability Standards Board
KISM	Knowledge Platform for Inclusive and Sustainable Food Markets
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LICOP	Living Income Community of Practice
MADES	Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (Paraguay)
MDB	Multilateral Development Bank
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
PILA	Participatory Informed Landscape Approach
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PRIR	Pilot Plan for Regenerative Rotational Rational Grazing (Paraguay)
PROGREEN	Global Partnership for Sustainable and Resilient Landscapes
SCF	Soft Commodities Forum
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDSN	Sustainable Development Solutions Network
SODEFOR	Parastate Forest Development Corporation
SRLI	Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative
TAPE	Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation
TNFD	Taskforce for Nature-Related Financial Disclosures
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
VBV	Value Beyond Value Chains
WBCSD	World Business Council for Sustainable Development
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WRI	World Resources Institute



Message from the Global Environment Facility

Currently, almost [2 billion hectares](#) of land have been degraded worldwide, with negative consequences for food, climate regulation, and biodiversity. Environmental degradation caused by food production will only increase if the current agricultural land area—roughly 5 billion hectares, or [38 percent](#) of the global land surface—continues to expand.

The challenge is to feed a growing population through a resilient food system and healthy value chains while restoring soil and degraded areas through integrated land management. The call for sustainable food systems has therefore never been more urgent—we need a system that prioritizes sustainability from farm to fork; produces agricultural commodities without deforestation or habitat conversion; and revitalizes soils and degraded areas.

More importantly, as food systems challenges are integrated, so must be our solutions. Conventional singular approaches to land management are no longer sufficient. We need a transformation of the global food and land-use systems through a system-wide approach that integrates both horizontal aspects such as land and natural resources, and vertical elements, including food value and supply chains, as well as changing markets and demand. Landscape-scale interventions, grounded in comprehensive land use planning, are vital for fostering transformational change in food systems and land use.

The Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program is a testament to this integrated approach. It mobilizes actors across scales—from local to global—to enact tangible actions on both the production and demand sides of food supply chains.

**Above: Mato Grosso,
Brazil.**

Photo by Icaro Cooke Vieira/
CIFOR

FOLUR is central to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) strategy on facilitating food system transformation. The program, fueled by the seventh GEF funding (GEF 7) cycle, builds on previous funding cycles, in particular GEF 6 and the [Integrated Approach Program on Food Security](#).

As a GEF 7 flagship program, FOLUR feeds into a larger vision, bridging projects funded by GEF 6 and GEF 8 that are anchored in local, national, and regional policy frameworks and that aim to enable healthy production systems, value chains, and approaches to be scaled up across the targeted geographies. Activities across all three funding cycles target land restoration and agroecological systems where the need to enhance food security is linked to opportunities for generating environmental benefits for the planet.

Led by the World Bank, FOLUR includes improving landscapes and value chains for eight major commodities in 27 country projects while addressing gender disparities and the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Five partnership organizations, and their implementing agencies form a powerful engine challenging the convention that pressures on the food system from a growing population necessarily equate to the need for agricultural expansionism into forests and biodiversity.

Over the past several years, FOLUR has made strides toward meeting targets in this complex arena, by juggling agricultural considerations ranging from the minutiae of soil type to such sweeping international trade agreements as the impending European Union Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products (EUDR).

As this annual report demonstrates, FOLUR is pushing boundaries and mobilizing change—from local to national, regional, and global levels—and delivering on both the production and demand sides of food supply chains. FOLUR initiatives are being embedded beyond the program's scope into land restoration activities initiated by other projects and organizations.

These conversations do not happen in a void; they will carry over to GEF 8 and other programs, creating a solid basis for transformation.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Claude Gascon', written in a cursive style.

Claude Gascon

GEF Director of Strategy and Operations



Message from World Bank Global Directors

FOLUR straddles a critical challenge facing our planet.

Agriculture produces food and other products for billions of people, but expansion from growing demand exacerbated by poor productivity, policies, and practices contributes to [90 percent of global deforestation](#).

Natural habitats, forests, and ecosystems are being degraded and lost at an unprecedented rate; it is estimated that deforestation is contributing to about [a third](#) of the human-caused greenhouse gas emissions that are heating our planet.

Shifting land use management approaches, and agricultural production practices aimed at achieving sustainability through restoration is essential for climate change adaptation; conservation of biodiversity; and land restoration.

FOLUR is making strides to fix the current agrifood system. It aims to reverse the negative environmental impacts caused by food production systems by identifying inefficiencies in global commodity supply chains, unsustainable practices, misaligned incentives and subsidies, consumer demand, and a variety of governance issues, including, planning, institutional mandates, inclusiveness, and protection of Indigenous rights.

FOLUR is innovative in its approach to supporting private-sector stakeholders to take up new business models through innovative partnerships that connect global, national, and local supply chains, which can deliver scalable change across landscapes.

Above: Picking coffee beans.

Photo by Tanes Ngamsom/
iStock

As these new ways of working across sectors at the landscape level develop, the food system is gaining resilience.

In large measure, FOLUR's power lies in its practical agribusiness approach. By engaging both the private and public sectors in discussions and knowledge exchanges, transformations—many of them detailed throughout the pages of this annual report—are underway.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Valerie Hickey'.

Valerie Hickey

Global Director,
Global Department for the Environment,
World Bank



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shobha Shetty'.

Shobha Shetty

Global Director,
Global Department for Agriculture and Food,
World Bank



FOLUR Impact Program Mission and Design

ABOUT US

Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) is a \$345 million, seven-year initiative supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and led by the World Bank. The program focuses on accelerating sustainability across the value chains of eight major commodities and food staples—including cocoa, coffee, livestock, maize, palm oil, rice, soy, and wheat—seeking to transform agriculture’s environmental footprint.

The FOLUR Impact Program consists of landscape-level interventions in 27 country projects and a FOLUR Global Platform, which communicates lessons learned across the country projects and global value chains. From 2022 to 2023, activities advanced in many countries as projects were implemented.

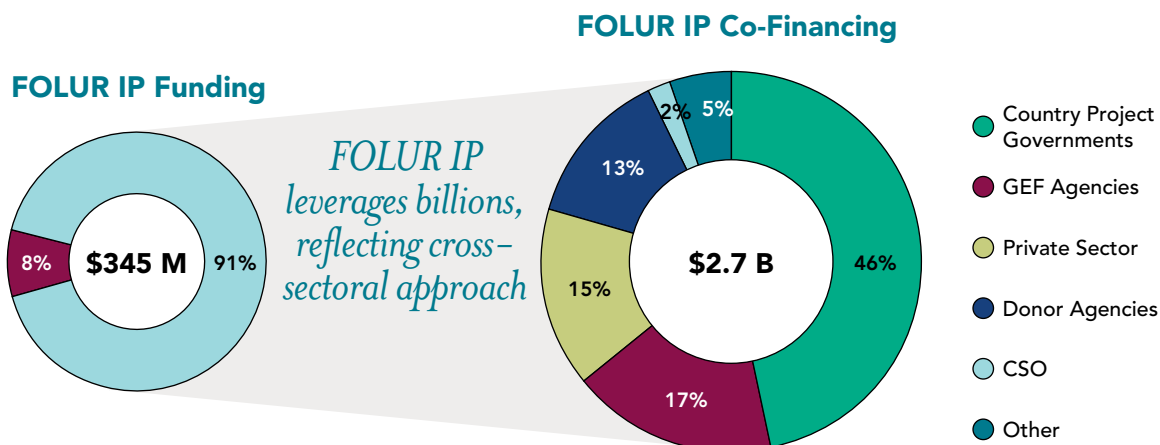
Above: A woman herds livestock.

Photo by Khoa Nguyen/
iStock.



Fresh palm oil fruit.

Photo by Nanang Sujana/CIFOR

FIGURE 1. Leveraging for Impact

Source: FOLUR Global Platform, as of June 30, 2024.

OUR VALUE-ADDS: GREATER THAN THE SUM OF OUR PARTS

In addition to translating knowledge into action, the FOLUR Global Platform also uses the expertise, networks, and investments of the World Bank and five core partners: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations; the Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU); the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF); the Good Growth Partnership (GGP) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and the International Finance Corporation (IFC). Coordinating program delivery across these organizations allows the FOLUR Global Platform to identify new opportunities for collaboration and enhance key products and services. Financing from the GEF also mobilizes significant resources from donor agencies, recipient governments, civil society organizations (CSOs), and the private sector

Soy beans.

Photo by Drs Producoes/iStock

WHERE WE WORK

The FOLUR Impact Program works across landscapes in 27 countries in Africa; North, Central, and South America; Eastern Europe; and Central, East, and Southeast Asia. The projects are distributed throughout globally important geographies for commercial agricultural commodities and food staples. Project interventions also target areas of high environmental value, where improved management and restoration could yield global environmental benefits (GEBs) and improve the sustainability and resilience of local communities.

PROGRAM DESIGN

The FOLUR Impact Program is designed to transform our food systems based on sustainable land use and productive, healthy landscapes that contribute a range of environmental benefits. To achieve this vision, the FOLUR Global Platform, and country projects, promote an integrated approach that emphasizes collaboration across the private sector, governments, financial institutions, land managers, research institutions, and civil society. As the lead agency, the World Bank supports and coordinates the implementing agencies, participating countries, and core partners to achieve transformational impact.

The World Bank convenes the annual work planning process, facilitating collaboration on planned activities. The FOLUR Global Platform focuses on activities and services related to program and capacity strengthening, public and private sector engagement, and knowledge sharing and communications. FOLUR also promotes a consistent approach at the country level with its 27 country projects, emphasizing the development of integrated landscape management systems, the promotion of sustainable food production practices, responsible commodity value chains, restoration of natural habitats, collaborations, capacity building, and such crosscutting themes as gender responsiveness.

About the Annual Report

This annual progress report, covering the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, aims to update the GEF and other interested parties on the progress and achievements of the FOLUR Impact Program. Each section begins with a summary of achievements and then provides more detail on the partners' contributions. It reports on GEBs achieved and broader impact. The report is produced annually and is made available to partners, countries, and interested stakeholders through the FOLUR, GLF, and Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems (FACS) Community websites.



Global Environmental Benefits

To achieve transformational change, the FOLUR Integrated Platform and its Global Platform promote shifts at multiple levels of the food system to sustain natural capital, biodiversity, and ecosystem service flows contributing to GEBs. These activities ensure more secure and sustainable food production, improve landscape management to better integrate with reduced negative externalities, increase the efficiency of deforestation-free commodity supply chains, and promote landscape-scale restoration for production and ecosystem services.

