

# A NEW VISION FOR EARTH

GLF Nairobi 2023 Hybrid Conference



12 October 2023  
Nairobi, Kenya + Online

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Day 2 . GLF Climate – Survival  
Guide for a Planet in Crises

Concept Note



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***GLF Nairobi 2023 Hybrid Conference gathers key stakeholders to shape the global conversation ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference COP28. It is an opportunity for all to call for action on crucial issues affecting humans, biodiversity, and the planet.***

As scientists, civil society, grassroots organizations, and certain policy makers insist on urgent action to phase out fossil fuels – and accelerate energy efficiency and sustainable land-use alongside renewables – the world’s **most affected people and areas** still face a polycrisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, severe food and water insecurity, and social inequalities.

According to the latest **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth Assessment Report**, the planet is “more likely than not” to reach a 1.5 °C rise from pre-industrial levels in the near term, resulting in “increasingly irreversible losses” and triggering critical climate ‘tipping points’. The largest adverse impacts of the climate crisis are already disproportionately impacting people and landscapes in **vulnerability hotspots** across the **Global Majority**, as well as low-income people, Indigenous Peoples, women, and other marginalized social groups around the world. From the report, it’s clear that every fraction of a degree matters in the fight against climate change.

The new UN report has been hailed as a survival guide for humanity! **There is hope** – but system-wide transformation is needed to deliver multiple benefits across sectors and enable sovereignty and stewardship of people in landscapes. Rallying against the unsustainable use of natural resources, phasing out fossil fuels and triggering **positive tipping points**, working with a broad range of stakeholders in inclusive decision-making across scales and contexts while supporting locally-led climate action, **recognizing Loss and Damage as a planetary imperative**, redirecting harmful subsidies and **increasing and blending climate finance**, pushing for wider implementation of successful climate policies, and investing in landscape restoration and the protection of forests are some of the crucial tools we can use to drive this transformation.

Locally-led landscapes and land-based actions, from protecting forests and ecosystems and reducing deforestation and degradation, to sustainable and integrated land-use, offer crucial opportunities for rebalancing the climate system by both removing carbon from the atmosphere and lowering emissions. Joint solutions for adaptation and mitigation – while combating land desertification and degradation, as well as food insecurity – that are designed with and support small-holder farmers and forest communities’ transition to more climate resilient



systems and livelihoods must become key elements of all future climate policies. Neither governments nor the private sector can solve the climate and biodiversity crises alone and there is a need to develop more public-private partnerships, particularly to achieve blended finance. Finally, climate justice must be at the heart of global agreements, decision-making processes, finance policies and investment decisions to ensure a just transition to a decarbonized world.

So, what are we waiting for?

On the 12th of October 2023 – 49 days before COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates – the [Global Landscapes Forum](#) (GLF) will host a hybrid conference from the [Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry](#) (CIFOR-ICRAF) campus in Nairobi to showcase joint locally-led solutions for adaptation and mitigation, and instill active hope to spur climate action in favour of human and planetary well-being.

## Who is this event for?

In a time when every fraction of a degree matters, GLF Climate will mobilize frontline women leaders, indigenous peoples, businesses, youth movements, grassroots actors, farmers' cooperatives, local communities, scientists, researchers, policy makers, government officials, and civil society – alongside its 33 charter members – to make sure a world 2°C hotter does not become a reality by 2050.

Join GLF Climate: Climate Survival Guide to engage with landscape actors at the frontlines of climate impacts, biodiversity loss and land degradation; school up on the latest knowledge, science, and technology on diversified and locally-led landscape solutions, from restoration to sustainable forestry and agriculture; scale successful policy instruments; and prioritize climate finance for loss and damage, as well as for adaptation.

The one-day conference will be packed with plenaries, expert sessions, interactive workshops, thematic pavilions, exhibition booths, networking opportunities and artistic interventions. It will center on the voices of people in landscapes

across Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The event will be immediately preceded by the regional GLF Africa 2023 conference on 11th October: **Day 1 African Sovereign Solutions**

## Day 2: Climate Survival Guide for a Planet in Crises

- Promote finance for climate, biodiversity and sustainable land-use by identifying mechanisms to support the most affected people and areas with loss and damage, highlight opportunities for adaptation finance, and offer alternative narratives to global economic models that currently underpin mitigation finance.
- Provide a multi-stakeholder platform to build and strengthen alliances and collaboration, and share expertise on resilient, locally-led and rights-based landscape solutions that harmonize climate, biodiversity and land degradation neutrality to inform national, regional, and global policy instruments.
- Hold space for stories, innovation, and collective moments to cultivate active hope for addressing the drivers and impacts of the climate crisis.

