



Forests
Food
Finance



GLF CLIMATE HYBRID CONFERENCE

DONOR AND PARTNER REPORT

5-7
NOVEMBER
2021

#GLFClimate

FRONTIERS
OF CHANGE



On interconnectedness and the need to act on all crises together

“How do you actually affect change in these systems? There are puzzle pieces with the right policies, the right incentives, and behavioural change – and it is going to take all of these puzzle pieces to align.”



KELLY LEVIN
CHIEF OF SCIENCE,
DATA, AND SYSTEMS
CHANGE, BEZOS
EARTH FUND

“There is only one nature out there. There is only one planet out there, and if we do not save it, it’s not the planet that’s going to disappear, it’s humankind.”



PIERRE GRAMEGNA
MINISTER OF FINANCE,
LUXEMBOURG

“There is no single solution to this [food systems]. Changes need to happen at every level from individual choices to macro policies at the national and global level. But that also means that almost everybody can play an important role.”



WALTER WILLET
PROFESSOR OF
EPIDEMIOLOGY AND
NUTRITION, HARVARD
UNIVERSITY

“The climate crisis is actually a question of our human rights. We lose our right to a safe environment.”



MARINEL UBALDO
UN COY16 GLASGOW
PHILIPPINE COUNTRY
COORDINATOR

“We cannot stop the climate crisis today, biodiversity loss tomorrow, and degradation the day after. We need to tackle all issues together.”



IBRAHIM THIAW
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
UNITED NATIONS
CONVENTION TO COMBAT
DESERTIFICATION
(UNCCD)



The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) brought together thousands of people to accelerate action on land management, meet climate goals, and tackle seemingly incompatible trade-offs at the hard-hitting **GLF Climate: Forests, Food, Finance – Frontiers of Change** hybrid conference from 5-7 November, 2021.

The hybrid (both in-person and online) “people’s summit” took place on the sidelines of one of the most important climate events in history – the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

This success was made possible through the financial backing of Germany’s Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, and the Robert Bosch Foundation, as well as the Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program.

With the ongoing support of GLF’s founders – the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) – and its 32 Charter Members, this hybrid event provided a critical opportunity for leading thinkers and actors to meet, both virtually and in-person, and lay down landscape-based pathways for meeting climate commitments focusing on creating positive tipping points in forests, food, and climate.



On investing in positive change

“Financing green and greening finance have a natural sequence: you can’t finance green without greening finance.”



SIMON ZADEK
CHAIR FINANCE
FOR BIODIVERSITY
INITIATIVE

“We have a very, very long way to go – you can see the gap in terms of what it’s going to cost to make the transition to renewables, or deal with growing extreme weather events.”



SAMANTHA POWER
ADMINISTRATOR,
USAID

“Moving to nature-based positive economies is easily an opportunity to unlock 10 trillion dollars in economic value.”



PAUL POLMAN
BUSINESSMAN,
CAMPAIGNER AND
AUTHOR OF ‘NET
POSITIVE’

“The evidence that backs up the potential agroecology exists in the battleground over knowledge and power, and it’s the politics of knowledge that all too often keep these approaches from being understood, taken up and acted upon, even when we need them the most.”



PATTY FONG
PROGRAM
DIRECTOR, CLIMATE
AND HEALTH &
WELL-BEING,
GLOBAL ALLIANCE
FOR THE FUTURE
OF FOOD

GLF Climate in numbers



400 speakers,
including:
• 13 Heads of State and
Ministers
• 21 Industry leaders
• 11 Indigenous leaders



50+
youth speakers



67
sessions



over
1 million
total session views across all event platforms

Participation





On investing in positive change

"FOLUR is enabling countries to pursue system-wide approaches to transform food and land use. This solution to reverse deforestation and land degradation, and restore critical ecosystems, is needed now more than ever for climate adaptation and mitigation."



