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One World, One Health

Recommendations to harness the power of landscapes

A review of existing policy responses to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

To establish the diversity of policy themes upon which the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) community built its recommendations, the content and key themes of eight responses to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) framework were reviewed. This selection of eight briefs is not exhaustive but represents recommendations from diverse sectors, regions, policy levels, age cohorts and various interest groups, especially local governments; African landscape leaders; academia; youth; Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs); civil society organizations and the private sector.

The responses urge policy-makers to take full advantage of the experiences and resources of key actors who are either not mentioned in the framework or are only referenced tangentially. Policy-makers are specifically called to:

- recognize the unique potential of governance levels beyond national governments to contribute to biodiversity conservation, as those who have the potential to communicate with significant large and diverse audiences, key to the transformative change necessary to halt biodiversity loss (Edinburgh Declaration, 2020).
- learn from the success stories from the experiences of African countries in using the principles of Integrated Landscape Management (ILM) to meet biodiversity goals (Ajjugo et al., 2020), and;
- place at the core of the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature the contributions of IPLCs in supporting the world's biocultural diversity and the inseparable relationship between nature and humankind (*LBO* 2, 2020)

The authors of the reports highlight several sets of principles they see as essential to guiding progress towards biodiversity goals, calling on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to:

- embed principles for transformative change within the post-2020 global biodiversity framework that generate the vision and momentum necessary to harness and enable action across all levels of government and the whole of society (*Eklipse*, 2020);
- integrate the principles of the landscape approach in the framework by placing high value on the wellbeing of humans and other entities, on biodiversity conservation, and respecting the profound sense of local context experienced through the "connection to place" of communities (*Kumamoto Report*, 2019);
- operationalize and explicitly include the following concepts in the framework: intergenerational equity, human rights and the rights of nature, transformative education and meaningful youth engagement and participation (*GYBN*, 2020)

Finally, the reviewed policy responses put forward the following recommendations to close strategy gaps:

- include specific policy reforms and regulatory actions for key sectors, such as infrastructure, resource extraction, agriculture, fisheries and urbanization, in the action targets (CSO Statement, 2020);
- focus on mindset change that makes growth, profit and over-use of resources less of the norm in economic sectors in strategies (*CSO Statement*, 2020);
- enable an international policy environment that encourages participation by businesses and governments, especially in articulating visions and commitments to biodiversity targets, and in engaging in monitoring, reporting, and verification to foster transparency and accountability (van Oorschot et al., 2020)
- create an explicit strategy for communications, education, and public awareness (CEPA) that fosters easier understanding of technical concepts related to biodiversity and capacity-building of younger generations about the landscape approach (*Kumamoto Report*, 2019).





Exported public comments and testimonials

A list of participant testimonials and comments received to date can be found **here**. Contributions submitted prior to the release of this policy brief respond to the question: "How can the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration best harness the power of landscapes to catalyze transformative change towards living in harmony with nature?".

Summary of analysis methods and criteria

In order to foster an intra- and intergenerational, participatory process for the drafting of these policy recommendations, GLF and Youth in Landscapes Initiative (YIL) invited 26 organizations representing the interests of youth from around the world (the "youth delegation") to provide their own recommendations and to participate in the GLF Biodiversity Digital Conference 2020 in order to collect policy recommendations from the sessions. The youth delegation was also invited to write an open letter that serves as the preamble for this policy brief. Other organizations participating in the GLF Biodiversity event, were also invited to provide their own policy recommendations, as well as to submit **white papers** that offered first-hand experience and lessons learned concerning the identification of key barriers and opportunities for conservation and ecosystem restoration. Public comments and testimonials have also provided personal and organizational testimony to the importance of the recommendations and have highlighted distinctions and considerations in their uptake and translation into policy change and action. Figure 1, below, illustrates the participatory process.

Data collection

Three primary sources of data were assembled for analysis:

- recommendations submitted directly from session host organizations;
- 2. recommendations submitted directly from organizations represented in the youth delegation;
- notes from special policy rapporteurs , that summarized the content of all conference sessions, with a focus on policy implications.



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Figure 1: Summary of the participatory elements of the policy recommendations' creation

Data analysis

To foster a transparent process, analysts from GLF used the qualitative data analysis software QDA Miner Lite to generate codes from the available data. The trees produced from two independent rounds of coding were studied through the updated zero draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration proposed strategy, to identify those that affirm and support, challenge or add additional nuance to targets and additional components proposed by the CBD and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration consortium.

The results of this analysis were synthesized into three categories:

- recommendations, prioritized from all calls to action and points of clarification identified in the source data on the basis of several criteria, listed below,
- 2. supporting means of implementation, and
- 3. overarching concepts from the conference, representing key streams of discourse necessary to contextualize the recommendations and their relevance.

Criteria used by the analysts and authors of the GLF Biodiversity Recommendations Report to select recommendations included:

- relevance to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and UN Restoration Decade strategy;
- adds clarification or expands on in the targets, components or degrees of focus;
- relevance to policy-makers;
- connection with One Health and/ or the Landscape Approach;
- connection with the future of GLF (including events, programs and activities);
- proactive phrasing that proposes solutions, going beyond problematization.

Review of policy brief content

Following the analysis described above, the knowledge committee of the GLF Biodiversity Digital Conference 2020, which comprises nominated representatives from GLF Charter Member organizations, provided a review and inputs that were integrated into the final draft of the policy recommendations.

(For inquiries related to the policy brief methodology, please contact **s.callahan@cgiar.org**.)

Full list of contributing organizations (in alphabetical order)

Youth delegations

- Biodiversity Action Europe
- Earth Uprising
- Earth Uprising International
- EmpoderaClima/Care About Climate
- Generation Climate Europe Biodiversity Working Group
- Global Voices Australia
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Colombia
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Europe+
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Haiti
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network International
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Ivory Coast
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Kenya
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Latin America and the Caribbean
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Mexico
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Pakistan
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Southeast Asia
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Sri Lanka
- Global Youth Biodiversity Network Zimbabwe
- Green Africa Youth Organisation
- International Forestry Student Association (IFSA)
- Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
 Youth Amazonia
- Wageningen University Youth for Landscapes Forum (WUYLF)
- Worldrise ONLUS
- Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD)
- Youth and Environment Europe
- Youth4Nature

Session hosts organizations

- CARICO Café
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
 (ICIMOD)
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Lingkar Temu Kabupaten Lestari (LTKL)
- The Borneo Project
- The Global Peatlands Initiative of UNEP (UNEP GPI)
- The World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT)
- True Nature Foundation (TNF)

Knowledge Committee: GLF Biodiversity Digital Conference 2020

- Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF)
- Climate Focus
- Conservation International
- Crop Trust
- Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR)
- International Centre for Integrated Mountain
 Development (ICIMOD)
- Rainforest Alliance
- United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



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Global Landscapes Forum

The Global Landscapes Forum, having reached almost 1 billion across the world and with the backing of its founders – the World Bank, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) – is well-placed to facilitate and help guide these discussions and share knowledge in interactive digital spaces, leading the way for the conferences of now and the future.

Charter Members: CIAT, CIFOR, CIRAD, Climate Focus, Conservation International, Crop Trust, EcoAgriculture Partners, EFI, Evergreen Agriculture, FSC, GEF, GIZ, ICIMOD, IFOAM - Organics International, ILRI, INBAR, IPMG, IUFRO, Rainforest Alliance, Rare, RRI, SAN, UN Environment Programme, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation, part of Wageningen Research, WFO, World Agroforestry, World Bank Group, WRI, WWF International, Youth in Landscapes Initiative