FLR Asia Investment Forum

15-16 November 2023, Marriott Marquis Queen’s Park, Bangkok, Thailand

Background:

Global restoration commitments cover around one billion hectares. Implementing these requires investments of up to USD 1 670 billion (for 10 years). Forest and landscape restoration (FLR) is gaining momentum in the context of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, co-led by UNEP and FAO, to contribute to the targets of the Bonn Challenge, Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework, Land Degradation Neutrality, and Global Land Initiative among others. Restoration of the world’s degraded landscapes is critical for ensuring a healthy natural resource base for more efficient, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable agri-food systems.

At the regional level, the member countries of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission endorsed a Regional Strategy and Action Plan for FLR (RSAP) with strategic priorities for (i) facilitating and supporting the mobilisation of financing for FLR; and (ii) encouraging private sector participation and investment in FLR. The third Asia-Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study also emphasised the need for large investments in FLR, the continued lack of which poses a major barrier for countries in the region who aspire to restore a consolidated total of at least 185 million hectares of degraded land. Funding needs to be raised at scale from all appropriate sources to meet the national and regional goals.

FAO has been assisting Bangladesh, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste to scale up FLR through a Regional Technical Cooperation Programme (regional TCP) project. A key planned output of this project is a donors and partners’ conference for scaling up restoration. A Regional Programmatic Framework for FLR building on the RSAP has been prepared as part of this project, and a Regional FLR Network of implementing partners is being shaped to help countries meet their restoration commitments and visions. FAO and partners aim to enhance and strengthen finance partnerships and coordinated investments in FLR, including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC), the private sector, project aggregation, blended financing, and other emerging opportunities. The FLR Asia Investment Forum is a part of this effort.

Objective: Identify opportunities and collaboration modalities to strengthen FLR investments in Asia.

Target group: 40-50 participants, representing the investors/resource partners and implementers (see Annex 1 for potential organisations) committed to advancing FLR in Asia and representatives from the governments, including regional TCP project countries.

Format, date and venue: Hybrid, 15-16 November 2023 at Marriott Marquis Queen’s Park, Bangkok

Outputs expected: Strategic priorities and concrete entry points for upscaling FLR investments identified, including by enhancing synergies across ongoing actions of participating organisations.

Co-organizers: FAO, IUCN and UNEP

Contributing partners: World Bank, ADB, AFoCO, USAID, IFAD, EU, CI, WWF, WRI, RECOFTC, UNDP, CIFOR/ICRAF (TBD)

Agenda: Attached Below

RSVP: RSVP here for FLR Asia investment Forum

For more information, contact illias.animon@fao.org or satrio.wicaksono@iucn.org.

Day 1 (15 November 2023)

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<td>09.00-09.15</td>
<td>Welcome and opening remark: Robert Simpson, Regional Programme Leader, FAO</td>
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| 09.15-09.30 | Scene setting: FLR in Asia  
- FLR and the Regional FLR Strategy and Action Plan (Illias Animon, Forestry Officer, FAO)  
- Perspectives from the National FLR Investment Roundtable (Mariam Akhter, Assistant Chief Conservator of Forests, Bangladesh Forest Department) |

**Session 1**
Investments in FLR in Asia; where we are now, where we want to be, and how to get there  
Panel & plenary discussion: focus on investment scale/type, geographical/thematic priorities, lessons learned, etc.

