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Global  
Landscapes  
Forum  
—  
Lima

# Outcome Statement

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The vision of using integrated landscape approaches to address climate and development challenges was shared by the 1700 participants of the 2014 Global Landscapes Forum, in recognition that a very large part of the climate and development solutions will have to be found in landscapes. Landscapes hold the solutions for livelihoods for billions, food for everyone, diversity and protection of nature, and the foundation of the green economy. At the same time, landscapes are the source of one-third of our greenhouse gas emissions, encompass severe market failures related to natural resources, represent a fragmentation of sectors, and are subject to major conflicts and human rights problems. Against this backdrop, the 2014 Global Landscape Forum offers the following messages.

## Key messages

1. Coherent policy and legal frameworks for sustainable land use are essential for climate and development efforts
2. Act on emerging research findings related to indigenous peoples and local communities
3. Scale up landscape finance by reducing risks for investment and transforming capital markets
4. Align actions on climate change with the Sustainable Development Goals
5. Climate-smart agriculture is a large part of the solution
6. Landscape approaches can combine and reinforce climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts
7. Well-designed fiscal measures in a landscape context can be significant in addressing deforestation and forest degradation
8. The values of ecosystem services play an important role in national economies
9. Land use information technologies can transform national policies

# Overview

Healthy landscapes are a crucial part of climate and development solutions. Land use, forests, food security and agriculture will be important elements of the post-2020 climate agreement, and countries are seeking applied research and examples of best practice across regions, disciplines, scales and sectors to inform ongoing negotiations in the post-2015 development agenda and the new climate agreement.

The 2014 Global Landscapes Forum was designed to inform the global climate and development frameworks<sup>1</sup> about how a “landscape approach” can contribute to sustainable solutions under a wide range of social, environmental, political and economic conditions.

For almost 50 years, integrated management approaches among land-use sectors – in particular forestry and

agriculture – have been the subject of scientific study. Participants at the 2014 Global Landscapes Forum shared practical examples of how the landscape approach is being implemented, how to better align international development and climate actions, how the new climate agreement can address land use, and how new multi-partner approaches to finance can remove barriers to sustainability along commodity supply chains.

Proponents of landscape approaches encourage countries to move away from sectoral policy-making approaches, toward an integrated bottom-up approach that places the poor and vulnerable at the heart of decision-making, and increases in-country coordination to ensure coherence and inclusiveness.

The 2014 Global Landscapes Forum offers nine messages relevant to a multilateral climate agreement and the post-2015 development agenda. These messages, summarized below, are based on findings of individual sessions throughout the Forum proceedings and do not represent a consensus of the Forum as whole.

For more information about landscapes and the Global Landscapes Forum, visit [www.landscapes.org](http://www.landscapes.org)

“The science for landscapes is clear, the economics compelling. How you integrate this into your countries’ vision for the future is exactly what is at stake here and in Paris.”



**Rachel Kyte**

Vice President and Special Envoy,  
Climate Change Group, World Bank

<sup>1</sup> UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the UN General Assembly (UNGA)

## Defining the landscapes approach

The diversity of terminology surrounding landscape approaches poses a challenge for implementation. Scientists from the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) have been consolidating the evidence base and mapping landscapes projects across the world.

Although there are many examples of integrated land management approaches in practice, only 47 case studies have been documented and represented in the peer-reviewed literature, the CIFOR review found. There is a strong representation of forestry and livelihood themes in the landscape literature but few examples of approaches that integrate agricultural practices. The literature also tends to focus on positive outcomes, with little monitoring or evaluation.

Researchers are now analyzing non-peer-reviewed documents and aim to publish findings in 2015.

View the map of landscape projects at [cifor.org/landscape-map](http://cifor.org/landscape-map)

# 1. Coherent policy and legal frameworks for sustainable land use are essential for climate and development efforts

Issues related to land use, land-use change and forestry in climate change negotiations have long been complicated and challenging both politically and scientifically. This situation persists despite recent advances in science and technology, such as new and innovative policy frameworks, including REDD+, and improvements in metrics and measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) of emission reductions.