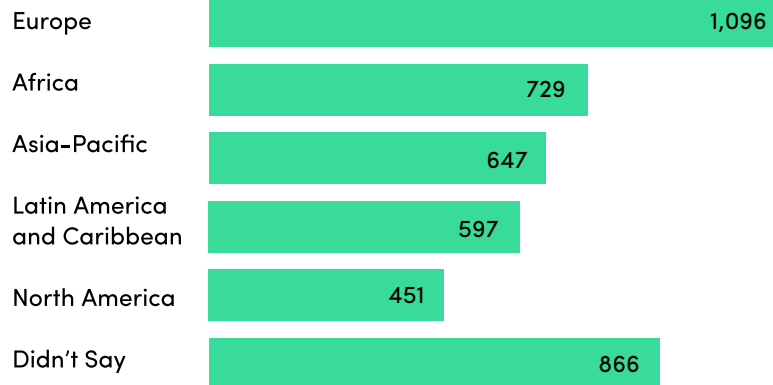
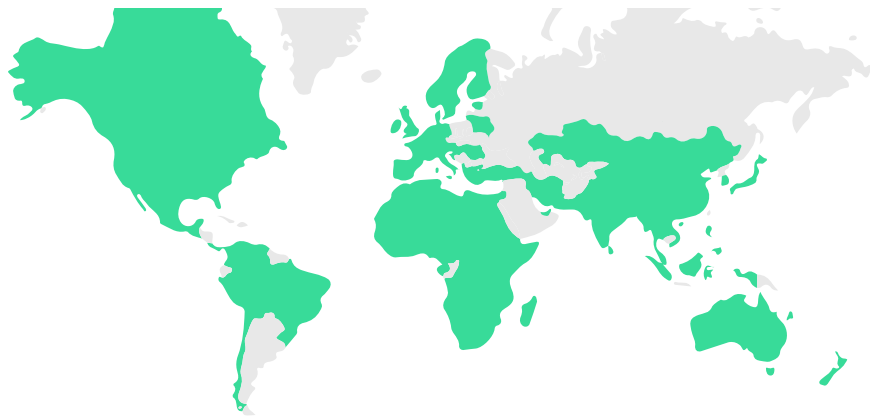
CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ
CEO AND CHAIRPERSON,
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT
FACILITY

"Transitioning our economies post-COVID through job intensive activities like ecosystem restoration, regenerative agriculture, and circular economic models for many business sectors could indeed generate an estimate of \$10 trillion in annual business value and create almost 400 million jobs by 2030."



PAVAN SUKHDEV
PRESIDENT, WWF

Geographical distribution of attendees



Reach



265,450
engagements



341.32
million
media reach



42 million
social media reach



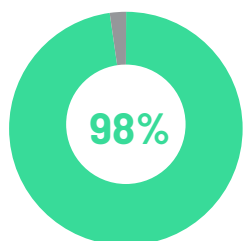
126 million
impressions



49,500 website
page views



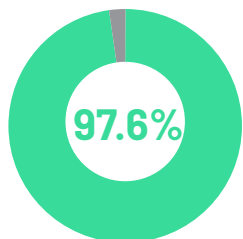
Ratings overview



98%

of surveyed participants rated the event as good or excellent*

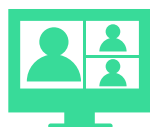
*compared to 97% at the GLF Biodiversity Digital Conference in 2020



97.6%

of surveyed participants reported committing to action to transform our society and sustain life on Earth

Participant testimonials



“The presence of speakers who live in the most affected areas, and are taking part in tackling global warming, really motivated me to believe we can do the same almost everywhere. I was worried this would be an academic event, but what I saw was an event that brought so many different people together, all of them with an incredible idea or bringing very pressing issues to the table. It was amazing and I wish I could’ve participated in everything!”



“Most of the sessions worked very well from the technical perspective – impressive job by the IT team! (I joined virtually). Also the topic forests-food-finance was very catchy and engaging, and aligned well with the current challenges. Speakers were greatly mixed and the sessions were super interesting. Chapeau and many thanks!”



“What was most valuable for me was the quality of the speakers. I was able to connect emotionally while acquiring more knowledge on ways to help reverse climate change. The interactive sessions were also important, as I was able to get an answer on an issue I find crucial.”

