

  
GLF AFRICA  
DIGITAL  
CONFERENCE  
15.9.2022

HOW TO  
BUILD AN  
EQUITABLE,  
RESILIENT  
FOOD FUTURE



# FROM LANDSCAPE TO TABLE

Food systems in perspective

#GLFAfrica



## HOW CAN WE IMPLEMENT INNOVATIVE FOOD SYSTEMS THAT POSITIVELY IMPACT THE ENVIRONMENT, WHILST ALSO BENEFITING LOCAL COMMUNITIES?

Earlier this year, the GLFx Cape Town speaker stage at Greenpop's Reforest Fest posed this question to a series of speakers, inviting them to discuss the topic of landscapes and food systems in a series of talks. GLFx Cape Town will present extracts from this series, discussing the complex dynamics of food and equity, and the potential to shape the future of food systems in South Africa. Excerpts come from:

- Mercy Nqandeka of [Viva con Agua](#), who discusses the importance of equity in restoring rural landscapes and communities in South Africa;
- Kaspar Paur from the [Oceaneers](#), who addresses the importance of food choices on ocean health;
- Tasneem Karodia, who tells us more about cultivated meat and the role of [Mzansi Meat](#) in developing ways to consume sustainably in the future;

- Gray Maguire from the [Climate Neutral Group](#), who shares information about their role in promoting regenerative farming in Southern Africa; and
- [Rosanna 'Rosie' McLean](#) whose original poetry is called 'You can find me in nature'.

While initiatives like the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the Global Landscapes Forum continue to spearhead global awareness, the onus also remains on individuals, companies and national governments to ensure our actions, perspectives and projects are operating within the context and relevance of our local environments. This session aims to present and summarize a diversity of perspectives on food systems in South Africa, highlighting particular complexities with equity, livelihoods and accessibility. Excerpts showcase local activists, organisations and movements working towards food sustainability, and demonstrate innovative technologies, tools and networks for transforming food systems towards equity. As there can be no environmental justice without social justice, we discuss how systemically shifting away from unsustainable models and providing an inclusive and appealing alternative that benefits broadly is far better than calls to flatten unsustainable food system industries entirely.

### Authors and organizations

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## KEY POINTS

- It is key to remember that food systems and sustainability are not black and white
- Food system equity and innovation can be supported and promoted through initiatives, movements and activists like Viva con Agua, Oceaneers, Mzansi Meat and the Climate Neutral Group
- It is important to stay sceptical of false dichotomies that fail to account for local circumstances or needs, or that 'demonise' or place blame on local communities, small-scale producers or consumers, rather than large, industrial food systems.
- We need to implement innovative and holistic solutions to address barriers to food system sustainability, including financing, behavioural change and awareness raising.

## FURTHER READING

- GLFx Cape Town. 2022. *Context is key: How environmental change-makers are bringing equity and cultural context into the picture.* <https://bit.ly/3ntlxRB>
- GLFx Cape Town. 2022. *Restoring rural landscapes and communities in South Africa: Mercy Nqandeka of Viva con Agua says equity is key.* <https://bit.ly/3xWJhUs>
- GLFx Cape Town. 2022. *Food choices and ocean health: how Oceaneers are moving us towards a plant-based future.* <https://bit.ly/3xXImnD>
- GLFx Cape Town. 2022. *Is cultivated meat the future of sustainable meat consumption? Mzansi Meat is spearheading the change in Africa.* <https://bit.ly/3l5Aioi>
- GLFx Cape Town. 2022. *The Carbon Credit feedback loop: how the Climate Neutral Group is incentivising regenerative farming in Southern Africa.* <https://bit.ly/3ce61YA>



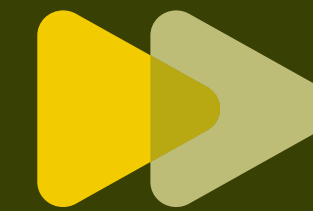
## PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

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](https://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)



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