

GLF AFRICA
DIGITAL
CONFERENCE
15.9.2022

HOW TO
BUILD AN
EQUITABLE,
RESILIENT
FOOD FUTURE



RESILIENT COMMUNITIES THROUGH TREE-BASED VALUE CHAINS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

#GLFAfrica

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

On behalf of

 Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



WHITE PAPER

Forest landscapes and their services are critical to the well-being of smallholder farmers, local populations and Indigenous communities. However, global food systems are under pressure, with climate change further driving land degradation and declining crop yields.

Forest landscape restoration (FLR) can be part of the solution by improving food security and the resilience of local communities. Collaborating in different African countries, GIZ's Forests4Future (F4F) and the FAO's Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) are two projects that enhance agroforestry systems and business activities by linking producers and their organizations with processing enterprises, thus professionalizing tree-based value chains. The projects work with farmers' and women's organizations, which are crucial agents of change as they enable large networks, raise awareness and function as multipliers of restoration implementation. This session draws from practical experiences in FFF's and F4F's partner countries Madagascar and Togo.

FLR refers to restoration of the ecological and productive functions of degraded ecosystems in tree-rich landscapes. It is a process that aims to restore the ecological, social and economic functionality in deforested or degraded landscapes, and thus improve human well-being. With the start of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030), FLR has gained even more importance as it addresses the triad of human well-being, biodiversity and climate protection on a large scale.

FORESTS4FUTURE

The *Forests4Future* project is part of the BMZ initiative *One World – no Hunger* and is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ GmbH). The project serves the *African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100)*, a country-led effort to bring 100 million hectares of land in Africa into restoration by 2030. The project supports landscape restoration based on agroforestry approaches, thus highlighting the special role of tree-rich productive landscapes in rural development in the context of food security. Objectives of the project include: a) forest landscape restoration (in Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Togo); and b) improving governance in forestry. The project works with forestry and environmental policymakers in international initiatives, as well as rural population groups in selected countries with a special focus on women and young people.



FOREST AND FARM FACILITY

The *Forest and Farm Facility (FFF)* is a partnership between FAO, IIED, IUCN and Agricord, funded by international donors¹. The FFF provides financial support and technical assistance to strengthen and increase the visibility of forest and farm producer organizations representing smallholders, rural women's groups, youth producers, local communities and Indigenous peoples' institutions. It enables forest and farm producers to respond to climate change at landscape scale by encouraging them to diversify and improve their production systems, landscapes, infrastructure and institutions. In total, 72 FFF-supported forest and farm producer organizations mainstreamed climate resilience into their plans and practices in 2021 and some 5,400 staff received training in climate change mitigation and adaptation, including about 2,430 women.



Authors:
F4F and FFF

¹ Finland, Germany, Norway through the Flexible Multi-Partner Mechanism of FAO, Sweden, the Netherlands, the United States of America and IKEA.



Woman working in her tree nursery for agroforestry plantation in DIANA, Madagascar.

CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTING COMMUNITIES IN RURAL AREAS

An estimated one third of the world's population is involved in smallholder agriculture or depends on forests and their products. Nearly 1.2 billion people use trees on farms to generate food and income. Climate change is occurring at a speed outside the range of historical experience. Increased occurrence of droughts, extreme weather events like recurring tropical cyclones or floods, and exacerbating land degradation have led to deteriorating agricultural conditions and hence declining crop yields. In that way, smallholders are under pressure to maintain their productivity and livelihoods.