Outcomes and GEBs for the FOLUR Integrated Platform are aligned with multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), including the United Nations [Convention to Combat Desertification](#) (UNCCD), the UN [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) (CBD), the UN [Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC), the [Bonn Challenge](#), and individual country strategies and policies. They are also in synergy with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).

Alignments include:

- Sustainable land and water management in existing production systems
- Mitigation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through improved crop and livestock management
- Conservation of agrobiodiversity by increasing on-farm diversification and managing the genetic diversity of crops and livestock
- Reduced degradation of forest and natural habitats

Above: Community-Based Fire Prevention and Peatland Restoration.

Photo by Pandam Prasetyo/CIFOR

- Contributing to land degradation neutrality (LDN)
- Increasing the sustainability and resilience of food value chains

The FOLUR Integrated Platform GEBs are aligned with several higher-level objectives of the GEF to deliver on the following Focal Area Objectives of the GEF-7 funding cycle:

- Biodiversity enhanced/protected
- Climate mitigation: emissions reduced/avoided
- Land degradation avoided/reversed

TABLE 1. GEF 7 Core Indicators for FOLUR IP and Global Platform*

Integrated Platform Core Indicators	Targets Achieved	Targets from 27 country projects and global platform
Hectares of land under improved practices (excluding protected areas)	604,285	43,454,864
Hectares of land restored	58,107	2,387,402
Hectares of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation	742,553	664,908

*Seven of 27 countries reporting

Note: The target for terrestrial protected areas was surpassed by 11.7 percent to 77,645 hectares.

Source: FOLUR Impact Program, as of June 30, 2024.

Rice field.

Photo by enviromantic/iStock



FOLURize

[foh-luh-rahyz] • verb
Enhance or align an existing program with FOLUR aims to amplify impact.

Highlights from Fiscal Year 2024

BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH “FOLURIZATION”

Over fiscal year 2024, the FOLUR Global Platform was supercharged into a larger movement by more broadly influencing change.

In part, this occurred through increased integration into core partner and World Bank activities through a process colloquially known as FOLURization.

FOLUR offered to provide technical assistance to World Bank country projects interested in FOLURization within the [Global Department for Agriculture](#) and Food and the [Global Department for the Environment](#).

Under this initiative, projects are learning about developing sustainable food production value chains, promoting land restoration through integrated landscape management (ILM), halting land degradation and deforestation, reaching low-carbon climate-resilient targets; and advancing dialogue on public-private initiatives, targeted analytical products, and training and case studies that prioritize country-level engagement. Early adopters include Ethiopia, Uganda, and Ukraine.

Participants at the
WRI Policy Accelerator
Field Visit, El Dovio
Community, Colombia,
Oct. 8, 2023.

Photo by WRI

Measurable outcomes for countries include the [Nationally Determined Contributions](#) (NDCs), a key component of the [U.N. Paris Agreement](#) strategy to curb global greenhouse gas emissions and keep post-industrial average temperatures in check.

Country projects also receive support for harmonization of deforestation-free agricultural supply chains, particularly regarding market compliance that will align with the [European Union Deforestation Regulation](#) (EUDR) as it relates to beef, palm oil, soy, cocoa, and coffee production and value chains in the FOLUR portfolio. Now slated for [implementation in 2025](#), EUDR aims to reduce the significant amount of biodiversity loss and GHG emissions caused by deforestation. Roughly 22 percent of [emissions](#) come from agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU). Only the energy sector (34 percent) and industry (22 percent) are greater contributors to GHGs.

“As the FOLUR coalition begins to add value to a growing number of projects worldwide, we ultimately foresee these stepping stones leading to realization of agricultural transformation worldwide.”

Dinara Akhmetova, Senior Natural Resources Management Specialist at World Bank and joint manager of FOLUR.



Corn plant. China.

Photo by feellife/iStock

Country Project Activity Matrix

To support countries in expediting their programs to full implementation, the Country Project Activity Matrix (CPAM) was established to reinforce accountability. Regional coordinators will work closely with countries on diagnosing issues to determine required interventions and technical assistance. Customized country and crop specific solutions will be crafted. Timelines will be established to support countries to meet deadlines. Support in producing a constant flow of documentation for annual reports, spring updates, news stories and knowledge products will continue to be provided.

Regional Dialogue: FOLUR Africa

From Oct. 13 to 14, 2023, FOLUR hosted its first regional dialogue, FOLUR Africa: Transforming Value Chains and Agroforestry Systems in Africa for a Better Food Future in Nairobi. Discussions took place in a pavilion jointly hosted by FOLUR and PROGREEN, the World Bank-led [Global Partnership for Sustainable and Resilient Landscapes](#). Progress toward transforming food systems—particularly coffee and cocoa value chains—was assessed by improving agricultural practices and land use management. Representatives from 10 African countries discussed relationship-building and knowledge exchange. The Africa Regional Dialogue also highlighted key gender-responsive actions that the FOLUR country project teams are undertaking.

Global Landscapes Forum Nairobi

With support from the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF), FOLUR hosted two sessions: Putting Smallholders at the Center of Deforestation-Free Value Chains in Africa, and How Land Restoration Can Heal the Planet at GLF Nairobi: A New Vision for Earth, held October 11–12, 2023. Takeaways from each session were highlighted in ThinkLandscape news articles and in a press release.

Seventh Global Environment Facility Assembly

A landmark gender-focused event at the [Seventh GEF Assembly](#) in Vancouver, held from August 22 to 26, 2023, initiated by [GEF's Gender Partnership](#), led to the formation of a Women and Gender Caucus. A FOLUR-led roundtable discussion at the GEF Assembly highlighted the need for urgent food system transformation. The overarching question posed to panelists by moderator Teresa Welsh, a senior reporter at the Devex media outlet, was "Are we targeting sufficient ambition in a sufficiently targeted way?" Highlights included concerns over a projected loss of 120 million rural jobs; and incentive systems—how partnerships, gender, and power imbalances influence behavioral change, and whether they precondition people to think in particular ways.

UN Food Systems Summit+2 Stocktaking Moment

FOLUR was also present at the UN Food Systems Summit+2 Stocktaking Moment in July 2023. Martien Van Nieuwkoop, former World Bank Global Director of the Agriculture and Food Global Practice, participated in a private-sector special event focused on the scale of public support, and the incentives required to enable private-sector investments to facilitate food system transformation.

"A growing number of countries are pushing boundaries across private and public sector initiatives as they gear up to meet new, stringent traceability standards in Europe."

Chris Brett, Lead Agribusiness Specialist, World Bank, and joint manager of FOLUR

Countries should forge public-private pacts to repurpose investments, green supply chains, and raise standards for sustainable development. Such action would help to de-risk private sector investment in low-income countries, and drive change.

Private-Sector Investments

So far, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) has facilitated \$507 million, scaling up private sector investment in FOLUR value chains. For fiscal 2024, the Nestle Nespresso advisory project in Uganda made possible a \$4.5 million loan. The new Brazil Sustainable Land project is expected to facilitate an additional

Wheat field.

Photo by Maksym Belchenko/iStock

\$50 million. Since the launch of [IFC's Practices for Sustainable Investment in Livestock Operations](#), IFC has made 11 investments in livestock, equal to almost \$503 million.

FACS Community of Practice

The [Good Growth Partnership](#) (GGP), led by the United Nations Development Programme, supports FOLUR with a dedicated digital space (called the FOLUR Community) hosted by the Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems Community of Practice (FACS Community). The FOLUR Community currently allows 230 FOLUR members to collaborate, access project resources and knowledge products, attend FOLUR learning and capacity development events, follow FOLUR updates, request support, and share their project news and success. Twenty six events relevant to FOLUR members were delivered by the FACS Community or its nested FOLUR Community. Events included::

- An ongoing [EUDR Learning Series](#) where practitioners learn from and discuss approaches to traceability and compliance challenges faced by smallholder producers, as well as links to other key upcoming legislation, such as the EU Corporate Due Diligence Directive.
- The [second](#) and [third](#) courses of the FOLUR Gender Learning Program were held, building on the launch of the FOLUR [Resource Guide on Gender Equality](#).

World Cocoa Foundation Partnership

FOLUR participated in the World Cocoa Foundation Partnership meeting from February 5 to 11, 2024, in sessions on:

- “Farmer-centric” cocoa management models, and how farmers can scale up and increase yields by adopting agroforestry practices.

- How the new EUDR will make cocoa traceability from the field to the consumer even more vital.
- Cocoa agroforestry techniques that lead to bigger yields, healthier landscapes, stronger value chains—and that extend the longevity of crop production.

Codex Planetarius

FOLUR made a \$170,000 investment into Codex Planetarius through the FAO, as its core partner in the FOLUR Global Platform. The proposed system of minimum commodity-based environmental standards for global food production and trade is led by the World Wildlife Fund and GEF. It will establish guidelines for up to eight key environmental performance standards focused on the least efficient producers creating 60 to 80 percent of global impacts. It will be implemented through global trade systems designed to support producers to meet minimum performance standards and to restrict exports that do not comply. Codex Planetarius is designed to minimize costs and trade disruption, lower greenhouse gas emissions, maximize local environmental benefits, and ensure food security and sustainable production.

GEF 8

Funded by the seventh Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding cycle (GEF 7), and situated on the continuum between [GEF 6](#), GEF 8 and beyond, FOLUR is a constituent element of the GEF approach to [food systems](#) transformation.

The [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) (FAO), a FOLUR implementing agency, is scaling up the [Participatory Integrated Landscape Approach](#) (PILA), which was launched at the 2023 [FOLUR biennial meeting](#) in Sao Paolo, Brazil, organizationally across projects. The intention is that this initiative will carry into the GEF 8 cycle.