## Potential themes and topics:

- Finance for climate and biodiversity, including topics on loss and damage finance, adaptation finance for resilient landscapes, collective risk and distributional equity, carbon markets, redistribution of resources
- Landscape solutions for mitigation and adaptation, including topics on landscape restoration, protecting and nurturing forests, agroecology, regenerative agriculture, sustainable food systems, and agroforestry
- Climate justice and rights, including topics on justice movements, climate litigation, One Health and rights-based approaches, youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and farmer groups

**Cross-cutting theme:** scaling policy instruments that harmonize the climate, biodiversity and land nexus while centering the most affected people and areas



### Harnessing 10 years of GLF and 30 years of CIFOR

2023 marks GLF's 10-year and CIFOR-ICRAF's 30-year anniversary. We will bring back many of the scientists, advocates, policy-makers and change-makers who helped to write our story. Among thousands of incredible voices, our past speakers include:

**Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**, WTO Director-General and former Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister for the Economy of Nigeria (2011 to 2015)

*"Should [finance for landscapes] come from rich donor countries? Yes. But will it? No." GLF Paris 2015*

**Sonia Guajajara**, Indigenous leader and Brazil's Minister of Indigenous Peoples

*"We must stop considering 'the environment' as only present in the Amazon, and start to understand it as the place where we build our life, the place where we live, from our own street and neighborhood." GLF Climate 2022, online and in Sharm-El Sheikh*

**Jane Goodall**, primatologist, anthropologist, author, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute, and UN Messenger of Peace

*"That's really the message: Small-scale family farming, diversity of crops, engagement of the local people, helping them understand the need for conservation, and giving them the tools so that they can do conservation for themselves." GLF Bonn Digital Conference 2020*

**Eliane Ubalijoro**, incoming CEO of CIFOR-ICRAF

*"We must think together about how to change entire systems. It is not just about mobilizing finance. It is about inclusive finance and ensuring that everyone has access to it." 6th GLF Investment Case 2023, online and in Luxembourg*

**Samantha Power**, USAID Administrator

*"When we are actually co-designing, sitting side by side, from the private sector, to corporations, and local communities, and we look at the problem while hearing different perspectives... that is inclusive and sustainable development." GLF Climate 2021: Frontiers of Change, online and in Glasgow*

**Mildred Crawford**, Caribbean Network of Rural Women Producers, Farmers' Co-Chair of the Executive Committee of the Global Assembly of Partners towards Habitat III (GAP)

*"We have to think seriously about succession planning for biodiversity conservation and use. Our youth plays a critical role in this area because when we retire, the baton needs to be passed on." GLF Biodiversity 2020, online*

**Autumn Peltier**, Water and Indigenous rights activist

*"We can't eat money and we can't drink oil." GLF New York 2019*

**Walter Willett**, Professor of Epidemiology and Nutrition at Harvard University

*"The biggest reduction in coronary heart disease – the number one cause of death in the world – is when we use plant-based proteins to replace red meat." GLF New York 2019*

**Ravi Prabhu**, ICRAF's interim Director General

*"It is time to truly recognize that nature is more than just products. It also provides measurable services. People are not just producers, they are carers. We need to start seeing land and nature as a community to which we belong, rather than commodities to exploit." GLF Climate 2022, online and in Sharm El-Sheikh*



## Road to GLF Nairobi 2023

The GLF Nairobi 2023 Hybrid Conference will be the highlight of the GLF's Road to GLF Nairobi campaign to catalyze community-led local action and showcase human stories on the ground. We will organize the following activities with stakeholders to shape compelling pathways for action:

- **GLFx Africa Chapter Summit, 19–21 June:**  
A 3-day workshop in collaboration with the Robert Bosch Foundation, will bring together all GLFx Community-based chapters working in Africa to connect, share experiences, challenges, learn and dream together on upcoming activities to support community-led action toward more sustainable landscapes.
- **Finance for Nature Digital Forum: Investing in Equitable Futures, 13 July:** This Digital Forum will explore how to increase funding for the local communities in Latin America and the Caribbean – and how to promote equitable distribution of resources in these contexts.
- **Restoration Education Summit 2023:**  
This Summit will drive discussions for the implementation of a transdisciplinary

curricula for restoration. By bridging practice-based, competence-based education with principles such as flexible assessment and life-long learning, the GLF partnership hopes to transform on-the-ground restoration education, and create seasoned landscape professionals to lead the way across the restoration sector. The curricula for restoration will be co-designed by a pan-African network of universities, the International Union Forest Research Organizations, Wageningen Centre for Development, and Wageningen University and Research.