The recent emphasis on landscape approaches in the international arena has stimulated discussions on the use of integrated policy approaches to the adaptation and

mitigation potential of agriculture, forests and land-use change. Local-level efforts to engage diverse actors for more sustainable land use cannot succeed in a vacuum; they must be backed by political will, law reform and a clear sustainability framework.

The idea of a new climate agreement that includes key principles related to “landscapes” has proved attractive to many stakeholders. In developing these principles, policy makers should consider:

- links between climate change, human rights, land-use change and natural resource governance.
- the existing principles, systems and decisions within the UNFCCC that provide sufficient elements and procedures for including land use in the new climate agreement.
- the facilitation of flexible, transparent, comparable and consistent inclusion of the land sector in Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).
- the benefits to be derived through traditional and indigenous knowledge for mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation.
- cross-sectoral collaboration, which will be key for meeting the targets set out for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- synergies, linkages and the interdependency between adaptation and mitigation.
- parallel processes such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Indigenous Peoples’ rights.
- how actors interact with one another, as it is not enough to merely tailor measures to specific actor groups.
- harmonizing contributions under existing land-use mechanisms, and facilitating a smooth transition toward more complete coverage in accordance with specific country circumstances.
- adopting criteria for reporting on national progress on developing measures to address drivers of deforestation and land degradation.

“Human rights, food security, equity, health, and gender are the most important issues to be addressed when undertaking a landscape approach.”



**Peter Holmgren**  
Director General, Center for International Forestry Research

## Breaking down institutional barriers

Subnational governments play a key role in implementation of integrated landscape approaches, and the coalitions that they are building are critical.

Mexico is leveraging support from California and elsewhere at multiple levels to promote “territorial development”, going beyond mere payments for ecosystem services to bolster development on the ground in multiple sectors, including agriculture.

Subnational governments still face challenges related to problematic decentralization, budgetary constraints, territorial planning, and inter-sectoral coordination. Nevertheless, the opportunities for action at the subnational, jurisdictional level justify attention to this level of governance.

More at [gcftaskforce.org](http://gcftaskforce.org)

## 2. Act on emerging research findings related to indigenous peoples and local communities

Indigenous Peoples and local communities have used the REDD+ debate to increase attention to their important role in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Throughout the climate negotiations, there have been repeated calls for recognition of indigenous rights and indigenous knowledge in a new climate agreement. At the same time, research has increasingly contributed social and technical analysis of how the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities can enhance pre-2020 mitigation opportunities.

To make progress in this area, policy makers need to address the insecurity that has led to the death of indigenous activists and take more notice of emerging research, which shows that:

- granting concessions that lead to conversion of native forestland to other uses has implications not only for carbon emissions but also for the rights, livelihoods and cultures of indigenous peoples.<sup>2</sup>
- securing tenure rights for indigenous peoples and forest communities can play an important role in increasing forest protection and restoration on a national level.<sup>3</sup>
- active government protection from encroachment supports the forest rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as reductions in carbon pollution.<sup>4</sup>

“The time has come for the landscapes approach and for us all to work together ... Landscape approaches resonate well with Indigenous Peoples; it is how they conserve land, water and resources.”



**Victoria Tauli-Corpuz**

UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- maps and other forms of spatial information are important for identifying which areas local communities and indigenous peoples rely on for their livelihoods.
- participation of a wide range of stakeholders in the use of spatial information can make a significant contribution to the development of robust national REDD+ strategies, by facilitating the incorporation of traditional knowledge.
- there is a need to further integrate the perspectives of indigenous peoples and communities.

2 Doyle C and Whitmore A (2014) *Indigenous Peoples and the Extractive Sector: Towards a Rights-Respecting Engagement*. Baguio, Philippines: Tebtebba, PIPLinks and Middlesex University.