| 09.30-10.30 | Panel discussion  
- Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands: Gijs Theunissen, Agricultural Counsellor  
- USAID: Suphasuk Pradubsuk, Program Development Specialist, USAID’s Regional Development Mission for Asia  
- AFD: Huihui Zhou, Environmental & Social, SDG Officer, Southeast Asia Region  
- GIZ: Siegmar Schoenherr, Forestry Advisor, GIZ Laos  
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD): Ryan Whisnant, Director, Land Use Finance & Member of the WBCSD Extended Leadership Group  
- Conservation International: Nicholas Souter, Freshwater Director – CI Cambodia  
- ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity: Clarissa Arida, Director of Programmes Department  
- AFoCO: Emily Marie Lim, Program Officer, Strategic Planning Team  
- Landscape Partnership Asia: Brenna Moore, Senior Advisor – Grants & Partnerships, Global EverGreening Alliance  
- Q&A |
| 10.30-10.45 | COFFEE |
| 10.45-12.50 | Panel discussions  
- UN Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat: Jamal Annaglyjova, Ecosystem Restoration Officer  
- EcoMatcher Limited: Bas Fransen, CEO and Founder  
- FAO: Jiaoqun Shi, Special Advisor  
- CIFOR-ICRAF: Himlal Baral, Senior Scientist  
- WWF – Greater Mekong: Natasha Han, Forest Intelligence Coordinator  
- WRI India: Ruchika Singh, Executive Program Director, Food, Land and Water  
- IKEA: Otto Zvagins, Wood Supply and Forestry Regional Manager  
- Grow Asia: Megan Sullivan, Head of Programs  
- Asian Development Bank: Le Lan, Environmental Economist, Natural Capital and Climate Team  
- World Bank: Arturo Bolondi, Natural Resources Management Specialist  
- Q&A  
- Plenary discussion  
(Facilitated by Illias Animon, Forestry Officer, FAO) |
<p>| 12.50-13.00 | FLR National Action Plan in Nepal: Lessons and investment opportunities (Sagar K. Rimal, Consultant, Nepal) |</p>
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<td>13.00-14.00</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<td>14.00-14.15</td>
<td>Launching the KID4FLR initiative</td>
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<td>14.55-15.10</td>
<td>FLR Projects; diversity and mapping: Satrio Adi Wicaksono, Programme Officer, IUCN Asia &amp; Sojung Kang, International Landscape Restoration Associate, FAO</td>
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<td>15.10-15.25</td>
<td>COFFEE</td>
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<td>15.25-16.30</td>
<td>Plenary discussion: Operationalizing the Regional FLR Programmatic Framework/ Network (Facilitated by Unna Chokkalingam, Consultant, FAO)</td>
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<td>16.30-18.00</td>
<td>Parallel events</td>
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Day 2 (16 November 2023)