Program and Capacity Strengthening

In fiscal 2024, the FOLUR Impact Program continued to advance capacity needs assessments, which are crucial to successful country project delivery. FAO and UNDP focused their efforts on building the capacity of country projects through PILA, capacity building and training sessions, including learning events on [Effective Collaborative Action \(ECA\)](#), [Farmer Support Systems](#) (FSS) Guidance, and 26 events offered through the FACS community.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

During the reporting period, FAO further accelerated FOLUR country capacity enhancement on innovative integrated landscape management (ILM) by deploying the [Participatory Informed Landscape Approach](#) (PILA). PILA facilitates a holistic, systemic, integrated landscape planning, management, and governance approach for transformative agrifood systems. Among the FOLUR pilot countries, Nigeria is the front-runner. National governmental counterparts were trained on the application of the contextualized PILA-TAPE Household Survey, transformative governance, the Economics of Restoration (TEER), and FAO-PILA geospatial tools for land use or land use change assessments. Additionally, multistakeholder processes were conducted with targeted cross-sectoral participants from relevant national and state-level institutions as well as project partners. Moreover, global awareness on applying PILA to integrated landscape management for food systems transformation was prominently featured as a case study in flagship publications such as the *World's Forests 2024* on "[Fostering Multistakeholder Governance Mechanisms to Scale Up Integrated Sustainable Landscape Management](#)." Finally, efforts were advanced to integrate FOLUR's work on ILM

Above: Agroecology is a key component of integrated landscape management approach: the project has trained 32 enumerators on the PILA-TAPE tool for agroecological performance evaluation to carry out household/baseline data collection in Cross River and Ondo state.

Photo by GEF-7 FOLUR Nigeria project team

through PILA into the new [GEF-8 Food Systems Impact Program](#) design process, to capitalize on and leverage lessons learned.

GOOD GROWTH PARTNERSHIP (GGP)

United Nations Development Programme-Good Growth Partnership (UNDP-GGP) activities will contribute to the expected GEBs through FOLUR Country Projects (CPs) and beyond, through the following activities:

- GGP, under UNDP leadership, is providing learning events on its ECA methodology, promoting meaningful collaboration. Since July 2023, the GGP team has delivered four capacity-building events on ECA's areas of intervention, targeting FOLUR practitioners, and representatives from FOLUR India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Tanzania, Uganda, and Viet Nam, with Ethiopia joining at least one. Once fully capacitated, country project teams and stakeholders will be equipped to better facilitate and participate in multistakeholder platforms and dialogues, which may result in commitments and legal changes that promote more sustainable commodity sectors, likely including high-conservation value area protection; restoration; and green production practices. This will potentially result in contributing to all four GEB indicators.
- GGP has delivered training sessions on the UNDP [FSS Guidance](#) and two problem-solving workshops addressing the challenges affecting extension services in FOLUR countries. Participation from FOLUR Ghana, India, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Ukraine, was registered for the sessions, which allowed FOLUR teams to first familiarize themselves with and then receive a capacity-building toolkit that takes a systemic approach to strengthening extension systems. By replicating the problem-solving workshop methodology in their countries, FOLUR teams could facilitate local processes to



Livestock graze in China.

Photo by 1970s/iStock

strengthen farmer support, nudging farmers to adopt more sustainable production practices, and contributing to GEBs.

- As part of GGP, Conservation International works through the [International Coffee Organization](#) (ICO), and leads one technical workstream under the ICO Coffee Public Private Task Force (CPPTF). Momentum around the ICO Task Force continues to grow, since it is proving to be an effective mechanism for connecting dialogue about landscape approaches with the critical sustainability issues that the industry is facing, such as deforestation and living income. In addition, Conservation International is converging the task force's landscape work with the efforts of the [Sustainable Coffee Challenge](#) (SCC), which is also experiencing a large private-sector following. The goal is to foster public-private partnerships that enhance the resilience of coffee communities and promote sustainable sector transformation. Best practices promoted through this work not only benefit coffee-focused FOLUR countries, but others too. (See the SCC [2023 Commitments Hub Report](#).) This allows GGP's potential contribution to GEBs to go beyond country projects.
- This is also the case for the work of the [United Nations Environment Programme](#) (UNEP) in building the capacity of financial institutions and regulators to make Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risk-informed investment decisions, and to align their portfolios with sustainable land use lending through financing nature-based solutions. Since July 2023, UNEP has developed and delivered training to financial actors in Paraguay as well as at the global level, working with the [World Conservation Monitoring Centre](#) (UNEP-WCMC). Additionally, an [environmental and social fact sheet](#) was published for impact investors in Indonesia. To date, over 200 financial institutions have been trained in issues relating to sustainable land use finance, including investing in nature-based solutions. We expect these financial institutions to make investment decisions that not only do no harm to nature and the climate, but are also nature and climate-positive, contributing to GEBs.
- Finally, the UNDP-led Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems (FACS) [Community of Practice](#) delivered 26 events relevant to FOLUR and open to all of its members, including FOLUR CPs and practitioners from other countries and organizations that are being influenced to adopt better practices; this eventually will contribute to the GEBs. This is also true for the FOLUR-UNDP-GGP supported [Evidensia](#), which is available to all interested stakeholders.



Coffee beans.

Photo by Danita Delimont/Shutterstock



Evergreen Cocoa tree.
Côte d'Ivoire.

Photo by Martin Wahlborg



Policy and Value Chain Engagement

In fiscal 2024, the FOLUR Impact Program continued to advance dialogue toward scaled-up action on environmentally sustainable production practices, standards, and investments. The goal is to move companies and countries toward achieving commitments to sustainable landscape management, production, and restoration approaches by focusing on selected policy opportunities, and by stimulating both public and private-sector resource mobilization.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT

Food and Land Use Coalition

Food and Land Use (FOLU) Coalition activities are contributing to the FOLUR Impact Program's GEBs through a process of "FOLURization" across workstreams involving FOLUR countries.

World Resources Institute

The FOLU Coalition convened the first FOLUR Policy Accelerator in Palmira, Colombia from November 7 to 10, 2023, for a cohort of 45 senior government officials from Guatemala, Mexico, and Colombia. These officials, including 23 women and 22 men, represented ministries of environment, agriculture, and climate change. The participants also included mentors from various institutions, including the World Resources Institute (WRI), the

Above: A farmer works in a cocoa field.


Photo by Marlon del Aguila Guerrero/FOLUR

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Fondo Golfo, Cafecol, Instituto del Café de Chiapas, Fondo de Conservación El Triunfo, and the Colombian Coffee Federation.

WRI's peer-to-peer Policy Accelerators are tailor-made capacity-building programs established in 2019 for policy makers looking to design or improve incentive programs for landscape restoration in forests and on agricultural lands. For this cohort, the Policy Accelerator was adapted to the context of the FOLUR initiative, with a particular focus on deforestation-free coffee and cocoa production. The program resulted in engaging discussions and the identification of priority bottlenecks and a potential road map of solutions to scale FOLUR initiatives. It included interactive exercises, with the last day standing out as especially beneficial in terms of exchanging ideas for policy acceleration. The discussions on policy bottlenecks in Colombia, Guatemala, and Mexico provided valuable insights into the challenges faced and the collaborative efforts needed to overcome them. The program provided a great space for knowledge sharing and networking. Field trips, facility tours, and socializing events also helped to foster a sense of community among participants.

Of the various bottlenecks that were identified, WRI managed to mobilize resources outside of the FOLUR grant to directly support the State of Veracruz in Mexico, with the development of a statewide restoration plan, as well as an environmental compensation program, with the kick-off workshop hosted at the end of February 2024 in Veracruz, with the same team from the Ministry of Environment that participated in the FOLUR Accelerator in Colombia.

The FOLUR Policy Accelerator will continue on the African continent, with participants from the FOLUR countries of Ethiopia, Ghana, and Kenya continuing the focus on deforestation-free cocoa and coffee.



A farmer holds raw coffee beans.

Photo by Michael Tagoe/iStock



Value Chain Engagement

FOOD AND LAND USE COALITION

World Business Council for Sustainable Development

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Soft Commodities Forum (SCF), in collaboration with the Forest Investor [Club](#), has developed initial economic modeling for the long-term financing of sustainable soy in the Brazilian Cerrado, and has coordinated a round of revisions with member corporations in Q1 and Q2 of 2024. FOLUR and World Bank teams provided input in Q3 and Q4 of 2023, supporting the Development Finance Institution (DFI) perspective for investment in high-priority landscapes in the Brazilian Cerrado.

In addition, the SCF and the Banking for Impact on [Climate in Agriculture](#) (B4ICA) initiative will cohost a deforestation and conversion-free (DCF)-Finance multistakeholder roundtable in Q4 of 2024. This roundtable will convene financial institutions, including commercial banks and asset managers; providers of concessional capital; and producers and supply-chain companies (input companies, agribusinesses, manufacturers, consumer-facing companies, and farmer representatives) to discuss multistakeholder financial solutions for scaling DCF production in the Cerrado. Input from the FOLUR and World Bank representatives will support shaping the agenda and addressing the roadblocks to public-private collaboration for scaling financing DCF production in the Cerrado.

Above: Airplane view of soy and deforestation, Mato Grosso, Brazil, 2015.

Photo by Jared Hardner/
FOLUR

In November 2023 WBCSD launched the mission paper for the “[RICE+ hub for regenerative ‘ricescapes’](#)” (rice landscapes, “ricescapes,” for short) in collaboration with member companies and partners, under the auspices of the Sustainable Rice Landscape Initiative (SRLI). This mission paper is a call to action to bring together committed companies to drive an action-oriented agenda to tackle the major challenges that inhibit investment in scaling sustainable and regenerative rice-based landscapes. Given the unique opportunity for sustainable rice landscapes to deliver solutions for climate mitigation and adaptation, nature recovery, and improving farmer livelihoods while contributing to food and nutrition security, there is an urgent need to target finance, and scale up actions in high-impact landscapes in South and Southeast Asia.

Sustainable Development Solutions Network

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) has finalized a trade model for rice, wheat, soybeans, and maize in collaboration with Britain’s University of Oxford. It considers detailed transportation costs, trade policies, production costs, and consumer prices. SDSN also has the results from the Scenathon 2023 on the projected net trade for these commodities for the 22 participating countries (including the FOLUR countries of Brazil, China, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, and Mexico), and six rest-of-the-world regions for current trends, national commitments and global sustainability, three alternative pathways.

SDSN is working to connect the trade model to modeling scenarios at the national and subnational level, expanding the model to cocoa, coffee, beef, and palm oil. In parallel, it is adopting a machine-learning approach in collaboration with the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) to analyze bilateral trade flows. Both methods were presented to the [Food, Agriculture, Biodiversity, Land-Use, and Energy Consortium](#) (FABLE)



Crops grow on a farm in Ghana.

