



# The Global Landscapes Forum

## Scaling Up

Sustainable landscapes are essential for the future we want: for food, livelihoods, health, renewable materials, energy, biodiversity, business development, trade, climate regulation and water. Recognizing this complexity – the diversity of landscape realities – and the need for holistic approaches, the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) is founded on four principles, aiming to engage 1 billion people: connecting, sharing, learning and acting.

Led by CIFOR with core partners including UN Environment, The World Bank, and the Government of Germany, the GLF is scaling-up to significantly contribute towards sustainable and low-emission development aspired by Agenda 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris agreement. Our vision puts people first and recognizes that people and communities acting together drive change.

The GLF is the world's largest inter-sectoral platform for generating knowledge, sharing experiences, connecting stakeholders and accelerating action towards sustainable landscapes. Since 2013, over 25,000 stakeholders from more than 3,000 organizations and 110 countries have engaged with the GLF, with participants representing broad cross-sections of society, including communities, indigenous peoples, finance representatives, corporations, farmers, civil society, different levels of government representatives, members of the media, academia, and youth.

The GLF helps decision-makers on all levels appreciate the need for inter-connected solutions at the landscape level. Through its Community of Landscapes, the GLF scales-up to directly engage and connect landscape stakeholders everywhere and support them in enhancing well-being and the environment.



The new phase of GLF will be launched and initiated on December 19-20, 2017 at the World Conference Centre in Bonn, Germany. The GLF will expand and enhance discussions to a larger audience than ever before, placing communities and local realities at the center of the conversation. This event, highlighting the launch of the next GLF phase and building a community that shares the GLF vision, will challenge influencers from all sectors to scale-up actions required to transition towards sustainable landscapes.

What is the new phase of GLF made of?  
The following points summarize the GLF mission and vision going forward:

- Four components deliver on the GLF mission and vision:
  - » Landscape Learning enhances curricula and learning opportunities from primary school to post-graduate students;
  - » Landscape News provides relevant stories and insights using the latest media technologies;
  - » The Knowledge Hub ensures that research findings and real-world experiences from landscapes are shared effectively;
  - » GLF events bring together landscape stakeholders in global, regional, local and thematic gatherings.
- The GLF builds a community that aims to connect one billion people. We all depend on landscapes for our common future.
- Working through key themes: Rights and equitable development; Financing sustainable landscapes; Food and livelihoods; Landscape restoration; and Measuring progress towards climate and development goals.
- Building on the broad engagement of and contributions by many organizations, the GLF partnership will continue to be strengthened: our impact depends on collective action.
- The GLF will have a small secretariat in Bonn, Germany to coordinate all of the above, operated by CIFOR.

Visit [www.landscapes.org](http://www.landscapes.org) for more information, background and updates on the GLF.

## The Global Landscapes Forum vision

The GLF enhances well-being and environment for all by putting people first and with the understanding that:

- Communities (people acting together) drive change;
- Landscapes are complex and require flexible solutions;
- Local collective consciousness and solutions can fulfil global goals.





# What do we mean by landscapes?

Landscapes are about people – all of us – and how we deal with the places where we have a stake. A landscape is a geographic construct where multiple expectations and needs must be met. Whether a landscape is small as a farm or large as a country, a common denominator for all landscapes is how people interact, and act, to make the best for well-being and the environment.



## Background and achievements

The GLF is committed to engage diverse voices from different backgrounds, sectors, countries and experiences to connect, share, learn and – most importantly – act. The GLF was formed by consolidating Forest Day and the International Day for Rural Development, thereby providing a unified and holistic platform for achieving sustainable landscapes, contributing significantly to the aspirations of the climate agenda and the SDGs.

GLF has held three global conferences: Warsaw 2013, Lima 2014 and Paris 2015. Two thematic events in London – in 2015 and 2016 – focused on finance and investments for sustainable landscapes. In Marrakech 2016, the focus was on climate change and climate actions. Further, in 2017, a thematic GLF conference on peatlands was held in Jakarta.

Since 2013, GLF stakeholders and participants have learned through demonstrations of new, innovative technologies; shared key knowledge through productive, action-oriented discussions; connected and created long-lasting relationships that aid in reducing overlaps, silos and barriers; and committed to action within landscapes, including registering pledges to restore 128 million hectares of land, protect over 70 watersheds and enact more equitable policies.





