

# GLF–Luxembourg 20 Finance for Nature 23

What comes next? | Hybrid Conference



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The 6th GLF

Investment Case

Symposium

7 Mar  
2023

With support from the Luxembourg–GLF Finance for Nature Platform

**Donor & Partner Report**



Global  
Landscapes  
Forum



THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG



**“It’s time for action. It’s time for system change, and it’s time to push investment into innovative solutions developed for countries that need it, and by those impacted by these crises”**

#### **ELIANE UBALIJORO**

CEO of the Centre for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF) and Director General of ICRAF



**“We are all part of this unique ecosystem called the Earth, we are all part of the same living community, and we need to take care of it”**

#### **JOËLLE WELFRING**

Minister for the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development, Luxembourg



**“A nature-based asset, once created, addresses climate change, food security, energy transition as well as socioeconomic development for the local population”**

#### **SUNDAR BHARADWAJ**

CEO, TERRAGRIN

The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) held its sixth Investment Case Symposium, **GLF-Luxembourg Finance for Nature: What comes next?**, on 7 March 2023 in Luxembourg and online. The event brought together over 4,500 finance stakeholders from across the globe; project developers, entrepreneurs, and fund managers; development finance institutions, impact investors, donors and foundations; investors, funds, banks and other financiers; and youth, local communities and changemakers.

The symposium showcased existing and innovative financial mechanisms, investable community-led business models, and successful climate investments that are paving the way to a greener and more equitable world. It connected local project developers – especially in the Global South – with investors; highlighted how barriers are being removed to catalyze private sector investment in community-led and nature-based projects; and identified key policy recommendations for moving green finance from the margins to the mainstream. The day’s talks were threaded through with four key themes: blended finance, impact monitoring and standards, sustainable value chains, and innovations for community finance.

The event was supported by the **Luxembourg-GLF Finance for Nature Platform**, a partnership between the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the GLF to mainstream investments in sustainable land use and climate. It was funded by the Government of Luxembourg; the International Climate Initiative (ICI) with the support of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety, and Consumer Protection (BMUV) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation (BMZ) of Germany; the Food System Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program of the World Bank (WB); the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Madagascar Protected Areas and Biodiversity Fund (FAPBM).



Ellen Van, Principal, Investments, Mekong Capital



“Climate change and biodiversity loss pose an existential threat to humanity. We must attend to this looming catastrophe with extreme urgency. Greenwashing, ‘green wishing’, and other ‘fig leaves’ will not solve the problem”

**VIVIENNE YEDA**

Director General of the [East African Development Bank](#)

The **Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program** is a USD 345 million, seven-year initiative funded by the Global Environment Facility and led by the World Bank. Seeking to transform food and land use systems, the program consists of a global knowledge platform and 27 country projects. Country-level work focuses on accelerating action in landscapes and along value chains for eight major commodities, including livestock, cocoa, coffee, maize, palm oil, rice, soy and wheat.



“We have an opportunity to rethink our relationship with nature, transform our economies, and make them greener, more sustainable, and fairer... Sustainable finance is a key tool to build low carbon & resilient economies”