Photo by Michael Tagoe/Stock

members during the 13th FABLE Consortium meeting, which took place in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina in November 2023. Looking ahead, the two approaches will be refined based on the received feedback, a crucial step to allow consumption-based footprint tracking.

International Finance Corporation

All International Finance Corporation (IFC)-FOLUR client-facing advisory services projects are expected to directly contribute to GEBs through landscapes brought under improved practices. One project is also expected to contribute to land restored.

Most recently, IFC (with FOLUR funds) has supported the [Brazil Sustainable Land Project](#), which aims to work with four different private-sector clients who are working with various FOLUR commodities to adopt innovative, biodiversity-friendly, climate-smart sustainable practices. Through its clients who are involved with soy and cocoa, and are working on regenerative agriculture practices, IFC expects to put 25,000 hectares of landscapes under improved practices by June 2027. Working with another client, IFC will support the implementation of a Cerrado biodiversity corridor in the Brazilian state of Mato Grosso do Sul through land restoration. This will be done by implementing native forest restoration and agroforestry systems; and analyzing Cadastro Ambiental Rural (CAR) and seedling production with rural settlements, local communities, soy/corn farmers, and cattle ranchers. The project will also support monitoring of the corridor's biodiversity. These efforts are expected to lead to 50,000 hectares of land restored by June 2027.

- Focus on livestock and climate change:** Following the launch of IFC's Practices for Sustainable Investment in Livestock Operations at the [Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock](#) annual meeting in November 2022, IFC has presented the practices at 23 international events with over 4,800 participants. Events include the 2023 World Meat [Congress](#), organized by the International Meat Secretariat in Maastricht, Netherlands; and FAO's [Global Conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation](#), held at FAO headquarters in Rome, where the practices were presented to 896 participants. Since its launch in 2022, five multilateral development banks (MDBs) with the largest animal protein portfolios have endorsed IFC's Practices, including [IDB Invest](#), the [European Bank of Reconstruction and Development](#) (EBRD), the [Asian Development Bank](#) (ADB), FMO Dutch [Entrepreneurial Development Bank](#), and [British International Investment](#) (BII). Since these practices were launched, IFC has made 11 investments in livestock for a little over \$500 million.
- Focus on Brazil:** Brazil, a global leader in agriculture, faces sustainability challenges along with its significant role as a major contributor to global food security. As a major producer of

Oil Palm factory worker, Brazil

Photo by Miguel Pinheiro/
CIFOR



such commodities as soy, beef, and coffee, Brazil's development and IFC's investments must navigate these issues. With 63.5 million hectares already dedicated to crops and expected to increase, Brazil's agricultural practices must become sustainable and climate resilient. Brazil's production of grain, oilseed, and such FOLUR commodities as cocoa, are projected to rise substantially to meet local and global demand.

However, rapid production increases risks, including those posed by carbon emissions, environmental degradation, and water scarcity, which will be exacerbated by stringent sustainability regulations and gender disparities in farming. The implementation of EU [deforestation](#) (EUDR) will impact exports, and demand adaptation of production systems.

IFC has published a short case study on its experience, lessons learned, and best practices on the soy supply-chain risks, drawing from recent experience with a large investment in Brazil. The case study covers how IFC identifies supply-chain risks, including the entire IFC appraisal process; proposed solutions for identified risks, and ultimate outcomes.

As mentioned above, using FOLUR funds, IFC is supporting new efforts for sustainable land management in Brazil and working with four different private- sector clients on soy, cocoa, and regenerative agriculture practices to adopt innovative, biodiversity-friendly, climate-smart, sustainable practices.

- **Focus on rice:** Rice is one of the world's most significant staple foods and is integral to global food systems. It is a daily staple for 3.5 billion people, contributing to around one-fifth of the global calorie supply and the livelihoods of over 1.5 billion people (18.5 percent of the global population). Rice is also responsible for around 12 percent of human-generated methane emissions and has a significant impact on land-use (15 percent of global wetlands) and water usage (up to 30 percent of global freshwater withdrawals).

IFC is examining opportunities for sustainable investment in the rice sector. It has commissioned two studies on sustainable finance for rice: one on blended finance, and one on global trade supply-chain finance. The studies are complete, and the results are promising. IFC is currently working to redact the comprehensive reports into reports that can be externally shared with the FOLUR Community of Practice, and beyond.



Strategic Knowledge Management and Communications

In fiscal 2024, the World Bank, with the support of core partners, focused on communicating narratives that highlighted the key theme of the year: community building across countries, themes, and sectors. FOLUR participated in events, hosted communications working group meetings, and continued to guide our communications partner, the GLF, while producing stories on *FOLUR for the Record* and supporting the production of stories on *Landscape News/Think Landscape*. FOLUR has also actively engaged on podcasts and social media platforms, as well as global forums relevant to sustainable landscapes. FOLUR.org has seen dramatic growth in web visitors, from 3,700 in fiscal year 2023 to 12,000 in fiscal year 2024.

From October 13 to 14, 2023, FOLUR hosted its first regional dialogue in Nairobi, FOLUR Africa: Transforming Value Chains and Agroforestry Systems in Africa for a Better Food Future. Sessions and discussions took place in a pavilion jointly hosted by FOLUR and PROGREEN, the World Bank-led [Global Partnership for Sustainable and Resilient Landscapes](#). This partnership supports countries that are balancing development activities—including agriculture—with encroachment into natural areas, which is leading to deforestation and landscape degradation. Progress toward transforming food systems by improving agricultural practices and land use management—particularly in coffee and cocoa value chains—was assessed. Representatives from 10 African countries discussed relationship-building and knowledge exchange/training, highlighting lessons learned, and accelerating impact. Key takeaways included:

Above: A view of rice fields.

Photo by AU USAnakul/
Shutterstock

- **Legal land tenure, particularly for smallholders and women, is essential to achieving the FOLUR Impact Program goals.** Land and tree tenure is strongly associated with farmers' ability to act as custodians of the land and protectors of forests, but also to promote more sustainable long-term practices that avoid land degradation.
- **Demand for coffee could outpace supply.** [Conservation International](#) has said that meeting future demand would require tripling production by 2050, with significant impacts on forests.
- **Participants reflected that the adverse effects of climate change are a significant challenge to sustainability and productivity.** The [Global Coffee Platform](#) highlighted that Kenyan coffee production has declined significantly due to climate change (62 percent in the past 30 years) and pointed to such challenges as inefficient cooperatives.
- **Political economy was seen as a barrier to policy change, while participants recognized that national politics are often very dynamic.** Participants highlighted shortcomings such as a lack of payments to farmers for ecosystem services, and a reliance on direct subsidies.
- **Participants envisioned thriving coffee, cocoa, palm oil, and rice sectors by 2050** producing high-quality commodities suitable for export and rewarding smallholder farmers with a living income.
- **Participants also expressed the need to include Indigenous Peoples and local communities in mapping exercises** for reasons of equity and human rights.
- **The importance of women smallholder farmers in driving more sustainable practices was recognized** among FOLUR Africa participants.

The Africa Regional Dialogue also highlighted key gender-responsive actions FOLUR country project teams are undertaking. An all-woman panel spoke about the need to move beyond gender targeting and meeting predetermined quotas of women beneficiaries toward establishing more secure land rights for women—such as through land certificates signed by both spouses.

A landmark gender-focused event at the [Seventh GEF Assembly](#) in Vancouver, from August 22 to 26, 2023, catalyzed by [GEF's Gender Partnership](#), led to the formation of a Women and Gender Caucus. The self-organized coalition of multiple women's networks, organizations, and gender allies is united under GEF's diverse agendas, fostering a human rights-based approach to social and gender justice.

A FOLUR-led roundtable discussion at the GEF Assembly highlighted the need for urgent food system transformation. The overarching question posed to panelists by moderator Teresa Welsh, a senior reporter at the Devex media outlet was "Are we targeting sufficient ambition in a sufficiently targeted way?" Highlights included considerations on whether ambitions are sufficiently targeted concerning a projected loss of more than 120 million rural jobs, and incentive systems: How partnerships, and gender and power imbalances influence behavioral change? And do they precondition people to think in particular ways?

FOLUR participated in the [World Cocoa Foundation Partnership](#) meeting from February 5 to 11, 2024. The sessions considered:

“Farmer-centric” cocoa management models and how farmers can scale up and increase yields by adopting agroforestry practices.

How the new EUDR will make cocoa traceability from the field to the consumer even more vital.

Cocoa agroforestry techniques that lead to bigger yields, healthier landscapes, stronger value chains, and that extend the longevity of crop production.

GLOBAL LANDSCAPES FORUM

The [Global Landscapes Forum](#) (GLF) supports the work of the FOLUR Impact Program by promoting deforestation-free commodity supply chains and sustainable food systems.