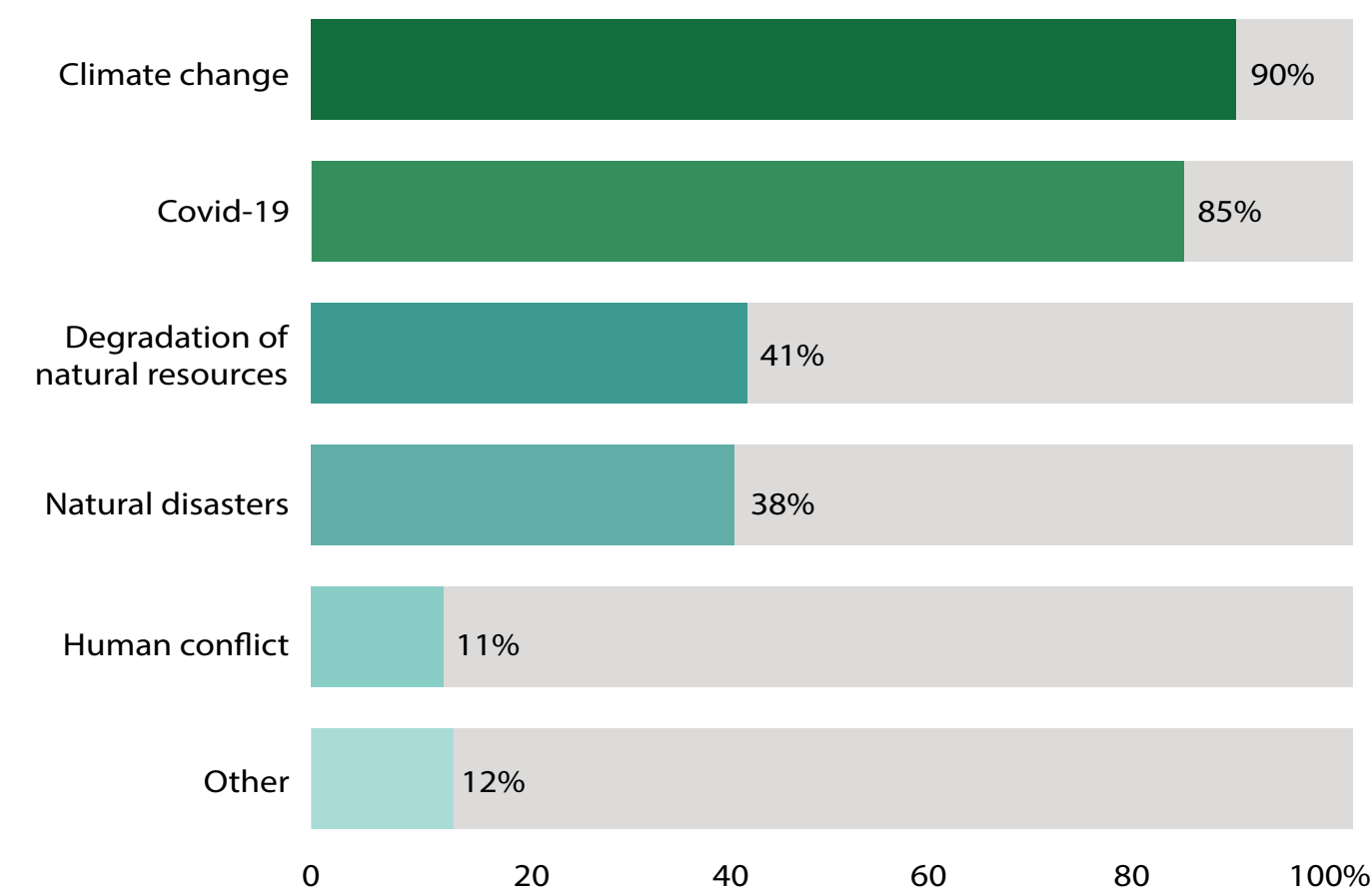


Figure 1. Forest and farm producers' main sources of risk as identified by the FFPOs in a global survey conducted in 2020.