3 Stevens C, Winterbottom R, Reynter K and Springer J. (2014) *Securing Rights, Combating Climate Change: How Strengthening Community Forest Rights Mitigates Climate Change*. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute. [www.wri.org/securingrights](http://www.wri.org/securingrights)

4 Stevens et al. (2014) *Securing Rights, Combating Climate Change: How Strengthening Community Forest Rights Mitigates Climate Change*. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute [www.wri.org/securingrights](http://www.wri.org/securingrights)

## 3. Scale up landscape finance by reducing risks for investment and transforming capital markets

The private sector is increasingly becoming engaged in landscape initiatives, as reflected in such outcomes as the New York Declaration on Forests. There is no shortage of interested capital to invest in environmental projects, but there is a shortage of projects that are designed so as to be attractive to investors.

“While the private sector can undoubtedly disrupt markets, it is only with government policy that we can transform markets.”



**Paul Polman**

CEO, Unilever

Policy makers should consider the following:

- Practitioners in companies need additional support to clarify the business benefits from landscape approaches. Reducing risks for private sector investment<sup>5</sup> will be necessary for scaling up private sector finance for integrated landscape management.



- Supply chain actors are making unprecedented commitments around de-linking their supply chains from deforestation in major agricultural commodities (palm oil, beef, soy, pulp and paper, cocoa).
- Neither REDD+ nor supply chain action can succeed on their own, but these two approaches combined have the potential to achieve the goal of halting deforestation by 2030.
- New research<sup>6</sup> has found significant differences in the shocks and perceptions of risk experienced by women and men in different landscapes. Support for both adaptation and mitigation require gender-responsive analyses to understand real and perceived gender differences in interests and needs.
- Group-based approaches such as credit groups can be an effective means in supporting climate adaptation of rural women.
- Gender-responsive analyses are required to understand real and perceived gender differences in interests and needs, and to anticipate threats or risks.

5 For example, the USAID Athelia portfolio loan guarantee

6 Valdivia C, Seth A, Gilles, JL, Garcia M, Jimenez E, Cusicanqui J, Navia F and Yucra E. (2010) Adapting to climate change in Andean ecosystems: Landscapes, capitals, and perceptions shaping rural livelihood strategies and linking knowledge systems. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 100(4):818–34.

## 4. Align actions on climate change with the Sustainable Development Goals

Two major emerging challenges are (1) international approaches to sustainable land use and forests and (2) consistency in implementation between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the climate negotiation outcomes under the UNFCCC.

As the governments of the world draw closer not only to reaching a new climate agreement but also to finalizing the SDGs, it is important to look to the post-2015 world and how these processes will complement one another. Decision makers will need to:

- establish the necessary enabling conditions for forests to deliver sustainable development outcomes.
- clearly define indicators to measure the contribution of landscapes across development goals.

- identify feasible and practical Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) related to reducing natural forest loss; accelerating restoration of degraded landscapes and forestlands; land-use actions for mitigation and adaptation; and enhancing pre-2020 climate action.
- identify the synergies in national development planning, financial resourcing and accountability mechanisms in order to maximize efficiency and reduce transaction costs for all actors involved.

“ I see the focus of the Forum as being highly relevant to the global effort to tackle climate change and to move towards sustainable development.”



**Helen Clark**  
UN Development Programme Administrator  
and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations

## 5. Climate-smart agriculture is a large part of the solution

Agriculture accounts for 90% of deforestation,<sup>7</sup> but it does not receive 90% of the attention in REDD+. A recent study<sup>8</sup> found that most direct REDD+ interventions aim to reduce forest degradation rather than deforestation. Proposed interventions rarely make explicit linkages to drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.

Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) was developed in direct response to a climate change policy debate that had taken a compartmentalized approach to adaptation and mitigation and that had not adequately addressed the role of agriculture in food security, or the threat of climate change to food security. CSA has similarities to earlier policies, and assuming that higher yield reduces pressure on forests is dangerous.