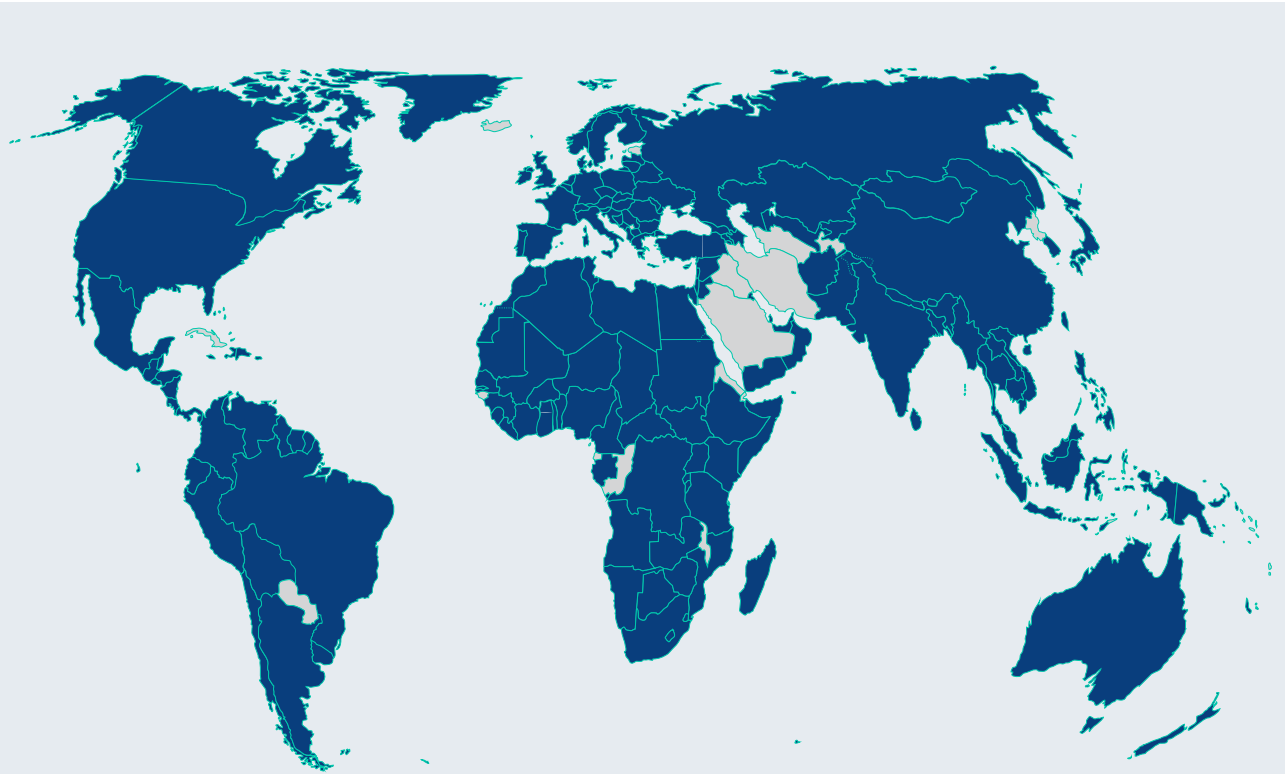
**YURIKO BACKES**

Minister of Finance, Luxembourg



Naoko Takahashi, Forestry Officer, FAO  
Ivo Mulder, Head of Climate Finance Unit, UNEP  
Olivia Elliot, Sustainable Protein Advisor, IFC  
Felipe Ortega Schlingmann, Head of the Bioeconomy Division, EIB

## By the numbers



**162**  
 Countries

Top 5 countries: India, Kenya, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Pakistan

**4,657**

Total registered participants (Luxembourg + online)

**28%**  
 Africa



**24%**  
 Europe



**24%**  
 Asia



**20%**  
 Latin America



**4,049**  
 Participants online



**608**  
 Participants in-person



**45**  
 Financial institutions



**50**  
 Private sector organizations

### Social media #LuxFinance4Nature

**15M**  
 Reach

**48M**  
 Impressions

**330k**  
 Engagement

**85,660**  
 Session views

**1,000**  
 Related posts

### Knowledge hub



**36**  
 Knowledge products

**1,246**  
 Views

## Event



**37**  
sessions



**21**  
In-person  
exhibition  
booths



**13**  
Digital booths



**106**  
Speakers



**49%**  
Women



**72%**  
From Africa,  
Asia, Latin  
America and the  
Caribbean



**33**  
Financiers  
and investors



**21**  
Private sector  
innovators



**6**  
Local and  
Indigenous  
leaders

**Social media reach:** The number of unique users who saw content related to event hashtags.

**Impressions:** The number of times content was displayed on user timelines related to event hashtags.

**Engagement:** The number of interactions on content received from users (likes, comments, shares, saves, etc.) related to event hashtags.

**Session Views:** Including partner-led sessions, launchpad, plenary, local & youth action sessions, and networking (only on GLF Climate Platform – excluding social media views).



“We need to decarbonize our electric grid, we need to decarbonize our food supply chain system – we need to decarbonize it all to meet the Paris agreement temperature targets”

**CATHERINE MARTINI**  
Senior Program Manager,  
Microsoft



“Both private and public finance play an essential role at the different stages of land restoration ... Public and philanthropic funding helps small farmers and businesses to mitigate risks at the very beginning”

**HELEN DING**  
Head of the Centre Equitable  
Economics Innovation Team,  
World Resources Institute ([WRI](#))



“About 70 percent of tropical deforestation is related to the production of agricultural commodities such as beef, soy, timber and others. And those who are financing it, be it retail investors, institutional investors, development finance institutions and others, are linked to those commodities that they are financing – and are indirectly leading to deforestation”

**IVO MULDER**  
Head Climate Finance Unit, UN  
Environment Programme ([UNEP](#))



**“Most impacts are invisible because we don’t measure and report on them. This results in a disconnect between the financial sector and real-world impacts on the economy and society. Only what gets measured gets managed”**

**LENNART DUSCHINGER**

Sustainable Finance Advisor, Ministry of Finance, Luxembourg



**“There is an interest in the private sector in maintaining a stable supply of high-quality products. As climate change becomes more perceptible, it raises a challenge for large-scale production and the stability of supply chains”**

**RUTH IRLÉN**

Policy Officer for Forest Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management, Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany



**“We are not doing sustainable finance, we are doing finance for sustainability. We have to change this.”**

**PIERRE ROUSSEAU**

Independent Consultant



**“Carbon credits in itself aren’t the Holy Grail, it’s a means to an end. Agroforestry should always be a good idea, because it helps with biodiversity, it helps to prevent land degradation and of course it also combats climate change. But the transition to agroforestry in itself is what it’s all about”**

**INEKE KEERS**

Head of Business Development, Acorn (Rabobank)



## Key messages

Throughout the event, speakers highlighted four critical elements of bringing about a sustainable finance ‘tipping point’:

### Blended finance

Risk-tolerant public and philanthropic capital must be leveraged to attract much-needed additional investment from private finance into nature-based solutions. This will require ongoing and meaningful stakeholder dialogue for effective policy development and public-private partnerships.