Source: AgriCord and FFF

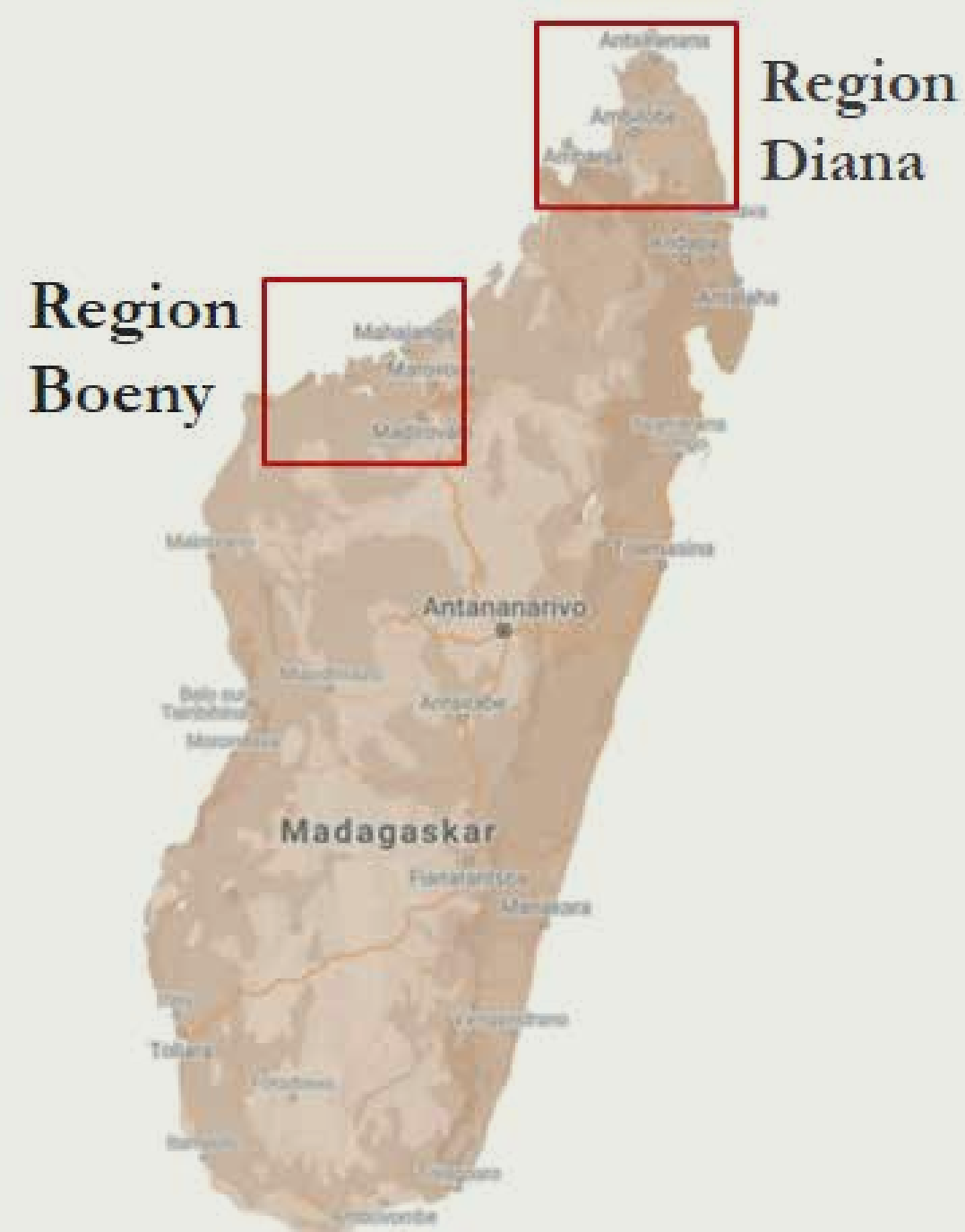
FLR, FOOD SECURITY AND RESILIENCE

In addition to these external factors, food security and the resilience of communities depend to a large extent on individual farm households in rural areas. These small-scale producers live from and manage various socioeconomically and ecologically complex production systems. The livelihoods of many people have become increasingly precarious because of the effects of climate change and unsustainable methods of managing natural resources. Resilience management is becoming more important at community level as the scale and magnitude of ecosystem change increases. Analysis by IIED (2021) found that resilience to climate change requires diversification in four key areas of development – social, ecological, infrastructural and economic. The study presents 30 ways in which smallholders can increase their resilience – among them, tree-based productivity and better marketing of forest and farm products.