Discussions in the climate negotiations on agriculture have been slow because of concerns over national sovereignty and food security. However, an agreed Agriculture Road

“The development of new methodologies to address agriculture in the UNFCCC is not entirely necessary as they are already there. [We need to] increase understanding of the importance of mitigation from the agriculture sector.”



**Maria Jose Sanz Sanchez**  
Programme Coordinator, UN-REDD  
Programme, FAO

Map<sup>9</sup> has put in place a process that deals with a range of issues, continuing until 2016.

Policy makers should consider:

- that the mitigation potential of CSA varies across regions<sup>10</sup>; approaches need to be tailored to specific local and regional circumstances.
- that agriculture should be addressed specifically in the cross-sectoral approaches to REDD+; emissions hot spots from deforestation and agriculture can be used to prioritize decision making, along with contextual information to identify areas where land-based mitigation supported by CSA can be successful in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

- creating enabling environments for small-scale farmers, foresters and fishers by
  - » sharing knowledge on practices and farming systems to optimize inputs to production.
  - » enhancing the availability of credit, improved varieties, fertilizer and other inputs.
  - » supporting biodiversity and resilience through diversification at the field and landscape levels.
  - » improving post-harvest practices to reduce food losses.
  - » empowering farmers, processors and consumers to reduce food waste.
  - » providing financial incentives to support transition costs and increase ecosystem services.
  - » improving weather and climate monitoring and early warning systems.

7 Kissinger G, Herold M and De Sy, V. (2012) *Drivers of Deforestation and Forest Degradation: A Synthesis Report for REDD+ Policymakers*. Vancouver: Lexeme Consulting.

8 Salvini G, Herold M, De Sy V, Kissinger G, Brockhaus M and Skutsch M (2014) How countries link REDD+ interventions to drivers in their readiness plans: Implications for monitoring systems. *Environmental Research Letters* 9:074004

9 SBSTA Draft decision L.14 <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2014/sbsta/eng/l14.pdf>

10 Unpublished findings presented at the 2014 Global Landscapes Forum (Román-Cuesta)

## 6. Landscape approaches can combine and reinforce climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts

The original structure of the UNFCCC creates a division between adaptation and mitigation, which is artificial in the context of land use and forests. Even though evidence shows that adaptation and mitigation activities can work together on the ground,<sup>11</sup> no financial instruments explicitly support both.

The information now available indicates that mitigation and adaptation can be synergistic in some circumstances and antagonistic in others. Trade-offs need to be recognized and managed.

To move forward in this area, policy makers should consider:

- that adaptation-based mitigation is important for developing countries.
- adjusting funding criteria to support activities that generate synergies.
- facilitating the measurement of carbon emission mitigation potential in adaptation activities.
- seeking innovative opportunities for funding adaptation-based mitigation, such as green bonds for ecosystems.
- that forest restoration for mitigation should use native species adapted to the local environment, and multiple species to reduce risk by strengthening resilience to extreme events, and should ensure the establishment of viable, self-sustaining and adaptive ecosystems.

11 Pramova E and Locatelli B (2013) *Guidebook on Integrating Community-Based Adaptation into REDD+ Projects: Lessons from Indonesia and the Philippines*. Bogor, Indonesia: Center for International Forestry Research.

## 7. Well-designed fiscal measures in a landscape context can be significant in addressing deforestation and forest degradation

Fiscal instruments often target yesterday's priorities, but are not always entirely aligned with tomorrow's problems. It is important to ensure that private profit from land use does not come at the price of social and environmental costs, which are often public costs.

Fiscal measures – subsidies, taxes, tariffs – have major direct and indirect effects on land use<sup>12</sup> and can and should have a role in addressing deforestation and other environmental externalities. The classical economic response to activities that cause damaging externalities such as biodiversity loss

and climate change is to tax them. However, although this works in the world of economic theory with perfect markets, practical considerations generally make reform far more complicated and difficult.