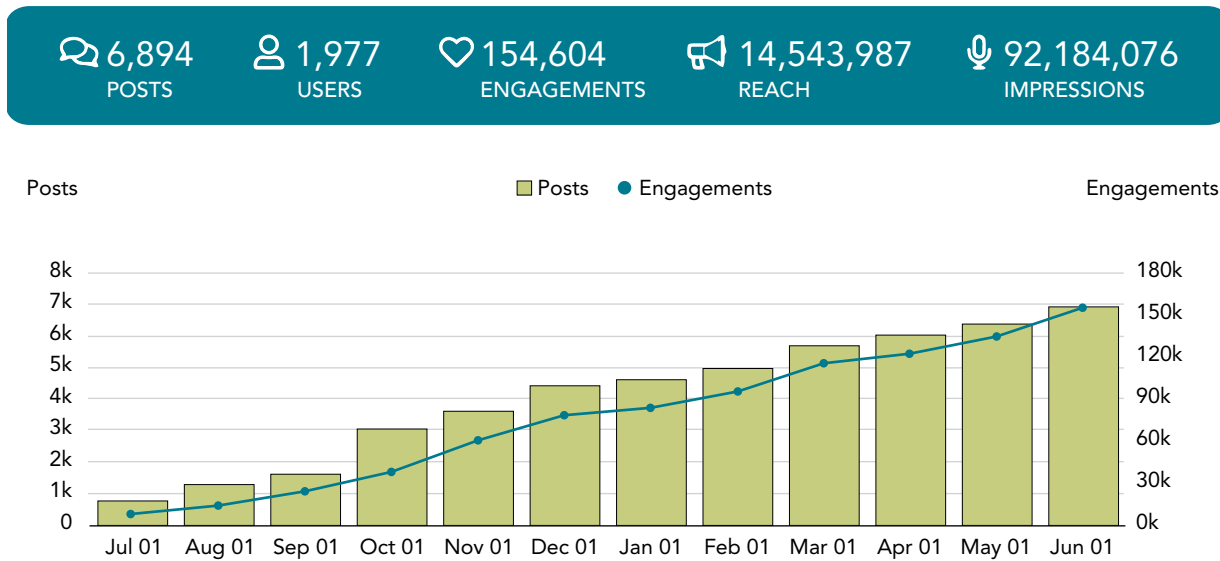
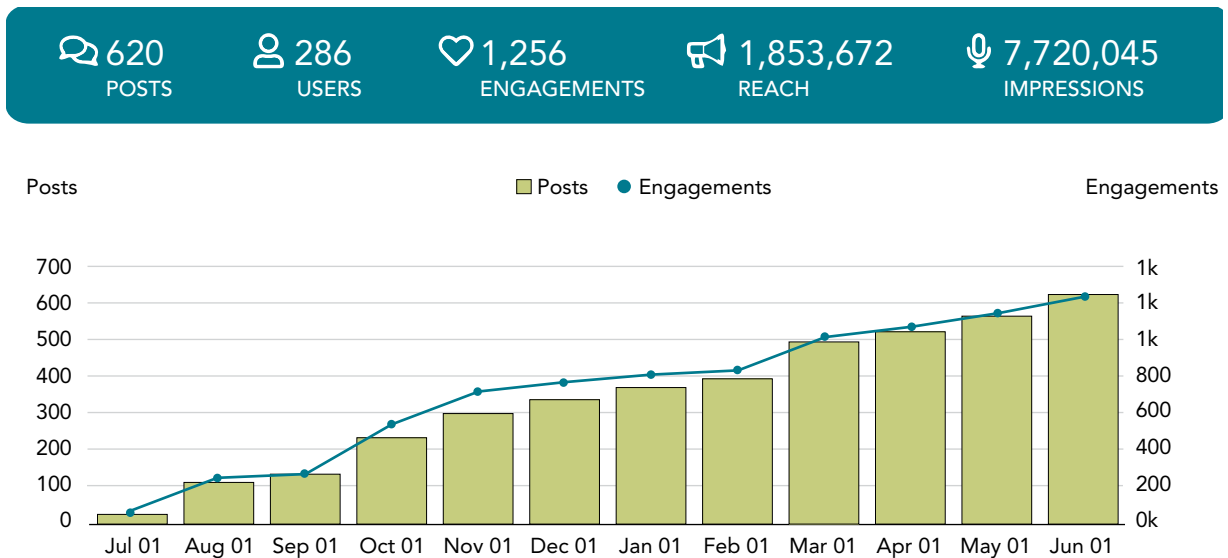
In supporting mainstream integrated sustainable landscape approaches—and known for their holistic method of assessing areas of landscapes and the communities living in them—the GLF makes an active effort to feature and give voice to Indigenous communities, smallholder farmers, activists, and women. The connection with grassroots movements and local changemakers, as well as financial institutions and policy makers, allows GLF to reach a diverse audience.

Through global events with FOLUR-specific sessions and innovative communications products, the #FOLURImpact and #ThinkLandscape hashtags have gained global traction, and have organically reached over 16.3 million people around the world, generating over 153,000 engagements on social media.

Below: Duncan Okowa, research associate, Landscape Policy Accelerator, World Resources Institute (L) and Peter Umunay, Cluster Lead, Food Systems and Land Use, Global Environment Facility participate in GLF Nairobi 2023.

Photo by GLF



FIGURE 2. #ThinkLandscape Hashtag Impact, July 2023 – June 2024**FIGURE 3. #FOLURImpact Hashtag Impact, July 2023 – June 2024**

Key messages that shaped the conversations during fiscal 2024 emphasized the need for collaboration and knowledge sharing to support understanding of sustainable value chains, lessons learned, and expertise of country projects; the role of women and those acting at the landscape level in achieving sustainable practices; and accentuated the need for a multistakeholder approach to encourage implementation of deforestation- free, sustainable commodity value chains.

In addition to participating in GLF Nairobi GLF Peatlands, FOLUR was featured in five GLF Live video broadcast interviews, which were watched by more than 10,000 people on YouTube, LinkedIn, Facebook, and X (formerly Twitter).

The #FOLURImpact hashtag has reached over 1.8 million people on social media, generating over 1,200 engagements and over 7.7 million impressions.

FOLUR communications materials continue to be uploaded on the [FOLUR GLF landing page](#) and the [GLF Knowledge Hub](#), widening the reach and impact of FOLUR.

Notable GLF activities include:

- GLF Peatlands 2024: The Climate Solution We Forgot brought together 1,300 global stakeholders from 118 countries to address gaps in peatland science, policy, and practice. A video, the “Year of Climate Dialogue in Ukraine” features the FOLUR country project, which highlights Ukraine’s peatlands.
- GLF Nairobi: A New Vision for Earth brought together over 7,000 participants from 130 countries, both in person and online, with a potential reach of 80.2 million people on social and other media. FOLUR hosted the sessions “Putting Smallholders at the Center of Deforestation-Free Value Chains in Africa,” and “How Land Restoration Can Heal the Planet.” Takeaways from the sessions, which were viewed by over 2,000 people, were highlighted in articles and a press release. In addition, the World Bank Landscapes for a Liveable Planet Pavilion, co-hosted by FOLUR and PROGREEN, included presentations from FOLUR’s core partners on topics such as landscape restoration and private-sector engagement for sustainable agriculture.
- The GLF Live video broadcast, “What Does the Future of Coffee Look Like?” was followed by an article and a podcast, which featured discussion on the crucial role of forests and the need for sustainable value chains.
- The 7th GEF Assembly was followed by a GLF article and podcast featuring discussions on key takeaways from the event, and how conservation can be made more inclusive.
- The GLF Live video broadcast, “How Can Financial Disclosures Support Sustainable Business?”; and a related podcast episode, “Financial Disclosures: All You Need to Know,” highlighted the importance of capacity-building by bringing together David Craig, cochair of the [Taskforce for Nature-Related Financial Disclosures](#) (TNFD), and Jingdong Hua, vice chair of the [International Sustainability Standards Board](#) (ISSB), in a discussion on how various financial reporting standards can work together to achieve sustainable food systems.
- The Spanish-language GLF Live video broadcast, “How Can Public Incentives Help Build Sustainable Value Chains?” furthered discussion on the implementation of ILM practices through capacity building, using such tools as the WRI-led [Landscape Policy Accelerator](#).



Aerial view of palm oil plantation.

Photo by Oleh_Slobodeniuk/iStock

GOOD GROWTH PARTNERSHIP

The UNDP Good Growth Partnership (UNDP-GGP) supports FOLUR through a digital space dedicated to knowledge sharing. The Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems (FACS) [FOLUR Community](#) provides an arena for the Impact Program and the Global Platform, providing FOLUR country projects, partners, and stakeholders worldwide with an opportunity to connect, share, and learn.

This space was revamped in early 2024 and now allows users to engage in the FOLUR Global Platform's activities, including such project components as integrated landscape management (ILM), sustainable value chains, land restoration, and cross-cutting topics such as gender equality. It is also a virtual forum where key information about FOLUR, including the latest news, program management information, and upcoming events, support the FOLUR and GLF websites.

As a result of these activities, the FOLUR FACS Community now has 173 representatives that can interact, exchange knowledge, collaborate with other stakeholders across geographies and time zones, and participate in learning sessions.

Since July 2023, UNDP-GGP, through FACS, has organized a total of 26 learning events relevant to FOLUR, including:

- Virtual workshops on UNDP's [Effective Collaborative Action](#) (ECA) methodology, consisting of discovery sessions on the methodology and its tools, as well as learning cycles on Working with Power.
- An ongoing [EUDR Learning Series](#) where practitioners learned from and discussed approaches to complying with this new regulation, with a focus on the cocoa sector; challenges faced by smallholder producers; as well as links to other key upcoming legislation, such as the EU Corporate Due Diligence Directive.
- Webinars focusing on coffee, exploring both the supply side (together with [Evidensia](#) and Conservation International) and the demand side (with Conservation International) of this key FOLUR commodity.
- Ad hoc training to FOLUR Country Project teams and private-sector stakeholders on GGP's [Value Beyond Value Chains](#) (VBV) guidance focusing on how collaboration between the private sector and governments can enhance sustainable commodity production. In parallel, two discovery sessions for FOLUR country project teams on private-sector engagement strategies have been delivered and—because of these sessions—the Ethiopia and Indonesia country projects will receive specific technical advice on private-sector engagement through a deep-dive program later in the year.
- Virtual workshops on UNDP [Farmer Support Systems \(FSS\) Guidance](#), and two problem-solving workshops addressing the challenges affecting extension services in FOLUR Country Projects, which will allow FOLUR teams to gain insights into how to strengthen producer extension systems.

- The [second](#) and [third](#) courses of the FOLUR Gender Learning Program, building on the launching of the UNDP-GGP-led [FOLUR Resource Guide on Gender Equality](#).
- A virtual workshop on Living Income by the Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling (ISEAL) Alliance exploring the latest learnings from the Living Income Community of Practice (LICOP) and its programs and introducing powerful research platforms such as the Knowledge Platform for Inclusive and Sustainable Food Markets (KISM) and Evidensia.
- Workshops on cognitive agility, part of the wider value-shift series, exploring insights from neuroscience and focusing on practical and everyday brain-based tools and techniques that can transform the effectiveness of food system practitioners.
- More learning opportunities are in the pipeline for the coming months, including additional events on farmer support systems, jurisdictional dialogues, essential collaborative practices (including working with power for food and agricultural commodity systems transformation), gender in food systems, land use and restoration, private-sector engagement strategies, market-based approaches in the cocoa sector, engaging finance within restoration, and regenerative mindsets and values.