Agroforestry practices, i.e., the association between fruits/forests, trees and annual crops, are one approach to enhance resilience, as they improve agricultural conditions and lead to diversification, which allows communities to diversify their incomes through the sale of fruit and wood (food for humans, feed for livestock, construction fibre, fuel wood and finance/income). Besides the outlined socioeconomic effects, these practices enhance biodiversity and generate ecological benefits. Developing and professionalizing local value chains also supports farmers in generating income from farm and forest products. In this regard, forest and farm producer organizations are crucial agents of change, as they are highly operational in promoting the resilience of smallholder livelihoods and landscapes.

CASE STUDY

Madagascar is a global biodiversity hotspot known for its exceptionally rich endemic flora and fauna, yet due to its geographical location, it is also one of the countries most hit by climate change worldwide. Due to population growth, the extraction of tropical timber and the expansion of agricultural land, Madagascar has one of the highest rates of deforestation worldwide. The DIANA and Boeny regions in the northern part of the island are severely affected by the loss of biodiversity through the ongoing degradation of forest landscapes. Local communities face difficulties as global food systems are under pressure; while climate change accelerates the degradation of land, crop yields are declining. Regions in southern and southeastern Madagascar are experiencing a chronic food insecurity crisis driven by a prolonged multi-year drought. This causes high internal migration from south to north, putting even more pressure on land, forests and food systems in DIANA and Boeny, and provoking increased competition for resources.



COLLABORATION IN MADAGASCAR

In response to this alarming situation, Madagascar has made a commitment at the international level under the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100 Initiative) to restore 4 million ha of forest landscapes by 2030. Madagascar has also developed its national strategy for forest and landscape restoration and commits to the update of the Biodiversity Strategy. The projects of FFF and F4F contribute directly to the fulfillment of Madagascar's self-commitment under the AFR100. The collaboration combines landscape and forest approaches, thus highlighting the special role of restoring and valorizing forests and degraded landscapes in rural development in the context of food security.



Member of Plateforme Nationale Femmes, Développement Durable et Sécurité Alimentaire (PNFDDSA) in DIANA, Madagascar.