Q&A

“I really liked the part where the participants who attended virtually were able to participate through Q&A: it felt like we were there in person. The speakers responded to our questions and explained things well. I am really happy to be part of this – it was actually my first time [at an event on this topic], and I would like to learn more and be part of this advocacy.”

On the need for social inclusion, justice, and diversity

“Because we are part of the community, we thrive with the community we rise and fall together as a community.”



**HIS MAJESTY
NGWENYAMA INKOSI
YA MAKHOSI GOMANI V**
KING OF THE MASEKO
NGUNI/NGONI

“In this COP we’ve heard a lot about the Amazon and Indigenous people, but we don’t see Indigenous people actually being at the forefront and in the center of the discussion... We don’t need anyone to talk on our behalf: we have a voice and we know what we need.”



SAMELA AWIÁ
INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITY OF
SATERÉ, MANAUS,
BRAZIL, ARTICULATION
OF INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES OF BRAZIL
(APIB)

“It’s critical to adapt our agriculture to face these new threats: extreme heat, drought, pests and diseases... by harnessing crop diversity conserved in gene banks, we can work together with farmers, scientists and leaders to develop more resilient varieties.”



STEFAN SCHMITZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
CROP TRUST

“Seeds may not look like much, but seeds have changed the course of history before. Within them lies the foundation of the future of food and of feeding the hungry.”



**ANNE BEATHE
TVINNERHEIM**
MINISTER OF
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT,
NORWAY



Triggering positive tipping points across forests, food, and finance

The planet is on track for 3 degrees of global warming by the year 2100, and scientists say we could soon reach what are known as negative **tipping points**, which can cause runaway climate change and biodiversity loss. However, there are also positive tipping points for our efforts to address these crises.

Positive tipping points are triggered by restoring collapsed, low biodiversity ecosystems back to something like their original diverse state, whereafter the ecosystem will continue to grow in diversity and be resilient to certain degrees of climate change. This is best done at the landscape level, where all the various interests of landscape actors are aligned, to reach that positive tipping point where the effects of ecosystem restoration on food, livelihoods, health and wellbeing provide self-sustaining momentum.

GLF Climate sparked important discussion on what is needed to arrive at these tipping points. Speakers concluded that the future of our forests and food systems, the health of people and the planet requires

inclusion of local communities, individual behavioral changes, and enabling and enforcing government policies and investment frameworks that put nature and people first.

It was also apparent that there are no silver bullet solutions. We need joined-up local solutions, tailored to meet contextual conditions and aligned with social realities. We must recognize the multiple values of trees and forests for climate, biodiversity, health, wellbeing and livelihoods. These must be incorporated into integrated landscape governance systems that recognize human agency and needs.

Another key message from the conference was that development must be more than profit and economic growth. And, technology and finance are only part of the solution to reduce emissions and transform to a decarbonized economy. Rather, we must look at social and human capital, with nature as an integral part of a stewardship economy.



Unveiling the Restoration Alliance

GLF Acts: Unveiling the Restoration Alliance was a short and exciting three-day program, which spanned between 20–40 minutes each day and showcased the experiences and efforts of local change agents driving restoration actions around the world.

The programs featured:

- Launch of the **Restoration Alliance**
- Launch of the **GLF chapter network**, comprising eight chapters in the African Sahel
- Celebration of five chapters that each received EUR 5,000 as seed grants to scale local actions - the GLFx Sahel chapter network is generously supported by the Robert Bosch Foundation.
- Celebration of **five Restoration Stewards** (the 2022 cohort) who will each receive EUR5,000 to lead restoration projects across ecosystems, including peatlands, oceans, forests, mountains and drylands.
- Discussion session featuring a landscape restoration initiative financier and representatives of small-scale initiatives
- A speech from a King, His Majesty Ngwenyama Inkosi Ya Makhosi Gomani V, about the roles of local authorities in restoration efforts



FAO formally joins the GLF

Transforming food systems is fundamental to restoring landscapes and mitigating climate change: agricultural practices and land-use change currently account for around a third of global anthropogenic emissions. In that context, and in response to agreements coming out of COP26, the [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\) of the United Nations \(UN\)](#) strengthened its contribution to the broad-based alliances for change that are critically needed to transform current unequal and unsustainable development pathways – by [becoming the 32nd GLF charter member](#).