### Impact monitoring and standards

We need clear standards for sustainability, and tailored indicators for nature-based solutions and green commodity value chains – and, we need to support entrepreneurs and project developers to comply.

### Sustainable value chains

We must eliminate subsidies for agriculture and redirect these towards sustainable and regenerative projects, and uphold appropriate regulations for transparency, traceability, sustainability, and human rights in commodity supply chains.

### Innovations for community finance

We need to invest in human capital at the landscape level; create innovative national and local financing mechanisms for forest landscape restoration; and integrate just transition principles into our financial systems.



“Regulation can make the market reliable and create the right atmosphere for development and investment”

**MARIA ELENA ACEVEDO**

Representative to the Public-Private Partnership for Sustainable Finance, Central Bank of Paraguay



“We need to redefine what success is – in a way that does not compromise our people and our planet”

**AYESHA KHAN**

Regional Managing Director, Acumen



“It is very important to create a level playing field. We don’t just want to finance the big projects – which we know have the capacity to implement this kind of work – but also to reach out to the smaller businesses: and that’s precisely where regulation can also stand to put more emphasis”

**FELIPE ORTEGA SCHLINGMANN**

Head of Bioeconomy Division, EIB



## Projects and initiatives

- The event featured an exciting **‘Dragon’s Den: Pitch for Nature’** session, in which three investment-ready nature-based projects pitched their work to would-be investors.
- GLF launched a **new webpage** that showcases bankable sustainable finance projects, with the intention to maintain it beyond the event.
- In-person attendees visited the on-site Inspiration Hub and exhibition, in which a wide range of projects and organizations shared their work. Hybrid networking was also facilitated between online and in-person attendees.



“Whilst there’s no magic solution, I think underlying all of the pictures that I have heard today is not necessarily a request to invest in products, but a request to fund and be partners in systems change. And for this to happen, funders need to realize that this is the field that they’re actually in, and the paramount importance of investing in the infrastructure and capacity to meet the needs of where finance can be most impactful”

**TARIQ AL-OLAIMY**  
Co-founder, [3BL Associates](#)



“Most of the time, investors are unaware of the impacts they are causing in the field. So the task became to show them that with x amount of money, they can generate y impact on the field”

**SANDRA CAROLINA SARMIENTO**  
Principal, Terra Bella Nature Based Solutions Carbon Pool



“The cycle of poverty, the cycle of deforestation and the cycle of our climate catastrophe are all interlinked. And to break one, we would need to break all.”

**KOFI DEBRAH**  
Founder, OKO Forests



## Youth

Young people played a number of key roles in the event. There were 70 online and 15 in-person youth volunteers. The 2021 Restoration Steward for Forests, Anali Bustos, was the event’s MC. Many young people contributed to the Vision Wall provided at the event, which asked critical questions on the causes of the climate crisis and actions that could be taken by financiers, governments, and the rest of us to support the survival of life on Earth.

## Inclusivity

While the movements of global finance impact us all, few of those most affected by the climate and biodiversity crises – primarily marginalized groups in the Global South – tend to feature at international financial conferences and negotiation tables.

With its keen focus on inclusivity, the 6th Investment Case aimed to right the balance and amplify access through several key channels. The event was held in a hybrid live and virtual format. Free tickets were provided for 3,816 people, including 1,784 youth participants and 1,585 participants from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Two ‘solidarity sessions’ were held to provide further platforms for under-represented groups, while 11 ‘solidarity’ in-person tabletop exhibitions were also featured at the venue.





**Laura and Tashka**  
Yawanawá, Yanawá  
leaders, Acre Brazil

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“Sustainable finance standards are going in the right direction, but still too slowly, focused on the short term, and geared towards maximizing present profit at the expense of the future”

**ROBERT NASI**

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) a.i.  
Director General, CIFOR-ICRAF



“We see so many announcements by governments and companies, directing money towards preserving nature, but this money never reaches the final destination – the Indigenous Peoples who are at the forefront of the crisis”

**LAURA AND TASHKA**  
YAWANAWÁ

Indigenous Leaders



“Indigenous Peoples receive less than 1 percent of climate finance, even though many studies have demonstrated that the most effective way to protect biodiversity is by securing Indigenous lands. Smallholder farmers in developing countries receive only 1.7 percent of climate finance, yet they are the ones who feed the world – 80 percent of Latin America’s food comes from them”

**ALDO SOTO**

Managing Director and  
Co-founder, Amazonia Impact  
Ventures

In total, GLF invested EUR 102,160 in this event’s inclusivity – with outstanding results. There were over 4,500 participants from 162 countries, with the top five represented countries being India, Kenya, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Forty-nine percent of speakers at the conference were women, and 72% were from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.



**EUR 15,000** on **two** solidarity sessions



**EUR 38,000** on **19** Inspiration Hub activities



**EUR 11,000** on **11** solidarity in-person tabletop exhibitions

**EUR 38,160** on free tickets for **3,816** participants

**EUR 102,160** total GLF investment in inclusivity



## About 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, 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)

### Funding partners

Supported by:



based on a decision of the German Bundestag