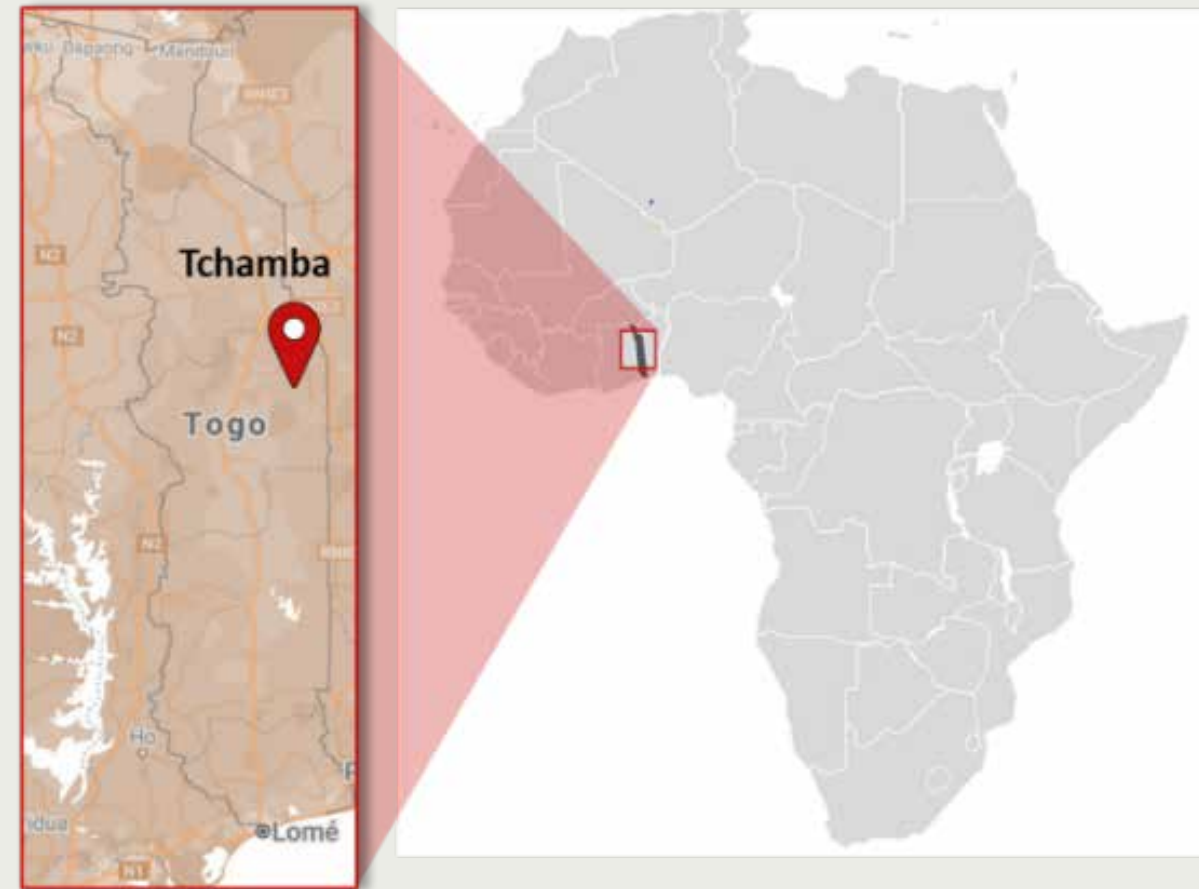
The projects work with women's and farmers' organizations like Réseau SOA (Syndicat des Organisations Agricole, Agricultural Organizations' Union) and the Plateforme Nationale Femmes, Développement Durable et Sécurité Alimentaire (PNFDDSA, National Platform for Women in Sustainable Development and Food Security) to enhance and promote agroforestry systems for food security and land restoration. Approaches link agriculture with trees and forestry implementation; for instance, focusing on cocoa, vanilla, maize, beans and cassava.

The approach enhances rural agricultural conditions by increasing crop yields and producing off-farm income through timber and non-timber forest products, for which value chains are professionalized. One example of this is that a local bamboo value chain has been developed, which intends to strengthen the resilience of smallholders to climate change by diversifying income sources.



SOA members Union Matanjaka, explaining their production in DIANA, Madagascar.

CASE STUDY



Togo is one of the AFR100 partner countries and has a national goal of restoring 1.4 million ha of degraded landscapes. Between 2001 to 2019, it lost 55,900 ha of tree cover, i.e., a 10 percent decrease, mostly because of shifting smallholder agriculture. This makes forest and farm producer organizations (FFPOs) key players in any national effort aiming at restoring and rehabilitating forest cover and tree-rich, productive landscapes.

COLLABORATION IN TOGO

As a result of *Association Agriculteurs Français et Développement International* (AFDI) training for forest and farm producer organization (FFPO) partners, supported by the FFF, farmers adopted climate-smart agriculture and agroecological techniques on more than 1100 ha of land. This has included organic farming and conservation agriculture, compost production, agroforestry, and reforestation. Enabling policies that support increased visibility and policy influence of farmer organizations and entrepreneurship in various value chains are the main achievements of FFF in Togo, which has involved 63 FFPO enterprises (including 23 headed by women). The cooperation with GIZ facilitated the scaling up of FFF activities relating to enterprise development and improvement.

Long-term benefits are achieved based on sustainable resource use and the ability of operations to adapt in the face of climate change. In this context, 392 members from 35 FFPOs (49 percent women) were trained on how to integrate climate resilience into their business plans. Coordination Togolaise des Organisations Paysannes et de Producteurs Agricoles (CTOP) developed a trainer's manual on agroecological practices and FLR. They trained 15 trainers in ecological and organic agriculture, forestry and agroforestry practices, innovative organic farming practices, improved traditional livestock breeding and agricultural entrepreneurship.