In becoming a Charter Member, the FAO joins more than [thirty of the world's leading development, environmental, farmer, rights and research organizations](#), who have signed the [GLF Charter](#) and are committed to the vision of advancing, mainstreaming and implementing the '[Landscape Approach](#)' to building landscapes that are productive, prosperous, equitable and resilient.



Launch of FOLUR

On the second day of the event, the [World Bank](#) and Global Environmental Facility launched a new initiative, the [Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration \(FOLUR\) Impact Program](#). The program takes an integrated approach to addressing the challenges relating to unsustainable land use, within the landscape and across key value chains. It seeks to provide countries with much-needed support to tackle institutional and market failures, and repurpose resources in the public sector.

FOLUR will work with governments to incentivize sustainable land use – for example by repurposing public expenditures on agriculture, which can lead to an 8 percent avoided loss of natural land, and a [USD] 56 billion gain in return. Restoring degraded land to farmland is a key part of the proposal: if just 12 percent of the world's degraded lands were restored to production, another 200 million people could be adequately fed, and farmers' incomes would be raised by USD 40 billion per year.





Youth at GLF Climate

Young people, who GLF defines as those aged between 18 and 35, played a crucial role before and during GLF Climate, beginning with the [#GenerationRestoration: The Advocacy Odyssey](#) digital learning journey, which took place in the month leading up to the event. This learning experience was tailored for students and young professionals interested in exploring a variety of approaches to environmental advocacy and activism. It was co-facilitated with the [World Economic Forum's 1t.org platform](#), and developed in collaboration with organizations from the #GenerationRestoration Youth Hub – namely, the European and Mexican Chapters of the [Global Youth Biodiversity Network \(GYBN\)](#), [Youth4Nature](#), and [Avaaz](#).

The digital learning journey consisted of four sessions, including one networking session and three online interactive workshops that focused respectively on negotiation skills, eco-storytelling practices, and environmental law. About 60 participants from over 25 countries completed the learning journey in time to support the climate conference as speakers and session facilitators. The day before the event, a [youth-led GLF Live session](#) aired on the GLF Instagram, in which contributors discussed ways to make the climate justice movement accessible to everyone.

During GLF Climate:

- 30+ young people participated in the mentorship program
- 100+ young people volunteered as rapporteurs
- 23 young people acted as social media ambassadors, three of whom were there in person in Glasgow
- More than 50 young people spoke in sessions, plenaries, and launchpads
- 1,940 young people registered as participants

The GLF Youth Team joined forces with the GLF Chapters Team to launch the Restoration Alliance. The five Restoration Stewards for 2022 were also announced during the conference, after the evaluation of more than 250 applications. These Stewards will receive a year of mentorship and support for restoring their respective ecosystems, while inspiring others to do the same.

Three 30-minutes episodes for the Youth Daily Show series aired during the conference, with eight young experts offering fresh perspectives on the topics of veganism across cultures, activism for systemic change, and climate migration as a human rights issue.





Inclusivity

The climate crisis is frequently characterized by a notable gulf between major emitters and key decision makers, and those most vulnerable to its impacts. Entrenched global injustice issues, such as ease of travel, time, money, and access to visas and vaccines, have also served as barriers for critical frontline actors to make it to COP 26 and have their voices heard – particularly given the extra difficulties and risks around international travel thrown up by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In that context, the hybrid nature of GLF Climate allowed for the ‘best of both worlds’: hundreds of attendees could meet face-to-face onsite, and thousands more were able to contribute and be part of the action from their homes in 144 countries around the globe – while saving carbon emissions

and precious funds. To ensure the widest possible dissemination, GLF Climate was available not only via GLF’s digital platform, but also on YouTube, Facebook Live and Instagram. Audio streaming was also provided for people with limited internet connections.

GLF also supports local and small organizations by offering some solidarity sessions. Solidarity tickets allow for those who otherwise could not join to participate and watch parties bring GLF events to communities with limited internet access.



EUR 35,000
total GLF investment in inclusivity

bit.ly/GLFClimate2021

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, 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



THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG