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| 09.00-09.15 | Recap and introduction to innovative FLR finance:
<p>|             | Satrio Adi Wicaksono, Programme Officer, IUCN Asia |
| 09.15-11.00 | Session 1 continued |
|             | Investments in FLR in Asia; where we are now, where we want to be, and how to get there |
|             | Panel &amp; plenary discussion: focus on Innovative finance, Investment scale/ type, geographical/thematic priorities, lessons learned, etc |
|             | Panel discussion |
|             | New Forests: Geoffrey Seeto, Head of Emerging Markets |
|             | Auburn University: Daowei Zhang, Professor of Forest Economics and Associate Dean |
|             | Asia Investor Group on Climate Change (AIGCC): Wisnu Wibisono, Project Manager, Investor Practice team |
|             | Palladium International: Jeremiah Ayensu Bentum, Senior Manager, Climate, Environment &amp; Natural Resources; Regional Manager for Partnerships for Forests Programme in SEA |</p>
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<td>11.15-12.50</td>
<td>● <strong>Panel discussion</strong></td>
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<td>● <strong>FAO</strong>: Cathy Cao Xi, Regional Innovative Finance and Partnerships Specialist</td>
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<td>● <strong>Forliance</strong>: Mauro Giuseppe Ciriminna, Senior Advisor, Project Originator and Financing</td>
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<td>● <strong>BIOTEC (National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology)</strong>: Warinthorn Songkasiri, Principal Researcher</td>
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<td>● <strong>UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration</strong>: Natalia Alekseeva, Principal Coordinator of the UN Decade (TBC)</td>
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<td>● <strong>UNEP Restoration Factory, Restoration Explorer approach, RSCF</strong>: Jonathan Gheyssens, Programme Officer</td>
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<td>● <strong>UNEP Sustaining an Abundance of Forest Ecosystems (SAFE)</strong>: Alexis Corblin, Senior Regional Advisor</td>
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<td>● <strong>UNDP Biodiversity Credit Alliance</strong>: Manesh Lacoul, Global Coordinator</td>
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<td>● <strong>World Bank</strong>: Arturo Bolondi, Natural Resources Management Specialist</td>
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<td>● Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>● <strong>Facilitated dialogue</strong>: How to strengthen collaboration/synergies towards innovative FLR investments in the context of the Regional FLR Network/Programmatic Framework (Facilitated by Satrio Adi Wicaksono, IUCN)</td>
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<td>12.50-13.00</td>
<td><strong>FLR National Action Plan in Pakistan</strong>: Lessons and investment opportunities, Anwar Ali, Director Forestry Research, Pakistan Forest Institute</td>
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<td>13.00-14.00</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH</strong></td>
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<td>14.00-14.45</td>
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<td>The Regional FLR Programmatic Framework/ Network</td>
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<td>Panel and plenary discussion: Strengthening the FLR Regional Programmatic Framework</td>
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<td>● <strong>Reflections on the Framework from Day 1 and moving forward</strong>: Unna Chokkalingam, Consultant, FAO</td>
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<td>● <strong>Views from potential Champion countries</strong></td>
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<td>● <strong>Viet Nam</strong>: Tran Quang Bao, DG of the Department of Forestry (TBC)</td>
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<td>● <strong>Japan</strong>: Naoki Hayasaka, Deputy Director, Forest Agency of Japan</td>
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<td>● <strong>China</strong>: Yang Hui, Division Director of Department of Ecology Conservation and Restoration, National Forestry and Grassland Administration</td>
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<td>● <strong>Reflections from other countries</strong></td>
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<td>● <strong>Lao PDR</strong> (Teuanchay Phongkhamphanh, DG of the Department of Forestry)</td>
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<td>● <strong>Pakistan</strong> (Abdul Haq Sheikh, Divisional Forest Officer, Sindh Forest Department)</td>
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<td>● <strong>Bangladesh</strong> (Mariam Akhter, Assistant Chief Conservator of Forests, Development Planning Unit)</td>
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<td>● <strong>Timor-Leste</strong> (Adelino Rojario, Chief of Department of Reforestation)</td>
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<td>14.45-15.00</td>
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| 15.00-16.50    | ● **Opportunities and options for strengthening the FLR Regional Programmatic Framework**  
|                |   ● Lessons from other regions/initiatives  
|                |     (Raquibul Amin, Country Representative for Bangladesh, IUCN)                                                                                                                                         |
|                |   ● Opportunities for strengthening regional collaboration on FLR  
|                |     (Makiko Yashiro, Programme Management Officer, UNEP)                                                                                                                                               |
|                |   ● FAO Forestry Division roadmap 2024-2031 and FLR Umbrella programme  
|                |     (Ewald Rametsteiner, Deputy Director, FAO)                                                                                                                                                         |
|                |   ● Monitoring the FLR Framework using FERM/other tools  
|                |     (Julian Fox, Senior Forestry Officer, FAO)                                                                                                                                                         |
|                |   ● FAO FLRM, TRI and funding under the UN Decade  
|                |     (Christophe Besacier, Senior Forestry Officer, FAO)                                                                                                                                               |
|                |   ● FLR linkages with the private sector and and FLR framework  
|                |     (Lyndall Bull, Forestry Officer, FAO)                                                                                                                                                             |
|                |   ● Energising FLR practitioners: FLR PRO  
|                |     (Regina Durst, Consultant, FAO)                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                |   ● Innovations and other efforts for knowledge management and capacity building  
|                |     (Megha Bajaj, Consultant, FAO)                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 16.50-17.00    | **Next steps:** Satrio Adi Wicaksono, Programme Officer, IUCN Asia                                                                                                                                       |
| 17.00-17.30    | **Closed meeting:** the ways ahead with the Regional TCP project                                                                         |
### Annex 1: Potential participant organizations

**South-South and Triangular Cooperation**
- Australia
- Canada / CIDA
- China
- Denmark / DANIDA
- Finland / FINNIDA
- France / AFD / Proparco
- Germany / GIZ / International Climate Initiative (IKI)
- Japan / JICA
- Republic of Korea / KOICA
- Luxembourg
- Netherlands / FMQ / Netherland Enterprise Agency / DFCD
- Norway / NORAD / Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI)
- Russian Federation
- Swedish Embassy / SIDA
- Switzerland / Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)
- United Kingdom / UK Aid / Defra-Darwin Initiative / Partnership for Forests
- United States of America / USAID

### Multilateral Development Funds / Institutions
- Agroecology Fund
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Climate Investment Fund
- European Union (EU)
- Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP)
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions Facility (NAMA)
- Nordic Development Fund
- OPEC Fund for International Development
- Restoration Seed Capital Facility
- World Bank (IBRD)

### Vertical Finance Instruments
- Adaptation Fund (AF)
- Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)
- Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)

### UN Agencies / Funds
- FAQ
- UNDP
- UNEP
- UNFF - Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN)
- UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)
- UNCDF Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LOCAL)
- UNEP-CTCN - Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA)

### I/NGOs & Initiatives
- Arranvay Foundation
- AFOCO
- Change Fusion Institute
- CIFOR/ICRAF
- Climate Bonds Initiative
- Conservation International
- EB Impact
- Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
- ITTO
- IUCN
- Landscape Finance Lab
- NatureVest Impact Investments, TNC
- Plant-for-the-Planet
- RECOFTC
- SNV
- The Asia Foundation
- The &Green Fund
- Trees for All
- Troepenbos International
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- WWF Forest Forward program
- Wetlands International
- Wyss Academy for Nature

### Private Philanthropy / Foundations / Associations (Non-Profit)
- Adessium Foundation
- ADM Capital Foundation
- Arcadia Fund
- Asia Investor Group on Climate Change (AIGCC)
- Bezos Earth Fund
- Climate Markets and Investment Association (CMIA)
- Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
- David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- Ford Foundation
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
- WBCSD- Forestry Solutions Group

### Blended Finance
- Agri-business Capital Fund (ABC Fund)
- Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
- Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Fund
- Lowering Emissions by Accelerating Forest finance (LEAF) Coalition
- Tropical Landscapes Finance Facility (TLFF)
- Tropical Forest Alliance
Private Corporations, Land Managers, Service Providers and Initiatives that implement, fund or raise funds for FR

AstraZeneca Forest
CO2 Operate BV
Eco securities
Earthshot Labs
Fairventures Social Forestry (FSF)
First Climate
Forest Carbon
Global Forest Partners
GreenWood Resources
IKEA
Lestari Capital
Mirova
New Forests
Nirag
One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B)
Palladium International
Permian Global
Resource Management Service
SilviCapital AB
South Pole
Temasek
The Dutch Planet Postcode
The Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH)

Arcus Foundation
Asia Investor Group on Climate Change (AIGCC)
Bertarelli Foundation
Bliomar
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI)
Children’s Investment Fund Foundation
Client Earth
ClimateWorks Foundation
Common fund for Commodities (CFC) - The Agricultural Commodity Transformation Fund (ACT)
Conservation, Food & Health Foundation
Cool Earth
Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
Danforth Conservation Grants
Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
Dhanam Foundation
Diakonia
DOB Ecology
Donald Gordon Foundation
EDGE Protected and Conserved Area Fund
Emond de Rothschild Foundations
Ecuador Initiative
European Climate Foundation
Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco
Fundación Avina
Forest Conservation Fund
German Postcode Lottery – Global Nature Fund
Good Energies Foundation
Global Eba Fund
Global Greengrants Fund
Heinrich Böll Foundation
Hewlett Foundation

International Tree Foundation (UK)
Community Tree Planting Programme
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
La Iomelina
Land Accelerator
Landscape Resilience Funds
LEAF/Emergent climate
Legacy Landscapes Fund
Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation
Livelihoods Fund
Mahathir Science Award Foundation
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation
McKnight Foundation
Milieudefensie
Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund
Nature+ Accelerator Fund
National Geographic Society
Nordic Climate Facility
Oak Foundation
One Tree Planted
Open Philanthropy Project
Opendenheimer Generations Foundation
Oxfam World Novib
Panorama solutions
Partnership for Forests
Paulson Institute
People’s Postcode Trust
Rainforest Trust
Rights and Resources Initiative
Rob Walton Foundation
Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
Ruddernber Foundation
SAARC Development Fund
Sangreal Foundation
Schmidt Family Foundation
Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund
SeaWorld & Busch Conservation Fund

Stiftung Artenschutz
SuMi TRUST
Swedish Postcode Foundation
Terra Match
Terraformation
The Development Fund (Utviklingsfondet)
The Everglades Foundation
The Waterloo Foundation
Turner Foundation
Wildlife Conservation Network
Van Tienhoven Foundation
Veolia Foundation
Yield Giving
Wyss Foundation
1t.org