TABLE 2. Webinars Hosted by FACS Community from July 2023 to June 2024

Event	Year	Attendees
Course 1 – Introduction to gender equality concepts in FOLUR	2023	74
Session 4 Supporting compliance with the EU Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products: Case Study from the Cocoa Sector	2023	121
Accelerating Innovation for Farmer Extension Services – Discovery & Promotion	2023	49
Accelerating Innovation for Farmer Extension Services (Americas)	2023	70
Driving Transformation in Coffee through Collaboration – Case Studies from Exporting Countries	2023	125
VBV workshop (Africa) How Collaboration between the Private Sector and Governments Can Enhance Sustainable Agricultural Production	2023	32
Supporting Producers: A Systems Approach to Strengthen Farmers Extension Services -Farmers Support Systems Toolkit (Americas)	2023	34
Course 2 – Module 1: Gender in Integrated Landscape Management and Restoration Initiatives	2023	57
The State of Coffee Sustainability: Review of Commitments, Trends and Progress in the Coffee Sector	2023	77

Event	Year	Attendees
VBV workshop (Americas) How Collaboration between the Private Sector and Governments Can Enhance Sustainable Agricultural Production	2023	35
Course 2 – Module 2: Gender in Integrated Landscape Management and Restoration Initiatives	2023	53
Living Income: Insights, Evidence and Collective Action	2023	96
Session 5 Supporting Compliance with the EU Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products: The Case of Small-Scale Farmers	2024	195
Discovery & Promotion Session: Accelerating Innovation for Farmer Extension Services	2024	35
Problem Solving Workshop: Accelerating Innovation for Farmers' Extension Services	2024	41
Leveraging Your Embodied Brain: Transform Your Effectiveness as a Food System Change Agent (Asia/Africa/Europe) – COHORT 1	2024	19
Leveraging Your Embodied Brain: Transform Your Effectiveness as a Food System Change Agent (Americas) – COHORT 2	2024	17
Course 3 – Gender Learning Program: Gender and Sustainable Food and Agriculture Systems	2024	58
Introduction to Understanding and Working with Power in Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems (Africa/Asia/Europe)	2024	30
Introduction to Understanding and Working with Power in Food and Agricultural Commodity Systems (Americas)	2024	42
Discovery Session on Driving Effective Collaborative Action with the Private Sector (Asia/Africa/Europe)	2024	45
Discovery Session on Driving Effective Collaborative Action with the Private Sector (Americas)	2024	35
The Learning Path: Accelerating Innovation for Farmers' Extension Services – A Practical Approach to Addressing Farmers' Challenges towards Sustainability (Americas and Europe)	2024	30
The Learning Path: Accelerating Innovation for Farmers' Extension Services – A Practical Approach to Addressing Farmers' Challenges towards Sustainability (Asia, Africa, and Europe)	2024	23
A Guide on Effective Collaborative Action for Food Systems Change (Asia/Africa)	2024	34
A Guide on Effective Collaborative Action for Food Systems Change (Americas)	2024	28

Source: FACs Community

Note: All events were organized by UNDP-GGP and hosted on Zoom.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in close collaboration with UNDP-GGP, finalized and launched the Global Knowledge to Action Platform “menu,” and integrated illustration of global services to be tapped into by the country projects to help them accelerate action and reach impact at scale. Moreover, FAO participated in the launch of the FOLUR online community; and engagement from country projects intensified.



Rice cultivation.

Photo by elleon/iStock



Major Themes

PRIVATE SECTOR EFFORTS

FOLUR supports private-sector efforts to improve environmental and sustainability practices. Private-sector commitments can play a significant role in achieving sector-wide, transformational change. Achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 is only possible with significantly enhanced private-sector support, engagement, and investment. By expanding their tentacles across stakeholders and partnerships, private-sector-driven activities influence development-focused financial institutions and banks.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has so far facilitated \$507 million; the Nestle Nespresso advisory project in Uganda made possible a \$4.5 million loan; and the new Brazil Sustainable Land project is expected to facilitate an additional \$50 million.

Since the launch of [IFC's Practices for Sustainable Investment in Livestock Operations](#), IFC has made 11 investments in livestock, totaling \$502,592 million.

IFC has also leveraged \$5.4million in co-financing from other donors and clients for their on-the-ground projects as well as knowledge sharing efforts.

Above: Aerial view of palm oil and natural forests.

Photo by Nanang Sujana/
CIFOR



Harvesting soybeans. Mato Grosso, Brazil.

Photo by Herbert Pictures/iStock



**Farmers in
Tanzania hold rice.**

Photo by Nkumi Mtingwa/
CIFOR

GENDER ISSUES

In the latter half of 2023, gender often took center stage at FOLUR-led conferences, sessions, meetings, and events, amplifying voices that have traditionally not been heard at global meetings.

Examples of some of the powerful messages relayed include calls for more investment in equality from Indigenous and rural community women at a gender-focused event at the Seventh GEF Assembly, which was attended by 1,500 delegates from 185 countries. The discussion opened its doors to a record number of women, youth, and Indigenous peoples to influence the way forward for new inclusive and sustainable environmental programs. Voices from the field recounted gender challenges, and approaches in landscape and commodity value chain-related projects.

The FOLUR Africa Regional Dialogue in Nairobi highlighted key gender-responsive actions that FOLUR country project teams are taking, and the challenges that remain. Participants heard from an all-female panel about the need to move beyond gender targeting and meeting predetermined quotas of women beneficiaries toward establishing more secure land rights for women – such as through land certificates signed by both spouses. (The Burundi and Ethiopia FOLUR projects, for example, are building upon gender-transformative land certification efforts supported by the World Bank and others.)

Meaningful participation of women in forest and natural resource decision-making bodies, particularly in leadership positions, were highlighted as key enablers of long-term empowerment by FOLUR project team members from Ghana, Liberia, and Tanzania. Project activities created conducive spaces and established convenient times for women

to participate in workshops and dialogues. Participants encouraged the use of bottom-up, participatory, and inclusive approaches that included mapping landscape resources with diverse community members and Indigenous Peoples. The session also launched the [FOLUR Resource Guide on Gender Equality](#), led by UNDP-GGP, with contributions from FOLUR's active gender community of practice on the FACS Community website.

Building on the resource guide, three modules of [FOLUR's Gender Learning Program](#) (GLP) were completed in fiscal 2024. These virtual sessions engaged 178 participants from 58 countries—including 17 countries that were hosting FOLUR projects—and 20 speakers and facilitators, who shared global experiences and case studies from Asia, Africa, and Latin America, covering practical solutions to gender challenges that are being experienced by FOLUR country project teams.

These [gender learning resources](#), including a practical note targeted to country project teams, are widely applicable to FOLUR and future similar programs, as they support implementation of gender-responsive interventions related to integrated landscape management (ILM), conservation and restoration of natural habitats, promotion of sustainable commodity value chains, and knowledge sharing, monitoring, and evaluation.

Innovative approaches to incentivizing and rewarding gender-responsive project activities have also been part of all outreach and knowledge-sharing activities of FOLUR's gender-related efforts. The GLP includes examples and voices from project implementers that are inspiring the new and innovative, internationally recognized, [W+ Standard](#), which measures women's empowerment. Capacity-strengthening efforts that enhance investment in such approaches are key to finally being able to recognize and, more importantly, value and reward the efforts of so many women who are conserving and restoring forest landscapes and moving agricultural practices toward more sustainable environmental and livelihood outcomes.

The importance of including such innovative gender-responsive approaches in global food system projects was highlighted in a June 2024 podcast, "Advancing Gender Equality in Agrifood Systems," hosted by Evidensia, which widely shares FOLUR's gender equality resources, and highlights FOLUR-Indonesia's gender-related progress.



Country Projects

BRAZIL



FOCUS: Livestock,soybean

Vertentes Impact Program moves toward goals

The Vertentes Project's grant agreement was signed on November 28, 2022. It is awaiting effective implementation due to a change in the grant recipient. A 23-month closing date extension has been proposed through restructuring to overcome the delay and guarantee the project development objective. A new grant agreement is expected to be signed once the restructuring is approved by the World Bank.

Within the eligible 47.2 million hectares, the Vertentes Project will target areas assessed as the most critically degraded, aiming to implement sustainable landscape management practices on 578,000 hectares of agricultural lands, and to restore an additional 49,800 ha of degraded lands. The selected areas will include productive areas (500,000 hectares) and areas identified as critical for biodiversity (78,000 hectares) among other factors, as well as degradation levels, the occurrence of endemic species, and relevance for biodiversity.

The Vertentes Project aims to restore 49,800 hectares of degraded lands. The restoration will include degraded agricultural lands and natural forests and forested areas.

Above: Soy farm and forests in Mato, Grosso, Brazil.

Photo by Paralaxis/iStock

Sustainable landscape management investments will cover 64,000 hectares of mainly degraded Cerrado ecosystem landscapes, and 14,000 hectares of tropical semideciduous forest subject to improved forest management that will prevent degradation and loss of biodiversity, and other relevant forest ecosystem services.

CHINA



FOCUS: Wheat, rice, corn, livestock

Transforming Food Production Systems and Agroecological Landscapes

FOLUR projects in China focus on several provincial rice, wheat, and maize-growing agroecological regions, with the aim of delivering sustainable value chains across the country. Key achievements for the fiscal year include formulating a comprehensive demonstration plan to improve food production capacity and build ecological landscapes across 14 project areas in the provinces of Guizhou, Heilongjiang, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, and Shandong. This plan integrates key demonstration components, including ILM planning, sustainable agricultural production, ecosystem restoration and biodiversity protection, and the construction of agricultural product value chains in each project area.

Completing the national monitoring guideline, including environmental, agrolandscape ecological, and socioeconomic indicators.

Demonstrating ecological low-carbon agricultural technologies in each project area, including reducing fertilizer use and increasing efficiency in rice fields, returning straw to the field in corn-soybean rotations, integrated pest and disease management, water-fertilizer integration, and three-dimensional planting.

Testing new technologies such as rice and wheat carbon fixation, and emission reduction models.

Organizing training activities (with over 9,000 provincial decision-makers, project managers, and technical personnel trained) on project management and related technologies such as ecological and low-carbon development strategy, green prevention and control technology of crop pesticides and diseases, sustainable crop production technology and models, biodiversity protection, and agricultural ecosystem restoration technology.

Sharing online over 10 technical training courses, with views of over 1 million through online learning platforms such as the China Rural Distance Education website. This project developed the ILM and monitoring app, which supports knowledge management, monitoring, and evaluation.



56,488

hectares of
landscapes under
improved practices



20,018

hectares of land
restored

CÔTE D'IVOIRE



FOCUS: Cocoa

Scaling Up Cocoa-Based Food Systems

FOLUR Côte d'Ivoire is in its first year of implementation following an official launch in February 2024, after which the first steering committee meeting was held. Many activities have been carried out in the project's three landscapes. A multistakeholder platform bringing together all of the actors involved in tackling the issue of cocoa-related deforestation was created after several consultations during local workshops.

At the end of June 2024, with the three multi-stakeholder platforms in place (Cavally, Indenié-Djuablin/La Mé), estimates indicate at least 50,000 hectares are landscapes under good practice.

World Agroforestry has targeted 20,000 hectares for restoration in total. Efforts to restore 2,700 hectares of cocoa plots are underway in partnership with the National Agency for Rural Development (ANADER), and the market regulator Conseil Café Cacao, as part of their contribution to reforestation of cocoa and coffee farms.

Hectares of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation: Parastate Forest Development Corporation (SODEFOR) has targeted 1,500 hectares by the end of 2024. Awareness raising is underway.



50,000
hectares of
landscape under
improved practices

LIBERIA



FOCUS: Palm oil, cocoa

Reducing Deforestation from Palm Oil and Cocoa Value Chains

The Liberia project aims to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable food systems to enhance livelihood opportunities in Northwest Liberia. The project began in 2021 and is scheduled to end in April 2028.

Biophysical, social, and economic assessments have been completed to support the development of a comprehensive national land-use plan for Northwest Liberia. In addition, climate scenario modeling was conducted to ensure the plan's long-term sustainability.

The ongoing analysis of the landscape focused on identifying existing climate-smart strategies, exploring alternative pathways for achieving climate-smart agriculture, and conducting gender-sensitive needs assessments in the region. Smallholder farmers and cooperatives in Northwest Liberia have also been engaged in these practices.



10,500
hectares of terrestrial
protected areas
under improved
management

To date, the project has promoted sustainable production practices for the food crop, palm oil, and cocoa value chains. For example, the project has initiated processes like climate-smart agricultural assessments that will promote sustainable production. Additionally, the project has signed memorandums of understanding with MANO plantation, the biggest plantation in the landscape, to enhance the sustainable production of the food crop, palm oil, and cocoa value chains.

The Ministry of Agriculture has secured a total of \$6.95 million to increase agricultural productivity and promote the commercialization of smallholder farmers through productive links between farmers and private agribusiness firms in selected value chains, including cocoa and palm oil. Palm oil, cocoa, cashews, rice, peanuts, and pepper have been identified as the main crops needed by major companies.

A functioning and diverse multistakeholder platform comprised of a cross-section of stakeholders drawn from the public sector, the private sector, civil society, and local communities was established. The platform coordinates activities at the Northwest Liberia landscape level to consolidate both the cocoa and palm oil value chains to promote synergies and ensure inclusive governance for sustainable production and consumption.

A biophysical and socioeconomic assessment report for the Northwest Liberia landscape has been developed.

A gender-sensitive value chain and market dynamics for local, national, and export markets was developed. The assessment informed a review of potential conservation incentives for sustainable palm oil and cocoa supply chains in Liberia.

A project communications strategy to guide information production and dissemination to a range of project stakeholders was developed.

Changes in government leadership and administration following Liberia's national elections in 2023 have had an impact. Some of the project steering committee members are political appointees; this election led to a complete reshuffling of the politically appointed parties in the committee as well as in government ministries, departments, and agencies working with the project, hence delaying activities that require steering committee decision-making and guidance on the project. Notably, the newly appointed government officials have settled in, and the steering committee is convening as required.

The land use plan, crucial for guiding the implementation of key project activities, has faced significant delays due to external factors such as the national elections, as well as seasonal weather changes that have reduced accessibility to field sites. These delays have impacted the implementation of project activities such as the pre-gazettement activities for the Wologizi Proposed Protected Areas. For example, the delay by the steering committee in approving the University of Liberia to lead land-use planning and assessments delayed the commencement of this activity. Nevertheless, the university has commenced implementing this task, and field activities were undertaken at a time when the weather was favorable.

Delays in preparing land-use plans also affected the implementation of the Conservation Agreements. For instance, when the engagement did not start on time, it had a ripple effect on the communities' ability to access benefits from the project. The start of the restoration activities was also impeded by the delay in preparing the land-use plans. Nevertheless, this action is on track given that the university was onboarded and has prepared the land-use plan.

PARAGUAY



FOCUS: Livestock,soybean

Implementing sustainability practices in soybean and beef value chains

Improving Agricultural Capacity of Indigenous Communities

To strengthen the agricultural capacities of the Indigenous communities that inhabit the Atlantic Forest of Alto Paraná in Paraguay, the FOLUR project, together with the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADES), has agreed to work jointly with these communities to implement community gardens and cultivate green fertilizers to support the recovery of degraded soils in their territories.

This initiative includes the Indigenous communities of Puerto Barra, of the Aché people, located in the district of Naranjal (Alto Paraná) as well as those of Ytu (of the Mbyá Guaraní people), located in the district of Abaí (Caazapá). Developed in conjunction with the Paraguayan Indigenous Institute (INDI), it is aligned with an environmental sustainability approach, promoting the use of green manure to regenerate the soil.

This will not only enable the communities to improve efficiency in the cultivation of fresh and nutritious food but will also contribute to the protection and conservation of their ancestral territory.

The Alto Paraná Atlantic Forest, the area of intervention of the FOLUR Paraguay Project, is one of the most biodiverse ecoregions on the planet. It occupies a large part of the eastern part of the country and is home to a great diversity of flora, fauna, and Indigenous communities, such as the Aché, Mbyá Guaraní, and, to a lesser extent, the Avá Guaraní, who have maintained a harmonious relationship with this ecosystem for centuries.



8,036
hectares of
landscapes under
improved practice



7,397
hectares of land
restored



Cattle in Paraguay
Photo by Ricardo Ulke

Sustainable Grazing System Transforming Livestock Grazing in the Chaco Region

Agua Dulce, located in the department of Alto Paraguay, is a town in the Paraguayan Chaco region characterized by its extreme climate, with high summer temperatures, frequent droughts, and limited access due to the lack of nearby paved roads, which accentuates its geographic isolation.

In this environment, local livestock producers, grouped in the [Agua Dulce Agricultural Association](#) (APAD), are successfully carrying out the Pilot Plan for Regenerative Rotational Rational Grazing (PRIR), with the support of the FOLUR Paraguay Project and MADES.

PRIR is an innovative grazing management system that seeks to balance pasture development with the needs of livestock and improved soil management, under the producer's direct supervision. Since mid-2022, APAD has implemented a PRIR module at its headquarters in Agua Dulce, generating valuable information on zootechnical, ecological, economic, and financial issues for both livestock producers and the country.

This initiative, supported by FOLUR and MADES, encourages technologically advanced practices that promote sustainable production, allowing for increased productivity with less environmental impact. The Agua Dulce cattle ranchers are innovators in the adoption of this management system, underscoring their commitment to sustainability and care for the environment.

PRIR has demonstrated a positive impact not only on productivity, but also on soil quality and animal health, demonstrating its relevance for livestock development in the Chaco.

TANZANIA



FOCUS: Rice

This project focuses on the promotion of sustainable rice production in two key landscapes: the Kilombero landscape on mainland Tanzania; and the North A/B districts on the archipelago of Zanzibar. The project intends to deliver a total of 40,000 hectares of restored land, and to put 1,202,690 hectares of land under improved practices, to benefit 23,220 people.

Project startup has faced delays, in good part as government due diligence procedures demanded a thorough process for approval and signing. An interim project management unit consists of a coordinator, two landscape coordinators, and a finance manager delegated by the government to lead the initial stages of the project. Recruitment of the actual project management is currently underway, a detailed workplan for the first year of the project has been developed, and initial stakeholder consultations were undertaken in the project areas. Recruitment and confirmation of the project management unit are underway, and plans are in place for a formal project inception workshop to take place, and the first meeting of the Steering Committee has been held.



Vision for 2025 and Beyond: Amplifying FOLUR Concepts

Under the FOLURization initiative, an increasing number of World Bank and partner projects will learn about and adopt sustainable food production value chains through applying the Participatory Informed Landscape Approach (PILA) to integrated landscape management for transformative food systems and other approaches to produce GEBs. By adopting proven practices that lead to land restoration and reforestation while simultaneously reducing land degradation and deforestation, greater GEBs will be achieved.

Goals include reaching low-carbon, climate-resilient targets, increasing public-private initiatives; and meeting traceability targets that will contribute to evidence for how knowledge-based work and technical assistance supported by FOLUR-financed activities bears influence at the country-level.

The FOLUR Global Platform will develop knowledge that helps to solidify a technical, social, and economic rationale for countries to prioritize better critical future investments in climate resilience and sustainability. These efforts will help to improve ways to mitigate—and adapt to—the effects of climate change on agricultural production, soil and land suitability, and the timing and cost of prospective changes in various areas of society.

Above: Several varieties of coffee beans.

Photo by Aleksey Serikov/
iStock

TOWARD GREATER TRACEABILITY

Critically, the EUDR means that five FOLUR commodities must move to market compliance for the EU, ratcheting the urgency of country-level effectiveness up a notch. The European Commission has [proposed pushing forward the deadline](#) to allow further time for planning. If approved by the European Parliament and Council, it would bring the law into force on December 30, 2025, for large companies, and June 30, 2026, for micro and small enterprises. The extra 12 months would serve as a phasing-in period to ensure proper and effective implementation in taking FOLUR achievements to a global scale.

FOLUR will continue to work with WRI and partners on Codex Planetarius, contributing to efforts to measure and manage the key environmental impacts of food production. After country-level piloting, Codex Planetarius plans to gain support from governments and introduce it through trade agreements.

Women make up 43 percent of the agricultural labor force in developing countries. However, rural women suffer systematic discrimination in accessing resources for agricultural production and socioeconomic development.

If women had the same access to agricultural production resources as men, they could increase [crop yields by up to 30 percent](#), which would raise total agricultural output in developing countries by as much as 4 percent, and reduce the number of food- insecure people by up to 150 million, or 17 percent.

Gender equity is a key component of FOLUR, as a long-term investment in transforming food systems.



A soybean sprout.

Photo by Zoya2222/iStock



A farmer in a corn field.

Photo by rudi_suardi/iStock

DEVELOPING THE DISCOURSE

Regional dialogues, including on rice, maize, wheat, and palm oil are on the agenda for 2024-25. These events provide opportunities to gather in person and/or virtually to discuss one of the most pressing issues of our times—how to ensure that food production creates sustainable environmental benefits and flourishing landscapes.