# The Global Landscapes Forum Bonn 2017

The new phase  
of the GLF will  
be launched  
and initiated at a  
global two-day  
conference in  
Bonn, Germany.

## Timing and location

The GLF Bonn 2017 event will be a focused, two-day Forum hosted at the World Conference Centre in Bonn, Germany on 19–20 December 2017. Organizations are welcome and encouraged to host and facilitate side meetings before and during the GLF event, and then bring their results and recommendations to the Forum. A GLF secretariat will be on hand to identify and reserve appropriate Bonn venues. Webinars, engaging social media campaigns, competitions and pre-event discussions will generate momentum and interest in key issue areas to ensure that the GLF accelerates long-term action for sustainable landscapes.

In the months preceding the GLF, participating organizations and individuals will connect, share, learn and act around five themes: Rights and equitable development, Financing sustainable landscapes, Food and livelihoods, Landscape and ecosystem restoration, and Measuring progress towards climate and development goals.

Visit [www.landscapes.org/glf-bonn/](http://www.landscapes.org/glf-bonn/) for regular updates and opportunities to engage and interact in the lead-up to the event.

# Themes

Five initial themes have evolved through GLF activities, in response to partners' and participants' engagements and priorities. These five themes form a starting point for the selection of discussion topics at the GLF Bonn 2017 conference.

## 1. Rights and equitable development

The recognition of the rights and empowerment of women, indigenous peoples and vulnerable groups is at the heart of sustainable landscapes. This theme focuses on enhancing and upholding the rights of women, indigenous peoples and local communities; facilitating reforms in land tenure and relevant legal and legislative frameworks; and contributing to land-based investments that safeguard rights of workers and indigenous communities while expanding opportunities and equitable development for smallholders and small businesses.

### Potential discussion topics

1. Mitigating risk for human rights defenders
2. Rights and climate actions
3. Barriers and challenges in securing rights for landscape stakeholders
4. Devolution of rights and land tenure reforms

## 2. Financing sustainable landscapes

Access to fair, affordable and long-term financing is critical for smallholders and small businesses. This theme focuses on developing innovative finance solutions that enable investments by landscape stakeholders to drive restoration, sustainable land use and sustainable value chains. In this context, the role of law enforcement, certification and accountability frameworks are crucial. While it is envisioned that most capital for landscape investment will be supplied from the private sector and equity funds, the theme will also address the deployment of public sector finance, including from the Green Climate Fund as well as national budgets.

### Potential discussion topics

1. How to scale-up access to fair, affordable and long-term financing for small-scale landscape businesses
2. Strategies and opportunities for private capital funds
3. Innovative finance solutions for climate actions
4. Transformational change driven by the Green Climate Fund
5. The performance of results-based payments for REDD+

## 3. Food and livelihoods

The futures of food production and value chains are central to millions of landscape stakeholders, as well as for the nutrition of all human beings. Through this theme, the GLF explores conditions and opportunities for sustainable development of food systems, recognizing that more integration and synergies with local environment and well-being will be required, as well as a better balance with global concerns about climate change and environmental degradation.

### Potential discussion topics

1. Managing the trade-offs: the future of agrarian reform
2. Finding balance between near-term livelihood improvement and long-term ecosystem integrity
3. Impacts of migration on agriculture and rural livelihoods
4. Diversity of the food system and impacts on nutrition
5. Process over projects: how to engender long-term support for landscape sustainability and strengthen links between science, practice, policy and society



#### 4. Landscape restoration

This theme focuses on improving the conditions and opportunities for people depending on degraded landscapes. The GLF will help connect organizations and governments involved in restoration initiatives and share the latest knowledge and approaches on key issues. These include land and soil degradation; large- and small-scale restoration; upholding of indigenous rights and livelihoods within and through landscape restoration efforts; facilitating of restoration-as-investment opportunities; biodiversity; participation of beneficiary communities and local governments in planning and implementing restoration projects; and restoration of landscapes for improved food security and livelihoods.