To move forward in this area, policy makers should consider:

- that REDD+ provides a framework through which fiscal instruments could be assessed and potentially aligned.
- undertaking further work on fiscal instruments to help advance the REDD+ process.
- that incentives will not work without strong institutions, and may even backfire; it is more effective to focus first on building capacity on the ground, working with civil society to set up effective multi-actor participatory governance processes.
- including innovative approaches in measures and incentives for climate change mitigation and/or adaptation to help to secure rights of access to the nutritional benefits provided by forests.

12 UNEP (2014) *Building Natural Capital: How REDD+ can Support a Green Economy*. Report of the International Resource Panel. Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme.

## 8. The values of ecosystem services play an important role in national economies

Studies presented at the 2014 Global Landscapes Forum showed that ending deforestation and achieving continued economic development are not necessarily mutually exclusive. In Brazil's Mato Grosso, for example, soy production has increased almost fourfold while deforestation is down 75% below the 10-year average.<sup>13</sup>

In contrast, an ongoing study by The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)<sup>14</sup> concluded that the direct and indirect values of forests make up of about 4.7% of Zambia's GDP, while also providing more than a million jobs.

Policy makers should consider that:

- national economic valuation studies can be an important tool for giving governments and other stakeholders a better understanding of how forests contribute to their economy and of the impact of deforestation.

### A new climate economy?

“We can have economic growth and combat climate change.”



**Felipe Calderón**  
Former president of Mexico

The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate, spearheaded by former Mexican president Felipe Calderón, recently delivered recommendations on actions and policies that can achieve high-quality economic growth while also addressing dangerous climate change.

The report estimated the global value of forest ecosystem services at US\$16.2 trillion in 2011.

See [newclimateeconomy.net](http://newclimateeconomy.net)

- valuation of forest ecosystem services such as sequestration of carbon, the regulation of water flows downstream and ability to generate (eco)tourism revenues provides a rationale to transition to a green economy.
- support will be required for monitoring and supporting REDD+ safeguards in the post-2020 climate regime.
- the conceptualization of carbon as a commodity should explicitly include the integration of carbon in the sustainability of natural and agroecosystems.

13 Nepstad D, McGrath D, Stickler C, Alencar A, Azevedo A, Swette B, Bezerra T, DiGiano M, Shimada J, Seroa da Motta R, Armijo E, Castello L, Brando P, Hansen MC, McGrath-Horn M, Carvalho O and Hess L (2014) Slowing Amazonian deforestation through public policy and interventions in beef and soy supply chains. *Science* 344(6188):1118–23

14 <http://www.teebweb.org/agriculture-and-food/>

## 9. Land use information technologies can transform national policies

High-resolution mapping technology and remote sensing data products are transforming the way land use is monitored. At the 2014 Global Landscapes Forum, scientists unveiled the following:

- a prototype that analyzes changes in Peru's land cover in real time at high resolution (University of Maryland)
- high-resolution maps of emissions from forests and land-use change at the tropical and global levels (Woods Hole Institute, NASA, Terra-i)<sup>15</sup>
- a tool to rapidly identify and analyze forest landscape restoration potential (IUCN)

- a nationally tested priority-setting tool to address emissions from agriculture, forestry and other land uses (AFOLU) (CCAFS, CIFOR).

Such systems can help countries jointly analyze land-based economic sectors to meet national and international reporting needs, help countries prioritize mitigation actions, and assess what kind of support is needed. These systems will contribute to pre-2020 near-term mitigation potential and National Forest Monitoring Systems (NFMS). However it is important to ensure that the data are carefully validated.

Given the complexities and uncertainties associated with emissions from land-based sectors, simplified reporting formats should be pursued, particularly for developing countries. Simple, cost-effective reporting for emissions in land use can uphold environmental integrity, while also directing limited resources toward targeted actions that will deliver real, permanent emission reductions from the land-use sector.

15 These data will be incorporated into WRI's Global Forest Watch platform in 2015. For more information see [www.globalforestwatch.org](http://www.globalforestwatch.org)



**Sustainable landscapes for a new climate and development agenda**  
A vision beyond 2015

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