- **Activities by the Youth in Landscapes Initiative**

- ◆ *Regional Digital Dialogues:* In summer 2023, a series of digital interactive dialogues will shed light on and elevate action priorities for specific topics around climate justice and relevant policy for the local communities in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia-Pacific.
- ◆ *Landscape Leadership Workshop:* The flagship learning program of the Youth in Landscapes Initiative (YIL) will take



place in person during the week leading to GLF Nairobi 2023. Students and young professionals from across the African continent will have the opportunity to strengthen different skills and explore the landscape approach in the context of their own landscape, with a long-term goal of becoming landscape leaders.

- **Special GLF Live series on GLF Nairobi 2023:** Thought leaders and local actors will highlight solutions crucial to a resilient future through a special [GLF Live](#) series leading up to and after the conference.

### A wide-reaching digital communications and outreach program

The GLF, its core partners CIFOR–ICRAF and its 33 Charter Members will build an interactive, creative, and visionary campaign and a hybrid event experience that will engage, inspire, and promote change. The back-to-back event and campaign is predicted to reach more than 60 million people from over 100 countries across the globe through social media, partners, influencers, and the networks of conference speakers,

participants, and media. As part of the outreach process, the GLF’s 45 [social media ambassadors](#) are amplifying the campaign in 29 countries and 10+ languages.

## Why GLF?

Founded by CIFOR, the World Bank, and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), with 33 leading development organizations as Charter Members, the GLF is the world’s largest and fastest-growing knowledge-led platform on sustainable land use. It seeks to create a movement dedicated to achieving the sustainable Development Goals and Paris Climate Agreement. The Forum has connected nearly 10,000 organizations and over 215,000 participants, and reached more than a billion people from 185 countries.

The Forum is a key implementing partner in the [Global Environment Facility 7 \(GEF-7\) Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program](#) (FOLUR)’s [Global Knowledge to Action Platform](#), which seeks to promote sustainable integrated landscapes and efficient food value chains for the world’s major commodities in 24 countries.



## Get involved

The agenda will feature plenaries, interactive sessions, structured networking, cultural exhibitions featuring local photographers and filmmakers, virtual tours, documentary screenings, and press conferences around the selected themes. Please refer to the [Get Involved page](#) or contact GLF Global Event and Outreach Coordinator [Judith Sonneck](#) with any questions.

## Sponsor GLF

We are the world's most exclusive platform on integrated, sustainable land use management. Our 33 Charter Members include leading Sustainable Development organizations such as the World Bank, World Wildlife Fund, World Resources Institute and Rainforest Alliance.

At GLF events, we bring together leading private sector innovators who push the boundaries of what is possible to make business more sustainable with investors who are turning risk into opportunities and are leading with new sustainable finance tools and instruments. Recent partners include: Rabobank, Nestle, Oatley, Credit Suisse, Microsoft, Natura, Liquid Telecom and others.

We bridge local to global and south to north. We run the leading youth program on sustainable landscape management with 60 000 participants under 35 years mainly from the global south.

We are THE Global platform for the voices of women and indigenous and local communities and youth on how to solve the big questions we are collectively facing today: from rapidly declining biodiversity to increasingly fast climate change, justice, poverty and hunger.

At every event we reach 30 million people and more. Over the past decade, we reached over 1.5 billion people.

We would be delighted to support you with your next launch, promote your number one initiative on sustainability and help you achieve ambitious goals and KPIs.

GLF events are created on a full cost recovery basis financed mainly through the generous support of our sponsors and session hosting fees. Entry tickets make up only a small part of the income as we aspire to keep events as inclusive as possible.

Investments in inclusivity include free virtual conference participation for all residents of the African continent and youth; data stipends and watch parties to help bridge the digital divide; solidarity sessions for organizations and voices that should be heard more, but often lack access.





Please find opportunities to partner [here](#). For more information, please contact Marina Brunale at [m.brunale@cifor-icraf.org](mailto:m.brunale@cifor-icraf.org)



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## 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)

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