##### Potential discussion topics

1. Agreement on indicators of successful restoration
2. Financing restoration
3. Institutional aspects to inter-sectoral restoration initiatives
4. Enhancing biodiversity through restoration
5. Understanding global restoration potential and the Paris Agreement

#### 5. Measuring progress towards climate and development goals

As GLF emphasizes the role of local communities in advancing well-being and the environment, primary measures of progress relate to a wide variety of locally-defined goals. At the same time, contributions to common global, regional and national development and climate goals are also expected. Embracing this complexity, while recognizing that measures of progress are necessary, defines the challenge for this theme. The theme engages partners to share innovations, experiences and technology for measuring progress at the landscape level. It includes evaluating multi-sector benefits in landscapes; technology and innovation in monitoring land use change and value chains; and connecting local measures of progress with indicators for SDG targets.

##### Potential discussion topics

1. Local processes and measures for defining and determining progress
2. Performance of space-based technology and implications of low-precision data
3. Accountabilities in research and science when promoting methodologies and results
4. Potential of generic frameworks for landscape performance
5. Relevance of SDG indicators and targets

# Draft agenda

	Tuesday, 19 December	Wednesday, 20 December	
07:30	Registration		
09:00	3 parallel Discussion Forums; Talking Landscapes; 2 parallel side events; Launchpad and press conference	Plenary	
10:15	Structured networking		
11:00	3 parallel Discussion Forums; Talking Landscapes; 2 parallel side events; Launchpad and press conference		
12:30	Lunch; Launchpad and press conference		
14:00	Announcement of award recipients	3 parallel Discussion Forums; Talking Landscapes; 2 parallel side events; Launchpad and press conference	
14:30	Opening plenary		
15:15		Structured networking	
15:45	Structured networking		
16:00		3 parallel Discussion Forums; Talking Landscapes; 2 parallel side events; Launchpad and press conference	
16:30	3 parallel Discussion Forums; Talking Landscapes; 2 parallel side events; Launchpad and press conference		
17:30		Closing plenary	
17:45	Open & structured networking; 5 parallel evening side events		
19:15		Evening reception	
21:00			

## Running throughout:

Landscape Pavilions  
Open Networking  
Landscape Laboratories and Showcasing Voices Booths  
Landscape Learning



# How to participate

An estimated 2,000 participants – along with a global online audience – will meet for two days of engagement, discussion, learning and innovation at the GLF Bonn. There will be continuous livestreaming of key events, talks and discussions. There are many ways to participate by hosting and/or attending various activities, including:

- **Discussion Forums** that work to accelerate action towards sustainable landscapes by incorporating a range of voices and opinions, sharing knowledge and challenging conventions: using innovative approaches to host real discussions and include pre- and post-event digital summits to push discursive learning;
- **Landscape Laboratories** that showcase innovations in technology, approaches and programs;
- **Showcasing voices** with multimedia features and audio and video content that centralize community contexts;
- **Digital Summits**, online events held before, during and after GLF Bonn that include engaging webinars and outreach campaigns to foster global input into key topics;
- **Landscape Pavilions** where people working across landscapes can meet, talk and hear from communities to plan for practical action;
- **Plenaries** highlighting champions and change-makers from communities, science and more, departing from norms and encouraging impact;
- **Talking Landscapes**, a landscape lecture hall that provides a space for leading academics and scientists to provide short talks on current landscape activities;
- **Landscape learning** opportunities that allow participants to engage with the latest curated content on the cutting edge of landscape thinking, including modules, courses and learning activities;
- **The Youth in Landscapes (YIL)** initiative and training sessions before the event;
- Opportunities to contribute to **Landscapes News** and other online platforms through articles, blogs, photographs, videos and more;
- Entering **competitions and activities**, such as the GLF drone competition, photo competition and others;
- **Scholarship opportunities** for community leaders and innovators accelerating action within landscapes;
- **Awards and excellence** with key landscape prizes to be awarded to community champions;
- **Structured networking** that connects people within the GLF landscape, and where multi-stakeholder, multidimensional debates can flourish;
- **Side events** hosted by GLF partner organizations alongside the GLF Bonn event.

If you are interested in hosting or participating in any of these ways please visit [landscapes.org](https://landscapes.org) or contact the GLF coordination team at [info@landscapes.org](mailto:info@landscapes.org).