



Global
Landscapes
Forum

Be part of the 2015 **Global Landscapes Forum**

5-6 December, Paris

As world leaders convene in 2015 to agree on Sustainable Development Goals and a new climate deal, the Forum will leverage this historic opportunity to shape the world's development agenda for decades to come. Over the past two years, the Global Landscapes Forum has evolved into the world's leading platform for discussing land-use issues. In Paris, the Forum will bring together 2,500 stakeholders from across sectors, including forestry, agriculture, water, energy, law and finance.

The Forum is organized by a cross-sectoral consortium of leading international organizations led by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR). Over 100 organizations from across the globe will host sessions, launches and exhibitions.



Background and Achievements

In 2013, the organizers of the six Forest Days and the five Agriculture and Rural Development Days joined forces to launch the Global Landscapes Forum. Ahead of COP20 in Lima, this partnership was broadened to include even more voices from landscape research and policy. To date, more than 100 organizations have shared their research and ideas through the Global Landscapes Forum.

Highlights of the 2014 Global Landscapes Forum include:

- **262 expert speakers** and participants, among them **14 Ministers and Vice Ministers**, 6 governors and regional leaders and one former President
- **Ministerial roundtable discussion on regional synergies for climate action between 12 Latin American Ministers** and Vice Ministers of environment, irrigation and agriculture as well as former Mexican President Felipe Calderón
- **450 students and young professionals** joined the 2014 youth session, master-classes and webinar, led by **25 mentors** from business, civil society, government and research organizations.

2015 Timing and Location

The 2015 Forum will take place on 5-6 December at the **Palais des Congrès in Paris**, on the sidelines of the UNFCCC COP21. Around 2,500 people are expected to join the Forum.

2015 Context

The year 2015 constitutes a major landmark for climate and development policy as countries are set to agree on climate action beyond 2020 as well as a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to replace the MDGs.

Alongside the advanced stages of these important international policy processes, the 2015 Global Landscapes Forum will gather evidence for implementation and explore measures of progress.

Beyond the Event

The Global Landscapes Forum is unique in that it connects the annual event to year-long outreach activities. The collaborative, unbranded website www.landscapes.org serves as an online information hub around landscapes and climate change. In 2015, Forum organizers will introduce new tools for online audience engagement.

Capacity-building activities for youth and social media professionals will take place in Paris during the days leading up to the Forum.

Joining the Landscapes Partnership

The 2015 Global Landscapes Forum offers opportunities for active participation and conceptual inputs across all levels.

Communication Partners are invited to join Forum organizers in their various outreach activities.

Funding Partners can either support the Forum as general sponsors or fund specific technical support requirements.



Rachel Kyte
World Bank Vice
President and
Special Envoy for
Climate Change

"We're delighted that the broader land-use communities are coming together [at the Global Landscapes Forum]. If the goal is clearly to decarbonize by 2100, then the way we manage landscapes and the value we place on nature and ecosystems will need to shift and soar to the top of the agenda."



Paul Polman
CEO Unilever

"This is my first time in the Global Landscapes Forum. But I promise that it won't be my last. Yes, we do have to produce more food. Yes, we do have to protect the forests—and support the communities that depend on them. We cannot succeed in one of these challenges without succeeding in the other. But it can be done."



Helen Clark
UNDP
Administrator

"With a global climate agreement due to be finalized at the Paris Climate Conference at the end of the year and forests to be included in the Sustainable Development Goals to be adopted by UN member states in September, 2015 matters like no other year since the turn of the century."



Photos by Marco Simola/CIFOR

Draft Agenda

Saturday, 5 December

12.00 – 13.00 Registration
12.30 – 14.00 Launchpads
14.00 – 15.00 Opening Plenary
15.00 – 15.30 Coffee break
15.30 – 17.00 Six parallel Discussion Forums; knowledge-sharing events
17.00 – 17.30 Break
17.30 – 19.00 Six parallel Discussion Forums
19.15 – 21.00 Pecha Kucha sessions

Sunday, 6 December

Running in parallel: booths, thematic pavilions; youth session

8.00 – 8.45 Registration
9.00 – 10.30 Six parallel Discussion Forums
10.30 – 11.30 Coffee break
11.30 – 13.00 Thematic high-level Dialogues
13.00 – 14.30 Lunch
14.30 – 16.00 Six parallel Discussion Forums; Youth Session
16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break
16.30 – 18.00 Six parallel Discussion Forums
18.00 – 18.30 Break
18.30 – 19.30 Closing Ceremony
19.30 onwards – Cocktail reception

Themes

The Forum will see more than 30 sessions facilitating science–policy–practice dialogue along four themes. Sessions are selected by an interdisciplinary science committee. Sustainable Development Goals and climate change mitigation and adaptation act as crosscutting themes.

1. Landscape restoration

Recent international initiatives have recognized the role of landscape restoration in achieving sustainable development and climate goals. Governments, companies and development organizations pledged substantive support to reaching restoration targets. It is now time to reflect on lessons learned. Sessions under this theme will track the progress that was made, reflect on lessons learned, and showcase approaches for making landscape restoration a success.

2. Rights and tenure

Disputes around tenure place limitations on the effectiveness of climate and development initiatives such as REDD+ and private investments in land-use sectors for sustainable land management. At the same time, an increased flow of finance into developing countries will have profound impacts on formal and informal institutions. This theme will explore important issues such as implementation of REDD+ safeguards, gender and access to land, law and governance frameworks and rights of indigenous peoples in the context of landscape approaches.

3. Finance and trade

Access to finance for rural communities is inadequate and comes at high interest rates. Similarly, current levels of funding for REDD+ and other conservation and climate initiatives are insufficient and unreliable, while the magnitude of agricultural subsidies and other fiscal instruments currently is more conducive to forest conversion as opposed to conservation and sustainable use. Innovative solutions in the world of finance and efforts by the private sector could catalyze an improvement towards more sustainable land use practices where agricultural production and productive activities are decoupled from environmental impacts such as deforestation and forest degradation. This theme will explore the effectiveness of these initiatives, how they could be scaled up and which indicators are needed to track environmental and social impacts.

4. Measuring progress toward climate and development goals

Tracking the progress countries make in achieving the new climate and development goals will be critical in the coming years. Sessions under this theme will aim to identify and potentially launch the tools and instruments needed to measure progress at the landscape level. Potential topics include technological innovations that help us understand land-use change, multi-stakeholder engagement in MRV, assessing the social and environmental impact of zero-deforestation pledges, and the role of knowledge support tools as well as landscapes in SDG targets and indicators.

Wild card topics

The organizers will also accept session proposals addressing “wild card topics” – those issues that applicants feel are important in the Forum’s context, yet are not directly related to the selected themes.

Format and Sessions

The 2015 Global Landscapes Forum will build on successful features and lessons learned from previous events to design an agenda that allows for maximum stakeholder engagement across all levels.

Plenary Sessions provide invaluable opportunities to hear inspiring thoughts and news of future developments from experts and prominent speakers from diverse backgrounds.

Discussion Forums, the most popular feature of previous events, set the stage for interactive science–policy–practice dialogues. ([Deadline for applications: 7 September](#))

Launchpads are an ideal platform for presenting new research and initiatives. Launchpad applications will be evaluated by media and communications experts based on relevance, innovation and media interest. ([Deadline for applications: 26 October](#))

Landscapes Laboratory stations showcase how open data, geospatial technologies, and the Internet are revolutionizing our ability to monitor and manage the natural world. ([Deadline for applications: 28 September](#))

Thematic Pavilions create spaces for exchange and networking around topics cutting across all Forum themes – such as gender, technology and innovation, climate change and food security. ([Deadline for applications: 28 September](#))

Individual Booths provide exhibition space for organizations who prefer to display publications and products outside thematic pavilions. ([Deadline for applications: 28 September](#))

Structured Networking exercises incentivize conversations between stakeholders who would not have met outside the Forum, structured along common interests and challenges.

VIP Luncheons provide a setting for policy makers to share ideas in an informal context.

The **Youth in Landscapes Initiative** includes a [capacity-building component](#), [online engagement opportunities](#) and a [youth session aimed at 300 students](#), young professionals and their mentors.

To become a partner in the 2015 Global Landscapes Forum, contact CIFOR's Director of Communications and External Relations John Colmey (j.colmey@cgiar.org) and Global Landscapes Forum Coordinator Ann-Kathrin Neureuther (a.neureuther@cgiar.org)

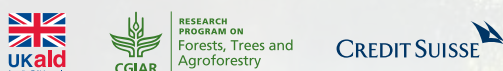
Coordinating partners



Implementing partners



Funding partners



Youth in Landscapes Initiative



Communication Partners



Carbon-neutral thanks
to the support of



Host country
Partner