CHANGING THE NARRATIVE ON CEREALS

The three major global staple cereals—wheat, rice, and maize—comprise [an estimated 42 percent](#) of the world's food calories, and 37 percent of protein intake. However, they also contribute to and face significant threats from climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation.

Rice production, which typically occurs in flooded fields known as paddies, produces 16 percent of all [agricultural methane emissions](#), thus contributing significantly to global warming. By reducing flooding, creating drainage systems, and [using alternate wetting and drying techniques](#), emissions can be reduced significantly. Other [techniques](#) that help to curtail emissions include planting [dry seeded rice](#), and using [laser land leveling](#).

Maize and wheat yields can be increased efficiently without encroaching on forests and biodiverse ecosystems through sustainable intensification, as well as such agricultural conservation techniques as minimal soil disturbance, revitalizing degraded soils, introducing double cropping retaining crop residues on fields instead of burning and clearing them, direct seeding into the soil through residue, and introducing agroforestry systems.

Empowering farmers to make sound choices about which crops and varieties to plant, and how to manage irrigation, pests, and disease can boost yields and increase incomes.

PALM OIL DIALOGUE

Each year, the world produces [175 million tons](#) of vegetable oil—a source of both calories and alternative energy. To meet growing demand, production is projected to rise by more than 75 percent—to 307 million tons—by 2050, with palm oil accounting for a significant share.

Oil palm plantations emit smoke when swidden—also known as shifting cultivation (or, formerly, “slash and burn” techniques)—are used to clear and prepare land for planting. They also disrupt natural biodiversity due to heavy fertilizer use, and they are a major source of greenhouse gas emissions in peatland areas where cultivation requires extensive drainage.

But studies have shown that palm oil trees, traditionally known for their high yields when compared with other oil crops, can perform even better and [deliver competitive financial returns](#) in mixed agroforestry settings.

They have also found that palm oil plantations support healthier and more diverse undergrowth than other crop systems because palm oil is a perennial, which means that soils are left relatively untouched, when compared to annual oil plants such as canola (also known as rapeseed).

For forest-dwelling Indigenous peoples and local communities, palm oil production presents significant economic value, especially where alternative job opportunities are limited.

FOLUR's work with the palm oil sector prioritizes supporting vulnerable communities and safeguarding the environment, with a focus on helping smallholders meet certification standards. Through stakeholder dialogue, FOLUR aims to build resilient agricultural systems across 27 countries, shaping sustainable approaches to agricultural land management.

Dialogues with all stakeholders will help to build and secure resilient systems in the 27 FOLUR countries, which will ultimately transform the global approach to agricultural land management.

APPENDIX A

TABLE A1. Status of Country Projects chart

Country	Project Name	Agency	Implementation Status/Key Targets	GEF Grant (US \$ million)	Co-Finance (US \$ million)	Project Updates
Brazil	Sustainable Multiple Use Landscape Consortia – Vertentes Project	World Bank	Not Yet Effective	24,577,982	172,000,000	FOLUR Annual Report 2023 FOLUR Spring Update 2023
Burundi	Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project	World Bank	Project complete	6,000,000	31,000,000	FOLUR Annual Report 2023 FOLUR Spring Update 2024
China	Innovative Transformation of China's Food Production Systems and Agroecological Landscapes	FAO/ World Bank	Under Implementation	13,461,468	402,190,000	FOLUR Annual Report 2023 FOLUR Annual Report 2022 FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Côte D'Ivoire	Scaling Up Cocoa-Based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration/ Transformative Innovations in Côte d'Ivoire	UNDP/ UNIDO/FAO	Under Implementation	5,354,587	65,231,987	No Inception Workshop Held Not Yet Reported
Ethiopia	Preventing Forest Loss, Promoting Restoration, and Integrating Sustainability into Ethiopia's Coffee Supply Chains and Food Systems	UNDP	Under Implementation	20,342,202	208,478,969	FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Ghana	Landscape Restoration and Ecosystem Management for Sustainable Food Systems	World Bank	Under Implementation	12,756,881	129,500,000	FOLUR Spring Update 2024 FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Guatemala	Promoting Sustainable Landscapes in the Motagua River Watershed	UNDP	Not Yet Effective	11,162,802	60,017,006	FOLUR Annual Report 2023 FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Guinea	Integrated Management of Degraded Landscapes for Sustainable Food Systems and Livelihoods in Guinea Forest Region and Upper Guinea	FAO	Under Implementation	9,498,165	43,395,420	No Inception Workshop Not yet reported
India	Transforming Rice-Wheat Systems in India	FAO	Under Implementation	20,366,973	378,685,207	FOLUR Spring Update 2023

Country	Project Name	Agency	Implementation Status/Key Targets	GEF Grant (US \$ million)	Co-Finance (US \$ million)	Project Updates
Indonesia	Strengthening Sustainability in Commodity and Food Crop Value Chains, Land Restoration, and Land Use Governance through Integrated Landscape Management for Multiple Benefits in Indonesia	UNDP/FAO	Under Implementation	16,213,762	132,510,462	FOLUR Spring Update 2024 FOLUR Annual report 2023
Kazakhstan	Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems and Improved Ecosystems Services in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape	UNDP	Not Yet Effective	10,467,000	132,307,166	FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Kenya	Integrated Landscape Management for Conservation and Restoration of the Mt. Elgon Ecosystem in Western Kenya	FAO	Under Implementation	5,354,587	46,506,320	Not yet reported
Liberia	Reducing Deforestation from Palm Oil and Cocoa Value Chains	CI	Under Implementation	7,139,450	66,999,065	FOLUR Annual Report 2023 FOLUR Annual Report 2022 FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Madagascar	Integrated Landscape Management for a Zero Deforestation Coffee Value Chain in the Central South and Eastern Coast of Madagascar	FAO	Not Yet Effective	10,980,788	28,884,587	Not yet reported
Malaysia	Integrated Landscape Management of Heart of Borneo Landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak	UNDP	Not Yet Effective	7,368,807	90,000,000	Not yet reported
Mexico	Connecting Watershed Health with Beef Production (CONECTA)	World Bank	Under Implementation	13,761,468	99,013,829	FOLUR Annual Report 2023 FOLUR Spring Update 2023 FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Nicaragua	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	FAO	Not Yet Effective	5,354,587	48,000,000	FOLUR Annual Report 2022

Country	Project Name	Agency	Implementation Status/Key Targets	GEF Grant (US \$ million)	Co-Finance (US \$ million)	Project Updates
Nigeria	Promoting Integrated Landscape Management and Sustainable Food Systems in Niger Delta Region in Nigeria	FAO	Under Implementation	5,354,590	67,739,549	FOLUR Spring Update 2024
Papua New Guinea	Establishing Systems for Sustainable Integrated Land-Use Planning Across New Britain Island in Papua New Guinea	UNDP	Under Implementation	10,709,174	50,566,514	FOLUR Spring Update 2024 FOLUR Annual Report 2023 FOLUR Spring Update 2023 FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Paraguay	Promoting Landscape Integrity and Sustainable Beef and Soy Value Chains in Two Key Biomes in Paraguay	UNEP	Under Implementation	8,189,450	47,568,002	FOLUR Spring Update 2024 FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Peru	Deforestation-Free Commodity Supply Chains in the Peruvian Amazon	UNDP/FAO/IFAD	Not Yet Effective	13,561,467	112,149,960	FOLUR Annual Report 2022
Tanzania	Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration in Tanzania's Forest Landscapes	WWF-US	Not Yet Effective	7,368,808	72,686,863	FOLUR Annual Report 2023
Thailand	Inclusive, Sustainable Rice Landscapes in Thailand	UNEP	Under Implementation	5,535,963	67,300,000	Not yet reported Inception workshop held
Uganda	Promoting Integrated Landscape Management Approach for Conservation of the Mount Elgon Ecosystem in Eastern Uganda	UNEP	Under Implementation	9,433,027	82,014,000	Not Yet Reported Inception Workshop Held January 2023
Ukraine	Promoting Sustainable Livestock Management and Ecosystem Conservation in Northern Ukraine	UNDP	Under Implementation	6,756,000	67,385,366	FOLUR Spring Update 2024 Annual Report 2023
Uzbekistan	Food System, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program in Uzbekistan	FAO	Under Implementation	5,992,661	72,754,400	FOLUR Spring Update 2024 Annual Report 2023
Viet Nam	Food System, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program in Viet Nam	FAO	Under Implementation	5,354,587	77,950,000	Not yet reported No Inception Workshop

APPENDIX B

IMPACT PROGRAM FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The financial summary of the Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program comprises a Global Knowledge Platform project and 27 country projects. Table B.1 summarizes the total budget allocation across the program.

The FOLUR Impact Program is comprised of a Global Knowledge Platform project and 27 country projects.

TABLE B.1. FOLUR Global Impact Program Resource Allocation

Budget Allocation Category	GEF Grant Amount* (\$ million)
FOLUR IP Overall	307.39
27 Country Projects	278.26
Global Platform Project	29.13

Source: FOLUR Global Platform as of June 30, 2024.

Note: GEF = Global Environment Facility.

Implementation of country projects is underway to achieve expected outcomes by 2027. As the activities and work planning advance, the country projects are expected to report disbursement progress in calendar year 2025. Due to the FOLUR Global Platform's annual strategic planning process, the steering committee approved activities to support the effective delivery of commitments. The FOLUR Global Platform has made notable progress toward advancing core partner activities, as reflected in the current disbursements and commitments. Core partner and World Bank activities continued to advance, with noteworthy progress toward private-sector engagements, convening, and representation of FOLUR in global and regional events.

TABLE B.2. FOLUR Global Platform Impact Program Budget Utilization

Budget/Spending Category	\$ million
GEF Approved FOLUR Global Platform Project Budget	29.13
1. Total allocation/commitment amount to core partners*	18.67
1a. Payment to core partners	15.0
2. World Bank allocation amount	10.46
2a. World Bank commitments and disbursements	3.2
2b. World Bank uncommitted Balance	7.26

*Allocation/grant commitment amount is the amount allocated/signed in contracts with core partner agencies (IFC, CIFOR, FAO, UNDP and WRI)

Source: FOLUR Impact Program, as of June 30, 2024.





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