Agroforestry practices are also at the core of the Togo Forests4Future project, which intends to set up tree-rich productive landscapes in the Central Region/Tchamba. In line with their FLR and agroforestry foundations, both projects also support sustainable economic development, e.g., through professionalizing value chains of products like Karité and Néré (shea butter and African locust bean), aiming at enhancing yield and livelihoods,

food security, and resilience to the impacts of climate change. The ultimate goal is to improve the income of beneficiary households for better socioeconomic and environmental well-being.

Benefiting around 1,300 households, the F4F network is much smaller than that of FFF, which includes thousands of FFPOs and their individual farmers as it facilitates partnerships between CTOP and landscape restoration programmes and projects. This network and ongoing close cooperation at the farm level serves the F4F project, which, in return provides a close link with the AFR100 initiative.



Nursery training, Tchamba, Togo.



Nursery site, Tchamba, Togo.

SESSION OBJECTIVES

The session aims to show the potential of forest landscape restoration (FLR) to support food security and local community resilience, highlighting the special role of women and farmer organizations. Key questions the session addresses are:

- How can tree-based solutions contribute to the restoration of degraded landscapes while taking climate aspects into account?
- What are the challenges and opportunities for forest and farm producers, when it comes to being agents of change in their landscapes?
- How can FLR and value-addition approaches like agroforestry or tree-based value chains – including those relating to non-timber forest products (NTFPs) – enhance socioeconomic benefits for communities?
- What lessons can be learnt from practical experiences in the project countries?



Practical training of local communities and producer organizations around setting up a nursery for agroforestry.



Agroforestry site and winner of the Cash4Green award in Togo.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

- AFR100 (the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative). Forests4Future: Giving forests a future. Accessed 31 August 2022. <https://afr100.org/content/forests4future-giving-forests-future>
- AFR100 (the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative). 2021. The review of forest and landscape restoration in Africa 2021. <https://afr100.org/content/review-forest-and-landscape-restoration-africa-2021>
- BMZ (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany). Special initiative One World – No Hunger. Accessed 31 August 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/en/development-policy/food-security/one-world-no-hunger>
- FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations). 2021. Developing bankable business plans – A learning guide for forest producers and their organizations. <https://www.fao.org/3/cb4520en/cb4520en.pdf>
- FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations). Forest and Farm Facility. <https://www.fao.org/forest-farm-facility/en/>
- GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit). Forests4Future: Giving forests a future. Accessed 31 August 2022. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/85060.html>
- IIED (International Institute for Environment and Development). 2021. Diversification for Climate Resilience: Thirty options for forest and farm producer organizations. <https://www.fao.org/3/cb5931en/cb5931en.pdf>
- INBAR (The International Bamboo and Rattan Organization). Bamboo & Rattan for inclusive and green development. Accessed 31 August 2022. <https://www.inbar.int/>
- Simola N and Vuori K. eds. 2021. *Forest and farm producer organizations building resilience: Strength in numbers and landscapes. Global findings from case studies*. Forest and Farm Facility. Rome: FAO.

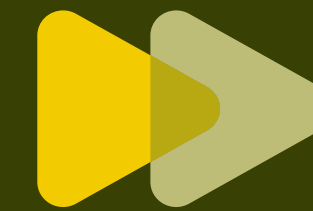
PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

GLF Africa Digital Conference 2022 would not be possible without the support and participation of the following hosts, partners and organizations. For a full list of everyone involved, please visit: conference.globallandscapesforum.org/africa-2022/partners

GLOBAL LANDSCAPES FORUM

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

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



GLF AFRICA
DIGITAL
CONFERENCE
15.9.2022

HOW TO
BUILD AN
EQUITABLE,
RESILIENT
FOOD FUTURE

bit.ly/GLFAfrica2022